



November 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

Pastor's Message

GIVE

"Mine!" God has blessed my wife and me with six amazing children. Yet six times in a row, I seem to recall "mine" being among the first dozen words they learned to speak. Unfortunately, we don't grow out of that attitude. "Mine!" continues to characterize how we tend to view our time, abilities and material possessions. But Psalm 24:1 corrects this delusional viewpoint. *"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."* This means that you're living in a house or apartment that belongs to God. You're driving God's car. You're watching God's TV. There's no such thing as "me time." Every second of your day belongs to God and is given to you as a gift. What are you good at? God made you that way. What are your proudest accomplishments? God gave every resource and circumstance that made it happen. Everything we have belongs to God. He's entrusted it to you for a limited period of time and he expects you to manage it wisely in line with his will.

The "mine" attitude is an active catalyst for evil. Greed. Worry. Deception. Fraud. Coveting. Discontentedness. Selfishness. Suspicion. Divisions. Arguments. Stealing. Hoarding. Distraction from the truth. Lack of empathy. Unnecessary suffering. Even loss of saving faith. All of these are found in the heart that cries, "Mine! Mine! Mine!" Dear God, forgive me for calling "mine" what is actually yours!

And he does! Jesus, God in human flesh, could rightly say, "Mine!" But in love he cried out, "Yours!" His perfect life of love which was free of greed, that life lived solely for others: "Yours!" His betrayal, suffering and condemnation for sin: "Yours!" His punishment on the cross and innocent death: "Yours!" His glorious resurrection from the dead: "Yours!" Your Savior never asked, "What's in it for me?" He only and always asked the Father, "What's in it for them?" Answer: Forgiveness of all your sins. Eternal life that has already begun now, and will continue in perfection in heaven. The salvation of your soul. All of this: "Yours!"

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

Well, that does it. There's no more room for a "Mine!" attitude in my heart! And not in yours either. That childish idea is left behind as we grow up in Christ. Thank God that everything truly belongs to him. Strive to be the best manager you can be, using every last resource entrusted to you – time, material possessions and all your abilities – for his glory, for his honor and for the praise of his name! In the way you handle all of God's resources entrusted to you, *"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever"* (Psalm 106:1).

Pastor Michael Ewart



**Give, Save, Live –
Starting November 5th**

How you view God has everything to do with how you view money. Most people see God as concerned only with doctrine and salvation, but not dollars and cents. But what would happen if we believed God gives, God saves, and God lives? That God gives us Jesus, daily bread, and all that we need each day? That God saves us from greed, sin, worry, fear, and not having enough? That God lives with us, even lives in us, by his Holy Spirit? If we believed that, we could manage money God's way—by giving first, saving second, and living third.

Week #1: Give - God so loved the world that he gave. Those famous words are the heart of our salvation, but they also show us the heart of God. He is a giver. Do you believe that? Everything we have and own and enjoy is ours because our Father in heaven is a giver. Every good and perfect gift comes from him. He knows what we need and supplies daily bread. Worry and financial fear dissolve when we see God as the perfect combination of endless resources and endless love. Only then are our hearts equipped to imitate God and become a cheerful giver.

Week #2: Save - The Proverbs picture a wise person as one who doesn't squander every last dollar like a prodigal child. They leave an inheritance for their children's children. Yet Americans have nothing left to save. The vast majority, despite the shocking

wealth of our time, are living in debt. Why? Because we are trying to save ourselves from boredom (new toys), from being average (new clothes, bigger homes), from sadness (vacations and upgraded phones). Yet, the short-term pleasure doesn't last long and we end up needing to be saved. But God saves. Jesus' atoning work saves us from being separated from God. In his presence, we find the secret of being content and are able to spend less and save more.

Week #3: Live - God is in the joy-giving business. The Holy Spirit lives in us and opens our eyes to the glory of God all around us in the created world. He is not a money-hungry owner that denies his money managers any personal pleasure. Instead, God created a beautiful world and gave us money to enjoy it. Some imply you should feel guilty for any personal spending (as if owning a TV was a mortal sin when so many people in the world are starving). But if we have given first and saved second, we do not need to feel guilt in living off the rest, to enjoying the places God created, the food God grew, the technology God allowed us to develop. He gives these things for our pleasure! So, be generous first and enjoy the rest to his glory.

SERMON SERIES

Old School - November 26 - December 24

The holidays have a way of making us think back to the past. The traditions we had growing up. Memories of Christmases past. A connection to days gone by. The same is true for Jesus' birth. It was not a brand new, unexpected event. Rather, it was connected to the beautiful and hope-giving prophecies of the Old Testament. This series explores some of the most powerful prophecies that pointed ahead to Jesus' birth, life, death, and purpose.

Week #1: Earliest Memories — Genesis 3

Week #2: With Us — Isaiah 7.

Week #3: Christmas Lights — Isaiah 9.

Week #4: Reunited — Jeremiah 23:1-6.

Week #5 (Christmas Eve): Sleep in Heavenly Peace
— Micah 5:1-5

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.



Open Forum & Congregational Meeting – Nov. 20th @ 6:30 pm

On November 20 we will have a congregational meeting to share updates, reports and information about our ministry as well as discuss several important items regarding our ministry going forward. Updates, reports, and topics to be discussed will include the following: 17-18 Budget update/report, partnership with Time of Grace update, reports from our Pastors and the Board of Education on ministry, and an update from the 1C2C (1 church, 2 campus) vision team. Please make plans to attend especially because we want you to both be informed on how things are going, but also get your feedback on where we are going. We hope to see you there.



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.



Christian Stewardship – “Max the Match” is BACK!

For the last two years, we've had an awesome opportunity to make some serious headway at reducing our mortgage. Members have pledged to match, dollar for dollar, any amount contributed to mortgage debt reduction during the months of November and December. We call this special offering "Max the Match" and through our collective efforts we raised over \$400,000. This money was matched and we applied \$800,000 towards mortgage reduction over the last two years!

2017 brings the third edition of "Max the Match." No amount is too small, all our gifts will be doubled! What a tremendous opportunity to significantly reduce our mortgage here at St Peter.

Would you consider a special year end gift of \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 or more to help further reduce our mortgage balance? Simply write a check payable to St. Peter Lutheran, put it in the envelope enclosed with this newsletter with the words "**Max the Match**" on the outside, and drop it in the offering basket of any service between now and year's end. We'd like that anything you give to be above and beyond what you have set aside for your regular offerings, so that we can continue to meet our other obligations and continue all of the ministry that we are currently carrying out.

Thank you for your past support and prayerful consideration!



As we start to peak at the horizon and see the end of another year closing in, we here at St. Peter Lutheran are blessed when we look at how the Lord has blessed us in the past, how he is still blessing us today, and

how his promises tell us we will continue to be blessed forever. As to the past, we have entered into our 150th year of existence as a congregation. Did those 19 people who signed the charter for German Evangelical St. Peter Congregation know anything of what the future held when they put their names down as founders of this little country church? They bought three acres of land for \$100. Here in 2017, with our new facilities, and being members of a church family, that including members of the CORE, now numbering close to 2,000 - it's hard to wrap our heads around how much God has blessed us, and how the message of hope and eternal life continues to be at the center of our faith. As we heard in the "Rebel Yell" series regarding the Reformation - we are a church built on the foundation of Grace Alone, Faith Alone and Scripture Alone. And God has blessed us far beyond what any of us could have imagined. Wouldn't it be fun to walk among those 19 founders and show them what God has brought here so many years later?

Some of those blessings have come in the form of "Max the Match" - an end of the year fund raising effort that we have employed for the last two years to reduce our mortgage principal. In 2015 and 2016, during the months of November and December, we raised about \$400,000 to bring down the debt that we took out upon completing the building project in 2014. We had families match those donations, and so our mortgage was reduced by \$800,000! Stop and read that again, and then thank God for it. It's a breathtaking, beautiful blessing.

We have the opportunity again, during the last two months of this year, to "Max the Match" once more. Any money given toward principal reduction will be matched, dollar for dollar. Prayerfully consider how you can give to reducing our debt. We'd like it to be above and beyond what you have set aside for your regular giving, so that we can continue to meet our other obligations and continue all of the

ministry that we are currently carrying out. In any case, let's thank God for all that he has blessed us with, and for those 19 people who stepped out in faith and established St. Peter Lutheran. Thanks for considering a gift, and for all of your support and prayers.

Tom Dietzler, Director of Operations



BOX TOPS, KWIK TRIP MILK JUG

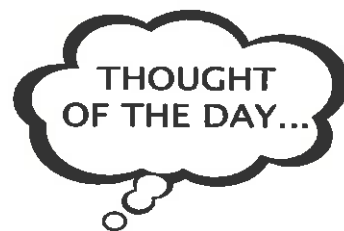
TOPS - We have two different locations where you can deposit your Box Tops, and Milk Jug/Bag Tops.

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.**



**Turn clocks back
Saturday night, Nov. 4th**



Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns; I am thankful that thorns have roses.

"Offer to God the sacrifice of thanksgiving..."

Psalm 50:14

FUEL: Luther – “The Game Changer”
November 1st & 8th at 6:30 pm

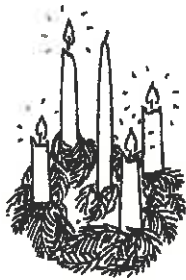
2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. Dr. Luther had an incredible impact on the Christian church and the culture of his day. Dr. Joel Pless, Professor of theology at Wisconsin Lutheran College, will spend two evenings at St. Peter discussing the Life of Luther and his teachings.

November 1 - The Life of Luther

A comprehensive presentation on the life of Dr. Martin Luther, focusing on how his life experienced several turning points which contributed to Luther becoming the most famous Protestant reformer of the sixteenth century and one of the great men of history.

November 8 - The Theological Development of Luther

A presentation on how Martin Luther went from a medieval monk and priest to a Protestant theologian, pastor, and reformer by becoming a student of the Bible and then acting upon his findings. Luther's monastic beginnings, his Bible lectures, his pastoral heart, and his numerous writings will be studied in an effort to understand how a reformation in Luther produced a reformation through Luther.



Ladies Advent by Candlelight

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 3rd at 4:00 pm. This year, this event will be held in the gym. Registration will be held on Nov. 5th & 12th. Please see the enclosed sheet for more information. Space is limited so sign up early and bring a friend!



The following are some especially needed items for November: Stuffing & evaporated milk, chunky soup, canned pasta, rice, boxed & canned potatoes, hamburger helper, cereal, jam, canned meats such as tuna & chicken, canned fruits, crackers, cookies, paper toweling.

Please, nothing perishable, frozen or expired.

REMINDER: To have your donation given out for Christmas, it must be received by **November 12th**. (pick-up is one week earlier due to Thanksgiving)

Please bring your pantry items to the church kitchen. Monetary donations can be placed in the 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.

NOTE: A ring was found on the road by the Pantry which is located at St. Matthews. They feel it could possibly be an heirloom. If you feel you may have lost it, please contact Sue at St. Matthews at 733-0916.

Worship SCHEDULE

Holiday Worship Schedules

Thanksgiving: Wed. Nov. 22nd @ 6:30 pm
and Thursday, Nov. 23rd at 9:00 am
(No Thursday evening service)

Advent: Wednesday, December 6th @ 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve: 9:00 & 10:30 am, 3:00 & 5:00 pm

Christmas Day: 9:00 am

New Year's Eve: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 am
(No service on New Year's Day)

Bible Discovery Christmas Service: Dec. 17th @ 10:30

CDS Christmas Service: Dec. 21st, 6:30 pm at FVL



Birthdays of the Month

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

Elmer Geiger (11/02)
Barry Falk (11/03)
Dennis Tiedt (11/04)
Bill Schwab (11/05)
Bud Knaack (11/06)
Vern Wichman (11/07)
Sandie Koenig (11/08)
Bob Gehring (11/16)
Ken Uhlenbrauck (11/19)
John Borree (11/22)
Elaine Krueger (11/24)
Betty Runge (11/25)



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!



Fall Landscaping Work Day
On Saturday, Nov. 4th from 9:00 am till Noon we will be doing the fall cleanup to prepare for winter. Please bring your pails and racks and join the fun!



Thank you for all your kind words and support during this difficult time as we mourn Darla's death. She was a wonderful person and we know she is in very good hands in heaven.

As many of you know, Darla dedicated 35 years to teaching Sunday School to the 3 & 4 year olds. She was just magical in teaching them prayers and songs of praise. She was also supportive of the St. Peter Tuition Assistance Fund. That is why we requested a memorial to this fund in her honor and memory. With all the generosity from our family and friends, we are very pleased to provide a donation to the St. Peter Tuition Assistance Fund/Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund in the amount of \$5,300.00. We know Darla is smiling about this!

Thank you again for all your love and support!

Jim Lund and Family



Poinsettias for Christmas Season

Everyone will have the opportunity to purchase Poinsettias to decorate our worship area for the Christmas season in honor or memory of someone. This will be acknowledged in one of the church services during Christmas. The cost is \$20 per poinsettia plant and St. Peter will purchase all the plants. You can pick up the order forms in the information racks in the gathering area of church or see the attached sheet. All orders should be put in the box at the Welcome Center desk or to the St. Peter office by November 27th.

Job Openings in Early Childcare Ministry Center

For more information, contact Principal,
Phil Punzel at 920-739-2009 or email:

ppunzel@stpetercares.com



Military Family Support Group

The Military Support Team wishes to acknowledge our veterans. On Nov 9th and 12th, veterans will be acknowledged at the close of the worship service. At the close of the service, Michael Wichman will

share a brief explanation of why we honor our veterans in a special way. There will be a table set up in the St. Peter ministry center and The CORE lobby to share information on ways to support our veterans. May God bless them for their service to our country.

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.



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, Nov. 14th 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.



- 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.



St. Peter Lutheran Church

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Worship - 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Discovery - 9 am Bible Classes - 9 & 10:15 am CORE - 5:30 pm Youth Group 7-8:30 pm Grades 9-12	6 Board of Ed Mtg. - 6 pm Bible Class w/Tami-8am	7 Circuit Mtg. - 9 am Quilting - 9 am Starting Point Bible Class - 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Class - 6:30 pm	1 Bible Class - 6:30 am Bible Foundations - 5:30 am FUEL - 6:30 pm Confirmation Class - 6:45 pm	2 Children's Chapel - 8:30 am Worship - 6:30 pm	3 Wedding Rehearsal - 5:30 pm	4 Fall Clean Up Outdoors 8 am until Noon Gonnering/Kiecker Wedding - 2 pm
5 Worship - 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Discovery - 9 am Bible Classes - 9 & 10:15 am CORE - 5:30 pm	6 Board of Ed Mtg. - 6 pm Bible Class w/Tami-8am	7 Circuit Mtg. - 9 am Quilting - 9 am Starting Point Bible Class - 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Class - 6:30 pm	8 Bible Class - 6:30 am Bible Foundations - 5:30 pm Choir - 6 pm FUEL - 6:30 pm Confirmation Class - 6:45 pm	9 Children's Chapel - 8:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper - 6:30 pm	10 Wedding Rehearsal - 5:30 pm	11 Kraufkramer/Peopke Wedding - 1 pm Pick up Pizza's from 10:00 - 11:30 am
12 Waship w/Lord's Supper - 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Discovery - 9 am Bible Classes - 9 & 10:15 am CORE - 5:30 pm	13 Bible Class w/Tami-8am	14 Quilting - 9 am Card Making - 6 pm (in 1910 Centre) Starting Point Bible Class - 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Class - 6:30 pm	15 Bible Class-6:30am Country Villa Chapel - 10:30 am Bible Foundations - 5:30 pm Choir - 6 pm Confirmation Class - 6:45 pm	16 Children's Chapel - 8:30 am Worship - 6:30 pm	17 3K/4K Family Fun Night	18 Men's Bible Study @ Machine Shed - 7:30 am
19 Worship - 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Discovery - 9 am Bible Classes - 9 & 10:15 am CORE - 5:30 pm	20 Bible Class w/Tami-8am Council - 6:30 pm	21 Quilting - 9 am Starting Point Bible Class - 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Class - 6:30 pm	22 Bible Class - 6:30 am Thanksgiving Worship - 6:30 pm	23 Thanksgiving Worship - 9:00 am	24	25
26 Worship w/Lord's Supper - 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30 am Bible Discovery - 9 am Bible Classes - 9 & 10:15 am CORE - 5:30 pm	27 Bible Class w/Tami-8am Brewster Village - 9:45 am	28 Quilting - 9 am Revelation Bible Class - 6:30 pm	29 Bible Class-6:30am Bible Foundations - 5:30 pm Confirmation Class - 6:45 pm	30 Children's Chapel - 8:30 am Worship - 6:30 pm		

- 1) Thank you to Joel Weeks who has been so helpful in helping us get some various projects done around here during the summer, for continuing his service during the fall. He single handedly took down the old school sign that was in front of the 1982 school building. He's also helping with the installation of a cell phone booster system which we hope will improve the cell phone reception for the pastors and Mr. Punzel in their offices.
- 2) The work on installation of the LP tank and hooking up the 1907 church furnaces so that the building can be heated this winter has been completed. Thanks to Mark Pritzl for making sure that the system is working properly and his work on getting connected.
- 3) The phone line to Nate Schoenherr's room was located, and he has phone service to his room now.
- 4) On Tuesday, October 10, we had a safety drill in our building, with the aid of the Freedom Police Department. It was a very good test of our new public address system, and everyone in the building was able to hear all the warnings clearly and then evacuated the building in an orderly fashion.
- 5) Thank you to Officer Tom Van Horn and the Freedom Police Department for monitoring our section of French Road and helping to prevent accidents on our campus. During some recent road work that closed a nearby section of County Highway E (near Ballard Road), the Freedom Police Department increased their monitoring of traffic on French Road because of increased traffic flow. People may not like the fact that the speed limit on French Road is 25 miles per hour from Highway E until approximately one quarter of a mile south of our campus. We have lots of traffic going in and out of our parking lots, and there's no reason why traffic needs to fly through our campus at high rates of speed. Please try to set a good example for other motorists by reducing your speed while on campus.
- 6) We have contracted with Security Luebke Roofing to replace the gutters and down spouts on the 1982 building. They are 35 years old. After the gutters and down spouts are installed, they will also be installing gutter covers. They anticipate finishing this project sometime in October.
- 7) We are trying to get the parsonage hooked up to city water. The well pump in the house recently had some issues, and the water softener is showing signs of failing as well, so we'd like to be able to hook the house up to the municipal water system. When the new facilities were built, we had a "stub" run up into the front yard, so it shouldn't take too much to connect the house to the water supply. The Town of Freedom has given permission, so there are a few more steps in the process to take yet and maybe we can get this done by the end of the year.
- 8) We will be doing another "Max the Match" fund drive this year to reduce our loan principal further. We started in 2014 owing \$3.7 million. We were debt free when we started the building project in 2013. Our current mortgage stands at just over \$2.0 million. In two previous years, we've reduced our mortgage by more than \$800,000. We're very thankful for this great blessing. Watch for more details in the near future.
- 9) St. Peter Lutheran's 150th anniversary will be marked by the congregation here with a celebration taking place during the first week in October, 2018. Our congregation was organized on October 5, 1868 by 19 Christians under the name German Evangelical St. Peter Congregation in the Town of Freedom. Look for more information in the coming year as to everything that will be taking place.
- 10) We're having an outdoor work day on Saturday, November 4 from 8 to noon. It'll be a chance to clean up around campus, do some raking and prepare some of our plant life for winter. Rakes, pails, pruning shears and sunshine would be appreciated.

922 & Time of Grace - Big Decisions, Key Questions, & Bold Prayers

Well, it's official. After a thousand prayers, a hundred conversations, and a dozen meetings, I have decided to accept the opportunity to partner with Time of Grace ministry. Thank you for all of your questions, emails, texts, prayers, and words of encouragement. I have been praying for guidance and your nearly unanimous cry, "Let's do it!" made this decision easier than I anticipated. Kim and I (continue to) thank God for you!

But who exactly is Time of Grace? And what changes should we expect as we move forward with this partnership? And how can each of us help make this a big "win" for the big Kingdom of God? Here are some quick answers to those questions:

1. Who is Time of Grace?

Time of Grace (ToG) is a media ministry that began in 2001 with Pastor Mark Jeske from St. Marcus Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. For the last sixteen years, ToG has been on a mission to share God's grace with as many people as possible, and they have used many forms of media to do so (national TV broadcast, Grace Moments printed devotions, email encouragements, ToG App, and more). At the start of 2016, ToG launched Your Time of Grace, short video devotions to reach more souls with Jesus' unending love.

Because our God is a generous Father, he has opened some incredible doors for ToG. Currently, their weekly TV message reaches over 400,000 people in 45 countries, each with a soul that is precious to God. An estimated 15% of those viewers (60,000+) say that they are atheist, agnostic, or have no religious affiliation. (Imagine Lambeau Field field with non-Christians who were ready to give their attention to next Sunday's sermon!) Your Time of Grace has over 190,000 Facebook followers!

Needless to say, we are humbled that God would give St. Peter and The CORE the chance to share our "200 Proof Grace & Truth" message with more souls than live in the entire Valley.

2. What should we expect here at The CORE and St. Peter?

If you were not able to attend one of our open forums, you might have a hundred questions about what exactly this partnership entails. Here are some basics:

- Starting in 2018, ToG will film my sermons 46-48 Sundays/year here in Appleton (not in Milwaukee). Expect some extra lights and cameras set up in a non-intrusive way as we study God's Word together.
- While I will retain my call at The CORE/St. Peter, I will devote a good chunk of my ministry time helping ToG produce written devotions, video messages, etc.
- Practically, that means that we will (1) rearrange some of the duties of our amazing pastoral team (expect to see Pastors Tim, Jim, Bill, and Michael more often downtown) and (2) hire/call additional staff as seems best for our mission.
- Thankfully, ToG sees the wisdom of allowing me to invest some quality people time with our congregation. Thus, even though I won't be able to do as many visits, classes, meetings, etc., I will still have approximately 15 hours a week to invest in our church family.
- In return, ToG is generously offering to cover 100% of my salary so that The CORE and St. Peter are able to expand our ministry efforts here in Appleton.
- Most importantly for our family, we are not moving. I will continue to be a pastor at The CORE/St. Peter. Kim will continue to teach at St. Peter. We will continue to be in our Life Group. We love Appleton, living close to family, and our amazing church family, so we thank God for those continued blessings!

3. How can we help this partnership be a success for God's Kingdom?

Based on the conversations I have had both here in Appleton and with the leaders of St. Marcus, I have learned three key items for our church family to remember:

- First, do not forget our city. While we thank God for the millions that ToG reaches each month, your cousin still matters. So does your neighbor. And my soccer teammate. While ToG gives us a unique opportunity to "Go" (reach out with the gospel), let us not let the Devil lure us away from investing, inviting, and evangelizing those we personally know who don't go to church.
- Second, expect some hiccups. This is a big change for ToG, for me, and for our leadership on both campuses. We have worked hard to make this partnership the best it can be, but we are expecting some roadblocks, hiccups, and necessary tweaks in the months to come. Your patience with the new format, flexibility with our pastoral team, and willingness to work through this transition will make us all blessed as we work together.
- Third, pray. Pray for God to change hearts and lives. Pray for millions of people to get rooted in grace so they can enjoy the fruit of the Spirit. Pray for us to remain humble. Pray for Jesus to be exalted here in the Valley and everywhere media can reach. Join Paul's prayer request—"And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ...Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity." (Colossians 4:3-5)

Every opportunity. This is definitely an opportunity. An opportunity for more people to hear more about grace.

Blessings, Pastor Mike



St. Peter Lutheran School



SCHOOL NEWS
November 2017



Early Childhood Ministry Center Enrollment
for the 2018-19 School Year

Your St. Peter Lutheran Early Childhood Ministry Center is excited to begin the enrollment process for the 2018-19 school year. Below is a guide on the enrollment process. Children enrolling in our Early Childhood Ministry Program must be 3 years old or 4 years old by September 1st.

Step 1: On November 28, 2017 **Early Enrollment Information** for the 2018 summer care program and for the 2018-19 academic school year will be mailed to all current early childhood ministry families, St. Peter/Core families that would have a child eligible to use our early childhood ministry, and families on our waiting list.

Step 2: Families that received **Early Enrollment Information** have until **Wednesday, December 13** to return their enrollment application and registration fee to the St. Peter Lutheran office.

Step 3: On **Tuesday, January 9, 2018 Enrollment Information** for the 2018 summer care program and for the 2018-19 academic school year will be shared with families in our community.

Step 4: After **January 9, 2018** St. Peter Lutheran Early Childhood Ministry Center will accept enrollment forms until the Early Childhood Ministry Center is serving 60 children. Families that submit their enrollment form after 60 children are enrolled will be placed on a waiting list.

5K - 8th Grade Enrollment Planning for the 2018-19 School Year

St. Peter Lutheran School is blessed to serve 223 children and their families in 5K - 8th grade. We are thankful to partner with parents in offering Christ centered education. First, as planning begins for the 2018-19 school year, the St. Peter Lutheran Board of Education is talking with our teachers who currently have a teacher's aide in his/her classroom and asking if the amount of hours that the aide is in the classroom is appropriate. Second, the group is developing enrollment procedures based on student enrollment that will be used to determine when teacher's aides are placed in classrooms, when a class is split, and when classroom enrollment is capped. Third, enrollment procedures will be communicated to parents in early February. Finally, in early January 2018 the St. Peter Board of Education will reach out to our area FVL School partner congregations and ask who would be interested in working together in future joint school ministry projects. Please keep this group of leaders in your prayers as they serve our congregation.



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

Assisting Parents in Providing an Exceptional Christ-centered Education!



Family and Evangelism

with Pastor Bill

November 2017



FAMILY MINISTRY



Back in 2014, the CEO of a California mega firm PIMCO, a \$2 trillion investment fund, resigned upon receiving a note from his daughter listing 22 milestones he had missed in her life. His 10 year old daughter's compelling list of the special moments where he was absent in her life was the turning point to bring a new balance in his work and family relationships. (This is striking, especially as you consider that the most recently reported annual income for him was \$100 million.)

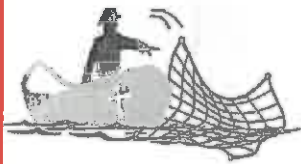
Many young people today are among the majority who do not have a mother and father regularly in their life to celebrate their milestones. Many do not have a mature adult relationship in their life at all. Their preoccupation is in their impersonal digital and gaming relationships.

Family disintegration, absenteeism, and digital babysitters are taking an incalculable and generational toll on the health and well-being of our youth. And this is all happening seemingly unchecked, but this doesn't have to be the case among God's people.

Fathers and Mothers, do you regularly consider this? When you look into the eyes of your children, do you mostly see a future doctor, lawyer, or linebacker? Or do you see a person who'll spend eternity in either heaven or hell? Do you see a soul that one day will bow the knee to Christ? We see the latter, not the former, don't we?

Then, in the spirit of that CEO who resigned for his daughter, let's continually commit ourselves to making the spiritual wellbeing of our family first priority – that of our spouse and children. And wherever we have fallen short – sacrificed our family for the things of this world – know that Christ has already paid for all that – Christ who gave up the CEO position in heaven to be with his own children on earth that we and our children might live forever. God bless our families richly and may he continue to empower fathers and mothers to put their families first above all else in Christ.

- Pastor Bill



Evangelism

If you were unable to attend our "Go" Bible study over the last few weeks in October, we'd ask for a moment of your time to recap and look ahead. Through this offering, we were seeking to share from the Scriptures the need and blessing to share the good news with the lost. We feel that mission was accomplished. (May God continue to increase our love for the lost – for those who don't know Jesus.)

Now, as we look ahead, we are hoping that our congregation can pull together and further our efforts on reaching the lost. How so? In a few ways: 1) Can you take some time and list at least 3 people you know who don't go to church or know Jesus? 2) Can you step up your efforts on reaching them in some way for the gospel, especially as the holidays approach and as there is more opportunity to invite them to St. Peter and the CORE? Perhaps you could simply sprinkle your conversation with more talk about God-things or church commitments. Perhaps you could simply invite them to a church event. Or, perhaps you could be so bold as to share the hope you have. 3) Lastly, can you find a close brother or sister in Christ with whom to share your plan for evangelism – someone who will encourage you to carry out the plan according to the timeframe you set? May the Lord bless your efforts and may you "*win friends for yourselves to be welcomed into eternal dwellings*" (Luke 16:9).

- SPEC Team

Ladies of St. Peter Family & Friends

You are invited to a very special event:

Advent by Candlelight

(sponsored by Caring & Sharing Ministries)

Advent by Candlelight is an opportunity for women of all ages to set aside an evening from the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations and focus on the birth of Christ. Come enjoy fellowship, a beautiful candlelit room, a delicious dessert, lovely music, and song.



ADVENT

Advent by Candlelight will be held on
Sunday, December 3, 2017
at

4:00 pm in the Gym
of St. Peter Lutheran School

There is no cost to attend this event. We encourage you to invite your female family members, friends, and neighbors (ages 12 and over are welcome) to this special start to the holiday season.

A free-will offering will be taken to help with the expense of the evening and the Apple Valley Food Pantry.

Registration for this event will take place in the Gathering area of church after each of the church services the first two weeks of November. First come, first serve. In order to maximize our space and accommodate more people, we are only having tables of 8 (60" ROUND).

Please do not feel you have to host a table and/or be invited by someone to attend this event. If you would like to come without having to decorate a table or provide a dessert, sign up individually and we will place you on a table.

This is a great way to meet new people.

If hosting a table, PLEASE give us the names of all the people at your table. We especially need the names of members here at St. Peter/The CORE - Thank you.

Any questions, please contact Rhonda Dietzler@
739-2009 or 419-6975
rdietzler@new.rr.com

**Please bring a canned good for the
Apple Valley Food Pantry on the evening of this event.**

What is involved with being a hostess of a table?

- You bring everything to decorate your table in a Christmas theme (it doesn't have to be fine china – it can be paper plates! – but you need *lots of candles*)
 - *You will be able to decorate your table from 9 am – 7:00 pm on Saturday, December 2 and Sunday, December 3 from 8:30 am – Noon PLEASE no later because of janitor cleaning being done before the program begins at 4 pm*
- All tables this year will be for 8 guests (60" ROUND) and will include a burgundy color tablecloth (we ask that you please keep this tablecloth on the table but you can certainly cover it if you would like)(you can request more than one table)
 - Provide individual packets of coffee/cider/tea/cocoa etc.
 - You need to provide a hot water carafe, cold water pitcher, forks, spoons, plates, napkins
 - Provide the dessert for your table (can be anything you wish such as: a torte, pie, cookies, dessert)
- if you would like, you could ask someone from your table to bring the dessert since you will be providing everything else
- Bring a basket or box along because after the program you will need to pack up everything to take back home
- Arrive no later than **3:15 pm** so you can light all the candles on your table
- invite your guests to arrive by **3:30 pm** so they can walk around and view all the beautifully decorated tables

Hot Water will be provided by St. Peter
but you need to provide your own cold water which can be taken from the tap here at St. Peter

Punch/Hors d'oeuvres will be provided in the Commons Area
before the program begins at 4:00 p.m.



Any questions, please contact
Rhonda Dietzler @739-2009 or 419-6975 or rdietzler@new.rr.com



POINSETTIAS

You are invited to take the opportunity to purchase Poinsettias to decorate our worship area for the Christmas season in honor or memory of someone. This will be acknowledged in the bulletin for one of the church services during Christmas.

The cost will be \$20 per Poinsettia Plant and St. Peter will purchase all of the plants.

All order forms, with payment attached, must be returned to the box at the Welcome Center desk OR to the St. Peter office by November 27th.

From _____

In Memory/Honor of _____

*Please make checks payable to
St. Peter Lutheran Church*