



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

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

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

Allie Machacek
Communications Coordinator + Admin
ext. 201
allie@northfieldstp.org

What's Inside

Pg. 2 | Rally Day + Christian Life
Coordinator Position

Pg. 3 | Happenings at St. Peter's

Pg. 4 | Worship Volunteers

Pg. 5 | Sept. Calendar of Events + Birthdays

Pg. 6 | Music Notes

Pg. 7 | Council Highlights



Dear Friends in Christ:

....but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD. Joshua 24:15b

If God were small enough to be understood, He would not be big enough to be worshiped. – Evelyn Underhill

but you're gonna have to serve somebody... Bob Dylan

September is the de facto beginning of a new year. Children and youth will soon be back to school. Here in the church, Sunday School, Confirmation, SPY, Worship Choir, and Jubilee Bells will return.

Worship is central to the Christian faith. When we “remember the sabbath and keep it holy” (3rd commandment), we also strive to keep other gods from becoming God in our life (1st Commandment).

As we begin a “new year”, I invite, encourage, and challenge you to make worship a priority in your life.

Worship seems to have become optional for many Christians. The Christian church now has competition on Sunday mornings that we did not have thirty and fifty years ago. We travel more than people did a couple generations ago. Children/Youth sports schedule practices and games on Sunday mornings. When considering when to schedule an event on a weekend, I have heard people say, “How about Sunday morning? Nothing else is happening on Sunday mornings.”

For Christians, Sunday morning is sabbath—a time dedicated to worship and rest.

I used this quote from Richard Rohr on August 18: *We don't think ourselves into a new way of living. We live ourselves into a new way of thinking.*

If you think that you'll start worshiping more regularly after you feel closer to God, you may be in for a long wait. It is in worship where we hear God's Word read and proclaimed, sing hymns, confess our sins and hear we are forgiven, pray, and connect with fellow Christians that we experience the presence of God.

Worship does not satisfy our hunger for God – it whets our appetite.
– Eugene Peterson

Life is challenging and difficult, and full of obstacles. We experience pain and disappointment, and we can get disoriented. We're busy—some of us, too busy. Worship is a gift from God.

In worship we connect with God who in Christ Jesus loves, forgives, and redeems us. The Christian faith is not a solitary relationship between you and Jesus. Christianity is lived in a community that worships and prays, laughs and cries, eats and drinks, works and plays together.

Peace,
Pastor David Weeks

RALLY DAY + Christian Life Coordinator Position

Join us for a **RALLY DAY CELEBRATION BREAKFAST**

✨ **Sunday, Sept 15th** ✨

Supporting our Recent Renovations

We'll be serving the famous

FRUITY FRENCH TOAST

Beginning at 10AM



TICKETS GO ON SALE Sunday, September 1.

**Tickets will be for sale at the welcome desk on Sunday mornings
or, in the church office during the weekdays.**

Invite your friends or neighbors!

\$10/person with a \$50 family cap.

**100% of your ticket purchase goes to the renovation project,
thanks to a Thrivent Action Team grant.**

Door Prizes!

You must be present to win.

We're Hiring! ~ Christian Life Coordinator

St. Peter's is currently accepting applications for the Christian Life Coordinator position. We are looking for a person who loves working with people of all generations--pre-school/elementary, middle and high school, families, and adults. This person will provide leadership for and coordinate Sunday School. This person will also identify people's spiritual gifts and encourage others to find and live out their callings in the church, in their homes, and in the world. For more details on the position you can scan the QR code below.



Happenings at St. Peter's

Church Council Initiative

The first stage of a Church Council initiative to update signage in and around the church is complete. Each of the church's seven doors now feature large, white numerals.

Not only are they useful for the staff and members to tell visitors which door to enter, but they are important to direct rescue squad, fire and police responders.

The doors are numbered clockwise 1 through 7 around the church. The parking lot door at the southwest corner of the church is numbered 1. Door 2 is the north door in the narthex. Doors 3 and 4 are exit doors off the altar and sacristy. Door 5 is the east door near the elevator. Door 6 is the south door to the church offices. Door 7 is the parking lot atrium door to the Fellowship Hall and kitchen.

In addition to numerals, Door 1 is marked as "Sanctuary Entrance," Door 6 is marked "Church Offices" and Door 7 is marked "Fellowship Hall & Kitchen."

Planning is underway to improve interior signs.

4F

Faith ~ Fun ~ Fellowship ~ Food

Rick & Cindy Opatrny have offered to host a campfire at their acreage in September, on a date/time yet to be determined. Please watch the Sunday bulletins and the email blasts in September for more information: address, date, and time.



A voter enters the church through a newly numbered door during the primary election Aug. 13. The Fellowship Hall is a polling place.

Thank you to Nick Paulson for his outdoor bench donation.



God's Work. Our Hands.

The 3 Northfield ELCA congregations got together on August 25 to provide various services. St. Peter's Members contributed to writing letters to representatives, working at a local CSA, and gardening at the Starfish 2 house.



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
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	Don + Roberta Bonrud	Avonne Kaplan	Ramona Pumper Pete Pedersen Laura Gilligan	Evonne Clay Ginny Paulson	Nick Paulson
September 22	9:00 a.m	Dennis + Janet Hahn	Lorraine Rovig	-	Ruth McCarty Carol Irwin	Megan Culhane
September 29	9:00 a.m	Richard DeBeau + Doris Welke	Michon Weeks	-	Nick + Emily Paulson	Dennis Kenison
October 6	9:00 a.m	Doris + Eldon Hill	Kirsten Croone	Carmen Sevcik Avonne Kaplan Ginny Paulson	Lyle + Nancy Gunderson	Bill Bleckwehl
October 13	9:00 a.m	Sheryl Kleppe Joelene Manzey	Patrick Bougie	-	Carol Irwin Evonne Clay	Megan Culhane
October 20	9:00 a.m	Mark + Connie Albers	Julie Klock	Mary Peterson Michon Weeks Beth Vivant	Beth Berry Mary Bleckwhel	Nick Paulson
October 27	9:00 a.m	Mike + Beth Eaves	Pete Pedersen	-	Dale + Linda Ness	Naomi Zeigler

September Calendar of Events + Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Worship with Holy Communion 10am Coffee + Fellowship	2 Happy Birthday Jo Odell	3 10am Staff Meeting 12pm Executive Committee 2pm Stewardship Committee Happy Birthday Andria Sommers	4 5:30pm Jubilee Bells 7pm Worship Choir Happy Birthday Inez Nelson Lisa Nystuen	5 7am Table Talk 8am BG's + MG's	6 8:30am Women's Fellowship Breakfast 9am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Jon Lovoll Landon Mills Stephanie Riley Skip Wagner	7 Happy Birthday Wren Peterson
8 9am Outdoor Worship 10am Coffee + Fellowship 3pm Sons of Norway Happy Birthday Beth Berry Eleanor Croone	9 9:30am Eve Circle 6:30pm 4H Big Giants	10 9am Hannah Circle 10am Staff Meeting 1pm Rachel Circle 7pm Church Council Happy Birthday Travis Estrem Charles Fratzke	11 6:30am Men's Bible Study 5:30pm Jubilee Bells 6:30pm Confirmation Orientation 6:30pm Narthex Committee 7pm Worship Choir Practice	12 7am Table Talk 2pm New Spirit Circle 7pm Faith on Tap	13 9am LUV Quilters	14 Happy Birthday Julia Daly Donald Hill Mary Ann Larsen Jude Quinnell
15 9am Worship with Holy Communion 10am Rally Day (kicking off with fruity french foast breakfast)	16 Happy Birthday Deb Anderson Jane Valek	17 10am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Evonne Clay	18 6:30am Men's Bible Study + Fellowship Wednesday Evening Schedule	19 7am Table Talk 11:30am SOLOS (New Buffet)	20 8:30am Women's Fellowship Study 9am-3pm Red Cross Blood Drive Happy Birthday Margit Lovoll	21
22 9am Worship 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School Happy Birthday Ashley Quinnell Mark Shaw Rachel Wille	23	24 10am Staff Meeting	25 6:30am Men's Bible Study + Fellowship Wednesday Evening Schedule Happy Birthday Joan Paulson Roy Ruzicka	26 7am Table Talk Happy Birthday Phil Olson Christa Prescott Jenna Strand Doris Welke	27 9am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Kathryn Hart	28 Happy Birthday Chelsie Connolly Tracy Humann Roberta Morse
29 9am Worship 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School Happy Birthday Avonne Kaplan	30 Happy Birthday Callie Strand					



Wednesday Evening Schedule

- 5:30pm Hand Bells Practice
- 6:30pm Worship
- 6:30pm Confirmation
- 6:30pm SPY (1st + 3rd Wednesday)
- 7:00pm Worship Choir Practice

Music Notes

By Mary Kay Bougie

Music is a fair and glorious gift of God.



**I would not for the world
forego my humble share of music.**



**Singers are never sorrowful, but are merry
and smile through their troubles in song.
Music makes people kinder, gentler, more staid and reasonable.**

**for besides theology
music is the only art capable of affording peace and joy
of the heart.**

**The devil flees before the sound of music
almost as much as before the Word of God.**

~Wise words from Martin Luther (1483-1546)



Happy September to all!

It's a joy to see summer vacationers back in worship!

It seems as we have been gearing up for this month for quite some time. September marks a new church activities season. Is there a new activity you may like to participate in at St. Peter's? We have many activities to choose from!

Because it's what I do, I have a few suggestions!

~ Worship choir! We rehearse for an hour on Wednesday nights, and sing only twice a month for Sunday worship services.

~Jubilee Bells! We rehearse for an hour on Wednesdays, and play just one Sunday a month. You just have to be a note reader – but you only look for 2 notes on the staff which you play!

~Worship Band! Singing, playing guitars, playing drums ~ all would be welcome. TBD practices. Playing for worship one Sunday a month.

~Gospel Band! Singing, playing guitars, playing drums ~ all would be welcome. Practice at 10:30 am on Fridays, play in church quarterly.

These groups are such fun! We laugh a LOT!
Practices are never stressful situations. It's a time to come together in Christian fellowship.

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.

Before the meeting was called to order, Patrick Bougie, chairman of the Narthex Committee and the self-described de facto church architect, updated the Council on the committee's review of ways to refresh the function and appearance of the narthex. Bougie presented a draft "laundry list" of things that might need to be addressed. Bougie said the "bones of the church" are in "really good shape." The church's Mid-century Modern architecture is a beautiful style. "We want to respect that." There is no project time schedule or cost estimate yet. "Until the (second-floor) bathrooms are paid for we can't move into another construction project," said Phil Olson, treasurer.

Devotion: Kleppe read a short passage from "Be Still," about how to listen to God and remember who is in charge.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Paulson, second by Bleckwehl to approve minutes of the July 9 meeting. Approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor: No report. Pastor is on vacation.

Council President: The church's job listing for a Christian Life Coordinator has been revised to add a preferred requirement that applicants have a bachelor's degree. The advertisements also have been sent to area Lutheran seminaries and colleges. Council members asked that a wider net be cast and that the advertisement be posted at many more colleges and universities in the area.

Treasurer: No report. The church's financial administrator has been on vacation. Olson will provide a report via email as soon as he receives July financial information from the financial administrator. Good Earth Village will continue to receive the congregation's Sunday loose-change offerings in the Change 4 Change initiative during August. The September recipients will be Sarah's House/Ruth's House.

Committee Reports

Capital Improvement: Work is underway on the second-floor restroom renovations. Contractor Schmidt Homes' goal is to finish by the end of August.

Signage: Bleckwehl noted that the exterior doors have been numbered for public safety reasons. She is working on cost estimates to improve interior signs.

Stewardship: No new fundraising total for the \$33,000 capital improvement project (second-floor restrooms) via special offerings from the congregation is available. The June total was \$10,000. A Fruity French Toast fundraiser is planned during Rally Sunday, Sept. 15.

New Business: Mary Peterson will join Kleppe, Paulson and Weeks to serve on a committee to create a vision statement for the congregation. Tentative plans for Rally Sunday activities were discussed. Volunteers will be needed.



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

Sheryl Kleppe | President
skkleppe@gmail.com

Nick Paulson | VP
nlpaulso@ymail.com

Phil Olson | Treasurer
philjoanneolson@msn.com

David Hendee | Secretary
davidhendee1952@gmail.com

Mary Bleckwehl
marybleckwehl@hotmail.com

Brian Kopack
brian_kopack@gmail.com

Beth Eaves
eavesmb@gmail.com

Kirsten Thompson
kirsten.thompson@ecolab.com