

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

November 2023 Newsletter



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Petersburg, MI 49270

 734-279-1949

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Website:

<https://stpeterslutheranchurch.com>

Our Mission Statement

To reach out with the WORD and LOVE of JESUS CHRIST to ALL people.

Philippians 4:6

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”

Come Worship With Us



Bible Study 9AM
Every Sunday



November 5

Sunday Service 10:30 A.M.
Communion

November 19

Sunday Service 10:30 A.M.
Communion



November 12

Sunday Service 10:30 A.M.

November 26

Sunday Service 10:30 A.M.



Pastor's Message: The Gospel in a Nutshell

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” [ESV]

I am thrilled to be St. Peter's Vacancy Pastor. I have certainly enjoyed and appreciated getting to know the members. Some I have known actually for several years in another context. I thought I would start my first newsletter article with the basics - John 3:16. John 3:16 is a simple yet profound message, the foundation of who we are as Christians and the foundation of any Christian church.

Jarvis J. Williams, associate professor of New Testament interpretation at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a pastor at Sojourn Church Midtown in Louisville, Kentucky, said this in an article in the April 2023 edition of the magazine “Christianity Today”, p.61: “John 3:16 sustains me now. It reminds me God's love is rooted in His own sacrificial action in Jesus. The truth of John 3:16 is important when we feel unloved and unwelcomed. We may feel that way before we know Jesus. But the verse is also an important truth to encourage us in the middle of our walk with Jesus and when we come to the end of our lives.”

I was intrigued by this article. Here we have a New Testament scholar writing a lengthy article on the importance of John 3:16! When I was in confirmation class, I remember my Pastor Pasche explaining that this verse in the Bible could be called “the Gospel in a nutshell.” The reason for this, he would explain, was that the entire message of Scripture is contained in this one verse of the Bible.

Such a simple and yet a totally profound verse of Scripture as Professor Williams discovered and expounded upon! I would like to share just a few thoughts about this verse.

“For God so loved...” the verb “to love” in the original language of Greek in its noun form is Agape. The normal meaning refers to one loved another with a total self-sacrificing unconditional type of love. John uses it 36 times in his Gospel, significantly more than Matthew, Mark or Luke. In 1 John, he uses it 31 times. Luke is the next highest with 13 times. John is so determined to help his readers understand what the tremendous, overwhelming love that God has for people. Love that found its full expression in the sacrificial death of the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world by that death and affirmed through his actual resurrection from the dead.

“...only son...” According to Leon Morris, author of his classic commentary The Gospel According to John states that the word here for “only” (only, only-begotten, unique), appearing but 9 times in the New Testament is applied to Christ only by John. John uses a special word for a special person - Jesus Christ!

“That whoever believes in him...” John uses the verb “to believe” something like 98 times (Matthew 11 times, Mark 14 times, Luke 9 times, Acts 37 times, Paul 54 times). But here is an even more significant observation, He likes to combine it with the preposition “in” which means literally “into”. He does this combining 36 times.

Stanley Porter, his book, Idioms Of The Greek New Testament, suggests that one is to think of a ball going “into” a box to get the idea of what “into” in the original language literally means. So, if we would literally translate what John is saying, “that whoever believes INTO Christ has eternal life”. This implies a personal relationship. Believing INTO Christ!

That is exactly what John is suggesting. An intimate, close relationship indeed! The mystical union of Christ with the believer as Paul would emphasize in his epistles. Leon Morris, his commentary on the Gospel of John, quotes @. Turner: “The sense must be that the believer throws himself upon his Lord in loving, self-abandoning faith and trust.”

I am all for the personal, close relationship with the Savior. But we must also understand that we have nothing to do with it. It is a state of who we are because of the Holy Spirit who brings and keeps us in the faith. “No one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit” (1 Cor. 12:3).

The Holy Spirit through the Word of God - the Bible - brings and keeps us in this personal, close, intimate relationship with our Lord and Savior. That is why we are eager to spend time, daily time, in His Word to realize the deeper meaning and realization of the abundant and eternal life that our Lord provided for us through His death and His resurrection.

John 3:16. The Gospel in a nutshell. So simple and yet so profound!

Blessings,

~ Pastor Ken





Announcements

- ▶ There will be a Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00PM
- ▶ Wednesday, November 29 will be the first Wednesday Advent Service
- ▶ We are pleased to report that we sent \$100 to the LWML Michigan District for the third quarter mites. Fourth quarter mites will be sent the end of December.
- ▶ We are need of an Altar Guild for the month of December. If you are interested, please see Anita Leiter. She would be more than happy to assist anyone that would like to do it.
- ▶ Thank you Pastor Schinkel for your service!





In our thoughts & prayers ...

Ted Reyome
Gary Brockman
Judy Straub
Blake Mason
Derrick Miller Family
Karen Cymbola
Dee Golemdiepski
Mary White
Evan Franz
Julie Mens
Dennis Winter

Our Service Men: Larry Lloyd, John Petcoff, Nicholas Hoover, Blake Mason, Noah Johnson, Ben Jensen, Jeff Keller, Tyler Dickerson



November Birthdays

Tyler Dickerson

Joe Dluzen

Adam Jensen

Steven Waterstradt

Ted Reyome

Connie Jensen

Betsy Winter

Wayne Harris

Fellowship Hall Available



The Fellowship Hall is available to rent for graduation parties, family reunions, showers, etc. Contact Eudora Judit at 734-270-2229.



THANK YOU

Thank you to the Prestons for our new sign by the front doors of the church!



Refreshments List for November/December 2023

Each family is asked to please furnish 2 dozen cookies or some refreshment. Coffee pots will be ready to be plugged in. Please set up cups and napkins ahead of time, and clean up when everyone is done.

November 12 - Doug MacDonald, Renee Larzelere, Cheryl Harnica, Janet Romano

November 26 - Wayne Harris, Leon Cilley

December 10 - Andy Stahl, Nancy Hunter, Jeannine Petcoff, Julaynne MacDonald

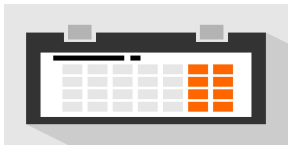
December 24 - No refreshments Christmas Eve

Servants of The Lord

Altar Guild

November – Carol Cilley & Cheryl Harnica
December – TBD

Pastor	Vacancy Pastor: Pastor Huner		
Secretary	Eudora Judit		
Organist	Anita Leiter & Mary Tomell		
Fellowship Hall Rental	Eudora Judit: 734-279-2229 Church: 734-279-1949		
Church Council			
President	Tom Stahl: 517-403-2601		
Vice President	Bill Saylor: 734-279-1117		
Secretary	Carrie Dickerson: 734-755-7405		
Treasurer	Glenn Diesing: 734-279-1498		
Financial Secretary	Andy Stahl: 517-447-3852		
Trustees	Kyle Harnica: 419-345-7786 Betsy Winter: 419-290-4066 Dennis Miller: 734-279-2485		
Elders			
Scott Cahill 517-242-2075	Tom Stahl 517-447-3246	Bill Saylor 734-279-1117	Tyler Dickerson 734-755-7405
Tom Preston 734-646-4612	Jim Waterstradt 734-279-2065		



What is going on this month?

November 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service with communion 10:30AM	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service 10:30AM	13	14 Elders Meeting 7:00PM	15	16	17	18
19 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service with communion 10:30AM	20	21 Council Meeting 7:00PM	22 Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00PM	23	24	25
26 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service 10:30AM	27	28	29 First Advent Service	30		

Date	Lector	Communion	Acolyte	Altar Flowers
5	Jim Waterstradt	Tom Stahl		
12	Tom Stahl			
19	Bill Saylor	Tom Preston		Memory of Lincoln Lloyd Jr.
26	Tom Preston			60th Anniversary Ken Mason



Go in peace and serve
The Lord!