

ST. PETER'S CONNECTIONS

MARCH, 2025



PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL
AND
IMPACTING GENERATIONS

125 YEARS
1900 — 2025



St. Peters Evangelical Lutheran Church
403 W. Bridge Street
Brownstown, Indiana
Rev. Ryan Schneider, Pastor; 812-358-2539

St. Peter's Connections for March, 2025

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Your Lenten Journey

The season of Lent begins on March 5th with Ash Wednesday. Lent is a 40 day journey, even though the season itself is 46 days. (Did you know that?) This is because Sundays don't count in the count of days! Sundays are IN Lent, not OF Lent, for Sundays are always connected to the resurrection of Jesus, regardless of the season.

I used the word journey in describing the 40 days of the Lenten season. For we have a goal and a destination to which we are journeying - to come to the Easter feast after a season of repentance, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to celebrate with great joy and "break our fast" with all the fullness and richness of Easter.

But what's this journey going to look like for you? Maybe it'll be tough this year, or feel a bit solitary, or maybe it'll bear some real fruit. The beauty of a journey, is that it shapes us. By the time we reach the end, we're not the same as when we set out. Sure, you might just be 46 days older, but I'm betting there's more to it than that.

Think about the epic journeys in the Bible. Abraham packing up from Haran, heading to the land God promised, complete with a few scenic detours. Israel hoofing it from Egypt to the Promised Land, with a whopping 40-year wilderness detour. Or the Magi, chasing a star to find Jesus. Abraham grew patient (mostly) waiting for that promised son. Israel learned some hard lessons over those 40 years. And the Magi, did their faith flicker or flare brighter as they neared Jerusalem? Journeys like these don't just move us from point A to point B; they rework us along the way.

Our Lenten journey has that goal. That through His Word and Spirit, God would change us according to His will. Maybe that change will not be easy or pleasant, but it will be what we need. So the 40 days of Lent are like a mini-time of life when each year we can take some time to, if not stop, then at least slow down a bit and think about the journey . . . and the detours God has used, and has planned for you for the future.

So this upcoming Lenten season, I encourage you to think on this and take a journey with us. First and foremost a journey in the Word of God. Add more Scripture reading to your daily routine. Come to Church on Sunday. Come to our Wednesday Night Lenten Services. Use Scripture in your prayers. Whatever you decide, let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.

And then also think about your own journey. How has God led you to where you are now? What people did He use? What events, both good and bad? What challenges, joy, sorrows? What detours? And where are you going? How is God guiding you now? What encouragements and discouragements are forming you and directing you? Are you going your own way? Are you resisting His directing? How? Why? Do you think that is good? Maybe this Lenten season can point you in a better direction . . .

But always remember this, too: our ultimate destination is the one God wants most for you, and that is life with Him forever. To come to the Feast of heaven which has no end; the Feast that makes all other feasts pale in comparison. Always remember you are on that journey, and let that one shape and define all the rest. Happy Lent!

In Christ,

Pastor Schneider



¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.
Hebrews 13:16

St. Peter's Lutheran Church				
January 31, 2025				
	Balance		January	Balance
Assets	01/01/2025	Activity	Activity	01/31/2025
Jackson County Bank Checking				
General	297.90		(9,760.58)	(9,462.68)
Dedicated to Family Assistance	547.78			547.78
Prayer Garden	2,290.75		100.00	2,390.75
Special Trustee Projects	9,730.18			9,730.18
	<u>12,866.61</u>			<u>3,206.03</u>
Jackson County Bank Savings				
Handbell & Music	363.68			363.68
Live Stream	1,730.00			1,730.00
Alter Guild	4,959.08		(2,370.40)	2,588.68
Capital Improvements	50.00			50.00
Interest	3,638.65	*	(6,500.00)	(2,861.35)
* temporary loan to general fund	<u>10,741.41</u>			<u>1,871.01</u>
Liabilities				
Payroll Taxes Withheld	330.27		8.76	339.03
Jackson County Bank Line of Credit	-	-	-	-
Owe Lutheran Central \$30,363.95 for January				
Owe missions \$383.86 for January				

February 2025

- the savings account was paid back for the temporary loan during the first week of February
- after paying all debts through the end of February except for Lutheran Central (January and February) and except for missions for February, the bank balance is \$11,028.20. This assumes no contributions between today (February 19) and the end of the month.



"I remain rather convinced of a few simple biblical principles of stewardship (Luke 14:28; Prov. 22:7). A significant one is that we should not spend more than we take in. In fact, we should make an effort to spend slightly less than we receive. 'We took some in. We spent some. And we had some left over at the end of the year.' That's an ideal financial report in my book!"
 — Rev. Matthew Harrison, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

St. Peter's Lutheran Church January 31, 2025

Offerings

	Activity	January Activity	Balance Totals
Envelope Contributions		23,738.12	23,738.12
Loose Collection		1,027.00	1,027.00
General (Non Envelope)		343.00	343.00
Vacation Bible School		-	-
Fair Booth		20.00	20.00
Soup Supper			-
Cookbook Income			-
		25,128.12	25,128.12

Offering percentage change from last year (positive means offerings are higher) **-51.98%**

Expenses

	Budget	Budget to Date	Actual to Date	To Date % of Budget
Salaries - Preaching & Teaching				
Pastor Expenses				
Pastor Salary	74,631.00	6,219.25	5,052.62	8.3%
Housing Allowance			1,166.74	
Health Care Assistance (1/2 self, family)	24,405.84	2,033.82	2,033.82	8.3%
Health Savings (HSA)	2,800.00	233.33	233.26	8.3%
Retirement & Disability	8,918.40	743.20	841.78	9.4%
Health (1/2 self)	5,086.44	423.87	423.87	8.3%
Reimbursement Expense	3,000.00	250.00	0.00	0.0%
Substitute Pastor	3,000.00	250.00	0.00	0.0%
Organists	12,700.00	1,058.33	300.00	2.4%

Expenses (continued)			To Date	To Date %
	Budget	Budget to Date	Totals	of Budget
Operating Cost				
Parsonage Expenses (repairs & utilities)	8,000.00	666.67	568.08	7.1%
Business Manager Salary	52,000.00	4,333.33	0.00	0.0%
Secretary Salary	25,965.00	2,163.75	2,163.75	8.3%
Janitor Pay	10,700.00	891.67	0.00	0.0%
Social Security Taxes	5,964.32	497.03	165.52	2.8%
Retirement & Disability Employee	9,316.82	776.40	258.57	2.8%
Conference/Education Expenses	1,000.00	83.33	0.00	0.0%
Office Supplies	10,000.00	833.33	610.41	6.1%
Copier Contract	14,500.00	1,208.33	0.00	0.0%
Technology	300.00	25.00	0.00	0.0%
Worship Expenses	7,500.00	625.00	64.20	0.9%
Music/Choir Expenses	200.00	16.67	0.00	0.0%
Cleaning Supplies	1,000.00	83.33	32.38	3.2%
Utilities	25,000.00	2,083.33	2,305.65	9.2%
Maintenance and Repairs	20,000.00	1,666.67	0.00	0.0%
Church Office Remodel	35,000.00	2,916.67	423.46	1.2%
Landscaping, Yard, Snow Removal	6,000.00	500.00	480.00	8.0%
Insurance (Property, Liability, WC)	12,000.00	1,000.00	3,008.00	25.1%
Education Supplies	300.00	25.00	0.00	0.0%
Christmas Expenses	500.00	41.67	0.00	0.0%
Convention Expense	1,500.00	125.00	0.00	0.0%
125th Anniversary Supplies	5,000.00	416.67	155.90	3.1%
Mom's Group Supplies	600.00	50.00	0.00	0.0%
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,500.00	125.00	0.00	0.0%
Congregational Outreach				
Child Care Staff Retirement & Disability	20,000.00	-	2,609.45	13.0%
Child Care Ministry Assistance	25,000.00	2,083.33	0.00	0.0%
Vacation Bible School	500.00	41.67	0.00	0.0%
School Operation				
Lutheran Central	365,000.00	30,416.67	0.00	0.0%
Trinity Lutheran High School	10,400.00	866.67	0.00	0.0%
Expenses Not Listed In Budget				
Fair Stand - Operations	0.00		0.00	
Fair Stand - Building			0.00	
At Home	809,287.82	65,773.99	22,897.46	2.8%
Missions				
Indiana District LCMS (0.95%)	7,688.23	640.69	0.00	0.0%
Lutheran Mission Federation (0.4%)	3,237.15	269.76	0.00	0.0%
Haiti Mission (0.2%)	1,618.58	134.88	0.00	0.0%
Totals	821,831.78	66,819.32	22,897.46	2.8%
Expenses percentage change from last year (negative means spent more)			61.56%	
Respectfully submitted,	Offerings to Date		25,128.12	
Carol Hayden, Treasurer	Expenses to Date		(22,897.46)	
Robert Pottschmidt, Financial Secretary				

God's Instruments, God's Stewards

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Eph. 2:10)

Some pastors refer to these words as “the most forgotten words in the Scriptures.” They are forgotten because they follow the familiar and critical words before it. The preceding two verses that overshadow Ephesians 2:10 are words of justification: “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Eph. 2:8–9). These are words preached regularly. They are assigned as confirmation verses. They carry with them the very heart of what it means to be a redeemed child of God!

Precisely because the previous verses are so central to salvation, they often overpower our practice of stewardship! We have been saved by grace. This is certain and sure because of Jesus. Works play no role in our salvation. No credit taking for us! Grace is freely given. Faith is miraculously created by the Spirit and joyously received. This truth is so wonderful and so encompassing that we often miss out on WHY we are redeemed.

The grace of God revealed in Jesus calls us to faith. But St. Paul doesn't stop with grace and faith. He continues to the logical conclusion. Just like the creation declares the handiwork of God, the redemption of sinners like you and me declares His greatest handiwork! Redeemed stewards are created to reflect the grace and mercy God showers on us to others.

As Lutherans, we understand that good works flow from faith in Jesus Christ. They are the fruit of the tree of salvation into which we have been grafted by grace. Sanctification and stewardship are both on-going and active confessions of what the Lord has done in us. These works are not always spectacular. Many times, they are simply parents showing Jesus to their children. They are compassionate actions that live out the truth of the Gospel to co-workers and even complete strangers. While they can be grand endeavors, more likely they are simple, beautiful works which highlight what Jesus has done in us.

These works aren't random either. They have been planned by God. God planned to use you as a faithful steward as you walk the road that leads you through your daily life. There are no chance encounters or coincidences. They have been planned by the Lord of the universe for the benefit of His creation. Good works are what point to God's greatest work: Jesus!

He calls you and me to walk in this faith, which flows from this grace, which has been poured out on us in Jesus. But even this is not to our credit. We are simply called to be faithful stewards of God's grace so that we may share it with those who need it as much as we do. God's Spirit carries us along in this. We are just the steward — the instrument in His hand to accomplish His plan and glorify Him!

St. Peter's EV Lutheran Church, Inc.
Church Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 15, 2025

Members present: Kay Ude, Amanda Guinn, Michelle Turmail, Megan Pottschmidt, Carol Hayden, Caleb Hackman, Ed Stuckwisch, Andy Fountain, Randy Turmail, Pastor Ryan Schneider, Sara Stuckwisch, Tony Eppley, Allison Berry

Members excused: Dave Kovener

Opening: Randy Turmail brought the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and Pastor provided a short devotion from John 2 about the wedding at Cana and a short prayer.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the November Council meeting were reviewed.

Ed Stuckwisch moved and Tony Eppley seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2024 meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Reports from Boards and Committees

Pastor's Report: See Pastor's report of official acts as presented. There are additional transfers in of Mike Patmore and his wife from Immanuel and Richard Tormoehlen from Peace Lutheran. Several baptisms will be upcoming as well. Additional wedding of Megan Pottschmidt and Silas Cheo is scheduled for May. Pastor added a note that Carol Blackwell helps out with playing music for nursing home services and chapel services that he leads.

Daycare Director Report / Childcare Ministry Board Report Amanda Guinn, Kay Ude, & Michelle Turmail): See the attached report for details. As is included in the report, the church did contribute \$22,600 to the day care to ensure all bills were paid at the end of the year. The Amazon wish list has been extremely beneficial to the day care. Packages arrive weekly.

Treasurer & Financial Secretary (Carol Hayden): November and December information is provided in the packet. The ending balance at the end of the year was quite low, but all obligations were met.

Chairman's Report (Randy Turmail): Randy, Carol Hayden, and Dave Kovener are going to begin meeting with each board / committee of the church to outline what they expect to happen when the new Business Manager is hired. After the constitutional reviews are presented and hopefully approved, they will begin advertising for the position. They are hopeful that the position will be filled by the middle of 2025.

Elder's Report (Andy Fountain): The minutes of their last meeting are included in the council packet.

The Elders have received instruction concerning the new communion ware and the purpose of each item.

Trustee's Report: No member present. Randy presented information provided by Brad Nolan. Trustees are investigating the cost of exterior cameras and have determined that the expenditure is within the limit that Trustees are allowed to spend without asking for Council or Voter's approval. There would be a camera at each door that would take pictures as people entered the building and then 4 – 5 cameras that would monitor the church property. Trustees are working on getting estimates for back parking lot paving to be proactive before the LCS playground is fully designed and completed. There are still problems with the door locking system and are asking permission to modify the system so that it can be controlled from the internet.

Motion by Andy Fountain that it is recommended to Voter's that the locks be allowed to be controlled through the Internet. Second by Caleb Hackman. The motion was unanimously approved.

Lutheran Education Association Report (Allison Berry): There has been no change on the lease for the playground. They have been asked by the Presbyterian Church to secure insurance to cover the liability created by part of the car rider line being on their property. New cafeteria tables have been purchased.

Board of Christian Education (Megan Pottschmidt): December meeting included discussion about youth and Christmas program. They met again this evening and discussed additional plans for Developing the youth program

Cemetery Board: No member present

Foundation: No member present

Scholarship Committee: No member present

Old Business:

Taco & Pizza House Update (Randy Turmail & Tony Eppley): Currently at a standstill because of the weather. Electric lines have been moved and construction should begin as soon as the weather breaks.

Constitution Next Step (Randy Turmail): The constitution will be presented again for questions and comments at next week's Voter's meeting.

Office Manager Next Step (Randy Turmail): This was mentioned in the Chairman's report above.

St. Peters Connection: Get information in to Bob (bob.pottschmidt@stpetersbtown.com or rj_pottschmidt@hotmail.com)

New Business

Audit Committee: Grant Hackman, Matt Spurgeon, Sherry Rorig, and Carol Hayden have been appointed by Randy Turmail.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 with a prayer provided by Pastor.

St. Peters Evangelical Lutheran Church

Board of Elders Meeting Minutes

February 12th, 2025

1. Call to Order

- Time: 7:02pm
- Chairman: Andy Fountain

2. Opening Devotion & Prayer

- Led by Pastor Schneider

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Reviewed by: Emmitt Hanner
- Motion to Approve: Randy Ude
- Seconded by: Chad VanLiew
- Approval Status: Approved

4. Pastor's Report

- Review of Official Acts by Pastor Schneider
 - No additions were made by the Elders
- Pastor reviewed the general status of visits done since January 8th
- An intensive Cathecism class will take place Saturday February 15th from 9:30am to 3:30pm
- An additional wedding is upcoming for Jamie Tincher
- There are a few upcoming baptisms happening in the near future
- A Funeral will be taking place the week of February 17th
 - One of the late service elders for February needs to be present for this service
- Late service Communion-ware

- Early Service Elders are asked to move the communion-ware to the altar if communion is taking place at the 10:30am service
- Plastic Communion cups sticking
 - Some congregation members squeeze the cups when removing them from the trays
 - Ed Stuckwisch is investigating a solution

5. New Business

- Emergency Church Cancellation procedures
 - Pastor prepared a copy of LSB 285 which is an order of service in which Elders can lead the congregation
 - This ensures that if there is a time when a pastor cannot be present, services can still take place
 - In these events, Pastor Schneider will prepare a written sermon to be read to the congregation
 - A copy of the LSB 285 order of service will be laminated and stored in a manilla folder and stored in the white cubby of the narthex
- Directory Photo make-up day is March 4th
- Elder Zone Updates
 - Jo Gail has updated contact information for congregation members of each zone
 - If an elder has not yet received their zone, contact Jo Gail to receive this information
 - Elders are to pick up a folder with their name on it and sign the letters to congregation members in their zone before Jo Gail mails them out
- A Baptism will take place February 16th at the 10:30 service
 - Elders to reserve 6 pews

6. Old Business

- The Elder's schedule for March was presented

- Upcoming meetings:
 - Church Council: February 19th, 2025 at 7:00pm
 - Elders' Meeting: Wednesday, March 12th, 2025 at 8:00pm
 - Lent Services start on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025 at 7:00pm

7. Closing

- Closing Prayer Led by: Pastor Schneider

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February Trustee Meeting
2/12/2025 6:00pm
LC Playground:
Project currently on hold with LC, deed paperwork to be signed on their end, currently in LC's hands now
Security:
Daycare basement door has been left unlocked from time to time, no signs of any issues or break-ins, potentially looking into changing locks to lock after exiting
Looking into 4-5 exterior cameras and 8 interior cameras to be placed at each door entrance
New electric door lock has been installed on the door at the back of the sanctuary
Downstairs bathroom/office windows:
Quote from Kenny Glass to replace the 5 downstairs windows on the east side of the church (\$13,847)
Quote from Kenny Glas to replace the 4 ground level windows on the east side of the church (\$20,256)
Brad is going to see if they are quoted together if that would positively affect the price
Office remodel:
Good start on it so far, hoping to get mud and sanding completed by the end of this week or the beginning of next week
Volunteers to come after mud work is done to begin painting potentially next week of the following week
Church secretary to potentially move into Pastor's office temporarily during remodel
A lot of items are going to need to be gone through, organized and thinned out
Going to ask congregation members if there is interest in the old chalk boards
Waiting to complete ceiling work after potential window replacements
Mowing bids:
Start asking for bids next Sunday for the next 2-3 weeks to see what companies would be interested
First cut could be needed before the April trustee meeting, so we would need to get our decision made before then
Plumbing:
Drain backing up downstairs, Zach Morris cleaned it out last time and it was mostly paper products
What is a permanent fix to this somewhat continual issue?
Brad is going to reach out to Kameron Burch to see if he would have an idea for a long-term solution. Morris has failed to show up 4 times to scheduled meetings with Brad

Plumbing cont:

Rough idea for what it may cost to fix around \$8k-\$20k, will know more after meeting with Burch

Paving:

Looking at getting north lot and west side of church paved with a 6" curb next to school line

All Star quoted job at \$120,000

Currently waiting on a quote from Fleetwood

Could we possibly pitch the parking lot, plumbing, and windows to the congregation for a project together?

Current cracks in lot and daycare lot could be filled by Fleetwood for around \$1,000

Monthly Bills

Concordia Plan for church/daycare employee's insurance - \$6,167.49

Quill for kitchen supplies - \$385.49

Culligan for water treatment - \$26.00

Brownstown Hardware for supplies and remodel supplies - \$296.22

Lucas Ackerman for office wall support supplies - \$574.73

Stevens Mowing for salt and snow removal (6x) - \$920.00

Bane and Warren for Taco House stone - \$960.50

Concordia Publishing for devotion books/portals of prayer - \$77.60

New Communion Ware for church - \$2,370.40

Christy Nolan for cleaning – \$816.65

Felicia Schneider for cleaning – \$691.65

Laura Blankenbaker for cleaning – \$691.65

B & C Electric for fire alarm and elevator quarterly contracts - \$300.00

B & C Electric for door controls quarterly contracts - \$400.00

Current Contractor List (can be found in red binder in church office)

Electrical: Nathan Rittman and Brad Nolan

Plumbing: Zach Morris and potentially Kameron Burch

Roofing: Royalty

HVAC Church: Hunter Nolan

HVAC Daycare: Reliable Comfort

Mowing/Snow Removal: Charlie Stevens

Cleaning: Christy Nolan, Felicia Schneider and Laura Blankenbaker

Organist: Lori Tabor

Trash Pickup: Rumpke

Pest Control: Orkin

Elevator Contractor: Otis

Trustee Projects Report:

To Do List

- Outside masonry joints
- Outside stairwell paint
- Main waterline
- Door lock wires conceal
- Card holders on back pews
- Front fountain

Special Projects

- Narthex funeral curtain
- Office upgrade
- Back parking lot blacktop
- Alley repair
- Tree removal shelter house

Completed Projects

- Sunday School cabinets

Next Trustee meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2025



Please Join Us For
**St. Peter's
Lutheran Church**

Mom's Group

9:30 - 11:00 AM

March 12 & 26

April 9 & 23

May 7 & 21

Child Care Available Infant - 5yrs

**For Questions Call or Text
Felicia Schneider 270-219-2106**



March 2025

St. Peter's Lutheran Childcare Ministry
812-358-7034
saintpeterschildcare@gmail.com



"For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God."

Romans 8:19



Bible Stories:

- *A Gift for Jesus
- *The True King
- *A Poor Widow's Gift
- *Washing the Disciple's Feet



In the classrooms:

- *Our ones and twos will continue to work on developing motor skills through play and exploring new colors!
- *Preschool aged kiddos are ready for letters O, P, Q and R!

Things to know:

- Summer session letters will go out to all K-5 families on March 14th
- We will be running a "pay the day" fundraiser all month long to help raise money for playground upgrades!



Spring break for BCS and LC is March 17-21

Council Meeting Report
Daycare and Daycare Board
Wednesday February 19, 2025
Respectfully submitted: Amanda Guinn

Daycare:

1. 46 actively enrolled children
2. 10 full-time staff members, 1 part-time staff member, 1 director
3. Fundraising ideas for new playground equipment: We will be doing a Pay the Day fundraising calendar in March, with funds being earmarked specifically for new playground equipment and outdoor toys. Amanda is also working on gaining funds through local and state grants and awards.
4. Summertime preparations: Letters will be going out to our K-5 parents in March, regarding their need for full-time summer care. Last year's summer care teacher, Mrs. Sara LeMarr, will be returning to head this program
5. Fun times: January was full of snowy days, and we took full advantage of this natural and free sensory resource! Our kids made snow ice cream, painted snow, and had several indoor snowball fights. On Friday February 14th, we enjoyed a very successful Valentine's Day party.

Daycare Board:

1. The Daycare Board meeting has been rescheduled due to illness and will take place on Monday February 17th at 5:15pm. Minutes will be presented at the council meeting.
2. Hosting the 125th Anniversary Celebration luncheon on March 2nd

Financial reports for January are attached

St. Peter's Child Care Ministry

Profit and Loss

January 2025

	TOTAL
Income	
3 Years and Older Income	14,271.40
After School Kids Income	696.00
Before & After School	425.60
Donations	225.00
Drop In Income	230.00
Registration Fee Income	50.00
Sales	-2,112.30
Under 3 Years of Age Income	12,672.00
Total Income	\$26,457.70
GROSS PROFIT	\$26,457.70
Expenses	
Food & Supplies	1,426.81
Janitorial Expense	523.88
Office Supplies	46.40
Office/General Administrative Expenses	195.00
Payroll Expenses	
Taxes	1,336.73
Wages	17,473.30
Total Payroll Expenses	18,810.03
Toys, Crafts, EducationMaterial	8.09
Utilities	
Electricity	225.43
Natural Gas	147.09
Sewage	81.14
Water	53.93
Total Utilities	507.59
Total Expenses	\$21,517.80
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$4,939.90
NET INCOME	\$4,939.90



St. Peter's Lutheran
Childcare Ministry

Now Hiring!

Call
812-358-7034

**Infant Co-Teacher
Evening Hours**

401-k benefits for full-time
employees

Email

saintpeterschildcare@gmail.com



PICK A DATE TO DONATE

St. Peter's Lutheran Childcare
Ministry

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	★ ANY AMOUNT	★ ANY AMOUNT	★ ANY AMOUNT	★ ANY AMOUNT

HOW IT WORKS:
PICK A DAY & PAY THAT AMOUNT
EXAMPLE= 2nd=\$2

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
OUR MINISTRY**

HOW TO PAY:
Cash, check or any
payment plan
preferred by the seller

Calendars and money
are due by April 4th

Made with PosterMyWall.com

CLARITY Diaper Drive

(Pregnancy Care Center)

Help us make a
difference in supporting
new parents with
DIAPERS!

"Children are
a gift from
the Lord" -
Psalms 127:3



Collection Date:

Feb 2 – March 2

Drop-off Location:

Church Fellowship
Room

Need:

Diapers of all sizes

**For more information about
Clarity, you can visit their
website at:**

claritycares.org



Thank you for your
donation!

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SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

ORIGINAL SIN & FREE WILL



A correct understanding of sin is foundational to understanding the Gospel. The more we come to realize the severity of our condition, the more our appreciation of the Gospel's beauty grows. The Bible tells us that we are "dead in trespasses and sins." This means that salvation must be God's work. In this series of Bible Studies we will let the Formula of Concord (1577) lead us into the Scripture's teaching on Original Sin & Free Will.

Sundays: 9:20-10:15 AM
March 9 - May 4
Pastor Schneider

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On January 12, 2025 we kicked-off our 125th Anniversary celebration with the theme, "Passion to Proclaim: That's Why We Are Here." The committee decided that one service (10:00 AM) will help bring us together as one congregation at each of these special services. On February 2, Pastor Keller spoke on the topic, "Energized to Evangelize (by God's Love)." This Sunday, March 2, Pastor Jeff Nehrt, a son of St. Peter's, will preach on the theme, "Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart" at the 10:00 AM service.

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As part of our celebrations, meals will follow each of these special services. We wish to thank the different boards and committees for sponsoring these meals. March 2nd meal will be served by our Board of Christian Education. Also, a table of mementos has been found in the Gathering Area. Special refrigerator magnets, pens, coloring books, and a very special sketch of our church by Kathy Nichols are available. Please stop by and donate for the small items and purchase the special sketch for \$10.00.

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Finally, banners are also out for this year of celebrating. The banner on the right side has the official seal of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod (more on that banner in next month's Connections). The banner on the left is our anniversary banner, made to commemorate this celebration. A brief explanation of the banner can be found on the next page. The balcony banners are designed to be opened one at a time for each of our special anniversary services.



ST. PETER'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

From Matthew 16:19: "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

From Matthew 28:19 as stated in our mission statement: Go ... baptize.

The black cross represents Christ's death for our salvation.

The circle of dots represents eternity. For this banner, we used 125 dots, one for each year we have been a congregation.

The open Bible shows that we, as a congregation, are to proclaim the Gospel message of salvation as stated in our mission statement from Matthew 28:19.

This reminds us of the Lord's Supper, the bread and the wine, our Lord's Body and Blood.

Luther's Seal.

Black cross: Christ's sacrifice on the cross saves us
White rose: faith, joy, comfort, peace
Sky blue background: joy in faith is a beginning of heavenly joy to come
Golden ring: joy in heaven is endless and more precious than all
Red heart: love God has for us in sending His Son

**PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL
AND
IMPACTING GENERATIONS**

**125th ANNIVERSARY
1900-2025**



MARCH 2 125TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE
Passion to Proclaim: That's Why We Are Here

Trust in the Lord as we tell the world

Proverbs 3:1-8

Hebrews 3:1-6

Luke 7:18-23

Webster defines “trust” as “a firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability, or strength of someone or something.” The Bible has that same definition, adding it’s a foundational element of faith that involves confidence and reliance in God. Trusting God means believing in His reliability, in His Word, His ability, and His strength. It’s more than a feeling; it’s having faith in what God says even when our feelings might have us believe something different. So, as King Solomon states in Proverbs: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.” This is the message we are proclaiming today: “Trust in the Lord as we proclaim the Gospel to the World.”

Acolytes: 10:00: Lauren Campbell, Morgan Wessel, Lily Wessel

Holy Communion @ 10:00

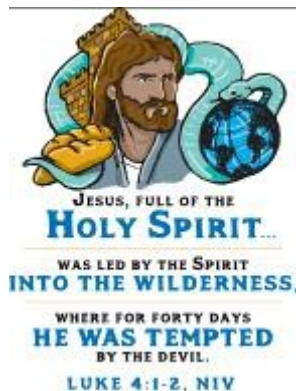


MARCH 5

ASH WEDNESDAY

On Ash Wednesday, we come down from the mountain with Jesus and set our face with His toward the cross in Jerusalem. We make our pilgrimage with Him by the way of repentance, and thus return to the dying and rising of Holy Baptism. For Christ Jesus, “*who knew no sin,*” became our sin, so that by His death we are released from sin, and in His resurrection we “*become the righteousness of God*” (2 Cor. 5:21). Since God has thereby reconciled the world to Himself in Christ, “*now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation*” (2 Cor. 6:2). He summons you to return to Him with all your heart because He is “*gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love*” (Joel 2:13). Do so in faith and confidence before Him, and pray to Him as your Father. Give to the needy from a heart of love, and fast for the sake of repentance (Matt. 6:3–4, 6, 17–18).

Acolyte: Graeme Hehman



MARCH 9 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Jesus Christ Is Our Champion Against the Devil

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus Christ, our champion against the devil, endures and overcomes *“every temptation”* (Luke 4:13) on our behalf. He worships the Lord, His God, and serves Him only by trusting the Word of His Father: *“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased”* (Luke 3:22). Jesus’ victory is now ours through His gracious Word, which is not far away but near us — in our mouth and in our heart, in the proclamation of repentance and faith. For *“with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved”* (Rom. 10:10). Our confession of Christ includes the prayer of faith, which is not disappointed, *“for ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved’”* (Rom. 10:13). The Lord is not oblivious to *“our affliction, our toil, and our oppression”* (Deut. 26:7), but has mercy upon us. He has brought us out of bondage through the *“signs and wonders”* of Holy Baptism, *“with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm”* (Deut. 26:8), and now He leads us by His Spirit even in the wilderness.

Acolytes: 8:00: Owen Kellermeier

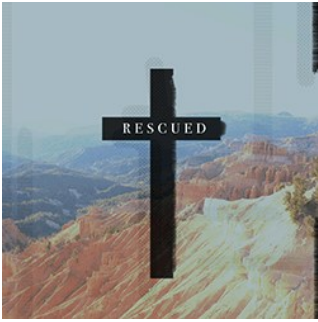
10:30: Brady England & Colt Burcham

Holy Communion @ 8:00



MARCH 12 Wednesday Lenten service

Acolyte: Evan Baker



MARCH 16 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Jesus Rescues Us from Death and Brings Us into Heaven

Jeremiah 26:8-15

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

The prophet Jeremiah faithfully preached “all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people” (Jer. 26:8). He called the people to repentance, lest the Lord’s judgment come upon them. The violence that Jeremiah suffered for this preaching foreshadowed the cross and Passion of Christ Jesus, who suffered the judgment of God for the redemption of all people. For Jesus “comes in the name of the Lord” (Luke 13:35) in order to lay down His life for the sins of the world. Earthly Jerusalem was blind to His gracious visitation, and it put Him to death like the prophets before Him. Yet, His sacrifice upon the cross became the cornerstone of the new Jerusalem, His Church. He visits us today in mercy with His preaching of forgiveness, to gather us to Himself within that holy city, “as a hen gathers her brood under her wings” (Luke 13:34), for “our citizenship is in heaven” (Phil. 3:20).

Acolytes: 8:00: Ava Brock

10:30: Evan Baker & Graeme Hehman

Holy Communion @ 8:00



MARCH 19 WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICE

Acolyte: Beau Fritz



MARCH 23 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Jesus Calls You to Repentance

Ezekiel 33:7-20

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

“Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3, 5). By this warning, the Lord would turn us away from wickedness and bring us to life in Himself. For He is patient with us, that we would not be cut down in our sin but live and bear fruit in Him. As He lives, the Lord has “no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live” (Ezek. 33:11). So the Scriptures have been “written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come” (1 Cor. 10:11), that we should not desire evil but trust in Christ. He alone is faithful, the Rock who feeds us with His “spiritual food” and pours out His “spiritual drink” (1 Cor. 10:3–4).

Acolytes: 8:00: Tyler Tormoehlen

10:30: Beau Fritz & Hank Stuckwisch

Holy Communion @ 10:30



MARCH 26 WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICE
Acolyte: Hank Stuckwisch

MARCH 30 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Jesus Christ Has Reconciled Us to the Father

Isaiah 12:1-6

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Jesus Christ Has Reconciled Us to the Father

God the Father has opened His heart to us in love. While we were “*still a long way off*,” He saw us and “*felt compassion*” (Luke 15:20). Therefore, He gave His only begotten Son for us, making “*him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God*” (2 Cor. 5:21). By the ministry of reconciliation, He runs to us, embraces us in mercy and clothes us with His glory as beloved sons in Christ Jesus. And so we give thanks unto the Lord our God, who has taken away our sins and turned His anger from us (Is. 12:1). Because He has become our salvation, our strength and our song, we “*will trust, and will not be afraid*” (Is. 12:2).

Acolytes: 8:00: Lauren Campbell

10:30: Morgan Wessel & Lily Wessel

NO Holy Communion



APRIL 2 WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICE
Acolyte: Morgan Wessel

LENT

MIDWEEK FOCUS

Preparing For Easter

The season of Lent is a penitential period of preparation. But what are we preparing for? Lent points us in the direction of Easter. So as Easter approaches, we will be preparing by studying our Lord's Passion Narrative in the form of consecutive Easter Vigils.

Wednesday Services **7:00 PM**



March 5 - Ash Wednesday

March 12 - Creation and Recreation

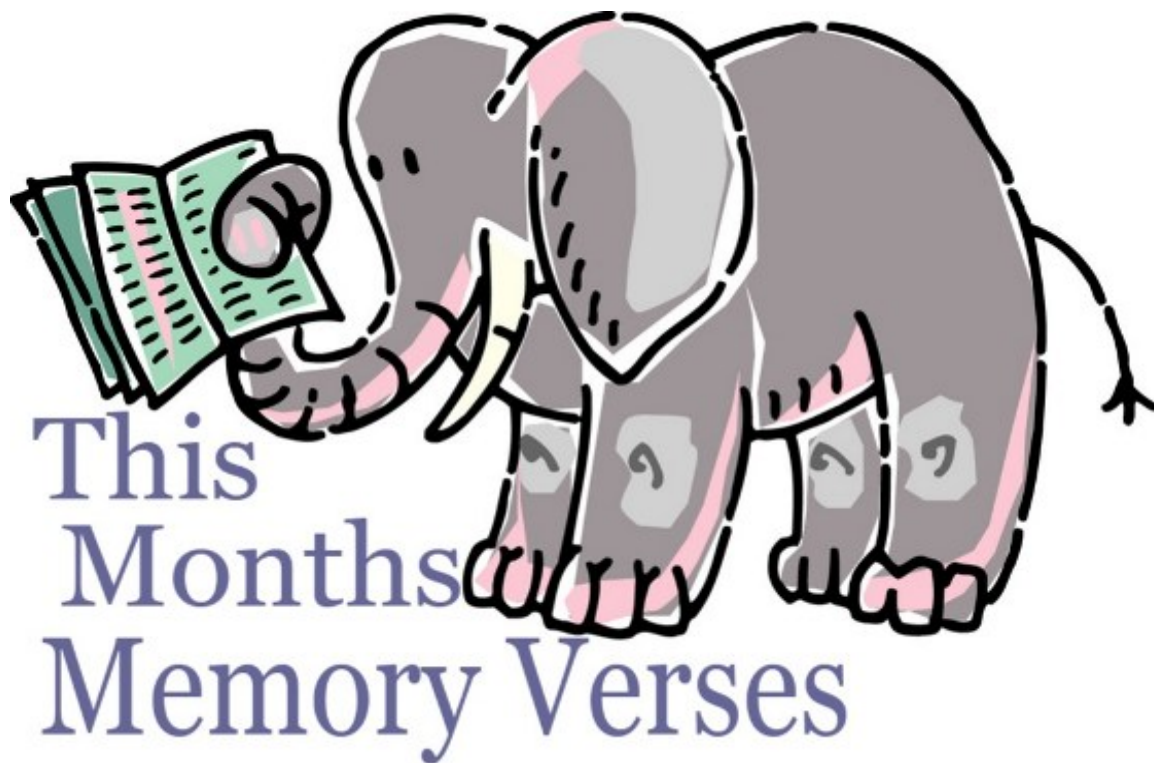
March 19 - The Ark of the Church

March 26 - Walking through the Water

April 2 - Through the Belly of the Tomb

April 9 - Walking through the Fire





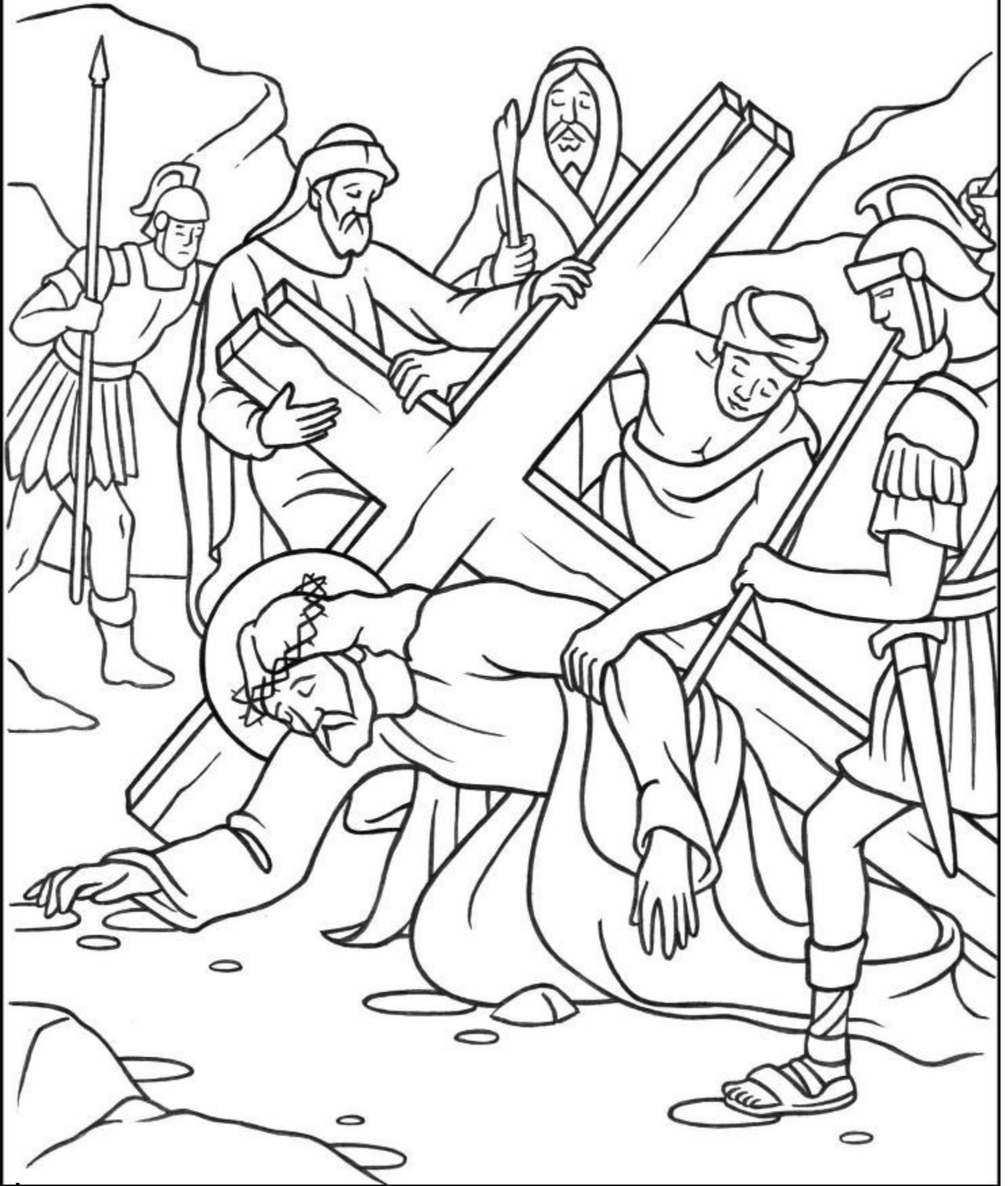
Philippians 3:20

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

COLOR ME!





1 Olivia Hanner
Philip Pottschmidt

2 Dustin Roller
Carol Rorig
Lucas VonDielingen

3 Tom Nolting

4 Filippo Lippi

5 Lesley Derringer

6 Kelly Cunningham
Joshua & Stacie Teipen

7 Frances Holle

8 Ann McAfee
Zachary Vierling

9 Janet Lee
Philip Rebber
Jace Sparks

10 Clayton Main
Jacob White

11 Michael Berry

12 Josh Briner
Stacy Cooper
Jaren Cunningham

14 Kristen Combs
Raelynn Shelton
Ella Waskom
Jerry & Tammy Brown
Jeff & Paula Hackman
Jared & Jessica Kellermeier

15 Wes Pottschmidt
Josh Teulker
Mike & Julie Hackman

16 Pam Christopher
Kathy Passerani

17 Kady Gill
Bryan Mager
Ashley Waskom

18 Paige Cole
Maddox Ross

19 Kevin Hanner
Geoff Harris
Olivia Neawedde
Roger & Peggy Hehman

21 Kathy Blandford
Gary Kellermeier
Andrew Lynn
Connie Philpot
Kelly Robertson
Steve Zabel

22 Oliver Caudill
Sue Nehrt
Reid Sparks

24 Evelyn Waggoner

25 Lindsey Goshorn
Beth Shelton

26 Rose Elmer
Rex & Teresa Meyer

27 Jacob Rorig

28 Linda Allman
Jonah & Brooke Persinger

29 Janet Myers
Max Stuckwisch
Dave & Pam Spurgeon

30 Caden Cardinal
Carolyn Ira
Emma Sparks

31 Derick Stuckwisch
Macy Warren
Jenna Wessel

