

PEACE PASSAGES

Volume 39, Number 7 – July & August 2020

Peace Lutheran Church
514 Freedom Drive - P.O. Box 333
Arlington, MN 55307-0333

Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.

Church Phone Number	507-964-2959
E-mail Address	peacelutheran1982@gmail.com
Web Site	www.peacelutheranarlington.org
Rev. Dan Ritter	Vacancy Pastor
Pastor's e-mail address & phone #	ritter_dan@hotmail.com 952-220-8573
Ashley Dammann	Administrative Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to be disciples of Our Lord who grow in grace and use the Word and sacraments to obey His command to make disciples of all nations.

**“For By Grace you have been saved through faith.”
Ephesians 2:8a**

Dear friends and members of Peace,

Once, a Pastor conducted a funeral service for a man who had been very active in the life of his church. The Pastor made mention of this in his funeral sermon. The Pastor spoke of how faithful this man had been in his church attendance, being present at church meetings, volunteering for various tasks, teaching Sunday school and myriad of other things.

After the funeral, several of this man’s friends and co-workers remarked to the pastor that they did not know that their friend was such an active Christian and church member. They went on to say that they had known and worked with this man for over 20 years and never once had he mentioned his Christian convictions to them. They noticed that he was a good worker, a good family man, honest and sincere. But never had he let them know that his actions were motivated by his love for Jesus Christ.

Its true that people will know we are Christians by our love but sometimes that just isn’t enough. Sometimes it is extremely important to verbalize our Christian faith and convictions so there’s no mistaking on the part of others as to what makes us tick spiritually. That doesn’t mean being abrasive and pushing ourselves onto others. It simply means sharing our beliefs with our fellow human beings quietly and sincerely.

We are Easter people and we have the greatest message ever to share with this broken world we live in; the Good News that we have a God Who cared enough to send the very best. We have a Savior Who died, but Who lives again and promised to be there for us whenever and wherever we look to Him in faith.

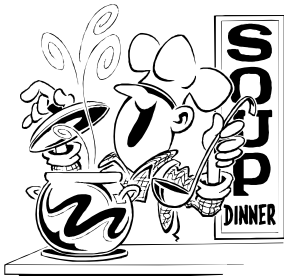
What more important message could there be for people living in such a troubled and uncertain world right now? It’s a message that by God’s grace we know; because someone, sometime in our past cared enough to share it with us. May we also in turn pass it on to others as well - by Word and Deed!

God love you all,

Pastor Dan

4th of July Weekend

Please join us on Sunday, July 5, for a special Patriotic time of worship as we thank and praise God for the great heritage and freedoms we enjoy as Americans. Worship time is 9:00 a.m.



The “Feeding of the 500 Club” will meet again in September. Have a great summer!

The office hours for June through August are Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. – noon.

NEWSLETTER” DEADLINE

Items for the September “Newsletter” are due in the church office by noon on Wednesday, August 19, 2020

July and August Readers

TBD



Peace Guild

Altar Committee for July

Lowell Nagel & Deb Brinkman

Altar Committee for August

Joyce Shaver & Ruth Wolter

Kitchen Committee for July

Lori Brockhoff & Deb Brinkman

Kitchen Committee for August

Ruth Wolter & Joyce Shaver

**USHER/ACOLYTE SCHEDULE
For July**

Elder
Brian Bullert

Acolyte

July 5, 2020	The Elders
July 12, 2020	Leyton Dose
July 19, 2020	Hayden Westphalen
July 26, 2020	

USHERS

July 5, 2020	*The Elders	
July 12, 2020	*Allan Dose Emily Holmquist	Morris Mesenbring
July 19, 2020	*Betsy Laabs Ellerd Mathwig	Ron Laabs Barb Mathwig
July 26, 2020	*Rich Mueller Jordan Mueller	James Mueller Joey Mueller

**USHER/ACOLYTE SCHEDULE
For August**

Elder
Howard Brinkman

Acolyte

August 2, 2020	Leyton Dose
August 9, 2020	Alexa Mathwig
August 16, 2020	Caden Willmsen
August 23, 2020	Hayden Westphalen
August 30, 2020	Nevyn Hengel

USHERS

August 2, 2020	*Dale Meyer Steve Peterson	Lowell Nagel Alivia Strack
August 9, 2020	* Tom Neubarth Shawn Neubarth	Karl Neubarth Daryl Thurn
August 16, 2020	*Daryl St. John Candace Tostenson	Lori St. John Pauline Wiemann
August 23, 2020	*Mike Westphalen Neal Wisch	Ben Westphalen Chelsea Wisch
August 30, 2020	*Jason Bates Gabby Bates	Rhonda Bates Bill Beseke

June 7, 2020

The voters of Peace Lutheran Church held a special meeting June 7, 2020, for the purpose of calling a new pastor. Thirty five voters were present.

President Dave Halquist called the meeting to order following the morning service. He provided information about the candidate and answered questions from members about the candidate who was interviewed by the call committee.

Several people spoke favorably about the candidate.

A motion to extend a call to Craig McCourt was approved unanimously.

The president announced that Ellerd Mathwig was appointed vice-president to fill the vacancy until the annual election.

The meeting was adjourned by a motion.

The council of Peace Lutheran Church met June 17, 2020, at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Ellerd Mathwig called the meeting to order, and President Dave began with a prayer.

A motion carried to disperse with the reading of February minutes. A motion carried to approve the financial secretary and treasurer's reports. Current balance in the treasury is \$52,370.42.

Pastor Ritter in a written report indicated that he felt our call to Craig McCourt has a good chance of being accepted. He will continue serving until August. He has prepared a special service for July 5. A motion carried to approve his request for congregational singing at the Confirmation service. A motion carried to reimburse Pastor Dan for his new iPad.

The elders will distribute communion at the end of the service June 28. The trustees will arrange for the shrubs to be removed or replaced. BESS was complimented for the calls made during closure.

The meeting of the voters will be July 26. Our church secretary, Ashley, will become manager of the website. No decision was made about VBS. The return of Sunday fellowship was tabled until fall. The meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The rhythm of rest

Does God indeed need to rest? Of course not! But did God choose to rest? Yes. Why? Because God subjected creation to a rhythm of rest and work that he revealed by observing the rhythm himself, as a precedent for everyone else. In this way, he showed us a key to order in our private worlds.

—Gordon McDonald



Friendship is one of the greatest gifts a human being can receive. It is a bond beyond common goals, common interests or common histories. It is a bond stronger than sexual union can create, deeper than a shared fate can solidify and even more intimate than the bonds of marriage or community.

Friendship is being with the other in joy and sorrow, even when we cannot increase the joy or decrease the sorrow. It is a unity of souls that gives nobility and sincerity to love. Friendship makes all of life shine brightly.

The "wow!" factor

After the final notes concluded at a recent symphony performance in Boston, the conductor hadn't yet lowered his baton when a child exclaimed, "Wow!" The break in protocol, magnified by excellent acoustics, didn't upset the participants or audience, however. Instead, several later said it brought them great joy. One even called the moment life-changing.

The incident was especially meaningful because the child, a 9-year-old named Ronan, has autism and is generally nonverbal. Music, his family says, tends to attract his interest and make him happy. When symphony officials learned Ronan's identity, they arranged a private performance so he could meet some musicians.

How often do you shout "Wow!" — in a good way — at what you see and hear? You may tend to do so on vacation or while observing God's natural wonders, but what about during your day-to-day life? Think about the people you encounter and their talents — and your own. When have these sparked a "Wow!" of thanks to God?

Every blessing, large or small, is a wow-moment — a gift from God that warrants our praise.

—adapted from HomeTouch Ministry



God's constant creativity



In Isaiah 43:19, God proclaims, "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (NIV). God's process of creating is active and ongoing, meaning there's always something new for us to notice, grasp and learn.

"God's will is not an abstraction," writes Thomas Merton in *No Man Is an Island*. "It is a living concrete reality in the lives of [people], and our souls are created to burn as flames within his flame. The will of the Lord is not a static center drawing our souls blindly toward itself. It is a creative power, working everywhere, giving life and being and direction to all things, and above all forming and creating, in the midst of an old creation, a whole new world which is called the Kingdom of God."



BE IN THE WORD

As part of our continuing Bible emphasis, we encourage you to memorize one Bible passage per week. Listed below are the passages for the month.

July

Romans 3:23 - All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I Thessalonians 5:16-18 - Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

II Timothy 2:22 - Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace.

August

James 2:19 - You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that - and shudder.

Matthew 5:44 - "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

John 10:11 - "I am the Good Shepherd." The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Matthew 6:33 - "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Philippians 4:8 - Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR "The Lutheran Hour" can be heard each Sunday at 6:05 a.m. from WCCO, 830 AM, on your radio and at 12:30 p.m. from KDUZ, 1260 AM, on your radio. Listed below are the topics that will be aired on that date.

July 2020

July 5 "Unhelmed" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler Are you living in the reality of life as it is right now, life as it will be, or somewhere in between? (Matt 6:1-18)

July 12

"Perfection Welcomes Failure" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler God's perfect standards are exceeded only by His perfect patience and forgiveness. (Matt 6:19-34)

July 19

"TBD" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler (Exodus)

July 26

"TBD" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler Conclude Exodus Series

ROAD TRIP TREAT

Make this snack necklace to enjoy during summer travels.



What you need:

- Dental floss
- Sewing needle
- O-shaped cereal
- Raisins
- Popcorn

What you do:

1. Carefully thread a yard of floss through the needle.
2. String a pattern of cereal, raisins and popcorn on the floss until only 4 inches remain on either end. Tie the two ends together.
3. Repeat to make necklaces for your whole family.
4. When you're ready to eat, simply bite off each "bead." Experiment with other non-perishable foods.



Wherever we go

No matter where we journey, God always protects us.

Directions: Use the map and compass to answer the clues. Then write the boxed letters in order in the spaces below to complete Psalm 121:8, NIV.



Start at the SHIP.

Move 1 space N, 3 spaces E, and 2 spaces N _ _ _

Start at the WORLD.

Move 1 space W, 1 space S, and 1 space SE _ _

Start at the SUITCASE.

Move 1 space NE, 2 spaces S, and 1 space E _ _ _

Start at the PLANE.

Move 2 spaces SW, 1 space S, and 1 space W _ _

Start at the CAR.

Move 1 space E, 1 space N, and 1 space NW _ _ _

Start at the SIGN.

Move 1 space SE, 1 space W, and 2 spaces NW _ _ _ _ _

The _ ORD will watch ove_ your comi_g and go_ng both no_ and for_ vermores. Psalm 121:8, NIV

Answers: plane, car, sign, ship, world, suitcase. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:8, NIV

July and August Highlights

Note: The activities and highlights are TBD to follow the guidelines of the government recommendations. Please use caution before attending and if you are unsure if the activity is still being held, please be sure to call first.

July

5	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
12	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service with Holy Communion-Special Project Offering
19	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service with Holy Communion
26	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Worship Service Voters Meeting

August

2	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
4		Good Samaritan Birthday Party-Rosie Kauffman & Shirley Weckwerth
9	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service with Holy Communion-Special Project Offering
16	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service with Holy Communion
23	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
26	7:00 p.m.	Arlington Zone Delegate Board meeting at St. Paul's, Green Isle
30	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service