

St. Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

May 2015

Rev. Ron Mathews



A St Peter Welcome to our Director of Youth Ministry

My name is Anna Johnson I am honored to serve St. Peter as the new Director of Youth Ministry. I live in Waverly with my husband, Paul, and our two kids, Everett, 3, and Amelia, 10 months. I am a graduate of Iowa State University. I received a degree in elementary education in 2009. Previously, I worked in long term care providing social services to our clients and marketing guidance to the facility. As a life long Lutheran, I have served as a Sunday School teacher as well as volunteering as a chaperone on youth mission trips. I am excited to help the children and teens of St. Peter grow in their faith and in the established community of our church. I look forward to meeting everyone at St. Peter. Please feel free to call, email or just stop in to say, "Hello." *Anna Johnson*

Making a Difference

"Send us your brightest young, enthusiastic people to teach the faith," that was the response from Bishop Tamas Fabiny of the Northern District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary when asked what would be most helpful for strengthening his church. As a companion synod with the ELCH, the Northeastern Iowa Synod is responding to Bishop Fabiny's request through support for the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) who serve in Hungary, a May term college student exchange, pen pal partnerships, prayers and more.

After 40 years of oppression under Communist rule, Hungary is rediscovering its Christian heritage. Churches have reopened in communities, along with parochial schools, daycare centers, long-term care facilities, homeless shelters and other church-sponsored ministries.

The young adults—all college graduates in their twenties—bring fresh perspectives to a country where discrimination and racism toward the Roma people continue to be an issue. The fact that these vibrant young Americans take time to live and work in a foreign land alongside the Roma people and those who are elderly, homeless or disabled, is a witness to their faith and is greatly appreciated by the Hungarian lives they touch.

About the Roma in Hungary:

*The Roma are the largest minority in Hungary, with estimates ranging from three to 10 percent of the total population.

*Roma people are discriminated against in almost all fields of life, including education, health, employment, housing and access to other services.

*About 60 percent of the Roma live in secluded rural areas, segregated neighborhoods, settlements or ghettos.

*The unemployment rate for working-age Hungarian Roma was approximately 85 percent in 2011.

*Less than 20 percent of young Roma are enrolled in high school.



The YAGM student we at St Peter support is Katerina Canter, from High Point, NC. Katerina is located in Szombathely, where she serves as an English teacher, facilitator of an English round-table, supportive figure for the disabled and elderly through music and conversation, and support person for the Roma seeking employment.

Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

*TBD = we still need volunteers *NA = not applicable

	May 3 Sunday 9 am	May 10 Sunday 9 am	May 17 Sunday 9 am	May 24 Sunday 9 am	May 31 Sunday 9 am
Communion Assistants	TBD	Sophia McInroy	TBD	TBD	TBD
Scripture Readers	TBD	Julie Leisinger	Dave Vandenberg	Mark Fober	Jim Moeller
Acolytes	Jace Williams Josh Vauthier	Allison & Brandon Maitland			
Multimedia	Jeff Bales	Johnathan Leisinger	Leah Homeister	Chadron Beem	Jeff Bales
Organist	Sheila Mixdorf	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller
Sound System	Harold Wente	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries	Roger Donaldson	Larry Oltrogge
Video	Trevor Thurm	Roger Thurm	Roger Thurm	Roger Thurm	Trevor Thurm
Altar Guild	Gretchen Syhre, Wendy Mohlis, Linda Krueger				
Usher/Greeters	Randy & Terrie Thurm, Joe Koepke, Gary & Sheryl Sharp, Mark & Jackie Fober				
<p>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.</p>					

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.

The confirmation EPIC project last month was to help spruce up St Peter. Pictured below are the students, with the guidance of Neil & Jan, mulching.



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.

Community



Helping Hands Volunteers

St. Peter Board of Mission is looking for volunteers to work at the Helping Hands Clothing Closet Tuesday mornings from 9:00-noon during the month of May. This nonprofit organization provides FREE, gently-used clothing, shoes, hats, gloves, coats, blankets, sheets, and towels for those in need. They currently serve about 90 people per month and are located across from St. John, Buck Creek Rural Summer. Their service area is mainly Bremer county towns, but they also help people from surrounding counties. If you could volunteer on any of the following dates, please contact Pat Leonhart (gpleonhart@gmail.com) or Bev Direcks (annbd0203@gmail.com).

Tuesdays: May 5th, May 12th, May 19th, or May 26th

Thank you for sharing god's love by reaching out to those in need.

Want some help with your Spring cleaning or chores?

A member of St. Peter Church has requested the high school youth to wash her windows this spring for a donation to their mission trip to Alabama. If you have spring cleaning or chores that you would like help with, the youth would love to help! If you have a request, please contact Jackie Fober 319-242-1128.

Denver Garage Sales Food Stand

The high school mission trip youth are having a food stand during Denver's Garage Sales, to raise money for their trip to Wetumpka, Alabama. If you are out and about on Saturday, May 9, stop at 560 Donna St (Mike & Leana Place residence) for some nourishment, from 7:00 am to Noon.

The Northeast Iowa Food Bank

The Food Bank could use our volunteer help once a month. We will be working with members of St Timothy's Church, Hudson. **The upcoming date is May 16.** The time slot is 9-11 am. If you would like to help out, go to the volunteer entrance at the Food Bank, 1605 Lafayette St, Waterloo. You do not need to notify the Food Bank or St Peter. Any questions, call Joyce Miller 984-5021.

Trees

It's spring and warmer temperatures and sunny days make us think of planting gardens, flowers, and trees. The Board of Mission is focusing on Arbor Day and taking care of God's earth and His beautiful creation. The planting of a tree shows faith in the future. As Martin Luther said, "Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant a tree today." He believed the fresh spring green of the trees was a symbol of Easter's resurrection and the divine grace in earthly life. **After worship service May 3, the Board of Mission will be sharing hackberry, white oak, swamp oak and sugar maple seedling trees with those in attendance.**

If you would like a tree and cannot attend the service, please contact the church office.

If you want to be happy for a year.....plant a garden.
If you want to be happy for a lifetime.....plant a tree.

Love Offering

WELCA Love Offering continues through May. A special envelope is included in your regular offering box or you may use a plain envelope and mark it Love Offering. This year 1/4 of the offering will go to ELCA Good Gifts-Simple Water Well project and 1/4 to Wartburg Seminary for student tuition and 1/2 retained for the Christmas gift list (local ministries). The people of St Peter have been blessed in so many ways. In recognition of God's blessings to you, please respond to this opportunity to share with others through this Love Offering.

Womenfest

The Ecumenical Bible study meets at St Paul, UCC Church, Denver, on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 am. We have great dialogue and good fun, join us!

Family Fun Fair

Thank you to our volunteers who represented St Peter at the Family Fun Fair held at the Waverly MS. We encountered around 800 people with the ministries of our church. Pictured at left is the booth that was on display promoting VBS and St Peter.



May Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Dori Jurgenson	17 Virgil Buhr Rodney Diercks Erin Gustafson
2 Dawn Riley	18 Chip Flory Sara Oltrogge Rylee Renner Roger & Shirley Thurm Ben & Jill Thrasher
3 Judy Vauthier Michael & Jaime Gienau Jon & Brenda Wolter	19 Carolee Oberheu Cassandra Upshaw
4 Kathy Ackerman Todd Foelske	20 Emily Flory Joel & Joy Wolter
5 Betty Biemann	21 Trudi Schimmels
6 Derek Gielau	22 Bruce Thurm Kris Steege Jack & Sheila Mixdorf Randy & Terrie Thurm
7 Carson Haase Ella Mathews Nick Syhre Michael Vauthier Randy & Roxi Herman	23 Donna Donaldson
8 Marissa Schwebach	24 Jade Dierks
10 Larry Stock Kristen Wolter Robert & Marlyn Wolter	25 Alton Midthus Ethan Thies
11 Elberta Schroeder Michelle Steffe Lori Thurm Renetta Thurm Tricia & Dennis Kurtz	26 Austin Herman
12 Amanda Swanson	28 Ed & JoAnne Blumenshine Todd & Elizabeth Foelske Zackary Satterthwaite
13 Mitchell Mohlis Rachelle Nystrom	29 Ruth Fasse
14 Marcia Ott Marlys Patterson	30 Philip Michels
15 Matt Krueger Mike & Renee McInroy Garland & Heather Krabbenhoft	31 Richard Beckel Wesley Homeister Teresa Miller Zack Thrasher
16 Amy Gehrke Wanda Meier Brody Wirtjes	



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

Congregational News

April Council Minutes Highlights

- Appointed Steve DeVries to be President of Church Council.
- Council members are to present nominations for the open Council position at May meeting.
- Council held another council retreat in which we met with the Process and Policy Team to start reviewing proposed changes to the Church Constitution and By-laws.
- Staci Mueller was appointed to serve on the new Mutual Ministry Board and work to establish this board and define it's goals and process.

In Memory

Pastor Roland C. Brandt, age 96, of Bayport, MN, died March 1, 2015. Pastor Brandt grew up near Denver and served as a missionary in New Guinea for many years. After retiring he and his wife lived in Denver for several years.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 1st Thursday, every other month at 6:30 pm. **Next meeting: Thursday, May 7.** 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).

Spring Event

The women at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waverly are hosting their annual spring event on Sunday, May 3, at 3:00 PM. Join us for The Need is the Call: Human Trafficking in Iowa with guest speaker Joy Fopma, from Wings of Refuge, a shelter in Iowa Falls.

Noisy Offering

The May Noisy Offering will go to support Denver Sunset Home. The retirement home will be celebrating it's 50th Anniversary this year.

St. Peter Youth Night at the Pizza Ranch, Waverly

Come enjoy a meal at the Waverly Pizza Ranch from **5:00 – 8:00pm on Wednesday, May 27.** The High School youth will be your waiters and waitresses (and cleaning up the tables too)! The youth will receive 10% of the profits for the evening, as well as tips. Proceeds will go to benefit their mission trip to Alabama in June. Invite your friends and family for a great night of fun and company!



High School Youth Group

All high school youth are invited to join in the gatherings on the 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays of the month. The meetings are at 7:00 pm at Josh & Laura Larson's house—1001 Donna St, Denver.

Mission & Community

Women of the ELCA



College Care Packages

Care packages were sent last month to St Peter college students to lend a little support during stressful finals week.

Thank you to everyone that donated food for the boxes and the Mission Board for organizing and delivering.

"The finals care packages were amazing, thank you"
Derek & Deidre Franzen

Collection of Recycled School Items

St. Peter Lutheran Mission Board will be collecting unused and partially used school items during the last two days of school. These items will then be distributed to kids who are in need of school supplies. Please visit with your child(ren). If you would like them to share with others in a caring way, this would be a great opportunity to repurpose old supplies. When children clean out their desks at the end of the year, each grade level will have a tote available for collecting these supplies.



Thank you for considering participation in this elementary school project. If you have any questions, please call the office at St. Peter at 984-5648.

BackPack Program

The Northeast Iowa Food Bank program is at 123 sites throughout NE Iowa and serves over 4,000 kids. We currently have 16 kids in the Denver Schools that receive a bag of food weekly. We are able to add hygiene/toiletry items to the bags. St. Paul UCC and the Baptist Church collected items in addition to the items collected at St Peter. **For the month of May we are gathering toothpaste.** If you have any questions or would like to help distribute bags contact Bev Diercks at 319-279-3819.

His Hands Oran Food Pantry

In March the pantry served 56 households and 138 individuals. Total pounds dispersed 3509.3. As the weather warms we think of outdoor activities. Items we like to keep on hand would be those used for grilling and picnics. Pork-n-beans, bar-b-que sauce and items for salads. Also keep in mind items that children would be able to make their own snacks or lunches. If you have donated recently we say thank-you. As always volunteers are always welcomed. If you have extra garden plants or seeds the pantry would also share those. Or plant extra in your garden to share the harvest of fresh produce later in the season. Call the Pantry : 319-638-4357 please a message or call Linda :319-231-0262.

WELCA Board Meeting

Monday, May 18 @ 7:00 pm

WELCA Bible Study Leaders

Sunday, May 24 @ 10:15 am

Ruth Circle

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 6 @ 7:00 pm

Bible study leader: Sheila Mixdorf

Hostess: Shirley Thurm

Mary Circle

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 6 at 1:30 pm

In the library.

Bible study leader: Bonnie Gielau

Hostess: Dorothy Eggena

Naomi Circle

Next Meeting: Sunday, May 3 at 10:15 am

Bible study leader: Gretchen Syhre

Serving Committee for May Chairperson - Ruth Circle

Doris Blankenship	Trina Cheever	Teresa Diercks
Gayle Eick	Melodie Foelske	Jan Hartmann
Leah Homeister	Barb Klemp	Lisa Miches
Opal Miller	Wendy Mohlis	Joyce Schimmels
Crystal Shedenhelm	Karen Thurm	Marlyn Wolter

Lutheran World Relief Report

For the recent ingathering, St. Peter sent 245 quilts, 61 baby care kits, 22 personal care kits, 12 tied blankets, 9 fabric kits and 30 lbs. soap. About 50 congregations participated, sending a total of 2931 quilts, 480 baby care kits, 729 personal care kits, 265 school kits, 52 fabric kits, 33 blankets and 111 lbs. of soap.

Quilt tying will resume in fall, but opportunities to help and prepare for tying will continue through the summer. Quilt top kits are again available in the Friendship Room—take one or more to sew at your convenience. If you would like to help cut and measure fabric, at home or at church, please call Darlys Milius at 984-5066.

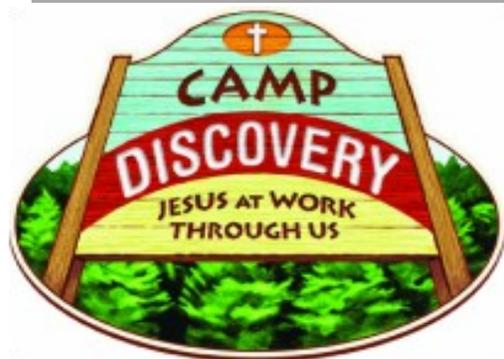
2015 Convention

The women of the three Iowa ELCA Synods will hold their 2015 conventions at Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge on Friday and Saturday, June 19 and 20. By working together, it is possible to have a bigger and better convention, more interest groups, speakers and opportunities for worship and friendship. Go to <http://www.neiasynod.org/women-of-the-elca/> for more information. Call the church office at 984-5648 for housing details and carpool plans. Registration cost is \$70 before May 15, \$75 after May 15.

Wellness Screening

We are pleased to announce the wellness screening on April 21, had 54 participants. Thank you to the volunteers that assisted in this health promoting event.

Youth & Family



Vacation Bible School is Coming!

It won't be long before we kick off the fun at **CAMP DISCOVERY** where we learn about "Jesus at Work Through Us"! Mark your calendar for **July 19-25** for a week packed full of adventure!

Want to help out?? Here are some ways we can use your help as we countdown to the big event:

- **VOLUNTEER!** If you can help full or part time, we have many ways to be involved to suit your schedule and interests – everything from team leaders to the registration table. Sign up on the forms at the VBS table outside the church office or talk to Amity Mathews (schmamity418@yahoo.com or 319.406.0074).

* **RECYCLE!** We will be doing some craft projects using empty/clean toilet paper or paper towel tubes, and green 20 oz. plastic bottles. Please drop these off by the VBS table outside the church office.

- **DONATE!** We are collecting items for Personal Care Kits to be shared worldwide through Lutheran World Relief. Visit the VBS website for more details!

* **PLAN!** Join our next planning meeting on **Sunday, May 3rd at 7:30pm** in the church library.

Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School is May 17.

The PreK-4th grade children will be singing during Sunday, May 17, worship service. And the 5 & 6th grade students will be playing bells and instruments.

If you have questions, please contact Lisa Michels 319-427-2088.

Teacher Appreciation

We would like to invite all the Sunday School volunteers to **join us Sunday, May 17, for appreciation** and recognition during the 9:00 am service. The contribution of our Sunday School teacher's time and talents to enrich the lives of our youngest members is greatly appreciated. And a big thank you to Lisa Michels and Eve Pautsch for the no small task of directing the Sunday School program! Best wishes to our Wartburg music leaders, Christine Pink & Emma Hellevik, as they take the next step in their careers. We are grateful for your gifts and the time you devoted to our Sunday School program.

A Note From Anna

Thank you so much for the warm welcome to St. Peter! It has been wonderful meeting everyone and spending time here. I am looking forward to all of the upcoming events, especially VBS! We will also be having some great family friendly events this summer and I look forward to announcing those activities soon. **Parents of 3rd-5th Graders- Please join us Sunday, May 10th** in the library during the Sunday School hour to talk about a new elementary school youth group starting this fall. This will be an informal meeting to discuss this opportunity and any ideas or suggestions that you may have. If you would like any more information, please feel free to contact me at the church or by e-mail, anna@stpeterdenver.org.

Middle School Dance

All middle school students are invited to the Spring Dance, Saturday, May 9, from 7:00-10:00 pm at the American Legion Hall, Denver. The spring fling is hosted by the high school mission trip students.

2015 St. Peter High School Graduates

Congratulations to Tyler Arians, Barrett Bierschenk, Nicholas Kurtz, Jacob Lanning, Mitchell Mohlis, Tanner Vohsman, and Cole Wilson, on successfully completing your high school education! **In recognition of your achievement, we are inviting all members of the graduating class of 2015 to worship together at our Sunday worship service, May 24, at 9:00 am.** Please bring your graduation gown and meet in the Friendship Room at 8:45 am. Be sure to invite your family, baptismal sponsors, and friends to join you in thanking God for the wisdom, education, and memories of these past years. The graduates will receive quilts made by members of the congregation, along with a reception following the service in the friendship room.

We will once again have a "Graduate Recognition Board" at the back of the sanctuary. **If you would like your picture and future plans for the fall to be included, please bring a wallet size senior picture and note the college you will be attending and the area of study to the church office by May 6.**



May 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Naomi Circle 7:30 pm VBS meeting	4 6:30 pm Property & Management	5 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am Helping Hands Clothing Closet Volunteer 6:00 pm Stewardship Board 7:00 pm Hand Bells 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	6 1:30 pm Mary Circle 6:30 pm GIFT Worship 7:00 pm HS Youth 7:00 pm Ruth Circle	7 7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 am Staff mtg. 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl	8 10 am Community Coffee @ Denver Sunset Home	9 7am-Noon Food Stand for Denver Garage Sales 7 pm MS Dance
10 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am 3-5th Grade Parent mtg. 	11 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am Helping Hands Clothing Closet Volunteer 7:00 pm Hand Bells 6:30 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	12 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am Helping Hands Clothing Closet Volunteer 7:00 pm Hand Bells 6:30 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	13 6:30 pm Confirmation EPIC 7:00 pm HS Youth	14 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline 6:30 pm Worship & Music	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 9:00 am NEIA Food Bank
17 9:00 am Worship Noisy Offering 10:15 am Sunday School	18 7:00 pm WELCA Board mtg.	19 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am Helping Hands Clothing Closet Volunteer 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	20 5:30 pm Dinner 6:00 pm Family Bible Study 7:00 pm HS Youth	21 7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 am Staff mtg. 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	22	23
24 9:00 am Worship With HS Graduation Recognition	25 Office Closed 	26 7:30 am Womenfest 9:00 am Helping Hands Clothing Closet Volunteer 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	27 6:30 pm 7th grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th grade Confirmation 5:00 pm Pizza Ranch Fund Raiser for Mission Trip	28 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	29 5:30 pm Rehearsal	30 2:30 pm Wedding
31 9 am Worship						

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

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 11
DENVER, IA 50622

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

2015 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 Steve DeVries, Congregational President. Thank you!

Church Council: Laura Larson, Steve DeVries, Jon Wolter, Philip Michels, Jeff Bales, Staci Mueller, Doug Miller, Randall Satterthwaite

Executive Board: President - Steve DeVries; Vice President - open; Secretary - Philip Michels; Treasurer - Laura Larson.

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

Parish Education: Lisa Michels, Eve Pautsch

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

Mission: Philip Michels, Pat Leonhart, Bev Diercks, Barb Klemp, Shirley Thurm, Gretchen Syhre

Stewardship: Jon Wolter, Doug Miller, Helen Schumacher, Dori Jurgenson

Youth & Family: Laura Larson, Megan Smith, Leah Homeister, Jackie Fober

Evangelism: Staci Mueller, Art Kurtt

Trust Fund Committee: Roxann Brown, Paul Meier, Jim Moeller, Becky Miller, Ryan Tucker

Mutual Ministry: Staci Mueller

