



ST. PETER'S MESSENGER

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Reedsburg, Wisconsin
www.stpetersreedsburg.org

Proclaiming JESUS Savior and Lord for LIFE

VOLUME 215

J U L Y 2 0 1 5

NO.7

Paul M. Crolius, Pastor

Dennis Andreasen, Principal
Cindy Nellessen, Administrative Assistant

FROM THE PASTOR

“You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.” Exodus 15:13 (ESV)

Dear Friends in Christ,

What does God want me to do? Where does He want me to go? Most of us have asked these questions at one time or another. We would desire the Lord to tell us personally or at least give us a road map that would tell us exactly where to go and what comes next in life.

As Israel left slavery in Egypt for freedom in an unknown land, they depended greatly upon the direction of the Lord. In the day, they followed a cloud. At night, fire filled the cloud so that they could see by it and be guided by it.

There is an important difference between the cloud and fiery pillar of God's presence and a road map. Without a map or GPS, the Israelites couldn't run ahead of where God led them or anticipate where they would be six weeks later. Instead, they could move only at God's speed, in God's direction, as He led them by the cloud and fire.

As we follow Christ, empowered by His Word, worship, His Holy Supper, devotion and prayer, we have no guarantees in where we will be ten years from now or what we will be doing then. We are not even assured what we will be doing next or even the next day. Our trust and hope is in Jesus Christ Himself, who is our Savior and guide. Through Christ, God has pledged that He will watch over us and will bring us where He has promised—no matter how strange or hard the

journey. After all, Jesus has already traveled through death into life again for us. In Him alone, we have forgiveness and abundant life now and forever. He promises to bring us safely through this life into God's presence forever.

One of my favorite psalms in the Bible is Psalm 121. It was one of the psalms that God's people very likely would sing or say as they traveled to worship the Lord or ascend the steps to worship the Lord in the Temple. As many of us will be traveling on vacations and seeing family this summer, may we continue to be faithful in looking to the Lord and seeking His mercy, blessing and guidance. He speaks to us, guides us, and directs us through His Word. He assures us of His love and presence. He empowers us by His Spirit so that we might ever rest in his care and be empowered to glorify Him and witness of His love and salvation to a world that is lost in sin. We too continually lift our hearts and lives as individuals and as a people of God to our great and gracious God. May this Psalm be one of our prayers in all we do and may He keep us all close to Him.

Psalm 121 I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? ² My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. ³ He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. ⁴ Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵ The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. ⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. ⁷ The LORD will keep

you from all evil; he will keep your life. ⁸ The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore. (ESV)

In Christ,

Pastor Crolius

P.S. Please keep in your prayers our LAMP Team as they will soon be going on their 4th missionary trip to Garden Hill, Manitoba July 17th -24th. The team this year will be: Shane Anderson, Bev Livingston, Connie Meyer, Pastor Crolius, Anna Meyer, Lindsay Meyer, Mark and Marty Meyer.

FUNERALS

Richard Maurer, died on Monday, June 1, 2015, and was given Christian burial on Friday, June 5, 2015.

MEMORIALS

Given in memory of Butch Klingenmeyer	
Debt Reduction	\$200.00
Given in memory of Janice Schultz	
Debt	\$69,000.00

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Board of Elders	2 nd Thursday @ 8:00 pm
Board of Education	2 nd Monday @ 7:00 pm
Congregational Services	2 nd Thursday @ 6:30 pm
Board of Stewardship	2 nd Thursday @ 6:00 pm
Board of Trustees	2 nd Thursday @ 6:30 pm
Board of Outreach	1 st Wednesday @ 6:30 pm

THANK YOU

Ruth Sorge Memorial Scholarship Committee

Thank you so much for your generous scholarship towards my college education. I am very grateful for everything that the church has done for me up to this point, and I will always try to give back to my community what I can in the future.

God's Blessings
Brit Nelson

LADIES AID

St. Peter's Ladies Aid members met on Wednesday, June 3 at 1:30 p.m. in Concordia Hall. Pastor Crolius' opening devotion was based on Psalm 100, a song of praise and thankfulness.

President Eldarene Bowlin opened the business meeting. Minutes of the May meeting and the treasurer's report were accepted as read.

The committee of the month served 49 guests at Hazel Lehman's funeral.

Birthday blessings were sung to Peg Quill and Betty Andreasen.

President Bowlin asked if the Ladies Aid would like to have a bake sale to help raise funds for the LAMP Mission when they have a brat sale on July 11th at the IGA store. It was decided to give a \$150 cash donation instead.

Vangie Berkhahn moved to give a cash memorial gift to St. Peter's School in memory of Jeanie Jaech. Many times Jeanie and Merv Jaech so graciously allowed the Ladies Aid to hold their bake sales in their downtown Ice Cream Parlor. Motion carried.

Lois Radtke, program chairman, explained that Josh Hoege and his Reedsburg police dog who were scheduled to be with us, had to cancel their plans because Josh is temporarily on leave from the police department due to an injury. Instead Lois chose a selection from a book, "Then Sing My Soul." It told the origin of the hymn "The Lord is My Shepherd" taken from the Psalm 23.

Serving Committee for July: Vangie Berkhahn and Lisa Hahn.

Funeral Luncheon Coordinator: Lois Radtke

No further business, President Eldarene Bowlin closed the meeting as we joined in the Lord's Prayer. Irma Lowery and Ruth Reimer served a delicious dessert luncheon.

LWML

Inspirational, motivating, spiritual, loving, awesome ... these are all words that were used to describe the time we had when we made home visits prior to our June LWML gathering. It is simply amazing how wonderful it is to bring joy to others. Certainly we receive more than we give when we share the Savior's love. Why not take a moment out of your busy summer schedule and pay a visit, or give a phone call, to a shut-in friend. It will more than likely be the highlight of your day.

Des Moines, Iowa was the scene of the LWML National Convention June 25 - 28. Joanne Brandt attended and is sure to have brought back some exciting ways you can actively participate in the mission work of the LWML. Keep watching your Messenger for convention updates.

Remember as we celebrate our countries independence this Fourth of July to offer a prayer of thanks to our Heavenly Father for the gift He has given us to live in this country and another prayer for the many men and women in uniform that so unselfishly have chosen to defend it.

Then, as you go about your daily summer adventures, put a little song in your heart and sing this happy song to the tune of Immortal, Invisible.

In Service in Mission

In service, in mission ... oh answer Christ's call.
To bring the good news of salvation to all.
To spouses, to daughters, to sons young and old.
To all on the earth may our witness be bold.



BRAT FRY!

The LAMP Mission team will be hosting a Brat Fry on Saturday, July 11, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Reedsburg IGA. We will be serving brats and hot dogs along with soda and water. The proceeds will be going towards this years trip. Please plan to stop by and pick up lunch for a good cause!!

QUILTING

Ladies meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 8:30 a.m. to noon. In past months our quilts have been traveling.

- 42 new fabric children size quilts were given to the Children's Hospitals in Madison.
- 22 quilts were boxed up for Orphan Grain Train
- 8 quilts were given a ride to Ohio for the homeless in Cincinnati.

Mark it on your calendar - come work with us to share with those in need.



Several volunteers were on hand this past Monday to begin to prepare the gym for the installation of the new floor and bleachers. Bleachers were removed, the storage area under the stage was re-constructed and the floor will soon be cleaned and stripped and ready for the company to begin installing the floor on Monday, July 6th. Bleachers will be installed August 19 – 21. PLEASE be aware, the gym and the stage area will not be accessible beginning Friday, June 26th through July 20th.



MEET OUR NEW YOUTH DIRECTOR!!!

The Board of Congregational Services would like to formally introduce Mrs. Jennifer Anderson as the St. Peter's Youth Director and Sunday School

Superintendent beginning August 1, 2015. Jennifer and her family have been long time active members in both the church and school. Please join us in welcoming Jennifer in her new position as we look forward to a successful 2015-2016 school year.

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

Cleaning, sorting, filing, recording, organizing, and planning are some of the things that have been happening the past few days here at school. Our teachers remained on duty through June 15 and much was accomplished. There was a review of last year and much planning and getting ready for next year. We will all be together again on August 17 for our first official meeting for next school year. Throughout the summer the teachers will remain busy as they work on furthering their education, planning and working on their state certification, and making any changes in their teaching plans for next year. At this time we are expecting our staff from last year to be the same in the coming year.

Not only are the teachers very involved with wrapping things up but there is a lot happening in the office as well. After inventory is completed it is time to order new supplies and add any textbooks that need to be replaced. Faculty and student handbooks will be reviewed and updated as necessary. Test scores will be analyzed to see if we need to make any adjustments in our curriculum. There are many more things that we will be working on this summer.

We are excited about some changes that will be occurring before school begins in the fall. A new gym floor will be installed which will mean some new direction and guidance on how the gym is respected and used. The floor is designed for multi-purpose use but still will need to be used with some new regulations.

Along with the new floor will be new bleachers. The old bleachers, with much of the hardware that operates the bleachers being in very poor condition, will be recycled as they do not meet new state standards and cannot be resold. If you are interested in any of the bleacher boards, contact the office to see if any are available. All the metal parts will be sold to a recycler. The floor and the bleachers have served us well for the past 50 years. The new bleachers may not be installed until September.

At the time of the writing of this article, the enrollment for next year is in line with what it was last year. We ended last year with 148 enrolled in K – 8 and 37 enrolled in our Pre-K classes for a total of 185. Right now our Pre-K classes are all full and have waiting lists and enrollments in our K – 8 classes continue to come in.

Throughout the year we have a few families who struggle to pay their tuition and other school expenses. They, however, find the value of a Christian Education at St. Peter's very valuable for their family. They do receive some support from the School Sponsorship Fund. Would anyone want to consider "adopting" a family? If so, please contact Mr. Andreasen or Pastor Crolius. Privacy will be a priority.

In His Service,

Mr. Dennis Andreasen, Principal

BADGER STEAM & GAS SHOW

AUGUST 21 – 23, 2015



Come out and enjoy the show and support the St. Peter's Youth and the L.A.M.P. VBS Mission Team at their concession stand.

BRATS
CHICKEN BREASTS
CORN ON THE COB
SLUSHIES AND MORE !!!!

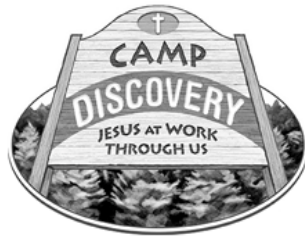
Additional help at the concession stand is always welcome. Please call the church office to sign you to help.

The L.A.M.P. Mission Team will be leaving July 17th, to teach VBS in Garden Hill, Manitoba. There is a giving tree in the entrance of the church to help support the mission trip. The team will return on July 25th.

Thank you for your continued support of our Youth and the LAMP Mission Team!

VBS!!! WE HAD A GREAT TIME!!

St. Peter's Church recently hosted an exciting *Camp Discovery 2015* Vacation Bible School this past week. It was a great time for kids to grow in faith as they explored God's Word. Attendance this week was an incredible 87 children each day!



We are thankful that *Camp Discovery* provides us the opportunity to introduce children and their families to Christ and our church. We hope to help our own children grow in their faith in Jesus while reaching out to children in our neighborhood. This makes VBS a key outreach ministry in our congregation and our local community.

We would like to thank all those who graciously volunteered their time and talents this week to help make this important mission a success. Thank you to Sarah Lancaster, Sarah Speich, Lisa Pertzborn, Renee Reuter, Will Maurer, Karla Paradis, Jessica Abbott, and Elizabeth Mathews for leading the wonderful stations for our children to participate in. Also, thank you to the youth volunteers who led the children in their activities for the week and assisted with a variety of other areas: Judy Cole, Brianna Cole, Joshua Corbin, Laurie Meyer, Kaylee Froehlich, Hunter Stanford, Haylee Breidenbach, Summer Thompson, Marissa Pertzborn, Melissa Dietz, Tyler Murray, Bracen Brandt, Luke Pertzborn, Quinn Schuppner, Willie Paradis, Kassidy Kleeber, and Isaac Oberman. Thank you to Checkered Flag for donating t-shirts for the volunteers. Lastly, thank you to the many, many people who were not mentioned that were able to donate supplies and provide assistance in preparation for our week of activities.

The mission offering for the week was collected for and given to Camp LuWiSoMo. A total of \$ was given to this great program offered to our families right here in Wisconsin.

May God bless our partnership in the Gospel, as we lead children to Jesus. And we look forward to next year's Vacation Bible School theme of *Barnyard Round Up 2016!*

In Jesus, our Savior!
Erika Molitor
St. Peters VBS Director

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Special Voters' Meeting - June 21, 2015

The special Voters' Meeting was called to order by Congregational Chairman, Tim Brandt, at 9:00 a.m.

Nate Braun, Chairman of the Financial Management Committee made the recommendation to apply the \$69,000 received from the Jan Schultz Memorial to the LCEF loan. Motion made by Pam Speich, 2nd by Roger Reimer. Discussion was had at which time it was suggested that some of the funds be used for a large project for the church or school. However, no amendment to the original motion was made. The motion passed by voice vote but not unanimously.

Craig Hillman, Vice-Chairman of the Congregation, presented a proposal to replace the school gym floor and bleachers. Funds have been raised and donated in the amount of \$35,000. The project is projected to cost approximately \$55,000. The balance of the funds needed to complete the project is approximately \$14,000 to come from the School Property Improvement Fund in the Foundation. Craig presented a very informative presentation of all the details involved in the project. After some discussion and explaining the safety hazards involved in continuing to use the floor for sporting events, a motion was made Pam Speich to approve the project, seconded by Jeff Brandt, passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m. with the praying of the Lord's Prayer.



“And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? . . . I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you? Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’” (Matthew 20:11–15).

Entry into the Kingdom of heaven is by grace not by works. And this is the point of the parable. Those hired first received the same wage as those hired last. Those hired first, even though they bore the heat of the day, received the same wage as those hired last. Entry into the kingdom comes by grace, by the gracious call and invitation of the owner of the vineyard.

And we chafe against this. We like those hired first, object to the master’s decision. We begrudge him because of his generosity. We think that those who labored longer should receive a greater wage. And we protest that it’s not fair. But that is precisely the point. It’s not fair. It’s by grace. It’s given from God’s undeserved love and kindness, not by merit. So we should rejoice. For to ask for fairness, to ask to be treated by what we deserve and have earned, is simply to ask for hell.

For God owes us nothing. For by grace you are saved, by his underserved love and mercy. And even though it was undeserved, that doesn’t mean it was cheap. It wasn’t cheap, but costly. It cost God the Father His own Son. It cost the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, His very life. God’s grace is costly grace. It costs us nothing but the cost for God was great. For it was achieved by the shedding of the holy and precious blood and the innocent

suffering and death of Jesus. And it is by that shed blood that God by grace calls us to be His own. It is by that death that God by grace gives us entrance into His kingdom.

He doesn’t owe us. We’re not entitled to anything from God. He is not indebted to us. We are indebted to Him. For we have not lived as He mattered most. We have not loved Him with our whole heart, body, mind, and soul, with all that we are and all that we have. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve his temporal and eternal punishments. But unlike us, He doesn’t hold this debt over our heads. He has instead placed our debt upon the head of His Son, and His Son has taken it willingly so that we would be forgiven and free.

For reasons all His own God has determined to love us. He has taken the punishment we deserve upon himself. He has given gifts to those whom He knows would take it for granted. This is grace. He is kind, forgiving, and steadfast. He is slow to anger and abounding in love. For the kingdom of heaven is entered by grace, by His giving not our earning.

He is allowed to do what He chooses with what belongs to Him. But it doesn’t work the same way with us. For what belongs to us? Nothing. We belong to Him, by water and His Name. He purchased and won us from sin, death, and the devil by His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death, so that we would be His own special possession. Thus, we have nothing of our own, it all belongs to Him. We are stewards of what He has given to us. And so we give of ourselves, all that we are and all that we have, to those whom God has placed us to care for in our vocations of members of a family, society, and the church.

And if He has done all this for us, how can we not do with everything that He gave us likewise?



BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

BAUER, LISA	7/1
BELL, JASON	7/1
CRAKER, RUTH	7/1
SCHULENBURG, BRITTNEY	7/1
STOLTE, ALEX	7/1
BENSEMAN, LOGAN	7/2
D'AMBROSIO, JAMES	7/2
DIETZ, KENDALL	7/2
KUEBLER, PATRICIA	7/2
MCCLURE, STACY	7/2
MORTIMER, JENNY	7/2
OBERMAN, SARAH	7/2
THOMAS, JOSHUA	7/2
BENSON, ROBERT	7/3
BOWLIN, ELDARENE	7/3
KALEPP, DAVID	7/3
D'AMBROSIO-SCHULTZ, JULIE	7/4
SCHAFFER, NICOLE	7/4
BAUMGART, CANDACE	7/5
BEHN, AUDREY	7/5
MOSS, LEIGH	7/6
SCHULTZ, TENLEY	7/6
ARCHAMBO, MATTHEW	7/7
MEAD, MARK	7/7
NAQUIN, CAMBRIE	7/7
DIETZ, THERESA	7/8
HELM, KELSEY	7/8
REINECKE, DOUGLAS	7/8
WOLLIN, SKYLER	7/8
BERKHAHN, LAVANGE	7/9
LUECK, VIOLA	7/9
FAUERBACH, NICHOLAS	7/10
WILSON, CHRISTA	7/10
BRANDT, AUBREY	7/11
CRAKER, DELVIN	7/11
SWANSON, KEVIN	7/11
ZIMMERMAN, JASON	7/12
BEHN, ADAM	7/13
LYNCH, BETH	7/13
MEYER, KAYLEIGH	7/13
DIETZ, MELISSA	7/14
ABBOTT, JESSICA	7/15
BUELOW, DAWN	7/15
IHLENFELD, RUSSELL	7/15
KLINGBEIL, ZACHARIAH	7/15
MAURER, ELIZABETH	7/15
KRUEGER, CARL	7/16
MILLER, EMILIE	7/16
REUTER, KATHLEEN	7/16

STRUTZ, AMANDA	7/16
DEFOE, JACOB	7/17
KLITZKE, AUSTIN	7/17
GROSKREUTZ, AMBER	7/18
SCHRANK, RICHARD	7/18
BUELOW, JEFFREY	7/19
GRACE, MIRANDA	7/19
PARCE, MALLORY	7/19
ROBINSON, THEODORE	7/19
ADELMAN, KYLE	7/20
DIETZ, MATTHEW	7/20
NOVAK, CAROLYN	7/20
NOLDEN, PEGGY	7/21
ALBRECHT, TAYLON	7/22
BUDNIK, GAVIN	7/22
ANDERSON, SHANE	7/23
SCHRANK, CODY	7/23
KASUBASKI, SOPHIA	7/24
KRAUS, CHARLOTTE	7/24
SCHROEDER, EDWARD	7/24
BUDNIK, RYAN	7/25
CATTLE, JODY	7/25
COLE, ERVIN	7/25
KENYON, ABREANNA	7/25
REINFELDT, JOSEPH	7/25
SCHULTZ, CORY	7/25
SCHULTZ, HENRY	7/25
SCHUPPNER, QUINN	7/25
SCHWENKHOFF, TODD	7/25
STRUZYNSKI, HUNTER	7/25
ALBRECHT, NATHAN	7/26
FRIEDE, ROGER	7/26
KLITZKE, CHLOE	7/26
OAKLEY, MARILYN	7/26
BRANDT, ASHLYN	7/27
MORTIMER, MELYNDA	7/27
MORTIMER, MELYSSA	7/27
SCOTT, BRANDON	7/27
MEYER, CRAIG	7/28
OTT, MATTHEW	7/28
PETZKE, GERALD	7/28
STANDO, REBECCA	7/28
LABANSKY, PAULA	7/29
MEYER, DUANE	7/29
SCHULTZ, GARY	7/29
ESTES JR, DAVID	7/30
JASPER, REBECCA	7/30
SCHAFFER, MINDY	7/30
METCALF, TAMMY	7/31
MICHEL, LESTER	7/31
REUTER, RUSSELL	7/31
TAYLOR, LINDA	7/31