



"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

- Acts 1:8

On May 24 we will celebrate both Pentecost Sunday and the Affirmation of Baptism of two of our students. It should be a fun day of celebration. Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit in a dramatic way into this world, while Affirmation of Baptism celebrates students taking on their baptismal promises to live a life in faith. I think they fit together wonderfully.

One of the things I ask the confirmation students to do before they Affirm their Baptism is to write a paper to explaining what they believe. It's usually pretty awesome to read what they have to say. I suspect this year will be no different. How would you do with such an assignment? How would you describe God? How would you explain the significance of the sacraments? What role does prayer play in your life? Why is worship important to a life of faith? These can be tough questions if we haven't thought about them before.

Just before Pentecost as Jesus was about to ascend into heaven, he told his disciples that they would be his witnesses to Jerusalem, Samaria, and to all the ends of the earth. We are a part of those witnesses to the ends of the earth. In part, we do that by the way we live our lives. Yet, we also do it with our words. When someone sees you doing a good deed and asks you why, are you prepared to answer? When someone asks you about going to worship on Sunday morning, what will you tell them?

I believe the world is watching us more than ever. I believe our students are prepared to explain what their faith means to them. Are you?

Blessings,

Pr. Brad <><





PRAYER LIST

Glenn Mariott, Laura Chambers, Norm Peterson, CarolAnn Peterson, Marcy Bell, ALL THOSE MOURNING THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES, MILITARY – and all loved ones serving overseas.



ST. PETER'S VOLUNTEERS FOR MAY

ALTAR CARE: Sharon Bauman, Linda Handy
 CHURCH CLEANING: Sharon Bauman, Linda Handy

ST. PETER'S VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE

ALTAR CARE: Alicia Waltemath, Bonnie Hedding, Sara Waltemath-Lein, Brilee Waltemath
 CHURCH CLEANING: Alicia Waltemath, Bonnie Hedding, Sara Waltemath-Lein, Brilee Waltemath

ST. STEPHEN'S VOLUNTEERS FOR MAY

USHERS: Mike Macrafc
 READER: Sharon Graewin
 COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Jessica Schleif
 PREPARE COMMUNION: JoAnn Salava, Jelaine Mochenbacher

ST. STEPHEN'S VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE

USHERS: Mike Macrafc
 READER: JoAnn Salava
 COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Nancy Lauden
 PREPARE COMMUNION: Colleen Woggon, Chris Woggon

MARCH FINANCES

St. Stephen's

General Fund Income	\$ 5,066.66
Expenses	5,428.77
Balance of Funds	
General	1,054.27
Building	3,001.37
Memorial	12,142.91
Parsonage	10,384.35

St. Peter's

Income	11,575.18
Expenses	6,518.32
Balance of Funds	
General	10,127.81
Memorial	9,047.95
Congregational Care	1,047.21
Parsonage – Savings	13,983.74
Checking	2,932.71
Sabbatical Reserve Fund	2,263.61

Need \$ 7,112 Monthly

Need \$ 1,641 Weekly to Meet Budget

ST. PETER'S WELCA NEWS



Women of the ELCA will meet Sunday, May 17th, 10:30 after church service. There will be COFFEE AND during that time for others. Devotions: Leslie P. Discussions: items to be listed on the raffle tickets and setting up for rummage sales.

SPRING FLING is Sunday, May 31st, after church service. It will be potluck and ALL are WELCOME.

A BIG THANK YOU to ALL those who came for the deep cleaning inside and out of St. Peter's--women and men.

Be patient at finding the relocation of various items. There is more to do on the clipboard so if you desire, time with a friend, take on a task. All hands accomplish much and make it more beautiful.

Women of the ELCA will meet Sunday, June 14, at 10:30 after church service. Devotions: Linda Shisler. Discussions will continue concerning the rummage sale dates, and the Chicken Dinner fundraiser which is scheduled to be held on August 19. Watch your bulletins for updates or call Carlene or Leslie with questions.

St. Stephen's Women of the ELCA

Quilting continues on Saturday mornings through-out the summer. If you have flat (top) sheets, cotton preferred, any color, any size, that you no longer use, the quilters can use them on the backs of the quilts!



Also, Items for the Baby Care Kits will be gathered. New onsies (from 6 mo-18mo), socks (same size range) and sleepers without feet (NEW or like new condition.)



WELCA Bible Study (everyone is welcome) - May 20th at 1:00 pm

St. Stephen's Council

Thanks to everyone who contributed in the spring cleanup.

Join St.Stephen's in the Armed Forces Day Parade May 16.

Please continue to support the local food pantries.

Looking ahead:

August 15 food booth at Nelson Park for 1840's reenactment.



May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 (P) Zach Hericks	2 (S) 9:00 Quilting
3 9:00(P)Worship/ HC 10:30(S) Worship/HC	4 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word (P) Carlene Zaremba	5 (P) 5:30 Quilting	6 6:30 Confirmation @ Peace (P)David Batten	7	8	9 (S) 9:00 Quilting
10 9:00(P)Worship/ HC 10:30(S) Worship/HC MOTHER'S DAY	11 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word	12 (P) 5:30 Quilting (S)Makenna Brockman (S) Margaret Strohmeier (P)Sam Rattunde	13 9:30 Women's Birthday Breakfast 9:30 Men's Break- fast 6:30 Confirmation @ Peace (P)Kyle Shisler	14	15 (S)Jessica Schleif	16 (S) 9:00 Quilting ARMED FORCES DAY 11:00 Parade Line up
17 9:00(P)Worship/ HC 10:30(S) Worship/HC (P) WELCA- fol- lowing worship (S)Ben Woggon (P) 6:00 pm Council Meeting	18 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word (P)Ryan Krueger	19 (P) 5:30 Quilting	20 (S) 1:00 pm WELCA Bible Study	21 (P)Nicholas Blaschke	22	23 (S) 9:00 Quilting (S)Keira Wilkinson
24 PENTECOST 9:00(P)Worship/ HC 10:30(S) Worship/HC CONFIRMATION SUNDAY	25 Memorial Day Office Closed	26 (P) 5:30 Quilting (P)Josh Handy	27 (P)Kristen McGarry	28 (P)Sharon Bauman (P)Jerrie Fisher	29 (P)Donald Freemore III	30 (S) 9:00 Quilting (S)Lauren Woggon
31 9:00(P)Worship/ HC 10:30(S) Worship/HC						

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word (P)Pat Boelsing (P)Pete Peterson	2	3 (P)Linda Shisler (P)Joyce Waltemath	4	5 (P)Kari Becker	6 (S) 9:00 Quilting Synod Assembly
7 9:00(P)Worship 10:30(S) Worship SYNOD ASSEMBLY -10 am Bandshell at Riverside Park, La Crosse	8 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word (P)Jessica Handy	9 (P) 5:30 Quilting	10 9:30 Women's Birthday Breakfast 9:30 Men's Breakfast	11	12	13 (S) 9:00 Quilting
14 9:00(P)Worship/ HC 10:30(S) Worship/HC (P) WELCA following worship	15 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word	16 (P) 5:30 Quilting	17 (S) 1:00 pm WELCA Bible Study (S)Dale Stickney	18	19 (S)Teann Cumberworth (S)Ethan Dvorak (P)Andrea Freemore	20 (S) 9:00 Quilting NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
21 9:00(P)Worship 10:30(S) Worship (S)Michael Hilson (P)Diana Freemore	22 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word (S)Lana Wagenson (P)Jill Bezemek	23 (P) 5:30 Quilting (S)Paul Wagenson	24	25	26	27 (S) 9:00 Quilting (S)Briana Smith
28 9:00(P)Worship/ HC 10:30(S) Worship/HC (S)Melissa Chambers	29 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word	30 (P) 5:30 Quilting				