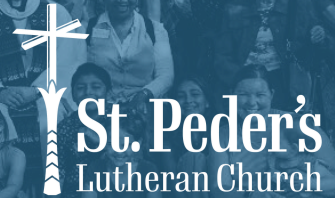


THE MESSENGER

IN THIS EDITION

- Welcoming New Members
- Worship Volunteer Update
- Easter photos



Hello from the Pastor's Office!

First and foremost, I want to say a huge "thank you" to everyone who made Easter so special this year. It is not lost on me that what makes this congregation and our worship services special are the community that gathers. It takes a lot of folks to pull off a big service and I'm so grateful for everyone who volunteered, worshipped, and planned with me.

I often think of big days like that in cycles, reflecting on what has happened since the last time we gathered for Easter worship. This year, Lent and Easter felt different to me. Maybe it was that we have gone through so much as a community over the past year. Maybe it was that we really took the Lenten tasks of charity, fasting, and hospitality to heart this year. But whatever the reason, I'm very grateful that we have a whole season spent reflecting on the resurrection. I'm glad we, as a church, are not moving on so quickly. I value the time of reflection, to take stock of the world through the lens of new life, and to sit with the "what now?" questions that the story of Easter leads to.

At the end of May, we'll see a little bit more of the

"what now?" and maybe this, too, will feel different. After the season of Easter comes Pentecost. Pentecost happens 50 days after Easter and it is the day we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming to the first disciples. We'll hear the story from Acts 2, with its mighty wind, tongues of fire, and new languages. The idea of spontaneously learning a language, and using that newly found lexicon to spread the message of Christ, has always fascinated me. But I'm beginning to think of this story outside the bounds of language itself. I'm beginning to ask if maybe God has been equipping us, in some way, to speak and act in ways that we haven't before.

In this past year, we have changed. We have been forced to learn new things and, like a new language, we can use what we've learned to spread the gospel in new ways. So what might we have learned this year? How can we use that to carry out our mission to joyfully live the gospel with open hands, open hearts, and open doors? These are the questions our new season of life together inspire in us. I hope we can dream, worship, and find out together.

Peace,
Pastor Bryan

MAY AT ST. PEDER'S

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Join the St. Peder's team on Saturday, May 16 from 9:30-11:15 a.m. for food packing at Feed My Starving Children. Sign up sheet will be posted soon. This is fun family activity open to all ages 5 and up!



NEW MEMBER CLASS AND WELCOME

We will have a new member class on May 3rd and the new members will be welcomed on May 10th. Everyone is welcome to come to the classes if you'd like a refresher on basics of Lutheran theology and a chance to learn more about St. Peder's. The class will be held in the Lounge after some time for refreshments. If you are interested in joining St. Peder's but can't make it to the class, just let Pastor Bryan know by email at pastorbryan@stpeters.org and you can work out a time to meet one-on-one.

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

For the last several months we've been experimenting with using Tith.ely's volunteer sign-ups to coordinate our worship volunteers. We've decided to go back to the old system where volunteers will get assigned to specific dates.



If you are a worship volunteer or would like to become a worship volunteer, please use the QR code on the right to fill out the Summer Worship Volunteer form. The form includes which roles you'd like to volunteer for and dates where you are unavailable to volunteer.

YOUTH AND GRADUATION SUNDAY - MAY 17

Our youth will be helping lead worship on May 17th, which is also the day we will be recognizing our graduating seniors. The youth leading worship will be helping with reading lessons, ushering, leading prayers, and offering special music. If you have a youth in your home who are graduating or interested in helping lead worship, please let us know at office@stpeters.org.

OPEN HANDS | OPEN HEARTS | OPEN DOORS

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND SERVICE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: BRIAN COYLE CENTER

The Brian Coyle Center (420 15th Avenue South, Minneapolis) is seeking volunteers to welcome community members as they pick up food, help folks carry and load groceries into their cars, and accompany people as they walk or drive back home to ensure the safety and comfort of those who utilize the food shelf.

Shifts are available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from noon to 2:30 p.m. during Food Pantry hours and on Produce Distribution Thursdays three times a month from noon to 2 p.m. They encourage folks to sign up for regular shifts.

Reach out to Frances at office@stpeters.org if you are interested in volunteering and your name and information will be sent to the Brian Coyle Center.

NEW RENTER INFORMATION

St. Peder's has been approached by Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors to rent out the lower level of our Education Wing for office space. We are working on lease agreements and ironing out details, but this is a wonderful opportunity for us to be good neighbors and partner with a local organization doing great work.

We will likely be asking for some help in preparing the rooms, such as painting and moving nursery and storage items. Stay tuned for more information on ways you can help!

EASTER FESTIVITIES



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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 March: \$27,976.96

Year to Date: \$72,878.18

Budget for the month: \$25,106.17

Budget Year to Date: \$75,318.51

Expenses

Month of March: \$41,602.67

Year to Date: \$82,195.93

Budget for the month: \$25,106.19

Budget Year to Date: \$75,318.57

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 or contact Mike Menner at 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

MAY 24TH GUEST PREACHER

Pastor Bryan has been invited to be the guest musician at Holden Village's May Youth Retreat over Memorial Day Weekend. Our guest preacher that weekend will be Mikah Meyer. Mikah is a National Park's Expert and has been described as a "Professional Road Tripper" by REI, but he's much more than that: A classically trained singer, award-winning filmmaker of *Canyon Chorus*, and frequent speaker everywhere from Amazon.com's headquarters to National Park Foundation galas.

Mikah is the creator of the Outside Safe Space symbol, which is sold at park gift shops and recreation stores including REI nationwide, and is currently being worn by over 100,000 people in the United States as a non-verbal signifier of LGBTQ+ allyship in outdoor, rural, and active spaces. He has been featured by The Today Show, NPR, Late Night with Seth Meyers, The Guardian, and National Geographic Traveler.

More at mikahmeyer.com or on social media @mikahmey

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.

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 or use the QR code to learn more.



Resource Page

May

2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship 10:15 am New Member Class</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>6 9 am Quilters</p>	<p>7 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 10:30 am Brownies</p>
<p>10 Last week of Faith Formation 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 12 pm Potluck 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>15 Newsletter Articles Due 2 pm Funeral: Nancy Czernek</p>	<p>16 2 pm Fiber Arts</p>
<p>17 YOUTH/GRADUATE SUNDAY 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>20 9 am Quilters 7 pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>21 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 10:30 am Brownies</p>
<p>24 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 9 am Confirmation Retreat</p>
<p>31 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 9 am Confirmation Retreat</p>

MAY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

MAY 3

Greeters:

Ushers: Peter Juhl

Acolyte:

Reader: Leslee Nestingen

Counters: Marcia Rocheleau

Livestream Tech:

Communion Setup:

Communion Servers: Paul Aitchison

Communion Bread & Wine:

LSS Safehouse April 6: Craig & Marcia Rocheleau, Dwight & Kari Bullard

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 3

MAY 10

Greeters:

Ushers: Thomas Goodoien

Acolyte:

Reader:

Counters:

Livestream Tech:

LSS Safehouse April 13: Dale & Jackie West

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 4

MAY 17

Greeters:

Ushers:

Acolyte:

Reader:

Counters:

Livestream Tech:

Communion Setup:

Communion Servers:

Communion Bread & Wine:

LSS Safehouse April 20: Sonja Walker, Joe & Annalise Munnich

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 5

MAY 24

Greeters:

Ushers: Peter Juhl

Acolyte: Walter Anderson

Reader: Martha Olsen

Counters:

Livestream Tech:

LSS Safehouse April 27: Allison & Michael O'Day, Jill & Kerry Audette

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 6

MAY 17

Greeters:

Ushers:

Acolyte:

Reader:

Counters:

Livestream Tech:

LSS Safehouse April 20: Glen & Martha Olsen, Paul & Michelle Aitchison

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 7

MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 3

Holy Communion
9 am Worship
10 am Coffee &
Fellowship

May 10

9 am Worship
10 am Coffee &
Fellowship

May 17

Holy Communion
9 am Worship
10 am Coffee &
Fellowship

May 24

Holy Communion
9 am Worship
10 am Coffee
& Fellowship

May 31

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 46th Avenue and 42nd Street in south Minneapolis.



St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA
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tel: 612-722-8000 | stpeders.org

Church Staff

Pastor:

Bryan Odeen | pastorbryan@stpeders.org

Organist/Music Ministry Coordinator:

Mia Kruse | mia@stpeders.org

Office Coordinator:

Frances Stevenson | office@stpeders.org

Caretaker:

Jim Austin