



# Blackberry Beacon

*"Let your light shine before others,  
so that they may see your good works  
and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

*Matthew 5:16*

*August 2026*

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## Leave the Margins for Those on the Margins

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at St. Peter and St. Luke's,

God says to leave the margins of the fields for those on the margins. God says to not harvest to the very edges of your fields. God says not to shake every last fig and olive from your trees. Leave the edges for the poor, the orphans, the windows, and the immigrants. Leave the margins of all that you have for those on the margins, on the edges, of the world.

In a world where few people actually glean from the edges of fields, what does it look like to leave the margins for those on the margin? Here are a few ideas:

1. Dedicate a part of your wallet or purse for extra dollars to care for those on the edges. If you don't have an extra space, fold over dollars dedicated to the poor.
2. Decide on a percentage of your income to give to the poor. Make it a part of your regular giving practice.
3. Develop relationships with those outside of your comfort zone.
4. Dine out with those who may not get to dine out very often.
5. Trust in the God of abundance who will multiply whatever we offer.

In worship on August 2, we will hear the story of the feeding of the multitudes in Matthew, chapter 14. There were well more than 5,000 people since no one was counting women and children – what's up with that? But Jesus takes simple gifts: five loaves and two fish, and echoing the pattern for Holy Communion, takes the loaves, gives thanks, blesses, and breaks them and gives them to the disciples to give to the people. All are fed. AND there are LEFTOVERS!

Our God is a God of abundance. Our God cares for those on the margins. There is always enough in God's kingdom.

Grace and Peace,  
+ Pastor Matt

P.S. If you're interested in reading more, the American Bible Society publishes the Poverty and Justice Bible, which comes with over 2,000 verse relating to poverty and justice already highlighted: <https://bibles.com/products/cev-poverty-justice-bible>.

# Stewardship Reflections

## MANY PARTS, ONE BODY

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-27

*You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

In college, I served as a volunteer counselor a few weeks each summer at a Christian camp. One of my favorite camp activities involved one of my favorite foods: ice cream. We would ask the camp kitchen to help us make ice cream, and they would give us an old-fashioned, hand-cranked ice cream maker and all the ingredients needed. I remember telling my campers that each ingredient was important in making the ice cream turn out right.

Like the ice cream ingredients, each member of the church is important. Each has a part to play as they use their spiritual gifts and share their time, talents and resources. The community of believers is the body of Christ, and each member of that body is important, with a unique purpose and function. We should never think that we, or others in the body, don't matter because of the spiritual gift or ministry we do or do not have. After all, "God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body."

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank you for making each of us a part of the body of Christ. Help us to remember that we are important so that we do our part in helping the church function the way it should.

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:** I have a unique part to play in the life of Christ's church.



Our Outreach Ministry Members are Steve and Barb Yunker, Claudette Allred, Pam Frayer, Rufena Hartford, Jean Witt, Cindy Bench and Pastor Matt. Reach out to any one of them if you have ideas.

1. August Blue Barrel Items – peanut butter and jelly/jam to St Paul's Episcopal.
2. **Mark Your Calendars.** It's time for our annual **Ice Cream Social. Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 PM.** We will gather in the Fellowship Hall to share time together assembling ice cream treats and sharing conversations. Lyle Diefenthaler will be here sharing his music with us once again. We encourage you to invite friends and neighbors as part of our congregational Outreach. Come join in the fun.

3. **TOOT TOOT.** Our congregations have once again met and exceeded our goal for collecting funding for the Kisereny Pre-School. We collected a total of **\$10,55.97**, which will be enough to sponsor 50 young people in Tanzania. We are helping to let Christs' light shine by providing a safe, loving, healthy space for these children. **THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU!**

4. Another year has gone too fast, and it is time again for God's Work. Our Hands. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> year of taking a couple of hours out of our busy lives to lend a hand to others. September 13<sup>th</sup> will find Thousands of Busy Bees around the US lending a hand. If you have an idea for a project, please share it with a member of your Outreach Ministry. In the past we have gone to Salem, Luther Home of Mercy, Lutheran Social Services, picked up trash, and numerous other projects. Further details will be forth coming in September. In the meantime, please reserve s couple of hours during the early afternoon on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Outreach Ministry will be meeting August 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM @ ST. Peter.

**HELP TIE QUILTS** - Do you have time on your hands with nothing to do? The Quilt sewing ladies are looking for additional help to tie quilts every Tuesday morning 9:00 AM to Noon. They are also looking for help to cut material into squares, which could be done at home at your leisure. For more information, contact Linda Sigurdson or come on a Tuesday morning to check it out.

**GENTLE REMINDER:** All food donations are greatly and very much appreciated. Please remember that outdated food is not accepted at Food Banks or Community Pantries. PLEASE continue to let Christs' light shine by providing safe food for those in their time of need.

### Abigail Circle

Meetings TBD

### Hannah Circle

Tuesday, August 18th

Noon @ LeAnne Jaeger's

### Book Club

Wednesday, August 12

10:00 AM @ St. Peter

### Sew Group

Every Tuesday

9:00 AM @ St. Peter

### Bible Study

Will resume in October

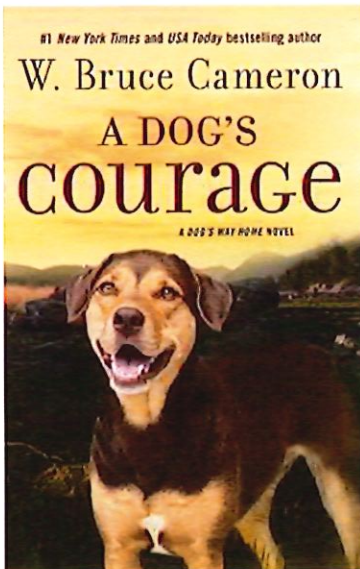
12:00 PM at St. Peter.

### AUGUST SELECTION

#### *A DOG'S COURAGE*

By W. Bruce Cameron

W. Bruce Cameron once again captures the bravery and determination of a very good dog. Bella was once a lost dog, but now she lives happily with her people, Lucas and Olivia, only occasionally recalling the hardships in her past. Then a weekend camping trip turns into a harrowing struggle for survival when the Rocky Mountains are engulfed by the biggest wildfire in American history. The raging inferno separates Bella from her people and she is lost once more. Alone in the wilderness, Bella unexpectedly finds herself responsible for the safety of two defenseless mountain lion cubs. Now she's torn between two equally urgent goals. More than anything, she wants to find her way home to Lucas and Olivia, but not if it means abandoning her new family to danger. And danger abounds, from predators hunting them to the flames threatening at every turn.





## *BIRTHDAYS*

|                       |                    |                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 – Lane Kapp         | 14 – Carolyn Sleek | 22 – Rachel Lohner   |
| 3 - Autumn Kalbfliesh | 15 - Brenda Fisher | 23 - Easy Haas       |
| 4 - Joshua Meinke     | Matt Musteric      | 25 - Bob Amonette    |
| 8 - Erik Reif         | Linda Sigurdson    | Becky Cuthbertson    |
| 10 - Zachary Bolen    | 19 - Cindy Bench   | Elizabeth Kalbfliesh |
| Kelli Lacer           | Mary Foss          | 31 - Robert Foss     |
| 12 - Kelsey Lacer     | 21 - Lisa McQueary | Brooklynn Starkey    |

## *ANNIVERSARIES*

|                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 4 - Zach & Erica Wolff     | 18 - Joe & Jody Kapp         |
| 8 - Jeff & Lisa Diekman    | 19 - Ron & Pam King          |
| 10 - Mike & Katie Larson   | Levi & Jenna Peeler          |
| 11 - John & Maria Beamer   | 21 - Josh & Jaime Overmyer   |
| 15 - Arik & Beth Bench     | 26 - Glen & Jane Tank        |
| 16 - Tom & Linda Sigurdson | 30 - Brian & Jennifer Cutlip |

# August 2026

## Monthly Planner

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Monday                                                                | Tuesday                                                                          | Wednesday                                            | Thursday                                                        | Friday | Saturday                                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
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| S                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | M                                                                     | T                                                                                | W                                                    | T                                                               | F      | S                                             |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
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| 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 6                                                                     | 7                                                                                | 8                                                    | 9                                                               | 10     | 11                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 12                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 13                                                                    | 14                                                                               | 15                                                   | 16                                                              | 17     | 18                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 20                                                                    | 21                                                                               | 22                                                   | 23                                                              | 24     | 25                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 27                                                                    | 28                                                                               | 29                                                   | 30                                                              | 31     |                                               |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| S                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | M                                                                     | T                                                                                | W                                                    | T                                                               | F      | S                                             |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                       | 1                                                                                | 2                                                    | 3                                                               | 4      | 5                                             |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 7                                                                     | 8                                                                                | 9                                                    | 10                                                              | 11     | 12                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 13                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 14                                                                    | 15                                                                               | 16                                                   | 17                                                              | 18     | 19                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 20                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 21                                                                    | 22                                                                               | 23                                                   | 24                                                              | 25     | 26                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 27                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 28                                                                    | 29                                                                               | 30                                                   |                                                                 |        |                                               |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 2<br>8:45 AM<br>WORSHIP<br>SERVICE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3                                                                     | 4<br>9:00 AM QUILT<br>SEWING<br>PACK MEALS<br>8:30-11:00 AM                      | 5<br>8:00 PM AA<br>MEETING                           | 6<br>6:00 PM<br>Pre-School<br>Orientation in<br>Fellowship Hall | 7      | 8<br>5:30 PM<br>SATURDAY<br>NIGHT<br>CAMPFIRE |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 9<br>8:45 AM WORSHIP<br>SERVICE<br>10:00 AM<br>PROPERTY<br>COMMITTEE<br>ALUM CAN<br>COLLECTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 10<br>10:00 AM<br>OUTREACH<br>MINISTRY                                | 11<br>9:00 AM QUILT<br>SEWING<br>1:00 PM<br>EDUCATION<br>MINISTRY                | 12<br>10:00 AM BOOK<br>CLUB<br>8:00 PM AA<br>MEETING | 13                                                              | 14     | 15                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 16<br>8:45 AM<br>WORSHIP<br>SERVICE<br>ICE CREAM<br>SOCIAL 1-3 PM in<br>FELLOWSHIP<br>HALL                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 17<br>6:30 PM<br>FINANCE<br>COMMITTEE<br>7:30 PM<br>CHURCH<br>COUNCIL | 18<br>9:00 AM QUILT<br>SEWING<br>HANNAH<br>CIRCLE @NOON<br>at LeAnne<br>Jaeger's | 19<br>8:00 PM AA<br>MEETING                          | 20                                                              | 21     | 22                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 23<br>8:45 AM<br>WORSHIP<br>SERVICE<br>10:00 AM<br>SUNDAY<br>SCHOOL<br>TEACHER MTG in<br>LIBRARY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 24                                                                    | 25<br>9:00 AM QUILT<br>SEWING                                                    | 26<br>8:00 PM AA<br>MEETING                          | 27                                                              | 28     | 29                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |
| 30<br>8:45 AM<br>WORSHIP<br>SERVICE<br>RALLY SUNDAY<br>10:00 AM in<br>SANCTUARY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 31                                                                    |                                                                                  |                                                      |                                                                 |        |                                               |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |   |

## SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER MEETING

Sunday, August 23 at 10 AM in the Library, we will have a Sunday School Teachers' meeting. We will discuss the start of Sunday School, class size, supplies needed, Rally Day preparation and any other topics. We will distribute Sunday School lesson material at this time, also.

### RALLY SUNDAY – August 30

Sunday, August 30 at 10:00 AM in the sanctuary, we will kick-off Sunday School with Rally Day. We are planning skits, songs and craft activities. Adults and youth are invited to join in on the fun after donut fellowship.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION:** Remember, aluminum can collection is the second Sunday of every month. August 9<sup>th</sup>, September 13<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup> are the remaining dates for 2026.



Save August 16<sup>th</sup>  
For St. Peter's Annual  
Ice Cream Social  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM  
held in the  
Fellowship Hall.

Bring a friend or a neighbor for  
some great fellowship and build your  
own ice cream treat.

Lyle Diefenthaler will be  
providing music for a perfect afternoon.

## **Roamin' Through Romans: Learning Gospel Fluency**

### **Preaching Series**

**Summer 2026**

This summer we will be making our way through St. Paul's letter to the Romans. We will begin on May 31 (Holy Trinity Sunday) and end on September 13 (God's Work, Our Hands Sunday).

Below is a schedule of the preaching texts (in parentheses) and corresponding chapters of Romans to read each week.

Aug 2: It depends not on us but on God  
(Romans 9:1-16), read Romans 9

Aug 9: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news  
(Romans 10:5-15), read Romans 10

Aug 16: So that he might be merciful to all  
(Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32), read Romans 11

Aug 23: Do not be conformed...be transformed  
(Romans 12:1-8), read Romans 12

Aug 30: Never avenge yourselves  
(Romans 12:9-21), read Romans 12

Sept 6: Owe no one anything, except...(Romans 12:8-14),  
read Romans 13

Sept 13: Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister?  
(Romans 14:1-12), read Romans 14-16

What "The Gospel in Seven Words" (notation card), means to you is still available on the table by the choir stairs. You may fill out more than one!