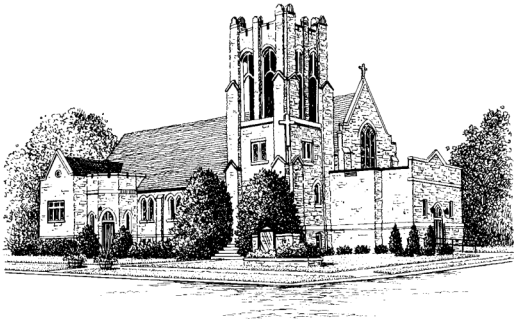




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ST. PETER'S NET

JULY 2020

Freedom to Serve

"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Gal. 5:1).

We celebrate this month because of the freedoms and liberties our country has afforded us. We are right to do this. We should be thankful for these liberties: the freedom to gather together to worship and to live out what we believe in our daily lives.

But freedom and liberty in our age has devolved. It has become a freedom from duty instead of a freedom for it. Indeed, freedom and liberty in our age has turned into licentiousness: a license to do what we want, when we want. Yet, freedom as license to do what we desire when we desire it means we are slaves to our desires, slaves to our passions.

Christ died to set us free from our sinful desires. In Holy Baptism, our Old Adam is drowned and put to death along with all sin and evil desires so that a new man may arise and live before God in righteousness and purity.



In Christ, we are a new creation. We are set free from the passions of the flesh so that we are free to do our duty and bear fruits of the Spirit.

Our duty is what God calls us to do as members of a family, society, and the church. As Martin Luther put it, "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."

God calls us to believe in His Word and gladly hear and learn it. He calls us to pray for all people. He calls us to live in faith toward Him and in fervent love for our neighbor. He calls us to put the gifts He gives to us in His service. God calls parents to provide for their children and raise them in the fear and admonition of the Lord. And God calls children to honor their parents and provide and care for them when they are no longer able to do so themselves.

God calls the government to punish those who do evil and to reward those who do good. He calls citizens to pay their taxes and honor the governing officials as God's servants. He calls pastors to preach and teach the Gospel as well as repentance for the forgiveness

Continued on page 2

of sins. And He calls hearers to support those who teach them with every good thing.

Christ died to set us free from the works of our selfish flesh, giving us the freedom and liberty to do our duty. St. Paul continued in Galatians 5:13-14:

You, my brothers were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Paster Amen

Music Ministry



Special Thanks go out to the kids involved in June's Drama Camp and congratulations on a job well done in their presentation: Zachary, Matthias, and Lydia Amen, Katze, Nora, Jesse, and Anna Zieroth.

We're currently accepting new members for all music groups! Please take time to consider whether it is time for you to help in this fantastic balcony ministry. Contact Cantor with any questions.

HYMN STUDY:

Turn to LSB 725, "Children of the Heavenly Father", which we will sing together on July 5/6. The author is Karolina Wilhelmina Sandell Berg (1832-1903), "Lina," a prolific European gospel songwriter. A member of the Pietist wing of Swedish Lutheranism, she had deep influence on singing of Scandinavian Lutherans. She was tutored by her minister father beyond the education available to most women in that era. Tragically, the year that saw the first publication of her most famous hymn also saw a string of tragedies: the loss of several members of extended family to disease and the drowning death of her father. Despite these blows, she continued to write. She married in her 30s but her only child was stillborn.

We begin with the image of the Father gathering children in His arms, an image often used in the Bible. The strength and tenderness of the Father's arms mean both loving care and protection, as depicted in the beautiful description of the Shepherd-

Messiah in Isaiah 40:11,
*He will gather the lambs in His arms;
He will carry them in His bosom,
And gently lead those that are with young.*

To this well-established metaphor, then, we need add only one other Scripture reference to make the picture complete: Mark 10:13-16, where Jesus rebukes the disciples for chasing away children.

Next is introduced a darker note recognizing that all of life is not cozy and cheerful. Death and separation are as real to the Christian as to others but understood better. Sorrows are common to the Christian, perhaps even more common, but they are borne in a different spirit.

The first line of this stanza calls to mind the passage at the end of Romans 8. Having told his readers why and how they

can be saved, Paul exhorts them to trust in that salvation no matter what. He starts by dismissing the idea of threats from the mundane powers of this world: "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" (Romans 8:35) It is a rhetorical question, so like any good lecturer Paul answers it himself.

*For I am sure that neither death nor life,
nor...anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)*

Of all the powers that humanity has tamed in this world, life and death are still beyond our grasp. We can create life and we can take it; but we are unable to undo either. We know what it means to be alive or dead. But in Christ we have that promise that David understood: *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me.*

Stanza 3 has an obvious reference to Job after losing all possessions and all children. His powerful faith allowed him to view all earthly possessions as they were--blessings bestowed by God. He expanded in response to his wife's lack of faith, saying, *Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?* (Job 2:10) God wasn't the source of the adversity, but Job's point is still good to consider: we accept God's blessings readily enough during the good times, and trust in Him then, so will we not trust Him in bad, too?

There's a further aspect of Christian suffering, *the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.* (James 1:3) God's ultimate purpose is not for His children's happiness in this life, but to "preserve them" for the life to come through making them more "pure and holy." Peter, who also knew a thing or two about suffering and persecution, put it this way: *In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.* (1 Peter 1:6-7)

In the final stanza is reprised the image of the Shepherd/Father who carries His children in His strong, nurturing arms. But this stanza raises a thought-provoking question of interpretation as well--when it says "From all evil things He spares them," do we view this as children of God at home in heaven or in this present life?

Are we in the "holy courts" of God in this present life? It is fair to say that we are, because "you are God's temple." (1 Corinthians 3:16) Do we flourish in this kingdom? Does God "tend and nourish" us now, and bear us in "His mighty arms?" Of course we answer "Yes!"

So, how does God spare His children from "all evil things?" The preceding stanzas make it clear that God doesn't spare us from all physical suffering or mental distress. If we return to Romans chapter 8, there's a large list of evil things that cannot prevail against us. Paul doesn't say that they won't happen. But all of them together have no power to "separate us from the love of God," (v.39) and in the end, that's all we need!

In His service,
Cantor Jeremy Zieroth

UNSEEN BUT *active* FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT SNACKS

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.

Bring joy to a friend by sharing a "peace" of this yummy dessert!

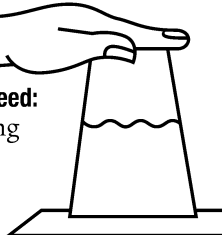
What you need:

- adult help
- two 8" cake pans
- cooking spray
- 9 cups mini marshmallows
- 6 tablespoons butter
- food coloring (green and red)
- 9 cups crisp rice cereal
- mini chocolate chips



What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card



What you do:

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.

What you do:

1. Spray cake pans.
2. Melt 4 cups marshmallows and 2 T. butter in microwave or on stove top. Add green food coloring. Stir.
3. Pour 4 cups cereal into bowl. Add green mixture. Stir with buttered spatula.
4. Put half into each pan and press along the sides with buttered hands.
5. Repeat using 5 cups marshmallows, 4 T. butter, 5 cups cereal and red food coloring.
6. Press half into the center of each pan, leaving a narrow outside border of green. Smooth the top.
7. Press mini chocolate chips into the red mixture.
8. Let cool. Then cut into wedges. Enjoy!

St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool

WMELS Accredited

4-K Host Site for Poynette School District

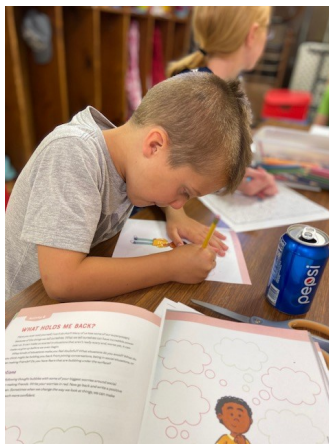
The Preschool is going well and are happy to report that we were granted the money from the government to keep our daycare in business and to help the essential workers during these trying times.

Starting the first week of June we went to our normal summer program and lesson plans. During this summer, we will continue to help them remember all of the things they have learned in school.

We have started to plant a garden. The children have two raised beds in the playground, one for food plants and one for flower seeds. Amy Paskey is offering her time to do little projects with them each week and the children are excited!!

We continue to pray for all those that are affected by the Covid virus. We are trying to do our part by leaving in place our extra procedures at drop off and pick up. We are taking temperatures at the door and adults are not allowed in the basement. We are having the children wash their hands often, and we are working hard to keep the kids at a distance.

Here are a few pictures of our days!



DIVINE SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

July 5/6 4th Sunday after Trinity Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 138 Romans 8:18-23 Luke 6:36-42	Sermon: Kind Reassurance Order: DSI, p. 151 Hymns: 965 - 966 - 696 - 725 - 754 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth
July 12/13 5th Sunday after Trinity 1 Kings 19:11-21 Psalm 16 1 Peter 3:8-15 Luke 5:1-11	Sermon: False Expectations Order: DSI, p. 151 Hymns: 454 - 688 - 712, 831 - 730 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth
July 19/20 6th Sunday after Trinity Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 Romans 6:1-11 Matthew 5:20-26	Sermon: Righteousness Order: DSI, p. 151 Hymns: 829 - 562 - 605 - 865 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth
July 26/27 7th Sunday after Trinity Genesis 2:7-17 Psalm 33:1-11 Romans 6:19-23 Mark 8:1-9	Sermon: Overworked Bread Order: DSI, p. 151 Hymns: 616 - 819 - 709 - 811 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about many changes in all areas of life. Perhaps the greatest change in the church is in our use of technology for services and outreach. As the restrictions began Pastor's personal equipment has been primarily used for quickly getting something available online. During this time we have continued to incrementally purchase church owned equipment while better connecting to the sound system and a more consistent internet stream that will remain permanent now at St. Peter's. This now opens up other possibilities for future events, recordings, and yet unknown opportunities for outreach.

Many have benefitted and many more continue to benefit as they must or elect to remain safer at home. We rejoice that we will be able to continue this option.

Costs for the equipment and upgrades came to about \$1,500. Please consider supporting and offsetting these expenses with a designated gift either through your envelopes or online.



ONLINE MINISTRY

Thank you all for your continued generosity not only in this venture but in your general giving especially in the midst of gathering restrictions. We pray you continue to faithfully receive God's Word and join us in sharing the Good News of Jesus in our community.

Please remember, you can also give online at StPeter-sArlington.org, with options for designated and automatic giving. Thanks for your generosity and support.



"It's hard to bear the fruit of the Spirit when they're hurling rotten tomatoes."

COUNCIL MINUTES June 9, 2020



The June 9, 2020 St. Peter's Council meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by President James Rittmeyer. This meeting was held in the sanctuary so that social distancing could be practiced. A zoom platform was also available for any council member who wished to participate from their home.

Opening devotion was given by Pastor Amen from Luke 13. In the midst of tragedy, the question is always Why? There is not much in the bible on natural disaster but Christ does ask the Apostles at one time: "Do you think they are worse off because of what has happened?" The answer is no, because he also says that unless you repent, you will likewise perish.

Agenda: Bob Hagenow moved approval of the agenda as presented, Paul Yamriska second, motion carried.

Minutes: Paul Yamriska moved approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. Tm Crum provided the second, motion carried.

Financial Secretary: Bob Hagenow presented some figures pertaining to the previous two months and calculates that we are tracking at 95% of giving compared to April and May 2019. Keith Podoll moved to approve the financial secretary's report, Cam Gramse seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer: Barb Reddeman presented the expense reports with a current checkbook balance of \$23, 214.71. She also gave a breakdown of the PPP funds that were used in May and an estimate of about \$3,000.00 that would be left at the end of our initial eight week period for using the funds. However, that could change if the PPP Flexibility Act gets signed by President Trump. Bob Hagenow moved approval, Cam Gramse seconded, carried.

Board of Elder report: The elder schedule for the month of June only has a couple of spots not filled. Cantor Jeremy Zieroth reported that a select few musicians have begun playing accompaniment for some services. The Drama Day Camp musical will begin June 8th through the 12th with performance at the 9:30 service on Sunday, June 14th.

Trustees: Keith Podoll reported that the requisite light bulb changes and minor repairs have been ongoing. William Thurston (grandson of Don & Cynthia Thurston) is doing the mowing for the church and vicarage this year, lawn is looking good.

Board of Christian Education: The Child Care Center is officially at full capacity with 40 children enrolled. They are following CDC guidelines for cleaning and everything mostly resembles normalcy. The Poynette School District is still planning to use our facility for their 4K Program this fall, although guidelines are still being discussed. Sunday School has

continued through the spring and into the summer via Zoom with Becky Amen hosting the call and teaching the lessons. Copies of the lessons and their coordinating activities continue to be sent out to 42 addresses every week so that the materials are in hand when Sunday School begins. Attendance varies but is pretty consistent at 12-15 per week. This will probably continue for a couple more weeks into the summer. Vacation Bible School is still intended to be held August 3rd -7th but staff is still working on what it will look like. There are many different options including a virtual VBS. The youth trip to Higher Things was cancelled by the universities that were doing the hosting. There will be a 2-day virtual Higher Things offered in August. Friday morning men's Bible Study is back up and going strong and the Monday evening Bible Study via Zoom has a consistent number of people.

Pastor's report: Pastor Amen stated that he never knew that he was going to need to know so much about virus' and bacteria's and their attributes and also how to clean all areas of the church effectively. He specifically thanked a handful of people who helped get our church ready to continue our outreach via livestreaming and then also to get ready to reopen so that people feel comfortable "Safer in the House of the Lord". Paul Yamriska, Dan Schmidt, Henry Schroeder, Bill Steffenhagen, Brad Larson, Jeremy Zieroth, Lynnette Taylor, and Zachary and Matthias Amen, thank you for your help these last two months to get everything in place.

Transfer out: Bob Hagenow moved approval of the transfer of Ted & Dawn Viers, Hannah, Noah, and Ridley to Calvary Lutheran (LCMS) in Indianapolis, IN; Calvin Moll provided the second, carried.

Old Business: none

New business: Radio programming has changed as the station ownership has made the decision to have church programming completed by noon on Sundays. They had an 8:00 am spot open that they could give us to go live on Sunday mornings. Bob Hagenow moved to end our radio broadcast and go to just the live broadcast via Facebook live. Cameron Gramse seconded. Discussion ensued about different options with different radio stations but no one offered to head up a campaign to look into it. Question was called and the vote needed to be a hand count. By a 5-4 vote, motion carried to end our radio broadcast effective June 15, 2020. Voters' meeting date was discussed. Tom Crum moved to hold our quarterly voters' meeting on July 26th, Bob Hagenow seconded, motion carried. Due to the absence of time between services, Bob Hagenow made a motion to hold the meeting at 11:30 am, Tom Crum second, motion carried.

Dan moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m., Tom Crum second, motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Elder meeting followed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynnette Taylor
Council Secretary



FINANCIAL REPORT CURRENT EXPENSE FUND:



Balance on May 31, 2020..... \$23,716.87
 Receipts for June (est.) \$ 13,194.00
 Expenses for June (est.) (\$14,808.77)
 Shortage/Overage \$22,102.10



PUZZLE WATER WORKS!

The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.

Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.



Water changes to

JOHN 2:1-11



Heals a man born

JOHN 9



- op +



- w

MATTHEW 8:23-27



Catch of

LUKE 5:1-11



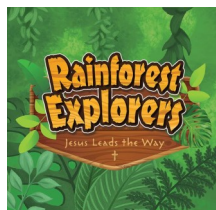
Walks on

MATTHEW 14:22-33

Answer: wine, blind, storm, fish, water

August 3rd - 7th

Both in person and digital options are being considered.



JULY

635-4825

Kelly Hageman

*following COVID-19 procedures

ELDERS

July 5	8:00 a.m.	Cameron Gramse
	9:30 a.m.	Paul Yamriska
July 6	6:30 p.m.	Bill Manthey
July 12	8:00 a.m.	John Penshorn
	9:30 a.m.	Paul Yamriska
July 13	6:30 a.m.	Calvin Moll
July 19	8:00 a.m.	John Penshorn
	9:30 a.m.	Bill Manthey
July 20	6:30 p.m.	Cameron Gramse
July 26	8:00 a.m.	Tom Crum
	9:30 a.m.	Calvin Moll
July 27	6:30 p.m.	Calvin Moll



JULY USHERS

July 5 & 12

Early

Jeff Anderson, Chr.
(434-9764)

Dave & Wesley Sandstrom
 Austin Anderson
 Craig & Owen Wendt
 Glenn Puntney
 Riley & Cody Puntney
 Todd, Justin, Hayden Taylor
 Logan Sandstrom

Late

Chr.
()

Nathan Campbell
 David Steinke
 Vint Quamme
 Tom Crum
 Vint Quamme, Jr
 Noah & Haydin Campbell

July 19 & 26

John Caldwell, Chr.
(635-4762)

Mike Manke
 Dale & Tucker Johnson
 Mark & Fred Manke
 Tom Manke
 Kraig See

Herb Miller, Chr.
(635-4557)

Paul Yamriska
 Andrew & Josh Yamriska
 Charles Hilgendorf
 Jim & William Plenty (Mondays)












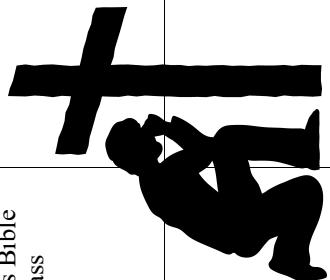
Lutheran World Relief
 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.



Lutheran World Relief Care Kits: we are still assembling health care kits to be sent to those in need around the world. We are still collecting items for kits which will be assembled this summer.

Bath Towel, no bigger than 27"x52"
 Bars of Soap (2 per kit, 8-9 oz. in original wrapping)
 Nail clippers
 Toothbrush (in original packaging please)
 Hair comb (no print or advertising)

CALENDAR FOR JULY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
Trinity 4 5 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:30 AM Divine Service 10am-12 pm Communion 10:00 AM Sunday School <i>Zoom</i>	6 Communion : 8:00 am-11 am; 4-6 pm 6:30PM Divine Service 7:30 PM Zoom Bible Study	7	1 6:00 PM Compline <i>(online only)</i>	2	3 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	4 
Trinity 5 12 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:30 AM Divine Service 10am-12 pm Communion 10:00 AM Sunday School <i>Zoom</i>	13 Communion : 8:00 am-11 am; 4-6 pm 6:30PM Divine Service 7:30 PM Zoom Bible Study	14 6:00 PM Bd of Ed 6:30 PM Council 7:30 PM Bd of Elders	15 6:00 PM Compline <i>(online only)</i>	16	17 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	18
Trinity 6 19 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:30 AM Divine Service 10am-12 pm Communion 10:00 AM Sunday School <i>Zoom</i>	20 Communion : 8:00 am-11 am; 4-6 pm 6:30PM Divine Service 7:30 PM Zoom Bible Study	21 	22 6:00 PM Compline <i>(online only)</i>	23	24 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	25
Trinity 7 26 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:30 AM Divine Service 10am-12 pm Communion 10:00 AM Sunday School <i>Zoom</i> <i>11:30 AM Quarterly Voters'</i>	27 Communion : 8:00 am-11 am; 4-6 pm 6:30PM Divine Service 7:30 PM Zoom Bible Study	28	29 6:00 PM Compline <i>(online only)</i>	30	31 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Phone: 608-635-4825 Fax: 608-635-2753
E-mail: stpeterluth@gmail.com www.stpetersarlington.org

Please help with service preparation and sign up for services or call the office.