



## Pastor's Message

*April 2018  
Newsletter*

*Important E-mail Addresses and  
Phone Numbers*

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**Website:** [www.922church.com](http://www.922church.com)

**Office Hours: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE TIMES**

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

**and Thursday @ 6:30 pm**

**The CORE – Sunday, 5:30 pm**

### THE HISTORICITY OF THE RESURRECTION HOPE

Easter is, in my opinion, the greatest holiday of all, and from the likes of 1 Corinthians 15 – the Great Resurrection Chapter – I have a strong feeling the Lord Himself would agree with me. The Easter resurrection of Jesus is undeniably the center hope of our faith and the only proof needed that God's promises are all trustworthy and true. (Again, see 1 Corinthians 15.) Due to the fact that the resurrection of Jesus is so critical to our faith, do you ever wonder what to say to those who simply write off the event as some kind of myth? For this month's piece from the pastor's desk, I'd like to focus briefly on some of the historical evidence of Jesus' resurrection which is central to the Bible's message.

Let's start with a quote from the first century Jewish historian, Josephus – a nonbeliever. Josephus wrote, "At this time [27AD] there was a wise man called Jesus... Many people among the Jews and other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. But those who had become his disciples did not abandon his discipleship. They reported that he had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion and that he was alive. Accordingly, he was perhaps the Messiah..." (Jewish Antiquities xviii,65AD). Can you grasp the implications from Josephus' writing? For starters, the Bible's account about Jesus can be verified by a credible historian, especially the most critical parts of his ministry: Jesus' very claim to be the Messiah and that the proof of his claim has eyewitnesses testifying that it's been fulfilled. Jesus came back from the dead!

But, some might counter that Jesus' disciples lied or stole the body of Jesus or something. But, here's some cool evidence that overwhelmingly suggests otherwise: Proof #1: Would Jesus' disciples die for a lie? When life is on the line, rarely will anyone die for a lie. Usually, people caught and accused come clean, especially if they can work out a deal, even if it means turning the other accomplices in. That never happened to any of the disciples.

Proof #2: Instead, both history and tradition tell us that all the eyewitnesses of Jesus who were his disciples died proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus: Peter was crucified upside down. He chose to die upside down because he stated that he was not worthy to die like Jesus did. He was crucified by his wife. His last words to her were, "Remember Christ!"; Andrew was crucified; James the Elder was beheaded; Philip was crucified; Nathanael was skinned alive; Matthew was slain by the sword; Thomas was run through with a spear; James was thrown off a high pinnacle of the temple; Simon was crucified; Thaddaeus was shot with Arrows; John was poisoned but survived and was imprisoned; Paul, apostle to the Gentiles who originally warred against the Church, miraculously converted, spent his life spreading the gospel, and was beheaded under Nero. Interestingly enough, many of these disciples were found as far away as Rome, Egypt, India, and Arabia spreading the good news about Jesus when they were martyred, just as Jesus told them to do *after he rose*.

Would you die for a lie? A nonchristian scholar, Pinchas Lapide, scoffed at easy dismissals of an event of such worldwide significance. In his book "The Resurrection of Jesus" Lapide argues that one must concede the emptiness of Jesus' tomb and the subsequent radical transformation of his disciples. In other words, something turned eleven fearful disciples into eleven fearless missionaries and martyrs.

Where does this lead us? Friends, this means that no one can legitimately say Christianity is just another religion or, more frankly, like any other religion out there. Our Faith alone stands or falls on an extraordinary historical event known as the resurrection of Jesus. All other faiths – all of them – are based on a body of teachings which can neither be proven or disproven in this life. Christianity is founded on Jesus' body rising from the dead as proof of our forgiveness and all Jesus taught.

This is good news! This means Jesus is our only authoritative source for peace in troubled times, for our true identity, and for our purpose in life as well as our hope for life eternal.  
Happy Easter! Jesus lives! Alleluia!

*Pastor Bill Monday*



## April & May Sermon Series at St. Peter and The CORE

We will be starting a new sermon series the week after Easter at St. Peter and The CORE. Here is a summary of that series as well as the next one in May and the snapshot of each week's message.

### ***Evolution of Faith: April 8, 15, 22 & 29***

A series focusing on 1 Peter 1, which unpacks the blessings of Jesus' resurrection from the dead and our explosive new life in him, contrasted with the bland, too-used-to-it, born and raised faith that many people inherit from their families.

**Week #1: Living Hope**—Everyone wants hope, the firm belief that something better is coming. That's exactly what Easter brings. The resurrection of Jesus gives us a "new birth into a living hope," raising us from dead end "hopes" and giving us something to live for.

**Week #2: Filthy Rich**—Peter praises God for the riches of the inheritance of God's kids, riches that can't fade, riches that are kept in heaven and shielded by God's power. When we were reborn into God's family, we became filthy rich with spiritual blessings.

**Week #3: From the Ashes**—Life in God's family is not pain free. Peter is honest about suffering, grief, and "all kinds of trials." But he also tells us God's plan for our pain—to refine us and lead us to a greater desire to see God face to face.

**Week #4: Inexpressible Joy**—Too often Christians see joy as something that has to wait until heaven. But Peter tells us that we can be filled with an inexpressible joy right here and right now as faith fills us with the joy of knowing Jesus as our Savior.



### ***Friend Request:***

**May 6, 13, 20, 27**

Friendship is one of God's best earthly (and spiritual) blessings. Freely chosen, real and lasting relationships, friends are what we all crave, but few of us find. This series explores what it means to be a friend of God, have Christian friendships, and invest in friendships with those who don't yet believe in Jesus.

**Week #1:** I Am a Friend of God—The Bible speaks of God befriending people in the Bible, a term of incredible closeness and intimacy. How does that compare to the modern, social media driven idea of a “friend request”? What would it mean for our lives if the Almighty God was actually our ever-present friend?

**Week #2:** Friends in Christ—What does it mean to find a Christian friend? Is that the same thing as being part of the fellowship of a church? This message explores what it means to have friends who share your faith as well as the important distinction between the fellowship of Christians and the self-selected blessing called friendship.

**Week #3:** Why Can't We Be Friends? One pastor often told his teenage members, “Show me your friends and I will show you your future.” That wisdom is repeated in the Proverbs, a book about making wise choices. Walking with wise friends will make you wise. Hanging out with fools will come with consequences. This message is God’s reminder to choose your friends carefully, since they have an incredible influence on your choices and future.

**Week #4:** Friends with the World—The Proverbs might imply that hanging out with unbelievers is a bad idea, but the Bible is more nuanced than that. Rubbing shoulders with those who don’t know Jesus is the best way to share the hope that only the Savior can give. This message explores the way Christians can invest in those who do not yet believe in Christ.



**Call extended for Worship  
Coordinator at  
St. Peter & The CORE**

On March 7, we extended a call to Mr. Jonathan Favorite to serve as the Full-time Worship Coordinator at St. Peter and The CORE. This position is being funded because of the resources that are available due to our partnership with *Time of Grace* and Pastor Mike becoming the next speaker for the TV program. Please keep Jonathan and his family in your prayers as he deliberates where he can best serve at this time whether it is here at our church or at his current church, Crosswalk in Phoenix, AZ.



Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings here at St. Peter on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes four vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle) or text the word “circle” to 797979.**



## Confirmation

**Confirmation Ceremony Dates & Times:**  
Celebration of Faith is Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Peter. Public School Students: 5:30-6:30 pm  
CDS Students: 7:00-8:00 pm  
Confirmation Service is Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Fox Valley Lutheran High School (Note: All Sunday services will remain the same at St. Peter and The CORE.)

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Tact is the art of making a point without making an enemy.

*"Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing."*

*Proverbs 12:18*



I'm writing this during Spring Break, which this year is between the end of the third quarter and the start of the fourth quarter of the school year.

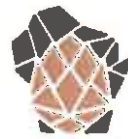
It seems like last week that we were putting on the final touches to the classroom remodeling project. The next thing that we knew it was Christmas, and then Lent began in the middle of February and here we are, as you read this, Easter has passed already. It truly is a reminder that all of our days are numbered and our time here is brief and fleeting.

Rhonda and I joke about how the year seems to be split into two seasons: preparing for the golf outing in June and preparing for Advent by Candlelight in December: they're almost exactly six months apart, and right now we're in that season of looking to the golf outing. But it's not like there is nothing else happening - preparing for six Lenten meals, working on the 2018-2019 fiscal year budget and all the other things that go with a church of 2,000 members, more than 40 employees and 150 years of history.

Speaking of 150 years, plans are shaping up for the anniversary celebration to be held the first weekend of October this year. We're compiling many of the pictures from our long history and we'll have a lot of interesting displays and memorabilia from the history of St. Peter. On Saturday, Oct. 6 we'll be hosting the first annual "Ready Set Glow" 5K run, which will be part of a larger day of celebration with a DJ, food trucks, bounce houses and lots of fun and activities. As we get closer, we'll be releasing more details.

We hope that everyone enjoyed the excellent Lenten series and the preparation for Easter, and we rejoice in the celebration of our risen Savior.

*Tom Dietzler, Director of Operations*



**COPPER STATE**  
BREWING CO.

### TEEN RALLY FUNDRAISER

At Copper State Brewing Co., 313 Dousman St. in Green Bay on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 8:30pm. Please call Copper State at 920-489-8575 to make a reservation to support our teens. A portion of proceeds will go to support the rally this summer.



### Treadle Sewing Machines Needed for Lutheran Sewing Institute and Community Center in Haiti!

Since the 2010 earthquake in Haiti which killed over 100,000 people, our WELS Haiti mission

has worked with many orphans and poor families with many children. When an orphan living in an orphanage reaches 18 years of age, Haitian law dictates that they leave the orphanage and sadly most orphans have not learned any marketable skills.

Through a generous donation from a sister Lutheran synod our WELS Haiti mission has recently constructed two large classrooms to create a Lutheran sewing institute and community center. Both women and men will be able to learn to sew in order to hopefully help support themselves. The center will be open for people to both learn how to sew and, for a very nominal fee, rent time on a machine to complete a sewing project. Even more importantly, everyone coming to the center will come in contact with the life changing gospel message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

So here is what they are seeking - as there is no reliable electricity is the area of Haiti where they work, they need to use **treadle sewing machines**; the kind your grandmother or great grandmother may have used for sewing! If you have an old treadle sewing machine that you could donate to the Haiti Lutheran sewing institute and community center, please contact them through a pastor! The donation may also be tax deductible.



## BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

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

Dorothy Uhlenbrauck (04/03)  
Ellyn Forbeck (04/11)  
Mel Selle (04/16)  
Joyce Wichman (04/17)  
Ken Rahmlow (04/17)  
Lane Foote (04/18)  
Bev Kalies (04/21)  
Shirley Foote (04/27)  
David Gruendemann (04/27)  
Judy Hameister (04/28)  
Barb Ulmer (04/30)



The Paperland Circuit of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society will be hosting the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual LWMS Convention on June 21-24, 2018 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay. They are anticipating 1500 men and women at the convention and will need help from all 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](mailto:carlcbk@gmail.com).



### Christian Stewardship - How Your Story Ends

So often as I listen to Bible stories, I can't help but be jealous. I mean, almost all of them end well. Ruth and Naomi had no idea how they would survive, yet they ended up being part of Jesus' family tree. Moses was left to drift down a river, but ended up leading God's people out of Egypt.

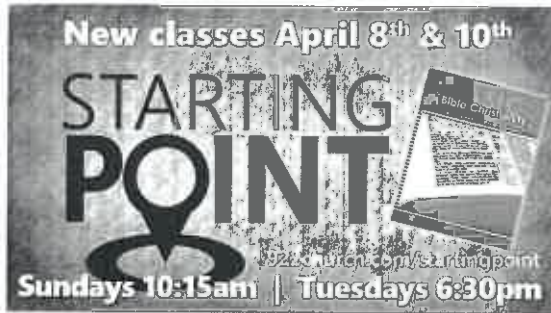
Then I realize that I get to read their whole story in one sitting. They are considered heroes of faith because they didn't know the whole story. They had to live it day by day - just like I do. They had to trust God - just like you do.

That's why God gives us his Word. He wants us to see the long line of people whom he used for his purpose, to encourage us. He reminds us of the great things he has already accomplished: living a perfect life, dying a painful death, and rising from the dead (so we can be with him forever).

Because he already accomplished that, we *"do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your Heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and righteousness, and then all these things will be given to you as well."* (Mathew 6:31-33)

The God who has already taken care of our biggest need - bringing us back into a relationship with him - will make sure that our eternal stories end well.

*Reprinted from Time of Grace.*



**Starting Point: Basic Bible Christianity** - New classes beginning! Sundays 10:15am starting April 8th and Tuesdays 6:30pm starting April 10th. This class is a conversational environment where you can explore faith and experience community. Wherever you are in your faith-walk, this is the place to start your next season of life. Learn God's answers to life's deepest questions as we explore the basic teachings of the Bible. Who should come? 1) The newcomer who might be interested in becoming a St. Peter member. 2) Anyone who wants to review the foundations of the Christian faith. (In fact, every member would be blessed to take this class every few years!) Come... and bring a friend!



**7th Annual Swing for Success Golf Outing – June 9, 2018**  
**Irish Waters Golf Club - Freedom**  
 The "Swing for Success" Golf Outing has brought in over

\$90,000 in the past six years, thanks to you, our great sponsors and those who donated prizes and silent auction items. Thank you for your past support! The outing this year is scheduled for Saturday, June 9th. We are looking for sponsors, prizes and silent auction donations from our members, but also, from others in the community. Look for a sponsorship and registration form enclosed in this newsletter. More forms are in the information racks in church. All proceeds this year will go towards the Tuition Assistance Fund. We have room for 128 golfers. Get a team together and join the fun!! Please help us make this year's outing another huge success.

**Register by May 6th and get a discount!!**



**150th Church Anniversary Activity - 5K Glow Run**  
 Do you want to become a part of history? Church history, that is. In conjunction

with the 150th Anniversary of St. Peter Lutheran, we are launching a NEW Glow Run 5k event in the Fox Valley on Saturday, October 6th starting at 6:00 pm! This race for all ages will take you through the country roads of North Appleton, starting and ending through the Neon-Lit campus of St. Peter! This is a stroller friendly course, so families are encouraged to attend! Join us for the AFTERGLOW party. This party atmosphere will be complete with a DJ and Food Trucks for your enjoyment! Make sure you are wearing everything NEON or GLOW IN THE DARK! Registration opens April 1st at <https://runsignup.com/Race/WI/Appleton/5kreadysetglow>. If you have any questions or would like to become a race sponsor, please email [5kreadysetglow@gmail.com](mailto:5kreadysetglow@gmail.com)



**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.



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](http://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!

### School Pizza Fundraiser

Pizza orders will need to be picked up on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> between 10 & 11:30 am.

### Lutheran Girl Pioneer International Camp July 29 – Aug. 4, 2018 – Girls Ages 8-15

Guess What? You don't have to be a LGP to come and enjoy this camp. Campers come from all over the country to enjoy fellowship and meet other WELS girls. There will be many classes to choose, from canoeing to Zumba, from crocheting to archery. There's also nightly campfires, daily devotions and so much more! LGP Camp is located at Camp Bird outside of Crivitz, WI. For more information, email [LGPcamp@gmail.com](mailto:LGPcamp@gmail.com).

For more information about LGP, email [girlpioneers@gmail.com](mailto:girlpioneers@gmail.com).



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

### MLC - Congregational Partner Grant Matching Opportunity

Over the past two years Martin Luther College (our synod's worker training School) has offered matching grants to incoming freshmen. They will once again be doing it this year allowing congregations to contribute money for any members of their church which will then be matched. Over the past two years St. Peter & The CORE have contributed \$250 to every student from our church who is studying to be a pastor or teacher. This year we plan on doing the same thing, but also wanted to give the members of our church the opportunity to match the church's gift so that each student will receive up to \$500 which will then be matched by MLC.

If you would like to give to this matching opportunity, please make out the check to St. Peter and put your gift in a white envelope and write "MLC matching gift" on the envelope and memo line. Gifts need to be in by April 30 so that we can submit them in time to MLC.



**SAVE THE DATE:** Vacation Bible School will be held July 9-12<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-3:30 pm.



### Military Family Support Group

The Military Support Team continues to meet and plan. Those on the board are: Dr. Michael Black, Michael Wichman, Susan Hatcher, Dusty Wenninger, Kari Dombrowski and Bill and Barb Schwab.

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

**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.



### LWMS Paperland Circuit Spring Rally

Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, 913 Nebraska St., Oshkosh, WI. Theme will be: "From Every Tribe and Language and People and Nation." Speaker will be Professor Al Sorum with the topic being "Pastoral Studies Institute". Registration begins at 8:00 am and rally concludes about 12:30 pm with lunch and fellowship to follow.



The following are some especially needed items for April: Cereal, rice, rice and noodle side dishes, canned pasta, canned fruit, all canned meats (tuna, chicken, ham and Spam), boxed and canned potatoes, jam, cookies, crackers and dish and laundry soaps.

*Please, nothing perishable, frozen or expired.*

Please bring your pantry items to the church kitchen. Donations are picked up the third Sunday of each month. 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.*

**Please also note** that the Spring Food Drive will be from May 20 – June 10<sup>th</sup>. Bags are available at the Welcome Center for your convenience.

### SCRIP

SCRIP is sold on Monday & Friday from 7:30-8:15 am and from 3:00-3:30 pm in the school office and Sundays in the Gathering Area in church from 8:30-9:00 am and 10:00-10:30 am.

### 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.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Old Meditations are no longer collected here as we have no ministries that are accepting old copies.



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, April 10<sup>th</sup> 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 at 9 am. Quilts are made for 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)  
 Craig Schultz (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.*



From Tom Dietzler, St. Peter Lutheran, Director of Operations – April 2018

1. Golfers have begun to register for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Peter Lutheran Swing for Success Golf Outing on June 9 this year. We're having it a week later than usual, and have moved it to Irish Waters Golf Course in Freedom. We've had sponsors sign up and we've been receiving some gifts for prizes and raffles. We definitely appreciate all the support! If you're interested in golfing, or sponsoring, or helping to promote the golf outing or if you'd like to help the day of the event, please contact me: office - (920) 739-2009; cell phone – (920) 419-1010; email – [tom.dietzler@922church.com](mailto:tom.dietzler@922church.com). We'd love to have as much participation as possible in all of these areas. All proceeds this year will go to Tuition Assistance.
2. Remember to save the date for these important medical screenings! Life-Line Screening will be here on Tuesday, May 22 offering advanced ultrasound screening equipment at reduced prices to help in the diagnosis of multiple health related issues. To register call 1-888-653-6441.
3. We were able to put on six excellent meals before each of the evening Lenten services this year. This doesn't happen with a snap of the fingers or hoping that things turn out well. Rhonda Dietzler, Cindy Zaddack and Leslye Ulman do a great job of planning the meals and organizing things. We also have a boatload of members from St. Peter and the CORE who step up to make sure that everything runs like clockwork.
4. There are a couple of ways that everyone can make guests feel more welcome at our worship services. First, park a little further away from church than you do normally, to leave spots closer to the building for visitors and members who have a little harder time walking. Then, when you get into church, especially during services that are more heavily attended, could you slide into the middle of the pew so that maybe someone who comes in late or doesn't know where to sit can just slide into the end of the pew without feeling like they are disturbing anyone. Little things like these can make our church much more welcoming.
5. Christian Family Solutions (formerly Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Services) will be having a counselor at St. Peter one morning a week very soon. She will have office hours from 9 am to 1 pm one day each week. The day of the week has not been decided upon, but will be very soon. She will be seeing clients in the Heritage Room. Initially her clients will be students from our school as her specialty is with children.
6. St. Peter is looking for some assistance from any of our medical people in some small ways. We'll be sending out letters to members whom we know to be doctors or nurses whom might be interested in helping out if medical situations arise during worship services in which it would be helpful to have guidance and some of level of treatment provided. It will be strictly voluntary, and just as a way of providing some level of comfort and support until other treatments, ambulance, first responders, etc. can arrive on the scene. If you have medical training and think that you could be of some assistance if ever needed, please contact the office (920) 739-2009 for more details.
7. The parsonage is not yet hooked up to Appleton Municipal Water supply yet, but we are getting closer. The excavation work is done thanks to the great people at Donald Hietpas and Sons Utility Construction. The remaining work that needs to be done is for the city to provide a water meter and for the plumber to make the connection to the water line and then install a water meter.
8. We're investigating some possible leaks in the roof in a couple of places in the 2014 section of the building. We noticed a stain in one of the ceiling tiles in the Emmaus Room, and then a couple more in the parent room in back of church. None of them are big or extensive stains, but we're still following up. There may be an issue with the flashing on the roof above the parents' room.
9. Thanks to everyone who came out on Saturday, March 17 for the church cleaning day. Lots of windows, and even some ceiling fans and light fixtures were cleaned because the great people at Buss Electric let us use one of their lifts. It's great to have all the people who showed up to give everything a good deep cleaning. We appreciate everyone's efforts!
10. An early reminder that confirmation will be held at Fox Valley Lutheran High School again this year, at 10:00 am on Sunday, April 29. FVLHS does have a large seating capacity, so it is a great blessing to be able to use their beautiful facilities for this kind of occasion. There will be three regular services held that Sunday at St. Peter Lutheran.

## The CORE Newsletter - April 2018

Dear CORE family,

This month, I wanted to share a recent blog I wrote to encourage our brothers in the faith. Enjoy!  
Pastor Mike

Gary says I lost my “man card.”

Gary is an amazing guy from The CORE who is built like Arnold Schwarzenegger's second cousin (whom I assume is ripped). But a few months ago, when I told Gary I had just seen the movie La La Land with my wife, he sighed and shook his head. “Pastor, I think you just lost your man card.”

In my defense, La La Land dominated the Academy Awards in addition to earning nearly a half billion dollars worldwide.

Also in my defense, I lost my man card years ago.

When it comes to manly activities, my life has been a catastrophic failure. I haven't been fishing since I was seven and dropped my Snoopy fishing pole into the murky waters of a Wisconsin lake. The only time I shot a rifle I “scoped” myself, leaving my forehead bloody and the camouflaged men in fits of laughter. I grew up playing soccer, which made me a “field fairy” according to the football players at my school. I then joined the tennis team, which hasn't produced a prom king in 137 years. Add to my resume show choir and the school musical (sequins and theatre makeup, anyone?). If that weren't emasculating enough, I'm so scrawny I wear long underwear every day from October to March (is that too much information?) and I would grow a beard for warmth but my face can only produce a few wimpy whiskers.

Can you relate? Do you fall short of the “man's man” definition the world promotes and sells on the cover of men's magazines?

It has taken way too many years, but I've learned to be cool with that. Because God has taught me to define manhood in a whole new way. What makes a real man are not biceps, bucks, and bushy beards.

What makes a real man is his connection to Jesus.

I love how Paul put it. **“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”** (Galatians 2:20)

Let me speak to the guys reading this post (ladies, makes sure to share this with a man you know)—Guys, is your identity as a man rooted in your connection to Jesus? I pray, more than anything, that it is.

Because Jesus will give you the confidence that 225 on the bench press cannot.

Because Jesus will give you a joy that lasts longer than the thrill of tracking the biggest buck up north.

Because Jesus will give you a peace that is never dependent on your boss's approval of your work.

Because Jesus will give you a place at the Father's table even if your father walked away when you were born.

Because Jesus will give you the spiritual swagger that the Corvette-drivers only wish they had.

There are a billion men on this planet hitting the gym and drinking craft beers who are living and dying for the next temporary high. You are no fool if you don't follow in their footsteps. You are no fool, as one famous Christian said, if you give up what you cannot keep to gain what you cannot lose.

You are no fool if your life is all about Jesus. You are not wasting your time if you are planting spiritual seeds and growing spiritual roots. The harvest is coming, and the Spirit's fruit will be worth it.

So, don't worry if you never grace the cover of Men's Health. Don't worry if your money goes to the Kingdom instead of the fastest car at the intersection. Don't worry if your idea of an amazing night involves loving one of God's daughters.

Even if she wants to see La La Land.

Because real men live by faith in Jesus.



# Family and Evangelism

*with Pastor Bill*

April 2018



Confirmation

## CONFIRMATION IS NOT THE END

It's what we pastors grieve over most this time of year. Confirmation. Though confirmation can be such a rich experience in the faith – a young person gets to stand up publicly and confess their faith in Jesus and make vows committing to Jesus “even unto the point of death,” if confirmation's intent and meaning is not remembered, this historic tradition of the church can quickly become the end. A graduation and end of faith. (Trouble is faith needs to last a lifetime and the average age of our confirmands is only 14. I think we'd all agree that there's so much life left to live!)

So, how can we address this constant struggle? Maybe some thoughts lean toward building a better youth program with many opportunities to better engage our teens with God's Word and fellowship. (That's not a bad thing at all. But, without the most important factors, such offerings will only serve as an adrenaline shot spiritually to get our kids through high school.)

Then, perhaps we need to really encourage our youth to go to Fox Valley Lutheran High School and take advantage of all our church and area ministries can offer. More great ideas, but again, just like our offerings in youth ministry, unless the more important factors are figured in, Fox Valley and all of our synodical helps for youth won't cut it, at least, not for the majority of our youth.

Well, what's left? Ah! Glad you asked! According to the research which just came out of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, a 2017 extensive and exhaustive survey of some 600 millennials who are either actively involved in church or have left – the number one indicator for the spiritual retention of youth into adulthood is having spiritual fathers and mothers in the home, especially spiritually minded fathers who maintain a healthy relationship with their kids. Parents who are active, before, during, and after confirmation are the most likely to retain their kids in the church and in love with Christ into their adult years. Conclusion: If we want to reap the benefits of confirmation, we need parents to speak and live out the Word of God to their children at home, especially fathers leading the way. The saying is true: The gospel is more caught than taught. In fact, if parents are not connected to the church and are not spiritually active at home, living out the faith, they leave an unintentional model for their children that when they get to a certain age, they too can graduate from the faith.

But what about families where the father or mother aren't there for whatever reason? Ah, another excellent question. This is where the importance of the congregation comes in. If a congregation takes an active interest in their youth – one on one relationship building, not just youth programming – we can multiply spiritual fathers and mothers for them. (Perhaps we can multiply spiritual aunts, uncles, grandmas, and grandpas for them – spiritual mentors. Nothing can completely replace the home, unless the home changes.) By the way, this was the second biggest indicator of the retention of youth into adulthood in the life of a congregation. Building meaningful relationships of a spiritual nature is key. Ideally 5 spiritual adults with every youth!

Is there anything more we can do? Ah, one last excellent question. Yes! There is! The third indicator for why a young person remains at church and in love with Christ into adulthood is when the local congregation assimilates youth into the adult life of the congregation by giving them meaningful service to carry out and opportunities for leadership roles.

Fellow believers in Jesus, if we can focus on these three things for our confirmands, then, the rite of Confirmation will have fulfilled its purpose for our confirmands. It will become the beginning of their faith-life as adults and rise up as a firm building in Christ unto life everlasting. May God grant this for all our confirmands and their families! Blessings!



*In His Service,  
Pastor Bill*

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY: 10AM Sunday, April 29 @ Fox Valley Lutheran High School**  
**Celebration of Faith Examination: Wednesday, April 25 - Public School 5:30-6:30PM & LES 7-8PM**  
**(Regular Service Times at St. Peter 7:30AM; 9AM; 10:30AM and The CORE 5:30PM)**



St. Peter Lutheran School



SCHOOL NEWS  
April 2018

**Mission Offering Raises Over \$5500**

Students at our FVL School Partner Schools collected over \$5500 in mission money for the Proclaimer Project. The Proclaimer is a solar powered device that is the size of a cellphone. Bible lessons spoken in many different languages are recorded on these devices. Our WELS foreign mission workers give these devices to people so they can listen to God's Word regularly.



**FVL Schools Mission Team to Speak at St. Peter Lutheran**

Last summer a team of teachers, students, pastors, and parents travelled to Luska, Zambia for a mission trip. On Wednesday, April 11 at 1:00 p.m. members of the mission team will give a presentation to our students about their trip. Members of our church family are invited to this presentation.

\*\*\*\*\*

**OPEN HOUSE FOR OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY CENTER on TUESDAY, APRIL 24**

Families are invited to attend an Open House on Tuesday, April 24 from 4 - 7 p.m. for our Early Childhood Ministry Center. The center serves 3 and 4 year old children during the school year and summer. We are still enrolling children for our school year and summer program.

\*\*\*\*\*



**ANNIE JUNIOR** - On Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at St. Peter are performing the musical "Annie Junior." Show times are at 1:00 and 7:00 p.m. The show will take place in the gym. We hope you can join us.

**ENROLLING AT ST. PETER LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR**

St. Peter Lutheran School is enrolling students for the 2018-19 school year. At this time we are not accepting new enrollments for 6<sup>th</sup> grade due to class size. There are limited classroom seats available in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Please contact Principal Phil Punzel at (920)739-2009 or at [ppunzel@stpetercares.com](mailto:ppunzel@stpetercares.com) to set up a time for a school tour.



# FVL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT TO THE FEDERATION

## March 2018

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

### SCHOOL NEWS:

- Excavation began for the *Let the Children Come* expansion on March 7. In February, the General Board signed a joint pledge showing their support of this effort. US Bank needs pledges and gifts of \$1M by September 1 to facilitate the long-range funding of this expansion.
- Enrollment for next year's freshmen class looks strong at 155. We expect a class of about 170.
- "Giving Wednesday" is set for April 11 to share news of the *Let the Children Come* project and kick off the stewardship efforts. A matching fund is being set up to help donors maximize their gifts that day.
- FVL student musicians attended this year's WELS National Band Festival at Illinois Lutheran High School on March 9-11.
- FVL welcomed over 225 seventh graders to *Discover FVL Day* on March 15.
- Information on the FoxFest Dinner Auction is now online. The date is April 20 at Liberty Hall. Find out more at [fvlhs.org](http://fvlhs.org).
- The application windows are open for both FVL's Tuition Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program. Find more info at [fvlhs.org](http://fvlhs.org). The WPCP deadline is April 20; FVL's deadline is May 4.
- Spring Break runs March 17-25; Easter Break will be March 30-April 2.
- The FVL Choirs Sacred Concert is set for Sunday, April 8, at 6 pm.

### STAFFING:

- **Mr. Joel Kramer** has received a call to Illinois Lutheran High School. Please remember him in your prayers as he deliberates where the Lord will have him serve. **Mr. Greg Martin** recently accepted his call to teach at Martin Luther-Oshkosh in 2018-19. We wish him God's blessings in his future ministry there.
- **Mr. Matt Koepsell** will undergo surgery to deal with neck issues. He will be missing several weeks of school as he recovers. Please pray for Mr. Koepsell and other FVL faculty/staff members who are dealing with major health issues.

### COCURRICULARS

- FVL Theatre presented the children's classic *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs of the Black Forest* on March 9-10. Over 1700 elementary school students filled the auditorium for two special performances.
- Spring sports are in full gear. Students are active in baseball, softball, track, golf, soccer, and tennis.
- The Math Team is fighting for the conference crown for the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.
- Led by our student Peer Leadership Group, over \$3,000 was raised for the Wisconsin Special Olympics through the *Polar Plunge* event.
- FVL's VEX Robotics team will compete at the World Championships for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row.
- The winter sports season has finished. FVL's Cheer team took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their division at State.
- Register for FVL's many Summer Camps at [www.fvlschools.org/summer-camps](http://www.fvlschools.org/summer-camps).

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

- The General Board approved the 2018-19 budget at their February meeting.
- Congregation support for operations continues at last year's pace; however, congregations are still slightly behind the budget needs for the current fiscal year.
- The remaining total to eliminate FVL's *Growing in Grace* debt is nearing \$250K. Please consider a generous gift to close out this effort. Our Mortgage Burning Ceremony is scheduled June 10 at 2 pm.
- The FVL Foundation is now over \$4M in assets with the goal of reaching \$5M. Over 460 Legacy donors have contributed gifts to be endowed for Tuition Assistance.

*With you, serving Jesus – Principal Steve Granberg*

# St. Peter Lutheran Church

## April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Easter Worship – 6:30; 8:30 & 10:30 am Easter Breakfast Served – 7:30 – 9:30 am (Gym) NO Bible Classes or Bible Discovery	<b>2</b> Easter Break – NO School Board of Ed Mtg. – 6 pm	<b>3</b> School Resumes Quilting – 9 am Circuit Mtg. – 9 am	<b>4</b> Bible Class – 6:30 am Bible Foundations – 5:30 pm Confirmation Class – 6:45 pm	<b>5</b> Children's Chapel – 8:30 am Wedding Rehearsal – 4:45 pm Worship w/Lord's Supper – 6:30 pm	<b>6</b> Stecker/Christensen Wedding – 2 pm	<b>7</b> Pick up Pizza's from 10 – 11:30 am (Gym/ Commons Area)
<b>8</b> Worship w/Lord's Supper - 7:30; 9 & 10:30am Bible Class – 9 & 10:15 am Starting Point BC – 10:15 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE – 5:30 pm	<b>9</b> Tami's Bible Class – 8am	<b>10</b> Quilting – 9 am Card Making – 6 pm Starting Point Bible Class – 6:30 pm	<b>11</b> Bible Class – 6:30 am Bible Foundations – 5:30 pm Confirmation Class – 6:45 pm	<b>12</b> Children's Chapel – 8:30 am Worship – 6:30 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Men's Open Gym – 7:15 – 9 am
<b>15</b> Worship – 7:30; 9 & 10:30 am Bible Classes – 9 & 10:15 am Starting Point BC – 10:15 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE – 5:30 pm	<b>16</b> Tami's Bible Class – 8am	<b>17</b> Quilting – 9 am Starting Point Bible Class – 6:30 pm	<b>18</b> Bible Class – 6:30am Country Villa Chapel – 10:30 am Bible Foundations – 5:30 pm Confirmation Class – 6:45 pm	<b>19</b> Children's Chapel – 8:30 am Wedding Rehearsal – 4:45 pm Worship w/Lord's Supper – 6:30 pm	<b>20</b> Lemke/Klink Wedding – 2:30 pm	<b>21</b> Men's Open Gym – 7:15 – 9 am Men's Bible Study – 7:30 am @ Machine Shed
<b>22</b> Worship w/Lord's Supper - 7:30; 9 & 10:30am Bible Class – 9 & 10:15 am Starting Point BC – 10:15 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE – 5:30 pm	<b>23</b> Tami's Bible Class – 8 am Brewster Village – 9:45 am Council – 6:30 pm	<b>24</b> Quilting – 9 am Starting Point Bible Class – 6:30 pm	<b>25</b> Bible Class – 6:30 am Celebration of Faith for 8th Graders – 5:30 pm (Public School) 7 pm (CDS)	<b>26</b> Children's Chapel – 8:30 am Worship – 6:30 pm	<b>27</b> CDS Early Release – 12:10 pm 3K/4K Open All Day	<b>28</b> Men's Open Gym – 7:15 – 9 am
<b>29</b> Worship – 7:30; 9 & 10:30 am Confirmation @ FVL – 10 am Bible Classes – 9 & 10:15 am Starting Point BC – 10:15 am Bible Discovery – 9 am CORE – 5:30 pm	<b>30</b>					



# 7<sup>th</sup> Annual "Swing for Success" Golf Outing

Saturday, June 9, 2018

Irish Waters Golf Club - Freedom

All proceeds benefit the St. Peter Lutheran School Tuition Assistance Fund

The following SPONSORSHIPS are available, please check the one/ones you wish to support:

**EAGLE SPONSOR - \$2,000**

Includes: Team of four golfers, your business name on the front of the outing flyer and on a banner at the registration table, a sign with your business name on the putting green, and you will be acknowledged at various times during the outing.

**LUNCH SPONSOR - \$1,500**

Includes: Two golfers, your business name on the outing flyer, signage in the lunch area, and your business name will be acknowledged at various times during the outing.

**CART SPONSOR - \$1,000**

Includes: Two golfers and a sign on every golfer's cart bearing the name of your business.

**BEVERAGE SPONSOR - \$750**

Includes: One golfer, your business name will appear on the drink ticket that each golfer receives, and a sign on each of the beverage carts on the golf course.

**HOLE SPONSOR - \$250**

Includes a sign on one of the golf course holes bearing the name of your business.

**PAR SPONSOR - \$500**

Includes: One golfer and two signs, each sign on a different golf course hole bearing the name of your business.

**PRIZES & AUCTION ITEMS**

Any item/gift certificate you donate will be used in our raffle or silent auction.

**ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS**

Golf Balls, Tees, Ball Markers, Towels, Shirts, etc. with your Company logo for each participating golfer (128 golfers).

ALL of our sponsors and those donating prizes or silent auction items will be listed in the outing program.

Also, your support will be published in our July church newsletter.

You may also put your business card in the golfer gift bags.

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR ANY SUPPORT YOU ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE!**

Name of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to *St. Peter Lutheran* and mail to:

St. Peter Lutheran; Attn: Golf Outing Committee  
N2740 French Rd., Appleton, WI 54913

If a donation needs to be picked up from your business or if you have any questions, please contact Tom Dietzler at (920)739-2009 OR tom.dietzler@922church.com

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual**



**Golf Outing**



ST. PETER  
Lutheran Church & School



**REGISTRATION FORM**

**\$80 per golfer before 5/6/18**  
**\$85 per golfer after 5/6/18**

*All proceeds benefit the St. Peter Lutheran  
School Tuition Assistance Fund*

**Saturday, June 9, 2018**

**Irish Waters Golf Club - Freedom**

**Playing Format/Time**

- 8:00 am – Registration – Coffee and Donuts
- 9:00 am – Shotgun Start, 4 Ball Scramble Format
- 2:00 pm – Lunch, Awards/Prize Presentation

**Cost**

**\$80 per golfer if paid by May 6, 2018**  
**\$85 per golfer after May 6, 2018**  
*(includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch and range balls)*

**Raffles – Hole Prizes – Silent Auction**

**Questions? Contact Tom Dietzler at (920)739-2009**

Captain/Golfer 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 4: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not have 4 golfers, we will put you with another group.

**Make Checks Payable to:  
St. Peter Lutheran**

**Send registration and payment to:**

**St. Peter Lutheran  
Attn: Golf Outing Committee  
N2740 French Road  
Appleton, WI 54913**

**PLEASE send  
payment for all  
golfers with your  
registration form.  
Space is limited  
to the first  
128 golfers!**