St. Peter Tidings is published 12 times a year by St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church 540 East Franklin Street ~ P.O. Box A Denver, IA 50622 Phone: 319-984-5648 ~ Fax: 319-984-5649 www.stpeterdenver.org ~ info@stpeterdenver.org pastorron@stpeterdenver.org

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St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Tidings January 2013

We are a community of faith who, for the time being, is focused on planning our future in order to call leaders who will guide us there.

A New Year, A New Step Together

As we think about all that has happened in the past year and all the things we plan to do in 2013, here are 10 questions I adapted from "The Pastors Coach" for you to consider: What is your most meaningful achievement story from 2012? What do you need to stop doing? What do you need to start doing? What are 2 mistakes you made last year? Do you have any regrets? What is the last thing God has spoken to you? In what ways do you need to better love and care for your family? What are 2 areas you want to improve in? What are the top five things you hope to achieve in 2013? What is the best way you can use and enjoy your days off in 2013?

These ten questions are good to reflect on individually about our lives. And while they are designed to help pastors of congregations, I think they also apply to all the members of a congregation as well. As a faith community we are journeying together into a new year and should consider our short comings, our successes, how we spend our time, and what we would like to see happen in the coming year. By being intentional with our actions we participate as good Stewards of what God has blessed us with.

2 Cor 9:6-7 Paul writes "The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion."

"To be intentional means to make up your mind, to develop a plan for giving, and then to 'walk the walk' as you turn that plan into action." (Ask Thank Tell 46) One of the ways we as a congregation are being intentional happens on January $18^{
m th}$ and 19th with our first Owner's Meeting. This is an opportunity for us to sit down together to discern what God has blessed us with in 2012 and how we can best utilize these blessings in 2013. We as a congregation have a lot to be thankful for and have truly been blessed by God. Some of these blessing has resulted in further actions by taskforces as they look at adding a second worship service because our Sunday morning worship attendance is at capacity. We also have a taskforce starting to look at adding a much needed nursery space. We have Jr. and Sr. High groups that are in need of space to meet as well. We had over 75 preschool thru 5th grade Sunday School children participate in the Christmas program (which we had 336 total attend!) and yes, the Sunday School space is filling up too. In addition to these and other things that have happened in my less than 8 weeks here as your pastor we have several other exciting opportunities in the works for the coming year.

These are truly awesome "problems" to consider as St. Peter Lutheran Church, and it would be easy for us to sit back and hit the cruise control because things are going very well. But this is not acceptable because as Stewards God has instructed us to be intentional with our time, talents, and treasures. Therefore, we choose to harness the energy of the good times to propel us through the hard times rather than wait for problems to arise. Because let's face it, even though there is a lot to celebrate, there are always areas we could be growing in.

This month I wish to invite you to take some time to sit back, relax, and reflect over the past year to both reminisce about the good times and consider the hard times. But most importantly, discern ways to improve by mending broken relationships and healing strained ones. And then I would like to also invite you to join me in doing this as a faith community at our Owner's Meeting.

May God bless you in this New Year. Pastor Ron

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

«First Name» «Last Name» «Address 1» «Address 2» «City», «State» «Zip»

So I was thinking....

A response to questions and concerns heard here at St. Peter. If you have a question, please put it in writing and deliver it to the Church Office or email it to: pastorron@stpeterdenver.org.

Ouestion: "Why are we adding a second worship service? I like the church full."

Response: There is nothing more exciting on Sunday morning here at St. Peter Lutheran Church than worshiping in a room that is filled with over 200 people. And at the same time there is nothing more frustrating than not being able to find a place to park or sit. We all love to go to a packed movie theatre or stadium, and at the same time we all get frustrated with the parking and cramped seating. But we go to the events because they are fun. And yet we only go to them once in a while, not every week because the frustration of dealing with the crowded numbers becomes over bearing after a while. Church is no different in this way. We want to create a space that encourages people to worship and by doing so reach out into the community with the Gospel message. So simply put, we are adding a second worship service because our current space is too full. This is indeed a wonderful problem to have and something to celebrate.

But what I also hear in this question is the fear that offering a second worship service will detract from the energy of our current worship. This is not the goal. In fact this was the first item the task force discussed; we are not adding a repeat of our current worship. Instead we are looking at creating a worship service that will meet the needs and style of those who currently do not attend worship on a regular basis and to those who do not attend at all. Yes our current worship service will get a little less crowded, this is a secondary goal but a needed goal as we are currently at capacity. However, the overall goal that is put before the taskforce and the congregation is how can we reach out to the Denver community by offering a second worship service that will both attract new members and challenge them into a life of faithful discipleship. If you have any thoughts we would love to hear them. Please e-mail me, submit in writing to the church office, contact a member of the taskforce, or stop by to offer to be a part of a focus group who will be researching just what all of this means.

Rev. Ron Mathews





	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
Communion Assistants	Paul Meier	Sonja Steege	Connie Lobeck	Mallory Steege
Scripture Readers	Paul Meier	Jim Jurgenson	Mark Fober	Bev Diercks
Acolytes	Jenna Haase Annie Place	Bethany Sadler Nick Mohlis	Zack Thrasher Nick Mohlis	Timmothy Arians Blake Steege
Multimedia	Jeff Bales	Michael Steege	Mitchell Mohlis	Julie Leisinger
Organist	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Sound System	Larry Oltrogge	Gary Anfinson	Alton Midthus	Harold Wente
Video	Roger Thurm	Trevor Thurm	Roger Thurm	Trevor Thurm
Altar Guild	Gretchen Syhre, Wendy Mohlis, Linda Krueger			
Jsher/Greeters	Lar	rry Oltrogge, Jon & Brenda	Wolter. Brad Becker. Neil H	lartman

Your ministry is vital and we give thanks for your willingness to serve.

From the Church Office

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

2013 Offering Envelopes: Please pick up your **2013 Offering Envelopes** located on the bench outside the office.



Worship & Challenging Weatheryou make the call. During stormy winter days, we encourage you to use your best judgment as you decide whether or not it is safe for you to come to worship on Sunday mornings or evening events. We understand if you are unable to join us for worship. When it is safest for you to stay home, please do so. If you would like to receive a DVD of the worship service you missed, please call the church office, 984-5648.

Sun	Mon	Tue	/ed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		HAPPY SEAR	2 5:30 am Fitness class 8:00 pm Executive Board Meeting 1:30 pm Mary Circle 7:00 pm Ruth Circle 6:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	3 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	5:30 am Fitness class	ى س
6 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Naomi Circle 5:00 pm Mission youth group	7 5:30 am Fitness class Quitt tying 9-3 pm and 6:30-8:30 pm	8 7:30 am Womenfest Quilt tying 9-3 pm 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	 5:30 am Fitness class 7:30 pm Property & Management Meeting 8:00 pm Congregational 00 pm Council Meeting 6:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation 	10 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	11 5:30 am Fitness dass	12 9:00 am Welca Board mtg.
13 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School	14 5:30 am Fitness class Quitt tying 9-3 pm and 6:30-8:30 pm	15 7:30 am Womenfest Quilt tying 9-3 pm 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	16 5:30 am Fitness class 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	17 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	18 5:30 am Fitness class 6:00 pm Ownership meeting @ St Paul, Waverly NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19 9:00 am Ownership meeting @ St Paul, Waverly
20 9:00 am Worship with Noisy Offening 10:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Welca Bible Study Leader	21 5:30 am Fitness class Quitt tying 9-3 pm and 6:30-8:30 pm Martin Luther King Day	22 7:30 am Womenfest Quilt tying 9-3 pm 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	23 5:30 am Fitness class 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	24 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	25 5:30 am Fitness dass	26 Middle School Dance @ Legion Hall Middle School Lock-in
27 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Annual Congregational meeting	28 5:30 am Fitness class Quilt tying 9-3 pm and 6:30-8:30 pm	29 7:30 am Womenfest Quilt tying 9-3 pm 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	30 5:30 am Fitness class No Confirmation	31 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline		

Parish Ed and Youth and Family Boards

Middle School Youth Group

The Middle School lock-in will be Saturday, January 26.



In December, fifteen middle school youth gathered for a scavenger hunt and Christmas party. The youth were divided into groups and given 12 symbols of Christmas that they

had to find around Denver. After the scavenger hunt they had a lesson on the meanings of those symbols and how they relate to Christmas. Each youth brought their favorite junk food and \$10 gift card for an exchange. The student took the junk food home and donated the gift card to Denver Cares. Plan to join us on Saturday, January 26 for a middle school dance and lock-in following the dance. Watch your mailbox for more information.

High School Mission Youth

Next meeting will be Sunday, January 6 @ 5 pm in the church basement

The high school mission group will be sponsoring a Super Bowl Fundraiser in the month of January.

They will be selling soup and sub sandwiches for the Super Bowl game on February 3, 2013. Watch for more information to come regarding this fundraiser. Thank you for your generous support of our past fundraisers, it is greatly appreciated.



Confirmation

Classes resume Wednesday January 2 7th Grade Confirmation @ 6:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation @ 7:30 pm

Sunday School

Sunday school is after worship, at 10:00 am. Classes will resume Sunday, January 6



Mission Board



"Noisy Offering" for the month of January will be donated to New Life School. New Life School is in the village of Santa de Maria, Guatemala, and provides an education for children not able to attend the Guatemalan public schools. Please view more information on this mission partner at http:// www.newlifeguatemala.com/. (pictured are students and staff using the Schumacher elevator)

An update on the bridge: Mary Beth & Bayo are helping fund a bridge so the students can safely commute to their school. Our last quarterly Noisy offering was designated to them. The most recent newsletter reports they estimate completion in January. They are waiting for the water level to go down completely so the final stage of casting can be done.





Thank you to everyone that helped with the children's Christmas program. We all enjoyed the show! If anyone would like a DVD copy of the Sunday School Christmas program please contact the office.

Poinsettias given in Memory of....

Arnold & Lillian Bergmann Don & Donna Hulsing

Otto & Mary Krueger Gus & Lucinda Oberheu Ron & Marlys Krueger

Millie Kurtt Gene & Pat Leonhart & Family

Glenn Koepke Alvina & Joe Koepke

Lowell Miller, Lester Miller Lester & Wilma Farr **Opal Miller**

Nelson Gaede, Wilbert Lobeck **Arlene & Lester Matthias Amelia Destival** Jerry & Connie Lobeck

Richard Happel Florene Happel & Family

Duane Feller Ella Feller & Family

Lloyd Everding Anna Everding & Family

Laverne & Harriet Hult **Don & Maxine Miller** Terry & Joyce Miller

Marvin & Ida Ludtke Dan & Gretchen Syhre & Family

Nick and Erica Thurm **Roger and Shirley Thurm**

Emil & Florene DeVries Theo & Florence Kuker Max DeVries Steve and Audrey DeVries



An Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group will meet at Waverly Health Center - Tendrils Rooftop Garden (4th floor), 312 9th St SW, Waverly, IA 50677. The group will meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month from 12-1 pm (with the exception of January 2013, due to the holiday). Caregivers, family, and friends with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia are welcome. The Support Group focuses on providing information, education, and support. The meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information, call Cathryn Baumgartner, MSW, at 319-352-4951. This group is offered in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association East Central Iowa Chapter.

Marvin & LuAnn Leisinger **Janice Dryer** Julie, David, Alan,& Kendra Leisinger & Nancy Dryer

Edwin Milius

Darlys Milius Bill & Judy Pam & Steve

Our Parents Marvin & Helen Schumacher

Russell Rustad William Stenseth Gary & Kari Anfinson

James Lamos Nancy Lamos & Family

Leo Weikert Kathy Weikert Steinberg Marge Weikert

Brad Vierow Doug, Gayle, Nicole & Matt Eick

Community News and **Mission Opportunities**

Denver Community Blood Drive, Friday, January 4, 2013 from 1:30 - 5:30 pm, at the Denver Community Center.

His Hands Food Pantry

St. Peter Church will be collecting food and non-food items for His Hands Food Pantry, Oran. The donations suggestion this month is condiment items (ketchup, mustard, honey, salad dressing, mayo, pickles, etc.) Please place your donations outside the church office.

Helping Hands Clothing Closet provides free, gently used clothes, coats, hats, shoes, blankets, and towels to those who can not afford to buy these items for their families. Open Tuesday mornings 9-noon, Thursday evenings 4-8 pm and the first Saturday of

each month 9-noon. Donations may be dropped off at the closet during any of the hours they are open. **Currently** they are only accepting winter apparel due to limited **space**. The closet is in need of volunteers to sort clothing and help clients find what they need. Any individuals or groups such as WELCA, confirmation classes, girl/boy scouts, 4H, FFA, youth groups, and more have been a tremendous help. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Laure Meyer 563-578-8333 or 319-239-1739/ text to schedule a convenient time.

Global Café

Global Cafe is a non-profit coffee shop located next to Duane's Barbershop on Main Street in Denver. The café is a ministry of Denver Baptist Church and

exists to raise awareness of local, national, and international mission opportunities. Café hours are Monday-Saturday from 6:30-10:30 am.

AA/Alanon

Step Class: Tuesday nights at 7 pm in lower level Meeting: Tuesday nights at 8 pm in lower level **Open Meeting:** 3rd Tuesday of each month.



Anyone who has an interest in or questions about the Anyone who has an interest in the disease of alcoholism or anyone who fears that a loved one may be dealing with alcoholism is welcome $\underbrace{H \in R \in \mathbb{R}}_{H \in R \in \mathbb{R}}$ to attend the monthly open meeting.

Rock the "Rock" Fundraiser show

January 23, 2013. All ages welcome, free admission, donations welcome. All proceeds go to sending youth missions to Belize. Cedar Valley Community Church, 3520 Ansborough Ave, Waterloo, Iowa.







January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Ken Becker Don Scheer Sam Smith 2 Virgil Fasse Grant Pautsch 3 Stacie Beem Anne Rossol 4 Charles Essmann Craig Wolfensperger Gary Everding 6 Dean Milius Lauren Milius Becky Miller **Dixie Unangst** 7 Jill Thrasher 8 Darwin Larson Dixie Milius Fritz & AJ Teatmeier Ashley Wolter 9 Harold Wente 11 Justice Gienau

Tyanna Teetzen Ryan Thurm 12

Karen Place Lilliana Wickwire

13 Sue Flory Katie Larson Anne Mueller Brody Weston

14 Annette Geary Andrea Hansen Clayton Liddle Tammy Weston

15 Robert Gienau Scott Gleason

16 Kaia Anfinson Kenna Rothmeyer 17 Kari Anfinson Warren Miller Ruth Niemann Rhonda Wilson 18 Hannah Ryan-Hamerlinck 19 **Esther Canfield** Calli Landenberger Tonia Thurm 20 **Tony Schimmels** Mary Stevens 21 Havden Arians Herbert Weber 22 Miranda Thurm 23 **Brian Bartels** Loren Eick Mark Gielau Floyd & Margaret Liddle 24 Mark Fober Ron Foelske Brena Huber Brandon Smith 25 Angela Diercks Randy Herman Linda Seelhammer 27 Sterling Edgar Kaden Isaacson Jaydn Milius 29 Natalie Fober 31 Dennis Ott Jeff Schumacher

We apologize if your birthday or anniversary are not listed or listed incorrectly. This indicates we DO NOT have record of the dates on file or on file correctly. Please notify the office with additions or corrections. Thank You!

Congregational News

and Thank you



The high school mission group hosted a Birthday Party for Jesus. Fifteen youth gathered for an afternoon of activities. They watched a Christmas movie, played games, made ornaments and Christmas cards. While they were having fun at the church their parents had the opportunity to have a few hours to get started on their Christmas to-do-list. Thank you to all the families who supported our fundraiser. We had a great time with your kids.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the "Gifts of Love Project" Thanks to Denver Drug who donates the bags. Jon Danielsen and the Denver students who decorated the sacks. Bender Foods for delivering the fruit and food to the church. A big thank you to the people who help pack and deliver the bags. We were able to bring joy to 27 recipients this year. God's blessings to you all. Connie Lobeck, Bev Diercks & Terri Thurm.

The Board of Mission would like to thank everyone who was filled with the Christmas spirit during December by participating in several special projects. Your outreach to help others will be appreciated by people both near and far. The clothes and household items collected for the Clothes Closet were delivered to the Buck Creek Lutheran Church. The response for the Adopt-a-Family through Denver Cares was tremendous. The family received all their requests in addition to several gift cards. Many people did shopping during December at St. Peter. The Mashiah Foundation items made available from our missionary family in Nigeria will help women and children who have been affected by HIV aids. All these acts of charity demonstrate your love and concern for God's children. You have made a difference! God's love surrounds others through your kindness.

Congregational news continued

January schedule for Fitness classes - Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings @ 5:30 am, in the St Peter church basement: Join us for a variety of workouts. Zumba, boot camp and strength & aerobic style classes are instructed by a certified fitness instructor. Free will donation.



Owner's Meeting

Where are we at? Where are we going? How are we going to get there?

These are the questions that will form our time together as we discern the vision and mission of St. Peter. More information about the topics discussed will be available on the information table just outside of Pastor Ron's office. If you wish to attend please RSPV to the church office so we can ensure enough materials will be provided. Our Owner's Meeting will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waverly (on the river) Friday January 18th 6 -9pm and Saturday 19th 9 am - 6 pm. Lunch will be provided.

Women of the ELCA

WELCA Board Meeting Saturday, January 12 at 9:00 am in church library

WELCA Bible Study Leaders Sunday, January 20 at 10:15 am

Ruth Circle

Meets first Wednesday at 7:00 pm Next Meeting: January 2 Bible Study Leader: Sheryl/Sheila Hostess: Pat Leonhart

Mary Circle

Meets first Wednesday at 1:30 pm in Library Next Meeting: January 2 Bible Study Leader: Elaine Dove Hostess: Dorothy Eggena

Naomi Circle

Meets first Sunday after worship Next Meeting: January 6 Bible Study Leader: Marlys Krueger

Serving Committee for January Chairperson - Naomi Circle

Carol Ackerman Stacie Beem Jaime Gienau Nancy Lamos Darlys Milius Amy Mortenson Sharon Robinson Tammy Swanson Kristen Wolter Jennifer Ackerman Laurie Bierschenk Roxane Franzen Laura Larson Judy Milius Nicole Oberheu Sonja Steege Laura Wolfensperger

WELCA continued

LWR Quilt Campaign - 500,000 quilts in 2013 - that's the challenge from Lutheran World Relief for this new year. Why? Because the need is so great, and quilts change lives, for those who receive and for those who give. Those who receive quilts get warmth for the body, and knowledge that someone cares for them and they are not forgotten. For the quilters there is the growth of friendship and the satisfaction of sharing talents and skills with those in need.

People of St Peter: Help to meet the challenge of 25% more quilts in 2013. If you haven't helped before please make this the time you begin. There are many kinds of tasks besides tying, some are "sit-down" jobs. As always - come and go as it fits your schedule.

Hawkeye Community College 2012-2013 Artist Sries:

Divapalooza, Thursday, March 7, 2013. The performance will be held in the newly renovated Hawse Auditorium at Tama Hall on the Hawkeye Campus in Waterloo. (only nine

tickets remain). Three ladies, compared to Aretha Franklin, Janis Joplin and Bette Midler, form the Divapalooza trio, bringing the perfect balance between elegant, beautiful vocals and saucy, hilarious stage banter. An anonymous donor is



covering half the cost of the ticket, so your cost is only \$5.00. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served

basis. Please reserve and pay for your ticket with Roxane in the church office. **Tickets can be picked up at the church office now.**

Quilting News

Quilt tying will begin on Monday, January 7, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, and from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm; also, on Tuesday, January 8, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Come when you can, leave when you need to. Use your own judgment in case of snow or bad roads.

There is a new supply of quilt kits ready to sew in the Friendship Room. Take one and sew at your convenience.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 2nd Thursday of the following months at 6:30 pm January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Next meeting: January 10

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

Bread for the Day 2013: Last call to order *Bread For The Day*, deadline: January 4. Each day's devotion includes a Scripture reading, a hymn recommendation from the ELW, and a prayer. If you would like to receive a copy, please sign up in the church office. Copies are \$9, paid at time of pick up.