



ST PETER'S

— LUTHERAN CHURCH —



***WE ARE A BEACON OF THE COMMUNITY, EQUIPPING, EMPOWERING AND SHARING THE
HOPE AND LOVE OF JESUS.***



MINISTRY CLARITY

YOUR PLAN

On June 29th your St Peters family held a congregational meeting in between the two worship services. While there was a good deal of information discussed and decisions made, I would like to let you know about your ongoing plan for the ministries moving forward.

Under SPL's vision – **WE ARE A BEACON OF THE COMMUNITY, ENGAGING, EQUIPPING, EMPOWERING AND SHARING THE HOPE AND LOVE OF JESUS** are 4 PILLARS. They are **ENGAGE, EQUIP, EMPOWER and SHINE**. Each of the 4 pillars were supported by various GOALS.

Some of the goals remain “on-going” due to their very nature. Here are the goals that have been completed or are in that process:

- Make physical improvements of SPL sanctuary/facility/campus.
- Hold a back-to-church fair highlighting, ministries/worship/opportunities.
- By the summer of 2025 have a S.H.A.P.E. class (spiritual gifts) inventory and work to implement these gifts.
- Implement new software/program to expand communication and membership records.
- Shift conversation in all aspect of SPL to revolve around our Vision/Mission statement.
- Advertise St. Peter's rebranding.
- Develop spirit-wear for the congregation: T-shirts, hats, etc.

NEW GOALS MOVING FORWARD

ENGAGE: Implement an attendance increase program that will include a mentoring/buddy system element.

By the end of the year achieve 80% of current members involvement in a SPL sponsored Bible/topical study class which will equip or empower them to share the hope and love of Jesus.

EQUIP: By the summer of 2026, a full-time commissioned staff member will be called to grow/guide the family ministry involving Christian education, and youth.

By Fall of 2025 have everyone in a daily Bible Reading plan.

Have a bi-annual Fasting and Prayer event to take place during Advent and Lent to emphasize the importance of being a disciple and a disciple maker.

EMPOWER: Rewrite and approve St Peters Constitution/bi-laws.

Implement live streaming of Worship services.

SHINE: Develop an advertising campaign to showcase our “rebranding” design and renewed focus to the community.

Open the facility to outside groups.

LIFE WITH GOD

“LIFE WITH GOD” This is what we at St. Peters Lutheran (SPL) call the class for those who are interested in refreshing their walk or finding out more about WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE ARE ABOUT. Some people have also called this “the new member class.” At SPL we encourage seekers as well as long time attenders to enroll in this class when the opportunity arises.

7 classes left WHEN: SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM WHERE: LOWER LEVEL OF CHURCH



Having a Thrivent Product or insurance policy qualifies us to COLLECT Choice Dollars and Action Teams FUNDS for ministries here at SPL. An action team provides you with \$250 seed money to use on your Outreach/Ministry.

The use of these products are a blessing to our church.

GIVING IS THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF LIVING....AND THE MORE A PERSON GIVES, THE BETTER HIS ATTITUDE.

Most unsuccessful people don't understand this concept. They believe that how much people give and their attitude about it are based on how much they have. But that's not true. I know many people who have very little but are tremendous givers. And I know people who have been blessed with money, good families, and wonderful careers who are stingy and suspicious of others.

Many people are gripped with fear when they think of giving to the point of becoming a "living sacrifice." What if they end up working on another continent under extreme hardship for the sake of the Gospel? What if God takes away their job or their standard of living? What if he tells them never to get married? What if they won't be able to buy the newest items or fashion? Will they be seen as failure or a bad provider? While those things are certainly possible, those fears grow out of a warped view of God. God is not a harsh killjoy; He is a kind and benevolent Father who always has our highest and best interests in mind. If and when sacrifice is called for, it is always linked to God's intention to give us far better than we could ever imagine (Ephesians 3:20). He usually works through your desires and convictions not against them, to accomplish His purpose for our lives. The **bigger issue** is whether you're living with a heart of sacrifice and desire to worship Him or, to put it another way, whether your sense of gratitude causes you to want to hold nothing back from him. Real love and worship are accompanied by a desire to give.

Let me challenge you to try an exercise. Take a sheet of paper and list every blessing you can think of from the last year. Have fun with it; write down everything that comes to mind. Use more than one sheet if necessary. When you get down to the "air that I breathe," you're probably near the end. Then look at that sheet and think about all that the God of the universe has done for you. Now let the natural response to those gifts flow from your heart. Let **that** awareness draw you to experience God like you never have before.

This month we celebrate our national day of independence. The 4th of July is famous for fireworks, carnivals, and family BBQ's. But it was won by men and women who gave of their time, their abilities, their money and ultimately their very lives. We call them heroes. We honor their names and lives. And this is what individuals did for this world and their country. Imagine living in a similar way that will not simply impact the here and now but making an ETERNAL DIFFERENCE.

IN LIFE, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU HAVE THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE. IT'S WHAT YOU DO WITH WHAT YOU HAVE.

DISCOVERING S.H.A.P.E.
(EVERY MEMBER A MINISTER)

PLEASE TURN YOUR RESULTS IN

Since I have been your Pastor I have seen and experienced some incredible examples of brothers and sisters using their God-given abilities and talents to serve God and each other. St. Peters is loaded with gifted disciples of the Lord. I believe God has called us to use them just as he reminds us in His parable of the Talents in the Bible. He promises blessings to those who use what He has given to them.

The ministry that each individual person does is, and should be determined by his/her make up. What God created us to be determines what He intends for us to do! The purpose we were created for becomes evident when we discover, and understand the kind of people we are, and this is the secret to knowing God's will for our lives.

God is consistent in His plan for each of our lives. He would not give us inborn talents and spiritual gifts, and all sorts of life experiences and then not use them! By reviewing and studying these factors, we can discover the ministry God has for us...the unique ways God intends for us to serve Him. PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING. LUNCH PROVIDED!

The focus of this CHURCH WIDE EMPHASIS, that is also part of your MINISTRY CLARITY PROCESS, will be on the Five Personal Factors that have been combined to shape the 'real' you. So what are the 'Five Personal Factors?'

They are your S.H.A.P.E. and in each part of shape you will be answering a question about who you are.

Spiritual Gifts

What am I gifted to do?

"I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that." 1 Corinthians 7:7

Heart

What do I love to do?

"For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish His purpose..." Revelation 17:17a

"For it is God who works in you, inspiring both the will and the deed, for His own chosen purpose." Philippians 2:13

Abilities

What natural talents and skills do I have?

“There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.” 1 Corinthians 12:6

“I (God) have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge, and with all kinds of skills.” Exodus 31:3

“Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God.” 2 Corinthians 3:5

Personality

Where does my personality best suit me to serve?

“For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them?” 1 Corinthians 2:11a

Experiences

What experiences have I had?

1. Spiritual
 - *“There has been enough time for you to be teachers, but you still need to be taught...you are without any experience in the matter of right and wrong.” Hebrews 5:12-13*
2. Painful
 - *“God helps us in our troubles, so we are able to help others who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we ourselves have received from God.” 2 Corinthians 1:4*
3. Educational
 - *“Always remember what you have learned. Your education is your life, guard it well.” Proverbs 4:13*
4. Ministry
 - *“Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel...” 2 Corinthians 9:13*

By identifying the specific traits you possess in each of these areas, the ministry God has for you will become clearer than ever.

Goals: Discovering S.H.A.P.E. will be one of the most significant journeys in our walk with Jesus Christ. Throughout this journey we will strive to:

1. Discover our unique S.H.A.P.E.s for ministry and commit to developing and using our God-given gifts and abilities in serving God and others through my church.
2. Select and serve in the ministry of SPL that best expresses what God made me to be.

Beacon Light Prayers



*"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."
Romans 12:12*



Hope is not seeing the light, but enduring the darkness until the light comes



For it is you who light my lamp; the LORD my God lightens my darkness. Ps 18:28

As a Beacon to the community, St. Peter's Lutheran Church shines the Light of God to our community. This is a request to join in an endeavor to seek Prayer support for our efforts in dedicated times of prayer throughout the week, just as the Beacon shines its light at certain times of the day.

A Beacon often shines at Dawn and at Dusk. Please prayerfully consider if you could dedicate time in a day each week to pray for the needs of this church. Spending dedicated time alone with God in purposeful prayer for this church along with your own personal needs can become very special to you.

Sign up on bulletin board if you are willing to try this.

ALTAR FLOWERS

JULY 6-KIRK & LINDA BOYD

JULY 13-BLAKE & MARILYN HUDSON

JULY 20-SHERYL ROBISON

JULY 27-ZACH SAMMIS (HAPPY BIRTHDAY)

MEN OF SPL

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

"MEN OF ACTION"

The men of SPL are encouraged to come together for fellowship and equipping ourselves to be the men after God's own heart. The **second Saturday of every month**, we will gather at **8:00 AM**. As iron sharpens iron we will pursue building up one another, learn from various speakers, serve where God calls us and grow.

Currently "Courageous Fathers of the Bible"

Breakfast will be provided.... Join us!



Pairs & Spares meet together to engage God and one another.

The breakfast is the first MONDAY of every month at 8:30am at the Main Street Family Restaurant in Creve Coeur.

We have volunteers for J.A.M. (Jesus & Me) time helpers during the sermon/message portion of our Worship Services to watch over children. The children should return to their families after JAM to continue worship.

July 6-

July-13-Renee

July 20-Olivia

July 27-Pam N.



**Tuesday morning Bible Study at 10:00am lower level. Letters of Paul.
Sunday, Adult (Life with God) & Youth Sunday School at 9:30am**

Currently 1 & 2 Thessalonians

St. Peter's has a prayer chain group. If you would like to be placed on the list to keep updated on needed prayers, please notify the office by phone or email. Please share prayer requests with members who are not on the Prayer Chain.

The email is splprayerwarriors@gmail.com. or notify

Beth Underwood at 309-202-9909

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

Lauren Tranchitella is now stateside, she is Debbie Inman's granddaughter.

Church Classified----2025

Magnusson Construction

Mastic: Replacement Windows & Siding
Adam 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
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

For official church business please use: secretary@stpeters-epil.org

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

Website: www.stpeters-epil.com

July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10-Bible Study <u>NO 1PM</u> GENESIS BIBLE STUDY	2	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED Happy 4th of July	5
6 8-Traditional Worship 9:30-Sunday School 9:30- Life with God class 1045-Praise & Worship	7 8:30 Pairs & Spares Pastor vacation	8 10-Bible Study 1pm Genesis 6pm-Finance 7pm-Elders Pastor vacation	9 Pastor vacation	10 Pastor vacation	11 OFFICE CLOSED Pastor vacation	12 8-Men’s Bible Study
13 8-Traditional Worship 9:30-Sunday School 9:30- Life with God class 1045-Praise & Worship	14 CID conference/ Springfield	15 <u>NO 10-Bible Study</u> <u>NO 1PM</u> GENESIS BIBLE STUDY CID conference/ Springfield	16	17	18 OFFICE CLOSED	19
20 8-Traditional Worship 9:30-Sunday School 9:30- Life with God class 1045-Praise & Worship	21 8-5 Lifeline Screening	22 10-Bible Study 1pm Genesis 630pm Church Council	23	24	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26
27 8-Traditional Worship 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Life with God class 1045-Praise & Worship	28	29 10-Bible Study 1pm Genesis	30	31		

