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On Resurrection

- Pastor Sorenson

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! This is the Easter greeting that we share each and every year. Because this is the source of our great joy as Christians. Christ is risen from the dead.

Since Christ is risen from the dead, you too will rise from the dead. All people will rise from the dead. Some will rise to everlasting life, while others will rise to everlasting death and condemnation. The parable of the sheep and the goats is a very clear teaching of this truth (Matthew 25:31-46).

St. Paul says this "In fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Corinthians 15:20). To say that Jesus is the "firstfruits" is to say that as He has physically risen from the dead, so too will all who fall asleep (i.e. die) physically rise from the dead. As the first fruit of the tree appears, in other words, you know what all the other fruit from that tree will be.

This is your hope as a Christian. That even though your body will fall asleep in death, it will be raised up again, joined to your soul, glorified and perfected, and you will live with God forevermore. In a real, physical body. For that is precisely what happened to Jesus Christ.

Sadly, however, many people, even many Christians, do not really believe this. It's not necessarily because they don't believe in resurrection in general, but it's because they've been led astray by a false teaching that says the physical body is bad so a physical resurrection would be bad too.

This false teaching has a name. Since the earliest years after Christ's resurrection, it has been known by the name "Gnosticism." The Gnostic teaching says that the physical world is bad and the spiritual world is pure and holy. Our goal, therefore, is to escape the physical and transcend to the spiritual.

Now, you'll notice that there aren't any Gnostic churches around town or around the globe. That's because this teaching seeks to blend in, if you will. It's a subtle shift to get people to believe that everything else they believe is true, except for the part about a physical resurrection.

Surveys over the years have even shown this. For the last decade or so, the number of Christians in America who believe in their own physical resurrection has shrunk to under 50%. It's been precisely during this same time period when people have begun to be more interested in talking about spirituality than about religion. Think of the popular phrase, "I'm spiritual, not religious." Or people who seek a church where they can "feel the Spirit working."

As we come to the season of Easter once again, do not be led astray by this false teaching. It's everywhere in our world today. Everything that seeks to make you despise your body or the physical world around you, everything that seeks to elevate spiritual things over physical things, is Gnosticism at work.

Do not be deceived, dear saints. For your Lord does not despise physical things. Nor does He hold spiritual things as better than physical. Instead, your Lord took on physical flesh to suffer, die, and rise again physically from the dead so that you too may rise from the dead on the Last Day.

Until that day, your Lord also uses physical things to bring you His spiritual gifts. They are not opposed to each other, but He uses them to work together for your good. It's why your Lord gives you spiritual gifts through water, bread, and wine, all attached to His Word. Because, as the creation of the world, the incarnation of Christ, and the resurrection of Christ prove, the physical is not bad.

And that means that your body is not bad. It's not evil. It's not to be discarded. Rather, your body has been redeemed by the blood of Christ. And your body will rise again from the dead to live with Him forevermore. Because, after all, alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Elders' Corner

(A monthly feature from the Board of Elders)

Greetings and blessings to all as the Easter season is upon us.

He is risen, He is risen indeed. Alleluia! Oh, what joyous words to proclaim. Our comfort in these words and the Word of our Savior Jesus Christ in John 11:25, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" As our Lord speaks this to Martha, we should all respond as she does, "Yes, Lord."

Joys and happiness abound as we spring forward. Our time together will again be celebrated with our Fellowship Friday at 5 on April 12th. The elders agreed that our regular schedule would not work as our normal time of fellowship had fallen on Good Friday. The last Friday of April will be the night before the St. Peter Golf Outing at Hickory Hills GC, Brownstown. The decision for the menu consists of sausages & bratwurst along with other dishes yet to be determined for the scheduled fellowship meal.

St. Peter again has been blessed to welcome Trevor Acree and Rayleigh Acton as our newest confirmands on Palm Sunday. Congratulations to our young adults. 1 Peter 5:1-11.

Also read Philippians 3:10-11 and 1 Peter 1:3-5. Plant the Word, grow in spirit, bloom in faith.

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 prophet Haggai.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 6:30 PM, beginning on April 17th. If you have a study or topic you would like to do, please speak to Pastor.
- **Book of Concord Study:** Second Sunday of the month, April 14th, 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.

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 page - https://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page_id=1965)
- 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:

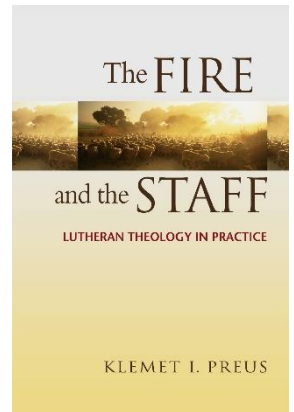
- | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| • Justin & Bradley Turner | • Mark, Melessa, Sydney, & Trevor Wiesehan | • Dale & Ruth Woodard |
| • Eric & Brenda Turner | | • Ali Wooten |
| • Mike & Verna Vandercar | • Mark & Yvonne Willman | • Kimberly Wright |
| • Dennis Wessel | • Sonya Wilson | • Cheryl Yearsley |

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.

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. The April Book of the Month is *The Fire and the Staff: Lutheran Theology in Practice* by Klemet I. Preus. Here is an excerpt from the book: "Doctrine and practice are more closely related, even interdependent, than is often realized. Doctrine affects practice and practice affects doctrine. The two are so intimately woven together that when you change one, you will inevitably change the other, sometimes without realizing what has happened. The analogy of a shepherd is apt. A shepherd warms himself and his flock by the fire. With his staff he gently nudges the sheep toward the source of warmth. So God gives us doctrine, and through churchly practices He nudges us toward the biblical doctrine of Christ. What shepherd builds a fire that offers warmth and light then uses his staff to drive the sheep away from the fire? Wouldn't that be like a pastor who teaches the true doctrine but through faulty practice actually undermines his own teaching? Or think about a foolish shepherd who might gently guide his sheep with a good staff only to find that the fire is out. That would be akin to establishing good practices within the church but teaching faulty doctrine."



Confirmation: Congratulations and God's blessings to our confirmands this year: Trevor Acree and Rayleigh Acton! Please keep them in your prayers and share an encouraging word with them as they come to this exciting time.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting: We will have our quarterly voters' meeting on April 14th following the worship service.

Usher & Communion Sign-Up Sheets: The 2024 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.

Altar Flowers: If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, there is a sign-up sheet for 2024 in the hallway between Pastor's study 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 Lynnette or Pastor. The sign-up sheet for 2024 is also on the bulletin board.

Church & Parish Hall Cleaning Volunteers: If you are interested in helping to clean the Church and Parish Hall, there is a sign-up sheet in the hallway in the Parish Hall. You can sign-up for a month at a time and you can sign-up with another person/couple/family too. Prayerfully consider lending a hand in this way. You may also speak to Janice Acree or Jenni Acton for more information about the cleaning duties or the sheet on the bulletin board.

Puzzle Sharing: 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!

YOUTH GROUP & YOUTH CLASSES

Youth Group: The youth group will meet on Sunday, April 21st, at 5 PM 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.

Golf Outing: The Youth Group will be hosting our annual Golf Outing on Saturday, April 27th at Hickory Hills Golf Course in Brownstown. If you would like to play or be a sponsor for the outing, please speak to Pastor Sorenson. Additional information can be found on the flyers on the bulletin boards.

Golf Outing Donations: The Youth Group is asking for donations of food items for lunch at the golf outing. If you would like to donate, please see the sign-up sheet on the conference room door. Thank you for your support towards our youth!

EVENTS

Fellowship Friday @ 5: Join us on Friday, April 12th for Fellowship Friday @ 5. That evening we will have burgers, hot dogs, and brats provided and time for fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. We will start at 5, but feel free to come anytime!

Game Night: Game Night will be on Friday, April 5th, beginning at 6:00 PM. All ages are welcome and bring a friend too! Our dinner theme will be try a new recipe night. 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!

LCMS COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Lakeview Disc Golf Tournament: Do you enjoy being outdoors in God's beautiful Creation? Do you like a nice hike or stroll with friends? Do you occasionally get the urge to huck (throw) objects with a lot of force? If you answered yes to any of these questions, come and join us down at Camp Lakeview for the Hike and Huck! The Hike and Huck is a family friendly and beginner friendly event. It is a best-shot doubles tournament (think golf scramble) so there's no need to be a pro. In fact, everyone is a winner - anyone who registers leaves with a custom disc and is entered for a chance to win other prizes! Visit lakeview.camp/discgolf for more information.

Lutheran SGO: Take full advantage of all the benefits of donating to the Lutheran SGO and support the students and families of Trinity Lutheran High School. For their generosity, donors may receive a 50% state tax credit. Donations can take many forms, from cash to credit cards to commodities. <https://www.lutheransgo.org/donations/index.php> Have questions or want to learn more? 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. Thank you!

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

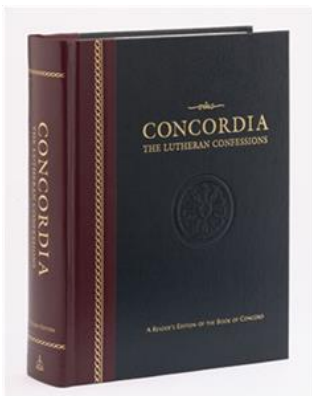
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On the web: www.stpeterwaymansville.com • Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch

Book of Concord Corner

The word *Lord* explains how Christ “became man (John 1:14), was conceived and born without sin (Hebrews 4:15), from the Holy Spirit and from the virgin Mary (Luke 1:35), so that He might overcome sin. Further, it explains that He suffered, died, and was buried so that He might make satisfaction for me and pay what I owe (1 Corinthians 15:3-4), not with silver or gold, but with His own precious blood (1 Peter 1:18-19). And He did all this in order to become my Lord. He did none of these things for Himself, nor did He have any need for redemption. After that He rose again from the dead, swallowed up and devoured death (1 Corinthians 15:54), and finally ascended into heaven and assumed the government at the Father’s right hand (1 Peter 3:22). He did these things so that the devil and all powers must be subject to Him and lie at His feet (Hebrews 10:12-13) until finally, at the Last Day, He will completely divide and separate us from the wicked world, the devil, death, sin, and such (Matthew 25:31-46; 13:24-30, 47-50).” (Large Catechism, Part II, 31)



Annual Waymansville Open Golf Scramble



Prizes for:

Closest to the Pin

Longest Drive

Winning Team Members

Yardsticks and marshmallows will
also be available! (\$5 each)

Saturday, April 27th, 2024

Hickory Hills Golf Course
1509 SR 135
Brownstown, IN 47220
(812) 358-4529

8:00 AM - Registration
9:00 AM - Shotgun Start

\$50/player
4 players per team
Includes: 18 holes, cart,
food, drinks, prizes

Proceeds benefit the
missions of St. Peter
Evangelical Lutheran
Church, Waymansville
Youth Group

To register your team, sponsor a hole for \$50, or
for more information, contact Pastor Erik Sorenson
at (812) 371-1151 or pastoresorenson@gmail.com

St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar

Ushers: Kevin Schultz & Bill Finke

Communion Set-up & Clean-up:

4/7, 21: Kathy Rebber

4/14, 28: Open

Acolytes:

April 7 – John Nye

April 21 – Abe Acton

April 2024

April 14 – Noah Nye

April 28 – John Nye

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Upcoming Events: 5/9: Joint Ascension Service	1	2	3	4	5 6 PM – Game Night	6
7 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School	8	9 9 AM-2 PM – Pastor @ Circuit meeting	10	11 9 AM – Elders Meeting 7 PM – Council Meeting	12 5 PM – Fellowship Friday @ 5	13
14 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Quarterly Voters’ Meeting & Sunday School (Bible study to follow) 5 PM – Book of Concord Study	15	16	17 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	18	19	20
21 4th Sunday of Easter 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 5:00 PM – Youth Group	22	23	24 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	25	26	27 8 AM – Youth Group Golf Scramble
28 5th Sunday of Easter 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School	29	30				