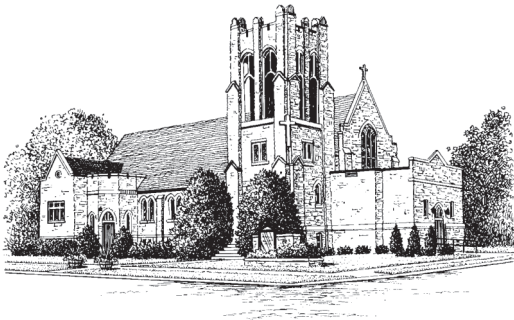




Saint Peter's Lutheran Church
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ST. PETER'S NET

JANUARY 2014

The Stream of Years Is Flowing

Into our hands the Lord God has placed a new year. And what shall we do with such a gift?

The first thing we ought to do is recognize the new year as the gift of God. The passing of time is not, as the secularists maintain, the mechanistic and relentless orbiting of our planet around the sun, from the first "Bang" to the final "Bang." What secularists call the laws of nature are in fact the visible signs of the hand of God. Time began, continues and will end at God's command and by His hand. Thus the first thing at the first of the year is to confess the joy and confidence of the Psalmist: "You are my God. My times are in Your hands." [Ps 31:14-15]

Having confessed the Creator and His gift of time, we ought to remember, then, what has so recently been celebrated. The Eternal God has taken on human flesh and blood to dwell among us. The Almighty is not merely the One before whom we must submit or be destroyed, as many religions of the world maintain. And time, the gift of God Incarnate, is not a crushing burden. He who created time by His Word has entered it Himself—about 33 years of time—and by so doing has endowed time itself with redemption.

In Christ time has ceased to be a force we long to escape. It is no longer the rod under which we must submit. The Holy Son who bore that rod, who entered into time and into the time-

less grave, has, by His resurrection, wedded time and eternity together. No need to escape; eternity is ours now, even in time. And in eternity, the life we live in time will remain ours. This is an incredible freedom for us who enter a new year in Christ!

Finally, having confessed the Father's gift of time and the Son's redemption of time, our eyes are open to see the Spirit's guidance of our time "wheresoever He wills." By the Spirit's hand, we neither fear the loss of time—leading us to the frenzy of a driven life—nor do we chafe at the pace of time—leading us to bemoan the slow turn of events. We work, we do good to God by faith and to our neighbor in love, we sin and repent, we fall and rise, we succeed and fail, in short, we walk by the Spirit in the redeemed gift of time.

Will all of this prevent us from squandering the new year? No. Time would not be a gift of God if it were incapable of being squandered. That's the way of grace. Nevertheless, our faith (if it truly is faith) will summon us, compel us at the beginning of this new year to reflect on God's gift of time. And in such faith we cannot help but put His gift to good use.

*All this Thy hand bestoweth
Thou Life, whence our life floweth.
To all Thy name confessing
Grant, Lord, Thy New Year's blessing!* [Paul Gerhardt]

Pastor Hendrickson



As happens nearly every year, we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany the first week of January. This year is no exception. We always admire the tenacity of the Magi, travelling quite a significant distance to Jerusalem to worship a tiny king, only to be told, "There's no such king here! Try going to Bethlehem."



Perhaps the more amazing part of the story to us 21st century Christians who rely so heavily on GPS, Google Maps, or any other traveling device is the ability of these men to follow a star and end up exactly where Jesus is. As one who enjoys stargazing, I marvel as to what this star may have been and how no one else seemed to find out what it was and join the trek to the young Jesus.

This year, we again sing the Epiphany hymn "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning", LSB 400. This hymn was written by Rev. Reginald Heber (1783-1826) for Epiphany, 1811. At the time, he was pastor of the church in Hodnet, England. Hodnet was founded sometime before 1066, and over 4400 people still live there today. It is located 173 miles northwest of London, or 55 miles southeast of Liverpool in the county of Shropshire. His family inherited the church property in the 1760s and his father also served as pastor there until dying in 1804. The Heber family still owns the property to this day. Heber was ordained in Oxford in 1807 and returned to Hodnet that summer. He enjoyed writing and literature work as well as his pastoral duties.



Part of his literary work was hymn writing. Most hymns were written between 1811 and 1821, making this particular hymn one of his earliest. In all, he wrote 57 hymns. The most famous is likely "Holy, Holy, Holy" followed closely by "From Greenland's Icy Mountains". Also included in our hymnal are the hymns "The Son of God Goes Forth to War" (LSB 661) and the first stanza of "God Who Made the Earth and Heaven" (LSB 877).

Heber became bishop of diocese of Calcutta, India for the Church of England in 1823. He first reinvigorated their seminary and got funding secure for it again and getting the affairs of the diocese back in order. In 1824, he began a 16 month journey, traveling extensively throughout the northern part country visiting many parishes. In January of 1826, he left again to visit the southern parishes. He was doing quite a lot of speaking and preaching until his sudden death on April 3 after sitting down in a cold bath. He left a wife and 2 small daughters.



The tune for Brightest, *Morning Star*, was written by James Harding specifically for this hymn. Tune and text were first paired together in 1892. Harding (1850-1911) lived and died in London and was employed by the Inland Revenue Department. He also was organist and wrote church music at St. Andrew's Church, Islington, London for 36 years.

So, armored with some knowledge of the history of the crafters of this hymn, may you enjoy singing this hymn and others all the more this Epiphany. May Jesus also shine into and out of your life for all to see as we begin the new year of 2014!

Jeremy Zieroth, Cantor



Above: High School Youth getting started with trimming the Chancel trees.



Christmas programs were enjoyed by all. Above: Pastor Hendrickson prepares to throw snowflakes during the young children's message. Below: Christmas Eve with the older grades was a message about the Advent wreath and the telling of the Christmas story.



Creation KALEIDOSCOPE

Make this fun craft to remember what our heavenly Creator made.

What you need:

- Adult help
- Tall chip can with lid
- Hammer and nail
- Acrylic paint; paintbrush
- Water, glitter, white glue
- Colored tissue paper
- Stronger craft glue (not hot glue)
- Star stickers or sequins
- Two 4" x 5" pieces of clear Con-Tact paper
- Scissors; pencil; permanent marker

What you do:

1. In bottom center of can, hammer a hole with a nail. Paint outside of can. Let dry.
2. Add glitter and a little water to white glue. With a clean paintbrush, glue tissue paper to bottom outside of lid.
3. Add stars to sticky side of Con-Tact paper. Place a matching piece on top, sticky sides together.
4. Put craft glue along edge of can opening. Glue Con-Tact paper square over opening. Let dry.
5. Place lid on can, over Con-Tact paper. Turn lid to get kaleidoscope effect.
6. With marker, write "In the beginning ... " on can.

WWJD key chain



This craft is a reminder of Jesus' perfect example for us. When we ask "What Would Jesus Do?" we can build our character to be more like his.

What you need:

- 16 inches of bead and jewelry cord (about 1 mm thick)
- 32 mm split ring (key ring)
- 4 wooden beads (about 1 cm or ³/₈")
- 5 jewelry beads (plastic or wooden, about 1/2 cm or 1/2")
- black permanent marker

What you do:

1. Fold your jewelry cord in half.
2. Put the loop of the jewelry cord through the split ring.
3. Put the ends of the cord through the loop to make a knot.
4. Thread the two ends through one of your small beads.
5. Then thread the rest of the beads (alternating between small and large, ending with a small bead).
6. Tie two or three knots at the end to hold the beads in place.
7. With a permanent marker, write a letter (W, W, J and D) on each of the four wooden beads. On the opposite side of each bead, write the same letter.

St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool

WMELS, Pre-K and NAEYC Accredited

5 stars with Wisconsin's *Young Star*

By Connie Hendrickson, *Director*

God's plans for us and our children in 2014 are known only by Him. And it's not knowing God's will that makes us question and doubt, not so much when things are going well, but when unexpected events sneak up on us, especially within the family. Sometimes our Center's children have to except mom and dad's separation, a move to a new home, a family member's new illness, or the loss of a beloved grandparent. Teaching children how to cope with family ups and downs can be difficult as children naturally 'live in the moment' and can't understand that God truly has a plan.

I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

With each new year comes new doubts – and new hopes - about our future and especially about our children's. What better way to cope than to share with your children the scriptures, prayer, going to church and Sunday school — each practiced together with a child like faith.

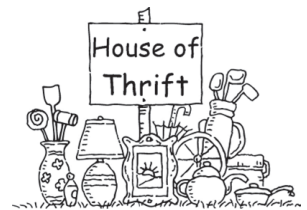
Happy New Year!

WINTER/SPRING OPEN ENROLLMENT

St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool has openings for the winter and this coming spring. Please call Connie Hendrickson at 635-4825 for a tour for your family or someone you know who is looking for five star childcare.

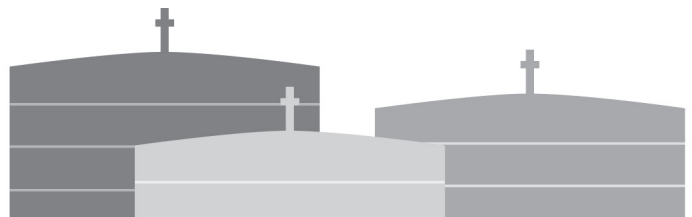
1/8	Judy Smith
1/16	Muriel Getchel
1/18	James Dobratz
1/25	Joyce Herwig

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 (December 6th) and the third Wednesday (December 18th) 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!



Cards, Napkins & Gifts

Do you need to replenish your holiday items or have a special occasion coming up? If so, you may want to take a moment to browse the table of cards set up in the narthex. There is a wide range of cards to fit every occasion and all proceeds go to the *Christian Women's Council* to help support all their good works. You may leave cash or a check in the basket or in the Church Office.

DIVINE SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

<p>January 5 The Epiphany of our Lord</p> <p>Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-11 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>The Greater Gift</i> Text: Matthew 2:1-12 Order: <i>DSIII</i>, p. 184 Hymns: <i>1st Noel</i> - 395 - 400, 397 - <i>We Three Kings</i> Organist: Jeremy Zieroth Choir: Adult Choir</p>
<p>January 9/12 The Baptism of our Lord</p> <p>Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Romans 6:1-11 Matthew 3:13-17</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>The Word in the Water</i> Text: Matthew 3:13-17 Order: (Thu) <i>Contemporary Service</i> (Sun) <i>Matins</i>, p. 219 Hymns: 399 - 596 - 405 - 601 Organist: Jeremy Zieroth Choir: (8:00) SS Lower Grades</p>
<p>January 16/19 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany</p> <p>Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 I Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>The Lamb</i> Text: John 1:29-42 Order: (Thu) <i>Holy Communion</i> (Sun) <i>DSIV</i>, p. 203 Hymns: 409 - 533 - 402, 702 - 394 Organist: Jeremy Zieroth Choir: (8:00) SS Upper Grades (Sun) Adult Choir</p>
<p>January 23/26 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany</p> <p>Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1-9 I Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-25</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>Follow Me</i> Text: Matthew 4:12-25 Order: (Thu) <i>Contemporary Service</i> (Sun) <i>Matins</i>, p. 219 Hymns: 412 - 396 - 688 - 537 Organist: Jeremy Zieroth Choir: (Sun) Handbells</p>



To all who participated in our Caring Tree this year, Thank you! The gifts go each year to children of poorer families in Columbia County, in cooperation with the organization "Santa's Workshop in Portage. The organizers are always very complimentary of the folks at St. Peter's!



**"Millions of fish begging to be caught,
 and we only brought two worms."**

COUNCIL NOTES – December 10, 2013

President Greg Frank called the December 10, 2013 meeting of the St. Peter's Lutheran Church Council to order at 6:33 p.m.

The opening devotion was given by Deacon Schroeder with references to the season of advent and how each Sunday there is a little different tone to the lessons from the First Sunday in Advent to the Second Sunday in Advent and then to the Third. The Deacon referenced Philippines Chapter 4: Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again: Rejoice.

The agenda was presented. Keith Podoll made a motion to approve the agenda, Jennifer See seconded, motion carried.

The **Secretary's minutes** were read. Glenn Puntney made a motion to approve the minutes, Tyson Miller seconded and the motion carried.

The **Financial Secretary's Report** was presented by Mary Witt. For the month of November funds are a little closer to budget with offering totals at \$18,982.00. The donations for the organ fund have increased and currently the balance is under \$30,000.00. A motion was made by Jennifer See to approve the report, Mark Witt seconded and the motion carried.

The **Treasurer's Report** was presented by Jennifer See. As of December 1, 2013 there is \$8796.94 available for expenses. The electric bills have been going up with the winter weather. The bill from Braun for the door closer was discussed at length. There were a total of 4 calls that were billed and one was considered an emergency call on a Saturday. Due to the unsatisfactory service a motion was made by Steve Hustad to pay only the bill for \$482.00 and dispute the other bills, Brad Zimmermann seconded and the motion carried. It was also brought to the council's attention that the payroll software program also needs to be updated. A motion was made by Brad Zimmermann to pay for the cost of the update with half of the cost coming from the Pre-K fund and half from the general fund, Steve Paskey seconded and the motion carried. Mary Witt made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, David Hutchinson seconded and the motion carried.

The **Elder's Report** was presented by Glenn Puntney. The usher lists have been updated with some younger members being added and some of the older men removed. The paraments have been changed by the Altar Guild. Currently the Military Care does not have any packages to mail out. Matt Hustad is in basic training but at this time he is only able to receive letters. Steve Hustad reported that his son is in Texas and everything is going good so far. The Christian Women's council did very well for their annual cookie walk; profits so far being \$803.00 with some craft items still available. The total from the Thanksgiving pie sale was \$210.00. The CWC received \$100.00 from Thrivent with more funds still to be dispersed. Deacon Schroeder had nothing to report at this time. Jeremy Zieroth reported that it is a busy season getting ready for the Cantata December 22nd and all the other special music. Year-end performance reviews will be scheduled with the Pastor, Cantor and Secretary in the near future. A motion was made by Mark Witt to approve the report, Lynnette Taylor seconded and the motion carried.

The **Board of Trustees Report** was presented by Keith Podoll. The Christmas trees are up and decorated. A special thank you to Brad Zimmermann for donating the trees, to Mark Witt, Steve Paskey, Shannon Rohrbeck and Jeff Rouse for getting them hauled and into the church. The Youth group spent a Wednesday evening decorating the trees. Many thanks to them for taking the time to make them beautiful. The Nativity scene is also on display thanks to Steve Paskey and Mark Witt. The

line of credit is up for renewal at the Bank of Poynette. The renewal will cost approximately \$100.00 and is a three year fixed rate. Even though it has not been used it was felt that it is a good safety net to have available if needed and it would cost more to have a new one

drawn up than the renewal fee. Steve Paskey made a motion to renew the line of credit, Corinne Tuschl seconded and the motion carried. With the church being so busy the next few weeks it was agreed that a schedule for the cleaning service would have to be worked out and possibly some extra time scheduled. Lynnette Taylor will talk with the cleaning service to get it scheduled. Keith Podoll informed the council that the boilers and humidifiers are in good working order. A motion was made by Jennifer See to approve the Trustees report, Steve Paskey seconded and the motion carried.

The **Board of Christian Education Report** was presented by Brad Zimmermann. The Child Care Center is running smoothly with 7 full time students, 3 part time and 7 before and after school students enrolled. A search for a substitute on call teacher has begun with Amy Paskey leaving in January. Connie Hendrickson will fill Amy's position as assistant to Carol Schulz, a position that is required in the 4K classroom. Christmas program practice has begun for the Sunday school. Rehearsals are the 7th, 14th, and 21st of December for 3rd thru 8th grade and the 14th and 21st for the younger grades. The youth group helped to decorate the Christmas trees. Lutheranism 101 will be meeting Mondays at 4 o'clock. Registration for the youth retreat to Sheboygan is to be completed before the end of the year. The Tuesday Bible class is taking a break till after the first of the year as is the Sunday Bible class, the Friday Men's Bible class will be continuing their studies. Keith Podoll made a motion to approve the report, Steve Hustad seconded and the motion carried.

Pastor's Report-Pastor Hendrickson reported that Advent is going well. The midweek students enjoy participating and the carols were sung with gusto during the Wednesday service. The fog hurt attendance slightly. Pastor enjoys sitting back and listening to the choirs but he is happy to be playing for the Cantata on Sunday December 22nd. Pastor Hendrickson will be taking some time off after Christmas and will probably be leaving after the church service on Christmas Day to spend time with his family. Pastor Rohde will be conducting the services on Sunday the 29th of December. A motion was made by Lynnette Taylor to approve the Pastor's report, Corinne Tuschl seconded and the motion carried.

Membership Changes-None to report

Old Business-The nominating committee has most of the positions filled with the exception of one elder position. The Budget Committee will present the budget to the council at the next meeting.

New Business-The January Council meeting date and the annual meeting date were discussed. A motion was made by Mark Witt to hold the council meeting Tuesday January 21st, 2014 and the annual meeting the 26th of January, 2014 at 1 o'clock p.m., David Hutchinson seconded, motion carried. At 7:32 a motion was made by Steve Hustad to adjourn, Mark Witt seconded and the motion carried. The Lord's Prayer followed.






**FINANCIAL REPORT
CURRENT EXPENSE FUND:**



Balance on Nov 30, 2013	\$13,107.70
Receipts for Dec (est)	\$15,969.00
Expenses for Dec	(\$15,238.11)
Shortage/Overage	\$ 13,838.59

LOAN BALANCES:

Organ - \$28,259.08. The interest for this loan is costing us approximately \$150 per month.
Wilson House - \$42,185.23.



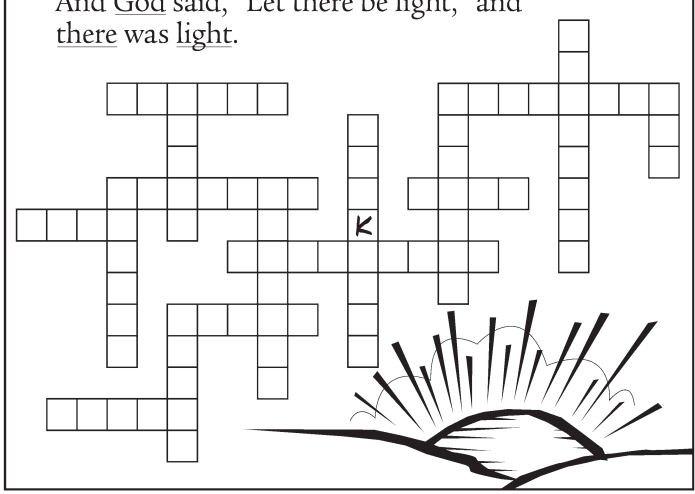
PUZZLE

The Beginning

The start of a new calendar year is a great time to praise God for his amazing creation.

Directions: Read Genesis 1:1-3 (NIV), below. Place the underlined words into the crossword. One letter has been provided to help you start.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light."



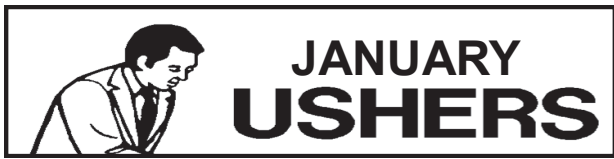

January
635-4825
Connie Hendrickson

january



Elders

Jan 5	8:00 a.m.	David Hutchinson & Mark Witt
	10:30 a.m.	Stephen Saager & Tom Crum
Jan 9	6:30 p.m.	Steve Hustad
Jan 12	8:00 a.m.	Steve Paskey
	10:30 a.m.	Glenn Puntney
Jan 16	6:30 p.m.	Greg Latzig
Jan 19	8:00 a.m.	David Hutchinson & Steve Paskey
	10:30 a.m.	Tyson Miller & Tom Crum
Jan 23	6:30 p.m.	Steve Hustad
Jan 26	8:00 a.m.	Glenn Puntney
	10:30 a.m.	Tyson Miller
Jan 30	6:30 p.m.	Greg Latzig



Jan 5 & 12

Early

Jeff Anderson, Chr.
(434-9764)
Dave Sandstrom
Austin Anderson
Craig Wendt
Glenn Puntney
Riley & Cody Puntney
Todd Taylor
Logan Sandstrom

Late

Robert Kronberg, Chr.
(920-992-5272)
Nathan Campbell
David Steinke
Vint Quamme
Tom Crum
Vint Quamme, Jr

Jan 19 & 26

John Caldwell, Chr.
(635-4762)
John Burkhardt
Don Thurston
Mark & Fred Manke
Tom & Mike Manke
Herb Schultz
Kraig See

Herb Miller, Chr.
(635-4557)
Paul Yamriska
Andrew Yamriska
Charles Hilgendorf
Joseph Pingel
Andrew Klahn

OH, THE THINGS KIDS SAY:

During rehearsals for this year's Christmas program, a kindergartener was asked if she remembered her line. Her response, "There is a rubber band on earth." The teacher had to giggle because the line actually stated: "Still God did not abandon earth, instead He promised a new birth!"



