

St. Peter Lutheran Church

[Evangelical Lutheran Church in America]

324 E. Traer St., PO Box 638

Greene, Iowa 50636



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**Outdoor Worship, Confirmation,
Bible Presentation, First Communion**

SEPTEMBER 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 Email - pastor@stpetergreene.com

Church Office - 641-816-5531

Office Fax - 641-816-4717

Church Office Email - stpeter@myomnitel.com

Website - www.stpetergreene.com

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
Unofficial Council Minutes, August 5, 2020

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

Devotions/Church Vision: Pastor Daniel read from Ephesians 3:20-21. All members were encouraged to read the first 5 chapters of the book "Autopsy of a Dying Church" by Thom S. Rainer. Each chapter had a main point of discussion: Chapter 1: Introduction Chapter 2: Slow Erosion Chapter 3: The Past is the Hero Chapter 4: The Church Refused to Look like the Community & Chapter 5: The Budget moved Inwardly. Each Chapter was discussed & how the book compared to us at St Peter. At the end of the discussion Pastor Daniel read the St Peter Mission Statement.

Secretary's Minutes: David made a motion to accept the secretary's report. Chuck 2nd M/C

Church Vision: Additions to Agenda:

Building and Grounds: Did not meet as a group. **A.** Gary Schmidt power-washed and painted the back two doors by the kitchen. **B.** A microwave was purchased for the parsonage from Mel's. Dennis Griffin worked on the cabinets to make it fit. **C.** There are a total of 15 smoke alarms in the fellowship addition & lower level. 3 have been purchased and Gary Schmidt thinks that he will be able to wire them. William made a motion to purchase the other 12 and have them all replaced (They are the original smoke alarms put in with the fellowship addition). Jan 2nd the motion M/C. **D.** Steve Mulder has offered to donate lawn spraying services of the church lawn. **Education and Youth:** Will meet Sunday, August 9th. **A.** They will be discussing possible at-home Sunday School, at least for the first few months. **B.** VBS had 54 community kids participate. All the packets were picked up which had 5 crafts, there was access to online videos and Bible stories. Thank you to Sydney Eiklenborg, Addasyn Spain, Meredith Shultz and Addisyn Gotto for helping with recording videos. On Friday night there was a hotdog & s'mores drive-thru. Tony Shook made a chalk display that the kids could get out of their cars for pictures. There has been good feedback of how everything was handled during this unusual time. **Stewardship and Finance:** Did not meet **Worship and Evangelism:** **A.** Pastor Daniel was pleased with the outdoor worship service in Perrin Park on July 19th. There were approximately 57 in attendance. Special thanks to Sandra Schuknecht & Dennis Griffin for providing the music, John Ebensberger for providing refreshments, and Delos & Delores Adelmund for helping set up and the sound system. It's always appreciated Merlin Schuknecht's willingness to usher. **B.** Weather permitting plans are to have two more outdoor worship services. Erin made a motion to have these services on Sunday, August 23rd and Sunday, September 20th. Carrie 2nd M/C **C.** Erin suggested looking at different options around town to have the outdoor services. With the street construction and parking by Perrin Park, there may be other places that can be utilized. **D.** Pastor Daniel suggested that we keep service times the same as they have been for the summer months: Saturday service at 6:00 pm and a single Sunday service time at 9:30 am. Pastor Daniel is planning to blend the format of each type of service. Erin made a motion to adopt this schedule for now and reevaluate at future council meetings. Carrie 2nd M/C **Personnel:** Will meet Wednesday, August 12th to elect a new committee chairperson. *Motion made by Esther to accept committee reports. David 2nd. M/C.* **WELCA: Youth & Children's Ministry:** Christian Ed will meet on Sunday, August 9th to continue working on adapting fall programming plans during the pandemic. **Pastor's Report:** **A.** Robin has been cutting baptism doves to put up in the sanctuary. Robin says there instructions on how the doves are to be put up. **B.** Pastor Daniel will be gone the 2nd weekend in September. Erin will check to see if Pastor Kent would be the supply Pastor that weekend, or we can again choose to worship with St James at the Allison airport. *Motion by Erin to accept Pastor's report. Jan 2nd. M/C* **Treasurer's Report:** **A.** Gale has worked with LSB on the forgiveness report for the PPP loan and is waiting to hear back for the guarantee of forgiveness. *Carrie made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Jan 2nd. M/C* **Old Business:** **A.** The steeple leak has not been addressed yet. **B.** The Valley View technology has been taken care of by other churches. Andrea will check to see if there is anything else that is needed for the Care Center such as iPads and tablets. **C.** There is a good supply of COVID supplies right now. **New Business:** **A.** Thank you to Roland and Deanne Martzahn for removing the bathroom tiles in the basement of the parsonage. **B.** The bid \$3,922.00 from Advanced Environmental was reviewed to remove the asbestos floor in the parsonage. This company will give 10 days notice before then can start. *Carrie made a motion to accept the bid. Andrea 2nd. M/C* **Other Business:** **A.** A St Peter member has requested to use the fellowship hall at the end of August for a small group meeting. It was decided that until the church building is fully open, there will be no meetings approved. *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
August 17, 2020**

	Ending Balance
Current Fund Balance	\$23,255.13
Current Fund Amount in MMD	<u>\$0.00</u>
	\$23,255.13
Other Fund Balances	
Benevolence and Mission	\$1,396.25
Building and Repair	\$565.36
Basement Windows	\$3,899.00
Fellowship	\$2,073.48
Thrivent Choice	\$3,629.00
Restoration	\$20,241.49
Missionary Support	\$865.00
AED	<u>\$450.00</u>
	\$33,119.58
Bank Balance	
Checking	\$35,298.21
Money Market	<u>\$21,076.50</u>
Total	\$56,374.71
Goyer Scholarship	\$1,348.68
McCosh - Gift of Love	\$1,020.83
PPP - Loan	\$0.00

On Stewardship

“Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude.” — Ralph Waldo Emerson

The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
—Psalm 24:1



St. Peter Lutheran will be worshipping with communion at the Community Center parking lot in Greene on Sunday, September 20th at 9:30 am.

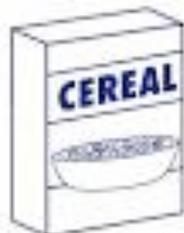
Please bring your lawn chairs or feel free to stay in your vehicle. Special music by Christin Flucke.

Saturday 6:00 pm worship will be in the fellowship hall.

Greene Community Food

September’s food bank items of the month are **mac & cheese** and **cold cereal**.

All donations are appreciated, and we can use any food / paper items that are given to us. The “item of the month” is just a suggestion of what to give!



Don’t Forget the Ministry of the Food Bank

Nonperishable food items or financial donations

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



Restoration Fund
St. Peter Lutheran Church

ALTAR FLOWERS: September - Vision Circle

WELCA CALENDAR

Senior citizen meals coordinator - Marie Heeren

10th - No Circle meeting

21st - Prayer Shawl Ministry - 3:00 pm

SEPTEMBER - Holy Communion

6:00 pm - Saturday, September 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

9:30 am - Sunday, September 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Home Communion

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

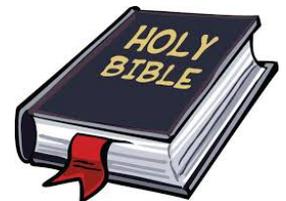
•When individual glasses are offered at Holy Communion, the clear glasses have wine in them and the purple glasses have grape juice.



Sponsor a Bible

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. -1 Corinthians 13:11

For the last few years, we've been intentional about giving an age-appropriate "Deep Blue Kids" Bible to every student in our congregation as they begin 3rd grade. This full-text Bible has lots of fun, kid-friendly features to help our elementary students dig into God's Word.



Now that the first students to receive that Bible are entering 7th grade, it's time to get them a new age-appropriate Bible to help them engage at a deeper level in confirmation class and beyond.

Here's where you come in: **Will you cover the \$20 cost of a new Bible for one of our seven junior high students?** Please let Pastor Daniel or the church office know if this is something you're willing to do.

First Communion

After months of disruption from the pandemic, we look forward to celebrating our now-6th graders' First Communion at last!

Originally planned for April, their First

Communion will now be at the outdoor worship service on Sunday, September 20. May this Holy Meal strengthen all of us in faith as we are welcomed at our Lord's table, fed with his body and blood given for us, and sent out refreshed and renewed into the world.

We pray for God's blessing on these students: Ezra Almelién, Jack Bartels, Augusta Dralle, Jack Dwyer, Dakota Martzahn, Cameron McBurney, Kiki Steere and Bennett Yerkes.



LSI Article

Direct Support Professionals Week

Do you know someone who is a caregiver to a loved one? It is a role that is both demanding and meaningful. During September's National Direct Support Professionals Week, we celebrate all the ways in which professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful lives, especially during the extra challenges surrounding COVID-19 this year.

One way LSI empowers Iowans is through our Services for People with Disabilities. From 24-hour support to occasional respite care, the LSI team lifts up Iowans with disabilities as they find the confidence and independence they need to thrive. In recent months, our DSPs have been dedicated to the people we are privileged to serve, adding extra safety measures to continue supporting individuals in our 24-hour facilities and providing new activities to keep everyone entertained and busy when leaving the house was not safely an option.

This high-quality care is possible because of you – thank you for lifting up your Iowa neighbors in times of crisis! If you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, 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.

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 SEPTEMBER Birthdays

1 - Diane Buss,
Diane Osier
3 - Sawyer Hanson,
Julie Leavens,
Roger Van Etten
4 - Kedric Hyman,
Megan Schriver,
Susan Smelden
5 - Olivia Dralle
7 - Julie Brinkman,
Ian Kleinschmidt,
Aubrey Schmidt,
Carly Schmidt
8 - Avery Bollman,
Tracy Steere
9 - Jennifer Lane,
Maddex Pitzenberger
11 - Darrel Brinkman,
Jack Dwyer,
Chase Spratt,
Megan Yearous

12 - Cleo Johnson,
Maddie Ott
13 - Paige Marquard
14 - Casie Stroberg
16 - Judy Lau,
Larissa Osier,
Ryan Wedeking
17 - Heather Harms,
Doug Marsh,
Nicholas Noel,
Randy Riggins,
Les Schafer,
Sara Trepp
18 - Derek Brinkman,
Mary Ann Martzahn
19 - Jennifer Rottler
20 - Kellen Ebling,
Colton Hoodjer
21 - Dylan Schafer,
Charmayne Sneed,
Carrie Tobias

22 - Collin Freeseemann,
Aiden Platts,
Emilia Siemons,
Lydia Turner
23 - Marilyn Folkers
24 - Larry Noel,
Ramana Schmidt,
Lincoln Schroeder
Phil Wahlgren
25 - Emma Wedeking
26 - Jan Osier,
Trae Ulrich
27 - Roland Martzahn
28 - Melanie Clipperton
29 - Rashelle Lewis,
Autumn Wahlgren
30 - Marie Heeren,
Monty Heitland,
Deanne Martzahn

Confirmation Sunday September 20th

At our outdoor worship service on Sunday, September 20, five of our ninth-grade students will be publicly affirming their baptism.

When they were baptized as children, their parents and sponsors made faith promises on their behalf. Over the last two years through confirmation class, service projects, worship, Sunday School, retreats, and individual projects, these youth have explored these promises and embraced their faith as their own. Now, on Confirmation Sunday, we will celebrate with them and confirm them as adult members of St. Peter Lutheran Church.

May God bless them as they continue the lifelong process of exploring and growing in their faith and affirming their identity as children of God!

† *Tanner Arjes*
† *Jack Hanson*
† *Kirsten Hawker*
† *Reagan Mulder*
† *Emma Wedeking*





Remembering and Hoping

*“Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering,
for he who has promised is faithful.”*

—Hebrews 10:23

At a conference I just attended (*virtually, of course - I miss events when you didn't have to wait for the speaker to buffer!*), one of the speakers talked about how to find hope in a crisis. Times of crisis, like a pandemic, are disruptive. They take what's normal and shake it up. It's easy for the disruption to become overwhelming.

In these last six months, we've seen the pandemic disrupt many different aspects of our normal lives. Of course, most significantly, millions of people around the world have gotten sick, with nearly a million losing their lives to the virus. But even for the vast majority of us who have not been infected, there's been a great deal of disruption. Everything from toilet paper supply chains to school plans to nursing home visits to vacation plans has shifted this year. And obviously, the disruption includes the way we do ministry and worship as a congregation as well.

One of the most challenging parts of a pandemic as a crisis is that it's slow-moving. I don't know about you, but if I pictured a pandemic (*not a topic I'd ever spent much time considering!*), I imagined something more like a zombie apocalypse, something that would sweep through the country in a matter of a few weeks and it would be terrible and then we'd move on. It turns out that a pandemic is a much more gradual crisis, where plans and adaptations quickly made months ago turn out to still be necessary for the foreseeable future. It's hard not knowing when things will get back to normal, or what parts of normal will never return.

Faced with the ongoing uncertainty of this slow-moving crisis, how do we make plans for the future? **Where do we find hope?** Echoing many passages in Scripture, Rozella Haydée White (the speaker I mentioned) encourages us in times of crisis to look forward by remembering.

Remember who we are. We are sinners redeemed by God's grace shown on the cross, bearers of God's image, beloved children of God claimed in the waters of baptism. Our primary identity is found in Christ. As a congregation, we are gathered by God into a community for the purpose of loving and serving our neighbors, even in the midst of disruption. We are ambassadors for God's kingdom.

And remember who God is. God is the Creator of all things, the One who spoke the world into existence. God is Jesus our Redeemer, the One who humbled himself unto death in order to give us life now and forever. God is the Holy Spirit, who accompanies us through life, who animates us, inspires us, gives us faith, and fills our very being.

As we move into a new season, the disruptions will continue. More events will be cancelled. More and more aspects of normal life will feel different. In the midst of that disruption, hold on to the hope of faith. In the turbulence, hold on to the anchor of who God is, and remember who you are. Remember that God is faithful. Pray and talk with God. Read the Bible to discover God's promises. Hold on to hope. May these strange times, may you come to know God's love in ever-deeper and new ways.

In Christ,

-Pastor Daniel Flucke

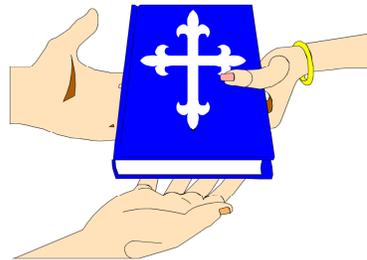
Bible Presentation to 3rd Graders on September 20th

The primary way we learn about God is through reading God's Word, the Bible. When children are baptized, their parents and sponsors promise to "place in their hands the Holy Scriptures." As a congregation, we promise to support families in the Christian education of their children.

One of the ways we fulfill that promise is by presenting our third grade students with their very own Bibles! We'll be celebrating this important faith milestone at the outdoor worship service on Sunday, September 20th.

We're presenting a special "Deep Blue Kid's Bible" with age-appropriate notes and pictures to help make God's word more accessible for children. Those receiving Bibles are:

*Eisley Dralle
Kenadee McCormick
Maddex Pitzenberger
Nora Reser
Paisley Ruby
Lincoln Schroeder
Lila Shultz
Reagan Tidemanson
Emma Towsley
Angelus Young*



***"The Bible is
the cradle
wherein Christ
is laid."
-Martin Luther***

Third grade youth and their parents will have a special meeting right after the worship service with Pastor Daniel & Christin to learn more about how to use their new Bibles and see how God speaks to us through this holy book.

At-Home Sunday School to Start the Year

The Christian Education Committee has decided it is in the best interest of our students and volunteers to refrain from gathering in person for Sunday School, at least to start off the year. Instead, we will be offering an at-home alternative which includes access to online teaching videos as well as packets of supplies for some fun, hands-on activities students can complete from home. If your family would like a packet, please go to www.stpetergreene.com/sundayschool to sign up. The first packets will be available to pick up at church the week of Sept. 6 and provide lessons for the remaining 3 weeks in September. If you have any questions, please contact Christin Flucke.



7th and 8th Grade Confirmation

Sept. 2 - Parent meeting with all students from 6:15-7:00 pm.

Sept. 9 - No class

Sept. 16 - 7th grade, 6:15-7:30

Sept. 23 - 8th grade, 6:15-7:30

Sept. 30 - 7th grade, 6:15-7:30

**Congratulations to our
9th grade confirmands!**

**We are excited to celebrate
with you as you take this step
in your faith journey!**

**WELCOME
BACK**



9/3 - Sawyer Hanson

9/4 - Kedric Hyman

9/5 - Olivia Dralle

9/18 - Derek Brinkman

9/25 - Emma Wedeking

Can Sorting Schedule



Details and a schedule will be discussed at the first Luther League meeting on Sept. 6th.

Please note that all youth ministry programming for the fall is subject to change. We will do the best we can to keep you updated on what's happening as we go along. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we continue to navigate this pandemic together!

Luther League will meet following worship on Sept. 6th and 20th.

There will be no Jr. High Sunday School for the month of September.

SEPTEMBER 2020 - St. Peter Lutheran Church

Joyfully 'Laboring' on in the Grace and Power of Jesus Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ushers and Lectors - See "Worship Servants" page for schedule.		1	2 6:15 pm 7th & 8th grade confirmation orientation meeting 7:00 pm Church Council meeting and the 9th grade confirmation youth	3	4	5 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
6 9:30 am Worship with Communion in Sanctuary	7 Office Closed	8	9	10	11	12 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
13 9:30 am Worship with Communion in Sanctuary	14 7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting	15 Newsletter Items Due Senior Health Clinic	16 6:15 pm - Confirmation	17	18	19 1:00 pm First Communion Class Zoom meeting 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
20 9:30 am Worship with Communion Community Center parking lot <i>Confirmation</i> <i>First Communion</i> <i>Bible Presentation to 3rd Grade Youth</i> Right after worship 3rd Grade Youth & Parents meet	21 3:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	22	23 6:15 pm - Confirmation	24	25	26 6:00 pm Worship with Communion
27 9:30 am Worship with Communion in Sanctuary	28	29	30 6:15 pm - Confirmation			<u>Altar Guild:</u> Delores Adelmund, Jeanie Krull