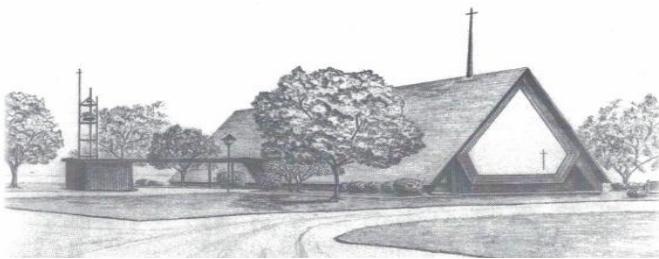


**St. Peter Evangelical
Lutheran Church
1708 West 6th Avenue
Brodhead, WI 53520**
5/24/20



Introduction - This is the fourth of the mailings that we are sending to all members/prospects (about every other week) to include announcements and information related to church council action. (A number of members with internet access do not need a printed and mailed copy and have asked not to receive the printed mailing. **If you have e-mail and do not need the printed and mailed copy, please let us know.**)

Breaking News!

- **Call Answered** – Our gracious Lord has again provided St. Peter with a full-time called pastor! On Thursday, May 21st, the Lord chose to answer our request for a new seminary graduate to serve at St. Peter. Tyler Swiderski, a recent graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary was assigned to our congregation. He and his wife, Hannah, will now begin their preparation for their move to Brodhead. Leaders of the congregation have had the opportunity to speak with him. He and his wife plan to visit Brodhead over the next few weeks to begin the process. No date has been set for his ordination and installation as pastor. However, targeted dates include July 19 or July 26. More news will follow as plans are solidified.
- **Regular Sunday Worship Restored (at 9:00 am) to begin on Sunday, May 31st, 2020 (with communion).** The church council met Thursday, May 21, and approved this change. With the recent lifting of restrictions on worship by the state and Green County **and** the advances in controlling the virus (Covid-19) we will begin regular worship services with recommended safety measures in place.

Size Limitations – For the past two plus months we have met with small groups in mini-services (maximum of 9 per service) in the Education Wing. We now plan to return to worship in the church sanctuary but to limit the number of worshippers at one time to the recommended 25% of legal building occupancy. Since our seating is quite large this will not be a problem.

Social Distancing (Spacing) – We also will be marking pews to allow for the recommended 6 feet of spacing between households. Every other pew will be skipped (empty) and we will rotate sitting on the ends of pews with the middle to allow for the recommended separation. Ushers will help worshippers find seating.

Worship Materials – All service materials will be provided in print for one-time use. (Hymnals will be removed from the pews. You may bring your own hymnal if you have one.)

Worship Length/Content – Services will be shortened initially (perhaps to 45 minutes) with a more abbreviate liturgy, a sermon and perhaps, only 3 hymns.

Cleaning/Safety – All areas that are used each Sunday will be sanitized during the week. Hand sanitizers and cleaning wipes will be available. Worshippers are encouraged to wear masks but those that are not comfortable with masks are not required to do so.

Celebrating Holy Communion – We will return to celebrating on the normal communion Sundays (4th Sunday of the month or when there are five Sundays on the 2nd and 5th Sundays). We will continue to celebrate in the manner that we are presently celebrating to allow for ‘Social Distancing’. Specific instructions will be given at the services. Those who remain unable to attend regular service may continue to request private communion.

We invite any concerns or suggestions you may have.

Other Worship Opportunities – For those who are presently unable to join us for worship the following WELS area churches will have Sunday sermons and services available online. Please continue to make use of these opportunities to hear the Word! **If you have internet connections you can access their web sites** - services will be prerecorded so that you can access them at any time.

Risen Savior, McFarland
Resurrection, Verona/Monroe
St Matthews, Janesville

www.risensaviorlutheran.org
www.rlcverona.org
www.stmatthewsjanesville.org

If you do not have an internet connection or are unable to view these services – All shut-ins and those with limited mobility will continue to receive weekly mailings of services, sermons and announcements. If you would like to be added to this weekly mailing, please let pastor know.

New Bible Study/Reading Series on the Psalms for Home Use – An introduction to Psalms is now available (sent via e-mail and available on Sundays in print). It should help you better understand the "big picture". For the next few weeks, you will also receive different types of specific Psalms for your reading/study. The Psalms are a treasure trove for the Christian - worthy to be a part of daily Bible reading!

Large Print Bulletin/Services/Hymns – These will again be available for those who have need at worship or for those receiving mailings. Let us know if these may benefit you.

Offerings For those unable to join us for regular worship, the church council continues to recommend that offerings be mailed to the PARSONAGE address, where they will be picked up regularly. Please, use checks instead of cash whenever possible and include your offering envelope or NUMBER. The address is: St Peter – Financial Secretary 1708 West 6th Ave., Brodhead, WI 53520.

Prayer Requests Please remember the following in your prayers:

Recently Hospitalized: Larry Stefanik at Monroe Hospital in serious condition.

Those In Care Facilities - Larry Stefanik, Olga Wolfe, Ruth Brobst, Roger Theisfert & Dale Roenneburg - who is waiting for heart valve surgery soon. **NO VISITATION PERMITTED.**

In Addition These Shut-ins (self-quarantine) - Rosemary Graham, Lorraine Neuberger, and Karen Cornell (Recovering at home) .

Other Shut-Ins: Jack & Sharon Stefanik and Marie Denison

Surgery: Harley Berra - anticipated back surgery; Gary Studer – slow recovery from second hip surgery

Those With Compromised Health - Tad Drain - complications with pain; Dana Harper is doing well after cancer treatments; Don Bucholtz is continuing treatments for cancer; and Alicia Bettenhausen after a successful heart procedure.

Phone calls also are nice!

Sunday School and Catechism Instruction – Sunday School and Catechism Instruction will conclude in May.

Hardship - If you are experiencing any unusual hardship related to Covid 19 (or other situation), please don't hesitate to let Pastor Hellwig or any church council member know. (We can't help if we don't know.)

Phone Calls – Pastor and a number of members are calling those that we are unable to visit to personally to encourage them in their faith and include them in our prayers.

Communication as much as possible by e-mail and internet - If you have a working e-mail address but have not shared it with St. Peter, please do so – so that we can better reach you!

Vacation Bible School – Due to health concerns and possible restrictions, the church council has canceled the regularly scheduled VBS originally set for early July (with the help from Camp Phillip personnel).

Serving You

(608)577-4825 (cell phone/text)

Pastor Glen Hellwig

Email: glen.hellwig60@gmail.com

Vacancy Pastor