

NEWS AND NOTES for March 15 & 16, 2025

Special Voters' Meeting There will be a special Voters' Meeting on Sunday, March 16 following the 9:30am worship service. This meeting is to discuss and approve the purchase of property next to the school.



Building on the Cornerstone Campaign

\$2.5 Million Matching Goal:

Commitments and Gifts:	\$ 2,740,325
Gifts Received:	\$ 2,711,164

Lenten Devotional Booklets are available in the gathering space table under the bulletin board. ----->

Volunteers needed to help with Sunday Morning Fellowship. Join our Sunday morning Fellowship crew and help spread smiles one cup at a time! No barista experience required, just a willingness to brew, chat and share a smile with others. Deaconess Shirley will show you the ropes. Sign up for a Sunday (or two 😊) in the church office or call to pick a date.



Lenten Supper: 7th & 8th Graders are hosting this week's Lenten Supper, Wednesday, March 19th. Soups and desserts will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 5 pm to 6:15 pm. No cost, freewill offering accepted which will support their Washington D.C. trip.

Call Declined We are happy to report that Mrs. Kelley Fehn has declined the call to Peace, Saginaw, and she will be staying at St. Peter. Thank you Kelley for continuing to serve at St. Peter!

Dear People of St. Peter Lutheran,

After many prayers and bunches of wonderful conversations, the Lord has led me to continue my ministry with St. Peter. I look forward to continuing ministry with one of the best staffs around. I am very excited to see what the Lord has in store for us all in these coming years here at St. Peter.

I thank you for your patience and prayers during this process. The Lord is good and His love endures forever!!

Peace and Joy,

Mrs. Kelley Fehn

Call Accepted We are excited to announce that Mrs. Alexandra Frisco has accepted our call to be our 5th grade teacher starting in the 25-26 school year. Please continue to keep her, her husband and three children in your prayers as they make plans to move this summer from Alaska to Michigan.

Dear St. Peter Lutheran Church,

Since our initial contact in February, God has put an excitement in my heart for your ministry at St Peter Lutheran Church and School in Hemlock. When you extended the call, I knew that it would take much prayer, counsel, and deliberation to determine God's will for me and my family as we were discerning if Hemlock was a place where we could serve and thrive. Thank you for giving our family the time that we have needed to deliberate over this call. It is with much joy that I share with you the decision to accept the call as a teacher at St. Peter Lutheran School.

I have felt the heart of your mission of nurturing and educating God's children in a Christ-centered environment. I believe God has equipped me to do His work at St. Peter and I trust that God will use me to serve His kingdom through this new calling.

As our family prepares to move to Hemlock/Saginaw Area and begin serving there, we ask for many prayers during this process. We have been blessed during our time in Alaska, and we ask that you keep Anchor Lutheran School in your prayers as they will need to fill vacancies in the upcoming school year. While it is not easy to leave a place we love, we know that God is leading and directing us each step of the way.

Logistically, please pray for us as we make moving arrangements, look for housing, travel with three children, and adjust to the many changes that come with moving. We appreciate all of your support and advice as we join your ministry family! We look forward to seeing you in August and having our family join the ministry of St. Peter this upcoming school year.

In Christ,

Alexandra Frisco

Below are the General Fund Income and Expense numbers, as well as others, for the prior months and the current fiscal year to date. We hope that these numbers provide a clear picture of our operating status.

	January 2025	February 2025	2024-25 Fiscal Year-to-Date
General Fund Income	\$ 102,919.72	\$ 210,975.28	\$ 1,099,194.68
General Fund Expenses	\$ 127,868.21	\$ 156,248.22	\$ 928,600.97
Gain or (Deficit)	\$ (24,948.49)	\$ 54,727.06	\$ 170,593.71
Building on the Cornerstone Fund	\$ 29,193.00	\$ 19,422.00	\$ 1,107,133.00
Missions (Goal: \$35,000)	\$ 1,084.00	\$ 1,733.00	\$ 20,573.00

Church Attendance Last Week: 247 (125-122); Communion: 168

**** Any donations in Lenten Envelopes will go to Mission Fund unless otherwise specified.**

Thank you to the pastors for their words of encouragement during my hospital stay. – *Marie Garno*

Easter Flower Orders are due by April 14th. Just fill out an order form located on the memorial stand in the gathering space. You can either mail to the church office or drop your order forms and payment in the memorial stand. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter Lutheran Church.

Cemetery Groundkeeper We are in need of a new groundskeeper for the cemetery. This is part time, paid position. If you are interested, please contact Dave Earley at 989.737.2757 for details.

20th Annual St. Peter PTL Auction will take place on Saturday, April 5th at Swan Valley Banquet Center. Donations are being accepted by dropping off at the school office or for large items please contact Trisha Knezek (989.598.0104) for pick up or drop off. Tickets are now for sale in the school office.

Did you know that 3 BILLION people around the world have never heard the saving message of Jesus? Learn about Lutheran Hour Ministries latest effort to reach people around the world with the Gospel. Paul and Lauren Moeller will give a brief presentation on this LHM initiative at the beginning of Adult Bible Class on Sunday March 16th. For more information go to CONNECTLHM.ORG.

Equipping The Priesthood Of All Believers... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: Rehabilitating Happiness, Satan's Lies, First-Cousin Marriage, God's Promises in the Torah and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

The Lutheran Hour is broadcast Sundays on WSAM 1400AM Saginaw at 8:30am and XM 131 at 10:30am. It can also be heard on-line at www.lhm.org. Next Sunday, March 23rd, Guest Speaker *Rev. Dr. Jason Broge's* sermon is titled, "Even Me, Even You". Jesus the Good Shepherd invites all to be His sheep and find pasture. His words of promise will amaze some but anger others.

Community News: *See flyers on the bulletin board in the gathering space*

The Tri-City Good Friday Worship Service The Tri-City Good Friday Committee after meeting several times and doing some investigation has decided not to hold the Tri-City Good Friday service this year at Horizons or at any other location. There were several factors that led to our decision including decreasing attendance and decreased collections prior to and at the service which has led to a deficit over the last two years. Other locations were evaluated but none worked out at this time. The committee will reconsider a service next year.

Ushers for next week: Midweek Lenten Service: *Todd Starke, Joe Wardin* **Saturday:** *Josh McQueen, Leonard Krueger*
Sunday: *Dan Sherry, Nate McQueen*

Videographer for next week: Midweek Lenten Service: *Anthony Wolter* **Sunday:** *Charlotte Starke*

A LifeQuote from Lutherans for Life of Michigan

On St. Joseph: "Though Mary's husband did not beget Jesus from his own body, he did father him in the fashion of a foster, adoptive, or step-parent. For this reason, he has received the title of Guardian of Our Lord. His service to God and family not only figures prominently in the Gospel of Jesus Christ but also exemplifies the holy vocation of fatherhood and testifies to the sanctity of marriage, parenting, adoption, and every human life."

- *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life*

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Jeremiah 26:8-15

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

Jesus Rescues Us from Death and Brings Us into Heaven

The prophet Jeremiah faithfully preached "all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people" (Jer. 26:8). He called the people to repentance, lest the Lord's judgment come upon them. The violence that Jeremiah suffered for this preaching foreshadowed the cross and Passion of Christ Jesus, who suffered the judgment of God for the redemption of all people. For Jesus "comes in the name of the Lord" (Luke 13:35) in order to lay down His life for the sins of the world.

Earthly Jerusalem was blind to His gracious visitation, and it put Him to death like the prophets before Him. Yet, His sacrifice upon the cross became the cornerstone of the new Jerusalem, His Church. He visits us today in mercy with His preaching of forgiveness, to gather us to Himself within that holy city, "as a hen gathers her brood under her wings" (Luke 13:34), for "our citizenship is in heaven" (Phil. 3:20).