

St. Peter's PROVERBS

November 2023



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR JANICE



Dear Friends in Christ, members of St. Peter's,
With the end of 2023 in sight, St. Peter's is facing a lot of changes for 2024!

I intend to retire in about a year. And Pastor Kay Knight has resigned her position here at St. Peter's (effective the end of November), to take a call as Teaching Pastor at Gloria Dei Lutheran in Tomah.

We bless Kay and Brian on their way and rejoice with them as they embark on this new adventure God is calling them to! We also grieve their loss in our congregational life—their ministry and friendship among us has had huge impact and we will miss them!

Our **Transition Team** and Transition Prayer Team are hard at work preparing a **Congregational Profile**—who St. Peter's is and who God is calling us to be; and a **Pastor Job Description**—detailing the kind of leadership needed going forward. They hope to finish their work early in 2024 and then a Call Committee (Selection Committee) can be formed to seek candidates to be your new pastor.

Again, **the entire membership is intended to be part of this process of**

transition. To grieve together, to pray together, to seek God's direction for what kind of leadership we need.

May God make this time of transition an exciting adventure in His grace!

In the meantime, our life together as a congregation goes on and I am busy, getting another year of Confirmation instruction for our 7th, 8th and 9th graders going, planning another churchwide IMMERSION into the Bible, starting this winter—using *Immerse*, *The Reading Bible*, *BEGINNINGS* (the first 5 books of the Bible).

GOD IS GOOD. GOD IS AT WORK AMONG AND AROUND US. PRAISE GOD!

God loves you and so do I,

Pastor Janice Kuder





KINDLY JOIN US FOR A
Farewell Party

HONORING
*Pastor Kay &
Brian Knight*

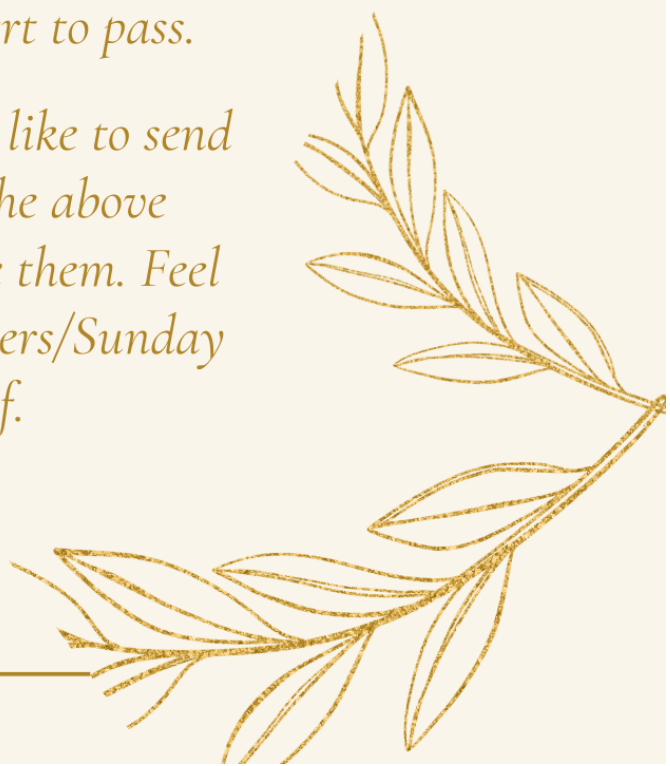
*November 19, 2023
Worship 10:30 am
Lunch 11:30 am*

*St. Peter's Lutheran Church
N10685 Petersen Rd. Marion*

*A monetary offering for Pastor Kay & Brian will be taken
Meat, buns and beverage will be supplied. Please
bring a side dish or dessert to pass.*

*If you are unable to attend and would like to send
a card, send these to St. Peter's at the above
address & we will be sure they receive them. Feel
free to pass this along to former members/Sunday
School kids that you know of.*

*RSVP to Jackie, 715-460-6273
stpetersbigfalls@gmail.com
by November 14*



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR KAY



Just three short months ago, I sat in a room with a team from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Tomah: I was there to be open in heart to what God had for me, but as always toward the end of my interview with them, the conversation turned to my career aspirations. One of the team members asked me how long I could see myself being a youth pastor. My answer was simple and genuine: if I reached the age of sixty-five and had spent my entire ministry career working with students, God would have been far too good to me.

I really meant it. In fact, when I first began 20+ years ago, I loved it so much that I never wanted to do anything else. And when some well-meaning soul would ask me when I was going to move on from youth ministry (and become a “real” pastor), I was usually upset at the question. I didn't see any reason to look forward to something else, because God had called me to work with youth.

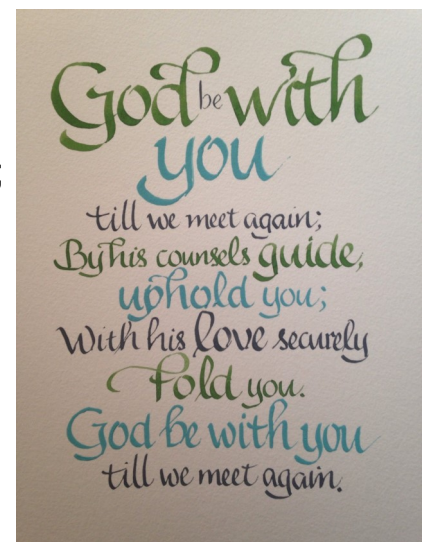
Today, I find myself in a very unfamiliar position: I am no longer going to be a youth pastor. Even as I write this, I feel a twinge of sadness. I loved being a youth pastor. Not only was it a ton of fun, but God has been far too gracious to me to give me the privilege of seeing Him change the lives of countless teenagers and families through Jesus.

As I leave St. Peter's, I promise to always be an advocate in the church who reminds other influencers that teenagers matter to God. And I know there are so many at St. Peter's who are also this kind of advocate; the kind that helps the youth far from God with the good news that Jesus died for them. Use that influence in your community to grow God's kingdom; you don't need me.

I also promise to always be a mentor. I survived all these years in youth ministry because of the amazing God-fearing and God-loving mentors I had along the way. I surrounded myself with others in youth ministry to be able to tap into their resources and their experiences. I also made sure to be there for the kids; we have an important qualification that most people don't realize: we know what it's actually like to be a youth. There is not a single person in the family of St. Peter's who hasn't been young once. I will always be a phone call away for a listening ear or a prayerful warrior. But you got this; you don't need me.

As I prepare to leave St. Peter's, there is a feeling of loss. But it isn't "Good-Bye". It is "I can't wait to hear/see what God does through all of you!" God is forever faithful. Lean on that; trust in Him! You don't need me.

Thank you all for the years of love and friendship. Our hearts will always be with the people here.
Blessings always



October 29, 2023

To the amazing children of God who make up St. Peter's,

To everything there is a season,



a time for every purpose under Heaven.
Ecc 3:1

The third chapter of Ecclesiastes reminds us of an unchanging truth: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." For what seems like my entire life, I have felt called by God to serve St. Paul's and eventually St. Peter's. Not only have I felt called by God to serve here, I have also greatly enjoyed the privilege of serving as youth pastor to this wonderful family of faith.

Life, however, is always changing. It is inevitable. God continually calls us to new challenges, opportunities, and adventures. A few months ago, I met with the people of Gloria Dei in Tomah, WI. This past Sunday, their congregation voted to extend me a Letter of Call to serve as their Teaching Pastor/Associate

Pastor. After much prayer and thoughtful consideration, I have decided to accept the call to serve Gloria Dei. My last Sunday worship here at St. Peter's will be November 12th. I will continue teaching Monday and Wednesday nights through November 22nd, but that will be the end here. I am completely confident that God will bless St. Peter's in this move as well, as others step up to continue the work God was doing through me and Brian.

As you know, discerning God's call upon one's life is a difficult process. But after meeting with the people of Gloria Dei, learning where they are in the life of their congregation, and hearing how they hope to move forward, I feel that my gifts for ministry will serve them and the whole kingdom of God well. I do believe God is calling me into mission with them as this next chapter of their congregation's life begins.

Paul opens his letter to the church at Philippi with these words: "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now." Through all the varied emotions I am currently feeling, I am definitely experiencing the joy Paul felt as he wrote to his beloved congregation. It is impossible for me to express how grateful I am to God for the privilege and pleasure of serving here at St. Peter's. I believe God has truly blessed our ministry together. My family and I have also been richly blessed through the loving, nurturing, and supportive family that is St. Peter's. The relationships we have formed have enriched our lives and allowed us to love and be loved in the most godly ways.

Transitions are difficult. Change sucks! But my phone will always be on, and if you are willing to drive, my door will be open. As it will be important for you all to learn and depend on the new way of doing things here, I am always willing to be a listening ear and prayerful heart.

As I said earlier, you all have truly been a blessing in my life and the life of my family. We will miss you dearly. Thank you for 25+ years of serving, laughing, crying, and doing God's work together. Thank you for sending us off with your blessing.

Blessings always,

Handwritten signature of Kay Kaufman.

Transition Team

The Transition Team will meet every Sunday after worship service. Contact any of the following members for questions and concerns.

Transition Team Members:

Pete Fannin, pete.fannin@thrivent.com, C: 920-540-8653
 Tom Anderson, taroyola@gmail.com, C: 715-853-3013
 Nate Bonikowske, nbonikowske@yahoo.com, C: 715-295-4231
 Sarah Holder, sunshineholder@gmail.com, C: 715-412-3814
 Connie Bestul, farmersatplay@tds.net, C: 715-445-6282
 Little Brian Knight, brian.knight.4797@gmail.com, C: 715-460-2060
 Rob Karski, robkarski@gmail.com, C: 715-802-9302
 Elder: Lee Rambo, lrsrav@gmail.com, C: 715-321-1844
 Elder: Tom Bestul, farmersatplay@tds.net, C: 715-445-6281
 Elder: Dave Schmidt, margie11@frontiernet.net, H: 715-754-2356

Transition Prayer Team Members:

Nancy Heiman, nlheiman@frontiernet.net, C: 715-851-9599
 Faye Miller, no email, H: 715-445-4600
 Judy Anklam, janklam@frontiernet.net, H: 715-754-5552
 Krista Enoch, Atsirk30@hotmail.com, C: 715-321-0764

Prayers of the Church

Prayer requests will now be published in the bulletin, newsletter and spoken during worship.

Following are the guidelines that will be followed for this process:

- Request must be made by (a) the individual, (b) immediate family member, or (c) the person making the request has permission from one of the above. All requests should be called or emailed to the church office by Tuesday morning before 10 a.m., 715-754-2690 or stpetersbigfalls@gmail.com.
- It must be understood that their full name will be published in the Announcement Bulletin and newsletter. **Their first name ONLY will be spoken out loud in the Prayers of the Church during Sunday worship.**
- Names spoken in Prayers of the Church during Sunday worship are broadcast via Facebook live.
- There will be no reason given in the Announcement Bulletin or Newsletter, why the prayers are requested, unless requested by the individual or immediate family member. No reason will be spoken in the Prayers of the Church.
- Prayer requests will be posted for four (4) weeks unless request is renewed by individual or immediate family member.
- This is separate from the Prayer Chain. For Prayer Chain requests contact Faye Miller at 715-445-4600.



Scott & Ann Arndt
Nov. 3, 33 Years

Stanley & Jessica Phillips
Nov. 12, 7 Years

Rick & Tracey Mengert
Nov. 14, 36 Years

Sam & Peggy Rulseh
Nov. 14, 35 Years



Kim Peebles	Nov. 2
Jordan Bestul	Nov. 4
Jeanne Rohloff	Nov. 5
Justin Hintz	Nov. 6
Aiyana Kempka	Nov. 6
Clayton Miller	Nov. 6
Nick Miller	Nov. 6
Lisa Remer	Nov. 6
Nate Holder	Nov. 7
Jameson Arndt	Nov. 11
Ron Miller	Nov. 12
Jessica Phillips	Nov. 12
Rick Mengert	Nov. 13
Laurie Miller	Nov. 13
Bailee Miller	Nov. 15
Tia Bestul	Nov. 16
Sarah Blashe	Nov. 16
Brock Opperman	Nov. 17
Sharie Anderson	Nov. 21
Aubree Ridge	Nov. 23
Lily Koepfel	Nov. 26
Amy Jo Ronek	Nov. 26
John McIntee	Nov. 28
Kotti Hintz	Nov. 29
Rosie Bazile	Nov. 30

Marion






The Marion Food Pantry needs for October are peanut butter and chicken noodle soup or any non-perishable food items. The Food Pantry wants are Kleenex and hand soap. Items may be dropped off at church or at the House of Hope in Marion.



November 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS! </p> <p>5 SS 9 am Worship 10:30 am Youth Serve Lunch 11:30 am Job Bible Study 6 pm</p>	<p>6 Jeremiah Study 6:30 pm</p>	<p>7 Men's Group 8:30 am Quilters 9 am Town of Wyoming Mtg. 8 pm</p>	<p>1 Job Bible Study 9 am Ladies Aid 12 pm Confirmation & Apostle's Creed Study 6:30 pm</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>12 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am Trustee Mtg. 11:30 am Job Bible Study 6 pm</p>	<p>13 Jeremiah Study 6:30 pm</p>	<p>14 Men's Group 8:30 am Quilters 9 am</p>	<p>8 Job Bible Study 9 am Confirmation & Apostle's Creed Study 6:30 pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 VDC Workshop 8 am-3pm </p>
<p>19 No Sunday School Worship 10:30 am Farewell Party 11:30 am Job Bible Study 6 pm</p>	<p>20 Jeremiah Study 6:30 pm</p>	<p>21 Men's Group 8:30 am Quilters 9 am</p>	<p>15 Job Bible Study 9 am Confirmation & Apostle's Creed Study 6:30 pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>26 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am Job Bible Study 6 pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Men's Group 8:30 am Quilters 9 am</p>	<p>22 No Confirmation</p>	<p>23 </p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
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<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>		