

NEWS AND NOTES for August 22 & 25, 2024



Building on the Cornerstone Campaign

\$2.5 Million Matching Goal:

Commitments and Gifts:	\$ 2,605,374
Gifts Received:	\$ 2,412,468
Remaining Commitment Amount:	\$ 87,532

Sympathies to Randy & Karen Breternitz upon the death of their grandson, **Brody Curtis**.

Reminder from the Elders - Please reserve the back row of blue chairs in the fellowship hall during Divine Service for people who take communion at the pew.

Lutheran World Relief Thank you for the donations so far for school kits and personal care kits. We have 24 personal care kits packed. If you would like to donate light-weight batch-size towels, that would be appreciated. We have school supplies for 20 school kits. 70-ct spiral-bound notebooks are what is needed most. Prices have gone up, so if you can't donate as many as you used to, please consider donating a few less. During church office hours, items can be dropped off there. After hours, you can drop the items off at the table outside the office. - *Lou Ann Krueger, LWR Coordinator* 989-274-9720

Sunday Morning Bible Study is starting soon! Please join us starting September 8th from 11 am to 11:45 am, immediately following Sunday morning fellowship. The Enduring Faith curriculum from early childhood through adult will be in the church classrooms. Pastor Morris' study on the Formula of Concord will be in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for an enriching Sunday morning Bible study! Regardless of your age, we have tailored classes for everyone, ensuring that everyone can engage! We look forward to seeing you there!

Graceful Threads is calling all the girls! From child through adult - all females are welcome to join us the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 3 pm for Bible study, real-life talks, and creating human care items from yarn or fabric. (No experience required!) This batch of creations (blankets, scarves, gloves, hats) are earmarked for God's Helping Hands. We meet in Classroom 114 at the church.

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.

Did you know we have a **Family Game Night & Dinner** every 2nd Friday of the month? Please plan to join us each month from 5 pm to 8 pm for this free, fun event. Looking for a way to volunteer your time? How about helping host a month's event? Time commitment required is only on the night of the event. Contact Deaconess Shirley to find out more information.

Ladies Monday Morning Bible Study will be starting back up on September 16th from 9:30-10:30am continuing our study written by Donna Pyle Snow, Meant for Good: A Study of Joseph. We will be in the church conference room. Please remember to use the west entrance.

LifeLight Bible Study resumes September 4th from 9:00 to 10:30am in the church conference room. Bring your Bible and join us in our study of St. Matthew's Gospel.

Adult Information Class A new adult membership class will begin Sunday, September 8th for anyone who is interested in joining St. Peter Lutheran Church through Adult Instructions. We will meet on Sunday mornings from 10:45-11:45am in the office conference room. Please call the church office (989.642.8188) for more information.

Music at St. Peter - We would love for you to join us at our first rehearsal on Thursday, September 5. Handbells practice at 6:00 p.m. and the choir at 7:00 p.m. in the church music room. Please consider joining us! -- Brian Heinlein, Music Director (brian.heinlein@stpeterhemlock.org or 920-226-9202)

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.

	June 2024	July 2024	2023-24 Fiscal Year-to-Date
General Fund Income	\$194,125.56	\$165,806.02	\$ 1,598,505.66
General Fund Expenses	\$ 127,167.20	\$ 139,390.48	\$ 1,578,267.56
Gain or (Deficit)	\$ 66,958.36	\$ 26,415.54	\$ 20,238.10
Building on the Cornerstone Fund	\$55,335.00	\$139,702.00	\$ 3,050,866.72
Missions (Goal: \$35,000)	\$2,675.00	\$2,200.00	\$ 37,485.00

Church Attendance Last Week: 187 (50-137); Communion: 150

Church Office Closed Labor Day

St. Peter Karl & Betty Mueller Memorial Golf Scramble is scheduled for September 29 at Valley View Farms Golf Course. Registration begins at 11:00am with a shot-gun start at 12:00pm. Dinner and prizes will immediately follow. The price is \$70/person. To sign up, call Valley View Farms at 989-781-1248. They always appreciate donations of door prizes. Hole sponsor cost is \$100. To donate, call *Mike Wardin*, 989-860-9791. Proceeds to benefit furnishing the new outdoor church pavilion.

“A Statement Of Scriptural And Confessional Principles” Series... During the Lutheran Battle for the Bible, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod adopted “A Statement of Scriptural and Confessional Principles” in 1973. It dealt with how Lutherans regarded Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. *Issues, Etc.*, a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, recently completed a multi-part series on this document with Lutheran historian Dr. Martin Noland. You can listen to this series at issuesetc.org/astatement.

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, September 1st, Lutheran Hour Speaker *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler*'s sermon is titled, “Conditioned by the Unconditioned”. God's forgiving love for you in Christ that your accomplishments can't enhance and your failures can't diminish.

Ushers for next week: Thursday: *Kyle Smith, Ray Wardin* **Sunday:** *Mark Chapin, Gary Graf*

Videographer for next week: *Sheila Bauer*

A LifeQuote from Lutherans for Life of Michigan

“We live in the presence of evil. Some of it is twisted to sound good. We hear of ‘the compassionate relief of suffering’ or ‘death with dignity’ or ‘right to health care’ or ‘simple medical procedure.’ You know many more. God calls us to confront these with His truth, to reveal the evil behind them. God calls us to educate fellow Christians in His truth so they do not end up ‘possessed’ by this way of thinking. God calls us to call evil what it is, but also to share the truth of what God has done about evil. For that we fix our gaze upon Jesus (Hebrews 12:2). He speaks to us through His Word of truth and grace.”

- *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life*

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Isaiah 29:11–19
Ephesians 5:22–33
Mark 7:1–13

The True Tradition of the Church Is the Ministry of the Gospel of Christ Jesus, Her Savior

The true tradition of the Church is the Gospel, which is the preaching and administration of Christ Jesus. Other traditions, although not commanded by God, may serve and support that sacred tradition of the Gospel. But the

Church dare not “[reject] the commandment of God” in order to establish or hold to “the tradition of men” (Mark 7:8–9). Sinful people attempt to draw near to the Lord “with their mouth” and to honor Him “with their lips,” while their hearts are far removed from Him (Is. 29:13). Yet, He is “the Holy One of Israel,” who brings about salvation by His cross. Therefore, “the wisdom of their wise men shall perish,” but “the deaf shall hear” and “the eyes of the blind shall see” (Is. 29:14–19). This mystery of Christ is profound, for He is the husband of the Church, and He is her Savior. Not because of any works that she has done, but solely for the sake of His great love, He “gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word” (Eph. 5:25–26).