



ST. PETER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

2550 Gettysburg Ave.
Clovis, CA 93611

 St. Peter Lutheran Church—Clovis, CA

May 2017
stpeterclovis@gmail.com / 559-578-5700

stpeterclovis.org

May 21—An Important Day!

Mark Sunday, May 21 on your calendar!

On that day, we will have a guest preacher and Bible Class leader. Pastor Rich Kogler will be here from our WELS Ministry of Christian Giving.

Pastor Kogler is the Arizona-California District pastor who spends his full time traveling to our churches to assist WELS members with making and updating their estate plans. His presentation during Bible Class hour will focus on WHY and HOW to have a will in place.

Pastor Kogler's office sent 100 workbooks to St. Peter's for use by our members at his presentation. We hope to use every single one, and invite all our members and visitors to come to his important presentation!

How many Americans do not have a will? You might be surprised to know that 65% do not. And, the number of people that have not updated their will in the past few years makes the need for his ministry that much greater.



Pastor Rich Kogler

Pastor Kogler will be in our area from Sunday through Wednesday noon, so that church members may meet with him privately to receive guidance and ask questions about this topic, which can be a bit confusing to some.

Watch for a sign-up sheet to reserve your time with him. He can meet with you privately at church or is willing to come to your home.

May God bless his visit to St. Peter's!

Sarah Carter and Justin Dubin

Sarah and Justin were married at church on Friday, March 31st. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Schewe, and the reception was held in Luther Hall. We rejoice with them, and pray that God would shower his blessings on their new home!





Dear brothers and sisters at St. Peter,

“Put your house in order, because you are going to die.” (2 Kings 20:2)

The Lord said these words to King Hezekiah in the Old Testament. He spoke them through the prophet Isaiah at a time when Hezekiah was very ill.

If you read that entire chapter, you’ll notice that Hezekiah prayed to the Lord, and God saw fit to extend his life 15 years. Yet, the day would still come when Hezekiah would close his eyes in death, for as a sinner that is the end of all our days unless the Lord Jesus returns first.

Death is something we don’t like to dwell on. We know it looms over us as a great shadow, for we are sinners also. But we try to push that thought deep into the back of our minds.

Because of what we have seen at Lent and Easter, we need not fear death. Jesus has paid the price of our sin and guilt as he took upon himself the debt that we owe to a holy God. And on the first Easter Day, when the tomb was empty, it stood as shining proof that God the Father had accepted his Son’s payment for sin and that we too will live eternally in heaven through faith in him!

However, the verse above still reminds us that death looms, and there is a time for the Christian to think and plan for that. Have you thought about “putting your house in order,” even if you feel you have many years ahead of you in this world?

On May 21, we will be blessed to have Pastor Rich Kogler here at St. Peter. He will conduct our Sunday service and lead our Bible Class that day. He is the WELS pastor assigned to our district to assist WELS people in “putting their house in order.” This includes considering how the Lord has blessed us in our physical lives and having an updated estate plan.

When a person leaves this world with their “house in disarray,” it’s not a pretty sight. Confusion, turmoil,

conflict, and perhaps even a court case commence. In the end, valuable assets can be lost and loved ones might not receive the blessings that an individual would have intended.

Pastor Kogler will be giving a special presentation during Bible Class hour on May 21. He will also be staying in Clovis through Wednesday noon to meet privately with people in our church who would like to discuss their wills and estates, and to help them make a plan that puts their house in order in a God-pleasing way.

Make use of his services, no matter your age! This can be a thorny world for the average citizen. His valuable guidance could be quite a blessing.

As we bask in the afterglow of Easter, may we say along with the Apostle Paul, “*Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?*” (1 Cor. 15) And, as we realize that death is only the gate to eternal life because of Jesus, may we also be prepared for that day by having our house in order with the material possessions God has blessed us with, which you might like to pass on as a blessing to those after you.

He is risen indeed!

Pastor Schewe

LWMS Spring Rally!

Saturday, May 6

St. Andrew’s, Sacramento

Military Chaplain

Paul Ziemer (WELS)

Join us at the rally! It begins at 10:00 am and will conclude by 3:00 pm.

The main presentation will be given by Pastor Paul Ziemer on how we are ministering to our WELS members in the military.

Ladies, talk to Patti Sweetman if you have any questions about the spring rally.



April Council Update (4/9/17 meeting)

- Discussion held regarding starting a “Mommy and Me” program or other Early Childhood Ministry program at St. Peter
- Outreach—We are buying the “New Mover” list from the City of Clovis. This is a monthly list of all of the people moving into Clovis. A personal letter and church brochure will be mailed to each person on the list.
- Pastor Schewe will be taking a vacation in May to attend the graduation of his daughters, Emily & Rachel, from Luther Prep. Pastor Rich Kogler will be filling in for Pastor Schewe on May 21st. He is our district coordinator for helping our people with wills, estate planning, and planned giving.
- Pastor Daniel Thao from our Hmong congregation received a call to serve at Immanuel Lutheran Church (Hmong) in Minnesota.
- Next council meeting is scheduled for May 21. 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.



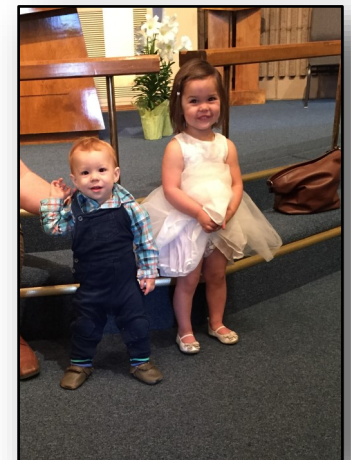
Mother's Day Luncheon

Sisters in Service is planning a Mother's Day luncheon for the ladies of the congregation. The luncheon will be held at Yosemite Falls Café on Shaw Ave. in Clovis at 11:30am on Saturday, May 13. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in Luther Hall if you plan to attend. See June Lewis if you have any questions.



Sunday School Fun

Every Sunday the Sunday School children gather in church to sing before going to their separate classes. This is a great time for kids of all ages to get to know each other a little better. We recently celebrated the birthdays of Collin Schulz & Lucy Farley (*photo on right*). The preschool class also helped lead a song with their bells.



Those Who Serve—May

Ushers

Karl Saethre & Curtis Garner

Flowers

7—Bornemann Family
14—Donna Vander Poel
21—Mary Sanchez
28—Inge Stutz

Altar Guild

Inge Stutz & Helen Hansen

Coffee & Dessert Hosts

7—Jo Hobensack
14—Donna Vander Poel
21—Jo Hobensack
28—Vicki Schewe

Church Cleaning

Mary Schulz

Luther Hall Cleaning

Mary Schulz

May Birthdays

May 4—Roy Evers
May 4—Adam Farley
May 7—Amber Foley
May 12—Jada Gregg
May 14—Donna Vander Poel
May 15—Keren Farley
May 20—Jo Hobensack
May 30—Jared Evers

Young Adult Outing

Last month, the young adult group met for another fun outing. They first met at church for a devotion and lunch then headed over to MetalMark in Clovis for Rock Climbing. Thanks to Andrew & Niki Schulz for organizing this fun event!

The next young adult event will be the “Dala Horse Trot” 2 mile or 10k race in Kingsburg on Saturday, May 20th at 7am. Stay tuned for more details!



Ground Breaking in Las Vegas

After nearly eight years meeting in a strip mall worship facility, Shepherd of the Hills is reaching milestones on its path to building its first ministry center for worship and education.

Rev. Tom Unke accepted the call to serve the mission and arrived in June of 2016. The congregation had already purchased land and were well into the planning of the new facility. The land that Shepherd of the Hills will build on this winter is located along a freeway and will be seen by thousands of commuters every day.

Rev. Unke says, “Many businesses pay lots of money to be seen by that many people every day. We pray that the high visibility of our new property will translate into lots of visitors and countless opportunities to share the treasure of the Gospel of Jesus.”

Construction, Lord willing, will be completed by October. In the meantime, the members and pastor will continue to reach out to all the people who are moving in to northwest Las Vegas each month. The harvest is truly plentiful!



WELS Hymnal Project Update

Various subcommittees of the WELS Hymnal Project continue to make progress on the development of the synod’s next hymnal. The current hope is that the hymnal and accompanying resources would be available for purchase during the second half of 2021.

As part of the hymnal’s development, WELS Hymnal Project subcommittees have been giving congregations an opportunity to use and review samples of the materials developed so far. By the time these testing efforts conclude, every congregation in the synod will have had the opportunity to participate in one way or another.

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:00 Worship (communion) 10:15 Family Bible Hour	8 Pastoral Circuit Meeting (Modesto)	9 7:00 Board of Elders	10 4:00 Catechism 7:00 Bible Study	11 6:30pm Bible Basics Course (final one)	12	13 9:00am Bible Basics Course (final one) 11:30 am SIS Mother's Day Luncheon
14 9:00 Worship 10:15 Family Bible Hour	15 <i>Mother's Day</i> Pastor Schewe's vacation begins	16	17	18	19	20 Young Adult Outing to Kingsburg 5:30 pm SPRY
21 9:00 Worship (communion) 10:15 Family Bible Hour 11:30 Council Meeting	22	23 Pastor Schewe back	24 4:00 Catechism 7:00 Bible Study	25	26	27
28 9:00 Worship with Confirmation Examina- tion of Abigail Schewe 10:15 Family Bible Hour	29	30	31 4:00 Catechism 7:00 Bible Study	June 1	June 2 Blankenship/Fund Wedding Rehearsal	June 3 Blankenship/Fund Wedding

Easter at St. Peter

As the sun rose on the first Easter morning, the gloom that enshrouded Jesus' followers was thick and dark. But soon that gloom turned to joy and excitement as the women heard the angel's message at the empty tomb and ran to tell his disciples. May our joy burst forth this Easter season, as we realize that our Savior truly rose from the dead and sealed our salvation. He is risen, indeed!

Many thanks to everyone who had a hand in our Easter services and activities, whether with the worship services, singing, altar and flower preparation, food preparation, or the activities. You all are blessings from our Lord!



The Schewe Family—Special Invitation



Class of 2017 



Emily and Rachel Schewe

Luther Preparatory School

May 20th, 2017

Please join us for a congratulatory coffee hour after church on May 28th.

**LUTHER
PREPARATORY
SCHOOL**



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