



the CROSSWORD

Volume 15 Number 4

April 2020

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As of March 25, our Southwestern Texas Synod is recommending no worship services until further notice, to help stop the spread of COVID 19. This is an update from the original recommendation to resume April 1, and affects things scheduled for Easter, Holy Week and beyond. Please read your newsletter carefully for these updates!

SERMONS: Recorded sermons will continue on all Sundays we are not gathered. These are posted on our Facebook page, and we are sending You Tube links to all who have requested them. If you want to be added to list, contact Pastor Anne by text or email.



DAILY DEVOTIONS AND BIBLE STUDY are offered via email. If you wish to receive these, contact Pastor Anne by text or email.



HOLY WEEK

Pastor Paul, Deacon Kara, and Pastor Anne will lead virtual worship services, which will be more than just the sermon. These will be too long to post on Facebook, but will be available as a You Tube link, which will be posted on Facebook and emailed to those on the sermon list.

MAUNDY THURSDAY will include optional "virtual communion", which everyone is invited to participate in if they wish, by using bread and wine (or whatever's on hand) that you have at home. Just have it on hand, and eat it after the words of institution as we join together as a community still, even over the distance!

GOOD FRIDAY will be a service of increasing darkness with Bible readings, devotions, and prayers.

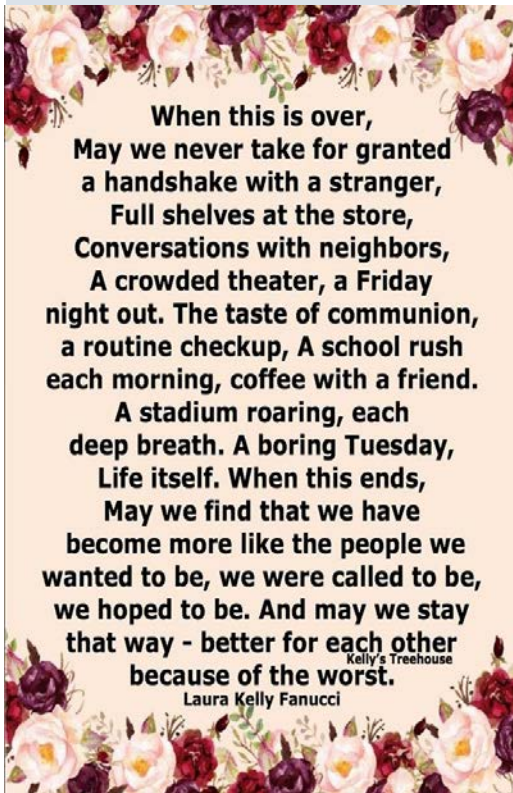
EASTER SUNDAY will be a simple service honoring our Lord's resurrection, saving the big celebration for congregations when they gather again.

EASTER FESTIVAL WORSHIP will be offered here at St. Peter's on the first Sunday we are allowed to gather together. While we won't have a Sunrise Service, we will celebrate in grand style at our 9:00 worship, which will be followed by the youth sponsored Easter Brunch, then the kids will have their egg huntso keep bringing in the goodies! The status of the flowers will be announced later.



Easter Retreat for Pastor Anne will be postponed

Pastor Anne will reschedule her Easter Retreat after our Easter Celebration.



When this is over,
May we never take for granted
a handshake with a stranger,
Full shelves at the store,
Conversations with neighbors,
A crowded theater, a Friday
night out. The taste of communion,
a routine checkup, A school rush
each morning, coffee with a friend.
A stadium roaring, each
deep breath. A boring Tuesday,
Life itself. When this ends,
May we find that we have
become more like the people we
wanted to be, we were called to be,
we hoped to be. And may we stay
that way - better for each other
because of the worst.

Kelly's Treehouse
Laura Kelly Fanucci

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS from March 15, 2020

- 20 campers have registered for camp this year. Pastor will be at Chrysalis with the 14 campers for 3 nights, and will drive to Lutherhill and spend a day there.
- New fellowship hosting guidelines, presented by the Outreach Committee, were approved. They will go out to hosts with the monthly reminders.
- 8 of our members attended handgun classes in February and are now being licensed so they can help with safety and security.
- A list of inactives (as defined by the constitution) was reviewed. At this time no action was taken except to ask Outreach Committee to come up with a letter with a positive tone. The constitutional amendment committee will be asked to look at how to remove "inactives status" from the constitution and bylaws so that no one is ever removed from the membership roster unless they themselves request it.

Other items discussed appear as articles elsewhere in the newsletter.

Jerry Kolmeier hired as new custodian

We have a new custodian! Jerry Kolmeier has agreed to serve as church custodian, beginning April 1, 2020. Jill Wiggins will still be the liaison between the custodian and the membership, so she's the one to contact!

Thirty seven giving units make financial stewardship commitments

A total of 37 giving units, from a total of 108 giving units, have completed financial stewardship commitment cards for this year. The 38 giving units have committed a total of \$167,744.

This report was prepared by Jackie Gardiner, financial secretary.

Outreach project for Lent

The 40 CANS FOR 40 DAYS will continue through our Easter Celebration. Remember that the challenge is for each member (we have 195 on the roster) to bring one food pantry item for each of the 40 days of Lent. If you wish to make a monetary donation (they can get more with \$1 than we can), put it in your offering envelope clearly marked for "**40 cans for 40 days.**"



FAMILIES are reminded that on the Sunday we first gather again, we will be collecting the "Lenten Offering" boxes handed out during the children's sermon on February 23. Kids were challenged to contribute to the box each time they had something to give thanks for ... and the money will go to the food pantry to buy food.

New Door installed for safety and security

Check out the doors in the fellowship hall, kitchen and counting room, and new push bars in the main entrance – what a difference! As the church was closed down, it was decided to lock the glass doors into the narthex. The only door that will remain unlocked during the week will be the left side of the fellowship hall door. You can still go out any of the doors, even if they're locked from the outside.

Thank you to all of St. Peter's members that volunteered their service for installing the doors, but especially to Alvin DeForest for working with the door project, from beginning to completion.

Keep Texas Beautiful—Adopt A Highway Texas Trash Off

St. Peter's will not meet for the April 4 trash pick up. We are assuming that the state will postpone the annual Trash Off originally scheduled for April 4.

Grave decoration and annual meeting for Kilgore Cemetery canceled

In concern for the health and safety of our community members, the Kilgore Cemetery grave decoration and annual meeting that was scheduled for April 19 has been canceled. If officers feel that it is necessary to call a meeting, it will be rescheduled when the Centers for Disease Control states that it is safe for gatherings. Information for the next meeting will be published when available.

April

Note: Any activity beyond April 19 is tentative, depending on COVID-19 updates.

Sun Apr 19, 2020

- 9am Communion service
- 10:15am Sunday school
- 10:30am Church Council meeting

Mon Apr 20, 2020

Newsletter Articles due in the office

Wed Apr 22, 2020

- 6:30pm Choir practice
- 7:30pm Bible Study

Sun Apr 26, 2020

- 9am Communion service
- 10:15am Sunday school

Wed Apr 29, 2020

- 6:30pm Choir practice
- 7:30pm Bible Study

Thu Apr 30, 2020

- 6:30pm Stewardship and Finance meeting

Save the Date

Fri May 1 — Sun May 3, 2020

Church Camp Service Weekend at Camp Chrysalis in Kerrville

Thu June 11 — Fri June 12, 2020

Vacation Bible School

Sun June 14, 2020

Vacation Bible School Closing



Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.



Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us

2020

WELCA Bible study and meeting, as well as Lutheran World Relief workday has been cancelled for April. Information for next scheduled dates and times will be shared when the Centers for Disease Control states that it is safe for gatherings.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

LWR Ingathering has been postponed until the fall. Watch Newsletters/Bulletins for further updates.

March 21, 2020

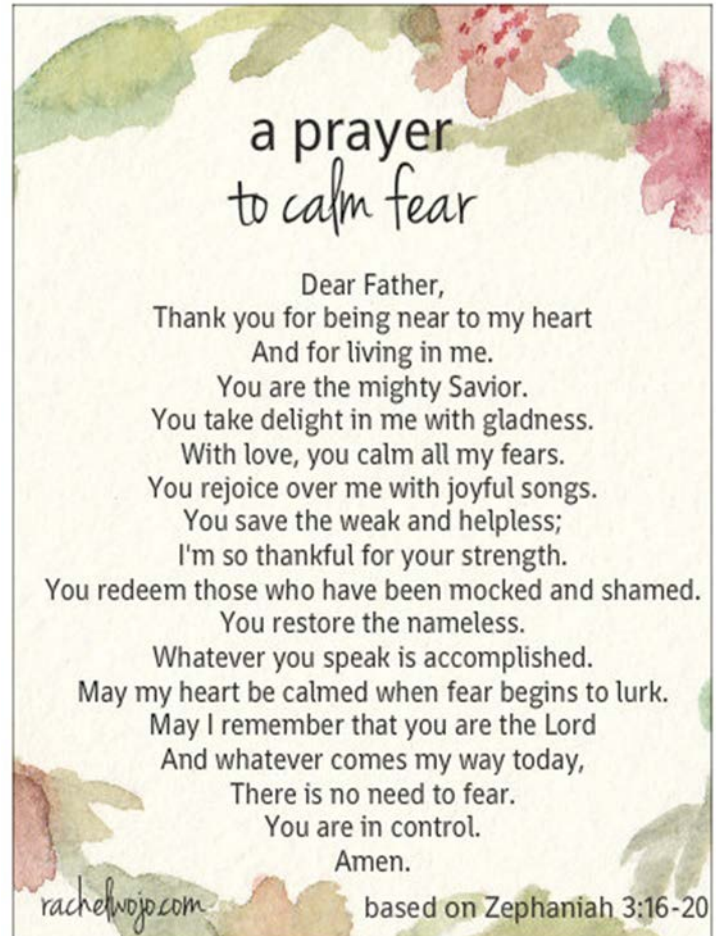
Below is the information received from LWR:

Lutheran World Relief values the health and safety of our community members, donors and volunteers. Until we know more about the Coronavirus or COVID-19, we have made the decision to postpone the collection of Quilts & Kits of Care for April 2020.

We will postpone our April 15th ingathering until the fall. We will need to work out all the details with TLU and then will get back to folks with a final date for the Fall Ingathering.

Blessings and stay well!

Debbie Mattke, Vice President
SWO WELCA



Outreach project for Lent — 40 cans for 40 days



212 items were delivered to the food pantry on March 11 ... it's what's been collected so far during our "40 cans for 40 days" challenge for each member to bring 1 item for each day in Lent to help those in need. Items can still be dropped off in the narthex (or make a monetary donation) through whatever Sunday we meet again.

Vacation Bible School!



Save the Dates, June 11 and 12, for St. Peter's Vacation Bible School, with closing at Sunday worship, June 14

VBS IS COMING! The dates for VBS this year are June 11-12, with the closing program on Sunday morning, June 14. This year's theme is **Summer Games** as we anticipate this summer's Olympic games. Julie Franke will be our director, so if you want to help, let her know! More information will follow in the coming months, but put the date on your calendar now!

Mission Endowment gives funds to eleven ministries

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund gave a total of \$1509.61, which has been shared with 11 ministries. Established in 2008, the purpose of the mission endowment fund is to fund mission work at home and around the world, above and beyond the programs supported through regular offerings. The value of the fund as of December 31, 2018 was \$50,320.95.

The following gifts represent the 2019 distribution from the endowment fund:

- ELCA Mission support: \$377.41
- St. Peter's Youth Group Fund: \$226.44
- ELCA World Hunger: \$150.96
- ELCA Missionary Sponsorship: \$150.96
- Lutheran Campus Ministry: \$150.96
- Cross Trails Ministry: \$100.64
- Lutherhill Ministries: \$50.32
- St. Peter's Local Benevolence Fund: \$75.48
- Lutheran Social Services of the South: \$75.48
- Lutheran World Relief: \$75.48
- Texas Lutheran University: \$75.48

Members of the mission endowment fund committee are Allen Jank (chair), Regina Calhoun, Linda Dornburg, Karen Klinkerman (members), and Trey Wimberly, Pastor Anne Kolmeier, Linda Koehler, *ex officio*. Members of the committee are available to visit with members, associate members and friends of the congregation regarding a planned or current gift to the fund.

The mission endowment fund is managed for the congregation by the ELCA Foundation. The value of the fund as of December 31, 2019 is \$60,369.21.

ELCA World Hunger Thank You

February 25, 2020

Dear St. Peter's Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your gift of \$88.34 to ELCA World Hunger.

In the Epiphany season we celebrated the day God came to walk among us in human form. We feel the nearness of God's love. Through your gift to ELCA World Hunger, you are embodying that love and sharing it with your neighbors around the world.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. You are joining with the whole church as we work towards a just world where all are fed.

God is with us, and God is working through you. Thank you for spreading light and love to so many.

In Christ,
The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations



Cross Trails Ministry
Camp Chrysalis * Ebert Ranch

February, 2020

On behalf of Cross Trails Ministry, I would like to thank you for the generous gift of \$583.38 dated February 17, 2020. Many of the programs and opportunities that Cross Trails Ministry offers would not be possible without generous gifts such as yours.

Your gift to the annual fund will help to provide financial stability and ongoing support to the overall ministry. It will be used to supplement the fees paid by all campers and retreaters to keep our programs affordable, provide financial aid for those who need it, and help us to keep the day to day ministry of our camps and retreats going as we serve thousands each year!

We are truly grateful for your prayers, support and partnership. Thank you once again for your generous gift!

Yours in Christ,
Deanna Christensen
Executive Director



February 26, 2020

Dear Pastor Kolmeier and Friends at St. Peter's,
I want to thank you for your \$149 contribution on 1/31/2020. Your generous donation is transforming lives through the gift of clean, safe water. Families in rural Ethiopia, Uganda and Tanzania are avoiding illness and early death. Women have time to care for their homes. Children are gaining the opportunity to attend school. You have invested in the change of a community that has the potential to break the cycle of poverty.

Thank you again and God bless you. Your gift is making a difference in so many lives.

With Gratitude,
Susanne M. Wilson
Executive Director

St. Peter's Staff

The Rev. Anne Kolmeier
Pastor

Kathy Albrecht
Church Office Administrator

Dorothy Bowman
Organist and Choir
Director

Congregation Council

Brenda Bade
Vice-President and Co-Chair
of Christian Education
(term ends 12/31/21)

Regina Calhoun
Chair of Outreach
(term ends 12/31/22)

Linda Koehler
President
(term ends 12/31/21)

Debbie Foster
Secretary and
Chair of Worship and Music
(term ends 12/31/22)

Ashford Taylor
Chair of Safety
(term ends 12/31/20)

Paul Post
Chair of Property
(term ends 12/31/22)

Trey Wimberly
Chair of Stewardship
and Finance
(term ends 12/31/20)

Leslie Wunsch
Co-Chair of Christian
Education
(term ends 12/31/21)

The Rev. Anne Kolmeier
Pastor (ex-officio)

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship: 9:00am
Sunday School: 10:15am —
11:30am (Sept. — May)

Holy Communion: every
Sunday service that is not
lay-led.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4-03 Ronda Irwin
4-04 Mike Calhoun
4-05 Kashlynn Tislow
4-05 Trey Wimberly
4-06 Sarah Brandes
4-06 Weston Wimberly
4-07 Garrison Jarzombek
4-08 Payge Brown
4-08 Nathan Irwin
4-09 Jimmie Martin
4-09 Sonny Wiggins
4-11 Harper May
4-12 Trace Wunsch
4-14 Harold Baecker
4-21 Logan Youngblood
4-23 Leslie Wunsch
4-24 Linda Koehler
4-25 Terri Lynn Dornburg
4-28 Kaylynn Wilburn

*If any listings of birthdays or
anniversaries are incorrect, or if
a listing is missing, please contact
the church office at 645-2922 or
office@stpetersander.org*



St. Peter's Ander



Happy
Anniversary

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4-8-1972 Eva Nell & Gerald Griffith
4-9-2005 Lori and Jason Collins
4-19-1997 Beverly & Jimmie Martin
4-27-2002 Kellye & Brad Burke

Your Offering for St. Peter's

REMEMBER Even though
we are not meeting together in
person, the congregation still has
bills to be paid. There are several
ways to make your offering:

- (1) put it in the mail
- (2) drop it by the church and slide
it under the office door
- (3) go to
www.stpetersander.org/give
and scroll down to the
GIVE NOW button.
- (4) download the mobile app
for TITHE.LY and pay from
there.

Contact Jackie Gardiner with
any questions.

Thank you for remembering
your church!

St. Peter's Ministry Fund Update Through February 29, 2020

Ministry fund beginning balance, January 1, 2020	\$58,080.63
Offerings	\$26,445.07
Cost of ministries	\$34,997.66
Ministry fund ending balance, February 29, 2020	\$49,528.04

Note: St. Peter's Ministry Fund (previously known as the current fund and the general operating fund) includes all of St. Peter's regular, budgeted ministries, including ELCA Mission Support. It does not include designated gifts to the building fund, memorials, or other non-budgeted designated gifts.



Homebound: Barry Geary, 1403 Gohmert Rd., Cuero, TX 77954,
phone 361-275-5591

MEMBERS —

June Bethke
Barry Geary
Tom and Marilyn Morris
Don and Laura Rogers
Geraldine Sturm
Mike Wilburn

FRIENDS —

Troy Allen – friend of Pat McDonald
Mia Balko – friend of Karie Wimberly
Troy Berthold – friend of Allison and Wesley Ball
Vergie Bitterly – sister of Deanna Wacker
Cecil Boyd – friend of Fritz and Geraldine Sturm
Paula Calhoun – mother of Mike Calhoun
Kim Curlee – friend of Karen Klinkerman
David Dohmann – friend of Allison and Wesley Ball
Wilburn Eckhardt – Leslie Wunsch's sister-in-law's father
Denise Engle – friend of Amy Wilburn
Kurt Flower and family – friend of Beverly Martin
Joyce Foster – grandmother of Shelby Foster
Robbie Friedrichs – friend of June Bethke
Ainsley Garza – cousin of Arlene DeForest and Eva Nell Griffith
Harold Gleinser – friend of community and brother-in-law of the Bowmans
Rebecca Graves – infant great-niece of Joyce Franklin, friend of Alvin and Arlene DeForest
John Hausmann – cousin of Allen Jank
Don Hedgpeth – uncle of Karie Wimberly
Dale Henderson – father of Margaret Luker
J.J. and Jackie – High School Senior, and mother, friend of Jessica Griffith
Betty Jacob – friend of June Bethke
Kenneth Jacob – friend of Glenn Karnei
Donna Justice – friend of community

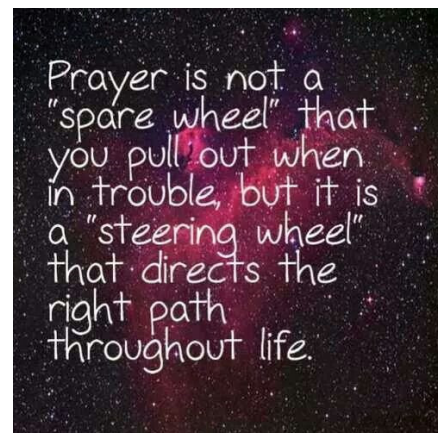
Melita Keith – friend of Margaret Luker
Cullen Kickendahl – four year old son of Clint and Sherry Kickendahl
Joe Ladeairus – father of Regina Calhoun
Family of Mark Love – friend of the Taylor family
Jo Nell Martin – friend of Debbie Foster
Michael McLead – uncle of Nathan Irwin
Doris Moore – cousin of Fritz Sturm
Carolyn Nunley – niece of Alvin DeForest and Sis DeForest
Cole Ohrt – 16 year old cousin of the Ray Albrecht family
Mary Poppert – sister of Ina DeForest and Alvin DeForest
Marcus Rezendez – friend of Amy Wilburn
Family of Edna May Riggs – friend of Fritz and Geraldine Sturm
Susan Calhoun Rosello – cousin of Mike Calhoun
James Rung – five year old son of Greta Henke's friend
Nicholas Smith and daughters – girl's mother died, Fritz and Geraldine's grandson and family
Stefani Soper – friend of Karen Klinkerman
Bonnie Staha – friend of Jamie Friedrichs
Bobbi Stiles – great aunt of Shelby Foster
Kathy Sullins – friend of Julie and Clayton Franke
Jay Thigpen – friend of Carl and Sarah Brandes
Victor Vargas – four year old nephew of Alyssa, Luke Abrameit's wife
Rob Wall – son of Brenda Foil's friend, Roxy
Mary Nell Young – friend of Ruby and Allen Jank

A Prayer for Those Who Are Worried about the Spread of the Coronavirus

Father,

Worry and fear are not of Your heart. [1 John 4](#) reminds us that perfect love casts out all fear, and we pray Your perfect love upon the hearts of all those who are burdened with the fear of this virus. Lord, we know with no doubt that You are bigger than the threat of anything, especially illnesses. Please comfort those who are living in fear, please free them from the bondage that anxiety creates within. Remind them that You are still on the Throne and that You are still in control. Fully rain down the serenity that comes only from the Prince of Peace. Help those who are living in unease to trust You in this time so that in times to come we may rest assured that You will be faithful to be with us until the end of the age. We rest at the Throne of the Almighty such fears and cast them upon You ([1 Peter 5:7](#)), for Your burden is Light and Your Yoke is easy ([Matthew 11:30](#)), we know You cover us with Your wings ([Psalm 91:4](#)).

In Jesus' name, Amen





St. Peter's Lutheran Church
1545 E. FM 1961
Goliad, TX 77963-3414

Phone: 361-645-2922
E-mail: office@stpetersander.org
www.stpetersander.org

The Rev. Anne Kolmeier, pastor
Phone: 361-676-4799
E-mail: revsplca@gmail.com

Worship Leaders for April

ALTAR GUILD

Jamie Friedrichs and Geraldine Sturm

OFFERING COUNTERS

Kenneth Brand and Leslie Wunsch

GREETERS

Clayton Franke and Julie Franke

USHERS *(The * designates the head usher)*

Gayle Baecker and *Jerry Kolmeier

FLOWERS

4-5 Linda and Randy Koehler

4-12 Easter (congregation)

4-19 Beverly and Jim Martin

4-26 Jarzombek family

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Brenda Bade, Debbie Foster and Annie Schwin

