

ST. PETER'S MESSENGER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Transition News	2
Spiritual Growth	2-3
Mission/Service	3
Little Saints Preschool	4
Easter Egg Hunt Flier	5
Fellowship	7-10
Calendar	9

Our Staff

Rev. Robert Donovan

Pastor
Ph: (847) 464-1608; Cell (773) 719-1485
pastor@stpetersnorthplato.org

Mrs. Barb Hemme

Parish Deaconess
Cell (847) 638-7444
deaconess@stpetersnorthplato.org

Mrs. Kristina Kolodziej,

Director of Little Saints Preschool
Ph: (847) 464-5134
preschool@stpetersnorthplato.org
www.LittleSaintsPreschool.org

Mrs. Paula Matheny

Church Office Administrator
Ph: (847) 464-5721
office@stpetersnorthplato.org

43W301 Plank Road
Hampshire, IL 60140

PH: (847) 464-5721

office@stpetersnorthplato.org
www.stpetersnorthplato.org

Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?

"Without a mission statement, you may get to the top of the ladder and then realize it was leaning against the wrong building."

Dave Ramsey

In Genesis chapter 12 we meet a guy named Abram. This is the first time he appears as part of God's story. While he was going about his business, pretty comfortable from what we know, God intervened and upset his known world. "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you." I can only imagine Abram's first thought. "What? Who's talking to me?" "Why should I listen to you?" Maybe, "What's in it for me?" But all the writer tells us is that Abram went.

These first verses in Genesis are God's mission statement revealed to us. His mission is to "make a great nation through Abram so all the world's people will be blessed." The rest of the story, as Paul Harvey used to say, is seen in the person of Jesus Christ as the Messiah who came from the Hebrews, descendants of Abram. Jesus Christ through His death and resurrection creates a great Kingdom which serves as a blessing to all of humankind. Who could imagine what God's mission would be that far before Jesus' nativity?

This is the nature of good mission statements. They are clear, concise and useful to inform the organization and others of its purpose today. They allow room for the curves and swerves that always flow from the unknown. Yet they provide a direction that keeps the focus on the destination. A good mission statement has a few simple parts.

First, it identifies an action. What it intends to do. God's action was to "Make a great nation." Second, it targets its beneficiaries. In this statement those who benefit are "all

the families of the earth." This two-point approach is the simplest framework. There are other components that may be added for better specificity; services, problems, and causes are some common examples. They may be mixed as needed to form an organization's mission. In this example from Genesis 12 God adds a service to His statement to Abram. That is, "to bless you and make your name great so you will be a blessing."

The Christian church is today's iteration of God's mission. It has rolled on from Abram to Isaac to Jacob, Moses, David, and Jesus before being given to the Apostles and Paul and now us, here at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Hampshire. What does this mission look like in this generation? What does God have in mind for you and your next called Pastor? These are questions we will attempt to answer in the transition time ahead of us.

There are some things to consider at the outset. First, we are looking for God's mission. So, it has to align with His mission as given to Abram.

Second, it will seem uncomfortable. God's vision is bigger than ours, and we need to resist the temptation to not think big enough. Third, we won't know the eventual outcome. A good mission is one that outlasts the current generation. Just as Abram couldn't see Jesus as the future actor for the mission's success, we can't anticipate what God has in mind beyond what He reveals to us today.

The greatest impediment to success is fear. While the writer doesn't tell us, I believe Abram must have been a little anxious about what this voice was telling him to do. What we know is that Abram "went." He didn't talk about liability, or safety. He accepted that God's mission is grander than anything we can imagine. Faith defeats fear. That doesn't mean it will be easy, or without challenges. Perhaps reflect on the text from Sunday about the sacrifice of Isaac. What I learn is that God will have His way with us in the end, so let's walk with Him on the journey to there.

Pastor Donovan

Transition Team

As you continue to pray for St. Peter's, please keep these brothers and sisters in Christ in your prayers as well. They have accepted the responsibility of serving on the Transition Team to assist in the process of preparing for your called Shepherd. The team will report to you quarterly informing you of our projects and progress. My thanks to Pam Neisendorf, Les Herman, Shana Flatland, and Erin Real for accepting this responsibility.

Operational Projects

During the transition it is important to do some housecleaning and organizational work to prepare for the new Shepherd so he can focus on your mission and ministry. Some of the projects we discussed at the council meeting to be worked on during the next months are: Mission/Vision statements, Constitution and By-Law review, Employee Handbook, Operations Policy Manual. Additionally, this is a time to evaluate your business relationships and partners.

The final project we discussed is referred to as "Site Communication Alignment." This is a review with probable adjustments to the facility from Plank Road throughout the building. This group will look at signage, messaging, atmosphere, and mission to align your communication with your purpose. Each team is made up of representatives from various boards and the congregation at large. The specific teams will be announced in the April Messenger and their progress will be reported to the Council who will inform the Congregational Assembly.

Worship Notes

After consultation with the Elders we are returning to the use of Lay readers as part of the worship service. This is an important responsibility that requires a humble heart and the willingness to prepare and be faithful. The opportunity to serve is open to any confirmed member of the Congregation. The lessons will be emailed to the scheduled reader during the week for their preparation. Please see Pastor if you would like more information or to volunteer.

Also, in order to facilitate more fellowship after the service we will forgo the deliberate release of guests in favor of letting people exit at will. Whether you choose to exit immediately or linger for prayer or conversation is up to you. The Elders will evaluate this procedure after Lent. Please take advantage of this time to get a cup of coffee and visit with each other before Bible Study hour at 10:20.

Mission and Vision Notes

The first task of the Transition Team will be to begin work on drafting Mission and Vision Statements. These drafts will be shared with the Council and then the congregation for review and revision and finally Congregational approval. This is the first task because it forms the foundation for many of the projects and work in the months ahead, including creating a profile for calling your new pastor.

Simultaneously, each board and ministry group will be developing an Assumption Worksheet to establish the parameters for development of a Strategic Plan. Each board will follow the process as outlined during their March and April meetings. Then the Council will review and combine a draft to submit to the Assembly, anticipated for the June meeting.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Week is a very special season of the Church year. It is our remembrance of the juncture in time when God's son stepped into the crucible and through His suffering, death and resurrection changed the world forever. To walk with Jesus from His entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, to recline with Him in the upper room, and then weep for Him from the Garden to the Cross is a spiritual journey of great reward. And then to return on the third day and witness the birth of hope and the invitation to eternal life offers a disciple a joy greater than any imaginable. Please plan on making every service your thanksgiving to God's grace and if you love your neighbors invite them to join you to hear the good news of salvation.

Book Recommendation

I know some of you may have heard of or read this already, but I think it is a useful reflection even if you are familiar with it. “Joining Jesus on His Mission,” by Greg Finke is an easy to read and thoughtful book about how each of us can participate in the mission of the church in the context of our daily lives. If you think you cannot be part of Christ’s mission then just ask yourself, “Do I have neighbors?” If the answer is yes, then you are already a missionary.

GriefShare

GriefShare begins Thursday, March 8 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. GriefShare is for anyone suffering from the death of a loved one. There is no cost to attend! Please sign up if you will be joining us. Need more information – there are brochures on the back table. This is for members and non-members. Friends are welcome!

Women’s Book Club

We met on Sunday, February 18th for Tea and Cookies to discuss the book “LadyLike”. The book has small chapters, each one discussing a different stage in a woman’s life. Since the participants were older, we talked about how we had gone through several stages and could identify with each. We then switched the discussion to application. We did some brainstorming as to how we could help encourage women in different stages, especially mothers of children. Our last question for discussion was ” When we look for guidance and comfort, we shouldn’t look to the self-affirmation cloaked in Pinterest-worthy slogans. Many popular maxims are not based in the true promises of God.

—Do you live by Scripture or by inspirational quotes and sayings found on magnets?”

“... His Fleece Was White As Snow!”

On Saturday, March 10th at 2 p.m. and Sunday, March 11th at 10:30 a.m., Country Covenant Ev. Church at the intersection of Route 47 and McDonald Road will present a puppet show where you will see the story of Easter through the eyes of the animals. The event is free and very worthwhile!

MISSION/SERVICE

Loose Change For Lent

The Sunday School’s “LOOSE CHANGE FOR LENT” mission project is underway. Thank you to everyone who is saving their change throughout the Lenten season for the ongoing work of LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF in their efforts to provide clean drinking water and irrigation sources to the poorest communities in the world. You can return your banks on Easter Sunday. Thank You!

Save The Date For Our VBS 2018

We are beginning to plan for our VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL for this year! We have chosen the dates of June 25-28 (Monday – Thursday) from 9 to 11:45 a.m. daily. Start to spread the word to friends, family and neighbors. More information to come!

Easter Egg Hunt Help Needed

Please help make this years Easter Egg Hunt a success by doing one or more of the following.

- Donate wrapped candy, a basket is in the narthex for this purpose or donate money so we can purchase candy. Cash can be given to any one of the Outreach Committee members, Lisa Wick, Nancy Heine, Beth Jack or George Wine.
- Sign up to help in this event by placing your name on one of the sheets provided in the narthex. It is important that you sign up if you intend to help so we know how many people we can count on.
- Tell all your friends, neighbors and family about this event and invite them to come.
- Pray for this year’s event to be a success in drawing people to Christ.

LITTLE SAINTS PRESCHOOL

News

February was a very busy month for our preschoolers. We have been enjoying this “spring” weather in the middle of winter! Our preschoolers were able to celebrate Valentine’s Day by passing out Valentine’s to their friends. Our three/four year olds were able to invite their grandparent’s to school for Grandparent’s Day. Along with all of that we continue to learn and grow!

March will be a whirlwind month. The Pre K class will have the Traveling Animal Program come to the school with a demonstration about different animals. We will talk about the crazy weather that March brings (without snow, I hope!), as well as wind, St. Patrick’s Day, rainbows and science activities. Our Pre K children will invite their Dad’s to preschool this month as well. We will be closed from March 26-30 for spring break.

Our Family Fun Night was a huge success despite the weather and school closing. Thank you to all that helped by donating time and supplies. There were many smiles and laughter that night and that was due to all the love and hard work everyone put in! Thank you all again!

I am happy to report that enrollment is open and that registration is underway. We do have openings in our Tuesday/Thursday and Pre K class, so please pass the news along. We are always open for a tour or available for questions. Our preschool is doing wonderful things and we should be proud that the preschool is here!

Kristina Kolodziej

FELLOWSHIP

Sunday School: Meet Our Children

We want to introduce you to a few more of our Sunday School children here at St. Peter’s

PAYTON VOSBURG

Payton is 8 years old with blonde hair and green eyes. Payton has 1 brother and 1 sister who you will read about below. His favorite class in school is art and one of the things he likes best about church is donut Sunday!! If Payton met someone who did not know Jesus, he would say that our Savior died and now lives in heaven. Payton loves the color blue, cheeseburgers, hamsters, hiking with the cub scouts and The “No” Song! Captain Underpants is his favorite book and Minecraft and Happy Feet are his favorite game and movie! Thanks, Payton

JACKSON VOSBURG

Jackson is 6 years old with brown hair and eyes. He has an older brother Payton and younger sister Grayson. His favorite part of the school day is recess and he likes the sport of wrestling. His favorite color is green, eating pizza is the best, and penguins are his favorite animal. His favorite song is “I Love You”, but only when his Gigi sings it! A favorite movie is Happy Feet, and he likes to read the book Dog Man and Family Bingo is a special game he enjoys. If he met someone who did not know Jesus, he would tell them that Jesus was baptized. Jackson enjoys the fellowship and good food at donut Sunday here at church!

GRAYSON VOSBURG

Grayson is 3 years old with blonde hair and blue eyes. She has two brothers (see above). She likes to paint and enjoys donut Sunday with her family. Her favorite color is pink and McDonald’s is her favorite food. She loves her dogs and likes to practice ballet dancing. She has a favorite movie and that is “Luna Petunia”! Thanks for telling us about you... Grayson!

Community Easter Egg Hunt



**Have your child's picture taken with the
Easter Bunny**

**This FREE event will be on March 31
from 10:00 am to Noon (the egg hunt is at 11 am)**

Location:

**Saint Peter's Lutheran Church
43W301 Plank Road (1/4 mile east of Rt. 47)
Hampshire, IL
224-402-1971 www.stpetersnorthplato.org**

Games – Snacks – Crafts

Bring your children, grandchildren, family, friends and neighbors.

It is recommended that you do not have your child wear anything green.



*Birthdays
of the
Month*

Alex Collins—3/1
Jennifer Flatland—3/2
Kyle DeTamble—3/8
Lenore VonKaenel—3/8
Michael Hemme Jr.—3/10
Alyssa DeTamble—3/12
Kara McDaniel—3/12
Casey Flatland—3/13
Judy Herman—3/17
Linda Wesemann—3/17
Michael Wright—3/21
Samantha Wright—3/21
Ray Brammer—3/23
Fred Hecker—3/24
Virginia Schuring—3/24
Caleb Castaneda—3/27
Audrey Henk—3/28
Alvina Eineke—3/31
Caleb Stoner—3/31

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please fill out an information sheet located in the office.

Please, take some time to remember our church members and their families who are either one of our shut-ins or temporarily homebound. Send a card or note to let them know they are in your thoughts and prayers, just to let them know we are thinking of them.

Alta Dittman
501 Stevens Court
Sleepy Hollow, IL 60118

Dr. Joy Sunderlage
787 Abbey Mist Court
Elgin, IL 60124

Eleanor Miller
11N171 Muirhead Rd.
Elgin, IL 60124

Meta Meyer
The Sheridan at Tyler Creek
508 N McLean Blvd., Apt. 226
Elgin, IL 60123

Fern Warfel
Tower Hill Health Center
759 Kane Street
South Elgin, IL 60177

Dean Roby
Florence Nursing Home
546 E. Grant Hwy
Marengo, IL 60152

Mabel Maas
9N636 State Rt 47
Elgin, IL 60124

Miss Mary Jane Lindaas
310 Kishwaukee Dr.
Sycamore, IL 60178

Betty Roush
c/o Gary Roush
12n535 Bahr Rd
Hampshire, IL 60140

Audrey Brooks
Autumn Leaves
495 Alexandra Blvd. Rm 117
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



March 4

Elder: Bob Felbinger, Paul Tegtmeier
Ushers: Judy Herman, Fern Petersen, Jane Tegtman
Organist: Shana Flatland
Acolyte/Usher: n/a
A-V Operator: George Wine
Greeters: Darlene and Paul Tegtmeier

March 7 (Wednesday—Lenten Service)

Elder: Bob Felbinger
Organist: Darlene Tegtmeier

March 11 (Communion)

Elder: Jeff Pergande, Dennis Sunderlage
Ushers: Les Herman, Chuck Petersen
Organist: Doug Fry
Acolyte/Usher: Sydney Razo
A-V Operator: George Wine
Greeters: Shana Flatland and Family

March 14 (Wednesday—Lenten Service)

Elder: Paul Tegtmeier
Organist: Doug Fry

March 18

Elder: Paul Tegtmeier
Ushers: Michael Hemme, Jr., Dan Petersen, Matt Petersen
Organist: Darlene Tegtmeier
Acolyte/Usher: Hailey Lima
A-V Operator: Bob Warfel
Greeters: Dolores Schuring and Ken Bartels

March 21 (Wednesday—Lenten Service)

Elder: Paul Tegtmeier
Organist: Darlene Tegtmeier

March 25 (Communion)

Elder: Bob Felbinger, Paul Tegtmeier
Ushers: Jim Butt, Fred Rackow
Organist: Shana Flatland
Acolyte/Usher: Aric Beaman
A-V Operator: Bob Warfel
Greeters: Judy and Les Herman

March 29 (Holy Thursday 7:00 pm)

Elder: Bob Felbinger, Jeff Pergande
Ushers: Mike Hemme, John Hulke
Organist: Doug Fry

March 30 (Good Friday 7:00 pm)

Elder: Dennis Sunderlage
Organist: Shana Flatland
Acolyte/Usher: Aidan Buttrum

Serving Altar Guild this month: Nancy Miller

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9 am Worship Pastor Donovan Installation Donut Fellowship 10:20 am Sunday School/Bible Study	5 7 pm Choir	6 6:30 pm Dartball @ Belvidere 6:30 pm Elder's Mtg.	7 11:45 am Chapel 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Lenten Supper 7 pm Lenten Service	8 11:15 am Chapel	9 7 pm Small Group Bi- ble Study	10
11 9 am Worship/ Communion 10:20 am Sunday School/Bible Study	12	13 7 pm Congregational Assembly	14 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Lenten Supper 7 pm Lenten Service	15 1 pm Senior Card Club 6:30 pm Preschool	16	17 7:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast
18 9 am Worship 10:20 am Sunday School/Bible Study Dartball Tournament @ DeKalb	19 8:30—10:00 am Food Pantry Distribution 7 pm Choir	20	21 11:45 am Chapel 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Lenten Supper 7 pm Lenten Service	22 11:15 am Chapel	23 7 pm Small Group Bi- ble Study	24 11 am—12:30 pm Food Pantry Dist.
25 9 am Worship/ Communion 10:20 am Sunday School/Bible Study	26 No Preschool 7 pm Choir	27 No Preschool	28 No Preschool	29 No Preschool 10 am Messenger Deadline 7 pm Maudy Thursday Svc.	30 No Preschool 6 pm and after church Set up for Easter Egg Hunt 7 pm Good Friday Svc.	31 10 am—12 pm Easter Egg Hunt 12 pm Youth Group Easter Breakfast Prep
				1 12:30 pm Ladies Aid	2 No Preschool	3

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
43W301 Plank Rd
Hampshire, IL 60140-7901

Phone: 847-464-5721
E-mail: office@stpetersnorthplato.org
Website: www.stpetersnorthplato.org



*Drawing all people to the Lord Jesus Christ
through worship, education, fellowship, service,
and personal witness!*