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*75th Anniversary*



ST. PETER'S CHAPEL

CHRIST'S UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

LAVELLE, PA.

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F O R E W O R D

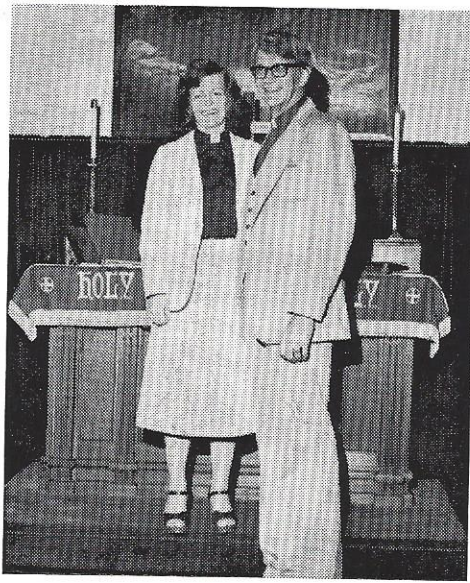
In the history of the church, which began in the New Testament, and which is still in the making, Christian people have repeated the story of Israel. Christians have said that their best is not too good for God. They have striven to make His House a distinguished building. They have put into it their combined efforts, far more than any one of them could put into his own home. They bestow upon their churches beauty, art, fine fabric, precious metal, as a result of their love for God and their highest devotion to Him. They feel that their churches should be beautiful Houses of Prayer, places where God, through His Son, can commune with them and they with Him. A sense of worth erects these buildings and then lovingly cares for them generation after generation.

With these words, taken from The Altar Guild by David A. Menges, the committee dedicates this booklet to all who have gone before, are with us now, and who will be members of the congregation in future years.

Mrs. Constance Welker, Chairperson  
Mrs. Shirley Boehmer  
Mrs. Marie Reichwein  
Mrs. Vinona Knock  
Mrs. Alma Walter

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In our short ministry here — a mere one-one thousandth of the history of the church! — we have already sensed the spirit of this group of Christians and recognized the grand tradition of faithfulness which has sustained them all these years. As we celebrate that past and rejoice in the history of Saint Peter's, it is necessary also to look to the future. Appreciation for the yesterdays ought to guide and direct us in our tomorrows. The characteristics of life in the parish have changed considerably since the founding of Saint Peter's, and yet the need for the ministry of the church remains as ever relevant today as seventy-five years ago. The challenge that faces us now is the task of continuing that ministry. To bring the truth of the Gospel to bear upon the problems of persons in today's world demands a rededication to the persistence which has characterized the faith of the Saint Peter's congregation all these years. To be sure, the Gospel is the same, but to apply it effectively and persuasively to 1979 as it was applied in 1904 is the task before us. The people of Saint Peter's, however, can face that task with the confidence that theirs is a heritage of faithful service, and with that confidence pray the words of the hymn,

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the living of these days!

Pastors Myrna and Bob Kysar

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D I N N E R   P R O G R A M

OCTOBER 13, 1979 6:00 P.M.

WEISHAMPLE GRANGE HALL



Welcome ..... Mrs. Constance Welker

Invocation ..... Pastor Myrna Kysar

Dinner

Entertainment ..... The Kerstetter Family

Introduction of Guests and Remarks

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction ..... Pastor Robert Kysar

Services on Sunday, October 14, 1979 at 9:15 A.M.

Guest Pastor — Rev. Lars B. Staaby

*Light refreshments and social hour following service.*

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## H I S T O R Y

Much has taken place at St. Peter's since its 60th Anniversary celebration under the leadership of Rev. Lars B. Staaby who was the pastor at that time. St. Peter's was then a member of the Twin Valley Lutheran Parish along with St. John's, R.D. Ashland. In October, 1967, St. Peter's and St. John's, along with St. Paul's, Gordon, Zion's, Girardville and Good Shepherd, Ashland voted to merge and formed what became known as the Ashland Area Lutheran Parish. Pastor Staaby left us in 1967 and Rev. Robert Hughes along with help from Rev. Lawrence Hand and Rev. Donald Henderschedt, who was an intern at that time, became our pastors and guides until we became Christ's United in 1969. Rev. Robert Hughes continued on as full time pastor and newly ordained Rev. Donald Henderschedt joined him in 1969. An impressive list of pastors and interns have joined in the leadership of St. Peter's Chapel since that time. In 1977, Good Shepherd withdrew from the merger and the remaining four chapels reorganized and retained the original name of Christ's United. A bright future looms under the leadership of the present pastors, who have the unique position of being a husband and wife team. We are sure that under their leadership we will continue to prosper and gain in both strength and faith in the future.

In attempting to summarize the events that have taken place over the last 15 years, along with the additions, renovations, gifts, etc., the committee felt that it would be almost impossible to name all the donors of gifts, participants in events, etc., without inadvertently omitting someone. Therefore, the following information will contain no names, but we know that all of the congregation of St. Peter's are forever grateful to all who gave or participated in our growth over the years.

In 1967, a bulletin board was purchased for the outside of the church and the doors and windows of the church basement were replaced and/or repaired along with the installation of the fire door. In March, 1970, gowns were purchased for the organist, choir and acolytes. Renovations were also done in the Primary Rooms in April and May of 1970. In October, 1971, carpeting was placed in the hallway and the stairs and in March, 1972, a new dossal was placed behind the altar. In April, 1973, new tile was installed on the floor of the kitchen and in July, 1973, new pews were purchased from Endicott Church Furniture Company. Some of these pews were given in memory or in honor of loved ones. New carpeting was also purchased for the sanctuary in September, 1973. During these years, Chrismons were made and placed on the Christmas tree and made the season rather special when they were explained and dedicated prior to Christmas Day Services.



On August 24, 1975 at 3:30 A.M., the community was awakened to the wail of fire sirens and members of St. Peter's were saddened by the fact that the fire was at the church. The fire, which was caused by vandals, did extensive damage to the church and along with the financial loss of approximately \$15,600, which was fortunately covered by insurance, a lot of precious memories were destroyed. Once again a challenge was faced by the congregation and without interruption of services and church functions, the extensive repairs were done within the next few months and by Christmas, 1975, the church had been to almost normal. In 1976 new draperies and curtains were acquired to replace those lost in the fire. Additional hymnals were purchased for the primary room and new organist, choir and acolyte gowns were acquired to replace those lost in the fire. Additional hymnals were also purchased. New furniture was purchased for the primary room and repairs were done to the stained glass windows of the sanctuary. New siding was placed on the church and a new cross was placed on the steeple. Over a period of the last few years, new hymnals, a Paschal Stand and Candle, a Sanctuary Lamp, a Processional Cross, a Ceramic Nativity Set and a new Altar Book were purchased in memory or in honor of loved ones by members and friends of St. Peter's. In 1977, the parking lot was paved and renovation of the picnic grove began in 1979. Railings were also placed in front of the church and the lawn was reseeded in 1979. The latest addition to the physical property of the church was cushioning of the choir pews.

At the present time there are 153 active confirmed members at St. Peter's. As was stated in the beginning of this history, many things have happened in the last 15 years, indeed, in the last 75 years many deaths, births, weddings, new members, losses of old members by transfers receiving of new members by transfers, etc., but the church remains steadfast and with the help of God will do so for many years to come.

#### THANK YOU

The Committee wishes to extend their thanks and appreciation to all who assisted in making this 75th anniversary celebration a success. These people are too numerous to mention but without them our mission could never have been accomplished.

Special thanks are given to Robert Boehmer, Rolling Meadows Golf Course, for the dinner tickets, Mr. & Mrs. James Chappell, Snyder's Coffee Shop, for the doughnuts and Mrs. Margaret Banning for an abundant donation in memory of her husband, Curtis A. Banning.

This brochure was donated in loving memory of Charles S. Reiner by the memorial fund.

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I N T E R N S

Donald Henderschedt  
Grant Wickert  
David Stroble  
Robert Lutz  
Robert Hoenich  
Dennis Laskey  
Kenneth Gould  
Alfred Dobronz  
Jimmy Lee Werley  
Brinkley Goranson  
Lawrence Conway

CURRENT TRUSTEES

James Hepler, Pres.  
Robert Boehmer, Treas.  
Barbara Fetterolf, Sect.  
Paul Wolfgang, Financial Sect.  
Shirley Boehmer  
Howard Mattern  
Katie Kimmel  
Dennis Long  
Lester Wolfgang

CURRENT COUNCIL

Donna Scheuren  
Lloyd Snyder  
Howard Mattern

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