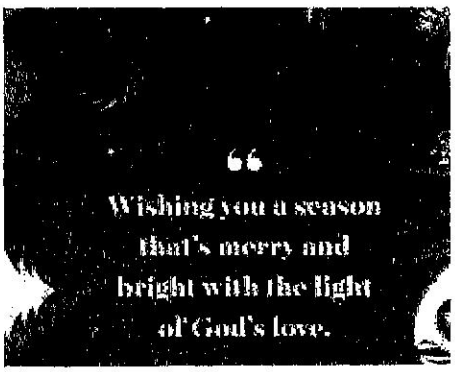
ONE IN CHRIST CHRONICLE

St. Peter Lutheran Church
301 North Adams St., PO Box 99
Garnavillo, IA 52049
Phone: 964-2459 Email: stpetergarny@alpinecom.net
Website: www.stpetergarnavillo.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Peace
401 Main Street
Clayton, IA 52049
Congregation President: Linda Wright
Phone: 964-2733

Christmas Greetings to St. Peter & Peace Lutheran:



We are in the midst of a very busy season for most people.
We find that the end of the year brings getting things –

1). wrapped up and finalized for Tax Preparation,
2). finishing up shopping,
3). for many, cleaning the house extra good,
4). finalizing special meals or traditions,
5). decorating for the season,
6). sending out cards and well wishes or writing letters,
7). watching Bowl games and preparing for gatherings,
8). getting reports and summarizations of the year ready for Annual Meetings,
9). testing out your winter equipment,
10). making sure you have all your winter clothing out for the season,
11). finishing up the success of deer season,
12). checking on the livestock to see how they are weathering the change in weather,
13). shopping for the Kleenex, and special foods to fight off the illnesses of this season,

--and I am sure I have not listed all the events that keep you up and going this time of year.

However, is the list long enough to make you a little tired?

If so, then add to it – *time to refresh and keep yourself healthy and able to ward off all the physical challenges that accompany this time of year.*

Now that we have you all worn out –

How about taking a little time to spend with the *Reason for the Season*.

INVITATION: I invite everyone to spend an hour in Worship on Sunday mornings or Special Services that give you a time to –

-- relax, rebuild, make old friend contacts and develop new ones –

that encourage, and assure us that what we are doing is good --

or else, --

-- maybe we should consider new ways of doing those important ways in less stressful ways.

We also have that opportunity to gather around the reassuring and renewing Word of God. Our Heavenly Father has worked so much into our lives in a short time of year that we remember His impact into our lives. We have heard about the **PREPARATION** we make for the coming of our Savior, and we will celebrate that as we focus on the **MANGER**, but let us not forget the **CROSS** that loomed over it. We will then engage rapidly and intensely in the life of the Savior that leads up to the **Death of our Savior.** It does not end there, the **promise and work** of the Lord continues in the **Power of the Holy Spirit** that accompanies us this day and always.

Our prayer is that, no matter what you are experiencing, celebrating, enduring, --
that God in Christ will be a vital part of your journey.

May you have a Joyous Christmas this year,
and a year filled with Blessings in 2023!

In Christ,
Pastor Harold and Linda

January

In-person services on Sunday mornings, 10:15 a.m. and on Facebook Live. The service may be watched on Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. on Channel 6.

THOSE INVOLVED IN WORSHIP:

Greeters:

Jan. 1 – Janet Johnson
8 – Jane Thein
15 – Hank & June Werger
22 – Janet Christianson
29 – Sue Kunezel

Hymn Selector: Sue Kuenzel

Reader: Andrew Johnson

Ushers: Jamie Rodenberg
Hank Werger
Jim Wilker

Acolytes:
Jan. 1 – NaDyne Meyer
8 – Neal Christianson
15 – Andrew Johnson
22 – Jason, Kaja & Kena Johnson
29 – Joyce Schoulte

Communion assistant:
Jan. 1 – Janet Johnson
8 – Jim Wilker
22 – Hank Werger
29 – Joyce Schoulte

Flowers & Altar: Janet Johnson

Glasses: Janet Johnson
Jason Johnson
Joan Wilker

Council Devotions: Georgi Kaiser

Deliver Food to Food Shelf:
Kurt & Sue Kuenzel

Baptismal Birthday Treats:
Joan Wilker

PLEASE turn in your Time & Talent sheets. The information is needed for the 2023 Yearbook so this page can be completed each month.

+ + +

ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVITIES:

Bible study – Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.
Place to be determined.

Men's Weekly Bible Study: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. @ Peace Church

MEN'S GROUP – 3rd Monday, January 16
7:00 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA:

Monthly Bible Study – January 19, 1:00 p.m.

Get Ready for Winter/Spring Bible Study:
By the Rev. Christa van Zychlin
Join Gather magazine and revive your soul in 2023 with a 4-session study of the 10 Commandments. Author Christa von Zychlin, an ELCA Pastor, will help us see how these commandments are more than they may appear at first glance.

January: Session 1 – "Dancing the Decalogue"
Commandments 1 & 2
February: Session 2 – "Rhythms & Respect"
Commandments 3 & 4
March: Session 3 – "Sanctity of Life and Love"
Commandments 5 & 6
April: Session 4 – "Guardrails for Love of God and Neighbor"
Commandments 7, 8, 9 & 10

Sew Day – January 19, 9:00 a.m.

All people are welcome to attend the monthly Sew Day to help make the quilts for Lutheran World Relief. A great time of fellowship and service.

Sunday School – Sunday mornings, 9:00 a.m.
Everyone is invited! An intergenerational group for all ages!

St. Peter Lutheran Church

301 North Adams Street, P.O. Box 99
Garnavillo, Iowa 52049
Phone: 563-964-2459
Pastor Harold McMillin, Interim Pastor

January 2023 Congregation Meeting

January 22, 2023, St. Peter Lutheran will hold its January Congregation meeting. The meeting will be held in the basement gathering area of the church.

Why in the basement you may ask? There are a few reasons:

1. To separate the worship area from the business area
2. To facilitate better hearing among the members
3. To be closer to the lunch that will be served after
4. To be closer to the leader and other speakers
5. With the use of the lift, everyone is able to get to the basement
6. We get to use and appreciate the recently remodeled basement

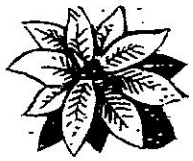
Some items that will be discussed and/or voted upon:

1. Discussion questions
    a. What is YOUR ministry at St. Peter?
    b. What is OUR ministry at St. Peter and Peace?
    c. What can YOU/WE do to support YOUR/OUR ministry?
2. Approve the proposed roof project for the church
3. Elect new council members
4. Approve the proposed budget for 2023
5. Approve members as delegates to various organizations

This is a time for the members to come together to decide how St. Peter will undertake its ministry in the community and in the larger church. This is serious business, not to be taken lightly. We trust the Holy Spirit will lead and guide us as we determine our way in the world. A quorum of 25 members is needed to conduct business. Prayerfully consider the discussion questions and how we, as church shall proceed.

Thank you,

Karl E. N. Johnson, President



POINSETTIAS

Thank you to everyone that shared a poinsettia. You may take your poinsettia home to enjoy.

Arah Carlson in memory of
Parents, Dwayne & Larry

Kevin & Nancy Clefisch in memory of
Kenneth & Katherine Clefisch & Art Borlaug

Gwen Gunderson & Roxanne Heinrichs in memory of Norm Gunderson
Lloyd & Ivanelle Kaiser
Andrew & Ida Gunderson
Bernice Kaiser

Karl & Janet Johnson in memory of
Elvin & Eunice Johnson
Jerry & Wanda Stence

Ron & Georgi Kaiser in memory of
Gerhard & Verda Mae Kaiser
Karolyn Kaiser Andersen
John & Shirley Brainard, Brad Brainard

Kurt & Sue Kuenzel in memory of
Norris & Zella Kuenzel
Dale & Betty Wienandt

Dave & Carol Lamker in memory of
Dick McCollough
Don & Dorothy Lamker

Bev McCollough in memory of
Dick McCollough

Larry & NaDyne Meyer in memory of
Parents & Grandparents

Ron & Jane Thein in memory of
Fay & Richard Thein
John & Vivian Meyer

Merry Christmas!

Happy New Year!

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who have helped with services throughout the year:
Pastor Hillary Burns-Kite – last Sunday @ St. Peter was January 23.
Pastor Harold McMillin – began serving as Interim Pastor in December
Pastor Mark Yackel-Juleen
Drew Riter – Wartburg Seminary graduate
Bishop Kevin Jones & Pastor Tom Jones
Heather Hageman – Shepherd of the Hills
Pastor Dave Lenth
Pastor Dennis Rodenberg
Pastor Frank Johnson – EWALU
Faith Discipleship Center – Dennis, Roger
Pastor Liz Bell – Assistant to the Bishop
Connor Freeman – Wartburg Seminary
Lay Services: Larry & NaDyne Meyer
Karl & Janet Johnson, Georgi Kaiser,
Andrew Johnson, Rozelle Howard,
Sue Kuenzel, Bob Creery
Sunday School

Thank you to the Worship Committee – NaDyne Meyer, Karl Johnson and Jane Thein - for planning the services and finding pulpit supply.

Thank you to Karl Johnson and Jane Thein for supplying music for the services.

Thank you to Karl Johnson for running the livestream each Sunday. NaDyne Meyer for making the slides and to NaDyne, Kaja, Kena, Joyce and Janet for running the slides on Sunday mornings.

Thank you to NaDyne Meyer for all her planning and leading Sunday School each week.
Thank you for planning and coordinating the Sunday School program on December 18. For taking pictures and making slides for the Chrismons and finding information to share with the congregation.

Thank you to:

- Cross+Gen Sunday School for the program on Chrismons
- Those who stayed for the luncheon
- Those who helped serve and clean up at the luncheon
- The Men's Group for the sandwiches, WELCA for the soup, SS families for the dessert

YEAR-END GIVING

If we receive an offering on December 31, it will be included in your 2022 giving, even though it will not be deposited until January 2023. If we receive a letter/offering post-marked in 2022, the offering will also be included in 2022.

Thank you for your offerings.

ROOF FUND

The congregation has voted to install a steel roof on the church sometime in 2023. The cost is approximately $30,000. Please give prayerful consideration to the financial need resulting from the church roof replacement. If you are willing to financially assist St. Peter's with this needed project, we would appreciate your contribution be sent (PO Box 99, Garnavillo, IA 50249) or dropped off at St. Peter (301 N. Adams St.), designating on your check "Roof Fund." Each contribution will be gratefully received.

In service to God our Father and to His Son, our Lord through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, St. Peter's extends a heart-felt blessing to each of you. Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, January 5
Noon-5:00 p.m.
Garnavillo Community Center

For an appointment you may call Georgi Kaiser at 964-2447, visit redcrossblood.org.

Remember to bring along your donor card and/or driver's license.

Before the donation.

- Eat a healthy meal.
- Drink an extra 16 ounces of water and fluids.
- For platelet donors, remember that your system must be free of aspirin for two days prior to donation.

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using Rapids Pass. Visit Redcrossblood.org/RapidPass for more information.

Every pint counts. The need for blood is constant!

ST. PETER'S CONGREGATION MEETING

Sunday, January 22, 2023
Following worship

Needed: **Individuals to serve on council.** The terms are for 3 years, beginning January 2023. Karl, NaDyne & Jerry will be going off the council. If interested or want to find our more, contact any of the council members.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Reports are needed from the Committees, Pastor, President, Men's Group, WELCA and Treasurer. Please drop off in the church office or email to church (stpetergarny@alpinecom.net) by Monday, January 9. Thank you!

Note: There is still time to turn in your Promise card and Time and Talent sheet. You can put it in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF INGATHERING

November 5

Donation totals:
Donations from 41 churches, with 752 boxes loaded into the truck.

Quilts – 1474	School kits – 1502
Fabric kits – 92	Personal care kits – 606
Baby care kits – 524	

Thank you to everyone that helped or donated items. We had 57 quilts and 28 school kits. Thank you to Ron & Georgi and Karl & Janet for delivering everything to Decorah.

DECK THE TABLES TEA

The fund raiser for the Garnavillo Community Vacation Bible School was held November 20. Because there was a surplus of unspent funds due to Covid related cancellations of VBS, it was decided to give a portion of this year's proceeds to new equipment for the new addition of the Garnavillo Day Care. The table fee of $800 (80 in attendance) went to VBS and $2450 raised from the silent auction and free will donation basket went to the Day Care. Thank you to everyone that contributed to this event.

OUTREACH CORNER

Amplifying the Voices of Iowa Children and Families

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) works to provide services to Iowa children and families and to share their stories with the community. As a way of amplifying our communities' voices, we invite you to be a part of the annual Lutheran Day on the Hill event.

Join Lutheran Services in Iowa and the three Iowa synods of the ELCA for Lutheran Day on the Hill in Des Moines on March 14, 2023! This day is essential for amplifying the voices of those who are not heard, for seeking social justice and for empowering people to exercise their right and responsibility to be part of the legislative process.

If you are interested in joining LSI for Lutheran Day on the Hill, visit our website at https://lsiowa.org/ldh/. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

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.

A Journey of Overwhelming Joy

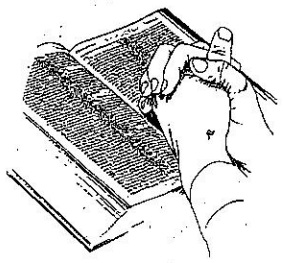
After going through fertility treatments and being told they weren't able to have any more kids, Dani and her husband pursued their foster care license in 2015 and have cared for 13 kids since.

"Throughout our journey of being foster parents, we've had many great placements," said Dani. "Our shortest placement lasted five days when we cared for a girl, whose mother was incapable of watching her while she recovered in the hospital, and our longest lasted 18 months."

Dani shared that one of their biggest blessings was having the opportunity to adopt some of the children they fostered. The family adopted their first child at age one, and they had plans to adopt another when the child turned 18 years old.

"Every time our family adopts another child, I get the same feeling of overwhelming joy," said Dani. "I feel like any expectant mom –not being able to contain my joy when their adoption comes up, and telling everyone I know about it."

Dani shared that it is hard to explain the full impact fostering – and the lows and highs it brings – has had on her family. "We've cried, stressed and lost a lot of sleep. We loved, laughed and had so many firsts," said Dani. "But I still tell everyone who is considering being a foster parent to do it. It's a roller coaster, but so worth it."



WE ARE PRAYING FOR...

Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Elizabeth Eaton
Northeastern Iowa Synod Bishop, Kevin Jones
St. Peter & Peace Congregations & Councils
Stephen Ministers & Care Receivers

St. Peter:
Bill Werges
Jim & Joan Wilker
Jonathan Wilker & family
Ken & Karen Wilker
Korey & Melissa Wilker
Kody, Gabrielle, Katherine, Victoria, Olivia
Ethel Wright
Van & Donna Zittergruen

Peace:
Bob & JoAnn Creery

We pray for:
Peace throughout the world.
God's love and protection for all refugees and people helping in the war torn countries.
All people that have lost loved ones due to violence.
All people suffering from floods, wildfires, drought and other natural disasters

Peace Mission Statement:
With God in charge of our life and Jesus as our example, we will work to help all those in need. And, there will be peace within.

THIS & THAT AT PEACE

Advent season is here! We got our church all dressed up for the season.

Our Christmas Mary & Martha's party was December 6, at Peace Church. Seventeen people attended. Very thankful for the fellowship. We really had great food, laughs, fun, gifts and fellowship. So nice to have some of St. Peter's members come. Next Mary & Martha's will be the spring dinner out.

Planning on our Annual Meeting on January 15, 2023. Details to follow.

Planning joint council meeting in January.

Please continue to say extra prayers for Marleen Kamienski as she continues to struggle with cancer issues. Our prayers can really help.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas. The Christmas Eve Service will be at 5:00 p.m. at Peace. Christmas Day at St. Peter at 9:00 a.m.

Wishing you and your families a healthy and Happy New Year!

Blessings to all,
JoAnn Creery
ELC of Peace, Clayton

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 3 – Kason Berns
8 – Kate Kessler-Berns
14 – Don Spear
19 – Rachel Spiker
21 – Jeremiah Berns

Upcoming Events:
January 8 – Church Council following worship
January 15 – Annual Meeting following worship

Church Duties: Church Council

PEACE COUNCIL

Peace Church Council met on December 4, 2022, following church services. Those in attendance were Linda Wright, Lola Meyer, Vicki Spiker and JoAnn Creery.

Secretary's report read. Motion to approve by Lola, second by JoAnn, carried.

Treasurer's report read. Motion to accept by JoAnn, second by Linda, carried.

Business:
--Annual Meeting will be January 15, following 8:00 a.m. service (*Decision to leave time at 8:30 am. was made on December 19).*
--Next council meeting January 8, following church services.

No further business. Motion to adjourn by JoAnn, second by Lola, carried.

Vicki L. Spiker

Name of Jesus - January 1

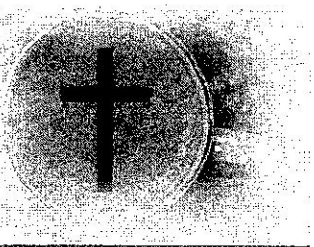
From the beginning, through Baptism, we are called Christian. We are "Christ-ened" at the font. Bearing Christ's name, we share the same Father and are invited to address this parent intimately. Abba! Jesus bears our sins in humble obedience to the will of God. Today we pray that the mind of Christ, whose name we bear, would be our own. It is a good way to begin, again, another year.

Epiphany - January 6

The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of Baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

From Sundays and Seasons, © 2022 Augsburg Fortress, Year A 2023, pg. 60, pg. 66

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries
NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2023



The holiday season is here! I hope everyone is having a safe and glorious Christmas. We just "wrapped" up our Christmas for Kids Holiday Event. We were so blessed with many donations near and far. Toys for Tots provided a huge number of toys, but a very impressive amount of local donations was also received. Thank you to all the churches and affiliations of churches that provided the pillowcases, quilts and blankets. They are always a needed commodity this time of year. We served over 400 children for Christmas. That equals to just over 150 families! Your donations and monetary donations are very much appreciated and made this event possible. So, thank you to everyone that made it a success.

On December 6th, an informational meeting was held to discuss the details of the trip to Hungary. Thank you to all who showed an interest in the trip for the summer of 2023. We will be reviewing the applications in the coming weeks. More information will be available in the near future. I hope that 2022 has provided you with happy and blessed memories as we ring in 2023! Stay safe and God bless you all!

CLOTHING CENTER UPDATES

WE ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!!

December was a hectic month with the Holiday shop so the clothing center has been closed to prepare for that event the week of Dec. 12-16. We have not accepted much of donations this month, but will resume to normal business in January. I am seeing quite a bit of summer clothing donated still. Please remember, we cannot take them at this time. I am making a few changes in the children's section. Most of the children's clothing is now hanging up for a better shopping experience. I encourage everyone to stop in and take a look at the inventory we have as we are almost to capacity. We need to move the inventory to make room for all the donations I am expecting in January. A quick note: We will be CLOSED from December. 26-January 1st, 2023. We will re-open on January 2, 2023!

Shepherd Conference News

Congratulations to Rev. Michael G. Ashman from St. John's and St. Paul Lutheran, Guttenberg on his anniversary of his ordination on January 3, 1993.

Shepherd of the Hill's Needs:

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities. Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify Crisis or Operating Fund!

IMPORTANT DATES:

The clothing center will be closed from December 26-January 1, 2023

Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills

Heather Hageman

100 W. Hill Street, PO Box 36,
Saint Olaf, IA 52072
Telephone: 563-783-2409
Fax: 563-783-2428
E-mail: shephill@neitel.net

Business Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm

JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Name of Jesus *Pr. McMillin* 8:30 Worship @ Peace Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship @ St. Peter Communion	2 9:30 Women's Bible study	3 *10:00 Worship service on Channel 6 cable* 7:00 Ministry & Outreach	4 7:00 Men's Bible study	5 Noon-5:00 Red Cross Blood Drive @ Community Center 7:00 Bible study	6 Epiphany	7
8 1st Sunday after Epiphany *Pr. McMillin* 8:30 Worship @ Peace Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 St. Peter Worship Communion	9 9:30 Women's Bible study 7:00 St. Peter Council	10 *10:00 Worship service on Channel 6 cable*	11 2:00 Tower Living Center service 7:00 Men's Bible study	12 7:00 Bible study	13	14
15 2nd Sunday after Epiphany *Lay Service* 8:30 Worship @ Peace *Annual meeting following worship* 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship @ St. Peter	16 9:30 Women's Bible study 7:00 Men's Group	17 *10:00 Worship service on Channel 6 cable*	18 7:00 Men's Bible study	19 9:00 Sew Day 1:00 WELCA 7:00 Bible study	20	21
22 3rd Sunday after Epiphany *Pr. McMillin* 8:30 Worship @ Peace Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship @ St. Peter Communion *Annual Meeting & lunch following worship*	23 *Newsletter deadline* 9:30 Women's Bible study *5-6:30 "Come for Supper"* 7:00 Stephen Ministry	24 *10:00 Worship service on Channel 6 cable*	25 7:00 Men's Bible study	26 7:00 Bible study	27	28
29 4th Sunday after Epiphany *Pastor McMillin* 8:30 Worship @ Peace Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship @ St.Peter Communion	30 9:30 Women's Bible study	31 9:00 Worship/Ed. Committee *10:00 Worship service on Channel 6 cable*				

St. Peter Lutheran Church
301 North Adams Street
P.O. Box 99
Garnavillo, IA 52049

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 2 – Gerald Frye
Rick Guyer
Bryce Troester
5 – Jaiden Rieck
6 – Kaja Johnson
11 – Ken Johnson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 12 – Ron Kaiser
13 – Victoria Wilker
14 – Chad Werger
20 – Scott Stewart
23 – Rozelle Howard

Mission Statement

As a loving, generous, and forgiving faith community, St. Peter Lutheran Church, reaches out to all people, worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament.

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Worship with us weekly!

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Peace - 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.

St. Peter Lutheran Church – 10:15 a.m.
Facebook