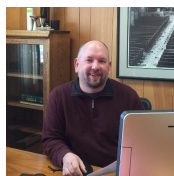


# The Messenger



## In the Interim by Eric Luedtke, Interim Pastor Making an Impression

Do you ever think about the kind of impression you make on others? Sure, we all do. Some of us may even dwell on what we perceive others have thought about us to the extent that it distracts us from what we are intended to be doing.

Have you ever thought about the kind of impression Jesus made in different places? Think about some of your favorite stories of Jesus' life and consider what kind of impression he makes. In some cases he intends to make a scene (turning the tables in the temple) in other cases he tries to blend into the crowd (check out his initial response to Mary at the Wedding at Cana). Most often Jesus appears in the role of the teacher or healer and seems to catch the attention of those who are gathered.

The St. Peder's Call Committee got a first impression of the candidates for our pastoral opening. I would even guess that different people on the team may have had different first impressions. Often our impression of a person or an experience relates to previous experiences we've had or people we have met. Similarly those candidates all got an impression of St. Peder's from the conversation they've had with our Call Committee.

As the congregation prepares for the arrival of a new pastor – what is the impression you want to make on that pastor? Do you want to extend warmth and hospitality or do you want them to know how much work you put in to welcome them? Do you want them to experience joy and positivity or sadness and stress?

How might this congregation be intentional about making sure the impression we make is the one we want to make? And how might these steps extend beyond the next pastor to anyone who walks through the doors of St. Peder's?

- ♦ Are we intentional to greet visitors and learn one interesting thing about them?
- ♦ Are we proud of the building where we gather and willing to show people around?
- ♦ Do we make it a point to introduce guests to another member with something in common?
- ♦ Do we greet children at their level and speak to them directly?
- ♦ Are we over-eager to rope guests into serving us in some way?

... and maybe the biggest question of all – we've invited pastors to come and learn about St. Peder's by submitting our Ministry Site Profile – when did we last invite a friend or neighbor to join us at St. Peder's?



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Supporting Black Artists	2
Faith Formation	3
Pub Theology	3
First Communion	4
Book Signing	5
Community Conversations	5
Together in Mission	6
Volunteer Schedule.....Insert	
Calendar of Events.....Insert	

## How St. Peder's Is Helping to Support Black Artists

By Wendy Legge (*Wendy's talk from 4/3/22 service*)

Today I'm going to spend a few minutes talking about the exciting topic of royalties and license fees for music! So Ushers, please lock the doors: no one is allowed to leave.

When our church purchases music, a small amount of what we pay usually goes to the composers or their estates as royalties. When our church pays music licensing fees, which we do in order to print hymns in our bulletin or stream hymns online, a little bit of that fee usually goes to the people who composed the hymns or to their estates. But a lot of hymns and songs that come out of the African American spiritual tradition were written by slaves. Their descendants don't get a penny in royalties or license fees for that music.

A few months ago, there was a story on NPR about this issue. Click [here](#) for the story. The story said that some churches are paying money to support black artists when they use African American spirituals.

So, I thought, "why doesn't St. Peder's do something like that?" And we are going to do something like that. Based on recommendations from the Music and Worship Committee and the Racial Justice Team, the church council has approved two one-time donations from the Tabitta Kassen fund to non-profits in north Minneapolis that support African American Artists: \$500 to Hopewell Music, whose mission is to improve access to music education in north Minneapolis; and \$500 to The Capri, a theater organization designed to enrich the skills, prospects and spirit of north Minneapolis area youth and adults.

But we also want to try to develop an ongoing relationship with a non-profit in our neighborhood that supports black artists: Black Table Arts, on Minnehaha Ave. Black Table Arts is a community driven arts cooperative gathering black communities through the arts towards better black futures. Our church will make an initial donation to Black Table Arts of \$250 from the Tabitta Kassen fund. And we will also donate to Black Table Arts the money collected during coffee hour on communion Sundays. On those Sundays, like today, we will include in the service music from the African American tradition or other music by a person of color. Remember to put some money in the basket for coffee today and on every communion Sunday. You'll be helping black artists.

Thank you.





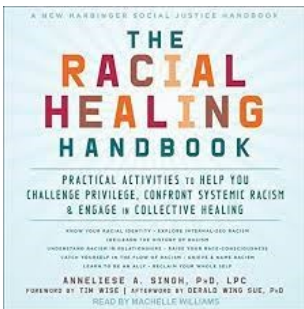
## Faith Formation Bible Study Series: Belonging to God's Good: A Church Anew Study on Genesis

Many of us recall that "In the Beginning ... God created ... and called it good" but sometimes how we learned Biblical stories or remember Biblical stories doesn't reflect that goodness. In *Belonging to God's Good*, we receive teaching via video from local pastors who reframe the story for us, then as a group we discuss and reflect what we have learned.

**Sunday, May 1 at 10:15am**

**Episode 7: Dreams for Healing** (Genesis 37, 45) Joseph could have used the power of his elevated position to seek revenge and continue the generational cycle of abuse. Instead, Joseph uses his power to create space for healing, including a food justice program. How is God calling your body, your family, and your community into healing and restoration? Written by Joe Davis

## Faith Formation / Book Study: May 15th at 10:15 am Chapter 5 - Raise Your Race Consciousness



Race-consciousness means that you are aware of how racism works as a system. This chapter will help us learn how to do things that help us claim an antiracist identity. We will learn how to act more consciously as a racial being and be a positive influence on others to do the same. How prepared do you feel to engage with people who say something overtly racist? Please join us in conversation. You do not need to read the book in order to join in the discussion.



## Pub Theology: Monday, May 9th at 7 pm

Come and join in a lively discussion, good food, and your favorite beverage at Pub Theology! **We meet at Parkway Pizza**, 4359 Minnehaha Avenue.

**Topic for discussion is: What role do rituals play in our life?** While some may dismiss the practice as old fashioned, the act of ritual is an essential part of the human condition that binds us together and gives us literally a common language on which to build our lives. Let's discuss what ritual means to each of us at the next Pub Theology!

All are welcome! Questions? Contact Allison O. or Karen V.



### First Communion Celebrants!

**On Sunday, June 5**, Eden Hunsberger, Clara Odegaard, Augie Wollak, and Leo Odegaard will be celebrating their first communion at St. Peder's. While we, at St. Peder's, recognize the invitation to Holy Communion comes from Christ Jesus, and all are always welcome at Christ's table, we also mark milestones in the lives of our family of faith, so we celebrate on this day and celebrate God's continued blessing on Eden, Clara, Augie, and Leo as they continue the journey of faith and the promises made at their Baptism.



### Thanks to All Our Blood Donors!

St. Peder's Red Cross Blood Drive was a success! The Fellowship Hall was converted into a donation area. Our goal was to collect 24 units of blood and we collected 28 units. Thank you to all of you who volunteered as ambassadors and everyone who donated blood. Thanks to your efforts over 75 lives will be impacted! Also a big high five to Sue Nielsen who organized the drive!

### Support Businesses Owned by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color

**Owners:** Ashley & Jim McKinzie, 2905 Weston Ln N, Plymouth 612-242-0860 [dazedanddistressed.com](http://dazedanddistressed.com)



This husband/wife team has been selling custom wood furniture, décor and adding home improvements to the Minneapolis area since 2016. They create dining tables and benches, coffee tables, built-ins, entertainment centers, entry benches, lockers, headboards, nightstands, dressers, office furniture, and more. They have various styles to choose from but also welcome new designs. Learn more about them and their products on their [website](http://dazedanddistressed.com).

### Reconciling In Christ - Ongoing Action

We're looking for a small team of volunteers to put the **-ING** (action) in Reconciling In Christ. As a Reconciling in Christ congregation for over 20 years, we are being called on to review our Welcome Statement and actions to assure that we include the full expansive LGBTQIA+ community and the work of St. Peder's toward racial equity. Reconciling Works is providing resources to help us review our congregational commitment to this work, we need a team of volunteers to coordinate this work within the congregation. If you are interested in being part of this short-term task team, please contact Pastor Eric to learn more or to say "Yes, I want to be part of assuring our welcome to all really means ALL!"





Darrell Jodock & William Nelsen

## Embracing DIVERSITY

Faith, Vocation,  
and the  
Promise of America



### Adult Forum and Book Signing: Sunday, June 12 at 10:30 *Embracing Diversity, Faith, Vocation and the Promise of America*

Rev. Dr William Nelsen will join us following worship for a discussion around his book. Written for people in local communities and congregations, encouraging us all to embrace, and not to fear, our growing diversity and to work together for the common good

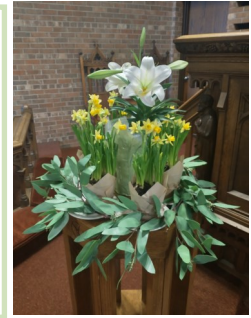
Please let Jeannie in the office know if you would like to pre-order a book. We will also have copies available on the day of the event.

**About the book:** "Throughout its history, America has been confronted with two views of its identity. It is a deeply Christian nation called to purity in the face of challenging world? Or is it a beacon of hope and openness, a land where many can work together for a common good? In this timely book, the authors challenge readers—especially those in Christian communities—to step up to the promise of an America that works for the good of everyone who calls this nation home."

**Authors:** Rev. Dr. William Nelsen, ELCA Pastor, Former President, Augustana University, and Former Academic Dean, St. Olaf College and Dr. Darrell Jodock, Professor Emeritus Gustavus Adolphus College



A big thanks to everyone who bought beautiful flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter and especially to Andrea Wollak and her kiddos who arranged the plants so beautifully. Also thank you Julie Ebbesen for coordinating the Easter Breakfast and to all the volunteers who helped make this year's brunch a great success!



A sure sign that changes are in the air, Peace Coffee's Pollinator Seasonal Blend is finally here! This bright and sweet coffee ushers in a hopeful time of planning for the growing season and gives us reasons to focus on the warmth ahead!!

This year's version of Pollinator features a natural-processed coffee from SCFCU in Ethiopia, which provides unique red fruit flavors! To balance that fruity goodness, coffee from Sol Y Café in Peru buzzes right in with its elegant smoothness.

**Interested members should contact Lisa Rovick ([lprovick@stkate.edu](mailto:lprovick@stkate.edu)). Lisa purchases Peace Coffee for members to buy. You can pick up your order at church.**

## 3rd Precinct Community Conversations Sessions

Share thoughts and ideas for the future of the 3rd Precinct Site at Minnehaha and Lake

event sponsors include:

**LONGFELLOW**  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Longfellow Rising



In-person:  
Monday, May 16  
6-7:30pm  
Squirrel Haus Arts

Virtual:  
Monday, May 9  
6- 7:30pm  
on Zoom

The 3rd Precinct site is of great interest and concern to the community. From the community's perspective, there is a lack of leadership and limited information regarding its redevelopment. The structure sits at the heart of the community. Seeing the building surrounded by barbed wire with no development pursued for twenty-two months recirculates trauma within the community.

It is vital that the community has a voice in the decision-making process of the future of the 3rd Precinct site. We want input from community members, organizations and business owners regarding how you would like to see the site developed. We have invited the Mayor and all of the City Council to participate in these discussions.

We will be hosting two community conversation sessions, one virtual and one in-person. Please join us on [May 9th \(virtual\)](#) and [May 16th \(in-person\)](#) at Squirrel Haus Arts, 3450 Snelling Ave, to discuss the possible futures of the 3rd Precinct site.

Please register for the event you would like to attend. Registration is not required, but recommended. Our in-person event will have capacity limits and masks are strongly encouraged. We hope to see you there.

One place to go for questions Call 612-722-4529 or go to site [www.longfellow.org](http://www.longfellow.org)



### Taize Service, Minnehaha United Methodist Church

It's easy to get caught up in the daily demands of life. In our busyness, we can lose track of ourselves, and of what God is calling us to be and to do. Take an opportunity to slow down, to rest in silence and music. On the **second Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m. from October through May**, Minnehaha United Methodist Church (3701 E. 50<sup>th</sup> St., Minneapolis) offers a Taize service; a time of sanctuary, a time for prayer, a time for community, and a time for silence. As we sing and pray, our hearts are opened so that we may hear God speaking to us. **Please join us this month on May 13th** (masks are required). You can also catch a livestream of the service by finding the Taize button on our website – [www.minnehaha.org](http://www.minnehaha.org)

Dear Fabulous St. Peder's Members and Friends,

Happy May! This time of year in Minnesota is always filled with such promise and anticipation. Buds begin to appear on the trees, birds gather in our yards and lakes, and the sun shines warmer and longer. After two years of living through a global pandemic, this spring and the hope it brings feels just a little bit brighter too.

It was wonderful seeing so many of you at our Lent and Easter Sunday services—special thanks to Pastor Eric, the staff, the Council, and the many volunteers, musicians, singers, decorators, cooks, and more who helped make it a very special season. I know I heard many comments about how beautiful the sanctuary looked and how lovely it was to hear the singers and musicians together again.

The St. Peder's Council is continuing to meet monthly to make plans for the summer and fall, the parsonage renovation, additional staffing for fall faith formation, and much more. We plan to have several outdoor worship services throughout the summer (weather permitting), and continue to provide live-streaming for those wanting to worship from home or from wherever their summer travels take them. We continue to keep an eye on community COVID-19 rates, and will make any adjustments as needed to keep our members and community safe. For now, we are worshipping in person without restriction and have lifted the mask mandate. We continue to encourage people to wear masks based on your own level of comfort. Coffee hour is back in full and we are so grateful to our Shepherding Groups for providing delicious treats each week. As the weather warms, we will be able to offer outdoor gathering options as well and look for additional ways to provide fellowship opportunities together.

The Call Committee is continuing its important work, led by Co-Chairs Andrea Wollak and Christine Soma. The Minneapolis Synod provided the Call Committee with ELEVEN initial candidates and all were interviewed by Zoom initially. (And all of the candidates were wonderful, making the task very difficult.) Approximately four candidates will be moving forward to longer in-person interviews in May. We will keep the congregation updated as we move through this process. Please keep all those involved in your prayers. We have faith that God is leading this process and look forward to calling a new Pastor to St. Peder's soon.

One special event that is coming up at St. Peder's is near and dear to my own heart. My Dad, Pastor Bill Nelsen, will be visiting St. Peder's on Sunday, June 12 to preach and to provide a special faith formation and book signing for his new book, "Embracing Diversity: Faith, Vocation, and the Promise of America", co-written with Dr. Darrell Jodock, professor of religion at Gustavus Adolphus College. The authors challenge everyone to truly love their neighbors, without exception, and to embrace the growing racial and religious diversity in America. I hope you can join in this special event (and have a chance to meet my Dad, who truly embodies the characteristics and values of a "Happy Dane!")

Finally, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or ideas. Thank you for your continued generosity to St. Peder's and our broader community. I feel so blessed to be a part of such a welcoming and generous faith community! Sending prayers to all as we move forward together during this time of change, hope, and joy! *He has risen indeed!*

In gratitude,  
Shawna Nelsen-Wills, Council President  
612-408-2860, shawnanelsen3@gmail.com

## Together in Mission 2022

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 3rd month of 2022. A detailed financial summary report is available at the church office for anyone who'd like to see it.

### Income

Month of March	\$ 26,740.24	Budget for the month	\$ 22,833.34
Year to Date	\$ 58,659.04	Budget Year to Date	\$ 68,500.02

### Expenses


Month of March	\$ 22,412.79	Budget for the month	\$ 23,680.07
Year to Date	\$ 62,718.77	Budget Year to Date	\$ 70,890.21

**Mission Support to...Minneapolis Area Synod** YTD \$ 3500.00



# May 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 am Worship w/ Holy Communion 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 Bible Study	2  Meals on Wheels	3  Meals on Wheels	4 9 am Quilters 7 pm Council Mtg.  Meals on Wheels	5  Meals on Wheels	6	7 2 pm Fiber Arts
8 <i>Happy Mother's Day!</i> 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	9 7 pm Pub Theology	10	11	12	13	14
15 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 Book Study	16	17	18 Newsletter Articles Due  9 am Quilters	19	20	21 2 pm Fiber Arts
22 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9 am Worship 10 am Coffee & Fellowship	30 <i>Memorial Day</i>	31				



## May Volunteer Schedule

### Sunday, May 1, 2022 Holy Communion by Full Table

**Greeters:** Kerry and Jill Audette **Usher:**  
Craig Rocheleau and Bob Stanich

**Acolyte:** Eleanor Munnich **Reader:** Dan Vetsch

**Communion Set Up & Clean Up:** Judy Anderson, Sue Schnickel

**Communion Assistants:** Bruce Simpson, Lisa Rovick, Leslee Nestingen

**Bread and Wine:** Bill and Judy Anderson

**Counters:** Marcia Rocheleau and Curt Petersen

**Livestream Technician:** Karen Vetsch

**LSS Safe House Dinner for May 2:**

Daniel Peterson and Kristin Lerstrom & John and Doreen Skraba

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 4**

### Sunday, May 8, 2022

**Greeters:** Kristi Lahti-Johnson and Chuck Johnson

**Ushers:** Jeremy Anderson and Eva Tangen **Acolyte:** Isla Wills

**Reader:** Shawna Nelsen Wills

**Counters:** Cameron Jamison and Paul Aitchison

**Livestream Technician:** JeriLynn Young and Darrick Jensen

**LSS Safe House Dinner for May 9:** Bill and Judy Anderson

**Sheridan Story for Friday, May 13:** Bob Stanich and Jeanne Schleh

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 5**

### Sunday, May 15, 2022

**Greeters:** Elizabeth and Forrest Bentley

**Ushers:** John Skraba and Shawna Nelsen-Wills **Acolyte:** Isaiah Wills  
**Reader:** Kristi Lahti-Johnson **Counters:** Steve Austin and Tim Anderson

**Livestream Technician:** Bruce Simpson

**LSS Safe House Dinner for May 16:**

Kristi Lahti-Johnson & Chuck Johnson and Bethene & Eric Hunsberger

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 6**

### Sunday, May 22, 2022,

**Greeters:** Michael and Allison O'Day

**Ushers:** Tom Goodoien and Lisa Jensen **Acolyte:** Eleanor Munnich

**Reader:** JeriLynn Young **Counters:** Jackie West and Sue Schnickel

**Livestream Technician:** JeriLynn Young and Darrick Jensen

**LSS Safe House Dinner for Monday May 23:** Bob Stanich and Jeanne Schleh

**Sheridan Story for Friday, May 27:** Sue and Al Nielsen

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 7**

### Sunday, May 29, 2022

**Greeters:** Paul Odegaard and Christine Soma

**Ushers:** Andrea and Aemilia Wollak **Acolyte:** Alice Petersen

**Reader:** Judy Hogan **Counters:** Annalise Munnich Karen Vetsch

**Livestream Technician:** Karen Vetsch

**LSS Safe House Dinner for May 30th:**

Pat and Cameron Jamison and Alice Bekke

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 8**



Thank you for volunteering 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 or concerns, contact Jeannie in the church office:

Jeannie:  
office@stpeders.org 612  
-722-8000

**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 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street in south Minneapolis.



**Church Staff:**

Pastor: Rev. Eric Luedtke

[pastoreric@stpeders.org](mailto:pastoreric@stpeders.org)

Organist/Music Ministry Coordinator:

Mia Kruse

[mia@stpeders.org](mailto:mia@stpeders.org)

Office Coordinator: Jeannie Farrell

[office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org)

Accounts Manager: Debbie Wolking

[bookkeeping@stpeders.org](mailto:bookkeeping@stpeders.org)

Caretaker: Jim Austin

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

Phone: 612-722-8000  
[office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org)  
[www.stpeders.org](http://www.stpeders.org)

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

