

ST. PETER COMMUNICATOR

43 N 3rd St., Hilbert, WI 54129

Office: (920) 853-3217

April 2025

From the desk of Pastor Peterson

Rules, rules, and more rules.

We all drive to various places in our lives. Have you ever sat at a red light, and it seems to stay red forever? Or maybe you have passed someone and felt good about that, only to see them pull up beside you at a red light? How many of us have done the slow and roll through a stop sign. I use traffic analogies as a way to write to you about rules, rules, and more rules.

When it comes to the 10 Commandments, these are God's rules for living a just and righteous life. If we kept all the commandments perfectly, we would earn our salvation through good works. Also, the 10 Commandments do provide order in our society. You just cannot go out and kill someone, steal something, covet, etc., etc. If there were no commandments then society would be free fall and anarchy would rule.

Scripture tells us that the Law is written in our hearts, and that all of us have an innate knowledge of what is right and wrong. In the bible we have many examples of this. For example, in **Jeremiah 31:33** **"But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD. I will put My law in their minds and inscribe it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they will be My people. Hebrews 10:16** **"This is the covenant I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord. I will put My laws in their hearts and inscribe them on their minds."** Jesus Himself talks about the Law and what He accomplished at the cross. **Matthew 5:17-18** **Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them. / For I tell you truly, until heaven and earth pass away, not a single jot, not a stroke of a pen, will disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.**

We should all be thankful for the Law and what God intends for us to live securely, yet the Law also accuses us of our sins. That accusation is a good thing because we would not know what sin is without the Law of God. We would not know what to be forgiven for if it were not for God's Law. Through the knowledge given to us by the Holy Spirit and the use of God's Law, we, in faith can turn to God to ask for forgiveness. That is why we use confession and absolution in our Divine Service. We receive the forgiveness of sins (our Law breaking) when we confess, and we can use those situations to learn about our lives and ask God to show us how to improve. We receive the true body and the true blood of Christ, in, with, and under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of sins.

So, the next time you are driving in your car, be thankful that we have stop lights, stop signs, do not pass lanes and other laws. They keep us safe from other drivers and other drivers from us as well. More importantly, let us be thankful for God's Law given to us. As God's Word tell us in **Psalms 40:8** **I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your law is within my heart."** Amen



Pastor Mark Peterson



LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

St. Peter/St. Luke VBS Soup Luncheon: A big thank you to all of the St. Luke and St. Peter members who participated in the soup luncheon on March 23rd. We especially appreciated having our confirmands helping us as a service project. It was fun to plan and work together with members from both churches, and even more fun to share our soups, sandwiches and desserts with each other. Good conversation abounded. Our attendance count was 68, and our offering for VBS totaled \$500+. We also thank Thrivent for sponsoring our grocery shopping and Bonnie Teinert for the table of prizes and the word games available on the lunch tables. We also learned more about Australia with all the VBS displays.

Gifts from the Heart: Our gifts for A Place of Refuge will be starting in April and will continue until Mothers' Day. A list of most desired items will be on the bulletin board, but if you forget to look for it, this residential facility for moms-to-be and moms with their children will appreciate any kitchen/pantry items, (food supplies) personal care items (think soaps, shampoos, toothpastes, etc.) and clothing items for newborns. A big need is always diapers! They also can use gift cards or gas cards. A most desired gift is prayers for the well-being of these moms and their children and prayers of thanksgiving for the pastors and parishioners in their local area who minister to their needs.

Spring Rally: The annual Zone 10 Women in Mission (LWML) Spring Rally will be held on Tuesday evening, April 22, at Grace Lutheran in Elkhart Lake. Registration and a light supper will take place at 6:00 with the rally scheduled to start at 7:00. The program will be a Bible study led by Rev. Azor Cigelske of New Holstein. We will plan to carpool, so let Judy Paulson know if you would like to ride along. This is another good opportunity to gather together with the women of our zone and share ideas about our missions.

Heart to Heart Sisters: On Saturday, May 17, the SWD of the LWML will hold the annual Heart to Heart Sisters of all Nations event in Glendale. The theme will be "United in Christ: Celebrating Our Unique Stories". This is a special opportunity we have each spring to visit with and learn about all of our Sisters in Christ in our SWD. It is amazing how many nationalities we have within our LCMS church in SWD, and this event is a fun way to learn more about each other. We will have more information next month, but put the date on your calendar now.

LWML Convention in Omaha: Registration is still open for our Omaha LWML convention! Check out the Winter issue of the Quarterly for details! As of now, the SWD bus is full, but with enough interest we might be able to take a second bus. Hotel space will be at a premium in Omaha, so don't delay. For travel information, contact Patty Silah, 414-350-5446. National LWML conventions are a WOW experience.

A Reminder: We meet on the second Tuesday at 1:00. You are a member.



Mission
Matters

2024-2026 LWML South Wisconsin District Mission Grant #4 Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dogs - WI \$21,000



The Comfort Dogs are a bridge for compassionate ministry, opening doors for conversation about faith and creating opportunities to share the mercy, compassion, presence, and proclamation of Jesus Christ. With seven Comfort Dogs currently placed in Wisconsin, each host entity is responsible for most of the costs of having the dog. This grant will help with the costs of deployment, which is expensive. However, the need is urgent, and these dogs are ready to go when called. Your

support will enable us to respond quickly to disasters and tragic events. . Mission Grant Prayer: Lord, You are the Creator of all. You created us in Your image, created all animals, and gave them to us for our physical and emotional needs. When great tragedy occurs, You have given us these creatures to hold and love to reflect how You hold us in Your hands and the love You provide to us, which we might receive through Word and Sacrament and conversations of faith and life. Use this grant to help the Comfort Dogs and their handlers go where they are most needed, and bless their work as they provide physical comfort so that You can provide spiritual healing through Your Son, Jesus Christ. In His healing love. Amen.

Together in Christ we are motivated to love, serve, gather, and encourage.

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. Hebrews 10:24-25



Easter Decorating

April 19th
9:00 a.m.



THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

Print Feature



Holy Triduum: Hot Cross Buns

By Kristen Einertson and Tessa Muench

This is the latest installment of “[Life in the Church Year](#),” a series by Dr. Kristen Einertson and Tessa Muench of [All the Household](#). This series will provide guidance for living out the seasons of the Church Year at home with your families. Find month-by-month lists of Lutheran feasts, festivals and commemorations here: <https://www.lcms.org/worship/church-year>

All things in the church year point toward the death and resurrection of Jesus, the origin and fulfillment of the church’s life. And in April this year we reach the highest holy days of our Christian faith: Holy Week and, nested within it, the Holy Triduum.

Holy Week is the week leading up to Easter, beginning with Palm Sunday, which celebrates Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and culminating on Saturday evening. This week literally walks Christians through the week of Christ’s death and resurrection, slowing down to help us learn about those pivotal days in “real time.” Meditation upon Jesus’ Passion becomes the church’s central concern. This is why from Palm Sunday until Maundy Thursday, the church dons the color of Jesus’ crimson blood, scarlet.¹

The Triduum (or “three days”) consists of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. On Thursday, we focus on the institution of the Sacrament of the Altar; on Friday, the

Passion; and late on Saturday — in churches that hold an Easter Vigil service — the realization of the resurrection, the profound movement of darkness to light, of death to life.

The customs that accompany Holy Week are extremely rich and abundant, as Christians from all times and places have marked these precious and sacred days in their households.

It is fitting to cultivate quietness, stillness and meditation in our households throughout this holiest week. Yet there are preparations to be made in the midst of our waiting. We trust the promise that Easter is coming and thus carry out steady, if quiet, work. Many engage in a deep cleaning of the home (the origin of “spring cleaning”) and use the time to prepare diligently for the Easter feast.

One Triduum tradition deserves particular mention: hot cross buns. These rolls originated in the 14th century or earlier, made by Christians for Good Friday. They are much more than just a children’s rhyme: These treats with their crosses confess the center of the Christian faith. Thus, we encourage you to join with the Christians who have gone before us in using even your foods during Holy Week to reflect the heart of the Lenten season: the cross of Christ!



Photo: Tessa Muench

Hot Cross Buns

Ingredients:

Bun Ingredients

1 cup milk, warm
2 tsp. instant yeast
1/3 cup sugar
6 Tbsp. melted butter
2 large eggs
1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp. ginger
1/2 tsp. allspice
zest of one orange
1 cup raisings

Flour Paste

1/3 cup flour
2–3 Tbsp. water

Sugar Glaze

1/4 cup water
1/4 cup sugar

Instructions:

1. Combine the yeast with the warm milk. Add in the sugar, butter, eggs, salt, spices, orange zest and raisins. Begin sifting in the flour and mix until a dough forms. Then add more flour little by little until it is workable without sticking to your hands. Knead for 5 minutes, then cover the dough with a damp towel and allow to rise until doubled.
2. Grease a 9×11-inch dish and divide the dough into 12 pieces. Form each piece into a ball by rolling it toward yourself on the countertop to build tension in the ball. Place each in the dish, cover again, and let them rise until nearly doubled again.
3. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Mix together the flour and water to form a thick paste. Transfer it to a plastic bag, snip the corner off, and pipe a cross design over each bun.
4. Bake at 350°F for 20–30 minutes until the tops are golden brown and the buns are cooked through.
5. Before removing from the oven, microwave equal parts water and sugar for 1–2 minutes until the sugar dissolves in the water. Immediately upon taking the buns out of the oven, pour the sugar water over the buns and allow them to soak up the syrup. Serve and enjoy!

¹ For more on the colors of the Church Year, visit lcms.org/worship/church-year.

April

- 4 Kaitlyn Sowinski
- 7 Pam Menge
- 8 MaryKay Hein
- 15 Melissa DuPrey
- 27 Carol Krepline
- 28 Brooke Voigt
Sawyer Schwalenberg
- 30 Dan Boesch



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- April 11th Dennis & Joanne Hernke
- April 25th Brian & Laurie Mathes
- April 26th Steve & Laurie Ecker
- April 28th Steve & Kathy Hemauer

Our Response to His Love

	3/9	3/5 + 12	3/2	2/23	2/16
General Fund	\$2229	\$297	\$2310	\$1706	\$965
Missions				\$5	
LWML			\$150		
Memorial – Joyce Krepline					\$20
Totals	\$2229	\$297	\$2460	\$1711	\$985

Members of St Peter,

Attached are the updated Constitution and Bylaws. We would like members of the congregation to read through the revised constitution before the April Voter's meeting. If you have any questions, those can be brought to the council or the committee that prepared the updates.

Changes in these documents are italicized, words or lines that are crossed out will be deleted. The Constitution will be presented to the congregation at the April Voter's Assembly and the Constitution will need a 2/3 majority and voted to be accepted at the July Voter's Assembly.

The bylaws can be brought forward at the April Voter's Assembly and only needs a simple majority to pass.

The revised Constitution and Bylaws was sent to the District for the Committee on Constitutional Matters to do an initial review. This was completed. A few corrections were recommended and these changes were made. After congregational approval it will be sent to the District Board of Directors for final approval. The new Constitution and Bylaws are not valid until approval by the District.

**CONSTITUTION
OF ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
HILBERT, WISCONSIN**

**ARTICLE I
NAME OF THE CONGREGATION**

The name of this congregation shall be ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH at Hilbert, Calumet County, Wisconsin.

**ARTICLE II
MISSION**

The purpose of this congregation shall be to seek the honor and glory of the Triune God, to carry out his will, to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all the world, to manifest the unity of our faith in Jesus Christ as God and Savior, to foster Christian fellowship and love, to extend a helping hand in human need, and to achieve our objectives by the preaching of the Word of God, by the administration of the sacraments, and by the religious instruction of all its members according to the confessional standard of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as stated in Article III.

**ARTICLE III
CONFESSIONAL STANDARD**

- 3.1** This congregation accepts without reservation the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament as the written Word of God and the only rule and norm of faith and of practice;
- 3.2** This congregation accepts without reservation all the confessional writings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church contained in the *Book of Concord* of the year 1580 as true and unadulterated expositions of the Holy Scriptures. These confessional writings are the three Ecumenical Creeds (the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed), the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise on the Authority and Primacy of the Pope, the Large Catechism of Luther, the Small Catechism of Luther, and the Formula of Concord.
- 3.3** The performance of the Office of the Holy Ministry, the affairs of the congregation, its institutions and organizations, and all agendas, hymns, liturgies, and catechetical materials shall be in conformity to the Holy Scriptures and the confessional writings listed above.

**ARTICLE IV
SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP**

This congregation shall be a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as long as the synod conforms to the congregation's confessional standard set forth in this constitution as determined by a majority vote of the congregation at a meeting called for that purpose.

**ARTICLE IV V
MEMBERSHIP**

~~4.1~~ 5.1 Membership

We distinguish three types of membership:

- ~~4.1.1~~ **5.1.1** *Baptized* members are all who have been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and who are under the spiritual care of the pastor of this congregation, including the children who have not yet been confirmed.
- ~~4.1.2~~ **5.1.2** *Communicant* members are those baptized members who are familiar with the contents of Luther's Small Catechism, have been examined and absolved, accept the confessional standard of Article III of this constitution, and are not members of organizations whose principles and conduct conflict with the Word of God.
- ~~4.1.3~~ **5.1.3** *Voting* members are communicant members who have reached the age of 18 years. *Eligible communicant members will be voting members upon reception into the congregation and upon receiving a copy of the constitution and bylaws of the church.*

4.2 5.2 Reception

~~4.2.1~~ Baptized and communicant members are received through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, through the consent of one or both parents in the case of children who have been baptized in another Christian congregation, through the rite of confirmation, through transfer from a ~~sister congregation~~ *member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or a church body in fellowship with the Synod*, through profession of faith or reaffirmation of faith. The reception shall be recognized by the voters' assembly.

~~4.2.2 Eligible communicant members will be voting members upon reception into the congregation and upon signing the constitution.~~

4.3 Duties

~~Members of this congregation shall conform their entire lives to the rule of God's Word and to that end make diligent use of the Means of Grace, exercise faithful stewardship of God's many gifts and talents, impart and accept fraternal admonition as the need of such admonition becomes apparent, and be readily available for service in the kingdom of Christ within and beyond the congregation.~~

4.4 Termination

~~4.4.1— Membership shall be terminated by transfer to a sister congregation, by death, by joining a congregation outside the fellowship of this congregation, by excommunication, or by self exclusion. In cases of excommunication or self exclusion, each case shall be presented individually to the voters' assembly for approval.~~

~~4.4.2— Communicant members who neglect the duties of membership (see Article 4.3) or conduct themselves in an un-Christian manner shall be admonished according to Matthew 18:15-20; if they remain impenitent after proper admonition, they shall be excommunicated. Each case shall be presented individually to the voters' assembly for a decision. If such members deliberately absent themselves from the meeting(s) at which their case is to be discussed, they shall be regarded as having excluded themselves from the membership of the congregation.~~

~~(The above actions of termination shall be recommended to the congregation by the Board of Elders and enacted upon by the voters' assembly.)~~

ARTICLE V-VI CALLED CHURCH WORKERS

~~5.1~~ **6.1** This congregation shall confer the pastoral office only on such a pastor or candidate who professes and adheres to the confessional standard set forth in this constitution, who is qualified for his work, who has been *certified and* endorsed by the synod, and who is a member of the synod. [The same shall apply to all called workers.]

~~5.2~~ **6.2** After following the guideline set forth in Holy Scripture, (Matthew 18:15ff) the congregation may request the resignation of a pastor or called worker from his position in the congregation for one of the following reasons: persistent adherence to false doctrine, scandalous life, willful neglect, or inability to perform the duties of the office. *The District President or his representative should be consulted when the issue of a pastor's resignation or removal is being considered.* In the event the above guidelines are ineffective, a pastor or called worker may be removed from office by the voters' assembly by a two-thirds majority ballot vote.

~~5.3~~ **6.3** In case of a vacancy in the office of pastor or other called worker, the congregation shall notify the president of the district so that he may assist in temporarily filling the vacancy and also give assistance in regard to the calling of a new pastor or other called worker.

ARTICLE VI-VII AUTHORITY OF THE CONGREGATION

~~6.1~~ **7.1** The voters' assembly shall be the governing body of this congregation and shall be empowered to administer and manage all its affairs. The establishment and conduct of all organizations and societies within the congregation or related directly to it shall be subject to the approval and supervision of the voters' assembly.

~~6.2~~ 7.2 All matters shall be decided by a majority vote of the voters' assembly unless otherwise specified by this constitution or bylaws. But not even the congregation shall be empowered to order, enact, or decide anything contrary to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, and any such ordinance, enactment, or decision shall be null and void.

~~6.3~~ 7.3 The right of calling pastors or other called workers shall be vested in the voters' assembly and shall not be delegated otherwise.

~~ARTICLE VII~~ VIII OFFICERS AND BOARDS

The congregation shall have the following officers and boards in addition to any which the congregation shall authorize from time to time:

~~7.1~~ 8.1 Officers

~~7.1.1~~ 8.1.1 A chairman, who shall conduct the meetings of the voters' assembly and church council.

~~7.1.2~~ 8.1.2 A vice-chairman, who is to fill the role of the chairman in his absence, or inability to act.

~~7.1.3~~ 8.1.3 A secretary, who shall keep the minutes of all regular and special meetings of the voters' assembly and church council.

~~7.1.4~~ 8.1.4 A treasurer, who shall be responsible for the financial records of the congregation.

~~7.1.5~~ 8.1.5 A financial secretary, who shall oversee the receipt of all monies and deposit the same in an account established in the name of the congregation.

~~7.2~~ 8.2 Boards

~~7.2.1~~ 8.2.1 A board of elders, consisting of voting members of the congregation, which shall assist the pastor in the spiritual life of the congregation (see Article 12.2).

~~7.2.2~~ 8.2.2 A board of trustees, consisting of voting members of the congregation, which shall be responsible for the physical properties of the congregation.

~~7.2.3~~ A board of education, consisting of voting members of the congregation, which shall be responsible for the nurture and Christian growth of the members of the congregation.

~~7.3~~ 8.3 Removal from Office

Any officer or board member may be removed from office by the voters' assembly ~~by a two-thirds majority ballot vote, in Christian and lawful order,~~ for one of the following reasons: persistent adherence to false doctrine, scandalous life, willful neglect or inability to perform the duties of the office.

~~ARTICLE VIII~~ ~~SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP~~

~~This congregation shall be a member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod as long as the synod conforms to the congregation's confessional standard set forth in this constitution as determined by a majority vote of the congregation at a meeting called for that purpose.~~

ARTICLE IX DIVISION

9.1 If at any time a division should take place for any reason, the property of the congregation and all benefits connected therewith shall remain with those communicant members who continue to adhere in confession and practice to the confessional standards set forth in this constitution, as determined by the dispute resolution process described in the bylaws of the synod.

9.2 In the event the congregation should dissolve, the property and all rights connected therewith shall be transferred to that district of the synod in which the congregation held membership at the time of dissolution *upon settlement of all just claims.*

ARTICLE X MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the voters' assembly shall be held as determined in the bylaws. The announcement of the meeting shall be made in the services of the two previous Sundays. Special meetings require announcement in services of the two previous Sundays or notification by mail or phone and announcement in the services of one previous Sunday. Such special meetings may be called at the request of the pastor, chairman, church council, or ten voting members. *All voting members present at a properly called meeting shall constitute a quorum.*

ARTICLE XI QUORUM

~~All voting members present at a properly called meeting shall constitute a quorum.~~

ARTICLE XII LIMITATIONS ON HOLDING OFFICE

~~12.1~~ Communicant members must be voting members for a minimum of one year before being eligible for any office.

~~12.2~~ Women may serve as officers and as members of boards and committees as long as they are not directly involved in the specific functions of the pastoral office (preaching, the public administration of the sacraments, church discipline) and as long as this service does not violate the order of creation (usurping authority over men). Accordingly, they shall not serve as pastor, as a member of the board of elders, or as chairman or vice-chairman of the congregation.

ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS

~~13.1~~ *12.1* Amendments to provisions of this constitution except Articles 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 8.0, 12.0, ~~13.0~~ may be adopted at a regular meeting of the voters' assembly provided:

1. That the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous meeting of the voters' assembly and published by posting in a conspicuous place in the church or by mail prior to the meeting at which the proposed amendment will be acted upon;
2. That an affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the voters present is secured.

~~13.2~~ *12.2* In addition to the above requirements, proposals to amend Articles 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 8.0, 12.0, ~~13.0~~ shall require that previous notice of such amendment and discussion of the same shall be presented at two regular meetings of the voters' assembly before the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to receive action. Due notice of the fact that a vote will be taken shall be given to all voting members of the congregation. Any changes in these articles shall not destroy the essential meaning of the same. Whether or not this has occurred shall be decided, if challenged, by a decision by the dispute resolution process described in the bylaws of the synod.

12.3 *The revised Constitution shall, as a condition of continued membership in good standing of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, be submitted to the president of the district for review by the district's constitution committee and favorable action by the district's board of directors before being implemented by the congregation.*

BYLAWS OF ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH HILBERT, WISCONSIN

ARTICLE XIV PROCEDURES FOR CALLING PASTORS AND OTHER CALLED WORKERS

~~14.1~~ When a pastor or other called worker is to be called, every member of the congregation shall have the privilege of making one or more nominations. The congregation shall also ask the president of the synodical district for recommendations. In the case of a pastoral call the board of elders shall serve as the screening committee. In the case of calling a principal the board of education and the pastor shall serve as

the screening committee. In the case of calling a teacher the board of education, the principal, and the pastor shall serve as the screening committee.

~~14.2 In the screening process the board shall submit all names to the district president for information and evaluation. After receiving information and recommendations from the district president, the board shall present to the congregation, by means of a public announcement, the names of all the nominees with at least three preferred candidates, together with a biographical sketch of each.~~

~~14.3 At the voters' assembly called for the purpose of electing a new pastor, principal, or teacher, the preferred list may be amended by means of a two-thirds vote of those present. At that point the congregation shall be satisfied with whatever selection is finally made by the voters' assembly.~~

~~14.4 Balloting shall proceed by means of a secret ballot vote. A majority is needed in order to determine the disposition of the call. A unanimous vote shall be requested of the voters' assembly.~~

MEMBERSHIP

RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP

1.1 Baptized membership:

1.1.1 By baptism:

Persons received by the Sacrament of Baptism in this congregation become baptized members. Baptized members are received through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism or through the consent of one or both parents in the case of children who have been baptized in another Christian congregation.

1.1.2 By transfer:

Baptized persons coming with a letter of transfer from a church that is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or a church body in fellowship with the Synod, may be received into baptized membership by the pastor.

1.2 Communicant membership:

1.2.1 By confirmation:

Persons received by the Rite of Confirmation in this congregation become communicant members.

1.2.2 By transfer:

Persons coming with a communicant letter of transfer from a church that is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or a church body in fellowship with the Synod, may be received by the pastor and elders, whose action is to be approved in a subsequent meeting of the voters' assembly.

1.2.3 By profession of faith:

Other persons shall submit their application to the pastor or an elder and, having given satisfactory evidence of qualifications for communicant membership to the pastor and the Board of Elders, shall be received by them as communicant members. This action is to be approved in a subsequent meeting of the voters' assembly.

1.3 Voting membership:

1.3.1 Reception:

The voting membership consists of all communicant members who have reached eighteen years of age. Prior to exercising that right to becoming a voting member, each communicant shall receive a copy of the constitution and bylaws of the church.

1.3.2 Duties:

It shall be the duty of every member to attend the meetings of the voters' assembly. By failing to attend the meeting, a member waives the right to cast his/her vote during that meeting. He/she shall accept nomination for office; committee appointments, if possible; and generally participate in the business activities of the voters' assembly.

1.3.3 Proxy votes are not admissible.

1.4 Duties

Members of this congregation shall conform their entire lives to the rule of God's Word and to that end make diligent use of the Means of Grace, exercise faithful stewardship of God's many gifts and talents, impart and accept fraternal admonition as the need of such admonition becomes apparent, and be readily available for service in the kingdom of Christ within and beyond the congregation.

1.5 Termination

- 1.5.1 Membership shall be terminated by transfer to a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or a church body in fellowship with the Synod, by death, by joining a congregation outside the fellowship of this congregation, by excommunication, or by self-exclusion. In cases of excommunication or self-exclusion, each case shall be presented individually to the voters' assembly for approval.*
- 1.5.2 Communicant members who neglect the duties of membership (see Article 4.3) or conduct themselves in an un-Christian manner shall be admonished according to Matthew 18:15-20; if they remain impenitent after proper admonition, they shall be excommunicated. Each case shall be presented individually to the voters' assembly for a decision. If such members deliberately absent themselves from the meeting(s) at which their case is to be discussed, they shall be regarded as having excluded themselves from the membership of the congregation.*
- (The above actions of termination shall be recommended to the congregation by the Board of Elders and enacted upon by the voters' assembly.)*

ARTICLE XIV II

PROCEDURES FOR CALLING PASTORS AND OTHER CALLED WORKERS

- ~~14.1~~ **2.1** When a pastor or other called worker is to be called, every member of the congregation shall have the privilege of making one or more nominations. The congregation shall also ask the president of the synodical district for recommendations. In the case of a pastoral call the board of elders shall serve as the screening committee. ~~In the case of calling a principal the board of education and the pastor shall serve as the screening committee. In the case of calling a teacher the board of education, the principal, and the pastor shall serve as the screening committee.~~
- ~~14.2~~ In the screening process the board shall submit all names to the district president for information and evaluation. After receiving information and recommendations from the district president, the board shall present to the congregation, by means of a public announcement, the names of all the nominees with at least three preferred candidates, together with a biographical sketch of each.
- ~~14.3~~ At the voters' assembly called for the purpose of electing a new pastor, principal, or teacher, the preferred list may be amended by means of a two-thirds vote of those present. At that point the congregation shall be satisfied with whatever selection is finally made by the voters' assembly.
- ~~14.4~~ **2.2** Balloting shall proceed by means of a secret ballot vote. A majority is needed in order to determine the disposition of the call. ~~A unanimous vote shall be requested of the voters' assembly.~~
- 2.2.1** *In case of a vacancy in the position of the pastor or teacher, the congregation is urged immediately to notify the president of the district of synod that he may assist in the filling of the vacancy*
- 2.2.2** *By giving counsel in regard to the calling of a new pastor or teacher*
- 2.2.3** *By suggesting names of candidates for consideration*
- 2.2.4** *Any member is entitled to make nominations.*
- 2.3** *At a meeting of the voters' assembly names of candidates for the office of pastor or teacher shall be submitted for consideration.*
- 2.4** *The election of a pastor or teacher from the list of candidates chosen by the congregation shall be by ballot. Should no candidate receive the majority vote, the candidate with the least vote count shall be dropped, and the remaining candidates shall be carried to the next ballot. This procedure shall continue on successive ballots until one candidate receives a majority vote. If possible, the election shall be made unanimous by a rising vote, and the call shall be sent to the pastor or teacher elect.*

ARTICLE XV III

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

~~15.1~~ **3.1 Membership**

The church council shall ~~be the board of directors and~~ shall consist of the chairman, the vice-chairman, the secretary, the treasurer and the financial secretary of the congregation, the chairmen ~~and members~~ of the board of elders; ~~and the board of trustees, the board of education.~~ The pastor ~~and principal~~ shall be a non-

voting members of the church council. The chairman and the secretary of the congregation shall serve as chairman and secretary of the church council.

15.2 3.2 Meetings

The church council shall meet ~~in regular sessions at least quarterly prior to the voters' assembly~~ *monthly*. Special meetings may be called by the chairman or pastor or any three members of the church council by providing notice to each member at least 24 hours in advance. A majority of the voting members of the council shall constitute a quorum.

15.3 3.3 Duties

It shall be the principal duty of the church council to coordinate the program and activities of the various departments of the congregation. It shall have the power to act in behalf of the congregation, in emergency situations, between meetings of the voters' assembly.

ARTICLE XVI IV NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

~~16.1~~ **4.1** The nominating committee shall consist of one member from each standing board (not the outgoing member), and shall present a slate of candidates from the members of the voters' assembly for all elected offices. ~~The slate shall normally consist of two names for each office.~~ Additional nominations may be made from the floor. No person shall be nominated without his consent. The pastor and the principal shall serve on the nominating committee as advisory members.

~~16.2~~ **4.2** All officers and board members shall be elected by a majority ballot vote and voting shall continue until a clear majority has been established after candidates receiving the lowest number of votes have been eliminated in each succeeding ballot.

~~16.3~~ **4.3** The officers are elected for the following terms:

chairman - one year	vice-chairman - one year
secretary - three years	treasurer - three years

The other members of the church council and the members of all boards shall be elected for the following terms:

board of elders - three years	board of trustees - three years
board of education - three years	finance committee - three years
financial secretary - three years	

~~All members of a standing board may be elected to two consecutive terms. The financial secretary and finance committee members may be elected to unlimited consecutive terms.~~ All officers, board, and council members may serve in new positions, or areas, directly after having served in another area.

4.4 *No officer or board member may hold more than one elected office at a time.*

~~16.4~~ **4.5** Officers and board members shall be inducted into office in a public service of the congregation.

~~16.5~~ **4.6** In the case of a vacancy in an elected office, the voters' assembly shall ~~elect~~ *appoint* a successor to fill the unexpired term. The church council may make temporary appointments until the next regular meeting of the voters' assembly.

ARTICLE XVII V OFFICIAL DUTIES

5.1 Officers and members of boards shall perform the duties prescribed in the constitution *and bylaws*. Details of these responsibilities will be outlined in the Policies and Procedures Manual of the congregation. The Policies and Procedures Manual will be reviewed annually by each board and committee. Proposed changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual shall be adopted by majority vote of the voters' assembly. The congregation shall also have the privilege from time to time of detailing and enlarging these responsibilities by majority vote of the voters' assembly. It may also call such other boards and committees into being as it may need from time to time.

5.2 *Board of Elders*

5.2.1 The Board of Elders shall consist of at least three male members of the congregation duly elected to this office by the voters, with a term of three years. Among themselves, the elders will elect a head elder. The pastor(s) is an ex officio non-voting member of this board.

5.2.2 The nature of the duties of this board requires that only men noted for their Christian knowledge, zeal, and experience in the spiritual work of the Kingdom of Christ shall be elected to membership.

5.3 Board of Trustees

5.3.1 The Board of Trustees shall consist of at least three members of the congregation. Trustees shall be elected for a term of three years. The chairperson shall be selected by the Trustees. The pastor(s) shall be an ex officio non-voting member(s) of this board.

5.3.2 The trustees shall:

- Be the legal representatives of the congregation and the custodians of all of its property, including all valuable papers such as deeds, documents, insurance policies, and certificates of incorporation.*
- They shall keep a careful record of transactions and report to the voters' assembly.*
- They shall make loans for the congregation when authorized by the congregation to do so.*
- They are to transact all business of the congregation assigned to them by the voters' assembly.*

5.3.3 The congregation is to be directly responsible for its property, and the trustees should act in conformity with the congregation's resolutions and instructions. Regardless, the congregation is in no case to permit the trustees to suffer any personal loss whatsoever.

5.3.4 In the absence of the Treasurer the designated Trustee will sign the checks.

5.4 Financial Secretary

5.4.1 The financial secretary shall be responsible for the expeditious receiving, counting, recording, and depositing of all offerings, contributions, and gifts.

5.4.2 The financial secretary shall appoint responsible, voting, congregational members to assist in the counting and recording of offerings.

ARTICLE XVIII VI MEETINGS

The voters' assembly shall ~~meet on a quarterly basis throughout the year~~ *be held quarterly unless no business needs to be conducted.* It shall convene for special meetings as directed by the church council as provided by this constitution.

ARTICLE XIX VII RULES OF ORDER

In addition to principles laid down in Scripture, the latest edition of *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall be followed.

ARTICLE XX VIII AMENDMENTS

8.1 These bylaws may be amended in a properly convened meeting of the voters' assembly by a majority of all voting members present, provided the proposed change has been announced in a previous meeting or has been submitted in writing at least two weeks prior to the meeting to all voting members.

8.2 The revised Bylaws shall, as a condition of continued membership in good standing of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, be submitted to the president of the district for review by the district's constitution committee and favorable action by the district's board of directors before being implemented by the congregation.

April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Altar Guild: Apr. 6 - Dan & Cindy Koffarnus Apr.13+17-Bonnie Ott & Cheri Koffarnus Apr. 20 - Donna Marose & DeAnn Eldred Apr. 27 - Dean & Jan Bergelin		1 7:00p Bible Study	2 10:30 Midweek Lenten Service 4:15p Catechesis @ St. Luke 7:00p Midweek Service @ St. Luke	3	4 10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	5
6 5th Sunday in Lent <i>Violet</i> 8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Sunday School	7	8 1:00p W.I.M. Meeting & Bible Study 7:00p Bible Study	9 10:30 Midweek Lenten Service 4:15p Catechesis @ St. Luke 7:00p Midweek Service @ St. Luke	10	11 10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	12
13 Palm Sunday <i>Violet</i> 8:30 Divine Service (NC) Fellowship/Sunday School	14	15 7:00p Bible Study	16 4:15p Catechesis @ St. Luke	17 Holy Thursday <i>Violet</i> 10:30 Service 7:00p Service @ St. Luke	18 Good Friday <i>Black</i> 1:00p Service 7:00p Service @ St. Luke	19 9:00 Easter Decorating
20 Easter Sunday <i>White</i> 8:30 Divine Service	21 LWML Zone Rally @ Elkhart Lake	22	23	24	25	26
----- Pastor Away -----						
	<i>Newsletter Articles Due</i> Earth Day					
27 2nd Sunday of Easter <i>White</i> 8:30 Divine Service (NC) 9:30 Sunday School Quarterly Voters Meeting	28	29 7:00p Bible Study	30 4:15p Catechesis @ St. Luke			

Divine Services marked (NC) will not have Holy Communion