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## Pentecost and the Bible

- Pastor Sorenson

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Easter continues on in the Church well beyond Easter Sunday. From that glorious morning of Christ's resurrection, the Church continues to celebrate Easter for 50 days. This time includes the 40 days after the resurrection when our Lord appeared to the disciples and many others until the day of His ascension.

The season of Easter concludes, then, 10 days later on the day of Pentecost. Pentecost literally means "fiftieth." It's named this because, in the Old Testament where the feast of Pentecost was instituted by the Lord, it was to be celebrated 50 days after the Passover.

For the disciples, as they neared this feast some 10 days after their Lord's ascension and 50 days after His resurrection, they could've hardly known what was about to happen. Jesus had promised them that He would send the Holy Spirit, but they didn't know when or how.

Finally, on the day of Pentecost, it happened. The Holy Spirit descended on the disciples and opened their mouths to speak, proclaiming the sum and substance of all of God's Word: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

It was in this proclamation when another miracle occurred. A miracle, in fact, that finds its roots all the way back at the tower of Babel. For there, God confused the languages of the people, causing a multitude of languages and dialects to emerge. But now, at Pentecost, God undoes this confusion, causing the disciples' preaching to be heard in every language of the people.

It's a great miracle all on its own, as some 3000 people repented of their sins and were baptized that very day while the Lord Himself was at work adding to His Church. It's also a miracle, however, that means something important for us today.

Pentecost shows us that God not only can overcome a barrier like different languages, but He absolutely will. He will guard and protect His Word so that all people can hear in their own tongues the saving works of Christ Jesus, their Lord, repenting of their sins and being baptized into His most holy name.

This is a promise from God, seen in action at Pentecost. God will never leave His people without His Word. Even though He originally gave it to us in Hebrew and Aramaic (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament), He nevertheless will preserve His Word in whatever other languages may come about throughout the ages.

To say it another way, Pentecost gives you the comfort and the assurance that the Bible you hear read every week in Church and that you read in your homes is the very Word of God. Even though it's been translated into English and even though, as the saying goes, things can get lost in translation, nevertheless God preserves His Word so you may hear the saving works of Christ Jesus, your Lord.

There are those who try to cast doubt on this fact, claiming that God's Word has been changed or lost over the years as it's been translated into countless languages. There are those who try to insist that you can never be sure that what you're reading is the Word of God. Don't listen to them, because Pentecost shows you otherwise. A good and faithful translation of God's Word is exactly that: God's Word.

For God Himself is the Lord of the Church. The Holy Spirit continues His Pentecost work even to this day, causing the Word of God to be spoken to every nation, tribe, language, and people. And Jesus Christ continues to be proclaimed in every word of Scripture as the One who suffered, died, and rose again so that you may be saved and have eternal life in His name. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

### Bible Studies:

- **Sundays:** We are studying the minor prophets Sunday mornings after worship. This month we will study the prophet Habakkuk.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study:** Meets at 6:30 PM each Wednesday. We are currently studying people of the Passion accounts.
- **Book of Concord Study:** May 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 PM. We will continue our study of the Formula of Concord and we will have a pitch-in dinner following the study. Everyone is welcome!

### 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.

**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.

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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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## IN OUR PRAYERS

Throughout the year, this space will be used to encourage you to keep your brothers and sisters in Christ here at St. Peter in your prayers. As you pray for them, you may even ask them how you can pray for them. Families will be listed in alphabetical order throughout the year. During this month, you are encouraged to pray for:

- |   |                            |                                    |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Kevin, Michelle, & Laurie Schultz       | • Charlie & Janet Spurgeon | • Linda Themer                     |
| • Jonah Sciano                            | • Robert & Connie Stiles   | • Max, Kelly, Kyle, & Jenna Thomas |
| • Pastor, Michelle, Seth, & Lucy Sorenson | • Danny & Judy Strasser    | • Jerry & Bonita Thompson          |
|   | • Carla Strasser           |                                    |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

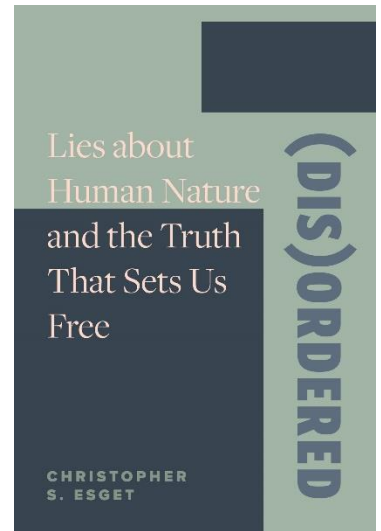
**Missions:** This year we will be supporting a variety of missions. The missions we will support include Clarity, Lakeview Ministries, Orphan Grain Train, Tiffany Smith (missionary for Lutheran Bible Translators serving in Tanzania), and a seminary student. If you would like to submit a name of a seminary student to receive this support, please speak to an elder or to Pastor. May God continue to bless these missions as Christ is proclaimed to the ends of the earth.

**Puzzle Sharing:** A puzzle share has recently started here at St. Peter. If you would like to borrow a puzzle or donate a puzzle, they can be found or placed in the cabinet in the Conference Room closest to the white board. Enjoy a variety of puzzles and some fellowship with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ!

**Thrivent Action Teams:** If you have any Thrivent policies or products, you are eligible for two action teams a year. An action team includes \$250 seed money and may be used for a fundraiser, an educational event, or a service activity. As a church, we have used action teams for the fish fry, the youth golf scramble, Bible studies, etc. If you are interested in using your action teams for events at church or anywhere else, you can look for more information and help signing up on the Thrivent website or by speaking to Pastor.

**Mother's Day Chimes:** On May 7<sup>th</sup>, right after church, we will have a chimes practice to prepare for Mother's Day. All children are encouraged to join and older kids will provide support for very young kids. The children will play during our service on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**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 May Book of the Month is *(Dis)Ordered: Lies about Human Nature and the Truth That Sets Us Free* by Christopher S. Esget. Here is an excerpt from the book: “God’s Word teaches us how to think about ourselves: ‘Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us and we are His’ (Psalm 100:3). This can also be translated ‘It is He who made us, and not we ourselves.’ The contemporary quest for ‘authenticity’ turns this on its head: ‘It is I who make me, and no one else.’... Our culture is deeply steeped in this way of thinking. One need never have heard of the terms or the philosophers; existentialism is encoded in the slogans peppering our eyes and ears, such as ‘My body, my choice,’ ‘Have it your way,’ and ‘The only truth is what you decide for yourself.’ Live your own truth, but don’t you dare impose it on another.”



**Usher & Communion Sign-Up Sheets:** The 2023 sign-up sheets are up now on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. We are always looking for additional people interested in filling these roles. Please feel free to sign up even if you have never before helped in these ways. Someone will be happy to show you the ropes.

**Music Group:** The music group is meeting again on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 6:00 PM. Come on out with any instrument you may have to learn, play along, and have fun! (No experience or expertise necessary.) We are also in need of singers who can sing along while we play.

**Altar Flowers:** If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, there is a sign-up sheet for 2023 in the hallway between Pastor’s office and the church office. 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. Please contact Sue Anne Heilers at (812) 717-0167 if you have any questions.

**Communion Assistance:** We are looking for people who may be interested in setting up and/or cleaning up communion. No need to worry about the linens, as those will be taken care of for you. If you are interested in learning more, please speak with Lynette or Pastor. The sign-up sheet for 2023 is also on the bulletin board.

### YOUTH GROUP & YOUTH CLASSES

**Youth Group:** The youth group will meet on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, for our youth night. We will have a meal, time to study God’s Word, and a fun activity. Feel free to bring a friend! If you would like to be added to the text group to receive youth group notifications, please let Pastor know.

**Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Breakfast:** Thank you to everyone who helped fill Easter eggs, to the youth who assisted with hiding the eggs and with serving the Easter breakfast, and to the youth parents who helped make the Easter breakfast happen!

**Golf Outing:** Thank you to everyone who donated items, sponsored, and/or played in the golf outing!

**Sunday School:** We have a class for little kids (approximately ages 3 through 2nd grade taught by myself), a class for older kids (approximately 3rd grade through high school taught by Kevin Schultz). There is also adult Bible class with Pastor Sorenson. We would like to have a third teacher to fill the gap between the two classes. Please consider this as these children are so eager to learn about the word of God. – Michelle Schultz

### EVENTS

**Game Night:** Game Night will be on Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, beginning at 6:00 PM. All ages are welcome and bring a friend too! Feel free to bring a dish to share, your favorite games, or a deck of cards. Mark your calendars and invite your friends and family to come along as well!

**Pastor’s Conference Worship:** The congregation is invited to join the pastors of the southern part of the Indiana District in worship on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM. The service will be held here at St. Peter and we will be celebrating the Lord’s Supper that evening.

**Ascension Day Service:** Join us on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul's, Jonesville for a joint Ascension Eve Divine Service. We will join together with the saints from St. John's, White Creek and St. Paul's, Jonesville to celebrate our Lord's Ascension. This is a wonderful opportunity to join in worship with fellow Lutherans in the area on a very special day in the Church Year.

**Mortgage Burning & Sunday School celebration:** On Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> we will have a special mortgage burning ceremony in celebration of paying off the parsonage mortgage. This will follow the Memorial Day flag ceremony at the cemetery. As part of our celebration that day, we will have food and games as we also celebrate the completion of another year of Sunday School.

#### LCMS COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

**Trinity Lutheran High School SGO:** Tax credit scholarships, better known as "SGO Scholarships", are awarded by Scholarship Granting Organizations to qualifying families to help them pay for the non-public school of their choice. Donations to fund SGO scholarships feature a 50% state tax credit for the donor. Trinity families benefit from donations made to the Lutheran SGO in our name. Donations can be made in the form of cash, check, credit or debit card, marketable securities (including stocks and bonds), real estate, farming commodities (gifts of livestock or grain), qualified retirement plans, or any item where value can be easily determined. If you would like to learn more about SGOs or would like to make a donation, contact Erin Brooks at 812-524-8547 or [ebrooks@trinitycougars.org](mailto:ebrooks@trinitycougars.org).

#### FROM THE OFFICE

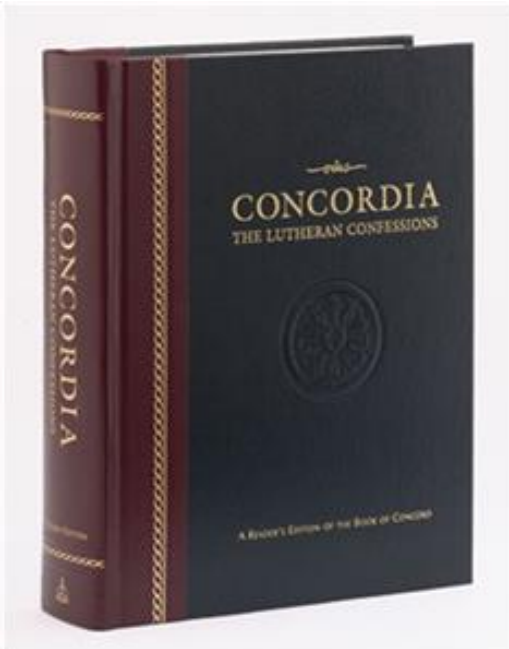
**Contact Information:** We would like to be able to contact everyone in a quick and timely manner. If you could please contact Camden or Pastor to update your contact information, especially phone number and email, that would help us tremendously and be greatly appreciated. Keep an eye on the church Facebook page for the most up-to-date information. Thank you!

**Church Constitution:** If you would like to sign the church constitution, please contact Camden.

Pastor Erik Sorenson • (812) 342-4921, office • (812) 371-1151, cell • [pastoresorenson@gmail.com](mailto:pastoresorenson@gmail.com)

Camden Jeffries • (812) 342-4921, office • (812) 390-5980 cell • [waymansvillestpeter@yahoo.com](mailto:waymansvillestpeter@yahoo.com)

On the web: [www.stpeterwaymansville.com](http://www.stpeterwaymansville.com) • Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch](http://www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch)



#### Book of Concord Corner

"Now (Christ) has ascended to heaven, not merely as any other saint, but as the apostle testifies (Ephesians 4:10), above all heavens. He also truly fills all things, being present everywhere, not only as God, but also as man. He rules from sea to sea and to the ends of the earth, as the prophets predict (Psalm 8:1, 6; 93:1-4; Zechariah 9:10) and the apostles testify (Mark 16:20). He did this everywhere with them and confirmed their word with signs. This did not happen in an earthly way. As Dr. Luther explains, this happened according to the way things are done at God's right hand (LW 37:55-58; 37:228). 'God's right hand' is no set place in heaven, as the Sacramentarians assert without any ground in the Holy Scriptures. It is nothing other than God's almighty power, which fills heaven and earth. Christ is installed according to His humanity (in deed and truth), without confusing or equalizing the two natures in their essence and essential properties. By this communicated divine power, according to the words of His testament, He can be and is truly present with His body and blood in the Holy Supper. He has pointed this out for us by His Word." (Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration, Article VIII, 27-29)



(812) 378-4632

2780 Merchant Mile | Columbus, IN

# FUNDRAISING

**DINE-IN OR TO-GO**

⇒ *Support* ⇐

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church**

June 12th

4:00pm – 9:30pm

**10%**

**DONATION NIGHT**

Support the **St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church** by presenting this flyer to the Columbus Location and Texas Roadhouse will donate **10%** of your total food purchases!



# St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar

**May 2023**

**Ushers:** Allen Acton & Curt Acton

**Acolytes:**

**May 7** – Trevor Acree

**May 14** – Abe Acton

**Communion Set-up & Clean-up:**

**May 21** – Rayleigh Acton

**May 28** – Trevor Acree

5/7, 21 – Judy Strasser

5/14 – Kathy Rebber

5/28 - open

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday                       | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday           | Saturday         |
|--|---|-------------------------------|---|---|------------------|------------------|
| <p><i>Upcoming events:</i><br/>                     6/2: Game Night<br/>                     6/12: Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser</p>  | <p><b>1</b></p>   | <p><b>2</b></p>               | <p><b>3</b></p>   | <p><b>4</b></p>   | <p><b>5</b></p>  | <p><b>6</b></p>  |
|  | <p>Pastor @ Pastors Conference (Lakeview)</p>           |                               |   |   |                  |                  |
|  | <p>7 PM – St. Philip &amp; St. James Divine Service</p> |                               | <p>6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study</p>            |   |                  |                  |
| <p><b>7</b> <i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</i><br/>                     9:00 AM – Divine Service<br/>                     10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study &amp; Sunday School<br/><br/>                     5:00 PM – Book of Concord study</p>                | <p><b>8</b></p>   | <p><b>9</b></p>               | <p><b>10</b></p>  | <p><b>11</b></p>  | <p><b>12</b></p> | <p><b>13</b></p> |
|  |   | <p>10 AM – Elders meeting</p> | <p>6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study</p>            | <p>6 PM – Music Group<br/>                     7 PM – Council meeting</p> |                  |                  |
| <p><b>14</b> <i>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</i><br/>                     9:00 AM – Divine Service<br/>                     10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study &amp; Sunday School</p>   | <p><b>15</b></p>  | <p><b>16</b></p>              | <p><b>17</b></p>  | <p><b>18</b></p>  | <p><b>19</b></p> | <p><b>20</b></p> |
|  |   |                               | <p>7 PM – Ascension Eve Divine Service (Jonesville)</p> |   |                  |                  |
| <p><b>21</b> <i>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</i><br/>                     9:00 AM – Divine Service<br/>                     10:15 AM – Flag ceremony, Mortgage burning, &amp; Sunday School celebration<br/><br/>                     5:00 PM – Youth Group</p> | <p><b>22</b></p>  | <p><b>23</b></p>              | <p><b>24</b></p>  | <p><b>25</b></p>  | <p><b>26</b></p> | <p><b>27</b></p> |
|  |   |                               | <p>6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study</p>            | <p>6 PM – Music Group</p>   |                  |                  |
| <p><b>28</b> <i>Pentecost</i><br/>                     9:00 AM – Divine Service<br/>                     10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study</p>   | <p><b>29</b></p>  | <p><b>30</b></p>              | <p><b>31</b></p>  |   |                  |                  |