

St. Petri Evangelical Lutheran Church  
804 Grand Avenue  
Story City, Iowa 50248-1417

**You can also view the newsletter online at [www.stpetri.org](http://www.stpetri.org)**

**The St. Petri Messenger**

*A publication of St. Petri Evangelical Lutheran Church*

**St. Petri Summer Worship Schedule**

9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship

**St. Petri Church Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
except, Wednesday afternoon

Church Office Phone: (515) 733-4623  
Email address: [stpetrilutheran@stpetri.org](mailto:stpetrilutheran@stpetri.org)

**Pastor** – Rev. Tim Malek

**Missionaries**– Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, Japan

**Parish/Financial Secretary** – Veronica Wright

**Custodian** – Debra Lancaster



June

**2026**

# ST. PETRI LUTHERAN CHURCH, STORY CITY, IA

## JUNE 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b><u>Every Sunday AM</u></b> 9a Worship Service 10a Coffee//Fellowship</p>	<p><b>1</b> 10:30a Staff mtg.</p>	<p><b>2</b> 9a-3p Bethany Quilters  12p Pastor Text Study</p>	<p><b>3</b>  5:30pm Property/Trustees Mtg.</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b>  Fridays are Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p><b>6</b>  SCANDINAVIAN DAYS  9a-3p NEIA Synod A/B/C3 at St. Paul's in Waverly, IA</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> 10:30a Staff mtg.</p>	<p><b>9</b> 9a-3p Bethany Quilters  12p Pastor Text Study</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>14 Communion</b> Baptism-Ruth Hjortsvang 10:15a Council Mtg.  6p Bike Ride</p>	<p><b>15</b> 10:30a Staff mtg.</p>	<p><b>16</b> 9a Bethany Quilters  12p Pastor Text Study</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b>  2p WELCA Circle</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>21 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Summer Happy Father's Day! Outdoor Worship</b></p>	<p><b>22</b>  ---- LWR Quilt making 9a-noon Mon-Wed ----  10:30a Staff mtg. <b>July Newsletter Articles Due</b></p>	<p><b>23</b>  9a Bethany Quilters 12p Pastor Text Study</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b>  Wedding at Rustic Rose</p>
<p><b>28 Communion</b></p>	<p><b>29</b> 10:30a Staff mtg.</p>	<p><b>30</b> 9a Bethany Quilters</p>	<p><b>July 1</b></p>	<p><b>July 2</b></p>	<p><b>July 3</b> Office Closed to observe Independence Day</p>	<p><b>July 4</b> Independence Day</p>

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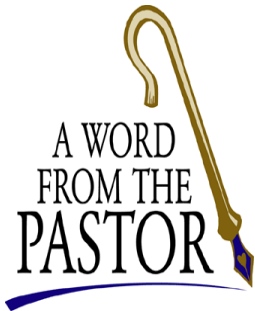
# St. Petri Messenger

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JUNE 2026

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**Pastor Tim Malek**

## **Faith Seeking Understanding**

June has arrived, bringing long days, green fields, and the busy rhythms of planting and growing season. Tractors move steadily through the countryside, gardens begin to bloom, and many of us find ourselves spending more time outdoors enjoying God's creation. This season reminds us how much faith and patience are part of everyday life. Farmers plant seeds and trust that, with care, sunlight, and rain, growth will come in time.

Our spiritual lives often grow in much the same way. God works quietly through worship, prayer, fellowship, and simple acts of kindness. Even when we cannot immediately see the results, God is at work nurturing faith within us and within our St. Petri community. Small moments of encouragement, helping a neighbor, sharing a meal, or offering a prayer can become seeds of hope that bless others in ways we may never fully know.

As Scripture reminds us:

<sup>26</sup> Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground <sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how."

Mark 4:26-27

NRSVue

June is also a time to pause and give thanks for the many blessings God provides through the beauty and abundance of creation. We pray for farmers and families during this busy season, for safe work, timely rains, and strong bonds of fellowship rooted in faith and care for one another.

May God continue to bless each of us, bless our congregation St. Petri Lutheran, bless our community and beyond as we grow together in faith, hope, and love throughout the summer months.

Peace, Pastor Tim Malek

## **Outdoor Worship and Hymn Sing June 21, 9:00AM**

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets... to enjoy Sunday morning worship outside on our south lawn.

### **St. Petri Office Hours**

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
(except Wednesday afternoon)

## St. Petri's New Members

Our New Member Sunday was on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We introduced our new members during worship and invited all to the fellowship hall following worship to meet and greet and enjoy some cake!



**Our New Members** from left to right:  
Lindsey Hjortsvang and Ruth Hjortsvang,  
Barbara Courtney, (Pastor Tim Malek)  
Katelyn Zimmerman-Lester, and Brayden  
Lester.

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

THANK YOU to all who helped  
Deliver **Meals on Wheels**  
in May!

Many hands make  
Light work!

With much appreciation!

*Heartland of Story County*



## Congratulations to our High School Graduate!



### Hayden Gossel

Daughter of Alan & Brandie Gossel

She plans to attend PCI Academy in Ames,  
Iowa (studying cosmetology)



You are cordially  
invited to a **Graduation Party**  
honoring **Hayden Gossel**

Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm  
at Comfort Inn in Story City.

Come celebrate her special milestone!

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## Sunday night, JUNE 14th!!

Come with us, if you like casual bike rides!

We will be meeting at St. Petri at  
**6pm on Sunday, June 14**, to bike  
around Story City. We will be on  
both paths and streets. Join us  
afterward at **Dairy Queen!!**





JUNE  
14, 2026

*In Our Thoughts  
& Prayers*

In May 2026

In Our Prayers

John Fevold, Jaye Anderson,  
Larry Reisetter, Judy Schnurstein

In Memoriam

Former member, Janet Hermanson

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Linda Fevold, Paul Wierson

Prayers for those not near to us:

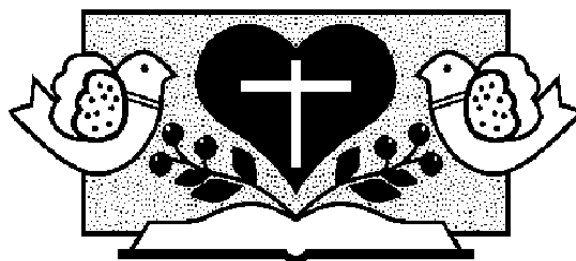
Patrick and Jacqueline Bencke, ELCA  
Missionaries, Japan  
Soldiers, Peace Workers, and  
Humanitarian Aid Workers  
Those in Ukraine and Russia

**Our Japan Missionaries**

**Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke**



If you would like to view St. Petri's  
newsletters online, go to [www.stpetri.org](http://www.stpetri.org).



## WELCA Report

June 18 2:00pm WELCA Circle Bible  
Study. All women welcome!

June 22-24 9am-noon Quilt making

### **Weekend Women's Bible Study!**

There will NOT be a Weekend Women's  
Bible Study in June due to a scheduling  
conflict. Our next meeting will be  
**Saturday, July 18, at 8am.** We will be  
meeting as usual in the parsonage at 915  
8<sup>th</sup> St, Story City. We meet on the third  
Saturday of each month (except Nov and  
Dec). Call or text Debra for more info. at  
320-905-9510.

**SAVE THE DATES!**  
**ST. PETRI**  
**SUMMER**  
**FUN NIGHTS!**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 15**  
5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>**  
5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

**WHO'S INVITED:** Kids Ages 3 (Potty Trained) to 4th Grade Welcome!  
(Younger kids welcome with parent present)

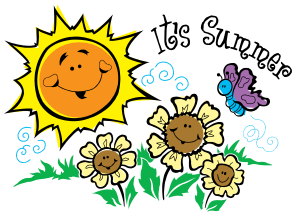
**THIS EVENT IS FREE!**

**THE NIGHT'S ADVENTURE!**

- A Simple Meal
- Music & Worship
- Bible Lesson
- Crafts
- Games!

**MORE DETAILS**  
**COMING SOON!**  
**ST. PETRI LUTHERAN CHURCH**

STORY CITY



**Summer begins!  
June 21, 2026**

**JUNE C.A.R.E. GROUP 2026**

*CARE Group 1 Leaders*

Mardell Christian, Karen Munson

- Dale & Kay Anderson    Jon & Brenda Carr
- Jerry & Gloria DeRidder
- Travis & Kara DeRidder                      Cheryl Eddy
- Virginia Egemo            Alan & Brandie Gossel
- Adam & Sarah Holm            Brian & Deb Holm
- Anne Howard                                      Brian Jones
- Lance & Angie Keltner                      Ben Knutson
- Jennifer Lamoreux
- Marc & Colleen Lamoreux    Brayden Lester
- Paul Munson                                      Carmen Peter
- Larry & Denice Reisetter
- Leland & Erin Schwartz
- Katelyn Zimmerman



**VOLUNTEERS:  
VERY VALUABLE!**

**Many hands make light work!**

**JULY C.A.R.E. GROUP 2026**

*CARE Group 2 Leader*

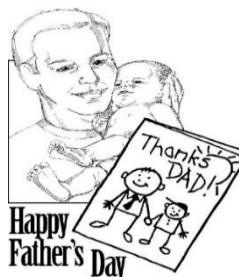
Ann Healy

- Martha Arends                      Tim & Amy Crouch
- Carol Foss                              Erick & Paige Healy
- Garrett & Sierra Healy
- Kyle & Nicole Healy                              Mike Healy
- Jeff & Callie Henrichs            Barb Hermanson
- Roger & Nancy Hermanson    Nancy Jewell
- Rolfe & Margaret Johnstad
- Kevin & Diana Keech                      Mary Nannenga
- Steve & Mary Peterson
- Ron & Glenda Rahfeldt
- Ryan & Katie Thorson                      Hubert Tussey

**Join the PSALM 119:11 CHALLENGE  
at Scandinavian Days!  
A BIBLE MEMORIZATION GAME!**

*I have hidden your word in my heart, that  
I might not sin against you.*  
Psalm 119:11 NLT

Information sheets available on the table  
outside the church office.  
Hosted by Bible Faith Church



**FATHER'S DAY!  
JUNE 21, 2026**

**Spend time with  
your Dad!**



- June 8: Grant Brown II, Marilyn Lekwa
- June 9: Pili aloha Kailiawa, Julianne Schwartz
- June 10: Zachery Anderson
- June 11: Barry Muhlenburg
- June 13: Zach Healy, Pat Murken, Daniel Olson
- June 14: Lewis DeRidder
- June 15: Kevin Patterson
- June 16: Jane Bauman Fuhs
- June 17: Dale Anderson, Theo Tafolla
- June 19: Pua Kailiawa
- June 20: Saint Brown
- June 21: Christian Chelsvig
- June 24: Scott Schmitz, Alex Muhlenburg
- June 25: Elaine Olson, Tyler Rivers
- June 26: Kay Anderson
- June 27: Garrett Healy
- June 28: Bella Muhlenburg
- June 30: Owen Patterson



### Hi, it's Church Mouse!

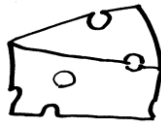
Mother's Day was pretty special at St. Petri.

Kara DeRidder did a children's sermon that tied

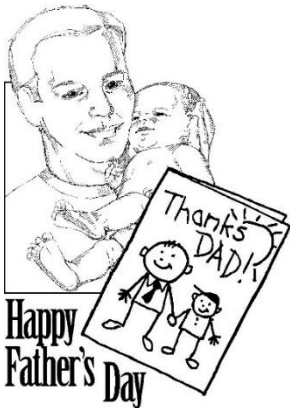
in, and we got a humorous look at how mothers do a lot, as she loaded down Lewis with an armful of items symbolizing all the stuff mothers do. Mothers received lovely goody bags, made anonymously by MC, and that felt special.

And finally, because every day is children's day, the kids participated in the service in numerous ways, including "Joyful noise" music making and Jingle Jar collection. St. Petri does a wonderful job of including and training the young ones in church life activities.

**My heart is full,  
Church Mouse**



### LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2026



This Father's Day, we celebrate all the fathers, families, caregivers, and advocates who believe in second chances.

Your gift changes the lives of thousands of people across Iowa.

#### **Give By Mail**

Lutheran Services in Iowa  
3125 Cottage Grove Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50311

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at 563-676-2065 or [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org)

Learn more at [facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://facebook.com/LSI.iowa) or [LSIowa.org](https://LSIowa.org)



### LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP

Check out [www.riversidelbc.org](http://www.riversidelbc.org) for more info. and/or to register.

### SUMMER CAMP 2026



## TO KNOW HIS NAME

### PSALM 135:13

**Our summer camp** experiences are focused on providing all campers with an incredibly fun and relational Christ-centered camp experience. All of these camp offerings are focused on campers hearing and experiencing the extravagant love of God, and a desire to lead all people to faith in our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Check the posters around the church for the Summer Camp schedule for all ages!

### Also

### RIVERSIDE FAMILY CAMP!

June 28-July 1, 2026.

Gather together in the mornings in the chapel for singing, skits, sharing God's Word. After chapel, all the children will be divided according to age and spend time with amazing camp leaders and learn more about Jesus and enjoy fun activities! The adults will hear from our awesome guest speakers – Roger & Cathy Twito. There will be plenty of free time in the afternoons – swimming, horseback riding, carpetball, foosball, camp store, art fun, canoeing, & family bonding!

**St. Petri Lutheran Church  
Approved Council Meeting Minutes  
April 12, 2026**

Present: Travis DeRidder, Rick Stover, Jo Murken, Ann Healy, Pastor Tim Malek, Kelsey Olson, Angie Stover  
Absent: Nancy Carlson

Meeting called to order at 11:14 a.m.

Kelsey gave Devotions.

Jo made a motion to accept the March Council minutes; Ann seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

Rick presented the Treasurer's Report and explained various incomes and expenditures noted on the Green and Purple sheets. Travis looked over and approved the list of checks written in March. Cheryl Hoffman made a significant donation for kitchen improvements as well as for new altar paraments. Patricia Sawyer donated \$1,000 to purchase quilt batting material. Rick will deposit the donation in the current Hand Quilters fund which will be renamed the Quilters fund. Campership monies have been issued to Carol Foss and Willow Hill. Kelsey made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; Ann seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

Pastor Tim reported that Gloria Tussey's funeral was held last week. He said that the Easter service went well and that he appreciated all of the Youth involvement. Briton Mohr is up for approval at Bergen, Grace and St. Petri to fill the Director of Youth and Family Ministries position for the period of April 1-December 31, 2026. Jo made a motion to accept the hiring of Briton Mohr; Kelsey seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

Ann reported that the All Are Welcome outdoor flag has been removed due to it being torn. She will look into a replacement. She said Bible Faith Church plans to have a Bible verse game during Scandinavian Days. She said turnout for the Easter cinnamon roll fellowship event was good, and she also made the council aware that 2027 is St. Petri's 170th anniversary. The last Sunday in April (2026) is Confirmation and the first Sunday in May (2026) will be New Member Sunday.

As Worship Coordinator, Jo thanked Kara DeRidder for arranging the donkey "visit" on Palm Sunday and she also thanked Abby Patterson for coordinating the children singing on Palm Sunday as well as coordinating much of the Easter events.

Nancy submitted a written report ahead of her absence detailing the progress of the Property and Trustees committee and it was reviewed by the Council. With the Murken family no longer doing lawn care at the church, the Pattersons and the Baumans have agreed to cover May and June. Volunteers for additional lawncare are being sought. The council again expressed its thanks to the Murkens for their many years of dedication to the St Petri lawn care service. In response to the committee's recommendation, Kelsey proposed a motion to remove the two planters in front of the church during the planned Cleanup Day Saturday, May 16th; Ann seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

Kelsey reported that the final meeting of Sunday School will be May 10 and the Summer Fun Nights are planned for June 17, July 8 and August 5.

Old Business: The WELCA account has been closed with the balance being moved to line 04-15 on the Treasurer's purple sheet and going forward will be overseen by the church Treasurer.

New Business: Shepherd's Staff continues to be an issue between the volunteer computer and the church secretary's computer. Galen Scofield will look into resolving the issue. The Council accepted the transfer of Ordean and Virginia (Liz) Johnson to Palestine Lutheran Church in Huxley and wished them Godspeed. A request from the E-Free Church to borrow tables for the City Garage Sale weekend was denied as church policy does not allow it. Veronica will respond to them. Council members were asked to think of ideas for possible Scandinavian Days involvement.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Angie Stover

<p><u>St. Petri Financials</u> April income/expense -\$1,912.79 2026 YTD \$81.29</p>
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