

NEWS AND NOTES for May 3 & 4, 2025

We will recognize Pastors Hagenow and Mundt for their almost 11 years serving as Pastoral Assistants today. We thank them for their faithful, willing, and compassionate service beyond their retirement. Both of them are thankful that an associate pastor is coming so they can focus more on their families. There will be refreshments after the Divine Service in their honor.

Pastoral Candidate, Michael Speckhard was assigned as our Associate Pastor! He and Meagan have five children: Eliza (8), Levi (6), Ezra (3), Delilah (2), and Andrew (1 on 5/16). We are so very thankful that the Lord is sending them to be part of the St. Peter family! He still has classes to attend and papers to write. May 23, 2025 he will graduate. The Speckhard's have begun the process of looking for a house. He will be ordained and installed here at St. Peter. It is impossible to set a date as there are many things that need to happen first. Please pray for them in this transition and thank and praise God for sending us this beautiful family! God be praised!



Building on the Cornerstone Campaign

\$2.5 Million Matching Goal:

Gifts Received: \$ 2,730,103

Volunteers needed to help with Sunday Morning Fellowship. Join our Sunday morning Fellowship crew and help spread smiles one cup at a time! No barista experience required, just a willingness to brew, chat and share a smile with others. Deaconess Shirley will show you the ropes. Sign up for a Sunday (or two 😊) in the church office or call to pick a date.

Family Game Night will be held out in the Pavilion (weather permitting) on May 9th from 5 to 8 pm. We will be having hot dogs and hamburgers and yard games. Hope to see everyone there!

GriefShare This is a grief support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. Please join us: Wednesdays, June 4th - August 27 from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm. At GriefShare you'll watch a weekly video with counsel and insights from respected grief experts and relatable personal stories – followed by a time of sharing and support. Led by Deaconess Shirley, session topics include what's normal in grief; how to handle difficult emotions; and what to do with regrets, questions, and worries. For more information, contact Deaconess Shirley. Visit www.griefshare.org/groups/247821 or call the church office to register.

Little Lambs Bible Time Join our weekly bible fun for kids & caregivers this summer. Designed for children ages 3 to 6. Older siblings are welcome too. Gather with us each week for stories, songs, and activities that teach God's love in a fun and engaging way. Tuesdays 10am to 11am starting June 24 to August 19. For more information or to register, call the church office, 989.642.8188.

VBS Registration is Open All children from preschool - 5th grade are invited to join the fun and go on an EPIC Australian Adventure! Vacation Bible School will take place June 16-20 from 9:00am-12:00pm at church. To register for VBS go to <https://www.myvbs.org/stpeterlutheranhemlock>. If you have questions, please contact church office or Deaconess Shirley.

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.

	February 2025	March 2025	2024-25 Fiscal Year-to-Date
General Fund Income	\$ 210,975.28	\$ 121,853.30	\$ 1,310,635.61
General Fund Expenses	\$ 156,248.22	\$ 119,960.11	\$ 1,146,398.57
Gain or (Deficit)	\$ 54,727.06	\$ 1,893.19	\$ 164,237.04
Building on the Cornerstone Fund	\$ 19,422.00	\$ 15,631.00	\$ 1,126,072.00
Missions (Goal: \$35,000)	\$ 1,733.00	\$ 10,522.00	\$ 35,085.00

Church Attendance Last Week: 247 (61-186); Communion: 179

Ink Cartridges the church will no longer be accepting ink cartridges.

Church Newsletter Articles are due May 16th for the June- August newsletter.

Confirmation Reception – Your help is needed Do you have a tasty cookie or cookie bar recipe? Would you be willing to prepare it for the Confirmation Reception held after the questioning service on Friday, May 16th? If so, please sign up on the spring green sheet on the table in the Gathering Space below the bulletin board. We would like six bakers. Your help in recognizing our 2025 catechumens is appreciated! Questions? Call Linda Ackerman at 781-2961.

Sunshine Seniors The Sunshine Seniors will have their annual end of the year dine out at Timbers Bar & Grill on State Street on Tuesday, May 13 at noon. Contact Rich Schiemann at 989.642.8923 with any questions.

Men's Club St. Peter Men's Club and their guests will have our end of the year dine out on Wednesday, May 7 at 6:00pm. We will meet and eat at Coty's Landing on Midland Road, Saginaw. If you have any questions, please call Rich Schiemann at 989.642.8923.

St. Peter Lutheran School Cook Position Open We are currently seeking a new cook for the 25-26 school year. Please contact *Mr. Eric Hagenow* for more information about the position. *Mrs. Becky Chanin*, our school cook, will be retiring at the end of this school year, and we are so thankful for her dedicated service to our school.

Sanctifying Your Yard Work With the Word Of God... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent subjects include: The Office of the Papacy in the Lutheran Confessions, The Easter Hymn "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done," The TV Series "Adolescence," Women in the Military and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a 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, May 11th, Lutheran Hour Speaker *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler's* sermon is titled, "How to Be Happy". Lasting happiness is found in surrender, rather than control.

Community News: *See flyers on the bulletin board in the gathering space*

Ushers for next week: Saturday: *Kyle Smith, Gary Graf* **Sunday:** *Mike Stavely, Dan Sherry*

Videographer for next week: *Anthony Wolter*

A LifeQuote from Lutherans for Life of Michigan

"By the washing of water, John made God's divine intentions clear. Jesus was our brother indeed, on a heavenly mission to rescue and purify us from all sin. Dear Lord, keep us patient as we wait for You. Amen."

- *Rev. Paul Koelpin, Martin Luther College*

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 9:1-22

Revelation 5:(1-7) 8-14

John 21:1-14 (15-19)

The Good Shepherd Feeds His Lambs

"*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain*" (Rev. 5:12), who by His cross has conquered sin and death. With His blood, He has "*ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation*" (Rev. 5:9).

This same Lord Jesus visits people of all nations and calls them to Himself by the Gospel, even as He "*was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead*" (John 21:14). He restored Simon Peter to faith and life, and He commissioned him to feed His lambs and tend His sheep (John 21:15-17). Likewise, He revealed

Himself to Saul of Tarsus and brought him to repentance, so that the persecutor of Jesus might carry and confess His name "*before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel*" (Acts 9:15).