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## Varieties of Service

- Pastor Sorenson

The apostle Paul, as he writes to the Corinthian congregation, reminds them of this fact of being part of the Church. He writes, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone" (1 Corinthians 12:4-6).

What this means, he goes on to say, is that there are many members of a church, but there is only one body. Each member has its own God-given role to play with its own God-given talents and abilities. No one gift or one service is better than another, just as no one member of the church is better than another. Rather, all of them work together to the praise and glory of God who joins the body together.

This is certainly true here at St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church. It is quite remarkable to see the varieties of gifts and varieties of service that God has given to His people here in this place. They are all different and, though we may be tempted to think otherwise, none is greater than another, because all come from God and are done to the praise of God.

With that in mind, it is good to ponder and give thanks to God for the varieties of service that occurs here in our congregation. Not only does this provide a chance for us to give thanks for all the ways that people serve here, but it also gives us a chance to see how we might serve in the future with the gifts and abilities that God has given us.

The services listed below are done purely in alphabetical order, reminding us once again that all of these are equal because all of them bring praise and glory to God.

Thank you to our acolytes who assist in the worship services.

Thank you to those who care for the altar and its paraments and linens.

Thank you to those who clean the sanctuary and parish hall, taking time to care for the house of God.

Thank you to those who do communion set-up and clean-up, showing respect and reverence for our Lord's Sacrament.

Thank you to those who serve on the Council, looking after the affairs of the congregation.

Thank you to those who serve as elders, caring for the congregation and her pastor.

Thank you to those who assist with the flowers, bringing beauty to the sanctuary every week.

Thank you to those who do groundskeeping and care for the landscaping around the buildings.

Thank you to those who look after the hymn boards which aid our worship.

Thank you to those who provide music for our worship, on piano, organ, and other instruments, as you help us make a joyful noise to the Lord.

Thank you to those who teach Sunday school, instructing our children in Word of the Lord.

Thank you to those who serve as ushers, performing various tasks before, during, and after each service so we can focus on receiving our Lord's gifts.

Thank you to all of the other volunteers and services that happen that aren't always visible or recognized. Your service and use of your God-given gifts within the congregation are a blessing to us all.

I extend my sincere thankfulness and appreciation for you all as you serve the Lord and your fellow members in these and other ways (of which I'm sure I have missed some. Please forgive me!) Likewise, I encourage everyone in the congregation to extend their thankfulness for these services and to consider how you may use the gifts and abilities that God has given you to serve Him and your fellow members in these and other ways.

For, as St. Paul reminds us, there are varieties of service and all of them bring praise and glory to God while also being a help and benefit to your neighbor. May God continue to bless us with these varieties of service even as He has blessed us with this congregation and all her members.

## Stewardship Under the Cross

Overcoming the Fear of Tithing

### **Your heart will always go where you put God's money.**

Jesus said that where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. As the hymn verse has it: We give Thee but Thine own. God is the ultimate giver of our incomes: all these gifts come from him. To acknowledge this gift and our dependence on the Lord, God calls us to give a portion of our income back to Him for the maintenance of His Church. Indeed, the Scriptures are very clear: God calls His people to give generously to the work of the Church. As we have seen, God commanded Israel to support the Word and Sacrament ministry of the Levites in the Temple with a tithe (10%) of their income. Can we call ourselves generous by doing less?

This calls for faith. Do we trust God's Word? Do we trust that what He says is for our benefit, not our harm? If you have never tithed before, it can be a scary proposition. Give 10% of my income away!? You've got to be kidding. But God doesn't ever kid us in His Word. Instead, He tells us how to live holy and blessed lives full of peace and contentment. Consider these Scriptures:

Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:19-21).

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse-- the whole nation of you-- because you are robbing me. 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it " (Malachi 3:8-10).

On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as each one of you may prosper (1 Cor. 16:2).

But just as you excel in everything-- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us - see that you also excel in this grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7).

The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work (2 Cor. 9:6-8).

We do not make God poor when we fail to give money to Him properly, but we do make ourselves poor if we do not give according to the standards He sets for us in His Word, the Bible. God does not need our money, but we need to give the way the Bible tells us to in order to overcome the negative influence money and the things of this world can have on us.

God will never tell us to do something that will be to our harm – He loves us too much for that. Jesus gave His life on the cross for me. He loves me and knows what is best for me – so I can know that what He says about stewardship is meant for my benefit. He wants my heart to be with Him – and my heart will always follow where I put God's money. Tithing is not easy: it is godly. It will change your life. Stepping out in faith always does. You may have to change your lifestyle to accommodate following God's Word in this matter. But tithing will change your life in other ways too: it will give you a peace and contentment that can only come from actually putting yourself in the hands of the Lord.

So read through those Scriptures again. Pray through the questions on the next page. And step out in faith this year with giving that is in accord with God's Word. And just see if you are not blessed in it.

- Rev. Heath Curtis (coordinator, LCMS Stewardship ministry), *Stewardship Under the Cross*, pg. 45-46

## Elders' Corner

*(A monthly feature from the Board of Elders)*

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

As we continue in the season of Epiphany, we remember these words from our recent Epistle reading of 1 Corinthians 12:12-31: <sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. <sup>14</sup>For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup>which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. <sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup>But earnestly desire the higher gifts.”

In the love of our Savior,  
Elders of St Peter

### **WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION**

#### **Bible Studies:**

- **Sundays:** We will begin a study on a synopsis of the Gospels.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study:** We are studying faith of our fathers, as we read some writings from Church fathers throughout history. If you have any suggestions for possible topics, please let Pastor know.
- **Book of Concord Study:** On break this month. Usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, March 9<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:00 PM. We will begin a study on the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope and we will have a pitch-in dinner following the study.

#### **Sermons and Devotional Resources:**

- Weekly sermons will be posted on our church website (<http://www.stpeterwaymansville.com>) on the sermon page under the “At St. Peter” tab. (Direct link to page - [https://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page\\_id=1965](https://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page_id=1965))
- You can also find helpful resources for your home devotions on the “Devotional Resources” page under the “Resources” tab ([http://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page\\_id=489](http://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page_id=489)). Now is a great time to begin, continue, and strengthen a home devotional pattern by yourself and with your family.

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May these resources assist you as you continue to hear the Word of God and cry out to Him in prayer.  
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### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Throughout the year, this space will be used to encourage you to keep your brothers and sisters in Christ here at St. Peter in your prayers. As you pray for them, you may even ask them how you can pray for them. Families will be listed in alphabetical order throughout the year. During this month, you are encouraged to pray for:

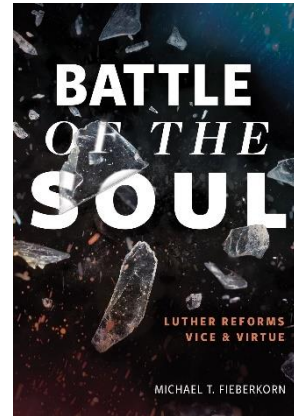
- |                         |  |                                    |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| • Larry & Sandra Phelps | • Kevin, Michelle, & Laurie Schultz            | • Robert & Connie Stiles           |
| • Tom & Kathy Rebber    | • Pastor, Michelle, Seth, Lucy & Anna Sorenson | • Danny & Judy Strasser            |
| • Skyler Rebber         | • Charles & Janet Spurgeon                     | • Max, Kelly, Kyle, & Jenna Thomas |
| • Phil & Chris Schaefer |  | • Tom & Brenda Tracy               |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Missions:** This year we will be supporting a variety of missions. The missions we have supported include Clarity, Lakeview Ministries, Orphan Grain Train, Tiffany Smith (missionary for Lutheran Bible Translators serving in Tanzania), a seminary student, and our youth group. If you would like to submit a name of a seminary student or any other organization for consideration this year, please speak to an elder or to Pastor. May God continue to bless these missions as Christ is proclaimed to the ends of the earth.

**Thrivent Action Teams:** If you have any Thrivent policies or products, you are eligible for two action teams a year. An action team includes \$250 seed money and may be used for a fundraiser, an educational event, or a service activity. As a church, we have used action teams for the fish fry, the youth golf scramble, Bible studies, etc. If you are interested in using your action teams for events at church or anywhere else, you can look for more information and help signing up on the Thrivent website or by speaking to Pastor.

**Book of the Month:** The Book of the Month will be available in the Parish Hall library. The February Book of the Month is *Battle of the Soul: Luther Reforms Vice & Virtue* by Michael T. Fiebertorn. Here is an excerpt from the book: "Many Christians mistakenly think that following Jesus will be relatively easy. Children complete confirmation instruction and feel as if a very large part of their work in the faith is now complete. A newly married husband and wife join a congregation and are baptized, expecting life to run more smoothly now that they are part of a church and worship regularly. Adult Christians who have been believers since the day they were baptized as infants assume they don't have to do anything, because they are saved by grace alone and Jesus has already done it all. We might get the impression that faith, once begun, can be set on cruise control until eventually we arrive at the intended destination. Experience shows that little could be further from reality."



**Elder & Auditing Committee Position:** Thank you to Danny Strasser and Jacob Otte, elders, and for Kelly Thomas, auditing committee member, who were elected to serve during our January voters' meeting.

**Usher, Acolyte, Communion Training:** We will meet together soon to brush up on usher duties, acolyting, and communion assistance. Come on out to learn more about each of these unique ways to serve in the church. You won't be obligated to serve if you attend, so if you've ever had interest in learning more about these roles this is the perfect opportunity. Keep an eye on the bulletins and Facebook page for more information on date and time.

**Altar Flowers:** If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, there is a sign-up sheet for 2025 in the hallway between Pastor's study and the church office. The cost to sponsor the flowers is \$20, and the payment can be put in the offering plate or in the mail rack outside the church office door. The flowers are yours for the taking after the worship service. Please contact Sue Anne Heilers at (812) 717-0167 if you have any questions.

**Communion Assistance:** We are looking for people who may be interested in setting up and/or cleaning up communion. No need to worry about the linens, as those will be taken care of for you. If you are interested in learning more, please speak with Lynnette or Pastor. The sign-up sheet for 2025 is also on the bulletin board.



**Vanco:** A new, online offering method is now available. You can find more information by scanning the QR code in the bulletin or by going to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZMRA>.

**Church & Parish Hall Cleaning Volunteers:** If you are interested in helping to clean the Church and Parish Hall, there is a sign-up sheet in the hallway in the Parish Hall. You can sign-up for a month at a time and you can sign-up with another person/couple/family too. Prayerfully consider lending a hand in this way. You may also speak to Janice Acree or Jenni Acton for more information about the cleaning duties or the sheet on the bulletin board.

**Puzzle Sharing:** If you would like to borrow a puzzle or donate a puzzle, they can be found or placed in the cabinet in the Conference Room closest to the white board. Enjoy a variety of puzzles and some fellowship with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ!

## YOUTH GROUP & YOUTH CLASSES

**Youth Group:** The youth group will meet Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, at 5 PM for our youth night. We will have a meal, time to study God's Word, and a fun activity. Feel free to bring a friend! If you would like to be added to the text group to receive youth group notifications, please let Pastor know.

**Golf Outing:** The Youth Group will be hosting our annual Golf Outing on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at Hickory Hills Golf Course in Brownstown. If you would like to play or be a sponsor for the outing, please speak to Pastor Sorenson. Additional information can be found on the flyers on the bulletin boards.

**Super Bowl Subs:** The Youth Group will be selling subs for Super Bowl Sunday (2/9) to raise funds for the upcoming National Youth Gathering. If you would like to order subs, please see the youth group members or talk to Curt & Jenni Acton for more information. You can also order online here: <https://forms.gle/9oroTS7pRyc592QM7>

**Family Feud:** At an upcoming youth group night, we will be playing family feud. To do this, we will need some answers from our congregation (and anyone else you'd like to send it to). If you would kindly assist in this, please visit the website link to view and answer the questions. Thank you! <https://forms.gle/DbNxaRHq92x34RDh9>

#### EVENTS

**Game Night & Fellowship Friday & 5:** Game Night will be on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:00 PM. All ages are welcome and bring a friend too! A taco bar will be provided by the elders. Feel free to bring a dish to share, your favorite games, or a deck of cards. Mark your calendars and invite your friends and family to come along as well!

**Soup and Euchre:** Join us on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 5 PM for our Soup and Euchre party! It will be \$5 for soup and \$5 for euchre. Invite a friend or two and enjoy a night of soup, cards, and fun.

#### LCMS COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

**Lutheran SGO:** Take full advantage of all the benefits of donating to the Lutheran SGO and support the students and families of Trinity Lutheran High School. For their generosity, donors may receive a 50% state tax credit. Donations can take many forms, from cash to credit cards to commodities. <https://www.lutheransgo.org/donations/index.php> Have questions or want to learn more? Contact Erin Brooks at 812-524-8547 or [ebrooks@trinitycougars.org](mailto:ebrooks@trinitycougars.org)

#### FROM THE OFFICE

**Contact Information:** We would like to be able to contact everyone in a quick and timely manner. If you could please contact Camden or Pastor to update your contact information, especially phone number and email, that would help us tremendously and be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

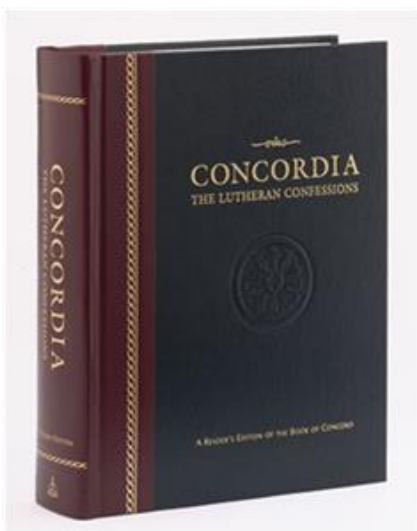
**2025 Offering Envelopes:** Hello everyone! I wanted to inform you that 2025 envelopes are now in your mailboxes, or sitting, in the narthex of the church. Please let me know if I did not provide you with them, and if you would like to have envelopes. Hope everyone has a great month!

**Church Constitution:** If you would like to sign the church constitution, please contact Camden. Also, there are proposed changes that we will be discussing and voting on in our April voters' meeting. There are copies available in the narthex and a summary of them is included in this newsletter.

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Camden Jeffries • (812) 343-1688, office • (812) 390-5980 cell • [waymansvillepeter@yahoo.com](mailto:waymansvillepeter@yahoo.com)

On the web: [www.stpeterwaymansville.com](http://www.stpeterwaymansville.com) • Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch)



#### Book of Concord Corner

“I believe in the Holy Spirit...I cannot connect this article (as I have said) to anything better than Sanctification. Through this article the Holy Spirit, with His office, is declared and shown: He makes people holy (1 Corinthians 6:11). Therefore, we must take our stand upon the term *Holy Spirit*, because it is so precise and complete that we cannot find another. For there are many kinds of spirits mentioned in the Holy Scriptures, such as the spirit of man (1 Corinthians 2:11), heavenly spirits (Hebrews 12:23), and evil spirits (Luke 7:21). But God's Spirit alone is called the Holy Spirit, that is, He who has sanctified and still sanctifies us.” (Large Catechism, Part 2, 35-36)



## Review and Summary Worksheet

prepared by a member of the Committee on Constitutional Matters  
of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

**Date prepared:** April 8, 2024

**Reviewer's name:** Rev. Samuel Wirgau

**Reviewer's email and phone:** [samuel.wirgau@gmail.com](mailto:samuel.wirgau@gmail.com) 260-273-7595

**Congregation's name and location:** St. Peter Waymansville (Columbus) IN

### **Edits suggested by reviewer:**

Article VI – Signing the Constitution

### **Revisions suggested by reviewer:**

Article XV-Amending the Constitution

- A. Alteration or repeal of any ~~alterable or repealable~~ articles or sections of this constitution and its bylaws . . .
- B. **Any dispute on** Article III of this constitution and such other articles or sections as pertain to Scriptural doctrine and practice shall be ~~unalterable and irrevocable~~ **brought to the LCMS Indiana District or directly to the LCMS office for resolution.**
- C. **All revisions shall be submitted to the president of the district for review by the district's constitution committee and favorable action by the district's board of directors prior to final adoption by the congregation by a two-thirds affirmative vote.**

### **Additions and subtractions by the congregation:**

Correction of scriptural citation in Preamble from 1 Corinthians 14:40 to 1 Corinthians 1:10

Article V-Communicant Membership – subtraction of “in a divine service and” in both the reception and termination of communicant membership leaving the announcement only in the Voters' Assembly.

Article VIII-Authority of the Congregation

**The Word of God and the symbols of the Church shall have supreme authority and the Voters' Assembly as a body shall have ~~supreme~~ authority and power . . .**

### **Reviewer's recommendations:**

[Recommendations for B.O.D.]

# Soup Supper & Euchre Party

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

11750 W 930 S

Waymansville, Indiana

## Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>

Soup Supper begins at 5:00 PM

Euchre Party begins at 6:00 PM

Soup Supper \$5

Euchre Party \$5



# St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

**February 2025**

**Ushers:** Max Thomas & Allen Acton

**Acolytes:** **February 2** – Abe Acton  
**February 16** – Noah Nye

**February 9** – John Nye  
**February 23** – Abe Acton

**Communion Set-up & Clean-up:**

2/2: Judy Strasser                      2/9: Lynnette May                      2/16 & 23: open

**Parish Hall Cleaning:** open

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Upcoming Events:</i> 3/5: Ash Wednesday						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> <i>Purification of Mary &amp; Presentation of Our Lord</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  5 PM – Soup & Euchre Party	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>6</b> PM – Elders meeting	<b>7</b> PM – Game Night & Fellowship Friday	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <i>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  9 AM-2 PM – Pastor @ Circuit meeting 7 PM – Council meeting	<b>12</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Training day?
<b>16</b> <i>Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study, & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  5 PM – Youth Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Training day?
<b>23</b> <i>Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Bible Study	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	