



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

Announcements November 17, 2024

Pastor Peter Lindemann (920) 342-6924 pastorlindemann@stpetersfdl.net
Pastor Luke Boehringer (920) 579-8150 pastorboehringer@stpetersfdl.net
St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Courtney Meyer, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS If you would like to order a poinsettia to decorate our sanctuary for Christmas, you may do so, **until December 1**. Each poinsettia is \$20.00. Please fill out an envelope with your name, and the name(s) of the people in whose memory or honor you are donating the poinsettia. Please make your check payable to St. Peter's Altar Guild and place it in the floral box, on the information station, in the narthex.

NEW MEDITATIONS & BOOKMARKS are available on the information station in the narthex (starts 12/1).

OPEN FORUMS We will have an open forum after each service on **Sunday, December 8 and Thursday, December 12** regarding our budget for 2025.

SPECIAL GIFT was given to the Improvement Fund in memory of Carol Butz.

OUR NEW "NEW MEMBER CLASS" has begun! This will again be held on **Wednesday, November 20 at 6:00pm**. Please speak with Pastor Lindemann to register, or just show up!

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT If you would like to see your year-to-date contribution statement, please email or call Anna Gilgenbach or Ashley Will in the office, annagilgenbach@stpetersfdl.net or ashleywill@stpetersfdl.net or 920-922-1160.

DIVINE CALL Pastor Adam Zimpelmann from our sister congregation, Good Shepherd, has accepted a divine call to Lord of Life in Thornton, CO. Pastor Zimpelmann has been helping out with our 8th grade Catechism class at St. Peter's. We pray for God's blessings as the Zimpelmann's make their move to their new church home at the beginning of 2025.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES START JANUARY Catechism instruction for St. Peter's homeschoolers and public school students (7-8 grades) will begin January 5, 2025. Classes will meet Sundays, 9:10-10:15am, January through April. Parents are encouraged to attend the Bible Study in the Commons during that time and siblings (Grades 5 and under) should go to Sunday school. (SAVE THE DATE: Families whose children who are ready and prepared for Communion, note that Confirmation Sunday is May 4, 2025.) Please contact the church office if you'd like your child to be a part of these classes and to learn more about building your children and family on the Word of God.

AREA WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY Tuesday, November 19th will be the last Bible Study class in 2024 (at Redeemer) and will resume January 7th at Faith Lutheran Church.



CHRISTMAS DECORATING We are looking for volunteers to help beautify our church for the Advent and Christmas season. Decorating will be on **Friday, November 29** starting at 1:00pm. If you would like to help, please call John or Chris Orvis at 921-9233.


CHRISTMAS CARDS & CALENDARS There are a few bundles of Christmas greeting cards and the 2025 calendars available in the narthex for \$10. Funds go to support our teen group!

SAVE THE DATE Confirmed ladies of St. Peter's Congregation, Evening Circle invites you to our Christmas Celebration, "Lamb of God". **Join us on Monday, December 2 at 6:00pm** in our church narthex for hors d' oeuvres, fellowship, and a program of songs. There will also be a free will offering of monetary gifts and grocery or gas gift cards for a Compassion Fund to be used as needed as our Pastors meet with members or prospective members. There is no need to RSVP for this event, just join us!

CUSTODIAN POSITION St. Peter's is looking to hire a part-time custodian (10-15 hours per week). This job consists of routine work to maintain the cleanliness of the building and grounds and receives general direction from the Board of Church Properties and Principal. This employee performs cleaning and maintenance functions in the morning or evening shift, with flexibility. The starting wage is \$20 per hour. A full job description is located in the office. For more information or to apply contact Kurt Turdo at turdojrk@gmail.com or (920) 216-2136.

GLORY IN HIS GRASP Advent Devotion pamphlets are available in the narthex as a gift from Martin Luther College. You can also have daily devotions emailed to your inbox. <https://mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions/#email>

CHRISTMAS AT WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY The Seminary Chorus, a 70-voice men's choir composed of students at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, will present its annual Festival of Lessons and Carols on **Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 & 7:00pm** in the campus auditorium. Featured will be traditional and contemporary anthems for choir and hymns and carols for the audience. There are no advanced ticket sales; a free will offering is appreciated. The seminary is located 11831 N. Seminary Dr. in Mequon. Find more information on Facebook and at wisluthsem.org.

 **CHRISTMAS PARADE** St. Peter's is participating in the **December 7th** Fond du Lac Christmas Parade, "Christmas at the Movies" at 4:15pm. Our Outreach Team asks you to consider joining us: riding, walking, throwing candy, and singing carols. We are also looking for a trailer to decorate as the float that could hold 8-10 people and someone to drive the float in the parade. Talk to Jon Freiberg if interested in participating; jonfreiberg57@gmail.com.

YEAR-END GIVING *A tax-efficient way to support the ministry of St. Peter's* – If you're age 70.5 and older, you can support St. Peter's by requesting a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) directly to St. Peter's. Even better, if you're age 72 and older, the QCD will count toward your required minimum distribution. Qualified Charitable Distributions (up to \$100,000 per person per year) are excluded from taxable income. Please contact your tax professional to learn how you can make a tax-wise gift to St. Peter's, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, or Winnebago Lutheran Academy. It is recommended to make a QCD well in advance of New Year's Eve because the money has to be out of your account and the check needs to be transferred to the

charity and deposited by the charity no later than December 31 of the current tax year.

CLEAN GOD'S HOUSE Would you appreciate some quiet solitude in God's house? Perhaps you like to clean. You may rather do it alone or with a partner or small team. However you'd like to do it, quite a few weeks are open on our volunteer sanctuary cleaning schedule for 2025. Please contact Anna or Ashlely in the office to find out available dates.

YOUNG ADULTS ages 18-30, please join fellow WELS members from other congregations for fellowship, snacks, refreshments, music, and games at Faith Lutheran Church on Decemember 8th from 3:00-5:00pm (enter through door 1).

WIDOWS & WIDOWERS FELLOWSHIP GROUP will meet at Faros Restaurant on Tuesday, December 3rd, at 1:00pm. This will be our Christmas party. We will be doing a White Elephant gift exchange. Bring a **wrapped** White Elephant gift. A freewill offering will be sent to WELS Christian Aid and Relief for those affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Please **RSVP** to Dave Seibel at 920-948-9475 (call or text) or dseibelz56@gmail.com.



Holiday Services & Concerts

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| Nov. 27 | Thanksgiving Eve 6:30pm |
| Nov. 28 | Thanksgiving Morning (Repeat Service) 9:00am |
| Dec. 8 | Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Christmas 3:00 & 7:00pm |
| Dec. 11 | Christ Child Concert 6:30pm |
| Dec. 13 | Joyful Witness Concert 7:00pm @ St. Paul's, North Fond du Lac |
| Dec. 14 | Joyful Witness Concert (repeat) 2:00pm @ St. Paul's, NFDL |
| Dec. 15 | St. Peter's Day School Prek-1st Christmas Service 10:30am |
| Dec. 19 | WLA's Christmas Concert 7:00pm @ Winnebago Lutheran Academy |
| Dec. 20 | WLA's Christmas Concert (repeat) 1:00pm @ WLA |
| Dec. 22 | St. Peter's Day School 2 nd -8 th Christmas Service 2:00pm |
| Dec. 24 | St. Peter's Christmas Eve Services 3:30 & 6:30pm |
| Dec. 25 | St. Peter's Christmas Day Service 9:00am |
| Dec. 31 | New Year's Eve Service with Communion 6:30pm |



On this rock I will build my Church The Faith of our Fathers

By 1930 life expectancy has risen to 58 years and infant mortality reduced to one out of every ten born. The "Star Spangled Banner" became the national anthem in 1931, and the Empire State Building opened. In 1932, progressive Wisconsin was the first state to establish unemployment compensation. It became a model for the rest of the country and in 1933 prohibition ended.

It would appear that life was getting better, but the economic situation was devastating. The Great Depression of 1929 peaked in 1933 and did not fully recover until 1942. Every person in the country suffered the effects. 14 million people were unemployed and many employed worked short hours. Speculators who bought stocks with borrowed money lost everything, therefore the lenders lost everything. As banks failed, depositors lost their savings. Farm values dropped and outstanding loans were greater than the farm was worth. Many had no income, their property went into foreclosure. In Fond du Lac, only 2 of the 5 banks survived.

March 4, 1933 Franklin Delano Roosevelt became the 32nd president defeating incumbent Herbert Hoover. Hoover was blamed for the Depression. To fulfill his campaign slogan, "A chicken for every pot!" FDR quickly acted to establish "The New Deal". In Wisconsin 92,000 men found jobs with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The benefits of this program are still enjoyed in our state parks and forests.

Our Synod was also in financial crisis. The new seminary grounds and building were an expensive undertaking that continues to bless the church today, but following the financial collapse, the debt seemed insurmountable. The actions of synod are remarkably similar to those of the nation. At the 1933 convention presidential incumbent, Gustav Bergemann, taking the blame for the debt, was voted out, and John Brenner voted in. Bergemann had served hard and long for 25 years. Brenner would serve for the next 20.

At St. Peter's schools, the academy had graduated its first class and all classrooms of the "old" school were in use. Teacher Goetsch taught the 7th & 8th grades for many years. Because of declining health he stepped down to 5th grade and relinquished the role of principal. After a lingering illness he departed this

life March 14, 1932, just before Holy Week. He was a fixture at St. Peter's for 38 years.

In 1933 the congregation commemorated its 75th anniversary with special services on August 13th. In spite of very limited funds, a huge celebration was planned for November. It lasted an entire week. Sunday, November 19th they observed Martin Luther's 450th birthday. Tuesday, November 21st a German language reunion service was held. Those confirmed during the 56 years of 1859 through 1914 were invited. 354 of them came. Then, Thursday, November 23rd an English confirmation reunion was held. Those confirmed the 19 years of 1915 – 1933 were invited. 481 came. The celebration concluded on Sunday, November 26th with morning and evening services.

Attendance at each of these celebrations was much larger than the church could hold. The auditorium of the school became overflow seating and a loud speaker system was used. Each of these gatherings was followed by social time and refreshments. Keep in mind, this was the height of the Great Depression and the church and its members were in severe financial distress. They delayed printing an anniversary book for 5 years because there was no money. When one considers the scope of planning and executing this event one is filled with admiration for this stalwart group. When concluded, all agreed it was time and money well spent. The Christian fellowship was priceless, as was the return "to the fold" of many who had drifted away. The following year the congregation honored Pastor Bergemann celebrating 35 years with St. Peter's.

*Our father's God, in years long gone, Our God for all the years to be,
Accept the sacrifice of praise we bring to you on bended knee
For mercies to our fathers shown, for all your grace, so rich and free
To you great God, the One in Three, we sing the hymn of jubilee.*

*You led our fathers to this land, a land of beauty, bounty, pow'r;
You blessed the labors of their hands, upheld them in each trial hour.
You kept them faithful to your Word, were not ashamed their God to be.
So we, their children gratefully now sing the hymn of jubilee.*

****Please check out the photos displayed in the narthex**

Daily Bible Readings

11/18 Ecclesiastes 7, 8	11/22 The Song of Songs 1:1-2:7
11/19 Ecclesiastes 9:1-10:7	11/23 The Song of Songs 2:8-3:5
11/20 Ecclesiastes 10:8-11:8	11/24 The Song of Songs 3:6-5:1
11/21 Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:14	

Last Week's Stewardship

Worship: 91 + 182 + 262 = 535
 11/13 Midweek Bible Class: 18 + 17 = 35

Bible Class: 61
 Sunday School: 17

First Fruits to the Lord 2024:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Thank offerings in support of the unified budget	\$19,265.02	
Other receipts in support of the unified budget	4,539.00	
Total receipts in support of the unified budget	23,804.02	1,234,336.36
Honoring the Lord!	1,096.55	
Improvement Fund	20,235.20	
WLA Forward in Trust	528.05	
LMSG-AMMO Can	376.25	



This Week at St. Peter's
www.stpetersfdl.net/calendar

MONDAY	3:30 pm	Faculty Meeting
	6:00 pm	Adult Bells
TUESDAY	6:00 pm	Board of Elders
	6:30 pm	Area Women's Bible Study @ Redeemer
WEDNESDAY	10:00 am	Bible Class
	6:00 pm	Adult Choir
	7:00 pm	Bible Class
THURSDAY	5:15 pm	Board of Youth & Adult Discipleship
	5:30 pm	Sunday School Team Meeting
	6:30 pm	Worship
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am	Worship
	9:10 am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship