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Worship Sundays at 10am

Sunday School at 11:15am (Sept-May)



There is a click in the door as the key turns to release the lock. The familiar little groan comes from the door that has done its job well for over 60 years. Glass and Steel opening day after day, greeting each new day, each guest, with welcome, hospitality, and hope. The light switch makes its own little click and the bulbs begin humming each in its own pitch, together creating a quiet symphony of light, illuminating the rooms to greet each guest who happens to stop by.

The doors creek, the stoppers snap in a spring loaded symphony, but it's the stained glass who steal the show. The radiant colors glow as if God God's self is painting the colors before our eyes and the vibrancy against the black metal calls one to thank and praise God for color and beauty that can't be painted but can only be a gift from the true Giver. If you are quiet in this holy moment, you can hear the voices, the music, the prayers, the tears and laughter. You can smell the perfume and the crayons, the wine and the fresh baked bread and the coffee that was made too early and is too strong.

And in the beating of one heart beat, in the gasp of breath, it is clear, God is Here!

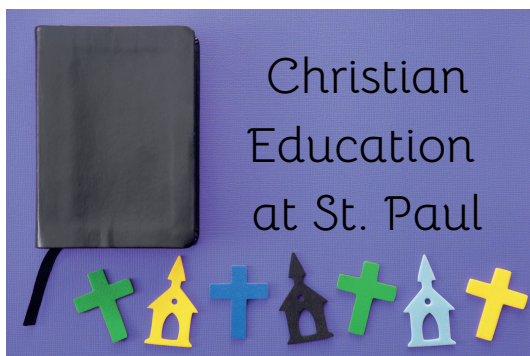
Not for just a moment. Not for just the blinking of an eye. But for all of it. For the history, for the fights, for the laughter, for the tears. God is Here.

Nothing in life feels as certain as this. Absolutely nothing. Nothing is more simple. Nothing is more profound. Yes. Indeed. It is God. In the past moments. In the knocking of the kneelers. In the future. In the funeral kleenex left on the floor. In the wedding petals ground into the carpet, in the shrieking screams of babies as water flows over their caps and down their cheeks. Yes. Indeed. It is God.

And from this place God fills each person. And from this place God fills the world. The world. All of it. With hope. With peace. With love. Yes. God is Here!

May you feel it. May you live it.

In Love,
Pastor Lisa



Mark Your Calendars!

Sunday School will begin for the new year on Sunday September 7th! Please be praying if this is a ministry that you would be willing to help with. Calls will be made to get teachers for each age group. Please keep this vital ministry in your prayers!

Outdoor Worship and Pet Blessing!

Sunday August 3rd, Bring you four legged furry friends and join us in an outdoor worship service where we will take some special time to bless our pets! This is a great time to invite your neighbors, friends, and family members to bring along their furry companions for a Blessing. Please nothing creepy and slimy - you are welcome to bring a picture to have that blessed and/or you are also welcome to take home the Blessing Litany card and Bless your sweet companion at home. We are so excited about this service and have heard that there might be a couple of special guests joining us for worship and blessing!!!!



Church Staff

- Rev. Lisa Dietrich, Pastor
- Bev Fordham, Administrative Assistant
- Eric Coffey, Custodian
- Kyle Burkholder, Groundskeeper
- Deborah Garmers, Organist
- Michael Helgeson, Celebration and Praise Music Coordinator

Church Council

- Sally Bloom, President
- Mary Conrad, Vice President
- Linda Lowery, Secretary
- Penny Post-Freeman, Financial Officer
- Karen Rocke, Outward
- Melissa Gramlich, Inward
- Mary Jane Moder, Upward
- Brian Sharp, Property



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



WELCA Northern Conference Fall Event

Strength for the Journey

Saturday, August 23.

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

First English Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL

We look forward to seeing ladies from churches throughout the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

Plans are being made for fellowship, worship, service, inspiration, and fun. There will even be few surprises along the way.

We will be collecting an in-kind offering of personal hygiene item to be donated to the Center For Prevention of Abuse located in Peoria. That list is on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Send reservations to Bev Gross at (309) 256-6650,
email: b.gross2649@icloud.com

We cannot wait to see you all. We know that God will bless us with a great day!

Women's Book Discussion

The Women's Group will be meeting on Thursday, October 23 for a general meeting and a book review and discussion. The book selected is: "Gifted Hands" The Ben Carson Story" written by Ben Carson, M. D. With Cecil Murphy. This is a very inspirational, faith-based, and true story about how believing in yourself and God can make a difference. You will be responsible for providing your own book. Suggestions as to where to find the book: Amazon(approximate cost: \$12.00) Zondervan.com, Book Nook in Peoria, and The Peoria Public Libraries. If you have any questions or need help in finding the book, please contact one of the Women's Officers.

Worship Assistants

8/3: Sue Borchering
8/10: Penny Post-Freeman
8/17: **Need Volunteer**
8/24: Hal Fordham
8/31: **Need Volunteer**

Fellowship Treats

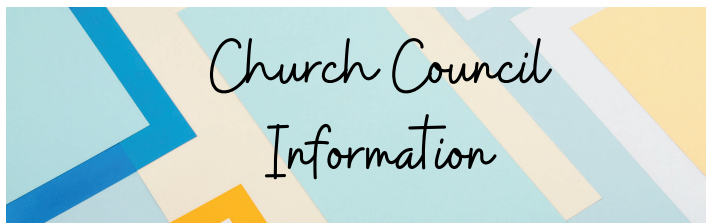
8/3: Annette Ferrie
8/10: Karen Rocke
8/17: **Need Volunteer**
8/24: **Need Volunteer**
8/31: **Need Volunteer**

Birthdays and Anniversaries

8/2: Heather Robinson
8/5: Mike Coffman
8/7: Teri Chamberlain
8/7: Mark Guy
8/8: Sophia Heerman
8/9: Scott and Cindy Lee's anniversary
8/11: Sharon Robinson
8/11: Sandra Wertz
8/15: Myrle Coffman
8/18: Boyd Conrad
8/24: Elias Fordham
8/24: Susie Ney

Counters

8/3: Kyle Burkholder and Amber Lowery
8/10: Scott Lee and Julia Coffman
8/17: Karen Rocke and Jodi Sharp
8/24: Gerry Bloom and Hal Fordham
8/31: Brian Sharp and Mary Jane Moder



Council Highlights

- The council voted to purchase more engineered wood fiber for the playground area. This was an expected expense due to natural deterioration.
- There was a discussion about the condition of the picnic tables on the church grounds. This will be revisited next month.
- The date for the church bonfire/weiner roast event was set for October 18th. This will be for church members, friends and the neighborhood.

Joint Council Meeting!

On Monday August 18th the current Church Council along with our newly elected council members will meet together. This will give an opportunity to thank the Council Members who are going off the council for their dedication and ministry and also an opportunity for the new council to choose their officers and committee chairs.

Please pray in gratitude and for the faithfulness of each of your council members as they serve St Paul to the best of their abilities.

Article deadlines

Please submit articles for the weekly bulletin no later than 10am Thursday mornings.

Articles for the September newsletter need to be submitted no later than 10am August 25th.

Notification

Please if you are in the building for any reason, or any length of time contact the office so we know who is in the building.

Thank you!

Please place any documents that you have for Bev or Pastor Lisa in the boxes outside our doors. We don't want to get things misplaced when they are just set on our desks.

Thank you!

We Pray For:

Floyd Rademaker,
Shirley Barber, Rob Hackett,
Floyd Rademaker, Andrea
Williams, Susie Ney, Jeff
Williams, Kendra Tallman,
Abby Mundwiller, Shannon
Perales, Jim Chamberlain, Terri
Montgomery, Charley
Fairbanks, Joe Ferrie, Nina
Marquart, Susan
VanMoorlehem, Roger Conrad
and Boyd Conrad.

Our Shut-ins:

Floyd Rademaker, Nina
Marquart, Tom Schreiner and
Sam Kahl

Prayer Chain Contacts:

Cindy Lee 309.635.9691
Eileen Cunningham
309.685.0720