

A “Hands On” God...and a “Hands On” People

They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” Luke 24:31-34

I realize you probably don’t expect to hear this from a former science teacher, but I really wanted nothing to do with science when I was in grade school. And the reason? Science class almost always meant reading our text book and answering questions. I suppose it worked for some, but for a kid like me who didn’t particularly enjoy reading, this teaching technique did little to encourage my love for science... **until** high school.

When I entered my sophomore year of high school, I quickly discovered that science was more interesting than I thought, and my entire perspective changed when we actually began to **do** things in class. That’s when we dissected in Biology class, made aspirin in Chemistry class, and did so many other “hands on” experiments that led me to discover and really begin to learn. Yes, “Hands On Science” changed my world, so much so that it led me to actually consider becoming a Science teacher.

I have to admit, I’m still pretty much a “hands on” kind of person. I like to see how things work and I’ve always enjoyed working on home projects. I’ve also grown to be the kind of person who doesn’t like a lot of talk with little or no action to back it up. (I’ll credit my father for this one. I can’t tell you how many times he told me that “talk is cheap.”)

That’s why I have to confess that I feel the same when it comes to how we live out our Christian lives. It seems that there is a tendency for people like us to **talk about** the importance of witnessing and discipling with little to back it up. It’s not that the opportunities don’t exist. In fact, check out some of these staggering statistical facts that suggest otherwise.

Did you know that it’s still true that more people worship in Christian churches in Africa on any given Sunday than in all of North America (US and Canada)? Did you know that more people worship on a Sunday morning in China (a nation with a history of attempting to stamp out Christianity) than in all of Europe? Did you know that the same is now true regarding Sunday morning worshipers in China compared to Sunday morning worshipers in the United States? And did you know that, according to a Barna research study from about 15 years ago, one-half of all churches in America had not added one new member through “conversion” during any given year, while only 5% of the churches were growing by conversion (new Christians), 15% were growing by transfer (Christians moving from one congregation to another), and 80% had reached a plateau or were in decline.

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Now, I'd like to tell you that the statistics are getting better, but they're not. Clearly, the Christian Church in America is facing a challenge (or should I say an "opportunity"), which means that the mission field is no longer overseas as we once thought; it is here around us. In fact, the United States remains one of the fastest growing mission fields in the world -- which is giving congregations like ours a great opportunity to be a "hands on" church in the Macomb community. In other words, we are being given opportunities to point others to the One who has demonstrated through His life, death, and resurrection that He is a "hands on" Savior.

Having been a part of this family that we call St. Peter Lutheran Church and School for about four months, I can't emphasize enough how excited I am to see the Holy Spirit leading us to put our faith into ongoing action. In fact, I look forward to us being creative in becoming a "hands on" congregation that looks for ways to speak out, live out, and touch the hearts and lives of those around us with the saving and lifegiving message of the Cross and Empty Tomb.

You see, one thing that I can still see is that, just as I was ready (whether I realized it or not) to experience how "hands on science" could change things for me when I was a teenager, our family members, friends, and neighbors are waiting to see Jesus Christ as a "hands on Savior" who is relevant and life-changing for them.

The harvest fields are still ripe, and this gives us the opportunity to live out the new lives we've been given through the life-changing cross and empty tomb of Jesus...the One who still bears the victorious marks of the nails, proving that He is a hands-on Savior.

As we live in the light of the forgiveness, salvation, and new life that was brought to life through the Cross of Christ and His empty tomb, may the Holy Spirit now lead us to be a congregation who LIVES out this saving truth. Because...Jesus really is alive! He truly IS Risen!

So...let's live it out as His "hands on" people!



A blessed Holy Week and Easter to all of you!

Pastor Kurt Wenzelburger

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP	MODERN WORSHIP	LIVESTREAM
Saturday - 6 p.m. Sunday - 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.	Sunday - 11 a.m.	Sunday - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Worship

Upcoming Holy Week Services :

Saturday (4/9)

6:00 p.m. - Traditional

Palm Sunday (4/10)

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. - Traditional
11:00 a.m. - Modern
Livestream: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday (4/14)

3:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. - Traditional
Livestream: 3:30 p.m.

Good Friday (4/15)

1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. - Traditional
Livestream: 1:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil (Saturday, 4/16)

6:00 p.m. - Traditional

Easter Sunday (4/17)

6:00 a.m. (Sunrise Service),
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. - Traditional
11:00 a.m. - Modern
Livestream: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

What Kind of King is This?



Some things are not always as they seem. This is true in life, and it was certainly true when it came to the disciples' expectations of Jesus. To them (and to so many people still today), Jesus was a miracle worker, a prophet, a teacher, and the new King David who would put Israel back on the map by freeing His people from the oppressors of this world.

So...can you imagine what must've really been going on in the hearts and minds of the first disciples when, after witnessing their King's triumphant entry into Jerusalem (which had to remind them of when David's son, Solomon, entered into Jerusalem in similar fashion), suddenly Jesus was hanging

upon the Cross? And, at that point, could it be that they would've been willing to ask the question that we've been exploring throughout this season of Lent -- "What Kind of King Is This?"

As we approach Holy Week and Easter, join us as we celebrate the answer to this question that changes everything for you and me. After all, when a dead man rises, it not only reveals the kind of King that Jesus is...but it changes everything for those who have been added to His never-ending Kingdom by way of all that He accomplished.

This is my favorite Easter story. Please bear with me because it starts out sad, but it does get better just like Easter. There was a couple who I was close to who had tried to have children and could not. Eventually they went to medical means to have children. It took a couple of years, but one day he came into my office and his face was aglow. In his excitement, he had a hard time getting the words out. "Pastor, I am going to be father! I can't believe it! I thank God! Can you lift up a thanksgiving prayer this weekend?" I said most certainly and we will pray right now. I remember his wife being so excited and how on Easter Sunday she was so joyful knowing in another six months she would have the baby she had waited most of her adult life for.

The next morning, I got a telephone call that woke me up. On the other end was the same voice that was so excited a few weeks before. This time there was no excitement. It was replaced with tears. He said, "Pastor, we lost the baby. Can you come to the hospital?" I remember sitting in the hospital room with a couple who just had their hopes dashed and hearts broken. It was the saddest hospital visit I have ever made.

Now the good part! A little more than a year later they were standing with me next to the baptismal font. She was holding their one-month-old baby daughter and both of them were beaming. For me, it was the most impactful baptism I have ever done. With the memory of what happened just over a year prior still in mind, I was getting ready to baptize the first born of a mother and father who thought they could not have children. My hands shook and my voice cracked as I poured the water on the baby's head and said, "I baptize you..."

I learned there is no situation that God cannot change into good. There is nothing that He cannot change into a praise for how good He is.

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."

There is nothing God cannot resurrect from broken dreams to broken hearts. Jesus is the resurrection and life not only on the day He reappears but for every day.

God Bless you,
Pastor Mark



Robert's Music Spotlight

This month I wanted to share with you a song that just came out called "What I See" by Elevation Worship. As we celebrate this Easter season, remember that the resurrection power that brought Jesus back from the dead is our promise as well! (Colossians 3:1-4 and Ephesians 2:4-10) This song declares, "Dead things are coming back to life again" and by His grace we can celebrate, not just this season, but forever. Know that the grave He left empty, foreshadows the one we will leave empty. As Sons and Daughters, "paradise has been flung wide open" because "He is risen and we are risen with Him!"

Robert W. Costa
*Director Of Modern
Worship*

Call Committee Update: The call committee for the Director of Traditional Worship asks for your continued prayer for God's guidance in its efforts as it meets regularly to fill that position.

Service

LENTEN SUPPER

Lenten Supper will be served in the Fellowship Hall
4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

LENTEN SUPPER SCHEDULE

April 6 - Mostaccioli - Sponsored by the Board of Education and Teachers

All meals come with the fixings – salad, bread/rolls, coffee, lemonade and of course, delicious desserts!

The suppers are Free Will Offering. If you cannot attend, please consider giving a donation to the Seminary Fund. This can be done at the Church Office. Please make all checks payable to St. Peter Scholarship Fund and put Seminary Fund in the memo. THANK YOU for your support and THANK YOU to all those who prepare and serve the suppers!

Help Needed! Outdoor Nativity Restoration

Women's Ministry is asking for help from our congregation. The church nativity set is in dire need of restoration. We are looking for individuals or a company that can manage this project. It would be a great summer Eagle Scout or community/church service project that will help preserve our beautiful set for years to come. Professional cost estimates are also welcome. We are hoping to have this project complete before this Christmas season. If you are interested, please contact Darla Bratkowski at (810) 252-1530 or lighthousemich@gmail.com. Thank you and God Bless!

The St. Peter College Scholarship Fund: This fund has been established to help St. Peter students who plan to attend LCMS colleges for the 2022-23 school year as they prepare to go into full-time church work. High school seniors and current college students may apply in the Church Office. Please read the guidelines carefully. All applications are due by June 15.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE If you've been reading Keynotes for the last few months, you know that Stephen Ministry and GriefShare have been offered to people faced with a crisis or with the death of a loved one. But have you thought about how you might serve such people? Training is readily and easily available for both ministries. GriefShare training can be accomplished in a few hours by watching a couple of well done videos and going through key points in a leaders' guide. Stephen Ministry is more extensive and involves eight sessions of ninety minutes each. If you are being led to facilitate in either ministry, please call Linda Dunklau at (586) 247-5329 for more information.

Ways you can help Hope for The Hungry Pantry in 2022:

- **Amazon:** If you're an online shopper with Amazon, you can continue to shop all the great selections and values while supporting Hope for the Hungry Pantry. For every eligible product purchased, **AmazonSmile** will donate to us! To sign up on a web browser, just visit smile.amazon.com, sign in with the same account credentials you use for Amazon.com, select your charity-**Hope for the Hungry Pantry-Ray, MI** and start shopping! To sign up using the Amazon app on your mobile phone, navigate to the main menu (=), tap on Settings, and then select "AmazonSmile", select your charity-**Hope for the Hungry Pantry-Ray, MI** and then follow the on-screen instructions to turn ON AmazonSmile in the mobile app. To learn more, please visit smile.amazon.com/onthego.
- **Thrivent:** Any St. Peter members who are Thrivent members can help support your pantry in two ways:
 - **Thrivent Choice Dollars** can be directed to Hope for the Hungry Pantry, as a registered charity.
 - **Action Grant** is available to every Thrivent member. Its value can be up to \$250 which can be used for charitable giving. Simply go to their website, login, and search for action teams. Complete the online application and submit. You will receive an email affirmation within 48 hours. A VISA card and a kit will arrive within two weeks. You then buy the items you wish to donate to the pantry using the VISA card such as personal care products, paper products or cleaning supplies. If you have any questions or need help, you can email or call Karen Foust.



April and May 2022 are busy months, and we would appreciate your help!

- **Truck unloading:** April 6 and 20 from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- **Food distribution:** April 7 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and April 21 from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **Apartment Deliveries:** First Saturday of each month, help is needed to pack and deliver food to two local apartment complexes. Stephen Ministry accompanies the delivery for residents who would like to talk or pray.
- **Box Pick Up:** Weekly pick up of boxes at Tenniswood Elementary School in Clinton Township (Harper & Metro Parkway) during school days/hours.
- **USPS Food Drive, Saturday, May 14:** Mark your calendars to help during our BIGGEST Food Drive. We'll receive 4000-6000 lbs. of food that needs to be sorted and stocked on shelves between Noon to 7:00 p.m. You can sign up for a couple hours or all day. More details to come.
- **Opportunities** are always available for families, groups, or individuals to pack the boxes we distribute. This is another way to serve, and days and hours are very flexible.

A HUGE thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time, talents and sometimes their muscles! A special thanks to Girl Scout Troop 77176 and the loyal St. Peter members who continue to support the pantry with youth community service, packing boxes and Friday night pickups at Panera. Each of these tasks allows us to provide food to over 100 families each month and every single one is truly a blessing. To volunteer, donate or for more information, please contact me.

Yours in Christ,
Karen Foust-Chairperson
(586) 491-0652
karenwiegand@gmail.com
For more information, please visit
hopeforthehungrypantry.org for updates.



The Quilting ladies are in need of various items to be used in making quilts for LWR and Chene Street. If you are able to donate any of the following items, please deposit them into the Quilting Box in the Church Coat Room: used or new blankets, used quilts, cotton and flannel sheets, and pieces of cotton material. Also, if you are a Thrivent member or know of someone who is, you are able to request a Grant from Thrivent to benefit the quilting ladies. Each member is eligible to request up to two Grants twice a year. These Grants would help purchase fabric that is needed for the backing on the quilts. Monetary donations are also appreciated. If you have any questions regarding the items or exactly how to request a Grant, please contact Mary Ann Demetreakeas at (586) 854-0548. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW that you can remember a special occasion or loved one by purchasing flowers for the front of church? Maybe it's a birthday, anniversary, baptism, wedding, or just a special day to honor someone.

Please sign up in the Church Office. It's easy to do and it will be noted in the weekly bulletin. The cost is \$25. Checks made payable to: *St. Peter Women's Ministry.*

Questions? Please call the Church Office.



FULL-TIME CUSTODIAN St. Peter Macomb is seeking applicants for a full-time Custodian. Primary responsibilities of our custodial staff is the overall maintenance and cleanliness of the interior and exterior appearance of the church and school; and to ensure that all members, visitors and staff have their facility related needs met. Applications and a full ministry position description are available by contacting Diane Hernden at dhernden@splcs.net and/or Wayne Niemann at wniemann@splcs.net or by calling (586) 781-3434, Ext. 119 or Ext. 127 respectively.

Donations are being taken for BABY CARE KITS for Lutheran World Relief. They are in need of lightweight cotton t-shirts, long or short-sleeve gowns or sleepers. (Gowns, rompers and top/pant sets can be substituted for sleepers). Receiving blankets, crocheted or knitted blankets made with lightweight yarn, cloth diapers, jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts with or without hoods; socks, hand towels, bath-size bars of soap in original wrapper. Please deposit them in the LWR tub in the Church Coat Room. Questions, please contact Joyce Schwark, St. Peter LWML Rep. at (586) 524-9328. Thank you!

All year long donations are needed for Gifts For All God's Children: Following are some examples of what is needed: sample or regular size bottles of shampoo, conditioner, lotions, soap, deodorant, dental floss, toothpaste, etc. You may deposit them into the appropriate drawers in the church coat room. Questions: Contact Joyce Schwark (586) 524-9328.

Meal Care Partners Needed: Are you looking for a new way to serve your fellow members of the Body of Christ? Do you need a project that does not require a huge time commitment? Do you feel blessed to be a blessing? St. Peter has a group of dedicated people who prepare an occasional meal for a person or family going through a short-term difficult time due to illness, grief, or another stressful situation. We are currently looking to add to our list of persons willing to serve in this manner. A Care Calendar is utilized to schedule these meals. You would be asked to prepare the meal and deliver it to the family on a one-time basis. For more information, please contact Paula Hoegemeyer at (586) 322-2319 or hoegemeyer@att.net.

Memorial Offerings

In loving memory of Marie Brohl, a contribution has been made to:

Church Ministry by Bob and Judy Juengel

Buildings and Grounds by Earl and Karen Heldt, Wayne and Marie Niemann, Bill and Merlene Thompson

Debt Reduction by Shelly Penzien, Jim Schwark

In loving memory of Joan Kreger Ferguson, a contribution has been given to:

Church Ministry by Wilma Wangelin

In loving memory of Rich Gluski, a contribution has been given to:

Church Ministry by Wilma Wangelin

Moving Forward by Stan and Marion

Krakowski, Milt and Evelyn Miller

School Ministry by Robert Kowalewski, Pat

Losey, Craig and Margeret Schley,

Donald and Judith Trevillian,

Wednesday Women in the Word

In loving memory of Annette Konupek, a contribution has been given to:

Church Ministry by Karen Gluski

In loving memory of Evelyn Mar cath, a contribution has been given to:

Church Ministry by Douglas and Sandra Casamer, Bruce and Evelyn Haley, Metavante Corporation, Robert and Pam Roehl, Wilma Wangelin

Moving Forward by Don and Gloria Koch, Stan and Marion Krakowski, Milt and Evelyn Miller, Nelson and Barbara Schramm

In loving memory of Edith Robertson, a contribution has been given to:

Church Ministry by Joyce Kraatz

Moving Forward by Jerry and Janet Stange

In loving memory of Ann Schoenberg, a contribution has been given to:

Moving Forward by Joanne Banghart, Bryon and Dawn Miller, Joel and Tracy Miller

In loving memory of Eunice Rogerson, a contribution has been given to:

Church Ministry by Aaron and Sandra Rogers, Douglas and Pamela Campbell

Thank You...

Thanks to all St. Peter and community members who donated to our American Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, March 20. You may be interested to know that 55 donors registered, 8 donors were deferred and 48 units were collected! We also registered 9 first time donors! 14 were Type O donors, wonderful! Many area hospital patients including some of our own members have been helped by the generosity of our St. Peter community. We are thankful for the able assistance of Lillian, Jeanette, Ruthann, Megan and Hailey in making this drive a big success. Praise God for lives being saved through your generosity! Blessings, *Paula Hoegemeyer and Jennifer Rohrborn*

Dear St. Peter Community, Thank you for your continued support of my education as I experience vicarage. Serving at St. Paul Boca has been a great experience for Taylor and I, and we thank you for thinking of us and your continued prayers. May God continue to bless and keep you all! In Christ, *Brandon Bettcher*

Thank you to my wonderful family of faith at St Peter...for the many cards, messages, phone calls, delicious meals, and especially for your continual thoughts and prayers. The past nine and a half years have been a constant battle with cancer, and I am so grateful that you have allowed God to be His hands, feet and voices in service to Terry and me. *Connie Davis*

I am humbled to have been honored as St. Peter's Woman of the Year for the Council of Lutheran Women. It is a JOY to represent the many women of St. Peter carrying out God's work according to their individual talents. You are all inspiring! **Thank you** from the bottom of my heart for all of the beautiful cards, well wishes, phone calls, and for the ladies that supported me at the inspiring luncheon on March 15. Thank you also to my beloved husband, team mate, and support - Neal. We are both so blessed to be a part of the wonderful body of Christ at St. Peter. God bless you all in body, mind, and spirit as we continue to serve God together in His kingdom. In Christ, *Paula Hoegemeyer*

Connection



Women In The Word Wednesday Bible Study

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Every Wednesday
No Study Holy Week (4/13)

Large Conference Room—Enter Door #28.

Each Week, we study a new lesson from, “Joy,” by Deb Burma—a study about Philippians.

Contact Karen Gluski (586) 207-6201 or gludog2003@yahoo.com.

ACTS IN ACTION

Ever wanted to take a complete look at a Book of the Bible without feeling rushed? You now have that opportunity. The Sunday morning Adult Bible Class will study a small portion of the Book of Acts each week. See what life was like for the early Christians. Because each of the lessons will cover a separate topic or two, please come even if you are not able to attend every week. The class meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the Library.

Divorce Care and DC4K If you have struggled through divorce or separation in your marriage, please join us for Divorce Care on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 in the Office Wing (Door #28). We will be finishing the Spring session on April 12, but will begin again in September. There is also a group available for kids, Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K), ages 5-12 in September. More information is available from Anne Westphal at (248) 909-4230.

GriefShare Being a Christian never frees us from mourning the death of a beloved family member or friend, but Scripture does assure us in 1 Thessalonians 4:13 that because of the death and resurrection of Jesus “you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.” The hope we have in our risen Savior can make the journey from mourning to joy easier, but it will never be without tears. We are ending a cycle of GriefShare this month, but this is also an opportunity for you to attend a session to determine if this ministry could benefit you. We meet on Tuesday evening at 6:30 and on Thursday morning at 10:30 through April 14. So come and see what GriefShare is all about.

St. Peter has a Care Team that is in place to address the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of its members and friends. Made up of the Pastors, Stephen Leaders, Parish Nurses, Administrative and Lay Leaders, the Care Team meets weekly to assess and address needs identified via prayer requests, phone calls or emails to the Church Office, and personal contacts. Our Pastors continue to make visits as requested and available, but there is also a team of commissioned laymen who make home visits to administer Holy Communion on a regular basis to those unable to attend worship. It is our goal to show the love of Jesus by providing care such as visits, cards, phone calls, short term meal provision, and other help as identified. If you or someone you know is in need of care, please contact Pastor Mark Arendell at (313) 969-4075 marendell@splcs.net or Frieda in the Church Office at (586) 781-3434 fschluessler@splcs.net.

STEPHEN MINISTRY Maybe the Covid crisis is “winding down,” but events in your life might not be smoothing out. If you think you might benefit from a Christian brother or sister listening confidentially to you as you share your concerns, that can happen. Just call Linda Dunklau at (586) 247-5329 to become partnered with a compassionate and praying member of our St. Peter family.

LGBT Family and Friends Support Group: Do you have a family member, loved one, or have an acquaintance with someone who is not engaging in a relationship by God's design? Do you struggle with how to interact with them, not wanting to judge others but to show God's love and just accept them where they are at? Then the Family and Friends of LGBT support group is for you! ***We will meet tentatively on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Small Conference Room in the Administration Wing.*** For questions, please call Carol Poterek at (586) 566-3785.



Easter Egg Hunt!
SUNDAY, APRIL 10
1:00 - 3:00 P.M.
IN THE GYM (DOOR #14)
REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED
MORE INFORMATION AT
STPETERMACOMB.COM

Easter Breakfast: Join us for Easter breakfast on Sunday, April 17 from 6:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall!

We also need volunteers! If you're interested in volunteering to help at the breakfast, please contact Larry at ltilney@splcs.net.

Women's Ministry – Evening Retreat!

Thursday, May 5

Featured Speakers: Rev. Robert & Debbie Kasper

“Take Heart, Daughter”

Sycamore Hills Golf Club— Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Tickets available in the Crossroads between Sunday worship services. \$35.00 includes dinner.

Get your group together!

Questions: Julie Wright: (586) 344-1931 or
Shelly Penzien (586) 855-4067

Easter Egg Hunt Donations: Would you like to donate candy for the Easter Egg Hunt? We're getting ready and your candy donations would be a great help! Donations can be dropped off anytime before Friday, April 8 to the Church Office. Please be sure it's peanut free. Thank you!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY APRIL INVITATION

To: All St. Peter Women
From: Women's Ministry Board
When: Saturday, April 9
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Place: Our Redeemer, Washington

This is the LWML Zone Spring Rally which replaces the April meeting.

Breakfast will be served between 9:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Speaker: Kim Waller – Representative of Haiti Lutheran Mission Society which is the organization that Women's Ministry is a child sponsor for.

Activities: Silent Auction and ingathering of hygiene items such as shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, etc; energy bars, and bottled water to support St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Pontiac. Kim is also asking for reading glasses to be taken to Haiti. If you have prescription glasses, you may bring them for Grace Fellowship to be taken to MOST Ministries.

Metal Artwork will be made available at the Rally which is made by local Haitian's to support their families.

Please come and hear this passionate speaker and bring a friend!

Education

Sunday School



Our Sunday School had a very busy March!

We began our “Money for Missions,” charity drive. We partnered with The Lutheran Heritage Foundation. Our mission project this year is “Continuing What Luther Began!” Martin Luther knew his people needed two important things: the Bible translated into their own language, and a Small Catechism to help them understand it. LHF translates Bible storybooks and catechisms into more than 80 languages of the world. Every \$5.00 we gather gives a child his or her own book about Jesus written in their language. Any and all donations will be gladly accepted for this needy mission. We will continue gathering these offerings until the end of our Sunday School year, May 15.

March 6 and 13 our Sunday School students sang in church during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. All of our students enjoyed practicing songs of Jesus for several weeks so they could tell our St. Peter family through song, “Jesus Knows,” and “Let Me Learn of Jesus.”

On April 10, we look forward to Palm Sunday when we process through the church with palm branches.

April 24 - all students gather in Kaiser Hall to “Meet the Pastor.” This is a time when students can ask our Pastor any questions that may be puzzling them.

Any new students are always accepted in our Sunday School, September-May.

Wishing all of our St. Peter family a blessed Easter!

Yours in Christ,
Pat Losey,
Sunday School Superintendent

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS: We are currently looking for substitute teachers. Having a BA degree is a must. Background or experience in Education would be helpful but is not required. You must also complete a background check. If you are interested, please contact our Principal, Mr. Tim Leinberger, at tleinberger@splcs.net or our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Sandra LaPerriere, at slaperriere@splcs.net.

School Extended Care: We are in desperate need of workers and subs for our after-school extended care program. Please contact Deb Lowry dlowry@splcs.net if you are interested.

Meet Our Staff: Fourth Grade

Miss Abbey Berger

Fourth Grade Teacher

Hello! My name is Abbey Berger and I am one of the 4th grade teachers! I graduated from Oakland University, and this is my fifth year of teaching. Three out of those five years have been at St. Peter, and I am so happy and honored to be teaching here!

I coach volleyball and track, and in my spare time I love to fish, take care of my golden doodles, run, bake, and watch Disney movies!



Miss Meghan Wiley

Fourth Grade Teacher

Hello! My name is Meghan Wiley. I grew up in Port Huron, Michigan, and attended Trinity Lutheran School in Port Huron while growing up.

After graduating from high school, I worked at Trinity Lutheran for 9 years while attending St. Clair County Community College and Oakland University. I graduated from OU with a BS in Elementary Education.

After college, I worked at St. Edward on-the-Lake School for 4 years and taught third grade.

I'm so excited to now be at St. Peter! It is going to be a great year.

As for what I like to do outside of school - I love to spend time with my dog, Finnick, read, write, work out and dance, watch movies and TV shows, and spend time with loved ones.



ST. PETER
LUTHERAN
SCHOOL
MACOMB

**NOW ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS!**

For the 2022-23 School Year
STARTING FEBRUARY 1ST

Preschool-8th Grade

What We Offer:

- Christ-Centered Environment
- Small Class Sizes
- Academically Challenging
- Gifted and Talented Education Program
- Half Day, Full Day and Progressive Kindergarten

Contact Us:

Istallmann@splcs.net
586-781-9296

www.stpetermacomb.com

Life Team

April Focus: Special Needs

An excerpt from Focus on the Family- Canada

Every woman who becomes pregnant or adopts a child hopes for a healthy baby. Many pray fervently for that blessing, and most will have that prayer answered. But what about those who receive a different answer: a child who needs so much more than the "average" child? Parents to whom God has given a child with special needs have special needs, too. They have an extraordinary need for energy, patience, faith, trust, resources and relationships.



Energy If you are the parent of a special needs child, you already know just how rigorously parenting tests your energy levels. It's essential that you take good physical care of yourself, maintaining healthy nutrition and making time for exercise – especially outdoors, in fresh air, when possible. Your commitment to caring for your child is your primary calling.

Patience Caring for a special needs child will undoubtedly test your patience, whether it's patience with your child, the medical system or with people who don't understand. It's your choice whether to view this as a frustration, or as an opportunity to develop Christ-like character. Over time, the Lord will grow your soul as you wait on Him for each challenge, each positive step of growth, or each disappointment endured.

Faith Is God good when difficulties surround us...when we have been up all night with a baby who needs 24-hour care? This is a time to seek God in ways you may never have before. The psalmist invites you to taste and see that the Lord is good (**Psalm 34:8**). Pour out your questions, your pain, your fears to Him and experience His care for you. "Cast all your cares upon Him because He cares for you (**1 Peter 5:7**)." You will need God more than ever, and as you seek Him, you will find He is closer than ever.

Trust We all feel better when we have some measure of control over our circumstances. For you, as the parent of a special needs child, control may seem very elusive. Doctors cannot always predict what lies ahead. Different treatments may be attempted until something "works," and your child's condition may change unexpectedly. It will be important to find professionals you can trust to provide two things: professional expertise and care, and recommendations based on the best interests of your child and family. You should also trust your own instincts. Only you know your child best; trust your gut when you sense something is amiss. Then ask for help.

Resources It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child, and this is especially true for a special needs child. You will need to educate yourself; books, articles and judicious browsing on the Internet will help you find much that may prove helpful. Professional resources, including doctors, counsellors and therapists, may all become part of your support team. Seek the best possible information and help – for your sake and your child's. Be an advocate for your child – ask questions, and don't accept pat answers. Ask for support and access anything that can be made available to you – whether it is respite care, nursing assistance, financial aid, counselling or just good information.

Relationships Your most important relationship is with God. Spend time with Him regularly, sharing everything about your situation with Him freely. The next important relationship is your relationship with your spouse (unless you are a single parent). Parenting a special needs child can be hard on a marriage. Take time to care for one another and recognize each other's needs. It is easy to assume that your spouse will wait while the child absorbs all your attention. But don't make him or her wait too long... refocus on one another regularly. Find other parents who have gone down this road, either through local support groups, through your team of professionals or by checking out online support groups. Finally, be candid with family and friends about how they can be there for you. Often, they want to help, but are not sure how. Be specific about what they can do to support you and your child.

For Life Team questions, comments or concerns, please contact Carol at carolpoterek@gmail.com.

TREASURER'S REPORT

BY BETTY J. YOUNGBLOOD

Update on the Mortgage and the Moving Forward Campaign: As of February 28, 2022, the Church Extension Fund loan balance was \$1,689,544. This is a reduction of 64.5% since we first started tracking the Campaign in November 2018.

- The number of pledge units (individuals or families) to the Campaign was 444.
- Approximately 72% of those who made a pledge to the Campaign actually contributed.
- Approximately 13% of those who pledged have given more than their pledged amount.
- Approximately 15% of those who contributed to the Campaign had not made a pledge.
- Gifts under \$1,000 represented 43.8% of Campaign dollars.
- Gifts ranging from \$1,000 to \$9,999 represented 44.5% of Campaign dollars.
- Gifts ranging from \$10,000 to \$39,999 represented 10.4% of Campaign dollars.
- Gifts in excess of \$40,000 represented 1.2% of Campaign dollars.
- In addition, the Campaign began with two legacy gifts, each more than \$250,000.

Budget Update: Here is a summary of income and expenses, as of **January 31, 2022**, compared to the same period of the last fiscal year (July 2020 through January 2021).

- **Church Income** was \$1,397,193, compared to \$1,414,388 for the same seven-month period of last year. This is a decrease of 1.2% or \$17,195.
- **Church Expenses** totaled \$736,372, compared to \$1,065,359 last year. This is a decrease of 30.9% or \$328,987.
- **School and Preschool Income and Expenses** were not finalized in time for this report and will be included next month. *(Enrollment data is impressive. Day School enrollment for 2021-22 is 412, compared to 351 in 2020-21 and 331 in 2019-20. Preschool enrollment for 2021-22 is 201, compared to 175 in 2020-21.)*

Budget Preparation: The Board of Finance is currently working with all budget units to prepare the 2022-23 budget.

For Treasurer's report questions, comments or concerns, please contact Betty at bettyjyoungblood@yahoo.com.



Rev. Kurt Wenzelburger
Senior Pastor



Rev. Mark Arendell
Associate Pastor



Rev. Craig Meyer
Pastor Emeritus



Mr. Tim Leinberger
Principal



Mrs. Sandra LaPerriere
Assistant Principal



Mrs. Deborah Lowry
Preschool Director



Mr. Robert W. Costa
*Director of Modern
Worship and Communications*



Mr. Jason von der Lage
Director of Student Ministry



Ms. Diane Hernden
Business Manager

ST. PETER'S VALUES

Our Mission Statement:

To glorify God by
making and growing
disciples of Jesus
Christ

Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the
name of the Father, of
the Son and of the Holy
Spirit, teaching them to
observe all that I have
commanded you. And
behold, I am with you
always, to the end of age.

Articles for **May Keynotes** must be submitted before 4 p.m. on April 15.
Please submit all articles for consideration by email to Allison Tebay -
atebay@splcs.net. All submissions should include your contact information.
Please submit articles without formatting in a Word document. Thank you!



Worship Service Times:

Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Traditional
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Traditional
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Traditional
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Modern

17051 24 Mile Road, Macomb, Michigan 48042
Church: (586) 781-3434 School: (586) 781-9296
StPeterMacomb.com

Please visit **StPeterMacomb.com** to see other
opportunities to worship through Sunday School,
Bible studies, small groups and more!

St. Peter Lutheran Church and School is a member congregation of The LCMS.