



From the desk of **PASTOR HAYS**



Greetings in the name of our Triune God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

I pray that you are having a great start to your summer. I can tell you that one word defines my summer. "Busy!" My family reviewed the calendar for the months of June and July and noted that there is hardly a time when we are not on the move. We are just thankful that we are blessed with good enough health to be on the move. God is good!

Things are moving at St. Peter as well. In our last Voters Meeting I noted that this is a season of the good, the bad, and the ugly. In short, the bad and the ugly center around our financial position. Our offerings met their goal for the past year, but fixed expenses just keep going up. While it isn't pretty, it is not a place that we have never navigated. Between some informed adjustments and God's grace, we will be in the black again. God is good!

Pastor Matt & Principal Messina shared so much of the good that has been happening at St. Peter. You can read what they have to share in the coming pages.

One highlight for me is the number of baptisms we had this past academic year of students in our school. Some were even baptized at a school chapel. God is good!

Finally, our work in the FiveTwo strategic planning process continues. While you may not see much happening on a regular basis, I can promise you that much work is happening behind the scenes. The surveys are in and FiveTwo leaders are consolidating the results for us. Our steering team is engaged in homework to prepare for the next part of our work. By this fall you will see a refined vision and initial movement in reaching our goals. I will have a sermon series that will unfold all of what God is laying out for us as we live out our mission of Loving People, Serving the World. God is good!

I think the beauty of all of this busyness is not being busy for the sake of being busy. We are working feverishly to advance the ministry that God has placed right in our laps. I am always reminded that God creates the waves. We just have to ride them. Jump on board and you will see that "God is good!"

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Jerry Hays



From the desk of
PASTOR MATT



Dear St. Peter Family;

I'm continually inspired by how the Gospel shines through you. St. Peter is truly a family of believers that loves people, and serves the world. But, how we love and serve is not limited to the ideas or imagination of the pastors! You, the members of St. Peter, are what makes this place special. You are all a part of what makes St. Peter, St. Peter!

As we go through our strategic planning process with FiveTwo Ministries, there will be many opportunities for the members of St. Peter to share their ideas about how best to serve the community around us. Maybe you have some ideas on what it might look like to love people and serve the world. So, in the coming months... I want you to ask yourself this question:

How is God calling me to love and serve in this season of my life?

Think about it. PRAY about it. And definitely come talk to me about it! I would love to equip you and help you to love people and serve the world each and every day.

May God bless and keep you this summer!

Matt Dubensky
Pastor of Discipleship & Outreach



From the desk of
PRINCIPAL MESSINNA



It's hard to believe that the school year has come to an end. This year was filled with many activities, including cross-country, volleyball, basketball for both girls and boys, band, choirs, the Knowledge Bowl, the Spelling Bee, the Lego Club, FriYay events, Garden Club, and Girl Scouts, among others. Thank you to everyone who participated in and volunteered to lead these activities and programs.

Volunteers are essential to the success of our events. In the upcoming 2025-2026 school year, the PTL will be hosting our bi-annual Gala. Additionally, Septemberfest parking will take place this year, so please look for the sign-up in the narthex and in Church Ties. There are numerous ways to volunteer and support St. Peter, so keep an eye out for these opportunities.

Cindy Oleson retired at the end of this school year after 36 years of service to St. Peter and 38 years in dedicated Lutheran education. She will certainly be missed, but we appreciate everything she has done for our community. You may still see Cindy substituting in a classroom next year.

We will be adding a new preschool classroom for the 2025-2026 school year, and Diana Canjura will be the teacher for this



From the desk of **PRINCIPAL MESSINNA**

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new class. She will be receiving her first call to St. Peter. We are excited to welcome Diana and her family; please greet them when you see them at church or school.

Lori Clayton will be filling the second-grade opening. Lori and her family are moving to our area from Mascoutah, IL. Lori's husband, Kirk, is a professor at Concordia University. Please welcome Lori, Kirk, and their family to St. Peter!

Let your friends and family know there is still seats available in our classrooms!

Julie Messina
School Principal

From the desk of **MICHAEL PAULSEN**



Children's Ministry

Wow! What a crazy couple of months it's been. Last week was our big summer event, Vacation Bible School. We welcomed over 250+ kids to the St. Peter Campus to participate in games, crafts, and learn more about our Savior Jesus. We are so thankful for the many many volunteers that took their time to make our True North VBS possible. Whatever circumstance you are going through TRUST IN JESUS!

Vacation Bible School may be over, but Sunday School is in full swing over the summer. In a couple of weeks we will be hosting our huge SPLASH EVENT in the field full of water inflatables, water balloons, and

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massive water Slip N Slide.

Stay tuned because at the start of next school year we will have some exciting new events forming, excitement for the children, teens, and parents alike.

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry has been busy busy busy. At the beginning of the summer we had our Youth Grillout, went to a Boomers game in early June, Main Event for our SWAG, group Top Golf and this week we're heading to Cedar Point.

In just a couple of weeks on July 18th we will be joining 19,000 youth and volunteers in New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering. This is going to be such an amazing event for all of us to grow, worship, and serve our amazing Savior.

There are plenty of other activities planned in July in August, including a Jr. High Lock-In, mini-golf, swimming, and our HUGE SPLASH EVENT in the first week of August. If you can't join us for the fun events, you can always join us every Sunday 4:30 to 6:30pm for Jr. High Youth & 6:30 to 8:30pm for Sr. High Youth Group. Thanks to everyone who has supported our ministries so far. We cannot wait to see what God has in store for us in the future.

Michael Paulsen
Director of Youth and Family Life

From the desk of
JULIE SAWUSCH

As I look back on the past year, I would like to thank everyone who helped make the Music Ministry here at St. Peter so wonderful. We gained several new members to help lead worship especially during Holy Week.

We are taking some well-earned time off over the summer to rejuvenate and relax (plus a lot of planning).

Mark your calendars – the next session of the Traditional Vocal Choir will begin September 4th. This choir is open to anyone high school age and up – no experience required. We meet Thursdays from 7:15-8:00pm in the Music Rehearsal Room off the balcony. We sing approximately once a month and at various festival services during the year.

Have you always wondered, “How do you ring a handbell?” I’ll have an answer for you. There will be a 4-week beginning handbell class starting August 28th from 6:30-7:15 in the Music Rehearsal Room/Balcony.

Absolutely no experience is required – just a willingness to learn. Watch for more information in August.

Our handbell choir will begin October 2nd from 6:30-7:15pm in the Balcony. Anyone high school age and up is welcome.

For more information, please contact me at jsawusch@stpeterlcms.org or give me a call at 847-885-3350 ext. 215.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!
Julie Sawusch
Traditional Music Director



From the desk of
RICK BERSANO

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Summer is upon us and for many it means taking a break from work, projects, etc. Maybe it is restful time at a cabin on a lake or a staycation around the Chicago area or an overseas trip to a destination you have had on your must do list. God did not make His creation to work 24-7. He knows we need to recharge ourselves.

This does not mean taking a break from glorifying God through our preaching, teaching and living our daily lives. We must talk about our faith, with friends and strangers, whenever the opportunity presents itself and show our faith by how we treat others. (I was on the phone, earlier this month, with a tech from Intuit. While waiting for a process to be completed, she asked me what is Lutheranism?)

God used me to be able to share my faith with a total stranger).

As we come to the end of fiscal year, your giving and volunteering shows by the use of your time, talents and treasures. At this moment (June 21) we are close to reaching our giving goals for the 24-25 fiscal year. As we enter the new fiscal year, and proceed working through the 5/2 process, let's continue the race our Lord has set before us using our time, talents and treasures. With God's grace we will continue to achieve His purpose at St Peter.

Your servant in Christ

Rick Bersano

Council President
GREG FREY



Here are some updates from the Mission and Ministry Council :

- The Council enjoyed meeting FiveTwo, our new ministry partner, in the first quarter of this calendar year. After we talked with the Pastor of Trinity Lisle, who partnered with FiveTwo to help them with visioning and 3-5 year planning, we knew they would be a good partner with St. Peter. We're looking forward to discovering new ways we could love people and serve the world, as part of St. Peter's refreshed vision, that comes out of this FiveTwo engagement!
- We are grateful for Rick Bersano, St. Peter's finance manager, that he was able to join the Council at our May meeting to review the proposed FY26 budget . It is Councils job to approve the budget, and after our Q and A with Rick, Council agreed to approve the budget in that May meeting, so Pastor Hays could present it during our June voters meeting. Sure, the Council and Pastor, are concerned that we've seen a deficit over the last few years but we are confident God will provide for St. Peter Ministries, through the generosity of His people (YOU) and through His providence!
- We are having our next meeting on June 24th, a bit later than usual, due to the Belize mission trip. During our June meeting and August meeting, we will review governance policies, and how we are tracking to our goals (i.e. Desired Outcomes) for this year. We keep these desired outcomes recorded in our Council Policies document, which we update on an annual basis. We do not meet in July.

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- We will review the revised budget in September, when we have a final picture of what enrollment will look like for the new school year.

We are blessed to be part of St. Peter's long history of ministry in the Schaumburg community, and to have St. Peter as our church (and school) home. It's where we come to be strengthened by God's Word and Sacraments, and where we want our friends, and neighbors to be!

Blessings In Christ,

Greg Frey
President of the St. Peter Mission and Ministry Council

Young at Heart
UPDATE FROM GERIE KAY

Young at Heart Activities January to June 2025

January- We discussed the recent donations we sent to: Lutheran Hour Ministries 2025 Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, Wreathes across America, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod for North Carolina Hurricane aid for disaster relief. Concordia Seminary, St. Louis -a memorial donation in honor of Pastor Richter.

February- Catlin Winson representing the Schaumburg Barn explained the new Digital System and helped individuals to sign up and get their Key Tags. Pastor Matt explained the SHINE program to us. We decided to participate by collecting blankets, sheets, etc. For local animal shelters.

Young at Heart Continued...

March—Marina Lovich and her staff (Including Nurse Kathy) from the Barn joined us with updates and brought us a hot lunch. We played traditional Barn Bingo.

April—We had a sharing activity. “Pets we have loved and known” a senior Show and Tell with pictures and antidotes . These sharing sessions get us to know each other better.

May—We had our traditional Pizza Lunch with the St. Peter 8th Grade Graduates. This is our chance to learn about them and to wish them well. Y@H attempts to keep in touch with the school, other activities in our community with events of the church. We enjoy conversation with each other and fun things that we do. Some things are on site (in the Fellowship Hall) and some are off site.

Our current off site activities include : The Village Flag Day Event June 12, *The Boomers Ball Game (evening game with fireworks) July 11, *Hello Dolly at Overshadowed Theater in Medina August 2, *Lake Geneva boat ride tour on the Grand Belle with a plated lunch on board. Bus transportation from St. Peter to Geneva and back.

* Tickets are still available. You are welcome to join us. Interested? Contact the church office.



Update on **BELIZE**

In June 2025, St. Peter sent 4 church members to join the Belize Mission Society in Seine Bight Belize for a weeklong mission trip. Our main focus was to serve the village of Seine Bight which is primarily a Garifuna community. We worked diligently to construct an addition onto a local family's home, several team members worked in the school, we facilitated men's and women's ministry, and we conducted over 80 home visits, delivering basic medical care to residents, addressing immediate health needs, and offering compassion in the name of Jesus. Seine Bight is a coastal village in Southeast Belize with a population of roughly 1,100 people. Thank you for your support which makes mission trips like these possible. I am looking forward to serving in Belize again, and if you are interested in how to support the Belize Mission Society, or if you are interested in being part of a mission team in the future, please let me know!

Update on **POLAND**

We're one month away from 2025 trip to Poland. We've successfully completed three fundraising events: Fat Tuesday Donut Sale, Lenten Soup Supper, and Polski Grill. We will be purchasing VBS supplies and taking them to Poland, we're also planning to make purchases there, to save on shipping. If you'd like to receive more information about our efforts or donate, please reach out to Maciek at maciej@kielbasinski.net or 224-388-0610.