



The Messenger

Hello from the Pastor's Office!

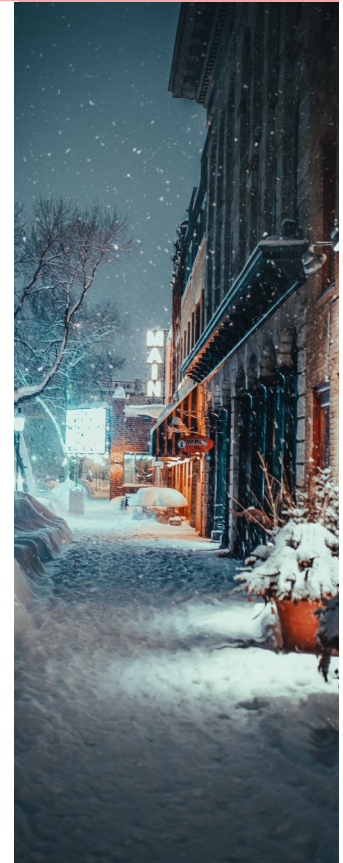
Lent begins this year on an interesting day – February 14. Valentines Day. On one hand, we have candy hearts and flowers. On the other, we have repentance and ashes. They can definitely look like they're at odds with one another, but I'm not sure that's true. Love always asks something of us. Love asks us to extend our circle of care to include others. Love asks us to put others before ourselves. Love asks us to be vulnerable with our own hurts and flaws. Love asks us to trust our lives in the hands of another. Love asks us to repent and ask forgiveness when a wrong, whether intentional or not, is committed.

If we can agree that this is true, the act of loving something or someone is a willingness to work for it and, as you probably know already, repentance is work. This is what the journey of Lent looks like. We lay aside those things we know of that keep us from loving the world, our neighbors (both near and far), and ourselves well.

This is hard work and it's especially hard in a world scarred by war, violence, abuse, addiction, political strife, illness, and all the other things that can feel like they're overtaking us. This is, in part, why Lent is important in our church year and why we are going to change up our Lenten worship liturgy. This year, we are going to adapt a form of worship called Prayer Around the Cross from Holden Village (the same place where the beloved Holden Evening Prayer originated from) to intentionally pray for peace throughout the world. As we pray for peace, we'll also be considering how God shows up in different ways and in different places. Our theme for Lent this year is Around the Table and it will invite us to recognize how God is at work at the church altar, the dinner table, the operating table, the conference table, and the worktable. As we consider how God is at work in everyday, ordinary things and pray for peace throughout the world, we'll be reminded that we are part of this world with others and we are called to take part in what God is doing in the world.

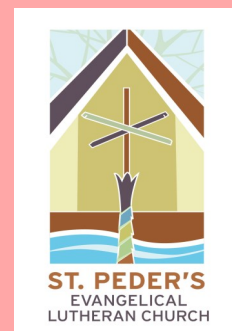
As the journey of Lent begins, we'll be reminded that sin, though real, does not have the last word. This is God's promise and this is why we work, pray, and wait. Hope to see you around the table soon.

Pastor Bryan



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Brunch Bunch

Join a Brunch Bunch! What's that? It's a group of 8 people randomly connected based on your top restaurant choices. Pick your top 3 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 next Brunch Bunch outing will be held right after church on **March 3rd**. Child care will be provided for a free will donation for those participating. Sign up by calling the church office, emailing Lyn at office@stpeders.org, or by filling out the Google form found at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNieqs4-wEFJLI3xjQ4SlwqvXeds6_mxpb1XX5_2m_UYNL-w/viewform.

Lutheran Summer Music 2024

Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival is the nation's premier faith-based music academy. Every year they invite high school students from all over the country to immerse themselves in music-making and building a welcoming and supportive community while living together on a college campus. During the day, students receive advanced musical instruction and in the evenings they attend recitals, evening prayer services, and social events. If you would like to learn more about the program, please visit <https://www.lsmacademy.org/program>.

Cod Fish Dinner

Don't miss St. Peder's Annual Cod Fish Dinner on **Friday, March 1st!** There will be 2 seatings, at 5 pm and 6:30 pm. The dinner will also include boiled potatoes with our famous mustard gravy, peas and carrots, Havarti cheese on pumpernickel, cupcakes, and beverages. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. There are sign-up sheets outside the Fellowship Hall, or you can call the church to make reservations at 612-722-8000. If you are leaving a message, please include your name, how many meatballs or cod dinners, seating time preferences, and phone number. This dinner is a success because so many people volunteer to make it happen. If you are available to help with setup, cleanup, serving, cooking, bringing cupcakes, cashier duties, or anything else, please contact Sue Nielsen at 612-360-3936 or suenielsen76@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!

2024 Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA Assembly

As Christians, we are called to be different– called to live with gladness, not because we are in denial of the challenges of the world, but because we are loved by a gracious and generous God; a God who also calls us to love the neighbor, following in the generous way of Jesus. This years assembly, entitled “With Glad and Generous Hearts”, will be held on **Thursday, May 2nd from 6:30-8:30 pm, Friday May 3rd from 9 am -8 pm, and Saturday, May 4th from 9 am– 11:30 am at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Ramsey.** In addition to worship, new synod members and bishops will be elected. There will also be an opportunity to thank Bishop Svennungsen and the Synod staff. All lay and non-voting persons are welcome to attend. For more information, or to sign up for one of the events, please visit the website: <https://mplsareasynod.regfox.com/2024-synod-assembly>.

News from the Office

Easter Flowers

Easter is coming up at the end of March, so now is the time to buy flowers! We will be ordering from Lynde Greenhouse and Nursery this year. An order form along with pricing will be placed outside the Fellowship Hall. Orders will be due by Sunday, March 3rd and placed to the nursery by Tuesday, March 5th. Contact Lyn in the office with questions!

Synod Assembly Registration

The registration for the Synod Assembly, on May 2-4, is open. If you are interested in attending as a voting member of the congregation, or have other questions about this yearly gathering, please talk with Pastor Bryan.

140th Anniversary Task Force

This year, St. Peder’s is turning 140 years old! We look pretty good for our age, don’t we? As we look to celebrate this milestone, we are going to arrange a task force of people who wish to help us plan some activities and a special worship service to honor the history and life of this congregation. If you would like to be a part of that, please contact Pastor Bryan.

Exercise Classes

Are you looking to make good on a New Year's resolution to get healthier, exercise more, and feel better? We've got just the thing! Jim O'Brien has been gathering people in our fellowship hall every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am for years and you are invited to join! The class offers affordable fees (and waived fees if money is tight), fun music, a friendly atmosphere, and a workout tailored to your abilities. Come and get moving! You'll be glad you did!



Pub Theology is back!

After taking the month of January off, Pub Theology is back! This month's theology topic will be *Missionaries: Good Christians outreach or Colonialism*. This month's game will be held on **Monday, February 12th at Parkway Pizza at 7 pm**. Join us and show off your skills while you have a good time!



Coffee Hour Causes

Did you know that the money collected as coffee hour donations has a different cause every week? The first week of every month, the money goes to a cause that advances the work of artists within the BIPOC community - this year, the organization is Walker West Music Academy. The second week, the money collected goes to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which is used in times of urgent need for members and non-members. The third week, the coffee hour donations go to our Special Projects Fund, which goes to reimbursing expenses for projects like the upcoming Codfish Dinner and September's Gather on the Green event. The fourth Sunday, we use those funds to buy coffee for coffee hour itself. And, on the occasion of a fifth Sunday, all those proceeds go into our Youth Fund for expenses related to Confirmation, Sunday School, and other Youth Faith Formation activities. We sometimes joke that coffee and treats after church is the 3rd sacrament of St. Peder's, but it is also a great way to further the work of the church, through both fellowship and ministry.

Volunteer News and Opportunities & Financials

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 December	\$40,351	Budget for the month	\$23,322
Year to Date	\$339,099	Budget Year to Date	\$285,694

Expenses

Month of December	\$26,890	Budget for the month	\$23,837
Year to Date	\$281,098	Budget Year to Date	\$285,694

Mission Support to Minneapolis Area Synod \$15,167 YTD

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Grocery Delivery

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. Let me know if you are interested and available for any of these dates. The residents are so appreciative when they see us!

Dates:

Monday, January 22, 2024

Monday, March 25, 2024

Monday, May 20, 2024

Monday, July 22, 2024

Monday, September 23, 2024

Monday, November 25, 2024

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.) For any questions about either of these events, please talk to Sue Nielsen at suenielsen76@gmail.com or 612-360-3936.



February

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10 am Exercise class 6 pm Bluegrass class	2	3 2 pm Fiber Arts/ Fellowship hall
Shepherding Group Sunday 9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Form. 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:30 am Sherharding Group Gathering	5 6:15 pm Kith & Kin rehearsal	6 10 am Exercise class 2 pm Chronic Disease Support Group 6 pm Sister in Crime 6 pm Bible Study	7 9 am Quilters	8 10 am Exercise class 6 pm Bluegrass class	9	10 10:30 am Brownies Group 1 pm Kith & Kin FUNtensive rehearsal
11 9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	12 6:15 pm Kith & Kin Rehearsal	13 10 am Exercise class 12 pm Potluck 6 pm Bible Study	Ash Wednesday 14 5:30 pm Soup Supper 7 pm Worship	15 10 am Exercise class 6 pm Bluegrass class 7:30 Kith & Kin Open Sing	16	17 2 pm Fiber Arts 7 pm Songwriter Showcase
18 9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	President's Day 19 6:15 pm Kith & Kin Rehearsal	20 10 am Exercise class 6 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Roseville Strings Ensemble	21 9 am Quilters 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Worship	22 10 am Exercise class 6 pm Bluegrass class	23	24 10:30 am Brownies
25 9 am Worship 9 am Youth Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	26 5:45 pm Kith & Kin Potluck & Rehearsal	27 10 am Exercise class 6 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Roseville String Ensemble	28 5:30 pm Soup Dinner 6:45 pm Worship 7:30 pm Council Meeting	29 10 am Exercise class 6 pm Bluegrass class		

February 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

February 4

Greeters: Bethene & Eric Hunsberger

Ushers: Peter Juhl & John Skraba

Acolyte: Eden Hunsberger

Reader: Gordon Legge

Communion Set-Up: JeriLynn Young & Judy Anderson

Communion Servers: Jackie West & Cameron Jamison

Communion Bread & Wine: Curt & Meg Petersen

Counters: Annalise Munnich & Darrick Jensen

Livestream Technician: Karen Vetsch

LSS Safe House Dinner for February 5: Sue & Al Nielsen

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 1

February 11

Greeters: John & Doreen Skraba

Ushers: Shawna Wills-Nelsen & Karen Vetsch

Acolyte: Isla Wills-Nelsen

Reader: Dan Vetsch

Counters: Bob Stanish & Eva Tangen

Livestream Technician: Bruce Simpson

LSS Safe House Dinner for February 12: Jim & Heidi

Nelsen

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 2

February 18

Greeters: Jim & Heidi Nelsen

Ushers: Jeremy Anderson & Andrea Wollak

Acolyte: Walter Anderson

Reader: Rick Johnson

Counters: Jackie West & Sue Schnickel

Livestream Technician: Cameron Jamison

LSS Safe House Dinner for February 19: Allison &

Michael O'Day, Jill & Kerry Audette

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 3

February 25

Greeters: Mark & Jodi Jensen

Ushers: Lisa Jensen & Butch Vossen

Acolyte: Maren Odeen

Reader: JeriLynn Young

Counters: Terri Vetsch & Judy Hogan

Livestream Technician: Darrick Jensen

LSS Safe House Dinner for February 26: Judy & Michael

Hogan

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 4



February Worship Schedule

Sunday, February 4 Shepherding Group Sunday

9 am Worship

9 am Youth Formation Group

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

10:30 am Shepherding Group
Gathering

Sunday, February 11

9 am Worship

9 am Youth Faith Formation

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

Sunday, February 18

9 am Worship

9 am Youth Faith Formation

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

Sunday, February 25

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 46th Avenue and 42nd 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

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Organist/Music Ministry Coordinator:

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Caretaker: Jim Austin

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

