

St. Peter Lutheran Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

November Newsletter Deadline: Wednesday, October 20th

The Messenger



Columbus Day is Monday, October 11th

The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – October 2021

A little bit of t A Little Bit of This and That for October...

Over the last several weeks, I have been preaching extensively on how we communicate with God. On September 12th, I focused on how our image of God impacts our communication with God. If we have poor parent images that can impact how we view God. As a result, some people fear God and do not have a positive image of God. But God is not a God of hate or one who seeks to cause us harm. God is a loving God who wants to be in relationship with us. We see God dimly now as we cannot even grasp the fullness of who God is.

When the Israelites were freed from captivity, God went before them to guide them. God appeared as a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. God revealed himself to Moses on Mt. Sinai and Moses' face shone so brightly afterward that he covered it with a veil. God moved mightily and showed that he is a God of emotions. God experiences all of the emotions that we experience, because after all we are all created in God's image- both male and female.

In the New Testament, God the Father sends his son who in a great act of love and servanthood empties himself to come to us as a baby, to grow into manhood, to experience temptation and the struggles of life, to be baptized and to have the infilling of the Holy Spirit, to minister not just to God's chosen people, but to show mercy and justice to all with whom he encountered. Jesus modeled for us what it means to love God so much that we are willing to lay down our lives for others. God is a God who loves so much that even the hairs on our head are counted. We are loved and as God loves us, God also longs for us to be in relationship with him.

We need not fear to open our hearts and minds to God through Jesus and the Holy Spirit. As we learn to place our trust in a loving God, may we learn to pray with humility as well as boldness. May we be in conversation with God throughout the day as we move about with all of the tasks we must do. God who hovered nearby as the Israelites journeyed in the wilderness is close by with us. Jesus told us that he would send the Holy Spirit to be our comforter and to help us on our journeys. May we all take time to practice opening our hearts to God and to have God speak life into us on a daily basis. May we become a people of prayer and action who seek to love others and share the amazing love of God.

Sunday School Starts October 10th

We are excited to welcome adults and children to our programming. The upstairs has been painted and new carpet has been laid. If you have never attended Sunday school as an adult, I invite you to come and gather with other adults to go deeper in your understanding about God and how that impacts your life. Dave Stemen will teach this class and at this point any one in high school or older is welcome to attend.

Children, we need you to come and get excited about learning about God. God loves you so much and when we can grow in our faith, it helps us in all of life. Come. Catch the spirit and be a part of the St. Peter Lutheran Church Sunday school!

I would also love to know if our high schoolers would be able to attend if we create a format to allow you to discuss topics of concern to you in relation to living lives of faith. I also would love to have some adult volunteers offer to share their stories about how God has impacted their journey. I know that for me, high school was a pretty confusing time and I wish that I had had more opportunities to be grounded in my faith before going to college. **Those in 8th grade through 12th grade are invited to attend a gathering in the parish hall to play cards, have fellowship and eat pizza on October 24th, starting right after church until 1:00ish.**

Please note this change. I had also stated that our new Catechism classes for those in 7th and 8th grade would start in October, but we have decided to wait until the first Sunday in November. Those finishing up Catechism will meet on October 17th from 11:15-12:45. They will then meet at a designated time based on their schedules on Saturday the 30th to practice for their confirmation service which will be on October 31, 2021.

New Catechism Class Requirements:

1. Attend Sunday School and church on a weekly basis during the school year.
2. Serve as an acolyte on the Sundays for which you are assigned.
3. Attend all catechism classes and do the homework as assigned.
4. Attend Catechism Retreat the weekend of April 10-13.
5. Possibly attend Catechism Camp in the summer.
6. Demonstrate a developing knowledge of the important concepts of The Small Catechism and begin to develop a deeper relationship with God.

There will be a parent meeting at 2:00pm, on October 24th.

A Prayer for Welcoming Conversation with God.

1. Start with praise and recognizing who God is.

Example: God, I praise you on this new day for your glorious work in creation. You number the stars and bring the sun and the rain. All good things come from you. I praise you.

2. Then quiet your heart and ask God if God wants to impart anything to you and wait in silence or with a pen in hand.

Example: God, is there anything you want to say to me today?

Write it down if it is impactful. I have often found that if I do this by journaling my pen changes and the Holy Spirit is at work to bring a message of encouragement or discernment. Sometimes, I may just sense a deep sense of love for me by God. Sometimes, I am reminded of a song or scripture.

3. Then respond in thanks to God.

Example: Thank you God for your words to me and that I may call on you and you are near. Thank you for loving me.

This prayer conversation does not need to be long. It may only be a few minutes. Start small and try it for about 3-5 minutes. You might be surprised by how your heart learns to open more to God's presence and how you feel God inclining his ear toward you.

Blessings to All of You!

Vicar Carol Pretorius

Breeze- Financial Platform for tracking your giving.

We purchased this program for our financial secretary (Denise Kloepfel) as our old program was outdated and could not be printed easily. Breeze is an easy-to-use program that lets each of us access our own accounts to track and manage our giving. This program also allows us to have an online calendar of events for the church. We can set up groups to receive emails and it does so much more. There is an online giving component, but along with this come some fees. You can still designate your giving if you choose to give using the online platform. One of the wonderful designs of Breeze is that it allows us to track our own personal giving to the church. You should have received an email invitation a long time ago that invites you to manage your profile. Once you have logged into your account, you can check your Breeze account at any time.

<https://splcdelphos.breezechms.com/>

A Letter from the Sunday School Teachers to Parents

Dear Parents,

We are so glad to have your child(ren) join us for Sunday School! As they experience scripture and do activities, we want to help them build a relationship with Jesus in a real and relevant way. Thank you for your support and allowing us time with your children.

We do keep attendance and praise every child with an award at the end of the year. There are times when a family cannot be at church or is out of town. If you attend another church for a weekend, bring in the bulletin and that will count toward your child's attendance. If you know that your child will not be attending, if possible, please try to notify the teacher ahead of time. If your child is not feeling well and has a fever, please do not send them to Sunday School. We want to work together to keep everyone healthy.

As we have done in the past, we will be collecting a Sunday School offering each week. The proceeds will be used to raise money to help people in struggling nations through the ELCA Good Gifts program. We will ask the congregation members to join us in raising money for this, but it is important for children to feel that they are contributing to this very important program.

If you have any questions or would like to help with our Sunday School program, please reach out to Carrie Calvelage (419-233-4561) or Vicar Carol (419-512-4490).

Respectfully,

The Sunday School Team

Carrie Calvelage, Ron Kloepfel, Patti Calvert, Jennifer Trentman,

Lauren Trentman, and Sam Rode

Pork Loin Dinner:

By the time this newsletter gets to you, we should be in full swing to prepare for the Pork Loin Dinner fundraiser on October 3rd. Helping on this day provides for a fun time of fellowship and is so worth your time. Thank you to everyone who sold tickets, cooked and or served the meals.

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
The Meadows of Delphos
800 Ambrose Drive
Delphos, OH 45833

Sharon Reel
Vancrest of Van Wert
10357 Van Wert- Decatur Road
Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Keep our Military Friends and Family in your Prayers:

Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
Collin Swick	Navy	Overseas

General Announcements

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

- Dave & Connie Stemen
- Ron & Sue Kloepfel and family
- Mark & Linda Downey
- Norma Koenig in memory of Ted Koenig

Altar Guild meeting is Tuesday, October 5th at 6:00 PM.

WELCA meeting is Monday, October 11th at 7:00 PM.

Council meeting is Sunday, October 17th at 8:00 AM.

October Birthdays

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 2) Shirley Ditto | 11) Beverly Derrow | 20) Robb Rinehart |
| 7) Paige Kloepfel | 11) James Feathers | 21) Jesse Stemen |
| 8) Joe Loetz | 13) Rick Dienstberger | 22) Hunter Lane |
| 8) Randall Klentz | 17) Noella Brinkman | 24) Michelle Kimmit |
| 9) Jerry Sampson | 17) Megan Weitzel | 30) Andrew Fitch |
| 10) Paul Wreede | 17) Andrew Swick | 30) Ron Kloepfel |
| 10) Jaxon Prine | 17) Derek Nomina | |

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.

October 1 Hebrews 10
October 2 Hebrews 11
October 3 Hebrews 12
October 4 Hebrews 13
October 5 Jude
October 6 John 1:1-34
October 7 John 1:35-51
October 8 John 2:1-12
October 9 John 2:13-25
October 10 John 3:1-21
October 11 John 3:22-36

October 12 John 4:1-42
October 13 John 4:43-54
October 14 John 5:1-18
October 15 John 5:19-29
October 16 John 5:30-47
October 17 John 6:1-15
October 18 John 6:16-21
October 19 John 6:22-59
October 20 John 6:60-71
October 21 John 7:1-24
October 22 John 7: 25-53

October 23 John 8
October 24 John 9
October 25 John 10:1-21
October 26 John 10:22-42
October 27 John 11
October 28 John 12:1-11
October 29 John 12:12-19
October 30 John 12:20-36a
October 31 John 12:36b-50

Children's Page

Put all of the names of your family members inside the pumpkin. Then color the pumpkin and cut it out. Put it on your refrigerator as a reminder to pray for your family.

Servants of the Lord

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, October 3	9:00 AM	Larry Miller / Karen Hartman	Sue Kloepfel / Linda Mayer

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, October 10	10:00 AM	Larry Miller / Karen Hartman	Sue Kloepfel / Linda Mayer

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, October 17	10:00 AM	Sue Kloepfel / Ryan Trentman	Sue Kloepfel / Linda Mayer

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, October 24	10:00 AM	Sue Kloepfel / Ryan Trentman	Sue Kloepfel / Linda Mayer

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, October 31	10:00 AM	Yvonne Koenig / Rick Dienstberger	Sue Kloepfel / Linda Mayer