

THE
VOICE
OF

ST. PETER'S

MAY 2018

From the Pastor:

During the afternoon of the first Easter Sunday two followers of Jesus were walking on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They were sad and discouraged. They felt lost and afraid. Then Jesus came and walked with them, but they did not recognize him. Jesus talked to them, explaining that the Old Testament prophesied that the Messiah would suffer and die, but then be raised from the dead. When they reached Emmaus, Jesus suddenly revealed himself to them, and their hearts were warmed, their fears were conquered, and their sadness was overcome. They knew that they were no longer lost and alone—for Jesus would always be with them.

The good news of the resurrection of Jesus is that we are not alone. The good news is that our sadness and fear have been vanquished—for Jesus is not dead—he is risen! Jesus lives, and through his resurrection he brings us new life. Jesus is alive, and he is present with us always. Jesus is alive, and he walks with us to bring us life and salvation.

On Easter Sunday, Jesus rose from the grave so that he could always be present with us. He is present with us in order to bring us new life, to supply our daily needs, to watch over us with his loving care, to comfort us in times of sorrow, to calm our fears, to forgive all our sins, to save us from death, and to bring us to eternal life in heaven. So no matter what happens in life, no matter what we do, no matter how we feel—even when we feel like two discouraged disciples on the road to Emmaus—we are never alone, for Jesus is there with us. Jesus is risen. He lives, and he comes to us—to be present with us, to walk with us, to care for us, to embrace us with his love, and to bring us new life!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Richard

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

After our Lenten change of schedule, the sessions, which run from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM, have returned to their normal Wednesday evenings. The schedule for May is Wednesday May 2nd, May 23rd, and May 30th. There will be no sessions on May 9th and May 16th.

CONFIRMATION CLASS NEWS

Our combined Middler (Eighth Graders) and Senior (Ninth Graders) class is continuing its study of the history of the Christian Church with sessions on the arrival of Lutherans in the USA and the development of different Lutheran Church bodies and how they relate to our branch—the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The Middler-Senior Class will meet at 9:00 AM for its final class session of the year on May 5th. The Seniors (Ninth-Graders) will meet at 9:00 on May 19th for a Confirmation rehearsal. The Rite of Confirmation will be held at the 9:00 AM Worship Service on Sunday, May 20th. There will be no class held on May 12th.

The Junior Class (Seventh Grade) members attended one of the three Triduum Services during Holy Week. The Junior Class will have its final class session on Saturday, May 5th at 9:00 AM.

Highlights from the April 5th Council Meeting

Property Committee Report: there are problems with the handicapped toilet in the women's room; a new bid is being secured for the social hall video project.

Technology Committee: on-line giving is up and running on St. Peter's website.

Unfinished Business: a procedure sheet for counting offerings was approved by the Council.

New Business: five ninth-graders were approved for Confirmation on May 20th; use of the Social Hall was approved for an AARP driving course on May 7th; a letter from St. Peter's UCC asking for help for a Puerto Rican family in Lebanon will be included in the next Newsletter.

The fund balances as of March 31st were:

General Fund -- \$ 185	General Savings -- \$ 100
Capital Improvement Fund -- \$ 22,374 (\$ 6,869 designated for the video and \$2,040 for the Fellowship Committee to use for kitchen improvements)	
Memorial Fund -- \$ 11,631	Stew Zerbe Scholarship Fund -- \$ 8,954

SPONSORS

Some things are still available to be sponsored in May.

Altar Flowers are available for May 6, 13, & 27 – cost is \$20.

Bulletins are available for May 6, 20, & 27 – cost is \$15.

Newsletter is available for May – cost is \$35.

Sanctuary Candle oil is available for May – cost is \$35.

Call the church office (570-345-3306) or sign the charts in the hallway.

Vacation Bible School 2018

VBS is coming soon! It will be June 18-22nd this year. We'll begin at 9am and be done with our morning right at noon. You can participate by coming, donating anything, wishing us well, keeping VBS in your prayers, or by being aware of our week of learnings and activities. Snacks department always looks for donations of food.

Here is the list of things they need:

2 – 16oz. Ranch Dressing	1 – 28oz. jar Peanut Butter
2 – 26oz. jars of Cheese Balls	5 bags of Large Marshmallows
3 boxes of Ritz Crackers	1 Large box of Gold Fish
1 – 500 pack of Napkins	5 packs of 5oz. Cups
4 packs of Orange Jello	4 packs of Strawberry Jello
4 packs of Lime Jello	4 packs of Grape Jello

The World Hunger Table

Spring has arrived! God's beautiful creation is bursting forth with new life. The World Hunger Committee is dedicated to placing items from this bounty, blessed by God, on the tables near the Elevator entrance (ground floor). Along with items of our member's creative gifts, we hope to make this year a great year of 'sharing' with the poor and hungry. Stop by on Sundays and converse with our Committee members.

Youth Ministry News

The next Youth Ministry Committee meeting will be held on June 10th at 11:30am. Anyone is welcome to be a part of this group. The next Jubilee and Spark group meeting will be on June 17th at Noon.

On March 30th Youth Group did an Easter egg painting. There was 25 children and 10 parents. Everyone had a blast painting and stuffing candy into Easter eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.



On March 31st Youth Ministry Committee had their annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Youth Ministry Committee would like to **Thank Everyone** who helped donated candy, participated and volunteered this year Easter Egg Hunt Event. Without everyone's hard work we would not have been able to pull this huge event off!

Youth Ministry Committee prepared over 1260 plastic eggs stuffed with candy filled. YMC donated (16) \$5 gift cards to Burger King, Subway, Arby's and McDonalds and (1) \$15 dollar Gift Card to Disney Store donated by a Church Member.

During our 11:30am-1:30pm Easter Egg Hunt we had a total of 57 children, 40 parents.

Children came with lot of energy and excitement to this event and left with big smiles, a lot of candy, prizes, a flower pot, over flowing baskets filled with Easter Egg and of course a filled belly with lunch and snacks.

Total breakdown for this event was a Thrivent Grant of \$250 plus and \$293.92 paid from Youth Ministry Fund (Totaling \$543.92).





On April 1st Easter Sunday Youth Ministry Committee sponsored a Sunrise Easter Breakfast & Pastries for our Youth that will be attending Bear Creek Camp & Camp Kirchenwald. All the proceeds from the breakfast and Youth Ministry offering on 4/1 totaled \$642. The Easter breakfast netted \$432 and the Youth Ministry Offerings netted \$210. All of the seven youth participating in the breakfast received an extra \$91.72/each towards camping expenses.

In addition, The Youth Ministry Fund was also able to contribute towards the expenses of each of St Peter's five campers. Best wishes to Alexa Brown, Jocelyn Hikes, Shea Moyer, Meredith Tice, and Sophia Wessner, while attending Bear Creek or Camp Kirchenwald this summer.

Lake Tobias News

The Youth Ministry Committee is planning a Trip to Lake Tobias on May 20th. We will depart from Church parking lot at 11:45am with plans to arrive at Lake Tobias around 12:45pm.

Lunch will be provided at our reserved pavilion (B) at approximately 12:50pm. Our plans are to have a variety of sandwiches, Chips, Pretzels, Fruit, Veggies, Desserts, and a variety of cold beverages.

1:40-2:30 Free Time to go to explore exhibits

2:30-3:30pm Safari Tour

3:30-6:00pm Free Time to explore exhibits

4:30-5:00 Dinner will also be provided at our reserved pavilion.

6:30-6:45 Prepare to depart from Lake Tobias.

Transportation provided. (If optioning to drive independently Great, just meet us at our reserved pavilion (B) at 12:45, and please see Ben Moyer prior to the trip to secure your tickets.)

Youth Ministry Fund Balance as of 4-16-18 \$ 4,732.01

Sincerely,
Youth Ministry Committee

Video Project News

Video Project will be completed on May 1st by SpireAVL. SpireAVL company is located in Carlisle, PA and the final amount to install video project was \$4,974.74.

Starting May 6th church services can now be seen live downstairs.

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery Association has cemetery lots available.

If interested, contact Kurt Wessner at 570-345-8020.

Prices are as follows:

<u>Member of St. Peter's</u>		<u>Non-member of St. Peter's</u>
4 grave lot	\$800	\$900
2 grave lot	\$600	\$700
1 grave lot	\$400	\$500

Please clean lots of flowers and decorations in a timely manner.

Enjoy The Convenience of Online Giving

St. Peter's wants to remind you that we offer online giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering and offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Credit & Debit Card Giving allows you to make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card.

Online Giving allows you to go to stpeterslutheranpinegrove.org at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

Please Contact Ben Moyer if you need further assistants. An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions" flyer are available from the church office.

Thank you for your continued generosity towards:

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

✠ Those who were hospitalized, recuperating, ill, or in any need in the months of April & May:

Ruth Stolarick, Bonnie Snyder, Linda Witherow, Donna Schach, and Nancy Miller.

✠ The Family of Keith Krammes, who passed away on March 16th.

✠ The Family of Allen Sattizahn, who passed away on March 21st.

✠ Those who became new members of St. Peter's in April – Erin Kull by transfer, and William Chapman, Braeden Furman, and Adelynn Chapman by Holy Baptism.

✠ Mitchell Ralph Geist, the son of Matthew and Kristy Geist, who was baptized on April 22nd.

**The Prayer Circle will meet on Wednesday, May 2nd @ 9:00AM.

Memorial Gifts... To the Glory of God

(Memorial Fund)

\$100 in memory of "My Husband, Sam Baldwin" by Carol Baldwin (Easter Sunday).

\$100 in memory of Harold Hepler's 90th Birthday by Kathryn and Family (Easter Sunday).

\$25 in memory of Sister, Ruby H. Thissen by Cressona Chapter #367 Order of the Eastern Star (Easter Sunday).

\$50 in memory of Edward & Anna Belle Kreiser by Edward and Jean Kreiser (Easter Sunday).

\$100 in memory of "My Sister," Mattie Sue Tobin by Charles and Pat Gilbert (Easter Sunday).

\$50 in memory of Mattie Tobin by Sister, Nancy and Nephew, Mike Miller (Easter Sunday).

(General Fund)

\$50 in memory of Loved Ones by Carol Baldwin (Easter Sunday).

\$20 in memory of Tom McMullen by Niece, Tami Christ (Easter Sunday).

\$30 in memory of Tom McMullen & Ralph Keefer by Ruth McMullen (Easter Sunday).

\$100 in memory of "My Parents, Norm & Alice Zimmerman" by Daughter, Pat (Easter Sunday).

\$35 in memory of John Marsicano by Wife & Widow, June Marsicano (Easter Sunday).

\$35 in memory of Ruby H. Thissen by The Staff at the E.R. Crosby School in Lake Katrine, NY (Easter Sunday).

\$100 in memory of Loved Ones by Elaine Benko. (Easter Sunday).

\$100 in memory of Mattie Tobin by Andy, Tammy, & Steven Lengel (Easter Sunday).

\$20 in memory of Ruby Thissen by Arlene Knoll.

\$15 in memory of Mattie Tobin by Kim, John, and John Henry Schroeder.

\$15 in memory of Gene Merkey/Uncle by Kim, John, and John Henry Schroeder.

(ELCA World Hunger Fund)

\$30 in honor of Kathy Wolfe Beach by Robert & Sharon Lemke (Easter Sunday).

(Oil Fund)

\$50 in memory of Henry F. Koenig/Father and Reed H. Koenig/Brother by Kim, John, and John Henry Schroeder.

(Capital Improvement Fund)

\$20 in memory of Loved Ones by Kim, John, and John Henry Schroeder.

-The **Candle Oil** for **May** was given to the Glory of God by Ruth McMullen.

-**Bible Journaling** - Our new Bible Journaling Group, led by Nancy Reichelt, will meet on Tuesday, May 1st at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome!

