

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
325 Mill Street
Loganville, WI 53943



May
2023

Sunday Worship Time 10:00am

Church Office: 608 727-3721
Website: stpetersloganville.org
Church Email: stpetersloganville@gmail.com

Pastor Julie Krahn
Cell: 608 577-9608
Email: jakrahn.1230@gmail.com
Pastor's Day Off: Fridays

St. Peter's News



June 8, 9, 10

St. Peter's Annual Garage Sale

will be June 8th, 9th and the morning of the 10th at the Meyer Residence, 135 Main St. Please price your items. Early Drop Off of items can be any time after May 15th. (Preferably no clothing.)

Bake Sale items can be dropped off any time. No need to price your baked goods, as the "Free Will Offering" has worked very well in the past.

Brat Stand featuring delicious Wisconsin brats.

➤ **Sign-up to HELP** on the hybrid table or call/text 608-727-3511.


EVENT HAPPENINGS

May 7 First Communion
May 7 @9am WELCA Board Meeting
May 7 @1pm Vicar Nathaniel Banner Presentation
May 13 @8am-noon WORK DAY @church
May 17 @6:30pm iConfirm & Faith Statement
Service w/dinner
May 21 Confirmation Sunday
May 24 Listening Session w/Bishop Joy, ELCA
May 28 High School Graduation Sunday

June 4 TIME CHANGE TO 9:00 AM Service

Bible Study every Wednesday
@ 10:00 am VIA ZOOM
[See website for details]

Gather Bible Study 3rd Monday & Tuesday of every month [See website for details]



**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES,
IT'S PARTY TIME!**
Sunday, May 28th
Reception and Good Wishes



Pastor Julie Krahn

Research for sermons, devotions, council reports, and all the writing I do takes me on numerous “adventures” with books, on the internet, in conversations. I love to learn. I’m inquisitive. It serves me well.

I traveled down one rabbit hole lately after reading another chapter of How to Heal Our Divides: A Practical Guide. I investigated one of the authors which took me to the 3Practices.com website where I found the link to Jim Henderson’s Tedx talk, Crossing the Difference Divide. The rabbit hole seems to get deeper and deeper. :)

Henderson, a former pastor, referenced many of the divides that we experience now in America (gay-straight, pro life-pro choice, black lives matter-all lives matter, 1%-99%, saved-lost, red state-blue state). Then he cited what we agree on...85% of Americans across the political spectrum agree that our country is more divided than ever!

I feel it. I imagine you do, too.

The evidence abounds: *there is a spirit of division among us*. The nation is divided and so are our families. Neighbors are divided. Churches are divided. According to another author, “Christians around the world are not one big happy family. They are divided into various “families” who often regard one another as heretical and outside the “true faith.”

Yet, what does the Bible say about division? Ephesians speaks to how we, as people living in the Spirit of Christ, are to live when surrounded by division.

“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Is that true? Is there really one Church where there is a unity of the one Spirit and a bond of real, abiding peace? Yes, there is. I know it doesn’t seem like it, but that is the God’s honest truth.

In Christ, there is one body of believers, one household of God, one family of faith, one faith and one God who is over all and through all and in all. It may not seem as if the Church of Jesus Christ is indivisible, but it is.

From God’s view there is one Church. There is no such thing as an American church. Or a persecuted church. Or an African church. And no denominations either.

There is not “my church” and “your church.” There is God’s church. No White Evangelical, Black Pentecostal, Mainline, Asian or otherwise. The true Church has many expressions, yes, but in reality, the Church is one unified body. Let that sink in for a moment. The Church is One.

When one part suffers, all suffer. When one part celebrates, all rejoice. When one part is attacked, everyone bears the attack together. When one church closes its doors, the entire body feels the pain of it. When one church is planted, we feel energized.

Together, we are part of the body of Christ. We are integral to its proper functioning. All of us. Do you feel intimately knit into the family of God, that is, the *whole* family of God? Not just our little corner of it.

Through prayer and discernment, study and conversation, we must make every effort to maintain the body’s unity through humility, gentleness, patience, mutual forbearance and love.

It always comes down to love. We’ve been deeply and passionately loved by God. We are called to show that same love to others – on both sides of the divide. The rabbit hole as followers of Jesus always seems to lead us to LOVE.

How can we practically love others today? For Jim Henderson, LOVE looks like crossing the difference divide using three practices: I’ll be unusually interested in others; I’ll stay in the room with difference; I’ll stop comparing my best with your worst (versus the “gotcha” debate mode). Maybe for you, genuine love today is going to require an act of self-sacrificial forgiveness or refusing to be offended. Maybe genuine love looks like acceptance or speaking your truth in love (Eph. 4:15) even when it’s hard. Maybe it looks like praying...

“God, fill ____ (names of those you love *and* those with whom you think you disagree) ____ with your love and peace.”

In Easter joy and peace,
Pastor Julie

A Season of Prayer Needed

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer." Romans 12:12

My mom and I were having a conversation about prayer and she said something that struck me. Mom said, "Sometimes I just envision Jesus sitting across the table from me. And we talk." Oh, the comfort of talking to Jesus.



There is always time to pray...as we wash the dishes or garden *soon*, as we drive to and fro, as we tuck our children into bed, and so on. Praying with others, in a poignant silence or with words that attempt to gather thoughts before God, is powerful and effective. We, also, need the guidance that comes with listening to Jesus in prayer.

Look for more information on upcoming opportunities to pray for the life and ministry of St. Peter's, and the difficulties we face communally and individually. God who is both loving and almighty, promises to hear us in our trials. Whether you feel like you are just learning to pray or have a love of prayer running deep within you, we hope to offer prayer opportunities for everyone. If you want to get in on the planning stage, please talk to Pastor Julie.

Prayer Chain

If you have a family member, relative or friend who needs prayer, please contact Carolyn Meyer at 608 727-3511 or via email at ckmeyer@wicw.net to be put on the Prayer Chain. And if you would like to receive emails regarding those on the Prayer Chain, please contact Carolyn as well.

MISSION OF THE MONTH ...

Hillpoint VFW

Council President Connections

by Nancy Schuette

Council met April 20, 2023, wherein the following was discussed:

- Church property tree stumps will be ground down, dirt fill and grass seeded. East basement steps will be re-tread early this month.
- Four built-in ovens in the kitchen will be purchased and installed. (Anonymous Donor)
- Mike Madigan resigned from the Memorial & Endowment Board; the position will remain vacant until our next Annual Congregational Meeting in January, 2024.
- A love seat in the nurse's office will be removed; the old snowblower is for sale on Facebook Marketplace (contact Jeff Henke for details).
- Plants for the Patio Planters will be donated by Pastor Julie. Thank you, Pastor Julie!
- 2023 Synod Assembly is May 20th at Mt. Horeb; and our voting representatives are Tom and Lorinda Broughton.
- Council has scheduled a Congregational Listening Session for Wednesday, May 24th. Supper will be provided from 5:30pm-6:30pm. At 6:30pm Bishop Joy from the South Central Synod will provide an explanation of ELCA perspectives. See the separate sheet inside this newsletter for more details.

Next scheduled Council Meeting is May 18, 2023 at 6:00pm

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

TO OUR OVER 80 MEMBERS

MAY 4	TOM BROUGHTON E5309 NARROWS CREEK RD LOGANVILLE, WI 53943
MAY 6	LOUISE KAUN E8291 HIGHLAND RD LOGANVILLE, WI 53943
MAY 19	ISABELLE REIMER REEDSBURG SENIOR LIFE CTR 2350 N DEWEY REEDSBURG, WI 53959
MAY 22	ARLENE GREGORY E5754 LA VALLE ST REEDSBURG, WI 53959

YOU ARE INVITED

Vicar Nathaniel Adkins

Graduation from Wartburg Seminary

Celebration Sunday, May 7th at 1:00pm

South Narthex

St. Peter's congregational members are invited to a reception in the South Narthex on Sunday, May 7th at 1:00 pm to recognize Vicar Nathaniel Adkins.

We will be presenting him with a banner celebrating his graduation from Wartburg Theological Seminary.

All church members are encouraged to come and give Vicar Nathaniel a St. Peter's sendoff!



Nilsen Family News

At 11:31 AM on Tuesday April 18, Pastor Stephen and Leah welcomed their daughter, Leslie Rae Nilsen into the world at 7lbs 13oz., 19.5 inches. Leslie shares a first name with her maternal grandmother and a middle name with her paternal grandmother. Thanks be to God for everyone at St. Peter's for their prayers and support!

The Nilsens new address is:

212 Spring St

Calamus, IA 52729

Or you may email Pastor Stephen at

snilsen@trinitylcpv.com



WAYS TO HELP



PILL BOTTLES...PILL BOTTLES

Acceptable collection items:

- Prescription and over-the-counter pill bottles
- Large and small pill bottles
- Pill Bottles with and without secure caps (child-resistant)

Pill bottle donations should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Bottles included in shipments of medical supplies must have an all-plastic lid.
- Bottles should be sorted by color and type.
- All labels should be removed, leaving no glue or residue.
- All bottles and lids should be washed in very hot water and dish soap, rinsed, and dried thoroughly.
- Caps should be placed back onto clean, dried bottles.
- Clean, recapped bottles should be placed into large resealable bags marked "Clean Bottles." These will be included in shipments of medical supplies.

DROP OFF: East Narthex



Their Mission: "Caring for a Needy World with things we throw away."

We'll be sending our collection of pill bottles to the Matthew 25 Ministries. Feel free to check out their website: <https://m25m.org/work/>

WELCA News, by Liesa Stienmetz

The women of the church met on Friday, April 14th at 9:30am.

- Kits to make Badger Fabric Coasters will be available to sew. These coasters will be an exchange gift during the Triennial Convention September 21-24, 2023 in Phoenix.
- South Narthex round conversation tables are being explored by Jan Henke and Nancy Schuette. If you have any thoughts on the kind of tables, please share with either of them.
- Pam Judd delivered the socks, underwear and feminine care items to the Weston Schools and Rachel Niemann delivered to Reedsburg Westside School. Carrie Judd, School Nurse, was very thankful for the feminine care items.
- Church Work Day is Saturday, May 13th from 8am to noon. Contact Carolyn Meyer for info.
- Deanna Coons and Dianne Repka will decorate the South Narthex fireplace mantel.
- Olbrich Garden visit is being planned for later this summer – stay tuned.
- High School Graduation Celebration is Sunday, May 28th with a reception and quilt gifts.
- Loganville Ball Park Concession stand during the youth softball Wednesday night games will be organized by the women. Further details to follow.
- Bake Sale items needed for Garage Sale June 8, 9, and 10th. Contact Carolyn Meyer to drop off your baked goods. Do not price them as a “Good Will Offering” has worked extremely well in the past.
- A Prayer Team is being organized; more information to follow; contact Pastor Julie if you’re interested.

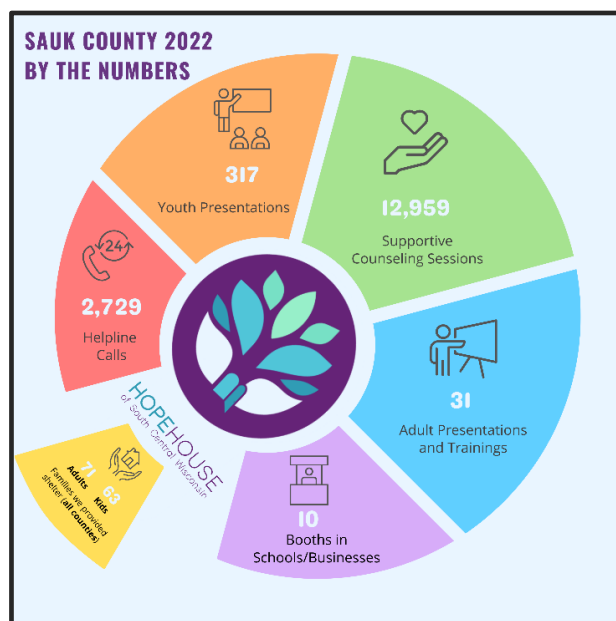
Communion Set-up	Nancy Schuette
Communion Clean-Up	Nancy Schuette
Altar Flowers/Candles	Judy Schroeder
Sunday Hosts:	Nancy Schuette
Care Ministry:	Kathy Geffert
Outside Plantings	Carolyn Meyer, Lorinda Broughton & Pastor Julie



St. Peter’s Church is part of the Baraboo Conference within the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, which has 14 churches in total. On April 22nd, Carolyn Meyer, Marge Schmidt and Nancy Schuette attended the Spring Gathering at Bonnet Prairie Church outside of Rio. We gathered in the sanctuary with opening prayer and song.

Our guest speaker was Deb Bauer from Hope House in Baraboo. She shared staggering details of the assistance Hope House provides to five counties. Presently, Hope House helps women and children in temporary housing with up to seven rooms. If men need housing they are sheltered at local hotels. Counseling is a major resource provided.

Statistics for Sauk County assistance were the highest among the five counties. The chart below shows the various services used in 2022.



Together We Can Make A Difference...

If you care to offer your time or talent in any way, please check the Hope House website or call 608 356-9123 for more information.

Old Cell Phones, are needed for Hope House. If you wish to donate old cell phones, they have a company that scrubs them clean. Often times their clients are given older phones that simply call “911” for immediate help. We’ll have a container in the East Narthex to collect your old phones.

Did You Know...

The WELCA ladies have been busy with quilts! Not only are they working on high school senior quilts, but quilts for our community members. Quilts have been given to a family that lost their belongings in a house fire. Twenty quilts were delivered to the King Veterans Home in King, WI. Approximately forty quilts were given to the Red Cross for Disaster Relief for families suffering from natural disasters in our communities. **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THESE PROJECTS!**

Brotherhood, by Dale Meyer

Save your 'junk' I mean treasures you no longer need or want. You can drop them off at the Dale and Carolyn Meyer residence any time after May 15th. Call in advance, 608 727-3511. Come for Breakfast (delicious Baked Goods provided by WELCA women). Shop! Have a delicious, juicy Wisconsin Brat for Lunch. Shop some more! Hang around some more for great Christian Fellowship! Have some cookies for a snack!

Sale Dates: Thursday, June 8th, Friday, June 9th, and Saturday morning, June 10th.



Faith Night, by Sue Wobschall, Parish Superintendent

Our last weekly Faith Night is Wednesday, May 10th. The Youth will sing to the congregation on Mother's Day, May 14th.

Look for Faith Education during the summer months. Details to follow. It Will Rock!

WAYS TO GIVE:

Mail to:

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
PO BOX 155
325 Mill Street
Loganville, WI 53943

Automatic Electronically:

Go to St. Peter's website at stpetersloganville.org and complete a Simply Giving form; provide to Becky Henke via the church address to get your automatic giving started. Simple and Safe.

Financial Update, by Becky Henke

[Available Upon Request]

Congregational Listening Session: Wednesday, May 24th 6:30pm

On January 22, 2023, our Annual Meeting took place. Thereafter, Council received two requests that impact our church. The first request was to amend our current Constitution removing the paragraph (C5.03.01) that prohibits St. Peter's from hiring a pastor who is in a same-sex relationship or performing of a marriage ceremony of persons in a same-sex relationship in our church. The second request's co-signers asked, "for an informational meeting about the ELCA's direction, where it's going and are entertaining the thought of leaving the ELCA synod."

Council has been discussing these requests and would like every member of this congregation to know that we will need to engage in difficult, but important, conversations, discernments, and decisions on these issues. Our hope is that everyone will be involved and engaged as we continue to figure out who we are, both our identity and our mission.

On Wednesday, May 24, 2023, we invite you to share a meal together anytime from 5:30-6:30pm. After our meal concludes at 6:30pm, we will move to the sanctuary to tackle the question "Who are we as a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?" To help us better understand our identity as an ELCA congregation, we've invited guests who have long affiliations with the ELCA. Bishop Joy and her guests have agreed to answer our questions at this Congregational Listening Session. We ask that your questions be submitted in advance so that our guests can know what you are curious about (see separate question submission page in this newsletter). Please understand that this session is for listening purposes only, so submission of your questions is important. Also, no votes of any kind can take place at an informational listening session. We hope you make time to attend because it is important that we have a common baseline of information before any decisions are made.

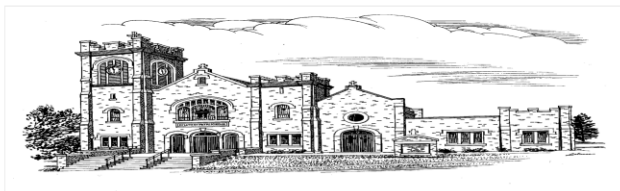
It is our hope that through deep listening to God and to each other, we will be able to discern where God is leading St. Peter's before a settled pastor is called. Please pray daily that we be open to the Holy Spirit's guidance and that all words and actions are grounded in the love of Christ.

Please submit your questions on the enclosed insert in this Newsletter. Thank you.

Staff			
Church Office		608 727-3721	
Church		stpetersloganville@gmail.com	
Ann Krueger	Church Admin Assistant	608 727-5801	gakrueger@wicw.net
Gary Krueger	Janitor, Groundskeeper	608 415-8488	gakrueger@wicw.net
Bonnie Haag	Organist	608 393-1739	hbhaag@hotmail.com
Sharon Schlieckau	Organist	608 727-5647	grannyschlieckau@gmail.com
Liz Meyer	Organist	608 495-1326	lizcmeyer@gmail.com
Marge Schmidt	Organist	608 415-0007	mschmidt@rucls.net
Mark Muchow	Cemetery Sexton	608 415-9138	markmuchow1@yahoo.com

Council 2023

Name	Role	Term(s)	Phone	Email
Nancy Schuette	President	2022-2024	608 444-3143	nanc.schuette@gmail.com
Diane Geffert	Secretary	(1) 2021-2023	608 495-9353	mdgeffert@yahoo.com
Jean Judd	Treasurer	(2) 2019-2024	608 393-1852	jjmac5573@gmail.com
Becky Henke	Financial Secretary	NA	608 393-4344	bhenke@wicw.net
Hank Elfers	Property Maintenance	(1) 2023-2025	608 434-0984	dkelfers1047@gmail.com
Karen Judd	Parish Ed Liaison	(2) 2020-2025	608 963-2681	kjudd@juddrealtyllc.com
Kathy Geffert	WELCA Liaison	(1) 2021-2023	608 963-8622	kageffert@gmail.com
Dan Baumgarten	Brotherhood Liaison	(1) 2021-2023	608 415-0060	dan3baumgar@gmail.com
Dean Baumgarten	Vice Pres / Worship	(1) 2022-2024	608 393-3341	dbaumgarten57@gmail.com



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Church Office 608 727-3721

Return Service Requested

*This is Christ's Church.
There is a place for you here.*