

St. Peter News

September 2017

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Pastor Brian's Message

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus,

Wow! What a start to the school year already and the beginning of things picking back up here at St Peter. I hope that you had a restful summer. I know I am looking forward to getting back into a routine and excited for things that are coming up here at church.

At the beginning of August, I had the opportunity to attend the Prairie Fire Event at Concordia Seward. It was a blessing to be with other brothers and sisters throughout Nebraska at this event. I was able to attend three amazing breakout sessions and we got to hear a great opening devotion from President Snow and an incredible keynote address from author Greg Finke. It was a refreshing day.

My third breakout session was with our keynote speaker Greg Finke. He has written a couple books. One of his books "Joining Jesus on His Mission" has been

making the rounds quite a bit in LCMS circles recently. It is a book of encouragement about being part of the mission of Jesus as He works in this world. It is a book I would really encourage all of you to read. It is not very lengthy at all.

My breakout session was called "Joining Jesus as a Congregation." It would take me many pages to write about all I learned in that one hour session. One point that he made is that we struggle as Christians (maybe even more so as Lutherans) about talking about Christ even with each other. We have made Christianity, especially in America, as an individual thing when that is not how the early church was at all. They did life together. One of the things he encouraged was a guide to help Christians think and talk about what Christ is doing and how we can be a part of what Christ is doing. His guide is wrapped around 5 questions: (1) How did you see God at work in your life this week? (2) What has God been teaching you in His Word? (3) What kind of conversations are you having with pre-Christians (non-Christians)? (4) What good can we do around here? (5) How can we help you in prayer? These questions are meant to give a guide in small groups of two or three to

begin talking about the Lord and His work. Greg Finke talked about the importance of doing it consistently as a way to train us to be thinking about these things throughout the week.

Going through these questions are going to be part of our "Conversations" time that we will be starting on Thursday mornings starting September 7. The reason we are having it every Thursday is so there is that consistency of knowing every single Thursday you can be encouraged with other believers and talk about what the Lord is doing. Talking about some of these questions will also be a short part of our Sunday morning Adult Bible Class time and our Tuesday Bible Study as well. God has called us to do life together. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 says, "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!" I pray that you will continue to find that encouragement and support from other believers as we walk through this journey of faith together,

In Christ –
The Healer of the Hurting,

Pastor Brian

Official Acts

No official acts since the August newsletter

Thank You

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This year, we hear of many Lutheran churches celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Even here in Ghana that anniversary is being marked. Recently, the national church held a conference filled with theological papers, worship, and "floating" (marching) through the town of Kumasi.

But the greatest thing that we can do as Lutherans is continue Luther's emphasis of sharing the Word of God. And that is what we are doing here because of gifts like yours. Tomorrow, August 20, we head out to the town of Bawku to train ministers in a better understanding of the Scriptures and what our faith clings to, that is, Christ. Thank you for helping this work get done. And we ask that you pray for our safety as well as for the accomplishing of this great work. And know that we here are praying for the same work to be done among you. So let's mark this anniversary by praising Christ in word and deed!

*We commend you to Christ Jesus,
Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster
Your Missionaries in Ghana,
West Africa*

The Lutheran Hour



Sunday mornings:
6:30 KFAB Omaha 1110 AM
7:30 WIBW Topeka 580 AM

8:00 BOTT North Platte 107.9 FM
10:00 KRVN Lexington 880 AM

Anytime at www.lutheranhour.org

September 3

"Finding Life in Jesus' Steps"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Take joy in the gift of being a follower of Christ who is willing to take His lead and be ordered by His steps.
(Matthew 16:24-25)

September 10

"Who's the Greatest?"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Jesus redefined greatness. He came, not to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many.
(Matthew 18:1-20)

September 17

"Unleash the Power of Forgiveness in Your Life "

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Life with God is not about keeping score; it's about living for others in the grace Jesus earned for us.
(Matthew 18:21-35)

September 24

"The Latest Polls"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
Believing the latest public opinion poll is not the same thing as believing the truth.
(Matthew 21:8-11 and Luke 23:23-25)

Deshler Lutheran School Board Minutes May 15, 2017

Attendance: Pastor Brian, Todd Voss, Rick Stengel, Audra Capek, Jamie Calkins, Jeremy Schardt, Tyler Harms, Justus Harms, Mike Holtzen, Galen Sasse, Shannon LeFave

Tyler opened with devotion

Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the April 17 meeting were corrected and stand approved as read.

Approval of Treasurer Report:

Balance of General Fund:

\$58,606.44

Needs Fund: \$19,876.58

Hot Lunch: \$2,737.99

Chapel Fund: \$1,510.94

Motion made by Mike to approve the Treasurer's report as presented; second by Tyler. Motion carried.

Trustee Report: Galen will look at the freezer; it's been kicking off when power blinks.

Pastor Report: Nothing to report

Administrator: We were blessed to have four students attend Kindergarten round-up. Karen Schardt came to give a presentation on Human Development to grades 5-8 and one on Nutrition to the K-4 students. MAP testing has been completed. It was a fantastic day for Play Day, the weather was beautiful!

Will Baden came and the kids enjoyed learning about coding and robotics. End of the year staff meetings will be held May 31 & June 1, a theme for the upcoming school year will be set.

Old Business: The school calendar year has been set from August 16-May 11. The volleyball net is to be installed in late June during the workday. We are very thankful to have received a \$350 anonymous donation for the hallway floor and walk-off carpet. Todd and Caleb will meet to discuss replacing boards that are damaged and sanding the others on the playground equipment as his Eagle Scout project. We have received \$500 from the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) for a Tec21 scholarship.

New Business: Discussion was had about updating the phone system, possibly an intercom system for each room. Todd and Justus will do research. We discussed fundraising ideas for the 7th & 8th Class Trip. Workdays will be scheduled in July.

Adjournment: Motion made by Justus to adjourn; second by Tyler. Meeting adjourned.

Closing prayer by Pastor Brian

Thank You from St. Peter's, Davenport

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for graciously and generously sharing the services of Pastor Francik with us during our recent vacancy! Words cannot aptly express the blessing it has been to have him as our Vacancy Pastor this past year. We pray that it has not been too heavy a burden for you.

We ask you to rejoice with us at the arrival of Vicar Greg Schaffer and his family and to keep him and his wife Staci and their family in your prayers as Pastor Francik mentors him during his year of vicarage.

Sincerely in Christ,
The Elders of St Peter's Davenport
Michael Schroeder
Paul Folkerts
Michael Burger

Sunday School Teachers Meeting Monday, August 28

We will be having a meeting Monday, August 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the mother's room to discuss Sunday school for the upcoming year. This meeting is for those of you that have already signed up to

volunteer with Sunday school and for those that are interested in learning more about how you can serve at Sunday school are encouraged to come. We look forward to seeing you there.

Church Goes Back to 9:30 a.m. Starting Time September 3



Our worship service will go back to 9:30 a.m. starting Sunday, September 3. Thank you for your patience and understanding while Pastor Brian served the vacancy at Davenport.

"Conversations" Starts Thursday, September 7

Starting Thursday, Sept. 7, we have a time on Thursday mornings from 7:00 – 7:45 in the mother's room for "conversations." This will be conversations with Christ (devotion and prayer) and conversations with each other (see my article). This will be every Thursday morning so if you can't make a certain Thursday, we will be there the following week. This is to be a time to be encouraged in Christ, pray, and support one another as we do life together. This will be a great way to start your Thursday mornings. We hope to see you there.

September 7 LWML Event

Ladies! You are invited to join in the fellowship and Bible study of the LWML on Thursday, September 7 at 7:00 p.m. Come enjoy visiting with sisters-in-Christ and hearing how much God loves you and wants you to share in His love. We hope to see you there!

Sunday School Returns Sept. 17



Sunday Adult Bible Class Returns September 17

We will start back up with Sunday Adult Bible Class on September 17. The first series we will be doing is called "Gods At War" In this series you will hear interviews with five people (including Chuck Colson, special counsel to Richard Nixon during the Watergate scandal). This series will discuss the topic of different gods and idols we put in our lives.

September Coffee Schedule

Sign up or call the office if you would like to volunteer to provide refreshments for one of these Sundays:

September 3.....
September 10.....



September



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Russell Wassom	2
Brigett Effenbeck	3
Chad Holle	4
Julia Schweer	4
Joston Wassom.....	4
Jerad Betten.....	5
Michael Finke	5
Sheryl Achterberg	8
Rose Plock	9
Ellen Schmidt.....	9
Sandra Meyer	10
Barbara Schardt.....	10
Kale Meyer.....	12
Dale Bohling	13
Heath Finke.....	14
Donna Genung	15
Alan Holle.....	18
Hayden Calkins.....	21
Sharon Houtwed.....	22
Everett Schardt.....	23
Gavin Endorf.....	24
Casey Laaker.....	24
Pamela Harms	27
Rod Watson.....	27
Austyn Lindenmuth	28
Rebecca Drew	30
Adam Holle.....	30
Janice Hornbostel.....	30
	4

September Baptism Birthdays



David Achterberg	1
Jill Bauer.....	1
Kevin Genzmer.....	3
Conner Schardt.....	3
Addisin Schardt	3
Larry Loontjer	4
Autumn Deepe.....	7
Carlee Dlouhy.....	8
Edna Moll.....	8
Brian Schardt.....	8
Kent Betten.....	11
Dale Klaumann.....	20
Julia Schweer.....	20
Dale Bohling.....	21
Kenzie Bohling.....	21
Desirae Schardt.....	21
Michael Finke.....	22
Gage Genzmer.....	22
Hayden Meyer.....	22
Jerad Betten	24
Leah Schmidt.....	24
Sandra Meyer	25
Ellen Schmidt.....	25
Russell Wassom	25
Chad Holle.....	28
Kale Meyer.....	30
Larry Wilbeck.....	30



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dale & Nancy Hoops	September 1 16 years
Allen & Joyce Schardt	September 4 51 years
Kenneth & Julie Effenbeck.....	September 7 21 years
Galen & Melissa Sasse	September 9 22 years
Jeremy & Addisin Schardt	September 10 6 years
Dale & Janice Klaumann.....	September 12 47 years
Logan & Desirae Schardt	September 12 2 years
Tyson & Jill Bauer.....	September 17 12 years
Alan & Lynn Bohling.....	September 20 37 years
Justus & Jolene Harms.....	September 20 9 years
Dale & Lori Schardt	September 26 31 years
Kolby & Julianna Finke	September 27 3 years
Eugene & Patricia Mueller.....	September 29 39 years

From the Principal's Desk . . .

Wednesday, August 16, Deshler Lutheran School opened its doors for the start of the 2017-18 school year.



This date marked the beginning of the 129th year of providing Christ-centered education to Deshler and the surrounding area. WOW! That is a BIG number! We praise God for His provision over the years through His people. Thank you to St. Peter-Deshler and Trinity-Friedensau for your faithful support of this school ministry.

Students were greeted with some nice facility improvements when they returned to DLS this year. The most noticeable is the new luxury vinyl tile in the school hallway and the new walk-off carpet in all entrances. We praise God for the way it all turned out. It really looks great and updates the entire feel of the facility. If you haven't seen the new flooring yet, feel free to stop by and check it out. New dry-erase boards were put up in the 5/6 grade classroom and the old chalkboard was replaced in the Kindergarten room with a combination dry-erase and bulletin board. As I write this, the Board of Education is preparing to do some concrete repair to the east entrance and sidewalk. We are very excited about these improvements and grateful for the donations and volunteers who made them possible.



Samuel Hoops, Conner Schardt, Gracie Hinz, Allie Vieselmeyer sign on to the DLS school theme of "Fixing our eyes on JESUS!" while Jordan LeFave moves into position

Our theme for the 2017-18 school year is "*Fixing our eyes on JESUS!*" and we started the year by doing just that during opening chapel. Pastor Brian and Pastor Flores lead the chapel service. It is always so good to be in God's house! After chapel, DHS graduate Hutch Finke shared some good advice with students about getting off to a good start academically. Then, we headed back to DLS where everyone (students & staff) signed the "*Fixing our eyes on JESUS!*"bulletin

board in the hallway. This was a way for each of us to make a commitment to "*Fix our eyes on JESUS!*" throughout the year ahead...and beyond.

The first Friday of the school year was an exciting one! We were thrilled to host Brian Young, Director of the Creation Instruction Association, for a school assembly entitled *Creation, the Eclipse and Astronomy*.



Mr. Young did an excellent job of presenting science in the light of the Truth of God's Word. He also pointed out the many flaws science has within the theory of evolution; a theory that is often presented as fact. We were blessed to have several community members join us for this presentation. Students found the assembly to be interesting and informative. Two things that our students found especially intriguing were Mr. Young's "Air-Zooka" and the Bible that had flames coming out of it. Brian reminded us that all of creation points us back to an amazing, loving Creator God.



Students & community members listen to Brian Young during his presentation on *Creation, the Eclipse and Astronomy*



Students were intrigued by the fog rings Brian Young shot at students using his "Air-Zooka" while making a point about God's work of creation and science

Friday afternoon DLS students headed down to the Deshler Pool for PE at the Pool. We had a perfect day for some good exercise and fun in the water. Each class was able to spend one hour swimming. A good time was had by all!

August 21 is a day many of us will long remember. After much talk, the Great American Eclipse of 2017 finally arrived. God really blessed our observance of this special event. Each classroom incorporated the eclipse and learning activities into their day. Mrs. Jarchow prepared moon burgers, man-in-the-moon smiles, eclipse cookies, solar oranges and lunar milk for lunch, which we enjoyed outside.



A favorite place to eat "lunar burgers" and "eclipse cookies" and view the eclipse was the DLS playground playset. Students took a break from the viewing for a picture.



DLS students view the eclipse from the playground basketball court with their certified solar shades. Younger students had paper plates mounted around their glasses for extra eye safety.

A radio tuned to The Bridge played Christian praise music and quoted Scripture while we monitored the process of the eclipse beginning at first contact. Updates and information about the eclipse was shared with the help of a solar eclipse app. Before "Totality" Pastor Brian lead us in prayer and praise of our amazing God. It

was really cool. As we were praying, the radio repeated the following words from Chris Tomlin's song *God of Wonders*: "Lord of Heaven and Earth, Lord of all Creation....Alleluia, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth." I can't describe it very well, but all of our teachers agreed that it was a really cool praise moment. I am so thankful I'm at a school where we were able to *Fix our eyes on JESUS!* and praise God for His creation while we observed this awesome phenomenon.

We are looking forward to a great school year!

In Christ,
Todd Voss, Principal

DLS Kindergarten Class

Our Kindergarten Classroom has been enjoying all the events and activities already this year! From opening Chapel to Mr. Brian Young sharing amazing facts on the Truth of creation, to experiencing P.E. at the Pool and witnessing our Creator's marvelous handiwork in designing a total eclipse, we're being amazed! We're also learning/reviewing some of our letters, numbers and shapes, and enjoying a Unit on the days of Creation! Today, the day of our eclipse, was Day 4 of the year school year and Day 4 of our Unit. Do you remember what He created that day? The sun, moon, and stars! What a personal God we have, that He would orchestrate this eclipse on DLS's 4th day of the new school year while Kindergartners were learning from Genesis 1:14-19, about "the two great lights", and allowing the one "*to rule the night*", to come between earth and the one "*to rule the day*"! Thank You, Jesus, for showing us this glimpse of Your Majesty!



Watching the eclipse are: Jaydin Mackey, Mrs. Reinke, Lakin Schardt, Sienna Erickson, and Mason Thompson-Finke

DLS 1st & 2nd



Pictured are some of the DLS students watching the solar eclipse on August 21. Seated at the front edge of this picture (with plates over their safety glasses to make sure no sun would get into their eyes) are (left to right): Dean Baden, Dillon Schardt, Barrett Harms, Sophie Fritz, Tenley Lanham, Haylyn Mackey, Zach Acuna, Mrs. Schardt

DLS Grades 3 & 4



I welcomed twelve third and fourth graders to my room this year. (Back row) Ryver Holtzen, Grady Holtzen, Logan Schmidt, Lainey Vieselmeyer, Claire Sasse, Cooper Laaker. (Front row) Trevor Clauson, Carlee Hinz, Gracie Erickson, Mason White, Austyn Lindenmuth, Daphne Smith. I am blessed with another wonderful class!

"Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus" is the theme of the 2017-2018 school year. Pastors Brian and Flores led an inspiring opening chapel the first day of school. Please continue to pray for us as try to focus on Jesus every minute of every day!

We begin our studies in religion studying about God, our Creator. This carries over beautifully as we talk about the eclipse and our world around us. God is an awesome God!

DLS Grades 5 & 6

Five-Six, Eyes Fixed! That is how we plan to use our school theme this year! What a wonderful privilege we have here at DLS! We get to start, go through, and end our school year with our eyes fixed on Jesus!!

We have interesting class dynamics this year! The fifth grade has six boys and ONE girl, for a total of seven. The sixth grade has four girls and ONE boy. I think Reese (5th) and Samuel (6th) may be relieved about that!

Our class got to take part in the solar eclipse! We had praise music blasting on the radio. We ate our lunch outside. We checked the progress with our glasses, and we got to talk about just how AWESOME our God is. He is a God of order, and this eclipse was not a fluke or some sort of "cosmic coincidence." What a joy to spend the hours of the eclipse with our eyes fixed on Jesus. I am so very thankful for the opportunity to teach here at DLS. I pray that God will richly bless our school year.



Welcome, Juli Reinke, to Deshler Lutheran School



DLS Kindergarten Teacher Juli Reinke with family: (From left): Micah, Joel, Juli and Lillian Reinke

Dear St. Peter and Trinity Congregations,

Thank you all for your prayers, notes and encouraging words over the past several months; they have been amazing!! The Lord's Calling to teach these dear Kindergarteners at DLS has been very evident.

To share with you a little about myself and our family, I'm the middle of my siblings with two sisters (both also with Teaching Degrees from CUNE) and two brothers (one of whom Pastors a church in IL, and one who lives with Jesus). My father was a Lutheran Principal and Teacher for 23 years before being Called to the Seminary, and is now Visitation Pastor at St. Paul, Utica after serving in Omaha for 23 years, with my Mom as a great support through it all.

I lived near Jefferson City, MO before moving to the Christ Lutheran, Juniata Teacherage, then on to college at Concordia, Seward. God brought me to St. Peter's, Davenport where I taught K-2 for four years and married Joel, then answered the Call to teach our own children at home. Our oldest, Evan, is married to Oriana and they are expecting our first Grandchild later this Fall, exciting! Micah is starting his Sophomore year in College, and Lydia her Senior year in High School.

We are off to a great school year at DLS, enjoying the staff, students, and others who serve here, while Fixing Our Eyes on JESUS!

In Service with Christ,

Juli Reinke