

# St. Peter Evangelican Lutheran Church Tidings

## November 2014

Rev. Ron Mathews



Confirmation Class 2014

Confirmation is Holy Labor. Expressions of faith without no labor carry no weight. This group labored to meet together regularly, every week on Wednesday evenings to experience Christ's community and learn about our faith. They experienced what it means to say "I am a Christian" and perhaps more importantly on Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> they declared "this is my faith" as they claimed their baptism for their own and the promises that go with it. Being a Christian is hard, and it gets harder every year as our values are constantly being tested. That is why Confirmation is not just about the kids but also includes intentional involvement by their parents to strengthen and equip them in these challenging years. That is also why we intentionally involve the congregation through events as well as Prayer Mentors to intentionally build relationships. All of this, over two years' worth, was culminated on Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> as each child affirmed their Baptism and four of them preached their faith testimonies. *Congratulations to our 2014 Confirmation class: Front row: Bethany Sadler, Chalee Gienau, Jenna Haase, Annie Place. Back row: Blake Steege, Nicholas Mohlis, Zack Thrasher, Pastor Ron, Trevor Thurm, Nicholas Krabbenhoft, Tim Arians.*



## Thanksgiving Worship Service Sunday, November 23 at 6:30 pm

**Please join us for a joint Thanksgiving worship service with  
St Paul UCC, held at St Paul, Pastor Ron will preach**

*Blessing of the Household for Thanksgiving Day*

*We gather this day to give thanks to God for the gifts of this land and its people, for  
God has been generous to us. As we ask God's blessing upon this food we share, may we be  
mindful of the lonely and the hungry. Bread for the Day.*

# Worship & Music Server

**Saturday worship 5:30 pm    Sunday worship 9 am**  
*\*TBD = we still need volunteers*

	<b>November 1 &amp; 2</b> Saturday 5:30 pm Sunday 9 am	<b>November 8 &amp; 9</b> Saturday 5:30 pm Sunday 9 am	<b>November 15 &amp; 16</b> Saturday 5:30 pm Sunday 9 am	<b>November 22 &amp; 23</b> Saturday 5:30 pm Sunday 9 am	<b>November 29 &amp; 30</b> Saturday 5:30 pm Sunday 9 am
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Nancy Lamos -Sat.	Connie Lobeck-Sat.	Donna Kittle -Sat.	Nancy Lamos -Sat.	Connie Lobeck-Sat.
<b>Scripture Readers (Sundays only)</b>	Joyce Miller	Julie Leisinger	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Acolytes (Sundays only)</b>	Lexi Lyons & TBD	Gabe Lahmann Sophia McInroy	Jace Williams Josh Vauthier	Sam Lockhart & TBD	TBD
<b>Multimedia (Sundays only)</b>	Chadron Beem	Jonathan Leisinger	Nick Mohlis	Jeff Bales	Brandon Maitland
<b>Organist</b>	Matthew Rector-Sat. Sheryl Moeller-Sun.	TBD	Any Lockhart-Sat. Sheryl Moeller-Sun.	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart
<b>Sound System</b>	Gary Anfinson	Roger Donaldson	Alton Midthus	Larry Oltrogge	Steve DeVries
<b>Video</b>	Trevor Thurm	Roger Thurm	Trevor Thurm	Roger Thurm	Trevor Thurm
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kari Anfinson, Staci Mueller, Anne Mueller				
<b>Usher/Greeters</b>	Steve & Audrey DeVries, Keith Oltrogge, Bob & Tammy Weston family				
<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>					

### 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 and the **Newsletter Deadline:** 4:30 pm on the 3rd Friday of each month.

**Help wanted** - contact the church office for full job descriptions, if interested in Sexton and Rental Property Manager positions.

-We need help setting up the Christmas tree on Monday, December 1, time TBD - contact Pastor Ron if interested.

-Also, we will need help decorating the tree Tuesday, December 2, time TBD - contact Pastor Ron.

-Singers for our St Peter Choir - contact Matthew Rector, 319-559-0190, for more information.

### Community Coffee

 You're invited to the Denver Sunset Home's Community Coffee, the first Friday of each month at 10:00am. Enjoy coffee, treats, and fellowship with our residents. We hope to see you on November 7<sup>th</sup> for our next Community Coffee!

### 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

## Good Gifts Christmas Shopping

Christmas is rapidly approaching and no doubt, one of the things you will be thinking about is holiday shopping. This year, many people will be feeling the impact of financial challenges plus the stress of already busy schedules and extra December commitments. Perhaps the need to simplify seems even more appealing when you consider all the time and money you may be expending on Christmas gifts.

The Board of Mission would like to make a suggestion for families to consider as an alternate plan for sharing the spirit of Christmas with others. The ELCA has published a [Good Gifts Catalog](#) that features out-reach gifts. These are gifts filled with love and are impossible to wrap.

You have the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in your own personal lives and the lives of those in need. Take a few moments to explore the catalog and discover the significant change your gifts can make.

You may look at a [Good Gifts Catalog](#) in the Friendship Room or call 1-800-638-3522 for a copy to be sent to your home. Christ's love is a gift. Share it with others!!!

## 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 future dates are November 8,** and December 6. 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.

## His Hands Oran Food Pantry

In September they served 54 households, 147 individuals and dispersed 2706.9 pounds of food. Thank-you to any and all who helped and or attended the annual benefit. It was a good time for all. This time of year remember our farmers. They also help feed many. Be safe and give them a share of the road. If you have volunteered in the past and want to return, call the pantry and we will find a place for you to help. Items needed this time of year would be tissues, and soup making items, and pork-n-beans. Contact the pantry 319-638-4357 or Linda 319-231-0262 with questions.

*Thank you to Staci Mueller for taking St Peter's food donation, totaling 76.2 lbs., to Oran last week!*

## Thanksgiving Choir

Mark your calendar for two practices for our ecumenical, Thanksgiving Sunday Evening service at 6:30 pm on November 23 at St Paul. All interested singers (youth or adult) may plan to join us for two rehearsals before the event, on Wednesday, November 12 and 19, at 6:30 pm at

## Christmas with Wartburg

*Wondrous Love, Illumine Our Hearts*, will be held in Neumann Auditorium on Wartburg College campus, Saturday, December 6 at 3:00 & 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 7 at 3 pm. Concert tickets are \$16.50 each, contact Wartburg ticket office.



## Wartburg Morning Camp

Free childcare for children of all ages will be provided by Wartburg College students on Saturday November 15 from 9:00 am to Noon at St. Peter, in the lower level of the church building. Child Care, Educational Lessons, Fun Crafts and Games, Homework Help and Tutoring, Snacks provided. Contact Cassie Upshaw at 641-420-0442 with questions or for more details.

## Keep on Learning at Wartburg College

Keep on Learning is open to all residents of the Cedar Valley. Classes meet Thursday mornings in the Heritage Room of Saemann Student Center, beginning with coffee at 9 a.m. followed by the presentation from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Pre-registration is not required. If you enjoy the first class and decide to continue, a \$30 fee is payable at the second class. More information is available by contacting the Wartburg College Alumni and Parent Relations Office at 319-352-8591 or alumni@wartburg.edu.

***The Saint John's Bible, Illuminating the Word of God for a New Millennium.*** A team of Wartburg College faculty and staff will lead this engaging and informative session about *The Saint John's Bible*, a hand-written, hand-illuminated Bible commissioned by Saint John's Abbey and University and created by renowned calligrapher Donald Jackson. November dates:

Thursdays, Nov. 6 - From Inspiration to Illumination

Nov. 13 - A Modern Manuscript Through Medieval Method

Nov. 20 - Christmas with Wartburg inspired by The Saint John's Bible

## 28<sup>th</sup> annual Wartburg College Holiday Shoppe

Organized by the Wartburg College Social Work Department in partnership with the Iowa Department of Human Services, provides eligible families in Bremer County with Christmas gifts for their children. It depends entirely on support from local businesses, churches, organizations, and individual donors. WELCA will be supporting the Holiday Shoppe again this year with a gift tree displayed in the Friendship Room starting the week of November 16. Donors remove an ornament from the gift tree and purchase a new unwrapped gift item(s) appropriate for the age (infants through age 18) and gender represented. Donations will be delivered to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Waverly on December 7. The Holiday Shoppe entails collecting and distributing children's gifts, winter clothing items, toiletries, and wrapping paper to invited families. Last year over 200 families, including over 400 children were served.

Cash contributions are gratefully accepted and are used to purchase gifts at area merchants. Checks may be made payable to Wartburg College and dropped off at St Peter church or sent to:

*Holiday Shoppe, Wartburg College Social Work Department, 100 Wartburg Blvd. Waverly, IA 50677*  
Contact Joyce Miller, 984-5021, with questions.



# November Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Tammy Maitland Ronn and Danelle Elsamiller	12 Adam Gielau Tricia Kurtz Helen Schumacher
2 Gary and Kari Anfinson	13 Bradley Franzen
3 Steven Moon Doug and Gayle Eick	15 Nicholas Krabbenhoft
4 Blair Sanderson Philip and Lisa Michels	18 Lorain Diercks James Jurgenson
5 Trent Weber Jerry Lobeck Clifford and Joyce Schimmels	19 Andrew Bartels
6 Paul Beem Roxanne Herman Lucinda Wille Gary and LaVonne Westendorf	20 Joyce Schimmels
7 Richard and Sarah Beckel Dennis and Mary Thurm	21 Carol Everding
8 Zildjian Bartels	22 Jon Wolter
9 Gayle Eick Troy Midthus Trevor Thurm	25 Kade Williams
10 Kari and Eric Foelske Johnathan Leisinger	26 Caden Foelske Blaze Shedenhelm Lorena Thurm Roger and Doris Blankenship
11 Nicole Eick Layne Fober	27 Nathaniel Brown Carol Moon
	28 Craig and Carol Staley Virgil & Marlene Fasse
	29 Brenda Wolter Sheryl Moeller



*Congratulations to our newest member, Dylan James Sickles, Baptized October 25, son of Anne Mueller & James Sickles.*

# Congregational News

## All Saints Sunday

Thank you for the names submitted in remembrance of a loved one received into the life eternal. Sealed by the spirit and sustained by the Savior's body and blood, we celebrate **All Saints Worship Service, Sunday, November 2.**



*Womensfest enjoyed a field trip to Wartburg College to view The Saint John's Bible.*

## Policy and Process Team Update

In St Peter Church 2013 Annual Report the Policy and Process Team published our first Annual Report. The opening paragraph described why we exist. That is worth repeating for our new members. "By 2011-2012 St Peter Church lost their Administrative Assistant and two Pastors. As we transitioned through those opportunities we realized how few of our policies, processes, & job descriptions were documented or current."

Our team consists of three volunteer members of St Peter. We meet most Thursday mornings at the Church and Pastor Ron joins us at those meetings as his time permits. Our commitment and reason for existence remains the same. We have no authority to make permanent changes. We make recommendations to the appropriate person, Board or Church Council, as appropriate, for their discussion and authority. In 2014 we extracted all the information that was sent in from the Ministry Catalogue and provided it to the appropriate group, Board, or Office for their use. We have spent considerable hours reviewing our Constitution and Bylaws to see if we are doing what it says. We are documenting all the areas where our actions do not meet what is written. In 2015 we will be sharing all of that information with our new Church Council for their discussion. We are excited that we are close to finalizing the Index for our book that will contain the official version of every document, brochure, policy, process, & job description, associated with St Peter. We have already reviewed and changed as necessary most documents for that book. This book will reside in our church office and be available for review by all members, Boards, and Councils. We are establishing a baseline for St Peter to continuously improve and then update the affected document as appropriate. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve St Peter in this ministry. Respectfully submitted, *Mary Stevens, Doug Miller, Paul Meier*

# Mission & Community

# Women of the ELCA

## BackPack Program

The BackPack Program began at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank in 2004. Today the program is at 123 sites throughout NE Iowa and serves over 4,000 kids. It was started due to the fact that some kids only received food at school and did not have anything to eat over the weekend. The bags of food are usually distributed to the kids every Friday so they have something to eat over the weekend. We currently have 15 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 months of November & December we are gathering soap (bar or liquid). If you have any questions or would like to help distribute bags contact Bev Diercks at 319-279-3819.

## Noisy Offering

Water to Thrive will be the recipient of our Noisy Offering for November and December.



Water to Thrive is a faith-based non-profit dedicated to the mission of bringing clean, safe water to those who need it in rural Africa. They work with donors in the United States and implementing partners in Africa to bring lasting change.

## Friendship Room Christmas Shopping

Once again during the Christmas season, you'll have an opportunity to purchase items in the Friendship Room made by "Women of Hope" in Nigeria. "Women of Hope" is a dynamic sewing program that provides income and dignity for women and orphans infected with and affected by HIV/Aids. Mary Beth and Bayo, the ELCA missionary family St. Peter helps support, believe in equipping these women with skills so they can become independent and take care of their families. Your purchases will directly benefit these women and children.

## 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. What a wonderful way to spread the Good News through your generosity and compassion!

## Altar Guild

We could use assistance on Altar Guild- serve one month a year, set up communion/paraments & fill candles for worship. Please contact Nancy Lamos 984-6286, if this is an opportunity you would be interested in.

## Coffee

We just received a new shipment of coffee from Guatemala. You may purchase your favorite blend from the display rack in the Friendship Room.

## WELCA Board Meeting

Saturday, November 8 @ 9:00 am

## WELCA Bible Study Leaders

Sunday, November 23 @ 10:15 am

### Ruth Circle

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 5 at 7:00 pm

Bible study leader: Sheryl/Sheila

Hostess: Donna Donaldson

### Mary Circle

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 5 at 1:30 pm  
in the Library

Bible study leader: Elaine Dove

Hostess: Dorothy Eggena

### Naomi Circle

*Naomi Circle will not meet in November due to the congregational meeting at the same time*

Next Meeting: Sunday, December 7 at 10:15 am

Bible study leader: Carolee Oberheu

## Serving Committee for November Chairperson - Ruth Circle

Anna Everding

Judy Gleason

Hether Gustafson

Marilyn Huber

Jackie Milius

Joyce Miller

Carol Moon

Anne Mueller

Trudi Schimmels

Dorothy Silber

Holly Smith

Megan Smith

Carol Staley

Kris Steege

Ann Wagner



## LWR Quilts and Kits (pictured above)

We blessed the quilts and kits at our October 26 worship service, that are bound for Lutheran World Relief.

The ladies had a successful year with our totals as follows: 171 quilts, 64 school kits, 92 personal care kits, 39 baby care kits and 24 fabric kits; packed and sent to LWR.

Thank you to everyone that donated supplies, fabric and helped tie quilts!

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 1st Thursday, every other month at 6:30 pm.

**Next meeting: Thursday, November 6.**

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).

# Parish Ed and Youth & Family



*Our happy 3rd Grade Bible recipients!  
Our Bible Blessing was held at the Sunday, October 12, Worship.*

*Pictured below are the 5th & 6th grade Sunday School class learning the chimes.*



## High School Youth Group

**High School Youth Group Dinner & Bonfire**, Sunday, November 2 at 5:30 pm, all high school youth are invited to Nicholas Krabbenhoft's house, 109 Maplewood Circle, Denver, for a meal & conversation around the bonfire. Contact Pastor Ron with questions 319-883-1142.

**Wednesday night HS Youth Group**; Next meeting November 12, 7:00 pm, at Josh & Laura Larson's house, 1001 Donna St, Denver. Questions Call/text Laura or Josh 563-880-3688.

## Sunday School

Note: No Sunday School November 30.

Sunday School class will follow worship, at 10:15 am in the lower level of the church. We are currently looking for helpers in the Pre-K room & for the Christmas program, please contact Lisa Michels 319-427-2088, if you'd like to help.

## 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation

The confirmation students meet every Wednesday:  
GIFT Worship, November 5 @ 6:30 pm; Prayer Mentors @ 7:30pm  
EPIC 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation, Nov. 12 @ 6:30 pm  
Family Bible Study, Nov. 19, Dinner @ 5:30 pm, Class @ 6:00 pm  
7th Grade Confirmation Classes - Nov. 26 - No Class  
8th Grade Confirmation Classes Nov. 26 - No Class

## 6th Grade Bible Study

The next class will be November 5. Held on the first Wednesday of the month, the Bible Study will be from 7:30-8:30 pm, for both students & parents, in the center Sunday School classroom in the lower level of the church.

## Family Bible Study

Dinner served at 5:30pm; Study 6:00-7:00pm  
This study is interactive and engaging for 3rd graders and older as it dives deep into the core teachings of our faith, why they matter, and how to apply them to our lives.

## Bible Study & Faith 5 with Pastor

During Sunday School hour Pastor will have a Bible Study with the 3rd & 4th Graders on November 9 and the Preschoolers on November 16.

## Worship Celebrations

Sunday, November 2 - All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 16 - Wartburg Quartet playing during worship

Sunday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Worship @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 3 - Christmas Party @ 6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 3 - Advent Service @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 10 - Advent Service @ 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 14 - Sunday School Children's  
Christmas Program @ 9:00 am

Sunday, December 14 - Blue Christmas @ 5:00 pm

Wednesday, December 17 - Advent Service @ 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Worship, Wednesday, December 24:  
4:00 pm, 7:00 pm & 11:00 pm



## Save the Date! Christmas Party at St Peter

6:00 pm Wednesday, December 3

We will be enjoying food, decorating the tree,  
games and holiday cheer.  
Everyone is invited to partake in the merriment.  
7:00 pm Blessing & Lighting of the Christmas Tree

# November 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Congregational Meeting 5:30 pm HS Dinner & Bonfire	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm Property & Management	<b>4</b> 7:30 am Womenfest 6:00 pm Stewardship Board 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>5</b> 1:30 pm Mary Circle 6:30 pm GIFT Worship 7:30 pm 6th Grade Bible Study 7:00 pm Ruth Circle	<b>6</b> 7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 am Staff mtg. 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl 7:00 pm Bell Choir 9:00 pm W'burg College Bible Study	<b>7</b> 10:00 am Community Coffee @ Denver Sunset Home	<b>8</b> 9:00 am NEIA Food Bank 9:00 am WELCA Board 5:30 pm Worship
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School	<b>10</b> 7:30 am Womenfest 6:30 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>11</b> 7:30 am Womenfest 6:30 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>12</b> 6:30 pm EPIC 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Choir practice @ St. Paul UCC 7:00 pm HS Youth Group	<b>13</b> 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Bell Choir 9:00 pm W'burg College Bible Study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:00 am Wartburg Morning Camp 5:30 pm Worship
<b>16</b> 9:00 am Worship Noisy Offering 10:15 am Sunday School	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>19</b> 5:30 pm Dinner 6:00 pm Family Bible Study 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Choir practice @ St. Paul UCC	<b>20</b> 7:00 am Mensfest 8:30 am Staff mtg. 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Bell Choir 9:00 pm W'burg College Bible Study	<b>21</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>22</b> 5:30 pm Worship
<b>23</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15am WELCA Bible Study 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Worship @ St. Paul UCC	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>26</b> No Confirmation Classes	 <b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Office closed	<b>29</b> 5:30 pm Worship
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Worship	<b>31</b>					

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## So I was thinking....

*A response to questions and concerns heard here at St. Peter. If you have a question, please put it in writing and deliver it to the Church Office or email it to: [pastorron@stpeterdenver.org](mailto:pastorron@stpeterdenver.org).*

**Question:** I saw that the yard between the church and the parsonage was dug up a couple weeks ago. What happened?

**Answer:** We have had water drainage problems with our properties and water damage issues with our buildings so a landscape company was hired to install a new drainage system to mitigate further issues. The primary source of concern is that the northwest corner of the church building runs into the parsonage drainage system. If we have a heavy rain, that system was no longer able to handle the amount of water from both the parsonage and the church. Over time this has resulted in the parsonage basement leaking. Also in the winter season the drainage system would freeze, preventing any snow melt from move away from the church and parsonage buildings. The new drainage system is buried deeper in the ground to prevent freezing and with larger pipes to handle the volume of water drainage. Due to building codes, it was determined by the Board of Property for the drainage system to have its outlet in the retaining wall on the west side of the parsonage property. If you pull into the church's parking lot you will notice the two new drainage covers in wall.

In addition to the new drainage tiles installed on the outside, a sump pump was also installed inside the parsonage basement. Water had been seeping through the floor on a regular basis, even when it didn't rain, in the southeast side of the building - the side facing the church. A pump was installed in this area to improve pulling water away from the parsonage building.

In the process the two clothesline poles, which were rusted through presenting a health and safety concern, were removed as well. As we approach the fall season, new grass seed has been planted, and we look forward to seeing a new green lawn come spring time.

*Pastor Ron*