

St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

October 2024

Pastor Pedersen's Points – Reformation and Re-Formation

On the last Sunday of every October, we celebrate Reformation Sunday. This is in honor of Martin Luther sparking the Reformation of the Christian Church by nailing 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, to spark conversation concerning the abuse of indulgences and the power of grace. He did this on October 31, 1517. (So, it looks like there is more than just Halloween to celebrate on that day!)

The Reformation sparked by Martin Luther and many others led to many different denominations instead of just having two: Roman Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodox Church (They split in 1054 AD). While the Reformation led to a split from the Catholic Church, the movement known as the Reformation was not meant to simply break away. Martin Luther was a Catholic monk and wished to remain that way. What he sought to do was reform, not leave, but once he was excommunicated by the Roman Catholic Church that option was removed.

I would like to stick with this idea of reforming. It is an important part of the Christian life. As humans we are imperfect. We lack the ability to be perfect, sinless beings who are worthy enough to stand before God. Romans 3:23-24 makes it clear, “[All] have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” Blessed with this great gift from Jesus Christ, the Christian life is not about being perfect. Instead, Martin Luther says this:

“This life therefore is not righteousness but growth in righteousness; not health but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not what we shall be but we are growing toward it; the process is not yet finished but it is going on; this is not the end but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory but all is being purified.” (The New Encyclopedia of Christian Quotations)

This October I want to invite all of us into the true spirit of the Reformation by seeking to reform ourselves. Let us try to be better children of God, better Christians, better neighbors, and better human beings for God's sake and for the sake of humanity. On our journey of growth, we will surely encounter steps backward. Fortunately, we are blessed with that gift of grace, which provides us with forgiveness and encourages us to go out and try again. In fact, within our worship order and language that seems to be one of the purposes of Holy Communion.

My dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, we will never be perfect. This is true, but we can become better. It is like knowing you will never compete for the marathon in the Olympics, but it doesn't mean you still can't go for a run or walk to give your hearts a little bit of exercise. I wish you all good luck as we try our best to reform ourselves, and when you falter, please know that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is ready to provide you with mercy and love.

In humble service,
Pastor Reed Lee
Pedersen

Harvest and LWR Quilt Blessings

Our worship service on **October 6** will include a special blessing 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. Fellowship will take place outdoors, weather permitting.



Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

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

	October 6 Sunday 9:00 am	October 13 Sunday 9:00 am	October 20 Sunday 9:00 am	October 27 Sunday 9:00 am
Organist	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart
Acolytes	Lauren Carman	Lauren Carman & TBD	Laruen Carman & TBD	
Communion Assistant	Jackie Fober & Morgan Roethler	Aubrey & Morgan Roethler		Morgan Roethler &
Scripture Reader	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Donna Kittle	Amy Lockhart
Multimedia	Philip Michels	Todd Foelske	Philip Michels	Philip Michels
Sound System	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus	Steve DeVries	Roger Donaldson
Sunday School Helper	NA	TBD	TBD	TBD
Altar Guild	Staci Mueller, Anne Sickles, Nancy Lamos			
Usher/Greeters	We are looking for Ushers for October, please let us know if you are interested.			
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

Chemo Care Kits

The Mission Board is seeking volunteers to assemble Chemo Care Packages to be delivered to the Community Cancer Centers. 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.

Helping Hands Clothing Closet

September saw 357 client visits (189 adults and 168 children); Clients came from 15 communities throughout northeast Iowa. Our volunteers gave fifty seven hours of their time to helping our clients. A big thank you to our wonderful volunteers and thank you for all of the donations of clothing, shoes, blankets and towels. We are always in need of school age children's clothing and shoes, towels and bedding. At this time of year we also need winter coats and boots.

Love in the Glovebox

How do you respond when you see a homeless person on the street corner?

The Board of Mission is suggesting a way for you to be prepared. Carrying small items in your glovebox is an easy and special way to spread God's love. Could socks, gloves, small change, personal care items, McDonald gift cards, and/or granola bars, touch a neighbor in need? We may see the homeless/under-employed down the road during the winter months. We won't know their stories from the front seat of our cars, but let's try to resist judgment and instead, empathize with their situations. The strangers we meet are deserving of God's love and grace.

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.
Matthew 25:40.

It's Happening Again!!!

Sunday, October 6th, Festeburg, a men's a cappella vocal group from Wartburg College, will be singing during our worship service. This group came last year for Pastor's Appreciation Sunday. Pastor was a member of Festeburg when he was at Wartburg so he has a special connection to the group. They will sing a variety of songs and musical styles. Please plan to attend worship on October 6th and join in the excitement of having Festeburg kick off our Pastor Appreciation Month.

Evergreen Offerings

Troop 103 Sea Base '25 Scouts, including Austin Oltmann, are offering cemetery placement of memorials this holiday season if you are interested in purchasing a wreath or holiday cross with a grave stand for loved ones at either Fairview or St. Peter Lutheran Church Cemeteries in Denver, or any of the three Jackson Township Cemeteries surrounding Janesville. The memorials will be posted prior to Thanksgiving and removed the first week of January. Not limited to only memorials, if you are interested in a wreath, swag, centerpiece, or garland to spread holiday cheer at home or as a gift, Austin is taking orders until October 25th. Feel free to stop Austin in church, call Amy 319.464.4486, email amyoltmann@hotmail.com, or Order sheets will also be available in Roxane's Office.

Scout Troop 103 has 4 Scouts (3 from Denver Schools, including Austin, and 1 from Janesville Schools), and 2 Adults, headed to Sea Base Bahamas in March 2025. They are excited to sail, fish, snorkel, and explore for 6 Days/5 Nights and will be sleeping aboard the sailboat. As Scouting is about earning your way, these 4 Scouts are working hard to fundraise by currently selling popcorn and Evergreen products for the holiday. Thank you for any prayers, well wishes, & support!

BINGO

Bingo at the Denver Sunset Home Friday, October 18, at 10:00 am. St Peter helps with Bingo every third Friday of the month. Volunteers may contact Joyce Miller.

Raffle Tickets

Denver Sunset Home Auxiliary is selling tickets to win a basket of local gift cards and goodies. Tickets are available for purchase at the Denver Savings Bank and at the Denver Sunset Home Activity Office. Monies raised help support the resident activities such as entertainment, bingo prizes, celebrating birthdays and much more. The drawing will be held October 15.

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 Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

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
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 - Provide a meal or invite the pastor and family to your home for a meal
 - Babysit Zeke and Margo so Pastor Reed and Megan can have a date night
 - Give a gift card to their favorite restaurant, coffee shop, gas station, etc.
 - Invite Pastor Reed to play a round of golf or to attend an event with you
 - Give pastor a shout-out on social media
 - Stop by the church office during working hours to share personal thanks
 - Volunteer to help on a committee or at an event
 - Pamper Megan and their kiddos as well as Pastor Reed
- The opportunities are only limited by your imagination.*

Member Update

Anna Everding has moved to the Denver Sunset Home temporarily, and welcomes visitors while she is staying there.

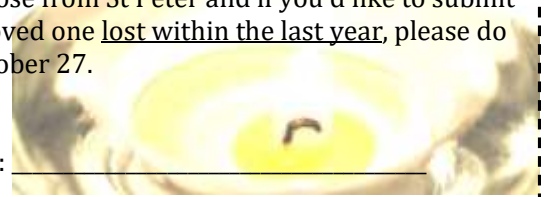
Prayers do Help!

I want to thank you all and let you know that I greatly appreciate knowing there have been wonderful prayers said for my brother. Bill has stage IV cancer, but since putting him on our prayer list has, through drug therapy and your prayers, continued to control the growth and spread of it. I will continue to leave him on our list because your gracious prayers are helping. God bless you. *Mary*

All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday, November 3, 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



Quilting

Please join us Mondays from 9:00 am –3:00 pm, and Tuesdays 9:00 am—Noon, in the lower level of the church. All are welcome.

Our church experienced another wonderful participation day for Gods Work, Our Hands Sunday, September 8th. We started it off with worshipping God who sets our day with his grace and love. Afterwards we spent our morning doing special activities. Our Sunday School children went to the Sunset Nursing Home to greet the residents, sing and pick up the outside area. We had four other volunteers go to Willow Winds Assisted Living and provide special music for these residents as they visited with them. There was a group who volunteered at the local boy scout camp working on outdoor projects designated. In the church basement there were five stations at which volunteers could do various activities. At these stations 32 LWR school bags were packed with the required school supplies, five fleece blankets were tied, ten pillowcases were decorated, two LWR quilts were pinned and tied, and greeting cards were written. After completing our volunteer mission we enjoyed a delicious meal together with a free will donation going to Lutheran Disaster Response. A sincere thank you to leaders, volunteers and participants who made this special service day successful. We, with God to help and guide us, made a positive contribution to our community, county, and national organizations.



Faith Formation

Affirmation of Baptism

Congratulations to our Confirmands!
Confirmation Sunday for the 9th graders will be October 27, Students Affirming their Baptism are:

- Danica Brinkman
- Isabelle Foelske
- Tyler Nuss
- Henry Pautsch
- Miles Pautsch
- Aubrey Roethler

Affirmation of Baptism will be held on Sunday, October 27 at 9:00am worship. **Confirmands will sit together and should be here by 8:10 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.

2024 Sunday School Dates

- October 6 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL.
- October 13
- October 20
- October 27- Kids welcome to wear Halloween costumes
- November 3 - Veteran's Day Cards
- November 10
- November 17
- November 24
- December 1 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- December 8
- December 15 - Christmas Program during church - no Sunday School following.
- December 22 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- December 29 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of the education team: Amy Oltmann, Jaime Leonhart, Julie Gleason, Mandy Gesme, Bri Drewelow

As a Sunday School Parent, please plan on signing up online as a volunteer two times per child that attends Sunday School. Your help is necessary & greatly appreciated! While the Leader will tell the bible story and lead the crafts/activities, parent helpers can help redirect kids that may be distracted, help with grabbing materials if needed, assist with craft, and be a helping hand, etc. Sign-up via the Worship Servers Volunteer Sign-up <http://www.stpeterdenver.org/volunteer.html> on our website. Along with a sign-up for treats for the children under the Sunday School tab. 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.

Area Fall Dinners

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Tripoli, Iowa
 is sponsoring our
ANNUAL CHURCH SUPPER
Sunday, October 20, 2024
4:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Grace Lutheran Fellowship Hall

MENU
 Roast Beef
 Ham
 Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,
 Salads, Green Beans, Carrots
 Dinner Rolls,
 Assorted Homemade Pies, and Cakes
 Coffee, Milk, Lemonade, and Water

Free Will Offering
(Carry outs available)

Raffle for a Quilt & many more prizes
Raffle tickets available prior to and during supper
Need not be present to win

Proceeds for new chairs for the Fellowship Hall and Benevolence.

Fall Dinner- Zion Lutheran Church will be hosting their annual Fall Dinner on Sunday, October 27th from 11am-1pm. The menu will consist of beef brisket, cheesy potatoes, home-grown corn, coleslaw, pistachio fluff, rolls & butter, pies & desserts. Dine-in or Drive-Thru is available, this is a freewill donation, and the money raised will go towards church projects and community needs.



FEATURED SPEAKER

Pr. Nikoli Falenschek
Associate Pastor, St. Paul's
Lutheran Church, Waverly



DETAILS & SIGN UP

Go to www.ewalu.org/
Autumn-Odyssey
or scan the code



Autumn Odyssey

55+ Retreat at Ewalu's Stone Center

A brand-new fall retreat **just for seniors** at the comfortable Stone Center north of Strawberry Point! Join us for a featured speaker, time for reflection and renewal, optional hiking, and simple relaxation. Plus, we'll enjoy the beautiful fall colors in scenic NE Iowa! **Meals & lodging included.**

DATES: 4 PM Monday, Oct. 14 to 11 AM Wednesday, Oct. 16
COST: Double occupancy \$175
Single occupancy \$225





October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am-Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	2	3 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	4	5
6 9:00 am Worship Harvest & LWR Quilt Blessing Festeburg	7 9:00 am-3:00 pm Quilting	8 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am-Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	9 6:45 pm Council meeting	10 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	11	12
13 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School Online Confirmation	14 9:00 am-3:00 pm Quilting	15 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am-Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	16	17 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	18 10:00 am Bingo @ Denver Sunset Home 1:00 pm Bremwood Auxiliary Luncheon Newsletter Deadline	19
20 9:00 am Worship With Noisy Offering 10:15 am Sunday School 7:00 pm Confirmation	21 9:00 am-3:00 pm Quilting	22 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am-Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	23	24 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	25	26
27 9:00 am Worship Affirmation of Baptism 10:15 am Sunday School	28 9:00 am-3:00 pm Quilting	29 7:30 am Womensfest 9:00 am-Noon Quilting 7:00 pm AAA/Alanon	30	31 10:00 am Bulletin deadline		

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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