

ST. PETER COMMUNICATOR

43 N 3rd St., Hilbert, WI 54129

Office: (920) 853-3217

September 2021

From the desk of Pastor Peterson

“The Journey” August 17th, 2021

Greetings fellow saints at Saint Peter. Recently, I traveled to my home state of Iowa. It was a journey of anticipation as I looked forward to seeing my family and reconnecting with friends. It was a good time, and I am grateful to have the chance to see my family. On my journey, I was thinking about other journeys that I had the opportunity to take in my life. The one thing about journeys is that you look forward to arriving at your destination. Have you ever anticipated a trip? Maybe to see family, friends, or a vacation that you have been planning? I am pretty confident that the answer is a resounding yes!!

As I was traveling, I was pondering another journey that I am on, and that we together as Christians are on. This journey began at the time of our birth and at our baptism we were put on a path to a new journey. Our journey at our birth was a journey of separation from God because we are all sinners in need of God's saving grace. That journey ended when we were baptized. At our baptism, we were baptized into Christ's death and resurrection. We died with Christ, and we rose again. At our baptism, our journey towards eternal life with Christ began. It is fitting to know that Jesus is our Good Shepherd, and we are His sheep. Jesus is the one who leads us on the journey to eternal life with Him in the new heavens and the new earth that is to come. This is a journey of faith.

On my trip back to Iowa, and I am sure that on all journeys that we are on, unforeseen events happen. For example, as I was about 45 minutes from my hometown of Lake City, my mother called me to inform me that there was a tornado about 45 minutes from where I was at and heading my way. As someone from the Midwest, I was not too concerned because I know how to outrun tornados. Also, when I was driving through Madison, Wisconsin, I read an exit sign wrong and ended up back-tracking for about 15 minutes to get back on the by-pass. These examples are just minor examples of what we face in our daily lives. In our lives, we will face many challenges. Death, financial issues, sickness, and many other situations. At times we will take the wrong exit as well. Yet, on this journey, our Good Shepherd, Jesus comes to us and takes us to safety. **(23rd Psalm)** He promises to be with us always, until the end of the age. **(Matthew 28:16-20)** Jesus is there for us in all situations.

John tells us and we confess this on Sunday mornings that: **1 John 1:9** **9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** So, in our journey on this earth we will make mistakes, we will sin. Yet, God is forgiving and calls us to get back on the journey. When I took that wrong turn in Madison, there were signs that guided me back to the by-pass. I was thinking about how God guides us on the right path through His Word and Sacraments.

Once I arrived back in my hometown, I felt relieved to have made it. 7 and a half hours is quite a journey. I was happy to see my mom and spend time with family. Yet I also thought about our own spiritual journey when it ends on this earth. We will see Jesus and we will be with Him. I was reminded of Revelation 21:4 **“He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”**

Once we get to our heavenly home and our journey on this earth, the joy of seeing our savior Jesus Christ will be overwhelming. Indescribable is a good word to use here. So, we can be confident and assured that our going home to our heavenly Father is assured because of what we have been given through Christ. Amen



LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

Gifts from the Heart: Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our Gifts from the Heart for the students at the Hilbert School District. It was gratifying to see the collection box filling over the last few weeks, and we know the items will be much appreciated by those who receive them. What a blessing to be able to help our less fortunate students, as well as their teachers, in this way.

September Women in Mission Meeting: After our August break, we will meet again in September. Our meeting date is the second Tuesday of the month, September 14, at 1:00. We hope to see you there as we look forward to our study by Rev. Peterson.

Plastic yarn and used stamps: As we mentioned last month, the North Wisconsin District of LWML still has groups actively participating in these projects. As of mid-August, all of our current supplies were given to them, and we wish them well as they continue to provide for those in need. All proceeds from the stamps go to Mite funds. We will continue to gather stamps, but want to remind you that there is no market for either the flag stamps or for Christmas stamps. Collectors also want stamps that have a margin of the envelope at least a ¼ inch from the edge of the stamp.

Funeral Dinners: Some of you will have noticed the new arrangement for tables for the funeral dinners. We hope you found the arrangement made it easier for traffic flow. We recently had sign-up sheets in the Narthex asking for willing food providers and helpers. If you missed signing up, and weren't contacted by the chairladies, and are willing to participate in our funeral service to members and their families, please contact Bonnie Teinert. We are

privileged to be able to provide this token of love and caring for each other.



Mission Matters

Our Mission Matters column is usually directed toward one of the mission programs or organizations of the LCMS. However, when I read the following column written by Karla Koehler, the treasurer of the LWML, it caused me to reflect on our schools as a mission field. We have just completed a Gifts from the Heart gathering for the Hilbert School District, and it seems only appropriate that we spend some time in prayer on behalf of all the students and teachers. Please read this article and then commit to praying for all those involved in all schools, in all states and countries, and at all educational levels from day care to universities.

"Is it back-to-school time where you live? Do you remember being excited and nervous about the next school year? Did you enjoy the fresh start? Did you look forward to seeing your friends, learning new things, or meeting a new teacher?

Isn't being a Christian a lot like this? We are excited and nervous about life. We have a "fresh start" or "reset" every time we spend time in the Word or partake in Holy Communion. We look forward to our heavenly home, meeting our Teacher Jesus, and being reunited with our family and friends. What joy we will have when we are finally home in heaven!

Take time to pray for all the back-to-school children and teachers. The LWML website has a fun *Back to School devotion* with visual aid ideas to share our faith with children.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6)."

Let's pray that the love of Jesus is present for all students and teachers, that each of them feels this love, and that in each learning environment there are those who will witness to this love and ensure that all are treated with the kindness and compassion our Savior expects of His people.

**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry
Newsletter Article – September 2021**

At the end of the first of his chapters on the virtue of faith in *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis provides a helpful reminder, by way of analogy, for the foundation of stewardship. He wrote:

“Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. So then, when we talk of a man doing anything for God or giving anything to God, I will tell you what it is really like. It is like a small child going to its father and saying, ‘Daddy, give me sixpence to buy you a birthday present.’ Of course, the father does, and he is pleased with the child’s present. It is all very nice and proper, but only an idiot would think that the father is sixpence to the good on the transaction. When a man has made these two discoveries God can really get to work. It is after this that real life begins. (128–129).”

This is the first thing we are given to confess about stewardship, and it has to do with ownership. God owns everything, and we are simply managers – stewards – acting on His behalf. This is true not only of all that we have in this life (Deut. 8:17–18) but also all that we are in this life (1 Cor. 6:20).

The rest flows from here. Since we are stewards,

or managers, of what belongs to God, entrusted to make use of it according to His will, there is an expectation of responsibility and accountability. For the Lord said, “Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more” (Luke 12:48b). And from this comes blessing and reward: “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master” (Matt. 25:21).

We have everything we need to support this body and life from our God’s fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We have everything we need for our spiritual life also from His merciful hands. On account of the sacrifice of His Son, our Lord Jesus, through the preaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments, we have the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and everlasting salvation delivered to us with absolute certainty that it is ours – not as stewards but as sons (Gal. 4:1–7). Let us then, as His own sons, press all that He gives to us into the service of His church and to His glory.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

September

- 5th Tim & DeAnn Eldred
- 16th Dave & Linda Franz
Paul & Kelly Schwalenberg
- 19th Chris & Caroline Hilton
- 22nd Jerid & Taylor Weyenberg
- 25th Willy & Joyce Krepline
- 30th Doug & Cheri Koffarnus
Justin & Christine Lintner

Your Perfect Volunteer Opportunity!

Hilbert's St Vincent de Paul store wants some of your time, talent and support so we may help others in our community.

Why is St Vincent de Paul a great place to volunteer? We offer flexible hours that will fit within your schedule –at this time we are open for volunteers between the hours of 8:45 am – 4:45 pm Tuesday through Friday and 8:45 to 12:25 pm on Saturdays.

We have various volunteer opportunities in the following areas

1. Friday Afternoon Cashier (1 - 4:30/4:45 shift)
2. Sorting Donations as they arrive (any day we are open)
3. Back Room- Pricing Home Goods and placing out – Tues afternoon, Wed any time or Friday afternoon.
4. Selling certain items online
5. Christmas store – Cashiering / Placing items out (items are priced)
Christmas store will open beginning of October and stay open till the new year.

We are a Christian based organization and welcome everyone! Join our growing group of volunteers by starting today. We enjoy personal fulfillment and the friendship of fellow volunteers.

As a charitable 501(c)(3) organization, your travel and certain other expenses are tax deductible.

Drop in anytime during store hours for a volunteer application

Any questions please feel free to call Susan during business hours 920-853-3449.



Happy Birthday

September

- 3 Nick Koffarnus
- 4 Willy Krepline
- 7 Sarah Nau
- 8 Tamra Koehler
Tina Sowinski
Lisa Schaefer
- 11 Kyle Hackbarth
- 13 Harold Paulson
Brandon Price
- 15 Don Price
- 18 Garrett Lau
Austin Schwalenberg
- 20 Grace Roehrig
- 23 Dan Schroeder
Kevin Riemer
Rowen Goerl
- 26 Dennis Hernke
- 29 Caroline Behnke
Dennis Hein
- 30 Christine Lintner

Our Response to His Love

	8-08-21	8-01-21	7-25-21	7-18-21
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Offerings	\$1475	\$1765	\$1430	\$910
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Attendance	38	42	36	38
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FUNERAL – Gerald Schroeder – July 27, 2021

**St. Peter Lutheran Church
Voters Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2021**

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

Opening Prayer: Pastor Peterson gave the opening prayer.

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

Correspondence: none

Pastor's Report:

- Shut-in members have been visited.
- The first Wednesday after Labor Day will be the beginning of Confirmation classes.
- The funeral for Gerald Schroeder will be held Tuesday, July 27th at St. Peter with a meal to follow in the fellowship hall.
- Pastor mentioned members of his family from Iowa will be visiting him this week.

Treasurer's Report:

- The financial report was given by Doug and filed for audit. Our offering income is above budget and major expenses have been paid (parsonage windows and lawn mower repairs).
- Doug gave a hearty "Thank You" to Ron Bornemann for his help setting up payroll for Pastor Peterson.

Board of Elders Report:

- Dan Koffarnus mentioned that the technology cost for live streaming our church service on YouTube (\$4,677) may be updated along with the purchase of a computer (might be approximately \$800).
- The trustees and elders are continuing to find someone to repair the needed items concerning work on the organ issues.

Board of Trustees Report: There were no trustees present, however, their items of concern were addressed in the Elders Report.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: no report

Joint Committee:

- Special Service times were set up.
- Pastor Peterson still would like a volunteer to help with the 6th, 7th grade Confirmation class.
- Pastor's salary and benefits are in place.
- The next Joint Committee Meeting will be Tuesday, October 5th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- Grace Roehrig asked voters and elders to consider resuming the Continuous Flowing Communion line as we had practiced during the Pandemic. This item will be put in the bulletin as the elders would like congregational input before a decision is made on this suggestion.
- Cheri Koffarnus mentioned with the small number of children for our Sunday School classes resuming, perhaps check with St. Luke for ideas and help.
- The next voters meeting will be held Sunday, October 24th following our church service.

Adjournment: MMSC to adjourn.

Closing Prayer: We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Caroline Behnke, Secretary

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Altar Guild: Dean & Jan Bergelin			1	2	3	4
5 15th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Green</i> 8:30 Divine Service	6 Labor Day	7	8 4:00p Confirmation Class @ St. Luke	9	10	11
12 16th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Green</i> 8:30 Divine Service (NC) Grandparents' Day	13	14 1:00p WIM Meeting & Bible Study 7:00p Bible Study @St. Peter	15 4:00p Confirmation Class @ St. Luke	16	17	18
19 17th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Green</i> 8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Sunday School	20 Newsletter articles due	21 7:00p Bible Study @St. Luke	22 4:00p Confirmation Class @ St. Luke	23 Fall Begins	24	25
26 18th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Green</i> 8:30 Divine Service (NC) 9:30 Sunday School	27	28 7:00p Bible Study @St. Peter	29 4:00p Confirmation Class @ St. Luke	30		Greeters: 5th Caroline Behnke 12th Bonnie Teinert 19th LouAnn Seidl 26th George & Carol Krepline

Divine Services marked (NC) will not have Holy Communion