

Prove It!

For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead. James 2:26

When I was a kid, if someone said something that was hard to believe, my friends and I usually responded with two simple words: *Prove it!*

You don't have to be from the Show-Me state of Missouri to understand what these words really mean. I've heard these words used in response to the promises made by politicians, and these words are a guiding principle for science. (Well...they're supposed to be, at least.) Yes, "*Prove it!*" is a challenge that seeks evidence.

Prove it! Prove to me that what you say is true! Prove to me that you have something to support your claims. Or, better yet...prove to me that you are who you say you are!

Well...don't just sit there reading this article. *Prove it!* Prove to me that you are a child of God! Prove to me that you believe what you say you believe! Prove to me that, as a member of St. Peter Lutheran, you understand that there's no such thing as an "inactive" member, but one who understands how important you are to the body of believers that has been placed here on the corner of 24 Mile and Romeo Plank Road. Prove that being a saved and redeemed child of God matters more than anything else. Yes...*prove it!*

I admit that I don't usually write articles that are this direct, but as we near the celebration of the great Reformation, I can't help but wonder what a man like Martin Luther would think when it comes to how we choose to live out our faith. Would he consider us to be like the many men and women of his day who lacked basic understandings and truths revealed in God's Word? Would he wonder why we (who are literate and have the Word of God at our access and written in our language) take so little time to dive into what God has given us? Worse yet, would he wonder why we appear to refuse to live out the truth of God's Word? In fact, how would he respond to us saying that we are Christians? Would he have reason to say, "*Prove it!*"

We (and I do mean "we") know that too often in our lives, the only thing we **prove** is that what we have received in Christ Jesus is something that we never deserved. But it also means that, because Jesus has proved that God refuses to give up on people like us, we have yet another opportunity to *Prove it!*

Let today be the day that we demonstrate that all that we are and all that we claim to be as God's children is the result of God's grace which was proven through the Cross of Christ and the empty garden tomb. As Holy Spirit driven people, let's *prove* to those around us who we really are. Let's *prove it* in the way we dive into God's Word... let's *prove it* in the way we worship together...and let's *prove it* in the things we say and do – the way we live our lives. Let's **PROVE IT** to a world that is watching...that we really are ONE body of Christ who have been saved by grace and live by faith – people who are children of God by Grace Alone (Sola Gratia), who live by Faith Alone (Sola Fide), which is revealed to us through Scripture Alone (Sola Scriptura)...all because we trust in the One who has redeemed us and rewritten our never-ending stories – Christ Alone (Sola Christus).

In a world that needs to see what this is all about and how awesomely life-changing our new lives in Christ are...let's Prove It!



God's abundant blessings to all of you!
Pastor Kurt Wenzelburger

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Worship



SCARS—Red Letter “FORGIVING” Challenge

In October, we will have the opportunity to go through a sermon series based on Pastor Zach Zehnder’s Red Letter “Forgiving” Challenge”. Using the acronym SCARS, topics will focus on Sin, Confession, Absolution, Restoration, and Sanctification by once again looking to what Jesus and His

Word has to say, while we are once again reminded of the forgiveness that we are blessed to live in each and every day.

As we approach the celebration of the great Reformation, we’re reminded that the purpose of the Church (the ONE Body of Christ) is to live in and live out the forgiveness of Jesus Christ. SCARS will serve to remind us that Sin is something that needs to be addressed in our lives, while Confession and Absolution lead to the grace-filled Restoration and Sanctified living that comes by way of the Holy Spirit. As Pastor Zehnder puts it: “Forgiven people become forgiving people.”

If you’d like to take the 40 Day Forgiving Challenge, you can order a copy of Pastor Zehnder’s daily devotional book by going to the Red Letter Challenge website at redletterchallenge.com and clicking on the “40 Day Challenges” link.

The “Beginning” of Lutheran Music

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! Psalm 95:2

Greetings in Christ!

Christians have placed great importance on music throughout the Church’s history. Here at St. Peter, the singing of hymns and songs is a routine part of worship and other gatherings. However, this was certainly *not* the case in the Church at the time of the Reformation!

Luther recognized that the central issue with church music at the time was that the congregation was not involved in singing. The music of the Roman Church held to the popular idea of *ars perfecta* (musical “perfection”), which consisted of music that was technically challenging, sung in Latin and not easily understood by the congregation. This was not without precedent, as early councils of the Church discouraged congregational hymn-singing in native languages due to theological problems of the day.

However, at the time of the Reformation, the people desired to express their faith in their own language, and Luther insisted that the music of the church be in the language of the people.

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As the Reformation continued, not all hymns advocated by Luther and his contemporaries were new compositions. The hymns, including many that we sing today, came from a variety of sources, including Latin hymns, religious folksong, secular music, etc., while others were newly composed. Older music was often re-written to fit a translated text and to encourage singing by the congregation.

Two examples of Luther using older Latin music and secular folk-song are sung to this day. LSB 332 “Savior of the Nations, Come,” which we will sing on the First Sunday in Advent, is a version of “Veni Redemptor gentium,” which was written by St. Ambrose in the fourth century. LSB 358 “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” was based on a secular song. The melody is taken from a popular “garland song” (a folk song and game popular with children at the time), which spoke of a traveler from a distant land bringing good tidings to the people. Luther’s hymn, which at first retained the folk song melody, speaks of Christ coming from Heaven to Earth to bring good news to everyone. Luther later composed a new melody, which is the version we sing to this day.

A combining of these differing styles is seen in the hymns that were written by Luther and others. LSB 656 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,” which we sing on Reformation Sunday, is an example of this combination. Luther received training in music during his time as a monk and was very active in composing. The rhythm sounds very much like a folk-song, but the melody alone is similar to Gregorian chant. Luther’s text is extremely personal in describing the Christian experience, confession and foundation.

The song of the Church is part of its great heritage. While our hymns and songs take a variety of forms and come from Latin, African, Greek, German, English and other traditions, the Word of God is proclaimed, that Word which shares the Good News of Christ crucified for our salvation. As God’s redeemed people, we participate in worship of Him who saved us, and through song we join our voices in common praise and thanksgiving to Him.

In His Service,
 Charlie Russell
Director of Traditional Music



Robert's Music Spotlight

This month I wanted to share with you the song, “Way Maker” by Leeland. We are living in a very tumultuous time, and some days, it seems to me this entire world has lost its way. In John 14:6 Jesus says, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” We have the answer that our world needs. He is with us always, moving in our midst, and we simply need to acknowledge Him and ask Him to reign in our lives. When we sing this song in church very soon, don’t just sing the words and follow a melody, but make it a declaration that He is here. He is our way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper and light in the darkness.

Robert W. Costa
Director Of Modern Worship

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP	MODERN WORSHIP	LIVESTREAM
Saturday - 6 p.m. Sunday - 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.	Sunday - 11 a.m.	Sunday - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Service



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

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Truck Unloading:** October 5 and 19 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:** October 6 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and October 20 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:** October 1 help is needed to pack and deliver 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 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. are currently available, but arrangements must be made in advance.



ANOTHER WAY TO HELP

- **Amazon:** If you're an online shopper with Amazon, you can continue to shop all the great selections and values while supporting Hope for the Hungry Pantry. For every eligible product purchased, **AmazonSmile** will donate to us with no additional cost to you! For more information visit our website, under [Volunteer](#) or [AmazonSmile](#).

A core group of volunteers donates 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.

Yours in Christ,
Karen Foust, *Chairperson*
(586) 491-0652 or karenwiegand@gmail.com



The Quilting ladies are in need of various items to be used in the making of the tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and Chene Street.

If you are able to donate any of the following items, please deposit them into the quilting box in the Church Coat Room: used or new blankets, used quilts, cotton and flannel sheets, and pieces of cotton material. Also, if you are a Thrivent member or know of someone who is, you are able to request a grant from Thrivent to benefit the quilting ladies. Each member is eligible to request two grants per year. These grants would help purchase fabric that is needed for the backing on the quilts. If you would like to give a memorial or thank offering and have it be designated for the Quilters Fund, please make the check out to "St. Peter Women's Ministry" with a notation on the check "Quilters Fund". You can either drop it off at the Church Office front desk or give it directly to Women's Ministry Treasurer, Nancy Dodson. Any online giving to the Quilters Fund is not available.

If you have any questions regarding the items or exactly how to request a grant, please contact Mary Ann Demetreakeas at (586) 854-0548 or talk to any of the Women's Ministry Board.

God Bless you for your help with this mission of service to our community and abroad!

Donations for Gifts For All God's Children— following are some examples of what is needed:

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Lotions
- Soap
- Deodorant
- Dental floss
- Toothpaste

You may deposit them into the appropriate drawers in the Church Coat Room. Questions: Contact Joyce Schwark at (586) 524-9328.



Life Chain - Each year Life Chains form in cities nationwide to make a public, prayerful, peaceful stand for life. Life Chain Sunday

is October 2 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. We will gather at the corner of 24 Mile Road and Romeo Plank standing for life by peacefully holding signs in support of life. Please join us!

Please mark your calendar for our annual **Peacemakers October Outreach Ministry Event held at Peacemakers International on Chene Street in Detroit. This event will take place on Saturday, October 15.** For anyone who is interested in attending this wonderful ministry service event, we will be meeting in the parking lot of His Rock at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 15. Please be aware that we will be outside all day at Peacemakers, so dress according to the weather report. We are planning to leave St. Peter about 10:30 a.m. to drive to Peacemakers. Carpooling will be available. The event lasts until about 4:00 p.m., but if you drive yourself, you may leave before that time.

Beginning on October 1, we will be accepting donations of only men's and women's fall/winter type new or gently used clean clothing, coats, boots, hats and gloves.

We will also be collecting packages of new underwear and socks in men's and women's sizes.

All donations can be dropped off at St. Peter. There will be a labeled container for all the Peacemaker/Chene Street donations located in the Crossroads.

On Wednesday, October 12, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Narthex area, we will be sorting the donated clothing items.

We need many volunteers on Wednesday, October 12, to handle the sorting process.

This is a great way for adults and youth to volunteer and accumulate service hours that might be needed. I will gladly sign volunteer hour forms for anyone who comes out to help us with this big task.

St. Peter Lutheran has been partnering with Peacemakers International on Chene Street in Detroit for more than 20 years. This is a very important outreach ministry of our church.

If you have any questions concerning any part of this St. Peter Outreach Ministry event to the homeless men and women in Detroit, please do not hesitate to contact me. I have personally been involved in working with Peacemakers for at least 10 years.

May God continue to richly bless you and all of your family; as He continues to richly bless Peacemakers International, as we all strive to serve those who are less fortunate than we are.

Rhonda Fiebelkorn
(586) 925-2203
rhondaf85@hotmail.com

Lutheran Heritage Foundation, an LCMS Recognized Service Organization, located in Macomb, MI is looking to fill an **immediate opening for Database Administrator**.

Experience using Blackbaud's Raiser's Edge (database view and NXT) platforms along with Microsoft Office programs is preferred but training will be provided. This is a full-time position depending upon candidate qualifications and prior work experience. For additional information and to apply visit www.LHFmissions.org/employment.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Mark your calendars for our next St. Peter Blood Drive on **Sunday, November 20**.

Information and sign-up information at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/stpetluth>.

Recycling Dumpsters: We have been receiving calls that our recycling dumpster at His Rock is quite often full. We have a second dumpster labeled for recycling behind the school near the blue canopy. Please use this one if the one at His Rock is full. *Please do not leave recycling outside of the bin.*

DID YOU KNOW that you can remember a special occasion or loved one by purchasing flowers for the front of church? Maybe it's a birthday, anniversary, baptism, wedding, or just a special day to honor someone.

Please sign up in the Church Office. It's easy to do and it will be noted in the weekly bulletin. The cost is \$25. Checks made payable to:
St. Peter Women's Ministry.

Questions? Please call the Church Office.



Memorial Offerings

In loving memory of JoAnn Johnson, a contribution has been given to:
The Giving Tree by St. John's Hospital Dialysis Unit

In loving memory of Ray McKinley, a contribution has been given to:
Church Ministry by Jordan Evans, Kim Evans, Lynn McKinley, Susan Rosteck, Robert and Pamela Waldowski, Breanna & Brian Weber
Missions and Outreach by Carol Holloway, Shelly Penzien

In Loving memory of Gail Meldrum, a contribution has been given to:
Church Ministry by William and Sandra Grasso

Thank Offerings

In thankfulness for blessings received, a contribution has been given to:
The Giving Tree (Parsonage Windows) by Lynne and Marlene Zienert

In thankfulness for their grandchildren, Lincoln Paul and Samantha Jean, a contribution has been given to:
Music Ministry by Terry and Jeanette Yonka

In celebration and thanksgiving for the 10th wedding anniversary of Chris and Emily Poley, a contribution has been given to:
Church Ministry by Shelly Penzien

In celebration and thanksgiving of their 59th wedding anniversary, a contribution has been given to:
Music Ministry by Stan and Marion Krakowski

In thankfulness for blessings received, a contribution has been given to:
The Giving Tree (Parsonage Windows) by Lorraine Bock

Connection

Proposed Constitution Amendment - In order to preserve the sanctity of worship, Church Council is proposing a minor change to the St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church of Macomb Constitution.

The change is to Article 10: Amendments:

"A. This Constitution may be changed or amended, with the exception of the Articles listed in Section B of this Article, by a three-fourths majority of the votes cast in a regular meeting of the Voting Membership, and ratified at a subsequent meeting also by a three-fourths majority of the votes cast, provided that: ..."

Current wording: *"... the intention to amend the Constitution and the wording of the amendments proposed shall be read to the congregation assembled for worship on two different Sundays prior to the date upon which the amendment is presented for action."*

Proposed wording: *"... the intention to amend the Constitution shall be announced and the wording of the amendments proposed shall be provided in writing to the congregation assembled for worship on two different Sundays prior to the date upon which the amendment is presented for action."*

This proposed change will be presented to the SPLCS voters at the October 16 meeting.



Bible Study: Revelation - Words to the Wise
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. - Oct. 12 - 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 of 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. In this study, we will explore the Revelation that God gave to John. In the Revelation that God gave to John, God gives His 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, and explains why things are the way they are and what is yet to come.



**"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. (audio Zoom), Tuesdays in-person from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. at HisRock (doors open at 8:00 a.m.) and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. (audio Zoom). Please contact Kelly Chirco or Nicki Wargo (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).

NURSING HOME MINISTRY - Everyone is welcome to join us on the fourth Thursday of each month as we gather at the Village Rehabilitation and Care Center in Armada to sing and have a short worship service with the residents there. 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.

OCTOBER WOMEN'S MINISTRY INVITATION

To: All ladies

When: October 13

Place: Fellowship Hall

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

Devotions: Joyce Schwark

Brunch Committee: Captain: Marlene Zienert, Helpers: Rita Stark, Tracie Gillespie, Virginia Oehmke, Julie Wright, Karen Hessel

Mite box counters: Marian Krakowski, Marion Sandven, and Joyce Schwark

Activity: Making pasties for: Pie/Pasties/ Bake Goods Sale, October 15 and 16.

Also, begin thinking about what you will be making for the sale.

Remember the LWML Fall Mini Retreat on October 22. Host church: Immanuel.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., brunch is at 10:00 a.m. We will be doing a local outreach by putting together Homeless Bags. The ladies are asked to bring any of the following items for the bags: small flashlights, wash cloths, travel size Kleenex, warm hats and gloves, Chapstick, Band-Aids, toothbrushes, combs, hand sanitizers, thick socks, small toothpastes. If you have any questions, we can answer them at the October meeting.

Please remember to bring your Mite boxes to the meeting.

See you on the 13th!

Women's Ministry Board

Women In The Word Bible Study Join us as we study God's Word together. Each Wednesday we study a new lesson and meet from 9.30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. in the Large Conference Room (Enter Door #28) - "Joy," by Deb Burma - Books are available. Questions? Contact Karen Gluski (586) 207-6201 or gludog2003@yahoo.com.

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.

GriefShare The fall session of GriefShare started on the evening of September 13 and an identical session, in the morning, on September 15. Having two sessions each week allows flexibility in busy schedules. The Tuesday evening class begins at 6:30 p.m. and the morning sessions are on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. Please feel free to join us anytime during the 13-week schedule. Through the GriefShare videos, work book and discussion time, the healing process begins. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one or know someone who might benefit from these sessions, please join us on the "Journey from Mourning to Joy." Feel free to call the Church Office for more information.

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.

Upcoming New Member classes :

- Tuesdays (7:00-8:30 p.m.) from Oct.18 - Nov. 29
(New Member Sunday – Sun., December 4)

Registration is available online at stpetermacomb.com (Click Church > New Here > Become A Member). Questions, please contact Frieda in the Church Office at (586) 781-3434.



Trunk or Treat - We invite the St. Peter Community to grab your best costumes and join us for an afternoon of frighteningly fun fellowship at our annual Trunk or Treat event! This year's Trunk or Treat event will be held Sunday, October 23 from 4:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. in the north Church/School parking lot. Questions? Contact our PTL at ptl@splcs.net.

Abigayle Ministries Banquet – Wednesday, Oct. 5, 6:45 p.m., Palazzo Grande Banquet Center, 54660 Van Dyke, Shelby Twp. Donations only. Chris Stevenson, WMUX 103.5 FM Morning Light is the featured speaker. St. Kieran will reserve a table for 10. To register, please visit: <https://forms.gle/uDYEeKVqaTikFWzD8> or call (586) 323-1411 for additional information.

FLU VACCINATION CLINIC – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

St. Peter, in conjunction with Rite-Aid Pharmacy, is hosting a “drive through” flu vaccination clinic:

- **Saturday, October 29 after worship from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
- **Sunday, October 30 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Location: South portico at Door #12 (Kaiser Hall entrance)

A downloadable screening form is available on the St. Peter website. It will be helpful to fill that out ahead of time for each member of your family. We will also have forms available on-site. Be sure to fill out your medical insurance number on the form or bring your insurance card with you. Hi-dose vaccine for people over 65 will also be available.

As we continue to deal with COVID-19 variants, it is more important than ever to be protected against influenza. Everyone 6 months of age and older should get a flu vaccination every season. Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Some people, including older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, are at a higher risk for serious flu complications. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting **vaccinated** each year. The flu vaccine viruses are attenuated (weakened), and therefore **cannot cause flu illness**.

Please contact Paula at (586) 322-2319 or hoegemeyer@att.net for more information.

TIME TO GET BACK INTO GEAR with HEALTHY LIVING OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. PETER

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 or (586) 322-2319

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 or (586) 322-2319.

Education

Our Sunday School is up and running once again! St. Peter is grateful for the teachers and helpers that have come forward to dedicate and devote their time to teaching and helping us make Sunday School possible.

Rally Day was September 11. Our Sunday School staff hosted an ice cream social. It was an exciting and busy morning. Parents and students were able to meet their teacher and helpers while enjoying sundaes, activities and crafts.

Classes formally started on September 18. It is never too late to register your children (3 years – 6th grade) for Sunday School. Classes begin at 9:30 a.m. Registration should be completed prior to the start of class. The list of grades, teachers and classrooms are posted outside the Sunday School Office (next to the Library).

As we began this year, we combined 3 and 4 year-olds, 1st and 2nd grades and 3rd and 4th grades. It is such a joy to see our classrooms filled with children. However, in order to keep the classroom teacher/student ratio to a proportionate size, we need to add additional teachers. There are openings in 4 year-olds, and 1st and 4th grades. We would LOVE to WELCOME others to our Sunday School staff. If you could help by filling one of these gaps, please contact me, Pat Losey, (586) 786-0499 or email pg.losey@yahoo.com.

Parents, we do have a special needs ministry for children 3 years through 6th grade. If you have a child that you feel would benefit from this ministry, please contact Diana Champagne at (586) 215-2221.

We are looking forward to a blessed year teaching the love of Jesus to all of our students and will continue to pursue our mission at St. Peter to glorify God by making and growing disciples of Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Pat Losey
Sunday School Superintendent

Sunday School



STUDENT MINISTRIES

St. Peter High School Youth – Recharge

Every Sunday, 3:00–5:00 p.m. at His Rock for 9th–12th grade. Join us for Bible Study and fun!

St. Peter High School Youth

October 2: Michigan District Sr. High Youth Gathering information and planning meeting 5:00 p.m. at His Rock. All parents and current 8th–12th graders are invited to attend. Gathering is June 25–28, 2023 on Mackinac Island. Send any questions to SPLCSYouth@gmail.com.

St. Peter High School Youth – Fall Harvest Party

Sunday, Oct. 30 – Fellowship, pizza, and pumpkin carving!

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.

The following is a poem as it was originally written by Wilma Wangelin in 1976 when the Ladies Aid (now Women's Ministry) celebrated its 50th Anniversary.

Our church, it needs a cleaning,
the benches need repair.
The railings need a dusting,
and the floors look bad for wear.
I think we have a problem,
the Elders' hopes do fade.
No sweat, says Pastor Calvin,
we'll ask the Ladies Aid.

Some pastors I've invited,
said Calvin to his bride.
We must be kind and feed them,
or our faces we must hide.
Their heads they put together
so a decision could be made.
I know, said Mrs. Calvin,
why not ask the Ladies Aid.

The school is looking shabby,
a year of kids is bad.
The windows need a shining,
and the desks they do look sad.

The Board of Ed looks worried,
this job's a mountain made.
No sweat, says Pastor Calvin,
we'll ask the Ladies Aid.

Our good and dear friend, Carrie,
an inspiration to us all,
looks after gathering the sheets
for cancer pads to sew.
You need someone to help you,
for some sewing we would trade.
I know, said Pastor Calvin,
we'll ask the Ladies Aid

And so it's been for 50 years
from 26 to 76.
When we at good St. Peter's place
need help for special tasks,
our good and faithful Ladies Aid
is there for us to ask.

Submitted by: the St. Peter Historical Committee

Life Team

October Focus: Post Abortion and Pregnancy Loss

With these words, the prophet **Jeremiah (31:15)** wrote to describe his fellow countrymen who had lost many sons and daughters in a military attack:

“

A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they were no more.

”

Also with these words, the apostle and evangelist St. Matthew described the horrors of families who had seen their little ones slaughtered by cruel King Herod (Matthew 2:17-18). And these words also describe the affliction of heart that families today suffer who have gone through the abortion of a child. As Dr. James Lamb recently told me, how many modern “Rachels” there are who suffer in silence, who have the constant companions of emotional turmoil and grief, and who know the devastating repercussions of guilt and shame.

Rachel in Scripture was a woman who had also known grief and sadness. Besides the texts mentioned above, she had seen her sister marry the man she loved and how Rachel was prevented from marrying him for another seven years. Rachel was barren for a long while and her sister had many children. Threats against their families’ safety came in the announcement that her husband’s estranged brother was coming for him with a company of soldiers. Finally, there is this unique passage from Jeremiah and St. Matthew which is the kicker. Rachel weeping, refusing to be comforted, because her children were no more.

Yet, there is a remarkable insight and comfort that God the Holy Spirit has hidden in this passage too. Much attention is given to the emotional trauma of Rachel, and also the fine Gospel promise that follows in the next two verses of Jeremiah 31:16-17: “Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears ... There is hope in your future, says the Lord.” And this is fine and good.

But, it is also interesting if we look a little closer at the biblical Rachel and who her children were. Rachel had been barren for years while at the same time her sister, Leah, had given birth to seven children. But, in Genesis 30:22, “God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb.” She had a son: Joseph. Rachel’s second son had a tragic birth. Genesis 35 describes how Rachel’s second pregnancy was hard, and the childbirth caused Rachel’s death. While she lay dying, she gave her second son the name Ben-Oni. But her husband Jacob called the baby a different name: Benjamin.

The wonderful thing about names in Scripture is that they mean things. When these names are translated, they give us a remarkable testimony about the individual—and about God’s gracious work and His compassion for wounded hearts. Joseph means “He will add.” Genesis 30:24 gives the meaning Rachel said, “The Lord shall add to me another son.” Therefore, the one doing the adding is not Joseph, but the Lord—this would be another son who would be like the first, who would take away Rachel’s Jesus is also the Son of our right hand, too. In Him alone we find our strength, our ability to cope, our joy at His gracious giving, our peace of heart because He does not hold our sins against us! The preaching of Jesus’ Gospel is our light in the darkness, for He is our great Morning Star who drives the darkness of guilt and shame away. Because we are also baptized into Him, He is at our right hand. By the Holy Spirit’s grace that He continues to work in the baptized, Christ comes to be with us, and for us. Trusting in Christ, you have victory over the devil, over his lies, over your mistakes in the past, over every wound you bear, and over every hopelessness.

God, whose grace was won by the death of our Lord Jesus, is gracious for all sinners. He does not afflict the afflicted, but either takes the affliction away, helps the afflicted bear it, or turns the affliction into something good. Even with Rachel who wept because death came between her and her sons, God inspired these names as a way to bring comfort for us too. Christ is our Life. God has added His Son to us, and because of this, there is hope in Him.

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For Life Team questions, comments or concerns, please contact Carol at carolpoterek@gmail.com.

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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 **November Keynotes** must be submitted before 4 p.m. on October 15.
Please submit all articles for consideration by email to Allison Tebay - 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!



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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 to see other
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