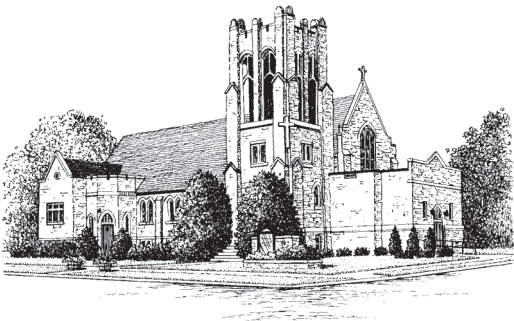




Saint Peter's Lutheran Church
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ST. PETER'S NET

FEBRUARY 2011

The Making of a Christian

This month I offer you a bit of advice from Martin Luther. The Readings in worship from the Gospel according to St. Matthew in the month of February come from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Jesus' famous Sermon, however, is not a set of rules for Christian living. His Sermon speaks of the life that any Christian has in fellowship with Jesus. It is a paradoxical life—at the same time filled with both joy and trouble—as Jesus Himself is shaped by the trouble of His cross together with the joy of His resurrection.

Luther suggests that as we listen to our Lord's words, there are three things that shape us: prayer (*oratio*), meditation (*meditatio*), and affliction (*tentatio*). The Reformer wrote:

"First, you should know that the Holy Scriptures constitute a book that turns the wisdom of all other books into foolishness, because not another book teaches about eternal life except this one alone. ...kneel down in your room and pray to God with real humility and earnestness, that He through His dear Son may give you His Holy Spirit, who will enlighten you, lead you, and give you understanding.

"Second, you should meditate on God's Word not only in your heart, but also externally, by actually repeating aloud the words of the Book, reading and rereading them with diligent attention and reflection, so you may see what the Holy Spirit

means by them. Take care you do not grow weary or think you have done enough when you have read, heard, and spoken them once or twice, and that you then have complete understanding....

"Third, there is affliction. This is the touchstone that teaches you not only to know and understand God's Word, but also to experience how right, how true, how sweet, how lovely, how mighty, and how comforting God's Word is, wisdom beyond all wisdom. David, in Psalm 119, complains often about all kinds of enemies, arrogant princes or tyrants, false spirits and factions, whom he must tolerate because he meditates, that is, because he is occupied with God's Word in all manner of ways. For as soon as God's Word takes root and grows in you, the Devil will harass you and will make a real Christian of you, for by his assaults he will teach you to seek and love God's Word." [Martin Luther, *How to Study Theology*]

In other words, when Jesus speaks to us through His Sermon on the Mount, He is not giving us a higher level of spiritual living; ideals toward which we ought to strive. Our Lord is shaping our will, our very lives, by His Words; by His Words and also by our own experiences of faith wrestling with His Words. Jesus does not let His hearers go away picking and choosing those portions of His Sermon that we may find helpful.

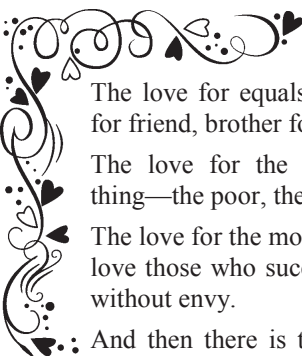


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By means of the parable which ends the Sermon on the Mount, the parable of the two houses, one built on the sand and the other built on the rock, Jesus speaks His Words into our ears, and then sends us into the storms that will test whether we cling to His Words or to our own understandings.

As Luther said, that is the Christian life. The Word with the afflictions that always accompany the Word, which have us cry out in prayer to be comforted by the Word, and then back into the storms, and round and round it goes. But for the Christian we do not grow dizzy. For no storm can shatter the union we have with Christ, which His Word has created in us.

Pastor Hendrickson



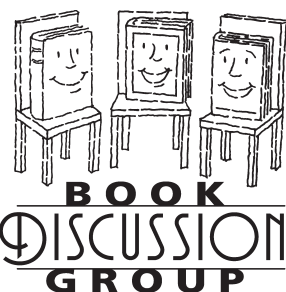
The love for equals is a human thing—of friend for friend, brother for brother.

The love for the less fortunate is a beautiful thing—the poor, the sick, the failures.

The love for the more fortunate is a rare thing—to love those who succeed where we fail, to rejoice without envy.

And then there is the love for the enemy—love for one who does not love you but mocks, threatens and inflicts pain. This is God's love. It conquers the world.

— Frederick Buechner



UNDERSTANDING YOUR TEEN

Join other parents to read and discuss fiction books written for young teens (12-year-olds to 15-year-olds) that can help you learn about issues teens encounter in their lives.

When: The group will meet on the following Thursdays:
February 3 & 24, and March 17 & 31

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Place: Columbus Public Library

UW-Extension, in partnership with the public libraries in Columbus and Portage, is offering a free "Understanding Your Teen: Book Discussion Group." Participants will read and discuss three different fiction books written for 12-15-year olds. Each book was chosen because it brings out different issues that are commonly faced by youth and because it was an engaging read. Patti Herman, UW-Extension Family Living Educator, and Karen Nelson, UW-Extension 4-H/Youth Development Educator will be facilitating the book discussions. Books will be available for you to borrow.

There is no cost to participate but pre-registration is required by January 28th. Class is limited to the first twelve registrants. To register or for more information contact Patti at UW-Extension, 608-742-9686 or <patti.herman@ces.uwex.edu>.

Watch for more information on session dates for Portage Public Library coming soon.

Dear Saints of St. Peter's,



Since moving up here to what has been for us (having gotten used to St. Louis winters) "the frozen tundra," one of the biggest tasks that Leah, Owen, and I have faced is learning where to go in the community for things we need. Whether it be a place to get our car fixed, somewhere to buy a snow shovel, or just where to find the best donuts in the area, we never knew quite where to start looking. And in those times, we turned to our generation's Oracle at Delphi, google.com, and found that the answers are Johnson's Auto Sales (we drive a GM), Koltos Lumber in Lodi, and Weber's Bakery, respectively.

We also realized that if we had come to the community under different circumstances, this is most likely how we would have found a church.

The use of technology goes deeper than this. The digital-world is not simply a place that people go to have their questions answered, it is where ever-increasing amounts of our lives are lived and our interactions occur. In an article in Concordia University, Nebraska's journal, *Issues In Christian Education*, professors Dr. Michael Uden, and Dr. Bernard Bull ask readers to imagine this situation:

Imagine walking into a room full of people who all speak Spanish, and you do not. Your mission is to build relationships and to nurture the faith of these people. How do you do it? Each person reading the article may suggest different action steps, but learning the language of the people and learning about their lives would likely be near the top of all lists.... Now let's modify the example. Instead of walking into a room where everyone speaks Spanish, imagine that it is a room full of native English speakers who have grown up in a digital world, rich with 24/7 connectivity, the ability to connect with people around the world, and access to more information (both reliable and unreliable) than they could possibly consume in a dozen lifetimes.... Ministry to this group is also predicated upon learning the "language". (Uden, and Bull 23-24)



In order to reach out to our community, the church's online presence must be a place where answers to basic questions (such as "when" and "where") are answered, and also a place where we as Christians speak (or are at least learning) the language of the surrounding community.

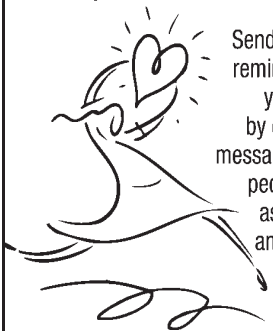
We've been hard at work over the last few weeks, redesigning stpetersarlington.org, our congregation's online presence, to be able to do these things. The site will continue to provide the "when" and "where" answers to those looking for a church (as well as being the place to go when the paper newsletter is eaten by the dog), but we hope it will also become a place that can spark new thoughts, foster ongoing discussions, and provide those outside the church with a look at what life is like at St. Peter's. The new site will feature news and updates, blog-posts, devotional helps, the occasional YouTube video, as well as opportunities to connect and share through Facebook.

In the weeks to come, get on, check it, and let us know what you like, what you don't, and what you might like to see more of, as we learn to communicate the Gospel in the online world.

In Christ, *Vicar Sherman*

References: Uden, Michael, and Bernard Bull. "Is it OK to Be a Technologically Illiterate Teacher of the Faith?" 'No!.' *Issues in Christian Education*. 44.1 (2010): 22-29.

PIECES OF LOVE



Send special reminders of your love by creating messages that people can assemble and enjoy.

What you need:

- Large wooden craft sticks
- Tape
- Permanent markers
- Scissors
- Zippered sandwich baggies

What you do:

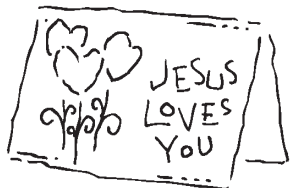
1. Make a rectangle out of seven craft sticks by placing them next to one another, long side against long side.
2. Tape the sticks together.
3. Turn the sticks over and draw a special picture or message. You can include this Bible verse: "We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19, NIV).
4. Cut through the tape to separate each craft stick.
5. Put all the sticks in a baggie.
6. Give your special messages to family members, friends or teachers — along with directions for viewing them.



Make tray favors for a local hospital, nursing home, nutrition project or home-delivered meal program.

You will need for each:

- white, unlined index cards (4"x6")
- red & pink construction paper
- markers — green, black
- glue or glue stick



- ♥ Fold card in half
- ♥ Cut 3 hearts from colored paper. Make them about 1 inch high.
- ♥ Glue the hearts on the left side, overlap a little.
- ♥ Use marker to make "stems" from the hearts — they'll look like a bouquet of flowers.
- ♥ On the right side print a message or a verse, such as "Jesus Loves You."

HOUSE OF THRIFT NEWS

Clothes are tagged each month with a different color tag. After they have been on the rack for a couple months, they go on sale, first at half price for two weeks and then for \$1.00. Each month the color tag on sale changes.



The store is located at 201 Cottage Grove Rd (just off Monona Dr). It is open 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and Noon-6:00 p.m. on Mondays. The phone number is 223-1228. Donations are welcome during these hours.

Members of St. Peter's work on the first Friday (Feb 4th) and the third Wednesday (Feb 16th) of each month. Please call Alice Hanson if you have any questions or would like to become part of the *House of Thrift* team. **Thank you!**

St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool

Accredited by NAEYC

By Connie Hendrickson, Director

You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:26

A Valentine to you written by the children of our St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool!

- V** Value each other
A Always show compassion
L Love one another
E Energize one another
N Notice each other
T Trust one another
I Initiate laughter
N Nonjudgmental
E Extend understanding
D Depend on each other
A Add more time for each other
Y You, me and Jesus forever! Amen



Katy Hanousek, children's librarian for Poynette Public Library, leads story time for the attendees at St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool.



Please check the Lost & Found Box on top of the coat rack in the narthex if you are missing any items. We have accumulated a nice array of misplaced items over the last several months! Also check the kitchen counters upstairs and down for cookie containers!



COUNCIL NOTES – January 11, 2011

The January 11, 2011 St. Peter's Council Meeting was called to order by President Tim Witt, at 6:30 P. M. Members present were Greg Frank, Steven Hustad, Greg Latzig, Verna Mueller, Steve Paskey, John Penschorn, Sandra Sandstrom, Mark Schoeckert, Bill Steffenhagen, Lynnette Taylor, Mary Taylor, Cynthia Thurston, Corinne Tuschl, Mark Witt, Tim Witt, Brad Zimmerman, Pastor Hendrickson, Vicar Sherman. Tom Crum, Mark Manke, Joseph Pingel, and Michael Post were excused.

Devotions from the Book of Job were given by Pastor, followed by prayer.

The **agenda** was presented and read. Bill Steffenhagen moved to accept the agenda, and John Penschorn seconded. The Motion carried.

The **minutes** were presented and read. No additions or corrections were made. Greg Frank moved to accept the report. Mark Schoeckert seconded, and the motion carried.

The **treasurer's report** was presented. Cynthia Thurston explained several expenses and issues. Steve Paskey moved to accept, and Sandy Sandstrom seconded, motion carried.

The **Board of Elder's report** was given by Greg Latzig. There was discussion of classes for computer web design, secretarial workshops etc. which may be attended by Church Secretary, Lynnette Taylor. The council will decide compensation at the time that a decision is made to attend a class or workshop. In the Vicar's report he stated that he enjoyed the Church activities during the Christmas season. He is trying to implement a youth Bible class, and working on an Evangelism project that will include some type of community involvement and on internet communications. He thanks everyone for the great Christmas goodies and gifts. There was some discussion of the endowment funds monies and their use. Mark Schoeckert moved to approve the report. Steve Hustad seconded; motion carried.

John Penschorn gave the **Trustee's report**. The ceiling repair in the chapel entrance is finished, and the trees removed. Even though his term on the council as a trustee will be finished, he would like to continue working on a couple of projects he has begun: vicarage and the tax roles; finishing the organ project, and handling the elevator bill. Greg Frank moved to accept, and Lynnette Taylor seconded. The motion carried.

The **Board of Christian Education report** was given by Lynnette Taylor. She stated the CCC enrollment is down to 28. Due to this a decision has been made to eliminate two part time positions currently held by one teacher: part-time cook and teacher's helper. Starting January 17th story-time has been added to the Day Care program. The Bible classes are moving along. There will be a CCC bake sale February 13. Steve Paskey moved to accept, and Mark Schoeckert seconded. The motion carried.

The **Pastor's report** included his and his family's thanks for the Christmas gifts received and for all the seasonal help. With the long Epiphany season coming up Pastor is planning various activities. Pastor stated now is the time to think about starting the process for getting a Vicar for 2011-2012. A motion was made to pursue a vicarage position for next year by John Penschorn. It was seconded by Sandy Sandstrom, and carried. Pastor stated the CAT Trio will perform sometime during the Epiphany season, and the choir will perform *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Greg Frank moved to accept the report. Verna Mueller sec-

onded, and the motion carried.

Membership changes include adding Tom and Kris Daugherty from *Zion Lutheran Church (WELS)*, South Leeds, and Delores Hanson from *Zion Lutheran Church (WELS)*, South Leeds.

There were no removals. Steve

Paskey motioned to accept membership changes and have these changes ratified at the Annual Voters' Meeting. Bill Steffenhagen seconded, and the motion carried.

Under **old business** the organ update was given by Bill Steffenhagen. The building of the organ console has begun. Because of the generosity of donations we are now able to add four new items to the organ. These include an additional keyboard, another crescendo, a fourth memory board, and will be able to add an antiphonal. Preliminary work on voicing the pipes and repairing other parts of the organ has been completed.

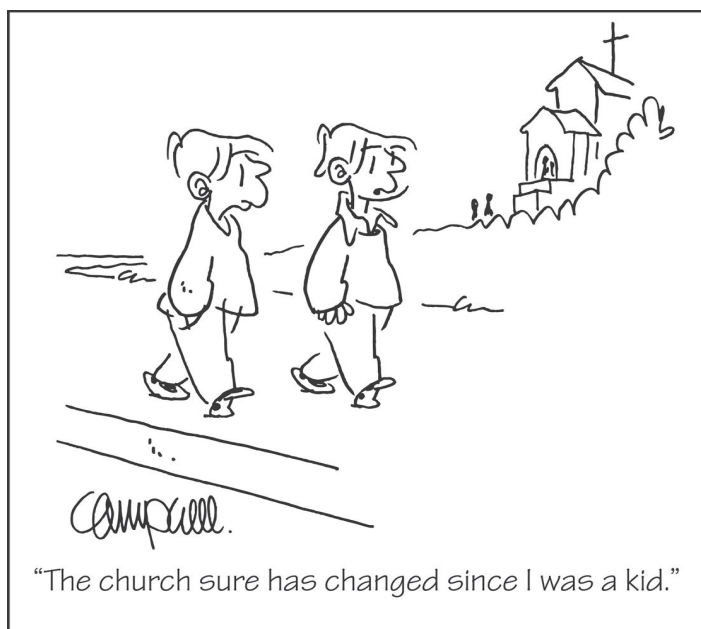
The **budget committee**, consisting of Corinne Tuschl, Lynnette Taylor, Steve Paskey, Cynthia Thurston, and Mark Witt has completed the budget for 2011. Mark Witt explained each line item. Bill Steffenhagen moved to present the budget to the congregation at the annual voters meeting on January 31, at 1:00 p.m. John Penschorn seconded and the motion carried.

The **nominating committee** has nominated Bill Steffenhagen to replace Tim Witt as *Council President*; Marvin Manke, Glenn Puntney, Mark Manke, Greg Frank, *Elder*; Shannon Rohrbeck, Keith Podoll, *Trustee*; Lynnette Taylor, *Board of Christian Education*; Lisa Hagenow, Barb Reddeman, *Endowment Committee*. Steve Paskey moved to accept the nominating committee report. Mark Witt seconded and the motion carried.

Under new business as voted on in December the Annual Voters meeting will be held on January 31, 2011 at 1:00 P.M.

The Lord's Prayer was said. Sandy Sandstrom moved to adjourn, and Greg Frank seconded. The motion carried.

~Mary Taylor, *Secretary*






**FINANCIAL REPORT
CURRENT EXPENSE FUND:**



Balance on December 31, 2010.....\$4,303.00
 Receipts for Jan (est).....\$13,829.00
 Expenses for Jan..... (\$17,919.00)
 Shortage/Overage..... \$213.00

**Organ Fund (Goal: \$125,000): Pledge Amount: \$114,010.25
 Current Total Collected: \$66,104.82**

REPAIR PROJECTS: \$27,675.00 owed on the repair projects. See the poster in the narthex for each project breakdown as well as pictures detailing the repairs or replacements that we have completed over the past year.



A Love Letter

In the New Testament, John writes a letter about God's love and the love we should show to other people.

DIRECTIONS: Working from left to right, write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's. Then read about love, from 1 John 4:11-12, NIV.

lives 3	in 3	us 3	Since 1	and 3	God 1	so 1	loved 1	his 3
us 1	love 3	we 1	If 2	also 1	is 3	made 3	we 2	ought 1
to 1	love 2	love 1	one 1	complete 3	one 2	another 1	in 3	us 3
another 2	God 2							

1 John 4:11-12, NIV

Answers: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.



Elders

Feb 3	6:30 p.m.	Mark Witt
Feb 6	8:00 a.m.	Glenn Puntney & Steve Hustad
	10:30 a.m.	Mark Schoeckert & Mark Witt
Feb 10	6:30 p.m.	Mark Manke
Feb 13	8:00 a.m.	Glenn Puntney
	10:30 a.m.	Steve Hustad
Feb 17	6:30 p.m.	Mark Schoeckert
Feb 20	8:00 a.m.	Marvin Manke & Greg Frank
	10:30 a.m.	Steve Paskey & Tom Crum
Feb 24	6:30 p.m.	Mark Manke
Feb 27	8:00 a.m.	Marvin Manke
	10:30 a.m.	Tom Crum



February 6 & 13

Early

Mark Witt, Chr. (635-4673)
 Wade Senft
 George Schoeneberg
 Travis Witt
 John Frank
 Jeff Rowe

Late

Tyson Miller (635-8504)
 Mitch Fait
 Mark Schoeckert
 Mitch Schoeckert
 Mike Hendrickson
 Shannon Rohrbeck

February 20 & 27

Philip Hanson, Chr
 (635-2244)
 Randy Schuster
 David Caldwell
 Mark Hirssig
 Robert Rittmeyer
 Buck Woodward
 Justin Reddeman
 Ty Woodward

Robert Caldwell, Chr.
 (635-4225)
 Jerran Hanson
 James Dobratz
 Bob Hagenow
 Tait Halverson
 Al Stoltzenberg

Have a Heart! Give Blood!

Almost everyone is touched by the need for blood at some time, but the supply is not keeping up with the demand. The Red Cross is urging new blood donors to come forward, and current blood donors to give more often.

Give thanks to God for your good health by donating blood. Your contribution of a little time and a pint of blood could make a lifetime of difference to a patient in need.

Three opportunities coming up this month are:

Monday, February 14, at DeForest High School, DeForest
 Tuesday, February 15, at Kids First Childcare Center, Poynette
 Friday, February 25, at First Presbyterian Church, Waunakee

You may call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit <www.redcrossblood.org> to schedule an appointment.

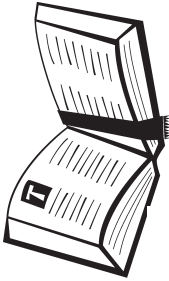




**FEBRUARY
ALTAR GUILD**

635-4825
 Barb Reddeman
 Connie Hendrickson



CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
Epiphany 5 6 8:00 AM HC Service 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM HC Service	7	8 6:00 PM Bd of Ed 6:30 PM Council 7:30 PM Elders	9 4:00 PM Midweek Winter Outing 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	10 6:30 PM Contemporary Service	11 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	12 Lincoln's Birthday
Epiphany 6 13 8:00 AM Divine Service 8:00 AM Lower Gr Sing 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 9:15 AM BP Screening 10:30 AM Divine Service Child Care Bake Sale	14 St. Valentine's Day	15	16 9:00 AM <i>Thrifty Store</i> 4:00 PM Midweek 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	17 6:30 PM HC Service	18 Martin Luther, Reformer 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	19 11:30 AM Private Confession
Epiphany 7 20 8:00 AM HC Service 8:00 AM Upper Gr Sing 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM HC Service	21 	22 Washington's Birthday	23 4:00 PM Midweek 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	24 St. Matthias, Apostle 6:30 PM Contemporary Service	25 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	26
Epiphany 8 27 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service	28					

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
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