

ST. PETER COMMUNICATOR

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August 2023

From the desk of Pastor Peterson

Grace, mercy, and God's peace to each and everyone of you from our risen, victorious, and ascended Lord Jesus Christ, Amen. I am sure that all of you reading this article remember the haze from the Canadian forest fires. These fires not only affected us here in Wisconsin, but all over the Midwest and the Northeast United States. It was difficult to see long distances, and for those who had breathing issues, it was hazardous to be outside. I can remember the alerts saying that even healthy people should not stay outside for long periods of time.

In thinking about how difficult it was to have that smoke and haze in our lives, I also thought about how similar that is to sin. Sin chokes us, makes it difficult to live, and is a constant reminder of a world that has fallen away from its creator. Sin clouds our vision and desires to take the focus off of God and onto the devil. We must remember that the devil sows destruction, strife, and tribulation wherever he goes. Read what God's Word says:

- **2 Corinthians 4:4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.**
- **John 3:19-20 This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the Light and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.**
- **John 12:39-40 For this reason, they could not believe, for Isaiah said again, "HE HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES AND HE HARDENED THEIR HEART, SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT SEE WITH THEIR EYES AND PERCEIVE WITH THEIR HEART, AND BE CONVERTED AND I HEAL THEM."**
- **2 Corinthians 11:14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.**
- **John 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.**

As you can read from the above words from God, we begin to understand just how evil, sick, and corrupt the devil is. He is the cause of all darkness, sin filled smoky haze. When we face dark times, it seems that smog, the smoke of confusion envelopes us. We struggle with those issues, and our lives look uncertain. Sometimes we feel that we cannot breathe because of the stress, sometimes we cannot even see the horizon. In the end the hazy, cloudy, smoke, and fog seem to dominate. Yet, we who have faith do not rely on our own observations based on human reason and emotion. Instead, we focus on the one who promises to clear that stagnant air of sin in our lives. Thankfully, just as a weather front moved in cleared the air. We are thankful that Jesus does the same for us. Jesus, you could say is like a fresh breath of air, a holy wind that cleanses the pollution of sin from our souls. Read what our Lord says:

- **John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.**
- **John 8:32 And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."**
- **1 John 3:8 The one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, this is why it is so important to come to church, confess our sins, receive the forgiveness of sin, witness a baptism, and remember our own baptism, and to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. God invites us to His house, where the spiritual air is clear, no smog of sin, no haze of sin, and we can in faith look to the clear spiritual horizon with the eyes of faith. As I mentioned on the 7th Sunday after Pentecost, July 16th, please invite someone you know who is struggling with life, does not have a church home, and someone who just needs the haze and fog of sin lifted from their lives. They need to hear about the savior who died for them and breathes in them new life. A holy breath without sin that is clean and pure. Amen.

In His Grip



Pastor Peterson



LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

Meeting Cancelled: Our August meeting is cancelled, and we will resume as scheduled on September 12th. Our mite box will continue to be available in the Narthex for your contributions to both the national LWML grants and the LWML-SWD grants.

Convention News: We should be getting our next Quarterly fairly soon. In that issue all the convention news will be included. Be sure to read about our new officers, especially our new president. Eden Keefe is a dedicated, creative and energetic LWML member! She will be a very good president. You will also find out about our many speakers, fun times, and especially what our mite grants will be for the next biennium. Our mite goal was set at \$2.325+ Million, \$200,000 more than this past biennium!

It's always so exciting to watch the mite income rise and the grant requests be fulfilled, one by one!

Fall Retreat: Our LWML SWD Fall Retreat will be held on September 29 and 30 in Wisconsin Dells. We made room reservations for eight people, and so far we have four who have registered. That means we have room for four more! Consider joining us for this inspirational time. The theme is "Comforted to Comfort Others". Registration forms are on the bulletin board, or see Bonnie or Judy. Registration is \$60 and we will divide the room costs among us.

Fellowship Time: We continue with our coffee (or juice or water or milk) time right after Worship on the second Sunday of each month. Come and join the conversations. It's a nice way to continue those brief hallway/parking lot chats! It's also a good time to explore our renewed children's center. We have a cozy rug and some new 'stuff'. And on your way out you can grab a puzzle to put together at home. Or, grab some friends and do one in the fellowship hall!

LWML Zone 10 Fall Rally: We will be hosting the Zone Rally this fall. The date is October 21, and we will have two speakers. Ashley Lehr, missionary to Puerto Rico, will be here. You may remember her from her previous times here, or you may be reading her newsletters. We will also have one of the Comfort Dogs from Lutheran Charities. This particular dog is based in Appleton, and so we're glad to be able to learn about the Comfort Dogs and how they are used to assist people who are experiencing difficult times. Join us.

We will be hosting a breakfast before the rally, and everyone is invited. In fact, if you would like to help with the breakfast, that would be great. We'll be doing egg bakes and bringing muffins or sweet breads, etc. We'll probably have some fruit, too.

We hope everyone is having a wonderful summer, and we'll look for you at our September meeting, the Fall Retreat, or the Zone Rally. Or all three!

Mission Matters

DOXOLOGY

The Lutheran Center for Spiritual Care and Counsel

DOXOLOGY, a charitable nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation and Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, is comprised of pastors, counselors and laity from various walks of life who are committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, especially as God gives it through the Holy Ministry.

DOXOLOGY offers an innovative program of advanced study retreats to strengthen pastors for the task of faithfully shepherding the souls entrusted to their care.

DOXOLOGY provides pastors with a unique study and renewal experience, rooted in the classic art of the care of souls and informed by the insights of contemporary Christian psychology.

The primary purpose of this organization is to provide training, mentoring and consultation services for pastors seeking to enhance their ability to help people struggling with the ever-increasing personal, family and social complexities of contemporary life. The retreat training environment, grounded in Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, ensures that pastors will be emotionally and spiritually refreshed and equipped by their participation. The Center provides a safe environment for clergy to reflect on their own spiritual and emotional health and assists them to review and enhance their professional competencies and skills as servants of Christ and stewards of God's sacred mysteries. **DOXOLOGY** strengthens pastors so they can more faithfully pastor others.

DOXOLOGY also offers occasional retreats for pastors and their wives as well as retreats especially designed for pastors' wives. To God be the Glory.

REPORTER Official Newspaper of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

What is a Lutheran?



By Matthew C. Harrison

In June, Thrivent — a fraternal benefit society born of a merger of two Lutheran organizations — exhorted its Instagram followers, with a rainbow heart, to “Celebrate Pride Month.” Many folks who own Thrivent products have asked us for alternatives for life insurance and investments. I especially feel for the many faithful LCMS people who serve or have served as Thrivent agents whose consciences are burdened. I think of J.A.O. Preus I (father of former LCMS President Rev. Dr. J.A.O. “Jack” Preus II), who founded Lutheran Brotherhood. I think of the Lutherans (like my family) who served so well in these institutions for so long, and all the charitable dollars to worthy causes.

In other news, a congregation in Minnesota bearing the name “Lutheran” — though not one with which we are in fellowship — has gone viral for its use of the so-called “Sparkle Creed” at a Pride Sunday service in June. Again, our voicemails and inboxes lit up with those concerned that the Synod needed to issue a statement about this “creed,” which includes phrases such as “I believe in the non-binary God whose pronouns are plural. I believe in Jesus Christ, their son, who wore a fabulous tunic and had two dads.”

These are shocking developments, but not unexpected. Thrivent long ago shed “for Lutherans” from its name, and more recently dropped “for Christians.” In 2014, it stopped allowing Thrivent Choice donations to be directed to pro-life organizations (taking what they called a neutral position on the matter of abortion). And

the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has advocated for LGBTQ+ issues for decades. I pray for the many Christians in the ELCA. Thank God the dictum of the ancient church — “The ears of the hearers are more holy than the hearts of the priests” — remains true. God grant to all of us wretched sinners repentance and faith in Christ. By the way, I only mention the ELCA here because the national media, in its reporting on the “Sparkle Creed,” indiscriminately lumped all Lutherans together.

While once faithful church bodies in Australia and Japan have slipped away from historic, confessional Lutheran doctrine and practice, other churches — particularly in Africa, but also elsewhere — are throwing off their entanglements with the heterodox Lutheran World Federation and seeking LCMS pastors and professors to catechize them in more faithful doctrine and practice. This vital international role of our seminaries is often overlooked. We have more requests from around the world than we can meet.

This all raises the question: What is a Lutheran? Thrivent used to be “for Lutherans.” And as we can see, a church with “Lutheran” in its name can have its members confess, “I believe in the non-binary God whose pronouns are plural.”

Being a Lutheran does not mean being like Luther or believing everything he taught. Though God magnificently used the blessed reformer to restore the Gospel to its proper place in the church, we don’t confess everything Luther taught.

Being Lutheran is also not heritage or history. Churches descended from the Reformation are not necessarily Lutheran. And being Lutheran does not mean reinterpreting glorious and thoroughly biblical Lutheran words like “grace” to mean “tolerance,” or “vocation” to mean “service.”

Being Lutheran does mean subscribing to the specific teachings of the Lutheran Confessions because they accord with the doctrine revealed in Holy Scripture. You all know this confession, which is most simply put in Luther’s Small Catechism. The catechism sets forth the great basics of the faith: the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, Baptism, Confession and the Lord’s Supper.

At the core of the catechism are these words: “I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from

eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.”

This — the doctrine of justification, on which the church stands or falls — is what it means to be Lutheran. Everything else flows from it. Original sin and the preaching of the Law (apart from Christ, all of us are “lost and condemned persons”) are about justification. Because we know that God justifies sinners, we aren’t afraid of man’s sinful condition, nor do our sins terrify and oppress us. God reckons us righteous, by grace, for Christ’s sake.

Baptism — even infant Baptism — is about justification because the font is one of the places God does His justifying work, apart from any participation of our own. The Office of the Keys is about justification because the pastor’s absolving words are God’s justifying work. The Lord’s Supper is about justification because God gathers His saints around His altar to feed them with the price paid for their justification: the very body and blood of Jesus. Even the authority of the Bible is tied to justification. Jesus says the Bible testifies about Him (John 5), and those who believe in Jesus listen to Him. “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me” (John 10:27).

If a church body rejects God’s Law, it cannot call sinners to repentance. It loses the fullness of justification and ceases to be truly Lutheran. That’s why we must always proclaim Law and Gospel. If a congregation rejects the church’s historic creeds in favor of something made up to fit the sexual mores of the culture, it rejects justification, since Christ suffered on the cross to pay for man’s sins, not to permit and celebrate them.

If that’s what a Lutheran is, must one be a Lutheran to be saved? No. As the doctrine of justification rightly teaches, God saves people solely out of His fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, through simple faith in Jesus as their Savior. Wherever His Word is preached — even if imperfectly — there is hope for sinners to be saved by the working of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:3).

One pastor I know is fond of telling his parishioners that there are no Lutheran insomniacs, at least when it

comes to eternal life. No Lutheran should stay awake at night worrying about his salvation. If justification is God's work alone (which it is), and if He works through tangible means (which He does), then a Christian can remind himself that he is baptized by God and go happily to sleep.

The point of being Lutheran is comfort, not pride. God intends His people to have full and complete confidence that they are His because of His perfect work. This is justification. This is why I am a Lutheran. This joyful confidence is the baptismal birthright of every Christian. And it's why we won't confess the Sparkle Creed with the "church of what's happening now."

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

LWML elects new president, sets record mission goal

By Stacey Egger



Eden Keefe, newly elected LWML president, addresses the LWML convention on June 24 in Milwaukee. (LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford)

At the 40th Biennial Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Convention, held June 22–25 in Milwaukee's Baird Center under the theme "Celebrate the Lord of the Nations," the LWML set a mission goal of \$2.35 million — \$200,000 more than the last biennium and the LWML's highest mission goal ever. LWML voting members set the goal by electronic vote a month ago. During the convention, which had over 3,500 attendees, the voting assembly selected 31 mission grants to fund from a slate of 45 grant proposals.

The assembly also elected the next LWML president: Eden Keefe of Overland Park, Kan. Keefe has previously served the LWML as the Christian Living editor for *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* and as vice-

president of Christian Life. She will serve as LWML president for the next two bienniums.

Grant recipients for 2023–2025 include Orphan Grain Train, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Journeys Lutheran School, Lutheran Braille Workers and more. A full list of mission grant recipients can be found at lwml.org/mission-grants.

80 years of impact

The LWML celebrated 80 years in 2022. In that time, LWML mission grants totaling \$28.9 million have supported work in 83 countries.

Speaking to the convention, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Asia Regional Director Rev. Charles Ferry said, "Our partner churches ... know the LWML. I have lost track of how many times I have gone to visit our church partners, and we've heard directly from them that ... this program, this building, this operation is here because of the work of the LWML. Praise be to God. You are leaving a legacy behind you that is living and active because it is the Word of God."

"Thank you for your fidelity," said LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison in his address to the convention. "You are the rock rib of the Missouri Synod — you ladies who make it all happen, who keep those church basements hopping, the outreach going ... the Bible being studied, and all so much more. ... God bless you all and thank you, thank you, thank you."

Several organizations that received grants at the 2021 LWML convention thanked the women of the LWML from the main stage during "Mites in Action" presentations:

- The Rev. Dr. Steven Schave, executive director of the LCMS Recognized Service Organization (RSO) Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP), described how the grant enabled LAMP to extend its mission to more remote indigenous communities in Northern Canada. This year alone, 31 volunteer teams will reach 31 communities with the Gospel. "Sisters in Christ, you have been His witnesses to the ends of the earth through your support of LAMP ministries," said Schave.
- Phil Zielke, founder of the RSO Phil's Friends, described how the grant brought hope and the

message of Christ to cancer patients across the country in the form of care packages containing a Bible, blanket, cards of encouragement and more. Phil's Friends will reach the 50,000 mark this year in total care packages delivered.

- The Rev. Doua Xiong, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Merced, Calif., described how the grant enabled Hmong materials and outreach in his community. The congregation saw nine Baptisms in 2022 and has already seen another five in 2023.

‘Never alone’

For convention attendees, the biennial gathering is an opportunity to see how their local congregations can make a significant impact as part of something larger than themselves.

“It’s very encouraging,” said Kris Brandorff of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Wichita, Kan. Brandorff has been a part of the LWML for over 40 years and attended two other national conventions. “You can see that there are more women like us all over the country. You’re never alone, even if you’re in a small town.”

“[The mission speakers show] what your money has done, what it has multiplied into, and the work that they’re doing with little bits of mites that we give every week,” said Karen Ard of Grace Lutheran Church in El Dorado, Kan.

Kathryn Kirby of Trinity Lutheran Church in Stewardson, Ill., has attended 17 other national LWML conventions. “It’s just amazing what our mites do,” Kirby said. “When you’re here, you really feel like, ‘Wow, I’m a part of this Synod.’”

“You figure out that with the thousands of people here, they’re representing 10 [or] 20 women back home that weren’t able to come,” said Ruth Mueller of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Wauwatosa, Wis. Mueller, alongside her husband, Gary, served as a host district volunteer at the convention.

‘A light to the nations’

In an apt display of the convention theme, the second full day of the convention began with a procession of flags representing the 83 nations in which LWML grants have supported mission work.

Nicole Boeder, a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Springfield, Ill., and a former LCMS missionary teacher in South Africa who has also served on several short-term mission trips, helped carry the Kenya flag.

“I just love the verse in Revelation about all the peoples from every tribe and nation. We’re all going to be gathered together in heaven, and this is kind of a reminder of [that],” said Boeder, shortly after completing the procession.

During two morning Bible studies led from the main stage, LWML Nominating Committee Chairman Kaye Wolff unpacked the convention theme, based on Psalm 33:12–13. Wolff traced God’s saving work through the history of Israel and the person and work of Christ:

“God [gave Abraham and Sarah a child in their old age] so that, through them, God could bring salvation to the world through their descendant, the promised Savior of the world, our Jesus, the Christ. ... God established Israel to be a light to the nations ... so that God could draw all people to Himself, that all might know His salvation and be saved.”

20 years of Heart to Heart Sisters

The “Lord of the Nations” theme was also well suited to the 20th anniversary of the LWML’s Heart to Heart — Sisters of All Nations program, which was established in 2003 when 22 Hispanic and African American Lutheran women were invited to a seminar before that year’s LWML convention in Oklahoma City.

During each LWML convention since, the program has trained women to reach out to people in their communities with different ethnic or cultural backgrounds. Twenty-seven of these district facilitators were trained this year, including Christina Henry, the great-granddaughter of one of the first native Lutheran pastors in India, who was baptized by German Lutheran missionaries in 1900. Henry, a native of India herself, now lives in Montana, where she and her husband are members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell.

“I’ve loved the training. Look at the variety,” said Henry, gesturing around the room at the other trainees. “We all are sisters in Christ, and we are proving it.”



LWML Young Women Representatives are recognized at the LWML convention in Milwaukee on June 23. (LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford)

50 years of Young Woman Reps

Also celebrating a milestone anniversary this year was the LWML's Young Woman Representatives (YWR) program, which was started 50 years ago when eight young women were specially invited to attend the convention.

This year, 75 Young Woman Representatives attended, and YWR pins could be seen adorning women of all ages who had been introduced to the LWML through the program.

"I've heard stories from my grandma about [LWML conventions], and I've never experienced it, so now to see what she experienced — it's just exciting to see it span the generations," said Kimberlyn Thomas, this year's YWR from the Indiana District.

"I never feel more loved than when I'm surrounded by LWML women," said Amanda Ballentine, a YWR from Iowa District West. "Someday we're going to be the ladies that will be up there [on stage]. ... We'll have been here for years, and [we will] ... see everybody we've met and ... all the things that LWML has done."

Engaged in mission

LWML attendees continued to support mission work even amid the convention, with three servant events on the convention's first day. Volunteers packed over 50,000 meals and 566 backpack school kits for Orphan Grain Train, assembled 1,167 Braille books and calendars for Lutheran Braille Workers, wrote hundreds of cards to LCMS missionaries and military personnel, made fleece blankets and cards for Phil's Friends to distribute to cancer patients, and more.

As of the close of the convention, the Tee Up 4 Mites golf outing held on the convention's first day had raised over \$35,000 toward the LWML mission goal, and the

Mission Walk held on the convention's last full day had raised over \$100,000.

In addition, offerings were collected each day. By the close of the convention, the first, which will go toward the 2023–2025 mission goal, had raised \$54,922, and three others supporting Lutheran mission organizations had raised \$52,269.

In the name of Christ

Attendees also took part in worship, prayer and song. Through the assistance of dozens of pastors from the host districts (North Wisconsin, South Wisconsin and Northern Illinois), the women received Holy Communion during the opening Divine Service.

"God had a plan to send His Son ... into the world ... so that we might have life. ... And so we joyfully proclaim with our lives, with our service, with our lips, that we are God's people," preached the Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck, president of the LCMS North Wisconsin District, in his sermon during the service.

Attendees left Milwaukee with renewed energy to spread the Gospel to their communities.

"[After conventions] there is increased participation in Bible study ... in mission giving ... in servant activities [and] in [these women] working in their own communities and churches, because of the inspiration that they found [here]," said Debbie Larson, outgoing LWML president. "That's to me the list of why we have our conventions. It is costly. It is time-consuming. And it is worth it."

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry
Newsletter Article – August 2023

Define Your Life by How You Give

Winston Churchill reportedly said that "we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." According to Churchill, our lives are defined not by what we have gotten, but by what we give away.

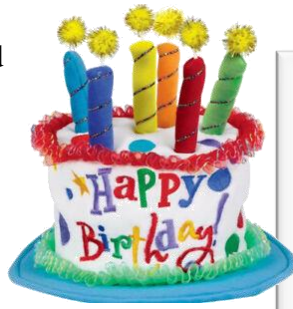
Our Lord's life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God's Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserved for our sins. He gave of Himself in

order to save us from sin, death and hell. And so it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it also is for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living has on us. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives — our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question, “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor and servant to others,” to asking the question, “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, we do not become less; rather, we have more and become more. When we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the divine nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship



3 Alyssa Ecker
8 Rhylee Koehler
Abel Weyenberg
19 Dean Schroeder
23 Susan Hostettler
27 Emily Sowinski
28 Caroline Hilton
29 Bonnie Teinert
31 Joyce Krepline
John Lau

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

August

4th Nelson Jr. & Jessica Teinert
8th Ron & Dolores Bornemann
9th Ron Jr. & Lori Ott
21st Tom & Betty Ruppenthal
26th Gary & Sandra Mirsberger
30th Chad & Amber Roehrig

Our Response to His Love

	7-9-23	7-2-23	6-25-23	6-18-23	6-11-23
General Fund	\$1665.00	\$4357	\$1843	\$1667	\$1968
Missions		\$20	\$5	\$10	
Aluminum Cans		\$73			
Memorial – Nelson Teinert					\$25
Totals	\$1665.00	\$4450	\$1848	\$1677	\$1993

St. Peter Lutheran Church Quarterly Voters' Meeting Minutes - Sunday, July 23, 2023

Call To Order: Chairman Wally Jentsch called the meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: The opening prayer was said by Pastor Peterson.

Approval of the minutes: Minutes from the April meeting were approved as distributed.

Correspondence: None

Pastor's Report:

- The following people have been received into membership: Debbie Kalies, Dave Kalies, Jordan and Casey Kalies and Mark & Pam Menges. Jordan was baptized at St. Peter in June & plans to take adult instruction in order to become a communicant member.
- Funeral-Scott Peters
- Pastor has begun pre-marital counseling for Madalyn Duprey & Bailey Gardner. They are planning a July 2025 wedding. Bailey was baptized on July 19th. Dan Koffarnus was the elder in attendance. Bailey also wished to start adult instruction & become a member of St. Peter.
- Vacation Bible School was held at St. Luke June 25, 26 & 27 from 11 am-2pm & was a resounding success. Pastor gave a shout out to Cheri Koffarnus & everyone from St. Peter who helped. Next year VBS will be held at St Peter.
- Shut ins have been & will continue to be visited.
- Pastor is pleased with the increase in attendance so far this summer.
- There has been no response to the first round of letters sent to non-active/non-attending members. Pastor & the elders will continue to work on updating the member list. If you know someone that no longer attends & wants to be removed from the roster, please let pastor or an elder know.

Treasurer's Report: St. Peter continues to be on solid financial footing.

- Doug asked about investing \$40,000 into a 7 month/5% CD at Thrivent. **MMSC** & the vote was unanimous to approve that investment.
- Report will be filed for audit.

Board of Elders Report:

- New members Mark & Pam Menges attended the meeting, Dan Bergelin officially welcomed them to St. Peter.
- Christmas Eve 2032 is a Sunday. The plan is to have a normal Sunday service in the morning. The elders are still working on service times for the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day services.

Board of Trustees Report:

- Installation of the new signs is scheduled to begin August 7th. There will also be electrical work being done in Pastor's house that same day. The electrician will be on site in case there are any electrical issues with the signs.
- There was a crack discovered in the basement wall of Pastor's house. The trustees are working on getting quotes to repair.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: none

Joint Parish Committee: Wally encouraged all committee members to attend the August 7th meeting. They plan to elect chair & co-chair at that meeting

Other Committees: none

Old Business: none

New Business: There is still a line on the balance sheet for "School Expense Fund". Doug asked if that could be eliminated & the \$4013 in the fund could be put towards paying bills. **MMSC** to eliminate the fund & use the money to pay bills.

Next Meeting: Sunday October 22, 2023

Adjournment: **MMSC** to adjourn the meeting.

Closing Prayer: We closed by saying the Lord's Prayer in unison.

Submitted by Maria Schroeder

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Altar Guild: Dean & Jan Bergelin		1	2	3	4 10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	5
6 10th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Green</i> 8:30 Divine Service	7 7:00p Joint Committee Meeting @ St. Peter	8	9	10	11 10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	12
13 11th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Green</i> 8:30 Divine Service (NC) Fellowship	14	15	16	17 6:00p Council Meeting 6:30p Elders Meeting	18 10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	19
20 12th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Green</i> 8:30 Divine Service	21 <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>	22	23	24	25 10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	26
27 13th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Green</i> 8:30 Divine Service (NC)	28	29	30	31		

Divine Services marked (NC) will not have Holy Communion