



**ST PETER LUTHERAN  
CHURCH - DESHLER NE**

*Worship - Community - Mission*

**Monthly Newsletter**

# July 2023

## **St. Peter Lutheran Church**

**400 East Hebron Avenue**

**P.O. Box 69**

**Deshler, NE 68340**

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## **Deshler Lutheran School**

**509 East Hebron Avenue**

**PO Box 340**

**Deshler, NE 68340**

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Principal Mr. Todd Voss (cell) 402-720-5590

School Website [DeshlerLuth.org](http://DeshlerLuth.org)

*A Note From The  
Pastor...*

### **Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:**

Do you have joy in your life right now or is it a struggle for you? There are many things that seek to steal our joy or suck the joy out of our lives. Whether it is national or world events, illnesses, family conflict, financial worries, or the things we see on social media, it can be difficult to have joy.

Starting June 26<sup>th</sup>, we will begin walking through the book of Philippians during the sermon on Sunday mornings. This book is filled with joy from Paul. It is important to note that he wrote this letter in jail. Paul is in jail for proclaiming the Gospel and yet this letter is filled with all kinds of joy.

The theme for this letter is really "Joy in Jesus". That is so important for us. We aren't going to find lasting joy in money. We won't find lasting joy in earthly accomplishments. We won't find lasting joy in how many fields we have. We won't find lasting joy in how many people follow us on social media. Our only lasting joy is found in a living, active relationship with Jesus Christ. Until we fully realize and grasp this, we are going to be very disappointed in life.

So where are you looking for your joy? Are you looking to other things and other people? Or are you looking for your joy in Jesus? Please join us as we walk through this joyful letter and my prayer is that God will fill you with incredible joy and that your joy in Jesus would overflow from your life into the lives of others.

In Jesus – the Healer of the hurting,  
Pastor Brian



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### **Stewards**

#### **What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?**

#### **Go ... Sell All You Have?**

"What must I do to inherit eternal life?" asked the rich young ruler. Jesus said, "You know the commandments." And he replied, "All these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Luke 18:18–22).

When we hear this story, this question comes to mind: is Jesus speaking to us also, or only to the rich young ruler? In

other words, is Jesus telling us to sell all that we have and give it to the poor?

As followers of Jesus we answer, "No!" But why? Why should we not sell all that we have and distribute it to the poor? The simplest explanation is this: if we sold everything we have, our wife and our children would be neglected. In other words, to sell everything we have and give it to the poor would ignore, even abandon, those whom God has placed in our care. Our money, everything we have, is not to be used solely for the church. But that doesn't excuse us from using our money for the purpose God intends.

Everyone has three stations in life, three spheres in which we live and are to be of service to our neighbors. These stations are the church, the family and society. We are members of all three of these by birth. We are born into the church by water and the Word of God, and our duties to others in the church arise from our Baptism into the church. We are born into a family, and our duties to others stem from our birth into that family. Finally, we are born into society, which is simply a further extension of our birth into our family. The duties we have toward other members of society come from either our own birth or the birth of others into the same society.

All that we have and all that we are ought to be pressed into service for the church,

the family and society. If we were to sell all we have and give only to one, the other two would be neglected, and we would falter in fulfilling our duties.

But the station that is usually thought of last is the church. Since the needs of the family and society are more immediate, the church is often given what is left over. This is not how it should be. Rather, we are to give of our first fruits, from off the top, the best, even as Abel gave the best of his flock.

This requires forethought. It means that you sit down and make a plan of what you will give from the beginning. It means sticking to it even when it seems that there are other more immediate and pressing things.

And this is all the more necessary now as we enter into periods of time where giving is low due to high unemployment or where restrictions on meeting in church limit opportunities to give. If we love God and His gifts of forgiveness given through the means of grace, which we receive at church and only at church, then we will support it, just as we love our country and our family. For all that we have and all that we are is given to us by our gracious God. He spared no expense for us and our salvation. He gave up His Son to death so that our sins are forgiven, and we will live. What's more, He provides for all that we need for this body and life. And our lives in this world, among these three spheres of church, family and society are to mirror the generosity of the one who gave us life in all three at birth.

Don't let the church, your divine family, be an afterthought or even ignored. It is nurturing you and pointing you to Jesus.

— LCMS Stewardship Ministry:  
lcms.org/stewardship

## Official Acts

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 4-1-2023

Membership..... 4-1-2023  
Baptized.....295  
Confirmed.....239  
Voting members.....210

### MEMBERSHIP GAINS

#### Through Baptism

#### Through Affirmation of Faith

05/28/2023.....Derek Washington

#### Through Confirmation:

Date – April 2, 2023.....  
Name – Conner Johnson, Cooper Laaker, Jayden Mathis, Claire Sasse, Logan Schmidt, Lainey Vieselmeyer.....

### MEMBERSHIP LOSSES

#### Through Release

### OTHER OFFICIAL ACTS

4/09/2023...Savannah Elizabeth Smith  
4/09/2023.....Brooklyn Rose Spellman

### End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 6-30-2023

Baptized.....297  
Confirmed.....246  
Voting members.....211

## Financial Update

### As of June 18, 2023 (25 Sundays)

#### General Budget

Offerings Received	\$142,075.95
Offerings Budgeted	\$189,688.75
Difference	\$(47,612.80)

#### Missions-Nebraska District Support

Goal	\$3,231
Received	\$2,260
Difference	\$(971)



Anytime at [lutheranhour.org](http://lutheranhour.org)

#### Sunday mornings:

06:30	KFAB	Omaha	1110AM
07:30	WIBW	Topeka	580AM
08:00	BOTT	N. Platte	107.6FM
10:00	KRVN	Lexington	880AM

07/02 **"Give Me Life?!"** Guest Speaker: Pastor Keith Haberstok. Finders, weepers; losers, keepers: Pastor Keith Haberstok talks about finding life by losing it, for the sake of Christ. (Matthew 10:39)

07/09 **"Lean Into the Villain's Story"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Jesus changes the way we see ourselves and others, even our villains. He died and rose for them, too. (Romans 7:24)

07/16 **"Two Mindsets"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The Law of God is a test that judges all who take it. The Gospel is the Good News that Jesus passed the test, in our place. (Romans 8:1-7)

**"Pulling for Others"**  
07/23 Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. How did two young men start out with similar circumstances but end up in such different places? Was it the choices they made or the pull that others had on their lives? (Romans 8:31-39)

**"If It Seems Slow, Wait for It"**  
07/30 Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Some ideas spread slowly. That doesn't make them bad ideas. Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about God's slow solution to setting a broken world right. (Habakkuk 2:3, Romans 0:9)

**rightnow MEDIA**

### "Holy Habits" By Derwin Gray

When God calls us to himself, he sets us apart—he makes us holy. But what does it mean to be holy? What habits define God's people, no matter where they are on earth or which denomination, they are a part of? In this four-session series, pastor Derwin Gray explores four foundational behaviors of Christians. God calls us to a new way of living, one formed by rhythms of holiness.

Please contact Pastor Brian or Todd Voss to get started with RightNow Media. Also, check out Pastor Brian's video on how to get set up with RightNow Media. The video can be found on our Facebook and YouTube pages.



### No July Gathering

Our book group will not gather in July. We will resume on August 14<sup>th</sup>. If you need a copy of the new book list, please contact Pastor Brian.



## From the Principal's Desk....July 2023

Preparations are well underway for the 2023-24 school year! Our end-of-the-school year staff meetings in May always mark the shifting of our focus to the upcoming school year. The theme for the 2023-24 academic year is "Connected in Christ!" and comes from God's Word as found in John 15:5. Jesus' words read as follows: "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing." Jesus' words remind us that indeed we need to be connected to Him, the live-giving, fruit-producing vine. We look forward to diving deeply into our theme during the school year ahead and celebrating that we are "Connected in Christ!"

On June 19<sup>th</sup>, the DLS Board of Education had a very productive workday. Several projects were completed, but the most noticeable was the installation of new blinds in each of the classrooms and library. Our group of workers removed the old vertical blinds—which were really showing their age—and installed new horizontal blinds that were purchased with funds raised by our students through our annual Christmas Card Sales. The new blinds significantly update the look of our classrooms and provide much greater functionality for the space above the windows, which can now serve much like a bulletin board and be used for educational posters or other classroom decorations. The new blinds are a great improvement for the new school year!

We invite all of you to consider joining us on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm for a workday at the DLS 510 School-House. We are looking for volunteers to help us trim bushes/trees, cut down trees, and give the interior a good cleaning. The 510 School-House has already been a blessing to DLS and we would like to use it more during the 23-24 school year. We will have some supplies available for the work that needs to be done. However, it would be greatly appreciated if volunteers could also bring any tools/cleaning supplies that might be helpful for the work (trimmers, chainsaws, housing cleaning supplies,

etc.). Please join us as we pray for God's direction with this new place & space for ministry. Thank you so much!

Our staff has been busy reflecting, refreshing, and preparing for the new school year. Our teaching staff virtually attended the NDE Future Ready Conference in June. Today, the future can seem uncertain and scary in many ways. As I was reflecting on the ideas that were shared and predictions for the future, I was reminded that nothing can prepare kids more for the future than the Truth of God's Word! I praise God that we have the awesome privilege of sharing the Truth of God's Word and the King of Kings, Jesus, with our students every day at DLS! Building a life on the Word of God is the best way to be "Future Ready" for all the challenges, achievements, setbacks, and changes that life may bring our way. Thank you for prayerfully and faithfully supporting the Christ-centered school ministry of Deshler Lutheran School so we can help our students be "Future Ready" by being "Connected in Christ!"

In Christ,

Todd Voss, Principal  
Deshler Lutheran School

### Calendar Events:

July 9 DLS 510 School-House Work Day @ 2:00 PM

July 17 DLS Board of Education Meeting @ 8:00 PM

### DLS 510 School-Housework Day: July 9 @ 2:00 pm

The DLS Board of Education is planning a workday on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm for the DLS 510 School-House to the north of Deshler Lutheran School (510 Hebron Ave Property). We are looking for volunteers that would be interested in helping us trim bushes/trees, cut down trees, and give the interior a good cleaning. The 510 School-House has already been a blessing to DLS and we would like to use it more during the 23-24 school year. We have many talented people within our Association Congregations and ask that you consider joining us on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. We will have some supplies available for the work that needs to be done. However, it would be greatly appreciated if volunteers could also bring any tools/cleaning supplies that might be helpful for the work (trimmers, chainsaws, house cleaning supplies, etc.). Many Thanks!!



- 3 Tyson Bauer  
Marvin Schardt
- 9 Kolby Finke
- 10 Avery Schardt
- 11 Bruce Finke
- 13 Scott Laaker
- 15 Anna Finke  
Brexlin Harms  
David Pohlmann
- 16 Patricia Mueller
- 17 Kristin Doering  
Cindy Watson
- 20 Gracie Hinz
- 22 Cale Schardt
- 23 Gary Meyer
- 24 Reinold Kruse  
Janet Larkins
- 26 Jonathan Peters  
Logan Schardt
- 27 Kalen Sedlachek
- 29 Kalab Reinke



- 3 Larry Plock
- 6 Heather Cooper
- 7 Ivy Harms  
Delbert Lemke
- 9 Jon Capek  
Rhett Meyer  
Gregory Hornbostel
- 10 Diane Schardt
- 11 Steven Harms
- 13 Coltin Hansen  
Mark Miesner
- 14 Avery Schardt
- 15 Alyssa Zucker
- 23 Roger Genzmer
- 24 Marvin Schardt
- 25 Otto Finke  
Blake Schardt
- 26 Marilyn Schardt





- 9 Andrew & Ellen Schmidt
- 10 Matthew & Lauren Gilg
- 22 Hayden & Kelsey Meyer
- 29 Kalen & Kari Betten
- 30 Douglas & Pam Harms

## REMINDERS



### July Job Duty

Elder	Doug Harms
Acolyte	Dillon Schardt
Flowers	Pam Harms
Envelope Committee	Tony & Karla Deepe Brian & Julene Schardt
Sound	Doug Schardt
Video	Jon Peters



### St. Peter Lutheran Women's Missionary League

LWML will gather for Bible Study and fellowship at 7:00p.m. on Thursday, July 6th. All women of the congregation are invited to join us.

### No Cost Garage Sale

These pictures were taken June 3, the day of our church's No-Cost Garage Sale. We would like to thank the following:

1) those who contributed items for the garage sale 2) those that helped with preparations for the garage sale and 3) those that worked the day of the sale and helped with the activities of the day. Items left over following the sale were given to Blue Valley Community Action in Hebron.



### Annual Deshler Community Church Picnic



Join us as we gather with church members from Peace Lutheran and Abiding Word for the annual Deshler community churches picnic on Sunday July 23rd @ 5:30pm at the Deshler City Park. Hot Dogs/Brats and chips will be provided as well as lemonade, tea, and water along with table settings. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Come join us for this gathering of brothers and sisters in Christ here in the Deshler town.



**Direct Deposit Offerings** - Automatic withdrawal is available to give your offerings here at St. Peter. Signup forms are available in the Narthex, or if requested can be mailed or emailed to you. If you have any questions, please contact our treasurer, Sara Kresser, at 402-984-2453 or fourleafclover9@hotmail.com.

**Giving Online** - You can give online using a debit or credit card. Click on the "Give" tab on [www.stpeterdeshler.org](http://www.stpeterdeshler.org), then select "Click to Give." Please note: There is a fee for using a debit or credit card. It will be deducted from your offering unless you choose to cover the fee.



Contact Pastor Brian or any C.A.R.E. Warriors Team Member for more information.

**Discipleship starts with relationships.**  
(Acts 2:42-47)



Keep Saving! Simply buy products from the Best Choice® family of brands at your favorite local grocer and save the UPC (proof of purchase) from the product's label. Deshler Lutheran School will earn \$30 in cash for each bundle of 1,000 UPCs collected and mailed to Best Choice Save-A-Label. The jar is located in the coat room.



**Available In the Narthex –**  
Sunday Bulletins, Pastor Brian's Daily Devotions, My Devotions, Portals of Prayer, Life Date, Faith Mentor Info,

Announcements, Newsletter, Direct Deposit Slips, Cemetery Policy, Annual Report, Phone Directory, Hand Sanitizer, etc.



**Are You on Facebook?** - Check out the St. Peter, Faith, and DLS Facebook pages, like, and follow them to get updates on your feed. We are continuing to find ways to encourage the body of Christ in the technology world.



**Video of Services** - A DVD of each Sunday service is available in the white basket on the mailbox shelf in the Narthex. All videos are available for anyone to take home, watch, and return.



# July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday												
						1												
2 9:45am Worship with Holy Communion	3	4 Offices Closed	5 12:30pm Bulletin Deadline	6 7pm LWML	7 Pastor's Sabbath 1pm Bulletin Folders	8												
9 9:45am Worship 2pm DLS House Workday	10	11	12 12:30pm Bulletin Deadline	13 7pm Elders Meeting 8pm Council Meeting	14 Pastor's Sabbath 1pm Bulletin Folders Pastor Brian Gone	15 Pastor Brian Gone												
16 Pastor Brian Gone 9:45am Worship	17 Pastor Brian Gone 8pm DLS Board of Education Meeting	18 Pastor Brian Gone	19 Pastor Brian Gone 12:30pm Bulletin Deadline	20 Pastor Brian Gone	21 Pastor Brian Gone Pastor's Sabbath 12pm Newsletter Content Deadline	22 Pastor Brian Gone												
23 9:45am Worship with Holy Communion 11am Quarterly Voter's Meeting 5:30pm Deshler Church Picnic	24	25	26 12:30pm Bulletin Deadline	27	28 Pastor's Sabbath 1pm Bulletin Folders and Newsletter Assembly	29												
30 9:45am Worship	31				<div>July Job Duty</div> <table><tr><td>Elder</td><td>Doug Harms</td></tr><tr><td>Acolyte</td><td>Dillon Schardt</td></tr><tr><td>Flowers</td><td>Pam Harms</td></tr><tr><td>Envelope Committee</td><td>Tony &amp; Karla Deepe Brian &amp; Julene Schardt</td></tr><tr><td>Sound</td><td>Doug Schardt</td></tr><tr><td>Video</td><td>Jon Peters</td></tr></table>		Elder	Doug Harms	Acolyte	Dillon Schardt	Flowers	Pam Harms	Envelope Committee	Tony & Karla Deepe Brian & Julene Schardt	Sound	Doug Schardt	Video	Jon Peters
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