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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Office will be closed  
Monday, February 19th

March Newsletter Deadline: Tuesday, February 20, 2018

## THE MESSENGER



Happy Valentine's Day-Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday Service is February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM



# The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – February 2018

From the Interim Pastor, Steve Nelson

We are approaching the time of Lent within the church year – it begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The church service at St. Peter will be at 7pm and will include the imposition of ashes. The community service will also be at St. Peter's the next day, on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon and will include a meal.

I find it amazing that Ash Wednesday this year falls on Valentine's Day. What a great time to talk about repentance and love. For instance...I remember about 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and buying some chocolates for a pretty girl in my grade at school that I had a crush on. Somehow I didn't give it to her and I can't remember if I lost my nerve or if someone else gave her chocolates first and I said to myself, "What's the use." Whatever the reason I left school that day with both my chocolates and a broken heart.

On my way home I saw another girl from my class whom I didn't have a crush on but I gave her the chocolates anyway. I surprised her and myself. I didn't exactly want to be her boyfriend- I just knew these chocolates were meant to be given away. I wish that I could say that my love life got better after that – but I had a lot to learn about love first.

During Lent we learn how the gift of love can be costly and it doesn't always turn out like we intended. Sometimes we don't even get what we think we deserve. Instead, we get something entirely different that is much better than what we desired.

During Lent we focus on Jesus' journey to the cross and to his death. This in turn makes way for the new life and endless possibilities that we could never have imagined. Out of the ashes of death comes not only new life but the possibility of a future we could never have even predicted. And yet to receive the new life, we have to journey through the ashes to get there.

The Community Lenten services will be held at St. Peter every Thursday starting on February 15 at 12 noon. The ½ hour service is followed by a meal and the theme for the series is "Thy will be done." Everyone from the community is invited to attend. St. Peter's congregation will host both the service and the meal on Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Otherwise area churches will all take a turn.

The Lenten Services at St. Peter will be held every Wednesday beginning on February 21st at 7:00pm. We will use evening prayer and we will gather in the Fellowship Hall. Again everyone is invited to attend.

So how was your love life? Did you ever figure out how to freely receive love with no strings attached and how to give it away with the same no strings? Unfortunately this often takes a painful experience to learn how to do this. But to experience love that is freely given and received is a priceless gift. There is nothing like it in all the world.

# General Announcements



**Radio ministry** was given to the glory of God in January by:  
The Himmeger Family in loving memory of Earl Himmeger  
Matt and Carrie Calvelage and family  
Dave and Linda Mayer and Family



**The flowers on the altar** were given to the glory of God in January by:  
Vicki Rinehart in celebration Randy's birthday and also of their daughter-in-law, Angie's birthday  
Ed and Jacquie Fritz in thanksgiving for their 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary



**Readers Needed** for the first and second scripture lessons and the prayers during the worship service. Your readings can be emailed to you so you can look them over in advance. Please sign up in the red book at the back of church.



**Committees:** Please turn in your year-end reports to the office for the directory to be completed.



**Quilting Day** will be Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM.



## **Upcoming Lenten Schedule: Ash Wednesday Worship Service**

Begins at 7PM on February 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Peter Lutheran Church. Each of the following Wednesday evenings our church will provide a Lenten worship service at 7:00 pm.

February 15<sup>th</sup>- Community Lenten Service at St. Peter Lutheran Church at Noon.

This year's theme is "*Thy Will Be Done*".

February 15<sup>th</sup> service by Pastor Rich Rakay, Trinity United Methodist members will provide lunch.

February 22<sup>nd</sup> service by Pastor Harry Tolhorst, lunch by First United Presbyterian members.

March 1<sup>st</sup> service by Pastor Steve Nelson, with the St. Peter Lutheran members providing lunch.

The March services will be listed in the March newsletter.



### 2018 - 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Quarterless Auction

The annual Quarterless Auction is the first Saturday of March, which is March 3rd! There is a sign-up sheet in the red book if you would be willing to work that day. Also, there is a sign-up sheet if you can donate bottled water or soda pop. All the Quarterless Auctions have brought in great money and this money goes right back into the general fund. Let's continue our great tradition and keep this auction flowing upwards. If you have any questions, please see Angie Miller and Susan McGue. Thanks for all your help!

## Altar Guild

**Altar Guild** There is no scheduled meeting for February.



**Please pray for the following family and friends:** Jim Schimmoeller, Jodi Siefker, Judy Pohlman, Marliese and Paul Perez, Melvin Kloeppel, Mike Gallmeier, Missy Katterheinrick, Corbin Kramer, Doug Butler, Vicki Kramer, Brent Wreede, Eric Ulm, Blake Wagoner, Rose Hager, Richard Hager, Michael Wortman, Paul Mershman, Helen Mullenhour, Tony and Teresa Luke, Pat McClure and Kenny Siefker.

### Remember our Shut-ins

Vancrest Health Care  
1425 E Fifth St.  
Delphos, OH 45833  
Melvin Kloeppel

Carl Dienstberger  
E. Fourth St.  
Delphos OH 45833

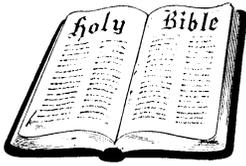


### Keep our Military Friends and Family in your Prayers:



John & Amber Becket	Air Force	Dalzell SC
Mike Hershberger	Navy	LaMesa CA
Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
Collin Swick	Navy	Gainesville FL

# NEWS FOR WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



**Good Morning/Good Shepherd Bible Study –**  
Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

The February lesson is *Multiple meanings: Learning from other interpretations*  
*Session two: Prepare the Way of the Lord*

Theme Verse: <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

<sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup>He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Luke 3:3-17

**WELCA** The scheduled meeting is Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

## InReach/OutReach



Prayer Chain

**Prayer Chain** - If you would like your name added to the prayer chain (e-mail or phone) please contact Susan McGue at 419-234-6448. If you ever need a prayer chain started, please contact Susan or the church office.

When requesting a prayer chain to be started, it would be best to call Susan at the above number (she doesn't check her computer daily.) Susan is the primary start person and if she can't be reached by phone, then call the church office.

## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!!**

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 3) Roger Gossman     | 16) Zachary Kimmett     |
| 5) Roger Klenz       | 22) Sierra Marlow       |
| 6) Daniel Stemen     | 24) Michael Hershberger |
| 7) Liam LaRue        | 26) Jordan Koebel       |
| 7) Lyla Lane         | 28) Tom Watkins, Jr     |
| 14) Karen Hartman    |                         |
| 14) Rachel Munshower |                         |



## **Offering Recap for January 2018**

Worship attendance for 12-24-2017	112
Worship attendance for 12-31-2017	36
Worship attendance for 01-07-2018	45
Worship attendance for 01-14-2018	45
Worship attendance for 01-21-2018	58

Amount needed **each week** to meet approved budget for 2017      \$2,105.35

### **Total donations received for General Operating Fund:**

12-24-2017	\$3,696.00 we exceeded our goal by	\$1,590.65
12-31-2017	\$1,902.00 we missed our goal by	\$ 203.35
01-07-2018	\$1,184.00 we missed our goal by	\$ 902.97
01-14-2018	\$1,011.00 we missed our goal by	\$1,075.97
01-21-2018	\$1,593.00 we missed our goal by	\$ 493.97

**Year-to-date 2018**      -- **\$2,472.91**

We love seeing you at our weekly service. If you aren't able to attend please remember that our bills continue to arrive in the mail and your generous donations are greatly appreciated weekly. Thank you!

# **COMMUNITY**

**Rise Against Hunger (RAH) Meal Packing Event**, February 11, 2018 at Delphos St John All Saints Building, 515 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Delphos. Registration begins at 12:30pm. Meal packing is 1:30-3:30pm. We need 150 volunteers and \$7,200 to meet the 2018 goal of packing 25,000 meals. This is a family-friendly event. All are invited and welcome (Ages 4-104. Contact Ellen Ditto if babysitting is needed). A \$29.00 donation provides 100 meals. Please pre-register and/or donate at:

<http://events.stophungernow.org/DelphosRAH>

Donations can also be made at First Federal Bank through the Carpenter's Ministry account. Any questions contact Buzz or Ellen Ditto at 419-233-3524.

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
February 4	10:00 AM	Lauren French	Larry Miller	Aaron Trentman Alan Trentman Volunteers

**MONEY COUNTERS-** Deb Trentman, Rick Dienstberger

**ALTAR GUILD-** Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
February 11	10:00 AM	Troy Calvelage	Lynn Koenig	Rick Dienstberger Eric Fritz Volunteers

**MONEY COUNTERS-** Deb Trentman, Rick Dienstberger

**ALTAR GUILD-** Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
February 14 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	7:00 PM	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteers

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
February 18	10:00 AM	Matthew Weitzel	Alan Trentman	Bob Wortman Ron Kloepfel Volunteers

**MONEY COUNTERS-** Deb Trentman, Rick Dienstberger

**ALTAR GUILD-** Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
February 25	10:00 AM	Noelle Prine	Aaron Trentman	Bob Kloepfel Ken Kloepfel Volunteers

**MONEY COUNTERS-** Deb Trentman, Rick Dienstberger

**ALTAR GUILD-** Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
March 4	10:00 AM	James Hasting	Aaron Kloepfel	Lynn Koenig Dan Kramer Volunteers

**MONEY COUNTERS-** Lois Ewing, Yvonne Koenig

**ALTAR GUILD-** Donna Berger, Susan McGue, Karen Hartman