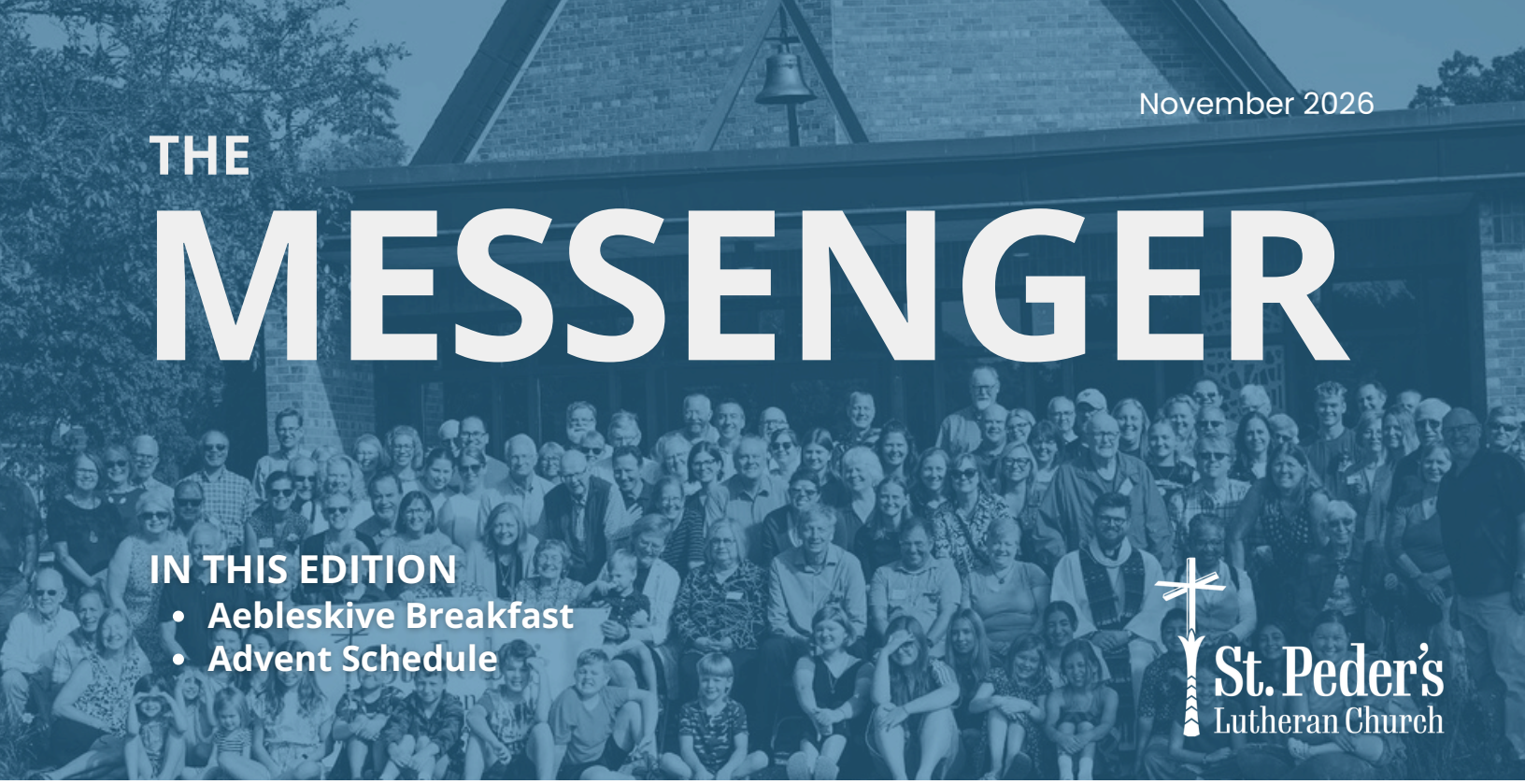


November 2026

THE MESSENGER

IN THIS EDITION

- **Aebleskive Breakfast**
- **Advent Schedule**

St. Peder's Lutheran Church

Greetings in the name of Christ!

"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice."
- Philippians 4:4

At my most recent marathon, I had a humbling experience. The first 20 miles went well - my training, fueling, and hydration plan was working. I was doing something I enjoyed, had some amazing people cheering for me, and it felt great. But there are more than 20 miles in a marathon and the last 6.2 miles did not give me much to be grateful for – leg cramps made me stop to walk or stretch many times. When I finished, I was far over my goal time. But I finished. Despite it all, I finished. And, while I won't pretend I'm proud of my time, I will say that I'm proud that I finished. My gratitude had to shift in those last miles. I wasn't grateful for my situation, but for those around me who would cheer for me - whether they were family, friends, or complete strangers - when things were hard.

We are, I would estimate, in the last 6.2 miles of this year. Perhaps you are feeling, like I was, a sense of defeat, that this year isn't ending as you'd hoped. Maybe you have struggled this year to stay hopeful, joyful, and thankful.

The invitation to gratitude at the end of a hard year can feel trite. In those times, I find it helpful to remember that Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi was written from a prison cell. My guess is that he wasn't excited about his situation. His gratitude, his rejoicing, was from the support of people, the work of God, and the chance see God's grace in his surroundings. His words are not a command, but an invitation to look at the hard times and search for God working through the world and the people around you. That is where we will find our hope, our gratitude, and our joy. God is still at work, even when things are difficult.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice." And I hope you do.

I am grateful for you, even when you're struggling. I am grateful for the ways that you have shown up in the world around you, even when it was hard. And I'm grateful that I get to experience the grace of God with you.

Peace,
Pastor Bryan

NOVEMBER AT ST. PEDER'S

AEBLESKIVE BREAKFAST

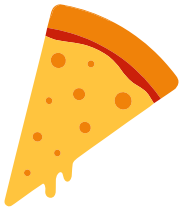


The annual Aebleskive Breakfast is on Sunday, November 8. We will be setting up the Fellowship Hall on Saturday morning, November 7. We are looking for volunteers to help with set up, baking, donating ingredients, milk, jam etc., serving and clean up. Please see Sue Nielsen (suenielsen76@gmail.com or 612-360-3936) if you are interested in helping out. Tak!

CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING - NOVEMBER 22

This serves as official notice that the annual Congregational Budget Meeting is on Sunday, November 22nd after worship at 10:30 a.m. All members are encouraged to attend as we discuss not just budget, but how we use our resources faithfully.

PUB THEOLOGY



Please join us for Pub Theology on Wednesday, November 4, at 6:30 at Parkway Pizza (4359 Minnehaha Ave). As you might notice, November 4 is the day after the 2026 election.

How will we respond to the results of the election? How do we respond if our candidate(s) of choice do not win? How do we reach across the political divide to support and communicate with those whose candidates were not elected on November 3rd? All are welcome to join in the conversation and enjoy a beverage of choice and some good pizza.

GUEST SPEAKER - NOVEMBER 15

On November 15th, we will be joined by representatives from Partners for Community Transformation (PACT). PACT is an organization committed to helping overcome poverty, emphasizing education in Liberia and health care in East Timor. Please stick around after worship to ask questions and get to know more about their mission! More information at www.pact-mn.org.

OPEN HANDS | OPEN HEARTS | OPEN DOORS

COMMUNITY UPDATES

LONGFELLOW/SEWARD HEALTHY SENIORS SEEKING BOARD MEMBER

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors is seeking new members for their board of directors. This position is responsible for contributing to the overall strategic purpose of the organization and providing guidance to ensure its continued growth and success in supporting the health and wellbeing of seniors in the Greater Longfellow and Seward neighborhoods.

LSHS resides in the St. Peder's building and would welcome St. Peder's members to apply for the position if they are interested.

Learn more and apply via the QR code.

REGISTRATION OPEN: SYNOD YOUTH CHOIR

The Minneapolis ELCA Synod is expanding the Synod Youth Choir's impact this year. The year will be filled with meaningful music, worship, and community. The choir is for ages 5 through 18. Learn more and register via the QR code.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE - NOVEMBER 24

In the past few years, we have joined together with Bethel Lutheran and Minnehaha United Methodist to have a joint Thanksgiving worship service. We are excited to join together in worship again this year with another congregation joining us! Holy Cross Lutheran Church (1720 E Minnehaha Pkwy) will be our host this year. We will be gathering on Tuesday, November 24th at 7 PM with a pie social to follow. All are welcome to attend (and please feel free to bring a pie)!

Note that this will be taking the place of our standard weekly Bible study and prayer service.

2026 ADVENT AT A GLANCE

Advent is right around the corner! Here are the dates you need to know:

- November 29th - Advent begins
- December 6th - Gift Sunday (more information below)
- December 13th - Youth Christmas Program
- December 20th - Song Service and Dancing Around the Christmas Tree
- December 24th - Christmas Eve Worship

GIFT SUNDAY: DECEMBER 6



We will celebrate gift Sunday on December 6. It's the day we collect unwrapped gifts for all ages and bring them to the alter during worship service. This year our gifts will once again go to Plymouth Christian Youth Center, PCYC, to support our neighbors in North Minneapolis.

PCYC is a vital neighborhood anchor dedicated to elevating the youth and community of the Northside. For over 70, years they have partnered with families to blend arts, culture, and community-connected education. Whether through their alternative high school, 1st-5 grade summer enrichment, and the legendary Capri Theater, they provide a welcoming environment where young people explore and unlock their creative power and shape their futures.

Each year PCYC hosts a gift sale with the goal of helping youth experience the joy of giving. The Capri becomes a holiday gift 'store' where 500 children can choose gifts for the people they love. We have the opportunity to participate in this spirit-filled event by purchasing gifts to include in the sale. They are in need of NEW items, valued at $10-25, for all ages, infants, elementary and teenage siblings, parents, and grandparents. Each youth is able to select gifts for up to five family members, for a minimal fee, with a pre-purchased ticket. Suggestions for gift ideas can be found on the stars on the Christmas tree outside the fellowship hall or on the lists near the tree. PCYC serves many ethnic backgrounds so gifts that reflect diversity are prized. Monetary donations and gift cards are also welcome. They will be used to purchase items to include in the sale.

Additionally we have the opportunity to volunteer to help sort gifts, stock the pop-up holiday store the week before, and/or help children shop on Saturday, December 12th. Our support will make the holiday season brighter for our Northside neighbors.

For questions about the sale, PCYC, or volunteering, call Kristi Erickson at 612-823-2273, PCYC at 612-643-2092, or visit pcyc-mpls.org/gift-sale.

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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 September: $37,641.81
Year to Date: $241,879.66

Budget for the month: $25,106.17
Budget Year to Date: $225,955.53

Expenses

Month of September: $44,592.76
Year to Date: $232,713.91

Budget for the month: $25,106.19
Budget Year to Date: $225,955.71

Mission Support to Minneapolis Area Synod $4,000 YTD

FRIENDSGIVING WITH OUR EMMA NORTON NEIGHBORS

Emma Norton Services is one of our closest neighbors—located just across the river in Highland Bridge. Emma Norton, founded in 1917, provides transformational housing and growth to women, individuals, and small families on their journey of recovery from homelessness. Last year, we had a wonderful Friendsgiving event at Restoring Waters with 30+ residents and they are excited to have us back again. This year is especially important as we know that many safety nets, including food support, are being eroded for our most vulnerable neighbors. Coming together to share a meal provides nourishment and builds community! For questions, please reach out to member Shawna Nelsen-Wills at snelsen@emmanorton.org.

Bring a Thanksgiving-inspired dish to share, potluck style! Friendsgiving will happen after our Budget Meeting on November 22 from Noon to 1:30 p.m. A sign up sheet will be available in the office.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to St. Peder's newest members: Paula Marty; Ann, Brad, Juliet, & Gabriel Fisher; Ann Terlizzi and Devon & Owen Colliton; Nick & Abby Voight; Rachel Johnson; and Mary Jones.

Congratulations to our confirmation graduates: Walter Anderson, Fletcher Campbell, Ayla Gelvez, Mar Odeen, and Isla Wills.

November 2026

St. Peder's Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship	2 7 pm Pre-Election Prayer Service	3 Election Day No Bible Study or Prayer Service	4 9 am Quilters	5 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	6	7 11 am Funeral - Marilynn Paulson 2 pm Fiber Arts
8 9 am Worship 10 am Æbleskive Sunday	9	10 9 am Healthy Seniors Dancing 12 pm Potluck 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service	11 7 pm Council Meeting	12 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	13	14
15 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship	16	17 9 am Healthy Seniors Dancing 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Prayer Service	18 **Newsletter Articles Due** 9 am Quilters	19 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	20	21 10 am Deaf Blind Club 2 pm Fiber Arts
22 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Congregational Budget Meeting	23	24 9 am Healthy Seniors Dancing 7 pm Thanksgiving Service at Holy Cross Lutheran	25	26 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	27	28
29 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee Fellowship	30					

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 1

Greeters: Allison & Michael O'Day
Ushers: Bethene & Eric Hunsberger
Acolyte: Hattie Odeen
Reader: Allison O'Day
Counters: Marcia Rocheleau & Eva Tangen
Livestream Tech: JeriLynn Young

Communion Setup: Lisa Jensen & Judy Anderson
Communion Servers: Melanie Carlson, Wendy Legge & Peter Juhl
Communion Bread & Wine: Lisa Jensen
LSS Safehouse Nov 2: Dale & Jackie West
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 5

NOVEMBER 8 - Aebleskive Sunday

Greeters: Eva Tangen & Melanie Carlson
Ushers: Susan Schnickel & Paul Aitchison
Acolyte: Maren Odeen
Reader: JeriLynn Young
Counters: Annalise Munnich & Lisa Jensen

Livestream Tech: Melanie Carlson
LSS Safehouse Nov 8: Craig & Marcia Rocheleau, Dwight & Kari Bullard
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: N/A

NOVEMBER 15

Greeters: Karen & Dan Vetsch
Ushers: Tom Goodoien & Wendy Legge
Acolyte: Elena Wilson
Reader: Bethany Albing
Counters: Cameron Jamison & Doreen Skraba
Livestream Tech: Karen Vetsch

Communion Setup: Kristi Lahti-Johnson & Chuck Johnson
Communion Servers: Kristi Lahti-Johnson, Chuck Johnson & Cameron Jamison
Communion Bread & Wine: Karen Vetsch
LSS Safehouse Nov 16: Sonja Walker, Joe & Annalise Munnich
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 6

NOVEMBER 22

Greeters: Bethene & Eric Hunsberger
Ushers: Peter Juhl & Cameron Jamison
Acolyte: Augie Wollak
Reader: Susan Gantriis
Counters: Annalise Munnich & Melanie Carlson

Livestream Tech: Cameron Jamison
LSS Safehouse Nov 23: Glen & Martha Olsen, Paul & Michelle Aitchison
Every Meal Nov 20: Karen Vetsch
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 7

NOVEMBER 29

Greeters: Lisa Jensen & Paul Aitchison
Ushers: Craig Rochealeau & Curt Petersen
Acolyte: Walter Anderson
Reader: Dan Vetsch
Counters: Cameron Jamison & Wendy Legge

Livestream Tech: JeriLynn Young
LSS Safehouse Nov 30: Jim & Heidi Nelsen
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 8

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

November 1
Holy Communion
9 am Worship
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

November 8
9 am Worship
10 am Aebleskive Breakfast

November 15
Holy Communion
9 am Worship
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

November 22
9 am Worship
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

November 29
9 am Worship
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

OPEN HANDS | OPEN HEARTS | OPEN DOORS

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.

SCAN ME

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 Lutheran Church

St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA
4600 E 42nd St | Minneapolis, MN 55406
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

Choir Director:
John Bendt | choir@stpeders.org

Caretaker:
Jim Austin