

St. Peter Lutheran Church

[Evangelical Lutheran Church in America]

324 E. Traer St., PO Box 638

Greene, Iowa 50636



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GREENE, IA PERMIT NO. 1

Palm Sunday, First Communion, Holy Week,
Victory of God at Easter!

APRIL 2023

The Newsletter of
St. Peter Lutheran Church [ELCA],
Greene, IA

Church Office - 641-816-5531

Church Office Email - stpeter@myomnitel.com

Website: www.stpetergreene.com

E A S T E R S U N D A Y



C O L O S S I A N S 3 : 4

St. Peter Lutheran Church - Greene, IA -- Unofficial Council Minutes, March 1, 2023

Present: Cheryle Arjes, John Backer, Keith Christensen, Dana Frerichs, Dixie Hughes, Lyndsie Pitzenberger, Christine Shultz, Addy Spain, Les Steere, Dawn Van Etten, Phil Wahlgren
Phil Wahlgren Opened meeting with Prayer

Keith Christensen motioned to approve Secretary's Minutes and Annual Meeting Minutes; Dawn Van Etten second M/C

Action Items:

Stained glass window: an offer to give a third estimate from a new company

Goyer Scholarship Policy #2; Dana F Motioned to refine the application process to update the requirements of the application to complete as required by council. Keith Christensen 2nd M/C

Additions; An exercise group would like to use the church as a backup for March 2nd and March 7th and anytime going forward they might need. Dawn Van Etten motioned to approve; Dixie Hughes 2nd m/c

Keith C giving list needs updating is indicated by low, medium, and high priority needs. Would be an opportunity for Memorial giving.

Gale Brinkman gave treasurer report and account balances. John Backer made a motion to approve treasurer report; Dawn Van Etten 2nd m/c

Committee Reports

Call Committee meetings are happening and the processes are being followed.

Worship and Evangelism technology project waiting on components currently.

Building and Grounds changed light bulbs in basement and sanctuary. Boiler was off recently but believed it is resolved. Air fresheners were added to parsonage.

Education and Youth; Food packing at Aplington Church Bethel Alliance Saturday April 1st.

Confirmation group Egg hunt is planned and flyers are already out. Junior High will be providing the lenten meal, March 22nd. Bridget Shultz volunteered to lead confirmation next year with Traci Bartels and Liz Schroeder. First communion dates March 4th, March 18th and April 1st. Confirmation was moved to May last year, would like to move confirmation back to reformation Sunday in the fall.

Stewardship; Finance met Feb 6th. Would like to have restoration and another line for the stain glass giving. There will be a stewardship campaign in the fall to build a budget. Our attendance is down 20 people after we stopped doing remote services. Trying to find a way to reach out to bring them back.

Stain glass and possible donation structure discussed. Pastors are lined up through end of May.

Pastor Kim Smith wants communion on palm Sunday and would like them to go up to the rails.

Meeting with St James led by the North Eastern Iowa Synod. The meeting was a brainstorming session in how we can work together sharing resources.

Last WELCA quilting day on Tuesday March 7th.

Dawn Van Etten made motion to approve all committee reports, Cheryle Arjes 2nd m/c

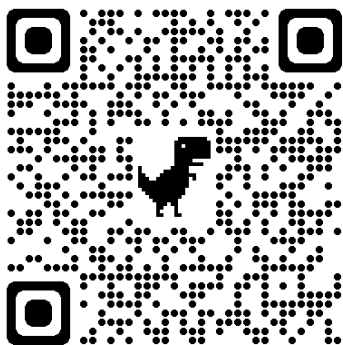
Dawn Van Etten Motioned to close meeting, Dixie Hughes 2nd m/c

Phil Wahlgren closed with prayer

St. Peter Lutheran Church
Financial Report
March 20, 2023

	Ending Balance
Current Fund Balance	\$29,738.69
Current Fund Amount in MMDA	<u> \$0.00</u>
	\$29,738.69
Other Fund Balances	
Technology	\$2,490.83
Benevolence and Mission	\$1,393.25
Building and Repair	\$435.56
Stained Glass Windows	\$3,835.00
Fellowship	\$2,383.24
Thrivent Choice	\$3,552.00
Restoration	\$43,207.72
Missionary Support	\$320.00
150th Celebration	\$0.00
AED	<u> \$450.00</u>
	\$58,067.60
Bank Balance	
Checking	\$66,641.33
Money Market	<u>\$21,164.96</u>
	\$87,806.29
Goyer Scholarship	\$1,574.21
McCosh - Gift of Love	\$1,015.80

Giving QR Code



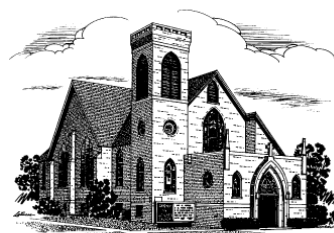
Planned Giving

Our lives are journeys of faith and generosity. As our faith matures and deepens, so does the way we support God's work in the world. As a child, perhaps you started by giving coins at Sunday School and watching as your parents gave offerings in worship. As we grow up in the church, our giving evolves as well, reflecting new depths of meaning, understanding, and experience.

When your earthly life comes to a close, you can continue to give and make a difference in our congregation through planned giving. Have you remembered the church in your will or through a charitable trust or annuity? What a wonderful enduring testimony to God's blessing in your life! Ask the church office for more information about planned giving.



Restoration Fund
St. Peter Lutheran Church



APRIL - Holy Communion

6:00 pm - Saturday, April 1st & 8th

9:00 am - Sunday, April 2nd & 9th

•When individual glasses are offered at Holy Communion, the clear glasses have wine in them and the purple glasses have grape juice.



Home Communion

For those of you who received home communion last month, our volunteers will be in contact with you as to when you would like communion this month.

If you have not be contacted and would like communion in your home, please call the church office and schedule a time for the us to come to you.

First Communion - Palm Sunday, April 2nd

Our Fifth grade children are ready to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion after receiving instruction about the Sacrament.

They understand the significance of receiving God's grace through communion with Jesus Christ.

As Luther wrote in the Small Catechism: **"HOW CAN EATING AND DRINKING DO ALL THIS?"** "It is not eating and drinking that does this, but the words, **"GIVEN AND SHED FOR YOU FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS."**

These words, along with eating and drinking, are the main thing in the sacrament. And whoever believes these words has exactly what they say, forgiveness of sins."



The following children will receive the Lord's grace in Holy Communion on Palm Sunday:

Eisley Dralle

Kenedee McCormick

Maddex Pitzenberger

Lincoln Schroeder

Lila Shultz

Reagan Tidemanson

Emma Towsley

Elias Vorhes

Angel Young

Ministry of the Food Bank

Nonperishable food items or financial donations

**"It is more blessed
to give than to receive..."**

Food Bank

Food Bank item for the month of April is laundry soap. All donations are appreciated, we can use any food/paper items that are given to us. We are using the "item of the month" as just a suggestion.



WELCA Quilters

The WELCA Quilters have just finished their January – February quilting. We had 6 – 10 quilters the times that we met. Below are the fruits of our labors:

- 8 - Baptismal quilts for St. Peter
- 7 - Child quilts to Bremwood of Waverly
- 11 - Bigger quilts to Bremwood of Waverly
- 90 - Quilts to Lutheran World Relief
- 30 - Quilts to Willis Dady Center Cedar Rapids
- 11 - Quilts to Marshalltown Vets Home
- 11 - Quilts to Northern Lights Alliance of Mason City
- 13 - Quilts to Francis Lauer Youth Services of Mason City
- 21 - Quilts to Four Oaks Family Services of Mason City
- 14 - Quilts to Waverly Friends of the Family
- 2 - Child quilts to Waverly Friends of the Family
- 4 - Quilts for WELCA silent auction
- 1 - Quilt in closet for family emergencies
- 12 - Baby Care Kits
- 18 - School Kits
- 253 - Total Projects

We would like to thank everyone for all of the donations. We could not do these projects without your support.

St. Peter WELCA

ALTAR FLOWERS: APRIL - Vision Circle

TBA: Deliver Easter balloons

8th - Put up Easter flowers

13th - Bible Study 9:30 am - Vision refreshments

16th - Take down Easter flowers

17th - Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00 pm

Easter Flowers

Flowers around church on Easter Sunday add to the beauty of the day. This year we are having a variety of flowers. Please stop at our local florist to place your order and they will deliver to the church or bring your purchased flower to St. Peter fellowship hall by Saturday, April 8th by 9:00 am. You may take your flowers home after the worship service on Easter Sunday, April 9th.



Please let the church office know who the flowers are in memory of by April 5th.

Saint Peter Lutheran Church Mission Statement

WELCOMES people into a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church,
EQUIPS people with a faith that works in daily life, and
SERVES in the world to make a difference in Jesus' Name.

April Worship Servants

*So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all,
and especially for those of the family of faith. - Galatians 6:10*

If you are assigned to a date and time when you cannot serve, please find someone to trade places with you. Once you've traded dates, please notify the Church Office so the bulletin can be accurate. Your help and partnership here really makes a difference!

Communion Bread—Mary Brinkman

April 1-2

6:00 Saturday, April 1

Usher: Gene Ross

Lector: Sandra Ross

Communion: Sandra Ross

9:00 Sunday, April 2

Ushers: Cheryle Arjes

Owen Almelien

Lector: Addy Spain

Communion: Addy Spain

April 8-9

6:00 Saturday, April 8

Usher: Dawn Van Etten

Lector: Betty Heitland

Communion: Dawn Van Etten

9:00 Sunday, April 9

Ushers: Keith Hyman

Merlin Schuknecht

Lector: Liz Schroeder

Communion: Merlin Schuknecht

April 15-16

6:00 Saturday, April 15

Usher: Pam Dralle

Lector: Jeff Dralle

9:00 Sunday, March 16

Ushers: Delos & Delores Adelmund

Lector: Amy Testroet

April 22-23

6:00 Saturday, April 22

Usher: Kelly Zurcher

Lector: Robin Ralls

9:00 Sunday, March 23

Ushers: Laurie Schultz

Dana Frerichs

Lector: Laurie Schultz

April 29-30

6:00 Saturday, April 29

Usher: Carol Barth

Lector: Carol Barth

9:00 Sunday, March 30

Ushers: William Schmidt

Emma Wedeking

Lector: Sarah Hawker

Funeral Planning Worksheet

Until Jesus returns, all of us will one day die. The most universal fact of human life is that it ends. Although it may be uncomfortable to think about, planning for the end of your life is an act of love and kindness for your family. Planning ahead for your funeral gives your family the gift of helping them through a difficult time by letting them know your wishes.

We encourage you to consider your funeral wishes and take the time to fill out a Planning Form available in the church office. Once completed, we will make a copy for you and keep a copy in the office. When your earthly life is complete, your family will have the gift of your plans to use as they prepare for your funeral. If you have any questions, please give the office a call.

St. Peter Lutheran APRIL Birthdays

1 - Henry Bain,
Tabitha Buss,
Becky Heidenwirth,
Jaydon Landers,
Jordan Vanderloop,
Karen Worley
2 - Jared Allen
3 - Colton Harms,
Makenzie Quade
4 - Tucker Brinkman,
Kale Mulder
5 - Tom Heidenwirth,
Ramsey Kock,
Rick Martzahn
6 - Emily Egertson
Ainsley Spain
7 - Martha Deines,
Briar Ulrich

9 - Haley Freeseemann,
Dixie Hughes,
Hannah Weiskamp
10 - Brooke Trees
11 - Darvin Arjes
12 - Seger Allan,
Alex Almelien,
Richard Landers
14 - Marty Adelmund,
Camryn Bartels,
Cooper Bartels,
Henry Pittenger,
Todd Steere
15 - Travis Krull,
Levi Towsley
16 - Chad Duckworth,
Megan Vanderloop

17 - Dienna Schafer
18 - Dean Johnson,
Judy Otto,
Oakley Ruby
19 - Harper Leavens
23 - Leighton Schoville
24 - Steve Brinkman,
Aubrie Obermier,
Darin Osier
25 - Matt Rottler,
Mandy Schmidt
26 - Allison Fox
28 - Delos Adelmund,
Olene Schroeder,
Carter Yerkes
29 - Nanette Spratt
30 - Martin Bramer,
Brooke Rohwedder

LSI

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

At LSI, we work tirelessly to provide crisis childcare, in-home visits and parenting classes to families across Iowa through our Early Childhood Services. In these services, we provide Iowa parents the support they need to provide a healthy, stable home for their children.

Through our Family Centered Services, we help children and families already involved in a crisis or abuse situation to become safer and more stable. We also provide therapy services to adults, children and families to help build healthier, more secure homes.

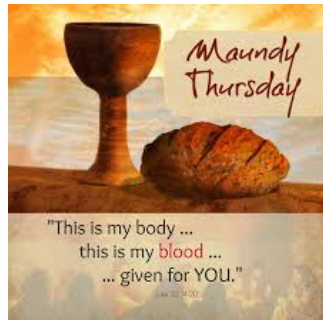
You can make a direct impact on these children and families through your support of LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Holy Week: The Heart of the Christian Faith

Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 pm with Communion

How important must it have been for Jesus with less than 24 hours to live, to command His followers to love and serve one another? Extremely! So come and share in the Lord's supper and renew your commitment to following the command of your Lord and Savior.



Good Friday Worship 7:00 pm

Come to the cross and bring your sins to Jesus. Let the wounds of our Lord bring forgiveness and Life.



Holy Saturday & Easter Service

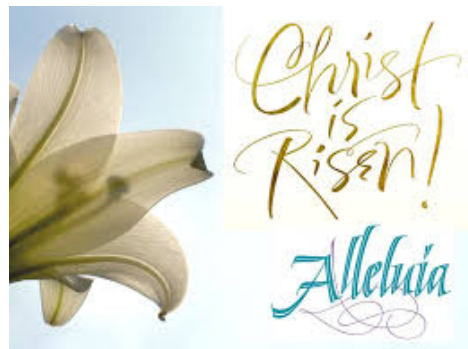
Holy Saturday - 6:00 pm

Join us for the first celebration of Easter as the darkness of Good Friday gives way to the new light of our risen Savior!



Easter Festival Worship - 9:00 am Christ Is Risen!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Come celebrate the good news that the tomb is empty and Jesus is alive! Christ the Lord is risen today, and Christians gather to sing praises to our risen Lord.



Sunday School

Sunday School will meet Sunday, April 16, April 23 & April 30 from 9:45 - 10:30 am.



*MEMORIAL GIVEN TO THE GLORY
OF GOD and in memory of:*

Chuck Thompson

\$10.00 to the Prayer Shawl Ministry by friends.

\$20.00 to Sunday School by friends.

\$20.00 to Sound System by friends.



Louise E. Goyer Scholarship Policy

During her lifetime, Louise E. Goyer donated the sum of \$20,000.00 to St. Peter Lutheran Church for the purpose of providing financial assistance in the form of scholarships to members of St. Peter Lutheran Church, Greene, Iowa, that attend a Lutheran college. The gift document provides:

“ . . . the income from this gift shall be used to provide scholarships to members of St. Peter Lutheran Church who are attending a Lutheran College. The gift is to be invested and the income may be accumulated over two or more years to provide larger scholarships or used annually for one or more students per the discretion of your Church council.”

On November 7, 2002 the St. Peter Church Council adopted the following policy regarding this scholarship endowment. In March 2023 the council adopted changes to the scholarship endowment.

- 1. The income from the Louise E. Goyer Scholarship Fund, herein referred to as the Goyer Scholarship, shall be accumulated for two years prior to the award of any scholarship(s). The first scholarship(s) shall be awarded for the academic year beginning in the fall of 2003 and each alternate academic year thereafter.**
- 2. The Goyer Scholarship Fund will be awarded yearly starting in 2014. When and or if the scholarship funds are depleted, we will then go back to every other year or until we have funds available. This will be decided on by the church council each March.**
- 3. Any member of St. Peter Lutheran Church that is attending or will attend a Lutheran college may apply for a Goyer Scholarship.**
- 4. The application must be filed with the St. Peter Church office before May 1 of any year that the Goyer Scholarship is awarded.**
- 5. The application will be either be typed out and submitted in person or by mail to the church office, or, by email to the church office. The application should include the applicants full name, home address, email address, phone number to reach them directly, and the name(s) of the Lutheran college(s) they have applied to and intend to enroll. The application should include parent name(s) and contact information also. In addition, the applicant is required to provide a short essay outlining their reason for going to the college(s) identified and their potential majors or study intentions. A summary of their high school accomplishments and involvement can also be included in this essay.**
- 6. The Church Council will review the applications and determine the amount of the scholarship(s) to be awarded to each Applicant.**
- 7. The Goyer Scholarship funds will be distributed to the Applicant and the college upon proof of the Applicant's enrollment in a Lutheran college.**

Lay members embrace new roles during transition

NORTHEASTERN IOWA STAR - MARCH 2023 • VOLUME 36, ISSUE 2 - by Marcia Hahn

From preaching in the pulpit to sharing home communion visits, lay members are taking on new roles to carry out ministry when a pastor is not available.

HOME COMMUNION TEAM

St. Peter, Greene, has been without a called pastor since May 2022, so the congregation relies on supply pastors to offer Holy Communion once a month during the worship service. A team of lay members began extending that ministry in December to bring communion to the homes of members who aren't able to attend church and to residents of the nearby care center.

"Everyone on the team has a relationship with the people they are serving, whether it is an old neighbor or an old friend," says Jeff Dralle, who started the home communion team with his wife Pam and parish nurse Jo Ann Peterson. "The visits are quite rewarding."

About a dozen lay members comprise the St. Peter home communion team. Team members set up their own appointments to bring the communion elements to people in their homes and at the care center. Jeff and Pam prepare the pre-packaged communion kits and place them on the altar to be consecrated by the visiting pastor during the worship service. The pastor recognizes the team members at the altar and gives them a sending blessing. The volunteers complete their home communion visits over the next few days.

Dralle says he tries to be proactive in reaching out to members in their homes, rather than waiting for a communion request. "If someone hasn't been to church in a couple years, we will call them and explain how we are authorized to bring them communion," he says. "The key is for them to accept us as lay people delivering consecrated elements. These are sanctioned actions that are blessed by the ELCA."

The team members are paired with people they already know, so they take time to ask about their family, listen to any concerns and ask if they have any questions. They bring the Sunday bulletin and share about what is going on in the church. They also bring a printed liturgy to follow, and they take communion with those they visit — to share the body and blood of Christ with them.

"Our visits can easily consume an hour" Dralle says. "Pam and I like to hold hands with them and say the Lord's Prayer together. It creates a more meaningful service." These renewed friendships can extend beyond the communion visits. Team members will often make follow-up phone calls to those they have visited and send greeting cards to wish them well on special occasions.

Ninety-nine-year-old Norma Noel has always been connected to St. Peter Lutheran, where she taught Sunday school for more than 50 years and was baptized, confirmed and married. She continues to knit for the prayer shawl ministry, but in recent years she has been unable to attend worship services in person. St. Peter's pastor used to bring communion to her home whenever she requested; now, her old friend Sandra Ross brings communion to her each month as part of the home communion team. "It's wonderful," Noel says. "It feels so comforting, like bringing the church into my home."

Ross brings a doily to set the communion ware on to represent the altar. She visits with Noel, shares the liturgy, takes communion with her, and closes with a prayer. Ross phones Noel between visits to stay connected and see how she is doing. Ross says she initially didn't think she was worthy to give the sacrament. "After deep thought, I decided it was the least I could do for those who have missed getting communion," she says. "It is very humbling to serve my church in this manner. Each participant has expressed their gratitude, and I very much have been rewarded by the experience."

Noel says she still misses going to church, but she finds the communion visits to be refreshing and uplifting. "It's hard for a church to be without a pastor, but this group comes to your home and you feel they are a part of God's blessing that comes right with them."

You can subscribe to the *Star* newsletter at <https://neiasynod.org/blog/newsletter>



Jeff Dralle and Jo Ann Peterson, members of the home communion team for St. Peter Lutheran, Greene, prepare communion kits and the elements for consecration so that team members can give communion to members in their homes.



Norma Noel

Jr. High Ministry

"Egg My Yard"

We will be stuffing eggs for the "Egg My Yard" fundraiser on Saturday, April 8th following worship (around 6:30 pm) and then everyone will help with egg deliveries.

Confirmation Class

April 12th will be the last confirmation class of the year.

Sermon Notes

Remaining sermon notes need to be turned in on April 12th.



April

- 3 - Colton Harms
- 4 - Kale Mulder
- 12 - Alex Almelien

Can Sorting Schedule

Watch Facebook for
reminders about cans



Luther League

April 1st - Feed My Starving Children Food Pack in Aplington. Meet at St. Peter at 8:45 am or St. James at 9:00 am.

April 12th will meet at 6:00 pm at St. James

Hope to see you then!

APRIL 2023 - St. Peter Lutheran Church

Church Office Email - stpeter@myomnitel.com Church Website: www.stpetergreene.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Altar Guild: Delores Adelmund, Jeanie Krull			Ushers and Lectors - Call the church office to volunteer.			1 4:30 pm First Communion class 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
2 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Worship with Communion <i>First Communion</i> 10:00 am Fellowship	3 7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting 7:00 pm Stewardship Committee meeting	4	5 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Church Council meeting Holy Week	6 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Worship with Communion	7 Good Friday 7:00 pm Worship	8 Holy Saturday 9:00 am Have your Flowers to the church 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
9 Easter Sunday "Christ Is Risen." 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:00 am Fellowship	10 	11	12 6:00 pm Luther League at St. James 6:15 pm Confirmation	13 9:30 am Faith, Vision & Glory Circle Meeting	14	15 Newsletter Items Due 6:00 pm Worship
16 9:00 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship	17 3:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	18 Senior Health Clinic	19	20	21	22 6:00 pm Worship
23 9:00 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship	24	25	26	27	28	29 6:00 pm Worship
30 9:00 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship						