

St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

January 2017 Rev. Ron Mathews

Projecting Christ to All Generations

We begin 2017 in Jesus' name, under his name, through his name. We begin as Christ bearers into this New Year.

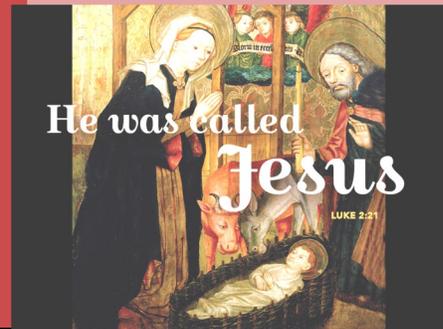


So let us "consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

~ Hebrews 10:24-25

From the beginning, by virtue of our baptism, we are called Christian. We were "Christ-ened" at the font. Bearing his name, we share the same Father and are invited to address God intimately: Abba! Jesus bears our sins in humble obedience to the will of the Father. Today we pray that the mind of Christ, whose name we bear, would be our own. It is a good way to begin, again, another year.

(Taken from
Sundays and Seasons
2017 for the Naming
of Christ festival Jan
1st.)



As Christ bearers let us encourage one another by deepening our relationships. Let us develop not just more friends or people we know but rather build connections for relationships of significance. This starts by asking one question: what can you do to bear Christ to others this year? Commitment and community are both required for relationships to grow. To build these Christ-centered relationships, we must be the church, not just go to church. We must spur one another to meet together, to not give up on each other, to love each other. This is where Christ is made most present where His family, His body, His children, His disciples are gathered.



The foundation of our faith community is relationship – with others and with Christ. May you find relationships of significance in this New Year here at St. Peter. A church that has been called by God to "Project Christ to All Generations."

Living in Faith thru Service, Pastor Ron

Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	January 1 Sunday 9 am	January 8 Sunday 9 am	January 15 Sunday 9 am	January 22 Sunday 9 am	January 29 Sunday 9 am
Communion Assistants	NA	Kim Lamb	TBD	Kim Lamb	TBD
Scripture Readers	NA	Joyce Miller	Julie Leisinger	Brian Haase	Dave Vandenberg
Acolytes	Hunter Ackerman & Conner Vauthier	Abbi Austin & Alex Krabbenhoft	Mitchell & Brooke DeVries	Emma Haase & Cylee Liddle	Jacob Lyons & Emily Ruby
Multimedia	Jeff Bales	Jacob Lyons	Jacob Lyons	Jacob Lyons	Parker Mueller
Organist	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheila Mixdorf	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart
Vocal Leader	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Sound System	Harold Wente	Alton Midthus	Roger Donaldson	Steve DeVries	Harold Wente
Video	Dwight Diercks	Roger Thurm	Dwight Diercks	Roger Thurm	Dwight Diercks
Altar Guild	Marcia Ott, Vera Collins, Lynn Gielau, Kim Lamb				
Usher/Greeters	Larry Oltrogge, Jon & Brenda Wolter, Brad Becker				
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.					

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.

Wanted

Please contact Paul Meier or the office if you would be interested in serving on the Congregational Council.

BOARD REPORTS ARE DUE TO THE OFFICE ASAP. THANK YOU.

Offering Envelopes

Please stop by the information table outside the office to pick up your 2017 offering envelopes.

Winter Weather Policy

We will not cancel worship due to inclement weather, but encourage you to stay home if that is safest for you. **The Sunday School policy:** is if we decide that we need to cancel Sunday School due to weather, it will be announced by 7:30 am that Sunday morning and posted on the St Peter Website home page, www.stpeterdenver.org, Facebook, and KWWL.

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.

Martin Luther's German Bible



ABOUT THE LUTHERANS

October 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. As we prepare for this celebration, we want to invite you into a time of learning. Martin Luther and many of his reforming companions were teachers after all. Every month we will publish a new article on one of the many diverse aspects of the Lutheran church. We hope you enjoy and learn a little bit more by reading these articles.

What version of the Bible do you hear and read? Just in English, we have many to choose from. They range from translations that aim to be as accurate as possible (such as the New Revised Standard Version) to others whose main objective is to be easy to understand, even if certain details get lost.

Imagine, though, if there were no Bible available in English—if such a thing didn't exist. What if the only Bible was in a language most didn't know and we had to rely on priests and scholars to tell us what was in the Bible? That was the situation in the Germany of Martin Luther's time. The Bible was most commonly found in Latin, though scholars could read it in the original languages of Hebrew and Greek. An important part of Luther's reforms was recognizing that a German Bible was needed—and then actually creating it!

Sometimes things happen because it's the right time, and that seems to be the case with Luther's Bible. Johannes Gutenberg's invention of printing with movable type had come along a few decades earlier and was coming into widespread use. Luther recognized the need to provide a Bible that ordinary, literate people could read. The many dialects of the German people were beginning to coalesce into a form that was widely understandable. Luther even had an artist friend, Lucas Cranach, who could provide illustrations for the Bible, aiding people's understanding. And finally, Luther had the time to devote to the project.

The dispute with the Roman Catholic hierarchy that had begun with indulgences and Luther's Ninety-Five Theses had expanded and now came to a head with the imperial council (or "diet") held at Worms. Luther strongly defended his writings but still was condemned as an outlaw (in addition to already being named a heretic). He could have been arrested and executed, but his prince, Frederick the Wise, "kidnapped" him in April 1521 and hid him away in the Wartburg Castle. There the reformer had little to do, so he set out to begin his translation of the Bible.

He started with the New Testament. He had learned New Testament (koine) Greek, the original language, and so began with that, not Latin.

Since the German language was still evolving, Luther would make trips into nearby towns to hear how people actually spoke. Luther returned to his home in Wittenberg in 1522, and within six months, his New Testament was published. After that he worked with other pastors and scholars to prepare the Old Testament. The complete Bible, with 117 woodcut illustrations, was first published in 1534. He revised it several times up until his death.

Luther's work on a German Bible was a landmark achievement. It influenced others in many countries, including England, to do the same. He brought the scriptures into the language of his people, and in so doing spread the gospel.



The Wartburg Castle as it would have appeared in Luther's time

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Mission & Community

His Hands Oran Food Pantry,

Serving families in the area that are experiencing food insecurity. January wish list: Condiments (ketchup, mustard, barbeque sauce, pancake syrup, salad dressing, honey, etc.) Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. Served in November: 78 Households, 4,961.1 lbs of food distributed.

Questions? -319-638-4357.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. Thank for your support in 2016. Here's to a wonderful 2017.

Quilt Tying

The quilt tying will resume January 9. Meeting again on Mondays, 9 am -3 pm, and 6:30 - 8:30 pm. And Tuesdays, 9 am - Noon. In case of bad weather, use your own judgment.

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Congregational News

1 Ken Becker Sam Smith	15 Robert Gienau Scott Gleason
2 Grant Pautsch	16 Kaia Anfinson Kenna Rothmeyer
3 Stacie Beem	17 Kari Anfinson Warren Miller Ruth Niemann Rhonda Wilson
4 Charles Essmann Joel Hartman Heather Krabbenhoft	19 Esther Canfield Calli Landenberger Tonia Thurm
5 Gary Everding Ethan Krabbenhoft	20 Tony Schimmels Mary Stevens
6 Dean Milius Lauren Milius Becky Miller Dixie Unangst	21 Hayden Arians
7 Jill Thrasher	22 Miranda Thurm
8 Darwin Larson Dixie Milius Fritz & AJ Tegtmeier	23 Brian Bartels Mark Gielau Floyd & Margaret Liddle
9 Harold Wenthe	24 Mark Fober Ron Foelske Brena Huber Brandon Smith Jeff & Carol Wagner
10 Scott & Carrie Gleason	25 Angela Diercks Randy Herman
11 Justice Gienau Tyanna Teetzen Ryan Thurm	27 Sterling Edgar Jaydn Milius
12 Karen Place	29 Natalie Fober
13 Sue Flory Anne Sickles Brody Weston	31 Dennis Ott Jeff Schumacher
14 Clayton Liddle Tammy Weston	



Winter

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

Constitution Proposal

The Policy & Process Committee of Doug Miller, Paul Meier and Mary Stevens have been updating our Constitution & Bylaws over the last couple years. They will present these proposed changes to the congregation on the following Sundays: January 8 & 15, after worship. Members that are interested and/or have questions are encouraged to attend one of the presentations. The proposed changes will then be presented at the Annual Meeting for approval.

St Peter Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 22, 2017, following the 9:00 am Worship Service.

Enjoy the Convenience of the Simply Giving Program

St Peter wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving through Thrivent Financial as a way to automate your regular weekly or monthly offering. With electronic giving, members don't have to write checks or prepare offering envelopes each Sunday, and they don't have to worry about missing the chance to give when they're away from church for work, travel, illness, etc.

To ensure year-round financial stewardship through the secure Simply Giving program, simply go to www.stpeterdenver.org/giving at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available on our website and the church office.

Simply Giving
through



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL

Vocal Music Leaders

To enhance our worship experience we are adding vocal music leaders to our worship servers list. If you are interested in leading the congregation in singing during the 9 am Worship, please sign up or contact the office with questions.

Christmas Offering

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.

Women's Bible Study & Fellowship

Wednesday, January 4 at 1:00 pm, and at 7:00 pm. Or Sunday, January 8 after worship, 10:15 am. Generally the Gather Bible studies will be the first Wednesdays of the month at 1:00 & 7:00 pm, and the first Sundays at 10:15am.

Mission & Community

Noisy Offering

The noisy offering for January and February will be going to AFIL. Americans for Independent Living (AFIL) is a nonprofit agency designed to provide housing, both permanent and transitional, and rehab services for disabled veterans in Black Hawk County and beyond.

Over the past few years there has been a substantial number of veterans returning from service with mental and physical disabilities to Black Hawk County. The AFIL helps the disabled veteran population find housing, assist in home modifications, and provide medical assistance. The AFIL will use the noisy offering for renovations and modifications to housing projects in Waterloo. The funds cover materials to help renovate the transitional home and equipment needed to make home modifications in the homes of disabled veterans. Their goal is to help up to 50 veterans in the coming year.



Denver Community Blood Drive, Friday, January 6, 2017, from 12:30 –4:30 pm. Denver community Center, 100 Washington St.

Women of the ELCA

WELCA Board Meeting

Sunday, January 15 @ 11:30 am

WELCA Bible Study Leaders

Available in the Gather Magazine

Gather Bible Study

The first Wednesday of the month at 1:00 & 7:00 pm

Next Meeting: January 4

And the first Sunday of the month following worship

Next meeting: January 8 (due to holiday)

Serving Committee for January

Carol Ackerman	Jennifer Ackerman	Stacie Beem
Renee McInroy	Jaime Gienau	Roxane Franzen
Nancy Lamos	Darlys Milius	Judy Milius
Lynette Renner	Sharon Robinson	Tammy Swanson
LuAnn Emerson	Kristen Wolter	Susan Buss

**Fellowship after worship will be done on a sign-up basis. If you would be willing to supply cookies, make or serve coffee please sign up at the office or online. www.stpeterdenver.org.*

Notice of WELCA Potluck Celebration, January 15

Save the date! The WELCA annual meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2017. It will be a celebration of "all things WELCA" to thank everyone who helps with our ministries.

All are invited - men and women, WELCA members and spouses, Mensfest, Church Council and staff, any and everyone. The annual meeting will consist of a potluck starting at 11:30 at the Denver community center, followed by a program celebrating our ministries and participants.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Next meeting: Thursday, January 5. 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).

Northeast Iowa Food Bank

Please join us at the food bank to pack elderly nutrition boxes. You do not need to notifying the food bank; there are several groups there each week and we can just join in, **Next scheduled Saturday, is January 14, from 9-10:30am.** Simply go to the volunteer entrance at the Food Bank, 160 Lafayette St, Any questions, call Joyce Miller 984-5021.

Womenfest

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

SEE WHAT YOU PURCHASED



Thank you members of St Peter for your generous contributions over Advent to **God's Global Barnyard!** We collected **\$1,007**; the following was purchased from ELCA Good Gifts:

- 7 Goats
- 11 Chicks
- 6 Honey Bees
- 2 Pigs
- 1 Sheep
- 3 Mosquito Nets
- 1 set of 6 Water Jugs
- 4 School fees & Uniform for a Girl
- 1 Stock a Backpack
- 1 Vaccination for a child



Ten different gifts to grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives.

Service Opportunities

Faith Formation

Flood Recovery Benefit Dinner at St Peter Lutheran Church



Thank You to Thrivent Action Teams who helped make this event possible. **We raised \$379** from the soup supper! All proceeds benefited the work of the Butler County Long-Term Disaster Recovery efforts via Lutheran Disaster Response.



NEIA Food Bank

Warm thanks to the St Peter Lutheran Church confirmation students and families that braved the cold on December 17 to help sort food at the NEIA Food Bank. Also, a big thank you to Cameron Wahl for coordinating the event for us.



Gifts of Love

Thank you to Marilyn Muller for assembling and delivering the Gifts of Love Bags to our members; and helping to spread a little Christmas cheer.

Dear St Peter's Congregation

The Social Work Club and Social Work Department thanks you for your multitude of gifts for this year's Holiday Shoppe. Your generous donations helped make it a great Christmas for the children of our families served. We look forward to next year, and have a Merry Christmas. *Wartburg Holiday Shoppe.*

Sunday School

Classes resume Sunday, January 8 at 10:15 am. If you have any questions please contact Eve Pautsch, eve.pautsch@gmail.com or 319-939-5229.

4th-6th Grade Fusion

The 4th-6th grade youth group, will meet on the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. We will be focused on devotion, fellowship and fun! **Our next meeting is January 10.** We will need a parent volunteer for each meeting. Please let Kim know if you are able to help. Thank You, Kim Lamb - 984-5837 or fusion@stpeterdenver.org

Confirmation

Classes resume with Family Bible Study, Wednesday, January 4 at 6:30 pm. Regular Confirmation Classes, Wednesdays, January 11 & 18 at 6:30 pm .

With Appreciation

The following three messages were sent to the Prayer Shawl Ministry

I received the prayer shawl that you knitted when my husband passed into God's hands. It is comforting to sit with the shawl on my lap as I have my first cup of coffee in the morning. Thank you.

My Mother passed away last week. Your prayer shawl was on her bed covers when I arrived at the hospital. What a beautiful and wonderful thing to see. My family and I wanted to thank you for producing the shawl. It meant a lot to us as Grandma was also involved for many years in prayers and squares at her local church. She passed away peacefully after many years of devoted service to her family as well as her church family. Thank you again.

I wanted you to know that I'm honored and blessed to have received one of your prayer shawls. My precious son recently passed away and my friend, Mary Stevens, comforted me with the gift of a shawl knit by you. I am very grateful for your kindness and that you give of yourself to help and heal others. It is specially comforting for me to know that you and others have prayed for me. Blessed.

Dear Members of St. Peter

Thank you so much for thinking of me and my family during the flooding in September (I never thought it would happen to us again). I can't express what it means to me that you are still thinking of me and my family since I have left St. Peter. Thank you for your offer to help us fix our basement and the monetary gifts. Both of which we really appreciated. A special thanks to Pat Leonhart, who reached out to us and to Cameron, who helped us paint. I am truly grateful for your support and your friendship. Blessings, *Alysia & John Roths and family*

January 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Worship	2 Office Closed	3 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilt tying 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	4 1:00 pm Gather Bible Study 6:30 pm Family Bible Study 7:00 pm Gather Bible Study	5 7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 am Staff meeting 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl	6	7
8 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Gather Bible Study	9 9:00am - 3:00 pm Quilt tying 6:30-8:30 pm Quilt tying 6:30 pm Property & Management meeting	10 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilt tying 6:30 pm Council meeting 6:30 pm Fusion 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	11 6:30 pm Confirmation	12 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	13	14 9:00 am NEIA Food Bank
15 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship <i>Noisy Offering</i> 10:15 am Sunday School 11:30 am WELCA Potluck	16 9:00am - 3:00 pm Quilt tying 6:30-8:30 pm Quilt tying	17 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilt tying 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	18 6:30 pm Confirmation	19 7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 pm Staff meeting 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21
22 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Annual Meeting	23 9:00am - 3:00 pm Quilt tying 6:30-8:30 pm Quilt tying 10:00 am Bingo @ Denver Sunset Home	24 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilt tying 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	25	26 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	27	28
29 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School	30 9:00am - 3:00 pm Quilt tying 6:30-8:30 pm Quilt tying 10:00 am Bingo @ Denver Sunset Home	31 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilt tying 7:00 pm AA/Alanon				

St. Peter Tidings is published 12 times a year by
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2016 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 Doug Miller, Congregational President. Thank you!

Church Council: Steve DeVries, Jon Wolter, Staci Mueller, Doug Miller, Amy Lockhart, Garland Krabbenhoft, Eve Pautsch

Executive Board: President - Doug Miller; Vice President –Garland Krabbenhoft; Secretary - ; Treasurer - Steve DeVries

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

Parish Education: Eve Pautsch

Worship & Music: Sheila Mixdorf, Amy Lockhart, Jo VanDeBerg, Joyce Miller, Nancy Lamos, Matthew Rector

Mission: Pat Leonhart, Bev Diercks, Shirley Thurm, Gretchen Syhre

Stewardship: Doug Miller, Helen Schumacher, Dori Jurgenson

Youth & Family: Kim Lamb, Krista Wahl, Garland Krabbenhoft

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

Financial Committee: Dwight Diercks, Paul Meier, Jim Moeller, Jack Mixdorf, Steve DeVries

If you or someone you know, would like to be nominated to serve on council or one of our other elected positions, please contact Paul Meier, LaVonne Westendorf or Jim Kurtt.