



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

Announcements October 13, 2024

Pastor Peter Lindemann (920) 342-6924 pastorlindemann@stpetersfdl.net
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St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Courtney Meyer, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302

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



**BAPTISMS** Paige Michelle Harley, newborn daughter of Phillip & Tiffany Harley, will be received into the Kingdom of Grace through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in the 10:30 service on Sunday.

Clifford Marvin Fisher, infant son of Michael & Myranda Fisher, will be baptized on Sunday after the late service. May Paige & Clifford always remain faithful to their baptismal covenant.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS** Just a reminder, there is NO Bible Classes on Wednesday, October 16 since Pastor Lindemann will be gone at a Pastor's Conference.

**MISSION FESTIVAL** is **TODAY**. Our guest preacher on Thursday is Pastor Fred Toppe, Visitation Pastor at St. Peters; and on Sunday our preacher is Ethan Carter. Evening Circle will be providing snacks during Bible Class. Our teen group will be giving a presentation/slideshow about their experience from the WELS International Youth Rally for the first part of Bible Class. Ethan Carter will be speaking for the second half of class. Please join us!

**Seminarian Ethan Carter** grew up in Eau Claire, WI, but more recently he has called Cheyenne, WY home. He graduated from Luther Preparatory School in 2017, and Martin Luther College in 2021 before continuing his studies at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Last year, after getting married to his wife Britt, Ethan served as a Vicar at Light of the Valleys Lutheran Church in Reno, NV. In his final year at Seminary, he serves as the Student Recruiter, who goes around to local congregations and schools encouraging students to consider serving as pastors and teachers. If you have any questions about WLS or are interested in coming to tour the WLS campus, feel free to email him at ethan.carter@wls.edu.

**VOTERS' MEETING RESULTS** On Sunday, October 6, the voting members of St. Peter's voted in favor of our Coordinating Council to apply for membership in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, and to enter into an Act 59 Partnership with Winnebago Lutheran Academy, and to initiate a committee to commence with the accreditation process. We pray for God's guidance during this undertaking.

**AT THE COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING** on Tuesday:

Mr. Courtney Meyer was designated to be St. Peter's Administrator for our participation in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program; the Council also will select a designated Assistant for this work.

Chairman Ben Zick sent a letter of resignation to the Council, which the Council received with many thanks to Mr. Zick for his years of service and leadership to Christ's church here at St. Peter's. Mr. Chad Birkholz was designated by the Council to fill the Chairman's seat for the remainder of 2024.

At the next Election Voters' Meeting, we will be electing a new President and Secretary to finish those terms in 2025. Expired term positions include Vision Coordinator, Treasurer, and spots on each board, with Elders needing 2 spots filled. Please watch for more information about the early January Voters' Meeting.

*May they all be one, as you, Father, are in me, and I am in you. May they also be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me." John 17:21*

**SPLS PTO TRUNK OR TREAT** will be held on **Sunday, October 20 from 3:00-5:00pm** in the school parking lot. Come enjoy trunk or treating, make your own snack mix, music, games, photo ops & the chance to win some gift cards! The more decorated trunks we have, the more fun it will be! Please invite family and friends to this wonderful event. Decorated trunks can arrive at 2:15 to set up.

**AREA REFORMATION SERVICE** will be held at St. Peter's on **Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm**. Professor Stephen Pagels, Professor of Systematic Theology &

Homiletics at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, will be the preacher in this afternoon service. The Brass Quintet from WLA under the direction of Mrs. Abby Kurth will perform and there will be a Pastors' Choir from the area churches also.

**PASTOR APPRECIATION** October is Pastor Appreciation month and Sunday, October 13 is Pastor Appreciation Day. Pastor Lindemann & Pastor Boehringers' dedication to the Lord's work touches our hearts and souls daily and we are thankful for their guidance, wisdom, and unwavering faith. Our congregation is truly blessed to have them both!

**MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE CHOIR CONCERT** of New Ulm, MN, will present a sacred concert titled "God is our Refuge and Strength" at Grace Lutheran Church, Oshkosh (913 Nebraska St) on **Sunday, October 13** at **1:30**. The program will include settings of familiar hymns, as well as selections by choral music composers representing a variety of musical styles. The mission of MLC is to prepare pastors, teachers, and staff ministers to serve the congregations of the synod. A freewill offering will be gathered to support MLC's efforts to train future gospel servants. All are invited to attend!

**AREA WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will meet on **October 15<sup>th</sup>** at **6:30pm** at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Please join us as we continue our study of Luke and watch Jesus complete His work as our Savior!



**CREATION CALENDARS** The 2025 Creation Calendars are in, and they are beautiful! The calendars are great for family planning or to give as gifts. Each month contains a beautiful picture of God's creation and an inspirational Bible passage to go with it. They are available on the information station. **The cost is \$10 per calendar.** The proceeds from these calendars help support our Teen Group!

**WIDOWS & WIDOWERS FELLOWSHIP GROUP** will meet at Faros Restaurant, 131 N Pioneer Rd, FDL on **Tuesday, October 22**, at **1:00pm**. Our speaker will be Lisa Freiberg – Fond du Lac County Clerk. She will be speaking to us about the voting process and how to make sure you are able to vote in November. She will also be covering the Absentee Voting process. If you have specific questions you'd like answered, include them in your RSVP so we can get them to Lisa ahead of time. Please RSVP to Dave Seibel at 920-948-9475 (call or text) or [dseibelz56@gmail.com](mailto:dseibelz56@gmail.com).

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION ON THE BEGINNING OF THE WISCONSIN SYNOD** In anticipation of the WELS 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2025, the members of Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church in West Allis, WI (WELS) are hosting a talk entitled ***Why Another Synod: The Beginnings of the Wisconsin Synod***. This will take place on **Saturday, October 19** at **3:00pm** at Nain Lutheran Church (1665 South 57<sup>th</sup> St. West Allis, WI.) The presenter is Rev. Joel Otto, chairman of the WELS 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee and professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. The lecture is free and registration is not required, but will help in preparation. Visit [nainlutheran.org/lectures](http://nainlutheran.org/lectures) for more information and to register. Light refreshments will be served.

**WLA MUSICAL** WLA students are currently rehearsing and preparing their fall musical, the enchanted version of Rodgers & Hammerstein's classic musical, *Cinderella*. Tickets for performances on November 7-10 go on sale to the public on October 14. You may purchase them online or in the office during school hours.



**BOWLING** Our Board of Adult Discipleship has reserved lanes at Ledgeview Lanes on **Sunday, November 10 from Noon until 3:00pm**. The cost of bowling is \$4 per person per game (3 games equals \$12 per person) and includes shoe rental. You can pay upon arrival at the bowling alley. Come enjoy some fellowship with members! A sign-up sheet is in the narthex if you plan to attend.

**THANK YOU** Grace and peace to you brothers and sisters in Christ! It is a true blessing to see the love of Christ happening through his people. I thank you so much for your generosity with supplying my Seminary educational account with funds to take care of my Greek classes. Katie and I are so appreciative for this wonderful gift. May Christ's Gospel continue to spread to all generations. Redeemed through Christ, Ben Raddatz

**PIZZA PICK UP** Pizza making day is Saturday, October 19. We have 1,349 pizzas to make! Those who ordered pizzas may pick them up this day at St. Peter's between 11am-2pm. Thank you to all who ordered!

**NEW MEMBER CLASS COMING SOON!** Please speak with Pastor Lindemann to register – [pastorlindemann@stpetersfdl.net](mailto:pastorlindemann@stpetersfdl.net).



## On this rock I will build my Church

The Faith of our Fathers

**“The night the churches burned”** This small portion is from the 1958 Centennial Book: “But the Golden Anniversary jubilee joy in a few short weeks turned to real sorrow when in the night of September 25 of 1908 a holocaust-like fire, fanned by a powerful wind, swept up South Marr Street and caused real loss and extensive damage.”

The following account is from the 1938, 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet, presumably written by then Pastor Bergemann (1899-1947.)

“September 25, 1908 will be remembered in Fond du Lac for many years to come. It was the night of the great fire. In the short space of time from 11:00 to 3:30, 2 churches, a garage, and 2 dwellings were entirely consumed. Grant School was damaged to the extent of \$12,000 (\$400,000) and our newly decorated church, of which we were so proud, came in for its share of loss, amounting to \$17,000 (\$500,000).

Cinders fanned by a strong south wind, filled the skies. At about 11:15 a small blaze, of but a few inches, was detected halfway up the spire. With the city’s entire fire force at work on the blazing buildings elsewhere and no ladders at once available, members who had hurriedly gathered, felt powerless with the flames at that height. But their hearts cried to Heaven for help. And God surely answers prayer. They set to work, bravely disregarding all danger and, with the assistance of some of the city’s firemen, succeeded in saving the building proper, although the spire burnt down to the belfry and the interior was ruined.

The faithful tower clock struck 12 and 1 when the fire reached the mechanism and silenced the bells. Truly a night not to be forgotten! God had heard the prayers of His children and guided their efforts in saving their beloved church, graciously preventing serious injury to all and permitting only minor hurts to a few. The belfry was rebuilt and a new spire of less height constructed during this year. The decorations were also gone over and other damages to the building repaired, with insurance covering the costs. Dedication of the new tower and the renewed church took place in January, 1909.”

At the time of the fire, the city owned just 2 fire engines, and Marr had but one hydrant. The account above casually refers to a garage burning. It’s where the fire

started. The Crescent Garage and the Crescent Auto and Machine Company and \$20,000 worth of vehicles were destroyed including the car owned by Wis. Lt. Gov. Connors. St. Joseph’s Catholic Church and the Congregational Church burned to the ground. St. Joseph’s had just laid in a supply of coal for the winter. Those 30 tons smoldered for days. St. Peter’s damage is listed as \$10,000, but congregational history says \$17,000.

St. Peter’s tall, graceful spire would not return. Restoration replaced it with a much shorter steeple. Evidently the new stained-glass windows, although filled with soot, were left unscathed. This bit of history brings to mind an old saying: The “church” is what is left when the building burns down. The faith of our father’s had been tested over the years, but this time it was a real trial by fire. We cannot begin to fathom the terror of that night. It was truly by the grace of God that no lives were lost.

For further information online look up a FDL Reporter article printed September 24, 2014. Also, local historian, Tracy Reinhardt has written a book, same title: “The Night the Churches Burned.”

*Built on the Rock the Church shall stand even when steeples are falling,  
Crumbled have spires in ev’ry land; bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest; but above all the soul distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.*

*Surely in temples made with hands God the Most High is not dwelling;  
High above earth His temple stands, all earthly temples excelling,  
Yet He who dwell in heav’n above chooses to live with us in love,  
Making our bodies his temple.*

*Daily Bible Readings*

10/14 Psalm 133, 134    10/18 2 Chronicles 1, 2  
10/15 Psalm 135        10/19 2 Chronicles 3:1-5:1  
10/16 Psalm 136        10/20 2 Chronicles 5:2-6:11  
10/17 Psalm 137

*Last Week's Stewardship*

Worship: 112 + 172 + 170 = 454  
Communed: 90 + 132 + 94 = 316  
10/09 Mid-Week Bible Class: 23 + 25 = 48

Bible Class: 60  
Sunday School: 24

*First Fruits to the Lord 2024:*

|                                                  | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Thank offerings in support of the unified budget | \$30,100.01      |                     |
| Other receipts in support of the unified budget  | 2,875.00         |                     |
| Total receipts in support of the unified budget  | 32,975.01        | 1,106,983.93        |
| Honoring the Lord!                               | 7,395.55         |                     |
| Improvement Fund                                 | 165.40           |                     |
| WLA Forward in Trust                             | 50.00            |                     |
| WLA Tuition Assistance                           | 50.00            |                     |



*This Week at St. Peter's*

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

- SUNDAY**      8:00 am    Worship
- 9:10 am    Bible Class & Sunday School
- 10:30 am    Worship
- MONDAY**     5:00 pm    School Board Meeting
- TUESDAY**    5:30 pm    Board of Properties
- 6:00 pm    Board of Elders
- 6:30 pm    Area Women's Bible Study @ Redeemer
- WEDNESDAY** 6:00 pm    Adult Choir
- THURSDAY** 5:15 pm    Board of Youth & Adult Discipleship
- SATURDAY**    Pizza Making Day & Pick Up
- NEXT SUNDAY** 8:00 am    Worship with the Lord's Supper
- 9:10 am    Bible Class & Sunday School
- 10:30 am    Worship with the Lord's Supper
- 3:00 pm    SPLS PTO Trunk or Treat
- 4:00 pm    WLA Fall Concert