



**ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
**Church: 574-896-2025 School: 574-896-5933**

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[www.stpeternorthjudson.org](http://www.stpeternorthjudson.org)  
810 West Talmer Avenue  
North Judson, IN 46366

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Rev. Joseph R. Cunningham,  
Pastor

March 16, 2020

Miss Rhonda Reimers,  
Principal

Mr. Bryan Ness,  
Kantor

*"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me."*

John 14:1 These are the comforting words that Jesus spoke to His disciples on the eve of His passion. They were confused and concerned as He was working to prepare them for life and ministry without His immediate physical presence with them. We as a nation and a community are experiencing concern and witnessing societal confusion over the Coronavirus/COVID-19. We as God's dearly loved children have opportunity to give witness to our faith and at the same time live out that faith, working to bring comfort and calm to our local community and our St. Peter family.

We established practices and procedures designed to do the best we can to protect the children entrusted to our care, as well as support our families by providing information about the present situation. Hopefully we can bring comfort and hope amid the anxiety, that many are experiencing. Your pastor, in consultation with our congregation's leadership, put into place procedures and guidelines to help bring a sense of calm as we respond to Coronavirus/COVID-19. We are taking this situation seriously and seek to practically and lovingly do our best to lessen the risk to our church family.

We have now determined that for the common good of all, and that of our neighbor, we will suspend public worship for the next two weeks and reevaluate at the end of the month. So, ***there will be no Wednesday Lenten services or Sunday service for the next two weeks.***

*Sermons and worship materials will be online. While heads of household are expected to lead worship at home in normal circumstances as Scripture teaches (Deut. 6:6-7, Prov. 22:6, Eph. 6:4) this is even more important now!*

*Worship Anew*, a Lutheran resource that is broadcasted from the Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana is also available and a fine resource. This program airs on channel 46 (WHME) at 10:00 am or channel 50 (WPWR) at 8:00 am every Sunday morning.

All further communication will first happen via email blasts, as well as St. Peter's Facebook site, and website. If you know of individuals who will not receive these, please contact them to pass along the information. If you have an email address to share with us, please contact Cheryl at the Church Office at 219-896-2025, or email her your information to [church@stpeternorthjudson.org](mailto:church@stpeternorthjudson.org). It would be helpful in this time of national crisis to also have your cell phone number if you are able to receive texts. Please share that information with Cheryl as well.

Our financial commitments remain. Offerings can be dropped off at the Church Office during office hours. Office hours are:

Monday 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Tuesday 8:15 AM - 3:15 PM

Wednesday - None

Thursday 1:00 - 2:45 PM

Friday 8:15 AM - 3:15 PM

If you would like to have automatic withdrawals from your bank account or use a credit card, to avoid dropping off your offering, you can sign up for VANCO by contacting Cheryl at the Church Office or by visiting the church's website ([www.stpeternorthjudson.org](http://www.stpeternorthjudson.org)). Under the Resources tab select Online Giving. It is a simple process, safe and very convenient. You can even select to have your payment repeat when and for however long you choose.

Regarding pastoral care, please know the following. If you become ill and the public authorities allow me to visit you, I will. I will do this while taking whatever precautions I need to take to protect myself and Sara. But if you get sick, I am still your pastor. I love you, and I will give you whatever care I can. Call me directly at 219-405-2209 if you are in need.

This is certainly no time to panic. It is precisely times like these when the Church can be a light in the darkness by teaching all the things that Jesus has commanded (Matt. 28:20). It is a great time to show the world how we put our fear, love, and trust in God alone (1st Comm.), and yet also submit to the wisdom of governing authorities when and where it benefits our neighbors. Everything will work out for good (Rom. 8:28). God's got this, and He will continue to provide all that we need in body and soul unto life everlasting. God is with you. Abide in His love!

A blessed Lent to each of you! The Peace of Christ be with you as we trust in Him.

Pastor Cunningham +