



St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Parish

Visitor

June / July 2019

418 East Sumner Street
Northfield, MN 55057

507.645.8252

www.northfieldstp.org

Church office hours:
Monday–Friday
8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Worship

Sundays 9:00 a.m.
Wednesdays (Sept-May) 6:15 p.m.

Education

Sundays 10:10 a.m.
Wednesdays (Sept-May) 6:45 p.m.

Staff

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What's Inside

Pg. 2	News from Upstairs
Pg. 3	Music Notes
Pg. 4-5	Calendars
Pg. 6	Volunteers
Pg. 7	Announcements
Pg. 8	Endowment Fund Update
Pg. 9	Council Highlights



From Pastor David

Dear Friends in Christ,

The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit. John 3:8.

The Bible begins by announcing that in the beginning the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, “while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.” NRSV. Some translations read the “breath of God” while others say “spirit of God.” Each translation is correct but insufficient. The Hebrew word *ruach* means wind/breath/spirit. In English, the translator must choose one.

June 9 is Pentecost Sunday when we celebrate God’s sending the Holy Spirit upon Jesus’ followers and creating the Church. In Acts 2, the arrival of the Spirit sounded like the sound of a violent wind. In the Gospel of John, when Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection, he breathed on them.

Wind is nothing more than the perceptible movement of air from one place to another. So long as there is wind, there is life.

God’s creation of both the world and the church is an ongoing process. God did not create life on planet earth 3.5 billion years ago and then quit creating. Nor did God just create the Church, or fellowship of believers.

The wind is certainly a factor when out on group bike rides. It takes a lot more effort to head straight into the wind, while a gusty side wind can push you around considerably. A tailwind is always welcome

as it takes considerably less effort.

Today’s Church is not the Church in which I grew up. I will admit and acknowledge that I miss some things about my childhood church. I’m also grateful that some things have changed. It’s a good thing that some attitudes and behaviors have died and it’s a good thing that new opportunities have sprouted and taken root.

Many Christians (self-included) have expressed concern about changes in Christ’s Church, i.e., declining worship attendance, decreasing revenue, busier personal schedules, etc. What if our worries are nothing more than our riding into God’s Spirit? What if our concerns about changes and losses are in fact a fighting against God’s wind/breath/spirit? As I stated in the first sentence of this paragraph, the Church is Christ’s—not mine nor yours—and God continues to breathe life into God’s people.

It’s spring. All the new growth in our gardens, fields, and yards are feasting on last year’s death. “Death is something empires worry about, not something gardeners worry about,” Rachel Held Evans. Could it be that we as Christians have misunderstood our calling—while we thought God was calling us to build an empire, our true calling is to be gardeners?

As followers of Jesus, we are in the death and resurrection business. As followers of Jesus, we know that when and where there is wind, there is life. In the coming Pentecost season, I invite you to note and give thanks for God’s Spirit of love and mercy which has always and will always shape and give life to the world which God loves.

*Peace,
Pastor David*

News from Upstairs

by Julie Klock, Faith Formation

Sunday School:

A HUGE thank you to our teachers: Kristin Harner, Cariann Strauch, Terra Wierson, and Nicky Olson for another wonderful year of Sunday School. You may never know the ways you are touching lives, but your dedication is wonderful, appreciated, and it matters!

Also, parents! For getting your kids here, for helping to guide our programs, for backing up classrooms, and reinforcing lessons at home, BRAVO! Passing on the faith rests most heavily with you, and you are doing a grand job.

Enjoy the camps and outings planned for summer, come for worship and coffee when you can, and we'll embark upon a new year of learning September 15th.

VBS is Almost Here:



Vacation Bible School is going to be a fantastic adventure! June 10-13, 9-11:30 for children aged 3 through entering 3rd grade. This year we will be at St. John's Lutheran, 500 3rd St W, Northfield, MN 55057. You can register at our website:

northfieldstp.org/summer-programming

We are also looking for volunteers, including teens, to help out. If you are a grandparent providing summer care, please feel free to register your grandchild! All children are welcome, regardless of church affiliation (even none!)

New this Summer!

Casual Family Gatherings - St. Peter's Families will get together for fun and friendship most weeks over the summer in and around Northfield. Here's what's planned for June and July:

June 21: Picnic and Play at Way Park

June 26: Dundas Dukes/Memorial Park

July 10: Old Memorial Pool

July 19: Hike at Hauberg Woods

July 24: Kickball/Softball, Sechlar Park

July 31: Gaga Ball and other games, Tyler Park

You are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to join you at these events! Details will be sent with the weekly email to parents. Everyone is welcome. For more info, call the church 507.645.8252 or look at our website under summer programs



Acolytes Needed for Summer Sundays:

Watch your inbox for an email from Julie with the acolyte schedule for the summer. With people going to the lake, participating in sports, and weekend adventures, it's hard to predict who'll be around over the summer (and Pastor and Julie will be gone from time to time too!) so please let us know if you can't be here on your assigned Sunday as soon as possible!

Y.A.G.M.:

The ELCA **Young Adults in Global Mission** program (YAGM) invites ELCA young adults ages 21-29 into a year-long journey in international service. The program asks young adults to become the hands and feet of Jesus in the world, providing critical support to ministries and projects in communities of need. Current YAGM country programs include: Argentina/Uruguay, Australia, Cambodia, Central Europe, Jerusalem/West Bank, Madagascar, Mexico, Rwanda, Senegal, Southern Africa and United Kingdom.

Maddi Froiland, who has served as one of St. Peter's Youth Interns for the past two years, has been selected for this program. She will be sent to Jerusalem/West Bank beginning in August. It costs roughly \$15,000 to send one YAGM to their country program. Through the generosity of the ELCA, \$10,000 of this is already covered. Maddi needs to raise the remaining \$5,000. If you would like to help support her work, please make a contribution at support.elca.org/goto/maddifroiland.

Good Earth Day Camp @ St. Peter's:

St. Peter's will host a Good Earth Village Day Camp in August. This is for elementary school students and is open to friends as well. **Register before it fills - only 32 spots available.** You can find the link at our website (northfieldstp.org/summer-programming).

Camp runs 8:30-4:30 every day - except Friday when it ends at noon. Cost is \$65/ camper.

We have funds available for scholarships and sibling discounts. As always, friends and cousins are welcome. We can use older siblings or friends as High School and Middle School student volunteers. Contact Julie about volunteering.



STORIES
woven
good earth village
August 5-9

Middle School SonShine Days This Summer



Announcing SonShine Days for **Middle School Students!** Let's get together for three fun events with other Northfield churches while school is out.

JUNE 10 - **The Sandwich Project** (Making 500 Sandwiches for hungry people)

JULY 19 - **Sky Zone** (Just for fun)

AUGUST 21 - **Feed My Starving Children** (Food for the World)

Music Notes

by Mary Kay Bougie, Coordinator of Music

"Summertime... and the livin' is easy..." (from *Porgy and Bess*, Gershwin)

As I write this, the worship choir has finished another "school" year of weekly rehearsals and singing their regular line-up of church services. The bells will play their last selections of the season on Sunday. So often we think of summer as our kids do – it's break time! But... don't forget, that worship continues. What a fortunate opportunity to be able to attend church year-round. We don't need to wait 3 months before being seen again amongst other believers in the pews!

What I have enjoyed through the years of vacationing in the summer months, is to check out how churches elsewhere "do" worship! (Don't tell anyone, but I may have even stepped into a church that's not Lutheran!) What I have found is that even if the summer may bring fewer people into church, Jesus is still there. Perhaps without the exciting anthem from the choir or weekly Sunday School programing - "quieter" time in worship is what we all need to recharge our souls.

Sundays and Seasons, our ELCA resource book that the staff follows through the liturgical year talks about summer music and prayer. They say, "in addition to considering what we sing, congregations should consider making room for silence and reflection." I've long heard the phrase, when talking about sacred music, that "God speaks during the rests, too".

So even though you may not hear the choir sing, the bells play, or the Sunday School kids perform, I encourage you this summer to listen to how God is speaking to you in the quietude. And if you have a destination outside of Northfield this summer, look for a place to worship – Jesus is there! And let me leave you with a Celtic blessing for your summer journeys,

The Path:

*God bless the path on which you go
God bless the earth beneath your feet
God bless your destination.
God be a smooth way before you
A guiding star above you
A keen eye behind you
This day, this night, and forever.
God be with you whatever you pass*

*Jesus be with you whatever you climb
Spirit be with you wherever you stay.
God be with you at each stop and each sea
At each lying down and each rising up
In the trough of the waves, on the crest of the billows.
Each step of the journey you take.*


- Celtic Blessings, *Prayers for Everyday Life*, compiled by Ray Simpson (Loyola Press 1999)

See you in the Pews!

Mary Kay



June Events & Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Outdoor Worship this Summer</p> <p>As the weather will allow, on the 4th Sunday of June, July & August, we will be singing with the birds while worshipping in God's creation, the beautiful outdoors.</p>  <p><i>If your birthday was not listed, please contact the Church Office and we will add your birthday to our database. Thanks!</i></p>						<p>1</p> <p>Happy Birthday Janie Anderson Tanner Peterson</p>
<p>2</p> <p>9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Coffee & Fellowship with birthday reception for Janie Anderson 6:40 pm St. Peter's Softball vs. Trinity Red @ Sechler #2</p> <p>Happy Birthday Merlin Bauer John Rowan</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Happy Birthday Tanner Kimber Ella Palmquist Eric Schrader Patricia Shaw</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 am Staff Meeting</p> <p>Happy Birthday Bruce Jensen</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:45 am Breakfast Club</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern 8:00 am BGs 3:15 pm BeFriends</p> <p>Happy Birthday Dan Johnson Nancy Johnson Bruce Martinson Dottie Scharber Thomas Westlund</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30 am LUV Quilters</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Happy Birthday Pamela Sholtz Phyllis Swanson</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship w/ Community Connection: Howard White on Climate Change 5:00 - 8:00 pm Al Croone Visitation 7:50 pm St. Peter's Softball vs. Trinity Blue @ Babcock</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 am Al Croone Funeral 7:00 pm Mission Endowment Fund Meeting</p> <p>Happy Birthday Marilyn Dewar Michael Eaves Scott Hallcock Alenandra Lane Tricia Streitz</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 am Hannah Circle 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Church Council</p> <p>Happy Birthday Terry Johnson Andrew Stoesz</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Happy Birthday Noah Bakken Larry DeBoer</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern 10:00 am New Spirit Cir 7:00 pm Canton of Nordleigh (see their facebook page for information! Open to the public)</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Happy Birthday Jenny Schoenbauer</p>
Northfield area Vacation Bible School at St. John's, June 10-13						
<p>16</p> <p>FATHER'S DAY 7:30 am Sharing & Caring Hands 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:10 am Blessing of the Bikes 10:30 am New Member Class 7:50 pm St. Peter's Softball vs. St. Dominic Johnnys @ Sechler #1</p> <p>Happy Birthday Sam Harner</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:45 am SOLOS</p> <p>Happy Birthday Elizabeth Triplett</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 am Staff Meeting 11:30 am NRC Lunch w/ Pastor David 2:00 pm Rachel Circle</p> <p>Happy Birthday Josephine Dockstader</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Happy Birthday Nicole Hallcock Dennis Kenison Steve Picha</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern</p> <p>Happy Birthday Jim Lamb</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 am LUV Quilters 6:00 pm Youth Family Event: Picnic at Way Park</p> <p>Happy Birthday Heather Hoffman</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Happy Birthday Joseph Gilligan Albertina Knudsen Andrew Schmitz Paul Wegner</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:00 am Outdoor Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:10 am New Member Class 6:40 pm St. Peter's Softball vs. UMC @ Sechler #2</p> <p>Happy Birthday Vicki Behr Mary Ann Johnson Brent Kasel</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Happy Birthday Bob Anderson Tim Babbini Megan Culhane</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 am Staff Meeting</p> <p>Happy Birthday Lily Landry John Olson Reed Sommers</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:00/7:30 pm Youth Family Event: Picnic & Dundas Dukes Game</p> <p>Happy Birthday Debra Boyum Jennifer Riley James Topp</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern</p> <p>Happy Birthday Elizabeth Boyum Anika Wiersen</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Happy Birthday Nathan Quinell</p>	<p>29</p>

Check www.northfieldstp.org for calendar changes, additions or corrections.

July Events & Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 30 9:00 am Worship, Receive New Members 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 6:40 pm St. Peter's Softball vs. Hosanna Disciples @ Babcock Happy Birthday Carrie Quinnell Anne Sholtz	1 Happy Birthday David Wille	2 9:00 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Ministry Teams Meeting Happy Birthday Donna Fratzke Glen Kimber Madeline Riley	3 Happy Birthday Barbara Johnson Amy Sholtz	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY Offices Closed Happy Birthday Patti Baker Michael Chapman Karlo Fischer Michael Truax	5 8:00 am Women's Fellowship, The Tavern Happy Birthday Seth Linder Sandra Strachan Drew Teske	6 Happy Birthday Brody Little
Volunteer to deliver Meals-on-Wheels 6/30 - 7/13. (Sign up early to volunteer -contact Jolene Manzey or see the church Welcome Center desk.)						
7 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship Happy Birthday Richard Goehzt Keith Harner	8 10:00 am New Spirit Cir	9 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 am Hannah Circle 7:00 pm Church Council Happy Birthday Marilyn Finneseth Catherine Miller Jessica Olson Kim Trebelhorn	10 6:00 pm Youth Family Event: Old Memorial Pool swimming Happy Birthday Josh Corbin Ethan Finger Michael Hart Ramona Pumper	11 7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern 8:00 am BGs 7:00 pm Canton of Nordleigh Happy Birthday John Erickson Karen Kimber Grace Martin Richard Ozmun Elmer Pumper	12 Happy Birthday Elijah Bridley	13 Happy Birthday Wes Anderson Victoria Finger Maren Simonson
Volunteer to deliver Meals-on-Wheels 6/30 - 7/13. (Sign up early to volunteer -contact Jolene Manzey or see the church Welcome Center desk.)						
14 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 6:40 pm St. Peter's Softball vs. Emmaus @ Sechler #1 Happy Birthday Bryn Bridley Eleanor Olson Hunter Payne Chelsea Trebelhorn	15 11:45 am SOLOS AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 9:00 am Staff Meeting 11:30 am NRC Lunch w/ Pastor David 2:00 pm Rachel Circle Happy Birthday Amy Hughes	17 Happy Birthday Kelley Erickson	18 7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern Happy Birthday Arthur Bergee Ethan Hamblin Geraldine Jasan Scott Sevcik	19 8:00 am Women's Fellowship 6:00 pm Youth Family Event: Hike at Hauberg Woods	20 Happy Birthday Bruce Albers Claire Hill
21 7:30 am Sharing & Caring Hands 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:10 am Discussion on ELCA and abortion, Fireside Room 6:00 pm St. Peter's Softball vs. Life21 @ Sechler #2 Happy Birthday Nancy Schoenbauer	22 Happy Birthday Jayne Hager Dee Norma Lundell Sophie Sevcik	23 9:00 am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Sean Simonson	24 6:00 pm Youth Family Event: Kickball/Softball at Sechler Park Happy Birthday Rona Kasel Kennedy Larsen	25 7:00 am Table Talk, The Tavern Happy Birthday Ali Little	26 Happy Birthday Justine Gerlach Charlene Hamblin JoAnne Olson Riley Sabyan	27 Happy Birthday Deb Metz Avery Valek
28 9:00 am Outdoor Worship 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:10 am Discussion on ELCA and abortion, Fireside Room 6:00 pm St. Peter's Softball vs. St. Dominic White @ Babcock Happy Birthday Robert Rasmussen	29	30 9:00 am Staff Meeting Happy Birthday Isaac Estrem Marilyn Hill Bette Lee Matthew Saari Sheryl Trebelhorn	31 6:00 pm Youth Family Event: Gagaball & other games at Tyler Park Happy Birthday Duane Peterson Neale Thompson	<div> <div> HAPPY BIRTHDAY & GOD BLESS AMERICA! </div>  </div>		

Check www.northfieldstp.org for calendar changes, additions or corrections.

June, July & August Worship Leaders

Thank you, volunteers! If you are unable to assist on the date assigned, please change with someone else on the list and contact the church office so that the bulletin can be updated: **(507) 645-8252**

Date	Time	Ushers	Reader	Comm. Setup	Comm. Servers	Hospitality
June 2	9:00 a.m.	Joan Paulson Ramona Pumper Lael Weselmann Mona Weselmann	Larry DeBoer	Patti Baker	Brian Peterson Mary Peterson Becca Peterson	Mary Bleckwehl Mary Franzen Lyle Gunderson Nancy Gunderson
June 9	9:00 a.m.	Richard DeBeau Doris Welke Dale Ness Linda Ness	Diane Boyum			Diane Boyum Les Lundell Norma Lundell Ruth McCarty
June 16	9:00 a.m.	Dan Hagen Shari Hagen Lorraine Rovig Bette Lee	Nancy Solberg	Evonne Clay	Mary Bleckwehl Dale Ness Linda Ness	Connie Albers Mark Albers Patti Baker Kristen Dennison
June 23 <i>outdoor worship, weather permitting</i>	9:00 a.m.	Brad Anderson Laura Gilligan Brian Peterson Mary Peterson	Julia Daly			Evonne Clay Marilyn Finneseth Doris Hill Eldon Hill
June 30	9:00 a.m.	David Boyum Debra Boyum Larry DeBoer Pam DeBoer	Lorraine Rovig			Jayne Hager Dee Dennis Hahn Janet Hahn Carmen Sevcik
July 7	9:00 a.m.	Faith Bergemann Scott Bergemann Diane Boyum Neale Thompson	Mike Eaves	Bill Bleckwehl	Laura Gilligan Dan Hagen Sheri Hagan	Lorraine Lemke Reinhold Lemke Sheila Roehrick Mary Boyum
July 14	9:00 a.m.	Evonne Clay Mary Franzen Lorraine Lemke Reinhold Lemke	Marilyn Finneseth			Ramona Pumper Kathie Westlund Lyle Gunderson Nancy Gunderson
July 21	9:00 a.m.	JoAnne Olson Phil Olson Diane Peterson Gary Peterson	Jolene Manzey	Brian Peterson	Richard DeBeau Carmen Sevcik Michon Weeks	Barb Anderson Marilyn Hill Nancy Solberg Emery Solberg
July 28 <i>outdoor worship, weather permitting</i>	9:00 a.m.	Beth Eaves Mike Eaves Sheryl Kleppe Jolene Manzey	Carmen Sevcik			Mickey Brodin Janet Gilbertson Joan Paulson Carol Irwin
August 4	9:00 a.m.	Brad Anderson Mary Bleckwehl Carol Irwin Ruth McCarty	Laura Gilligan	Bill Bleckwehl	Sheryl Kleppe Jolene Manzey Phil Olson	Dale Ness Linda Ness Lorraine Rovig Thelma Winter
August 11	9:00 a.m.	Connie Albers Mark Albers Carmen Sevcik Gary Stein	Steve Hill			JoAnne Olson Phil Olson Brian Peterson Mary Peterson
August 18	9:00 a.m.	Linda Blaisdell Dennis Hahn Janet Hahn Bette Lee	Dan Hagen	Mary Peterson	Jane Albers Claire Hill Nancy Solberg	Mavis Bell Mary Boyum Richard DeBeau Doris Welke
August 25 <i>outdoor worship, weather permitting</i>	9:00 a.m.	Jane Albers Sheila Roehrick Phil Winter Thelma Winter	Bill Bleckwehl			Mary Bleckwehl Diane Boyum Lyle Gunderson Nancy Gunderson



Women's Circles

LUV Quilters
Fridays, June 7 & 21
at 8:30 a.m.

Women's Fellowship
Fridays, June 7 & 21
& July 5 & 19 at 8:00 a.m.

New Spirit Circle
Thurs, June 13 & Mon, July 8
at 10:00 a.m.

Hannah Circle
Tuesday, June 11 & July 9
at 9:00 a.m.

Eve Circle
Summer Break
*Will start meeting again in
September*

Rachel Circle
Tuesday, June 18 & July 16
at 2:00 p.m.



All singles, men and women,
are welcome for lunch with
the SOLOs at 11:45 am:

**Monday, June 17 at
Boonie's Grill**

AND 11:45 am:

**Monday, July 15 at
Nick's Diner, Cannon Falls**
*Then to Hazel Peterson's
on the lake*

Questions? Call:
Hazel Peterson **(645-9276)**
Phyllis Swanson **(645-4231)**

Meals on Wheels

Meal on Wheels sign-up is underway. St. Peter's is responsible for delivery of meals June 30 - July 13. This is a much-needed service to our community, and a wonderful opportunity for families to do good together! There are two weekends and 4-5 routes each day so grab your kids or grandkids and let them help you! You will bring a double blessing to the recipients, and teach your children the joy of serving at the same time. Sign up at the Welcome Center, or contact coordinator Jolene Manzey at 507.645.2543.



Community Connection: Climate Discussion with Howard White

June 9th during the coffee hour, help us welcome Howard White to lead the conversation on climate change. Howard will help us look at it from a spiritual perspective.

Thanks, Phyllis

Thanks to long-time member Phyllis Finger for placing the 125th Anniversary Booklet in the St. Peter's archives. The archives are located in the narthex display cabinet. - Phyllis Swanson

Summer Hours

Because of the busy summer with holidays, events and more, St. Peter's staff may not have constant office hours for the summer months.

We will make every effort to have someone in the office, weekdays, between 9 and noon, but please call ahead if you need to stop by. If you need to leave a message, know that we will return your calls and emails as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience and have a blessed summer!

St. Peter's Church Softball League Games

There are lots of opportunities to spend time outside at the ball park this summer! See the calendar here for catching a game of our own St. Peter's.



If anyone interested in playing there is still opportunity. Please get in touch with Troy Nysteen.

Announcements

A Difficult Topic Important to So Many: ELCA's Social Statement on Abortion

In 1973, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that state laws that banned abortion were unconstitutional. Though this ruling was 46 years ago, the debate remains alive and deeply emotional. In the last few years, court appointees have given hope to some and fear to others that *Roe vs Wade* will be overturned. In the last couple of months, a few states have passed more restrictive laws, thus setting up a challenge to the Supreme Court's 1973 ruling.

Faithful, committed Christians are active and passionate on both sides of this issue. In 1991, the ELCA adopted a Social Statement on Abortion which seeks to frame the conversation differently than pitting the rights of the fetus with the rights of the mother.

We are well aware that this is a difficult and emotion-packed conversation. All of us disagree on this issue with people we love and respect. Some might think it would be wiser for us to not discuss difficult and challenging topics in the church as it might make waves. However, we believe the church should not shy away from difficult topics. We take our cue from Jesus who constantly challenged the status quo and made uncomfortable those who were comfortable in their own self-righteousness.

"This church encourages its members to participate in the public debate on abortion in a spirit of respect for those with whom they differ. Committed to a process of raising and deliberating the difficult and unresolved questions, this church encourages its members, informed by faith understandings and by their conscience, to decide and act on this issue in ways that are responsive to God and to the needs of the neighbor." ELCA Social Statement on Abortion.

On July 21 & 28, we will have a conversation about abortion, using the ELCA's Social Statement to frame our conversation. The conversation will be in the Fireside Room after worship.

Endowment Fund Update

FORMED:

The Mission Endowment fund was established and adopted by the Congregation Council on January 29, 1994.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Mission Endowment Fund, and the committee/team that manages the fund, is to enhance the work of St. Peter's Church by establishing new stewardship opportunities through planned and deferred giving strategies. These strategies are in addition to the General Operating Budget. The committee/team is responsible for investing and managing the accumulated resources.

DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME:

Gifts and bequests to the fund shall accumulate with principle invested, and the income generated from the investment of the principle shall be expended.

STATUS:

As of March 31, 2019, the principle of this St. Peter's Endowment Fund was \$257,624. Our fund along with other ELCA congregational endowment funds are administered by the ELCA headquarters through an investment firm. The income generated from our St. Peter's fund is available for investments in:

1. Outreach into the community and synod
2. Missions of the ELCA
3. Capital improvements, debt reduction, and building programs

Our St. Peter's gifts and bequests to our Endowment Fund in the last few years has been very minimal. We need to rededicate ourselves to further build this Endowment Fund for our St. Peter's future opportunities, needs, and financial security. Our goal for principle is \$500,000, or more, by 2025.

GIVING OPTIONS:

- A. Your will - after providing for you loved ones, St. Peter's can be named as a beneficiary. Choose a certain dollar amount or property.
- B. A living revocable trust - St. Peter's can be named as a beneficiary. Choose a certain dollar amount or property.
- C. Your insurance program - name St. Peter's as a beneficiary for a percentage of the policy or create a policy just for St. Peter's.
- D. Cash gift in honor or memory of someone.
- E. Stock gift of appreciated stock to avoid taxes on capital gains.
- F. IRA gift - if 70.5 years of age, gifts made from your IRA (up to \$100,000/yr) are not reportable as taxable income. IRA Charitable Rollover Gifts also qualify for your required minimum distribution which can lower your income and taxes.

Check, stock, or IRA gifts should be written and mailed to:

St. Peter's Lutheran Endowment Fund
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Attn: Dennis McClintock, Financial Administrator
418 Sumner Street E.
Northfield, MN 55057

Also, please inform Dennis if you set up a contribution in your will, estate, or insurance so we have an accurate record in our church files. We recommend you consult with your lawyer, tax advisor, or financial advisor on question or you may contact one of our committee members.

Thank you for considering St. Peter's Endowment Fund.

Your St. Peter's Endowment Committee: Dennis Berry, Eldon Hill, Phil Olson,
Tom Picha, Tom Tollefson, and Phil Winter.



Council Highlights

May 14, 2019 • 7:00 p.m.

Present: Bougie, Eaves, C. Hill, S. Hill, Kleppe, Lee, Picha, Sillanpa, Pastor Weeks, Julie Klock

Approval of the Agenda: motion to approve the agenda was made by Lee and seconded by Bougie – all voted yes

Devotions & Book Discussion: Pastor David read from the book, The Mission Table by Stephen B. Bouman. The Council discussed chapter 3.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve April minutes was made by Lee and seconded by Kleppe – all voted yes

• **Staff Reports:**

- **Pastor David:** A written report was submitted. Highlights include:
 - Ministry Team met first Tuesday.
 - Easter had two services at 7am/9am- council discussed the time options – similar attendance as last year when there were three services 7am/8:30am/10:45am.
 - Outdoor worship will be offered 4th Sunday of June, July and August.
 - There will be a new member class offered starting June 16.
 - Third annual blessing of the bikes will be June 16.
 - Faith on Tap will not meet over the summer and will return in the fall.
 - A Girl Scout troop will be donating a food pantry to put out in the yard of St. Peters – please help stock it with food.
 - Check out our new website.
- **Julie Klock** shared information about current and upcoming youth ministries. A written report was submitted. Highlights include:
 - In the process of hiring 2 College students to work at St. Peters (about 5-7 hrs per week).
 - Faith Formation team met – a brochure was created with dates of summer events and dates to know for the upcoming school year.
 - Make sure to add activity dates to your calendars
 - There will be a St. Peters flag so our group can be easily spotted at the gatherings.
 - May 12 was the last day of Sunday School for this school year. The children will sing in worship on May 19 and then enjoy ice cream at coffee hour and some time at Sibley playground.
 - UpsideDown Sundays had low attendance which has led to a decision not to do them during the 2019-20 school year. There will still be two events downstairs on Sunday mornings: Advent Fair Dec 1 and Mardi Gras breakfast Feb 23.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Tom Picha gave the financial report. A written report was submitted.
 - Offerings have been down lately which is impacting the budget. The congregation is encouraged to consider signing up for automatic electronic giving. This is helpful for weeks that are lower in attendance.
 - Agenda for next month: capital projects.
- **Bathroom Project Update:** Steve Schmidt is pricing the new bathroom and we'll get more information soon. Decision to hire Steve Schmidt was approved. Bougie is working with Schmidt.
- **Sabbatical Leave Policy:** S. Hill drafted a sabbatical leave policy. Council members should read the policy and we will discuss the policy at the June meeting. Bring feedback/changes to the meeting. We'll talk to the congregation about it before voting on the final draft.
- **Updates to the Middle School Classroom:** We'd like a big open space for day camp and other programming. Plan is to get rid of old furniture and change the name to Activity Room. Julie will work on a proposal for the Council to review.
- **Synod Assembly Offering Challenge:** St. Johns is challenging 10 congregations to give at least \$250 – they have challenged us to become involved. Pastor Weeks made a motion to use \$500 from the Undesignated Memorial Fund to use to make this donation. C. Hill seconded. All approved.
- **Ministry Teams:** Council members will be serving as liaisons to the ministry teams. Property committee: Bougie; Music & Worship: Eaves, C. Hill; Stewardship: S. Hill; Faith Formation: Sillanpa; Outreach: Kleppe; Congregational Life: Bougie. The next ministry team mtgs are first Tuesday in July at 7pm.
- **Offering Collection Schedule:** schedule was passed around and Council members signed up.
- **Closing:** The meeting closed at 8:32 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting is June 11 at 7pm in the Fireside Room, St. Peters Lutheran Church.
Submitted by Amy Sillanpa, Secretary



**Evangelical
Lutheran**
Church in America

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

St. Peter's Mission Statement:
Believe, Belong, Become.
To express God's love and
grace in building a community
where people believe in God,
belong to Christ,
and become disciples who
serve in day to day living.

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Sick? Hospitalized?

Please contact the Church
Office if you would like a
visit from Pastor Weeks.

(507) 645-8252

Or visit
[www.northfieldstp.org/
prayers-and-announcements](http://www.northfieldstp.org/prayers-and-announcements)



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Permit Number 121

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(507) 645-8252

August Publication Deadline July 15

You may email information to
terrawierson@northfieldstp.org



Like us on
Facebook

St. Peter's Lutheran/Northfield

*A ministry request form is now on our website at
www.northfieldstp.org, under the ministry tab.*

We wouldn't want anyone to have nothing to do this summer... (and there's more on every page) !



Sunday, June 16
10:00 a.m.

From Huffys to Harleys
All bikes and trikes welcome!

Ride over!

Meet in the parking lot for a blessing with
Pastor David & safety tips from our own
Northfield Bike Patrol Officer Wierson.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

St. Paul Saints vs.
Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
CHS Field | Friday, August 30th
Coach bus leaves St. Peter's at 5:30 pm
Game & Transportation: \$38
Contact Pat Picha: 507-645-7813
OR picha6@charter.net

St. Peter's will again be taking a bus to the
St. Paul Saint's game this summer at the CHS
Field, Friday, August 30. Meet at the St. Peter's
parking lot to ride the coach bus. Bus will leave
at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale now at the
Welcome Center desk.

\$38 covers
your ticket and
transportation.

There are 25
spots in total
and the tickets will be first come, first served.
Secure your ticket before they're gone!



Pastor David will be holding a new
member class Sundays, June 16
& 23. Attendees will meet others
from the congregation, learn
about St. Peters and will have the
chance to join if they so wish. New
Members will be officially received
during worship June 30.

Anyone is welcome (even current
members who want a refresher!).

The June 16 class will start right
after the Blessing of the Bikes.