

The Saint Peter Leader

A Newsletter of Saint Peter Lutheran Church
Greenwood Village, Colorado

**March
2010**

1

Pray & Crochet

7:00 p.m. in the
Fellowship Hall

1, 8 & 15

**New Member
Class**

7:30 p.m. in the
Fellowship Hall

12-14

**CAUTION Youth
Urban Plunge**

Downtown Denver

19-21

Catechism

Urban Plunge
Downtown Denver

21

**Reception of
New Members**

Both Worship Services
in the Worship Center

21

**Holly Heights
Ministry**

9:30 a.m. at the Holly
Heights Nursing Center

28

Easter Egg Hunt

12:00 p.m. here at
Saint Peter

Mid-Week Lent Worship

Prepare With Us for the Easter Season

Lent is a forty day season (not counting Sundays) that begins on Ash Wednesday (February 17th this year), and ends as Holy Week begins (March 28th this year). It is a time of considering those ways in which we've fallen short of God's will for us, experiencing the forgiveness God loves to share with us, and inviting the Holy Spirit to enter into our lives and create a new beginning in us.

This year, on Wednesdays in Lent, we will be holding worship services that are grounded in the music and prayer life of the Community of Taizé near Cluny, France. Join us for a time of scripture, prayer, song, and meditation – each Wednesday between now and Palm Sunday.

Wednesdays in Lent

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 p.m. Taizé Worship (Worship Center)

Holy Week Worship

Celebrate the Resurrection

Passion Sunday (also known as Palm Sunday: March 28)

8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion
9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School
10:45 a.m. Service of Holy Communion

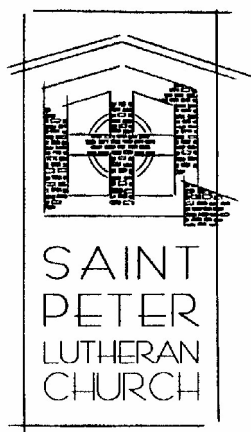
Maundy Thursday (April 1) – 7:00 p.m. Communion Service

Good Friday (April 2) – 8:00 p.m. Service of the Word

Holy Saturday (April 3) – 9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

The Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunday: April 4)

8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Service of Holy Communion



StPLC is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

If you are hurting or if you know someone who is, we hope you'll prayerfully consider a care receiving relationship with a Stephen Minister. For more information contact one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders:

Donna Burman
303 619-6448

Steve Onody
303 883-7826

Lynn Sherpe
303 921-5355



April 2010 Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the April Newsletter is Monday, March 15th. Please email your article to Nadine at nnakatani@StPLC.org



Stewardship is a Way of Life

..sow your fields, and for six years prune your vineyards and gather their crops.. [Leviticus 25:3].

Christian stewardship is a way of life. All that we are and all that we have are gifts from God. Stewardship is using the gifts God has given us to do the work God has given us to do. Prayerfully we strive to balance the stewardship needs of our earth, our family, the weak and the vulnerable with our time, talents and money.

If we say stewardship is a big part of our lives, isn't it reasonable to suggest that we should continuously make small changes toward a goal of truly being a good steward?

The pursuit of stewardship includes assurance that, once gathered, crops are put to good use. The Covenant Cupboard Food Pantry at The Presbyterian Church of the Covenant raises awareness, each Friday, of our responsibility to 100 or more families who are unable to feed their families without the help of donated food. Many of these families include children. Statistics show that the majority of these families are not welfare recipients; they are people who have lost jobs and thus turn to the Cupboard for help.

Meanwhile, plane loads of water and food products continue to arrive in Haiti in the hopes of helping with that nation's horrible tragedy. The United States, along with the rest of the world, will continue to bring some stability to the lives of Haitian people.

Stewardship does indeed refer to the way our time, talents, abilities, material possessions and wealth are used or given for the service of God. We who have so much contribute willingly to numerous organizations that support people who have needs. We may even be helping members and friends of Saint Peter who have suffered the consequences of our "down" economy. It's a short step from being a good steward to needing the help of a good steward.



Poverty Awareness Discussion

Adult Forum, March 7th at 9:40 a.m. in the Narthex

A roof over our head, indoor plumbing, running water, electricity and good medical care - these are some of the simple pleasures that most of us enjoy daily without even thinking about them. We are so fortunate. Yet, there are many families in other parts of the world that do not have these luxuries.

The Community Service Team is facilitating a discussion about poverty in Tanzania and Africa during Adult Forum on Sunday, March 7th. Mark your calendars and come listen to Jami O'Bryan read the story she wrote about a day in the life of a Tanzanian child. Learn more about Heifer Project's successes and Selian Lutheran Hospital's life transforming work in Tanzania. You might just come away with a greater appreciation for the blessings that we have all around us and you may discover there are simple ways that you can help share them with others.





From the Pastor

Serve when the Spirit Says Serve

I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says sing,
I'm gonna pray when the Spirit says pray,
I'm gonna moan when the Spirit says moan,
I'm gonna shout when the Spirit says shout,
and obey the Spirit of the Lord.

Throughout the history of God's people, the power of the Holy Spirit has had a strong presence in the midst of the faithful. Isaiah was convinced that "the Spirit of the Lord God is upon me" (Isaiah 61:1) at the beginning of his ministry. Luke understood that "the Holy Spirit descended upon [Jesus] in bodily form like a dove" (Luke 3:22) at his baptism, and soon after led him into the wilderness (Luke 4:1). The early church, throughout the book of Acts, is described as led by the Holy Spirit. The same is true for our beginnings as Lutherans. Martin Luther was convinced that "the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in true faith" (Small Catechism; Third Article of the Creed).

Recent generations of Lutherans may have been a bit more reluctant than our ancestors to describe in words the role the Spirit is playing in our lives, but God has been present, nonetheless. From time to time, we have said (with the first century disciples), "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us..."

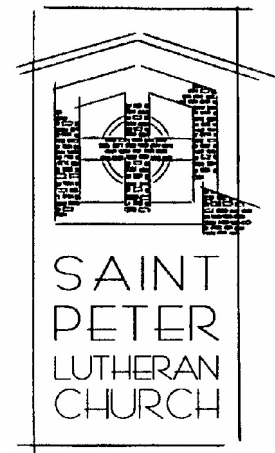
I am often reluctant to claim that I know when and where the Spirit blows. (I am reminded of a Bible study when a parishioner once said, "The Spirit led me to do this" and another member of the church said, "What spirit?") It seems we need to do so with great humility, acknowledging that the movement of the Spirit rarely happens when and how we expect it to.

That said, it seemed clear that the Spirit was blowing last month, when the people of Saint Peter gathered for their Annual Congregation Meeting. It was a two hour meeting, with a third of our adult members present. It was an inspiring gathering, as we approved plans to redesign our exterior landscaping (including a play yard for children and a labyrinth for quiet prayer), welcomed eight new servants to our Leadership Teams, and dedicated ourselves to be an even more radically welcoming community, where people can gather to experience the grace and power of God. The Spirit was blowing last month – and what is even more encouraging: the people of Saint Peter were faithful in responding. I am deeply grateful to those who have offered their time and energy to serve as leaders, to those who have provided us with financial resources, to those who have prayed daily for this ministry and this pastor, and to those who will step up faithfully in this coming year.

I am convinced that the winds of the Spirit are blowing throughout the church these days. If we are faithful in responding, they will blow us in directions that we can't always expect, and lead us into situations where we may be less than comfortable. But as this happens, we will experience the unmatched joy of working together in the presence of God.

Where do you sense the winds of the Spirit blowing in your life today? How will you respond by offering yourselves faithfully to the work of God's kingdom?

God's peace to you all,
David J. Risendal, Pastor



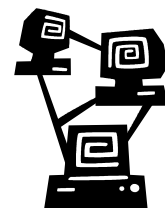
"One Little Word"

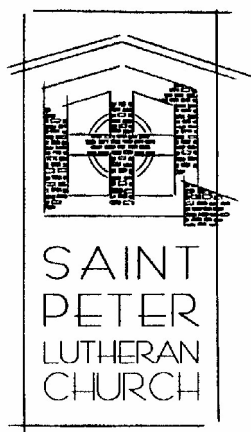
Weekly Internet Devotions

Pastor Dave sends out a devotional message every Wednesday, entitled "One Little Word" (from Martin Luther's Hymn, "A Mighty Fortress"), which is based on one of the lessons appointed for the coming Sunday, and is intended to help readers prepare themselves for Sunday worship.

If you are interested in receiving these weekly devotional messages, please send him a note to that effect at drisendal@StPLC.org or check them out at www.OneLittleWord.org

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Ministry Team Leaders

Acolytes/Lectors

Mary Ann Steiner

Adult Education

Discipleship Team

Altar Guild

Jan McGaw

“CAUTION” High School Youth

Karen Dehmlow

Community Blood Drive

Gayle Romcevich

Covenant Cupboard

Walt Meyer

Counters

Janet Weinz

DESIGN Team

Verna Leighton

Fellowship Hour

Jeaneane Engel

Five Habits of Discipleship

Ed Hardey

For Pete’s Sake Players

Verna Leighton

Karyl Meyer

Gathering Place Card Project

Open Position

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2nd Annual Selian 5K Run/Walk

Your Help is Needed!

The 2nd annual Selian 5k Run/Walk is scheduled for June 5, 2010 and again this year it will begin and end at Saint Peter Lutheran Church. The money raised will support Selian Lutheran Hospital and Arusha Lutheran Medical Center in Arusha, Tanzania, along with several affiliated ministries. Registration information will be available sometime in April for this event. Please plan to participate, and encourage family, friends, and neighbors to join you!

We are hoping to make this a fun event for all ages and to increase participation over last year. In order to do this, we still need several volunteers to help organize and run the event. In particular, we need someone to help locate, set up, and run timing equipment for our runners. We also need more help with race day events, including the activities for children. If you would like to help or have questions, please call one of the committee members listed below:

General Questions:	Carol Mayer	303 470-1205
	Karyl Meyer	303 740-6989
Race-Day Events:	Sharon Stokes	720 733-6194
Publicity:	Terri Mohrhaus	303 694-3667

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From Your Discipleship Team

We are delighted to welcome Kristen Raleigh as Co-Chair of the Discipleship Team and look forward to working with her.

First: A big thank-you to Walt Meyer for leading a three week adventure on the Crusades in January, and to Ron Leighton for his informative look at Spiritual Discipline in February. Future Adult Forum topics include:

- † March 7: The Community Service Team will facilitate a look at poverty awareness.
- † March 14 and 21: Karyl Meyer will lead “God’s Secretaries – Translating the Bible”. The sessions will look at the history of translation which started even before the New Testament was written and experience some of the difficulties in sample translations using only English. We will also look at the story of the translation resulting in the King James Bible. Karyl guarantees some laughs in addition to good information.
- † March 28: Lee Dehmlow and Rhonda Sinnema will give us a tour of the Landscape Extreme Makeover that will soon be happening at Saint Peter. This promises to be an informative look at the exterior transformation that will occur this Spring!
- † April 2010: Join us on April 11th as the CAUTION Youth give us a glimpse of their upcoming mission trip to Puerto Rico; on April 18th Pastor Nita Matthews, Executive Director of Via de Cristo joins us for a look at an outstanding spiritual opportunity for Lutheran adults.

Hope to see you at Adult Forum!!

Bruce, Kristen, Janet, Hayden and Sharon,
Your Discipleship Team

“Head to Heart” Catechism Ministries

We finish up our study of the Lord’s Prayer during March with Sunday Evening Workshops on March 7th (“The Doxology”) and March 21st (“Lord’s Prayer Review”). Catechism Leaders meet in the home of Courtney Williams at 6:00 p.m. on March 14th.

All Catechists are encouraged to participate in the Urban Plunge scheduled for March 19-21. Registration and liability forms need to be submitted to the church office by March 7th. Cost is \$45 (make checks payable to Saint Peter), and includes lodging and Urban Servant staff who will guide us on a tour of ministries that care for people in the inner city. Participants will need to bring some cash for meals. Contact Karen Dehmlow or Pastor Dave for additional information.

Catechism is a three-year course of study for youth entering their teenage years, and leads to welcoming them into adult membership in our church. We welcome any young people grades 6-8 to enroll in this program. If you are interested, please call the church office for additional information.

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It's Okay to Be Human . . .

An important theme of the Lenten season is the humanity of Christ. In Jesus, God became human and fully experienced the wide range of emotions we all encounter in life. Jesus experienced times of loneliness, sadness, hurt, anger, disappointment, grief, and abandonment. That is part of being human. Another part of being human is needing help from each other. God never intended us to be completely self-sufficient. Part of God's plan is for each of us to turn to others for help when we need it.

So when you are experiencing difficult times, don't struggle alone. Our Stephen Ministers will walk with you, listen to you, encourage you, pray with you, and provide confidential one-to-one care to help you through tough times. Stephen Ministers can bring the love of Jesus back into your life. To learn more about Stephen Ministry, talk to one of our Stephen Leaders [Donna Burman, Steve Onody or Lynn Sherpe]. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

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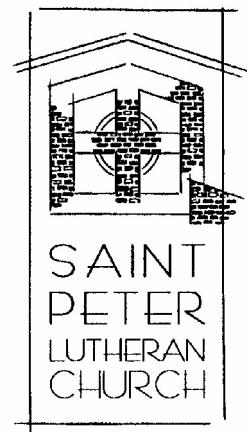
2010 Synod Assembly

May 27-29 at the Denver Downtown Hyatt Regency

This year we welcome Diane Jacobson, director of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. In her presentations at Synod Assembly, she will challenge us to deepen and broaden engagement with the Bible for all ages, all cultures, and to draw our heritage of faithful ways to let the Word engage us.

If you would like to attend the 2010 Synod Assembly that will be held in Denver, Colorado, contact the church office for registration information, there are some scholarships available.

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Ministry Team

Leaders

Habitat for Humanity

Vicky Simpson

Holly Heights

Open Position

Host Families

Marshall Roth

Pray & Crochet

Jenny Von Stroh

Carmen Faaiu

Property Team

Steve Haigh

Bill Hunter

Selian Lutheran

Hospital Team

Susan Howell

Servant Events

Laura Guthals

Sharing Our

Suppers (S.O.S.)

Annie Harnett

Stephen Lay Caring

Ministry

Donna Burman

Steve Onody

Lynn Sherpe

Sunday School

Laura Guthals

Tech Team

Steve Flessner

Rick Brydum

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Worship & Music

Alleluia Ringers

Rehearse every Thursday from 6:40 to 7:40 p.m.

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Join the Woodwind Ensemble!

Contact Steve Howie for more information.

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Holly Heights Ministry

The third Sunday of each month. Please contact Steve Howie if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

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Attention String Players!!!

The string ensemble is re-forming and will begin rehearsing Monday nights in late April. If you are interested in joining, please contact Steve Howie.

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Brass Ensemble Looking for New Players

If you currently play, or even if it's been a while, the brass ensemble is looking for you! We will begin rehearsals on Mondays in April.

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Join the Easter Choir!

Easter is always a wonderful celebration at Saint Peter Lutheran Church and we'd love to have you come celebrate with us in the choir! Rehearsals are each Wednesday right after the mid-week Lent services (at about 7:45 p.m. or so). Early service on Easter morning will feature choir, bells, brass, and organ as we celebrate the risen Christ through music.



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New Liturgy for Our Traditional Service

Jubilate Choir will Lead Congregation throughout Lent

With the publication of "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" (ELW), the Lutheran church has gained several new liturgies of varying styles. During Lent, our 8:30 a.m. traditional service will use one of these liturgies for our Sunday worship. What is now referred to as setting #1 in the "ELW", this new setting may sound similar to some of the liturgies in the "LBW", yet it is a wonderful contemporary setting that has been hailed as a great continuation of the Lutheran musical tradition.

The Jubilate Choir will help lead these worship services each Sunday during the Season of Lent at 8:30 a.m. Make plans to check it out!

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Lent Mid-Week Worship & Soup Supper

We will once again have Taizé mid-week worship services during the season of Lent (February 24th through March 24th). Come experience the renewing calm of mid-week worship, prayer, and contemplative song each Wednesday during Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center.

Prior to mid-week worship, everyone is invited to Soup Supper and fellowship each Wednesday during Lent beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to bring a pot of soup to share, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

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Assisting Ministers Needed!

More assistants are needed to help lead worship. Are you ready to take your worship experience to the next level? Are you ready to help others find greater meaning through worship? Become an assisting minister! The primary role of an assisting minister is to help lead the congregation in prayer. SINGING IS NOT NECESSARY.

If you are interested in helping lead our worship and in helping people connect with God, please contact Steve Howie for more information. YOU CAN DO IT!

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Ministries at StPLC



From the Minister of Music

A Variety of Worship Styles

As we enter another season of Lent and add a mid-week service to our schedule, I'm struck by the variety of worship opportunities we have at Saint Peter Lutheran Church.

Of course, the contemporary service is quite popular and I'm proud of the hard work each of the nine band members and the four sound tech people put in each week to create a liturgical service with a modern sound. We will be using resources from the "Mass of Saint Timothy" again for the season of Lent, which seems to be one of the most popular at this service.

Our early, traditional service is also going to feature new music, but in a more traditional organ/choir style. Taken from our new Lutheran worship resource, "Evangelical Lutheran Worship", we will use setting #1 for Lent. Each week the choir will help lead us through each part of the liturgy. In addition, we will have musical offerings from the Alleluia Ringers, violin, and other instrumentalists, which should give our traditional service a truly remarkable presence in our worship schedule.

Our mid-week Lent services are rather different from either of our Sunday services. The worship time is structured more closely to a true Taizè service than anything found at Saint Peter before. We open with a welcome by Pastor Dave, move into a song, have a couple readings, and more song. One of the true hallmarks of a Taizè service is the period of silence for personal meditation. We take 5 to 10 minutes (10 would be the minimum in France) for personal reflection, prayer, etc. This is not a passive experience, though, as there are various stations around the room for one to visit. In one corner, there are kneelers for prayer where you can find the weekly prayer concerns or pray your own prayers. In another corner are candles to light in memorium, a third corner you can find someone who will pray with you for any concerns. Finally, in the middle is a large cross, surrounded by candles with various places around it for prayer. There really is no reason to just stay in your seat during this time of prayer and song!

However you wish to worship this season, I think you'll find a variety of uplifting, worshipful choices here at Saint Peter. See you at worship!

Peace,

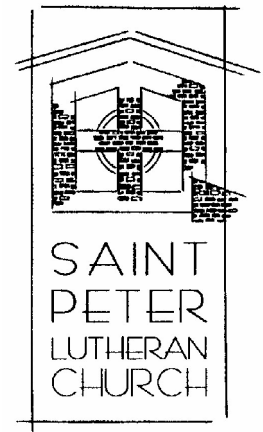
Steve Howie, Minister of Music

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Daylight Savings Time, Already?

Daylight Savings Time begins on March 14th at 2:00 a.m. so don't forget to turn your clocks **AHEAD** one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 13th!

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Jubilate Choir Schedule

Mar. 7 at 1st service
(with violin)

Mar. 14 at 1st service
(with Alleluia Ringers)

Mar. 21 at 1st service

Mar. 28 at 1st service

April 4 (Easter Sunday)
at 1st service

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Easter Choir Schedule

Wed., March 3rd at
7:45 p.m.

Wed., March 10th at
7:45 p.m.

Wed., March 17th at
7:45 p.m.

Wed., March 24th at
7:45 p.m.

DRESS REHEARSAL

Wed. March 31st at
7:30 p.m.

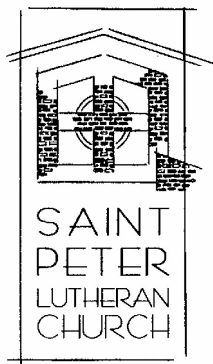
Sunday, April 4th
(Easter Sunday) – sing
at 8:30 a.m. service.
Warm-up at 7:45 a.m.

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Alleluia Ringers Play March 14th

Bells will perform "The Heart of Worship."

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Saint Peter Lutheran Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

September – May

8:30 a.m. Traditional Communion Service
9:40 a.m. Youth & Adult Education
10:45 a.m. Contemporary Communion Service

June – August

8:30 a.m. Outdoors Communion Service
10:00 a.m. Indoors Communion Service

MINISTRY TEAM

David J. Risendal, Pastor
drisendal@StPLC.org

Lynn Sherpe, Administrator
lsherpe@StPLC.org

Steve Howie, Minister of Music
showie@StPLC.org

Nadine Nakatani, Receptionist
nnakatani@StPLC.org

Karen Dehmlow, Youth/Family Ministry
kdehmlow@StPLC.org

Mariko Murase, Accompanist
mmurase@StPLC.org

OFFICERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Andy Nakatani, President
president@StPLC.org

Rhonda Sinnema, Vice President
vp@StPLC.org

Bruce Guthals, Secretary
secretary@StPLC.org

Lynn Sherpe, Treasurer
treasurer@StPLC.org

Our Mission Statement

We Are Welcomed into God's Love
just as we are

We Are Sent into God's World
to be a reflection of Christ's love

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ... God proves love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. [Romans 5:1, 8]

Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." [St. Matthew 28:19-20]