

St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

December 2022

A message from our Council President

Dear Members of St. Peter,

In this time of Thanksgiving our congregation has much to be grateful for. Our ministry boards are working diligently to carry out the missions of the congregation. This work involves many hours of volunteer time. Please thank those who do these things.

After a long absence from the pulpit we will once again welcome a new Interim Pastor, the Reverend David Powers. We also have a call committee that is still ready and waiting to interview candidates for full time Pastor. Frankly, there are not many candidates who have been available to come here. Our Annual meeting is coming up in January. Many decisions will need to be made concerning building repairs.

Please plan to attend. Finally the church council will need three new members for the new council forming in 2023. Prayerfully consider volunteering for this important position. The council determines the direction of St. Peter's ministry. I have been gratified by serving on the council for the past few years and hope that many of you will be inspired to do the same.

Yours in Christ, *Jim Jurgenson, St. Peter Church Council President.*

Sunday, December 18th

We invite you to travel with us December 18 - beginning with creation, through the Old Testament, to the birth of Christ through our Sunday School Program and the Jesse Tree. The Jesse Tree tradition is rooted in Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of David, Israel's greatest king. And Jesus is descended from the line of David. He is the branch God promised would grow from Jesse's family tree. Each symbol represents a story from within this family tree and a step toward the birth of Jesus. We begin with Earth.

Saturday, December 24th

Please join us for Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm & 7:00 pm

The Christmas Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief



Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	December 4 Sunday 9:00 am	December 11 Sunday 9:00 am	December 18 Sunday School Christmas Program Sunday 9:00 am	December 24 Christmas Eve Saturday 4:00 pm	December 24 Christmas Eve Saturday 7:00 pm
Organist	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart
Acolytes	Tyler Nuss & Jackson Joerger	Dalton Brinkman & Henry Pautsch	Tyler Nuss & Lincoln Roethler	Tyler Nuss & Lincoln Roethler	Jackson Joerger & TBD
Communion Assistant	Susan Buss	Eve Pautsch	NA	Pautsch family	?
Scripture Reader	Amy Lockhart	Danica Brinkman	Christmas Program	Pautsch family	?
Multimedia	Calvin Beem	Miles Pautsch	?	?	Marcia Joerger
Sound System	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries	Philip Michels	Roger Donaldson
Video taping	Aubrey Roethler	Lincoln Roethler	Aubrey Roethler	Aubrey Roethler	?
Altar Guild	Holly Smith, Joyce Schimmels, Linda Krueger				
Usher/Greeters	Gary & LaVonne Westendorf, Monte & Emmett Nuehring, Chuck & Trudy Essmann				

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.



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. 319-984-5648 **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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Next meeting: Thursday, December 1.

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).

Mission & Community



The St Peter Christmas decorations are hung. Thank you to the high school youth for assisting WELCA in preparing for the holidays. And thank you to Jaime for the taco dinner nourishment!



December Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Dave & Jaime Leonhart	16 Cavin Newby
2 Jennifer Clayton	17 Sharon Robinson Greg Thies
3 Dalton Brinkman Lois Miller	19 Elaine Dove Melodie Foelske Jack Niewoehner
4 Lincoln Gustafson Shirley Thurm Burton & Sharon Diercks	20 Carolyn Becker
5 Candi Nuehring Kasey Wirtjes	21 Tim Mueller
6 Sharon Diercks Cody Hougen Linda Krueger	22 Jennifer Sawyer
7 Nathan Thurm	23 Emma Haase Morgan Smith
8 Jillian Clayton Jaime Gienau Ames Kuecker Mia Leonhart Linda Schult Robert & Sharon Foelske	24 Jeremiah Kern Alexander Oltmann
9 Lauren Carman Darlys Milius	25 Breanna Sadler
10 Alvina Koepke	26 Braven Beaumont Jack Mixdorf Greg Smith
11 Holly Smith	27 Tom Lahmann Bob Weston
12 Lynette Lahmann	28 Klair Heim Kenny Lamb Amy & Richard Mortenson Tyler Nuss Aubrey Roethler
13 Samantha Gehrke Garrett Wahl	29 Cassandra Vohsman
15 Andrew Brown Alexandra Swanson David & Jo VanDeBerg	30 Monte Nuehring
	31 Max Thrasher

Community & Mission News



Denver's Old Fashion Christmas

December 3 & 4. Join our community in celebrating this year's theme "Winter Wonderland" And look for our St Peter Christmas tree designed by the talented Holly Smith!

Quilting

The quilters report 80 quilts are boxed and in the closet; a strong start for when we begin again in January. Sheets for quilt backs are still welcome. Thank you!

With Appreciation

Thanks for your generous support of the Holiday Shoppe which is a project of the Wartburg College social work program and Shell Rock United Way. The many gifts were delivered to Redemer Lutheran Church in Waverly and are distributed to eligible families in Bremer Co. We are blessed so we can be a blessing to others. Thanks to Gene and Pat Leonhart for delivering the gifts. *St. Peter WELCA*



Christmas Poinsettias

We will be ordering poinsettias from Hy-Vee floral for Christmas. You may pick up an order sheet on the information table outside the office; place filled in sheet with a check for \$10.00 in the basket by December 4.

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

ELCA Good Gifts

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 the financial crunch 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 that can and will make a difference in the lives of both the giver and receiver.

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 life-changing difference your gifts can make.

Christ's love is a gift. Share it with others!!! You may look get a Good Gifts Catalog outside Roxane's office or call 1-800-638-3522 for a copy to be sent to your home.



NOISY OFFERING

November and December Noisy Offerings will go to LSI. Lutheran Services in Iowa is one of the most trusted human service agencies in our state. LSI has a legacy of serving children and families for more than 150 years. Your gifts can be a part of positive change through spreading hope and healing to those in need.



NE Iowa Food Bank Donations

We appreciate all the donations for the Food Bank. Each \$10 you donated will be turned into approximately 40 meals!

His Hands Oran Food Pantry

October His Hands Pantry Statistics, Household Served-102. Individuals Served-292. Food Distributed-7158 lbs.

I usually suggest donations. Right now what we can order from The Northeast Iowa Food Bank is limited. We are glad to receive any food product. Our number of families is increasing with the rising cost of food. We thank you for all of your support.

With Appreciation

Thank you to everyone who put together a Cancer Care Kit! The mission board delivered 58 kits total to the area cancer centers.



Faith Formation & Announcements

Sunday School

Our Education Team has been working hard on the upcoming Christmas Program.

Standard meeting time is after church/10:10 am - 11:00 am for students PK - 6th grade.

Sunday School Calendar through 2022.

Christmas Pageant Practice

- December 4th & 11th

No Sunday School

- December 18th: Christmas Pageant during church

- December 25th

Should you have any questions, or are interested in becoming a member of the Education Team, please don't hesitate to reach out to a current member: Amy Oltmann, Jaime Leonhart, Mandy Gesme, & Julie Gleason. Thank you! *Amy Oltmann*

AmyOltmann@hotmail.com 319-464-4486



During Christmas program practice the children found time to share hot cocoa and build marshmallow snowmen together.

Thank you for sending your child(ren) to Sunday School! We have started preparing for our program. Costumes were tried on. Some roles confirmed - thank you to the upperclassman for volunteering their time to support our youngest members! We prepared our Jesse tree - thank you to those who hammered and worked so hard preparing our ornaments! We had some hot



chocolate and treats together - thank you Sue Buss for providing us cookies!

Families - Feel free to practice *Away in a Manger*, *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*, and *Go Tell it on the Mountain* - there are some fun version of these songs on YouTube.

Confirmation

We have confirmation on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm for 7th Grade, and 7:30 pm for 8th Grade, Located in the lower level of the church.

Womenfest & Mensfest

The ecumenical Bible Study gathers weekly. Tuesday mornings for Women—7:30 am in the Friendship Room. And Wednesday mornings for men -7:30 am in the lower level of the church. Please join us!




New times for Exercise Classes at St Peter through December 22

Join Roberta Robbins, on Sundays, 4:00 - 5:00 pm and Thursdays from 5:00-6:00 pm in the lower level of the church. There is no cost to participate in the Essentrics® class. Essentrics® is a dynamic, full-body workout suitable for all fitness levels that simultaneously combines stretching and strengthening while engaging all 650 muscles. If any one wants to join the group, please bring a mat, a theraband, and a hand towel or cushion to use under your hips for floor work. A new workout will be introduced soon which will be standing and barre. Please contact Roberta at 309-313-4399 with any questions.

December 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 am Bulletin deadline 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl 5:00 pm Exercise class	2	3
4 7:30 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School 4:00 pm Exercise class	5	6 7:30 am Womensfest 6:30 pm Evangelism mtg 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	7 7:30 am Mensfest 6:15 pm Worship & Music meeting 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	8 10:00 am Bulletin deadline 5:00 pm Exercise class	9	10
11 7:30 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School 4:00 pm Exercise class	12	13 7:30 am Womensfest 6:30 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	14 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	15 10:00 am Bulletin deadline 5:00 pm Exercise class	16 Newsletter Deadline	17
18 7:30 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship with Noisy Offering Sunday School Christmas Program 4:00 pm Exercise class	19	20 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	21 7:30 am Mensfest 6:30 pm 7th Grade Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm 8th Grade Confirmation	22 10:00 am Bulletin deadline 5:00 pm Exercise class	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm
	26 Office closed	27 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	28 7:30 am Mensfest	29 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	30	31

St. Peter Tidings is published 12 times a year by
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2022 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, Jackie Fober, Amy Oltmann, Jayson Gesme

Executive Board: Jim Jurgenson, Jayson Gesme, Marcia Joerger, Todd Foelske

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

Parish Education: Amy Oltmann, 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: 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, Staci Mueller, LaVonne Westendorf, Roger Donaldson, Marilyn Mueller

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