



# THE MESSENGER

2550 Gettysburg Ave.

Clovis, CA 93611



St. Peter Lutheran Church—Clovis, CA

February 2018

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www.stpeterclovis.org

## Lenten Worship—Sundays and Wednesdays



**JESUS CHRIST**  
IS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

Lent begins on February 14 with the commemoration of Ash Wednesday.

The 40 days of Lent are a sacred, solemn time for Christians to remember the accounts of Holy Week, when our Savior taught his disciples in the Upper Room, prayed in Gethsemane, was arrested and condemned, and was crucified and buried.

Despite the sad accounts that we hear, we have an inner comfort and joy throughout the season, knowing that Jesus willingly endured all this for our eternal salvation.

Lutherans have long enjoyed gathering for two services each week during Lent. Our regular Sunday services will continue the series on “The Lord’s Prayer.” You’ll notice some distinct parallels with Lenten thoughts with some of the petitions—“Your will be done,” “Lead Us Not into Temptation,” etc.

Our Wednesday services will follow the theme “Jesus Christ Is Our Great High Priest,” and will feature devotions based on readings from the book of Hebrews. Once again we will enjoy a rotation of preachers for our Wednesday services. Pastor Daniel Schroeder from St. Peter, Modesto, and Pastor Matthew Natsis from Good Shepherd, Livermore will rotate with Pastor Schewe.

Supper will be served in Luther Hall at 5:30 pm on Wednesdays, provided by our SIS group. You’re not required to bring any food along, but if you’d like to bring something to pass, contact the ladies on the signup list by the kitchen to inquire about it.



Worship will be held immediately after the meal at 6:30 pm. May God bless us with a faith-filled Lenten walk this year. And may we look ahead to the Easter season that lies beyond, when our solemn days of worship will break forth in “Alleluia! He is risen!”

*“Mornings with Mommy” enjoyed ‘Colors and Shapes’ and ‘Winter Fun’ at their meetings in January. 161 different children have attended at least one session of MWM since it began in September.*





Dear brothers and sisters at St. Peter,

How much do you know about Lent? Here are a few questions to test your knowledge:

1. What color adorns our sanctuary during Lent?
  - A. Gray
  - B. Teal
  - C. Purple
2. What word is traditionally not said during Lent?
  - A. "Alleluia"
  - B. "Satan"
  - C. "Easter"
3. The word "Lent" is a derivation of a word that means
  - A. "Spring"
  - B. "Sad"
  - C. "Mourn"
4. A proper custom to follow on Ash Wednesday is
  - A. To observe silence in the evening
  - B. To receive an ash cross on the forehead
  - C. To greet family with "Shalom Aleychem" ("Peace to you")
5. What minor festival always falls in the season of Lent?
  - A. Festival of St. Joseph
  - B. Festival of St. Mary Magdalene
  - C. Confession of St. Peter
6. What is the last Sunday of Lent
  - A. Whitsunday
  - B. Easter Sunday
  - C. Palm Sunday
7. Lent is said to be 40 days long, although it actually consists of 46 days in length. Why?
  - A. Sundays are not counted
  - B. Saturdays (Sabbath) are not counted
  - C. A counting error when Lent first developed

You can check for the correct answers on the back page.

However, we should remember more about Lent than the things listed above. Lent is not a "trivia contest," but a time that I'd ask you to remember some vital things, such as:

## Current Bible Classes:

### Sundays (10:20 am)

"JAMES" —We will continue our discussions on this unique NT letter. At times, casual readers have felt James' emphasis on good works contradicts Paul's clear words on salvation "by grace alone." We'll be discussing this, and other doctrines as well.

### Wednesdays (6:30 pm)

"ELIJAH: Fiery Prophet of God"— We will look at the life and ministry of Elijah up through Ash Wednesday, and then break for our Lenten midweek services. This class is "live" at Luther Hall, and also broadcast LIVE on our church Facebook page.

First, in the sadness of the accounts and the minor keys of the hymns, don't be weighed down by a depressed spirit during Lent. It's necessary for us to know these accounts and fitting for our vivid songs of Jesus' suffering and death, but it is also a time to see comfort and peace primarily in the salvation our Savior has won for us.

Second, consider coming to our midweek Wednesdays if you haven't done this in the past. We have a nice supper offered for your convenience, and there is much planning and preparation put into our evening worship for a meaningful experience. Also, these are the services where the "Passion History" events of Holy Week are read.

Third, bring a friend along during Lent! Make sure you attend with them, so you can give some background or explanation to the readings and services. And make sure you invite them on Easter Sunday as well, when our joyful "He is risen, indeed" breaks forth!

Blessings on your Lenten walk of faith,

*Pastor Schewe*

## February SPRY Dinner

St. Peter Recycled Youth (SPRY) is a fellowship group for those 55+. SPRY meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month for dinner and a meeting.

On Saturday, February 17th at 5:30 pm, SPRY have their monthly dinner. The dinner will be hosted by Don and Patti Sweetman in Luther Hall. For more information, contact Inge Stutz.

## Sisters in Service Update

(meeting 1/28/18)

SIS Bulletin Board & Cabinet—If you'd like to see the latest SIS news, look for the bulletin board by the Luther Hall kitchen for details throughout the year. Thank you to Mary Sanchez for creating the bulletin board, Jan Carter for the repurposing of an old dresser for the cabinet, and Bob Dickson for his assist with his power saw!

SIS Luncheon—The annual Heart SIS luncheon will be held on Feb 4th at Marie Callendar's Restaurant near Fresno State. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Lenten suppers—Beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, SIS will be hosting Lenten suppers at 5:30 (before the worship service at 6:30). If you'd like to help with these suppers, please add your name to the sign up sheet in Luther Hall. See June Lewis with questions

LWMS Redwood Circuit Rally will be at Apostles in San Jose on Saturday, April 24th.

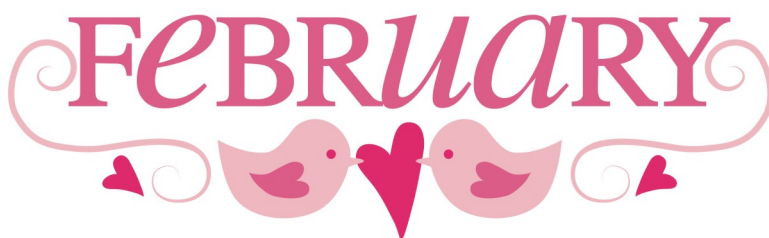
55th Annual LWMS Convention will be held in Green Bay, Wisconsin June 21-24

Service Projects:

Mornings with Mommy—SIS has helped with a financial gift and several ladies assist in the program.

Christmas Decorations—A group is making felt covers for our large outdoor nativity set so that it can be safely stored in the attic during the year.

The next SIS Quarterly Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 29th.



## Those Who Serve—February

### Ushers

Norm Vander Poel & John Barber

### Flowers

4—Bruno & Inge Stutz

11—Travis & Catherine Hambleton

18—Brian & June Lewis

25—Jeff & Helen Hansen

### Altar Guild

Inge Stutz & Helen Hansen

### Coffee & Dessert Hosts

4—Ellen Gates

11—Patti Sweetman

18—Jo Hobensack

25—Mary Dickson & June Lewis

### Lawn Mowing Teams

3—Winter Schedule

10—Travis Hambleton

17—Jeff Hansen & Don Sweetman

24—J. Carter/Hoffmeyer/Dubin

### Church Cleaning

Mary Schulz

### Luther Hall Cleaning

Mary Schulz

## February Birthdays

Feb 3—Amanda Ergo

Feb 5—Joshua Bornemann

Feb 6—Amilcar Jones

Feb 7—Abigail Schewe

Feb 12—Mark Schewe

Feb 14—Keegan Fitzgerald

Feb 17—Hannah Schewe

Feb 19—Brian Lewis

Feb 21—Mike Fitzgerald

Feb 26—Samuel Farley

Feb 27—Jeremy Harville

Feb 28—Mary Dickson

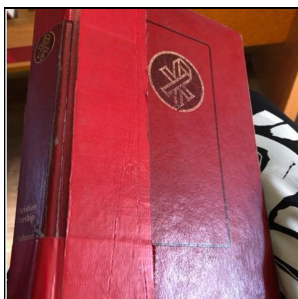
Feb 28—Helen Hansen

# January Voters' Meeting Update (1/28/18)

- In May we will observe the 30th anniversary of the dedication of our church building.
- Mornings with Mommy: Since the program began in September, 131 children from 61 families have participated at least once.
- Outreach: An Outreach committee met to discuss Early Childhood Ministry options for our church. They will meet again in two weeks. We are planning to move forward with getting a team of 3-4 MLC students for a week to help with outreach sometime during their Spring Break (Feb 24 – Mar 12) and/or at the end of their school year (May 13).
- Trustee Report: Sierra View Nursery worked on the Luther Hall gardens and some of the church building gardens. They will be continuing their work again soon. The next church work day is Saturday, March 24th.
- Minor adjustments were made to the 2018 budget now that updated insurance numbers were available.
- At the direction of the council, Travis Hambleton will be working with the City of Clovis on a Site Plan Amendment to allow us to landscape the south and east sides of the property if we wish. The cost of the permit is \$750.
- The council has decided to bring the issue of the pew fund to the voters. At the April voters' meeting, the voters will be asked to decide whether the pew fund should continue in its current state, or be released into the general fund/special projects in accordance with the wishes of the people who donated to the pew fund.
- Elder's Report: Ellen Gates & Brad Carter have been accepted into membership by affirmation of faith.
- Next council meeting is scheduled for February 11. Don Sweetman would like the congregation to know that they are invited to offer suggestions for issues that the council might address at future meetings.



**Hymnals Needed!** Our WELS mission on the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Bylas, AZ, needs your help, but they are thanking God that they have this problem. Attendance is growing each week. They had 130 in worship last week and by the time the sermon started, they had 5 rows of overflow seating. Therefore, as a result of that rapid growth, they had another Sunday without enough hymnals! If anyone has a few hymnals to spare so they don't run short each Sunday, they would definitely appreciate them. They can be sent to: Our Savior's Mission, 295 US Hwy 70, #18, Bylas, AZ 85530. Any condition is acceptable. The photo



below shows the condition of the ones they are currently using. Between the 3 southern Rez churches (Peridot, San Carlos and Bylas) they could use an extra 50 - 100 hymnals.

**WELS Boy's Blessing in Cancer Treatment:** 6 year-old Jackson Poulos (member at Victory of the Lamb; Franklin, WI). Jackson and parents attended the President's State of the Union Address as Speaker Paul Ryan's special guest. Jackson was diagnosed with stage 4 Rhabdomyosarcoma cancer in his GI tract and abdomen which is extremely rare. Last August, his family made the trek to Texas to see a surgeon who specialized in this. Only 2 of 9 patients with Embryonal Rhabdomyosarcoma that had this surgery survived long-term, so the doctor wanted to try a new chemo therapy. Thankfully on the DAY of surgery the FDA approved the change of this chemo in Jackson's case. Jackson was the FIRST person to have this new chemo administered through his belly during surgery. Congressman Paul Ryan's office played a pivotal role in getting them the FDA answer sooner than usual.

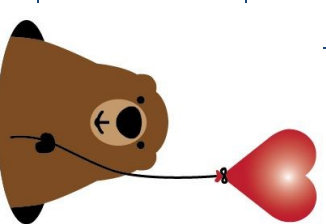


**Prayers and God's Blessings** for Pastor Scott Stone and his wife Sandi as he begins his retirement. Pastor Stone was serving at [St. John Lutheran Church](#) in Vacaville, CA, and January 8th was his final service prior to retirement. Congratulations!



# February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hour	5	6 7:00 Board of Elders	7 6:30 Bible Class	8 11:00 ECM Committee 4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Basics Course	9	10
11 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour 11:35 Church Council	12	13 10:00 Mornings with Mommy	14 <b>Lent begins</b> 10:00 Mornings with Mommy 5:30 Lenten Supper 6:30 Ash Wednesday	15 4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Basics Course	16	17 5:30 pm SPRY
18 9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hour	19	20	21 5:30 Lenten Supper 6:30 Lenten Worship	22 4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Basics Course	23	24
25 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour	26 Pastoral Circuit meeting (Livermore)	27 10:00 Mornings with Mommy	28 10:00 Mornings with Mommy 5:30 Lenten Supper 6:30 Lenten Worship	1 4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Basics Course		



## Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Dorothy Teufel—Beginning cancer treatments

Patti Sweetman—Healing from neck surgery

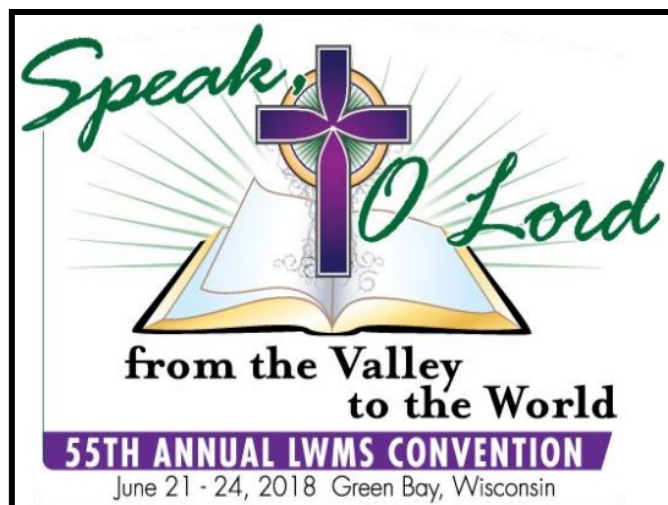
Vicki Schewe—Healing from foot surgery

Donna Vander Poel—Medical testing results coming soon

Bruno Stutz—Healing from dislocated shoulder

Joshua Schulz—Broken collar bone

Mettabel Taub—Upcoming brain surgery on Feb. 6



## WELS Hymnal Project

The WELS Hymnal Project wants your feedback as it works on finalizing which of the more than 700 hymns from *Christian Worship* and *Christian Worship: Supplement* will be included in the new hymnal coming out in 2021.

Every month the WELS Hymnal Project will post a selection of hymns online, indicating which hymns are slated to be kept and which are slated to be cut. You can view the monthly list and, if you want, choose up to 10 hymns from the cut list that you would like to see kept in the new hymnal. To review this month's list of hymns and take part in the process, visit [welshymnal.com](http://welshymnal.com).

## Mornings with Mommy—February

We've been blessed to have about 161 children from over 60 neighborhood families participate in at least one "Mornings with Mommy" play-date. Continue to keep this program in your prayers as we get to know these families.

Coming in February:

Feb. 13 / 14 Red, Hearts, and Valentine's Day

Feb. 20 / 21 Moon, Stars, and Night

Thank you to all our great volunteers who help with this program!

## Volunteers Needed!

The Altar Guild is looking for new volunteers to serve. The altar guild prepares the altar on Saturdays and cleans up on Sundays after the worship service. The typical rotation is one month on, and two months off. You would be partnered with one other person for your assigned month. If you think you might be able to help, please see Marilyn Hood.

## Church Work Day—March

Please mark your calendars for the next church work day. We'll meet on Saturday, March 24th from 8:00—11:00. There is a lot of work to be done to spruce up our gardens and buildings before the Easter worship service on Sunday, April 1.



Answers to the Lenten quiz: C—A—A—B—A—C—A.



If you would like to include information in a future newsletter, please contact Catherine Hambleton at [secretary@stpeterclovis.org](mailto:secretary@stpeterclovis.org)