

THE INFORMER



St. Peter Lutheran Church

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January 2024

Alleluia! Let praises ring! / To God the Father let us bring
Our songs of adoration.

To Him through everlasting days / Be worship, honor, power, and praise,
Whose hand sustains creation.

Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy: / Spread the story
Of our God, the Lord of glory.

As we begin another calendar year, and as winter settles in for a couple more dreary months, it's a blessing for us to remember our gracious God's acts of kindness and mercy toward us in the past year. As we consider the works of our God in our lives, it's very easy to allow praise for our God to fill our hearts and minds. We rejoice in the salvation we have been given and, as we rejoice, we begin to recognize our heavenly Father's hand in the flow of each and every one of our days. This recognition again ignites our hearts and minds and we find ourselves engrossed in thanksgiving as we allow our minds to rest in our God.

Alleluia! Let praises ring! / Unto the Lamb of God we sing,
In whom we are elected.

He bought His church with His own blood, / He cleansed her in that blessed flood,
And as His bride selected.

Holy, holy, is our union and communion. / His befriending
Gives us joy and peace unending.

As this new year begins, we dedicate ourselves to our Savior, Jesus. We recognize that our lives are always in His hands as He is the One who rescues us from the damnation and futility of our sinfulness. We also recognize Jesus as the only source of true peace and comfort as we experience the ups and downs and the highs and lows of this life lived in a fallen, sin-saddened world.

Alleluia! Let praises ring! / Unto the Holy Ghost we sing
For our regeneration.
The saving faith in us He wrought / and us unto the Bridegroom brought,
Made us His chosen nation.
Glory! Glory! Joy eternal, bliss supernal / There is manna
And an endless glad hosanna.

And, as we welcome this new year, we remember that our Counselor and Advocate is our daily Companion. The Holy Spirit keeps our hearts at peace and our minds focused on Jesus as we live this life. We live in the intimate company of our God as the Holy Spirit continues His work of calling, gathering, enlightening, and establishing us in His Church. We are truly blessed as our loving God leads us into this new year!

Alleluia! Let praises ring! / Unto our Triune God we sing;
Blest be His name forever!
With angel hosts let us adore / And sing His praises evermore
For all His grace and favor.
Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy: / Spread the story
Of our God, the Lord of glory



The Word from the Chairman!



Greetings,

For unto us a Savior is born!

The family Christmas party on December 9th was a great success again. Some wonderful Christmas tree decorations were made. The date has been set for next year, Saturday, December 7th, 2024, so mark your calendars!

A Voter's meeting was held and we passed the 2024 budget. Thanks to everyone that helped to reduce costs and keep our budget to a 1% increase. The planning meeting was held, and we have set up the calendar for the next quarter. Activities discussed were Quarter Mania (April), Rummage sale (May), Potato Pancake Dinner (pre Lent), Mystery trip (June), Blessing of the Bikes (May 18th), and the Family Christmas party (Dec. 7th). With the Voters meeting being held on the previous Sunday before this meeting, the time has been reduced to less than 1hr. Thanks to all that attended!

Our wonderful church and fellowship hall are in need of repairs. Please keep this major undertaking in your prayers. If you know of a reputable builder, please let one of the Trustees or Pastor know.

Happy New Year!!!

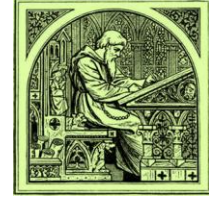
Randy Wildner

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven. . . , for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also

~ Matthew 6:19-34



The Elders' Corner



Did you know that your Elders are praying for you? Well, we are! As a matter of fact, each Elder prays for the people in his Elder District and Pastor prays for all of us! Why? Because prayer is one of the greatest gifts our God has given to us.

As we begin this New Year, we want to encourage everyone at St. Peter to exercise their privilege of approaching our heavenly Father and lifting one another up in prayer. As God's people, we're invited to speak with our God and He has promised to hear us. That's a wonderful promise!

Let's get this New Year started on the right foot... or better yet, get it started on our knees! Let's accept our heavenly Father's invitation and come before Him. Let's pray for ourselves, that our Lord would strengthen us in the faith and lead us in the ways He would have us go. Let's pray for each other, that He would draw us together as His people and unite us in His love. And let's pray for St. Peter Lutheran Church, that He would allow us to serve those around us and share with them the joy of our heavenly Father's salvation, won for us by Jesus, our Savior!



Christian Education News



Happy new year to everyone!

Again, I want to say "thank you" to everyone who worked so hard to make our Christmas program so successful. So many told us how they really enjoyed the program and that really makes all the hard work worth it! Seventeen beautiful children showed how much they love Jesus by singing and telling the Christmas story.

Now it's time to get back to teaching the children all about Jesus, His good works, and His unwavering love for us. Please continue to bring your children to Sunday school. The teachers love to teach Jesus' love and the children love to hear about His love for them!

*Your friends through Christ our Savior,
Ann, Karen, Jessica and Linda*

A Bible Reading Program for the New Year!

The Psalmist proclaimed, “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and light unto my path!” St. Paul urges us, “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.” The writer to the Hebrews reminds us that “the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

God’s Word is a glorious gift our heavenly Father has given to us. By it He leads and guides us, He keeps us safe from false teaching and equips us with His Word as we live in this fallen world, and He gives us His salvation through His Word as He cuts away the deceit of sin from our hearts and minds. The same powerful Word that spoke this world into existence and which continues to keep and sustain it has been given to us for our benefit. The Holy Spirit Himself is our teacher as He opens our hearts and minds to our God’s revelation of Himself through His Word. Through His glorious Word we meet with Jesus and are strengthened and established in the true faith which gives us life everlasting.

The following is the Bible reading schedule for the month of January. Each month’s schedule will continue to be included in the Newsletter for that month. By following this reading schedule, the entire Bible can be read in a one-year period. Take this opportunity to join in the pleasure of reading God’s Word and benefiting from the Holy Spirit’s leading through that Word!



A Schedule for Reading the Bible in 12 Months ~ January

Day	Old Testament	New Testament
1 st	Genesis 1, 2, & 3	Matthew 1
2 nd	Gen 4, 5, & 6	Matt 2
3 rd	Gen 7, 8, & 9	Matt 3
4 th	Gen 10, 11, & 12	Matt 4
5 th	Gen 13, 14, & 15	Matt 5:1-26
6 th	Gen 16 & 17	Matt 5:27-48
7 th	Gen 18 & 19	Matt 6:1-18
8 th	Gen 20, 21, & 22	Matt 6:19-34
9 th	Gen 23 & 24	Matt 7
10 th	Gen 25 & 26	Matt 8:1-17
11 th	Gen 27 & 28	Matt: 8:18-34
12 th	Gen 29 & 30	Matt 9:1-17
13 th	Gen 31 & 32	Matt 9:18-38
14 th	Gen 33, 34, & 35	Matt 10:1-20
15 th	Gen 36, 37, & 38	Matt 10:21-42
16 th	Gen 39 & 40	Matt 11
17 th	Gen 41 & 42	Matt 12: 1-23
18 th	Gen 43, 44, & 45	Matt 12:24-50
19 th	Gen 46, 47, & 48	Matt 13:1-30
20 th	Gen 49 & 50	Matt 13: 31-58
21 st	Exodus 1, 2, & 3	Matt 14:1-21
22 nd	Ex 4, 5, & 6	Matt 14:22-36
23 rd	Ex 7 & 8	Matt 15:1-20
24 th	Ex 9, 10, & 11	Matt 15:21-39
25 th	Ex 12 & 13	Matt 16
26 th	Ex 14 & 15	Matt 17
27 th	Ex 16, 17, & 18	Matt 18:1-20
28 th	Ex 19 & 20	Matt 18:21-35
29 th	Ex 21 & 22	Matt 19
30 th	Ex 23 & 24	Matt 20:1-16
31 st	Ex 25 & 26	Matt 20:17-34



LOOKING AHEAD

“Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.”

~ Isaiah 55:6

The prophet Isaiah reminds us that our God has saved us so that we can be in fellowship with Him: that we worship Him as our only God, that we revere Him in our hearts and minds, that we order our lives according to His will, and that we serve Him throughout our lives.

As we begin another New Year at St. Peter Lutheran Church, we understand that, just as our gracious heavenly Father’s care is needed in our personal lives, so too is His care, His guidance, and His mercy needed in the life of His people gathered together at St. Peter. Our God has established His Church for His purposes and He calls us, both individually and corporately, to do what He calls His Church to do and to be what He calls His Church to be. As we do what He gives us to do, and as we be what He calls us to be, we, God’s Church gathered at St. Peter, can be confident of our heavenly Father’s help, guidance, and blessing.

In the past many years, an insert has been included in the bulletin each week. These inserts provide daily prayers for each of us to pray on behalf of St. Peter Lutheran Church. The insert provides a weekly theme and daily prayer topics. In this way we, the Church, are praying for our heavenly Father’s gracious involvement in every aspect of our congregational life.

These weekly themes cover topics such as Individual and Corporate Spiritual Growth, Leadership, Evangelism, Stewardship, Faith, Love, Vision, and Community. A prayer for each day is provided so that we are regularly lifting up our congregation in prayer.

If you have not been taking part in this important work, please consider joining your brothers and sisters in Christ as we continue to lift St. Peter Lutheran Church up in prayer to our God. We will all be blessed as we seek the Lord and follow His will for His Church!