

The

Messenger

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

From the Pastor

February 2019

“Built on the Rock, the Church shall stand Even when steeples are falling. Crumbled have spires in every land; Bells still are chiming and calling, Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the souls distressed, Longing for rest everlasting.” *Built on the Rock, LSB 645, verse 1*

This beloved hymn is based on Matthew 16:15-19,

¹⁵ (Jesus) said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Here, Jesus encourages His church: no matter how bad things get, no matter how fervently Satan attacks the church, no matter what persecutions come – hell shall not triumph over the church, the people of God and the work of God’s hand.

Christ’s church will exist until our Lord returns; her doors will never close. Yet this is different than what we are used to experiencing in the United States (and, we could include, Europe): in 2018, roughly 31 LC-MS congregations closed or merged with other congregations. Many more congregations are dwindling as population in traditionally Lutheran areas wane - and congregations outside the LC-MS are experiencing similar things. This fulfills what our Lord prophesied concerning the last days, “*Many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold*” (Matthew 24:10-12). The Holy Spirit also speaks, “*For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths*” (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

The Word of the Lord will endure forever. His beloved Church will continue onward, yet we have no specific promise that our specific congregation will continue to operate in the world, or will continue to proclaim the Gospel to our beloved community, friends, and neighbors. For example: when we look at the seven churches in the book of Revelation (chapter 2), not one of them remains to this day.

If you, your spouse, your children or their children are not actively attending or (dare I say) financially supporting your local congregation (according to your means) out of joyful response to the Gospel, or if you are tempted to withhold those offerings of joyful response because things don’t go the way you desire within the congregation, don’t be surprised if that particular congregation closes within a generation or two. Lord, have mercy upon us!

It is my immense joy to serve you here at St. Peter, proclaiming the gospel to you and the people of Huntington, and I pray that this congregation remains until the Day of Judgment. However, the number of

closed congregations (across denominational lines) indicates that something is going on in our area and nation, and it's not good.

To those who do not actively attend their congregation where you personally claim membership, including those at St. Peter: Come home! It brings us great joy to see you on Sunday morning (or Saturday evening). Be active in the life of your congregation. You are missed. You are welcomed back; be fed Christ's Gospel regularly once again.

Pastor Lorenz

News and Notes of St. Peter



Congregational Christian Care

Please pray for, phone, visit, and or send a card or note to the following:

Wayne Ashbaugh Jr. (healing) son of Wayne & Nancy Ashbaugh; Jimmy Barnhart (cancer), relative of Laurie Trlak; Niki Boswell (stroke), niece of Diana Mason; Peggy Broderick (cancer treatments) friend of Larry Baade; Bertie Brooks (cancer), aunt of Leah Hiers; Gary Brown; Amy Brunner (healing) friend of Sandy Gast; Frank & Nancy Cozzen, brother-in-law & sister of Dewayne Anderson; Mitchell Dennis (cancer), friend of Sue Holtz; Marcea Dimond; Don Fox (health concerns), brother of Barba Eickhoff; Kim Gamble (healing) daughter of Wayne and Nancy Ashbaugh; Ronald Gamble, nephew of Ruth Guy; Jerome Herber, father of Richard Herber; Margaret Howard, friend of Max Heffelfinger; Hazel Jackson, (back problems) sister of Ruth Guy; Vicki Oden Kimmel, (healing) friend of Karen Smith; Richard Mann; Hilda Mitten friend of Betty Pike; Adam Neumann, friend of Laurie Trlak; Betty Riggers (healing); Steven Spear (stroke), nephew of Donna Smith; Susie Sprowl (cancer), friend of Jeff Derr; Geneva Stetzel (stroke), aunt of Leah Hiers; Brent Trlak (health problems), brother-in-law of Laurie Trlak; Brandon Trlak (cancer); Christy Trlak (treatment); Steven Welker (stroke), son-in-law of Donna Dennis; April (Kirkpatrick) Wing (cancer) Cousin of Marjorie Richardson; Dan Winkelman (cancer) brother of Dick Winkelman, Judy Turgeson

& Sue Kellam; Chris Worsham (healing) brother of Chad Worsham

Englewood Health & Rehabilitation – Mildred Craig

Heritage of Huntington – Dick Christ; Maxine Stetzel; Robert Gernand

Heritage, Warren – Edward Campbell, Jr.

Lutheran Life Village – Rev. Donald Fischer; Ruth Guhl

Miller's Merry Manor – Neil & Sandy Stonebraker;

Markle Health & Rehabilitation – Jean Simmons

Tipton Place - Charles Weicht

Home – Wayne & Nancy Ashbaugh; Jason Cozad; David Dimond; Janice Hencken; Bradley Heideman; Roland & Vel Hoch; Shirley Powell; Laurie Trlak; Pete Weicht; Kathryn Whitesell

If you discover that the information has changed, please call the Church office so we can update this list.

Tape Ministry

If you are unable to attend the worship services for any reason, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a copy of the sermon or tape of the service which includes a bulletin. Please call Pam and Jack Wertemberger at 356-8139 or Pam's cell phone: 260-388-2507 to arrange for delivery. If you have received and listened to previous tapes, please place in a bag on your door to be picked up when a new tape is delivered. Thanks for your help.

Jack & Pam Wertemberger

Facebook

Are you on Facebook? Consider joining our group, "St. Peter Lutheran Church, Huntington, Indiana". News, events, cancellations and other tidbits are listed as we are made aware of them.

Soup and Dessert Cook-off

The third annual soup and dessert cook-off will be held on Sunday, February 10th after church at noon. So dust off those recipes and decide which is your favorite soup or dessert. Remember you are not too old or too young to enter. Winner of the soup from year one was a youth group member and winner of the dessert last year was from the youth group. Please register no later than February 3 if you plan to bring either a soup or dessert so we have enough tasting cups and plates for each. Please come even if you do not enter a soup or dessert to be a judge, we need you to judge. Cost to taste and eat is a donation to cover the crackers, drinks and tasting cups and plates.

Sunday School & Bible Class

Sunday School for the children has returned to the normal hour of 9AM in the education building.

Adult Bible Class: (Saturdays, 4 pm): We continue to work through the *Noah* video Bible study which answers a number of popular questions about Noah's ark and the flood in general. (Sundays, 9 am): *How Does It All Fit Together?* Each week we will read through the introit, prayers, psalms, readings, and hymn of the day. Then we investigate how the information ties together. If you have ever gone home confused about what goes on in the church service, consider joining us for this study!



A Little Heavenly Humor

Kids On Love and Marriage



HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY?

"You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming." Alan, age 10

"No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with." Kirsten, age 10

WHEN IS IT OK TO KISS SOMEONE?

"When they're rich." Pam, age 7

"The law says you have to be eighteen, so I wouldn't want to mess with that." Curt, age 7

"The rule goes like this: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do." Howard, age 8



Mission Envelopes

Please prayerfully consider using your mission envelopes each month. Mission envelopes are in your pledge envelope box at the beginning of each month.

Organizations

Ladies' Guild: Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 5th at 7:00 pm in the lower level of the education building.

St. Peter Association of Retired Keenagers (SPARKS) – The lucky winner of the drawing at the January meeting was Jack Slusser. The February meeting will be held at noon on Wednesday, February 13th in the reception room of the education building. Bring your favorite carry out food (from your favorite restaurant) to eat or brown bag from home. Desserts and drinks will be furnished.

Dorcas Circle: Will meet February 20th, in the reception room of the church education building, with Shirley Baker and Sandy Slusser as hostess. Please RSVP to Sandy at 356-4755 or Shirley at 356-7743.

Quilters: Quilting continue to take cotton material for making of quilts, as well as new full size sheets to be used at backing of the quilts.

LYF: Game Day in December was a success! We had fun guessing what was in the stocking, trying to open a present with oven mitts, food, board games and of course some open gym time. Watch for another opportunity to join us in the spring.

Higher Things – we have 4 youth and 2 adults going to the conference at Concordia River Forest in July. Watch the thermometer in the education building rise as we raise money to cover the cost of attending. \$400 sends one person to the conference with meals, lodging and all materials included. If you are interested in donating, please contact Linda Crider, Pastor Lorenz or the church office.

Reminder – Easter Breakfast is coming up April 21. Be thinking how you would like to help.



February Anniversaries

Date		# Years
2/21	Dewayne & Sharon Anderson	50
2/26	Terrance & Rebecca Cozad	55



80 Plus Birthdays this month! February

2/19	Bernita Schmalzried	94
2/19	Judith Turgeson	80
2/28	Gloria Jackson	87



Greeters

February	Saturday	Tom and Deb Guhl
	Sunday	Roger and Becky Hitzfield
March	Saturday	Ted and Janet McElhaney
	Sunday	Jim and Peggy Hoch
April	Saturday	Allen Couch
	Sunday	Sue Holtz and Gabe

SERVING THIS MONTH

FEBRUARY 2019

ELDER

SATURDAY: GEORGE JUERGENS

SUNDAY:

GREETERS

SATURDAY: Tom & Deb Guhl

SUNDAY: Roger & Becky Hitzfield

ALTAR CARE: Jill Dorsett and Linda Crider

COUNTERS:

FEBRUARY			
SAT, FEBRUARY 2	5:00 PM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Chad Worsham
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Adrian Brown
		ACOLYTE	Jacob Worsham
SUN, FEBRUARY 3	10:15 AM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Randy Prange
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Ethan Stoppenhagen
		ACOLYTE	Andrew Crider
SAT, FEBRUARY 9	5:00 PM	ACOLYTE	Samantha Weicht
SUN, FEBRUARY 10	10:15 AM	ACOLYTE	Ian Crider
SAT, FEBRUARY 16	5:00 PM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Ted McElhaney
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Fred Lange
		ACOLYTE	Macy Lange
SAT. FEBRUARY 17	10:15 AM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Richard Winkelman
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Chris Durham
		ACOLYTE	Drew Dorsett
SAT, FEBRUARY 23	5:00 PM	ACOLYTE	Jase Gunn
SUN, FEBRUARY 24	10:15 AM	ACOLYTE	Miranda Spitler

If you are scheduled at a time that does not work for you, please contact an acolyte or communion assistant listed to take your place and let the office know so changes to the bulletin can be made. Thank you for your commitment to serve at St. Peter Church.

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5:30 PEP Family Night	2 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service w/Communion
3 9:00 Adult Bible Class Only 10:15 Divine Service w/Communion	4 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 6:30 Elders	5 11:00-12:00 Diaper Store 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 5:00-6:00 Diaper Store 7:00 General Guild	6 9:00 Quilters 12:00 SPARKS 7:00 Choir	7 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Jr. Confirmation	8	9 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service
10 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service	11 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 7:00 Council	12 11:00-12:00 Diaper Store 5:00-6:00 Diaper Store 1:00 Chapel @ Millers	13 9:00 Quilters 12:00 Dorcas Circle 7:00 Choir	14 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 1:30 @ Heritage Communion Service 6:30 Jr. Confirmation	15	16 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service w/Communion
17 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service w/Communion	18 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 7:00 Voters	19 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 7:00 Stewardship	20 9:00 Quilters 2:00 Messenger Deadline 7:00 Choir	21 10:00 PEP 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Jr. Confirmation	22	23 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service
24 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service	25 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 6:45 Evangelism Committee	26 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 7:00 BPLE	27 9:00 Quilters 7:00 Choir	28 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Jr. Confirmation		

NOTES

Church Cancellation Policy

Please watch channel 15 (WPTA) for any weather related church cancellations. Also listed in the St. Peter Facebook group.

REMINDER: Friday is pastor's family day, please contact him in emergency only.