



Pastor Erik Sorenson

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Church Board

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The President Does Not Save

- Pastor Sorenson

With another presidential election upon us, it's important to stop and gain some perspective. It's all too easy to be drawn into the hysteria surrounding this national event. No doubt you've heard the lines about how this is the "most important election ever" or how "this election will change everything."

The candidates, along with their supporters, cast themselves as the ones who can and will solve all of the nation's problems and maybe even the world's problems. Conversely, their opponent is the one who will destroy the nation and, perhaps, even the world. Voting for one or the other, then, is equal to voting for a savior or the devil himself, or so they make it seem.

Of course, we know there will be consequences from this election and we most certainly ought to be aware of these, both for ourselves and even more importantly for our neighbors. It's important for us to be involved in our democratic process. It's even more important for us to be involved as informed citizens who care and love for our neighbors, even those in the womb.

The temptation we must avoid, however, is believing that the candidate we are voting for will be the savior of our nation. No matter how much you may like and agree with one candidate or another, the truth is the president of the United States does not save.

God's Word speaks to this so clearly in Psalm 146. In verse 3, the psalmist writes, "Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation." Every candidate who has ever run for president and every candidate who will run for president in the future is indeed a sinner, a son of man in whom there is no salvation.

This does not disqualify anyone from running for president, nor is it meant to imply we shouldn't vote because we would be voting for a sinner. Rather, it helps give us perspective about who and what we are voting for in any election.

We are not voting for someone who we believe will save us. We are not voting for someone who we believe has never sinned and will never sin. We also do not put our full trust in any elected leader simply because we voted for them. Nor do we fear, love, and trust in the president above all things.

Instead, we recognize that, whether our preferred candidate wins or loses, the Savior of our nation is not on the ballot. This is a great joy! For no matter how good or bad things are here in this world, our salvation is not in question. Our salvation is sure and certain in the Son of Man, Jesus Christ, in whom there is salvation.

We do not elect Him, but He elects us (i.e. Romans 8:29-30, Ephesians 1:3-6). He cast His ballot for us on the cross by taking our sins upon Himself and putting them to death once and for all. In Holy Baptism, the results of this election are shown as God, through water and the Word, marks us as ones who've inherited eternal life.

Let us not put our trust in princes, then, for there is no salvation to be found there. Let us instead put our trust in Jesus Christ alone, for in Him there is salvation. After all, the president of the United States does not save, but Jesus Christ does. And, as Psalm 146:10 reminds us, "The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!"

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 voting, democracy, and the Christian continues as we meet each **Wednesday night at 6:30 PM**. In November, we will study the history and theology of each of the three ecumenical creeds. All are invited to attend and invite a friend too!
- **Book of Concord Study** will meet November 8th, 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)
- 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). 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. 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.

May these resources assist you as you continue to hear the Word of God and cry out to Him in prayer.

THANK YOU

We give a special thanks to Kyle Thomas for a job well done keeping our church, parsonage, and cemetery looking beautiful this spring and summer. He did such an excellent job mowing and trimming our grounds!

EVENTS & NEWS

Special Voters’ Meeting/Candidates Needed:

We will hold a special voters’ meeting following our worship service on November 8th for the election of church board officers. 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.

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 November Book of the Month is *A Little Book on Joy: The Secret of Living a Good News Life in a Bad News World* by Matthew C. Harrison. Here is an excerpt from the book: "So it is with joy, at least joy as a gift of the Spirit. There's no forcing it, no coercing it, no measuring it, no cooking it up. Whenever that happens, joy quickly is faked and feigned and, in fact, extinguished. 'One should be warned to push aside reason and heresy because they always want to count and measure things.' (Luther, Festival Sermons 1:137)....Nonetheless, where there is Jesus, there is joy...and a lot of it in the Bible."

Circuit Meeting Meals and Worship:

Tuesday, November 10, we will be hosting a circuit meeting. If you would be willing and able to organize and head up serving a light breakfast and a lunch, please let Pastor know as soon as possible. Also, we will have a worship service with communion that day at 10:35 which is open to the whole congregation.

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!

Greening the Church:

In preparation for Advent and Christmas, we will be greening the church on Saturday, November 28 beginning at 10:00 AM. Please consider coming out and lending a hand with some decorations. Many hands make light work!

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. The Indiana District President, Rev. Daniel Brege will be our guest preacher that day. 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, November 15 for our youth night. We will have a meal, time to study God's Word, and a fun activity.

Sunday School Teachers:

Sunday School is underway, and they are still accept help with teaching. If you are interested, please talk to Kevin Schultz or Pastor. 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!

FROM THE OFFICE

THE FRUITS OF OUR LABORS: September 27 – October 31, 2020

Attendance: 9/27: 62 10/4: 61 10/11: 55 10/18: not counted 10/25: 45 (outside not counted)

Operating Fund Collected: \$14,377.64

* Of this, \$3,766.08 was raised by the fish fry and donated to Lakeview Ministries.

Operating Fund Balance as of 10/31/2020: \$16,571.88

*Of this balance, \$12,070.94 is in designated accounts.

Building Fund Collected: \$300.00

Building Fund Balance as of 10/31/2020: \$3,763.03

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!

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Amy Sciano • (812) 342-4921, office • (812) 390-2318, cell • amy@stpeterwaymansville.com

On the web: www.stpeterwaymansville.com • Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch

St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar

Ushers: Curt Acton & Kevin Schultz

Acolytes:

Nov. 1 – Rayleigh Acton

Nov. 15 – Jonah Sciano

Nov. 25 – Trevor Acree

Nov. 8 – Joe Acree

Nov. 22 – Laurie Schultz

Nov. 29 – Jenna Thomas

November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15 AM – Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	2	3 2:00 PM – Online Devotion	4 2:00 PM – Hymn of the Day Study (online) 6:30 PM - Bible Study	5 7:00 PM-Elders' Mtg.	6	7
8 9:00 AM – Divine Service Special Voters' Mtg. following service Following Mtg. – Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis 5:00 PM – Book of Concord Study	9	10 Circuit Meeting @ St. Peter, Waymansville 10:35 AM – Worship Service 2:00 PM – Online Devotion	11 6:30 PM - Bible Study	12 6:00 PM – Calendar Planning Meeting 7:00 PM-Church Board Mtg.	13	14
15 9:00 AM – Divine Service (Communion) 10:15 AM – Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis 5:00-7:00 PM – Youth Group Night	16	17 2:00 PM – Online Devotion	18 6:30 PM - Bible Study	19	20	21
22 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	23	24 2:00 PM – Online Devotion	25 7:00 PM – Thanksgiving Eve Service (C) (no Bible study)	26	27	28 10:00 AM – Greening of the Church
29 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	30				Upcoming Dates: 12/2: Midweek Advent Services Begin	

