

# THE INFORMER



## St. Peter Lutheran Church

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## April 2019

O sacred Head, now wounded, / With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded / With thorns, Thine only crown.  
O sacred Head, what glory, / What bliss till now was Thine!  
Yet, though despised and gory, / I jot to call Thee mine.

The penitential season of Lent continues through the first half of April. Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, marks the start of Holy Week and we gather together on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday to observe the vigil. We then celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

During this time, we remember Jesus' sacrificial obedience to His heavenly Father's will. Jesus willing faces the anger and hatred of the mobs surrounding Him as He also faces our most feared enemy: death itself. The brutality, pain, and suffering He bore was the punishment for sin that we deserved.

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered / Was for the sinners' gain;  
Mine, mine was the transgression / But Thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! / 'Tis I deserve Thy place;  
Look on me with Thine favor, / And grant to me Thy grace.

We look to Jesus' love for us that led Him to bear the horrors of the cross. We look to His mercy that led Him to take upon Himself our sin. We look to His compassion for us that led Him to die in our place. We look to Jesus and, in everything He did, we see our hope and our salvation.

What language shall I borrow / To thank Thee dearest Friend,  
For this Thy dying sorrow, / Thy pity without end?  
O make me Thine forever! / And should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never, / Outlive my love for Thee.

We see our hope and our salvation, because we know that, on the third day, Jesus rose again from the dead. Jesus triumphs, not only over the condemnation of sin, He triumphs over death and the grave! Jesus leads His people through the wilderness of life in this fallen world. More than that, He leads us through the final trial of this life. Jesus leads us through the valley of death itself as He leads each of us safely into His Father's presence.

Be Thou my consolation, / My shield, when I must die;  
Remind me of Thy passion / When my last hour draws nigh.  
Mine eyes shall then behold Thee, / Upon Thy cross shall dwell,  
My heart by faith enfold Thee. / Who dieth thus dies well.





# The Elders' Corner



St. Peter Lutheran Church was established on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 1880. During the many years of this church's existence, our Lord has always been wonderfully gracious in leading His church in the ways it should go.

There have, of course, been many, many changes that have taken place between then and now. These changes have impacted St. Peter's ability to share the changeless truths of the Gospel. But, whether those changes are demographic, societal, political, or otherwise, the timeless reality of our God's love for His creatures still drives the work of His church.

Every member of St. Peter faces this same reality of relentless change: the necessities of providing for oneself and loved ones, the unexpected care needed by one's own or a loved one's health circumstances, competing opportunities which demand more and more time and resources, or many other changes which cannot be foreseen or may not be particularly pleasant. Changes come to us all.

And our church, St. Peter, is not immune from these changes either. Throughout our history, we have operated through a standing committee form of organization. This structure required the members to gather first for a general meeting where everything was discussed. Then, if any activity was to take place, members would need to gather again to plan the specific activity. Finally, the members would provide the hands and resources to carry out that activity.

That structure served well for the decades and generations past, but the time requirements for that structure are heavy and the demands on volunteers are high. In order to decrease the amount of time and to lighten the burden on our active members, new structures are now being considered.

Parish Organization Meetings have begun to be held. These are gatherings of those who are willing and able to be involved. The purpose is to work through the task of reorganizing our operating structure. These Parish Organization Meetings will be held monthly until the task is complete.

This effort is being made so that St. Peter can continue to be an active, vibrant community which honors our God as it serves our neighbors. Please take part in this important work!



## **FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

**April showers bring the flowers that bloom in May, but what do May flowers bring? It has brought rather cool winter/spring weather so far. The up and down weather has taken its toll on the health of our members. Let's hope God decides to be kind to us and warm us up without the storms and bad weather.**

**April is the month of "MUD" and of course we all have our share of it. Mud is a good sign the ground is warming up and the frost is coming out.**

**Oh-No it's time to do yard work and mow that lawn! So gentlemen it is time to change the oil and spark plug, sharpen the blades. PHEW I AM TIRED ALREADY.**

**KEVIN**

## **CEMETERY NEWS**



Please have all wreaths/grave blankets off the graves by April 15th. You can put them on the burn pile but please remove any wire. If the lawn mowers remove these things they charge us extra.



## **Sunday School News**

Our Sunday School children are busy learning about God's love through Bible stories for the young children. They also will be learning about Holy Week. The older children continue to learn the Lord's Prayer and what it means.

We are hoping to sing on Palm Sunday; they sure are working hard on their songs!

Sunday School will end for the summer the week before Memorial Day and that will also be our party day.

In September we will need teachers, the sad news is Sue Gerds is retiring from teaching. She will surely be missed. If you can find it in your heart to help us please see Pastor or Linda Le Lacheur.

A big thank you to Renee' Jones for all of the help this year. She made beautiful books for our teachers with all of the information on the Lord's Prayer. She is always willing to help when ever we need her.

Linda Le Lacheur



The Ladies Aid will not be holding a Rummage Sale this year. If any other group would like to hold the sale there are a few items already in the garage.



## **Flowers on the Altar for April**

April 7	Ray & Marie Maison
April 14	Dan & Cheri Stahl
April 21	Pastor & Debi Hoerr
April 28	Ron & Debbie Anthony



## **Coffee & Doughnut Crew for April**

April 7	Jean Kettel
April 14	Ray & Marie Maison
April 21	Jim & Renee' Jones
April 28	Jim & Laura Neumann



## **Tables, Chairs, & Tent**

If you are interested in barrowing any of these items please check the new calendar on the office door and if available please put your name on the calendar. How many tables and chairs you will be barrowing and if you want one of the tents please put that down also. If you are interested in renting the fellowship hall please see Debbie Labuhn.



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### Join the Construction Gang

**A good thing to remember, a better thing to do; work with the construction gang, not the wrecking crew! An investment in Church Extension Fund will make you a member of the construction gang. Come and join today! For more information contact Paul Willis or call 1-800-242-3944.**



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# Voters' Assembly News

The new constitution and bylaws are now in effect. The voters' approved the new documents on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Approval from The Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was received on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The new documents then received their final presentation to the voters' assembly and were enacted by the voters' assembly on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

One of the provisions of the new constitution is that, in order to be a voting member of the congregation, a person must be a confirmed member, must attend a voters' meeting and request membership there, and must sign the new constitution indicating the member's pledge of support and agreement with all the articles these documents contain.

See Pastor if you have not yet received a copy of the new constitution and bylaws and would like one. You may also sign the document at that if you wish.

Thanks again to everyone who took part in the Constitutional Review Group!



# Choir News

Our St. Peter Choir has been busy through this season of Lent. Several of our members continue to help our brothers and sisters at First Lutheran in Algonac add beauty to the midweek services by joining them and singing at the 4:00 pm service each Wednesday.

Due to several unexpected health problems and a few scheduling difficulties, our choir has had to revise the plans for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. These services, both at First in Algonac and St. Peter here in Fair Haven, will follow a more traditional order of service than original contemplated. Never fear, however, because your choir will still be adding their harmonious offerings at both of those services!

Our St. Peter Choir practices each Thursday evening at 6:30 pm. If you enjoy singing, don't hesitate to join us!



## A Schedule for Reading the Bible in 12 Months ~ April

Day	Old Testament	New Testament
1 <sup>st</sup>	Judges 13, 14, & 15	Luke 6:27-49
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jud 16, 17, & 18	Luke 7:1-30
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jud 19, 20, & 21	Luke 7:31-50
4 <sup>th</sup>	Ruth 1, 2, 3, & 4	Luke 8:1-25
5 <sup>th</sup>	1 Samuel 1, 2, & 3	Luke 8:26-56
6 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 4, 5, & 6	Luke 9:1-17
7 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 7, 8, & 9	Luke 9:18-36
8 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 10, 11, & 12	Luke 9:37-62
9 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 13 & 14	Luke 10:1-24
10 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 15 & 16	Luke 10:25-42
11 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 17 & 18	Luke 11:1-28
12 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 19, 20, & 21	Luke 11:29-54
13 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 22, 23, & 24	Luke 12:1-31
14 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 25 & 26	Luke 12:32-59
15 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 27, 28, & 29	Luke 13:1-22
16 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam 30 & 31	Luke 13:23-35
17 <sup>th</sup>	2 Samuel 1 & 2	Luke 14:1-24
18 <sup>th</sup>	2 Sam 3, 4, & 5	Luke 14:25-35
19 <sup>th</sup>	2 Sam 6, 7, & 8	Luke 15:1-10
20 <sup>th</sup>	2 Sam 9, 10, & 11	Luke 15:11-32
21 <sup>st</sup>	2 Sam 12 & 13	Luke 16
22 <sup>nd</sup>	2 Sam 14 & 15	Luke 17:1-19
23 <sup>rd</sup>	2 Sam 16, 17, & 18	Luke 17:20-37
24 <sup>th</sup>	2 Sam 19 & 20	Luke 18:1-23
25 <sup>th</sup>	2 Sam 21 & 22	Luke 18:24-43
26 <sup>th</sup>	2 Sam 23 & 24	Luke 19:1-27
27 <sup>th</sup>	1 Kings 1 & 2	Luke 19:28-48
28 <sup>th</sup>	1 Kings 3, 4, & 5	Luke 20:1-26
29 <sup>th</sup>	1 Kings 6 & 7	Luke 20:27-47
30 <sup>th</sup>	1 Kings 8 & 9	Luke 21:1-19



# LOOKING AHEAD

**“The church has only one divinely-assigned task: to build herself up in faith and love, embracing more and more of fallen humanity, to the praise and glory of God, by and for the transmission of forgiveness, life, and salvation through the Holy Gospel and the Sacraments of Christ.”**

The first Parish Organizational Meeting took place during the last week of March. To better continue the work of our God’s Church here at St. Peter, several leaders of our congregation’s groups and committees have suggested that we look at the structure we have been using and consider other structures which would allow us to accomplish the same or more with fewer people and resources than we have had available in the past.

In beginning this work, parish leaders and members considered the Bible’s witness concerning the church. The above quote succinctly summarizes the Scripture’s description of the work the church is to be doing.

We, the church, love and care for each other as we build the church up in faith and love. We evangelize, meaning that we share the good news of salvation with those around us; we share God’s loving grace as we live the lives we’ve been given. We live our lives to the glory of our God, meaning we confess His goodness and we openly speak of His forgiveness and mercy. We live in repentance and forgiveness as we receive and share our Savior’s means of grace: His holy Word and His miraculous Sacraments.

The group began their work by listing the activities that take place at St. Peter Lutheran Church. Once that list of activities and responsibilities is compiled, the group will start considering how each fits within the above description of the church and how each activity can best be managed and carried out for the betterment and blessing of our congregation.