St. Peter Lutheran October 2023 Newsletter

Oct. 1st – Communion Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.

~ Free Will offering during fellowship for Rodney and Malinda Hinrichs' "Reaching the Unreached"

Oct. 4th - Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 7th - Men's Breakfast Bible Study, 8:00 a.m. Study leader is Pastor Czymbor. A breakfast server is needed.

Oct 8th - Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.

~ Starting the Samaritan Purse shoe boxes for Christmas through Nov. 12th

Oct. 10th - Quilting Workday, 1:00 p.m.

Oct. 11th – WMF Bible Study and Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Study Leader and Hostess is Liz Weber

Oct. 15th – Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.

~ Muffin Sunday – Ladies K -V are asked to bring the Muffins

Oct. 18th - FLY Bible Study and business meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 22nd – Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.

Oct. 29th – Reformation Sunday - Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.

Usher's List: Oct. 1 – Vic Wieczorek & Walter Villmow

Communion Lay Assistant - John Engelland

8 - Aaron Lau & Ben Lau

15 – Bill Picek & Brian Villmow

22 - Calvin Luebke & Chad Lau

29 - Chris Punt & Corey Whitney

Cleaning List: Sept. 25 – Oct. 1 Shelby Punt & Tammy Bamberg

Oct. 2 – 8 Andrea Wright & Beverly Jahn

9 – 15 Audrey Fink & Cindy VanZee

16 – 22 Carey Brenner & Connie Goldammer

23 - 29 Danielle Revior & Donna Picek

Oct. 30 – Nov. 5 Dee Fink & Donnelle Hoffman

Oct 1st - Nov 1st - Hat, Mitten and Sock Tree will be set up



Exodus 20:16 / Deuteronomy 5:20 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

This commandment is about the very structure and being of all of creation. That there is a True reality that can be observed and that to observe that reality and then distort or deny it is contrary to God's Will.

The first breaking of this commandment we see in Genesis chapter 3 when Satan deceives Eve by corrupting the Truth of God in order to deceive and manipulate her. He was successful and humanity has suffered the consequences of breaking this commandment ever since. Part of that deception involved humanity falling victim to our heart's desire to be in authority over our reality, to be God in our lives and over others. The devil is the father of all falsehood and all who are liars and deceivers are children of the devil. (John 8:44)

We trick and deceive others for our own amusement and exercise our authority over them. Such as, when we deceive our neighbor and say, "hey, you have something on your shirt." and then we flick their nose and say "made you look." Or we make them flinch and punish them for falling prey to our deception by punching them in the arm. These are things we often do, not only to our peers but, to our children. Shame on us when we pass these sinful practices on to God's precious children and demonstrate that we are not to be trusted.

It is significant to note that God NEVER does such things to us. He always bears witness to the truth of reality no matter what subject is involved and in any circumstances that have occurred in the past and in the present so that we can absolutely trust Him as True in future as well. Any vapor of a hint of deception by God and the entirety of His testimony and truth becomes suspect and unworthy of being listened to. God desires that any who claim to be His people, His children will not participate in lies and deceptions that corrupt His Truth, His Message, His Work. What is His Work? To Seek and to Save the Lost. (Luke 19:10) Testifying falsely to what we see, hear, offends God (who is the source of all Truth), harms our neighbor, and corrupts our character, we become as madmen, without self-control, lacking Godly wisdom and restraint. (Proverbs 26:18-19)

Our hearts are inherently deceitful and wicked. (Jeremiah 17:9) Praise be to God that through the blood of Jesus our hearts are transformed from evil to Good. God's people are people of the Truth. We have been raised up in a worldly culture full of deceivers and teachers of evil. Yet God's people are not citizens of an earthly kingdom full of sin and death. God's people are citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. In God's kingdom, each of these commandments define the True nature of reality. God is the only authority and is worshiped and praised. Each citizen respects and honors both God and their neighbors in God's Kingdom. They do so by bearing witness to the True teachings of God.

Knowing the Truth, sets us free. (John 8:31-38) Accepting, promoting, and living life in the Truth brings love, joy, peace, patience, self-control and many other blessings and strength from God. Lies enslave us and draw us ever deeper into sin. So why do people continue to bear false witness in their lives instead of being set free by the Truth? Because it forces us to bear the consequences of our sins that led to that point. To tell the Truth often means admitting our sins to our neighbor and then having to bear the punishment for our sins. And so we avoid the pain of telling the Truth and in our ignorance fail to realize the smallness of that necessary suffering in order to avoid deeper, or even eternal, suffering by continuing to add to the pile of offenses we owe payment on. The Christian knows the freedom from sin, death, and devil that that Jesus has provided for us. The non-Christian has not tasted the sweetness of God's Grace. The lost person is like the servant in the parables who see God as a master that is a 'hard man' (Matthew 25:14-30) or a 'severe man' (Luke 19:11-27). "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap." (Galatians 6:7). The Truth is always the Right, correct, and Godly answer in all circumstances. Whether we withhold the Truth is for us to wrestle with, but to bear it falsely is always contrary to God's Will and commands for His people.

May this proclamation of the Psalmist be that of ourselves and all Christians, "I hate and detest falsehood but I love God's law. (Psalms 119:163)