

The Fisherman's Line

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

1257 M Avenue, Pender NE 68047

Volume 49 Issue 1

January 2023

St. Peter's Church: 402-385-2455

Pastor Karen: 402-385-8825



Pastor's Ponderings

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Fast away the old year passes...and last year was a whirlwind, particularly the second half of it. The older I get, the more obvious it becomes to me that time is funny like that. When a lot happens, there doesn't seem to be enough hours in a day.

I don't know if this is true for you, but I also find that when things go smoothly, the converse is true, there always seems to be enough time to put things off. We have plenty of time to plan for this or that. We will get everything done, no rush. In the last year, both St. Mark's and St. Peter's have faced a challenge, because of the fire, that I am guessing has rarely been equaled. Both congregations in the matter of a few hours went from planning what associated ministry might look like to being church together, in an instant. Monthly meetings to pay the bills and check in on ministries became survival strategies with everyone pitching in.

Now it is January 2023. Both congregations ended the year on successful notes with special Christmas Eve services in their own buildings. It was different after six months together, but it was still good. What concerns me though is as things return to "normal" it will be too easy to assume we have all the time in the world to get everything done and we lose the sense of urgency to keep our congregations vital and our mission going forward.

How often we hear Jesus say, "the time is near" and that he needs "workers in his vineyards" and we say there is plenty of time, we will do it later. As we approach our annual meetings, who will refuse to let another moment pass without recognizing the only way to keep life going in the church is to act as though tomorrow isn't certain. We got to see briefly last year that, indeed it isn't. Please, find ways to become more involved in ministries of the church. Whether through council, committees or occasionally helping, now is your moment. Your sister in Christ, *Pr. Karen*

THERE WILL BE NO CHURCH SERVICE AT ST. PETER'S ON SUNDAY JANUARY 1st. PLEASE ATTEND SERVICES AT ST. MARK'S AT 9 a.m.

Pancake Breakfast



SUNDAY JANUARY 15th, 9:30 a.m.

ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICES

AT 10:30. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!!!

COMMITTEE:

Bruce and Nancy Wichman, Chairman

Ryan and Mandy Moeller

Suzanne and Debora Wageman

Larry and Susanne Sunderman

Curt and Cathy VonSeggern

Janet Schopke

Kurt Kaser

Megan Engel

JANUARY SERVANTS

Council: Robert McWilliams
Dee Moeller

Ushers: Dave Westerhold
Joel Bruns

Altar Committee: Mary Bruns,
Chairman, Dana French



ANNUAL REPORTS

All books needed for the annual reports should be left at the church by January 8th for Emily Essman

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, January 4th, both St. Mark's and St. Peter's will meet at St. Peter's at 5pm with Pastor Kristen VanStee. St. Peter's will have their regular meeting following.

Helping Hands of St. Peter's

The Ladies will not be meeting in January.
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JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 4 | Herman Essmann |
| 5 | Cooper French |
| 6 | Emmett Harral
Finn Thomsen |
| 10 | Steve Suhr |
| 12 | Kenneth Essmann
Cash French |
| 15 | Suzanne Wageman |
| 20 | Mildred Mayberry |
| 25 | Curt VonSeggern
Jennifer Thomsen |

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Herman and Arlene Essmann

ST PETER'S HAS A NEW RAMP!! What a New Year's Blessing for our Congregation!



ST. PETER'S CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

1. The work has begun on installing a wheelchair ramp into our church!

Jim Rutar—door installation \$3000.00

Eric Vandeburg—concrete work \$600.00

Wheelchair Dynamics--\$10,000 for ramp, \$3000.00 to \$5000.00 for automatic door opener. This is installed after door work is complete.



2. Light bulb energy has been increased in sanctuary! It was not possible to install dimmer switches/light bulbs. The cost from Wiese Electric is \$1200.00. We will receive grant money from Cuming County Power to cover this cost.
3. Penro has offered to dig up old tree stumps and bury them south of the church. This will cost \$500.00. It will help clean up the area around the church grounds.
4. St. Peter's Annual meeting will be January 15th with pancake's served prior to the service. Do you have questions or concerns you would like discussed at our annual meeting? What did you enjoy about the last 6 months joining with St. Mark's? Any changes you would suggest: Please let your council members know! Consider serving on the council. We are a great group, easy to work with and no Stress! We will need two male council members.



JANUARY 2023



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 Online Worship 9am Worship @ St. Marks 10am Sunday School 10:30 Worship @ St. Peter's 12pm Channel 98	2 Pastor's Day Off	3 10am Clergy Text Study	4 No Confirmation 3pm Worship and Music 5pm Both councils meet with Pr. Kristen St. Peter's Council Mtg. Immediately follows.	5 4:30pm Food Pantry	6 Epiphany 	7		
8 Online Worship 9am Worship @ St. Marks 10am Sunday School 10:30 Worship @ St. Peter's 12pm Channel 98	9 Pastor's Day Off	10 10am Clergy Text Study	11 2:30 Confirmation starts 7pm St. Mark's Council Mtg.	12	13	14 10am Food Pantry		
15 Online Worship 9am Worship @ St. Marks— Annual meeting 10am Sunday School 10:30 Worship @ St. Peter's— annual meeting 12pm Channel 98	16 Pastor's Day Off	17 10am Clergy Text Study	18 2:30 Confirmation	19 10:30 PB Worship 1pm PB Bible Study	20	21		
22 Online Worship 9am Worship @ St. Marks 10am Sunday School 10:30 Worship @ St. Peter's 12pm Channel 98	23 Pastor's Day Off NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	24 10am Clergy Text Study	25 2:30 Confirmation FOLD & MAIL NEWSLETTER	26	27 	28		
29 Online Worship 9am Worship @ St. Marks 10am Sunday School 10:30 Worship @ St. Peter's 12pm Channel 98	30 Pastor's Day Off	31 10am Clergy Text Study						

HAVE A BLESSED NEW YEAR!