



# “FOR PETE’S SAKE”

*St. Peter’s Lutheran Church Zurich, Ontario*

*Pastor: Rev Nadine Schroeder-Kranz  
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*Ministers: The People of St. Peter’s  
Rick Deichert: forpetestreasurer@gmail.com*

**FEBRUARY 2025**

## **UPCOMING DATES**

**Sunday, January 26** - Sanctuary  
- Kids’ Club - Leader: Linda Bluhm - Winter Theme (Making Bird Feeders)

**January 26<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for submitting reports to Rick Deichert  
[forpetestreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:forpetestreasurer@gmail.com) for the Annual Meeting Booklet.**

**Tuesday, January 28** - Book Club - 7:00 pm - “No Cure for Being Human” by Kate Bowler

**Wednesday, January 29** - BWRH service with Holy Communion 11:00 am

**Sunday, February 2** - Sanctuary service with Communion - Food Basket for Blessings

**Friday, February 7** - Exeter Villa service - 10:00 am

**Sunday, February 9** - Sanctuary service (no Communion) - Kids’ Club (Danica Jeffrey & Shannon Keller-Laporte - Valentine’s Day/Love theme)  
- Secret Cupid gifts to be at the church and will be blessed during the service prior to delivery to Blessings

**Sunday, February 16** - Sanctuary service (no Communion)

**Sunday, February 23** - Parish Hall service with Holy Communion - Kids’ Club (Movie Sunday)  
- **Annual General Meeting. Please mark this on your calendar.**  
- First course will be provided for lunch after church.  
- Please bring a dessert.



**Wednesday, February 26** - BWRH service with Holy Communion 11:00 am

## **REMINDER:**

**SECRET CUPID GIFTS:** Bring your wrapped gifts to the church no later than **Sunday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>**. Pastor Nadine will bless these gifts, that have been lovingly provided by members and friends, at the morning worship service. Please contact Diane Klopp if you are available to take these gifts to Blessings on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.

This outreach project was spearheaded by St. Peter’s Anniversary Committee in 2011. It has been a tremendous success ever since. Each year, 40-50 female social service recipients are *surprised and honoured with a gift on Valentine’s Day.*

Thank you to everyone for your support over the years. Your response has been truly amazing.

## A Note from Your Council



We are a busy, little congregation with a lot going on and a small number of volunteers to keep things going. We can always use more council members and would welcome anyone who would like to help us plan and make decisions for the faith community at St. Peter's. Please prayerfully consider joining our team and becoming part of the workings of our church as a member of church council.

Council is actively pursuing someone to act as a recording secretary at monthly council meetings. This would involve taking notes during meetings and then distributing them to council members.

If you have an interest in becoming a more active member at St. Peter's either on council or volunteering in any other capacity (ushering, setting up the altar, helping with flowers, Kids' Club leader, lector, communion assistant, coffee hour host etc.), please contact a member of council.



### How to Beat the Winter Blahs

**Wear Red on February 9 for Secret Cupid Sunday and again on Valentine's Day**  
**Do a Random Act of Kindness**  
**Phone a Friend**

### **The Wonder of Weather - Written with love by Bev Thiel**

Have you ever wondered about the power of weather; not just physically, but emotionally. It can have either a positive or a negative reaction, depending on surrounding circumstances. The dilemma of global warming and the fear and awareness that it entails, plays havoc with our existence. The power of a hurricane crashing onto shorelines can be comparable to emotional storms within our own shoreline. It has the ability and tenacity to rebuild what has been lost; either creating a new building with tools, or a new toolbox for the repair of your mind.

When I was younger, I would hear my parents state that they did not want to drive at night, or in bad weather. I was at a loss to understand that concept. Trust me, I have discovered that I am now in the same mindset and have finally matured when it comes to playing a game with nature. Mind you, it has only occurred in the last few years.

Better late than never!



In my mindset and determination, nothing, not even nature, was going to prohibit me from carrying out my plans. I would travel through snowstorms, just to go out for a meal celebrating someone's birthday. Even the fact that I spun right around with my car in a whiteout and hit a snowbank, was not going to stop this this fearless Becker girl.

What was I thinking, my one-track mind was not looking at all the dangers. I have concluded with all my experiences that I am somewhat a daredevil by nature. There also comes a time in life when you must utilize the balance scales and measure out the pros and cons for your adventures. I feel the straw that broke the camel's back was when Hub and I were travelling back from Texas and on the last stretch of travel on highway 402, we hit dense fog. I had to read the GPS to see where the road curved or exited, guiding Hub where to drive. We could not see two feet in front of us and it was not safe to turn around. It literally scared me so much that when we arrived home, I kissed the ground. I have investigated the weather channel more in the last few years than I ever had. I knew it existed before, but did not participate in weather school at all.

Everyone loves the days of summer and the warmth of their body and soul. The feeling of freedom when you run into the water at the beach and swim around to your heart's content. When you ride your bicycle on a trail, observing nature's finest in flowers and shrubbery, shaded with an umbrella of trees. Sitting up on a ski hill, having a picnic and looking at the horizon of beauty. Going on a hike through a forest; listening to the birds, but also the silence at the same time. It reminds me of an experience I had being on the top of a rock face in Talisman. I was laying down, with my feet dangling on the edge; meditating, with my crystals attached to the tree beside me. Suddenly, I felt a rush of air and a presence watching me and as I opened my eyes, I was overtaken with emotion. Staring at me was an eagle. It became one of my most amazing experiences. I felt I was meant to be in that spot at that precise time, enjoying the weather and surroundings of nature. It also confirmed to me that the name of my therapeutic touch and reiki business being "Fly Like an Eagle" was legendary.



Autumn has always been my personal favorite season. The wondrous colors of the leaves gives us a reflection of the earthly reminder that reaffirms beauty and then eventually falls from the branches to the ground. You can shine with beauty within and reinvent yourself, nourishing your mind, body and soul for the hibernation of winter to follow and then the regrowth of spring. When winter arrives, it is human nature to want to hibernate. It is comparable to a bear entering his cave to regain strength, to survive when he hunts for food. The darkness of the early nights and lack of sunshine causes havoc with our emotions. The feeling of optimism when nature's clock gives us more sunshine is the silver lining of hope. When spring arrives with the sprouting of leaves on the trees, green grass, blooming flowers and planting our seeds in the garden brightens our souls. .

Every season on earth changes into what nature is intending for us and we must adapt to this. Just like making changes in our own life happens, we need to water and care for the nature of our earth and soul, to grow and flourish for our future.

