

ST. PETER COMMUNICATOR

43 N 3rd St., Hilbert, WI 54129

Office: (920) 853-3217

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

You Shall Not Steal

by Matthew C. Harrison

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income. (Small Catechism, Seventh Commandment)

... as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. (2 Cor. 6:10)

What and who shall be my god? It is the strangest of joy-robbing distortions that the very things (money and possessions) that God Almighty showers “upon the just and unjust” (Matt. 5:45) are made into idols and false gods by us miserable children of men. Sin and our flesh deceive us into “worshipping and serving the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever” (Rom. 1:25). Contentment is elusive no matter how much money one may possess. To whom or to what do I look for contentment, security and joy? Jesus' clear and inerrant Word provides some helpful diagnostics.

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. (Matt. 6:19–24)

If money is my god, then my heart will never be satisfied. If money is my god, then I will be eyeing the wealth of others and seeking in a sinful way to lay hold of what is not mine. If money is my god, then Christ the Lord cannot be my God.

Luther quipped that money makes a poor god, indeed. It has to be protected, locked up in a chest and worried about constantly. The very thing my misguided heart puts its hope and trust in can only render me, in the end, hopeless, disillusioned and joyless. And worst of all, if money is my god, then the greatest theft is from God Himself. For then I'll be convinced that what I possess is a result of my doing and at my disposal alone, and not God's gracious gifts to be used for His glory, the extension of the Gospel and the well-being of my neighbor.

The Catechism states all of this in the negative and then in the positive — that we are not to “take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way ...” but instead, positively, we are to “help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.” The Letter to the Hebrews states, “Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for [God] has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you’” (HEB. 13:5). St. Paul teaches a great deal about money and its use, particularly in the context of his great collection for the poor in Jerusalem (2 Cor. 8–9). Paul wrote, “Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully” (2 Cor. 9:6). In God's marvelous economy, generosity is richly rewarded: “God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work” (2 Cor. 9:7–8).

How can my love of money and possessions be broken? How can I become generous so that I deeply desire to help my neighbor “improve and protect his possessions and income”? Only Jesus.

Only Jesus kept this commandment perfectly ... for you, in your place. “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head” (Matt. 8:20). Jesus and His disciples kept a cache of money. In fact, it was the subject of Judas' greed. Judas succumbed to the god of mammon (John 13:29; 12:6; Matt. 26:15). The disciples' money bag was there to care for the needs of Jesus and the apostolic band, but also to provide for the needy whom they encountered (John 12:5).

Only Jesus. Jesus not only fulfilled the righteous demands of the Seventh Commandment, He spent Himself for a wretch like me, who has so miserably transgressed it in thought, word and deed. “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich” (1 Cor. 9:9). This is St. Paul's strong Christological argument — even more so, the strongest Gospel motivation for Christians not to be controlled by lust for money and possessions, but to be generous to others.

— Pastor Harrison

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison is president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.



LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

Young Women in Mission:

See the announcement on the bulletin board for a fun afternoon of **Painting, Bible Study and Trivia** with the Young Women of SWD. All ages are welcome, but registration is needed.

Dates and places are:

July 28th - Hope Lutheran,
260 Vincent St., Fond du Lac

August 11th - Divine Savior,
3200 Co. Rd. K., Hartford

August 18th - Good Shepherd,
1221 LaGrange Ave, Tomah

This will be a fun day, so gather your pals and take a little road trip. Dress casually as there will be no aprons, and there will be no babysitting. To register, go to lwml-swd.org, events or contact Kati Meyerhofer at 414-687-3087 or katidot@gmail.com

Back to School Ingathering:

Just a quick reminder about the Back to School ingathering for Hilbert Public Schools during the month of August. Any and all school supplies are welcome.

A special notice: On August 1-5 shopping for back to school supplies and clothes is tax free.

Fall Retreat:

The LWML of SWD Fall Retreat will be held on September 21-22 at the Hilton Garden Inn of Oshkosh. The theme is **Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me**. Keynote speaker, Jan Struck, is a well know Christian humorist. You will enjoy her whimsical entertainment while she speaks to our theme. Registration is \$65 and is due by September 1. Registration includes a Friday night Ice Cream Sundae bar, Saturday morning continental breakfast and Saturday lunch. An optional pizza party/devotion evening is planned for September 20. Cost for the pizza party is \$10. Room reservations are to be made directly with the Garden Inn, 920-966-1300. Ask for the LWML discount rate of \$99 for 1 or 2 people and \$10 for each additional person. This rate is in effect until August 26.



Parish Nursing

by Judy Paulson, RN, BSN,
Parish Nurse

The Calumet County ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) has many opportunities scheduled for

this fall. Check out the Agency Newsletter for details. Specifically, there will be Tai Chi at the Chilton FVTI campus starting September 10, a Caregiver Resource Event with former Governor Martin Schreiber on September 24, an eight part series on Knowing Your Legal Rights starting August 30, and four more foot care clinics during August. Call the ADRC at 849-1451 for more information on any of these events.

There is a change in the Hilbert meal site program: Meals are now served only on Tuesday and Friday. Meals on Wheels continue Monday through Friday.

Also, starting on September 5, Strong Women will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Hilbert Community Center from 6:30-7:30. Join us to maintain strength, balance and endurance.

Wisconsin's sales tax holiday is Wednesday, August 1, through Sunday, August 5, 2018.

Items included:

- Clothing, footwear and accessories \$75 and under
- Computers \$750 and under
- Computer accessories \$250 and under
- School supplies \$75 and under

To learn more and to see a list of exempt items, go to www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/Individuals/SalesTaxHoliday.aspx

**St. Peter Lutheran Church
Voters Meeting Minutes
July 22, 2018**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wally Jentsch.

Opening Prayer: Dan Bergelin gave the opening prayer.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report:

- Ron Bornemann gave the quarterly financial report and it was filed for audit.
- Treasurer Doug Koffarnus will have the new accounting software program in place by August.

Board of Trustees Report:

- The insurance company which carries out church property insurance is cancelling our policy. We are looking for another company at this time.
- The printer and Wi-Fi adapter is up and running.
- The Koffarnus family is working on purchasing a projection screen to use in church.

Board of Elders Report:

- Michelle and Danielle Jost requested transfer to St. Bartholomew, Brillion. **MMSC to approve the transfer of membership for Michelle and Danielle Jost to St. Bartholomew Congregation.**

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Brassfield handed out a report of his services to St. Peter since May 1st.
- Pastor would like to receive the names for upcoming catechism and adult Bible classes in the fall. If you are interested or know someone who is, please refer them to Pastor Brassfield.

Committee Reports:

Audit Committee – no report

Budget Committee – no report

Finance Committee – no report

Worship Committee – will proceed with Pastor after vote

Nominating Committee – need to activate now for elections in October voters' meeting

Scholarship Committee – no report

Health Committee:

- Relay for Life event went well.
- We will need a new volunteer chairman to organize a team for the 2019 Relay.

Joint Committee – vote today on agreement

Old Business: none

New Business:

- Pastor Brassfield will have an announcement in area church bulletins to find an organist to play for our services.
- The church council will review the day and time of future voters' meetings so Pastor Brassfield is able to attend.
- The vote passed in favor of joining with St. Luke as a dual parish. The results of a vote to approve the agreement to join with St. Luke were as follows: In favor - 33 yes, 1 no. The vote to ratify the agreement was then taken and results were unanimous - 34 votes yes in favor of the ratification of the previous vote.

Adjournment: **MMSC to adjourn.** The Lord's Prayer was said in unison.

Caroline Behnke, Secretary

Our Response to His Love

	7-1-18	7-8-18	7-15-18	7-22-18
General Fund	1697.00	3506.00	1406.00	1060.00
Missions	110.00	35.00		10.00
Totals	1807.00	3541.00	1406.00	1070.00

TRANSFER – Michelle & Danielle Jost – June 26, 2018

BAPTISM – Katy Ecker – July 1, 2018

FUNERAL – Janice Schroeder – July 18, 2018



Happy Birthday

August

- 3 Alyssa Ecker
- 4 George Krepline
- 5 Arianna Nunes
- 8 Rhylee Koehler
- 23 Susan Hostettler
- 27 Emily Sowinski
- 28 Caroline Hilton
- 29 Bonnie Teinert
- 31 Joyce Krepline
John Lau

**Open House Sunday August 26th
at St Vincent DePaul Thrift Store in Hilbert
10:00 AM to Noon**

Everyone is welcome join as St Vincent DePaul thrift store in Hilbert celebrates 20 years of serving Calumet County!
There will be guided tours of the stores, work rooms and storage area, as well as fellowship, door prizes, and of course refreshments.

Hope to see everyone there!!

Susan
St Vincent DePaul
Store Manager

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| August 4th | Jessica & Nelson Teinert, Jr. |
| August 8th | Dolores & Ron Bornemann |
| August 9th | Lori & Ron Ott, Jr. |
| August 11th | Amanda & Kyle Hackbarth |
| August 12th | Debra & Darrel Dilley, Jr. |
| August 21st | Betty & Tom Ruppenthal |
| August 26th | Sandra & Gary Mirsberger |
| August 30th | Amber & Chad Roehrig |

Thank You for the Altar Flowers

June 24 – Given by the family of William and Beverly (Libzeit) Osladil, in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary

July 22 – Given by the family of Janice Schroeder in memory of her.