

St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

May 2021

Pastor Dawn Pederson

Projecting Christ to All Generations

Dear Body of Christ at St. Peter,

The Teacher, the author of Ecclesiastes, wrote “There is a time for every matter under heaven.” Although the Teacher didn’t include this in his list, there is a time to say goodbye and a time to say hello. A little over two years ago you called us to come and partner with you in ministry. Then it was the time for us to say, “Hello.” Now the time has come for us to say, “Goodbye.”

For several months I have felt the Holy Spirit stirring within me. I recognize this because I have experienced it before. It is an intense time of listening to God, asking questions, listening to God some more, and responding. Over the years, I have learned that God is full of surprises. Much to my surprise God is calling me to a new adventure in ministry. I did not seek out this new adventure in ministry on my own. The Holy Spirit nudged me and continued to nudge me. I recall an Assistant to the Bishop once saying to me, “Let’s just see what the Holy Spirit is up to.”

This time the Holy Spirit is calling me to chaplaincy. I will be serving part time as a chaplain with home hospice through Unity Point Health in Cedar Rapids. I am excited to be joining a multi-disciplinary team of healthcare workers committed to providing wholistic care. Through my years in nursing and ordained ministry God has prepared me well for this new role.

Although our time together in ministry has been shorter than we anticipated, let us celebrate and give thanks for the time we have shared together doing God’s work with our hands. Thank you for your love, care, and support through Steve’s back surgery. It wasn’t easy, but we got through it together. You lovingly cared for us as I continued to care for all of you. With joy we celebrated “Congregation Appreciation Sunday.”

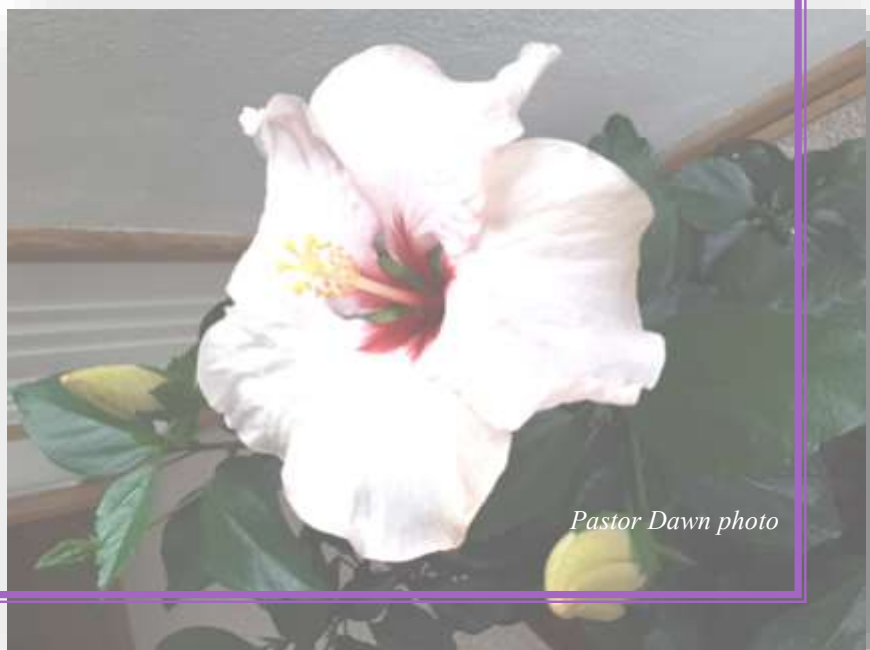
This pandemic has been difficult for everyone. The pandemic has provided the opportunity for us to try, learn, and embrace new ways of doing ministry. This wasn’t and still isn’t easy. Change is seldom easy. Yet, God is able, and God does bring good out of change. We play a role in change too. Are we open to the call and movement of the Holy Spirit? With change comes anxiety. This is to be expected. Yet, remember this, God is with you always and God will provide whatever you need.

My last day in the office will be May 13. I will be here for confirmation rehearsal in the evening on May 16. My last Sunday will be May 23. We will have two worship services that day. Because of the need to continue with physical distancing the early service will be for the congregation at large and the late service will be for confirmands, their families, and guests only.

As one last parting gift, I need to make it very clear that once I leave St. Peter I am no longer available for any pastoral acts at church or away from church including such things as presiding at weddings, baptisms, funerals, and worship. This is as it should be. This is good pastoral ethics. These boundaries will help you to say hello and embrace your next pastor.

As we say goodbye, I give you this blessing. *May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord’s face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

With grateful hearts,
Pastor Dawn and Steve



Pastor Dawn photo

Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

	May 2 Sunday 9:00 am	May 9 Sunday 9:00 am	May 16 Sunday 9:00 am	May 23 Sunday 8:00 am 11 am Affirmation of Baptism	May 30 HS Graduation Sunday 9:00 am In City Park
Organist	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart
Scripture Reader	Kara Bartels	Grant Pautsch	Joyce Miller	8:00 am -TBD 11:00 am - Confirmands	Jackie Fober
Multimedia	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske	Todd Foelske	NA
Video taping	Philip Michels	Liz Foelske	Roxane Franzen	Philip Michels	NA
Altar Guild	Nancy Lamos, LaVonne Westendorf, Kelley Carman				
Usher/Greeters	Randy & Terrie Thurm, Joe Koepke, Mark & Jackie Fober family				

**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.**

The Bell and Chimes at St Peter

Listen for the chimes at St. Peter every night at 8:00pm.
This is both a call to prayer and a daily blessing.

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.

Bulletin Deadline: Thursdays 10:00 am

Newsletter Deadline: 4:00 pm on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Offerings

Thank you so much to our St Peter members for the donations that have continued to come in. We appreciate your support!

Doors

To care for staff and the building, you will need to wear a mask to enter the building. - Please call the church phone number if the doors are locked 984-5648.

New Shipment of Coffee

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Farmers Market Coffee is sourced directly from coffee farmers participating in LWR projects. Every delicious cup helps transform poor communities that depend on their coffee crop to feed their families. Farmers get a strong up-front price for their coffee beans and a portion of the profit. LWR Farmers Market Coffee brings you closer to the people you help through your support of LWR. And 80 cents of every pound you purchase goes back into LWR projects to benefit more around the world.

The coffee is located on the table outside the office. You may leave payment in the coffee can on the table. Thank you.

Mission & Community



Noisy Offering

The May and June Noisy Offering will go to I HOPE (Iowans Helping Others Participate Everyday). It is a local chapter of AMBUCS which is a national nonprofit charitable organization

whose mission is to inspire people with disabilities to conquer challenges related to mobility and independence. I HOPE does this by providing children and adults with adapted AmTrykes (tricycles) that can be individualized to meet the need(s) of almost any rider. Each bike ranges from \$400 - \$2,500 but, through donations, bikes are given free of charge to all recipients.

Offering Recorders (Counters) Needed

We are looking for people to help out counting and recording our church offerings. Typically the recorders get together Monday mornings and count the offering, but this can be flexible to work with your schedule. Please contact the office if you are interested in this ministry.



St Peter Clean-Up Day

Please join us on Saturday, May 1, beginning at 8:00 am as we do yardwork around the church. Thank you!

His Hands Oran Food Pantry

Serving families in the area that are experiencing food insecurity. Request for May- cereal and soup . Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. Served in March: 57 Households, 152 Individuals, 7,166 lbs of food distributed. Questions -319-638-4357 or Mary Burgart 563-920-3857. As always, we will take any thing to fill our shelves. We greatly appreciate your support.

Ushers Needed

Our need for ushers is great, especially at this time. Please let the office or Mary Stevens know if you would be able to assist monthly or as a fill in. Thank you for your consideration.

June 12, 2021

Online Assembly

The 2021 Northeastern Iowa Synod will be a one-day online virtual event set for Saturday, June 12. The live broadcast will be based at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Waverly.

The primary purpose of this assembly will be the election of a new bishop. In addition, voting members will elect a synod secretary, synod council members and nominating committee, and approve synod budget and compensation guidelines.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The assembly will kick off with a message from the **Rev. Dr. Martin J. Lohrmann**, associate professor of Lutheran Confessions and Heritage for Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, to highlight the assembly theme, "Celebrating Renewal: Johannes Bugenhagen, Parish Pastor of the Reformation."

CHURCHWIDE REPRESENTATIVE

Lori Fedyk, treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, will serve as the churchwide representative and will preside over the election of the Bishop.

50•40•10 — CELEBRATING THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN. Plans include designated time during the Assembly to honor the milestone anniversaries from 2020 of women being ordained in the ELCA: **50th anniversary** of U.S. Lutheran churches' decision to ordain women

40th anniversary of the ordination of the first women of color

10th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to officially ordain people in same-gender committed relationships.

Anyone may Watch the NEIA Synod Assembly live on the Synod's Facebook page.



Thank you so much for the Easter Food Basket gift. It's very much appreciated, as with the one at Thanksgiving also. Have a great day and God Bless! *a grateful recipient*

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

Community & Mission News

1

Dori Jurgenson
Megan Schmauss

2

Dawn Riley

3

Judy Vauthier
Michael & Jaime Gienau
Jon & Brenda Wolter

4

Kathy Ackerman
Todd Foelske

5

Betty Biemann

6

Derek Gielau

7

Carson Haase
Michael Vauthier
Randy & Roxi Herman

8

Marissa Schwebach

10

Larry Stock
Kristen Wolter

11

Michelle Steffe
Lori Thurm
Renetta Thurm
Tricia & Dennis Kurtz

12

Amanda Swanson

13

Mitchell Mohlis
Rachelle Nystrom

14

Marcia Ott
Marlys Patterson

15

Mike & Renee McInroy
Garland & Heather Krabbenhoft

16

Amy Gehrke
Wanda Meier
Brody Wirtjes

17

Virgil Buhr
Rodney Diercks
Erin Gustafson

18

Chip Flory
Sara Oltrogge
Rylee Renner
Ben & Jill Thrasher

19

Carolee Oberheu
Cassandra Upshaw

20

Joel & Joy Wolter

21

Trudi Schimmels

22

Tyler Corell
Bruce Thurm
Kris Steege
Jack & Sheila Mixdorf
Randy & Terrie Thurm

23

Donna Donaldson
Derek & Alexandra Gielau

25

Alton Midthus
Ethan Thies

26

Austin Herman
Doug Roethler

27

Alexis Lyons

28

Ed & JoAnne Blumenshine
Reagan Carman
Tessa Joerger
Todd & Elizabeth Foelske
Zackary Satterthwaite

30

Philip Michels

31

Richard Beckel
Wesley Homeister
Teresa Miller
Zack Thrasher



Baptism

We welcome Chloe Renee Weston; who was baptized on April 10. Chloe is the daughter of Brody & Taylor Weston. Her sponsors are Morgan Ackerson and Braeden Weston. We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share at St Peter.



Resources Available



The new issue of *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.

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

Please let the office know if you would like us to mail a copy of *Christ in Our Home* to you.

Community & Mission News

WELCA Board Meeting

Next WELCA Board Meeting: TBD

Gather Bible Study -TBD

Serving Committee for May

Doris Blankenship	Teresa Diercks
Gayle Eick	Melodie Foelske
Jan Hartmann	Leah Homeister
Lisa Michels	Opal Miller
Wendy Mohlis	Joyce Schimmels
Crystal Shedenhelm	Karen Thurm
Marlyn Wolter	

Re-Do Cards Update

We have graduation, Mother's Day and other all occasion cards available. Please feel free to come to the church and choose from the card rack. All proceeds go to Prayer Shawl at this time.

**if anyone has used get well cards they'd like to donate please let LaVonne or the church office know. Thank you!*

Blessing Box Needs

With the arrival of spring temperatures, we can once again put canned food items in our blessing boxes. We have a good supply of canned tuna, chicken, and vegetables on hand. We especially **need** the following items: **spaghetti or pasta sauce, pancake mix, pancake syrup, boxed potatoes, instant potatoes, and crackers of any kind.** We can always use: hamburger helper, chicken helper, tuna helper, peanut butter, jello, and cereal. Other items we put in the blessing boxes when available include: granola bars, pop tarts, cereal/fruit bars, microwave popcorn, baking mixes, pudding and fruit cups. We restock the blessing boxes twice a week. Did you know there are 52,730 people who are food insecure in the 16 counties served by the Northeast Iowa Food Bank? The number of people who are food insecure has increased because of the pandemic. Food items may be brought to church and left in the box under the table outside of the offices or monetary donations may be given to St. Peter designated "Sharing with our Neighbors." Thank you for sharing with our neighbors.

2021 Envelopes

We still have a few envelopes that can be picked up. The offering envelope boxes are on the table outside the office and may be collected at your convenience. If your box is missing, please notify the office.



Quilt Tying Resumes

We will be gathering Every Monday in May (except Memorial Day the 30th) to tie and sew quilts. Please join us Mondays from 9:00 am -3:00 pm, in the lower level of the church. All are welcome.

2021 Bartels Annual Corporation Meeting

The good news is that Bartels made it through 2020 in good shape, meeting the problems of COVID Pandemic with a proactive plan. The set of values they established to encourage the staff were: honesty, empathy, accountability, respect, and teamwork. They are proud of the way the staff responded in caring for the residents. Inspections were very good without any serious problems. 70 percent of staff has been vaccinated for COVID, and over 90 percent of residents. Other infections and cases of flu were low. They are now open to visitors by appointment and it is going well. Bartels also ended 2020 in good financial condition. *Thank you to Roger Donaldson, our St Peter representative, for participating and providing this report!*

May 30th Worship in the Park

The worship service for High School Graduation will be May 30th at 9:00 am in the City Park. Graduates will be presented with their senior quilt gift then. Please bring your own lawn chairs.

Faith Formation & Announcements

2021 St. Peter High School Graduates

Congratulations to Abbi Austin, Layne Fober, Emma Haase, Tessa Joerger, Alex Krabbenhoft, Cylee Liddle, Brooks Meyer, Jady Nilius, Katie Mortenson, Parker Mueller, Emily Ruby, Isaac Schimmels, Morgan Smith, Max Thrasher, on successfully completing your high school education!

In recognition of your achievement, we are inviting all members of the graduating class of 2021 to worship together at our 9:00 am worship service, May 30.

If you have been provided with your cap and gown, we would like for you to wear your gown on celebration Sunday. However we understand that the distribution of those may not be organized yet. Be sure to invite your family, baptismal sponsors, and friends to join you in thanking God for the wisdom, education, and memories of these past years. The graduates will receive quilts made by members of the Congregation.



New Bartels transit van with lift purchased thanks to McCoy, donations and four grants

Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community, Waverly, recently purchased a new transit van with a wheelchair lift for the residents thanks to the generosity of donations and grants. Despite COVID-19, Bartels was blessed by individuals and organizations recognizing the need and benefits of this fund-raising project.

The original goal was to raise the money for a new transit van by the end of 2021. At the halfway mark, Mike and Marge McCoy, Waverly, contacted Bartels and wanted to lend a helping hand and make the van a reality. This major donation allowed Bartels to purchase the new van 10 months ahead of schedule. "All of us at Bartels are extremely grateful for the McCoy's support and the kindness shown by all of the donors and organizations," stated CEO Paula Geise. "A simple 'thank you' just doesn't seem like enough for the generosity shown to Bartels over the past year."

Four grants were awarded to Bartels for the new van including the Guernsey Charitable Foundation, Elsie Crosby Mitchell Fund for Senior Citizens, Waverly Rotary Club and Northeastern Iowa Synod ELCA Endowment Fund. Many other donations contributed to the success of this fund drive from large to small and all are appreciated to carry out Bartels mission of enriching lives through quality services and Christian care.

This new transit van will offer safe and meaningful transportation. The lift provides accessible transportation to all of the residents and will accommodate all sizes of wheelchairs.

Affirmation of Baptism, May 23

We will have two worship services, the 8:00 am Worship will be for our congregational members. The 11:00 am service will be for the confirmands and their family and guests only, due to physical distancing.

Confirmation in May

Classes are scheduled for May, the dates and times, can be found on our website calendar.

7th grade confirmation students will meet May 5 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

8th grade confirmation students will meet May 12 at 6:30 pm via Zoom

9th grade confirmation will meet in person Sunday, May 2 & 16 at 6:30 pm

Contact Pastor Dawn with any questions(pastor@stpeterdenver.org or 641-529-6592)

VBS Save the Date

We will have EWALU provide our Vacation Bible School this summer. More information on registration will be following; Tentatively set for the first week of August.

Camp EWALU



Our programs are geared for youth in grades 1 -12, as well as families and grandparents. Our camp activities are designed to strengthen campers' faith in God and lifelong connection with their home congregation. We

are committed to providing another safe summer by following current guidelines and best practices. We will again offer full refunds and will remain in communication through our website, social media, and via email as the situation is ever-changing. Due to its popularity, we are planning an extra Family Camp this summer mid-week. We are also adding Grandparent Camp back into the schedule for grandparents and grandchildren to experience camp together. Service Camp is a high school program held onsite and based around service projects at camp and hopefully in the local community. www.ewalu.org | camp@ewalu.org | 563-933-4700. The Camp EWALU pamphlets are on the table outside the office.

May 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8:00 am St Peter Clean up Day
2 9:00 am Worship 6:30 pm 9th Grade Confirmation	3 9:00 am-3:00 pm Quilting 2:30 pm Worship & Music	4	5 6:30 pm 7th grade Confirmation online	6 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	7 Office closed	8
9 9:00 am Worship Happy Mother's Day	10 9:00 am-3:00 pm Quilting	11 6:30 pm Council meeting	12 6:30 pm 8th grade Confirmation online	13 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	14	15
16 9:00 am Worship with Noisy Offering 6:30 pm 9th Grade Confirmation	17 9:00am-3:00 pm Quilting	18	19	20 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	21 Newsletter Deadline	22
23 8:00 am Worship 11:00 am Affirmation of Baptism	24 9:00 am-3:00 pm Quilting	25	26	27 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	28	29
30 9:00 am Worship at City Park HS Graduation	31 Memorial Day Office closed					

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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, Brenda Wolter, Mary Stevens

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

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

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