

February 2024

St. Peter Lutheran Church

400 East Hebron Avenue P.O. Box 69 Deshler, NE 68340

Church Office Telephone 402-365-4341

Pastor Email Address pastorbfrancik@gmail.com Office Email Address stpeterdeshler@gmail.com

Pastor Telephone (cell) 402-710-6679 Church Website stpeterdeshler.org

Deshler Lutheran School

509 East Hebron Avenue PO Box 340 Deshler, NE 68340

School Office Telephone 402-365-7858 School Email Address deshlerluth@gpcom.net

Mr. Todd Voss (cell) 402-720-5590 Principal

School Website DeshlerLuth.org



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

With Easter being a little earlier this year, there isn't as long of a break between Christmas and Lent. Lent begins on February 14 with Ash Wednesday. Our series will be "Lead Me to the Cross", Here is a short preview:

February 14 - We are drawn to Calvary to receive forgiveness. We contemplate how to live lives of forgiving one another as we have been forgiven by Christ through the cross.

February 21 - We are drawn to Calvary to receive hope. We contemplate how to live lives of hope as we remember that Christ went to the cross to save us forevermore.

February 28 - We are drawn to Calvary to receive love. We contemplate how to live lives of love in response to the love Christ showed us on the cross.

March 6 - we are drawn to Calvary to receive peace. We contemplate how to live lives of peace in our hearts, souls and minds through Christ, who brought peace between us and God by the cross.

March 13 - We are drawn to Calvary to deepen our trust. We contemplate how to live lives of trust in God, who entrusted his Son, Jesus, on the cross for our sake.

March 20 - We are drawn to Calvary to grow in perseverance. We contemplate how to live lives of perseverance in the midst of strife in the name of Jesus, who endured the cross to the very end for us.

Please note that these Midweek Lent services are shorter than Sunday services. They are around 30 minutes, include reading from the Passion story and allow a great rhythm of reflection, worship, and fellowship. We hope you will join us on Wednesdays in Lent.

In Jesus – the Healer of the hurting, Pastor Brian

A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

Caring for My Neighbor

If any of the Ten Commandments might tempt us to think that keeping the Law is easy, it would be the Fifth Commandment. After all, how hard is it to get through life without murdering somebody? The vast majority of people can handle that!

But Jesus famously blows up this notion by pointing out that the command, "you shall not murder," goes much deeper down to the heart.

You have heard that it was said to those of old, "You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment." But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, "You fool!" will be liable to the hell of fire. (Matt. 5:21-22)

Hatred and disdain come from the same sort of crookedness of heart as murder. With both murder and hatred, you look down on another person and think them of little worth.

We are not called merely to avoid evil; we must also do positive good. So, when Jesus drew near to us and became our neighbor by taking up our humanity, He came not only to avoid harming us, but He came to positively help us, bless us and serve us.

We are now called to show the love to our neighbors that Christ showed to us. Your neighbor is yet another gift that God has given you that requires your stewardship. We are called to show mercy, to be kind, to love and serve our neighbor. One aspect of this stewardship is financial: our neighbors need us to support the church's work so that they can hear the Gospel and come to faith. Our neighbors need the church's alms and mercy work. Our

neighbors need our faithful service in all we do in the name of Christ.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry:
 lcms.org/stewardship

1st Quarter 2024

Membership	1-1-2024
Baptized	298
Confirmed	245
Voting members	210

MEMBERSHIP GAINS

Through Baptism

Through Affirmation of Faith

Through Transfer

MEMBERSHIP LOSSES

Date......1/25/2024 Funeral & Burial For......Don Betten Date of Death 1/18/2024......Age – 68
Cemetery – St. Peter Lutheran

OTHER OFFICIAL ACTS

Through Release

End of 1st Quarter 3-31-2024
Baptized
Confirmed......
Voting members



As of January 14, 2024 (2 Sundays) General Budget

Offerings Received \$7,455.00
Offerings Budgeted \$16,545.74

Difference \$9,090.74

Missions-Nebraska District Support

Goal \$269 Received \$300

Received \$300 Difference \$31



Anytime at <u>lutheranhour.org</u> Sunday mornings:

06:30 KFAB Omaha 1110AM 07:30 WIBW Topeka 580AM 08:00 BOTT N. Platte 107.6FM 10:00 KRVN Lexington 880AM

02/04 "Nature Abhors a Vacuum"
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr.
Michael Zeigler. What fills the
heart that has no room to forgive?
(Ephesians 4:32)

02/11 "What Is Evangelism?" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Michael Zeigler. How do you encourage someone to receive the gift God has for them? That's what evangelism is all about. (Mark 9:7-8)

02/18 "Redeeming DIY" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler (Mark 1:12-13)

02/25 "When Winning Is Losing" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes (Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31. Romans 5:1-11, Mark 8:8-27)



Everyday Disciple is a discipleship ministry. "Discipleship is the process from moving from unbelief to belief in the Gospel in absolutely every area of life." (Caesar Kalinowski Author – Transformed, Gospel Primer)

Check out their website at everydaydisciple.com and listen to podcasts, read blogs, and find other resources that will help you to be a greater follower of Jesus Christ.



From the Principal's Desk.... February 2024

I write this article on a frigid Saturday, January 13th. We are nearing the halfway mark of the first month of the new year yet have only had a total of four days in school with students in 2024(3 full days & 1 late start) due to two Nebraska winter storms that brought us some much-needed

moisture in the form of snow, and a lot of cold and wind on the side.

We have many events still coming up in January that I will have to report on in the following newsletter as they have not arrived yet but will be over when this article appears in your mailbox or inbox. We are looking forward to National Lutheran Schools Week during the week of January 22-27. Two things I do want to share regarding NLSW. DLS will be rescheduling our DLS Student Choir singing date until a later time as the sanctuary at Trinity-Friedensau currently in the process of being repainted and it is uncertain when that will be finished. The winter weather has delayed the start of the project so we will wait until it is clear when the work will be done to reschedule our singing date at Trinity-Friedensau. The second item also regards a schedule change. The DLS School Carnival was originally set for January 21. However, it has been rescheduled to a spring date(still to be determined) due to some schedule conflicts and to help avoid winter weather. Once these rescheduled dates are set, we will let you know and hope you can join us for these fun activities.

February is filled with several events we hope you'll attend. On Thursday, February 8, we invited you to join us for the Kindergarten Classroom Chapel at 10:00 am. Chapel is always a special event, but they are extra special when the students get to lead us in worship and praise. Please note that two of our chapel services have been moved off of our typical Thursday schedule due to special events. We will have a special Ash Wednesday Chapel on Wednesday, February 14, at 10:00 AM instead of Thursday. And, as in the past, we will also have our special VIP Chapel on Friday, February 23, at 1:00 PM instead of Thursday.

February is also Book Fair month at DLS! You, and any of your friends, are invited to join us for Bingo Night on Sunday, February 18, the kickoff of the 2024 DLS Book Fair! The event runs from 4-6:00 pm in the DLS gym. Enjoy playing FREE bingo, tasty snacks from the concession stand, and your first opportunity to check out this year's DLS Book Fair! You are also invited to our Book Fair Finale the

following Sunday, February 25. The DLS Choir will be signing at St. Peter that morning. After church, the 7-8 grade students will be serving up a delicious free-will offering pulled pork sandwich meal. This meal is a fundraiser for next year's 7-8 class trip. This is also your last opportunity to check out the DLS Book Fair. Please note that any purchases from the DLS Book Fair help support the DLS Library and help us purchase new books and supplies.

We would like to give a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to Mrs. Julene Schardt, our outstanding DLS Librarian, for all her work in the DLS Library and especially with our DLS Book Fair, which is a huge undertaking. Under Mrs. Schardt's leadership, DSL has moved away from Scholastic Book Fairs in order to off reading materials that match our Biblical beliefs and values. Scholastic is by far the largest and most well-known book fair vendor in America. Scholastic is very good at putting on book fairs. They make it easy, and easy is nice. The truck comes with Clifford, the Big Red Dog, on the side—and everyone loves Clifford. They roll book carts out of the truck filled with books, cool signage, posters, and other fun items. Scholastic Book Fairs set up quickly, look great, and take back any unsold merchandise. Scholastic is very good at running book fairs and that's why so many schools and libraries use them. Unfortunately, the content of many Scholastic books available through their book fairs and their book order programs has become increasingly alarming in recent years. Anti-Biblical themes, the occult is a common topic and highly glorified, and other dangerous lies that run contrary to God's Word are promoted and celebrated in Scholastics line-up of books. We don't want expose readers to or promote these messages.

We are very hopeful and excited to be working with Sky Tree Book Fairs, a new Christian book fair company supported by Kirk Cameron, the famous child actor from the 1980's hit series *Growing Pains* who has trumpeted several efforts to produce wholesome, Biblical materials for families and kids. This company was recently launched as a Christian response to the alarming amount of dangerous, unwholesome material Scholastic peddles towards young readers across the

country. Promoting a love for reading is important, however, the quality, truth, and value of what we read is even more important. It is our prayer that Sky Tree Book Fairs is successful and does a great job of providing high quality reading materials that promote Biblical values, engaging literature, and wholesome reading while making book fairs easy to run for schools and libraries across the country. Please join us in this prayer, and we encourage you to support this company through the DLS Book Fair. Again, a BIG THANK YOU to Mrs. Julene Schardt for working so diligently to make the DLS Book Fair and library a blessing to our students, families, and staff!

On Monday, February 19, DLS will be competing in the Thayer County Spelling Bee at the Thayer County Courthouse in Hebron. This year's qualifiers are as follows: 8th Grade-Dean Baden, Sophia Fritz, & alternate Johnny Hinz; 7th Grade-Gavin Endorf, Phinn Harms, & alternate Haylyn Mackey; 6th Grade-Kaidan Robinson, Kyleigh Lopez, & alternate Braden Johnson; and 5th Grade-Brynlee Johnson, Sophie Kessler, & alternate Cord Holtzen.

On February 23, DLS will be celebrating VIP Day as students will invite VIP's from their life to join us for VIP Chapel and a fun afternoon together. This is an awesome day, and we look forward to it very much.

On February 26, DLS will be holding a Kindergarten Round-up Parent Meeting at 5:30 in the DLS Gym. All parents interested in learning more or enrolling their child in Kindergarten at DLS are invited and encouraged to attend(children are welcome to attend, but not required). Kindergarten Round-up for students to experience part of a school day at DLS will be on March 26 from 9:30-12:30. Parents will drop their child off to experience Kindergarten at DLS with Mrs. Reinke. Please help us spread the word about both of these events and join us as we pray that God would continue to lead more students and families to DLS.

As you can see, we look forward to an exciting and busy month of February at DLS! Thank you for your faithful prayers and support for the important Christ-centered ministry of Deshler Lutheran School! May we all remain "Connected in Christ!"

In Christ,

Todd Voss, Principal
Deshler Lutheran School

DLS February Calendar Events:

2/1 Chapel @ 10

2/7 1:50 Early Dismissal

2/8 Chapel: Kindergarten Class Chapel @

10

2/12 Winter Break: NO School

2/14 Ash Wednesday/Lent Begins

2/14 Chapel @ 10 (moved to Wednesday due to Ash Wednesday)

2/18 DLS Bingo Night 4-6 pm

2/19 Thayer Co. Spelling Bee

2/19 DLS Board of Education @7:30 pm

2/23 VIP Chapel @1:00 pm(Friday)

2/25 DLS Choir signs @St. Peter @ 9:45 am Worship

2/25 DLS Book Fair Finale Pulled Pork Meal 11-1:00

2/26 Kindergarten Round-up Parent Meeting

2/29 Chapel @ 10:00



Deshler Lutheran School

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

December 18th, 2023

Attendance: Todd Voss, Tyler Harms, Dale Endorf, Gage Baker, Kolby Finke, Tyler Stengel, Trent McCown, Pastor Francik, Pastor Flores, Justus Harms, Logan Schardt

Visitors: Dan Werner, Juli Reinke, Kari Betten, Scott Laaker

Logan Schardt opened with devotion.

The agenda stood approved as amended.

The minutes stood approved as presented.

There was no visitor input.

Treasurer Report:

General Account: \$32,573.27

Hot Lunch Account: \$17,344.18

Needs Account: \$68,219.07

Chapel Account: \$942.47

Library Fund: \$2,060.06

CD: \$6,565.82

LCMS Foundation: \$8,147.45

Extension Fund: \$42,679.61

Justus Harms made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report; seconded by Trent McCown. Motion carried.

Trustees Report: Leaves will need to be picked up again. The door seal on the freezer will be repaired. The light switch in the boys bathroom needs to be replaced.

Pastors Report: Pastor Flores discussed with the board about his hearing issues.

Administrators Report:

- Cookies with congregations.
 Had a good turnout and thank
 you to Mrs. Jarchow for making
 cookies.
- 2. Chamber Christmas/DLS cookie walk on December 9th.
- 3. 3-4 chapel on December 14th.
- 4. School resumes January 4th.
- 5. NLSW Week.
- DLS School Carnival January 21st rescheduled to spring date (TBA) due to schedule conflicts & in hopes of better weather.
- 7. Sing at Trinity January 28th rescheduled (TBA) due to sanctuary painting
- Book Fair going to be using a Christian based book fair company.
- 9. Thayer County Spelling Bee hosted by Deshler Public.
- Thrivent Grants a reminder to use up grants before the end of the year.
- Blessings \$2000 donation made from outside of the DLS Association. Centennial LWML made a donation. There was an anonymous \$250 donation made.

Old Business:

 A. 2023 Dinner Auction/Project Update – The money raised will be used for new ceilings, fans, and lighting throughout the

- school. There has been an estimate submitted for the ceiling work.
- B. Constitution Bylaws Updated –
 The bylaws have been updated after the special association meeting was held.
- C. Hot Lunch Administrator Revisit - Jean Schardt applied for a supply chain grant, and we received \$6.100 from that. Discussion was held about the Hot Lunch increasing Administrators pay due to all the extra time that must be spent to keep up with the duties of the administrator. Justus Harms made a motion to raise the Hot Lunch Administrators pay for 2024 to \$1,800 per year and that pay increase will be funded by using funds from the Hot Lunch Account: seconded by Trent McCown. Motion carried.
- D. Long Term Planning This is something that we want to keep on the agenda to be mindful of ways to help DLS plan for the future. Pastor Francik suggested that maybe something could be sent out to DLS alumni to see if any would have any interest in supporting DLS.

New Business:

- A. Housing Allowance for 2024 Proposed housing allowance was: Todd Voss @ \$25,000. Amy Voss @ \$15,000. Racheal McCown @ \$18,000. Juli Reinke @ \$10,500. Tyler Stengel made a motion to approve the proposed housing allowance; seconded by Trent McCown. Motion carried.
- B. Tuition and Registration Fees for 24-25: LB 753 – Discussion was held on different options pertaining to tuition and registration fees and how the LB 753 bill will affect the school.
- C. School Property Insurance Tabled until next meeting to gather more information.
- D. Elections of officers: Chairman
 Logan Schardt, Vice chairman
 Tyler Stengel, Secretary
 Justus Harms, Treasurer Dale
 Endorf, Head Trustee Trent
 McCown.

Tyler Stengel made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Justus Harms. Motion carried.

Pastor Francik closed with a prayer.

Submitted by Justus Harms



Kindergarten





Our Kindergarteners were asked what they liked most about all the Snow Days we've been having, and what they like least!

Here are their responses:

Mathew:

"I liked playing in the snow with my brother and sister, in the HUGE snow pile on our sidewalk by Mom's car!

What I missed was having fun on our playground, and missing you, Mrs. Reinke."

Casen:

"Well, we didn't go in the snow cause it was too cold. But I got a sweatshirt and made a mask, and my brother Callum and I played Knights! I even had a cross on my shirt that means God! Callum was the robot Knight, and I was a ninja.

I missed you, Mrs. Reinke, and Kora, Bryndal, Mathew, and *all* our Learning Centers."

Kora:

"I liked jumping on the trampoline with snow on it with my brother! It was fun! We kept falling on snow, and THEN we had hot cocoa!

What I didn't like was not getting hugs from Mrs. Reinke!"

Bryndal:

"We got a big snow drift pile that the wind blew in! Me and my sister played in it, and it was BIG! We went right over the fence to the little snow airport in the front yard. What I *didn't* like was that Aspen fell off the snow pile, cause we stepped on one of the ledges too many times. And I missed being with my friends."

Oh, the Memories:)

Connected in Christ,

Mrs. Reinke and our Kindergarten Friends

1st and 2nd Grade.



Yay for snow days! We were able to enjoy a couple snows days right after returning from Christmas break, so that was an unexpected surprise! We were talking about God protecting us from fears in our lives, so we played a game of Roaring Lion's Den, which is very similar to Hot

Potato. It was lots of fun! We're excited for this new semester of learning and growing...and preparing for our K-4 Musical in March!

3rd and 4th Grade.



Hello again from the 3rd and 4th grade classroom!

It has been a pretty busy start to January this year with quite a few snow days mixed in! The kids are really enjoying the snow right now, although I'm not sure how long that's going to be a fun thing for them! We have been learning about the Midwest states in Social Studies. It's interesting to learn more about our state and the states around us. The 4th grade students have also been learning about long divisions in Math class. That's always a hard concept to understand! We also finished up talking about Epiphany in Religion. We are so thankful for the Wise men and what they have taught us about worshiping Jesus! We thank you all for your support of our school!

In Christ,

Mrs. McCown, 3&4 teacher

Pictured: Casey Laaker and Maddyn Harms



- 1 Lindsey Biltoft
- 2 Mikaela Hansen Rebecca Reinke
- 8 Lynn Bohling
- 9 Luella Holtzen
- 10 Krista Harms Sandra Jorgensen

- 11 Leisa Bohling
- 12 Brenda Betten
- 14 Marilyn Genzmer Kassondra Shuck
- 15 Milo Finke
- 16 Justus Harms
- 17 Chase Laaker
- 19 Robert Reinke
- 21 Quinten Loontjer
- 22 Jerry Lokie
- 23 Robert Ludwig Benjamin Zucker
- 25 Nancy Hoops
- 26 Bradley Cooper Hutch Finke Lorna Ludwig
- 27 Kalen Betten



- 3 Pastor Brian Francik
- 9 Randall Meyer
- 10 Kalen Sedlachek
- 13 Ashlyn Cooper Lori Schardt
- 14 Barrett HarmsSteavan Sedlachek
- 15 Jamie Calkins
- 17 Tyler Harms
- 19 Alan Bohling Stormi Capek Julene Schardt
- 21 Lindsey Biltoft
- 22 Mikaela Hansen
- 23 Rebecca Reinke Harvey Weideman
- 26 Lola Ralston



None This Month



February Job Duties

Elder	Mike Zucker
Acolyte	Braden Johnson
Flowers	Joyce Schardt
Envelope	Mark & Barb Schardt
Committee	Neil & Monica Bohling
Sound	Steve Harms
Video	Reinold Kruse
Backpacks	Becky Reinke

Youth Group



We had a fun evening making tie blankets and working through an escape room puzzle in January. Our youth made six tie blankets which they will take to the Foster Care Closet in March. We also had a delicious meal provided by Becky Reinke. Thank you again Becky!

We are excited to host a mini lock-in again this year in February. Concordia Seward's Youth Ministry Team does a great job leading this event. It will be an evening full of devotions, games and building relationships. The lock-in will be Friday, February 2nd from 7pm-midnight at DLS. We will have snacks, but a meal will not be provided. All 7th/8th graders are encouraged to join us and bring a friend (or a few friends!). Please spread the word to any youth in our area who might be interested in this event.



St. Peter Lutheran Women's Missionary League January 4, 2024

President Anita greeted the 8 members present and opened the meeting with prayer.

Sharon led the group in the Bible study "Five Stones for Service". The business meeting opened with the reading of November 2, 2023, minutes. They were approved to be placed on file. The treasurer's report was reviewed, approved and placed on file.

A thank you from Kurt Koch and Mercy Meals for the LWML Sunday offering was read.

Naomi was pleased and enjoyed the visit for her birthday. Anita shared copies of the pictures she took that day with Naomi.

A thank you to Colleen for the 2024 LWML Yearbook.

The March hostesses will be Bev and Colleen.

Anita mentioned Pastor is encouraging us to attend the Tuesday morning Bible study starting in January. Contact Linda Peters of your intention to attend by January 9 so books can be ordered.

Joyce reported on quilt tying. Thank you to Pastor Moll for storing our batting in his basement. Two new bolts of batting were ordered, and one has been cut for use. Joyce said the shipping cost for the 2 bolts was \$90.00. People to hem the guilts are tied are greatly once they needed. Quilt tying in the mother's room will start in January every Thursday winter as permits. Anyone who can tie a knot is encouraged to join. You can come in the morning or afternoon and even stay all day. A thank you to Linda Peters, Nancy Hoops and Jan Hornbostel for all their help.

Anita reminded us that the No-Cost Garage Sale will be in June and that we host the Fall Rally in 2024.

Thank you to Sheryl and Lynn for serving the snack and to Sharon for leading the Bible study.

The Mites and Local offerings were collected to the song "A Time to Serve". Anita closed the gathering with prayer.

Secretary, Sheryl Achterberg

Quilt Tying Project

Come and tie quilts for Orphan Grain Train on Thursdays (January-March) 9:00-3:00 in the meeting room. Details: Come for part of the day or the entire day. You are on your own for lunch - some will be eating at Senior Citizens if they call in 24 hours ahead. A special need is for volunteers to hem the quilts once they are tied (an at home project). Call Joyce Schardt (402-365-4139) if you have any questions or especially if you would like to help with the hemming process.



Available In the Narthex - Annual Report

If you missed the January 21 voter's meeting, you could pick up an annual report which gives a summary of ministry here at St Peter from 2023.



February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				9am Quilt Tying 10am DLS Chapel	Pastor's Sabbath 1pm Bulletin Folders 7pm DSL Lock-In	2pm Mothers Room Reserved
9:45am Worship 11am Adult Bible Class and Sunday School	5 Pastor Brian Gone	6 Pastor Brian Gone	7 Pastor Brian Gone 12:30pm Bulletin Deadline	Pastor Brian Gone 9am Quilt Tying 10am DLS Kindergarten Chapel	9 Pastor Brian Gone Pastor's Sabbath 1pm Bulletin Folders	10 Pastor Brian Gone
9:45am Worship 11am Adult Bible Class and Sunday School	12 7pm Agape Readers	13	14 10am DLS Chapel 12:30pm Bulletin Deadline 3:45pm Midweek Confirmation 7pm Ash Wednesday Service	9am Quilt Tying 6:30pm Bible Study @ Faith	Pastor's Sabbath 12pm Newsletter Content Deadline 1pm Bulletin Folders	17
9:45am Worship 11am Adult Bible Class and Sunday School 4pm DLS Bingo Night	19 Pastor Brian @ LLC 7:30pm DLS Board of Education Meeting	20 Pastor Brian @ Circuit Meeting	21 12:30pm Bulletin Deadline 3:45pm Midweek Confirmation 7pm Lent Service @ Faith	9am Quilt Tying	Pastor's Sabbath 1pm Bulletin Folders and Newsletter Assembly 1pm VIP Day @ DLS	24
9:45am Worship with Holy Communion 11am Adult Bible Class and Sunday School 11am DLS Book Fair Finale & Fundraiser Meal	7pm Men's Bible Study	27	12:30pm Bulletin Deadline 3:45pm Midweek Confirmation 7pm Lent Service	9am Quilt Tying 10am DLS Chapel	Acolyte Brace Flowers Joyce Envelope Mare Committee Neil Sound Steve Video Reir	b Duties e Zucker den Johnson ee Schardt k & Barb Schardt & Monica Bohling ve Harms nold Kruse ky Reinke

ST PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)
PO BOX 69
DESHLER NE 68340