

St. Peter News

December 2021

St. Peter Lutheran Church

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Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

What is the best gift you have ever received? What is the most memorable gift you have received? As we draw closer to Christmas, our minds can get focused on going to the stores or shopping online to get gifts for people. Some of you have already started your Christmas shopping. Some of you wait until the weekend before to get your shopping done. Whenever you do your shopping, this is definitely the season of gifts.

As we think about giving gifts this Christmas, I want to take a moment and think about three different people in your life that you could give a gift to this Advent and Christmas time:

(1) Your kids/family - I know that you will get very busy trying to get all those different gifts for your kids, grandkids, and other family members. Whether it is clothes, or video games or movies, or something else, it is going to be a

busy time. In the midst of gifts that you give, don't forget about the spiritual side of things as well. Maybe, you can give the gift of a Bible Story book. Maybe it is a cross to remind them of what Jesus for them. Another great gift is to be an example of serving in God's church and helping others out. It could be delivering gifts to those who don't have a lot of money. It could be going and helping someone out in their home who can't do it themselves. It is so good for our kids and grandkids to know it is about giving to other people because Jesus has given to us. What can you do as a family to bring hope and joy to others this Christmas season?

(2) Someone in your life that is hurting - Holidays can be really difficult times for people. There are many people who struggle, especially if they have lost a loved one recently and this is the first holiday time without their loved one. Many of us have experienced the death of someone close to us recently. There are others that you know of that are dealing with an illness or are struggling in marriage, or just lonely and fearful and worried. I would really encourage you to take a few moments this Christmas season to stop and write a note or a card or stop by and see them and let them know that you are thinking about them and praying for

them. It can be such an uplifting thing for those who are hurting.

(3) Someone who doesn't know

Jesus - There is no greater gift that you can give to someone than to let them know what this season is all about and that is Jesus. Christmas Eve is the day when the most people go to church. This is the one day that many people will be open to attending a church service. I pray that you would reach out and invite someone to join us here for our Christmas Eve service. But even before that happens, I pray that you would take time and listen to them and share with them the simple basic message that Jesus loves them and came to this world to die and rise again to forgive them all their sins. That is all it takes. It's simple and sweet and I pray that we would all be focused on that this Christmas season.

I pray that as we go through Advent and Christmas that you would truly have a greater sense this year of the gift of Jesus and the salvation that He won for us. Let's all give some wonderful gifts to others this holiday season.

In Jesus - the Healer of the Hurting,

Pastor Brian

Official Acts

11-5-2021.....

Funeral & Burial Services for

Timothy Pohlmann

Date of Death: 10-31-2021

Age: 46 Cemetery: Zion Lutheran

11-7-2021.....

Baptism of Ryder Kruse

11-7-2021.....

Affirmation of the Baptism of

River Kruse



(Left)
Ryder Kruse

(Below)
River with
Pastor Brian



Ryder Jay, newborn son of Kevin and Kaitlyn Kruse, was baptized November 7. His sponsors are Bryan Soderquist, Molly Soderquist, and Rachel Beach.

River Reinold, one-year-old son of Kevin and Kaitlyn Kruse, was baptized at Children's Hospital, Omaha on November 1, 2020. The affirmation of his baptism took place November 7, 2021 with his sponsors (Dylan Holle, Micheal Soderquist, and Sophia Tibbetts) present.

We thank God for these precious young lives and especially for the gift of eternal life given through Holy Baptism.

The Lutheran Hour

Anytime at www.lutheranhour.org

Sunday mornings:

6:30 KFAB Omaha 1110 AM

7:30 WIBW Topeka 580 AM

8:00 BOTT North Platte 107.9 FM

10:00 KRVN Lexington 880 AM

December 5

"Because We Belong"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
The world tells us we must be useful in order to belong, but that's now how God sees us. (Luke 1:5-25)

December 12

"When You're Expecting"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
The season of Advent is about living in the middle of a story that is still unfolding, between what is already and what is yet to come. (Luke 1:20-80)

December 19

"Charlie Brown Christmas Tree"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
The drama surrounding the first airing of "The Charlie Brown Christmas Special" 56 years ago, against all odds, it gave viewers the true story of Christmas and doomed aluminum Christmas trees to near extinction. (Luke 2:1-15)

December 26 - "Rite of Passage"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Luke 2:21-40)

St. Peter Financial Update

As of November 21 (47 Sundays)	
General Budget	
Offerings Received	273,379.81
Offerings Budgeted	325,233.42
Difference	-51,853.61
Missions-Nebraska District Support	
Goal	6,327.00
Received	3,740.00
Difference	- 2,587.00



Right Now Media Spotlight

"Advent"

by Derwin Gray

Who exactly is Jesus? What kind of God would come to earth as a human? As Christmas approaches, the season of Advent offers us a chance to reflect on our savior, his purpose, and the surprising ways he invited people near to him. Join pastor Derwin Gray in this five-session Advent study as he unveils King Jesus—the God-man who defied expectations, the king of all creation who humbled himself to serve and die, the friend to sinners who wants to lift us up.

Please contact Pastor Brian or Todd Voss to get started with RightNow Media. Also, check out Pastor Brian's video on how to get set up with RightNow Media. The video can be found on our Facebook and YouTube pages.

Agape Readers Gathers December 13th @ 7:00 p.m.

Our book group will gather on Monday, November 8 to discuss the book "Hidden Christmas" by Tim Keller. If you enjoy reading or know people that do, we invite you to come and join us on the 2nd Monday of the month for our book discussion time. You can see the list for the first half of 2022 on the bulletin board.

New Men's Bible Study Starting in January

Starting January 24, there will be a new Bible Study here at St. Peter for men. This is open to men from our congregation or surrounding communities. We will meet once a month on the 4th Monday of the month from 7:00-8:00pm. We will share the topic as we get closer to the day.

Midweek Advent Schedule



December 1 –7:00
p.m. at St. Peter

December 8 –7:00
p.m. at Faith

December 15 – 7:00
p.m. at Faith



Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 24

6:10 Sunday School Students Be Here

6:15 Hymn Sing

6:30 Service

Christmas Day Service

9:45 a.m. Saturday, December 25

New Year's Day Service

9:45 a.m. Saturday, January 1

2021 Nominating Committee for Election of Officers

Serving on this year's nominating committee for the upcoming election of officers were outgoing three-year-officers John Noojin, Alan Bohling, Aaron Bohling, Brian Schardt, Kolby Finke, Troy Hansen and appointed members Todd Voss, Mark Schardt.

Election of Officers

Election of officers will take place at the budget and election meeting on Sunday, December 12. The list of candidates will be made available by Sunday, December 5.

Religious Christmas Cards

Christmas cards and napkins are available for purchase in the card bookcase.

From Our Missionaries

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Greetings in the Lord from Prague!
We pray that all is well with you and that God's peace be with you.

In the US, people are getting ready for that great American holiday, Thanksgiving, with all its foods and traditions. Here, there is no such holiday. Still, some of our American members are planning a get-together to thank the Lord for all His blessings upon us.

One of the blessings God has sent to us is you. Your support of us - your prayers and your gifts - is beyond our capacity to thank you. Each time you pray for us and give to us is a moment when you stand with us in

this work, and we are so grateful! Living in Prague is a nice thing. But the calling to share the Gospel is an uphill climb. As we draw near to Advent, and Czechs speak of Advent and holiday things, here they are empty shells, far removed from what they truly are. Please, pray that the witness to the Czechs would bear fruit unto eternal life.

God bless and keep you!
Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster
Your Missionaries to the Czech Republic

"The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me."
Dr. Martin Luther

Address in the Czech Republic
Bubenečská 365/41
Praha 6 160 00
Czech Republic

Prague Phone: +420 607 645 218
What's App Number: 904 509 0274

Deshler Lutheran School Board Meeting Minutes October 18, 2021

Attendance: Todd Voss, Scott Laaker, Kolby Finke, Brian Schardt, Pastor Francik, Galen Sasse, Tyler Harms, Gage Baker, Pastor Flores, Shannon L, Jeremy S, Mike H

Visitors: Rod Holtzen, Deb McDonald, Andrew Kabes, Allen Werner

Galen S opened with devotion

Meeting agenda approved as amended

September minutes approved as presented

Treasurer's Report: October
Balance: General Balance \$41,166.82;
Hot Lunch \$2,992.22; Chapel \$693.50;

DLS Board Minutes, Continued

Needs \$56,009.66; Library \$2,419.27; Flex CD \$6,485.73; LCMS Endowment Fund \$8,253.71; Lutheran Church Extension Fund \$42,220.87 Motion to approve by Mike H 2nd by Shannon. Motion carried.

Trustee Report: Have new clips for flagpole. Will check on the temperature difference at a later date. Concrete repair at north entrance.

Pastors report: None

Administrator's Report:

1. See You at the Pole, the school attended, special thanks to Deb McDonald and Dana Epply for organizing it.
2. Pastor Appreciation was September 29. We had all five area pastors at school, they ate lunch and were in each classroom.
3. Dream Switch- the school participated in the art part and the 5th-6th grade sang.
4. Chapel- 5-6 grade chapel was October 7 and was streamed on Facebook. 3-4 grade chapel is October 10 @ 9:15.
5. Christmas card sales are going till October 26.
6. Marketing- The Ron and Pat Schardt Foundation \$1,500.00 to cover the cost for the 30 second clip for advertising at the theater received a \$100 donation to cover the cost of advertising on Striv.
7. Nov. 5 - Jonah's Druthers 5-8 fall musical. Thanks to Scott, Tyler, and Shannon for helping with the staging from public school. Nov. 4th @ 1:15 dress rehearsal.
8. STEM starting at the school on November 9. Each room has a 25-minute session. This is the first 6-week session.

9. Veterans Day Program @ the public school @ 10:30. K-2 performing.

10. 6-8 grade Digital Citizenship Presentation with Karen Haase November 11 @ 8:15.

11. Human Trafficking Presentation December 17 @ the public school from 1-3pm for 6-8 grades.

Old Business:

A. Pastor Flores spoke about his sabbatical. Todd spoke about the plan that was approved by the board at the July meeting; he asked if Pastor would adhere to the plan set by the board and Todd. Further discussion ensued.

B. APCW conference @ Kearney October 21-22. All teachers and pastors will be attending.

C. Auction - getting donations. The school board is donating a yeti cooler, yeti cups, and 4 shirts. All items have the current DLS logo on them.

D. Front landscaping- Tabled

E. Call process- Tabled

New Business:

A. DLS Accounting- Becky Mize will be retiring at the end of the year.

B. Motion of 5% in salary to all faculty. First Mike H and second by Shannon. Motion carried. Motion to accept the proposed Budget, by Mike H and second by Scott L. Motion carried.

C. DLS Association Meeting November 7 @ St. Peter 7:30pm.

Dates to remember:

A. 11/5- 5-8 musical Jonah's Druthers 7 pm

B. 11/7- DLS Association meeting @ St. Peter @ 7:30

C. 11/10- 3-4 Class Chapel

D. 11/15- DLS Board of Ed @ 7:30. Devotion Brian S

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Motion by Mike and seconded by Galen. Motion carried. Closing prayer by Pastor Francik

Submitted by Scott Laaker

DLS Association Annual Meeting November 7, 2021

Tyler Harms opened the meeting with 44 members present.

Pastor Francik opened with devotion.

Agenda approved as presented.

Minutes approved as presented.

Todd Voss gave the Administrators report:

1. Theme for the year is "Held Together in Jesus."

2. 47 students enrolled at DLS this school year.

3. 2/3 of the students are from the Association. St. Peter 21, Trinity 10, 12 from other churches and 4 non-churched.

OLD Business:

None

NEW Business:

The 2022 budget was presented by Tyler. Motion from Andrew K and second by Matt V to approve the budget as presented. A verbal vote was taken with the motion carried.

Tyler spoke with the association about the staffing issues that we are having trouble with. He opened the floor for questions. There were no questions, so Tyler entertained the motion to adjourn by Rick Stengel and second by Justus Harms. Verbal vote and motion carried.

Pastor Francik closed with prayer and devotion.

Submitted by Scott Laaker



Matthew Sasse	1
Jenscena Hansen	3
Myron Poppe.....	4
Colleen Hansen.....	5
Autumn Noojin	6
Peggy Sorge.....	6
Lainey Vieselmeyer.....	8
Anita Harms.....	14
Roger Roskilly.....	14
Douglas Grupe	17
Robin Sedlachek.....	17
Jayne Roskilly.....	20
Barrett Harms	24
Jason Poppe	24
Madison Sasse.....	24
Logan Schmidt	25
Harvey Weideman	26
Audra Capek	27
Dale Hoops.....	27
Kristine Miesner	27
Steavan Sedlachek.....	28
Don Betten.....	29
Nicholas Houtwed	29
Gina Scollin.....	29
Shelby Farnstrom	30
Alesha Vieselmeyer	30



Larry Lueders	1
Creed Renz	1
Neil Bohling.....	4
Brett Finke.....	4
Douglas Schardt.....	7
Evan Endorf	9
Austyn Lindenmuth.....	9
Colleen Kruse.....	11
Colleen Hansen.....	12
Jadelyn Calkins.....	15
Myron Poppe.....	16
Jenscena Hansen.....	17
Nancy Lueders.....	17
Joston Wassom.....	19
William Larkins	23
Logan Schmidt.....	27
John Noojin.....	29
Paula Voss.....	30
Julian Voss	30



Marvin & Sharon	
Baden.....	December 2
	54 years
Douglas & Naomi	
Grupe	December 3
	56 years
Don & Brenda	
Betten	December 7
	14 years
Dave & Helen	
Watson	December 10
	44 years
Gerald & Cindy	
Sasse.....	December 25
	26 years
Gregory & Janice	
Hornbostel.....	December 26
	52 years

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Luke 21:28 – “Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” When the world starts to fall apart, when things go badly, when nation rises against nation – Jesus tells us to lift our heads because redemption is nigh. What a wonderful reminder that we Christians really do have nothing to fear! Jesus has conquered sin, and He will deliver the full victory to us in His Second Advent. Therefore, we are free to live godly, generous, faithful lives for we have nothing of which to be afraid.

Isaiah 40:3 – As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “A voice cries: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.’ ”

God makes long-range plans: Isaiah lived more than 700 years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously, God sees farther into the future than we do! That’s yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives. He knows what’s coming, and we don’t.

Luke 2:11 – “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” We give gifts at Christmastime because God gave The Gift at Christmas.

That’s how it always works: God acts, and we imitate. That’s what it means to grow in faith – to grow more into the image of God in what we think, say, and do.

From the Principal's Desk....

"But the angel said to them, 'I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.'"
– Luke 2:10-11

God has indeed blessed us with "good news of great joy!" A Savior has been born for you and for me—for all people! God did not and has not left us alone in our broken, sinful state. He sent a Savior! Jesus is the best news ever and we celebrate His birth this Christmas season and every day of the year. May your Christmas season, and every day of your life, be filled with the joy of Jesus!

Deshler Lutheran School has been filled with "great joy" and has much "good news" to share! Things have been extremely busy at DLS since the last newsletter deadline. We have had a flurry of events; we praise God for His blessing upon them!

On November 5, we had an audience of about 180 people join us for the 5-8 grade full musical performance of *Jonah's Druthers: A Whale of a Tale from the Good Book!* The students did an outstanding job of telling the story of Jonah and the message of the Gospel like you've never heard—as a Western! There were some cowboy poets, some knee-slapping good music, country dancing, plenty of cowboy boots and hats, and even Western accents! There were many twists and turns in this Western. The performance started with the Gully Washers of Nineveh, a group of four ladies that "do this dirty town's dirty laundry," preparing to fix up some fine vittles while enjoying a beautiful view of the city for their annual em-ploy-ee dinner.

While preparing for their Bonafide Ladies Night Out, they discover Jonah, a prophet from Way Out West, sitting under a cactus overlooking that "dirty, rotten, pagan, highfalutin' foreign city" of Nineveh. While sitting around a campfire, Jonah tells the tale of how he ended up under that cactus. The adventure included several messages from God via Swifty's Telegraph Post, a prophet heading for the hills, a run-away stage coach in a terrible wind storm, three days in the bottom of a *well* (you know, the kind with a bucket and water), a trusty side-kick, a reluctantly obedient prophet, a wild fight scene in that nasty ole city of Nineveh, repentance, a cleaned-up city, many lessons learned and more. If you didn't get a chance to join us, I encourage you to watch the live-stream on the DLS Facebook page.

One of the students' favorite songs from the musical was "Look What Our God Can Do." That song title is a perfect summary of the 2021 DLS Biennial Dinner Auction. WOW! We were absolutely blown away by what God did through

His people and this event! We praise Him for a wonderful night and for everyone that made it an overwhelming success! Thank you to all who worked tirelessly to plan the auction, those that prayed over it, those that donated towards it, those that worked the event, those that attended, and everyone who generously supported it. Our goal was to raise \$50,000. The night far exceed our hopes and goals as God blessed us with over \$89,000. WOW! That is incredible. Indeed, look what our God can do! We praise God for all of you and this amazing thing He did!

The musical and auction were big events indeed, but we also had some other special activities. On November 9, Dr. Nick Ziegler, a STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics) specialist from ESU in Beatrice, was on our campus to lead the first of two six-week STEM programs. All K-8 students participate in this program, which has a focus on Design Thinking. Students have really enjoyed this program!

Mrs. McCown's 3-4 class had their class chapel on November 10. They shared a very timely message on being thankful. They performed a skit based on the Biblical account of Jesus healing the ten lepers. All ten were healed, but only one—a Samaritan—returned to give thanks to Jesus. It seems unthinkable that nine of the ten would not return to give thanks, yet often we do the same thing. Forgive us, Lord. Mrs. McCown's class reminded us that we should be like the Samaritan. May we all have thankful hearts for all Jesus has done for us!

On November 11, Deshler Lutheran students participated in two special events. All of our students attended the Veteran's Day program at Deshler High. Our K-2 students did a great job performing "God Bless America!" on the joy bells. We praise God for the tremendous service and sacrifice of our veterans, active duty, and reserve military. Thank you so much! Our 6-8 grade students attended a school assembly on Digital Citizenship by Attorney Karen Hasse on that same day. She did an excellent job of educating our youth on the importance of using social media responsibly.

December will be another busy month. We do want to invite you to our two special chapel services this month. On December 2 at 9:15 am, DLS will be hosting our Cookies with Congregations. We are simply inviting you to join us for chapel and then head back to DLS to enjoy some refreshments, and a few songs in the DLS gym. On December 16, Mrs. McDonald's 1-2 graders will be leading chapel. Our classroom chapels are always special and we love to have guests. Of course, guests are welcome to join us for our regular chapel on December 9.

From the Principal's Desk, Continued

Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will work in mighty ways through the school ministry of DLS. Thank you for all your support of Deshler Lutheran School!

Blessings on your Advent and Christmas season!

In Christ,

Todd Voss, Principal

Calendar

12/2 9:15-Chapel—Cookies
w/Congregations
12/8 1:53 Early Dismissal
12/9 Chapel-9:15
12/11 Chamber Christmas /DLS Cookie Walk
12/16 9:15- 1-2 Grade Classroom Chapel
12/17 Last Day of School
12/20-12/31 Christmas Break
12/20 Board of Education – 7:30 pm
12/25 Merry CHRISTmas

7th and 8th grade class standing behind the bench
Jim Bohling built for them for the dinner auction



DLS Third & Fourth Grade



Pictured from Left: Ivy Harms, Alex Elting, Sophie Kessler, Scarlett Holtzen, Jaydin Mackey, Cord Holtzen, Evan Endorf, and Mason Finke-Thompson

Hello from the 3rd and 4th grade students!

We have been having a busy, yet good year so far! We were blessed to be able to lead chapel on November 10. The service was about the 10 lepers and how only one returned to thank Jesus for what He had done for them. We have talked quite about how we need to be thankful for all the wonderful things and people God has blessed us with. We especially are thankful for the support of congregations and people willing and able to help our school. Thank you all so much! It is a privilege to be able to teach and learn at this school. We want to wish you all a wonderful week!

In Christ,

Rachel McCown, DLS 3rd and 4th grade teacher

DLS Fifth & Sixth Grade

Greetings from the 5th & 6th graders,

It's been a whirlwind of activity for us here at DLS. It's hard to believe that we are closing in on the end of first semester!! Our classroom started out the year by hosting our annual Red Cross Blood Drive.

From there, we moved on to our class chapel. Our chapel theme this year was Jesus, You're my Superhero. (Superheroes are a big deal when 9 of your 11 students are boys!)

Through November, we kept busy with the musical and the auction. God certainly abundantly blessed both of those events!!

Blessings to all of you as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Joy in Jesus!

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Mrs. Amy Voss

Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd graders performing at the Veteran's Day program



Jocelyn Berggren, Austyn Lindenmuth, Mariah Snodgrass, Carlee Hinz and Claire Sasse appearing in this scene from the 5th-8th grade musical "Jonah's Druthers"



(Left) Austyn Lindenmuth and Johnny Hinz in a scene from the musical "Jonah's Druthers"

(Below) Ryker Kane and Duncan Finke learning how to use a 3-D pen in our new STEM program at school with Dr. Ziegler

