

St. Peter's PROVERBS

MARCH 2023



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR JANICE



Dear Friends,

REVIVAL, RESTORATION, REFORMATION, or REVOLUTION?

The following is a blog article by Frank Viola. It really gets me thinking and I hope it will get you thinking, too!

“Right now, many Christians are reporting that a revival is taking place at a university in the upper south of the USA. Here are my (Frank Viola’s) personal thoughts on the matter.

Revival

I’m defining revival in the classic sense. It’s when scores of people are converted to Jesus Christ in a short time-span (usually over the course of two to four years).

There’s a great deal of prayer, a lot of repentance, and many conversions. Churches and chapels are marked by the functioning of the body of Christ where “laymen” spontaneous-

ly start songs, share, exhort, testify, and even prophesy. There is “leaderless” worship, the felt-presence of the Spirit, and sometimes demonstrations of God’s healing power.

There’s also an overall awakening to the reality of Jesus Christ and His Holy Spirit.

Aside from the numerous local revivals that were restricted to a city or denomination, since the 20th century, there have been two major revivals in the United States that swept the entire nation. The first occurred from 1948 to 1952. It began in Texas among the Baptists, and it is known as the “Youth Revival Movement.”

The second revival occurred from 1968 to 1972. It began in California, and it was primarily outside the organized church where God’s Spirit moved among the hippie counterculture. It is known as the “Jesus Movement.”

Over the years, I’ve met many zealous Christians who were converted during one of these two revivals. In a true revival, a believer can spit on the sidewalk and a fountain will gush forth. Wandering sheep are brought back into the fold and the lost are unusually open to the gospel.

Revivals are beautiful, and I’m 100% for them.

So I hope what’s happening right now in the upper South spreads throughout the entire nation and the world.

But beyond their short shelf-life of two to four years, there is *another problem with revivals.*

Revivals merely resurrect a dying church back to zero. Once the revival ends, the churches and chapels that were affected by it continue as they were before.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Welcome New Members/
Palm Sunday Worship
- ◆ Maundy Thursday
- ◆ Good Friday
- ◆ Easter Sunday Worship

Watch for more details!

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Same practices, same mindset, and same traditions. It's business as usual. Christian community dies, enthusiasm dies, and the functioning of the body of Christ dies.

The Youth Revival Movement didn't change the Baptists churches. The revivals of the past that took place in the upper South didn't change the Methodist churches after the waters receded. And all the revivals that took place among the Pentecostals and charismatics never changed their traditional structures or systems.

For example, in the mid-1990s I had a front-row seat to a localized revival that started in central Florida among the Pentecostals and spread to different parts of the State all the way up to Canada. I visited some of those churches when the revival first broke out. Several years later, when the revival was over, I was invited to speak at one of them. **Nothing changed.**

The same church where thousands of people descended from all over the world had reverted back to what it was before the revival began. That was true for every other church that was affected by it.

Revival, therefore, is a temporary solution to a long-term problem.

Historically, it has never touched the root. And in many cases, what has killed some of the past revivals are insecure ambitious leaders with institutional mindsets who either squash it or seek to leverage it to advance their own ministries.

Reformation

John Stott made this remarkable statement about reform: "The hallmark of an authentic evangelism is not the uncritical repetition of old traditions but the willingness to submit every tradition, however ancient, to fresh biblical scrutiny and, if necessary, reform."

To reform something is to keep the original, but to make improvements upon it.

This has been true of every reformation that has taken place in history.

For instance, Luther and Calvin reformed certain aspects of Roman Catholicism, but they left a great deal of it untouched.

Reformations are wonderful, and I'm 100% for them.

But something beyond reformation is needed to meet the heart of God.

Restoration

We can think of reformation as redecorating an existing house. A fresh coat of paint is applied to the walls and doors, furniture and hanging pictures are updated.

Restoration, however, is completely refurbishing the house. Old appliances are replaced with new ones, new cabinets are installed, bathroom fixtures are updated, old carpets are ripped up and new flooring is put in, etc.

In restoration, God uses one of His vessels to lead a group of His people to restore a truth or experience that has been lost to the body of Christ.

In the charismatic world, "restoration" focused on restoring spiritual gifts and manifestations. Two movements before it (one in the United States and the other in England) were focused on restoring the unity of the body of Christ.

Restoration is wonderful, and I'm 100% for it. But it's never gone far enough in dealing with the overall structure and mindset of the Christian populace.

That brings us to revolution.

Revolution

A revolution is a radical departure from what previously existed.

Think American revolution, French revolution, Communist revolution, the scientific revolution, and the various technological revolutions that have radically altered our way of life.

Revolutions turn everything upside down. They destroy the "perfect" and enable the impossible. They introduce game-changing, Spirit-inspired innovation.

While reformation redecorates the house and restoration renews parts of it, revolution tears the entire structure down and builds a new one in its place. Here's how I put it in

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my book Finding
Organic Church:

“What is needed in the body of Christ is not restoration. It’s not even revival. What is needed is a revolution—a complete and radical change from top to bottom, a new sighting of Jesus Christ and His church, and a change of both mindset and practice. To put it bluntly, we need a revolution in our understanding of the Christian life. We need a revolution in our practice of the church. And we need a revolution in our approach to church planting.”

A.W. Tozer spoke in the same vein. In his book *Keys to the Deeper Life* (originally published in 1957), Tozer wrote the following in a chapter entitled, “Leaning into the Wind.” *“I believe that the imperative need of the day is not simply revival, but a radical reformation that will go to the root of our moral and spiritual maladies and deal with causes rather than with consequences, with the disease rather than with the symptoms ... It is my considered opinion that under the present circumstances we do not want revival at all. A widespread revival of the kind of Christianity we know today in America might prove to be a moral tragedy from which we would not recover in a hundred years.”*

Tozer’s observation about the limitations of revivals and reformations is the same as my own. (How he defines “radical reformation” is what I mean by “revolution.”)

A spiritual revolution is a complete overhaul opposed to a cosmetic upgrade.

It’s a total renovation opposed to introducing new pieces of furniture and/or rearranging the old decorations.

Since 1988, I’ve had the privilege of meeting with **groups of Christians under the headship of Jesus Christ where the body of Christ functioned in life and power.**

Many of the features of revival were present in these fellowships. Namely, the functioning of the body, leaderless worship, free testifying, sharing, prophetic utterances from the whole body, and the obvious work of the Spirit to shed light on and glorify Christ.

People would fly across the Atlanta to visit our meetings. Having never seen anything like it before, their testimony was “this is a revival!” But it wasn’t. For us, it was **the normal experience of the body of Christ when she’s properly equipped to function according to her organic nature.** By the way, I’m NOT talking about a “house church,” but something far beyond a group of Christians who meet weekly in a home.

Conclusion

If the name of the game is conversions (souls being saved – which I’m 100% for), then Tozer’s analysis doesn’t make much sense. But if God is after something higher than lost people being converted to Christ, then Tozer’s words should be seriously considered.

I contend that God’s primary interest is His eternal purpose, which includes reclaiming the explosive gospel of the kingdom. And that, my friends, is revolutionary.”

For more of Frank Viola’s work, visit www.frankviola.org



Annual Meeting Held

The Annual Meeting of St. Peter’s Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, January 29, with 22 people in attendance.

The Proposed Budget for 2023 was presented by the Trustees and approved by the members in attendance.

One position to the Board of Trustees were unanimously approved for Patty Beck. She will each serve a three-year term. Thank you to Jen Reinke for serving on the Board of Trustees. Others currently serving on the Board are Pete Fannin, Tom Anderson and Brian Knight.

Ten reports were given including Secretary’s Report, Pastor’s Report/Statistics/Attendance Report, Elder’s Report/Membership Report, Youth Pastor Report/ Sunday School Report, Youth Group Report, Ladies Aid Report, Men’s Outdoor Ministry Report, Good Shepherd Fund Report, Benevolence Report and Financial Secretary’s Report.

Copies of the Annual Report are available in Jackie’s office.

MEET YOUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Pete Fannin
Trustee President
2021-2023



Patty Beck
Trustee Vice-President
2023-2025



Tom Anderson
Trustee Secretary
2021-2023



Brian Knight
Trustee Treasurer
2022-2024



Krista Enoch
Trustee Member
2022-2024

Trustees General Powers
Bylaws A.7.01. General Powers
The Board of Trustees HEREIN REFERRED TO AS THE Trustees, whose members shall have a fiduciary obligation to the Congregation according to Article 12.0 of the Constitution, shall manage the major financial affairs of the Congregation.

Questions regarding finances can be answered by any of the Trustees. Meetings are usually held the 3rd Sunday of the month at 8 a.m. and are open to any member of the congregation.

Direct your
Thrivent Choice Dollars
Today!



Thrivent members you may have Choice Dollars to direct. Call 1-800-thrivent and say "Choice Dollars". You can direct to St. Peter's or another charity on their list or you can go to www.thrivent.com, click on "My Thrivent" tab and "Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars". For more information contact Lola Zaug, St. Peter's congregational advocate. Choice Dollars must be directed by March 31, 2023.



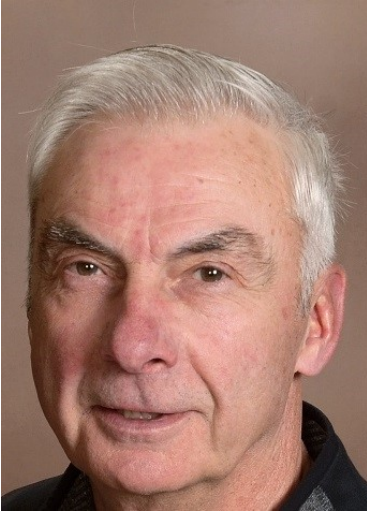
Church Camp

Camperships Available

The Ladies Aid will once again help pay for any youth that would like to attend church camp this summer. The only thing that you would need to pay is the registration fee. The remainder will be paid by the Ladies Aid. Contact Carola Jobst or Patty Beck

Your Camp information is available on the kiosk in the Welcome Area for a list of camps that are available.

MEET YOUR ELDERS



Dave Schmidt



Lee Rambo



Sr. Pastor Janice Kuder



**Youth Pastor
Kay Knight**

Board of Elders

A5.01. Spiritual Role

The Elders are to covenant together with the congregation and the Senior Pastor for the development of the spiritual life of the church. These persons are to be the primary protectors and encouragers of a positive spiritual climate within the church body. They are neither a governing nor a corporate board, but a spiritual board called to create and maintain stability in potentially negative situations. They are people who meet the spiritual qualifications of Titus 1:6-9, and who fully embrace the congregation's mission, vision and values.

Agape Help Center in Need of Prayers

The following letter is a request for prayers for the Agape Help Center in Waupaca.
To Our Agape Supporters,

First of all we would like to thank you for all of your prayers and financial support, our ministry has grown immensely and we know that God blesses us daily in our efforts.

This letter is a request for prayerful guidance. As most of you know, the former Crystal River Nursing Home was generously donated to the ministry for the purpose of opening a domestic violence shelter and residential addiction ministry for families. We have put on a new roof and have done a lot of cleaning and landscaping on the property but have hit multiple roadblocks from the city in our efforts to open at the new location. The largest of these is the property taxes of \$28,000.00 per year that they are attempting to charge us by not recognizing our 501c3 status on that property because we are operating on Main St., even though we would like nothing more than to be operating out of our new facility.

The secondary issue is that we have hit barriers repeatedly when dealing with the city building

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inspector. At this point we are not allowed to give tours or work inside the building. We have done our due diligence and used a commercial architect for our plans and have spoken to both legal counsel and the mayor trying to resolve this issue. The demands that are being made for us to open are cost prohibitive and in many cases are politically driven.

We are wondering and prayerfully considering whether it is God's will for us to inhabit this space or if we are to use it as a financial asset to help us find a move in ready space to further expand our other services. We could try to sell the property and use the funds toward the purchase of a building that would not need such substantial renovation and which may have a smaller footprint which would decrease potential overhead. We may also be wise to move just outside the city limits which would take us out of the trap we are in with the building inspector. She has made it known that she is not supportive of our ministry which has contributed to the situation.

We covet your prayers and advice in this matter. Please communicate to us the way you feel God is leading.

One a side note, if you have a property you would like to donate that would serve well, we would love to hear about it. Donation of space for long term use or a donation of ownership to The Agape Help Center is fully tax deductible.

Again, thank you so much. Without your prayers and support we would not be able to do the work we are doing for families in the community.

May God bless and keep you and your families in the New Year,
Kelly Koch and the board of directors of The Agape Help Center.

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR KAY



We have been hearing a lot about revival recently. If you haven't heard, a prayer meeting at Asbury University began on February 8th and has extended to the point of the time of this writing. The little town in Kentucky has seen up to 50,000 people flock to the area, and the college is a bit overwhelmed to keep up with everything going on. There is talk that this will be ended (probably today) due to this and not the lack of participants.

I, myself have been frustrated and discouraged as of late and been praying for a revival of sorts; more of a recommitment of those who have fallen away or become more than a little relaxed in their relationships with God. So this has been of great interest to me to watch and study what has gone on in Asbury, but I will be much more interested in the weeks and months to come for these participants.

So how do we know if we need to recommit or have a revival of our own?

We Need Revival When:

- We do not love Him as we once did.
- Earthly interests and occupations are more important to us than eternal ones.
- We would rather scroll social media and binge-watch shows and movies than read the Bible and pray.
- We would rather make money than give money.
- We put people into leadership positions in our churches who do not meet scriptural qualifications.
- We make little effort to witness to the lost.
- We have time for sports, recreation, and entertainment, but not for Bible study and prayer.
- We seldom think thoughts of eternity.
- Christian husbands and wives are not praying together.
- Our children are growing up to adopt worldly values, secular philosophies, and ungodly lifestyles.
- We are more concerned about our children's education and their athletic activities than about the condition of their souls.

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- Our singing is half-hearted and our worship lifeless.
- We aren't seeing regular evidence of the supernatural power of God.
- People have to be entertained to be drawn to church.
- We start fitting into and adapting to the world, rather than calling the world to adapt to God's standards of holiness.
- We don't long for the company and fellowship of God's people.
- People have to be begged to give and to serve in the church.
- We are more concerned about what others think about us than what God thinks about us.
- We are unmoved by the thought of neighbors, business associates, and acquaintances who are lost and without Christ.
- We are blind to the extent of our need and don't think we need revival.

Based on the evidence you've just read, do you see the need for revival in our world, in your nation, in your church? Surely the answer is yes. But the ultimate question is not "Do we need revival?" The question is, "Do I need revival? In *my* heart." Make it so, Lord. And let it begin with me.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
Stir up your might
and come to save us!
Turn again, O God of hosts!
Look down from heaven, and see;
have regard for this vine.
Restore us, O Lord God of hosts!

Let your face shine, that we may be saved! (selected verses from Psalm 80)

Pastor Kay



Nancy Heiman	March 1
Scott Arndt	March 2
Tracey Mengert	March 2
Derek Stedjee	March 2
Tracey Burghduff	March 8
Aurora Burghduff	March 11
Jason Ridge	March 14
Remington Selle	March 15
Gary Much	March 17
Jessalyn Brady	March 19
Jeremy Brady	March 20
Suzanne Miller	March 20
Luna Phillips	March 20
Mary Ann Zilz	March 24
Jackson Krohn	March 27
Kaleb Peeters	March 27
Sam Rulseh	March 28
Joseph Enoch Jr.	March 30
Nate Bonikowske	March 31
Kim Karski	March 31

An Irish Blessing

*May God give you..for every storm; a rainbow;
for every tear, a smile; for every care, a promise; and a
blessing in each trial. For every problem life sends, a
faithful friend to share; for every sigh, a sweet song
and an answer for each prayer.*



The Marion Food Pantry needs for March are eggs and juice or any non-perishable food items. The Food Pantry wants are paper towels. Items may be dropped off at church or at the House of Hope in Marion.



Derek & Miranda Peebles
March 12

Aaron & Karin Koeppel
March 27



TRUSTEES MEETING
January 15, 2023 – 8:00 am

Members present: Jen Reinke (by phone), Krista Enoch, Brian Knight, Tom Anderson,
Pete Fannin

Ex-Officio present: Pastor Janice Kuder, Jackie Baldwin

Guest: Patty Beck

President Peter Fannin called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. followed by prayer led by Pastor Janice.

Patty Beck presented information on a new stove for the kitchen. The Zimmerman family had designated funds for this project. The present stoves were moved from the old church (they are approximately 50 years old). To put in a commercial stove by the specs required is a \$100,000 project. Patty presented the cost to replace the two ranges in the kitchen with new is about \$4,000.

The Dec. 18 secretary's report was presented. Knight motioned to approve, seconded by Enoch. Motion carried.

Pastor's report was presented. Anderson motioned to approve, Knight seconded. Motion carried.

The Financial Report was presented by Knight and Baldwin. It was announced that the personal loans for the building have now been paid off. Fannin motioned to approve the financials as presented, Enoch seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Pastor Janice announced that her husband would be retiring December 2023.

The nomination of a member to replace Reine on the Council was discussed. Patty Beck was asked and she accepted. Voting will take place at the Annual Meeting.

The 2023 Proposed Budget was examined by the Trustees. Minor adjustments have been made to adapt to current costs. Knight motioned to bring the proposed budget to the Annual Meeting, Fannin seconded. Motion carried.

Enoch presented an update on Lee Rambo's update of our tech system. She reported that Lee feels he can make the upgrades with the donated funds.

New Business:

Discussion was presented in regards to protecting designated funds and memorials that are pledged to a specific project or the funds are not used for current expenses. Baldwin reported she is going through records and disbursing the small amounts in records to the designated group and will contact someone to help her set up the accounts so that they are no longer placed in the regular checking account.

Radant Electric (Shawano) is putting in a bid on the generator project.

Baldwin brought up that there are no spare keys for the church and that 5 keys have been lost. We will be contacting members that have keys and see if we can recover some keys from our members that might not have a use for them.

Next meeting will be held on February 19, 8 a.m.

A suggested joint meeting with the elders is set for March 19.

Knight motioned to adjourn, seconded by Enoch. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Anderson




Secretary

2023 Budget at a Glance			
2023 Budget \$145,442.79			
Budgeted For Jan.	Income Received	Expenses	Net Income/ Loss
\$12,120.24	\$11,977.86	\$12,047.67	-\$69.81



MARCH 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Ladies Aid 12 pm Lenten Worship 6:30 pm	2	3	4
5 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am Youth Serve Lunch 11:30 am	6	7 Men's Group 8:30 am Quilters 9 am Town of Wyoming Meeting 7 pm	8 24/7 Small Group 5 pm Lenten Worship 6:30 pm	9 Northern Light Via di Cristo	10 Northern Light Via di Cristo Dartball Tournament 5 pm	11 Northern Light Via di Cristo 
12 Northern Light Via di Cristo Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am	13	14 Men's Group 8:30 am Quilters 9 am	15 Lenten Worship 6:30 pm	16	17 	18 VDC Council 10 am to 3 pm
19 Joint Trustee/Elder Meeting 8 am Sunday School 9 am Worship w/Installation of Trustees 10:30 am	20 	21 Men's Group 8:30 am Quilters 9 am	22 24/7 Small Group 5 pm Lenten Worship 6:30 pm	23	24	25
26 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am	27	28 Men's Group 8:30 am Quilters 9 am	29 Lenten Worship 6:30 pm	30	31	