



Why all the different denominations in Christianity? Part 1

Within Christianity there are many different denominations or church bodies. There are even Christians who don't associate with any denomination. This latter group claims to be Christians but wants nothing to do with corporate worship.

In the very beginning there was Adam and Eve and God. At some point, Lucifer (one of the angels that God created) decided he wanted to be on the same level as God or higher. After mankind fell into sin, we have those that believed in God and non-believers. This lasted for a while and then there began to be differences within the church. There were splits within the Roman Catholic Church and there were orthodox church bodies. This went on until the Reformation, which began on October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church door at Wittenberg, Germany. From this point there was an explosion of church bodies that has continued to this day. Lutheranism alone consists of over 40 different denominations.

Defining Christianity is easy. A Christian is a person who believes that Jesus Christ is the only Son of God the Father Who came into this world as one of us, flesh and blood, lived a perfect sinless life, suffered, died on the cross for our sins, was buried, rose on Easter Sunday morning, and ascended into Heaven to pay the price for the forgiveness of our sins. Yes, it's kind of wordy but it's a succinct definition of a Christian.

Christians look to the Bible, God's Word, for guidance and to theologians and scholars to help understand it. If Christians are all reading the same Bible, then why so many different interpretations? The answer is people. People are the ones translating God's Word, originally in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek into the languages of the people. There are those that strive to produce translations that try to stay true to the original text while others have other ideas about how the translations should read. There are many good translations of the Bible, there are many that are not good, and others that fall in between.

The people translating can produce different translations and sometimes simple mistakes cause people to go down the wrong path. Christians agree on what Christianity is. The disagreements come with the other aspects of Christianity such as salvation, justification, baptism, and communion to name a few.

Prayer Requests



Those who are ill:

Don Adams, Pamela Andrews, Gloria Balgeman, Alicia Briskev (acute leukemia), Steve Collins, (Linda Butt's son-in-law, may need open heart surgery), Payton Cowan, Janie Eaves (Pastor Eaves' mother), Rose Hardwig, Wynn Howard (Sonia Sporleder's dad), Kim Jacobson (Wendy Jacobson's daughter-inlaw), Karen Johnson (friend of Marilyn Eaves), Ernst Kohn, Daniel Kowalski, Linda Mandell, Paul Mills. Dave Neisendorf. Roxie Peters, Dennis Roush, Andy Schuring, Norm Schuring, Shaquita (Nakaila Slaughter's mother), Marilyn Thompson, and Andrea Zachotina

Those residing in healthcare centers:

Dave Bahr (Highland Oaks), Donna Butts, Meta Meyer (The Pointe at Eastgate), Ellen Nelson (The Sheridan at Tyler Creek), Bill Mikesell (Crescent Care), and the residents at Deer Path Assisted Living.

Those serving in our military: Aidan Buttrum and Ally Mills



Attendance



Attendance

July 30: 56

August 6: August 13: August 20: August 27:

True Practice of Faith

Giving back to God from what He has given you is a question not of reason or convenience or what God will do for us but of faith in God as our Creator. Giving back involves complete trust in His providential promises.

Altar Guild



Altar Flowers are always, first and foremost, given for the glory of God.

August 6

Given by the Jack family, in honor of Sarah Jack's 16th birthday, August 5.

Church Council Meeting Tuesday, August 8, 2023 6:30 pm

Little Saints Preschool is hiring!

We are looking for a part-time work coordinator and religious education teacher for Thursday and Friday mornings, from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm.

For more information, please call Kristina Kolodziej at 847.464.5134.

Food Pantry Update

Items needed: variety of cereals, variety of crackers, variety of canned beans, cake/brownie mixes, frostings, variety of muffin mixes, variety of salad dressings, cookies, boxes and bags of dry pasta, canned corn, rice and pasta sides (packages), bar soap/body washes, shampoo,



conditioner, dishwashing soap, women's and men's deodorants, and small cans of tomato sauce and paste.

Mail monetary donations to: Burlington/Hampshire Area Food Pantry, P.O. Box 651, Hampshire, IL 60140

It is daunting and easy to see why some people want nothing to do with church denominations and corporate worship. This is just the tip of the iceberg. You're a Christian, but which denomination do you belong to? This requires a person to read God's Word and see what it says to them and then to seek out a church denomination that is closest to their understanding to what God's Word says.

Many Christians are born into Christian families where they are exposed to the church denomination the family has chosen. This is what God calls parents to do. Others hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and begin their journey guided by the church they heard the Gospel in or the church of the person that told them the Gospel. Adult Christians are called to compare the teachings, preachings, beliefs, and practices of the church denomination they belong to with what the Bible says. This can lead to a person changing church denominations. Changing church denominations should not be based on style of worship (conservative, liberal, etc.), style of music (traditional, praise band, etc.), or programs that a church denomination offers.

Being a Christian is not just picking a denomination and going along for the ride. Christians are called to become active in worship, service, and fellowship. If the Christian has concerns about how these things are taking place or what they're hearing, it may be time to reevaluate which church denomination they belong to.

All Christian church denominations have Christians in them and all Christian church denominations have non-christians in them.

Yes, it's people that make this all a tangled mess and it will remain so until Jesus returns. Now that you're trying to wrap your head around this, the next question is if I'm Lutheran which Lutheran denomination should I belong to? We'll take this up next week.

Jesus Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Christ has died! Christ is risen! He will come again!

> 2023 Northern Illinois District (NID) Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Fall Gathering Gifts From the Heart (September 29 & 30, 2023)

Voice of Hope Behind the Wall Ministry NID has evolved in the past three years reports Deaconess Lori Wilbert. After 34 years of working behind the wall at Stateville Prison and working in ministry within the NID 38 years, Deaconess Wilbert has transitioned into working with those being released from prison in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

The teaching ministry at Stateville continued during the COVID shutdown with the blessing of the warden and with staff he assigned to the ministry. Prison staff delivered class lessons and assignments to the cell houses each week, picked them up, and sent them back to Deaconess Wilbert. This teaching model continues.

Upon their release, former prisoners need items that help an individual set up an apartment. These Gifts from the Heart will enable each person to have a solid start as he re-integrates into his community.

Household	Items:

Toilet paper Kleenex Paper towels Laundry detergent Dish soap Lysol toilet cleaner Cleaning cloths

Kitchen towels/Dish cloths Bath towels/Washcloths Queen or Full Sheet sets 1 set of basic pots/pans

Set of plates/coffee mugs/glasses Silverware

Personal Needs:

Bars of soap/Body wash Shampoo/Conditioner Toothpaste Hair brush/Comb Disposable Shavers Shaving Cream Deodorant

Lotion

**Package sizes should be appropriate for an individual

Worship Assistants						
	Elder	Usher	Greeters	Reader	Altar Guild	
8/6	Jeff Pergande	Fern Petersen	Beth Jack, Betty Kurtz	Sonja Sporleder	Marilyn Eaves	
8/13	Bob Felbinger	Christy Petersen	Marilyn Eaves	Jeff Pergande	Marilyn Eaves	
8/20	Steve Sporleder	Fred Rackow	Bette Wine	Paul Tegtmeier	Marilyn Eaves	
8/27	Jeff Pergande	Nancy Heine	Dave & Pam Neisendorf	Marilyn Eaves	Marilyn Eaves	

Birthdays		
8/6	Jennifer Watzlawick	
8/7	Bailey Wacker	
8/8	Larissa Alcorn Norm Schuring	
8/10	Catherine Thomas	
Wedding Anniversaries		
8/7	Daniel & Ruth Ann Kowalski	
8/7	Ryan & Leslie Stone	
8/10	Scott & Natalie McBride	

Lutheran Hour

August 6

"Who is Jesus?"
Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
Jesus never needed to take a
poll to figure out who He was
or what He should do.

August 13

of Christ.

"How Well Does Jesus Know Me?" Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus The God who knows everything about you is also the God of grace who forgives on account

Broadcast Stations & Times: Sundays

WGN 720 AM, 6:30 am WGSL 91.1 FM, 4:30 pm WKKD 1580 AM, 9:30 am

This Week		
Sunday, 8/6	Outdoor Worship* Please bring a chair Adult Bible Study Donut & Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Mites Sunday	9:00 am 10:30 am
Tuesday, 8/8	Church Council Meeting	6:30 pm
Wednesday, 8/9	Chapel Service - Deer Path	10:00 am
Looking Ahead		
Sunday, 8/13	Indoor Worship Adult Bible Study	9:00 am 10:30 am
Wednesday, 8/16	Chapel Service - Deer Path	10:00 am
Thursday, 8/17	Pinochle Bible Study	1:00 pm 1:30 pm
Saturday, 8/19	Pew Sisters Bible Study "A Woman After God's Heart"	10:00 am
Sunday, 8/20	Outdoor Worship* Please bring a chair Adult Bible Study Fill The Pews	9:00 am 10:30 am
Wednesday, 8/23	Chapel Service - Deer Path	10:00 am
Thursday, 8/24	Bible Study Little Saints Preschool Parent's Night Preschool Board Meeting	1:30 pm 6:00 am 7:00 am
Saturday, 8/26	Pew Sisters Bible Study "A Woman After God's Heart"	10:00 am
Sunday, 8/27	Indoor Worship Adult Bible Study	9:00 am 10:30 am
Wednesday, 8/30	Little Saints Preschool Open House Chapel Service - Deer Path	9:00 am 10:00 am

^{*} If inclement weather, service will be held indoors.

Livestream St. Peter's Sunday Worship at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCY-0ZhtspZkK7vIpJ7DEY1Q

Rev. Thomas Eaves
Pastor
224-242-4151 (office line)
701-340-8324 (cell)
pastorflyboy@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours Monday, Wednesday-Friday 10 am - 5 pm Tuesday Day off

Mrs. Denise Kohlmeyer
Office Administrator
847-464-5721
office@stpetersnorthplato.org
www.stpetersnorthplato.org
Facebook: @SaintPetersHampshire

Church Office Hours Monday-Friday 9 am - 1 pm

Mrs. Kristina Kolodziej
Little Saints Preschool Director
847-464-5134
preschool@stpetersnorthplato.org
www.stpetersnorthplato.org
Facebook: Little Saints Preschool