

# St. Peter's Lutheran Church



## Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter was certainly bittersweet this year. It was heartbreaking not to gather in a crowded church singing praises to our risen Lord with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. It was sad to be separated from our family and friends as we celebrated. Yet, we were not alone. Hundreds (perhaps thousands) gathered online Easter morning with three congregations and a scattering of people across the country to be reminded of those truths that will never change:

***God loves us so much that He sent us His Son.  
Jesus gave His life on the cross for us.  
Jesus conquered death and rose on the third day.  
We are forgiven. We are saved.***

That message never gets old.  
What a blessing it was to hear those same truths repeated to us  
on a bittersweet Easter morn.

As these days of social distancing carry on, please remember these truths as well:

***Your gracious and loving Heavenly Father has you wrapped in His arms.  
He will never leave you nor forsake you.***

***You are not alone. We are a family of faith, and we are here for you.***

If you or someone you know is struggling (financial, emotionally, or otherwise) during this challenging time, please reach out to us. We will do our best to help or to find resources to help.

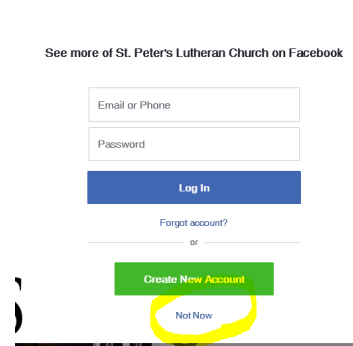
If you are a health care worker, we have an additional resource to bring to your attention. Cross Connections has a special fund to help cover expenses for counseling services for medical professionals. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact [Pastor Steve](#) for more information.

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**A special page on our website ([www.stpetersfw.org](http://www.stpetersfw.org)) has been created** with all the latest information concerning life and ministry during the pandemic. Please check this page often for updates. [Click here to access that page.](#)

## Worship

Worship will continue online until further notice. These services can be accessed through our Facebook page ([www.Facebook.com/StPetersFW](http://www.Facebook.com/StPetersFW)). You are not required to have a Facebook account to view the videos. If you go directly to our page, you may get a popup window asking you to create an account. When you see this screen, you can click the "Not Now" button to continue.



The ministry staff would like to thank you all for your grace, patience, and encouragement as we navigate this new world of online worship. Your support has made serving in this way a delight for us all. This week, you can look forward to a few new improvements to our online worship services. You will find Saturday night's worship service a little more casual. Both services will also include a children's message since we are unable to hold Kids of the Kingdom at this time.

[Click here to access the Saturday live stream service.](#)

[Click here to access the Sunday live stream service.](#)

[Click here for a letter from our pastors concerning Holy Communion during this time.](#)

Church Facebook Page

## Send Us Easter Photos

It's not too late to send us photos of you and/or your family to include in this weekend's worship service. Please email your photos to Michelle Leahy ([mleahy@stpetersfw.org](mailto:mleahy@stpetersfw.org)) no later than 3:00 on Saturday.

## Tithes & Offerings

Thank you for faithfully supporting your church through your tithes, offerings, and Faithfully Forward pledge payments. There are a variety of ways you can submit your contributions.

To view a complete list of options (along with instructions), [click here](#).

### **You can still mail your offering envelopes to the church office.**

We have someone checking the mail daily.  
7710 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46815

### **GivePlus App**

We have a new app you can load on your phone for easy weekly giving. This free app will let you make one-time or recurring contributions using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account. Click the link below for instructions.

[GivePlus App Instructions](#)

### **Stewardship Corner as of 4/5/20**

	<u>Month to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
<b>Total Giving</b>	\$39,400	\$844,220
<b>Budget</b>	\$24,265	\$821,958
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	\$15,135	\$22,262*
<b>Loan Balance</b>	\$2,456,762	

\*These gifts reflect not only weekly giving but also deposits from an IRA distribution and tithes that are being mailed for a month in advance (to keep postage costs down).

## **New Online Bible Study**

Studying, reading, singing, meditation, reflection, and prayer all of these apply to a Bible devotion.

Pastor McDowell will cover the basics of what a devotion is and how we can use them in our daily lives. Join in through our St. Peter's Lutheran (Fort Wayne) Bible Study Facebook group on Wednesdays either at 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. This study is great for individuals and families alike. This will be a 4 session study starting on April 22 and ending May 13.

[Click here to access the Bible Study Group.](#)

## **Activities for Families**

You all are pioneers, daily figuring out this new world of parenting during a pandemic. You're bravely navigating remote learning, increased free time, and worshipping from home. We have and will continue to gather resources as we find them to help you.

**Worship at Home** - [Click here](#) for an article from the MI District on worshipping at home with children.

**Children's Bulletin** - [Click here](#) to download and print the Children's Bulletin that goes with this weekend's worship service.

**Coloring Pages/Activity Booklet** - [Click here](#) to download and print a New Testament coloring/activity book from Concordia Publishing House.

## Church Calendar

### **Saturday, April 18**

5:00 pm - Worship

### **Sunday, April 19**

10:30 am - Worship

6:00 pm - High School Youth Group Zoom Meeting

### **Monday, April 20**

6:00 pm - Finance Team Zoom Meeting

Time TBD - School Board Team Meeting

### **Thursday, April 23**

6:30 pm - Board of Directors Zoom Meeting

7:00 pm - Parish Education Team Zoom Meeting

**[Click here for a copy of April birthdays.](#)**

[Send a Prayer Request](#)

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St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School | 7710 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46815

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