

# THE MESSENGER

## IN THIS EDITION

- People's Pride
- Faith Formation Updates



St. Peder's  
Lutheran Church

Greetings in the name of Christ!

As June 2026 comes, we have gone through the Easter season, as well as Pentecost and Holy Trinity Sundays, and we enter the Season after Pentecost. Some people just call this "Common Time" or "Ordinary Time". And, for times that have felt aggressively unordinary, it can feel like a quaint name. There has been so little "common" happening around us that the term feels more like a wish than a promise. A little "ordinary" would feel pretty good.

Despite the name, it is an important time though. Following the mighty wind of Pentecost, we are led into a time of slow growth and development. Like a garden or field, there is a lot of work done to plant the seeds, and then it's a time of nurturing and waiting to see what grows. We will be in this Ordinary Time for a while. Growth takes time.

It's easy to find ourselves wishing that we didn't need to wait so long for progress. If we could snap our fingers, say some magic words, or just find that one person with all the answers, it would make life much easier. Unfortunately, neither our world nor God works that way. We are, together, growing and

figuring out what it is God is guiding us to be and do. We are constantly in a state of trust and patience, even as we strain against injustice and sin. We are, like seeds, growing in our own time and our own ways, all the while our culture often demands quick and uniform action and results. Being patient with ourselves, with the world, and with God can feel difficult. But this is the work set before us – to act as we are able, to grow as we are able, and to give thanks as we are able. Different plants yield different fruits, each with their own needs and each with their own gifts to offer. That is as true of you and me as it is of garden plants.

So as June comes along, I hope you find ways to be patient with yourself. Notice your growth in whatever form it comes in. And respond to that growth by giving thanks and offering yourself as God's gift to the world. We all will grow this year.

Peace,  
Pastor Bryan

# JUNE AT ST. PEDER'S

## SAVE THE DATE: PEOPLE'S PRIDE

St. Peder's is planning to have a presence at the People's Pride event being held at Powderhorn Park on Saturday, June 27 between noon and 4pm. Watch for details in upcoming Sunday bulletins. You can read more about this event here: [www.mplspeoplespride.com](http://www.mplspeoplespride.com).

## PUB THEOLOGY

Come join us for the Pub Theology Picnic on June 15! The annual picnic will be at Michael and Allison O'Day's house at 4328 44th Avenue. The picnic will begin at 6:00. Please bring a picnic item to share. Brats, hotdogs, buns and condiments will be provided.

All are welcome, whether you have attended Pub Theology every month, once, or not at all!

## DEMOCRACY DEFENSE TRAININGS

Monarca is hosting a series of Democracy Defense Trainings around the Twin Cities to ensure that our midterm elections are as fair and free as possible. As a congregation with several neighborhoods and communities represented and a neighborhood polling place, St. Peder's is well situated to make a big impact in the Twin Cities. If you are interested in learning more and taking the trainings, which are held throughout the Cities, please go to [www.monarcamn.org/training](http://www.monarcamn.org/training) to learn more.

## VOTE NOW: EMERGING ARTIST CATEGORY

St. Peder's community member Gaia Daniel is in the running for the Karin Larson award from Minnesota Public Radio. The Karin Larson award focuses on celebrating women in classical music. Every vote counts! Use the QR code to vote for Gaia!



# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND SERVICE

## FAITH FORMATION GRATITUDE AND UPDATES

Faith Formation over for the season and we want to thank all the students, parents, and volunteers who took part in our youth programming. We want to offer a special thank you to Karen Vetsch, Gina Sekelsky, and Kristi Erickson for their work on the Faith Formation Committee. Also, a huge thank you to all the youth who led worship on May 17 for our Youth and Graduate! It was such a joy to showcase the talents and energy of the students in our congregation and celebrate the good work of our high school graduates!

We are likely to see some changes in how Youth Faith Formation runs starting in the fall. We are a congregation that has been blessed with a lot of families, many of whom stay busy and active in many different communities. In the coming school year, we will capitalize on the strengths of St. Peder's, including strong intergenerational relationships, a love of good stories, and wise teachers from all different ages. While we work out the details of the new system, we are going to keep these strengths in the forefront, allow for more opportunities to volunteer, and make it easier to everyone to volunteer. Stay tuned for details as they emerge!

## CONFERENCE ROOM USE

St. Peder's will soon be welcoming Longfellow Seward Healthy Seniors to our building. They will be renting the two classrooms on the bottom floor to use as their offices. They will also, on occasion be using the conference room. This will require us to coordinate use of that space between church business and activities and the needs of Longfellow Seward Healthy Seniors.

If you plan to use the conference room, please reach out to Office Coordinator, Frances at [office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org) or 612-722-8000 to confirm the space will be available and to add your event to the shared calendar.

## BOOK PRESENTATION - JUNE 14

Gordon Legge has published a new book called "Low Vision: What it's Like to Live with Vision Loss". He will be leading a presentation and discussion after worship on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Hope you can join in and learn from him and this excellent resource!

## OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND BIKE BLESSING - JUNE 21

We will worship outdoors on June 21<sup>st</sup> and we encourage you to ride your bikes (or bring your bike helmets if riding to church doesn't work that day). We will have a short blessing after worship for the bikes we'll be riding around this summer.

**OPEN HANDS | OPEN HEARTS | OPEN DOORS**

## FINANCIALS - TOGETHER IN MISSION 2026

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. A detailed financial summary report is available at the church office for anyone who'd like to see it.

### Income

Month of April: \$24,757.07

Year to Date: \$97,635.25

Budget for the month: \$25,106.17

Budget Year to Date: \$100,424.68

### Expenses

Month of April: \$20,869.52

Year to Date: \$103,065.45

Budget for the month: \$25,106.19

Budget Year to Date: \$100,424.76

Mission Support to Minneapolis Area Synod \$4,000 YTD

## AGATE HOUSING SERVICES

Agate Housing and Services is the Minneapolis nonprofit formed from the merger of St. Stephen's Human Services and House of Charity. They are seeking groups to prepare lunches for our guests at our downtown couples' shelter and the new women's shelter The Valiance. We need folks to make and deliver bag lunches for 50 people. If you're up for it, jumping in one or two times a month with friends, family, or neighbors would be truly amazing. For more information about this or about any of Agate's work to end homelessness, please check out [www.agatemn.org/lunch](http://www.agatemn.org/lunch) or contact Mike Menner at [mike.menner@agatemn.org](mailto:mike.menner@agatemn.org).

## HOLY LAND TRIP

Pastor Bryan continues to plan the trip to the Holy Land. A few people expressed concern about safety with the unrest in the Middle East. Sami Khoury, of Sacred Travel Paths, lives in the region and believes that it is still safe to continue to plan the trip. He has worked hard to get a good itinerary together and assures Pastor Bryan that we have until September to register. We will continue to monitor the situation and make adjustments as needed, with guidance of Sami and his team on the ground.

In the meantime, you can go to <https://sacredtravelpaths.com/stp-067/> to learn more about the trip, which will include stops in Jerusalem, Galilee, and Dar al-Kalima University in Bethlehem. The limit is 21 participants and is open to people not associated with St. Peder's, so if you know anyone who might be interested, invite them along!

**OPEN HANDS | OPEN HEARTS | OPEN DOORS**

## JUNE 7 GUEST PREACHER

Pastor Bryan will be done on June 7<sup>th</sup> to celebrate a milestone birthday with a friend. Our worship service thaty day will be lead by Pastor Natalia Terfa. Natalia is an ordained minister in the ELCA. She is currently serving her call as the Creative Director for an organization called Church Anew ([www.churchanew.org](http://www.churchanew.org)), offering resources and events to congregations and their leaders. She loves to bake, read, practice yoga, and find nature adventures. She is passionate about the church of the future, one with no boundaries and filled to the brim with love and grace and laughter and snark and a lot of fellow “not that kind of Christians.” Natalia co-hosts Cafeteria Christian, a podcast for people who love Jesus but aren’t so sure about his followers with Nora McInerney.

## DANEOD FOLK MEETING - AUGUST 19-23, 2026

One of the foundational tenets of the Danish folk school tradition and the annual Danebod Folk Meeting is that teachers and students learn from each other. At the 2026 Folk Meeting, professionals and participants will come together for three and a half days of mutual learning. You will hear from experts on topics like campaigning American style, literacy and Legos, unpacking a chamber music work, and translations of Louis Jensen’s “Square Stories,” and you will have the opportunity to let your voice, questions, and perspectives be heard! All events, from lectures to leisure, are designed for active participation and engagement. Learn more at [danebodfolkmeeting.org](http://danebodfolkmeeting.org).

## ST. PEDER’S COMMUNITY RESOURCE WEBPAGE

We have put together a new page on our website entitled Community Resources which includes local community partners, service providers, and organizations that we trust. This page will be updated regularly with resources, planned demonstrations, and other ways to get involved and help our local community. Visit [www.stpeders.org/communityresources](http://www.stpeders.org/communityresources) or use the QR code to learn more.



Resource Page

# June

# 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service	3 9 am Quilters 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	4	5	6 2 pm Fiber Arts
7 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowships	8	9 12 pm Potluck 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service	10 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	11	12	13 10:30 am Brownies
14 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship 10:15 am Book Presentation by Gordon Legge	15	16 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service	17 9 am Quilters 7 pm Council Meeting	18 <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	19	20 10 am Deaf Blind Club 2 pm Fiber Arts
21 9 am Courtyard Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship	22	23 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service	24	25	26	27
28 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship	29	30 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service				

# JUNE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

## JUNE 7

Greeters: Curt Petersen & Meg Petersen  
Ushers: Dan Vetsch & Curt Petersen  
Acolyte: Walter Anderson  
Reader: Dan Vetsch  
Counters: JeriLynn Young & Karen Vetsch  
Livestream Tech: Bruce Simpson

Communion Setup: Judy Anderson & Judy Hogan  
Communion Servers: Peter Juhl, Dwight Lundebly, & Bob Stanich  
Communion Bread & Wine: Judy Anderson  
LSS Safehouse April 6: Jim & Heidi Nelsen  
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 8

## JUNE 14

Greeters: Butch Vossen & Susan Gantriis  
Ushers: Thomas Goodoien and Peter Juhl  
Acolyte: Fletcher Campbell  
Reader: Susan Gantriis  
Counters: Bob Stanich & Curt Petersen

Livestream Tech: Melanie Carlson  
LSS Safehouse June 15: Sue & Al Nielsen  
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 1

## JUNE 21

Greeters: Eva Tangen & Lisa Jensen  
Ushers: Craig Rocheleau & Steve Simmons  
Acolyte: Eden Hunsberger  
Reader: Allison O'Day  
Counters: Annalise Munnich & Lisa Jensen  
Livestream Tech: Darrick Jensen

Communion Setup: Kristi Lahti-Johnson & Eva Tangen  
Communion Servers: Karen Vetsch, Curt Petersen, & Lisa Rovick  
Communion Bread & Wine: Darrick Jensen  
LSS Safehouse June 22: Peter & Sheryl Juhl  
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 2

## JUNE 28

Greeters: Kristi Lahti-Johnson & Chuck Johnson  
Ushers: Peter Juhl & Jim Nelsen  
Acolyte: Anders Odeen  
Reader: Lisa Rovick  
Counters: Jackie West & Eva Tangen

Livestream Tech: JeriLynn Young  
LSS Safehouse June 29: Tim & Elizabeth Anderson  
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 3

## MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### June 7

Holy Communion  
9 am Worship  
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

### June 14

9 am Worship  
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

### June 21

Holy Communion  
9 am Worship  
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

### June 28

9 am Worship  
10 am Coffee & Fellowship



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.

St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church 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.



St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA  
4600 E 42<sup>nd</sup> St | Minneapolis, MN 55406  
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### Church Staff

Pastor:

Bryan Odeen | [pastorbryan@stpeders.org](mailto:pastorbryan@stpeders.org)

Organist/Music Ministry Coordinator:

Mia Kruse | [mia@stpeders.org](mailto:mia@stpeders.org)

Office Coordinator:

Frances Stevenson | [office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org)

Caretaker:

Jim Austin