

# THE INFORMER



## St. Peter Lutheran Church

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## May 2022

Lord, help us walk Your servant way  
Wherever love may lead  
And bending low, forgetting self,  
Each serve the other's need.

Jesus is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The entire month of May falls within the Time of Easter this year. The Festival of the Resurrection of Our Lord took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April and this Time of Easter continues until the Festival of Pentecost, which is on June 5<sup>th</sup> this year.

As we consider the Time of Easter, we consider Jesus' life, His death, and His resurrection from the dead. We rejoice in His victory over the power of sin as we see Jesus establish His Church through the work of the Apostles. And, in seeing Jesus, we see the life our heavenly Father desires for all His creatures. A life of selfless love shared with one another in self-forgetful joy.

You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord,  
But pow'r You laid aside.  
You lived Your years in servanthood;  
In lowliness You died.

Jesus' birth in Bethlehem brings almighty God into our sin-sickened world. A true human being, Jesus lives as our God created all human beings to live: in faith toward His heavenly Father and in loving care for others. The true and only example of righteousness in humanity, Jesus illustrates the Father's will for all His people.

No golden scepter but a towel

You place within the hands  
Of those who seek to follow You  
And live by Your commands.

And Jesus wins the victory. But unlike any other victor, Jesus does not demand that He be served. Instead, Jesus meets with His followers and serves them. Jesus' commandment, that we love one another as He loves us, sets the standard for our behavior. As Jesus gave Himself for others, so too do we give ourselves for others.

You bid us bend our human pride  
Nor count ourselves above  
The lowest place, the meanest task  
That waits the gift of love.

And we are here to do just that. We're called to live a revolutionary lifestyle in the midst of this lost, confused, and dying world. We are here to live selflessly in the midst of people drowning in their own selfishness. We are here to live humbly in the midst of this world's pride. We are here to live joyfully in the midst of the sadness that permeates this life. We are here to live hopefully in the midst of this world's lostness. We are here to live as light: shining the light of God's love through our thoughts, our words, and our actions. Let that light shine!

Lord, help us walk Your servant way  
Wherever love may lead  
And bending low, forgetting self,  
Each serve the other's need.



## The Word from the Chairman!



May is here and May has two important dates that we should celebrate. The first one, of course, is Mother's Day. Mother's Day is celebrated on May 8<sup>th</sup> this year. We are blessed with a lot of Mothers in our congregation and we celebrate the love and care they always give to their families. I know many of us have lost

our Mothers, but even in that, it is still a great time to remember all the good memories that we hold dear.

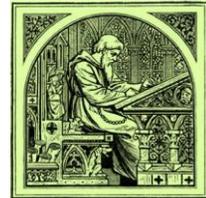
The other Holiday in May is at the end of the month and that is Memorial Day. Memorial Day is May 30<sup>th</sup> this year. That's the day we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice or are MIA for their country. We honor their sacrifice as we rejoice in the freedom they defended for us.

Memorial Day is also the "official" beginning of our summer season here in Michigan. Our snowbirds are returning and we'll be seeing more and more vacationers around our communities. The weather may even be warmer by then! Memorial Day is so much more than a day to think of the all the sales that use the Memorial Day holiday as a sales pitch. Let's remember the reason for this great holiday!

Kevin



## The Elders' Corner



**Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.**

**~ Ephesians 5:15 & 16**

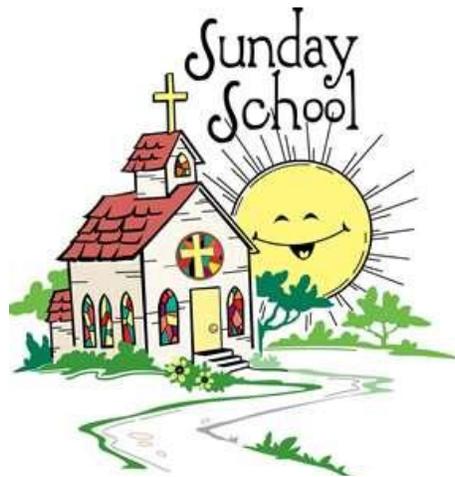
These verses speak to us about paying attention to how we walk. These verses point out that there are both wise ways to walk, and unwise ways to walk. 'Walk' in this case, refers to the manner of life we choose to live. So the Holy Spirit, writing through the pen of the Apostle Paul, is warning Christians... warning us... to be careful about the manner of life we choose to live.

Why does the Holy Spirit feel it necessary to warn us about that? He feels it necessary because the days in which we live are evil. That means we live in evil times. We live in times where temptations to evil are all around us. Times where the right things to do are often harder than the wrong things to do. Times where it's much easier to keep our attention focused on our own interests and pleasures and concerns than it is lift up our eyes and allow Jesus to use us as His hands, His voice, and His heart.

According to the Holy Spirit, when we live with our attention focused on our own interests, pleasures, and concerns, we are living unwisely. When we live with our eyes fixed on Jesus, with our attention focused on Him, we are living wisely.

As children of God, we're called to live wisely: to use the time our heavenly Father has given each of us for His purposes. By living with that focus, we make the best use of the time we've been given for this life and we find ourselves walking with Jesus throughout our days!

## *Christian Education News*

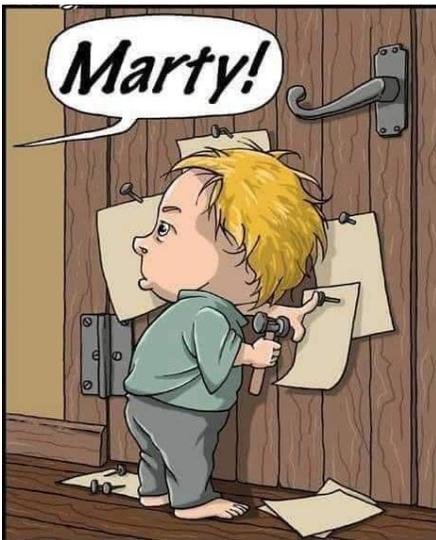


*Our Sunday School classes continue as we head toward summer! Our last day of Sunday School will be Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be celebrating the close of the Sunday School season so please bring your Sunday School children to join in that celebration!*

*Another huge "thank you" to everyone who donated snacks, juices, and water for the Sunday School this year! You all are a wonderful blessing to our program here at St. Peter!*



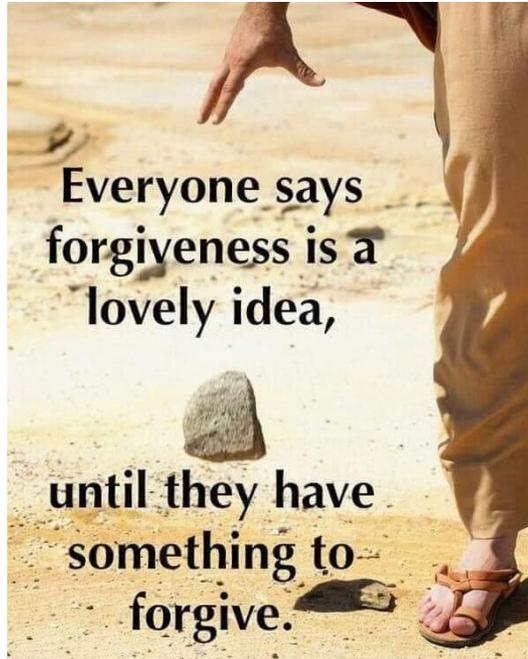
## ***Lutheran Funnies***



**EVERYONE NEEDS A  
FRIEND WHO THEY  
PROBABLY SHOULDN'T  
BE ALLOWED TO SIT  
NEXT TO AT A  
SERIOUS FUNCTION.**



Grace is when God gives  
us good things that  
we don't deserve.  
Mercy is when He spares us  
from bad things we deserve.  
Blessings are when He is  
generous with both.  
Truly, we can never run out  
of reasons to thank Him.  
God is Good All The Time!



Everyone says  
forgiveness is a  
lovely idea,  
until they have  
something to  
forgive.

### **A Schedule for Reading the Bible in 12 Months ~ May**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Old Testament</b>	<b>New Testament</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	1 Kings 10 & 11	Luke 21:20-38
2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 Kings 12 & 13	Luke 22:1-20
3 <sup>rd</sup>	1 Kings 14 & 15	Luke 22:21-46
4 <sup>th</sup>	1 Kings 16, 17, & 18	Luke 22:47-71
5 <sup>th</sup>	1 Kings 19 & 20	Luke 23:1-25
6 <sup>th</sup>	1 Kings 21 & 22	Luke 23: 26-56
7 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 1, 2, & 3	Luke 24:1-35
8 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 4, 5, & 6	Luke 24:36-53
9 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 7, 8, & 9	John 1:1-28
10 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 10, 11, & 12	John 1:29-51
11 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 13 & 14	John 2
12 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 15 & 16	John 3:1-18
13 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 17 & 18	John 3:19-38
14 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 19, 20, & 21	John 4:1-30
15 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 22 & 23	John 4:31-54
16 <sup>th</sup>	2 Kings 24 & 25	John 5:1-24
17 <sup>th</sup>	1 Chronicles 1, 2, & 3	John 5:25-47

18 <sup>th</sup>	1 Chr 4, 5, & 6	John 6:1-21
19 <sup>th</sup>	1 Chr 7, 8, & 9	John 6:22-44
20 <sup>th</sup>	1 Chr 10, 11, & 12	John 6:45-71
21 <sup>st</sup>	1 Chr 13, 14, & 15	John 7:1-27
22 <sup>nd</sup>	1 Chr 16, 17, & 18	John 7:28-53
23 <sup>rd</sup>	1 Chr 19, 20, & 21	John 8:1-27
24 <sup>th</sup>	1 Chr 22, 23, & 24	John 8:28-59
25 <sup>th</sup>	1 Chr 25, 26, & 27	John 9:1-23
26 <sup>th</sup>	1 Chr 28 & 29	John 9:24-41
27 <sup>th</sup>	2 Chronicles 1, 2, & 3	John 10:1-23
28 <sup>th</sup>	2 Chr 4, 5, & 6	John 10:24-42
29 <sup>th</sup>	2 Chr 7, 8, & 9	John 11:1-29
30 <sup>th</sup>	2 Chr 10, 11, & 12	John 11:30-57
31 <sup>st</sup>	2 Chr 13 & 14	John 12:1-26



## LOOKING AHEAD



As Christians, we sometimes think that we need preparation before we can speak about our Savior, Jesus. Sometimes, in fact, we can even become frightened by the prospect of sharing our faith with others.

These all-too-common stumbling blocks are really just figments of our imaginations. Jesus has not called any of us to take up the responsibility for the outcome of our efforts to witness for Him. Instead, Jesus simply goes with us as we live out the lives our heavenly Father has given to each of us. As we go about our lives, the Holy Spirit is intimately involved in creating opportunities for us to share the faith.

Both the opportunity and the outcome are in our Savior's hands: we "unexpectedly" run into someone and the conversation "somehow" turns more personal and the Holy Spirit incites faith as we share what He brings to our minds at that moment. Whether the conversation becomes an invitation to

attend church or simply brings comfort and furthers a friendship, the outcome is the Holy Spirit's to bring about.

It's very important to realize that our heavenly Father has called us to be His people and to spread the light of His love throughout this darkened world. We ought always bear in mind that the Holy Spirit is constantly bringing these opportunities before us. We are called to open our mouths as the Holy Spirit leads.

The great comfort for us is that the results of these interactions, and even the words we speak within these interactions, are guided by the Holy Spirit who has promised to be with us and to bring about our heavenly Father's good pleasure through us. Let's remember we're on a mission with Jesus and be aware of the Holy Spirit's leading as we go about our day-by-day lives!