

St. Peter Lutheran

September 2024 Newsletter

Sept. 1st - Communion Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

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

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

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

Sept. 8th - Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Begins, 10:00 a.m.

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

Sept. 11th - WMF Bible Study and Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Study Leader and Hostess is Jaclyn Czymbor.

Sept. 14th - WMF District Fall Rally in Beresford

Sept. 15th - Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.

~ Muffin Sunday - Ladies A -J are asked to bring the Muffins

Sept. 18th - FLY Bible Study and Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 22nd - **Mission Festival Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.** The speaker this year is Larry Reinhold from Rainbow Ranch. Mission Festival Offering will be directed 50/50 between Rainbow Ranch and Home Missions unless designated otherwise. A meal will follow the service.

Please invite friends and neighbors to attend.

Sept. 29th - Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.

Usher's List: Sept. 1 - Rance Rankin & Richard Luebke

Communion Lay Assistant - Travis Fink

8 - Robert Thies & Scott Olson

15 - Tim Engelland & Tim Goldammer

22 - Tom Heber & Travis Fink

29 - Trent Wright & Trevor Lau

Cleaning List: Aug. 26 - Sept. 1 Donnelle Hoffman & Joanne Hartmann

Sept. 2 - 8 Justine Hartmann & Kathy Lau

9 - 15 Joyce Sprecher & Pat Klumb

16 - 22 Nicole Whitney & Renee Olson

23 - 29 Renee Engelland & Sandy Lau

Sept. 30 - Oct. 6 Nicole Grosz & Sara Wright



The Fear of the Lord

Our hymn of the month for September is **#183 All Creatures of Our God and King**. This hymn is nearly 800 years old. Hymnary.org has the following history to share regarding this hymn:

"Virtually blind and unable to endure daylight, St. Francis (b, Assisi, Italy, c. 1182; d. Assisi, 1226) wrote this nature hymn during the summer of 1225 in the seclusion of a hut near San Damiano, Italy. The text is a meditation on Psalm 145. Originally in Italian, the text is known as the "Song of All Creatures" and as the "Canticle of the Sun."

St. Francis of Assisi is universally known for preaching to the birds and urging them to praise God. But his whole life was one of service to God and humanity. The son of a wealthy cloth merchant, Francis led a carefree, adventurous life as a youth, but after an illness and a pilgrimage to Rome in 1205, he voluntarily began a traveling life of poverty. He restored run-down chapels and shrines, preached, sang devotional "laudi spirituali" (adapted from Italian folk songs), and helped the poor and the lepers.

"All Creatures" is a catalog text that enumerates various features of the creation and summons all to praise the Lord with their "alleluias." Although not found in the original text, the "alleluias" make splendid sense and are necessary for the tune. Repeating the words "O praise him" each stanza emphasizes the cosmic praise of all creation: the sun and moon (st. 1); wind, clouds, and light (st. 2); water and fire (st. 3); the earth and its produce (st. 4); all creatures (st. 5)."

My prayers are that this month will grow our appreciation of praising our Creator along with all of His creation. May our thankfulness grow day by day, even as sin, death, and the devil seem to grow in strength around us. Psalm 111 is a great Psalm of praise for the Lord God Almighty. I encourage you to read the Psalm and then continue here. Our memory verse for this month comes from this Psalm, verse

Psalm 111:10 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!"

The "Fear of the LORD" is a key theme of the bible and what it means to revere and obey God and is often contrasted with evil, or all that is contrary to God and what He desires. Wisdom is equality with what God wants, foolishness or being a fool describes all those outside of God's Will. Here are just two references that highlight this from the Proverbs:

Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 8 12-13 "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion. The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate."

I encourage you to spend time this month studying the references to and context around these seventeen instances of "The fear of the LORD": **Job 28:28, Psalm 19:9, Psalm 34:11, Psalm 111:10, Proverbs 1:7, Proverbs 1:29, Proverbs 2:5, Proverbs 8:13, Proverbs 10:27, Proverbs 14:26, Proverbs 14:27, Proverbs 15:16, Proverbs 15:33, Proverbs 16:6, Proverbs 19:23, Proverbs 22:4, Proverbs 23:17**

These next three references to the "Fear of the LORD" are prophesying about the nature of the Messiah, who we know personally now as Jesus the Christ of God: Isaiah 11:2, Isaiah 11:3, Isaiah 33:6

These final two references come from the New Testament and describe the appearance and function of the body of Christ as having the fear of the Lord:

Acts 9:31 "So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied."

2 Corinthians 5:11 "Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience."

As we enter into autumn, harvest time, and the beginning of the long school year season, may our hearts and minds grow in the knowledge and fear of the LORD. As we grow in fear of Him may our hearts burst with gratitude, joy, peace, and love for Him and for others. God bless us in response to our reverence of Him.