

### Why I Don't Like "Talking" About Stewardship

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:10-11*

Yes...you read the title correctly. I don't like "talking" about stewardship. Hey...I'll even go one step further and admit that I've never really appreciated preaching stand-alone stewardship sermons. (Feels good to get that one off my chest, too.)

No...I just don't like "talking" about stewardship, and the reason is simple. Most of the time, the topic of Stewardship is connected to money when it's about so much more than just money. And, "talk"...well, "talk" is cheap (as my father often reminded me.)

That said, Jesus didn't mind speaking on the topic of stewardship. In fact, Jesus speaks on the topic of stewardship more than any other subject, other than the Kingdom of Heaven. And while He's not necessarily focused on congregational budgets and buildings, He does zero in on what drives the heart of His child... because Jesus knows that "talk" is cheap.

That's why I'm a firm believer that, as followers of Jesus Christ, all we really need to do is follow His Word. (Sounds so simple, right?!) In fact, as a pastor, I know that if I focus on preaching God's Word, guess what one of the topics will be? That's right! We'll hear how we are to live our lives as cheerful, faithful, and generous stewards of all that God has entrusted to us.

We'll hear about what it means to live our lives as followers (rather than fans) of the One who has redeemed us through the Cross of Calvary, just like we'll learn about LIVING the new lives we've been given...with defiantly joyful and cheerful hearts. We'll discover that GIVING generously with no strings attached is our response to all that we've been given through Jesus. We'll hear how SERVING selflessly is yet another way to live lives of faith in the One who lived as the ultimate servant in our place. And we'll hear truths that led St. Francis of Assisi to encourage us as brothers and sisters in Christ to "Preach the Gospel, and if necessary, use words."

As we approach the time of year when you will once again have the opportunity to prayerfully consider how you will live your life as the steward that Jesus has called you to be, I encourage you to use the following article for further study. After all, as much as I don't like to "talk" about stewardship, I know that we simply cannot avoid discussing what God has to say when it comes to this topic.

May the Holy Spirit lead us to continue to grow and understand how important we are to Him and why He entrusts so much to us as His chosen and redeemed people.



God's blessings and peace!  
*Pastor Kurt Wenzelburger*

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## What God Has to Say About Stewardship

- **God's stewards are God's stewards.** God's stewards are stewards by virtue of creation and their re-creation in Holy Baptism; therefore, they belong to the Lord.

*See Gen. 1:1, Isaiah 43:1-31; Romans 6:1-11; 2 Cor. 5:14-17; Ephesians 2:8-10*

- **God's stewards are managers, not owners.** God's stewards have been entrusted by God with life and life's resources and given the privilege of responsibly and joyfully managing them for Him.

*See Gen. 2:15; Ps 24:1; Ps. 89:11; I Chron. 29:1-20; 2 Cor. 8:1-7; Luke 12:41-48; I Tim. 6:17-19*

- **God's stewards are saints and sinners.** God's stewards rejoice in and live out what God has declared them to be through the cross. At the same time His stewards recognize they are sinners who fight sin and its consequences each day.

*See Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:5-17; Rom. 7:21-25; 1 John 3:1-21; 1 Peter 2:9-10*

- **God's stewards are uniquely singular, yet profoundly plural.** God's stewards recognize that their lives are not solo performances but are personal responses to God, lived out within the community of faith to benefit the whole world.

*See Romans 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; 1 Peter 4:10; 2 Cor. 8:13-14; Gal 6:7-10*

- **God's stewards are in the world, but not of the world.** God's stewards recognize that the Lord sets them apart from the world and by the transforming power of the Gospel sends them into the world to live out the Gospel.

*See Romans 12:2; John 17:15-18; John 20:21-23; Genesis 12:1-3; John 16:33*

- **God's stewards are loved and loving.** God's stewards recognize that their stewardship flows out of God's act of love for them in Christ, which empowers them in turn, to love others in acts of Christ-like love.

*See 1 John 4:11, 19; 1 John 3:16-18; John 13:34-35; 2 Cor. 5:14-15; Gal. 5:6b*

- **God's stewards are served and serving.** God's stewards recognize that their stewardship involves a Gospel-powered style of life which is demonstrated in servanthood within all the arenas of life.

*See Philippians 2:5-8; Matt. 20:26b-28; Matt. 25:31-46; John 13:3-5, 15-17*

- **God's stewards live with an awareness of the present and future, of time and eternity.** God's stewards live intentionally in the light of God's eternal purpose while being firmly committed to His rule in the here and now.

*See Matt. 6:19-21; 1 Tim. 6:17-19; Phil. 3:12-14, 20; 2 Peter 3:11-12a; Rev. 14:13*

***Used with permission of LCMS District and Congregational Services-Stewardship Ministry.***

### **Stewardship Commitment Cards 2023**

Stewardship commitment cards will be in the bulletins starting in November. They will also be available on the website to print or to fill out in a google form.

We encourage you to prayerfully return your cards or fill out the online form by the end of November.

Online forms available here: <https://stpetermacomb.com/church/serve-learn-grow-serve/stewardship/>

# Worship

## Upcoming Holiday Worship Services:

### **Thanksgiving Worship**

November 23, 7:00 p.m.

### **Midweek Advent Services**

November 30-December 14

Traditional - 3:30 p.m., Modern - 7:00 p.m.

### **Christmas Eve**

Modern - 11:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. (candlelight)

Traditional - 1:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. (candlelight), 9:00 p.m. (candlelight)

### **Christmas Day**

10:00 a.m.

### **New Years Eve**

6:00 p.m.

### **New Years Day**

Traditional - 9:30 a.m.

Modern - 11:00 a.m.

## **“For All the Saints”**

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.. *Hebrews 12:1*

Greetings in Christ!

Thank you so much to all of the musicians of St. Peter for sharing their gifts this past weekend for our celebration of the Reformation! We are beyond blessed with many gifted and talented servants, and it is so wonderful to be able to share these gifts with the congregation in praise and service to the Lord.

This coming weekend (November 5 and 6), we will observe All Saints' Day. Originally a commemoration of the martyrs of the ancient church, All Saints' Day is officially observed on November 1<sup>st</sup>. On this day, we commemorate those who have died in the faith and gone before us to their eternal rest with their Lord Jesus. By God's grace through the working of the Holy Spirit, we are all saints together. All Saints' Day invites us to celebrate the saints of old, to share in faith with those living, and to rejoice in those yet unborn. When we confess the Apostles' Creed, we repeat this truth by speaking of our belief in "the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints."

*Continued on p. 6*

The first hymn we will sing on All Saints' Sunday is "For All the Saints" (LSB 677). The text was written by William Walsham How (1823-97), a bishop of the Church of England, and was first published in *Hymns for Saints' Day, and Other Hymns* (1864). The hymn originally contained 11 stanzas, though it is usually sung with only eight, which we will sing divided between Opening and Closing hymns. There are countless other hymns that speak of the saints, but there is one line that stands out in the first verse of this hymn: "all who by faith before the world confessed." This is the most important line of the hymn, as it points to the essential trait of sainthood: faith. Fred Precht writes that we are "reminded of Hebrews 11, where the author writes of the heroes of Old Testament history, each introduced with the statement 'By faith.'"

The tune paired with this hymn, SINE NOMINE ("Without Name"), was written by English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) specifically for this text. It first appeared in *The English Hymnal* (1906), and is the third tune to be used for the hymn.

"For All the Saints" first appeared in the Missouri Synod in *The Lutheran Hymnal* (1941), with the current stanza 6 appearing as stanza 8. A professor from Concordia-Wisconsin once told a story about the introduction of this hymn and its reception by congregations. There were many complaints about how the tune was "too difficult to sing." Yet, once learned, Lutheran congregations sang and have continued to sing this hymn with vigor and joy, and it has become a standard of sorts for All Saints' Day.

As we celebrate All Saints' Day, we remember those who have gone before us, and we look forward with joy to the day when we join the saints of old in paradise. We have the promise of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ, because of God's grace and without any merit of our own. Through Him alone, we are made holy and righteous in His sight.

In His Service,

Charlie Russell  
Director of Traditional Music



## Robert's Music Spotlight

This month I wanted to share with you the song, "Goodness Of God" by Bethel Music. We serve such a good God and yet it's so easy to be consumed with our life and the things that distract us. Maybe like me, sometimes you forget to tell Him how good He is? Psalm 25:6 says, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever." God's goodness and mercy is chasing after you and I encourage you to stop and worship Him for that truth. If we pause, dwell in His presence and allow him to tangibly work in our lives, there is no end to His goodness. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, consider having this become your theme song for the month of November. Spend time in His presence and declare how good He is!

Robert W. Costa  
*Director Of Modern Worship*

| TRADITIONAL WORSHIP                                    | MODERN WORSHIP      | LIVESTREAM                      |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Saturday - 6:00 p.m.<br>Sunday - 8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. | Sunday - 11:00 a.m. | Sunday - 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. |

## **2023 Offering Envelopes: What's New?**

Are you tired of trying to remember to pick up your yearly offering envelopes? Well...this year, there'll be no need to remember to search for your box of envelopes among the many others that may or may not be in alphabetical order by the time you get to it. That's right! This year, the 2023 offering envelopes will be directly mailed to your home. Here's how it will work:

In late December, the first of six packets of 2023 envelopes will arrive through the mail. Bi-monthly, you will receive a packet containing two months' worth of envelopes -- which means that you no longer have to look for and pick up your envelopes from church. For now, if you currently give your tithe/offering electronically, you will still receive these envelopes since they include many additional worship services that do not occur on Sundays (i.e. Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Lent, etc.), while also ensuring that you once again have a number assigned for accounting and tax purposes.

So...look for your first set of offering envelopes to arrive in the mail before January 1, and thank you once again for your generous ongoing support of God's work in and through the missions and ministries of St. Peter Lutheran Church and School.

### NOTE:

- If you are new to St. Peter and/or do not have envelopes and would like to be included in this first mailing, please contact the Church Office to request an envelope number so you can receive them via mail. The submission of names to the company for the December mailing must be done by November 1. If you miss that deadline, it's not too late, you can be in the next mail run. PLEASE CALL NOW!
- If you do not receive your first packet of envelopes by January 1, please contact the Church Office or send an email to [fschluessler@splcs.net](mailto:fschluessler@splcs.net).

If you tithe electronically and do not wish to receive the envelopes through the mail, please contact the Church Office or send an email to [fschluessler@splcs.net](mailto:fschluessler@splcs.net). This action would not delete your envelope number for accounting and tax purposes.

*Note: **Please do not use old envelopes!** Envelope numbers change, so using old envelopes may cause your giving to be attributed to the wrong account.*

## **HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES – NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER and YEAR-END GIVING INFORMATION**

The Church Office will be closed **Thursday, November 25** and **Friday, November 26**.

In December, the office will be closed on **Friday, December 23**, **Monday, December 26**, and **Friday, December 30**. The office will be open on Thursday, December 29, to receive year-end charitable contributions. Contributions received or postmarked by Friday, December 30, will be applied to your 2022 financial statement. If you give on-line, it takes several days for these transactions to clear and actually hit St. Peter's bank account. If a contributor wants their ACH or credit card donation posted in 2022, they must appear on St. Peter's bank statement by December 31 (not after). Should you have any questions, please contact Diane Hernden.

**WHAT'S NEW in 2023?**  
**BUILDING UP THE ENDOWMENT FUND – BIRTHDAY CHALLENGE!**

**Did you know ... St. Peter Church and School has an Endowment Fund?** The goal of the Endowment is to raise at least \$500,000, and then from that point on the earnings and interest can be used for many great purposes, including:

**Primary Purpose**

Mission, Mercy and Outreach

- Mission opportunities in Macomb County and Michigan
- Evangelism, Invitation, promotion of St. Peter Lutheran Church and School
- Mission outreach globally
- Local Disaster/Aid opportunities, etc.

School Scholarships

- To help ensure the long-term sustainability of our school and its mission to provide a high quality Lutheran education augmenting the day school tuition assistance program to those who qualify.
- Professional Development for professional staff studying to enhance/advance their skills through continuing education and degree programs.

**Auxiliary Purpose**

- Provide for special projects including but not limited to emergency and/or non-recurring capital expenses recommended and endorsed by Church Council and approved by the Voter's Assembly.

**The Finance Board is proposing that every St. Peter Church and School parishioner, from one year old to 100+, consider making a donation on his or her birthday towards the Endowment Fund.**

We propose that if a child is five years old, he/she donates \$5. If an adult is 50, they donate \$50. Proportionally, each year the birthday donations would grow \$1 per person. *Of course, any monetary gift is welcome!*

**If everyone in the congregation donated this way the first year, we would raise roughly \$145,000 and be well on our way to our \$500,000 goal!** On a yearly basis, the congregation will be informed about the monies collected and perhaps even celebrate with a "Birthday Party" (cake and all) in the Fellowship Hall highlighting the months of the year that came in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. This is a great way to show our kids how important it is to give back to God and to help others at the same time.



Soon you will receive your first installment of 2023 offering envelopes in the mail. Envelopes will arrive on a bi-monthly basis. The weekly envelopes will support the General Fund and/or Debt Reduction. January's packet will contain a special envelope entitled, "Birthday." All donations in this envelope will be applied to the Endowment Fund. *Of course, you do not need to have that specific envelope to donate to the Endowment Fund. Endowment Fund gifts can arrive in many forms ... through Memorial and Thank Offerings, in plain envelopes and no envelope at all!*

*The Finance Board is excited to further the Mission and Vision of St. Peter and to continue its legacy by growing the Endowment Fund.*

# Service

## Simply Give Program

The Meijer store located at 23 Mile Rd and Gratiot is sponsoring Hope for The Hungry Pantry for their fall/Christmas SimplyGive program. Past programs have provided thousands of dollars in gift cards we use to purchase much needed food. The program runs from now through December 31, 2022. Customers purchase \$10 pledge cards which are matched dollar for dollar by Meijer. **On December 17, it's double match day!** Meijer will match all \$10 donations with \$20...so mark your calendars!



## Are you a Thrivent Member?

Did you know all Thrivent members can apply for two Action Grants per year (valued at \$250 each) and your Thrivent Choice Dollars can be directed to Hope for the Hungry Pantry. Whether it's an Action Grant or Choice Dollars, we'll put your donation to good use by purchasing food, supplies, and equipment. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact your Thrivent representative or Karen Foust at (586) 491-0652 or [karenwiegand@gmail.com](mailto:karenwiegand@gmail.com)

## Food Drive

Our monthly food needs are now exceeding the supplies we receive from Macomb Food Program, and we need your help. Hosting a Food Drive is a great opportunity for any Boy or Girl Scout troop, sports team, or classroom to fulfil their community service obligations. Be creative...can you challenge another group? We can help by providing a list of our most needed items. Please contact Karen Foust at (586) 491-0652 or email her at [karenwiegand@gmail.com](mailto:karenwiegand@gmail.com)



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Truck Unloading:** November 2 and 16 from 9:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m. Volunteers may be asked to help empty a pick-up truck or SUV vehicle, date boxes and put items on shelves.
- **Food Distribution:** November 3 from 4:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. and November 17 from 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Volunteers may be asked to prepare produce boxes, bag frozen items, help load cars and clean areas.
- **Apartment Deliveries:** November 5 help is needed to pack and delivery food to two local apartment complexes. Stephen Ministry accompanies the delivery for residents that would like to talk or pray. This is an ongoing event the first Saturday of each month.
- **Packing Boxes** is always available for families, teams, groups, or individuals. Most Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:15-7:15 p.m. are currently available, but arrangements must be made in advance.

A core group of volunteers have donated their time, talents and sometimes muscles every month. If you would like to join this dedicated group or need more information, please contact me or visit [hopeforthehungrypantry.org](http://hopeforthehungrypantry.org).

Yours in Christ,  
Karen Foust  
Chairperson



## Hope For The Hungry Food Drive:

At St. Peter Macomb from November 1 - November 20

Please drop off all non-perishable food items in the Narthex (by the Hope For The Hungry Sign) before or after worship services.

**GIFTS FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN IS BACK! SIGN UP NOW!**

**Immediate Attention Please! Take ACTION this Thanksgiving Season and SPONSOR a child for Christmas.**

It is time to celebrate the birth of our Savior and make Christmas for a child in Wayne County a wonderful one. Every year we receive names of children that we need YOU to sponsor for Christmas gifts. This ministry supplies gifts to needy children at Crossbridge Preschool at Mt. Hope Lutheran Church, Bethany Lutheran Church Preschool & their families, and Pan De Vida Hispanic Church in Detroit.



**No need to ship your packages this year**, the Outreach Team will be delivering them. **WE NEED YOU TO SPONSOR A CHILD** and just follow these easy online steps. **IMPORTANT NOTE: IF YOU WOULD LIKE COMPUTER ASSISTANCE TO HELP YOU SIGN UP: PLEASE CALL MICHELE JONES AT (586) 260-6576 AND SHE WILL HELP!**

**SIGN UP** to sponsor a child: Go to this Sign-Up Genius link and choose a child you want to sponsor. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c4ba4a928a6fc1-gifts>

1. When you decide on a child; Click on SIGN UP box and then click SUBMIT AND SIGN UP.
2. The next page will ask you your name and email address to fill in. Then click SIGN UP NOW. You will receive a confirmation email with the information on your child.
3. **PURCHASE** the gifts. We ask to have at least 5 if possible. These may be the only gifts they will receive.
4. **REMOVE** price tags.
5. **WRAP** gifts. Once they are wrapped please write the child's number on each package on the outside.
6. **INVENTORY** write all the items you purchased on a piece of paper, and attach it to the outside of the wrapped gifts. Include the child's number on the paper.
7. **Bring them to church:** You can bring them anytime before November 27. During the week you can bring them to the church or school office. On the weekend you can bring them to services and leave them in the sanctuary in front of the cry room windows (north end).

**ALL GIFTS MUST BE DROPPED OFF BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 SO WE CAN DISPLAY THEM!**

The Board of Outreach appreciates each of you! **This is always a popular ministry.** To sponsor a needy child you have never met, is truly a generous heart. Please call Michele Jones (586) 260-6576 or Darla Bratkowski (810) 252-1530 if you have any questions.

Blessings on this season of Thanksgiving to you and yours.  
*St. Peter Outreach Board*

Thank you for joining the Women's Ministry in the continuation of the Giving Tree Parsonage Renovation Projects through Spring 2023:

- 1) new hallway/kitchen flooring
- 2) exterior siding replacement

The Women's Ministry recently approved to donate 100% of the proceeds from the Fall Bake Sale up to \$3000 to continue with these projected goals.

As before, your gift of any denomination is accepted through the Giving Tree Envelopes at the Church Office or Sunday reception desk, designating the project name on the outside of the envelope or on the check "memo" line.

The Board of Trustees and the Women's Ministry are grateful and excited to renovate and restore the parsonage property together!

*Women's Ministry Executive Board*

**THE GIVING TREE WINDOW PROJECT**

Through members' generosity The Giving Tree Window Project generated almost \$33,000.00. This not only paid for the entire window restoration project at the Parsonage but it will pay for the installation of new storm doors. A small balance will remain to assist with possible Parsonage upgrades/projects in the future.

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE WITH THIS SPECIAL PROJECT!**

Please mark your calendars - **Christmas decorating at church** will be on Saturday, December 3. Setting up the outdoor nativity is at 9:00 a.m. and the inside trees and decorating will begin at 9:30 a.m. The trees in the narthex will be decorated Wednesday - Friday. Please contact Vickie Wangelin if you have any questions. We appreciate everyone's help. Many hands make the work light!

*Board of Trustees and Altar Guild*

**Church Extension Fund**, a ministry-based financial institution located in Ann Arbor, Michigan, seeks qualified candidates for the position of Director of Relations. One of the most important aspects of CEF's success is its meaningful relationships. CEF is dedicating a position to further enhance this important reality. A complete position description is available on CEF's website: [mi-cef.org/news](http://mi-cef.org/news). Applicants should mail or email a cover letter and resume no later than November 15 to: James R. Saalfeld - CEO, Church Extension Fund, 3773 Geddes Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, [jim.saalfeld@mi-cef.org](mailto:jim.saalfeld@mi-cef.org).

### **AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

St. Peter is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, November 20, from 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in Kaiser Hall on the south side of the campus. Enter via Door #12. Masks are no longer required at the donation site. Red Cross will have masks available for anyone wanting one. Red Cross staff will not be wearing masks except by their choice or if a donor requests it. Blood is desperately needed in these post-pandemic and hurricane times. We ask you to prayerfully consider signing up by contacting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or Paula - (586) 322-2319 or [hoegemeyer@att.net](mailto:hoegemeyer@att.net). Thank you!

### **Honduras Mission Trip - MOST Ministries**

July 8-15, 2023, in La Paz.

Using a simple testing system created for MOST Ministries, members of this team will distribute eyeglasses to those in need.

More information at [stpetermacomb.com](http://stpetermacomb.com). Questions, contact Pastor Arendell at [marendell@splcs.net](mailto:marendell@splcs.net) or (313) 969-4075.

Lutheran Heritage is partnering with "Orphan Grain Train" in Sebawaing to send a shipment to South Sudan, hopefully by the end of this month (if all of the paperwork is approved by then). St. Peter delivered 91 quilts and 150 little girl pillowcase dresses. This is not only a humanitarian aid and witness to the people of South Sudan, the LCMS is setting up a Seminary there. They have already received used student desks, communion ware, vestments, etc. to help furnish this new Seminary. Pastor Reed, who is making all of the arrangements for this shipment, is asking that we pray that everything goes as planned and this shipment is not prolonged for any reason.

## Memorial Offerings

*In loving memory of Annette Konupek,*  
a contribution has been given to:  
**Endowment Fund** by Robert Konupek

*In loving memory of Ray McKinley,*  
a contribution has been given to:  
**Church Ministry** by Linda Heidebrecht  
**Missions and Outreach** by Mary Ann McGill

## Thank Offerings

*In celebration of Joey Poley's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday,*  
a contribution has been given to:  
**Church Ministry** by Shelly Penzien

*In celebration and thanksgiving for their 29<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 8,*  
a contribution has been given to:  
**Moving Forward** by Hank and Kim Stallmann

Donations for the month of November are going toward "**Samaritan's Purse/Shoebox Ministry.**" LWML partners with Grace Lutheran Fellowship, Romeo in this ministry. Various ladies at Grace pack all of the boxes and have them shipped to wherever they are needed most this year.

Following are some of the items needed to fill these shoeboxes for children:

- Hotel size bars of soap
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Lotions
- Deodorant
- Dental floss
- Toothpaste
- Children's socks
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Small toys

You may deposit them into the appropriate drawers in the Church Coat Room or into the LWR tub.

Questions: contact Joyce Schwark at (586) 524-9328 Thank you!

# Thank You...

Hi everyone! For those of you who didn't know, we've been blessed with the opportunity to live in the St. Peter Parsonage across the street from the church since we moved here in November, 2021. It is a wonderful older house that has been home to many Pastors and church workers for almost 100 years. I love to hear the stories of people who have spent time there so if you have any, please stop me and let me know!

Even before we moved in, many members came over to clean and get the house ready for us to settle in. I know it was a big job! Since we have moved in, many of the rooms have been painted, light fixtures have been updated, outlets and light switches replaced, blinds installed on the windows, and the air ducts were cleaned out. The first-floor bathroom was also beautifully updated thanks to some generous and talented St. Peter members.

Another big change was just completed and it will have a significant impact on the St. Peter Parsonage for years to come. The Women's Ministry started the fund to replace the 32 windows that were badly in need of being replaced. With a bake sale to kick it off, the Women's Ministry added additional funding that was the momentum for multiple generous donations that came in from congregation members. St. Peter raised the money to fully fund the Parsonage Window project and they are all installed! The windows are not only beautiful but they are functional and will be a vital part of making sure your Parsonage will be here for hopefully another 100 years!

You have been such a blessing in showing your care for the St. Peter Parsonage and I am thanking God for all of you.

*Shelley Wenzelburger and Pastor Kurt*

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On behalf of St. Peter Women's Ministry and the Ladies Quilting Group, we want to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who donated in some way to make this year's donations for Global Missions. Whatever you may have donated toward the quilts, sewing kits, baby kits or school kits, all these things helped to put these items together. This year we assembled 96 Baby Kits, 137 Wellness Kits, 101 School Kits and over 200 Quilts. This could not have been accomplished without your help. You are the Good Samaritan and Witness to so many people who need help in this world by affirming God's love to end their poverty, injustice and human suffering. We thank God for each and every one of you.

Blessings to all of you,  
*St. Peter Women's Ministry/Quilters Group*

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Greetings in Christ! Thank you for your support of our family as we enter our fourth and final year of seminary. Your continued prayers and financial support are an enormous blessing to us. May God continue to bless you all. We hope to see you in the near future!

In Christ,  
*Brandon and Taylor Bettcher*

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Dear members of St. Peter Lutheran Church and School,

Thank you so very much for your donations of time, talents and treasures that you so generously gave toward our October 15, Outreach Ministry Event held at Peacemakers International on Chene Street in Detroit. We were able to hand out many of your donations of fall and winter clothes, coats, boots, shoes, scarves, hats, gloves, other miscellaneous items, new underwear and socks to about 70 homeless men and women. Then we were able to feed around 130 homeless men and women, the Peacemakers staff members, and our 15 volunteers from St. Peter.

God truly blessed all of our efforts and the day He allowed us to experience. As Pastor Steve and his son, Jeremiah, from Peacemakers always say, "Teamwork makes the dream work!" It truly is a beautiful thing when all of us work together to serve those who are less fortunate than we are! May God continue to richly bless you and all of your family!

Thank you, everyone!  
*St. Peter Peacemakers/Chene Street Team members*

# Connection



*For more information about current and upcoming Bible studies and small groups, please visit [stpetermacomb.com](http://stpetermacomb.com)*

## **“Body and Soul” Bible Study**

Led by Terry Davis

9:30 a.m. on Sundays



**“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.” Colossians 4:2**

**Moms in Prayer- Moms...and women!** Come and join us each week as we pray for our children, schools, and community. Groups meet Mondays from 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. (Zoom), Tuesdays in-person from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. at His Rock (doors open at 8:00 a.m.) and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. (Zoom). Please contact Kelly Chirco or Nicki Wargo ([nwargo@splcs.net](mailto:nwargo@splcs.net)) for more information.

**Men and dad prayer warriors?** We are looking for a leader for a Dads in Prayer group. Please contact Nicki Wargo if you are interested ([nwargo@splcs.net](mailto:nwargo@splcs.net)).

## **Wednesday Women In The Word Bible Study**

Wednesdays in November  
NOT 11/23 (Thanksgiving Week)

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. - Large Conference Room

Enter Church Door #28. Books are available.

Questions, contact Karen Gluski at  
[rkgluski2@gmail.com](mailto:rkgluski2@gmail.com).

## **Bible Study: Revelation - Words to the Wise Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. - Now - Nov. 16 Led by Pastor Craig Meyer**

“He who has an ear let him hear what the spirit says to the churches.” In the opening chapters of Revelation, Jesus speaks the words to the seven churches of Asia Minor. “He who has an ear let him hear” is like saying “a word to the wise.” To be “wise” is to receive, believe, and live the wisdom of God as spoken in all of Scripture, and more specifically in John’s letter of Revelation.

This study reveals God’s perfect wisdom on life in this world from Jesus’ ascension to His second coming and the creation of the new heaven and new earth. He proclaims His victory over Satan, sin and death.

**NURSING HOME MINISTRY** - Everyone is welcome to join us on the fourth Thursday of each month as we gather at the Orchards - Armada Village to sing and have a short worship service with the residents. We also walk across the parking lot to do the same with the residents at the assisted living center. We currently have a few St. Peter members there who really enjoy our visits. We meet at 2:00 p.m. Please call Vickie Wangelin (586) 749-3325 if you have any questions or would like to carpool. Just a smile and sharing the love of Jesus brings so much joy to our elderly friends.

**HOLIDAY HELP** We will soon be hearing cheery "Happy Holiday" greetings, but for many of us, the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons are no longer especially joyous because someone we loved is no longer with us. So how can we navigate the upcoming weeks? There is help available. St. Peter is hosting **Surviving the Holidays** on November 13 with a repeat offering on December 11. Both of these events are on a Sunday afternoon at 2:00 in the Large Conference Room accessed through Door #28. The afternoon will include a video packed with practical suggestions presented by people who have successfully "survived" the season. Then there will be opportunity for discussion, and you'll leave with a book of ideas and devotional thoughts. Whether this is the first year you're observing the holidays without your loved one or if it's been years without your close friend, this presentation will still benefit you. Please feel free to attend with other family members and friends. And, while this special session is presented, you can still take advantage of the weekly GriefShare offering on Tuesday evening at 6:30 or Thursday morning at 10:00. The GriefShare cycle goes through mid-December, and a new cycle will begin in January. No matter how you plan to celebrate or maybe just observe Thanksgiving and Christmas, may God bless you with His peace and His presence. For more information, you can contact Linda Dunklau at (586) 247-5329.

**LGBT Family and Friends Support Group:**

Do you have a family member, loved one, or have an acquaintance with someone who is not engaging in a relationship by God's design? Do you struggle with how to interact with them, not wanting to judge others but to show God's love and just meet them where they are at? Then the Family and Friends of LGBT support group is for you! ***We will meet tentatively on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Small Conference Room in the Administration Wing.*** For questions, please call Carol Poterek at (586) 566-3785.

**Campus Connect!** Did you know that there are active campus ministries at universities throughout the State of Michigan? No matter where you go to school in Michigan, we have nearby university campus ministries and a network of pastors at local congregations who are eager to connect with you and plug you into a caring community while you're away from home. Most of our campus ministries are hosting welcome events at the start of the semester. You're invited! Please fill out the Campus Connect Form at [stpetermacomb.com](http://stpetermacomb.com).

**Christmas Caroling:** Please join members of the St. Peter Women's Ministry on Thursday, December 15 at 10:00 a.m. for caroling at The Orchards – Armada Village (formerly Advantage Living Center). We will share the reading of Christ's birth from the gospel of Luke and sing many carol favorites. All voices are welcome! The residents always look forward to visitors, and we are called to share God's love with others. After one and a half hours of caroling (at both buildings) we will then be going to Papa's Family Restaurant in downtown Armada at noon for lunch. We'd love for you to join us there as well. Please call or text by December 10 if you will be coming to lunch so reservations can be made in advance. Contact Lois Bellhorn at (586) 770-3002.

## November Women's Ministry Invitation

To: All ladies

When: November 10

Place: Fellowship Hall

Time: 10:00 a.m. fellowship, meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.

Devotions: Joyce Schwark

Brunch Committee: Captain: Vickie Wangelin,

Helpers: Ruthann Bettcher, Marie Niemann, Judy Juengel, Hope Reed

Mite Box counters: Diane Robertson, Karen Bowers, Joyce Schwark

Activity: Packing Cheer Boxes for shut-ins

### Upcoming Events:

Advent by Candlelight on December 6

Cookie Walk – December 10 & 11

Caroling & Gifts for Nursing Home residents – December 15

**Christian Yoga** Come join us for a faith filled gentle yoga experience. Becky will guide us through prayerful meditation, stretching, and postures, embracing our mind, body, and spirit that God has given to us. All ages are welcome. Bring a yoga mat, water, and a joyful spirit for this class that will meet every **Thursday from 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.** in the Church Narthex. The cost is \$10/session drop in. Enter through Door #1 on the southeast side of the church. Contact Paula for more information [hoegemeyer@att.net](mailto:hoegemeyer@att.net) or (586) 322-2319.

**Stay Healthy Exercise** Are you feeling tired, stiff or just not yourself? We have the answer. Join some spiritual men and women in a morning of exercise and motivation. People of all ages are welcome and can benefit. Shannon, our instructor tailors the class to the audience. We work on our hearts, minds, and souls as we stretch, lift weights, and raise our heart rate slowly through low impact, easy to follow movements. Grab water, weights (two to five pounds), and a mat, and join us each **Monday morning from 9:00-10:00 a.m.** We will help you feel better from your head to your toes! Classes are \$5/session on a drop-in basis and are held in the Church Narthex. Enter through Door #1 on the southeast side of the church. Contact Paula for more information [hoegemeyer@att.net](mailto:hoegemeyer@att.net) or (586) 322-2319.

## Advent by Candlelight

December 6, from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Theme: "Advent Promise"

Speakers: Rev. Robert & Debbie Kasper

Music: Charles Russell & Adult Handbell Choir

Charity: Peacemakers International

Eight per table (freewill offering)

To reserve a table, please contact Lisa Ventimiglio at [lventimiglio@splcs.net](mailto:lventimiglio@splcs.net).

The Lutheran Center Association presents:

### **Lutherfest 2022**

*A concert featuring hymns, songs and music with a Reformation theme.*

Date: Sunday, November 13

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 22915 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores, MI

Cost: Free of charge

There will be a small reception after the concert.

The Lutheran Center Association Annual meeting will be held before the concert at 1:30 p.m. Delegates from all the Lutheran Center Association member congregations are encouraged to attend!

# Education

Our Sunday School has gotten off with a great start. Parents of children ages three years old through 6th grade are still very welcome to attend Sunday School. Please stop by the Sunday School office before classes start at 9:30 a.m. to register your child.

Along with having Bible lesson each Sunday, we have started practice on our Sunday School Christmas Service which will be presented on Sunday, December 11 at the 9:30 a.m. worship service. The title of our service this year is, "Celebrate The Names Of Jesus." It takes a lot of team effort for our teachers, helpers, and students to do a great job. Parents of Sunday School students, please be sure your child is in regular attendance over the next several weeks to prepare for this special service. We will have one mass rehearsal on December 4, in Kaiser Hall during the entire Sunday School hour 9:30 a.m.

## Sunday School



Wishing our entire St. Peter family a most blessed and healthy "Happy Thanksgiving!"  
"Oh give thanks unto the Lord for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever" Psalm 107:1

God's Blessings!

Yours in Christ,  
Pat Losey  
*Sunday School Superintendent*

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### St. Peter High School Youth – Recharge

Every Sunday, 3:00–5:00 p.m. at His Rock for 8th–12th grade. Join us for Bible Study and fun!



### Are you interested in baptism for your children or yourself?

You are invited to join us to learn about baptism, why we baptize, and what it is all about!

Thursday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

To register or for more information, please contact Char Hohnstadt at [chohnstadt@splcs.net](mailto:chohnstadt@splcs.net).

A graphic with the word "BAPTISM" in white, all-caps, sans-serif font. The text is enclosed in a white rectangular border. The background is a textured, blue and white image that looks like water or ice.

**St. Peter School Accreditation** - Accreditation for St. Peter Lutheran School & Preschool from the National Lutheran School Association (NLSA) and Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools (MANS) will be at all services on November 6.

# HISTORY CORNER



*It is important to remember that St. Peter History is not meant to show how great St. Peter is, but how amazing God is as He works through His Word and Sacraments among us. History is His story. Our History is a Ministry that proclaims His great deeds to future generations.*

## **ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR A MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MARKER**

Since 1955, the Michigan Historical Marker Program has overseen the placement of more than 1700 Michigan Historical Markers across Michigan and in several other states and Europe. Each marker reflects an important story of a place, an event, or a person. The St. Peter History Committee wished to place a Historical Marker on our campus illustrating our historic contributions to our community.

Our application for St. Peter began in 2018 and included copies of the proposed marker location, property deeds, maps, St. Peter Lutheran Constitution, meeting minutes, tax records, newspaper articles, photographs, Anniversary service booklets, etc. Some side benefits of the process were an audit of the cemetery and a detailed timeline of our history. One obstacle the committee faced was that many documents we needed were written in German. Thankfully Rev. William Wangelin and others have translated those of importance.

The application was approved in 2021 and the text of the marker was created. This was a joint effort by the Michigan History Center and our History Committee. After many revisions we agreed on a marker that would highlight our history as well as our contribution to our community. The marker is manufactured by Sewah Studios in Ohio.

This marker will be placed across the driveway from the Church Office entrance. We will joyfully dedicate this Historic Marker soon in honor of our Founders whose faith in God shines through in its words.

In Serving Him.

Submitted by Shelly Fowler and Dawn Miller, Historical Committee members

*For more information about the Michigan Historic Marker program, go to [michmarkers.com](http://michmarkers.com).*

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## Life Team

November Focus: Adoption in the Bible

### **ADOPTION IN THE BIBLE**

BY LARA JEAN HARPER, FOCUS ON THE FAMILY  
OCTOBER 3, 2022

*Both the Old and New Testaments contain stories of adoption. Here are a few examples of God being glorified through adoption in the Bible*

There are many stories of adoption in the Bible. Since the beginning of time, God's children have needed to be cared for, and since the beginning of time, God has cared for them. Both the Old and New Testaments have examples of God taking care of His people and His people taking care of each other. Here are some examples of God's glory shining through adoption in the Bible.

*Continued on p. 16*

**MOSES AND PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER: Exodus 2:1-10:** One of the earliest mentions of adoption in the Bible begins with Moses. Moses was born in Egypt at a time when the Israelites were being oppressed. Pharaoh ordered that all Hebrew baby boys be thrown into the Nile because he worried they would one day be able to take over Egypt. When Moses was born, his mother, Jochebed, did everything she could to save his life. She eventually hid him in a waterproof basket along the river bank. When Pharaoh's daughter found Moses, she took pity on him and decided to raise him as her own. Miriam, Moses' sister, had been watching over him, and she asked Pharaoh's daughter if she needed someone to nurse him. Because of this, Moses' family was able to remain in his life even though he had been adopted into a new family.

**SAMUEL AND ELI: 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11:** Hannah was a woman struggling with infertility. She was discouraged because she did not have a child. One night, she went to the temple to pray. 1 Samuel 1:10 says, "she was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly." Hannah promised the Lord that if He gave her a son, she would give him back to God. Despite how much she wanted to be a mother, Hannah acknowledged that any child she was blessed with was a child of God's first and foremost. It would have been so easy for Hannah to say, "God granted me this child because I prayed for him; He would not want me to give him back so quickly." But she knew from the beginning that Samuel was not really hers. He was the Lord's. In verses 27-28, Hannah says, "For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to Him. Therefore, I have lent him to the Lord." Rather than simply viewing the Lord as the guardian of her child, Hannah viewed herself as the guardian of the Lord's child. When Samuel was old enough, Hannah brought him to Eli, the priest. Samuel grew up under the watch of Eli, a man who was not his biological father. But God was with him all along.

**ESTHER AND MORDECAI: Esther 2:5-10:3:** Esther's story of adoption in the Bible is a modern-day example of kinship care. When Esther lost her parents, her cousin, Mordecai, cared for her. When King Ahasuerus [King Xerxes] was in search of a new wife, Esther was one of the young women called to the King's Court. Esther 2:15 says that she was "winning favor in the eyes of all who saw her." The King eventually chose Esther to become the queen. No one in the palace knew that Esther was a Jew, but when Mordecai told her there was a plot to kill every Jew in Persia, she demonstrated bravery and leadership. Esther encouraged the Jews to fast and pray. She then risked her life and went to the King. Esther revealed her Jewish heritage to the King and pleaded for the safety of her people. The King granted her request. The Jews were given protection, and Mordecai was promoted to a high position in the kingdom. Through kinship care, Mordecai empowered Esther to be a leader for her people. God worked through both Mordecai and Esther to bring deliverance to His people.

**JESUS AND JOSEPH: Matthew 1:18-25:** When Joseph and Mary were betrothed, Mary "was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 1:18 ESV). It would have been easy for Joseph to walk away. But rather than divorcing Mary quietly, Joseph listened to the Lord. He took Mary as his wife and took Jesus as his own son. God chose Joseph to be the adoptive earthly father of His Son, and Joseph obeyed. Sometimes, the call to step into foster care or adoption is unexpected. But what matters is answering God's call.

**GOD AND HIS PEOPLE: EPHESIANS 1:4-14:** As children of God, we have our own story of adoption in the Bible. Ephesians 1:5 says, "He predestined us for adoption to Himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will." Through the offer of salvation, we have been welcomed into the Lord's family. We are no longer waiting for salvation. It has been made available to us through His Son.

*For Life Team questions, comments or concerns,  
please contact Carol at [carolpoterek@gmail.com](mailto:carolpoterek@gmail.com).*

[lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)  
[www.lflmi.org](http://www.lflmi.org)





**Rev. Kurt Wenzelburger**  
*Senior Pastor*



**Rev. Mark Arendell**  
*Pastor of Care Ministries*



**Rev. Craig Meyer**  
*Pastor Emeritus*



**Mr. Tim Leinberger**  
*Principal*



**Mrs. Sandra LaPerriere**  
*Assistant Principal*



**Ms. Diane Hernden**  
*Business Manager*



**Mr. Robert W. Costa**  
*Director of Modern  
Worship and Communications*



**Mr. Charles Russell**  
*Director of  
Traditional Worship*

## ST. PETER'S VALUES

### **Our Mission Statement:**

To glorify God by  
making and growing  
disciples of Jesus  
Christ

### **Matthew 28:19-20**

Go therefore and make  
disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the  
name of the Father, of  
the Son and of the Holy  
Spirit, teaching them to  
observe all that I have  
commanded you. And  
behold, I am with you  
always, to the end of age.

Articles for **December Keynotes** must be submitted before 4 p.m. on November 15.  
**Please submit all articles for consideration by email** to Allison Tebay - [atebay@splcs.net](mailto:atebay@splcs.net).  
All submissions should include your contact information. Please submit articles without  
formatting (in a table, text boxes, etc.) in a Word document. Thank you!



17051 24 Mile Road, Macomb, Michigan 48042  
Church: (586) 781-3434 School: (586) 781-9296  
[StPeterMacomb.com](http://StPeterMacomb.com)

### Worship Service Times:

|          |            |             |
|----------|------------|-------------|
| Saturday | 6:00 p.m.  | Traditional |
| Sunday   | 8:00 a.m.  | Traditional |
| Sunday   | 9:30 a.m.  | Traditional |
| Sunday   | 11:00 a.m. | Modern      |

Please visit [StPeterMacomb.com](http://StPeterMacomb.com) to see other  
opportunities to worship through Sunday School,  
Bible studies, small groups and more!

St. Peter Lutheran Church and School is a member congregation of The LCMS.