



THE MESSENGER

2550 Gettysburg Ave.
Clovis, CA 93611

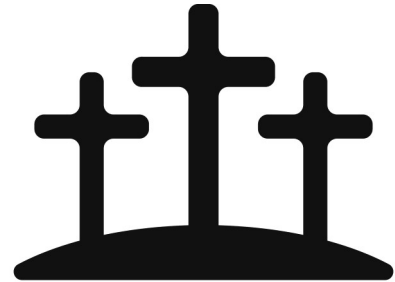
 St. Peter Lutheran Church—Clovis, CA

March 2018
stpeterclovis@gmail.com / 559-578-5700
www.stpeterclovis.org

Holy Week and Easter Day Schedule

Holy Week is the final week of March, the high point of our Church Year when we gather for a number of special worship opportunities. Our schedule will be:

Maundy Thursday (3/29)	6:30 pm (communion)
Good Friday (3/30)	6:30 pm (Tenebrae service)
Easter Sunday (4/1)	6:30 am Sunrise service
	8:45 - 9:30 am Easter breakfast
	10:00 am Festival service



Supper will not be held before the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. After the Easter Festival Service, there will be a Kids Easter Egg Hunt and some other activities, along with refreshments.

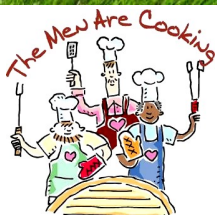
If it's been a while since you've joined us for Easter breakfast, make plans to come with the family and enjoy this time together. Some of our men will be cooking for you, and it's a special time of fellowship that we can share on this momentous holiday!

And, don't forget that we also have three midweek Wednesday evenings remaining until Holy Week. Supper is hosted by our SIS Group at 5:30 pm, and worship is at 6:30 pm.



March 7	Our Perfect High Priest
March 14	Our High Priest who Makes Us Priests
March 21	Our High Priest's Great Altar

Easter Breakfast



*Breakfast served
Beginning at 8:45am*

Easter Egg Hunt



*Following Easter
Festival Service*



Dear brothers and sisters at St. Peter,

*How blest are they who trust in Christ
When we and those we love must part.
We yield them up, for go we must,
But do not lose them from our heart.*

So wrote Fred Pratt Green in his hymn that we include in the "Death and Burial" section of our hymnal.

I thought of those words often during the past two weeks, as I took an unexpected trip to the Midwest to be with my mother. She suffered a severe heart attack that put her in the ICU for 8 days before the Lord took her home to himself in heaven.

I was able to be with her in her hospital room during the last 4 days. She was not conscious, but was possibly able to hear us. As time went on, hope faded that she would be making a recovery. Systems were shutting down, treatments were not changing her situation much, and the aggressive medications were having adverse effects on her body in other ways.

I thought of the words of the hymn verse above.

I didn't want to say good-bye to my mom on this side of heaven. She had been with me all along, of course. She raised us three children in the Lord's ways and took care of all our physical needs at home. She went to countless sporting events, recitals, concerts, and plays during our grade school, high school, and college years. And she didn't do it because it was top notch entertainment! She was our biggest fan and supporter.

She was the one who dropped me off at Northwestern College as I began my path of studying for the ministry. And the cards she sent me at Christmas, birthdays, Valentine's Day, and other occasions always were full of encouragement that the Lord was leading me along, and carrying out his plan in my life.

But now the Lord was calling her home. It was clear. Her damaged heart and body simply could not overcome what had happened. *"We yield them up, for go we must, but do not lose them from our heart."*

My mom was blessed with 79 years of life in this world, an active life of walking, traveling, and living at home with my

Current Bible Classes:

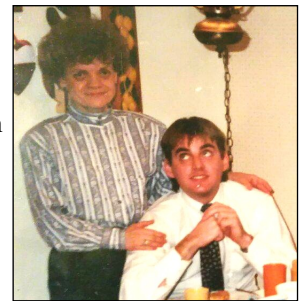
Sundays (10:20 am)

"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)

After the season of Lent is over, we'll be finishing up *"ELIJAH: Fiery Prophet of God."*

dad. And although we as Christians know that we are all day-to-day, I had hoped that we would have her with our family for more years, perhaps even 90, as her sister Helen had lived to be.



But it was not to be. The day she died was sad and reflective, but it was not without peace, hope, and comfort. She knew her Lord so well. She knew each day with her children and grandchildren was a blessing from God's hand. And she was ready anytime he might call her out of this world. She had even said that many times!

So we yield her up. It was not easy. In fact, it was terribly difficult. But we know that we will see her again at our Savior's side, and in a perfect place that Jesus has won for us and promised to take us to. We will be reunited and we will praise his name forever for his grace and goodness to us.

I pray that as the Lord leads your family through days when you must "yield up" your loved ones, you would have such comfort too. And I pray God leads you to thank him for the days he granted, and accept that he does all things well and in his time. What a blessing!

Rejoicing in the joy that Easter gives us all,

Pastor Schewe

March SPRY Activities

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. On Saturday, March 17th at 5:30 pm, SPRY have their monthly dinner. The dinner will be hosted by Ellen Gates and Jeff & Helen Hansen in Luther Hall. For more information, contact Inge Stutz.

Sisters in Service Update

- ♥ 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.
- ♥ Lenten suppers—Thanks for all those who have hosted!
- ♥ LWMS Redwood Circuit Rally: Saturday, April 24th at Apostles in San Jose
- ♥ 55th Annual LWMS Convention: Green Bay, Wisconsin June 21-24
- ♥ 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.
- ♥ Meals—Thank you to all our SIS members who have provided meals for our injured and ill families!
- ♥ The next SIS Quarterly Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 29th.



In Memorium

The Lord took home Jeanne Schewe, 79, of Watertown, on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018.

Funeral services were held on Thursday at 7 p.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Watertown with the Rev. Anthony Schultz officiating. Burial was at Arlington Park in Milwaukee. Family and friends may gather at the church on Thursday from 4 p.m. until the time of the service. Memorials, if desired, may be directed to Luther Preparatory School or St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

Online condolences may be made at www.hafemeisterfh.com.

D. Jeanne Gretta was born on March 23, 1938, in Keisterville, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Adam and Suzanna (nee Strauch) Gretta. She was a 1956 graduate of South High School in Cleveland, Ohio, where she was valedictorian. She received her bachelor's degree with a major in education and a minor in music from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. Jeanne had been employed as a teacher at Racine Lutheran High School, where she met her future husband, who was attending Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. On June 22, 1963, she was married to Harold Schewe in Milwaukee. Jeanne had been employed at numerous other high schools, including Luther Preparatory School and Watertown schools. She was a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Watertown, where she headed Sunday school for eight years and was their chief librarian.

Through her love of genealogy, she found and visited relatives and communicated with them in Slovakia. Jeanne had a strong interest in Slovakia. She taught ESL for two and a half years in the Czech Republic through Thoughts of Faith as well as taught vacation Bible



school for three summers in Ukraine and one summer in Latvia. Her love of music and her musical talent was passed on to her grandchildren. Most of all, Jeanne loved being a grandma. Spending time with her grandchildren and attending their many events kept her busy and joyful, with her eight grandchildren attending Luther Prep.

Jeanne is survived by her husband; children, Greta Konradt of Neustadt/Weinstrasse, Germany, Mark (Victoria) Schewe of Clovis, CA, and Krista (Jeffrey) Mittelstadt of Lake Elmo, MN; grandchildren Hanna and Sara Konradt; Rachel, Emily, Joel, Abigail, and Hannah Schewe; Alana, Chloe, Josiah, Jedidiah, Jonah, and Jerusha Mittelstadt; siblings, Alma Manuzak and Richard Gretta, both of Cleveland, OH; sisters-in-law, Jean Gretta, Melanie Herge and Gayle Gretta; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and 8 siblings: George, Helen, John, Frank, Evelyn, Melvin, Robert, and James.

Those Who Serve—March

Ushers

Leo Schulz & Brian Lewis

Flowers

4—Bob & Mary Dickson

11—Jan Carter

18—Ellen Gates

25—Robert & Janet Zeisser

Altar Guild

Mary Dickson & Ellen Gates

Coffee & Dessert Hosts

4—Michelle Taub

11—Jan Carter

18—Inge Stutz

25—Teresa Barber

Lawn Mowing Teams

3—A. Schulz/J. Schulz/T. Armstrong

10—Leo Schulz/Jonathan Farley

17—Curtis Garner/Barry Burghardt

24—Mike & Leslie Fitzgerald

31—Stutz/M. Farley/Dickson

Church Cleaning

3—Kelly Curry

10—Bruno & Inge Stutz

17—Michelle Taub

24—Ken Hoffmeyer

31—Jeff & Helen Hansen

Luther Hall Cleaning

3—Bob & Mary Dickson

10—Don Sweetman

17—Andrew & Niki Schulz

24—Ken Hoffmeyer

31—Travis & Madeline Armstrong

February Council Meeting Update (2/11/18)

- At the direction of the council, Travis Hambleton has been 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 \$775.
- The church council has decided that the offering from the Lenten mid-week services will go to tuition support for Emily & Rachel Schewe as they are studying to become called workers.
- Outreach: An Outreach committee met to discuss Early Childhood Ministry options for our church. They have completed part 1 of 5 from the WELS Planning Binder. They will continue with their discussions.
- Trustee Report: Sierra View Nursery returned to work on the Luther Hall gardens and some of the church building gardens. The next church work day is Saturday, March 24th.
- Fresno Parkinson's Support Group is considering using Luther Hall to hold their monthly meetings. There are some insurance issues to resolve but they hope to begin meeting soon.
- 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: Robert English and Anncy English have been accepted into membership by adult confirmation and adult baptism (Anncy). The elders are looking into getting a retired pastor to lead the worship service on March 11th when Pastor Schewe is visiting his children at Luther Prep.
- Next council meeting is scheduled for March 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.



New WELS Catechism and Personal Bible Study

You may not be aware that our synod, as a part of our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, has recently produced a revision of Martin Luther's Small Catechism. The revision is not a revision of the chief parts of the catechism or Luther's familiar answers to the question, "What does this mean?" What have been revised are the detailed questions and answers that expand on what Luther wrote.

Luther often encouraged faithful Christians to study and review the catechism as a part of their daily devotional lives. With that in mind, the newly revised WELS catechism is formatted in such a way to encourage our members to use the catechism on a daily basis, long after they have been confirmed. As in the previous version of the catechism, Scripture passages are included to provide the clear biblical basis for the doctrines we believe, and a continuing review of those teachings is always helpful in strengthening faith and increasing our knowledge of what the Bible teaches.

But in addition to those passages, the new catechism has been designed to flow for a more natural read. Each section begins with an introduction and transitional thoughts and concludes with a "Connections" section that provides application and could also serve as the basis for personal or family devotions. The new catechism provides additional guidance through Bible history narratives. It also features illustrations, thought questions, and applications of biblical truths in a way that makes it a practical and easy-to-use tool for continuing study of God's Word.

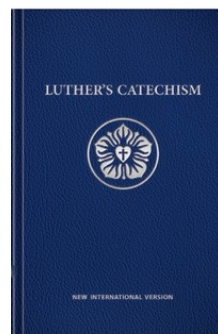
The catechism is not just for kids. Consider getting a copy for your own devotional use. Copies are available for purchase from Northwestern Publishing House at nph.net/catechism.

March Birthdays

March 1—Vicki Schewe
March 5—Linda Tran
March 5—Mettabel Taub
March 6—Matthew Evers
March 11—Jeff Carter
March 18—Mike Farley
March 19—Jack Hambleton
March 23—Robert Zeisser

March Anniversaries

March 4—Travis & Madeline Armstrong
March 7—Bob & Mary Dickson
March 31—Justin & Sarah Dubin



March 2018

Sun

Mon

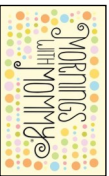

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00 Worship (comm) Sunday School Choir sings 10:15 Family Bible Hour		6:30 Bible Basics Course	5:30 Lenten Supper 6:30 Lenten Worship			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour		10:00 Mornings with Mommy 	10:00 Mornings with Mommy	4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Basics Course		5:30 SPRY in Luther Hall (Hosted by Ellen Gates, Jeff & Helen Hansen)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hour 11:35 Church Council	Pastoral Circuit Meeting (Modesto)		5:30 Lenten Supper 6:30 Lenten Worship	4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Basics Course		8:00—11:00 Church Work Day 
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:00 Palm Sunday Worship Sunday School Choir sings 10:15 Family Bible Hour		10:00 Mornings with Mommy	10:00 Mornings with Mommy	6:30 Maundy Thursday	6:30 Good Friday	CHURCH WORK DAY



Hosanna
in the highest!

Wednesday Evening Suppers

Before our Wednesday evening Lenten worship services, supper is prepared by SIS volunteers in Luther Hall. Supper is served at 5:30pm and the worship service begins at 6:30pm. All are welcome to attend!



"Mornings with Mommy"

Mommies! Play-dates for March are:

March 14 / 15 Fun with Food
March 27 / 28 Easter and Eggs

Join us to enjoy educational play with your children, and also to meet the neighborhood moms and families who are coming to this program.



Daylight Saving Time Begins

A reminder that Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 11. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour!



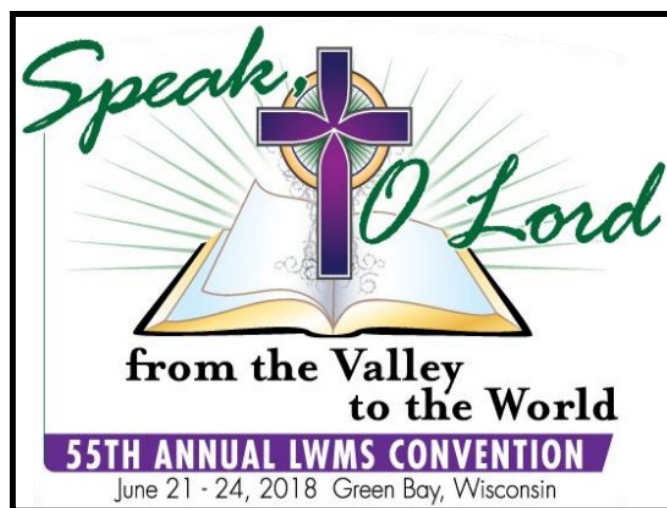
Heart SIS Luncheon

Sisters in Service (SIS) held their annual SIS Heart Luncheon on Sunday, February 12 at Marie Callender's. It was a great opportunity for Christian fellowship. Thanks to all those who helped to organize the event!



Church Work Day—March 24

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.



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