

St. Peter Lutheran Church

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DELPHOS, OHIO 45833

The Mission of St. Peter Lutheran Church is to grow our faith in Jesus as we journey together and serve others.

September Newsletter Deadline: Monday, August 17th

The Messenger



The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – August 2026

A Little Bit of This and That for August ...

I hope that you are all having a wonderful summer with time to relax, vacation, and gather with family and friends. One of the commandments that God gives us is to take time to rest and regenerate. In the Old Testament, we are given command to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. Because God rested on the seventh day of creation, we are told that we also need rest from work. In the nineties, I read an important book by Stephen Covey titled "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People." One of the important habits was called "sharpening the saw." In this habit, Covey stressed the importance of rest and finding time to do things that bring rejuvenation and joy. So, I am hoping that you can find time this summer, especially in this month of August as we begin to think about the start of school and fall activities, to make time to rest and find joy in hobbies and special times with family and friends.

It is easy for our crowded schedules to keep us from hobbies that bring life and joy. In my last years of teaching, I got connected to Iris Teeter who taught oil painting classes. I had always said that I would paint when I got older and in September of 2008, she invited me to one of her classes and I was hooked. I painted so many paintings. In 2011 I was introduced to a nationally known portrait artist and began attending a yearly session to hone the skill of painting portraits. This time of painting was exciting and invigorating to me but over the years I have let other things crowd out the time needed to paint.

Recently, I got the bug to paint something in a totally different style, and I felt the rejuvenation and joy of creating this painting. (See below.) It is not fancy, but just a fun little painting experiment.



Painted using acrylic and oil paints in June. (First time thinning the oil paint and using a straw to blow it around to make the seaweed effect.)

Taking the time to paint and frame this little fish painting has made me take a little time to think about the joy God had in creation. I wonder if he stood back in wonder each time he spoke and something else manifested. We are told that we are *God's crowning jewel*, even though we are the *dust of the earth*. We are *both and*.

Have you thought about the joy God had in creating you as the love of your parents came together and a billion sparks of light were let off as you were conceived? Yes, there was a celebration of light, and you carry that light of God's love within you. Unlike my painting, we are no experiment but were formed with a purpose and calling. As we live into our faith may each of us find joy in what God has made and allow the light of love to shine forth from us to a world in great need of love, mercy, and grace.

I was privileged to attend the National Rostered Ministers' Gathering in Indianapolis in July, and my experience was both amazing and challenging. The sessions, worship and encouragement to be a church that bring transformation and love were inspiring.

In session two, Deacon Tammy Divine challenged us to go deeper into the idea of being woven together as a beloved community of God. She spoke of the power of prayer as planting seeds for transformation to become

the beloved community of God as a church. She reminded us that we are called to live out our faith from the waters of baptism and to live out of love and purpose. Jesus was all about transforming lives and church is to help in this transformative process. She used the acronym for REAL: Respect, Empathy, Accountability, and Love and that compassion and creating safe spaces are the primary components needed for transformation work to begin.

In a breakout session, I was excited to learn about having 12 people a year tell their stories about why their faith and church were important to them and then posting those stories in the newsletter, the church website and through email. I would like to ask you to consider telling your stories of the importance of being able to grow your faith at St. Peter. You can be young or old or any age in between. I would like to start this in September.

My TEEM classmates and I even got to have a selfie picture taken with our new Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Bishop Yehiel Curry. What a wonderful man who has dreams for our church. Bishop Curry spoke on the last day and reminded us that in Luke 24, Walk to Emmaus, that Jesus walked with two of the disciples for seven miles and they could not recognize him in their midst. He reminded us that "the church is being woven into something new and that even though we cannot see or recognize the outcome, Christ is journeying with us. All of us are individual strands being woven together into a braid focusing on the love and grace of God."

There is more that I can write, but I will share more snippets of my experience at another time. Thank you for the opportunity to attend the National Rostered Ministers' Gathering.

Blessings,

Pastor Carol

Monthly Finances:

Month: June 2026	Month	Month	YTD	YTD	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	
	2026	2025	2026	2025	
Total Pastor	\$ 6,346.97	\$ 6,042.83	\$ 42,878.37	\$ 41,310.39	
Total Worship	\$ 1,138.91	\$ 890.90	\$ 6,198.36	\$ 5,818.98	
Total Teaching			\$ 425.00		
Total Office	\$ 1,146.40	\$ 1,138.82	\$ 8,011.21	\$ 7,826.17	
Total Maintenance	\$ 1,054.71	\$ 651.35	\$ 16,903.15	\$ 7,223.18	
Total Utilities	\$ 713.66	\$ 691.21	\$ 6,985.50	\$ 7,099.19	
Total Insurance & Taxes	\$ 369.88	\$ 364.02	\$ 4,835.08	\$ 4,528.66	
Total Other					
Subtotal Expenditures	\$ 10,770.53	\$ 9,779.13	\$ 86,236.67	\$ 73,806.57	
Total Benevolence	\$ 268.25	\$ 291.48	\$ 4,089.00	\$ 2,012.83	
Total Secondary Acct	\$ 71.00	\$ 6,570.67	\$ 2,955.22	\$ 23,898.82	
Total Payments	\$ 11,109.78	\$ 16,641.28	\$ 93,280.89	\$ 99,718.22	
Total Receipts	\$ 44,296.15	\$ 16,386.56	\$ 124,868.85	\$ 92,912.32	
Total Payments	\$ 11,109.78	\$ 16,641.28	\$ 93,280.89	\$ 99,718.22	
Excess or Deficit	\$ 33,186.37	\$ (254.72)	\$ 31,587.96	\$ (6,805.90)	
Beginning Cash	\$ (1,432.41)	\$ (6,323.22)			
Add Receipts	\$ 44,296.15	\$ 16,386.56			
Less Payments	\$ 11,109.78	\$ 16,641.28			
Ending Cash	\$ 31,587.96	\$ (6,805.90)			
Note: Primerica investment for \$35,138.38 was cashed in for church door replacement on June 16, 2026.					

Vanco is a resource we have for giving electronically to the mission and operation of St. Peter. There is a link on our website and on our Facebook page: It is a great way to set up your giving when you will be away or just wanting to give electronically. We are all called to live into generosity in our giving and if this link would be helpful to you, please try it out. <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z8NS/home>

The 2026 flower chart is posted in the hallway for anyone wanting to sign up for flowers on the altar for a specific Sunday.

The 2026 Radio Ministry sign up sheet is posted at the back of church in the red binder. A Sunday service is \$60. If you sign up, please let Lauren know who you would like the radio ministry to be given in honor, celebration, or memory of. *Thank you for helping to be an important part of our church's ministry!*

Upcoming events at St. Peter Lutheran Church!

WELCA School Kits

This year, all they are in need of are **scissors and crayons** – Thank you for all your generous donations to this program!



Adult Sunday School, which includes high school students, will kick off on Sunday, September 13th at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall

Youth Sunday School for Preschool (potty trained) – 8th grade will kick off on Sunday, October 4th at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall. Bring a friend and plan to have fun while you learn about God.



Mark your calendars for our Fall Fellowship Potluck on Sunday, September 27th after church. Main dishes, sides, and desserts are welcome.

General Announcements

Radio Ministry was given to the glory of God in June and July by:

- The members of St. Peter Lutheran Church
- Himmeger family in memory of Earl Himmeger
- Ed Fritz in memory of Jacquie Fritz
- Dave Stemen in memory of Connie Stemen
- Merv and Lois Ewing in celebration of their 55th Wedding Anniversary

Flowers on the altar were given to the glory of God in June and July by:

- Lynn and Yvonne Koenig in celebration of their son in law, Mike, and their daughters Stephanie and Shelby's birthday.
- Merv and Lois Ewing in celebration of their 55th Wedding Anniversary
- The new Mr. & Mrs. Eli and Allyson Siefker in celebration of their wedding on July 18th



Congratulations to Landon Calvelage, son of Matt and Carrie Calvelage, who was awarded the 2nd annual Allen County Emerging Young Ag Leader which includes a full tuition scholarship to Rhodes State College in Agricultural Technology. Landon was required to submit an application and an essay. Then he was selected for an in person interview with the top three candidates from all of the Allen County FFA Chapters and Allen County 4H. *Congratulations and prayers as you proceed into this next chapter.*

What an amazing week we had at Vacation Bible School!

From snacks, crafts, and games to music, Bible stories, imagination station and exciting closing sessions, we watched kids make new friends, grow in their faith, make memories and discover how much God loves them. Our total enrollment was 111 youth with our highest attendance in one night being 109 and our lowest 94. The mission project this year was to raise funds for Delphos Lifewise. Our annual boys vs. girls donation competition resulted in the girls bringing in the most donations and the total group raised \$1,120.10. Thank you to the 45+ volunteers that gave their time and talents to make this week possible.



Thank you parents and family members that allowed the youth to attend. Thank you to the Trust Fund for funding St. Peter's share of the expenses. Be sure to check out the pictures and videos on our Facebook page, St. Peter Delphos.

Until next year, Carrie Calvelage and Nicole Tobe, Co-Directors

InReach/OutReach

Prayer Chain – If you would like your name added to the prayer chain, please contact Susan McGue at 419-234-6448. If you ever need a prayer chain started, please contact Susan on the cell phone number listed above. *Do NOT send her computer an email.* You may call or send her cell phone a text message. Susan is the primary start person and if she can't be reached by phone, then call the church office. Please have permission from the person or family before we publish any names.

Keep our shut-ins and military friends and families in your prayers.

Shut-ins

Sharon Reel - Vancrest of Van Wert
Norma Koenig - Vancrest of Delphos
Rose Hager- Vancrest of Delphos

Military:

Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
Christian Jarman	Air Force	Stateside

If we don't not have your birthday listed, please contact Lauren to get your name on the list to recognize your special day



AUGUST

4) Ken Kloeppel
4) Yvonne Koenig
7) Norma Koenig
17) Ross Trentman
17) Kathy Vorst
19) Donna Berger
19) Amanda Brand
19) Sam Miller
23) Rose Hager
26) Troy Calvelage

SERVICE	TIME	MONEY COUNTERS	ALTAR GUILD	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHER
Sunday, August 2	9:00 AM	Lynn Miller Rick Diestberger	Jenny Snipes Kathy Radebaugh	Alayna Beverly	No Communion this date	Dan Kramer
Sunday, August 9	9:00 AM	Deb Trentman Dan Marlow	Jenny Snipes Kathy Radebaugh	Austin Munshower	Matt Weitzel	Dave Mayer
Sunday, August 9	9:00 AM	Alan Trentman Sue Kloeppel	Jenny Snipes Kathy Radebaugh	Roy Trentman	Alan Trentman	Sam Hasting
Sunday, August 16	9:00 AM	Lois Ewing Ryan Trentman	Jenny Snipes Kathy Radebaugh	Olivia Rode	Dave Stemen	Jim Hasting
Sunday, August 23	9:00 AM	Dan Marlow Deb Trentman	Jenny Snipes Kathy Radebaugh	Alayna Beverly	Jenny Snipes	Dan Kramer
Sunday, August 30	9:00 AM	Lynn Miller Dan Marlow	Jenny Snipes Kathy Radebaugh	Wyatt Kimmet	Kathy Stemen	Larry Miller
Sunday, Sept. 6	9:00 AM	Sue Kloeppel Lois Ewing	Karen Hartman Rhonda Blockberger	Olivia Rode	Jenny Snipes	Dan Kramer
Sunday, Sept. 13	10:00 AM	Deb Trentman Dan Marlow	Karen Hartman Rhonda Blockberger	Alayna Beverly	Dave Stemen	Dan Kramer

Reminder: Sunday Worship services resume at 10:00 AM on Sunday, September 13th

Volunteers are needed to be ushers, greeters and communion assistants.

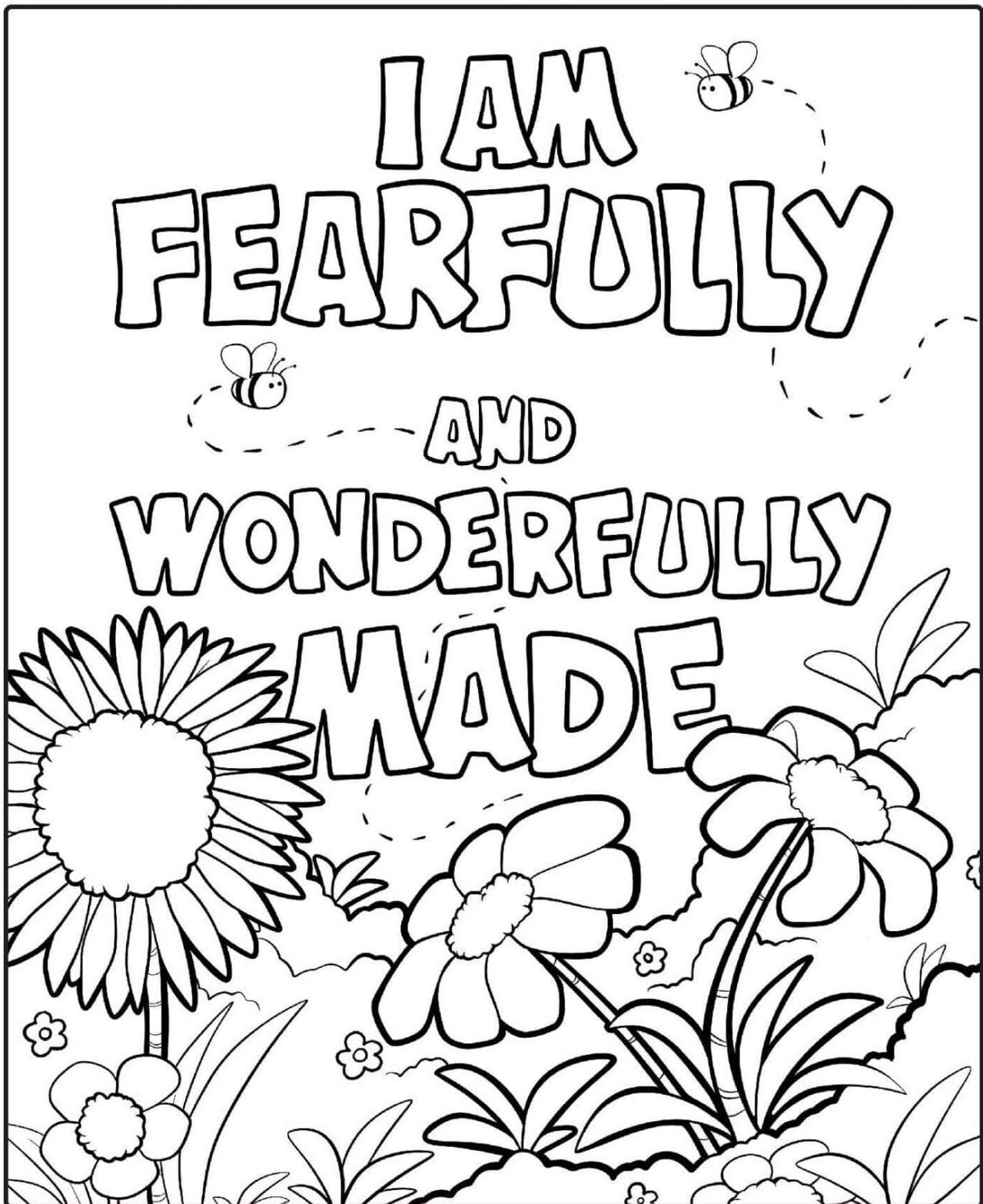
We need some greeters to welcome people to church. Sometimes the hardest thing someone does is walk through the doors of a new church. Having a greeter is so helpful to let them know where things are and to make them feel welcome.

Also, it is important for our members to be welcomed. Would you consider being a greeter?

Ushers help pass out bulletins and help with the offering. They also have an important role in welcoming others to worship. Would you consider being an usher?

Being a communion assistant is a special job to bless people with the blood of Christ during communion. It is humbling and yet very rewarding. Would you consider being a communion assistant?

If you are willing to volunteer your gift of love and care to do any of these roles on Sunday morning, please let Lauren or me know so we can get you on the schedule. If a date you are unavailable, please let Lauren know and she will help find a replacement for you. Thank you all for your help!



Fruits of the Spirit from Galations and other Words

J C Z R L K Q I F R Z L B G B F B D C N Y N S S
 R Q S S E N E L T N E G P V Z X Z L F I Y O K N
 I H T R A N S F O R M A T I O N T U T T V W X Y
 J Q M M Z Y J R B M O J M L D E Y N E Z J O M K
 T A D J I T K U Z Z D U E D N V U Z S S O F F M
 V T P K O M U M L G H K E C A E P D P G G L S E
 K L V T U U F Y V J Z W G U Y L U U B W A I G J
 U B O R X N R N P I G O H J F O L A O Y T Q J G
 I R I R F K E N E K O N A X S K O Q V P W T K Y
 M O P V T D K C E D N P T S O G V N A Q K N J U
 D O J I A N N V N Y U F E G R V E B F S E J R U
 Q U Y W H E O E N D O N N R T A U F J O U W H H
 W J T H I E S C R E L F M Z Q Q M A C V C D M R
 D S N T T S R O F U X K F R R I I L F S D J K T
 J Q A B B Y H Q F L B B M A V A M Z L G M G A Z
 R P E H V A D H R U E D L L I V Y H E B V I Z X
 F H F T J C T J W K S S P A W T P D W Q F U L F
 U L R Q U I K X D S C M L J O Y H T G Z B Y A J
 E L R D A G Q H E F W B C S F U W G J J L D M N
 P C G F B R P N H G Q K K M Z X T Y G Q M C M F
 L W S H J O D T S H R W I W V E Y L W F X A G Z
 A X N U W N F T N L X Q Q M E F D D P B B L Q F
 A H G B I M W B R F Y D D L D D I F Y W Y J Z F
 Y S I K D O I J L S F I W J I K E C N A V M W H

journey of faith

baptism

transformation

goodness

faithfulness

joy

gentleness

self-control

kindness

patience

peace

Love

AUGUST 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship 9 AM	3	4	5 Worship 7 PM Prayer Group	6	7	8
9 Worship 9 AM	10 Journey in Faith	11	12 Worship 7 PM	13	14	15
16 Worship 9 AM	17	18	19 Worship 7 PM Prayer Group	20	21	22
23/30 Worship 9 AM	24/31 (24) Journey in Faith	25	26 Worship 7 PM	27	28	29

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE
EXTREME WEATHER IN THE UNITED STATES

SUMMER 2026

ELCA.org/disaster

Catastrophic flooding in south Texas has forced people from their homes and left communities covered in debris and mud as the water recedes. Dangerous heat waves are putting vulnerable neighbors at risk, especially older adults, children and those without reliable access to cooling. At the same time, wildfires across the western United States continue to threaten lives, homes and entire communities.

These crises may be different in nature, but they share one heartbreaking reality: people are suffering.

When families are displaced by floods, **your support helps meet immediate needs and makes recovery assistance possible.**

When extreme heat creates life-threatening conditions, **your generosity helps provide safe and welcoming cooling spaces that support vulnerable neighbors.**

When wildfires force evacuations and leave devastation behind, **your gifts help sustain relief and recovery ministries long after media attention fades.**

.....
Yes, I want to help!

☐ Lutheran Disaster Response \$_____DDG0060
☐ Lutheran Disaster Response: United States \$_____JDG0010

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Give through your congregation or make your check out to the ELCA, write "Lutheran Disaster Response" on your check's memo line and send to:

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center,
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Dear friend,

Catastrophic flooding in south Texas has forced people from their homes and left communities covered in debris and mud as the water recedes. Dangerous heat waves are putting vulnerable neighbors at risk, especially older adults, children and those without reliable access to cooling. At the same time, wildfires across the western United States continue to threaten lives, homes and entire communities.

These crises may be different in nature but they share one heartbreaking reality; people are suffering. Can they count on you to help?

Lutheran Disaster Response is the ELCA's ministry to accompany disaster survivors, and we are already at work with congregations, synods and local partners in affected communities.

When families are displaced by floodwater, your support helps meet immediate needs such as food, shelter and clean water, and makes recovery assistance possible. When extreme heat creates life-threatening conditions, your generosity helps provide safe and welcoming cooling spaces that support vulnerable neighbors. When wildfires force evacuations and leave devastation behind, your gifts help sustain relief and recovery ministries long after media attention fades.

One of the unique strengths of Lutheran Disaster Response is our commitment to accompany communities for the long haul. We do not simply arrive in the immediate aftermath of a disaster and then move on. We walk alongside affected communities as they rebuild homes, restore stability and find hope again.

Will you consider a gift to LWR today? Your generosity is a powerful commitment that ensures no one faces disaster alone. Thank you for standing with your neighbors across the country. Thank you for being apart of a church that shows up with hope, mercy, and steadfast care.

In Christ's service,

Maryn Olson

Director, Lutheran Disaster Response Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Your gift today will help provide critical support to alleviate disasters across the country. Please give now to help our neighbors recover and rebuild.