

The Voice



From the Desk of Pastor Mark:

The month of June transitions us from the season of spring to summer. The weather transition moves from cool and rainy this year, to hot and dry perhaps? We will see. There is always room for surprise when it comes to weather in Iowa. Our church ministries transition at this time of the year as well. In May we are wrapping up many of our program ministries. Sunday school had their end of the year carnival. Always a fun way to celebrate the year of learning and growing together. The Sunday school kids also sang in worship on Sunday, May 5th. They did a fantastic job as usual. I heard one of my kids singing the other day, "We like fries. They really please us. But there's something we like better...His name is Jesus." Matt Pries wrote that song years ago, and the kids have loved singing it ever since. (There's a story be-

hind it. You can ask Matt about that.) It always warms my heart to hear the kids singing songs of faith. We recognized our senior graduates during worship on May 12th. Check out one of the next pages in the Voice for a list of all the graduates. It's a talented group. Confirmation wraps up in the spring as well. There were 13 youth that affirmed their baptism on Sunday, May 19th. It is always a joy to read their faith statements and see how they've grown over the years. Middle School youth group had their last meeting for this year. We celebrated Matt's last MS youth group as Youth Director with pizza and cake. (We are still praying for who the next youth director for St. Peter will be.) The adult choir takes a hiatus in the summer as well. They finished up the season singing at both worship services for Confirmation Sunday, for which we give thanks. May 19th was the last Sunday with two wor-

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Worship Schedule

Thank you for joining us for worship!

Sunday Summer worship occurs at 9:00 a.m. May 26-September 1.

Fall programming, including Sunday 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. worship, Sunday school, and Wednesday worship, will resume the week of September 8.



Summer Office Hours

From June through August, the church office will be open Mon—Thurs, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and by appointment. Please do not hesitate to email the church office to make an appointment at:

stpeter@stpeterofgrimes.org

St. Peter Lutheran Church
Office Hours

The Church Office is open
Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
(Summer Hours)

Jill Capps – Director of
Faith Formation
Jill's day off is Friday.

Pastor Mark Schlenker
Pastor's day off is Friday.

ship services being at 8 and 10:30 a.m. We transition to the summer schedule with worship Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. The summer worship schedule goes from Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend.

Reflecting on these ministries wrapping up in the spring reminds me just how blessed St. Peter has been this past year. Numerous ministries for children, youth and adults. Ministries that help us fulfill our calling, "Gathered to Grow. Sent to Serve." These ministries are possible due to the faithful generosity of so many people. Thank you for volunteering, financially giving, and showing up. This is what makes it possible for us to be a community of faith growing together in faith and serving with love.

Ministries may shift in the summer, but they haven't ended. Governor's Days parade, vacation bible school, youth mission trip and other ministries are still happening. Worship is still every Sunday morning. Keep showing up for one another. Together, St. Peter will continue to thrive. Together, through the power of the Holy Spirit, St. Peter will continue to be a place where the love of God in Christ Jesus is heard and proclaimed.

Gathered to Grow. Sent to Serve.

Pastor Mark

Coming Up at St. Peter

Governor's Days Parade & Ice Cream Social

Join St. Peter in the Governor's Days Parade on June 7! You can walk or ride on our float, and we will have candy and VBS information to hand out.

After the parade, join us for a community Ice Cream Social on the St. Peter lawn. All are welcome!

Please note: the St. Peter parking lot will be used for overflow parking for Governor's Days June 6-8.



2024 Vacation Bible School!

Vacation Bible School will be
June 23-27, 2024
from 6:00-8:00 p.m.



Join us for a week of fun and learning! Register with the QR code or the link on our website.



St. Peter VBS

Gathered
to
Grow

Sent
to
Serve

Youth Car Wash

Watch the eNews and weekly bulletin for the date of the annual youth car wash fundraiser, which will raise funds for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans and Youth Mission Trip in LaCenter Kentucky.



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StPeterGrimes](https://www.facebook.com/StPeterGrimes)

Director of Youth Ministry Needed

Do you love kids? Have a passion for walking with them in a life of faith? The Director of Youth Ministry is a part time paid position at St. Peter and will be opening up this summer. Our thanks to Matt Schmidt, who has faithfully served in this role for nearly 9 years and will be stepping down in August. If you think you might be interested, have questions, or know of someone who would be a good fit, please reach out to Pastor Mark.



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

Join us June 30 after worship for our semi-annual congregational meeting. We will elect new council members and discuss other church business.

Join Us for 4th of July Fireworks!

Join us on the lawn at St. Peter Lutheran for the annual Grimes 4th of July Fireworks! Light refreshments will be made available by our Evangelism team and the church will be open for restroom availability. Come join the fun and have a great place to watch fireworks!

2024 Confirmation Class

Congratulations to our 2024 Confirmation class:, who affirmed the promises of their baptism on May 19, 2024: Evelyn Soult, Kennedy Johnson, Cash Cassens, Jacob Short, Grady Springer, Tyler Newman, Samantha Shepherd, Jackson Hummel, Liam Fredericks, Rocco Reitano, Milo Rouse, Cameron Franzen, and Lillian Biegger!

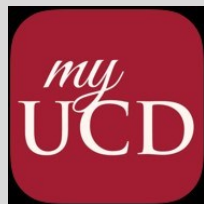


Did You Know...

St. Peter has an online church directory app that is updated as our membership changes!

Last summer, member household received an online directory unique identifier code from Universal Church Directories. Download the app and used the code to access the online directory. You can also access the directory on a desktop or laptop computer by going to: directory.ucdir.com

Lost your code? No problem! Contact the church office for assistance.



Thursday Bible Study

Bible Study will not meet in June. Bible Study will resume in July on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 1:00 p.m.

Questions? Contact Jill at faithformation@stpeterofgrimes.org

Men's Group

Join us for our monthly Men's Group Gathering this month! Men's Group usually meets the first Sunday of the month. Contact Bradley Fasse with any questions, and join the Men's Group Facebook page for the latest updates and news. @Facebook: St. Peter Lutheran Men's Group @bradleyfasse@gmail.com @515-971-2397



A Moment with Myamba Missions

At St. Peter, we help our Tanzanian brothers and sisters of Myamba Parish in many ways. Since 2011, we've helped six young children with bowed legs. (We're not sure, but naturally-occurring excess fluoride in the water may contribute to this condition.) Two such children were presented to us in the past year. As pictures show, Agness's legs were quite bowed; Jenifer's condition was less severe.

Iowa surgeon Dr. Steve Meyer, co-founder of Siouxland Tanzania Educational Medical Ministries (STEMM) travels periodically to Tanzania. We arrange for these Myamba children to be examined by Dr. Meyer. Dr. Meyer performs surgery for the more severe cases and prescribes braces for the children who can be healed without surgery.

Agness received surgery; see her significant improvement afterward! For Jenifer, see the braces that were prescribed. For our part, the Myamba Missions Fund provided the needed \$400 to help each family pay for travel to the city hospital/clinic, lodging and meals as well as the hospital's fees for surgery or the cost of the tailor-made braces.

We're thankful to God for Dr. Meyer, STEMM, your prayers and the funds to help our extended church family receive life-changing healing.

The St. Peter Myamba Ministry Team



Left: Agness before surgery, in casts while recovering from surgery, and post-surgery and casts. Right: Jenifer before and after being fitted for leg braces.

Sign up for Small Groups

Are you interested in building connections with other St. Peter members? We invite you to sign up to be part of a small group. Small groups will consist of a group of 4 households (consisting of individuals and/or couples) who will meet to share fellowship, life stories, and faith journeys. Are you currently participating in a small group from last year? Sign up to join a new group and get to know another great group of St. Peter friends!



Sign up at: <https://signup.com/go/rWbhkQq> or on the sign-up sheet on the service board in fellowship hall. If you have any questions or need assistance signing up, contact Jill at faithformation@stpeterofgrimes.org.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO ST. PETER'S 2024
GRADUATING
SENIORS!

May God's presence in your life give you the confidence and courage to live out your dreams.

You are all in our prayers as you move forward with your future plans!



Brandon Bailiff (DC-G) will be attending Dakota Wesleyan in Mitchell, SD. His major will be Religious Studies-Christian Leadership.

Next year, **Macey Jermier** (DC-G) plans to attend the University of Kansas to study Exercise Science on the Pre-Med track.



Dayne Mauk (DC-G) will be attending Wayne State College in the fall to study biology/ pre- vet and play football.

Raven Parizek (Johnston) will attend Iowa State in the fall. She will be in the college of liberal arts with an undeclared major, but she is working towards certification in sonography. She would like to be a traveling sonographer.

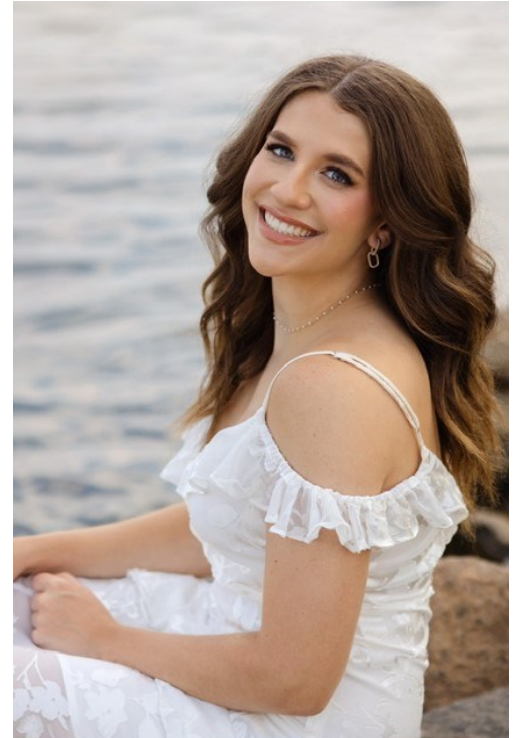
Brayden Picken (Johnston) plans to attend a 4-year university to run track and study Business / Supply Chain Management.



Alex Pries (DC-G) will attend Wartburg College where he will study neuroscience, participate in cross country and track & field, and continuing performing in the fine arts.

Eli Rupp (DC-G) plans to attend the University of Iowa in the fall.

Nathan Scholl (DC-G) will be attending Central College in the fall where he will study engineering. He will play soccer for the Central Dutch and sing in the choir.



Emily Short (DC-G) plans to attend University of Iowa in the fall to study Exercise Science.

Isabelle Soult (DC-G) is attending Iowa State University to major in Biology on the pre-optometry track in the fall of 2024.

Layla Sutterer (DC-G) will be studying dance at the CLI Conservatory in Southampton, Massachusetts.

Not pictured: Drew Assink, Roman Boley, and Kate Rastetter.

Volunteers Needed – Can You Help?

If you can help as a communion **preparer** and/or **communion assistant**, please contact Kaarin Fasse or Summer Heeren.

If you would like to help as **Assisting Minister**, please contact Emily Wells.

If you would like to be a **reader**, please contact Sue Dooley.

If you can help **host** by greeting worshippers and helping them find their worship materials, contact Rita Rosenberg.

If you can learn our **livestream audio/visual production**, contact Jill. You would be trained in the production process for our live-stream service.

If you can help with **Creation Station** during worship, contact Jill or go to this link: <https://signup.com/go/CwrXJph>.

The church office can put you in contact with these volunteer coordinators. Thanks for sharing your time and talents with St. Peter!



PB & J's for Hot Summer Days

During the summer, families that rely on school lunches for their kids' dietary needs may be needing more assistance at lunch time. Can you donate a jar of peanut butter and container of jelly (plastic, not glass, please!) to help feed kids that are home for summer? If so, drop off your donation in the designated spot in Fellowship Hall!



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MAY 16, 2024

Pastor's Report:

- My family and I joined with several other St. Peter families packaging meals at the Grimes Hunger Fight on April 13th. I believe the overall turnout was good, and the event was a success.
- Baptized John Sullivan on April 14th. I will be baptizing Tate Gerdes on June 2nd.
- We welcomed 4 new families on April 28th.
- I've been reviewing the Youth Director job description and application forms. We will need to start advertising for the Youth Director position.
- I will be gone this Friday and Saturday for the Synod Assembly in Coralville.
- Confirmation Sunday is this week. We will have 13 youth affirm their baptism during worship.
- Sunday, May 26th is Memorial Day weekend, which is when we go to our summer worship schedule with one worship service at 9am Sunday mornings. We will livestream this worship as well. Summer schedule will continue through Labor Day weekend.

Faith Formation Report—Jill Capps

- **Faith Formation:** I created a St. Peter tri-fold brochure that we can hand out to visitors at church and at community events. Pastor approved the new St. Peter

From the Stewardship Committee—Andrew Newman & Blake Franzeen

April 2024

Income: \$21,834.66

Expense: \$27,170.36

Net Loss: -\$5,335.70

YtD 2024

Income: \$115,664.83

Expense: \$116,658.37

Net Loss: -\$993.54

- General Fund—April 2024, expenses were more than income, thus it finished with a loss of -\$5,335.70. .
- General Fund YTD— April 2024, expenses were greater than income, thus it finished with a loss of -993.54.

sign design from BDI – they will print it, we will receive it soon, and will be able to use it during the Governor’s Day parade.

- **Confirmation:** I met with the youth who will be confirmed in May, along with their parents for a Faith Statement preparation meeting on April 10th following Confirmation. On Wednesday, May 15th these students will share their Faith statements with their families & small groups. We will also share a meal and the youth will prepare the stoles they will wear for their Affirmation of Baptism. We will have thirteen 8th graders affirm their faith on Sunday, May 19th. A special thank you to Allison Newman, Mindy Franzeen, Jenny Jones, Adam Springer, Andrew Newman, Nate Fredericks, and Rita Fredericks who have served as confirmation guides for these youth for the past 2 years.
- We finished confirmation with an escape room challenge on May 8th. I look forward to planning next year’s lessons over the summer.
- **Thursday Afternoon Bible Study:** We are continuing our study on Jonah that will run through April & May. We will take the month of June off from the study and start back up in July.
- **VBS:** The VBS banner has arrived; thanks to property for placing the banner outside church. We will also have volunteers carry the banner in the Governor’s Day parade.
- We currently have 53 students registered for VBS, which is a great number for early May. We are working on filling our last few volunteer spots. If you have not volunteered with VBS before, we encourage you to do so; it is a fun week and a great way to get to know our youngest members. Mary Stocks will offer 2 VBS themed creation station crafts during the month of May to help get the word out about VBS.
- **Senior Recognition:** On May 12th, we recognized our 2024 graduating seniors at the beginning of the 8:00am and 10:30am worship service. Evangelism provided a cake reception that was held between the worship services.
- **Middle School Youth Group:** It was fun getting to hang out with the kids and Matt on Wednesday evenings for MS youth group.
- **Sunday School:** It has been a great Sunday school year at St. Peter. The kids covered lessons in fun hands-on ways using crafts, science, games, etc. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who help make Sunday school a fun, safe environment for our kids to learn about God. The Sunday school carnival was a great success – thanks to everyone who helped with the carnival.

Youth Report

- Middle school Youth Group resumed again on April 3rd. It was good to get the middle schoolers together after our pause during Lent. We met again on April 17th.
- High school Youth Group met four times during the

month of April. We held devotion nights and hung out as a group.

- April 21st, we held a Youth Gathering meeting for our participants. We reviewed a lesson and talked about the upcoming spaghetti dinner.
- We held a Mission Trip meeting for our youth and chaperones on Sunday, April 28th. We discussed all things spaghetti dinner and our remaining fundraising. During our Easter breakfast fundraiser, we raised just over \$750.
- In May, middle school Youth Group will meet for the final time on May 1st with a pizza party and game night. High school Youth Group will meet twice during the month. We will host our annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser on May 5th. We will not meet on Mother’s Day, or over the Memorial Day weekend.

Treasurer's Report:

- April financials approved

Stewardship :

- \$488.88 of interest was received on the Charter Bank land sale CD and was added to Misc. Income for the month.
- Two CDs will be maturing soon: the Memorial CD maturing May 23 and Building Fund CD maturing at the end of June. Discussion of renewal.
- Discussion of starting new CDs with additional Building Funds and funds in our savings account per the Audit Committee’s suggestion.
- Motion was approved to renew the Memorial CD, put \$50,000 of Building Fund Savings into a CD, and put Sabbatical Savings of over \$11,000 in a CD. Will review the Charter Bank Building Fund CD at the next meeting.

Building & Grounds

- Asphalt patch- gathered several bids to patch the asphalt in front of the garage. Recommend that we approve IN-Roads to complete work. \$1775.
- We will be taking down the ceiling of the picnic shelter this Saturday at 8 am.
- We are in the process of gathering budget / bid info for lights and signs.
- Commercial coffee maker was found online and repaired.
- 48-inch six burner oven donated to St. Peter. Current gas line needs replaced with larger gas line: \$2K. Cost comes from Building Fund budget.
- Oven vent needs to be purchased at ~ \$1500.00. This would come from Evelyn Shafer’s Memorial fund.
- Motion was approved to put \$4000.00 towards the gas line and oven vent from the named funds

Education:

- Carnival was a huge success.
- Blessing of backpacks on August 18.

Evangelism:

- Fellowship time continues to be a big hit. Thank you to Jill and others who clean up after the start of the second ser-

vice.

- Our new member breakfast casseroles were a big hit. Thanks to those who provided casseroles and helped serve!
- This past Sunday, we provided a sheet cake to celebrate our graduates.
- Governor's Day parade and ice cream social: 10 volunteers identified to help with the social. Multiple locations identified to put up signs, and the ice cream social should be posted on the Governor's Days website
- Farmer's Market: proposal to participate in six sessions this year.

Worship & Music :

- Reaching out to potential new Council members
- Pentecost is May 19. Will change white cloth on cross to red. After this service, ask B& G to take down the cross.
- Summer services: worship will be at 9:00 a.m. beginning May 26. Summer worship will be indoors.
- Fall services: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. worship will begin September 8. Wednesday worship will resume at 6:30 p.m. September 11.
- Choir update from Emily: We have a men's piece scheduled for Mother's Day on May 12, and the full choir will sing at both services for confirmation on May 19. We will plan to resume rehearsals next fall on Wednesday, August 21, and will sing our first anthem on Sunday, September 8.

Old Business:

- Council nomination follow-up
- Carol Hemphill – Accepted Exec position to replace Amy.
- Jared Rokke – Accepted Bldg. Grounds to replace Tim D.
- Tim Schiller – Accepted Evangelism
- W&M –?
- Education – Beth Hansen, need one more.
- Stewardship –?
- Reach out to nomination committee and ask for options.
- Church Council structure/Constitution
- Steeple cleaning—Building & Grounds will look at steeple to determine next steps
- Oven replacement—work in progress
- New signage—work in progress
- Youth Group leader discussion: Matt Schmidt is stepping down after the Mission Trip (August). Post internal adver-

tisements in the Voice. Review Job description.

- Birds building nest in outside vents—Building and Grounds to review options

New Business:

- Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting: June 30th after Sunday service.
- Council Retreat: Plan for September/October? Need to set a date and identify topics. Half day on a Saturday
- Car Wash – TBD

Local Mission Donation: Heather & Rigo Osorio Family to assist with health expenses incurred due to Rigo's illness

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WELCA BOARD MEETING APRIL 22, 2024

Treasurer's report : deposit of \$100 from 2023 silent auction event.

- Balance of General fund \$6027.91
- Balance of Kitchen fund \$1561.53

Mission: Stewardship

- Mosaic- Ellie delivered soap and towels to both houses for our quarterly donation.
- Last month 1 baptism, John Waldo Sullivan.
- Mary Stock donated 2 beverage dispensers to the kitchen from Steven's birthday party.
- VBS asked \$120 for CD's, asking for additional info.
- All in agreement to donate \$150 for the ELCU Youth Gathering meal.
- Discussed future potential donations with Lutheran World Relief Kits.

Calendar of events

- Pieces of WELCA, April 14th- Great attendance with 10 people attending.
- Craft Fair, May 4th, 9am-1pm. All vendor spots filled. Advertising has started with yard signs, feather flag, Facebook, signs at local business and group events.
- Dessert & Devotion scheduled for July 9th, 6:30-7:30pm. Nicky Cooney volunteered to present.
- Silent Auction date set for Nov 17th. Silent Auction committee meeting Sept 10th at 6:30pm.

Misc.

- Stephanie reached out to SE Iowa Synod Welca. We will be looped into their communications now.

Online Giving Opportunities

St. Peter has online giving options through Thrivent's Simply Giving Program to include one-time giving and to enable members to set up their own recurring donations through the following secure methods:

1. **Phone App:** Find and download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app in the App Store or on Google Play for Android smartphones by searching "Vanco mobile". Type in "St. Peter Lutheran" and choose our address in Grimes, and follow the steps.
2. **Website:** Go to St. Peter's website www.stpeterofgrimes.org and click on the yellow Online Giving link or scan the QR code printed here.

