

VOTERS MEETING
FALL 2026

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 10:30 WORSHIP SERVICE

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ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

Voters Meeting Agenda

Sunday, November 1, 2026
Immediately following the 10:30 service in the Sanctuary

Opening

- Opening Prayer.....Pastor Eggold
- Call to Order.....Ben Clinkenbeard
- Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2026 Voters Meeting.....Ben Clinkenbeard

Business Items

- Synodical Constitutional Amendment on Calling Special District Conventions....Pastor Eggold
- Reallocation of Endowment Funds.....Darryl Olson

Reports

- Endowment Report.....Darryl Olson
- Financial Report.....Aaron Olson
- Ministry Reports.....Ministry Staff

Closing

- Closing Prayer.....Pastor Eggold
- Adjournment.....Ben Clinkenbeard

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St. Peter's Voters Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2026

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Ben Clinkenbeard at 12:00 PM.

Opening Prayer
The opening prayer was offered by Pastor Eggold.

Receipt of Written Reports

- Approval of Minutes from November 2, 2025 & March 25, 2026
- Reports
  - Pastor Eggold
  - Pastor McDowell
  - Pastor Widener
  - Day School
  - Preschool
  - Executive Director
  - Board of Directors
  - Endowment
  - Strategic Plan
  - Budget Summary
  - Motions
- **MOTION**: The voter's of St. Peter's Lutheran Church approve the minutes of November 2, 2025 and March 25, 2026 as printed and the receipt of the written reports as provided prior to the meeting. (Vicki Fitzgerald, Bob Hart)

Decision Agenda

- Elections
  - Board of Directors
    - Bill Habegger
    - Dr. Ben Clinkenbeard
    - Julie West
- Endowment Recommendation for 2026 use of Earnings
  - **MOTION**: The voters of St. Peter's Lutheran church move to use the 2026 Church General Purpose Endowment earnings of $70,964 to complete these projects: toilet sensors, PEEP flooring, exterior sign, cornerstone flooring, lights, fans, interior signs, transportation, Heritage collection, home discipleship, chairs, & the 175th Anniversary. (Bill Habegger, Don Goeglein)
- Bylaws
  - **MOTION**: The voter's of St. Peter's Lutheran Church move to approve the following update to the Bylaws Article 4.0 as follows:
    - 4.0 REMOVAL FROM ELECTED OFFICE
      - Any elected official who is unable to perform official duties or is neglectful in the performance of official duties may be removed from office under the direction of the Board of Directors by a two-thirds (2/3) ballot vote of the Voter's Assembly. (Don Goeglein, Kathy Hart)
  - **MOTION**: The voter's of St. Peter's Lutheran Church move to approve the following update to the Bylaws Article 5.0 as follows:
    - 5.0 AMENDMENTS

• After approval by the LCMS pursuant to its established rules and processes, these bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast at a Voter's Assembly meeting. Copies of the wording of the amended bylaws shall be available at the church at least two weeks prior to the meeting or will be mailed to an individual, if requested. Once approved by the Voter's Assembly, a copy of the approved bylaws will be provided to the LCMS pursuant to its established rules and processes. (Vicki Fitzgerald, Don Goeglein)

- Extend of Call
  - o **MOTION**: Troy Buuck moved to extend a call to Dianna Bultemeier as a teacher, which was seconded by Jan Hoffman. Motion Passed.

Strategic Agenda

- 2026-2027 FY Budget
- Strategic Plan
  - o Four Strategic Emphases
    - Deepen belonging across the whole congregation
    - Strengthen Unified Ministry across Church, School, and Preschool
    - Invest in Lifelong Discipleship
    - Build for Future Mission and Growth
  - o Timeline (2026 – 2030)
    - 2026: Shared theme "Called in One," immediate facility priorities, prayer partner ministry
    - 2027: Sunday School relaunch, Life Connections Team, leadership pipeline
    - 2028: Facility assessment, outreach partnerships
    - 2029: Fellowship growth, directory update, worship attendance goals
    - 2030: 175th Anniversary and future capital campaign preparation

Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was offered by Pastor Eggold.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 PM. (Don Goeglein, Aaron Olson)

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Grisez, Secretary

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Resolution to Ratify LCMS Constitutional Amendment

2026 Synod Convention Resolution 9-14A

WHEREAS, the 69th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod adopted Resolution 9-14A, proposing an amendment to Article XII, Paragraph 15, of the Synod's Constitution concerning the calling of special district conventions; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment would provide additional means for calling a special district convention in cases of urgent necessity, including provisions allowing circuit forums or district vice-presidents and circuit visitors to call such a convention without the consent of the district president; and

WHEREAS, Article XV of the Synod's Constitution requires that constitutional amendments adopted by a Synod convention be submitted to the voting congregations of the Synod for ratification; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that St. Peter's Lutheran Church ratify the proposed amendment to Article XII, Paragraph 15, of the Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as adopted in 2026 Resolution 9-14A; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the appropriate congregational representative be authorized to submit St. Peter's affirmative vote through the Synod's official electronic voting system prior to the March 15, 2027, deadline.

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

Resolution to Approve Reallocation of Endowment Proceeds

WHEREAS, at its May 2026 meeting, the Voters Assembly of St. Peter's Lutheran Church approved the allocation of endowment proceeds for campus improvements, including $4,000 for toilet sensor replacement and $3,000 for sanctuary fan repairs or replacement; and

WHEREAS, changing circumstances have made the toilet sensor project more costly than originally anticipated, while the sanctuary fan project can reasonably be deferred; and

WHEREAS, necessary painting throughout the church facilities has resulted in an expense of approximately $10,000, exceeding anticipated costs; therefore, be it

[WHEREAS, the Endowment Committee has reviewed these circumstances and recommended reallocating the previously approved funds toward the painting expense; therefore, be it]

RESOLVED, that the Voters Assembly of St. Peter's Lutheran Church approve the reallocation of $7,000 in previously designated endowment proceeds—$4,000 from the toilet sensor replacement project and $3,000 from the sanctuary fan project—to offset a portion of the approximately $10,000 expense for painting throughout the church facilities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the toilet sensor and sanctuary fan projects be deferred for future consideration, with any subsequent funding requests brought through the appropriate approval process.

Board of Directors Report



BOD Chair, Ben Clinkenbeard

Greetings from your Board of Directors!

Since our Spring Voters' meeting, the Board continues to develop a strong understanding and commitment to the Policy Based Governance the congregation voted upon in 2025. We believe our One Ministry has adapted well to this governance. Thanks be to God!

This type of governance has allowed the Board, working closely with Pastor Eggold, to continue to focus on the development of policies and long term strategies. As we have welcomed new members Julie West and Chad Ervin to the Board, we bid a fond farewell to Bob Jacobus and Bob Hart for their dedication. Your board is here to serve St. Peter's and this servant heart is ever present during our meetings, discussions, and the commitment to develop policies to make our One Ministry the best it can be! Some of the highlights and policy development over the past 6 months include:

- Working closely with Pastor Eggold in the development of meaningful policies to help make St. Peter's Connect, Grow and Share and to be involved in our One Ministry's Strategic Plan
- Working closely with Pastor Eggold on budget matters and continuing to develop policies on bequests, reallocation of funds, unrestricted funds, and the congregational gift acceptance among others
- Continually reviewing our policy handbook and editing policies as the Board sees necessary
- July 26th was the annual Board retreat. It is a time for board members to connect, review our policies, think "long term" strategies, and to set the stage for the year to come.
- We continued our education with reading "The CEO and the Board" and "Lessons from the Church Boardroom"
- The Board is continuing to develop a board self-evaluation and a senior pastor performance evaluation based on the Desired Outcomes within the policy manual
- Principal Chris Brune gave us update in June on the Day School which included how the 2027 Federal SGO program can benefit our ministry
- The Lutheran Foundation delegation was updated
- Assisted with the Schools accreditation NLSA

Board of Directors

- We held a board meeting at the school. The Board wanted to see a tour of the school to better appreciate how the school balances high level education with the building's physical constraints and limitations.
- Some of the ongoing discussions we are working on include: St. Peter's long term management of the cemetery, the Strategic Plan, and Board meeting effectiveness.

I would like to share something that Pastor Eggold asked me during our first meeting over a year ago in his office. "What is St. Peter's Big Why?" In other words, why do we do what we do here at St. Peter's? This question is always at the forefront of our Board meetings, our discussions and the policies we develop. As chair of your Board of Directors, I am very proud of your board. We are honored to help make St. Peter's the best it can be. Our commitment to our church is evident in the heartfelt discussion we hold and the willingness to listen and be heard. Thanks be to God! We look forward to serving you, our members.

Dennis Borchers
Ben Clinkenbeard
Gary DeCamp
Chad Ervin
Don Goeglein
Jenny Grisez
Bill Habegger
Aaron Olson
Mark Timm
Julie West

Endowment Report



Endowment Chair, Darryl Olson

St. Peter's Lutheran Church and School maintain endowment funds at the Lutheran Foundation and the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne (Community Foundation).

The majority of funds are managed by the Lutheran Foundation. The School has one fund at the Community Foundation that is designated for tuition. This fund is currently being use to support tuition assistance at the Preschool.

The School also has three funds managed by the Lutheran Foundation. These funds are designated for Tuition, Technology, and General Purpose.

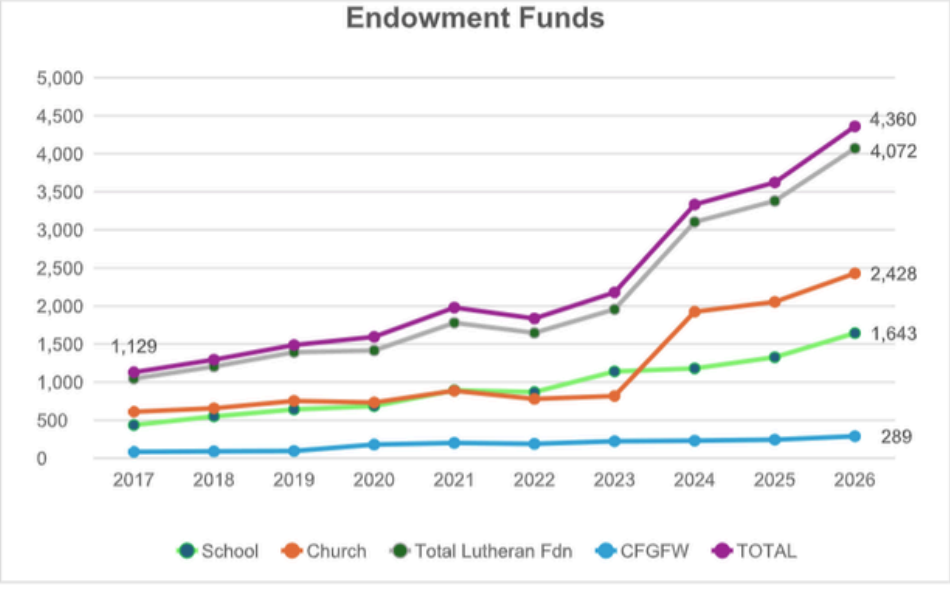
The Church has one General Purpose fund that is managed by the Lutheran Foundation. Proposed use of the this fund is currently submitted to the voters' assembly for approval with the budget for the upcoming budget year.

The School endowment funds designated for tuition and technology do not require voters approval but must be used for tuition and technology.

The amount available to spend during the budget year is calculated using a three-year average of the fair market value of the investments on a quarterly basis.

Fund Summary

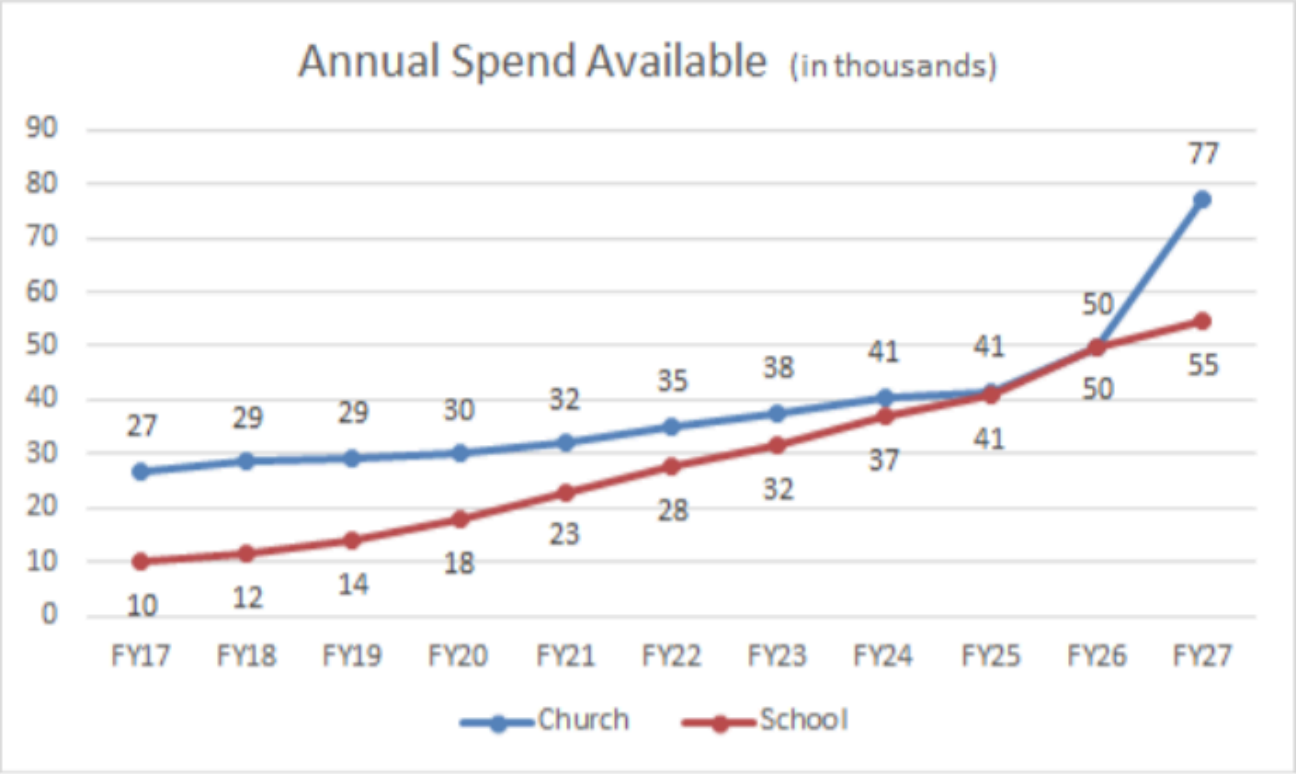
The past ten-year history of the endowment funds is highlighted in the following graph and table:



Darryl Olson

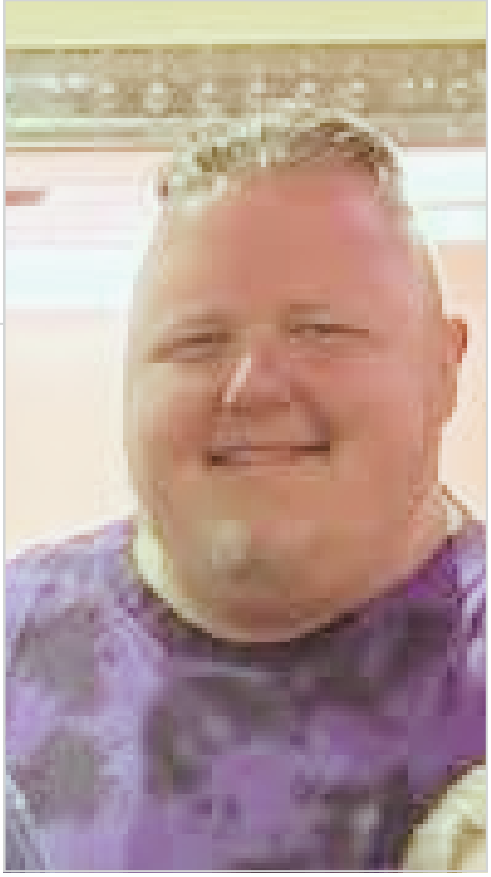
Managed by the Lutheran Foundation	Amounts rounded to nearest hundred $ 6/30/25	6/30/26	Change
School Funds	1,326,400	1,643,300	316,900
Church Fund	2,053,800	2,428,300	374,500
Total Managed by the Lutheran Foundation	3,380,200	4,071,600	691,400
Managed by the Community Foundation	242,500	288,500	46,000
TOTAL FUNDS	3,622,700	4,360,100	737,400

Annual spend available for the Church and School Endowments



At the May 2026 voters meeting, the Endowment Committee submitted a recommendation for use of the Church endowment fund. This included a number of items. During the current budget year, an unforeseen event occurred costing approximately $10,000. Since some of the recommended items approved for this year were not time sensitive, the committee is submitting a recommendation for repurposing some of the funds. This is detailed in the Resolution to Approve Reallocation of Endowment Proceeds.

Finance Report



Treasurer, Aaron Olson

We are grateful for the faithful generosity of our congregation. As we look ahead, we want to continue encouraging faithful stewardship across every generation, building lifelong habits of giving that will help sustain our church's ministry and Lutheran education for years to come.

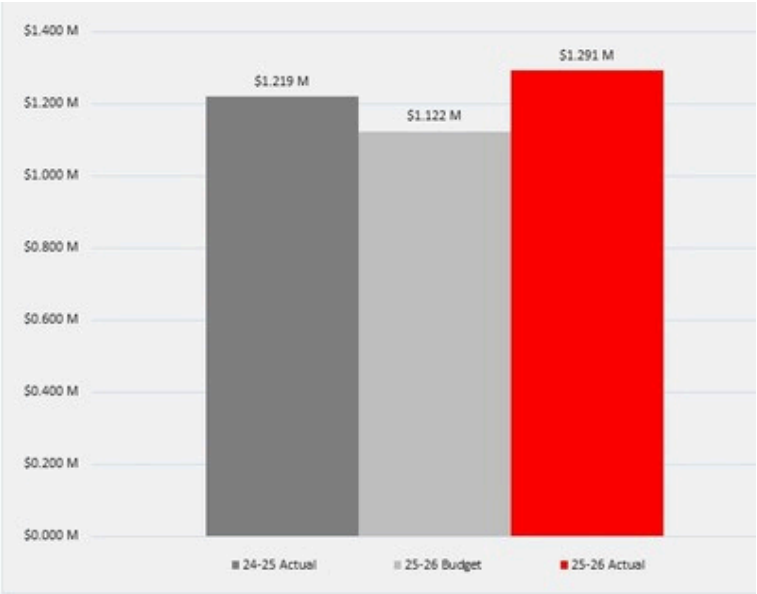
Past 8 Fiscal Years of Giving



Zoom in on General Fund Giving for Fiscal year 2025-26

2025-26 Highlights

- **$1,291,042** in General Fund giving
- **5.9%** increase over the prior year
- **$168,984** above budget



Ministry Leader Report



Pastor Danny Eggold

When we gathered in May and adopted our strategic plan, we expressed a shared desire for St. Peter's: to grow more deeply into the life Christ has given us and serve more faithfully with the gifts He has entrusted to us. Six months later, I am encouraged by how this commitment is beginning to shape our life together.

As you read the leadership reports that follow, I invite you to keep that larger picture in view. Each report describes a particular area of ministry, but together they tell the story of one congregation learning, planning, caring, and serving.

You will see work already bearing fruit, preparations for work still ahead, and areas that need continued attention and participation. These reports give us an opportunity to recognize how our shared priorities are becoming part of our life together.

One encouraging development has been the growing connection among church, school, and preschool. Our theme, "Called in One," gives us language for a truth that has always stood at the heart of our ministry: Christ has joined us together as His one Body. This year, we are more deliberately expressing that unity through shared planning, prayer, worship, and relationships. I am grateful to see our staff and ministry leaders considering how their work can strengthen the whole parish.

I also see a growing desire to help people participate more fully in congregational life. Our strategic plan calls us to deepen belonging, and that work reaches across generations and circumstances. It includes welcoming new households, strengthening relationships among longtime members, encouraging our young people, and caring for those who cannot regularly be with us. Belonging grows as we know one another, receive Christ's gifts together, and accept responsibility for one another's care.

Our commitment to lifelong discipleship is taking shape in a similar way. We are giving renewed attention to how faith is nurtured throughout the week and through every stage of life. We are giving thoughtful attention to the relationships among worship, Christian education, and the home. Much of this work requires patient preparation, and I am thankful for those willing to build foundations that will serve our congregation in the years ahead.

These months have also brought opportunities to look outward and to plan further ahead. We are considering how our campus, partnerships, finances, and members' gifts can support service to our

neighbors and future generations. The retirement of our mortgage and St. Peter's continuing mission give us reasons to give thanks as we dream for the future.

We are early in implementing the Strategic Plan. Some efforts have moved quickly. Others need time, refinement, and more people to share the work. I hope you will read these reports with gratitude and a willingness to participate. Celebrate the progress you see. Pray for those carrying responsibility. Consider where you might serve or support the next steps.

Above all, we give thanks to Christ, who gathers and sustains His Church. May He continue to strengthen our life together and guide our service in this place.

In Christ,
Pastor Danny

Ministry Leader Report

Pastor Nate Widener



We have exciting things happening at St. Peter's, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to help advance our strategic plan through discipleship, member engagement, mission, and outreach!

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Our Christian Community Health Care (CCHC) clinic remains on track to open in January. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, we have received a tremendous supply of medical necessities, including bandages, thermometers, and Band-Aids. While we can still accept donations, we are well supplied as we prepare for the clinic's opening.

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP AND MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Our Family Discipleship team has been working hard to launch our first Equipping Event and provide Car Discussion Cards to families. Our goal is to make family discipleship an ongoing priority, and we will soon begin developing our Milestone Ministry as well.

Prayer Pals is also up and running! With approximately 170 preschool and day school children enrolled, this ministry helps ensure that our youngest members know their church family cares for them and prays for them. We look forward to connecting with each child through personal notes and encouragement.

Similarly, PrayER Partners is reaching out to our homebound and nursing home residents through regular face-to-face visits, prayer, and Christian companionship. We currently have 20 volunteers serving 22 shut-ins, helping strengthen relationships and remind our members that they remain an important part of our church family.

I'm also excited to begin working more directly with Women's Ministries. We are currently forming a team to coordinate and strengthen ministries such as Sisters in Christ, LWML, Quilting/Knotting, Meal Train, and other opportunities to serve and support one another.

EQUIPPING AND FORMATION

Hope Sessions continue to flourish! Moving our meeting night from Tuesday to Wednesday has been successful, and our classes continue to draw strong participation. In fact, we are once again making the most of every available seat in the Cornerstone Room. A particular highlight was our most recent Adult Information Class (AIC), which welcomed 16 participants who will now be joining our church.

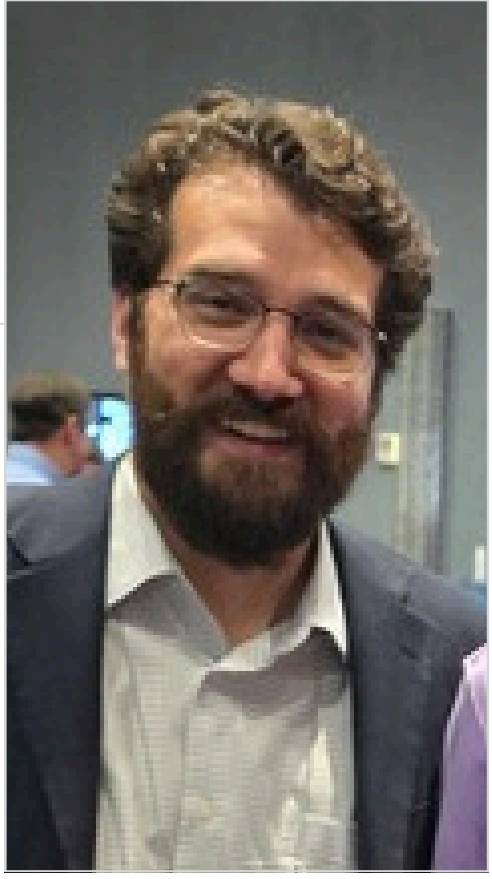
Pastor Nate Widener

Looking ahead, Blue Christmas will provide an important opportunity for those who struggle during the holiday season to acknowledge their grief and find comfort and fellowship among fellow believers.

Finally, St. Peter's will again participate in iLead, a Fort Wayne-wide initiative that develops future leaders within the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Having coordinated our participation since the program's inception four years ago, I look forward to inviting 5–10 congregants to participate this year. Our goal is not only to identify and equip emerging leaders, but also to help them find meaningful leadership roles within St. Peter's.

I'm thankful for the many parishioners who make these ministries possible, and I look forward to seeing how God continues to work through them in the coming months.

Ministry Leader Report



Pastor Adam McDowell

GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

As we reflect on the work of our ministries, we give thanks for the many opportunities God has provided to gather His people around His Word, strengthen relationships within His Church, and encourage lives of Christian service.

A central vision is guiding our teams' work in Parish Education, Fellowship, Youth Ministry, and Confirmation:

Moving St. Peter's from a congregation that offers programs toward a congregation that intentionally forms disciples through learning, fellowship, and service and connecting that to our one ministry.

This does not mean replacing the ministries we already have. Rather, it means becoming more intentional about how these ministries connect with one another and contribute to our shared mission: Connect to Christ. Grow in His Grace. Share Him with others.

PARISH EDUCATION

Christian education continues to provide opportunities for members of all ages to grow in their understanding of God's Word.

Our Sunday morning Bible study has been exploring the history of the Christian Church, while additional studies throughout the week, including our Thursday noon study of Colossians, Men's and Women's groups, continue to provide opportunities for adults to engage with Scripture.

This summer's Vacation Bible School provided another opportunity to share God's Word with children and families. We are grateful for the faithful service of Lisa Hieber and the volunteers who supported this ministry. As we prepare for 2027, we are working to identify new leadership and strengthen the volunteer structure that makes this ministry possible.

One of our most significant initiatives is the restoration of Sunday School.

Our Parish Education Team has been establishing the foundation for a renewed Sunday School program, with a targeted launch in September 2027. We are developing a dedicated Sunday School team, identifying potential teachers, evaluating curriculum, and establishing training and support for volunteers.

Our long-term aspiration extends beyond simply restarting Sunday School. We want to create a culture of lifelong Christian learning. This involves examining how our various educational ministries connect and how we can provide meaningful opportunities for Christians to continue growing in their faith throughout every stage of life.

Pastor Adam McDowell

FELLOWSHIP

Our Fellowship Team has made encouraging progress toward creating additional opportunities for members to gather, develop friendships, and strengthen relationships across our congregation.

In August, our first Fifth Sunday Fellowship gathering brought together approximately 90 participants, exceeding our initial expectations. Our next gathering will be for a Hymn sing in November as we come to the opening the Advent season.

October saw the return of Fall Fest, providing an opportunity for our church, school, preschool, and surrounding community to gather together. We suspect that we had 600 participants from our church and the community and we are pleased that we have such a great community facing event.

Preparations are also underway for our November 20th Fish Fry. We are thankful for the many leaders, volunteers, and those donating many things (especially dessert). This year the proceeds will help to purchases vans which can be used for our ministry in a variety of ways.

Our Fellowship Team is intentionally working toward the congregation's strategic goal of hosting at least six fellowship events annually by July 2029, bringing together church, school, and preschool households with a goal of at least 120 participants per event.

Additionally, planning has begun for the celebration of St. Peter's 175th anniversary in 2030. A dedicated committee of 30 members has been established to help us commemorate God's faithfulness throughout our congregation's history. We have interviewed members and they have shared many inspirational stories about our congregation.

Our aspiration is for fellowship to become more than a collection of social events. We want these gatherings to encourage meaningful Christian relationships, strengthen connections between generations, and help members recognize their place within the larger body of Christ.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Our youth ministries continue to offer opportunities for young people to gather around God's Word, develop Christian friendships, and grow in their connection to the congregation.

Middle School Youth Group has resumed during our fall HOPE Sessions, bringing together Bible study, fellowship, and activities centered on our congregational theme, Called in One.

Our High School Youth Group continues to face challenges with consistent participation. While we continue offering opportunities to gather, we recognize the need to evaluate how we engage students and build relationships that encourage lasting participation.

Our Young Adult Ministry, under the leadership of Ben and Gwyn Corley, continues to bring together young adults from St. Peter's and the surrounding community.

Our aspiration is to help young people recognize that they are not simply the future of the Church; they are an important part of the Church today.

Pastor Adam McDowell

As we look forward, we want to strengthen relationships between young people and the larger congregation, encourage youth participation in congregational life, and develop opportunities for them to use their gifts in service to others. Rather than measuring youth ministry solely by attendance at events, we want to become more intentional about forming lasting relationships and helping young people remain connected to Christ and His Church.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation remains an important part of our congregation's commitment to teaching the Christian faith. Our Day School students continue their instruction as part of their regular school experience, while public school students participate in Sunday morning classes. Adult Confirmation instruction also began during our fall HOPE Sessions, providing opportunities for adults to explore the teachings of Scripture and the Small Catechism.

We want our learners to be strengthened in the understanding that Confirmation is not graduation from Christian education. It represents an important stage in a lifelong journey of receiving God's gifts, learning His Word, and living as His redeemed children.

We want to develop stronger connections between Confirmation, family discipleship, youth ministry, and adult Christian education so that students continue to find opportunities for spiritual growth and meaningful congregational involvement long after their Confirmation Day.

LOOKING FORWARD: INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

Although Parish Education, Fellowship, Youth Ministry, and Confirmation serve different purposes, they share a common calling. Each provides opportunities for God's people to be strengthened in faith, connected to one another, and encouraged in Christian living. Our continuing goal is to become more intentional about how these ministries work together.

We want children who attend Sunday School to continue growing through Confirmation. We want confirmands to remain connected through youth ministry. We want young adults to find meaningful relationships and opportunities for participation in congregational life. We want members of every generation to recognize that Christian learning and fellowship continue throughout their lives.

This work requires thoughtful planning, dedicated leadership, and the involvement of our entire congregation. I am grateful for the many volunteers and ministry leaders who faithfully serve in these areas. Their dedication allows St. Peter's to provide opportunities for Christian growth, relationships, and service.

As we move forward, I invite our members to consider how God might use their gifts to support these ministries. Ultimately, our goal is not simply to offer more programs or increase attendance at events. It is to ensure that our ministries intentionally support the spiritual care and formation of God's people.

May God continue to guide and bless this work as we seek to Connect to Christ and Grow in His Grace. Share Him with others.

Ministry Leader Report



Day School Principal, Chris Brune

We give thanks for the congregation's support of our school ministry! A new federal scholarship opportunity is an important focus as we prepare for 2027.

SCHOOL MINISTRY UPDATE

Enrollment. We currently serve 224 students in K–8, providing daily opportunities for learning and growth in Christ.

Academic progress. Our students achieved a 100% IREAD3 pass rate last year making it 3 years straight. Our ILEARN ELA proficiency rate has increased by 11 percentage points since the 2023–24 school year.

Student support. We continue strengthening reading instruction and using assessment results to guide support through the Wildcat Learning Lab.

Annual Fund and giving. Last year's Why St. Peter's? Wildcat Fund launch was a success. A total of almost $60,000 for the Wildcat Fund was raised throughout the year. Thank you to our donors and volunteers at events!

NLSA accreditation. Our self-study is targeted for submission by Thanksgiving, with the visiting team scheduled for March 3–5, 2027. Around 35 people participating in a workday 10/4 and our steering committee is hard at work. This work will help shape our school action plan for the next 5 years.

Longer term planning. Executive Advisory Group priorities include financial stability, staff retention, and meeting students' changing needs.

The federal SGO opportunity. The Federal Scholarship Tax Credit, also called the Education Freedom Tax Credit, begins January 1, 2027. Indiana has elected to participate.

- **How it works.** Individuals give to an approved Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO), which awards scholarships for eligible K–12 expenses, including private-school tuition.
- **The donor benefit.** Current Treasury/IRS guidance provides an annual dollar-for-dollar federal income tax credit up to $1,700 per individual, or $3,400 for joint filers when each spouse contributes.
- **Scholarship eligibility.** Household income generally may not exceed 300% of area median income, adjusted for family size. The SGO verifies eligibility; awards depend on available funds in our SGO. We believe this will include well over 90% of our student population starting in the 27/28 SY.

- **Indiana's existing SGO program.** Indiana's existing program offers a 50% state credit- Gifts cannot 'double dip' into both SGO's.

Example. A qualifying $1,000 gift could reduce federal income tax by $1,000 with sufficient tax liability and no state credit on that gift. The credit is nonrefundable; unused amounts may carry forward five years.

Gifts must go through an approved SGO.

Preparing for 2027
Our existing partner, the Lutheran SGO of Indiana, has announced approval to manage the federal program. Donors may designate gifts for scholarships at St. Peter's. As 2027 approaches, we will share federal giving instructions and scholarship application details.

For congregation members. Consider this opportunity in your 2027 giving plans and review eligibility with your tax preparer. Thank you for your prayers and support!

Ministry Leader Report



DS Assistant Principal, Janet Bahr

GRATITUDE - I am thankful for the opportunity to work with a great staff supported by a wonderful church family. The past three months have been filled with many opportunities for growth - for me, the students, and the teachers! I have loved being enveloped into this culture of fun learning. I have "experienced" Fun Fridays, enjoyed electives day and doing math stations with 3rd and 4th grade students, and helped in K-2 iLeap rotations.

CURRENT/PAST PROJECTS - Below are some of the projects I have done or are working on (in no particular order)

1. Title Funding Work - We are blessed to have some money through Title II funds to pay for teacher professional development opportunities (I'm excited to join three teachers in the Ron Clark Experience in Atlanta in November) and Title IV funds that help pay for some of our student/teacher supplies (books, teaching tools, replacing whiteboards/markers, to name just a few)
2. National Lutheran School Accreditation Work- What a great way for a new administrator to learn the ins and outs of St. Peter's and meet our many supporters through team meetings and work days.
3. Classroom visits - I am still mastering student names which is getting easier as I see their personalities in action. It has been great to have time to get into classrooms and see the inner workings. Problem solving day to day challenges Love this team!
4. Leadership Council - Mr. Burchardt and I have started leadership training of our chapel family leaders, who are a mix of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. We meet once a month and the leaders have tasks to complete each month.
5. Coaching the varsity volleyball team (7th/8th graders) this fall - loved seeing the girls grow in their skills and confidence. LSAA Tournament Runner-up!

FUTURE GOALS

1. Strengths Explorer for Middle School Students
2. Engagement Data/Teacher Feedback

Ministry Leader Report



Preschool Director, Barb Christian

We have had a wonderful start to the school year. The expansion of the playground was completed right on time for our Back to School Night festivities. We appreciate all of the helping hands that made this possible. Everyone worked so hard spreading 102 yards of mulch and sprucing things up. We especially appreciate the Bradtmueller family as we remember Jan and Otto through their memorial.

- Our enrollment is a strong start of 84, with just a couple of openings left in our afternoon 3s class.

- Our 5s went to Orchard Hill Apple Orchard to learn all about how apples grow, get picked and processed and then sold.

- Our 4s classes enjoyed a visit to Kurtz's Pumpkin Farm. They attended "Pumpkin School" and rode a wagon out to the field to choose a pumpkin.

- Our 3's classes enjoyed going to Cedar Creek Produce for the first time for their field trip. They had a lot of fun learning about bees and pumpkins.

- On Oct. 10 we had 44 preschoolers join us in song and praise during the 5 o'clock service. We sang our theme song, "We are the Body" and recited Col. 3:15, which is the verse that our theme is based on. We concluded with "Kids of the Kingdom.

- On Oct. 29 our 5s trick or treated across the street at the day school. This was a great opportunity for our preschoolers to see the "Big School" and interact with the big kids. We look forward to engaging with the big kids more often this year.

- We are working on accreditation along with the school. We will have a visit from the accreditation team in March.

I would like to say a GREAT BIG thank you to our congregation for all of the love and support. We appreciate your kindness and generosity in taking every letter off the Giving Tree and donating so many supplies. You are a blessing to our children, teachers, and our preschool.

Ministry Leader Report



Executive Director, Michelle Leahy

Over the past several months, my work as Executive Director has focused on supporting the ministry through staff care, responsible financial management, and maintaining and safeguarding our facilities. These responsibilities touch every part of life at St. Peter's, helping provide the people, spaces, and resources needed for worship, education, fellowship, and service.

One major accomplishment this summer was the transition in our Properties staffing. Kevin Roembke assumed the role of Property Manager, and Ryder Crismore joined us as a part-time janitorial assistant.

This transition involved substantial coordination and took place with minimal disruption to the daily activities of our church, school, and preschool. We are grateful for the cooperation and effort that helped maintain continuity during this important change, especially for our two mowing teams. Another part-time janitorial position remains open as we continue building the team that cares for our facilities.

We also welcomed several staff members to our educational ministries. Kelsey Zimmerman returned to the Wildcat Learning Lab, Michelle Pennell-Madden joined as a day school aide, and Madeline Studebaker is teaching fourth grade. The preschool welcomed aides Vanessa Kern, Julie Reidt, Jaime Kreiger, and Abigail Scheltens, along with Caitlan Stewart as a PEEPS teacher. Supporting these staff transitions helps our schools continue serving children and families.

We recently migrated to Brotherhood's iSolved system for payroll, timekeeping, and time-off requests. This work included reviewing and correcting paid-time-off records to align with our employee handbook. Completing this transition strengthens our administrative practices and helps us care for our employees consistently and responsibly.

I have also participated in our strategic planning process, helping connect our shared ministry goals with the staffing, finances, facilities, and procedures needed to carry them forward. Alongside this work, I am developing a more thorough onboarding process for new employees. The goal is to help staff understand their responsibilities, become familiar with our procedures, and see how their work contributes to the ministry we share at St. Peter's.

The congregation's generosity continues to support our shared ministry. Giving finished the previous fiscal year 9.7% above budget and remains ahead of budget in the current fiscal year. Both schools

enrolled more students than budgeted, which should increase revenue and expand our opportunity to serve families. Financial work has included preparing a giving and outlook report for the Advancement Team, reviewing accounts, and providing financial documentation for school accreditation. Planning for both schools continues to balance affordable tuition, fair staff compensation, and financial sustainability.

Our facilities also received considerable attention over the summer. Projects included roof repairs at the church and school, painting in the school's upper level and portions of the preschool and church, preschool playground expansion, and fresh mulch on both playgrounds. Sound paneling and a new logo were added to the school gym. Flooring improvements included the PEEP room and Mrs. Nix's classroom, new carpet in Mr. Motter's office, and new carpet in the Cornerstone Room with a tiled drink-service area near the kitchen window. Together, these improvements support the spaces our congregation, students, families, and staff use each day.

In early September, we believe our facilities sustained a lightning strike that seriously disrupted our door scheduling, access-control, and security camera systems. We are continuing to coordinate with Priority One to repair or replace the damaged equipment. Alongside these immediate needs, we are compiling longer-term facility needs to guide future planning and stewardship.

We have also been revising our child-protection procedures with guidance from Brotherhood Mutual Legal Assist. This work includes volunteer screening and practices for church, school, and preschool activities. As we finalize these procedures and begin implementing them, we will share additional information with ministry leaders. Caring for the children entrusted to us remains a shared responsibility across our ministries.

I am grateful for those whose cooperation and generosity make this work possible. Through these shared efforts, we continue caring for the people and resources God has entrusted to St. Peter's and supporting the ministry He has given us to carry out together.