



Pastor Erik Sorenson
Office: (812) 342-4921
Cell: (812) 371-1151
pastoresorenson@gmail.com

Church Council
John Dobrinski, Chairman
Barb Minor, Financial Secretary
Connie Stiles, Synodical Treasurer

Nikki Finke, General Fund Treasurer
Michelle Schultz, Dir. of Christian Ed.
Camden Jeffries, Recording Secretary
Curt Acton, Practical Services

Increasing Our Fellowship

- Pastor Sorenson

In 1 Corinthians 12, St. Paul describes the Church as a body. The body, he writes, is one and yet has many members. Not every part of the body is a hand or a foot or an eye, but all belong to the body just the same. Likewise, all are part of one, unified body, but each person is unique and has unique roles and vocations.

We see this quite beautifully in worship on Sunday mornings. Look around and you'll see people from all walks of life and with unique gifts and abilities and stories to tell. Yet, we are all there for one and the same reason: Jesus.

The sad reality, however, is that it's popular today to end things right there. To come to church on Sunday mornings and leave just as soon as possible, perhaps even without acknowledging a single other person on the way out.

Church has come to be treated like the timeclock at work. Punch in at the exact minute my shift starts, punch out as soon as the clock hits an hour, and go home because I've done the bare minimum to earn a paycheck.

May that not be among us! We are a body, and not just any body, but the body of Jesus Christ! A body lives together, works together, and breathes together. A body rejoices in the good times together and grieves in the bad times. A body comes to the aid of any part of it that's struggling or hurting. A body has fellowship between the different parts in a way unlike anything else in the world.

Consider then how we all might increase the fellowship within our own congregation. Sunday mornings are a great place to start. No greater fellowship is shared than sitting together to hear God's Word and receive His body and blood in the Lord's Supper.

But our fellowship need not stop there. Bible study following the service is a time of great fellowship. It's not just an academic exercise or an hour where the pastor drones on in a lecture. It's a time where questions are asked, struggles are shared together, good times are rejoiced over, and laughs echo every week. If you've never come to Bible study, come! Enjoy that time of fellowship with your fellow members.

Beyond worship and Bible study, fellowship happens at events like game nights, fish fries, council meetings, music group, and so on. Fellowship doesn't have to occur only as a part of a fundraiser or a religious activity. It can be as simple as people getting together and doing what they enjoy with their brothers and sisters in Christ.

To that end, if there's anything that can serve to increase our fellowship with one another, let's do it. Let's open the doors of the church or the parish hall and simply enjoy time together as the body of Christ.

For in the midst of fellowship like that, you'll get to learn more about one another. Divisions begin to break down, hard feelings melt away, disagreements become minor and trivial. Because as you enjoy fellowship with one another you learn more about that other member and their unique role in the body of Christ. You learn about the gifts God has given them and, most importantly, how that member desires nothing more than to believe in Jesus Christ and receive from Him forgiveness, life, and salvation.

It is my prayer that more fellowship like this can and will occur here in our midst. Because fellowship like this makes the body of the Church stronger. Because fellowship like this is good for all involved. And because fellowship like this leads us to be the light to the world that Jesus calls us to be. To Him alone be the glory forever and ever!

Elders' Corner

(A new monthly feature from the Board of Elders)

Fellowship is defined as friendly association, especially with people who share one's interests. This definition explains why churches have historically had groups such as "adult fellowship", "Ladies auxiliary", "Men's group", "Youth group" and some churches offer "fellowship hour" after church (no, it isn't all about the donuts). It is a time to gather with other people who share your interests, and in the sense of the church, an interest in the crucified and resurrected Christ.

Evangelism is defined as the spreading of the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness. St Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waymansville is committed to the spreading of the Christian gospel. No, our members are not in the pulpit on Sunday mornings preaching but they do serve as personal witnesses to the gospel through their words and actions.

What better way to be an Evangelical Church and sharing our personal witnesses to the gospel of Christ than through our fellowship! The Elders would love to rekindle the fellowship here at St Peter. Fellowship doesn't have to mean taking on a task or work (although lots of tasks and work can be accomplished through fellowship. . . Fish fry anyone?!). We would like ideas and/or someone to take the lead on fellowship events. Some suggestions might be a day trip as a group, lady's night out, men's fishing trip, or even just a bonfire night. The possibilities are endless! If you are interested in leading these adventures or have ideas to share, please reach out to an Elder or Pastor to get started! We look forward to hearing from you!

St Luke writes in Acts 2:42 (ESV): "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." A simple summary of what the early church did can serve as a reminder of how important fellowship is to the church today! May God bless us richly in our fellowship and evangelism here at St Peter!

In the love of our Savior,
Elders of St Peter

WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

Bible Studies:

- **Sundays:** We are studying the minor prophets Sunday mornings after worship. This month we will study the prophets Habakkuk and Zephaniah.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study:** Meets at 6:30 PM each Wednesday. We are currently studying the rites of Holy Baptism and Confirmation
- **Book of Concord Study:** August 13th 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)
- 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.

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

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:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Dale & Ruth Woodard | • Cheryl Yearsley | • Curt, Jenni, Rayleigh, & Abe Acton |
| • Ali Wooten | • Dan, Janice, Joe, Trevor, & Abigail | • Allen & Beverly Acton |
| • Kimberly Wright | • Acree | • Don Acton |

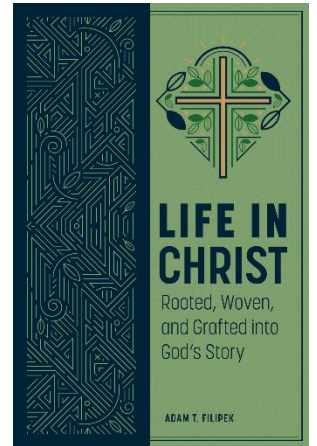
GENERAL INFORMATION

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.

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 August Book of the Month is *Life in Christ: Rooted, Woven, and Grafted into God's Story* by Adam T. Filipek. Here is an excerpt from the book: "Isn't that all I need to know to be saved? While it is true that all people who confess with their mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in their heart that God raised Him from the dead will be saved (see Rm 10:9), it is also true that there are great dangers in asking a question like this. The first danger is that the tenor of the question treats the Word of God apathetically. Jesus, however, does not. He eagerly read from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah in the Nazareth synagogue (see Lk 4:17-21). He regularly references the beginning of creation, Adam, Abraham, Moses, David, Israel, and many other Old Testament people and events. He stressed the importance of hearing God's Word when He said, 'Whoever is of God hears the words of God' (Jn 8:47)."



Council Positions: At our October voters' meeting, we will elect new council members for the positions of Synodical Fund Treasurer and Recording Secretary. If you would be willing to serve in either of these roles, please let a current council member know.

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.

College Outreach and Care: As a new school year begins, we will continue our college outreach and care program for our college students. If you are going to college (or know a member who is going to college), please let Pastor Sorenson know so he can add you to the list.

YOUTH GROUP & YOUTH CLASSES

Youth Group: The youth group will meet on Sunday, August 20th, 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.

Sunday School Teachers: As we approach a new school year, it is time to start planning for Sunday School! We are in need of people to volunteer to help teach our Sunday School classes. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to be a part of teaching the Word of God to our children, to dive into the Word yourself, and to build up the entire church. If you are interested in teaching in any capacity (weekly, twice a month, once a month, substitute, etc.), please contact Michelle Schultz or Pastor Sorenson. Thank you for supporting our youth in this way!

Youth Catechesis: Youth Catechesis (confirmation) classes will be beginning on August 13th. If you have a child who has already begun Catechesis, or if you have a child you would like to start this year, please contact Pastor Sorenson as soon as possible. If your child will be going through classes at White Creek, please contact Pastor Sorenson as well, as he would like to have all of our catechumens together in class so they may grow with one another and so he may get to know them and they may get to know him. Thank you!

EVENTS

Game Night: Game Night will be on Friday, August 4th, beginning at 6:00 PM. All ages are welcome and bring a friend too! Our dinner theme is family favorites. 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!

Fish Fry: The Fish Fry is scheduled for Sunday, October 15th from 4:00-7:00 PM. We are in need of someone to head it up this year. Barb Minor has all the information ready to go so you will not need to come up with it all from scratch. If you are interested in helping in this way, please speak to Pastor, a council member, or Barb. Thank you!

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.

FROM THE OFFICE

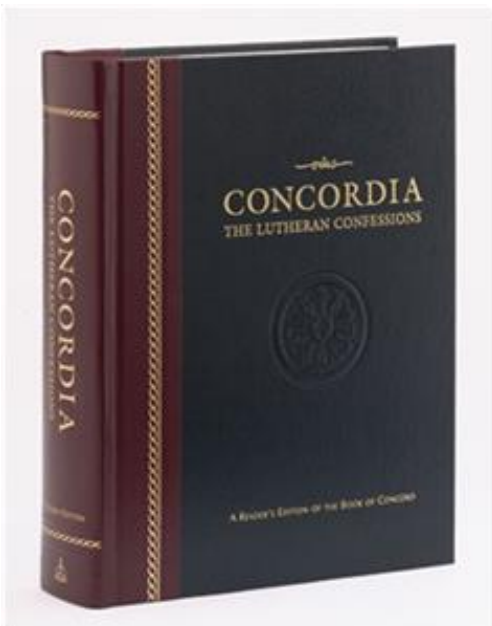
Contact Information: We would like to be able to contact everyone in a quick and timely manner. If you could please contact Camden or Pastor to update your contact information, especially phone number and email, that would help us tremendously and be greatly appreciated. Keep an eye on the church Facebook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

Camden Jeffries • (812) 342-4921, office • (812) 390-5980 cell • waymansvillepeter@yahoo.com

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



Book of Concord Corner

“Thy kingdom come...

From this you see that we do not pray here for a crust of bread or a temporal, perishable good. Instead, we pray for an eternal inestimable treasure and everything that God Himself possesses. This is far too great for any human heart to think about desiring, if God had not Himself commanded us to pray for the same. But because He is God, He also claims the honor of giving much more and more abundantly than anyone can understand (Ephesians 3:20). He is like an eternal, unfailing fountain. The more it pours forth and overflows, the more it continues to give. God desires nothing more seriously from us than that we ask Him for much and great things. In fact, He is angry if we do not ask and pray confidently.” (Large Catechism, Part III, 55-56)

Join us Friday, August 4th for



When: Starting at **6:00 PM**

What: Board games, card games, video games, outdoor games, etc.

Who: Everyone! Feel free to invite a friend as well

Why: To have fun and enjoy time with fellow church members

Feel free to bring drinks, a dish to share, or desserts, or just come and enjoy some games and fellowship!

St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar

August 2023

Ushers: Max Thomas & Bill Finke

Acolytes:
August 6 – Abe Acton
August 13– Rayleigh Acton
August 20 – Trevor Acree
August 27 – Abe Acton

Communion Set-up & Clean-up:

All Sundays open

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Upcoming Events:</i> 9/10 – Sunday School begins		1	2 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	3	4 6 PM – Game Night	5
6 10 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study	7	8	9 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	10 5:30 PM – Elders meeting 6 PM – Music Group 7 PM – Council meeting	11	12
13 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis 5:00 PM – Book of Concord study	14	15 9 AM-2 PM – Pastor @ Circuit meeting	16 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	17	18	19
20 12 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis 5:00 PM – Youth Group	21	22	23 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	24 6 PM – Music Group	25	26
27 13 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	28	29	30 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	31		