

PEACE PASSAGES

Volume 39, Number 9 – October 2020

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

Sunday School – 8:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m.

Church Phone Number
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Web Site
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Ashley Dammann

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.

Dear friends and members of Peace,

“I’m back!” My surgery went great and I’m recuperating very well. Thank you for the prayers and cards etc. While we await the arrival of Pastor McCourt, I’m still helping out on a limited basis.

Despite everything that is going on in the world right now, I thought this is a great way for us to look at our lives. (An oldie but a goodie)

Once a professor stood before his philosophy class with a number of different items in front of him. As he began the class, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with gold balls. He then asked the class if the jar was full. They all agreed it was.

Then the professor picked up a box of small pebbles and poured them into the jar and shook the jar slightly. All the pebbles rolled around into all the empty spaces between the golf balls. Again, he asked the class, “now is the jar full?” They all agreed it was.

Then the professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand then filled up everything else and so he asked again if the jar was full? The students unanimously said “yes!”

Then the professor produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students all laughed.

“Now”, the professor said, “I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things in your life; God, your family, your health, friends, etc. and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.

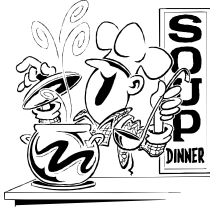
“The pebbles are the other things that matter – your job, your house, your car or truck etc. The sand then is everything else – the small stuff in other words. If you put the sand in the jar first, there’s no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you’ll never have room for the things that are really important to you.”

“Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children, get regular medical checkups, go to the lake, take your spouse out to dinner etc. There will always be time to clean the house or fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first – the things that really matter. Set your priorities; the rest is just sand.

One of the students then asked, “what does the coffee represent?” The professor smiled and said, “I’m glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there is always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend!

God love you all,

Pastor Dan



The "Feeding of the 500 Club" will meet again in November.

The office hours for September through May are Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. – noon, and Wednesday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

NEWSLETTER" DEADLINE
Items for the November "Newsletter" are due in the church office by noon on Monday, October 19, 2020

October Readers

Sunday 4 LWML
Sunday 11 Dave Halquist
Sunday 18 Deb Brinkman
Sunday 25 Steve Peterson



Peace Guild

Altar Committee for October
October 1-11 Julie Meyer and Stephanie Westphalen
October 12-31 Juanita Kube and Jackie Leiske
Kitchen Committee for October
Char Beseke and Elia Peterson

**USHER/ACOLYTE SCHEDULE
For October**

Elder
Brian Bullert

Acolyte

October 4, 2020 Nevyn Hengel
October 11, 2020 Alexa Mathwig
October 18, 2020 Caden Willmsen
October 25, 2020 Eva Hendrycks

USHERS

October 4, 2020
*LWML

October 11, 2020
*Betsy Laabs Ron Laabs
Ellerd Mathwig Barb Mathwig

October 18, 2020
*Dale Meyer Rich Mueller
James Mueller Jordan Mueller

October 25, 2020
*Lowell Nagel Steve Peterson
Bill Pinske

NOTE: If you are schedule for Usher/Acolyte and have a conflicting schedule, please find your own replacement or change Sundays with someone else.

Special dates

- Pastor Appreciation Month
- World Communion Sunday, October 4, 2020
- Reformation Sunday, October 25, 2020
- Reformation Day, October 31, 2020

Shrub trimming at the church will be **Saturday October 10, 2020** from 10:00 a.m. until finished. Please bring your tools and great energy. In case of bad weather, the alternative date will be October 17.



Loved for who we are



When I was a child, my parents loved me not because I was good but because I was ... their child. I loved them, and I wanted to please them, but their love of me did not have to be earned.

Neither does the love of God. We are loved because we are his children, because we are. If we feel that we ought to be loved because it is our due, or because we deserve it, the less we will truly feel the need of God's love; the less implicit will be our trust; the less we will cry out, *Abba!*

—Madeleine L'Engle, *Walking on Water*

Learning from autumn leaves

Every fall, I marvel at the beautiful leaves, studying the intricate shapes and God's creative, colorful displays. Despite its deterioration, the foliage reveals splendor — mere months after bursting out in spring and providing summer shade.

I often think I'm like an autumn leaf. Through many seasons, God has transformed me from a self-absorbed person to one who trusts his steadfast promises. Winter is approaching for me too. Yet the Holy Spirit keeps molding me to reflect God's goodness and beauty. During the autumn of my life, I pray that God helps me embrace changing seasons while reflecting his love and light to all.

—MaryAnn Sundby

A new call

Noted preacher Will Willimon received a frantic phone call from parents who feared their college-age daughter was throwing away her life. Asked to intervene, Willimon inquired why she was ending her studies to work with the children of migrant farmers. What had motivated her radical decision?

"It was your sermon yesterday that started me to thinking," she replied. Willimon had talked about how God wants us to do something important with our lives, leading the young woman to choose a new path that would make more impact and hold more meaning. After a long silence, he stammered, "But I was just preaching!"

Willimon was just preaching, and the worshiper was just attending church while home on break. Yet she perceived a change in calling that led to a change in identity, security, priorities – and fulfillment.
–adapted from The Wired Word

Council Minutes

The council of Peace Lutheran Church met August 19, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Ellerd Mathwig called the meeting to order, and Yvonne Gennrich began with a prayer.

The secretary's minutes from the June meeting and the financial secretary's report were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$56, 596.26 in the general fund. A motion carried to pay the bills presented and approved the report. The elders have replenished the communion wine supply.

The trustees reported that the old shrubs have been removed by volunteers. Their replacement was referred to the trustees. The board of education had questions about rally day for Sunday school on September 13. General ideas were presented and discussed for the preparations. It was finally agreed to begin as prepared and report the results.

The president summarized a letter from Pastor McCourt. A call meeting is scheduled for his church, and his process is on track for October. Pastor Ritter has prepared curriculum material for confirmation class.

A motion carried to donate \$20 to the Arlington Ambulance Service. The budget committee will meet early September.

The nominating committee members suggested were Lowell Nagel and Ron Laabs. Howie extended an invitation to all to help with the Friday fund-raiser. The meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

-Pauline Wiemann
Council Secretary

Council Minutes

The council of Peace Lutheran Church met September 16, 2020, at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Ellerd Mathwig called the meeting to order, and Dave Halquist began with a prayer.

The secretary's minutes and the financial secretary's report were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$64,082.66 in the general fund. A motion carried to approve the report and pay the bills presented.

The board of education indicated that the first day of Sunday school went well and that about ¾ of the students will appear in person. A note will be placed in the bulletin asking for volunteer Sunday school substitutes.

BESS members asked the council to consider including materials from the church in the city "Welcome bags."

President Dave presented information about a proposed confirmation class plan by Pastor King in Gaylord, using zoom from 6-7p.m. on Wednesday evenings or parents taking students to Immanuel, Gaylord. He has been in contact with Pastor Ritter (who is making an excellent recovery from the hip surgery). Ritter and Stern will take care of Sunday services in October. The students on the acolyte list will be notified about their assignments. Dianna Frauendienst will substitute on the electronic organ for Nikki. Dave was pleased that his contacts with Pastor Ritter have been very helpful.

The quarterly voters' meeting will be October 25 following the morning service.

Contact has been made with Scharpings about snowplowing service. The request in distance learning for Blake Krueger was presented.

Shrub trimming will be done October 10, or October 17 in case of bad weather.

A motion carried to donate \$20 to Arlington Fire Department.

Ashley will continue to record the Sunday services with Dianna Frauendienst as a substitute. Dianna will be provided a key to the church. A question was raised about other options for delivering the service.

The donation of an organ was offered by the Helen Brau family. A motion carried to decline the offer with appreciation for the consideration.

A motion carried to give the late arriving gift cards from Kwik trip for our fund raisers to Craig Bullert as part payment for the use of his equipment.

The proposed budget for 2021 was presented by Lori for the committee. The total commitment will be \$183,450. A motion carried to recommend its adoption to the voters.

The meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

-Pauline Wiemann
Council Secretary

+Christian Symbol+



Plow

This farming implement is mentioned frequently in the Bible, often in verses about the harvest. Plowing symbolizes preparing the heart to receive God's truth, or the "seed" of God's word. The plow also represents commitment; Jesus says, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62, NIV). The prophet Elisha burns his plow to show his commitment to answer God's call (see 1 Kings 19:21).

October 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.

October

4	9:30 a.m.	Worship Service
11	8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Sunday School Starts Worship Service with Holy Communion
18	8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Sunday School Worship Service with Holy Communion-Special Project Offering
21	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
25	8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Sunday School Worship Service Voters Meeting
26	7:00 p.m.	Guild Meeting

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.

October

Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

II Corinthians 5:21 - God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

John 11: 25-26 - I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

John 15:5 - I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

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.

October 4 "Victory in Defeat" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler The thing about God is, He's winning-even when it doesn't look like He's winning. Maybe, especially when it doesn't look like He's winning. Dr. Michael Zeigler begins a series of messages based on the book of Daniel that tells how God uses history as a vehicle to bring about His eternal kingdom. (Daniel: 1)

October 11 "Unscaled Heights of Empathy" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler A king's dream, a mysterious statue with feet of clay, an unearthly rock that grows to fill all the earth, and God's empathy for a weeping world, embodied in Christ-it's all part of Dr. Michael Zeigler's message, this week. (Daniel 2)

October 18 "What I'm Looking For" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler (Daniel 3)

October 25 "No Boasting, Just Belonging" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler (Romans 3 :19-31)



A PLANTING PARABLE

Jesus had to explain his Parable of the Sower to the confused disciples.

Directions: Use the word bank to answer the clues. Then fill in the correct words below to complete Matthew 13:23, NIV.

WORD BANK: sow, soil, wither, root, thorn, crop, seed, farmer

1. Plant part that absorbs water
2. Contains what's needed to grow a plant
3. To plant
4. Sharp part of a plant
5. What is harvested
6. To dry up and shrivel
7. Person who plants
8. The earth a plant grows in

"But the 2 falling on good 8 refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.

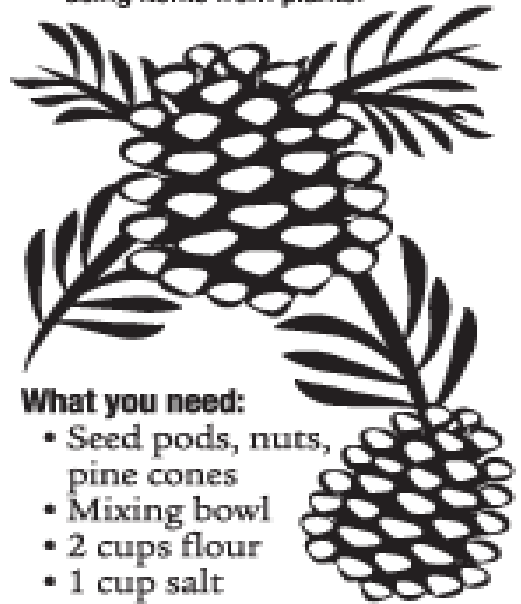
This is the one who produces a 5, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was 3 n."

MATTHEW 13:23, NIV

Answer: root, seed, sow, thorn, crop, wither, farmer, soil, seed, soil, crop, sow

SEED impressions

Create autumn-themed artwork using items from plants.



What you need:

- Seed pods, nuts, pine cones
- Mixing bowl
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup warm water
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Go on a nature walk and collect seeds with interesting textures.
2. In the bowl, mix flour and salt. Gradually add water. On a table, knead the dough. (If too dry, add more water; if too sticky, add more flour.)
3. Flatten a ball of dough and stamp impressions in it with the seeds.
4. If desired, bake for several hours at 150 degrees until dry and hard. Or, to reuse dough, store in an airtight container up to 6 months.