

The Saint Peter Leader

A Newsletter of Saint Peter Lutheran Church
Greenwood Village, Colorado

July 2010

1

**VBS Closing
Program**

7:00 p.m.
Worship Center

5

Pray & Crochet

7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

10 & 24

**"Next
Opportunity
Group"**

9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

10-20

**CAUTION Youth
Mission Trip**

Puerto Rico

11

**CCFP
Ingathering**

Both Services
Worship Center

18

**Holly Heights
Ministry**

9:30 a.m.
Holly Heights Nursing
Home

Prayers for Puerto Rico High School Mission Trip: July 10-20

This summer our High School Youth will once again take a journey that includes service, worship, fellowship, fun and adventure. The destination is Puerto Rico. Twenty-seven youth, accompanied by four adult chaperones, have signed up for this experience, coordinated by YouthWorks, a non-denominational youth ministry resource organization. The central purpose of this trip is to reach across the geographic, cultural and social borders between the United States and this close neighbor of ours, in order to be united with them in Christian fellowship.

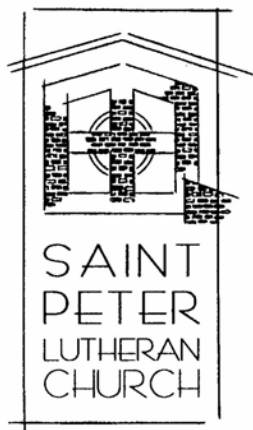
The trip to Puerto Rico will provide our young people with a rich opportunity to bond with one another, and to experience the faith and hope of our Christian friends in that country. Please keep them all in your prayers during these eleven days, that God will guide them and inspire them, and that they will return (as they often do) inspired to live their lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.

New Member Information Series

August 23 & 30, September 13 & 20

This series of four Monday evening meetings serves as an introduction to Saint Peter and the ELCA, as well as a chance to meet others who are interested in the life of our congregation. We'll introduce ourselves, hear Saint Peter's story, discuss the Lutheran heritage that stands behind our church and denomination, and consider the gifts God has given us to be used in ministry. New members will be formally received into our congregation during morning worship on Sunday, September 26th.

If you are interested in making Saint Peter your official church home in the south-Metro area, or if you are simply interested in learning a bit more about Saint Peter and the Lutheran Church, we'd love to have you attend this series. Please give us a call in the church office, and let us know you are interested.



Covenant Cupboard Ingathering

Mark Sunday, July 11th on your calendar! That Sunday will be the next food ingathering for Covenant Cupboard Food Pantry. This quarter's emphasis will be soup and/or canned meat (tuna, chicken, etc.). Let's flood the wagon with items for the CCFP.

Thanks in advance,
Walt Meyer

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August 2010 Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the August Newsletter is Thursday, July 15th. Please email your article to Nadine at nnakatani@StPLC.org



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Lazy Days of Summer?

Nat King Cole wrote the lyrics:

Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer

Those days of soda and pretzels and beer

Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer

You'll wish that summer could always be here



Summer time is in full swing now and for many of us "crazy days" maybe a better description of summer than "lazy days". Summer seems to bring with it so many activities; there are vacations, camps, sports, camping, fishing, gardening, lawn mowing, picnics, weddings, reunions, the list can go on and on. With all that craziness, church sometimes gets moved to the side and when it does, our financial support can fall behind.

So far this year, the financial support of Saint Peter has been wonderful. The Stewardship Team would like to say thank you, thank you, thank you! Steady financial support makes running the church so much easier. We ask for your continued support even through these lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer because stewardship is a year round project!

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Next Community Blood Drive

Will be Hosted by Saint Peter Lutheran Church

Give the Gift of Life on August 14, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon here at Saint Peter. Please mark your calendar now and look for a sign-up sheet in early August or call Gayle Romcevich at 303 741-0020 for more information.

- Myth: 1 donation helps 1 person
- Fact: 1 donation can help 3
- Myth: Bonfils has plenty of blood to supply
- Fact: Bonfils needs 4000 donations each WEEK

Remember, only one hour out of your day can mean a new day for someone else.

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Sunday School Raises Funds for Heifer Project International

Sunday School students along with their families and friends have raised just over \$200 for Heifer Project. This money will help children and families around the world receive training and animal gifts that help them to become self-reliant. Families can vote for how to allocate the money by contacting Laura Guthals at guthals@msn.com by July 31st. Choices include: sheep \$120, llama \$150, goat \$120, flock of chicks, ducks or geese \$20, trio of rabbits \$60, honeybees \$30, pig \$120 or a combination. For more details, check out www.heifer.org. Additional donations towards a water buffalo (\$250) or heifer (\$500) can be dropped off at the church office or put in the offering plate with a note indicating it is for Heifer Project. Thanks to everyone who supported this worthy cause!

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From the Pastor

Tithing on a Fortune

Often times when supporters of our congregation experience good fortune – say they receive a pay raise at work, or a share of an inheritance, or a bonus of some sort – they share a portion of it with the church. Occasionally this is a larger amount of money, and makes possible a special project or ministry that wouldn't otherwise be within

our grasp. Well, visions of special projects and ministries filled my mind when I opened a letter this past month that included a check made out to Saint Peter in the amount of \$34,200,000! That's right: 34.2 million dollars. Before you get too excited about this, I should mention that I was requested not to cash the check until I had received further instructions from the donor.

The further instructions, of course, will be forthcoming when this Saint Peter member "finally" wins the Powerball jackpot. The story behind this gift is that the donor and I had been seated together at a church function, and she declared that when she won, she planned to tithe on her winnings. I first proposed that if everyone who had made that assurance to me had instead given the money they were planning to put into the lottery to the church, we'd be in great shape at Saint Peter. But I then teased her about her "lack of faith." I suggested that she ought to write the check to the church first, and then go buy her lottery ticket. Much to my surprise, that's exactly what she did!

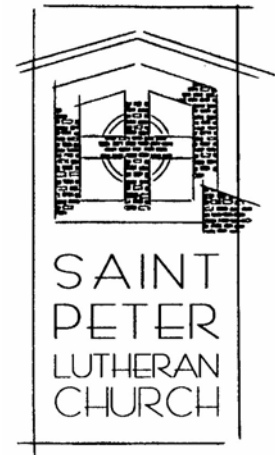
To be honest, I was looking for a check that we could cash right away, but there is merit in her provisional donation. By writing the check to the church first, she has "thrown her hat over the fence." She has declared that should something remarkably fortunate happen to her, she won't let it ruin her. She plans to be just as faithful and just as generous as she has been throughout her life. For those intentions, I am deeply grateful! (And glad for her.)

Truth is, too much good fortune can ruin us. It can cause us to imagine that we deserve it – and that this is what life is all about. We live in a very fortunate and prosperous time, but prosperity has not been good to many of our neighbors. Rather than empowering grace and generosity, it has far too often occasioned greed and self-indulgence. For those of us who are grounded in the Gospel and committed to faithful generosity, however, even the most fortunate experiences in life can't ruin us. We understand that greater fortune can make possible even greater generosity and even deeper joy. When all that we have is put into the service of the One who loves us enough to die for us, we experience a richer life than any amount of collected possessions can ever make possible.

So, those of you who are Saint Peter members: if you insist on playing the lottery, why don't you throw your hats over the fence too? (I promise we won't cash the check ahead of time...) Even more importantly, let us all remember that the richest life is not one that is inundated by possessions. The richest life is one that is given away, in service to our God, in a way that becomes a blessing to others, and a witness to the faith that transforms our lives and our living.

For now, I'll hang on to the \$34,200,000 check. And I'll keep it as a reminder of how important it is never to lose sight of who we are... and whose we are.

God's peace to you all,
Pastor Dave



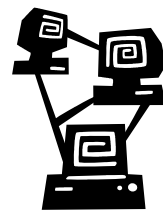
"One Little Word"

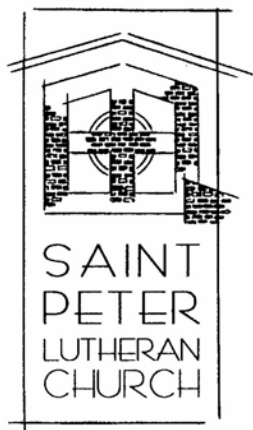
Weekly Internet Devotions

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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Habitat for Humanity Update

Holy Hammers building commitment to the Bails project is complete, but fundraising to meet our financial obligations is underway in member congregations! Watch for information on the annual fall breakfast as an opportunity to meet our people and help with paying for this project!

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, July 25th at 4:00 p.m. will be the blessing celebration for the Bails project. Please come and meet the homeowners!

Here are opportunities to volunteer with Habitat without picking up a hammer!

- **Tile Pilot Program Needs Crew Members:** Volunteers are still needed for our new Tile Pilot Program which will be used to evaluate the performance and advantages of using tile in the wet areas of Habitat homes. Our Construction Department is looking for skilled volunteers, as well as those interested in becoming skilled in tile installation. We are looking for those individuals who are willing to commit to installing tile for 2 to 3 days at a time (about two times per month). If you are interested in joining a group of skilled tile-installer volunteers, please contact beth@habitatmetrodenver.org or 720 496-2730.
- **Legos Needed:** Habitat's Women Build program is holding a Lego build fundraising competition in September and we need Legos! If you have Lego-brand Legos, standard size, we would love to have them. We will need thousands of Legos for this fundraiser, so if you are able to donate Legos, please email Jill Sladek at WomenBuilders@habitatmetrodenver.org.
- **Outlets Looking for Volunteers:** The Denver Outlet needs afternoon shift volunteers to help on the warehouse floor, especially during the week. Alice is seeking an administrative volunteer to help with paperwork, filing and data entry. This administrative volunteer could work at either the Denver or Wheat Ridge Outlet. To learn more about these opportunities, please contact Alice Goble at 303 996-5468 or alice@habitatmetrodenver.org.

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Caring for Each Other

Stephen Ministry equips lay people to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to individuals in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

Why are we called to care for each other? For Christians, the answer to this question is very distinctive.

The distinctiveness of Christian care is not only in what we do, but in why we do it. God's message of love and grace fills us with the Holy Spirit which moves us to use our gifts to reach out to those in need.

Saint Peter Lutheran Church has been a Stephen Ministry Congregation since 1992. We invite you to learn more about this ministry by talking to one of our Stephen Leaders [Donna Burman, Steve Onody or Lynn Sherpe], Pastor Dave or any of our Stephen Ministers. You may also visit our website at www.stplc.org/ministries to view a video presentation about Stephen Ministry at Saint Peter.

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Discipleship News

Summer greetings and blessings to you from the Discipleship Team. We trust that you and your family are able to take some time to recreate, relax and spend quality time together.

As a Christian faith family at Saint Peter we are committed to diligently practice the habits of discipleship. This remains true during the summer months when perhaps our schedules and routines are less defined. Here is a quick reminder to help keep us on track...

Daily Bible Study: There is a wealth of excellent tools to help with this including daily devotionals which are available in the Narthex; ELCA resources including an on-line lectionary called "Growing in Faith" which can be accessed at elca.org/growing-in-faith; and for daily bible readings go to listserv.elca.org.

Daily Prayer: Remember to pray daily for the congregation and its ministries and to utilize "The Saint Peter Weekly" for ongoing prayer concerns.

Community Service: Look for opportunities and ways that you can make a difference serving others in the community. Habitat for Humanity and Covenant Cupboard are worthy of our time.

Financial Generosity: The support that was provided to Selian Hospital with the recent 5K Run/Walk Event was reflective of the generosity of Saint Peter. Please continue your support of our ministry throughout the summer.

Gathering: Continue to worship regularly whether you are in town or traveling as a way to be nurtured in faith.

Other discipleship news...

Via de Cristo is a highly structured three day weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people and bring them to a new awareness of living in God's grace. It is a combined effort of lay people and clergy toward renewal of the church. The next retreat weekend will be September 16-19, 2010, and we would like to send up to six committed Christians from Saint Peter. Please contact Bruce Stokes or Kristen Raleigh if you are interested.

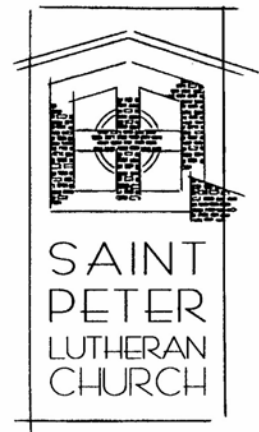
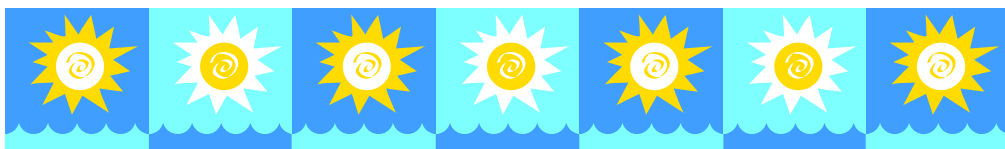
Adult Forum – We are in the process of putting together the line-up of topics for next fall. If you have a topic that you would be interested in presenting or that you think would be of interest please let us know.

The Bible in 90 Days – This exceptional program returns to Saint Peter this fall. If you wanted to participate last year but did not get the chance or even if you want to do it again...stay tuned coming in September.

Have a blessed summer!

Bruce Stokes, Kristen Raleigh, Janet Okerman and Hayden Behnke

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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

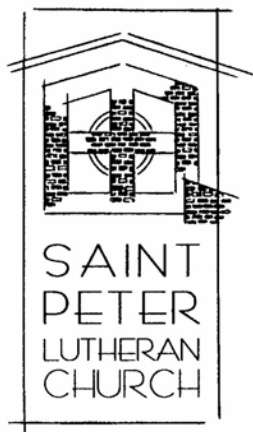
Laura Guthals

Tech Team

Steve Flessner

Rick Brydum

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More LFS Transportation Needs

Lutheran Family Services is in need of additional vehicles to help manage the growing Refugee Resettlement Program. Needs include a cargo van, cargo trucks, 12 passenger vans and a mini-van. If you have any of these vehicles that are in good working order that you wish to donate, contact Rita Harding at rita.harding@lfsco.org or 303 389-2336.

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Covenant Cupboard

An Arapahoe County designated food agency located at:

Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

5400 S. Yosemite St.
Greenwood Village
303 779-5400

Volunteer Opportunities

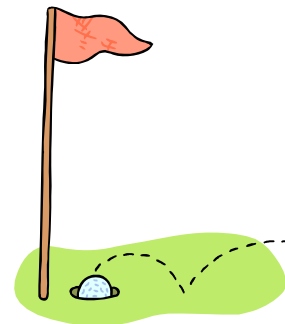
**Pick up Produce
Pack Produce
Help with
Distribution**

Call Walt Meyer
303 740-6989

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LFS 17th Annual Golf Classic

"Tee Off for Hope" at Lutheran Family Services of Colorado's 17th Annual Golf Classic at Hiwan Golf Club, a private golf and country club in Evergreen. Tee time is at 7:30 a.m. on Monday, July 26th. Prizes will be awarded for winning teams, church cup competition and individual contests. Individual tickets are \$175 and include green fees for 18 holes, golf cart, exceptional prizes and lunch. A \$63 tax deduction per person is allowed. Register online today at www.lfsco.org or phone Danette Goldhammer at 303 217-5860.



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Bicycles Needed!

Do you have an old bike lying around collecting dust or a bike that doesn't work anymore?

After learning that a young man who was aging out of foster care and needed transportation to get to his new job, Jeff and his wife Shawna, LFS foster parents, decided to fix up an old bike a friend donated to assist him in starting this new phase of his life. Realizing that bikes are an integral part of growing up, Jeff and Shawna have decided to take on the task of fixing up all sizes of bikes and giving them to foster children and teens who have very little to call their own.

If you have an old bike, working or not, that you would like to share call 303 995-7021 or lfs.fosterfamily@gmail.com.

†

Selian 5K Run/Walk a Success!

Congratulations and many thanks to all of the runners and walkers that participated in the Selian 5K Run/Walk Event. What an incredibly enjoyable morning! To kick off the race, David Mporampora got the participants revved up with some cheerful and buoyant African music. All of the runner's were timed and, after the 5K and 1K events, awards and ribbons were given in each age category. Our congregation has some very serious and dedicated runners, Nate Guthals and Scott Bainbridge ran the course twice!

After the race, everyone enjoyed more African music, fantastic hot dogs, Orange Julius', African donuts, sambusa, Jersey Mike's Subs and excellent fellowship! The kids were happily occupied by the Giraffe Jump Castle, face painting and treat bags filled with goodies. What a wonderful and entertaining family event!

As of June 17th Saint Peter has raised \$10,490 to send to Selian Lutheran Hospital!! The Selian Hospital 5K was such a great success because of the many volunteers that worked together to plan and set-up this congregational celebration! Thank you, thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and to everyone who raised money through sponsors and donations! Special thanks go out to our event sponsors – Jody Hinsey of The Browning Group II and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

In case you missed the Selian Event this year, you will have a chance to attend next year! And anyone who is interested in helping to plan for next year, contact Dave Risendal at 303 770-9300 or Carol Mayer at 303 470-1205.

Selian 5K Run/Walk Celebration Snapshot!



Useful Links

Rocky Mountain Synod
rmselca.org/

ELCA Disaster Response
www.elca.org/disaster/

ELCA World Hunger
www.elca.org/disaster/

LFS
www.lfsc.org/

Rainbow Trail
rainbowtrail.org/

Selian Hospital
selianlh.habari.co.tz/

ELCA
elca.org/
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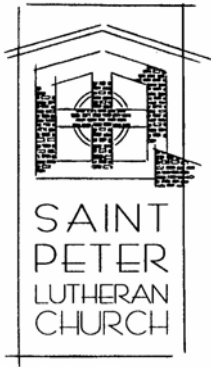
StPLC is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

If you are hurting or if you know someone who is, 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



Saint Peter Lutheran Church

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Web: www.StPLC.org

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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]