



ST PETER'S

— LUTHERAN CHURCH —

Monthly Newsletter

February





AS WE JOURNEY THROUGH **The Story** IN THE DAYS AND WEEKS AHEAD, we will learn that heaven and earth are woven more closely together than we ever dreamed. All through the story of the Bible we see two parallel and beautiful dramas unfold.

There is the **Lower Story**. Humans live on earth and see things from a horizontal perspective. We can't see what is around the bend but must make a decision on which way to go, where we will live, and how we will respond to what happens to us. We focus on getting through the day as best we can. We interpret why we think other people do what they do. We struggle to know why certain things happen and why others things don't happen.

Then there is the **Upper Story**. This is how the story is unfolding from God's perspective—from above. Heaven is breaking into our world more than we recognize, and the story of God's seeking love, perpetual grace, and longing for relationship with ordinary people is breathtaking.

In the beginning of **The Story**, God walked with his first children in a beautiful garden ... in harmonious relationship. At the end of **The Story**, he will walk with us again, in a beautiful garden.

The question is: what will happen in the pages in between? As we walk through **The Story** together, we will see how God is weaving all of our Lower Stories to tell his one grand Upper Story.

Best of all, we can walk closely with him in every situation of life. As we recognize how close the **Upper Story** and the **Lower Story** fit together, we will learn to experience God's love and grace and be guided by his wisdom.

God wants to be with us; with you, with me. This is the refrain that rings true through The Story. As you read each chapter, this will become clearer and more personal and will fill your life with greater purpose, meaning, and understanding. So, let **God's Story** become **Your Story**.



WITNESSES TO CHRIST: PEOPLE FROM HIS PASSION

John tells us why he wrote his Gospel: “Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:30–31). Life! When we believe that Jesus is the Christ, God gives us life—abundant life, forgiven life, and eternal life.

Historically, the Fourth Gospel is likened to an eagle—an image that suggests John soars to heights of glory and grandeur. That’s because the evangelist paints a stunning portrait of Jesus, who is the bread of life, the resurrection and the life, and the way, the truth, and the life. Life in Jesus. That’s God’s gift to you!¹

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those in John’s Gospel who journeyed to the cross. Along the way, we’ll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate, as well as sinners, such as Peter (who denied Jesus *three* times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by *seven* demons), and Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus for *thirty* pieces of silver).

Please join your brothers and sisters here at St. Peters for worship at 6:00PM as we hear the witness of these people in John’s Gospel:

Ash Wednesday: *John the Baptist*, John 1:29–34

Midweek of Lent 1: *Mary, the Sister of Lazarus and Martha*, John 12:1–11

Midweek of Lent 2: *Malchus*, John 18:1–11

Midweek of Lent 3: *Peter*, John 18:12–27

Midweek of Lent 4: *Barabbas*, John 18:33–40

Midweek of Lent 5: *Pontius Pilate*, John 19:1–16

Maundy (Holy) Thursday: *Judas Iscariot*, John 13:21–30

Good Friday: *John, the Gospel Writer*, John 19:25–37

The Vigil of Easter: *Nicodemus*, John 19:38–42

The Resurrection of Our Lord: *Mary Magdalene*, John 20:1–18

¹ Also read, “the bread of life” (John 6:35); “the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25); and “the way, and the truth, and the life” (John 14:6).

Family Sweetheart Dance

Father/Daughter

Mother/son

whole families

Dancing, refreshments, crafts &
photos

RSVP-\$5-person/\$8 at door

February 16 - 6-8 pm

RSVP by Feb. 2
at 309-699-5411

St. Peter's Lutheran
200 Cole St. - E. Peoria

Upward Sports Wacky Days

NO GAME February 3

2nd game February 10– Wacky hair day

3rd game February 17 - Backwards day

4th game February 24 - hat day

5th game March 2 – superhero day

6th game March 9 - 80's day

7th game March 16 - crazy sock day

8th game March 23rd - backward day



Hey church - Upward started this month. We need you to be a beacon in East Peoria and come and support our kids and families. Games are on Saturdays at 8:30-9:45; 9:45 -11; 11-12:15; and 12:15 -1:30. We provide free 8oz gatorades and small snacks free of charge on practice nights. If you would like to donate check out the sign-up on the bulletin board. Thanks for your support.

Monica Pape Phillipians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice!



St. Peter's has started a prayer chain group. If you would like to be placed on the list, please notify the office by phone or email. The email is splprayerwarriors@gmail.com. or notify Beth Underwood at 309-202-9909.

MEN OF SPL

"AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSEHOLD, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD"

The men of SPL are encouraged to come together for fellowship, growth and support.

The second Saturday of every month, we will gather at **8:00 AM**. The next class will be on February 10th. As iron sharpens iron we will pursue building up one another, learn from various speakers, serve where God calls us and grow.

Breakfast will be provided.... Join us!



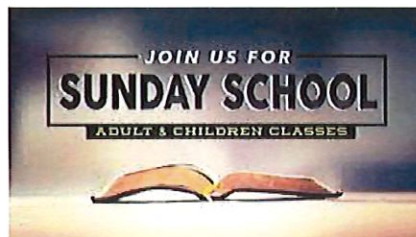
The Ladies Bible Study has been postponed, watch for a new date soon.



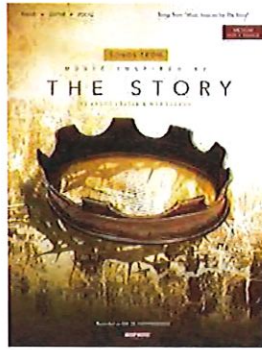
Tuesday morning Bible Study every Tuesday at 10:00am.

God's Word for Today-Colossians & Philemon

"Take A New Look At Christ



Adult & Youth Sunday School at 9:30am



Invitation to “The Story” Small Groups

Prayerfully consider joining a small group! We have six wonderful volunteers opening their homes and sharing God’s story!

Bernie Piercy is leading a group at church. We are happy to announce that his group is filled! The date and time will be determined.

Chris Pape is leading a group in Washington. Chris is new to our congregation, please make him feel welcome to St. Peters! The date and time will be determined.

Dan and Peggy Boettcher are hosting a group in Brimfield and will be offering Zoom sessions! The time and date will be determined.

Lynne Sopher is hosting a group on Monday at 6:30 p.m. in Bartonville and will also offer a virtual meeting if anyone needs that option!

Pastor Brain and Monica will be hosting a group in Washington. The date and time will be determined.

Tanya Rickert is hosting a group on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in Pekin.

I know how a small group is so good for your soul. You will have the chance to get to know the people in your group and share your love for Jesus!

Please call me if you have any questions or want to join a small group!

Deb Schoedel

(309) 256-0479

We are proud to be bringing, “The Story”, by Randy Frazee, to St. Peter’s Lutheran Church this month. “The Story” is a condensed version of the Bible (31 Chapters), that will take us from Genesis to Revelation in a story like fashion. Each true, biblical story unfolds to reveal our God of Grace, who speaks, acts, and listens to us. We are excited to have lessons for small groups, Sunday Bible Study (children and adults) as well as messages weaved into Pastor Pape’s Sunday Sermons. This is an exciting time for our church family and encourage you to participate in multiple capacities.

Pam Nelson



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Pairs & Spares

Our next breakfast will be Monday, February 5th at 8:30am at Main Street Family Restaurant in Creve Coeur (next to the Dairy Queen).

Everyone welcome to come for breakfast and fellowship



Please keep office updated with changes.

Paul Williams, Jaxon Goldensoph, Ashley Howard, Jaxon (infant- friend of Colleen Dearman family, Debbie Inman, Dawn Magnusson, Tracy Cunefare, Julie & Terry Parlier, Dave (Ron Swords brother), Marilyn Rosenberg, Les Nelson's parents, Ralph Sweazy, Pat Whitson cousin of Susan Sweazy, Bev O'Connor, Henrietta Mason, Ron Swords (surgery).

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND THOSE SERVING IN HARM'S WAY!

Brady Martin deployed to Israel. He is on the USS Eisenhower.



We do ask that you contribute \$20 for the flowers and after service you are welcome to take them home to enjoy.

February 4-Hilda Strobel

February 11-

February 18-Kermit Stromlund

February 25-

February

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>4</div> <div>8am Traditional Worship 930am Sunday School 1045 Praise Worship</div>	<div>5</div> <div>10am Bible Study</div>	<div>6</div> <div>6:30 Confirmation</div>	<div>7</div> <div>6:30 Confirmation</div>	<div>8</div> <div>6pm High School BB Tourney</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Pastor Day off</div>	<div>10</div> <div>830-2 Upward Games 8am Men's Bible Study</div>
<div>11</div> <div>8am Traditional Worship 930am Sunday School 1045 Praise Worship "The Story" begins</div>	<div>12</div> <div>10am Bible Study</div>	<div>13</div> <div>6pm Ash Wednesday Service Confirmation TF</div>	<div>14</div> <div>6pm Ash Wednesday Service Confirmation TF</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Pastor Day off 6-8 Family Sweetheart Dance</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Pastor Day off</div>	<div>17</div> <div>830-2 Upward Games 2pm Christ Lutheran BB Tourney</div>
<div>18</div> <div>8am Traditional Worship 930am Sunday School 1045 Praise Worship</div>	<div>19</div> <div>10am Bible Study</div>	<div>20</div> <div>6pm Lenten Service Confirmation TF</div>	<div>21</div> <div>6pm Lenten Service Confirmation TF</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Noon Kiwanis Jazz Band in the M/P room</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Pastor Day off 4-8 M/P room usage</div>	<div>24</div> <div>830-2 Upward Games</div>
<div>25</div> <div>8am Traditional Worship 930am Sunday School 1045 Praise Worship</div>	<div>26</div> <div>10am Bible Study</div>	<div>27</div> <div>6pm Lenten Service Confirmation TF</div>	<div>28</div> <div>6pm Lenten Service Confirmation TF</div>	<div>29</div> <div></div>		

Church Classified----2024

Magnusson Construction

Mastic: Replacement Windows & Siding
Tom Magnusson, E. Peoria, Il. (309) 694-7831

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Alexandria Lamprecht (309) 439-9169
112 State St. Ste. 2C, Peoria, Il. 61602

Ron's Carpets

Sales & Service. Free Estimates
Carol Hayse, John Vollrath (309) 674-3338
1003 NE Adams, Peoria, Il.

Monica Pape (217) 714-6259

pianoteacher.MP@gmail.com
Piano lessons in my home.

Energy Savings

AAA Insulation, Don Meyer (309) 698-0062

Becca Ferro-Salon 125

125 N Parkway Dr. Pekin, Il.
(309) 863-0560

Tippy Creek

Raw (local) Honey and Honey Infused soap
Pam Nelson (309) 370-7271
Rob Preston (309) 657-5692 or TippyCreek.com

Cindy Miller, Crafts

Handmade Embroidery and Crochet items
(309) 472-2161

Genie in a Bottle Cleaning Service

Leslie Cody (309) 645-8701
Trish Woodward (309) 660-3656

Scott Roberts (309) 642-0874

Need firewood? Call me.
(pick up-no delivery)

St. Peter's Church is a covenant congregation member of Lutheran Senior Ministries and a Supporting partner of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. We are affiliated with Christ Lutheran School, 1311 S. Faraday Ave. Peoria, Il. 61605. Phone: 309-637-1512.

Office Phone: 309-699-5411

Pastor Brian Pape cell: 217-714-5562

Secretary, Marsha Roberts 309-349-2626 marsha@stpeters-epil.com

*For official church business please use **NEW OFFICE EMAIL:** secretary@stpeters-epil.org*

Facebook: St. Peter's Lutheran Church, East Peoria

Website: www.stpeters-epil.com