

# St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

October 2021

Projecting Christ to All Generations



## I am Weak but Thou Art Strong

One of the old favorite hymns is "Just A Closer Walk With Thee." It starts with the words, "I am weak but thou art strong," and that is certainly true in our modern lives, at least the "I am weak" part. So many of us are exhausted simply trying to keep our heads above water. The expectations we take upon our shoulders weigh us down until we feel like we are drowning.

That's when the "but Thou art strong" is needed. The Apostle Paul knew this, he mentions a "thorn" that is piercing his flesh that prevents him from doing more and greater things. And we read in **2 Corinthians 12:8-9**  
*Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.'*

Now there has been much debate about what the "thorn" is that he writes about, but I believe it is poor eyesight. This fits with **Galatians 4:13-15**

*You know that it was because of a physical infirmity that I first announced the gospel to you; though my condition put you to the test, you did not scorn or despise me, but welcomed me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. What has become of the goodwill you felt? For I testify that, had it been possible, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me.*

Paul came to know that it was not by his own strength that he was able to accomplish all that he did. A big part of that strength was the partners that God gave him along his travels to proclaim the Gospel. Silas, Timothy, and Mark were of great help to Paul because he was well aware of his need for them. And in every town in which Paul started a church he was aided by partners in ministry that carried on after he had moved on to another town. We know this because of the letters he wrote that are included in the New Testament of the Bible. Was Paul perfect? No. Were his companions perfect? No. Were the churches he founded or the leaders he left in charge perfect? No. What is perfect is God whom we serve, and Christ through whom God is revealed to the world. Even Jesus himself didn't expect to do everything on his own. He called his disciples to learn from him so they could become teachers of others.

We are better together. We are stronger together. Together we can accomplish amazing things in the name of Jesus Christ. The world says that to need anyone is weakness and that weakness is shameful. But God tells us that it is in weakness that we find true strength.

The twin expectations of self-sufficiency and perfection can bring even the strongest person to their knees. To need the help of others is not shameful, it is human. And to expect perfection of ourselves or others is to welcome disappointment, frustration, and failure.

In God's eyes you are not a disappointment, you are a beloved child precious and of great value. We are weak and that's okay because God is our strength.

*Scot McCluskey, Interim Pastor*



# Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	<b>October 3 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>October 10 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>October 17 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>October 24 Sunday 9:00 am</b>	<b>October 31 Affirmation of Baptism/ Reformation Sunday 9:00 am</b>
<b>Organist</b>	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller
<b>Acolytes</b>				Max Leonhart Jackson Joerger	
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Pat Leonhart			
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Jim Moeller	Gene Leonhart		Kara Bartels	
<b>Multimedia</b>	Julie Gleason	Todd Foelske/ volunteers welcome Any Sundays			
<b>Sound System</b>	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries	Roger Donaldson	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus
<b>Video taping</b>	Thank you to Liz Foelske for al- ways filling and video taping !				
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Wendy Mohlis, Holly Smith, Joyce Schimmels				
<b>Usher/Greeters</b>	<b>TBD—do we have anyone interested in Ushering for October? Please let us know if you are available to serve</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.

## Lost and Found

A black jacket was left at the church after the Sunday, May 30, Graduation Service. Does it look familiar?



## 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.

## AA/Alanon

**AA/Alanon Step Class:** Tuesday nights at 7 pm in lower level (second & fifth Tuesdays of the month)

**Meeting:** Tuesday nights at 7 pm in the lower level (first & fourth Tuesdays - round table format)

**Open Meeting:** 3rd Tuesday of each month. Anyone who has an interest in or questions about the disease of alcoholism or anyone who fears that a loved one may be dealing with alcoholism is welcome to attend the monthly open meeting.

# Mission & Community



## Altar Guild

The October Altar Guild is looking for someone to join their team. Generally the altar guild sets up communion and takes it down, fills candles and changes paraments as needed. For more information contact the office or Nancy Lamos. The duties are easy to learn and can be done on your own time or with a group.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

### Next meeting: Thursday, October 7

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).



## Chemo Care Kits

The Mission Board is seeking volunteers to assemble Chemo Care Packages to be delivered to the Unity Point Community Cancer Center. You can easily assemble a care package: pick up a tote containing the list of items needed from the basket by the church office, fill the bag with those items, and return it to the church. These care packages will not only be practical, comforting, and entertaining, but will project Jesus to cancer patients in our community. Please consider participating in our project! *Kits will be collected through the end of October.*

## 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

## St. Peter's COVID-19 Mitigation Steps

As we are ramping up our in-person gatherings, at the same time the Delta Variant of the COVID-19 Virus is also ramping up. Hospitals are seeing increasing numbers of COVID patients with upwards of 80% of those hospitalized being Unvaccinated. A friend recently went to the emergency room at Allen Hospital in Waterloo with severe heart pains and was sent home because the only beds available were in the Emergency Room itself. The hospital beds were full with COVID patients.

While we all would love for this Global Pandemic to be over, it looks like that will not happen any-time soon. So, it is for that reason that we the leaders of St. Peter have taken the following steps:

- \* UV-C lights have been installed in our ventilation system to render the virus inert
- \* The fans for the HVAC system are kept on to provide greater air flow and ventilation
- \* We ask you not to shake hands during the passing of the peace
- \* We are not requiring masks, but strongly recommend masking which I will do during communion.

I don't like wearing a mask, not just because it is uncomfortable or inconvenient, but because I am claustrophobic and wearing a mask causes me to sometimes have panic attacks. But I will be wearing a mask more often for one simple reason, I look out at the St. Peter congregation and do NOT want to do any of your funerals if I can at all prevent it. – *Pastor Scot McCluskey*

## His Hands Oran Food Pantry

Serving families in the area that are experiencing food insecurity. Request for October Canned soup canned fruit (applesauce, mandarin oranges, pineapple). Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. Served in August: 56 Households, 160 Individuals, 6,331 lbs of food distributed. Questions -319-638-4357 or Mary Burgart 563-920-3857. As always, we will take anything to fill our shelves. We greatly appreciate your support. **Thank you to Staci Mueller for delivering our latest donation of 82.5#**

## Noisy Offering

Our September and October Noisy Offering will go towards the purchase of items for the Cancer Care Packages. We will assemble and deliver the kits to the Unity Point Community Cancer Center in Waterloo.

# October Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Donna J Wolter	15 Allison Swanson Ryan & Kayla Tucker
2 Roxane Franzen Cody Robinson	17 Gavin & Kelley Carman Marian & Pastor Kevin Frey Eve Pautsch
3 Nancy Lamos Ryan Tucker Dave & Wendy Mohlis	18 Maci Leonhart
4 Burton Diercks	19 Neal Thurm
6 Floyd Liddle	20 Roger & Donna Donaldson
7 Doris Blankenship Marilyn Huber	21 David Leisinger Steve & Audrey DeVries
8 Zoey Elsamiller	22 Kurt Gleason
9 Carol Ackerman Brad Becker Krisanne Wirtjes	23 Millie Corell Thomas Place Scott Rothmeyer
10 Vera Collins Gary Westendorf Doug & Janice Miller	24 Gabe Lahmann Leana Place Harold Wille
11 Alexis Gehrke Troy & Jessica McIlravy Charles & Jill Nuss	25 Becky Dierks Samuel Schumacher
12 Donna Kittle Jessica McIlravy Bethany Sadler	26 Jan Hartmann Joanne Milius Mark & Lynn Gielau
13 Charles Nuss	27 Michael Place
14 Hunter Ackerman Wesley Gielau Joel Wolter	29 Sam Lockhart Austin Oltmann
	30 Brian & Angie Meyer Brady Schmauss
	31 Carol Liddle Paul Meier

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

# Community & Mission News



*We had a beautiful day for the Blessings of Tractors on September 19. Thank you to the people that brought their tractors to worship!*

## All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday, November 7, the church's traditional time to remember those who have died in the past year and those born into our faith community. We celebrate and remember their lives and how we are knit together with them in the victory of Jesus' resurrection. We will remember those from St Peter and if you'd like to submit a name of a loved one lost within the last year, please do so before October 25.

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_



## Custodian for St Peter

St Peter is seeking a qualified person to fill the position of Custodian for our Facility. This position is part-time of approximately 20 hours/week. The custodian is responsible for maintaining the facilities through routine cleaning and maintenance. Salary and schedule are negotiable. For more information contact the office, (319)984-5648 or send a letter of application to Custodian Position C/O St. Peter Lutheran Church, PO Box A, Denver, Iowa 50622.

# Community & Mission News

## Serving Committee for October

Julie Sawyer Sarah Beckel Vera Collins  
Elaine Dove Sue Flory Marcia Joerger  
Linda Krueger Jaime Leonhart Roberta Merrill  
Angie Sadler Mary Thurm Lindsey Corell

## WELCA Board Meeting

Next Meeting: Sunday, October 10, at 10:10 am

## Gather Bible Study

Gather Bible Study will be held the second Tuesday of the month, led by Pastor McCluskey.

Everyone is invited to join us,

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, October 12, in the Friendship Room at 1:30 pm.

## Fellowship & Coffee

We have resumed our fellowship hour on Sundays. Please join us for coffee, juice, treats, and fellowship in the Friendship Room after worship. We have a cookie sign-up online, or you may call the office, if you would like to bring treats to share.

## Quilt Tying will continue in October

Quilting will continue on Mondays and Tuesdays in October. Please join us Mondays from 9:00 am –3:00 pm, and Tuesdays 9:00 am—Noon, in the lower level of the church. All are welcome.

The quilters report they have 150 quilts boxed thus far, and encourage anyone that is interested in tying quilts to join them.

**\*The quilters are in need of backs in order to continue to make quilts. Bed sheets - sizes full queen or king, are desirable.**

## Blessing of the Quilts

Join us Sunday, October 10

**Acts 2:43-47**

### Life among the Believers

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

## With Appreciation

St Peter Lutheran,

Thank you so much for your "Noisy Offering" Also, thank you for your recent donation of undies, socks, and clothing. Your support is very much appreciated.

*Helping Hands Clothing Closet*

Closet hours: 9:00 - 11:00 am Tuesday mornings, 6:30 - 7:30 pm Wednesday evenings, and 9:00 - 11:00 am the first Saturday of the month. Located at 2029 Viking Ave. Sumner, IA. *Carolyn Mohlis 319-279-3247 or carolyn.mohlis@gmail.com*

## Fall Volunteer Work Day - Sat. Oct. 16

Join volunteers, families, and church groups to help Ewalu get ready for the winter season. Take time to explore camp and meet staff and volunteers. Return home renewed and refreshed from your time in this special place in God's Kingdom. Visit <http://ewalu.org/event/fall-vww-21/> or call 563-933-4700 for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of Camp Ewalu!

*Miranda Hoey*

*Camp Ewalu Marketing & Development Director*



## Library Clean Up and Reorganization

There has been a transition happening in the church library! Organizing items that have been hidden behind bookcases for many years opened up a much needed space for food storage. Shelves were cleared of books that have been collecting dust and haven't been read for decades. Many books were moved to the Pastor's office and a Sunday school classroom. Others were donated to Trinkets and Togs and Goodwill in Waverly. A collection of giveaway-books is located on a table in the southwest corner room of the church basement. Please help yourself to any books by the end of October. Remaining books will be shared with People's Clinic and House of Hope, in Waterloo. Check out the new home for food donations that will be shared with people in our community who experience food insecurity. Plans are also in the works for the library and the upstairs bathroom to be painted. With change comes new opportunities! Libraries can be a place to feed your soul and also a place to provide sustenance for hungry bodies.

# Faith Formation & Announcements



Sunday School follows  
worship at 10:10 am

## Confirmation

Wednesday Class Schedule:

7th grade will meet at 6:30 pm

8th grade will meet at 7:30 pm

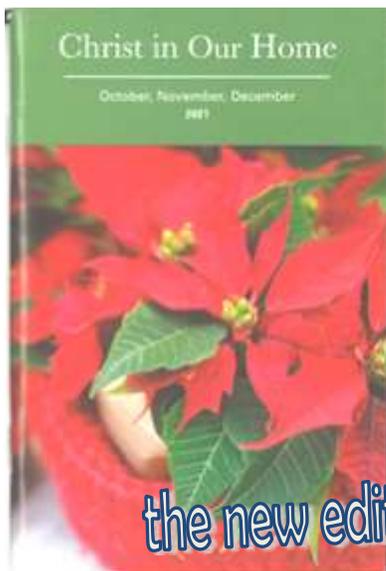
9th grade will meet on the Sunday's of  
October following worship at 11:15 am.

Confirmation Sunday for the 9th graders will be  
October 31, Students Affirming their Baptism are:

Braven Beaumont  
Abigail "Abi" Foelske  
Jordan Nuss  
William Lockhart  
Kiara Michels  
Miranda Thurm  
Lyla Gesme

## Resources Available

*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.



## First Communion

First Communion classes will be taught by Pastor Scot during the Sunday School hour at 10:10 am following worship.

- He will be teaching the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School class September 19 & 26, and October 3 & 10.
- Then he will teach the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade class October 17, 24, 31, and November 7.

It is essential for parents to attend these classes with your child.

Sunday October 17th the 7th Grade Class will celebrate their First Communion:

Dalton Brinkman  
Adalyn Gleason  
Jackson Joerger  
Sydney Krabbenhoft  
Max Leonhart  
Libby Michels  
Austin Oltmann  
Kenna Rothmeyer  
Calvin Beem  
Isak Froyum Roise  
Cannen Beaumont

## Womenfest

The ecumenical Women's Bible Study is lead by Pastor McCluskey. We will gather weekly in our St Peter Friendship Room at 7:30 am. All are welcome!

## Mensfest

The ecumenical Men's Bible Study is lead by Pastor McCluskey. We will gather weekly in the lower level of the church at 7:30 am. All are welcome!

**July 24-28, 2022**  
**Minneapolis, MN**  
**Gathering@elca.org**

St Peter Youth & Family board is holding an informational meeting on the 2022 Youth Gathering. Plan to attend and learn more about this opportunity on Sunday, October 24 at 10:15 am in the sanctuary. The eligible age group would be students finishing 8th through 12th grade. Anyone interested should come to the meeting; there is a registration deadline in November. One of the recent St Peter participants will share their fun experience and explain more about the Youth Gathering.



# October 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School 11:15 am 9th Grade Confirmation	<b>4</b> 9:00 am—3:00 pm Quilting	<b>5</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>6</b> 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	<b>7</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:00 am Worship Blessing of Quilts 10:10 am Welca Board Mtg 10:10 am Sunday School 11:15 am 9th Grade Confirmation	<b>11</b> 9:00 am—3:00 pm Quilting	<b>12</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilting 1:30 pm Gather Bible Study 3:30 pm Worship & Music mtg 6:30 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>13</b> 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation 6:30 pm Call Committee Mtg	<b>14</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>15</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>16</b> 8:00 am Ingathering in New Hampton
<b>17</b> 9:00 am Worship with Noisy Offering 10:10 am Sunday School 11:15 am 9th Grade Confirmation	<b>18</b> 9:00am—3:00 pm Quilting	<b>19</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>20</b> 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	<b>21</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School 10:10 am Youth Gathering mtg 11:15 am 9th Grade Confirmation	<b>25</b> 9:00 am—3:00 pm Quilting	<b>26</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am - Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>27</b> 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	<b>28</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<del><b>31</b> 9:00 am Worship Affirmation of Baptism 10:10 am Sunday School</del>						

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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, Niki Skaar, Nancy Lamos, Sheryl Moeller

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

**Stewardship:** Marilyn Mueller, Jan Gienau, Dori Jurgenson, Mary Stevens

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

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

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