

St. Peters Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod

MARCH 2023



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Our Mission Statement:

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



Credo: Communion of the Saints

We come to the final article on the Apostle's Creed in which we will be dealing with the communion of the saints. This is as Luther will write in the Large Catechism and explanation to the holy Christian/catholic church. Think of it as a gloss on the text.

As we talked about last month we are not to think of the church in cold terms of brick and mortar but in terms of people. The church is always where the saints come together. The writers of the Apostle's Creed wanted us to have a distinctly flesh-and-blood understanding of the church.

We think of the church in terms of fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. We see them as the ones who are gathered or congregating in our congregation with us and for the same purpose. All are gathered because they need the forgiveness of their sins and the resurrection to eternal life.

A couple of things hit us here. First, it means every member is important to the church—to us. We should be paying attention to who is in church and who is not in church and when we see people not in church every member should be checking on them not just the pastor.

We all are called into this communion of saints and therefore called to be of aid to one another in our life of faith. There is an obligation we have to help each other out, and that can mean making sure we are going to church. Helping to resolve any problems or

roadblocks which keep people from coming to church. As St. Paul would say we are to rejoice with those rejoicing and weep with those weeping.

That leads us to the second thing, we are all called to be the hand and feet of God in mercy to one another. We are called to help each other out in the communion of saints as each has the ability and there is a need. We are to be the lips of God to speak to each other the hope, promise, and assurance we have in the forgiveness of sins.

Too often, we think this is left solely to the pastor to accomplish. I am here to tell you it is without question what the pastor should be doing, but not just the pastor. You as a fellow Christian, who has known these people your whole life, will be able to speak the sweet gospel to them bringing them the comfort of Christ in ways the pastor never will. You are an amazing source in this communion of saints/congregation of saints for helping each other out in times of distress.

Being a member of the church of the communion of saints brings with it a responsibility that you have to speak the truth of God's love to one another in the communion. We are not on a cruise ship of the church meant to be served but on the battleship of the church all hands on deck (all serving). We may not all need to be active at one time but we are all called to be ready in season and out of season to give the reason for our hope in Christ—that is not just to those outside of the church but often to those sitting in the pews with you who is weeping and needing to hear a reason for hope.

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor

Confession: Keep It or Throw It



Private Confession and Absolution how comfortable are we with it? Do we think it is Roman Catholic? Should we as Lutherans continue to do it? It comes down to the question do we keep it or throw it? This Lenten Tide we will take a look at what Scriptures has to say about Confession and Absolution building and proper Biblical and Lutheran understanding of this practice which few have ever participated in.

Ash Wednesday:

Text: Jonah 3:1-10; 2 Peter 1:2-11; Matt 6:1-6, 16-21

Service: Imposition of Ashes, Corporate Confession and Absolution and DS III

Hymns: Sermon 608, Distribution 974, 550, 615, Closing 607

Lent Midweek 1

Text: Prodigal Son Confession Luke 15:11-32 (What is Confession?)

Hymns: 608 Lord, to You I Make Confession

Service: 260 Prayer and Preaching

Lent Midweek 2

Text: The Thief on the Cross Luke 23:33-43 (We Confess Our Sins)

Hymns: 608 Lord, to You I Make Confession

Service: 260 Prayer and Preaching

Lent Midweek 3

Text: Joseph Forgives His Brothers Gen 50:15-26 (Forgiving one another)

Hymns: 608 Lord, to You I Make Confession

Service: 260 Prayer and Preaching

Lent Midweek 4

Text: David Confesses to Nathan 2 Sam 12:1-14 (Confessing to the Pastor)

Hymns: 608 Lord, to You I Make Confession

Service: 260 Prayer and Preaching

Lent Midweek 5

Text: Jesus Forgives the Repentant Woman Luke 7:36-50 (What is the benefit of Confession)

Hymns: 608 Lord, to You I Make Confession

Service: 260 Prayer and Preaching

LEAP OF FAITH

Our journey to seminary and beyond

Matthew Baker Family

For the Love of God

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. ~ 1 Corinthians 13:4–8

Today is Valentine's Day—a day associated with love. But the kind of love we tend to think of today, that expressed with candy and flowers and paper hearts, isn't the love for which Saint Valentine was initially commemorated. (Sound familiar, St. Nicholas?) In fact, one of the only things we know for certain about St. Valentine is that he loved the Lord Jesus Christ enough to die for his faith. This is the kind of love we should desire for ourselves and all people.

That isn't to say expressing our love for others is discouraged. Quite the opposite. Listen to the words of St. John, "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us" (1 Jn 4:11–12). Whether it was feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, or preaching the Gospel—the good news of our Savior who also loved to the point of death—countless men and women whose names will never be in books or plastered on cards have followed the model of our Lord by loving others, not for their own gain or redemption, but simply as a reflection of Christ's perfect love.

To that point, we thank all those who show their love for us. Whether it's a birthday card, a letter, or a note of encouragement, we rejoice to know there are so many people praying and caring for us. Your acts of Christian love are a great blessing to our family.

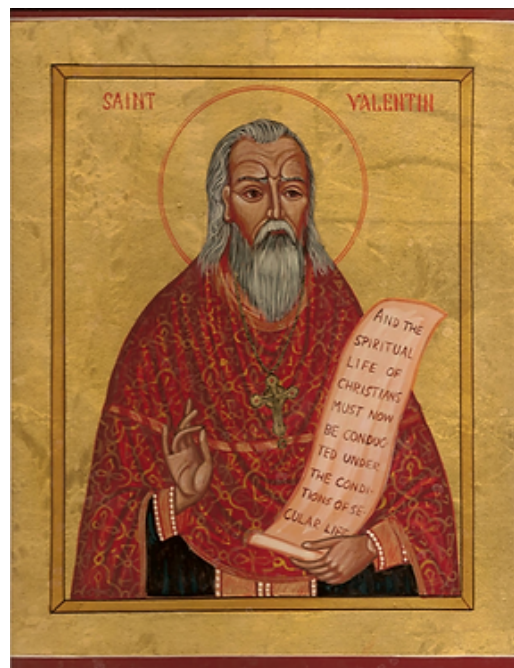
Now, an update on our past couple months. Our trip to South Dakota over Christmas break was wonderful, but it's also been nice being in a routine the last several weeks. This has been quite a good quarter for me. (We're one and a half weeks away from the end.) I have a music and theology class which is fun; a class about Luther's texts on the Lord's Supper which has been interesting; Pastoral Counseling has introduced me to some topics I previously knew nothing about; a course on baptism approaches the sacrament from a different angle every week which is highly engaging; and I think it's fair to say my preaching has improved with Homiletics II this quarter. Best of all, the workload has been distributed more evenly than in some past quarters which has spared me—and consequently my family—some stress.

We're still doing the usuals: homeschool community for Pamela and the boys, choir for Logan and me, Seminary Women's Association (SWA) for Pamela, Trail Life for the boys and me. We've also added a few things recently. One of the professors started a theological writing workshop this quarter which meets over lunch on Wednesdays. I've attended almost every session

and have found it to be very useful in my academic writing, something I had very little real knowledge of prior to studying here. The same professor also began leading a session for women prior to SWA covering Luther's Small Catechism. Pamela has been attending and comes home every week very excited about what she's learned (or relearned). Logan and Camden have been playing in a basketball league through the YMCA since the beginning of January. I don't think either of their teams have won a game yet, but they're both improving and having a great time.

In January, Zion hosted a church worker appreciation supper. Some members prepared a delicious meal for the pastor, field workers, and spouses, and occupied our children while we had an uninterrupted adult conversation. It was remarkable! My homiletics professor also held a gathering in January. This one was for the class and our families, so it wasn't quite as peaceful, but still fun. We celebrated my birthday last month and Logan's last week. We used a gift card from Christmas to have supper out as a family, Logan had a few friends over one evening for playing, a movie, tacos and cake, and I got my annual birthday cheesecake. All were good. Our other outing for January was an afternoon with some local friends at a quarter mile-long toboggan run at Pokagon State Park in northern Indiana. I'm not one for thrill rides, so I wasn't particularly pumped about sledding down an ice track at 30 mph, but even I had a blast...eventually. Besides that it's been a few playdates, a hike at a nearby nature park, and plenty of time outside as the weather has begun to warm up. Aren't we all looking forward to spring?

I'll end with my first plug for the vicarage placement service which you can watch live on the CTSFW website on April 24 (<https://www.ctsfw.edu/daily-chapel/>). Make your predictions now about where we'll be going. Texas, anyone?



St. Peters Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
Voter's meeting minutes

January 15, 2023

Gale Maas called to order the Voters meeting of St. Peters LCMS at 10:25 am on January 15, 2023 at St. Peters fellowship hall.

Attendance: Gale Maas, Todd Keupp, Dave Beeck, Mark Limmer, Matt Tweet, Mikeal Tammen, Austin Tammen, Terry Reck, Kasey Gehrels, Lee Limmer, Gaylen Backus, Jeff Arneson, Jerry Gehrels, Jon Gehrels, Kory Reck, Eric Mildrandt, Loren Lindholm, Scott Feige, Pastor Welton.

Pastor Welton opened with Devotion and Prayer.

Minutes from last meeting presented by Todd Keupp, approved as read.

Financial Report; Presented by Todd Keupp

Treasurers Report; Presented by Dave Beeck

Motion to approve by Gaylen Backus, second by Jeff Arneson motion carried.

Pastors Report; Presented by Pastor Welton

Elders Report; Presented by Mark Limmer

Motion by Kasey G, 2nd by Kory R, to approve Baptism of Stetson Fedeler. Motion carries.

Motion by Jeff A, 2nd by Kasey G, to approve adult baptism of Josh Bonstead, motion carries.

Motion by Gallen B, 2nd by Scott F to approve transfers in of Dave & Kim Berg, motion carries.

Motion by Kory R, 2nd by Mark L to approve transfer out of Elizabeth Reck, motion carries.

Trustees Report; Presented by Matt Tweet, Waiting for electrician to finish classroom, east door needs repair, drinking fountain downstairs not draining properly and snow next to building needs to be moved **before spring**.

Board of Education Report; Presented by Scott Feige.

Board of Stewardship Report; Presented by Jon Gehrels.

Old Business; none

New Business; We have had someone slip on the ice in front of church. We all need to help with the removal of snow and ice to make the walks as safe as possible.

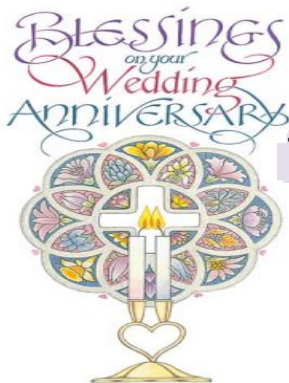
Pastor would like to use \$500-\$600 dollars from the memorial fund to purchase a Crucifix for the fellowship hall. Motion by Kasey G, 2nd by Jeff A to approve \$600.00, motion carries. Gale M and Pastor will choose the new Crucifix.

Motion to adjourn by Gaylen B, 2nd by Jeff A, motion carries.

Closed with the Lords Prayer.

Submitted by Todd Keupp for Dan Alfson

MARCH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Terry & Carole	Feldmann	March 14, 1969
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MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Kayla	Welton	Mar 2, 1986
Josh	Bonstead	Mar 3, 1983
Julie	Delfs	Mar 3, 1968
Louis	Lindholm	Mar 3, 1990

Myranda	Moad	Mar 3, 2001
Ashes	Dean	Mar 4, 1989
Brennex	Feige	Mar 6, 2019
Verl	Uthe	Mar 6, 1938
Joslyn	Baumberger	Mar 10, 2013
Lee	Limmer	Mar 10, 1951
Kayla	Reck	Mar 10, 1991
Paisley	Olinger	Mar 14, 2019
Kasey	Gehrels	Mar 15, 1987
Shirley	Zimmer	Mar 16, 1943
Jane	Rentz	Mar 17, 1940
Mindy	Olinger	Mar 18, 1992
Emily	Breck	Mar 19, 1996
Kolter	Gehrels	Mar 20, 2014
Tarri	Minor	Mar 20, 1962
Eric	Milbrandt	Mar 24, 1994
Mandie	Miller	Mar 25, 1993
Jim	DeVaney	Mar 26, 1952
Brett	Martin	Mar 29, 1993
Janessa	Baumberger	Mar 31, 2015

MARCH BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Liz	Tammen	Mar 1, 1946
Myranda	Moad	Mar 3, 2003
Stacy	Lindholm	Mar 5, 1989
Landen	McManus	Mar 6, 2011

Nathan	Gerry	Mar 9, 2003
Nora	Baumberger	Mar 11, 2018
Tara	McManus	Mar 11, 1982
Lori	Hansen	Mar 14, 1985
Carrol	Olson	Mar 14, 1943
Joslyn	Baumberger	Mar 17, 2013
Ted	Lindholm	Mar 17, 1946
Paisley	Olinger	Mar 17, 2019
Amy	Lindholm	Mar 19, 1967
Kayla	Welton	Mar 23, 1986
Brennex	Feige	Mar 24, 2019
Kasey	Gehrels	Mar 29, 1985
Kolter	Gehrels	Mar 30, 2014
Emily	Breck	Mar 31, 1996



To read the Bible in one year:

SUGGESTED BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

DATE	FIRST READING	SECOND READING
March 1	Isaiah 64:1-9	Numbers 16-18
March 2	Psalms 85	Numbers 19-21
March 3	Psalms 86	Numbers 22-24
March 4	Psalms 87	Numbers 25-27
March 5	Psalms 88	Numbers 28-30
March 6	Psalms 89	Numbers 31-33
March 7	Psalms 90	Numbers 34-36
March 8	Psalms 91	Deuteronomy 1-3
March 9	Psalms 92	Deuteronomy 4-6
March 10	Psalms 93	Deuteronomy 7-9
March 11	Psalms 94	Deuteronomy 10-12
March 12	Psalms 95	Deuteronomy 13-15
March 13	Psalms 96	Deuteronomy 16-18
March 14	Psalms 97	Deuteronomy 19-21
March 15	Psalms 98	Deuteronomy 22-24
March 16	Psalms 99	Deuteronomy 25-27
March 17	Psalms 100	Deuteronomy 28-30
March 18	Psalms 101	Deuteronomy 31-34
March 19	Psalms 102	Luke 1
March 20	Psalms 103	Luke 2-3
March 21	Psalms 104	Luke 4-5
March 22	Psalms 105	Luke 6-7
March 23	Psalms 106	Luke 8-9

March 24	Psalms 107	Luke 10-11
March 25	Psalms 108	Luke 12-13
March 26	Psalms 109	Luke 14-15
March 27	Psalms 110	Luke 16-17
March 28	Psalms 111	Luke 18-19
March 29	Psalms 112	Luke 20-21
March 30	Psalms 113	Luke 22
March 31	Isaiah 64:1-9	Luke 23-24

MARCH 2023

Altar Guild: Jill Martin ~ Kayla Welton ~ Julie Gehrels

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

			1 ~ 4:00 pm ~ Confirmation, Bible History Class, & JR. Bells 6:00 pm ~ Midweek Lent I Service Acolyte: Abigail Eppe Greeters: Verl & Opal Uthe Organist: Shirley Backus 6:30 pm ~ Lent Supper	2	3	4
5 Sunday, February 5 -9:00 am Worship w/ Holy Communion Acolyte: Olerick Welton Greeters: Cindy & Leonard VanPelt Organist: Peggy George Sunday School & Adult Bible Study following service.	6	7	8 ~ 4:00 pm ~ Confirmation, Bible History Class, & JR. Bells 6:00 pm ~ Midweek Lent II Service Acolyte: Rilynn Zillgitt Greeters: Daniel Voy; Mathew Voy; Nathan Voy Organist: Peggy George 6:30 pm ~ Lent Supper	9 7:00 PM ELDER S MEETING	10	11
12 Sunday February 12 -9:00 am Worship w/ Holy Communion Acolyte: Natalie Feige Greeters: Noel & Catherine Wareham Organist: Shirley Backus Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	13 7:00 pm Altar Guild	14	15 ~ 4:00 pm ~ Confirmation, Bible History Class, & JR. Bells 6:00 pm ~ Midweek Lent III Service Acolyte: Jayden Delfs Greeters: Nathan Winesburg Organist: Shirley Backus 6:30 pm ~ Lent Supper	16 Winkle	17	18
19 Sunday February 19 -9:00 am Worship w/ Holy Communion Acolyte: Mackenzie Cacho Greeters: Rick Yager Organist: Shirley Backus Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	20 NEWS LETTER DEAD-LINE	21	22 ~ 4:00 pm ~ Confirmation, Bible History Class, & JR. Bells 6:00 pm ~ Midweek Lent IV Service Acolyte: Abigail Eppe Greeters: Loren & Shirley Zimmer Organist: Peggy George 6:30 pm ~ Lent Supper	23	24	25
26 Sunday February 26 -9:00 am Worship w/ Holy Communion Acolyte: Presley Schneider Greeters: Dan & Misty Alfson Family; Dakota Alfson Organist: Peggy George	27	28	29 ~ 4:00 pm ~ Confirmation, Bible History Class, & JR. Bells 6:00 pm ~ Midweek Lent V Service Acolyte: Rilynn Zillgitt Greeters: Jeff & Marlys Arneson Organist: Peggy George 6:30 pm ~ Lent Supper	30	31	