



# PETER'S MESSENGER

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

[www.stpetersreedsburg.org](http://www.stpetersreedsburg.org)

*Proclaiming JESUS Savior and Lord for LIFE*

VOLUME 305

SEPTEMBER 2023

NO. 9

Paul M. Crolius, Pastor

Roger W. Tessendorf, Principal

Paige Hendrikson, DCM

## FROM THE PASTOR

***“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28 (ESV)***

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is hard to believe that the summer break is coming to an end and school will begin Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>. We will also be celebrating another Labor Day on Sept 4<sup>th</sup>. On this weekend, many people will be given an extended weekend and a chance to rest and possibly visit relatives. It is always a joy to be able to rest from our labors and be strengthened, refreshed and energized for the days to come.

As Christians, we also need a day to be spiritually strengthened, refreshed and be able to rest from our labors. ***“So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.” Hebrews 4:9-10 (ESV)*** The Lord is the only one who can strengthen and nourish us spiritually and give us rest for our souls. He gives rest in our regular and special worship services and in Bible class. Our Lord does this by blessing us through the Word which is proclaimed and heard in the service. He does it in our singing praises to Him who created and saved us. He empowers and strengthens our faith with His very body and blood in the Holy Supper where we are nourished and strengthened in our faith and assured once again of the forgiveness that we have in our crucified and risen Lord. Each worship service is an opportunity to come to church and receive His gifts and the strength we need from the Lord. We also grow in faith and receive rest for our daily life through Bible Study, in daily devotion and in prayer as His people.

Our Lord strengthens and blesses us as His people for two main reasons. First of all, He strengthens us that we might be empowered to live as His children in a world which would want to lead us away from Him and His love. Second, He strengthens us that we might be able to go about the task that He has given us. This is namely to proclaim Christ as Savior in our words and deeds to all people in thanks and praise to Him and the furthering of His Kingdom. This means the people next door, our fellow co-workers, our family, and everyone else in this world. This is quite a task of love that He has given us. It is such a task that He has given us opportunities weekly to come and worship Him and receive His rest and strength.

Most important of all, we look forward to the final rest that will be waiting for us in heaven on account of our Savior Jesus. There we will live at peace and perfect rest with God forever. Our weekly worship is a practice or a recital for when we will worship God in heaven before His throne.

May God empower us to regularly worship Him in love and joy. May He bless and strengthen us to receive His gifts and share the hope we have received in the Savior in word and deed. May we be empowered to encourage others in faith as well. May God so empower us that having received His rest we may boldly witness of His love to all.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Paul Crolius*

## **FUNERAL**

James Schiefelbein was called to his heavenly home on Monday, August 21, 2023, and will be given Christian burial on Tuesday, August 29, 2023.

## **BAPTISM**

James Alt, son of Tristen Alt, and Bethany Hotzel became a member of God's Kingdom of Grace through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on August 6, 2023. Sponsors are Ian Ronk, and Katie Fredericks.



**Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 9:00 a.m.**

**Bible Class at 10:15  
a.m. in Concordia Hall**

Worship services will be available online as follows:

- Reedsburg Utility Access Channel 11 will air on Sunday mornings at approximately 10:30 a.m. and Monday evenings at 6:00 p.m.
- WCNP 89.5 Radio – Sundays at noon.
- A link to services can be found on our website at [www.stpetersreedsburg.com](http://www.stpetersreedsburg.com)
- Like us on Facebook page at St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church

## **THE LUTHERAN HOUR**

St. Peter's sponsors the Lutheran Hour on Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. on WCNP 89.5 FM. It can also be heard at 7:00 a.m. on WRDB 97.3 FM.

**LADIES AID** Ladies aid will be in Concordia Hall at 1:30 pm on September 6, 2023 for devotions, a meeting and fellowship. Coffee and dessert will be served. We hope to see you there.

**LWML** Lutheran Women in Mission are starting their new season on Monday September 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM in Concordia Hall. We will start with a potluck followed by our members sharing their experiences from the National Convention. We will also be hearing about the new International Mission Grants that we will help fund. All ladies are welcome; we would be happy to have you join us. If September doesn't work for you, we meet the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 PM. We understand your schedules are busy - come whenever it works for you.



## **SEPTEMBER DATES**

20<sup>th</sup>- Senior High Youth  
6:30-8:00 pm

27<sup>th</sup>- Junior Youth  
6:30-8:00 pm



**SUNDAY SCHOOL** will start on September 24<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of teachers and helpers. If interested in sharing your talents please contact Miss Paige at [paigehendrikson@saintpetersls.com](mailto:paigehendrikson@saintpetersls.com), or the school office at 608-524-4066 ext 1.



## **ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS**

by Mr. Tessendorf, Principal

### **The 2023-2024 school theme "Connected" based on John 15: 1-5**

This theme emphasizes the importance of staying connected to Jesus. Jesus is the source of our strength. It also shows the importance of pruning. Left to ourselves we would produce a good deal of unproductive growth. But through Christ pruning we are able to maximize our fruitfulness.

**Enrollment:** St. Peter's is blessed to serve 199 school children Pre-Kindergarten 3-year-olds through Eighth grade. We also serve another 80 children in our Daycare. A total of 279 students are served by St. Peter's. We are blessed to have the opportunity to serve these children and their families.

**Substitute Teachers:** The school is in need of substitute teachers. Requirements to substitute teach are a four-year Bachelor degree from an accredited college. Please contact the office or Mr. Tessendorf if you are interested or know of someone who would consider this opportunity.



**New Teacher:** We welcome Jarikka Douglas to our School Ministry team as the 4th grade teacher. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in May of 2022. She then served in the Reedsburg and River Valley School Districts during the 22-23 school year as a substitute teacher. She is currently working on her master's degree as a Reading Specialist.

### **LEGOS CLUB**

St. Peter's Lutheran School will have a LEGOS (Let Everyone Glorify Our Savior) next school year. What is a LEGOS Club? It is an opportunity for students in Grades K-4 to be inspired by God's Word, through a devotion shared by Mr. Tessendorf, and then create something with LEGOs based on that devotion. How can you help? Through the generosity of many families, we had a good supply of Legos last year. However, there is always room for more, especially more Lego People. Please consider donating any LEGOs you no longer play with or need. Or perhaps you may find a good deal on LEGOs at a garage sale and be moved to donate them to the St. Peter's LEGOS Club. Thank you for your consideration. In addition, I am looking for someone to periodically clean and disinfect our LEGO Collection. Please contact Mr. Tessendorf or the Office if you are interested in helping in this important way.

**OFFICE HELP** We are looking for an individual or two to help out in the office. This would just be a fill in position, for sick, personal, and vacation days. If interested please contact the school office at 608-524-4066 ext 1.



## What is Stewardship?

What is a steward? Most people, when asked this question, will reply: “A manager.” That is correct, but it is only half right. A steward is indeed a manager, but he is a manager of what does not belong to him. Someone else is the owner, and the steward manages the owner’s property on the owner’s behalf.

We are God’s stewards. Our stewardship is that God has made us managers of what belongs to Him. For we have brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it (1 Tim. 6:7). Everything that we have and everything that we are comes from God’s fatherly Divine goodness and mercy. God is the owner. Not only because, as the Creator, He created all things. But also, as the Redeemer, He has redeemed, that is, purchased and won all things. It all, therefore, belongs to Him.

We are simply managers of everything in this world. Like Joseph in Egypt, we are put in charge of managing what belongs to God. What a privilege. Think about that for a minute. The all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise God has asked us to manage His possessions on His behalf here on earth. And by doing this, He invites us to take part in the allocation of His good gifts. He wants us to give our input and advise Him in where His gifts are to be used. What a privilege indeed.

What a responsibility. For to whom much is given, much shall be required (Luke 12:48). We are not the owners. And while He puts us as managers, we are still to do with His property what He wants done with it. That means we need to know what His desire and will for His property is.

How do we know this? How can we know the will and mind of God? We find the will of God in the Bible. There God tells us what His will for all His gifts are to be used. He tells us how we are to spend our time and use our talents and treasures. He instructs us in the use of our minds, bodies, and souls.

There is nothing that we have that doesn’t belong to Him. “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20). He informs us of the big picture, the overarching policy, of how we as His stewards – His managers and custodians – of His property are to do the managing.

And that is what stewardship is. It is simply doing what God wants us to do with what He has given us. As St. Paul said: “Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness” (Rom. 6:13). So, let’s dive into the God’s Word and listen to what the owner desires from His stewards.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](http://lcms.org/stewardship)



## A Brief History of the Church Restoration Projects

Beginning in 2018, it became apparent that there was significant deterioration of the inside bricks and tile around the louvered windows in the church bell tower. The trustees engaged Roger Friede and an architect associate to inspect this damage. The architect recommended that it could be perhaps three years before this condition would become critical. Water from the weather, especially during spring, was infiltrating through the brick and stopping at an inside layer, called parging, that had been placed prior to anyone's memory. The frost-and-thaw cycle was found to be causing the inner brick surfaces to spall.

By January 2021, three contractors had been approached to bid the brick restoration of the exterior of the two church towers. Building Restoration Company (BRC) was finally selected to complete the one hundred percent tuck pointing and application of a water seal coat over the exterior surface of the towers. The contractor found that the north tower had serious issues with water leaking from the steeple roof infiltrating the brick work in the tower. At this point, the board of trustees and restoration committee identified two potential contractors to repair the water damage to the wooden support structures inside the towers and temporarily repair the roofing materials. During the summer of 2022, Krause Konstruction Company (KKC) completed these repairs.

Once the repairs were completed, KKC was able to provide a quotation to replace and improve the drainage of the steeple roofs. The original slate roofing materials are beginning to loosen. Also, the frost cycle may once again cause the more intricately drained areas in the tower-to-steeple joint to crack allowing roof drainage water to come inside the tower once again. Several minor items will be addressed by KKC during the summer of 2023. The screening inside the cupola is to be inspected and repaired to preclude birds and insects from entering the church. The integral drain gutter at the east top of the church will be sealed since it is leaking drainage water into the eastern brick wall of the church. The inside stained-glass window on the top northeast has been breached by starlings and will be repaired. And flashing on part of the roof-top school ventilation system will be repaired. The cost for these improvements will come from the church restoration fund leaving approximately \$ 14,000.00 in that fund.

For summer 2024, two options were considered. First, the true historical re-construction of the steeple roofs and associated artwork. This work would retain the drainage intricacies referred to above and KKC estimated that a firm bid would come in above \$ 350,000.00. The second firm bid, recommended by the board and committee, would include the modification or removal of some of the artwork, but retaining the most important features. The materials for the steeple roofs would be lighter and more durable than the slate. The steeple roof drainage form would be modified so that the water would flow more directly off the roof and to the drains with the elimination of isolated connections. We have a firm bid for this work in the amount of \$271,000.00. The board of trustees and restoration committee unanimously recommend this option. Once the steeple roofs have been rebuilt, the remaining work will be to tuck point the side walls of the church.

Many thanks to all of those who have contributed to these efforts.



SEPTEMBER 16 & 17, 2023

Back To Church Weekend

Invite your family & friends

See you there!!

Mark your calendars! St. Peter’s will again participate in Back to Church Weekend on September 16 & 17 with a special new member welcome, and fellowship event on Sunday, September 17.

**Back to Church Weekend** is a campaign to touch hearts, increase hope and strengthen the members of our faith community through the living Word of God. It is a campaign to encourage people to “try church again.” You see God gives us this incredible promise that His Word works. It does not necessarily change the situation we are in, but it does change our outlook and give us peace and strength, because it points us to the hope and comfort, we have unconditionally through Jesus Christ. So, invite someone you know to come to church with you and join us in worship. It will be a great celebration! Please enjoy some refreshments in the entrance of church.

Following the service on Sunday, September 17, we will gather in Concordia Hall following the 9:00 a.m. service to Meet and Greet our newest members.

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**St. Peter’s Lutheran Church  
Quarterly Voters’ Meeting – July 27, 2023**

Meeting was opened by Congregational Vice President Gil Biskupski with President Nathan Braun later taking over. Devotion and prayer led by Pastor Crolius.

Nathan reminded everyone to sign the attendance sheet. Call for a motion to approve the minutes of the 4-27–23 Quarterly Voters’ Meeting. Motion by Gil Biskupski to approve the minutes, second by Mark Meyer, carried by voice vote.

Pastor’s Report - Pastor Crolius extended a welcome to Paige Hendrikson, our new DCM who will be installed on July 23; and to Beth Lynch, our new Ministries Coordinator taking over for Cindy Nellessen. The Synodical convention is taking place this week, Don McCauley and Pastor Butler are attending. The new church directory is available for pickup in the narthex, the phone app is coming. Planning for Confirmation has begun. Pastor shared the congregation’s quarterly statistics and membership changes, he noted the death of Dr. Henry Arndt, cards to the family may be sent to his home. Shaun and Allyson Cummings will be confirmed on Sunday, Luther and Michele Hotzel’s grandson will be baptized also on Sunday. Motion by Pastor Crolius to approve the Pastor’s Report, second by Phil Rogers, carried by voice vote.

Principal’s Report, Roger Tessendorf - Mr. Tessendorf reported that the 2023-24 school theme will be “Connected” based on John 15: 1-5. He welcomed Beth Lynch as the new Ministries Coordinator, Jarikka Douglas as our new 4th grade teacher and Mrs. Vossen who will be returning as our new Resource Teacher. Enrollment numbers were shared along with a request to continue to promote St. Peter’s as a school option in the community. He gave updates on the School Choice Program, the new Employee Handbook, LEGOS Club, FRIENDZY program, new text books and gently used furniture acquired through an auction and a giveaway. He also explained the need to update Chromebooks to be compatible with the WI Forward Exam. Volunteers are needed for the school prep work days, as well as in the library during the school year. The lunch program used excess funds to purchase additional lunch tables, two milk coolers and an upright freezer. Mr. Tessendorf

announced his retirement at the end of the '23-'24 school year, meetings will begin to search for a new principal for St. Peter's.

Financial Management Report, Beth Lynch & Cal Craker

Recommendations through Church Council:

- 1) Dennis Koppen, representing the Board of Trustees and Church Restoration Committee, made a motion to approve a program to raise funds for the replacement of the two church steeple roofs and the roof on the church cupola. The work is tentatively due for completion during the summer of 2024. The amount of the request is \$280,000.00. In addition to direct gifts from the congregation, security funds to complete the project are to be supplied by the Foundation. Second by Cal Craker, motion carried by voice vote.
- 2) Motion from the Christian Board of Education to increase the budget by \$25,000.00 for auditor fees, and \$45,000.00 for cafeteria tables and kitchen items. Roger moved, Joy Tessendorf second to approve. Carried by voice vote.
- 3) Motion from the Christian Board of Education to take \$20,000.00 from the Ruth Schuck fund for replacing Chromebooks. Roger moved, Phil Rogers second to approve. Carried.

Old Business - None

New Business -

Foundation Report, Linda Biskupski - We received \$76,500.00 from the Clarence Puranen estate. Motion to approve the following distribution: 10% (of rounded figure of \$77,000.00) to Missions to be divided evenly between the Milwaukee SOS Center and Orphan Grain Train. Linda moved, Deb Wollin second, motion carried by voice vote. It was noted that these monies will be kept separate from the Doris Gade fund.

VBS Report, Paige Hendrikson - Currently we have about 70 students signed up. All volunteer slots are filled and donations of materials have been received.

Nathan noted that CJ Wunsch and Mark Berberich will be appointed to the Board of Stewardship with terms ending in 2025. Matt Dehn moved, Dave Deitz second to approve, carried by voice vote.

Roger reminded the group of the Rib Fest at Viking on August 16, proceeds of the fundraiser go to St. Peter's Athletic Dept.

Motion made by Matt Dehn to adjourn, second by Michelle Crolus, carried by voice vote. The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Vethe, secretary

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Thank you to all those who generously donated school supplies to our students at St. Peter's School. This allows many of our students to have all that is needed to begin another great school year. It also allows many of our students to replenish their notebooks, pencils, etc throughout the year. Thank you again for your generosity!!!

# ***GOD BLESS YOU ON YOUR BIRTHDAY!!***

LEAH	ANDERSON	1-Sep	KARLA	HENDRIKSON	13-Sep
BRYAN	ANTOINE	1-Sep	JOEL	GROSKREUTZ	14-Sep
CARRIE	FINNEGAN	1-Sep	AVERY	MILLER	14-Sep
DINAH	HATFIELD	1-Sep	CHARLES	WILSON	14-Sep
BLAKE	RAY	1-Sep	Taliyah	SCHARA	15-Sep
ERIK	REIMER	1-Sep	ASPEN	DANKERT	16-Sep
DEBBIE	TROXEL	1-Sep	SUSAN	HALVENSLEBEN	16-Sep
GRANT	WEBER	1-Sep	KAYDEN	NOVY	16-Sep
NANCIE	COOK	2-Sep	AMY	SPEICH	16-Sep
LANDEN	KNUTH	2-Sep	SUZANNAH	DICIOCCIO	17-Sep
RYLEN	KNUTH	2-Sep	JETT	HALL	17-Sep
KURT	VOGEL	2-Sep	JOEY	HALL	17-Sep
NATHAN	BRAUN	3-Sep	SHIRLEY	MAURER	17-Sep
EMILY	THOMAS	3-Sep	KRISTINE	CRISAFULLI	18-Sep
KATHERINE	THOMAS	3-Sep	WESLEY	REIMER	18-Sep
SHAWN	PARCE	4-Sep	DEBRA	SMITH	18-Sep
EMILY	SCHROEDER	4-Sep	KRISTA	GUNTHER	19-Sep
DAYNE	SCHULTZ	4-Sep	HAYDEN	KRUEGER	19-Sep
JENNIFER	SWANSON	4-Sep	SCOTT	MINOR	19-Sep
GABRYEL	ZIMMERMAN	5-Sep	RITA	SCHARA	19-Sep
ANGELA	GADE	6-Sep	LUCAS	SZOPINSKI	19-Sep
THOMAS	MILLER	6-Sep	JOHN	DIETZ	20-Sep
KRISTIE	ROCKWEILER	6-Sep	ARDITH	RYCZEK	20-Sep
RICHARD	MCPHERSON	7-Sep	MICHELLE	CROLIUS	21-Sep
HUNTER	ABBOTT	8-Sep	CHAD	SETTERBO	22-Sep
LORI	FRY	8-Sep	SOPHIA	WUNSCH	22-Sep
CYNTHIA	MCCAULEY	8-Sep	MALINDA	CASTILE	23-Sep
RENEE	MILLER	8-Sep	JONATHAN	STOLTE	23-Sep
SIDNEY	MINOR	8-Sep	TYLER	ARCHAMBO	24-Sep
GIANNA	SCHMIDT	8-Sep	TERRY	DERSHAM	24-Sep
KAREN	SCHUPPNER	8-Sep	MATTHEW	FILUS	24-Sep
EMILY	WESTPHAL	8-Sep	ISABELLE	MILLER	24-Sep
MARK	BERBERICH	9-Sep	LOIS	RADTKE	24-Sep
JANICE	BRAUN	9-Sep	GAIL	REINKE	24-Sep
GREGG	ELY	9-Sep	JENNIFER	REUTER	24-Sep
REBECCA	SACRE	9-Sep	LIANNA	THOMPSON	24-Sep
MARSHA	SANDERS	9-Sep	THOMAS	ZIMMERMAN	25-Sep
CINDY	ZIRNGIBLE	9-Sep	CALVIN	CRAKER	26-Sep
DANIEL	HAHN	10-Sep	GERALDINE	KLINGENMEYER	26-Sep
LINDA	JOHNSON	10-Sep	TINA	KNITT	26-Sep
JESSICA	COOK	11-Sep	MAKENNA	HALVENSLEBEN	27-Sep
JUSTYN	HEUER	11-Sep	JAN	IMHOFF	27-Sep
JULIE	THOMPSON	11-Sep	CADENCE	KLITZKE	27-Sep
CALLIE	CURTIN	12-Sep	RONALD	KRUEGER	27-Sep



BRENDA	CRISAFULLI	28-Sep	SOPHIA	KRUSE	29-Sep
BROOKE	KRAUS	28-Sep	BEN	NACHREINER	29-Sep
RYAN	MEYER	28-Sep	LEE	NACHREINER	29-Sep
JULIA	NOLDEN	28-Sep	SUSAN	STANDO	29-Sep
MAXIMILIAN	PATTERSON	28-Sep	JOY	STRUCK	29-Sep
DARCY	SCHROEDER	28-Sep	JOANNE	BRANDT	30-Sep
JACKOB	ALBRECHT	29-Sep	TIMOTHY	BRANDT	30-Sep
MELLISA	EVEN	29-Sep	GAGE	DOROW	30-Sep
ELLA	HALVENSLEBEN	29-Sep	NANCY	JOHANSEN	30-Sep
JAELYN	KRUSE	29-Sep	LORI	KLITZKE	30-Sep
			BRITON	NELSON	30-Sep

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
345 NORTH PINE STREET  
REEDSBURG, WI 53959

Saturday Divine Service-5:00 p.m.  
Sunday Divine Service-9:00 a.m.

SEPTEMBER

