

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter
March 2020



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Church Board

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Do I Need Lent?

- Pastor Sorenson

“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:8-9). You’ll hear and speak these words every Sunday during the season of Lent this year. They are spoken as part of the exhortation to confession. The words themselves drive us to confess our sins and repent that we have been unrighteous in thought, word, and deed. Not much else needs to be said about them, as they are quite clear. We are sinners and to say otherwise would only be to deceive ourselves and to cast the truth away from us.

As clear as these words are, however, do we really believe them? Do we really believe we are sinners and that sin is as horrific and destructive as Scripture tells us it is? Or do we just believe that we do some bad stuff, but it’s not really a big deal in the end since God will forgive it anyway? All too often, we fall into that last camp. We think sin is something we hear about in church, but not something which affects our everyday lives.

This is where the season of Lent comes in. While the entire life of a Christian is a life of repentance, the season of Lent highlights this more than any other time in the Church Year. The signs of our repentance, (which means turning away from sin and back to God), are everywhere. We fast from saying the joyous word “alleluia” during this time. We fast from seeing the glory of Christ’s cross during this time. We fast from the joyous colors of the paraments during this time. We may even fast from different things of this world during this time, preferring instead to come to church on Wednesday nights or to do daily devotions with our family.

All of this fasting is done to remind us how serious and dangerous and deadly sin really is. In a time when personal comfort reigns as king, the season of Lent reminds us that the Christian is never truly comfortable in this sinful world. The Christian is always under attack from the devil. The Christian is always harassed by the world. The Christian is always burdened with the effects of sin.

If your life as a Christian is a comfortable one, then, repent! Turn back from your sinful ways, because, if your life as a Christian is comfortable in this world, then you have deceived yourself and the truth is not in you. For a life of sin is never comfortable for one who has been washed clean in Christ. A life of sin is never comfortable for one who God has forgiven and made righteous through the blood of Christ. A life of sin is never comfortable for one who knows the awful price that Christ paid to save you from your sin.

This is ultimately what Lent is all about. It’s about being brought to repentance. It’s about recognizing our need for a Savior and what that Savior had to endure to save us. It’s about being uncomfortable in this world so we may long for the comfort of the new creation. It’s about preparing to descend into the depths of woe on Good Friday in order that we may ascend to the great heights of joy on Easter Sunday. It’s about confessing that we are sinners in order that God may absolve us and make us righteous in Christ. Do we need this? Do we need Lent? The answer is a most definite yes! For Lent brings us low so that in Christ and His resurrection we may be raised up again to everlasting life. And that is something we most desperately need.

Bible Studies



SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:

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

WEDNESDAY EVENING

BIBLE STUDY:

Wednesday evening Bible Study will be on a break through Lent.

BOOK OF CONCORD:

Join us on Sunday, March 11th at 5:00 PM for the Book of Concord study. We have finished the Augsburg Confession and are in the Smalcald Articles, a confession of Martin Luther which was included in the Book of Concord because it is in accord with the Word of God.

Christian Obituary for Dottie Acton:

Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Let us remember with thanksgiving what God has done through His servant Dottie.

Dorothy "Dottie" Acton was given life by her creator and was born on January 17, 1931. She received the gift of Holy Baptism on March 25, 1945 and became a child of God at St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waymansville, Indiana. On that same day, she publicly confessed her faith, was confirmed, and was admitted to the altar to receive the medicine of immortality, Christ's life-giving body and blood. On June 28, 1952, she received the gift of a beloved companion in her spouse, Don. She was blessed with the gift of children, Randy and Steven, as well as 5 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. God blessed Dottie's life with many other special people as she served God in her vocations at home, church, work, and in the community. Finally, on February 17, 2020 God blessed Dottie with a holy death and took her to rest in the arms of Jesus to await the resurrection of the dead.



The Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord. We give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for our sister Dottie.

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES

Lent Midweek Services:

Join us every Wednesday during Lent at 7:00 PM for our midweek Vespers services. This Lent we will be meditating upon the miracles from the cross and how those miracles reveal what Christ does for us by His suffering and death. Following the services, stick around for treats and fellowship in the Parish Hall.

**See the included flyer for the complete schedule of Lent and Holy Week services.*

EVENTS & NEWS

Library:

In an effort to build up our library and provide good theological resources for the congregation, we will have a special Book of the Month. The Book of the Month will be available in the Parish Hall library for you to look through and read. You may take the book home to read as well, but we ask that you please do not hold onto it for too long so other people can enjoy it as well. The March Book of the Month is *Thank, Pray, Serve, and Obey: Recover the Joys of Piety* by William Chancellor Weedon. Here is an excerpt from the book: "Piety begins with the Word. It begins with God speaking. That should hardly surprise us, for the Scriptures reveal that is exactly how everything began. God spoke, and what He spoke came to be. We learn from the very beginning, then, that what makes His speaking qualitatively different from ours is His speaking creates and bestows what it says."

Lent Devotions:

Lenten Devotion booklets are available in the back of the church. Large print devotions are also available. Lent is a great time to start (or continue) having daily devotions with your family. Feel free to pick up one of these booklets to aid in this practice and grab an extra one for family and friends.

Church Cookbook Project:

There will be a meeting to discuss publishing a new church cookbook as a fun project and fundraising effort for our church. This was a very successful fundraiser in the past; the church cookbooks are very popular. Anyone is welcome to attend the meeting on Monday, March 23rd at 6:30 p.m. Bring your ideas and your enthusiasm!

Clean-up Day:

In anticipation of Holy Week and Easter, please join us for a clean-up day on Saturday, March 28th beginning at 9:00 AM. We will tackle a list of different jobs around the church and the Parish Hall. Many hands make light work!

Easter Egg Hunt:

The Youth Group will be hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11th. We will have a craft and Bible story at 9:30 AM with the hunt starting at 10:00 AM. On Sunday, March 22nd, we will have bags of empty eggs available at church. We would greatly appreciate it if you could grab a bag or two and fill the eggs with individually wrapped candy. We ask that you please return your filled Easter eggs to church by April 5th. Thank you!

Altar Flower:

After Lent, we will resume working with Seymour Greenhouse to have live flowers for the altar each week. (There are no flowers on the altar during Lent.) There will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall to sponsor the flowers (\$20/week) and to pick them up on Saturdays. If you wish to sponsor the altar flowers but are unable to pick up, we will help make arrangements for you. Please see Debbie Flohr if you have questions and watch for the sign-up sheet. Reminders and additional information will be in the late March bulletins.

Golf Outing:

The Youth Group will be hosting our annual Golf Outing on Saturday, May 9th at Hickory Hills Golf Course in Brownstown. If you would like to play or be a sponsor for the outing, please speak to Pastor Sorenson.

150th Anniversary:

Next year, 2021, will be the 150th anniversary of St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church! We will have a special service on Sunday, July 11th, 2021 to give thanks to God for 150 years of our life together here in His Church. Make sure to keep an eye out for all of the special things that will happen in regards to this anniversary and if you would like to volunteer to help in any capacity please speak to Barb Minor or Pastor Sorenson.

YOUTH CLASSES**Youth Group:**

Our next meeting is March 15th from 5:00-7:00 PM. In addition to our normal activities, we will also be working on Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Breakfast plans. Also, any confirmed youth who would like to go to the Higher Things Youth Gathering please get your information in to Pastor as soon as possible. Please let him know if you have any questions. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School:

We are looking for anyone who would like to volunteer to lead or assist with VBS this upcoming summer. If you would be interesting in leading or assisting in any capacity, please speak with Kevin Schultz or Pastor Sorenson as soon as possible. We are tentatively looking at holding our VBS June 8-12. Thank you!

MUSIC GROUPS

Handbell practice will continue on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. through the Lent and Easter season. The group always welcomes new players. Please text or call Debbie Flohr at (812) 341-4724 if you are interested.

NOTES

Attention Thrivent Members:

Don't forget to direct your Choice Dollars you have with Thrivent to the organization or church of your choice. You can call (811) 847-4836 and have until March 31, 2020 to direct the 2019 Choice Dollars.

Weather Statement from Pastor and the Elders:

With Pastor Sorenson living in the parsonage, church will be held every Sunday as Christ delights to come to us with His gifts. In the event there is inclement weather, please heed any travel advisories and use good judgment on whether or not it is safe for you to come to St. Peter. There is no obligation for anyone to come to church in inclement weather and there is no shame or guilt in not attending church if it is unsafe for you to travel.

FROM THE OFFICE

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Visit our church website at www.stpeterwaymansville.com for daily announcements and information about events.

Lent and Holy Week Services

Lent is a special 40-day season during which the Church reflects on her sin and on her need for a Savior. It is a time for us to turn our focus away from the things of this world and toward Christ, our dear Lord. As such, it is most appropriate for the Church to gather together more often during this season as we wait with anticipation for the joy of Easter. It is my prayer that all of us here at St. Peter would join together during this special season as we repent of our sin and look for the death and resurrection of Christ.

The Start of Lent

Wednesday, February 26, 7:00 PM – Ash Wednesday

The Midweek Services – Miracles from the Cross

Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 PM – Darkness

Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 PM – The Temple Curtain Is Torn

Wednesday, March 18, 7:00 PM – Earthquakes

Wednesday, March 25, 7:00 PM – Tombs Are Opened

Wednesday, April 1, 7:00 PM – Blood and Water from Christ

The Start of Holy Week

Sunday, April 5, 9:00 AM – Palm Sunday and Confirmation

The Triduum

Thursday, April 9, 7:00 PM – Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 10, 7:00 PM – Good Friday

Saturday, April 11, 8:00 PM – Easter Vigil

Easter

Sunday, April 12, 6:30 AM – Easter Sunrise

Sunday, April 12, 9:00 AM – Easter Divine Service



St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar

March 2020

Ushers: Max Thomas & Camden Jeffries

Communion Set-Up: 3/1: Jenni Acton

3/15: Jenni Acton

Acolytes:

March 1 – Tristan May

March 8 – Laurie Schultz

March 15 – Jonah Sciano

March 22 – Danica May

March 29 – Joe Acree

March 4 (Wed.) – Mackenzie May

March 11 (Wed.) – Gus Sciano

March 18 (Wed.) – Jenna Thomas

March 25 (Wed.) – Rayleigh Acton

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis	2	3 Pastor @ Circuit Mtg.	4 7:00- Lent Service	5	6	7
		7:00 -Handbell Practice				
8 9:00 – Divine Service 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis 5:00 PM – Book of Concord	9	10 10:00 AM-Elders' Mtg. 7:00 -Handbell Practice	11 7:00- Lent Service	12 7:00 PM-Church Board Mtg.	13	14
15 9:00 – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis 5:00-7:00 PM – Youth Group	16	17 7:00 -Handbell Practice	18 7:00- Lent Service	19	20	21
22 9 – Divine Service 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis	23	24 7:00-Handbell Practice	25 7:00- Lent Service	26 Newsletter Deadline	27	28 9:00-Clean Up Day
29 9:00 – Divine Service 10:15-11:15 – Adult Bible Study Sunday School Classes 11:30 – Youth Catechesis	30	31 7:00-Handbell Practice		Upcoming Dates: April 3: Game Night April 5: Palm Sunday & Confirmation April 12: Easter Sunday		

