



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

Sunday School
10:10 a.m.

Wednesday Confirmation
6:30 p.m.

Staff

David Weeks, Pastor, ext 203
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pastordavidweeks@northfieldstp.org

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

Terrence Hassanally
Financial Administrator, ext. 205
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Dear Friends in Christ:

“Return to the LORD your God.....”

This is the refrain we sing in the season of Lent before hearing the Gospel read in worship.

Lent began on Ash Wednesday, which included these words from Joel 2, “Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.”

How do we return to the LORD? What does it mean to return to the LORD?

My favorite “return” story in the Bible is the Prodigal Son. After spending through all his inheritance, the wayward son returned home to his father, with low expectations. But the father threw him a party. The loving father embodied the LORD’s love as proclaimed by Joel.

Our theme throughout Lent is “Altered by the Spirit.” On Sundays, Wednesdays, and Holy Week, we are reflecting on the power of the Holy Spirit to change, transform, and alter our lives.

We all face personal failures in life. We get off course. We take on habits and attitudes that hurt us and tear us down. We often recognize that “I need to change.”

Faith is letting go of the need to be in control of the change we need. It might feel a little risky because it is. It is also freeing—you are not in control.

The work of the Holy Spirit is to bring about change, transformation, and alteration. Perhaps you have noted that the church is no longer what it used to be. That can be good news. If the church, or you personally are not getting changed/altered, you might want to consider if you have built windbreaks protecting yourself from the Spirit which brings about change.

The Holy Spirit alters our brokenness to wholeness. The Holy Spirit nudges and leads us down the path of righteousness. God’s love and grace in Jesus alters and transforms us to be beloved children of God.

Peace,
Pastor David Weeks

Meet The Council



Beth Eaves

Joined St. Peter's about 2017 and was a church council member for a short time before moving to Cleveland, Ohio, for three years. Returned to Minnesota and St. Peter's in 2022. Served as a Breakfast Club volunteer and now volunteers as one of the BGs (Bucket Gals), a monthly church cleaning crew.

Born: Madison, Wisconsin

Hometown: Madison, Wisconsin

High School: Madison West High School.

College: Bachelor of science degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison; master's of education degree from the University of Minnesota.

Family: Husband, Mike; two sons, both married with five grandchildren and a sixth on the way.

Odds & Ends: "I was brought up in Bethel Lutheran Church in Madison. My father was in the church council there at one time. Pops and I volunteered together at the Food Pantry and served at the Lenten dinners. The Bethel Bible Series originated at my home church and I was fortunate to take that Bible study there.

"I guess my two greatest claims to fame would be that our family has moved more than 30 times in 45 years, many within the United States, but also including Canada and Finland. And I was the first woman dorm parent in 140 years in a dorm consisting of 90 boys grades 10-12."



Brian Kopack

Member since 2015. Cooked Wednesday night dinners at church in the past.

Born: Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Hometown: Grew up in West Bend, Wisconsin, and moved to Woodruff, Wisconsin, at age 13.

High School: Lakeland Union High School in Minocqua, Wisconsin.

College: Attended the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for four years and the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay for one year.

Career: Owner of a small business, Kopack Home Inspections, and is the weatherization coordinator for Three Rivers Community Action

Family: Wife, April, and two children, Finley and Eli.

Odds & Ends: "I moved to Minneapolis to be close to April. We moved to Northfield in 2012 to be closer to family in the area."

***Next month our new council president, Sheryl Kleppe will be featured in "Meet the Council."**

Additional Notes

Last September, I attended the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) National Gathering in Phoenix. The headline speaker was Jacqueline Bussie. I can't even begin to describe how powerful and inspirational her message was. This Cannon River Conference of ELCA women will be blessed to have her here. They have invited St. Peter's women (of all ages) to attend – you do not need to belong to a WELCA circle. Please keep May 11th available, you will love this presentation.

Registration forms are on the Welcome Desk in the narthex, and due by May 1st to the address listed on the form. Hope to see you there! ~ Mary Kay Bougie



Strengthening Hope

Cannon River Conference
Women's Spring Event

Saturday May 11, 2024

St. John's Lutheran Church
500 West 3rd Street, Northfield, MN

Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, PhD,

Keynote speaker at 2023
WELCA Triennial
Author of "Love Without
Limits" and "Outlaw Christian"



Registration/Coffee 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Business meeting and Speaker 9:00 - 11:45 a.m.
Noon Lunch
Registration Fee \$15 (includes lunch)

In Kind gifts: women's period products will be collected for Rice County
Community Action Center Food Shelf

Streaming Service Update

St. Peter's streams the Sunday worship service live over Facebook from 9-10:00 am. In order to watch the service, however, you DO NOT need a Facebook account.

If you do NOT have a Facebook account this is how you access our service.

1. Type "www.northfieldstp.org" into your internet browser. This will bring you to St. Peter's website.
2. Click on the "Virtual Worship" tab found under the "St. Peter's Church" title.
3. Click on "Click here" to access the current live broadcast, or last Sunday's service.
4. If a Facebook login screen appears, click on the "X" in the upper right corner to cancel this request.
5. Click on the live service.
6. To view past services, click on "Videos" in the upper left corner of this screen and scroll to the service you wish to view. If "Videos" does not appear, click on "more".

We have attempted to make access to our streaming service easy for you. St. Peter's has installed a high speed broadband fiber optic service allowing for a more reliable internet streaming service. As many of you have experienced with the internet, the service may have intermittent problems. If this occurs during the live service, please post a comment and we will attempt to trouble shoot. If you have questions, please contact Bill Bleckwehl at bbleckwehl@hotmail.com or call or text him at

612-481-7550.

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
March 3	9:00 a.m.	Evonne Clay Diane Boyum	Lorraine Rovig	Sheryl Kleppe Ramona Pumper	David + Polly Hendee	Bill Bleckwehl
March 10	9:00 a.m.	Nick + Emily Paulson	Kirsten Croone	-	Dennis + Janet Hahn	Naomi Ziegler
March 17	9:00 a.m.	Bryn Bridley Laura Gilligan	Avonne Kaplan	Michon Weeks Beth Berry Jolene Manzey	Brian + Mary Peterson	Megan Culhane
March 24	9:00 a.m.	<p>A sign-up sheet can be found at the welcome desk for volunteer ushers, communion servers, readers, & hospitality for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. You can also email Allie (allie@northfieldstp.org) if you would like to volunteer.</p>				Megan Culhane
March 31	9:00 a.m.					Nick Paulson
April 7	9:00 a.m.	Doris + Eldon Hill	Julie Klock	Beth Berry Evonne Clay Beth Vivant	Doris Welke Richard Debeau	Bill Bleckwehl
April 14	9:00 a.m.	Phil + Joanne Olson	Pete Pedersen	-	Mary Boyum Marilyn Finneseth	Megan Culhane
April 21	9:00 a.m.	Borris + Joyce Mokoff	Patrick Bougie	Julie Klock Laura Gilligan Doris Hill	Ramona Pumper Emily Paulson	Nick Paulson
April 28	9:00 a.m.	Janet Gilbertson Joan Paulson	Jolene Manzey	-	Mark + Connie Albers	Megan Culhane

March Calendar of Events + Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:30am Women's Fellowship Breakfast (Little Frida's) 9am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Lexie Estrem Laurel Martinson Taylor Thibodeau	2 Happy Birthday Olivia Prescott
3 9am Worship with Holy Communion 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School	4	5 10am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Paul Hallcock Robert Hart	6 Wednesday Evening Schedule Happy Birthday Ashlynn Sabyan Rowan Boisvert	7 7am Table Talk 8am BG's 8am MG's Happy Birthday David Hendee Will Valek	8 9am - 3pm Red Cross Blood Drive 10:30am Gospel Band Happy Birthday Jessica Sevcik	9 Happy Birthday Susie Fischer Duane Meliza
10 9am Worship 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School Happy Birthday James Herreid	11 9:30am Eve Circle (The Hideaway Vault) 6:30pm 4H Big Giants Happy Birthday Shelly Jandro	12 9:30am Hannah Circle 10am Staff Meeting 1pm Rachel Circle 7pm Church Council Meeting	13 Wednesday Evening Schedule Happy Birthday Wayne Hallcock	14 7am Table Talk 1pm New Spirit Circle 7pm Faith on Tap	15 8:30am Women's Fellowship Study 9am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Sandy Bremer	16 Happy Birthday Daniel Remes
17 9am Worship with Holy Communion 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School Happy Birthday Mike Larsen Lynn Hutton	18 Happy Birthday Tyler Peterson	19 10am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Nancy Gunderson Kathie Westlund	20 Wednesday Evening Schedule Happy Birthday Camdyn Prokes	21 7am Table Talk 11:30am SOLOS Happy Birthday Axel Randall Devon Seeley Robbie Swenson	22 9am LUV Quilters 10:30am Gospel Band Happy Birthday Shirley Shaft	23 Happy Birthday Stewart Shaft
24 9am Palm Sunday Worship with Holy Communion 10am Coffee + Fellowship No Sunday School Happy Birthday Dennis Berry Daryl Knudsen	25 Happy Birthday Aaron Bridley Dolly Roush	26 10am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Elizabeth Rasmussen Barb Starch	27 No Confirmation Jubilee Bells 5:30 Worship Choir 6:30 Happy Birthday Carmen Sevcik	28 7am Table Talk 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion Happy Birthday Doc Dewar	29 9am LUV Quilters 6:30pm Good Friday Worship Happy Birthday Maggie Kuntz	30
31 9am Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion No Sunday School Happy Birthday Jon Finger Celena Witt	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <h3>Wednesday Evenings At St. Peter's</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00pm Jubilee Bells Practice 5:30pm Lenten Soup Dinner 6:30pm Lenten Worship 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm SPY (1st + 3rd Wednesday) 7:00pm Worship Choir Practice </div> </div>					

Helping Hazel Celebrate 100 Years



One of our members, Hazel Peterson, celebrated her 100th birthday on February 16, 2024. St. Peter's took that opportunity to celebrate as a community of faith with a brunch after the 9:00 church service on February 18th. We served sausages and fruity French toast for approximately 60 people. .



The fellowship hall was decorated and a short talk on events, prices, and people of 1924 was given. Cupcakes were served as dessert. Again, we wish Hazel all the best on reaching the century mark!

The highly requested fruity French toast recipe can be found on the back of the newsletter.



A special thank you from Hazel ~
"Thank you for a spectacular celebration for my 100th birthday! Thank you to all who attended and for the beautiful cards and messages, you are special and I feel truly blessed. A special thank you to Pastor David, the birthday committee, the hospitality volunteers, and Kris Denison for the special decorating."



Council Notes

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: On the eve of Ash Wednesday, Pastor read a lesson on traditions and spiritual practices for Shrove Tuesday, also known as Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday or Pancake Day, the final day of pre-Lent. The congregation's worship theme on Sundays and Wednesdays during Lent will be "Altered by the Spirit."

Pastor's Report: Spent nearly all of January accompanying St. Olaf College students to Italy, including a Jan. 21 Mass at St. Peter's Basilica led by Pope Francis. Annual meeting Feb. 4 went well, led by the out-going and in-coming council presidents. The congregation heard a comprehensive review of the finances. Updated Time and Talent forms will be distributed in April. An overhaul of the church's website remains underway.

Council President: Kleppe introduced her style of leadership. Her Jan. 31 morning devotion from Jeremiah 29 ("I know the plans I have for you") reflects her intention to look ahead, rather than backward, where the past can paralyze. Paraphrasing Kleppe's remarks: Change has come rapidly to the congregation and it's easy to wish things hadn't happened or were as they had been. But the council is obligated to look ahead and move forward.

Treasurer's Report: January giving reflected a typical month after Christmas in offerings. The month ended with a roughly \$1,900 deficit. Olson hopes giving will increase in the next three months. The new electrical service panel for the original church structure was installed at a cost of \$3,600. The six lights on three parking lot towers were replaced with LED bulbs at a cost of about \$2,700. A new service panel is needed at Sarah's House (the former parsonage) to replace the original fuse box.

New Business: Review and discussion of Cariann Strauch's resignation as part-time director of children's ministries, for personal reasons in late January. She left Sunday School materials and lessons for the remainder of the school year. Parents and volunteers are leading Sunday classes. Personnel Committee members will hold several meetings in February and March to hear congregation members' thoughts on filling the vacancy. Paulson moved and Kopack seconded a motion to add Bleckwehl and Eaves to the committee. Approved. They join Kleppe, Paulson, Weeks and past president Mark Shaw on the committee. The council's annual day-long retreat will be April 13 at Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center near Farmington.



ELCA

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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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

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Please contact the Church Office if your address had 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 online
www.northfieldstp.org

Worship from the pew 9am Sundays

Worship on-line anytime, anywhere:

facebook.com/northfieldstp

www.northfieldstp.org/virtual-worship

Lent & Holy Week Worship at St. Peter's

Mid-week Lenten worship | March 6, 13, + 20 | 6:30pm

Palm Sunday | Sunday, March 24 | 9am

Maundy Thursday | Thursday, March 28 | 6:30pm

Good Friday | Friday, March 29 | 6:30pm

Easter Sunday | Sunday, March 31 | 9:00am



Fruity French Toast

Ingredients

- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 3 tsp. cinnamon
- 3 Granny Smith apples thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries or raisins
- 1 loaf French bread, sliced
- 5 large eggs
- 1 1/2 cup milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Directions

1. Combine brown sugar, butter and 1 tsp. cinnamon in a 13x9 pan.
2. Add apples and cranberries, toss to coat well. Spread apple mixture evenly over the bottom of the baking dish.
3. Arrange slices of bread on top.
4. Mix eggs, milk, vanilla and remaining 2 tsp. of cinnamon until well blended. Pour over bread to cover completely. Cover and refrigerate 4-24 hours.



Our first Lenten soup dinner of the season. Join us on Wednesday evenings for a soup dinner, starting at 5:30pm.

