



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Monthly news & updates

April 2020

Worship & Christian Education

In keeping with government and CDC guidelines for social distancing, all worship and Christian education events at the church continue to be cancelled until further notice.

Beginning on **Palm Sunday, April 5th**, we will be offering worship service of the word, delivered to your inbox via Constant Contact.

Parish Events & Notes

Council Meeting: April 9th

Council members await information from Pastor Meagan and Karen Lanners regarding how the meeting will be conducted.

Ministry

St. Cyprian's Food Pantry

Canned and non-perishable goods for St. Cyprian's Food Pantry can be dropped off at their location: 6535 W



Palm Crosses for Holy Week

April 5th - April 11th

Palm crosses for Holy Week have been put in the mail along with a blessing for Maunday Thursday and Good Friday. Watch your mailboxes for their arrival.

Prayer Requests

If you have loved ones working in hospitals, grocery stores, or other essential-worker capacities, please share their names so that we may lift them up in prayer. You may also share other prayer concerns such as lost jobs, health, anxiety, etc. Email your prayer

Irving Park Road, Chicago. The food pantry is open Monday and Thursday mornings, or food can be left in the shopping cart in their Fellowship Hall. **No open packages or expired food, please.**

requests to: pastormeagan@gmail.com or acaciaparkchurch@gmail.com.

Link to Pastor's Sermons

Pastor Meagan's [sermons](#) are now available on our website. Click on the link above to view the page.

From the Pastor's Desk . . .



Dear Acacia Park Family,

I miss seeing you. I miss worshipping with you. I miss enjoying bible study, coffee and..., fellowship, hearing your stories. I miss each of you deeply. I'm sure each of us can say that about our church family here at Acacia Park. I pray that each of you is staying inside for the health of others and yourself. If you are an essential employee or have one in your family, thank you, and know that so many are praying for safety and well-being. We have included a list of essential workers in our prayers. If you have one that you would like to add, please let me or Dawn know.

Something positive that is coming out of us depending more on our online connections is the new communities that are springing up. I was invited to join a group of interfaith religious leaders throughout the world on a Facebook community. We are sharing resources and ideas, and it is amazing to see clergy of all different Christian denominations and faiths work together.

- A Lent Retreat. This gives ideas for family activities or solo activities to do between now and Easter.
- Holy Week at Home. Prayers and readings for each day of Holy Week.

I collected these resources from the Facebook group I mentioned earlier. I wish I could give credit to the people that developed the resources, but I don't know who designed them. If credit is not shared on the document, then they were just shared. That is the hope that I see in the world right now. People doing things of others, people they don't know. Doctors and nurses are putting themselves in risk to care for others; organizations like My Block, My Hood, My City are organized to deliver needed supplies to the city's most vulnerable. I'm sure you see organizations sharing ideas and resources in your lines of work. I see teachers guiding each other through the experience of remote learning. Religious leaders are doing it too. This virus is bringing people together as much as it is keeping us apart.

Let us pray.

Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses.

Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect

Since we are not setup for online worship, I am sending out a few devotionals through email:

- Pandemic Devotional. It is designed for meditation and using the Faith Five prayer model (<https://faithink.com/the-faith5-steps>) to find a way to pause and find the voice of God at some point during the day.

their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. —Philippians 4:6 (NRSV)

In Christ,
Pastor Meagan



From the ELCA

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's Message

During these times of COVID-19/Coronavirus, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton provides some thoughts as many of us are quarantined. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzrxzAPeu2g&feature=youtu.be.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzrxzAPeu2g&feature=youtu.be)

Missing Our Daily Bread?

Daily Devotional Videos Available

[Our Daily Bread](#) is now available as a free, daily video series. Millions of faithful people all over the world rely on *Our Daily Bread* for comfort, encouragement, and a deeper understanding of their faith. Sign up to receive their 2-minute daily devotional videos by clicking the link above.



Acacia Park Community Updates

Lorraine Johnson, long-time member and mother of Shar Wyatt, passed away at the end of March week. Shar and George are still in Florida. They were able to be with Lorraine before she passed, and Shar said that the nursing home provided a nice memorial service. Something will be planned in Chicago when the Wyatts are safely able to return home. In the meantime, please send notes to:

George and Shar Wyatt
61 Greenbreer Ave., Apt.109
Marco Island, FL 34145

Nancy and Bob Komada are putting their move to Minnesota on hold until it is safer to travel. You can get in touch with them at:

4129 N. Odell Ave.,
Norridge IL 60706
(708) 465-7253

If you are over 65, immunocompromised, or have underlying health conditions, please stay in place. Pastor Meagan has a list of people who are offering to run errands. PLEASE get in touch with Pastor Meagan at pastormeagan@gmail.com or Dawn at the church office acaciaparkchurch@gmail.com, if you need assistance. This is a time when we lean on each other because we want to keep our community healthy. If you need something call, and we will match you with someone to help.

Prayer Requests



Allie: nurse at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital

Jackie: nurse

Susan Mari: medical student

Shar and George Wyatt: loss of a loved one

Katie, Gene, Sean, Megan: grocery store employees

Kelly Smith: nurse

Diana O'Connell: 911 dispatcher

Rich O'Connell: firefighter

Sheri and Dan LaVigne: Costco employees

*Psalm 69:16 Answer me, O Lord, for your steadfast love is good;
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.*

Acacia Park Lutheran Church | acaciaparkchurch.com

4307 N Oriole Avenue, Norridge, IL 60706

708-453-3662 | acaciaparkchurch@gmail.com



Church office hours: Monday through Thursday, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm

Acacia Park Lutheran Church | 4307 N. Oriole Avenue, Norridge, IL 60706

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