

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 3, 2020



*Sharing the
Truth of Christ's
Love by Caring
for the Needs
of Everyone!*

SUNDAY SERVICE

9:00 am
(Communion every
second and
fourth Sunday)

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

(ages 3 through 5th Grade)
10:20 am

CONFIRMATION CLASS

(6th-8th Grades)
10:20 am

HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

(9th-12th Grades)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:20 am

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, 9:00 AM WORSHIP AND 10:20 AM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HAS BEEN SUSPENDED. WE WILL ALERT YOU AS SOON AS THEY RESUME. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR EAVES AT 701.340.8324.

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

What is church? The Church is the invisible community of all those that believe in Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, as their Savior. Buildings and gatherings of people are all well and good, and they bring us comfort. But COVID-19 is quickly making it clear to us that quality is more important than quantity.

The blueprint for what the church is supposed to look, act, and sound like is found in Acts 2:42-47, "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Wow! Can you imagine going to church every day with a focus on being in God's Word, Holy Communion, and Christian fellowship. Wouldn't it be great if that were all we had to focus on? While that is not realistically available to us, we can do better. There are many Christians who believe that 45 to 50 minutes in worship meets

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Prayer Requests



St. Peter's Youth Group: Pray for the Youth Group, as they continue to raise money for the Higher Things Conference this summer, that God would provide the necessary funds.

Members who are seeking healing and comfort during a difficult time: Jean Brewer, John Wieg, Kristy Bartels, Dennis Roush, Rhonda Driver (Rose Harmon's daughter), Susan Felbinger.

Members who are residing at care centers: Dean Roby (Florence Nursing Home, Marengo), Fern Warfel (Tower Hill Care Center), Meta Meyer, and Ellen Nelson (The Sheridan at Tyler Creek).

Members experiencing increasing difficulties in getting out and about: Alta Dittman, Mary Jane Lindaas, Mabel Maas, Doris Meilahn, Eleanor Miller, Betty Roush, Dean Roby, Marnie Wesemann.

People among us and those around us who suffer from physical, emotional, economic, or coronavirus (COVID-19) pain.

St. Peter's Mission to be revealed by the Holy Spirit and inform us of God's intention to share the love of Jesus with our neighbors.



Food Pantry Update

In April, we served 121 people (32 families).

We're short on disinfecting or cleaning products, tissues, complete meals (Hamburger Helper etc.) variety crackers, cookies, cake or cookie mixes, muffin mixes, packaged rice and pasta sides, variety box pastas, Jell-O and pudding boxes. We are also in need of double-handled or plain, large paper bags.



For something extra, we're also collecting art supplies, anything for children to do while at home and over the summer, since COVID-19 is causing many activities to be cancelled..

Furthermore, starting May 2, we'll be collecting donations on the first Saturday of each month, from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Carts will be placed outside, weather permitting, or you can knock on the door. Our address is 147 Mill Avenue, Hampshire.

Thank you, Dorothy Paddock
Burlington/Hampshire Food Pantry

Little Saints Preschool

Hello!

We at Little Saints were devastated when we had to close for the year. Our classroom is still set up for Dad's Day that did not happen. When we said goodbye to the boys and girls on Friday, March 13, we did not know we were saying goodbye for the year. After I cried my eyes out over this, I found new ways to stay in touch with our preschoolers.



I sent out a monthly calendar with activities to do at home. Each week, I ask the families to post a video on Flipgrid with a letter of the week or a topic. This is a website that a teacher told me about. I love seeing the boys and girls on the video and they love seeing their friends. I have posted a few videos on Facebook live for the boys and girls to see. This next month, I plan on using Zoom to read a story to the boys and girls. We are doing everything we can think of to stay in touch with our families. We are hoping to host an end of the year picnic this summer to close out our preschool year.

While none of this is perfect and it doesn't replace the feel of being in the classroom, it does keep us connected. Pastor keeps us connected with the children's sermons and Mrs. Flatland keeps us connected with weekly Bible stories and activities. I will also be conferencing via Facetime with my families who have children going to kindergarten next year. I truly miss being in the classroom. I truly miss the boys and girls. I am looking forward to next school year and hopefully some 'normalcy'! Stay safe and healthy!

God Bless!
Kristina Kolodziej, Director

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the requirement God has set before us.

As we see here, worship for the early Church was comprised of the reading and expounding on of God's Word, prayer, and the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Holy Baptism. Yes, that's right, all the other stuff has been added by man. Don't get me wrong. Man, by the direction of God, has added a lot of good things to worship. Conversely, though, man has also added things that aren't so good.

These Scriptures also point out how these believers were getting along: it was through the Holy Spirit at work in them. And, as a result, the Church grew in the number of believers who were being saved. Wow!

There was a time when Small Group Ministry was a big thing. I believe it still is. Instead of Small Groups, though, I prefer to call them Life Groups. These are groups of 10 to 14 people who gather together to study God's Word, grow in their relationships to one another and to God, and spend time in Christian fellowship. I have led several of these, and I believe Life Groups are a more appropriate name, because these groups allow the Holy Spirit and God's Word to bring life into their lives and the lives of others.

As we move closer to the lifting of the stay-at-home order, I would love to begin a Life Group ministry here at St. Peter's. Please prayerfully consider being a part of this ministry. It gives you the opportunity to be discipled, grow in your Christian journey, and become an everyday missionary of the Lord Jesus Christ.

So, what is Church? It is the body of believers, which means you are The Church, and Jesus Christ is the Head of it. What is worship? Worship is being in God's Word, receiving God's gifts for you, growing in your relationship to God and others, and being in Christian fellowship. Life Groups meet all these requirements, but they don't negate the need to meet as a congregation. Hebrews 10:19-25 says: "Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that He opened for us through the curtain, that is, through His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

So, for now, we continue to worship in ways that adhere to the civil government's guidelines and look forward to the day when we can meet again. And, when we are allowed to come together to worship again, there will be some changes. Even if those changes are people's reluctance to be as close as they were before COVID-19, I pray we can begin a Life Group ministry the Holy Spirit will use to move people to be more like the Book of Acts Church, bringing more people into a saving relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ. God is great!

***Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Christ has died! Christ is risen! He will come***

Way to Give Your Lutheran Women's Ministry League Mites

We don't know how long it will be until we can worship or meet together, but we do know that God still has work for us to do in His Kingdom. That includes supporting the ministries of our LWML (Northern Illinois District) grants, and the national grants, too. Our biennium ends June 30, and we need \$35,000 to reach our Mite goal. Here are some ways you can still donate your mites.

1. Send a check for your mites directly to our LWML NID Financial Secretary. Include the following information: congregation name and location: Zone #8. Our Financial Secretary's contact information is: LWML NID, PO Box 958012, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169.
2. You also can give on the LWML NID website: lwmlnid.org. In the upper right corner, press the "donate" button and a page comes up for doing a secure online mite donation—also, a box for listing the church and zone information.
3. Contact Sally Hartje, Ladies Aid Chairperson, 847.404.5550, to see how you can give your Mites to her directly.

May God Bless the LWML as We serve the Lord with Gladness!

MAY CALENDAR

Birthdays are in red
Anniversaries are in green

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Ed Wesemann	2
3 Worship (available on the Website and Facebook) Thomas & Marilyn Eaves	4	5 Nancy Heine	6	7	8 Betty Roush	9 Gordon Gehrke
10 Worship (available on the Website and Facebook)	11	12	13	14 Heidi Blezien	15 Linda Butt James Muetterties	16
17 Worship (available on the Website and Facebook) Erika Siena	18	19	20 Jeff Stuehler	21 Erin Read	22	23
24 / 31 Worship (available on the Website and Facebook)	25 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED Joe & Dolly Hulke	26	27	28	29	30

BUMPER STICKER

Sandy Santoni has made bumper stickers. If you would like one, they are available in the church office. Denise can mail you one, if you are uncomfortable coming in.



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Church Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Pastor's Office Hours
Mon., Wed., Thurs.
10:00 am - 4:30 pm
Tues., Fri.
10:00 am - 12:30 pm