



# The Messenger

Hello St. Peder's!

I've been doing a lot of Confirmation planning, so I wanted to give you all a glimpse into my philosophy when it comes to the process of teaching this time honored tradition. The term "confirmation" is actually a reference to baptism - it's called "Affirmation of Baptism" in our hymnals. Though there are many exceptions, in our tradition, it is typically children who are baptized. When children are baptized, they are brought before the assembled friends, family, and neighbors and they receive a blessing. There is nothing magic about the water, nor about the hands that hold or pour water over the head, but there is power in the words of God. In these words, we hear God's promises of love and inclusion for this person, we hear that they are part of the Body of Christ, and we hear that God will never abandon them.

The parents and sponsors also make a series of promises; to bring the child to worship, to teach them the basics of faith, to remind them that they are loved by God, and to lead them in a life of faith (to the best of their abilities) that is rooted in God's Word and God's grace. The congregation promises to love and care for them and to support the parents and sponsors as they begin the long journey of keeping the promises they've just made. In short, a lot happens in a baptism.

I like to compare baptism to a wedding. Weddings are a celebration, but the wedding is not more important than the marriage. Baptisms are also a celebration, but the promises that are made (and kept to the best of our abilities) are just as important.

Confirmation then is a coming of age for the students. During the confirmation service, they take on the promises their parents made on their behalf. In this rite, they claim for themselves the faith that was taught to them. It makes sense, then, that during Confirmation classes, we give them the ability to think critically about the promises they are about to make.

During these classes, then, we'll cover the basics of faith and help them gain skills to ask good questions, think critically about what they're hearing and how it applies to their lives, and give them the building blocks to find faith practices that will continue to help them grow. And they will grow and change, just as we all grow and change; not many of us are the same as adults as we were in 8th grade.

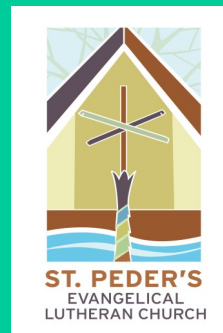
I grew up in days when I had to memorize verses and passages from Luther's Small Catechism. But, in these days, I'm less worried with how well the students memorize a Bible verse as with how they creatively and critically live out the faith the verse points to. I'm less worried with perfection and more with progress and practice. That's my hope for all of us, and I hope that, as we confirm some of our young folks and a new group starts their classes this month, we'll all remember the promises of baptism and the process of faithful growth and change.

Peace,  
Pastor Bryan



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### **Bible Study, Every Tuesday at 6 pm**

**Upcoming Dates: Oct. 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st**

Are you ready to dive a little deeper? Join us at Bible study Tuesdays at 6:00 PM. We take this time to read through and reflect on the readings for the coming Sunday, as well as pray and encourage each other. Come ready to read, discuss and learn. Bring a Bible if you have one. Bibles are provided for those who need one.

### **CPR AED Training– Learn how to save a life!**

**Thursday, October 19 9 am - 1 pm**

Learning how to perform CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and how to use an AED (automated external defibrillator) can be critical in an emergency. Whether you have no experience in either technique or are looking to brush up on your skills, St. Peder's church is hosting this free event for anyone interested. Please sign up via the form on the bulletin board outside the office, or contact Lyn at [office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org).



### **St. Peder's Aebleskive Breakfast**

Everyone is invited to enjoy the delicious breakfast and time at the table with friends and family after services on Sunday, November 12. Aebleskive will also be available to go. This event is supported by a free-will offering and the work of many volunteers. Thanks to all who help us uphold this long-standing tradition! If you'd like to volunteer, talk with Sue Nielsen at 612-360-3936 or [suenielsen76@gmail.com](mailto:suenielsen76@gmail.com).



### **St. Peder's Fabulous Gourmet Dinner & Raffle Fundraiser**

**Saturday, October 14, 2023 at St. Peder's**

You're invited to join us here at St. Peder's for social hour starting at 5 pm and dinner at 6 pm. There will be pizza and a movie for the kids. Tickets are \$40/adults and \$5/children, raffle tickets are \$2 each or 6/\$10. Prizes are TBD. Gluten and dairy free menu options available. Menu sent via separate email. To reserve your place, please contact [office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org).



### **Pub Theology on Monday, October 9th at 7 pm**

Come on down to Parkway Pizza for a special Pub Theology session focused on the movie/book "Oppenheimer". We will unpack the film's complex themes over pints and ponder its ethical questions in the context of faith. It's theology- but with a twist!



### Gather on The Green Success!

Gather on the Green, hosted by St. Peder's church on Saturday, September 9th, was a huge success! Not only were we able to connect with non-congregation members of the community, but we also raised over \$2000 for the general operating fund! We would like to give a special thank you to the Christian Life team of Andrea, Julie, Karen, Lisamarie, Christine, Karissa, Eve, and JeriLynn for everything they did to make the event great!

Their selfless donations of their free time and planning skills helped make this event something that St. Peder's is proud to have been a part of. We would also like to extend our appreciation to everyone who volunteered their time to help set up before and clean up after the event, and to the talented musicians that brought a lively atmosphere to the event; Mia, Bryan, Paul, and his bandmate Katie. And a big thank you to everyone who donated items to the silent auction. It was fun to see the different type of items up for bid! You all made the event amazing!

### News from the Office

#### New Faith Formation Coordinator

Please welcome our new Faith Formation Coordinator, Sarah Laulunen-Raj! Sarah has worked with many non-profits throughout her career, most recently as a Bereavement and Volunteer Coordinator at Allina Hospice. She was also blessed to have worked for Feed My Starving Children for many years. She loves working with people of all ages in order to accomplish great things, and she believes that everyone has something uniquely valuable to give. She is excited to be a part of our community and is looking forward to getting to know each of you!



#### Special Guests

During the month of October, we will be having some special guests coming to St. Peder's to preach and teach! On **October 15th**, Pastor Kurt Hutchens will be joining us on behalf of Food for the Poor. He will be speaking about their mission and sharing stories of some of the people they have helped. On **October 22nd**, Dr. Rachelle Keck, President of Grandview University, will be joining us. Many of you know of the special connection St. Peder's shares with Grandview and we are honored to have her join us!

#### Potluck Dates

Just a reminder that the monthly Potluck has been moved to Tuesdays. The next one is scheduled for **October 10th at noon**. Feel free to stop by and share a dish and some conversation with us!



A day retreat for *women*

*just love*

Fall Women's Gathering  
Saturday, November 4, 2023

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1555 40TH AVE NE, COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, MN 55421

"Just Love" day retreat for women- Fall Gathering: Moms and kids can have a great day soaking in community, fun, learning, inspiration, and more! Worship and Bible Study led by Bishop Ann Svenningsen.

Loving Others – Loving Ourselves - This year's topics include:

Mental Health	Bible Study
overcoming loneliness	Connection- Worship- Music
Women's prison ministry	Coffee & Lunch
On-site impact projects	Chair Massage
Global market	Yoga

Onsite day camp for kids age 4-12

Program is complimentary if registered before October 9<sup>th</sup>. After October 9<sup>th</sup>, cost is \$25. Must register for day camp BEFORE October 23<sup>rd</sup> so the appropriate number of staff can be supplied

Day camp includes

Live puppet show and make your own puppet, Meals, Games, story time, singing, and make and take art project, service project  
Global market tour and explanation, learning session on global issues and mental health

Registration fee will be on a sliding scale based on your ability to pay. Suggested amounts are \$25, \$50, and \$75. If you are unable to pay at this time, please contact Jan at 763-757-4143 or email her at [jdubats@comcast.net](mailto:jdubats@comcast.net) for scholarship information.

Find out more online at [MplsWomenOfELCA.org](http://MplsWomenOfELCA.org)

## Volunteer News and Opportunities

### Together in Mission 2023

The offerings of your financial resources allow us not only to support the mission of our congregation, but to share our resources with others in ministry so that all may know of Christ's love. TOGETHER we work on Christ's behalf in the world - none of us can do it alone! Thank you for your offerings through the 5th month of 2023. A detailed financial summary report is available at the church office for anyone who'd like to see it.

#### Income

Month of August	\$28,930	Budget for the month	\$31,124
Year to Date	\$242,910	Budget Year to Date	\$193,000

#### Expenses

Month of August	\$24,260	Budget for the month	\$23,621
Year to Date	\$179,288	Budget Year to Date	\$190,421

**Mission Support to Minneapolis Area Synod** YTD \$9,333

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Are you looking for an impactful way to make a difference with a small volunteer commitment? St. Peder's is looking for 4-6 volunteers on each date to help deliver groceries one Monday evening every other month to the residents at Hiawatha Towers through Community Emergency Services. CES has been working with our neighbors for 50 years. Contact Sue Nielsen if you are interested in working either of these dates. The residents are so appreciative when they see us!

**Activity:** Distribution of Pre-bagged Groceries at Hiawatha Towers (3 buildings at one location)

**Dates:** Monday, November 20, 2023

**Time:** 6:00 to 8:00 pm

**Location:** Meet at Hiawatha Towers Apartment Complex, located at 2121 - 16th Avenue South, Minneapolis (There are 3 buildings. 2121 is the "middle" building. Look for the CES cargo van (with CES logo.)

#### Responsibility:

- Unload van of grocery bags & transfer into community room
- Arrange bags by building and floor
- Deliver Bags to Neighbors' Apartments (We provide carts for delivery)

#### Good to Know:

- At apartment building, please park on the street (parking lot is for residents only)
- Masks may be required at apartment building (it changes weekly)
- Closed toe shoes recommended
- Should be able to lift 25 pounds

Contact Sue via email or phone to sign up at: Sue.Nielsen76@gmail.com or 612-360-3936





# October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Marathon Outreach	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	7 pm Kith & Kin Kickoff*	10 am Exercise Class* 2 pm Chronic Disease Support Group* 6 pm Sisters in Crime Meeting* 6 pm Bible Study	9 am Quilters*	10 am Exercise Class*		2 pm Fiber Arts/Fellowship Hall
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Columbus Day	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	6:15 pm Kith & Kin Rehearsal*	10 am Exercise Class* 12 pm Potluck 6 pm Bible Study		10 am Exercise Class*		10:30 am Brownies Group*
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	6:15 pm Kith & Kin Rehearsal*	10 am Exercise Class* 6 pm Bible Study	9 am Quilters*	9 am CPR AED Training 10 am Exercise Class* 7:30 pm Kith & Kin Open Sing*		2 pm Fiber Arts/Fellowship Hall
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	6:15 pm Kith & Kin Rehearsal* 7 pm Music & Worship Comm. Meeting	10 am Exercise Class* 6 pm Bible Study	7 pm Council Meeting	10 am Exercise Class*		10:30 am Brownies Group*
<b>29</b> Reformation/Confirmation	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Halloween				
9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	5:45 pm Kith & Kin Potluck & Rehearsal	10 am Exercise Class* 6 pm Bible Study				

# October Volunteer Schedule

Thank you for sharing your time and talent at St. Peder's!  
Please try to arrange your own trades. Reminder emails are sent weekly along with contacts for substitutes. If you are pressed for time or have questions, please contact the office: [office@stpeters.org](mailto:office@stpeters.org) or 612-722-8000

Oct 1, 2023

**Greeters:** Jean Evers and Leslee Nestingen

**Ushers:** Steve Austin and Cameron Jamison

**Acolyte:** Isla Wills

**Reader:** Dwight Lundebly

**Communion Set Up:** Shawna Nelsen-Wills and Denise Logeland

**Communion Servers:** Tim Anderson, Elizabeth Anderson, and Jackie West

**Communion Bread and Wine:** Lisa Rovick

**Counters:** Bob Stanich and Eva Tangen

**Livestream Technician:** JeriLynn Young

**LSS Safe House Dinner for October 2:** Denise Logeland and Tom Dennstedt

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherd Group 1**

Oct 8, 2023

**Greeters:** Butch Vossen and Lisa Jensen

**Ushers:** Al and Sue Nielsen

**Acolyte:** Phoebe Anderson

**Reader:** Joe Munnich

**Counters:** Annalise Munnich and Sue Nielsen

**Livestream Technician:** Cameron Jamison

**LSS Safe House Dinner for October 9:** Steve Wills and Shawna Nelsen-Wills

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherd Group 2**

Oct 15, 2023

**Greeters:** Dan and Karen Vetsch

**Ushers:** Karen Vetsch and Joe Munnich

**Acolyte:** Aemelia Wollak

**Reader:** Dan Vetsch

**Counters:** Jackie West and Curt Petersen

**Livestream Technician:** Darrick Jensen

**LSS Safe House Dinner for October 16:** Meg and Curt Petersen

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherd Group 3**

Oct 22, 2023

**Greeters:** Nancy and Stephanie Hawkinson

**Ushers:** Jim Nelsen and Sue Schnickel

**Acolyte:** Elliette Wilson

**Reader:** Allison O'Day

**Counters:** Steve Austin and Sue Schnickel

**Livestream Technician:** Bruce Simpson

**LSS Safe House Dinner for October 23:** Kathryn Jensen, Lisa Jensen, and Butch Vossen

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherd Group 4**

Oct 29, 2023

**Greeters:** Paul and Michelle Aitchison

**Ushers:** Shawna Nelsen-Wills and Tom Goodoiien

**Acolyte:** Elena Wilson

**Reader:** Bruce Simpson

**Counters:** Cameron Jamison and Judy Hogan

**Livestream Technician:** Jerilyn Young

**LSS Safe House Dinner for October 30:** Daniel Peterson and Kristin Lerstrom, John and Doreen Skraba

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherd Group 5**



## October Worship Schedule

### Sunday, October 1

#### Marathon Outreach Event

9 am Worship

9 am Youth Faith Formation

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

### Sunday, October 8

9 am Worship

9 am Youth Faith Formation

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

### Sunday, October 15

9 am Worship

9 am Youth Faith Formation

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

### Sunday, October 22

9 am Worship

9 am Youth Faith Formation

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

### Sunday, October 29

#### Reformation/Confirmation

9 am Worship

9 am Youth Faith Formation

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

**St. Peder's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

St. Peder's affirms the  
welcome of God to all persons.

St Peder's welcomes you to a community of faith nurtured by God's abundant grace, Christ's peace and the Spirit's lively presence! In response to such love, we open our hearts and hands and doors to joyfully serve our neighbor – whether it's you or someone across the world. We invite you to join us for worship or any activity at the little church on the corner of 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street in south Minneapolis.



Want to support our mission to joyfully live the gospel with open hearts, open hands and open doors? Make a donation from your smartphone by scanning the QR code or head to this website: <https://bit.ly/stpedersgiving> Thank you for sharing your gifts.

**Church Staff:**

Pastor: Rev. Bryan Odeen

[pastorbryan@stpeders.org](mailto:pastorbryan@stpeders.org)

Organist/Music Ministry Coordinator:

Mia Kruse

[mia@stpeders.org](mailto:mia@stpeders.org)

Office Coordinator: Lyn Town

[office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org)

Faith Formation: Sarah Laulunen-Raj

[faithformation@stpeders.org](mailto:faithformation@stpeders.org)

Accounts Manager: Susan Shellberg

[bookkeeping@stpeders.org](mailto:bookkeeping@stpeders.org)

Caretaker: Jim Austin

**St. Peder's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church ELCA  
4600 E 42nd St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55406  
Phone: 612-722-8000  
[www.stpeders.org](http://www.stpeders.org)**

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

