

# St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

## August 2024

### Pastor Pedersen's Points – How do we visualize and characterize God?

There have been countless drawings of what God looks like. For me personally, the first image that comes to mind is a large bald man with a long white beard. That is, at least, the image I've seen the most as a depiction of what God may look like. While it is true we can only make guesses of what God may look like, I am more interested in the characteristics we all use to describe God. To the devout Christian one may simply use the word 'loving'. To the atheist one may say the idea of God is more like that of a child with a magnifying glass burning ants.

If we want to talk about characteristics of God, I think it is important that we first look to the Bible, God's written Word. There are many descriptors thrown out about God throughout the Bible. For the sake of this article and our upcoming sermon series starting in August I would like to reference Exodus 34:6.

"The LORD, the LORD,  
a God **compassionate** and **gracious**,  
**slow to anger**,  
and abounding in **steadfast love** and **faithfulness**,"

This month I would like us all to look at these characteristics which God uses to describe God's self. I would also like us to consider what it means to be created in that same image (Genesis 1:26). How do you see those characteristics of God playing out in your own life? How do you see yourself as you try to live them out, too? As you meditate and ponder on these characteristics of God, I also invite you to figure out who you visualize in your head when you pray to God. As we seek to visualize and characterize God our relationship and faith life will only become stronger and more personal.

Blessings to all of you on the last legs of summer!



*The youth that attended the ELCA Youth Gathering will present their trip experience to the congregation on Sunday, August 18.*



**Meghan Bruns**

I'm down in New Orleans for the ELCA National Youth Gathering and ran into a group ( from Denver, IA!) passing these out to everyone they run into at the convention!

WED AT 11:29 AM

14

1 comment 1 share

# Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	August 4 Sunday 9:00 am	August 11 Sunday 9:00 am	August 18 Sunday 9:00 am	August 25 Sunday 9:00 am
<b>Organist</b>	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Sheila Mixdorf
<b>Acolytes</b>				
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Pat Leonhart & TBD		Sue Buss & TBD
<b>Scripture Reader</b>		Gene Leonhart		Sue Buss
<b>Multimedia</b>	Philip Michels	Todd Foelske	Philip Michels	Todd Foelske
<b>Sound System</b>	Roger Donaldson	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marcia Ott, Lynn Gielau			
<b>Usher/Greeters</b>	Richard & Sarah Beckel, David & Linda Krueger			

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.

## 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.

## 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. 319-984-5648

**Bulletin Deadline:** Thursdays 10:00 am  
**Newsletter Deadline:** 4:00 pm on the 3rd Friday of each month.



## E-giving through Vanco

This platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online.

# Community & Mission News

## Global Church Together Festival

On behalf of the Global Church Together team of the Northeastern Iowa Synod, I would like to invite your congregation to the Global Church Together Festival on Saturday, August 24, 2024, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City! It will be a fun day to learn more about our global church partners through engaging speakers, crafts, music, food, worship, and conversation. Please consider attending and bringing congregation members. All are welcome!



**Global Church Together Festival**

Learn about the global church through engaging crafting, cooking, music, and storytelling workshops.

Register today!  
[www.neiasynod.org](http://www.neiasynod.org)  
\$10 /person

Trinity Lutheran,  
Mason City

**AUGUST 24 2024**

Sponsored by the Northeastern Iowa Synod Global Church Together Network

## BINGO

Bingo at the Denver Sunset Home Friday, August 16, at 10:00 am. St Peter helps with Bingo every third Friday of the month. Volunteers may contact Joyce Miller.

## Livestream Training

We would love to have more members to help out with livestreaming our worship service. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend the training session on Sunday, August 11 after worship around 10:15 am. If you would like more information or that time doesn't work for you, please contact the office.

## Noisy Offering

For our July & August Noisy Offering we will collect socks and underwear for the Clothing Closet. The Noisy Offering is collected the 3rd Sunday of the month. Our next collection is August 18.

## Re-Do Cards

We have all occasion cards available on a card rack near the office. Please feel free to come to the church and choose greeting cards. All proceeds go to the ELCA Youth Gathering funds, at this time. **LaVonne is in need of used sympathy cards, please leave donations with her or church.**

## His Hands Food Pantry

Serving families in the area that are experiencing food insecurity. Current Request : Hygiene products, e.g. shampoo, conditioner, tooth paste, soaps, Also canned fruit, cereal, peanut butter, pasta & waffle/pancake mixes. Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. June Statistics, Household Served-111. Individuals Served-324. Food Distributed-8,996 lbs. Questions -319-638-4357 or Mary Burgart 563-920-3857. As always, we will take anything to fill our shelves. The donation box is located in the library.

The Mission & Evangelism Board is excited to share we are starting a new project that will provide an opportunity to honor a family member or friend's birthday. We are going to assemble Birthday Cake Gift Bags. These bags will be donated to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank to bring joy to children who otherwise might not have a birthday cake.

Our church family may participate by donating items needed to complete a bag:

- 1 cake mix
- 1 tub of frosting
- 1 box of candles
- 1 pkg napkins
- 1 pkg paper plates
- 1 pkg cake decorations

These bags can be placed on the shelves in the meeting room/library. Members of the Mission Board will then deliver to NEIFB.

## Birthday Cake Bags

Suggested donations to put in each bag:

- Cake mix
- Tub of frosting
- Candles
- Birthday napkins
- Plates
- Cake decorations



# August Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Ezekiel Pedersen	19 Clifford Schimmels Colby Tucker Lilah Skaar
2 Ryan Pautsch Brooke Wolter James & Dorothea Jurgenson	20 Gary Anfinson Jaquelyn Gielau Marissa Leisinger Grayler Michael Brandon & Megan Smith
3 Jordan Nuss	21 Sarah Beckel Susan Wille Paul & Stacie Beem Brent Steege
5 Ashlea Jurgenson Jalen Williams	23 Jackie Milius William Richards Jayson & Mandy Gesme
6 Matthew Herman Hether & Derek Gustafson Craig Merrifield	26 Emily Gielau
7 Chloe Weston	28 Kelley Carman Kiptyn Drewelow
8 Deidre Franzen Marilyn Mueller Jeffrey & Jill DeVries	29 Verna Harms David Krueger Jaime Leonhart Isaac Schimmels John & Tammy Maitland Norman & Carolee Oberheu
10 Brad & Jennifer Becker Gary & Carol Everding Ryan & Eve Pautsch	30 Wayne & Sue Buss LuAnn & Mark Emerson Elvira Hebell Gordon Mueller Karen Schumacher Brittany Wagner
11 Susan Sawyer	31 Brody & Taylor Weston
12 Jayson Gesme	
13 Tanner Vohsman	
15 Adam Oltmann	
16 Kevin Smith Megan Smith	
17 Jeremy & Jennifer Clayton	
18 Pearce Schmauss Randy Thurm	

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

# Church News

## Blessing of the Backpacks

All students, teachers, and school employees are invited to bring their backpacks to worship to be blessed, Sunday, August 18 at 9:00 am.



## Sunday School Rally Day

We will kick off our Sunday School classes for the new school year on Sunday, September 8. Please join us at 9:00 am. Registration information will be forth- coming.

## LWR School Supplies

What beautiful summer days we have had this year! The days are going by quickly and in-store and online sales for school supplies have begun. St. Peter Church will be collecting the following school supplies for the Lutheran World Relief school kits until the end of September.

### Each School Kit Includes:

- 4-70 page spiral notebooks
- 1 box (16 or 24 count) Crayola crayons
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 30 cm ruler
- 1 pair blunt scissors
- 5 unsharpened No 2 pencils with erasers
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 2.5" eraser



*A tub for these supplies is located outside the church office. Thank you for your contributions to this very worthwhile project.*



# Community & Mission News



**Dates:** Friday, September 27 – Tuesday, October 1, 2024

**Description:** An Ewalu backpacking excursion open to ages 9th grade through adult (youth must have an accompanying adult) on the Superior Hiking Trail in northern Minnesota. Join Frank Johnson and Paul Frantsen for four nights of camping and three days of backpacking from Split Rock Lighthouse to Tettegouche State Park. Enjoy the fall colors and views of Lake Superior, cook meals over the camp stove, and experience one of the best backcountry trails in the country. **Mileage will average around 10 miles per day.** Transportation to/from Ewalu and meals provided. Backpacks and tents available if you need them.

**Cost:** \$300 per person

**Departure from Ewalu:** 8:00 am on Friday, September 27

**Return to Ewalu:** Evening of Tuesday, October 1

**Capacity:** 20 people, so sign up now!



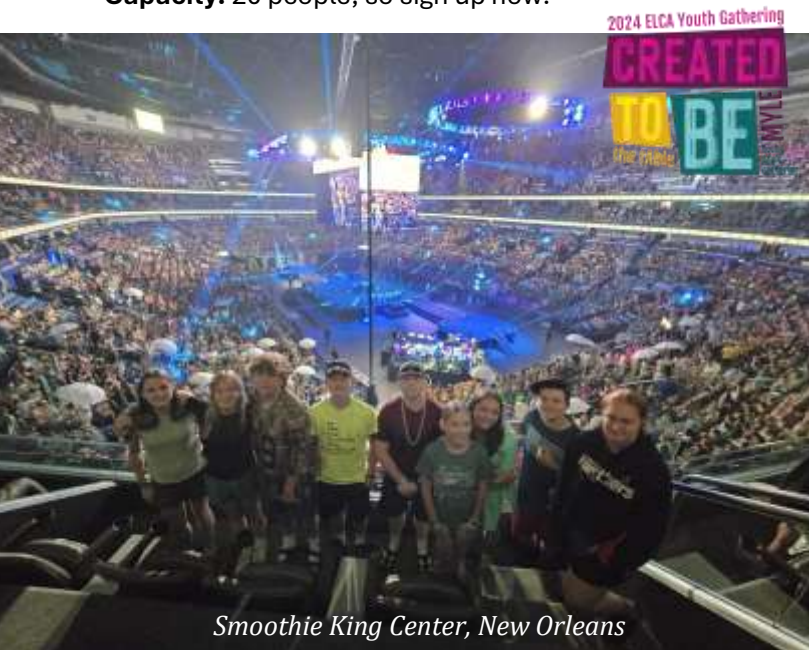
## Save the Date

Sunday, September 8, we as a congregation will participate in the ELCA's annual day of service, "God's work. Our hands." This day is an opportunity for ELCA congregations to reach out in their communities as God's witness to others. St Peter will have many opportunities to choose from. On September 8<sup>th</sup> I want to invite you to join St. Peter Lutheran Church in participating in "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday. On this day we will start with worshiping the God who fills us with grace, mercy and love. We will then be sent out to do God's Work. Some of our activities will involve going to our local nursing homes and sharing our gifts with its people. One of our activities will involve going out to our local Boy Scout Camp and lending a helping hand. Our Sunday School kids will perform a work activity together to help those in need. We will also have projects in the church basement for people to participate in. After the work we will come back and enjoy a meal together. This is an opportunity to nourish our bodies with food and our minds and spirits with time together.

Please, make the time and join us as we live into doing God's Work for our Community with Our Hands...because that is what St. Peter Lutheran Church is all about.

## Breakfast to Go

The Mission/Evangelism Board provided a friendly and delicious send off for our youth going to the ELCA Gathering.



# Faith Formation

## CREATED TO BE!

Thanks to all of those who organized, chaperoned, contributed to fundraising projects, and to St Peter for providing our young people with an awesome opportunity to dive deep into their faith in New Orleans along with 16,000 other young people from across the country. Our congregation's culture has found these Youth Gatherings to be a life-changing experience that has awakened the Spirit and transformed lives for over sixty years. The week of July 14th did just that. It was a week of faith in action and faith in formation. May the seeds that were planted allow the participants to be authentic, free, brave, and disciples of love. **Created to be wHoly!!**



*They enjoyed the local cuisine.*

*Mission Work Day was spent at a middle School library, hauling, sanding, staining, etc.*

# August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 9:00 am Worship & Music meeting 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:00 am Worship	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:00 am VBS @ Camp Ingawanis 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Livestream Training	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>14</b> 6:45 pm Council meeting	<b>15</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>16</b> 10:00 am Bingo @ Denver Sunset Home <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00 am Worship With Noisy Offering & ELCA Youth Gathering Recap Backpack Blessing	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10:00 Bulletin deadline	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:00 am Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:00 Bulletin deadline	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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### **2024 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:** Jackie Fober, Amy Oltmann, Jayson Gesme, Jill Nuss, Linda Schult, Kyle Niemann, Sara Sanderson, Krista Olson, Andy Drewelow

**Executive Board:** Jill Nuss, Andy Drewelow, Kyle Niemann, Krista Olson

**Property & Management:** Gene Leonhart, Leroy Homeister, Roxane Franzen, Jim Jurgenson, Jayson Gesme, Steve DeVries, Jim Moeller

**Parish Education:** Amy Oltmann, Jaime Leonhart, Mandy Gesme, Julie Gleason, Bri Drewelow

**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:** Jackie Fober, Jan Gienau, Dori Jurgenson, Mary Stevens

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

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

**Financial Board:** Dwight Diercks, Paul Meier, Jim Moeller, Todd Foelske, Jim Jurgenson