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Get to Bible Study

- Pastor Sorenson

This can't be encouraged or extolled enough, but get to Bible study. Seriously. This isn't just words that a pastor needs to say because it's his job. This is an encouragement from a fellow Christian. This is something that is true regardless of the person saying or writing it and what their vocation may be. Get to Bible study. And not just reading the Bible at home (which you should do as well), but get to Bible study class with your congregation, your fellow believers.

Let me give you two reasons why you should (though there are so many more than that). First, the Word of God is your armor against the devil and all of his attacks which surround you constantly. You can never be too prepared with God's Word. You will be amazed how often Bible study attendance prepares you for things that happen throughout the week and how God's Word applies to so many things throughout the week.

Second, studying the Word with your fellow congregation members tears down hostilities, gives everyone a chance to discuss issues in the church and in life in general, and bonds you ever closer with the people who are praying for you and are there to support you in the many challenges of life in this fallen world.

It is amazing how many times Bible study class opens the door for discussions that would never happen otherwise. Even better, it does it in a way that isn't hostile or judgmental. Because when those discussions occur, the first thing we always do is look to God's Word for an answer and for guidance.

Now, I know there are so many excuses that people will give for avoiding Bible study. But for each and every one of them, ask yourself, "Is this reason really more important than studying the life-giving Word of God, the One who created me and who gave this Word to save me for eternity? Can I only do this thing at this specific time and none other all week? Is spending an hour doing this thing really better for me in body and soul than spending an hour being rooted and built up in God's Word?"

I pray that God would lead you to see that spending a little extra time each week in Bible study is well worth it. Not only will you be better off, but so will your congregation. The body of Christ here in this place will only be stronger the more that her people attend Bible study together.

To that end, the month of September will be a sort of kickoff for Bible study once again here at St. Peter. Please prayerfully consider making regular Bible study attendance a top priority for yourself and for your family. Whether that is on Sunday mornings, Sunday nights, or Wednesday nights.

And if none of the times currently offered work for you, please speak to me. I am more than happy to hold Bible study at times that will work best for you and for others.

Finally, don't be afraid of coming to Bible study either. You won't be forced to read or answer questions or even speak at all (though all comments and questions are certainly encouraged). If you need to get up and move around during Bible study, that's no problem. If the format doesn't seem good for you, know that Bible study is very relaxed and engaging. If you have any other fears or concerns, please speak to me and we will work on it together.

May the Lord bless us here at St. Peter and may He use our time of Bible studies to further armor us with His Word, to grow us stronger in the bonds of peace, and to build up this congregation in Him.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Lcms.org/stewardship

Work and Keep

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15).

Genesis chapters one and two are familiar to us. We know them best as the Creation Account. Chapter one is where we hear the familiar, “let there be...and there was” directives. Chapter two gives us the account of Adam (the man) being formed from the “Adamah” (the dust) and becoming a living being when he receives the breath of life in his nostrils. Because of this, it would be quite easy to simply lump these two chapters into the category of creation accounts.

But do not be too hasty in this! While these two chapters do faithfully relate to us the account of creation, they also give us the creation of the “office” of steward. The man, created in the image of God in Genesis 1 and formed from the dust in Genesis 2, is created for a distinct purpose. He is created to be a steward of the perfect and beautiful creation that the Lord has made! In fact, this is THE reason that man was made. He — and we — were created in the image of God to be stewards of God’s creation.

This purpose is spelled out in verse 15 of Genesis 2. The steward has one job, with two purposes. It is fitting that in the month that our nation marks Labor Day, we consider the task of steward. The first purpose of the job of steward is to work. The steward is the caretaker of the Garden. Being a steward is work! Before the fall into sin, this was not an onerous task. But it was an active thing.

Imagine being a farmer in the Garden of Eden! Work would be only harvest. No plowing. No planting. No cultivating. No weeding. The perfect garden that the Lord had made would simply produce automatically to provide for man, woman, and all living beings!

But there is a second task in verse fifteen. The word “keep” is not just a synonym for work. This second task is related to defending. This garden, holy by virtue of its being called into existence by a holy God, needed to be defended. Here is where the vocation of steward becomes priestly. The steward was to defend the perfect and holy garden from that which was unholy. Later in the Old Testament, this was the task of the priests in the tabernacle and temple. They were to defend with their lives the Holy of Holies. This too is the labor of stewardship. It is a labor that calls the steward to be willing to put the garden before life!

Stewardship was always work. It only got burdensome after the original steward, Adam, failed to defend the garden from the alien word of the serpent. But this was not a failure of harvest. It was a failure to defend the garden! As a result, all work that followed that failure became burdensome.

The steward failed but was never fired. That is why we have such an issue with stewardship to this day. We continue to live out a pre-fall vocation in a fallen world as failed stewards. That is why we in the church need to be reminded of our vocational call to be stewards. We so easily forget that this world is not ours to do with as we please. Nothing is ours. We are but stewards entrusted with managing the creation for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor.

It is a daunting task. But it is the one to which we have been called. We cannot do it on our own. Apart from the grace of God shared with us through Jesus, we would be burdened to the point of temporal and eternal death. But the Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel! This Gospel connects us to the fertile garden of Christ’s Work on our behalf. Now we are stewards of that grace! The Holy Spirit works this in and through us today and every day.

This is the work of the church. It is also the work of the individual steward. The Lord has placed us in the “garden” with the same twofold purpose: work and keep! Enjoy your labor. For in the Lord, our labor is never in vain!

Elders' Corner

(A monthly feature from the Board of Elders)

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Good day. May the Lord's richest blessings be upon you and your loved ones. The fast approaching holiday of Labor Day reminds us all of the bountiful gifts that we receive from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We read in Matthew 11:28, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Remember, to come to Christ is to believe that sins are forgiven for Christ's sake.

With the turning of the calendar approaches the time of harvest, labor in the fields. On September 14th, our Sunday School will kick off. The new start of Christian education will begin again. The Word rings loud and clear in Mark 10:14, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."

The Elders Fellowship Friday @ 5 will resume after a summer break. We have planned a picnic to coincide with the start of Sunday School this year. September 14th, a little before noon, we will be grilling hamburgers, hot dogs and sausages for everyone. The menu for our cookout will also include mac & cheese, an Asian slaw, and dessert. Please plan to attend our kick-off picnic for great fellowship and to hear the children's stories of their teachings.

Some of the upcoming events for the remainder of the year include:

- 1) Sunday, Oct. 19th – St. Peter Fish Fry
- 2) Friday, Nov. 7th – Fellowship Friday @ 5 fall party with chili & hot dogs around the campfire
- 3) Friday Dec. 5th – Fellowship Friday @ 5 holiday meal & game night

Also read: Psalm 128:2 and 1 Corinthians 15:58

Yours in Christ,
Elders of St Peter

WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

Bible Studies:

- **Sundays:** We will continue a study on the book of James.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 6:30 PM, beginning on September 10th. If you have any suggestions for possible topics, please let Pastor know.
- **Book of Concord Study:** 2nd Sunday of the month, September 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:

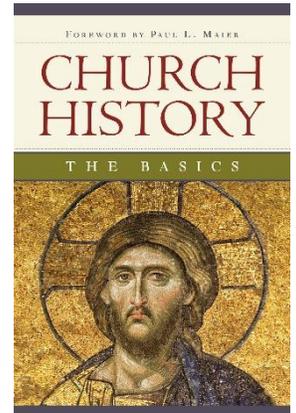
- Dennis Wessel
- Mark, Melessa, & Trevor Wiesehan
- Mark & Yvonne Willman
- Sonya Wilson
- Dale & Ruth Woodard
- Cheryl Yearsley
- Dan, Janice, Joe, Trevor, & Abigail Acree
- Curt, Jenni, Rayleigh, & Abe Acton
- Allen & Beverly Acton
- Don Acton
- Doug Ahlemeyer

GENERAL INFORMATION

Missions: This year we will be supporting a variety of missions. The missions we have supported include Clarity, Lakeview Ministries, Orphan Grain Train, Tiffany Smith (missionary for Lutheran Bible Translators serving in Tanzania), a seminary student, and our youth group. If you would like to submit a name of a seminary student or any other organization for consideration this year, 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 September Book of the Month is *Church History: The Basics*. Here is an excerpt from the book: "We begin our study of the Church from age to age by considering the events in the Christian communities after the period that is described by the literature of the New Testament. Basically, this section analyzes the last decades of the first century through the first decades of the third century. The last specifically historical material included in the New Testament is the Acts of the Apostles, which reaches about AD 60; however, the composition of some of the New Testament documents falls after that time period. We have attempted to pick up the story where these materials leave off."



Council Positions: At our October voters' meeting, we will elect new council members for the positions of financial secretary and practical services. If you would be willing to serve in either of these roles or would like more information about them, please let a current council member know.

Altar Flowers: If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, there is a sign-up sheet for 2025 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 Barb Minor (812-372-4193) 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 2025 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, September 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.

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 September 7th. 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, October 3rd, beginning at 5:00 PM. All ages are welcome and bring a friend too! Our dinner theme will be your favorite football tailgating dish. 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 Sunday, September 14th beginning at 12 PM for a Sunday School kickoff cookout. We will have hamburgers, hot dogs, mac & cheese, and more as we celebrate the start of a new year of Sunday School and enjoy fellowship with one another. All are welcome!

Fish Fry: Hello everyone! Our annual Fish Fry is upon us, crazy to think we are already at this point in the year. I plan to head the Fish Fry again this year, and I am asking for any pie or money donations from the congregation. If you would like to make pies, give a donation, or help during the event, please let me know as soon as you can. We will have a meeting scheduled for September 18th at 6pm to discuss details and go over the plan for this year. I look forward to this every year and can't wait to put on this event that brings everyone together. Any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at any time! Thank you in advance to everyone who plans to help! – Camden Jeffries

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

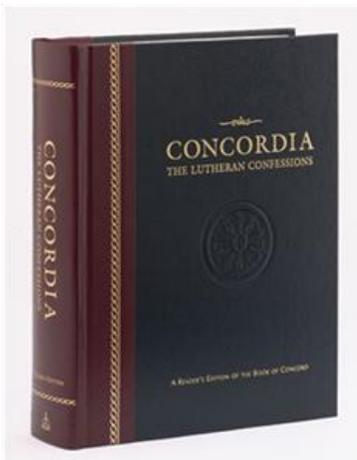
Contact Information: We would like to be able to contact everyone in a quick and timely manner. If you could please contact Camden or Pastor to update your contact information, especially phone number and email, that would help us tremendously and be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

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 • waymansvillepeter@yahoo.com

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



Book of Concord Corner

On the Apostles' Creed: "From this you see that the Creed is a doctrine quite different from the Ten Commandments. For the Commandments teach what we ought to do. But the Creed tells what God does for us and gives to us. Furthermore, apart from this, the Ten Commandments are written in all people's hearts (Romans 2:15). However, no human wisdom can understand the Creed. It must be taught by the Holy Spirit alone (1 Corinthians 2:12). The teaching of the Commandments, therefore, makes no Christian. For God's wrath and displeasure abide upon us still, because we cannot keep what God demands of us. But the Creed brings pure grace and makes us godly and acceptable to God. For by this knowledge we have love and delight in all God's Commandments (Romans 7:22). Here we see that God gives Himself to us completely. He gives all that He has and is able to do in order to aid and direct us in keeping the Ten Commandments. The Father gives all creatures. The Son gives His entire work. And the Holy Spirit bestows all His gifts." (Large Catechism, Part II, 67-69)

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

Fish Fry

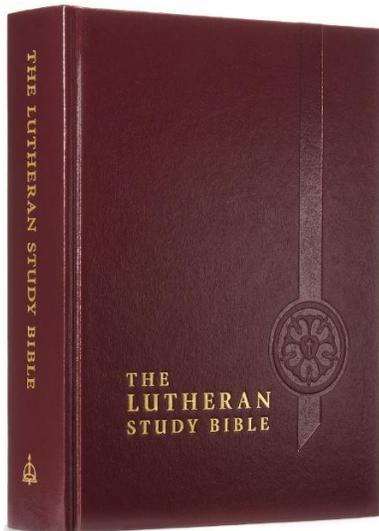
Menu:
Fish Sandwiches, Hot Dogs,
Coleslaw,
Mac N Cheese, Baked Beans, Chips,
Pie,
And Drinks.

** Freewill
Donation*



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

OCTOBER 19th From 4:00pm-7:00pm



2025 Fall Bible Study Kickoff

Sunday Mornings

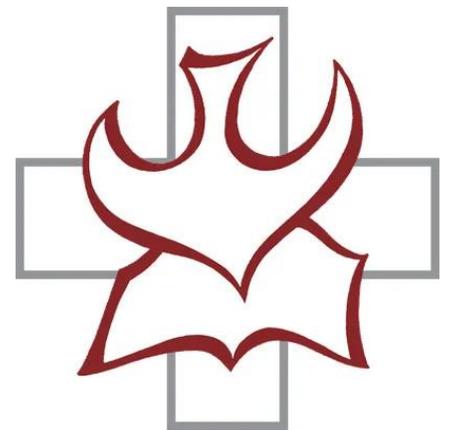
- Pastor's class & Sunday School – after Divine Service
- Youth Catechesis – 11:30 AM

Sunday Evenings

- Book of Concord Study – 2nd Sunday of the month @ 5 PM
- Youth Group – 3rd Sunday of the month @ 5 PM

Midweeks

- Wednesday Night Bible Study – 6:30 PM



Prayerfully consider attending one or more of these regularly

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

September 2025

Ushers: Bill Finke

Acolytes: **September 7** – Noah Nye
 September 21 – John Nye

September 14 – Abe Acton
September 28 – Noah Nye

Communion Set-up & Clean-up:

September 7: AJ Trimpe September 14: Judy Strasser
 September 21 & 28: open

Parish Hall Cleaning: open

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