



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

David Weeks, Pastor, ext 203

cell: 952.322.0064

[pastordavidweeks@northfieldstp.org](mailto:pastordavidweeks@northfieldstp.org)

Mary Kay Bougie

Director of Music + Worship, ext. 208

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Allie Machacek

Communications Coordinator + Admin

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Dear Friends in Christ:

*For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ~ Isaiah 55:10-11*

We are a people of the Word who know that words are alive. In Genesis 1, God spoke the world into being. "Let there be light, and there was light."

Words can unite and divide. Right now, it feels like the dividing and demeaning words are winning. Polarization and division between family and friends is a painful reality for many of us.

With the upcoming election(s), we will be inundated with ads blaming and accusing the other side. There will be no shortage of opinions in our news, and social media will include much misinformation and disinformation with the intention of creating mistrust.

In our polarized world, we have come to accept that one side (mine) is entirely right, while the other side (yours) is entirely wrong. The truth is that there is merit and failure on both sides.

As Christians, we live in, but not of the world. We are called, invited, and challenged to love our neighbors—including and especially those with whom we disagree.

Watch your words. Contribute to discourse and not division. Resist the temptation to share cheap shots. Remember that not everything published online is true or factual.

The 8th Commandment reads, "Do not bear false witness against your neighbor." Martin Luther's explanation reads, "We are to fear and love God so that we do not betray, slander, or lie about our neighbor, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain his actions in the kindest way."

What if the media identified Christians, not with a political party, but by how we talked about those with whom we disagreed? What if the world knew Christians, not by their vote, but by how they spoke?

Peace,

Pastor David Weeks



# Summer Happenings at St. Peter's

## 4F ~ Faith, Fun, Fellowship, Food



## Amnicon Canoe Trip



## God's Work. Our Hands.

As stewards of God's creation, the last Sunday of the month, **August 25th**, will be *God's Work Our Hands*, Sunday here in Northfield. An annual day of service for the ELCA, normally held on the 2nd Sunday of September, has always conflicted with Defeat Days in our community. So, the 3 Northfield ELCA congregations are doing GWOH Sunday a few weeks early.

After our 9:00 a.m. worship, we will disperse to serve from 11 am—2 pm at one of the service sites that will be offered. There will be things like a "Friendship & Good Neighbor Garden" for the Starfish 2 house, bandage rolling for Global Health Ministries, and a lawn game party for Laura Baker residents. Details and sign up will follow in the weeks to come.



# Summer Happenings at St. Peter's



Ten people from the congregation completed a HeartSaver course in CPR, first aid and use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) in early July.

Participants were Patrick and Mary Kay Bougie, Kirsten Croone, David Hendee, Sheryl Kleppe, Tim and Sonja Link, Jolene Manzey, and Phil and JoAnne Olson.

Jon Bolster, a retired Faribault fire captain and emergency medical technician, led the American Heart Association-sponsored class.

HeartSaver courses are designed for anyone with little or no medical training. The courses are aimed at those who want to be prepared for an emergency in any setting.

Bolster taught the group skills needed to recognize cardiac arrest, get emergency care on the way quickly and help a person with cardio-pulmonary resuscitation until professional rescuers arrive.

"Whatever the patient doesn't have, give them," Bolster said. "If no heartbeat, do compressions; not breathing, give breaths."

The class practiced performing 100 to 120 chest compressions per minute — each 2 to 2.4 inches deep — on a high-tech mannequin. Students learned how to use the church's AED to shock a heart into beating, if required. The portable electronic device is stored on the west wall of the Fellowship Hall.



Bolster also provided training for child CPR, choking, first aid, heart attack (which is not the same as cardiac arrest), strokes, seizures, diabetic and allergy emergencies, wounds, burns, poisoning, eye injuries and cold- and hot-weather injuries.

The three-hour session was held in the Fellowship Hall. Each participant paid \$60 for the training and certification.

## Saint Paul Saints Game



# 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 Server	Coffee/ Kitchen	Live Stream
August 4	9:00 a.m.	Doris + Eldon Hill	Connie Albers	Ramona Pumper Avonne Kaplan Doris Hill	Brian + Mary Peterson	Bill Bleckwehl
August 11	9:00 a.m.	Borris + Joyce Mokoff	Marilyn Finneseth	-	Dale + Linda Ness	Nick Paulson
August 18	9:00 a.m.	Debra Boyum Diane Boyum	Carmen Sevcik	Phil Olson JoAnne Olson Pete Pedersen	Mark + Connie Albers	Dennis Kenison
August 25	9:00 a.m.	Mickey Brodin Joan Paulson	Patrick Bougie	-	Eleanor + Kirsten Croone	Nick Paulson
September 1	9:00 a.m.	Mary Bleckwehl Ramona Pumper	Julie Klock	Beth Berry Evonne Clay Ginny Paulson	Phil + JoAnne Olson	Bill Bleckwehl
September 8	9:00 a.m.	Dale + Linda Ness	Steve Hill	-	Eleanor + Kirsten Croone	No Livestream (outdoor worship)
September 15	9:00 a.m.	Dennis + Janet Hahn	Avonne Kaplan	Ramona Pumper Pete Pedersen Thelma Winter	Evonne Clay Ginny Paulson	Nick Paulson
September 22	9:00 a.m.	Richard DeBeau + Doris Welke	Lorraine Rovig	-	Ruth McCarty Carol Irwin	Megan Culhane
September 29	9:00 a.m.	Don + Roberta Bonrud	Michon Weeks	-	Nick + Emily Paulson	Dennis Kenison



# August Calendar of Events + Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Happy Birthday Murray Finger Janis Truax	<b>2</b> 8:30am Women's Fellowship Breakfast  9am LUV Quilters  Happy Birthday LeAnn Finger Maxine Halverson	<b>3</b> Happy Birthday Steve Schmidt
<b>4</b> 9am Worship with Holy Communion  10am Coffee + Fellowship  Happy Birthday Bill Bleckwehl Gretchen Ehresmann Tom Johnson	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10am Staff Meeting  12pm Executive Committee  3pm Stewardship	<b>7</b> Happy Birthday Hayes Humann	<b>8</b> 7am Table Talk  2pm New Spirit Circle  7pm Faith on Tap	<b>9</b> 9am LUV Quilters	<b>10</b> Happy Birthday Brian Kopack Mark Larsen
<b>11</b> 9am Worship  10am Coffee + Fellowship  3pm Sons of Norway	<b>12</b> 9:30am Eve Circle  6:30pm 4H Big Giants  Happy Birthday Jim Anderson Nicole Olson Charley Terpstra	<b>13</b> 9:30am Hannah Circle 10am Staff Meeting 1pm Rachel Circle 6pm Faith Formation Committee 7pm Church Council  Happy Birthday Tom Tollefson	<b>14</b> Happy Birthday Albin Linder	<b>15</b> 7am Table Talk  11:30am SOLOS (Fairfield Inn)  Happy Birthday Anthony Sommers	<b>16</b> 8:30am Women's Fellowship Study  9am LUV Quilters  Happy Birthday April Kopack Ruth Meliza Emery Solberg	<b>17</b> Happy Birthday Vangie Gisvold Hannah Schrader
<b>18</b> 9am Worship with Holy Communion  10am Coffee + Fellowship	<b>19</b> Happy Birthday Mark Dorn Elsie Metz Jeremy Sevcik	<b>20</b> 10am Staff Meeting	<b>21</b> Happy Birthday Tammy Larsen  6pm Sonshine Youth Event (Romans + Christians @ St. John's Church)	<b>22</b> 7am Table Talk  Happy Birthday Kristie Anderson	<b>23</b> 9am LUV Quilters  Happy Birthday Mara Hallcock Thomas Rockey	<b>24</b> Happy Birthday Lowell Fossum Jeff Rezac Diane Schrader Truman Olson
<b>25</b> 9am Worship  10am Coffee + Fellowship  Happy Birthday Blake Peterson	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10am Staff Meeting  Happy Birthday Miranda Fossum Joyce Mokoff Ginny Paulson	<b>28</b> Happy Birthday Maddison Hanson	<b>29</b> 7am Table Talk	<b>30</b> Happy Birthday Noah Hanson Logan Prescott Mona Weselmann	<b>31</b> Happy Birthday Jolene Manzey Jackson Strand

**St. Peter's 2024 Rally Day**

**Mark your calendars!**

**Rally Day is Sunday, September 15!**



# Music Notes

By Mary Kay Bougie



I would like to extend a public 'thank you' to First Lutheran Church in St. James, MN. This is the church that I was raised in, with my dad as the pastor there for 12 of my formative years. Mom was the adult choir director. I truly grew up in that church. About a year ago, I had reached out to the woman who followed mom as choir director after mom and dad retired. I asked her about borrowing a piece of choral music,

one that I fondly remembered my mom directing, as I couldn't find it anywhere in many attempts to locate it online. She gladly sent me the 20 copies she had, and told me to keep them! St. Peter's Worship Choir sang the anthem, "Immortal, Invisible" at the end of May this year. A few months after my request, this woman, who is also a friend of mine, told me she'd like me to come to St. James and go through all the choral anthems they had on file, and take whatever I might want to use! Their choir had become more of a contemporary worship team, and no longer sang traditional choral music. She felt sick that the music was sitting in files and not being used for worship. I headed down there after the new year, and went through file after file – seeing many pieces of music with my mom's handwritten notes and suggestions. It was pretty exhilarating for me. My director friend was there. She continued to bring me box after box to fill – it was kind of embarrassing how much I took! I'm sure I missed some music that I would have used, but I filled seven boxes. I've since catalogued every piece, labeled, numbered and taken notes. St. Peter's gained over 3,000 pieces of music! There are 159 anthems – averaging 19 copies of each anthem. If I were to buy that many pieces of music today, it would cost well over \$6,000! I am very thankful to First Lutheran Church and the staff who allowed me to continue the use of what was once part of their wonderful choral tradition.



**With that in mind, maybe YOU would like to try choir this fall and sing some of the 'new' music that is now part of St. Peter's choral library?**

**New members are always encouraged!**

**We begin on Wednesday, September 4 at 7 p.m.**

**Any age: from high school to 100, is welcome!**



**Handbell rehearsals also begin on September 4, at 5:30p.m.**

We could use a few more ringers to fill in all of the bells.

Any age: from high school to 100, is welcome! There is a pre-requisite that you can read notes and rhythms. So if you were ever in band or took piano lessons, this would be right up your alley!

← 4 of our ringers were up for playing some challenging pieces during the summer break. (Marilyn, Skip, Megan, and Claire-not pictured) Hopefully you heard them when they played in July. If not, they have 2 more fun selections they'll be playing in August!



# 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.

**Devotion:** 1 Corinthians 13:13. "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three...." Pastor read a brief selection of hopeful acts from "It's Not Too Late: A Field Guide to Hope" by Bob Sitze. He asked Council members about signs of hope they see in their lives or in the congregation.

**Pastor's Report:** Our first 4F (Faith, Fellowship, Fun and Food) was a picnic and hike at Nerstrand Big Woods State Park with about a dozen congregation members. Together with pastors from Bethel and St. John's for planning a "God's Work, Our Hands" community event Aug. 25. Seven middle schoolers and their parents attended the Sonshine event at Feed My Starving Children. Two St. Peter's youth and one parent are canoeing on the Brule and Flambeau rivers at Camp Amnicon in Wisconsin with others from St. John's and United Church of Christ. The Stewardship Ministry Team is coordinating fundraising for the east door/windows and second-floor restroom renovation capital appeal projects. Congregation members will continue making periodic invitations during Sunday worship services for all to join them in giving to the fundraising campaign. The new Change 4 Change initiative directing loose offering to special missions and other uses has been well accepted. June's loose offering of \$236 will be sent to the ELCA's Lutheran World Relief.

**Council President:** The Personnel Committee finished its performance reviews of the office staff in May and June. Ten people from the congregation completed a CPR and first-aid class offered at the church.

**Committees:** Bleckwehl presented findings of her visits to eight local churches to study their street signs, exterior door and interior signage, and door numbering for emergency purposes. Hendee presented the Stewardship Committee's review of a suggestion to give worshippers an opportunity to contribute a bit of loose change in addition to their regular offerings. Paulson moved and Kopack seconded a motion to approve the "Change 4 Change" initiative. It will begin in June, when the month's contributions will be given to the ELCA's World Hunger Appeal, which will be marking its 50th anniversary.

**Treasurer:** June envelope/pledge giving was \$17,000 above budget. The generosity put the church \$3,000 into the black for the year to date. The first semi-annual statements of individual contributions were scheduled to be mailed from the church office about July 10-12.

**Committee Reports (Capitol Improvements):** Installation of new glass in the east entry door and windows is complete. Contractor Schmidt Homes hopes to complete the second-floor restroom renovations by the end of August. Kopack moved and Thompson seconded a motion to proceed with a committee plan to number all seven exterior doors for public safety purposes and to label the south doors to the narthex, Fellowship Hall and offices. The estimated cost is \$195.

**Stewardship:** About \$10,000 of the \$33,000 capital improvement projects fundraising goal has been raised via special offerings from the congregation.

**New Business:** Refined a proposed job listing proposed by the Personnel Committee for a part-time Christian Life Coordinator to work with all ages within the congregation. Thompson moved, and Bleckwehl seconded, a motion to allow a neighborhood Night to Unite gathering to use the church parking and playground Aug. 6. The motion passed.



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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**Kirsten Thompson**  
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**Noontime Organ Recital ~  
Richard Collman played at Skinner  
Memorial Chapel on July 17.**



**School Kits**



It is time again for the back-to-school sales and the annual Lutheran World Relief school kit drive. Sewn bags with shopping lists inside will be found hanging in the Narthex. Please do not substitute items and please do not remove packaging material. The filled bags may be left on the bench in the narthex or on the long tables in the fellowship hall. The deadline for returning bags is Sunday, September 8th.



**LUV Quilters Updates**



The LUV Quilters completed approximately 50 quilts from January - May. The blankets were taken to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in South St. Paul by Faith Bergemann and Sandy Bremer.

Bed sheets were obtained from the yearly Carleton sale. Thank you to the congregation members who took sheets home to wash them.

The quilters will resume meeting on Friday, August 2 at 9a.m. They will check and pack school kits in the month of August along with quilting.

There is a need for partial spools of unused thread.

**Men's Bible Study/Fellowship**

Mike Eaves and Pastor David are starting a new ministry for men on Wednesday mornings. We plan to start Wednesday, September 11 at 6:30a.m. This will be an opportunity to connect with other men in the congregation, make new friends, discover common interests, have a community to support you. No previous experience in Bible studies necessary. Come and discover how God's Word speaks to your life today. For more information and/or suggestions, please talk to either Mike Eaves or Pastor David. Breakfast (donuts, eggs/bacon, waffles, etc.) will be included.