



THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod

Office of the President  
The Reverend Doctor Matthew C. Harrison  
President of the Synod

The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost, A.D. 2021  
July 11, 2021

Rev. Erik Sorenson  
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church  
11750 W 930 S  
Columbus, Indiana 47201

Dear pastor and parishioners of Saint Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church, brothers and sisters in Christ,

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 1:3).

Thanks be to God! Thanks be to God for one year after another of Word and Sacrament salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone! Today we give thanks for 150 years of Spirit-filled ministry among your family, friends, community, and on into the world. Alleluia!

Although I cannot be with you in person, it is with great joy that I join in your spirit of celebration this anniversary and God-given milestone! May this anniversary year remind you of all that God has done, and continues to do, not only for His Bride the Church, but also for your particular, unique congregation. You are His own creation, clothed in Christ and beloved in His Sight.

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have made many visible marks throughout history. For us, we experience them often as simply daily bread and regular worship. Thanks be to God that He provides so abundantly, sustains with such steadfastness, and preserves with His own eternal power and glory. Day after day. Year after year. Now and into eternity!

What an impact our Lord has had! God has mightily blessed and spread His Word, granting new life and renewal through God’s Word and Sacraments, granting the forgiveness of sins and a place at His holy Table. Thanks be to God that He washes us clean and gives what we could never earn for the sake of His Son, even generation after generation.

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, know that your fellow members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod join you in giving thanks to the Lord of the Church for your confession of faith and community of love. We ask with you that His great blessing remain upon Saint Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church today and in the days to come.

“[M]y beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Under the blood of Jesus,

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Dear Members of St. Peter Ev. Lutheran Church, Waymansville,

Carol and I join you in joyful thanks for the gracious work of the Holy Spirit at St. Peter for 150 years. We are blessed to have been a part of that St. Peter history for five of those years (1968-1973).

While we were there in Waymansville only a short time over fifty years ago, we have retained to this day wonderful and long-lasting memories of St. Peter Congregation.

St. Peter, Waymansville, was a great place for a young fresh-out-of-the-seminary pastor to come to. The members of St. Peter were extremely friendly and very tolerant of the foibles of a new pastor and his wife. Also, at the same time, those members were most anxious to be about the work of Jesus Christ in that place. We rejoice that we were able to know and work with the wonderful Christian people of St. Peter, Waymansville.

While many things in Waymansville and its St. Peter Congregation are greatly different from fifty-plus years ago, we are certain that many things have stayed the same: God's Word regularly gets preached and taught, creating and sustaining faith in Jesus Christ; and Holy Baptism and Holy Communion get faithfully administered, bestowing forgiveness of sins, deliverance from death and the devil, and eternal life and salvation.

We are grateful that the Holy Spirit has brought those means of saving grace to St. Peter Congregation for 150 years. And we pray that the Spirit's work will continue at St. Peter for many, many more years.

Thanking our Lord for all His saints who have gone before us, we are, your fellow-servants and saints,

*Pastor + Carol Bernath*

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June 15, 2021