



THE MESSENGER

2550 Gettysburg Ave.

Clovis, CA 93611

 St. Peter Lutheran Church—Clovis, CA

August 2018

stpeterclovis@gmail.com / 559-578-5700

www.stpeterclovis.org

Family Storytime—Tuesday evenings



Two more “Family Storytimes” will be held this summer, on July 31 and August 7. Parents of children of any ages are welcome to come for a few stories that are read to the children, some music time, and then ice cream for all!

Storytime begins at 6:30 pm. There will also be an opportunity for a book exchange.

This program is intended not only for our church’s children, but also to meet young families and children in our own neighborhood. Plan to take part!

If you’d like to contribute ice cream toppings or new children’s books, talk to Vicki Schewe.



Barry White—Welcome to St. Peter’s!

Barry White recently completed the *Bible Basics Course* taught by Pastor Schewe and was welcomed as a new member on June 3rd. Barry was looking for a church to attend after the death of his wife. Mike & Leslie Fitzgerald are his life insurance agents and they invited him to attend a worship service at St. Peter. He was impressed with the reception he received and with Pastor Schewe and the message he delivered.



Barry is originally from Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. He graduated from Chippewa High School and attended 2 semesters at Eau Claire State. He then joined the Navy. He was in the Navy for 20 years, including during the Vietnam conflict.

Upon retirement he worked for Orchard Supply Hardware for 23 years. He currently works part-time at Tractor Supply Co. While working as a manager at OSH, his manager encouraged him to go back to school to collect his educational benefits. Barry was able to earn his associates degree in marketing and general business.

Barry was married for 53 years before his wife passed away. He is very close to his wife’s family. His sister-in-law lives in Rancho Murrieta, Ca and her daughter lives in Fresno. Barry also has a sister with 2 daughters who lives in Lewisville, Texas.

In his free time, Barry enjoys working in his yard. He recently had a shoulder injury and is hoping to get back to playing golf once his shoulder heals. He also likes traveling home to Wisconsin and taking cruises. A cruise to Alaska is on his bucket list.

Welcome to St. Peter’s, Barry! Make sure you introduce yourself to Barry, if you haven’t met him yet.



Dear brothers and sisters at St. Peter,

How's the COMPANIONSHIP in your marriage?

In our upcoming newsletters, I'd like to share some relevant thoughts on aspects of marriage. This article by Pastor Bruce McKenney has some thought-provoking material:

"Jim had called to set up a meeting. He and his wife were having some problems in their marriage. He said, 'I can't put my finger on it, Pastor, but it just seems like we're drifting apart.'"

We tried to set up a time to meet, but we couldn't find a time when they could get together. The more we tried, the more obvious it became as to what one of their problems was—they never seemed to be together.

One of the main purposes of marriage is companionship. God saw the need. 'It is not good for the man to be alone' (Genesis 2:18). So he created a companion, the woman. He then brought her to the man and established marriage in which man and woman could enjoy a lifelong companionship as husband and wife.

Next to the personal relationship with the Lord, the companionship between husband and wife is to be the most important. Children, parents, siblings, friends, and coworkers are all important relationships that we need in life, but none of them are to take precedent over the time and effort husbands and wives should invest in their relationship with one another. Couples get married to be together. So it makes sense that they should strive to spend as much time together as possible.

Why? God wants to bring blessings to husbands and wives through that companionship in marriage and then to the entire family as well. In marriage God provides a marvelous way in which the physical and emotional needs of husband and wife can be met. In marriage God provides companionship for couples in which the joys of life can be doubled and the sorrows halved.

There were other issues in Jim's marriage. But one of the main issues was that he and his wife weren't spending any time together. It's not the first couple that had that problem. It all started in the Garden of Eden when sin not only separated mankind from God but also husband and wife from each other.

That is still the devil's plan today. If the devil can get couples so busy with work, family, and social schedules that they aren't

Current Bible Classes:

Sundays (10:20 am)

A new Bible Class discussion will be starting in August called **"Lifestyle Witnessing."** This new series helps Christians think about their roles as bearers of God's good news, giving encouragement and practical advice for speaking about your faith.

Wednesdays (6:30 pm)

We will be starting a new series on Wednesdays also, called **"Luther's Catechism for Adults."** Each lesson is be based on a Catechism lesson, but will have discussion questions for adults as we stay grounded in the basic doctrines of Scripture. Join us "live" at church or LIVE on our church Facebook page!

spending enough time together, communication can break down, trust can be eroded, and the couple that got married to be together start feeling like they're all alone. Perhaps Jim and his wife seemed to be drifting apart because they were apart.

So what's the solution? Remember what God's Word teaches about marriage. The foundation of marriage is a lifelong commitment between one man and one woman. But also remember that one of the purposes and blessings of marriage is companionship. Like they do before marriage, couples should make sure they are spending the time they need to be together to keep their companionship as strong and loving as possible.

Inviting the Lord to be a part of that companionship is even more important! Besides enjoying a cup of coffee together or going out for a romantic dinner, it can be as simple as going to church and Bible class together or setting aside a little time each day for prayer and Bible reading."

May God move all our married couples to see the importance of such companionship!

Pastor Schewe

August SPRY Dinner

St. Peter Recycled Youth (SPRY) is a fellowship group for those 50+. SPRY usually meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month for dinner and a meeting. The August SPRY dinner will be hosted by Mike Farley on the **4th Saturday**, August 25th. 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.



August 10—LaVerne Farley
August 15—Barry Burghardt
August 15—Brittney Blankenship
August 22—Curtis Garner
August 24—Evan Blankenship
August 24—Robert English



August 6—David & Kelly Curry
August 9—Matthew & Shayleen Evers

Prayers for Christian Cortright

Prayers for 3 year old Christian Cortright who had brain surgery on July 24th to remove a brain tumor. Christian is the young son of Pastor Ryan and Sarah Cortright from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church; Madison, WI. Christian has an epidermoid brain tumor, which he's had since birth. The tumor is situated between his optical nerves and touching his pituitary gland. Due to complications from the tumor, Christian has had repeated bouts with meningitis starting when he was only 9 months old. The surgery lasted about 6 hours. Prayers for Christian and his entire family. Also a belated happy birthday to Christian who had his 3rd birthday on July 20th.

After his surgery in July, his parents posted the following note:

"Christian is out of surgery and recovering in the Pediatric ICU. Dr. Baskaya said that once they got in there they found that the cyst had recently ruptured which caused his most recent bout of chemical meningitis. He was able to remove most of the cyst capsule from the very sensitive optic nerves and arteries. Please pray that the small portions of the cyst capsule that remain won't regrow in the years to come.

We're thankful to Jesus that his "owie" is out and praying for a smooth recovery. We know that his little voice is working...he's picking up where he left off by bossing mom and dad around! Thank you for all your prayers! God is good."

Pastor Cortright is the son of Rev. Charles Cortright, our pastor here at St. Peter in the 1980s. Pastor Ryan Cortright is currently serving at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Madison, WI.

Those Who Serve—August

Ushers

Don Sweetman & Curtis Garner

Flowers

5—Bruno & Inge Stutz
12—Phil & Joy Rosenthal
19—Ellen Gates
26—

Altar Guild

Marilyn Hood & Joan Hevron

Coffee & Dessert Hosts

5—Schewe family
12—Joy Rosenthal
19—Mary Sanchez
26—OPEN

Lawn Mowing Teams

4—Leo Schulz & Jonathan Farley
11—Curtis Garner & Barry Burghardt
18—Mike & Leslie Fitzgerald
25—Stutz/M. Farley/Dickson

Church Cleaning

4—Jo Hobensack
11—Mike & Leslie Fitzgerald
18—John & Teresa Barber
25—Kelly Curry

Luther Hall Cleaning

4—Vicki Schewe
11—Mary Sanchez
18—John & Teresa Barber
25—Bob & Mary Dickson



Church Council Update—July 8 Meeting

- **Pastor's Report:** Fresno Hmong Congregation is currently renting a worship space in Fresno. WELS Board for Home Missions has informally asked us to consider whether they might be able to worship at our facility again. This is not an imminent request but the council should seek input from the congregation on this.
Don Sweetman attended the district convention June 11-13 in Scottsdale, AZ.
- **Membership Changes:** Mary Anne Blalock, Robert & Kathy Klein, and Ronny Klein were welcomed by Affirmation of Faith. Aaron and Madi Machado were granted a transfer to St. Peter, Modesto.
- **Outreach** continues to have a booth at the Clovis Farmer's Market (last Friday of each month). We continue to send out a letter and church brochure to all new Clovis residents each month (approximately 160-240 letters).
- **Family Story Time** is being planned for the summer. Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm. July 10-August 7
- **Trustee:** The painting of Luther Hall is complete. Phase 1 of the east side sprinkler project is complete. Working on two project for Luther Hall entryway—new shelves are being built for the photo wall and looking for new table for entry. Next church work day will be September 8th.
- Next council meeting is scheduled for August 12th. 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.



Church Property Wish List

Last year, the Church Council published and distributed a property wish list to all members. Several projects have been funded by private designated offerings. There are still several projects that go beyond our regular budget. Here is an updated list:

Location	Description	Estimated Cost
Church	Purchase and mount new speakers for electronic organ, and connect it to speaker system	\$5500
	Re-finish white grand piano	\$1800
	Replace church bathroom floors	\$2000
	New façade on east side of church building, under cross	\$4000 - \$6000
	Purchase and install new signage at corner of Gettysburg and Temperance	?
	Purchase and install new signage for building identification, and building interiors	\$2000
Exterior	Re-do outside patio between church and Luther Hall. Remove narrow grass strip(s) and tree, replace with concrete and new planting(s). Address the drainage issue.	?
	Purchase and install security cameras and DVR	\$800-1000
	Purchase and install LED parking lot lighting on existing pole. Add second fixture to increase lighting	\$1800
	Add lighting on cross and/or landscape lighting around buildings	?
Luther Hall	Purchase AED (automatic external defibrillator)	\$2000
	Purchase and install new window covers in Luther Hall	\$3000
	Replace flooring in Luther Hall – committee to select	?
Parsonage	Re-do master bathroom	?

August 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 6:30 Bible Class	2	3 	4
5 9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hour	6	7 6:30 Family Storytime	8 6:30 Bible Class	9 7:00 Board of Elders	10	11
12 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour 11:30 Church Council Mtg.	13 	14	15 6:30 Bible Class	16	17	18
19 9:00 Worship (comm) 10:15 Family Bible Hour 11:30 ECM Committee	20 Pastoral Circuit Meeting (Modesto)	21	22 6:30 Bible Class	23	24 5:30 Farmer's Market (Old Town Clovis)	25 5:30 SPRY Dinner Hosted by Mike Farley
26 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour	27	28	29 6:30 Bible Class	30	31	

New WELS Outreach Film

The new WELS outreach film *To the Ends of the Earth* will be released Sept. 1.

The film tells the story of the apostle Paul and his work in Philippi. Its title is taken directly from Jesus' command to his disciples at his Ascension: "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). "Since the movie focuses on mission activity, it reminds us of the important work that we have as we serve Christ—to reach out with the gospel to the ends of the earth," says Rev. Mike Hintz, retired director of WELS Commission on Evangelism who serves as a consultant for the film.

That's why film resources, including worship materials; adult, small group, teen, and children Bible studies; an Advent by Candlelight program; and personal reflections, will discuss how to witness and share your faith.

One way congregations can use the film and its resources is in connection with WELS Mission and Ministry Sunday, which the Conference of Presidents is encouraging all congregations to observe on Oct. 21. "It's an opportunity to give thanks as we look at the ways we in WELS as congregations and a synod work to reach out with the gospel, but also to look at opportunities that are still around us and how to make the most of them," says Hintz.

By Sept. 1, every congregation will receive a free DVD of the movie for this purpose. Film resources will also be available for download by mid-August. Congregations can bulk order additional copies of the DVD to use as giveaways to congregation members and prospects or for other outreach efforts. Bulk orders must be received by Sept. 7, 2018.

Learn more about the film at wels.net/totheendsoftheearth.

Sweetmans Celebrate 50th at Church

Don and Patti Sweetman celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by hosting the July SPRY meal in Luther Hall. The SPRY Group was joined by some of Don and Patti's friends for a very enjoyable evening of tri-tip, side dishes, and anniversary cake. Joel Schewe called the bingo game that followed.



May God continue to bless Don and Patti in the years to come!

50
Golden
Anniversary



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