



ST. PETER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

2550 Gettysburg Ave.
Clovis, CA 93611

 St. Peter Lutheran Church—Clovis, CA

July 2018
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Family Storytime

Parents of children of any age: we plan to have a few Tuesday night Storytimes with ice cream again this summer.

Starting on Tuesday, July 10, stories will be read at 6:30 pm, with ice cream treats to follow.

There will also be an opportunity for a book exchange. Plan ahead! Storytime will take place on the following nights:

July 10 July 17 July 24 July 31 Aug. 7



Please note: If you'd like to contribute ice cream toppings or new children's books, let Vicki Schewe know.

storytime

Early Childhood Ministry (ECM) Committee Update

Dear St Peter Members and Friends,

I've been asked to give an update from the ECM Committee and hopefully clarify some of the questions that have come up. We hope to have ongoing updates for our St Peter monthly newsletter. The committee members are Pastor Schewe, Helen Gates, Jeff and Helen Hansen, John and Teresa Barber, Matt and Shay Evers, and Leslie Fitzgerald and myself.

The ECM Committee was formed to help our congregation assess the feasibility of starting, expanding or revitalizing our Early Childhood Ministries (ECM).

We are using the WELS "Building Blocks" materials for our commission on Lutheran Schools as our guide. We are also working with WELS consultants who specialize in this ECM ministry and helped to author the workbook and materials being provided. They also work with and monitor the over 500 WELS Early Childhood Ministries across the nation.

The ECM committee has been meeting since December and our primary focus has been to complete Chapters 1 and 2 of the Workbook which covers topics such as *"The Churches Ministry to Young Children Families"* and *"Exploring the Opportunity"*. We have primarily been- A) exploring the possibility and B) analyzing the potential of this ministry - during this time. Just these two phases take about 9 months to complete before the next three phases begin which include Creating the Mission, Developing the Program and Implementing the Program.

We have been extremely blessed to have had such a diverse and talented group of St Peter members to step forward and offer their time, talents and treasures to help with this endeavor. I can't thank the committee members enough for their service to get this far.

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Dear brothers and sisters at St. Peter,

Pastor Ken Brokmeier, serving at Our Savior, Brookings, SD, recently wrote some interesting thoughts on “Living Forever,” which supplement our current sermon series at church well:

“In 2012, I hit a milestone of sorts. I turned 50. My members savored the chance for some good-natured ribbing following the midweek Lenten service. I appreciated their sense of humor as well as the birthday cake we enjoyed that night.

For my birthday I treated myself to a membership in the American Association of Retired Persons—better known as AARP. My AARP card discounts have more than covered that initial expense to join. Membership also carries a subscription to ‘AARP The Magazine.’ As I glanced at the table of contents, the headline ‘Live Forever? Really?’ caught my eye.

The opening sentence read, ‘I think anyone who wants to live past 100 can do it.’ The spread featured billionaire David Murdock, who had just turned 90. In summary Murdock believes that the nutrients in fruits, vegetables, seeds and husks hold the key to longevity. He is so convinced that he has spearheaded 600 million dollars of investments in the North Carolina Research Campus. It has more than a million square feet of labs and offices. The purpose of the research is to discover the life-giving power of plants and to deliver them to people.

Why is Murdock so driven with this project? Perhaps it is because for more than 25 years, he has lamented the death of one of his wives, Gabriele. She died from cancer. He feels that certain foods contributed to her illness. One senses that his quest for nutrition is almost a part of his grieving process—to help him endure her loss.

In some ways I commend Murdock’s efforts. Research to change the eating habits of many, including my own, to include more fruits and vegetables may well permit a longer earthly life.

Yet, ironically enough, Christians know that it was the consumption of fruit, the forbidden fruit in Eden, which brought death into the world in the first place.

So will I live to be 100? Perhaps a better question might be, Do I want to live to be 100? In my 14 years as a parish pastor I have conducted more than 70 funerals. Only two of them were for individuals who were a century old or more. Both were more than ready to go home to heaven.

Current Bible Classes:

Sundays (10:15 am)

“JOSEPH: Forgiving Brother” —

There aren’t many more compelling lives of believers in Scripture than the life of JOSEPH. Betrayed by brothers, framed by a temptress, he rose to become the 2nd most powerful ruler in the world. Join our discussions of his life and God’s faithfulness on Sunday mornings!

Wednesdays (6:30 pm)

Our Wednesday evening Bible Class is taking a break until July 11, when we will resume our discussions on the book of 1 THESSALONIANS. This NT book especially deals with the end times of the world. Join us “live” at church, or LIVE on our church Facebook page!

Moses, who lived to be 120, declared, ‘The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away’ (Psalm 90:10). How true! In the end, no amount of exercise and no controlled diet of fruits and vegetables will prevent death from eventually knocking at our doors.

While we may have hopes and aspirations of living to be 100, the believer confesses with David, ‘My times are in your hands’ (Psalm 31:15).

Still Murdock very frankly stated, ‘I’m interested in keeping myself alive forever.’ Is that possible? A Christians we know the answer is ‘Yes!’

But the recipe for living forever is not found in consuming the entire piece of fruit—the peelings, core, and seeds. The secret, which really isn’t a secret at all, centers on eating, if you would, Jesus. He is the bread of life, and he promises that whoever eats of this bread will live forever (John 6).

So have another helping—of Jesus.

Adapted from “Forward in Christ” magazine, © April 2013. NPH, Milw., WI.

July SPRY Activity

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 July 21st SPRY dinner will be hosted by Jan Carter in Luther Hall. Please see Inge Stutz if you have any questions.

Sisters in Service Update

- ♥ At the last SIS meeting in April, President June Lewis announced that she and her husband, Brian, will be moving out of state to be closer to family. This will leave a vacancy in the role of president. Many of the SIS leaders have been in their positions for several years. A nominating committee will soon be appointed and contacting SIS members regarding upcoming positions on the board to prayerfully consider those requests.
- ♥ SIS would like to encourage all ladies in the congregation to attend the SIS meetings. They will be offering babysitting service for anyone who would like to attend. Please let Mary Sanchez know if you want to utilize the babysitting.
- ♥ The next SIS Quarterly Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 29th.



July 1—Brad Carter
July 16—Anncy English
July 17—Michelle Taub
July 20—Danielle Bornemann
July 26—Catherine Hambleton
July 26—Ken Hoffmeyer



July 6—Don & Patti Sweetman
July 23—Mike & Leslie Fitzgerald
July 31—Travis & Catherine Hambleton

Graduates earn 186 degrees, certificates from Martin Luther College

About 70.4 percent of the 186 degrees and certificates handed out by the Martin Luther College in 2017-18 were to students in Education programs, making them the most popular programs that year, according to the latest disclosure from the U.S. Department of Education.

The agency's National Center for Education Statistics shows the private not-for-profit institution in Ulm conferred 105 bachelor's degrees and 25 master's degrees in Education programs.

But the single most popular program was for a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Teaching. Data shows the school gave out 71 bachelor's degrees in Elementary Education and Teaching, followed by 31 bachelor's degrees in Pre-Theology/Pre-Ministerial Studies and 25 master's degrees in Education, General.

The college enrolled 937 students for 2017-18, including 859 in undergraduate programs and 78 in graduate programs.

Source: Minnesota Business Daily, June 19, 2018

Those Who Serve—July

Ushers

Travis Armstrong & Leo Schulz

Flowers

1—Don & Patti Sweetman

8—Mary Sanchez

15—OPEN

22—Joshua & Natalie Bornemann

29—Travis & Catherine Hambleton

Altar Guild

Mary Dickson & Ellen Gates

Coffee & Dessert Hosts

1—Jan Carter

8—Brittney Blankenship

15—Inge Stutz

22—Teresa Barber

29—Mary Sanchez

Lawn Mowing Teams

7—A. Schulz/J.Schulz/Armstrong

14—Joel Schewe

21—Joel Schewe

28—Joel Schewe

Church Cleaning

7—Hambleton

14—Michelle Taub

21—Ken Hoffmeyer

28—Jeff & Helen Hansen

Luther Hall Cleaning

7—Hambleton

14—Andrew & Niki Schulz

21—Ken Hoffmeyer

28—Travis & Madeline Armstrong



Church Council Update

- At the Voters' Meeting on April 29th, a new slate of officers was elected. The terms will begin on July 1 and the new council will meet for the first time on Sunday, July 8th.

President—Leo Schulz

Vice President—Joshua Bornemann

Recording Secretary—Travis Armstrong

Financial Secretary—Norm Vander Poel

Elder—Bruno Stutz, Ken Hoffmeyer, Jeff Hansen

Education Secretary—John Barber

Outreach—Don Sweetman

Stewardship—Bob Dickson

Trustees—Travis Hambleton, Barry Burghardt and Curtis Garner

- Outreach continues to have a booth at the Clovis Farmer's Market (last Friday of each month.)
- Family Story Time is being planned for the summer. Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm. July 10-August 7
- Trustee: Several projects are either in progress or being planned for the near future. 1) The painting of Luther Hall is nearly complete. 2) There is a sprinkler system being added to the east and south side of our property. 3) Two new windows and 2 new sliding doors are being installed at the church parsonage. 4) Next church work day will be in September.
- Next council meeting is scheduled for July 8th. 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.



Property Improvement Updates

There have been several ongoing property improvement projects going on at our church campus as well as the parsonage. These projects have been funded by private designated offerings.



- 20 new white 8' folding tables were purchased for Luther Hall (\$2,600)
- Luther Hall painting included entry, main room, 4 classrooms, and kitchen. The exterior doors will be painted in the next few weeks (inside and outside of the 3 doors). (\$2,800)
- The church parsonage has 2 windows and 2 sliding doors that were not updated when the rest of the house's windows were updated 10+ years ago. On June 29th these 2 windows and 2 doors were replaced. (\$3,800)
- City of Clovis approved our plan for improving the sprinkler system and adding grass to the east and south sides of the property. Work started on this project in May and we hope to have the sprinkler system completed in a few months. Grass will be planted on the east side in the fall. (\$5,000)
- We are gathering bids for new shutters for Luther Hall. The price for 10 shutters will be approximately \$3,000 (\$300 per window). If you would like to sponsor the purchase of one or more shutters, please designate that on your offering envelope as "Luther Hall Shutters".



Installation of new windows and doors at parsonage

July 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hour	2	3	4  INDEPENDENCE 4 th of July	5 7:00 Board of Elders	6	7
8 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour 11:30 Church Council	9	10 storytime	11 6:30 Bible Class	12	13	14 10–noon Fresno Park- inson's Support Group (Luther Hall)
15 9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hour	16 Pastoral Circuit Meeting (Livermore, CA)	17 storytime	18 6:30 Bible Class	19	20	21 5:30 SPRY Dinner Hosted by Jan Carter in Luther Hall
22 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour	23	24 storytime	25 6:30 Bible Class	26	27	28 5:30 Farmer's Market Booth—Old Town Clovis
29 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour 11:00 Voters' Meeting SIS Meeting	30	31 storytime 6:30 Family Storytime				

Early Childhood Ministry Committee Update—Continued from page 1

We recently conducted small group pulse meetings during our Bible Class hour on Sunday, May 20th, to poll our member's interest and reaction to this undertaking. The response was overwhelming in support for this ministry showing the hearts of St Peter members towards fulfilling the Great Commission. Most people felt this could be a great opportunity for St Peter to reach the community with the Gospel as well as provide our members with more opportunities to serve and grow in their faith.

There were many good questions and concerns shared with us at the pulse group event. We are still looking to address these and hopefully this monthly progress report will help. We are also planning a town hall meeting to address these and any other questions and concerns as they come up.

There were really no questions or concerns that appeared to be a major obstacle to the feasibility of this ministry. The questions and concerns fall under the following topics which we will be exploring and studying to a greater detail in the months ahead.

The areas to be covered are: Governance and Leadership, Staffing and Team Building, Curriculum and Program Development, Outreach and Enrollment Building, Family Ministry and Parent Involvement, Facilities and Furnishings

Micah 6:8: He has told you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

Colossians 3:12: So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

In His Service, Mike Fitzgerald

Some Pictures from the 30th Anniversary Celebration

