

St. Peter's Lutheran Church



Letter From the Pastors

Dear friends in Christ,

The Coronavirus pandemic has really changed our normal way of operating both in society as well as here at the church as you very well know by now. We continue to pray that everyone stays safe and well. We have reintroduced in-person worship, Bible Studies, meetings, day school and preschool. Of course, we have done so with the utmost care and caution. At the same time, we are continuing to livestream and record as many events as possible for those who are not ready or able to get out. As the expression goes, "the show must go on." In that spirit, we are carefully planning how we can continue to carry out our ministry in the safest way possible. We will continue to practice the wearing of masks while moving about the church building and social distancing for as long as our public health and elected officials direct us in doing so. Since we are not sure how long this pandemic will be with us, we are making plans on how to best conduct various events, including the upcoming holiday services, to accommodate all those who feel comfortable with venturing out and attending them. We appreciate both your patience and cooperation. Above all, we are very much thankful and blessed by your continued prayers and support for St. Peter's. Please let us know if you have any thoughts, questions, or concerns. We are in this together and confident that the Lord will see us through the challenges we face.

God's continued blessings,

Pastor Steve
Pastor McDowell
The St. Peter's Staff

**CONNECT
to Christ with Us**

Worship Times & Links

In-Person Worship

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Monday @ 6:00 pm (Stepping Stones)

Live Stream Worship

This service can be accessed through our Facebook page
(www.facebook.com/StPetersFW).

Sunday @ 10:30 pm

[Click here to access this Sunday's live stream service.](#)

Weekend Worship Details

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

Epistle Reading: Philippians 4:4-13

New Testament Reading: Matthew 22:1-14

Sermon

"It's All About Perspective"

Text: Philippians 4:4-13

Vicar Nate

Get to know our new Field Worker

[Click here to read all about Jeff Arnold, our new field worker from Concordia Seminary.](#)

Stepping Stones

Join us for worship on Monday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Church Gym. The launch of this all new service was a huge success this past Monday. Worshipers of all ages gathered as a community to not only worship but to learn *about* worship as well. This week we explored the benefits we receive through worship. Join us this week as we examine where most of the language of our worship service finds its source.



Church Facebook Page

GROW in His Grace with Us

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

Tuesday Morning Ladies study group will meet this Tuesday, October 13 at 9:00 in the Cornerstone Room. We will begin a study based on the book of Esther. It is a book about developing godly character in the midst of a culture that does not emphasize doing what is right. Like Esther, we will be reminded that God is still in control.

STEPS

STEPS continues on Tuesday. If you have missed a class, you can find them all on our YouTube channel @ www.YouTube.com/StPetersFW. Join us at 7:00 pm this Tuesday in the Sanctuary or online to learn more about the hope found in the prophecies of Isaiah. Click the link below to access the live stream for week 4.

[Week 4 Class Video](#)

Thursday Noon Study

Pastor Steve's Thursday Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke continues this Thursday from noon to 1 pm. You can join us in the Sanctuary or online.

[Click here to access the live stream on October 15.](#)

Sunday Bible Study: God Connects

Join us in person for "God Connects" at 9:15 am on Sunday in the Cornerstone room or watch online through our YouTube channel. If you are watching online, click the link below to access the handout:

[Bible Study materials for God Connects](#)

[Bible Study Live Stream](#)

Children's Bulletin

Click the link below to download a copy of the Children's Bulletin for this weekend.

[Children's Bulletin for October 11](#)

SHARE Him with Others

Oktoberfest - HSYG Mission Trip Fundraiser

The High School Youth are eagerly preparing for their mission trip in June 2021 to South Dakota to help the Pine Ridge Reservation. To start raising funds, they are selling Oktoberfest tickets for boxed meals that will be hot and ready on Sunday, October 25 to take home with you. We've altered this event, which usually takes place in the gym, because of COVID.

The Youth will sell tickets this weekend and next weekend before and after each worship service in the Ministry Center. You can also purchase tickets through an option in the Give Now button on our website. [Click HERE to purchase](#). The German themed menu features pulled pork, sauerkraut, German potato salad, green beans, and a chocolate chip cookie all for only \$10 per dinner. The Youth thank you for purchasing these meals, because you are helping them attend the mission trip and learn how God can use them to help others and to speak God's word to those around them.

Adopt a College Student

Make a lasting connection with a younger generation through the Adopt a College Student program. In a recent Barna Research study, millennials (ages 18-38) were asked if they could identify one individual in their life who believed in them. Sadly, 32% of those surveyed said, "no." The church has a unique opportunity to connect to individuals in this generation to show our love, concern, and support. We believe in them, as a child of God, when perhaps no one else will.

Individuals, families, and small groups can "adopt" one of students through the link below. You will be asked to pray for and encourage your student throughout the year with simple cards or notes in the mail. Twice a year all adopting families will work together to send care packages prior to finals. For more information, contact Heidi Stratton (438-1535).

[Click here to select a student](#)

Altar Guild

Ladies... Not connecting? Tired of just saying "Hi"? Love worship? Altar Guild ladies love meeting each other and forming new friendships and doing behind the scenes preparation for worship services. Please call Sue (486-2841) now to get started.

Annual Donation Day at Concordia Theological Seminary

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Donation Drop Off at the Food & Clothing Co-op 8:00 am - 3:00 am

Chapel Service in Kramer Chapel 10:00 am

LWML Mission Grant Presentation after the service

Coffee on the Upper Plaza 11:00 am

Lunch in Katherine Luther Dining Hall

You are welcome to join us for lunch and have the opportunity to eat with a student or two. Cost \$9.00 per person. Call Katherine Rittner 260-452-2168 for reservations.

Please wear a mask when on campus and follow social distancing guidelines.

LWML Collection

Let's give Team School three cheers by donating child-sized disposable masks, hand sanitizers, disinfecting wipes, and Lysol type sprays (must say disinfecting).

On this Lutheran Women's Missionary League weekend, we recognize the contributions of the faithful women of St. Peter's. The usual silent knotted comforter auction and other activities will not take place. Women have been working at home, finishing comforters, making masks, assembling cloth diapers and string backpacks, packing items for Lutheran World Relief, and contributing to the monthly Compassionate Care Collection. St. Peter's women are very involved in teaching, caring for families, school activities, and in the work place. Many are front line health and service workers. *We thank God for all of you.*

This month's special envelope will support 36 mission projects, from rescuing at risk young women in Kenya and Cameron to The Shepherd's Hand right here on S. Anthony. See all projects at LWML.org and LWMLindiana.org. Needed for 36 projects: \$2,223,000

All New Landscape Taking Shape

Work continued this week on the landscaping around the church. Look how beautiful our building now looks:



News from the Day School

Connie Dierks' Retirement Celebration

Come celebrate what a blessing Connie Dierks has been to our ministry and to Lutheran schools in Fort Wayne over her career. On Sunday, October 18 at the 8:00 am service, we will recognize all her efforts in Lutheran education followed by a reception in the Wildcat Gym which will run until the start of the 10:30 service. Come enjoy fellowship, and give Ms. Dierks thanks and appreciation for all she has done and continues to do for our ministry.

Baked Goods Needed

Calling all bakers! The Fall Festival is in need of your delicious baked goods. Drop off your amazing sweets (packaged to sell) to the school office by Friday, October 23. All proceeds raised from the bake sale will help offset the cost of food for the Fall Festival. Thank you in advance for your help. For questions, contact the school office (260-749-5811 or wildcats@stpetersfw.org).

Fall Festival

Come join us for some family fun! Invite your family, friends and neighbors to this year's Fall Festival. PTL is sponsoring a Trunk or Treat. Decorate your trunk, and let your children safely trick or treat from trunk to trunk. But there is more: hayrides, hot dogs, apple cider, bake sale, and more. This event is free, but a canned food donation is welcomed. All this fun will happen on October 24 from 6-8 pm outdoors near the south church parking lot and Parish House. For questions, contact the school office (260-749-5811 or wildcats@stpetersfw.org).

Tithes & Offerings

There are a variety of ways you can submit your contributions. To view a complete list of options (along with instructions), [click here](#).

Stewardship Corner as of 9/27/20

This report represents the end of our first fiscal quarter. Thank you for your steady and strong support of our ministries!

	<u>Month to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Other Revenue*</u>
Total Giving	\$76,043	\$237,591	\$22,540
Budget	\$72,033	\$230,358	\$41,369
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$4,010	\$7,233	(\$18,829)
Loan Balance	\$2,227,660		

* To give a more complete picture of our actual financial position, "Other Revenue" includes items like Preschool revenue, Thrivent Choice, sponsorships, memorials, and interest income.

A Note from Tony Hunt, Advancement Director:

The Power of Planned Giving – As Jenny Reith, our Parish Administrator, stated several weeks ago, we are in the process of completing some major landscaping projects that were put on hold during the building program. One of the major sources of money that has now allowed us the ability to complete this work came from a planned gift. In the past four years, we have received three estate gifts that ranged from \$50,000 to in excess of \$500,000. In some cases, the donor left instructions on how the gifts were to be used, such as supporting the building fund or being used for financial aid. Others have left the money unrestricted and let the leaders best decide how to use the funds, such as eliminating an outstanding line of credit, building our endowments, and as noted above, property improvements.

If you have already arranged a planned gift for our church or school, thank you! Please let us know so that we can work with you to identify the specific areas of ministry that you are most passionate. If you have not, please consider the impact that you can have on sustaining our mission and on future generations here at the church and school. A planned gift can be as simple as putting your favorite ministries in your will or by making St. Peter's one of the beneficiaries on your life policy or retirement plan. Please contact Tony Hunt, 222-1291 cell or thunt@stpetersfw.org with any questions about planned giving. Also, let us know if you have arranged a planned gift, so that we can add you to the list of supporters that have already made us aware of their intentions.

Church Calendar

Saturday, October 10

3:00 pm - Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

5:00 pm - Worship w/ Praise Team (In-Person)

Sunday, October 11

8:00 am - Worship (In-Person)
9:15 am - Adult Bible Study (Cornerstone Room & Live Stream)
9:15 am - Public School Confirmation (Church Gym)
9:45 am - Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:30 am - Worship w/ Praise Team (In-Person & Live Stream)
6:00 pm - HSYG Meeting (Sanctuary)

Monday, October 12

6:00 pm - Stepping Stones Worship (Church Gym)
7:00 pm - Adult Information Class (Large Conference Room)

Tuesday, October 13

9:00 am - Ladies Bible Study (Cornerstone Room)
6:00 pm - School Funding Committee Meeting (Cornerstone Room)
7:00 pm - STEPS (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, October 14

6:30 pm - Middle School Youth Group (School Cafeteria)

Thursday, October 15

6:30 am - Men's Bible Study (Goeglein's Fireplace Room)
9:00 am - Ladies Aid Quilting (Cornerstone Room)
12:00 pm - Pastor Steve's Bible Study (Sanctuary)
7:00 pm - Elders Meeting (Sanctuary)

Friday, October 16

6:00 pm - Preschool Family S'mores Night (Church South Lot)

[Send a Prayer Request](#)

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