

St. Peter's Ministry Guidebook



Please call St. Peter's if you'd like to join a group, program or be a volunteer and we will connect you with the correct contact person. 507.645.8252 ext. 201

Adult Education

Community Connection

On the second Sunday of each month during the coffee hour we have a presentation from an organization in the Northfield community that provides information on the group's purpose, the group's work, and how St. Peter's members might become involved.

Contact Person: Pastor David Weeks | 507-645-8252 ext. 203

Bible Study + Discussion Groups

On Sundays, when we don't have a Community Connection of Upside Down Sunday, we will have a bible study, a topical discussion, or a book discussion. These discussions will be in the Fireside Room after worship.

Contact Person: Pastor David Weeks | 507-645-8252 ext. 203

Faith on Tap

Do you enjoy thinking about how the Gospel of Jesus intersects with contemporary political and social issue? Do you appreciate listening and learning from people who think differently than you? Faith on Tap meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7pm at the Contended Cow. Grab a pink, a cocktail, or a glass of water and join us for a thought provoking conversation

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Parent Meet Up

The children of Sunday School students meet upstairs at St. Peter's while their children are in Sunday School. This group considers a Question of the Day to encourage conversation and fellowship. Occasionally, the group also assists with a service project.

Community Outreach

Adopt-a Highway Cleanup

Do you like to look out on cleaned Minnesota landscape devoid of cans, paper and other trash? That does not magically happen, no strong wind whips the trash away. It takes the word of dedicated environmentalists. Twice a year, usually in the Spring and Fall, St. Peter's members clean a two-mile stretch of Highway 246, south of Northfield. We gather at the church and travel to the site together. Work gloves, sturdy shoes, and long pants are highly recommended. Trash bags and vests are provided. we usually clean on a Sunday afternoon and it takes 2 hours, maximum.

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Defeat of Jesse James Days Volunteers

We volunteer for two behind the scenes projects in support of Defeat of Jesse James Days. First, on Wednesday, we set up the entertainment center tent across the street from the municipal liquor store, and then on Sunday, we take it down. We also set up and take down a fencing which surrounds the tent. Secondly, on Friday and Saturday, we help park cars for the rodeo. We get paid for our volunteer hours, and the dollars typically are used to support our mission trip to Guatemala.

Meals-on-Wheels

St. Peter's members have agreed to deliver Meals on Wheels for two consecutive weeks in July and again in October. There are five routes throughout the city, and delivery is seven days per week. Volunteers pick up coolers for each route at the Northfield Hospital at approximately 11:45 each day and deliver them in a specified area. The routes take approximately an hour to deliver. A GPS is helpful in navigating the routes. Volunteers should be aware that each cooler contains up to three meals and can be heavy

Contact Person: Mary Kay Bougie | 507-645-8252 ext. 208

Prayer Ministry

This opportunity allows you to pray for the needs of the St. Peter and Northfield Community. Your name is placed on an electronic or telephone list. When prayer request comes into the church office, a call for prayer goes out, and you are asked to pray.

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Fellowship Service Opportunities

Altar Ministry

As the church moves through the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost, the colors of our paraments (altar cloths) change. We also use flowers, trees, banners, and other decorations to visually convey the seasonal message. Contact Person: Kat

Funeral Hospitality Committees

There are currently three teams that take turns covering funeral luncheons. Those agreeing to become a team member will be contacted when their team is “up.” The teams coordinate arranging for catering a luncheon following the funeral, serving it, and doing the clean-up. They are also responsible for supplying the beverages and desserts that are served.

The Mailing Crew

This group gathers once per month when the newsletter is ready to be mailed. They fold the newsletters and attach the address labels. They are also notified to assembly if a special mailing is being sent out.

Bucket Gals (BGs)

This dedicated group, the “BGs,” meets the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 A.M. The gals have one huge thing in common, they love to clean. They concentrate on keeping the church kitchen spotless and organized.

Maintenance Guys (MGs)

Just like our homes, toilet flappers and light bulbs need to be replaced, the outdoor shrubs need to be trimmed and flowers need water. If you’re handy and you want to lend a hand, we have periodic jobs for you.

Worship Leaders

Communion Assistant

Three people are assigned to this duty. They approach the altar through the side door during the sermon hymn. They wash their hands and enter the altar area by the door. They stand to the side during the Words of Institution, then follow the pastor's instructions. The communion assistants for the month are notified in the church newsletter. If you are unable to be a communion assistant during the worship service to which you are assigned. *You are responsible for finding a replacement.*

Communion Set-up

This person is responsible for preparing the elements of communion for services on the first and third weekends of the month. This is generally done on Friday or Saturday. Following communion on Sunday, this person also cleans the elements and counts those served. *You are responsible for finding a replacement.*

Hospitality

Two people are assigned to this duty. They are responsible for making coffee and providing treats for the coffee hour following the worship service. They are then responsible for washing the dishes and cleaning up the kitchen. The hospitality teams for the month are notified in the church newsletter. If you are unable to serve coffee following the worship service to which you are assigned *You are responsible for finding a replacement.*

Reader

If you enjoy reading the Scripture, and have a clear speaking voice this opportunity is designed for you. The reader is also responsible for praying the Prayer of the People. The readers for the month are notified in the church newsletter. If you are unable to read during the worship service to which you are assigned. *You are responsible for finding a replacement.*

Usher

A team of four people are assigned to greet worshipers as they arrive, give them a bulletin for the day, and answer any questions. These people also take the offering and usher people forward to receive communion. After the service starts, they count the worshipers and record the number on the chart in the cupboard. Following the service, the ushers check the pews to make sure all are ready for the next event. The ushers for the month are notified in the church newsletter. If you are unable to usher during the worship service to which you are assigned. *You are responsible for finding a replacement.*

Music Opportunities

Jubilee Bells

Did you play in the high school band back in the day? How about picking up a bell(s) to bring back memories of reading and making beautiful music together? The Jubilee Bells practice every Wednesday afternoon at 4:30. A basic knowledge of reading music is necessary. The bell ringers share their music in worship about once a month.

Worship Band

Do you have an instrument that has been sitting in the case for far too long begging to be dusted off? Do you enjoy singing contemporary music? The Worship Band might be just the place for you to utilize your talents. This band complements the Sunday worship about once per month. The practices are on Wednesday afternoons or when all musicians are available.

Gospel Band

Our newest music group at St. Peter's enjoys singing the "oldies, but goodies." If you want to sing, or just add an instrument, you are welcome. Practices are held on Fridays at 10:30am or when all musicians are available.

Worship Choir

We are a non-auditioned choir, everyone is welcome! The choir typically sings 4-part music. Throughout the school year the worship choir meets on Wednesdays at 7pm and sings in worship approximately twice a month.

Contact Person: Mary Kay Bougie | 507-645-8252 ext. 208

Children + Youth Fellowship

Sunday School

Children ages three through 8th grade are encourage to enroll in weekly Sunday School classes held during the school year. These classes incorporate SPARK curriculum, music, activities, and Bible stories. Sunday School is held for 50 minutes immediately following worship each Sunday during the school year. Adult members of our congregation are welcome to teach or substitute teach.

Vacation Bible School

Children ages three through 3rd grade are welcome to VBS half days, one week during the early summer. Proving successful for several years in a row, VBS is a join effort between St. Peter's, Bethel and St. John's churches in Northfield. It's a great way for young children to learn Bible stories while having fun and meeting new friends.

Summer Day Camp

This camp is hosted by St. Peter's and open to the entire Northfield Community. Counselors from Good Earth Village lead the multiple day camp. Dates are posted in the church newsletters. It is a reasonable priced alternative to day care for elementary aged students.

S.P.Y

St. Peter's Youth is open to teens in middle school and high school. They meet every Wednesday night at 6:45 for study and activities. Other meetings are arranged for fellowship, service, and learning as well.

Confirmation

Students attend in grades six through eight on Wednesdays. In the fall of their ninth grade year, they are confirmed (Affirmation of Baptism). We begin with an informal and intergenerational worship service. We study and discuss the Bible, Luther's Small Catechism, and go on a few field trips.

Bible Milestones

These annual or biannual classes are conducted for further education for children about specific aspects of the faith. Examples are Bible Milestones, First Communion, and Communion Review. If your child is currently enrolled in Sunday School, your family will automatically be contacted about upcoming milestone opportunities.

Faith Formation Board

The members of this board assist, advise, and support St. Peter's Director of Youth and Family Activities. They meet to offer ideas, assistance, communication and encouragement to programs organized for faith formation.

Women's Circle Groups

SOLOS

If you are single and enjoy eating out with a group this is your opportunity. The SOLOS, Singles All together, gather for lunch and fellowship at a selected restaurant at 12:15 P.M. on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

Eve Circle

This circle meets at 9:30 A.M. on the 2nd Monday of every month. The Bible Study in the Gather Magazine is their study tool. The women are involved in community projects.

Hannah Circle

This circle meets at 9:00 A.M. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month in the Fellowship Hall at St. Peter's. They share responsibility for leading the Bible Study in the Gather Magazine. They are responsible for putting together Baby Care Kits to be sent to Lutheran World Relief.

Rachel Circle

This circle meets at 1:00 P.M. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month in the Fireside Room at St. Peters. The women are currently using the Bible Study in the Gather Magazine. Last year they assembled 50 Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief.

LUV Quilters

If you are able to tie a knot, this group is for you! The quilters meet from 8:30 A.M.-11:00 A.M. on Fridays (always the 1st and 3rd but in the winter most Fridays) in the Fellowship Hall at St. Peter's. The tops of the quilts have been assembled and are all ready to be tied. It is a very flexible group-come when you can, leave if you must. They break for coffee and treats. The finished quilts are given to Lutheran World Relief and, locally, to Operation Joy.

New Spirit Circle

This circle meets in the Fireside Room at St. Peter's at 2:00 P.M. on the 2nd Thursday of every month. Gather Magazine is used to guide the bible study each month. New Spirit Circle helps organize and create school kits that are sent to the ELCA.

Women's Fellowship

This circle meets twice per month. They gather socially on the 1st Friday of every month for breakfast at 8:00 A.M. at the Tavern. They meet on the 3rd Friday of every month at 8:00 A.M. in the Fireside Room at St. Peter's to discuss a Christian book chosen by the group. They are responsible for any special projects that St. Peter is currently involved with.

Men's Fellowship

Men's Winter Ski Trip

Open to men who enjoy cross country skiing and good fellowship; this experience is a February tradition. Leaving from the church at noon on Friday and returning on Sunday afternoon, men enjoy great food in a comfortable setting. It's a great opportunity to recharge after the busyness of the holiday season.

Intergenerational Ed + Fellowship

Rally Sunday

This is the Sunday on which we kick-off the new year for education and church programming. Rally Sunday usually falls on the Sunday after Northfield's Defeat of Jesse James Days celebration. Enjoy food, games, photo opportunities and a chance to meet other members of St. Peters of all ages.