

The Messenger

Celebrating with our college grads!



These St. Peder's young adults are graduating this spring and we rejoice with them at their accomplishments - and give thanks for the gifts they each share with the world! (If we've missed someone, please email Pastor Julie and give her the information so we can include it in the July Messenger.)

Corinna Brown Ton - is graduating from St Olaf College with a degree in Biology/Pre-Med.

Haley Gilbertson - is graduating from Hamline University with a degree in English with a writing focus.

Raleigh Gleason - is graduating from the University of MN with a BS in Kinesiology and a certificate in the Alexander Technique (which is a teaching method). He is seeking employment in his area of study.

Anders Jenson - is graduating from the University of MN with a Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering degree. After a gap year, he intends to begin medical school in 2021.

Emma Lahti Johnson - is graduating from Luther College with a BA in International Studies and Spanish. She hopes to return to the Dominican Republic (where she spent 4 months as a student) to live and work for a while.

Congrats to you all!!! We wish you God's richest blessings as you embark on new adventures, especially in a time such as this.

Virtual Pub Theology, June 1st, 7pm -8pm



Once again we'll do Pub Theology via Zoom. Bring your own beverage and pizza and we'll have a lively discussion. The topic for this month will be "Lessons from Quarantine". We'll discuss what we're learning about ourselves, about our world, and what we might take from this time as we move forward to create more justice and equity in our communities.

To participate you must email Shannon (faithformation@stpeders.org) (if you're not already on the Pub Theology email list) so that he can send you an invitation to the Zoom room. All are welcome whether you've attended Pub Theology in the past or not!

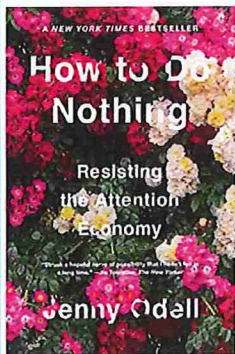
Would You Like to Be a Reader?

As you know, we'll be continuing online worship at least through Labor Day weekend. If you'd like to be a reader for our worship services, please email me at pas-torjulie@stpeters.org. All ages are welcome - all you need is to be able to video record yourself reading (I just use my phone) - or have a family member record you - and to send it on to Shannon for him to include in the service video. We'd love to hear and see more of our St. Peder's folks as we worship online!

The Old Oak Tree is Gone.....

For well over 100 years, the giant oak tree on our north lawn provided shelter for birds and squirrels, shade from the sun, a climbing challenge to kiddos, and all the other things trees are meant to do. Unfortunately, the tree was diseased and had been dead for a while now. It was laid to rest late in May and we will miss its mighty presence. Meanwhile, we're grateful for all the years we shared space with that gift of creation.

Thank you from the Quilters for whoever donated the fabric last month, especially the extra large piece! Wonderful!



Summer Book Study: July 12 & 19 from 10:30-11:30

We usually do a book study at St. Peder's during the summer and this year is no exception! We're going to be reading "How to Do Nothing" by Jenny Odell (see below for more information on the book).

We'll meet via Zoom to discuss the book and how we might begin to live it out. On July 12th we'll discuss chapters 1-3. On July 19th we'll discuss chapter 4 to the end of the book.

Book description from Amazon: Nothing is harder to do these days than nothing. But in a world where our value is determined by our 24/7 data productivity . . . doing nothing may be our most important form of resistance.

So argues artist and critic Jenny Odell in this field guide to doing nothing (at least as capitalism defines it). Odell sees our attention as the most precious—and overdrawn—resource we have. Once we can start paying a new kind of attention, she writes, we can undertake bolder forms of political action, reimagine humankind's role in the environment, and arrive at more meaningful understandings of happiness and progress.

Far from the simple anti-technology screed, or the back-to-nature meditation we read so often, *How to do Nothing* is an action plan for thinking outside of capitalist narratives of efficiency and techno-determinism. Provocative, timely, and utterly persuasive, this book is a four-course meal in the age of Soylent.