

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church North Plato

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

January 14, 2024

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!*

Fruit or Just Leaves?

Matthew 21:18-19 (ESV) says, ¹⁸In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. ¹⁹And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once.

Jesus cursing the fig tree for not having fruit may seem harsh. Was it the fig tree's fault that it didn't have any figs? Why did Jesus curse the fig tree?

Fig trees begin producing fruit before the leaves appear and then when the leaves do appear there are ripe figs ready to be picked and eaten. When Jesus saw leaves on the tree, He had every right to expect fruit. When there was none, He cursed it for being a phony while giving off the impression that it was the real thing. There's an important lesson here for each of us.

Be careful that you don't display an impressive array of leaves without actually bearing fruit. It takes more than a bumper sticker on your car, a Jesus pin in your lapel, and a big Bible under your arm to influence and win others to Christ. Christians need to remember that in addition to talking the talk we need to walk the walk.

Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV) says, ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. The Holy Spirit is responsible for producing the fruits of the Spirit that are listed in the previous Scriptures. These are fruits that people can see, touch, taste, and enjoy. These are the fruits Jesus wants to see in the lives of Christians every day.

We are called to be obedient to the Holy Spirit as He works in us. This means we need to feed our faith through Word, Sacrament, prayer, personal devotions, Bible study, and service to others. If we don't do these things, we become like the fig tree that Jesus cursed in that we have lots of leaves and no fruit. This can lead to a Christian being cast out. Let the Holy Spirit fill your life and the lives of others with the fruits of the Spirit.

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

(continued on page 3)

Prayer Requests



Those who are ill:

Don & Elaine Adams, Pamela Andrews, 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, Sandy Santoni (bone scan on 1/18), Robert Schneller (Marilyn Eave's cousin— 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:

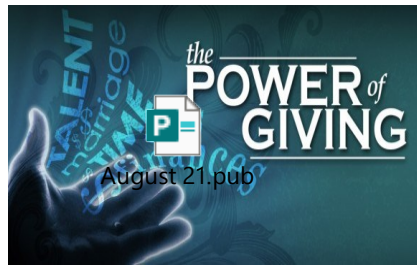
Don & Elaine Adams (Heritage Woods), Dave & Carol Bahr (Highland Oaks), Donna Butts (unknown), Walt Claus (The Sheridan at Tyler Creek), Marie Gehrke (Avondale), Meta Meyer (The Pointe at Eastgate), Ellen Nelson (The Sheridan at Tyler Creek), Bill Mikesell (Crescent Care), and the residents at Deer Path Assisted Living

Those serving in our military:

Aidan Buttrum and Ally Mills

Family & friends grieving the loss of Gloria Balgeman and Lynn Robertson

Attendance



Attendance

January 7: 49

January 14:

January 21:

January 28:

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.**

January 14

Lutherans for Life

Life Quote - January 14, 2024

"Abortion has only ever represented a symptom. The sickness has always consisted of the deeper reality of sin. So, law never embodied the finish line or the prize. Our Savior's victory invites us to settle for nothing less than sharing life, abundant and everlasting, with each human being and receiving them all as gift and privilege. Let's press ahead with renewed enthusiasm!" *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thought - Epiphany II

Life issues like surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis come with uncertainty. But the Lord our God knows both our worries (Psalm 139:4) and the best way forward. He has already seen (John 1:48) what it will take to save, and He has still chosen life for all humankind, even when we behold only darkness and despair. We may not know what tomorrow holds, but we know who holds tomorrow.

St. Olaf Band from Northfield, MN, Henry Dorn—Conductor

**Monday, February 5 at 7 pm—DeKalb High School Auditorium,
501 W Dresser Rd., Dekalb, IL**

Tickets are \$10 for adults and Free for students at most concert venues. Tickets can be purchased the night of the concert or in advance at stolaf.edu/tickets or 800-363-5487.

Reminders:

Name badges are located on the magnetic board in the Narthex beside the bulletin board. Please help welcome our visitors by wearing your name badges.

Please don't forget to check your church mailbox each Sunday. They are located to your left as you come through the front doors.

2024 church envelopes have been placed in your church mailboxes also. If you prefer not to receive them, please let the office know.

Dress a Girl Update

Since October of 2019, this remarkable group of ladies from the Rochester, MN area has sewn over 5,000 dresses! These women have used their God-given talents to bring the love of Jesus to girls in need around the world. Over 2,100 of these dresses have been donated to Orphan Grain Train, Westfield, Wisconsin Branch.

Under the leadership of Denise Smalley (pictured in the back row, left side), these talented sewers have met monthly to receive prepared kits to sew dresses.

Denise prepares the kits, which contain the fabric, bias tape, and elastic needed to make a dress. Each seamstress then adds her own creativity with the pockets and embellishments. Much of the fabric and supplies have been donated by individuals who have heard about this ministry and have desired to support it. Thrivent Action Teams have supported the project as well.

To God be the Glory!



Food Pantry Needs

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

Fill The Pews: January 21, 2024

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

Worship Assistants

	Elder	Ushers	Greeters	Reader	Altar Guild
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

1/15	Linda Rackow Sandy Santoni
1/16	Elaine Adams
1/20	Fern Petersen

Baptism Anniversary

1/17	Chuck Petersen
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Lutheran Hour

January 14

"How Could She Ever
Forgive Him?"

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

It's not a contradiction to offer
forgiveness while insisting on
justice.

January 21

"The Battleground of
Forgiveness"

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God's forgiveness covers our
sins-but it's not a coverup!

Broadcast Stations & Times: Sundays

WGN 720 AM, 6:30 am

WGSL 91.1 FM, 4:30 pm

WKKD 1580 AM, 9:30 am

Preschool Family Fun Night

Friday—February 2

More info to come

This Week

Sunday, 1/14	Worship Children's Sunday School <i>(Lesson: The Community of Believers Share, Acts 2:42-47)</i> Adult Bible Study	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am
Monday, 1/15	No Preschool <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	
1/15 - 1/19	Audio Visual Installation	
Tuesday, 1/16	LWML* Quarterly Bible Study <i>Where is Your Treasure</i>	6:30 pm
Wednesday, 1/17	Chapel - Deer Path	10:00 am
1/17 - 2/9	Denise on medical leave	
Thursday, 1/18	Pinochle Bible Study Preschool Board Meeting	1:00 pm 1:30 pm 6:30 pm

Looking Ahead

Sunday, 1/21	Worship <i>Fill The Pews</i> Children's Sunday School <i>(Lesson: Peter and John Heal a Man Who Couldn't Walk, Acts 3:1-11)</i> Adult Bible Study	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am
Monday, 1/22	Board of Outreach Meeting	6:30 pm
Tuesday, 1/23	Dartball—North Plato 1 vs North Plato II at St. Peter's	7:30 pm
Wednesday, 1/24	Chapel - Deer Path Chapel - Little Saints Preschool	10:00 am 11:45 am
Thursday, 1/25	Chapel - Little Saints Preschool Bible Study	11:15 am 1:30 pm
Sunday, 1/28	Worship Children's Sunday School <i>(Lesson: Lydia Believes in Jesus, Acts 16:6-15)</i> Adult Bible Study	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am
Wednesday, 1/31	Chapel - Deer Path	10:00 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
Pastor is available.)*

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

Denise's Office Hours
M - F
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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