

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter**  
**October 2020**



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**Church Board**

Rick Flohr, Chairman  
Tom Rebber, Financial Secretary  
Phil Trimpe, Synodical Treasurer

Barb Minor, General Fund Treasurer  
Kevin Schultz, Dir. of Christian Ed.  
Kelly Thomas, Recording Secretary

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**Martin Luther's Church**

- Pastor Sorenson

We here at St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church are part of Martin Luther's church. We can trace our theological roots back to Luther and the other faithful reformers. We even still use many of Luther's writings and sermons to teach the faith. Everyone in the Lutheran church knows and respects the name Martin Luther.

This has led many outside of the Lutheran church to contend that we Lutherans rely heavily, if not solely, on Martin Luther for what we believe. They will say that our faith started on October 31, 1517 when Luther began the Reformation by nailing the 95 Theses to the church doors in Wittenberg. If something is in question among us, they reason, we turn first to Martin Luther to answer the question, not the Bible or other fathers of the church. After all, Luther is the father of our church and the one who began our denomination, they think.

All of this, however, is simply not true. We bear the name "Lutheran" not because we worship Martin Luther or defer to him in all things, but because he, along with the other reformers, preached Christ and Him crucified.

On the one hand, calling ourselves "Lutheran" is a way of saying just as Luther believed in Christ, so too we believe in Christ. On the other hand, calling ourselves "Lutheran" is a way to honor a man who preached the Gospel at a time when it was being trampled by those who proclaimed salvation through the Law and to give thanks to God for preserving His church through the work of His saints.

In this way, we do indeed still read what Luther wrote just like we read what all of the saints before us have written. For it's not the man who wrote it that is our concern, but how and what the man wrote about Christ and the Scriptures.

Thus, while we read the writings of the church fathers, our only rule and norm, the only thing we rely on to show us what is true, is the Bible. All of what we teach comes from the Bible alone, not from Luther. Where Luther is in agreement with Scripture, we gladly read and learn. Where he is not, we hold to Scripture, not Luther.

Understanding this, then, shows us that our faith does not begin with Luther. It begins with Christ. While the term "Lutheran" shows up first in the 1500s, the faith of the Lutherans shows up first in the Garden of Eden. For just like Adam and Eve, who believed that a Messiah would come to save them from their sins, so too do we believe in the Messiah who came to crush the head of the serpent and save us from our sins.

The Lutheran faith isn't something new. Instead, it's a continuation of the faith God first gave to Adam and Eve, continued to give to the saints in the Old Testament, and even now still creates within us.

As we come up on another celebration of the Reformation this month, we must always remember this. Truly, we give thanks to God for Martin Luther and the rest of the reformers who preached the Gospel at a time when many had never heard it. We recognize that God raised up Luther, as He has done with so many other saints throughout the ages, to defend and fight for the truth of the Gospel in a time when it was under severe attack. And we bear the name "Lutheran" and gladly confess that we are part of Martin Luther's church because we realize that Martin Luther's church is really none other than Jesus Christ's Church. For Luther may be one small brick in this Church, but Jesus Christ is the rock-solid foundation. To Christ alone be the glory forever and ever! Amen.

## WORSHIP INFORMATION

### Worship Service Update:

We are now back to having one service each Sunday at 9:00 AM. As we do so, we will continue to follow the state guidelines regarding social distancing and other safety measures. For each service, the radio transmitter will still be used and the sermon and readings will be posted on the website.

### Bible Studies In-Person:

- We have begun meeting again on **Sunday mornings** after worship.
- Our study of eschatology (the study of the last things) continues as we meet each **Wednesday night at 6:30 PM**. All are invited to attend and invite a friend too!
- **Book of Concord Study** will meet on the second Sunday of the month, October 11, beginning at 5:00 PM and continue studying the Smalcald Articles. A pitch-in dinner will follow the study as well. Everyone is welcome to attend!

### Online Bible Study:

- The first Wednesday of each month, we will continue having our Hymn of the Day study for the hymns of the next month. Also, keep an eye out for a shorter devotional video on Tuesdays moving forward.
- Each study begins at **2:00 PM** on the church Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch>) and is also available to view in its entirety even after the study concludes.

### Sermons and Devotional Resources:

- Weekly sermons will be posted on our church website (<http://www.stpeterwaymansville.com>) on the sermon page under the "At St. Peter" tab. (Direct link to that page - [http://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page\\_id=417](http://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page_id=417))
- You can also find helpful resources for your home devotions on the "Devotional Resources" page under the "Resources" tab ([http://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page\\_id=489](http://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page_id=489)). Now is a great time to begin, continue, and strengthen a home devotional pattern by yourself and with your family.
- Portals of Prayer are available in the Narthex. You can drop by and pick one up or contact Pastor or the church office to have one delivered.

**Lord's Supper:** If you would like to receive the Lord's Supper during this time, please contact Pastor Sorenson via call, text, or email. His phone number is 812-371-1151 and his email is [pastoresorenson@gmail.com](mailto:pastoresorenson@gmail.com). He would be happy to meet you at the church for this purpose or to bring it to your home, making sure at all times to take the necessary safety precautions.

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May these resources assist you as you continue to hear the Word of God and cry out to Him in prayer.  
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## 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 October Book of the Month is *Luther: Biography of a Reformer* by Frederick Nohl. Here is an excerpt from the book: "This is the great man, a hero of the faith, whose story I tell in the pages that follow. As you look at Martin Luther, remember that you will not be looking at a god but at a man of God. Not at a perfect man but at an imperfect man, one who knew his own weaknesses and sins only too well. Not at a man who depended on himself but at one who believed that through Christ he could do all things. And as you look, may you also learn."

**Candidates Needed:**

We are in need of church members to run for election to fill the following position on our Church Board: President, Secretary, Synodical Treasurer, and Practical Services. Ideally, we are to have three candidates running for each spot. Please consider filling one of these needs in our church, and give your name to Rick Flohr.

**Sunday School Teachers:**

Sunday School is under way, and If you are interested in helping to teach Sunday School, please talk to Kevin Schultz or Pastor as soon as possible. We have need for full-time teachers, part-time teachers, and substitutes. This is a great opportunity to serve your neighbors in Christ and to raise up the youngest generation of the Church in the fear and knowledge of the Lord!

**2021 Calendar Planning :**

What are some activities, events, long-range plans, outreach opportunities, fundraising events, etc. you would like to see here at St. Peter in 2021 and beyond? Mark your calendars for Thursday, November 12th at 6:00 PM to help plan a tentative calendar for the upcoming year and share any ideas you have. This will be a great opportunity for us to come together as a church and prepare for another fantastic year at St. Peter!

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

Next year, 2021, will be the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church! We will have a special service on Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to give thanks to God for 150 years of our life together here in His Church. As part of our celebration we will be putting together a new directory, a new cookbook, and having various other events throughout the year. 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 or if you have any ideas for how we can celebrate this special occasion, please speak to Barb Minor or Pastor Sorenson.

**Altar Flowers:**

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please contact Sue Anne Lee at (812) 717-0167. The cost to sponsor the flowers is \$20, and the payment can be put in the offering plate or in the mail rack outside the church office door. The flowers are yours for the taking after the worship service.

**YOUTH EVENTS**

**Youth Group :**

The youth group will meet on Sunday, October 18 to help with the Fish Fry.

**FROM THE OFFICE**

<b>THE FRUITS OF OUR LABORS</b>			
<b>August 27 – September 26, 2020</b>			
<b>Operating Fund Collected: \$11,653.18</b>	<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>8/30: 68</b>	<b>9/6: 72</b>
<b>*Of these collected funds, \$100.00 was given in memory of Donna Thomas.</b>		<b>9/13: 64</b>	<b>9/20: 69</b>
<b>Building Fund Collected: \$575.00</b>			
<b>Operating Fund Balance as of 9/26/2020: \$17,910.85</b>			
<b>*Of this balance, \$11,938.94 is in designated accounts.</b>			
<b>Building Fund Balance as of 9/26/2020: \$3,552.90</b>			

**Contact Information:**

As the situation around us continues to change daily, we would like to be able to contact everyone in a quick and timely manner. If you could please contact Amy or Pastor to update your contact information, especially phone number and email, that would help us tremendously and be greatly appreciated. Keep an eye on the church Facebook page for the most up-to-date information. Thank you!

Pastor Erik Sorenson • (812) 342-4921, office • (812) 371-1151, cell • <a href="mailto:pastoresorenson@gmail.com">pastoresorenson@gmail.com</a> Amy Sciano • (812) 342-4921, office • (812) 390-2318, cell • <a href="mailto:amy@stpeterwaymansville.com">amy@stpeterwaymansville.com</a> On the web: <a href="http://www.stpeterwaymansville.com">www.stpeterwaymansville.com</a> • Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch">www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch</a>
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**St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar**

**October 2020**

**Ushers:** Curt Acton & Dan Acree

**Acolytes:** **Oct. 4** – Trevor Acree  
**Oct 18** – Jonah Sciano

**Oct. 11** – Laurie Schultz  
**Oct. 25** – Jenna Thomas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b>  7:00 PM-Elders' Mtg.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:00 AM – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15 AM –Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  2:00 PM – Online Devotion	<b>7</b>  2:00 – Hymn of the Day Study (online)  6:30 PM - Bible Study	<b>8</b>  6:00 PM – Fish Fry Mtg. 7:00 PM-Church Board Mtg.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Voters' Meeting & Sunday School Adult Bible Study (following voters' meeting) 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  5:00 PM – Book of Concord Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  2:00 PM – Online Devotion  6:30 PM – Cookbook Mtg.	<b>14</b>  6:30 PM - Bible Study	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00 AM – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15 AM – Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  4:00-7:00 PM – Fish Fry	<b>19</b>  Pastor at District Conference	<b>20</b>  2:00 PM – Online Devotion	<b>21</b>  *No Bible Study	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  2:00 PM – Online Devotion	<b>28</b>  6:30 PM - Bible Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

