



Keynotes

March 2016



ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

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**St. Peter's Lutheran
Church exists to
prepare God's people
with God's
promises for God's
purposes.**

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A LETTER FROM THE PASTORS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

March Madness!

Indiana is known for its love for the game of basketball, and there's no better month for men's college basketball than the month of March. But this year basketball will have to take a backseat to an even bigger event that will take place this month... and that's Holy Week and Easter. Yes, the holiest week of the church year comes a bit early in 2016. Holy Week begins this year on March 20 with Palm Sunday and culminates on March 27 with Easter Sunday.

If you think about it, March Madness and Holy Week have some things in common. March Madness is a time where a lot of us are focused on watching basketball's heartbreaking defeats, glorious victories, and surprising upsets. Holy Week also has its defeats, victories, and upsets. Through the hearing of God's Word, we again, focus on the passion of our Savior, Jesus Christ. There were certainly the "upsets" when, for example, Judas betrayed Him, the disciples deserted Him, and He was arrested. There were also the "defeats" when it appeared that Satan was gaining the upper hand at the trials before the Sanhedrin and Pilate, when Jesus was beaten and scourged, and, of course, at the crucifixion. The game appeared to be over when they placed Jesus' dead body in the tomb. But

three days later came the greatest comeback of all time! The great news we remember each year at Holy Week is that, through all His agony, pain and sorrow, Jesus came out victorious!

The NCAA basketball championship pales in comparison to the Easter victory. If your favorite college team is good enough (and fortunate enough) to win it all, that might bring a smile on your face for a day or two. Furthermore, whereas it might be nice for your favorite college team to win it all, at the end of the day that really doesn't do a whole lot to change your life. I mean, it's not as though you get to hold the championship trophy or help cut down the net. But with the Easter victory, according to the Bible, all the benefits that Jesus earned by His death and resurrection now belong to you! His victory over sin, death, and the devil, is now our victory. In John 14:19, Jesus said, "Because I live, you also will live." With that assurance in mind, we can head into the "madness" of the world with the confidence of knowing that, no matter what defeats or upsets we may face, we will come out of it victoriously thanks to our risen Savior.

As your pastors, we encourage you to not miss the "big dance" this month. But more than experiencing a college basketball tournament, be sure to experience the thrill of seeing Jesus battle the greatest opponents of all - sin, death, and the devil. You will not want to miss the victory He won for you!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Steve Ahlersmeyer
Pastor David Schultz

LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES

Places of the Passion

Where? St. Peter's Lutheran Church

When? Wednesday's at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.

Who is invited? Everyone! You, your friends and neighbors

Why? Jesus never leaves a place as He found it. The most troubling places in our lives become the most amazing places of God's grace when Jesus visits them.

SENT TO SHARE CELEBRATION

Our current pledge total is \$1,676,366.51 from 305 households. Praise be to God!!

As we move into the fulfillment stage of this capital campaign, we want to be sure that our paperwork is in order. Please check your mailboxes. Every household that made a pledge will soon receive a letter that summarizes that pledge. This letter also gives a total for gifts received toward this pledge from January 1 to February 14, 2016. (If you made a gift prior to January 1, please contact the office for your total.) Please review this letter for accuracy. Additionally, the letter includes, by popular request, an ACH form. Completing this form allows you to have your pledge automatically withdrawn from your bank account. For assistance in



completing this form, please contact Val Messmann at 749-5816.

WHO-WHAT-WHEN-WHERE

GREETER SCHEDULE

[Click here to see the March greeter schedule.](#)

ALTAR FLOWERS

The following dates are open for altar flowers for 2016: July 3, August 7, and December 18. To reserve a date, please contact Doris Martin (260) 444-2838.

ALTAR GUILD

Are you a lady who would like to serve on the Altar Guild? You would...

- Attend 1 DELICIOUS POTLUCK SUPPER (held each August for our annual meeting)
- Pick 2 MONTHS that you would serve (that can change each year)
- Serve with 4 LADIES each month (5 or 6 on holiday months)
- Enjoy fellowship with 26 LADIES OF ALL AGES (Yes, we have a lot of fun serving together!)

We prepare the altar area for worship. This includes filling the candles with oil, preparing the wine and wafers for communion, and changing the paraments. This is a great way to serve the Lord and His people "behind the scenes." Please call Sue at 486-2841 or let the church office know if you are interested.

EASTER LILIES

Orders will be taken the first two weekends in March for members who would like to help decorate the sanctuary for our Easter services. Easter lilies can be taken home after the last Easter service, picked up the following week by the office, or donated for a shut-in. The cost is \$9.00.

EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, March 26th @ 3:00 p.m. in the School Gym

St. Peter's High School Youth Group is planning an Easter Celebration for the whole family! Join us for games, crafts, and, of course, an Easter egg hunt! Contact Heather Volmerding at hvolmerding@stpetersfw.org or 260.557.4532 for more information.

WILDCAT PRIDE BENEFIT AUCTION

Saturday, April 16 @ 6:00 p.m.

Location: Church Gymnasium

Cost: \$50 per person

Purchase your tickets for the Wildcat Pride Benefit Auction - only 7 more weeks until the BIG night!

Ticket/Table Reservations

Don't forget we sold out last year - the seating is limited and tickets are

going fast! Please mail or drop off your form and payment to the school office. The deadline to order your tickets is March 31st or based upon availability. If there is someone you are hoping to sit with, please clarify on your reservation form. Tickets are \$50 per person which includes your dinner and entertainment. Corporate sponsorships are also available.

Auction Item Donations

We are in need of in-kind donations to be sold in our live and silent auction. Please consider donating items or services such as themed baskets, getaways, hand-crafted items, game tickets, private dinners etc. Want us to do the shopping for you? Gift cards and monetary donations are also needed. Be as creative as you would like!

Contact Information

Please contact Nicole Bolinger (260-484-8490 or nbolinger@clhscadets.com) with questions regarding auction donations, ticket reservations or sponsorships.

OLDER ADULTS

On March 7, 2016, at 11:30 a.m., we will meet with Jill Rodenbeck for Lunch with a Staff Member at Ziano's Chapel Ridge. The sign-up sheet is out. Please let us know you are coming so that we can give them a relatively accurate count at the restaurant. If you can't sign the sheet in the Ministry Center, you can call the church office and have the secretary place your name on the list. Thank you.

On March 9, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. (after the noon Lenten service), we will enjoy a presentation from the "pretzel man" from Auntie Anne's pretzels. He will demonstrate the process of making and baking pretzels. After his presentation (while you are eating your pretzels), we will play Bingo. We will finish by 3:00 so you can exit the parking lot before the school day ends. Please sign up for this activity on the sheet in the Ministry center. You can also call in to the office and have the secretary place your name on the list.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

National Day of Prayer is May 5, 2016. This year's theme is "Wake Up America." Make plans to join with the St. Peter's family to lift up our prayer concerns for church, state, nation, and world. Look for more information as we get closer to May 5, 2016.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Area Lutheran women will gather:

- Monday, March 21 at Ascension Lutheran Church for a Lenten Devotion, fellowship and refreshments.
- Saturday, April 9 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church for breakfast, a program by Rev. Keller featuring the varied outreaches of New Life Lutheran.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Mental illness can be a long journey. Since 1997, the Carriage House has assisted people in their recovery from mental illness. In a clubhouse setting, "members" work side-by-side with staff on meaningful activities, building the confidence and self-esteem necessary to reclaim their lives. While recovering many club members receive government food assistance but cannot buy cleaning and laundry supplies with that program. How can you help? By donating cleaning and laundry supplies and toilet paper through the March Compassionate Care Collection sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Collection baskets are in the Ministry Center and the North Corridor.

THANK YOU AND THANK YOU AGAIN for the 546 Grab 'n Go kits you provided through the February Compassionate Care Collection for first responders. They were distributed between the stations who provide care for many of our members: New Haven police and fire stations; Laymeyer Road fire station; and the police substation at Beacon and State. Individual 'thank you bags' have been prepared for first responders from St. Peter's.

SPECIAL THANKS

A big thank you to Pastor Steve for his visits, phone calls, and prayers during my recent surgery. Many thanks also for the cards, visits, and calls from church members during my Rehab period. God's blessings to all of you.

~Sylvia Schmidt

On behalf of Ellie, myself and our family, we want to thank Pastor Schultz for his wonderful help during Ellie's passing. Thanks also to Pastor Ahlersmeyer for his prayers and counseling during these troubled times. Thanks to all of you who have been praying for us during these trying times. They really help. We offer a special thank you to those members who came to offer prayers and encouragement at the viewing and the funeral service.

~Tom Hosier and Family

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR AREA

Concordia Lutheran High School

[Click here to view information on CLHS auction and other events.](#)

[Click here to view the latest updates from Concordia Lutheran High School.](#)

Concordia Theological Seminary

[Click here to view the latest updates from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.](#)

Concordia Seminary Guild will meet on Tuesday, March 8, 2016, at 1 p.m. in Luther Hall. The program will be "Blessings of a Deaconess." All ladies are invited to attend.

IN District Senior Adult Program - Senior Adult Fest 2016

April 23 @ Holy Cross

All Seniors are invited to Senior Adult Fest 2016 - "God's Gifts of Heart, Mind and Soul." The Keynote Speaker will be Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, former Lutheran Hour Speaker and presently the President of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Plenary speakers will include Rev. Ed Keinath, Director of CrossLife Ministries; Ms. Trisha Neary, Senior Director of Sales and Marketing for Lutheran Life Villages, and, Ms. Lesley Freidel, Senior Director of Program Development at Lutheran Life Villages. Registration forms can be found at www.in.lcms.org, and the cost is \$15 per person. Registrations are due by April 12.

BARNABAS - Son of Encouragement

St. Michael Lutheran Church will present a Men's Ministry event on March 12 from 8:00-11:30 a.m. entitled BARNABAS - Son of Encouragement. This will be presented by Pastor Reed Lessing. The fee for this event is \$10.00 and includes the seminar and the breakfast. You can register by calling the church office at 432-2033 or online at www.stmfw.org/barnabas.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS



March 1st - 7th (1) Leland Bienz, Karin Brown, Bradley Krockner, Barbara Fraley, Madison Pruser;(2) John James, Matthew Nord, Tamara Olsen, Jill Rodenbeck; (4)Andrew Arnett, Dennis Borchers, Kori Patire; (5) Thomas Egolf, Andrew James; (6) Sharon Crabill, Christopher Kiger, Mary Krahn, Sophia Ockree; (7) Thurley Cordes, Denise Ehle, Andrew Fonner, Brittany Vachon, Melanie Wagner;

March 8th - 15th

(8) Nicole Eicholtz, Jennifer Hartman, Ellen Hermann, Landin Korte, Andrew Luttenbacher, Allen Mason, Killian Miller; (9) Kristina Kelly, Colten Reese, Delaney Werling; (10) Brittany Berning, Rosalie Blocher, Braydon Cobbs, Elizabeth Duff, Susan Fritch, Stacy Hegerfeld, Diann Keele, Tyler Smith; (11) Karen Bierlein, Austin Bradtmueller, Shaye Bradtmueller, Gloria Buhr, Michelle Casey, Eugene Ehle, Laura Schweder; (12) John Blocher, Carol Clark, Virginia Hasewinkle, Serena James, Michelle Leahy, Marilyn Wilkinson; (13) Jacob Amstutz, Rylan Bennett, Amber Bredemeyer, Dolly Coomer, Devin Derheimer, Peyton Gulley, Kelly Krause, Tyler Moher, Damien Neal; (14) Paris Drew, Daniel Doehrmann, Robert Linnemeyer, Wilma Meyer, Rachel Scheumann, Frances Weller, Sarah Zent, Tyler Zoda; (15) Melanni Bleke, Greg Brown, Marissa Drew, Gavin Foust, Dylan Gully, Andrea Koenig, Kyle Schultz, Timothy Scott, Jacob Thomas, Taya Werling, Steve Wyss;

March 16th - 22nd

(16) Pauline Carpenter, Nicholas Cobb, Hayden Zelt, Madelyn Zelt; (17) Cailyn Bolinger, Kathleen Kerbel, Timothy Pinkerton, Michael Rekeweg, Elouise Thomas; (18) Nathaniel Dennis, Mathew Hallien, Haley Tinsley; (19) Jeremy Avery, Porter Blosser, Kathy Gerbers, Ritchy Paulin, Susanne White; (20) Ronald Bakalar, William Clinkenbeard, Constance Kramer, Jack Massucci, Colton Stults, Lindsey Zelt; (21) Aldine Benecke, Ethan

Hale, Ryan Koenig, Khloe Krause, Chase Meyer, Kimberly Meyer, Nathaniel Ober, Anita Schroer; (22) Jack Aaron, Joan Bosler, Laurie Crismore, Lauren Ehle, Michaela Roberts, Elsie Selking, Michael Singer, Hannah Stine;

March 23rd - 31st

(23) Katheryne Schauer, Annaliyah Smith, Robin Young, Jasz White, Joan Winesburg; (24) Carrie Oribello, Joshua Smith; (25) Lauren Clinkenbeard, Grayson Combs; (26) William Biggs, Marjorie Dressler, Joshau Kuhns; (27) Janet Kosteck, Gary Stair; (28) Benjamin Arruza, Heather Eicholtz, Mason Gilbert, Bailey Haney, Edward Johnson, Brian Kuhns, Benjamin Meyer; (29) Rachel Anderson, Edward Bredemeyer, Amy Campbell, Jeffery Gulley, Lori Hoffman, Tristan Marquart, Alexandra Schauer, Leslie Ulewicz; (30) Betty Gerken, Judith Johnson, Emily Smith, Tyler Wiseman; (31) Sarah Clark, Joshua Fitzgerald, Diana Habegger, Jeremy Krause, Donna Scherer, Bruce Young, Ellen Young

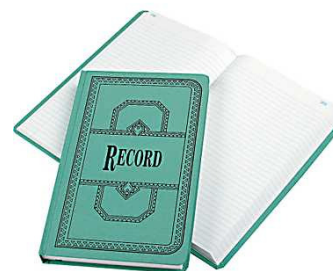
THE RECORD BOOK

Baptisms:

Lily Grace Gilbert (2/21/16)
Beckham Bradley France (2/28/16)

Deaths:

Eleanor Hosier (2/11/16)
Greg Stansbury (2/23/16)



Newsletter Deadline & Info

The next Keynotes deadline is March 25th. Please send all information to churchoffice@stpetersfw.org by noon. Don't forget that the Keynotes is now being delivered by email. If you have not received this issue by email and would like to, please make sure that we have your current email address. Your updated email address can be turned in to the church office by calling 749-5816 or emailing churchoffice@stpetersfw.org, or simply write your email address on the line next to your name when you sign the Ritual of Friendship pad. Printed copies of the Keynotes will always be available for pickup at the church for those members who do not have access to email. Copies will be delivered to shut-ins who receive DVD recordings of our weekly services.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School

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