

# St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church North Plato

43W301 Plank Road, Hampshire, IL, 60140, 847-464-5721

December 31, 2023

## Sunday Service

9:00 am

(Communion celebrated every Sunday)

## Children's Sunday School

(Ages 3 - 8th Grade)

September - May, 10:00 am

## High School Sunday School

(9th - 12th Grades)

September - May, 10:00 am

## Adult Bible Study

10:30 am

## Confirmation

5:00 pm

*Sharing the truth of Christ's love  
by caring for the needs of everyone!*

## Don't Waste Your Life in Regret

Are you living with regret over the time you've wasted, the opportunities you've squandered, the sins you've committed, and the relationships you've destroyed? Regret is a waste of time, unless you allow the Holy Spirit to work in and through you to teach you wisdom and a desire and willingness to do better next time. As long as you're breathing, there will be a next time.

*Lamentations 3:22-23 (ESV) says, <sup>22</sup>The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup>they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

There are three things you should do to deal with regret. **First, recall what happened and why.** Ask the Holy Spirit to help you consider the actions, thoughts, and emotions that drove you to do what you did. With the help of the Holy Spirit take an honest inventory of your mistakes and own them. There is no solution in excuses. When Adam was confronted with his sin, he hid in the bushes. When David was confronted with his sins he said, *"I have sinned against the Lord."* (2 Samuel 12:13 (ESV)) Follow David's example.

**Second, repent of your sins.** 2 Corinthians 7:10 (ESV) says, <sup>10</sup>*For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.* When you're caught in a cycle of repeated sin, a glib "Now I lay me down to sleep" kind of prayer won't help you. Sin hurts God, hurts you, and hurts others. The idea behind repentance is to get you to where you loathe sin and decide to renounce and forsake it.

**Third, refocus by seeking the help of the Holy Spirit to live a life worthy of the call you have received.** Isaiah 43:18-19 (ESV) says, <sup>18</sup>*Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup>Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.* Psalm 103:11-12 (ESV) says, <sup>11</sup>*For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; <sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.*

(continued on page 3)

## Prayer Requests



### Those who are ill:

Don & Elaine Adams, Pamela Andrews, Gloria Balgeman, Alicia Briskey (acute leukemia), Steve Collins (Linda Butt's son-in-law), Payton Cowan, Marie Gehrke, Sherry Gehrke (for wisdom with farm dealings), Rose Hartwig, Evelyn Hertrich, Karen Johnson, Ernst Kohn, Daniel Kowalski, Linda Mandell, Paul Mills, Dave Neisendorf, Dan Powell (close friend of Bette Wine's, in recovery after being attacked and shot), Dennis Roush, Lynn Robertson (cancer), Andy Schuring, Norm Schuring, Shaquita (Nakaila Slaughter's mother), Karen Stojan, Marilyn Thompson, Kathy Voog, Joe Watzlawick (Bobby Watzlawick's father-cancer), Gloria Wine (Bette Wine's sister-in-law, having radiation treatment), and Andrea Zachotina

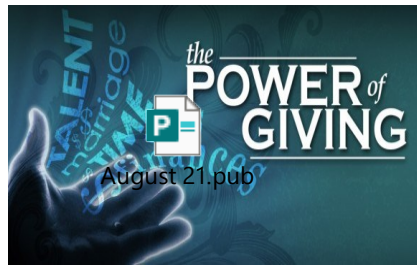
### Those residing in healthcare centers:

Don & Elaine Adams (Heritage Woods), Dave & Carol Bahr (Highland Oaks), Donna Butts (unknown), Walt Claus (The Sheridan at Tyler Creek), Marie Gehrke (Avondale), 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

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| <b>December 3:</b>  | 57  |
| <b>December 6:</b>  | 20  |
| <b>December 10:</b> | 57  |
| <b>December 13:</b> | 29  |
| <b>December 17:</b> | 67  |
| <b>December 20:</b> | 23  |
| <b>December 24:</b> | 187 |
| <b>December 25:</b> | 13  |
| <b>December 31:</b> |     |

## Altar Guild



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

**December 31**

Given in honor of Dean and Shana Flatland's wedding anniversary, which is January 1.

### Life Quote - December 31, 2023

"While it is true that we need to be good stewards of God's earthly gifts, it is sinful to think that we are in full control of preserving this world. It is sinful to fret about the destruction of this world before the Last Day. This world will not run out of natural resources. We will not be wiped out by climate change, a worldwide pandemic, or a meteor shower, if and when those things happen. God says that as long as this earth endures—until Judgment Day—seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease. God is in control. God will protect, provide, and preserve this world. Trust in God and see His grace and mercy, especially when sin affects this world. Trust that He gives you what you don't deserve and more than you could imagine." *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, MN—A Life Quote from Lutherans for Life, [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org).*



### Life Thought - December 31, 2023 - Christmas/New Year's Eve

Christmas—and a new year—offers opportunity for the joys of looking forward. Simeon and Anna exemplify and inspire faith that finds strength and celebration in anticipating. The Heavenly Father who escorted us thus far will also usher us ever onward. Neighbors facing surprise pregnancies or suffering terminal diagnoses need to know. For their sake, please do not keep silent (Psalm 62:1)!

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (ESV), says <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As believers in Christ as our Savior, we are made new every day. When we seek the help of the Holy Spirit and strive to be obedient to Him we can live life as the Christians we have been called to be. With Jesus every day is a new day with a new opportunity to get your life together and move on to greater things. Don't waste it looking back in regret! Look forward and to Jesus so, as the apostle Paul says, you can move ever forward and upward into the prize that is yours, Jesus Christ.

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

### Food Pantry News & Needs

In December, we served 35 families (151 people). We are very thankful for all the wonderful donations of food and monies.

**Exciting Big News:** On January 6, the Food Pantry is moving to 220 Keyes Avenue, Unit A. Volunteers and trucks are needed and welcome. Come around 8:30 am to Mill Street.

Starting January 14, donations will be accepted at the new location, from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Distribution from the new location will start January 15, from 9:00 am - 10:00 am and January 20, from 9:00 am - 10:00 am. Monetary donations may still be mailed to Burlington/Hampshire Area Food Pantry P.O. Box 651 Hampshire, IL 60140.

Any questions, please call Dorothy Paddock at 847-683-3071. If there's no answer, please leave a message and phone number for a call back. Volunteers are always needed and welcome.

**Items Needed for January:** variety of canned pastas (i.e. SpaghettiOs), pancake mixes, and syrups.

*Your thoughtfulness meant much more than words can say. Thank you for your gift. Fern Petersen.*

*Thank you to everyone for the generous gift of \$100 for Christmas. I treated my family to dinner! Always a plus when I don't have to cook! :-)* I hope you all have a happy and healthy new year! Blessings, Denise Kohlmeier

*Thank you very much to the family that is St. Peter's. Marilyn and I are very thankful for your support, prayers, and gifts. You are a blessing to the Lord's work and us. God bless. Pastor and Marilyn Eaves*

### Worship Assistants

|       | Elder           | Ushers           | Greeters                | Reader           | Altar Guild              |
|-------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 12/31 | Jeff Pergande   | Christy Petersen | Dave & Pam Neisendorf   | Denny Sunderlage | Paul & Darlene Tegtmeier |
| 1/7   | Bob Felbinger   | Fred Rackow      | Beth Jack & Betty Kurtz | Bob Felbinger    | Cindy Kuschel            |
| 1/14  | Steve Sporleder | Nancy Heine      | Marilyn Eaves           | Sandy Dorwaldt   | Cindy Kuschel            |
| 1/21  | Jeff Pergande   | Fern Petersen    | Bette Wine              | Steve Sporleder  | Cindy Kuschel            |
| 1/28  | Steve Sporleder | Christy Petersen | Dave & Pam Neisendorf   | Fern Petersen    | Cindy Kuschel            |

| Birthdays           |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 12/31               | Elaine Kuhlman-Trimble                          |
| 1/2                 | Jesse Gfrorer<br><i>(Ally Mills' boyfriend)</i> |
| 1/5                 | Jeff Kowalski                                   |
| Wedding Anniversary |   |
| 1/1                 | Dean & Shana Flatland                           |
| Baptism Anniversary |   |
| 1/2                 | Millie Winkelmann                               |

| Lutheran Hour                                      |   |
|--|---|
| <b>December 31</b>                                 | "The Exit from Regret"<br>Rev. Dr. John Nunes<br>When life becomes an endless roundabout of regret, Christ is your entrance to forgiveness and a new start. |
| <b>January 7</b>                                   | "As We Forgive"<br>Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler<br>Dr. Michael Zeigler discusses forgiveness—what it is and what it isn't.                                      |
| <b>Broadcast Stations &amp; Times:<br/>Sundays</b> |   |
| WGN 720 AM, 6:30 am                                |   |
| WGSL 91.1 FM, 4:30 pm                              |   |
| WKKD 1580 AM, 9:30 am                              |   |

| This Week              |  |                                 |
|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday, 12/31</b>   | <b>Worship</b>   | 9:00 am                         |
| <b>Monday, 1/1</b>     | <b>Happy New Year!<br/>Office Closed</b>   |                                 |
| <b>Wednesday, 1/3</b>  | <b>Chapel - Deer Path</b>  | 10:00 am                        |
| <b>Thursday, 1/4</b>   | <b>Bible Study<br/>Elders Meeting</b>  | 1:30 pm<br>6:30 pm              |
| <b>Friday, 1/5</b>     | <b>Prayer Shawl Ministry<br/>(at the church)</b>   | 1:00 pm                         |
| Looking Ahead          |  |                                 |
| <b>Sunday, 1/7</b>     | <b>Worship</b><br><i>Donut Sunday (hosted by Ladies' Aid) &amp; LWML* Mites Sunday</i><br><b>Children's Sunday School</b><br><i>(Lesson: The Holy Spirit Comes, Acts 2:1-12)</i><br><b>Adult Bible Study</b> | 9:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>10:30 am |
| <b>Wednesday, 1/10</b> | <b>Chapel - Deer Path</b><br><b>Chapel - Little Saints Preschool</b>   | 10:00 am<br>11:45 am            |
| <b>Thursday, 1/11</b>  | <b>Chapel - Little Saints Preschool</b><br><b>Bible Study</b>  | 11:15 am<br>1:30 pm             |
| <b>Sunday, 1/14</b>    | <b>Worship</b><br><b>Children's Sunday School</b><br><i>(Lesson: The Community of Believers Share, Acts 2:42-47)</i><br><b>Adult Bible Study</b>   | 9:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>10:30 am |
| <b>Monday, 1/15</b>    | <b>No Preschool</b><br><i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>   |                                 |
| <b>Wednesday, 1/17</b> | <b>Chapel - Deer Path</b>  | 10:00 am                        |
| <b>1/17 - 2/9</b>      | <b>Denise on medical leave</b><br><i>(Please call Pastor Eaves directly, if necessary, at 701-340-8324.)</i>   |                                 |
| <b>Thursday, 1/18</b>  | <b>Pinochle</b><br><b>Bible Study</b><br><b>Preschool Board Meeting</b>  | 1:00 pm<br>1:30 pm<br>6:30 pm   |
| <b>Sunday, 1/21</b>    | <b>Worship</b><br><b>Children's Sunday School</b><br><i>(Lesson: Peter and John Heal a Man Who Couldn't Walk, Acts 3:1-11)</i><br><b>Adult Bible Study</b>   | 9:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>10:30 am |

\* Lutheran Women's Missionary League

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

**Pastor's Office Hours**  
M, W, TH, F  
10:30 am - 4:30 pm  
*(Before coming in, please call ahead to ensure he is available.)*

**Mrs. Denise Kohlmeier**  
Office Administrator  
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**Church Office Hours**  
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