



ST PETER'S

— LUTHERAN CHURCH —



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



PASTOR'S PAGE

Good day to you in the Lord, Jesus!

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that **just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.***

These are the words of St. Paul as he begins his 2nd letter to the Corinthians. He speaks encouraging words to a people who (like you and me) deal with everyday life. Paul speaks to a people who struggle because they are Christians who are followers of Jesus. It is a glorious thing to be about the work of the Lord, for all of us. If you live with this hope then you understand the richness of God's grace, which, like His blessings feel new every day.

Unfortunately, there are many who do not know the joys of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. Also, sadly, there are many who may know the Lord but fail or refuse to meet together in the Lord's house (church). The Apostle Paul was writing the **Church** of Corinth. These were people who were familiar with the teachings of Jesus, but needed encouragement to live out their faith.

In his time with them, along with an earlier letter, Paul had set the foundation for them to receive his teachings. He had told them of his love for them. He had expressed his desire for their fulness in Christ. He had counseled them on various issues and challenges. He had shared his heart with them. What he had to tell them next would have been a difficult pill to swallow if it were not for his earlier relationship and communications. So He concludes his second letter by speaking a bit more sternly.

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test. Now we pray to God that you will not do anything wrong—not so that people will see that we have stood the test but so that you will do what is right even though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. We are glad whenever we are weak but you are strong; and our prayer is that you may be fully restored. This is why I write these things when I am absent, that when I come, I may not have to be harsh in my use of authority—the authority the Lord gave me for building you up, not for tearing you down.

Dear brothers and sisters of St. Peter's, please hear the heart of one who's desire is for the growth of the you, and the body of believers in this place. Most of you, who are reading this, likely know that as a church family we have decided to call on people who have not been coming regularly to worship. The GOAL – to encourage them to come and hear the Word of the Lord; to receive the sacrament, and to fellowship with the gathering of believers. This "calling" does not rest solely on the leadership of the church but rather on the attending members, YOU.

If you know someone(s) who have not been attending, I exhort you to call on them. If you love and care for them and yet decline to reach out to them what kind of love is that?

Lastly, I would offer my services regarding how to approach them. Let me know their situation, (and yours) and we can work through some strategies.

"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:36-38

Pastor Brian Pape



OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 25TH

5TH
SUNDAY
FAMILY WORSHIP

May 31st is our single service at 10am

This Worship service will be at Bradford Park.

Chicken & Water will be provided by the Elders

Please bring tableware, side dish and dessert to share.

Pastor would like to start a Life with God or new member class, but he needs to know who wants it.

If you know anyone that might be interested in knowing more about St Peter's or being part of our family please reach out to them now, so that we can follow up.

Pastor



May 3-Bonnie Theobald
May 10-Sandra Ragon
May 17-Susan Sweazy
May 24-
May 31-Linda Piercy

Mary Martha Ladies

Mary Martha Ladies met on Sunday April 12, 2024. We are still working on supporting a seminary student, discussing the Fall Bazaar, and possible summer garage sale. Be sure to join us at the fun Plant Bingo event for Thursday, May 7th at 6:00 p.m. Bingo cards are 2 for \$1 and you can purchase as many as you want.

There is also a sign-up sheet on the board so we can be prepared.

Also, mark your calendars to join us at our next meeting on **Sunday, May 17 at noon in the all-purpose room.**

We would like your input. We would like to hold a "Garage Sale", but before we get too far into planning, we would like to gauge the interest of the congregation. The event would be held in the gym, on a Saturday in June. This will be different than past sales, which were put on by the youth.

- Participants would be wholly responsible for their own booth, including:
 - set up – there will be limited help to carry items in
 - selling – you must have someone present at your booth the entirety of the event
 - take down – all items must be removed at the end of the event. We are going to look into the possibility of donating all remaining 'unwanted' items at the end of the day – which will be at the seller's discretion, not required.
- All sales will be to the benefit of the seller.
- The event will be advertised and open to the public.
- Booths will be for available for the cost of \$25
- Round tables will available to rent for \$5. There will be a limited number of rectangular tables to rent for \$5 and they will be first come first serve

There will be a sign-up sheet available on the bulletin board.

NOTE: Booth size and all prices are preliminary and may change if we have enough interest and decide to move forward with the event.

Do you know someone who might be interested in being part of our Sunday morning worship? Sunday morning worship includes more than the message. Sunday morning worship includes readers, musical talents, and other gifts and abilities that can be presented on a Sunday morning. Pastor would like to encourage everyone to consider this and to let him know so that we can add to the worship experience for our church family and as well as any visitors that may be attending.

Pastor

The Church Council is in the process of tackling the Engage Task with a Goal of 75% attendance of our members. This list is based on the Member Sign in sheets that are in the pews and a person recording attendance. So please make sure that you fill out the sheet to keep our records accurate. We have compiled a list of members that currently are below 50% attendance. We plan to provide this list to those attending Sunday service and are asking them to take ownership of this Goal and want them to reach out to those members.

We have compiled this list not to embarrass you but to show your faith is of the utmost importance of this congregation. If you absolutely do not want your name shown on this list, please reach out to Pastor, an elder, member of the church council or the church office to let us know why you should not be listed.

Church Council

Neighborhood Sunday School Program Development

Please let me know if you would like to help our small group reach out to our neighborhood. We are starting to plan an outdoor Sunday School program. We would love your help to work out the details. Please prayerfully consider helping share the hope and love of Jesus with us.

Deb Schoedel

Ph: (309)256-0479

MEN OF SPL

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

"MEN OF ACTION"

There will be no Men's Saturday morning Bible Study until further notice.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

THE WEEKEND OF MAY 3RD AND MAY 10TH WE WILL BE COLLECTING DIAPERS AND WIPES FOR OUR ANNUAL DIAPER SHOWER. THE CONTAINER WILL BE IN THE GALLERY. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

We have scheduled Church Park Clean-up day on Saturday May 23 to start at 9:00 AM. This is to get the park in good condition to hold church in the park on Sunday May 31 at 10:00 AM. We have a second date to clean-up at the park if needed on Saturday May 30. We will communicate via One Call if this day is needed.



GOT TO KEEP ON MOVING!

“Got to keep on moving” might just be the theme of any church that is striving to obey the GREAT COMMISSION given by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Churches that aren’t moving are the ones that are not just disobeying, but more than likely are declining. That was part of the reason that St Peters Lutheran (SPL) embarked on the MINISTRY CLARITY journey a couple of years ago. That is when all the members of SPL were brought in to revitalize our collective walk in the kingdom of God. We concluded with the Mission statement, **“WE ARE A BEACON IN THE COMMUNITY EQUIPPING, EMPOWERING, AND SHARING THE HOPE AND LOVE OF JESUS.”**

Together we constructed 4 PILLARS - ENGAGE, EQUIP, EMPOWER, & SHINE!

Under each of these pillars, GOALS were established that would be advanced through varying TASKS.

I’m pleased to announce that we have succeeded in accomplishing many of both tasks and goals. However, there are some that have yet to be achieved. That’s why we MUST **“KEEP ON MOVING!”**

Beacon Light Prayers

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.

BEACON LIGHT MINISTRY

WE NEED EVERYONE **IN** PRAYER

ENGAGE, EQUIP, POWER & SHINE.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS

PRAYER MINISTRY NOTIFY ELLEN SCHIEBER

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!](#)

Bronson Moeller, grandson of Marsha Roberts, he was deployed to Kuwait March 27th.

We are still collecting for Dollars for Missions.

The second 2026 project for Dollars for Mission is a new lighted, cast aluminum sign for Wittenberg Lutheran Center at Illinois State University. The cast-aluminum sign will feature the Wittenberg logo and be placed on the building's steeple to proclaim the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit for all. Amount to be funded: \$7,000



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. If you need help doing an action team call 1-800-847-4836.



BIBLE STUDY Tuesday morning Bible Study at 10:00am lower level.

TUESDAY afternoon Small Group with Bernie and Terry will be studying **Acts**.

New Position

The council and the elders have been working on formulating a job description for a new position here at St Peter's.

Family Life ministry is absolutely necessary for us as we move forward. If you know of individuals who have a gift set and the desire that lends itself to family Life ministry please contact pastor at the church office. Pastor



On Tuesday, May 19th at 7 PM in the upstairs double classroom. St Peters hosts **game night. The featured game is called "Joker" also known as "Marbles and Jokers", **but other games may be available.****

This is a wonderful opportunity to just get together and have FUN, build relationships, and maybe even start some new ones. Tell your friends! Bring your neighbors!

Church Classified----2026

Magnusson Construction

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)

Debbi Inman Stampin' Up Demonstrator

710 Lincoln Rd. Marquette Heights
Phone: (309) 840-0212
Call me with your card needs.

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

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8-Traditional Worship 930-Sunday School 1045Praise & Worship		10-Bible Study 1pm Romans 6pm Finance 7pm Elders	10am Small group	9am Small Group 6pm Plant Bingo	OFFICE CLOSED	Pastor Small group
10 8-Traditional Worship 9:30-Sunday School 1045-Praise & Worship HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY	11	12 10-Bible Study 1pm Romans	13 10am Small group	14 9am Small Group	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16 Pastor Small group 12-2 Rose Mallicoat birthday celebration-basement
17 8-Traditional Worship 9:30-Sunday School 1045-Praise & Worship	18	19 10-Bible Study 1pm Romans 7pm Joker game	20 10am Small group	21 9am Small group	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23 Pastor Small group
24 8-Traditional Worship 9:30-Sunday School 1045-Praise & Worship	25 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	26 10-Bible Study 1pm Romans 630pm Church Council	27 10am Small group	28 9am Small group	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30 Pastor Small group

31st

10am 5th Sunday Worship

Bradford Park Worship