



ST. PETER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

2550 Gettysburg Ave.
Clovis, CA 93611

 St. Peter Lutheran Church—Clovis, CA

May 2018
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Easter Baptism and Confirmations

On Easter Day, we were blessed to welcome Robert and Anncy-Ho English into our church. Both of them were confirmed as communicant members, and Anncy was baptized. May the Lord keep them in their baptismal and confirmation vows all their life!

Bob and Anncy have quite a busy schedule, operating dentists offices in both Fresno and San Jose, as well as traveling around the country to conventions and gatherings. But make sure to greet and welcome them when you see them at St. Peter's!



Welcome

Mother's Day Tea

Sisters in Service is hosting a Mother's Day Tea on Saturday, May 12th at 2:00 pm in Luther Hall. Invite your mother, your daughter, or a friend. Bring your favorite cup of tea and wear your tea time hat. Please see the sign up sheet in Luther Hall for more details.



30th Anniversary Celebration—June 10

Looking ahead, we will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the dedication of our church sanctuary building. The chapel building was completed and dedicated on May 22, 1988. We will be having a 30th Anniversary celebration on June 10, which will include a special worship service; memorabilia, pictures, and even video from the building of the chapel; and food and activities. A committee is being formed by Don Sweetman to make plans. Please participate on the committee if you are inclined. They will be meeting after Bible class on May 6. Talk to Don if you are interested!



Dear brothers and sisters at St. Peter,

Please take note of the important discussions that will be taking place in the month of May. Your input and questions are being solicited as our church considers whether to open a pre-school in fall of 2019.

The background is this: With the obvious burgeoning of the neighborhoods around our church with new, young families, and with the success of our "Mornings with Mommy" program connecting with many of them in the past months, an **Early Childhood Ministry (ECM) Committee** was formed in January, tasked by our Church Council with discussing the new concept of opening an ECM.

An "ECM" is our synod's term for a pre-school and/or kindergarten, which can serve children anywhere from three to five years old, depending on how the program is drawn up.

To guide committee discussions, the ECM Committee is using the synod's planning binder called "Building Blocks." Five steps are laid out that can lead a church from initial discussions up to opening the doors of an ECM. The committee is in Step 2 of the binder, when congregational input is gathered.

This input is best gathered by "pulse group discussions," where church members can ask questions about ECMs, express support or concerns about such a program, or simply attend to be informed on where discussions are at this point.

Our ECM Committee is organizing a short 10-15 minute presentation for after church on May 13. This will give you information about the actual pulse group discussions, which are being planned for the following Sunday, May 20.

May 20th is a very important day for the ECM Committee's work.

Committee members will talk to a group of about 8-10 people at a time, to ask and answer questions. They will record the input that our members give. Obviously, opening a new ministry like this will involve a commitment of space, energy, staffing, and financial support by our budget.

The question might be asked, "Why not just continue with a 'Mornings with Mommy' program? The answer is that it would indeed be wise to continue that program, regardless of

Current Bible Classes:

Sundays (10:20 am)

"JOSEPH: Forgiving Brother" — Each Sunday we will be discussing events in the OT Joseph's life, and the lessons we can learn from his journey of faith.

Wednesdays (6:30 pm)

At 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday, we are enjoying the series "**Glory Revealed.**" The series is based on memorable accounts in Jesus' ministry where he revealed his glory in certain ways. Join us "live" at church, or LIVE on our church Facebook page!

whether we open an ECM or not.

However, realize that the "Mornings with Mommy" program simply provides general play-dates for one hour at a time, which are simply intended to strike up friendships and offer invitations to our Sunday mornings. This is a good thing, but it appears that the Lord is bringing many young families to us who are interested. In an ECM we could teach the gospel directly to children on a daily basis, schedule children to sing and participate on Sunday mornings in a way that our synod's schools do, and also offer baptisms and instruction to family units that enroll. Not only that, but a "Mornings with Mommy" program can serve as a feeder for students to attend the ECM when they are old enough.

Look for the events above during the month of May, and bring your thoughts to the discussion. It certainly has been an exciting time for the ECM Committee, as we have discussed what the Lord could do to bless both children and our church through such a ministry.

May God lead us,

Pastor Schewe

ECM Committee: Mike Fitzgerald (chairman), Leslie Fitzgerald, Jeff & Helen Hansen, Ellen Gates, John & Teresa Barber, Matt & Shay Evers

May and June 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, May 19th at 5:30 pm, SPRY have their monthly dinner. The dinner will be hosted by Bob and Mary Dickson in Luther Hall.

In June, SPRY will not hold their usual dinner meeting. Instead, they will be going to a New Wrinkles performance. New Wrinkles is a volunteer cast aged 55+ that performs at Fresno City College. This year's show is "On the Road to Broadway." For more information, contact Inge Stutz.



Sisters in Service Update

- ♥ General Meeting April 29th
- ♥ New service project idea is being introduced by Jan Carter and Mary Sanchez. It's a "Spruce up the Kitchen" project. More details to come!
- ♥ 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.
- ♥ 55th Annual LWMS Convention: Green Bay, Wisconsin June 21-24
- ♥ The next SIS Quarterly Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 29th.



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| May 4—Adam Farley | May 14—Donna Vander Poel |
| May 4—Roy Evers | May 15—Keren Farley |
| | May 20—Jo Hobensack |

Prayers of Thanksgiving!

We are thankful that God protected Pastor Timothy Bourman and his wife Amanda from harm on April 17th. Pastor and Amanda were on the Southwest Airlines flight that made an emergency landing in Philadelphia. In Pastor's words: "I prayed and God sent his angels. Engine blew. Flaps stopped working. Big hole in the plane. We lost one of our friends in the middle of it. I have never been so scared and at the same time trusting and prayerful. Remember to tell your children of God's love in Christ while you still can. That's all I could think when we were going down. It's all that really matters. Life looks different after something like this." Amanda shared her thoughts during the emergency landing of the Southwest flight. "My husband grabbed my hand and just started praying," Amanda said. "The first thought I had was I don't want my kids to grow up without their parents." Amanda explained in detail what it was like watching a woman nearly get sucked out of the plane in mid-air, and how a heroic cowboy came to her rescue. "I heard this woman scream about midway up the plane and then all of sudden I saw this big, tall cowboy," she said. "You could hear the wind whooshing like out of the plane itself. We thought a door had popped open, but we found out later that a window had broke and a woman was being sucked out of the plane. The cowboy then pulled her back into the plane and somehow covered the window itself." Pastor Bourman currently serves at [Sure Foundation](#) in Middle Village, New York.

Those Who Serve—May

Ushers

Norman Vander Poel & Travis Hambleton

Flowers

6—Don & Patti Sweetman

13—Donna Vander Poel

20—Ellen Gates

27—Jo Hobensack

Altar Guild

Dorothy Teufel & Jan Carter

Coffee & Dessert Hosts

6—Patti Sweetman

13—Donna Vander Poel

20—Mary Dickson

27—Jo Hobensack

Lawn Mowing Teams

5—A.Schulz, J.Schulz, Armstrong

12—Leo Schulz & Jonathan Farley

19—Curtis Garner & Barry Burghardt

26—Mike & Leslie Fitzgerald

Church Cleaning

5—Bruno & Inge Stutz

12—Michelle Taub

19—Ken Hoffmeyer

26—Jeff & Helen Hansen

Luther Hall Cleaning

5—Don Sweetman

12—Andrew & Niki Schulz

19—Ken Hoffmeyer

26—Travis & Madeline Armstrong



April Council Meeting Update (4/8/18)

• Topics for 4/29/18 Voters' Meeting:

1. Council recommends the voters approve accepting the *required* change of mortgage payment schedule. We will no longer be receiving a special interest rate. We will be receiving a standard rate.
2. Council will be recommending for the voters that the terms for the elder and trustee positions be changed from 2 years to 3 years. This will allow for one elder and one trustee to be up for election at each yearly cycle.
3. The new slate of council-recommended officers will be presented to the voters. Not every position is up for election at this time. These are the council's recommendations for the open offices:

President—Leo Schulz; Vice President—Joshua Bornemann; Recording Secretary—Travis Armstrong; Financial Secretary—Norm Vander Poel; Elder—Ken Hoffmeyer; Elder—Jeff Hansen; Education Secretary—John Barber; Outreach—Don Sweetman; Stewardship—Bob Dickson; Trustee—Barry Burghardt; Trustee—Curtis Garner

- A committee is being formed to plan the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the dedication of our sanctuary (May 22, 1988). Celebration will be held on June 10th.
- The church received 2 anonymous gifts. One for \$4,000 dedicated for Pastor's retirement fund. The other gift is for \$20,000 for early childhood ministry, specifically for a director/called-worker.
- Outreach is researching having a booth at the Clovis Farmer's Market (last Friday of each month.)
- Pastor Schewe is planning a vacation for June 14-28. On June 17th, Pastor Jonathan Stern will be preaching and doing a presentation on our synod's ministries. On June 24th, the service will be led by an elder with a video sermon.
- Next council meeting is scheduled for May 13th. 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.

Your Time of Grace Video Devotion



Prayers and God's Blessings for the changes that are taking place with the Time of Grace broadcasts. After Easter Sunday 2019,

Pastor Mark Jeske will be transitioning out of the role as lead speaker on the Time of Grace television program. As part of that transition, and to capture the next generation of viewers by injecting new energy into their core message, the role of lead speaker will be assumed by Pastor Mike Novotny of Appleton, Wisconsin—a stellar and talented pastor who adheres to the same messages of spiritual growth and renewal they've proclaimed all along. You may already

be familiar with Pastor Mike because he has been a Time of Grace contributing writer, a regular speaker on the Your Time of Grace video devotions, and a host and occasional speaker on the Time of Grace television program. Production will be moving to 922Church The CORE in Appleton. In fact, filming already began there in early January 2018. We thank Pastor Jeske for his faithful service to our Lord through this ministry for the past 17 years and we welcome Pastor Novotny.



Oldest WELS Member

Erna Zahn, a WELS member in New Ulm, Minnesota, became a super centenarian in April. Says she feels great at 110! On April 14th, Erna celebrated her 110th birthday! She was born in 1908. Last year, she rode a horse on her birthday. "Eat breakfast. It's what keeps me going." "I don't skip meals," she said. Her diet includes daily ice cream. Her family members credited her strong faith in family, God and using prayer to get through some of life's bigger challenges, but never praying for more money. She married Meilahn Zahn in 1935. He was head of the Dr. Martin Luther College music department from 1962 to 1975. They remained together throughout his life and had six children. Their oldest son Richard is nearly 82. In the United States, only 22 out of every 100,000 people reach age 100.



May 2018

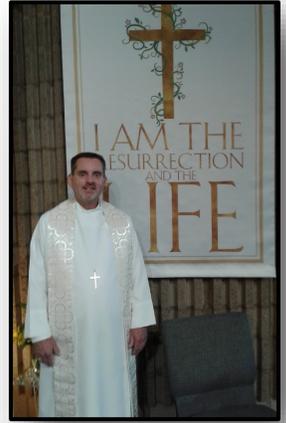
Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
6 9:00 Worship (comm.) 10:15 Family Bible Hour 11:15 30th Anniversary Committee	7	8 10:00 Mornings with Mommy	9 10:00 Mornings with Mommy 4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Class	10 6:30 Bible Basics Course	11	12 10-noon Fresno Parkin-son's Support Group (Luther Hall) 2:00 Mother's Day Tea
13 Mother's Day 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour	14	15	16 4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Class	17	18	19 5:30 SPRY (Luther Hall) Hosted by the Dicksons
20 9:00 Worship (comm.) 10:15 Pulse Group Discussions (ECM) 11:30 Church Council	21 Pastoral Circuit Meeting (Modesto)	22 10:00 Mornings with Mommy	23 10:00 Mornings with Mommy 4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Class	24	25	26
27 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour	28	29	30 4:00 Youth Catechism 6:30 Bible Class	31	1 SPRY Outing to "New Wrinkles"	



He is Risen

Some Scenes from Easter Day!



Moms, Register Online Today for the May Sessions!



May 8 or 9
Flowers, Birds and Mother's Day



May 22 or 23
Monkeys, Zebras and the Zoo



Come get to know the moms from our neighborhood who are coming to these play-dates!



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