



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

What's Inside

| | |
|-------|-------------------------|
| Pg. 2 | Faith Formation |
| Pg. 3 | Music Notes |
| Pg. 4 | Volunteer page |
| Pg. 5 | Calendar |
| Pg. 6 | Extras! & Announcements |
| Pg. 7 | Council Highlights |



*From
Pastor David:*

Thank you. In 2020, you graciously provided me the opportunity to go on sabbatical. Unfortunately, because of COVID, I returned two months early. I will be finishing my sabbatical this January, accompanying my wife, Michon, leading eighteen St. Olaf students to Florence, Italy, for the January-term. The course is entitled, Italian Art in Context: The City of Florence. We will be studying art and architecture in churches and museums mostly in Florence, though we do also go to Sienna, Venice, Ravenna, and Padua. Thank you for this opportunity.

We will see Michelangelo's sculpture of David, paintings by Fra Angelico, Raphael, Leonardo Da Vinci, Botticelli, etc. Mary Kay has given me the assignment of finding and photographing at the Uffizi Museum the triptych painting she used in the bulletin for the Lessons and Carols worship service. I will also be on a quest, searching for the most interesting, unique and tasty gelato shops. I am looking forward to carrying out the research.

The Christian Church greatly influenced art, culture, architecture, and politics of Florence in the first century. It was also in Florence where political powers, arts, and culture resisted the influence of the church and sought to create

a vision and identity apart from the church. In many ways, Florence's history 1000 years ago seems rather contemporary. I hope and plan to share with you our experience after we return.

January 6 is the day of Epiphany. On this day we celebrate the arrival of the magi (or kings). We sometimes refer to the magi as kings—we sing "We Three Kings of Orient Are." Since the magi brought three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrr— we assume there were three magi. There may have been, but there could also have been only two or ten. As the Bible doesn't say, we don't know how many magi came to see Jesus.

The magi were not kings but astrologers who followed and studied the movement of the stars to ascertain important events in the world.

The magi are sometimes referred to as "seekers". The inclusion of the magi in the birth story reminds us that we are all seekers. We seek understanding and insight. We seek love and acceptance. Ultimately, we all seek God. Epiphany means to "show up, show on, show out." God shows up in Jesus.

I suspect that Epiphany will take on greater significance for me this year, as I will be seeking fresh and new insights into Jesus' love through the old art and architecture of Florence. Again, thank you.....see you in February.

Peace, David





CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

Good News! Christmas Program

Written and directed by Miss Josie Lynn, our senior Music Education intern from St. Olaf.

Twenty-six kids from Sunday School, Breakfast Club (BC Band) and a special Middle/High School Youth band performed in this year's Christmas Program. Miss Josie wrote and directed the "Good News!" program which used a newscast format, including live interviews, to cover the birth of Jesus Christ.



Sunday School

The Sunday School children were very busy preparing for the Christmas Program in December both at church and at home. Even the youngest children practiced their songs at home with their families. The older students were great examples as they have divided into their speaking roles. I hope they inspired the younger children to take the lead in the future.

We need volunteers for Sunday School activities (only) starting again in January. Sign-up sheets will be on the Welcome Desk. Thank you for your help!



Fellowship + Faith

Fellowship + Faith is a new, parent-led discussion offered each Sunday in the Parent's Room during Sunday School. Miss Ann creates a discussion guide each week based on her Children's Message and the gospel lesson of the week. Parents discuss the lesson and how it can be applied to their lives as individuals and families. Parents, grab a cup of coffee and come relax together in fellowship around your faith.



BREAKFAST CLUB

This faith-based children's ministry is exceeding expectations. We were gifted a special \$100 donation in December from Hannah's Circle. Thank you, Hannah's Circle! God continues to smile on this ministry!

Children from the Breakfast Club "BC Band" and their families joined us for the Christmas Program this year. It was great to have them involved and in attendance!



Photo credit: David Hendee

We're hiring a part-time Director of Youth Ministries to work with our middle school and high school youth. Responsibilities would include Senior High SPY, supporting Confirmation, SonShine Projects, summer trips, special events, etc. Please contact Pastor David with any questions.



MUSIC NOTES

by Rev. Richard F. Collman, Organist and Accompanist

Below the Radar

Giving Mary Kay a brief break from her regular column, Richard here reporting on some musical items “below the radar” in this parish. One Sunday morning I started thinking about all the “invisible” items that go below the radar into creating Sunday worship and music. Allow me to tick off some items that make life so much more interesting and pleasant for folks in the pew and at home on zoom as we worship together. Having “been there and done that” in my vocation as both clergy and minister of music, it is now a privilege as I age to just do what I am told and sit on the organ or piano bench while MK plans everything.

I think of at least four areas below the radar that need mentioning, all of them time related: annual, monthly, weekly, and then the doing. First of all, MK lines up schedules by two or three huge chunks of months, Sept-Dec., Jan-May, and summer to assure who will be playing what Sunday given her, me, and substitutes. There is choosing music from existing files, ordering new music, going to clinics for new ideas, and thinking ahead by season. One example would be a volume of organ music that MK purchased for me from an Augsburg music clinic last June. She put a note on the front, “See In Thee Is Gladness (ELW Hymn No. 867) to learn for the lessons and carols music Sunday on Dec. 11th.” Six months later, and with sufficient practice, it happened!

Then there is the monthly planning, lining up which group will be leading the worship, whether handbells, the Worship Band with piano up front, or organ and Worship Choir. Often rehearsal may extend over several months in preparation. Did I forget instrumentalists who must be coordinated into this?

Weekly planning follows. MK gives me the worship outline with the hymns. I coordinate my organ playing with the hymns chosen so music illuminates the Scripture of the particular Sunday. We not only have the ELW hymnal in the pews, but now, thanks to your generosity, the supplement All Creation Sings which expands our hymn lyrics and music considerably. Often there will be a new Psalm setting or a contemporary Kyrie that is planned and rehearsed in advance. MK is also a composer of some liturgical settings we use. The pandemic has added the addition of live-streaming which

entails copyright permission to perform such streaming. This adds the time of research for licensed music and obtaining permissions, along with my furnishing organ or piano volume titles, composers, and dates.

Then there is the doing. Woody Allen said that “80 percent of life is showing up.” Bell ringers, song leaders, and others show up by 8:15 or 8:30 a. m. to prepare for 9 a. m. worship. We have to do a run through. While MK may have rehearsed the worship choir on the piano, I will go through an anthem with them on organ or piano. In this sense, we work “hand in glove” so to speak.

You may have noticed in December Alaia Douah “shadowing” me, turning pages, and assisting my playing. She started taking organ lessons from me in November and attended the “Pipe Organ Discovery Day” last February in St. Paul. She is also a piano student of Mary Kay’s and an active athlete. She will have played part of the prelude at the 5:00 p. m. Christmas Eve service.

Sunday comes with relentless regularity. All these items “below the radar” go into making quite seamless worship and music. Please know how much I appreciate being your musical servant and working with Mary Kay to facilitate this work of worship and music that we may together help create our “sacrifice of praise.”

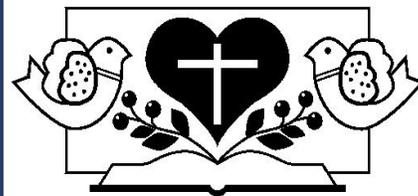


January & February Worship Leaders

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 |
|-------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| January 1 | 9:00 a.m. | Phil & JoAnne Olson | Marilyn Finneseth | Evonne Clay Richard DeBeau Phil Olson | Diane Boyum Carmen Sevcik |
| January 8 | 9:00 a.m. | Boris & Joyce Mokoff | Roberta Bonrud | -- | Bill & Mary Bleckwehl |
| January 15 | 9:00 a.m. | Richard DeBeau Doris Welke | Jolene Manzey | Ginny Paulson Carmen Sevcik Beth Vivant | Evonne Clay Marilyn Finneseth |
| January 22 | 9:00 a.m. | Dennis & Janet Hahn | Carmen Sevcik | -- | Phil & JoAnne Olson |
| January 29 | 9:00 a.m. | Diane Boyum Evonne Clay | Richard DeBeau | -- | Lyle & Nancy Gunderson |
| February 5 | 9:00 a.m. | Mary Bleckwehl Carmen Sevcik | Pete Pedersen | Sheryl Kelppe Jolene Manzey Phil Olson | Mary Boyum Joan Paulson |
| February 12 | 9:00 a.m. | David & Polly Hendee | Janet Hahn | -- | Richard DeBeau Doris Welke |
| February 19 | 9:00 a.m. | Mickey Brodin Janet Gilbertson Joan Paulson | Mary Bleckwehl | Richard DeBeau Doris Welke Michon Weeks | Dennis & Janet Hahn |
| February 26 | 9:00 a.m. | Sheryl Kelppe Jolene Manzey | Michon Weeks | -- | David & Polly Hendee |

Thank You Volunteers!



BUCKET GALS (BGs)

1st Thursday - St. Peter's Kitchen
January 5 @ 8:00 am
St. Peter's Kitchen

LUV QUILTERS

Fridays - St. Peter's Fellowship Hall
January 6, 13, 20 & 27

EVE CIRCLE

2nd Monday - The Vault
January 9 @ 9:30 am

HANNAH CIRCLE

2nd Tuesday - St. Peter's Fellowship Hall
January 10 @ 9:30 am

RACHEL CIRCLE

2nd Tuesday - St. Peter's
January 10 @ 1:00 pm

NEW SPIRIT CIRCLE

2nd Friday - St. Peter's Fireside Lounge
January 13 @ 1:00 pm
Questions: Hazel Peterson, 645-9276.
New members and visitors welcome!

BEFRIENDERS

3rd Thursday - St. Peter's
January 19 @ 9:10 am

SOLOS

3rd Thursday
at Perkins Restaurant
January 19 @ 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

As Pastor David is on sabbatical during January, we have four different guest preachers joining us to share the good news. Let's all make sure to welcome these pastors with a warm St. Peter's greeting of gratitude:

January 1: Pastor Janet White

January 8: Pastor Deborah Lyanga

January 15: Pastor Mark Rydberg

January 22: Pastor Mark Rydberg

January 29: Pastor Nick Fischer-Broin





January Events & Birthdays

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 NEW YEARS DAY 9 am Worship w/ holy communion 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 am Real Faith for Real Life book study <u>Happy Birthday</u> Joan Olson Cindy Santa | 2 Church office closed <u>Happy Birthday</u> Candace Hallcock | 3 | 4 Regular Wednesday Programming, plus: 9 am Staff Meeting <u>Happy Birthday</u> Kathleen Plante | 5 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang 8 am Bucket Gals (BGs) 8 am Maintenance Guys (MGs) <u>Happy Birthday</u> Richard Kuntz Mary Stein | 6 8 am Women's Fellowship 8 am LUV Quilters <u>Happy Birthday</u> Nevaeh Hanson Donavin Prescott Reyna Rivera | 7 |
| 8 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 Sunday School 10:10 am Lectio Divina | 9 9:30 am Eve Circle | 10 9 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Hannah Circle 1 pm Rachel Circle 6 pm Faith Formation Committee 7 pm Church Council <u>Happy Birthday</u> Brad Anderson Deb Laven | 11 Regular Wednesday Programming <u>Happy Birthday</u> Melissa Little | 12 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang 7 pm Faith on Tap <u>Happy Birthday</u> Eldon Hill Bruce Stowe | 13 8 am LUV Quilters 1 pm New Spirit Circle <u>Happy Birthday</u> Madison Simonson | 14 |
| 15 9 am Worship w/ holy communion 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 Sunday School | 16 MLK JR. DAY | 17 9 am Staff Meeting <u>Happy Birthday</u> Chad Olson Barb Reindal | 18 Regular Wednesday Programming <u>Happy Birthday</u> Ryan Behrens Harvey Blood Reinhold Lemke | 19 7 am Table Talk breakfast 9:10 am BeFriendsers 11:30 am SOLOS <u>Happy Birthday</u> Doris Hill Ashley Terpstra | 20 8 am Women's Fellowship 8 am LUV Quilters <u>Happy Birthday</u> Hilbert N. Reese | 21 |
| 22 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 Sunday School 1 pm January Birthday Lunch | 23 <u>Happy Birthday</u> Ava Quinnell Jacob Sevik | 24 9 am Staff Meeting | 25 Regular Wednesday Programming <u>Happy Birthday</u> Phyllis Finger Rich Laven | 26 7 am Table Talk breakfast @ James Gang | 27 8 am LUV Quilters <u>Happy Birthday</u> Donna Ozmun | 28 |
| 29 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Social 10:10 Sunday School | 30 | 31 9 am Staff Meeting <u>Happy Birthday</u> Tyler Bleckwehl Mary Fransen Myrtle Ringlien | <p style="text-align: center;">On Wednesdays</p> <p>7:45 am Breakfast Club 4:30 pm Jubilee Bells rehearsal 6:15 pm SPY 6:30-7:30 pm Confirmation J-Term 7:00 pm Choir rehearsal</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> If your birthday is not listed and should be, contact the church office so we can add it to our database.  </p> | | | |

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



David Weeks, **Pastor**

Megan DeMaris,
**Administrative
Assistant & Volunteer
Coordinator
(Church Office)**



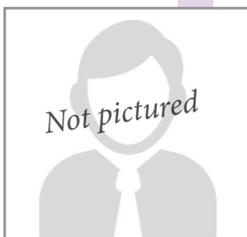
Mary Kay Bougie,
Music Director

Cariann “Miss Ann”
Strauch, **Director of
Children’s Ministries
(birth - elementary
school)**



Terrence Hassanally,
Financial Administrator

Welcome, Ethan
Coudron, **Live Stream**



Open Position at St. Peter’s

Director of Youth Ministries (middle and high school youth). Talk to David or Cariann if you have questions or know someone who would like to apply.

LUV Quilters

The Luv Quilters donated 63 flannel quilts to “Operation Joy.” These quilts were made of remnants from the pajamas made for “Operation Joy.”

The quilters will resume meeting again on January 6th and meet every Friday at 9:00am unless there is a Blood Drive. We are still hoping for new members.

Our supply of quilt fabric is dwindling. We would appreciate donations of cotton or cotton-blend fabrics. For school kits we need heavier fabrics such as denim or corduroy.

Leave donations on the long tables in the quilters corner in the Fellowship Hall.

Boundary Waters

Is canoeing the Boundary Waters on your bucket list? Are you interested in experiencing the pristine beauty of God’s good creation? Are you needing peace, quiet, and a break from social media?

Pastor David is planning to lead an adult trip to the Boundary Waters in July or August of 2023. If interested, please email him or drop a note in his mailbox. He will select a date and entry point in early February after returning from sabbatical.

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, February 5, following the worship service (approximately 10:00). We will review our previous year and envision our coming year. We will give thanks for God’s faithfulness through our ministry, elect people to serve on Church Council, and pass our 2023 budget.

Council Highlights

December 13, 2022 • 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.

Devotion: Pastor Weeks read from Matthew chapter 3 and council members shared what they do to prepare for Christmas.

Staff Reports:

• Pastor's Report:

Pastor met with middle & high school students & parents after worship on 12/7. Attendance was excellent with 15-20 people.

Pastor will be completing his sabbatical that he first started in 2020. He will be absent during the month of January and accompanying Michon to Florence along with students from St Olaf. The trip is centered around Art History and specifically that of the Church. Preaching in January will be Janet White, Deborah Lyanga, Mark Rydberg & Nick Fischer-Broin.

Pastor shared that Michon has painted 14 Stations of the Cross; They plan to display them in February (before lent begins) inside the sanctuary along the outside walls next to the windows. Ziegler mentioned hosting an event for the public on a Sunday afternoon.

• Carrian's report:

Christmas Program is Sunday, 12/18 during worship. 25 kids are participating in the program including children from the BC band, middle/high school youth band ensemble & Sunday School. Sunday School continues to draw about 15 kids.

FELLOWSHIP + FAITH : A NEW parent-led discussion is being offered each Sunday in the Parent's Room during Sunday School.

Live Stream - Ethan Coudron has been hired to run our Live Stream on Sundays. He has already made improvements to the quality of our streaming.

Treasurer's Report: Income for October 2022 was \$29K vs. a budget of \$31K or \$2K below plan. Contributions were much closer to budget for the second month in a row. Year to date income is \$30K below budget, and \$12.6K below what we received last year at this time. The gap in income is in the area of general offerings. Special Income and other income are ahead of budget year to date. Year to date expenses are \$3.4K below budget. I have no real concerns here other than utility costs which are way higher than anyone expected. The total net Year to Date stands at a \$42.9K deficit versus a plan of a \$16.3K deficit. Last year at this time we had a \$24.3K deficit Year to date.

Income for October 2022 was \$29,000 vs. a budget of \$31,000 of \$2,000 below plan. Contributions were much close below for the second month in a row. Year to date income is \$30,000 below budget, and \$12,600 below what we received last year at this time. The gap in income is in the area of general offerings. Special Income and The budget for 2023 will be wrapped up by the end of the week (12/16/22).

Income for Nov 2022 was \$37,200 vs. a budget of \$31,000 or \$6,200 above the plan.

Year to date income is \$23,700 below budget & \$8,500 below what we received last year at this time. The gap in income is in the area of general offerings. Special Income and other income are ahead of budget year to date.

Year to date expenses are \$4,200 below budget & should end the year near/at budget. Expenses year to date are \$8,500 higher than they were at this time last year.

The total net year to date stands at a \$37,500 deficit; a gap year to date of \$19,500. This time last year we had a \$20,600 deficit year to date. We would need income of around between \$47-50,000 in Dec to meet our year to date plan deficit of \$20,000.

Capital Projects: Phil Olson has organized a new group; the MGs (the Maintenance Guys) who will be meeting once a month - similar to the BG's (Bucket Gals). He & others have already begun working on a temporary solution to the interior side of the Bell Tower in the Narthex. THANK YOU PHIL & the MGs!

New Business: The annual church council retreat will be held on Saturday, March 4th at Mount Olivet Retreat Center.

Adjournment: Motion by Bleckwehl and seconded by Hendee. Motion carried as was followed with The Lord's Prayer.

Next council meeting: Tuesday, January 10 at 7 PM in the Fireside room.

Minutes by Megan Culhane



**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

Mark Shaw, President
markpattyslaw@gmail.com

Ashley Terpstra, VP
aa_evans@yahoo.com

Tom Picha, Treasurer
picha6@charter.net

Jolene Manzey, Secretary
jkmanzey@gmail.com

Mary Bleckwehl
marybleckwehl@hotmail.com

Megan Culhane
meganculhane87@gmail.com

David Hendee
davidhendee1952@gmail.com

Naomi Ziegler
zieg0110@umn.edu



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



St. Peter's Lutheran Church
418 East Sumner Street
Northfield, Minnesota 55057

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

*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.*



Like us on
Facebook

St. Peter's Lutheran/Northfield

Find us
On-Line

www.northfieldstp.org

Worship in-person, 9am Sundays

Worship on-line anytime, anywhere:

facebook.com/northfieldstp

www.northfieldstp.org/virtual-worship

January 2023 Parish Visitor

ANNUAL

Sunday, February 5

MEETING

St. Peter's Lutheran Church