

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

[The St. Petri Messenger](#)

A publication of St. Petri Evangelical Lutheran Church

**Reformation
Sunday
October 26th**

St. Petri Sunday Worship Schedule

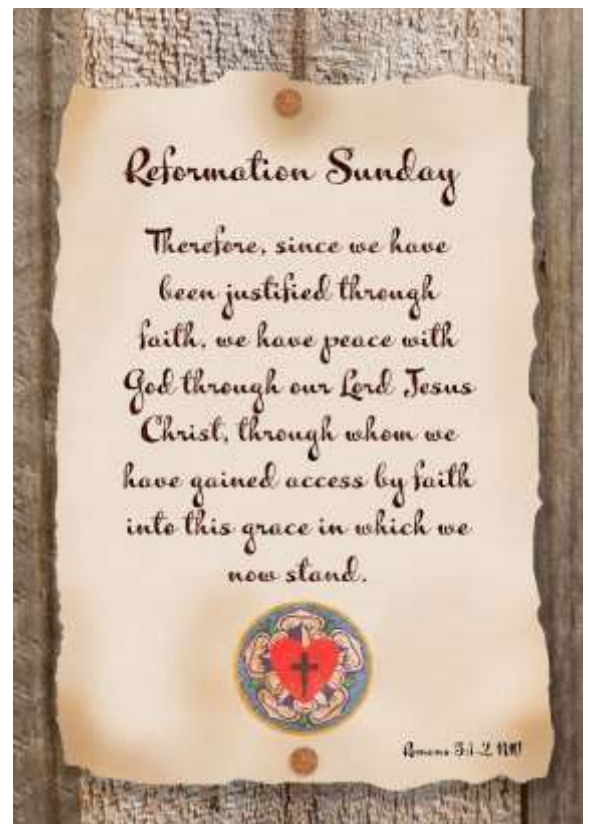
9:00 a.m. Sunday School (3 yr. olds-4th grade)
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship

St. Petri Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30am-3pm, except Wed. afternoon
Church Office Phone: (515) 733-4623

Pastor - Rev. Tim Malek

Missionaries – Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, Japan



OCTOBER 2025

OCTOBER 2025
ST. PETRI LUTHERAN CHURCH, STORY CITY, IA

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>EVERY SUNDAY AM</u> <i>unless noted</i> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee/Fellowship 12:45p-4:15p Theater Group	OCTOBER IS CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH		1 5:30p COMPASS 6:30p Youth Meal 7:00p AXIS	2 9:30a Riverside Conf. – Bethesda in Jewell 3:30p-5:45p Theater Group	3	4
5 No Sunday School BLESSING OF QUILTS 11:15a Property/Trustees Comm. Mtg.	6 10:30a Staff Mtg.	7 9a-3p Bethany Quilters	8 5pm Youth to Fields of Faith at Ballard football field-Huxley	9 3:30p-5:45p Theater Group	10	11 9a Walk to End Alzheimers- Brookside Park- Ames, IA
12 COMMUNION 11:15a Council Mtg. 1:30p Crop Walk-Moore Memorial Park-Ames, IA 6:30p 8 th /9 th grade Confirmation-Bergen	13 Columbus Day 10:30a Staff Mtg.	14 9a-3p Bethany Quilters	15 5:30p COMPASS 6:30p Youth Meal 7:00p AXIS	16 2p WELCA Bible Study 3:30p-5:45p Theater Group	17	18 8a Women's Weekend Bible Study at parsonage
19	20 10:30a Staff Mtg. Nov. Newsletter Articles Due!	21 9a-3p Bethany Quilters	22 5:30p COMPASS 6:30p Youth Meal 7:00p AXIS	23 3:30p-5:45p Theater Group	24	25
26 Reformation Sunday COMMUNION 6:30p 8 th /9 th grade Confirmation-St. Petri	27 ----- Quilt making Mon.-Wed. 9am–noon ----- 10:30a Staff Mtg.	28 9a-3p Bethany Quilters	29 5:30p COMPASS 6:30p Youth Meal 7:00p AXIS	30 9a-noon Church Administrator Morning at RLBC	31 Halloween	

St. Petri Messenger

October 2025



Faith Seeking Understanding

October is a month of transition. The air grows crisper, the fields across central Iowa turn golden with harvest,

and the days shorten as autumn takes hold. In the rhythm of creation, this is a season of gathering, of gratitude, and of preparing for what lies ahead.

In the first weeks of October, our readings from Luke's Gospel invite us to hear Jesus' call in fresh ways. On October 5, we are reminded that even faith as small as a mustard seed can move us to lives of service and trust. A little faith, placed in God's hands, becomes more than enough. On October 12, we hear of ten lepers who are healed, yet only one returns to give thanks. Gratitude, Luke reminds us, is at the heart of faith—it turns us back to God, the giver of every good gift. Then, on October 19, we meet the persistent widow who refuses to stop seeking justice until her case is heard. Her perseverance shows us what faithful prayer looks like: bold, steady, and confident in God's care.

Across these weeks, Luke points us toward a God whose mercy meets us in small faith, grateful hearts, and unrelenting hope.

These readings challenge us to see our neighbors through God's eyes. Who are the "outsiders" in our communities today? Who feels invisible, unheard, or left behind? Luke's Gospel reminds us that the good news is not only for those with influence or power, but for each and every one of God's beloved children.

At the end of October, we gather to celebrate Reformation Sunday (October 26

this year). More than five centuries after Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses, the message of the Reformation remains as powerful as ever: our salvation is God's gift, received through faith, not something we can earn or achieve. This promise of grace sets us free—free to live with trust instead of fear, and free to turn outward in love and service to the world God so deeply cherishes.

May this October be for you a season of gratitude, and renewal. And may Christ's light guide us through the shortening days, filling our homes, St. Petri, and our community with hope and joy.

In Christ's light,
Pastor Tim Malek

Looking Ahead

We will be giving Bibles to 3 year olds and 3rd graders on Sunday November 2nd during Worship.

OCTOBER IS CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH!

Please take a moment in prayer for
Pastor Tim Malek

and to express your appreciation for
his hard work and dedication to St. Petri.

Your encouragement means a lot!

*Thank you Pastor Tim
for choosing to serve the Lord here at
St. Petri!*

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

In Our Prayers
Judy Schnurstein (rehab)
Hospitalized in September
In Memoriam

Ongoing Prayer Concerns
Linda Fevold, Larry Reisetter,
Darlene Patterson, Paul Wierson

Prayers for those not near to us:
Patrick and Jacqueline Bencke (ELCA
Missionaries) in Japan, Soldiers, Peace
Workers, and Humanitarian Aid Workers

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

~ FROM OUR CUSTODIAN ~

Dear Friends,

Oh my! What a wonderful list of St. Petri members who signed a card for me!! How nice! I'm overwhelmed with all the kindness, especially the generous Fareway gift card! It made me tear up, because it touches my heart! ❤️ I'm VERY thankful for all of you & my time cleaning St. Petri! Many Blessings! *Connie Valentine*



Dear Friends,

Grateful for your continued partnership in the Gospel! God bless you! *Chris Dahl, Director of Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp*

Dear Pastor Tim and Congregation,

Thank you for inviting me to come and speak and for your generous donation. We are so grateful for your financial support since 2014! Your service was a blessing! Thank you for joining us in our fight against food insecurity and hunger. We could not do this vital work without our amazing donors! Blessings!

*Dawne Garvey,
Corp. Donor Relations Mgr. Food Bank of IA*

St. Petri Members,

Thanks so much for all the wonderful treats! The employees and some residents enjoyed them very much! We appreciate you thinking of us.

Kim Schilling, Bethany Life CEO

**THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY
SCHOOL ON OCTOBER 5th.**

YOUTH NEWS!

Youth group meets on Wednesdays



5:30p-6:30p **COMPASS**
(5th – 8th grades)

6:30p-7p Youth meal
for **COMPASS & AXIS**

7:00p-8:00p **AXIS**
(9th – 12th grades)

We will use the BAND app for communication throughout the year along with emails! Contact Pastor Tim if you have any questions.



Fields of Faith
Change the Culture

Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Mid-Iowa FCA Counties
Greene-Boone-Story-Marshall-Tama

October 8, 2025 7:00pm
at Ballard Football Field
(parking lot at Ballard Middle School)

509 N. Main Ave., Huxley, IA
Free Tailgate Meal 6:00pm-6:55pm
Speakers are FCA Athletes from Ames,
Ballard, Colo-Nesco, Gilbert, Nevada,
Roland-Story, and ISU

Fields of Faith is an FCA certified ministry program where athletes gather at sport environments in their communities to challenge their peers to read the Bible daily and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ and His church.

Questions can be sent to: lhinote@fca.org
www.Fieldsofffaith.org



WELCA Report

October 16 2:00p WELCA Circle
October 27-29 9a-12p Quilt Making



The Quilt Ministry continues strong at St. Petri. Typically we meet the last Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of each month.

We work, we chat & enjoy coffee fellowship time, as well. All are welcome!!!

We will have **BLESSING OF THE QUILTS** on Sunday, October 5th. Where have our quilts gone this year?

30 ELCA Lutheran World Relief

15 The Bridge Home

35 Hope Ministries

12 AZ Indian Reservations

6 Youth and Shelter Services

15 Lutheran Services in Iowa

Thank you to all who support this ministry in any way!



St. Petri will be serving free walking tacos at Loaves and Fishes from 10am to Noon on Saturday, October 11 as our 3rd Living in Community meal event.

Volunteers are needed. This would serve as an excellent service project for youth. See the sign-up sheet on the table near the church office.



October 26th



Oct. 1: Maddyn Johnson, Tim Patterson
Oct. 2: Ben Knutson
Oct. 3: Marlene Helling
Oct. 4: Angie Roling
Oct. 6: Verlyn Frohling, Marilyn Kolbe
Oct. 7: Ella Braucher, Austin Hobbs
Oct. 10: Diane Larson
Oct. 12: Seth Hill, Jason Patterson
Oct. 13: Logan Andersen
Oct. 14: Spencer Peterson
Oct. 16: King Brown
Oct. 18: Kay Disbrowe, Mary Nannenga, Kayla Tafolla
Oct. 19: Theo Patterson
Oct. 21: Jill Anderson, Wyatt Peterson
Oct. 22: Hayden Gossel
Oct. 23: Kris Foss, Sawyer Hjortsvang
Oct. 24: Carin Gossel, Betty Grinde
Oct. 25: Gloria DeRidder, Willow Hill, Kara Patterson
Oct. 26: Kole Knutson
Oct. 27: Lorna Hoversten, Diana Keech
Oct. 29: Angie Stover, Andrea Williams
Oct. 31: Jason Johnson, Mary Wynia

OCTOBER C.A.R.E. GROUP 2025

CARE Group 3 Leaders

Debra Malek, Annette Owenson

Dave & Nicole Bauman	Kim Finley
Tom & Kris Foss	Jane Fuhs
John & Angie (Rieck)Hinz	
Danny & Chris Hobbs	Tyler Hobbs
Jason & Heather Johnson	
James & Sherri Keigan	John & Jan Lekwa
Pstr Tim Malek	Barry & Valaree Muhlenburg
Sharon Sills	Paul Wiersen
Tom & Mary Wynia	



NOVEMBER C.A.R.E. GROUP 2025

CARE Group 4 Leaders

Cheryl Hoffman, Wanda Holm

Doug & Kendra Braucher	Eloise Ericson
Ver & Barb Frohling	Vivian Gossel
Donna Guard	Allen Holm
Tom & Amelia Klett	Pat & Jo Murken
Jim & Karen Nelson	
Jason & Jeannie Patterson	
Kevin & Peg Patterson	Tim & Abby Patterson
David & Gail Sporleder	
Scott & Shelley Stevenson	
Nate & Kayla Tafolla	



ST. PETRI MEMBERS



If you have a new address, phone number, or email address, please contact the church secretary so we can update our records and keep you informed of upcoming events.

515-733-4623 or

stpetrilutheran@gmail.com

Hi, it's Church Mouse!

We all celebrated "God's Work Our Hands"

Sunday last month. We were activists, writing our legislators on behalf of others. We also made treats for healthcare workers at Bethany Life to show our support and appreciation. The treats looked delicious, and there were almost 400 servings. I guarantee you, there is a ZERO PERCENT chance that there won't be any left over for the night shift! We enjoyed the activities, and it was a bonus that "St. Petri's Biggest Cheerleader" was there that day.



Not to be outdone, we had a big celebration for Homecoming Sunday two weeks later, and it was fun to have extra family and friends visiting. We learned St. Petri history, competitively played Kahoot and Bingo, sang old favorites, and enjoyed a free lunch made possible by the Healys, Munsons, Angie Rieck-Hinz, and others. Was it just me, or was it mostly kids winning at Bingo? Except that both Rick and Angie Stover won! Rick is our church treasurer, so I think he is trustworthy.

My heart is full,
Church Mouse



WEEKLY SUNDAY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

are due the Wednesday morning before.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

are due the 20th of the previous month to ensure that they will be in the newsletter.

Please send them to
stpetrilutheran@stpetri.org
or give them to the Church Secretary.

Thank you! 😊

OUR MISSION:

We are Disciples of Jesus Christ,
called to grow in Christ
and to invite all to follow him.

St. Petri Lutheran Church Approved Council Meeting Minutes August 10, 2025

Present: Angie Rieck-Hinz, Travis DeRidder,
Rick Stover, Angie Stover, Ann Healy, Pat
Murken, Abby Patterson, Pastor Tim Malek,
John Hinz Absent: Kelsey Olson

Meeting called to order at 10:20 a.m.

John Hinz presented on behalf of the Endowment Committee. The committee distributes money each year based on the amount of money earned the previous year. The committee has \$10,000 to distribute this year with The Food Bank of Iowa, The Bridge Home, the Synod and St. Petri included as recipients. Check presentations will be completed in the next two months.

Angie S. offered Devotions.

Angie S. presented the July Minutes for approval. Ann made a motion to accept the minutes; Travis seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

Rick presented the Treasurer's Report and read through the checks written since the July meeting, which Angie R-H approved. He noted to the Council, after completing a 10-year summary, that income is up and expenses are down. Ann made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; Travis seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

Pastor Tim attended the meeting even though he was on vacation. He filled in the group on his volunteering opportunities at the State Fair and explained how he plans to finish his vacation at the State Fair as well.

No reports from Angie R-H or Kelsey.

Ann reminded the Council about St. Petri's involvement in the R-S Serve event August 23rd where they will be providing hot dogs and lemonade.

Abby reported to the Council the various plans the Worship Committee has for the next several months, including the Blessing of the Backpacks, God's Work Our Hands Sunday, a St. Petri Homecoming, Trunk or Treat, Parable of the Talents and a Christmas play.

Pat reported that the Trustees completed the tour of the Parsonage at the end of July. The committee continues to work on an electronic keypad entry for the northeast door, replacing the copier to save money and that Chuck Semler is working on adding a handrail to the southwest stairwell.

Old Business: The Community Meal served 70 meals outside Loaves and Fishes the day St. Petri served there in July. Two more meals are expected to be planned before year's end.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Stover

Contributions(General Fund)

August income/expense \$12,014.00
2025 YTD \$13,601.76

It is all too easy for us
to be distracted by
Loving the WORK of the LORD
more than
Loving the LORD of the WORK



October 2025

**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING
CELEBRATING 160 YEARS
OF SERVING IOWANS.**

Friday, October 17th

5:30pm Reception

6:30pm Dinner & Program

at Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport

6111 Fleur Dr., Des Moines, IA

PRICE: \$100.

This event will directly support LSI's essential services, endeavoring to ensure...

*Every child is safe from abuse & neglect

*Every individual has access to mental health resources

*Every person with a disability receives the support they need to thrive

*Every immigrant and refugee finds a welcoming community

LSI has been Unstoppable and Still Standing for 160 years—with your support, we can continue making a difference for generations to come.

REGISTER BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

Go to: www.lsiowa.org to register.

Forgiveness - In the Bible, forgiveness is the act of no longer holding a grudge against someone who has sinned against you, and instead restoring a positive relationship with them.

Google – forgive definition in the Bible

A good read – Matthew 18:21-35 about the servant who had no mercy.

v. 35 “This is how my Father in heaven will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.”

BETHANY LIFE

*CARING FOR OTHERS WITH A CHRISTIAN
FOCUS OF HOPE, WELLNESS, AND
COMPASSION*

SHARE WHAT YOU CAN!

Volunteer – Adopt an household,
push wheelchairs for chapel,
support Affordables

Financial – Sponsor an event
Support an appeal
Congregational giving

Connections – Introduce us to those in
your congregation who have a
passion for serving and
supporting our mission

Promote Bethany Life – by sharing news
and announcements with your
congregation

Elect Delegates – to represent your
congregation at the annual
meeting



**RIVERSIDE LUTHERAN
BIBLE CAMP EVENTS**

For more information, please contact us.

Website: www.riversidelbc.org

Email: rlbc@riversidelbc.org

Office phone: 515-733-5271

Fall Recharges

October 17-18: Juniors Recharge

(grades 3-6) *One overnight*

November 7-8: Junior High Recharge

(grades 6-9) *One overnight*

***November 21-23:** Senior High Recharge
(grades 9-12)

*High school recharge is 2 nights.

Youth, enjoy worship, friends, food,
games, activities, free time, small groups,
carpetball, awesome camp leaders, skits...
more info/register on Riverside's website.

