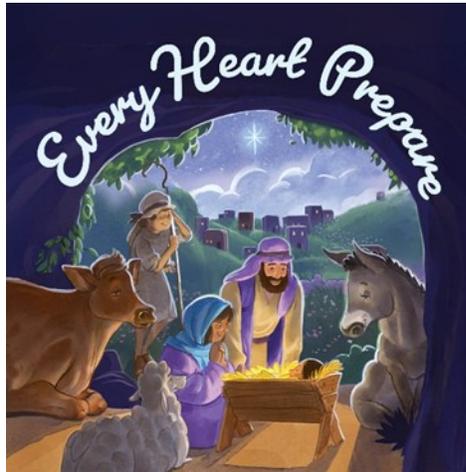


The mission of Park View Lutheran Church is to awaken unbelievers to faith in the Triune God, and teach believers to live as servants of the Risen Lord.

Advent and Christmas 2025

We decorate in preparation for Christmas. In November and December, people spend hours putting up lights in their living space and ornaments on their evergreens. Poinsettias are placed on the mantel, presents are put under the tree, and we “deck the halls with boughs of holly.” These Christmas decorations bring enjoyment and anticipation to the holiday.



Advent is the church’s season of preparation for Christmas, and for the coming of the Lord. This year, as part of our preparation, we will reflect upon three common Christmas decorations and how they help us see Christ and prepare for His coming: evergreens (Dec.3), lights (Dec. 10), and the crèche (Dec. 17). Then, on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24), we will focus on the wrapped presents, which point us to the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

Our Advent services will be held at both 1 pm and 7 pm. Our Christmas Eve services will be at 4 pm (family service with Children’s message) and 7 pm (including music from our choir and handbell choir). At our 9 am Christmas Day service, we will receive the gift of Holy Communion. Please adjust your schedules to set apart time for our Lord this holy holiday season!

Pastor Pete

Points of Interest

- * *Christmas Caroling*
- * *Children’s Christmas Program*
- * *Sunday School Curriculum*
- * *Sunday School Schedule*
- * *LYTES Schedule*
- * *Confirmation Schedule*
- * *Preschool News*
- * *Advent Worship Schedule*
- * *Christmas Service Schedule*
- * *Angel Tree*
- * *LYTES Service Project Donations*

Park View Lutheran Church

14 Grove Road
Eldridge IA 52748

Phone: 563-285-9035
Prayer Chain: 563-285-6992
Email: secretary.pvlcms@outlook.com
Website: www.pvlcms.org
Pastor Peter Hoft (563) 508-4893
DCE/DCO Bethany Dorschner (563) 285-9035

Normal Schedule:

Sunday Worship Schedule:
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School/Bible Study:
Ages 3 - Adult 9:15 a.m.

Summer Thursday Worship Schedule:
Memorial Day - Labor Day 7:00 p.m.

Summer Sunday Worship Schedule:
Memorial Day - Labor Day 9:00 a.m.

December

Sunday School Curriculum & Schedule



Preschool thru
8th Grade



ENDURING
FAITH^{CPH}

Preschool & Kindergarten Teacher - Sharon Tannahill

1st & 2nd Grade Teacher - Jean Hanson

3rd - 5th Grade Teacher - Kerri Rehn

6th - 8th Grade Teachers - Sue Raleigh & Bethany Dorschner

December 7th - A Judge Leads *Gideon*

December 14th - Christmas Story

December 21st - **NO CLASSES!**

December 28th - **NO CLASSES!**

PRACTICE DATES!



Children's
Christmas
Program

December
6th
AND
December
13th

9:00 - 10:15 am

High School

High School Teachers - Angela & Joshua Elmshaeuser

This Month's Lessons!

Topics from the Book of Acts

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL!



on

Dec 21st or Dec 28th

Join us again January 4th!

The Children's Christmas Program!



Join Us

on

December 14th

at the

10:30 service

Let Every Heart Prepare!



SUNDAY SCHOOL'S OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PACKING PARTY!



A huge **THANK YOU** to Terri Wuestenberg, Elaine Bartel and Jackie Holden for helping us participate in Operation Christmas Child! 62 boxes were packed by the Sunday School kids!



IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS!



December

Other Education & Bible Study Opportunities



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Meets Sunday mornings at 9:15
in the Multi Purpose Room

**JOURNEY THROUGH
CHURCH HISTORY**

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meets Tuesday mornings at
6:30 in the Multi Purpose
Room.

Currently studying the
Nicene Creed

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meets on Thursday mornings at
9:30 in the Multi Purpose
Room.

Currently studying

Let Every Heart Prepare



December Confirmation Schedule

3rd - 6 to 6:50pm (class) 7pm - 1st Advent Service

10th - 6 to 6:50pm (class) 7pm - 2nd Advent Service
(MEAL SERVED BY 7th & 8th GRADE PARENTS)

13th - Sat. 5:30-8pm Caroling (Servant Event)

14th - 10:30 service - Sunday School Christmas Service

17th - 6 to 6:50pm (class) 7pm - 3rd Advent Service
(MEAL SERVED BY 5th & 6th GRADE PARENTS)

NO CLASS ON DECEMBER 24th or 31st

December LYTES

Lord's Youth Touching Everyone Spiritually

3rd - LYTES Serve Advent Dinner

10th - LYTES Meeting 6:00 - 6:50pm

13th - Cookie baking 1:00-3:00pm

17th - Christmas Party 6:00 - 6:50pm

No LYTES meeting on Dec 24th or 31st



"Advent is a time to wait." That is the first line to our first song for our Share & Care Christian Preschool Program as part of our Christmas Devotions this year. The Old Testament people had to wait many years for the promised Messiah to come. We are currently waiting to celebrate Jesus Birthday, when He did come as a tiny babe in Bethlehem to be our Savior, though many of us have likely already begun preparations for this special day. And we wait for His second coming.

This year, our program will begin with celebrating that season of waiting and then we will move onto sharing the special news of Christmas day. The congregation is welcomed to attend and hear the children share this good news on December 17th and 18th at 9:00 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The children will arrive earlier that morning to decorate a Christmas Tree or Wreath with their family, as is part of our traditions here at Share & Care. These iconic Christmas decorations will be decked out with sports-themed ornaments which go along with our God's All Stars theme this year.

We ended our November with reminders of all we have to be thankful for. Some of the great things this month were getting to visit with parents at parent-teacher conferences, lots of talk about turkeys, and dressing up as "What we want to be when we grow up?" The staff joined in as well with costumes such as Mrs. Claus, Pluto (Disney World worker), Crazy Cat and Dog Ladies, and a retired-teacher, turned author, complete with gray-haired wig. Can you guess who was who among our staff?

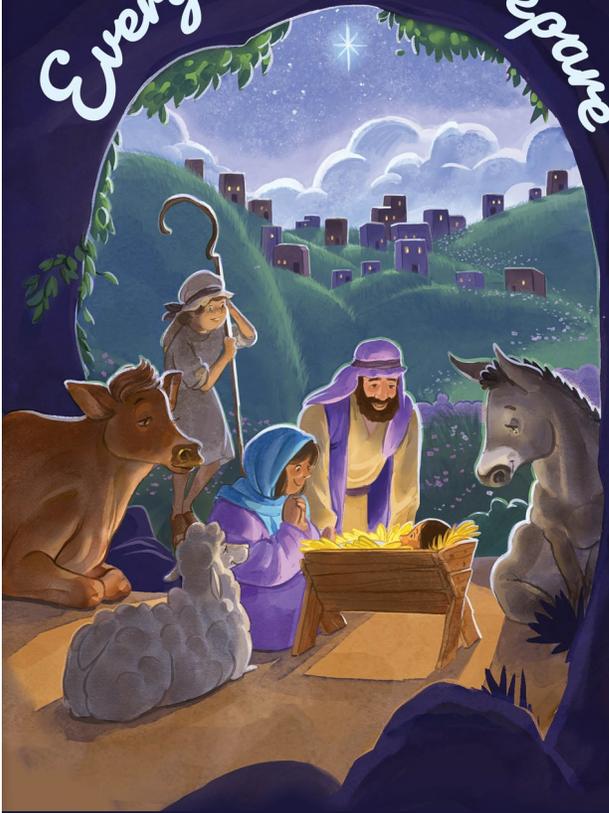
We are also grateful for another wonderful silent auction event to benefit our preschool. Thank you so much to those who donated baskets and items to be bid on and those that bid and purchased. It was a great success. Thank you!

Merry Christmas

Jennifer Rathe, Director

**Merry
Christmas**

Every Heart Prepare



We decorate in preparation for Christmas. In November and December people spend hours putting up lights in their living space and ornaments on their evergreens. Poinsettias are placed on the mantel and presents under the tree, and we “deck the halls with boughs of holly.” These Christmas decorations bring enjoyment and anticipation to the holiday.

Advent is the church’s season of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Lord. This Advent season, as part of our preparation, we reflect upon three common Christmas decorations and how they help us see Christ and prepare for His coming: evergreens, lights, and the creche. Then on Christmas we will focus on the decorated presents which point us to the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

Midweek of Advent 1 - EVERGREENS

We decorate in preparation for Christmas. Our decoration preparation includes the use of evergreens—from Christmas trees to pine garland. The evergreen decorations also help us prepare for the advent (or coming) of Jesus during Advent— a season of preparation. Today we will consider how evergreens point us to the coming of Christ and the eternal life that He brings.

Midweek of Advent 2 - LIGHTS

We decorate in preparation for Christmas. Our decoration preparation includes the use of lights—from candles to twinkling LEDs. These luminous decorations also help us prepare for the advent (or coming) of Jesus during Advent, a season of preparation. Today we will consider how lights point us to the coming of Christ and the glory He brings.

Midweek of Advent 3 - CRÈCHE

We decorate in preparation for Christmas. Our decoration preparation includes the use of the crèche—the miniature model of the nativity scene. The crèche is a distinctively Christian decoration in that it depicts the characters involved in the nativity of Christ: Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the Wise Men, the angels, the stable animals, and—most important of all—the infant Jesus. As we view this manger scene, we recall the timeless story of God coming to earth as a baby to redeem us from our sins.

The Nativity of Our Lord - WRAPPED PRESENTS

We decorate for Christmas. Our decorations include wrapped presents—gifts in colorful boxes and bags that are placed under the Christmas tree. But these gifts all pale in comparison to the gift that started it all at Christmas—the gift of God’s Son, whose birth brings us regeneration, renewal, and eternal life. On Christmas [Eve], we consider how the gifts under the tree point us to God’s indescribable gift in Jesus Christ.

What If Christmas Is Hard This Year?

Encouragement for Those Who Grieve



For many people, Christmas is a joyful season filled with celebration, laughter, and tradition. But for others, this time of year can bring sadness, loneliness, or heart-ache. Maybe a loved one is missing around the table. Maybe memories are painful. Maybe life feels uncertain, overwhelming, or different than it used to be. If this Christmas feels heavy, please know—you are not alone.

The very first Christmas wasn't picture-perfect either. Mary and Joseph were far from home, searching for a place to stay with no guarantee of comfort or safety. Jesus was born in a stable, surrounded not by crowds of celebration, but by dirt, darkness, and uncertainty. Christmas began in a difficult place—and God entered the world right there. He didn't wait for everything to be peaceful or easy before coming. Instead, He stepped into a weary world to be with us in our pain. The name Emmanuel means "God with us." Not just when life is joyful—but especially when life is hard.

God never asks us to pretend everything is fine. He invites us to come to Him honestly. Pain and faith can exist in the same heart. We can hold sorrow in one hand and hope in the other. Hope doesn't erase grief—but it sits beside it and quietly says, "You are loved. You are held. You are not alone." Scripture reminds us that "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted" (Psalm 34:18). Even Jesus wept. Our Savior understands sorrow more than we know. And He promises to walk with us through it.

If you're grieving or struggling this season, consider taking small steps of care: light a candle in memory of someone you love, spend a few quiet moments in prayer, talk to a trusted friend or pastor, or simply breathe and rest in the truth that Jesus sees you. You don't have to have everything figured out. You don't need to force a smile. The heart of Christmas is not about being cheerful—it is about receiving Christ, who came for the hurting, the lonely, and the weary.

This year, whether your heart is rejoicing or grieving, may you find comfort in knowing that Jesus came for you. He came for the broken. He came for the tired. He came to bring light into dark places. You are not forgotten. You are deeply loved. And you are never alone. Emmanuel—*God with us*—still holds this world, and He still holds you.

Lord Jesus, You know that this season is not easy for everyone. You see every tear and understand every unspoken pain. Be near to those who grieve and those who feel alone. Bring comfort to broken hearts and peace to anxious minds. Fill weary souls with the gentle hope of Your presence. Help us to find rest in Your promises and strength in Your love. Remind us that You came into a hurting world to be with us. This Christmas, hold us close and carry us when we cannot stand. In Your name we pray, Amen.

With love, joy, hope, and peace,

Bethany Dorschner (DCE/O)

ADVENT SCHEDULE



Advent Wednesday Schedule

December 3 & 10 & 17

Worship - 1:00pm

Advent Dinners - 5:30pm

Confirmation - 6:00pm

Worship - 7:00pm

Serving Wednesday Dinners

December 3

LYTES - bbq sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, chips

December 10

7 & 8 grade Confirmands & Parents

December 17

5 & 6 grade Confirmands & Parents

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Wednesday, December 24

4:00pm - Family Candlelight

7:00pm - Candlelight (Choir)

Thursday, December 25

9:00am - Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 31

6:00pm - Holy Communion

Angel Tree



Park View Lutheran will again bless young members of our community with an Angel Tree. Please select an angel from the tree. On the angel will be the name, age and some gift ideas. **Please return your gifts to church by Wednesday, December 10.** Please don't put the name of the church or your last name on the package. These gifts are given under the supervising care of Lutheran Social Services.

DAVENPORT LUTHERAN HOME

Every year at this time we ask for donations of items to be used to put together holiday gift bags for the residents of our Lutheran Home. Every year our Church Families respond very generously and each and every resident receives a nice gift. This year we put together two lists; one for Art supplies and one for Activities supplies. Activities supplies: lotion, Kleenex, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, aftershave, nail polish, polish remover, chapstick, cotton balls, combs, brushes, headbands, sugar free candy and jewelry (necklaces). Art Supplies: Crayola crayons, glitter, glue gun, glue sticks, Batteries: C, AAA. We ask that gifts not be wrapped so that we can be sure to give the most appropriate gifts to each resident. **Please bring donations to the Lutheran Home prior to December 9.** They can be left at the front desk. Thank you all for donating these much needed items and for contributing to this year's joyful Christmas celebration at the Lutheran Home!



This year's caroling will be Saturday, December 13 @ 5:30 p.m. Meet at the church at 5:15 p.m. Look for the sign up sheet on the kiosk in the fellowship hall.

LYTES DONATIONS NEEDED

The LYTES will be collecting canning jars for a service project for the North Scott Food Pantry. If you have either PINT or QUART canning jars that you are no longer using and would like to donate, please bring them to church and place them on the back counter in the kitchen during the month of December.

Thank you!



Birthdays

- 2 Sue Payne
Kerri Rehn
- 3 Jacob Cronkleton
- 5 Linda Intveld
- 6 Becky Knorrek
- 9 Mike Moeller
- 10 Ronald Amhof
Barbara Huff
Jared Plagge
- 11 James Moenck
- 13 Jonathan Conners
Thomas Knapper
Tim Raleigh
- 14 Jordan Caskey
Kendra Paulson
- 15 Gene Horn
- 17 Justin Alden
Mary Fish
- 19 Shaun Yaudas
- 20 Ricky Grimes IV
Marcia McKinney
Sloane Woodward
- 24 Christian Moseley
Martha Pearce
- 25 Mark Hundley
- 26 Kyle Merten
- 27 Isla Millam
Corie Nelson
Tina Thomas
- 28 Chris Ayers
Donald Petersen
- 29 Mary Fahrenkrug
Joseph Millam
Erin Rubach
- 31 Kathy Kilen
Ryker VanWetzinga



Anniversaries

- 7 Del & Jane Traub (40)
- 10 Brad & Trish Miller (37)
- 14 Brett & Vicki Arnold (29)
- 22 Jerry & Bonnie Voelkers (41)
- 23 Brian & Tina Thomas (37)
- 24 Jim & Caralee Gruntorad (54)
- 27 Pastor Pete & Bethany Hoft (28)
- 29 Jesus & Faith Fuentes (1)
- 30 Pat & Sue Regan (48)

Please keep the following members in your prayers:



For those fighting/healed of cancer: Rich Atwood, Andrew Claeys, Mike Cornett, Gene Horn, Cheryl Kofron, Jim McKinney, Marcia McKinney, Cy Miller, Jo Miller, Chuck Moeller, Connie Morse, Judy Mumm, Don Petersen, Grace Pfeiler, Donna Ploog, Dorcas Smith, Del Traub, Connie Youngers, for strength and healing.

For our members who suffer silently from chronic life threatening illness, for comfort and strength.

For our members confined to a nursing facility or homebound by illness or other weakness, for strength and healing.

For Norma Hohensee, recovering from heart procedures.

For Kathy Kilen, recovering from back surgery.

For Connor Harrington and Naomi Birtell, married October 19.

For Cory and Leesha Denison, birth of a healthy baby girl, Maisie Lou.

For Bradley and Bethany (Denison) Belz, birth of a healthy baby girl, Summer Elizabeth.

For Lu Foss, strength and healing after a recent hospitalization.

For Andrew Claeys, recovering from vocal chord surgery.

For Mary Fahrenkrug and family, as they grieve the death of Mary's daughter, Cheryl.

For Tom Lewis, recovering from eye surgery.

For Pastor Pete, as he considers a Divine Call to Polk City, Iowa.

For those of our armed forces, especially those with ties to our faith family here at

PVLC:

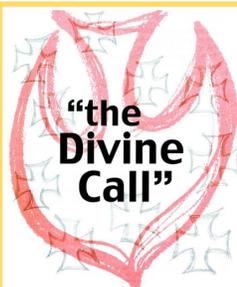
Overseas: Jadin Valesco; Lucas Miller; Stateside: Addison Ahrens, Michael Bartel, Tanner Carpenter, Caleb Claeys, Kasey Denison, Larry Goodwin, Isabella Richards, Alan Rubach, Brett Slaughter, Christopher Teuscker, Nate Thayer.

For our First Responders: Law Enforcement, Fire and Ambulance.

Friends and Relatives of Members to keep in our prayers:

Rev. Brad Birtell, Tammy Cheek, Dawn Dorschner, Scott Horn, and Fred Smith as they face natural disaster recovery, Covid-19, pneumonia, influenza, cancer, surgery, stroke, Alzheimer's, or illness, we pray for peace that surpasses all understanding.

Missionaries in Puerto Rico Rev. James and Angie Sharp & Bible Translators Nathan and Sarah Federwitz



Pastor Pete has received a "Divine Call" from Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Polk City, IA. Please keep Pastor in your prayers as he considers this call.

December 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:30am-MBS 9:00am-Quilting	3 5:30pm-Advent Dinner 6:00pm-Confirmation 6:00pm-LYTES 7:00pm-Worship 8:00pm-Bell Choir	4 9:30am-WBS 7:00pm-Choir Practice	5 9:15am-Staff the NS Food Pantry	6 9:00am-SS Christmas Program Practice
7 8:00am-Worship HC 9:15am-SS/BS 10:30am-Worship HC	8 6:30pm-Ex. Bd. Mtg.	9 6:30am-MBS 9:00am-Quilting	10 5:30pm-Advent Dinner 6:00pm-Confirmation 6:00pm-LYTES 7:00pm-Worship 8:00pm-Bell Choir	11 9:30am-WBS 7:00pm-Choir Practice	12	13 9:00am-SS Christmas Program Practice 5:30pm-Christmas Caroling
14 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-SS/BS 10:30am-SS Xmas Prog	15	16 6:30am-MBS 9:00am-Quilting	17 8:30am-Preschool Prog 5:30pm-Advent Dinner 6:00pm-Confirmation 6:00pm-LYTES 7:00pm-Worship 8:00pm-Bell Choir	18 8:30am-Preschool Prog 7:00pm-Choir Practice	19	20
21 8:00am-Worship HC 10:30am-Worship HC	22	23	24 4:00pm-Worship 7:00pm-Worship Church Offices Closed	25 9:00am-Worship HC Church Offices Closed	26 Church Offices Closed	27
28 8:00am-Worship HC 10:30am-Worship HC	29 Church Offices Closed	30 Church Offices Closed	31 6:00pm-Worship HC Church Offices Closed			

December Serving Schedule

Ushers

- 7 Jeff Pearce, Wayne Ott, (8:00)
Gene Horn, Brian Klever
Andrew Claeys, Joe Claeys (10:30)
- 14 Dan Kilen, Jerry Hartwig, (8:00)
Andy Hartwig
Rob Martin, Zach Cameron, (10:30)
Gayle Rasmussen
- 21 Lee Holden, Jerry Wuestenberg (8:00)
John Schaub, Craig Tannahill (10:30)
Mark Hundley
- 28 Tim Raleigh, Del Traub, (8:00)
Shawn Gerard, Chuck Moeller
Andrew Claeys, Joe Claeys (10:30)

Elders

- 3 Brian Klever(1:00pm)
Tim Raleigh (7:00pm)
- 7 Scott Campell/Kyle Rehn (C)
(8:00)
Craig Tannahill (10:30)
- 10 Scott Campbell (1:00pm)
Craig Tannahill (7:00pm)
- 14 Quintin Gerard (8:00)
Jim Gruntorad/Tim Raleigh (C)
(10:30)
- 17 Brian Klever (1:00pm)
Jim Gruntorad (7:00pm)
- 21 Kyle Rehn/Quintin Gerard (C) (8:00)
Craig Tannahill (10:30)

- 24 Brian Klever (4:00pm)
Craig Tannahill (7:00pm)
- 25 Jim Gruntorad/Craig Tannahill (C)
(9:00am)
- 28 Scott Campbell (8:00)
Tim Raleigh/Brian Klever (C) (10:30)
- 31 Craig Tannahill/Kyle Rehn (C) (6:00pm)

Acolytes

- 3 Mason Rathe (7:00pm)
- 7 Maddox Grunwald (8:00)
Oliver Mangan (10:30)
- 10 Kip VanWetzinga (7:00pm)
- 14 Marissa Grunwald (8:00)
Michaela Goodwin (10:30)
- 17 Ryker Ayers (7:00pm)
- 21 Peyton Paxton (8:00)
Alivia Hanson (10:30)
- 24 Volunteer (4:00pm)
Volunteer (7:00pm)
- 25 Volunteer (9:00am)
- 28 Liam Deweerdt (8:00)
Corbin Cronkleton (10:30)
- 31 Volunteer (6:00pm)

Communion Washers

- 7 Jackie Holden
Linda Schroeder
Dorcas Smith
Dawn Dittmer
- 21 Jackie Holden
Marcia Perdieu
Dorcas Smith
Caralee Gruntorad
- 25 Cheryl Lunardi (9:00am)
- 28 Connie Youngers
Mary Lou Engler
Jamie Looney
Catherine Schaub
- 31 Connie Youngers (6:00pm)

Counters

- 7 Connie Youngers
Ralph/Pam Schnekloth
- 14 Jerry/Kay Hartwig
Andy Hartwig
- 21 Susan/Paul Kalainoff
Mary Fish
- 28 Mary Lou Engler
Sharon Tannahill

Nursery

- 7 Bethany Hoft
- 14 Sami Merten
- 21 NO NURSERY
- 28 NO NURSERY