

St. Peter's 2009 Annual Report

Rector's Preface

It's that time again! A new year – both in the church and in the world – has begun. It's time for St. Peter's Annual Meeting: time to review where we've been in our life together; time to discern where God is calling us to go as the Body of Christ on the corner of Middle Road and Spruce Hills in Bettendorf.

It doesn't seem possible we've been in ministry together for ten years. For me, the time has "flown" by. Since 1999 we've renovated our building inside and out, enhanced our worship space and improved our grounds. These projects have been widely owned and financially supported by members of our parish. We've worked to make our worship more inviting to people of all ages, to offer a wide variety of educational programs, to provide pastoral care and fellowship activities through which the incarnate love of God can be experienced and to reach out to the community beyond our doors. Financial giving by parish households has steadily increased and we've had several years of "nearly balanced" budgets.

Early in 2009 I participated in a workshop on long-term pastorates led by Roy Oswald who is a well-respected church consultant. I'd like to share some of what I learned because I think it pertains to our life and work together: partnerships between congregations and clergy that are healthy and long-term (longer than seven years) provide stability that is foundational for excellence in ministry together; 2) as the years go by, members of the congregation increasingly trust the clergy person to be their pastor but are less confident that (s)he will "lead the congregation to great things"; 3) over time the percentage of people in leadership who see "eye-to-eye" with the clergy person tends to increase and those who see things differently become more quiet and less involved; and 4) if a congregation is to enjoy the benefits of a long-term pastorate and avoid the liabilities, it is important that strategic planning be done regularly and a

broad representation of the congregation included in parish leadership.

I think our partnership is basically healthy. We've been doing strategic planning and widening the circle of who's involved. I've never seen myself (nor I think been seen by most of you) as the one who is going to lead St. Peter's "to great things." I don't believe that's how the church should operate. Yes, I am the one who focuses full time on our parish and I do have some spiritual gifts, some talents and skills, some specialized training for ministry and parish leadership. But, you also have spiritual gifts, talents, skills, work and life experience and passions that are needed. What attracted me most to St. Peter's was how faithfully you did ministry and how well you functioned as a parish family during the interim. When I first became your rector I was very intentional about trying not to do anything that might interfere with the leadership members of St. Peter's were exercising. As I look back over the past ten years, I wonder if over time the demands of your lives (and my desire to understand those demands and not "burden" you) and my sense of responsibility and tendency to over-function have resulted in us relying too much on my ideas and my way of doing things. I see myself as a strong collegial leader but maybe I haven't been collaborative enough. For St. Peter's to be all God calls us to be, we'll need inspiration and empowerment from the Holy Spirit and the wisdom, talents and skills of us all.

In his letter to the Church in Corinth, the apostle Paul speaks of the different gifts of the Spirit (wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, working of miracles, prophecy, discernment of spirits, speaking in tongues and interpretation of tongues) given to members of the community for the common good. He addresses the Corinthians' struggle to be the Body of Christ in the midst of their experience of living with those differing gifts. Paul uses the human body as a simile when he talks

about the gifts of individuals within the context of Christian community. He speaks of the members of the church as being like parts of the human body (eyes, ears, hands, feet). Each part is different; each has a particular ability it gives, a particular perspective it offers; the body needs each and every part. Each individual part and its unique contribution is important. But it's what each contributes to the whole, what they all do together that's more important.

God gifts and arranges us as God chooses. All of us are indispensable in God's eyes and in this church community. As members of Christ's body, we are in communion with one another. We gather around one table to share the same food and drink. We are interconnected – called out of isolated separateness and bound together by the Holy Spirit – yet not losing our individuality, the gifts and needs we each bring to community.

The mutuality, the goodness we experience at St. Peter's is not for ourselves alone. We are nourished at Christ's table and then sent out into the world to love and serve. The opening prayer of the Eucharist we celebrate on the Sunday of our Annual Meeting this year asks God to "give us grace to readily answer the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and to proclaim the Good News of his salvation." Sharing the reconciling love of God is what ministry is all about. And, all of us are ministers. For ministry is the responsibility and the privilege of all Christians by virtue of our baptism. All of us are called to share the love of God. We come to church to be more deeply formed as Christians, to hear God's word and to receive God's grace through the outward signs of bread and wine. But, the real church is the Body of Christ – you out there in the world living your faith. As Frederick Buechner puts it, "On this planet at least, the Church is the only body that for the time being Christ has, which is to say that you and I are the only bodies Christ has. He has no hands to reach out to people except our hands, no feet to go to them except our feet, no other eyes to see them with, nor other faces to show them his love."

One of missions of St. Peter's is to support each of you in your ministries out there in the world and to regularly offer you a variety of opportunities to give of yourself for others (community meal, CROP Walk, women's shelter, food pantry, etc). These are all important ways in which you (as individuals and households) share the reconciling love of God in Christ. Are we, as a parish community, called to do something together to share God's love? And, if so, what? *Lynne+*

Passages in the Life of the Parish

The Vestry (term ending)

Mike Johnson (2010)
Paul Koch (2010)
Joan Marttila (2010)

Steve Trainor (resigned)
Sonita Oldfield-Carlson (2011)
Marty Yeast (2011)

Nancy Czubara (2012)
Jane Hoffman (2012)
Anne Petrie (2012)

During the year 2009, we

Baptized:

Amira Elizabeth O'Hare Bougadi
Zoe JoEllen Satterfield
Genevieve Rose Scheidecker

Married:

Leonard William Dose Jr. & Patricia Ann Kirkland
Aaron Ray Rex & Maria Theresa Timm
Anthony Joe Behncke & Jamie Em Johnson

Confirmed & Received:

Carolyn Krenos-Bodnar
Robert Allen Petrie

Entrusted to God the souls of the faithful departed:

Helen Elizabeth Willson

Welcomed:

Mary & Michael Cullen
Mary, Steve, Olivia & Julianne Raab
Sarah, Samantha & Rachael Wesson

Sent off with our blessing:

Mike Finnegan
Rose Gibson
John Hildreth
Ruth Mehuys
Susan Sacco

Annual Meeting Minutes - January 25th, 2009

(submitted but not yet approved)

Brunch was served by the vestry and the Rite-13 group prior to the meeting.

At 9:20 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Rev. Carver who pointed out the material on the tables: new parish directories, retreat information, and the annual report.

Paul Koch led an opening prayer.

The minutes from the 2008 Annual Meeting and the 2008 Annual Report were presented. After no corrections were suggested, Pat Kirkland made a motion that the reports be accepted. Nancy Czubara seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Outgoing vestry members, Peter McAndrews and Doug Druckenmiller, were thanked for serving on the vestry for the past three years.

Nomination of new vestry members was called for with the following names being presented: Nancy Czubara, Jane Hoffman, Sonita Oldfield-Carlson, Anne Petrie, and Marty Yeast. Bruce Tinsman moved to accept the nominated members by acclamation. Joe Chambers seconded. The new vestry members were approved and welcomed.

Paul Koch reviewed our mission statement and invited comments. He suggested that we see our size as a gift, evaluate our existing programs, and consider our goals as dynamic.

Bruce Tinsman gave background information on our original mortgage. To celebrate the pay-off of the mortgage, the note was burned as the congregation applauded. Bruce pointed out that the pay-off will result in an additional \$6000 per year in the budget. He then reviewed the 2008 budget information previously mailed to the congregation, answered questions, and thanked the members for their continued financial support. He then previewed the 2009 budget, calling attention to the provisions for the parish sabbatical. Doug Druckenmiller moved to accept

the proposed budget. Peter McAndrews seconded the motion. All approved.

Mike Johnson introduced plans for the kitchen remodeling and thanked all who have donated materials, time, and expertise so far. He requested that the congregation complete donation or talent cards to determine what work can be completed by the members. He also asked for feedback on the plans that were presented.

Joan Martilla provided information about the sabbatical program for Rev. Carver and the congregation made possible by a grant from the Lilly Endowment. Funds will provide books for all parish households as well as for Rev. Carver's sabbatical from March-June 2009.

No further business was presented. Duane Timm moved that the meeting be adjourned. Nancy Czubara seconded the motion. All approved.

Minutes submitted by Lanell Mogab

Wardens' Report

We are a busy people at St. Peter's, and we suspect that many of you, like us, get caught up in the 24/7 lifestyle! Our Vestry reflects the congregation in many ways, including being very busy. It was a rare Vestry meeting when all of us were able to attend, and we saw one of our members move on during the course of the year. At times we might get concerned about Sunday attendance, but then we recall that we are an active and mobile people and that many are often gone for work and family and that they will return. Taken in this context, while we may not often be physically crowded in the pews, we have a large church family that keeps each other in our thoughts and hearts where there is always room.

This was an exciting year filled with changes. We accomplished many things we set out to do at St. Peter's. Lynne was able to take a sabbatical, thanks to the Lilly Foundation grant. Sabbatical provided Lynne with an opportunity for renewal which will benefit St. Peter's for many years to come. It was a time for rest, reflection and growth, both for Lynne and for the congregation. As members of the

parish, we had the opportunity to “step up to the plate” as Christian leaders, bringing our time, talent, and strengths to each other and to our community in Lynne’s absence. We are grateful to Lynne for everything she brings to our church family and were delighted to celebrate Lynne’s tenth year with us in 2009. Ten years!

This year we were able to share in the incredible gifts of John Horn who stepped in to be our priest in Lynne’s absence. We were both saddened and proud to see John leave us to take up his ministry at Christ Church in Burlington, Iowa. We sent him on his way in June with our love and blessings.

Together we shared a parish retreat at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center, where we discussed how to make St. Peter’s stronger and more vital. Additional discussions followed for those who were not available to attend the retreat. Together we can work to keep St. Peter’s an inviting and fulfilling parish for many years to come.

Another significant change we experienced this year was the renovation of the St. Peter’s kitchen. Thanks to generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure the kitchen is more attractive and functional which will allow us to follow our vision to serve those in the broader community as well as our own St. Peter’s family. This year the Vestry will examine how our space can be better used to bring Christ’s message of love and peace to the community.

In 2010, the Vestry will continue to refine ideas and designs for the bioswale/rain garden and labyrinth projects. We look forward to sharing the enthusiasm and energy of the parish during this next step of our journey together.

Jane Hoffman and Anne Petrie, Co-Wardens.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild members are Caryl Bucksbaum, Pat Johnsen, Sherree Koch Nancy McMullen, Lanell Mogab, Helen Willson, Marty Yeast, and our newest member Lori Shaffnit. We are responsible for setting up and cleaning the altar flowers, candles, vestments, hymn numbers – for every

service that is held at St. Peter’s. Marty Yeast makes the communion bread. We are always looking for new members. Please consider joining us.

We appreciate the financial support for flowers and plants to remember special times and people. Envelopes are available in the back of the church for donations with space for the date, the occasion, or any other requests you may have.

The Christmas evergreen fruit wreaths are made by the altar guild and support team. Many heartfelt thanks go to all who helped in taking the wreaths down and cleaning up. *Marty Yeast*

Choir

The members of St. Peter’s choir included, Doug and Pat Druckenmiller, Jane Heesch, John Hoffman, Mike Johnson, Renee Long, Jean O’Hare, Pamela O’Hare, Mark Petrie, Robert Petrie, Linda Roy, Joe and Marla Tedesco, Bruce Tinsman, Eula Williams, Jerry Yeast, and John Swarney.

New hymns introduced at St. Peter’s this year included: *We shall overcome; How can I keep from singing?; Come to the banquet; You are strong, you are holy; The reign of God; Eternal Father, strong to save; Take and eat this bread; Open my eyes, that I may see; and Christ is coming.*

New choral offertories included: *Thy word; Like a child; Were I the perfect child of God; and Come, my Lord, my light, my way.*

Special music included: Dean Rock playing trumpet at the wedding of Pat Kirkland and Len Dose; Marla Tedesco, Bruce Tinsman, Jane Heesch and Robert Petrie each singing a section of the Great Litany during Lent; Linda Roy singing the *Exultet* at the Easter Vigil; Linda Roy and Renee Long singing *In His time* and *He shall feed his flock like a shepherd*; and Doug Druckenmiller playing guitar with the choir for *Were I the perfect child of God.*

Special music by the youth and children of St. Peter’s included: summer offertories by Emily Jones of two piano pieces she composed; Emily Tinsman playing clarinet; Ben Tinsman playing

piano; Tavia Swarney playing piano. The Youth Choir sang *This little light of mine* for the Bishop's visit and *Rejoice, rejoice* on Christ the King Sunday. Special music on Christmas Eve was by Sammie Wesson playing a piano piece she composed; by Tavia Swarney, Will Snowball, Grace Rood, Ben Tinsman, and Emily Jones playing piano; by Emily Tinsman playing clarinet; and by Katelyn O'Hare and Emily Tinsman singing a duet. The youth choir consisting of Will Snowball, Lydia Swarney, Tavia Swarney, Ben Tinsman, Olivia Raab, McKenzie Wilson, Sammie Wesson and Ellis Carlson sang: *O sing a song of Bethlehem; Come, behold Him; and We wish you a Merry Christmas.*

Thanks for all the support throughout the years,
James O'Hare
Organist and Choir Director

To Members, Friends, and Clergy of St. Peter's Church –

Thank you so much for the past many years. Time has gone so quickly. Jean and I and all of our family have been blessed with your support and friendship. Special recognition and thanks to choir members over the years, for the beautiful music during worship time.

Many thanks for the generous retirement gift. It was truly a surprise and will be used to good advantage for upcoming weekend trips.

See you in church, *James*

Christian Education

Our focus during the early months of 2009 was on keeping Sabbath which was one of the themes of St. Peter's sabbatical. Thanks to the generosity of the Lilly Endowment copies of *Sabbath Keeping* by Donna Schaper were provided for all parish households. *Keeping the Sabbath: Not Just on Sunday*, our 4th annual retreat at St. Mary Monastery in Rock Island, provided a leisurely opportunity to discuss the book and to create a rule of life that included being intentional about Sabbath practices such as taking time off, disconnecting from cell phones and computers and resting. During Lent our Wednesday evening soup

suppers provided another opportunity to discuss the book and be mindful of Sabbath keeping.

St. Peter's youngest members are nourished in the Atrium of the *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*. Our church school classes are using *The Best of the Whole People of God*, a web-based curriculum that offers a wider variety of lesson material across different age groups. We continue to offer the *Journey to Adulthood* program for our youth. During the first part of the year members of the adult class are rotating leadership guided by the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum. The latter months of the year saw the group watching and discussing videos on the Gospels (*Gospels: The Four Stories, One Jesus* with N. T. Wright) and spirituality (*Questions of the Soul with Michael Himes*). An Advent retreat focused on slowing down and prayerfully waiting for the coming of Christ. We are delighted to once again offer the *Education for Ministry* Program.

The children and youth of St. Peter's along with their teachers "preached" the sermon at our Christmas Eve service. The pageant *The Best Sleepover Ever* was written by the Rite-13 group (Ella McDonald, Katelyn O'Hare and Emily Tinsman). The pageant was narrated by their mentor Ghada Hamdan-Allen. Two girls Melissa and Kelly (played by Ella McDonald and Katelyn O'Hare) shared a sleepover where they talked and dreamed about Christmas. Portraying the Christmas story in their dreams were Emily Tinsman (innkeeper), Tavia Swarney (Mary), Ben Tinsman (Joseph), Ellis Carlson, Will Snowball and Bruce Tinsman (Magi), Corinne Scheidecker, Clare & Sharon Tinsman and Rachael Wesson (angels), Lydia Swarney, McKenzie Wilson and Olivia Raab (sheep), Lorri Swarney (shepherd) and Sammie Wesson (camel).

Leaders in the 2009-2010 Christian Education Program include Sharon Tinsman in the Atrium, Lisa Bancroft and Lorri Swarney in the Younger Church School, Patrick Carlson and Shelley Chambers in the Older Children's Church School, Ghada Hamden-Allen in Rite-13, Joe Chambers and Lynne Carver in J2-A. Pat Kirkland and Linda Neuman serve as EFM mentors. *Lynne+*

Fellowship

Fellowship activities build community, help us experience Christ in one another and provide opportunities for inviting others in.

Thanks to Ghada Hamdan-Allen, Jane Heesch, Jane Hoffman, Monique McDonald, Peter & Kitty McAndrews, Mark & Nancy McMullen, Lanell Mogab, Mary Rayburn, Linda Roy & Dave Snowball, Marla Tedesco, Marty & Jerry Yeast for serving as coffee hour hosts on Sunday mornings. The Rite-13 group served three Sundays in December, shared information about their favorite charities and donated money received to those charities.

Additional fellowship activities during 2009 included Lenten soup suppers, two picnics and Nine-to-Dine groups.

One of the vestry's goals for 2009 (coming out of our strategic planning) was enhancing relationships. Here interpersonal and spiritual met concrete, in that, a renovated kitchen would support opportunities for fellowship and reaching out to the community. Thanks to your generosity of time, talent and treasure we have a wonderful "new" kitchen. Now, we're ready to reach out!

Outreach (to those beyond our doors)

This may be the way we best represent Christ on earth. Remember Jesus' words in Matthew's gospel: "just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me." THANK you for your help. Please continue to give what you can: 'Many hands make light work!'

The biggest impact is probably the every-other-month "Community Meal," where many give food and others serve the dinner at Davenport's Salvation Army, on 6th and Harrison. Thanks to all who bring food! Thanks to Jane Hoffman, Monique McDonald, and Anne Petrie for their leadership and Kris Ion-Rood for her help. SPECIAL thanks to Keith Wilson who ALWAYS cleans up (bless him!!) As many as 120 meals are served at these times. If you show up by 5:30, you'll be on your way by 6:45.

Ruth Killinger, Jean O'Hare and Fran Carson lead the way to (and work AT) the Bettendorf Food Pantry which always needs supplies. Each 2 hour session there they wait on about 5 families, (sometimes 9 or 10) and are told that about 90 families have been using the pantry each month (a 30% increase over past years). The "birthday can" donations have been given to the food pantry. St. Peter's has been very generous in bringing food -- thank you!

Led by the Rite-13 group, St. Peter's donated money to the CROP walk for hunger and helped three families at Christmas.

Through the rector's discretionary fund, St. Peter's, along with other Bettendorf churches, financially supported the Bettendorf Care Link Program that provides social work services (primarily referral) and financial help to people who come to our door or call asking for assistance. In addition we helped several people directly. We also contributed to the National Children's Cancer Foundation, Special Olympics, Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Vanished Children's Alliance, Children's Wish Foundation, and American Association of the Deaf-Blind.

The table in the hallway continues to be filled by your generosity for those women & children seeking safe haven at the Domestic Violence Shelter. We made many deliveries on your behalf. A notice-of-needs will attempt to be posted every month, telling you of the latest. If it's some toiletry you've picked up on your travels...or an item sitting around your home you haven't used and won't in the future -- SOMEone can use it to help start their life over again. Bless you. *Steve Trainor*

Pastoral Care

Here at St. Peter's we are all ministers -- "ordained" by our baptism so it isn't just Lynne+ who offers pastoral care. During the past few years we've encouraged all parishioners to consider themselves part of St. Peter's "pastoral care team." It is through pastoral care that we reach out/in to one another. Most people in our parish have volunteered to serve, many in several areas.

During 2009 many parishioners helped other members of St. Peter's by praying, visiting, listening, providing transportation, cleaning, assisting with errands and chores and helping with receptions. Thank you!

Property

The Property Committee was quite busy during 2009, the major accomplishment being management of the Kitchen Modernization. Funding was achieved in March, with work active from late April through July. Small improvements continue, to make the Kitchen as "user-friendly" as possible. **Many thanks to all those who assisted in the installations;** St. Peter's members completed the entire modernization, except installation of the countertops (included in the countertop contract).

HVAC:

- Schebler continued maintaining the HVAC Systems...this scheduled maintenance was effective in averting emergency repairs.
- Miller Electric replaced the main furnace automatic damper, for outside air intake. This should improve temperature control in the Furnace Room and Kitchen (cold air intake will be eliminated when the Furnaces are idling).
- A De-humidifier (with pump for automatic emptying of the reservoir) was purchased and set-up in the Kitchen. It is working properly, eliminating the need to manually empty the reservoir.

FIRE DEPARTMENT INSPECTIONS:

- Locks were changed on the Day School doors, to meet the Fire Department's Safety Inspection.
- All Emergency Exit Lights were checked; one faulty unit was replaced. All Emergency Lighting is functional.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPROVEMENT / MAINTENANCE ITEMS:

- The Atrium walls were scraped and repainted in September. The existing paint was poorly adhered, due to Furnace Sump Design (Sump failure caused water to back-

up into the heating ducts to the Atrium and Chapel.

- Miller Electric repaired the Outside Lights for the Church entryway.
- A basic Stereo System is being installed in the basement Activity Room. Hopefully, this will be used to provide music for both congregation and Sunday school activities.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

It is important to remember several items for the future:

- Emergency Lighting – Five (5) Emergency Lighting fixtures are stored in the basement for replacement of the old fixtures as they fail.
- Painting – Brushes, Rollers, a Sprayer, and Trays are all stored in the basement maintenance closet. These are in good condition for future painting activities.
- HVAC Sumps – The sumps for controlling water in the Furnace areas remain a maintenance problem. If a sump pump fails, the heating ducts partially fill with water, decreasing the heating efficiency and causing high humidity (hot air flowing over water). Revision to the sump depth or duct configuration should be considered.
- Church Glass (West) Wall – The upper window sections leaked during a driving snow this winter; the leakage was probably due to both old window glazing and rotted window support frames. When the outside temperatures are milder, the entire wall should be inspected by a commercial window company...with recommendations and estimates on repairs.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS/BASEMENT RESTROOMS

- Handicapped Access to the basement restrooms was reviewed with the Pre-School personnel. The Pre-School is responsible for any required revisions, as they are not required for Church functions. Anne Petrie has worked with the Pre-school to provide one stall that is handicapped accessible.

Mike Johnson

Sabbatical

Beginning during Lent of 2009 and continuing through June, all of St. Peter's was invited to consider what Sabbath means and how it can be practiced in the 21st century – in our individual lives and in the life of our parish. We hoped this sabbatical time would renew us all and give us the tools to live more balanced lives in the midst of the “24/7” pressure of the world around us. Many of you have commented on how helpful you found reading, reflecting on and discussing the book *Sabbath Keeping*. My sabbatical time at Holy Cross Monastery, in the Outer Banks and in the Boundary Waters was life-giving. I came home from that time with a list of “remembers” (to help me integrate what I'd experienced with my “normal” life) frame days with prayer, meditate, “let God be God”, nurture connections with family and friends, be creative. As several of you have shared with me about your efforts, it's been challenging to follow through with making changes so my life is better balanced.

St. Peter's sabbatical plan included not only Sabbath keeping for us human beings but also for the rest of God's creation. (Sabbath in Scripture includes not only rest for human beings but also the regular opportunity for the natural world to return to its' original goodness.) In recent years many people at St. Peter's have become increasingly committed to being better stewards of the world God has entrusted to our care and there is strong interest in ecologically based ministry. During sabbatical I studied ecological theology and environmental ethics and members of the parish began planning for a bio-swale which will return a portion of our grounds to their original prairie goodness.

Lynne+

Strategic Planning

About three years ago, the vestry and I saw a need to “step back” from month to month planning and look long term: what is the mission of St. Peter's and what would that mission look like as we engaged it? We worked together to write a mission statement: *The mission of St. Peter's is to be a supportive congregation for all seeking and*

wanting to share Christ's love in a welcoming and inclusive community where the Bible, human reason and the historical traditions of the Church are celebrated. At last year's Annual Meeting we shared a vision: *At St. Peter's we help each other experience the love of God, connect the meaning and purpose we find in Christianity with our 24/7 lives and share the resources of our tradition so that we can live with integrity, compassion and joy.*

One of our goals for 2009 was to evaluate existing programs from the perspective of their potential for helping us live more fully into our vision. All members of the parish were invited to participate in a retreat in July at Our Lady of the Prairie. Anonymously completed questionnaires and small group discussion offered participants opportunities to reflect on and report how participation in St. Peter's programs affects their ability to experience the love of God, connect the meaning and purpose they find in Christianity with their 24/7 lives and live with integrity, compassion and joy. A condensed version of the retreat was offered on a Sunday afternoon in September. The vestry has been using the feedback to tailor parish programs so they're more effective.

Worship

We have celebrated Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10 on Sunday mornings and at 5:30 on Wednesday evenings. (During the summer months we worshipped at 9 a.m. to help members get to know each other better.

Thanks to **acolytes**: Ramsey Allen, Alex Heesch, Emily Jones, Ella and Eli McDonald, Katelyn O'Hare, Ben and Emily Tinsman; **crucifers**: Alex Heesch; Ramsey Allen; Katy Finnegan, Caryl Jones, Ryan McMullen; **chalice bearers**: Doug Drukenmiller, Ruth Killinger, Pat Kirkland, Paul Koch, Linda Neuman, Joan Marttila, Diane Ricketts-McCool, Ryan McMullen, Henry Neuman, Bruce Tinsman, Maggie Tinsman, Sharon Tinsman, Jerry Yeast; **lay readers**: Jennifer Busch, Joe Chambers, MaryJo Johnson, Pat Kirkland, Paul Koch, Joan Marttila, Diane Ricketts-McCool, Mark McMullen, Linda Neuman, Mary Rayburn, Susan Sacco, Joe Tedesco, Bruce Tinsman, Hovey Tinsman, Maggie Tinsman,

Sharon Tinsman, Steve Trainor, Jerry Yeast and ushers: Jennifer Busch, Ghada Hamdan-Allen, Jane Hoffman, MaryJo Huddleston, Ron Huddleston, MaryJo Johnson, Pat Kirkland, Joan Marttila, Diane Ricketts-McCool, Monique McDonald, Lanell Mogab, Mary Rayburn.

Our organist and choir director, James O'Hare, retired at the end of 2009 after 23 years of faithful service to St. Peter's. He has set and worked to maintain a standard of musical excellence. He has carefully selected hymns that provide us additional opportunities to reflect on the morning's lessons from Scripture and deepen our experience of the liturgical season. In response to requests from the congregation, James has broadened the variety of hymns we sing. In addition to leading the choir and caring for its members, he has had a wonderful gift for reaching out to St. Peter's children and youth and encouraging their participation in our music program. We will miss his great organ preludes and postludes. Over the years, James has given far more of his time and talent than St. Peter's has even been able to afford; and, for all this we thank him!

We are in the process of discerning the direction of music program. In the early months of 2010, we will incorporate a variety of styles of church music into our worship so that we can all experience these. Ben Allaway, a church musician from Des Moines who has led workshops on "paperless music" around the USA, will lead a **workshop** for us here at St. Peter's on Friday evening, February 12 and Saturday, February 13. **All are invited to participate!** (Reading music or a voice your elementary school music leader liked are not required). A discernment committee will be formed to help us be clearer about what type(s) of music best facilitate our worship and to work with parish leaders to find our new musical leadership.

Toward the end of 2009 interested members of St. Peter's gathered to plan worship for the season of Epiphany. We look forward to more parishioners becoming involved in the planning of worship during 2010.

Lynne+

January Birthdays

- 1/02 Clare Tinsman
- 1/07 Bruce Tinsman
- 1/10 Sue Peterson
- 1/12 James O'Hare
- 1/13 John Swarney
- 1/13 Kevin McMullen
- 1/15 Rick Leuthauser
- 1/15 Renee Long
- 1/15 Ava Satterfield
- 1/20 Shelley Chambers
- 1/26 Patrick Carlson
- 1/28 Kayla Shaffnit
- 1/29 Katy Finnegan
- 1/31 Jose Bucksbaum

January Anniversaries

- 1/02 Mark and Kathy Dittmer
- 1/04 Pat Kirkland and Len Dose
- 1/18 Joe and Marla Tedesco
- 1/27 Ron and Jessie Anderson

St. Peter's Annual Retreat
at St. Mary Monastery

Encountering God:

*An Introduction to the
Christian Mystical Tradition*



Julian of Norwich
Teresa of Avila
John of the Cross
Mister Eckert

February 18-20, 2010
2200 88th Avenue West
Rock Island

**Register as soon as you can but
no later than Sunday, February 7
if you plan to stay overnight or
eat meals at the Monastery.**

