



Pastor's Message

October 2017 Newsletter

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE TIMES

Sundays 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am

and Thursday @ 6:30 pm

The CORE – Sunday, 5:30 pm

Church/School Office Hours: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

This October by the grace of God, St. Peter is celebrating its 149th anniversary. I imagine it was a fairly bold thing for those few families to do, namely, to say we are going to establish a church on a plot of ground in rural Freedom. I imagine that if any of them could see the results of what their faith inspired them to do, they would be amazed at how God is so good!

149 years, however, pales in comparison to the 500th anniversary that the Lutheran church is celebrating this October 31st. It was on that day when one bold young monk by the name of Martin Luther started a spiritual revolution as he took a nail, hammer and paper with 95 theses (religious statements) and nailed them to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. As a Lutheran Christian, I look back and am inspired by his courage and his faith that has left a legacy for so many others. Yes, I too am amazed at God's goodness.

In this year when we as a church look forward to a 150th Anniversary celebration (get next October on your calendar) and in a year when we look back at the last 500 years and the impact of the message of God's Word that Martin Luther taught, that we are willing to do not just get caught up in looking back. Now before I go any further I need to explain myself so that you take that the right way! Looking back to see God's goodness and love in action is an important thing. To stop and celebrate the blessings of God in the past that have brought us to the present is a needed thing. However, looking back and celebrating the past all too often causes us to miss out on what both St. Peter's founding families and Martin Luther would want us to do - look ahead and keep your eyes on Jesus!

The Apostle Paul said this, *"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."* It is good for us to celebrate the past and those who have left legacies of faith that impact us today! But it is vital and important for us as a

church to run the race in front of us and continue to share that message that we are saved by grace alone, faith alone, through Scripture alone. Church has changed a great deal since Martin Luther nailed that paper into the doors of the church that day! St. Peter has changed a lot since the dedication of the property on French Rd. was dedicated 149 years ago. But God's Word hasn't! His grace hasn't! His blessings haven't!

As 1 church on 2 campuses our past is full of God's goodness as well! But Jesus hasn't come back yet, so we look ahead and celebrate the past by sharing the life changing message in the present. As we move forward, the music we sing might change or the number of campuses we have might grow, but one thing won't - Jesus! May God bless us as we celebrate the past but may God give us a heart of faith to boldly do what Martin Luther and our founding families did and to continue to run the race and share the message that we are saved by grace alone. Have a great October!

Pastor Tim Glende



Roots!

St. Peter and The CORE exist to transform people into God-loving, others-serving, gospel-sharing Christians. But how does that

happen? What does it take for a Christian to have a thriving relationship with God and others? It takes roots! And what if it doesn't happen? What is the impact on our church and even more importantly your personal relationship with Jesus? In this series, we are going to talk about five "roots" (Gather, Group, Grow, Give, Go) that we believe will help each of us thrive in our faith, grow in our relationship with God, and enable us to carry out our mission and vision as a church in Appleton and our community.

October 1 – "Give"
October 8 – "Go"



Rebel Yell - October 15, 22 & 29

500 years ago, a young man (Martin Luther) rebelled against the church of his day. Against all odds, he not only survived, but lived to preach the gospel of God's free and forgiving love. Today, by the grace of God, our church is an heir of that legacy. In this series, we are going to dig deep to celebrate and understand the message that began with a nail and hammer by a church door so that we can celebrate the central truths of what it means to be a Christian who is a Lutheran and also so that we can pass it on to the next generation.

Week #1: Grace - God loves us because...God loves us. Grace is the unconditional, undeserved love that surprises us (and offends human reason). This message helps us understand the depths of grace and comforts every sin-sick soul.

Week #2: Faith - How do we get to the amazing grace of God? Not by works, but through faith. This message helps define faith (simple trust) and ensure that faith is always a gift to rebels, not a choice of the spiritually so-so.

Week #3: Scripture - Where do we find both grace and faith? In the Word! How do we come to know the true God? Through the Word! How can I be sure that I'm saved, loved, and accepted by God? Because of the Word!



1 Church, 2 Campuses - Vision & Mission

Over the past 4 months our pastors and key church leaders from both of our campuses have been meeting to discuss the mission and vision of our church for the future. For 9 years St. Peter and The CORE have been blessed to be united as a church and have also been identified as unique campuses. We have referred to our church as "922" - all things to all people so that we might win some - which is why we offer a variety of ministries and worship styles across campuses and in our school.

What we know is that God has been so good to our church as we have partnered to gather as 1 united church with 2 unique campuses. It's why this committee has been meeting this past few months and discussing what's next for us as a church to be the 922 church that God wants us to be so that we can reach more people in our community and also help our members grow deeper roots (5 G's - Gather, Grow, Group, Give, Go). This committee has discussed many important things and has made recommendations to the other leaders on our campuses about how we go forward. Over the next several months you will hear more about this, see some of these things, and will probably have questions when things are tweaked or changed. When you do, we would simply encourage you to talk to our leaders and pastors so that you can ask questions and get answers.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Open Forum and Congregational Meeting – October 16 @ 6:30 pm

On Monday, October 16, we will have a congregational meeting to share some of the recommendations and suggestions

the 1C2C Team has made. We will share with you the needs we see, the challenges we have, and the opportunities God is giving us as we go forward even more united as one church and still having two unique campuses. Some exciting things are ahead that we want to share with you as we partner together. We hope to see you there.

SCRIP Selling Hours

Monday-Friday: 7:30-8:15 am and 3:00-3:30 pm in the church/school office.

Sundays in the Gathering Area of church from 8:30-9:00 am and 10:00-10:30 am

LOST & FOUND - If any of your belongings turn up missing, please check the Lost & Found which is in the labeled cupboard of the cabinet under the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. There is also a designated area in the church coat room for left behind coats & jackets.

*Thankful
&
Blessed*

It's tough to follow up a busy month like last month. What I find striking, and very cool, about working here is that the activity level never tapers off.

I never want to take for granted that God brings miracles large and small to us on a regular basis. I never want to feel as if the great assembly of believers that he has placed together here is something not worth celebrating, or something to become numb to, or something that we could stumble onto by ourselves. Every day, every week, just in my job alone, he allows me to pull rabbits out of hats, to pull together projects, to make things happen - and most of the time I feel as if it is in spite of my efforts, or in spite of missteps, lack of planning or poor planning. I do know that there are many, many great people here: called workers, hired staff, volunteers - so many great people who never get tired of serving, giving and keeping our mission statement front and center. I am very thankful that God has placed me here and allowed me to be surrounded by such awesome servants.

Thanks to all of you for allowing me the pleasure of serving with you.

Tom Dietzler, Director of Operations



BOX TOPS, KWIK TRIP MILK JUG

TOPS - We have two different locations where you can deposit your Box Tops, and Milk Jug/Bag Tops.

There is a cabinet located under the bulletin board in the Gathering Area of the church that has labeled drawers and there is also a cabinet that is located outside of the school kitchen.

***Note - Other Kwik Trip Nature's Touch items eligible: Orange Juice, Drinking Water, Kwik Quencher Iced Tea & Lemonade-Gallons, Egg Nog.**



Christian Stewardship - Your life is in God's Hands

I'm not much of an artist. If you put a paintbrush in my hands, I would likely produce a sloppy mess. But if you put that same paintbrush in the hands of Picasso, you would see a different result. Same paintbrush, different result.

When God called Moses to lead Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 3), Moses recognized immediately that his hands were far too small to carry out successfully such a great responsibility. *"Who am I?"* Moses asked God (verse 11). So God reminded Moses that he was asking the wrong question. The right question? *"Who is God?"*

Each time Moses pointed out his own weakness, God pointed him back to God. Israel's hope was in God's hands. Moses was, in a sense, the paintbrush - the tool used by the artist to create a masterpiece.

Just like you.

There are times when our hands feel too small to carry all the burdens of life. We know the mistakes we've made. There are many times we're tempted to cry out in frustration, *"Who am I?"* But as it was for Moses, that's the wrong question.

Our hope should never be in the strength of our hands, but in the strength of God's. Like Moses, we have the right to carry out our next task with confidence; because we know exactly whose hands our lives are in. They are in God's hands, who has watched over and loved his people, who has promised to be with us, and who gives us strength for the journey by taking out of our hands burdens he never intended for us to carry.
(Reprinted from Time of Grace Moments)

FALL FESTIVAL

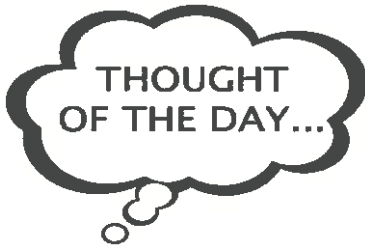
Annual Fall Festival will be held on Sunday, October 8th with "Fall Fest to Go Food" (turkey or beef w/buns and beans) for lunch along with a Bake & Craft sale. Signup sheets are on the Kiosk in the Gathering Area of church for donations for this event. We will price the baked goods. We ask that you please mark all craft items with a price. If at all possible, please bring all items to the church kitchen/gathering area between 9 am - Noon on Saturday, Oct. 7th. All proceeds that day will be divided between our mission partner and our Caring and Sharing Ministries.



CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL - If you know of someone who is interested in our school and would like more information about our 3K - 8th grade program, please contact the office @ 739-2009.



St. Peter will be hosting its 3rd Annual "Trunk or Treat" event on Sunday, October 29th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. We will be inviting the community and encourage you to invite your family, friends and neighbors as well! We are looking for families who are willing to put their creative talents to use by decorating your trunk and handing out candy. The BEST decorated trunk will win a PRIZE! We are also looking for helpers for the day of the event. Kitchen help and help with games and activities will be needed. If you are willing to help by decorating a trunk or help in any other capacity, sign up at the kiosk in the Gathering Area at St. Peter or email Robin Bromm at stpeter@922church.com.
If you are not interested in decorating a trunk but would still like to help, candy donations will be greatly appreciated! There will be baskets available at St. Peter for you to put your candy donations in.



THOUGHT
OF THE DAY...

A diamond is a chunk of coal that made good under pressure.

“Consider it all joy...when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

James 1:2-4

The Gather Root - the Lord’s Prayer and other worship implications as 1 church on 2 campuses. As a church, both the St. Peter campus and The CORE campus have regular opportunities to gather. While our worship settings are unique and the worship services on a given weekend are varied across campuses, we are still united. We have members that worship at both campuses regularly. We have people who normally attend The CORE that come on Thursday when they are out of town for the weekend. We have St. Peter campus members who worship at The CORE at night because a child had a tournament Sunday morning. We have families from both campuses with children in our school. The collaboration service (which began last January) implemented the same sermon series at both campuses which has led to even more regular cross-over of campuses for worship.

This has caused us as leaders to discuss the importance of being more united in our worship services no matter which campus a member normally gathers on. One of the changes that has been recommended and is being done during our Roots series is to unite on both campuses with the version of The Lord’s Prayer that we use. For nine years St. Peter has used the traditional version while The CORE has used the modern version. Neither one is right or wrong. Neither one better than the other. But doing both is not best for our church and our ministry. Picking one version is a blessing to our members who choose to attend both campuses.

Picking one version will be a blessing to our school families and their children when they pray the Lord’s prayer in their classrooms and in chapel.

While change is difficult, we believe the best option for us as 1 church on 2 campuses is to use the modern version. As a church that desires to reach those who don’t go and don’t know Jesus, the modern version is best for both St. Peter and The CORE. As a ministry where we value Christian education for all ages, the modern version’s vocabulary has words that are easy for them to understand more easily. As a congregation that partners with FVL, the modern version seems best as it is used there and by the large majority of our churches where our teens might attend church with their friends.

Our pastors know this is probably something that will take time for some of us to get used to. Please know that we didn’t enter into this lightly, but we have prayerfully considered this to be best. We hope this at least helps you understand the why this change was implemented but if you have questions or comments, please don’t hesitate to speak to one of us.



The following are some especially needed items for October: Cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie mix & condensed milk, stuffing, household & hygiene products, chunky soup, paper towels, jam, rice, canned & boxed potatoes, all crackers.
Please, nothing perishable, frozen or expired.

Please bring your pantry items to the church kitchen. You are encouraged to bring your items the first two Sundays of the month because items get picked up the third Sunday of each month. Also, if you would rather give a monetary donation to the food pantry, there will be a donation box on the counter in the church kitchen the first Sunday of each month. Please make your checks out to:
Apple Valley Food Pantry.



Special birthday wishes to the following members who are 70+ years young!!

- Dee Spiegel (10/06)
- Kay Gruendemann (10/09)
- Carolyn Baneck (10/13)
- Duane Kroenke (10/14)
- Jolene Baurain (10/15)
- Don Baneck (10/23)
- Dave Schuelke (10/24)
- Ron Ash (10/25)
- Donna Wendt (10/25)
- Dave Buss (10/26)
- Marva Uhlenbrauck (10/27)
- Jane Van Asten (10/27)
- Ron Semrow (10/28)
- Barb Hildeman (10/30)



Ladies Advent by Candlelight

This event will be held on Sunday, December 3rd at 4:00 pm in the Gym. Registration will be

held on November 5 & 12th. All tables will set eight people. Different options are available: Sign up to host a table and invite your friends (decorating and providing a dessert for your table would be included with hosting); host a table and bring a dessert and St. Peter will decorate the table (decorations will be minimal); just sign up to attend the event and we will place you on a table. Space is limited so sign up early and bring a friend!

Job Openings in Early Childcare Ministry Center

For more information, contact Principal, Phil Punzel at 920-739-2009 or email: ppunzel@new.rr.com.



Check out St. Peter's YouTube channel! The sermon is posted there each week, as are some other videos you may be interested in. To get to the St. Peter channel, go to 922church.com, click "St. Peter Church" then "About." Look in the right column for the link to our YouTube channel. While you're there, be sure to subscribe!



Military Family Support Group

The MFST continues to meet and plan.

Those on the board are: Dr. Michael Black, Michael Wichman. Susan Hatcher, Dr. Monroe Trout, Dusty Wenninger, Kari Dombrowski, Bill and Barb Schwab.

If interested in this group or have any questions, contact Dr. Michael Black at mblack0694@yahoo.com or (920) 257-8082.

"Do not be terrified, do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you where ever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

MEDITATIONS & FORWARD IN CHRIST

The latest editions of "Meditations" & "Forward in Christ" are available for you at the Welcome Center. These are great personal resources for spiritual growth, containing devotional content and practical advice for Christian living.

COUPONS - Please bring all coupons to the church kitchen where you will find a container to put them in. Feel free to use any of the coupons put into the three ring binders as well.



The Fall Rally will be held at St. Paul Lutheran School, Algoma (in the school gym) on October

14, 2017. The theme being the 2018 Int. Convention in Green Bay called "Speak O Lord from the Valley to the World" (see info below). There is a signup sheet on the Kiosk in the Gathering Area. Please indicate if you'd like a bus ride to this rally.

There is a "SOS" (Send One Sister) Challenge offered for the 2018 convention. This challenge is for women who have never attended an LWMS convention and would like the opportunity to attend the 55th convention in Green Bay in June 2018. There will be a drawing at the fall rally and someone will have their registration and meal fees paid for to attend the 55th Convention. You MUST be present at the Oct. 14th fall rally to win. Forms for this are in the church/school office.

Free Will monies collected will go to the following missions: Vans for Missions. This is to assist some outreach programs, such as Native American missions, to be better attended by providing transportation. Also, the "Milk for Nepal" project. Leaders bringing milk to the body and the milk of God's Word to the soul. Monies are needed to purchase farms and animals.

The 55th Annual LWMS Convention

The Paperland Circuit of the LWMS will have the opportunity to host this event on June 21-24, 2018 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, WI. They are anticipating 1500 men and women at the convention so they need help from all our congregations in the Paperland Circuit. As with all LWMS conventions, this is an amazing opportunity to hear first-hand about the mission work done by WELS missionaries and mission projects supported through mission offerings. For more information on ways you can help, call Bev Kalies, St. Peter's LWMS Representative, at (920) 841-7653 or email: carlcbk@gmail.com

LWMS Items Needed: The following items are needed for the LWMS 2018 Convention: 3" x 3" Yellow Post-It Notes (please not Dollar Tree brand) and Hard Cover Books – No bigger than 8-1/2" x 5-1/2" (the size of 1/2 sheet of copy paper). Items may be placed in the designated box in the Gathering Area of Church. Any questions, please call Luella Kietz at 920-731-1650.



The Northern Wisconsin District will be holding a district-wide worship service this fall to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. Below are some details.

When: Saturday October 28, 2017 at 2:00 pm

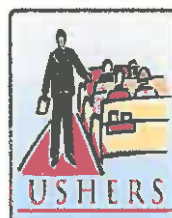
Where: Fox Cities Performing Arts Center – 400 West College Ave., Appleton, WI

Preacher: Professor Paul Koelpin – MLC

Choirs: Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chorus & Area Lutheran High School Choirs

Cost: Tickets will be free; Congregations will be asked to support the service with a special gift to cover the costs for this event.

Fellowship: Following the service there will be an opportunity for food and fellowship at the Performing Arts Center. There will be artwork displayed from district schools, as well as displays from around the district & synod. For more information, or to register for tickets to this event, please visit: www.nwd-wels.org



USHERS - If interested in being added to this list, please contact Kim Techlin, the Head Usher, at 920-209-2111 and let him know which worship service you would be interested in helping with. Both men and women are welcome.



SLIDE VOLUNTEERS - Please contact Connie Rohde @ 920-378-5350 if you would be interested in finding out about being a slide builder for our worship services or being a slide advancer during the worship service.



Join the fun in making greeting cards for our homebound members, those in the hospital, new babies etc. This group meets every second Tuesday of the month in the 1910 Centre (the old building located across the street from the new church). All supplies are supplied! Just bring yourself. The next get together will be Tuesday, Oct. 10th at 6 pm. Call Luella Kietz with any questions at (920) 731-1650.



The ladies quilting ministry's home is the room upstairs in the 1910 Centre - (historic school building across from the church). This group meets each Tuesday's at 9 am. Quilts are made for newborn babies, those in the hospital with an overnight stay, homebound people and others. If you are interested in helping the quilting ministry in any way, please contact Karen Peters at 739-2924.



Join Pastor Mark Jeske each week on *Time of Grace*, a 30-minute Bible study program. The program airs globally via various outlets. For a complete broadcast

schedule, visit timeofgrace.org/waystowatch or call the Time of Grace office at [800.661.3311](tel:800.661.3311).

Find the website or network TV time that works best for you.

Over the Air—Local Channels

WGBA—Sunday, 6:30 am., WACY—Sunday, 7:30am.

National Cable and Satellite Channels

Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN)--Thursdays at 3:30 P.M. CT

Freeform (formerly ABC Family)--Thursdays at 6:30 A.M. ET/PT

Uplifting Entertainment Network (UPTV)--Sundays at 5:30 A.M. CT

On-Demand Digital Television



- Gregg Mattek (President)
- Doug Dahm (Vice President)
- Brian Hoppe (Secretary)
- Ryan Demianiuk (Treasurer)
- Craig Vosters (Maintenance)
- Scott Springstroh (Elders)
- Joel Weeks (Evangelism)
- Mike Wichman (School Board)

Please note that we invite people to speak with any of these men listed above if you have any questions at any time.

- 1) Thank you to everyone who donated to hurricane relief. St. Peter members donated \$2,164 and the WELS as a whole has donated more than \$300,000.
- 2) Thank you to the Freedom VFW for replacing the United States flag that flies over our facilities.
- 3) Work is going on right now to put an LP tank at the 1907 church so that the building can be heated when needed. A member has donated the LP tank and all the costs associated with switching from natural gas to liquid propane. We thank them for their generosity in allowing Merlin Steubs to continue his great wood working enterprise going on there.
- 4) The classroom renovation has just one loose end. The smart board is installed and the projector is working. Mr. Schoenherr has two white boards to use. The only thing missing is that we haven't been able to locate the phone line that serves his classroom. Once we figure that out, and install a window sill in the new window in the 3K/4K room, we can call the renovation complete.
- 5) The church council is reviewing names of people who might be considered serving as part of an organizing committee for the 150th Anniversary of St. Peter Lutheran slated to be observed in October, 2018. A group is looking at the possibility of having a 5K run in the neighborhood of the church and make it one of several events to commemorate our congregation's founding. Also, the Freedom Area Historical Society will be featuring St. Peter Lutheran and its history during the months of September and October next year.
- 6) The entire building is now outfitted with the public address speakers, so in the event that we need to broadcast a single message everywhere on campus, we now have that ability. The last few speakers were installed recently, and the system has been tested and it works great.
- 7) Early on the morning of September 6, our alarm system was triggered by a low pressure warning in our sprinkler system. We thank the Freedom Fire Department for responding to the alarm and for helping to determine what the issue was. It's not always pleasant when those things occur, but it's reassuring that our system worked as it is designed, and that the FFD responded in a timely fashion. We learned what caused this situation, and how to prevent future episodes of this nature.
- 8) One of the things that has become clear to us this year is how much our facilities are being utilized, almost all the time. Since we converted the multipurpose room to the 6th grade classroom, we lost a great space for music lessons. We have remedied that by switching the piano, strings and band instrument lessons to the ministry center. Mr. James Neujahr, FVL band instructor, actually uses the parents' room adjacent to church for his one on one band lessons. Mrs. Donna Dahm, piano instructor, and Mrs. Nancy Krueger, strings, use the east end of the ministry center for their instructions.
- 9) The Emmaus Room is site to many meetings, bible classes and other non-school related classroom functions once again. The Heritage Room is where many meetings take place, as well as smaller bible classes and the like. The lesson here is this: if you'd like to have a function, meeting, or any type of gathering – plan it well in advance and make sure it gets on our calendar (call me or the office: 739-2009), as there is a good chance it will be in use. The days of just showing up and hoping that there is some space available somewhere are gone. It's great that we have all of these excellent facilities, and we can all thank God that they're all being used to his glory.
- 10) We are evaluating various gutter cover products and systems for the 1982 school building and the parsonage. We had a water issue where gutters on the 1982 building were plugged and then froze over this past winter. When the ice thawed, it ran down an interior wall in the hallway that connects the 1982 building with the 1998 building. The drywall had to be replaced and repainted. Gutter covers would help to prevent this from occurring. We hope to get this done before winter.
- 11) Thanks to Ken Rahmlow, Dan Ver Voort and Al Wieseler who did such a great job of building a shed for the 3K/4K playground area. It's a real blessing that the teachers no longer have to haul some of the toys indoors at the end of the day, or leave them outside in the elements. A family had donated the money for the shed to be built, and we are very grateful for their generosity.
- 12) Do you have a desire to serve St. Peter and the kingdom in some fashion? We have lots of opportunities for you to share your gifts and talents. Look for opportunities coming up shortly to give in more ways than at the collection on Sunday mornings.
- 13) We get lots of mail. Some mail that we don't get as soon as we'd like is usually sent to an incorrect address. If you mail something here, or are responsible for mailings, our address is: **N2740 French Road, Appleton, WI 54913**. If it doesn't have that address on it, you'd be amazed where it might end up.



Evangelism Means "Sharing GOOD NEWS!"

The word "evangelism" comes from two Greek words. "Eu" means good. "Angelos" means message. Slightly change the end of "angelos" to "ism" and we come up with a word which simply means "the sharing of good news." I don't know about you, but when I think of the word "Evangelism" in that way, at its basic sense, it loses all the intimidating baggage often associated with that word.

Are you afraid to speak up about your faith? Are you fearful of a situation becoming awkward with family and friends or coworkers because of Jesus? Do you think that you'll lose a relationship with someone, that an environment will become perpetually tense because of your witness, or that you'll be ridiculed in some way? I wish I could tell you that none of those things can happen, but I can't. That might all be true. Jesus Himself said, "You will be hated by everyone on account of My name" (Matthew 10:22a).

Still, just think about the simple meaning of the word "Evangelism." What's so wrong with it? What's so bad about telling people GOOD NEWS!?! What's so terrible about telling someone, "There's a cure for what's killing us all!?" What's so infuriating about telling another person, "I know of a sure solution for your broken family!?" Why should someone burn with anger, if you say, "I have found a remedy for your pain, your loneliness, your brokenness, your sin, your death! Mine too!?" What desperate beggar would engage another beggar in fisticuffs whose offering arms are full of bread who's overjoyed shouting, "I have found the motherload! Come and see! Come and take! Come and eat till your belly's full!?" No one in their right mind. So, if another is offended at your sharing good news, just know that they're not in their right mind. Sin has blinded them. Don't take it personally. Don't be troubled. Just be merciful. Just have compassion. And don't stop sharing the good news. This month at St. Peter, we'll have an emphasis on Outreach and Evangelism. For our Outreach effort, we'll offer our annual community event of Trunk-or-Treat on 10/29 from 3-5PM. It's a lowkey way of attracting people to our campus and provide a nice and safe time for their families. Get the good news out about it. Who knows, maybe one of those families who joins us will inquire more about what St. Peter / CORE stand for, and they'll find Jesus, the motherload? It can happen, if we simply share the good news: "Come and join us! Come and see! Come and take and eat till your belly's full!"

The other event we'll offer in the hopes of shattering our fears about speaking directly of our hope in Jesus to a friend, neighbor, coworker, or stranger will actually happen on several occasions. For starters, our sermon message entitled "Go!" (October 8) will be about the joy of sharing the good news of Jesus and how to do it in the wisest of ways. That message will be followed up with a three-part Bible Study at 9AM on Sundays (October 15, 22, 29) in the Ministry Center. On these three Sundays, we hope you'll join us to talk about the many ways we can let our light shine for Jesus. Out of these three weeks, we hope to build a network of brothers and sisters around you to encourage you and be encouraged to share the good news.

What's there to be afraid of? It's just good news. God bless us as we focus on the "Go!" God called us to do, and as we tell the good news about Jesus to a world which is entirely void of it.



St. Peter Lutheran Church Bible Class Schedule



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	MORE INFO
<p>Sunday Morning 9:00 AM</p> <p>09/10 - 10/08/17</p>	<p><i>"Politically Incorrect Church & State"</i></p>	<p>St. Peter Ministry Center</p>	<p>Why don't we support prayer in school? Who should I vote for? How do I serve as a Christian citizen of my community? We'll take on these issues and many more in this six week series dealing with Church and State.</p>
<p>10/15 - 10/29/17</p>	<p><i>"Friendship & Evangelism"</i></p>	<p>St. Peter Ministry Center</p>	<p>We will be focusing on how to build a witness for Christ for those who especially haven't confessed faith in their Savior. We all have family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers who fit into this category. We all run into people in our community from day-to-day who are desperate to hear the gospel. At the same time, though we know we're called to God (Matthew 28), it can be an intimidating thing to share our faith. This class is designed to meet you where you're at in witnessing – take heart, there's so many ways to witness whether subtle or not so subtle! There's also a lot of Scriptural encouragement to be had among brothers and sisters who are in this same mission with you. Check out this new exciting series on evangelism called "Go!"</p>
<p>Sunday Morning 10:15 - 10:45 AM</p> <p>09/10 - 10/29/17</p>	<p><i>Timeless Topics</i></p>	<p>St. Peter Ministry Center</p>	<p>We'll briefly examine such topics as: Haunted Houses, Visiting Heaven, Overweight or Overfit?, They posted What?" - Social Media, "I'm spiritual, Not Religious," Tattoos - Still Taboo?, Living Together Before Marriage, Using Psychoactive Medication. These studies are designed to be brief and equip you to engage in conversations with others. Come enjoy some coffee and discussion!</p>
<p>11/05 - 12/17/17</p>	<p><i>Parables of Jesus</i></p>	<p>St. Peter Ministry Center</p>	<p>Jesus was "The Master Teacher" when it came to teaching spiritual truths. He almost always used examples from everyday life that people could relate too. Those truths have not changed and are critical for our walk of faith. Come explore the intriguing stories Jesus shared.</p>

<p>Sunday Morning 9:00 AM Beginning 09/10/17 & Tuesday Night 6:30 PM Beginning 09/12/17 (12 Sessions)</p>	<p>"Starting Point" Basic Bible Christianity</p>	<p>St. Peter Emmaus Room</p>	<p>Are you seeking answers to life's biggest questions? "Why am I here? What is God like? What does he think about me? Can I be certain I will have eternal life?" Grow in your relationship with God as we discover his answers in his Word! Those new to St. Peter and members looking to review the foundations of our faith are welcome. Register at: 922church.com/StartingPoint or at the kiosk in the Gathering Area.</p>
<p>Tuesday Evening 6:30 PM Begins on 09/12/17 (22 Lessons)</p>	<p>"Seven Visions, Seven Truths" Revelation</p>	<p>St. Peter Ministry Center</p>	<p>Within the book of Revelation God has recorded seven visions, each containing a message about this world you need to know. This study shows how the seven messages combine to explain what is happening in this world every day. Cost for materials is \$20. Sign up online at 922church.com or at the kiosk in the Gathering Area.</p>
<p>Wednesday Morning 6:30 AM 09/13 - 10/25/17</p> <p>COMING IN NOVEMBER! (11/01 - 11/29/17)</p>	<p>The Hidden God</p> <p>"Encouragement For Believers"</p>	<p>St. Peter Ministry Center</p> <p>St. Peter Ministry Center</p>	<p>Is God HIDDEN? Where can we FIND Him? Find out at our early morning Bible class! All are welcome!</p> <p>In a broken, sinful world, we suffer many things in many different ways. Peter wrote this letter to encourage us to faithfully follow Christ as we look forward to the eternal hope he has promised. His practical instruction is needed by everyone who occasionally gets discouraged in life!</p>
<p>Wednesday Evening 6:30 PM 11/1 & 11/8/2017</p>	<p>FUEL</p> <p>Luther "The Game Changer"</p>	<p>St. Peter Ministry Center</p>	<p>2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. Dr Luther had an incredible impact on the Christian church and the culture of his day. Dr Joel Pless, Professor of theology at Wisconsin Lutheran College, will spend two evenings at St Peter discussing the Life of Luther and his teachings.</p>
<p>Saturday Morning 7:30 AM 3rd Saturday of each month</p>	<p>Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>Machine Shed Restaurant on Fox River Drive in Appleton</p>	<p>All men are invited to enjoy some food for the body and soul! No cost except for your breakfast. No sign up, just show up!</p>
<p>FALL LIFE GROUPS</p> <p>Beginning the week of 09/24/17</p>	<p>Life Groups</p>	<p>Life Groups meet in various places at various times.</p>	<p>For more info. and to sign up online go to Lifegroups@922church.com. Pastor Jim and Brian & Amanda Boehm are available to answer questions.</p>

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
2 Peter 3:18



Family and Evangelism

with Pastor Bill

October 2017



Young People Need Dad and Mom Most of All



Fall so often brings new things for youth, more challenging things. Fall means a new school year at a higher level of learning. It means a first – or another chance – at fall sports and at a greater competitive level. It means busier schedules with more responsibilities – for child, for Mom, for Dad – as we keep encouraging our kids to excel in every aspect of life all so that they might have the best life possible.

Not surprising, fall also means more programming and events for our church and school – a ministry dedicated to filling lives with Jesus because there is no greater life than to know Him and be filled with Him. And to all the parents reading this, I think it's safe to assume you recognize this too: Knowing Jesus, growing in his love – growing in biblical knowledge and living in a biblical way – is truly *"the one thing needed"* (Luke 10:42). This too – being filled with Jesus – is all about encouraging our kids to excel in every aspect of life. All so that they might have the best life possible, and, I would add that, with Jesus, it's the best life regardless of what this life throws at our youth. Whether disappointment, loss of friends, loss of future, loss of potential, loss of privilege, or even loss of health and life.

But here's an important distinction which needs to be made between how the world so often operates and how the church needs to operate regarding filling our children's lives with real Life. Though the world might tell our parents, "Give us your kids and we will give them skills to advance in academics, sports, and everything else your heart desires," the church cannot offer the same promise. (Think about that. Isn't that the modus operandi of our culture today? Don't we feel we need to drop our kids off to the professionals in order that they excel? We depend on good schools and great teachers to prepare our kids for the best careers. We depend on talented coaches and the best athletic programs to prepare our kids to be the best on the athletic field and earn scholarships or maybe a career. Similarly, we may also look to our pastors and teachers to teach our children the Scriptures and impart Jesus' love to our youth. We, parents, feel we must hand our children over to the experts so that our children can thrive in any and every way.)

But, we, as a church, cannot say, "Give us your kids and we will fill them with Jesus..." Though, at times, we church leaders wish we could make such a promise, God will not allow it. God will not have it because God designed young people to need Dad and Mom most of all, if they are to know Jesus and grow in his love. Though there are surely exceptions to this, this is the general rule of thumb. The stats prove it. When fathers and mothers are the primary nurturers of their children in the faith, there's greater than a 75% chance children will remain in the faith. When the church and school are the primary nurturers, the number plummets to about 38%, if not less. (See God's charge to parents to raise their children in the Lord in Deuteronomy 6, Ephesians 6, and Proverbs just to name a few.)



What does this mean for our parents and our ministry? How do we break free from the modus operandi of the world? There's really only one way I can think of on how to break the pattern. In partnership – church and parents – we need to take all our programming and make sure it's parent driven. Instead of dropping our children off to Bible Discovery, parents, we need to lead our children in Bible Discovery. Instead of sending our kids to Bible Foundations, we, parents, need to be in Bible Foundations initiating conversations of faith. Instead of committing our children to two years of instruction in confirmation class, we, parents, need to recommit ourselves to learning those doctrines all over again and sharing them anew with our own children, all with the help – not the lead – of our pastors and teachers. The same thing could be said of any teen activity or youth program in the church or school where God's Word is to be shared. We can't believe the lie that our children will be okay if we simply hand them off to the "professionals."

And really, Dad and Mom, is there anything greater than to see your own child's eyes light up to the Way of Life who is Jesus, not because of another's influence or words but because of your own? Would there be anything better than to know that you will see your own child in heaven not because God used some pastor or teacher primarily – one who only walked with your child part time for a season in their life – but because God used your lifelong study of the word, your witness, your lifelong Christ-like love in action, and your lifelong faith in hardship and persecution to mold and fashion your own child's faith unto life eternal?

Then, let's make that distinction between how the church operates and how the world does. Church, let's give back to our parents the primary role of being the apostles of the gospel to our children. Let's do this, all the more, as of first importance. Parents, don't let anything stop you from being the main ones whom your children look to in order to know Jesus' love and life. Wherever there might not be a spiritual father or mother in the home, Church, here's where we can help out especially. It's our job as a church family to provide all the spiritual fathers and mothers needed.

***God bless us in our efforts to show this biblical truth:
Young people need Dad and Mom most of all.***





St. Peter Lutheran School



SCHOOL NEWS
October 2017

School Year Blessings at St. Peter and Fox Valley Lutheran High School



Our God has blessed our congregation with the opportunity to serve over 280 children and their families this year from 3K through 8th grade. 60 students from St. Peter Lutheran/CORE are attending Fox Valley Lutheran High School. I am thankful for the energetic students, dedicated parents, excellent teachers, and supportive congregational members that are key parts to these ministries. Please keep these schools in your prayers.

Mission Project

For many years, FVL Schools has joined together to raise thousands and thousands of dollars to support mission work in the Kingdom. Recently, we have partnered with schools in Lusaka, Zambia, through the Vulnerable Children's Foundation. The dollars that our faithful students gave built structures, gave food, provided supplies, and more so, these schools can continue to share God's Word. What a marvelous blessing it is to join together with you to share what we have with these Christians. For the 2018 - 2019 school year, our FVL Schools partners are supporting the "Proclaimer Project."

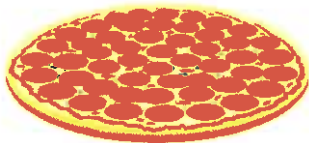


The Proclaimer is a solar-powered device (and crank-powered if the sun doesn't shine) that reads Scripture as if it was acted out, not through a narrator. This device is being used by the WELS World Missions board to spread the news to all creation. In recent years, over 900 devices have been distributed. While this certainly can be used as a personal device, its incredible speaker allows entire rooms to be able to listen to Scripture.

Here's the coolest thing: these devices are available in over 1,000 languages, spoken by native speakers of each language available. Imagine a local community in Nepal, a group in Kenya, or a town in Mexico able to hear God's Word spoken by natives! In January 2017, the fund for this amazing device was around \$20,000. Now, the fund balance is \$0. These tools have been flying off the shelf with missionaries around the globe saying they could use/distribute as many devices as they could be given.

The devices run around \$47 apiece, with a minimum order of 10. FVL Schools is joining together to support the purchase and distribution of the Proclaimers. We will be supporting mission work in a 21st century way! Those who are interested in learning more about this project should contact Principal Phil Punzel at ppunzel@new.rr.com or by phone at (920)739-2009.

St. Peter Lutheran School Fall Pizza Sale



On Saturday, November 11, parents, teachers, students, and supporters of St. Peter Lutheran will be making pizzas in our gym. You will have an opportunity to purchase pizzas after worship services in the upcoming weeks. Proceeds from this sale support our school's library, field trip, technology, and athletic funds.

For upcoming school events check out our school's event calendar at www.922church.com

FVL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT TO THE FEDERATION

September 2017

FVL MISSION: partners with families and Federation churches, providing students with a Christ-centered education preparing teens for lives of service and for eternity.

STAFFING NEWS

- Installed at our Opening Service were Rev. Aaron Dolan (Religion, Pastoral Duties, Coaching), Miss Lauren Ewings (English, Peer Leadership Group), Mr. Tim Fischer (STEM, Computer) and Mr. Greg Martin (Math, Computer, Coaching)
- Mr. Tyler Techlin (St. Peter-Appleton) was hired as our Facilities Manager.
- Ms. Sharon Mundt earned her Masters Degree in Instructional Technology from MLC. Mr. Joel Kramer earned his Masters Degree in Recreation and Sport Sciences specializing in Coaching Education. Mr. Ben Stern and Mr. Peter Schloff are close to finishing their Masters in Biochemistry and History respectively.

SCHOOL NEWS

- Enrollment stands at 618, an increase of 35 students from the end of last year. Of those, 48 are international students representing 9 countries. Our Freshman class of 173 surpasses last year's 155.
- This year the total number of WPCP voucher students is 124; of those, 49 were freshmen (42 are WELS students; 7 are non-WELS). We rejoice that all qualifying students received a voucher. Next year the district enrollment cap moves to 3%.
- FVL hosted a Federation August Open Forum in late August to share the need for a building addition to address academic space challenges resulting from growing enrollment and an expanding curriculum. The cost estimate is \$5.6M. The proposal goes to General Board on September 26.
- FVL's annual Pastor/Staff Minister Day was held September 15.
- FVL Grandparents Day is set for October 5 and 6. Beginning at 8:30, grandparents are welcome to enjoy muffins and coffee, chapel with their grandchildren, and then visit classes. Lunch will be available if registration is made before September 27. More info is found at fvlhs.org.
- Planning is under way for our annual 8th Grade Student/Parent Welcome Night on October 30.
- Two student teachers from Martin Luther College will arrive in mid-October.

ACADEMICS & CURRICULUM

- This is year #2 for FVL's 1-to-1 laptop program. Faculty training has taken place over the past year and will continue throughout this year.
- Seniors Kyler Johnson and Matthew Schmidt were named National Merit Semi-finalists. Congratulations to these students as they continue in this prestigious scholarship competition.
- 2017 ACT Scores have been released. FVL students taking the core college courses remain above the 24.0 level for the eighth straight year.

COCURRICULARS

- Homecoming activities are scheduled for October 9-14. Homecoming Frolic (student talent show) is set for October 11 at 6:30pm. A variety of home athletic events take place that week; check fvlhs.org for dates/times. Our football game vs. Marinette is on Friday, October 13 at 7 p.m.
- FVL Theatre will present *Vintage Hitchcock: A Live Radio Play* on October 19 (7pm), October 21 (4pm), and October 22 (2pm). Tickets will be available online in early October.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

- After two months, church offerings for the FVL Operating Fund are slightly ahead of this time last year.
- *Growing in Grace* receipts has a goal of paying off the remaining \$415K in debt by May 31.
- SCRIP sales for August were \$205K. Total sales for the new school year are \$619K.

With you, serving Jesus – Principal Steve Granberg

The CORE Newsletter - October 2017 - Monty Python & the Holy Roots

Would you think less of me if I confessed that I have seen *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* more times than any Bible movie ever made? It may not be the finest Christian film ever produced, but I grew up with Monty (I blame my older brother...). In fact, I could still quote WAY too many lines at any given moment. "I'm not dead yet!" "It has huge, pointy teeth!" "Throw the holy hand grenade!"

One of my favorite scenes is when King Arthur comes face to face with the Black Knight. The Knight stands between Arthur and the Holy Grail and insists, "None shall pass!" Eventually, the two draw their swords and the hokey action sequence begins.

Until Arthur chops off the Black Knight's arm. The action stops as everyone stares at the bleeding stump of a shoulder. "Tis but a scratch!" the Knight insists. So, Arthur chops off his other arm. "Just a flesh wound!" the Knight denies. So, Arthur chops off his leg. "I'm invincible!" the Knight screams, as he aggressively hops on one leg. Finally, Arthur chops off the other leg. "Okay, we'll call it a draw," the Knight concludes.

The joke, of course, is that everyone knows the dismembered Black Knight doesn't stand a chance. Except the Knight, that is. He's still up for a fight. "Come back here! I'll bite your legs off!" he challenges.

So...what in the world does that have to do with The CORE?

It has everything to do with the vision we call Roots. We've been pushing the idea that if you want all the "fruit" (love for others, joy in tough times, peace with God, etc.), you need all the roots. God blesses us in profound ways when we Gather at church and join a Group and Grow at home and Give our time/money and Go out to reach those we know that don't go. When our roots are in God's grace and God's mission, the Spirit gives us unshakable faith.

I would bet, however, that not all of us buy that claim just yet. We believe we can fight the good fight of faith with a single root, maybe two. Chop off the Group or the Go or the Give and we can still hold our own. Give us a few Gathers each month and maybe a bit of Grow when we have time, and we can battle the spiritual forces that draw their invisible swords each day.

But like the Black Knight with his bleeding stumps, everyone else can see the truth. Joy and peace and gentleness and patience aren't often connected to us. There is something missing. Something that is affecting our coworkers and kids and parents. There is fruit that could bless so many people. And there's a way to produce it—roots!

I loved the passage Pastor Tim quoted in the first week of Roots. Jeremiah said, **"They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."** (Jeremiah 17:8)

I love those promises—No fear. Always green. No worries. Never fails.

I imagine you want a life like that—No fear. Always green. No worries. Never fails.

I bet you want a life like that for your friends and family—No fear. Always green. No worries. Never fails.

So, if you want that fruit, remember God's roots. This is the God who loved you before the world began. This is the God who died for you while you were still in your sins. This is the God who refused to give up on you, despite all the ups and downs, all the missing roots and missing fruit. This is our God. Our Savior. The Lover of our souls. He only wants what is best for us.

So, don't be afraid to put down some roots. Grab a 5Roots plan at church. Pray and craft some personal goals. Share them with others. Ask your pastors for help.

And trust that God will do exactly what he promised—He will produce fruit in you.

If that doesn't work, try the holy hand grenade.

Blessings,
Pastor Mike

St. Peter Lutheran Church October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship – 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Classes – 9 & 10:15 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE Worship – 5:30 pm	2 Board of Ed Mtg. – 6 pm (Open Parent Mtg) WELS Symposium	3 Quilting – 9 am Starting Point – 6:30 pm Revelation BC – 6:30pm WELS Symposium	4 Bible Class – 6:30 am Bible Foundation – 5:30 pm Confirmation Class – 6:45pm	5 Children's Chapel – 8:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper – 6:30 pm	6	7
8 Fall Festival Worship w/Lord's Supper – 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Starting Point BC – 9 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE Worship – 5:30 pm	9	10 Quilting – 9 am Circuit Mtg. – 9 am Card Making – 6 pm Starting Point – 6:30 pm Revelation BC – 6:30pm	11 Bible Class – 6:30 am Bible Foundation – 5:30 pm Confirmation Class – 6:45 pm	12 Children's Chapel – 8:30 am Worship – 6:30 pm	13 Mayefski/Church Wedding	14 LWMS Rally @ St. Paul, Algoma
15 Worship – 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Classes – 9 & 10:15 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE Worship – 5:30 pm	16 Board of Elders-5:30 pm Council – 5:30 pm Congregational Mtg. – 6:30 pm	17 Quilting – 9 am Starting Point – 6:30 pm Revelation BC – 6:30pm	18 Bible Class-6:30am Country Villa Chapel – 10 am Bible Foundation – 5:30 pm Confirmation Class – 6:45 pm	19 Children's Chapel – 8:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper – 6:30 pm	20	21 Men's Bible Study – 7:30 am @ Machine Shed
22 Worship w/Lord's Supper – 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Classes – 9 & 10:15 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE Worship – 5:30 pm	23 Brewster Village – 9:45 am	24 Quilting – 9 am Starting Point – 6:30 pm Revelation BC – 6:30pm	25 Bible Class – 6:30 am Bible Foundation – 5:30 pm Confirmation Class – 6:45 pm	26 Worship – 6:30 pm NO School	27 Wedding Rehearsal – 5 pm NO School	28 Wolfram/Galligan Wedding – 1 pm NWD Reformation Service @ PAC – 2 pm
29 Worship – 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Classes – 9 & 10:15 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE Worship – 5:30 pm Trunk or Treat 3-5 pm	30 Brewster Village – 9:45 am	31 Quilting – 9 am Starting Point – 6:30 pm Revelation BC – 6:30pm				