



St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Parish Visitor

418 East Sumner Street
Northfield, MN 55057

507.645.8252

www.northfieldstp.org

Church office hours:
Tuesday–Friday
9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Worship

Sundays 9:00 a.m.

Wednesdays 6:15 p.m.

Education

Coffee & Social Sun. 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School Sun. 10:10 a.m.

Confirmation Wed. @ 6:15 p.m.

Staff

David Weeks, Pastor, ext. 203
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Cariann Strauch
Director of Children's Ministries, ext. 204
cariannstrauch@northfieldstp.org

Mary Kay Bougie
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From Pastor David:

Dear Saints of St. Peter's:

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter is not a one-day celebration. The resurrection of Jesus is our defining event. It is our primary confession. Jesus' defeat of sin and death on the cross gives us hope today, tomorrow, and every day of our lives.

In the Gospel of John, the disciples are huddled in fear on the first Easter evening. The women have told them the good news of Jesus' resurrection. Clearly, they do not fully comprehend what the women are telling them.

They locked the doors for fear of the Jews. But fear and locked doors cannot keep Jesus away. Jesus shows up, greets them with his peace, and he shows them his hands.

We have our own fears. You might be fearful of the lab results from the doctor's office. You might be fearful that your efforts to keep your marriage intact will not succeed. People have knocked on the wrong door and gotten shot, makes is painfully aware that shootings can and do happen anywhere.

The risen Jesus didn't come to his disciple like a GQ model. His wounds did not miraculously heal or disappear. Wounded, Jesus appeared before his disciples. Jesus sends you and me out into the world wounded. Jesus does not expect or require us to first clean up our act or resolve all our issues. We all have baggage and imperfect histories. The church is not a perfect community or institution. We have differing and competing opinions. Yet, we are called to love one another for who we are—not who we could be.

The Easter message is that our sin and brokenness do not define us. We are forgiven and loved by Jesus who defeated sin and death on the cross. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Peace, David



Red Cross Blood Drive May 5, 9-3

MUSIC NOTES

by Mary Kay Bougie, Director of Music



This month, we are wrapping up another year of making music together! I'd like to take a moment and thank all of St. Peter's musicians. Our bell choir and worship choir members are very committed and a joy to direct. Did you realize that there is room for new members? Let me explain:

- We have enough bells for 12 people to ring. We have been playing with 8 ringers for the past year.
- The number of singers needed for a choir is limitless. There are basically four sections in our choir. Men and women each split between higher range and lower range. This past year we have had 6 men and 10 women, all divided evenly.



For the bells: If you have ever participated in a band (even junior high!), taken piano lessons, or read music in a choir – then you would be able to play in the handbell choir. All it takes is knowing how to follow along with

music, and watching where to play your two bells in that music. The Jubilee Bells practice at 4:30 on Wednesdays during the school year, and just play one Sunday a month in the church service. If the time of day is what keeps you from joining, talk to me! I want to have bells available for all interested.



For the choir: If you have ever enjoyed singing in a choir – maybe high school, maybe in a community theater production – then perhaps you should give St. Peter's choir a try! If you aren't comfortable reading music – you can still be a singer in the choir! Not everyone is a "soloist" in our group. We have leaders and we have those who sing by listening and following the leaders! Every member of the choir is an important part of the group. We meet at 7 pm on Wednesdays, and typically sing at 2 services each month.

We have other music opportunities at St. Peter's as well – let me know if you'd be interested in being part of the worship band or the gospel band!

Jubilee Bells and Worship Choir meet from September to May. I have a schedule made up well in advance, so you can plan accordingly. I also have an "absent" list for when you know you will be unavailable. There are no "three strikes" rules! We have a lot of fun and laughs, but the musicians would also tell you that these groups become a support for each other.

As Michon Weeks, who sings alto in the Worship Choir stated, "Singing in St. Peter's choir brings me joy. Our repertoire includes songs that express deep spiritual realities, and singing these ideas out loud with others creates a powerful experience that resonates with my soul. The choir is more than just a group of singers - it is a community that shows up for one another during challenging times, whether it be a hospital visit or the loss of a family member. Members offer help, tears, food, and prayers, demonstrating the true meaning of compassion and support." A recent article I read reenforced this, "The church choir serves as a small group within the church for faith formation."

Will you consider giving the bell choir or the worship choir a try?

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• **You are invited to a Holy Land Taste and Tour Session on Monday, May 15, 4-6 P.M., at St. John's Lutheran Church.**
• **Tour host, Pastor Tim Hansen, brother of Mary Kay Bougie, will be offering an opportunity to learn about his upcoming April 2024 Holy Land tour featuring slides, light refreshment, and informal conversation.**

• **All are welcome! This tour features visits to many ancient biblical and historical sites as well as inspirational meetings with "the living stones" who have a story to tell.**
•••••





CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

by Cariann "Miss Ann" Strauch, Director of Children's Ministries

Children's Message

Guess Who?! A Flower in a Pot!

Miss Ann dressed up as a flower in a pot for her Children's Message on Easter Sunday to represent the New Life we receive from Jesus's resurrection - the Good News Promise from God. Just like perennial flowers that rebloom each year and have new life, through Jesus, we are reborn to New Life. A new life that will last forever.



Alleluia! Holy Week & Easter



Eli Kopack celebrated his First Communion on Maundy Thursday. Congratulations, Eli!

Anika Wierson helped Pastor David perform the individual absolution forgiveness of sins as a way to close Lent on Maundy Thursday. Reminder that she was involved in marking the cross on



Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Plus, she served communion for the first time.

All of the children were invited up to the altar to play instruments on Easter. It was a joy to see so many children in worship!!



Family Vacation Bible School

Calling all Heroes...

Family VBS Registration is Now Open!

Join us Wednesdays June 14th & 21st from 6:00-7:30pm outside at Bethel. Brought to you by Bethel, Emmaus, St. John's and St. Peter's. Children preschool through elementary and their families will love this hero-inspired VBS filled with heroic stories of the bible, activities, games, songs and more!



LOOKING AHEAD:

Miss Ann's dressing room will be closed for the summer.

We'll still be offering a children's message each week during the summer but not in costume. Check back next fall to Guess Who?!

BREAKFAST CLUB: Spring is here and our Breakfast Club has enjoyed getting outside after filling up on delicious pancakes and waffles!



>>SAVE THE DATE: *Wednesday, May 3rd: Youth Service Night.* Confirmation and SPY Youth are cleaning the ditches as part of our Adopt-A-Highway program.

Wednesday, May 10th: Welcome Summer Celebration. BBQ and last confirmation night of the year. Plus, we will welcome our 5th graders into confirmation that night.

Sunday, May 21st: Last day of Sunday School and Josie Lynn's Graduation & Gratitude Party during coffee hour following worship. Sunday School students will sing in worship w/Miss Josie one last time that morning.

Also, *Sunday, May 21st: 5th Grade Sunday School Graduation* Pizza Party w/their families from 5-7pm in Youth Room.

Wednesday, June 7th: Last day of Breakfast Club for the school year.

Wednesdays, June 14th & 21st: Family Vacation Bible School (VBS) outside at Bethel from 6:00-7:30pm.

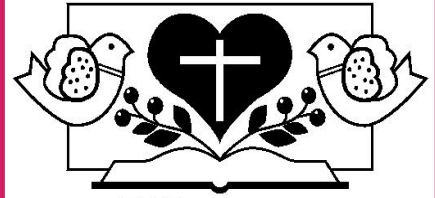


This Month & Next Worship Leaders

If you are unable to assist on the date assigned, please change with someone else on the list and contact the church office so that the bulletin can be updated. 507-645-8252

Date	Time	Ushers	Reader	Comm. Server	Coffee/Kitchen
May 7	9:00 a.m.	Dennis & Janet Hahn	Richard DeBeau	Ramona Pumper Beth Vivant Michon Weeks	Joan Paulson Thelma Winter
May 14	9:00 a.m.	David & Polly Hendee	Michon Weeks	--	Richard DeBeau Doris Welke
May 21	9:00 a.m.	Mickey Brodin Janet Gilbertson Joan Paulson	Mary Bleckwehl	Evonne Clay Richard DeBeau Doris Welke	Diane Boyum Evonne Clay
May 28	9:00 a.m.	Sheryl Kleppe Jolene Manzey	Janet Hahn	--	David & Polly Hendee
June 4	9:00 a.m.	Dale & Linda Ness	Patrick Bougie	Carmen Sevcik Sheryl Kleppe Jolene Manzey	Bill & Mary Bleckwehl
June 11	9:00 a.m.	Lael & Mona Weselmann	Sheryl Kleppe	--	Carmen Sevcik Ramona Pumper
June 18	9:00 a.m.	Phil & Thelma Winter	Julia Daly	Evonne Clay Ramona Pumper Michon Weeks	Mary Boyum Marilyn Finneseth
June 25	9:00 a.m.	Laura Gilligan Carmen Sevcik	Steve Hill	--	Dale & Linda Ness

Thank You!
VOLUNTEERS!



BUCKET GALS (BGs)

1st Thursday - St. Peter's Kitchen

May 4 @ 8:00 am

St. Peter's Kitchen

LUV QUILTERS

Fridays - St. Peter's Fellowship Hall

May 12 & 19

EVE CIRCLE

2nd Monday - The Vault

May 8 @ 9:30 am

HANNAH CIRCLE

2nd Tuesday - St. Peter's Fellowship Hall

May 9 @ 9:30 am

RACHEL CIRCLE

2nd Tuesday - St. Peter's

May 9 @ 1:00 pm

NEW SPIRIT CIRCLE

Last Monday - St. Peter's Fireside Lounge

May 29 @ 2:00 pm

Questions: Hazel Peterson, 645-9276.

New members and visitors welcome!

BEFRIENDERS

3rd Thursday - St. Peter's

April 18 @ 9:10 am

SOLOS

3rd Thursday

at 50 North Frida Cafe

May 18 @ 11:30 am

All solos welcome. Contact Marilyn Finneseth at 612-877-0959, or Evonne Clay at 507-663-1732, for more info.

Community Corner



Happy
Mother's Day

May Events & Birthdays

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
 <p>Pray, and let God worry. -Martin Luther</p>	1 MAY DAY Happy Birthday Dale Finger Madyson Sevcik Violet Weed	2 9 am Staff Meeting 7 pm Ministry Teams Happy Birthday Tom Metz	3 Regular Wednesday Programming 6:15 pm Youth Service Night Happy Birthday Jene Spittle	4 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang 8 am BGs & MGs	5 8 am Women's Fellowship 9-3 Red Cross Blood Drive Happy Birthday Dale Boyum	6 Happy Birthday Nancy Nytes
7 9 am Worship w/ holy communion 10:10 am Sunday School Happy Birthday Karen Turner	8 9:30 am Eve Circle Happy Birthday Boris Mokoff Chad Seeley Terra Wierson	9 9 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Hannah Circle 1:00 pm Rachel Circle 7:00 pm Church Council	10 7:45 am Breakfast Club 4:30 pm Jubilee Bells 5:30 pm Summer BBQ! 6:30 pm Intro to Confir- mation 7 pm Worship Choir Happy Birthday Madeleine Douah Barb Liebenstein Wendell Spittle	11 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang 7 pm Faith on Tap Happy Birthday Laura Gilligan Jillian Kuntz Lorraine Lemke	12 9 am LUV Quilters Women's Retreat Happy Birthday Dennis Hahn James Johnson Troy Nystuen	13 Women's Retreat Happy Birthday Jim McKinnon Amy Palmquist
14 MOTHER'S DAY 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 Sunday School Happy Birthday Bob Baker	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 9 am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Peter Lovoll Nolan Thompson Harland Wegner	17 7:45 am Breakfast Club 7:00 pm Worship Choir Happy Birthday Brian Paulson	18 7 am Table Talk breakfast 9:10 am BeFrienders SOLOS lunch 11:30 am Happy Birthday Karen Johnson John Schmitz	19 8 am Women's Fellowship 9 am LUV Quilters	20 Happy Birthday Thomas Culhane
21 9 am Worship w/ holy communion 10 am osie Lynn's Graduation & Gratitude Party 10:10 am Last day of Sunday School 3 pm Troubadour Concert Happy Birthday David Boyum Dan Scharber	22 Happy Birthday Steve Reindal	23 9 am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Terry Heilman Vaeda Robinson	24 7:45 am Breakfast Club 6 pm Musician's Party Happy Birthday Melissa Wiste Naomi Ziegler	25 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang	26 Happy Birthday Kristin Harner Tori Lauseng	27
28 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Social with May Birthday Celebrations Happy Birthday Dominic Humann Carol Irwin Seth Thompson	29 MEMORIAL DAY 2 pm New Spirit Circle	30 9 am Staff Meeting	31 7:45 am Breakfast Club 4:30 pm Jubilee Bells Happy Birthday Keagan Grobe Dianne Peterson	On Wednesdays 7:45 am Breakfast Club 4:30 pm Jubilee Bells rehearsal 5:30 pm Supper 6:15 pm Worship 6:15 pm Confirmation & SPY 7:00 pm Choir rehearsal		If your birthday is not listed and should be, contact the church office so we can add it to our database. 

Check www.northfieldstp.org for calendar changes, or a group/event leader. **Subscribe** to receive weekly e-mails.

THE BOARD OF NORTHFIELD-BASED FRIENDS OF COLLEGE MONFANT INVITE YOU TO

SUPPORT GIRLS' EDUCATION IN TOGO, WEST AFRICA



AT OUR
GALA FUNDRAISING DINNER

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023, 6:30-9 PM

RUTH'S ON STAFFORD, DUNDAS

DINNER, ENTERTAINMENT, PRESENTATION, LIVE AUCTION, DANCING

\$25/ADULT, \$10/STUDENT

RSVP @ COLLEGEMONFANT.ORG

SUPPLY DRIVE



ATHLETIC APPAREL & EQUIPMENT

For young women in Togo, West Africa

COLLEGEMONFANT.ORG

THE FRIENDS OF COLLEGE MONFANT, A NORTHFIELD, MN-BASED 501C3 ORGANIZATION SEEKS DONATIONS OF NEW OR GENTLY USED ITEMS FOR SHIPMENT TO TOGO

- **Athletic Shoes & Socks (#1 priority)**
- Athletic apparel suitable for children ages 10-18 in a warm climate (shorts, shirts, sports bras, etc.)
- Athletic equipment suitable for a school physical education program, e.g. basketballs, volleyballs, soccer balls & small nets
- Decommissioned team and referee uniforms

Donations accepted until August 1, 2023 at Champion Sports, 407 Division Street South Northfield, MN or contact collegemonfant@gmail.com with questions or for pick up

If you'd like to receive an email with photos once your donation reaches Togo, go to collegemonfant.org and leave us your address. Thank you so much for your support.

-Friends of College Monfant

MEET THE COUNCIL & STAFF!

This is the second installment of a monthly feature introducing members of the Church Council and staff.

Mary Bleckwehl

Council member, 2021-

Member of St. Peter's since 1989. Previously served on the Church Council in 1990-93. Also served on the youth board, education board, taught Sunday School and was a high school youth assistant for many years.



Born: Waukon, Iowa

Hometown: Grew up on a dairy farm between Waukon and Waterville

High School: Waukon High School

College: Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, bachelor of arts. Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, master's degree in higher education administration.

Career: Currently a children's author with 10 published books and four more

in production. Past director of college academic services and instructor in New Hampshire and Iowa; science teacher in Iowa; taught 15 years in Northfield Public Schools and still substitute.

Family: Husband, Bill, served as Church Council president twice. He enjoys driving a school bus after retiring from his high-tech job. Three children. Mike lives in Lakeville, Minnesota, and is senior creative designer for Royal Bank of Canada; Nicole lives around the corner from Mike and is auditing manager for Wells Fargo; and Tyler works for Bon Appetite Food Services at St. Olaf College. Two grandchildren.

Noteworthy: "I'm a farm girl at heart and love to grow things and experience nature, whether it's in my backyard, on a bike trail, or on a road trip. We moved nine times in the first 11 years of marriage. Happy to call Northfield home for 34 years!"

Megan DeMaris

Administrative Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator since August 2022

Born: Sleepy Eye, Minnesota

Hometown: Sleepy Eye

High School: St. Mary's High School in Sleepy Eye

College: Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, Augustana University, Southern New Hampshire University. Bachelor of Arts in General Studies with a concentration in Human Services.



Family: Mother, Mary Kay Bougie, is the congregation's music director. Father is a high school math teacher. Older brother in Georgia and a younger sister in North Dakota

Noteworthy: "I have been involved with St. Peter's for the last few years helping with Breakfast Club, Meals on Wheels, playing handbells, playing cajón in Worship Band, singing in the choir. I plan to transition to full time from part time at Aldi in Rosemount and continue my career there."

Council Highlights

April 18, 2023 • 7:00 p.m.

To express God's love and grace in building a community where people believe in God, belong to Christ, and become disciples who serve in day to day living.

Call to Order: Agenda approved by Paulson and seconded by Terpstra. Discussion about ministry teams was added under old business. Motion carried.

Devotion: Pastor read from the book of John and council members had been assigned to read Take Jesus' Message Seriously from the Growing Young Book. *Dark* by Frederick Buechner about Lent.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes were approved by Paulson and seconded by Hendee. Motion carried

Staff Reports:

Attendance for worship on Easter Sunday exceeded 200 people - It was a full house!

Alleluia Fun Run was held on 4/16 - Participation was low, perhaps due to poor weather conditions. Involvement next year will be determined.

Sunday school attendance has not declined since Christmas/Easter - we have welcomed one additional preschooler on Sundays. Only 5 weeks of Sunday School are left for the year - last day is 5/2, Sunday School students will sing in worship & a party will be held for Josie Lynn to celebrate her Graduation and show our gratitude for her leadership these past 3 years.!

Lenten worship services have successfully concluded; with lots of hard work put in by the choir and handbells!

Treasurer's Report - Tom Picha

Income for March was \$31,101 versus expenses of \$34,734.

Maintenance Report:

(Phil Olson) Parking Lot - bids are being gathered to see expenses of patching & seal coating the entire parking lot as well as bids to completely reconstruct the parking lot as it is in desperate need of attention. Discussion will be

continued at the next council meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Next Council Meeting : Tuesday, April 11th at 7pm in the Fireside Room Council members are asked to read chapter 5 from the Growing Young book which will be used as part of the devotion. **



**Evangelical
Lutheran**
Church in America

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

St. Peter's Mission Statement:
Believe, Belong, Become.
To express God's love and
grace in building a community
where people believe in God,
belong to Christ,
and become disciples who
serve in day to day living.

Council

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Sick? Hospitalized?

Please contact the Church Office if you would like a visit from Pastor Weeks.

(507) 645-8252

Or visit
www.northfieldstp.org/prayers-and-announcements



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418 East Sumner Street
Northfield, Minnesota 55057

*Please contact the Church Office if your address has changed
or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list.*

(507) 645-8252

*A ministry request form can be found on our website at
www.northfieldstp.org, under the ministry tab.*



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www.northfieldstp.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Northfield, MN 55057
Permit Number 121

Worship from the pew 9am Sundays

Worship on-line anytime, anywhere:

facebook.com/northfieldstp

www.northfieldstp.org/virtual-worship

May 2023 Parish Visitor

St. Peter's Lutheran

Kids 0-99 & guests welcome!

**WELCOME
SUMMER BBQ
MAY 10**

**Food
&
Games**

**Rain
or
Shine**



5:30 PM

