

St. Peter's Lutheran Church



CONNECT TO CHRIST WITH US

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Live Stream Worship Sunday at 10:30

These services can be found on our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/StPetersFW

Large Print Bulletins are available from an Elder.



Prayer Text Hotline

Text requests to

260-468-5816

**Monday evening services
continue at 6 pm with masks
required. These services will
continue thru February until
Lent begins.**

February 12-14, 2022

In-Person Worship

Sermon

"Truly Blessed"

Text: *Luke 6:17-26*

Pastor Steve Ahlersmeyer



Worship Readings

Old Testament Reading:

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Epistle Reading:

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Gospel Reading:

Luke 6:17-26

CONNECT TO CHRIST WITH US (CONT.)

Special Voter's Meeting

Due to a procedural technicality that was caught by our Board of Directors, we will have to postpone our special Voter's Meeting until **Sunday, February 27, following the 10:30 a.m. service.** The meeting will still be held in the sanctuary. It was determined by the BOD that the position of Director of Community of Care will first be brought to the floor for approval and then, if approved, the meeting will proceed with the calling of an associate pastor to fill that role. A new agenda and a BOD approved Role Description for the Director of Community of Care can be found at the end of this edition of the News & Notes and paper copies are also available in the Ministry Center.



Conversation, Cookies, & Coffee

We've had some good conversations lately about the Community of Care and the great things God is already doing through this vision plan. If you would like to learn more about the Community of Care, we invite you to stop by the Ministry Center after worship this weekend. The Ministry Staff will be there as well if you would like to have a conversation.

Concordia Weekend - Next Week

We are very excited to host Concordia High School's Chamber and Acapella Choir at both 8 am and 10:30 am Sunday services on February 20th.

Viewing Worship via Cable Network

We understand there have been some issues with viewing our worship service on the cable networks. We are aware of the situation and working on a solution to get it fixed for you. Until we can resolve the issue, there are several other ways to view our worship service via our [Facebook Page](#), [YouTube Channel](#) or a mailed DVD. If you would like copies of previous services on DVD mailed to you, please contact the church office by calling 260-749-5816 and leave a voicemail if necessary, or emailing at churchoffice@stpetersfw.org.

GROW IN HIS GRACE WITH US

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

Tuesdays 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Large Conference Room.

Pastor Steve's Bible Study

Pastor Steve's Thursday Bible Study continues every Thursday at noon in the Sanctuary.

Sunday Bible Study

Creation, was it "big bang", "chaos", or "on purpose with a plan by a Power that always was, is and will be?" Join the Sunday Adult Bible Class at 9:15 AM and discover our origins that will lead to our destination and show us how to get there!



Winter Session

Tuesdays - January 18-February 22

Cornerstone Room



Dinner: 5:30-6:15

Groups: 6:15-7:30

High School Youth Group (HSYG)

**Pick Up Chicken Dinners this
Sunday February 13th after
either the 8 am or 10:30 am
worship service at the
Cornerstone Kitchen Window.**



SHARE HIM WITH OTHERS

Social Ministry Team THIS WEEKEND

The big game is set to kick off on February 13th. St. Peter's has a tradition of collecting food (initially just soup - thus the name "Souper Bowl") for the Associated Churches Food Bank downtown. The Social Ministry Team is once again planning a Souper Bowl food collection for that weekend of the 12-14th, making sure that all donations are non-perishable and not expired. Thanks and God's blessings to all.



CEMETERY HELP NEEDED

Our volunteers who care for the Cemetery are nearing retirement. What a blessing they have been to this ministry through their quiet and faithful dedication to the House of the Lord and the surrounding property! But this means we'll need more help from our Church Body. We'd like to get a rotating list going to help us get through the Summer months without leaning too much on one person. The schedule is fairly flexible and we have on-the-job training. The highest need is for mowers and general

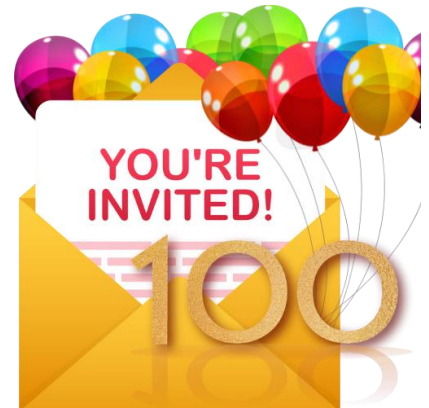
lawn maintenance for both our cemeteries starting in April. Please prayerfully consider joining this team. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Marshall Vonderau or Paul Peterson at ppeterson@stpetersfw.org or churchoffice@stpetersfw.org.

Compassionate Care Collection: Camp Lutherhaven

- **Heavy weight** silver duct tap (for fixin')
- Colored duct tape (for craftin')
- 4" Ace wrap (for 'Ouch!)

Birthday Celebration

Birthdays are special, but when someone turns 100 years old, that's really special. Our beloved member Halden Krauter will turn 100 years on Saturday, February 19. His family is hosting an open house at Georgetown Place on Maplecrest Road that day from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Friends from the congregation are invited to attend.



PrayER Team Spotlight: Terminal Illness



"In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears." Psalm 18:6

Receiving the news that you or someone you love has a terminal illness can be devastating. What better time for our St. Peter's Community of Care to come together to surround you in prayer. Our Terminal Illness PrayER Team is prepared to prayerfully support anyone who is facing end of life issues. You may have just received the diagnosis, are undergoing treatment to prevent the progression of the illness, or are near the end of the journey. Prayer requests can be texted to our PrayER Hotline on any day at any time at 260-468-5816.

Mental Health Awareness: PTSD

During the month of February we will learn more about PTSD, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Many of us will experience some kind of trauma during our lifetime. Sometimes, we escape with no long-term effects. But for millions of us, those experiences linger, causing symptoms like flashbacks, nightmares, and negative thoughts that interfere with everyday life. This phenomenon, called post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), isn't a personal failing. Rather, it's a treatable malfunction of certain biological mechanisms that allow us to cope with dangerous experiences. Search in YouTube the title "The psychology of post-traumatic stress disorder – Joelle Rabow Maletis" to look up a video and learn the science behind post-traumatic stress disorder, its symptoms, and how the brain reacts to trauma.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Stewardship Corner as of 1/30/2022

God certainly gives us what is good; let us return a portion to him!

	<u>Month to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Other Revenue</u>
Total Giving	\$ 108,957	\$ 741,741	\$ 2,988
Budget	\$ 102,614	\$675,562	\$ 8,792
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$6,343	\$ 66,179	(\$ 5,804)
Loan Balance	\$1,490,091		



The CLHS Performing Arts Program will be the Special Offering for February. Drop your offering envelope in the wooden church in the Ministry Center.

St. Peter's sent \$2,449 to the Tornado Relief Fund in December to the Mid-South District in Tennessee. Donations directed to this fund were used for relief efforts in the tornado-ravaged communities.

Scrip Sales

Look ahead for Scrip Sales to start again in the Ministry Center before and after worship, generally on the 1st and 3rd weekends of each month. The next one scheduled will be February 19-20th.

THANK YOU

Sponsors

- Donald & Janet Ahlersmeyer: In thanks to God from whom all blessings flow (Quarter 1: Lg Print & Regular Portals of Prayer)
- Tim & Theresa Donovan: Postage for mailed News & Notes

Thank Offerings

I am thankful for...

- My mom, dad, and Cole my brother
- Health & Church
- For what's on my heart
- The baptism of our son

Sponsorships available for Hopeful Living, 2nd Quarter of Portals of Prayer & 2nd Quarter Large Print, Annual Flowers, & Worship Supplies

A few special thank yous and shout outs:

- St. Peter's Church & School family, Thank you for the beautiful flowers and garden stone. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and will think of Dad/Grandpa whenever we see the stone. St. Peter's is such a blessing to our family. Thank you, Mark, Barb, & the girls and The Berger Family
- Thank you so very much for your support of the Lutheran Social Services Christmas Program. We are humbled and encouraged by the overwhelming

response from our sponsors. These are just two of the 102 families your donations provided for:

"Thanks so much for all you do for my family. You guys always make a big smile on my kids faces and that is more then I want. Thank you."

"I would like to thank you for ever thing you do to help the family and my family. We would like to say thank you. Love.

- Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ, Please accept our gratitude for your gift to help those affected by the catastrophic tornados in Kentucky. The Pastors at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Bowling Green and St. Paul Lutheran In Paducah are working diligently to get aid to those in need. Continue to pray for these pastors as they minister to those who have experienced overwhelming loss. Your generosity will impact positively so many lives that have been disrupted. - The Mid-South LCMS District

LORD'S WEEK AT A GLANCE

Saturday, February 12

5:00 pm - Worship (Sanctuary)
Following Service - Community of Care Q&A
(Ministry Center)

Sunday, February 13

8:00 am - Worship (Sanctuary)
9:00 am - Pick up Chicken Dinner Order
(Cornerstone Kitchen)
9:15 am - Adult Information Class (AIC) (Staff
Conference Room)
9:15 am - Adult Bible Study (Cornerstone)
9:15 am - Public School Confirmation (Large
Conference Room)
10:30 am - Worship (Sanctuary)
Following Service - Community of Care Q&A
(Ministry Center)
3:00 pm - Lutheran Singles Group Pizza &
Pickleball (Church Gym)
6:00 pm - Pickleball (Church Gym)

Monday, February 14

6:00 pm - Worship Service (Mask Required)
(Sanctuary)

Tuesday, February 15

9:30 am - Ladies Bible Study (Large
Conference Room)
5:30 pm - HOPE Sessions Dinner (Cornerstone)
6:15 pm - HOPE Sessions Devotion & Classes
(All Church)
6:30 pm - MSYG (School Cafeteria)

Wednesday, February 16

6:00 pm - Support Group (Staff Conference)
6:30 pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal (Cornerstone)
8:00 pm - Brass Band Rehearsal (Balcony)

Thursday, February 17

6:30 am - Men's Bible Study (Cornerstone)
9:00 am - Ladies Aid Quilting (Cornerstone)
12:00 pm - Pastor Steve's Bible Study
(Sanctuary)
1:00 pm - Senior Saints Team Meeting (Large
Conference Room)
6:00 pm - Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6:30 pm - Board of Directors Meeting (Large
Conference Room)

Friday, February 18

NO SCHOOL OR PRESCHOOL (Professional
Development)



Special Voters Meeting Agenda

Sunday, February 27, 2022

Sanctuary

immediately following 10:30AM worship service

Opening

Opening Prayer Pastor Ahlersmeyer Call
to Order Vicki Fitzgerald

Business Items

Approval of Director of Community of Care position Vicki Fitzgerald
Extending a Call for Associate Pastor – Director of Community of Care Vicki Fitzgerald

Closing

Closing Prayer Pastor Ahlersmeyer
Adjournment Vicki Fitzgerald

C O N N E C T • G R O W • S H A R E

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Job Description

Position:	Director of Community of Care
Purpose:	To serve the congregation by organizing and overseeing the Community of Care and providing pastoral duties (if applicable).
Accountability:	To the Senior Pastor and the congregation
Qualifications:	Minimum Master's degree in a social services or psychology related field with practical experience. A clear record as determined by a police background check. Preferred listed on the official roster of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Responsibilities:

Program Growth and Advancement

- Develop a long range (10), short range (3 years), and intermediate plan for implementation of the Community of Care vision plan.
- Continually evaluate and adjust programmatic goals and outcomes
- Develop and oversee the hierarchy necessary to accommodate the Community of Care
- Identify and organize project plans for new areas of the Community of Care as necessary
- Maintain relationships with outside organizations/resources throughout the community for program growth and referral purposes.
- Oversee the development of the tools to be used by the congregation to extend the Community of Care to those in the local community.
- Lead workshops at relevant regional and/or national outlets in order to promote and replicate the Community of Care.

Structural Organization

- Supervise groups within the Community of Care in order to provide direction for group leaders and subsequent volunteers
- Provide feedback to group leaders in order to best guide their efforts within their various fields.
- Provide ongoing training as necessary in order to build expertise within the program.
- Provide wellness support for staff and/or volunteer needs.

Individual Interaction with Parishioners

- Conduct face to face consultations in order to best administer care when a group setting is not preferable.
- Assess member needs and determine best placement within the Community of Care.
- Provide referrals to offsite resources as necessary.
- Coordinate efforts for visitation efforts (i.e., shut-in, hospitalized, etc.)

Pastoral Duties (if applicable)

- Administer the Word of God in its full truth and purity as contained in the Sacred Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and as set forth in the confessional writings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as found in the Book of Concord.
- Administer the Holy Sacraments in accordance with their divine institution.
- Live a life according to Biblical standards.
- Edify the congregation and the Church of Christ.
- Live in Christian unity with the members of the congregation, fellow workers, and sister congregations in the Synod.
- Aid, counsel, guide and pray for members.
- Admonish indifferent and erring members.
- Maintain a balanced family, home and private life.
- Pray and reflect upon God's Word.
- Conduct worship services.
- Preach at worship services.
- Perform Pastoral Acts (Funerals, Weddings, etc.)
- Minister to the sick and dying.
- Direct the instruction of catechumens, both children and adults, in the Word of God and thus prepare them for communicant membership in the church.
- Encourage and provide opportunities for spiritual growth of members of the congregation.

Terms of Employment: Full-time position, Called if applicable.

Salary: Salary is commensurate with experience in accordance with the unified salary scale of St. Peter's Lutheran Church and School.

Eligible for sick leave: Yes

Eligible for paid vacation: Yes

Evaluation: Annual evaluations are conducted by the Senior Pastor in conjunction with Board of Directors.

Employee's Signature/Date Printed Name

Ideal Candidate Qualities for St. Peter's Director of Community of Care

Purpose:

To serve the congregation by organizing and overseeing the Community of Care and providing pastoral duties. This individual will create short- and long-range plans for the implementation and growth of the programs and resources within the Community of Care. Once each component of the Community of Care is implemented, it will remain the responsibility of the Director of Community of Care to supervise the operations of the various programs, evaluate effectiveness of such, and work toward continued growth and expansion.

Preferred Educational Qualifications

- Master's degree in social services, psychology, or a related field along with practical professional experience
- Pastor listed on the official roster of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Pastoral Skills

- Teachable, an ability and willingness to learn from others
- An ability to preach in a passionate and down to earth way, with an ability to relate and connect with the congregation
- Ability to provide pastoral counseling as needed
- Strong interest in care ministry

Structural Organization

- Ability to recruit and work with lay leaders
- Strong teaching skills for both individuals and groups
- Ability to thoroughly identify and understand key issues people of all ages in today's society
- Strong project management and organizational skills
- Ability to galvanize groups as needed

Relationship Skills & Personality Traits

- An approachable individual with a contagious compassion for others and passion for the ministry
- A respectful man who is able to exude warmth and kindness, and is able to provide listening ear when needed
- Solid in our core theology yet flexible enough to try new things to effectively minister to those in need
- Realizes the value of, and ability to partner with, the staff and laity of St. Peter's
- Ability to work collaboratively with and to be a resource for the care needs of students and families of the school and preschool

Spiritual Character Traits

- An ability to provide forgiveness and to show grace
- An unending optimism about God's ability to do amazing things in the lives of people and the congregation
- Sees God's work through the local congregation as the hope of the world
- A passion for sharing the love of Christ with those inside as well as outside of St. Peter's
- A lifelong student of the Word
- Above reproach

Candidate Bio for Associate Pastor – Director of Community of Care



Nathan Widener began his professional career as a certified drug and alcohol counselor after graduating from the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. While working for Southwest Youth and Family Services in Chickasha, Oklahoma, Nathan was asked to lead the Drug Court Program for both Grady and Caddo counties and to implement the first Batterer's Intervention program for the southwest region of the state. During this time, Nathan also received his Master's degree in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma and was subsequently asked to become the liaison between Southwest Youth and Family Services and the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. For approximately ten years, Nathan was part of the administration of Southwest Youth and Family Services and was integral to the development and oversight of a number of initiatives as well as the strategic planning for the organization at large. During those ten years he also helped clients on the path to recovery who suffered from various issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence and co-occurring mental health disorders.

Nathan helped people of all ages and economic statuses and came to realize that sin is the same for everyone, regardless of their background, and that we all need to hear the Gospel. This led him to Seminary four years ago, and after graduation he hopes to continue his ministry by helping those in need and reaching out to those who have never heard that Jesus Christ died on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven!

For nearly two years, Nathan has served at St. Peter's, first as a vicar and more recently as a part-time contract consultant for the development of the Community of Care vision plan. When Nathan began his work as a vicar, he soon learned of the vision direction the Board of Directors and ministry staff were developing. He has been instrumental in helping that vision grow into an achievable plan for the future of St. Peter's ministry. If it is God's will for him to continue at St. Peter's as the Director of Community of Care, the Call Committee is confident Nathan will help make this vision a fruitful reality.

Nathan is blessed to be married to a wonderful woman, Amy, and is grateful to have received the gift of two daughters, Gwyndalyn and Sophia. Both girls are active in the arts and enjoy painting, acting and singing in the CLHS choir. In his free time Nathan enjoys playing and listening to music, working on his car and watching Hockey. Both he and his family are avid fans of the Fort Wayne Komets and enjoy watching games at the Coliseum.