

The Voice



From the Desk of Pastor Mark:

For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us. -Romans 12:4-6

I love how the Apostle Paul describes the Christian community as “one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function.” This has been a core belief in the church from the beginning. It has been one of my guiding principles for ministry as well. Not everyone is the same. The church, just like the world, is made up of a wonderfully diverse mix of people. Not everyone looks the same, sounds the same, thinks in the same

way, sees things in the same way, has the same abilities or the same resources. People are different, and this is a good thing.

So many ways to think about these words from the Apostle Paul, but for this article I’m going to focus on the aspect of “not all members have the same function . . . we have gifts that differ.” These words are applicable for St. Peter at the moment.

As many of you know, this past February our congregation voted to restructure the way that our church council and ministry teams function. We believe the changes will help St. Peter continue to thrive. The new structure will take more volunteers, but also spread out the work. As the saying goes, “Many hands make light work.”

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Summer Worship Schedule

*Thank you for joining us
for worship!*

Sunday worship is at 9:00 a.m.
May 3—Sept. 13.

Sunday School and Wednesday
worship will resume in the fall,
along with two worship services
at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

Youth Group for grades entering
6th to finishing 12th will meet in
June.

Wed. Jun. 3: Old School Pinball
Arcade in Grimes (209 SE Main
St.) from 6-8pm.

Sun. Jun. 7: Meet at the Schlen-
ker's House for a Progressive Din-
ner from 5:00-8:30pm.

Wed. Jun. 17: Game night at
church from 6-8pm.



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Did you know that each worship service has between 8-12 volunteers? That number doubles on Sunday mornings with 2 worship services. This does not include the number of Sunday school teachers, shepherds and choir members. Nor does this include the number of volunteers who help take care of our building and grounds, or our various outreach ministries. In the next several weeks you will be seeing videos in worship, PowerPoint slides in the fellowship hall, and information in the bulletin and/or eNews on various volunteer opportunities at St. Peter. Or, you may just receive a personal email or call asking you to consider serving. Please prayerfully consider in what ways you may be able to serve at St. Peter. Is there just one more thing you could volunteer for, whether small, medium, or large role? Maybe it's something you've done before, or maybe try something new.

Thank you for all the ways that you are already serving! The ministries of St. Peter continue to thrive because of the dedication of so many people. St. Peter is the wonderful place that it is because of you. "We have gifts that differ," but we are all part of the same body of Christ. Thanks for your partnership in sharing the Good News of the Gospel.

Gathered to Grow. Sent to Serve.
Pastor Mark

Coming Up at St. Peter

Semi Annual Congregational Meeting

Join us June 28 after worship for our semi-annual congregational meeting. We will elect new council members and discuss other church business.



Vacation Bible School

Registration is open for VBS on June 21-25 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.! VBS is open to children who turn 4 years old by Sept 15, 2026, through those entering 5th grade in the fall of 2026. Register to attend or volunteer using the QR code. Contact Jill at faithformation@stpeterofgrimes.org for more information.





Governor's Days Parade & Ice Cream Social

Join St. Peter in the Governor's Days Parade on June 6! 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!

Contact the church office if you'd like to volunteer. Please note: the St. Peter parking lot will be used for overflow parking for Governor's Days June 4-6.



Youth Car Wash Fundraiser

Drive up to St. Peter on June 13 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. for our annual youth car wash! Free will donations support Youth Ministry and this year's Mission Trip to Waynesville, North Carolina. It's a great chance to get your vehicle cleaned up while supporting the St. Peter Youth!

Every Month:

Men's Group: 1st Sunday at 7PM; check Facebook for the most recent info!

Bible Study: 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 1:00PM. There is no Bible Study in June; it will resume in July.

Book Club:

June 14 at 6:30PM: *The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali

July 12 at 6:30PM: *The Road to Tender Hearts* by Annie Hartnett



Upcoming dates:

Wednesday, June 3: 6-8PM

Monday, July 6: 6-8PM



Youth Donations Via Droppett

Did you know your can and bottle deposit redemption can go towards St. Peter's Youth Ministry? Fill a 13-gallon plastic bag with cans or plastic bottles that are ready to be redeemed for their deposit (or a sealed box under 20 pounds for glass bottles), stick a Droppett sticker tag to it (available at the service counter), and deliver it to the redemption site at Many Hands. Ask Bambi or the church office if you have any questions. Over \$330 has already been raised through Droppett!

Mission Trip Send Off Service

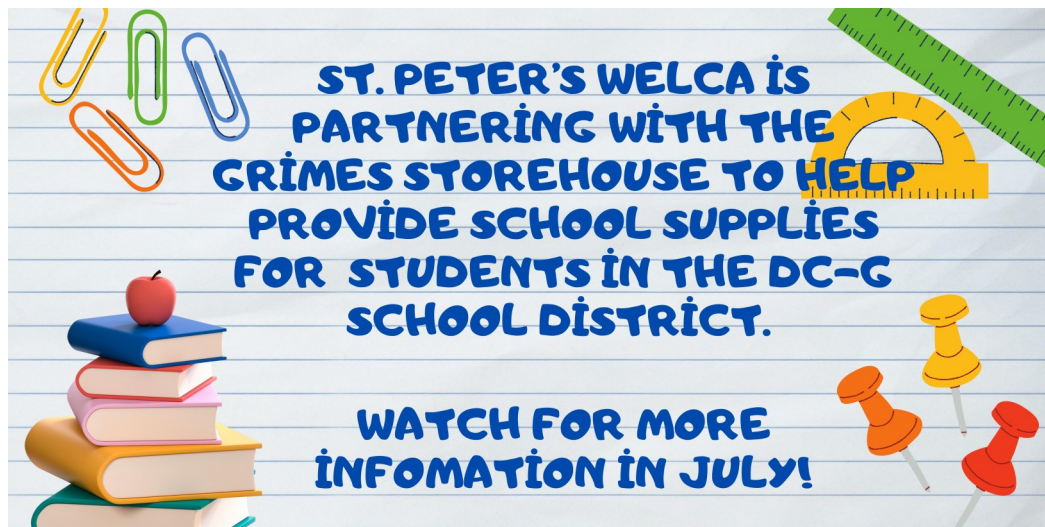
There will be a send-off service for the Mission Trip on Sunday, **July 19**, at 9:00 a.m. worship. All participants of the Mission Trip are invited to worship as the congregation prays for their work in Waynesville. A final Mission Trip Meeting before the trip will follow worship.

St. Peter Lutheran Church Summer Office Hours

The Church Office is open Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. during the summer months.

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

Pastor Mark Schlenker
Pastor's day off is Friday.



Waynesville, NC Mission Trip July 26-Aug 1

July 26-Aug.1, sixty-one youth along with fourteen adults will be heading to Waynesville, North Carolina to partner with TEAMEffort. Youth and adults will actively work in the community rebuilding homes that were destroyed in the flooding from Hurricane Milton in 2024 and participate in faith-based activities throughout the week. You can continue to support our Mission Trip participants by encouraging them and praying for them on this trip.

Participants involved: Denali Amos, Emerlee Amos, Evelyn Bernardino, Harrison Brahn, Isabella Beyer, Tabitha Beyer, Cali Cassens, Sonja Cave, Shenandoah Clarke, Liam Duhn, Drew Every, Emma Fasse, Hannah Fasse, Cameron Franzee, Liam Fredricks, Jacy Harestad, Kylee Harshbarger, Rylan Heeran, Mallory Herbsleb, Gwen Hermanson, Madison Holste, Raegan Holste, Alexa Hughes, Lydia Hughes, Kealey Johnston, Avery Julius, Gabi Kloster, Ava Koger, Gavin Koger, Bailee Maass, Hayden Malmberg, Janaya Malmberg, Hunter Moothart, Addie Morris, Brynlee Morris, Tyler Newman, Burke Price, Cael Ramsey, Kayli Reggio, Lucy Reingardt, Addison Rouse, Clyde Rouse, Milo Rouse, Oliver Rouse, Sam Shepherd, Lily Schelich, Grady Schlenker, Kadin Schlenker, Elli Sigler, Parker Stolpe, Callen Tjeerdsma, Nora Tjeerdsma, Norah Vance, Danika Watkins, Paige Watkins, Carter Wells, Lincoln Wager, Eli Wilson, Grant Wilson, Kate Wilson, Xander Zeliadt; and adult chaperones Heather Every, Bradley Fasse, Nate Fredricks, Jason Hughes, Sarah Hughes, Craig Moothart, Matt Morris, Mindy Morris, Benji Rouse, Tim Schiller, Matt Schmidt, Katie Scholl, Adam Tjeerdsma, and Bambi Schlenker.



WELCA Dessert & Devotion

Join St. Peter's Women of the ELCA for a Dessert & Devotion July 14 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome; bring a friend!

Lunch Abroad with Pastor Mark

Who: All are welcome

What: Enjoy good food, good conversation, and good fun. Pastor Mark will share some information on the Christian church and other facts of the country through fun trivia questions. See how much you know (or what you can learn) about a different country and how you like their food.

When: 11:30 a.m. Tues., June 16

Where: MinGaLaBar Burmese Kitchen
8134 Douglas Ave.
Urbandale, IA 50322

Why: Fun way to get together with other members while trying new food and learning something about our neighbors from other countries and cultures.

How Much: Each person will be responsible for paying their own meal. Check their website <https://mingalabarkitchen.com/> for pricing.



The 15th of each month is the deadline date for newsletter items to be submitted to the church office. Thanks!

2026 Confirmation Class

Congratulations to our 2026 Confirmation class, who affirmed the promises of their baptism on May 3, 2026: Hayden Francis, Carter Franzeen, Emma Fasse, Lydia Hughes, Evelyn Bernardino, Brynlee Morris, Konnor Fynaardt, Lincoln Wager, Shenandoah Clarke, Avery Soultis, Cody Fynaardt, Konnor Jackson, Garrett Lansink, Carter Wells, and Grady Schlenker.



Grimes Farmer's Market

Summer is here! Volunteers are needed beginning June 20 for St. Peter's booth at the Farmer's Market. The Farmer's Market runs from 8AM -12PM at Heritage Park in Grimes, and everything you need is provided by the church. St. Peter will have a booth June 20th & 27th, July 11th & 18th, August 8th or 15th, and August 22nd. Contact Allison Newman or Tim Schiller for more information on how to volunteer!



Hannah Fasse will be graduating from DC-G High School and will be attending ISU to study Meteorology.

Addie Morris will be graduating from Johnston High school and plans to attend Kirkwood in the fall to major in Nursing.

Cael Ramsey is graduating from DC-G High School and plans to attend the University of Iowa in the fall to major in Creative Writing.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ST. PETER'S 2026 GRADUATING SENIORS!

May your faith continue to guide you as you embark on the next chapter of your lives, and may God's presence give you the strength and confidence to achieve your dreams.



Oliver Rouse is graduating from DC-G High School and will attend Iowa State in the fall. He plans to study kinesiology on a pre-chiropractic track.

Hayden Wagner is graduating from DC-G High School and will attend the University of Iowa next fall, double majoring in Computer Science and History.

Not pictured: Kayli Reggio, Logan Renshaw, & June White

Volunteers Needed – Can You Help?

If you can help as a communion **preparer** contact Kaarin Fasse. To be a **communion assistant**, please contact Katie Scholl.

If you would like to help as **Assisting Minister**, please contact Rita Rosenberg.

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 want to 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!



We support the Grimes Storehouse Food Pantry!

Our June & July focus will be:



Cleaning Supplies



Bring in donations of dish soap, window spray, counter spray, dishwasher tabs or liquid, disinfection spray, & bathroom cleaning supplies.

Donations can be dropped off in the basket next to the Service Counter.

Did you know donations are always accepted at St. Peter for the Grimes Storehouse Food Pantry? There is a basket in Fellowship Hall for collections, and donations specifically for the little food pantry can go directly in the pantry or on a cart in the kitchen designated for that purpose. Contact the church office with any questions!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MAY 7, 2026

Pastor's Report:

- New council and ministry team transitions are ongoing. Nominating committee met. Names were given to be contacted for the new church council. Looking forward to more discussions at church council to continue moving forward.
- The end of Sunday school carnival and kids singing in church was on April 26. The kids and adult choir singing together "This Little Light of Mine" was fabulous.
- Last week was Confirmation Sunday. We celebrated with 15 youth who affirmed their faith. It was good to have them all together at one worship service. What a joy and blessing to have these youth as part of our congregation.
- St. Peter hosted the synods Retired Clergy gathering and the ELCA's Innovation team gathering last month.
- I am part of the Bishop Election Committee for the Southeastern Iowa Synod. I will be at the assembly next week from Thursday to Saturday. Please pray for the assembly in it's conducting of business and election of a bishop.
- Summer worship schedule has started with one service at 9:00 am Sundays. September 13th will be when we resume the full Sunday Schedule.

Faith Formation Report—Jill Capps

- **Confirmation:** We had fifteen of our 8th graders affirm their faith on May 3rd. Thank you to the guides who spent the last two years with them: Kaarin Fasse,

Financial Update from the Stewardship Committee — Brenda Johnston & Jake Wager

April 2026

Income: \$ 26,684.37
Expense: \$29,157.53
Net Loss: (\$2,473.16)

Year to Date April 2026

Income: \$119,376.83
Expense: \$125,193.22
Net Loss: (\$5,816.39)

- General Fund MTD - April 2026, expenses were greater than monthly income, thus it finished with a loss of \$2,473.16.
- General Fund YTD - April 2026, expenses were greater than income, thus it finished with a loss of \$5,816.39.

Mindy Franzeen, Sarah Hughes, Kim Jackson, Emily Wells, and Stefanie Wager along with high school guides: Milo Rouse, Brody Lansink, Evy Soultz, and Mady Brown. Prior to affirming their faith, the youth shared their faith statements with their families at our celebration dinner on April 29th.

- This year all the youth were confirmed together at the 9:00am service. I received very positive feedback from parents. They appreciated that all the kids were able to be confirmed together. I also had great feedback about the service being earlier in the month because it conflicts less with graduation.
- On May 13th I will meet with the incoming 7th graders and their parents for confirmation orientation.
- **Miscellaneous/Communication:** Per instructions I consolidated & tweaked the “Did You Know” slides and displayed them on April 26th in fellowship hall. I will have these on display on May 10th as well. (The confirmation faith statements were on display on May 3rd so the “Did You Know” slides were not shown then.)
- I created the education ministry milestone video which was shown during offering on April 26th as well. The next ministry milestone video will be for evangelism.
- **VBS:** VBS Registration has opened. VBS will be held on June 21-25th from 6pm-8pm. Kids who will be 4 by Sept 15th, through those entering 5th grade in the fall are eligible to attend as campers. Older youth may sign up to volunteer to help at VBS. If you are interested in helping with VBS please contact me.
- **Technology/Social Media:** I am currently working with our hosting provider to upgrade our email system. We are being required to do this, as our current platform will no longer be supported. There is an unbudgeted cost associated with this, equaling \$663.12 (\$267.12 for the 6 yearly licenses + \$396.00 for the 4 migrations).
- **Book Club:** Our next book club meeting will be on May 17th. We will be discussing “Theo of Golden”.

Youth Report

- The Fill the Bus Fundraiser has ended, and we received \$2,150 from congregation donations! I'd like to thank the congregation for their continued support of St. Peter Youth Ministry and the 2026 Mission Trip!
- High School and Middle School Youth Group are back in full swing and are meeting regularly. High School met at Culver's for an ice cream meet up on April 1st. I supplied dinner for Middle School Youth Group on 4/8 and 4/22 so youth could stay between Confirmation and Youth Group. Thank you to Matt Schmidt who helped lead youth group 2 times over the past two months so I could attend Confirmation meetings with Grady. I appreciate you Matt!
- Breakfast Club met April 12th at HyVee for our final breakfast of the school year. We had 14 youth join us. Many thanks to Rob and Heidi Ridnour for their dedication to this group of kids throughout the year!
- I am taking 61 youth and 13 chaperones on Mission Trip 2026! We continue to meet monthly as we build relationships and prepare for our week of service together.
- We have our Top Golf Fundraiser coming up on Sunday, May 17th from 6-8pm. Tickets are \$30 per person and include 2 hours of golf and unlimited fountain drinks. Tickets need to be purchased in advance from Bambi (youth@stpeterofgrimes.org). We have 19 tickets left and I'm hoping to sell them all so we can raise \$2,160 in one night! Please join us if you're free.
- St. Peter Youth Group has collected \$330.95 from recycling 6,619 cans through Droppett. Thank you to all who are donating their cans to support the youth program at St. Peter! Bag tickets and directions can be found on the Service Board in Fellowship Hall if you would like to participate.

Treasurer's Report:

- Discussed unofficial April financials

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, click on the dropdown box under “About,” click “Online Giving Available,” and click “Set up online giving today,” or scan the QR code printed here.
3. **Bill Pay:** Set up bill pay through your bank to St. Peter Lutheran.

Please contact the church office with any questions.



Stewardship :

- Developed team duties and time and talent lists needed for the new council structure.
- PCI Compliance and CD renewal work transferred to Executive Council. Letter signing twice per year will add an executive Council member along with Pr. Mark. Stewardship will continue speaking at services as needed.

Building & Grounds

- Met with sign and electrical company, working on getting masonry coordinated and aiming for a June/July completion date
- Permit application submitted for shed, waiting on sketch of shed per city's request
- Steeple repairs completed
- Garage leveling and pad crack repairs
- Confirmed that the Land Sale CD we are cashing out on May 24 will be available for signage needs as planned.

Education:

- The end of the Sunday School year wrapped up with a fantastic carnival on April 26. Thanks to all the families for attending!
- Big thank you to all of our teachers, shepherds, and volunteers who helped us throughout the SS year and for the carnival!
- Beth will be the education team leader moving forward. She's working with Jill and Emily to get class sizes and teachers lined up for fall. Beth will also start reaching out for help with our different volunteer needs soon.

Evangelism:

- Thank you to Mary Stocks for serving fellowship in April.
- Served for Confirmation on May 3rd. Thanks Jill & Confirmation for providing treats!
- Bekka Maas all set for providing treats for Senior Sunday on May 10th! Thank you!
- Tailgate tent ordered and bags game has first coat of paint for the Farmer's Market this Sunday. Still working on Volunteers. Dates are: June 20 & 27, July 11 & 18, Aug 8 or 15, and 22nd. Time is 8-12AM.
- June 20 - Schlenkers & TBD
- June 27th - OPEN
- July 11 - Ridnours & Millers
- July 18th - OPEN
- August 8 or 15 - OPEN
- August 22 - Schmidts & TBD
- Governor's Day is around the corner. Rob Ridnour has volunteered to lead the ice cream social - big Thanks!! Looking for someone to head up the parade and find a driver.

Worship & Music :

- Will begin having Assisting Ministers on 1st and 3rd Sundays only
- Investigate ordering lighter communion chalices
- Will continue singing contemporary music some Sundays
- Beth will contact current choir members over the summer and reach out to potential youth.
- Planning for a Christmas Cantata in 2026
- Mady Brown will lead Sunday School music, with Beth as backup, for 2026-2027
- Worship & Music Team positions discussed
- Discussed ONE website for all volunteer sign-ups. Will begin July 1. Will continue using multiple volunteer coordinators.

Old Business

- Update on Ministry Teams "Buckets"- these are done for Education, Evangelism, Worship & Music.
- Time & Talent: Carol, Katie, & Brenda to work together and then bring to June 11 Council meeting.
- Planning for Did You Know slides.

New Business:

- We have been contacted by the Law Firm Lewis Rice regarding the potential for compensation for railroad land being used for the public trail. Benji Rouse has offered to look into this; Steve will follow up.
- Steve shared initial reading of the description for the At-Large council position. This is posted on the council google drive. Take time to read it and provide input. The ministry team lead will still send a summary to council for each month and the

Action Items as we have started to do now. Some discussion on role clarity as liaison and some of what this means so we have a good united structure.

- Nominating committee updates and ministry teams for current council roles are planning to remain in roles and go forward with nominating committee to also ask for future plan.
- Garge: some type of inventory to manage the current space. Bldg&Grounds (Adam) agreed to create a basic document as a starter.

Local Mission Donation: SEIA Synod offering: Pare Diocese

Next Meeting: June 11, 2026

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting: June 28, 2026

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WELCA MEETING MAY 19, 2026

Treasurer's Report

- Balance is \$8962.88

Old Business

- Receipt Retention: Confirmed that keeping receipts for 7 years is sufficient. Hard copies older than 7 years will be shredded.
- CISS: No updates

New Business

- Baptisms: 2 baptisms scheduled for June

Upcoming

- Ladies Night Out—hosted by Bambi June 9, 6:30-8:30pm. Taco bar, dessert, and drinks provided. WELCA will reimburse Bambi up to \$150 for event.
- Dessert and Devotion: Carol Eilers will lead on July 14
- School supply drive: The Storehouse expects greater need this year. Items will be collected through the end of July so that they can be sorted and distributed to students in August. WELCA discussed purchasing items not purchased by congregation as they did last year.
- Food Pantry: discussion of changing SNAP benefits. WELCA will monitor little food pantry and provide some money if needed.
- Rejoicing Spirits: will check in with church staff on this

Discussion

- WELCA National Gathering is in Des Moines the weekend of July 18. There is a conference and other opportunities such as a 5K run/walk
- Mission Trip: Checking with Bambi to see if the Mission Trip needs further financial support
- Church Picnic: Checking date of churchwide picnic. Discussion on food, coordinating with the Education committee and Men's Group, and games

Next Meeting June 16.