

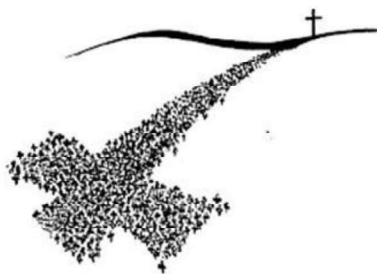
St. Peter Lutheran Church
 324 E. Traer St., P.O. Box 638
 Greene, IA 50636
 Phone: 641.816.5531

email: stpeter@myomnitel.com
 Website: www.stpetergreene.com

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jennifer E. Edinger
 Cell Phone: 515.368.1760

email: pastor.jenny.edinger@gmail.com

Facebook Pages: St. Peter Lutheran Church and St Peter Lutheran Church Children and Youth
 Streaming: YouTube St Peter Lutheran Greene



On February 2nd, Ground Hog Day, all eyes will focus on Phil, the sleepy ground hog, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. As the tradition goes, if the groggy ground hog emerges from his earthen cocoon and sees his shadow, he returns underground for another six weeks of winter. The tradition assumes that the shadow of the ground hog can shape our expectations of the upcoming weather.

As Christians, we live under a different shadow. We live under the shadow of the cross. That cross tells us about God's love as we know and experience it in Jesus Christ. That cross tells us about God's patience as we hear and experience the renewing word of forgiveness. That cross tells us about God's work to free us from death by sharing Christ's victory over death. We live under the shadow of the cross. That shadow shapes who we are and the expectations others may have of us as persons of faith.

Just like Jesus, whom we claim to be the Lord of our life, we are expected to be loving and caring persons. Jesus saw his entire life as a way to tend to the physical and spiritual needs of people. When we receive the name or designation, CHRISTIAN, in holy baptism, others expect us to reflect the traits of Jesus and to be loving and caring. The world looks

to us, and at us, and expects to see God's love and care being expressed through our words and actions.

We are expected to be forgiving. God has been so patient with us. So many things that we do and think and say grieve God. But God is a patient parent who sends the Son, Jesus, to the cross to make forgiveness a healing power in our lives. The world turns to us to be renewed by our gentle patience and by God's promises of forgiveness.

Because God gives new life, we are expected to be different. For us as faithful ones, it is no longer life-as-usual. We are raised to new life, life as God envisions it. Our approach to people is shaped by God's love. Our approach to issues and concerns is determined by what we understand to be a faith filled response. We deal with people and life on the basis of what God would do.

We live under the shadow of the cross. We live in God's love, in God's grace, in God's presence. God's love, and grace, and presence shape how we live. Our life is cross-shaped ... we love, we forgive, we make ourselves present to others. In this kind of cross-shaped living and serving, the Holy Spirit promises to draw others into of the shadow and the safety of the cross.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Jenny



IN THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS

Youth Activities

Sunday School

February 9 - 10-10:45 am

February 23 - 10-10:45 am

Youth Group

February 5 - 6:15-7 pm

February 19 - 6:15-7 pm

Confirmation

February 12, 19, & 26

Class held 6:30-7:30 pm

Vans leave St. Peter at 6 pm
and return at 7:45 pm

Luther League

February 1: Cans Team 2,
10:30 am

February 5: Group meeting
with meal, 6:30 in Greene

February 22: Cans Team 1,
10:30 am

Community Meal



*Everyone
is
welcome!*

Served 1st and 3rd
Wednesdays of the month
5:30-6 pm

February 5:
Pitzenberger Family

February 19: Leah Reser

Mark Your Calendar!

**St. Peter WELCA Women invite you to
a FREE BOWLING/PIZZA FUN DAY**

FOR St. Peter's families

Sunday, February 16th

Freeze Frame Bowling Alley

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Bowling games start at

11:30 am & 12:30 pm

WELCA is sponsoring

a fun day for

everyone!!!

Children *(with an adult)*

through senior citizens.

**Come bowl or just come and watch the
fun.**

**We will pay for a
game of
bowling, your
rental shoes,
pizza &
beverage. Hope
to see you
there!**





February reminds us of love. Love for the Lord, love for our partners, and love for friends and family. We offer you this story of the power of love between a mother and daughter.

“Without Amy’s support, I would still be an addict, and I wouldn’t be where I am today,” said Michelle, an LSI client.

Michelle was struggling with substance abuse, legal issues, and mental health issues when she found LSI therapist Amy Davis back in 2021.

“God helps us in ways we don’t always want him to,” said Michelle. “When the coronavirus pandemic hit, I lost my job. The unemployment lines were long at the time, so we went several months without a paycheck, so I decided to get creative with my finances. I started selling drugs and was later arrested with a large quantity of drugs. They came in, took my kid, and I went to jail. After that, I was referred to work with Amy at LSI.”

Michelle and Amy worked through Michelle’s childhood trauma, processing the significant losses in her life due to drug overdose and death. Amy helped Michelle work on building a positive support system, a list of future goals, and a relationship with her daughter, Rachel.

“Rachel and I had a lot of problems when we entered therapy because I was a drug addict, and there was a lot of broken trust between us,” said Michelle. “LSI therapists helped us rebuild that trust and helped show her the progress I had made when she couldn’t see it herself.”

Rachel, in therapy as well, has been seeing LSI Therapist Chelsea Zaragoza since 2019. In addition to one-on-one therapy sessions with their respective therapists, Michelle and Rachel also do family therapy sessions with Amy and Chelsea. These sessions help the mother and daughter have time set aside to talk about issues they are having in a healthy, productive way.

“Michelle has had a lot of struggles, loss, and a lot of people who didn’t believe in her, and her daughter was one of them,” said Amy Davis, LSI Therapist. “We have worked hard doing family and individual therapy to bring those two back together, and it has worked. Where they are now, I don’t think I’ve seen a motherdaughter relationship as healthy as the two of them are.”

Today, Michelle has her daughter back in her home, she is thriving as a general manager at a coffee shop, and she is going to school for substance abuse counseling. She just received her one-year sobriety chip, and she has a good support system.

“To see how far Michelle has come since I met her is truly remarkable,” said Amy. “She built the ladder, and she climbed out.”

“I was a mess when I first came to LSI,” said Michelle. “Now, I’m sober, in college, have a high-paying job, and have my daughter back. Amy believed in me when no one else did, not even myself. She gave me hope.”

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI’s Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

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.

February 2025 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!

February 2, 2025

9:00 Sunday

Ushers: Dana Frerichs
Nolan Reser

Lector: Connie Yerkes

Communion: Connie Yerkes

11:00 Sunday

Lector: Carrie Eiklenborg
Communion: Carrie Eiklenborg

February 16, 2025

9:00 Sunday

Ushers: Laurie Schultz
Keith Hyman

Lector: Laurie Schultz

Communion: Merlin Schuknecht

11:00 Sunday

Lector: Betty Heitland
Communion: Carol Barth

February 9, 2025

9:00 Sunday

Ushers: Deanne Martzahn
Roland Martzahn

Lector: John Backer

11:00 Sunday

Lector: Keith Christensen

February 23, 2025

9:00 Sunday

Ushers: Marilyn Wahlgren
Phil Wahlgren

Lector: Marilyn Wahlgren

11:00 Sunday

Lector: Dawn Van Etten

Connie Verkes is the new Parish Nurse for St. Peter! She, along with John and Esther Backer, will be doing blood pressure checks from 8:30-10:00am and 10:00-11:00am on the 3rd Sunday of every month.



First Communion for 5th Grade students is planned for Sunday April 13 at 9 am worship.

We will hold a few classes to prepare the students. The first class will be on Sunday March 30 at noon. Preparation will be provided. Dawn Deines-Christensen will host a pottery class and a lesson. April 6th from 10:00-10:45am students will bake bread and learn about communion.



Committee News

Stewardship and Finance Committee

The committee did not meet in early January, but will convene our work starting in February. At year end 2024, our focus was on reviewing and recommendations for the 2025 Ministry Plan. And we will be focusing in early 2025 on updating the Memorial Giving opportunities list as well as considering opportunities to promote the financial support of St Peter Lutheran Church through both outright support and encouragement (and education) for estate giving ideas.

Thanks to committee members for their work last year: Keith Christensen (committee chair), Cheryle Arjes, Erin Mulder, Laurie Shultz, and Monika Teeple as well as Gale Brinkman and Marilyn Wahlgren for their work as co-treasurers. And special thanks to Laurie Schultz for her willingness to take over as committee chair for the February 2025 - January 2026 term.

And thank you to members of St Peter Lutheran Church for your continued and prayerful support of the Ministry Plan. With the new revenue plan, we will continue to focus on the necessary increased support needed for our church and outreach.





Worship and Evangelism Committee

- Met Jan. 9th
- Beginning Jan 19th we will have a blended service style
- We chose hymns for February
- Nancy will call Pianist for the 11:00 service
- Began discussion of Ash Wednesday and Lent
- Discussed the need for a Christmas Morning service when so few attend
- Next meeting is Feb. 6 at 6:30.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee and Personnel Committee did not meet this month.



February Birthdays

1– Kaitlynn Brandhorst, Jane Martzahn,
Kayden Spratt, Judy (Calvin) Steere

2– Dan Meyne, Clarice Stephenson, Alexis Wiegmann

3– Brett Dane, Bruce Miller

4– Galen Hoodjer

5– Beverly Brinkman

6– Derek Landers, Steve Mulder, Blair Shultz

7– Chelsi Majewski, Rachel Steere

8– Jolene Stotler, Kathleen Wefel

10– Kirsten Hawker, Damian Spratt

11– Sylvia Hawker, Derek Steere

12– Emersyn Blong, Katie Platts

16– Michael Allen, Cameron McBurney

18– Molly Iverson, Kelsie Jensen

19– Layne Bartlels, Darin Stotler

20– Jim Deike

21– Pat Stock

22– Christine Shultz

23– Tim Brunner, Marjorie O'Brien, Calvin Steere,
Mark Yerkes

24– Michelle Jensen

25– Reagan Mulder

26– Erin Mulder, Cody Ritter

27– Shelbie Reisem, Pat Zimmerman



St Peter Lutheran Church				
Monthly Fund and Bank Account Balance Report				
ST PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH				
December Financial Report				
December 31, 2024				
	12/1/2024			12/31/2024
	Beginning			Ending
	Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
Current Fund Balance	\$55,754.31	\$40,371.75	-\$19,420.03	\$76,654.51
Employee Withholding & Payroll Taxes		-\$379.42	\$327.90	
Current Fund Amount in MMDA				\$0.00
				\$76,654.51
Other Fund Balances				
Technology	\$1,298.65	\$3,771.00	\$0.00	\$5,069.65
Benevolence and Mission	\$0.00	\$5,045.25	-\$3,045.25	\$2,000.00
Building and Repair	\$3,631.16	\$157.00	\$0.00	\$3,788.16
SG Windows	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fellowship	\$2,685.27	\$138.00	\$0.00	\$2,823.27
Thrivent Choice	\$5,391.00	\$160.00	-\$5,391.00	\$160.00
Restoration	\$68,222.54	\$376.00	\$0.00	\$68,598.54
Missionary Support	\$0.00	\$735.00	-\$235.00	\$500.00
Balcony Improvement	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
AED	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
	\$82,678.62	\$11,382.25	-\$8,671.25	\$85,389.62
Bank Balance		Transfer from MM	Transferred to MMDA	
Checking	\$116,969.02	\$3,366.73	\$0.00	\$130,222.16
		Trans from Ckg + Int	Transfer to Ckg	
Money Market	\$21,463.91	\$14.54	\$0.00	\$21,478.45
			TOTAL BANK	\$151,700.61
Goyer Scholarship	\$2,358.30	\$214.72	\$0.00	\$2,573.02
McCosh - Gift of Love	\$1,270.56	\$0.76	\$0.00	\$1,271.32
St Peter Lutheran Church				
Monthly Fund and Bank Account Balance Report				
Restoration and SG Windows CD		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00



Remember in Prayers...

- **Shut-ins and those in Care Centers-**

Martha Deines, Judy Lau, Norma Noel, Caroline Schafer, Monty Heitland, Jo Menken, Clarice Stephenson, Rosie Riggins

- **Missionaries-**

Mary Beth and Bayo Oyebade, Tobi, David, and Lily in Nigeria and Pastor Zach Courter and Rachel Eskesen in Hungary

- **In the Military-**

Hannah Fox, Kaylie Fox, Shane Schroeder, Seth Poe, David White, Matthew Ulrichs, Tony Albrecht, Matt Heeren, Paxton Hinders, Cody Codner, Alan Peters, Christine Doudell, Brad Wilken, Ian Bain, John K. Backer, Colby Beek, Stephanie Lashbrook

- **Luther League**

The Luther League youth are collecting five cent redeemable bottles and cans, which can be put in the bins at the recycling center. Please separate aluminum cans, plastic bottles, and glass and place in the designated bins. If the bins are full, please come back another time rather than piling items on the ground. Thank you for supporting the youth of St. Peter

- **Prayer Shawls**

If you know of a person who would appreciate a prayer shawl, please contact the church office, 641.816.5531

- **Missionaries**

Remember to support our missionaries, Marth Beth and Bayo Oyebade and their family in Nigeria, and Pastors Rachel Eskesen and Zach Couter in Hungary. You can designate your gift for our missionary, or missionaries you wish to support.

- **Flowers**

You can honor loved ones and special occasions by placing flowers on the alter for worship. Flowers can be ordered from your preferred vendor. Please request them to be delivered to the church by Saturday afternoon of the weekend for which you have signed up. The flower sign-up sheet is outside of the church office.

- **Use of Building**

St. Peter is please to share out beautiful church building with members, friends of the congregation, and the community. The church is open from 7:00am until 7:00pm for prayer, devotions, and activities. Please remember to close what you open, turn off what you turn on, pick up as you leave the building. There is a checklist on the refrigerator door in the kitchen. To be human is to err. If you arrive and find something another person forgot, just quietly turn it off, close it up, pick it up, or flush. Thank you for your consideration.

St. Peter Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 22, 2024

Present: Dawn Van Etten, Dixie Hughes, Phil Wahlgren, Christine Shultz, Erin Mulder, John Backer, Dana Frerichs, Nancy Reser, Keith Christensen, Lyndsie Pitzenberger, Pastor Jenny. Also Present: Marilyn Wahlgren

John Backer called meeting to order.

Elect officers

Elect President - Christine Shultz nominated Dawn Van Etten as President. Keith Christensen seconded. Motion passed.

Elect Vice President - John Backer nominated Erin Mulder, Lyndsie Pitzenberger seconded. Motion passed.

Elect Secretary - Keith Christensen nominated Carrie Eiklenborg. Erin Mulder seconded. Motion passed.

2. Secretary's Minutes-- Keith Christensen moved to approve the secretary minutes, Phil Wahlgren seconded – motion passed

3. Additions to the Agenda: Council Weekend duties, Annual Report, Lenten Service Meals, Ideas to increase church attendance.

4. Church Vision

5. Action Items

A. Technology troubleshooting update – switch has not been ordered yet.

B. Technology team or coverage –We need to offer trainings on the first Sunday of the month starting in February between services

C. Custodian Raise - Erin Mulder made a motion to approve a cost of living raise of 3%, seconded Nancy Reser. Motion carried

D. Edits and additions for the memorial giving list - Asked for a readjustment of priority. Will review next council meeting

E. Office Records - Maintain physical records that are pertinent. Digital records will be maintained and archived 10 years unless pertinent to keep longer.

F. Timing of Annual Meeting - Needs to be the first weekend of February. The 2026 meeting will be February 1, 2026

G. Council Weekend opening and closing duties - John Backer - February, Dixie Hughes - March, Erin Mulder - April, Phil Wahlgren - May, Keith Christensen - June, July- ?, Christine Shultz - August, Dana Frerichs - September, Dawn Van Etten - October

H. Annual Report - Junior high ministry and Sunday school accounts omitted from the annual report. Vacation Bible school is handled by the catholic church.

I. Lenten Service Meals - Worship committee to ask different groups to serve a meal through the Lenten season

6. Pastor's Report - Constitution indicates we need to publish the annual meeting agenda in advance. Christine Shultz approved pastors report, seconded Phil Wahlgren. Motion passed

7. Treasurer's Report - Erin Mulder moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Keith Christensen – motion passed

8. Committee Reports and Committee assignments

- Call Committee – Two members and youth member have stepped down. Not known when the next meeting will be.

- Building & Grounds – Automatic dispensers are having difficulty with refills, we will use what we have and move forward with hand dispensers. Fan in men's bathroom needs to be replaced. Fan in sanctuary needs to be looked at. Washer in parsonage has been replaced.

•Education & Youth – One opening on committee. Will be meeting the 2nd Wednesday on odd months at 5 o'clock. Looking at curriculum, discussed Sunday school performance at church.

•Stewardship & Finance – No meeting since December. Next meeting is Feb 3rd. Laurie Shultz will chair committee. Want to figure out how to do an education series at some point in time. Examples are; August is make a will month. October is estate planning.

•Worship & Evangelism – Beginning Jan 19th we will have a blended service style, we chose hymns for February, Nancy will call Pianist for the 11:00 service, began discussion of Ash Wednesday and Lent, discussed the need for a Christmas Morning service when so few attend, next meeting is Feb. 6 at 6:30.

•Personnel – Will be having church secretary 90 day review.

•Mutual Ministry –

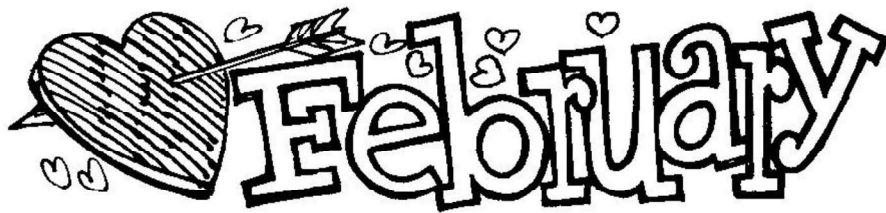
•WELCA – Planning a family fun day Sunday Feb 16th 11:30-1:30 at Freeze Frame. Everyone is invited.

Phil Wahlgren moved to accept committee reports, seconded by Dixie Hughes. Motion Passed

9. Adjournment: Keith Christensen moved, seconded by Dana Frerichs - motion passed to adjourn the meeting



A graphic with a red heart at the top center, flanked by two hands with palms facing outwards. Below this, the words "Thank You" are written in a cursive, orange font, and "Volunteers" is written in a larger, blue cursive font below it.



A graphic for the month of February. It features a large, stylized heart on the left with a pencil drawing it. To the right, the word "February" is written in a bubbly, outlined font. Small hearts are scattered around the text.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

Altar Guild– Robin Ralls, Kelly Zurcher

1
Luther League
Cans Team 2-
10:30 a.m

2 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 11:00 worship	3 Stewardship & Finance 7:00 p.m	4 Quilters: a.m— 1 p.m	5 9 Luther League 6:30-7:30pm: Group meeting in Greene with meal at 6PM	6	7 Quilters: 9 a.m— 1 p.m	8
9 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:00 Sunday school (3 yr-2nd Grade 11:00 worship	10	11 Quilters: a.m— 1 p.m	12 9 Confirmation— 6:30	13	14 Quilters: 9 a.m— 1 p.m	15
16 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 11:00 worship 11:30 WELCA family fun bowling	17	18 Quilters: a.m— 1 p.m	19 9 Confirmation— 6:30	20	21 Quilters: 9 a.m— 1 p.m	22 Luther League Cans Team 1- 10:30 a.m
23 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:00 Sunday school 11:00 worship	24	25 Quilters: a.m— 1 p.m	26 9 Confirmation— 6:30	27	28 Quilters: 9 a.m— 1 p.m	

St. Peter Lutheran Church
324 E. Traer St, PO Box 638
Greene, IA 50636

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GREENE, IA
PERMIT NO. 1

Mission Statement

St. Peter Lutheran Church

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.