

St. Peter Lutheran Church

[Evangelical Lutheran Church in America]

324 East Traer Street, PO Box 638

Greene, Iowa 50636



Blessing of Backpacks

AUGUST 2020

The Newsletter of

St. Peter Lutheran Church [ELCA],
Greene, IA

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Parsonage - 641-816-3531

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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.

St. Peter Lutheran Church - Greene, IA -- Council Minutes July 1, 2020

Members Present via Zoom or in person: Clarene Backer, Esther Backer, John Ebensberger, Carrie Eiklenborg, Andrea Gotto, Kelly Hoodjer, Erin Mulder, Jan Osier, William Schmidt and Chuck Thompson **Members Absent:** David Crow **Also Present:** Robin Majewski, Gale Brinkman (Treasurer) and Christin Flucke. **Devotions:** Everyone in attendance took turns telling the highs & lows they personally had experienced during the last month. Pastor Daniel read Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30. With the times we are having now remember, especially when it seems that things aren't working out, Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest". **Secretary's Minutes:** Kelly made a motion to accept the secretary's report. John 2nd M/C **Church Vision:** Pastor Daniel read from the Church Council Covenant and it reminds us to pray, care for each other, listen, and to support the council. **Additions to Agenda:** Steeple leaking/Old Business **Building and Grounds:** **A.** William reported that the tiles in the parsonage basement were tested and they contain asbestos. William will check to see how they can be taken out and disposed of. There have been issues in the bathroom in the basement and it is being considered taking out the shower, but leaving the toilet. **B.** Dennis Griffin will be contacted to see if the window frames can be wrapped. **C.** Gary Schmidt will contact Al Zweck to remove the tree stump by the parsonage. There will also be at least 3 of the sidewalks squares that will need to be replaced. **D.** An idea for a new cart for the folding chairs is being looked into. **E.** Roland Martzahn sprayed the parking lot for weeds and Gary Schmidt did trimming. Steve Mulder offered to do spraying too. **F.** The church rain gutters are leaking, and this will be checked out. **G.** Gary Schmidt has agreed to chair Buildings & Grounds for the time being. **Education and Youth:** Did not meet. **Stewardship and Finance:** Did not meet. **Worship and Evangelism:** **A.** Esther is checking into having individuals provide music. **B.** July 19 there will be an outdoor worship service in the main shelter at Perrin Park. Pastor Daniel will be contacting Delores Adelmund about the sound system. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own chairs, Pastor Daniel will bring hand sanitizer, John Ebensberger will bring lemonade, and Dennis Griffin will be singing. **Personnel:** Did not meet, but there will need to be a new chairperson to replace Erin. *Motion made by Esther to accept committee reports. John 2nd M/C.* **WELCA:** Did not meet. **Youth & Children's Ministry:** **A.** Christin reported that VBS is to be done remotely, from July 13-17. There are 52 kids signed up so far. The theme will be: "God's Big Backyard". This will include online videos each day and craft packets that will be picked up at St Peter. **B.** Luther League online meetings have stopped for the summer. On July 18th the Luther League will be hiking a nature trail near Osage. **C.** The can shed remains closed, but a trailer load of cans has been taken to a new redemption center in Nashua. More cans are being stored in the Greene Recorder's basement. **Pastor's Report:** **A.** All council members are to read chapters 1-5 of the book, "Autopsy of a Deceased Church" for discussion at the August meeting. **B.** At the end of July, Pastor Daniel & Christin will be on vacation. Erin will be checking into a supply minister for that weekend or an alternative plan. **C.** July 11th & 12th the graduating seniors of the Class of 2020 will be honored. **D.** There are 2 families that are scheduling baptisms. One baptism will likely be during a worship service and the other one will be a private baptism. *Motion by Kelly to accept Pastor's report. John 2nd M/C* **Treasurer's Report:** **A.** Gale has transferred the COVID19 PPP Relief funds to the general fund. Gale will work with LSB on the forgiveness report that needs to be sent in. **B.** A fireproof file cabinet will be donated to the church. *Carrie made a motion to accept the donation of the file cabinet and the Treasurer's report. Jan 2nd M/C* **Old Business:** **A.** Inactive members will be tabled at this time. **B.** The men's breakfast group has asked to have their meetings in the church meeting room. It was decided to wait until the church building has been reopened to approve this. **C.** The foot clinic will again use the church in July. **D.** It was suggested that the collection plate be put in the back of the church for Sunday services. **E.** Estimates for removing the asbestos floor tiles in the parsonage will be gotten as soon as possible. **F.** Gary will get estimates for the cement work for the sidewalks. **G.** The steeple continues to leak. After reviewing the bill from Krause Konstruktion, (who replaced the louvers on the bell tower and gables) it was decided that they had repaired, at no additional cost, where they thought the leak was. Since it is continuing to leak, William is able to get an estimate for taking care of it. *Carrie made a motion to get the estimates for the steeple repairs. John 2nd M/C Carrie made a motion to hire Al Zweck to remove the tree stump. Kelly 2nd M/C John made a motion to purchase a new microwave for the parsonage spending no more than \$400.00. Kelly 2nd M/C* **New Business:** **A.** Due to Keith Hyman's resignation from the church council, a new Congregational President is needed. Erin Mulder, who has been serving as Vice President, is willing to serve as President. *John made a motion for Erin to become President of the church council. Chuck 2nd M/C* **B.** Nominations were made to fill the Vice President opening. Andrea accepted the nomination to become Vice President of the council. *Kelly made a motion for Andrea to become Vice President of the church council. John 2nd M/C* **C.** A request was received to help Valley View with new Wi-Fi. The request is tabled until we have more information about Wi-Fi costs. **Other Business:** **A.** Michelle Hyman has requested that her membership at St Peter Lutheran be removed. *Kelly made a motion to release her from membership. Andrea 2nd M/C John made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Andrea 2nd M/C* Closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

**St. Peter Lutheran Church
Financial Report
July 20, 2020**

	Ending Balance
Current Fund Balance	\$22,990.45
Current Fund Amount in MMDA	<u>\$0.00</u>
	\$22,990.45
Other Fund Balances	
Benevolence and Mission	\$3,298.50
Building and Repair	\$603.56
Basement Windows	\$3,899.00
Fellowship	\$2,073.48
Thrivent Choice	\$3,629.00
Restoration	\$19,856.49
Missionary Support	\$1,285.00
AED	<u>\$500.00</u>
	\$35,145.03
Bank Balance	
Checking	\$37,061.66
Money Market	<u>\$21,073.82</u>
Total	\$58,135.48
Goyer Scholarship	\$1,348.57
McCosh - Gift of Love	\$1,020.83
PPP - Loan	\$0.00

**Restoration Fund
St. Peter Lutheran Church**

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.

On Stewardship

“To get the full value of joy you must have someone to divide it with.”

—Mark Twain

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

—Paul in Romans 12:1

THANK YOU
Volunteers!
We couldn't do it without you

Food Bank

Food Bank items for the month of August are Spaghetti Noodles & Spaghetti Sauce. All donations are appreciated, including any food or paper items. Thank you for feeding the hungry!



Ministry of the Food Bank

Nonperishable food items or financial donations

“It is more blessed to give than to receive...”

AUGUST - Holy Communion

6:00 pm - Saturday, August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th

9:30 am - Sunday, August 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

Home Communion

Unable to participate in worship? Please call the church office and schedule a time for the Pastor to come to you with Holy Communion.

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



Church Council President

Greetings,

My name is Erin Mulder. I currently serve on the Church Council. There have been some changes over the last month at Church Council which our congregation needs to be aware of to continue our ministry.

For personal reasons, Keith Hyman has stepped down from both his role as Council President and as a member of the council. This was very unfortunate given all of the time and dedication he has given to our Church over many years. I want to personally thank him for the many ways he has served our congregation.

At our July council meeting, I was elected the new Church Council President, and Andrea Gotto was elected as our new Vice President. We are both happy to serve in our newly elected roles.

The Church Council continues to meet monthly. We remain dedicated to the ministry of St. Peter Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, suggestions, or needs, please reach out to myself or any member of the Church Council.

In closing, I pray that you are all healthy or finding ways to cope through this difficult time in our world. Our church is here for you whatever your needs may be. We continue to pray for our members and all who worship at St. Peter Lutheran Church. Please continue to pray for us as well.

Blessings, Erin

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

Robert Schroeder

\$300.00 to WELCA by family.



St. Peter WELCA

ALTAR FLOWERS: AUGUST - Faith Circle

Senior citizen meals coordinator - Nancy Reser

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

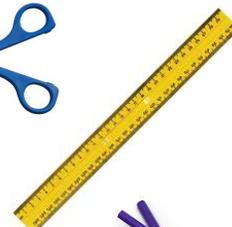
17th - Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00 pm

School Supply Donations

Although much about the upcoming school year remains uncertain, the season has come for back-to-school sales in many stores. As a congregation, we have global and local opportunities to support kids with school supply donations.

First, we are continuing to collect specific supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits to go to children in need around the world. LWR school kits requires the following supplies:

- Spiral Notebooks (70-sheet wide or college-ruled)
- Blunt Children's Scissors
- Rulers (30 cm or marked in both cm and inches)
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Pens (black or blue ball-point, no gel ink)
- Crayons (24 or 16 count boxes)
- Erasers (2 1/2" size)
- Pencils (unsharpened, #2)



At this time, our most urgent needs are crayons, notebooks, and pencil sharpeners. Donations can be placed in the clear tote between the fellowship hall and sanctuary.

Second, the North Butler School District is asking the community to assist in providing supplies for this school year. A drop off box will be located at church. They are seeking all kinds of supplies.

Thank you for supporting the gift of education for God's children!

Check out “Care Notes”

Check out the “Care Notes” in the fellowship hall for help in lots of occasions and circumstances in your life, from divorce to grief, to family troubles to teen problems. They are free. Take them and pass them on.



Email Updates

Want a new way to keep up with what’s happening at St. Peter? Each week, Pastor Daniel sends out an email with a brief devotion to help you prepare for the upcoming week’s worship, along with selected announcements for our life together. Email pastor@stpetergreene.com to get on the list.

LSI

Back to School Month

School is right around the corner! This year’s back-to-school time feels a little different than usual for all of us, but imagine what it would be like to be a child or teen with an emotional or behavioral disorder. For the last several months, their routine has been turned upside-down and they’ve learned to adjust to a new way of life. Moving back into a school year structure can be particularly stressful and it can be difficult to concentrate and cope.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) provides mental health services to children and families across the state. It’s our job to relate to children who might feel alone or misunderstood. Our therapists provide virtual telehealth therapy sessions with children while our Behavioral Health Intervention Services team collaborates with families virtually or in a community setting to help them develop skills like anger management and healthy decision-making. LSI also provides 24-hour mental health care at the Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers in Waverly and Ames to empower Iowa’s most vulnerable children and teens.

We thank you for your support of LSI’s mission as we respond together to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! We know there are more Iowa children in need of this critical care. If you would like to learn more about how you can give a gift to support these crucial services, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

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 www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

St. Peter Lutheran AUGUST Birthdays

- 1 - Sydney Eiklenborg
- 2 - Ardith Buss
- 3 - Rob Rottler
- 4 - Deb Ott,
Tara Spain
- 5 - Clarene Backer,
Keith Hyman,
Irene Loomer,
Eli Martzahn
- 7 - Cheryl Arjes,
Angie Christensen,
Pam Dralle,
Keith Johnson,
Laurie Shultz
- 8 - Katherine McGrane,
Tim Siemons
- 9 - Kurt Brinkman,
Ashley Coake,
Dave Skillen
- 10 - Ricky Niehaus,
Marlene Rogers,
Al Siemons,
Jennifer Wordes

- 11 - Carter Backer,
Addison Ebling
Reese Kock,
Macabe Schmidt
- 14 - Lyna Miller,
Jason Steere
- 15 - Todd Schroeder,
Jason Skillen
- 16 - Teresa Feldman,
Seth Kleinschmidt,
Carol Menken,
Lila Shultz,
Jim Steere
- 17 - Dave Constien,
Tara Kock
- 18 - Susan Hodges,
Jacque Nordmeyer,
Marjorie Nordmeyer,
William Zurcher
- 19 - Dylan Clipperton,
Sue Ebensberger,
Eleanor McGrane
- 20 - Beth Grant,
Gabriel Spratt
Mike Steere

- 21 - Amanda Warner
- 22 - Caitlyn Steere,
LaVon Steere
- 23 - Toya Knapp
- 24 - Rick Ebling,
Alecia Landers,
Ireland Spratt
- 25 - Kay Muhlenbruck
- 26 - Augusta Dralle,
Dennis Gabe,
Amy Paulsen,
Dawson Testroet
- 27 - Carol Barth,
Danté Raymond,
Julia Towsley
- 28 - Joanie Behnke,
Mary Brinkman,
Kadence Coake
Lois Eliassen
- 29 - Jeanie Krull,
Harper Landers,
Mark O'Brien,
Carol Stotler
- 30 - Becky Newton
- 31 - Addisyn Gotto,
Jonathan Ulrich

We've Got Mail

For those of you who are not comfortable coming to church, but would still like to get the weekly bulletin.



You're in luck, on Fridays after 12:00 pm you can pick up a bulletin (new ones will be put in each Friday). The bulletins are under the canopy in the back of the fellowship hall in the mailbox on the bench.

Scam Alert

Church in our area have recently been targeted by a scam where someone texts or emails members of a congregation falsely claiming to be the pastor. Often, the scammer will claim to be visiting someone in the hospital and request that you purchase a gift card for them and respond with the number. Pastor Daniel will never make such a request of members.

If you receive such a request, please call Pastor Daniel at 641-257-9794 to report it.





God's Big Backyard

*"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.
The world and all its people belong to the Lord."*

Psalm 24:1

Like so much else this year, our 2020 version of Vacation Bible School program has looked different than normal. Instead of gathering in the church building, we put together bags of craft supplies for families and recorded videos so VBS could take place in homes and yards. I've missed the energy of being in a room with all the kids singing at the top of their lungs, but we've been able to do some fun new things this year, such as creative song videos, and Christin put together an at-home curriculum to reminds us that the whole world belongs to God.

For those of you who didn't get to do VBS, I want to invite you to open up your Bible and see what God might be saying to you through these stories. These stories are for adults as well as kids! These may be familiar stories to you, but perhaps you'll get something a little different out from them now than you did in Sunday School or VBS! So, here are five ways for you to enjoy God's big backyard.

Climb a Tree: The Story of Zacchaeus – Luke 19:1-10

When Zacchaeus encounters Jesus, his life changes forever. Now that he knows Jesus, he can no longer live the way he used to. He repents, promising to give half of his possessions to the poor.

How has knowing Jesus changed your life? And what changes might Jesus be calling you to make?

Catch Some Fish: Jesus Calls Disciples – Matthew 4:18-22

Disciples Peter, James, and John didn't start as great heroes of faith, but as ordinary fishermen. Jesus' call was a surprise to them, as were his instructions to "fish for people." Jesus is calling us also to drop our nets and follow, and to join in fishing for people. Who can you pray for and tell about Jesus?

Have a Picnic: Jesus Feeds 5,000 – John 6:1-14

Each of the four Gospels records Jesus feeding a crowd of over 5,000 people with 5 loaves and 2 fish, but only John mentions the little boy who contributed the food. One boy's lunch is insignificant, but in Jesus' hands, it's more than enough for a miracle. What gifts or talents can you offer for Jesus to use?

Go for a Walk: Peter Walks on Water – Matthew 14:22-33

In this great miracle story, notice when Peter begins to sink; it's when he sees the strong wind and becomes frightened. When he takes his eyes off Jesus, he gets in trouble – and immediately, Jesus reaches out to him. What fears or worries are keeping you from trusting God right now?

Help Your Neighbor: The Parable of the Good Samaritan – Luke 10:25-37

Love your neighbor as yourself – but who is my neighbor? As an historical enemy of the Jews, the Samaritan is the least-likely person in this story to provide aid. Yet he is the one who helps, and he is the one we are called to emulate. What obstacles have prevented you from loving your neighbors?

In the midst of all the chaos and uncertainty in the world right now, I pray that you find time to open God's Word and read of God's faithfulness. Remember this world belongs to God – and so do you!

In Christ,

-Pastor Daniel Flucke

Sunday School

Update on Sunday School from the Christian Education Committee

The Committee for Christian Education and Youth met on Sunday, July 12th and decided that, due to the continued health safety precautions and uncertainties regarding the pandemic, we will not be starting Sunday School until after Labor Day weekend. Even then, we do not plan to offer an in-person program for at least the first half of the fall.

The committee will meet again on August 9th to discuss alternative possibilities for our ministry this fall. We are committed to helping the youngest members of our congregation grow in faith, and to doing so in ways that does not put the health of our students, teachers, and volunteers at risk. If you have ideas, questions, or concerns, please reach out to any member of the Christian Education Committee. We will keep you updated as things progress and ask for your prayers as we continue to navigate these difficult decisions.



Vacation Bible School

Thank you to everyone who participated in our online/at-home VBS program this year! We had 54 kids from 29 different families who joined us for an awesome week hanging out in God's Big Backyard together. Through crafts, nature activities, service projects, Bible stories, and songs we learned what it means to live in the big, beautiful world God created and how to worship and share God's love with our neighbors, even when we're physically not together.

Special thanks go out to the following people:

- Olivia Dralle, Meredith Shultz, and Addasyn Spain for leading the music!
- Sydney Eiklenborg for sharing the daily Bible stories!
- Pastor Daniel for editing all of the videos!
- Everyone who helped assemble the take-home packets!
- The VBS Planning Committee for all of your hard work to switch gears and come up with an entirely new program in light of the pandemic!



Blessing of Backpacks

It's back-to-school time already! **Students of all ages** attending school this fall are invited to a "Blessing of the Backpacks." Bring your backpack with you to worship **on August 23rd at 9:30 am** so we can send you off in prayer for another great school year. Teachers and staff, come join us for a blessing on your vocation as well!



**Volunteers are
seldom paid; not
because they are
worthless, but
because they are
PRICELESS!**

Family In Other Churches

In Hebrews 10:25, Christians are called to regularly meet together as part of a local congregation. One of the roles of the pastor, church council, and church office is maintaining accurate membership records to make sure no one in our congregation is neglected. To help keep our records up to date, we need your help.

If you or someone you are connected to has moved away and is participating in another congregation, please let the church office know by calling or emailing stpeter@myomnitel.com so we can properly transfer their membership. Of course everyone is always welcome at St. Peter, but it is important that our membership list accurately reflect those who are currently active in this congregation.

AUGUST 2020 - St. Peter Lutheran Church

Getting Ready to Learn Again About the Grace of God!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ushers and Lectors - See "Worship Servants" page for schedule.	<u>Altar Guild:</u> Rose Adelmund, Mary Brinkman					¹ 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
² 9:30 am Worship with Communion in Sanctuary	³ 7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting	⁴	⁵ 7:00 pm Church Council meeting	⁶	⁷	⁸ 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
⁹ 9:30 am Worship with Communion in Sanctuary 1:00 pm Christian Ed meeting	¹⁰	¹¹	¹²	¹³ 9:30 am Faith, Vision & Glory Circle meeting	¹⁴	¹⁵ Newsletter Items Due 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
¹⁶ 9:30 am Worship with Communion in Sanctuary	¹⁷ 3:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	¹⁸ Senior Health Clinic	¹⁹	²⁰	²¹	²² 6:00 pm Worship
²³ <i>Blessing of Backpacks</i> 9:30 am Worship with Communion in Sanctuary	²⁴	²⁵ North Butler School classes start	²⁶ 7:00 pm 7th & 8th grade confirmation student and parent meeting	²⁷	²⁸	²⁹ 6:00 pm Worship
³⁰ 9:30 am Worship with Communion in Sanctuary	³¹					