



St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Parish Visitor

418 East Sumner Street
Northfield, MN 55057

507.645.8252

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

Worship

Sundays 9 a.m.
Coffee + Social 10 a.m.
Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

Education

September - May Sunday
School 10:10 a.m.
Wednesday Confirmation
6:30 p.m.

Staff

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What's Inside

Pg. 2 | Music Moments + Christian Life

Pg. 3 | Council Highlights

Pg. 4 | Worship Volunteers

Pg. 5 | November Calendar of Events
+ Birthdays

Pg. 6 + 7 | Happenings at St. Peter's



Dear Friends in Christ:

The month of November is a rich month. November 1 is All Saints' Day—a day to remember and give thanks to God to all who have been witnesses of God's love and grace to us.

On Sunday, November 2, we will again light candles in memory and honor of saints through whom the light of Christ has shined. I know this is a much loved and powerful ritual for many of us.

Of course, November also includes our national holiday—Thanksgiving. We will again be hosting our Thanksgiving Eve worship service (6:30 pm), followed by our Pie Fest. Bethel and St. John's will again be joining us for worship.

In many congregations, St. Peter's included, November is the month for our Financial Stewardship drive. As our fiscal year follows the calendar, and we need to create an operating budget for the coming year, it is simply practical to do a financial stewardship drive in November.

The English poet wrote, "God works in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform." Though this line sounds like it could be from the Bible, it is not. I think our national holiday of Thanksgiving is beneficial to our spiritual perspectives on giving and living.

I think that generosity is generated by gratitude. When we pause to reflect upon the blessings in our life, we respond by sharing and giving.

You will receive a 2026 Estimate of Giving in the mail. Please prayerfully consider how you will generously support the ministry of St. Peter's Lutheran.

As we gather with family and friends to give thanks for our blessings, we are also aware that too many in our nation are hungry. The present federal government shutdown may mean that the most vulnerable will miss the SNAP assistance. You may want to give thanks by stocking the food pantry or sending a financial gift to the local food shelf.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ~ Philippians 4:6

Peace,

Pastor David Weeks

Music Moments

Count Your Blessings!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord! ~ Psalm 150:6

My husband, Patrick, and I were on a glorious walk over the weekend with our dog, Phoebe, and granddog, Huck. Every time we turned a corner there was another picture perfect view of colorful trees. When we drove home afterwards, my music library began playing, "Let Everything (Psalm in Gospel Style)" by André Thomas ~ look it up! It reminded me that there are signs everywhere of God's wonders. We have so much to be thankful for.



Our Thanksgiving Eve worship service on November 26 at 6:30 pm, will once again include Bethel and St. John's congregations. We look forward to hosting the ELCA churches of Northfield. The three churches will bring their choirs together for two anthems, "Thanks and Blessings Flow" (by Tom Fettke) and "Autumn Carol" (by Russell Schulz-Widmar). We hope you will join us ~ and give thanks!

Following worship on Thanksgiving Eve, St. Peter's will host our yearly "Pie Fest". Please think about making an extra pie in your Thanksgiving preparations to share with our worshippers. Give thanks for pie bakers!

Christian Life

November Reminders for Children, Youth, & Families

SUNDAYS

- Nov 9 Sunday School at 10:10 a.m.
- Nov 16 Sunday School at 10:10 a.m.
- Nov 23 Sunday School at 10:10 a.m.
- Nov 30 Sunday School at 10:10 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS

- Nov 5 SPY - St. Peter's Youth at 6:30 p.m.
Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 12 Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 19 SPY - St. Peter's Youth at 6:30 p.m.
Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

All-ages Christmas Program

December 14

During Worship

Children's Sunday! During worship Nov 23

The Sunday School children will help worship happen on November 23 by lighting candles, ushering, ringing the church bell... We look forward to seeing you in church!



Council Highlights

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.

Devotions: Council members discussed the third and fourth chapters of "Holy Disruption: A Manifesto for the Future of Faith Communities." The 2025 book calls on congregations to reimagine their Christian community. Themes discussed included how to use a church building differently, a congregation's understanding of God is tied to how it "does" church, the struggle between routine and change, and ways to connect to the community. Chapters five and six will be discussed in November.

Pastor: Two youth, Reed Sommers, and Jackson Triplett, were confirmed Oct. 5. Pastor attended a 48-hour silent retreat at Pacem in Terris Hermitage Retreat Center near Isanti, Minnesota, in early October. He would like to take a group there in 2026, after leading a conversation on the Christian mystics. Stewardship Sunday with æbleskiver during Fellowship Hour will be Nov. 23. He is leading a book discussion on "The God Who Sees," which looks at Biblical stories through the lens of immigration.

Council President: Kleppe said training begins next week for new offering counters Brad Anderson and Janet Topp. Kleppe, Kopack and Paulson have agreed to serve second two-year Council terms. The Nominating Committee will need to fill Council slots being vacated next year by Eaves (stepping down after one term) and Hendee (term-limited). The Buy Nothing Bazaar was wildly successful and will likely be repeated. The Personnel Committee will meet with Patricia McKee, Christian Life Coordinator, for her scheduled six-month review.

Treasurer: Link presented the September financial report. Year-to-date giving at the end of September was \$26,100 under budget, but coming into the highest giving period. Expenditures for the same period were \$26,800 under budget. The Change 4 Change program (all Sunday offerings of loose coins and bills not linked to a member's offering envelope number) raised \$125 in September. The September contributions went to ELCA Disaster Relief in the aftermath of Texas flooding. Change 4 Change funds in October and November will be sent to The Key youth center.

New Business 1: Jesse Pick, committee chair of Cub Scout Pack 300, presented a request for St. Peter's to host the group. The pack has about 35 members in grades K-5. St. Peter's member Brian Kopack is a pack leader. After discussion, the Council unanimously approved a motion by Hanson, second by Link, for St. Peter's to host the pack.

New Business 2: Kleppe presented the Council with Paulson's compilation of how attendees at the "Conversation With the Council" event prioritized potential maintenance and renovation projects inside and outside the church during the Sept. 21 Fellowship Hour. Replacing the office wing's air conditioner and furnace ranked No. 1. The Stewardship Committee's Fruity French Toast fundraising meal served during the Oct. 12 Fellowship Hour raised more than \$500 for the HVAC project.

Discussion on the Council's vision for St. Peter's in the coming decade remained tabled.



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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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. Thank you, Volunteers!

Date	Time	Ushers	Reader	Communion Servers	Coffee/ Kitchen	Live Stream
November 2	9:00 a.m.	Mark + Connie Albers	Roberta Bonrud	Dale Ness Linda Ness Ginny Paulson	Mary Boyum + Ramona Pumper	Dennis Kenison
November 9	9:00 a.m.	Debra Boyum Patrick Bougie	Lorraine Rovig	-	Phil + JoAnne Olson	Megan Culhane
November 16	9:00 a.m.	Mike + Beth Eaves	Sheryl Kleppe	Laura Gilligan Jolene Manzey Beth Vivant	Carmen Sevcik + Evonne Clay	Bill Bleckwehl
November 23	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School	Sunday School	-	Dennis + Janet Hahn	Megan Culhane
November 26	6:30pm	A sign-up sheet is available at the welcome desk for Thanksgiving ushers + hospitality volunteers.				Megan Culhane
November 30	9:00 a.m.	Richard DeBeau Doris Welke	Michon Weeks	-	Dennis + Beth Berry	Dennis Kenison
December 7	9:00 a.m.	Dale + Linda Ness	Lessons + Carols Readers	Brian Peterson Mary Peterson Julie Klock	Ramona Pumper + Evonne Clay	Megan Culhane
December 14	9:00 a.m.	Sheryl Kleppe Patrick Bougie	Jolene Manzey	-	David + Polly Hendee	Bill Bleckwehl
December 21	9:00 a.m.	Don + Roberta Bonrud	Carmen Sevcik	Ginny Paulson Laura Gilligan Michon Weeks	Mary Boyum Ruth McCarty	Becca Peterson
December 24	3:30 p.m.	A sign-up sheet will be available at the welcome desk at the beginning of December for Christmas Eve worship volunteers.				Dennis Kenison
December 24	5:00 p.m.					No Livestream
December 28	9:00 a.m.	Phil + JoAnne Olson	Julia Daly	-	Bill + Mary Bleckwehl	No Livestream

November Calendar of Events + Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Happy Birthday Barb Anderson Catherine Johnson
2 9am Worship with Holy Communion 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10 The God Who Sees (session 2) Happy Birthday Rayden Hanson Arnold Witt	3	4 11am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Ella Sommers	5 6:30am Men's Fellowship + Bible Study Wednesday Evening Schedule Happy Birthday Amy Randall	6 7am Table Talk 8:30am MG's + BG's 7pm Faith on Tap Happy Birthday Dylan Teske Ryan Wiste	7 8:30am Women's Fellowship Breakfast 9am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Marcia Schmitz	8 Happy Birthday Bernice Christensen DeeDee Schwager
9 9am Worship 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10 The God Who Sees (session 3) 10:10am Sunday School 3pm Sons of Norway	10 6:30pm 4-H Big Giants	11 9:30am Hannah Circle 11am Staff Meeting 1pm Rachel Circle Happy Birthday Ellen Behrens Sonja Link Marcia Peterson	12 6:30am Men's Fellowship + Bible Study 5:30pm Handbells Practice 6:30pm Confirmation J-term Kickoff 7pm Worship Choir Practice Happy Birthday Krin Finger Peggy Hoffman Evie Wegner	13 7am Table Talk	14 9am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Quinn Crase	15
16 9am Worship with Holy Communion 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School Happy Birthday Brian Peterson	17 9:30am Eve Circle Happy Birthday Helen Rockey	18 11am Staff Meeting 7pm Church Council	19 6:30am Men's Fellowship + Bible Study Wednesday Evening Schedule Happy Birthday Glade Nelson Tia Randall Cordelia Stenstrom	20 7am Table Talk 9am LUV Quilters 11:30am SOLOS (James Gang) Happy Birthday Diane Boyum Kirsten Croone	21 8:30am Women's Fellowship Study 9am-2pm Red Cross Blood Drive Happy Birthday Connie Albers Sheryl Kleppe Lorraine Rovig	22
23 9am Worship 10am Stewardship Sunday with æbleskiver! 10:10am Sunday School	24 Happy Birthday Laura Rezac	25 11am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Cindy Opatrny	26 6:30am Men's Fellowship + Bible Study 5:30pm Worship Choir Practice 6:30pm ELCA Thanksgiving Worship + Pie Fest Happy Birthday Pam DeBoer Maxfield Payne	27  Happy Birthday Mary Peterson	28 9am LUV Quilters	29
30 9am Worship 10am Coffee + Fellowship Happy Birthday Michon Weeks	 Wednesday Evening Schedule 5:30pm Handbells Practice 6:30pm Worship 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm SPY (11.5 + 11.19) 7:00pm Worship Choir Practice					

Happenings at St. Peter's

Congratulations Confirmands!! Jackson Triplett & Reed Sommers



St. Peter's first-ever "Buy Nothing Bazaar" was a huge success! Doors opened 30 minutes early and closed two hours ahead of schedule. Every single item found a new home! Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, and came out to support this new community event. Your generosity and enthusiasm made it a truly meaningful day of sharing and connection.



Road construction surrounding St. Peter's has been in full swing!



Happenings at St. Peter's

Sunday School sang *"Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands"*
led by St. Peter's Sunday School Music Director, Margaret Black.



Dayna Norvold, Executive Director of Rice
County Habitat for Humanity, spoke from the
pulpit during the Oct. 12, 2025, worship service.



The fruity french
toast fundraiser
was a great
success!



\$592 was raised
for a new office
wing AC and
furnace.



Approximately 60
people were
served at the
breakfast.



Stewardship Sunday with a Danish Treat

Join your fellow St. Peter's members for Stewardship Sunday and enjoy a Danish treat, æbleskiver! Celebrate with us during 10 o'clock coffee time in the fellowship hall following worship on Sunday, November 23. On this special Sunday, financial pledges for the coming year will be received and dedicated to support our congregation's worship, Sunday school, and ministry operations.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship + Pie Fest



St. Peter's Thanksgiving Eve service will be on Wednesday, November 26 at 6:30pm. Our friends from Bethel and St. John's will be joining us. Our annual Pie Fest will follow the worship service. We'd love for you to join in! You can sign-up at the welcome desk to bring a homemade or store-bought pie to share.



Looking Further Ahead - December Dates to Save



Sunday, December 7 | 9:00am | Lessons & Carols Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 14 | 9:00am | Sunday School Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 24 | 3:30pm + 5:00pm | Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 28 | 9:00am | Christmas Sing-A-Long Worship