

THE SUNDAY SPIRIT

The Baptism of Our Lord
January 11, 2026



ST. PETER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ CONOVER, NC ✠

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Welcome to St. Peter's! We are glad you are here! We ask everyone to fill out an "attendance card" and place it in the offering plate later in the service. We welcome our first-time guests and visitors and request that you fill out the back side of the attendance card as well. Guests and visitors please take a "welcome" bag from our table out front.

Today's radio broadcast is given to the glory of God.
(Listen on WAIZ 630 AM or 105.9 FM during our 8:15 am service)

2nd Sunday Social, Today : Pastor Frank's Israel Trip Presentation

Join Pastor Frank in the Spirit Center from 9:45-10:30 am after 2nd Sunday Social today. He'll share about his trip to Israel this past September and discuss the possibility of leading a St. Peter's group to Israel in 2027 for an immersive Bible study tour.

This wouldn't be just a sightseeing trip—it would be an opportunity to study Scripture in the very places where biblical events occurred. Imagine reading about Jesus calming the storm while sitting on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, or discussing David and Goliath while standing in the Valley of Elah. These experiences create lasting connections between the biblical text and the land, deepening understanding and faith.

Whether you're interested in joining a future trip or simply want to hear about the journey, all are welcome. Come with your questions and curiosity about how the land of the Bible can enrich your study of God's Word.

Installation of New Council Members This morning we will install our new council members. Special thanks to our out going council members for service this past year. You are so appreciated!

SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE CLASSES

***Ages 2-5** - Room #1 Education Building- Brenda Fulbright & Alice Layne

***K-2nd Grade** - Room #8 Education Building - Emily Schwandt

***3rd - 5th Grades** - Grover Herman Room Education Building - Terry Sigmon

***Middle & High Schoolers (6-12th Grades)** - Room #4 Education Building - John Adams

***Adults of All Ages** - Education Building, Room #2 - A study on “The Book of Jude” by Eric Geiger with Kim Gantt ,Kevin Gantt & Kim Rector.

***Ladies Sunday School Class** - Education Building, Room 7 with Beth Lail They are studying “The study of Angels, their nature, roles, and significance, highlighting their functions as messengers and servants of God.”

***Adults - Multi-Purpose Room Class** - They are studying “The Cross” with Christal Sigmon

PRAYERS

Church Members in Need of prayer Carol Abbott, Carol Alley, Terry Bolick, Rosella Bollinger, Sherry Bumgarner, Keilee Cox, Shirley Dellinger, Betty Eckard, Jerry Eckard, Earlene Fulbright, Janet Good, Mary Ruth Hefner, D. J. Johnson, Malla Killian, Judy Little, Karen Smith, Teresa Taylor, Dorothy Willis, and Marshall Wray

Pray for Our Homebound Members

Those at Home: Carol Abbott, Rosella Bollinger, Polly Bowman, Shirley Dellinger, Joe Eckard, Annette Hollar, Kathleen Houston, Patricia Isenhour, Bobby Little, Hazel Moser, Jeanette Reese, Bonnie Sigmon, Eugene Sigmon, Richard Sigmon, Ernest & Carol Starnes, Dorothy Willis, Mary Ann Winebarger

Abernathy Center: Gracie Bolick, Gwendolyn Allen

Brookdale: Blanche Hefner

Kingston Manor: Barbara White

Catawba Valley Living: Alberta Winebarger, Reva Reinhardt

Trinity Village: Margaret Laws, Donald Bowman, Dorothy Willis, Shirley Dellinger

Friends Needing Prayer

- Debbie Hefner (wife of Randy Hefner)
- Debbie Keffler (friend of Danny & Linda Goforth)
- Barbara Little (friend of Danny & Linda Goforth)
- Amy Lookadoo (friend of Emily Allen)
- Maggie Stiles (daughter of Drew Stiles)
- Scott Rudisill (friend of Nancy Bruce)
- Denise Caldwell (sister of Debbie Thomas)
- Sonya Fields (friend of Pat Killian and the Alaska Mission Team)
- Susan Holbrook (friend of Sherry Bumgarner)

*(*names are listed for 4 weeks and can be renewed by calling the office*)*

Christian Sympathy

- The family & friends of Seth Paschal, husband of Carolyn
- The family & friends of John van Horne, father of Julie & Jana
- The family & friends of Alan Pruitt, husband of Deborah & father of Emily
- The family & friends of Cindy Britton, sister of Bonnie Sigmon & aunt of Jack Sigmon
- The family & friends of Robert Eckard, cousin of Beth Lail, Pat Smith & Angela Martin

Pregnancies

- Amber Potter, due in July *(granddaughter of David & Dale Johnson)*

Birthdays This Week Stacey Eckard (1/11); Cheryl Pennell (1/12); Nancy Wray (1/12); Joe Eckard (1/13); Greg Hollar (1/13); Shannon Little (1/15); Sharon Hefner (1/16); Michael Sigmon (1/16); Crystal Starnes (1/16); Grayson Schwandt (1/17)

Anniversaries This Week Gary & Cheryl Pennell (1/12); Dallas & Linda Ross (1/14); Harry & Brenda Fulbright (1/16)

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Pastor's Sunday School Class on Haggai — Starting January 18 - Taught by Pastor Eric

What happens when God's people lose focus — and how does God call them back? Join us in the Parish Hall beginning Sunday morning, January 18th for a three week session on the Book of **Haggai**, as we explore the timely message of encouragement, correction, and hope for God's people in every generation. Nothing required except being your Bibles, and your Old Testament curiosity.

Join us for a new Friday Morning Bible Study led by Pastor Eric, beginning Friday, January 16th in the Parish Hall, as we journey through the book of 1 Samuel.

This study will explore one of the most dramatic and spiritually rich books of the Old Testament — a story of God at work through imperfect people, faithful promises, and a calling that points us forward to Christ. From the rise of Samuel, to the anointing of David, to the struggles of Israel's first kings, we will see how the Lord remains steadfast in His mercy, His purpose, and His saving plan.

Whether you are new to Bible study or have been studying Scripture for years, this class is designed to be engaging, accessible, and deeply rooted in God's Word. Come grow in faith, deepen your understanding of Scripture, and be encouraged by the Gospel as it unfolds in the lives of God's people. ***All are welcome — bring your Bible, your questions, and your desire to grow in God's Word.***

New Opportunity: Confirmation Journal Mentor Program

St. Peter's is launching a Confirmation Mentor Program! We're looking for adults willing to journey through the *Guided by Truth Enduring Faith Confirmation Journal* to prepare for mentoring future confirmation students. This program will equip you to guide our junior high confirmands while deepening your understanding of Luther's Small Catechism and the foundations of our faith.

Participants will complete approximately two sections per week at home. We'll meet once a month on a Sunday afternoon for eight months starting in January for discussion and coaching. Our first meeting will be **Sunday, January 18 at 3 pm.** Interested? Please speak with Pastor Frank to sign up. Space is limited for this first cohort, so don't delay!

If you know of a member of the congregation who is sick, hospitalized, or has special needs, please contact the church office at 828-256-2970 or Pastor Frank or Pastor Eric

Last Week

Worship Services Attendance

January 4, 2026

8:15 am 152 10:45 am 67

Sunday School Attendance

Adults 48 Youth 13

Offerings

General Fund - \$9,432.70; Sunday School - \$76

Dedicated Fund Offerings

Autism Support Group - \$75; Missions - \$50; LWML - \$20; Radio Broadcasts - \$800

Building Fund - \$1,085; Building Fund - Audio/Visual - \$50

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sun. (11)	<p>8:15 am Contemporary Service</p> <p>9:15 am Second Sunday Social - in Spirit Center</p> <p>9:45 am Second Sunday Social Presentation - Pastor Peter's Israel Trip</p> <p>9:45am Sunday School & Bible Classes</p> <p>10:45 am Traditional Service</p> <p>12:15 pm Confirmation Sermon Study & Acolyte Training</p>
Mon. (12)	<p>8:30 am Quilters</p> <p>6:15 pm Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:30 pm Praise Band Practice</p>
Tues. (13)	<p>10:00am Golden Agers - in Parish Hall</p> <p>2:30 pm Staff Meeting</p> <p>4:30 pm Central Latino Tutoring Orientation - in Education Bldg</p> <p>6:00 pm Crocheting & Looming Class</p> <p>7:00 pm Boy Scouts</p>
Wed. (14)	<p>6:30 pm Bible Journaling 101 with Kim Kaylor, Leader</p>
Thurs. (15)	<p>10:00 am Small Group Bible Study with Kim Kaylor, Leader</p> <p>11:45 am Lyle Creek Lunch Buddies</p> <p>6:30 pm Small Group Bible Study with Terry Sigmon, Leader</p>
Fri. (16)	<p>10:00 am Small Group Bible Study with Pastor Eric, Leader</p>
Sat. (17)	<p>7:30 am Men's Bible Study</p> <p>8:00 am Senior Youth (Grades 6-12) Outing to Seven Devils Ski Resort for tubing</p>
Sun. (18)	<p>8:15 am Contemporary Service with Holy Communion</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School & Bible Classes</p> <p>10:45 am Traditional Service with Holy Communion</p> <p>1:30 pm 200th Anniversary Team Meeting</p> <p>3:00 pm Confirmation Journal Mentor Meeting</p> <p>4:30 pm Homebound/Workers Communion Service</p> <p>6:00 pm Church Council -in Parish Hall</p>

***Bold = activities that don't happen on a typical week**

SERMON NOTES

Life in the Kingdom Sermon Series

"Enter: The Kingdom of Heaven Is at Hand"

Matthew 3:13-17

For the next four weeks, you'll notice something different in your bulletin—the back page study questions have moved! Instead, we've prepared a special ***Life in the Kingdom Sermon Series Notes & Study Guide*** as a separate booklet.

This comprehensive guide includes a place for sermon notes, daily Scripture readings, and reflection questions for all four weeks of our series. We want to encourage you to engage more deeply with what God is teaching us about Kingdom living throughout the week, not just on Sunday morning.

We encourage you to use it daily as you journey through this series with us. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand—let's explore it together!

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Church Office

Phone: 828-256-2970

Website

stpetersconover.org

Church WiFi

stpeters1364

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6175 St Peters Church Rd, Conover NC 28613

Today's Servants

Altar Guild: Susan Gantt, Jeannette Gantt

Praise Band: Drew Stiles, leader; Bradley Abernathy, Emily Allen, Thom Bumgarner, Tom Delgreco, Melody Frank, Susan Gantt, Brenda Hefner, Oz Hefner, Olivia Owens, Kim Rector, Emily Sherbino, Emma Spencer, Jeff Winebarger

Adult Choir: Charles Bumgarner, Sherry Bumgarner, Greg Eckard, Judy Eckard, Trudy Huffman, Carmen Lander, Scott Medlin, Carolyn Paschal, Emily Sherbino, Jan Sigmon, Drew Stiles, John Thomas.

Handbells: Betty Goble, Alice Layne, Carolyn Paschal, Cheryl Pennell, Cheryl Sigmon, Drew Stiles, Bill Totty.

Organist: Carolyn Paschal

Office: Bob Marlowe

Readers: 8:15 am Lisa Brittain 10:45 Trudy Huffman

Greeters: 8:15 am Pam Medlin 10:45 am Karen Hoyle

Ushers: Open

Communion Set-Up: Open

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Senior Youth will be going snowtubing on **Saturday, January 17** at Seven Devils Ski Resort. They will leave the church at **8 am** and our time to tube is from 10am-12 noon. Cost is \$25 per youth. (Checks can be made payable to St. Peter's.) Lunch will be provided. Please dress warm and make sure you have a signed permission slip. See Kim Kaylor for details.

THANK YOU NOTES

- Thanks to everyone for all your prayers and message for my wife, Debbie, who has been going through her 2nd round of cancer. We greatly appreciate your prayers and love during this time. - Randy Hefner
- Thank you for the prayers, cards, and support throughout my cancer treatment. Your kindness and faith were a constant source of strength and comfort. I am so thankful to be party of such a caring church family. - With heartfelt gratitude, Amy Rucker

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

- **Given to the LWML mites** in loving memory of two relatives, Linda Lail Hedrick and Frances Bailey Lafone by Sandra Gantt ; in loving memory of Seth Paschal & Alan Pruitt by The Miriam Circle

Online Giving Did you know that you can give your offerings on line? You can sign up through our website stpetersconover.org and click on "Online Giving". You can give through bank draft, debit or credit card. You can do a one time offering or set up for weekly, monthly etc.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offering Envelopes 2026 Any envelopes that were not picked up in the past two weeks have been put in the boxes in the hallway outside the church office. If you did not find your church offering envelopes, please let Julie Robinson or the church office know. If you give electronically, you did not get envelopes.

Mission Team Meeting The Mission Team will have a meeting on **January 20 at 6:30 pm** in the multi-purpose room. If you have any interest in going on a mission trip in 2026 or have any suggestions for trips, please attend this meeting. Questions, please see Tonya Darden.

Lenten Meals Lent is around the corner (end of February), and we need groups to sponsor a Lenten meal. Please consider leading a group of friends, family, Sunday School groups or circles to provide a meal. If you are willing to sponsor a meal and join Betty's "Band of Misfits", please contact Betty Goble or the church office. The dates still open for meals are March 1, 15 & 22.

Sunshine Group News

The 4th Sunday Lunch Bunch will be going to eat at Brookwood Restaurant in Maiden on Sunday, Jan. 25. Please let Betty Goble know by Sunday, Jan. 18 if you plan to attend, so she can make reservations.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Centro Latino Tutoring Program: Help Needed!

We're excited to announce a new partnership with Lyle Creek Elementary and Centro Latino to provide tutoring for Latino students in grades K-5. Starting **Tuesday, January 20**, we'll meet **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30-6:00 pm** in our Education building with the initial goal of helping 5-10 elementary students with reading and vocabulary.

An orientation meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 13 at 4:30 pm** for all those interested in helping.

How You Can Help:

- **Volunteer as a tutor:** We need one tutor per student (a background check is required). Educators especially welcome!
- **Provide snacks:** We'll need snacks for students from 4:30-5:00 pm each session
- **Lead activities:** Help with games and activities before tutoring

This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our community and share the love of Christ. If you're interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Pastor Frank or Lucas Nurdyke.



ST. PETER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONOVER, NC

SOUPER BOWL LUNCH SUNDAY, FEB 1

SPONSORED BY
ST. PETER'S MISSION TEAM

BRING YOUR FAVORITE
POT OF SOUP AND/OR A
DESSERT TO SHARE

CAKE
AUCTION

YUMMY
DESSERTS

HOT SOUP

SUGGESTED
DONATION
OF \$5.00 PER
PERSON

12 NOON IN THE SPIRIT CENTER

