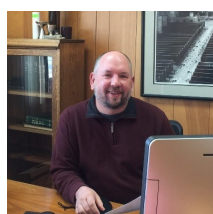


# The Messenger

## ***In the Interim: The Pendulum of Abiding and Fruitfulness*** **-Pastor Eric Luedtke, Interim Pastor**

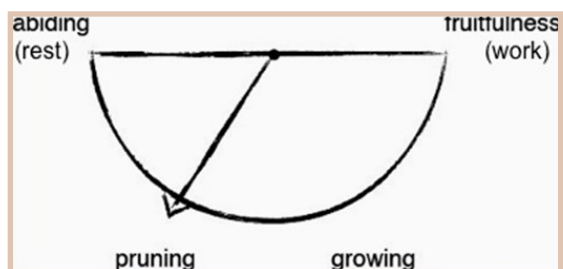


As we come to the end of summer, many of you have noted that St. Peder's has a tendency to "take the summer off." Many of you have been on vacations, visiting family, spending time at cabins, camping, and enjoying the many joys of summer in Minnesota. It's good to have this opportunity to take a step back and enjoy some time of "sabbath" – we are often reminded

that after 6 days of creation God rested. We're also reminded that throughout the Gospels Jesus takes time away with God.

Through the years I've seen a number of books written about "Sabbath Keeping" – Brennan Manning has a fantastic read called "Souvenirs from Solitude." Walter Brueggemann has a challenging title "Sabbath as Resistance." Marva Dawn wrote "Keeping the Sabbath Holy." Each of these authors (and others) have lifted up the reality that in our 24/7-information-now-work-harder-world we often overlook the need to take intentional time away from work.

Of all the models I've read or heard about, the one that sticks with me comes from Mike Breen who developed 3DMinistries. In 3DM, Breen uses basic geometric shapes to explain the life of discipleship. Ultimately Breen's goal is that one can do evangelism (sharing the good news of Jesus) by drawing these shapes on a napkin while out at a coffee shop or a bar and explaining the life of discipleship to others.



The shape that Breen uses to talk about sabbath keeping is the semi-circle. He talks about it as a pendulum motion – like a grandfather clock – the pendulum is always in motion from one place to another. We can never exist in the "rest"

or the "work" we are called to move between these times. In that motion we experience times of growing and pruning. Using John 15:1-8 as an underlying text, we notice the metaphor that Jesus uses saying "I am the vine, you are the branches" and we contemplate that fruit grows in its season, not year 'round.

**Continued on page 4.....**



### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Faith Formation Message.....	2
Congregational Gathering.....	3
Pub Theology.....	3
Rally Sunday.....	4
Racial Justice.....	5
Book Study.....	6
Together in Mission.....	7
Riverside Innovation Hub.....	7
Volunteer Schedule.....	Insert
Calendar of Events.....	Insert

## A Special Message for Families with Children in Faith Formation

I hope you have had a wonderful summer and have had the chance to reconnect with family and friends and enjoy some time outdoors. It has been lovely to see some of you and your kids at our outdoor services and we hope to see more of you as we begin to gather again this fall and when you feel comfortable attending!

We invite all families to attend a **special service and event on Rally Sunday, Sunday, September 12!** Following the service, we will have food, an obstacle course with prizes, and some other family-friendly games on the lawn. **Additionally, we encourage children to bring their backpacks to the service for a special "blessing of the backpacks"** as they head back into a new school year. **We are asking everyone to wear a mask indoors to protect those among us who are most vulnerable or unable to get vaccinated, including children.** We hope you can join us for a fun celebration!

**We have recently convened a special Parent's Council to help make decisions around Faith Formation for youth and children for this fall and going forward. If you would like to join this Parent's Council, please reach out to Shawna Nelsen-Wills at shawnanelsen3@gmail.com.** We'd love to have more parents join this team! The Parent's Council is organizing fall Faith Formation for kids and beginning to plan and reimagine what Faith Formation will look like going forward and what we hope to see in a youth leader/program at St. Peder's for 2022 and beyond!

For Faith Formation, given the Delta-variant and the fact that kids under the age of 12 are not yet able to be vaccinated, the Parent's Council voted to continue Zoom Faith Formation for at least September and October--especially with kids returning to school and the unknown effect this will have on rates among children and the community. We will continue to meet and make recommendations based on current data. **We will offer Faith Formation twice a month as provided in Spring. (First Zoom will be on Sunday, September 26 at 11:30 a.m.--a more detailed schedule will be sent out in September.)** Special Faith Formation bags will be provided to kids on Rally Sunday who would like to participate in Faith Formation this fall--whether you join Zoom or not! Bags can be delivered or picked up for those unable to attend Rally Sunday. Faith Formation will be interactive, fun, and focus on some of the classic stories and lessons from the bible. We are planning for a Christmas Pageant as well for December! We also encourage families to attend church together on the first Sunday of the month as you are comfortable doing so.

**To help us get a sense of how many kids and what ages will be a part of our Children/ Youth Faith Formation, please register your children and youth, ages 3 to 18, by clicking [here](#).** If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Eric or Shawna Nelsen-Wills. **We are also looking for Sunday School teachers. Please let Jeannie know if you are willing to teach during this school year 2021-22.** We will have training for teachers on the Zoom technology and lesson structure so you feel confident in leading the class.

We are excited to see many of you soon and to begin dreaming for all we would like to offer to our children and youth as we move forward during this transition time at St. Peder's! Your kids and youth are a huge part of St. Peder's mission and future--we can't wait to have the sounds of kids' laughter and joy in the halls at St. Peder's again soon.

Warmly,

Shawna Nelsen-Wills, Council President  
Pastor Eric Luedtke, Interim Pastor

## Congregational Gathering to Help the Transition Team



We will have our last of three gatherings this month, sharing experiences with the church universal. Think of times or ways the church, any church, has been important in your life. We'll take notes from this gathering and the Transition Team will then work to identify the core themes that emerge from our conversations. Those themes will help the Transition Team complete the Ministry Site Profile that tells a story of who St. Peder's Lutheran Church is and why our next pastor is called to come and serve alongside us as we follow Jesus through the 21st Century.

*In-person meetings at 10:15 am:*  
Sunday, September 19

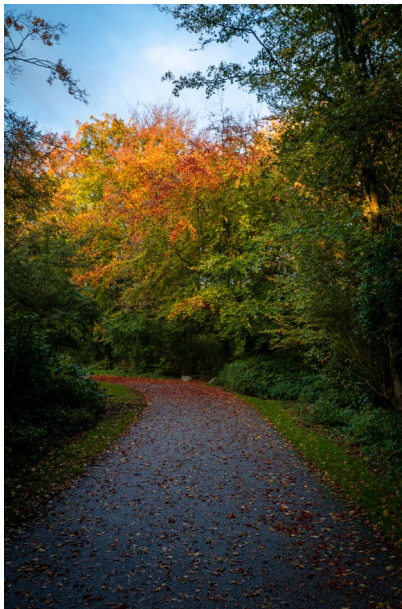
*Online Meetings at 7 pm via Zoom:*  
Tuesday, September, 21



## Pub Theology is Back!!

Please join us at Parkway Pizza on **Wednesday, September 15 at 7:00**. We will enjoy some pizza, a favorite beverage, and discuss topics for the upcoming year and preferred meeting times. Please contact Karen Vetsch or Allison O'Day with any questions.

## September Worship Schedule



### Sunday, September 5

9 am Zoom Worship w/ Holy Communion followed by online Coffee & Fellowship.

Click [here](#) for the Zoom link. Meeting ID: 954 3253 5603 Passcode: 775151

### Sunday, September 12, Rally Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

9 am Outdoor Worship\*, Activities to follow worship

### Sunday, September 19

9 am Outdoor Worship\*

10:15 Transition Team Gathering

### Sunday, September 26

9 am Outdoor Worship\*

10 am Coffee & Fellowship

11:30 am Youth Faith Formation (Zoom)

\*Please see note below



## A Note for September Worship Services.....

Recognizing the Delta Variant impact on case numbers in the area, and knowing that a large percentage of St. Peder's adults are vaccinated, but children under 12 are not eligible for vaccines at this time, **on September 12, 19 and 26 we will plan for outdoor worship, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather we'll move inside and ask the congregation to mask and distance as possible.**

We will plan for Coffee & Fellowship outdoors as well.





**ST. PEDER'S ANNUAL  
RALLY  
SUNDAY**

We invite all families to attend a special service and event on  
**Sunday, September 12!**

Following the service, we will have food, an obstacle course with prizes, and some other family-friendly games on the lawn.

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

**Soul Bowl**

Owners Brittney and Gerard Klass  
7122 Chicago Ave, Richfield  
612-869-3431  
520 N 4th St. Suite202, Minneapolis  
612-567-7044  
[info@soulbowlmn.com](mailto:info@soulbowlmn.com)



Soul Bowl now has a take-out and delivery location in Richfield, the home town of its owner Brittney Klass. The restaurant (North Loop) boasts a flavorful lineup of fried chicken, greens, and vegan comfort food classics, all served in compostable bowls. The Richfield menu also includes dishes such as oxtails, stewed fish, curry goat, and braised cabbage influenced by their neighbor, Galaxy Foods, a Caribbean and West Indian grocer. The Richfield menu is available for ordering [online](#) Monday through Friday.

**The Pendulum of Abiding and Fruitfulness, continued from page 1.....**

As many of us come out of a summer of “rest” we can anticipate a time of pruning, recognizing things that we may have been doing before that need to be “cut away” so that we can “bear fruit” in the primary objective that God is calling us to be about. We look forward to a time of growing as individuals and as a church and we move toward a season of fruitfulness. I wonder what God might be calling you to prune in this time? What is God calling us to prune as a congregation? Are we willing to make those difficult decisions in order to focus our energy on where God is leading us?

As your Interim Pastor, I am grateful for all of you that have stepped-up to move the work of St. Peder’s forward. I am grateful for the many musicians who offer voice and instrument to our worship. I am grateful to the Transition Team providing a foundation for calling our next pastor. I am grateful for the anti-racism team and their willingness to dig into their own biases and perspectives. I am grateful to our Riverside Innovation Hub team who are partnering with others to learn about our neighbors and how God might be working among them. I am grateful for those of you that have shared stories about your history at St. Peder’s, about your lives, and about the gifts that you have been using in the life of this congregation and into the world. I am grateful for the work that we are called to be a part of together to continue to “prune” and “grow” together as God’s people.



## From the Racial Justice Team.....

Each month we will be sharing some thought provoking statements or questions for you to consider. We hope you'll take a few moments to engage your heart and mind while pondering them.

### Something to ponder...

#### ***Reimagining Public Safety/Policing, City Government, and Rental Ordinances***

This fall Minneapolis ballots will include several proposed amendments to change the City Charter. Posed as questions, these amendments will require us to vote either yes or no.

One amendment, a citizen petition by "Yes 4 Minneapolis", relates to public safety and allows city residents to vote on whether or not to replace the Minneapolis Police Department with a new Department of Public Safety.

A second amendment on government structure was proposed by the Charter Commission, a group of unelected members appointed by the courts. The intent of this amendment is to better define and delineate the roles of Mayor as executive and the City Council as the legislative body.

A third amendment, proposed by City Council, relates to rent stabilization. It will allow the Council to either enact a rent control ordinance on private residential property or put such an ordinance up for vote in the future. If voters approve this amendment, a rent control ordinance will not go into effect, but approval will allow the Council to pursue such an ordinance.

There have been ongoing changes to the amendments. It will be important for us as voters to educate ourselves, review the history of their development, and follow updates in order to cast knowledgeable votes. To learn more about the amendments review the references below.

**Consider.....**(If you are not a Minneapolis resident consider the impact of these changes on our church community or within your city.)

- ◆ What functions are necessary for a public safety department? Violence prevention? Mental health? Social Services? Other teams necessary for public health and safety? Would police be involved? If so how?
- ◆ What are the current roles of mayor? City council? How is it working? How do the police interface with the mayor? City Council? How is it working?  
How would a restructured form of government with an Executive Mayor and legislative council improve Minneapolis City Government?
- ◆ How available and affordable is housing in Minneapolis, particularly for working families? How would ability to control rents on private residential property impact affordability? What is the opposition to rent control on private residential property?

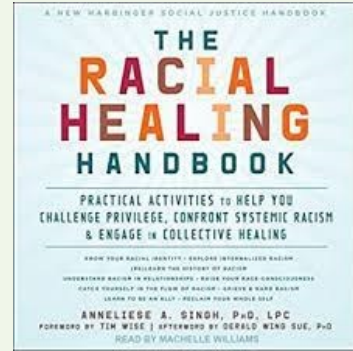
### References

- [RUN-DOWN OF THE 5 CHARTER AMENDMENTS MINNEAPOLITANS A MAY VOTE ON THIS NOVEMBER](#), By Robert Haider, June 17, 2021 Take Action MN Blog
- [Minneapolis residents will vote on replacing the MPD](#), Jon Collins, MPRnews, July 23, 2021 2:00 p.m.
- The Charter Amendments, League of Women Voters Minneapolis: Aug 2, 2021 <https://lwvmpls.org/2-14-the-charter-amendments/>
- [Reimagining Public Safety](#), League of Women Voters Minneapolis
- [Minneapolis City Council moves to have residents vote on replacing police department](#), [Miranda Manier](#) (KARE), 4:10 PM CDT July 23, 2021
- [Judge: Minneapolis must change ballot language for policing proposal](#), Liz Navratil, Star Tribune, August 13, 2021 9:29 p.m
- [Council overturns Frey veto, Mpls. Public safety ballot proposal will go to voters](#), Jon Collins, MPRnews, August 20, 2021 11:04 a.m.

## Book Study: The Racial Healing Handbook

The Racial Justice team is coordinating a book study using The Racial Healing Handbook by Anneliese A. Singh, PhD, LPC

The book provides practical activities to help you challenge privilege, confront systematic racism & engage in collective healing. The idea for the study would be to meet monthly and work one chapter at a time. We would spend time on the introduction, 10 chapters and conclusion. We felt meeting Sunday during Faith Formation time could work well but we are open to group discussion. We would work together to process and learn. We would have a person as the guide to keep us moving and remain respectful of our time.



The study would start at the end of September or early October. **If you would like us to order your book, we need to have your order by September 3rd.** The thought was to order the book through Moon Palace Books or another local book store. We will order one copy for our church library. We have also thought of sharing our (3) personal copies with interested participants.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Sign up with one of us or with the Church office.

## Another Year Another House Painted, We Did It!

Despite the day starting with a bit of rain, our crew leader said press on, it will clear up in no time. Twenty-five St. Peder's members joined together in Brooklyn Park to shower a homeowner with love. We worked as a team of young and old (5 years to over 70) enjoying each other's company and conversations. This annual project brings me much joy and satisfaction to see our church members come together and give of themselves for a needful sister or brother in Christ. The best part for me is the time together, building relationships and strengthening our church community. Thank you painters. If you missed out, we'll do it again next year.

-Karen Vetsch



Thank You  
Volunteers!



### Updates from the Riverside Innovation Hub (RIH) Team

We participated in a two day (ZOOM) kick-off event. Some of the goals were to build a sense of community among participants, learn about the Public Church Framework, and why this work matters. We meet our three cohort churches along with the eight other churches participating in this journey. St. Peders will be working closely with Immanuel Lutheran of St. Paul, Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran of St. Paul and First Covenant of Minneapolis. Our facilitator is Jennifer Starr Dodd from Riverside Innovation Hub. The next task for our team is a neighborhood prayer walk. We will explore, feel, pray as we walk within the St. Peders neighborhood. Our team will discuss and map out what we learned and felt as we walked. For example, where did we feel excitement, joy, energy, sadness, fear, emptiness. Together as a team we hope to gather a sense of our neighbors and the space we share with them. Later in September we will meet up with our facilitator and cohort churches to go over our findings and experiences.

### Stock Donation is Good Way to Give by Deb Wolking, Accounts Manager

Donating stock to St. Peder's can be a good way to give to the church. There's the obvious benefit to St. Peder's as well as a potential tax advantage for the giver. By making a donation of stock, people can avoid paying capital gains tax they might incur by selling the stock for cash. It is always best to talk to your financial advisor regarding your specific situation. St. Peder's has an account with Merrill Lynch to receive stock donations. It is our policy to sell all stock as soon as it is received.

One issue that has caused problems when making donations is the difference between stocks and Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) as opposed to mutual funds. They are processed through different systems. Stocks and ETFs are transferred through the DTC system using a processing number 886, and mutual funds are transferred through the ACAT system which uses the number 0617.

If you have any questions or issues regarding a donation of stock or mutual fund feel free to contact Bill Weyandt who is our representative at Merrill Lynch. Bill can be reached at 651-298-7536 or [bill.weyandt@ml.com](mailto:bill.weyandt@ml.com).

### Together in Mission 2021

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 7th month of 2021. A detailed financial summary report is available at the church office for anyone who'd like to see it.

#### Income

Month of July	\$ 12,251.04	Budget for the month	\$ 20,833.33
Year to Date	\$ 124,311.52	Budget Year to Date	\$ 145,833.35

#### Expenses

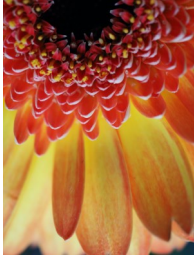

Month of July	\$ 16,079.46	Budget for the month	\$ 20,430.93
Year to Date	\$ 139,864.80	Budget Year to Date	\$ 161,016.31

#### Mission Support to...

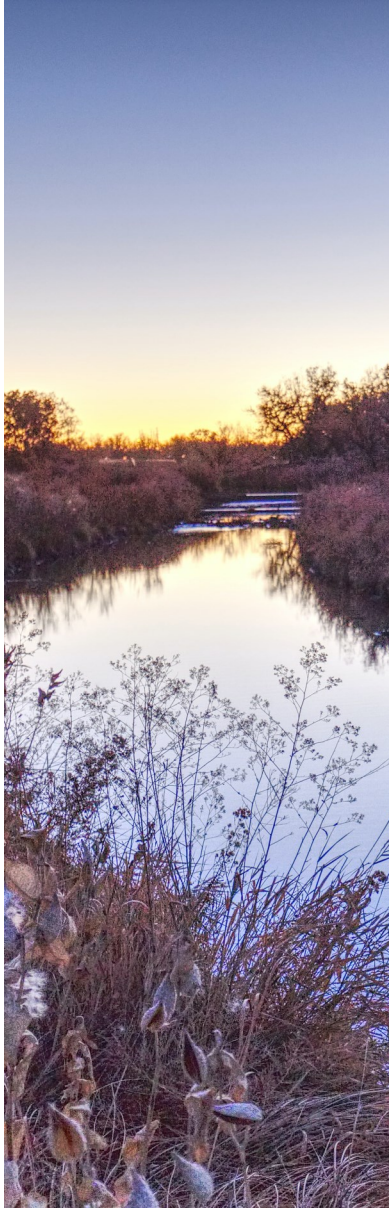
Minneapolis Area Synod	YTD	\$ 8,166.69
------------------------	-----	-------------



# September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Meals on Wheels	2 Meals on Wheels	3 Meals On Wheels	4 Iver Jorgensen: 10 am Visitation 11 am Funeral 12 Luncheon  2 pm Fiber Arts
5 9 am Zoom Worship w/Holy Communion, Coffee & Fellowship to follow.	6 Labor Day	7	8 9 am Quilters	9	10	11
12 Rally Sunday Return to In – Person Services 9 am Worship* 10 am Activities	13	14 10 am Exercise	15 7 pm Pub Theology	16 10 am Exercise 7 pm Music & Worship Committee Meeting	17	18 2 pm Fiber Arts 
19 9 am Worship* 10:15 Transition Team Gathering	20	21 Newsletter Articles Due 10 am Exercise 7 pm Zoom Congrega- tional Gathering	22 9 am Quilters 7 pm Council Meeting	23 10 am Exercise	24	25
26 9 am Worship* 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 11:30 Zoom Youth Faith Formation	27	28 10 am Exercise	29	30 10 am Exercise		<i>*Services will be held outdoors, in the case of inclement weather, services will be moved in- doors.</i>





Thank you for volunteering your time and talent at St. Peder's. Please try to arrange your own trades. If you are pressed for time or have questions or concerns, contact the church office at 612-722-800 or email Jean-nie at [office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org).

## September Volunteer Schedule

### **September 12, 2021, Rally Sunday**

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

**Ushers:** Curt Petersen & Mark Jensen

**Acolyte:** Eleanor Munnich

**Reader:** John Skraba

**Counters:** Bob Stanich and John Skraba

**LSS Safe House Dinner for September 13:**

Lorie and Raleigh Gleason

**Social Hour hosted by the Council**

### **September 19, 2021, Congregational Gathering**

**Greeters:** Judy Anderson and Jean Evers

**Ushers:** Dale Montgomery & Lisa Jensen

**Acolyte:** Siri Vossen

**Reader:** Dwight Lundebly

**Counters:** Annalise Munnich and Sue Schnickel

**LSS Safe House Dinner for September 20:**

Mark and Jodi Jensen

**Sheridan Story for September 24:**

Dwight Lundebly, Sue and John Schnickel

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 1**

### **September 26, 2021**

**Greeters:** Mark and Jodi Jensen

**Ushers:** Paul Aitchison & Butch Vossen

**Acolyte:** Isla Wills

**Reader:** Chuck Johnson

**Counters:** Steve Austin and Paul Aitchison

**LSS Safe House Dinner for September 27:**

Wendy and Gordon Legge

## Shepherding Group Schedule

September 12	Council	November 7	8
September 19	1	November 14	None
September 26	2	November 21	1
October 3	3	November 28	2
October 10	4	December 5	3
October 17	5	December 12	4
October 24	6	December 19	Council
October 31	7	December 26	5

**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  
Office Coordinator: Jeannie Farrell  
Accounts Manager: Debbie Wolking  
Caretaker: Jim Austin

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

St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church ELCA  
4600 E 42nd St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55406  
  
Phone: 612-722-8000  
Fax: 612-722-8068  
E-mail: [office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org)

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

