

THE KEY TO ST. PETER

THE PARSON'S PEN...

Grace, mercy and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

"April showers bring May flowers." We have all heard the phrase and have probably used the phrase at one time or another. This phrase has been traced back to the year 1557 when Thomas Tusser compiled a collection of writings he called *A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry*. One of the poems he wrote was: "Sweet April showers, Do spring May flowers."

It is believed that the meaning behind the words: "April showers bring May flowers" is a reminder that even the most unpleasant things may lead to enjoyable benefits. "April showers bring May flowers" is a lesson to us in many things, but our Lord gave us this message long before Mr. Tusser did.

In Romans 8:28, St Paul, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, tells us: "*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*" (ESV)

We are going to face troubles in this life. The whole penitential season of Lent leads our thoughts in that direction. We have been going through our Lenten series: *Christ Our Passover* as each week we are looking at an aspect of the Passover Seder meal and how they point to the crucifixion.

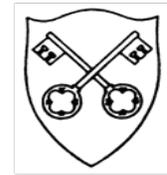
All of us, as we live in this sinful world, will and do face trials and troubles. It is not a reflection that God does not care for us; it is a matter of our living in a sin scarred world. As we look at the tragedies that happen in the world like the tsunami in Japan on down to someone having a hard day at work, we can rest assured that God has things in hand. He has promised: "*Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you.*" Joshua 1:5 (ESV)

God will never leave you nor forsake you! This is found many places in Scripture, including: Psalm 37:25, 2 Corinthians 4:9 and Hebrews 13:5. Psalm 118 also tells us: "*The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?*" and finally, our Lord Jesus Christ tells us at the end of Matthew: "...*behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*" Matthew 28:20b (ESV)

April is a busy month with Holy Week and Easter approaching. Look through the newsletter for other announcements including information about the *Journey to the Cross* outreach. If you are not already volunteering, there are still things that need to be done. One task that is not on the list is to support this outreach with your attendance. Not everyone can help, but by showing up and experiencing this program, you will be enriching your lives with the experience as well as uplifting those that are serving our congregation and our community by helping to make this outreach work.

On a closing note, I have a bit of family news that I would like to share with you. Cyndi and I had not planned on "broadcasting" this new information. Not that we are ashamed of it but it is not something that one normally reads in a newsletter.

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER



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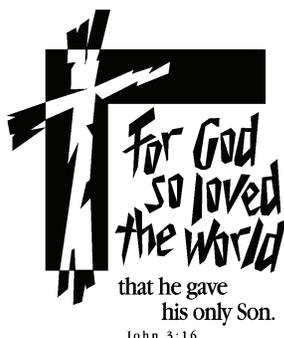
However, it seems like many of you know already and we would like to put the proper information out there. Rather than getting into a lot of details, here are the basics. Joshua felt overwhelmed at school this past Monday and ran away from school. By God's grace he stopped off at a wonderful young lady's house and she took the time to talk with him and made sure that he made it back to school. We took him to Cook's Children's Clinic the next day and after working with him for quite a while, the diagnosis was made that he has high functioning Asperger's Syndrome. It is a form of Autism that quite often goes along with ADHD and depression.

We have been treating Joshua for ADHD and anxiety for a number of years but were missing a large problem with how the Asperger's was affecting his social abilities. We are still learning a lot about it and hope to help Josh to grow up and live a normal life. If you are of the mind to learn more, WebMD.com has a great overview of Asperger's as well as a lot of in depth information. There is also a great movie out called *Temple Grandin* that follows the life of an autistic child that grew up to make many strides in the improvement of the cattle industry. We watched this movie a few months ago and thought to ourselves...you know, Joshua does some of those things too. It is a good movie if you have not seen it.

Why are we telling you this? Not so you will treat Josh any differently. One of the buzz words used with Asperger's is "not disabled, just different" and our goal is to keep this from becoming a disability and help Josh to make it an asset in his life because we firmly believe that God has great plans for him. We have shared this with you so that you might have a little better understanding of why he does the things that he does.

I praise God for having the honor of serving as your pastor and thank you for supporting the work of the Gospel in Montague County and beyond!

In His hands,
Pastor K.



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor's Bible Study

Studying the Fruits of the Spirit
9:30 a.m. - Sunday mornings
Led by Pastor Knobloch

Young Adults Bible Study

Join the Young Adults Bible Study to explore scripture
9:45 a.m. - Sunday mornings
Led by Arn Anderson

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Study of First Corinthians
7:00 p.m. led by Jim Atkinson

Women's Bible Study

Studying Ephesians - Led by Wanda Brummett
"Finding your identity and purpose in Christ"
9:30 a.m. - Thursday mornings at the church

Men's Bible Study

Studying the Lord's Prayer
6:45 a.m. - Friday mornings in the Fellowship Hall
Led by Pastor Knobloch

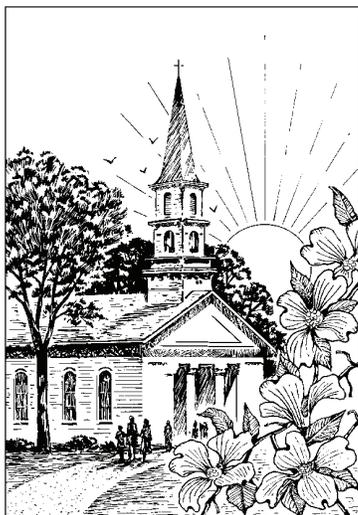
LOMNT Family Campout

The 2nd Annual Family Campout will be April 15-16 at St Paul Lutheran Church Family Center in Wichita Falls. Family games and activities for everyone!



Registration deadline April 8
Check-in begins Friday at 5:00 p.m.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt
and hotdog lunch on Saturday
concluding at 4:00 p.m.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE IN APRIL

Elder — Kurt Roberts

Counters — Jimmie Little, Bob Aune
Mel Hargrove

Nursery —

4/3 - Maci Ferguson & Monica Mayfield
4/10 - Rebecca Horton & Char Lasch
4/17 - Molly Atkinson & Cyndi Knobloch
4/24 - Sherry Hammer & Chanda Rhyne
5/1 - Valarie Gill & Dana Moeller

Altar Guild - Rebecca Horton

Altar Care - Carla Hughes, Donna Unger,
Anna Bell Wolsey

Lay Readers —

4/3 - Bryan Roth
4/10 - Monty Moeller
4/17 - Arn Anderson
4/24 - Bob Aune
5/1 - William Pickett

Acolytes —

4/3 - Lauren Gill & Hattie Hammer
4/10 - Grant Roth & Tristan Smith
4/17 - Deagen Kurz & Jared Roberts
4/24 - Victoria Lasch & Jena McCarty
5/1 - Mattie Kurz & Jessie Roth

Lutheran Women's Mission League

INDESCRIBABLE Passion Talk Video Series by Louie Giglio

Some comments from last month's video were:

- "Very impressive. I am eager to see and hear more."
- "I thought the video was wonderful. It was very moving and I didn't want it to end."
- "The video made you stop and think about what a great God we have."

**Join us on April 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Bring a friend!**

Thrivent members vote on \$1 million charitable contribution

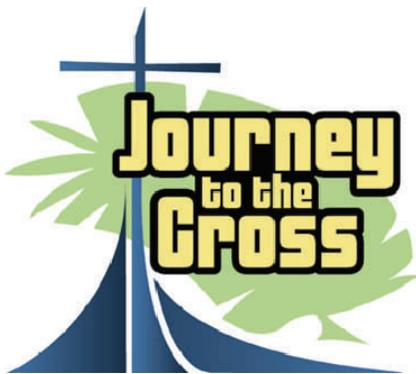
A total of 130,681 Thrivent Financial members cast votes in the winter Thrivent Choice Voting Event. Voting ended February 28. (All members 16 and older are eligible to participate in Voting Events.)

Members recommended where Thrivent Financial distributes \$1 million of its charitable outreach funds among seven national Lutheran and non-Lutheran charitable organizations. Based on the percentage of votes cast, the organizations received the following charitable funds:

- Bethesda Lutheran Communities: \$136,317
- Feeding America: \$206,335
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service: \$50,979
- Lutheran Services in America: \$129,927
- Orphan Grain Train: \$153,182
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital: \$279,941
- Wheat Ridge Ministries: \$43,319

**Learn more about Voting Events
and the Thrivent Choice program
at Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.**

Let's thrive:  **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**



An Easter Learning Experience

Walk in Jesus' footsteps from Palm Sunday to Easter to experience His Passion and deepen your faith.

As a traveler, you have the opportunity to walk in Jesus' footsteps during Holy Week. Smell the aroma of anointing perfume, taste Passover food, feel a crown of thorns, and so much more. You will hear about Jesus from Bible witnesses and be a part of the Passion experience.

**Saturday, April 16 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (come and go)
at the Bowie Community Room**

St. Peter Kids

The following members from St. Peter have been in the news for their accomplishments. Congratulations!

Jared Roberts : UIL first in Listening Skills; fifth in Art Appreciation.

Emmie Knobloch : UIL first in Spelling; second in Headline Writing; third in Computer Science; second in Team Computer Science.

Bailey Anderson : Competing in the UIL One-Act Play "Eurydice" for district on April 1.

Ashley Gill : Academic All-District Team; 2nd Team All-District.

Jessie Roth : Read an essay on the history of German concentration camps and our country's freedoms for the Bowie ISD board meeting.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

JULY 22-24 OR OCTOBER 21-23

What is A Marriage Encounter Weekend?

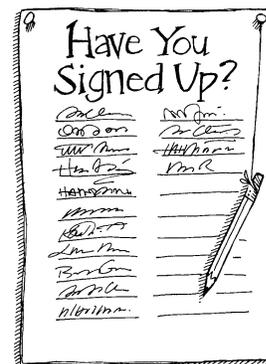
Marriage Encounter is a weekend experience designed to help married couples communicate more intimately with one another in order to deepen and enrich their relationship. In a comfortable environment away from home, family and responsibilities, couples are given the opportunity to look into their relationship with each other. The weekend helps couples reassess what these relationships could be as they journey together on a way of life that can be better than anything they have experienced before. More than a weekend away, it's a weekend of discovery together.

Dr. James Dobson wrote that he registered for the weekend for "...professional reasons, quite frankly expecting little that would benefit Shirley and me. We have a beautiful, open relationship and didn't feel we needed communicative help. I was wrong. ... It proved to be one of the highlights of my life..."

For more information or to register, contact Roger & Chris Williams at 972-530-1218, Pastor & Cyndi Knobloch at 872-2809 or pick up a brochure on the table in the narthex.

Lutheran Fellowship

We have the opportunity to be a part of a day of fellowship and fun with some of our area Lutherans. On June 4th, our congregation as well as the members of Victory in Christ Lutheran Church in Newark and Trinity Lutheran Church in Bridgeport will be gathering at the St Paul Family Center in Wichita Falls for a day of fellowship and fun. All of the details are not finalized as of yet, but there are plans for softball, volleyball as well as horse shoes, dominos and anything else that the members of our churches would like to organize. This day of fellowship and fun will give us an opportunity to get to know some of our Lutheran brothers and sisters in the area. More details are to follow, but we need folks to sign up so that we can have an approximate number for planning purposes.



The signup sheet is in the narthex. Please sign up so that we can let them know how many saints of St Peter will be attending in support of the wonderful fellowship opportunity!

Schmidt Family Fun



What a Zoo! On the third weekend of March, we were able to travel to Oswego, IL (near Chicago), to visit our good friends, Lori and Kelly, as well as Lori's family. It was a great weekend (!), and we got to spend some time at their local zoo. Today, we had a beautiful day in St. Louis, and so decided to get a little more zoo-ing, here at the St. Louis zoo. We had a great time (we love zoos!), and we even took a few pictures for you to enjoy, including one fantastic one of our conquering adventurer, Ethan.

The Strongman!



Lion around!



Born to ride the rails!

Easter Story Cookies

This is a great recipe to teach your children the REAL story of Easter. That the LORD Jesus Christ our Savior is not dead but has Risen. We serve a Risen Savior...

You will need:

1 cup whole pecans	a pinch of salt	1 wooden spoon
1 teaspoon vinegar	1 cup sugar	scotch tape
3 egg whites	a zipper baggy	Bible

These are to be made the evening before Easter. Preheat oven to 300F (this is very important---don't wait until you are half done with the recipe). Place pecans in zipper baggy and let children beat them with the wooden spoon to break into small pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested, He was beaten by the Roman soldiers. Read John 19:1-3.

Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 teaspoon vinegar into mixing bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross, He was given vinegar to drink. Read John 19:28-30.

Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life to give us life. Read John 10:10-11.

Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sin. Read Luke 23:27.

So far the ingredients are not very appetizing. Add 1 cup sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him. Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16.

Beat with a mixer on high speed for 12-15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3

Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoon onto a waxed paper covered cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. Read Matthew 27:57-60.

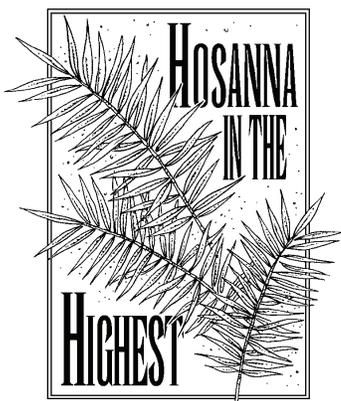
Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF.

Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. Read Matthew 27:65-66.

GO TO BED!

Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. Read John 16:20 & 22.

On Resurrection Sunday (Easter) morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. Read Matthew 28:1-9.



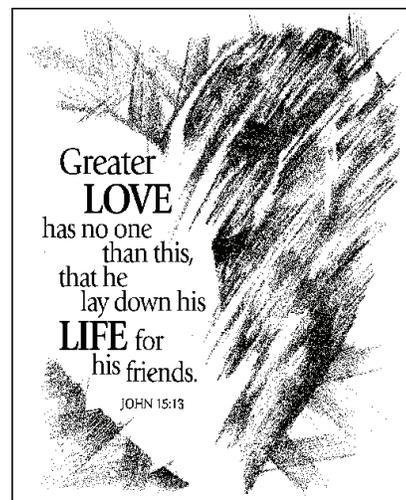
Holy Week

Palm Sunday

Communion Service 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday

Communion Service 7:00 p.m.



Good Friday

Tenebrae Service 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday

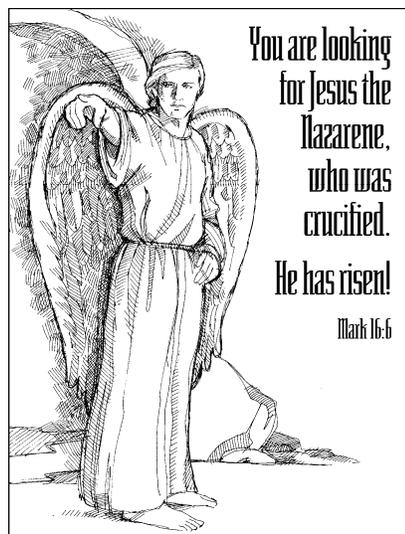
Easter Egg Hunt 2:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m.

Youth Fundraiser Breakfast 8 a.m.

Resurrection Celebration 10:00 a.m.



St. Peter Lutheran Church
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