

Pastor Steven Tews 335 W. Prairie Street Wautoma, WI 54982

www.wautomapeacelutheran.org peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com 920.787.3856



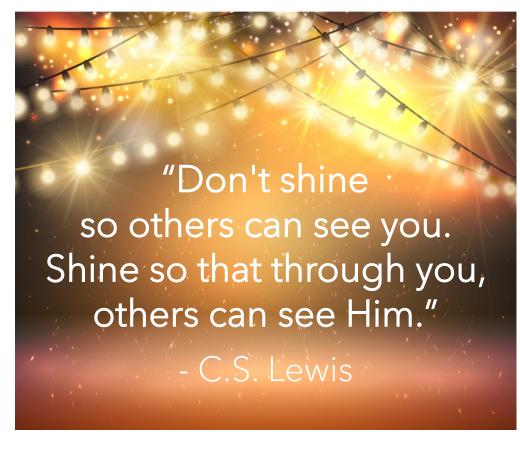
Messenger of Peace is a publication of: Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wautoma, WI.

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

## **August 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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"Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less". - C.S. Lewis

## **Extra Care Worship Services**



We have heard from some members who would like to have a service that takes "extra care" to protect from COVID-19 (and other illnesses). This service would require the wearing of masks for everyone and would have no singing. Please consider the following day/time options if you were to attend an "Extra Care" service:

Tuesday evening at 7 pm

Parking lot church on Sunday at 11 am (in the event of inclement weather, we would meet inside in the Bible class room)

Other (you specify)

Please call Pastor or the church office with your opinion.



## Through the Bible in Thirty Minutes

The Olympic runner knows he has to beat the clock. Top athletes must run the twenty-six mile marathon in a little less than two and a half hours, the mile in under four minutes, and the dashes in seconds. Bible study ought not to be a dash to the finish line but a life-time pursuit.

A quick panorama of the Bible, as a base for future study and growth, has its place. Therefore, today we're going to run the whole gamut, from Genesis to Revelation in only thirty minutes. First we'll go over the whole Bible at a breath-taking pace looking at the central thrust of each book. Then we'll go through a second time at a bit slower pace and view the major historical events of both the Old Testament and the New.

#### The Whole Picture

From the account of creation in Genesis to the prophetic record of future events in Revelation the Bible gives us a sweeping picture of God's dealings with mankind. It does not record primarily what man thinks about God, but what God has to say to man - about sin and its consequences, about God's justice and mercy and love, and about his Son.

It is impossible to understand the full sweep of God's revelation without knowing the relationship between the Old Testament and the New. Each is essential to the other. The New completes and fulfills the Old (Matthew 5:17). And the Old is the foundation for the New.

Jesus Christ, who was with the Father before the world was, is the Book's central figure. The world was made by him and for him (Colossians 1:16) and world history will culminate in him (Revelation 11:15). The Old Testament looks forward to him. The New reveals him as the Lamb of God (John 1:29), the one mediator between God and men (1 Timothy 2:5).

The harmony and unity of the Bible - though written by about forty authors (whose writings God inspired and superintended) over a period of some two thousand years - is a tremendous argument for the Bible's divine nature and authority.

#### The Old Testament

The Books of the Law: (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) These first five books of the Bible, called the Pentateuch (meaning "five volumes"), were written by Moses. While the first book deals with the beginnings of all things, the last four focus on the beginnings of Israel, the nation through which salvation by grace would be made available to the entire world.

The Books of History: (Joshua-Job) These books picture the rise and fall of Israel over a thousand-year period - Israel's settling of Canaan, her faltering under the Judges, her rise under Saul, David, and Solomon. They also tell of the divided kingdom after Solomon's death, the fall of the northern kingdom in 722 B.C. and the fall of Judah more than a century later. The last three books record the history of the remnant of Jews who returned from the Babylonian captivity.

The Books of Poetry: (Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Songs, Lamentations) These five books are so called because they were written as poetry rather than prose. Hebrew poetry had as its chief characteristic a "sense rhythm," or repetition of ideas. Lamentations is also poetic.

The Books of Prophecy: (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel-Malachi) The Bible does not present the prophetic books in chronological order. Instead, it groups the major prophets first and then the twelve minor prophets. The prophets, official spokesmen whom God raised up to speak for him, especially in times of unbelief and apostasy, came into special prominence during the decline and fall of Israel and Judah. The prophets proclaim judgment and future restoration for both kingdoms. After Malachi there was a fourhundred year "silence" between the Old and New Testaments before the coming of Christ.

Continued on the next page...



## The Struggle Against Sin

I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do-this I keep on doing. ... hat a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God-through Jesus Christ our Lord! (Romans 7:18-19, 24-25)



"I wanted to be done with that bad habit, but there I went and did it again." Does it surprise you that even when you are a Christian, and have a heart that wants to follow God, you still struggle against sinful impulses, and too often fall to them?

You are not the first Christian to feel that way. Almost 2000 years ago the apostle Paul wrote: "I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do-this I keep on doing." Right before that verse, he explained why this was so. He wrote, "I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature."



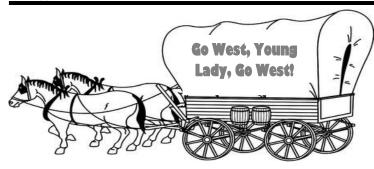
Forgiveness When God brings people to faith in Christ, he covers them with Christ's forgiveness and counts them as completely holy. He creates in them a new heart that loves the Lord and wants to walk in his ways. But as long as we are in this life, the old, sinful self that we have from birth still wants to do what is evil and fights against the good desires of the new heart God created within us.

So Christians still struggle against sin every day. They often stumble and do sinful things their new hearts don't want to do. And it frustrates them! Paul wrote, "What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?"

But there's good news: "Thanks be to God-through Jesus Christ our Lord!" Though we struggle each day, each day God forgives us because of Jesus' perfect sacrifice that was complete payment for all our sins. At last, Jesus will come and take us to be with him in heaven. There will be no sin there, around us, or inside us, to fight against or drag us down.



Keep looking forward to that day. Meanwhile, let your daily struggle with sin make you appreciate even more how good it is to have Jesus as your Savior, and to be covered by his mercy and forgiveness.



# 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!

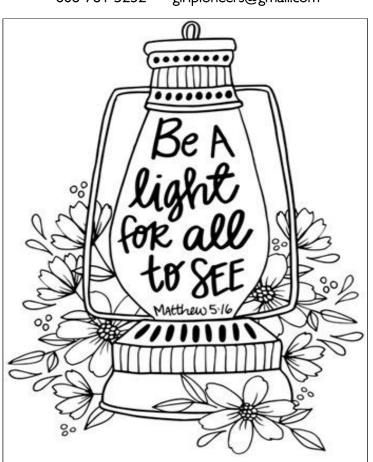
We'll have a rootin' tootin' good time at our 2020 International Pine Car Derby

#### 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 Words Explained

Ever wondered about what some of the words we hear in church actually mean? Here's three words/phrases we say a lot and their meanings!

Amen: A Hebrew word which means firm, established, reliable; as an adverb it means surely, certainly, assuredly, or truly; at the end of a prayer it is a statement of faith and confidence ves, it shall be so.

<u>Gospel</u>: The Gospel is the good news that God! sent his Son Jesus to take away the sins of the world.

It also can be used to describe one of the first four books of the New Testament which recount the words, life, suffering, death, and resurrection of our Savior.

iThe word gospel is sometimes used in a broad seems to include all the teachings of the Bible.

Means of Grace: When God loves us and favors us, despite our being unworthy, we call it "grace."

How does God show us his grace? He does it by promising things to us and then delivering on the promises. The promises of God are the "means," the way he shows us his grace, definitely and personally.

It's strange, but when we hear that "God loves the world" (John 3:16), we aren't always sure that we are included. Did God send his Son for us, personally? We should be sure, but just to help us along, God applies the promises of his love personally to us in the sacrament of baptism (Galatians 3:27).

When we hear, "God reconciled the whole world to himself, not counting anyone's sin against them," (2 Corinthians 5:19), how can we be sure that our own sins are personally forgiven through faith in Jesus? We should be sure, but just to help us along, God applies the promises of his grace personally to us in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Matthew 26:28).

!The means of grace are God's promises in Word ;and sacrament.



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#### The New Testament

<u>The Gospels and Acts:</u> (Matthew, Mark, Luke, Joh, Acts) The four gospels record the earthly life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Matthew emphasizes him as King, Mark as Servant, Luke as the perfect Man, John as the Son of God. Yet, all four accounts harmonize. The book of Acts, written by Luke, records the early growth of Christianity after Jesus' ascension.

<u>The Epistles:</u> (Romans-Jude) The twenty-one epistles contain the inspired correspondence of the apostles and those chosen by our Lord to communicate his truth to his church. The Bible does not present these in chronological order but according to authorship. Paul wrote the first thirteen. The first nine are directed to specific churches and the next four to individuals. Hebrews was written to the Jews by and unknown writer. The other seven, often known as the "general epistles" because they were not directed to anyone specifically, were written by James, Peter, John, and Jude.

<u>Prophecy:</u> (Revelation) The book of Revelation, penned by John, is the climatic book of the Bible, giving us a glimpse into the future and the culmination of all history in the events surrounding the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Steven Tews

## 2020 Offerings Status

Not having regular worship services for all or part of March, April, and May did not impact our offering performance as much as anticipated. During our "closure" due to the pandemic, many of our members mailed or dropped off their offerings. We were also blessed to have some large monetary donations received from visitors. The status from March 1 through July 12 is portrayed below. The budget numbers have been adjusted to account for larger offerings made one-time by members earlier in the year. Offerings currently are only about \$3,400 below budget.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Wedell *Financial Secretary* 



## Stewardship Committee

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven. Matthew 6:9-10

Christian Stewardship means sharing God's gifts and talents that were given to us—sharing our time, talents, and treasures!

The Stewardship Committee, together with the Building Grounds Committee, is starting a campaign to raise funds to re-pave our parking lot. Together we can raise enough money to beautify and most importantly provide a safe parking lot for our congregation and visitors.



Prayerfully consider making an offering to this important fund! Be sure to mark your offering "Parking Lot Fund" to ensure it gets to the right place.

Please see Bob Lang (414-313-0662) or Fred Bohlmann (414-975-2651) for more information.

Serving in Christ, Bob Lang Stewardship Chair

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## **Church News**

## **Peace Pantry Update**

Items go quickly in our pantry, so please keep donating! Please put donations on the table next to the fridge in the fellowship hall. Please place anything that needs to be frozen in the freezer in the fellowship hall. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE PEACE PANTRY!

#### We need canned goods & non-perishables such as:

Peanut butter/Jelly Honey Ketchup Mustard Pickles/Olives Applesauce Canned Fruit Dried Fruit Oatmeal Granola bars i Cereal Pancake mix Syrup Cake mix/frosting Baking mix Flour (1#) Coffee/tea Sugar (1#) i Powdered creamer Salt & pepper Non-stick spray Dried herbs/spices Canned: veggies, tomatoes, beans Hearty Soup Broth/bullion Pasta/noodles Pasta sauces Mac & cheese Rice & pasta sides Canned: tuna and chicken Instant potatoes Gravy mix Instant rice Hamburger helper Tuna Helper Nuts/trail mix Crackers Shelf-stable summer sausage Shelf-stable drinks/juices Small packages of treats

#### Frozen food such as:

i Butter/margarine Loaves of bread ! Hamburger (or other easy-to-use meats)

#### Personal care items such as:

Feminine hygiene products Toilet paper Baby wipes & diapers Baby care items Body wash Shampoo

#### Cleaning supplies such as:

Dish soap Laundry detergent/softener Cleaners

#### Please no bar soap and no expired foods.



#### **Why Lutheran Dioneers?**

The Peace Pioneers strive to be a group that not only has tons of fun (which we do!), but instills a love for our Savior and teaches our youth how to show that love in every aspect of their lives.

When Pioneers began, I'm pretty sure that the majority of this congregation believed that the Pioneers wouldn't last. Maybe I even believed that (but just a little!). But then, after the first meeting, and the second, something was happening. These kids wanted to come to Pioneers. It was no longer their parents encouraging them to come, it was them.

Now I see friendships that may not be as strong (or at all), if not for Pioneers. I see older Pioneers taking a genuine interest in younger Pioneers. I see adult leaders hugging Pioneers that they may not have gotten the chance to know. I see Pioneers talking easily about Christ to each other and to their non-Pioneer friends. I see love for each other. I feel love. And that is exactly what I had hoped for when we started this ministry. I wanted children and families to feel like they belong here- 'cause they do!

Ask any Pioneer why they come back every year. Ask leaders why they work hard all year. It's all about love. Jesus' love for each of us and our response to that. Please consider registering your child, aged Kindergarten-high school. We have children of all ages! The Pioneers is an open ministry which means we encourage our Pioneers to invite their unchurched friends. If you know anyone who isn't a member of Peace, but would benefit from the Pioneers, please see Christine. Pioneers reaches families easily because of our "fun," and then keeps them because the kids make friends, the parents trust the leaders, and everyone hungers for the same truth- the truth that is expressed at EVERY Pioneers meeting and outing- the truth of Jesus. All Sunday school students families, ages 5K and up, will be receiving a letter along with a registration form soon! If you don't receive one, or need extras for friends, let any Pioneers leader know.

We will be meeting once a month on the last Sunday. We will have lunch together at 11:30 am; our meeting will follow. We will be done at 2:30 pm.

### Our first meeting will be on Sunday, September 27 11:30 am- 2:30 pm.

For more information about the Pioneers ministry, please contact any Pioneers leader: Kevin & Christine Bohn 920-765-2146; 920-765-2147 Rebecca Bohn 920-765-2144

## News About Our Church Family

## **Sunday School Corner**

The Sunday School staff has been and will continue Ito be committed to serving our littlest lambs. We will be meeting soon to discuss our plans for next iyear. There may be some changes of teachers and class organization, but you can be certain of our commitment to teaching our children the precious itruths 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 I to serve the families of our congregation and urge each of you to take an active role in the Sunday School to take an active role in the Christian education of the chil-MAKES A DIFFERENCE dren 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**

- Randy Wilcox 8/3
- Joy Woreck Linda Stechmesser
- 8/11 Eryn Lemke
- 8/12 Helen Timmermann
- 8/16 **Terry Proctor**
- Dale Ast 8/17
- 8/26 **Ruth Bartforth** 
  - Pastor Tom Klusmeyer
- Susie Frohman 8/30

## **Anniversaries**

- Greg & Mindy Hintz (14)
  - Jason & Betsey Welty (20)
- 8/18 Megan & Tom Kubasta (24)
- 8/22 Brendan & Tanya Rooney (5)
- Don & Helen Timmermann (63) 8/25
- Watson & Joyce Woodruff (66)



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.

