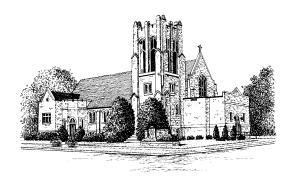


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ST. PETER'S NET

NOVEMBER 2021

Sometimes people don't like it when pastors talk about stewardship. For some, it hits too close to home. It is easier to talk about bad people in Washington, in history, or wherever than it is to think about what our daily life in Christ is supposed to look like and how we are supposed to love our neighbor.

The fact that we don't like it certainly means we ought to face it. So, here are a few simple, practical realities.

God calls us to first-fruits, sacrificial giving. That means that we should give off the top. We should set a percentage of our income as a deliberate gift for the work of the Church and then give that first. We write the check to the Lord's work in the Church before we pay the mortgage or pay for our medicine or pay for anything else. We don't pay for all the stuff we need – and stuff we think we need – and then give from what is left over. That is the first-fruits idea. It is hard because we think we need all sorts of other things first. But that is the point of "sacrificial."

Next, how could the starting point for Christian generosity and sacrifice really be anything less than a tithe – 10%? The ceremonial law of the Old Testament was never arbitrary. In the Old Testament, the Levites received this tithe so that they could be full-time ministers.

Does the New Testament have a ministry that is larger or smaller? It is far larger: "Make disci-ples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19). And we are still to have a full-time ministry: "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the

Gospel should make their living from the Gospel" (1 Cor 9:14). So if 10% is what it took in the Old Testament, and we have a bigger mission need in the New Testament, how can we expect the Lord's work to be done on less than a tithe?

By first-fruits, sacrificial, and generous giving that's how. We shouldn't fool ourselves into thinking that we've outgiven God's goodness or that we've given plenty. We might be tempted to think that way, but consider that no one in the Church has given plenty because no one has given all. No one has died for his sins. Only the sinless Son of God did that.

St. Paul brought the Good News of Jesus into the discussion of our giving to support the Lord's work in the Church when he wrote: "I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich" (2 Cor. 8:8-9).

As you can see, what the Bible commands about our stewardship can sting. It's Law, and the Law shows our sins. It calls us to repentance. The Law is meant to expose and accuse for the sake of showing us Christ and His fulfillment of the Law. So if first-fruits, sacrificial giving has you squirming, that's the point.

In Mark's account of the feeding of the 4,000, Jesus took the disciples' seven loaves and blessed them. It was nothing among so many, but, of course, it was plenty. Jesus makes something from nothing. Mark doesn't say

that all the disciples gave Jesus all the bread they had. It is quite pos-sible that some of them held something back. But even if they did, that didn't stop Jesus from blessing them. Jesus makes something out of nothing. He, who fed His people in the desert with Manna every morning, doesn't need their bread.

But they need to give it. And what they give – however little it might be and however grudgingly they do so – He blesses. He not only blesses those whom He feeds with it, but He blesses them – the givers. He blesses the givers not just in that they wind up with a basketful for each loaf, but they are blessed by learning to trust and rejoice in Him.

The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. The Lord gives abundantly, or He asks us to fast. We do not know what will happen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord. He does all things well, and He works all things together for good. The disciples don't give their bread to Jesus because it is a good investment. They give it because He is good, because they love Him, and because they trust Him. Let us go and do likewise.

Printed from: LCMS Stewardship Ministry



¬Music,¬ Ministry



"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending," (LSB 336, sung November 21/22) by Charles Wesley (1707-1788), was inspired by one of the most dreadful poems ever written. In 1752 an itinerant Methodist evangelist and church planter, John Cennick (1718-1755), published an Advent hymn entitled "Lo, He Cometh" that began with the following stanza: Lo, he cometh endless trumpets blow before his bloody sign! Midst ten thousand saints and angels see the crucified shine. Alleluia! Welcome, welcome, bleeding Lamb. Despite its aesthetic shortcomings, it proved to be inspirational. Charles Wesley took inspiration from Cennick's six-stanza poem and reinvented it into what appears, with minor alterations, at LSB #336. (Lest we appear ungrateful, he did compose "Be Present at Our Table, Lord" LSB #775, one of the most widely sung table hymn/prayers ever written!)

The tune HELMSLEY is attributed to Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) and comes to us by grace alone. Olivers was orphaned by four years old, then raised by a series of relatives. At age 18, with minimal education, he was apprenticed to a shoemaker and eventually fell destitute. He left his hometown of Tregynon, Wales, landing in Bristol. There he heard renowned preacher George Whitefield (1714-1770), one of the founders of Methodism. Whitefield was an outdoor revivalist preacher whose fiery style drew unrestrained emotional responses from his listeners. Olivers heard Whitefield preach on the Zechariah 3:2: "And the LORD said unto Satan, "The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?" A self-professed ungodly liar and blasphemer, he was struck by White-

field's sermon and forever changed by it. He returned to his shoemaking trade, paid off his debts, and became a member of the Methodist Society. Eventually Olivers met John Wesley, who recognized a spark of divine fire in Olivers and enlisted him as a traveling evangelist. Olivers rode over 100,000 miles on horseback, preaching the word of God throughout England, Scotland and Ireland from 1753 to 1775. In 1775 Wesley gave him an editorial position on the Arminian Magazine. However, because of his lack of formal education, Olivers made so many editorial blunders that Wesley eventually fired him in 1789. Olivers lived the rest of his life retired in London. When he died in 1799 he was buried in Wesley's tomb. Of the twenty hymns Olivers wrote, "The God of Abraham Praise" (LSB #798) is probably his most famous text. How curious it is that an uneducated cobbler turned itinerant preacher, who was fired from his magazine position because his "errata" were "intolerable and innumerable," could compose such a wonderfully articulate hymn of praise.

With that introduction, let us turn to the hymn itself. Charles Wesley wrote "Lo! He Comes..." amidst the tumultuous milieu of England's industrial revolution. Most people lived in poverty; alcoholism was rampant; and disease, crime and cruelty were commonplace. London's population grew from 600,000 to one million by the end of the 18th century. Malnutrition, fetid water and disease killed half of children under the age of two. Orphans fended for themselves without education or government assistance, and only the nobility, landed gentry and captains of industry lived in comfort.

It is into that wretched mélange that Wesley depicts the second coming of Christ. Then, as now, Jesus comes into a world filled with of sorrow, sadness, depravity and hopelessness. "Lo! He comes..." proclaims the imperative opening line. We have no choice but to watch as Jesus comes to reign. Every knee bows and every tongue confesses that He is Christ the Lord! See Him descend from His heavenly realm for every one of us sinful creatures as a thou-



sand thousand attendants follow in His triumphal procession. We witness the slow and stately procession of Christ from Heaven to earth below. There is no need for haste - the outcome is inexorable. Christ descends

amid the saints who have gone before us in all His majesty and glory. What else can be said but, "Alleluia, alleluia!" as the Alpha and Omega returns to rule over His faithful. What was promised is now complete!

All eyes train upon the Christ who suffered at the hands of sinners. It's a paradox of the highest order that we, who nailed him to the cross, should be graced by God to see Him "face to face" even amid our deep and sorrowful wailing. Here we see mercy and grace in fruition as we, who counted Jesus as nothing and sold him out, can stand in His presence saved only by the faith which His Spirit so generously provides.

The ultimate stanza will be sung when we, with all the saints and angels, join in the unending hymn of praise to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords on the great and manifest day of His returning. Until then, we place our trust in the mysterious ways of God that far surpass our feeble understanding as we struggle to do God's will here on earth. Christ will return! And in that confident hope we live out our lives in faith as His flawed, yet forgiven children, as we, in joyful anticipation, await Christ's return. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

The traditional Christmas decorations for St. Peter's sanctuary has been done by a very small group of people for the previous few years. Typically trees and decorations are done the week or weekend after Thanksgiving as the first Sunday of Advent begins the 28th. There is currently no lead or organizer for this to happen. If you would like to take charge and direct this event please contact the church office. This will include setting the dates and making arrangements to ensure all aspects of decorating are complete. In addition, volunteers and assistance will be needed, this had been a project of our High School Youth so for those of you in that category, this would be an excellent opportunity to come serve the Lord.

Remember, you can give online at StPetersArlington.org, with options for designated and automatic giving. Thanks for your generosity and support.





Services for Thanksgiving

Wednesday November 24th 6:30 p.m. HC Festive Service

> NO Service Thursday November 25th

Enjoy the holiday!



Dear St. Peter's Lutheran Church,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and well. As I write this, I am beginning my sixth week of classes here at the seminary! I cannot believe how fast time is flying by.

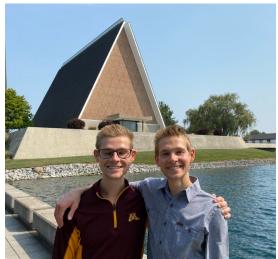
The classes and community here continue to exceed my expectations. Re-

cently, I completed my Dogmatics mid-term exam, as well as an exegetical paper for Gospels. I was perhaps a bit TOO excited about the paper's topic as I wrote an extra 8 pages than asked! I will also refrain from stating how many hours of sleep I got the night before...:)

I am now assigned to a field work church where I will help perform the liturgy, read the Old Testament and Epistle passages, and occasionally give sermons. The church seems to be a pretty good fit, and it reminds me a bit of St. Peter's in that it is a somewhat small congregation in rural Ohio with a town population of 800. It is about a 50-minute commute from campus, but I share the church with a second-year seminarian student with whom I carpool.

On top of academic work, I've been trying to stay somewhat social. I joined the soccer club, and we had our first two games, which were against Fairhaven Baptist school. Unfortunately, we did not bring home a victory, but rest assured that our doctrine at the seminary is much better than our soccer skills. We are also viewing these games as training for the match that really matters: a home game against Concordia Seminary St. Louis on November 6th!

That is it for now. Time for me to get back to my readings in Confessing Christ and Church History! I pray God continues to work through you in teaching and proclaiming the Gospel, and that He blesses you in the call process.



Sincerely,
Chase
Greenhagen
(pictured here
with my twin,
Jesse [I'm the
one without
glasses!] and
Kramer
Chapel in the
background.)

PRAISE-FILLED

Create an interactive display of God's provision for a Thanksgiving centerpiece.



- What you need: Colorful sheets of thin paper
 - Scissors
 - · Black pen
 - Dish of water

What you do:

- 1. From the paper, cut out various shapes and sizes of flowers and petals.
- 2. In the center of each flower, write a praise to God. Thank him for who he is and for answered prayers.
- 3. Fold petals inward, toward the center of each flower.
- 4. Gently place flowers on the water. Petals will slowly unfold to reveal the words.
- 5. Invite meal guests to participate in this centerpiece that blooms with thanks.



Make this Thanksgiving decoration and keepsake as a reminder of God's many blessings.

What you need:

- Acrylic paints
- Paint brush
- White cardstock (8" x 11")
- Baby wipes or wet paper
- 8" x 11" frame (available at dollar stores)
- Black permanent marker
- Bowls or paper plates

What you do:

- 1. Paint your palm, fingers, arm with brown paint.
- 2. With the white cardstock placed vertically, press down your painted hand and arm. The print should resemble a tree trunk and branches.
- 3. Clean your hand and arm with baby wipes or wet paper towels.
- 4. Dip your fingertips into different-colored paints and press them onto the paper to make leaves. (It's autumn, so leaves can be falling!)
- 5. When paint is dry, write "thankful" down the trunk with permanent marker. Also write your name and
- 6. Frame and display your

wrist and a portion of your

- the year in the corner.
- decoration.

11/06 Cheryl Manke

11/09 Peter Kubale

11/11 Albert Stoltenburg

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

11/11 Betty Stoltenburg 11/18 James Rittmeyer

11/21 Allen Hanson

11/22 Brian Hahn

11/22 Thomas Manke

11/24 John Frank

11/25 Lori Pafford 11/30 Adele Walker



St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool

WMELS Accredited

4-K Host Site for Poynette School District

The children have really been enjoying fall. We explored with pumpkins, apples and leaves. Last month the children got to go to the fire station for Fire Safety Week. They had a great time playing on all the different trucks and trying on the equipment. Thank you to our parent/guardian chaperones, the people who brought wagons, and our firefighters. We also had our Halloween party. The kids dressed up, played games, danced, and had delicious treats.

This month is all about remembering to give thanks. We are happy and blessed to have so many children and their families in our child care and preschool. We thank our parents/ guardians for taking care of us. We thank Jesus and God for loving us and keeping us safe. God promises to bless those who welcome a child in His name. Your child is one of those blessings, and you are a blessing to your child.

Thanksgiving blessings to you and your families from our St. Peter's Child Care Staff!















DIVINE SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

November 7/8 All Saints' Day (Observed) (Daylight Savings time ends) Revelation 7:2-17 Psalm 149 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12	Sermon: Yes, you! Text: Matthew 5:1-12 Order: DSII, p. 167 Hymns: 676 - 677 - 673 - 932 Organist: Cantor Geremy Zieroth
November 14/15 25th Sunday after Pentecost Daniel 12:1-3	Sermon: TBA Order: <i>DSII</i> , p. 167 Hymns: 873 - 508 - 564 - 563
Psalm 16 Hebrews 10:11-25 Mark 13:1-13	Organist: Cantor Geremy Zieroth Choir: Lower SS (8am)
November 21/22 Last Sunday of the Church Year Isaiah 51:4-6 Psalm 93 Jude 20-25 Mark 13:24-37	Sermon: Prepared for Presence Text: Jude 20-25 Order: DSII, p. 167 Hymns: 663 - 336 - 668 - 832 Organist: Cantor Geremy Zieroth Music: Bells
WEDNESDAY, November 24 6:30pm Deuteronomy 8:1-10 Psalm 67 1 Timothy 2:1-4 Luke 17:11-19	Sermon: At the Mercy of God Text: Luke 17:11-19 Order: <i>DSI</i> , p. 151 Hymns: 894 - 785 - 895, 893 - 801 Organist: Cantor Geremy Zieroth Choir: Adult Choir
November 28/29 Advent 1 (Year C) Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 19:28-40	Sermon: The Lord, Our Righteousness Text: Jeremiah 33:14-16 Order: <i>DSIII</i> , p. 184 Hymns: 331 - 332 - 341 - 350 Organist: Cantor Geremy Zieroth Choir: Upper SS (8am)
December 1 Advent Midweek 1 5:30pm The Lord Comes To His Temple	



CHOIR, MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Practices are Wednesdays

Handbells: 6:30 pm Vocal Choir: 7:30 pm

Help us make a joyful noise with your musical gifts!



St. Peter's is open and welcoming everyone to come to worship. We offer three services:

Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am, Mondays at 6:30 pm.

YOU are invited to come to worship for the outpouring of God's love and receive the Sacraments.

BIBLE STUDIES

Bible Study is on Sundays and meets in the classroom by the kitchen and offices.

Friday morning Men's Bible Study is also in the same classroom at 7:30am.

Join in time of fellowship and discussion of God's Word.

COUNCIL MINUTES October 12, 2021

The October 12th meeting of the St. Peter's Lutheran Church council meeting was called to order by President James Rittmeyer at 6:38 pm. This meeting was held in the sanctuary so social distancing can be observed. In attendance were: Amy Cuff, Bob Hagenow, Connie Hendrickson, Beth Hutchinson, Brad Larson, Bill Manthey, Tyson Miller, Keith Podoll, Barb Reddeman, Charlotte Reddeman, Alex Rehlinger, James Rittmeyer, Ben Robinson, Lynnette Taylor, Paul Yamriska, and Geremy Zieroth.

Cantor Geremy Zieroth led the opening devotion with a message from Psalm 119:14-16. The psalmist writes that we delight in God's Word and His commands. His law is a bright mirror for our sins but Grace has been given to us through Jesus Christ, our Savior. We delight in knowing that we now have God's righteousness surrounding us.

The agenda was presented. Additions were asked to be included under New Business: Approval of an appointee to the Board of Christian Education. Bob Hagenow moved approval with addition, Bill Manthey provided the second, motion carried.

Secretary's minutes were read. Bob Hagenow moved to approve the report, Keith Podoll second, motion carried.

The Financial Secretary's report was given by Bob Hagenow. We had contributions at 83% of the previous month for the general fund, 92% of the previous month for missions, but remember that September was a four week month vs August had five Sundays. The numbers show us at 86% of the prior year in the general fund (September 2020 compared to September 2021) and 87% of the prior year in mission giving. September online giving accounted for 31% of the contributions to the general fund and 61% of the mission giving. Benjamin Robinson moved approval, Tyson Miller second, motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was given by Barb Reddeman. The current checkbook balance is \$15,968.63. This includes all bills on the report paid, two deposits but no payroll yet for the month of October. Brad Larson moved approval of the treasurer's report, Benjamin Robinson second, motion carried.

The Elders report was presented. They noted that Pastor Hintz will not be available to preach for us on November 14th so a search has begun for a substitute that day. They have plans to begin calendar planning for the months of November and December later at the Board of Elders meeting. It was noted that there is no change to the military care committee as it still has three active members at this time. Alex Rehlinger commented on the outreach event happening at Calvary Lutheran Chapel on October 31st. St. Peter's has agreed to provide the luncheon for this campus ministry. The High School Youth have been contacted to see if any of them could come help with the serving. Sign up sheets have been posted for dessert contributions for the luncheon. Cantor Geremy Zieroth reported that he played for two funerals in the previous month. The choirs are all going strong with the

upper grades having sung the last week of September, lower

grades debuting last week, the hand bells this coming week, and the vocal choir gearing up for Reformation. Oh, and Christmas is arriving soon!

The Trustees reported that the cross on the bell tower will be converted to LED lights from the neon that it is currently. Funding for this has come from the James Dobratz Memo-



rial monies (as opposed to the James Dobratz Estate bequest). The trustees are still waiting for replies from contractors about the siding, soffit and fascia, once those estimates are in hand and finances are secured for those projects, they will be completed. It was reported that the windows for the parsonage have been ordered but we do not yet have an installation date. Also, Arlington Hardware has been contacted again about changing the last two valves on the boilers and we are hoping that those are able to be changed before we have to fire up the boilers. It was noted that there are a couple of minor repairs needed to the front door as well as a light bulb outage.

The Board of Christian Education report was given by Charlotte Reddeman. The Child Care Center is doing well and the transition to the new director is going smooth. Sunday School is going awesome. They held their annual Bike-a-thon the first weekend in October. There were 20 participants who completed 428 laps for a total of 171.2 miles! Midweek classes are going strong with eight regular attendees. The High School Youth have been asked if they can help serve when St. Peter's goes down to Calvary Lutheran Chapel for lunch and fellowship. Bible Classes are continuing both Friday mornings and between services on Sunday morning.

The Pastor reported that there were two funerals held last month and on a brighter note there will be two baptisms toward the end of October and two more the first week in November.

There were no membership changes.

Old business began with a call committee update. They are prepared to present two candidates, Pastor David Juhl and Pastor Brad Brown, and have asked for the Council to call a Special Voters' Divine Call Meeting on October 28th at 6:30 pm. Paul Yamriska made the motion, Ben Robinson second, motion carried.

New business began with the reminder that reports are due to Lynnette in the office by Thursday, October 14th for inclusion in the Voters' Meeting packets. President Rittmeyer has appointed Connie Hendrickson to the Board of Christian Education and called for approval of that appointment. Brad Larson moved approval, Charlotte Reddeman second, motion carried.

Alex Rehlinger moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m., Brad Larson second, motion carried. The Lord's prayer was recited. Elder meeting follows.

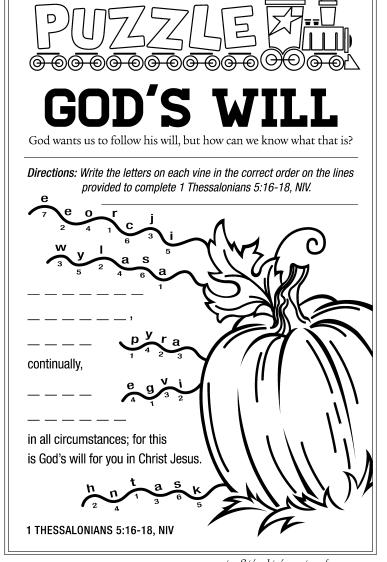
Respectfully submitted, Lynnette Taylor, *Council Secretary*



FINANCIAL REPORT CURRENT EXPENSE FUND:



Balance on Aug 31, 2021	\$16,241.31
Receipts for Sept (est.)	
Expenses for Sept (est.)	
Shortage/Overage	



Answer: rejoice, always, pray, give, thanks



The table in the narthex has a good selection of cards available Stop by and check it out! There is a wide range of cards to fit every occasion, including Christmas cards, and all

proceeds go to the *Christian Women's Council* to help support all their good works. There are also a number of craft items available for sale. You may leave your cash or check in the basket on the table.

CLACKS

Nov 1	6:30 p.m.	Calvin Moll
Nov 7	8:00 a.m.	Brad Larson
	10:30 a.m.	Alex Rehlinger
Nov 8	6:30 p.m.	Bill Manthey
Nov 14	8:00 a.m.	Brad Larson
	10:30 a.m.	Alex Rehlinger
Nov 15	6:30 p.m.	Bill Manthey
Nov 21	8:00 a.m.	
	10:30 a.m.	Benjamin Robinson
Nov 22	6:30 p.m.	Benjamin Robinson
Nov 24	6:30 p.m.	Brad Larson
Nov 28	8:00 a.m.	Paul Yamriska
	10:30 a.m.	Tyson Miller
Nov 29	6:30 p.m.	Bill Manthey



November 7 & 14

Early	Late
No Chairman	Tyson Mille
Wade Senft	(635-85
George Schoeneberg	Mitch & Al
Jeff, Brandon, Jacob Rowe	Matthew H
Phil & Austin Kruger	Michael He
_	Stephen Sa

Late
Tyson Miller, Chr.
(635-8504)
Mitch & Ahren Schoeckert
Matthew Hendrickson
Michael Hendrickson
Stephen Saager
James & Matthew Saager

November 21, 24 & 28

Philip Hanson, Chr (635-2244)

Randy Schuster Bob Hagenow Robert Rittmeyer Al Stoltenberg Mark Hirssig Brad Larson

Justin, Jacob, Caleb Reddeman Richard & Tony Rittmeyer



NOVEMBER

635-4825 Cathy Schmidt Amy Cuff

CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
•	ਜ	2	ĸ	4	ro	9
3	6:30PM Divine Service		4:00 PM Midweek 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir		7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	
All Saints' Day 7	∞	6	10	11	17	13
8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service	6:30PM Divine Service	6:00 PM Bd of Ed 6:30 PM Council 7:30 PM Bd of Elders	4:00 PM Midweek 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir		7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	
Pentecost 25 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:00 AM Divine Service 8:00 AM Lower Gr Sing 9:15 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service	6:30PM Divine Service		4:00 PM Midweek 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir		7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	
Last Sunday 21	22	23	Thanksgiving Eve 24	Thanksgiving 25	26	27
8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Divine Service	6:30PM Divine Service	Designation of the second of t	6:30 PM HC Service No Midweek School or Choir Rehearsals	No Morning Service Child Care & Church Office Closed	Child Care & Church Office Closed	
Advent 1 28	29	30	DECEMBER 1			
8:00 AM Divine Service 8:00 AM Upper Gr Sing 9:15 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service	6:30PM Divine Service		4:00 PM Midweek 5:30 PM AdventService 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir			ře 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 10
	S E-mail: 8	St. Peter's Lui Phone: 608-635-4825 E-mail: stpeterluth@gmail.com	ther	ar: 608-635-2753		