

# St. Peter's Lutheran Church



## Letter from the Pastors

Dear Friends in Christ,

On the weekend of July 17, 18, & 19, Vicar Nate will be preaching his last “official” sermon as our vicar. To refresh your memory, a “vicar” in our church body is the term used to describe a man who is in his third year of seminary and is assigned to a congregation for a period of one year in order to gain practical parish experience under the direction and supervision of a more seasoned pastor. You might think of it as a year-long internship. Of course, with a vicar, as in the case of Vicar Nate, comes his family. What a joy it has been to have Vicar Nate’s wife, Amy, who works in our church office, and daughters Gwyndalyn and Sophia as part of our church family.

I think you will all agree with me that Vicar Nate did a superior job in his vicarage year with us. In fact, given his background as a substance abuse counselor for ten years prior to entering the seminary, he has a wealth of life experience that distinguishes him from your typical seminary student. That being said, I have asked Vicar Nate if he would be willing to continue serving in order to help out with a variety of projects we are undertaking at this time as we gear up for our Fall ministry programming and beyond. Without hesitation he agreed to do what we might call a “summer vicarage” with us. So, even though his one year obligation has officially ended, you will still see Vicar Nate around the church. As a matter of fact, the Board of Directors has allowed me to apply for a grant that would keep Vicar Nate with us on a part-time basis while he finishes his fourth and final year of seminary studies. We will find out whether or not we will receive that grant sometime in late August or early September. So, stay tuned! You might very well see Vicar Nate, at least on a part-time basis, around St. Peter’s for another year.

As many of you have commented to me, Pastor McDowell, Vicar Nate, and I make a great pastoral team. Together we feel we can adequately cover all the various aspects of providing pastoral ministry to our congregation, preschool, day school, and the surrounding community. I might add, we also are blessed to have a wonderful office staff, preschool and day school team, and the countless volunteer hours of many lay people such as yourselves. God has richly blessed St. Peter's with a wonderful variety of gifts in the people who serve here. Please join me in thanking Him for all who give so sacrificially and generously of their time, talents, and treasures in order to carry out the important work of sharing the Good News of salvation in Christ Jesus through the variety of ministries that happen here at St. Peter's.

Have a blessed summer in the Lord!

In Christ,

Pastor Steve



## **CONNECT to Christ with Us**

### **Worship Times & Details**

#### **In-Person Worship**

Saturday w/ Communion @ 5:00 pm

Sunday w/ Communion @ 8:00 am

Sunday w/ Communion @ 10:30 am

Monday w/ Communion @ 7:00 pm

#### **Weekend Bulletin**

Large Print Bulletins are available from an Elder before each service.

#### **Worship Readings**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4

Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 2:13-25

Gospel Reading: John 8:31-38

**"Today We Celebrate Freedom...in Christ!"**

Text: Isaiah 61:1-4; 1 Peter 2:13-25; John 8:31-38

Vicar Nathan Widener

## **Live Stream Worship**

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

## **Elevator is Fixed**

Maintenance has completed on the elevator and can be used as normal now. Thank you so much for your patience as we waited for the part to come in.

# **GROW in His Grace with Us**

## **Summer Adult Information Class**

A new Adult Information Class for those new to the Lutheran church and considering membership will begin on June 13. Classes will be offered on Sundays from 9:15-10:15 in the Large Conference Room. For more information, contact Pastor Steve (749-5816 or [pastorahlersmeyer@stpetersfw.org](mailto:pastorahlersmeyer@stpetersfw.org)).

## **Sunday Bible Study**

Sunday morning Bible class continues this week at 9:15 am in the Cornerstone Room and via live stream on our YouTube channel. This week will begin a new study on the life of Paul.

## **Tuesday Ladies Bible Study**

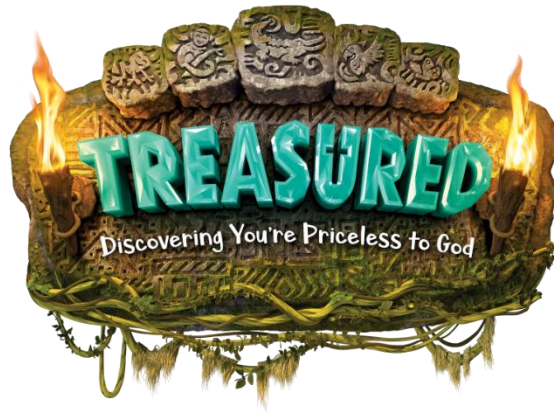
Join us Tuesdays at 9:30 am as we continue our study of The Armor of God. Our summer schedule will continue on the third Tuesday of July (20) and August (17).

## **HSYG**

Welcome back!

Next HSYG meeting will be July 11, 6-8pm at the Parish House.





## VBS

VBS concluded Thursday and was very successful! Thank you to our VBS Director Naomi Woehner and a GIANT thank you to all the volunteers it takes to put on such a wonderful event for our kids and families.

Michelle Leahy, Lindsay Garrison, Jennifer Cardone, Rose Mary Lipp, Bill & Diana Habegger, Simone Alberding, Laura Knox, Louise Creutz, Mark & Sandy Timm, Judy Haney, Casey Haney, Pastor McDowell, Delbert Busche, Richie, Biden & Rondo Paulin, Julie Laisure, Grace Quaintance, Alicia Rodenbeck, Savannah Woehner, Abby, Shannon, & Gavin Leahy, Brynn Campbell, Morgan Moher, Jeremy Meyer, Zoe & Miranda Meyer, Jack Wolf, Paul Peterson, Michael Habegger, Cayden Whitacre, Joy Weller & family, Carina Littrell, Amy Widener, Sophia Widener, Vicar Nate, and everyone else who stayed after to help clean up.

We're already looking forward to next year!





# SHARE Him with Others

## Opportunities to Share



Consider today the following opportunities. For more information or to give of your time, please contact Amy Widener (awidener@stpetersfw.org or 749-5816).

**Altar Guild** - What an honor to be a member of the group that cares for the Sacrament and our worship space. Learn the interesting behind the scenes details of this beautiful and important tradition. Make great connections with your sisters in Christ and true friendships along the way. Openings to serve begin September 2021 and go through August 2022. Each member chooses 2 months of that year to serve. Give Sue a call at 486-2841.

## Senior Saints

You'll be delighted to meet Suzie from the Zoo with a little critter at our next Senior Saints event on July 12 at 11:30 in the Cornerstone Room. We'll have a picnic lunch and requesting a donation of \$10 for the meal and zoo presentation. Sign up today in the Ministry Center.

## June is National Family Month

What do you think of when you think of a family? Smiling happy parents and children? Maybe a single parent? What about the families struggling, arguing, and separating, or children who have been left without their parents due to circumstances beyond their control?

While the Covid-19 Pandemic has been great for bringing many families together, nearly 35% of American families have admitted to some destruction of their happiness due to the stresses of lockdowns and restrictions.

In the Month of June St. Peter's is taking a Special Collection to support Lutheran Social Services, a Christ-centered non-profit organization here in Fort Wayne who specializes in supporting families through mental health care, financial education, and even foster care. Your donations can help make happy and healthy families a reality for those who may not otherwise find it on their own.

## Compassionate Care Collection

On our way to 75

FAQ'S ABOUT LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

### I have 2 cute baby dresses; can they be used?

No, because we have to adhere to the LWR guidelines. If kits vary they may not pass customs. The whole shipment may be rejected.

### Why don't the kits need waterproof pants?

Village health care workers teach mothers to use the diapers on toddlers to keep the villages clean.

### **Are hand knitted/crocheted blankets accepted?**

Yes, handmade items bring an extra smile to the face of a mother.

### **How are T-shirts made from used Onesies?**

9 mo and above Onesies are surged off to make T-shirts. New Onesies are donated to the Hope Center or Seminary.

### **How can I help?**

Check the June 27 edition of News 'n Notes or pick up a list on the collection baskets in the Ministry Center and North Corridor.

Thank you to those who have so generously contributed. If you have a question please contact Elise Koenemann at 493-3923. If needed, leave a message and she will return your call.

## **Preschool Teacher Needed**

We are looking for a preschool teacher for the upcoming school year. Candidates must have a B.A. or an Assoc. degree in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education or a related field. Preferred candidates would enthusiastically share their love of Christ with students and their families, work well as a team member and enjoy working with young children. Please contact our director, Barb Christian, with any questions or to submit a resume. Barb can be reached by email at [bchristian@stpetersfw.org](mailto:bchristian@stpetersfw.org).

## **Want to join the St. Peter's Lutheran School team?**

We are filling positions for the 2021/2022 school year!

### **Clubhouse Supervisor**

St. Peter's Lutheran School is looking to fill a few part-time Clubhouse positions (7-8:30 am and 3:15-5:30pm) for the 2021-2022 school year. Clubhouse is our before and after school care program. Experience in education or related fields is preferred, but not required. **MUST LOVE CHILDREN**; be flexible, and able to share Christ's love to all! The position would require around 20 hours a week on average. This person would be in charge of managing other clubhouse workers and the schedule, ensuring coverage. Please email resume and any questions to the Principal, Chris Brune, at [cbrune@stpetersfw.org](mailto:cbrune@stpetersfw.org) or send a resume to the school office.

### **Clubhouse worker**

St. Peter's Lutheran School is looking to fill a few part-time Clubhouse positions (7-8:30 am and 3:15-5:30pm) for the 2021-2022 school year. Clubhouse is our before and after school care program. Experience in education or related fields is preferred, but not required. **MUST LOVE CHILDREN**; be flexible, and able to share Christ's love to all! Hours can vary but could scale up to meet needs.

Please email resume and any questions to the Principal, Chris Brune, at [cbrune@stpetersfw.org](mailto:cbrune@stpetersfw.org) or send a resume to the school office.

### **Kitchen Staff**

St. Peter's Lutheran School is looking to fill a part-time position within our kitchen for the 2021-2022 school year. Experience in food services or related field preferred, but not required. Hours will vary based on schedules and availability but will be consistent once set for the year. Please email resume and any questions to our Food Service Manager, Jessica Arnett, at [jarnett@stpetersfw.org](mailto:jarnett@stpetersfw.org) or send a resume to the school office.

## **Other School News**

SCRIP- With the announcement of Mr. Tony Hunt, our Director of Advancement, accepting a new position we are moving SCRIP over to the school office. SCRIP order scheduling will remain the same. Orders placed by noon on Tuesday will still be available for pick up by Thursday afternoon pending delivery. If you have any questions regarding the SCRIP program, orders or pick ups please contact the school office at 260-749-5811.

The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana (SGO) – Great news, effective July 1, the Indiana legislature greatly improved the income guidelines for both Choice scholarships and SGO scholarships! Many more of our school families will be eligible for these scholarships to assist them in sending their children to our school, which provides a high quality Christian education.

Without getting too technical, it is important to know for these families to receive choice dollars from the state, they need what is called a “track” to qualify. This is why we give SGO scholarships to kindergartners that qualify. Receiving an SGO will allow those families that qualify based on income to then receive choice dollars the following year and every year after. With the increased number of families that will now qualify, we will have a spike in SGO need to provide a track to as many families as possible!

Not only does this program benefit our students, with every gift there is also a direct 50% Indiana State tax credit for the donor. Our members and supporters stepped up last year and contributed to St. Peter's SGO account at a goal-shattering pace of \$46,816. Best year ever, thank you so very much! Please consider joining the many families that are supporting this program. For more information, please contact our Principal Chris Brune, [cbrune@stpetersfw.org](mailto:cbrune@stpetersfw.org). You can also go directly to the website, [www.LutheranSGO.org](http://www.LutheranSGO.org) to contribute, but remember to direct the donation to St. Peter's Lutheran School – Fort Wayne.

# Community Events

## SAVE THE SIBERIAN LUTHERAN SEMINARY MISSION FESTIVAL

Date: Sunday, July 11, 2021 5PM-8PM

Location: The Schuller Barn 16520 Platter Rd New Haven, IN 46774

St. Paul Lutheran Gar Creek and the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society invite you to partner with them in Saving the Siberian Lutheran Seminary in Novosibirsk, Russia. Meet seminary president, Rev. Dr. Alexey Streltsov and his wife Elena. Hear of the joys and challenges of ministry in Russia. Enjoy complimentary brats and beverages (beer, wine, soft drinks) with fellow Lutherans. Bill Werling and the Breakaway Band will provide music & square dancing. Please contact Pastor Michael Blodgett at 260-402-1599 with any questions. We hope to see you there!



## Thank You from LSSI

Laurie from Lutheran Social Services of Indiana (LSSI) along with Alicia, Family Life chairperson, thank St. Peter's members for their donations and especially the luggage and suitcases that will be used by foster children as they move.

## Tithes & Offerings

### Stewardship Corner as of 6/20/21

Ask the Lord for his mercy and be a cheerful giver!

	<u>Month to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Other Revenue</u>
			Thru May
<b>Total Giving</b>	\$66,942	\$1,068,212	\$143,908
<b>Budget</b>	\$91,502	\$1,150,227	\$219,963
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	(\$25,561)	(\$82,014)	(\$76,055)
<b>Loan Balance</b>	\$1,885,630		

**Charitable Gift Annuities** – With a charitable gift annuity, you make a donation using cash, securities, or other assets, in return you receive a fixed amount for life and a potential tax charitable deduction, while providing a future gift to St. Peter's Church or School. Contact Tony Hunt, Director of Advancement (222-1291 or [thunt@stpetersfw.org](mailto:thunt@stpetersfw.org)).

## Church Calendar

### Saturday, July 3

5:00 pm - Worship w/communion (Sanctuary)

### Sunday, July 4

8:00 am - Worship w/communion (Sanctuary)

9:15 am - Adult Bible Study (Cornerstone Room)

10:30 am - Worship w/communion (Sanctuary)



**Monday, July 5 - Church Office Closed**

9:00 am - Knotters (Parish House)

7:00 pm - Worship (Sanctuary)

**Wednesday, July 7**

6:00 pm - Trauma Support Group (Staff Conference Room)

**Thursday, July 8**

9:00 am - Ladies Aid Quilting (Cornerstone Room)

5:15 pm - Nominating Team Meeting (Cornerstone Room)

6:00 pm - Youth Board Meeting (Staff Conference Room)

7:00 pm - Ministry Impact Team Meeting (Cornerstone Room)

**Friday, July 9**

6:00 pm Everson/Havens rehearsal (Sanctuary)

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