

# St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

## May 2024

### Pastor Pedersen's Points – Happy Happenings and Festive Moments

The month of May is full of causes for celebration. Traditionally this month has graduation ceremonies and parties, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day. Not-so-traditionally, Star Wars Day (May the Fourth be with you!), No Socks Day (May 8<sup>th</sup>), and Dance Like a Chicken Day (May 14<sup>th</sup>). As a church, we have a few things to celebrate this month as well.

Due to an early Easter we get to celebrate 3 church holidays. We will celebrate Ascension Sunday (May 12), Pentecost Sunday (May 19), and Holy Trinity Sunday (May 26). On top of that, this month we will celebrate our Sunday School program on its last day (May 5), and we will celebrate our High School graduates (May 26). So much cause for celebration!

My hope is that we can spend this month celebrating together! We can continue to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. We can celebrate Jesus returning to his home with his Father. We can celebrate the birth of the Christian Church during the miracle of Pentecost. We can celebrate all of Creation's very existence and our own story by highlighting our Triune God. We can do this all as the earth warms, the sun shines a little longer, and the flowers begin to show forth their beauty.

My prayers for you, good sibling in Christ, is that you find this month to be a cheerful one. Even during tragedies and traumas that can always take place, we can join in the eternal joy brought about by being one in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Again, happy blessings and good tidings to you all this May. I know I will certainly be adding a celebration of my one-year anniversary of beginning my call with the good and faithful people of St. Peter Lutheran Church.

In humble service,  
*Pr. Reed Lee Pedersen*



# Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	May 5 Sunday 9:00 am	May 12 Sunday 9:00 am	May 19 Sunday 9:00 am	May 26 Sunday 9:00 am
<b>Organist</b>	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller
<b>Acolytes</b>	Taylor Beem			
<b>Communion Assistant</b>				
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	James Jurgenson	Grant Pautsch	James Jurgenson	Ryan Pautsch
<b>Multimedia</b>				
<b>Sound System</b>	Larry Oltrogge	Roger Donaldson	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Shirley Thurm, Mary Thurm, Marilyn Mueller, Phyllis Plaster			
<b>Usher/Greeters</b>	Randy & Terrie Thurm, Mark & Jackie Fober			
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.





## THANK YOU

To the members of  
**St. Peter Lutheran Church**

from the  
Northeastern Iowa Synod

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
in grateful appreciation for giving

**\$16,166.90**

for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

# Community & Mission News

## Northeastern Iowa Synod Strengthens Community Through Congregation Mission Support

Congregations of the Northeastern Iowa Synod, including St. Peter Lutheran Church, participate in and contribute to God's work in the world and at home through Mission Support. Generosity to Mission Support – the offerings that ELCA congregations share with synods and the churchwide organization — supports new ELCA ministries and partnerships around the globe and provides funds for staff and resources to carry out local ministries in the Northeastern Iowa Synod.

Please take a moment to reflect on how St. Peter and this synod are making a difference together through a spirit of generosity, love of God and love for our neighbor:

- The Northeastern Iowa Synod celebrated the installation of 16 pastors in 21 congregations in 2023, enriching our synod's communities with new spiritual leadership and vitality.
- This synod directly supports rostered ministers through the annual Fall Theological Conference, Day of Renewal, and safe ministry education. In addition, our Bishop and synod staff members provide pastoral care and guidance to ministers and congregations facing challenging circumstances.

Our synod networks build connections in our communities to care for our environment, stand up for racial justice and fight hunger to make our corner of Iowa a better place.

Thank you for your faithful partnership and support with the Northeastern Iowa Synod! We are 143 congregations, one synodically authorized worshiping community, two Lutheran colleges (Luther and Wartburg), one campus ministry (Three House, UNI), two Bible camps (EWALU and Riverside), one seminary (Wartburg) and Lutheran Social Services (providing care for some of the most vulnerable among us).

You are part of all of this ministry, and God is doing great things through you! *Pastor Liz Bell*

### Love Offering

You should have received the Spring Love Offering Letter. For many years, the St. Peter Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA ( WELCA) have gathered a Spring Love Offering to help support the causes and needs of the current year.

This year, the WELCA Board has voted to designate 25% of our Love Offering for expenses related to our Lutheran World Relief (LWR) quilt and kit ministry, 25% to Lutheran Disaster Response, and the remaining 50% to be given as part of our Christmas Gifts at the end of 2024. If questions, please contact Sheryl Moeller or other WELCA Board members. Thank you in advance for your heartfelt and generous contributions.

### 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. Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. March Statistics, Household Served-92. Individuals Served-276. Food Distributed-8,041 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 now located in the library. **Thank you to Midthus' for delivering our last donation of 56.6 lbs, on 4/9/24.**

### With Thanks

To the St Peter Lutheran Church Congregation, Thank you for your \$466.50 (from our Souper Bowl Sunday) donation made to The Salvation Army of Waterloo/Cedar Falls. As requests continue to remain at an all time high, your donation allows us the chance to continue moving forward to help as many people in need as possible. Thank you again! God Bless, *Katie Harm*

A Big Thank You to Sarah and Sydney for updating our children's activity bags, we appreciate it!!





# May Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Davis Becker Dori Jurgenson Megan Schmauss	17 Virgil Buhr Rodney Diercks
2 Brian & Melissa Nabholz	18 Chip Flory Sara Oltrogge Ben & Jill Thrasher
3 Judy Vauthier Michael & Jaime Gienau Jon & Brenda Wolter	19 Carolee Oberheu Cassandra Upshaw
4 Kathy Ackerman Jace Cross Todd Foelske	20 Joel & Joy Wolter
5 Betty Biemann	21 Trudi Schimmels
6 Derek Gielau	22 Tyler Corell Kris Steege Jack & Sheila Mixdorf Randy & Terrie Thurm
7 Carson Haase Michael Vauthier Randy & Roxi Herman	23 Donna Donaldson Derek & Alexandra Gielau
10 Larry Stock	25 Alton Midthus Ethan Thies
11 Michelle Steffe Lori Thurm	26 Austin Herman Doug Roethler
12 Amanda Swanson	27 Alexis Lyons
13 Mitchell Mohlis Rachelle Nystrom	28 Ed & JoAnne Blumenshine Reagan Carman Tessa Joerger Todd & Elizabeth Foelske
14 Marcia Ott	
15 Mike & Renee McInroy Garland & Heather Krabbenhof	30 Philip Michels
16 Wanda Meier Brody Wirtjes	31 Richard Beckel Wesley Homeister Zack Thrasher

# Church News

## Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 5, following worship, we will have a congregational meeting. We will be voting on the proposed St Peter Bylaw concerning New Undesignated Bequests. A detailed explanation can be picked up on the table outside the office.

## Notes of Appreciation

Dear Friends of St Peter and Mission Board,  
You folks truly are the heart of the church, speaking for the members in all that you do for evangelism. It seems just at the day I get a bit discouraged the doorbell rings and there comes a Mission member bringing in love from St Peter. Special thanks to Linda S., Jan G., LaVonne & Gary and Pat & Gene, and Joyce M. Your food was wonderful –we enjoyed every bite!

Also, thanks for the cards of love from the Sunday School classes in February for Valentines Day, so sweet!  
*Dean & Judy*

St Peter Board of Mission, Thank you so much for the care package of food. I enjoyed every morsel. It brought back memories of the awesome pot-lucks I went to at St Peter. Thanks again, I am doing great. Love, *Luther*

To all the good cooks on the Mission Board. I enjoyed the meals you sent to our house. Kay liked the easy prep and I tried to share a taste of the meals with her. I would also like to thank Pastor Reed, Nancy & LaVonne for bringing me communion and a good visit when they are here.  
*Kenny B.*

Mission Board, Thank you so much for the food you brought us. We both have been under the weather for awhile. Butch is feeling better. I am going to Iowa City on Friday for another test. I love that I get to have communion before my test. Thanks again. God's Blessings, *Diane & Butch M.*

## Noisy Offering

Our May & June Noisy Offering will go to the students attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. — Collected the 3rd Sunday, May 19 is Noisy Offering

## Trees for the Future

April 26 was observed as Art Kurtt Memorial Arbor Day. Citizens are urged to protect our trees and woodlands. The benefits of trees are many: reducing erosion, cutting heating and cooling costs, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, providing habitat for wildlife. Trees are a renewable resource and trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community. Wherever they are planted— trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal. We can all plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

*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

The youth earned \$820.50 from the first trailer full of cans, thank you!!



Keep the 5 ¢ redemption cans & bottles coming (NO glass bottles please) St Peter Youth that are attending the gathering are having a Can Drive. You may drop the cans off in bin located in St Peter's Parking Lot.

## BINGO

Bingo at the Denver Sunset Home Friday, May 17, at 10:00 am. We are looking for three volunteers to assist the residents. Please contact Joyce Miller if you can help.

## 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, May 2.**

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).

## 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.

## Quilt Tying

Quilting has concluded for the season. Thanks to all those who volunteered their time and energy 140 quilts were sent to the Ingathering. See you in the fall!

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE JUNE 1 'C3 MINISTRY FAIR

All congregation members from the Northeastern Iowa Synod are invited to attend the synod's first "Creative Collaborative Congregations (C3) Ministry Fair" Saturday, June 1, at Wartburg College, Waverly. This new event is an opportunity for lay people, pastors and deacons from across the synod to gather in fellowship, learn together, share ideas and get inspired with skills to strengthen their congregational ministries. This year's Ministry Fair replaces the Synod Assembly, which will take place every other year and will meet again in 2025.

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

The ministry fair will feature a variety of workshops, round table discussions and displays to support congregations in their ministries and administrative activities. Everyone will be able to attend two workshops in the morning beginning at 9 a.m. and two in the afternoon, concluding at 3:45 p.m. Check-in for the fair will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Northeastern  
Iowa Synod



## Ministry Fair! JUNE 1, 2024

### Come learn about ...

- Call process
- Mutual ministries
- Ministry to parents
- Faith formation
- Volunteer recruitment
- Congregational legacy planning
- Responding to addiction issues
- Repurposing a church sanctuary
- Lay ministry training
- Outdoors as a spiritual playground
- Care for creation ideas
- Strategic ministry plans
- Communications for congregations
- Keeping children safe
- Youth ministry ideas
- Planned giving
- Art as a spiritual practice
- Racial justice opportunities
- LSI's immigrant services
- Campus ministry
- Mission trips
- Mosaic services for fuller lives
- Spiritual care

Everyone  
is Invited!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 1**  
Wartburg College, Waverly  
9 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

Gather in fellowship!  
Learn at workshops!  
Join the worship band!  
Share ideas & get inspired!

\$50 per person.  
Register by May 24 at  
[www.neiasynod.org/  
ministry-fair](http://www.neiasynod.org/ministry-fair)  
or call 319-352-1414.

### SUPPORT LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES!

- Bring Birthday Cake Kits
  - Donate sanitary products
- Download instructions at  
[www.neiasynod.org/  
ministry-fair](http://www.neiasynod.org/ministry-fair).



Please note: the registration fee will be covered by St Peter.



# Faith Formation

## 2024 St. Peter High School Graduates

Congratulations to Jarett Clayton, Justice Gienau, Carson Haase, Kenny Lamb, Peyton Mueller, Alex Oltmann, Grant Pautsch, Keaton Rothmeyer, on successfully completing your high school education! **In recognition of your achievement, we are inviting all members of the graduating class of 2024 to worship together at our 9:00 am worship service, May 26.** Please bring your graduation gown and meet in the Friendship Room at 8:45 am. 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, along with a reception following the service in the friendship room. We will once again have a "Graduate Recognition Board" at the back of the sanctuary. **2024 Senior Pictures: Please send a digital photo and plans for after high school to Amy at Amy.lockhart@uni.edu or info@stpeterdenver.org or bring a senior photo to the church office.**



## Last Day of Sunday School is May 5

**Save the date: August 2, Vacation Bible School**

*Thank you to our Parish Ed Board (Amy Oltmann, Jaime Leonhart, Julie Gleason, Mandy Gesme, Bri Drewelow), Pastor Reed and all our volunteers for a fun Sunday School year!*

Join volunteers, families, and church groups to help Ewalu get ready for the summer season. Take time to explore camp and meet staff and other volunteers ... come Friday evening to spend the night at Ewalu, free of charge (RSVP required).

A variety of projects are being prepared for all ages and abilities. If you can't be here for the weekend, we have plenty of things for volunteers at any time. Just give us a call!

📍 Camp Ewalu main site, 37776 Alpha Ave., Strawberry Point, IA  
(camp entrance is 3 miles west of town, on Iowa Highway 3)

### For more information:

📞 563-933-4700

🌐 [www.ewalu.org/event/spring-work-day](http://www.ewalu.org/event/spring-work-day)

## WORK DAY SCHEDULE

### Saturday, May 4:

#### Volunteer Work Day

- 8:00 a.m. Arrival, Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Work Projects
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Work Projects
- 4:00 p.m. Departure

### Contact with questions:

📞 Paul Frantsen at  
563-933-4700 or email  
[property@ewalu.org](mailto:property@ewalu.org)

### Let us know you're coming:

📞 Diane Parker at  
563-933-4700 or email  
[office@ewalu.org](mailto:office@ewalu.org)

The crosses are located on the bench near the south-west church entrance.



## Filling the Bags

The Board of Mission put together 19 Kollege Kare Kits on Sunday, April 21 that were delivered to St. Peter college students who are preparing for end-of-the-year finals. A \$250 Thrivent grant was used to purchase an assortment of treats to keep kids fortified during a stressful time of the school year. The Kits are also a reminder that our church family remembers them and cares about them.

# May 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 8:00 am Mensfest	<b>2</b> 10:00 Bulletin deadline 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl	<b>3</b> Office closed	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Congregational mtg.	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>8</b> 8:00 am Mensfest 6:45 pm Council	<b>9</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>15</b> 8:00 am Mensfest	<b>16</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>17</b> 10:00 am Bingo @ Denver Sunset Home <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship and With Noisy Offering	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>22</b> 8:00 am Mensfest	<b>23</b> 10:00 Bulletin deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Basement Reserved
<b>26</b> 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship	<b>27</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	<b>29</b> 8:00 am Mensfest	<b>30</b> 10:00 Bulletin deadline	<b>31</b>	

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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