



St. Peter's Lutheran Church Building on the Rock of Jesus & His Word

Announcements August 4, 2024

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**AUGUST CALENDARS & FORWARD IN CHRIST** are available on the information station in the narthex.

**MEN'S SOFTBALL** will have their end of the season tournament August 2-4.

**WELCOME BACK PRESENTATIONS** We will be having Welcome Back Presentations on Sunday, August 4 at 10:30 am and Tuesday, August 6 at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary. **All school families are required to attend one of these.** Handouts & paperwork will be in the commons. The teachers will be in their classrooms for their own presentations to address parents about classroom routines & expectations. You may bring school supplies if you have them ready. A sign-up genius for individual one on one meetings has been sent out to parents who would like to sign up for that as well. Any questions, please contact Anna or Ashley in the office.



**SEMINARY FOOD/SUPPLIES DRIVE** In support of the many fine men who are being trained in the ministry, and their families, we are having a food and supplies drive. In addition to any non-perishable food items, we will also be accepting any household items such as laundry supplies, cleaning supplies, hygiene products, diapers and SCRIP. The drive will begin **August 11** and go through **September 8**.

Tables will be set up in the narthex where you can drop off your donations. Thank you in advance for your generous support of our future pastors!

**WLA OPENING SERVICE & INSTALLATION** will be held on **Sunday, August 18** here at St. Peter's during the 9:00 service. Please join in welcoming new faculty members, Ryan Jacobs, Mason DeNoyer, Mykenna Schneiter, Moriah Hackbarth, and Ethan Mallow to Winnebago Lutheran Academy as they begin their 100<sup>th</sup> year.

**OPEN FORUM** The Coordinating Council will be hosting an open forum with the Wisconsin Parental Choice Committee on **Sunday, August 11 @ 10:30 am** in the commons. **We encourage the school families of St. Peter's to attend (this includes Good Shepherd members). Childcare will be provided!** An overview will be given of the WPCC's work. Questions are encouraged. Written questions can be submitted through email ([mweber.re@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mweber.re@sbcglobal.net)). Attendees need to be aware that questions may not be answered at the open forum but will be researched by the WPCC and responses presented at a later date. If you have any questions pertaining to the open forum please contact Ben Zick, [crazick@yahoo.com](mailto:crazick@yahoo.com). The FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) sheet was emailed and paper copies will be available. **This topic will be voted on in October and it's important for all families to be educated or ask questions regarding school choice.**

### Process for Open Forum:

1. There will be a 2-minute time limit for questions or comments. (Mark Weber will hold the mic, and others at a table in the front will attempt to answer their questions)
2. Once a question/comment is done, they will have to wait after everyone else has spoken if they have more to say.

**AREA WELS WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** Join us August 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> for Women's Bible Study at Good Shepherd beginning at 6:30 pm. We are studying Luke's Gospel and have some fascinating stories coming up! Jairus asks Jesus to heal his daughter but she dies before Jesus and Jairus arrive. What can we learn about *our* struggles as Jesus leads Jairus through this heart-wrenching journey? What we'll really see is what a powerful Savior we have! Then, Jesus sent the disciples out to share the Gospel but said they could "take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt" (Luke 9:3). Come discuss what we *really*

need when we reach out to tell people about forgiveness in Christ. Contact Naomi Schmidt with any questions: 920-960-1436.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORMS** are available in the narthex. Sunday School starts September 8 at 9:10 am. This is for children that attend Lutheran school, home school, or public school, PreK to Grade 5. The Sunday schoolers begin in the music room and then break off into their different groups. Please place completed forms in the box provided. Contact Brooke Mielkie with any questions; [brooke93086@gmail.com](mailto:brooke93086@gmail.com).

**FONDUE FEST BOOTH** We will be setting up our St. Peter's booth at Fondue Fest, **Saturday, September 7**. Watch for a sign up sheet to volunteer!



**On this rock I will build my Church**

The Faith of our Fathers

Sweet Sixteen!! It is now 1874, St. Peter's congregation is 16 years old. 150 years later it is 2024, our "new" church is 16 years old. During its first 16 years the congregation had 6 different pastors, one serving twice, and so endured 7 vacancies. From 2008 through 2024 we also have had 6 different pastors but no real "vacancy". Our lives are more about living, theirs were about staying alive. Life expectancy was barely 40 years. Scarlet fever, diphtheria and appendicitis were deadly.

And the immigrants kept coming. For some, the ocean voyages were shorter as more vessels were powered by steam, but the odds were still that one in ten would not survive the trip. Fond du Lac County was enticing having fertile farm land and abundant water resources.

Fond du Lac City was quite a cosmopolitan. The many artesian wells with "healing" properties attracted tourists. It was also known as a musical city having four well known Brass Bands and an Opera House. But life everywhere was labor intensive. This was true whether in the factory, on the farm, at church, school or home. The average household had 5 living children and often included an older generation.

City lots typically had a wood pile, a pump, an outhouse, a garden, maybe an apple tree, perhaps a chicken coop or a pig pen, maybe geese or ducks and a root cellar, the only cool storage available. The "Wood warms you thrice; when you chop it, stack it and burn it." The garden provided fresh produce in season, and potatoes, turnips, rutabaga and apples for the winter months. Chickens were seasonal as they only laid eggs during late spring. A pig made sense as every part of the pig from the hide to the lard would be used and it was cheap to feed.

Homes were furnished with mostly handmade furniture. Beds had "springs" of rope or wood slats. The mattress was a large sack of coarse homespun fabric. Unless you had down and feathers it would be filled with corn husks or straw. Household water was pumped by hand in the yard and hauled in. Used water was hauled back out. A wash basin filled with water would be near the entrance to the kitchen. This was the sanitation station shared by all. A pail of freshly pumped drinking water, metal dipper hanging on the rim, was also shared by everyone. Although cast iron cook stoves were newly available they were an expensive commodity. In most

homes cooking was done in the fireplace. Cast iron pots hung on swinging hooks were moved in and out of the fire. The lid held hot coals, cooking the food top and bottom. Cast iron fry pans with legs sat above hot coals. Potatoes roasted in the hot ashes, no aluminum foil yet. Skirts were floor length so the cook had to be wary to not set herself on fire.

Except for a man's suit, nothing was available as "ready-to-wear". Even overalls would not be mass produced for another 15 years. Fabrics could be purchased but many homes still had a spinning wheel and a loom to weave fabric. Every piece of clothing was hand sewn. Every hat, mitten and sock was hand knit. The sewing machine would also not be around for another 15 years. Mom used a scissors, needle and thread. Every button was saved for re-use. Zippers wouldn't appear for another 20 years. Typically each person had at most two sets of clothing. Washing clothes was more than a full day's work. The soap would have been made and cured months earlier from rendered lard and lye. At least 40 gallons of water and plenty of wood were needed. The luxury of a rain barrel made soft water available, otherwise, to the pump! A "boiler" placed on a grate was filled with water, and a wood fire below was lit. Tools included a sharp knife to shave the soap into the wash water, and a stick to fish the items out. Whites were boiled before moving to rinse and scrub. Clothes were scrubbed in a large wood tub then rinsed at least in one more tub, maybe 2, then wrung out by hand. Hand cranked wringers were not invented yet. The laundry dried draped over anything that would work, even a bush. A luxury was a wood drying rack. Ahhhh! The Good Old Days!

We, today, still work hard, just in a very different way. We pray our homes, like theirs, are filled with love. We still want our children to be healthy and happy and well behaved. We, like they, trust in God's amazing grace.

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound; that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come:  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far; and grace will lead me home.*

## JULY 31, 2024 STATUS

| General Fund:                      | 2023                | 2024               | % Inc   |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------|
| <b>Receipts:</b>                   |                     |                    |         |
| Weekly Offerings                   | \$715,855.41        | \$669,638.02       |         |
| Special Services                   | <u>\$52,591.50</u>  | <u>\$61,070.55</u> |         |
| Contributions Subtotal             | \$768,446.91        | \$730,708.57       | -4.91%  |
| Other                              | <u>\$147,503.40</u> | <u>\$88,679.99</u> |         |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>              | \$915,950.31        | \$819,388.56       | -10.54% |
| <b>Disbursements:</b>              | \$994,186.86        | \$997,891.73       | 0.37%   |
| <b>Surplus/Deficit</b>             | -\$78,236.55        | -\$178,503.17      |         |
| <b>Accumulated Deficit</b>         |                     |                    |         |
| Surplus/Deficit Prior Years        | \$13,287.28         | -\$10,364.24       |         |
| Deficit this Year                  | -\$78,236.55        | -\$178,503.17      |         |
| Changes in Assets/Liab             | <u>\$0.00</u>       | <u>\$0.00</u>      |         |
| <b>Total Accum Surplus/Deficit</b> | -\$64,949.27        | -\$188,867.41      |         |

A year-ago at this time we had a deficit of \$78,236.55 versus a 2024 deficit of \$178,503.17 as of the end of July. This year had 30 Sundays as of the end of July versus 31 Sundays last year. Our total accumulated deficit at the beginning of the year was 10,364.24 which has increased to 188,867.41 as of July 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Other Notes:

**Employee Retention Credit:** The Employee Retention Credit for wages paid during COVID in 2020 was applied for in 2023 and received in July last year. The amount received totaled \$60,792.55 and was entered as part of "Other Receipts" in 2023 above. If we had not received this non-reoccurring receipt, our deficit on July 31<sup>st</sup> last year would have been about 139,000. This explains the large difference between 2023 and 2024 data.

**Wish List gifts:** The Wish List gifts received in July totaled \$3,622 and the total received for the year was \$5,575.

*Daily Bible Readings*

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 08/05 Psalm 92, 93 | 08/09 Psalm 99, 100 |
| 08/06 Psalm 94     | 08/10 Psalm 101     |
| 08/07 Psalm 95, 96 | 08/11 Psalm 102     |
| 08/08 Psalm 97, 98 |                     |

*Last Week's Stewardship*

Worship: 132 + 246 = 378

*First Fruits to the Lord 2024:*

|                                                  | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Thank offerings in support of the unified budget | \$15,983.62      |                     |
| Other receipts in support of the unified budget  | 2,875.00         |                     |
| Total receipts in support of the unified budget  | 18,858.62        | 819,388.56          |
| Honoring the Lord!                               | 917.00           |                     |
| Improvement Fund                                 | 220.00           |                     |
| WLA Forward in Trust                             | 25.00            |                     |
| School Wish List                                 | 402.00           |                     |



*This Week at St. Peter's*

[www.stpetersfdl.net/calendar](http://www.stpetersfdl.net/calendar)

- SUNDAY**
  - 9:00 am Worship with the Lord's Supper
  - 10:30 am School Families Welcome Back Presentation
  - Men's Softball Tournament continued
- TUESDAY**
  - Faculty PDD @ WLA
  - 5:30 pm School Families Welcome Back Presentation
  - 6:30 pm Coordinating Council
  - 6:30 pm FDL Area Women's Bible Class @ Good Shepherd
- THURSDAY**
  - 6:30 pm Worship
- NEXT SUNDAY**
  - 9:00 am Worship
  - 10:30 am Wisconsin Parental Choice Program Open Forum