



ST. PETER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

2550 Gettysburg Ave.

Clovis, CA 93611

 St. Peter Lutheran Church—Clovis, CA

November 2018

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Thanksgiving Worship Service

A Thanksgiving service will be offered at church on Thanksgiving Eve (Wednesday) at 6:30 pm. Join us in God's house to give thanks to him for the blessings of the past year, and put the holiday week in proper perspective. *"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever" (Psalm 118:1).*



Josie Lennon Harville Baptized on Oct. 14



On Sunday, October 14, the Lord welcomed Josie into his fold through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. What a privilege it was to have many of her family members join us. Our Sunday School children also sang for the occasion.

How fitting it was that we were able to enjoy this occasion as we were having our October service series on *"The Sacraments."*

May God keep Josie in her baptismal grace all her life, and richly bless Phil and Amanda as they bring her up in the Lord's ways!



Our Friday Clovis Farmers Market booth has come to an end for the season.

Many thanks to our volunteers who sat at the booth, talked to the many people who came by, and shared handouts about our church and our "Mornings with Mommy" program!



Pictured: Abigail Schewe, resident face painter, a big draw for parents and children



Dear brothers and sisters at St. Peter,

I'd like to share the next article in our newsletter series on the blessings of marriage. This series by Pastor Bruce McKenney was originally featured in our synod's magazine, "**Forward in Christ**":

"Pastor, we're not quite sure about how soon to have children. Children are a lot of work and cost a lot of money." I was a little surprised when I first heard it, but it's becoming a more common theme among young couples in pre-marriage counseling.

With God-pleasing motives, family planning can be an important part of a couple's happiness in marriage. But in a society that talks about children being an "expense" rather than a "bundle of joy" or a burden to a lifestyle rather than a blessing to a family, God's people need to go back to the basics of God's Word about marriage and how children are part of his plan for it.

One of the purposes and blessings of marriage is children. After creating man and woman and instituting marriage, God blessed them with the ability to reproduce. To the man and woman he said, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth" (Genesis 1:28). It was and still is part of God's order of creation to grant new human life through the sexual union of husband and wife. That's one of the purposes for which God established marriage and one of the purposes for which a man and woman get married.

Why does God give children to parents, whether by birth or adoption? Through moms and dads, God wants to channel blessings to children for both body and soul. It is the God-given responsibility for parents to take care of the basic bodily needs of children. Clothes, food, shelter, education, and health care are just a few things that children need, and it is through the family that God wants those basic physical needs met.

But the greater blessings that God wants channeled to children through marriage are the blessings for the soul. How eternally sad it is for children if parents give them bread to eat but do not instruct them about the Bread of Life and sit with their children in church, teaching them how to worship! How eternally sad it is if children have clothes on their backs, but they have not been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness through the sacrament of Holy Baptism! Blessed are children whose parents strive with God's help to practice what Paul preached in Ephesians: "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring

Current Bible Classes:

Sundays (10:20 am)

"2 Peter: A Last Will and Testament."

We're discussing the encouragement Peter gave to his readers concerning faith, living a godly life, and the return of Christ. How relevant these topics are for our lives of faith today!

Wednesdays (6:30 pm)

"Luther's Catechism for Adults."

Each lesson is based on a Catechism lesson, but is discussed on an adult level. We're currently discussing The "Ten Commandments." Join us "live" at church or LIVE on our church Facebook page.

them up in the training and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

It is true that raising children demands a lot of parents' time and effort, and it can be a source of tension between parents at times. Good parenting begins by moms and dads being on the same page when it comes to priorities and discipline for their children. What more important or sacred work is there for parents than to take care of the precious lambs Jesus gives them?

The best place to start is by providing a home in which children see that Mom and Dad love each other, read God's Word together, and pray regularly. What is even more important is that parent take their children regularly to God's house so that they see and hear that God loves them too. After all, the only thing that parents can take with them to heaven is their children.

*Pastor Bruce McKenney
"Forward in Christ" magazine (adapted)
July 2013*

May God continue to bless our parents as they do this most sacred work!

Serving Christ,

Pastor Schewe

November SPRY Dinner

St. Peter Recycled Youth (SPRY) is a fellowship group for those 50+. SPRY meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month for dinner and a meeting. The November 17th dinner will be hosted by Bruno & Inge Stutz in Luther Hall. Please see Inge Stutz if you have any questions.

Sisters in Service Update

- ♥ Mary Sanchez and Jan Carter will be co-presidents of SIS and will handle the responsibilities of the position until the end of the year. An election will be held for President and 2nd Vice President for a one year term in 2019.
- ♥ SIS would like to encourage all ladies in the congregation to attend the quarterly SIS meetings. The next SIS Quarterly Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 4th. Amanda Carter will be available for childcare during the meeting.
- ♥ SIS will be hosting their annual Cookie & Ornament exchange at Marilyn Hood's home on Saturday, December 1st at 7pm.
- ♥ Please bring your mite boxes to the November 4th meeting.
- ♥ At the Fall Rally at Faith Lutheran in Anderson the Home Mission Project that received the most votes was Children's Ministry Outreach. The group voted to support the Haiti Projects for their World Mission Project. If you would like more information on these projects look for the LWMS board in Luther Hall.

Save the Dates!

- ◆ Saturday, November 24—Campus Clean-up & Exterior Christmas lights
- ◆ Wednesdays (December 5, 12, and 19)—Mid-week Advent Worship
5:30 pm—Supper
6:30 pm—Advent Worship
- ◆ Saturday, December 1—SIS Cookie & Ornament Exchange—7:00 pm
- ◆ Saturday, December 8—Advent by Candlelight—7:00 pm
- ◆ Saturday, December 15—Christmas for Kids—9:00 am — 12:00 pm
- ◆ Sunday, December 16—Decorate Sanctuary after Sunday School
- ◆ Sunday, December 23—Children's Christmas Program
- ◆ Monday, December 24—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—6:30 pm



November 4—Janet Zeisser
November 5—James Ergo
November 12—Emilia Burns
November 14—Travis Armstrong
November 17—Travis Hambleton
November 22—Judy Richart-Carter
November 25—Atalia Taub
November 27—Norman Vander Poel



Church Work Day— November 24th

Please note for your calendar that we're planning a church clean-up day for Saturday, November 24th from 8:00—11:00 am. There are plenty of jobs to do both inside and outside of the church. Please plan to attend if you're able! See Travis Hambleton if you have any questions.

Those Who Serve—November

Ushers

Michael May and John Barber

Flowers

4—Robert & Janet Zeisser

11—Marilyn Hood

18—Joan Hevron

25—Travis & Catherine Hambleton

Altar Guild

Mary Dickson and Ellen Gates

Coffee & Dessert Hosts

4—Teresa Barber

11—OPEN

18—Donna Vander Poel

25—OPEN

Lawn Mowing Teams

3—Schewe & Blankenship

10—Travis Hambleton

17—Jeff Hansen & Don Sweetman

24—Carter/Hoffmeyer/Dubin

Church Cleaning

3—Michelle Taub

10—Ken Hoffmeyer

17—Jeff & Helen Hansen

24—Jo Hobensack

Luther Hall Cleaning

3—Andrew & Niki Schulz

10—Ken Hoffmeyer

17—Madeline & Travis Armstrong

24—Vicki Schewe

New Resident Mailing

Marilyn Hood

Sermon Video Editing

4—Travis Hambleton

11—Evan & Brittney Blankenship

18—Travis & Madeline Armstrong

25—Travis Hambleton



Church Council Update—October 21

- The Early Childhood Ministry Committee presented their research and plans to the Church Council. The Council is recommending that the congregation move forward with an ECM to open in Fall 2020. An open forum will be held on Sunday, October 28th. The voters will be deciding if we should go forward with an ECM at 11/4 Voters' Meeting.
- Pastor's Report: Pastor Schewe attended the Asian Ministry Conference in Wisconsin. WELS has 6 Hmong pastors, 3 Korean pastors, 1 Chinese pastor, 2 Vietnamese evangelists, among others, who currently serve in Home Missions. Mornings with Mommy is considering adding a 3rd morning because of growing need.
- Elder's Report—Membership changes: Karl Saethre requested release from membership. Elders recommend John Dickson for membership by affirmation of faith.
- Faith Lutheran—Hmong update: Council continued their discussion on the worship time for the congregation. Faith Lutheran—Hmong will have teams that participate in our building clean-up rotation and lawn care rotation.
- Trustee: We have received one estimate to install solar panels. Trustee explained the financial savings from solar could be significant for our budget but there is an initial cost of installation. Will get another estimate from different solar company.
- Next Voters' Meeting will be on November 4th. Next council meeting is scheduled for November 11th. Leo Schulz would like the congregation to know that they are invited to offer suggestions for issues that the council might address at future meetings.



Hurricane Michael—Panama City, Florida

An update from Pastor Jerome Enderle at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, Panama City:

We did not have cell phone service nor internet until last night (Oct 14) when we drove west of Panama City. Our members are all safe at least all the members we were able to contact or get to their property. We are still trying to contact a few members.



Several members have significant damage to their homes and we along with some members have delivered supplies from Christian Aid and Relief to them. The church was damaged enough that many people think it is a total loss or rebuild. We had a group here from Tallahassee yesterday who helped us clean up the mess at church.

We had our church service today in a park and everyone was encouraged and gave thanks to God. Everyone has been wonderful about helping one another in Christian love.

We are very thankful for the prayers and offers to help. Please encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ to direct offers of help and support to Christian Aid and Relief.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ at Amazing Grace.



Record Attendance at Annual OWLS Convention

OWLS at Road America. Record attendance at annual OWLS convention. The Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) were challenged to "Finish the Race" well when they held their annual convention for seniors in Elkhart Lake, Wis., Oct. 9-12. Elkhart Lake, the home of Road America, is known for its ties to auto racing, relaxation, and history. Attendees were treated to a rare opportunity to ride on the race track or visit the horse-powered world of the Wade House, a historic stage coach inn. The convention had 207 attendees from around the United States, which exceeded attendance for many recent years.



For over a decade, the OWLS have used their offerings to support the WELS European Civilian chaplaincy, which serves military personnel and WELS civilians in Europe. This year, the OWLS presented Military Services with a check for \$52,000 for work in Europe. Two convention offerings and record proceeds from a silent auction were directed for next year's gift to the work of the chaplain in Europe as well.

November 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 Daylight Saving Time Turn back clocks
4 9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hr. 11:30 Quarterly Voters SIS meetings	5	6 Fresno County Voting held in Luther Hall	7 3:30 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Class	8 7:00 Board of Elders	9	10 10-noon Fresno Park- inson's Support Group (Luther Hall)
11 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hr.	12	13 10:00 Mornings with Mommy	14 10:00 Mornings with Mommy 3:30 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Class	15	16	17 5:30pm SPRY
18 9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hr. 11:30 Armstrong Baby Shower	19 Pastoral Circuit Meeting	20	21 3:30 Youth Catechism 6:30 Thanksgiving worship	22 Thanksgiving Day	23	24 8:00—11:00 Campus Clean-up
25 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hr.	26	27 10:00 Mornings with Mommy	28 10:00 Mornings with Mommy 3:30 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Class	29	30 	

PICTURES FROM OKTOBERFEST!



Many thanks to all those who pitched in to make this a great event for everyone! Thanks to Barry Burghardt and Barry White for managing the grill. Thanks to SIS for all the great decorations, games, and activities!

Baby Shower



All ladies of the congregation are invited to a baby shower for Madeline Armstrong on Sunday, November 18th at 11:30 am. The shower is hosted by SIS. Madeline is due on December 24th and is registered at Buy Buy Baby. Madeline and Travis are not going to find out if it's a boy or girl before the baby is born—so we'll all be surprised in December!



If you would like to include information in a future newsletter, please contact Catherine Hambleton at secretary@stpeterclovis.org