

March 18, 2018

The Flowers on the altar today are to the glory of God by:

Karen & Claus Ackermann in memory of Lou Ringer's birthday March 9

Karen Ackermann honoring Claus's birthday March 9

"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward." – Psalm 127:3. We rejoice with Pastor Ben, Melissa and their whole family as they welcome their beautiful little son, Seth! He decided to come a little earlier than the doctors predicted, but he and Melissa are well and healthy. We hope he will be content to have a whole congregation of extra "aunts," "uncles," "cousins" and "grandparents" to love him.

Thanks to Brad Hughes St. Peter has received a monetary grant to help us with the Family Promise activities and Community Dinners. President May will be at Sunday's early service to present the check. Please come and celebrate this bounty with us!

Sign up for **Easter Lilies** at the Welcome Center \$10, deadline is March 29 at noon.

Community Dinners 3/21 5:30; please sign up to donate a dish. Some of our regular cooks/workers will be unable to attend. If you can help out, please let Carrie Chapman know or write it on the sign up sheet.

Young Adult Group – Too old to be in youth group? Don't feel OLD yet? Then this group's for you! We will aid to meet once a month doing everything from fellowship to outreach. Our first event will be a bonfire or a game night on the 13th of April, depending on weather. If you have any questions please talk to Phil or email him at phil.luster-bartz@valpo.edu

Empty Bowls, 2018 - We need your help!

Once again, St. Peter is joining hands with the Portage High School Art Department to help raise money for the **Portage Food Pantry**. This year's Empty Bowls Project will take place Saturday, **April 14**, at **Portage High School West Cafeteria** beginning at **11 a.m.** The art students from all levels throughout the system have creating beautiful ceramic bowls that will be available for purchase, along with other pieces of art. **If you would like to help, please sign up to donate a crock pot of your favorite soup or chili or to help with set up and clean up.** Also, attend if you can. Buy a handmade bowl or other piece of art and some delicious soup, bread, and desserts. Bowls are \$5 each, and you can sample as much as you like of all the different soups and chilis for another \$5. **Questions?** Please see Linda Lemond or call 762-5764 or email teacherlin2@comcast.net

To our Dear Church Family: Our Sunday School Department is in desperate need of candy and Scotch Tape donations as soon as possible so we may get the Easter eggs stuffed in time. Would you please donate so we can have an Easter Egg hunt? We would truly appreciate it! We sincerely thank those who have already donated candy and Scotch Tape. Again, we truly appreciate it! Thank all of you for your continued support of our Sunday School Program! God Bless! *Sincerely, Tiffany*

Did you find an empty Easter Egg in the pew today? They are for donations for the Youth Group Easter Breakfast. There's also a signup sheet on the Welcome Center for food needed. If you have any questions, please call Carrie Chapman -[773-574-5112](tel:773-574-5112)

"TEAM DAY, OPENING DAY, TEAM UP WITH JESUS EVERYDAY" SUNDAY,
APRIL 8th ! WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM APPAREL.

Ladies: "I Thank God for Your Friendship, On Easter, when the world celebrates the blessings of God's love , you will be in my thoughts and in my prayers;" ... Join us at our next Gab 'n Eat for lunch:12PM on Saturday April 21st at The Great Wall, Hwy.6 & Willowcreek (Portage Commons)"for surely He has blessed me with the gift of your friendship !" Sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center! Just meet there. HAPPY EASTER!

RUMMAGE / BAKE SALE coming Aug. 2nd, 3rd, 4th! We are now accepting donations (larger items after April 1st). Please put neatly in room before the nursery.(CUT OFF DATE JULY 14TH) A garden center too (perennial plants) bring in July 22nd to July 28th). Donations of pop & bottled water are welcome for our concession stand – please label rummage sale. For more information call Joleen: 762-2220 or Candy: 762-0268/ 331-4745

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TOO

"Stewardship Moment" Mark 10:45 – *"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."* Jesus gives everything He has: He gives Himself. That self-giving is the model for our giving in all aspects of our lives. In our family, in our church, and in the world at large, Jesus calls us to follow His example in self-giving. We can only do this if we are connected to His self-giving in faith.

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.

The Comfort Dogs were recently in Parkland FL offering comfort to that community. Although the Comfort Dogs now have a home at Trinity in Hobart if you have an event or a need for the dogs, please contact Nancy Carroll at 762-4220.

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 notice the beautiful green bench that was donated by Pines Village, made from the bottle caps you have donated. Please save your pop cans and turn them in to the recycle center here at the church. Those donations go to the church!

Important Dates to Remember

Monday, March 19, 11:30 AM – 5 PM Blood Drive

Thursday, March 29 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service 1st Communion for Confirmands

Friday, March 30, 7 PM Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 1, Early Service 7 AM, Breakfast 8 AM ,Children's Activities 9AM, Late service at 11 AM

Monday, April 2, Ladies Guild 7 PM ALL LADIES INVITED

Saturday April 7 1:00 - 3:00 pm Germanfest Kickoff Party

Germanfest Planning Meeting Sunday, April 8 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Saturday, April 14, Empty Bowls Project at Portage High School West Cafeteria beginning at 11 A.M

Next Council meeting Tuesday, April 17 at 7:00 pm

Saturday, April 21, Ladies Gab and Eat, noon, at the Great Wall.

St Peter Spaghetti Dinner Saturday , April 28 4:30-7:00 pm

Saturday, May 5, 1:00 PM Crazy Bunco

Flowers for the altar will now cost \$ 12 per week because we have had to get our flowers from another florist.

Last Sunday's Offering

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

Offering \$2,328 (weekly need \$3028.00 operating budget)

Mortgage \$482 (weekly need \$591.00)

SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY

9:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Greeter:

Lector: Marty Riley

Chris Dahlin

Ushers: Marty Riley

Bob Duron

This Week at St. Peter : March 18, 2018

Sunday Early Service 9 a.m. Nursery provided ages 0-2 yrs
Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. .
Late Service 11 a.m.

Monday..... **Blood Drive 11:30 – 5**

Wednesday..... Bible Study 10 AM
Community Dinner 5:30
Lent Service 7 PM – Choir following the service.

Thursday..... Praise Team practice 7 p.m.

Sunday Early Service 9 a.m. Nursery provided ages 0-2 yrs
Sunday School 10 Adult Bible Study 10 a.m
Late Service 11 a.m.

**Visit the church's Facebook page for up to date information including
CANCELLATIONS - www.stpeterportage.com**

[St. Peter Lutheran Church – Portage – A caring community ...](http://www.stpeterportage.com)
www.stpeterportage.com

Who We Are. We are a caring community of believers that strives to worship God with excellence, encourage and lift our community.

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

Email – pastorben@stpeterportage.com

REMEMBERING IN OUR PRAYERS

John Gallagher, Ruth Imhof, Donna Flint-Wood and her mother, Ginnie Galanos, Connie Carney; Howard, Deb and Ari Wilson; Joleen Wilson, Mike Lemond, Karen Ackermann, John Spencer, Brenda and Bob Busch, Kenita Kersten, Pat and John Newlin, Tiffany Richards, Betty and Dick Hull and their daughter Janet, Donna Potchen, Michael Cooper, Tina Gurniewicz, Loraine Giertz, Dorothy Anderson, Cathy Laatsch, Lindsay Hietz, Kathy and Tom Levandoski, Jane Krohn, Pauline and Mark Krill, Russell Wilson and the many people in our congregation who are battling serious illnesses; and those grieving the loss of loved ones.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Emma Arnold	3/2
Sally Cox	3/4
Joanne Lehmann	3/5
Nathaniel Roscoe	3/5
Seth Berquist	3/8
Nancy Gibson	3/8
Scott Lehmann	3/8
Patricia Newlin	3/8
Claus Ackermann	3/9
Jodie Brasseur	3/9
Donna Pleasant	3/11
Kathy Levandoski	3/12
Gerald Harnung	3/13
William Schoech	3/14
Jack Carroll	3/17
Karen Melcic	3/17
Korina Kuehl	3/20
James Wells	3/24
Keith Fites	3/27
Erik Scheub	3/28
Janet Fuscoe	3/31
Kevin Parkerson	3/31