

The Messenger

Bible Class Opportunities

Would you like to learn the Holy Scriptures better? Have you ever wondered why we do a certain thing in church? Do you have questions about particular topics or passages of Holy Scripture? Have you ever wished there were an opportunity to have all those questions asked and answered?

If so, I invite you to join us at Bible Class each Sunday morning. We have been meeting between the temporary 8 am service and the 10 am service. In February, as we return to a single service at 10 am, the Bible class will return to its normally scheduled time of 8:45 to 9:45.

At Bible study, all of those burning questions can be raised and discussed. Additionally, we look at a passage of Scripture and work through it verse by verse. Insights from the original languages and theologians of the church past and present inform the discussion of the text, and connections are made between the text and our current lives and Christian practice. Regularly attending Bible class will help you to better understand the sermons you hear in church, what goes on in Divine Service, and your life as a Christian.

The Sunday morning class is all ages. It is designed for families to attend together. We spend time on catechism training with the youth, and they remain involved throughout the class. Bible class is one more opportunity to train up our youth in the way that they should go.

Aside from the Sunday morning all-ages class, there is also a midweek class on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 in the library. This class is designed for adult students, and the focus is the Lutheran Confessions. These documents, contained in the Book of Concord, published in 1580, are what we believe, teach, and confess according to the Word of God. Most Lutherans are knowledgeable of the Small Catechism from their confirmation days but may have little to no knowledge of our other confessional writings. This class is a great opportunity to deepen your knowledge, appreciation, and love for the true doctrine of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church, taken solely from the Word of God.

And though I have listed many benefits for these classes, the best benefit is not your knowledge of the Bible. Rather, the best benefit is an increase in knowledge of your Savior, Jesus, the one whom all the Scriptures speak about.

So join us on Sundays and/or Wednesdays at class. Oh, and I almost forgot another benefit—we have a great time together and get to know one another better, increasing not only our love for our Savior but our love for one another in the body of Christ.

In Christ,
Pastor Bayer



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

At times it seems that the fall and winter months will never end. February is one of those months that although it is the shortest month on the calendar, it seems to go on and on. There will of course be Valentine's Day when we will have our parties, but that is just a one-day event.

But there is one more event that we as Christians will remember on Wednesday, February 17. Yes, this is a day when we begin our annual remembrance of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. Unlike Valentine's Day it begins the Lenten season. Unfortunately, most of our society will remember Valentine's Day, but will take little or no notice of Ash Wednesday. Here at St. Peter Lutheran School, we will remember Ash Wednesday in our morning Matins chapel service and in our classrooms. Unlike Valentine's Day this will be a more somber day when we contemplate our sins that resulted in our Savior's need to suffer, die, and rise again so that our sins might be forgiven. We will continue in the six weeks after Ash Wednesday as we remember our Savior's suffering and death and His resurrection.

Lent is also a time when many people give up one of their pleasures whether it is coffee, movies, chocolate, desserts, or some other thing that they truly enjoy. For some people it may be looked as a way to get rid of a bad habit, for others it is a way to be reminded on a daily basis of what Christ gave up for us. He forsook the pleasures of heaven to be born in a lowly manger, He willingly endured the daily mocking and ridicule that was heaped upon Him, and then He willingly suffered the brutal torture of being mocked, scourged, crowned with thorn, forced to carry His heavy cross and the burden of the sins of the whole world. He willingly allowed himself to be nailed to a cross and there to suffer and die for our salvation.

How much better is the love that flowed from His heart for us than the paper and candy valentines that we offer to those whom we love.

We pray that this Lenten season may truly be a blessing to you. We hope to see many of you either on Wednesday morning in our chapel/Matins services or on Wednesday evening at our Lenten services.

His Servant,
Paul Weismantel



Thank you to the ladies who created the delicious cookie and treat tray I got. They were delicious and I enjoyed every bite. (Well, I did share one with Theresa.) Thanks to Charlene Kennedy for delivering it.
~ Charlie Silm

Thanks first and foremost to our awesome God and then to everyone who has been praying for our granddaughter Charley. She is one tough little cookie. After a total of 25 days in the hospital, 2 inpatient cycles of chemo, 2 outpatient doses of chemo, lots of tests, procedures, a couple of transfusions and labs; her scans last week showed no cancer cells! As our daughter said, "Her road isn't fully over as she will continue to take oral medication, have monthly clinic appointments and labs, and trimonthly scans but we are overcome with joy and gratitude and in awe of God's healing grace!!" We all feel overwhelmingly blessed by the outpouring of love and support during the past few months and words cannot adequately express how much it has meant to us.. Thank you and God bless you all.

~~ Love, Charlie & Theresa Silm



ELDER CONTACT INFORMATION

Dave Bengel 517-281-5812 me@davidbengel.com
Tom Gorby 989-292-1715 tomgorby@gmail.com
Ryan West 517-977-5078 westpropertyservices@live.com
Ken Bond 989-640-2380 bondken88@yahoo.com
John Burgess 616-295-3903 johnburgess6606@gmail.com
Pastor Bayer (Emergency ph#585-402-2807) pastorbayer@gmail.com



Prayer Chain



Prayer Chain

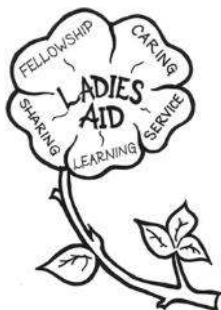
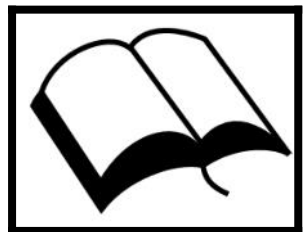
If you have a prayer request, please call Liz in the church office (989) 224-3178 during office hours. If in the evening or weekend, please call Pam Mohr (989) 292-1686.



REMINDER:
MITES SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 28TH

ST. PETER 150TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORY BOOKS FOR SALE

\$7.00 a book. Make checks payable to St. Peter Lutheran Church. Contact the church office if you would like to purchase a book at 989-224-3178 or church@stpeterriley.org



LADIES AID SALE

We welcome donated homemade items for Ladies Aid Sale. We have a display case in the hallway outside of the Fellowship Hall. Drop off your donated items at the church office or at church on Sundays. Proceeds go towards the Ladies Aid to support the needs of the congregation, charities we give to and the seminary student we support. There will be a payment box on the Ladies Aid display.

Makes checks payable to St. Peter Ladies Aid.



Lenten & Easter Worship Schedule

Ash Wednesday—February 17 at 7:00pm

Maundy Thursday - April 1 at 7:00pm

Good Friday - April 2 at 10:00am & 7:00pm

Easter Vigil - April 3 at 8:30pm

Easter - April 4 at 10:00am

Mid-Week Lenten Worship—Wednesday 10:30am & 7:00pm

February 24, March 3, March 10, March 24, March 31

(No Bible Study during Lent)

We want to thank Norma Fitzpatrick for her dedication of 35 years as our organist here at St. Peter. We wish you well on your retirement and thank you so much for sharing your time and talents with all of us.

(A time of celebration will be held at a later date)



February 2021 Stewardship Newsletter Article

The 2020 Birthday Gift for Jesus Campaign raised \$13,275.53. Your gift will be placed in the Heritage Preservation Fund for maintenance and improvements of our church campus.

Thank you so much for your generosity! St Peter is blessed to have such an engaged and giving congregation.

Many stewards contributed to the Campaign. If you donated in honor or memory of someone it is listed below.

Donor

Ann Shellito
Barry & Judy Boettger
Tom & Sue Bourdon
Robert & Lori Eaton
Rod Hayes
Tom & Rita Hollis
Roland Kloeckner

Larry & Pam Mohr
Dave & Judy Bengel
Frank & Diane Hart
Roger & Jean Heathman
Don & Jan Maynard
Shirley Schrader
Kim Sperry

Wayne & Rhonda Dedyne
Sally Pontius
Carleen Eaton
Anne Gruber
Charlene Kennedy

Keith & Lorna Kirschenbauer
Ralph & Olga Matteson

In Honor or Memory of

Louis Shellito, Alice Shellito
All Faithful that Serve the Lord
Elden & Lorina Sillman
Geri Len & Carleen Eaton
Bill & Cindy Horman
Derek, Marie & Harry Hollis, Neva & Albert Flak
Marilyn Sampson Kloeckner,
Clemens & Marcella Kloeckner, Sherry Stearns,
Henry C & Doretta Witt, Robert & Shirley Sampson,
Emma & George Guthrie, Lilly & Leo Schafer,
Leone & Don Balzak, Raymunda Mchaffey
Mary Jane Mohr, Donna Witt
Edward, & Frieda Felzke, Julius & Marie Bengel
To the Glory of God
COVID-19 Frontline Workers
Earl & Emil Maynard
Gordon Schrader
Richard Howe, Ray & Norena Sperry,
Margaret Howe
Bob Dedyne, Clemens & Marcella Kloeckner
Margaret Howe
Ernest & Leotta Witt
Don & Ella Mae Witt, Doug Witt
Albert & Neva Flak
Jay & Ida Kennedy
Delores Sperry
Roy Matteson



Stewardship Newsletter article – February 2021

“I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:8-9).

Without commands or even arm-twisting, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel.

St. Paul wrote: “But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving” (2 Corinthians 8:7). In other words, just as we grow in faith and speech and knowledge of eternal things by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, so also do we grow in giving from the same Spirit through the same Word.

The problem is that the grace of generosity often grows cold in us. It’s not so much that we stop giving, but we don’t put it first. We treat it like all the other bills that must be paid. It becomes a chore, just one more thing to check off a list of things to do. That empties it of its spiritual power and robs us of the joy that Christ and the Scriptures assign to it.

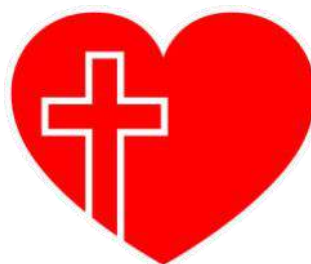
On top of that, since this generosity is linked to faith and knowledge of divine things, a lack of excelling in giving is sure sign that our faith and knowledge of God are under attack as well.

Thus St. Paul points to the foundation of generosity: the generosity of Christ Himself. Even though He was rich, He became poor so that we who are poor might become rich. Thus, the incarnation, suffering, and death of our Lord on the cross is the reason, source, and driving force for our generosity in giving to the church.

And since Christ who was rich became poor so that we might be rich in His grace—of which generous giving is part—so we also who are rich in His grace can excel in pressing His grace into service toward the gracious work of the church.

Pay attention to what you give to the church so that you may excel at it. And if you find that your heart has grown cold or indifferent toward it, immerse yourself in God’s Word. Read it at home. Attend Bible Class. Hear and listen to it preached in the Divine Service. Be reminded of what Christ has done for you in His incarnation, suffering, and death. For this will strengthen your faith and knowledge. And where that excels, so will the grace of giving excel also.

Source: www.lcms.org/stewardshipnewsletterfebruary2021



Welcome to Scrip. My name is Traci Brisboe-Cole and I am the "NEW" Scrip Coordinator for St. Peter. St. Peter participates in Scrip as a way to give families a chance to support their students, church, and school! There are over 3 pages of retailers who participate in Scrip who offer rebates for their users from 1.5%- 18% on purchases. If you are interested in learning more about Scrip I would love to help you get started. I can be reached via email: Tracieggleston20@gmail.com or phone: 269-908-6165 (text is preferred). If you want to get started to view their website you can join St. Peter with the St. Peter Enrollment code: 6L1A6F8L559. Download the shopwithscrip app! Please, do not hesitate to reach out for more information!!!!

Thank you,

Traci Brisboe-Cole



Dear Pastor and Friends

Thank you, thank you for so many cards. I'm doing ok just so hard to find where everything is. I now have a decent phone and you can call it anytime but not before nine. I sleep in! My new phone number is 517-977-1254. Call because no visits yet! Miss you all!

Virginia Davis
3225 W. Mount Hope Ave
Apt 226
Lansing, MI 49811



2021 GIVING ENVELOPES

Do you still need to pick up your 2021 giving envelopes? They are located at the church in the cry room. If you would like curb side assistance please contact the office at 989-224-3178 to make arrangements.

Thank you to everyone who came on Saturday, January 9th to take down the Christmas decorations. We are so blessed to have so many people willing to help whenever we need to get things done at St. Peter.

Charlene Kennedy, DVM



Preschool News

We are very excited to be back at school after a wonderful Christmas break. We hope everyone enjoyed their time with family and friends. We transitioned the children to the next level of letter recognition, name recognition, and fine motor skills. It is wonderful to see how much they have grown and developed from the beginning of the year.

Enrollment for the fall has started! We are thrilled to be offering a three, four, and five day program again this year. Hours will remain 8:30am-11:30am. Enrollment for current and alumni families opened on January 4th. Enrollment was opened to the public on January 8th. We are excited to have the opportunity to grow our preschool program and would appreciate any prayers and support you can offer. If you have any questions you may contact Mrs. Fletcher or me.

We will be celebrating Lutheran Schools' Week at the end of January. There are a lot of wonderful events planned for this week.

Blessings,

Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Fletcher

Mrs. Smith: lisaschrauben@live.com 517-420-8797

Mrs. Fletcher: cnfletcher80@aol.com 989-292-9699





*“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



Wednesday: Matins Service 10:30am
Bible Study:6:00pm (Lutheran Confessions study in the Library)
(No 6:00pm Bible Study during Lent)

Sunday: 8:45am-9:45 am - Family Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall
10:00 am - Divine Service



Shut-In Visit List Monthly Visits

Shirley Edwards
Ethel Flegler
Lyle Huguélet
Tom & Julie Johnson

Ellen Martens
Charlie Silm
Lois Sillman
Albert Smith



Check out our website!
www.stperriley.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, bulletin 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.](#)

February

- 2/1/21 School Board Meeting 6:30pm (Library)
2/2/21 Elders Meeting 6:00pm (Library)
Groundhog Day
- 2/3/21 Matins Service 10:30am & Bible Study 6:00pm (Library)
2/4/21 Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
Ladies Aid 12:00pm (Library)
- 2/7/21 Confirmation 3:30pm (Library)
2/9/21 Council Meeting 6:30pm (Gym)
2/10/21 Matins Service 10:30am & Bible Study 6:00pm (Library)
2/11/21 Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
Pastor on vacation 2/11/21-2/16/21
- 2/14/21 Pastor Klamer will be leading us in Gods word today
No Confirmation today
Valentine's Day
- 2/15/21 PTL Meeting 5:30pm (Library)
President's Day
- 2/17/21 Matins Service 10:30am & (No Bible Study tonight)
Ash Wednesday Service 7:00pm
- 2/18/21 Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
Newsletter Deadline
- 2/21/21 Confirmation 3:30pm (Library)
2/24/21 Lenten Service 10:30am & 7:00pm(No Bible Study tonight)
2/25/21 Quilting 9:00am (Ladies Aid Room)
2/28/21 Confirmation 3:30pm (Library)
Mites Sunday

MEMORIALS

In Loving Memory of

Bill Horman \$295.00

Jean Dilts \$60.00

*Marilyn Sampson Kloeckner, Clemens & Marcella Kloeckner,
Sherry Stearns, Henry C & Doretta Witt, Robert & Shirley Sampson,
Emma & George Guthrie, Lilly & Leo Schafer, Leone & Don Balzak,
Raymunda Mchaffey \$600.00*





Easter Lilies

We are taking orders for Easter Lilies to help beautify our church sanctuary for Easter. Purchase a beautiful plant for yourself or give to someone special after the Easter Services.

NAME _____

I would like to order _____ Easter Lilies at \$9.50 per plant.

_____ x \$9.50 = _____ Total Due

_____ Cash or _____ Check (please write in check #)

My Easter Lily is...

_____ To the glory of God.

_____ In memory of _____

_____ In honor of _____

Please make checks payable to *St. Peter Lutheran Church* and place them in the offering plate in an envelope marked "Easter Lilies," or turn it into the church office. Please make sure that your name is clearly written. Orders are due by Sunday, March 21st.

St. Peter Lutheran Church & School

Rev. Timothy Bayer
8990 Church Rd.
St. Johns, MI 48879

Phone: 989-224-3178
E-mail: church@stpeterriley.org



We are on the web!
www.stpeterriley.org

