

NEWS AND NOTES FOR JANUARY 21 & 22, 2023

☑ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑ **Reminder! Voters' Meeting Monday, January 30th @ 7:00pm** ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑ ☑

The Nominating Committee would like the congregation to be aware of the positions that are open for the January election. Contact the Nominating Committee for more information or to place your name on the ballot. Please prayerfully consider volunteering your time and talents for the following positions:

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| <p>Chairman (1-year term)
 Vice-Chairman (1-year term)
 Secretary (3-year term)
 Treasurer (3-year term)
 Assistant Treasurer (3-year term)
 Elder (3-year term)
 Trustee (3-year term)</p> | <p>Head Usher (1-year term)
 Assistant Financial Secretary (3-year term)
 Board of Finance (3-year term & 2-year term position)
 Board of Education (3-year term)
 Evangelism Committee (3-year term)
 Board of Financial Review (3-year term)
 Nominating Committee (3-year term)</p> |
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January 2023 Featured Hymn: This month our featured hymn is "From God the Father, Virgin-Born" (LSB 401). The origin of this Epiphany hymn is unknown. It is found in a number of eleventh-century manuscripts, but its author is anonymous. In its original Latin form, it is an alphabetical hymn, with the first words of the second through last lines beginning with a successive letter of the Latin alphabet: *ad, baptisma, cunctos, de, exceptit, faacturam, gaudia, hoc*, etc. The English translation we sing in our hymnal was published in 1875 by John Mason Neale, with some alterations made by the hymnal editors. Although this hymn is typically sung during the Epiphany season, the reference to consecrating the font in stanza one, the gift of healing in stanza three, and taking away the stain of sin in stanza four make the first four stanzas of the hymn appropriate before a Baptism in any season. (from Lutheran Service Book, Companion to the Hymns)

Below are the General Fund Income and Expense numbers, as well as others, for the prior months and the current fiscal year to date. We hope that these numbers provide a clear picture of our operating status.

	November 2022	December 2022	2022-23 Fiscal Year-to-Date
General Fund Income	\$ 81,418.61	\$ 108,155.24	\$ 625,228.04
General Fund Expenses	\$ 125,501.26	\$ 112,277.21	\$ 597,016.53
Gain or (Deficit)	\$ (44,082.65)	\$ (4,121.97)	\$ 28,211.51
Building on the Cornerstone Fund	\$ 1,359,699.00	\$ 303,210.06	\$ 2,662,702.85
Missions (Goal: \$35,000)	\$ 1,520.00	\$ 6,653.00	\$ 16,271.00

Church Attendance Last Week: 221 (91-130); Communion: 190

Sympathies to William & Sandy Schnell and family upon the death of William's sister, Sonja Auernhamer.

Thank you to my St. Peter Church and School family for their prayers, get well wishes and the many cards and calls I received regarding my shoulder surgery. I am the recipient of God's gifted skills of Dr Brett P. Wiater, of Michigan Orthopedic Surgeons of Beaumont Hospital in Troy Michigan for a very successful and almost pain free recovery to date. Thanks to Pastor Morris for his visits and updates on our building on the cornerstone project. I miss my daily visits to our building project due to my Dr's no driving restrictions. Blessings to all of you for your concerns and well wishes. Thank be to God. - Glenn Hubbell



Building on the Cornerstone Campaign

On Our Way to \$2.5 Million Matching Goal:

Commitments and Gifts: \$ 2,380,536

Gifts Received: \$ 1,314,806



Building on the Cornerstone Updates: There are many things happening with our building project including work being done by our subcommittees. Below are some points of interest as to what is taking place:

Subcommittee for Interior Design: This committee is working on different areas of the new addition, as well as the current narthex and multipurpose room. There are several floor samples in the multi-purpose room being reviewed by the committee. An interior decorator will be assisting with flooring, window treatments, and furniture.

Subcommittee for Sanctuary Modifications: This Committee is looking at modifications for lighting, pews, and flooring in the balcony, chapel and sanctuary. They have also been visiting other churches to get ideas.

Subcommittee for Security and IT: This subcommittee involves itself with audio, video, network, Wi-Fi, telephone, door security, and camera systems. They are ensuring the church service audio/video is functional in the gathering space and fellowship hall, creating a large projection and audio system to support presentations in the fellowship hall, investigating additional improvements for hearing impairment support, and making video feeds and announcements available to various rooms.

Organ Update: The metal and wood pipes are being constructed and the windchests are currently being engineered and designed and may be completed earlier than anticipated. The organ construction is on schedule, and everything is moving along well.

Church Pictorial Directory The church office is starting to gather information and pictures to complete a church pictorial directory. If you have a recent family picture that you would like to use, you can submit it one of the following ways:

1. Email a digital copy to laura.kopplin@stpeterhemlock.org and fill out paper contact form.
2. Bring a physical copy of your picture into the church office with paper contact form.
3. Submit your information and photo through the google form on our website under Church then Member Information Form.

Copies of Update Contact Form are located on the table in the narthex. Once we are able to determine how many families still need pictures, we will be able to get more details on the next step.

Do you need your picture taken for the church directory? Shutter the Thought Photography has graciously offered to take family pictures. Karen will be on site to take pictures February 11th from 11:00am-4:30pm and February 12th from 11:00am-2:00pm. Sign up sheets are in the narthex. Please stop and sign up for a 15-minute time slot. If your family would still like their picture taken but you are unable to make it that weekend, please put your name and contact information and Karen will arrange for another time.

Groundskeeper Position The St. Peter Board of Trustees is seeking a groundskeeper for the Richland Lutheran Cemetery. Some of the duties include cutting and trimming of grass, spring and fall clean up, trash removal, etc. A full listing of the job duties is available upon request. If interested, send your resume to St. Peter Lutheran Church, 2461 N Raucholz Rd., Hemlock, MI 48626 or send via email to church@stpeterhemlock.org. If you have any questions, please call the church office 989.642.8188.

Pastor Hauser's Retirement Pastor Paul Hauser has retired from the ministry on December 31, 2022. He has faithfully served at Zion, Hemlock for the past 22 years. A retirement celebration will be held at Zion Lutheran 17927 Dice Road, Hemlock on Sunday, February 19 at 3:00 pm. All are invited to join us in this celebration. Following the worship service, you are invited for a catered meal in our fellowship hall. In order to plan we ask that those wishing to stay for the meal to please RSVP by February 1 by calling 989-642-5909 and leave a message or email ikruth@hotmail.com or admin@zionhemlock.org.

Panther Press Highlights

If you would like to see what is happening at our school, you can receive the *Panther Press* via your email. Call the school office to give us your email address and you will be added to the distribution list. You can also read the *Press* on our website www.stpeterhemlock.org, or you can click on the QR code to access this week's *Panther Press* or view previous newsletters. If more convenient, there are a few paper copies available in the stand in the narthex.



Preschool Open House You're invited to come and learn about our awesome 3- and 4-year old preschool programs. Monday, January 30th from 5:30pm-6:30pm. You will be able to meet both teachers-who are passionate about children and Jesus, tour our safe learning environment, and register your child for the 2023/2024 school year. Returning preschool students to St. Peter do not have to attend the open house. For more information please contact: Kelley Fehn, Early Childcare Director: 989-642-5659

Theology For White Collar, Blue Collar & Clerical Collar... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: I Am the Resurrection & the Life; Pastoral Visitation; The Nicene Creed; Pastoral Sabbaticals and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

The Lutheran Hour is broadcast Sundays on WSAM 1400AM Saginaw at 8:30am and XM 131 at 10:30am. It can also be heard on-line at www.lhm.org. Next Sunday, January 29th, Guest Speaker *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler's* sermon is titled, "Hopeless Hopeful". Having hope for humanity is not the same thing as hoping humanity.

Community Events:

- **Hemlock/Merrill VFW Fish Fry** January 20th & 27th, 4:00- 7:00pm, Perch Dinner \$17, Shrimp Dinner \$15, Chicken Strip \$14, Frog Legs \$16 comes with fries or baked potato, coleslaw, and dessert.
- Do you enjoy card games? Would you like to support the Valley Lutheran Booster Club? Then mark your calendars for Saturday, February 4! **The VL Booster Club is holding a Card Night Fundraiser** beginning at 6 p.m. (please arrive at 5:30 to learn the rules!) at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Saginaw. No experience needed and everyone is welcome! \$20 to play. Head to www.vlhs.com/VLcardnight to learn more, or contact Jenny Rauschert (jenrausch@gmail.com, 989-751-4525) or Cathy Miller (989-790-1676) by January 30 to RSVP.

Ushers for next week: Saturday: Kurt Cicinelli, Gary Graf **Sunday:** Tom Wardin, Mark Chapin

Videographer for next week: Scott Neumeyer

A LifeQuote from Lutherans for Life of Michigan

"When someone struggles with the overwhelming guilt of a past sin, like abortion, repentance and reconciliation are the only source of relief. There is hope! 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness' (1 John 1:9). Through all our days, the Lord never leaves us nor forsakes us. He is a patient God, waiting and wanting all to come to repentance and be saved."

- Deaconess Pamela Buhler and Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, *Word of Hope*

Lectionary Summary **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

Isaiah 9:1-4

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-25

The Lord Manifests His Glory through His Office of the Holy Ministry

By His coming in the flesh and by His preaching and miracles, the Lord Jesus shines the light of His Gospel upon "the people who walked in darkness" and "who dwelt in a land of deep darkness" (Is. 9:2). He also has "multiplied the nation" and "increased its joy" (Is. 9:3) by calling disciples to Himself from the ends of the earth. For this purpose, He calls Peter and Andrew, with James and John, to follow Him and be "fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19). As Jesus did, they also go forth "proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people" (Matt. 4:23). They preach the foolishness of the cross of Christ as the very power and wisdom of God. This word and preaching of the cross divides "those who are perishing" from "us who are being saved" (1 Cor. 1:18), but it unites the Church, the one Body of Christ, "in the same mind and the same judgment" (1 Cor. 1:10).