



335 W. Prairie Street
Wautoma, WI 54982

www.wautomapeacelutheran.org
peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com

Pastor Roger G. Riedel

Office: 920.787.3856

Home: 920.787.7078

Cell: 920.765.2883

revriedel8@juno.com

Worship every Sunday @ 9 am

every Thursday @ 7 pm

Sunday School every Sunday @ 10:15 am

Bible Study Sundays @ 8 am

Tuesdays @ 9 am

Thursdays @ 9 am & 8 pm

Confirmation Level 1 Wednesdays @ 6 pm

Level 2 Sundays @ 10:15 am

Pioneers every second & last Sunday 1 pm

Mornings with Mommy

every 1st & 3rd Monday at 10 am



Messenger of Peace is a publication of: Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wautoma, WI.

Purpose

Messenger of Peace serves the Peace Ev. Lutheran Church family with information about people and events that are part of the Peace ministry and with articles that encourage Christian living.

Articles

Please forward information and articles to Christine in the office by the third Sunday of each month.

Put in the office or email it to:

peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com.

"ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING,
AND HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE.
GIVE THANKS TO HIM; BLESS HIS NAME."



PSALM 100:4

happy thanksgiving



Messenger of Peace

November 2015

We Have a New Email Address!

peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com

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This is the *Day*
that the Lord has made,
let us *Rejoice*
and be glad it in it.
Psalm 118:24



The Peace Lutheran Girl Pioneers cordially invite you to attend

Advent by Candlelight



"A Mother Remembers"

Sunday, November 29, 2015 at 1 pm

At: Peace Lutheran Church, 335 W Prairie St

An advent event for ladies of all ages, their female friends,
family and neighbors.

Please RSVP to Christine at 920-787-3856
by November 22.

Join us for an uplifting afternoon of God's Word, music,
fellowship and yummy desserts!

Prepare your hearts for the Advent season before the
holidays get into full swing!



Thanksgiving Worship
Wednesday, November 25
7 pm

Join us on Thanksgiving Eve
before the hustle and bustle of
Thanksgiving!

Give thanks to the LORD
for He is good;
His love endures forever.
Psalm 107:1

Happy Endings?

You could see where it was going, and you did not like it – not one little bit. The story line was taking a turn you didn't see coming, and the way you figured it, this was not the way it was supposed to end.

Have you ever been there? You near the last chapter of the book or you reach the end of the movie, only to be disappointed by its ending. What a disappointment! “It didn't have to be that way!” you tell the author (who, by the way, is not listening to you). “That's not the way it was supposed to wrap up!” you scream at the screen.

Not everything has a happy ending...

Some might argue that sentiment as we approach the end of the Church Year. The Season of End Time ties together the last four Sundays of what was traditionally called the Trinity Season or Sundays after Pentecost. It's a long season – the longest in the Church Year – symbolized by the green cloths that adorn the pastor, the altar, the pulpit, and the lectern.

For a number of years now, those last four Sundays before Advent break off from the green of the Pentecost season. End Times begins with two Sundays of red altar cloths (Reformation and Last Judgment) and two of white (Saints Triumphant and Christ the King). And I would like to think that this is a very happy ending to the Church Year.

Reformation Sunday – the Sunday nearest to October 31st – our annual celebration of Martin Luther's posting of the 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, begins this four Sunday happy ending to the Church Year. **“God is our Refuge and Strength,”** we sing, **“an ever-present Help in trouble** (Psalm 46:1).” It is during this special service that we recall how God's Word had been diluted and even replaced with human tradition in the church of Luther's day. This year, on November 1st, we celebrate Reformation once again, recognizing that in our day God's Holy Scriptures are being diluted and replaced by human tradition and politically correct (but spiritually incorrect) teaching in many mainline denominations. We thank the Lord for His life-giving Word and Sacraments, which lead us to confess our sins to Him and rejoice in our salvation in Christ alone. Reformation marks the beginning of the happy ending of our Christian Church Year.

The Second Sunday of End Time is frequently misconstrued as a sad theme in this four Sunday conclusion of our Church Year. Last Judgment brings a dark and frightful message to us and all sinners when we do not seriously consider the weightiness of our sins, both the inherited sin passed down to us by our parents and the nearly endless list of personal acts of wickedness we commit on a daily basis. **“The soul that sins will die** (Ezekiel 18:4)” and **“The wages of sin is death** (Romans 6:23)” carry to our ears and hearts the ominous promise of God's eternal judgment on us sinners. But Jesus' words in Revelation 2:10 urge us to cling to our Savior and His precious Word, living our Christian faith to His glory as we prepare for the end of this earthly pilgrimage: **“Be faithful to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.”** Last Judgment marks another step in the happy ending of our Christian Church Year, as we prepare for the life to come dressed, not in our own, but in Christ's righteousness.

Saints Triumphant is the third installment in our four-part happy ending to the Church Year. The message of this Sunday is not so much the struggle of our Christian lives, battling sin and temptation, but it rather emphasizes the victory that is ours through faith in Jesus. The Lord gave His life for us. He washed away our sins in His perfect sacrifice on the cross. He sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts to plant and nourish the seed of faith within us – a seed that sprouts and bears fruit to God's glory when it is fertilized with a regular diet of

A Short Story

Our 2015 “A Short Story” series will offer a collection of articles that provide scriptural answers to questions that people often ask or wonder about Christianity, such as “What happens when we die?” and “God doesn’t always answer my prayers-why?” These articles are designed to help you reach out to people with God’s Word– to give you the knowledge to answer some of life’s biggest questions. We hope you enjoy this year’s series: “Fair Questions – Honest Answers.”



God Doesn’t Always Answer My Prayers. Why?

In grappling with this fair question, we first need to remember that prayer is a privilege. Because of our sin God has every right not to listen to a single word we speak to him. However, because his Son, Jesus Christ, died for us and rose again, God forgives our sins. He has made us his children by faith in Jesus, and has given us the privilege of speaking to him in prayer. Through Jesus we may come to God the Father **“with freedom and confidence”** (Ephesians 3:12).

Our Father in heaven promises to hear and answer our prayers. Jesus says, **“Ask, and it will be given to you”** (Matthew 7:7). God’s ears are always attentive to our prayers. He is listening, and answering.

So why does it seem like God does not answer (at least sometimes). Since he promises to answer all our prayers—and he keeps all his promises—the problem might be with us. We need to evaluate ourselves.

Are we praying in faith? We might be approaching God on the basis of our goodness or the deeds we think will lead him to listen. Prayers not offered by faith in Jesus Christ are not answered.

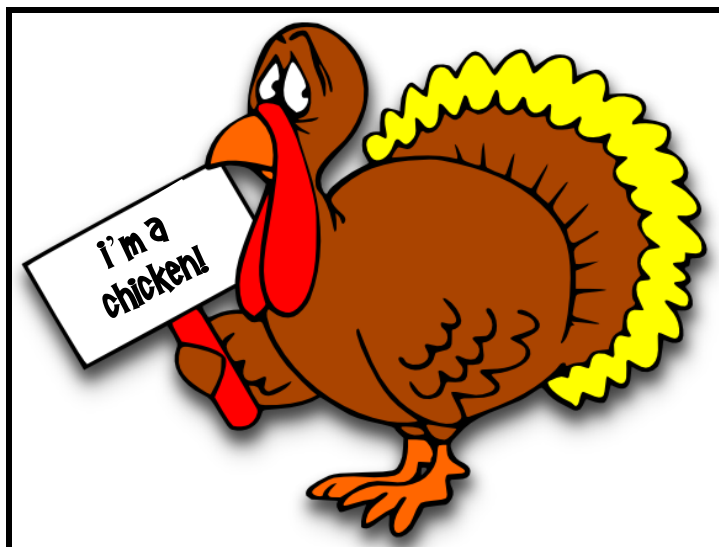
Are we praying with improper motives? If we pray so that we might get something to merely spend on our selfish pleasures, the Lord will not answer. The Bible teaches, **“When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives”** (James 4:3).

Are we praying according to his will? If our requests are contrary to his will expressed in the Bible, then we will not receive an answer. So with every prayer, we have in mind the petition in the Lord’s Prayer, **“Your will be done.”**

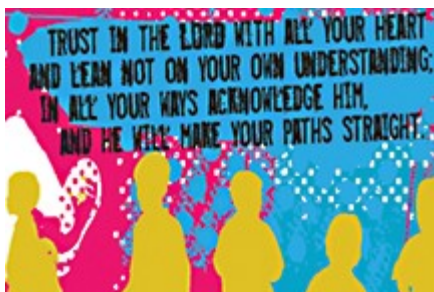
If we are following what God tells us in the Bible, yet our prayers seem like they are not being answered, then what should we think? We humble ourselves before God with the confidence that he still is listening and will answer. When he does not seem to answer, he still is—probably in ways that we do not yet realize. He is our loving Father, who will bless us in the ways he knows are best. We have that guarantee because he already gave his Son to claim us as his very own. How greatly our heavenly Father loves us to call us his children and give us the privilege to speak to him in prayer!

For more Questions & Answers, go to www.WhatAboutJesus.com, then *Questioning God*.





Calm the Fear



When someone you know is really scared, what can you do to help them overcome their fears?

Do you know what most people do? They try to divert their attention away! If

they're afraid of heights they yell, "Don't look down!" If they are afraid of lightning flashing at night, you close the curtain. But the person is still way up high and lightning still flashes. There must be a better solution to help those who are afraid.

God wants you to trust in him. In the Bible he provides the answer to quieting fear: "I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go" (Genesis 28:15). And also, "Cast all your anxiety (fear) on him (Christ) because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Do you know someone who is afraid? Maybe you can share God's promise with them. Do you regret not knowing what to say to such a person? Then perhaps you can read your Bible more and learn what to say.

Hiding from fear won't last. Distracting one's attention from fear won't last. Only one thing will help someone overcome their fear. Share God's promises with them. It is God's love for them that will help them overcome their fear. God proved this love for us by sending his Son, Jesus, to take away the sins of the world and give us his true peace.

Direct people to Jesus' love and you will help them overcome their fears!

www.whataboutjesus.com



Save the date for our 2016 Women's Ministry Conference!

Lead. Serve. Inspired.

The Women's Ministry Conference team is making final arrangements for speakers, breakout groups, and panel discussions for the **2016 Women's Ministry Conference** taking place **July 21-23, 2016** at **Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wisconsin.**

Please join us in praying that our highest priority be to design a Christ-centered, Biblically-based conference for women. Pray that the Holy Spirit work through the Word to encourage, nurture, and equip each woman in attendance to use their time and talents in service to God.

We will keep you informed of details in the months ahead!

WELS Women's Ministry
N16W23377 Stoneridge Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188

Ministry Insights



"Don't you have to forgive yourself before God can forgive you?" Gabe asked in my prison Bible study group.

I told him, 'You're already forgiven for everything. You don't make God's forgiveness happen by being repentant or anything: it's already there. It's more

like: if you're clutching your shame and guilt, your hand's not open to receive the forgiveness, so you're still miserable even though you're forgiven.'

Gabe just stared. 'Wow. *That changes everything.*'
 Chaplain Merten, WILM



In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God.
 1 Thessalonians 5:18



Church News

the Word and Sacraments. Through faith in Jesus we have a new name - a new status - before God. We are saints or holy ones, forgiven by Christ and covered in His righteousness by the Holy Spirit's working in Baptism and the Holy Scriptures. God's gracious gifts of forgiveness and eternal life fill our often troubled hearts with peace and hope. **"We will be with the Lord forever** (1 Thessalonians 4:17)!" What a joyful and uplifting message of our future in Christ as we near the conclusion of the Church Year.

If I had a favorite "chapter" in the Sundays of the Church Year, this one would have to rank right up there among the top - Christ the King. What a way to wrap it up - to bring it all together! Advent's message of the Messiah's first coming; the Christmas announcement of the Savior's birth; Epiphany's revealing of the Christ to Gentiles and Jews; the solemn hours of Lent leading to Calvary; Easter's proclamation of a triumphant resurrection, first for Jesus, and then for all who believe in Him; Jesus' return to His heavenly throne at the Ascension; the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost and our growth in Christian faith and life; and now this - Jesus Christ is our King! **"Every knee will bow before Him and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord** (Philippians 2:10-11)." On Christ the King Sunday, which we celebrate on November 22nd this year, we worship the world's one true King and look forward to the day when we will worship Him face to face in heaven.

Are you tired of sad or disappointing endings? Unlike books or movies that have let you down, the season of End Time provides a happy ending to the Christian Church Year. These four Sundays - Reformation, Last Judgment, Saints Triumphant, and Christ the King - close out the Church Year with God's comforting message of forgiveness, eternal life, and victory in Christ for all who trust in Jesus for their soul's salvation.

Joy in the gifts of God's grace. Peace in Christ's forgiveness. A very real hope for heaven. **"I will live in the house of the Lord forever** (Psalm 23:6)." That is the happy ending for God's faithful children. This is what we celebrate in End Time, which marks the happy ending the end of Church Year 2015.

Pastor Roger Riedel



Come celebrate the Savior's birth





Make crafts!

Celebrate Christmas!

Sing songs!

Play games

Lunch is included!

Free!

Ages 4K and up!

WHERE? Peace Lutheran Church, 335 W. Prairie St, Wautoma

WHEN? Saturday, December 5 from 11:30 am-3 pm

Contact: Christine at 920-787-3856 or peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com

We Need Your Help! Please see the back table in the fellowship hall for ways you can help make Christmas for Kids successful! We need craft & food donations, and lots of helpers! See Christine in the office for more information.



Church News

Olde Fashioned Harvest Fair

On Sunday, September 27, the Pioneers hosted an Olde Fashioned Harvest Fair and pie auction. We played old-fashioned games, displayed our best handiwork, ran in the three-legged race, ate caramel corn, listened to the accordion, tried to win the pie eating contest, and had a great time out-bidding our friends at the pie auction!

Thank you to Pastor Klusmeyer for entertaining us all with his accordion, Tom Kuenn for being our pie auctioneer, all of our judges, everyone who donated pies and entered items in our fair, and thanks to everyone who came! We all had such a fun time!

All the money raised at the pie auction is going to be donated to Camp Phillip's building fund. Thanks to the generosity of everyone at the fair, we raised \$377.50 to donate to Camp Phillip!! Thanks to all who participated in the fun!



Enjoying the great weather!



Mary, Kali, Eryn, Sierra and Skylar try to win the pie eating contest



Sierra at the potato races



Eryn trying to "ring" a soda while Rachel Hansen looks on



Brothers Kameron & Kaleb try to beat another brother team- Matt & Blake



Newlyweds Brendan & Tanya tied with besties Emily Rose & Becca



Pastor Klusmeyer entertaining the crowd!



Jan & Bernice take advantage of the great music and polka together!



Tom Kuenn auctioning the pies



Just some of the items entered in the fair!



News About Our Church Family

Thank You!

Dear Members of Peace,

We've received your generous gift of \$633 and applied it to the tuition account of Jonah Siegel, as you instructed. It's gifts like yours that make all the difference to our college students. In addition to rigorous coursework, they often work long hours at jobs to pay for their tuition, room and board.

We thank you for your gift, and we ask God to bless you, as Proverbs 22:9 states: "The generous will themselves be blessed."

In Christ, Rev. Mark Zarling,
Martin Luther College President
1995 Luther Ct, New Ulm, MN 56073

Please note: You can still donate to Jonah's tuition by using the offering plate in the back. See Pastor Riedel for more information.

Sunday School Corner

Sunday School runs from September- May, with a few Sundays off for Christmas break and Easter.

Classes run from 10:15 am until 11:30 am. Teachers prepare lessons and activities using the ChristLight Sunday School curriculum. The students also have time each Sunday of learning hymns and fun Christian songs.

In November our lessons will include "Three Men in the Fiery Furnace," "Daniel in the Lion's Den," "Queen Esther" and "Simeon and Anna." Be sure to talk to your child about what they are learning in Sunday School!

We will begin our Sunday School Christmas Service rehearsals on Saturday, November 28 from 9-11:30 am. The Sunday School Christmas Service will be on Sunday, December 20 at 9 am. Parents: Please turn in your forms a.s.a.p. if your child will be participating in this service. Please see Beth Riedel for more information.

Don't forget that your child can bring an offering to Sunday School- that money is being used to replace the old wooden playset outside. Also, remind them to save their pennies in the mite boxes that were sent home. When their boxes are filled, have them bring them in! That money is going to help support the Africa Medical Mission's Infant and Orphan Program.

Sunday School is an extension of the family. We are here to assist families in their job of teaching and preparing young Christians for life. We consider it a privilege to serve the families of our congregation and urge each of you to take an active role in the Christian education of the children in your lives. Visit classrooms, encourage teachers, and be as involved as possible.



Birthdays

- 11/1 Zachary Kubasta
- 11/5 Scott Hill
- 11/6 Darlene Travers
- Greg Hintz
- 11/7 Mary McKay
- Erin Jones
- 11/8 Del Meyer
- 11/13 Rachel Riedel
- 11/16 Kent Schneider
- 11/19 Anita Mischka
- Herb Vogel
- 11/20 Jim Schroeder
- 11/22 Sharon Westphal



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, that means the church does not have it. Please drop off dates at the church office, call 787.3856 or email peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com.

New Altar Flower Ideas!

The first of the new year will soon be upon us and we're thinking of a LITTLE change!

We have been in charge of the flowers for two years and recently realized that NO ONE brings flowers for the altar on Thursday nights! We got our heads together and decided we would have a Flower Calendar that includes Thursday night worship AND Sunday morning worship.

As of January 2016, you can sign up your flowers for both Thursday and Sunday, just Thursday or just Sunday. This way, our Thursday night crowd will be able to enjoy bringing flowers to beautify the altar.

The Flower Calendar will remain on the bulletin board next to Pastor's office and the new 2016 calendar will be up soon!

We welcome any questions or concerns you may have!

Mary McKay (920-787-3169)
Bernice Baranyk (920-787-0318)