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**Church Council**  
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## Congregation as Mission

- Pastor Sorenson

The term “mission,” as it’s used in a church setting, might make you think of many different things. Some will hear “mission” and immediately think of missionaries who are sent around the world to preach the Gospel. Some will hear it and think of their local food pantry or homeless shelter. Some may even hear it and think of evangelizing their friends, neighbors, and community.

Certainly, each and every one of these are part of the Church’s mission. There’s no doubt about that. And thanks be to God for all the different ways that His mission is seen and carried out in this world.

But one thing most people won’t think about when they hear the term “mission” is their own congregation. For some reason, the local congregation doesn’t register in people’s minds as part of the mission of the Church. Yet, it absolutely is.

In fact, the local congregation is the primary form or shape of God’s mission. After all, God’s mission is to seek and save those who are lost in their sins. To do this, He preaches His Word to sinners, urging them to repent and turn back to Him. Then, God gives His forgiveness to them through His Word and Sacraments so those repentant sinners may receive life and salvation.

Where else is this seen so clearly and so wonderfully as it is in the congregation? Our life together in our congregation isn’t about our shared location or our shared values, beliefs, lifestyles, and so on. Our life together in our congregation is all about the mission of God to call us to repent and to bring us salvation by bringing us the forgiveness of sins in His Word and Sacrament.

This is why we love our congregation. Because here God comes to us to bring us salvation. Day after day. Week after week. Year after year. Generation after generation.

This is why we support our congregation. Because we desire for this mission of God to continue among us. So, we give our tithes and offerings. Our friendship and encouragement to one another. Our faithful attendance in worship and Bible study.

This is why we care about our congregation. Because God cares enough about us as His people here in this place to give us through His means of grace everything we need for this life and the life of the world to come. So, we work on the property. We pray for each other. We give our time in service to one another.

Sadly, when we don’t see our congregation as a mission, these things can start to become untrue for us. When we see our congregation as something that belongs to us or as something that we don’t really need since we already believe, we can cease to love, support, and care for it. Which is really to say, although we don’t like to think of it this way, we cease to love, support, and care for the salvation that God is at work in and through the congregation to bring us.

In our world today, many congregations are suffering for exactly this reason. They’ve long since ceased to understand that they are the mission of God to the members of the congregation and to the community around them.

May this not be the case for us. Rather, may we rejoice to see and to understand the congregation God has given us as His mission to us. As His means of bringing us His forgiveness, life, and salvation. And may this knowledge stir us up to love, support, and care for our congregation even more, knowing that our love, support, and care is really for the mission of God that we may be saved.

## **Elders' Corner**

*(A monthly feature from the Board of Elders)*

Greetings. Rejoice in the day the Lord made. As the calendar turns to another page, we are reminded of these words from a recent Epistle reading: <sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. <sup>4</sup>What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup>You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? <sup>6</sup>But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you." (James 3:13-4:10)

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 Malachi.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. Beginning a study on the history of Lutherans in America. Please let Pastor know if you have a suggestion for a topic to study.
- **Book of Concord Study:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, October 13<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.

### **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](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](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.

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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:

- |  |   |                                      |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Mike & Verna Vandercar                   | • Sonya Wilson                              | • Curt, Jenni, Rayleigh, & Abe Acton |
| • Dennis Wessel                            | • Dale & Ruth Woodard                       | • Allen & Beverly Acton              |
| • Mark, Melessa, Sydney, & Trevor Wiesehan | • Cheryl Yearsley                           | • Don Acton                          |
| • Mark & Yvonne Willman                    | • Dan, Janice, Joe, Trevor, & Abigail Acree |                                      |

## 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 October Book of the Month is *Will the Real Church Please Stand Up?: 7 False Churches* by Matthew Richard. Here is an excerpt from the book: "Separating children from the rest of the congregation during worship is a relatively new occurrence, originating in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. While there is much history around this issue that can and should be debated, perhaps a more important question looms: Why? Are children removed so that they can be catechized and taught the Christian faith at a level suitable to their educational capacity, or are they removed as a means of childcare to allow adults to enjoy a professional church service without the interruptions of noisy children? And beyond the 'why' of children's church, we should also ask whether it's necessary at all. That is, should the family be divided at the door of the church? Even though some churches have good intentions, the family is the core unit created by God. The world spends much time during the week dividing the family on the basis of systematic age segregation. However, do actions like this strengthen or weaken the family?"



**Quarterly Voters' Meeting & Council Positions:** At our October voters' meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>, we will elect new council members for the positions of Chairman, General Fund Treasurer, and Sunday School Superintendent. If you would be willing to serve in any of these roles or would like more information about them, please let a current council member know.

**From Luella Holle:** Luella Holle would like to thank all who donated and sold pies at her recent personal property auction. That was very thoughtful and greatly appreciated by Luella and her family.

**Luella's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday:** Luella Holle will soon be turning 100 years old! To honor her and her milestone birthday you are invited to an Open House celebration on Saturday, November 2nd. It will be at Zion Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 1501 Gaiser Drive, Seymour, IN from 1:00-3:00 PM. In lieu of gifts but should you feel inclined to give, Luella would be honored if you considered a donation to a charity of your choice. If you cannot attend, please help us celebrate Luella's special occasion by sending her a card. Luella will enjoy hearing from her friends and church family. Luella is now living in Assisted Living at Lutheran Community Home in Seymour. Her address is: Luella M. Holle. 1503 S. Walnut Street Apt. 506 Seymour, IN 47274

**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.



**Vanco:** A new, online offering method is now available. You can find more information by scanning the QR code in the bulletin or by going to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZMRA>.

**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 Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**National Youth Gathering:** If any youth (currently 8<sup>th</sup> grade through high school senior) are interested in attending the National Youth Gathering next year (July 19-23) in New Orleans, please fill out and return the youth attendee sheet to Pastor on or before October 27<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions about the Gathering or registration, please speak to Pastor.

#### EVENTS

**Game Night:** Game Night will be on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:00 PM. All ages are welcome and bring a friend too! Our dinner theme is favorite fall dishes. 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!

**Fellowship Friday @ 5:** Join us on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 5 PM for Fellowship Friday @ 5. All are welcome to come and enjoy a night of fellowship.

**Fish Fry:** The Fish Fry is scheduled for Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-7:00 PM.

#### 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](mailto:ebrooks@trinitycougars.org)

**St. Paul Wegan October Supper:** Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 4-7 PM. Drive thru only. There will be turkey, ham, dressing, noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, and desserts. The Ladies Aid will be hosting an online silent auction which will be available at <https://www.32auctions.com/Wegansilentauction2024>

#### 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!

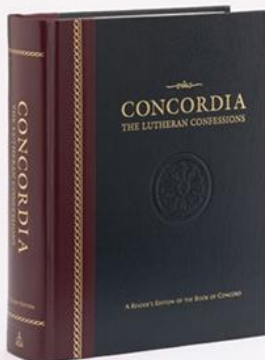
**2025 Offering Envelopes:** Hello everyone! I wanted to inform you that 2025 envelopes are now in your mailboxes, or sitting, in the narthex of the church. Please let me know if I did not provide you with them, and if you would like to have envelopes. Hope everyone has a great month!

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

Pastor Erik Sorenson • (812) 343-1688, office • (812) 371-1151, cell • [pastoresorenson@gmail.com](mailto:pastoresorenson@gmail.com)

Camden Jeffries • (812) 343-1688, 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](https://www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch)



#### Book of Concord Corner

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth....Now, all that we have, and whatever else is in heaven and upon the earth, is daily given, preserved, and kept for us by God. Therefore, it is clearly suggested and concluded that it is our duty to love, praise, and thank Him for these things without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18). In short, we should serve Him with all these things, as He demands and has taught in the Ten Commandments." (Large Catechism, Part 2, 19)

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**11750 W. CR. 930 S. – Waymansville**

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# **Fish Fry**

Menu:

Fish Sandwiches, Hot Dogs,  
Coleslaw,  
Mac N Cheese, Baked Beans, Chips,  
Pie,  
And Drinks.

*\* Freewill  
Donation*



**Dine in,  
Carryout, or  
Drive Through**

**OCTOBER 20<sup>th</sup> From 4:00pm-7:00pm**

# St. Peter Lutheran Church Calendar

**October 2024**

**Ushers:** Allen Acton & Curt Acton

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

10/13: Judy Strasser 10/6, 20, 27: open

**Acolytes:**

**October 6** – Abe Acton

**October 20** – Noah Nye

**October 13** – John Nye

**October 27** – Abe Acton

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Upcoming Events: 11/1: Fellowship Friday @ 5		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>3</b>  6:30 PM – Elders meeting	<b>4</b>  6 PM – Game Night	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  10 AM-2 PM – Pastor @ Circuit Meeting  6:30 PM – Elders Meeting	<b>9</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>10</b>  7 PM – Council meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Quarterly Voters’ Meeting & Sunday School (Bible study to follow as time allows) 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  5 PM – Book of Concord study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  4-7 PM – Fish Fry	<b>21</b>  Pastor at District Pastors Conference	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Reformation Day (Observed) 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  5 PM – Youth Group	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>31</b>		