

JANUARY 8, 2012 THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

THURSDAY: Order of Service: 184

7:00 pm Hymns: 384—406—395—596—805

SUNDAY: Order of Service: 151

8:00 & 10:30 am Hymns: 384—406—395—596—805

The Sermon: "What is Jesus Doing Down in the Jordan River?"

Mark 1:4-11 (ESV)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: After each petition, the pastor/vicar will pray, "*Lord, in your mercy,*" and the congregation will respond with "**Hear our prayer.**"

LET US PRAY Gracious heavenly Father, who in awesome voice presented Your beloved Son and obedient Servant to the world at the Jordan baptism, use our weak voices and faltering lives to identify Christ, our Lord, as every person's Savior from damnation and as mankind's only way back to You and to the eternal mansions; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever. Amen.

PULSE OF THE CHURCH (Attendance)

Last Sunday Worship Attendance: 118

St. Peter's Total Membership: 957

<u>Our Gifts To Our Lord:</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Total This Year</u>
2012 Offerings:	\$ 2,534.00	\$ 2,534.74
Other Receipts:	100.00	100.00

Romans 6:1-11: By the same power of God that raised Jesus from the grave we are by virtue of our baptisms empowered to live renewed lives that demonstrate we really are the redeemed people of God. Our words and works of love as God's stewards are the proper responses to God's great love for us in Christ and a blessing to those around us.

ELDERS:

Thur: 7:00pm: Bob Hassey

ACOLYTES:

Sun: 8:00am: Dave Moyer

Kaitlynn Buchholtz, Savannah Schmidt

10:30am: Randy Smith

Timothy Buechler, Joseph Greenamayer

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Today (8)	Divine Worship Service 10:00 am Special Informational Voters' Meeting 11:30 am
Monday (9)	Confirmation 6:00 pm Church Council 7:30 pm
Tuesday (10)	Vicar's Bible Class 7:00 pm
Wednesday (11)	Computer Class 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm Dartball, at Spring Prairie 7:30 pm
Thursday (12)	Divine Worship Service 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm

Sunday (15) Divine Worship Service 8:00 & 10:30 am
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:15 am

GREETINGS FROM ST PETERS LUTHERAN CHURCH AND RAINBOW PRESCHOOL!

We join our Lord Jesus Christ in welcoming you to His House for this Divine Celebration of His Word and Sacraments. We are happy that you are here to worship Him with us today.

www.stpeterswaterford.com: Where do you go for the latest news and information about St. Peter's Lutheran Church. Our website, of course!

HEARING ASSISTANCE Portable listening devices are available. Please see an Elder or Usher to assist you.

YOUNG CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS are available. The coloring page and stickers may be taken home. Please replace the bag in the plastic box when finished.

WELCOME CENTER The Board of Evangelism has set up a "Welcome Center" in the narthex. The center is designed to make visitors and guests feel welcome and to give them a place to sign our Guest Book and pick up brochures, tracts, and other information about our church. Stop by and check it out. We also ask that you offer a warm welcome to our visitors and direct them to our new "Welcome Center."

WE WELCOME into our church family, ***Michelle Simonis (James & Samantha)*** who was recently confirmed into membership. May she and her children be blessed in their new church home as they are a blessing to us. Stop to see their picture on our New Member Digital Photo Frame and greet them warmly when you see them.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS the family and friends of ***Mrs. Hildegarde Vinz*** whom the Lord called home to Him on January 2, 2012. Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 7th. May the sure and certain Hope of the Resurrection be a comfort to us all.

2012 OFFERING ENVELOPES have been placed in your mailboxes (each family has a mailbox) Extra envelope boxes for additional family members are on a table in the narthex. If you did not get a box, please notify the church office and a box will be issued for you.

ANNUAL REPORT TIME All Boards, Committees and Organizations with checking/savings accounts please have your 2011 Annual Report in the office by January 16th. You may drop it off, fax it (262-534-2571) or email it to joan@stpeterswaterford.com.

UPDATE ON THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR ISSUE Since the last Voter's Meeting the Associate Pastor Study Committee has completed the benefit and feasibility study and submitted a recommendation to the Church Council to proceed with the call process to fill the position of Associate Pastor. The Church Council has accepted and approved this recommendation. The Church Council will be presenting the motion to fill the position of Associate Pastor at the January 29th Voters' Meeting. This motion will also include terminating the Vicarage program concluding at the end of the existing term. Given the importance of this decision, the Church Council is recommending that a majority vote of 2/3 of the members present must be met to approve the Associate Pastor position and terminate the Vicarage program.

A special information meeting has been scheduled for TODAY, at 11:30 a.m. for members to ask questions about what team ministry would look like and the associated costs. Every member of the congregation is strongly encouraged to attend. *(The Packers will not be playing that day.) Why have a second pastor? How will it enhance the ministry for all of us? What is the financial impact of this? Should we do it? Can we do it?* Please join us to meet and ask questions and gather more information before making such an important decision.

PRAYERS There is a Prayer Request Book located in the narthex. Feel Free to use this book to request a prayer. Also check it periodically to pray for someone else.

HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR CARD? For the past several weeks we have been asking our members to fill out their commitment cards. They are different this year. We are not asking for a pledge amount from anyone. We simply asked that you fill out the card indicating that you have carefully thought and prayed, and have made a commitment to give of your time, talents, and treasures to the Church in the coming year. The amount and the extent of your participation is between you and Lord. All we wanted to know by returning the card is that you do acknowledge the gifts and talents God has given you and you do intend to be good stewards of those gifts. To date we have received 25 cards from the 360 we distributed. At the very least, people just forgot. But we also wonder if, for a large group of people, it didn't seem important to think about their Christian stewardship and show their commitment by turning in a card. At worst, people have decided not to support our church this year. In any case, it's rather obvious that the bulletin inserts that ran for 8 weeks and the 8 week Bible study Pastor Bischoff led on stewardship had little or no impact on the vast majority of our members. We don't know what that says, it but it's hard to spin it in any positive way. The box to receive the cards remains in the narthex. Additional cards can be found by the box. The Board of Stewardship will check it again in a couple of weeks.

CHOIR We will have rehearsal on Thursday, January 12 at 8:00 pm. Our selection is "*What a Friend We have In Jesus.*" We will sing in church on Sunday, January 22nd at both services, 8:00 & 10:30 am. Please join us in singing praises to our Lord.

NEWSLETTER TIME Please have all information in the office for the February/March Newsletter by Tuesday, January 24th. You may drop off your information, call it in 262-534-3639, fax it to 262-534-2571 or email it to joan@stpeterswaterford.com

FEEL LIKE YOU'VE BEEN LEFT HANGING OUT TO DRY? Soak up some encouragement at our next Women's Activity. "*God is in the Laundry Room*" by Susan Senechal is what we are studying in the Women's Bible Class held on Monday evenings. Join us Mondays in the Youth Room from 6:00—7:30 pm. See you there!

HELP US, HELP YOUR COMMUNITY Love, Inc. thrift stores need your donations. Do you have gently used items that you are not using? Bring them to Love, Inc. in Burlington. We will take clothes, books, electronics, household items, furniture, and much more. If you have large items Love will pick them up from your house or place of business. Did you know the proceeds from our thrift stores fund our programs and stay right here in your community? For more information call Love, Inc. office at [262-763-6226](tel:262-763-6226). Thank you for your support.

CREATION MUSEUM - Pastor Tom Chryst from Grace Lutheran Church in Racine is organizing a trip to the Creation Museum (near Cincinnati), on April 13-15, 2012. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Pastor Chryst at tomchryst@yahoo.com.

YOUNG WOMEN'S RETREAT—Hooray! Hooray! The 24th Annual LWML Young Women's Retreat is around the corner! Come and join us for a rewarding event on February 3 & 4th. It is always a time of spiritual renewal for all who attend. **1 John 4:19—"We love because He first loved us."** The poster is in the narthex. For more information, please call Winnie Shelton 262-642-5465.

LUTHERAN WOMAN'S QUARTERLY FOR WINTER HAS ARRIVED
It's in your face! You can't miss all the media attention paid to people "going overboard": consumerism, hoarding, extreme couponing, and the never-ending search for perfection: perfect bodies, perfect houses, perfect children, even orchestrating "the perfect Christmas." And just like trying to fulfill the Law perfectly, you can't keep up with it all. Check us out - copies in the narthex.

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THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 1:1-5 (ESV)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. [2] The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

[3] And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. [4] And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. [5] God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 6:1-11 (ESV)

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? [2] By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? [3] Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? [4] We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

[5] For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. [6] We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. [7] For one who has died has been set free from sin. [8] Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. [9] We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. [10] For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. [11] So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:4-11 (ESV)

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a

baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. [5] And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. [6] Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. [7] And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. [8] I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

[9] In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. [10] And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. [11] And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."