

May 2025 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

Congregational Meeting



A special Congregational Meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, June 29, immediately following Worship. The only agenda item will be approving the expenditure of no more than \$50,000 for repairs to the roof. We would ask that as many members be present as possible. Please contact Bill Kienbaum with questions.



Create This One-Of-A-Kind Painting

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025

1 TO 4 P.M.

CROSS AND CROWN ROOM

\$20 (TO BARB KIENBAUM)

**PAINTING SUPPLIES AND
PERSONAL INSTRUCTION
INCLUDED**

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

What If...

What if our faith was each other,

If our practice was our life,

If prayer our words.

What if the temple was the Earth,

If forests were our church,

If holy water the rivers, lakes and oceans.

What if meditation was our relationships,

If the teacher was life,

If wisdom was self-knowledge,

If love was the center of our being.

2-Tanja Anderson	10-Sandy Porter	18-David Wiese
3-Jakki Harnack	14-Mike Brown	21-Zach Heacox
9-Breanna Baldry	16-Doug Spenske	23-Delano Anderson Mendes
10-Jacob Jorgenson	18-Derek Mallory	24-Steve Seichter
10-Robert Jorgenson	18-Dewey Jorgenson	26-Spencer Orley



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

JUNE Senior Birthdays

Happy Birthday to our June Seniors who will be celebrating a birthday of 80 years or more. Make their day special by reaching out to them with special wishes.

Arline Berg—June 1—86

1465 Arch St, Janesville, WI 53546

Ralph Foss—June 3—81

Sharon Foss—June 15—81

214 Shady Oak Ct, Janesville, WI 53548

Gerry Willard—June 7—84

2144 S Chatham St, Janesville, WI 53546

In Our Hearts & Prayers

Margaret Peterson passed away on May 7, 2025. Condolences can be sent to her Daughter, Cheryl Peterson at 2300 Roosevelt Av, Janesville 53546.

Al Boness	Kay Knudson
Bill Conroy	Ken & Linda Fristed
Brenda	Kenny & Jenny Clifton
Bruce Rockenfield	Kevin Severson
Charlie Flood	Kristin Randall
Chris Christian	Lincoln Roesing
Chuck Schwab	Lyn Elver
Cindy Barry	Mady Siegert
Darlene Newman	Family of
Denny Vierik	Margaret Peterson
Dick Peck	Marie Severson
Ed Spenske	Mary Ann Harrington
Gene Amann	Nancy Roesing
Helen Flister	Oakley Seifert
Irene Christian	Pauline Chalfant
Jessica Rathbun	Pauline Waters
Jim Payne	Robert Hiller II
Joann Cowan	Russell Bell
John Froiland	Sally Fritz
Judi Downing	Shelly McCann
Judie Spry	Tami Schoeller
Judy Bolton	Tom Ulrich
Kay Degerman	Yvonne LaFlash



A special Thank You to **Judy Willard** for her participation in this year's CROP Walk. She

raised \$395 on behalf of St. Peter's while the Janesville Walk raised \$56,951.62!



Growing in Faith: Reflections from the Pastor

The Lord is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! The glorious time of the Great Fifty Days of Easter are nearing an end. May the Resurrection News bring such joy to your hearts.

Easter came late this year. With a later Easter comes less possibility of a snowy Day of Resurrection and a more likely warm Easterday. The warmth of Spring coincides with the warmth of the gift of life eternal from the Messiah. I pray we all take advantage of both gifts this Easter Season and all seasons.

As I write this, it is in the mid-50's at 9:17am. In April. In Wisconsin. The gifts of our Savior keep on rolling in! One of the many reasons why I like Easter so much is I know the warmer weather is just around the corner. With Easter falling one day shy of the latest it can ever fall, the warmer weather is already here. This makes this Easter even more special.

But, of course, all Easters are incredibly special for we experience firsthand the wondrous miracle of the Resurrection. After experiencing, with sorrow, our Lord's crucifixion, we rise with Him that first Easter morning with great anticipation of the new life that is ours as a gift from Jesus Christ. Whether we experienced it on The Sunday of the Passion or Maundy Thursday, Good Friday or The Vigil of Easter or on Easterday itself, we experience something beyond special. We experience life. Life given through the Body and Blood of our Savior. Risen and Alive. Resurrected to bring salvation and hope to a world that sorely needs it. It is our prayer that all are able to experience this wonderful gift every day of our lives.

Let's also look toward the wonderful Season of Pentecost. This a season where we get to look at many wonderful stories and parables that Jesus teaches us to help us grow as children of God. During June, we finish celebrating the Great Fifty Days of Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit during the Day of Pentecost, and we begin to understand the Godhead with the Trinity celebration. During July, we'll learn about the many parables (stories with great meaning told and shared by Jesus). May our faith increase as we learn and grow together from the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Let us continue to celebrate with joy and thanksgiving the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May the life-giving love Jesus shares with us bring us peace.

The Lord is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen!

Peace, *Pastor Bruce*

12 Stewardship Principles

As members of the Body of Christ, we confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We proclaim the Gospel as the Word of God. In our faith we recognize the gifts which God has first given us through grace and accept our role as stewards. The principles we will explore each month throughout 2025 provide a foundation for our role as faithful stewards.

8:5b "...[They] gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us..." (2 Corinthians 8:5b NRSV)

Being a proportionate steward is our way of giving in relation to our abundance. We are to give according to our "means," not according to our income or a budget. Paul told the Corinthians:

8:12 "For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has — not according to what one does not have."

(2 Corinthians 8:12 NRSV)

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8:12 *"For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has – not according to what one does not have."* (2 Corinthians 8:12 NRSV) This verse from Second Corinthians tells us that we should give according to what we have. If we are to give not according to our income but according to our means, it seems to us that if we own a big house and a car or two as well as having money in the bank, possibly jewelry or antiques that are valued highly, that this would be our means and we should give accordingly to that and not just to our actual income or budget. What if we give according to our net worth?

How much should we (or, do we) regularly give to the Church? What proportion of what we have is the appropriate amount? Is it always all about money? The Church does have bills to pay, this is true. There is a constant need for members to donate time and skills to benefit the Church's message. Our attending Worship enhances the service. So, no, it's not always all about money. Proportionate to what we have can include all of these things when done to the point where we feel that we really belong.

Whatever we have (or don't have) matters little to God – except for love. He has shared an infinite supply of love with us all and, just perhaps, He would like to see that shared with His children. We have received love in abundance; we should give love in abundance. This love, of course, can be in the form of helping another, sharing a meal with someone, offering a shoulder to cry and pray on, offering our story to one who is struggling with their faith. Love in abundance, love shared. May

not necessarily be proportionate, but I think God will give us a pass, don't you?

Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions – grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenges. By giving of ourselves, we share the Joy of Christ. We give first to Jesus, then to others, and then to ourselves.

9:7 *"Each of you must give as you have made up*

COUNCIL UPDATE

your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7 NRSV)

- **Roof Leaks**—Pastor Bruce shared information on changes to the work needed on the roof which have reduced the total cost of the project. He also shared that there will need to be a special Congregational Meeting which has been set for Sunday, June 29, immediately following Worship. The only agenda item will be approving the expenditure of no more than \$50,000 for repairs.
- **GIFTS**—St. Peter's will be providing the evening meal at the Shelter on May 28.
- **125th Anniversary**—An Ad-Hoc Committee has been established for the Church's 125th anniversary in 2028. LeeAnn Ryan and Nancy Spenske volunteered to be on the committee.
- **Confirmation**—On unanimous recommendation of the Christian Education Committee, the Council approved the Confirmation of Eduardo Siedschlag Brandes on June 8, during the Day of Pentecost Service.

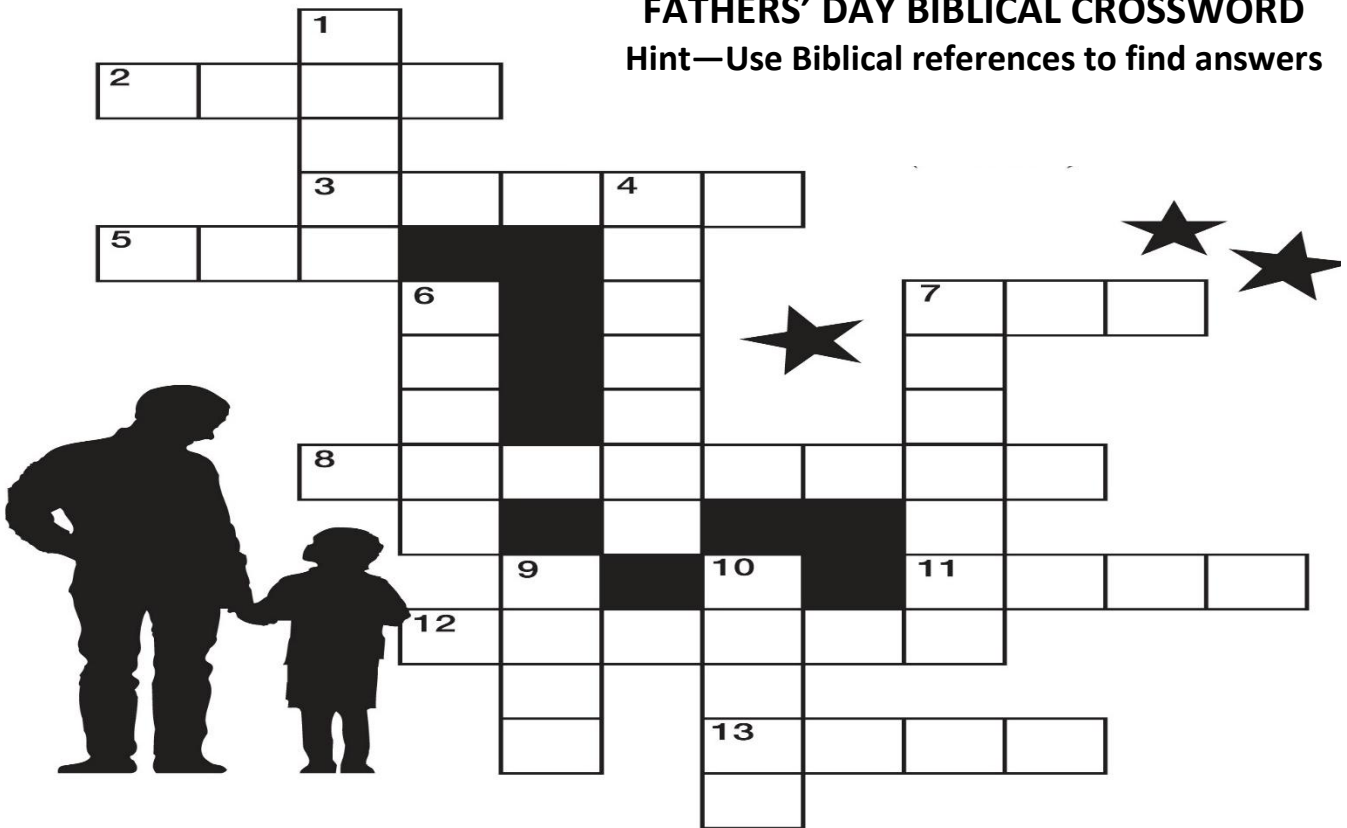


APRIL 2025 BUDGET PERFORMANCE

	April 2025	2025 Budget		April 2025	2025 Budget
Income			Expense		
Benevolence Contributions	\$ 1,371.00	\$ 600.00	Benevolence	\$ 286.00	\$ 225.00
Contributed support	\$ 13,875.00	\$ 12,094.00	Church Activity	\$ 592.39	\$ 690.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 216.00	\$ 150.00	Finance	\$ 18.42	\$ 25.00
Use of facilities	\$ 3,796.17	\$ 3,860.00	Office Supplies & Expense	\$ 124.47	\$ 507.00
Total Income	\$ 19,258.17	\$ 16,704.00	Property Maintenance	\$ 5,461.61	\$ 5,788.00
Gross Profit	\$ 19,258.17	\$ 16,704.00	Salaries & Related Expenses	\$ 11,252.81	\$ 11,553.42
			Travel & meetings expenses	\$ -	\$ 100.00
			Total Expense	\$ 17,735.70	\$ 18,888.42
			April 2025	2025 Budget	
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 1,522.47	\$ (2,184.42)			
Net Income	\$ 1,522.47	\$ (2,184.42)			

FATHERS' DAY BIBLICAL CROSSWORD

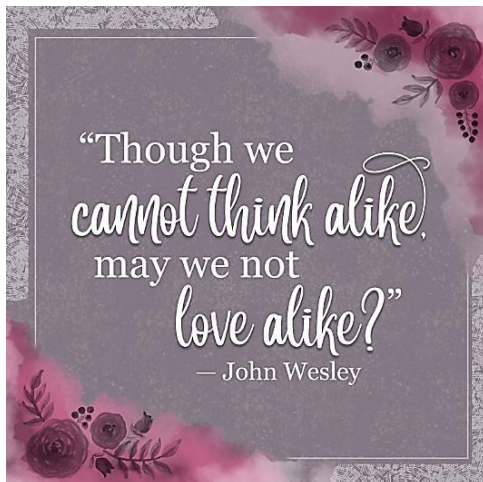
Hint—Use Biblical references to find answers



1. King Solomon's father, who ruled over Israel for 40 years (2 Samuel 5:4)
2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark (Genesis 6:10)
4. He was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac (Genesis 22:1-2)
5. The Father of our Lord (Ephesians 1:3)
6. He had 12 sons (Genesis 35:22b)
7. Samuel's father (1 Samuel 1:19-20)
8. David's best friend and the father of Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:6)
9. His son was Obed (Ruth 4:21)
10. David was the youngest of his 8 sons (Ruth 4:17)
11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (Genesis 4:25)
12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus (Matthew 1:20-21)
13. Father of Jonathan; Israel chose him as their first king (2 Samuel 9:6)

JUNE 2025

SUNDAY, 9:30 a.m.	JUNE 1	JUNE 8	JUNE 15	JUNE 22	JUNE 29
ALTAR GUILD	Judi Downing Pam McGill Sue Pohlman	Barb Kienbaum Mike Deems	Barb Kienbaum Mike Deems	Judi Downing Pam McGill Sue Pohlman	Kelli Kienbaum Tina Jorgenson
LECTOR	Sharon Foss	Joyce Jacobs	Barb Kienbaum	Bunny Miller	Tim Kienbaum
COMMUNION	Steve Seichter	Nancy Spenske	Mary Erickson	Karen Seichter	Kelli Kienbaum
USHER	Ralph & Sharon Foss	Bob & Joyce Jacobs	Bill & Barb Kienbaum	Dave & Ruth Baldry	Tim Kienbaum Dave Rein
A/V ASSISTANT	Kelli Kienbaum	Sue Pohlman	Mary Esser	Mike Deems	Sharon Foss
FELLOWSHIP	<i>On Break for Summer</i>				
MOWING	7-Dewey Jorgenson	14-Steve Blom	21-Bill Thorson	28-Dave Rein	July 5-Mike Deems
WEDNESDAY, 7 p.m.	JUNE 4	JUNE 11	JUNE 18	JUNE 25	
COMMUNION	Gerry Meyers	Beth Waters	Gerry Meyers	Dean Waters	
USHER	Gerry Meyers	Dean Waters	Gerry Meyers	Beth Waters	
COUNTERS	Bill Kienbaum, Steve Blom				





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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30a Holy Communion Worship 10:45 Confirmation	2 7p Bible Study at Parsonage 7:15p SPLC Softball @ Dawson South	3 7a-12Noon HeadStart Event in Grass by Circle Drive 10a Christmas Bazaar Planning	4 9a Executive Council 7p Holy Communion Midweek Worship in C&C	5 6:30p Property	6 8p AA	7 10a Al-Anon
8 9:30a Holy Communion Worship with Rite of Confirmation 10:30a Fellowship 10:30a Altar Guild	9 9a Worship & Music 6p Safety & Security 7p Bible Study at Parsonage 8p SPLC Softball @ Dawson North	10 6:30p Church Council	11 11a Staff Meeting 7p Holy Communion Midweek Worship in C&C	12 9a PieceMakers	13 8p AA	14 10a Al-Anon 1-4p Paint Event in C&C
15 8:45a Finance 9:30a Holy Communion Worship	16 7p SPLC Softball @ Dawson North	17	18 7p Holy Communion Midweek Worship in C&C	19	20 8:30a Breakfast Club at Mary's Café-Milton 8p AA	21 10a Al-Anon
22 9:30a Holy Communion Worship with Carillon & Quilt Dedication	23 6:15p SPLC Softball @ Dawson South 7p Bible Study at Parsonage	24 6p Christian Education 7p Stewardship	25 9a Evangelism 7p Holy Communion Midweek Worship in C&C	26 9a PieceMakers	27 8p AA	28 10a Al-Anon
29 9:30a Holy Communion Worship 10:30a Congregational Meeting	30 6p SPLC Softball @ Dawson North 7p Bible Study at Parsonage	<p><i>"Summer means happy times and good sunshine. It means going to the beach, enjoying the scenery, having fun with family and friends." - Brian Wilson.</i></p>				