

# St. Peter's Lutheran Church



## Worship

What a joy it was to see some of you in the Sanctuary for worship this past weekend. We miss all of you and long for the day when we can all be together again.

### Service Times

There will be four services:

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Monday @ 7:00 pm

The doors will open 20 minutes prior to each service.

### Prayer Requests

Unfortunately, we will not be able to take prayer requests via the prayer cards. If you have a request to include in the prayers, please email them to either pastor ([pastorahlersmeyer@stpetersfw.org](mailto:pastorahlersmeyer@stpetersfw.org) or [pastormcdowell@stpetersfw.org](mailto:pastormcdowell@stpetersfw.org)) or text Michelle Leahy at 260-610-1778.

### Masks

While masks are definitely encouraged, they are not required for in-person worship. If you are in need of a mask, we have a small supply of paper and fabric masks available for you to use. Best yet, it is yours to keep after worship.

**Live stream worship will continue this weekend and beyond**, even once we are able to safely resume in-person worship. We strongly encourage anyone to continue to worship from home if you are over 65, if you have underlying health conditions, or if you are simply not comfortable returning to in-person worship at this time.

These services can be accessed through our Facebook page  
([www.Facebook.com/StPetersFW](http://www.Facebook.com/StPetersFW)).

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

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

Have you ever wondered what it was like to conduct worship services in an empty church?  
Check out this special interview with the online worship team about their nine weeks of  
online only worship.



Church Facebook Page

## Post-Communion Prayer

Those who wish to receive Holy Communion this weekend as part of in-person worship will be served as you exit the Sanctuary at the end of worship. We recommend proceeding to your vehicle but then saying a quick post-communion prayer before you continue on your journey. A sample prayer is printed below for your convenience.\*\*

***We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed and strengthened us through this Holy Sacrament, as we have received Your most sacred Body and Blood. Empower us now, through Christ, who comes to us in this Sacrament, so we may now go forth in faith and live lives of service, healing, and love toward You and toward one another; though Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

## Spring Voter's Meeting

The Spring Voter's Meeting, originally scheduled for May 17, has been postponed until Sunday, June 14, 2020, in the Sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Social distancing will be observed. Supporting materials can be found at the links below. Paper copies will be mailed to those receiving News & Notes via mail. If you need assistance accessing these documents, please contact the church office.

[Previous Meeting Minutes](#)

[Agenda](#)

[Budget/Financials](#)

Candidate Biographical Information

## Paycheck Protection Program

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I hope this message finds you all in good health and spirits. I wanted to share some information with the congregation in regards to a decision that the Board of Directors made several weeks ago. As you all know, the pandemic caused the cancellation of all in-person worship. Due to these circumstances, the Board became concerned about the congregation's ability to financially support the ministry and all of its workers. We were unsure of how the Shelter-in-Place order would impact giving, especially when members might be out of work. Therefore, the Board began exploring options.

At that time, the LCMS was encouraging congregations to take advantage of a government option called the Paycheck Protection Program. This program enables the congregation to secure funds to pay their employees. Many area congregations were also considering this program. The Board felt it would be in the best interest of the congregation to explore this option. We learned that we would be eligible for a loan that would enable us to meet payroll for up to two months. We also learned that if at least 75% of the loan was used to meet payroll, we would not be required to repay the debt. The Board approved the application for loan.

Now, those of you familiar with our constitution and bi-laws, you know that the Board cannot secure a loan without approval from the congregation. Many of you are also aware that we were unable to hold a voters meeting due to pandemic guidelines. However, the Board felt that given the extreme circumstances, and because the loan is forgiven when used appropriately; we could and should make this decision. The Board felt that in the interest of protecting our ministry workers, as well as the overall finances of the congregation, we needed to take this step. We also felt that the program worked more as a grant than as a loan.

If you have further question in regards to the details of the Paycheck Protection Program, please contact Rhonda Scott, Director of Finance [rscott@stpetersfw.org](mailto:rscott@stpetersfw.org) . If you have concerns about the Board's action or questions about our decision-making process, feel free to contact Ben Hartman, Chairman of the Board of Directors [bod@stpetersfw.org](mailto:bod@stpetersfw.org) . Thank you all for your support and prayers during this unusual time. The ministry has had to take many actions outside of the norm in order to continue God's work at St. Peter's. Despite these challenges, the Lord has continued to bless our ministry. Thanks be to God!

Ben Hartman  
Chair, Board of Directors

## Children's Corner

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

**Video Sunday School** - [Click here](#) to access a video lesson for children. This week's lesson is on Pentecost and how Jesus' power lives in us.

## Vacation Bible School



Like most everything else, we will be making adjustments to our summer VBS plans as well. The Parish Education team is hard at work developing a new hybrid style VBS that is fun and meaningful for all. Daily lessons and opening/closings will be offered online through video and live stream.

Additionally, each family who registers will have the opportunity to participate in a special car "train" parade to pick up VBS kits on the first day. Your kit will contain all the supplies you need for fun at-home activities as well as any t-shirts that you pre-order. To register for a kit, please contact us via either of the methods below. We will need to know

how many children will be a part of your group. Also, t-shirts are \$10 each. If you want to pre-order them, please tell us quantity and sizes. We will contact you to arrange payment.

Email: [vbs@stpetersfw.org](mailto:vbs@stpetersfw.org)  
Call or Text Michelle Leahy @ 260-610-1778

Please help us know how many kits to prepare by registering today.

As long as Indiana progresses as planned for the return to normal activities, by the time of VBS you could consider hosting small VBS groups in your backyard. Do you have neighborhood children that you could invite? Do you have family members that would join you? This could be a great opportunity to reach out to the children around you to share the love of Jesus with them.

**This year's VBS will be held on June 28-July 2.**

## Confirmation

Confirmation Sunday has been rescheduled for June 21. Confirmation will be held in a separate ceremony starting at 2:00 p.m. Seating is limited, so we encourage the congregation to watch the service on the live stream.

## Scrip Program

Effective June, the scrip program will reopen for physical cards and local scrip. As a reminder, orders received by noon on Tuesday will be processed and filled on Thursday. Thank you for using scrip to support our school. If you need help in getting started, please email Tony at [thunt@stpetersfw.org](mailto:thunt@stpetersfw.org).

## Tithes & Offerings

### **A Note from Tony Hunt, Advancement Director:**

Your gifts to St. Peter's are greatly appreciated!

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.**

7710 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46815

A sponsorship is still available for the July-September issue of *Portals of Prayer*. If you are interested in sponsoring this devotion, please contact the church office.

## Stewardship Corner

**as of 5/17/20**

	<u>Month to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
<b>Total Giving</b>	\$53,090	\$965,906
<b>Budget</b>	\$49,739	\$980,093
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	\$3,351	(\$14,187)
<b>Loan Balance</b>	\$2,406,029	

## Other Ministry Activities

While we have returned to in-person worship, all other ministry events, activities, and meetings will remain on a remote only basis until at least July 4. Only certain essential functions (such as confirmation or the voter's meeting) will be exempted from this.

If your ministry group/team needs help setting up an online meeting, please contact the church office. We are happy to help you get it organized.

## Church Calendar

### **Saturday, May 30**

5:00 pm - Worship (In Person & Live Stream)

### **Sunday, May 31**

8:00 am - Worship (In Person)

10:30 am - Worship (In Person & Live Stream)

6:00 pm - High School Youth Group (Zoom)

### **Monday, June 1**

7:00 pm - Worship (In Person)

### **Tuesday, June 2**

IN Primary Polling Site (Church Gym)

### **Thursday, June 4**

5:15 pm - Nominating Team Meeting (Zoom)

5:15 pm - Advancement Committee Meeting (Zoom)

6:00 pm - Youth Board Meeting (Zoom)

7:00 pm - Ministry Impact Team Meeting (Zoom)

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

**Send a Prayer Request**