



Prepared to Give an Answer!

It seems that the world we live in today is questioning Christianity more and more. I think it is safe to say that there are more and more who would be perfectly fine if it were completely removed. We see attempts of this removal in many areas. One dilemma we are faced with is the fact that we live in two realms — left hand and right hand. The right hand realm is the heavenly realm. As God's people we enjoy forgiveness and life right now. The left hand realm is the earthly realm. While we are forgiven children of God enjoying all of God's promises now, we still live in a fallen world where we are pushed to our limits and unthinkable things are happening.

So the question is, "How do we live as Christians in this earthly realm?" As I said in my message on Sunday, I believe one of the toughest things for most Christians to do in this earthly realm is to be a witness of their faith. I say this because I believe that we are afraid we will not have the right answer or will not be able to articulate our answer appropriately. Why are we afraid of this? It is because we are not "prepared to give an answer".

In 1 Peter 3:14-15 this is exactly what Peter is addressing. He is encouraging the reader to stand firm in the faith and do what is good according to God's word. If by chance you are harmed or slandered for Christ's sake, even though you shouldn't be, be prepared to give an answer of the hope you have in Christ. The key here is being prepared.

We prepare for just about everything we do in life. In fact, we spend countless hours in preparation for most things. In comparison of the time spent on worldly things we prepare for, how much time do we spend in preparing for giving an answer to the hope we have in Jesus? As I said this past Sunday, we are not preparing as much for our benefit as we are for others. We know that we are forgiven and have eternal life. We prepare to give an answer so that others may come to have the same hope that we have. We need to get our priorities straight and make sure that we are spending time in God's word and in prayer daily. Weekly Sunday School and worship are also ways that we can prepare ourselves.

May we continue to be used by God with A Heart for Hamilton County and the World

Pastor Peiel

JUNE

Sunday Morning

8:30 Breakfast/Opening
9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship

Tuesday

9:00 Quilting

Wednesday

Thursday

6:30 Men's Bible Study

Friday

Office Closed

EVERY MONTH

1st Sunday— Nursing Home Devotions 1:30pm
2nd Wednesday— Preschool Board 5:30pm
2nd Thursday—Board of Ed 6:00pm
2nd Week— Board Meetings
3rd Saturday—Men's Club 7:15am

(see times on calendar)



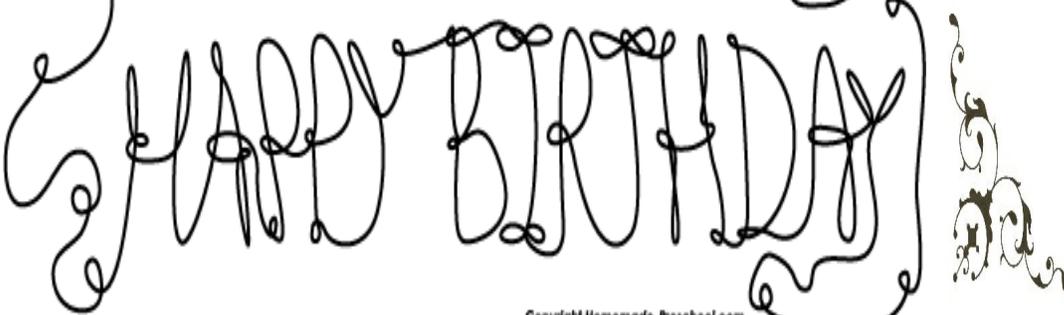
June

- 3rd Casey Finstad
- 4th Suzanne Jarvis
- John Tyson
- 5th Lynn Muxworthy
- Payden Nolen
- Tyler Sellers
- 8th Mike Armstrong
- Jon English
- Gary Gromatzky
- Donna Smith
- 9th Betty Tischler
- 10th Amie Eilers
- Shawna McKandless
- 11th Jane Dodson
- Lois Erwin
- 12th Piper Hanson
- Debbie Jahns
- Artie Peters
- Martin Seider
- Carson Wolff
- 13th Kristi Wagner
- 14th Gary Tyson
- 15th Brayden Armstrong
- 16th Ryan Polster
- 17th David Gromatzky
- Weston Nolen
- 18th Sarah Zschiesche
- 19th Leona McNew
- 20th Colton Delagarza
- 21st Savannah Johnson
- 22nd Fernanda Olalde

- 26th Philip Abdou
- Megan Lewis
- Cole McCown
- Trevor Sellers
- Cutter Tyson
- Isaac Wenzel
- 29th James Tischler

June Baptism

- 1st Howard Cox
- Travis Odom
- 2nd Caleb Niemann
- 3rd Ed Moyers
- 4th Scott Williams
- 10th Megan Lewis
- Bryson Marwitz
- Shawna McKandless
- 13th Juanita Bushee
- Derrel Hungerford
- Amber Tyson
- 14th Stacey Creek
- 16th Betty Tischler
- 20th Ethan Chorenziak
- Kara Chorenziak
- Lynn Muxworthy
- 21st Cecelia Jenson
- 22nd Jared Massingill
- Valerie Massingill
- 23rd Jerome Pietzsch
- Brian Witzsche
- 25th Fernanda Olalde
- 26th Barry Finstad
- Josh Squyres
- 27th Bobby Moore
- 28th Dennis Schoen
- 30th Johnny Clark
- Nicole Wenzel





June Anniversaries

1st	Josh & Sarah Bauman	12yrs
	Mark & Kelli Nolen	23yrs
5th	Cecil & Mildred Kautzsch	71yrs
	Jerome & Alice Pietzsch	43yrs
20th	Doyle & Ima Roberts	50yrs
24th	Sonny & Melissa Delagarza	8yrs
26th	Nick & Michelle Cantara	4yrs
	Travis & Linda Moore	50yrs
27th	Gary & Dixie Gromatzky	50yrs
28th	Dayle & Gayla Squyres	40yrs
	David & Kim Tyson	29yrs



St. John Lutheran Preschool May News



It is hard to believe this is the last month of our school year! It has been such a blessing to be a part of St. John Preschool this year! I am so thankful for the precious children that come to our school, their families that share them with us, and the wonderful group of teachers that I am so privileged to work with each day. Thank you to our church



family and Pastor Reich, who continue to pray for and support St. John Preschool and its mission. We have been gearing up for summer with lots of fun activities. The afternoon and kinder classes took an end-of-the year field trip to Dinosaur World in Glen Rose, Texas. We enjoyed a beautiful day full of fun and fellowship.



with each day. Thank you to our church family and Pastor Reich, who continue to pray for and support St. John Preschool and its mission.



The children prepared for our trip by making a huge dinosaur habitat, and learning all about volcanoes.





St. John Lutheran Preschool
May News



The Little Lambs Class celebrated with bounce houses and face painting at the end-of-the-year party. We look forward to seeing these sweet faces in the Fall!



We sent our Mighty Lions Class off on their new journey during the Kindergarten Send-Off Celebration. We have enjoyed this group of kids so much and pray God's blessings on them as they go to Kindergarten!

Thank you to the St. John Men's Club for the donation from the chicken and sausage sales. We appreciate your support of St. John Preschool and the many acts of kindness that you do for our church family.



The first St. John Lutheran Kinder/Bridge class has graduated! A sweet ceremony was held in the sanctuary for family and friends. The kids sang several songs, enjoyed a slideshow presentation, and Mrs. Gayle spoke so kindly about each child. It was very touching to all who attended! What an amazing year it has been with this precious group of kids!

A huge thank you goes out to the Preschool Board for hosting cake and punch after each of our celebrations. You all are amazing! Thank you for your support and timeless hours spent helping St. John Preschool!

Have a fun and safe summer! See you at VBS!

God's Blessings,

**Sarah Bauman
St. John Preschool Director**



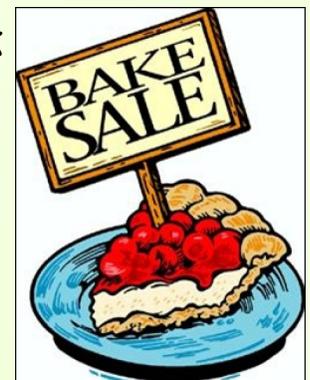
Alaska Mission Trip Fundraiser

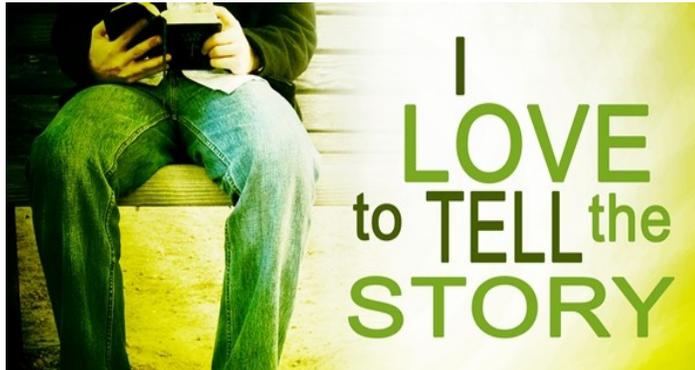
Rummage Sale and Bake Sale
June 6th and 7th
8:30 AM to 5:30 PM.



Items for the rummage sale can be dropped off any time beginning June 1st. Please place them in the Family Life Center, filling up the back areas and along the sides, leaving the front of the stage open. Benefits go toward the Alaska mission trip in August. Help is available for pick up of large items or

from homebound members. Contact Donna Smith @ 254-796-1962. Bake goods can be delivered beginning Thursday afternoon, June 5th. Pie by the slice with coffee will be served on Friday and Saturday. Mission Team meeting on Monday June 2nd at 7:00 PM in the FLC to set up tables and begin pricing. All team members and church members who can help with this event need to show up Thursday afternoon @ 1:00 PM to finish organizing and pricing until we are done and then again on Saturday afternoon for clean up. A sign up sheet is available in the foyer for anyone who can work on Friday or Saturday. Orders for homemade pies will be accepted for Father's Day and will be delivered to the church for pick up that morning. The types will be available for sampling at the bake sale. Donna Smith will be making them and all profits will go toward the mission trip. Order sheet for pies on June 7th and June 15th is also in the foyer.





I Love to Tell the Story

1866

Then they will see the son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. Mark 13:26

William Wilberforce, the Christian statesman and abolitionist, led a fierce campaign in nineteenth-century England to eradicate slavery from the British Empire. The geographical center of the campaign was a wealthy neighborhood in the south of London known as Clapham, where a group of Anglican evangelicals lived. The "Clapham Sect" also advocated prison reform, education for children, and the expansion of missionary efforts overseas. Though lampooned for their efforts, they changed the world.

Arabella Katherine Hankey was born into this environment in 1834. Her father was a banker in Clapham and a leader in the Clapham Group. Early in life, Kate became involved in religious work. As a young girl, she taught Sunday school; and when she was eighteen she organized a Bible study for factory girls in London. (This Bible study was never large, but the girls became close and fifty years later, five of them met together at Kate's Funeral.) When her brother fell ill in Africa, Kate traveled there to bring him home. That trip sparked a passion for foreign missions, and in later life Kate devoted all proceeds from her writing to missionary work.

During the winter of 1865-1866, Kate, thirty, became seriously ill. The doctors warned her to abandon her Christian activities and remain in bed for a full year. To occupy her time, Kate

wrote a poem of one hundred stanzas entitled "The Old, Old Story." She began the first section, "The Story Wanted," on January 29, 1866. Later that year, she wrote a second section entitled, "The Story Told."

The following year, at the international convention of the Young Men's Christian Association, Major General Russell ended his powerful sermon by quoting from Kate's poem. It left the audience breathless. Songwriter William Doane, in the crowd that day, put a portion of Kate's poem to music, giving birth to the hymn, "Tell Me the Old, Old Story."

Another composer, William G. Fischer, set a second portion of Kate's poem to a musical score he named Hankey, and thus we have this hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story." It was first published in an American hymnbook in 1869, and was later popularized around the world in the great evangelistic campaigns of D. L. Moody and Ira Sankey.

I Love to Tell the Story

*I love to tell the story, unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, Of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, Because I know tis true.
It satisfies my longings, As nothing else can do.*

*I love to tell the story, More wonderful it seems,
Than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams,
I love to tell the story, It did so much for me;
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.*

*I love to tell the story, 'Tis pleasant to repeat,
What seems, each time I tell it, More wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, For some have never heard,
The message of salvation, From God's own holy Word.*

*I love to tell the story, For those who know it best,
Seem hungering and thirsting, To hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story, That I have loved so long.*

Ref: Then Sings My Soul (Book 2) by Thomas Nelson, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee 37214



It's Time to Sign Up Children for VBS

Weird Animals: Where Jesus' Love Is One-of-a-Kind

June 16-20 from 8:15a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Ages 3(potty trained) to finishing 4th grade



(We will have a nursery for VBS workers with younger children.)

At Weird Animals, kids will learn about some of God's most creative creations! They'll participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into yummy treats, experience cool Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them they are one of a kind, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos. Each day concludes with The Tail End—a celebration that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at **11:15**.

Kids at Weird Animals VBS will join an international mission effort to share God's love by providing water for school children in India. We will also be supporting some of local church members as they prepare for a mission trip to host a VBS in Alaska this summer.

For more information, call **the church office at 386-3158 or Misti Polster at 386-5994**.

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*May we continue to be used by God as we live by and share the Gospel
 with A Heart for Hamilton County and the World!!*