

ST PETER (FUELLING) EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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The mission of St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church is to:
Teach the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to all;
Reach the lost with the same Word by the witness of our words and actions;
Care for all in need as we live in Christ's love through the same Word.

Dear Saints in Christ,

I have been thinking about time a lot recently. It was spurned when I had lunch with a beloved Seminary professor.

“Time flies when you’re having fun” the adage goes. It goes even quicker as you watch your children grow up. It seems like just yesterday Caroline was born and now she is 3, and Elliott is 5 months old, and I feel like we just got home from the hospital. Time really is a funny thing. And we try to preserve as much of it as possible. We stick to a calendar, to a schedule, trying to squeeze the most we can out of an hour, a day, or a week. We schedule our events, and our schedule revolves around them. We follow our schedules slavishly, often to a fault. I myself am guilty of this just as much as the next person.

It is interesting though, that the church does not operate on the same playing field as we do. It is God’s time. The church measures time according to Sundays, not according to hours and minutes. It measures according to God’s good standards, not those we set for ourselves.

In Scripture, we see this argument play out before our very eyes. Matthew writes: **But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only (Mt. 24.36)**. We are not given to know everything about God, including the day or hour of the coming of the Son of Man. Matthew continues: **Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect (Mt. 24.44)**. We want to know. We want to know when the Christ is coming, when he will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.

But His time is not our time and His ways are not our ways. No one can decipher when the day, week, month, or even year that the Lord will return in His full glory. I know it is hard that we must suffer for a “little while.” We want to know what that means and when we will get relief. Being a people driven by time this is very hard. Yet as St. Paul writes in Galatians: **But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons (Ga. 4.4-5)**.

When the Lord saw fit, He sent His son the first time, to redeem all mankind so that you might receive adoption as sons, an heir of the kingdom of heaven. We continue to trust our Lord because He is good, and we have faith that He has all things in His hand. When the fullness of time comes again **the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord (1 Th. 4.16-17)**. Until that time, the cry of the church remains: Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

Pastor Tanksley
Pentecost 12

Announcements

SEMINARY FOOD CO-OP THEME for SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER - "BAKING": During the months of September and October we will be collecting BAKING items. These items will be delivered to the Seminary the first of November just in time for Holiday baking!! Some suggestions are but not limited to: flour, sugar (white, brown, powdered), Oil (vegetable, canola), nonstick spray, spices, corn starch, baking powder, brownie mix, cake mix, icing, foil, plastic wrap. 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.

RUMMAGE SALE: St. Rose Church in Monroeville, IN will be having their Huge Fall Rummage Sale in our Community Hall at 208 Summit St., Monroeville on Thurs. Sept. 7th from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm and Fri. Sept. 8th from 8:00 am to 5:00. Friday will be our Bag Sale Day all day long. Items available at our sale will be sorted by size clothing for men, women and children, household items, kitchen items, sporting goods, electronic, shoes, purses, toys and seasonal items. There will be just about anything you may need and something for everyone! Proceeds will benefit St. Rose de Lima Catholic School.

LWML DECATUR ZONE will be gathering Saturday morning, September 16, 2023. Pastor Zach Oedewaldt will be installed as our Pastoral Advisor. Our workshop will be sewing cancer pads for the Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana. Please bring your own scissors, needles, thimble and white thread. All other supplies will be furnished. Registration: 8:30 AM. Place: St John Lutheran Church-Bingen. 11555 N US Highway 27, Decatur, IN. 46733. Lunch will be served by host congregation. All ladies of the LCMS are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please park at rear of church to gather in fellowship hall. Any questions may be directed to Marilyn Bulmahn, Cell: 260-919-5007.

St. Peter Events in the Past

50 Years Ago - Pastor Paul F Stohlmann Jr

Confirmation 9-2-1973

Tony Jan Sheneman
Marlene Kay Sheneman
Norman Eugene Deckard
Marjorie Kaye Deckard

Baptized 4-15-1932
Baptized 8-20-1973
Baptized 8-20-1973
Baptized 8-20-1973

Baptism 9-23-1973

Mark Lehnford Bohnke
Born 8-7-1973

Fa. Lehnford Lee Bohnke
Mo. Kay Juanita nee Edwards

Sponsors: Allen W Bohnke & Mrs A W (Sylvia) Bohnke

100 Years Ago - Pastor Alfred H Moeller

No events during September 1923

150 Years Ago - Pastor J Andreas Fritze

Burial 9-18-1873

Johann Friedrich Hobrock
Died 9-16-1873

Son of Heinrich & Sophia Hobrock
(8-12-1867 birthdate on gravestone)

Submitted by Allen Franz



Blessings to those celebrating in September!

September Birthdays

1	Joel Lehrman	15	Allison Kukelhan
3	Sharon Banning	16	Lizah Jane Hurst
4	Elaine Fuelling	18	Martin Fuelling
5	Margene Fuelling	20	Jim Linder
5	Jason Buuck	20	Kevin Scherer
6	Michael Crosby	21	Jocelyn Linder
6	Trey Gerke	22	Alexis Counterman
8	Jack Sullivan	24	Troy Gerke
9	Suzann Rekeweg	25	John Fuelling
9	Beau Olvera	26	Haylee Franz
10	Janell Harper	26	Maddox Warren
11	Shauna Franz	28	Arnold Gerke
12	Esme Rose Schroeder	29	Matthew Berning
13	Hazel Franz		

September Anniversaries

September 4, 1982
James & Rebecca Fuelling

September 7, 1985
Larry & Kaylehn Brunner

September 12, 1980
Chris & Cindy Kortenber

September 13, 2003
Josh & Laura Gresley

September 16, 2005
Aaron & Adrienne Warren

September 16, 2006
Andy & Amber Shaffer

September 17, 1993
Joe & Heidi Werling

September 27, 1980
Sam & Marsha Braun

September 30, 1989
Steve & Charli Werling

September 2023

Altar Guild—Denise Scherer and Courtney Taylor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00am Divine Service of Holy Communion ; Bible Study	4 LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL SPI	5	6 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Church Choir	7 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 Pastors' Study Group, at Bingen	8	9
10 9:00am Divine Service; Bible Study / Sunday School	11 7:00pm SPI Board of Education Meeting	12 7:00pm Elders Meet	13 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Church Choir	14 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 Pastors' Study Group, at Bingen	15	16 SPI JV VOLLEY-BALL TOURNAMENT @SPI
17 9:00am Divine Service of Holy Communion ; Bible Study /Sunday School	18	19	20 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Church Choir	21 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 Pastors' Study Group, at Bingen	22 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23
24 9:00am Divine Service; Bible Study / Sunday School	25	26	27 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Church Choir	28 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 Pastors' Study Group, at Bingen	29	30

Note from the President:

In this edition of the church newsletter, we are introducing what we hope will be a series of articles on our elected church officers, our current officers, their thoughts and responsibilities on their position and hopefully some reflection from members who have held the office previously.

Our goals are to provide our congregation's members an overview of the responsibilities of these positions, some historical background and some insight and reflection by those who have served. In doing so, we hope that it is all of our responsibility as members of St. Peter's to support those who serve, to remember them in our prayers, and to give prayerful consideration themselves to how they can best serve Him.

School Board Member

As long as St. Peter Lutheran Church has existed, the Christian education of their children has been of great importance. That means that for the past 175 years, St. Peter members have enlisted the knowledge and services of pastors and teachers to educate the young members in God's Word. The services provided by our current St. Peter School Board Members are a continuation of that effort.

There is a historical trail of this education that is too lengthy to be included in this article. At some point in time, St. Peter developed a "school board", to see to the satisfactory education of the children, and the upkeep of the school building. In 1968, there were many area schools discussing mergers with other schools. At that time, Dale Busick was on the school board, and after talks with Immanuel and with Zion Decatur, St. Peter decided to merge with Immanuel Lutheran School in Union Township. Both schools needed teachers, so this merger would aid both. When asked if the congregations had concerns about merging with another school, Dale said that passing that through the two congregations was relatively easy. He thought that it would have been harder to merge the two men's softball teams than it was to join the schools. Anyway, the result was the formation of St. Peter Immanuel Lutheran school in the 1969-70 school year. Bussing was worked out, as the school included members from outside of Adams County.

Currently, our St. Peter Lutheran Church elects one new school board member each year for a 3-year term. The offices of School Board President and Secretary alternate each year between the third-year members of St. Peter and Immanuel. The school board meets once per month, though they do not meet in December and June. If a special project warrants it, a committee may be formed to address it. The current school board members said that it is possible to only attend the ten meetings per year, but in order to do a good job, it helps to do some work or research between meetings. For example, a person may review resumes for future teachers, or research materials that may be used for an upcoming building project, etc. It should be noted that the responsibilities listed for the current school board members have changed very little from the original list developed in 1969. Those responsibilities are as follows:

- *Call/Appoint a principal
- *Call/Employ teachers
- *Employ other workers and supervise their work
- *Prepare and present to the congregation the annual budget
- *Hear and discuss reports from the principal and teachers
- *Consider and authorize changes in the curriculum, textbooks, records, reports, etc.
- *Foster the cause of Christian education through an active program of public relations
- *Encourage the parents in each congregation to send their children to the school
- *Make reports at the regular Voter's Assembly

*Adopt a calendar for the school year

*Act on complaints of parents or pupils, only after they have conferred with both the appropriate teacher and principal, and have failed to reach an understanding

*Approve any final expulsion of a student from a school

*Establish general admissions policy

*Establish tuition policy

*Maintain a policy manual, listing the current policies adopted by the Board

Our current school board members are Dane Fuelling, Bubba Braun, and Kyle Bischoff. They agreed with the list of responsibilities but added that they also discuss how to use endowment funds (money that is left to SPI as a memorial when someone passes away) and scholarship funds. They said that the school trustees take care of all school maintenance decisions. The school board addresses new needs for the building (new carpet, paint, etc) and technology. They are also required to send one school board member to each Church Council meeting.

This school year, our St. Peter church will send \$161,000 to SPI. The responsible use of this money, the Christian education of our children, and the provision for the future of SPI is a large part of a school board member's responsibility. When asked how St. Peter members could help, they all agreed that the school could use more volunteers. They emphasized that if you have *any* skill----you would like to observe the playground on Mondays, you would like to dust windowsills once a month, you love to organize books---anything would be helpful. See a school board member if you have time to help. Also, they ask that we attend events, even if we don't have a child or grandchild in the school. Kids love to be supported!

When asked about their favorite part of holding this position, they mentioned the following:

-As a member of the school board, I like knowing what is going on in the school and being part of the direction that it is taking

-As a member of the school board, I like talking to parents and students, and bringing ideas and concerns to the school board meetings.

-As a member of the school board, I like attending the musicals and all school activities, knowing that I am a part of making that happen. I love to see all of the students singing on stage together.

-As a member of the school board, I take pride in knowing how many years St. Peter has provided Christian education and knowing that I am a part of the current education, and SPI's future.

-As a member of the school board, I like seeing the balance of family, school, and church.

Thank you to all of our St. Peter School Board members, past and present, as you are all responsible for the education that our children are enjoying today.

From the original mission statement of St. Peter Immanuel Lutheran School, 1969, "Our mission is to enlarge the student's Biblical knowledge and nurture his faith, to train the child in obedience, reverence and service, to provide guidance, counsel, and aid to parents in child training. "

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Bischoff
