

The Messenger

April is a time of anticipation. We look ahead to warmer weather, lawns and flowers greening up again and all of nature coming back to life. As I sit at my desk and look across the empty fields and at trees with no leaves, I can understand the anticipation. The color of spring is refreshing.

We will be celebrating Easter and have been reminded once more of the great gift of salvation won for us by Jesus rising from the grave and defeating death and the devil for us. Reflecting on this fact again is refreshing for us as we are reminded of God's great love for us. Refreshing like seeing the new greenery burst out for spring time.

John 3:16 "This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it. And why? Because of that person's failure to believe in the one-of-a-kind Son of God when introduced to him. THE MESSAGE

God is continuing to reach out and refresh St. Peter;

- Celebrating 150 years of God's grace in this country place
- by extending a call to a Pastor to be shepherd of St. Peter;
- by showing His loving presence among the people of St. Peter;
- by continuing to reveal His plan for St. Peter through these and many others means as He is: ***"helping us develop our future" (stake in the ground). [Ask me about the stake in the ground.]***

Know this: God is in it to win it for us. He has good plans for us all; and they are "... *Plans with hope for the future ...*" *Jeremiah 29:11*

Keep holding on to Him in all you do and "be refreshed!"

You are blessed

I am blessed

Pastor Randy

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We had some special guests at St. Peter on March 18th. SPARTY came to our school along with a couple of his friends. One of Sparty's friends Ethan, a wrestler for MSU, was our guest reader. It was so much fun seeing the kids interact with Sparty and Ethan. What a great way to celebrate March is Reading Month!



GO GREEN GO WHITE



Christian Education

Mark your calendars, VBS 2019
"The Incredible Race" will be June 17-June 21



If you have any thoughts or concerns regarding Christian education, please don't hesitate to contact me. My cell number is (517) 204-7991 or email gsponsius@aol.com

In Christ's Service,
Sally Pontius, Director of Christian Education

CHILI COOK-OFF

The Elders want to thank everyone who made chili and cornbread for the cook-off. We also would like to thank the 150th Celebration Committee for the great displays of our church and members. We would like to thank those who brought food for the pot-blessing and for everyone that helped clean-up, you are all very much appreciated! Jeanette Mehney won the chili trophy with 84 votes and Jessica Bond won the cornbread trophy with 30 votes. It was a good time for all. The trophies are being worked on with some finishing touches. The elders designated the money this year to go to the school, to be saved up with other money to purchase a new laminating machine. The cost of which is around \$1,600.00 or so. The cook-off brought in \$405.50 this year. Again a million thanks to all.

St. Peter Elders

CONGRATULATIONS
to our
WINNERS!



RADA Cutlery - reminder the Ladies Aid still sell knives, spatulas, etc. We have a RADA catalog in the office and on the chair table in the Fellowship hall lobby. Call, text, or email Kathy Bond with your order for yourself or for gifts. 989-640-0630, bkbond61@yahoo.com.

April Fools

Most of us have either had some fun by causing someone to believe something and then saying, “April Fools. Here at school I am certain that there will be some of the children, and yes perhaps some of the adults who will attempt play “April Fools” jokes on me or on others here at school.

You are probably wondering what does this have to do with the mission and ministry of St. Peter? There are many who will tell us and others that the whole account of Lent and Easter is just a story and not something that really happened. They would want us and the children to believe that it is truly just another “April Fools” story that we have fallen for. These voices that keep telling us and our children that our faith is like believing in the promises that politicians make. Scripture has an answer to these voices in the words of David the psalmist, “The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, and their ways are vile; there is no one who does good.” Yes, those who say that we are the fools for our faith are truly the fools.

How do we keep our children from being tricked by those who want them to fall for their story that there is no God and that believing in God is like believing in a fairy tale? One of the best answers to this problem is readily available – St. Peter Lutheran School and Preschool. Here our children daily hear the good news that Jesus is real, that He really did come to this earth, He really did suffer and die for our sins. He really did rise from the dead, proving that there truly is hope and a life beyond this world. He really did ascend to heaven and He really will return on judgement day and we who believe really will be in heaven with Him for eternity. Children may receive a good education in the basic skills that are needed to be successful in this world in any school, but only in a Christian school like St. Peter can they also receive daily instruction and the opportunity to practice their Christian faith in a safe environment. Here they can believe the truth and not be ridiculed as being fools.

April moves on from “April Fools” day, to a month that we often experience April showers. Yes, we may have some rainy days (and perhaps even a snow shower) but we start to see the new life as the spring flowers begin to blossom. We pray that you and the children that we have here in our school may experience the shower of God’s blessing that have become ours in this blessed Easter season.

His Servant,
Paul Weismantel



PRESCHOOL NEWS

We have had another great month at preschool. We had a great time on our field trip to AgroLiquid. The children really enjoyed exploring the facility and learning about Agriculture. Thank you to Vickie Curtin for organizing this awesome field trip!

March is Reading Month was a huge success. St. Peter had their first book fair sponsored by Usborne books. Several kids purchased books to enjoy at home and helped the school earn free books. Thank you to everyone that helped make the book fair a success!

Enrollment for the fall is off to a great start. We currently have 14 children enrolled for preschool. We have 4 spots remaining. We anticipate these filling up quickly, so if you or someone you know would like to enroll we encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

Open house for day school and preschool is on Thursday, March 21st. Day school will run from 2:00pm – 7:00pm and preschool will run from 4:00pm – 6:30pm. We hope to welcome several new families to St. Peter.

As always, thank you for your prayers and support. We feel very blessed to work with such amazing people at St. Peter.

Blessings,
Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Fletcher



BEST BOOKS FOR PRESCHOOLERS



GREETERS.....Thanks for your smiling faces, warm handshakes and maybe a hug or two. Praise God for you! If you are unable to greet the date scheduled, please switch with someone else and let Liz in the church office know so she can print the correct information in the weekly announcements. Please let me know if you have questions.

Sandy Lockwood

2019 GREETER SCHEDULE	
	April 2019
04/07/19	Theresa & Charlie Silm
04/14/19	Bonnie & Roger Gregory
04/21/19	Diane & Frank Hart
04/28/19	Ann & Dick Stout
	May 2019
05/05/19	Norma & Bruce Fitzpatrick
05/12/19	Kathy & Bruce Bond
05/19/19	Jackie & Mark Zamarron
05/26/19	Michelle & Tom Gorby
	June 2019
06/02/19	Sandy Lockwood & Ann Shellito
06/09/19	Jeanette & Bruce Mehney
06/16/19	Ilene Gibson & Marion Koeppen
06/23/19	Judy & Dave Bengel
06/30/19	Rollie Kloeckner & Bill Caruss



***JOIN US FOR OUR
EASTER SERVICE
10:00 AM***

***There will be an
Easter Breakfast from
8:30am-9:30am***

SCRIP Helen Anderson will be selling script and Sandy Lenneman will be collecting and mailing in the Box tops. Please continue to save Boxtops, Coke points, and Aunt Millie's bread upcs.

Thanks,
Pam

Blood Drives:

Some of you have been asking about the next blood drive and I appreciate your interest. As you may be aware, the Red Cross has been in a period of restructuring and making difficult decisions about how and where they would operate in the future. At one point in time they were considering not holding blood drives other than at the Red Cross home site and as a result employees were given notice of layoffs. When the Red Cross made the decision to continue blood drives in outlying areas of the state, many of their employees had already found different employment and the Red Cross then had to cancel some drive (our November drive was an example) because they were unable to staff them. They are still in the process of reorganizing and re-staffing and are operating on a reduced level so our March 2019 drive has also been canceled. The next Blood Drive to be hosted at St. Peter is scheduled for June 4th and I hope that you will mark your calendar now and plan to participate. I am so appreciative of everyone who has stepped up to make these drives a success because I know that blood is in great need and many lives are saved every day thanks to gracious donors.

2nd Annual St. Peter Lutheran Church School Gala

I'm sure you're all anxiously waiting for more news about the 2nd Annual St. Peter Lutheran School Gala. Scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2019, tickets are going fast. Sales of the 150 club ended March 31st. Remaining Gala tickets are \$35 each and will be available from the Church Office or any of the committee members – Geri Jastram, Vicki Curtin, Wade Elton, Lori Eaton, or Theresa Silm. Each Gala ticket includes a ticket for the sweepstakes prizes. There are some awesome auction items this year including: a two night stay at the Terrace Inn in Petoskey; a progressive dinner for 8; date night basket; plane ride; kids book package; a park bench; trellis; some great desserts; and a class project from each of the school classrooms; and more. This year we are also auctioning a lot in the Presque Isle Harbor Association which was graciously donated by Bruce and Jeanette Mehney. A flyer with more details on this item is also included in this newsletter. Please share this information with others who might be interested. Don't miss out on the fun and your chance to support St. Peter Lutheran School, get your tickets now and join us for our Enchanted Garden evening on May 4th.

ELDER CONTACT INFORMATION

Dave Bengel	517-281-5812	me@davidbengel.com
Dick Stout	517-282-2859	rstoutspartans01@hotmail.com
Tom Gorby	989-292-1715	tomgorby@gmail.com
Ryan West	517-977-5078	westpropertyservices@live.com
Ken Bond	989-640-2380	kbbenji88@yahoo.com
John Burgess	616-295-3903	johnburgess6606@gmail.com



Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, please call Liz in the church office (989) 224-3178 during office hours. If in the evening or weekend, please call Pam Mohr (989) 292-1686.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

When Jesus was on the earth, he has an important mission and message He wanted others to know. He needed help getting the message out, and the helpers needed training. In Sunday school we will learn whom He chose and how he taught them. We will learn about why He came, what He did for mankind, and it is so important to get that message out to others today.

This begins with respect for God, leads to right living, and results in increased ability to tell right from wrong.

Part of Psalm 119:125 says "Give me discernment that I may understand your statutes"

Children need to know that truths they learn in Sunday school to help them stay strong against the world's evil. Adults need Bible study too! Please bring your child, grandchild, or neighbors' child to Sunday school and join adult Bible study while waiting for them. You'll be glad you did!!

Shirley Huguelet

Pastor David Speerbrecker is guest pastor at April 28 worship service
St. Peter 150 Anniversary: "Built on the Rock - Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow"

Pastor David Speerbrecker will help St. Peter celebrate its 150 Anniversary when he serves as guest pastor at the April 28 church service. Worship begins at 10 a.m., followed by a pot blessing lunch at the St. Peter Fellowship Center.

Our "Heritage Sunday" includes a variety of memorabilia from years gone by on display in the Fellowship Center. In addition, Parts 1 and 2 of our St. Peter History slideshow will take place prior to and after dinner.

Please mark your calendars for this special service, and others planned during our 150 anniversary year: June 23, outdoor worship with Pastor Mark Werner and St. Peter's Annual Hog Roast; and the final special service set for Oct. 13 with Pastor Jeffrey Heimsoth that includes a catered dinner.

Updates on these special services will be included in the Sunday bulletin and upcoming newsletters. Also, remember to look for "Past Memories of St. Peter's 150 Years" each week in the Sunday bulletin as we celebrate 150 years of being "Built on the Rock" Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow."



Psalm 121 GOD'S WORD Translation (GW)

¹ P: I look up toward the mountains.

C: Where can I find help?

² P: My help comes from the Lord,

C: the maker of heaven and earth.

MEDITATION 1. **HELP!** Where? How? From Whom?

³ P: He will not let you fall.

C: Your guardian will not fall asleep.

⁴ P: Indeed, the Guardian of Israel never rests or sleeps.





*“Laying the Foundation to Build on the Rock of Christ.
Study the Word, Seek the Lost, and to Serve our Neighbors”*

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH SERVICES

Wednesdays: Chapel 9:00am
Bible Study 6:00pm-7:00pm
Mid Week Worship Service 7:00pm

Sundays: Worship Services 10:00am
Bible Study 8:45am
Sunday School 9:00am



Shut-In Visit List Weekly Visits

Shirley Edwards
Ethel Flegler
Bill & Cindy Horman
Tom Johnson
Ken Mohnke

Sheila Ordway
Gordon Schrader
Mel Sehlke
Charlie Silm
John Sillman

Lois Sillman
Albert Smith
Bill & Sherri VanBeelen



Check out our website!
www.stpeterriley.org

Be sure to check our website for event or service updates and cancellations. Also on our website you are able to download the monthly newsletter and calendar. We are continuously updating and making changes to the website so if you have not logged on the website lately check it out see what's new.



Church News

- 4/1/19 School Board Meeting 6:30pm (Library)
4/3/19 Bible Study 6:00pm
Lent Worship Services 9:00am & 7:00pm
4/4/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
Ladies Aid Meeting 12:00pm (Library)
4/5/19 Over 50's Group 6:30pm
St. Johns Lutheran Church Trivia Night 7:00pm
4/8/19 PTL Meeting 4:00pm (Library)
Elders Meeting 7:00pm (Library)
4/10/19 150th Anniversary Committee Meeting 10:00am (Office)
Bible Study 6:00pm
Lent Worship Services 9:00am & 7:00pm
4/11/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
4/15/19 Gala Meeting 6:30pm (Library)
4/16/19 Council Meeting 6:30pm (Library)
4/18/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm
4/19/19 Good Friday Service 7:00pm
No School-St. Peter Lutheran School
4/21/19 *Easter Service 10:00am*
Easter Breakfast 8:30am-9:30am
4/23/19 4H Meeting 7:00-8:30pm (Gym)
4/24/19 Bible Study 6:00pm / Worship Service 7:00pm
4/25/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
4/28/19 Heritage Sunday w/Pastor David Speerbrecker
And the children will be singing.

MEMORIALS

In Loving Memory of

Ray Watson \$720



St. Peter Lutheran Church

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We are on the web!
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Address Service Requested.

