



Pastor Erik Sorenson
Office: (812) 343-1688
Cell: (812) 371-1151
pastoresorenson@gmail.com

Church Council
Dan Acree, Chairman
Barb Minor, Financial Secretary
Camden Jeffries, Synodical Treasurer

Mike Vandercar, Gen. Fund Treasurer
Michelle Schultz, Dir. of Christian Ed.
Logan Hall, Recording Secretary
Curt Acton, Practical Services

What Is a Synod?

- Pastor Sorenson

The month of October brings an annual reminder of the events that started the Reformation. On October 31st, 1517, Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenberg. To this day, we remember this event (both on October 31st and on the last Sunday of October), not for Luther, but for the fact that it was a call for the Church to return to the Word of God.

After all, the Word of God is our only rule and norm. It is the one thing we must always look at to see what is true and right. Thanks be to God that we continue, by His grace and mercy, to follow His Word.

This all brings to mind a word that we use, the meaning of which is important but often unknown among people. It's the word "synod." Our most common use of this word is in reference to the church body which our congregation belongs, namely the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

It's not uncommon for people to think that we are actually saying the word "senate," like the United States Senate. After all a senate is an assembly of people, most often in a governing body. It seems to fit for the LCMS. An assembly of churches that's part of a governing body.

But no, we don't use the word "senate." Instead, we are a synod. And the meaning of that is even deeper and more meaningful for us as part of the Church universal. Because the word "synod" is made up of two short Greek words: "Syn," which means "with" or "together," and "odos," which means "way, road, path, journey."

Taking these two together we come to the meaning of the word. Synod means "together on the road," or as it's come to be said more frequently "walking together." In essence, it means we are on the same path, going the same way, many people all as one.

There are many great benefits and blessings with being a part of a synod. We know we are part of a group much larger than just our own congregation. We know that group believes the very same things that we believe. We know that the group is united even when it comes to some practices, so that when you go from one congregation to another, you can know roughly what to expect.

Sometimes, people will point out, it can look like our Synod doesn't quite live up to all of this. And that's true in a sense, since we are a synod full of sinners and sin always messes up good things. Worship styles vary. Building types vary. Theological disagreements can occur on a variety of topics.

We certainly pray that these things wouldn't exist, or at least, that we are completely together on the things God has commanded and understanding of those things where God has given no command. And there lies the most important part of being a synod. A part that many people forget or that can be overlooked so easily.

We are a synod; we are walking together as many thousands of congregations because we all confess the primacy of the Word of God. Whenever disagreements arise, we decide them by going back to God's Word first and foremost. In everything we do, we keep the Word of God as the rule and norm, no questions asked.

For that and for our Synod, we give thanks to God. His one, holy, Christian, and apostolic Church continues to walk together guided by the Word of God as a lamp to our feet and light to our path.

Harmonious Stewardship

“For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another” (Romans 12:4-5).

One of the most forgotten concepts in stewardship is the interdependent nature that makes up the Body of Christ and the way that body supports the shared work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is experienced in the local congregation, as well as in broader mission and ministry efforts at the district and Synod levels. Yet in these words, St. Paul reminds the Romans and us that we are indeed members of one another. This is true in our worship. It is also true in our stewardship of the Gospel. Stewards of all shapes and sizes, ages and abilities, affluence and influence are all assembled around Word and Sacrament in the local congregation with no one being more important than the other.

Part of this forgetting lies in what the eyes see and how our human mind operates. Our eyes and our minds are quick to come to the erroneous conclusion that the person who writes the biggest check is the more important steward. Human logic, flawed by sin as it is, could make a claim that the youngest child or the most infirm, aged member of the congregation would certainly be considered something less than important when it comes to the stewardship of the Gospel.

Paul makes it clear in these words that this is not how stewardship of the Gospel is measured in the Body of Christ. Rather, it would be better to view local stewardship like the lost art of harmony in congregational singing. This has been lost not only due to the performative nature of the lead singers of the local praise team, but also because modern hymnals are written to almost force the novice hymn-singer into unison voice. Creative harmonization by talented organists is beautiful to listen to, but does not always support the people in the pews in singing in parts. This is a loss in demonstrating a very practical aspect of whole-body stewardship.

The sound that builds when choral and congregational singers settle into their voice parts is nothing short of heavenly! Yet when altos, tenors and bass sing their individual parts without any concept of how they fit together, the music doesn't sound as powerful. The narrow range of the typical alto line almost sounds monotonous. The tenor line can get painfully high, and the base line can get uncomfortably low. But, when interdependently entwined, along with the melody that is so often carried by the sopranos, the music becomes a tremendously powerful tool in communicating the Gospel.

The same is true of individual stewards. Certainly, stewards with more financial means are in a unique place to “carry the tune” for ministry in a local congregation. But that doesn't rule out the faithful stewardship of the saint-like 94-year-old Hulda, who prayed for her young pastor in German every night while the aches and pains of arthritis and the grief of losing a daughter to cancer kept her awake. This does not rule out Jimmy, the profoundly developmentally disabled confirmand whose basic but dramatically eloquent confession of the faith left an impression on a congregation long after he went to be with Jesus. It doesn't rule out the single parent, the recovering addict, the family coming out of bankruptcy, the elderly widow and everyone in between.

The Lord has entrusted all the baptized with stewardship of the one thing needful: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No one member of any congregation is more important than another when it comes to this stewardship. The biggest check isn't always the best way to communicate the Gospel. In fact, it is almost always better communicated with the widow's mite, the tenacious stewardship of the talents and so much more.

In the local congregation and beyond, our corporate stewardship of the Gospel needs each other to fill out our great confession. It is not about equal amount. It is about interdependence that only the Holy Spirit can work! Each of us has a role to play, a harmony to sing. The standard for that role is faithfulness. We do not have the same function, but we have the same Jesus! As we sing the parts entrusted to us by the Holy Spirit, the sweet music of the Gospel goes out!

Elders' Corner

(A monthly feature from the Board of Elders)

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

We have been hearing from 1 Timothy the last few weeks. The apostle Paul writes in 1 Timothy 2:1-15: "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

⁸ I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; ⁹ likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, ¹⁰ but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. ¹¹ Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. ¹² I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. ¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴ and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. ¹⁵ Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control."

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. Currently we are doing a study on the geography of the Bible. If you have any suggestions for possible topics, please let Pastor know.
- **Book of Concord Study:** 2nd Sunday of the month, October 12th, beginning at 5:00 PM. We will continue our study of the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, with 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:

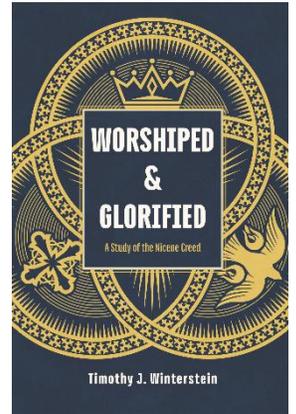
- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Conner Axsom | • Mark Burbrink | • Bill, Nikki, Amanda, & Nathan |
| • Julia Baxter | • Andrew Chapple | Finke |
| • Mike Borgman | • Hannelore Cox | • Rick & Debbie Flohr |
| • Bekah Brown | • John & Karen Dobrinski | • Paul & Jeanine Franke |

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 October Book of the Month is *Worshiped and Glorified: A Study of the Nicene Creed* by Timothy J. Winterstein. Here is an excerpt from the book: "May God grant that this study not only give you a good grasp of the frame of the house but also drive you to continually 'build the house' of your faith with the words of the Scriptures themselves. These words, of course, are not passive building blocks but are the living and active Word of God, revealed in Christ. The true Builder is the Holy Spirit, who uses those words to build us together 'into a dwelling place for God' (Ephesians 2:22)! Speaking *together* God's Word; believing and worshiping *together* the God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; and being built *together* by the Spirit into the temple of God in Jesus Christ – this is the holy work that happens in the church. One of the locations of that work is the Nicene Creed."



Quarterly Voters' Meeting & Council Positions: At our October voters' meeting on October 12th, 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.

LCMS Convention Delegate: If you would be interested in being a delegate for our circuit at next year's LCMS convention (July 18-23 in Phoenix), please speak to Pastor before October 5th.

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, October 19th to help work at the Fish Fry.

Fish Fry Drink Donations: The Youth Group is asking for donations of drinks for the Fish Fry. If you would like to donate any drinks (Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, or bottled water) please speak to a youth group member. 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 Friday, November 7th starting at 5 PM for a fall party. We will be having a bonfire, chili, hot dogs, s'mores, and more. 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. 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

Blood Drive: There will be a blood drive on November 2nd from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Seymour. Visit https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11622796 to learn more and schedule a time if you would like to donate.

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!

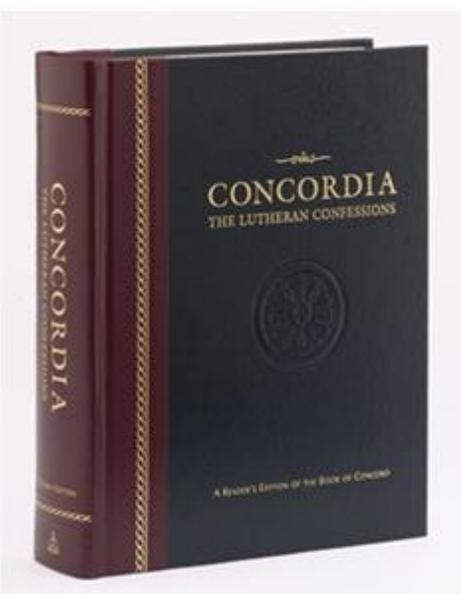
Church Constitution: If you would like to sign the church constitution, please contact Camden.

Steeple Pictures: If anyone has pictures of the steeple renovations and would be willing to have the pictures copied for a congregation member, please speak to Camden or Pastor. Thank you!

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

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

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



Book of Concord Corner

On the Lord's Prayer: We have now heard what we must do and believe, in what things the best and happiest life consists. Now follows the third part, how we ought to pray. For we are in a situation where no person can perfectly keep the Ten Commandments, even though he has begun to believe. The devil with all his power, together with the world and our own flesh, resists our efforts. Therefore, nothing is more necessary than that we should continually turn towards God's ear, call upon Him, and pray to Him. We must pray that He would give, preserve, and increase faith in us and the fulfillment of the Ten Commandments (2 Thessalonians 1:3). We pray that He would remove everything that is in our way and that opposes us in these matters. So that we might know what and how to pray, our Lord Christ has Himself taught us both the way and the words (Luke 11:1-4), as we shall see." (Large Catechism, Part III, 1-3)

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

Join us Friday, October 3rd 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 Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

October 2025

Ushers: Allen Acton & Curt Acton

Acolytes: **October 5** – Abe Acton
October 19 – Noah Nye

October 12 – John Nye
October 26 – Abe Acton

Communion Set-up & Clean-up:

October 5: Judy Strasser October 12 & 26: Kathy Rebber
October 19: AJ Trimpe

Parish Hall Cleaning: open

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Upcoming events:</i> <i>11/7: Fellowship Friday @ 5</i>			1 10 AM – Elders meeting 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	2	3 6 PM – Game Night	4
5 <i>17th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	6	7 10 AM-2 PM – Pastor @ Circuit Meeting 6 PM – Council Meeting 7 PM – Circuit Forum	8 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	9	10	11
12 <i>18th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Voters’ Meeting & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis 5:00 PM – Book of Concord study	13	14	15 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	16	17	18
19 <i>19th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis 4-7 PM – Fish Fry	20	21 <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #d9e1f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Pastor at District Pastors Conference </div>	22 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	23	24	25
26 <i>Reformation Day (Observed)</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis 2:00 PM – Lutheran Community Home Chapel	27	28	29 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	30	31	