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**August Newsletter Deadline: Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**

# The Messenger



Independence Day is Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

# The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – July 2021

## **A Little Bit of This and That for July 2021**

It is hard to believe that summer is finally here. We have conquered the worst of what this pandemic has thrown at us and we are now beginning to cautiously move forward to move back into some of the ways of being before the pandemic so changed our lives.

The CDC has lifted the mask mandate for those who are fully vaccinated. This is a time to rejoice. I am personally very happy that I will not have to wear a mask as the weather gets hotter and hotter. I am also aware that there are many feelings about the wearing of masks in the congregation. Some of you have had Covid and have some natural immunity at this time. Some have medical reasons for not getting vaccinated and some have political reasons for not getting vaccinated or wearing a mask. Some want to wait to see how getting vaccinated affects people long range.

Regardless of where you fall on the spectrum, it is important that we love and care for each other. I am not interested in having the church be a mask policing area. Some people will feel more comfortable continuing to wear a mask and others will relish the freedom to go without. We will be outside for most of our summer services and this will create more freedom for all of us.

I have been so proud of how we have all pulled together as a congregation to navigate the last 14 months. You are an amazing group of people. Our focus needs to be to continue to love and care for each other and to move forward to discern our next steps in ministry.

One of our next big steps in ministry is to house Lifewise Academy for the Franklin Elementary Students whose parents sign for them to have release time Christian Education during the school day. The academy is going to use the blue Sunday school room upstairs during the next school year. Classes will be held on Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon for the first semester of the school year and then in January classes will be on Monday and Wednesday mornings. We are excited about this ecumenical movement of the churches in town to come together to provide release time character education through the Gospel. The community now has a Facebook page for Lifewise Academy. It is Lifewise Academy Delphos. If you want to support the academy you can give with your regular giving by designating it to Lifewise. A commitment of \$10.00 a month will cover the costs for one child per year.

Also, as a way of looking to the future, Watchfire Sign Company showed the council in its May meeting some options for an electronic sign that could allow us to be more inviting as people approach the building from Fifth Street or Pierce Street. Council is in the early stages of looking into this, but feel that we need to update our sign and allow for technology to help us to communicate more fully with church members as well as the community. Because the parents use Piece Street and our parking lot to drop off and pick up their elementary school children, we have a great opportunity to be more visible and inviting.

We also are in the process of trying to get quotes of repairs to the orange Sunday school room and to also do some electrical updates to the rooms in the upstairs. We will be asking for some help on several scheduled work days to get the upstairs ready for Sunday School, youth groups and Lifewise Academy as we hope to be up and running in the Fall. These will be announced at a later time.

Troy Calvelage will be laying stone and beautifying our courtyard in the coming weeks. This project will help him complete requirements to earn his Eagle Scout designation. We are thankful to Troy and all who will help him to update and make our courtyard a special place for reflection and to gather.

A special thanks to Dan Kramer for overseeing the new walkways and parking area at the rear of the church. We are also thankful for the new concrete pad for our parking lot services at the side of the building. Below are some photos of the work that has been completed.



### Season of Pentecost:

May 23 began our season of Pentecost. In this season we celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit who came to the disciples in power on Pentecost. When our resurrected Jesus first appeared to the disciples, he breathed on them to receive the Holy Spirit. We receive this same Holy Spirit at our Baptisms. But Pentecost brought something a little different. With it came power and a filling that enabled the disciples to step out in ministry.

As Lutherans, we often are content to have Jesus breathe the Holy Spirit into us, but we are not so sure about asking for more of the Holy Spirit to fill us to the brim. We often keep the Holy Spirit at a distance and do not place much emphasis on it. But the Holy Spirit is a vital part of the Trinity and Jesus told the disciples that he had to go away so the Holy Spirit could come and be active in their lives.

Through the years, I have prayed for a filling of the Holy Spirit to be at work in my life and ministry. As we go through this season of Pentecost, I invite all of us to ask God to send the Holy Spirit to be with us in a deeper fullness. May we envision our lives filled to overflowing with God's blessings and goodness as he lavishes us with this important gift for our Christian journey.

Blessings,

Vicar Carol

### **Fathers' Day Blessing**

Fathers, for the critical role you play in your children's lives, we bless you.

For your strength and steadfast love that you show on a daily basis, we bless you.

For your willingness to make sacrifices for your family, we bless you.

May you know that God sees you and God loves you, and you matter.

May you be blessed with patience, endurance, peace and incredible joy as you journey forward to love your children.

# General Announcements

**Radio Ministry** was given to the glory of God in June by:

- The members of St. Peter Lutheran Church
- Norma Koenig in celebration of Kaiden Trentman's Graduation
- St. Peter Lutheran Church member
- Ron and Sue Kloeppe in celebration of Paige Kloeppe's graduation
- St. Peter Lutheran Church member

# InReach/OutReach

**Prayer Chain** – If you would like your name added to the prayer chain, please contact Susan McGue at 419-234-6448. If you ever need a prayer chain started, please contact Susan on the cell phone number listed above. *Do NOT send her computer an email.* You may call or send her cell phone a text message. Susan is the primary start person and if she can't be reached by phone, then call the church office. Please have permission from the person or family before we publish any names.

## Remember our Shut-ins

Carl Dienstberger	Sharon Reel
E. Fourth St.	Vancrest of Van Wert
Delphos, OH 45833	10357 Van Wert-Decatur
	Van Wert OH 45891

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

Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
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Please pray for Collin Swick who is serving in the Navy. He is being deployed overseas for this next year. Please also pray for his wife Courtney and their three children during this time.

## July Birthdays

2) Melissa Trentman	17) Dave Stemen	23) Jesse Calvelage
4) Madeline Weitzel	18) Bruce Perrin	24) Tina Himmeger
5) Jonathan Staples	19) Derek Daulbaugh	26) Jim Mox
8) Joshua Miller	19) Amy Miller	28) Kylee Dienstberger
11) Landon Munshower	19) Talan Siefker	28) Don Stemen
13) Adalie Cope	22) Carl Dienstberger	31) Sydney Hoehn
15) Maya Cuellar	22) Sue Kloepfel	
16) Charles Hoersten	22) John Theis Sr.	

Please join us in 2021, as we read through the entire **New Testament in Chronological Order**. Not Matthew to Revelation, but James to Revelation. You may be surprised to know that many of the New Testament Letters were composed before the Gospels were written.

**July 1** Acts 9:36-43

**July 2** Acts 10:1-33

**July 3** Acts 10:34-43

**July 4** Acts 10:44-48

**July 5** Acts 11:1-18

**July 6** Acts 11:19-30

**July 7** Acts 12:1-5

**July 8** Acts 12:6-19

**July 9** Acts 12:20-25

**July 10** Acts 13:1-3

**July 11** Acts 13:4-12

**July 12** Acts 13:13-41

**July 13** Acts 13:42-52

**July 14** Acts 14:1-7

**July 15** Acts 14:8-20

**July 16** Acts 14:21-28

**July 17** Acts 15:1-21

**July 18** Acts 15:22-35

**July 19** Acts 15:36-41

**July 20** Acts 16:1-5

**July 21** Acts 16:6-10

**July 22** Acts 16:11-15

**July 23** Acts 16:16-40

**July 24** Acts 17:1-9

**July 25** Acts 17:10-15

**July 26** Acts 17:16-34

**July 27** Acts 18:1-17

**July 28** Acts 18:18-23

**July 29** Acts 18:24-28

**July 30** Acts 19:1-10

**July 31** Acts 19:11-20

# Servants of the Lord

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, July 4	9:00 AM	Lois Ewing / Karen Hartman	Sue Apple / Judy Staples

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Wednesday, July 7	7:00 PM	Lois Ewing / Karen Hartman	Sue Apple / Judy Staples

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, July 11	9:00 AM	Lois Ewing / Karen Hartman	Sue Apple / Judy Staples

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Wednesday, July 14	7:00 PM	Sue Kloepffel / Larry Miller	Sue Apple / Judy Staples

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, July 18	9:00 AM	Sue Kloepffel / Larry Miller	Sue Apple / Judy Staples

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Wednesday, July 21	7:00 PM	Sue Kloepffel/ Larry Miller	Sue Apple / Judy Staples

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, July 25	9:00 AM	Sue Kloepffel / Larry Miller	Sue Apple / Judy Staples

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Wednesday, July 28	7:00 PM	Shelby Koenig/Alan Trentman	Sue Apple / Judy Staples

# Children's Page

Children, please draw and color a picture below of something you love to do with your father.

