

# St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

## March 2021

Pastor Dawn Pederson

Projecting Christ to All Generations

Time keeps rolling on. February is in our rearview mirror and March is peaking above the horizon. This month we will mark a milestone, one we never anticipated. It will be one year since we were thrust headfirst into this global pandemic. One week we were worshipping in the sanctuary and the next we were worshipping online. Suddenly, nothing was “normal.” Borrowing from Luther’s Small Catechism, we were left asking, “What does this mean?” We couldn’t hit the fast forward button on our remotes and skip ahead. Neither could we plan ahead. Instead, we needed to live one day at a time.

In his Sermon on the Mount Jesus had this to say about living one day at a time, “Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s *worry* is enough for today.” (Matthew 6:34 NRSV) Still, living one day at a time is easier said than done. Truth be told, we are not good at living one day at a time. And, who doesn’t worry? Some of us worry enough for ourselves and others even though we know worry doesn’t add to your life, instead worry distracts and takes away.

Still, we just want life to be normal again. Again, in Luther’s words, “What does this mean?” Does normal mean a return to life pre-pandemic, picking up where we left off? Just as we couldn’t push the fast forward button, neither could we push pause and then resume.

In a recent conversation with Pastor Mark Anderson, Assistant to the Bishop, he said, “I promise, there will be potlucks again.” In his words I hear a little bit of holy Lutheran humor. Lutherans like to eat together. Rarely do we gather without eating. In Pastor Anderson’s words I also hear hope. We look forward to the day when after we gather for worship, we will share food and fellowship again. When we have potlucks again is that when we will know we are back to “normal?”

When will “normal” come? I do not know. What will normal look like? I do not know. Until then, we live one day at a time confident that God is working to bring about good.

Your partner in the gospel,

*Pastor Dawn*



# Worship & Music Server

## Sunday worship - 9:00 am

	<b>March 7 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>March 14 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>March 24 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>March 28 Palm Sunday 9:00 am</b>
<b>Organist</b>	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller
<b>Multimedia</b>	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske
<b>Video taping</b>	Roxane Franzen	Liz Foelske	Philip Michels	Liz Foelske
<b>Altar Guild</b>	*Wendy Mohlis, Holly Smith, Joyce Schimmels			
<b>Usher/Greeters</b>	*Bill & Judy Milius, & TBD * =(only if comfortable participating)			
<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>				

### Bulletin Requests

Each week the church office emails the bulletin to church members with email addresses. We also mail out to members that have indicated an interest in receiving one through the mail. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please let the office know.

### The Bell and Chimes at St Peter

Listen for the chimes at St. Peter every night at 8:00pm. This is both a call to prayer and a daily blessing.

### Noisy Offering

The March and April Noisy Offering will go to the Salvation Army. Since our Jan/Feb Noisy offering was not in person, we will again have them as the recipient. The Salvation Army is dedicated to caring for the poor, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, loving the unlovable, and befriending the friendless; providing Cedar Valley residents with physical, emotional, and spiritual care since 1899.

### 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

**Newsletter Deadline:** 4:00 pm on the 3rd Friday of each month.

### Notice

In this day and age when we are communicating more and more online, I want to caution you to check email addresses carefully before responding to a request for assistance. I was recently made aware of someone using a fake email address with my name attached saying, "I need you to handle a request discreetly." The email specifically asked for no phone calls. There was even scripture attached. If anyone responded, the "request" was to purchase gift cards. This is a scam and I do not want any of you to be taken advantage of by it. Let me make this very clear, you may always call me. And, if something doesn't sound right, double check the email address. *Pastor Dawn*

### Doors

To care for staff and the building, you will need to wear a mask to enter the building. - Please call the church phone number if the doors are locked 984-5648.

### Assistance During the Pandemic

One day at a time is our new normal. As we continue to navigate through this pandemic there may be new needs that arise. St Peter is here as a resource for you. We may be able to meet the need, and if not, we will look for and share other possible resources with you. Please contact the church office or Pastor Dawn on her cell phone (641-529-6592) with questions or needs.

# Mission & Community



## Denver/Readlyn Communities Blood Drive

Friday, March 5, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Denver Community Center, 100 Washington St. Set up your lifesaving appointment TODAY:

**Text:** LIFESERVE to 999-777 **Call:** 800-287-4903

**Visit:** [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org)

Did you know up to 90% of people will need blood at some point in their lives, yet fewer than 5% donate on a regular basis. Help your community by scheduling your lifesaving appointment !

## RE-DO Notecards for everyone

LaVonne has made a special selection of notecards for anyone that would like to send a message to someone they have been thinking of during the pandemic. There is no cost for these cards; they are being offered to encourage communication to loved ones, Stop by the church and pick up notecards to brighten someone's day.

## 2021 Envelopes are ready for pick up

The offering envelope boxes are on the table outside the office and may be collected at your convenience. If your box is missing, please notify the office.

## A new batch of coffee arrived this week.

This time we ordered from our friends in Guatemala. The coffee is located on the table outside the office. You may stop in and purchase a bag of java to enjoy!

## Cancer Kit Thank You

Dear Friends of St Peter Lutheran Church, Just a heart felt note of thanks for the awesome chemo tote that Unity Point Community Cancer Center provided me, on your behalf. Its so helpful as I navigate the chemo journey! Thank you again for your kindness and generosity! *Love, Vikki*

## His Hands Oran Food Pantry

Serving families in the area that are experiencing food insecurity. Request for March- canned green beans & corn, cake, brownie and cookie mixes, pancake mix, mayonnaise, ketchup . Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. Served in February: 57 Households, 166 Individuals, 7,987 lbs of food distributed. Questions -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.

HOUSE OF HOPE PRESENTS  
**The Hopeful 20's  
MASKerade Soiree**

Saturday, March 27th, 5pm  
Waterloo Elks Club  
407 E. Park Avenue  
Ticket Information at  
[www.houseofhopeccd.org/events/](http://www.houseofhopeccd.org/events/)  
or call 319.232.3823

HOPE  
EXCESSIVE  
SPONSOR

GreenState  
CREDIT UNION

Help us raise funds for crucial programming!

It's a MASKerade! Heavy on the mask 🎭

JOIN US IN PERSON ON MARCH 27TH

Scrumptious food \* Entertainment

Thrilling live and silent auctions

Attire: 20s!

START BIDDING AS EARLY AS MARCH 21ST

Connect via Facebook @HOHCV or at  
[www.houseofhopeccd.org](http://www.houseofhopeccd.org). Download the  
Handbid App for an optimal bidding experience.

Tickets available for purchase online SOON!

Attendance will be extremely limited  
to allow adequate space for safe distancing.

Unable to make it? Consider making a donation at  
[www.houseofhopeccd.org](http://www.houseofhopeccd.org)



# March Birthdays & Anniversaries

**1**

Marlyn Wolter

**2**

Jackie Fober  
Marilyn Wentz

**3**

Mark Jurgenson  
Ronald Sawyer

**4**

Neil & Jan Hartmann

**7**

Jade Gienau

**8**

LaVonne Emkes

**9**

Keith Oltrogge  
Joshua Vauthier

**10**

Mary Ryan  
Marvin Schumacher

**11**

Jonathan Empie  
Larry Oltrogge  
Greg & Julie Smith

**13**

JoAnne Blumenshine  
Janice Gienau

**15**

William Milius  
Annabella Place

**16**

Kalyn Kurtz  
Josie Wolter

**17**

Kali Ackerman  
Libby Michels  
Sharon Midthus  
Carol Staley  
Lilyana Upshaw

**18**

Shirley Buhr  
Connie Lobeck  
Jeff & Dawn Riley  
Danelle Elsamiller

**19**

Doug Eick  
Izaak Shedenhelm  
Braeden Weston  
Susan & Ronald Sawyer

**21**

Lynn Gielau  
Florence Wille

**22**

Matthew Eick

**23**

Doug Miller  
Kim Williams

**24**

Audrey DeVries  
Ryan Gleason  
Jim Moeller

**25**

Renee McInroy

**27**

Dean Gleason  
Terry Miller  
Matthew Rector  
Sutton Smith  
Larry & Janell Stock

**28**

William & Judy Milius

**29**

John Maitland  
Diane Miller  
Carol Nystrom  
Erik Ryan

**30**

Amy Mortenson

# Community & Mission News

## Baptism

We welcome Walker Ray Krueger, who was baptized on February 21, into the body of Christ and into the mission we share at St Peter. Walker is the son of Samantha and Michael Krueger. His sponsors are Matt & Abby Krueger and Luke Staebell.



## Blessing Box Needs

Pancake mix – just add water – box or packets

Syrup

Instant potato packets

Gravy packets

Rice packets

Hamburger Helper

Tuna Helper

Cereal – cold and hot

Pop Tarts

Bear Creek Soup packets

Lipton Soup packets

Because temperatures are below freezing at night and sometimes during the day, we need more dry food items because we can't put cans in the blessing box during the winter. Thank you for your ongoing generosity to our neighbors who are food insecure.

## Resources Available



The new issue of *Christ in Our Home* is located on the table outside the office.

Everyone is welcome to the quarterly devotional resource that encourages readers to live out their faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a scripture reference and prayer for the day. Large print copies are available.

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

Please let the office know if you would like us to mail a copy of *Christ in Our Home* to you.

# Community & Mission News

## World Day of Prayer is March 5

“Build on a Strong Foundation.” This invitation written by our sisters in Vanuatu is foundation for the 2021 World Day of Prayer (WDP) on Friday, March 5. Held on the first Friday in March, WDP is “a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year.” Celebrated by thousands of women and women’s groups, including Women of the ELCA, in more than 170 countries, the World Day of Prayer seeks to facilitate “informed prayer and prayerful action” by gathering “women of different races, cultures, and traditions together in fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.” Learn more about World Day of Prayer, officially celebrated since 1927, at [wdp-usa.org](http://wdp-usa.org).

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

## WELCA Board Meeting

Next WELCA Board Meeting: TBD

Gather Bible Study –TBD

## Serving Committee for March

Kay Becker	Shirley Buhr	Sharon Diercks
Donna Donaldson	Elizabeth Foelske	Donna Kittle
Kim Lamb	Jill Nuss	Marcia Ott
Sue Sawyer	Mary Stevens	Susan Wille
Joy Wolter		

## Lutheran Day on the Hill

Join LSI and the tree Iowa synods of the ELCA for 2021 Lutheran Day on the Hill—from the comfort of your home or office. We will meet virtually via Zoom from 9:30-11:30 am on Thursday, March 11.

Registration is required. Hear from legislators, pastors, policy experts, and LSI staff members about important issues that impact Iowans’ health and wellbeing. In past years, more than 300 advocates from around the state have gathered with us for a morning of advocacy training in Des Moines and an afternoon of direct advocacy at the Iowa State Capitol. We have transitioned the event online this year due to COVID-19 safety concerns.

[www.lsiowa.org/LSH/](http://www.lsiowa.org/LSH/) or 866-584-5293



Empowering Women. Building Futures. Enriching Communities.

## Life in the Fast Lane

Transportation is a big deal. It’s also something most of us take for granted. Step into one of our mom’s shoes:

She gets up at 5:30 to catch the 6:35 bus to the Central Transfer Station where she switches to the bus that goes to her child’s daycare. After dropping her child off she waits an hour for the next bus to come by and take her to work, which starts at 9.

She works a full shift, then begins the trip home. If she runs into trouble she’ll make numerous phone calls in the hope of finding someone to give her a ride, or have to pay for a cab, making an already long day even more tiring and stressful.

**75% of women entering our program don’t have access to reliable transportation. It’s a big deal when one of them gets a car!** In 2020 we set a record, with 14 of our ladies getting their own wheels:

- 8 cars purchased after completing the Financial Mentoring Program
- 3 cars acquired from GearHeads
- 3 cars obtained through church or family relationships



Transportation is no longer a barrier for this rock star! Evie has worked hard: setting financial and wellness goals, following her spending plan, earning scholarships from HOH programs, and taking on a part-time job while attending school. She just negotiated and paid cash for her very first car! This is what it looks like to give someone a hand up—THANK YOU!



# Faith Formation & Announcements

## Virtual Coffee Time

Among the many things we have missed during this pandemic has been sharing conversation and a cup of coffee after worship, on quilting days, after Bible study. Seeing so many faces on our Zoom annual meeting is prompting us to try something new, virtual coffee time. As with so much that we've done this past year, we will learn as we go. Pastor Dawn will send out a zoom link. So, make a cup of coffee, hot chocolate, or tea and join us for some fellowship. Together, we'll see where this goes.

## Confirmation in March

Online classes are scheduled for Wednesdays in March, the dates and times, can be found on our website calendar.

7th grade confirmation students will meet March 3 & 17 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

8th grade confirmation students will meet March 10 & 24 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

Contact Pastor Dawn with any questions (pastor@stpeterdenver.org or 641-529-6592)



## Greetings from Camp EWALU!

Our programs are geared for youth in grades 1 -12, as well as families and grandparents. Our camp activities are designed to strengthen campers' faith in God and lifelong connection with their home congregation. Our theme this summer is "Creation Renewed" which explores God's promise to be at work restoring and renewing us and all of creation.

After a successful summer last year with adapted procedures, we are building on our experiences to offer many programs this summer. We are committed to providing another safe summer by following current guidelines and best practices. We will again offer full refunds and will remain in communication through our website, social media, and via email as the situation is ever-changing. Due to its popularity, we are planning an extra Family Camp this summer mid-week. We are also adding Grandparent Camp back into the schedule for grandparents and grandchildren to experience camp together. Service Camp is a high school program held onsite and based around service projects at camp and hopefully in the local community. In Christ, *The EWALU Staff*.

www.ewalu.org | camp@ewalu.org | 563-933-4700  
The new Camp EWALU pamphlets are on the table outside the office.

## House of Hope

Empowering Women. Building Futures. Enriching Communities.



### Groundbreaking News from Paris

From the very beginning, Paris inspired awe with her tenacious motivation. She took advantage of every program and resource offered through House of Hope. She immersed herself in the Family Support and Wellness program, learning invaluable coping skills and positive parenting strategies. She repeated the financial mentoring program multiple times, creating a spending plan, paying down debts, and ultimately raising her credit score enough to finance a car.

Paris applied for a grant from a PEO group. She was approved and used the funds to pay off medical debt incurred from having her children. But Paris wanted to be more than just self-sufficient; she wanted to own a home.

Paris worked tirelessly to become eligible for Habitat for Humanity through the Framing Hope program and was soon accepted. She worked diligently with the House of Hope Case Management Team to complete all paperwork and attended all home buyer and finance classes. She wasted no time in completing the required 300 hours of sweat equity, all while working full-time at Target Distribution and raising two children on her own.

Join us in celebrating this shining example of what hard work and dedication, mixed with motivation and support can accomplish!



On February 5, 2021 Paris became the first woman ever to graduate from House of Hope as a homeowner!

### Building Community

One of our moms, Angelica, is using her love for dance to build healthy community. In December Angelica took it upon herself to offer free Zumba lessons to the other ladies in our program. When asked why she does it, she said, "Zumba makes you happy and reduces stress ... and I love to make my friends happy!" Joy and laughter echo through the hallway in agreement. As of January Angelica now gets paid to spread happiness through Zumba classes at the YWCA. Way to go Angelica!

### Volunteer Spotlight: Last Minute Superheroes

Our BOOST Employment Readiness Program started last week. When childcare plans fell through for two of our moms and threatened their ability to participate, a group of volunteers swooped in to save the day.

Thank you for your willingness to help these moms take the next step!

## A Story to Tell

This beautiful, full-color Lenten devotional highlights readings from the gospel of Mark with 46 entries, one for each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Each reading is accompanied by a photo, a quote to ponder, a reflection, and a prayer. The devotional is available on the table outside the office.



# March 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
			6:30 pm 7th grade Confirmation	10:00 am Bulletin deadline		
			<b>Tentatively Scheduled</b>			
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
9:00 am Worship		6:30 pm Council meeting	6:30 pm 8th grade Confirmation	10:00 am Bulletin deadline		
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
9:00 am Worship Daylight Savings Time starts			6:30 pm 7th grade Confirmation	10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
9:00 am Worship with Noisy Offering			6:30 pm 8th grade Confirmation	10:00 am Bulletin deadline		
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
9:00 am Worship Palm Sunday						

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### 2021 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, Marilyn Mueller

**Executive Board:** Jim Jurgenson, Marcia Joerger, Todd Foelske, Marilyn Mueller

**Property & Management:** Neil Hartmann, Gene Leonhart, Leroy Homeister, Roxane Franzen, Jim Jurgenson, Mary Stevens

**Parish Education:** Todd Foelske, Jaime Leonhart, Mandy Gesme, Julie Gleason

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

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

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

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

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