

**HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!**

**WELCOME TO OUR DIGITAL LOVE NOTES.**

*Since much of our communication in the coming weeks will be via email, please be sure to let us know if your email address changes so we can update our records to allow us to keep in touch.*

### Bible Study Opportunities – Join Us for Our Online Formats

**Today:** *The House of the Lord* Adult Bible Study @ 9:00 am – Today’s Lesson: The Lord’s First House (The Garden of Eden). See Friday’s email for the Zoom meeting link or contact Pastor Backus at [Pastor.Backus@eternal-love.org](mailto:Pastor.Backus@eternal-love.org) to receive log in information.

**Monday:** NO CAP Class; *We will begin our new study next Monday.*

**Wednesday Morning:** 2 Timothy Bible Study @ 8:30 am [Join our Bible Class by clicking here](#) or call in at [+1 920-250-7472](tel:+19202507472) Conference ID: 777 834 435#

**Wednesday Afternoon:** Women’s Bible Study @ 1:00 pm: [GOD Is Here](#) study (Microsoft Teams). For an email invite to the online study, contact Kara Witthuhn at [Kara.Witthuhn@gmail.com](mailto:Kara.Witthuhn@gmail.com).

**Wednesday Evening:** Defending Your Faith @ 6:30 pm. This Bible Study is led by Pastor Balza and is hosted online via Zoom. To participate, please send Pastor Balza an email ([Robert.Balza@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.Balza@gmail.com)) and he will reply with the information needed to join the Bible study. More info on this study is below.

### In My Daily Prayers

**PAM NEUBAUER**—and her friend Diane Tranberg who are both seeking successful treatments for multiple myeloma

**COVID-19 SITUATION**—for a vaccine, health, healing, comfort, calm, healthcare workers, public leaders, & communities

**WEE LOVE LEARNING CENTER**—We pray that the Lord of the Church would provide us with a willing and qualified candidate to serve in our aftercare supervision role in the new year.

**ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (ANTIGUA)**—It began with a second-hand catechism and a distant radio broadcast from Puerto Rico. This group of self-taught Lutherans eventually received support through WELS missionaries. Currently, St. John’s is a congregation serving over 700 and a school of 350. The congregation is led by two sons of the congregation who came through our worker training schools. Please pray for God’s continued blessings upon this sister congregation and mission! [Read more here.](#)

### THIS WEEK

Today	8:00 am	Family Worship—Livestreamed (then archived for later viewing on our YouTube channel)
	9:00 am	Bible Study—The House of the Lord (Zoom)
Monday	6:00 pm	Bible Information Class
Wednesday	8:30 am	2 Timothy Bible Study (Microsoft Teams)
	1:00 pm	Women’s Bible Study (Microsoft Teams—contact Kara Witthuhn to join)
	5:45 pm	Confirmation Class—Regroup (Zoom)
	6:30 pm	Defending Your Faith Bible Study (Zoom—email <a href="mailto:Robert.Balza@gmail.com">Robert.Balza@gmail.com</a> for invite link)
Sunday	8:00 am	Family Worship
	9:00 am	Bible Study—The House of the Lord

**LITTLE FREE PANTRY**— Dear friends, we have temporarily made our Little Free Library into a "Little Free Pantry" to share food with those in our community who might be experiencing financial difficulties and food insecurity due to the current school and business closings.

We are collecting donations to keep the pantry stocked. Please bring food that will be ok if it freezes. Choose whole-grain and 100% fruit options when available. See list below for ideas.

*Canned soup/soup mixes, applesauce cups, pancake mix (just add water), pasta, pasta sauce (plastic jar), oatmeal packets, granola bars, trail mix packets, whole-grain crackers, peanut butter and jelly (plastic jar), (short boxes of) whole-grain cereal, etc. Small bottles of hand sanitizer and toilet paper would also be appreciated.*

Food donations can be dropped at church in the box by the kitchen or if you don't have a key, we are willing to pick up from your house. We also in need of volunteers to take turns checking and restocking a couple times every day. Contact [kara.witthuhn@gmail.com](mailto:kara.witthuhn@gmail.com) if you are willing to help or if you need donations picked up. Thank you!

During this time, we are also helping members and friends that are in need of groceries, medication, or other essential items. Please contact the Eternal Love office or send an email to [COVID19@eternal-love.org](mailto:COVID19@eternal-love.org) if you are in need of assistance or know someone who is.

Questions? Please contact Petr Eliseev, Pastor Backus, Kara Witthuhn, or Patty Ferrante.

*"The King will answer them, 'Amen I tell you: Just as you did it for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.' " Matthew 25:40.*

**BLOOD DRIVE**—Eternal Love has scheduled a pop up blood drive in our parking lot on Friday, May 1, from 8:00 am -2:30 pm in cooperation with the Community Blood Center. To ensure they can best honor social distancing and limit the number of individuals gathered at one time, donations will be by appointment only. If you are able, please consider registering to donate for this community event at the Community Blood Center's [Pop Up Donor Centers](#) site. (Scroll down to our name and date under the Menasha heading.)



**DEFEND YOUR FAITH**—It's not too late to join this new Bible study for members and guests alike that just started up last Wednesday evening. The objective of this study, titled "Defend Your Faith," is to help Christians be ready to defend their faith when it is challenged by critics, skeptics, doubters, and anyone who would question why we believe. We think you'll find this study highly practical in helping answer objections to the Christian faith, digging into Scripture and in sharing the gospel with others. Individuals who are interested in participating should email Pastor Balza ([Robert.Balza@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.Balza@gmail.com)) for a link to join the study on Zoom, (a tool similar to Microsoft Teams which we've been using on Sunday mornings). This week we'll cover Lesson 1, the introduction to the class.

**THE HOUSE OF THE LORD**— This weekend, we begin a new Sunday morning Bible study. In this class, we will tap into the panoramic theme of God's dwelling in the Scriptures. We will meet on Zoom for this study. Participants are welcome to join at 9:00 am to familiarize yourselves with the app and its settings prior to the meeting; class will then begin at 9:15 am. To join, please see the link and details that were shared in Friday's worship email. This week's lesson: The Lord's First House (The Garden of Eden).

**WEDNESDAY MORNING 2 TIMOTHY BIBLE CLASS LOG-IN LINK:** (8:30 am) [Join our 2 Timothy Bible Class by clicking here](#) or call in at [+1 920-250-7472](tel:+19202507472) Conference ID: 777 834 435#

**YouTube** **SUBSCRIBE TO ETERNALLOVEAPPLETON ON YOUTUBE**—During this time of social distancing, we've chosen youtube.com to be the main repository of our communicative, devotional, and worship videos. Subscribing will keep you connected while we are apart. After our services are livestreamed, they will remain archived there for later viewing at your convenience and for your edification.



**FOLLOW @ETERNALLOVELUTHERAN**—Facebook is our social media account. Like and follow our church page. When doing so, make sure you select; "See first" in your news feed, so that you won't miss any communications that might otherwise get lost in Facebook's newsfeed generation algorithm.

**SYNOD-WIDE EASTER SERVICE**— On Easter Sunday, our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod hosted a synod-wide worship service with the theme, "Together at the Empty Tomb." What a unique opportunity to gather as one family of believers from across the country and around the world to celebrate our Savior's Easter victory! If you missed the live stream of this service, it is still available to watch online ([click here](#)). Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary President Earle Treptow delivered the message and WELS President Mark Schroeder was the liturgist.

Following the service, Pastor Jon Hein, director of WELS Congregational Services, and President Treptow hosted a live Question and Answer session that is included in the above link as well.

**OFFERINGS**—Please know that though we are not able to worship together in person, Eternal Love is grateful now more than ever for your generous offerings. Here are several options to consider:

- Mail your offering to: Eternal Love Lutheran Church, 1011 E. Midway Rd., Appleton, WI 54915.
- Submit an offering through bill pay at your financial institution. Please see your financial institution for any fees and the process for submitting these offerings.
- Electronic offerings through Thrivent Simply Giving® Program (secure direct deposit donation services provided by Vanco Services, LLC). Please contact the church office for the form to fill out and submit. Please also understand that Vanco keeps a service fee of 1.00% of your offering + \$0.45/transaction.
- Electronic offerings via PayPal using this QR code:  
or online at [www.eternal-love.org/donate](http://www.eternal-love.org/donate).  
Please understand that PayPal keeps a service fee of 2.9% of your offering + \$0.30/transaction.



**THIS WEEK'S ENDURING FAITH LESSON**—Take a look at this week's lesson emailed out on Friday, "A Revealing Truth". On Easter afternoon, Jesus joins two disciples discussing the events of the past week in Jerusalem while on their way to Emmaus. Along the way, Jesus interprets the Old Testament prophecies concerning Himself. Arriving at Emmaus, the disciples suddenly recognize Jesus, who then disappears from sight. The disciples quickly return to Jerusalem to share their amazing account. Discuss how you, too, can share this amazing story.

If you would like to receive the lessons, but are not on our email list, please email [office.manager@eternal-love.org](mailto:office.manager@eternal-love.org) or reach out to Pastor Backus.

**MISSION PRAYER: ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (Antigua)** – *Lord Jesus, we ask for your continued and rich blessing upon St. John's Lutheran as they seek to reach the people of Antigua with the message of God's grace. Continue to provide and train workers for their harvest field. Bless their school as an outreach opportunity to many on the island. Amen.*

**PASTORAL VISITS**—During this timeframe in which our nation and country is striving to slow the COVID-19 outbreak, Pastor Pries and Pastor Backus do not intend to make any casual face-to-face visits. However, your pastors are available and eager to serve you via phone or video conference. If a situation arises in which a face-to-face pastoral visit is desired, that can be arranged on an individual basis as well. If you desire private communion, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to serve you.

**APPLE VALLEY FOOD PANTRY**—At this time, we are still planning to have our May collection on Sunday, May 3, 2020. Here's the list of needed items for May:

Cereal, plain rice (1 lb. bags and Minute Rice), jam, canned fruit, tomato and chicken noodle soups, chunky soups, beef stews, canned pastas, body washes (adults), paper toweling, hamburger helper, canned tomato products, cake/brownie mixes, all side dishes (potato, rice and pasta) and canned meats (SPAM, chicken, tuna).

Thank you for your support of the pantry. Because we are having a difficult time purchasing in bulk, every donation is greatly appreciated!

**THE HOPE CENTER**—Hosanna, blessed is He in the highest! While we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, please remember in your prayers those struggling during this time of uncertainty. The Hope Center is continuing to serve the physical and spiritual needs of our clients and will continue to do so as long as we have supplies to present to them. Right now, due to limitations on amounts we are able to purchase at one time, this has become more difficult. We would like to ask you if, when you are out shopping and you don't need to buy one for yourself, you could help us by picking up some hand soap (the kind in the pump bottle), toilet paper, and/or disinfecting wipes. We will have a drop-off bin outside The Hope Center (1316 W Lawrence St, Appleton, Door #5) during our regular hours: Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30 am, Wednesdays from 2:30-4:30 pm, or Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 pm. Or you may call the office at 920-739-0039 and let us know where we can pick up supplies. Thank you for your assistance and prayers. Have a joyous Easter and may God bless you!

**ONLINE COUNSELING SERVICES** – Christian Family Solutions contacted us and informed us of a special offer for counseling, due to this unique time in our country. If you have insurance, and you have not met your deductible, they will offer you counseling sessions at no charge. Again, you do need to have insurance, and if you met your insurance deductible then your insurance will pay for the counseling. But if you have not met your deductible, your sessions will be for free. You can set up an appointment for online counseling at: [www.christianfamilysolutions.org](http://www.christianfamilysolutions.org) and click on Request an Appointment.

**HOLY COMMUNION DURING “SAFER AT HOME”**— Because we are not able to gather together in person for worship, there will be no corporate holy communion as part of our services during the “Safer at Home” order. Although this is not ideal, we are freely refraining from the supper for a time until when we feel it is both wise to do so and in the spirit of honoring our government’s directives. In the meantime, we remember that the same spiritual blessings given us in baptism and holy communion are also given to us through the spoken and sung Word. Although holy communion will be conspicuously absent from these services and our lives, by God’s good grace may our temporary abstention move us to treasure the Supper’s frequent use when we are able to do so again! May our ears listen and our hearts treasure the spoken and sung means of grace today and every opportunity we’re blessed to have to do so. Private communion with one of the pastors is available upon request.

**OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR IN-HOME WORSHIP—**

- Local Time of Grace broadcast on Green Bay-Appleton WGBA-NBC 26 (Saturday nights at 12:00 am or Sunday mornings at 6:30 am)
- National Time of Grace broadcast on The Cowboy Channel (Sundays at 8:00 am) or Daystar TV Network (Sundays at 3:30 pm)
- Trinity Lutheran (Kaukauna) radio broadcast on WEMI 91.9 FM (Sundays at 7:30 am)
- St. Paul Lutheran (Appleton) radio broadcast on WNAM 1280 AM (Sundays at 8:00 am)

**APRIL NEWSLETTER**—In light of the current, fluid situation in our communities, we did not publish a newsletter for April. Instead, we will continue to communicate and update you on current and future events utilizing email, our website ([Eternal-Love.org](http://Eternal-Love.org)), YouTube videos, and these weekly Love Notes. As always, you are welcome to call the office or one of the pastors for any communication needs.

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**CONTACT US**

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