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On the Holy Trinity

- Pastor Sorenson

The festival of the Holy Trinity marks the end of the festival half of the Church year. It began with the beginning of Advent as we prepared to celebrate the birth of Christ on Christmas. It continued with the events of Epiphany, including Jesus' baptism and His Transfiguration. It worked its way through Lent and Easter as we rejoiced in our Lord's victorious death and resurrection. Now, the festival part of the Church year draws to a close with the day of Pentecost and the festival of the Holy Trinity.

This festival moves around each year, depending on when Easter falls, but it's always the eighth Sunday after Easter. The focus of the festival, of course, is on the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. That is, that there's only one God yet there are three Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

While our minds will never be able to fully comprehend what this means or how it works, our faith can most certainly cling to it because God has so clearly revealed it to us.

Sometimes this fact is disputed. People will point out that the Bible never uses the word "Trinity," for instance. Of course, that's true. That word itself never appears in the Bible, but the doctrine absolutely does. People will argue that the Trinity is a New Testament invention or they'll challenge you to present a verse that presents this doctrine simply and clearly.

This can catch Christians off guard as they search for a verse to support this core belief of the faith. With this in mind, below are some examples of verses that do show the doctrine of the Holy Trinity in a clear and simple way. The emphasis added in these verses is all mine.

Matthew 28:19 – "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the **name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.**" Notice the singular *name* and yet the three Persons listed out. Jesus commands to baptize into a single name by baptizing into Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

John 20:21-22 – "**Jesus** said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the **Father** has sent **me**, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the **Holy Spirit.**' The Father sends the Son from Whom the Holy Spirit proceeds. Yet this is one action of God in sending the disciples, not three.

Genesis 1:1-3a – "In the beginning, **God** created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the **Spirit of God** was hovering over the face of the waters. And **God said...**" One God created the heavens and the earth. Yet the Spirit hovered over it all as the Father spoke creation into existence by His Word, who is Jesus Christ (John 1:1)

Isaiah 61:1a – "The **Spirit** of the Lord God is upon **me**, because the **Lord** has anointed **me** to bring good news to the poor." The Spirit is upon the Son who was anointed to bring good news by the Father. Here again, though, only one God is mentioned despite the three Persons being present.

These are, of course, only four examples of a doctrine that's found throughout the entirety of God's Word. Though these are certainly good verses to have in mind not only to use to explain to people who may dispute this doctrine, but even more so for you to know and to believe about the one, true God.

For truly, you are baptized into the Holy Trinity. You believe in Him. You receive His work for you every time you gather around His Word and Sacraments. Even though our minds can never fully comprehend how it all works, rejoice that the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is One and that He works in each person for your good and your salvation.

A blessed Eastertide to you and a blessed festival of the Holy Trinity as well!

Elders' Corner

(A monthly feature from the Board of Elders)

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

As we prepare to celebrate our Lord's Ascension, we remember these words from Ephesians 1:15-23: ¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love ¹⁶toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all."

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. Currently studying the Office of the Holy Ministry and the Divine Call. If you have a study or topic you would like to do, please speak to Pastor.
- **Book of Concord Study:** Usually 2nd Sunday of the month, but will be May 5th this month, 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:

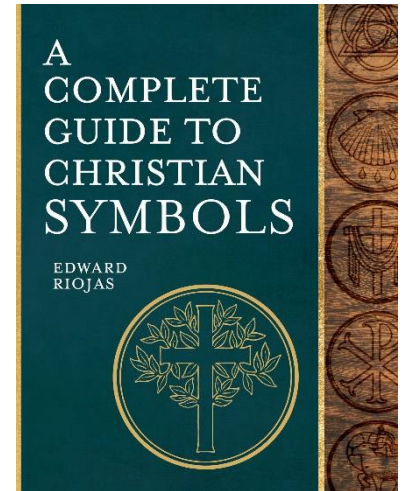
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|---------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Dan, Janice, Joe, Trevor, & Abigail Acree | • Don Acton | • Bekah Brown |
| • Curt, Jenni, Rayleigh, & Abe Acton | • Doug Ahlemeyer | • Mark Burbrink |
| • Allen & Beverly Acton | • Julia Baxter | • Ron & Hannelore Cox |
| | • Mike & Kathe Borgman | • Ken DeLap |

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 May Book of the Month is *A Complete Guide to Christian Symbols* by Edward Riojas. Here is an excerpt from the book: "The fact is that sacred art follows a parallel path with sacred music. That is, both can point us to the Word by underlining Scripture or illustrating it or repeating it. Christian symbolism takes things another step by condensing narratives and ideas into concise visuals. By pondering them, it is possible to reconstitute the richness of Scripture from a simple design. Alas, man is a stupid and forgetful creature. A common lament from earlier books on this subject is that we are prone to forget the meaning of symbols and would rather wallow in ignorance than attempt to correct the problem. We look at a dusty tome filled with symbols, inwardly declare that it is no longer relevant, and fail to recognize that its essence is as worthy of our attention now as when first wrought by our ecclesiastical forebears. This collection, therefore, is meant to edify and enrich; it is intended to remind us of the manifold blessings of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; it is meant to be, as it were, frontlets between our eyes."



Mother's Day Chimes: On May 5th, 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 12th.

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, May 19th, 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: Thank you to everyone who donated and helped with the golf outing!

EVENTS

Fellowship Friday @ 5: Join us on Sunday, May 19th for Fellowship Friday @ 5. See below for more information.

Memorial Day Flags & Sunday School celebration: Sunday, May 19th we will have the Memorial Day flag ceremony at the cemetery. We will have a fish fry and games to follow as we also celebrate the completion of another year of Sunday School.

Ascension Eve Service: Join us on Wednesday, May 8th at 7:00 PM for a joint Ascension Eve Divine Service. We will host as we join with the saints of 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. A dinner will also be served starting at 6:00 PM.

Game Night: Game Night will be on Friday, June 7th, 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!

LCMS COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

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

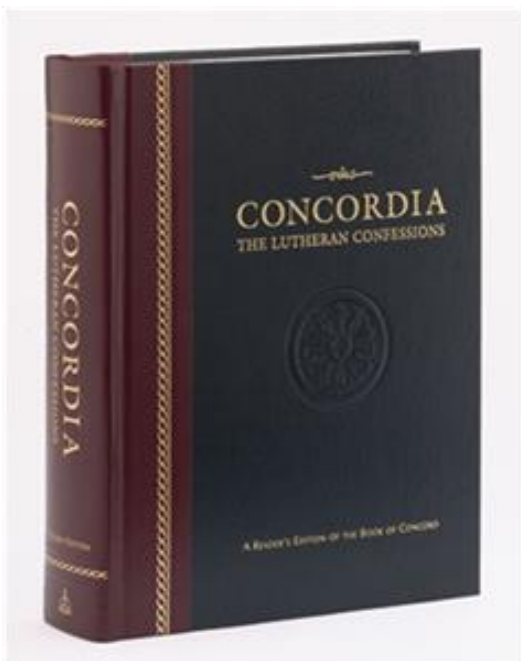
Contact Information: We would like to be able to contact everyone in a quick and timely manner. If you could please contact Camden or Pastor to update your contact information, especially phone number and email, that would help us tremendously and be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

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

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Camden Jeffries • (812) 343-1688, office • (812) 390-5980 cell • waymansvilvestpeter@yahoo.com

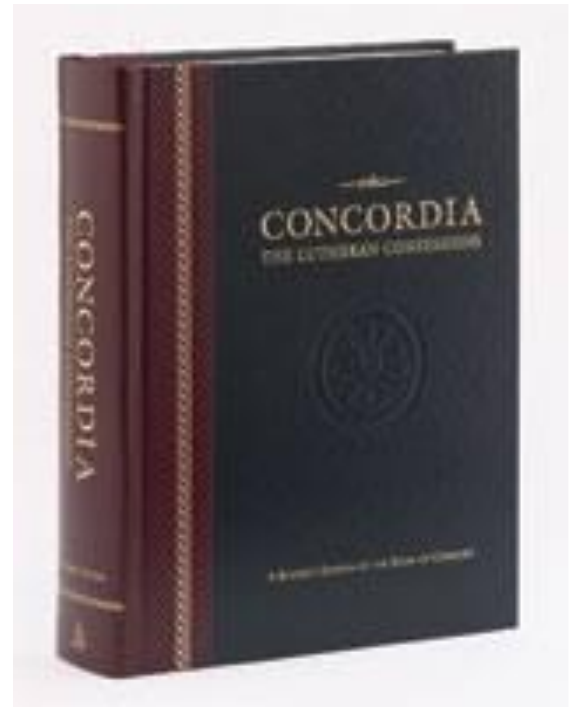
On the web: www.stpeterwaymansville.com • Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch



Book of Concord Corner

“Our churches teach with common consent that the decree of the Council of Nicaea about the unity of the divine essence and the three persons is true. It is to be believed without any doubt. God is one divine essence who is eternal, without a body, without parts, of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness. He is the maker and preserver of all things, visible and invisible (Nehemiah 9:6). Yet there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). These three persons are of the same essence and power. Our churches use the term *person* as the Fathers have used it. We use it to signify, not a part or quality in another, but that which subsists of itself.”
(Augsburg Confession, Art. I, 1-4)

Book of Concord Study



Every congregation of the Lutheran Church vows to unconditionally hold to the Book of Concord.

So what is it?

Join us

**May 5,
5:00 PM**

for an evening of discussion in **Holy Scripture** and our **Lutheran Confessions**.



Following the discussion, we will enjoy **conversation** and a **meal**.

Study meets **2nd Sunday evening of every month** ⁵

St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar

May 2024

Ushers: Allen Acton & Curt Acton

Acolytes:

May 5 – Noah Nye

May 12 – Abe Acton

Communion Set-up & Clean-up:

May 19 – John Nye

May 26 – Noah Nye

5/5: Lynnette May

5/8 & 12: Judy Strasser

5/19: Kathy Rebber

5/26: open

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Upcoming Events:</i> 6/7: Game Night</p>			<p>1</p> <p>6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 AM – Elders meeting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 5 PM – Book of Concord Study</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6 PM – Ascension Dinner 7 PM – Ascension Eve Joint Divine Service</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7 PM – Council Meeting</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 <i>Pentecost</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Flag Ceremony, Fish Fry, & Sunday School Celebration 5:00 PM – Youth Group</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 <i>Holy Trinity</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	