

St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

January 2023

As we ring in 2023, we welcome Interim Pastor David Powers! I asked Pastor to tell us a little bit about himself...

I was born and raised in Kalamazoo, Michigan and that's where my wife, Connie, and I met. We have been married 45 years now. We have three adult children and four grandchildren. Our oldest is Jennifer and she and her husband Fareed live in Walker, Iowa. Jennifer works from home for United Healthcare as an account auditor while Fareed is the Network Administrator and Cyber-security person for Lincoln Savings Bank in Waterloo. Our son Brett and his fiancé, Stacey, live in Prairie du Chein, Wisconsin with Holt there 4 year old son and have split custody of Spencer who is 17 and a Junior at W-SR High School. Brett has spent his work life as a CNC Machinist but this year decided he wanted to go back to school to learn how to do auto body repair and Stacey is a Nurse Practitioner at a local clinic. Our youngest is Ashleigh and her husband, Kyle, and their two daughters Hailie (7) and Ellie (4) and they live in Denver Iowa. Ashleigh is the Lead Interior Designer for Modern builders and Kyle works for INRCOG as a Transportation Planner.

I graduated from Western Michigan University with a BS in Manufacturing Engineering in 1977 and spent about 20 years working in Factories and rising thru the ranks to Plant Manager. During that time I also graduated from Grand Valley State University in Allendale Michigan with a Master of Business Administration in 1988. Feeling God's call to ministry I entered Western Theological Seminary (RCA) in Holland Michigan in 1995 and graduated with a Master of Divinity degree in 1998. I was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Reformed Church in America shortly thereafter.

My first church was the Reformed Church in Stout, Iowa where I served for 9 ½ years. I then accepted a call to Newkirk Reformed Church in 2007 and served there until the fall of 2018. Feeling exhausted I retired from ministry and moved to the Waverly area while working for Modern Builders in Janesville. After about 2 ½ years there (a sort of sabbatical) I took an interim assignment at Messiah ELCA also in Janesville. That two year assignment came to an end recently and I am now at St. Peter serving you and with you in God's work here in Denver. I am still "semi-retired" so I'm planning to be in the office, preaching, and teaching confirmation and whatever trouble I can into 3 weeks per month. That gives me one to 2 Sundays a month to go to church with Connie and just be a follower of Christ. Connie attends and is a member of Crosspoint Church in Waverly, an Assembly of God congregation.

To fill my leisure time such that it is, I shoot in two trap leagues each week during the spring and summer and during the colder months I shoot in an indoor pistol competition in Waterloo. Connie and I also own a 5th wheel camper and try to use that during the summer months.

I look forward to meeting all of you and serving God while I'm with you this year. You can contact me at (712) 395-1778 or revdavidhpowers@gmail.com or stop in the office sometime Monday thru Wednesday.

Rev. David Powers

We Welcome Pastor Dave



Happy New Year!

Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

** Volunteers needed – please sign-up online or contact the office*

	January 1 Sunday 9:00 am	January 8 Sunday 9:00 am	January 15 Sunday 9:00 am	January 22 Sunday 9:00 am	January 29 Saturday 9:00 am
Organist	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller
Acolytes	?	Lincoln & Aubrey Roethler	Tyler Nuss & Jackson Joerger	Tyler Nuss & Lincoln Roethler	?
Communion Assistant	Kari Anfinson	Dalton & Danica Brinkman	Lincoln & Aubrey Roethler	?	Susan Buss & TBD
Scripture Reader	Amy Lockhart	Jim Moeller	?	?	Susan Buss
Multimedia	?	Jackson Joerger	?	Jackson Joerger	?
Sound System	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries	Philip Michels	Roger Donaldson
Video taping	?	Tyler Nuss	?	Aubrey Roethler	?
Altar Guild	Kari Anfinson, Staci Mueller, Anne Sickles				
Usher/Greeters	Larry Oltrogge, Jon & Brenda Wolter, Brad & Jennifer 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.
319-984-5648 **Bulletin Deadline:** Thursdays 10:00 am
Newsletter Deadline: 4:00 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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Next meeting: Thursday, February 2.

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).

Mission & Community

Sunday School

As we ring in 2023, the Education Team is doing some record checking and need a few minutes of your time, which will assist with us having the best information to contact you in case of an emergency and allow appropriate bible distribution.

Actions Needed:

1. BIBLES... St. Peter Lutheran Church distributes bibles to Sunday School students in Kindergarten & 3rd grade but apologetically, COVID lent to a hiccup in distribution and tracking, so we are trying right the boat. If you have a child currently in:
 - a. Kindergarten or not yet in 3rd grade that has NOT received a bible, please let us know the student's name and that a bible is needed OR
 - b. 3rd grade or not yet in 7th grade that has NOT received a bible, please let us know the student's name and that a bible is needed.

Please be sure to respond by January 18th. After that, we will evaluate needs for purchasing & schedule a distribution service.

REGISTRATION ... please take a few minutes to complete the online registration for 2022-2023 school year. We apologize for the inconvenience but greatly appreciate confirming we have the most accurate data available should there ever be an emergency. <http://www.stpeterdenver.org/sunday-school-registration.html>

Actions Requested:

The Education Team has too few hands to carry the workload of planning and execution of weekly Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Christmas Program, and weekly Confirmation. Currently we only have three members & the council representative who, just like you, work full time, have families and additional obligations. We all have gifts... if there is ANYTHING you enjoy and feel you could give a hand with or know of someone else you think would be a great addition, PLEASE REACH OUT. Any one of the members is happy to speak with you.

You do not need to be a parent to assist... congregational member, grandparent, college student, retired community member... all welcome.

You do not have to be able to help every week in order to help. We are trying to lighten the load of all so that all of our volunteers can stay enthused and thankful to be part of the wonderful program offered by St. Peter Lutheran Church.

Some options:

- Become a member of the education team
- Assist with planning for just one of Sunday School, VBS, Confirmation, or Christmas Program
- Assist with planning the intergenerational Service Sundays we try to introduce every 4-6 weeks
- Teach Sunday School for a preferred number of weeks of the year, targeted around your availability

No Sew T-Shirt Bags

November 13th Sunday School Students and members of the congregation partnered together to create some No Sew T-Shirt Bags for Northeast Iowa Food Bank. Thank you so much to everyone who helped, let us borrow your scissors/ shears, and donated t-shirts. Some even took some home and to others to help from home! Such a great effort was made, and the Sunday School really loves when we have opportunities across the congregations' generations. The grand total of bags made & donated was 86.

Live Generously T-shirts Available

The 'Live Generously' t-shirt supply (Child Small - Adult 3XL) will be available through January 8th church service. After that, Amy or additional fabulous volunteers, will be reaching out to some surrounding small churches to see if there are any wishes for some of those shirts for their congregation/ youth and then they will be donated. If anyone is willing to assist with making some phone calls to surrounding churches based on your availability, please reach out to Amy at amyoltmann@hotmail.com or 319.464.4486.



A Big Thank you to our Parish Ed team and all contributors, for keeping our Christmas pageant tradition alive: Mandy Gesme, Jaime Leonhart, Julie Gleason, Amy Oltmann, and our pianists Amy Lockhart, and Mia Leonhart. All the extra hours of preparation are truly appreciated!

Options continued...

- Substitute Teach as needed (advance notice would be given)
 - Like music? We would love to be able to have kids sing 1 song in the Fall and Spring outside of Christmas Program. Have someone handle choosing the song and performance date(s), handling announcements, etc., would be a help
 - Like crafts? While we don't get to do a craft often, having one periodically is fun for the kids and whether lesson plan around craft or craft around lesson plan, having someone handle the planning, gathering of necessary materials, and leading the craft would be a help Have you seen or heard of a lesson/activity you would love to have done locally? Would you be willing to plan & lead just 1 lesson?
- Of course, you can always create your own option!
Thank you for sharing your kids with us - God bless!



January Birthdays & Anniversaries

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 Heather Krabbenhoft	19 Calli Boeckmann Tonia Thurm
5 Gary Everding Ethan Krabbenhoft	20 Tony Schimmels Mary Stevens
6 Dean Milius Lauren Milius Becky Miller	21 Hayden Arians
7 Jill Thrasher	22 Miranda Thurm
8 Dixie Milius Fritz & AJ Tegtmeier	23 Mark Gielau Floyd & Margaret Liddle
9 Harold Wentz	24 Mark Fober Brena Huber Brandon Smith
10 Scott & Carrie Gleason	25 Angela Diercks Randy Herman
11 Colt Boeckmann Justice Gienau Ryan Thurm	27 Jadyn Milius
12 Walker Krueger Karen Place	29 Natalie Fober
13 Sue Flory Anne Sickles Brody Weston	31 Jeff Schumacher Ron & Carol Nystrom
14 Clayton Liddle Tammy Weston	

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

Community & Mission News



Heaven and Nature Sing

Pictured is the tree that was on display at the Community Center for Denver's Old Fashion Christmas event The St Peter Christmas tree was designed by the talented Holly Smith, and won 2nd place! A big thank you to Holly and to the Leonharts, for transporting the tree to St Peter so we can enjoy it a little longer!

Church Directory Update

Thanks to all who either submitted a personal/family picture or had your picture taken at church last May. We appreciate and love seeing your smiling faces on the "Stewards of God's Love" bulletin board near the main entrance of St. Peter! **If you and/or your family are not on the bulletin board, we need YOU to represent our St. Peter Church Family!** You may submit a picture (either email or printed) to Roxane by January 22. These pictures will be used to develop a digital church directory in January. Printed copies will be available by request.

New Council Members Sought

Our Annual meeting is coming up in January. Many decisions will need to be made concerning building repairs. Please plan to attend. Finally the church council will need three new members for the new council forming in 2023. Prayerfully consider volunteering for this important position. The council determines the direction of St. Peter's ministry. I have been gratified by serving on the council for the past few years and hope that many of you will be inspired to do the same. Yours in Christ, *Jim Jurgenson, St. Peter Church Council President.*

Annual Reports

Each board/ministry group of St Peter may go ahead and submit their annual reports to the office. Thank you.

The Congregational Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 22 or 29, following worship.

Community & Mission News

Poinsettias given in Memory of...

**Emil & Florene DeVries,
Theodore & Florence Kuker**
Steve & Audrey DeVries



**Bill & Valesca Donaldson
Harold & Minnie Michelson**
Roger & Donna Donaldson

Ron Foelske
Melodie Foelske & family

Arnold & Lillian Bergmann
Don & Donna Hulsing

**Sara Lahmann
Dan Lahmann
Doris & Louie Gienau**
Robert & Jan Gienau

Terry Miller
Joyce Miller & family

Marlys Krueger
Ron, Kay, Dave & Linda Krueger families
Janet & Larry Heeren family

**Leo & Darlene Reuter
Fred & Hilma Schimmels**
The Schimmels family

**Roger Kittle, Gus & Claribel Koeff,
Virgil Wallace, Donald Miller, Caleb Ulrichs**
Donna Kittle

Millie & Art Kurtt
Gene & Pat Leonhart & family

**Nelson Gaede, Wilbert Lobeck,
Arlene & Lester Matthias, Bob Kuhrt**
Jerry & Connie Lobeck

**James Lamos
Marcia Lashbrook**
Nancy Lamos

**Sister Joselda Hageman
Jack & Ruth Franzen, Rick & Jackie Franzen
Vince Lensing**
Jim, Roxane, Brad, Derek & Deidre Franzen

Vern & Marge Moeller
Jim & Sheryl Moeller & family

Mike & Brady Schult
Linda Schult

Quilt Tying

The quilting will resume January 9. Meeting again on Mondays, 9 am - 3 pm, and Tuesdays, 9 am - Noon. In case of bad weather, use your own judgment—come when you can, leave when you must.

His Hands Oran Food Pantry

November His Hands Pantry Statistics,
Household Served-94. Individuals Served-250. Food
Distributed-6,944 lbs.

Suggested Donations—Personal Care Items

For more information -319-638-4357 or Mary Burgart 563-920-3857. As always, we will take any thing to fill our shelves. We greatly appreciate your support.

Noisy Offering

January and February Noisy Offerings will go to Nueva Vida in Guatemala. In 2020 New Life School (a ministry of education for children with disabilities) and GOT Ministries (a ministry of therapy for children with disabilities) joined to create Nueva Vida, which means “new life” in Spanish. The name is an expression of their love and commitment to the community they have the privilege to serve and Santa Maria De Jesus, Guatemala as a whole.

The Christmas Offering

We designated Lutheran Disaster Relief to receive our 2022 Christmas offering,.

We enjoyed our new Advent Wreath during Christmas and Advent season. The beautiful wreath was purchased with memorial money last year.



Faith Formation & Announcements

Confirmation

I wanted to touch base following the December 21st confirmation and provide an update as well as make a request. I need you to please go sign-up to help with snacks and parent help now that we are looking at January timing: [Confirmation \(stpeterdenver.org\)](#) Many thanks to all of you!

Pastor David Powers will be available to lead the majority of the spring Confirmation classes and I am planning to partner with him to substitute for conflicts. Parent help is still required to meet ELCA 2-Adult requirement.

Please encourage/assist your students in signing up online for service opportunities and then document the worksheet outside of Roxane's office so that the service can be tracked towards their 15-count requirement. Trying everything at least once is the goal! Reminder to please notify me if your student will be absent via text or email. Homework will be sent as a follow-up to any missed class with requested return deadline.

As we get to the Lent season, there may need to be changes due to service but we will discuss and announce as determined. Current remaining class schedule:

January 4th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
January 11th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
January 18th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
January 25th - Youth Group 6:30 - 8 PM both 7th & 8th, supper served
February 1st - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
February 8th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
February 15th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
February 22nd - Ash Wednesday, Youth Group schedule to be determined
March 1st - Lent, class schedule to be determined
March 8th - Lent, class schedule to be determined
March 15th - **No Class** - Spring Break
March 22nd - Lent, class schedule to be determined
March 29th - Youth Group schedule to be determined
April 5th - Lent, class schedule to be determined
April 12th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
April 19th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
April 26th - Youth Group 6:30 - 8 PM both 7th & 8th, supper served
May 3rd - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
May 10th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
May 17th - Regular 6:30 PM 7th/7:30 PM 8th
May 24th - Youth Group 6:30 - 8 PM both 7th & 8th, supper served

For winter weather cancellations, we will follow the Denver school district so if school is let out early due to bad weather, or if there is no school due to bad weather, confirmation would also be cancelled. We will try to email and post on Facebook. If you aren't already following, please find us on Facebook as St. Peter Lutheran Church to stay current on fun happenings.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Thank you,
Amy Oltmann
319-464-448

amyoltmann@hotmail.com

Mentors Requested

As you have hopefully noticed by the number of young faces you are seeing volunteering during church, St. Peter currently has 17 confirmation students between 7th & 8th grades. Some goals of the Education Team are to educate the students about all of the different ways they can be active members of our church community and encourage the students to be involved in church activities so that once confirmed, students stay involved and feel welcome to continue attending church. What can you do, you ask? Being told 'hello' and being greeted by name makes the students feel welcome. To assist with the students getting to know someone in church, we are looking for some mentors; Preferably, 10 male mentors & 7 female mentors.

What is the role of a mentor? Say 'hello', show interest/have a conversation or share a story from your experience, possibly future events where mentors are asked to participate, review some prayers & have some conversations based on a mentor guide following confirmation classes, and possibly small role in affirmation of baptism service.

The youth have provided Amy Oltmann with some names so Amy may reach out to you directly if you have been requested. However, we need more Mentors! If you would be willing, please reach out to Amy Oltmann at amyoltmann@hotmail.com or 319.464.4486 with any questions or interest. Thanks so much!

Amy Oltmann 319.464.4486



Moving the Jesse tree took many hands; thank you to our middle and high school helpers, and parish ed team!

January 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Worship	2 Office closed	3 7:30 am Womensfest	4 7:30 am Mensfest	5 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	6	7
8 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School	9 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Quilting	10 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilting 6:30 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	11 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	12 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	13	14
15 9:00 am Worship With Noisy Offering 10:10 am Sunday School 10:15 am WELCA Board mtg	16 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Quilting	17 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	18 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	19 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	20 Newsletter Deadline	21
22 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School	23 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Quilting	24 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	25 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th & 8th Grade Youth Group	26 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	27	28
29 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School	30 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Quilting	31 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon				

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2022 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: Jim Jurgenson, Todd Foelske, Mary Stevens, Marcia Joerger, Kim Lamb, Jan Gienau, Jackie Fober, Amy Oltmann, Jayson Gesme

Executive Board: Jim Jurgenson, Jayson Gesme, Marcia Joerger, Todd Foelske

Property & Management: Neil Hartmann, Gene Leonhart, Leroy Homeister, Roxane Franzen, Jim Jurgenson, Jayson Gesme

Parish Education: Amy Oltmann, Jaime Leonhart, Mandy Gesme, Julie Gleason

Worship & Music: Mary Stevens, Amy Lockhart, Jo VanDeBerg, Niki Skaar, Nancy Lamos, Sheryl Moeller

Mission: Sue Buss, Pat Leonhart, Shirley Thurm, Kelley Carman, Marcia Ott, Leah Homeister, Linda Schult, Kim Lamb

Stewardship: Jackie Fober, Jan Gienau, Dori Jurgenson, Mary Stevens

Youth & Family: Eve Pautsch, Krista Olson, Sarah Sanderson, Julie Brinkman, Lisa Michels, Marcia Joerger

Evangelism: Jan Gienau, Staci Mueller, LaVonne Westendorf, Roger Donaldson, Marilyn Mueller

Financial Board: Dwight Diercks, Paul Meier, Jim Moeller, Todd Foelske, Gene Leonhart, Jim Jurgenson