

St. Peter Lutheran Church

[Evangelical Lutheran Church in America]
324 East Traer Street, PO Box 638
Greene, Iowa 50636

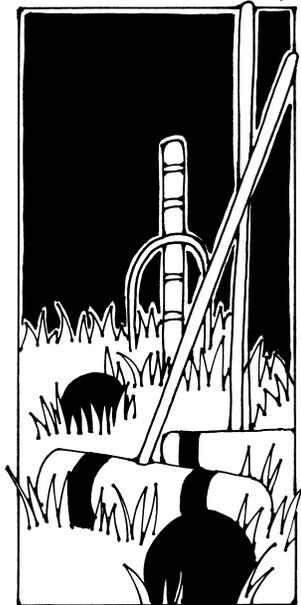
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Father's Day, Vacation Bible School

JUNE 2020
The Newsletter of
St. Peter Lutheran Church [ELCA],
Greene, IA
Pastor Daniel Flucke's cell phone - 641-257-9794
Parsonage - 641-816-3531
Pastor's Email - pastor@stpetergreene.com
Church Office - 641-816-5531
Office Fax - 641-816-4717
Church Office Email - stpeter@myomnitel.com
Website - www.stpetergreene.com

FATHER'S DAY



LET US LOVE, NOT IN
WORD OR SPEECH,
BUT IN TRUTH AND
A C T I O N

1 J O H N 3 : 1 8

St. Peter Lutheran Church - Greene, IA Unofficial Council Minutes, May 6, 2020

Members Present via Zoom or in person: Clarene Backer, Esther Backer, David Crow, John Ebensberger, Carrie Eiklenborg, Andrea Gotto, Erin Mulder, Jan Osier and Chuck Thompson **Members Absent:** Kelly Hoodjer and Keith Hyman **Also Present:** Robin Majewski, Gale Brinkman (Treasurer) and Christian Flucke.

Devotions: Pastor Daniel lead a devotion from Psalm 46. **Secretary's Minutes:** Carrie made a motion to accept the secretary's report. Esther 2nd M/C **Church Vision:** Conversation on "Autopsy of a Deceased Church" will wait until council can meet in person. **Additions to Agenda:** Other business - Three members have requested membership be removed from St Peter.

Building and Grounds: Did not meet. **Education and Youth:** Met April 19 via Zoom. Discussed Sunday School and summer plans in light of pandemic. Christin sent out packets to Sunday School families for Holy Week, and is continuing to do weekly children's message videos. **Stewardship and Finance:** Met March 3rd **A.** Committee will read and discuss: "Autopsy of a Deceased Church". **Worship and Evangelism:** Did not meet. **Personnel:** Did not meet. *Motion made by John to accept committee reports. Esther 2nd. M/C.*

WELCA: Youth & Children's Ministry: Confirmation classes are done, Christin used Zoom for these classes. Christin also has a Junior High hangout time through Zoom for those who want to chat. Luther League is meeting via Zoom on Sunday nights, the attendance is low at this time, but they will continue. The Luther League trip scheduled this summer is still up in the air, as is Vacation Bible School. Decisions on these will be made soon. **Pastor's Report: A.** Pastor Daniel has finished his year in *The Moses Project*. **B.** 12 members of St Peter have volunteered to each call 12 other members to check in on them during this pandemic, if they are in need of any supplies or anything else. Christin has reached out to every household in Sunday School and youth group. Pastor Daniel has also reached out via Facebook to members who we do not have their current phone number. **C.** The Northeast Iowa Synod Assembly has been tentatively rescheduled for Saturday, August 22 at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, the sole purpose is the election of a bishop as Bishop Ullestad is retiring. **D.** The wedding of Kaitlynn Lane and Noah Brandhorst will still be held on May 16, but will be a small family wedding at their home. **E.** Online worship is continuing. Special thanks to all who have helped Pastor Daniel by participating with doing readings. He will be asking for more volunteers as the weeks of online worship continues. It was discussed how we can reach members who do not have online access. Pastor Daniel is willing to do a DVD with past services for those who would like them. Pastor Daniel also has started a weekly devotion and is considering doing a Bible Study. *Motion by Esther to accept Pastor's report. Carrie 2nd. M/C* **Treasurer's Report: A.** Even though we have not had in person worship, the monthly giving has been consistent, through mail-in and electronic giving. **B.** Gale applied for and was approved for the church the COVID19 PPP Relief Loan in the amount of \$18,026.35. 75% needs to be used for salaries, and 25% used toward utilities in order to be forgiven. This will used for all those who are listed as W-2 employees. We will also pay Sandra as the organist and our pianists. Custodians will be paid a monthly average rate. *Carrie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. John 2nd. M/C* **Old Business:** None **New Business: A.** When the time comes that the church building will be opened again, we are in need of hand sanitizer. We have a very limited supply. Andrea was going to check to see what her husband had purchased at Theisens. **B.** Two students have applied for the Goyer Scholarship. Esther made a motion to give them each the same amount. Jan 2nd. However, after discussion, this motion was amended. It was decided to award Rainy Kock as an active member of our Church \$500.00 and Aimee Hodges \$250.00 as a grandchild of Marilyn and Russell Folkers. Carrie made the motion for this change, Chuck 2nd. M/C **C.** There have been issues with the smoke alarms going off throughout the church & fellowship hall. Kris has been in contacted with Wedeking Electric, and will be getting new smoke alarms at a cost of approximately \$30.00 each if they all need to be replaced. **D.** Discussion about ideas of what the church needs to be prepared for when the time comes that we can again open the church building. We want our members to feel comfortable with our decisions. Carrie and Pastor Daniel will work on an update to send to members. **Other Business:** **A.** The decision for the donation to the Greene Jaycees for Greene River Days will be tabled until our next council meeting which will be June 3rd. **B.** Pastor suggested that a donation to Lutheran summer camps should also be considered as camps will be limited or not held at all. **C.** Autumn Landers, Kristiane Teeple and Kristen O'Brien have asked to be removed for our church membership. *Carrie made a motion to accept these membership removals. John 2nd M/C* *Erin made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Jan 2nd. M/C* Closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

**St. Peter Lutheran Church
Financial Report
May 19, 2020**

	Ending Balance
Current Fund Balance	\$1,496.13
Current Fund Amount in MMDA	<u>\$0.00</u>
	\$1,496.13
Other Fund Balances	
Benevolence and Mission	\$1,214.75
Building and Repair	\$625.01
Basement Windows	\$3,899.00
Fellowship	\$2,073.48
Thrivent Choice	\$3,513.00
Restoration	\$18,731.49
Missionary Support	\$765.00
AED	<u>\$450.00</u>
	\$31,271.73
Bank Balance	
Checking	\$11,699.31
Money Market	<u>\$21,068.55</u>
Total	\$32,767.86
Goyer Scholarship	\$1,229.83
McCosh - Gift of Love	\$1,020.58

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.

On Stewardship

“Our deaths, like our lives, are either a source of blessing or frustration to those around us. Ultimately the choice is ours.”

—Fr. Ron Rolheiser

“...Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

—Jesus in Matthew 25:40

Planned Giving

Our lives are journeys of faith and generosity. As our faith matures and deepens, so do the ways 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.

**CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING:
Wednesday,
June 3rd
at 7:00 pm**

COVID-19 eGiving

Dear St Peter Lutheran Church member—We're getting in touch today as our habits change amid the COVID-19 spread.

We fully understand that you might not be comfortable attending and bringing your family to large gatherings, including St Peter Lutheran Church services.

We also know that supporting St Peter Lutheran Church is important to you. Our work supporting members and our community will not stop because of this public health challenge.

This is a friendly reminder that St Peter Lutheran Church uses Vanco eGiving tools, so you can continue to support our work using GivePlus Mobile and GivePlus On-Line.

St Peter Lutheran Church is a strong community. We will weather this together, even if we're not all in services. We appreciate your giving, and we do important work with members' generosity. As we alter the way we operate, please consider making a gift via eGiving.

Thank you,
Gale L Brinkman, Treasurer

JUNE - Holy Communion

Once we resume worshiping in person in the church building, every service this summer will include Holy Communion on Saturdays at 6:00 pm and Sundays at 9:30 am.

- When individual glasses are offered at Holy Communion, the clear glasses have wine in them and the purple glasses have grape juice.
- We have gluten free wafers available; just let the Pastor know that you need it at communion.

Home Communions

Please call the church office and schedule a time for the Pastor to come to you with Holy Communion.



Church Directory Update

Time for a new church directory! Every year in July, we mail out an updated church directory in place of the monthly newsletter.

In order for the directory to be as accurate as possible, we need your help. If have changed your phone number, address, or have an email address for the directory, please let us know. Many of you have switched from a landline to a cell phone and we have no way of contacting you. So please call the church office at 816-5531 or email any updates to stpeter@myomnitel.com. Thank you!



Ministry of the Food Bank

Nonperishable food items or financial donations

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

Food Bank

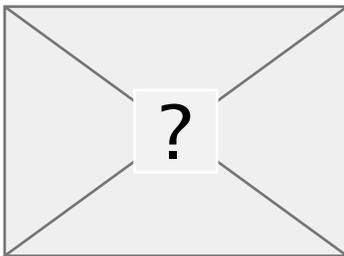
Food Bank suggested items for the month of June are hand soap & shampoo. All donations are appreciated, we can use any food or paper items that are given to us.



COVID-19 Stay Connected

During this COVID-19 pandemic, technology has allowed us to stay connected as a congregation and to move worship online. However, we recognize that not everyone has access to the devices and internet connection this requires. If you would like to receive print copies of sermons or DVDs of our online worship services, please contact Robin or Pastor Daniel at the church office.

Restoration Fund St. Peter Lutheran Church



St. Peter WELCA

ALTAR FLOWERS: JUNE - Glory Circle

Senior citizen meals coordinator - Nancy Reser

No Circle meeting

No WELCA Board meeting

No Tuesday Quilting

No Prayer Shawl meeting

If there are any committee changes that need to be made in the WELCA booklet, please call and let the church office know by August 1st.

Altar Guild

Altar Guild is in need of a couple people to fill some open spots on guild. If interested, please contact the church office.



The Church Council is still in need of 1 person to fill an unexpired term. This is an opportunity to serve the Lord and to better understand of all the ingredients that are needed to fulfill the ministry at St. Peter. We ask you prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve. If you are interested, please contact President Keith Hyman 641-512-1023 or Vice President Erin Mulder 816-3107.

LSI

Happy Father's Day!

At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day.

Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families.

Many Iowa children entering foster care need a positive male role model in their lives. And through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, our licensed foster dads are there to help guide them.

This is only possible through your support of LSI! If you would like to make a gift, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

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.



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.

Luther League Summer Trip Update

With so many things still up in the air as we head into summer, the Luther League leaders have made the sad and difficult decision to cancel this year's planned summer trip to Colorado. Rest assured, this decision was not made lightly. Youth trips are a meaningful time of faith formation for our students. Our congregation has a rich history of offering these trips and we know so many in our congregation have very fond memories of their trip adventures while in Luther League. However, we simply do not know that it will be safe or wise to travel as a group at this time, and so while we know students were looking forward to the trip, we must keep everyone's safety as our top priority. Depending how things play out this summer, we may be able to offer some more local activity opportunities to our youth, but we'll have to wait and see. As Luther League, we want to thank the congregation for your continued support of our youth and we hope to come back with an exciting plan for 2021!

St. Peter Lutheran JUNE Birthdays

1 - Lisa Steere
4 - John Worley
7 - Aidan Gotto,
Robin Majewski,
Roger Martzahn,
Eyla Sheppard
Darlyce Steere,
Cheryl Warner,
Sawyer Zimmerman
10 - Janet Bradley,
Macabe Klink,
Jaydon Siemons
11 - Janice Schwieger,
Carrie Tidemanson
12 - Haily Backer

13 - Dustin Osier,
Chuck Thompson
14 - Jeff Dralle,
Linda Schafer,
Morgan Weiskamp
15 - David Crow,
Jocelyn Lewis,
Megan Schmidt
16 - Ashley Mead,
Jeremy Richards,
18 - Carrie Eiklenborg,
Jeanette Miller,
Addasyn Spain
19 - Roger Backer,
Justin Rogers

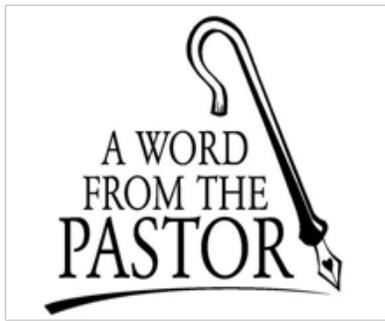
20 - Dick Reser
22 - Greg Eiklenborg,
Anna Mae Steere
23 - Nancy Ebling,
Connie Yerkes
25 - Jean McGee,
Carly Steere
Marilyn Steere
26 - Cheryl Rogers
28 - Cooper Backer,
Darrel Wiele
29 - Joe Nelson
30 - Nickolas Brummond,
Emma DeVries,
Jessica Lane

Important Update for VBS 2020!

With the continued uncertainty surrounding the pandemic, the VBS planning team is making some adjustments to our community Vacation Bible School for this year. Instead of gathering for VBS together in church buildings, we will be providing online videos as well as take-home packets with supplies and directions for students to complete craft projects and other fun activities at home.

Important: Instead of the previously scheduled dates, VBS will now be **July 13-17** for all students age 3 – completed 5th grade. Registration forms will be mailed to all families who participated in VBS last year, to be returned by June 15. If you did not participate last year but would like a registration form or more information, please contact Christin Flucke at (641) 257-9793 or youth@stpetergreene.com. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we work to adapt and try something new this year. We look forward to enjoying a safe and fun week together!





Looking Ahead to the Pandemic's Aftermath

"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." - Romans 8:28

God willing, it seems possible we may be nearing the end of this pandemic, this time of physical distancing from one another. (*Or, perhaps I'll look back at that sentence in a few months or years and realize how naively optimistic I am right now!*) We do seem to be entering a new stage of re-opening and returning to something closer to normal life. I pray these are the right decisions and will not lead to a more aggressive return of the virus later. But whether the end is near or months or even years away, at some point, this crisis will be behind us.

Whenever it is we're able to resume our normal patterns, what do you want to take away from this pandemic? What of the myriad of changes and disruptions we've experienced since we last gathered for worship on March 15 do you want to carry forward?

In asking these questions, I am not trying to find a silver lining. I do not believe God caused this pandemic to get our attention, or to teach us a lesson. I encourage all of us to not minimize the tragedy faced by those whose family members have died, or who have lost jobs or had their livelihoods threatened. But I do believe the tragedy is never the end of the story. As the cross shows, our God can bring good out of even the worst tragedies. So what good things can come out of this disruption?

For our world, one of the bright spots is surely the environment. Seeing what a difference just a few weeks of much less consumption has made, perhaps some of us will learn to live with less stuff, burn less fuel, and use less energy than before. Another bright spot for many is that more time at home has meant more time with family. As I write this, I've just read that Twitter will allow most employees to keep working from home permanently, even after the pandemic is over. Many other companies, especially big companies like banks and tech companies are also re-assessing whether people really need to be in an office every day to be productive at work. (I even wonder if that will help rural areas like ours, if remote working becomes more common and can be done from places with lower costs of living.) Personally, I've had the chance to read and study more, and to connect with more people over the phone and video chat.

On a congregational level, I think this has taught us worship does not depend on being gathered together in one room, and—paradoxically—that there is something essential about being together. In these weeks of online worship, we've discovered some of the parts of worship we may have thought were necessary are not as important as the core of hearing God's Word read and proclaimed, praying, and praising God, yet we've also discovered how much we value coming together to sing and pray as one body.

One of my favorite parts of this whole experience is that we've had people in our congregation who haven't attended worship in-person in years who have been able to worship with us online, even participating by reading Scripture lessons. Although I'm not going to continue producing full online services when we resume in-person worship, I do plan to continue recording sermons to share online, perhaps even occasional devotional videos or a sermon podcast. What else should we continue or start?

Most importantly, we've been forced to live our faith outside of the church building. Making masks, giving food, supporting local businesses, calling to check on and encourage neighbors, all of these express faith in real life. May God bless you as you consider what to carry forward from this strange time.

In Christ,

-Pastor Daniel Flucke

JUNE 2020 - St. Peter Lutheran Church

Rejoicing in the Warmth of the Risen Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ushers and Lectors -	1	2	3 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	4	5	6
7 9:30 am Worship Online	8 7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting	9	10	11	12	13 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
14 9:30 am Worship with Communion	Pentecost 15 Newsletter Items Due	16	17	18	19	20 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
21 9:30 am Worship with Communion	Father's Day 22	23	24	25	26	27 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
28 9:30 am Worship with Communion	29	30				<u>Altar Guild:</u> Erin Mulder,