



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

Announcements
December 15, 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

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**DECEMBER FORWARD IN CHRIST & MEDITATIONS** 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, Paul Moore, who departed from this life to life eternal on Thursday, December 5 at the age of 59 years, 7 months and 6 days. May his family and friends find comfort in the truth and promises of God's Word.

Our faithful God and Father also called home to himself the soul of our sister in faith, Linda Margelofsky, who departed from this life to life eternal on Monday, December 9 at the age of 78 years, 2 months and 2 days. The funeral service is Friday, December 13, and her mortal remains will be laid to rest at Pleasant Hill Cemetery, Hartford to await the glorious resurrection. May her family and friends find comfort in the truth and promises of God's Word.

**FLOWERS** on the gradines in front of church are given in memory of Ralph and Joan Leisten from their family.

**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 or ashleywill@stpetersfdl.net. Thank you!

**"NEW MEMBER CLASS"** please speak with Pastor Lindemann if you'd like to join this class. Class times are based on availability each week.

**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.**

**DIVINE CALL RECEIVED** Our Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Katie Raddatz received a call to serve at St. John's Lutheran School in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, as a 4K Preschool teacher. Please keep Mrs. Raddatz and her family in your prayers as she considers both calls she is holding, and where to best serve the Lord in the future.

**LUTHER PREP CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Join us **Sunday, December 15 at 3:00pm** or **Thursday, December 19 at 10:00am** for our Christmas Concert in the gym (1300 Western Ave, Watertown) or watch on livestream at [lps.wels.net/apps/pages/lpsconcertsstream](https://lps.wels.net/apps/pages/lpsconcertsstream)

**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.

**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!

**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**.



**THANK YOU** to all who participated in Fond du Lac's Christmas Parade and helping with our *Christmas at the Movies* float. What a great opportunity to get our name out into the community and share what Christmas is all about!

**GREETERS** We are looking for people to welcome our members and visitors to God's house. If you are interested in being a greeter, please contact Nancy Birkholz at 920-204-9312 for more information.

**LIVESTREAM RECORDING** We would like to add more volunteers into the rotation to help record the Thursday night service and special services, which would be about once a month. Without more volunteers it will make it hard to make sure that all services are recorded. Contact Carl Manske, carlmanske@stpetersfdl.net or Anna & Ashley in the office if you're interested in helping!

**November 30, 2024 STATUS**

| <b>General Fund:</b>               | <b>2023</b>         | <b>2024</b>         | <b>% Inc</b> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| <b>Receipts:</b>                   |                     |                     |              |
| Weekly Offerings                   | \$1,095,185.47      | \$1,069,938.08      |              |
| Special Services                   | <u>\$68,066.40</u>  | <u>\$72,605.55</u>  |              |
| Contributions Subtotal             | \$1,163,251.87      | \$1,142,543.63      | -1.78%       |
| Other                              | <u>\$207,152.50</u> | <u>\$159,817.77</u> |              |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>              | \$1,370,404.37      | \$1,302,361.40      | -4.97%       |
| <b>Disbursements:</b>              | \$1,526,487.83      | \$1,569,929.24      | 2.85%        |
| <b>Surplus/Deficit</b>             | -\$156,083.46       | -\$267,567.84       |              |
| <b>Accumulated Deficit</b>         |                     |                     |              |
| Surplus/Deficit Prior Years        | \$13,287.28         | -\$10,364.24        |              |
| Deficit this Year                  | -\$156,083.46       | -\$267,567.84       |              |
| Changes in Assets                  | <u>\$0.00</u>       | <u>\$0.00</u>       |              |
| <b>Total Accum Surplus/Deficit</b> | -\$142,796.18       | -\$277,932.08       |              |

A year-ago at this time we had a deficit of \$156,083.46 versus a deficit of \$267,567.84 as of the end of November. This year had 47 Sundays as of the end of November versus 48 last year. Our total accumulated deficit at the beginning of the year was 10,364.24 which increased to 277,932.08 as of the end of November. Remember that last year we received the Employee Retention Credit for wages paid during COVID totaling almost \$60,800. This does impact the comparison of the data above. The Contributions are about 1.8% below those of last year.

Other Notes:

**Thanksgiving:** The Thanksgiving Envelope offerings totaled \$11,509. In 2023 that total was \$14,267.

**Honoring the LORD! (HTL):** This month the gifts to the HTL envelopes totaled \$11,066.57. This resulted in our paying an additional \$11,000 on the principal of our building loan.



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

**1945**

January 20, 1945 Franklin Roosevelt was inaugurated for his 4<sup>th</sup> term with Harry S. Truman, senator from Missouri as his VP. The win, however, was not another landslide. It was obvious FDR's strength was waning and the nation was weary of war.

It is hard to convey the magnitude of World War II. It encompassed more territory and more nations than any conflict in history. The Axis powers had gained control of Europe from the top of Norway throughout the Mediterranean and all of north Africa ; Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt. Only Great Britain was still standing. Japan had invaded vast territories of Asia and the Pacific Ocean and its islands. The Atlantic became a watery battlefield with losses of 3,500 merchant ships and 175 Allied warships. It WAS "the greatest generation" that saw our nation through this war. But now it's 1945 and beginning to look promising. It's been 6 months since D-Day (the largest amphibious assault in history) when under great secrecy 160,000 allied soldiers stormed the beaches of Normandy. It would be another 5 months until **V**ictory in **E**urope Day.

In February, the Allied leaders, Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin, held a critical week-long conference in Yalta, Crimea. It laid the foundations for the end of the war and the United Nations. Roosevelt's doctors urged him not to go, but it was too important. He went. A trip was being planned to visit London and Paris and the troops, but his blood pressure and failing heart took him to his retreat in Warm Springs GA, instead. It was here, April 12, 1945, at the age of 63 years that he died. The nation and the world were stunned. He was buried 4 days later at his mother's rose garden in Hyde Park, NY. A memorial service was held for the American president at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. At this gathering Churchill closed his remarks with "*In Franklin Roosevelt there died the greatest American friend we have ever known and the greatest champion of freedom who has ever brought help and comfort from the new world to the old.*"

Westminster Cathedral installed a prominent engraved marble memorial as a tribute "To The Honored Memory of Franklin Delano Roosevelt 1882-1945 A Faithful Friend of Freedom and of Britain – Four Times President of the United States"

Harry Truman inherited the task of bringing this terrible conflict to a close. Germany surrendered May 8, 1945 when the Allies took Berlin. It would take the atom bomb to bring Emperor Hirohito to his knees. Finally August 14, 1945, became **V**ictory in **J**apan day. The end of the war!! The jubilation was universal. Citizens of every city in the Allied world took to the streets in throngs. The celebrations went on for hours. 16 million US citizens served in World War II. Flags with a blue star were hung in windows letting the world know "a soldier lives here". By the end of the war 405,000 had gold stars. "Our soldier is dead". There are 14 US cemeteries on foreign soil where 93,000 are buried. Each cemetery has a "Tablet of the Missing". Those number 79,000. Wisconsin loses were 8,149 dead and over 13,000 wounded. The war remained a focus of the world for several years as the challenging task of recovery began; the horrors of the holocaust were revealed; the judgments at Nuremberg were declared and reconstruction of bombed out cities began.

**Lest We Forget:** World War II has more written documentation than any other relatively short period of history. St. Peter's School library has several shelves of material including the multi-volume set of Time/Life books and the World War II encyclopedia. A war hero from Fond du Lac, James Megellas wrote a book "All the Way to Berlin" which inspired the PBS documentary "Maggie's War". The Diary of Anne Frank was written by a Jewish girl during two years of hiding from the Nazi's in Amsterdam. She was hidden with seven other family members and friends. They were discovered in August 1944, weeks before the Allies crossed the Dutch border. They were deported to Nazi concentration camps. Of the 8, only Anne's father survived. Originally written in Dutch, the book has been translated into 70 languages. Check it out.

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you;  
You are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing – You are my own.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son's story, here you touched him, saw his glory. Go my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace; I the Lord will smile upon you and give you peace; I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother. Go, my children, I will keep you and give you peace.

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

*Daily Bible Readings*

|                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 12/16 Daniel 10:1-11:1   | 12/20 Psalm 140      |
| 12/17 Daniel 11:2-20     | 12/21 Psalm 142, 143 |
| 12/18 Daniel 11:21-12:13 | 12/22 Psalm 144      |
| 12/19 Psalm 139          |                      |

*Last Week's Stewardship*

Worship: 119 + 205 + 139 = 463

Bible Class: 55  
 Sunday School: 15

*First Fruits to the Lord 2024:*

|                                                  | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Thank offerings in support of the unified budget | \$45,588.41      |                     |
| Other receipts in support of the unified budget  | 2,695.00         |                     |
| Total receipts in support of the unified budget  | 51,283.41        | 1,376,774.84        |
| Honoring the Lord!                               | 1,491.55         |                     |
| Improvement Fund                                 | 265.40           |                     |
| WLA Forward in Trust                             | 647.00           |                     |
| Radio Ministry                                   | 2,500.00         |                     |



*This Week at St. Peter's*

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

|                    |          |                                                          |
|--------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MONDAY</b>      | 3:30 pm  | Faculty Meeting                                          |
|                    | 5:00 pm  | School Board                                             |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>     | 6:00 pm  | "New Member" Class                                       |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>   | 6:00 pm  | Adult Choir                                              |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>    | 5:15 pm  | Board of Youth & Adult Discipleship                      |
|                    | 6:30 pm  | Worship                                                  |
|                    | 7:00 pm  | WLA Christmas Concert                                    |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>      | 1:00 pm  | WLA Christmas Concert                                    |
| <b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> | 8:00 am  | Worship                                                  |
|                    | 9:10 am  | Bible Class                                              |
|                    | 10:30 am | Worship                                                  |
|                    | 2:00 pm  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade Christmas Service |