

The Bellringer

March 2022



ST. PETER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
DUBUQUE, IOWA

From Pastor Matt

Our Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday – March 2. On that day we gather for worship, and hear the words of Genesis 3, which reminds us that we are made of dust—and it is to dust that we will return someday. In the previous chapter, God formed the first person from the dust of the ground: “the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground.” The word “man” there is actually the first human’s name Adam (אָדָם) his name literally comes from the Hebrew word for earth Adamah (אֲדָמָה) so in a very real sense, the very first person was made of the ground, of the earth, of the dust. Adam, the earth-person.

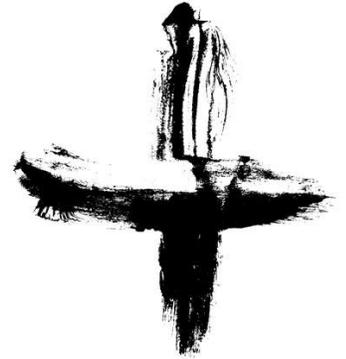
We are dust, things of the ground and things of the earth.

But what makes us different? **What makes us alive, and not just a clump of clay and dust bunnies?** Let’s look at the next bit of Genesis: “...and [the Lord God] breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.”

God’s breath filled the first person. God’s spirit, which flowed over the deep, filled this dusty body, and it became a living, breathing person. Friends, this breath of God is what makes us alive, and makes us more precious than any element on earth – we are all made in the image of God, and given breath by this same Creator.

For the next 40 days we spend 40 days in the shadow of the cross, where we will witness how deeps God loves this world. At Calvary, rather than giving thanks for the miracles of life, rather than returning God’s love, we nailed Jesus to a cross. **But the story doesn’t end there, does it?** In this betrayal by the very humans God loved, God was able to overcome death – Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, defeating forever death and sin. Easter is the ultimate joy of the season – but we’re not there yet. Look ahead, let’s follow Jesus.

- *Soli Deo Gloria. Pastor Matthew Agee*



From Pastor Calvin

We’ve been having a great winter, despite the cold and snow. Our middle school ministry has had as many as **22 students** come to a game night (nearly half were students that don’t come to our church that were invited). Our High School ministry has students who are committed and growing in their faith (they’re even starting to close us in prayer!). We recognized **13 new members** that joined in 2021, and we’re already adding new members this year. There’s an excitement in the air as we start to try new things, grow, and continue our foundational ministries.

A special thank you to everyone who came to the Men’s Retreat and Mardi Gras Trivia Night. Both were a huge success, and we’re looking forward to doing both in future years (though trivia night will probably have a different theme each year.)

Finally, a note to you all as we start this Lenten season. As we journey through the wilderness of Lent together, we’ll be hearing from guest speakers about how God’s Call has been placed on their lives. I want to encourage you to listen to God in your life and learn where God is calling you. God will call you, your church will equip and empower you, and the Holy Spirit will work through you. If you have felt God calling you to a specific ministry, come and chat with myself or Pastor Matt!

Lenten blessings to you all,

- *Pastor Calvin Konop*

Join us for Ash Wednesday:

March 2:

Noon (In-person) and 6:30 pm (In-person and online)

Holden Evening Prayer:

Wednesdays during Lent*: Noon and 6:30 pm

- Brown Bags lunches following Noon Services
- Lenten Meal provided at 5:30 pm, before Services

**No meals on Ash Wednesday*

Educating & Equipping Disciples from Miriam

On Transfiguration Sunday, the children helped us “**Put away our Alleluias**” as they gathered up the alleluia butterflies they had handed out and buried them, along with the alleluia banner, in a box placed on the altar for the season of Lent. On Easter Sunday we will joyfully bring them out again to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection.

NOISY OFFERING: Our new “noisy” offering will help the Mission Support Board with putting together Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Personal Care Kits. These kits go to people who have lost everything from a natural disaster or life-threatening violence. *We ask that you bring a different item each week of Lent.* The coins will be used to purchase items needed to complete kits. **Here is the schedule:**

March 6 - bath-size bar of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand (three are needed with each kit)

March 13 – bath-size bar of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand

March 20 - one adult-size toothbrush

March 27 - one **light-weight** bath towel (between 20” x 40” and 52” x 27”), dark color recommended

April 3 - one metal nail clipper (attached file optional)

April 10 - one sturdy, **wide-toothed** comb, without sharp-pointed handles

April 17 – *Easter* – coins to help cover shipping costs (please don’t put in the basket in the front hall)

You can drop off your donations in the basket as you enter church. Thank you

We had a successful **Feed My Sheep Sunday** in February making Easter wall hangings for members as well as Easter cards. The kids (of all ages) were very creative with their card making skills!

On Palm Sunday, April 10, the **Sunday School kids** will be sharing a **Palm Sunday program** and song to reenact the Entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem.



Vacation Bible School (VBS) June 13 – 17 from 9 - Noon each day.

The theme is *Monumental – Celebrating God’s Greatness*. Watch for an on-line sign-up. Registration forms will also be available in the church office. **Deadline to register is June 1.** VBS is for kids ages 4 years – 4th grade. Youth completing 5th grade and older can be helpers. Contact Miriam with questions (mythywaybj@gmail.com)



Children’s Bulletins (Readers & Pre-Readers) are available each Sunday during worship and are found on the table in the back of the sanctuary, over near the windows. There are also mini clip boards for your child to use, crayons and pencils. **Please return** these items **to the basket** under the table so they can be sanitized.

Youth Ministry News from Pastor Calvin

MIDDLE SCHOOL / CONFIRMATION (Grades 6-8)

We’ll be taking a break from our regular weekly ministry during Lent, and we are inviting families to worship together at our Lenten Services. There will be another sermon note opportunity for students on Wednesday nights, and we’ll be hearing from special guests about God’s Call for their lives during each service.

We still have a special event - Diaper Wars! Friday, March 11 from 7:30-9pm. It’s like Capture the Flag, but with a twist: instead of tagging people, you throw rolled up diapers at each other. What fun! Diaper donations are accepted for anyone that would like to donate! We’ll recycle the same diapers every year.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY (Grades 9-12)

The High School Ministry will be taking a break during Lent. Students are encouraged to come to the evening Lenten services with their families. This Lent we’ll be hearing from special guests about God’s Call for their lives, during each service.

If you have questions about any of the above items, reach out to Pastor Calvin pastorcalvin@stpeterdbq.org



From the Executive Director

Looking for Interested Members to join the Congregation Council

That's right folks, we are adding two non-voting members to the Council!

We are really looking for is a diversity of thought, age, and background to round out the Council.

Read on for details:

At the Annual Congregation meeting on January 30 of this year you voted to update our church bylaws. Included in those changes, it was approved to add two new non-voting members to the Council for 2-year terms that could be renewed for a second 2-year term. The non-voting status is dictated by our Constitution which is driven by the national ELCA.

The Council thought it would be good to expand the Council with members who do not have to be officers or Directors of any given Board. Just Council members. Like the rest of the Council members, their role will be to review and evaluate items that come before the Council, provide input about topics being voted on, and generally oversee the operations of the Church.

Our Bylaws allow the Council to appoint these positions in the interim and then they will be on the annual ballot going forward. For the first year, one of the slots will be a one-year term then renewable and the other will be for 2 years.

The Council decided to accept indication of interest from members, rather than just picking and asking someone. So **please let us know if you are interested in one of these positions.** You can do so by emailing or calling Doug Horstmann, Congregation President with an indication of your interest. Djhorstmann53@gmail.com or 563-590-1410.

The regular Congregation Council meetings are on the second Monday night of each month at 7:00 pm at the church, or when needed, members may Zoom in.

If interested, please respond by Friday, March 11, so the Council can take action at their meeting on the 14th.

The **Future is Bright at St Peter** in 2022 and beyond! Come join us in setting the course. God Bless.

- Doug Horstmann, Executive Director for the Parish Planning Council



Mission Support News

Open your mouth judge righteously and plead the cause of the poor and needy. Proverbs 31:9

The towel drive for the rescue mission homeless was successful! Forty-five towels, seven baby blankets, men's socks, and some clothing was delivered to the rescue mission for the homeless. These items were very much appreciated. Thank you!

Miriam and the "Noisy Offering" is partnering with the Mission Support Board during the Lenten season, for the collection of items for the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) **Personal Care Kits**. Our goal is 100 kits.

Items needed are: 300 bath bars of soap, 100 large teeth combs (no sharp points), 100 dark colored, light-weight towels, 100 nail clippers (with or without nail file), and 100 toothbrushes. Watch for the suggestions each week. **See page 2 for more details!**

We always welcome new members to our committee!

Yours in Christ, Patty Strathman, *Director of Mission Support*

Thank you to our St. Peter family for all your prayers, calls, cards, and love shown to us during this difficult time. We appreciate your kindness.

- The Dale Maas Family





St. Peter Community

INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY - Yes, we plan to PRINT out some copies of the directory in the spring of 2022. **HOWEVER, we need YOUR help:** If you have already created a log in/password, and have signed in and checked your info, great!

If you haven't, you may go to instantchurchdirectory.com on your browser, or download the app from the App Store or Google Play Store and do it from your phone or tablet!

To create a log in (pic #2), you will need to use the email address that is already in this directory. If you are unsure of what that might be, please call the office, and Christine will be happy to double-check for you. Once you have created a login, click on "Back to Sign In" and sign in (pic #3) (You will not be able to sign in until you create a login (PIC #1).

It's really VERY easy, we promise! (*Scott Brondyke even said so and he also offered to help walk you through it, if needed.*)

Need a photo? Christine will be happy to take one for you during the week, and Steve F, Scott B, or either Pastor will be happy to assist you on the weekend. (or just grab someone and ask them to take it on your phone, and then you can either upload it, or email it to Christine, and she will upload it for you!)

Need help using the directory? Contact Steve Fishwild (see below) or the office (563-583-0860). We are happy to help!

Questions about the directory? Please contact Steve at sfishwild@gmail.com or ask at church when you see him! Thanks!

PIC #1

PIC #2

PIC #3



EASTER FLOWERS FOR OUR ALTAR

It is time to start thinking about the Easter Altar Flowers again!

An order form is included in this newsletter. If you need a copy, you may pick one up at church or [download one here](#).

Lilies, Mums, and Tulips are available, as usual. *White tulips are a question mark right now, so if you order white, we reserve the right to substitute yellow, if they are not available.*

Questions? Contact Christine in the office 563-583-0860 or office@stpeterdbq.org (ALSO, please note our NEW email address and update your contact info accordingly. Thank you!)



2022 GIVING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY

Have you picked up your 2022 Giving Envelopes yet? All envelopes are here! If your giving is set up as an auto deposit, please take a small box of the special/holiday envelopes.

Why no numbers? We have wasted many boxes of envelopes, because we had to order all the numbers, even if a number was not assigned to someone. In addition, many were not using their boxes, so we decided to forego printing the numbers on the envelopes and save money too.

To help with accounting of gifts, we ask that you **write your member number in the right hand corner**. This will assist the office staff and counters with accurate recording of your gifts. If giving cash it is extra important to be sure to include your member number. **Questions?** Contact a member of the Stewardship Board. Thank you.

Doug Horstmann, Amy Unmacht, Mark Whitaker, Dave Yeager, Tim Michel, Scott Schoenhard, JoAnn Hillary

St. Peter Groups & Meeting Info

New friends always welcome, come see what we are about!

- **Quilting Group**—Meets first Thursday of the month in the Fellowship Hall—contact Alice Wagner for more info
- **Prayer Shawl Group**—Meets third Thursday of the month—Knit and Crochet, with Prayer and Fellowship
- **Zoom Book Club**—Meets every Wednesday at **10 am (NEW TIME)**—Contact Jean Rieniets for more info
- **Welcoming Committee**—Meetings vary—Contact Steve Fishwild for more info—sfishwild@gmail.com
- **Community Services**—Offer your time & skills to others—Contact Steve Fishwild for more info—sfishwild@gmail.com
- **Worship Servants**—Volunteer at worship services—Contact Kelly Roen for more info—kelly.roen@yahoo.com

Evangelical Outreach

Gwen's Pantry Update:

Winter is upon us, and Gwen's Pantry can use the following items:

Kleenex (*pocket packs work great!*), Deodorant (*solids only for winter*), Dental Floss, Toothbrushes, Mouthwash, bar soap, First Aid items. Liquid items will be put out as weather permits. Accepting full-size, travel-size, multi-packs. Partial packs of diapers and feminine products can be repackaged.

Other personal care items (NO MEDS) always welcome. Thank You!

Volunteer stockers always needed. [\(CLICK HERE to SIGNUP\)](#)

Donations of items not required be a stocker, as you will be using items from our supply.

Questions? contact Cindy Widmar or Jean Kapp



St. Peter Lutheran Online Links

All worship services will continue to be available online, as well as on Mediacom Channels 81 and 117-4 (see page 6) Here are the links which will take you to our live and most recent services, and more:

Facebook: facebook.com/stpeterdubuque (*Please "Like" our Facebook page while you are there!*)

YouTube: youtube.com/stpeterlutherandubuque (*you can "Subscribe" to this, too*)

Websites: st-peter-lutheran.org (*the website you are probably familiar with*)

stpeterdbq.org (*we are in the midst of transferring info to this one, so both are active*)

PayPal: <http://stpeterdbq.org/give> (*a secure way for you to donate to St. Peter online*)

Mediacom: Channel 81 or 117-4 (*see calendar for the TV schedule*)

Book Club on Zoom: [Click Here for Zoom Link](#) (*Wednesdays at 10:00 am, at least thru Lent*)

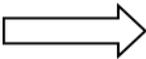
Bible Study: 6:00 pm WEDNESDAYS – [Zoom Link – Click Here](#) (*We plan to start up again on January 12*)

We will continue to celebrate worship live online at 8:15am Sundays, on [our YouTube channel](#).

If you have questions, please call the office (563-583-0860) or email us at office@stpeterdbq.org

Offering Plate Options

The ongoing ministries of St. Peter are made possible by your financial support. Thank you!!

1. **Bring it with you | Mail it | Drop off** your offerings or envelopes in one of our secure mailboxes, located near the south entrance of church. They are checked several times a day, during the week. (*feel free to use either one, both are locked*)
2. **Set Up a Direct Withdrawal** from your bank, using VANCO. Contact the office for info. (*also available for the Pastor Fund*). *If you need to update your existing direct withdrawal, contact the office.*
3. **Donate via PayPal.** Here's how:
 - Go to www.stpeterdbq.org/give and then select the Donate button. You will be taken to the St. Peter PayPal page. From there you can use your PayPal account, credit card or debit card to donate. (*You do not need to set up a PayPal account to donate with your credit/debit card.*)
 - Or, from your cell phone you can simply scan the QR Code here  and it will take you directly to the St. Peter PayPal page.



St. Peter's Calendar for March 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

We will continue to offer a Zoom option when possible. Please contact your group's leadership for updated meeting info. *If you need help with Zoom, please contact the pastors or the office.*

Mediacom TV Schedule:			
Channels 81 and 117-4			
Mon	10 am	Tue	6 pm
Wed	8 am	Thurs	6 pm
Fri	8 pm	Sat	4:30 pm
Sun	8:30 am and 7:30 pm		

(P) = Praise & Worship (was "Contemporary") (L) = Liturgical (was "Traditional") Communion offered at all services

		<p>1 Spuce Up Group 8:30 am</p> <p>Mission Support Bd Mtg 5 pm</p>	<p>2 Book Club Zoom 10 am</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY Services: Noon and 6:30 pm</p>	<p>3 Quilting Group 9 am-3 pm Fellowship Hall</p> <p>YH Upper-NA mtg</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Worship 4:30pm (L)</p>
<p>6 Worship 8:15am (P) Sunday School / Coffee Hour 9:20am Worship 10:30am (L)</p>	<p>7 Staff 10:45 am Hymn Select 1:30 pm Evangelical Outreach 6 pm Property Bd 7 pm YH-TOPS 5 pm YH-B. Scouts 7 pm</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 Book Club Zoom 10 am HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER services: Noon (Brown Bag lunch to follow) 5:30pm: Lenten Meal 6:30pm 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>10 YH Upper-NA mtg</p>	<p>11 Middle School DIAPER WARS 7:30-9 pm</p>	<p>12 Men's Bible Study 8am Worship 4:30pm (L)</p>
<p>13 Worship 8:15am (P) Sunday School / Coffee Hour 9:20am Worship 10:30am (L) Living Last Supper 2:30pm</p>	<p>14 Staff 10:45 am WT Music Selection 1:30 pm Stewardship Bd Mtg 5:45 pm PPC Mtg 7 pm YH-TOPS 5 pm YH-B. Scouts 7 pm</p>	<p>15 Spuce Up Group 8:30 am</p>	<p>16 Book Club Zoom 10 am HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER services: Noon (Brown Bag lunch to follow) 5:30pm: Lenten Meal 6:30pm 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>17 Prayer Shawl Group 6 pm YH Upper-NA mtg</p>	<p>18 April BELLRINGER DEADLINE</p>	<p>19 Worship 4:30pm (L)</p>
<p>20 Worship 8:15am (P) Sunday School / Coffee Hour 9:20am Worship 10:30am (L)</p>	<p>21 Staff 10:45 am Worship Bd 6 pm Lay Ministry 7 pm YH-TOPS 5 pm YH-B. Scouts 7 pm</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Book Club Zoom 10 am HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER services: Noon (Brown Bag lunch to follow) 5:30pm: Lenten Meal 6:30pm 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>24 YH Upper-NA mtg</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Men's Breakfast 8am Worship 4:30pm (L)</p>
<p>27 Worship 8:15am (P) Sunday School / Coffee Hour 9:20am Worship 10:30am (L)</p>	<p>28 Staff 10:45 am Education Bd 6:30 pm YH-TOPS 5 pm YH-B. Scouts 7 pm</p>	<p>29 Mission Support Bd Mtg 5 pm</p>	<p>30 Book Club Zoom 10 am HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER services: Noon (Brown Bag lunch to follow) 5:30pm: Lenten Meal 6:30pm 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Holy Week Services <i>In-person and online:</i> Palm Sunday: 8:15am & 10:30am Maundy Thursday: 6:30pm Good Friday: Noon & 6:30pm Easter: 7am, 9am, & 11am</p>	

Celebrating our Church Community



Wedding Anniversaries

We celebrate these special milestones.

Name	Date
Don & Janet Biermann	March 17, 1961

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now." - Philippians 1:3-5

March Birthdays

2 Kris Spiegler	20 Dick Core
3 Stephanie Puls	Miranda Kettmann
4 Robert Schick	Jacob Zauche
6 Waylon Lindecker	21 Rodney Cooper
Ruth Neuhaus	Gary Rienets
Marge Schultz	Dan Shaffer
7 Keely Anderson	22 Miriam Bjornstad
9 Karen Horstmann	23 Edward McEvoy
Brian Payne	24 Mark Gukeisen
10 Piper MacRae-Egan	25 Patrick Brackett
11 Brenda Hostager	Julie Norby
14 Merlyn Atkinson	27 Giovanni Ramos
Joyce Howell	28 Laura Daack
David Mitchell	29 Mackenzie Bousson
15 Barbara Kula	30 Jane Jentz
Erica Shireman	Barb Kopischke
16 Amber Shute	31 Scott Hostager
17 Jody Iler	Shaelyn Hostager
Joanne Rice	Patrick Petitgout
18 Max Unmacht	

CALLING ALL SINGERS and MUSICIANS:

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to sing in a church choir? Now is your chance!

The choir is looking for singers for the upcoming Lenten season. If you (or someone you know) is interested, contact Kristine Fishler (Kristine.fishler@gmail.com or 563-599-3937) or join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the choir room for rehearsals. (feel free to stop in and check it out, if you aren't sure.)

Also—if you play an instrument and are interested in sharing your talent occasionally, please contact Kristine—we are always looking for instrumentalists, too!

PRAYER LIST:

Do you know someone that could use extra prayers?
Have your prayers been answered?
Should someone be removed from our list?

Please let us know of any changes to the St. Peter Prayer list.
Thank you! 563-583-0860 - stpeterdbq@q.com

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

Our **Prayer Shawl Group** meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6pm.
Feel free to join them for some knitting, crocheting, and fellowship!



We Remember



We remember those affiliated with our congregation who have died in the past ten years.

March 2, 2012	Evelyn E. Paeper
March 6, 2013	Helena A. Hubert
March 7, 2014	LaVerne I. Blume
March 13, 2015	Nadia M. Humke
March 14, 2015	Georgeanne Loes
March 1, 2016	Robert Millius
March 3, 2017	Edwin F. Reeg
March 7, 2017	John H. Kohlenberg
March 22, 2018	Ralph W. Quere
March 11, 2019	Tom Sarvis
March 14, 2019	Loren Larson
March 14, 2021	Carol Lorenz
March 24, 2021	Thomas Pins

Attention Thrivent Members:

Please check to see if you have 2021 Thrivent Choice Dollars to direct by March 31

Please check at www.thrivent.com to make sure all your Choice Dollars have been directed to a cause you are passionate about. (St. Peter maybe? Hint, hint)

There are over 45,000 organizations to choose from. If you have any questions about directing Choice Dollars, contact their call center at **1-800-847-4836** and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt.

Last year at St. Peter, we had \$1,938 of Choice Dollars directed to church. From those funds, half go to the General Budget and half go to the Youth Board.

Thank you for making a positive impact at St. Peter!



ST. PETER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
DUBUQUE, IOWA

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Dubuque IA 52001-8408

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www.stpeterdbq.org



ST. PETER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
DUBUQUE, IOWA

Office Phone: 563-583-0860

Email Address: stpeterdbq@q.com

Office Hours: 9:00-4:00 Mon-Thur; 9:00-1:00 Fri

STAFF

Pastor: Matthew Ageeoffice: 563-583-0860
voicemail: 563-845-2688

Associate Pastor: Calvin Konopoffice: 563-583-0860
cell: 563-226-5425

Visitation/Outreach Minister: Jim Daack563-556-0028

Education Coordinator: Miriam Bjornstad563-663-6558

Musician: Kristine Fishler563-599-3937

Office Manager: Christine Rapp563-583-0860

Custodian: Angie Puls.....563-542-2711

Weekly Worship Services

In-Person Worship Services

Liturgical Worship

Saturdays, 4:30 pm
Sundays, 10:30 am

Praise and Worship Service

Sundays, 8:15 am

Holy Communion is celebrated at all services

YouTube Livestream Service

Sundays 8:15 am

[YouTube.com/stpeterlutherandubuque](https://www.youtube.com/stpeterlutherandubuque)

REMINDER: Ash Wednesday Services

March 2: Noon and 6:30pm

Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays during Lent: Noon and 6:30 pm
Brown Bags lunches following Noon Services | Lenten Meal provided at 5:30 pm, before 6:30 pm Services

Our Mission: *Saved by God's mercy, and called by the Holy Spirit,
We share the Good News of Christ by reaching out in Love.*