

# St. Peter's Lutheran Church



## CONNECT to Christ with Us

### Worship Times, Links & Details

#### In-Person Worship

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 8:00 am

Sunday @ 10:30 am

Monday @ 6:00 pm (Stepping Stones - Gym)

#### Scripture Readings

Old Testament Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Holy Gospel Reading: Mark 1:14-20

#### Sermon

"Be Like Babies...they like changes"

Text: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

Pastor Steve Ahlersmeyer

### Live Stream Worship

These services can be accessed through our Facebook page  
([www.facebook.com/StPetersFW](https://www.facebook.com/StPetersFW)).

#### Sunday @ 10:30 am

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

### Stepping Stones Worship

She was feeling a little down, and then she did this one thing...

#### [Can't Stop the Feeling Video](#)

Join us for worship on Monday at 6:00 pm in the Church Gym. This week we will talk about Confession and Absolution and how they impact our lives. Come and see why Amy can't stop the feeling of joy.



**(As a reminder, Stepping Stones is a worship service, so attendance does count toward the Congregational Scholarship requirement for school families.)**

### The Congregational Scholarship

(Only applicable for our members who have children attending St. Peter's School or Concordia Lutheran High School)

**In Person Worship forms are located  
in the Ministry Center (near the office entrance).**

For those submitting a Google Form for Online Worship Attendance you can now find the link on the St. Peter's website under the School tab. Please remember:

- Include only the names of each person watching and participating in the current service that weekend, not just the person submitting the form.
- Answer the questions based on the hymns and sermon in the most current live stream service.
- Students and at least one parent both need to participate for each service watched.
- Please submit your Google Form before 8 am Monday morning.

We are here to help as we navigate this transition. Details were sent via email and mailed letter, but if you have further questions on who can receive this scholarship and how, feel free to reach out to Jenny Reith, Parish Administrator and liaison to the Board of Elders Attendance Subcommittee ([jreith@stpetersfw.org](mailto:jreith@stpetersfw.org)).

[CLICK HERE for the  
Google Form to Log Live Stream Worship](#)

## Mission News



### Mission Celebration

St. Peter's mission emphasis will culminate on the last weekend of this month as Missionary James Sharp preaches the sermon via video. We look forward to hearing an inspiring message about the Uruguay mission on the anniversary of his visit with us last January. If you attend in-person worship, you can stop by the Mission Table in the Ministry Center this weekend and next to pick up materials about Uruguay.

At the end of this article you will find some links to view a very interesting article Pastor Sharp shared about the effects of COVID-19 on his activities and Uruguay, as well as the first of two short video clips from Pastor Sharp.

Highlights of Pastor Sharp's written article explain how the small country of Uruguay is different from the US in that there are no levels of government (state, county), so all regulations come directly from the national government. That government has declared a quarantine and shut down "public spectacles" such as church. The people have suffered greatly since many are living on margin, so the Lutheran Church has found new opportunities through food distributions via collections from the church and school families as well as a grant from the LCMS Office of International Missions. This, along with live-streamed services, has reached people who would not have been aware of the church otherwise. Once again blessings have emerged from the global pandemic.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

An interesting side note is that people in Uruguay are deeply missing kissing each other on the cheek, since this is the custom of greeting and saying good-bye to friends. And there is no more sharing of yerba mate (the national tea drink), a real social sadness! Let us remember that missionaries need not only God's help, but our help as well. Prayers are number one, and monetary gifts second. Look for the special "Mission Envelope" in your packet which serves as our door offering this month.

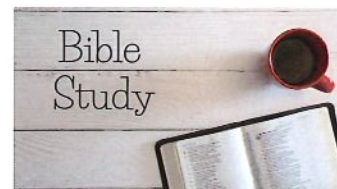
[Click here to watch the message from Pastor Sharp and his children.](#)

## GROW in His Grace with Us

### Sunday Bible Study:

Join us on Sunday morning at 9:15 am for Bible Study either in person in the Cornerstone Room or online via our YouTube channel.

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



### Pastor Steve's Thursday Bible Study:



Pastor Steve continues his study of Hebrews this Thursday at noon in the Sanctuary and via live stream. We are still in chapter 1, so it is still a great time to jump into this in depth and insightful study.

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

## SHARE Him with Others

### Chicken Dinner Sales

February 7 is Super Bowl Sunday, and the Youth want to help you enjoy the game by selling boxed chicken dinners. You will help them fund their mission trip to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota this June.

You will get homestead chicken, green beans, baked potato, and a roll for just \$10. You can still get your tickets online through the St. Peter's website or forms will be in the Ministry Center.



### Opportunities to Offer Time & Talents

#### SNOW PATROL

The Property Team is lining up volunteers to take a weekend to be on-call to cover sidewalk shoveling and salting around our entrances before & after weekend worship services. The main objective is to keep the walks near each door clear of snow and ice so our members can enter and exit our facility as safely as possible (the major parking lot plowing/salting is already covered).

This is a wonderful family project opportunity if you've been looking for a way to give back together. If this is something you or maybe your family is interested in, please complete the form found at the link below as soon as possible.

[Snow Patrol Sign-Up Form](#)

#### PRISON MINISTRY

The Allen County Jail Board of Directors is looking for new board members who have a heart for Prison Ministry. The board meets every other month at 4:30 pm. If you are interested or have further questions, please reach out to our brother-in-Christ at Promise Lutheran, Bob Wearley (bob@commercialfilter.net).

### Compassionate Care Collections

It's back... the monthly Compassionate Care Collections are back. From now until the end of February, we are helping the Rescue Mission with much needed underwear – we all need it! There are a wide range of sizes needed which we all can find as we shop in-person, on-line, delivery, or pick-up at store.

Needed:

Men: Medium to 4X

Women: 5-XL

Children: All sizes

Sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League helping us all reach out. Collection baskets in the North Corridor and Ministry Center.

## Tithes & Offerings

To view a complete list of giving options (along with instructions), [click here](#).

### **Stewardship Corner as of 1/10/20**

May your giving be joyful and your faith be strengthened!

	<u>Month to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Other Revenue</u>
<b>Total Giving</b>	\$53,660	\$551,013	\$47,922
<b>Budget</b>	\$35,468	\$552,797	\$81,447

<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	\$18,192	(\$1,784)	(\$33,525)
<b>Loan Balance</b>	\$2,048,674		

**Thrivent Choice** – Thank you to everyone that directs Thrivent Choice dollars to our church and school. If you are a Thrivent member and do not know how to direct Choice dollars, please contact your Thrivent representative or Tony Hunt, Director of Advancement (222-1291 or [thunt@stpetersfw.org](mailto:thunt@stpetersfw.org)).

**Missionary Offering** – January is our “Missionary” month, and we will hear from Uruguay Missionary James Sharp next weekend. Please consider making a special donation to support this important mission program. There is a Missionary Offering envelope included in your Jan/Feb packet. Thank you to everyone that helps us support Pastor Sharp and his mission work!

## School Updates

### Open Enrollment

We are already looking ahead to the 2021/2022 school year. Enrollment is now open for members of St. Peter's. Enrollment opens to the community on January 24. St. Peter's partners with families to provide a Christ-centered education that nurtures faith in Christ, promotes discipleship, develops God-given talents, and encourages academic excellence. Please share this information with anyone you know who may be interested in enrolling their child(ren) age 2 through 8th grade. Contact the school office to learn more or to schedule a personal visit ([enrollment@stpetersfw.org](mailto:enrollment@stpetersfw.org) or 260-749-5811).

### National Lutheran Schools Week

**January 24-30**

We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families. NLSW gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within our community.

### Geography Bee

This year's geography bee will take place on Tuesday during National Lutheran Schools Week in the Wildcat Gym (Church Gym) at 2 pm. Parents of participants will be allowed in to join us for the event.

### Artsonia

While our parents and visitors cannot come in and see artwork filling our hallways this year, our amazing Art teacher knew they needed to share it. Mrs. Koenig researched ways to make students' artwork accessible to families, even during this weird COVID time. What she found was Artsonia. Artsonia is an online gallery of all of the artwork our kids create. People can peruse artwork and even order items with a child's artwork on them like mugs, cards, and even Christmas ornaments. Thanks to the hard work of Mrs. Koenig and her faithful helper, Ms. Dierks, new artwork is posted almost weekly to the website to enjoy. There are currently over 1,300 art projects to enjoy on the site. Click the link below to view the amazing artistic talents God has blessed our students with. A huge thank you Mrs. Koenig and Ms. Dierks for making this possible!

[Artsonia Link](#)

## Thank You

Click here for a special message from the Widener family.

### [A Letter from the Wideners](#)



Special thank offerings were made in the past month, giving glory to God for the following:

- I am thankful for another year of God's Grace.
- I am thankful for surviving Covid.
- I am thankful for the Pastors and Vicar, especially all of the extra time they have put into this Advent Season.
- I am thankful for Christmas.



- I am thankful for 6 grandchildren.
- I am thankful for Friends & Family.
- I am thankful for another "clean" PET scan.
- I am thankful for all you do for me.

We are so thankful for our Sponsors:

- Gloria Nietert in loving memory of Ron Nietert (Portals of Prayer Small & Large Print 1st Qt.)
- Jim & Karen Shadle in celebration of their 56th Wedding Anniversary (Hopefull Living 1st Qt.)
- Tim & Theresa Donovan (Postage for News & Notes to members without email)

*(If you'd like to know more about how to become a sponsor, please call the Church Office and we can share further details.)*

A gigantic thank you to Ben & Aimee Clinkenbeard and their family for all their hard work setting up and taking down the Christmas decorations. While they humbly offer their time and talents in this way without expectation of acknowledgement, we see you and appreciate you.

The Willard Meyer family would like to thank our St. Peter's Family who helped us that first week of December. Pastor Steve and the Elders worked tirelessly that week providing comfort to 3 grieving families. We appreciate everyone's prayers and words about our husband and dad. He was a blessing to us and many more.

In Christ, Wilma, Linda, Curtis and Bryan.

Thank you to all of St. Peter's for your prayers of those on our prayer card during this most difficult time made even more difficult due to covid-19 restrictions.

Thank you for the very nice funeral service for Bonnie DeCamp. She always let you know the church was very important to her. Thanks also to the ladies for the lunch. Everything was very good. I know all of us did appreciate all of their work.

Joyce Marx

Darryl & Tammy Olson are thankful that Uncle Steve and Aunt Vicki both had successful surgeries and a successful scan. Prayers were answered.

## Church Calendar

### National Lutheran Schools Week

#### Saturday, January 23

1:00 pm - Altar Guild Clean & Polish (Cornerstone & Kitchen)

5:00 pm - Worship (In Person)

#### Sunday, January 24

8:00 am - Worship (In-Person)

9:15 am - Adult Bible Class (Cornerstone Room & Live Stream)

9:15 am - Public School Confirmation (Church Gym)

10:30 am - Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

6:00 pm - Youth Group Meeting (Zoom)

#### Monday, January 25

5:30 pm - Preschool Board Meeting (Large Conference Room)

6:00 pm - Stepping Stones Worship (Church Gym)

6:00 pm - Day School Board Meeting (Cornerstone Room)

#### Thursday, January 28

6:30 am - Men's Bible Study (Goeglein's Fireplace Room)

12:00 pm - Pastor Steve's Bible Study (Sanctuary & Live Stream)

6:00 pm - Properties Team Meeting (Cornerstone Room)

6:30 pm - Tech Team Meeting (Large Conference Room)

St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School | 7710 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46815

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**Dear St. Peters,**

**My family and I would like to take a moment to say, "Thank you," for the gift card offerings you gave us at Christmas. Last year was a difficult one for all of us, to say the least, and we all struggled with various issues as a result of COVID-19. In particular, our family, was not able to return to Oklahoma in order see our parents or Amy's brand new niece and nephew twins and, as a result, we were feeling somewhat lonely. Imagine our great surprise on Christmas Day when Pastor Steve presented us with a box full of gift cards and we learned that St. Peter's had agreed to graciously take us into their arms and provide us with this free will offering! Frankly, I was speechless and Amy began to cry. Although we missed our loved ones, we also felt like we had been welcomed into a new family, St. Peter's.**

**In Colossians 3:12-13 Paul tells us, "put on then as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness and patience, bearing with one another... And above all these put on love which binds everything together in perfect harmony." During our time here, you have been all of those things, and you have shown us what it means to be a part of the body of Christ. On behalf of my wife, Amy and my two daughters, Gwyndalyn and Sophia, I thank you, not only for the gifts you so graciously gave us, but for demonstrating the very essence of what it means to be Christian. During our time as part of St. Peter's Lutheran Church and School we have seen the very attitudes and actions that Paul mentioned in our church and we are truly blessed to be among such a wonderful congregation.**

**As we look forward to 2021 it is my sincere hope and prayer that we will one day be able to come together again free from all social distancing and its accompanying worries. In the meantime however, take heart, for it is during the most trying of times that the true character of an organization comes to the forefront and our congregation's character has shown us nothing but love, patience and kindness.**

**Peace be with you,**

**Vicar Nate, Amy, Gwyndalyn and Sophia**