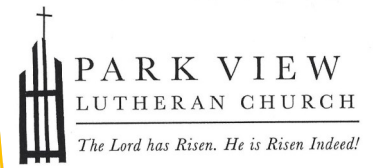


The Herald



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.

“For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.” - Psalm 100:5 (ESV)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

After 19 years of faithful service at Park View Lutheran Church, Pastor Pete has accepted a call to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Polk City, IA. We give thanks to God for his ministry among us and pray for him and his wife, Bethany, as they prepare for this transition.

One of the best ways we can show support for each other and for PVLC is through strong worship attendance during this vacancy period. Your presence encourages one another, as we are told in Hebrews 10:24, “...let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds”, and St. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12 that the church is one body with many parts need the others.

We are also blessed that **Pastor Kristian Kincaid**, who has filled in for Pastor Pete on several occasions - most recently on Dec. 20 - has agreed to serve as our **vacancy pastor**. We are grateful for his willingness to shepherd us during this time.

Pastor Kincaid was born and raised in Waverly, IA where his parents owned and operated a dry-cleaning business. He grew up in a family of one brother and three sisters. He attended Wartburg College in Waverly, and then Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, graduating in 1987. He served as assistant pastor at Our Savior in Norfolk, NE until 1993, when he accepted a call to serve as senior pastor at Our Redeemer in Dubuque. He served there 30 years before retiring in 2023. He received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 2005. He is married to Jennifer, and has three sons: Grant, a dentist in Farley, IA; Greyson, a physical therapist in Spencer, IA; and Gregor, who manages the Earle May store in Cedar Falls.

Pastor Kincaid's first Sunday with us will be **Feb. 1**. The initial plan is for him to conduct both worship services and teach Adult Bible Class on Sundays. He plans to be in Park View on Wednesdays, where he will conduct afternoon and evening Lenten services (beginning Feb. 18), make shut in calls, and teach 8th grade confirmation.

This season of change is also an opportunity - a time for us to grow together, strengthen our unity, and trust in God's provision as we await the man He has already chosen to be our next shepherd. We trust in the Lord's steadfast love and faithfulness. He has guided this congregation for many years, and He will continue to do so. May God bless our congregation with peace, patience, and hope in Christ during this time of transition.

In Christ,

Joshua Elmshaeuser
Chairman, Park View Lutheran Church

Scott Campbell
Senior Elder

Points of Interest

- ◆ *Vacancy Pastor*
- ◆ *Sunday School News*
- ◆ *New Bible Studies*
- ◆ *LYTES Schedule*
- ◆ *LYTES Service Project*
- ◆ *Church Family Nights*
- ◆ *February Voters Meeting*
- ◆ *Lent Begins in February*
- ◆ *Lenten Dinners*
- ◆ *Love Boxes*
- ◆ *March Easter Egg Hunt*

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
Vacancy Pastor Kristian Kincaid (563) 285-9035
DCE/DCO Bethany Dorschner (563) 285-9035

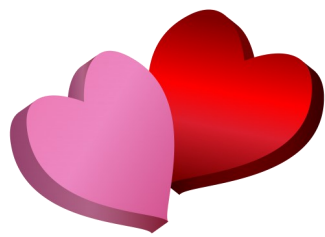
Normal Schedule:

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

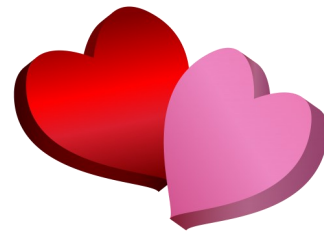
Sunday School/Bible Study:
Ages 3 - Adult 9:15 a.m.

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

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



February



Sunday School Curriculum & Schedule

Sunday School Lessons Preschool - 8th Grade

February 1st - A Divided Kingdom - *Jeroboam and Rehoboam*

February 8th - Comfort in Captivity - *Jeremiah*

February 15th - A Trap and Release - *Daniel*

February 22nd - Homecoming Hopes - *Return from Exile*

HIGH SCHOOL TOPICS - TO BE DETERMINED

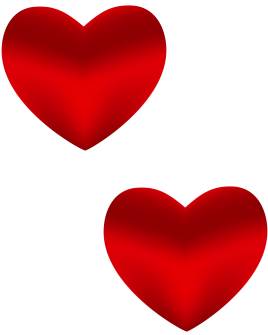
BRRR!
It's COLD!

Come inside where it's warm & join us for Sunday School or Bible Study!

LENT

THE SEASON OF LENT
STARTS
ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 18TH

Singing for
Pastor Pete &
Bethany



COMING SOON

Opportunities will be available to provide support for the Park View Easter Egg Hunt!

AND

VBS will be recruiting volunteers in the near future too!

So many exciting ways to help

Important 2026 Dates

February 18th - Ash Wednesday

March 28th - Park View Easter Egg Hunt

March 31st - Church Family Game Night

April 5th - Easter Sunday

May 3rd - Confirmation Sunday

May 17th - Last Day of Sunday School



February



Other Education & Bible Study Opportunities

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Come join
Pastor Kincaid
Sunday mornings at 9:15
in the Multi-Purpose Room.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Watch for information
regarding the
meeting time and topic!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meets Thursday mornings at
9:30 in the Multi-Purpose
Room.
We will be studying
Pastor Kincaid's book,
"My Peace I Leave You; Christ's
Comfort in the Storms of Life".

February Confirmation Schedule

4th - 6 to 7pm (Class)

11th - 6 to 7pm (Class)

18th - 6 to 6:50pm (Class)

7pm - Ash Wednesday Service

20th - Fun Station

25th 6-6:50pm (Class)

7pm - 2nd Lenten Service

Meal Served by 7th & 8th Grade
Youth and Parents



SHARE & CARE
CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

We may have just turned the calendar to a new year, but preparations are already underway for the 2026-2027 school year. We are excited to unveil our new, yearly theme: 'Adventure in Faith,' which is a camping theme. Registrations are open and we will hold our Annual Registration Night on February 26th from 6-7:30. Tours are available by appointment that evening. Please help us spread the word! Also new this year, is our new brightwheel system that will allow all of our registrations and enrollments to happen online.

At the beginning of next school year, we will also hold a drawing for two \$25 gift cards from the list of those who recommend our preschool. When a new family registers and puts your name down for how they heard of Share & Care, you will automatically be entered into that drawing. Word of mouth is our best recruitment tool. We also encourage you to follow our public Facebook page for more of what's happening inside our walls and to share these posts, too!

In January, students enjoyed some warmer, albeit, muddy days outside and some fun inside, especially with our yearly PJ day. This year each student got to take home a pair of fuzzy socks as a special gift. We also played a bunch of fun games for our special day. We also enjoyed a visit from Nahant Marsh.

In February, we will be completing spring assessments and holding our spring parent-teacher conferences. We also look forward to celebrating Valentine's Day with our students. Students are welcome to bring a Valentine to share with their classmates and will receive a Valentine from their teachers, too. A reminder to all of us - Jesus loves you!

February will also bring Our Month of Caring project. Please keep an eye out in the bulletin and church announcements for details.

Blessings,
Jennifer Rathe, Director

LYTES

Lord's Youth Touching Everyone Spiritually

February 4th - 6 to 7pm

February 18th - 6 to 6:50 pm
Followed by Ash Wednesday Service

February 25th - 6 to 6:50pm
Followed by Lenten Service



JANUARY

Happenings!



Confirmation Lock-In



Pastor Pete & Bethany Farewell

LYTES Service Project



The LYTES would like to thank the congregation for their support of the soup jar service project. With your support and Thrivent Action Team seed money, we were able to make 20 pints and 9 quarts of potato soup mix and 55 pints and 16 quarts of chicken noodle soup mix. These will be delivered to local food pantries and distributed in the community.

Faith
Fellowship
FOOD
Fun



Short Devotion

Bring Appetizers
to share!

Have lots of
FUN!

Questions?

Contact

Bethany Dorschner

or

Kerri Rehn

SAVE THE DATES

for
Church Family Nights

(All events are at church from 5-7pm)

Tentative List of Events

March 28th

Bible Escape Room

May 30th

Indoor/Outdoor Scavenger Hunt

July 18th

Bags Tournament & Large Games

September 26th

Game Night & Chili Cook Off

November 21st - TBD

You are our church family!

Please come join the fun!

A Season of Change

Change has a way of getting our attention. Sometimes it arrives gently, and other times it comes all at once, asking us to adjust more quickly than we would like. As a church family, we find ourselves in one of those moments right now.

With Pastor Pete accepting the Call to serve another congregation, we are stepping into a season of transition. We are grateful for his ministry among us and for the ways God has worked through his leadership, care, and faithfulness. At the same time, his departure brings real emotions—gratitude, sadness, uncertainty, and questions about what comes next. Entering a pastoral vacancy can feel unfamiliar and even uncomfortable. The unknown often does. But in the middle of all this change, God offers us something steady: hope.

Hope does not mean pretending that change is easy or that questions don't exist. Biblical hope is deeper than optimism—it is a confident trust that God is at work even when we cannot yet see the full picture. Scripture reminds us again and again that the Lord is faithful, that He goes before His people, and that His plans are rooted in love and purpose.

This season is not a sign that God has stepped away from us. It is a reminder that the church does not belong to any one pastor, leader, or moment in time. The church belongs to Christ. He is our foundation, our shepherd, and our guide—yesterday, today, and forever.

Throughout the Bible, God's people often encountered Him most clearly during times of transition. The Israelites stood at the edge of the Jordan River, unsure of what awaited them on the other side. The disciples gathered after Jesus' ascension, uncertain of how they would move forward. Again and again, God met His people, not with every answer laid out neatly, but with His presence—and that was enough.

We, too, are invited to trust that God is present here and now. He is already preparing what comes next, even if we don't yet know what that will look like. He is already working in ways seen and unseen. And He is already calling us to lean into faith rather than fear.

This is a season to be a praying church. A listening church. A hopeful church. As we wait, we wait actively—encouraging one another, staying rooted in worship and Scripture, and continuing to love and serve as God's people. Our mission has not changed. Our calling has not changed. God's promises have not changed.

Hope reminds us that waiting is not wasted time. Waiting is often where God shapes us, strengthens us, and prepares us for what is to come. It teaches us to rely not on certainty, but on faith. Not on control, but on trust. As we move forward together, may we hold fast to this truth: God is with us. He has been faithful in our past, He is faithful in our present, and He will be faithful in our future. No transition can take that away.

May this season draw us closer to Him and to one another, and may we step into what comes next with confidence—not because we know the plan, but because we know the One who does!

Peace to you, my friend in Christ.

Bethany Dorschner, DCE/O



Love Box Donations

Final Date to donate is Sunday, February 1. NO cough drops, NO large Kleenex boxes, NO liquids. **HOMEMADE ITEMS** will be ACCEPTED. WRO is collecting items to send to approximately 24 of our loved ones away at college. Items needed include: individual packs Kleenex, gum, cookies, pencils, sticky notes, candy, toothpaste, pens. Cash donations are greatly appreciated. Please look for the donation boxes located in the fellowship hall.

Packing the Love Boxes will be on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 6:00pm.

February Voters Meeting

Our February Voter's Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 15, 2026** beginning at **11:30am**. Communicant members of PVLC, 18 and older, are urged to attend.

Join us as we look to discuss and vote on our 2026 budget as well as an update on our call process.



Seeking a group to provide Lenten dinner on Wednesday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m. Please contact the church office 285-9035 to volunteer your group.

Lent



Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2026 Services
1:00 & 7:00pm
Lenten Dinner @ 5:30pm

Wednesday Lenten Services
February 25, March 4, 11, *18 & 25
1:00 & 7:00 pm

Lenten Dinner @ 5:30pm
***No Dinner March 18**



Members Bring Back
Their Bulletins

Bethany Dorschner, St. Matthew
Lutheran Church, Worthington, MN

Lee and Jackie Holden, Our Savior
Lutheran Church, Carbondale, IL



Mark Your Calendars for the
Forever Young
Lunch and Game Day

Please join us on Thursday, March 12th
at **Noon** for pizza, guest speaker and games.

Guest Speaker: Vicki Hamdorf



- 1 Addie Akin
- 2 Marcia Perdieu
- 3 Dan Kilen
Pam Pischke
Riley Toohey
Sharon Kavanaugh
- 5 Brenton Collins
Lu Foss
Judy Mumm
Valerie Ray
- 7 Bob Ferguson
Landry Goodwin
- 8 Michael Bartel
Amanda Dees
- 9 Jennifer Wilshusen
- 10 Wyatt Marchant
Michelle Rohlf
- 11 Wayne Ott
Jana VanWetzinga
Jack T. Woodard
- 12 Doug Amhof
Daniel Chumbley
Cheryl Lunardi
Tatum Merten
- 13 Dorothy England
- 14 Sue Petersen
Jennifer Rathe
- 15 Donna Chumbley
- 16 Bethany Dorschner
Cathy Hoyer
- 18 Laura Flack
- 19 Rich Atwood
Jenna Gerard
- 20 Rod Weiss
- 22 Josh Carstens
Adaline Rubach
- 23 Blayne Goodwin
Ross Grunwald
Betty Lockhart
- 24 Cole Gerard
Amy Nelson
- 26 Sue Regan
Randy Warm



- 5 Rick & Mindy Schroeder (21)

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 from our Great Physician.

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

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

For Bob Ferguson, recovering from carpal tunnel surgery.

For Esther Harrison, under medical care.

For Cathy Hoyer, health issues.

For the family of Lu Foss, called to her Savior last month.

For the family of Karen Schaar, called to the church triumphant last month.

For Gene and Trish Horn, the birth of a great grandson, Jameson.

For Pastor Pete and his family, as they prepare to move to Polk City, IA

For Park View Lutheran, as we begin the process of calling a pastor.

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

PVLC:

Overseas: Jadin Valesco; Lucas Miller; **Stateside:** Michael Bartel, Tanner Carpenter, Caleb Claeys, Kasey Denison, Larry Goodwin, Isabella Richards, Alan Rubach, Brett Slaughter, Christopher Teuscher, 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, Valerie Ray's mom, Lois, 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

Current Membership

Baptized Members 519
 Communicant Members 420

Official Acts**Gains:**

Transfer:

Adult Confirmation: Luke Striegel; Joni and Tom Dittmer

Junior Confirmation:

Profession of Faith:

Baptism: Rowen Grimes; Maddox, Marissa, and Makinley Grunwald

Losses:

Transfer:

Removal:

Peaceful Release: Angela Striegel

Own Request:

The Church Triumphant: Lulubelle Foss; Karen Schaar

From Our Records**Sunday Attendance**

12/07/2025 - 113

12/14/2025 - 191

12/21/2025 - 138

12/28/2025 - 152

Wednesday Advent Attendance

12/03/2025 - 93

12/10/2025 - 108

12/17/2025 - 115

Christmas Eve Attendance

12/24/2025 - 249

Christmas Day Attendance

12/25/2025 - 78

New Years Eve Attendance

12/31/2025 - 36

Total December Attendance: 1,273**Financial**

	<u>December 25</u>	<u>2025 YTD</u>
General Fund Income	\$57,249	\$472,175
General Fund Expenses	\$62,219	\$543,338
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$4,970)	(\$71,163)

During the month of September there was a bill in the amount of \$69,824 and another for \$4,250 attributed to concrete work in our parking lot.

Principal Only Payments Collected	\$50	\$5,306
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The General Fund includes envelope offerings, loose plate offerings, Sunday school offerings and Share and Care Preschool income. The General Fund is used to pay day to day expenses of the church and preschool, salaries, mission support, etc.

The General Fund **does not include contributions specifically earmarked** for the St. Stephen's fund, memorials, etc.

February 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00am-Worship HC 9:15am-SS/BS 10:30am-Worship	2 7:00pm-Education Mtg	3 9:00am-Quilting	4 6:00pm-Confirmation 6:00pm-LYTES 6:00pm-Love Box Pack	5 9:30am-WBS	6	7
8 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-SS/BS 10:30am-Worship HC	9 6:30pm-Ex Bd Mtg	10 9:00am-Quilting	11 6:00pm-Confirmation	12 9:30am-WBS	13	14
15 8:00am-Worship HC 9:15am-SS/BS 10:30am-Worship 11:30am-Voters Mtg	16 6:30pm-Fairbooth Mtg	17 9:00am-Quilting	18 1:00pm-Worship HC 5:30pm-Dinner 6:00pm-Confirmation 6:00pm-LYTES 7:00pm-Worship HC	19 9:30am-WBS	20 Confirmation Outing to Fun Station	21
22 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-SS/BS 10:30am-Worship HC 11:30am-VBS Mtg	23 6:30pm-Elders Mtg	24 9:00am-Quilting	25 1:00pm-Worship 5:30pm-Dinner 6:00pm-Confirmation 6:00pm-LYTES 7:00pm-Worship	26 9:30am-WBS	27	28

February Serving Schedule

Ushers

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

Elders

- 1 Quintin Gerard/Jim Gruntorad (C)
(8:00)
Craig Tannahill (10:30)
- 8 Kyle Rehn (8:00)
Tim Raleigh/Craig Tannahill (C)
(10:30)
- 15 Scott Campbell/Kyle Rehn (C)
(8:00)
Andy Hartwig (10:30)
- 18 Brian Klever (C) (1:00)
Quintin Gerard (C) (7:00)
- 22 Jim Gruntorad (8:00)
Craig Tannahill (C) (10:30)
- 25 Scott Campbell(1:00)
Andy Hartwig (7:00)

Acolytes

- 1 Marissa Grunwald (8:00)
Maddox Drummond (10:30)
- 8 Ryker Ayers (8:00)
Brooklyn Hanson (10:30)
- 15 Peyton Paxton (8:00)
Alivia Hanson(10:30)
- 18 Elder (1:00)
Liam Deweerdt (7:00pm)
- 22 Zane Ayers (8:00)
Michaela Goodwin (10:30)
- 25 Elder (1:00)
Corbin Cronkleton (7:00)

Communion Washers

- 1 Jackie Holden
Cheryl Lunardi
- 8 Jamie Looney
Teri Wuestenberg
- 15 Marcia Perdieu
Kathy Anderson
- 18 Connie Youngers (7pm)
Mary Lou Kaney (7pm)
- 22 Mary Lou Kaney
Dawn Dittmer

Counters

- 1 Paul/Susan Kalainoff
Mary Fish
- 8 Mary Lou Engler
Sharon Tannahill
- 15 Lee/Jackie Holden
Doug/Aimee Egesdal
- 22 Randy Ridgeway
Tracy Carstens

Nursery

- 1 Jennifer Rathe
- 8 Sami Merten
- 15 Cheryl Lunardi
- 22 Michelle Rohlf