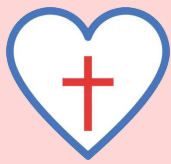


ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH



Anchored in Christ Since 1867
3030 Navajo Ave. Watertown, MN 55388

July 2026 Newsletter

Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.

*Holy Communion is celebrated
the second and fourth Sunday of
each month.*



Summer Adult Bible Study

10:15 a.m.

Phone: (952) 955-1679
Email: admin@stpeterlc.org
3030 Navajo Ave. Watertown, MN 55388
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 508 Watertown, MN 55388

Thank you



Thank you to all who helped
celebrate Pastor Hagen's 50
years of ministry. Your
presence and support made
this special milestone even
more meaningful.

JULY

Birthday Blessing

David Heldt	7 th
Ken Dressel	15 th
Lisa Jewison	17 th
Rick DeNomme	18 th
Elissa Stoeckman	20 th
Jan Anderson	27 th
Lana Putt Mueller	30 th

Rails WATER to TOWN Trails

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE • WATERTOWN, MINNESOTA
— **JULY 20-25, 2026** —

FESTIVAL WEEK HIGHLIGHTS



Golden Spike Hunt — Monday-Friday
Clue revealed at 9:00 AM
each day on the website.



WM Alumni Gathering — Tuesday, July 21
Back Channel Brewing, Spring Park
WM alumni invited.

FRIDAY • JULY 24, 2026

- Trap Shoot — 4:00–7:00 PM — Rod & Gun Club
- Golf Tournament — Timber Creek
- Historical Society — City Hall — 1:00–5:00 PM
- Library Book Sale — City Hall — 9:00 AM–5:00 PM
- Sidewalk Chalk — 4:30 PM
- Disc Golf Tournament — Check-in: 3:30 PM;
Shotgun Start 4:00 PM
- Food Competition / Judging —
City Hall — 5:00–8:00 PM
- Mobile T-shirt Printing
- Food Trucks & Restaurants Open — 5:00–10:00 PM
- Shaw Band — 5:30–8:00 PM
- Misting Station — bank drive-through area
- Kid's Fun Zone — 5:30–8:30 PM — Pocket Park
- Legends Magic Tourney — 6:30 PM
- Burrito Eating Contest — 5:30 PM
- Tie Dye outside Hearthside Books — 6:00 PM
- Bingo at City Hall — 7:00–9:00 PM
- Red Devils Game — 7:30 PM at Highland Park
- SYT at WM PAC — 7:00 PM — Save The Circus
- IV Play Band — 9:00 PM—Midnight
- Fireworks — 10:15 PM

SATURDAY • JULY 25, 2026

MORNING

- 5K & Kid's Fun Run — 8:00 AM — Pocket Park
- Car Show — cars arrive / registration starts at 8:30 AM
- Craft & Vendor Event / Taste of Cottage Bakers —
9:00 AM–1:00 PM, City Center Park
- Bike Rodeo — 9:30–10:30 AM, bank drive-through area
- Library Book Sale — City Hall — 9:00 AM–5:00 PM
- Annalise Ryan Author Signing — Hearthside Books —
10:00 AM–2:00 PM
- Food Trucks & Restaurants Open — 11:00 AM–10:00 PM
- Grand Parade — 11:00 AM
- FAB Tourney at Legends — 11:00 AM

AFTERNOON

- Kid's Zone — after parade—3:00 PM, Pocket Park
- Historical Society — 12:00–4:00 PM, City Hall
- Foam Party — 12:30–2:00 PM, bank drive-through area
- Meat Raffle — Riverside — 12:30 PM
- Duck Races — 2:00 PM — Rick Johnson Park
- Kid's Fishing Contest — sign up 2:00 PM outside Farmer's Plate
- Misting Station — bank drive-through area
- Corn Hole / Bags Tournament — Game of Throws; sign-up at 1:00 PM
- Hey Sugar Cookie Bar — star-shaped cookies, \$5 — 2:00–4:00 PM
- Game Show (Ages 12–17) — 2:30–3:15 PM
- Game Show (18 & older) — 3:30–4:15 PM
- Golf Simulator — 12:00–8:00 PM
- Everett Smithson Band — 2:00–4:30 PM, harmonica lessons after

EVENING

- Plasma Car Racing — 4:00–6:00 PM,
kids/teens parent & child, no charge
- Deep Roots — 5:00–8:00 PM
- Toilet Bowl Racing — 6:00–8:00 PM;
\$15 fee with prize money
- Bingo — 7:00–9:00 PM — City Hall
- Maiden Dixie — 8:30 PM—Midnight

SUNDAY • JULY 26, 2026

- Purse Bingo — 1:00 PM — Luce Line Lodge



Friendship Group

If you're interested in good conversation and friendly chatter, please join us!

Join the Friendship Group on Monday, July 13 at Pho Viet 45, the Vietnamese restaurant in Delano. Our group has been there a number of times to enjoy that special cuisine. The restaurant is located on the street behind Dairy Queen.

Upcoming Meetings at St. Peter Lutheran Church

- **Council Meeting:** Thursday, July 16, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Voters' Meeting:** Sunday, July 26, immediately following the worship service.

All eligible members are encouraged to attend the Voters' Meeting.

St. Peter Members Only

The Fellowship Hall and Kitchen are available to rent.

- Rental Fee: \$100
- Deposit: \$100

For more information or to reserve the space, please contact Joyce DeNomme or Ruth Bury.

🎉 **Great news, everyone!** 🎉

The new pavilion at Central Park is officially complete and ready for action! We can't wait to see it come alive during this year's Minnesota Oktoberfest.



Pastor's Piece of Peace

Freedom That Lasts

Dear Friends in Christ,

July is here, and summer is in full swing. The days are long, the grills are hot, the gardens are growing, the lakes are busy, and many of us are trying to enjoy a little rest, recreation, and time with family and friends. July also brings us the Fourth of July, and this year we mark a special milestone: the 250th anniversary of our nation.

There is much to give thanks for as citizens of this country. We are blessed with freedoms that many people throughout history, and many people around the world today, have not enjoyed. Freedom of worship, freedom of speech, freedom to gather, freedom to serve our neighbor, and freedom to live and work in peace are gifts worth cherishing. It is right for us to pause, celebrate, and give thanks to God for the blessings we have received.

At the same time, as Christians, we remember that our deepest and truest freedom is not found in any earthly nation, government, or document. Our ultimate freedom is found in Jesus Christ.

St. Paul writes, **"For freedom Christ has set us free"**(Galatians 5:1). Jesus Himself says, **"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed"** (John 8:36).

That is the freedom that lasts. Christ has set us free from sin, death, guilt, shame, and the power of the devil. He has set us free not by armies or elections, not by fireworks or flags, but by His holy life, His suffering and death on the cross, and His glorious resurrection from the dead.

This freedom in Christ does not make us proud or arrogant. It does not lead us to look down on others. It does not turn our faith into politics or our country into our Savior. Rather, the freedom of Christ humbles us. It sends us out to love our neighbor, serve those in need, pray for our leaders, seek peace, speak truth, and live as people whose true citizenship is in heaven.

St. Peter reminds us, **"Live as people who are free... living as servants of God"** (1 Peter 2:16). What a wonderful calling. We are free in Christ, and because we are free, we are free to serve.

So this July, enjoy the blessings of summer. Celebrate with gratitude the freedoms we have in this country. Give thanks for those who have served and sacrificed. Pray for our nation, our leaders, and our neighbors. But above all, rejoice daily in the freedom that only Jesus can give.

Earthly freedoms are precious and should never be taken for granted. But the freedom we have in Christ is eternal. It is a freedom to be cherished, celebrated, and lived every single day.

In Christ's peace,
Pastor Doug