



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

Announcements
December 8, 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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**DECEMBER FORWARD IN CHRIST, NEW MEDITATIONS & BOOKMARKS** are available on the information station in the narthex.

**AT HOME WITH THE LORD** Our faithful God and Father called home to himself the soul of our brother in faith, Ralph Leisten, who departed from this life to life eternal on Wednesday, November 27 at the age of 91 years, 1 month and 4 days. There will be a private family funeral. May his family and friends find comfort in the truth and promises of God's Word.

**MEMORIAL** A special gift has been given to Honoring the Lord! in memory of Ernie Schatschneider.

**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 BULLETINS** If you would like to give one of the special bulletins for the Christ Child Concert, Children's Christmas Service, Christmas Day, or New Year's Eve services, please contact Anna or Ashley in the office at 922-1160. Price is \$25.

**2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES** have been put in your mailboxes. Please check your offering envelopes to make sure the number labeled on top of your box matches ALL of the envelopes inside your box. If they do not, please let Anna or Ashley in

the office know, at 922-1160 or email [annagilgenbach@stpetersfdl.net](mailto:annagilgenbach@stpetersfdl.net) or [ashleywill@stpetersfdl.net](mailto:ashleywill@stpetersfdl.net). Thank you!

**"NEW MEMBER CLASS"** will be held on **Tuesday, December 10** at **6:00pm**. Please speak with Pastor Lindemann to register, or just show up!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE CLASSES** There will be NO Sunday School on December 22 & December 29. There will be NO Sunday Bible Class on December 29.

**We are done with Wednesday Bible Classes for this year. We will resume on Wednesday, January 8.**

**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>

**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. Quite a few weeks are open on our volunteer sanctuary cleaning schedule for 2025. Please contact Anna or Ashley in the office to find out available dates.

**INVITATION FOR WLA ALUMNI** Save the date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Alumni Cookies and Cocoa! Alumni and families are invited for cookies and cocoa in the commons from 5:30-6:30 on **Thursday, December 19**. Enjoy the fellowship and

celebrate the season at the Christmas concert beginning at 7:00. We can't wait to see you there!

**JOYFUL WITNESS CONCERT** You are invited to hear about the joy and hope of the Christmas season at the Joyful Witness Christmas Concert, "*Angels Tell Shepherds Go*". This concert will proclaim the message of God's salvation through the birth of Jesus Christ, featuring beautiful music and powerful lyrics. Join us **Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm** or **Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm** at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (1010 Adams St., North Fond du Lac). Don't miss this special opportunity to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with family and friends!

**WLA CHRISTMAS CONCERT** The Winnebago Lutheran Academy Sacred Christmas concert will be presented at WLA **Thursday, December 19 at 7:00pm** and again **Friday, December 20 at 1:00pm**. All are invited to attend.



**SPLS CHRISTMAS SERVICE** *Joy Has Dawned* will be **Sunday, December 22**. This year we will have one Christmas service for 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders **at 2:00pm**. Preschool through 1<sup>st</sup> grade will have their Christmas program on **Sunday, December 15** during the **10:30 service**.

**THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS** Thrivent Choice, the charitable grant program from Thrivent Financial, continues to be a supplemental funding source for organizations nationwide. Eligible benefit members designate Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup> they can gift to the charitable organization(s) of their choice, including St. Peter's Lutheran Church and St. Peter's Lutheran School. Since the inception of this program in 2010, St. Peter's Church and School have received a total of \$147,160. To direct your Choice Dollars visit [www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice).



## On this rock I will build my Church

The Faith of our Fathers

The 1940's, another new decade. In peaceful United States the average salary was \$1,300 per year and minimum wage was \$.43 per hour; the McDonald brothers opened their efficient burger stand in California. Following the success of Snow White in 1937, Disney released his second full-length animated film, Pinocchio; and The Great Smoky Mountains became a National Park. November 5<sup>th</sup> Roosevelt won a landslide victory over Wendell Wilkie for an unprecedented third term.

Things were not so peaceful elsewhere in the world. By 1939 Germany's Hitler, Italy's Mussolini and Japan's Hirohito had entered into "the pact of steel" and each was on a quest to control the world. June 14, 1940 Paris fell to Hitler's army and the first Polish prisoners were moved to Auschwitz. From September 1940 until May 1941 London withstood the "blitz" of nightly bombing raids. Its citizens found themselves spending night after night underground in air raid shelters. Foreseeing the inevitable, July 1940 FDR got the Naval Expansion Act passed expanding the size of the US Navy by 70%. March 1941 the Lend Lease Act passed allowing the US, a neutral nation, to furnish munitions and equipment to Great Britain and the Allies. In July the US assumed responsibility to occupy and protect Iceland, a British territory. August 14 FDR and Churchill held a secret meeting onboard a ship in a Newfoundland Bay and the Atlantic Charter was signed. Churchill opened the meeting with an on-deck Christian worship service.

Then, December 7, 1941, a peaceful Sunday morning became "the day that will live in infamy", Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. Japan was looking for a one day war, they poked the sleeping giant. Although 20 ships and 300 aircraft were destroyed no aircraft carriers were lost. The entire nation became consumed by the war effort.



Hundreds of thousands were being drafted or enlisted each month. "Keep the Home Fires Burning" was an oft heard motto, and there was a spirit of unity as never felt before. To move from peacetime to full blown war in a matter of days was an incredible national effort. All vehicle manufacture changed over to military. With gas and tires extremely scarce many family cars were put up on blocks for the duration. Everyone was issued a ration book. Nothing could be purchased without them. The motion picture industry assumed a role in the war effort. Countless training films were produced for the armed forces and movies took on a patriotic theme. Theater attendance was at an all time high. 5 different companies released newsreels twice each week. These connected people to the world at war. Prominent stars made whistle stop train trips across the country promoting war bonds. Every

classroom in the nation sold war bond stamps. For \$18.75 invested after 10 years it could be redeemed for \$25.

Wisconsin population in 1940 was 2,900,000. 330,000 Wisconsin men and 8,000 women served in the armed forces. Women entered the manufacturing workforce in unprecedented numbers. Badger Ordnance of Sauk City became the nation's largest manufacturer of munitions. Fond du Lac's Rueping Leather went into overtime producing leather for the military. Manitowoc, Sturgeon Bay and Superior became ship building assembly lines. Manitowoc produced 28 submarines. Sturgeon Bay grew from a handful of workers to over 7000 and the war department built living quarters for 600 families and 500 individuals. 258 assorted vessels were produced, each capable of fitting through the locks of The Seaway or the Mississippi.

Synod and St. Peter's were coasting along. From the depression years into the early 40's synod was still in financial trouble and many seminary graduates had to wait for calls. Synod began expansion and this situation was quickly reversed. In 1941 The Lutheran Hymnal was published by Concordia PH. It was a masterpiece. It was used by Wisconsin and Missouri Synod congregations for the next 52 years and became a textbook for university music classes as the best collection ever produced of classic chorale harmonization. In 1941, St. Peter's made the mistake of rebuilding the pipe organ. Quality materials were unavailable and it shortly needed redoing. In 1943 they were still trying to get rid of the school debt from 1925. \$7,856.70 (\$172,000 today) was owed. Pentecost Sunday became "Debt Free by Three" day. Teams of volunteers had lunch at church, then did an every-member visitation. When they regrouped at church at 3 o'clock, they had collected \$3.60 more than was needed!! Debt free at last.

**"The Navy Hymn" and "Onward Christian Soldiers" were sung on that ship in Newfoundland Bay in 1941.**

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm does bind the restless wave,  
Who bids the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep;  
Oh hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and wave submissive heard,  
Who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid the rage did sleep;  
Oh hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.

**\*\*Please check out the WWII display in the narthex by the windows**

*Daily Bible Readings*

|                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 12/09 Daniel 4 | 12/13 Daniel 8       |
| 12/10 Daniel 5 | 12/14 Daniel 9:1-19  |
| 12/11 Daniel 6 | 12/15 Daniel 9:20-27 |
| 12/12 Daniel 7 |                      |

*Last Week's Stewardship*

Thanksgiving Worship: 222 + 120 = 342  
Worship: 152 + 186 = 338  
Communion: 118 + 131 = 249

Bible Class: 46  
Sunday School: 12

*First Fruits to the Lord 2024:*

|                                                  | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Thank offerings in support of the unified budget | \$32,469.95      |                     |
| Other receipts in support of the unified budget  | 2,300.00         |                     |
| Total receipts in support of the unified budget  | 34,769.95        | 1,325,491.43        |
| Honoring the Lord!                               | 5,031.00         |                     |
| Improvement Fund                                 | 695.20           |                     |
| WLA Forward in Trust                             | 110.00           |                     |



*This Week at St. Peter's*  
[www.stpetersfdl.net/calendar](http://www.stpetersfdl.net/calendar)

|                    |          |                                              |
|--------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>MONDAY</b>      | 6:00 pm  | Adult Bells                                  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>     | 5:30 pm  | Board of Properties                          |
|                    | 6:00 pm  | "New Member" Class                           |
|                    | 6:00 pm  | Lutheran Girl Pioneers                       |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>   | 5:45 pm  | Adult Choir                                  |
|                    | 6:30 pm  | Christ Child Concert                         |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>    | 5:30 pm  | Sunday School Team                           |
|                    | 6:30 pm  | Worship with the Lord's Supper               |
|                    | 7:30 pm  | 2025 Budget Open Forum                       |
| <b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> | 8:00 am  | Worship with the Lord's Supper               |
|                    | 9:10 am  | Bible Class & Sunday School                  |
|                    | 10:30 am | PreK-1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Christmas Service |

# Christmas Services & Concerts



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

**\*\*\*Thursday & Sunday Services are as Regularly Scheduled\*\*\***