

THE  
VOICE  
OF

***ST. PETER'S***

SEPTEMBER 2018

**From the Pastor:**

Many centuries ago, the author of Ecclesiastes wrote these memorable words, which remind us that everything has its own time, which is appointed by God:

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:*

*A time to be born, and a time to die;*

*A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;*

*A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;*

*A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;*

*A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;*

*A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away;*

*A time keep silence, and a time to speak;*

*A time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.*

During my years at St. Peter's, we have had many different "times" together. We have experienced times of sadness and times of great joy, times of conflict and times of cooperation, times of difficulty and times of blessing. We have known times of weeping, mourning, and death. But we have also rejoiced together in times of embracing, laughing, dancing, loving, and healing. And through all our different times together, God has been with us to guide, nurture, and sustain us. Now has come a time for change.

After thirty-five years of active ministry in the Lutheran Church, the time has come for me to move into retirement, which shall officially begin on March 1, 2019. Ruth and I will miss you and the ministry, but we are excited about moving to the Boston area to be with our family there. During the coming months, we will be working closely with the Council and committees in the transition process. The Synod will work with the leaders of St. Peter's to set up interim Pastoral care and to begin the process of calling a new Pastor. All of the changes and the uncertainty that we face can be daunting, but with the changes will come many new possibilities and opportunities for renewal and growth. As the author of Ecclesiastes reminds us, there is a time for everything, and so we must trust in God to guide us safely through this time of change which God has appointed for us.

**Yours in Christ, Pastor Richard**

## **WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE**

In our Wednesday Night Live sessions we finished our focus on the Reformation Period and are ready to begin with the modern era, with a focus on the Church in the USA. Our sessions will meet at 7:00 PM on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **CONFIRMATION CLASS NEWS**

Our Confirmation Classes are ready to begin again after a summer break.

This year the Middler-Senior Class (Grades 8 and 9) will study Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*, and will meet from 9:00 to 10:00 AM on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>. Parents are asked to attend the first class session on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Junior (Grade 7) Class will have its first session at 9:00 AM on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Highlights from the August 2<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting**

Pastor Richard opened the meeting by reading a letter to the members of St. Peter's announcing his retirement, effective March 1, 2019, with his last day as Pastor being Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Property Committee Report: Randy Knoll reported on the damage to the parking lot caused by the recent flooding. The Council authorized him to spend up to \$1,000 to make repairs.

Evangelism Committee Report: plans are underway for a Church picnic at Twin Grove Park on Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>; the committee received Council approval to have a "name tag Sunday."

Unfinished Business: pre-buying heating oil in order to save money on heating costs for the upcoming winter will be done in September.

New Business: Council voted to establish a new committee to oversee the Stew Zerbe Scholarship; Council voted to donate the Bible School offerings to a conservation project through the Lutheran World Relief.

## **First Communion Class**

A special Class will be held on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30 to 11:45 A.M., to prepare our Third Graders to receive their First Holy Communion. All Third Graders and their parents are invited to attend this session. First Communion will be received on World Communion Sunday (October 7, 2018) at the 9:00 A.M. Worship Service.

## SPONSORS

Some things are still available to be sponsored in September.

**Altar Flowers** are available for September 2, 9, 23, & 30 – cost is \$20.

**Bulletins** are available for September 16 and 30 – cost is \$15.

**Sanctuary Candle** is available for September – cost is \$35.

Call the church office (570-345-3306) or sign the charts in the hallway.

### **St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery Association** **has cemetery lots available.**

If interested, contact Kurt Wessner at 570-345-8020.

Prices are as follows:

<u>Member of St. Peter's</u>		<u>Non-member of St. Peter's</u>
4 grave lot	\$800	\$900
2 grave lot	\$600	\$700
1 grave lot	\$400	\$500

**Please clean lots of flowers and decorations in a timely manner.**

### **Message from Tina Keefer:**

Hello, I am trying to get my brother, Chuck, rides to get his treatment. I was hoping to reach out to the church family to help. It will run for 7 weeks Monday through Friday. They are going to schedule his treatment for 11:15am and it will take place in Lebanon on Tuck Street. It is supposed to be for 15 minutes with the exception when he gets chemo which no one has to stay on that day. I will be starting to take him on August 27<sup>th</sup> for his first treatment. Anyone willing to do this may contact me. Also, I am going to check with the American Cancer people and other family and friends as well.

# Enjoy The Convenience of Online Giving

St. Peter's wants to remind you that we offer online giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering and offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

-Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

-Credit & Debit Card Giving allows you to make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card.

-Online Giving allows you to go to [stpeterslutheranpinegrove.org](http://stpeterslutheranpinegrove.org) at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

\*Please Contact Ben Moyer if you need further assistants. An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions" flyer are available from the church office.

Thank you for your continued generosity towards:

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Church Finances (End of July 2018)

July General Income: \$15,448

July General Expenses: \$12,619.17

YTD General Income: \$ 106,384

YTD General Expenses: \$103,881.24

### Checking Balances as of July 31<sup>st</sup> were:

General Fund --\$ 2,838.87

Capital Improvement Fund --\$ 26,919.34 (\$2,040 for the Fellowship Committee to use for Kitchen Improvements, \$1,894.26 for Video/Audio & Pre-Buy Oil \$9,340.00)

Memorial Fund --\$ 4,118.61

Youth Ministry Fund --\$ 5,349.46

### Saving Balances as of July 31<sup>st</sup> were:

Stew Zerbe Scholarship Fund --\$ 8,954.06

General Savings -- \$889.00

**YTD All Funds Total \$ 113,965**

**Includes the following Funds**

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General, Lent/Easter, Youth Ministry, Plate, Oil, Benevolence, Memorial, Building, Capital Imp, World Hunger, Hall Rental, Sunday School, Flowers, Initial Offering, Weekday Church School, Hunger Food Table, VBS, Bulletins, Communion, Newsletter, Stew Zerbe Memorial, Endowment, Needy Fund, Candle Oil, Souper Bowl of Caring, Christmas, Christmas Baskets, Sanctuary Light, Disaster Relief, Pentecost/Ascension, Harvest Home, Reformation, Thanksgiving & 200 Anniversary

**Finance Committee:**  
**\*\*\*\*\*We Reached Our Pre-Buy Oil Goal \*\*\*\*\***

Finance Committee would like to take the time to sincerely thank everyone who helped reach our goal, including memorial donations to help purchase Pre-Buy Oil for the upcoming winter months. As you know, we started this campaign to help offset the church's annual oil budget expenses. In three months our congregation raised \$9,395 with Pre-Buy Oil Contributions. This amount will help purchase 4000 gallons of oil during the winter months starting on Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> and also help finance committee get one step closer to our goal of reducing the 2019 budget. The Pre Buy Oil campaign was a huge success and the finance committee may consider doing Pre-Buy Oil as an annual campaign.

Thanks again for your generosity and support!

Finance Committee

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

✠ Those who were hospitalized, recuperating, ill, or in any need in the month of July & August:  
Nancy Reichelt, Al Wertz, Dieter Brommer, Zachary Cochran, Stephen Krammes, Pat Gilbert, Dean Wertz, John Mataka, Charles Keefer, Jr., Bonnie Brown, Michelle Meyers, Dennis Loy, Marcia D'Ambrosio, Colleen Schaeffer, Al Miller, & Susan D'Ambrosio.

✠ The Family of Nancy Miller, who passed away on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

✠ The Family of Shirley Zimmerman, who passed away on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

✠ The Family of Joan Zerbe, who passed away on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

✠ Talon Richard Zimmerman, the son of Rodney James Zimmerman and Ashley Lynn Ziegler, who was baptized on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

✠ The Family of Robert Ferree, who passed away on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

✠ Livvy Lane Kreiser, the Daughter of Michael and Tessa (Beck) Kreiser, who was born on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

✠ Madelyn Shawn and Olivia Joan Lengel, twin Daughters of Adam and Jennifer Kay (Dimon) Lengel, who were baptized on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

✠ Ethan James Stroupauer, the Son of Justin and Taylor Stroupauer, who was born on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

✠ Maddox Michael Tarson, the Son of Craig and Jena (Keefer) Tarson, who was born on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

✠ Our Sunday School teachers, staff, and students.

✠ The Family of Steve Yoder, who passed away on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*The Prayer Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00AM.

**-Bible Journaling** - Our new Bible Journaling Group, led by Nancy Reichelt, will meet on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome!

**Memorial Gifts... To the Glory of God**

*(Memorial Fund)*

\$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Howard and Shirley Lengel.

\$20 in memory of Mattie Tobin & Nancy Miller by Carol Baldwin.

\$25 in memory of Shirley Zimmerman by Sharon Hatter.

\$75 in memory of Shirley Zimmerman by Harvey Hubler.

\$50 in memory of Paul and Gertrude Lengel by The Lengel Family Reunion.

\$125 in memory of "Our Lovely Mother, Shirley A. Zimmerman" by Nancy & Warren Weiss.

\$100 in memory of "My Parents who passed away on August 19<sup>th</sup>" by Carol Baldwin.

\$25 in memory of Mattie Tobin by Kay Potts.

\$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Kay Potts.

**(General Fund)**

- \$30 in memory of Olga Miller by Daughter, Mary Shive.
- \$50 in memory of Shirley Zimmerman by Roger & Mary Zimmerman.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Norm & Brenda Kreiser.
- \$20 in memory of Nancy Miller by Vincent & Virginia Witherow.
- \$20 in memory of Nancy Miller by Donald & Barbara Schwartz.
- \$25 in memory of Gloria Harris by Shirley Koenig.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Shirley Koenig.
- \$25 in memory of Shirley Zimmerman by Laverne Houtz.
- \$30 in memory of Olga Miller by Daughter, Mary Shive.
- \$100 in honor of Madelyn Shawn and Olivia Joan Lengel on the day of their baptism by Parents, Adam and Jennifer Lengel.
- \$30 in memory of Olga Miller by Daughter, Mary Shive.
- \$50 in memory of "Our Beloved Grandson, Ryan Lemke" by Sharon Lemke.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Sharon Lemke.
- \$100 in memory of Shirley Zimmerman by Debra Leiberick.
- \$200 in memory of Betty Miller by Son, Dennis Miller.
- \$100 in memory of "My Sister, Nancy Miller" by Charles Gilbert.
- \$100 in memory of "My Sister, Nancy Miller" by Mary & Gary Bohr.
- \$100 in memory of Grandson, Kevin Krause by Gary & Mary Bohr.
- \$100 in memory of Grandson, Ryan Lemke by Gary & Mary Bohr.
- \$100 in memory of Granddaughter, Samantha Lengel by Gary & Mary Bohr.
- \$30 in memory of Olga Miller by Daughter, Mary Shive.
- \$100 in memory of Nancy Miller by Tammy Lengel.
- \$30 in memory of Olga Miller by Daughter, Mary Shive.

**(Fuel Oil Pre-Pay Fund)**

- \$100 in memory of Gloria Harris by Helen Sorokach & Family.
- \$300 in memory of Thelma Hubler by Son, Allen Hubler and Family.
- \$50 in loving memory of Gloria Harris by Jean, Don, and Lisa McMillin.
- \$1,000 in memory of William H. Siegel by William E. Siegel.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Dion & Kay Boyer.
- \$50 in memory of "Loved Ones" by Glenn & Doris Moyer.
- \$25 in memory of Mattie Tobin by George & Alice Brommer.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by George & Alice Brommer.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Linda Venszl.
- \$20 in memory of Nancy Miller by Virginia Schwartz.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Gary Adams.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Donna Zerbe.
- \$20 in memory of Gloria Harris by Marian DeLance & Anita Dwyer.
- \$50 in honor of Owen Brommer's 89<sup>th</sup> Birthday by Dave & Jean Herring.
- \$25 in memory of Gloria Harris, on her Birthday, by The Hueston/Babcock Family.
- \$100 in memory of "Loved Ones" by Kenny and Betty Bressler.
- \$300 in memory of Gloria Harris by Steve and Bev Morgan and Family.
- \$25 in memory of Nancy Miller by Steve and Bev Morgan.
- \$50 in memory of Gloria Harris for her Birthday by George and Kathy Sorokach & Family.

**(Stew Zerbe Scholarship Fund)**

- \$50 in memory of Stew Zerbe's 44<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary by Donna Zerbe.
- \$50 in memory of William Harris on His Birthday by Daughter, Donna Zerbe.

\*\*The **Candle Oil** for **September** is given to the Glory of God in honor of Albert Brand on His 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday by Wife, Kathleen Brand. \*\*The **Newsletter** for **September** is given to the Glory of God in memory of "my Son, Todd Shadle on his Birthday" by Brenda Shadle.

