

ST PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
(FUELLING)
DECATUR, INDIANA

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The mission of St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church is to:
Teach the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to all;
Reach the lost with the same Word by the witness of our words and actions;
Care for all in need as we live in Christ's love through the same Word.

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

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, often times we forget these words of Jesus. We labor and toil in our various vocations, working excessive hours. When we come home and should be spending times with our families, we are still thinking about work. It permeates everything that we do. But Christ reminds us in this passage that we should indeed come to Him. He gives us the rest that we need. Luther explains in his explanation to the second commandment that our we need to keep the sabbath for our own bodily need. “Nature teaches and demands that the common people – man-servants and maid servants who have attended to their work and trades the whole week long–should retire for a day to rest and to be refreshed. Secondly and most especially, we keep holy days so that people may have time and opportunity, which otherwise would not be available, to participate in public worship, that is, that they may assemble to hear God’s Word and then praise God with song and prayer.” (LC I, 83) In the Sabbath rest, we are reminded that Christ also kept his Sabbath rest in the tomb, rising not on Saturday, but Sunday.

As we continue to trudge through this winter months, looking toward spring and the work which follows, remember these words of Christ. Remember the Sabbath day, come to church, receive His gifts which are for you. I can think of no better Sabbath rest than spending it with my brothers and sisters in Christ, partaking of the gifts Christ freely gives!

Thank you to all who helped make this holiday season special. Thank you to the Christmas committee, the teachers who helped to put the program together at school, and the choir for their wonderful pieces on Christmas. Thank you to everyone who made this Christmas special for Casey and I. We feel very loved here at St. Peter and our hearts are very full. We continue to rejoice that St. Peter was my call from seminary. I look forward to spending many more Christmases here. Thank you all so much. Casey and I love you all very much.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is Friday, February 22nd. Thanks!

THE 2018 ANNUAL REPORT has been printed and is available in the Narthex.

THANK YOU ALL for your Christmas greetings. I certainly appreciated and enjoyed them.

-Charles Crosby

THANK YOU for the Christmas cards. May God bless you all and have a blessed New Year.

-Marie Wietfeldt

LBI: Make it your New Year's resolution to come and learn at the 50th annual Decatur Lutheran Bible Institute (LBI). Classes meet at Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School, just north of Decatur on Highway 27. Students and adults can choose from four stimulating courses "Praying the Psalms", "Jesus in the Old Testament", "Leading as People of God", and "A Study of the book of Hebrews." LBI classes meet on Tuesday nights February 6-26. For more information, contact your LBI congregational representative, Duane Franz.

SPI SQUARE DANCE FUNDRAISER UPDATE: Thank you to the teachers who helped and participated, the musicians and bartenders who donated their time, and all who came to support SPI at the fundraiser in December. We had an amazing turnout that helped us reach a profit of \$1,610.00 which has gone into the aSPiRe Fund for SPI where the funds are matched by the Lutheran Foundation.

SCRIP REMINDER: This is a reminder to everyone that uses the Kroger Plus card to support SPI....You need to RE-ENROLL yearly for the rewards to continue for SPI. Make sure you do it before your previous date in order or the rewards to continue uninterrupted. Thank You for supporting St. Peter Immanuel Lutheran School.

LWML CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2019

March 23, 2019 Prayer Service – Zion Lutheran Church - Decatur
In-Gathering for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

March 29-30, 2019 INDIANA DISTRICT LWML RETREAT
"Sisters in Christ – Chosen to Care" Colossians 3:12
Retreat Speaker: Katie Schuermann
CRG Event Center, Plainfield, Indiana

April 7, 2019 LLL/LWML Spring Rally – Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church – Soest

June 20 – 23, 2019 38th Biennial National LWML Convention, Mobile, Alabama

September 8, 2019 LWML SRD Workshop – New Hope Lutheran Church – Ossian

October 13, 2019 LLL/LWML Fall Rally – Peace Lutheran Church – Berne

St. Peter Events in the Past

50 Years Ago - Rev Roger D Eden

No events during February 1969

100 Years Ago - Pastor Louis W Dornseif

Burial 2-27-1919

Wilhelmine Christianer
Died 2-24-1919

Age: 45y 1m 9d
Text: 1 Peter 1 v 3-5

Mrs. William Christianer
Mrs. Minnie Christianer, wife of William Christianer, a life-long resident of Root township, died this morning at 4:30 o'clock, following an illness of a year or more of cancer. She was forty-five years of age last January 15.
Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wietfeldt, of Root township, besides the husband and the following children, are living: Mrs. Sophia Zelt, Ft. Wayne; Ida, Clara, Rosa, Oscar and Lydia, at home. There are also the brothers and sisters, as follow: Fred and Otto Wietfeldt, Adams county; Mrs. Louisa Zwick, Staplehurst, Neb.; William Wietfeldt, Midland, Mich.; Henry Wietfeldt, Allen county; Mrs. Amelia Witte, Fort Wayne; Mrs. Emma Knipstine, Fort Wayne.
The funeral will be Thursday morning at ten o'clock, standard time, from the home, and then from the St. Peter's Lutheran church, Root township, with burial in the church cemetery. Rev. Dornseif will officiate.

150 Years Ago - Pastor J Andreas Fritze

Burial 2-10-1869

Maria Elisabetha Tönsing
Died 2-8-1869

(nee Ehlert, born 7-5-1795 in Germany, widow of J Heinrich Tönsing)

Burial 2-16-1869

Heinrich Wilhelm Heuer
Died 2-14-1869

(H Wilhelm Heuer, born 3-17-1846 in Germany)

Baptism 2-28-1869

Ludwig Gerke
Born 1-17-1869

(Louis Gerke died 3-19-1869)

Father: D F Wilhelm Gerke
Mother: Louise W C nee Jansen

Submitted by Allen Franz

Eldora

On the first snowy afternoon of the new year, Eldora shared with me the story of how she came to be a member of St. Peter Lutheran Church. She was born Eldora Ewell on August 25, 1932, to Theodore and Clara (Macke) Ewell. She was the fourth of six children in that family of four daughters and two sons. Her younger sister passed away at the age of five due to scarlet fever that infected many families in this area.

Eldora grew up near St. Paul, Preble, where she was baptized, attended grade school, and was confirmed. There were six in her grade school class. Eldora and her siblings walked to school, but if the weather was bad, parents would take turns picking up children and taking them to school. The first four years of grade school were taught in German. Both school and church services changed to English after that. (Eldora said that she and her husband, Delbert, would speak German to each other at Christmas time, so that the kids didn't understand what they were talking about. Then Delbert's father taught the kids a little German, so she and Delbert couldn't use that anymore.)

Eldora's father farmed and her mother raised a big garden. All of the children helped with the livestock, farming, cleaning, gardening, and meals. Eldora drove tractor (she thinks it was an old gray Ford) for the hay baler and worked in the haymow. She also helped with the garden and the cleaning.

Eldora attended Monmouth High School where she played on the Monmouth Girls' Basketball team. She developed close friendships with several classmates and interestingly, they got together two or three times per year, every year since graduation, until 2018 when health problems limited their ability to do so. Eldora graduated as the Salutatorian of the Monmouth High School class of 1951.

It wasn't all academics and basketball for Eldora at Monmouth, though. During her freshman year she met a good looking senior named Delbert Fuelling. After he graduated, he began working at Dana, and would stop by Eldora's family home after work. Her parents liked him, so they said it was OK if he came by. Delbert and Eldora started dating her senior year, and became engaged on her graduation day. By that time, Delbert was drafted into the Army and left the day after Eldora's graduation. For much of his two years in the military, he was stationed in Japan. And after graduation, Eldora went to work at Lincoln Life in Ft. Wayne, where she accepted a clerical position.

Delbert returned in April of 1953, and they were married May 24, 1953 at St. Paul's, Preble. Their reception was at Rietdorf's, which was more recently known as The Hayloft and the Mudslingers provided the music for the square dance. Delbert and Eldora honeymooned in the Blue Ridge Mountains. They started their marriage in an apartment in Ft. Wayne, but after

six weeks, Delbert said he couldn't stand city life, and they moved in with his parents for a few months until they rented an apartment in Decatur.

Dana held Delbert's job for him during his stint in the military. He continued to work for Dana and when he got laid off, Eldora would return to work at Lincoln Life. Their marriage produced 4 children: Beth, Terry, Cindy, and Lori. Eldora now has 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren, with the third due in July.

Eldora and Delbert built their home on 1100 N in 1965. They raised their family there, continued gardening and canning, and participated in church activities. Eldora was a member of St. Peter's choir for 50 years, which she enjoyed very much. She helped Woodcrest residents attend the Lutheran chapel services on Thursdays, and currently assists St. Peter's bereavement committee with funeral lunches.

Eldora travelled with Delbert after the kids were grown, where they loved the bus trips organized by Brenneman Travel. They also went to the Canadian Rockies, Alaska, and Hawaii. Just three years ago, she went to Maine with a friend and tried zip-lining, which she thought was lots of fun. If she had the opportunity, she would like to return to Alaska, or perhaps travel to Germany.

I asked if she had a favorite hymn, and Eldora said that she loves "How Great Thou Art". Thanks to Eldora for sharing her story with the members of St. Peter congregation, and thanks for all that you have done in service to the Lord.

-----**Kris Bischoff**



God's Blessings to Those Celebrating in February

February Birthdays

1 Heather Franz	16 Oaklynn Mitchel
2 William Werling	17 LaVerne Boerger
3 Duane Franz	17 Patty Sheneman
4 Sharon Busick Howell	20 Melinda Lehrman
4 Jonathon Fuelling	22 Karah Myers
4 Victoria Hammond	23 Nicholas Howard
4 Kristin Bixler	23 Karen Matthews
7 Loretta Franz	23 Kellie Fuelling
8 Rod Busick	24 Keith Howard
10 Fred D. Fuelling	24 Jared Light
10 Rebeca L. Fuelling	25 Teresa Cochran
10 Kyle Scherer	25 Brad Fuelling
13 Judy Moehring	25 David Linker
14 Sandra K. Franz	25 Joe Fuelling
14 Suzy Fuelling	27 Eric Fuelling
16 Jane Linker	27 Emmit Gresley

February Anniversaries

February 23, 1962

Bill & Susie Carpenter

February 24, 1973

Jerry & Sandy Fuelling

February 2019

Altar Guild— James and Katy Beadle

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					19:00am Special Person's Day at SPI	2
3 9:00am Divine Service of Holy Communion (Bible/SunSchool)	4	5 7:00pm LBI at Wyneken Lutheran School	6 8:00am SPI Chapel Service 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Confirmation Class	7 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 Pastors' Study Group, at Bingen 11:00am Adams Heritage Service	8	9
10 9:00am Divine Service (Bible Study) **SPI Students Sing at Immanuel**	11	12 7:00pm Elders Meet 7:00pm LBI at Wyneken Lutheran School	13 8:00am SPI Chapel Service 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Confirmation Class	14 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 Pastors' Study Group, at Bingen 1:30pm Woodcrest Service	15 NO SCHOOL SPI- TEACHER INSERVICE	16
17 9:00am Divine Service of Holy Communion (Bible/SunSchool)	18 NO SCHOOL, SPI- MAKEUP DAY IF NEEDED	19 7:00pm LBI at Wyneken Lutheran School	20 8:00am SPI Chapel Service 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Confirmation Class	21 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 Pastors' Study Group, at Bingen	22 MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23
24 9:00am Divine Service (Bible Study/ Sunday School)	25	26 7:00pm LBI at Wyneken Lutheran School	27 8:00am SPI Chapel Service 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Confirmation Class	28 9:00 am Quilting 9:30 Pastors' Study Group, at Bingen		