



**SUNDAY MASSES  
In Main Church**  
 Saturday at 5 p.m.  
 Sunday at 8 & 10 a.m.  
 10 am Mass is Livestreamed  
 on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and  
[St. Peter's website](#)

**DAILY MASSES  
Historic Church**  
 Tuesday: 9 am & 5:45 pm  
 Wednesday: 9 am  
 Thursday: 9 am  
 Friday: 9 am  
**PERPETUAL ADORATION**  
 Chapel of the Nativity

**RECONCILIATION  
In Main Church**  
 Tuesday 5-5:40 pm  
 Friday 8-8:50 a.m.  
 Saturday 3:30-4:45 p.m.  
 Other times by  
 appointment.

*Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time* *September 19, 2021*

Bad habits are a bear to overcome. Breaking out of bad routines and patterns of behavior always takes what seems to be an extraordinary effort, and many times the effort required truly is extraordinary.

The traditional “pull yourself up by your own bootstraps” axiom—a distinctively individualistic sentiment, presents numerous legitimate problems. While we can only accomplish the task before us by divine providence, another axiom becomes more and more apparently real: “all you can do is all you can do.”

Our culture in America is saturated through with the assumption that doing and accomplishing more is always better. If we are not producing, the fault is fully within us, and we are a liability to the entire society. However, this system of operation really leaves no room for God. No room for the right person in the right place, or from God’s perspective, another favorite axiom of mine, “the right tool for the job.”

We have another enculturated practice of claiming as strengths mere vestiges of our own pride. By that same token, we view the need for help as a grievous weakness. We fancy ourselves quite sufficient within our own devices. In this, we estrange ourselves from Christ. It is a manifestation of the Pelagian heresy to believe that we can save ourselves through our effort, that our strength can gain us redemption.

What we must learn is the meaning of 2 Corinthians 12:9-10:

[The Lord] said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me. Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

It is not so much that we should be weak, but that we are, in fact, weak. We are, all of us, truly unable to bring about the kind of change that will make us holy, or the world in a way that will facilitate the conversion of our hearts to the Lord’s heart and will. Yet, it is not so much that we should not try our best, but that we must accept that our all is not going to suffice.

Living faith lies in doing all we can, giving our all with the understanding that we will not have enough, and relying on

God, in the infinite superabundance of divine grace, to make up every measure of what we lack or cannot muster.

Likewise, holiness of life—actually living in the grace that is available to us—is to be found in accepting that limitation with hope and love. Faith, hope, and love are put into practice when we bring our very best to a task, doing no more or less than God asks of us. Doing more exceeds our call and can be a manifestation of pride. Doing less is a similar manifestation of pride, rejecting the good work in which God has prepared for us to walk (Ephesians 2:10).

This is not a guilt thing, not a shame thing, not a condemnation thing. This is an encouragement to take note of your real gifts, receiving and accepting them from the Lord, and leveraging them for the good of the Kingdom of God—doing exactly the work he has set before you to do—and most of all, trusting, believing, and allowing him to make up the difference between your shortcomings and the hoped-for result. Many, many times God is working another person into that very gap to accomplish his will fully, completely, and seamlessly. God’s works and his will are not done incompletely, and his work indeed does not return to him void, but they accomplish just what he sent them to do. Let us be the same, accomplishing just what he sends us to do.

David M. Dunst  
 Director of Music and Liturgy

## YOUTH

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our religious education program will be starting up again soon! Liturgy of the Word for Children begins Sunday, September 26, at the 10 a.m. Mass. Our Wednesday evening programs begin September 29, at 6 p.m.

If you haven't yet registered, you may go to [www.stpetersmendota.org/faith-formation](http://www.stpetersmendota.org/faith-formation) to do so online.

### FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Academic excellence, a faith-based education and a supportive community that engages the whole family are just a few reasons why our families love Faithful Shepherd. **Financial aid is available.** For more information, please call Faithful Shepherd School at 651-406-4747 or go to [www.fscsmn.org](http://www.fscsmn.org). We look forward to meeting and sharing our school with you!

St. John Neumann \* St. Peter's \* St. Thomas Becket

### EXPERIENCE VISITATION! JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE

In grades 9-12, Visitation School offers an all-girls education designed for girls just like you. We empower our students to become their best selves, to become leaders in and out of the classroom and to make a difference in our world. At our Open House, meet current students, learn about an all-girls education, see teachers in action and tour our beautiful campus.

Register for the September 28 or November 16 Open Houses at [visitation.net/openhouse21](http://visitation.net/openhouse21)



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

St Peter's is in need of servers! There will be a training for new and current servers on Saturday, October 16, from 10 a.m. until noon in the Main Church. Any young person in grade four or older who is interested in serving is encouraged to attend this training. This will also be an opportunity for current servers to refresh their skills. Please contact Deacon Tim at [thennessey@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:thennessey@stpetersmendota.org) or at 651-905-4301, if you have any questions.

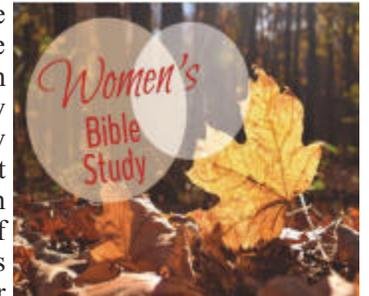
### 2022 UGANDA MISSION TRIP



We are in the early stages of planning another mission trip to Uganda for June 5—17, of 2022. It is our hope that by then, things will be returning to normal. Space is limited to 12 people. If you would like to learn more, or reserve a space on the trip, please contact Laurie Reding at [lreding1@aol.com](mailto:lreding1@aol.com) or (612) 419-1709.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

This fall, the Women's Bible Study at St. Peter's will dive into Jesus Revealed, an 18-part program produced by Catholic Scripture Study International and Saint Benedict Press. This in-depth study of the typology of Christ in Scripture promises to help broaden your knowledge of—and deepen your love for—Our Lord.



The weekly sessions start on **Tuesday, October 5**, at 10 a.m. and continue through next March. If you'd like to learn more or sign up, contact Sandy Rabuse at [sandyrabuse@comcast.net](mailto:sandyrabuse@comcast.net) or at 651-681-9258.

### SANDWICH LUNCH MINISTRY

Our next collection of lunch items to be distributed to Sharing & Caring Hands in Minneapolis will be **Tuesday, September 21, from 12 to 1pm**. Please pull up to the north Main Church doors, and we will come out to your car. We will continue to collect on the third Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in donating items for lunches, please contact Nancy Stanton at 651-686-9009 or [nanrr1@yahoo.com](mailto:nanrr1@yahoo.com).

It is extremely helpful for us to know how much food to expect, so please be sure to sign up in advance. Each donor is asked to bring 20 to 40 of one, two, or all of the following:

- Sandwiches: Choose turkey, ham, or bologna and cheese. No condiments on sandwiches, please. Place each sandwich in an individual bag. Sandwiches are easiest to store and transport if you stack bagged sandwiches inside your empty bread bags!
- Individual serving bags of chips
- Individually wrapped cookies
- Oranges, Cuties, or individual fruit cups (**PLEASE, NO BANANAS**)

**Please do NOT put items into paper lunch bags.** Thank you!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### THANK YOU! FROM NEIGHBORS, INC.

Thank you to everyone who donated food for our food shelf in August. We are so grateful for the 238 pounds we received. You are helping so many of your neighbors.

~ The Team at Neighbors, Inc.

### 11TH ANNUAL GREAT NEIGHBORS' DUCK RACES



Date: Saturday, October 2  
Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Neighbors' annual Duck Races are back, during "On The Road Again!" This annual fundraising event helps support the essential services programs at Neighbors. Ducks are \$5 each, and there are prizes for each race. This year's grand prize is a Weber SmokeFire grill! You do not need to be present to win. [Click here to get your ducks.](#)

### NEIGHBORS FOOD SHELF NEEDS

Neighbors is in need of donations of personal care items to distribute to shoppers in the food shelf. These items are expensive and are often not covered by other food support programs. Items that are most often requested include: shampoo, laundry soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, soap, and shaving supplies/razors. Thank you.

Donations are accepted Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Food Shelf receiving door on the lower level of our building.

### CHARITY HOCKEY GAME



Save the date! Neighbors, Inc. will be the benefiting organization for this year's Hold the Line Police and Fire Department Charity Hockey Game. Join us for a fun afternoon of hockey, food, and raffles and prizes. The puck drops at 3 p.m. on October 9. Come cheer on our local heroes!

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT NEIGHBORS, INC.

Neighbors has a variety of upcoming volunteer opportunities, including some outside of the traditional work day. We are in need of volunteers for the following:

- Clothes Closet Donation Attendant (ongoing)
- Fundraising Events
- Duck Races (Oct. 2)
- Hold the Line (Oct. 9)

To sign up to volunteer, please click into our [Volunteer Portal here.](#)



### SPECIAL FALL FESTIVAL THANK YOUS

A special thank you to our festival chairperson, Gail Barta, for her festival leadership and all the generous committee leaders for their dedicated work to make this festival possible:

**Bingo:** Barb Lowe and Bill Ferguson  
**Country Store:** Gail Barta, Kathy Chapdelaine  
**Kids Games:** Yvonne Houle Gillard  
**Silent Auction:** Beth Lauber, Laura Peltier, Danielle and John Plut, Barb and Joe Yourczek

**Pie and Coffee:** Anne Igo and Laura Peltier  
**Raffle:** Joe Igo  
**Food Trucks:** Gary and Ann Anderson

Thank you to all who donated items for the various events, for purchasing the raffle tickets, and for praying for a successful fall festival. We hope you enjoy the day!

## STEWARDSHIP \* COMMUNITY NEWS

### JESUS OUR HOPE, YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER. . .

We have received almost \$2.5 million in pledges! We have reduced this loan by \$1.35 million. Please continue to pray for the campaign as it continues. Please return your pledge card to the parish office through the mail, dropping it in the Sunday Collection boxes, or dropping it off at the office. We are following up with the those who have not returned a card. Working together we can eliminate the construction debt for the Church and Heritage Center. Thank you for your generosity. If you have questions about making a pledge please contact Peter Guzulaitis at 651-905-4307 or via e-mail at [directorofoperations@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:directorofoperations@stpetersmendota.org).

Report on Debt for Church and Heritage Center Construction		Jesus our Hope Capital Campaign	
Debt as of September 2020	\$3,591,160.00	Pledged as of 9/3/2021	\$2,475,477.00
Proceeds from the sale of Rectory	\$241,532.00		
Principal Payment from Capital Campaign Reduction	\$1,054,600.00	Pledged Money Received	\$1,356,213.00
Other payments	\$35,088.96		
<b>Total Reduction in Principal since October 1st 2020</b>	<b>\$1,331,220.96</b>	<b>Total income from campaign</b>	<b>\$1,356,213.00</b>
		<b>Balance Due on Pledges</b>	<b>\$919,264.00</b>
		<b>Amount needed to meet our goal.</b>	<b>\$1,331,838.04</b>
<b>Total Principal Due on Loan as of 9/3/2021</b>	<b>\$2,259,939.04</b>		

The difference between the "Pledged Money Received" and the Principal Reduction is in our checking account. These funds are used to make scheduled principal and interest payments on our debt.

### GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

August 2021 COL-LECTIONS	August 2021	August 2020	Year over Year	Fiscal Year to Date	Prior Year thru August	Year over Year
Sunday Envelope & Electronic Gifts	\$ 77,246.11	\$ 67,564.70	\$ 9,681.41	\$ 154,203.67	\$ 149,618.15	\$ 4,585.52
Sunday Plate	\$ 258.00	\$ 254.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 734.06	\$ 874.25	\$ (140.19)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 77,504.11</b>	<b>\$ 67,818.70</b>	<b>\$ 9,685.41</b>	<b>\$ 154,937.73</b>	<b>\$ 150,492.40</b>	<b>\$ 4,445.33</b>

*Sunday giving keeps the lights on, pays for repairs, and funds all ministries and operations. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish community.*

### STAY SAFE



With the coming cold and flu season and with a desire to keep everyone safe from illness, please stay home from Mass if any of the following apply to you:

1. You have any cold symptoms, including a cough, fever, headache, or achiness.
2. You have been in close contact with someone who has a communicable disease, including Covid-19.
3. You have reason to believe your health would be significantly compromised, if you were to contract a communicable illness.

As the Minnesota Bishops remind us, "we are excused from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays or Holy Days," under these circumstances. If you are unable to attend for any reason, we welcome you to watch the livestream of the Mass each Sunday at 10 a.m. Thank you helping us keep everyone safe!

## PASTORAL MINISTRY

### FOLLOWING JESUS



Jesus' radical way of teaching confounded those in his time. We hear today about the importance of humility. We hear that the last shall be first, and the first shall be last. In what ways is God calling each of us to deeper humility in our lives?

### HAITI COLLECTION

We continue to collect sheets for the people in Haiti. There is a great need for these items. White (or nearly white) sheets and pillow cases are needed for the burial of babies, children, and adults. How easy for us to be part of this corporal work of mercy!

People also have a need for empty pill bottles. Please remove the labels from the bottles. It is easy to remove them; simply fill the containers with HOT water. The heat will loosen the label, and it will peel off easily.

We also continue to collect canvas bags and totes. Please make sure they are washable, as they will be used to carry food.

You may drop your contributions on the table outside the office, by the Adoration Chapel. Thank you for your contributions.

### JOIN A SYNOD SMALL GROUP AT YOUR PARISH

In August of 2020, based on the information already gathered in the Prayer and Listening Events, as well as the information gathered for the Ad Limina visit with Pope Francis in January, and the results of the Disciple Marker Index, Archbishop Hebda has discerned the initial set of focus areas for the Archdiocesan Synod. Those areas will set the parameters for discussions at the deanery and parish levels:

- Forming parishes that are in the service of evangelization
- Forming missionary disciples who know Jesus's love and respond to his call
- Forming youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young

This fall, your prayer, conversation, and feedback on priorities, within these focus areas will inform the topics selected for the Synod Assembly in June 2022.

How? Through Synod small groups, which will meet at parishes across the archdiocese this fall. Make plans now to join in this momentous process at your parish!

St. Peter's is offering small groups Monday evenings from 6 to 7:30 p.m., September 20 to October 25; and on Thursday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m., September 23 to October 28. There is no need to register; simply choose your preferred time of day and plan to join us.

### CATECHISM CORNER BY DAVID DUNST



Catechism Corner

So, this column has at last taken its toll on my copy of the Catechism. The weeks and months of toting around my paperback volume of the Catechism of the Catholic Church left the cover and several pages curled and dogeared, with the laminate covering beginning to peel away from the front and back covers. This occasioned a little personal gift: buying a new Catholic book—in this case, a hardcover edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church with

Theological Commentary. I'm looking forward to mining the insights of others far more learned than myself, as we continue to progress through this ongoing course of formation in the truths of the Catholic faith.

Prayer in the Holy Spirit unites us with Christ and with the Church and in that filial prayer, we find ourselves united with Mary, the holy Mother of God (CCC 2673). This is one of the very powerful aspects of the Communion of Saints, among whom the Blessed Mother is queen: that by dint of our common standing before God, we have greater communion with each other—we with each other, all the living, and the saints, in particular by virtue of our Baptism.

Therefore, we can learn much from the example of Mary as we approach prayer and have confidence that following in her steps, we can enjoy ever greater union with the Lord, culminating in the beatific vision of heaven – beholding at last the very face of God in Christ Jesus.

Because she was invited to the highest calling a human being could receive in the body, her consent makes her uniquely qualified to mother all the saints in the way of receiving and accepting Jesus the Savior, in spite of the many troubles and dangers we experience on the way. So, Mary is “herself ‘the Sign’ of the way (CCC 2674),” directing us to the Son of God.

From the beginning, Mary's unique cooperation with the very real work of the Holy Spirit has earned her very popular and fruitful devotion amongst the faithful, and is enshrined in the Churches through prayers and hymns. These prayers and hymns commonly share a twofold motion from first extolling the Lord for what has been done in and through Mary, to secondly entrusting our prayers and petitions to Mary to keep in holy intercession with the Lord. (CCC 2675)

Next week: the Ave Maria, or “Hail Mary” as the pattern of prayer to Jesus through Mary.

*Come as a guest.  
Leave as a friend.*



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

**Sunday:** Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/  
Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37

**Monday:** Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6  
[3]/Lk 8:16-18

**Tuesday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt  
9:9-13

**Wednesday:** Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8  
[1b]/Lk 9:1-6

**Thursday:** Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b  
[cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9

**Friday:** Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22

**Saturday:** Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab,  
13 [cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45

**Next Sunday:** Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14  
[9a]/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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## MASS INTENTIONS

The following are the intentions offered by the priest at Mass.

<b>Mon, Sept 20</b>	9 am		No Mass
<b>Tues, Sept 21</b>	9 am	†	Robert P. LeMay
	5:45 pm	†	Joseph Rustin Shields
<b>Wed, Sept 22</b>	9 am	†	Bonnie Daly
<b>Thur, Sept 23</b>	9 am	†	Ruthe Perron
<b>Fri, Sept 24</b>	9 am	†	Dawn Kulaszewicz
<b>Sat, Sept 25</b>	5 pm	†	Larry Sachi
<b>Sun, Sept 26</b>	8 am	†	Jeffrey Weiss
	10 am		Mass For The People

## ADORATION CHAPEL



*"The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all of my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world." ~ St. John Paul II*

We are in need of adorers in the Chapel of the Nativity. Please prayerfully consider committing to an hour.

To sign up for a regular Hour of Adoration, please call Lisa Fontecha at 651-905-4304 or email her at [lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org).

*"Could you not watch one hour with me?"  
~ Matthew 26:40*

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: SEPT. 20, 2021

### Monday, September 20

6 pm Synod Small Groups, Heritage Center  
6 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 1 & 2

### Tuesday, September 21

8:30 am Rosary, Historic Church  
9 am **Daily Mass, Historic Church**  
12 pm Sandwich Lunch Ministry Drop Off, St. Peter's Parking Lot  
5 pm **Reconciliation, Main Church**  
5:45 pm **Daily Mass, Historic Church**

### Wednesday, September 22

8:30 am Rosary, Historic Church  
9 am **Daily Mass, Historic Church**  
6 pm Grades 1, 3, 4, 5 Teacher Training, Ravoux Room  
7 pm Perissos, Youth Room

### Thursday, September 23

9 am **Daily Mass, Historic Church**  
10 am Synod Small Groups, Heritage Center  
6 pm Young Adults Rosary Talk, Main Church  
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

### Friday, September 24

8 am **Reconciliation, Main Church**  
9 am **Mass, Historic Church**

### Saturday, September 25

9 am & 10:30 am  
AA Meeting, Classrooms  
3:30 pm **Reconciliation, Main Church**  
5 pm **Mass, Main Church**

### Sunday, September 26

7:30 am Rosary for St. Peter's, Main Church  
8 am **Mass, Main Church**  
10 am **Mass, Main Church**—Livestreamed on [YouTube](#), or on [Facebook](#).  
10 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Classrooms 2 and 10



## PARISH LEADERSHIP

### ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Peter's is here to bring the good news of the Gospel to all, so that every person can have a personal, life changing, life giving relationship with Jesus Christ.

### TRUSTEES

Sue Zhulkie	651-454-6434
Mark Mischke	651-444-8888

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ann Hoey: Chair  
Mike Maslow: Vice Chair  
Margaret Wolters: Secretary

Amylia Bult	Sam Claassen
Andrew Elm	Anne Igo
Kevin Lovegreen	Sue Lovegreen
Greg Montana	Mary Stoick

The pastoral council can be reached at [parishpastoralcouncil@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:parishpastoralcouncil@stpetersmendota.org) or by phoning Jennifer at 651-905-4305.

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Phone: 651-452-4550

### BAPTISMS

Kathy Raible 651-905-4311

### NEW PARISHIONERS

Anne O'Keefe 651-905-4308

### WEDDINGS

Lisa Fontecha 651-905-4304

### PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Email Lisa at [lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org) or call her at 651-905-4304 or call the parish office at 651-452-4550.

### STAFF

**Father Steven Hoffman**

[frsteven@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:frsteven@stpetersmendota.org)

**Msgr. Jeffrey Steenson (until November 30)**

651-905-4305

[jsteenson@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:jsteenson@stpetersmendota.org)

**Deacon Tim Hennessey**

651-905-4301

[thennessey@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:thennessey@stpetersmendota.org)

**Jennifer Nelson Kellar, Assistant to the Pastor**

651-905-4305

[jnelsonkellar@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:jnelsonkellar@stpetersmendota.org)

**David Dunst, Director of Music & Liturgy**

651-905-4323

[ddunst@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:ddunst@stpetersmendota.org)

**Peter Guzulaitis, Director of Operations**

651-905-4307

[directorofoperations@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:directorofoperations@stpetersmendota.org)

**Lisa Fontecha, Director of Mission & Ministry**

651-905-4304

[lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org)

**Lynn Kelley, Assistant to Mission & Ministry**

651-905-4309

[lkelly@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:lkelly@stpetersmendota.org)

**Anne O'Keefe, Community Life Coordinator**

651-905-4308

[aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org)

**Rita Holien, Communications Coordinator**

651-905-4302

[rholien@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:rholien@stpetersmendota.org)

**Kathy Raible**

**Elementary Faith Formation Coordinator**

**Safe Environment Coordinator**

651-905-4311

[kraible@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:kraible@stpetersmendota.org)

**Elizabeth McCanna, Youth Minister**

651-905-4312

[emccanna@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:emccanna@stpetersmendota.org)

**Karen Cronin**

**Accounting/Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

651-905-4314

[kcronin@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:kcronin@stpetersmendota.org)

**Tom Deshler, Maintenance Supervisor**

651-905-4322

[tdeshler@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:tdeshler@stpetersmendota.org)



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