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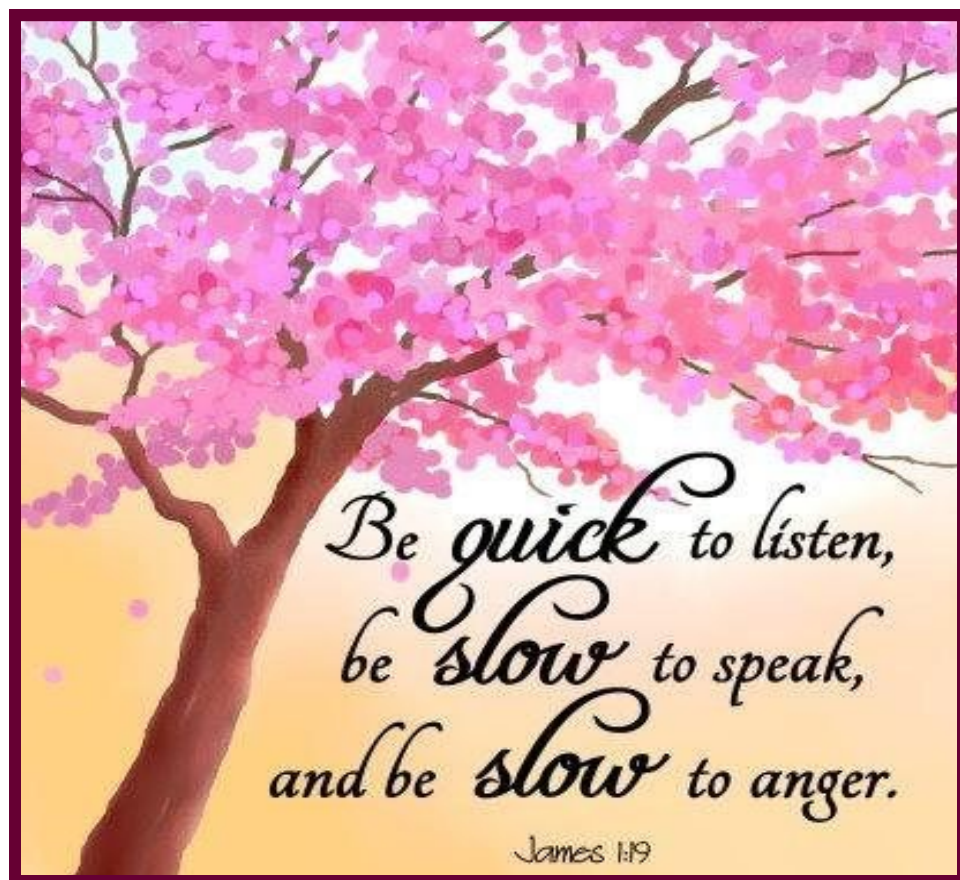


Messenger of Peace is a publication
of: Peace Evangelical Lutheran
Church, Wautoma, WI.

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:
peacechurchwautoma@gmail.com.



Messenger of Peace

May 2020

Be kind to one another,
tenderhearted,

forgiving one
another, as
God in Christ
forgave you.

-Ephesians 4:32



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For up-to-date information
regarding Covid-19 and the WELS, please visit:
wels.net/news-media/as-we-face-covid-19/

For up-to-date information specifically for
Peace members, please visit our website at
www.wautomapeacechurch.org
or our Face book page at
www.facebook.com/Peace-Evangelical-Lutheran-Church-97113208931/?ref=bookmarks

To find factual information regarding Covid-19,
please visit the CDC website at
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

"Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be overwhelmed,
for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you.
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
Isaiah 41:10

Follow the Good Shepherd

What do the games Follow-the-Leader and Simon Says have in common? In both games, you want to do or go where the leader says. Knowing and following the leader is important. When it comes to spiritual matters, following the wrong leader can end in spiritual death. Follow your Good Shepherd Jesus because he knows you and because he keeps you safe.

Follow your Good Shepherd Jesus because he knows you!

The Jewish people of Jesus' time, for the most part, did not know Jesus as the Christ. They should have been the first ones to see him as the Messiah. For centuries, the Jews had studied the Old Testament Scriptures which described the intimate details of the Messiah's life, suffering, death, and resurrection. Yet when seeing these prophecies fulfilled perfectly, at times before their very eyes, the unbelief of the Jews refused to see in Jesus the truth of his identity as the Messiah. *"The Jews gathered around him, saying, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.'"* The answer to that query should have been plain to those people long before this moment.

They received an appropriate rebuke from Jesus for their unbelief. *Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me."* The Jews did not know the voice of their Good Shepherd, even as he spoke directly to them! The evidence of Jesus as the Savior was already abundant, even before Holy Week: the blind received sight, the lame walked, the leprous were healed, the dead were raised to life, demons were cast out of the possessed. And the sins of all these people were openly forgiven by Jesus. Only God could do such a thing by his almighty power. Jesus was in effect saying to these doubters, *"Make no mistake. I who speak to you am the Messiah. Believe in me and be saved!"*

Jesus knew the troubles in the hearts of his Jewish audience. And he knows the troubles percolating in our hearts. With what burdens are we patiently laboring? Our silent pleas go up to God for forgiveness, patience, the ability to forgive those who hurt us, or for release from a thorny sin. We have a Good Shepherd in Jesus who knows each of us his sheep well. Jesus knows our struggles. He understands how many we have now, and how many more will come to us before the end of our days. Our Good Shepherd sympathizes with us in our darkest moments of failure and pain. Jesus sees our daily battles and our regular frustrations.

Jesus knows us and our needs and because he could not in his grace watch us remain burdened by the problems of life, he came to be our Good Shepherd. Jesus protects us from our worst enemies who seek to destroy us. Our Good Shepherd laid down his life on the cross, taking our burdens with him there, so that we might have peace. The Good Shepherd has laid down his life for the sheep. Our failures, our pains, our worries, and our stresses went to that cross with Jesus and died there. Take your troubles to the Good Shepherd without reservation because he has promised to hear and answer all of them. Our Shepherd knows us and he freely gives to us our greatest need: freedom even from death. Yes, the Good Shepherd laid down his life for us, but in the ultimate act of love he took it up again by his resurrection from the dead.

So we follow our Good Shepherd through life no matter what trials come our way. Through the darkest of days and the days when life couldn't be better, follow your Shepherd to the rich pastures of his Word and see how truly blessed we are to be his sheep. He waters us with his Word. Jesus feeds us with his sacraments. He carries us on his shoulders when we are too weak, battered from the journey or too exhausted to carry ourselves. At our most vulnerable moments when we are open to attacks on our souls, Jesus protects us from the prowling wolves of the devil, the world, and our own sinful natures. Keep following your Good Shepherd and know he loves you for the beloved blood-bought sheep you are!

Follow your Good Shepherd Jesus because he keeps you safe!

The miracles of Jesus prove he is capable of keeping us safe. He has brought people back from the dead, the wind and the waves obey his word, demons leave people's tortured souls at peace at his command, crippled people walk, blind men see. He has power over death itself! He is Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Man, our Christ, the Savior of the world. How could that Jesus not know what is best for keeping us safe from evil?

But at times in all of our lives, we have thought we knew what was better for our spiritual safety than our Good Shepherd Jesus. *"All of us have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way."* The self-help books and advice columns in the paper will tell us how to handle the situation, right? Going our own way leads nowhere except to pain, guilt and separation from God.

Continued on top of page 7

But the LORD has laid on our Good Shepherd the iniquity of us all. Jesus has our eternal safety at heart. *"I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand."* Our loving Shepherd has done all that is necessary to bring us to the everlasting safety of heaven. By his perfect life, he has replaced our sinfulness in the sight of God. In his death, Jesus laid down his life as the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the whole world, including ours. Christ also took up his life again in his resurrection, that we might be united with him in everlasting life in heaven. We can be certain we are safe from all spiritual evil as we daily walk the path to heaven, because we are guided by our Good Shepherd.

Follow your Good Shepherd to eternal life! Jesus restores our souls from the effects of sin, death, and the devil's power. He knows our every need. In times of struggle, Jesus makes us lie down in the green pastures of his Word to find peace and strength. Even in the valley of the shadow of death we will not fear that evil for our Good Shepherd has made us safe even from death. Our cup of bitterness and suffering has been taken away by Jesus and replaced with the overflowing cup of blessings in our Savior. Follow your Good Shepherd Jesus, and surely his goodness and love will follow you all the days of your life. And then you shall be with the LORD forever.

Pastor Steven Tews

Breathe On Me

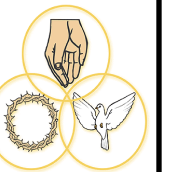
***Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."
And with that [Jesus] breathed on them and said,
"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven;
if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." John 20:21-23***



Over the past couple of months, you have no doubt become much more aware of people breathing on you. Social distancing has led you to a pretty good idea of how far away six feet is. You have been hesitant to be any closer to people who might infect you with the coronavirus.

Now you read in the gospel of John that Jesus breathed on his disciples after he rose from the dead. Maybe you never noticed those words before, but they jump out at you now. What was Jesus doing?

Jesus explained a couple of things that he was doing. The first explanation is that he was connecting his disciples to God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. He was sending them just as his Father had sent him. They would be going with the presence of the Holy Spirit and the power he provided.



What power? That's the second explanation Jesus gave his disciples. He told them that now they had the power to forgive the sins of penitent people and withhold forgiveness from impenitent people.

That power to forgive people is an awesome privilege and responsibility. Every Christian has it, and every Christian will want to practice it until it becomes as natural as breathing. When someone asks for forgiveness, Christians are eager to assure them that they are forgiven because Jesus has earned forgiveness for them. Perhaps some people have not done right by you during this pandemic. Forgive them. Breathe these words out loud: *"I forgive you. Just as God has forgiven me, I forgive you, for Jesus' sake."*

Then take a deep breath and relax. This is how a Christian lives now that Jesus has risen from the dead.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the Holy Spirit and letting me breathe words of forgiveness. Amen.

For more devotions, go to <https://wels.net/dev-daily/dd20200421/>.



News You Can Use

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



Lutheran Pioneers Boundary Waters Voyageur Trip June 13 - 19, 2020

Cost: \$200.00

For more information, contact: Jeff Kneser;
(email) kneser@msn.com, or 715-409-0388 or visit
www.lutheranpioneers.org/voyageur-canoe-trip/



57th Annual LWMS Convention

2020 Vision for Missions

June 25-28, 2020

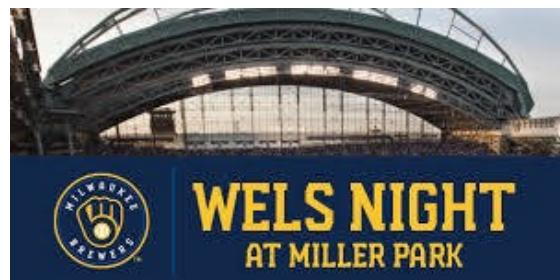
Athens, Georgia

Visit wels.net/event/2020-lutheran-womens-missionary-society-convention/
for more information.

Lutheran Boy Pioneers Family Adventure Days July 15-19, 2020

Pineridge Campground
W5132 County Road N Waldo, WI

Lutheran Pioneers is hosting an awesome fellowship event that you don't want to miss. Activities are planned for the whole family. Cost includes two meals a day!
Visit www.lutheranpioneers.org/family-adventure-days/ for more information or to register.



Friday, July 24, 2020

Mark your calendars for the seventh annual WELS
Night 2020! Go to
<https://wels.net/event/brewers2020/>
to purchase your tickets!

Lutheran Girl Pioneers 2020 International Camp

July 26- August 1, 2020

at Camp Bird Crivitz, Wisconsin

Who can go? Girls ages third graders and up
How much does it cost? LGP members \$200
For more information, email lgpcamp@gmail.com.



Lutheran Girl Pioneers 2020 International Convention

October 2-3, 2020

at St John's Lutheran Church & School
Watertown, Wisconsin
Registration opens Summer of 2020



Church News

Offerings

While we are not meeting in person, you can mail
your offerings to the church at:
Peace Lutheran Church
335 West Prairie Street, Wautoma, WI 54982
You can also call the church office at 920-787-3856
to schedule a time to drop off your offering.

Pioneers News

Pioneers, as everything else, has had to
pause during this pandemic. If you or your
family need anything during this time,
please reach out to your leaders! We miss
you and can't wait until we can meet again!
Christine, Kevin, Ahnsharee, and Becca



Stay Connected

While we are not meeting in person, you can still
stay connected to your church family!

- Call Pastor and let him know how you're doing.
- Text Christine with prayer requests.
- Send cards and letters to your church family (email Christine if you need a directory).
- Email the church office if you need to use the Peace Pantry or if you want copies of any publications to be mailed to you.
- Send postcards to our Sunday School kids (email Christine for a list of names and addresses).
- Call a shut-in to chat.
- Sew fabric face masks and donate to local nursing homes or the health department.
- Connect with church friends on our Facebook page.
- Visit the WELS website to find more church services to watch online.



Did you know...

...you can call Pastor, Christine, or the church office to use the Peace Pantry?

Just call and we'll have a bag or two of food ready for you to pick up at your convenience!

...you can call Pastor, Christine, or the church office to request prayers?

Let us know your prayer requests and we will pray for you!

...you can ask us to mail you church and WELS publications AND the weekly bulletins?

Let us know where to send it to!

...we have a Facebook page?

We do! And we also send emails with any updates. Let Christine know your email address to get on the list!

**Even though we are not together physically, we are one in the body of Christ
and that doesn't change because we are not worshipping in church right now!**

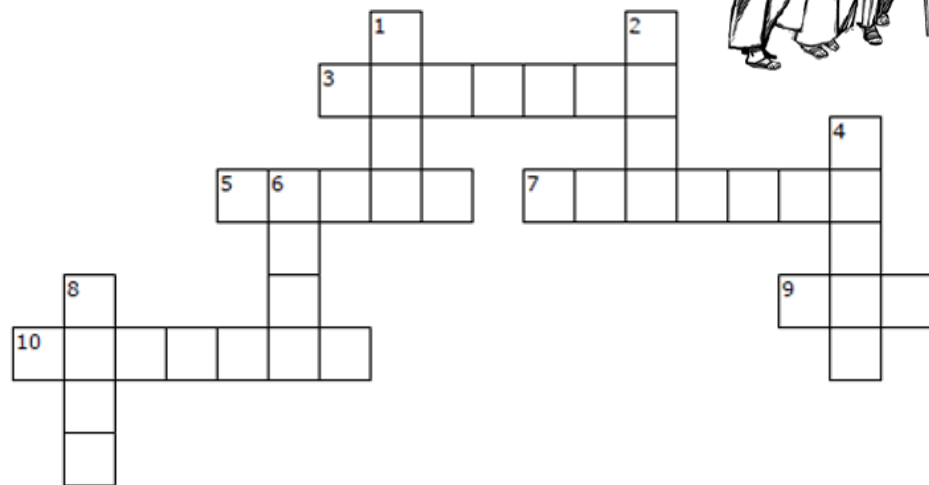
Contact us:

Pastor Tews	pastortews@gmail.com	507-626-4476	920-787-3856
Christine Bohn	peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com	920-765-2147	
Terry Proctor (church president)		920-420-8190	
Jim Schroeder (head elder)		920-787-4331	



On the Road to Emmaus

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.
Luke 24:31a (NIV)

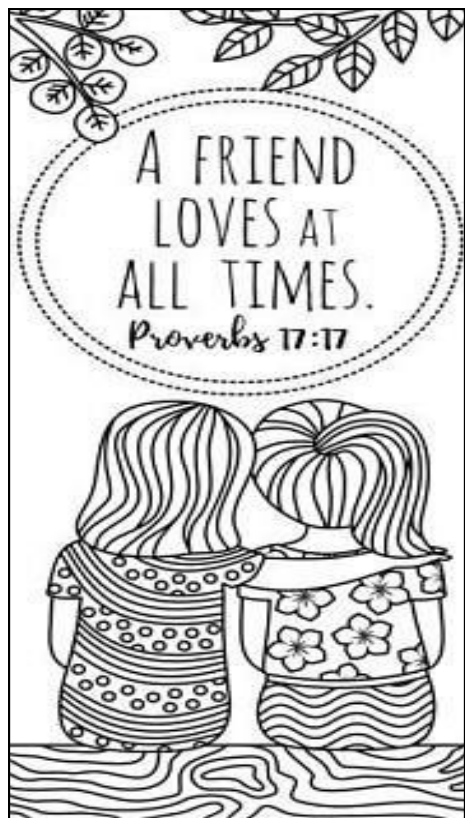


ACROSS

3. To put to death on a cross
5. The Old Testament man who received the Ten Commandments from God
7. A person who visits
9. A period of twenty four hours
10. Carrying on a conversation with someone

DOWN

1. Not false
2. The organ which makes people able to see
4. A food made from flour and water, mixed together and baked
6. Not closed
8. To travel on foot



Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying
that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.



Sunday School Corner

Sunday School, along with all other activities at church, has been cancelled until further notice, but that doesn't mean that Sunday School has to stop! We have, and will continue to do so as long as needed, emailed all our Sunday School families each week with a lesson and activities that families can do at home.

Parents, please let us know if you want more lessons, or need help with the lessons that have been sent. We can also mail you copies if can't print at home.

Although it's not the way we usually plan Sunday School, the Sunday School staff is committed to serving our littlest lambs and we will continue to do that, even if it has to be remotely.



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.

Please speak with me, any Sunday School teacher, or Pastor for more information about Sunday School, to volunteer, or to donate to the Sunday School program.

Karin Hetcher (920-240-6201)

Sunday School Superintendent



Congratulations Class of 2020!

Brooke Blader-Lucht,
Wautoma High School

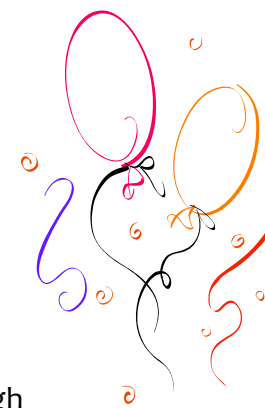
***In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.***

Proverbs 3:6



Birthdays

- | | |
|------|--------------------------------|
| 5/7 | DuWayne Bartel
Larry Walton |
| 5/13 | LuAnn Sittig
Nate Sigourney |
| 5/14 | Darryl Ast |
| 5/15 | Casey Wedde |
| 5/17 | Robyn Rudolph |
| 5/19 | Wade Proctor |
| 5/24 | Marion Treichel
Pat Johnson |
| 5/28 | Marilynn Chesbrough |
| 5/31 | Lisa Bartel |



Anniversaries

- | | |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 5/20 | Gene & Michelle Wedde (25) |
| 5/28 | Eric & Rebecca Richards (9) |



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.

Worship Services

All of our worship services are on our website at www.wautomapeaceelutheran.org. Bulletins are also available for download on our website.



Thank you to Pastor Tews for continuing having worship services, to Kevin Bohn for taping each service, to Pastor Klusmeyer for putting those services on our website, and to Jim Schroeder for sending it out via email.