

St. Peter's Epistle



December 2025

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
145 S. 6th Street, Waterford, WI 53185

Upcoming Events

Advent Midweek Vespers
Dec 3, 10, & 17

Christmas Eve 5 & 7 PM
Christmas Day 9:30 AM

Movie Night
December 12

Men's Bible Study
Dec 6, Dec 20

Be sure to follow us on facebook
and visit our website at
www.stpeterswaterford.com

Sign up for updates by emailing
Pastor Conradt and asking to be
put on the list.

CHURCH

Telephone: 262-534-3639

Rev. Joshua P.H. Conradt, Pastor
pastorconradt@stpeterswaterford.com

Church Office
secretary@stpeterswaterford.com

PRESCHOOL

Telephone: 262-534-6066

Mr. Melvin Beversdorf, Director
director@stpeterswaterford.com

From the Desk of Pastor Conradt

Memento: For the Christian Man

"Brothers, we live in a distracted age. Our culture is drowning in [addictions], consumerism, endless scrolling, and shallow entertainment. Men are losing the strength to lead, the courage to sacrifice, and the clarity to know what matters most. Families are fraying, churches are shrinking, and too many men are settling for comfort over calling. The enemy is pleased to see men passive, distracted, and asleep to their God-given responsibilities.

"But God has not called us to drift. Scripture is clear: 'Train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come' (1 Tim. 4:7-8). Again, Paul exhorts, 'Stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong' (1 Cor. 16:13). And in Titus he commands, 'Urge the young men to be self-controlled, showing yourself in all respects to be a model of good works' (Titus 2:6-7). A man without discipline is a man without freedom. A man without devotion is a man without strength. Discipline and devotion are not optional — they are the shape of a man's calling under Christ.

"The Church has always understood this. From the earliest Christians who fasted and prayed together, to faithful fathers who ordered their households by Scripture and worship, to generations who passed on the catechism to their children — God's people have always known that faith is not formed in moments of comfort, but through patterns of prayer, sacrifice, and brotherhood. These practices are not ways of earning God's favor — Christ has already secured that for us on the cross. Rather, they are the gifts God gives to strengthen us in Him. They train us to resist temptation, to crucify our sinful desires, and to live with joy, courage, and hope.

"That's why Memento exists. The very name means 'remember.' We remember our mortality — that our days are short and our strength is fleeting. We remember our sin — that apart from Christ we are helpless. We remember Christ's suffering — that He has borne the cross for us and calls us to follow Him. We remember the men who came before us — fathers, martyrs, saints — who faced the same struggles and endured in the faith. And we remember our calling — to stand

firm, to serve our families, to lead our churches, and to shape the future with courage and conviction.

"Memento isn't about adding one more program to your already crowded life. It is about reclaiming the ancient rhythm of fasting, prayer, Scripture, and brotherhood — not as empty rituals, but as life-giving habits rooted in Christ. Through these disciplines, men are set free from distractions and trained to live as God has called them: husbands who love their wives with faithfulness and strength, fathers who bless their children with wisdom and patience, leaders who strengthen their churches with courage and clarity, and brothers who lock arms together in the battle of faith.

"We believe the Church needs men who are awake. Men who resist the slavery of pornography, passivity, and endless distraction. Men who understand that true freedom does not come from indulging every appetite, but from learning to master them in Christ. Men who see their calling not only to survive in this world, but to live boldly for the sake of their families, their congregations, and the generations yet to come.

"This is why Memento is built not for a weekend, not for a quick burst of enthusiasm, but for a way of life. What begins in a 70-day Lenten fast continues throughout the year, following the rhythm of the Church: fasting and feasting, repentance and celebration, discipline and freedom. You are not left to figure it out alone. You are placed into a brotherhood where you will be encouraged, challenged, and supported. Together, you will discover that 'for freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery' (Gal. 5:1).

"This is not temporary inspiration. This is daily training in the way of Christ. This is discipline made daily, devotion made lasting, and brotherhood made strong.

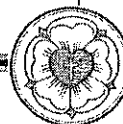
"Let's remember. Let's rise. Let's reclaim the man."

Please let me know if you want to join a group of us committed to this journey.

memento70.com

In Christ,

Pastor Conradt



Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod



OFFICIAL ACTS

MEMBERS LEAVING

Transfer Out:

Heidi, August & Maggie Frost

Robert, Christine, Samantha & Sarah Repischak

Removed From Membership:

Jessica Berndt (Blake & Alaina)

Chelsey Walbrant (Charlotte & Cecelia)



SENIOR GROUP/LADIES AIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY



The last meeting for Senior Group of this year will be December 8th. We will have a short business meeting at 11:00am, followed by our Christmas luncheon. Please put on your best (or worst) Christmas sweater as there will be a prize for one of you. We will be playing Take-Away Bingo, and the entry fee is a wrapped "white elephant" present. Hope to see you all there!

COOKIE WALK ~ VENDOR FAIR

St. Peter's Cookie Walk and Vendor Fair is Saturday, December 6th 9:00am-1:00pm We look forward to seeing everyone at the cookie walk. Bring your family and friends too.



Newsletter Due Date

January Newsletter

Deadline December 23rd

HANDICAP PARKING

The parking lot has been sealed and restriped. Handicap parking rules on private property require that designated spaces be marked with the international accessibility symbol and be reserved for vehicles displaying a valid disability permit. Property owners must ensure these spaces are accessible and comply with local and federal regulations.



RAINBOW PRESCHOOL UPDATE

Preschool has completed 12 weeks already! We have 28 students in 2 classrooms. We enjoy learning about the Bible Stories from Creation to Daniel in the Lion's Den. We will begin the Advent and Christmas stories next. We have learned letters through M, Numbers through 12, and colors and shapes. We have been busy learning songs for our Preschool Christmas program on December 17 at 4:30 p.m. in the gym. You are invited! We give thanks for the prayers and support from the St. Peter's Lutheran Church and community!

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Board of Parish Fellowship would like to plan some fun events in 2026 and beyond and is looking for feedback about what events the congregation would be interested in doing. Please see the sheet in the narthex and sign up to indicate which activities you would enjoy doing with your church family.

Important Dates/Times



Christmas Eve Worship 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Christmas Day 9:30 am

CHURCH SERVICE

Written by Patty Guentzel

On October 12th, 2025 Pastor Conradt started out the service by saying "I want you to take just a few seconds and think about what you did to prepare for service this morning?" This got me thinking. It's hard not to get involved in the conversations around you as you wait for the worship service to start. But what about those that physically and mentally prepare for God's word. Choosing what they will wear, praying or mediating on God's Word prior to service at home and while sitting quietly in the pew. Many folks look through the bulletin and prepare for the service by bookmarking the Order of Worship and all the hymns. It's certainly a blessing to have a church family. People we know or not, people with the same sense of values or not, trying to reflect on how their days were spent or how to spend the days ahead. Politely say good morning to those around you, introduce yourself if you have not already, recognize that they are at church for several purposes. Receiving the forgiveness of sins, hearing God's Word, growing in their faith, being in communion with the fellowship of believers at St. Peter's.

There are some common "guidelines" to follow such as dressing modestly, being respectful during services, and refraining from distractions like talking or using cell phones. Once the prelude begins this is the time to quietly pray, listen, and prepare for service.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Starting Tuesday, December 2nd Women's Bible Study will change their time from 1:00pm to 10:00am. The first half an hour is a time of fellowship and prayer requests. Pastor will join us at 10:30am to begin the study.



"Family Movie Night" will be held on Friday, December 12th at 6:00pm in the parish hall. The December movie is *The Star*. There will be some time for "open gym" after the movie. We will have popcorn and juice; attendees can sign up to bring a snack to share on the sheet located on office window.

BOARD OF SOCIAL MINISTRY

The Board of Social Ministry is planning to go caroling to area nursing homes on Saturday December 13th. We will meet at Church at 10:30am. Our caroling will start at Waterford Place, then to Waterford Senior Living and lastly Spring Brook in Burlington. When we are done, we will head to Pine Street Café for dinner. We need your voices and smiling faces to make this a wonderful experience for all. Please be sure to sign up by November 30th so we have a headcount for dinner. If you have questions please contact Jeff Ostovich.



LADIES AID/LWML

Join us for Christian fellowship / Bible Study every second Monday of the month here at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. We meet at 11:00 a.m. for Bible Study then a short meeting followed by your own bag lunch. Dessert and coffee are provided. Come join us!

MISSION OF THE MONTH DECEMBER 2025

Orphan Grain Train

Across the globe, hungry destitute people live day to day without warm clothing, nourishing food, clean water, shelter or medical care. In 1992 Pastor Ray Wilke saw that need face to face and was determined to make a positive impact on as many people as possible. Today, Orphan Grain Train has shipped to 73 different countries and 40 states, sharing God's mercy and love by meeting the needs of the hopeless.

Orphan Grain Train provides disaster relief throughout the United States and around the world. Working with the people of the communities affected by various natural disasters, OGT has been able to provide needed aid and help long after the initial devastation. Orphan Grain Train helps families devastated by storms, floods, wildfires and hurricanes. When desperation is felt, OGT offers gifts of hope.

Please visit www.ogt.org to learn more about the great work Orphan Grain Train does.

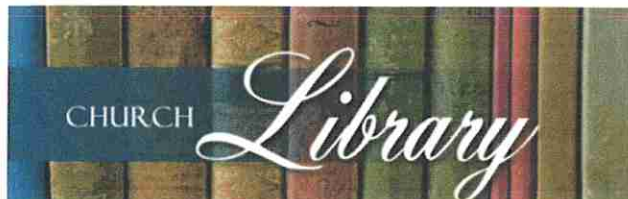


LIBRARY

Our Church library offers a nice selection of both fiction and non-fiction

books for all ages, covering a wide variety of subjects. We also have puzzles, DVDs, CDs, and Bible study materials. All church members are welcome to read or use any of these materials. There is a sign out sheet in the library. You can view the library catalog by clicking on the link on St. Peter's internet home page. (www.stpeterswaterford.com).

This is what the link looks like:



POINSETTIAS

Thank you for your Poinsettia order. They will decorate our church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. They can be taken home by the purchaser following the Christmas Day Service.



SENIOR FRIENDSHIP GROUP



Attention all 55+ members (men & women) and your friends!! Join us for Christian fellowship and Bible Study every second and fourth Monday of the month here at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. Meetings begin at 11:00 a.m. for Bible Study then a short meeting followed by your own bag lunch. Dessert and coffee are provided. Afterwards, those who want to can enjoy cards, bingo, or other planned seasonal activities. Come join us!



FLOWERS

Flowers are a wonderful way to honor a special occasion or remember loved ones and friends who have passed away. The signup sheet is in the Narthex by the coat racks. When signing up for chancel flowers, please be sure to have the florist call the church office for delivery days and times.



EMAIL LIST!

Pastor Conradt periodically sends out an email to church members who want to be informed of important updates. To be included on Pastor's email list, please send an email to Pastor Conradt at pastorconradt@stpeterswaterford.com and include in the subject line: **"Add me to the list."**

Worship

*We celebrate The Lord's Supper at every Divine Service.
We use the liturgies and hymns contained in the Lutheran Service Book.*

Sundays at 9:30 AM
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

Sunday Morning

Bible Study 8:15 AM
Sunday School 8:15 AM

Additional Bible Studies

Senior Group: 2nd and 4th Mondays 11:00 AM
Men's Group: November 1st and 3rd Saturdays 8:30 AM-
10:00 AM
Women's Group: Tuesdays at 10:00 AM

Youth Catechesis/Confirmation

Wednesdays at 5:15 PM

Adult Catechesis/New Member Class

Thursdays at 6:00 PM



RECIPE CORNER



Recipes from

~ "FEEDING THE FLOCK" COOKBOOK~

(a collection of recipes by St. Peter's
Lutheran School and Rainbow Preschool
2006)

Double Crumble Chocolate Bars

½ c. Butter	¼ tsp. Baking Powder
¾ c. Sugar	½ c. Chopped Nuts
2 Eggs	2 c. Mini Marshmallows
1 tsp. Vanilla	1 c. Chocolate Chips
¾ c. Flour	1 c. Peanut Butter
2 T. Cocoa	½ c. Rice Krispies
¼ t. Salt	

Cream together the butter, sugar, eggs, vanilla. Mix together the flour, cocoa, salt, baking powder and add to the creamed mixture. Add chopped nuts (optional). Bake for 15 to 20 minutes at 325 degrees in a greased pan. Spread the 2 cups marshmallows on top: put back in oven until melted, about 3 minutes. Mix together the chocolate chips and peanut butter and melt together. Once melted add Rice Krispies. Spread carefully on top of bars. Cool and cut into squares.

Bertha Neumueller

Light Lemon Torte

1 can sweetened condensed milk
1 (16 oz.) container cool whip
1 (6 oz can frozen lemonade
1 graham cracker crust

Whip all ingredients together until light and fluffy. Pour into crust. Refrigerate. Will keep for several days in refrigerator.

Vonnie McDermott



December 2025 Preschool & Genesis Project update

Mr. Melvin Beversdorf, Preschool Director

Phone: 262.534.6066

Email: director@stpeterswaterford.com



Why do you kick against the goads?

A goad is a sharp stick (aka pricks in KJV) used by a farmer to prod oxen into moving where the farmer wants them to, particularly when they are pulling a plow. The metaphorical meaning in light of Jesus speaking to Saul (soon Paul) on the road to Damascus was that Saul was resisting hearing God's message to him of salvation in Jesus Christ. (Acts 9:5) In our lives, God may use subtle or dramatic things to bring us back to His word and His will. When we kick against God's leading it often causes us more pain and suffering on account of our own sinfulness and self centeredness. God calls us all to repent this Advent season and receive the Christ child given FOR YOU on Christmas and for the saving of the world. ***The words of the wise are like goads, and the words of scholars are like well-driven nails, given by one Shepherd. Ecclesiastes 12:11***

Thank you to all who have filled out a Congregational Survey. We are nearing our goal number! Thank you to all who are taking flyers and Community surveys out to your friends, neighbors, and co-workers and asking them to give us a sense of the beat of the people in our midst about a Lutheran Classical School. **We still need more surveys! Please continue to share the link and flyers!** The Genesis Project Steering Committee met and discussed the action plan steps for the next year and began discussing what they have heard about ideas for Lutheran schooling based in and around St. Peter's. Ideas include a Lutheran Classical School, a Homeschool Hybrid, or No School but focused activities / opportunities for enrichment for families with children. The next phases: Survey Completion, Consultation (happening January 16 & 17), Option exploration, Gauging and Growing Support and Voting, Implementation of some type of action based on congregational will and decisions.

Of note, the CCLE (Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education) has job postings for a Homeschool Hybrid at All Saints Lutheran Church in Charlotte, NC where "students attend school on Monday and Wednesday at the church and are homeschooled the other days of the week in accord with the designated and assigned curriculum." Additionally here in Wausau, WI, at Zion Lutheran, the congregation is organizing Lutheran Classical Academy of St. David the King for next year.

Some have asked, "How is this any different from what we tried before recently?" To this the answer is "everything and nothing at all." Everything is different because the composition of

Living by the exceedingly great and precious promises of God - 1 Peter 1:4

St. Peter's is different (new families, another generation, different political and technological world). On the other hand, nothing has changed - God hasn't changed His love for us (Malachi 3:6). Sinners haven't been perfected outside of God's declared righteousness and means through His word in with and under water, bread, and wine. Pedagogically, the school concept is very different. Classical entails a different style of learning and curriculum, and the catechetical focus intertwines the school with the life of the church in its yearly pattern of stories and songs. The reality of economics was recently commented upon in a conversation I was having with a marketing partner. This person said, "With a reasonably obtainable tuition of \$2000 a child and about 10 children, and congregational support and other grants / funds for the other \$60 - 80K, a school can have a good start and grow. It will come down to the will of the congregation if this can move forward." My job here is to ask questions and see if there is support for a variety of ideas, as well as help facilitate discussion on what is needed, desired, and feasible in this congregation, facility, and community. **Please remember that God IS doing something in our midst!** He does will that the congregation comes together and finds solutions for the needs of its members, and that could be in a variety of ways. May we not "kick against the goads" and cause more pain for ourselves, but rather talk peacefully and share ideas of what may work for those with children in our midst. Thank you for your participation in these discussions and your prayers and support!

Preschool Update - 28 currently enrolled. Monthly income almost matching expenses. New families are still looking at enrolling in the new year and some current students are looking to increase days of attendance. Fall 2026 enrollment will start in December for current families and church members, and January 5 for new families. *Open House on January 27th*. Please tell your family, friends and neighbors!

Preschool / Genesis Project: Coming Up in December & Beyond:

December 1	Early Enrollment offered to current Preschool families & church
December 8 - 5:30 p.m.	Steering Committee 2nd Meeting
December 11 - 10:15 - 11:15 a.m.	Preschool Playtime - Ages 2-5 + families (Meet at playset / gym)
December 17 - 4:30 p.m.	Preschool Christmas Program

January 5	General Enrollment for new community Preschool families
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January 12 - 5:30 p.m.	Steering Committee 2nd Meeting
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January 16 & 17	Genesis Project National consultants arrive for Meetings
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Note - Friday afternoon & evening AND Saturday morning - some Discussion meetings will be available for church leadership, steering committee, congregational members and prospective parent / community.

More detailed information to come!

Living by the exceedingly great and precious promises of God - 1 Peter 1:4

Greetings in the Name of Jesus.

It has been about 5 months since we moved into your wonderful vicar house. We had a team of people from our congregation help us move our belongings into the house. It was such a blessing to move into a clean and updated house, and a luxury to be the first people to use the appliances. This was especially a blessing because Grace was nearing the end of her pregnancy with our third baby. We had about 1 1/2 months to settle in before Charlotte Faith was born on August 4th. We spent this time unpacking, adjusting to Patrick's new schedule as a pastor, and exploring Waterford. As we are sure you know, Waterford is a wonderful town and we are thankful to God for placing us here in this season of life. Patrick and the boys enjoy taking evening walks around town, to Ten Club park, and the Fox River dam. During the daytime, Grace and the kids love walking to the library, up and down the bike path, and playing at home in the yard.

Thanks to the generosity of St. Peter's and many other gifts from God, we have been able to save significantly. Lord willing by spring or early summer we will have saved enough to begin looking at homes in the neighborhoods surrounding our church in Milwaukee. Please pray that God will provide a home for our family that is within walking distance of our church, has enough space for our family as our children grow and if the Lord gives us any more children, and is in good condition so that we can move into without having to make significant repairs. We absolutely love the town of Waterford and the small town life but we know it is also good for a pastor and his family to live in the neighborhood they serve. We have been praying for your congregation and God's plan for a potential vicar family to be able to use this house as a home as well. But even if that is not God's plan, please know that the investments you have made in this house- your time, your energy, your money, and your love- have been an unimaginable blessing to our family in our early years of being a pastor's family. There are no words that could express how thankful we are for the faithfulness of St. Peter's and their support of pastors, future pastors, and their families.

The Randolphins

Patrick, Grace, William, Frederick, and Charlotte

Serve the Lord with Gladness

South Wisconsin District

2026 LWML SWD Winter Getaway

Fri, Jan 30 - Sat, Jan 31, 2026



Location: Radisson Hotel 625 W. Rolling Meadows Drive, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Theme: *God is with you*

Scripture: *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."* (Joshua 1:9)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Keith GeRue, U.S. Army Chaplain, currently serving as Associate Pastor and Principal at Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Menasha, WI and assigned to 452 Combat Surgical Hospital (Milwaukee)

Register At: www.lwml-swd.org/events/retreat
or

Winnie Shelton - dgshelton02@gmail.com



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tanner Brown	12/01
Edwina Shelton	12/01
Noah Multhauf	12/02
Valerie Kimball	12/06
Rebecca Rauterberg	12/06
Rosemary Heck	12/07
Frederick Wolfram	12/07
Russell Korntheuer	12/12
Ginny Morby	12/12
Laura Fischer	12/13
Darlene Jacobson	12/13
Parker Brown	12/14
Craig Campbell	12/14
Eric Obermeyer	12/16
Mackenzie Somers	12/17
Andrew Handeland Sr.	12/18
Scott Jung	12/19
Jack Morawetz	12/19
Heidi Kin	12/20
Beatrice Jacobson	12/21
Joan Somers	12/21
Connor Charland	12/23
Raymond Fischer	12/23
Rick McGaughy	12/25
Courtney Blawat	12/26
Nicole Grant	12/26
Pearl Beversdorf	12/27
Jodi Kirincich	12/27
Jill Jacobs	12/29
Debra Steinke	12/29
Daniel Grosskreuz	12/30
Dennis Kramer	12/30
Shelley Kempken	12/31



**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY!!**

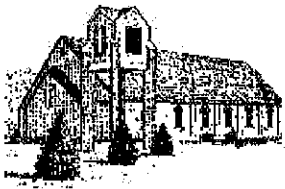


To the following couples who are celebrating
December Wedding Anniversaries.

Ronald & Ruth Burke	12/02
Ron & Susan Greiner	12/09
Bryan & Karry Brintnall	12/11
Robert & Luanne Hassey	12/13
Paul & Carrie Terry	12/14
Lawrence & Teri Geboy	12/15
Dale & Janet Buchholtz	12/18
Matt & Emily Kenitzer	12/27



HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS



December 2025

Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church

Waterford, WI

Abbreviations
 B.C. Bible Class
 S.S. Sunday School
 M.B.S Men's Bible Study
 W.B.S. Women's Bible Study
 N.M./A.C New Member/Adult Catechesis Class

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		W.B.S. 10:00am	Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm	Jingle Mingle Waterford Chamber Event 12:00pm N.M./A.C. Class 6:00pm		Men's Bible Study 8:30am Cookie Walk/Vendor Fair 9am-1pm Christmas Parade 6:00pm
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
S.S./B.C. 8:15am Worship 9:30am	Sr. Group and LWML Christmas Party 11:00am Genesis Steering Committee Mtg. 5:30pm Parish Ed. Mtg. right after.	W.B.S. 10:00am	Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Finance 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm Council 7:30pm	Preschool Playtime 10:15- 11:15am N.M./A.C. Class 6:00pm	Movie Night 6:00pm The Star	Christmas Caroling 10:30am meet at church
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
S.S./B.C. 8:15am Worship 9:30am		W.B.S. 10:00am	Preschool Christmas Program 4:30pm Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm Elders 7:30pm	N.M./A.C. Class 6:00pm		Men's Bible Study 8:30am
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
S.S. meet in conference room 8:15am S.S. Christmas Program 8:30am Worship 9:30am			Christmas Eve Worship 5:00pm & 7:00pm	Christmas Day Worship 9:30am		
28	29	30	31			
Worship 9:30am			No Worship			