

## NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 2017

### April - Easter

Dear Fellow Redeemed,

As we anticipate Easter's joy, I greet you in Jesus' Name.

What if someone asked you, "Why do we celebrate Easter?" What would you say? How would you answer this question? It's something we all must be prepared to answer, not just at Easter, but through the ups and downs, hills and valleys of our life's journey as well.

Why do we celebrate Easter? I'll share a few of my own reasons...

#### **Easter is the Crown of Lent.**

#### **Why? Because He is risen!**

**The reality of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior, has become the Crown of Life for me!...**

**Because He lives**, I'm free from all sin and guilt...free to walk in a new life with Jesus.

**Because He lives** - my times of gloom cannot extinguish the light of His joy.

**Because He lives** - I despair not, for He's given me a Crown of hope.

So, should anyone ask you why we celebrate Easter, you can be ready to tell them why. Let God's Word help us in our witness:

**(1 Peter 3:15-16a) "But in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect."**

**"Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.**

**Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.**

**Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee.**

**And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity."** LSB #525

In His service,  
Pastor Asmus

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!** NEWSLETTER ARTICLES FOR MAY ARE DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE NO LATER THAN **FRIDAY, APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>**.

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**IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER ARE FACING SURGERY OR HOSPITALIZATION**, please contact Pastor Erland Asmus: Cell #: **(651) 308-8492** Church Office: **(651) 436-3357**. **PASTOR ASMUS WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE A CALL (OR IN HIS ABSENCE, ONE OF THE ELDERS), BUT WE DO NEED TO BE INFORMED.**

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**ELDERS' MEETING** will be held on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11:00 a.m.

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING** will be held on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.

**SECOND HARVEST HEARTLAND** - We will be working a shift at Second Harvest Heartland on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sign-up sheet is on the kiosk. If you have any questions, call Cheryl Schmidt.

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### **Treasures in God's Word**

**BASICS OF FAITH** - Mondays - 7:00 a.m. @ The Machine Shed; Tuesdays - 10:00 a.m. - at church;  
Week of:

April 3-4 - Lesson 25 - "Accountable to God"

April 10-11 - Lesson 26 - "Believe and Be Baptized"

April 17-18 - NO CLASS (Pastor on vacation)

April 24-25 - Lesson 27 - "Three in One"

**REVELATION** - Sunday morning Adult Bible Class - 10:30-11:00 a.m. For those who can't attend every Sunday, all materials are made available for you to keep up with us as a self-study, and to join us as you are able. During April, we will be looking at the following chapters:

Chapter 17-18 - The Collapse, Fall, and Judgment of the World.

Chapter 19 - The Triumph of the Redeemed - Saints can Rejoice!

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### **Valley Outreach**

**1911 Curve Crest Blvd. West  
Stillwater, MN 55082**

### **THE CLOSET TAKES ALL YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHING:**

Worn out stained or torn – we won't use it but we recycle it. We get 2 cents per pound for recycling. 100% goes back into the clothing program to buy items such as new socks and undies. We need kids' clothes, work wear, and seasonal clothing to meet our client needs. Clothing is free for clients. **Please leave items in the designated area by the coat rack marked "The Closet".**

### **THE CLOSET SALE: Fill Your Closet!**

**EXCLUSIVE PRESALE:** Wednesday, **MAY 17, 2017**, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**(NOTE DATE CHANGE!)**

For a \$10.00 cover charge, enjoy wine and chocolate while finding some chic new-to-you ensembles.

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (FREE):**

Thursday, **MAY 18, 2017**, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Stop in to find your new fashion (and some great deals!)

Most items for sale from \$1.00 to \$10.00.

**\$5.00 FILL A BAG:** also on the **18TH** for one hour from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Fill a bag with whatever gems you can find, ALL FOR \$5.00.

**No matter when you shop, 100% OF PROCEEDS go back into the Clothing Closet to buy items such as new SOCKS AND UNDIES!**

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Mission – our call to proclaim

It is a blessing to walk and work together in witness and mercy with the 35 districts of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and with our 34 partner church bodies around the world. The mission we engage together extends the reach of the Gospel around the world. Coming together as a synod, by sharing resources and people, we by God's grace, help to change lives now and for eternity. For a closer look at our LSMS Mission work being done today, take a walk down the hallway to Pastor's office, where you will see a bulletin board display, showing all the countries in the world where we are actively engaged in Missions, along with recent news articles describing what's happening in these areas.

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THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY GROUP meets every other Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. They will meet April 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. Join us if you like to knit or crochet or would like to learn. If you have questions, call Gayle Schneider or Linda Craig.

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Eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who have been designated Choice Dollars: Don't miss this opportunity to help support **St. Peter Lutheran Church**. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or call 1-800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice®."

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**ST. PETER WILL BE HOSTING THE RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE** on May 1st, from 1:00-7:00 p.m. Please say "Yes!" when you are called to help with making this day run smoothly. Also, we will be looking for people to come and help the day of the event, so call Peggy Oehlke and let her know if you are available.

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**LENTEN SUPPER** (*before Midweek Lenten Service*)

**Lenten Supper will be served in the Parish Hall Wednesday, April 5 from 5:00 p.m.—6:15 p.m. (before the 6:30 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship Service).** S.P.L.C.W. combined groups will be serving. Callers are asked to have 5 workers and 5 pans of bars. A donation of \$5.00 per person is the suggested price to meet the expenses. Any excess money will be used towards the Kitchen Fund. Questions, call Sharon Wellner, Lenten Supper Coordinator.

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**LENTEN & EASTER SCHEDULE:**

**April 5, 6:30 p.m.: Lenten Midweek Service (Lenten Supper 5:00-6:15 p.m.)**  
**April 9, 9:00 a.m.: Palm Sunday Contemporary Service with Communion**  
**April 13, 7:00 p.m.: Maundy Thursday Contemporary Service with Communion**  
**April 14, 12:00 Noon: Good Friday Service**  
**7:00 p.m.: Good Friday Traditional Tenebrae Service**  
**April 16, 6:30 a.m.: Easter Sunrise Traditional Service with Communion**  
**(Easter breakfast 7:45-8:45 a.m.)**  
**9:00 a.m.: Easter Contemporary Service with Communion**

A “Life-thought”

**From “Life Date” a quarterly journal from Lutherans for Life**

God shows no partiality (Acts 10:34). He does not discriminate by age, appearance, ability, or disability. He became incarnate (human) and endured crucifixion as one of humankind's least. Jesus, the Risen One, extends heaven's favoritism and victory into every human situation and life.

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**EASTER GARDEN** Spring is on its way, so it is time to think about our Easter garden display for the sanctuary. Flowers can be given in honor or in memory of someone. Envelopes for a freewill donation are provided on the counter in the narthex for this purpose. Please fill one out and return to the church office or offering plate by **Sunday, April 2, 2017**. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter Lutheran Church. It is the intent to use some of this money to provide flowers to our shut-ins before Easter. The display at church will be up through the April 30th service. Flowers can be taken home after the service that day. Any questions can be directed to Judy Hansen.

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Please mark your calendar for **EASTER DECORATING** of our sanctuary for the resurrection of our Lord on Saturday, April 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Many hands and fellowship of others will make the task enjoyable. Hope to see you then. Any questions, contact Judy Hansen.

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**\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** Church Council Minutes for February 20, 2017, are available on the counter in the narthex at church. (If you would like a copy mailed to you, please call the church office.)

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**COPIES OF THE “SENDING SEVEN LCMS MISSIONARIES TO AFRICA” FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER** (From John & Jennifer Wolf) are available on the counter in the Narthex at church. (If you would like a copy mailed to you, call the church office.)

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**IT'S TIME FOR OUR SPRING CONGREGATIONAL VOTERS' MEETING**

which will be held on Sunday, April 30th, at 10:30 a.m. Mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend. (No Bible Class on April 30th.)

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**ST. CROIX RIVER ZONE**

**“SPRING RALLY”**

**SATURDAY, April 22**

**@ South Shore Trinity Lutheran Church**

2480 South Shore Boulevard, White Bear Lake, MN

**GUEST SPEAKER—DIANNE WILLIAMS**

*(Speaker for Gideon's Team / Member at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN)*

**LCC K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry”** *(Judges 6:12)*

REGISTRATION: 8:30 A.M.

RALLY: 9:00 A.M.

LUNCHEON 11:30 A.M.

COST: \$10.00

Bible Study: Pastor Neldo Schmidt of St. John Lutheran Church, Woodbury

**INGATHERING: MONETARY GIFTS FOR GIDEON'S MINISTRY**

MISSION-OF-THE-MONTH FOR March/April

**Trinity First Lutheran School**  
(A part of *Trinity First Lutheran Church*)  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Trinity First Lutheran School is an important part of the ministry of Trinity First Lutheran Church, serving families with children through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Trinity First Lutheran School began in 1859 and over the decades there have been many changes. The students were all white until the 1960's. Now most of them live in Minneapolis and are quite diverse in race, ethnicity, and background.

**96% of the school's income comes from outside donations. Tuition is charged based on family size, income and situation; no family is turned away based on ability to pay.** The families God brings to our door are far from being able to afford a private Christ-centered education. That's why we rely on God for every blessing and He has blessed us beyond our imagination! He provides for us through individuals, groups and congregations so that every true need is met. Any donations given are deeply appreciated and can make a HUGE IMPACT! We also ask for prayers for our families, teachers and students.

**For more information, see the Mission Board in the Narthex. PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING TRINITY FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL IN APRIL.** (Mission envelopes are available in your offering envelopes, in the pews, and on the Mission Board.)

**FOR THIS MISSION-OF-THE-MONTH FOR MARCH & APRIL, TRINITY FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL, WE WILL ALSO BE COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES;** for example, Clorox wipes, colored pencils, construction paper, etc. **There will be a basket by the poster in the narthex.**

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**"Faith In Action"**

**Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, is Outreach Sunday!**

**Please join us as we raise awareness and focus on the many opportunities and ways we are reaching out here at St. Peter!**

An Outreach brochure will be handed out as a reference to our programs.

**New!! St. Peter polos and t-shirts are coming this April!!  
Sundays, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will be taking orders!**

Sample sizes and colors will be available to look at. Shirts will be at cost (this is not a fundraiser) and will be \$13-\$30.

We are excited to offer this fun way to come together and spread the word of God!

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**TUBMAN CENTER "DIAPER DRIVE"!!**

Join the Tubman Center throughout the month of April for their annual "Diaper Drive"! Each year, the little ones they serve use THOUSANDS of diapers and other supplies. Help with a gift of diapers, bottles, wipes and other infant, baby or toddler items. Usher in new beginnings this spring by making a donation. Place them in the basket in the hallway by the office by May 1st. Any questions, call Joan Jordan.

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**APPRECIATING GOOD DAYS**

**Give thanks over and over again...** Recognize the rarity and beauty of each gift. Appreciate it. Store the moments in your memory.

**Share the day...** with someone you love - either by doing something together or by telling somebody about it.

**Capture the good day for the future...** by writing in your journal, sketching the beauty around you, talking about it to your children.

**When the day is over...** let it go with good grace. Smile, sigh, and trust God for tomorrow.

**Our weekly worship services: (Bring your Bible!)**

**+ A Lenten Walk with Jesus**

***The Lamb of God, Savior of the world, Lord of life.***

***The difference CHRIST makes in a believer's life.***

Sunday – April 2 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

**9:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship with Holy Communion**

Theme: Tears and Faith.

Sermon: "I AM"

Bible Class: Revelation 18 "The Collapse, Fall, and Judgment of the World"

Wednesday – April 5

5:00- 6:15 p.m. - Soup Supper Fellowship

**6:30 p.m.** - A Lenten Vesper Service in Revelation

Sermon: "Neglect: Locked out in Death's Night" (Rev. 3:7-13)

Sunday – April 9 - Palm Sunday

**9:00 a.m. – Praise Worship with Holy Eucharist**

Theme: Exalting our King of Kings, Lord of Lords.

Sermon: "For Joy" (Philippians 2:1-11)

Bible Class: Revelation 19 "The Triumph of the Redeemed"

Thursday - April 13 - Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. - A Lenten Service of Word and Sacrament

Sermon: "Complacency: Death by Indifference" (Rev. 3:14-22)

Friday - April 14 - Good Friday

Noon: A Service of Scripture/Song on this solemn day.

7:00 p.m. - A Tenebrae Service of Darkness

Sunday - April 16 - Easter Day - The Resurrection of our Lord

**6:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion**

**7:45- 8:45 a.m. - Easter Breakfast hosted by St. Peter Youth**

**9:00 a.m. - Praise Worship with the Sacrament of the Altar**

Theme: The Crown of Life

Sermon: "Come, Take Your Crown" (Rev. 2:8-11)

Bible Study: No Bible Class today. God bless your Easter!

Wednesday - April 19

**NO FOUNDATIONS OR EVENING WORSHIP** (Pastor on vacation)

Sunday - April 23 - Second Sunday of Easter

**9:00 a.m. - Praise Worship with The Sacrament of the Altar**

Theme: "Reality of the Resurrection"

Sermon: by Rev. George Riemer

Bible Class: by Rev. George Riemer

Wednesday - April 26

5:30 p.m. - Foundations - 5th & 6th grade Bible Study; 7th & 8th grade Catechism

6:30 p.m. - Devotional Worship with the Lord's Supper

Sermon: see Sunday, April 30.

Sunday - April 30 - Third Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. - Special Worship of Word and Sacrament

Theme: Peter comes to speak here today.

Sermon: "What If?" (Acts 2:14a, 36-41)

Bible Class: Revelation 19 "The Triumph of the Redeemed" cont.

**Craft & Treat for Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade** - On Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, (Palm Sunday) right after Sunday School, there will be a craft and a special treat in the fellowship hall for all Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade youth. We hope to see you there!

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**Easter Breakfast, Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>!** Easter is right around the corner, which means it is time again for our annual Easter breakfast! **There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to sign up for donations of food or to volunteer to work.** Your help is needed and appreciated!

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**VBS 2017: June 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>** - The dates are set! Get ready for VBS starting June 19<sup>th</sup> to June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Registration will soon be posted online. Look for directions in the upcoming bulletins. Our theme this year is "Mighty Fortress"! We will be discovering how our mighty God is our fortress and strength at all times! If you or someone you know is interested in helping out as a teacher or as a snack/craft helper, talk with Tony Engen.

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**7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Mission Trip** – Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, through Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, all 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to join us for the Rochester Servant Event! For four days we will be serving, worshipping, and having a spectacularly, awesome time alongside tons of other churches and kids from the LCMS Minnesota South District in Rochester, MN. **THIS TRIP IS TOTALLY FREE FOR ALL ST. PETER YOUTH; THIS INCLUDES ROOM AND BOARD!!!** We do need 2 or 3 adult volunteers who would be willing to drive a car full of kids and stay in Rochester for the duration of the event to be chaperones. Room and board will also be covered for chaperones along with mileage reimbursement. Students and chaperones will need to sign up on the sheet in the narthex and also fill out registration forms and medical release/detail forms. Forms can be obtained at [rochesterservantevent.wordpress.com/registration](http://rochesterservantevent.wordpress.com/registration). **Sign-up deadline is Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup>**. For more information, go to [rochesterservantevent.wordpress.com](http://rochesterservantevent.wordpress.com) or speak with Tony Engen.

# “Our Kitchen” Fundraiser”

Our kitchen remodel is well underway. The target completion date is the end of March, 2017. The estimated cost of the project is \$225,000, which is currently supported by monies on hand in the Kitchen Fund of approximately \$70,000 and a \$150,000 loan recently obtained through Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF).

**• A GENEROUS OFFER TO MATCH \$50,000 IN FUNDS \*  
DONATED OR PLEDGED TO THE KITCHEN PROJECT BY  
APRIL 30, 2017, HAS BEEN MADE.**

This is an opportunity we don't want to miss! Again, donations or pledges to the kitchen fund made by April 30, 2017, will be matched dollar for dollar, up to a total of \$50,000, by an anonymous donor. Your participation in this challenge will certainly make a difference!  
Simply complete the form below and place it in the offering plate.

*A pledge does not require payment at this time. It is a faith-filled promise to pay an amount at a later date – either in installments or a lump sum. If possible, pledges should be paid no later than December 31, 2021.*

Be sure to watch the progress of the construction and fundraising on the display in the narthex.

## “Our Kitchen” Fundraiser

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I/we want to support the kitchen project!

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I/we want to be part of the \$50,000 challenge match. (Return this form by April 30, 2017, to be included.)

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we have included a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ at this time.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we would like to pledge the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ toward the kitchen project, to be paid in installments or a lump sum payment, to be fulfilled by \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

*If possible, it is preferred that pledges be fulfilled no later than December 31, 2021.*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PLACE THIS FORM IN THE OFFERING PLATE.**

*(Psalm 37:5) Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.*



# APRIL, 2017

## ACOLYTES FOR APRIL

April 2 - 9:00 a.m. Ashley Walton  
5 - 6:30 p.m. Charlie Veith  
(Lenten Midweek)  
9 - 9:00 a.m. Emma Schatt  
13 - 7:00 p.m. Malachi Oberdeck  
(Maundy Thursday)  
14 - 7:00 p.m. Gabriella Richert  
(Good Friday)  
16 - 6:30 a.m. Izaak Schmidt  
9:00 a.m. Ryan Bernath  
(Easter)  
23 - 9:00 a.m. Callie Koller  
30 - 9:00 a.m. Lucas Oberdeck

## COFFEE HOSTS IN APRIL

April 2 - Evie Mueller & Laura Fritsche  
9 - Don & Donna Kosen  
16 - EASTER  
23 - George & Joan Riemer  
30 - Outreach Committee

## USHERS FOR APRIL

Jerry Clare, Elder  
Steve Polinske  
Virgil Polinske  
Sue Clare  
Ken Veith

**NO WEEKDAY/CONFIRMATION CLASSES DURING THE LENTEN AND EASTER SEASON.** They will resume on APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>.

## ALTAR GUILD FOR APRIL

Cheryl Schmidt  
Barb Fritsche  
Judy Hansen

## GREETERS FOR APRIL

April 2 - 9:00 a.m. Donna Kosen  
5 - 6:30 p.m. (Open)  
(Lenten Midweek)  
9 - 9:00 a.m. Clyde & Julie Erickson  
13 - 7:00 p.m. (Open)  
(Maundy Thursday)  
14 - 7:00 p.m. Donna Kosen  
(Good Friday)  
16 - 6:30 a.m. Donna Kosen  
9:00 a.m. (Open)  
(Easter)  
23 - 9:00 a.m. Clyde & Julie Erickson  
30 - 9:00 a.m. (Open)

## READERS DURING WORSHIP SERVICES IN APRIL

April 2 - 9:00 a.m. Laura Bauer  
5 - 6:30 p.m. (Open)  
(Lenten Midweek)  
9 - 9:00 a.m. (Open)  
13 - 7:00 p.m. (Open)  
(Maundy Thursday)  
14 - 7:00 p.m. (Open)  
(Good Friday)  
16 - 6:30 a.m. (Open)  
9:00 a.m. (Open)  
(Easter)  
23 - 9:00 a.m. Joan Riemer  
30 - 9:00 a.m. (Open)

## *A Table Prayer for Your Home*

*God bless this food we now enjoy,  
to make our bodies strong.  
Help us to remember that we to God belong.  
Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.  
May all these gifts to us be blest.  
Oh give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good,  
and His mercy endures forever. Amen.*

**XYZ CLUB** for seniors 55 years and older meets on Tuesdays at Memorial Lutheran Church in Afton. This includes cards and visiting 9:30 a.m. to Noon.

*Is Your Computer Running Slow or Acting Funny?*  
*Getting those annoying pop ups?*

You Have Viruses that you are sharing with your friends and family...  
Special \$30.00 Virus Removal and Diagnostics

Keep your personal information safe!  
Transfer old files to your new computer, ask about programs.

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**Pamela A Bonine, LUTCF, FIC**  
Associate

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Associate

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