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**CONTACT:**

Bob Kulp  
Kulp's of Stratford  
C1891 Hwy 153  
Stratford, WI 54484  
Phone: (715) 687-3368  
Cell: (715) 615-9300  
E-mail: [bob.kulp@kulproof.com](mailto:bob.kulp@kulproof.com)

**Stevens Point Church Looks Far Ahead with New Roof, Steeple**

Stratford, Wisconsin – (May 26, 2006) – A historic Stevens Point landmark and one of the oldest churches in Wisconsin is going to be around for a whole lot longer as a result getting a new roof and steeple.

Saint Peter Catholic Church will soon be displaying a new stone-coated steel roof and a copper steeple. The new roof will have a life expectancy of up to 75 years and the steeple more than 100 years.

Father Kevin Louis, pastor at Saint Peter's, says the new roof and steeple are being installed just in time.

"We were having quite a problem with water leaks and damage with our old roof," Louis says. "Now with this new roof and steeple, we will be able to preserve our rich heritage as a place of worship. This is a historically significant church that is also one of the most beautiful churches in Wisconsin."

Louis says the generosity of the church's parishioners was the key to making the project happen.

"The fact that this project is taking place is a tribute to the tremendous generosity and commitment of our church's members and supporters," Louis says. "This has been a true labor of love, and they have really sacrificed financially to make this a reality."

Bob Kulp, co-owner of Kulp's of Stratford, the roofing contractor for the project, says that the new stone-coated metal roofs have been in existence since 1957 and have been installed in churches, residences and other buildings in more than 80 countries around the world. "Some of those roofs are still performing wonderfully even after nearly 50 years," Kulp says.

Kulp says that an additional benefit of using a stone-coated metal roof is that it can be attached right over the existing roof. "This helps the environment by keeping a considerable amount of material and construction debris out of landfills," he explains.

According to Kulp, there is also another historic connection with the project. "The sheets of copper being installed on the steeple were purchased from Revere Copper Products, a company that was founded by Paul Revere in 1801," he says.

Kulp's of Stratford is a roofing and insulation contractor that provides construction and support services to churches, businesses and residential customers throughout central Wisconsin.

Saint Peter Catholic Church is more than 100 years old and is a part of the Diocese of La Crosse. In more recent years, it has become known for its visit from Cardinal Karol Wojtyla in 1976, who was named Pope John Paul II in 1978.

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