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Church Schedule

Worship every Sunday @ 9 am
every Thursday @ 7 pm
Sunday School every Sunday @ 10:15 am
Bible Study Sundays @ 8 am
Thursdays @ 9 am & 8 pm
Confirmation Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm
Pioneers every last Sunday @ 11:30 am

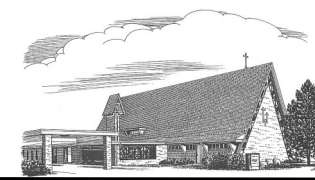


Messenger of Peace is a publication of:
Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Wautoma, WI.

Purpose: Messenger of Peace serves the Peace 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 3rd Sunday of each month.

Email it to:
peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com.



Messenger of Peace

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January 2019



New Church Office Hours
Tuesday– Friday
8 am– 4 pm

The Visit of the Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-12 (ESV)



Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”



⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening

their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



How Many, Is Too Many?



“The Old Year Now Has Passed Away” and what have we accomplished? Has it been everything we were hoping it to be? Is another year what we really want?

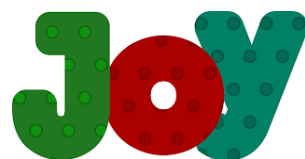
My Mom and Dad are both past 90. My grandma Pomerence lived to be 95. My mother-in-law is 81. All say they’ve had enough. They have lived full lives, lost people close to them, suffered the ravages of old age. They each have expressed their desire to leave this world and join their Lord and Savior in heaven. And the thought is not original with them. Many have wondered why they’re still here, when God has taken so many to him. How many years is “too many”?

Young or old, we see signs of the decay in this world. More crimes are being committed. More people are caught in addictions. More disasters of earthquake, fire, hurricane and tornado have occurred. Society is less and less tolerant of Christian truth. The signs that Judgment Day is approaching are many and varied. How many signs is too many?

The unbelieving world also thinks a few too many years have gone by to trust God any longer. “When is this ‘coming’?” they ask (II Peter 3:4). They are ready to write off any concept of an “eternal deity,” since he’s not apparently acting “now”! John Lennon of the Beatles, wrote somewhat despairingly that another Christmas has come around “and what have you done?” It’s just another year of wars and hatred (“Happy Christmas [War is Over]”). When will God fix things? Two thousand years is too many!

God’s eternal perspective (“with the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like a day” {II Peter 3:8}), helps us somewhat. In the eternal picture of things, we haven’t been waiting all that long.

But it may be more useful to put ourselves into an Old Testament perspective. From Abraham’s promise to be a blessing to all people on earth by his descendant the Messiah, till the birth of that Messiah was about two thousand years. Harder to put a number on, but at bare minimum two thousand more had previously passed from God’s first promise to Adam and Eve, just till Abraham’s time. How’s that for wait time? We might cut God some slack about his timing when we see that faith in him and his promises endured those many long years.



But the best perspective on the question of how many is joy! Joy that God has given most of us another year to meet with and to love our family and our friends. Joy that God has granted another year to grow in our faith by his word. Joy that we were blessed to celebrate another Christmas for sharing Christ’s birth.

And that brings us to another blessing. The Lord tells us that he is patient with us, “not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance,” (II Peter 3:9). Do you need another year? Maybe not for yourself, but for your son/daughter/brother/sister/mom/dad to come to faith, or return to it? Is not God gracious in waiting one more year before bringing the end of all time? Shall we ask him for another?



The Lord also specifically promised that “this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and **then** the end will come,” (Matthew 24:14). There are more to reach! Our mission offerings have more people to bring to the Lord. The efforts at home and abroad to share the gospel has a little more time to “get one more”! His heaven will be full. How many years till then? How many is too many? It’s not enough yet. Let’s take advantage of this one.

Pastor Joel Suckow



I Need More... TIME

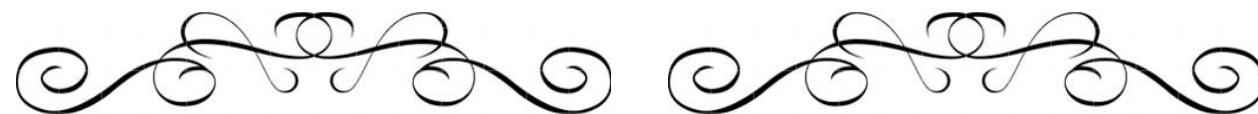
As you reflect upon previous events in your life—gatherings, graduations, weddings, birthdays, business, kids, careers, vacations, and visits. Do you wishfully think: “If only I had a little more time? More time with my kids. More time with my elderly parents. More time to relax and enjoy life.” With a slight sense of regret and quick glance at what may seem like a schedule fuller than ever, you may feel like throwing up your hands and shouting, “I need more time!”

Jesus said, “**I have come that you may have life and have it to the full**” (John 10:10). You might be thinking that your life is full enough. You do not need more things to do. You need more time! But Jesus is not talking about doing more things. Jesus is talking about a fulfilling life that has a purpose from beginning to end and into eternity.

Jesus entered our world 2000 years ago. Jesus’ purpose in life was simple. He came to earth so that when our time on earth comes to an end, we can spend eternity with him in heaven. In order to make that happen, Jesus lived every moment of every day in perfect obedience to his heavenly Father. His life temporarily ended at the cross when he suffered the punishment of sin for all people of all time. Just three days after his death, Jesus came back to life in order to proclaim his victory over death and his gift of life with God.

What a full life Jesus gives to us! We do not need to be weighed down by the guilt of our past—things we have regretfully done or left undone. Jesus came to live a perfect life in our place. We have confidence for the future because Jesus is already at the finish line, waiting to welcome us into heaven. Life is no longer about cramming as much as possible into every day. Rather, life is about living each moment of every day in gratefulness to our Savior Jesus.

Need more time? Spend time with Jesus. Get to know him through his Word. Discover the fullness of his love and purpose for you. While he may not give you the additional hour(s) you were hoping for each day, Jesus will help you to make the most of the time he gives to you.





News You Can Use

News from Synod and national & local news that affects lives of Christians.



Summer camp registrations go live at noon on Sunday, December 2nd, for a gift that can impact your child for the rest of your child's life! Register online: www.campphillip.com/registration.

The \$30 early bird discount for full week camps and \$10 discount for half week camps expires at 11 pm on December 31st!

Awake & Alive Conference

Specifically for those 18-25 years old
Make plans to join us Jan. 4th & 5th 2019
at the Best Western Inn and Conference Center
5105 S Howell Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

\$75 Full Price (thru Jan. 1st)

\$75 Last Minute

(thru Jan. 4th - may not include food due to hotel purchasing timeline)

Registration price includes conference materials, Friday night pizza, Saturday lunch and snacks. Breakfast is free for guests staying at the hotel. Ticket price does not include taxes/lodging.

Hotel registration can be done by calling the hotel at 414-769-2100.

To register, visit http://www.awakealive.com/2019_conference/



CHICKEN STEW WITH DUMPLINGS

Ingredients:

- 4 tablespoons butter
 - 1/2 cup flour
 - 3 cups chicken broth
 - 1 teaspoon dried thyme or basil
 - 1 bay leaf
 - salt and pepper to taste
 - 1/4 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
 - 4 cups diced cooked chicken
 - 2 1/2 cups frozen mixed vegetables, thawed
- DUMPLINGS:**
- 2 1/8 cups flour mixed with 1T baking powder and 1 tsp salt
 - 2 teaspoons dried parsley, optional
 - 3/4 cup buttermilk
 - 1 large egg
 - 2 tablespoons melted butter

Directions:

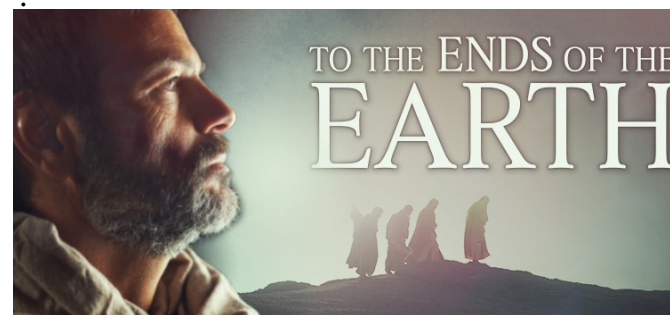
1. Melt the butter in a 3-quart saucepan over medium heat. Whisk in the flour; cook for 1 minute.
 2. Add the broth 1/2 cup at a time, whisking it into the flour and butter to prevent lumps. When all the broth has been added, add the thyme, bay leaf, salt and pepper to taste, and Worcestershire sauce. Simmer the sauce for 15 minutes. Remove the bay leaf, then stir in the chicken and vegetables. Keep the mixture at a low simmer.
 3. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
 4. To make the dumplings: Place the flour mixture in a bowl. Whisk in the chives or parsley.
 5. Whisk together the buttermilk and egg, and add all at once to the dry ingredients, along with the melted butter. Stir until evenly moistened.
- To assemble: Scoop the dumpling batter onto the simmering filling, using a 1/4-cup measure. Leave some space between the dumplings; they'll almost double in size as they cook. Put the lid on the pan, and bake for 25 to 30 minutes. Remove from the oven, and serve hot.
- Hint: Double the "sauce" part for an extra saucy stew.

Yield: 7-8 servings

www.kingarthurfour.com



Church News



The new WELS movie "To the Ends of the Earth" is now available for our members for free! Please take one off the table in the fellowship hall. Thanks to a generous gift, we were able to purchase these movies at a discounted price and are able to offer them to our membership free of charge!

Knitters & Crocheters

The Peace Knitters and Crocheters will not meet in January. We will begin meeting again in February!

Please see Linda Welty (715-927-2455) for more information.

Circle of Peace Makes Treats

The Circle of Peace ladies group made treats for the shut-ins and over 80s. Then they packaged them up and delivered them.

Thank you to everyone who helped!



Pictured: Judy Nelson, Barb Bartel, Donna McKay, Joyce Woodruff, Bev Walker, Jean Bartel, Bernice Baranyak

Peace Pantry Update

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Peace Pantry! The Pantry is a free community pantry that is available to anyone in need. With the cooler months upon us, we are getting more visitors, so please keep donating! And, please feel free to visit the Pantry if you or anyone you know is in need of any of our items.

The Pantry is in urgent need of:

- Shampoo
- Body Wash
- Mouthwash
- Feminine hygiene products
- Household cleaners
- Laundry detergent

We could also use:

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Teas
- Coffee
- Coffee filters
- Microwave popcorn
- Rice Sides
- Pasta Sides
- Taco seasoning
- Taco shells
- Black Beans
- Kidney beans
- instant rice
- Spaghetti sauce
- Canned fruits
- Tuna
- Canned chicken
- Tuna/Hamburger Helper
- Jelly/Jam
- Snacks
- Cereal
- Pancake mix
- Syrup
- Condiments
- Salt/Pepper
- Spices
- Cake/Brownie mix
- Frosting

We have plenty of canned vegetables, toothbrushes, and toothpaste!

We also have a little room in the freezers, so if you wish to donate any type of frozen meat (small packages, 1-2# each), frozen veggies & fruit, or butter, we are accepting those items now.



Come Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blest. Amen.

Advent by Candlelight

The Girl Pioneers hosted Advent by Candlelight on Sunday, December 2 at 1 pm. Despite slippery roads, blustery weather and two Girl Pioneers not being able to join us, thirty women enjoyed an afternoon filled with warmth and fellowship.

The afternoon began with our Girl Pioneers presenting the program “to the Ends of the Earth” to all in attendance. The program was filled with God’s Word and timeless Christmas hymns, reminding us of the true meaning of the Advent season: Awaiting our Savior’s birth! The program also reminded each of us of the responsibility that Jesus gave to us: Share this Good News!

Thank you to our table hostesses, guest readers, pianist, our Girl Pioneers, and leaders. Thank you to everyone who attended. And thank you to everyone who invited guests.

The Boy & Girl Pioneers meet the last Sunday of each month, from 11:30 am –2:30 pm. Lunch is provided. Pioneers is open to all youth, ages Kindergarten through high school. If you know someone who would like to join Pioneers, please see Christine (920-765-2147). You do not have to be a member of Peace to join.



An aerial view of a table during “Silent Night”



Our pianist Jean Bartel



The Peace Lutheran Girl Pioneers
Christine, Emily, Kali, Becca, Ahnsharee
Missing: Fiona & Mackenzie

Boy Pioneers Learn a New Skill

The Boy Pioneers met on November 25th, the boys learned a new skill– woodburning. They learned about different types of “strokes” used to make woodburned art. Then they made Christmas ornaments as presents for their parents. The boys paid attention, worked hard, and behaved maturely as they worked. Mr. Bohn was very proud of all of them!

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Grant, TJ, & Ben concentrating!



Wade, TJ, Grant, Ian, Benjamin, & Jackson



Sunday School Corner

Sunday School is every Sunday, Sept-May, 10:15-11:30 am

By the time you read this, we will be in to a new year. We will have survived all of the hustle and bustle of the holiday. And as it always is, the Sunday School Program was awesome. The children memorized their recitations and practiced the songs every Sunday in December. The students and teachers worked very hard to prepare the message for us. But just because the service is done doesn’t mean we stop preparing. We still say prayers at the dinner table and before bed. We continue to study the Bible whenever we can. The Holy Spirit is always working in our hearts. And we still have Sunday School class each week. Our teachers love sharing God’s word with all the children.

Why is Sunday School so important? Learning about Jesus begins at home with you! But, Sunday School can be an arm that you use to help you in training your children in the way of the Lord. The Bible lessons that we learn about in Sunday School will stay with your children through out their lives. Through each level of Sunday School, the lessons get more in-depth and “meatier.” Sunday School really does matter!

September Lessons

Date	Lesson
January 6	Jesus & the Samaritan Woman
January 13	Jesus Heals
January 20	The Upper Room
January 27	Betrayal in Gethsemane
February 3	Peter’s Denial



Sunday School
MAKES A DIFFERENCE

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. Please feel free to contact Pastor Suchow, your child’s teacher or me if you have any questions or comments regarding Sunday School. I look forward to working with all the teachers and students as we all prepare for that time when we will spend eternity praising our Lord!

Karin Hetcher (920-787-9232)
Sunday School Superintendent



Birthdays

1/1	Dayna Lemke
1/8	Jonah Siegel
1/10	Boone Welty
1/16	Lana Sluga
1/19	Joshua Wedde
1/20	Daniel Baranyk
1/21	Jack Snyder Carlyle Schmidt
1/22	Ahnsharee Klusmeyer
1/25	Char Vanier

Anniversaries

1/20	Ken & Marie Kasper (30)
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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.

Mental Health Services in Central Wisconsin

Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin (LCFS) is pleased to announce Julie Decker, MS, LPC has joined its staff to provide mental health counseling services to residents of the greater Berlin/Waupaca areas at LCFS’s satellite offices located at St. John’s Lutheran Church, 168 Mound St, Berlin and Calvary Lutheran Church, E1887 King Rd, Waupaca.

Julie is a Licensed Professional Counselor with a Master’s Degree in Clinical Psychology from Marquette University. She has over 27 years of experiences with special expertise helping clients of all ages with PTSD, ADHD, ODD, Reactive Attachment Disorder, anxiety, depression, grieving, relationship issues, stress management, chronic pain, and learning challenges. Julie is currently accepting new clients. Call (715) 524-4840 or (toll free) 888-867-4840 to learn more or schedule an appointment. Or find us online at www.lcfswi.org.