St. Peter's Epistle

April/May 2024

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church 145 S. 6th Street, Waterford, WI 53185



Upcoming Events

Sunday School Recongition & Confirmation Sunday May 5

Voters' Meeting May 19th at II am

Men's Bible Study April 6, May 4 & 18

Family Movie Night April 12 & May 10

Be sure to follow us on facebook and visit our website at www.stpeterswaterford.com

Sign up for updates by emailing Pastor Conradt and asking to be put on the list.

> CHURCH Telephone: 262-534-3639

Rev. Joshua P.H. Conradt, Pastor pastorconradt@stpeterswaterford.com

Church Office secretary@stpeterswaterford.com

PRESCHOOL Telephone: 262-534-6066

Mr. Ted Myers, Parish Ed Board Chairman tedmyers2020@gmail.com

From the Desk of Pastor Conradt

"In the End... We Win!"

It's easy to feel down. All you have to do is turn on the tv, open the newspaper, or scroll on your device. There's bad news everywhere. There is death and destruction. There is anger and vitriol (especially on social media). Perversity runs rampant and unchecked by the very ones God has set up to keep them in check (Romans 13). Gifts of God are viewed as curses to be discarded at will. We now live in a time where the natural truth, "He who made them in the beginning, made them male and female" (Matthew 19:4) is denied.

I read recently regarding marriage in my devotions with Stephanie, "It is ridiculous for the adversaries to babble that marriage was commanded in the beginning, but is not now. This is the same as if they would say, 'Formerly, when people were born, they were born with gender; now they are not. Formerly, when they were born, they brought with them natural right; now they do not.' No craftsman could produce anything more crafty than these foolish things. They were created to dodge a natural right" (Apology of the Augsburg Confession XXIII 10) written nearly 500 years ago. The question often is what sort of world are we leaving for our children and grandchildren?

It is disturbing. It can cause melancholy. And yet, it should not be surprising. Nearly 2,000 years ago Jesus said, "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many

will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.... Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken." (Matthew 24:5-12, 29).

If that was all Jesus said, we would certainly have reason to despair. But take heart children of God for He continues, "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.... [H]e who endures to the end shall saved." (Matthew 24:30-31, 13).

In other words we know how all this ends. There are days and seasons where this life is hard and the world rages. But if we believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, that He is truly God and man, that He died on the cross for our sins, that He rose again the third day from the dead, that He ascended back to His throne, and that He is coming to judge the living and the dead, if we truly believe these things and let them rule our lives, in the end... WE WIN! For eternity. Because Christ has won the victory for us. The Church sings:

Jesus lives! The victr'ry's won!

Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!

From the grave will Christ recall me.

Brighter scenes will then commence;
This shall be my confidence! Amen!

(LSB 490:1).

In Christ.

Parter Count





Organist Notes

April's hymn of the month is yet another wonderful Paul Gerhardt hymn "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness", *LSB 467*. This hymn was first brought to America by German immigrants, but it was actually first translated from German into English in England, by John Kelly. Kelly's translation, however, left much to desire, and the hymn has been updated several times since, until we are left with the current version, which comes from *LBW*.

The original hymn included 9 stanzas, presenting sequential scenes to the singer. Unfortunately, the *LSB* only uses 7 of the original. The scenes are as follows: (1) joyful discovery at the gravesite, (2) victory banner is waved, (3) surrender of the foe, (4) my joy at the sight, (5) now hell, death, and the devil are powerless, (6) my freedom from worldly cares, (7) my fidelity to Christ, (8) I follow my Defender, and (9) a crown of lift for the faithful. The *LSB* leaves out verse 3 and 8.

The tune for "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness" is "Auf, Auf, Mein Herz" by Johann Crüger. This tune was written specifically for the hymn and uses a triple meter and a feeling of buoyancy to reflect the joyful, upbeat mood of the hymn. Also, this tune is fairly unique in that it literally ends on a high note. This final note is especially satisfying because in the second and fourth phrases, there is a downward resolution. The high final note resolves and defeats the downward trend.

The hymn of the month for May is *LSB 493*, "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing". This ascension hymn is attributed to the biblical scholar Bede, from the 7th century. This hymn was originally written in Latin and can be found with 32 stanzas in some manuscripts. However, Bede's original text did not include the "Alleluia". These were added later to fit with the tune, "Lasst Uns Erfreuen". This tune was originally written for Psalm 36 in the Genevan Psalter, which appeared in 1539. "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" is a beautiful ascension hymn, describing Christ's ascension into the heavens. The third stanza specifically references the angels who were there that day to comfort the disciples and promise Christ's return.

~Daniel Grosskreuz

OFFICIAL ACTS



NEW MEMBERS

Profession of Faith

Kathleen Drake

Adult Confirmation

Andrew Handeland Cindy McGaughy



FIRST COMMUNION

Alétheia Rose Conradt Lillian Grace Dolezal Alexandra Jeanne Grindeland Kirsten Lynn Grindeland Brinley Marie Hunt Leland John Hunt



MEMBERS LEAVING

By Release:

Kelly Schwarten Kyle Jacobs

By Transfer:

Tom & Joan Schlehlein



DEATHS

Mrs. Marian Becker 3/14/1937 2/06/2024

Mr. Patrick Becker 3/17/1932 2/24/2024



<u>Newsletter</u>	Due Dates
June/July	May 22



SENIOR FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Attention all 55+ members (men & women) and your friends!! Join us for Christian fellowship and Bible Study every second and fourth Monday of the month here at St. Peter's Lutheran Church until May 8th. We meet at 11:00 a.m. for Bible Study (we are currently studying the minor prophets in the Old Testament) then a short meeting followed by your own bag lunch. Dessert and coffee are provided. Afterwards, those who want to can enjoy cards, bingo, or other planned seasonal activities. Come join us!



LADIES AID/LWML

Join us for Christian fellowship / Bible Study every second Monday of the month here at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. We meet at 11:00 a.m. (along with Senior Friendship Group) for Bible Study then a short meeting followed by your own bag lunch. Dessert and coffee are provided. Come join us!



PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like to request a prayer on Sunday morning for birthdays, anniversaries, etc., please call the church office. We would be happy to share with you those special days in prayer.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Flower Chart is in the Narthex, to the right of the door to the sanctuary, and to the left of the coat racks. You can sign up to provide and place Altar flowers in church for a birthday, anniversary, or any special occasion or memorial.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT



The Board of Parish Education continues to host "Family Movie Night". The April 12th movie is "The Star". There will be some time for "open gym" after the movie. We will serve popcorn and juice; attendees can sign up to bring a snack to share if they desire. The Movie for May 10th will be "Journey to the Center of the Earth". Please watch for more information in the bulletin and on sign-up sheet which is located on the office window. Movies will continue to be on the 2nd Friday of each month, starting at 6:00, throughout 2024.



MISSION OF THE MONTH

February Mission of the Month was a collection to help The Baumgart Family. They are so thankful for the blessings St. Peter's has provided to them during this difficult journey.

January – "A Place of Refuge" \$130.00 and over \$500 worth of diapers, wipes and other supplies.



HANDICAPPED PARKING

On the East side of our building there are several parking spaces marked for handicapped parking only. We remind you that by state law, these spaces can be used only by individuals displaying a handicapped motorist sign in their car window or having the prefix "dis" on their license plate. Please respect the rights of our disabled members and guests!

PLEASE CALL



If you should find yourself hospitalized or confined to your home for health reasons, please notify the church office. Pastor can only minister to your needs if he is aware of your situation. Pastor is eager and willing to make regular visits with you, but he can do so only if you let him know.



MOVING??

If you are moving, please notify the church office with your new address and phone number.



HEARING ASSISTANCE

Portable listening devices are available for use during the worship service. You will need to bring your own set of headphones. Please see an Elder or Usher to assist you.



USED EYEGLASSES & HEARING AIDS

Please consider depositing your used eyeglasses & hearing aids in the container provided in the narthex. By donating these used items, someone is seeing and hearing the world differently. The Lions Club distributes these items to those in need.

EMAIL LIST!



Pastor Conradt periodically sends out an email to church members who want to be informed of important updates. To be included on Pastor's email list, please send an email to Pastor Conradt at pastorconradt@stpeterswaterford.com and include in the subject line: "Add me to the list."

THRIVENT CHOICE



Last year we received \$758.00 in "Thrivent Choice" dollars earned by members in 2022. The deadline was March 31st for directing any choice dollars you earned in 2023. If you missed the deadline this year, be sure to mark your calendars and call Thrivent next year at 1-800-847-4836 to direct the dollars you earn in 2024.



Checking out books at the Church Library has never been easier! We use the honor system...no forms to fill out and no dates to remember! When you're finished with your items, simply return them to the shelf. We are not currently accepting donations of pre-owned books due to lack of shelf space. If you are interested in adding a new book to the library or making a monetary donation, please contact the Church Office.

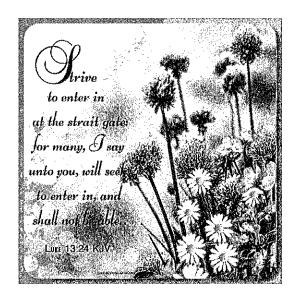
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Please consider prayerfully, as a leader is needed to be able to schedule Vacation Bible School this summer. Dates and times can be determined by the leader. The Bible school curriculum has not been selected yet. Kits would include fun crafts, engaging activities and loads of literature to help organize and create a cohesive experience to share God's love.

OPTIONAL KNEELERS



Thanks to the generosity of a church member, the church now has ten personal kneelers available for use by anyone in the congregation who desires to use one. They can be found on the left side of the coat rack nearest the Sanctuary. Please feel free to utilize these kneelers during worship services. Some of the times during the service that kneeling has been traditionally practiced is during Confession & Absolution, the Prayer of the Church, and The Words of Institution (Consecration of the Sacrament). Please return the kneeler to its place by the coat racks after service.



RECIPE CORNER

Alpine Chicken Casserole

4 cups cooked chicken, diced

2 cups thinly sliced celery

2 cups croutons

1 cup mayonnaise

½ cup milk

¼ cup chopped onion

1 tsp. salt

Dash of pepper

8 ounce swiss cheese, sliced into thin strips

½ cup slivered almonds

Heat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, combine all ingredients, except nuts. Pour into a 2 ½ quart casserole dish or 9 x 13 pan. Sprinkle with nuts.

Bake for 30 minutes. Makes 6 servings.

This can be eaten cold as well.

Be sure to toast the almonds before serving.

Tuna Salad

Boil 8 oz. of small shell noodles. Drain, shake colander. Try to dry the noodles as much as possible, using paper towel if needed.

Put shells in mixing bowl & add the following:

1 t. salt

1 t. pepper

¼ c. chopped onions

2 large stalks celery, diced.

2 cans tuna in water, well drained

½ t. Lawry's season salt

1/8 t. red pepper

½ t. celery salt

8 oz. frozen peas uncooked

Mix all together, cover & leave overnight. Next day add ½ c. mayonnaise and ½ c. miracle whip.

Stir together to make a creamy consistency. If it's to dry add a little more miracle whip.





LWML Spring Rally

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 1936 Emery St East Troy Sat April 13, 2024

Registration/Breakfast Fellowship 9:00 Program 9:30-11:30



Our speaker will be Chaplain Larry Hansen. He is the chaplain of the Walworth County Jail, and Assistant Director of Mt Zion Drug & Alcohol Rehab Center in Lake Geneva

Ingathering items:

- BIBLES (easy read, new or gentle used)
- PAPER PRODUCTS (paper towels, napkins, paper plates, toilet paper, Kleenex)
- MENS TOILETTIES (shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap)

Why Educate?

The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod was founded in 1847. The synod was started by twelve churches that operated a total of nineteen schools. It was not unusual for a Lutheran church to build the school before the church. Why was this the case for these immigrant Lutherans? First, the Bible commands us to teach our children.

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

In the Shema (Hebrew for "Hear"), given right after the recalling of the 10 Commandments, the LORD our God commands, "Love the LORD our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children" (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

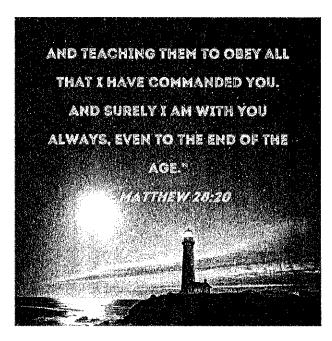
And again, a little later, "Fix these words of Mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deuteronomy 11:18-19).

In 1529, in his Large Catechism, Luther did not only interpret the fourth commandment, "Thou shalt honor your father and mother," in the narrow sense of the duty of children to their parents; but also, what is expected of parents, "One should also preach to parents about their duties as well, so that they are seriously concerned about their children."

From Martin Luther's, A Sermon on Keeping Children in School, 1530, he writes:

For if we want capable and qualified people for both the civil and the spiritual realms, we really must spare no effort, time, and expense in teaching and educating (leren und erziehen) our children to serve God and the world.

Children are a gift of God. We as parents and grandparents are stewards of these gifts. Not only to love and care for them, but to raise them as children of God and get them and the next generation to heaven.



Current State of Education

Wisconsin schools have embraced Critical Race Theory (CRT) to an extent that is little understood by the public. While Gov. Evers was the state superintendent of schools he oversaw the 2017 implementation of an equity lens for public instruction and culturally responsive teaching—both of which draw from and overlap with CRT. The University of Wisconsin system has implemented Campus Climate Surveys and has dedicated itself to organizational learning and transformation through inclusive excellence, equity, and diversity.

In 2021, the Wisconsin legislature began working on a bill banning CRT in K-12 education and wrote the regents of the university system to determine the extent to which CRT is in the colleges, but they have encountered significant roadblocks to their efforts.

K-12 Education

In 2017, Tony Evers, while serving as state superintendent of schools, authored Wisconsin's Model to Inform Culturally Relevant Practices. (source: dpi.wi.gov)

The MacIver Institute, a free-market think tank in Wisconsin, has documented the extent to which various school districts have embraced CRT (source: maciverinstitute.com):

- We found that Critical Race Theory (CRT) or one of the many other names for CRT, like Culturally Responsive Teaching (CRT), equity, antiracism, woke, implicit bias, white privilege – is being taught in many school districts all across the state and is quickly on its way to fundamentally changing K12 education in Wisconsin.
- Parents need to wake up to what CRT is, what CRT will do to their children's education, and speak up before it is too late.

"Republicans in the State Assembly passed a bill in September 2021 banning CRT in Wisconsin schools, and it has sat in committee in the Senate since. The bill is likely DOA if it ever hits Gov. Evers' desk." (source: cbs58.com)

Wisconsin public schools are bound to Common Core standards, testing and data gathering. The agendas of Common Core and CRT plan to educate our children in doctrines that are fundamentally opposed to our Christian Faith. This type of education teaches to a test that the state uses to measure the level of failure in the public school's progressive education system.

These are just two reasons why Classical Lutheran Education is more imperative now than ever.



What about Classical Lutheran Education?

"Classical Lutheran education can be defined simply as the liberal arts with Lutheran catechesis. The liberal arts can equip a child for effective service in the world; catechesis can equip a child for everlasting life." (Dr. Gene Edward Veith Jr.)

The following text quotes are from the Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education (CCLE) pamphlet, What is Classical Lutheran Education? The Board of Parish Education wants to convey to the congregation a brief description of and some definition of the Classical Lutheran Education that has gained significant popularity with Christian teachers, parents and home schoolers in recent years. Classical Lutheran Education teaches what is true, good and beautiful.

To begin, "It is Academically Enriching: Classical education seeks to foster a love of learning in students." "Classical education seeks to train the free mind to think logically and to use sound reasoning." "Classically educated students score higher on standardized tests than their progressively educated counterparts."

"It is Formative: Developing wisdom, eloquence, and virtue through the formative elements of the liberal arts while nurturing a child in the historic Christian faith." "Classical education is focused on wisdom and virtue, and the development of the whole child in all his or her vocations such as parent, spouse, employee or employer, church member and citizen."

"It is Historic and Time-Tested: with its roots in Western civilization, classical education is imperative in counteracting the moral confusion, spiritual delusion, and cultural upheaval that stem from the relativistic postmodern worldview." "Classical education has produced the world's greatest leaders, thinkers, writers, artists, inventors, scientists, and theologians in the history of Western civilization."

"It is Biblical: Classical Lutheran education embodies both the sound doctrine and the educational model that are essential to training up our children in the faith." "Not only is it of great value to the Lutheran Church to support classical Lutheran education, but it is the duty of the Lutheran Church to ensure our children are trained up in the faith and taught well."

Classical Lutheran Education teaches the children not only what to think, but also how to think. Early on it teaches children the necessary language arts and skills to foster the next level of learning.

"Get involved, Classical Lutheran education is a growing movement."

For more of the definitions and descriptions of Classical Lutheran Education, the Board of Parish Education has ordered *What is Classical Lutheran Education?* pamphlets that can be found by the mailboxes when they arrive.

The Board of Parish Education will be making presentations to the Bible study groups in April. This includes the Senior Bible Study, the Women's Bible Study, the Men's Bible Study and the Sunday morning Bible Study as well as the May Voters' Meeting.

God bless you and our children and grandchildren.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Laura Charland	4/01
Katie Dolezal	4/01
Kathryn Perz	4/01
John Turner, Jr.	4/04
Luanne Hassey	4/05
John Luznicky	4/05
Karen Engelmann	4/06
George Greenamyer	4/08
Cynthia Hunt	4/09
Alden Hunt	4/11
Beata Luznicky	4/11
Diane Mitsch	4/12
Tenley Smith	4/13
Abigail Stephan	4/18
Christine Blawat	4/19
Michael Dodulik	4/19
Destin Alloy	4/20
Matthew Michelau	4/20
Nora Bennington	4/21
David Block	4/21
August (Gus) Frost	4/22
Sarah Buchholtz	4/25
Kathy Carlson	4/25
Kyle King	4/25
Nancy Beaston	4/26
Traci Himebauch	4/26
Sarah Czuta	4/27
Jeannie Dumke	4/28
Mason Mittelstaedt	4/28
Samuel Conradt	4/29
Christina Multhauf	4/30
Timothy Szeklinski	4/30

Congratulations

Inniversary!

HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARY

To the following couples who are celebrating April wedding anniversaries:

Tom & Sandra Neske	4/03
Justin & Jessica Koch	4/05
Jeffrey & Kathleen Grant	4/08
Lloyd & Susan Radmer	4/12
Michael & Jodi Sekey	4/13
Daniel & Juliana Taggatz	4/16
Bernd & Christine Kampe	4/17
Mark & Lynne Van Hulst	4/19



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Eileen North	5/01
Gail Andrich	5/03
Linda Ketterhagen	5/03
Patty Guentzel	5/04
Trevor Myren	5/04
Jarrod Morby	5/05
₹	
Jean Abramowski	5/06
Mary Niederer	5/06
Elizabeth Poulter	5/06
Ryan Domke	5/07
Joseph Greenamyer	5/07
Noia Hunt	5/07
David Engelmann	5/08
Ryan Mittelstaedt	5/08
Jaxson Mittelstaedt	5/09
Gregory Foat	5/10
Sandi Czuta	5/11
Amy Griebel	5/12
Liam Koch	5/13
Ronald Burke	5/14
Bryan Fischer	5/15
Cory Foat	5/15
Jeffrey Ostovich	5/15
Dale Rogahn	5/15
Gerald Storm	5/15
Harrison Foat	5/16
Jennifer Brown	5/17
Mark Siddons	5/18
Kinsee Beck	5/19
Jake Krueger	5/19
Judith Knoblauch	5/20
Barbara Arneson	5/21
Benjamin Conradt	5/21
Sandra Dessecker	5/21
Katharine Conradt	5/22
Cecelia Walbrant	5/23
Arnold Oelkers	5/24
Breanne Schultz	5/24
Seth Scott	5/25
Courtney Beaston	5/27
Quinn Bennington	5/27
Sharon Krueger	5/27
Jessica Mehring	5/27
Sharon Jardas	5/28
Beckham Mamerow	5/28
Nathaniel Brintnall	5/29
Harper Foat	5/29
Lynne Van Hulst	5/29
Steven Strueder	5/31



HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARY

To the following couples who are celebrating May wedding anniversaries:

Terry & Mona Jacobs	5/04
Scott & Terri Jung	5/09
Gregory & Whitney Poulter	5/09
Kurt & Kim Acker	5/15
Nick & Amy Szeklinski	5/17
Glen & Valerie Kimball	5/22



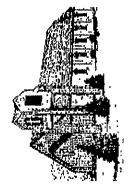


April 2024

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church Waterford, WI

Abbreviations
B.C. Bible Class
S.S. Sunday School
M.B.S Men's Bible Study
W.B.S. Women's Bible Study

Mon
W.B.S. 1:00 pm
6
Senior Group/ LWML W.B.S. 1:00 pm 11:00am
Finance meeting 6:00pm
15 16
Grade School Exploratory (subject to change) Committee 5:30 pm Parish Education 6:30 pm
22 23
Senior Group 11:00 am W.B.S. 1:00 pm (subject to change)
29 30
W.B.S. 1:00 pm



May 2024

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church Waterford, WI

S.S. Sunday School
M.B.S Men's Bible Study
W.B.S. Women's Bible Study

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	FT	Sat
			I Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Worship 6:30 pm	2	<i>S</i> 1	4 M.B.S. 8:30-10:00 am
5	9	7	00	6	10	11
S.S. Recognition 8:15 am Worship with confirmation 9:30 am Choir Practice 11:00 am		W.B.S 1:00 pm	NO Worship	Ascension Day Worship at St Pauls Church in Union Grove 6:30	Movie Night 6:00pm "Journey to the Center of the Earth"	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship 9:30 am Choir Practice 11:00 am	Senior Group/ LWML 11:00 am	W.B.S 1:00 pm				M.B.S. 8:30-10:00 am
	Finance 6:00 pm		Worship 6:30 pm Elders 7:30 pm			
61	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship 9:30 am Choir Practice 11:00 am	Grade School Exploratory Committee 5:30 pm Parish Ed. 6:30 pm	W.B.S 1:00 pm	Worship 6:30 pm			
26	27 Memorial Day	28				
Worship 9:30 am		W.B.S 1:00 pm				