

The

# Messenger

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

## From the Pastor

### March 2020

We have begun to have a healthy discussion about Stewardship, and as the church enters Lent (a season with an emphasis on repentance) we recognize that we have great need to repent in regards to our stewardship of God's good gifts. To word it another way, we have great need to repent of unhealthy attitudes towards the gifts God has given us. During Lent, we will consider a few specific, unhealthy stewardship habits which require our repentance.

Saint Paul puts it bluntly to Timothy, his "trainee", "*Godliness with contentment is great gain... for the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. But as for you, O man of God, flee these things*" (1 Timothy 6:6, 10-11).

**Thus, unhealthy stewardship habit #1 is coveting wealth and possessions.** This can show itself in jealousy towards what other people have (but which we ourselves have not received), or with a fixation towards doing whatever is necessary in order to receive wealth and possessions (e.g. working so much to honestly earn what we need for "that thing", but forsaking reception of the Lord's holy gifts and our "thanks"-giving to the Lord in the process). Loving money (or the blessings of God) more than God is a sin and something from which we must flee. This is not to say, "Money is evil, so give your money to the church." By no means! Money is a good gift from God. However, it should never become our god around which all our thoughts and lives focus.

Has money or possessions become your god? An easy test is to read the book of Haggai. Haggai was a prophet in Jerusalem during its reconstruction, but the Lord wasn't happy with the Israelites and spoke through Haggai: "*Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?*" Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: "*Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.*" This is what the Lord Almighty says: "*Give careful thought to your ways. Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,*" says the Lord. "*You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?*" declares the Lord Almighty. "*Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house*" (Haggai 1:6-9).

Does the work of the Lord suffer because we are focused on improving our own homes and families? Does our attendance to receiving the Lord's gifts to us falter because we are so concentrated on obtaining our own desires (even through the means of honest, hard-work). If so, Haggai calls us to repent and reconsider our gifts of thanks-giving to the Lord. The Lord (and giving thanks to the Lord) is to come first.

But Jesus gives us a promise, as well: "*Do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'* For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows

*that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you (Matthew 6:31-33). If we can trust the Lord in so great a thing as our salvation, we can most certainly trust him in “so little a thing” of our daily needs. Let us bring our treasure to the Lord – our wealth and our families – and trust that He will care for our homes and our congregation*

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 members that may be recovering or home bound.

**Englewood Health & Rehabilitation** – Mildred Craig

**Heritage of Huntington** – Betty Pike; Maxine Stetzel

**Heritage, Warren** – Edward Campbell, Jr.

**Lutheran Life Village** – Rev. Donald Fischer; Ruth Guhl

**Miller’s Merry Manor** – Ruth Guy; Neil & Sandy Stonebraker; Robert Whitesell

**Markle Health & Rehabilitation** – Jean Simmons

**Tipton Place** – Rolland Hoch

**Home** – Jason Cozad; Mark Cozad; Jack Guy; Bradley Heideman; Ruth Moon; Laurie Trlak

**Prayer List:** Rev. Dave Stout (cancer) pastor at Emanuel, Tipton Lutheran; Luke Hall; David Ford (son of Andy & Rachel Ford); Dorothy Glassburn; Christopher Carmien (health); Tahlor Krienbrink (cousin of Dani Jones, car accident); Becky Eminger (Aunt of Kristin Lorenz); Ruth Guy; Rose Wilcox; Heather Woody, healing (daughter of Laurie Trlak); Iona Hershey (friend of Norman

Kochensparger); Nancy Ashbaugh; Vicki Oden Kimmel; Kay Whitesell; Robert Whitesell; Mark Cozad; Heather Holzinger; Connie Young; Ruth Moon

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 Wertenberger 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 Wertenberger

Happy  
Anniversary

3/28 Jay & Virginia Beekman 55years



## *A Little Heavenly Humor*

Muldoon lived alone in the Irish countryside with only a pet dog for company. One day the dog died, and Muldoon went to the parish priest and asked, "Father, me dog is dead. Could ya' be saying' a mass for the poor creature?"

Father Patrick replied, "I'm afraid not; we cannot have services for an animal in the church. But there are some Baptists down the lane, and there's no tellin' what they believe. Maybe they'll do something for the creature."

Muldoon said, "I'll go right away Father. Do ya' think \$5,000 is enough to donate to them for the service?"

Father Patrick exclaimed, "Sweet Mary, Mother of Jesus! Why did ya' not tell me the dog was Catholic?"

## **Bible Class**

**New Bible Class Topic:** *"The Gifts of Christians"*, beginning March 1. God has a lot to say about money. We have a lot to learn about Christian stewardship of money, especially since the gift of money is so integrated into our lives. The first subject we will consider: *"Christians are not commanded to tithe."* Come for the discussion!

## **Organizations**

**Ladies' Guild:** The March meeting will be Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm in the lower level of the education building. Please come as plans for the Shamrock Luncheon will be discussed as well as hosting the 3-Zone Rally in April.

The ladies will once again host the *Shamrock Luncheon* on March 20<sup>th</sup>. If anyone wishing to donate food or a monetary donation to please call Pam Wertenberger at land line 260-356-8139 or my cell 260-388-2507.

### **St. Peter Association of Retired**

**Keenagers (SPARKS)** – The lucky winner of the drawing at the February meeting was Janet Bennett. The March meeting will be held at noon on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at Pizza Hut.

**Dorcas Circle:** Will meet on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> in the reception room of the church education building. Kristin Lorenz will be hostess. Please let Kristin know if you plan to attend. Her phone number is 309-696-5078 or tell her in person at church.

**Quilters:** The quilters are always thankful for donations of cotton fabric, new or slightly used flat sheets.

**Choir:** Do you like to sing? Please join the choir on Wednesday evening's at 7 pm. Gather in the church by the piano. If you have questions, please call Keith Crider at 260-356-8097.

**LYF:** The youth group will be hosting several fundraisers this spring and summer. The first one will be the Lenten dinner on March 4 with the proceeds to the window fund.

Be watching for the youth to start selling trash bags to raise funds for the Higher Things conference in July.



## Greeters

March	Saturday	Ted and Janet McElhaney
	Sunday	Wayne and Nancy Ashbaugh
April	Saturday	Richard and Audra Herber
	Sunday	Janet Bennett
May	Saturday	Allen Couch
	Sunday	Sue Holtz and Gabe

## Family Night

Join us for Family night on March 13th at 5:30 pm. for dinner, bible study, crafts and play in the gym. Childcare is provided.

**SHAMROCK LUNCH**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 20**  
**SERVING 11am – 1 pm**  
**PROCEEDS TO WINDOWS**

## Easter Singing

Do you know children that would love to sing in church on Easter? We are starting our practice for children's choir to sing on Easter morning. We will practice during the Sunday school hour starting Feb. 29th at 9 am. and will practice every Sunday until Easter. All children are welcome to join!

## Growing in the Faith

Below, find a few questions meant to tickle your brain cells and remind you of things that you were taught years ago. Answers may be found in the given Bible passage.

1. Which of King David's sons conspired to usurp the throne from his father? (2 Samuel 15)
2. How did this son die? (2 Samuel 18:9ff)
3. How did David anger the Lord near the end of his life, causing 70,000 men to die? (2 Samuel 24)
4. Who were King Solomon's father and mother? (2 Samuel 12:24)
5. What task did King David desire to carry out, but was done by Solomon after he died? (2 Samuel 7:13-15; 1 Kings 5:3-5)

## Lenten Meals

This Lenten season, St. Peter will be having a meal before the Wednesday service between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week.

The list of hosts is as follows:

March 4 – Stewardship & LYF

March 11 – Quilters

March 18 - ?????

March 25 – Dorcas Circle

April 1 - ?????

NOTE: No meal on Ash Wednesday, February 26 or Holy Week.;



## 80 Plus Birthdays this month! March

3/10	Leoda Sands	96
3/10	Mary Ellen Fuller	80

# SERVING THIS MONTH

## MARCH 2020

### ELDER

**SATURDAY:** GEORGE JUERGENS

**SUNDAY:** RANDY PRANGE

### GREETERS

**SATURDAY:** Ted & Janet McElhaney

**SUNDAY:** Wayne & Nancy Ashbaugh

**ALTAR CARE:** Mary Ellen Fuller

Sunday, March 1	10:15 AM	Communion Assistant	Richard Winkelman
		Communion Assistant	Ethan Stoppenhagen
		Acolyte	Drew Dorsett
Wednesday, March 4	7:00 PM	Acolyte	Jacob Worsham
Saturday, March 7	5:00 PM	Acolyte	Jase Gunn
Sunday, March 8	10:15 AM	Acolyte	Brianna Thomas
Wednesday, March 11	7:00 PM	Acolyte	Abby Lorenz
Saturday, March 14	5:00 PM	Communion Assistant	Chad Worsam
		Communion Assistant	Fred Lange
		Acolyte	Chad Worsam
Sunday, March 15	10:15 AM	Communion Assistant	Larry Baade
		Communion Assistant	Jeff Derr
		Acolyte	Hannah Dorsett
Wednesday, March 18	7:00 PM	Acolyte	Andrew Crider
Saturday, March 21	5:00 PM	Acolyte	Erika Brown
Sunday, March 22	10:15 AM	Acolyte	Ian Crider
Wednesday, March 15	7:00 PM	Acolyte	Drew Dorsett
Saturday, March 28	5:00 PM	Communion Assistant	Ron Brown
		Communion Assistant	Ted McElhaney
		Acolyte	Fred Lange
Sunday, March 29	10:15 AM	Communion Assistant	Jim Hoch
		Communion Assistant	David Woelmer
		Acolyte	Brianna Thomas

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

## March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service w./Communion	<b>2</b> 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 6:30 Elders	<b>3</b> 11:00-12:00 Diaper Store 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 5:00-6:00 Diaper Store 7:00 General Guild	<b>4</b> 9:00 Quilting 5:30 Lenten Meal/ Stewardship & LYF 7:00 Lenten Service 7:45 Choir	<b>5</b> 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 JR Confirmation	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service
<b>8</b> 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service	<b>9</b> 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 7:00 Council	<b>10</b> 1:00 Chapel @ Millers	<b>11</b> 9:00 Quilting 12:00 SPARKS 5:30 Lenten Meal/Quilters 7:00 Lenten Service 7:45 Choir	<b>12</b> 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 1:30 @ Heritage Communion 6:30 JR Confirmation	<b>13</b> 5:30 Family Night	<b>14</b> 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service w/Communion
<b>15</b> 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service w/Communion	<b>16</b> 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton	<b>17</b> 11:00-12:00 Diaper Store 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 5:00-6:00 Diaper Store 7:00 Stewardship	<b>18</b> 9:00 Quilting 12:00 Circle 5:30 Lenten Meal/????? 7:00 Lenten Service 7:45 Choir	<b>19</b> 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 JR Confirmation	<b>20</b> 11:00 Shamrock Luncheon 12:00 Messenger Deadline	<b>21</b> 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service
<b>22</b> 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service	<b>23</b> 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton	<b>24</b> 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 7:00 BPLE	<b>25</b> 9:00 Quilting 5:30 Lenten Meal/Dorcas Circle 7:00 Lenten Service 7:45 Choir	<b>26</b> 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 JR Confirmation	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service w/Communion
<b>29</b> 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service w/Communion	<b>30</b> 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton	<b>31</b> 1:00 Chapel @ Millers				

**NOTES:**