

February 2024 Visitor

**St. Peter's
Lutheran Church**
1422 Center Avenue
Janesville, WI 53546
608/754-2891

Email/Website
stpetersjvl@gmail.com
www.stpetersjvl.org
Office Hours:
M, W-F 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Closed Tuesday

Staff

Pastor
Rev. Bruce A. Gray
Parsonage: 608/563-4148
revbruceagray@gmail.com

Musician
Mary Eckert

Custodian
Bob Wolfram

Parish Life Assistant
Lynn Curtis

Congregational Council
President
Barb Kienbaum

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Morning
Worship—9:30 a.m.

Sunday School and
Confirmation
10:45 a.m.

(See Calendar for Schedule)

Wednesday Evening
Worship—7:00 p.m.

Holy Communion
Celebrated at Every Service
Except Midweek Lent

2024 Lenten Sermon Series

Jonah, Haggai, Obadiah, oh my! Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Iay, carrumba! Zechariah, Micah, Amos, what a mess! Hosea, Joel, Malachi, when will it end?! Strange names, to be sure. While they may be called “minor,” they are anything but that. Yes, these are the Twelve Minor Prophets from the Old Testament, but their words and actions speak in a major way. Several of these prophets spoke to and of the Messiah, many spoke to the shenanigans of the Israelites, all of them speak to us. During the Wednesday evenings in Lent, we will get to know these twelve important figures in Biblical history. Warm and fuzzy they were not. But, they still carried a message of hope, peace, faith, trust. Please come to the Wednesday Midweek Lenten Prayer Services beginning Wednesday, March 21, 2024 at 7 p.m. The prophets implore you to come. Who knows, maybe it will be “prophetible” for all of us!

We will be holding the Midweek Lenten Services in the Cross and Crown Room instead of the Sanctuary this year. All those attending Worship are welcome to come a little early, at 6:30 p.m. for dessert and coffee with the Service beginning as usual at 7 p.m. in order to provide some fellowship time. Beginning on February 21, the week following Ash Wednesday, the Service will be a prayer format and Pastor will be presenting his sermon series described above. It's a great opportunity for fellowship, prayer, and learning. We hope to see many of you at the services.

1-JJ Baldry

1-Ty Truesdill

1-Mary Goth

7-Bill Thorson

8-Becky Corkhill-Heider

8-Dianne Peters

11-David Duorak

13-Kari Heacox

15-Gavin Wilberg

16-Calli Harnack

17-Deri Eastman

17-Kristi Wiese

22-Sarah Boness

25-Ruth Baldry

25-Sue Carlson

25-Timothy Esser

25-Katie Brown

26-Jim Flister

27-Jeff Knutson



FEBRUARY

Senior Birthdays

Happy Birthday to our February Seniors who are celebrating a birthday of 80 years or more. Make their day special by sending a card or giving them a call.

Dale Spors—February 6–88

5618 S Hwy 51

Janesville 53546-8701 608/728-4521

Judy Willard—February 23–80

1515 Hamilton Av

Janesville, WI 53548-0194 608/289-8624

GOD Answers Prayer

Al Boness
Ami Blachowiak
Anita Mansour
Annika Jurun
Arlene Berg
Barb Gjertson
Barb Harmon
Barb Kienbaum
Bonnie Grayson
Bruce Rockenfield
Carol Lund
Charlie Flood
Charlotte Spors
Cindy Barry
Connie Sweitzer
Dale Spors
Darlene Newman
Dave & Darlene Eberdt
Dave Heider
David Messling
Dick Peck
Dorothy Spaeth
Ed Spenske
Esther Hagood
Gene Amann
Helen Flister
Irene Christian
Jessica Rathbun
Jim Payne
Jim Vevang
John Briggs
John Froiland (brother of Ruth Baldry)

Joseph Mansour
Joy Clifton
Judi Downing
Judie Spry
Judy Bolton
Kathryn Hansen
Kay Knudson
Ken Frisad
Kevin Severson
Kristy Munoz
Lincoln Roesing
Lisa Baldry
Lyn Elver
Mary Goth
Mike Glowacki
Misty Rich
Nancy Roesing
Oakley Seifert
Richard Laurich
Ruth Baldry
Samantha Calhoun
Shelly McCann
Sue McLean
Susan Boness Pierick
& Bruce Pierick
Tami Schoeller
Teri Downing
Tom Ulrich
Tyden Graves
Valri Miller
Violet Fiehweg
Yvonne LaFlash

Prayer Concern	
Check One	Date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing	
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited time; date(s): _____	
Please pray for: Name _____	
Address _____	
Telephone # _____	
Email (if available) _____	
Requested by: Name _____	
Telephone # _____	
Email (if available) _____	
<small>Please complete and deposit in the offering plate or drop off in church office. Kindly notify the church office for removal from the prayer list. Thank you.</small>	

Prayer Requests

A new process for being listed on the Prayer List has been developed. The yellow card shown above are located in both the Narthex and Office. Please complete the card in its entirety and drop in the offering plate or Office. These will be placed in a small orange binder (on Lynn's desk) and included in the printed bulletins and *Visitor*. If emailing or phoning the Office with a request, please include this same information.

Growing in Faith: Reflections from the Pastor

We begin the month celebrating the revelation of God made human. The joy that comes from this is immeasurable. Just imagine this: God CHOSE to be among us, even with all the nastiness and pain and bad things that make up the world. God CHOSE to be among us, so that He could experience what we experience, so He could live what we live, so that He could truly say "I came for you." God CHOSE to be among us, so that He could suffer with us, suffer for us, die for us, rise again for us. This immeasurable joy is shown to us through the revelation of God as human, of God as one of us.

We split this month celebrating in a different way. The joy that comes from this is also immeasurable. Through the Imposition of Ashes, God reminds us that we are simply human; that from ashes we came and ashes we will go. But, there is so much in between. So many to serve, so many to help, so many to help see God CHOSE to be among us. To redeem us, to save us, to give us life abundant.

What immeasurable love! *Peace, Pastor Bruce*



Al and Judy Boness want to "thank our friends at St. Peter's for thinking of us with the amazing Cheer Basket. The fruit was amazing and treats delicious."

- ❖ "Thanks to everyone who sent birthday and Christmas Cards. The thoughts are sincerely treasured."—Maxine Severson
- ❖ Howard and Judie Spry want "to thank the friends of St. Peter's Lutheran Church for Christmas baskets of fruit, baked good and candy. It was well appreciated and made our Christmas more pleasant."
- ❖ "Thank you for the Christmas cards, Cheer Basket and the people of St. Peter's"—Deleores Tainter
- ❖ "Thank you for the loving "Our Pastor" plaque. I was touched deeply as I read the heartfelt words printed. I cherish you all. May God's love shine brightly upon you!"—Pastor Bruce
- ❖ Thank you everyone for a job so well done on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. Also, thank you for your dedication to the lengthy practice schedule. I am a very proud Bell Choir Director!—Mary Eckert
- ❖ Thank you for the beautiful Christmas cards, gifts and Cheer Basket that I received over the holiday. It is always such a pleasure working with this Congregation!—Lynn

Council Corner

The Council did not meet as a group this month due to the weather however we did have an Email Meeting in order to complete a couple agenda items that needed attention.

The Council approved the Annual Meeting Agenda so the report could be completed and distributed.

The quote from McCann Flooring for tile for the room located adjacent to the Fellowship Hall for \$3,347 was also approved. The flooring in this room was badly damaged due to water issues some years ago and the old tile removed and now needs to be replaced. The room will be renamed to the Bazaar Committee room and will be used to keep items that are being donated to use for the Bazaar. At present there are many wheeled shelving units that will stay in the room to make storage convenient and assure that there is no damage to the items in the room. The Congregation will pay for half of the expense and the remainder will be paid with Bazaar Committee funds.

Thank you to the Council members for being responsive to the emails this past couple of weeks. Your attention to the notes was greatly appreciated.



Like any song ever written, the Songs of Stewardship have a story behind the story to tell. This year, the Stewardship Committee is pleased to share with you all The Songs of Stewardship. The hymns we will encounter throughout the year are familiar to all of us. But, what of the songwriter? But, what of the hymn itself? We will meet the writers of these wonderful songs that sing praise to God through the message of serving Him and all His children. It is our prayer that we will, too sing praises to God through our own serving and caring for God and all God's children. Through song and through service. Through The Songs of Stewardship.

#583 *Take My Life, That I May Be*

[Jesus said,] ^{25:34} "Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'" (Matthew 25:34-40 NRSV)

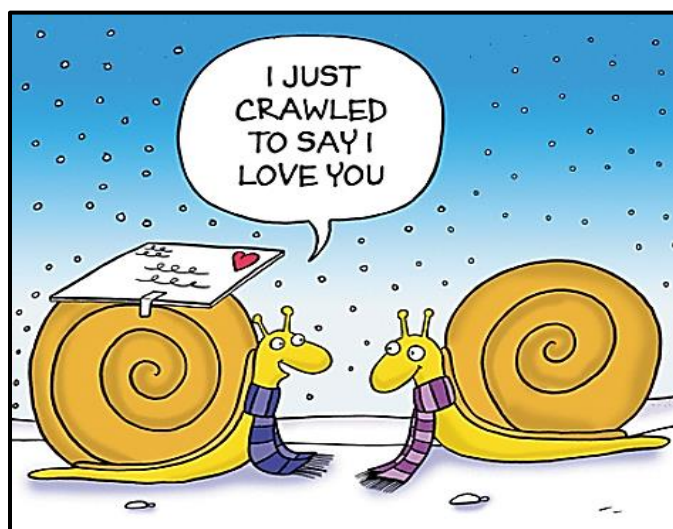
Frances Ridley Havergal was born at Astley, Worcestershire, December 14, 1836. In August, 1850, she entered Mrs. Teed's school, whose influence over her was most beneficial. In the following year she says, "I committed my soul to the Savior, and Earth and Heaven seemed brighter from that moment." A short sojourn in Germany followed, and on her return she was confirmed

in Worcester Cathedral, July 17, 1853. She died at Caswell Bay, Swansea, June 3, 1879.

Miss Havergal's scholastic acquirements were extensive, embracing several modern languages, together with Greek and Hebrew. She does not claim for herself a prominent place as a poet, but by her distinct individuality she carved out a niche which she alone could fill. Simply and sweetly she sang the love of God, and His way of salvation. To this end, and for this object, her whole life and all her powers were consecrated. She lives and speaks in every line of her poetry. Her poems are permeated with the fragrance of her passionate love of Jesus. The burden of her writings is a free and full salvation, through the Redeemer's merits, for every sinner who will receive it, and her life was devoted to the proclamation of this truth by personal labors, literary efforts, and earnest interest in Foreign Missions. Besides "Take My Life, That I May Be" she wrote over 60 hymns

We ask God to lead us to share what we have whether it is our treasure, our gifts and our life that we may use these to please Him by using them to help others. The hymn is an acceptance of God's invitation to follow Jesus and to serve through Him. Once we commit our life and treasure to following the teachings and example of Jesus, we can give to others and share the message and do so based on trust, fairness and a sense of fulfillment.

[Paul said,] ^{20:35} "In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (Acts 20:35 NRSV)

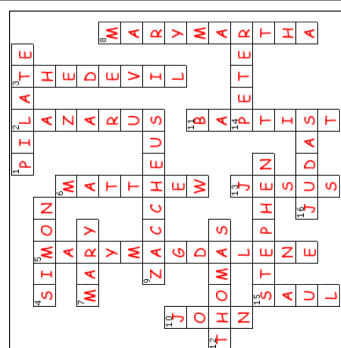
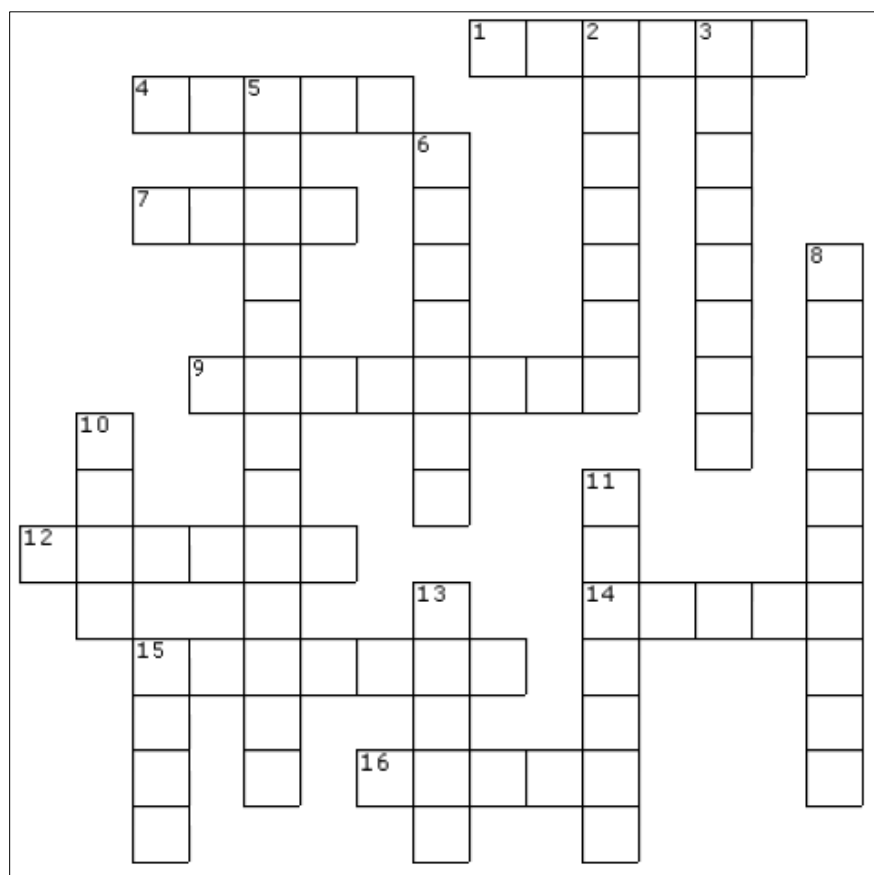


DECEMBER 2023 BUDGET PERFORMANCE

	December 2023	2023 Budget		December 2023	2023 Budget
Income			Expense		
Benevolence Contributions	\$ 2,354.00	\$ 1,334.00	Benevolence	\$ 2,204.00	\$ 940.00
Contributed support	\$ 16,168.00	\$ 14,440.00	Church Activity	\$ 510.73	\$ 573.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 407.25	\$ 150.00	Finance	\$ 119.95	\$ 22.00
Use of facilities	\$ 3,886.17	\$ 3,856.00	Office Supplies & Expense	\$ 869.65	\$ 819.00
Total Income	\$ 22,815.42	\$ 19,780.00	Property Maintenance	\$ 4,162.58	\$ 5,872.00
Gross Profit	\$ 22,815.42	\$ 19,780.00	Salaries & Related Expenses	\$ 13,005.66	\$ 11,135.00
			Travel & meetings expenses	\$ -	\$ -
			Total Expense	\$ 20,872.57	\$ 19,361.00

	December 2023	2023 Budget
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 1,942.85	\$ 419.00
Net Income	\$ 1,942.85	\$ 419.00

NEW TESTAMENT PEOPLE



ACROSS

- 1 This Roman governor condemned Jesus
- 4 The disciple Peter's other name
- 7 She was Jesus' mother
- 9 He climbed a tree to see Jesus
- 12 This disciple was known as "Doubting ____"
- 14 This disciple walked on water with Jesus
- 15 This man was the first Christian stoned to death
- 16 This disciple betrayed Jesus

DOWN

- 2 Jesus brought

- this man back to life
- 3 He tempted Jesus (2 words)
- 5 She found Jesus' tomb empty (2 words)
- 6 This disciple was a tax collector
- 8 Jesus visited the house of these sisters (2 words)
- 10 He had a vision and wrote in down in the Book of Revelation
- 11 John the ____
- 13 Christ
- 15 This man became known as Paul after Jesus spoke to him on the road to Damascus

FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY, 9:30a	<i>FEBRUARY 4</i>	<i>FEBRUARY 11</i>	<i>FEBRUARY 18</i>	<i>FEBRUARY 25</i>	
ALTAR GUILD	Sue Pohlman Pam McGill Judi Downing	Karen & Steve Seichter Karen Thorson	Kristi & Dave Wiese	Kelli Kienbaum Tina Jorgenson	
LECTOR	Karen Thorson	Joyce Jacobs	Nancy Spenske	Tim Kienbaum	
COMMUNION	Steve Seichter	Karen Seichter	Mary Erickson	Bill Kienbaum	
USHER	Bill & Karen Thorson	Bob & Joyce Jacobs	Steve & Karen Seichter	Tim & Bill Kienbaum	
A/V ASSISTANT	Sue Pohlman	Kelli Kienbaum	Mary Esser	Kelli Kienbaum	
FELLOWSHIP	Karen & Steve Seichter	Mary Esser	Joyce & Bob Jacobs Jakki Harnack	Judy Willard	
WEDNESDAY, 7p	<i>FEBRUARY 7</i>	<i>FEBRUARY 14</i> <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i> <i>10 a.m.</i>	<i>FEBRUARY 14</i> <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i> <i>7 p.m.</i>	<i>FEBRUARY 21</i>	<i>FEBRUARY 28</i>
COMMUNION	Gerry Meyers		Beth Waters	N/A	N/A
USHER	Gerry Meyers		Dean Waters	Gerry Meyers	Dean Waters
COUNTERS	Steve Blom, Bill Kienbaum				

*“In the coldest February, as in every other month in every other year,
the best thing to hold on to in this world is each other.” – Linda Ellerbee*



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30p Property Cmte	2 8p AA	3 10a Al-Anon
4 9:30a Worship 10:30a Fellowship 10:45 Sunday School/Confirmation	5 7p Bible Study at Parsonage	6	7 8a TOPS 9a Executive Cmte 7p Midweek Worship	8 9a PieceMakers	9 8p AA	10 10a Al-Anon
11 8a Bell Choir Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Fellowship 10:45 Confirmation	12 9a Worship & Music 7p Bible Study at Parsonage	13 6:30p Church Council	14 LENT BEGINS 8a TOPS 10a & 7p Ash Wednesday Worship in Sanctuary Ash Wednesday 	15	16 8:30a Breakfast Club at East Point 8p AA	17 10a Al-Anon
18 8a Bell Choir Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Fellowship 10:45a Sunday School/Confirmation	19		21 8a TOPS 11a Staff Meeting 6:30p Dessert & Coffee 7p Midweek Lenten Worship (C&C)	22 9a PieceMakers	23 8p AA	24 10a Al-Anon
25 8a Bell Choir Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Fellowship 10:45 Confirmation	26 7p Bible Study at Parsonage	20 6p Christian Education 7p Stewardship	28 8a TOPS 9a Evangelism 6:30p Dessert & Coffee 7p Midweek Lenten Worship (C&C)	29  IT'S LEAP YEAR!		

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Return Service Requested

Mission: Be Christ-Centered, Caring, Community.

