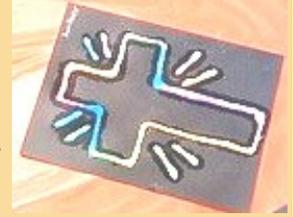


St. Peter
Lutheran Church Tidings
August 2015
Rev. Ron Mathews

God's Work, Our Hands Day of Service

Denver Community Build Playground
Sunday August 23rd 9:00am



Last month we raised over \$1,600 to purchase a bench and several fence pickets in support of the Denver Community Build Playground. This was an awesome testimony of support for our Denver community and will be a lasting testimony to residents in the future summers to come as they will see our congregation's name "St. Peter Church" engraved amongst the names of the other donors who gave in support of this endeavor.

If you haven't heard, the "Community Build" is an effort to build a needed new playground at City Park, right across the street from St. Peter. It is a "community build" because the Denver community needs to not just raise the funds to purchase the materials, but we also need to provide the 4200 hours of labor required to build it. The entire build will take place Aug 19-23 food and daycare (for 9 and under) will be provided.

As God's Church we have been claimed, gathered, and sent into the world to share Christ's love. We end every worship service with this reminder to "Go in peace, SERVE the Lord. Thanks be to God!" Sunday August 23rd we will enact being sent as an act of worship. We will gather for a short order of worship at 9:00 for prayer, song, and to hear God's Holy Word. Then, at 9:30 we will be sent forth in 3 teams.

Team #1, led by LaVonne Westendorf, will prepare lunch.

Team #2, led by Anna Johnson, will provide activities for children ages 0-9 years old.

Team #3, led by Pastor Ron, will work at the build site - specific tasks determined that morning.

You can sign up online to serve on one of these teams, see the Church office, or just show up ready to work! What an amazing opportunity for us to testify our faith in action by being Christ's Church in the community!



Pictured is some of the art work from VBS; check out the complete story on the inside page...

Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	August 2 Sunday 9 am	August 9 Sunday 9 am	August 16 Sunday 9 am	August 23 Sunday 9 am	August 30 Sunday 9 am
Communion Assistants	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Scripture Readers	Monte Neuhring	Julie Leisinger	Jim Moeller	Diann Curtis	Dave Vandenberg
Acolytes	Allison Maitland Brandon Maitland	Sophia McInroy	TBD	TBD	TBD
Multimedia	Jeff Bales	Johnathan Leisinger	Leah Homeister	Chadron Beem	Julie Leisinger
Organist	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart	Sheila Mixdorf	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller
Sound System	Roger Donaldson	Larry Oltrogge	Harold Wentte	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries
Video	Trevor Thurm	Roger Thurm	Trevor Thurm	Roger Thurm	Trevor Thurm
Altar Guild	Shirley Thurm, Mary Thurm, Marilyn Mueller, Phyllis Plaster				
Usher/Greeters	Harold Wentte, Sam & Peggy Smith				
<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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 1st Thursday, every other month at 6:30 pm. **Next meeting: Thursday, September 3.** 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).

Reminder

The property & management, mission, evangelism, stewardship, worship & music, mutual ministry board minutes, Pastoral highlights and council minutes are posted in the Friendship Room for your perusal.

AA/Alanon

AA/Alanon Step Class: Tuesday nights at 7 pm in lower level (second & fifth Tuesdays of the month) **Meeting:** Tuesday nights at 7 pm in lower level (first & fourth Tuesdays - round table format) **Open Meeting:** 3rd Tuesday of each month. Anyone who has an interest in or questions about the disease of alcoholism or anyone who fears that a loved one may be dealing with alcoholism is welcome to attend the monthly open meeting.

Camp Discovery!

JESUS IS AT WORK THROUGH US!

VBS 2015
JULY 19-26

VBS by the numbers..

- We had 125 kids participate in VBS!
- Over 40 volunteers joined us every night to hang out with our kids!
- Dinner was served 4 nights in a row—and it was YUMMY! That's a LOT of mouths to feed!



came out for food, fellowship, and family fun!

Hey there Happy Campers!

Discover His plan! Discover His purpose! We had a FANTASTIC week at Camp Discovery where we learned all about how Jesus is at work through US every day! On our trip through the Bible, we read four tree-mendous Bible accounts where God works in His people to save them and through His people to serve!

*Tuesday, we read about Deborah, a wise judge, who taught us that Jesus Gives Me His Wisdom!

* Sunday, we had great weather for our kick-off party at City Park. About 85 people



Our Preschool friends had fun in all of our sessions too. They got to meet Chester the squirrel, which was a favorite all week!



*Monday, we shared the story of David and Goliath and learned that Jesus Gives Me Courage! We had a great time knocking down bears, lions, and even Goliath during Splash'n Dash Games!

*Wednesday, we read the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who taught us that Jesus Saves Me!



All of our VBS friends had a great time exploring the "fiery furnace" and coming through it safely!



Finally, on Friday we read about Jesus healing a blind man named Bartimaeus. This story reminded us that Jesus Gives Me Faith!

Thank you all for your all of your support—donations, volunteering, encouragement, and for sharing your children with us! VBS 2015 was awesome!

Thank you to our VBS Donors!

- Waterloo Walmart
- Brother's Market
- Denver Drug & Photo
- Schumacher Elevator
- Casey's General Stores
- Kwik Star
- Palmer's Family Fun
- Members of St. Peter Lutheran Church

Family Service Project



Our mission project this year was to collect items to create Personal Care Kits for

Lutheran World Relief. Over the course of the VBS week, families brought in lots of supplies. We were blessed by a donation through their Thrivent Action Team program as well, which allowed us to buy additional supplies to fill our kits. On Saturday morning, we gathered at the church to sort and pack up the kits. Our grand total



was 135 kits! Thank you so much for your support of this project!

Thank you to ALL of our VBS volunteers! We couldn't have had such a successful program without you! Thank you for sharing your time to build relationship with our youth!

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 April Ryan	19 Jordan Elsamiller Clifford Schimmels Colby Tucker Larry & Eleanor Stumme
2 Ryan Pautsch Brooke Wolter James & Dorothea Jurgenson	20 Gary Anfinson Jaquelyn Gielau Marissa Leisinger Cole Wilson Brandon & Megan Smith
3 Jordan Nuss Tom & Mary Stevens	21 Sarah Beckel Susan Wille Paul & Stacie Beem Brent Steege
4 Cole Langner	23 Jackie Milius William Richards
5 Ashlea Jurgenson Jalen Williams	25 Andres Elliott-Ott Travis & Jennifer Ackerman
6 Matthew Herman Hether & Derek Gustafson	26 Emily Gielau
7 Marjorie Degelau	27 Douglas Schwebach
8 Deidre Franzen Marilyn Mueller Jeffrey & Jill DeVries	29 Verna Harms David Krueger Jaime Leonhart Isaac Schimmels John & Tammy Maitland Norman & Carolee Oberheu
10 Gary & Carol Everding Ryan & Eve Pautsch William & Caryl Tjaden	30 Elvira Hebell Gordon Mueller Karen Schumacher Wayne & Sue Buss
11 Susan Sawyer Ronald & Melodie Foelske	31 Terry & Joyce Miller Kurtis Smith
12 Dwight & Bev Dierks	
13 Sydney Elsamiller Tanner Vohsman Gunnar Wolfensperger	
14 Bruce & Lori Thurm	
16 McCoy McIlravy Kevin Smith Megan Smith Dan & Gretchen Syhre	
17 Jeremy & Jennifer Clayton	
18 Ronald Krueger Randy Thurm	



*We apologize if your birthday or anniversary are not listed or listed incorrectly. Please notify the office with additions or corrections.
Thank You*

Congregational News

July Council Minutes Highlights

- Approved increase of confirmation budget for this year and coming years to purchase curriculum.
- Discussed potential move of Confirmation Sunday to May or June.
- Congregation raised \$1600 for Community Playground, purchased bench and 27 fence pickets
- Discussed policies around new members & other ministers involvement with weddings, funerals and baptisms.

Macaroni & Cheese Recipe from VBS

1# elbow (or shell) macaroni (about 4 cups)
1 stick butter, ½cup flour, 1 ½ tsp. salt, 1 tsp. dry mustard, 1 small onion, grated, 4 cups milk, 1 ⅓ # cheese, shredded (4-5 cups)
Melt butter in saucepan, add flour, salt, mustard and onion. Add milk gradually, cook until it thickens and boils. Set aside. Cook macaroni according to package directions, about 8 minutes just until tender. Don't overcook-it will soften more as it bakes. Reheat white sauce, add cheese gradually. Combine with macaroni. Bake about 30 min. in 9 x 13 pan or 2 qt. casserole. Sharp Cheddar Cheese, gives best flavor and color.

Join the Fun

The annual Denver Days Parade will be held on Saturday, August 15th at 10 am. To help spread the Word of Christ's love for us and have a lot of fun doing it, St. Peter will be handing out treats with a message letting folks know how "WE'RE ON FIRE FOR JESUS!". Let us know if you would like to walk in the parade. Please contact the church office at 984 -5248 or email anna@stpeterdenver.org

Did you know

St. Peter's Mutual Ministry Board is up and running! The purpose of this team is to affirm the mission of our congregation and our ministry staff. This is done through listening, sharing, clarifying, communicating and reflecting. Current members of the Mutual Ministry Board are: Julie Brinkman, Linda Krueger, Gene Leonhart, Pastor Ron, Ryan Pautsch and Staci Mueller. We welcome your comments, questions, and feedback.

Worship series beginning September 27th



Live Free

TAKE HOLD OF THE LIFE THAT REALLY IS LIFE

1 TIMOTHY 6:18-19

Mission & Community

Noisy Offering

From our Noisy Offering Recipient for July & August: Helping Hands Clothing Closet, Established August 2010
Mission and Goals: Serving those in need by providing clothing and lending a helping hand. Our goal is to provide FREE GENTLY USED clothing, bedding & towels to low income and homeless families and those affected by disasters.

POPULATION SERVED: We serve all of the surrounding communities including: Sumner, Readlyn, Tripoli, West Union, Oelwein, Oran, Fayette, Denver, Waverly, New Hampton, Fredericksburg, Fort Atkinson, Waterloo, no one is turned away. We have also taken clothing to a Baptist Church in Arkansas that provides meals to the poverty population in their area.

From the beginning, the closet has been overwhelmed with clothing donations from the community. Donors are excited about the service provided and hope to make a difference with their clothing donations. The recipients are always very relieved to find decent clothing that is free and leave with higher spirits. The Helping Hands Clothing Closet is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and the 1st Saturday of the month. Volunteers work these hours to help keep the closet organized by sorting the donations from the community and hanging the garments according to gender and size. The clients are able to stop during the hours of operation and take any amount of clothing that they need. We also will meet with individuals and/or families that have an immediate need due to disaster or change in living arrangements at any time.

The closet is an old school house building that was no longer being used at the church. With a lot of volunteer hours, material donations and fund raisers we were able to do some renovations to reorganize our space and make it run more efficient for the volunteers and the clients. At this time, our biggest budget expense is electricity, heat and purchasing new undergarments and socks for the clients.

Farmers Market

the Denver Farmers Market is held on Thursdays, from 4-6 pm, located in the Denver Construction parking lot.

Womenfest

The Ecumenical Bible study meets at St Paul, UCC Church, Denver, on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 am, join us!

Be Orange

The Wartburg College International Programs office is currently seeking friendship families for 35 new international students arriving at Wartburg at the end of August. Friendship families do not house or act as advisers or financial sponsors to the students. They simply meet with their student(s) throughout the year to share meals, or participate in a variety of cultural or other activities. For more information, visit www.wartburg.edu/intlprog or call 319-352-8745. You may also email Wendy Mohlis, Friendship Family Coordinator, at wendy.mohlis@wartburg.edu

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 August 15.** 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.

Women of the ELCA

WELCA Board Meeting

Monday, August 10 at 7:00 pm

WELCA Bible Study Leaders

Sunday, August 30 at 10:15 am

Ruth Circle

Next Meeting: no meeting in August

Mary Circle

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 5 at 1:30 pm

Work Day

Hostess: TBD

Naomi Circle

Next Meeting: no meeting in August

Serving Committee for August

Chairperson - Naomi Circle

Coffee - Men

Barb Gielau	Jennifer Wirtjes	Jill DeVries
Karen Henniges	Roxanne Herman	Peggy Smith
Dawn Lau	Wanda Meier	Phyllis Plaster
Sharon Midthus	Marilyn Mueller	Brenda Wolter
Carolee Oberheu	Holli Oberheu	Gretchen Syhre
Heather Krabbenhoft		

LWR School Kits

Back to school time—and as we buy school supplies for our families, St Peter people have traditionally purchased extra items to assemble school kits for Lutheran World Relief. The need for kits this year is greater than ever, and we are being challenged to respond.

This year the Sunday School offering for September and October will be used to buy kit items as well as sturdy fabrics to make the bags. Supplies needed are: 8 x 10" 70 sheet notebooks, wide or college rule; no loose leaf paper, 30 centimeter ruler or centimeter on one side, inches on the other, pencil sharpeners, blunt scissors, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel pens), box of 16 or 24 Crayola crayons (not washable), 2 1/2" erasers. And of course cash donations are welcome; place in envelope marked LWR school kits.

Youth & Family

Gratitude

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped out with VBS this year! We were able to show over 100 kids how God works through St. Peter. Thank you to Amity Mathews for planning the event and to Judy Milius for decorating the church head to toe. Thank you to the over 50 volunteers each night and to those who helped out with donations, prayers and support.

Thank you to Josh & Laura Larson and Jackie Fober for their dedication to the mission trip. And a special thank you to the Youth and Family Board for planning such a great pool party! Thank you to everyone who attended!

A Thank You from LWR in response to the 135 care kits that were donated from VBS family service project

That is so wonderful! It sounds like your project was a HUGE success and your pictures are fabulous. Thank you so much for sharing your story and photos with us! It was so nice to see people of all ages and both genders involved. We often tell folks that a Personal Care Kits project is a great way to bring a congregation together and St. Peter is the perfect model of that! ... Please extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all those who participated in your project! We are so very grateful to you for your faithful service, partnership and global compassion! Wishing you blessings in all your ministries! Peace and Joy, *Vicky Whetstone, Engagement Associate*

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.

4th-6th Grade Youth Group

We will be kicking off our new youth group on Wednesday, August 19th from 6:30-7:30 PM with a campfire, S'Mores, songs, and more! All 4th-6th graders are welcome to join! Contact Anna at the church 984-5648 or email: anna@stpeterdenver.org with questions.

New Members Class

We will be having a new members class on Saturday, August 29, from 9:00-11:00 am. Contact Pastor Ron if you are interested in joining St Peter.

Worship Celebrations

Backpack Blessing - August 30th

All students and teachers are encouraged to bring their backpacks or briefcases for a backpack blessing during worship on August 30th.

Rally Sunday– September 13th

Mark your calendars for Rally Sunday! Please join us downstairs after worship on September 13th for songs, crafts, games and treats!

Community Opportunities

The LWR care kits are stacked high during the VBS family service project.



The Promote Denver group would like to encourage you to become a member!

Promote Denver is made up of individuals from the Denver business community, leaders in community organizations, and anyone interested in helping our community grow and prosper! The mission of this group is to build relationships between Denver Businesses and Service organizations and promote the great things our community has to offer!

We are welcoming ideas, suggestions, and volunteers to continue community focused efforts to benefit our city, such as the Summer in the Park events! The first summer of these events have been well received, with our last Music in the Park event on Sunday July 26 bringing in a crowd of over 250 people! The group is also working on city directories, welcome bags for new residents, and many other opportunities to bring businesses and new residents to the community and showcase Denver in the Cedar Valley area.

Please consider volunteering your time and talents to Promote Denver! If you are interested in becoming involved contact: Sarah Oltrogge, Denver Diplomats Chair or Kelly Platte (Denver Library), Community Organizations Committee 984-5140 Or email: kplatte@denver.lib.ia.us

Faith Formation

Sunday School Parents and Teachers

Registration is now open for students and teachers for Sunday School this fall. You can register at the church office or you can register online at our website! We will also be expanding our Sunday School hour to include a 7th-12th grade Bible Study. Please contact Anna or Amity if you have any questions about Sunday School this fall.

Confirmation

Registration for 7th & 8th grade confirmation is now open. There will be a parent meeting Sunday, August 30 following worship.

August 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 am Worship	3 6:30 pm Property & Management	4 7:30 am Womenfest 6:00 pm Stewardship Board 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	5 1:30 pm Mary Circle	6 7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 am Staff mtg. 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	7	8
9 9:00 am Worship	10 7:00 pm WELCA Board	11 7:30 am Womenfest 6:30 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	12 7:00 pm HS Youth	13 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	14	15 9:00 am NEIA Food Bank Denver Days Parade
16 9:00 am Worship Noisy Offering	17	18 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	19 6:30 pm Youth Group Kick-Off 7:00 pm HS Youth	20 7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 am Staff mtg. 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	21 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	22
23 9 am Worship 10:15 am WELCA Bible Study	24	25 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	26	27 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	28	29 9 am New Members Class
30 9 am Worship with Backpack Blessing 10:15 am Confirmation Parent mtg	31					

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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 Steve DeVries, Congregational President. Thank you!

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

Executive Board: President - Steve DeVries; Vice President - Doug Miller; Secretary - Philip Michels; Treasurer - Laura Larson.

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

Parish Education: Lisa Michels, Eve Pautsch, Amity Mathews

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, LaVonne Westendorf

Mutual Ministry: Staci Mueller, Linda Krueger, Gene Leonhart, Ryan Pautsch, Julie Brinkman

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