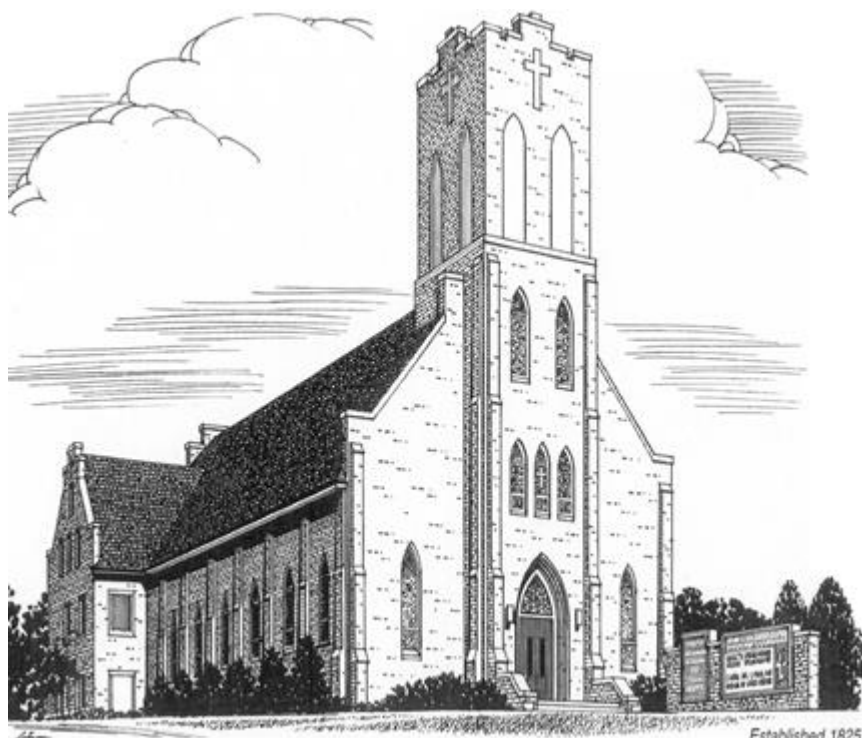


THE SUNDAY SPIRIT

July 26, 2026

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



ST. PETER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
✠ CONOVER, NC ➔

Welcome to St. Peter's! We are glad you are here! We ask everyone to fill out an "attendance card" and place it in the offering plate later in the service. We welcome our first-time guests and visitors and request that you fill out the back side of the attendance card as well. Guests and visitors please take a "welcome" bag from our table out front.

Today's radio broadcast is given to the glory of God

Welcome back, Pastor McDaniels Today we are pleased to welcome Pastor James "Jim" McDaniels and his wife, Janice, back to St. Peter's. Pastor McDaniels will serve as our guest preacher, sharing God's Word with us in worship. Pastor McDaniels currently serves as pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran church in High Point, NC. About 12 years ago, he served here at St. Peter's as an interim pastor during a time of pastoral vacancy. We give thanks to the Lord for Pastor McDaniels and Janice, and we are grateful for the opportunity to welcome them back to St. Peter's today.

We will have a blessing for our VBS volunteers today during both services.

Our Voters Meeting will be held immediately after the 8:15 am worship service today, in the church sanctuary.

Pastor Eric and Audrey are on vacation through Wednesday.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

***Ages 2-5** - Room #1 Education Building- Brenda Fulbright & Alice Layne

***K-2nd Grade** - Room #8 Education Building - Emily Schwandt

***3rd - 5th Grades** - Grover Herman Room Education Building - Terry Sigmon

***Middle & High Schoolers (6-12th Grades)** - Room #4 Education Building - John Adams

***No Adult Classes** today due to the Voters Meeting

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Peter's 2026 VBS Mission Project: "How Can I Understand?"

This year, our VBS mission offerings will support Lutheran Heritage Foundation's "How Can I Understand?" project. Through LHF, children around the world receive Bible-based, Christ-centered Lutheran books in their own languages, helping them learn about Jesus and grow in the Christian faith. This project supports LHF's work in Ethiopia, where children and families need faithful Lutheran resources that teach God's Word clearly. Thank you for supporting this mission project and helping put the good news of Jesus into the hands and hearts of others. *(see bulletin insert)*

VBS Adult Bible Study – The Sabbath: Living the Receptive Life

God did not give the Sabbath as a burden, but as a gift that teaches us to receive rather than strive, to rest rather than grasp, and to live from Christ's provision rather than our own performance. In this Bible study led by Pastor Frank, we'll explore what Scripture teaches about Sabbath and why it matters for everyday life. You'll learn how God's Word reorients our hearts toward worship, how healthy limits protect us from anxiety and overwork, and how true rest is ultimately found in Jesus, who gives what we cannot earn. Along the way, we'll consider how Sabbath shapes our approach to work, rest, leisure, and the ordinary duties and joys of life.

Invite a friend and come Sunday, July 26 – Thursday, July 30 in the Sanctuary during VBS, approximately 6:15–7:45 PM each evening (between the opening and closing portions of VBS).

VBS Donations Needed The VBS Team is looking for donations of fresh fruit, homegrown vegetables, and desserts for our meal each night this week. (Sunday through Thursday). Please bring your items by the church each day by 4 pm. Thank you!

Volunteers Needed for Our One in Christ Back to School Bash Help us make a difference in the lives of local students and families! We are looking for volunteers to serve at our upcoming One in Christ Back to School Bash on **Saturday, August 1**. Set-up begins at the Hickory Fairgrounds on Highway 70 at 7:30 am and the event runs from 9 am – 12 noon. Your time and kindness will make a lasting impact in our community. Contact Marla Early if you can help!

Senior Youth News Five of our senior youth will head to Camp Linn Haven today for a week of serving the local community while growing in their faith with Bible study and fellowship. During the week they will help prepare 700 backpacks and supplies for the students of Avery County. Please keep the youth and leaders in your prayers this week.

The Senior Youth Group (Grades 6-12) will meet on **Sunday, August 2 at 6 pm** in the Youth Room.

Updating Your Information If your address, phone number or email has changed, please be sure to contact the church office so we can update our database.

We are 1st in Chr1st

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

FREE EVENT

AUG 1st 2026

9AM to 12PM

- ✓ *FREE backpack full of school supplies
- ✓ Food
- ✓ Face Painting
- ✓ Games
- ✓ Clothes Closet
- ✓ Fire Truck
- ✓ Police Car
- ✓ and MUCH MORE!

*Tickets for backpack will be handed out as you enter the gate. Distribution will be at set time.

Hickory American Legion Fairgrounds
1 American Legion Ave, Newton, NC 28658

We are 1st in Chr1st "We are 1 in Christ" is local churches and organizations coming together in one location to serve the community.

THANK YOU NOTES

- To our church family: Thank you just does not seem like enough for all the support we were shown during our cousin, Dennis' illness and death. We appreciate the kind words, card and memorials made in his honor. Thank you, Pastor Frank and Pastor Eric, for a beautiful service. I think it suited him so well. Thank you to the Praise Band for taking the time to support his wish and letting Julie participate in that. Thanks to Kevin Sigmon for the audio/visual support and the video streaming, and the ladies who made the wonderful meal. There was not a thing that went unnoticed. We will miss him, but he is now rejoicing with Jesus. Thank you again
– The Family of Dennis Winebarger

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

- ***Given to the Building Fund*** in loving memory of Gracie Bolick by Barry & Carolyn Matthews
- ***Given to the Quilters Fund*** in loving memory of Gracie Bolick by Larry & Debbie Adams
- ***Given to the General Fund*** in loving memory of Gracie Bolick by Randy & Toni Miller; by Pat Smith
- ***Given to the LWML Mites*** in loving memory of Linda Edwards, Dennis Winebarger, Melvin Eckard and Gracie Bolick by Jeannette Gantt



We are ready to start getting
ACCOMMODATIONS
for the trip.

TRIP DATES
OCTOBER 11-14

I need to know roommate info to start making reservations, please let me know if you plan to room with someone or will room alone by Sunday, July 26th.
If we don't have your info, you will not be included in our reservations.

 *Let Betty Goble Know*
828-308-4251

NOTE: The deadline for the Ark trip is TODAY by 5 pm. We will be working on accommodations and **MUST** know if you are planning to go on the trip, and if you will be sharing a room or plan to have your own room. If you do **NOT** let Betty know by today by 5 pm, you will **NOT** be included in our reservation search. We are expecting the cost for the trip to be approximately \$500-600 person. Meals are **NOT** included.
Contact Betty Goble by 5 pm today if you plan to go on this trip! No exceptions.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sun. (26)	8:15 am Contemporary Service – <i>Guest Pastor, Rev. James McDaniels</i> 9:30 am Sunday School (Youth Only) 9:30 am Voters Meeting – in church sanctuary 10:45 am Traditional Service – <i>Guest Pastor, Rev. James McDaniels</i> 12:30 pm Fourth Sunday Lunch Bunch – Captain's Galley off Springs Road 3:00 PM Confirmation Journal Mentor Meeting 4:15 PM Volunteers to load trailer for Back to School Bash 5:00 pm VBS Meal 6:00 PM VBS
Mon. (27)	8:30 am Quilters 5:00 pm VBS Meal 6:00 PM VBS
Tues. (28)	2:30 pm Staff Meeting 5:00 pm VBS Meal 6:00 pm VBS 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
Weds. (29)	5:00 pm VBS Meal 6:00 pm VBS
Thurs. (30)	5:00 pm VBS Meal 6:00 pm VBS

***Bold = activities that don't happen on a typical week**

Last Week

Worship Service Attendance

8:15 am 137 10:45 am 58

Sunday School Attendance

Youth 15 Adults 51

Offerings

(Needed in General Fund weekly to meet budget \$12,829.50)

General Fund - \$9,308.21 Sunay School - \$53

Dedicated Fund Offerings

Evangelism - \$395 ; Israel Bible Study Tour - \$1,500; Building Fund - \$952.50;

Building Fund – Audio/Visual - \$100

Thru June 30, 2026, Year to Date

Income \$296,331.87 less expenses \$323,216.71 = \$26,884.84 (negative)

Budget-to-date is a monthly average. Income and expenses are seasonal so totals may run ahead or behind

SERMON NOTES

1. What work of Christ, accomplished for your benefit, is described in this sermon?
2. In what ways does the Holy Spirit empower you to live differently?



I have to apologize! The last two months have many consisted of getting back into the swing of life in Belize after my operation in Michigan this spring. I have been derelict in my duties during this time! I have started this newsletter three times and failed to complete it! Please forgive me. I offer below the May/June Newsletter for the mission in Belize. May God bless you and your family.



Belize Zoo

One of our family outings these past two months was a visit to the Belize Zoo, where we had the chance to see Belize's national animal, the tapir. With its unusual shape and unmistakable appearance, the tapir is a wonderful reminder that God delights in variety and creativity. The Lord could have made every animal alike, yet His creation overflows with beauty, diversity, and even a bit of whimsy.

It was a blessing to experience that wonder together as a family. Moments like these remind us to pause and rejoice in the work of our Creator, who not only fashioned the world with wisdom and care but also continues to sustain it by His gracious hand. "O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all" (Psalm 104:24).



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to jason.groth@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

jason.groth@lcms.org

Trinity Sunday



One of the greatest joys of these past two months has been the continued opportunity to proclaim the Gospel at Christ Lutheran Church in Seine Bight. God's people gather to hear His Word, pray together, and receive the gifts He freely gives through Christ. On Trinity Sunday, we joined Christians around the world in confessing the one true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. While the mystery of the Holy Trinity is beyond our full understanding, the Lord has made Himself known through His saving work in Jesus Christ, who has redeemed us and brought us into fellowship with the Triune God through Holy Baptism.

The proclamation of that Gospel continues not only in Seine Bight, but throughout Belize. Whether in worship services, Bible studies, home visits, or conversations with neighbors, the Lord continues to accomplish His work through His Word. Thank you for your prayers and faithful support, which make it possible for us to remain here and share the good news of Christ crucified and risen with the people of Belize.

Visit from Family

One of the greatest blessings of serving overseas is the opportunity to share this beautiful country and the Lord's work with family and friends who come to visit. During May and June, we were grateful to welcome my sister and brother-in-law, my cousin John, and my niece and nephew to Belize. Their visit gave us the chance to spend time together, introduce them to the people and places that have become part of our daily lives, and let them see firsthand the work the Lord is doing here.

Living far from family is one of the sacrifices of missionary service, so these visits are a tremendous encouragement. We are thankful for the time we shared, the memories we made, and the opportunity for our loved ones to better understand the ministry that your prayers and support make possible. We pray the Lord brought them home safely and that they returned with a deeper appreciation for His work in Belize.



Still Getting Settled...One Year in

One of the surprising joys of missionary life is watching our own children become active participants in the life of the Church. Here, Martha is carefully preparing the altar for the celebration of the Lord's Supper at Christ Lutheran Church in Seine Bight. Like many small congregations around the world, everyone has an opportunity to serve according to their gifts. It is a blessing to see our children learning that even simple acts of service help support the ministry of Christ's Church and teach us to love our neighbors.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Proclamation of the Gospel:

Give thanks that the Gospel continues to be preached faithfully in Seine Bight and throughout Belize. Pray that the Holy Spirit would work through His Word to strengthen believers, bring sinners to repentance, and draw many into the saving faith of Jesus Christ.

Families and Christian Service:

We thank God for the encouragement of visits from family, friends, and short-term teams during these past two months. Pray for all Christian families, that the Lord would strengthen them in His Word and raise up each new generation to serve faithfully in the Church, just as Martha joyfully assisted in preparing the altar for the Lord's Supper.

Wisdom and Endurance in Mission:

Please pray that the Lord would continue to grant wisdom, patience, and endurance as we serve in Belize. Ask Him to bless our relationships with the communities we serve, guide the work at Camp Concordia, and open new opportunities to proclaim Christ crucified and risen throughout the country.



Kids Korner

“What do our dogs like or what gets them excited?”

Gideon: “Shadow is a shady character and Queenie is an energetic greeter.”

Esther: “Queenie loves snuggles and Shadow loves a good scratch behind the ear.”

Martha: “Queenie is a ball of energy and Shadow is a goofball.”

Joanna: “Queenie likes belly runs and Shadow loves pets. Especially is Queenie getting them, he likes to steal them.”

Almighty and everlasting God, You have revealed Your glory in all creation and have gathered us into Your Church through the saving work of Your Son. Continue to bless Your mission in Belize, strengthen those who proclaim Your Word, and keep us steadfast in faith, hope, and love, that in all we do we may bear witness to Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

— Pastor Jason Groth



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on “Service Opportunities.”

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Jason and Emily Groth. Make checks payable to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central
40718 Highway E 16
Mapleton, IA 51034

On the memo line include *Groth-BELIZE*

Give securely from any device: lcms.org/givenow/groth
Call a donor care representative: 888-930-4438

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