

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter
September 2019



Pastor Erik Sorenson

Office: (812) 342-4921
Cell: (812) 371-1151
pastoresorenson@gmail.com

Church Board

Rick Flohr, Chairman
Mark Wiesehan, Financial Secretary
Phil Trimpe, Synodical Treasurer
Barb Minor, General Fund Treasurer

Kevin Schultz, Dir. of Christian Ed.
Ernie Rotert, Practical Services
Kelly Thomas, Recording Secretary

As the Head of the Family Should Teach

– Pastor Sorenson

It's a line of the Small Catechism that should govern our daily lives. Yet, it's a line of the Small Catechism that is so rarely heeded and followed. "As the head of the family should teach them in a simple way to his household." Martin Luther began each section of the Catechism this way as a repeated reminder and encouragement to the head of the family to teach the faith to those in his house. This idea, however, was not Martin Luther's.

Scripture itself encourages the head of the family to be the primary teacher of the faith to the entire family. For instance, St. Paul writes in Ephesians 6:4: "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." (See also: Exodus 13:8, Deuteronomy 6:7, Psalm 44:1, Psalm 78:3, Proverbs 1:8, Proverbs 22:6, Proverbs 23:24, 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12).

Typically, according to God, the head of the family is the father, though, in cases where a father is not present or neglects these duties, the mother is called upon to take on these responsibilities. In this way, let this be a call to the head of the family, especially husbands and fathers, to take note of this special task which you are given.

Teach the faith to your family, no matter how young or old the kids are, or if it is just you and your spouse. Read the Catechism to your family and help them memorize it. Pray with your family. Read the Bible to your family, even if you aren't entirely sure what it all means. Don't worry if you aren't able to teach the faith in all its depth, for Luther reminds you that you are called to teach your family "in a simple way," meaning simply reading the Bible, reciting the Catechism, and praying together is a great place to start.

There are numerous resources that you can use to aid in teaching your family the faith and that you can utilize as part of your family's devotional life. First, consider the great resources available in our hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*. Pages 299-304 provide a great lectionary (set of readings) that you can use to read through the Bible in an orderly and disciplined way with your family. Pages 294-298 likewise provide brief, one page "services" you can use to give structure to your family devotional time, including suggestions to guide your prayers together as a family.

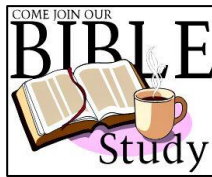
If you would like more in-depth devotional material to teach the faith, one fantastic resource is *Treasury of Daily Prayer*. You can buy this from Concordia Publishing House or other sites, like Amazon. The *Treasury* provides a daily reading from the Old and New Testaments, a daily writing from a Church father, a daily collect, and a daily hymn stanza. Reading through each day in this book typically takes no more than 10-15 minutes. Another fantastic resource to use is the quarterly *Portals of Prayer* which are available at the church. Each day in *Portals* includes a short Scripture passage, a devotion which can be read to the whole family, and a prayer.

Finally, in an effort to aid you in this task, beginning in September the announcement insert in the Sunday bulletin will provide a structure to use the Sunday morning readings, prayers, and the hymns of the day as part of your daily devotions. The goal of this structure is to provide a way for families to reflect on the previous Sunday's readings, prayers, and hymn in greater depth for the first half of the week, while preparing during the second half of the week for the upcoming Sunday's readings, prayers, and hymn. This will be a great way to teach the faith to your family while also preparing them to more fully appreciate and receive the gifts of God every Sunday morning.

I pray that these many resources will be a great benefit to you and your family as you endeavor to teach the faith in a simple way. If you are already utilizing these or other resources or if you have a different custom that works for your family, keep it going! If not, I pray that this would provide a good encouragement to you to begin a good and godly habit. Do not lose heart if you struggle at first with this. Do not lose heart if it seems like too tall a task. For Christ, who is your Head, will surely be with you and His Word will never return void. Thanks be to God!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:

From 10:15-11:15 a.m. following our worship service, join us for study of the Gospel of Matthew.



BOOK OF CONCORD: Pastor's study on the Book of Concord will meet on Sunday, September 8th at 5:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share for a light supper following our study.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY:

A Simple Way to Pray - Join us starting Wednesday, August 14th at 6:30 p.m. for a Bible study on prayer. We will be using multiple resources including Martin Luther's short book A Simple Way to Pray, portions of the Large Catechism, and, of course, Holy Scripture. We will learn about the nature of prayer, how to pray, and why prayer is so important in the Christian life. All are welcome to attend!

YOUTH CLASSES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES will begin on Sunday, September 8th. Children ages kindergarten through junior high are encouraged to attend. (High school students are encouraged to attend Adult Bible Study.) Classes will be held each Sunday after worship until 11:15.

We are still in need of **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**. The goal is to have a kindergarten/young elementary class, an elementary class, and a junior high class. Two teachers for each class would be ideal. Please let Kevin Schultz or Pastor Sorenson know if you are willing to fill one of these roles.

YOUTH GROUP:

The Church Board is very pleased to announce that Pastor Sorenson will be taking on the role of Youth G! Pastor has a true gift for working with our youth and sees great value in creating good relationships with the young members of our church and community.

From Pastor Sorenson: It is time for the St. Peter Youth Group to begin another year! This year the Youth Group will meet every 3rd Sunday of the month from 5:00-7:00 PM for a night of fun, fellowship, and Bible study. These Youth Group Nights will include a meal, a short lesson, and various other fun activities. All youth in high school, 8th grade, and 7th grade are welcome to attend and, as always, are welcome to bring some friends. Our first meeting will be Sunday, September 15th and we will meet in the Parish Hall.

MUSIC GROUPS

The **MUSIC GROUP** for singers and musicians will begin again this month. Starting on September 14th, the group will meet on the 2^{ns} and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the parish hall.

HANDBELL PRACTICE will begin in October. Choir members need to text or call Debbie at (812) 341-4724 to let her know if they intend to play. The practice night will be determined after the group comes together.

CHURCH EVENTS

CAMDEN'S COLLECTABLES is the focus of Camden Jeffries' senior project. He is partnering with Turning Point and working to meet their everyday needs by collecting supplies during the month of September. There are informational flyers on the bulletin boards in the parish hall that outline his goals, and there is a collection basket by the kitchen door in the parish hall for donated items. Feel free to contact Camden at (812) 390-5980 if you need more information and would like to support his project.

It's time to come together to plan our **FALL FISH FRY!** Everyone is invited to attend a planning meeting on Thursday, September 12th, at 6:00 p.m. This year's Fish Fry will be held on Sunday, October 20th.

FROM THE OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS:

Amy's office hours will be Tuesday and Thursdays mornings during the school year. However, she does substitute teaching at White Creek, as needed, which sometimes interferes with these hours. Please feel free to call the office at (812) 342-4921 or her cell phone at (812) 390-2318 to confirm that she is in before coming down. She can also be reached via email at amy@stpeterwaymansville.com. She is happy to make arrangements to meet with you at any time throughout the week if you have business with the church office. Don't hesitate to email or call.

ELECTRONIC DONATIONS:

Some members have indicated that they would be interested in contributing their weekly/monthly offerings through an electronic funds transfer. To set up this process with your bank, you will need the account number(s), type of account, and routing number for our church accounts. Please call or stop in the office and Amy can get you the information that you need. Each bank's process may be a little different, so we will work together to get this set up for anyone interested.

www.stpeterwaymansville.com

Pastor Sorenson has been working on updating our church website and making it a useful place for church information again. Visit our website for worship times and information about special events and programs. The church newsletter will also be posted there each month. Things like an events calendar and recordings of sermons are being considered. Useful tools will continue to be added as the website is further developed!

If you are looking for **CHURCH PUBLICATIONS** such as Portals of Prayer and other church magazines, they can be found in the library of the Parish Hall.

St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar

September 2019

Ushers: Michael May & Dan Acree

Acolytes: Sept. 1 – Rayleigh Acton
 Sept. 15 – Trevor Acree
 Sept. 29: Mackenzie May

Sept. 8 – Joe Acree
 Sept. 22 – Tristan May

Communion Set-Up: 9/1: Lynnette May
 9/15: Amy Sciano
 9/29: Jenni Acton

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15-11:15 – Breakfast Served & Adult Bible Study		3 Pastor at Circuit Meeting	4 6:30-Bible Study	5 7:00-Elders’ Meeting	6	7
8 9 – Divine Service 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis 5:00 – Book of Concord Study	9	10	11 6:30-Bible Study	12 6:00 – Fish Fry Planning Meeting 7:00-Church Board Meeting	13	14 10:00 – Music Group
15 9:00 – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis	16	17	18 6:30-Bible Study	19	20	21
22 9 – Divine Service 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis 5:00-7:00 – Youth Group	23	24	25 6:30-Bible Study	26 October Newsletter Deadline	27	28 10:00 – Music Group
29 9:00 – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis	30				Upcoming Dates: 10/4: Game Night 10/20: Fish Fry	

