

# St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

## November 2020

Pastor Dawn Pederson  
Projecting Christ to All Generations

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever." Psalm 107:1*  
*"Let them give thanks to you, Lord,*  
*for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people." Psalm 107:8*

When I looked at my cell phone this morning and saw the date, October 28, I asked, "How can this be?" October is almost gone and yet I don't think we are sad to turn the calendar over to a new month. The months of this pandemic drag on and on, but with each flip of the calendar we are hopeful that we are that much closer to having a vaccine. We are thankful for all who work on a vaccine and ask God's blessings upon them and their work.

As we turn the page of the calendar over to November, Thanksgiving still comes to mind. What will Thanksgiving be like this year? Is it possible to give thanks amid this pandemic? How will we celebrate Thanksgiving this year? What new ways will we celebrate Thanksgiving and give thanks this year?

As I ponder these questions, I am reminded of a beloved hymn found in the praise and thanksgiving section of our hymnals, "Now Thank We All Our God." Do you know the story of the hymn and how it came to be?

Martin Rinkart was a Lutheran pastor in Germany at the time of the Thirty Years' War. The town where he lived and served was a refuge for many and quickly became overcrowded. Rinkart and his family took in refugees even though he struggled to provide for his own family. On top of the Thirty Years' War there was a severe plague. Among the many who died were Rinkart's wife and neighboring clergy. He was the only surviving pastor in the community, conducting as many as 50 funerals in a day, more than 4,000 funerals in that year. Through it all, Rinkart remained well. Daily he looked to his Savior, thanking God for the blessings he still had. Amid this grief, loss, suffering, and death Rinkart wrote the words "*Nun danket alle Gott*" or "Now Thank We All Our God." What began as a family prayer before meals has become a beloved hymn. With the exception of "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" it is the most widely sung hymn in Germany. How, amid all of the pain and sorrow around him and within his own family, could Rinkart give thanks? How will we give thanks this Thanksgiving?

However we celebrate this Thanksgiving, whether with a feast and family or a simple meal and alone, together let us pause and give thanks. Let us continue to look to Jesus, the Savior of the world and thank God for the blessings we have been given.

Consider sharing the words to Rinkart's hymn as your table blessing on Thanksgiving.

*Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
who, from our mother's arms, has blest us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

*Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts, and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.*

*All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore. Amen.*

With praise and thanks to God, *Pastor Dawn*

# Worship & Music Server

## Sunday worship - 9:00 am

	November 1 Sunday 9:00 am	November 8 Sunday 9:00 am	November 15 Sunday 9:00 am	November 22 Sunday 9:00 am	November 29 Sunday 9:00 am
<b>Organist</b>	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart
<b>Multimedia</b>	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske
<b>Altar Guild</b>	*Shirley Thurm, Mary Thurm, Marilyn Mueller, Phyllis Plaster				
<b>Usher/Greeters</b>	*Steve & Audrey DeVries family, Jim & Dori Jurgenson  *=(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>					

### Offerings

Thank you so much to our St Peter members for the donations that have continued to come in. We appreciate your support!

### Bulletin Requests

Each week the church office mails out the weekly Sunday bulletin to members that have indicated an interest in receiving one. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please let the office know.

### Notice

To care for staff and the building, you will need to wear a mask and call the church number (984-5648) to enter the building.

### Cancellation Policy

If we decide that we need to cancel Worship due to weather, it will be decided by 7:30 am that Sunday morning and posted shortly thereafter on the St Peter Website home page, [www.stpeterdenver.org](http://www.stpeterdenver.org), Facebook, and KWWL.

### From the Church Office

**Check out the online church calendar. The link is on the opening page of our website -**

**[www.stpeterdenver.org](http://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.

### The Bell and Chimes at St Peter

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

### Noisy Offering

The November & December Noisy offering will go to Friends of the Family in Waverly. Their mission is to provide safe shelter, confidential services, and housing assistance to individuals in crisis due to homelessness, domestic violence sexual assault, and human trafficking.



### Helping Hands Clothes Closet

September was a busy month at Helping Hands Clothing Closet with 238 client visits. We have switched over to winter clothing now. Anyone in need of clothing assistance is welcome to come to Helping Hands Clothing Closet. We do not have income guidelines or restrictions to the area we serve. Hours: Tuesdays 9-11 am, Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month, 9:00-11:00 am. If you have any questions email or call Carolyn Mohlis, 319-279-3247 or [Carolyn.mohlis@gmail.com](mailto:Carolyn.mohlis@gmail.com).

### 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



## God's Work Our Hands

is a world-wide effort created by the ELCA to provide members with opportunities to help their neighbors in new ways and take risks in reaching out. Even during challenging times, we can continue to live faithfully and serve joyfully.

God's Work Our Hands will not look like it has in past years due to COVID 19. However, that does not mean we cannot reach out to our neighbors in need by demonstrating God's love through our actions. The Board of Mission would like to encourage families to participate in individual projects during the month of October. Our lives are busy and can be especially stressful during these unsettling times. But focusing on others and being resolved to love and care for them can help us see the world through a lens of gratitude, connectedness and balance. Below are some ideas that may work for your family to participate in during the next few weeks. This list could be endless and is only limited by your creativity.

Food or monetary donations to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank...



Did you know that a \$1 donation can buy \$10 worth of food



Donating school supplies or underwear to ongoing mission projects....

(containers for donations are at the church)

Making positive yard signs or window messages

Taking food to a neighbor or someone you care about

Writing a letter to a resident at the Sunset Home or Willow Winds care facilities


Thanking an educator or a healthcare provider in a special way

Helping somebody with their fall yard work



Thanking the Denver Ambulance Crew and/or the Denver Fire Department volunteers

 Pulling weeds at a local park or the library or city hall

 Volunteering at the Humane Society or adopting a pet

Writing family members letters of encouragement and/or notes of gratitude

Thanking essential workers at local businesses

Paying It Forward when in line at a checkout or fast food line



Creating care packages for the Cancer Treatment Center.....a list of content items is listed below and packages can be dropped off at church

## Pray for one another



If you have photos or you want to share how your family let God's light shine, please email or take them to Roxane at the church office.

### Cancer Care Packages suggested items

#### Please include all of these items:

Chap stick  
Hard candy  
Hand sanitizer  
Small Kleenex packs  
Small container of lotion  
Fuzzy socks

#### Please include a couple of these items:

Magazines  
Small pad of paper with pen  
Puzzle books/word search books  
Adult coloring book with colored pencils



# November Birthdays & Anniversaries

# Community & Mission News

1  
Tammy Maitland  
Ronn and Danelle Elsamiller  
Cora Schmauss

2  
Gary and Kari Anfinson

3  
Steven Moon  
Doug and Gayle Eick

4  
Kalen Greenley  
Blair Sanderson  
Philip and Lisa Michels

5  
Trent Weber  
Jerry Lobeck  
Clifford and Joyce  
Schimmels

6  
Paul Beem  
Roxanne Herman  
Gary and LaVonne Westendorf

7  
Richard and Sarah Beckel  
Dennis and Mary Thurm

8  
Zildjian Seehase

9  
Gayle Eick  
Troy Midthus  
Trevor Thurm

10  
Kari and Eric Foelske  
Johnathan Leisinger

11  
Nicole Eick  
Layne Fober

12  
Adam Gielau  
Tricia Kurtz  
Helen Schumacher

13  
Bradley Franzen

14  
Paige Corell  
Katelyn Mortenson

15  
Nicholas Krabbenhoft

16  
Marcia & Jeff Joerger

18  
Shorty Diercks  
James Jurgenson

20  
Joyce Schimmels

21  
Carol Everding  
Steve Pederson

22  
Corbin Hill  
Jon Wolter

25  
Kade Williams

26  
Caden Foelske  
Roger and Doris Blankenship

27  
Nathaniel Brown  
Carol Moon

29  
Brenda Wolter  
Sheryl Moeller

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

## Re-Do Cards Available

We have many cards for all occasions; feel free to come to the church and choose from the card rack. All proceeds go to Prayer Shawl at this time.

## Dear Members of St. Peter

Our long, strange year continues as we move into fall and cooler weather. It is also harvest time, when we recognize our rich bounty from the earth, and think about giving thanks – and sharing that bounty. In this context, it is also the time of year we at St. Peter think about church giving in particular.

This year has been different for all of us. We have held together well during these difficult months, first with only online worship, then outdoor worship, very pleasant with only a few weather cancellations, and now indoor worship with alterations for safety from this frightening virus. Through it all, our faithful congregation has continued to provide financial support for our church! This has been wonderfully affirming – and important, because despite our absence from actual worship in the building, some expenses continue: salaries, maintenance, upgrades to internal systems. We have been fortunate to see some savings too.

As we continue down our uncertain path, sustained giving is vital. It would be easy to fall behind with the discouraging news and absence of reassuring routines and activities, but it is important to remember that not only do we have our own church expenses, we also see greater-than-usual needs in the community that call for our gifts. Of course, there are many ways to give - contributing to collections of food and clothing, keeping in contact with those shut-in or alone, as well as monetary support. But financial giving remains vital to our church's well being too! So, we continue to encourage planned and automated giving to allow realistic budgeting for the coming year. We are confident that each of us can and will do all we can to keep our congregation both socially and financially strong.

*Stewardship Board*

## Confirmation

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

## Resources Available

The Oct, Nov, Dec. issue of *Christ in Our Home* is here! 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.



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

# Community & Mission News

## Pen Pal Volunteer Thank You

During the past two years, the Board of Mission along with church members have presented programs at Willow Winds. Due to pandemic restrictions the past eight months, we have missed the activities and our interactions. To try and keep our connection with residents, we implemented a new note-writing project. Thanks to the 21 folks who offered to be paired up with residents. We're hopeful that when the virus is over, our community volunteers will be able to visit with their special residents in person.



## WELCA Board Meeting

Next WELCA Board Meeting: TBD

Gather Bible Study -TBD

## Serving Committee for November

Anna Everding	Judy Gleason	Hether Gustafson
Marilyn Huber	Megan Lyons	Jackie Milius
Joyce Miller	Carol Moon	Anne Sickles
Trudi Schimmels	Holly Smith	Kris Steege
Linda Schult		

## New Address

Pastor Victoria Shepherd has retired and has a change of address: 202 N Johnson St, Apt 5B, Parkersburg, IA 50665.

## Quilt Tying

Quilting will be postponed through the end of the year, and will be reevaluated in 2021.

## 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).

WAVERLY-SHELL ROCK

AREA UNITED WAY

&

WARTBURG SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

PRESENT:



2020



**WHAT:** The Holiday Shoppe allows families in need to select gifts for children in their household age 18 or younger. There is no cost to participate in the Holiday Shoppe.

**WHO:** Families in Bremer County and Shell Rock

**WHERE:** VIRTUAL GIFT SELECTION!

(Must select by November 15)

**ONSITE PICKUP:** Friday, December 4 & Saturday, December 5

If your family could use support in providing gifts for your children this holiday season AND you live within the designated area,

**RSVP/SELECT GIFTS by**

**November 15 at [www.wsrunitiedway.org/holidayshoppe](http://www.wsrunitiedway.org/holidayshoppe)**

**Please call (319) 352-2582 to RSVP if you do not have internet access.**

**DONATE TO HOLIDAY SHOPPE:**



# Faith Formation & Announcements



Waverly church will dedicate monument to orphans buried in church cemetery WAVERLY – St. Paul’s Lutheran Church & School in Waverly will dedicate a monument honoring seven orphaned children buried in the church cemetery on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 1. The service will begin at 1 pm at the cemetery, 605 12th St. SE off Bremer Ave. Social distancing and masks are required to protect all who wish to attend.

The orphans, who died between 1904 and 1948, were residents of the Lutheran Children’s Home in Waverly, which now operates as the Bremwood campus of Lutheran Social Services in Iowa. Although their names are listed on the headstones, there is no mention of the Children’s Home, which provided them with sustenance and nurture.

Jim and Carla Janssen of Waverly learned of the orphan graves during a Sunday morning coffee conversation at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Waverly with the Rev. Mark Anderson, a member of the Northeastern Iowa Synod staff. As part of a Lenten project, the couple had been challenged to look beyond the walls of their own church to learn about community needs and encourage generosity. Coincidentally, Carla Janssen had worked in the development office at Bremwood, so the Janssens decided to focus their efforts on creating a monument that would tell the story of Lutheran Children’s Home orphans interred at St. Paul’s Cemetery. They raised

awareness, spearheaded initial fundraising, found a company to create the monument and partnered with St. Paul’s to complete the project.

“It is exciting to finally have a permanent marker recognizing the important connection shared by the Lutheran Children’s Home and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church & School,” said St. Paul’s director of administration Ron Zelle, who organized the Nov. 1 dedication ceremony.

Orphans from the Children’s Home worshipped at St. Paul’s and received confirmation instruction at the church. The congregation supported the Children’s Home with financial gifts and undertook projects that benefitted the children who lived there. A number of families in the Waverly community trace their heritage to family members who lived at the Children’s Home.

“This monument dedicated to the children who died at the orphanage is both a heartwarming and heartbreaking tribute,” said the Rev. Dr. Arthur Bergren, lead pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church & School. “I am thankful to everyone who made this possible.”

“We greatly appreciate all who have donated to the project,” Zelle added. “We also would like to thank those who assisted with this effort, especially Jim and Carla Janssen, Keith and Sally Schneider and Ryan Tucker.”

Keith Schneider’s father, the late Jacob Schneider, grew up at the Children’s Home and later wrote a book about his experiences. Ryan Tucker operates Tucker Monument in Denver, Iowa, and helped to acquire the monument, design and install it in St. Paul’s Cemetery. Keith and Sally Schneider worked with Tucker to refine the design. The foundation for the monument was laid by John Wuertz, John Meyer and Bill Cashman, all of Waverly.

The project is still in need of just over \$500 to be completed. For more information on this project or the ceremony, contact Ron Zelle at [ron.zelle@stpaulswaverly.org](mailto:ron.zelle@stpaulswaverly.org).



## St Peter Baptism



*We welcome Olivia Ann Niewoehner, into the body of Christ and into the mission we share here at St Peter. Olivia was baptized on October 17, 2020. She is the daughter of Emily & Justin Niewoehner, and sister to Jack.*

# November 2020



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

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## 2020 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:** Amy Lockhart, Jim Jurgenson, Gavin Carman, Todd Foelske, Gene Leonhart, Mary Stevens, LaVonne Westendorf, Marcia Joerger, Kim Lamb

**Executive Board:** Jim Jurgenson, Gavin Carman, Amy Lockhart, Gene Leonhart

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

**Parish Education:** Todd Foelske, Jaime Leonhart, Mary Satterthwaite

**Worship & Music:** Sheila Mixdorf, 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

**Stewardship:** Mary Stevens, Dori Jurgenson, Brenda Wolter

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

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

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