

# St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

## October 2023

### Pastor Pedersen's Points – Let the Little Children Come

**Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs. (Matthew 19:14)"**

Some children wanted to be blessed by Jesus. Jesus' disciples tried to get them to leave. Jesus' response is the verse above. Jesus invited the children to come as they are. He does not see them as a nuisance as the disciples do. Instead, he sees those for whom the kingdom of heaven belongs.

As a church we are called to follow the same guideline. We are called to welcome children AS THEY ARE. Children are not adults. Sitting through an entire church service is really hard for them. In fact, learning through sitting and listening is not the best way kids learn. They learn best from play. Children are no longer under the old-fashioned expectation of being 'seen but not heard'. Jesus did not say, "Let the children come as long as they are quiet. Only the quiet and well-behaved ones will get into the kingdom of heaven." If this were true, my son and daughter would certainly not make the cut.

If we are called to welcome kids then we are also called to invite, welcome, and help out the parents who get them to church. Trying to watch your kids and be a part of a worship service can be taxing. Words of encouragement and a helping hand to the parents of our congregation is vital to ensure that our families want to come and be a part of our faith community.

So...bring your kicking, screaming, running wild, playing, and laughing children to church. Jesus wants them there. If you are someone who finds children in church distracting, perhaps you should take a step back and think of what the future of this church looks like without those young ones for whom the kingdom of heaven belongs.



## Dates to remember

### Blessing of Tractors

Our worship service on **October 1** will include a special blessing of the tractors as we pray for a safe and bountiful harvest. We invite those who would like to drive their tractors to church that day to park along Franklin Street.

### St Peter Anniversary

Did you know!?! October 5th will be the 121<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the dedication of St Peter Lutheran Church. We will celebrate our church's anniversary during worship on Sunday, **October 1**.

### "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday

On Sunday, **October 8th**, our church will celebrate the call to love our neighbor. We will worship together and gather afterwards for service activities, with lunch to follow.

### Affirmation of Baptism

We will celebrate St Peter 9th Grade Student's Affirmation of Baptism on Reformation Sunday, **October 29**, 9:00 am.

# Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	October 1 Sunday 9:00 am	October 8 Sunday 9:00 am	October 15 Sunday 9:00 am	October 22 Sunday 9:00 am	October 29 Reformation Sunday 9:00 am
<b>Organist</b>	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller
<b>Acolytes</b>					
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Pat Leonhart & TBD		Susan Buss & Kelley Carman	Pat Leonhart
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Sheryl Moeller	Gene Leonhart	Ryan Pautsch	Susan Buss	Amy Oltmann
<b>Multimedia</b>					
<b>Sound System</b>	Steve DeVries	Philip Michels	Roger Donaldson	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus
<b>Video taping</b>					
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Shirley Thurm, Mary Thurm, Marilyn Mueller, Phillis Plaster				
<b>Usher/Greeters</b>	Ryan & Eve Pautsch family & 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.



*Thank you to Lyla and Pastor Reed for sharing their talents during our Worship with the Psalm duet "10,000 Reasons"*

## 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.

## 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.



# Community



## EWALU Quilt Auction

Joyce Miller and Joyce Schimmels attended the EWALU Quilt Auction and report it was a success!

## Helping Hands Clothing Closet

Our clients came from 20 different communities last month. Volunteers gave 60 hours of their time. We put out winter clothes in September. Our needs throughout the winter will be for kids' winter coats and boots. Thank you for all of the great donations this month.

Donations of new or gently used clothing, shoes, boots, towels and bedding are greatly appreciated.

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*

## Property Board Reports New Steps

In early September, Jacob DeVries Concrete & Excavating was enlisted to make some concrete repairs at St. Peter. This included replacing failing sidewalk slabs near the NW entry and a total replacement of the concrete steps at the NE corner of the property. While the existing steps were in bad repair, the pictures showing the demolition are a testament to the long-lasting work that was done about one hundred years ago when the stairs were first constructed. Handrails for the new stairs are on order and will be in place shortly.



## Chemo Care Kits

The Mission Board is seeking volunteers to assemble Chemo Care Packages to be delivered to the Unity Point Community Cancer Center. You can easily assemble a care package: pick up a tote containing the list of items needed from the basket by the church office, fill the bag with those items, and return it to the church. These care packages will not only be practical, comforting, and entertaining, but will project Jesus to cancer patients in our community. Please consider participating in our project!

## Cancer Care Packages suggested items

### Please include all of these items:

Chap stick  
Hard candy  
Hand sanitizer  
Small Kleenex packs  
Small container of lotion  
Fuzzy socks



### Please include a couple of these items:

Magazines  
Small pad of paper with pen  
Puzzle books/word search books  
Adult coloring book with colored pencils

**Noisy Offering:** September and October Noisy Offering will go towards supplementing the Chemo Care Kits.

## His Hands Food Pantry

Serving families in the area that are experiencing food insecurity. Current Request: canned vegetables, macaroni and noodles. Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. August Statistics, Household Served-104. Individuals Served-327. Food Distributed-10,157 lbs. Questions -319-638-4357 or Mary Burgart 563-920-3857. The donation box is located in the library. Last donation totaled 43# Thank you to Midthus for delivering.

## Quilting

Quilt tying has begun. Please join us Mondays from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, and Tuesdays 9:00 am - Noon, in the lower level of the church. The quilters encourage anyone that is interested in tying or sewing quilts to join them. All are welcome; 86 quilts tied so far!

## BINGO

Bingo at the Denver Sunset Home Friday, October 20, at 10:00 am. We are looking for three volunteers to assist the residents. St Peter will be helping with Bingo at the Denver Sunset Home every 3rd Friday of the month. Sign up on the office or contact Joyce Miller.



# October Birthdays & Anniversaries

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1<br>Donna J Wolter                                    | 15<br>Allison Swanson<br>Ryan & Kayla Tucker                             |
| 2<br>Roxane Franzen<br>Kyle Niemann<br>Cody Robinson   | 17<br>Gavin & Kelley Carman<br>Marian & Pastor Kevin Frey<br>Eve Pautsch |
| 3<br>Nancy Lamos<br>Ryan Tucker<br>Dave & Wendy Mohlis | 18<br>Maci Leonhart  |
| 4<br>Burton Diercks                                    | 19<br>Neal Thurm   |
| 6<br>Floyd Liddle                                      | 20<br>Roger & Donna Donaldson  |
| 7<br>Doris Blankenship<br>Amber Niemann                | 21<br>David Leisinger<br>Steve & Audrey DeVries                          |
| 9<br>Carol Ackerman<br>Brad Becker<br>Krisanne Wirtjes | 22<br>Audrey Becker<br>Kurt Gleason                                      |
| 10<br>Vera Collins<br>Gary Westendorf                  | 23<br>Millie Corell<br>Thomas Place<br>Scott Rothmeyer                   |
| 11<br>Charles & Jill Nuss                              | 24<br>Gabe Lahmann<br>Leana Place<br>Harold Wille                        |
| 12<br>Andy Drewelow<br>Donna Kittle<br>Bethany Sadler  | 25<br>Becky Dierks<br>Samuel Schumacher                                  |
| 13<br>Charles Nuss                                     | 26<br>Jan Hartmann<br>Mark & Lynn Gielau<br>Pastor Reed & Megan Pedersen |
| 14<br>Wesley Gielau<br>Joel Wolter                     | 27<br>Michael Place  |
|  | 29<br>Sam Lockhart<br>Austin Oltmann                                     |
|  | 30<br>Brian & Angie Meyer<br>Brady Schmauss                              |
|  | 31<br>Carol Liddle<br>Paul Meier   |

*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

We welcome our newly baptized members into the body of Christ and into the mission we share at St Peter.



*Emery Krueger was baptized on September 10.*

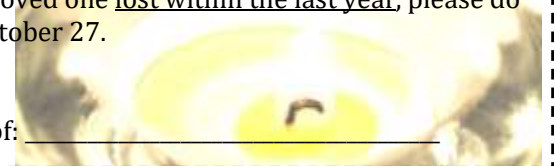


*Davis Becker was baptized on September 17.*

## All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday, November 5, the church's traditional time to remember those who have died in the past year and those born into our faith community. We celebrate and remember their lives and how we are knit together with them in the victory of Jesus' resurrection. We will remember those from St Peter and if you'd like to submit a name of a loved one lost within the last year, please do so before October 27.

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_





# Community & Mission News

## God's Work, Our Hands

Like 8,700 other congregations participating in "God's Work, Our Hands." we will be making a positive change in sharing God's love. You may ask how we are going to do this? After a shortened Sunday worship service our whole congregation children, youth and adults will be participating in various stations. These service stations are:

1. Tying fleece blankets that will go to Bremwood,
2. Fabric painting conveying God's love on white pillowcases will go to House of Hope and Friends of the Family,
3. Decorating cookies for shut-ins,
4. Making cards. These will go to members in our church who have a hard time venturing out of their homes, Willow Winds Assisted Living, and Denver Sunset Nursing Home,
5. Planting trees to help the environment,
6. Cleaning up our parks,
7. Finishing the packing of Lutheran World Relief school bags with collected school supplies,
8. Joining in a freewill offering (that will be donated to Lutheran Disaster Response) with a lunch of beef burgers, chips, veggie finger food, plus cookies and bars.

The congregation members will get to choose which stations they want to participate in.

## Fall Décor:

It's fall, and that means it's time to decorate for the autumn season. If anyone has pumpkins and/or gourds you would like to share with the church, please bring them to the office. Thanks for your decorative garden produce!

## October is Pastor Appreciation Month

We often overlook the time, dedication, and sacrifices that pastors make to nurture our faith and strengthen our communities. Therefore, the Mission Board encourages you to take time during the month of October to recognize Pastor Reed and other clergy in our communities to show appreciation for their service. There are a multitude of ways you can do this and to get you thinking, here are just a few ideas:

- Send a note of thanks - to make this easy there are cards on the table outside the church office
- Provide a meal or invite the pastor and family to your home for a meal
- Babysit the pastor's children so they can have a date night with their spouse
- Give a gift card for a favorite restaurant, coffee shop, movie theatre, gas station, etc.
- Invite the pastor to play a round of golf or to attend an event
- Give your pastor a shout-out on social media
- Stop by the church office during work hours and go for a walk with the pastor
- Volunteer to help on a committee or at an event
- Pamper the pastor's spouse....The opportunities are only limited by your imagination.



## Dear St Peter Friends:

Thanks so much for the special Birthday card for my 92 special day. God has surely blessed me! Thanks again! *Verna Harms*

## With Appreciation

I can't thank you enough for the beautiful quilt and all your prayers and support. They all mean so much to me. *Ethan Krabbenhoft*

## To Our Church Family

Thank you for all the cards and memorials given in Sam's honor. Also, thank you for those who helped with the service. We appreciated all the prayers and support. May you be blessed for the kindness shown us. *Peggy Smith and family.*

## Dear ladies of St Peter (Mission/Evangelism Board)

Thank you for the gift of treats for our AA group on Tuesday nights! We appreciate you thinking of us and the gift of food is always so yummy! *AA/Alanon members*

# Faith Formation

## Affirmation of Baptism

Congratulations to our Confirmands!  
Confirmation Sunday for the 9th graders will be  
October 29, Students Affirming their Baptism are:

Cannen Beaumont  
Calvin Beem  
Dalton Brinkman  
Adalyn Gleason  
Jackson Joerger  
Sydney Krabbenhoft  
Max Leonhart  
Libby Michels  
Austin Oltmann  
Lincoln Roethler  
Kenna Rothmeyer

**Affirmation of Baptism will be held on Sunday, October 29 at 9:00am worship.** Confirmands will sit together and should be here by 8:20 am that day for photos. The final act of the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism involves the laying on of hands by the pastor, parents, baptismal sponsors (if present), and others who wish to be a part of this portion of the rite. At the appropriate time, the pastor will invite the family to come forward and stand behind their child and place a hand on the kneeling Confirmand as the pastor prays for each Confirmand individually. Our council president, Jayson Gesme, will present the students for confirmation.

**Robes** - each confirmand will need to come to the church before the 29th and pick out a robe that fits them best. You will want to check out the selection soon!

## First Communion Class Offered -October 18 or 25

Pastor Reed will be leading First Communion instruction for those who desire for their child to commune. You can choose from two dates, October 18 or 25, 5:00 pm. Please contact the office if your child plans to attend, walk-ins are welcome as well. Reminder, we do not have a

minimum age requirement.



## 2023 Sunday School Dates

October 1st  
October 8<sup>th</sup> NO SUNDAY SCHOOL. *There is a 'God's Work. Our Hands.' day following church that all congregational members are encouraged to take part in... there will be a lot of service project opportunities.*  
October 15th  
October 22nd  
October 29<sup>th</sup> Kids welcome to wear Halloween costumes & tentatively will sing in church.  
November 5<sup>th</sup> Christmas program practice will start.  
November 12th  
November 19th  
November 26<sup>th</sup> NO SUNDAY SCHOOL  
December 3rd  
December 10th  
December 17<sup>th</sup> Christmas Program during church - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL following.  
December 24<sup>th</sup> NO SUNDAY SCHOOL  
December 31<sup>st</sup> NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of the education team. Amy Oltmann on behalf of the Education Team Jaime Leonhart, Julie Gleason, Mandy Gesme, Bri Drewelow

An Education Team member will Lead the Sunday School each week. Pastor will meet with all of the kids for song practice & Sunday School Collection, the Education Team member will read the bible story and be prepared to direct the games/crafts being completed that day. The program does require a minimum number of adults be involved to be successful.

Parents are being asked to assist as a Parent Helper two times throughout the 2023-24 year per Sunday School student. This will allow the Education Team to continue to provide a strong Sunday School program. Thank you to those who signed up already. Moving forward, you may sign-up via the Worship Servers Volunteer Sign-up <http://www.stpeterdenver.org/volunteer.html>

Grandparents, friends, confirmation & high school students, congregation members are all welcome to sign-up but it is expected the slots be filled. The Education Team simply can not continue without helpers.

What does a Parent Helper do? The parent... if you see a child whose attention is waning, remind them to be quiet, help direct focus, and assist in whatever the Education Team Leader asks for Game or Craft assistance. Your kids will LOVE having you be part of the days you sign-up for!



# October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Tractor Blessing & Church Anniversary 7:30 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 7:00 pm Confirmation	<b>2</b> 9:00 am –3:00 pm Quilting	<b>3</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am WELCA Board mtg 9:00 am—Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	<b>4</b> 8:00 am Mensfest 6:30 pm Worship & Music mtg	<b>5</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> God's Work our Hands 7:30 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 7:00 pm Confirmation	<b>9</b> 9:00 am –3:00 pm Quilting	<b>10</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am—Noon Quilting 6:45 pm Council meeting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	<b>11</b> 8:00 am Mensfest	<b>12</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 7:30 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship With Noisy Offering 10:15 am Sunday School 7:00 pm Confirmation	<b>16</b> 9:00 am –3:00 pm Quilting	<b>17</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am—Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	<b>18</b> 8:00 am Mensfest 5:00 pm 1st Communion Class	<b>19</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>20</b> 10:00 am Bingo @ Denver Sunset Home <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 7:30 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 7:00 pm Confirmation	<b>23</b> 9:00 am –3:00 pm Quilting	<b>24</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am—Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	<b>25</b> 8:00 am Mensfest 5:00 pm 1st Communion Class	<b>26</b> 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Affirmation of Baptism 7:30 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 7:00 pm Confirmation	<b>30</b> 9:00 am –3:00 pm Quilting	<b>31</b> 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am—Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon				

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## 2023 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:** Todd Foelske, Mary Stevens, Marcia Joerger, Jackie Fober, Amy Oltmann, Jayson Gesme, Jill Nuss, Linda Schult, Donna Kittle

**Executive Board:** Jayson Gesme, Marcia Joerger, Todd Foelske, Jill Nuss

**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

**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

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