

# The Messenger

## A Hidden Kingdom

Well, we made it! A very busy summer is slipping away, and St. Peter begins a new chapter of proclaiming the love of God in Christ and bringing a peace that passes all understanding to sinners in need of forgiveness. God uses us, his holy church gathered here in Riley and scattered all around the world, to do this work. God gives his great and eternal gifts through ordinary and temporal means. His message of salvation in Christ is not proclaimed by blinding angels in the sky, it is spoken by simple men. A seemingly ordinary washing of water, combined with the Word of God, is a forgiving heavenly flood, washing us of our sins in the blood of our Savior. Jesus' life-giving body and blood are given to us in ordinary bread and wine. God gives us the eternal treasures of life and salvation in ordinary means. The glory of the gifts is hidden, but we know them by faith according to the Word of God.

The glory of the church itself is also hidden in this age but will be revealed in the age to come. In fact, it is also an act of faith to confess that we believe in the holy, Christian church. Why? Because we're not all that holy! We look ordinary. We have ordinary problems. We fail and sin against one another. Nevertheless, God has declared us holy because of His Son, of whom we are partakers of his life, death, and resurrection. Now we are simultaneously sinners and saints. Sinners by birth, the inherited condition from our first parents, yet completely holy in Christ by our birth from above in the waters of baptism. The death of the old, sinful nature was given in baptism but will only be complete and realized fully in the life to come when we live before God in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore, it is by faith that we confess the church to be holy.

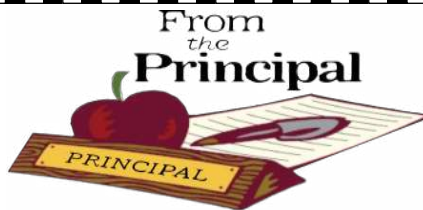
As we begin this new chapter, let us remain firm in these mysteries that are comprehended by faith—the gifts of Christ given, making us a holy, forgiven people of God. Many other things in our lives are more apparent and tangible than the humbleness of God's gifts in this age. Nevertheless, we know that what God gives to us in His Word and Sacraments is of eternal value. Hear what God says and find His favor when He deals with us through these means, graciously giving us forgiveness, life, and salvation in our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Pastor Timothy Bayer

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## Start

In July I wrote about the various celebrations that we had ahead of us. As we begin this month, we can look back with thanksgiving for the many great things that we have celebrated this summer. The highlight for many of us was the ordination and installation of Pastor Bayer. We rejoice that the Lord has sent him and his family to us.

This month we celebrate the beginning of another school year. We are ready to have a truly great year. We welcome Mrs. Kim Ellis back to St. Peter School as our teacher of grades K-2. Mrs. Betsy Rowe continues as our teacher for grades 3-5, Mrs. Lisa Smith and Mrs. Corrine Fletcher will again have the Preschool children, and yes, I will be back as your principal. We also look forward to having the Bayer children in our school – Isaac in Preschool, Linley in 1st grade and Andrew in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

We are also looking forward to having Pastor Bayer leading our children in worship during our chapel services. You may also find Pastor Bayer joining me in welcoming students in the morning. Our theme for this year is Joyfully Lutheran. The joy comes not from the title of being Lutheran, but from what Christ has done for us as it is expressed in our beliefs and practices. This theme is based on I Thessalonians 5:16-24 – look forward to your children telling you about the joy that they experience as a part of our school family.

We hope that you have had an enjoyable summer with time to spend with your children and other family members. Enjoy these first weeks of August for those final summer activities and then look forward to another great year.

It's not too late to invite and encourage others to join us as a part of our school family, although Preschool is at capacity, we still have space available in K-5. Remember that new families will receive half price tuition for their first child the first year.

On Monday, August 19 at 4:00 PM we will have our first PTL meeting of the year, all parents are invited to attend and join in the planning. We will have an Open House on August 21 at 7:00 PM for families to meet the staff and complete any final paperwork. We have tried to reduce the amount of paperwork for returning families, so you don't have to look forward to writer's cramp. On Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> in the regular 10:00 AM service we will install our teachers for the 2019-20 school year.

On Monday, August 26 at 9:00 AM we will have our opening Chapel Service where we will ask for God's blessing on our school and will begin in His name trusting in Him for guidance and support. We would invite you to attend this service and join us with your prayers and support.

His Servant,

*Paul Weismantel*, Principal

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## THANK YOU

The Migrant Program Food & Rummage items were given out to 9 families. This was at the July 18<sup>th</sup> Mexican Fiesta dinner. It really brought the Migrant kids and their parents together for an evening of Celebration.

We want to THANK everyone in the Congregation who gave food or donations of money toward food and Rummage Items.

The families are: VERY THANKFUL and VERY APPRECIATIVE !!

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Thank you to all who helped on the Migrant Dinner. Special thanks to all who helped in the kitchen with prepping, cooking and serving the food. Thanks to all who helped with the cleanup. Thank you to the many who donated food for the dinner. Thanks to Dave Bengel for doing the setup for the dinner. Thank you to Al and Renee for sorting and organizing all the items for the rummage sale. The Migrant families were extremely appreciative of all the items donated and the food. What a great outreach event for St. Peter.

Charlene Kennedy, DVM

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An overdue but heartfelt thanks to all who donated items or money for VBS snacks. They were a big hit! Special thanks to all who helped in the kitchen, especially Pat Martin, Amy Martin and Geri Jastram for their expertise in juggling preparation to coordinate with each groups schedule, and for cleanup. You are all greatly appreciated!



Shirley Huguelet

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I would like to thank all those that participated in “The Incredible Race” VBS program this year. It was an overwhelming success and I’ve heard so many positive comments. We had an average of 42 children each day and they generously offered \$546.90 to The Heifer International organization. This organization takes animals gifted and gives them to families in underdeveloped countries and teaches them how to care for them and then sell their milk, eggs, etc! The children were shown pictures of the animals and helped pick where the money should go.

\$250 - Water Buffalo

\$120 – Goat

\$ 60 – Flock of Hope (includes Ducks, Geese and Chickens)

\$ 60 – Trio of Rabbits

\$ 20 – Flock of Ducks (10 to 50 chicks)

\$ 20 – Flock of Chickens (10 to 50 chicks)

Thanks again to the many volunteers that gave of your time during the week:

Al & Renee Schmitzer, Dick & Ann Stout, Betsy Rowe, John Burgess, Harold Anderson, Dave & Judy Bengal, Judy Boettger, Bob, Skylar & Savana Watson, Theresa Silm, Pam Mohr, Charlene Kennedy, Adriannah Ingleright, Olivia, Kadie & Nick Smith, Shirley Huguelet, Pat & Amy Martens, Geri Jastram, Lydia Bloom, Rex Mohnke, Albert Smith, Sandy Lockwood, Becky El-Assad, Clara Fletcher, Gabe Schneider, Jackson & Joanna, Amanda Hull, Laurie Flegler, Pastor Randy and Pastor Bayer. And last but not least Liz Stevens. Liz was extremely helpful to me in so many ways. She kept me on track and focused on what I needed to do. We are very blessed to have Liz. If I have omitted a name, I am truly sorry. I am so thankful for our giving church and school families.

In His Service,  
Sally Pontius, Director of Christian Education



Please save your receipts when you buy General Mills products. They are changing how Boxtops are being turned in now. (See insert)



*“Thank you to all who showed their love and appreciation to our family. The gifts, cards or craft items are all special. I guess we did get to know one another well in seven months as some of the gifts reveal. Again, thank you all and BLESSINGS on the plans that the Lord has for you going forward (Jeremiah 29:11).*

*You are blessed  
I am blessed  
Pastor Randy, Anne, Becca*



**CHURCH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

Monday 8:00am-4:00pm  
Tuesday-Thursday 8:00am-2:00pm  
Friday-Office closed

**MINT FESTIVAL PARKING SIGN UP...** If you would like to help please see the sign-up sheets in the back of the church. We still have a couple time slots open! Proceeds go to help St. Peter! Any questions, please contact Dick Stout 517-282-2859.

**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.

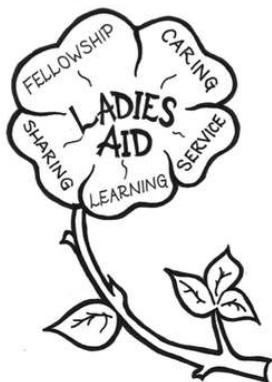
Sandy Lockwood

2019 GREETER SCHEDULE	
	August 2019
08/04/19	Carleen Eaton & Marilyn Richmond
08/11/19	Albert Smith & Shirley Hayes
08/18/19	Lorna & Keith Kirschenbauer
08/25/19	Laurie & Earl Flegler
	September 2019
09/01/19	Diane & Frank Hart
09/08/19	Mary Ann & Larry Grennell
09/15/19	Hartner Family
09/22/19	Jan & Don Maynard
09/29/19	Diane & Sara Thurston
	October 2019
10/06/19	Chris & Mark Grennell
10/13/19	Bob Barber & Lyle Auten
10/20/19	Sandy Lockwood & Bill Caruss
10/27/19	Debbie Schrader & Ann Shellito



**SCRIP** Pam Mohr 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 ups.

Thanks,  
Pam



**LADIES AID NEWS**

The ladies continue working in our ladies aid room every Thursday morning on quilts and other projects. We would like to see more ladies! So if you would like to come on Thursday at 9:00am, there are many things to do and such wonderful fellowship. Many hands make work light, it really isn't work though; its ways of serving our Lord.



*Sunday Poem ~*

*I Count My  
Blessings*

*by Harold F. Mohn*

*I count my blessings one by one  
Though great or small they be,  
And know without the help of God  
Not one would ever be.*

*I thank Him for these blessings  
Each morning of each day,  
And then again at close of night  
Before sleep comes my way.*

*He grants me all these blessings  
Though sinner that I be,  
And with the many faults of mine  
I know that He loves me.*

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## **ELDER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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



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## **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.



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## ***St. Peter 150 Anniversary: "Built on the Rock - Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow"***

*Please mark your calendars for this special service, and others planned during our 150 anniversary year: Special service set for October 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."*







Thank you to all the many volunteers who made our annual Hog Roast Picnic such a special time of great fellowship and fun. Special thanks to all who helped in the kitchen with the meal and clean up. Thanks to all who helped set up on Saturday. Thanks to all who helped with games for the children and Bingo for the adults. Thank you to all who donated prizes for the games and Bingo. Special thanks to Barb Weismantel for making the beautiful center pieces. Big thank you to Earl and Laurie Flegler for letting us use their two tents for this event plus setting them up. Thank you to Sue Yelden for doing a Thrivent Action Plan to cover the cost of the pork. Thanks to Bob Eaton for buying the pork, taking it to Chuckie D's and picking it up. God has richly blessed us at St. Peter.

Charlene Kennedy, DVM

Thank you to all the many volunteers who helped to make Pastor Randy's thank you luncheon such a special event. St. Peter is so blessed to have such wonderful volunteers.

Charlene Kennedy, DVM

Many thanks to all who helped with the meal welcoming Pastor Bayer and his family to St. Peter. Special thanks to the kitchen and cleanup crew for all their help for this event. Thank you to the Ladies Aid for purchasing the ham, potatoes and flowers. God has richly blessed us at St. Peter with many wonderful volunteers.

Charlene Kennedy, DVM



Plans are underway for a float in the Mint Festival Parade which is Saturday, August 10th. This is in coordination with St. Peter's 150th Anniversary Celebration. If you are interested in planning, helping to build it or in any other capacity, you are the person we're looking for. We also need donations of hard wrapped candy to hand out at the parade. Candy can be dropped off in the church office. We need walkers to join us in the parade, please contact Charlene Kennedy.

Pastor Randy gave out "Round TUIT'S" after Worship. Let's not wait until we get "AROUND TO IT". Give Charlene Kennedy a call today to see how you can help! 989 224-7106

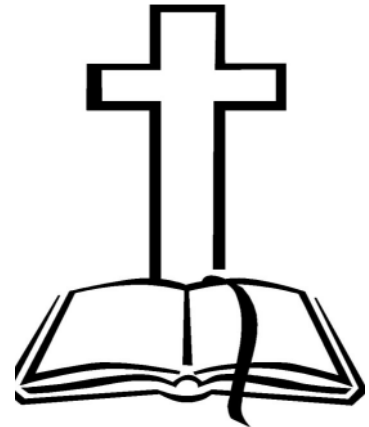


*“Laying the Foundation to Build on the Rock of Christ.  
Study the Word, Seek the Lost, and to Serve our Neighbors”*

## ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH SERVICES

Wednesdays: Chapel 9:00am  
Bible Study 6:00pm-7:00pm  
Mid Week Worship Service-7:00pm  
(Wednesday Services & Bible Study suspended for  
the summer)

Sundays: Worship Services 10:00am  
Bible Study 8:45am  
Sunday School 9:00am (Returning in the fall)



## Shut-In Visit List Weekly Visits

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

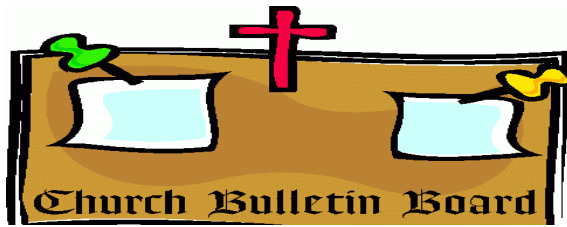
Sheila Ordway  
Gordon Schrader  
Mel Sehlke  
Charlie Silm  
John Sillman

Lois Sillman  
Albert Smith  
Bill & Sherri VanBeelen



Check out our website!  
[www.stpeterriley.org](http://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.



- 8/1/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
- 8/2/19 Over 50's Group 6:30pm (Gym)
- 8/8/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
- 8/10/19 Mint Festival Parade 10:00am
- 8/12/19 School Board Meeting 6:30pm (Library)
- 8/13/19 Council Meeting 6:30pm (Library)
- 8/14/19 150th Committee Mtg 10:00am (Office)
- 8/15/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
- 8/16/19 Lugnuts game
- 8/19/19 PTL Meeting 4:00pm
- 8/20/19 4H Meeting 7:00pm-8:30pm (Gym)
- 8/21/19 St. Peter School Open House 7:00pm
- 8/22/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
- 8/25/19 Teacher Installation Service 10:00am
- 8/26/19 1st day of School
- 8/29/19 Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)

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## **MEMORIALS**

### ***In Loving Memory of***

*Doris Swatman \$15*

*Brian Swatman \$20*



### ***In Honor of***

*Our great-grandparents Carl & Frederike (Witt) Sehlke, who were the first marriage at St. Peter Lutheran Church on April 11, 1890. They taught their family to have faith in Christ's love and helped to build the community we continue to cherish today. \$1,000*



# St. Peter Lutheran Church

Rev. Timothy Bayer  
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*Address Service Requested.*

