



St. Peter's Press

Volume 42

Number 3

March 2023



“Open My Life, Lord”

During this season of Lent (40 days beginning with Ash Wednesday worship), our theme will be **“Open My Life, Lord”**. As you journey through Lent this year, I encourage you to be open to how God is at work in your life. How might God be opening your eyes to see the world as Jesus does? How might God be opening your hands to serve others? How might God be opening your ears to listen to others and to hear new perspectives? How might God be opening your heart to deeper love for God and others? How might God be opening your life to Christ- living in you and shining through your life?

During Sunday morning worship, we will hear stories of people's lives being changed as they encounter Jesus Christ. We will hear the story of Nicodemus, the woman from Samaria, the healing of the man born blind, and the raising of Lazarus. Jesus reaches out to those within the religious organization and those who were outcast. Jesus brings healing and words of salvation. These are moving and powerful stories of lives being opened and changed when encountering Jesus. They are stories of redemption, revelation, and conversion. Jesus still reaches out, meets us, and brings about transformation and faith. As we hear these stories, we are reminded of our own encounters with Jesus - our own stories of encountering God.

During our Wednesday evenings together, we will hear faith stories from different members of the congregation. Each week, there will be a different sensory emphasis of how we encounter God in life; eyes, hands, ears, heart, life. Members will share a message on one of the topics; encountering God through eyes, hands, ears, heart, life. Our theme, “Open My Life, Lord” will be interpreted through the lens of the new mission statement for the La Crosse Area Synod; “Cultivating Life-Giving Relationships, Rooted in God’s Love”.

I invite you to join us for Lenten Mid-Week Worship with Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays in March at 6:30 p.m. Each week we will share a meal together from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. and then gather for worship at 6:30 p.m. It will be so wonderful to join together for food and fellowship and worship each Wednesday during Lent.

Peace be with you all friends.
Your sister in Christ, Pastor Miranda

“Your Gifts Are Our Treasures”

We are inviting each person to complete a Volunteer Response Form. If you haven't had a chance to look through our Volunteer Opportunities Catalog (Time and Talent 2023) and fill out a response form, we invite you to do so, so that we can begin to connect people with fun and meaningful ways of serving. Information is available on the usher table at church and on our website: stpeterpdc.org.

Lutheran World Relief in Turkey

Lutheran World Relief is working with their trusted local partners to reach children, women and men in desperate need. Your gift to Lutheran World Relief's emergency response fund will deliver urgently needed support and care, like: Food, water and other critically needed items; Temporary shelter; Medicine and supplies for clinics. HOW TO GIVE You can give directly through Lutheran World Relief at www.lwr.org/quake. Gifts can also be made through our congregation: write “QUAKE” in the memo line and we will rush a check from the church to Lutheran World Relief.

WORSHIP in MARCH

Saturdays: Worship with Communion at 5:15 p.m.

Sundays: Worship with Communion at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship is also broadcast on the Radio and Facebook

Join us at 104.3 FM AND 980 AM and through Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpeterpdc/>

Bulletins will be available on our website (www.stpeterpdc.org). The worship service is also recorded and posted to Facebook, so that you can worship with us later in the week.

Weekend Worship

March 4th and 5th: Second Sunday in Lent

- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship time with coffee and treats
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Bible Study for youth and adults.

March 11th and 12th: Third Sunday in Lent Contemporary Worship

- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship time with coffee and treats
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Bible Study for youth and adults.

March 18th and 19th: Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship time with coffee and treats
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Bible Study for youth and adults.
- 6:30 p.m. Worship Service at the Prison

March 25th and 26th: Fifth Sunday in Lent

- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship time with coffee and treats
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Bible Study for youth and adults.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Lenten Devotions and Calendars are available, in the back of the sanctuary. Please, take one to guide you in your daily Lenten practice at home. The weekly Bible Study booklet and daily practice calendar were developed by the ELCA World Hunger task force.

Wednesdays in Lent

- March 1** Meal from 5:00-6:00 pm: Hosted by the Women of the ELCA
Holden Evening Prayer @ 6:30 pm – Faith Talk by Nancy Stuart
“Open My Eyes, Lord”
- March 8** Meal from 5:00-6:00 pm: Hosted by the Men of the Congregation
Holden Evening Prayer @ 6:30 pm – Faith Talk by Kurt Jorgensen
“Open My Hands, Lord”
- March 15** Meal from 5:00-6:00 pm: Hosted by the Church Council
Holden Evening Prayer @ 6:30 pm – Faith Talk by Mike McCoy
“Open My Heart, Lord”
- March 22** Meal from 5:00-6:00 pm: Hosted by the Church Choir
Holden Evening Prayer @ 6:30 pm – Faith Talk by Kelly Gochenaur
“Open My Ears, Lord”
- March 29** Meal from 5:00-6:00 pm: Hosted by the High School Youth and Koeller/Breuer Family
Free Will Offerings for the High School Mission Trip
Holden Evening Prayer @ 6:30 pm – Faith Talk by Greg Tangeman
“Open My Life, Lord”

Church Council

Hello St Peter's Members and Guests,

The council held a nontraditional meeting off site in February on a Sunday afternoon. We want to thank our host, Linda Shihata, for hosting a great event. During the first part of the event Pastor Miranda and Pastor Hillary led the meeting with working on goal development for 2023 and 2024. We also did several icebreaking events to get to know the new council members and bond as a team. The final part of the meeting was devoted to choosing the Executive Committee for 2023. We have two members who stepped forward into new roles in 2023. Mike McCoy is the Vice President and Alex Jackson is the Secretary. Derek Kruempel and I (Aaron LaHaie) are both serving a second term as Treasurer and President. I would also like to thank Mary Peterson and David DeHart for their service this past year on the Executive Committee.



Church Council Retreat on February 5th
 Back row: Jan Waller, Alex Jackson, Pastor Miranda, Jerry Rau, Pastor Hillary, Linda Shihata
 Front row: Mike McCoy, Aaron LaHaie, David DeHart

Aaron LaHaie

Financial Update

YTD Income and Expense through JANUARY 31, 2023
 (Pending Council Approval)

Envelope Offerings
 Other Income
 Total Income
 Expenses
 Net over (under)

| | Actual | Prior Year | Budget |
|--------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Envelope Offerings | \$ 22,014 | \$ 29,003 | \$ 29,319 |
| Other Income | 1,215 | 592 | 1,726 |
| Total Income | \$ 23,229 | \$ 29,595 | \$ 31,045 |
| Expenses | 38,277 | 27,726 | 35,069 |
| Net over (under) | \$ -15,049 | \$ 1,869 | \$ -4,023 |

Hungry Jar for March is: Radio Fund



Hungry Jar donations for January – Coulee Cap Food Pantry = \$635.00

Lenten Giving- Alongside our Lenten Midweek Theme, “Open My Life, Lord”, we will be highlighting a different charitable organization each week. Please consider how you might best support these organizations for which you will find more information in our weekly bulletins; Lions Club eye-glasses donation, Opportunity Center, Lutheran Disaster Response, Thistle Farms, ELCA Fund for Leaders.

Come for Supper



Thank you to our February chef, the United Methodist Church for preparing the wonderful meal; to the Prairie du Chien Women's Civic Club and Eastman Cloverleaf 4-H Club for providing the scrumptious desserts and to the Come for Supper Team and volunteers for distributing the meals. Thank you to the volunteers for directing traffic flow in the parking lot during pickup. The next meal will be on Thursday, March 16th, by take-out only again. Serving from 5pm to 6pm. **Also, if you left a dessert pan here, it is in the narthex above the coat rack, please pick it up. Thank you.**

Broken Connections

ADDICTION EDUCATION

I recently attended a presentation (by zoom) put on by the Center for Addiction and Faith. One of the presenters was Carla Dahl, Ph.D. I found several points in her presentation helpful in my understanding of addiction and the people impacted by it.

She described the 3 hallmarks of addiction as:

1. Short-term relief or pleasure and therefore craving
2. Long-term suffering for oneself or others
3. An inability to stop

She explained that **nothing must** be addictive and **anything can** be addictive. She gave an example of people who had used opioids for a long period of time who were able to stop using, without consequences. She described examples of non-substance type addictions such as online shopping, gambling or work. Many of us struggle with addictive behaviors of one type or another.

People who struggle with addiction are finding relief from something. So we need to not ask “why the addiction?” but rather ask “why the pain?” or “why is the addiction useful?”

She encouraged faith communities to contribute to healing by using compassion, humility and presence and not to judge or criticize. We need to turn towards individuals who are struggling, not away from them. She discouraged the tough love notion of cutting someone out of your life until they are sober. From a Christian point of view, she suggests it's OK to, set boundaries on behaviors, but be sure to communicate love and support no matter what.

The Broken Connections committee continues to prayerfully consider ways that we can be a recovery-friendly church and to walk alongside those dealing with addiction issues. You may see some notices posted in the church or occasional information in bulletins and newsletters to help us all accept that people dealing with addiction are not “those people”, they are “us”.

Submitted by Lynn Rider
Broken Connections committee member

Sugar Creek Bible Camp

Sugar Creek Bible Camp Summer Brochures Available now – Summer Camp Registration is open. Come check out the many fun and life-impacting summer experiences. See: www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org.

Sugar Creek Camperships- St. Peter offers \$200 Camperships for children attending Sugar Creek Bible Camp. If your child is not attending a full week (or the cost of camp is less than \$200), St. Peter will pay the whole amount. We are grateful to help support our children going to camp in such a significant way. Also, if financing any amount for camp is an issue, please let us know. We never say “no” to a kid wanting to go to camp!

Sugar Creek News: A New Full-Time Staff Member has been hired! Miranda Arelt has accepted the position of Barn Manager 😊 Miranda will be moving to Sugar Creek from Faith, SD and brings a wealth of knowledge with degrees in Equine and Animal Sciences and experience with horse programs.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings for 3k (and potty-trained) thru 5th Grade youth

Teaming with families in the growth of their child's faith by providing a fun, loving, and safe community where children meet, love, and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

- Sunday School Sings during Worship, March 26th
- Junior Lutherans; Sunday, April 2nd



CONFIRMATION

Discipleship Training, Prayer, Fun, & Friendship for 6th-8th graders Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., with optional meal provided at 5:45

- Wednesday Nights, in Lent, are set aside for Midweek Lenten suppers and worship. These will take the place of class. Students are asked to attend worship in-person and sit as a class (or to sit as a family). Meals are served from 5-6 pm, with worship beginning at 6:30 pm.



High School Ministry – 9th-12th grade

Time to connect, serve, pray, have fun, grow in faith, and build friendships.

- **March 12th: High School Check-In Night-** Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at Culver's. Time to hang out, share highs and lows, share in a brief devo, and start the week out with prayer. Feel free to invite a friend.
- **March 12th: will be the deadline for registering to participate in the Youth Advocacy Retreat, Apr 14-16.** Please, contact Pr. Hillary for registration information. Cost for the weekend is \$75; financial assistance may be available.
- **March 29th: NEW DATE- Lenten Meal-** all high school students are invited to help prepare and serve the Lenten Meal. *All free-will offerings will go to support the High School Summer Mission Trip.*

WELCA Update

It occurred to me that much of my time is spent in preparation – for meals, for meetings, for classes, for the next holiday, for retirement. Here we are in Lent, and we have six weeks to prepare for Easter. Just as we get our houses in order for company, Lent gives us time to put ourselves and our faith in order for the most major event of all – Jesus' resurrection, and our eternal life with God. Goodness, can we do that in just six weeks?

So far this winter, WELCA has served two funeral lunches a Lenten supper, and collected food for local residents on Souper Bowl Sunday. Thank you for your help and donations! We will not have a General Meeting in March.

Coming up:

Tues, 3/7 NO General Meeting this month.

Wed., 3/8 10:00 Bible study at the large gathering room at Bluff Haven.

We are taking a new look at the ten commandments.

Thurs., 3/23 Quilt-tying in the church basement. The need goes on in our

country and around the world for needy neighbors. Lutheran World Relief is very effective at helping those in dire circumstances, and we can help!

Laurie Klosterboer, WELCA president

SOUPER BOWL THANK YOU

Nutrition won over hunger on Souper Bowl Sunday! Thanks to you for donating 236 pounds of groceries for the local food shelf!

The Members' Corner

Deadline for the April Newsletter Submission- Tuesday, March 21st.

Church Council Minutes are available on The Resource Shelves in the Narthex near the office. You are welcome to take a copy!

Pastoral Care

- If you or someone you know is ill, hospitalized, would like home communion, would like to visit with one of the pastors, or is in need of pastoral care; please call the church office at (608-326-6411). **Or reach out to the pastors directly via a call or text: Pastor Miranda's cell phone number is 815-291-5793 and Pastor Hillary's cell phone number is 319-290-8641.** *With rules about confidentiality, we often do not know that a family member is sick or in need unless you call.*
- Our pastors would love to have time with you (and your family) to continue to get to know you more, offer care, and/or simply to sit with you and enjoy a cup of water or tea ☺ Please reach out to set up a time for conversation or a visit. We thank God for you and for the ministry that we get to be a part of together!

If you would like to add someone's name to the prayer list at St. Peter, please call the church office at (608-326-6411). We kindly ask that you please get permission from the individual or their family to add them. All names added to the list will remain on the list for up to 6 weeks unless someone calls to have the person remain longer.

March Birthdays

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Lane Henderson | Mar 2 |
| Cora Comer | Mar 4 |
| Erin Lenz | Mar 4 |
| Dolores Mikkelson | Mar 6 |
| Richard Sutton | Mar 6 |
| Mike Stevenson | Mar 7 |
| Aaron Marx | Mar 10 |
| Ty Koeller | Mar 11 |
| Kelsey Jones | Mar 12 |
| Tracie Kruempel | Mar 12 |
| Joyce Thornton | Mar 12 |
| Mary Lou Garnsworthy | Mar 13 |
| Ben LaHaie | Mar 14 |
| Juliane Poots | Mar 14 |
| Ashton Schnitzler | Mar 14 |
| Alaina Lenz | Mar 15 |
| Robbie Mason | Mar 15 |
| James Haefer | Mar 16 |
| McKenna Hawes | Mar 17 |
| Ben Nelson | Mar 17 |
| Asher Thomas | Mar 17 |
| Ethelyn Boardman | Mar 18 |
| Karin Yeomans | Mar 19 |
| Caitlin McCoy | Mar 20 |
| Shelly Mikkelson | Mar 20 |
| William Stuckey | Mar 20 |
| Jan Weisensale | Mar 20 |
| Keegan Nelson | Mar 21 |
| Ron Quamme | Mar 21 |
| Rhett Koenig | Mar 23 |
| Ryder Koenig | Mar 23 |
| Tanner O'Connell | Mar 23 |
| Callie Kirschbaum | Mar 24 |
| Aaron Persinger | Mar 23 |
| Jarrett DeBruin | Mar 25 |
| Keith Beaty | Mar 26 |
| Patty Hamann | Mar 26 |
| Wade Hebel | Mar 26 |
| Francis Mara | Mar 26 |
| Luanne Neumann | Mar 27 |
| Katie Rogers | Mar 27 |
| Brady Bartels | Mar 28 |
| Carl Check | Mar 28 |
| John Poots | Mar 29 |
| Will Smith | Mar 29 |
| Matthew Kramer | Mar 30 |
| Miles Quam | Mar 30 |
| Addison Buckley | Mar 31 |
| Evie Comer | Mar 31 |
| Andrea DuCharme | Mar 31 |
| Karen Peters | Mar 31 |

Ways to share your offering

- You can share your offering during in-person worship.
- You can mail your check to the church at **PO Box 37, Prairie du Chien, WI 53821.** *If you are a household with giving envelopes, please mail it in that envelope. If you do not have giving envelopes, please contact the church office . You can give through **Simply Giving**, an automated online giving program we have used successfully for years here at St. Peter. An authorization form can be found online at https://htlcmpls.org/website/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/vanco_auth_form1.pdf or you can call the church office at (608) 326-6411*
- You can also set up an offering at your bank using free Bill Pay service to have the bank print and mail your check to the church.
- You can give online at stpeterpdc.org on the Home page, scroll down to GivePlus Online! Simply Giving.

Thank you

If you or someone you know has a birthday that is not listed in the newsletter, please contact the office at (608) 326-6411 and we will add it to our system. Thank you

March

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| | | | <p>1 9:15 AM (approx.) Weekly Radio Devotion on 104.3 FM /980 AM 10 AM Communion/ Bluff Haven 11:00 AM PDC Clergy Mtg 5:00 – 6:00 PM Lenten supper 6:30 PM Lenten Worship with Holden Evening Prayer - Open My Life Lord</p> | <p>2 6:30 PM Choir Practice</p> | <p>3 10:00 AM Stewardship for All Seasons Mtg</p> | <p>4 11:00 a.m. Roger Nagel Funeral 5:15 PM 2nd Sunday in Lent Worship with Holy Communion</p> |
| <p>5 9:00 AM 2nd Sunday in Lent Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School Adult Discipleship 1:30 Worship at Prison</p> | <p>6 <i>Pr. Miranda and Pr. Hillary's Day Off. Pastor Miranda is on call for pastoral emergencies.</i></p> | <p>7 11:00 AM Text Study for Pastors 2:00 PM WELCA meeting 3:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Church & Society Mtg</p> | <p>8 9:15 AM (approx.) Weekly Radio Devotion on 104.3 FM /980 AM 10 AM Rachel Circle at Bluffhaven/Pr Maison 11:00 AM PDC Clergy Mtg 4:15 PM Treasures and Gifts Mtg. 5:00 – 6:00 PM Lenten supper 6:30 PM Lenten Worship with Holden Evening Prayer - Open My Life Lord</p> | <p>9 5:00 PM Music and Worship Meeting 6:30 PM Choir Practice 12:30 PM Mutual Ministry Mtg</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11 5:15 PM 3rd Sunday in Lent Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion</p> |
| <p>12 9:00 AM 3rd Sunday in Lent Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School Adult Discipleship 6:30 High School Check-In Night at Culver's</p> | <p>13 <i>Pr. Miranda and Pr. Hillary's Day Off. Pastor Hillary is on call for pastoral emergencies.</i></p> | <p>14 7-5 in Tomah Spring Theological Conf-Pr Miranda and Hillary 6:00 PM Council Meeting</p> | <p>15 9:15 AM (approx.) Weekly Radio Devotion on 104.3 FM/ 980 AM 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM PDC Clergy Mtg 5:00 – 6:00 PM Lenten supper 6:30 PM Lenten Worship with Holden Evening Prayer - Open My Life Lord</p> | <p>16 5-6:00 PM Come For Supper Take Out Only 6:30 PM Choir Practice <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Robbie Off</div></p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18 5:15 PM 4th Sunday in Lent Worship with Holy Communion</p> |
| <p>19 9:00 AM 4th Sunday in Lent Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School Adult Discipleship</p> | <p>20 <i>Pr. Miranda and Pr. Hillary's Day Off. Pastor Miranda is on call for pastoral emergencies</i></p> | <p>21 11:00 AM Text Study for Pastors 3:00 PM Staff Meeting Deadline for April Newsletter</p> | <p>22 9:15 AM (approx.) Weekly Radio Devotion on 104.3 FM /980 AM 11:00 AM PDC Clergy Mtg 5:00 – 6:00 PM Lenten supper 6:30 PM Lenten Worship with Holden Evening Prayer - Open My Life Lord</p> | <p>23 9 AM Quilters 5:00 PM Book Club @ Library 6:30 PM Choir Practice</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25 5:15 PM 5th Sunday in Lent Worship with Holy Communion</p> |
| <p>26 9:00 AM 5th Sunday in Lent Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School Sings 10:15 AM Sunday School Adult Discipleship</p> | <p>27 <i>Pr. Miranda and Pr. Hillary's Day Off. Pastor Hillary is on call for pastoral emergencies</i></p> | <p>28 11:00 AM Text Study for Pastors 3:00 PM Staff Meeting</p> | <p>29 9:15 AM (approx.) Weekly Radio Devotion on 104.3 FM /980 AM 11:00 AM PDC Clergy Mtg 5:00- 6:00 PM Lenten supper 6:30 PM Lenten Worship with Holden Evening Prayer - Open My Life Lord</p> | <p>30 6:30 PM Choir Practice</p> | <p>31</p> | |

Vacation for Pr. Miranda

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
PO Box 37
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES:

SATURDAYS ~ 5:15 PM

SUNDAYS ~ 9:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS ~ 6:30 PM

**WORSHIP WILL BE ALSO BE BROADCAST ON SUNDAYS at 9AM
VIA 104.3 FM AND 980 AM and through our FACEBOOK page
www.facebook.com/stpeterpdc/.**

Bulletins will be available on our website (www.stpeterpdc.org).

**Senior Pastor Miranda Klosterboer
Associate Pastor Hillary Burns-Kite**

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday ~ 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
and 1:00 — 4:00 PM

Phone: 608-326-6411

Email: stpeterpdc@hotmail.com

Website: www.stpeterpdc.org