

St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

July 2024



Pastor Pedersen's Points – Celebrating Freedom



This next month we, the citizens of the United States, celebrate our freedom on July 4th. This is usually a nice day where people bring out the grills, outdoor games, and late-night fireworks to celebrate our country gaining its independence from Great Britain. I do hope that you are able to

enjoy these festivities, and for those with pets may the peace of Christ be with them as the loud bangs and bright pyrotechnics fill the sky.

Another word for gaining independence is gaining freedom. We talk a lot as Americans about celebrating, participating, and protecting our freedom. It is something we try not to take lightly considering not every country in the world is so blessed as to have it. What about Christian freedom? Martin Luther, the father of the Lutheran Church and the Reformation, wrote about this very topic in 1520. His document was titled, *The Freedom of a Christian*. It begins with two statements that seemingly disagree with each other:

***“The Christian individual is a completely free lord of all, subject to none.
The Christian Individual is a completely dutiful servant of all, subject to all.”***

A Christian individual is completely free lord of all because Jesus Christ died and rose so that we have forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life. Therefore, we cannot be subject to anything because it is Jesus and Jesus alone who provides us the salvation we need.

At the same time the Christian individual is subject to all because we are called to be empowered by this free grace from Jesus to go out and love who Jesus loved (i.e. all people). For that fact, out of appreciation for the salvation we have in Jesus we are called to care for all people in this world, especially those who are hungry, thirsty, ostracized, widowed, unhoused, victimized, and in danger.

To simplify even further. Martin Luther is getting into the idea that we are freed from and freed for. Freed from sin and death. Freed for bearing fruits of love in the world. I hope that our celebration of individual freedom in the U.S.A. is guided by our Christian freedom that Jesus won us on the cross. Blessings to you all. I hope you continue to have a wonderful summer!

Luther, Martin. Annotated by Wengert, Timothy J. *The Freedom of a Christian: The Annotated Luther Study Edition*. (Fortress Press: Minneapolis, 2016), page 488.

Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	July 7 Sunday 9:00 am	July 14 Sunday 9:00 am	July 21 Sunday 9:00 am <i>Father's Day</i>	July 28 Sunday 9:00 am
Organist	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart
Acolytes				
Communion Assistant			Pat Leonhart	
Scripture Reader		Jim Moeller	Gene Leonhart	Diann Curtis
Multimedia	Philip Michels	Todd Foelske	Philip Michels	Todd Foelske
Sound System	Roger Donaldson	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries
Altar Guild	Terrie Thurm, Lori Thurm, Mandy Gesme, Tricia Kurtz			
Usher/Greeters	Chuck & Trudy Essmann & TBD			

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.

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
\$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, July 19, at 10:00 am. St Peter helps with Bingo every third Friday of the month. Volunteers may contact Joyce Miller.

House of Hope SUMMER VOLUNTEERING!

Most Needed

Sorting Donations!
Morning hours preferred, afternoons available!

Cleaning!
Available any day of the week during business hours

Contact Us

Phone: 319-232-3823

Email: volunteer@houseofhopeccd.org

Address: 845 W. 8th St. Waterloo, IA

Fill out an application to learn more!



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 July 21.

Birthday Cake Bags

Suggested donations to put in each bag:

Cake mix
Tub of frosting
Candles
Birthday napkins
Plates
Cake decorations

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.

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Susan Buss David Mohlis Jeff Williams Charles & Sue Flory	17 Tanya Haase
2 Jim & Roxane Franzen Adalyn Gleason Ryan Lockhart A.J. Tegtmeier	18 Chase Shedenhelm
6 Barb Gielau Michael Gienau	19 Phyllis Plaster Luke Skaar
7 Jenna Haase Emery Krueger Norman Oberheu Scott & Trudie Rothmeyer	20 Danica Brinkman
8 Amy & Ryan Lockhart Paul & Wanda Meier Pete Niemann Morgan Roethler Jerry & Nancy Stoll	21 Isabelle Foelske
9 Rick Robinson	23 Dory Frericks
10 Linda Judas	24 Eric Foelske Dylan Sickles
14 Leonta Elsamiller Isabel Gleason	25 Derek Gustafson
15 Parker Mueller Mack Petersburg Kayla Tucker	28 Kevin Everding Thomas Flory Robert & Janice Gienau Griffin Tucker
16 Savannah Cross Isaac Gleason Judy Gleason Sydney Krabbenhoft Steve & Carol Moon	29 Blair & Sarah Sanderson
	30 Lindsey Corell
	31 William Lockhart

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

Helping Hands Clothing Closet

Helping Hands Clothing Closet had 255 (142 adults and 113 children) client visits in June coming from seventeen communities throughout northeast Iowa. Our volunteers gave 47 hours of documented time. Our needs are for kids' clothes and underwear for all sizes; men, women and children. Thank you to our volunteers and for all of the wonderful donations received this month. 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*

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, cereal, peanut butter, pasta & waffle/pancake mixes. Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. May Statistics, Household Served-111. Individuals Served-307. Food Distributed-8,247 lbs. Questions -319-638-4357 or Mary Burgart 563-920-3857. As always, we will take any thing to fill our shelves. The donation box is located in the library.



Denver/Readlyn Community Blood Drive

Denver Community Center
100 Washington St. | Denver

Friday, July 5, 2024

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Text: LIFESERVE to 999.777 | Call: 800.287.4903 | Visit: lifeserve.info/schedule



ST. PETER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Thursday, August 8 at Ingawanis Adventure Base

Check in 8:00-8:30 with 3:30 Closing Ceremony

ICE CREAM SUNDAE Social immediately following

All children entering TK-6th grade are welcome

Must be potty trained and able to dress themselves

PLEASE BRING: Backpack, water bottle, sunscreen, bug spray,
swimsuit and towel for water activities

REGISTRATION FEE is \$10

includes lunch and two snacks

Please complete one registration form per child

REGISTER BY JULY 31st



VBS Mission

Protein for the Pantry

Consider bringing a donation of
peanut butter, tuna, canned
chicken or green beans.

Items collected will be donated
locally to His Hands Food Pantry



Faith Formation

Best wishes to our St Peter High School Graduates. Thank you to the all the ladies that made the beautiful quilts!



Congratulations to our Wartburg graduate, Sam Lockhart!

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 welcomes used cards to redo.



National Be Someone Day

UnityPoint Health – Allen Hospital in partnership with Lost Island Themepark will celebrate Be Someone Day on Friday, July 19, 2024 in support of the Allen Child Protection Center. National Be Someone Day is an observance focused on ending child abuse

and neglect. It calls on communities to come together, educate, and raise awareness. The event will feature special activities throughout the park focused on child and family safety. On Friday, July 19, 2024 from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., we invite you to participate in this special event dedicated to supporting the **Allen Child Protection Center**. More information (unitypoint.org) use the promo code **BESOMEONE24** to receive \$10 off your ticket purchase for use on Friday, July 19, 2024.

NOTE: tickets must be purchased before 11:59pm on Thursday, July 18, 2024 to receive discount



Godspeed



Blessings to our students, Pastor & chaperones, attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, July 15-21!

We look forward to hearing all about it. And a big thank you to Lisa Michels for her years of dedication in organizing the trip for our youth!!

Blessed by Books Box

The Blessing Box that was built and used during Covid for food items for those in need, is no longer viable. It has been converted into a "BLESSED BY BOOKS BOX". St Peter members and community people are welcome and encouraged to put children and adult books in the box for other people to read and return. It will be like a mini drive-up library in the north parking lot. What a wonderful way to recycle books and provide literary food for the mind and soul!

Womenfest


The ecumenical Bible Study gathers weekly on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 am in the Friendship Room. All are welcome.

Mensfest

The men's bible study group meets on Wednesday mornings in the church basement at 8:00 am, all are welcome.

July 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	3 8:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	4  Office closed	5 Office closed	6
7 9:00 am Worship	8	9 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	10 8:00 am Mensfest	11 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	12	13
14 9:00 am Worship	15	16 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	17 8:00 am Mensfest	18 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	19 10:00 am Bingo @ Denver Sunset Home Newsletter Deadline	20
21 9:00 am Worship and With Noisy Offering	22	23 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	24 8:00 am Mensfest	25 10:00 Bulletin deadline	26	27
28 9:00 am Worship	29	30 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	31 8:00 am Mensfest			

St. Peter Tidings is published 12 times a year by
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
540 East Franklin Street ~ P.O. Box A
Denver, IA 50622
Phone: 319-984-5648
www.stpeterdenver.org ~ info@stpeterdenver.org
Pastor Reed Lee Pedersen 515-370-5114

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

«AddressBlock»

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