

St. Peter
Lutheran Church Tidings
April 2015
Rev. Ron Mathews

CELEBRATE
EASTER



Holy Week

April 2 - Maundy Thursday - 6:30 pm

April 3 - Good Friday - 6:30 pm

April 5 - Easter Worship -

7:00 am Sunrise Service

& 9:00 am Easter Celebration

Coffee, bagels, fruit & juice will be served in the lower level of church after both of the Easter Services

The following excerpt is from an article in *The Lutheran*, by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, that compliments our Easter message:

Coming to terms with the times

My daughter and her significant other, who was running for county commissioner, attended a church pancake breakfast where they were swarmed by parishioners who didn't realize he was a candidate. All they saw were *young adults!* *Potential members!* It was an uncomfortable experience.

But why do we want people to join our church? What does church mean to us? When I have asked that question, people often spoke about church as community or family. People talked about the good and important work their congregations carried out to feed the hungry or shelter the homeless. Some said the best thing about their congregations wasn't programs but people.

It was rare that anyone mentioned God or spoke about an encounter with the transcendent. I don't believe our people lack faith or don't know Jesus, but I wonder if we have lost the language to speak about the love of God that has been given to us in the crucified and risen Christ. Maybe we just assume Jesus. Maybe Jesus has become like wallpaper: we know it's there and everyone can see it, but we don't have to talk about it.

The best thing about the church, the thing that is uniquely the church, is not programs or people but Jesus. If we as a people, and as congregations, don't get that right it doesn't matter how many programs we come up with. In Christ through the Spirit, God has invited us into a deeply intimate and loving relationship with God and with each other. Being church is abiding in that love. We are God's beloved people gathered around word and sacraments. That's what gives us life. That's what shapes us. That's what sends us out into the world to do justice and to love kindness (Micah 6:8). And this must be the kind of community to which we invite others—not because we want to grow or pay for the boiler or attract young people, but because we have received this incredible life-changing gift and want everyone to be touched and claimed and transformed by it too.

Excerpt from: *The Lutheran*, April 2015 edition.

Full article found: http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12522

Worship & Music Server

Holy Week evening worship - 6:30 pm Sunday worship - 9:00 am

*TBD = we still need volunteers *NA = not applicable

	April 2 Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm	April 3 Good Friday 6:30 pm	April 5 Easter 7 & 9 am	April 12 Sunday 9 am	April 19 Sunday 9 am	April 26 Sunday 9 am
Communion Assistants	Tammy Maitland	NA	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Scripture Readers	Sue Buss	Jim Franzen Dave Vandenberg	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Acolytes	Sam Lockhart & Brandon Maitland	Bre Sadler & Katelyn Bartels	7-Josh Vauthier & Jace Williams 9-Sam Lockhart & Riley Schumacher	TBD	TBD	TBD
Multimedia	Chadron Beem	TBD	7-NA 9-Jeff Bales	Johnathan Leisinger	Leah Homeister	Chadron Beem
Organist	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheila Mixdorf	Sheryl Moeller
Sound System	Harold Wentz	Alton Midthus	7-Gary Anfinson 9-Steve DeVries	Roger Donaldson	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus
Video	Trevor Thurm	Roger Thurm	Roger Thurm	Roger Thurm	Trevor Thurm	Roger Thurm
Altar Guild	Marcia Ott, Vera Collins, Lynn Gielau, Kari Anfinson					
Usher/Greeters	Terry & Joyce Miller, Gene & Pat Leonhart					
<p>Please find a replacement if you are unable to serve at the time you are scheduled. Your ministry is vital and we give thanks for your willingness to serve.</p>						

From the Church Office

Check out the online church calendar. The link is on the opening page of our website - www.stpeterdenver.org.

Under "Most Popular" click on calendar; you will be able to see the activities scheduled for the year. If you would like to add something to the calendar please contact the office.

Bulletin Deadline: Thursdays 10:00 am and the **Newsletter Deadline:** 4:30 pm on the 3rd Friday of each month.

WE FOUND OUR DYM!!

We are excited to announce that we have hired Anna Johnson to serve as our Director of Youth Ministry. Thank you to the Church Council, the members of the Youth Director Task Force, the members of the DYM Interview Team, and Pastor Ron, for all of your labors in this process. Anna's first day in the office will be Tuesday, April 14th. We will have her service of installation on Sunday, April 19th with a reception to follow after the worship service.



Community



Wellness Screening

Wellness Screening, Tuesday, April 21, 6:30-8:00 am
in the lower level of St Peter.

The Wellness Screening includes:

23 test panel for \$20.00 (a 12 hour fast is recommended)

Cholesterol Screen for \$5.00

PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) for \$10.00

TSH (Thyroid Stimulating Hormone) for \$5.00

Complete Blood Count for \$5.00

AIC (Monitors glucose level for diabetes) for \$10.00

Free blood pressure check

Participants can drink water or take medications prior to the testing. The screening is hosted by St. Peter Church with Allen Hospital and is open to the public.

Want some help with your Spring cleaning or chores?

A member of St. Peter Church has requested the high school youth to wash her windows this spring for a donation to their mission trip to Alabama. If you have spring cleaning or chores that you would like help with, the youth would love to help! If you have a request, please contact Roxane at the church office (984-5648) or Jackie Fober (319-242-1128)

Helping Hands Volunteers

St. Peter Board of Mission is looking for volunteers to work at the Helping Hands Clothing Closet Tuesday mornings from 9:00-noon during the month of May. This nonprofit organization provides FREE, gently-used clothing, shoes, hats, gloves, coats, blankets, sheets, and towels for those in need. They currently serve about 90 people per month and are located across from St. John, Buck Creek Rural Sumner. Their service area is mainly Bremer county towns, but they also help people from surrounding counties. If you could volunteer on any of the following dates, please contact Pat Leonhart (gpleonhart@gmail.com) or Bev Direcks (annbd0203@gmail.com).

Tuesdays: May 5th, May 12th, May 19th, or May 26th

Thank you for sharing god's love by reaching out to those in need.

Lampost Theatre Co. Spring Performance

This spring, Lampost Theatre Co. is serving up a dessert theatre...with a hefty dose of mischief! Join in the pranks as a server wreaks havoc on his annoying customers in Lampost Theatre's newest original comedy, *The Waiter*. And whether or not the characters ever make it through their meal, they might learn something about loving others despite their faults, and you're sure to cap off the performance with a delectable dessert! Tickets are \$18 and include the show, dessert, and coffee. Performances run Apr. 10-May 2. For tickets or more info, visit www.lampost.com or call (319) 277-8034.



Trees

It's spring and warmer temperatures and sunny days make us think of planting gardens, flowers, and trees. The Board of Mission is focusing on Arbor Day and taking care of God's earth and His beautiful creation. The planting of a tree shows faith in the future. As Martin Luther said, "Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant a tree today." He believed the fresh spring green of the trees was a symbol of Easter's resurrection and the divine grace in earthly life. After a worship service in May, the Board of Mission will be sharing hackberry and sugar maple seedling trees with those in attendance. The exact date will be determined by shipping arrival from the DNR. If you would like a tree and cannot attend the service, please contact the church office.

If you want to be happy for a year.....plant a garden.
If you want to be happy for a lifetime.....plant a tree.

The Northeast Iowa Food Bank

The Food Bank could use our volunteer help once a month. We will be working with members of St Timothy's Church, Hudson. **The upcoming date is April 18.** The time slot is 9-11 am. If you would like to help out, go to the volunteer entrance at the Food Bank, 1605 Lafayette St, Waterloo. You do not need to notify the Food Bank or St Peter. Any questions, call Joyce Miller 984-5021.

Womenfest

The Ecumenical Bible study will now meet at St Paul, UCC Church, Denver the month of April on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 am. We have great dialogue and good fun, join us!

Love Offering Sunday, April 12

Each year the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) at St. Peter Lutheran Church conduct a spring Love Offering. The Love Offering begins on Sunday, April 12 and will continue through the end of May. The funds collected will go to support St Peter WELCA Ministries at the local, national and global levels. A portion of the funds also support the WELCA Christmas gifts to missions & organizations. A special envelope for April 12 is included with your regular offering envelopes, or you may use a plain envelope and mark it "Love Offering." Thank you for your support of the Love Offering. Act Boldly-Give Generously!!!



April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Congregational News

1
Staci Mueller
Rachel & John Upshaw

2
Lyle Judas

3
Tyler Arians
Dean Brandt
Jill DeVries

4
Melissa Johnson

5
Roger Blankenship
Virgil & Shirley Buhr

6
Cayce Lanning
Carol Larson
Wendy Mohlis
Jo Vandenberg

7
LaVonne Westendorf

9
Julie Sawyer
Bertha Bishop
Opal Miller

10
Jacob Lanning

11
Barb Klemp
Terrie Thurm

13
Cory Arians
Rachel Gielau
Brian Haase
Hannah Thies
Tyler Vauthier

14
Dawn Lau

15
Jeanette Coontz
Lydia Gleason

17
Jordan Wolter
Henry Pautsch
Miles Pautsch

18
Nicholas Mohlis
Alex Sharp
Lindsay Williams
Amity Mathews

19
Dan Syhre
Eleanor Stumme

22
Neil Hartmann
Madisyn Leisinger
Nichole Thurm
Don & Donna Hulsing
Gary & Cheryl Sharp

23
Rowen Smith

24
Derek Franzen
Max Leonhart
Lindsay Seegers

25
Anna Everding
Noah Foelske
Jeff & Karen Schumacher

27
Garland Krabbenhoft

28
Sarah Diercks
Trudie Rothmeyer
Riley Schumacher
Alvin & Dorothy
Eggena
Mark & Jackie Fober

29
Andrew Diercks
Brian & Kathy Bartels
Butch & Dixie Milius

30
Mitchell Schumacher
Mylee Thurm



March Council Minutes Highlights

Council held the first of several Council retreats on Sunday March 8th to discuss this history of the church, vision for the future, Church governing structure, different levels of managing a church based on the size.

The next Council retreat on April 26, will focus on reviewing proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws, by the Policy & Process Team.

The Property and Management purchased a new TV for the library and it has been installed.

Council approved purchasing a Conference Phone.

The church has a total of three applicants for the Youth Director position and interviews have been started.

Stewardship Corner, April 2015

The Stewardship Board has been meeting regularly, and we have been brainstorming ways to bring a broad year-round stewardship message to the congregation. Stewardship really means 'taking care of', and applies to many more things than just maintaining and budgeting our monetary resources each year. In the next weeks, we will be asking people 'What does stewardship mean to you?' We ask you to think about this question. Do you think, when asked this question, of helping other, less materially blessed people in the world by making quilts or sending supplies? Do you think of standing up for the disenfranchised? The abused? Do you think about taking care of creation? Fighting corporate environmental destruction? Marshaling resources for the food bank, or Denver Cares? Taking care of your family in various ways? All are examples of stewardship, and certainly not the only ones that might come to mind. What does stewardship mean to you? That is the question.

Holy Week Is Here

It's a time for prayer and preparation. We ask you to remember where Paul speaks to us in Philippians reminding us of the great sacrifice Christ made in order to bring His people to unity with Him.

In preparing for Holy Week offerings, let us seek to live and love as more faithful disciples by sharing with one another the bounty of God's gifts in our lives.

All Maundy Thursday and Good Friday offerings, plus Easter envelope offerings, will go to support Lutheran Services in Iowa. For years, LSI has stood beside Iowa's most vulnerable people fulfilling a promise to respond to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. The regular Sunday envelopes on Easter Sunday, not to be confused with the EASTER envelope, along with loose offerings, will go to St Peter Church's general fund.

This is an opportunity to be a steward in the name of the One who died for us and to give thanks for how faith in the risen Lord guides every aspect of our lives.

Mission & Community

College Care Package Donations

We are looking for donated items to help make care packages for St Peter college students. The option to make and donate a box yourself is available again this year. Boxes and lists of possible content items are available, outside the church office. Suggestions for items are: granola bars, fruit snacks, rice krispie bars, ramen noodles, snack crackers, goldfish crackers, trail mix, easy mac, microwave popcorn, cookies, peanut butter, jelly, M&M's, licorice, jolly ranchers, suckers, gum, hot chocolate mix, single packet drink mix, Chex mix, etc. Thank you for considering this encouraging gesture, during a time of stress for most students. Please have items to the church by April 7.

Noisy Offering

Denver Cares' Easter Meals will be supported by the March and April Noisy offering. Denver Cares is a community-sponsored organization that provides year-round assistance for basic needs and annual gift programs. Currently St Peter is collecting Noisy Offering to go towards food baskets for Easter. The Mission Board and student volunteers will shop for items to be include in the 10 baskets we will prepare for Denver Cares.

BackPack Program

The Northeast Iowa Food Bank program is at 123 sites throughout NE Iowa and serves over 4,000 kids. We currently have 16 kids in the Denver Schools that receive a bag of food weekly. We are able to add hygiene/toiletry items to the bags. St. Paul UCC and the Baptist Church collected items in addition to the items collected at St Peter. **For the month of April we are gathering shampoo.** If you have any questions or would like to help distribute bags contact Bev Diercks at 319-279-3819.

His Hands Oran Food Pantry

During the month of February they served 43 households, 113 individuals and dispersed 2516.9 pounds of food. A thank-you to all those who donated items or time. Your time is also a needed item at the pantry. During this season of lent and time of reflection, if you have Good Friday off, and would like to share some of your time helping others the Pantry has openings available. If all you have is an hour, we would love to have you. Call the Pantry : 319-638-4357 please a message or call Linda :319-231-0262. What a great way for any of the youth who may need community hours to get them done.

Extra Gather Magazines

Extra copies of the *Gather* magazine for the current month can be found in the WELCA Mailbox in the room near the organ. Old copies will be placed on the table outside the office. All are welcome to enjoy this resource.

Lenten Offering

The Lenten offering was divided between WELCA and the high school youth; which ever group served the Lenten supper received the Lenten offering for that week.

Women of the ELCA

WELCA Board Meeting

Saturday, April 13 @ 7:00 pm

WELCA Bible Study Leaders

Sunday, April 26 @ 10:15 am

Ruth Circle

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April at 7:00 pm at Pat's house

Bible study leader: Sheryl

Hostess: Pat

Mary Circle

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 1 at 1:30 pm

In the library.

Bible study leader: Elaine

Hostess: Dorothy

Naomi Circle

Next Meeting: Sunday, April 12 at 10:15 am

Bible study leader: TBD

Serving Committee for April

Chairperson - Mary Circle

Coffee - Men

Pat Bietz	Julie Brinkman	Roxann Brown
Dorothy Eggena	Jackie Fober	Sharon Foelske
Amy Gehrke	Sandra Greenley	Rhonda Wilson
Carol Larson	Julie Leisinger	Lois Miller
Eve Pautsch	Jill Thrasher	Jo Vandenberg
LaVonne Westendorf		

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 1st Thursday, every other month at 6:30 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 7

If you know of someone who is in need of a Prayer Shawl, please take one from the pew in the Friendship Room. Please make sure you fill out a form (located in basket on pew).

Quilt Tying

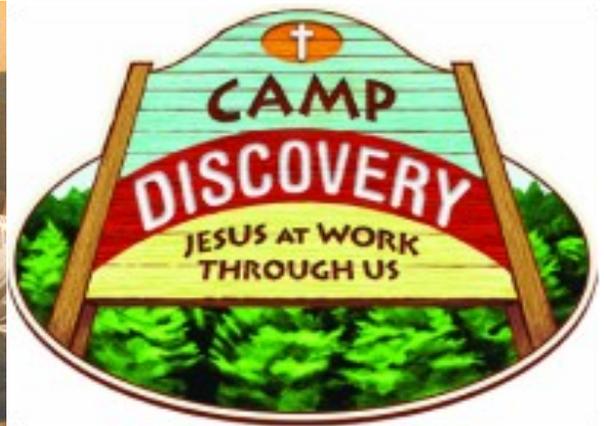
Join us for quilt tying on Mondays from 9 am to 3 pm and again in the evenings, 6:30-8:30 pm. And Tuesdays from 9 am to Noon. All are welcome. Quilts tied thus far= 201!

Lutheran World Relief

The people of St Peter are expressing their faith in action as we prepare for the April 11 Ingathering of quilts and kits for LWR. So far 140 quilts and 24 baby care kits are boxed, ready to ship. Quilters are still in need of quilt fillers: as in old blankets, curtains, table clothes, sheets, mattress pads of any size, etc. Also multi-bar soap and light weight bath towels, (about 27"x52") are needed for personal care and baby care kits. Cash gifts are welcome—let the committee do the shopping.

Youth & Family

Confirmation Retreat



Be part of *Camp Discovery* VBS at St Peter!

At *Camp Discovery* Vacation Bible School you can live out the theme "Jesus is at work through us"! Every child will hear the Good News that Jesus, their Savior, gives us courage, gives us His wisdom, saves us, gives us faith, and gives us His love to share through His work in us. Mark your calendar to join us the week of **July 19-23**. If you can help full or part time, we have many ways to be involved to suit your schedule and interests. Contact Amity Mathews (319.406.0074 or schmamity418@yahoo.com) or Jaime Leonhart (319.406.0055 or jaim.leonhart@unitypoint.org) for more information. **Join us for our next planning meeting on Wednesday, April 8 at 7:30pm in the church library!**

High School Youth Group

All high school youth are invited to join in the gatherings on the 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays of the month. The meetings are at 7:00 pm at Josh & Laura Larson's house—1001 Donna St, Denver.

Family Fun Fair

Saturday, April 11, from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Waverly-Shell Rock Middle School. Games, Food, Bike Helmet-Fitting, Balloons, Prizes, Fun! While you are there check out St Peter's booth.

Sunday School

Upcoming dates to remember:

NO Sunday School - Easter, April 5.

The PreK-4th grade children will be singing during Sunday, April 19, worship service.

Sunday School class follows worship, at 10:15 am in the lower level of the church. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Michels 319-427-2088.



Pictured above are photos from the Confirmation Retreat at EWALU: fleece blanket making, group games, and a little mud volleyball for all

April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1</p> <p>1:30 pm Mary Circle</p> <p>7:00 pm Ruth Circle @ Pat's house</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 am Staff mtg.</p> <p>10:00 am Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30 pm Good Friday Service</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Easter</p> <p>7:00 am Worship</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9 am—3 pm Quilt tying</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Quilt tying</p> <p>6:30 pm Property & Management</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:30 am Womenfest</p> <p>9 am—noon Quilt tying</p> <p>6:00 pm Stewardship Board</p> <p>7:00 pm Hand Bells</p> <p>7:00 pm AA/Alanon</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30 pm Confirmation EPIC</p> <p>7:00 pm HS Youth</p> <p>7:30 pm VBS meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 am Mensfest</p> <p>10:00 am Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>6:30 pm Worship & Music</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Spring Cluster Gathering @ Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>10:15 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am Naomi Circle</p> <p>WELCA Love Offering</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 pm WELCA Board mtg.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:30 am Womenfest</p> <p>7:00 pm Hand Bells</p> <p>6:30 pm Council meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm AA/Alanon</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:30 pm Dinner</p> <p>6:00 pm Family Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm HS Youth</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 am Mensfest</p> <p>8:30 am Staff mtg.</p> <p>10:00 am Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p>17</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 am NEIA Food Bank</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>Noisy Offering</p> <p>10:15 am Sunday School</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:30 am Womenfest</p> <p>7:00 pm Hand Bells</p> <p>7:00 pm AA/Alanon</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 pm 7th grade Confirmation</p> <p>7:30 pm 8th grade Confirmation</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 am Mensfest</p> <p>10:00 am Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00 pm W'burg College Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>With Baptism</p> <p>10:15 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am WELCA Bible Study</p> <p>1-3 pm Council Retreat</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:30 am Womenfest</p> <p>7:00 pm Hand Bells</p> <p>7:00 pm AA/Alanon</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:30 pm 7th grade Confirmation</p> <p>7:30 pm 8th grade Confirmation</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 am Mensfest</p> <p>10:00 am Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00 pm W'burg College Bible Study</p>		

St. Peter Tidings is published 12 times a year by
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2015 MINISTRY BOARDS

Ministry Boards are a vital part of the congregational system. Lay members are currently needed for each of these boards to function as intended. Please consider where you might share your gifts in these important ministries of the congregation. If you would like to know more about a board please contact Pastor Ron Mathews or Megan Smith, Congregational President. Thank you!

Church Council: Laura Larson, Megan Smith, Steve DeVries, Jon Wolter, Philip Michels, Jeff Bales, Staci Mueller, Doug Miller, Randall Satterthwaite

Executive Board: President - Megan Smith; Vice President –Steve DeVries; Secretary - Philip Michels; Treasurer - Laura Larson.

Property & Management: Randall Satterthwaite, Neil Hartman, Terry Miller, Gene Leonhart, Leroy Homeister, Dwight Diercks, Roxane Franzen, Ryan Lockhart

Parish Education: Lisa Michels, Eve Pautsch

Worship & Music: Jeff Bales, Sheryl Moeller, Sheila Mixdorf, Amy Lockhart, Jo VanDeBerg, Joyce Miller, Nancy Lamos

Mission: Philip Michels, Pat Leonhart, Bev Diercks, Barb Klemp, Shirley Thurm, Gretchen Syhre

Stewardship: Jon Wolter, Doug Miller, Helen Schumacher, Dori Jurgenson

Youth & Family: Laura Larson, Megan Smith, Leah Homeister, Jackie Fober

Evangelism: Staci Mueller, Art Kurtt

Trust Fund Committee: Roxann Brown, Paul Meier, Jim Moeller, Becky Miller, Ryan Tucker

Mutual Ministry: Steve DeVries

