

The

Messenger

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

From the Pastor

September 2019– From the LCMS Synodical Convention

The 67th Convention for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was held in Tampa, FL, July 20-25, 2019 under the theme *Joy:Fully Lutheran*. I had the privilege to serve as the pastoral voting delegate for our circuit. The following information is a (VERY) brief summary of convention events. Full information and archived video of the livestream is available at lcms.org/convention

Elections: 82 Elections were held for Synodical positions. The balloting took several hours to complete. Highlights:

- Rev. Matthew Harrison, Synodical President
- Rev. Peter Lange (Kansas District), 1st Vice President
- Rev. Benjamin Ball (pastor at Hamel, IL), Central Region Vice President
- Rev. John Sias, Secretary

These are men of fine upstanding character and faithfulness and will serve our Lord faithfully in the positions they have been entrusted.

Resolutions:

Regarding National Witness –

- To encourage God’s people to engage in active witness (this resolution also directed Synod to make available evangelism materials for use in the congregation)
- To encourage planting churches
- To encourage small congregations to explore opportunities of collaboration and cooperation
- To support the legacy of Dr. Rosa J. Young
- To encourage congregations to be aware of multi-ethnic populations in their area, welcome them, and reach out to them
- To support marriage, life, and family (this resolution also directs Synod to provide resources for the support of these things)
- To continue vigilance in child protection

Regarding International Witness –

- To support short-term international mission activities
- To strengthen/encourage congregations in international mission through the Board of International Mission
- To encourage and support international theological education by our Synod and seminaries in aid of Lutheran churches throughout the world

Regarding Mercy –

- To encourage training of pastors, church workers, and congregations to recognize and provide pastoral care for those suffering from clinical depression, mental illnesses, and other mental disorders

Regarding Life Together –

- To commend the work of LCMS deaconesses and diaconal work
- To establish “Making Disciples for Life” as the emphasis of the Synod for the next 3 years
- To celebrate the 175th anniversary of the LCMS in 2022
- To restructure the Registered Service Organizations of the LCMS
- To declare April 18, 2021 as “Here I Stand Sunday” and encourage multi-congregation celebrations
- To continue celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with commemoration of events from 1519 to 1522
- To encourage the study of the doctrine of closed communion and faithful practice in all congregations

Regarding Theology and Church Relations –

- To recognize altar and pulpit fellowship with The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Belgium, the Portuguese Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Confessional Lutheran Church of South Africa; and the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in Denmark
- To remove the Lanka Lutheran Church from church fellowship (the Lanka Lutheran Church ceased to exist in 2007), and to give thanks for the work done in Sri Lanka
- To encourage LCMS international partner churches to clarify their relationship with the Lutheran World Federation (a church that is not in theological agreement with the LCMS)
- To commend and support the work of the International Lutheran Council
- To confess the Biblical six-day creation
- To commend the Lutheran Church-Canada report on *Cremation and the Christian*
- To ask the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) to address questions about unity in doctrine and variety in practice, and provide a Bible Study

Regarding Pastoral Ministry and seminaries –

- To encourage identification, training, and support of new pastors and church workers
- To promote residential seminary education as the preferred route of pastoral education
- To enhance and improve the Specific Ministry Pastor Program
- To support, encourage, and expect continuing education for all LCMS pastors
- To encourage pastors and congregations to use the *Preach the Word* continued education program

Regarding University Education –

- To nurture our Lutheran system of higher education
- To direct a new governance plan for the Concordia University System (CUS)
- To amend the review process for CUS presidential candidates
- To aid our CUS schools in clear confession (which includes directives to prohibit the affirmation or celebration of sinful behavior through groups, clubs, or official campus activities, while welcoming our neighbor with love and respect)

Regarding Finance –

- To encourage congregations to support pastoral formation
- To encourage a synodwide 1.1.1 model for defined mission outcomes
- To ensure timely and transparent financial reporting in the Synod

Regarding Structure and Administration –

- Bylaw revisions

- To study voting privilege in the LCMS (currently at convention, there is a lay delegate vote and a pastoral delegate vote. This polity ensures that clergy to not lead the synod astray, and also that congregations do not rebel into false doctrine. The study asks for an investigation into voting privileges for commissioned ministers)
- To expand the ballot for Synodical President from 3 candidates to 5 candidates

Ecclesiastical Supervision and Dispute Resolution -

- Bylaw revisions
- Clarifying call and roster matters

Church and Culture –

- To give guidance and encourage action on “Beginning of Life” issues
- To encourage faithfulness regarding the institution, teaching, and practice of marriage
- To encourage Synod to develop resources to aid congregations and schools regarding sexual orientation and gender identity issues
- To affirm the common humanity of all people and ethnicities (includes condemnation the sin of racism)
- To encourage responsible citizenship and compassion toward neighbors who are immigrants among us
- To emphasize the sanctity of life and the dangers of physician-assisted suicide
- To remember the persecuted church

Regarding Retention: Schools, Family, Youth, and Young Adults –

- To encourage congregations to actively encourage future Lutheran school teachers
- To encourage lifelong catechesis in the home and church
- To shape faith formation from generation to generation
- To take steps in the retention of college-age students in Synod congregations
- To encourage CPH to create a searchable database for “cradle-to grave” resources
- To strengthen the family as the center of discipleship

To give thanks for: 100 years of LCMS campus ministry; 125 years of international mission through the LCMS, in Asia, Latin America & the Caribbean, Eurasia, and Africa; ministry to the Armed Forces; 25 years of work by the Lutheran Heritage Foundation; the work done by Synod regarding disaster response; Lutherans for Life and LCMS Life ministries; 60 years of DCEs; 150th anniversary of CPH; the 10th anniversary of the publication of *The Lutheran Study Bible*; those involved in the rostering of Licensed Lay Deacons; the 175th anniversary of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne; the work of Concordia Selma (now closed); the 125th anniversary of Concordia University, Nebraska; our Lutheran early childhood centers, elementary schools, and high schools;

During the convention, we also participated in many worship services, and heard convention essays on being joyful always, joyful in prayer, and joyful in giving thanks. These essays are also on the convention livestream archive and are very good! We also heard about the mission activities in Europe, Asia, and Africa and the many trials and sorrows and joys that the church has in those places.

There were also a number of exhibitors present at the convention. I especially encourage you to visit the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (lcrifreedom.org), chaired by former LHM speaker Rev. Gregory Seltz. The LCRL is our champion for religious liberty, and Rev. Seltz is a support and encouragement for our senators and representatives in their task to defend our religious liberty and speaking up for marriage, protection of life from conception, and parochial & public education. Rev. Seltz also provides “A Word from the Center,” a semi-weekly e-publication. Every Monday, he shares a Devotion on a Word from the Center of our Faith, Jesus Christ. On Fridays, Dr. Seltz shares a Two-kingdom Word about the relevant issues from the Day. To subscribe to this semi-weekly encouragement, please email



info@lcrfrees.org or text "LCRL" to 444999, and respond with your name and email address to get these devotions sent directly to your e-mail.

Thank you for your service to the Synod in sending me as the circuit representative. If you have any questions about ANY of these topics, please do contact me and I will be happy to discuss them with you.

- - Pastor Lorenz

News and Notes of St. Peter



Congregational Christian Care

Please pray for, phone, visit, and or send a card or note to the following members that may be recovering or home bound.

Englewood Health & Rehabilitation – Mildred Craig

Heritage of Huntington – Dick Christ; Betty Pike; Maxine Stetzel

Heritage, Warren – Edward Campbell, Jr.

Lutheran Life Village – Rev. Donald Fischer; Ruth Guhl

Miller's Merry Manor – Neil & Sandy Stonebraker

Markle Health & Rehabilitation – Jean Simmons

Tipton Place – Rolland Hoch

Home – Jason Cozad; Bradley Heideman; Jack Guy; Arlene Lasley; Ruth Moon; Donna Smith; Laurie Trlak

Prayer List: Doug Guhl; Dan Winkelman (healing); Lois Clark, sister of Donna Dennis; Heather Holzinger (cancer treatments) friend of Larry Baade; Connie Young (health concerns), friend of Becky Hitzfield;

If you discover that the information has changed, please call the Church office so we can update this list.

Tape Ministry

If you are unable to attend the worship services for any reason, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a copy of the sermon or tape of the service which includes a bulletin. Please call Pam and Jack Wertenberger at 356-8139 or Pam's cell phone: 260-388-2507 to arrange for delivery. If you have received and listened to previous tapes, please place in a bag on your door to be picked up when a new tape is delivered. Thanks for your help.
Jack & Pam Wertenberger



Greeters

September	Saturday	Leah Hiers & Sue Eltzroth
	Sunday	Harold and Janet Bennett
October	Saturday	Bob and Kris McFarland
	Sunday	Wayne and Nancy Ashbaugh
November	Saturday	Jim and Nancy Bowland
	Sunday	Jack and Sandy Slusser



A Little Heavenly Humor

A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"



80 Plus Birthdays this month! September

9/2	Allen Couch	81
9/13	Barba Eickhoff	84
9/16	Margaret Cozad	82
9/17	Richard Smith	82

Sunday School

Sunday School and Bible Class will resume on Saturday, September 7 at 4:00 PM and on Sunday, September 8 at 9:00 AM

Confirmation

Classes will begin September 5 at 6:30pm. If you have a child and would like them enrolled, please contact the church office asap.

thank you!

A big Thank You to everyone for all the prayers and cards I received during my recent illness. Both were very much appreciated.

Nancy Ashbaugh

Growing in the Faith

Growing in the Faith: Below, find a few questions meant to tickle your brain cells and remind you of things that you were taught years ago. Answers may be found in the given Bible passage.

September 2019

1. Who was the wicked queen that married King Ahab that persecuted believers? (1 Kings 21:5)
2. What happened to this queen when she died? (2 Kings 9:30-37)
3. True or False: Queen Vashti was the righteous queen who saved believers. (Esther 7:1-10)
4. Solomon was able to proclaim the Gospel to which queen, who visited him? (1 Kings 10:1-9)
5. The news of Jesus' resurrection spread to Ethiopia under which queen? (Acts 8:26-40)

4-H Fair

Thanks to everyone that helped to make this year 4-H Fair a success. To get the final results, please come to the September 3rd General Guild meeting and the September 16th Voters meeting.

VOTERS MEETING

**Monday, September 16th
7 PM**

Watch the Bulletin for Agenda

Cards

Rev. Donald Fischer has moved to the Assisted Living area at Lutheran Life Villages and would enjoy hearing from friends. His address is:

Rev. Donald Fischer
6723 S Anthony Blvd., Room 453S
Ft. Wayne, IN 46816

Organizations

Ladies' Guild: The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 3rd at 7:00 pm in the lower level of the education building. Final plans for the October Potato Bar will be made as well as hearing the results from the 4-H Fair. LWML Fall Rally will be held on

September 14th at Bethlehem Church, Ft. Wayne, IN with Rev. Lewis King as speaker. Rev. King started his ministry in his barber shop, come hear all about it.

St. Peter Association of Retired Keenagers (SPARKS) – The lucky winner of the drawing at the July meeting was Pam Wertemberger. Pam won \$10.00. The September meeting will be held at noon on Wednesday, September 11th at Pizza Hut.

Dorcas Circle: Will meet on Wednesday, September 18th in the reception room of the education building. Peggy Hoch and Janet Bennett will be hostess. Please RSVP to Peggy at 356-5968.

Quilters: Quilting will resume 9am – noon on Wednesday, September 4th. The quilters are always thankful for donations of cotton fabric, new or slightly used flat sheets and pillowcases. We'd like to invite anyone interested to join us or contact Judy Turgeson (200-1376) or Anita Prout (356-3627) for further information.

Choir: Do you like to sing? Please join the choir on Wednesday evenings at 7PM. Plans are to sing at least once a month in church. Practice will begin on Wednesday, September 11 at 7pm. Gather in the church by the piano. If you have questions, please call Keith Crider at 260-356-8097.

LYF: Below are some of the things the youth experienced at the Higher Things conference we went to during the first week of July. If you donated money, time, prayer or anything else, we want to sincerely thank you for providing the opportunity to the youth of the congregation. If you have any questions about what the kids learned at the conference, be sure to stop them and ask them to explain what they learned. They will be happy to tell you!

Lynn Cook –

“My favorite thing that I learned was about funerals. People have their own way on how to do it. Some people don’t mention Christ, but some do. Some have 1 hour services and others do 10 minute funerals. I am thankful for the teachings.”

Takoda Cook –

“My favorite thing I learned was about what to do in a abusive relationship is to tell someone about it and that God will listen and if someone tells you to not be with them you shouldn’t be with them any longer. God would want us to be safe in a relationship. I’m thankful for what they taught us.

Andrew Crider –

“During the Higher Things conference in Chicago we had these things called break away sessions which are different classes that you go to and talk about things like funerals, Lutherans and Nazis. There were usually 3 services per day. For instrumentalists and choir people, they have orchestra and choir.”

Ian Crider –

“If was fun in general and I think next year will be better because I know what to expect. When I went this year, I didn’t know what to expect. I went to a class called ‘Jesus According to the New Testament’. There were 3 ½ Pastors in that class. We learned that Jesus made a sacrifice for us and what he did was out of love.”

Our next time together for LYF will be on Sunday, September 8 when we will go to Rivers Edge in Marion for mini-golf. We will be meeting after church for pizza. Please let Linda Crider know if you are coming and are willing to help provide transportation/supervision.

Memorials

Memorials have been given to St. Peter Lutheran Church in memory of:

Janice Hencken
Harley “Sonny” Henline
Velva Hoch
Charles Weicht

Family Night

School is back in session and so are Family Nights at St. Peter! This year, we will be meeting on the second Friday every other month starting in September in the school building. The evening will start at 5:30 pm. with dinner followed by a Family bible study, based on the books and movies Chronicles of Narnia, craft time and free play time! Small children can participate in a kid's Bible lesson during the Family Bible study if needed. Please join us for this FREE family event! All ages are welcome! It is open to the public, so please bring your friends. We just ask that you RSVP before the event so we know how much food to buy. Hope to see you all there! Here are the dates for the 2019/2020 year:

Sept. 13
Nov. 8
Jan.10
Mar.13
May 8

We are also looking for staff to help run these events, so if you are interested in helping out, please contact Kristin Lorenz.

Happy Anniversary

Date		Years
9/1	Thomas & Debra Guhl	35
9/4	Aaron & Erin Brown	20
9/11	Ronald & Cheryl Canvin	20
9/26	Michael & Melissa Antonides	10

Schedule

Saturday, September 28

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Presentation #1

10:15 a.m. Matins

11:00 a.m. Art Presentation: Angels in Art through the Centuries

12:00 p.m. Lunch (time provided to tour art exhibit and also visit CTSFW bookstore)

1:30 p.m. Presentation #2

2:45 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. Presentation #3

4:00 p.m. Adjournment for the day

Sunday, September 29

2:00 p.m. Presentation #4 (focusing on the archangel St. Michael)

3:30 p.m. Break

4:00 p.m. Choral Vespers

What in Heaven Is Going On?

Christ and the Angels in the Book of Revelation

The Book of Revelation is one of most studied and least understood books in the Bible.

During this two-day retreat, Dr. Charles Gieschen will lead participants through the powerful visions of this book, focusing on the various depictions of Christ and angels who play such a prominent role in this visionary prophecy, including the archangel St. Michael. He will also contrast modern cultural thoughts about angels with what is revealed in the Scriptures, and Dr. Steven Cody will teach on the depiction of angels in art.

The retreat coincides with the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, which will be observed with Choral Vespers in Kramer Chapel on Sunday, September 29, at 4:00 p.m. Featured in the service will be Bach Cantata #149, "Glad Song of Rejoicing and Victory," which was written for the celebration of this festival. In addition, the weekend will mark the opening of a new art exhibit on campus titled "With Angels and Archangels."

Unity Sunday

On Sunday, September 15, we will have a Unity Sunday. (No church on Saturday, September 14!). Rev. Timothy Quill of the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society will be visiting St. Peter this day. He will hold a Bible Study (9:00 am) to tell us both the history of the Lutheran Church in Siberia and what is going on now, and will be the guest preacher for the day (10:15 am). We will collect a door offering on the 15th for the Novosibirsk seminary in Siberia. The seminary is in dire need of support so that the proclamation of the Gospel may continue in Russia. Please make every effort to attend both Bible Class and church this day.

SERVING THIS MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2019

ELDER

SATURDAY: GEORGE JUERGENS

SUNDAY: RICHARD WINKELMAN

GREETERS

SATURDAY: Leah Hiers & Sue Ann Eltzroth **SUNDAY:** Harold & Janet Bennett

ALTAR CARE: Sally McCoy & Pam Wertenberger

SUN, Sept 1	10:15 AM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Larry Baade
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Jeff Derr
		ACOLYTE	Andrew Crider
SAT, Sept 7	5:00 PM	ACOLYTE	Jase Gunn
SUN, Sept 8	10:15 AM	ACOLYTE	Ian Crider
SAT, Sept 14	UNITY SUNDAY NO SATURDAY SERVICE		
SUN, Sept 15	10:15 AM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Jim Hoch
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Randy Prange
		ACOLYTE	Drew Dorsett
SAT, Sept 21	5:00 PM	ACOLYTE	Samantha Weicht
SUN, Sept 22	10:15 AM	ACOLYTE	Brianna Thomas
SAT, Sept 28	5:00 PM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Ron Brown
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Ted McElhaney
		ACOLYTE	Jase Gunn
SUN, Sept 29	10:15 AM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Larry Baade
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Ethan Stoppenhagen
		ACOLYTE	Andrew Crider

If you are scheduled at a time that does not work for you, please contact an acolyte or communion assistant listed to take your place and let the office know so changes to the bulletin can be made. Thank you for your commitment to serve at St. Peter Church.

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:15 Divine Service w/Communion	2 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 6:30 Elders	11:00-12:00 Diaper Store 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 5:00-6:00 Diaper Store 7:00 General Guild	4 9:00 Quilting	5 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 JR Confirmation	6	7 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service
8 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service 11:30 LYF	9 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 7:00 Council	10 1:00 Chapel @ Millers	11 9:00 Quilting 12:00 SPARKS	12 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 1:30 @ Heritage Communion 6:30 JR Confirmation	13 5:30 Family Night	14 LWML Fall Rally UNITY SUNDAY NO SATURDAY SERVICE
15 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service w/Communion	16 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton <i>7:00 Voters</i>	17 11:00-12:00 Diaper Store 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 5:00-6:00 Diaper Store 1:00 Chapel @ Millers 7:00 PM Stewardship	18 9:00 Quilting Noon Dorcas Circle	19 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 JR Confirmation	20 NOON Messenger Deadline	21 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service
22 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service	23 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 7:00 Evangelism	24 7:00 BPLE	25 9:00 Quilting 7:00 School Committee	26 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 JR Confirmation	27	28 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service w/Communion
29 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service	30 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton					

NOTES