

St. Peters Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
JUNE 2020



316 S. Main Ave. / P.O. Box 125
Wentworth, SD 57075-0125

Office Phone: 605-483-3129

Pastor's cell: 307-221-1256

Church e-mail: stpeter@itctel.com

Pastor's e-mail: adwelton@gmail.com

Website: www.stpeterswentworth.com

Our Mission Statement:

**"Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
make known among the nations what he has done."**

Psalm 105:1



Conversations and Consolation

“The mutual conversation and consolation of brethren”, is listed as one way the Gospel gives us counsel and aid against sin by Luther in the Smalcald Articles. Luther is drawing our attention to the Christian condition here on earth. Here in this life. We Christians are not made to live lives separated from one another. We are to live in mutual conversation and consolation with other Christians.

This life of fellowship provides for the Christian’s constant need of hearing the Word of God spoken to them in its entirety. Our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ often know us far better than we know ourselves. They know when we need to hear the law. When we need to hear Gods condemning of our thoughts, words, and deeds. Many have grown up with us and have a relationship in which these hard words can be spoken. Yet still received in love. Received as what they are: the love of one Christian for another Christian. Not always easy to hear and even hard at times to speak, but spoken and heard so confession, repentance can follow.

They also know when we need to hear the sweet, sweet Gospel. The good news even now in our sin. In our current state God has forgiven us and still claims us to be His children. Our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ declare the forgiveness of our sins to us and the gift of eternal life, which God has given us, is truly ours. They go further. They can speak comfort to us when we have sinned, and when tragedy has struck in our lives. Not even tragedy but simply hard times. When we are struggling in life and in faith, these dear brothers and sisters in Christ come alongside us and speak the wonderful news that God is providing for us, protecting us and has not abandoned us.

Where is the pastor in all of this? You might be asking. The answer is right there with you. Right there speaking all of these things to you. Telling you of all that God has given him to say to you. And if all we had was the pastor that would be enough. God would bring us to repentance and deliver forgiveness to us. God would comfort us and sustain us in faith through the trials and tribulations of this life. Thanks be to God for pastors and Gods’ abundant giving. God uses pastors but He also gives us many other people to speak to us.

God always gives more abundantly then we could ever imagine. More then we could ever think of or ask for. We think we would be satisfied with God just giving us forgiveness in one way, but we would find it lacking. I am not sure if you would call this overconfidence or arrogance, or maybe just trying not to ask too much of a God who has already given us everything, but whatever you call it we do not know what we require. God however knows us and knows we need to hear both the Law and the Gospel in many ways but especially the Gospel.

Luther in the Smalcald Articles says in that same place that God gives us counsel and aid against sin in four ways: Preaching, Baptism, Lord’s Supper, and Confession and Absolution (here the mutual conversation and consolation of the brethren are included). The Lord abundantly gives us ways to receive comfort and consolation in the face of sin, trials, and tribulations all so we can be certain of what we hear is true.

All of this was a long way of talking about fellowship. About reminding us we gather together in the church each week not just because that is where church happens but because God uses the gathering of those people -“Where two or three are gathered Mt. 18:20 - to bring His gifts of forgiveness, eternal life, and protection and provision to us in all of our life.

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Welton

It Won't Be Long Now

by Pastor Michael Salemink

"Are we there yet?" "How long until we get there?" "When are we going to be there?" "Are we there yet?" Summer vacation time is coming! Soon enough it will be the parents instead of the teachers hearing, "How long do we have left?" And soon enough it will be the parents instead of the children asking, "How long do we have left?"

You see, you never stop asking that question, "Are we there yet?" At least you never should. Not even when you grow up. It means your heart's still in it. It tells you the hope's still there. You cannot live without this. Are we there yet? Maybe not. But at least we know we're still here. Jesus actually instructed His disciples to ask that question. And, by extension, actually He's teaching us, too. Today, it so happens, is the day Christians celebrate that teaching and that question. Ascension Day is "Are We There Yet?" day. When Jesus entered into heaven, the apostles were standing there looking up into the sky. Their minds were asking what their mouths weren't able to: "When are we going to be there? How long, O Lord; how long?" Jesus wanted them to ask—that's why He went—so He could give them this answer: "He will come back in the very same way you have seen Him go into heaven."

The answer's still relevant...and it's because the question still rattles. The question still rattles around. The question still rattles us. Are we there yet? How long? The question rattles in the bathroom, beside the bottles and blades and crumpled up Kleenex, where from beneath the suffocating weight of emotional disorder and from behind the crushing claustrophobic confinement of psychological torture some lonely man cries out, "How long?" Maybe he's depressed, maybe he's obsessed, maybe he's addicted, maybe he's just self-destructive, but he wants to know how long.

And the question rattles in the bedroom, between the clatter of a computer keyboard and the static of a telephone call, where with husband's closet empty and baby's diaper full, while Daddy's in the war halfway around the world tonight and Mama's got to work all the way across town tomorrow morning, some single mother sighs, "How long?" Maybe she's got pictures, letters, and cards; maybe all she's got is bills, but she needs to know how long.

And the question rattles in the hospital room, among monitor blips and medicine drips, where the diagnoses descriptions are so lengthy they make the head swim but the prognoses predictions are so short they make the eyes overflow, with breath shallow and shadow of death deep, somebody's mother, somebody's wife, somebody's grandma whispers, "How long?" Maybe it's treatable, maybe only manageable, maybe even terminal, but she begs to know how long.

And the question rattles in the locker room, along with school bells and ridiculed yells, where the red marks scuff the surface and the rude remarks cut to the core, where it's harder and harder to hide any longer, longing and looking in from the outside some awkward adolescent wonders, "How long?" Maybe he's someone we all knew, maybe he's someone we all were, but he aches to know how long.

How long? How long? Are we there yet? O Lord, O God, how long? It's the question that rattles throughout the whole creation. The whole creation has been groaning in the pains of childbirth right up until the present time. There are floods, and there are famines, and there are earthquakes, and there are epidemics, and there are storms and catastrophes, and there are scandals and crises, and there are genocides and holocausts and injustices, and they are all declaring, "How long, O Lord? O God, how long?"

It's the question that rattles throughout our whole history. Hundreds of psalmists and prophets and apostles and reformers who spilled ink and tears to salvage and safeguard the message, the promise, the faith and hope for another generation; thousands of martyrs who gave their witness and their lives in the Roman arenas; myriad saints who endured persecution in islamic prisons, in communist cells, and in abortion procedure clinics; multitude million Christians who fell asleep patiently waiting—they all are demanding, "How long, O Lord? O God, how long?"

Are you? Are you asking, "Are we there yet?" Are you asking, "How long?" Anymore? For their sake, for our sake, for your own sake, are you wondering, waiting, aching, appealing, pleading, praying, and begging, "How long?" Is it asked with your first breath in come morning and your last breath out at night? Is your conduct asking? Is your conversation asking? Is your whole character asking, "Are

we there yet? How much longer?" Is this congregation still asking anymore? And if we are asking, are we asking God? "How long until Your kingdom comes?" "How long until Your will is done?" "How long until You deliver us from evil?" "How long, O Lord, until You come again in glory to judge both the living and the dead?" "How long until the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting?"

Does the question still rattle this Church the way it should? Or have we gotten it all figured out? Or have we given all the other explanations and excuses? Or have we gotten on with our lives, if you can call them that? Or have we just given up? Have we let go of our hope and laid down our faith? Well, even if we're not asking, "How long?" ... even if you're not asking, your pain is asking, and your needs are asking. And your conscience is asking, yes, your sins are crying out, and your victims, your neighbors, your brothers and sisters, the ones hurt by your actions and your attacks and your abuses and your attitudes, they are crying out to God, "How long, O Lord? O God, how long?" And God is listening, listening like never before.

So now it's time. It's time we ask. This Ascension Day, it's time for us Christians to ask it. It's time we grabbed hold of our courage and gathered what's left of our integrity. It's time we asked ourselves, and asked each other, and asked the Lord our God, "How long?" It's time we were no longer apathetic about the answer, nor ashamed of it, nor afraid anymore. The answer already awaits us. It won't be long now. Let us acknowledge we aren't going to be here much longer. Let us accept there is some place better than here, something better than this, someone better than us. Let us admit we can't stay like this; we may not, we must not, we will not. Let us ask, "Are we there yet? How long?" Let us ask out of repentance, in hatred of what we've made of ourselves and our surroundings. Let us ask out of faith, in hope of what God will make and where God will take us, because it won't be long now. Jesus taught His disciples—and us by extension: **"In my Father's house are many rooms. I am going there to prepare a place for you and to prepare you for that place. I will come back and take you that where I am there you may also be."** And the angel told the apostles at the Ascension: **"This same Jesus will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."**

It won't be long now. God has entered our situation and God has edited our story with the incarnation of His Son Jesus Christ's mortal flesh, and it won't be long now. God has begun to reveal His strength and God has brought relief for human suffering by the compassion of His Servant Jesus Christ's miracles, and it won't be long now. God has taken on our sentence of death and God has taken away what our sins deserve in the crucifixion of our Savior Jesus Christ on a cross, and it won't be long now. God has emasculated the devil and God has emancipated the creation in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the grave, and it won't be long now. We have been rescued, we have been forgiven, we have been delivered, we have been saved, we have been redeemed, we have been adopted, and it won't be long now. The Holy Spirit has arrived to stay, the Christian Church has survived to this day, and it won't be long now.

You see, God is declaring absolution to guilty consciences, and it won't be long now. And God is speaking promises of healing, hope, and heaven everlasting to troubled minds from Scriptures, sermons, and songs, and it won't be long now. God is making children of men into children of the heavenly Father through the water and the Word of Holy Baptism, and it won't be long now. God is reaching out for the little daughters of Eve with the arms of Sunday school teachers, and it won't be long now. God is gathering in the young sons of Adam with the patience of catechism instructors, and it won't be long now. And God is meeting with sinful people in the body and the blood of the Holy Communion, and it won't be long now. God is joining lost souls into the one-flesh union of holy marriage, and it won't be long now. God is comforting broken hearts with the reassurances of resurrection in funeral services. God is touching aching bodies and ailing spirits by the visitation of pastors, and it won't be long now. God is putting idle hands to work in the volunteer efforts and events of the congregation, and it won't be long. God is providing for empty pockets through the generosity, the charity, the sacrifices of humble and anonymous saints, and it won't be long now.

That lonely man can get up, leave behind his despair, and walk through that bathroom door, because it won't be long now. That single mother can stand up, sooner or later she can lay down her anger, and she can walk assertively through that bedroom door, because it won't be long now. That somebody's wife can rise up, she can let go of her fear, and she can walk boldly out of that hospital room one way or another, because it won't be long now. That awkward adolescent, he can jump up, one way or another; he can lose that shame; and he can walk confidently out of that locker room,

because it won't be long now. It won't be long now until the Lord our God and Father, Who has begun this good work in us, brings it to completion, by His Son our Savior, by His Spirit, by His Church, and by His Word, in the day of Jesus Christ. Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come. Amen.
Used with permission from the author Rev. Michael Salemink

DIAPER DERBY



From Mother's Day, May 10, 2020 until Father's Day, June 21, we will be collecting disposable diapers, wipes, other baby items, and cash. **This is a mission project for Lutherans for Life.** Donations will go to the **Alpha Center** in Sioux Falls or **Option-1** in Brookings. Both organizations support LIFE. Please **like** both Option-1 and Alpha Center on Facebook.

2019 ~ St. Peters' collected:

1,125 diapers. 2,952 wipes. 1 outfit. 8 hangers. 3 onesies. 1 jumper. 2 swaddlers. 1 bib/bootie set. 2 changing table covers. 4 receiving blankets. 1 baby blanket and 2 Aquaphor diaper rash creams.

Those are impressive numbers! Let us all come together and beat these numbers to help babies and families in need! Diaper Derby results from other congregations will be hanging up in the Narthex of the church.

We have 23 days to fill our playpen with diapers, wipes and all things baby if we are going to beat our numbers from last year. Items can be brought to the church any day of the week, not just Sunday's.



JUNE BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

June 2, 1968

Mark DeWayne Limmer
23473 461st Ave. Wentworth

June 3, 1951

Carol Jean Feldmann
24056 462nd Ave. Chester

June 3, 1973

Melissa Sue Gerry
46520 237th St. Wentworth

June 5, 1988

Lisa Kay Lindholm
22920 462nd Ave. Wentworth

June 10, 2012

Maddox Michael Maas
23150 463rd Ave. Wentworth

June 10, 1962

Greg William Teal
23350 463rd Ave. Wentworth

June 11, 1933

Charles Vincent Alverson
46304 241st St. Chester

June 12, 1977

Kory Alan Reck
P.O. Box 112 Wentworth

*Happy Baptismal Birthday!!
From your brothers and
sisters in Christ*

June 14, 1970

Leslie Armin Heidelberger III
24312 467th Ave. Dell Rapids

June 19, 1932

Doris June Limmer
415 N. Chicago Madison

June 19, 2016

Kash Alan Gehrels
46446 230th St. Wentworth

June 20, 1982

Amy Jane Hemmer
47408 238th St. Dell Rapids

June 24, 2007

Gavin Patrick Schneider
45076 233rd St. Madison

June 25, 1950

Barbara June Crawford
PO Box 313,
Mt. Lake, MN 56159

June 25, 2000

Alex Joel Tammen
46215 234th St. Wentworth

June 25, 2017

Korbin Charles Tweet
24078 459th Ave. Chester

June 26, 1960

Julie Marie Gehrels
46393 230th St. Wentworth

June 26, 2005

Chloe Jane Schneider
45076 233rd St. Madison

June 27, 1937

Viola C. Sorenson
936 Heatherwood Ave. Madison

June 27, 2010

Natalie Ann Feige
45955 230th St. Wentworth

**"Whoever believes and is
baptized will be saved"
Mark 16:16a**





JUNE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Gaylen & Shirley Backus June 2, 1973
Mr. & Mrs. Bud & Shelia Gerry June 3, 1962
Mr. & Mrs. Tom & Deb Graff June 3, 1970
Mr. & Mrs. Leon & Melissa Gerry June 3, 1995
Mr. & Mrs. Jason & Meredith Fischer June 5, 2004
Mr. & Mrs. Les & Virginia Heidelberger June 10, 1967
Mr. & Mrs. Tom & Arla Baumberger June 24, 1972
Mr. & Mrs. Shawn & Jill Martin June 30, 1984



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 3, 1950 Barbara Crawford
June 4, 1937 Viola Sorenson
June 6, 1932 Doris Limmer
June 6, 1958 Lori Hansen
June 6, 2009 Jacob Heidelberger
June 8, 2016 Kash Gehrels
June 9, 2000 Alex Tammen
June 10, 1949 Carolyn Lindholm
June 10, 1992 Jackson Mendel
June 15, 1954 Shirley Backus
June 16, 2010 Natalie Feige
June 17, 2005 Chloe Schneider
June 18, 1944 June Olson
June 18, 1971 Gina DeGroot
June 18, 2007 Gavin Schneider
June 19, 2017 Korbin Tweet
June 20, 1942 Dale Dorow
June 23, 2000 Dakota Alfson
June 24, 1942 Sandi Johnson
June 27, 1985 Scott Feige
June 30, 1940 Helen Lease
June 30, 1953 Bradley Swenson

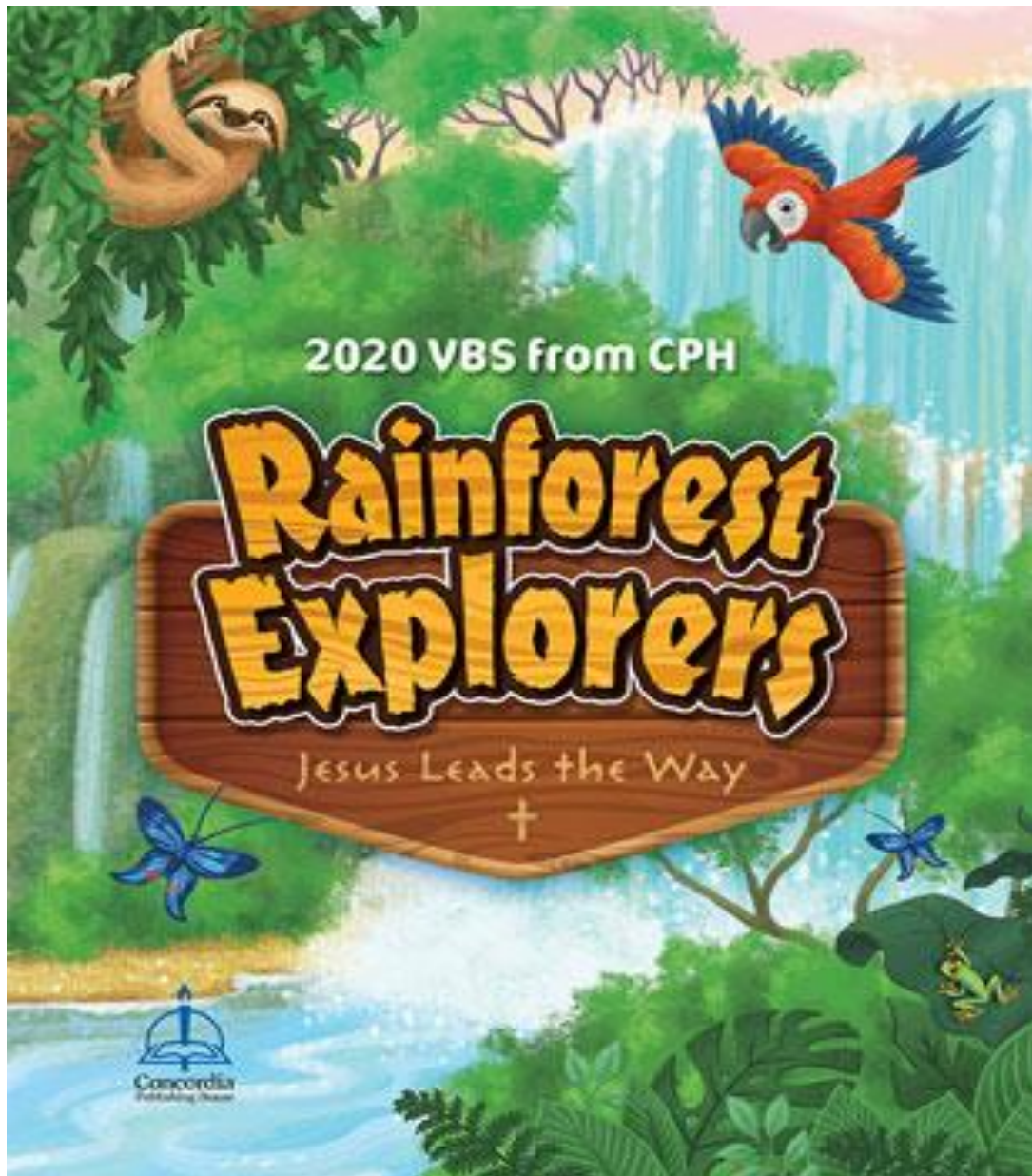
★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

**TO READ THE BIBLE IN ONE YEAR:
SUGGESTED BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE**

DATE	FIRST READING	SECOND READING
June 1	Isaiah 12:1-6	Acts 15 – 16
June 2	Psalms 150	Acts 17 – 18
June 3	Psalms 1	Acts 19 – 20
June 4	Psalms 2	Acts 21 – 22
June 5	Psalms 3	Acts 23 – 24
June 6	Psalms 4	Acts 25 – 26
June 7	Psalms 5	Acts 27 – 28
June 8	Psalms 6	Joshua 1 – 5
June 9	Psalms 7	Joshua 6 – 8
June 10	Psalms 8	Joshua 9 – 11
June 11	Psalms 9	Joshua 12 – 16
June 12	Psalms 10	Joshua 17 – 21
June 13	Psalms 11	Joshua 22 – 24
June 14	Psalms 12	Judges 1 – 3
June 15	Psalms 13	Judges 4 – 6
June 16	Psalms 14	Judges 7 – 9
June 17	Psalms 15	Judges 10 – 12
June 18	Psalms 16	Judges 13 – 15
June 19	Psalms 17	Judges 16 – 18
June 20	Psalms 18	Judges 19 – 21
June 21	Psalms 19	Ruth
June 22	Psalms 20	1 Samuel 1 – 3
June 23	Psalms 21	1 Samuel 4 – 6
June 24	Psalms 22	1 Samuel 7 – 9
June 25	Psalms 23	1 Samuel 10 – 12
June 26	Psalms 24	1 Samuel 13 – 15
June 27	Psalms 25	1 Samuel 16 – 18
June 28	Psalms 26	1 Samuel 19 – 21
June 29	Psalms 27	1 Samuel 22 – 24
June 30	Isaiah 12:1-6	1 Samuel 25 - 27

GRAB YOUR RAINCOAT & RAIN BOOTS
SAVE-THE-DATES
AUGUST 9 -11

**AS ST. PETERS VBS HEADS TO THE RAINFOREST TO EXPLORE
AS “JESUS LEADS THE WAY”.**



Register the kids, grandkids, neighborhood kids now by filling out the sheet on the back table of the Narthex or talk to one of the Board of Education members: Scott Feige 480-1701, Jason Fischer 480-1974 or Loren Lindholm 270-2856.

Sign-up sheet on back table of the Narthex for teachers, helpers, snacks, games and etc.

June 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Altar Guild Marlys Arneson ~ Lacey Gehrels	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:00 am Worship /Holy Communion Holy Trinity Sunday Acolyte: Grace Feige - Communion Greeters: Tom & Deb Graff Organist: Virginia Heidelberger 10:15 am Bible study 	8 1:00 pm LWML Quilting 7:00 pm Altar Guild meeting	9	10 7:00 pm Elders meeting	11	12	13 9:00 am LWML
14 9:00 am Worship ~ Recognition Sunday Acolyte: CeCe Gibney Greeters: Tye Heidelberger family; Virginia Organist: Shirley Backus 10:15 am Bible Study 	15	16	17	18 Winkle	19	20 Summer Begins
21 9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Father's Day Acolyte: Kaelie Lindholm - Communion Greeters: Les Heidelberger III family Organist: Peggy George 10:15 am Bible Study ~ Diaper Derby Ends	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:00 am Worship Acolyte: Gavin Schneider Greeters: Kim & Jeff Hemmer; Chase, Mackenzie Organist: Peggy George 10:15 am Adult Bible Study	29	30				

**Bulletin Deadline: 8:30 am Fridays (unless noted otherwise)