



Message from Pastor

God's Good is Better

October 2020 Newsletter

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I hope you won't think less of me if I admit that God and I don't always agree. I think that a quick end to the pandemic would have been good. I think it would be good if my mother's back pain was gone. I think that a drenching rain in the West whenever a wildfire started would be good. But God sees things differently.

Have you observed the same? Are you good with everything going on in your life and in the world? If not, you're not the first to feel this way.

God promised Abraham and Sarah a son. As time passed, they thought that having a child with the servant girl was good. God's good was better. Elderly Sarah would have the promised son. (Genesis 16)

The disciples thought that sending away a hungry crowd of thousands was good. God's good was better. Jesus multiplied bread and fish and fed them all. (Matthew 14:13-21)

Peter thought that Jesus avoiding the cross would be good. God's good was better. Through the cross, God paid for the sins of the world! (Matthew 16:21-23; 1 Peter 2:24)

In countless stories and Bible verses, God teaches us to trust him, even when we disagree. Romans 8:28 assures us. *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."* You may think you know what is good. But God's good is better!

So what does this look like in practice? The apostle Paul was in prison and didn't know if he would be released or executed. Clearly, release is better, right? But Paul trusted that whichever happened, God's good was better. *"I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."* Philippians 1:20-21

We tend to judge events in life within the bookends of birth and death. But God sees the fullness of everything and the eternal life to come. We tend to judge events in life within the context of our own lives and existence. But God sees all lives, scenarios, and relationships. We tend to judge events in life in terms of what is physical and visible. But God also sees what is spiritual and invisible.

So with a fresh dose of humility, trust that God's good is better! In this world, sometimes things must be bad for a while before the ultimate good. God's timing, will, purposes, and plans are always for you, always for (ultimate) good.

"Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ."
Philippians 3:20

Pastor Michael Ewart



The Deep End

Dates: September 27 / October 4, 11, 18, 25 /
November 1

Series summary: There are some issues, so deep and dangerous, that many Christians choose to stay far away from them, spending their time in the shallow waters of comfortable and familiar topics. Yet God calls us into the deep end of controversy for the sake of the real lives that are really effected by our culture's most contested issues. This series pushes us into the deep end, trusting that God's presence and his promises will give us the strength we need to swim. Over the course of the series, we will cover three issues at our two campus; Abuse, Addiction, and Abortion. In order to do justice to all three topics, we will be covering them the following way: 1) The first three weeks will be the same at both campuses focusing on Abuse, and 2) The 2nd three weeks will be

unique to each campus - St. Peter will focus on Addiction and The CORE will be focused on Abortion. Here are some summaries of each topic;

Abuse: The numbers are shocking. Those who experienced abuse before the age of 18 are so numerous that they, statistically, fill up over 20% of our seats on Sunday morning. Yet the topic of abuse is rarely touched in the Christian community. What does God say about it, if anything? What does he think about abuse? What does he say to comfort the victims and survivors of abuse? How do we help and heal? Whether you have God's heart for the abused or you have personally been abused, what next steps do you take?

Addiction: Addiction of any kind (alcohol, drugs, sex/porn, food, technology) is one of the fiercest battles that God's people will ever fight. Why can't I just stop? How do you love an addict? How many dollars do you give? How many years do you invest? How many second chances do you offer? These questions test the resolve of even the most mature followers of Jesus, leading many to exhaustion and confusion. Why do I keep going back to the same sins? These questions test the resolve of even the most mature followers of Jesus, leading many to exhaustion and confusion, but God's Word helps us answer those questions with hope for the future.

Abortion: Few issues are more discussed and debated in the streets of America and the comments section of the internet than abortion. The topic divides political parties, families, and even Christian denominations. What does the Bible say about the issue? Do any passages provide answers to the bigger questions about life, our bodies, and our freedom? What, historically, has the Christian Church taught and done about the issue? This message gets back to the fundamental issue of life—when it begins and to whom it belongs and what Christians should believe.

Live Streaming Worship Times
Sunday's 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 3:30 pm
Search 922 Ministries on Facebook or YouTube



Sunday's 9:00 (In-Person) & 10:15 am (Virtual) and
Tuesday's at 6:30 pm (Virtual)

"One Nation Under God - Healing Racial Divides"

The racial divide in America continues to show itself in violent and traumatic ways. Amid divisive rhetoric, violence, riots, and racial tensions, confusion arises—how can Christians tear down the racial walls dividing our country?

This division stems from a lack of communication, empathy, and understanding. Author Rev. B. Keith Haney, an African American LCMS pastor, encourages everyone to seek answers to racial tensions in the only place where truth and peace can be found—God's Word. Healing must begin with Jesus.

In this six-session study, we'll openly communicate and begin to understand the Black community and history. We'll explore the challenges that exist and begin the journey to show Christ' love. Healing takes time and effort and can only be accomplished as God changes our sinful human hearts.

Endorsement:

"When you find your identity in Jesus Christ alone, all our relationships are transformed in Him! Rev. B. Keith Haney applies this powerful truth to the issues of racism and racial reconciliation that transcends politics and preference, bigotry and ignorance and roots that path from racial divide to faith-inspired reconciliation in the person and work of Jesus Christ for all. If you dare to engage this study you will find yourself vulnerable to the truth and Grace of God in Jesus. And, in Christ, as you listen, as you empathize, as you share. . . His 'bridge-building will' gets done and that's the solution that we all need. Study hard, you'll be blessed if you do!"

—Dr. Gregory P. Seltz, *Speaker, the Lutheran Hour*

This study begins on Sunday 10/18 and Tuesday 10/20
Sign-up for these studies at stpeter922.com/groups or
contact Pastor Jim.



922 Kids 2020-21 Bible Discovery
Attention parents of ages 3 yrs. to 4th grade! In light of current challenges related to classroom gatherings, 922 Ministries is going

to continue with our online approach to Bible Discovery this fall. These lessons (which began September 13th, but can be joined anytime) are taught by Sunday School teachers from our church body that are available free via YouTube. The engaging and age appropriate Lesson videos will accompany printed student lessons available to you at no cost. This new approach presents an easy yet meaningful way for you to encourage your child's faith in Christ.

Printed student lessons for your child(ren) will be available for pick-up at church at the Information Center on Sundays. Please make arrangements through our office (920) 739-2009 to pick up material, if you are unable to attend worship in person. We are also looking to email a link to download these student lessons as we promote the weekly lesson video link from Sunday to Sunday in the fall.

May God bless your family as we together continue to share His love. We will keep you posted as soon as we are able to meet together in person. We look forward to that time! Any questions, feel free to contact us!

Pastor Bill & Our Bible Discovery Team



Life Line Screenings will be here on our campus in the Ministry Center all day on Friday, October 30th.

You may sign up at

www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or
call 1-866-229-0469. Getting screened is simple,

painless and non-invasive.



Wisdom is the quality that keeps you from getting into situations where you need it.

"I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble."
(Proverbs 4:11,12)



The next Pantry collection is October 11th. The pantry is collecting for items to be distributed in November for Thanksgiving. They currently are in need of: Chunky soups, tomato and chicken soups, creamed soups, canned vegetables (green beans, corn, peas), rice and pasta side dishes, boxed instant rice, boxed and canned potatoes, pancake mix and syrup, canned cranberries, pumpkin and evaporated milk, pasta/spaghetti sauces, laundry soap, dish soap and hand soap.

Please bring your pantry items and monetary donations to the office between 8:00 and 3:00 pm Monday-Friday or to the church kitchen. Monetary donations can also be placed in the box on the counter in the church kitchen. These are used to purchase gift cards to be given to families to purchase perishable items. Please make your checks payable to: *Apple Valley Food Pantry*.



The November 1st WELS United Joint Reformation Worship at Fox Valley Lutheran High School has been cancelled.



Special birthday wishes to the following members who are 70+ years this month!!

- Sandy Wendland (10/07)
- Kay Gruendemann (10/09)
- Mary Hausauer (10/09)
- Carolyn Baneck (10/13)
- Duane Kroenke (10/14)
- Jolene Baurain (10/15)
- Don Baneck (10/23)
- Dave Schuelke (10/24)
- Ron Ash (10/25)
- Mike Day (10/25)
- Donna Wendt (10/25)
- Dave Buss (10/26)
- Marva Uhlenbrauck (10/27)
- Jane Van Asten (10/27)
- Ron Semrow (10/28)
- Anita Jensen (10/29)
- Barb Hildeman (10/30)



LWMS Paperland Circuit Fall Rally

October 24, 2020 at Riverview Lutheran Appl.
8am Registration/Coffee
9:00 - 12:30 Meeting/Speaker – Lunch to Follow
Speakers: Emily Kom “Mission Journey: Russia”
Jerry Worden – Stevens Point Campus Ministry
Signup on the Information Center in Church or call the office at 739-2009.



Our Serve Team Relaunch is under way. If you are currently a part of one of our Teams, please look forward to a message communicating some of the ways we are improving our Roles within this Ministry.

If you are not connected to one of our Teams and are interested in learning more how your gifts can be used to enhance our Ministry, please connect with our Ministry Engagement Coordinator, Maria Keuschel.

- Ushers for All Sunday Services**
- Greeters for all Sunday Services**
- Those with photography skills**
- Those interested in serving for Events**
- Cafe servers**

Skills needed: A willingness to serve and some minimal training.

We look forward to the impact that your unique gifts can bring to our Ministry.

A huge thank you to all who have made the commitment to serve. What you give and how you give it, matters so much!

*“And God is able to bless you abundantly,
So that in all things at all times,
Having all that you need,
You will abound in every good work.”
1Corinthians 9:8*

By Faith,
Maria Keuschel
Ministry Engagement Coordinator
maria.keuschel@922ministries.com / 920-609-7218.



Ladies Event – December 5th
Watch for more details to come.

Request for New College or Military Addresses

If your child has entered college or the military and has a change of address, we would appreciate this information so we can keep in touch with them.

Please send this information to:

gloria.plamann@922ministries.com or call the office at 739-2009.



In October, our high school group, True922 will plan to meet on Wednesday, October 7. This will be the only date that we meet this month. Location is yet to be determined. All information for the True922 Activities is posted on TeamApp. Please log onto SPL *Team App* and join the True922 Youth Group. The link can be found below. All high school students are welcome!

If you do not already have an account. You can make one online or on the mobile App.
<https://www.teamapp.com/clubs/490949>

Mr. Jarrod Pfarr
Director of Youth Development

SCRIP SALES

SCRIP is sold in the **Workroom** (behind the office) on Monday **morning only** from 7:30 to 8:15 am and again on Friday's 7:30-8:15 am and 3:00-3:30 pm. It is also available on Sunday's from 8:30-9:00 and 10:00-10:30 in the Gathering Area of church.

Please Note: We ask you to please practice "social distancing".

Please feel free to contact Rhonda Van Vreede at: stpeterscrip@922ministries.com or call at: 920-740-3428, if you have any questions or concerns.

Subscribe to 922 e-news

Are you getting our weekly e-news update by email? If not, subscribe now! Simply send a blank email to either of these addresses:

splmembers+subscribe@922ministries.com OR
coremembers+subscribe@922ministries.com



Card Making Ministry

Join the fun in making greeting cards for our homebound members, those in the hospital, new babies, etc. This group meets every second Tuesday of the month in the 1910 Centre (the old building located across the street from the new church) at 6:30 pm. Everything is supplied! Just bring yourself. Questions? Call Luella Kietz at (920) 731-1650.



Ladies Quilting Ministry

The St. Peter Quilting ministry is one that touches many people. Every new baby that becomes a part of our church family receives a quilt, as do members and friends who are homebound, in the hospital or facing treatments for cancer and other illnesses. You don't have to know how to sew, you can be taught different things that can help. This group will meet each Thursday 8:30-11:30 am in the room upstairs in the 1910 Centre (historic school building across from the church). If you're interested in helping the quilting ministry in any way, please contact Karen Peters at 739-2924.

MEDITATIONS & FORWARD IN CHRIST

The latest editions of "Meditations" & "Forward in Christ" are available for you at the Welcome Center or office. These are great personal resources for spiritual growth, containing devotional content and practical advice for Christian living.

PLEASE NOTE

If you would like a monthly newsletter mailed to you, please contact the office or email Gloria at gloria.plamann@922ministries.com.



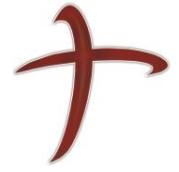
Gregg Mattek (President)
Doug Dahm (Vice President)
Brian Hoppe (Secretary)
Craig Schultz (Treasurer)
Joel Weeks (Evangelism)
Dave Flunker (Elders)
Shaun Paluch (Board of Education)

Please note that we invite people to speak with any of these men listed above if you have any questions at any time.



Youth and Family Ministry

OCTOBER 2020



Here's a Bible passage that's been on my mind a lot these days and I think it will be extremely helpful to our families too.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).

Isn't that such a great passage, regardless of what's going on in life? (What time are we ever not burdened by something whether it's the stress of every day life and all our responsibilities, hardship that presses us and is so overwhelming, or spiritual weightiness that comes from a troubled conscience which screams at us for all our sins and failures in all we've been called to?) Who of us doesn't need rest from our burdens, especially now?

Are you stressed about how this pandemic continues to linger on? Do you worry for your children, for your parents, for your job, your own health, and so many others? (Again, as if life weren't tough enough!) What else has you burdened these days?

To those who are weary, hear the voice of your Savior call, *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”*

Are you tired of being cooped up at home without the freedom to go about life as you once had? Are you tired of trying to make meaningful connections online and living through a screen whether it's for work, school, or just to keep in touch with those whom you care about the most? Do you have days where you just want to hide away because the burden is all too much? (You are not alone!)

In times like these, truly bring your burdens to Christ. See him go to the cross and deal with all of that there. See him call from the cross, “I can handle this for you. Let me deal with all of this. Let me worry for you. Let me suffer for you. Let me face all the worst case scenarios in your place. Be at peace.” And He does! He addresses all our worries, concerns, and burdens at the cross and just as he was buried so too are all those things. Don't worry either about those things coming back from the dead. The only one who can do that is Jesus. This is where your burdens belong.

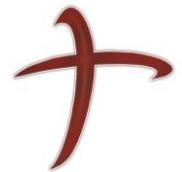
Then, Jesus lovingly comes to you and says, “What else needs to be addressed? It's all taken care of. Just rest in me.” From there he puts his yoke on you, which he Himself bears – again, you are not alone. Then, he teaches you - with a heart full of peace no matter what you face – he teaches you and me that all our calling in life is this: Just love God and love others in all humility and completely rest. That's it. That's all you really need to think about. Even, then, Jesus says, “I'll carry that load too. Just rest.” May God give us and our families such blessed rest, especially these days.

Pastor Bill, Family Discipleship

Come to me,
All who are *Weary* and *Heavy-Laden*
And I will give you *Rest*.
Matthew 11:28



ST. PETER LUTHERAN SCHOOL
SCHOOL NEWS
OCTOBER 2020



RUN TO CHRIST

Greetings 922 Family,

I trust all is well. Last month I asked all of you to keep our students, their families, and our staff in your prayers. I want to share how our God is blessing our school family.

Blessing 1 - Supportive Parents

Parents are being asked to perform, what I call, the “Daily Three” on a daily basis.

First, they perform the daily health screen (check their child for a fever, sore throat, congestion, headache, and stomach pains) before sending their child to school. If a child is showing two or more symptoms, the child needs to stay home from school.

Second, parents are following the guidance from our health department that if a member of their household is experiencing COVID 19 symptoms all children need to stay home from school.

Third, our parents are praying on a daily basis that God blesses all of us with peace, patience, wisdom, understanding, and energy.

Blessing 2 - Amazing Staff

Your school staff is working extremely hard. They are teaching and modeling new COVID guidelines to their students. They are working with the students in the classroom along with supporting students that are at home due to quarantine. Your staff is displaying peace, patience, wisdom and understanding. Continue to ask our God to bless them with energy.

Blessing 3 - Virtual Learning

Yes, we have experienced positive COVID 19 cases with staff members and students. Our 7th and 8th grade students needed to quarantine from school. However, students and teachers were prepared to switch to virtual learning. Virtual learning went well. Currently, I am glad that we can provide in-person school for our 3K-8th grade students. However, teachers and students are prepared to switch to virtual learning.

I would like to close with our school year theme passage. Matthew 11:28-30 tells us, *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”*

922 family please continue to keep our students, teachers, and school families in your prayers.

God Bless,

Phil Punzel, Principal

922 MINISTRIES

Director of Operations Report - October 2020

Current Issues:

- 1) Very soon, Nate Paul will be starting his new position as COO of 922 Ministries. I will be devoting as much time as he and Tim need toward helping him hit the ground running. I am praying for Nate's success and am looking forward to doing all that I can to continue helping 922 Ministries be the instrument of God here on earth.
- 2) A company from Nebraska that does inspections of solar systems contacted me in August and asked to inspect our system. They sent a representative here who did a thorough inspection of the system that is on the south side of our 1982 building. His judgment said that our system is still in good shape, shows little sign of deterioration and is not in need of any service or replacement parts. He said that it's a good thing that we don't need anything, because he is not sure there are parts available for a system as old as ours is. He provided a full written report and pictures.
- 3) Continuing with the 1982 part of our building, during the warm days at the beginning of the school year, it became evident that there are issues with the AC system for that building. We called an HVAC service technician who verified that the HVAC is not working. Joel Weeks contacted previous maintenance people who had knowledge of St. Peter's HVAC system and found that the system is more than 20 years old and not suitable to serve that building anymore. Joel also found that a fan that is supposed to ventilate the attic of the building and disburse the heat generated by the solar system was not working. We aren't sure if the fan is working now, because it may be tied in with the solar system, and much of that system has been disabled over the years. As for the fan, technicians believe that it would be useful to convert the fan into an exhaust fan, and that is an easy fix.
- 4) During it's nearly six month shutdown because of the pandemic, the coffee brewing unit in the church kitchen has died. We consulted with Bill Heiges of Copper Rock Coffee and he has recommended a good replacement unit that he feels will take care of our needs in this area for the next 15 years. We have one on order and will be installed very soon.
- 5) We are in discussions with the WELS Benefits Office to investigate an Employee Assistance Program for 922 Ministries.
- 6) For assistance to our custodial staff in keeping our facilities as clean and as safe as possible, we have purchased a misting machine from Northwoods Superior Chemical company. It takes our custodians around five minutes to put down a germ and virus killing layer in an entire classroom after the room has been cleaned. We use it in all of the classrooms and the church sanctuary.
- 7) Thank you to the Freedom VFW Post 7692 for donating the American flag that flies over our campus on the flag pole near the entrance to our 1982 building.
- 8) Life Line Screenings will be here on our campus in the Ministry Center all day on Friday October 30, 2020. They offer a variety of health related screenings that are performed by medical professionals. There are flyers giving more details in the bulletin boards and on the Information Center counter in the gathering area outside of church.
- 9) We are evaluating storage areas throughout the building to see if we can enhance or improve storage by having Merlin Steubs build us some infrastructure that better serves our needs.

Tom Dietzler

St. Peter Lutheran Church

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Children's Chapel – 8:15 am Quilting – 8:30-11:30 am Wedding Rehearsal – 5 pm Worship – 6:30 pm	2 Schadrie/Oskey Wedding – 3 pm	3 Men's Open Gym – 7:15 am
4 Worship – 7:30; 9 & 10:30 am Bible class – 9 & 10:15 am CORE – 3:30 & 5:30 pm	5	6 Bible Class – 6:30 pm	7 Lord's Supper – 10 am Bible Foundations -5:15 pm 7 th Grade Catechism – 6:15 pm 8 th Grade Catechism – 7:15 pm Christian Recovery – 6:30 pm	8 Children's Chapel – 8:15 am Quilting – 8:30-11:30 am Wedding Rehearsal – 4:30pm Worship w/Lord's Supper – 6:30 pm	9 Hallam Wedding – 2 pm Community Blood Drive @ CORE Noon – 6 pm	10 Men's Open Gym – 7:15 am
11 Worship w/Lord's Supper – 7:30; 9 & 10:30 am Bible Class – 9 & 10:15 am CORE – 3:30 & 5:30 pm	12 Open Parent Mtg. – 6-7 pm	13 Card Making – 6:30 pm In 1910 Centre Pastor's Circuit Mtg. – 1-3 pm	14 Bible Foundations -5:15 pm 7 th Grade Catechism – 6:15 pm 8 th Grade Catechism – 7:15 pm Christian Recovery – 6:30 pm	15 Children's Chapel - 8:15am Quilting – 8:30-11:30 am Worship – 6:30 pm	16	17 Men's Open Gym – 7:15 am
18 Worship – 7:30; 9 & 10:30 am Bible class – 9 & 10:15 am CORE – 3:30 & 5:30 pm	19 922 Ministry Leadership Mtg. – 6:30 pm	20 Bible Class – 6:30 pm (online)	21 Lord's Supper – 10 am Bible Foundations -5:15 pm 7 th Grade Catechism – 6:15 pm 8 th Grade Catechism – 7:15 pm Christian Recovery – 6:30 pm	22 Children's Chapel – 8:15 am Quilting – 8:30-11:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper – 6:30 pm	23	24 Men's Open Gym – 7:15 am
25 Worship w/Lord's Supper – 7:30; 9 & 10:30 am Bible Class – 9 & 10:15 am CORE – 3:30 & 5:30 pm	26	27 Bible Class – 6:30 pm (online)	28 Christian Recovery – 6:30 pm	29 NO School – ECM – 8 th Grade Worship – 6:30 pm	30 NO School – ECM – 8 th Grade Lifeline Screening	31 Men's Open Gym – 7:15 am