



ST. PETER'S

Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

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February 2017

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The Greatest Act of Love!

“All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.” (Ephesians 2:3-5)

Back in the day, royals marrying commoners was a big “no-no”. So it came as a huge shock to the British royal family when King Edward VIII abdicated the throne in 1936 to marry the love of his life, a commoner named Wallis Simpson. Religious, legal, political, and moral objections were raised by the royal family because Simpson came with too much “baggage.” Not only was she lacking royal blood, she was an American and labeled a socialite. She had been divorced. She was not a member of the Church of England. She was hardly the sort of person that could properly be called a queen. But because of his love for her, Edward gave up his whole life to marry Wallis Simpson, whom he remained married to for 35 years, until the time of his death. This is one beautiful act of love that gets us a little bit teary-eyed. It shows us that sometimes love can be more important than anything else, even a royal crown.

As we enter into February, and as Valentine’s Day approaches, we find ourselves thinking about love. Love is more than an emotion or a feeling, love is an action. The Bible gives us the greatest example of love. God’s love for us. God’s love for sinners.

Like Wallis Simpson, there was nothing royal or godlike about us. We have sought personal pleasures, fulfilled dark desires, lived for selfish gain, and have wanted to play by our own rules. We were complete objects of wrath in the sight of our God. The Apostle Paul says, “We were dead in our transgressions (*sins*).”

Yet in his great love for us, Jesus gave up his throne of heaven to be born into the world he created. He came to save a world of sinners that couldn’t save itself.



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“Do this in Remembrance of me.”

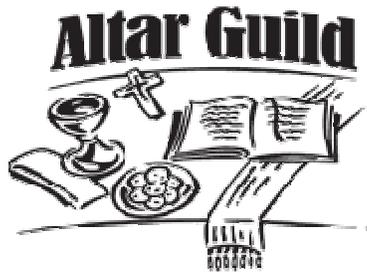
“Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me”
 “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”



With these words Jesus invites each of us to partake of the Lord's Supper. But if we are to do this, someone must prepare it. Ladies, surely you have all lovingly prepared numerous meals for special guests with whom you enjoy fellowship. Have you ever thought of preparing the table for your fellow believers in our church family?

Since the existence of our congregation hundreds of faithful ladies, known as the Altar Guild, have performed this labor of love. Many of the ladies have retired after faithfully serving for many years, while others continue to serve. We presently have eight teams, with most teams consisting of two ladies. We'd love to have twelve teams so each team would only prepare for communion two weekends a year (this includes the Thursday service). It is actually a small commitment of time. Scheduling is done according to your own personal calendar.

The duties for those who serve include: preparing for the Lord's Supper and cleaning up afterward, dusting and keeping the chancel area clean, filling the oil candles as needed, and changing the colored paraments (hangings) for the church season. If you can't make a special trip to church there are many other ways in which you could serve that would help those who are presently serving.



- † If you regularly attend the first service, you could refill the wine and wafers after that service before going home. This would help someone who attends Bible Class between services.
- † If you regularly attend late service you could help with the clean-up after the service. This would benefit the ladies who prefer attending early service since they wouldn't have to come back to clean up after the late service.

If you aren't sure if you would like to commit to this, you could watch one of our groups on a communion weekend. Each new person works with an experienced partner who will help you feel comfortable providing this important service to our congregation.

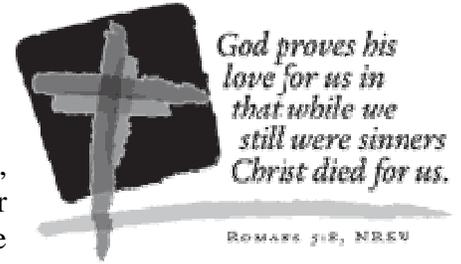
If you would like to serve the Lord and our church family with us, please talk to Else Cuppan, the Altar Guild coordinator, at 922-8672 or bnecuppan@charter.net.

FEBRUARY 1 – 15
Ann Trewin Kathy Trewin Michelle Trewin



FEBRUARY 16 – 29
Teresa Samuel Barb Krug

The Greatest Act of Love



Jesus, taking on human and flesh and blood to become our substitute for sin, was love in action. Jesus, shedding his blood on the cross to atone for all our sins, was love in action. Jesus, surrendering himself to death to satisfy the wrath of God over our sins, was love in action. Jesus, arising from the grave and proclaiming us forgiven, was love in action. We have been justified before God, and now live in the peace of forgiveness and certainty of eternal life – because of God’s mercy and grace.

God’s love is seen in the action of his grace. *“This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”* 1 John 4:10, *“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”* Romans 5:8. There is nothing you can do to make God love you more! There is nothing you can do to make God love you less! His love is Unconditional, Impartial, Everlasting, Infinite, Perfect!

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

As you have probably noticed, there are quite a few new families that have joined St. Peter’s. These families include many young children. The Board of Adult Discipleship would like to assist these young families in the spiritual education of their children.

Over the next two weeks, we would like to encourage our older members/families to scour their well-used libraries and cull out the spiritual material you used when your families were younger. Little Visits with God, My First Bible, would be excellent examples. Bring these books to church and place in the provided basket. After a couple of weeks, the donated material will be offered to our younger families.

This is a wonderful opportunity to recycle some of your religious books and assist our young families with the spiritual material needed to train up their children in the ways of the Lord.



GREETERS SCHEDULE

Feb. 5	7:45	Jane Fell
	10:30	DuWayne & Marilyn Zamzow
Feb. 12	7:45	Vicki Erdmann
	10:30	Bob & Rosie Klatt
Feb. 19	7:45	Ken & Jo Wendorff
	10:30	Ralph & Cheryl Retzlaff
Feb. 26	7:45	Guy & Sue Repp
	10:30	Marilyn Gruber



Membership Matters

The matters of membership listed below were acted upon or recognized by the Coordinating Council at its January meeting.

Received by Transfer

Michael, Linda, and Lydia Mathwig from St. Paul's, Mt Calvary

Transfers Granted

Travis Bowe to
St. Stephens, Beaver Dam

Confirmations

Karla Seibel
Kaylyn Steinbarth



Released Upon Request:

Wendy Hunt

Unable to Serve and Removed

Brenda Rockow, Mason Holterman,
Matti Rockow, and Jaymai Rockow*

Chad Feucht
Megan Giese
Mike Lueck
Raisah Pinno-Tilleman*
Lilyana Tilleman*

Funerals

Carl (Emery) Luger Lorene Oldenburg Shirley Schommer Crystal Williams Bonny Zarbock

St. Peter's Boy's Club

"Sons are a heritage from the Lord." Psalm 127:3.

Josh Guell is organizing an event to bring all of our St Peter's boys, Kindergarten through 5th grade, together for a time of faith and friendship. The open event will take place on February 14 from 6:00 to 7:00pm in the commons and gym. At this initial gathering, we will glean interest and direction of a possible new Boy's Club. All fathers and sons are encouraged to attend, as we would like to know your input and level of involvement.



Please email Josh Guell with questions at guell42@yahoo.com.

Cleaning Schedule



<u>Week of:</u>	
Feb. 5	Don & Sue Knuth
Feb. 12	Don & Sue Knuth
Feb. 19	Joe Tasch
Feb. 26	Roger Bargenquast Mark Kollmann

Please call Gregg at
923 - 1583 to
become a member
of the "cleaning
team".

2017 MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE



BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS

Tuesdays: 7:00pm
Wednesdays: 10am & 7:00pm
Sundays: 9:00am

The 8th annual Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Oshkosh Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Please go online at www.menofhisword.org to register and to get details about schedule, sessions, keynote speaker, cost etc.

Hope to see you there!



You're invited to a

Masquerade Ball Father/Daughter Dance

Hosted by St. Peter's Lutheran Girl Pioneers

Friday, February 3rd

in St. Peter's Lutheran School Gymnasium
 from **6 to 8pm**

Come in your Sunday best and bring your dancing shoes. There will be games, snacks, drinks and music by DJ Galaxy

Please RSVP to Brindah Birkholz at brindahbirkholz@gmail.com

A Look in Our Library

JULIA'S HOPE by Keisha Kelly is a novel set in the time after the great market crash of 1929. Julia Wortham was raised by her grandmother who taught her all about the good, wild plants all around us. Her husband Sam lost his job, their home, belongings, and Julia's savings. Now he must provide for his family. Circumstances force them to seek shelter in an abandoned farmhouse, owned by a merciful stranger who can no longer care for herself. She allows them to stay. The neighbors are not happy, others want the property but God's mercy and abundance become clear as the woman, Emma, and the Wortham's develop a strong bond amid hardships and joy. They needed a home, and she needed a family.



A CHOSEN LAND FOR A CHOSEN PEOPLE

by James A. Aderman

(Exploring the Promised Land Jesus called home)

In the Bible God calls the Israelites His chosen people, because they would produce the Messiah. They lived in a land chosen for them by God. Through this book you will come to learn more about that land. You'll understand why God chose them and through the details he leaves in his Word you'll grow in your faith.

Financial Peace University

St. Peter's will be hosting Financial Peace University beginning February 12 at 7:00 pm. This nine-week money management class costs \$93 per couple. Through entertaining videos, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. For questions or to register, please contact Pastor Naumann at 251-2418.



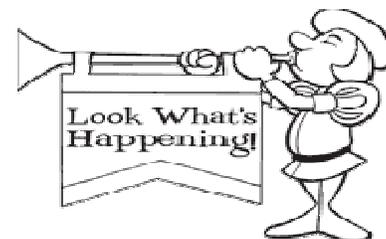
Dear members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church,
Thank you for the gift of money to support my first year of preparation for my future teaching ministry. I have been busy this year getting used to college life and classes. The year has been going well. Your gift is greatly appreciated.

God's Blessings,
Emily Orvis



Changes to the Mailbox Ministry

Mailbox Ministry for High School and College Students and Beyond



Last month the St. Peter's Board of Elders informed the congregation that beginning this spring, the confirmands will be given their own mailbox. We believe that these young people have now advanced to being responsible and concerned for their own faith life. Obviously the parents and guardians will still encourage them in their spiritual life, but now the congregation takes a more integral part in encouraging these young people.

With this change to the mailbox ministry, how will those students who were confirmed 2-10 years ago be affected? This spring these students will now receive their own mailboxes retroactively. Many of these students have become spiritually independent of mom and dad even though they live at home, or are off to college. Therefore, they need the same spiritual encouragement that all the current active adult members receive.

You will recall that we currently use a red paddle for members that plan to be gone for an extended time due to vacations, being a snowbird, etc. In the same way, the Board of Elders also understands that some students cannot be active at St. Peter's due to distance during the school year. Therefore the Board has developed a second paddle just for these students. This paddle is painted blue and should be placed in the student's mailbox. This will inform the MBM volunteers that this student is not delinquent or becoming lax in their spiritual path. They are simply away at school. Then when the school term is finished, the student removes the blue paddle and is once again considered active in their home congregation for the summer.

In spring this information will be specifically relayed to the students. There will be a learning curve involved, but we believe this will assist our congregation and our parents in encouraging our young people in their walk of faith with Jesus.

NURSING POINTS

The Causes of Women's Fatigue

Why are you so tired? We ask leading health experts what makes women so exhausted.

Worn out and weary, women across the country named fatigue among their top five health concerns of 2010 in WebMD's annual Year in Health survey (the other four were period problems, "super foods" best for nutrition, thyroid conditions, and sex and relationship issues). Here are seven of the biggest reasons you may be dragging, and ways to put the spring back into your step.

Thyroid Problems

The thyroid—a little butterfly-shaped gland in your neck—produces the hormones that regulate how your body burns fuel for energy. It can be overactive or underactive, but either way you'll feel sleepy.

Why? "With an underactive thyroid you can't get your engine going. With an overactive thyroid your engine's on overdrive and you start to burn out," says Sandra Fryhofer, MD, clinical associate professor of medicine at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta.

Thyroid problems are more common in women, although doctors aren't sure why. "That's the big mystery. It may be related to genetics or hormones—we don't know," says Hossein Gharib, MD, professor of medicine at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in Rochester, Minn.

What to do: Tests can reveal whether you need to take a manmade version of thyroid hormone to rev up an underactive thyroid, or antithyroid medicine to calm down an overactive thyroid.

Heart Disease

"We think it's just a man's disease, but it's not," says Fryhofer. In fact, heart disease is a serious threat to women—more serious than every type of cancer, including breast cancer, even though many women believe cancer is a bigger concern. According to the American Heart Association, nearly twice as many American women die of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases as from all forms of cancer.

When your heart isn't pumping efficiently, it can't get enough blood out to your body, and that can make you tired. "Fatigue is one of the most common complaints of women with heart disease," says Annabelle S. Volgman, MD, associate professor of medicine and medical director of the Heart Center for Women at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

What to do: If you have heart risk factors such as obesity, high blood pressure, and a family history of heart conditions, you need to have your heart checked out. Measuring your blood pressure and other simple tests such as an electrocardiogram or an echocardiogram can pinpoint whether your heart is the source of your weariness.

Vitamin D Deficiency

"There's been an epidemic of vitamin D deficiency over the last few decades because we've been avoiding the sun," Volgman says. Other reasons include having a milk allergy, following a strict vegetarian meal plan, and having darker skin (the pigment melanin reduces the skin's ability to make vitamin D from sunlight). For some people, their digestive tract cannot absorb vitamin D well. For others, the kidneys have trouble converting the nutrient to its active form. And being overweight makes vitamin D less available for use in the body.

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NURSING POINTS

The Causes of Women's Fatigue

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Whatever the reason, too little of this essential vitamin can sap your bone strength, and some research links a deficiency of vitamin D to chronic fatigue syndrome.

What to do: A blood test can determine whether you're getting enough of your daily D. If not, a supplement can get you to the amount you need each day. The Institute of Medicine, which published new guidelines in 2010, recommends that most adults get 600 international units a day. For people 71 and older, the recommended amount climbs to 800 IU. At these amounts, you're getting enough D to benefit your bones without overdoing it and causing kidney problems or other side effects.

Iron Deficiency (Anemia)

When your blood can't carry enough oxygen to your body, you're bound to feel sluggish. "Anemia is more of a symptom than a disease," Fryhofer says. It could be a sign that you're losing too much iron in your blood during your period, or you may be deficient in other vitamins and minerals.

What to do: See your doctor for a blood test to find out whether you've got an iron deficiency or other medical problem that's affecting your red blood cell count. The solution could be as easy as taking an iron or B vitamin supplement.

Article to be continue in March 2017 newsletter

Floral Donations

Have you noticed how floral arrangements beautify our sanctuary? The arrangements we use are donated by members to the glory of God in thankfulness for special occasions, in honor of loved ones, or donated after funerals. We have two shelves that can each hold two or three bouquets. Due to the size of our sanctuary, larger bouquets are needed, and these are very costly.

We therefore have decided to follow the lead of our fellow Fond du Lac WELS churches and use silk arrangements, along with the donated flowers. They can last for years and can beautify our sanctuary just as live flowers do. How do we plan to accomplish this?

We will start a **Flower Fund**. We hope that you will contribute to this fund in honor of anniversaries, loved ones, memorials, or just out of thankfulness. An Altar Guild committee member will purchase and/or make these silk arrangements. This will ensure that we have bouquets for the seasons and the church year, rather than many for one season and none for another. Along with purchasing bouquets we plan to purchase silk palms that can be used on Palm Sundays and in our Narthex the rest of the year.



If you would like to contribute to this fund, please place an envelope in the collection plate with Altar Guild or Flowers on the front, and make your check out to St. Peter's Altar Guild with Flowers on the memo line.

We will still accept live flowers, we have empty vases available for your use. You may sign up to donate them for any Sunday that is not taken, if possible have flowers available for the Thursday service as well. Both the Flower and the Altar Guild charts are located on the end section of the center mailboxes facing the Narthex.

When members wish to donate flowers they must do three things:

1. Call Courtney or Anna (922-1160) for the bulletin announcement.
2. Call one of the pastors if they would like a prayer for the occasion.
3. Call Else Cuppan (922-8672) well in advance so arrangements can be made for delivery.