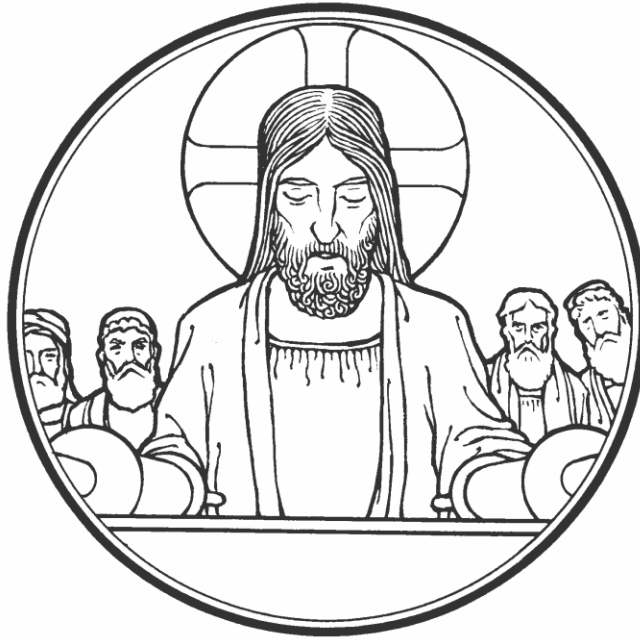


**Epiphany 3 (January 26th, 2025)
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS)
1033 E. 1100 N., Decatur, IN 46733**



**Rev. Leonard Tanksley, Pastor: 260-246-7470
Church & Study: 260-724-7533
Email: leonard.tanksley@gmail.com
2nd Year Seminarian: Nathan Kieser
1st Year Seminarian: Joshua Camp
Secretary: Amber Shaffer: 260-223-9897
Email: splchurchsec@gmail.com**

Opening Hymn: 836 O God of Light

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.
L Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
C O come, let us worship Him.

Venite

LSB 220

- C** O come, let us sing to the Lord,
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving,
let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
- For the Lord is a great God
and a great king above all gods.
The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
the strength of the hills is His also.
- The sea is His, for He made it,
and His hand formed the dry land.
O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.
- For He is our God,
and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- L** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
C O come, let us worship Him.

Sit

Office Hymn: 577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

Old Testament Reading

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10

¹ All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel.

² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who

could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . . .

⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. . . .

⁸They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:16–30

¹⁶[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me

to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” ²⁴And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰But passing through their midst, he went away.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory

LSB 221

L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Hymn of the Day: 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Sermon

Stand

Creedal Hymn: 941 We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God

Sit

Offering

Kneel/Stand

Kyrie

LSB 227

- C** Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

- C** Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Collects

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.

L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, including:

Kay Brown (Sister of Dave and Lynn Matthews)

Lynn and Lori Matthews

Troy Stults (Son of Andy and Brenda Wolf)

Eldora Fuelling

Cheryl Caffee

Shelly Gerke (Wife of Troy Gerke)

Jim Thieme

Glen Deatruck for healing from a fall

Keith and Suzy Scherer

Susan Gerke (Sister of Steve and Jim Fuelling)

Phil Liechty (Father of Megan Buuck) as he recovers from surgical complications

Janell Harper for strength and healing

Harriet DeLong (Wife of Dan DeLong)

Braden Morris (Future Step-Son of Louie Fuelling)

let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Stand

Benedicamus

LSB 228

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 228

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Hymn to Depart: 584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

In His Service Today:

Preacher and Celebrant: The Rev. Leonard Tanksley

Organist: Mrs. Kris Bischoff

Deacons: Joe Werling (Head), Dan DeLong, Mitch Billington, Nathan Scherer

Elders: Fred D. Fuelling (Head), Steve Fuelling, Matt Braun, Rodney Busick

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offerings: January 19th- Home Purpose: \$3,084.00, Building Fund: \$10.00, Picnic Grove: \$25.00, Memorial: \$25.00, Vanco: \$44.78

NOTE: Needed each week to meet the ministry needs of St. Peter: \$5,700.00.

You may also donate your offerings online by scanning the QR code with your phone.



2025 Offering Envelopes: The offering envelope boxes have been distributed. If you do not receive one but would like one, please let Josh Franz or Pastor know. Thanks!

The flowers in front of church are in honor of Bruce & Brenda Scherer's 50th wedding anniversary on Friday January 24th. Congratulations & Happy Anniversary!

Daily Devotionals: There are daily devotionals available in the Narthex.

SEMINARY FOOD CO-OP THEME for January - "Breakfast: During the month of January we will be collecting "Breakfast items" for the Seminary Food Co-op. Suggestions are but not limited

to: Hot chocolate, coffee/tea, cereal, oatmeal, pop tarts, breakfast/granola bars, juice, syrup, muffin/pancake mix, jelly/jam. Other items that are always in demand are breakfast cereal (excluding Chex) and tomato products. All your donations are greatly appreciated by the Seminary and are a great benefit to the students and their families. Many report that 75-85% of their grocery needs are met at the Co-Op. Items can be placed in the gray and white bag at Church. **Thank you for all your donations.**

2024 Annual Reports: are now available in the Narthex.

Lenten Soup Suppers: Wednesday March 5th (Ash Wednesday) is the beginning of Lent. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex to volunteer to provide supper before one of the evening midweek Lenten services. Church will provide tableware (bowls, plates, cutlery, napkins) and bottled water.

St. Peter Church has received another thank you note from one of the mission money recipients. It is as follows:

"We at the Fort Wayne Seminary would like to thank you for your recent contributions. Gifts, such as yours, allow us to provide the finest theological education to the future pastors, deaconesses, and missionaries who will serve The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and our partner churches worldwide. I thank God for you and ask for your continued support. Together we partner in an essential mission of forming servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost and care for all." Your servant in Christ Martin Lewis, Chief Advancement Officer

JV Boys Basketball: SPI is excited to have a JV Boys Basketball team this year! The remaining game on the schedule is:

January 28th at SPI vs. Zion Decatur at 5:00pm.

If you can help with the home games, please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A44AAA22A7FF2-53101984-spibasketball#/> to sign up. Thank you!

Looking for another way to help support SPI school, try the PaperGator! What is that you ask? Why it is a simple way to not only help the school, but also the environment. There is a green dumpster at SPI school on the east side of the property. The items that can be collected are: school/office paper, newspaper, junk mail, hard & soft cover books, magazines, shredded paper(bagged in clear plastic), paperboard(cereal boxes, butter boxes, etc.), Cardboard(12x12 or smaller, & NOT Corrugated), & wrapping paper(no foil or sparkles). When you have a pile of the approved items, take them to the school and put them into the PaperGator dumpster. It is that easy. The proceeds go towards the Washington D.C class trip in 2026.

SPIrit Night Auction Committee: they are looking to borrow items from February 27th-March 2nd, to use as props/decorations for this years upcoming SPIrit Night and are asking this congregation for help. If anyone happens to have saddle shoes, old roller skates, Coca-Cola stuff(boxes/signs), Leather jacket (think from the movie Grease), old diner straw

holder/ napkin dispenser, 50's car photos, old booth bench, Bistro set(table & chairs), or Elvis stuff and would be willing to allow the committee to utilize the items, please call Kim Fuelling at 260-466-1211. Thank you!

National Lutheran Schools Week: January 26th- 31st. Today kicks off with an Open House at SPI School from 1-3 pm. Come tour the school, meet the teachers, and learn about a Lutheran education at SPI. The students will have a fun filled week as they engage in different activities each day!

Hoagland Area Advancement Association: All You Can Eat Pancake & Sausage Breakfast Sunday January 26th, from 9AM-1PM at Hoagland Community Center- 11320 Hoagland Rd, Hoagland, IN. Menu: Pancakes, Sausage Patties, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit & Beverages. Price: Adults \$10, Kids 6-12 yrs \$5, Under 5 yrs eat free. Drive-Thru and Carryout Available. Now accepting credit cards. All profits to be used for Hoagland Area Advancement Association's Community Programs & Projects

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF January 26th, 2025

TODAY	9:00 am	Divine Service w/Voter's Assembly meeting after service
	1:00-3:00 pm	Open House at SPI School
TUESDAY	6:30 pm	Decatur LBI classes at Wyneken Lutheran School
WEDNESDAY	10:00 am	Bible Study
THURSDAY	9:00 am	Ladies Aid Quilting
SUNDAY	9:00 am	Divine Service w/Holy Communion

The Picnic Grove Project

Our goal is to utilize the picnic grove area to its full potential. Minimal maintenance of the property has been done over 25 years. The trees are in poor quality, the building needs updated in order to be utilized for family gatherings, reunions, graduation parties, outdoor worship services, weddings- all for congregational members to enjoy. St. Peter is blessed with the space of the Picnic Grove that has not been utilized since the school was tore down. What better way to grow the congregation and build fellowships than with an updated Picnic Grove.

Over the years the trees have lost limbs in high winds and storms. Over the years, a tree here and there has been cut down due to decay. Fortunately, no large limbs or trees have fallen on the building. There have been several church members who have recommended that now would be a suitable time to start new with the landscape. Over the last few years new trees have been transplanted to replace the dying trees. For every tree that has been removed; two trees have been planted. It has been brought to our attention that the new trees are struggling to survive, due to the established trees taking up all the available

water. Eventually, the goal is to remove all the old trees and replace them with new trees. Removal of trees, planting new trees, and labor have all been donated.

Phase 1: Over the next year the plan is to replace the foundation that is cracked and crumbling. Along with a new foundation the building will be jacked up, the elevation will be re-graded for improved drainage and a new foundation poured. In addition to the foundation, new floor drains, plumbing for water lines, and electrical will be run.

Phase 2: Since the stand was built almost 100 years ago with the purpose of serving food for church functions and the popular ice cream social, an additional shelter will be built. A 40'x60' open air pavilion will be built on the north side of the stand for seating during events. This will eliminate the need for tent rental.

To date over \$3,000.00 has been raised. We are applying for a matching grant through the Lutheran Foundations. Many congregation members have pledged their time and talents to complete Phase 1 of the project. The cost needed for Phase 1 will be for stone and concrete.

Vote for your choice. In order for a vote to be considered valid, it must be cast by a voting member during the Voter's Assembly meeting on Sunday January 26th . Not a member of the Voter's Assembly? Come to the meeting and you can join the Assembly and make your vote count!

At least five more trees need to come down around the picnic stand.

Please vote for one.

1. Leave the remaining trees in place standing along the road and ditch _____
2. Remove all the silver maple trees and start new _____

Protect Young Eyes: FREE Parent and Caregiver Event

Thursday, February 13 from 7:00-8:30 PM

at Concordia Lutheran High School

No Filter: Creating a Tech-Ready Home in a Fast-Paced Digital World (Parents and Caring Adults Only)

It's not possible to create a home that removes all risk of digital harm. It is possible to create one that is **internet SAFER**. After well over a thousand presentations to parents, grandparents, and caregivers just like you, and countless conversations, we've observed what it takes to have kids who use technology well. **And we call it the Tech-Ready Home Framework**. This presentation breaks down these 5 foundational ideas. Do you know what's better than any parental control? Do you know why your router is the most important digital device in your home? Do you understand the toxic trio? Do you know why TikTok is so compelling to young brains? Get ready for a ton of practical tips, solutions, and ideas you can implement this weekend.

Our desired outcomes include:

- A deep understanding of why multiple layers of protection are necessary and how they work together.
- Awareness of the hardware and software tools that support your digital goals.
- How to use practical solutions so that your family is prepared, balanced, and protected online.

RSVP for the event at this link or scanning the QR code:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/protectyouneyes/1518026>



COME & LEARN



Decatur Lutheran Bible Institute
2025 Sessions: January 28, February 4, 11 & 18

Choose one of these stimulating courses:

The Mind and the Soul – How God Cares for Both

Rev. Dr. Todd A. Peperkorn – Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

Love is All You Need? Depends on What You Mean.

Rev. David H. Petersen – Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne

Mission Belongs to the Church Like Heat to Fire

Rev. Dr. Klaus Detlev Schulz – Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

Petty Tyrants: Humanity's Quest for Power When Authority Isn't Enough

Rev. Matthew T. Ulmer – Zion Friedheim Lutheran Church, Decatur

Tuition: \$10 per adult (covers 4 sessions), FREE for all students!

Bring your own personal Bible.

Enrollment: Opening night at 6:30 pm followed by classes from 7-9:15 pm

Location: Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School,

US Hwy 27, just north of Decatur

Minimal Time Commitment! Low Cost! No Homework!