

Saint Peter's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 45
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# **CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**





# ST. PETER'S NET

# FEBRUARY 2013

# Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Recently our Sunday morning Bible class had the opportunity to read the book of the prophet Habakkuk. (Have you ever read it? It's lodged between Nahum and Zephaniah in the Old Testament.)

The prophet sounds a lot like Job. Habakkuk complains to God about the state of the world. But more than this, he also lodges a complaint against God for not doing something about the world's messy condition! "How long, O Lord, must I call for help, but You do not answer? Or cry out to You, 'Violence!' but You do not save? Why do You make me look at injustice? Why do You tolerate wrong?" [Hab. 1:2-3]

Habakkuk's complaint is incredibly contemporary.

And its very contemporary sound betrays how much we have forgotten about the cross of Jesus. Of all the places to search for God, the last place most people would think to look is at an execution. Martin Luther confessed that there, in the shadows cast by death, God does indeed meet His straying, rebellious human creatures. There God reveals who He is; there He reveals who they, His people, are. Not in flight beyond the clouds, but in the dust of the grave God has come to tell it like it is about Himself and about humanity.

Martin Luther called the person who has come to see God through the cross of Jesus a "theologian of the cross." The opposite to this is what Luther calls the "theologian of glory." What does this mean?

Theologians of glory operate on the assumption that what we need is optimistic encouragement, some flattery, some positive thinking, some support to build our self-esteem. This works on the assumption that we human beings are not seri-

ously sinful, and that all we need is a little improvement, a little boost to do better. As the late Lutheran theologian Gerhard Forde once put it, "in short a theologian of glory sees the cross as a means to an end rather than the end itself. He/she is interested in progression to glory as opposed to death and resurrection."

Theologians of the cross (and remember that for Luther every Christian is a theologian, either of glory or of the cross!) operate on the assumption that we can't be helped by optimistic appeals to glory, strength, wisdom, positive thinking, and so forth, because those things are,

in fact, the problem. We're addicted to them. We always want more, so that we can declare our independence from God. The thirst is for the absolute independence of the self...and that is sin. Here Luther is radical: "The remedy for curing [this] desire does not lie in satisfying it, but in extinguishing it."

The cross does the extinguishing. The cross is the death of sin, *and of the sinner*! The sinner is not coddled by false optimism but is put to death so that new life can begin. The cross teaches us that we must say, "I am a sinner," and never stop saying it until Christ's return makes it no longer true."

Once again, Prof. Forde: "In short a theologian of the cross sees the cross as the end where we die to our sin with Christ

and are raised a new creation with Christ. The work is truly finished as Christ promised and there is no moving on from His cross."

So what does all of this have to do with Habakkuk or with our own messy world? Learning from Luther, a Christian who is seduced by glory will see only that God is absent because things are so bad, and that the Church must get to work and remedy this situation, by force if need be.

A Christian whose eyes are opened by the cross does not see a God-absent, God-forsaken world within all of our modern woes. A person of the cross, who has seen the glory of God in the death of Jesus, sees God's presence hidden under the woes of the world's apparent God-forsakenness. There God is present and at work, even when we can see nothing glorious!

Habakkuk ends his book with this same idea: "Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior." [Hab. 3:17-18]

By the cross we call a spade a spade. Evil is evil, and we are sinners. Yet we are "led by the cross to look at the trials, the sufferings, the pangs of conscience, the troubles—and joys—of daily life as God's doing and not try to see through them as mere accidental problems to be solved or explained as anomalies of a good God." [G. Forde]

And now with Lent soon upon us, we can learn again what it means to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ!

# Pastor Hendrickson



The store will be reorganized and updated with new shelves, check-out counter, jewelry cases, and some new racks. This should be complete by the first of February.

The store is located at 201 Cottage Grove Rd (just off Monona Dr). The hours are Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Donations are welcome during these hours. The phone number is: 223-1228.

Members of St. Peter's work on the first Friday (February 1st) and the third Wednesday (February 20th) 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!

Meeting Date: February 3, 2013

**Time**: 9:30 AM

Where: St. Peter's Chapel **Agenda**: Annual Tithing

Committee Reports Lenten Suppers Plant Sale Planning



Christian Women's Council Meeting



2/15 Darlene Schmidt

2/16 Elaine Podoll

2/18 Marion Pulsfus

2/26 Lloyd Hahn

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You know that your local firing range or gun store offers classes on firearm basics for people who have little or no experience with firearms. I've had the idea stuck in my head for a while now that I would like to teach a course just like that, but instead of firearm basics, I would teach

people about a different tool: I would teach an introductory class on our hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*.

Today we think of hymnals as books that sit untouched in the pew rack all week only to be picked up and used on Sunday morning, but the truth of the matter is that the hymnal is designed to be (and used to be) a family book similar to the family Bible. The pew racks would be empty during the week because everyone took their hymnals home with them so that they could use them each day throughout the week for singing, praying, reading, family devotions, etc.



And I used the word tool before because the hymnal is a versatile tool that the Christian can use in many different ways and in a number of different circumstances. The publishers do their best to fill the hymnal with all sorts of helps for people and little tidbits of information here and there. It even includes a copy of Luther's *Small Catechism* (but just the small catechism, not the additional explanation which is twice as long as the catechism itself). In some ways, you could say that our hymnal is a spiritual equivalent to the Swiss Army knife. No



matter who you are, I'm sure there's something about the hymnal you'd be surprised to learn. I hope to have an opportunity to help you become more familiar with this great resource!

Also, our son is due to be born very early in February but if he is like his older siblings he might be born in a week or so after his due date with a

lings he might be born in a week or so after his due date with a remote possibility of him being born on Ash Wednesday, so if I'm not helping out with the liturgy on Ash Wednesday, feel free to assume this is the reason why.

On another note, my call to St. Peter's was structured in such a way that I can hold down a second job, and I am happy to report that starting at the end of January I accepted a part-time teaching position at *Resurrection Lutheran School* in Westfield, WI. My subjects include, but are not limited to: math, science, literature, American history, and health. Believe it or not, the students at this school are also learning bits and pieces of German, Latin, and biblical Greek. This school includes grades 1 through 12 and I am teaching middle and high school students. I'm glad that I've had the opportunity to teach various classes here at St. Peter's over the last year and a half and it has definitely helped me prepare for this new teaching position. It's nerve-racking and exciting both at the same time! I couldn't be happier.

In Christ,

Deacon Schroeder



# Crayon Leart,

Make heart-shaped crayons as a reminder that the things of God should be written on our hearts.

## What you need:

- An adult to help
- Oven
- Oven mitt
- Heart-shaped silicon mold (available at craft stores)
- Old crayons

### What you do:

- 1. Heat oven to 230 degrees.
- 2. Remove paper wrappers from crayons. (This is easier if you soak crayons in cool water first.)
- 3. Break crayons into small pieces. Place pieces into heart-shaped mold, filling them about two-thirds full.
- 4. Bake for 15 minutes or until crayons have completely melted.
- 5. When the heart-shaped crayons are cool, remove them from the mold.

# Send an Invisible Valentine

to Someone You Love!

Here's what you'll need:

- Scissors
- White construction paper
- White crayon
- Pen
- Pink or red watercolor

Here's how to make an invisible Valentine:

1. Cut a heart shape out of the white construction paper.



- Use the white crayon to decorate the heart with designs and a message. Press hard!
- 3. On the back, use the pen to write: "Brush the other side with pink or red watercolor to find a secret message."



4. Give the valentine to someone you love. When the person paints the "blank" side, your secret message will be revealed!



About Lent: During the forty days of Lent, God's baptized people cleanse their hearts through repentance and forgiveness, in conjunction with the traditional disciplines of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Lent is a time in which God's people prepare with joy for the Paschal Feast (Easter). It is a time in which God renews His people's zeal in faith and life. It is a time in which we pray that we may be given the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God.

(From the Treasury of Daily Prayer)



# St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool

WMELS, Pre-K and NAEYC Accredited By Connie Hendrickson, Director

Mmmm! Something smells good .....

Please come and join us at our

St. Peter's Child Care's

Annual Spring Bake Sale - Fund Raiser!

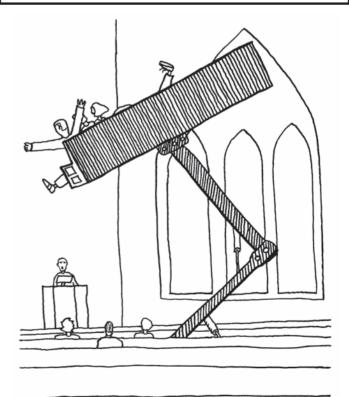


<u>DAY</u>: Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>
<u>WHERE</u>: St. Peter's narthex
<u>SALE TIMES</u>: Before, between and after church

Proceeds will go toward floor waxing, children's curriculum, Center professional membership fees, teacher conferences and continuing education, just to name a few.

Thank you in advance for your support!

*St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool* is considering adding a member to their teaching staff. For more details and information about this additional staff position, please call Connie Hendrickson, 635-4825.



SOME OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE WANTED CHURCH TO BE MORE EXCITING

# DIVINE SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Jan. 31/Feb. 2 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6

I Corinthians 12:31-13:13

Luke 4:31-44

Sermon: A Healing Touch Text: Luke 4:31-44

Order: (Thu) Contemporary Service

(Sun) *DSIII*, p. 184

Hymns: 902 - 749 - 609, 744 - 842

Organist: TBA

Choir: (8:00) SS Upper Grades, Handbells

February 7/10 The Transfiguration of our Lord

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalm 99 Hebrews 3:1-6 Luke 9:28-36

Sermon: Speechless Text: Luke 9:35-36

Order: (Thu) Holy Communion

(Sun) *DSI*, p. 151

Hymns: 821 - 413 - 414, 537 - 837

Sermon: Rescued from the Rubble

Organist: TBA

Choir: (8:00) SS Lower Grades

February 13 Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:12-19 Psalm 51:1-13 II Corinthians 5:20-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Order: Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion Hymns: 440 - 419, 607 - 613 - 560, 570 - 878

Organist: TBA

Text: Amos 1:1-2

Choir: Adult Choir, Handbells

February 17 1st Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-13 Romans 10:8-13 Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: The Face of Seduction

Text: Luke 4:1-13

Order: Service of the Word in Lent Hymns: 425 - 657 - 543 - 718

Organist: TBA

Choir: (Sun) Adult Choir & Guest Musicians

Sermon: Upside Down Text: Amos 3:1-8 Order: Vespers Hymns: 424 - 583 - 429

1st Midweek in Lent February 20/21

2nd Sunday in Lent

Amos 3:1-8 John 2:13-22

February 24

Psalm 4

Jeremiah 26:8-15

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Sermon: The Face of Opposition

Text: Luke 13:31-35

Order: Service of the Word in Lent Hymns: 770 - 708 - 437 - 423

Organist: TBA Choir: TBA

2nd Midweek in Lent February 27/28

Amos 5:18-24 John 12:27-36

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: This is the Night the Lord has Made

Text: Amos 5:18 Order: Vespers

Hymns: 615 - 663 - 886

# The PHANTOM of the OPERA Sunday

February 17th 8 & 10:30 AM a musical



Ash

On Ash Wednesday, as Lent begins, Wednesday worshipers' foreheads are marked with ashes in the sign of the cross. The ashes traditionally come from burning palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. In Old Testament days, ashes were a sign of mourning and repentance. Some folks will wear the ashen cross the entire day of Ash Wednes-

day, carrying the cross of Christ into the world. The words of Genesis 3:19 accompany the placement of ashes: "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

# **COUNCIL NOTES – January 8, 2013**

President William Steffenhagen called the January 8, 2012 meeting of the St. Peter's Church Council to order at 6:30p.m. Members present were Tom Crum, Greg Frank, Steve Hustad, Greg Latzig, Marvin Manke, Verna Mueller, Keith Podoll, Shannon Rohrbeck, Stephen Saager, William Steffenhagen, Mary Witt, Brad Zimmerman, Elizabeth Hutchinson, Deacon Schroeder and Pastor Hendrickson. Mike Post, Sandra Sandstrom, Jennifer See and Lynnette Taylor were excused; Tom Daugherty, Mark Manke and Glenn Puntney were absent.

The opening devotion was given by Deacon Schroeder. The Deacon talked of the gifts the outgoing Council members have given and how like the season of Epiphany, the wise men gave their gifts and then were on their way but God gave the biggest gift of all His Son.

The **agenda** was presented. Brad Zimmerman made a motion to approve the agenda, Keith Podoll seconded and the motion carried. The **Secretary's minutes** were read. Marvin Manke made a motion to approve the minutes, Greg Latzig seconded and the motion carried.

The **Financial Secretary's Report** was presented by Mary Witt. Once again, total offerings for the month of December are ahead of last year. General fund totals were \$26,232.00; Special purpose funds for December were \$28,509.57 for total offerings of \$54741.57. Mary Witt informed the council that the transition to the Bank of Poynette is going smoothly. Tom Crum made a motion to accept the report, Verna Mueller seconded and the motion carried.

The **Treasurers Report** was available to council members in their packets. Some of the extra upcoming expenses for January are Canalas Flooring, Braun ThyssenKraup for the elevator, JCI Contracting for plowing and shoveling and the Alliant Energy bill. Interest on the organ loan balance is approximately \$233.00 a month. Mary Witt made a motion to approve the Treasurers report, Shannon Rohrbeck seconded, motion carried.

The **Board of Elders Report** was presented by Greg Frank. There was nothing to report concerning the Ushers, Altar Guild, or the Christian Women's Council. The Endowment Fund will be dispersing the checks to the 2012 scholarship recipients. Mary Witt will be sending out a Military Care package to Mike Post Jr. once the address of his location is known. A good outreach project will be the Winter Cantata performed by the choir. It will be publicized in the local paper and it always brings people in from the surrounding area. There was nothing to report involving the Spiritual gifts survey. Marvin Manke made a motion to approve the Board of Elders report, Shannon Rohrbeck seconded and the motion carried.

The **Board of Trustees Report** was presented by Keith Podoll. The stair treads have been installed except for one on the top step. Keith Podoll has been getting bids for painting that should be done in the basement rooms and downstairs hallway and for water damage in the bell tower. The downstairs floors also need stripping and waxing and Keith has been getting estimates on the cost of the project. There are also issues with the elevator that were found during the inspection; the alarm and emergency light does not work. A thank you to Henry Schroeder for installing the LED lights upstairs and Deacon Schroeder for helping him. The lights will save energy and will last a long time. A thank you also to Troy Witt for clearing more of the parking area of snow. The Trustees also removed the Christmas trees. Verna Mueller made a motion to accept the Trustees report, Greg Frank seconded and the motion carried.

The **Board of Christian Education Report**was presented by Brad
Zimmerman. Enrollment is
holding steady in the Child
Care Center and in the PreK program. The Pre-K program has been a good out-

reach program because

some of the families at-



tended Christmas Services. Preschool music performer Rich Baumann will entertain the children and any families that can attend on January 10<sup>th</sup>. The Center will possibly hold their Spring Bake Sale February 10<sup>th</sup> to take advantage of the Valentine's Day theme. The Sunday School Christmas Services went well. Mid-Week will resume January 9<sup>th</sup>. Plans are in the works for a winter activity. The Lenten Suppers will also start February 20<sup>th</sup> the week after Ash Wednesday, in which the Mid-week students participate. Steve Hustad made a motion to accept the Board of Christian Education report, Keith Podoll seconded and the motion carried.

The Pastor's Report--Pastor Hendrickson reported that the Christmas and Advent Services all went smoothly with only the interruption of the one Thursday evening service because of the blizzard. Pastor thanked all who are behind the scenes that help make the services run smoothly. There were visitors that commented how moved they were by the services. Pastor Hendrickson thanked the council and congregation for the generous Christmas gift that will be put to good use especially with two young men in college. Ash Wednesday is February 13<sup>th</sup> and the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent, which is February 17th the Choir, will be doing a Cantata based on Phantom of the Opera. Terry Grinde and Company is already working on the music. Normally there would be communion on that Sunday but after some discussion, a motion was made by Greg Frank to move communion to the 1st and 2nd Sundays in February. Marvin Manke seconded the motion and all were in favor. Wayne Duddleston was interested in becoming the new organist for St. Peter's and so it was agreed the arrangement was working out well. Pastor Hendrickson has completed the application for "Doxology" the retreat in Spring Field Illinois in May. Pastor Hendrickson will do a follow up in the newsletter to explain more of the details to the congregation. Pastor Hendrickson is also going to present to the congregation the prospect of applying for a Vicar. Pastor Hendrickson is thinking of taking vacation time in January but nothing is definite yet. A motion was made by Brad Zimmerman to accept Pastor Hendrickson's report, Tom Crum seconded motion carried.

**Membership Changes**--To remove by transfer to *Shepherd of the Valley, LC-MS* in St. Croix Falls is Katie Gramse. Marvin Manke made a motion to approve the transfer, Mary Witt seconded and the motion carried.

**Old Business**--None to report. **New Business**--Annual Meeting Agenda-It will be presented to proceed with the flooring project. Handouts were given to the Council to better visualize the layout of the floor.

A thank you went out to the departing Council members and a little get together would follow the meeting. The Lord's Prayer was recited at 7:20 PM and President William Steffenhagen adjourned the meeting.

Elizabeth Hutchinson, Secretary



# FINANCIAL REPORT **CURRENT EXPENSE FUND:**



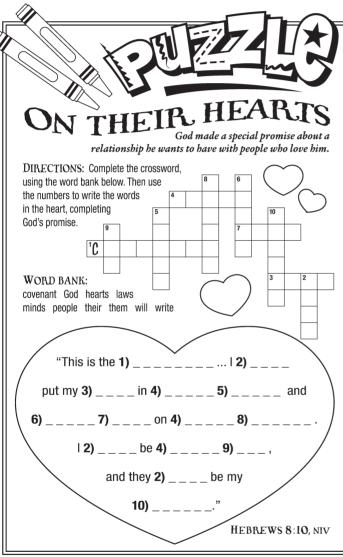
Balance on Dec 31, 2012	. \$13,740.36
Receipts for Jan	. \$12,721.30
Expenses for Jan	(\$16,909.66)
Shortage/Overage	\$ 9,552.00

### LOAN BALANCES:

Organ - \$40,006.86. The interest for this loan is costing us approximately \$231 per month.

Wilson House - \$45,293.12. The interest for this loan is costing us approximately \$240 per month

**Repair Projects - \$4,901.50.** 



Answer: "This is the covenant ... I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." Hebrews 8:10, MIV



# **February**

Barb Reddeman Connie Hendrickson



## **Elders**

Feb 3	8:00 a.m.	Steve Hustad & Stephen Saager
	10:30 a.m.	Tom Crum & Tyson Miller
Feb 7	6:30 p.m.	Greg Latzig
Feb 10	8:00 a.m.	Steve Hustad & David Hutchinson
	10:30 a.m.	Glenn Puntney & Tom Daugherty
Feb 13	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Saager & Steve Paskey
Feb 17	8:00 a.m.	Mark Witt
	10:30 a.m.	Glenn Puntney
Feb 21	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Saager
Feb 24	8:00 a.m.	Mark Witt
	10:30 a.m.	Tom Crum
Feb 28	6:30 p.m.	Greg Latzig



# February 3 & 10

Early	Late
Mark Witt ,Chr.	Tyson Miller, Chr.
(635-4673)	(635-8504)
Wade Senft	Mark Schoeckert
George Schoeneberg	Mitch Schoeckert
Mitchell Amundson	Michael Hendrickson
John Frank	Matthew Hendrickson
Jeff Rowe	Shannon Rohrbeck
Trevor Giese	Stephen Saager
Trent Olson	James & Matthew Saager

# **February 17 & 24**

Philip Hanson, Chr	Robert Caldwell, Chr.
(635-2244)	(635-4225)
Randy Schuster	Jerran Hanson
David Caldwell	James Dobratz
Mark Hirssig	Bob Hagenow
Robert Rittmeyer	Jim Mueller
Buck & Ty Woodward	Tait Halvorsen
Justin & Jacob Reddeman	Al Stoltenberg
Tom Daugherty	

Tony Rittmeyer

# **ACOLYTES**

Feb 3	8:00 AM	Dalton McLaughlin & Logan Nelson
	10:30 AM	NONE
Feb 10	8:00 AM	Ashley Hagenow & Savannah McGrane
	10:30 AM	Elizabeth Reddeman & Maddy Conklin
Feb 13	6:30 PM	Noah Campbell & Chase Falstad
Feb 17	8:00 AM	Wesley Sandstrom & Dalton McLaughlin
	10:30 AM	Emily Taylor & Anna Manke
Feb 20	4:30 PM	Noah Campbell & Hunter Zimmerman
Feb 24	8:00 AM	Haydin Campbell & Tanner Zimmerman
	10:30 AM	Elizabeth Reddeman & Maddy Conklin
Feb 27	4:30 PM	Chase Falstad & Logan Nelson
I		

# CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2013

SATURDAY	Presentation 2 of our Lord 11:30 AM Private Confession	<b>o</b>	10:30 AM Private Confession	23		4
FRIDAY	6:30 AM Men's Bible Class 10:00 AM Thrift Store	8 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	6:30 AM Men's Bible Class		
THURSDAY		<b>7</b> 6:30 PM HC Service	14 No Evening Service	21 6:30 PM Midweek HC Service	28 6:30 PM Midweek Service	
WEDNESDAY		4:00 PM Midweek 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	Ash Wednesday 13 4:00 PM Midweek 6:30 PM HC Service 7:30 PM Choir	20 10:00 AM Thrift Store 3:45 PM Midweek 4:30 PM Lenten Service & Supper 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	3:45 PM Midweek 4:30 PM Lenten Service & Supper 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	ran Church Fax: 608-635-2753 www.stpetersarlington.org
TUESDAY	PS, WILL AISE.	5 1:00 PM Bible Class	1:00 PM Bible Class	1.00 PM Bible Class 6:00 PM Bd of Ed 6:30 PM Council 7:30 PM Elders	26 1:00 PM Bible Class	thei
MONDAY	O LORD, OPEN MY LIPS, AND MY MOUTH WILL DECLARE YOUR PRAISE, PSALM SH 15	4	11	Martin Luther, 18 Reformer	25	St. Peter's Luther Phone: 608-635-4825 F-mail: stpeterluth@gmail.com
SUNDAY	DEC	Epiphany 4 3 8:00 AM HC Service 8:00 AM Upper Gr Sing 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 9:30 AM CWC in Chapel 10:30 AM HC Service	Transfiguration 10 of our Lord  8:00 AM HC Service 8:00 AM Lower Gr Sing 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM HC Service	<b>Lent 1 17</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service	Lent 2 24 St. Mathias, Apostle 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service	E-n