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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:
peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com.



Messenger of Peace

July 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, let us go to the house of the LORD!" The time has come for us to once again begin worship in our church building. Our regular worship schedule resumed on May 28, following the guidelines approved by our church council (see page 4).

Some may feel that these measures are too extreme. Such measures, however, may put other people's minds at ease. Let us all be patient and loving with one another as the family of faith that we are. If new regulations are put in place by the government, we will make sure to follow them.

Please, do not feel obligated to worship in person with us if you are fearful of getting sick, are not feeling well or are considered high risk. We will continue to post worship videos and materials on our website, receive offerings through the mail, and take appointments for private communion if that is your desire at this time.

Continue to pray that the Lord keep us safe, that the pandemic passes quickly and that through these strange days, our faith is strengthened as we rely more firmly on God's promises, and that many more turn to Jesus as their only hope and salvation.

In Christ, Pastor Tews

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WE ARE HAVING SUMMER CAMP!!!

It is quite true that camp will look different this summer, but we believe it will still offer the relaxation in creation and renewal in Christ that we've been blessed to share for almost 40 years now. We believe children will be benefitting from camp in a whole new way. We have devoted ourselves to learning the regulations and guidelines for what it would take to run camp, and we are prepared to go beyond what is being suggested out of care for our campers. For more information about Camp Phillip, visit their website at campphillip.com.



Independence Day

No taxation without representation! That was the rallying cry of those thirteen colonies in the new world. The colonists had become fed up with paying the burdensome taxes and not having anyone to represent them in the government. Eventually, this led to the Revolutionary War and from that conflict our great nation was born. As Americans, let us take stock of just how much God has blessed America!

St Paul tells us in Romans, ***“Submit to the government established for good!”*** The question burns on the minds of many, even Christians: why should we submit to a government and a political process which is so corrupt and seemingly anti-Christian? Watch the news and you will be lead to that conclusion. Acts of rebellion and aggression against representatives of government are on the rise. People are comfortable with trampling on the reputation of our government. The opening verses of Romans 13 give us pause if that attitude should ever start to crop up in our hearts. ***“For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you.”***

We are bound by our conscience to obey the government which God gave us for our good. God tells us we ought to honor those in authority, giving them love and respect for the office he is using them to fulfill. When is the last time you thought of the government that way? Luther writes in his explanation to the Fourth Commandment, “We should fear and love God that we do not dishonor or anger our parents or others in authority, but honor, serve, and obey them, and give them love and respect.” Paul tells us where that desire to serve and respect our government comes from for us as Christians. ***“Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment, but also because of conscience.”***

We don’t really think about how much the government intersects with our life for good each day. Whenever you get your mail, you are interacting with the government. If you see a police car, fire truck or ambulance, you have interacted with the government. If you vote in elections freely, own a gun, or read a newspaper not edited by the state, you have the government to thank for that. Corrupt politicians aside, the government really does serve many useful purposes in our daily lives. Our conscience ought to tell us obeying the government is the right and thankful thing to do.

We have a perfect law-keeper in Jesus who has kept not just the laws of the state, but the laws of God perfectly in our place. Our sins created the biggest budget deficit the world will ever know between us and God. But Jesus paid the price for our sins by freely offering his life for us on the cross. Jesus’ life of perfect obedience to the government became ours on the cross. That perfect obedience is now credited to us by God. Our complaining about and lack of respect for our government, has been removed from the sight of God forever by the perfect law-keeper, yes the law-fulfiller, Jesus.

Thanks be to God through our Lord Jesus Christ! Jesus has granted us independence from tyranny far worse than what the thirteen colonies experienced. We experienced the spiritual tyranny of the three worst enemies the world will ever know: the devil, the world, and our own sinful natures. They enslaved our souls and offered to us only the prospect of everlasting death in hell. But Christ came to our world to defeat those tyrants for us. In the battle of his earthly life, he remained perfectly sinless for us. Then he declared our spiritual independence with the words from his cross, ***“It is finished!”*** By that decree, we are free from slavery to the devil and our old sinful ways. We are forgiven all of our sins. Death has no hold over us. By the resurrection of Jesus, the everlasting freedom of heaven belongs to us.

Out of thankful reverence for Christ, submit to the government! God intends government to provide safety and order for our daily lives. Even if the government should become corrupt, we can still trust that Jesus is still ruling over all of the affairs of this world for the good of us. Out of love for what God has accomplished for us in Christ, let us obey the government, established for our good, today and always.



A Short Story

A Gift to Enjoy

***“The wages of sin is death,
but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”***

Romans 6:23



My first paycheck. \$100! A ONE with two zeroes behind it! It didn’t matter that I spent a week pulling weeds with thistles in a 45-acre field. It didn’t matter that I sweltered under a hot July sun. It didn’t matter that I earned minimum wage. It had my name on it. I earned it.



There is another paycheck that I’m not so excited about. It comes in the form of guilt pricking my conscience far deeper than a thistle could ever penetrate my skin. Sometimes I see it when my temper flares hotter than the summer sun. I feel it when I know I should be more considerate, more caring, more loving toward others around me. So I work harder to do what’s right and try harder to do better than before, but still, it never seems to be enough. And it isn’t enough, because the Bible tells me the wages of my sin is death—and it’s your paycheck, too.



But, thank the Lord, the Bible also tells us that God is not going to give us what we have earned with our sins. Instead, he gives us something we have not earned—eternal life. It’s a gift that has been bought and paid for by the blood of Jesus and earned by his death on the cross.

That takes all the pressure off, doesn’t it? Instead of the failures of our past, we can look to Jesus’ perfect life of love. Instead of the pressures of tomorrow, we can look to the promise of eternal life that is already won for us by Jesus’ dying and rising from the dead. As a result, life is not a burden, but a gift to enjoy always.





News You Can Use

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

New Chaplain for WELS Military Services



Rev. John Hartwig is moving to Germany to serve WELS military members and civilians living abroad as the European civilian chaplain, a ministry of WELS Military Services, part

of WELS Commission on Special Ministries. Hartwig received the call following the retirement of Rev. Don Stuppy, who has been serving as the European civilian chaplain since 2017. The WELS European civilian chaplain is based in Spiesheim, Germany, serving people in a number of German cities but also traveling to serve those in Italy, England, and Switzerland. Hartwig has spent the last 25 years of his ministry serving as a professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis. Prior to his call at the seminary, he served as a missionary in Thailand from 1993 through 1995 and in Malawi, his first assignment when he graduated in 1983. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the work of the European chaplain as travel has been restricted as well as visits to the bases. Hartwig says it's starting to open up a little and hopefully he'll be able to meet the people he serves when he gets there.

One of the newer initiatives from Military Services that Hartwig will undertake is working to identify lay leaders within the military who can help serve their brothers and sisters in arms and in Christ. In addition, the Military Services Committee is exploring options for more online interaction, so that the chaplain can meaningfully interact with members more frequently. If you, a family member, or a friend is living or working in Europe, Hartwig wants to be able to serve you. Fill out the online referral form at wels.net/refer. Whether a military service member is based in Europe or in the United States, the referral form connects service people with either the chaplain in Europe or a military contact pastor in the U.S.

Learn more about WELS Military Services at wels.net/military.

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.



The 2020 LGP International

Pine Car Derby has been

rescheduled and is on the move!

Join our caravan of caravans as we head out West to the fun frontier town of Watertown, So. Dakota!

We'll have a rootin' tootin' good time at our 2020

International Pine Car Derby

on **Saturday, September 19**

hosted by caravan 619 of St. Martin's, Watertown, SD

The derby will be held at Great Plains Lutheran High School, 1200 Luther Lane N.E. in Watertown.

Call or email the Lutheran Girl Pioneers National Office for more information!

608-781-5232 girlpioneers@gmail.com



Church News



Calling all Rainforest Explorers!

Are you ready for an adventure? Come along and follow Jesus!

Due to the pandemic, we are not having in-person Vacation Bible School this year, but we know that VBS is an important learning tool that our families love to use! So, we have put together bags that will be delivered to homes soon that will contain everything families will need to have a backyard VBS! Everything will be included, from crafts, lessons, and to links to fun videos and the theme song!

This is an unusual year for sure, but it has given parents and families a unique opportunity to grow closer to each other and to their Savior and this at-home VBS will help you do both!



Please call Christine at 920-787-3856 with any questions.

Be sure to take pictures of your VBS and share them either on our Facebook page or email them to Christine at peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com.



Re-Opening Peace

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church Worship During COVID-19 Pandemic

As approved by Church Council May 18, 2020

- Resume worship services on May 28, 2020.
- Hold one worship service on Thursday night, using precautions outlined below.
- Hold one worship service on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. If necessary, in order to limit gathering of more than 50 people, two worship services on Sunday will be considered, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in place of 9:00 a.m.
- If feasible, entrance doors will be propped open to allow continuous flow of fresh air and limit contact with door handles. Sanctuary temperature and pest infiltration will need to be addressed.
- Wearing of masks and gloves will be optional. Masks will be provided for those attendees requesting them.
- Four hand sanitizer stations will be placed at entrances.
- Service folders will not be handed out by ushers, but instead be placed in stacks for pickup by an individual from the back of the sanctuary. Hymns and Liturgy will be included in the service folder so no hymnals will be needed. Service folders should be taken home after the worship service, not left at church. All hymnals will be removed from the sanctuary. Music will be provided by an organist or a Hymnsoft Operator.
- The drinking fountain and kitchen will be roped off. Individual bottles of drinking water will be provided.
- Tables and chairs will be removed from the Fellowship area.
- Usher(s) will guide people where to sit. Seating will be in every third pew. Households can sit together but others need to be spaced at least 6 feet apart. Pews and bathrooms will be sanitized between worship services.
- Offering plates will not be passed, but will be posted at the back of the sanctuary.
- For Communion, Pastor may distribute both bread and wine. The Communion wafer will be placed in the communicant's hand by Pastor or a Lay Altar Assistant. The individual cup of wine will be taken from the tray by the communicant. Households can commune being next to each other but spacing will be provided for others when taking Communion.
- At the conclusion of worship, in order to provide safe spacing, Pastor or an usher will signal individuals when to leave their pew. There will be no shaking of hands or congregating in the Fellowship hall.

A Message from Bernice Baranyk

My dear friends at Peace,
I wish there would have been time for a proper good-bye before my move, but God had other plans for me. I am grateful for the friendships I made while there with you all and I pray for only good things and success for you all.

Bernice Baranyk
301 E. Commerce Blvd #84
Slinger, WI 53086
262-297-1601



News About Our Church Family

Welcome New Members!



Denis Hotzel
340 S. State St
Neshkoro, WI 54960
920-293-2103
Received by adult confirmation



Michael & Joy Woreck
W7499 White River Tr
Wautoma, WI 54982
920-344-0465
Received by adult confirmation

Alisa Lemke
N806 16th Drive
Wautoma, WI 54982
Received by adult confirmation

Steve & Kay Held
W4486 Lake Sharon Rd
Wautoma, WI 54982
Transfer from Peace, Hartford, WI

Sunday School Corner

The Sunday School staff has been and will continue to be committed to serving our littlest lambs. We will be meeting soon to discuss our plans for next year. There may be some changes of teachers and class organization, but you can be certain of our commitment to teaching our children the precious truths of Jesus' great love for them! 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



Birthdays

7/9	Marilyn Snyder
	Joshua Klamm
7/10	Richard Anderson
7/21	Ken Kasper
7/24	Richard Vollrath
7/27	Steve Held
7/28	Allen Treichel
	Bob Lang

Anniversaries

7/10	Allen & Marion Treichel (65)
7/22	Isabel & Joe Breihan (25)
	Bob & Dawn Wedell (42)
7/25	Harold & Linda Stechmesser (28)
7/31	Clifford & Delores Bliske (55)



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.

