



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

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
cell: 952.322.0064
pastordavidweeks@northfieldstp.org

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

Mary Kay Bougie
Director of Music, ext. 208
marykaybougie@northfieldstp.org

Terrence Hassanally
Financial Administrator, ext. 205
terrencehassanally@northfieldstp.org

Megan DeMaris
Administrative Assistant, Volunteer
Coordinator, ext. 201
megandemaris@northfieldstp.org

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*From Pastor
David:*

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ:

"Keep death daily before your eyes." Rule of St. Benedict

Curiously, I find these words to be inspiring and life affirming. Remembering, and acknowledging that I will die empowers me to live.

Daily, we make many decisions—some of which are easy, while others are difficult. When facing a challenging decision, have you ever considered your choices from the perspective of your deathbed? If not, I recommend it. It's incredible how "keep(ing) death daily before you eyes" can provide clarity.

The season of Lent prepares us for the death and resurrection of Jesus. We go with Jesus to the wilderness, through the streets of Jerusalem, to the Garden of Gethsemane, before Pilate and eventually Golgotha.

Lent began on Ash Wednesday. With ashes made by burning last year's palm branches, we were reminded that we are dust, and to dust we shall return. On Palm/Passion Sunday, filled with hope, we wave palm branches

commemorating Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

What fresh hopes of last year are now burned out? Did you hope for reconciliation of a broken relationship, but it never materialized? Did you intend to return to worshiping in person, but it still hasn't happened? Did you hope to initiate wellness practices of mind, body, and spirit, but you procrastinated too long

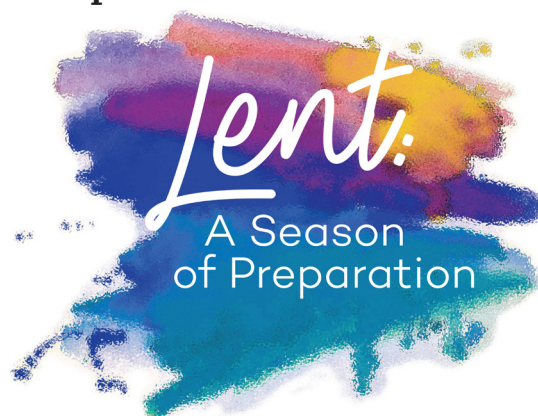
Life and death are intertwined. We are baptized into the death of Jesus and raised to new life in Jesus. Life as a follower of Jesus requires that we die to ourselves and live in Jesus.

My wife, Michon, created fourteen paintings depicting "The Way of the Cross" which are now hanging in our sanctuary. In the back corner (between the entrance and the usher's cabinet) is a prayer booklet. I invite you to pick up a booklet, and beginning with #1, pray your way around the church (the paintings are numbered). Each image has a page which includes a description of Jesus' journey, a response and a prayer.

The final prayer is "Lord Jesus, grant me the grace to daily die to my sin and be raised to new life in you. For what more could we pray?"

Peace, David

Lenten worship services this year reflect how to be open to God in our lives. Open My Life, Lord!



For the whole month of March, PLEASE JOIN US on Wednesday nights!

-- Soup suppers begin at 5:30 pm.

-- Worship services begin at 6:15 pm.

A Message from Mark Shaw, Church Council President

Dear Members of St. Peter's,
At our February 5th, Annual meeting, a request was made to identify the various Ministry Teams that are commissioned by our St. Peter By-Laws and the respective responsibilities for each Team. They are as follows:

Mission Endowment Fund Committee - This committee serves as the custodian of the Mission Endowment Fund and distributes income from the Funds principal (interest) on an annual basis for a variety of purposes including: grants to ELCA seminaries, colleges, schools, social service agencies; for mission work in America and throughout the world; and for capital improvements, debt reduction or building programs.

Congregational Life Team - This Team is to create and sustain relationships between members through a variety of means including: creating and maintaining programs to incorporate new members into congregational life; serve as archivist for the congregation by collecting records, books and pictures of historical value; oversee management of athletic groups, congregational events such as Blessing of the Animals or Bicycles, Wednesday night dinners, Sunday morning coffee, funeral lunches and other events.

Faith Formation Team – This Team is to plan and administer all Faith Formation opportunities for the congregation including: planning and supervising Christian education such as church school, Vacation Bible School, Confirmation and Adult Education; enlist and train teachers for these education programs; provide for the continuing education of young people through special events, Bible study and camping programs; provide programs to strengthen families as basic units of Christian education and provide for the growth of the education staff.

Outreach and Communication Team – This Team is to empower our members to be Christ in the world and to share the good news of Jesus' love and forgiveness with the world. They provide publicity oversight of a variety of media to inform the community of the congregation's activities ; they assure that the appearance of the Sanctuary is welcoming; they maintain contact with benevolent and charitable organizations in the local community and beyond in

order to foster support for missions and charities and to educate the congregation about them as well as to educate the congregation on social issues.

Stewardship Team - This Team works to encourage generosity and the stewardship of time and talents among St. Peter's members through: conducting annual financial stewardship drive, conduct annual time and talents survey, inform new members of the congregation's stewardship program, maintain a volunteer roster, and recommend to the Council a memorial fund treasurer.

Property Management Team - This Team supervises the general maintenance of the church building, parsonage and all church property, supervises the maintenance of all equipment, oversees the work of cleaning services, negotiates contracts on maintaining church property and equipment, enlists work crews for special repair projects, reviews energy consumption and makes recommendations to the Church Council regarding building and maintenance issues.

Worship, Music and Arts Team – This Team coordinates and plans all matters pertaining to congregational worship including: promoting the role of worship, music and the arts in sharing the Gospel and enriching spiritual life and growth; assisting the pastor and music staff in planning events, services festivals and other special services; make recommendations and set standards for the aesthetic qualities and use of arts to support worship; educate the congregation in matters of worship and liturgy; train and schedule worship volunteers; prepare communion services; facilitate outside services and assure for the upkeep of church owned instruments.

Caring and Support Teams - This Team provides loving concern for our members as well as people in our surrounding community by: supporting lay visitation particularly through the BeFriender program; help identify and support members in need; and visit, orient and receive new members as well as provide support to existing or newly inactive members.

Some of these ministry teams are continually active and meeting regularly, while others have been less active and are in need of an infusion of new life. If you have interest in participating on these ministry teams, please drop a note to Megan at the Church office.

Mark Shaw



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

Children's Message

Guess Who?! An outlet!

Cariann dressed up as an outlet for her Children's Message to show the need for lamps to be plugged in for them to create light. We too need to be "plugged in" to shine our light. We want to light up the whole world with God's love and the good news of Jesus!

How do you stay "Plugged in" to Jesus?

Sunday School

Sunday School children celebrated God's love in February. He wants us all to live a life full of love for ourselves and for each other.

L = Living
O = Our
V = Very Best
E = Everyday

We need volunteers for Sunday School activities (only). Sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Desk. Thank you for your help!

Looking Ahead

No Sunday School on 3/26, 4/2 (Spring Break) and 4/9 (Easter Sunday).

Fellowship + Faith

Our Parent's Room is filling up on Sunday mornings with Fellowship + Faith. It's a great chance for parents to hear and discuss what their children are learning in Sunday School and to spend time with other parents! Grab a cup of coffee and come relax together in fellowship and faith.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Welcome to **Changemakers Lab** where everyone can make a difference in the world! Breakfast Club have been exploring the stories of five people in the bible who brought about change in the world around them. Changemakers like them ask hard questions, work together to solve problems, reach across differences, care for all people, and imagine a new world. We're learning to be Changemakers together!

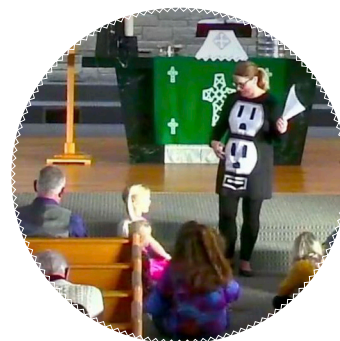


New Year's Pizza Party

Children and Youth of all ages and their families joined us for a New Year's Pizza Party followed by an epic round of Romans and Christians in February. It was great to have so many kids of all ages together to kick-off the New Year!

Faith Formation Committee

The Faith Formation Committee continues to work on ways to stream the worship in the Nursery Room and in the Kitchen for the hospitality teams. Stay tuned for an update very soon! Committee Members include: Aaron Bridley, April Kopack, Jamie Mills, Cariann Strauch, Ashley Terpstra and Terra Wierson.

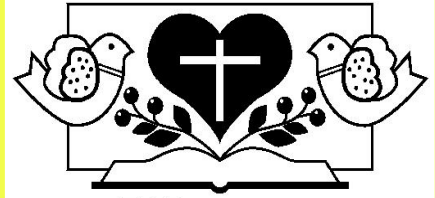


March & April Worship Leaders

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
March 5	9:00 a.m.	Laura Gilligan Carmen Sevcik	Sheryl Kleppe	Mary Bleckwehl Evonne Clay Phil Olson	Diane Boyum Ginny Paulson
March 12	9:00 a.m.	Don & Roberta Bonrud	Steve Hill	--	Evonne Clay Carmen Sevcik
March 19	9:00 a.m.	Jameson Strauch Madilyn Terpstra	Patrick Bougie	Carmen Sevcik Beth Vivant Ramona Pumper	Bill & Mary Bleckwehl
March 26	9:00 a.m.	Joyce & Boris Mokoff	Beth Vivant	--	Ramona Pumper Marilyn Finneseth
April 2	9:00 a.m.	Doris & Eldon Hill	Roberta Bonrud	Mary Bleckwehl Richard DeBeau Doris Welke	Dennis & Janet Hahn
April 9 <i>Easter!</i>	9:00 a.m.	Evonne Clay Ramona Pumper	Julia Daly	Patrick Bougie Phil Olson Michon Weeks	Joan Paulson Carmen Sevcik
April 16	9:00 a.m.	Phil & JoAnne Olson	Jolene Manzey	Sheryl Kleppe Jolene Manzey Evonne Clay	Lyle & Nancy Gunderson
April 23	9:00 a.m.	Mary Bleckwehl Diane Boyumr	Marilyn Finneseth	--	Phil & JoAnne Olson
April 30		Richard DeBeau Doris Welke	Carmen Sevcik	--	Mary Boyum Ginny Paulson

Thank You Volunteers!



BUCKET GALS (BGs)

1st Thursday - St. Peter's Kitchen

March 2 @ 8:00 am

St. Peter's Kitchen

LUV QUILTERS

Fridays - St. Peter's Fellowship Hall

March 3, 17, 24, 31

EVE CIRCLE

2nd Monday - The Vault

March 13 @ 9:30 am

HANNAH CIRCLE

2nd Tuesday - St. Peter's Fellowship Hall

March 14 @ 9:30 am

RACHEL CIRCLE

2nd Tuesday - St. Peter's

March 14 @ 1:00 pm

NEW SPIRIT CIRCLE

Last Monday - St. Peter's Fireside Lounge

March 27 @ 2:00 pm

Questions: Hazel Peterson, 645-9276.

New members and visitors welcome!

BEFRIENDERS

3rd Thursday - St. Peter's

March 16 @ 9:10 am

SOLOS

3rd Thursday

at New (China) Buffet

March 16 @ 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

In February, the Congregational Life Committee celebrated Hazel Peterson's 99th birthday with a luncheon with her family. We have decided to change the format of our birthday celebrations in the coming months. We will now celebrate all birthdays during the coffee hour the last Sunday of each month. It is our hope we will have a better response to this change in format.





March Events & Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
On Wednesdays 7:45 am Breakfast Club 4:30 pm Jubilee Bells rehearsal 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:15 pm Lenten 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. 			1 Regular Wednesday Programming, plus: 9 am Staff Meeting 6:15pm RESCHEDULED ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE Happy Birthday Lexie Estrem	2 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang 8 am Bucket Gals (BGs) 8 am Maintenance Guys (MGs) Happy Birthday Olivia Prescott	3 8 am Women's Fellowship 9 am LUV Quilters	4
5 9 am Worship w/ holy communion 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 Sunday School Happy Birthday Paul Hallcock Robert Hart	6 Happy Birthday Rowan Boisvert Ashlynn Sabyan	7 9 am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Bennett Buske David Hendee Will Valek	8 Regular Wednesday Programming Happy Birthday Andrea Stowe Jessica Sevcik	9 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang 7 pm Faith on Tap Happy Birthday Susie Fischer Duane Meliza Courtney Sevcik	10 9-3 Blood Drive Happy Birthday James Herreid	11 Happy Birthday Shelly Jandro
12 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 Sunday School 10:10 am Lectio Divina  Happy Birthday William Quinnell <i>Spring Ahead</i>	13 9:30 am Eve Circle Happy Birthday Wayne Hallcock	14 9 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Hannah Circle 1 pm Rachel Circle 7 pm Church Council	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Regular Wednesday Programming Happy Birthday Sandra Bremer	16 7 am Table Talk breakfast 9:10 am BeFriendsers SOLOS lunch 11:30 am Happy Birthday Eleanora Schmitz	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 8 am Women's Fellowship 9 am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Lynn Hutton Pat Pirha 	18 Happy Birthday Tyler Peterson
19 QUILT SUNDAY 9 am Worship w/ holy communion 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 am Sunday School Happy Birthday Nancy Gunderson Kathie Westlund	20 Happy Birthday Sean Pumper	21 9 am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Axel Randal Devon Seeley Robbie Swenson	22 Regular Wednesday Programming Happy Birthday Shirley Shaft	23 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang Happy Birthday Stewart Shaft	24 9 am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Dennis Berry Karyl Knudsen	25 Happy Birthday Aaron Bridley Dolly Roush
26 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Social with a March Birthday Celebration	27 2 pm New Spirit Circle Happy Birthday Carmen Sevcik	28 9 am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Doc Dewar	29 Regular Wednesday Programming *No school aged activities Happy Birthday Maggie Kuntz	30 7 am Table Talk breakfast	31 9 am Women's Fellowship 8 am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Jon Finger Celena Witt	

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

GIVE BLOOD! Schedule your appointment for March 10!

LUV Quilters

Love Us Volunteers was formed in 1970. Approximately 7800 quilts have been made with about 2000 going to LWR. Others went to local charities including Christmas Sharing now known as Operation Joy. In former years the membership was larger and it was not unusual to assemble 200 quilts a year. Now the average is closer to 150 quilts.

As some of our members are no longer able to be a part of the group, new members are needed to keep the wonderful project going. Please consider joining LUV Quilters on Friday mornings at 9:00am.

NATIONAL QUILT DAY

- Lutheran World Relief has declared March 18 as National Quilt Day. It will be observed at St. Peter's on the following day, Sunday, March 19. There will be a display of quilts on the pews and a quilting demonstration in the Fellowship Hall.
- LWR has been distributing quilts for 75 years for a total of nearly 28 million quilts. There were 220,317 quilts delivered last year to 18 countries. African countries received the majority of these quilts from the South St. Paul warehouse. There is a poster in the Fellowship Hall by the water fountain showing the countries and the number of quilts sent. It also indicates where school, baby care, and personal care kits were sent.

Boundary Waters

How does basking in the peace and beauty of God's creation sound to you? Pastor David and Michon are leading an adult trip to the BWCA August 6-11 or 12.

We will paddle and portage several lakes, do some fishing along the way, and make camp with the gear we take with us. The plan is to drive to Ely on Sunday, August 6, after worship and put in on Moose Lake on Monday morning. The group can decide whether we exit on August 11 or 12.

Please let David or Michon know if you are interested so we can plan accordingly!



Pipe Organ

Discovery Day

Alaia Douah, Naomi Ziegler, and Richard Collman attended the Twin Cities American Guild of Organists-sponsored Pipe Organ Discovery Day on Saturday, February 4 at the University of Minnesota. They had a chance to play five different organs, tour the pipe chambers above Northrup Auditorium, listen to a mini-concert by Canadian organist Isabelle Demers, and hear remarks by Michael Barone of Minnesota Public Radio.



1. Richard Collman plays a practice organ at the University of Minnesota while Alaia looks on.
2. Alaia plays the Van Daalen practice organ at the U of M while a student organist looks on.
3. Alaia at the console of the Aeolian-Skinner organ at Northrup Auditorium at the University of Minnesota.

Council Highlights

January 10, 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: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M in the fireside room. All members were present except Jolene Manzey. Minutes were taken by Megan Culhane. Pastor Weeks was also absent and out on his sabbatical.

Devotion: President Shaw led the devotion. Reading from I Am a Church Member by Thom S. Rainer. Citing passages from the first book of Corinthians which directly speak about being a member of the church. "He placed us in churches to serve, to care for others, to pray for leaders, to learn, to teach, to give, and, in some cases, to die for the sake of the gospel"

Reports:

The Faith Formation Committee conducted their 2nd quarterly meeting prior to the council meeting. Discussions included topics of Adult Education within the church as well as installing/setting up a smart TV in both the nursery and kitchen to allow viewing & listening to the service.

Youth Mission Trip is scheduled for June 24-July 1st this summer. St Peter's youth will be joining St John's & First UCC on a trip to Nashville, Tennessee.

Personnel & Nominating Committee:

Council positions are still needing to be filled including 2 at-large members & the position of Treasurer. Pastor Week's pastoral assessment has been completed & shared with him.

Treasurer's Report - Tom Picha

Income for Dec 2022 was \$44,7000 vs. a budget of \$31,000 or \$13,700 above the plan. It should be recognized that this was the 4th month that income was above budget.

Year to date income is \$8,800 below budget but \$7,000 higher than what was received last year at this time. The gap in income is in the area of general offerings.

Budget for 2023:

Motion to approve the budget for 2023 & present it to the congregation at the annual meeting was made by Hendee & seconded by Culhane.

Old Business:

Church Council retreat has been scheduled for Saturday, March 4th at Mount Olivet Retreat Center with discussion surrounding the book Growing Young.

Adjournment: Motion by Bleckwehl & Seconded by Terpstra. Motion carried and was followed with the Lord's Prayer.



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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

Mark Shaw, President
markpattysaw@gmail.com

Ashley Terpstra, VP
aa_evans@yahoo.com

Megan Culhane, Secretary
meganculhane87@gmail.com

Mary Bleckwehl
marybleckwehl@hotmail.com

David Hendee
davidhendee1952@gmail.com

Nick Paulson
nlpaulso@gmail.com

Kirsten Thompson
kirsten.thompson@ecolab.com



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
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*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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Worship on-line anytime, anywhere:

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www.northfieldstp.org/virtual-worship

March 2023 Parish Visitor

Order Easter Flowers Now!

Flowers will be available to order on the church website or at the Welcome Desk through Wednesday, March 29th. Flowers will be delivered to the church and be used to decorate the sanctuary! Take your flowers home after the service or leave them at the church. Make a note of remembrance or honor your loved one(s) this Easter.



*Easter is
April 9,
Worship at 9am!*

6:15 pm Midweek Lenten Series: Open My Life, Lord

Open my eyes, Lord.

Paul saw the light of Christ shining around him on the road to Damascus. As individuals and communities, what do we have difficulty seeing? How does our perspective change when we view the world through the eyes of Christ?

Open my ears, Lord.

Ancient Greek philosophy notes that we have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak. Jesus reminds us that we sometimes hear but don't listen, listen but don't understand. Opening our ears isn't as easy as it sounds.

Open my heart, Lord.

Listening to Paul's teaching, Lydia opened her heart to God and was baptized. Her willing, trusting faith echoes down through the centuries as we witness her "open heart procedure."

Open my life, Lord.

Moses presents us with a choice: death and adversity, or a life cracked open to the love of God. Writing to the Galatians, Paul tells us that we have died to the law so that we might live to God. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us.

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