

St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

September 2020

Pastor Dawn Pederson
Projecting Christ to All Generations



Dear Church,

It's been a long and exhausting six months! Although the pandemic put the brakes on many things, worship never stopped. We made the decision to suspend in-person worship on a Monday and began online worship the following Sunday. This has been a HUGE learning curve for all of us. I much prefer seeing your faces rather than only you seeing mine. As the weeks have evolved into months, the format has expanded beyond weekly devotions and prayers to include music and other parts of our Sunday morning worship service. Through it all Roxane and I have tried our best to bring the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ, into your homes.

In July we began worshipping in-person outdoors on Sunday mornings. We started in city park for a couple of weeks and then we moved our services to the lawn between the church and the parsonage. We did this because city park was already reserved the last Sunday in July. All in attendance that day and since agree we like the change of location. The weather has been great except for one Sunday when a thunderstorm (much needed) rolled through causing us to cancel worship. It is always a challenge to get the word out when this happens. Our cancellation was submitted to KWWL but they are not currently scrolling cancellations on the television, so when in doubt about the status of worship, check on our Facebook page, call the church, or call me on my cell phone (641-529-6592). Council made the decision back in June, when there is inclement weather in-person worship is canceled. Online worship continues every week.

Along with the challenges of worshipping outside, (I've quickly learned clothes pins are not optional, but a REAL necessity) there are also great joys. When we worship outside on Sunday mornings we can sing and nature sings along with us, even the cicadas sing God's praises with us. When we worship outside, we can speak responses and pray the Lord's Prayer out loud in unison. We can safely worship in this way because of the big space. Yes, there are other sights and sounds outside that may distract us for a second, but the same is true in the sanctuary. A fly in the sanctuary is just as much of a distraction as it is outside. Still, I get it. You miss being in the sanctuary. I miss being in the sanctuary too, but we do not worship a space or the altar or the organ or our pew or the stained glass windows, or _____ (you fill in the blank). We worship the Living God, the maker of heaven and earth, the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The space in which we worship isn't as important as the people gathered together to worship. Whether we worship online, outdoors, or in the sanctuary we are the church together; we are the body of Christ here at St. Peter. Through the water and the word in Holy Baptism we are forever made sisters and brothers in Christ. Worship is more about relationship than it is about space.

The day will come when we will worship together again in the sanctuary. When? I do not know. Maybe we will be worshipping outside until the snow flies. If we can dress warm and go to a football game or enjoy other outdoor fall activities, we can dress warm and worship outside. For now, council has decided we will continue to worship outside. One day we will look back on this time of worshipping outside and online. How will we remember it? Will we remember it with frustration, or will we remember it with thanksgiving? Nothing, not even a pandemic, can stop God's word and our worship of God.

You've probably heard it said as I have, "We may be sick of this pandemic, but this pandemic isn't done making us sick!" We've come a long way. In football terms, I wonder, are we on the 50-yard line yet? We are most definitely not in the end zone yet. We all need to keep doing our part. Following CDC guidelines is going to get us where we want to be sooner rather than later. I am doing my best to keep myself healthy so that I can continue to serve as your pastor. I am doing my best to keep my family healthy. I am doing my best to keep the congregation healthy. I am doing my best to keep this community healthy. We have played a role and we continue to play a role in this pandemic. We need to continue to love and care for one another through this pandemic as God loves and cares for us every day of our lives.

In Christ's love and service,

Pastor Dawn

Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

	September 6 Sunday 9:00 am On the lawn	September 13 Sunday 9:00 am On the lawn	September 20 Sunday 9:00 am On the lawn	September 27 Sunday 9:00 am On the lawn
Organist	Sheryl Moeller	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart	Amy Lockhart
Council Ushers	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Altar Guild	*Kari Anfinson, Staci Mueller, Anne Sickles			
Usher/Greeters	*Lauren Milius, Joyce & Terry Miller * =(only if comfortable participating)			
<p>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.</p>				

Summer Weather Policy:

If we decide that we need to cancel Worship due to weather, it will be decided by 7:30 am that Sunday morning and posted shortly thereafter on the St Peter Website home page, www.stpeterdenver.org, Facebook, and KWWL.

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.

The Bell and Chimes at St Peter

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

Womensfest & Mensfest

At this time we do not have a date to share on when and how Womensfest and Mensfest will resume.

Noisy Offering

We will collect noisy offering the third Sunday of the month, during outdoor worship. September's donations will go towards purchasing school supplies and new underwear.

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.

***Meetings are suspended at St Peter for the time being.**



Insect Repellant Reminder

There may be annoying bugs to deal with in regards to our outdoor worship. We suggest that people bring insect repellant or apply bug spray before they come to worship.

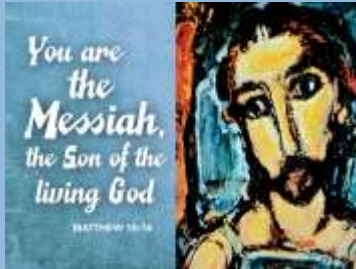
Assistance During the Pandemic

One day at a time is our new normal. As we continue to navigate through this pandemic there may be new needs that arise. St Peter is here as a resource for you. We may be able to meet the need, and if not, we will look for and share other possible resources with you. Please contact the church office or Pastor Dawn on her cell phone (641-529-6592) with questions or needs.

Mission & Community

Bulletin Requests

Each week the church office mails out the weekly Sunday bulletin to members that have indicated an interest in receiving one. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please let the office know.



Friends of the Lutheran Campus Ministry

This past year has been nothing short of crazy and brought about change, both anticipated and unexpected. The Board members of the Lutheran Student Center at the University of Northern Iowa took a long, hard look at our campus ministry and its current state. The long-standing way of campus ministry was no longer serving out students and community. The decision was made to sell the building of the Lutheran Student Center at 2616 College Street and move the ministry up the hill, to begin work with ThreeHouse Collaborative Campus Ministries (formerly the Wesley Foundation), 2422 College Street.

What this means:

- Our ministry is stronger than ever.
- Through collaboration with our new ecumenical partners, our ministry will reach and impact more students.

Continuous repairs are no longer necessary to keep the building functional.

What you can do:

Donate. The funds you give go directly to providing ministry for our students and campus community and help us prepare for the upcoming semester. <http://lutheranstudentcenter.org/donate>

- Tell others about the LCM. If you know a student who is studying at UNI, Hawkeye Community College, or Allen College, we'd love to meet them!

Pray for our ministry and community. Our work is never done and your support is welcome and appreciated. We know that your continued encouragement will be critical in the days and weeks ahead, and will help us to thrive and come together in new ways, with new people. We cannot thank you enough.

"Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God."

Be safe, be well, and know that you are Beloved.

ThreeHouse/LCM

Fall Volunteer Work Days at EWALU Saturday, September 26 & October 24, 8:00 am—5:00 pm

Join other volunteers, families, and church groups to help Ewalu get ready for the winter season. We hope you take time to explore camp in your free time, get to know some of the camp staff and other volunteers, and return home renewed and refreshed from your time in this special place in God's kingdom.

In order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, we will keep all work groups under the ten-person limit. Face masks will be required indoors and while working outside when social distancing is difficult.

Saturday Sept. 26 & Oct. 24

8:00 a.m. Check-In

9:00 a.m. Work Projects

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Work Projects

5:00 p.m. Departure

Projects

- Trailblazer roof repair
- spreading wood chips on the ropes course
- repair of garden fence at the farm
- staining picnic tables and benches
- splitting wood
- trail trimming

If you'd like to come on a different date we can accommodate your group. To schedule your own volunteer work date contact Paul Frantsen.

Thank you!

Volunteers are a big part of Camp Ewalu. We are very thankful for all the people who faithfully come to this "place apart" to serve, share, and grow in faith in God. Thank you for your hands of service!

Contact: Paul Frantsen at 563-933-4700 or email property@ewalu.org

RSVP with: Diane Parker at 563-933-4700 or email office@ewalu.org

NEIA Synod's new interim Bishop: The Northeastern Iowa Synod Council is pleased to announce that they have extended a contract to Rev. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl to serve as interim Bishop for the synod beginning September 1, 2020.



September Birthdays & Anniversaries

Community & Mission News

1

Christopher Herman
Gene & Pat Leonhart
Ella Gustafson

2

Lars Gesme
Alexandra Place
Brent & Kris Steege

3

Benjamin Foelske
Marcia Joerger
Mallory Steege

4

Steve DeVries
Marian Murley
Emmett Nuehring
Emily Ruby

5

Hether Gustafson
Bode McIlravy
Judy Milius
Jace Williams

6

Jeff Joerger
Sam Joerger

7

Brian DeVries
Jay Patterson
Rick & Sharon Robinson

8

Abry Meyer
Brian Meyer
Jeff & Kim Williams

9

Jacob Lyons
Grace Upshaw
Kevin & Holly Smith

10

Lincoln Roethler

11

Kerry Thies
Wesley & Barbara Gielau

12

Ryan Maitland

13

Jayden Wolter

14

Gene Leonhart
Abbi Robinson
Steve & Angie Sadler

15

Kiara Michels

16

Sandra Sue Eick
LuAnn Emerson
Robert Foelske

17

Jason Brinkman
Peggy Smith
Michael & Leana Place

18

Amber Leisinger

19

Rev Dawn & Steve Pederson
Keaton Rothmeyer
Tony & Trudi Schimmels
Paige Sickles

20

Alex Krabbenhoft

21

Julie Smith
Spencer Vauthier
Margaret Weikert
Michael & Judy Vauthier

22

Kurt & Julie Gleason
Chad & Carol Liddle
Brady & Megan Schmauss
Ryan & Jennifer Wirtjes

23

Margaret Liddle
Mary Thurm

25

Bailey Nuss

26

Nancy Dryer
Chalee Gienau
Michael McInroy
Rev Dawn Pederson

29

Harold & Marilyn Wentz

30

Margaret Empie
Paul Empie
Elizabeth Foelske

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

Blessing Box Donations

As you know we have two blessing boxes in the community, one here at church and another at the mobile home park. Some have asked about making donations for the blessing boxes. Donations of non-perishable food items are welcome. **Due to the heat we are not currently putting canned food items in the blessing boxes.** The following is a list of items we are currently putting in the blessing boxes. Please bring your food offerings to worship on Sundays or arrange to drop them off at another time. Thank you for your generosity.

Crackers – Ritz, Wheat thins, saltines, graham, etc.	Granola bars
Fruit snacks	Fruit bars
Rice boxes or packets	Pasta
Mac and Cheese cups	Seasoning packets
Baking mixes	Boxed potatoes
Muffins	Instant potatoes
Brownies	Gravy packets
Cookies	Instant soup packets
Cake	Ramen noodles
Sugar – 4 lb. bags	Cereal
Flour – 5 lbs. bags	Pop Tarts
Kleenex	Microwave popcorn
Paper Towels	Flavor packets for water
Pancake mix envelopes or boxes –(Complete – all that is needed is water)	Jello (not sugar-free)

Notice

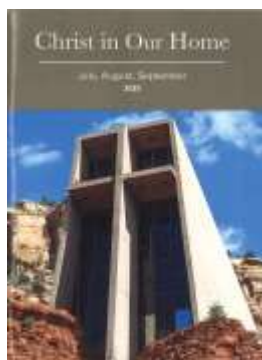
To care for staff and the building, you will need to wear a mask and call the church number (984-5648) to enter the building.

Re-Do Cards Available

If you are in need of any all occasion cards; feel free to come to the church and choose from the card rack. All proceeds go to Prayer Shawl at this time.

Resources Available

A reminder we have copies of *Christ in Our Home* 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.



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

Community & Mission News

SPECIAL TELEVISED PROGRAM
- NO LIVE EVENT -
RELEASE & REMEMBER
SUNDAY, SEPT. 13,
NOON ON **CW7.2**

30-minute program featuring:
1,000 butterflies released
Maddie Poppe performance
Short presentation • Tribute names

DEDICATE A BUTTERFLY FOR SOMEONE YOU LOVE WITH A \$25 DONATION

Helping Hands Clothes Closet

Helping Hands Clothing Closet is open with regular hours; 9:00 to 11:00am Tuesday mornings, 6:30 to 7:30pm Wednesday evenings and 9:00 to 11:00 am the first Saturday of the month. Helping Hands Clothing Closet had 128 client visits during July and our volunteers gave 40 hours of their time. We continue to follow all the CDC guidelines for the safety of our volunteers and our clients. Stop by if you or someone you know needs help with clothing and shoes as they get the kids ready for school this fall. We have a good supply of clothing on hand in all sizes. Thank you for all the wonderful donations, thank you to our volunteers for helping our clients, sorting and hanging the clothes and for weeding our flowers in front of the building. Stay safe and healthy. Located at 2029 Viking Ave. Sumner, the closet provides free gently used clothes to lower income & homeless families and individuals and those affected by disaster. A ministry of St John, Sumner & St Peter, Oran.

WELCA Board Meeting

Next WELCA Board Meeting: TBD

Gather Bible Study -TBD

Serving Committee for September

Carol Everding Janice Gienau Tanya Haase
Becky Miller Sheryl Moeller Abby Roethler
Karen Schumacher Janell Stock Lori Thurm
Terrie Thurm Rachel Upshaw Judy Vauthier
Krista Olson

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 1st Thursday, every other month at 1:00 pm. **Next meeting: TBD**
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).

Denver Farmer's Market

Thursdays, from 4-6 pm, 241 South State St (North side of the parking lot at Denver Construction) Fresh produce, baked goods, craft items. For information, contact Mandy Gesme 319-504-5527

Matching Funds Challenge for Derecho Recovery

Pastor Dawn and Steve have offered to match donations for the Derecho Relief fund through Lutheran Disaster Response Fund in partnership with LSI, up to \$1,000. Donations can be made out to St Peter Church with Derecho relief in the memo.

Lutheran Disaster Response

The Southeastern Iowa Synod is collecting gifts to support relief efforts after the derecho that swept through the state last week.

DISASTER RESPONSE DERECHO STORM

The Office of the Bishop is assessing the needs as a result of the derecho storm in a large part of the territory of the synod. You can make a gift online to help relief efforts at the link below. If you'd like to assist in other ways, email Val Harlynn, communications@seiasynod.org
<https://seiasynod.org/elca.../disaster-response-derecho-storm/>



Faith Formation

Mashiah Foundation Updates:

We recently received a Newsletter from Mary Beth and Bayo Oyeade. Though it is too long to print in our bulletin or newsletter, I have posted it in its entirety on our website - www.stpeterdenver.org/Get Involved / Global Ministries / Mashiah Foundation.

It is an interesting account of their first hand experience dealing with COVID in an underdeveloped country. Mary Beth also gives us updates on the school, hospital, and their family. Her experiences in Africa and how today's headlines are played out there, garners your attention. If anyone would rather have a paper copy of the newsletter, please contact the office. 319-984-5648.



The Lutheran Disaster Response Fund

The Iowa Lutheran Disaster Response Fund is a partnership among LSI and the three Iowa synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It has been activated to answer the call and lift up those who need support to recover from the derecho.

Your gift will support your Iowa neighbors as they recover from the destruction left behind by this severe storm. Please consider giving generously.

<https://lsiowa.org/disasterrelief/>

Confirmation Update

Students and parents please be watching for a letter from Pastor Dawn regarding confirmation classes.

Sunday School Update

At our September meeting, council will revisit options for Sunday School. It was decided at our August meeting to wait and see how the beginning of school goes before any decisions are made.

Offerings

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



ELCA Youth Gathering

After much prayer and consideration, we have decided to postpone next summer's ELCA Youth Gathering to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held July 24 -28, 2022, in Minneapolis, with the two pre-events, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) and the tAble, scheduled for July 21-24, 2022.

For more information about the 2022 Gathering, please visit elca.org/YouthGathering/COVID19. We will be updating our website and social media as more details become available.

We look forward to seeing you and experiencing the boundlessness of God in Minneapolis in 2022!

2020 EWALU Fall Festival & Quilt Auction

October 10 @11:00 am - October 15 @ 5:30 pm

The Fall Festival & Quilt Auction will be held online this year; however, we have decided to delay the event three weeks to Saturday, October 10 through Thursday, October 15 to allow more time for donors to finish their quilts that may have been delayed due to COVID. This will also give our staff more time to develop the online platform that will run the event.

Quilt viewing, bidding, and recorded worship services will take place on a secure online silent auction platform that is still being developed. Watch Facebook and the [quilt auction webpage](#) for more updates.

Schedule

The event will run as a silent auction with bidding open from 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 10 – Thursday, October 15 at 5:00 p.m.

A recorded opening worship will be posted at 11:00 am on Saturday, October 10. A Thanksgiving and prayer devotional will be posted when bidding closes at 5:00 pm on Friday, October 15.



September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	4	5
Tentatively Scheduled						
6 9:00 am Worship on the lawns	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8 6:30 pm Council meeting	9	10 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	11	12
13 9:00 am Worship on the lawns	14	15	16	17 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	18 Newsletter Deadline	19
20 9:00 am Worship on the lawns with Noisy Offering	21	22	23	24 10:00 am Bulletin deadline	25	26
27 9:00 am Worship on the lawns	28	29	30			

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540 East Franklin Street ~ P.O. Box A
Denver, IA 50622
Phone: 319-984-5648
www.stpeterdenver.org ~ info@stpeterdenver.org
Pastor Dawn Pederson 641-529-6592

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2020 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: Amy Lockhart, Jim Jurgenson, Gavin Carman, Todd Foelske, Gene Leonhart, Mary Stevens, LaVonne Westendorf, Marcia Joerger, Kim Lamb

Executive Board: Jim Jurgenson, Gavin Carman, Amy Lockhart, Gene Leonhart

Property & Management: Neil Hartmann, Gene Leonhart, Leroy Homeister, Roxane Franzen, Jim Jurgenson

Parish Education: Todd Foelske, Jaime Leonhart, Mary Satterthwaite

Worship & Music: Sheila Mixdorf, Amy Lockhart, Jo VanDeBerg, Joyce Miller, Nancy Lamos, Sheryl Moeller

Mission: Sue Buss, Pat Leonhart, Shirley Thurm, Kelley Carman, Marcia Ott, Leah Homeister, Linda Schult, Kim Lamb

Stewardship: Mary Stevens, Dori Jurgenson, Brenda Wolter

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

Evangelism: Staci Mueller, Art Kurtt, LaVonne Westendorf, Roger Donaldson

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