



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

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Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." ~ Oprah Winfrey

Dear Saints of St. Peter's:

I give you three (for the Trinity) reasons and/or occasions for giving thanks in November.

First, November 1 is All Saints' Day. We will remember and honor the saints who have witnessed and modeled the Christian faith to us. None of us lives our faith in isolation from the Christian community. We need others to encourage and correct us. We need others to comfort and listen to us.

We will celebrate All Saints in worship on November 3, and as always, you will have an opportunity to light a candle to give thanks to God for a saint who has shaped and molded you as a disciple of Jesus.

Secondly, is the obvious—Thanksgiving. Though obvious, it still needs to be said—it is good to give thanks. Our Thanksgiving Eve worship service, followed up with our PieFest is a beloved ministry. Again this year, our ELCA sisters and brothers at Bethel and St. John's will be joining us for worship. It is a joy and pleasure to have our choirs, jointly sing songs of thanks and praise.

Thirdly, our financial stewardship drive will occur in November. Our theme this year is **THE IMPOSSIBLE PROMISE OF ENOUGH**. The theme/sermon titles are as follows.

November 3, 2024 ~ The Impossible Promise of Provision

November 10, 2024 ~ The Impossible Promise of Resources

November 17, 2024 ~ The Impossible Promise of Enough

November 24, 2024 ~ The Impossible Promise of Liberation

THE IMPOSSIBLE PROMISE OF ENOUGH uses the book of Exodus in the Old Testament. While wandering in the desert/wilderness, the Israelites worried, complained, and feared there wouldn't be enough. But with manna and quail, God provided generously.

On Sunday, November 3, during the coffee time, in the fellowship hall, we will be showing an informative, inspiring, and challenging 20 minute video entitled "Generosity Today" which shares helpful information about generosity and giving practices in today's world and today's church.

In Psalm 23 we acknowledge "my cup overflows." We are blessed. We live in the nation with the largest economy. We have friends and family who love and care for us. In gratitude for God's providing our daily bread—food, family, shelter, orderly community, good government, friends, and neighbors—we give thanks to God by sharing and giving to others.

In Christ's service,

Pastor David Weeks

Stewardship Sunday

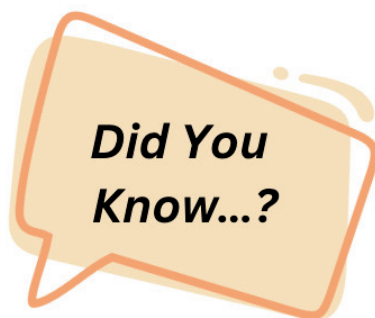
Stewardship Sunday with a Danish Treat | Sunday, November 17

Join your friends and fellow St. Peter's members for a Danish treat during 10 o'clock coffee time in the fellowship hall following the Sunday, November 17 worship service.

You'll be treated with æbleskiver (it's pronounced, 'eble-skeever'), a type of Danish doughnut, with jam and powdered sugar. It's all in celebration of Stewardship Sunday - when financial pledges for funding the congregation's worship, Sunday school and other operations next year will be received and dedicated.

Why æbleskiver? It's a nod to the congregation's Danish roots. St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church was founded in Northfield by Danish immigrants 130 years ago this month. It was November 1893 when 28 members signed the charter. After initially meeting in homes, their first church was in what is now the Northfield Arts Guild building across town on Third Street. The congregation started constructing the current church in 1958.

Bring your appetite that Sunday, and your pledge card, too. Oh, yes. There will be coffee.



Article submitted by Sheryl Kleppe

Since becoming President of St. Peter's in February, I have become more aware than ever before of the acts of service done by our community of faith for the good of our church, the Northfield community and beyond our doors to the world. It occurred to me that we should have a section of our church newsletter dedicated to celebrating these acts of love and concern. So, if you know of a church group, or individual church member who has done an act of service, please let our church admin know. She will add four or five acts to each newsletter. In that way, you are in the know as well, you can celebrate all the small and large things being done here, and offer thanks if you wish.

- A group of people led by Brian Peterson set up and took down the Entertainment Tent for Defeat of Jesse James Days and were reimbursed \$2200 for St. Peter's.
- Our Sunday School children picked up the black walnuts covering our church playground. They collected nine bags of walnuts!
- We were sprouting trees in the eaves at Sarah's House. Nick Paulson, armed with a stepladder, cleaned the eaves for us.
- Rick and Cindy Opatrny, new members of St. Peter's, have made it their mission to trim and clean up the landscape around the church. Pete Pedersen was diligent in spraying for weeds around the church.
- Good Earth Village borrowed our church van for most of the summer. They used it to transport canoeists to the river. They estimate this arrangement saved them approximately \$15,000 in their annual budget.

Happenings at St. Peter's

Blessing of the Animals



Thank you Sunday School for picking up the black walnuts in the playground. The squirrels may miss them, but the playground looks much better. A job well done!



Trunk or Treat



Congratulations Confirmands!



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!

Special Note: Sunday communion will take place on the 1st and 22nd in the month of December.

Date	Time	Ushers	Reader	Communion Server	Coffee/ Kitchen	Live Stream
November 3	9:00 a.m	Mickey Brodin Joan Paulson	Jolene Manzey	Richard DeBeau Laura Gilligan Ginny Paulson	Thelma Winter Mary Boyum	Bill Bleckwehl
November 10	9:00 a.m	Mary Peterson Carmen Sevcik	Marilyn Finneseth	-	Don + Roberta Bonrud	Megan Culhane
November 17	9:00 a.m	Thelma Winter Diane Boyum	Mary Bleckwehl	Mike Eaves Beth Eaves Ramona Pumper	Eleanor + Kirsten Croone	Nick Paulson
November 24	9:00 a.m	Jolene Manzey Sheryl Kleppe	Beth Vivant	-	Richard DeBeau Doris Welke	Naomi Ziegler
December 1	9:00 a.m	Don + Roberta Bonrud	Laura Gilligan	Sheryl Kleppe Jolene Manzey Julie Klock	Ginny Paulson Mary Boyum	Bill Bleckwehl
December 8	9:00 a.m	Tyler, Amanda, Tanner, + Theo Peterson	Patrick Bougie	-	Thelma Winter Ramona Pumper	Nick Paulson
December 15	9:00 a.m	St. Peter's Christmas Program	St. Peter's Christmas Program	-	St. Peter's Christmas Program	Naomi Ziegler
December 22	9:00 a.m	Dennis + Janet Hahn	Michon Weeks	Avonne Kaplan Brian Peterson Mary Peterson	Dennis + Janet Hahn	Dennis Kenison
December 24	3:30pm	Starting in mid-November, there will be a sign-up sheet at the welcome desk for Christmas Eve ushers, readers, and communion servers.				Dennis Kenison
December 24	5:00pm					No Live Stream
December 29	9:00 a.m	Borris + Joyce Mokoff	Mike Eaves	-	Ruth McCarty Evonne Clay	No Live Stream

November Calendar of Events + Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:30am Women's Fellowship Breakfast 9am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Barb Anderson Catherine Johnson	2 Happy Birthday Rayden Hanson Arnold Witt
3 9am Worship with Holy Communion 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School	4 Happy Birthday Ella Sommers	5 Voting Polls at St. Peter's 10am Staff Meeting 12pm Executive Committee Happy Birthday Amy Randall	6 6:30am Men's Bible Study + Fellowship Wednesday Evening Schedule Happy Birthday Dylan Teske Ryan Wiste	7 7am Table Talk 8am MG's + BG's 7pm Faith on Tap Happy Birthday Marcia Schmitz	8 9am LUV Quilters Happy Birthday Bernice Christensen DeeDee Schwager	9
10 9am Worship 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School 3pm Sons of Norway	11 9:30 Eve Circle 6:30pm 4H Big Giants Happy Birthday Ellen Behrens Sonja Link Shawn Paulson Marcia Peterson	12 9:30am Hannah Circle 10am Staff Meeting 1pm Rachel Circle 7pm Church Council Happy Birthday Krin Finger Peggy Hoffman Evie Wegner	13 6:30am Men's Bible Study + Fellowship Wednesday Evening Schedule	14 7am Table Talk Happy Birthday Quinn Crase	15 8:30am Women's Fellowship Study 9am LUV Quilters	16 Happy Birthday Mavis McKinnon Brian Peterson
17 Stewardship Sunday 9am Worship with Holy Communion 10am Coffee + Fellowship 10:10am Sunday School Happy Birthday Helen Rockey	18	19 10am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Glade Neslon Tia Randall Cordelia Stenstrom	20 6:30am Men's Bible Study + Fellowship Wednesday Evening Schedule Happy Birthday Diane Boyum	21 7am Table Talk 9am LUV Quilters 11:30am SOLOS Gran Plaza Happy Birthday Connie Albers Sheryl Kleppe Lorraine Rovig	22 9am-3pm Red Cross	23
24 9am Worship 10am Coffee + Fellowship Celebrating November Birthdays Happy Birthday Laura Rezac	25 Happy Birthday Cindy Opatrny	26 10am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Pam DeBoer Maxfield Payne	27 6:30am Men's Bible Study + Fellowship 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship + Pie Fest Happy Birthday Mary Peterson	28 7am Table Talk	29	30 Happy Birthday Michon Weeks

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



***Thanks be to God when people care, thanks be for friends and loved ones.
Thanks be to God for food and home, thanks be for health and laughter.
Thanks be to God when hatred ends, thanks be for peace and safety.***



***Teach us the way of your peace, kindle your fire within us,
give us a vision of a world where people care for each other.
Deep in my heart, I do believe that we shall overcome someday.***

At the end of this month, perhaps you will be gathering with friends and loved ones for a delicious Thanksgiving dinner. With the election past us, there may be joyful conversations or disgruntled chatter (or any conversation at all, depending on who is in attendance). Then, with thoughts of the Christmas season coming, you may have worries about buying presents, making enough holiday treats for various gatherings, whether the weather will keep you from travel...

So many worries. Maybe what is needed is a short reflection on giving thanks to God. In 1st Thessalonians 5:16-18, we read “Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live.” (The Message) I began this article with the words of a choir anthem, “Thanks Be to God” which our choir (along with Bethel and St. John’s choirs) will be singing this Thanksgiving Eve. The words bring us to focus all we can be thankful for, with a nod to justice as well.

We hope you join us at St. Peter’s on November 27, Thanksgiving Eve, for our Northfield ELCA Worship Service at 6:30 pm, which is followed by a pie fellowship!

*choir anthem, THANKS BE TO GOD!
(including words from Civil Rights’ anthem, “We Shall Overcome”)
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Jesus + Money

Beginning November 6th, Julie Klock will be leading a 3-session conversation around Jesus’ teachings about money. The group will meet 6:30-7:30 on Wednesday evenings for 3 weeks.



Conversations will include:

- What we’ve been taught about money
- What money has to do with our faith
- Generosity as a spiritual practice



The class was designed with confirmation parents in mind, but is open to all. Questions? Email Julie at j.huke.klock@gmail.com or call her at 512.415.5678.

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: Pastor showed a stewardship-themed video, "The Impossible Promise of Enough," which examined today's secular and non-secular "generosity landscape."

Reports:

Pastor: Wednesday worship returned September 18. The theme for these services follows the Confirmation schedule (Old Testament this year). The new 4F adult activity group is going well. The new Men's Bible Study and Fellowship led by Mike Eaves has about six consistent attendees. Two students (Jon Wierson and Noah Hanson) were confirmed Oct. 6. Fundraising for the two capital projects (east window and door; and second-floor restroom renovations) exceeded the \$33,000 goal. Good Earth Village thanked the congregation for the use of the church van during the summer, saving the camp about \$15,000. The financial stewardship drive will be the first three Sundays in November. Danish æbleskiver will be served again this year following the Nov. 17 service.

Council President: The two sump pumps at Sarah's House don't appear to be working and may need to be replaced.

Treasurer: Olson said September giving exceeded the budget, but would be below budget if the vacant staff position was filled. The church debt could be paid off in about nine months. The weekly Change 4 Change loose-offering in October will be donated to ELCA Disaster Relief for the Florida hurricane recovery.

Capital Improvement: Renovations to the second-floor restrooms are complete. Contractor Schmidt Homes completed the project \$5,000 under its bid estimate. Pastor said every dollar contributed by congregation members were used to pay for the project. Unused money from a \$20,000 gift from the Endowment Fund will be rolled over as seed money for other projects.

Signage: New hallway signs for church offices arrived and will be installed.

Stewardship: Stewardship: The 2025 budget will be prepared without opening estimates of giving turned in during November by congregation members. The unopened envelopes will be returned to members in late 2025 for them to compare their giving to their Estimate. Since Estimates of Giving, or pledges, address only a fraction of the annual church expenses, budgets are typically drafted by estimating how much people who do not return an Estimate will give. "Giving is an act of faith. Nothing is guaranteed," Pastor said.

Faith Formation: Work is underway to determine the congregation's milestones and instruction for youth. These include distribution of storybook Bibles, third-grade Bibles, confirmation classes and so on.

Council Vacancies: The council will have three vacancies to fill for 2025. The bylaws call for the Nominating Committee to consist of the pastor and six others.

Parking Lot: Discussion of reviving the possibility of seal-coating the parking lot for safety and aesthetic reasons.

Narthex Committee: Discussion of the need to include a convenient nursery/cry room in the draft plans to renovate the narthex.

Adjournment: Motion by Eaves and second by Olson to adjourn at 9 p.m. Approved, followed by the Lord's Prayer.



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

❤️ LUV QUILTERS ❤️

The LUV Quilters will hold their final gathering of the year on Thursday, November 21st. The blankets they've created for 'Operation Give Joy' will be displayed over the pews on Sunday, November 24th, Wednesday, November 27th (Thanksgiving Eve), and Sunday, December 1st, before being donated to the Community Action Center.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship + Pie Fest



St. Peter's Thanksgiving Eve service will be on Wednesday, November 27th at 6:30pm. Our friends from Bethel and St. John's will be joining us. Our annual Pie Fest will follow the worship service. You can sign up at the welcome desk to bring a homemade or store bought pie or you can call or email Allie to sign-up.



Advent Peace + Healing Worship



December can be a challenging time, especially when we're not feeling our best due to loss, separation, illness, and other significant life events. We invite you to join us for the Advent Service of Peace & Healing Worship on Thursday, December 18 at 4pm. Come for a comforting space that may bring you solace. Listen to beautiful music, light a candle, observe the winter solstice, and the turning of the year to more light. Come for optional anointing for healing of yourself or others. This service may help us lament, cry to God, and support others in their journey.



Looking Ahead Highlight Overview



Stewardship Sunday with a Danish Treat | Sunday, November 17 | 10am

Thanksgiving Eve Worship + Pie Fest | Wednesday, November 27 | 6:30pm worship

Lessons + Carols with Sunday School | Sunday, December 15 | 10am

Advent Peace + Healing | Wednesday, December 18 | 4pm

Christmas Eve Worship | Tuesday, December 24 | 3:30pm + 5pm

3:30pm worship will be live streamed.