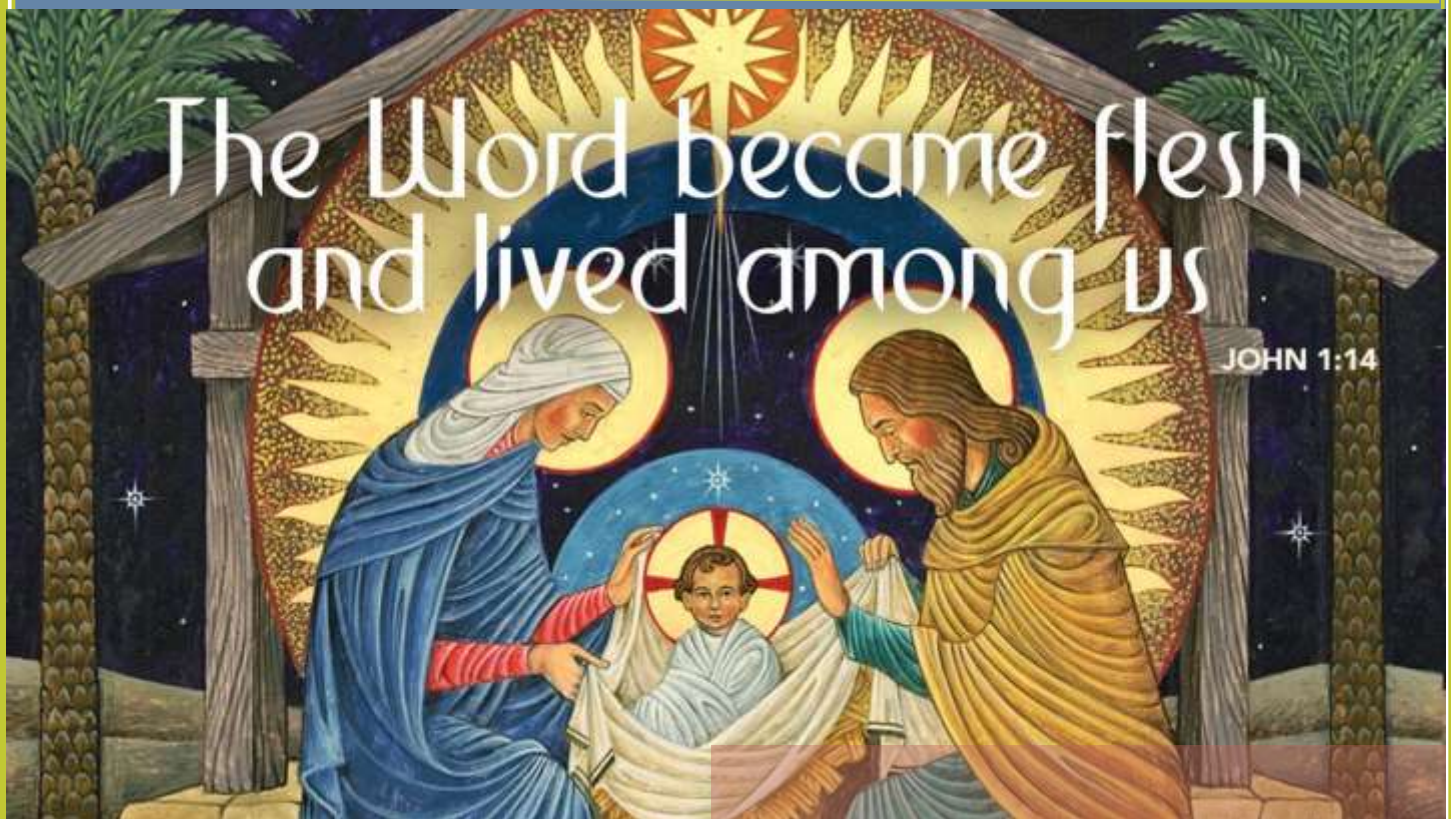


# St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

## December 2018

Projecting Christ to All Generations

Pastor Charis Combs-Lay



The Sundays of December - 9 am Worship

December 2 - *Advent Service*

December 9 - *Blue Christmas*

December 16 - *Sunday School Christmas Pageant*

December 23 - *Advent Service*

December 30 - *Worship*

Christmas Eve Worship

4:00 & 7:00 pm

Please join us

Greetings of the Season to you and yours! Here at St. Peter Lutheran Church we are preparing for the Lord's "advent", his coming among us. The sanctuary is decorated and the Sunday School program practices scheduled. We are preparing music for worship. In all this activity, we remember to prepare to once again hear the great good news, "Glory to God in the Highest." The Sunday School program is scheduled for December 16 at 9:00 am. The confirmation class and Youth and Family Committee invites you to join us in Christmas Caroling Wednesday, December 19 at 6:15. We will make our joyful noises at Sunset Home and Willow Winds before meeting up at church for hot chocolate. Our Christmas Eve services will take place on December 24 at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

Your friend in Christ, *Pastor Charis Combs - Lay*

# Worship & Music Server

## Sunday worship - 9:00 am

*We still need volunteers for December - Please call the office or go to our website to sign up*

	<b>December 2 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>December 9 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>December 16 Sunday 9:00 am Sunday School Christmas Pageant</b>	<b>December 23 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>December 24 Monday 4:00 &amp; 7:00 pm</b>	<b>December 30 Sunday 9:00 am</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Kim Lamb	Pat Leonhart	NA	Connie Lobeck	4pm -Pat Leonhart 7 pm -	TBD
<b>Scripture Readers</b>	Brian Haase	Jim Moeller	NA	TBD	4 pm -Amy Lockhart 7 pm -	Jim Moeller
<b>Acolytes</b>	Kenny Lamb & Carson Haase	Clayton Liddle	Ethan Krabbenhoft & Kenny Lamb	TBD	4 pm -Mia Leonhart & Tyanna Teetzen 7 pm -	TBD
<b>Multimedia</b>	Leah Homeister	TBD	TBD	TBD	4 pm - 7 pm -	TBD
<b>Organist</b>	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller
<b>Sound System</b>	Alton Midthus	Roger Donaldson	Steve DeVries	Larry Oltrogge	4 pm -Alton Midthus 7 pm -Roger Donaldson	Steve DeVries
<b>Prayers</b>	Carson Haase	TBD	Kenny Lamb	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kari Anfinson, Staci Mueller, Anne Sickles					
<b>Usher/Greeters</b>	Gary & LaVonne Westendorf, Chuck & Trudy Essmann, Monte & Emmett Nuehring					
<b>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.</b>						

### From the Church Office

**Check out the online church calendar. The link is on the opening page of our website - [www.stpeterdenver.org](http://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.

### 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 the 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.

# Mission & Community

## Christmas Offerings

This year the special Christmas offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response. The disaster ministry of the ELCA continues to help bring God's comfort, healing and renewal to those affected by disasters. When the dust settles and the headlines change, LDR stays to provide ongoing assistance to those in need, throughout the U.S. and around the world. What a wonderful way to spread the Good News through your generosity and compassion!

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, every other month at 1:00 pm.

**Next meeting: Thursday, January 3,** If you know of someone who is in need of a Prayer Shawl, please take one from the closet in the Friendship Room. Please make sure you fill out a form (located next to the new shawls).

## Hello Donna and the Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Barb was admitted to University of Iowa Hospital October 26th and the shawl and prayer brochure she loved. Instead of the stark white linens the pretty shawl covered her till she died. The family thanks you for the comfort it brought Barb and the family. Blessings to you and your friends that bring love to patients in need. God bless, *the family of Barb.*



## The North East Iowa Food Bank

We raised \$195.00 for the Food Bank in the month of November, thank you to everyone that donated to the cause!

## His Hands Oran Food Pantry,

Serving families in the area that are experiencing food insecurity. Requests for December —Boxed meals, and boxed potatoes

Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. Served in October: 112 Households, 308 Individuals, 8,490 lbs of food distributed.

Questions? -319-638-4357. *St Peter's last month's donation on November 6<sup>th</sup>, totaled 113.7 lbs - thank you Alton & Sharon Midthus for delivering the goods. Stacy delivered another 26 lbs. on November 23<sup>rd</sup>! Thank you*

## Sign Up to Bring Cookies

We have a link on our website that you can access to fill in a time slot that works for you <http://www.stpeterdenver.org/volunteer.html> or contact the office and let Roxane know. Thank you to all of the people that faithfully help out with this ministry!

**To make/serve coffee** you may contact Jan Gienau 984-5851, or the office.

December 2 – 1) Sundae Funday  
2) Stewardship  
3) Board

Coffee maker- Jan Gienau

December 9 – 1) Pat Leonhart  
2) Gene Leonhart  
3) Pat Leonhart

Coffee maker- Pat Leonhart

December 16 – 1) Sunday School  
2) Christmas Program  
3) Cookies downstairs

Coffee maker-

December 23 – 1) Kim Lamb  
2) Kim Lamb  
3) Kim Lamb

Coffee maker- Jan Gienau

December 23 – 1) Kim Lamb  
2) Kim Lamb  
3) Kim Lamb

Coffee maker- Jan Gienau

Please check online or call the office for the latest updates to donations/volunteers.



## Winter Weather Policy

Please check our website [www.stpeterdenver.org](http://www.stpeterdenver.org), Facebook, and KWWL, in the event of inclement weather for the Cancellation of Worship and or Sunday School. We will attempt to have it posted by 7:00 am.

## Re-Do'd Cards

Wondering what to do for a small Christmas gift? ...gift bundles of four Re-Do cards are available, tied with Christmas ribbon, for \$3.00. All proceeds go to Prayer Shawl Ministries at this time. Gift bundles are located in a basket outside the office, or special orders are available. Bundles consist of Birthday, Sympathy, Get Well, and a surprise card.

## Bell Choir

Rehearsals are Sunday mornings 7:45-8:45 am. If you've ever thought "is bell choir for me?"

I'd suggest you give us a 'test drive'.

This is a good time to check us out...see you Sundays, *Jo VanDeBerg, Bell Choir Director* 515-238-7483





# December Birthdays & Anniversaries

1  
Dave & Jaime Leonhart

2  
Jennifer Clayton  
Joel & Jane Teetzen

3  
Dalton Brinkman  
Julie Diercks  
Lois Miller

4  
Lincoln Gustafson  
Shirley Thurm  
Burton & Sharon Diercks

5  
Candi Nuehring  
Casey Wirtjes

6  
Sharon Diercks  
Cody Hougen  
Linda Krueger

7  
Nathan Thurm

8  
Jillian Clayton  
Jaime Gienau  
Mia Leonhart  
Linda Schult  
Robert & Sharon Foelske

9  
Lauren Carman  
Darlys Milius

10  
Alvina Koepke

11  
Holly Smith

12  
Lynette Renner

13  
Samantha Gehrke  
Garrett Wahl

14  
Brooks Meyer

15  
Andrew Brown  
Alexandra Swanson  
David & Jo VanDeberg

16  
Art Kurtt  
Cavin Newby

17  
Sharon Robinson  
Greg Thies

19  
Elaine Dove  
Melodie Foelske

20  
Carolyn Becker

21  
Tim Mueller  
Frank & Roberta Merrill

22  
Jennifer Sawyer

23  
Emma Haase  
Morgan Smith

24  
Jeremiah Kern

25  
Breanna Sadler

26  
Jack Mixdorf  
Greg Smith

27  
Tom Lahmann  
Bob Weston

28  
Klair Heim  
Dawn & David Lau  
Amy & Richard Mortenson  
Aubrey Roethler

29  
Jennifer Ackerman  
Cassandra Vohsman

30  
Monte Nuehring

31  
Max Thrasher



# Congregational News

## Stewardship Notes

Join us Sunday, December 2, after worship. We will have a chance to make mini ice cream sundaes as part of the celebration of our stewardship program. With holidays coming up, we hope everyone is still thinking seriously about setting up automatic giving. So much easier! No checks to remember or write! Help the church budget! Be 'modern'! Lots of reasons to sign up. Forms to help you get started are in the cute metal bins at the back of the church, and Roxane will know what to do with it once you fill them out. With so much to be grateful for it is a good time to think about 'giving back' some of our bountiful 'harvest'.

## Custodian for St Peter Facilities

This position is part time. The Custodian is responsible for maintaining the facilities through routine cleaning and maintenance. For questions, please contact the office (319) 984-5648. Custodian Position C/O St. Peter Lutheran Church, PO Box A, Denver, Iowa 50622. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

## Offering Envelopes

Please stop by the information table outside the office, to pick up your 2019 offering envelopes. If your envelopes are missing please let the office know. Thank you.

## Annual Reports

Year end annual reports from boards and committees are due to the office by December 15. Thank you

## Danke

Thank you to everyone that came to the soup lunch last month. We appreciate the help of everyone that brought desserts, helped serve and stayed to clean up. There was \$224 collected for the Cedar Valley Friends of the Family. We are very thankful for such a supportive congregation. —*Youth and Family Board*

## Grief Support Group

The grief group meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. All meetings are at 6:30 pm at St Paul Lutheran Church in Waverly. Led by Pastor Trachte; All are welcome.

## Winter Wonderland

The city of Denver is celebrating an Old Fashioned Christmas event the weekend of December 2. Everyone is invited to enjoy the holiday festivities and make sure to stop at City Hall to see our St Peter Christmas Tree, decorated by Holly Smith! We thank Holly and the mission board for representing St Peter and volunteering their artistic talents.



# Community & Mission News

## With Appreciation

Thanks to Tricia Kurtz and Bev Diercks for sharing their baking talents with us on November 11th when veterans were honored at a coffee after the worship service.

Thanks to all who donated clothing, including much-needed winter coats and outerwear for the The Clothes Closet at Buck Creek Church. Shirley Thurm delivered a van full of items that were very much appreciated. Your generosity, compassion, and warm hearts will keep many people in our area warm and wrapped in God's love this winter season.

Thank you to the WELCA ladies and spouses for decorating the church for the Christmas season, and to Dave Krueger for setting up the nativity scene outside!

## Womensfest

Everyone is invited to the Ecumenical Bible Study led by Pastor Craig Henderson on Tuesdays at Willow Winds Assisted Living, from 7:30-8:30am

## Helping Hands Clothes Closet

Located at 2029 Viking Ave. Sumner, provides free gently used clothes to lower income & homeless families and individuals and those affected by disaster. A ministry of St John, Sumner & St Peter, Oran. They offer women, men, and children clothing, shoes, coats, bedding & towels. Hours: Tuesdays 9-11 am, Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm, and the 1st Saturday of each month, 9-11 am. If you have any questions email or call Carolyn Mohlis, 319-279-3247 or Carolyn.mohlis@gmail.com.

A note from the director: *October was a very busy month at Helping Hands Clothing Closet; we had 259 client visits and our volunteers gave 50.5 hours of their time. With such a busy month we are in need of winter coats, boots, hats and mittens. Recently we have received some wonderful donations of bedding and towels. Thank you for all of your donations and a huge thank you to all of our volunteers.*

## Noisy Offering

The noisy offering for November & December will be shared with the Salvation Army in Waterloo. The Salvation Army is dedicated to caring for the poor, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, loving the unlovable, and befriending the friendless. Wherever there is a need in the Cedar Valley, you'll find the Salvation Army. Their greatest need right now, is monetary donations. Let's give generously so they can continue with their special ministry.

## WELCA Board Meeting

Sunday, January 13, at 10:15 am

## Gather Bible Study -Next Meetings:

Tuesday, December 11 at 9:00 am

## Serving Committee for December

Jennifer Clayton	Diann Curtis	Sandra Sue Eick
Donna Hulsing	Dori Jurgenson	Tammy Maitland
Angie Meyer	Joanne Milius	Sharon Mueller
Sarah Sanderson	Helen Schumacher	Kerry Thies
Shirley Thurm	Nicole Valverde	

## Fabric Cutting Party

Everyone is invited to the next Bible Study, on Tuesday, December 11 at 9:00 am, with a noon potluck. Following the lunch, there will be a fabric cutting party from 1:00—3:00 pm. Join us for all or part of the day.

## The Sending of the Quilts

Thank you to all who helped prepare quilts & kits which were sent to the warehouse. The fall totals are: 134 quilts, 143 school kits, baby care kits 8, fabric kits 11. Quilt tying will resume January 7, 2019.



Confirmation students helping prepare school kits.



Mother and daughter sewing team making quilt backings.

# Faith Formation



Christmas is rapidly approaching and no doubt, one of the things you will be thinking about is holiday shopping. This year, many people will be feeling the impact of the financial crunch plus the stress of already busy schedules and extra December commitments. Perhaps the need to simplify seems even more appealing when you consider all the time and money you may be expending on Christmas gifts.

The Board of Mission would like to make a suggestion for families to consider as an alternate plan for sharing the spirit of Christmas with others. The ELCA has published a Good Gifts Catalog that features out-reach gifts that can and will make a difference in the lives of both the giver and receiver.

What is the best gift you were ever given? It was probably given out of love. Love comes to us as a gift from God, and we are called to share it with others. The best gifts are those that deepen our relationships with one another. They are filled with love and are impossible to wrap.

Do we need more "things" and more "stuff" to clutter and complicate our lives? How would a neighbor or friend feel if you told them for Christmas this year you bought a mosquito net for a family in a malaria-prone area or six water jugs for ease in transporting clean water? Would your children find joy in knowing that a pig or goat was given in their honor to a poverty-stricken family in Africa?

You have the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in your own personal lives and the lives of those in need. Take a few moments to explore the catalog and discover the life-changing difference your gifts can make. Christ's love is a gift. Share it with others!!!

You can get a Good Gifts Catalog in the Friendship Room or call 1-800-638-3522 for a copy to be sent to your home.

## High School Youth Group

The high schoolers will meet the second Sunday of the month at 6:00 pm. The next meeting is December 9.

## Confirmation Class

Confirmation class meets Wednesdays at 6:15 pm, in the lower level.



Confirmation students helping pack school kits.

## The newly-formed Denver MOPS

(Mothers of Preschoolers) group is launching a MOPS Collective, or bible study. The study is called *Fierce Love*, and explores the big emotions of motherhood. Coffee will be on by 8:15 am and the study will be from 8:30 to 10:00 am. Meetings will be held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 801 Prestien Drive (The Denver Baptist Church parsonage), and are open to any moms, with a special focus on moms with preschool and school age children. Childcare will be provided. Please contact Cara Sommerlot at [den-veriamops@gmail.com](mailto:den-veriamops@gmail.com) with any questions. For more information about MOPS, visit [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org)

## Sunday School

Sunday School follows worship at 10:10 am. Contact Todd Foelske with any questions [tfoelske@gmail.com](mailto:tfoelske@gmail.com) or 319-987-2134. **There will be NO Sunday School on December 23 & 30**

## Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

**Saturday, December 15** - Dress Rehearsal 1:00pm (K -6<sup>th</sup> grade ONLY, not preschool)

**Sunday, December 16** - Christmas Program at 9:00 am Worship Service, NO SUNDAY SCHOOL  
Please join us for Christmas cookies, hot cocoa and coffee, in the lower level of the church following the program.

The Sunday School students and Pastor :) had fun wearing their costumes to worship on the Sunday before Halloween.



# December 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School 11:00 am Basement Reserved	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm Property Management meeting	<b>4</b> 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>5</b> 6:15 pm Confirmation	<b>6</b> 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	<b>7</b> 8:00 am Financial Board	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School 6:00 pm HS Youth Group	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am Gather Bible Study 6:30 pm Council 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>12</b> 6:15 pm Confirmation	<b>13</b> 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 1:00 pm Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
<b>16</b> 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship with Noisy Offering	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>19</b> 6:15 pm Confirmation Christmas Caroling	<b>20</b> 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	<b>21</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Worship 4:00 & 7:00 pm	<b>25</b> Christmas Day Office closed	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Worship	<b>31</b>					



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### 2018 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 The Congregational President. Thank you!

**Church Council:** Amy Lockhart, Eve Pautsch, Jim Jurgenson, Sue Buss, Gavin Carman, Todd Foelske, Gene Leonhart, Mary Stevens, LaVonne Westendorf

**Executive Board:** Jim Jurgenson, Eve Pautsch, Amy Lockhart, Gene Leonhart

**Property & Management:** Neil Hartmann, Gene Leonhart, Leroy Homeister, Dwight Diercks, Roxane Franzen, Gavin Carman

**Parish Education:** Todd Foelske, Jaime Leonhart, Mary Satterthwaite

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

**Mission:** Sue Buss, Pat Leonhart, Bev Diercks, Shirley Thurm, Gretchen Syhre, Kelley Carman, Marcia Ott

**Stewardship:** Mary Stevens, Dori Jurgenson, Brenda Wolter

**Youth & Family:** Eve Pautsch, Krista Wahl, Connie Lobeck, Sarah Sanderson, Julie Brinkman

**Evangelism:** Staci Mueller, Art Kurtt, LaVonne Westendorf, Roger Donaldson

**Financial Board:** Dwight Diercks, Paul Meier, Jim Moeller, Jack Mixdorf, Gene Leonhart, Gavin Carman