

St. Peder's Monthly Messenger

November 2024

Greetings in the name of Christ!

We are entering a time of year broadly described as "The Holidays". November ushers in the buildup of Christmas supplies needed to meet the needs of the busy month of December. Mariah Carrey, Michael Bubl , and the Vince Guaraldi Trio songs will soon be back into Top 40 music stations. And the advertisers are out in full force, trying to get us to buy more and more and more so we can make this holiday the "best one yet."

It has long struck me as ironic that the unofficial kick off to The Holidays is Thanksgiving. A month's long spending spree is punctuated by a day to sit back and find things to be grateful for (while also exchanging Christmas lists and perusing Black Friday ads). It is a microcosm of paradoxes. And it happens to be one of my favorite holidays. For those lucky enough to share the holiday with people who care about them and love them well, this day is a beautiful time to rest before the marathon that is the rest of the year.

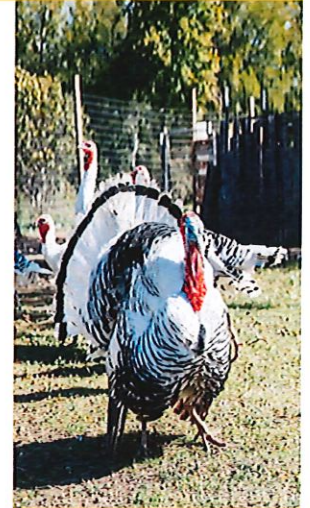
But each year, The Holidays change a bit. People may be present at or missing from the table this year. The food might be a little different. The conversations will likely be different. Perhaps the homes, jobs, and families present around your table will be different. And it can be hard to be thankful when some of these changes happen.

In Philippians, Chapter 4, we hear Paul describe the interaction between gratitude and struggles. Paul knows what it's like to have plenty and be in want, to be comfortable and to suffer, and he claims that it is entirely in Christ that he finds reason to give thanks. While we find ourselves in a very different social context than Paul, I think that is still largely true. As Christians, we may be thankful for a lot of things (in fact, I hope we are!) and the one thing that will never change is God's love and presence. Of all the things to be grateful for, that is the one thing that can't be taken away.

As we begin gathering around tables, making plans, and experiencing this blessed and busy time of the year, I hope we remember that. God's love is already yours, it cannot be taken away from you, and when all else feels like it could blow away like the leaves on an autumn tree, it will remain. As you gather, I hope you remember to thank God and reflect upon this truth, that you are a beloved member of Christ's family.

I hope you find so much to be grateful for. I am grateful for you.

In gratitude,
Pastor Bryan



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Free Concert by the Roseville String Ensemble

Join the orchestra for their fall concert, "Dancing with the Strings", on **Sunday, November 3rd, at 3:30 pm at Hamline University, Sundin Music Hall– 1531 Hewitt Ave, St. Paul.** The program includes music by



Bartok, Copeland, Grainger, Leyden, Boyce, and Faure. Church members Wendy Legge, Lisa Jensen, and Lisa Rovick will be playing at this concert. For more information, please visit

www.rosevillestrings.org/concerts.

*Correction: in last months Messenger, this group was incorrectly listed as "Roosevelt String Ensemble. We apologize for any confusion.

Council & Committee Spotlight: Facility Upgrades

An informational meeting of the St. Peder's congregation was held on Sunday, September 29. The purpose of the meeting was to describe to the congregation the three significant upgrades needed to our facility identified by the Council.

Chairs: The chairs in the fellowship hall are exhibiting signs of wear and need to be replaced. The cost to replace 48 chairs, with arms, is \$8,800.

Carpeting: Three phases of carpet installation have been identified. Phase 1 replaces the carpeting in the offices and lounge at a cost of \$18,200. Phase 2 replaces the carpeting in the hall at a cost of \$14,300. Phase 3 replaces the carpeting in the sanctuary at a cost of \$18,700. Replacement of the pew cushions and kneelers will cost \$12,500.

Organ: The current pipe organ requires significant refurbishment/repair in order to remain usable. The Council is recommending the replacement of the current organ with a Rogers digital organ. The cost of the digital organ that would be appropriate for our sanctuary is \$75,000.

Financing: It is hoped that the cost of the chairs and phase 1 of the carpeting can be appropriated in the 2025 budget. The purchase of the organ and phases 2 and 3 of the carpet replacement and pew cushions and kneelers will be financed by gifts and memorials, dedicated funds, and fundraising opportunities.

Annual Aebleskive Breakfast

Mark your calendars for the annual Aebleskive Breakfast on **Sunday, November 10th**. We will be setting up the Fellowship Hall on the morning of Saturday the 9th. We are looking for volunteers to help with set up, baking, donating ingredients like milk, jam, et cet., and the serving and clean up. Please contact Sue Nielsen at suenielsen76@gmail.com if you are interested in helping out!



News from the Office

SMMOW board and committee members

The Southern Minnesota Meals on Wheels Board and Development Committee is seeking your help to invite people to consider becoming SMMOW committee or board members. If you are interested, please look find more information on the bulletin board outside the office.

Annual Budget Meeting

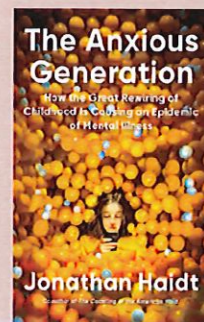
St. Peder's will be holding it's annual budget meeting on November 24th at 10:15 am, following worship services. The topics included will be; approval of the 2025 budget and the purchase of a new organ. Everyone is welcome!

November featured books in our library

Check out the latest addition to the St. Peder's library: "The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness." Social psychologist Jonathan Haidt explains how the move from play-based to phone-based childhood,



exacerbated by social media, has had disastrous consequences for children and provides concrete steps parents, teachers, tech companies and governments can take to restore a more humane childhood. (Anyone interested in a book study?)



Pub Theology

Join us at **Parkway Pizza, 4359 Minnehaha Ave on Monday, November 11th at 6:30 pm.** November's topic: Is God involved in the affairs of our elections, including who is elected and what amendments pass, or is this a matter of free will? Are we willing to accept the outcome of an election as God's free will? Please note the time change.



Advent Worship Schedule

It's hard to believe, but Advent is right around the corner. We are excited to continue many important traditions at St. Peder's. The **Children's Program and Gift Sunday will both be December 8th.** The Song Service will be **December 22nd**, followed by dancing around the Christmas tree. Tuesday, **December 24th** is Christmas Eve and we will have worship services at **2 pm and 5 pm**, with the Danish Juleaften service starting at **3:15**. We will also have Wednesday service using **Holden Evening Prayer at 7 pm on December 4th and 11th**, and the **Longest Night service on December 18th at 7 pm**. The Longest Night service is for people who are experiencing complicated emotions and grief around the holiday. It's a space to hold both the joy of the day while acknowledging the hard experiences this time of year can hold.

Gift Sunday

We will celebrate **Gift Sunday on December 8**, the day of the Children's Christmas Program. This year our gifts will help stock the pop-up holiday store at Plymouth Christian Youth Center (PCYC), where more than 600 north Minneapolis youth can choose gifts for their loved ones. Children are able to select up to five gifts for their family members, for a minimal fee, with a pre-purchased ticket. PCYC suggests new, unused items valued at \$10-25 for men, women, teenagers, children, and infants. PCYC serves many ethnic backgrounds so gifts that reflect diversity are prized. More specific gift ideas can be found on the Christmas tree outside the fellowship hall. Monetary donations are also accepted and used to purchase items for the sale. Our support will make the holiday season brighter for lots of families in our community.

Volunteer News and Opportunities & Financials

Together in Mission 2024

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.

Current financial information will be made available at the Annual Budget meeting on Sunday, November 24th following worship services. Next month's Messenger will have this section updated. Other financial information can be found on the bulletin board outside the office.

Worship Leadership Opportunity

Pastor Bryan is looking for individuals, couples, and families who would be interested in helping the worship of St. Peder's reflect the people of our community. As we roll out the new ways of helping our worshipping community, our first will be writing and leading our Prayers of the People. If you are interested in this, please tell Pastor Bryan. He will be happy to help coach or guide the process, especially as we get started with a new way of saying our Prayers of the People.

Second Annual Stocking Stuffer Spectacular

It's that time of year again! Any children under age 18 that would like to receive gifts in their church stocking are welcome to sign up to receive candy, snacks, and small toys in their stocking each week starting the



Sunday after Thanksgiving. There will be a sign-up sheet posted to the bulletin board outside the office the second week of November, or you can email your child's name, age, and food allergies to Lyn at office@stpeders.org. **Sign-up deadline is November 24th.**



November 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|-----------------------|--------|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 9 am Worship 9 am Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 6:30 pm Kith & Kin Crash Course All Saints Sunday | 6 pm Healing the Nation Service | 10 am Exercise Class* 2 pm Chronic Disease Support Group 6 pm Bible Study | 9 am Quilters | 10 am Exercise Class* | | 10:15 am Dance by Lauren 2 pm Fiber Arts |
| 9 am Worship 9 am Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 5:30 Kith & Kin Crash Course 10 am Aebleskive Breakfast | 7 pm Kith & Kin Rehearsal | 10 am Exercise Class* 12 pm Potluck 6 pm Ssisters in Crime 6 pm Bible Study | 7 pm Council Meeting | 10 am Exercise Class* | 15 | 10:30 am Deafblind Club Meeting* 2 pm Fiber Arts |
| 9 am Worship 9 am Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 5:30 pm Kith & Kin Potluck | 7 pm Kith & Kin Rehearsal Rehearsal Newsletter Articles Due | 10 am Exercise Class* 6 pm Bible Study | 9 am Quilters | 10 am Exercise Class* | 22 | 10:30 am Brownies 2 pm Dance by Lauren |
| 9 am Worship 9 am Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 Budget Meeting 6:30 pm Kith & Kin Crash Course | 6 pm Kith & Kin Rehearsal early start | 10 am Exercise Class* 6 pm Bible Study | 7 pm Thanksgiving Eve service at Minnehaha UMC | 10 am Exercise Class* | 29 | 30 |

November Volunteer Schedule

November 3

Greeters: John & Doreen Skraba
Ushers: Peter Juhl & Karen Vetsch
Acolyte: Isla Wills
Reader: Dwight Lundebly
Communion Set-Up: Kristi Lahti-Johnson & Chuck Johnson
Communion Servers: Shawna Nelsen-Wills, Leslee Nestingen & Lisa Rovick
Communion Bread & Wine: Denise Logeland & Tom Dennstedt
Counters: Steve Austin & Sue Nielsen
Livestream Tech: Darrick Jensen
LSS Safehouse Nov. 4: Bill & Judy Anderson
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 7

November 10

Greeters: Tim & Elizabeth Anderson
Ushers: Lisa Jensen & Butch Vossen
Acolyte: Maren Odeen
Reader: Elizabeth Anderson
Counters: Terri Vetsch & Paul Aitchison
Livestream Tech: Cameron Jamison
LSS Safehouse Nov. 11: Chuck Johnson, Kristi Lahti-Johnson, Eric & Bethene Hunsberger
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 8

November 17

Greeters: Jill & Kerry Audette
Ushers: Tom Goodoien & Peter Juhl
Acolyte: Eden Hunsberger
Reader: Judy Hogan
Counters: Marcia Rocheleau & Sue Schnickel
Livestream Tech: Karen Vetsch
LSS Safehouse Nov. 18: Curt & Meg Petersen
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 1

November 24

Greeters: Tim & Elizabeth Anderson
Ushers: Paul Aitchison & Tom Goodoien
Acolyte: Elena Wilson
Reader: Tim Anderson
Counters: Bob Stanich & Doreen Skraba
Livestream Tech: Karen Vetsch
LSS Safehouse Nov. 25: Denise Logeland & Tom Dennstedt
Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 2



November Worship Schedule

November 3

All Saints Sunday

9 am Worship
9 am Faith Formation
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

November 10

Aebleskive Breakfast

9 am Worship
9 am Faith Formation
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

November 17

9 am Worship
9 am Faith Formation
10 am Coffee & Fellowship

November 24

9 am Worship
9 am Faith Formation
10 am Coffee & Fellowship
10:15 am Budget Meeting

**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 46th Avenue and 42nd Street in south Minneapolis.



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.

Church Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Bryan Odeen

pastorbryan@stpeders.org

Organist/Music Ministry Coordinator:

Mia Kruse

mia@stpeders.org

Office Coordinator: Lyn Town

office@stpeders.org

Accounts Manager: Roger Miller

bookkeeping@stpeders.org

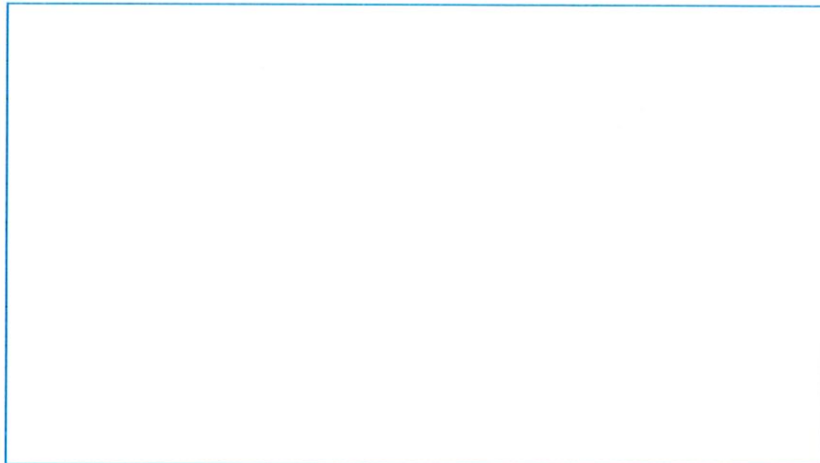
Faith Formation: Sarah Laulunen-Raj

faithformation@stpeders.org

Caretaker: Jim Austin

**St. Peder's Evangelical
Lutheran Church ELCA**
4600 E 42nd St.
Minneapolis, MN 55406
Phone: 612-722-8000
www.stpeders.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE





Every Meal Was called Sheridan Story

Looking for volunteers to help drop off pre bagged, non perishable sacks of food to students at Howe. The ask is for 1 hour a day, once every 6 or 8 weeks

A person or team go to Howe school to deliver weekend meals for students that are signed up with the program. Average distribution is 18 meals. Normally on a Friday but depends on the MPS calendar. We take turns with Christ Church Lutheran to cover the school year.

Talk to Karen Vetsch if you have any questions or would like to sign up. 612-721-7385 text / cell

FYI



Every Meal is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to fight child hunger. We focus on filling the **food gaps children face on **weekends, extended breaks, and summer** when they're not able to access school meal programs. Through our multiple food gap programs, we provide children and families experiencing food insecurity with access to good food at more than 500 locations in Minnesota. Donate, volunteer, and join us in our fight against child hunger.**

Every Meal | 2723 Patton Road, Roseville, MN 55113