

NEWS AND NOTES for May 18 & 19, 2024

May 2024 Featured Hymn: This month our featured hymn is "Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasure," (LSB 654). With the widespread usage of the three-year lectionary in many Lutheran churches today, a great need developed for hymns that matched the assigned readings for each day. This text by David Rogner on some of the "kingdom" parables in Matthew helps meet that need. He attended a workshop for hymn writers before *LSB* was published, where the request was made for new hymns pertaining to the parables that were now being read more regularly in Sunday services. After that workshop, he wrote this text based on Matthew 13, which refers to five of the seven parables concerning the kingdom of heaven in that chapter. The text was then paired with a new melody written by Joseph Herl, Professor of Music at Concordia, Seward. (from Lutheran Service Book, Companion to the Hymns)



Summer Worship
Schedule starts next
week on May 23rd!

Thursdays @ 6:30pm &
Sundays @ 9:30am

Call Declined I am very blessed to be a called teacher at St. Peter. God has shown me over these past few weeks that my ministry at St. Peter is still needed. I didn't know how deep my love for St. Peter was until these weeks of deliberation. The Holy Spirit filled my heart with all the great things about St. Peter, especially all the wonderful people that have helped to guide and instruct me as a student when I came to St. Peter in first grade (1992) to now, a first-grade teacher (2024). I feel God has directed me to remain a teacher at St. Peter, and I pray that I may continue to do His work here as I serve. *Psalm 28:7 "The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him and He helps me."* -Mrs. Patrice Sherry



Building on the Cornerstone Campaign

\$2.5 Million Matching Goal:

Commitments and Gifts:	\$ 2,578,944
Gifts Received:	\$ 2,263,198
Remaining Commitment Amount:	\$ 236,802

Celebrate the Savior VBS Our loving God has given us so much to celebrate – join us June 24 – 28, 9 am to 12:30 pm as we discover how the love of Jesus fills us with joy. Visit myvbs.org/stpeterlutheranhemlock to register. Volunteers are still needed! Please contact Deaconess Shirley or the church office.

Another series of GriefShare is beginning June 4th. This is a grief support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. Please join us: Tuesdays, June 4 through August 27 from 10:30 am to noon. 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/235053 or call the church office to register.

Ladies Aid- World Relief Quilters will not meet on Tuesdays after Memorial Day. Those that wish to continue working on World Relief quilts will meet on Thursdays with the hand quilters anytime time from 10am-2pm in the church craft room during the summer. The Tuesday meetings will start back up in the fall.

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.

	March 2024	April 2024	2023-24 Fiscal Year-to-Date
General Fund Income	\$142,694.81	\$92,680.88	\$ 1,196,068.08
General Fund Expenses	\$ 114,400.74	\$ 138,175.08	\$ 1,243,345.41
Gain or (Deficit)	\$ 28,294.07	\$ (45,494.20)	\$ (47,277.33)
Building on the Cornerstone Fund	\$381,292.00	\$143,830.00	\$ 2,849,373.72
Missions (Goal: \$35,000)	\$9,281.00	\$1,951.00	\$ 32,266.00

Church Attendance Last Week: 315 (59-256); Communion: 221; Ascension: 182

Panther Press Highlights

Retirement Celebration: We will recognize *Ms. Parsell* at our closing awards ceremony on the last day of school, June 5, and we will have a reception for her following the closing service. There will be a card box available at the celebration to express your thankfulness to her.

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, 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.

Psalms Bible Study... LCMS Pastor Will Weedon will begin study this week on the Book of Psalms. The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. You can listen at your convenience at thewordendures.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app or 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 26th, Lutheran Hour Speaker *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler's* sermon is titled, "Penultimate Sacrifice". Memorial Day honors those who made "the ultimate sacrifice" in service to country, but there was one Sacrifice infinitely greater.

Community Events:

❖ **The Hemlock Lions Club** is having great success with the scrap metal drive so they are extending until the end of May. Clean up your scrap metal and bring it to the dumpster behind the Richland Township Fire department 1099 N Hemlock Rd. Funds raised will be used to support community of Hemlock.

Ushers for next week: Thursday: *Kyle Smith, Brad Smith* **Sunday:** *Martin Neuenfeldt, Larry Graf*

Videographer for next week: *Sheila Bauer*

A LifeQuote from Lutherans for Life of Michigan

"Go to church together and get God's message into your ears, into your life, into your relationships. And the Spirit who created you and recreates you into the best version of yourself, that self that God has in mind for you, will work in your relationship and make it into one that is life-giving. But married or single, divorced or twice-divorced, wid-owed, brokenhearted, or thriving, we all live in the echo of Easter: Christ is risen. Indeed. Alleluia. We walk in the power of Pentecost. Alleluia."

- *Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour"*

PENTECOST

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Acts 2:1-21

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

The Holy Spirit Brings the Dead to Life by the Righteousness of Christ

In returning to His Father by way of the cross and resurrection, Christ Jesus sends "*the Helper*" to His Church, that is, "*the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father.*" The Spirit testifies of Christ and glorifies Him by taking what is His and declaring it to the world in the preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (John 15:26; 16:7, 14). He convicts the world of sin by the word of the Law, He forgives sins and justifies sinners by the Word of the Gospel, and He bestows the faith that says "Amen" to this righteousness of God (John 16:8-11). Therefore, the Lord pours out His Spirit on the apostles, that by their preaching, the Spirit should be given to His entire Church. As the multitudes are gathered from all the nations by "*this sound,*" that is, by the preaching of "*the mighty works of God*" in Christ Jesus, so does God the Father pour out the Spirit of His Son "*on all flesh*" (Acts 2:6, 11, 17). The Lord God breathes upon the slain, and so shall they live; for so the Lord has spoken, and He shall do it (Ezek. 37:5-14).