

# The Messenger

## From the Pastor....

Hello St. Peder's!

Lent snuck up on me and it seems to have snuck right by! It's hard to believe that Easter is right on our doorstep. This is one of my very favorite church holidays. When I was a kid, it was for all the normal reasons kids like special days. I loved looking for my Easter basket, visiting my grandparents, doing Easter egg hunts, and all the rest. I even liked the Sunrise Service and serving the breakfast between services at my small church growing up. As an adult, I grew to value Easter for more than a belly full of chocolate rabbits (although I'll still enjoy a chocolate rabbit). Now, I find a lot of meaning and purpose in the empty tomb and new life we celebrate in Easter, in part because, the longer I live, the more tombs I see God emptying. We live in a world that has experienced its share of loss, grief, and death in the past years and I have found that the journey to the cross and grave and its subsequent journey from the empty tomb out into the world brings me a lot of hope.

I have been contemplating all of the different intersections of our world lately. We are entering the time of Holy Week and Easter, a time of endings and beginnings, of suffering and hope. We've also all been in a time of some major transitions as the transitions between pastors, political leaders, policies, and public health have converged to create what everyone has been calling The New Normal.

On top of these larger issues, St. Peder's is also near the end of its 2-year process of learning through the Riverside Innovation Hub. This has been a really fruitful time of relationship building (both with individuals and organizations), reflection, and action. At the end of February, there was a retreat for the Riverside Innovation Hub that concentrated on sustainability and next steps. This process has given St. Peder's tools to become a Public Church, a congregation that builds relationships with and works for the wellbeing of the neighborhood and communities we are a part of. And this process is not something that can be done just on Sunday morning or even an intensive 2 year training. It requires us to think long-term about how we hope to continue this work.

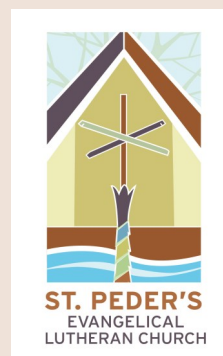
So, as we celebrate the new life of Christ seen in Easter, I also extend an invitation to celebrate what has been done in and through St. Peder's and consider how we can continue our gospel-centered work in the future. Consider this your save-the-date and invitation to the New Normal, a time for storytelling, conversation, fellowship, and dreaming about who we are a congregation and who we'd like to be. We'll have speakers, discussion, and (of course) coffee and food. We'll gather at church on May 6th, from 9-12 am and I really hope you'll be able to make it there. I see this as a really important event both for me personally, as I continue to get to know you, and as a congregation for us to understand what we see our priorities to be and think about how we can live them out in our little corner of Minneapolis (and everywhere else we find ourselves). The good news we find in Christ should be good news for our neighbors as well.

Peace,  
Pastor Bryan



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## Events this Month



### **Pub Theology: Monday, April 10th at 7 pm @Parkway Pizza 4359 Minnehaha Ave.**

We will discuss Easter Traditions - What traditions are meaningful to you and your family? How can we celebrate in a uniquely Easter way? Any questions....please contact Michael O'Day [mlday14@gmail.com](mailto:mlday14@gmail.com)

### **Easter Sunday Brunch: Sunday, April 9 at 10 am**

Join us after the 9 am worship service for an Easter Brunch organized by our youth families. We will have omelet sliders (meat and veggie options) and a yogurt parfait bar. We are looking for volunteers to help prep on Saturday (April 8) morning at 9 am for an hour or two. We will also need help with prep before church on Sunday as well as clean up after the brunch. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Julie at [julie.ebbesen@gmail.com](mailto:julie.ebbesen@gmail.com)



### **New Member Class**

We will be having a class for new members on **April 23rd** following worship and will welcome new members during worship on April 30th. During the class, we'll talk about the congregation, what it means to be Lutheran, and If you are interested in joining St. Peder's, but are unable to attend either of those days, please let Pastor Bryan know.



### **NEW! Brunch Bunch: Sunday, April 30th**

Join a brunch bunch! What's that? It's a group of 8 people randomly connected based on your top restaurant choices (see below). Pick your top three restaurants and let the Christian Life Committee take care of the details. You are responsible for the cost of your own meal and your transportation (though we encourage carpooling)! The first brunch bunch outing will be held right after church on April 30th. Child care will be provided for a free will donation for those participating. Sign up by calling the church office, emailing Jeannie at [office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org) or by filling out the Google form found [here](#) (for online readers) or scan the QR code (for hard copy readers).



*Want to meet up for brunch with church friends but the kiddos would rather play and eat pizza? Leave the kiddos with us and enjoy Sunday Brunch with a Bunch. Karen, Dan and a few older youth will hang out with your kids while you attend brunch. We'll provide fun, food, and fellowship. Drop off your kiddos in the lower level classroom after church. Pickup time after brunch est 2 pm. Contact Karen Vetsch if any questions 612-721-7385*

**Bible Study, Every Tuesday at 6 pm**  
**Upcoming Dates: April 4, 11, 18, 25**

**Monthly Potluck Wednesday: April 12**  
**Food and fellowship.**  
**Bring a dish to share!**

### **Confirmation Corner**

Our confirmation students met at St. Peder's last month, enjoyed our soup supper, and joined us for worship as we talked about Peter.

We will be meeting at Minnehaha Communion this month on April 12th.

## Mark Your Calendars....Upcoming Events

### Save the Date! The New Normal

You are cordially invited to The New Normal, a conversation about the work, fellowship, and neighborhood of St. Peder's. This event will be on **May 6th, from 9:30 until 12** and there will be coffee, treats, and lunch provided. Further information will be coming.



### Gather on the Green

Join us for a day of community building, fun and fellowship at Gather on the Green on **September 9, 2023!** We'll have plenty of delicious food and drinks to enjoy, along with fun activities and opportunities to connect with one another. Whether you're new to St Peder's or a long-time member, Gather on the Green will be a place to strengthen our community while welcoming all with open doors. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details as we get closer to the event. We can't wait to see you there!

## Opportunities to Serve

### April is National Volunteer Month! : Be a Champion! Give Blood!

St. Peder's is hosting a blood drive with the American Red Cross at St. Peder's on **Wednesday, April 26 from noon-6:00 pm**. Help an accident victim, a patient with cancer or a new mother who needs blood during childbirth by making a donation appointment today. The Red Cross depends on the generosity of volunteers to ensure blood products are available when patients need them. You can help by signing up either online or at church during coffee time and selecting a convenient time to donate blood. Click [here](#) to register.

We also need Blood Donor Ambassador volunteers! Blood Donor Ambassadors enhance the experience of donating blood by warmly welcoming and providing customer service to blood donors. We will work in 3 shifts: 11:30-2, 2-4, and 4-6:30. Sign up to be an ambassador with Sue Nielsen: 612-360-3936 or [suenielsen76@gmail.com](mailto:suenielsen76@gmail.com)



### Feed My Starving Children: May 20th

Using teams of volunteers, Feed My Starving Children prepares food packs specifically designed to reverse and prevent malnutrition in areas of greatest need—currently including Turkey and Syria. We've reserved a packing slot for St. Peder's on **Saturday, May 20, from 2-3:45 pm** at the Eagan packing center. This is a fun and worthwhile activity for all ages, 5 and up! Sign-up sheet for the St. Peder's team will be posted soon, but mark your calendars now!

### Grocery Delivery: Volunteer this Month: May 22

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 (2121 - 16th Avenue South, Minneapolis ) through Community Emergency Services. CES has been working with our neighbors for 50 years. Volunteers should be able to lift 25 pounds. Contact Sue Nielsen if interested in any of the dates below. The residents are so appreciative when they see us. Contact: Sue Nielsen [suenielsen76@gmail.com](mailto:suenielsen76@gmail.com) 612-360 3936

**2023 Dates:** Mondays, May 22, July 24, September 25. November 20 **Time:** 6-8 pm

### **Holy Week 2023**

As we draw to the close of the season of Lent, we engage the story of Jesus from the confusion of the Triumphal Entry on Palm Sunday through the pain of trial and crucifixion culminating in the joy of resurrection on Easter Sunday. The services of Holy Week build upon one another like chapters in a book. We hope you will make this part of your worship journey from Lent into Easter - and please invite friends and family to join us as well.

#### **Palm and Passion Sunday, April 2 at 9:00 a.m.**

The children of St. Peder's will be leading part of this worship service as they tell us about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the major events that happened during Holy Week. You won't want to miss this powerful story.

#### **Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m.**

We zero in on "the night in which he was betrayed". Jesus feeds his disciples, washes their feet, and gives them a new command (the mandate that the name gets its name from) that they should love each other as he loves us. While we gather with music, we leave in silence, recognizing the betrayal that leads to his death on Good Friday.

#### **Good Friday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m.**

This service will be a Stations of the Cross service, where we hear the story of Jesus' death, and we gather together (like those first disciples) to care and support one another in whatever griefs we bear. We gather and leave in silence and contemplation from Good Friday, reflecting on Christ's pain and suffering on behalf of all of creation.

#### **Easter Sunday, April 9 at 9:00 am and 10:45 am**

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed

The tomb is empty and our savior is risen! An Easter morning, we celebrate that God has brought new life out of death and that God's love wins out over sin. We gather together to worship this God who continues to work through out lives and we go out to proclaim the good news. Between worship services, we will have an Easter brunch.

If you are unable to join us in-person during Holy Week, want to revisit these worship services, or share them with others, we will have them online. They can be found on our YouTube channel or at [www.stpeders.org](http://www.stpeders.org), along with the bulletin, hymns, and prayers for online worship. See you there!

### **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 2nd 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 February	\$ 14,373.21	Budget for the month	\$ 23,124.00
Year to Date	\$ 36,460.26	Budget Year to Date	\$ 46,256.00

#### **Expenses**

Month of February	\$ 22,221.59	Budget for the month	\$ 23,547.30
Year to Date	\$ 50,745.99	Budget Year to Date	\$ 48,465.98

#### **Mission Support to Minneapolis Area Synod**

YTD \$ 2,333.33

## News from the St. Peder's Library.....



### Easter Books for all ages!

Prepare for Easter by checking a book or DVD! See the table in hall and the Red Cart in the library!

### Are you a William Kent Krueger fan?

This engaging Minnesota award-winning, best-selling author (Ordinary Grace, This Tender Land) will be speaking at nearby Gloria Dei Lutheran Church at the spring meeting of the Twin Cities Area Church Library Association (of which St. Peder's is a member) on Saturday morning, April 29. St. Peder's members are welcome to attend his talk. Interested? Contact Jeanne Schleh for details.

[https://www.goodreads.com/photo/author/71170.William\\_Kent\\_Krueger](https://www.goodreads.com/photo/author/71170.William_Kent_Krueger)

### What Does It Mean to Be a Public Church? with Guest Preacher, Kristina Fruge

On Sunday, April 30, Kristina Fruge will be our guest preacher to talk about what it means to be a Public Church. Kristina is the RIH Program Manager at Augsburg and is also one of our neighbors! We hope you will join us. At this same service Pastor Bryan will also be installing new members.

*God's creative, life-giving, jubilee river flows out from the temple and into the world. Our call is not to damn up the river and keep it in the temple. Our call is not to expect our neighbors to come to the temple to experience the life giving water of the river. Our call is to follow the river as it deepens and widens and makes all things live – Jeremy Myers, Executive Director, Christensen Center for Vocation.*

## Community Events

### Roseville Sting Ensemble Spring Concert

Come hear the Roseville String Ensemble's FREE spring concert on Sunday, April 2nd, at 3:30 p.m., at Sundin Music Hall on the Hamline University campus, 1531 Hewitt Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104. Wendy Legge and Lisa Rovick will both be playing in this concert. For more info, see <https://www.rosevillestrings.org/Concerts/>

### SOS! Support Our Seniors

Want to show love to homebound neighbors in need? CES (Community Emergency Services) is looking for volunteer to 1) provide a tele-check call prior to grocery delivery 2) pack groceries at CES pantry 3) Delivery groceries to neighbor. Reach out to Krista at CES for more information: 612-870-1125 ext. 120

### Kith and Kin Season 6 Concert

#### Finale at the Cedar:

**April 29th, 8 pm**

Kith and Kin Chorus, uncommon choir in the Twin Cities, strives to build community, spread joy and give in service of others through harmony. The Season 6 Finale with Aby Wolf and Eric Mayson will be held at the [Cedar Cultural Center](#).



# April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Palm Sunday Pageant 9 am Worship w/ Holy Communion 10 am Coffee and Fellowship 10:15 am Adult Faith Formation 4 pm Girl Scouts	3 6:30 Kith and Kin	4 10 am Exercise 6 pm Bible Study	5 9 am Quilters	6 Maundy Thursday 10 am Exercise 4:15 pm Dance 7 pm Worship 8 pm Choir	7 Good Friday 7 pm Worship	1 2 pm Fiber Arts
9 Easter Sunday 9 am & 10:45 Worship w/ Holy Communion 10 am Easter Brunch	10 6:30 Kith and Kin 7 pm Pub Theology	11 10 am Exercise 6 pm Bible Study	12 12 Potluck 5:30 Confirmation @ Minnehaha Lutheran	13 10 am Exercise 4:15 pm Dance 7 pm Choir	14	15 12 pm Kith and Kin 2 pm Fiber Arts
16 9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation* 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 Adult Faith Formation 4 pm Girl Scouts	17 6:30 Kith and Kin	18 Newsletter Articles Due 10 am Exercise 6 pm Bible Study	19 9 am Quilters	20 10 am Exercise 4:15 pm Dance 7 pm Choir	21	22 10:30 am Brownies
23 9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation* 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 New Member Class 4 pm Girl Scouts	24 6:30 Kith and Kin 7 pm Music & Worship Cmt. Mtg	25 10 am Exercise 6 pm Bible Study	26 12 pm Blood Drive 7 pm Council Meeting	27 10 am Exercise 4:15 pm Dance 7 pm Choir	28 4:30 pm Dance	29 10:30 am Dance
30 9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation* 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 10 am Brunch Bunch 10:15 Adult Faith Formation 4 pm Girl Scouts						**Youth Faith Formation is after the Children's Sermon Events in BLUE are community groups that use the building.

# April 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 Jeannie in the office: office@stpeders.org or 612-722-8000

## Sunday, April 2, 2023: Palm Sunday Worship Holy Communion by Intinction

**Greeters:** Bethene and Eric Hunsberger **Ushers:** Cameron Jamison and Julie Ebbesen **Acolyte:** Eliette Wilson **Communion Set Up:** Judy Anderson and Judy Hogan **Communion Servers:** Shawna Nelsen-Wills, Lisa Rovick and Bruce Simpson **Bread and Wine:** The Odeen Family **Counters:** Cameron Jamison and Julie Ebbesen **Livestream Technician:** Darrick Jensen **LSS Safe House Dinner for April 3:** Sue and Al Nielsen **Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 7**

## Thursday, April 6, 2023: Maundy Thursday Worship 7 pm

**Usher:** Sue Schnickel **Acolyte:** Isla Wills **Reader:** Bob Stanich **Communion Set up and Clean Up:** Dwight Lundeby **Communion Assistant:** Judy Hogan **Bread and Wine:** Dale and Jackie West **Livestream Technician:** Cameron Jamison

## Friday, April 7, 2023: Good Friday Worship at 7 pm

**Usher:** TBD **Acolyte:** Maren Odeen **Reader:** Lisa Rovick **Livestream Technician:** Bruce Simpson

## Sunday April 9, 2023,

### Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion: 9 am and 10:45 Services

**Greeters: 9 am:** Meg Petersen & Jean Evers **10:45:** Peter & Sheryl Juhl **Ushers: 9 am:** Joe Munnich and Tom Goodoien **10:45:** Paul Aitchison and Steve Austin  
**Acolyte: 9 am:** TBD **10:45:** Eliette Wilson **Reader: 9 am:** Dan Vetsch **10:45:** Allison O'Day  
**Communion Set Up/Clean Up: 9 am:** Cameron Jamison and Shawna Nelsen-Wills  
**10:45 am:** JeriLynn Young and Sue Schnickel **Communion Servers: 9 am:** Elizabeth and Tim Anderson and Dan Vetsch **10:45 am:** Peter Juhl, Dwight Lundeby and Bob Stanich  
**Bread and Wine: 9 am:** Meg and Curt Petersen **10:45 am:** JeriLynn Young and Darrick Jensen **Livestream Technician: 9 am:** Karen Vetsch **Counters:** Bob Stanich and Paul Aitchison **Every Meal for April 14:** Sue and John Schnickel **LSS Safe House Dinner for April 10:** Shawna Nelsen-Wills and Steve Wills **Social Hour hosted by Youth Families**

## Sunday, April 16, 2023

**Greeters:** Sonja Walker and Lee Hawks **Ushers:** Shawna Nelsen-Wills and Chris Anderson  
**Acolyte:** Aemilia Wollak **Reader:** John Geroux **Counters:** Terri Vetsch and JeriLynn Young  
**Livestream Technician:** JeriLynn Young **LSS Safe House Dinner for April 17:** Meg and Curt Petersen **Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 1**

## Sunday, April 23, 2023

**Greeters:** Shawna Nelsen-Wills and Steve Wills **Ushers:** Peter Juhl and Mark Jensen **Acolyte:** Isaiah Wills **Reader:** Leslee Nestingen **Counters:** Marcia Rocheleau and Shawna Nelsen-Wills **Livestream Technician:** Darrick Jensen **Every Meal for April 28:** Bob Stanich  
**LSS Safe House Dinner for April 24:** Kathryn Jensen, Lisa Jensen and Butch Vossen **Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 2**

## Sunday, April 30, 2023

**Greeters:** Casey Clementson and Benjamin Campbell **Ushers:** John Skraba and Jim Nelsen **Acolyte:** Isla Wills **Reader:** Shawna Nelsen-Wills **Counters:** Annalise Munnich and Sue Nielsen **Livestream Technician:** Cameron Jamison **LSS Safe House Dinner for May 1:** Daniel Peterson and Kristin Lerstrom, John and Doreen Skraba  
**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 3**

To everyone who brought cupcakes, set tables, made the delicious gravy, baked the fish, made meatballs, served, cleaned up,, and welcomed our neighbors to St. Peder's Annual Codfish and Meatball Dinner....Thank You!  
We are so grateful! *Pete and Sheryl Juhl & Sue and Alan Nielsen*

**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.



**Church Staff:**

Pastor: Rev. Bryan Odeen

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Organist/Music Ministry Coordinator:

Mia Kruse

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

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Caretaker: Jim Austin

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