

St. Peters Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod

JUNE 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.”**



Lost Sheep or Delinquents

The words we choose to use for subjects changes how we think about them and our attitudes towards them. Take the simple difference between how we talk about a car. If we say the car is broken down we see it as junk that something has to be done with. If we say the car is a classic in need of restoring. All of a sudden now the same car just needs some care and elbow grease and before you know it you will be driving it to car shows.

In the church we have people who often are not seen. They are seldom heard from except on a rare occasion or never at all. These people have been baptized and some have been confirmed. Their names are on the records of the congregations, a particular church, which God placed them in to receive spiritual care at a specific altar and by a specific pastor. When they stop coming to the specific altar and pastor two questions arise. First, what do we call them? Second, what do we do with them? The answer to the first will guide the answer to the second.

First, what do we call them? For years the term chosen has been delinquent (synonyms for delinquent: offending, overdue, tardy, unpaid, behind, criminal, derelict, slack, blamable, blameworthy, careless, guilty, lax, negligent, etc.). The term carries with it a stigma which has nothing but negative connotations. It leads us to see these people as a stain on the church which must be cleansed if the church is to be pure. Or we could use biblical language if I may offer a suggestion or two. First, we could use the language of Prodigal sons. Here we have the image of a loving father ready to receive into his arms the son who was lost. Or Lost Sheep. This one is my preferred name as it brings us right to Jesus the Good Shepherd. The one who tells us He goes out to find His sheep even if it is just one who has been lost.

The answer to the second question, what do we do with them, is driven by the answer to the first. On the one hand, if we go with delinquent, then we are driven to try and punish them or to cleanse this offending member from the records of the church. On the other hand, if we go with Lord

Sheep, we see them as those who need to be found and cared for. No longer just to cleanse from the record of the church, but dear fellow sheep who are in need.

It is this second term and action I use for them. We are not dealing with delinquents, but we are caring for lost sheep. We patiently seek them and speak to them. We bring God's message of hope to them. We ask, invite, encourage, and entreat them to return to the altar to receive the Body and Blood. If they return we rejoice with the angels in heaven over this brother or sister who has returned to us.

Only if they refuse to hear any of this, or if they simply tell us they no longer want to receive care from our congregation will we remove them from the records of the church. We are going to try and help them find another LCMS congregation to transfer too. Alas, some simply do not want to transfer, nor do they want the care of a pastor any longer. We respect this wish and release them to themselves.

You can help Pastor and Elders with this task. I am asking each one of you to help with it. Beseeching you for the good of all the members of the church help us. If you know anyone who has not been coming to church, has been absent for more than three Sundays in a row, please go and see them. Call them, mail them a card, reach out to them however you would like. What are you to say? Simple. We miss you and want to know if you are ok. Is there anything the church family can be doing to help you in this time? After you have been talking to them you might ask if there is a reason they are not coming to church. End your conversation with a prayer for them asking God to soften their hearts and return them to His fold in the church.

If they give you a reason do not become upset by it. Simply hear what they are saying. Let them tell you what has been bothering them, or what has happened in their life which has taken them away from church. When they are done talking, and you have asked good open-ended questions (e.g. What has been hard about this for you? What happened? Can you tell me what obstacles you might face in coming back to church, etc.), if possible speak the hope they have in God to overcome these obstacles to coming to church. Stress to them you are there not scold them for not coming to church, but because you care and love them and want them to continue to hear the ongoing love of God.

Finally, I will keep you in my prayers as all of you all start the gracious and hard work of talking to those who you have not seen in church in a while. Please keep me in your prayers as I do the same.

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor

Recognition Sunday

June 4, 2023

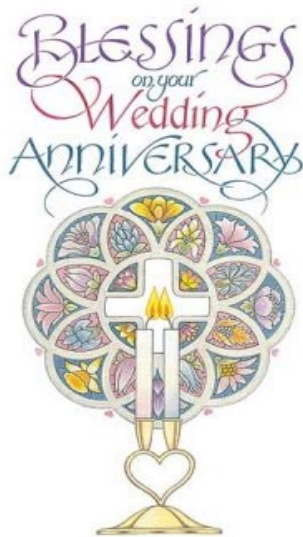
Every year on the first Sunday in June we recognize members starting from May to the following May when our Seniors graduate high school.

We recognize those that have been baptized, transferred in from another LCMS church, Adult and Junior Confirmands, our High School Graduates. We also recognize those that were married in the church.

A light brunch is served, as we enjoy fellowship together.

Please join us on Recognition Sunday

JUNE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Gayle & Shirley	Backus	June 2, 1973
Jason & Meredith	Fischer	June 5, 2004
Brant & Amanda	Klawonn	June 5, 2010
Tom & Arla	Baumberger	June 24, 1972
Shawn & Jill	Martin	June 30, 1984

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Barbara	Crawford	June 3, 1950
Viola	Sorenson	June 4, 1937
Lori	Hansen	June 6, 1958
Jacob	Heidelberger	June 6, 2009
Doris	Limmer	June 6, 1932
Kash	Gehrels	June 8, 2016
Alex	Tammen	June 9, 2000
Carolyn	Lindholm	June 10, 1949
Jackson	Mendel	June 10, 1992
Shirley	Backus	June 15, 1954
Remington	Miller	June 15, 1992
Natalie	Feige	June 16, 2010
Chloe	Schneider	June 17, 2005
June	Olson	June 18, 1944
Gavin	Schneider	June 18, 2007
Korbin	Tweet	June 19, 2017
Dale	Dorow	June 20, 1942
Dakota	Alfson	June 23, 2000
Brad	Minor	June 25, 1956
Scott	Feige	June 27, 1985
David	Berg	June 29, 1961
Helen	Lease	June 30, 1940
Marty	Lusk	June 30, 1972

JUNE BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Mark	Limmer	June 2, 1968
Carol	Feldmann	June 3, 1951
Lisa	Lindholm	June 5, 1988
Maddox	Maas	June 10, 2012
Greg	Teal	June 10, 1962
Kory	Reck	June 12, 1977
Les	Heidelberger III	June 14, 1970
Kash	Gehrels	June 19, 2016
Doris	Limmer	June 19, 1932
Amy	Hemmer	June 20, 1982
Clayton	Klawonn	June 24, 2017
Gavin	Schneider	June 24, 2007
Barbara	Crawford	June 25, 1950
Alex	Tammen	June 25, 2000
Korbin	Tweet	June 25, 2017
Julie	Gehrels	June 26, 1960
Chloe	Schneider	June 26, 2005
Natalie	Feige	June 27, 2010
Viola	Sorenson	June 27, 1937



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

JUNE 2023

Altar Guild: Marlys Arneson ~ Jill Martin ~ Mandie Miller

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Pastor returns from Camp Comeca	2	3
<p>4 Sunday, June 4 -9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Acolyte: Makenzie Cacho Greeters: Julie Delfs; Liz Delfs Organist: Peg George Recognition Sunday!!!!!! Board of Education Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 7:00 pm ~ Youth Group</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 Sunday June 11 -9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Acolyte: Abigail Eppe Greeters: Benjamin Delfs Family; Samuel Delfs Organist: Peg George Adult Bible Study following service. Sunday School Teachers Meeting</p>	<p>12 7:00 pm ~ Altar Guild</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 7:00 pm ~ Youth Group 7:00 pm ~ Elders Meeting</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 Sunday June 18 -9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Acolyte: Olerick Welton Greeters: Jim & Jane DeVaney Organist: Peg George Adult Bible Study following service.</p>	<p>19 NEWS LETTER DEAD-LINE</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 7:00 pm ~ Youth Group</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 Sunday June 25 -9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Acolyte: Rilynn Zillgitt Greeters: Dale & Kathy Dorow Organist: Peg George Adult Bible Study following service</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 7:00 pm ~ Youth Group</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	