

Cornerstone Newsletter

From Dr. Rich Wolf

May 2021

125 W. Church St.
Elmhurst, IL 60126
630-530-6000
www.stpeterselmhurst.org
[Like Us on facebook](#)

Staff Directory

Rev. Dr. Rich Wolf,
Senior Pastor - ext. 213

Rev. Amanda McEvilly,
Associate Pastor - ext. 211

Rev. Dr. Robert L. Randall,
Pastor Emeritus - ext. 216

Mr. Matthew Hogan,
Director of Music / Organist

Ms. Jennifer Petkus,
Director of Children's
Ministries
Director of Children's Music

Ms. Judy Molter
Office Manager - ext. 100

Mrs. Jan Edgley,
Bookkeeper - ext. 212

Mr. Martin Pacheco
Church Caretaker

Current Church Council Officers as of 1/31/2021

President: Rick King
Vice President: Teresa Burns
Secretary: Colleen Heath
Treasurer: Kent Sands
Financial Sec.: Lisa Fine

Deacons:

Teresa Burns Greg Felten
Lisa Fine John Lothian
Michael Hirsch Kent Sands

Elders:

Lisa Shurba Julie Coan
Colleen Heath Laura Morel
Joyce Weigand Chris Wood

Trustees:

Dave Burgener Rick King
David Strauch John Suerth
Jim Caffrey Craig Howard

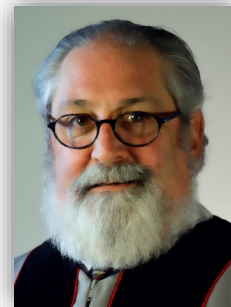
End of a Vision

Someone once said, "Don't be sad it's over, be glad it happened." This is good advice for our congregation regarding the Long Range Vision process. The visioning is over, and the plans and implementations have already begun. The Long Range Vision Team and their Steering Committee have been dismissed by the Church Council with hearty thanks. We also extend gratitude to all who participated in the Jeremiah Groups. Now boards, teams, and staff get to work, sleeves get rolled up, and new ministries and programs come to life. Of course, some of these plans will have to wait until we are in a post-pandemic world. Stay tuned to learn more about these ministries as they are birthed. For now, I share a list some (not by any means all) of the highlights of what is to come!

Creation of a volunteer database/
Virtual passing of the peace/
Coordinate with other congregations more/
More lay leader involvement in worship/
Lessen some of the formality in worship/
Modernize and digitalize the worship bulletin/
Educate members on how to be welcoming and inviting/
Create a small group ministry/
Welcome and incorporate new members in a new way/
Experiment more with worship/
Track inactive members/
Improve visitor database/
Create a welcome table in the lobby/
Set themes for youth and children's

ministries/ Kids service day/
Investigate new faith formation curriculum/
Partner with urban churches/
Promote "boots on the ground" activism/
Celebrate and promote our Open and Affirming status/
Feature youth on website/
Host round table discussions and town hall meetings more regularly/
Improve internal and external communications/
Incorporate multi-media elements in worship/
Reach out to Elmhurst University students/
Use social media to get our message out/
Use children and family activities to invite new families to the church/
Create a database of peoples' gifts for ministry/
Implement random acts of kindness/
Create women's programs for daytime/
Enhance and grow our ministry to homebound members/
Offer a wider variety of music in worship/
Improve church Interior directional signage.

God's peace,
Dr. Rich Wolf



Dr. Rich Wolf



Rev. Amanda
McEvilly

From Pastor Amanda

From Pastor Amanda

As I write this, I am creating a To-Do List for all things confirmation. Getting in all the Faith Fair videos and faith statements, certificates written out, gifts and communion cups and notes written. Plus, a worship service to plan, which has more moving parts to it than normal years.

I love confirmation and teaching the 8th graders. I think I've mentioned before that many of my colleagues don't find the joy in teaching middle school age youth. I love it.

This year was more of a challenge given everything was done virtually over Google Meet or Zoom. How do you have discussions over a computer screen? How can the youth connect with each other, that fellowship component which is so important for confirmation, over a video screen?

I'm unsure I hit the mark on many of the lessons or that fellowship was reached but I did the best I could. The youth took it all in stride and were present on Sunday mornings while I sometimes talked in circles. And I think, hope, the youth got something out of confirmation class. That's always my goal in any teaching moment. If nothing else, please leave with some take away, whatever it may be.

But you know, I also feel that anything we do these days is simply done to the best of our abilities. It is likely not perfect or ideal or welcomed. And you

know what? That's okay. The pandemic has taught me many things, but one thing is to make the best of a situation, and that includes getting creative and adapting the ministry I am called to do.

So if the only thing the confirmands take away from this year is how much God loves them (and that their pastor can really talk in circles) for wherever they are on their faith journey, then awesome. God loves us for wherever we are in life – the good, the bad, the ugly, the joyous. And that's an awesome takeaway.

Congratulations Confirmands! Thank you for an awesome year and for being troopers through all the virtual classes! You rock!

Pastor Amanda

Prayer List

Prayer List: Please keep the following church members and friends in your prayers.

- Betsy Aldred
- Jim Cuthbert
- Miriam Handke
- John Lothian
- Judy Molter
- Trilby Porter
- Judy Smoot
- Peggy Wilson
- Gladys Alvarez
- Kathleen Baer
- Andrew Bulicek
- Jan Eigenrauch
- Karen Fiedler
- Jim Gorman
- Lita Gutierrez
- Catherine Izzo
- Terry Kraus
- David Locker
- The McQuarry Family
- Judy Schaefer
- Charles Smoot
- Alvie & family, Brian, Bruce, Dale, David, Eleanor and family, Frank, Harry, Joanne, Karen, Kathy, Kevin, Eileen, Ethel, Gayle, Linda, Sara, Sharon, Sharon (in Georgia), and the Montes family.
- Member(s) with the Corona virus and those in quarantine.

Please let a pastor know when you, or someone in your family, are admitted to a hospital or nursing facility. This will help when they come to offer support and encouragement during your stay. To add someone to our Prayer List please contact the **church office**. To add someone to the E-mail Prayer list, please contact Chris Wood at twood9663@aol.com.

Celebration of Baptism

On Wednesday, April 21st, **Jonathan Coan**, **Josie Coan**, and **CJ Coan**, were baptized by Dr. Wolf.

Gifts: Memorial Fund

Gifts have been given in memory of **Chuck Hollis** from **Lorraine Hollis**.

Gifts:

Elmhurst Yorkfield Food Pantry from Souper Bowl-\$75 - This is the balance collected after the initial check was sent \$3,213.05 making it a total of \$3,288.05.

Changing Tomorrows:

Adult Christian Care-\$2,000
Family Shelter-3,000
Just of DuPage-\$2,000
Bridge Communities-\$1,000
Elmhurst Walk In Assistance Network-\$1,000
PADS-\$1,000
United Community Concerns Association-1,000

Financials

Income for March 2021 was \$46,674.23; March 2020 was \$37,295.48.

Expenses for March 2021 were \$41,331.47; March 2020 was \$45,464.49.

Operating Fund Balance as of March 31, 2021 was \$36,495.81.

Reports

Attendance the church building is closed to groups. Services are recorded and are available on Youtube link, and on the St. Peter's website.

In-person attendance approximately: 89.

Our Church Family



Matthew Hogan
Director of
Music / Organist

Music Ministries

From Matthew Hogan

The hymn tune *Hyfrydol* is very popular. If you don't immediately know how this melody goes, you can simply watch any web worship video and listen to the introductory theme music. That music is based on *Hyfrydol*! This tune was written in 1830 by Rowland Hugh Prichard when he was nineteen years old. Several years later, *Hyfrydol* was published with a number of his other tunes in a hymnal for children called *Cyfaill y Cantorion (The Singers' Friend)*. I found numerous translations of the Welsh word *Hyfrydol*, including: tuneful, cheerful, good cheer, delightful, agreeable, pleasant, pleasing, beautiful, fair, fine, sweet, and melodious.

Many hymn texts have been set to this tune. In the *New Century Hymnal*, this is the melody for "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding," "Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!" and "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian." *Hyfrydol* is also often associated with "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" and "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus." These are only a few of the many hymn texts associated with this tune.

The melody of *Hyfrydol* is amazingly simple, as it only spans a range of six notes. And the sixth note is only used once! The melody mainly steps up or down with only a few leaps throughout. The arrangements in our hymnal are by the well-known composer Ralph Vaughan Williams. The harmonies add interest and support the tune without overshadowing the simplicity of the melody. It is one of my favorite hymn tunes.



Of course, *Hyfrydol* is extra special to our church because it is the tune used for the hymn "Come, St. Peter's." The lyrics by Harriet Ziegenhals tell of the past, present and future of St. Peter's. I find the end of the second verse to be especially appropriate for this past year:

"Through the years of growth and struggle,
Change, depression, birth and strife
Still the Spirit led us onward,
Sending love, renewing life."

Listen for "Come, St. Peter's" and the hymn tune *Hyfrydol* in worship and on the web on May 16th!

From Jennifer Petkus

Disciple Zone (PreK-5th grade)

May 2: Let Us Love One Another /
Virtual Meet

1 John 4:7-21
Theme: Beloved

May 9: Abide in Love /
John 15:9-17
Theme: Friendship

May 16: Matthias is Chosen /
Virtual Meet
Acts 1:15-17,21-26
Theme: Witness

May 23: Filled with the Holy Spirit /
Virtual Meet
Acts 2:1-21
Theme: Filled

May 30: Summer Disciple Zone



All Disciple Zone At Home sessions are available through a YouTube link that will be sent out with the weekly web worship email. This way, faith formation can take place in your home, on your own schedule when it's convenient for you.

This month's virtual meets are on May 2, May 16, and May 23 from 9:40 - 9:55am. Please check your emails for the Zoom invitation link!

Seekers (6th-7th grades)

May 2: Saul/Paul: Part 1
Leader: Miss Jennifer

May 9: Saul/Paul: Part 2
Leader: Pastor Amanda

May 16: Lydia: The Wealthy Philanthropist
Leader: Miss Jennifer

May 23: Review Party!

May 30: Seeker Summer break begins!



Jennifer Petkus
Director of
Children's Ministries



All Seeker sessions will take place virtually using the Zoom platform from 10-10:40am on Sundays. Each New Testament Ancestor will be covered in two consecutive Sundays, and Pastor Amanda and Miss Jennifer will alternate Ancestors. **Please check your emails for the invitation link each week!**

Last Seeker session of the school year is May 23rd.

Children's Ministries

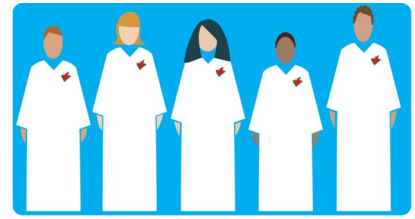


**Rev. Amanda
McEvilly**

Confirmation & Youth

Confirmation 2021

Our confirmands have met virtually over the last nine months and finally, Confirmation Day is here! On May 2, our confirmands – Josie, Paige, Cole, Henry and Gwen, will affirm their baptisms and be welcomed as members of St. Peter's. They will have an in-person worship service for them, their family and mentors at 11am that morning. As a congregation, we will celebrate Confirmation Day from afar, as we did last fall. It's not ideal but I'm excited for the confirmands and St. Peter's to confirm these 5 youth.



Confirmands, I know this year wasn't easy, meeting over Google Meet and Zoom but you rocked it. I am so proud of what you accomplished this year and for your patience as confirmation class met a bit differently this year.

Congratulations to you all and blessings as your faith journeys continue.

Pastor Amanda

TO ALL YOUTH:

ESS (eighth, seventh, sixth youth) / SYF (senior youth fellowship)

ESS and SYF are still holding bi-weekly virtual check-ins on Google Meet. SYF will be one week, ESS the next and alternating every other week.

ESS remains at 7pm on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday (and sometimes Sundays).

SYF is going to try 5:30pm on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. And SYF is going to try playing a game during that time.

Pastor Amanda will notify everyone in advance which evening the group will gather.

Here are the weeks each group is meeting for the month of May:

Week of May 2: ESS

Week of May 9: SYF

Week of May 16: ESS

Week of May 23: SYF

Week of May 30: ESS

Any questions, please see Pastor Amanda



Graduation: Class of 2021

As we head into May, graduation season is approaching. If you have a graduate of any age, St. Peter's would love to celebrate their accomplishment!

High school graduates – St. Peter's would love to know where you are headed next, so please send us your future plans.

Please send all graduate information to Pastor Amanda at amcevilly@stpeterselmhurst.org.



Graduation: Class of 2021



Samuel and Noah hanging out on the deck with Mom and Dad. Looks like Mom missed the memo about the checkered shirts!



Photo Finish - Easter

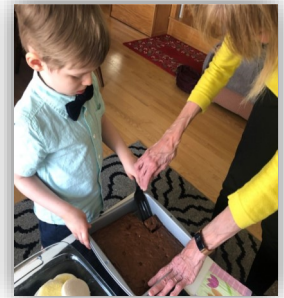
Tate and Cole took advantage of the warm Easter weather: planting seeds, getting ready to hunt for Easter eggs, and meeting their neighbor's puppy, Mack!



Looks like Philip and Mckayla had a lot of ground to cover while looking for eggs at their grandparents' house.



Our new friend, Lucas covered all of the essentials: decorated eggs, hunted for eggs, and served up some brownies. Yum!



Some people search for Easter eggs, others search for...sculptures?!?
Reece found a very cool sculpture called "Arch" while traveling on Easter Sunday.



Ella enjoying some family time and a fine selection of Easter candy delicacies. She has good taste!



Photo Finish - Easter



Pentecost is
May 23rd
Wear Red!



| June 2021 | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---------------------------------|-----|-----|---|---|
| Pantry Collection: Food: Non-perishable foods Non-Food: Cleaners Checks may be made out to "St. Peter's" with "Food Pantry" on the memo line. Please DO NOT bring expired or out-of-date foods. | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Confirmation Sunday Communion 9:30 Worship Web Worship & Disciple Zone Virtual Meet 9:40- 9:55am 10 Seekers 11 Confirmation Day | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Mother's Day 9:30 Worship Web Worship & Disciple Zone 10 Seekers | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Newsletter Deadline |
| 16 Heritage Sunday 9:30 Worship Web Worship & Disciple Zone- Virtual Meet: 9:40- 9:55am 10 Seekers | 17 | 18 7 Boards 8 Council | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Pentecost 9:30 Worship Web Worship & Disciple Zone- Virtual Meet: 9:40- 9:55am 10 Seeker Party | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 9:30 Worship Web Worship & Summer Disciple Zone | 31 Memorial Offices Closed | | | | All worship and events are contingent on the most up to date state Covid-19 directives. Please check your email and the St. Peter's website regularly. | |

All Seekers sessions will take place virtually using the Zoom platform from 10-10:40am - Sundays.
ESS & SYF are holding bi-weekly virtual check-ins - watch your email.

May Anniversaries

David & Barbara Dell
53 years - May 11th

Tom & Debbi Bosworth
38 years - May 21st

Kristen & David Barcus
36 years - May 25th

Bob & Judy Bretl
42 years - May 26th

Teresa & Bob Burns
21 years - May 28th

Larry & Lori Grischow
30 years - May 31st

May Birthdays

- 1 Sarah Catalano
Harlan Krafft
Margaret Wolf
- 2 Olivia Berry
Robby Lothian
Bill Schumacher
- 4 Mike Baker
- 5 Andre McColl
- 7 Natalie Gutierrez
Margaret Nelson
Ron Westphal
Joan Widicus
- 8 Kelly Demma
Mackenzie Miller
- 10 Greg Boehm
Randy Hehr

- 11 Shirley Sterling
- 12 Mackenzie Dinelli
- 13 Lucas Hamelberg
- 14 Dylan Crowe
Larry Nunamaker
- 17 Janice Caudy
Tony Rojek
- 18 William Donehoo
Ben Semmelheck
- 19 Danielle Aubry
- 20 Angela Heinrich
- 22 Jennifer Aldred
Tricia Goodman

- 23 Janet Gooderham
Mark Talbot
- 24 Dave Molter
Judy Molter
Karen Wilkin
Eric Wilson
- 25 Sandra Henry
- 26 Barbara Dell
Sarah Foster
- 27 Ellie Kness
Laura Wing
- 28 Jurgen Voss
- 31 Betsy Schumacher
Jennifer Stearns
Anna Stehlik

From United Community Concerns Association:

United Community Concerns Association is excited to announce the 4th annual **Taste of the Town: Dining for a Cause**, an Elmhurst food and drink experience. Participating restaurants and businesses will be holding Eat & Earn events throughout the month of May to benefit District 205 families experiencing food scarcity.

The community is invited to support UCCA by dining-in, getting carry-out, or making a purchase from as many of these businesses as they can. Proceeds from the event will be used to fund at least five Mobile Food Pantries throughout the coming months. Visit ucca-elmhurst.org for more details and individual business websites for hours. When dining or purchasing from these businesses mention UCCA or show them the event coupon, which is available to download from the UCCA website

[Click on picture!](#)

an elmhurst food and drink experience

TASTE OF THE TOWN DINING FOR A CAUSE

You Dine, UCCA Earns in May!

participating restaurants

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Tues. 5/4 15% Francesca's Amici | Mon. 5/17 15% Elmhurst Brewing Co. |
| Wed. 5/5 15% Fitz's Pub | Tues. 5/18 15% Duet Liquors |
| Thurs. 5/6 25% Silverado | Wed. 5/19 15% Pista's |
| Fri. 5/7 15% Guac N Tacos* | Thurs. 5/20 15% Roberto's |
| Tues. 5/11 15% Tannins* | Fri. 5/21 15% Elja's |
| Wed. 5/12 15% 151 Kitchen I Bar* | Tues. 5/25 20% Gia Mia* |
| Thurs. 5/13 20% Kikuna Elmhurst | Wed. 5/26 15% Fitz's Spare Keys* |
| Fri. 5/14 15% Nu Crepes | Thurs. 5/27 15% Primas Locos |
| | Fri. 5/28 15% Cuvée |

*Guac N Tacos, Both Elmhurst locations.
*Tannins: Cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion.
*151 Kitchen I Bar: To-go orders should be made on 151 website. Type UCCA in the special instructions during pickup or delivery order. All guests dining at 151 should make reservations, unless at OpenTable. Please inform your server that you are dining on behalf of UCCA when your reservation begins.
*Pista's: To-go orders should be made on Pista's website. Type UCCA in the special instructions when placing an order online. If you are dining in, please inform your server that you are dining on behalf of UCCA when your reservation begins.
*Gia Mia: Please use promotional code UCCAGIA when ordering online.
*Fitz's Spare Keys: Reserve the house of 120 and 125.
Check individual restaurants for their hours.
For details go to www.ucca-elmhurst.org
Providing Food to D205 School Children and Their Families

Thank you to our Sponsors

GOLD **SILVER** **BRONZE**

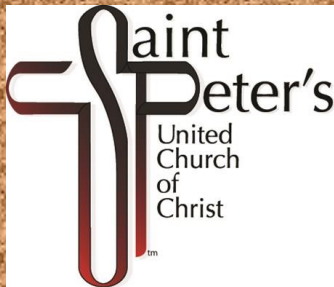
ELMHURST DISTRICT 205 SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

May Celebrations and more

Would you like to receive your newsletter online?
Let us know your e-mail address and go [paperless!](#)

At St. Peter's
United Church of Christ
we rejoice in our
congregation, which is
strengthened by diversity,
including diversity of
culture, economic status,
age, ethnicity, race, gender,
sexual orientation,
gender identity
or expression,
marital status, and physical
or mental ability.
We affirm that God is
glorified when we welcome
all people to our
community of faith,
as Jesus did.
It is our mission to
"Love God, Nurture Faith,
and Share Gifts."
No matter who you are, or
where you are,
on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

St. Peter's UCC
125 W Church St
Elmhurst IL 60126



Watch Web Worship!
stpeterselmhurst.org
**Check us out
on [Facebook!](#)**

**Love God,
Nurture Faith,
Share Gifts**

Worship at St. Peter's:

Sunday Web-Worship and
Children's Ministries:
St. Peter's Worship on the Web
Watch your email for a link to
weekly worship or go the website
and click on the link at
www.stpeterselmhurst.org

Office Hours: Masks required.
9:00am - 4:30 pm
Monday - Friday: ***Call ahead!***
630-530-6000
office@stpeterselmhurst.org

Currently:

All St. Peter's worship and events
are contingent on the most up to
date state Covid-19 directives.
Please check your email and the
St. Peter's website regularly.

Our office will be closed on
Monday, May 31st in celebration
of Memorial Day

Sign up for online delivery...

Sign up for Web Worship e-mail delivery at:
office@stpeterselmhurst.org We use Constant
Contact to deliver the latest updates to you via
email.

From Your Pastors...

These are difficult times, indeed. Too many
people becoming ill and/or dying. Too many
people missing the embrace of relatives, or the
stability of daily class attendance. Too many
people out of work, or hungry, or feeling their
housing threatened. But the church is a place
that reminds us of having hope in the Lord. If
you find that you have financial or emotional
needs during these times, please do not hesitate
to contact one of us. If we can't help, we can
certainly find someone who can. God bless you.

Pastors McEvilly & Wolf - Mobile numbers:
AM (847-736-0077); RW (708-305-1146)