

St. Peter Lutheran Church

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DELPHOS, OHIO 45833

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

October Newsletter Deadline: Monday, September 20th



LABOR DAY Labor Day – Monday, September 6th



Grandparents Day -Sunday, September 12th

The Messenger



Autumn begins on Wednesday, September 22nd

The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – September 2021

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

As I write this, I am thinking about the new school year and all of the excitement that it brings. I used to love to go into my classroom early to plan and set up for the coming year. It was always a joy to see my students and to begin the journey of working together.

Now as I sit at my desk, I am thinking about the important cycles of the year. Fall is often a time to plan for the new cycle of the school year. It is often a time to restart patterns going to sporting events, of gathering for Fall festivities. Canal Days will be here before we know it and soon it will be time to plan and prepare for the Pork Loin Dinner Fundraiser. Planning is being done to prepare the Sunday School rooms and soon there will be children from Franklin Elementary School gathering here to learn about important character education concepts by studying about Jesus and the people in our Bible. In October, we will be confirming four students and starting a new round of catechism for our seventh graders. Planning is going on and new Sunday school classes will be offered to better fit the ages of our students. There is something that I always love about hearing the marching band practice to get ready for the football season. There is a familiarity and comfort in returning to our routines.

Fall is also a time of returning to regular patterns of worship. The call of the summer months to vacation and camp come to an end and there is an excitement of being able to return to worship more fully together. At this time our decision is that this September, we will be going back into the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Service will be at 10:00 am, beginning on Sunday, September 12th. People will still be able to listen to the service in the parking lot through their radio. Bulletins and communion will be brought out to you. Also, since so many have enjoyed the Wednesday evening service out back, we will continue that through September.

One of my concerns in this pandemic has been how to move forward to allow for safety as well as some normalcy. Planning for the year has been difficult because we do not know what this pandemic will do in our area. I have also been more convinced lately that forcing people to wear masks creates a division that is not healthy for worship. Therefore, the council and I have made a decision that we will not mandate the wearing of masks when we go back inside. You may choose based on your comfort level. We will also be putting the hymnals back in the pews, but will still limit our singing at this time to the Hymn of the Day and a short communion liturgy hymn. One Sunday a month, we will sing the “I Believe, I Do Believe” as our affirmation of faith.

At this time, we are planning to have Sunday School begin on October 10th. Catechism for our new group of students will be in person on the first and third Sundays of the month beginning October 17. The class will be taught by Jacquie Fritz and myself and start at 11:15 and run until 12:45pm.

On another note, I want to encourage all of us to rely on our faith during these times. God has said that he will never leave us or desert us. We are not always promised an easy path, but God is with us to help guide us. I love the imagery of Jesus as our shepherd in Psalm 23. You see, this Psalm is really about our relationship with Jesus. **It is Jesus who makes us lie down in green pastures** (*good times of refreshing*) **and leads us beside still waters** (*times to get quiet and breathe in God and the Holy Spirit to be revived in our relationship*). **He leads us in right paths** (*when we listen and follow*). **When hard times come and we feel like we are walking through the darkest valley we do not need to be afraid because Jesus' rod and staff bring comfort** (*It is Jesus who fights for us and protects us*). **Jesus then prepares a table before us in the presence of our enemies** (*Often, in our hard times, we are forced to rely on and feast on help of God.*) **Finally, our head is anointed with oil and our cups overflow** (*I think this is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to give us even more than what we need to get through the event*). **We are then able to place our trust in God's goodness and mercy for us and know that we can dwell in the house of the Lord our whole life long** (*now and in eternity*).

This is my prayer for you, that this psalm becomes more than something that we read at funerals but that we experience it in all aspects of our lives. May we take time to experience the peace of Jesus when we have time to dwell in green pastures and beside quiet waters. May these times bring the quiet certainty of Jesus' love for us. Then when the road gets rocky and hard may we place our trust in Jesus and the Holy Spirit to equip us on the journey. May we dwell in the presence of God as we go about all of life and see that Jesus as our shepherd is with us.

Love,

Vicar Carol

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 August by:

- The Himmeger Family in memory of Earl Himmeger
- Mark and Linda Downey
- Norma Koenig in memory of Ted Koenig

St. Peter Lutheran Church new member classes will be held on Tuesday, September 7th from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM and Tuesday, September 14th from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM. A welcoming of new members to the church will be held during the Sunday service on September 19th. If you are interested in becoming a St. Peter Lutheran Church member, please contact Vicar Carol.

Altar Guild meeting is Tuesday, September 7th at 6:00 PM.

WELCA meeting is Monday, September 13th at 7:00 PM.

Council meeting is Wednesday, September 15th at 7:45 PM.

Sunday worship will be at 10:00 AM starting on Sunday, September 12th.

A special thanks to Dan Kramer for overseeing the updating of our Sunday School rooms. They have been freshly painted and new carpeting has been laid. Thank you to all the men who have used their skills to fix the ceilings, to paint, and to lay the new carpet.

Lifewise Academy will be starting with children in the building on September 14th. We are excited about this ecumenical ministry opportunity to bring the gospel of Christ to the children in grades 1-4. Please continue to pray for this program that children and families are drawn to love the Lord with all their heart, soul, and mind, and to worship in our community along with us and the other churches participating. May our church be a safe place for children to learn and grow in their faith. As of last week, 60% of the students in grades 1-4 have registered for Lifewise Academy.

Kids Breakfast ... An outreach seed was planted just about 13 years ago by Pastor Katherine Olson to start a Kids Breakfast Program. She left before her dream here was realized. However, the InReach/Outreach Team decided to pursue the idea. Friday, August 20, 2021, marked the end of 12 years of this great program.

It began as a sit-down breakfast and it started with very low attendance. Some days there were up to five children and other days...zero! A program from Sidney that had given me some guidance said to never give up. The first child to attend the breakfast actually graduated from college this year. We had asked her, at the time, to bring her friends when she was attending by herself. Over the years the numbers grew with a high attendance in the 80's. And remember, all these made-to-order breakfasts of pancakes, scrambled eggs, french toast, etc. were all served in one hour! We had a system that got better and better over the years.

After about 6 years, we received a donation with a note attached asking if we had ever considered adding a take-home lunch. We actually had begun talking about this, and took this note and donation as a sign to add it to our program. Peanut butter, peanut butter and jelly, or pancakes were the child's choice along with pudding/jello/applesauce, chips, etc. Our system continued to get better!

Then 1-1/2 years ago Covid hit. We adapted. We sent home a "Grab 'N Go Breakfast and Lunch" with all items purchased as pre-packed items. We made no food and didn't individually handle any items....all pre-packed. These costs were a bit more expensive. However, the community of Delphos came through with generous donations. The numbers of kids weren't very high last year and lower this year. Times have changed and kids have changed.

I would like to thank everyone that has helped in any way at all over the years. Donations and volunteering of your time all add up. I also would like to thank individually the people that volunteered their time this year: Sheri Swick, Judy Mack, Sue Apple, Dan Staples, Sue Wilkins, Shirley Wiltsie, Vicar Carol Pretorius, Tina Link, Lauren Trentman and high school volunteers....Noelle Prine, Maddie Weitzel and Haylee Bayman.

On my last day of working, while saying goodbye to our regulars, one little boy said to me "you mean to tell me that you are retiring?" That brought a smile to my face. I will miss these kiddos immensely, but it is time to say goodbye. Thank you St. Peter Lutheran Church for allowing me to coordinate and run this program as I saw fit. I actually do have tears in my eyes as I am typing this for the newsletter!

Thank you!
Susan McGue

September Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Alan Trentman | 20) Rob Wortman |
| 4) Christine Brinkman | 21) Kimberly Cross |
| 6) Jack Gorman Sr. | 21) Debra Simon |
| 6) Sharon Reel | 23) Nicole Dienstberger |
| 7) Fred Hasting | 23) Kayla Kruse |
| 7) Lindsey Lane | 27) Susan McGue |
| 7) Dan Staples | 28) Laurie Warnecke |
| 12) Robert Wortman | 28) Caleb Trentman |
| 16) Edward Fritz | 30) Linda Downey |
| 16) Allyson Hasting | |
| 17) Jamie Schleeter | |
| 16) Allyson Hasting | |

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.

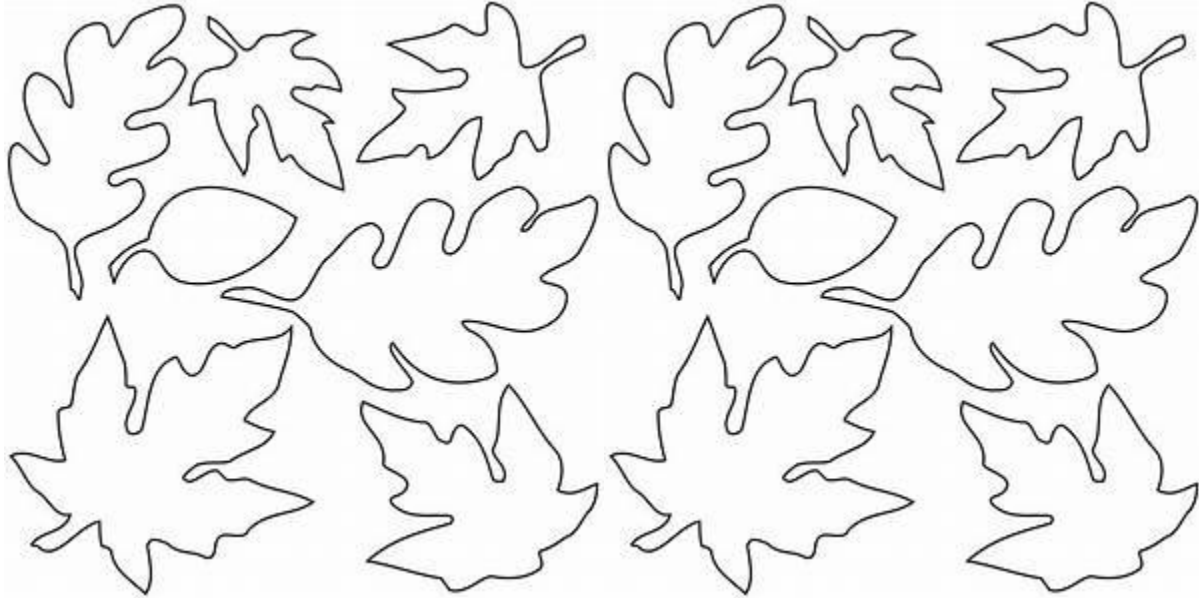
September 1 First Timothy 1
September 2 First Timothy 2
September 3 First Timothy 3
September 4 First Timothy 4
September 5 First Timothy 5
September 6 First Timothy 6
September 7 Titus 1
September 8 Titus 2
September 9 Titus 3
September 10 First Peter 1
September 11 First Peter 2
September 12 First Peter 3

September 13 First Peter 4
September 14 First Peter 5
September 15 Second Peter 1
September 16 Second Peter 2
September 17 Second Peter 3
September 18 Second Timothy 1
September 19 Second Timothy 2
September 20 Second Timothy 3
September 21 Second Timothy 4
September 22 Hebrews 1
September 23 Hebrews 2
September 24 Hebrews 3

September 25 Hebrews 4
September 26 Hebrews 5
September 27 Hebrews 6
September 28 Hebrews 7
September 29 Hebrews 8
September 30 Hebrews 9

Children's Page

Color and write the names of your family members in the leaves as you pray for them.



Loves

Servants of the Lord

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, September 5	9:00 AM	Rick Dienstsberger / Deb Trentman	Angie Miller / Sarah Miller

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Wednesday, September 8	7:00 PM		

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, September 12	10:00 AM	Yvonne Koenig / Ryan Trentman	Angie Miller / Sarah Miller

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Wednesday, September 14	7:00 PM		

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, September 19	10:00 AM	Yvonne Koenig / Ryan Trentman	Angie Miller / Sarah Miller

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Wednesday, September 22	7:00 PM		

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Sunday, September 26	10:00 AM	Ryan Trentman / Lois Ewing	Angie Miller / Sarah Miller

Service	Time	Money Counters	Altar Guild
Wednesday, September 29	7:00 PM		