



August 20, 2017

Thanks to Pastor Don Williams for conducting our services and Bible Study while Pastor Ben is out of town!

If you have a need while Pastor Ben is gone, you can call the church office and Joleen can let one of the elders know. If it is an emergency, Pastor Wally is on call. [920-284-5620](tel:920-284-5620)

The flowers on the altar today are to the glory of God by: Mike and Linda Lemond, celebrating their 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on August 22, and Jim Wells, honoring Ethel's birthday, August 19

For the next month or so, if you have an item for the bulletin please send your information to Linda Lemond at [teacherlin2@comcast.net](mailto:teacherlin2@comcast.net). Due to Wanda's surgery, [thechurchlady@stpeterportage.com](mailto:thechurchlady@stpeterportage.com) will not be monitored.

We plan to donate our old Lutheran Worship hymnals to a church in need. If you would like a copy for yourself, please let Linda Lemond know. 762-5764

Dave Nelson's daughter Mandy is hosting a benefit on August 26 from 1- 6 p.m. at the American Legion in Chesterton to help her friend, Wendy Smith, with medical bills. Wendy has a non-treatable brain tumor. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Mandy will be in the narthex selling tickets this week.

**From President Brad Hughes:** The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, September 5, at 6:30 pm. We will also have a special Voters meeting at 7:30 p.m. the same night. At that Voters meeting, we will vote on whether or not to purchase an electronic sign for St. Peter. We will also vote on whether or not to host an Oktoberfest in the fall of 2018 with the Exchange Club. Please plan to attend. All are welcome at Council Meetings, and you can make your voice heard at both Council and Voters. At last Voters Meeting, we voted to participate in an outreach to homeless families, opening our church at night for one week out of every 13 weeks. You will be hearing more about the **Family Promise** program in the months to come.

The new website is up and working and we were able to keep our URL. Check out the **new and improved** website at [www.stpeterportage.com](http://www.stpeterportage.com). Thanks to Pastor Ben, Jennifer Santaquilani, and Amy Mundell for working on this!

**Rally Sunday and Picnic – Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> – Please come** and find out more about our new Sunday School Curriculum between services and then enjoy a picnic and great Fellowship after late service! Fresh produce from the church garden! Yum! We still need help in the kitchen for set up, clean up and for help with games. If you can, please sign up at the Welcome Center or call Tiffany at [219-299-7473](tel:219-299-7473). If you plan on attending and would like to bring food or a dessert item, please sign up for that at the Welcome Center, too.

**Community Dinners will be on the four Wednesdays in September -- 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27:** This year we will follow a theme – Cook-out, Mexican, pasta. Look for the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. We feed 60-80 people each week, so we need YOUR help!

It's time for **CRAZY BUNCO!** Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 17th @ 2:00 p.m.** Tickets will be \$10.00. Light refreshments will be served. Basket raffles, door prizes, and 50/50 raffle! Limited seating available. See Nancy Carroll (762-4220) for tickets.

**Thursdays with Carrie!** From 10 – 5 every Thursday in July and August. Youth Group ages 12-18 are invited to come in anytime during those hours for activities, devotionals, youth related group programs and FOOD!

**Ladies: "You're probably one of the nicest things that has ever happened to me"...**

Join us at our next Gab 'n Eat for lunch 12 noon on Sat. Sept. 16th at the Hacienda 2148 Karmic Rd, Michigan City.

..."and I'm thankful for that!!" Sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center! Carpool from church 11:30AM!!

**ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS! FREE MONEY FOR St. Peter!** Are you a member of **Thrivent Financial?** If so, are you aware there is a program called **Thrivent Choice** that is designed for **you** to direct some of the charitable funds to churches and nonprofit organizations nationwide? Please consider directing your **Choice Dollars** to St. Peter Lutheran Church. To do this online, log in at [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or call [800-847-4836](tel:800-847-4836) and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted. Questions? See Nancy Carroll.

**There was a Shepherd Meeting** on Sunday, August 6. If you couldn't make the meeting but would like more information about becoming a Shepherd, please talk to Brad Hughes. Each Shepherd is given a number of names of individuals/families in the congregation with whom they stay in contact.

**Many thanks** to all who supported the **Rummage Sale!!!** Whether you worked, baked, potted plants, or just came and bought something to support the effort, you helped! We raised \$3825 that will go toward the electronic sign,. Anything left over was donated to other charitable organizations! It always great to be with everyone.. so nice to have new faces help out with the sale and especially the cleaning up. It sure did help! Hope you know how much you are appreciated

**The Comfort Dogs'** official home church is now Trinity in Hobart, but they are also still available to our congregation & community. If you would like to have Barnabas Comfort Dog attend an event or for a visit to someone, you may contact Nancy Carroll (741-4220) or Dan Fulkerson (805-5492) to schedule.

If you would like to be included on the St Peter email list and prayer chain and are not currently on that list or have a change in **your email address**, please print your name and email address on the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center.

An updated church address and phone directory can be had by asking in the office. Please check your information for mistakes and let Wanda know of the corrections. Please take one home!

**You Never Know** when your donation to the church's food pantry will be a blessing to someone. Your food and personal items are given to congregation members who are in need. We are now asking for additional donations to re-stock items.

**Substitute organist Jim Crisman** has been a wonderful asset to our congregation, playing for the second service for months. He is available for weddings, funerals, [Quinceañeras](#), and other special occasions. His number is 465-0735.

**The church has a new policy** regarding the use of the fellowship hall and the loaning of tables and chairs. This will help keep us organized. Please ask Wanda for a form 30 days prior to your event. Please do not put your event on the church calendar until the request has been approved.

**Garbage to Goodies: Please collect** plastic bottle tops from milk gallons, drinks, water etc. Also card fronts, stamps, pop tops and Campbell Soup labels. Turn them in at the bookshelf in the hallway in the old narthex. Plastic tops go to an organization in Valparaiso that makes benches!!! Please save your pop cans and turn them in to the recycle center here at the church. Those donations go to the church!

### Last Sunday's Offering

**Envelopes are available at the bulletin table for donations to the Parking Lot Fund & for the Mortgage**

Offering \$2762 (weekly need \$3,023 operating budget)

Mortgage \$342 (weekly need \$640)

### SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY

**9:00**

**11:00**

Greeter

Lector:

Chris Dahlin

Usher: Marty Riley

Bob Duron

### This Week at St. Peter August 20-27, 2017

**Sunday** ..... Early Service 9 AM, Nursery provided ages 0-2 yrs

Adult Bible Study 10;

Late Service 11 AM

**Wednesday**..... **NO BIBLE STUDY 8/23/17**

**Thursday** ..... **Thursdays with Carrie for the Youth**

**Sunday**..... Early Service 9 AM, Nursery provided ages 0-2 yrs

Adult Bible Study 10

Late Service 11 AM **Rally Day and Picnic!!!**

**Visit the church's Facebook page for up to date information including**

**CANCELLATIONS** - [www.stpeterportage.com](http://www.stpeterportage.com)

**Pastor Ben Ahlersmeyer** – cell number [989-907-9481](tel:989-907-9481) Church office – 762-2673

**Email** – [pastorben@stpeterportage.com](mailto:pastorben@stpeterportage.com)

### **REMEMBERING IN OUR PRAYERS**

Wanda Gilbert, Matthew McCall, Karen Ackermann, John Spencer, Brenda and Bob Busch, Kenita Kersten, John Newlin, Tiffany Richards, Betty and Dick Hull, Donna Potchen, Michael Cooper, Wayne Miller, Tina Gurniewicz, Loraine Giertz, Dorothy Anderson, Cathy Laatsch, Lindsay Hietz, Tom Levandoski, Jane Krohn, Phoebe Wilson, Marsha Logan, Pat Newlin, Pauline and Mark Krill, and the many people in our congregation who are battling serious illnesses; and those grieving the loss of loved ones..