

# Peter's Net



May/June 2018

St Peter's Lutheran Church, Brodhagen  
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From the Pastor's Desk:

If you've ever travelled by plane, you will know that during the safety demonstration before the flight takes off one of the things they cover is what to do if there is an issue with the oxygen or cabin air pressure while in flight. For those who are travelling with a child or someone who requires assistance, they always remind you to secure your mask first before assisting the other person. It's an important reminder because even though in the moment our first thought might be for the safety of another, you're not much help to anyone if you pass out first from lack of oxygen.

## **You can't give what you don't have.**

This is true in a lot of areas of life, including our faith. If our spiritual well is empty it becomes nearly impossible for us to help encourage and nurture others in their walk of faith. This is true for us on an individual level but also as a congregation.

Like so many congregations today I know there is concern at St Peter's about the changing realities around us: less people going to church, people going to church less often, and being in a rural area, just less people in general. And like other congregations, we want to make sure that this community that has nurtured us in faith

will continue to do so for others for generations to come.

The good news is that people from all walks of life are searching for something that is real and true and meaningful. People are longing to hear a word of hope and grace in their lives.

The challenge is that we can't expect folks to come to church just because it's the thing to do (as in previous generations). We also can't assume that people will be comfortable just walking through our church doors.

We need to develop the ability and the confidence to explain to someone why faith in Jesus is important to us. To be able to tell someone what makes belonging to church different from other social groups. I'm not talking about going around and knocking on doors, but simply being able to articulate to someone why our faith matters when the Spirit presents that opportunity in conversation with family, with friends, with acquaintances, and yes, perhaps even with strangers.

Which brings us back to giving what you don't have. In the January/February newsletter I expressed my 2018 hope and prayer for you (and me): **that you might be more deeply**

**rooted and grounded in God's love, filled with the fullness of God, and that this love would shape your life in new and surprising ways.** I also offered some suggestions for things you might try as a way of deepening your relationship with God.

Nurturing our relationship with God will bear fruits that are two-fold. When we spend time in prayer, reading Scripture or worship we will find ourselves (most times) feeling more rooted and grounded and at peace. We will also find that others may be drawn to us because they desire something of what we have.

The more time and intention we put into nurturing our relationship with God, the more God's presence and action permeates our life, and the better equipped we become to share God's love and goodness with others.

I truly believe that the most attractive thing about a community faith is not programs or worship style – it's the people. Those who are searching for meaning and hope in life are drawn to people whose actions and words reveal a sincere, deep and authentic faith.

Building on the January challenge, my challenge for you for this May and June is to make reading the Bible a part of your daily or weekly routine (if it's not already). If this is a new thing for you, try the **10 Minute Devotions** approach below.

May God's Word be that oxygen mask that breathes life and love into your soul!

Your sister in Christ,

*Pastor Laura*

## **10 Minute Devotions**

1. Choose one of the gospels to read through (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John).
2. Work your way through from the beginning. Aim to read a section (as short or as long as you wish) at least 5 days each week.
3. Plan to read through the chosen section at least 2 times (so often a shorter section is better).
4. As you read the first time keep this question in mind: **What words or phrases stand out to you?** You can either write them down or underline them in your Bible (yes, it's ok to mark up your Bible!)
5. Read the passage a second time asking yourself: **What is God saying to me in this passage?** Again, write this down in a journal or a piece of paper.
6. Close with a prayer, giving thanks for God's words to you and asking God for what it is you need today (e.g., peace, wisdom, comfort, strength, hope, encouragement, etc.).

## Council Notes

Greetings from your St. Peter's church council. Now that spring is finally beginning to bloom, we look forward to a busy productive season.

The first job at hand is the annual outdoor clean-up. Arbour Day is planned for May 5 at 9:00 pm. Many hands make light work as the saying goes. Hope to see many out. The inside of the church was giving its spring cleaning on March 24. Thanks to all who participated. The church looked great for Easter.

Our Maundy Thursday Agape Meal and Service was well attended. It was a uniquely stirring experience; appreciation goes to Pastor Laura for her innovative approach.

On April 8<sup>th</sup> we had our annual visit from Deb McCracken and her family from the Olive Branch in Tanzania. It was great to hear the success stories that she shared with us, and the meal afterwards was a great tribute to our Food Committee and the volunteers who provided the food. Thank you so much.

We had a special congregational information meeting after service on March 18. Kevin Young, the local Nelson Granite Representative from Elmira, did a well-presented PowerPoint session that answered some basic questions about constructing a Columbarium in our cemetery for cremation urns.

## News from the Pews

**Sunday, March 18** – A representative from Nelson Granite gave a presentation concerning the placement of a columbarium in our cemetery.

Pastor Laura has expressed her interest in representing our congregation and our Thames area at the ELCIC National Convention in 2019. Council has supported her decision and has signed her nomination paper. She will join the eligible candidates from our area in the voting process at the Eastern Synod Convention in Toronto in June.

We were pleased to support the Youth Group in their Stairclimbing Challenge held on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Youth Group Council Representative Rebecca Rapien reported that pledges went well, the climbers were energetic and eager, and they plan to repeat this event again.

There were several repairs carried out at the parsonage. The railings in the garage were updated for safety, and a leaky shower drain was repaired. Some water damage repair on the dining room ceiling is pending. Also on the calendar for repair is the deck on the west side of the parsonage. The church building is scheduled for some soffit and fascia work and exterior painting for this spring.

Upcoming events include:

- April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30-Shelterlink service at Brodhagen Chamber of Commerce
- May 13<sup>th</sup>- Mother's Day fundraiser supper at Brodhagen Hall
- May 27<sup>th</sup>- Congregational Picnic at Lynn and Maynard Hoegy's residence

*Deb Elligsen*

Council Secretary

**Saturday, March 24** – Thanks to all who came out and helped with our annual cleaning day!

**Sunday, March 25** – Palm Sunday – the Sunday School gave out palm leaves and sang a song. After service the Youth Group and older Sunday School children had a Staircase Challenge Fundraiser, raising over \$1000 to be split between the youth group and Richard Skinner.

**Thursday, March 29** – we held our Maundy Thursday Agape Meal with Holy Communion. Thank you to the Food Committee for organizing a wonderful meal.

**Friday, March 30** – Good Friday worship was held at 10:30.

**Sunday, April 1** – Easter Sunday worship with Holy Communion was held at 10:30. It was a joy-filled service for all ages!

**Sunday, April 8** – Deborah McCracken-Nangereke from The Olive Branch for Children was our guest speaker, with a congregational lunch after the service. Thanks to the Food Committee for organizing the lunch. In the afternoon, Pastor Laura and the Senior Choir were at the Ritz Villa and Mitchell Nursing Home.

**Sunday, April 29** – ShelterLink Sunday at the Brodhagen Hall with guest speaker Bev Hagedorn. A soup lunch was provided by the chamber members and the congregation provided dessert.

#### **COMING UP...**

**Saturday, May 5** – 9:00 Arbor Day. Bring your garden tools.

**Sunday, May 6** – 2:30 West Perth Singers concert at Mitchell District High School. A free

will donation and items for the food bank will be accepted.

**Sunday, May 13** – 4:30-7:00 Mother's Day Supper at the Brodhagen Community Centre. Adults - \$20; Children ages 3-10 - \$10. To reserve tickets please call Barb (519-347-2731) or Michelle (519-348-2142).

**Sunday, May 27** – 10:30 Sunday School Picnic to be held at Maynard & Lynn Hoegy's.

**Friday, June 1** – Communion Instruction Class for Grades 3 & 4

**Sunday, June 3** – Celebration of Communion Sunday

**Sunday, June 17** – Confirmation Sunday

#### **SYMPATHY**

To the family of Roy Siemon who passed away on March 15. His funeral was held at Lockhart's Funeral Home on March 20, 2018.

To the family of Irene Kistner who passed away on April 12. Her funeral was held at Lockhart's Funeral Home on April 22, 2018.

To the family of Dorothy MacElmon who passed away on April 25. Her funeral was held at St Peter's on April 30, 2018.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

To Pete & Judy DeJong who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in April.

*Joan Beuermann*  
Office Administrator

## Mother's Day Supper at the Brodhagen Community Centre

Date: May 13<sup>th</sup>

Time: 4:30 to 7:00

Cost: \$20/ plate

Children ages 3-10 \$10

To reserve tickets please call: Barb at 519-347-2731 or Michelle at 519-348-2142

The meal is being catered by Bob and Barb Jarmuth who always serve a delicious bbq meal. Give mom a break and treat her to a fabulous dinner among friends, family and neighbours. We look forward to seeing you there.

Richard Leonhardt, Fundraising Committee

**KEEP UP TO DATE!** Would you like to be informed of what is happening at the church via email? Did you think you were on the list, but have changed your email address lately? To receive our weekly emails please let Pastor Laura know at: [lauradsauder@gmail.com](mailto:lauradsauder@gmail.com) or give your email address to any member of the Outreach Committee.

## Friends of the Seminary Golf Tournament

Thursday, May 24 at Ariss Valley Golf and Country Club (5700 Highway 86, Ariss). Entry fee is \$140 and includes golf cart, 18 holes of golf, box lunch, buffest steak dinner, charitable donation receipt (in lieu of prize table).

Registration: 11:30 AM

Tee-off: 12:30 PM shotgun

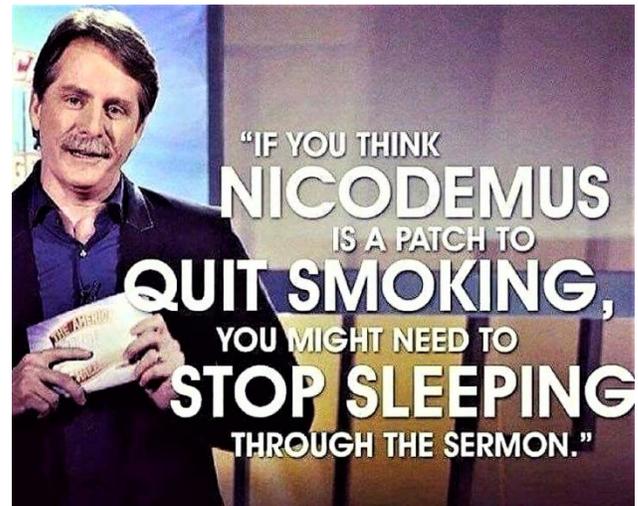
For more information contact Dorinda Kruger Allen

Phone: 519-884-0710, ext. 3241

Email: [dkrugerallen@wlu.ca](mailto:dkrugerallen@wlu.ca)

Register online at:

<http://bit.ly/SeminaryGolf2018>



## 2018 Mobility Bus Dates

The Mobility Bus has been booked for the following dates. Please inform the church office or Pastor Laura by the Wednesday before if you would like to take advantage of this service.

May 6

June 3

July 15

August 19

September 16

October 7

November 4

December 2

## From our Synod

### Liberated by God's Grace ... to be neighbour

The story is so familiar, perhaps too familiar.

A lawyer asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus responds with the question, "What is written in the law?" The lawyer responds correctly, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus responds with a story. A man is attacked by robbers and left near dead. A priest, and then a Levite, see the wounded man and pass by. A Samaritan, however, stops, binds the man's wounds and takes him to an inn where he covers all the expenses until the man is fully recovered. "Which of the three was a neighbour to the man who fell among robbers," Jesus asks. His listener responds, "the one who showed mercy." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." Most of us, if encountering a neighbour in need, will respond with care and mercy. That's what neighbours do.

I suspect, however, that if asked to identify our neighbours, we would be inclined to reference a pretty small circle of people with whom we share close bonds of social or geographic kinship. The people who live next door. My colleagues at work. Those who I sit closest to at church. I suspect the Levite and the priest would respond in similar fashion. Certainly we can assume they did not perceive the wounded man to be a neighbour. How, otherwise, could they have possibly failed to

respond to his obvious and urgent need? The Samaritan, on the other hand, clearly did view this man as being his neighbour. Somehow, his circle of kinship had been drawn wide. Where the others had seen the wounded man as someone to be avoided, the Samaritan saw a neighbour in need; and he responded in kind.

This June, the Eastern Synod Assembly will convene under the theme Liberated by God's Grace ... to be neighbour. We will spend time meeting with, and learning from, neighbours in the community who we may not have previously engaged in a meaningful way. Neighbours of other faith traditions. Neighbours of diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds. Neighbours bearing the weight of extreme poverty and homelessness. As disciples who have been liberated by God's grace, we will seek to draw, sing and pray a wider circle of kinship and neighbourliness. We will seek to do what Jesus asks. "Go and do likewise."

#### **Bishop Michael Pryse**

*(originally published in the March 2018 Eastern Synod Lutheran)*

### **Church Directory Updates**

We are in the process of updating our church directory. If your contact information has changed in the last 12 months, we ask that you please pass along those changes to Joan in the church office so we can keep our contact information up to date. In particular, if you have made the switch to using a cell phone as your primary or only phone line, please let us know. Thanks!

## Notes from Nelson Granite Presentation on March 18, 2018

*This meeting was held after service as a follow-up information meeting for the congregation regarding the possible Columbarium for the cemetery as called for at the Annual Meeting in February 2018. Approximately 40 people attended. The guest speaker was Kevin Young, the regional dealer for Nelson Granite, Vermillion Bay, Ontario. Kevin's office is in Elmira. He showed a PowerPoint presentation to the congregation, answering many questions and providing available options. What follows is a summary of the information he presented.*

Nelson Granite is a family-run business since 1909 in Vermillion Bay, 3 hours east of Winnipeg, 4.5 hours west of Thunder Bay. They own the quarries, extracting solid granite from the Canadian Shield. The columbariums are 100% solid Canadian granite, with no concrete, aluminium or plywood used in construction. Each Niche is 12.5" x 12.5" x 14", walls and shelves are 2" thick, door is granite 1.25" thick, attached with tamperproof steel screws. Optional stainless steel locking doors are available. There are 3 colour options available for granite doors.

Reasons for building a columbarium:

- industry trending away from tradition burials, over 70% now opting for cremation and this percentage is predicted to rise to 76.5% within a few years.
- columbariums provide options to satisfy new trend, conserve land and generate revenue for cemetery.
- aesthetically pleasing, create a memory garden where family can enjoy time
- cost saving: traditional burial \$6200 vs. niche \$2300. The congregation sets pricing (average is \$1500 to \$2000)
- advantages for cemetery: stay competitive offering options to keep burials local, efficiency (48 niche monument fits 96 urns in area of 1 burial plot), care and maintenance (easy to mow and trim saving time), generates income for cemetery (at normal rates, after sale of one third of niches, initial expense is covered, making any further sales an income for cemetery)

Plaques would be ordered by cemetery board. If all dates are known, the dates are cast right into plaque. If plaque is bought pre-need dates are added later. There are two date configuration options and congregation decides which option all plaques will be so that a uniform look is obtained. Plaque cost to cemetery board \$350 to \$400.

Additional option: Memory wall for plaques for people whose ashes are elsewhere, create an historical record for families. The end wall is predrilled, and plaques ordered when needed.

Cost examples:

**64 niche rectangular monument:** Cost: \$21,440 + foundation \$4000 + crane \$1000 = \$26,440

Revenue generated: Niche sales \$76,800 + Plaques \$12,800 + Memory Wall plaques \$8,640 = \$98,240 - \$26,440 = \$71,800 (return on Investment 271%)

**72 niche round monument:** Cost: \$35,880 (with foundation and crane)

Revenue generated: niche sales \$86,400 + plaques \$14,400 + memory wall \$8640 = \$109,400 - \$35,880 = \$73,520 (return on Investment 205%)

**72 niche round with dome roof:** Cost: \$40,880 (with foundation and crane)

Revenue generated: \$109,400 - \$40,880 = \$68,520 (return on investment 167.6%)

**84 Niche square monument:** Cost: \$35,400 (with foundation and crane)

Revenue generated: \$126,240 (return on investment 256%)

Also available are family columbarium with 4 niches for private monument. Each is custom made free-standing monument with several options.

Location considerations: should include room to expand with a layout plan tentatively decided. Good opportunity to create a legacy project for generations to come

Website for pictures of options and video of quarry and operation at [nelsongranite.com](http://nelsongranite.com)

Kevin Young 519-807-9198

[kevinyoung@nelsongranite.com](mailto:kevinyoung@nelsongranite.com)

Congregation questions:

1. Where are the memory plaques placed on the round monument?  
*Fluting on one or two of the flat surfaces is not done, instead pre-drilled holes are readied for plaque placement.*
2. Round would be center of shown layout?  
*Layout would vary according to wishes. Curved Rectangular could be put around the round centre monument, or 4 rectangulars could be placed at compass points allowing people to choose a niche facing the direction they want.*
3. The foundation is a floating slab?  
*Foundation type would depend on locale. In this area it would probably be 4' deep with Rebar used. Would take advice from local contractors.*



My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

- JOHN 10:27 NIV

# SCRIPTURE READINGS

Date	Service Description	Title	Readings	Notes
May 6	10:30 Holy Communion	6 Easter	Philippians 1:1-18a	Sunday School starts upstairs
May 13	10:30 Word and Prayer	7 Easter	Philippians 2:1-13	Sunday School starts upstairs
May 20	10:30 Holy Communion	Day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 Philippians 4:4-7	Family Sunday
May 27	10:30 Word and Prayer	Holy Trinity	TBD	Sunday School Picnic at Maynard & Lynn Hoegy's (4890 Road 179)
June 3	10:30 Holy Communion	Pentecost 2	Deuteronomy 5:12-15 Psalm 81:1-10 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23-3:6	Celebration of Communion Sunday with our Grade 3 & 4 Sunday School students
June 10	10:30 Word and Prayer	Pentecost 3	Genesis 3:8-15 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35	
June 17	10:30 Holy Communion	Pentecost 4	2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 Mark 4:26-34	Confirmation Sunday
June 24	10:30 Word and Prayer	Pentecost 5	Job 38:1-11 Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41	Pastor Laura and Deb Elligsen at Synod Assembly
July 1	10:30 Holy Communion	Pentecost 6	Lamentations 3:22-33 Psalm 30 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43	Worship at Family Paradise (tentative)

# WORSHIP LEADERS SCHEDULE

May/June 2018

Date	Acolyte	Assistant	Communion Washers	Projectionist	Reader	Greeters
May 6	Brett Gethke	Deb Elligsen	Darcy & Angela Smith	Joan Beuermann	Amy Lejcar	Gerald & Gwen Neeb
May 13	Emma Robinson			Elsie Beuermann	Sherri Bennewies	Vicki Siemon & Elsie Beuermann
May 20		Murray Rose	Gerald & Jean Beuermann	Greg Beuermann	Gerald Neeb	Richard & Marjorie Horst
May 27						Richard & Jan Leonhardt
June 3	Brett Gethke	Lynn Hoegy	Marion Weir & family	Jarret Pugh	Bonnie Beimers	Dennis & Sharon Bennewies
June 10				Jan Leonhardt	Peter Lejcar	Doug & Sandra Dietz
June 17		Deb Elligsen	Rodney Hinz & family	Sherri Bennewies	Gwen Neeb	John & Laurie Mogk
June 24				Joan Beuermann	Elaine Dietz	Amy & Peter Lejcar
July 1		Sherri Bennewies	Don & Pauline Beuermann	Elsie Beuermann	Bob Robinson	Adam & Emily Agar

# May 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 8:45 Senior Choir	4	5 9:00 Arbor Day
6 10:30 Holy Communion	7	8	9	10 8:45 Senior Choir	11	12
13 10:30 Word and Prayer 4:30-7:00 Mother's Day Supper at Brodhagen Hall	14	15	16 7:30 Church Council	17 8:45 Senior Choir	18	19
20 10:30 Holy Communion	21	22	23	24 8:45 Senior Choir	25	26
27 10:30 Sunday School Picnic at Maynard & Lynn Hoegy's	28	29	30	31 8:45 Senior Choir		

# June 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 5:00-7:00 Communion Instruction	2
3 10:30 Holy Communion Celebration of Communion	4	5	6	7 8:45 Senior Choir	8	9
10 10:30 Word and Prayer Choir at Nursing Homes 2:30 Villa 3:30 MNH	11	12	13	14 8:45 Senior Choir	15	16
17 Confirmation 10:30 Holy Communion	18	19	20 7:30 Church Council	21	22	23
24 10:30 Word and Prayer	25	26	27	28	29	30

Pastor Laura and Deb Elligsen at Synod Assembly June 21-24.  
Pastor Laura available for pastoral emergencies.