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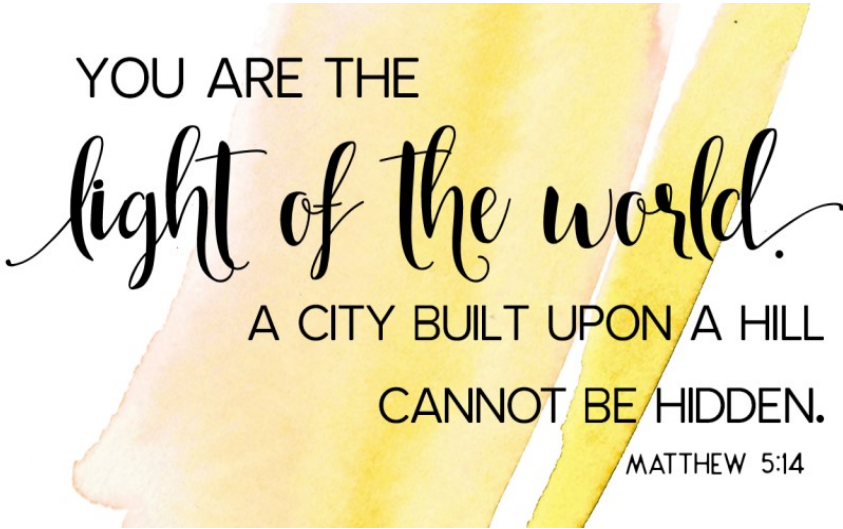


Messenger of Peace is a publication of: Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wautoma, WI.
Purpose: Messenger of Peace serves the Peace Lutheran Church family with information about people and events that are part of the Peace ministry and with articles that encourage Christian living.
Articles: Please 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

September 2020



In This Issue

	Page
From Our Pastor.....	2
Church News	
VBS.....	3
Stewardship Committee.....	3
LP Adventure Days.....	3
Peace Pantry.....	4
Why Pioneers?.....	4
September Calendar.....	Insert
Our Church Family.....	5
New You Can Use.....	6
Living with Real Purpose.....	7

Please remember the following things when you come to church:

Per Wisconsin mandate, masks are required inside any building
If you don't have a mask, we have disposable and fabric re-usable ones

Please socially distance in the sanctuary
Families can sit together with no restrictions
Please sit every third pew and stay six feet apart

Offerings
Please leave your offering in the plates at the end of the aisle

Please use the hand sanitizer when you enter the building
and whenever you touch any commonly touched surface.
Wash your hands with soap and water frequently and try to not touch your face.

Worship Service Liturgies

The Worship Committee/Board of Elders is looking for input from the congregation about the services we use at church. Each week, we use the service settings (or liturgies) from the front of the hymnal and sometimes we use special liturgies, like Divine Service I and II.
Can you tell us your preferences? Return this survey to the church office by October 4. Thanks for your input!

- ☐ I have no preference when it comes to Worship service settings.
- ☐ I prefer only the settings found in the red hymnal.
- ☐ I prefer a variety of service settings, including the Divine Services.
- ☐ Other: _____

If you have other comments or concerns, please talk to Jim Schroeder or Pastor Tews.

Labor Day

Dear Christian friends, this month, we observe Labor Day. On that day we celebrate the American work ethic. But what if Labor Day was every day? The celebration would lose its significance. Even now, it seems like we're only happy about our work when we're not doing it. In our hearts, we can have a terrible attitude about work. As Christians, let us look at work in a new light.



Love your labor as a gift from God! Most people today would laugh at that statement. A friend of mine used to say, "There's a reason they call it work, not play time." This implies that work is a burden from God instead of a gift. Most people don't pull weeds in the garden for fun. Students avoid their homework like it's an infectious disease. A trip to the dentist is more appealing to some people than getting at some of those jobs on the bottom of their to-do lists. Our weekend family gatherings and children's activities become just other things to cross off the list. Instead of looking at work as a blessing, people see work as a life sentence without the possibility of parole.

Even people who don't see work as slavery still try to avoid it. That idea has saturated our society. We're not immune to it, either. We look for any excuse to avoid work. If we can't get the leaky sink fixed after a few tries, we drop the tools and come back tomorrow. Because we want to be lazy, that pile of laundry can sit for a while longer. If somebody asks you to help out at church, are you always "busy," even when your schedule is wide open? Our sinful flesh loves to take the easy way out. If we can get by putting in the least amount of effort, fine. When we're at work, as long as the job gets done, who cares how well we do it?

When work drags us away from God, the devil loves it. He has succeeded in getting us to bow down to the altar of the almighty dollar. That makes our selfish, lazy mindset about work meaningless. Solomon speaks clearly about it. **"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. "Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless."** We can work our whole lives to get ahead, but finally we all die. Then a man "must leave all he owns to someone who has not worked for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune." As far as I know, 401(k)s and money market funds don't roll over into eternal life. If you can't take your money with you, then why do we let our quest for money consume us? Wanting more money in itself isn't bad, if we need it to support our families. It's when we can never have enough that chasing after money becomes a problem. ²² **What does a man get for all the toil and anxious striving with which he labors under the sun?** ²³ **All his days his work is pain and grief; even at night his mind does not rest.** Sleepless nights, ulcers, alcohol addiction—all of them can happen when we're consumed by work for the wrong reasons. The pressure to earn more squeezes Jesus out of our lives. We lose sight of the truth about work.

There's a saying among those who have made it to the top of their fields: It's lonely at the top. These people realize that success has a high price tag on it. As the only perfect person, Jesus must have been awfully lonely up there on top of that cross as he died for our sins. His death on the cross and resurrection were the high point of a perfect life lived for us! Jesus never sinned, not even once. That meant he could take all of our greedy, lazy attitudes about work on himself and give us his perfect attitude. Jesus' perfect life replaces the times we gave up trying to finish that fix-it project. It blots out those days when we purposely ignore the jobs at work we don't want to do. Jesus' perfection fills in the pitfalls of our laziness when it comes to homework or the normal household chores. In the eyes of the Father, his perfect work replaces our half-hearted attitudes toward our work.

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A Short Story

Living with Real Purpose

We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

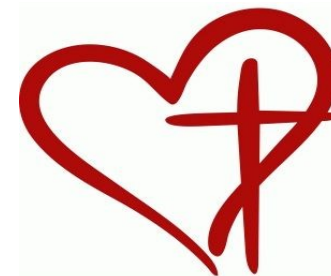


Your life matters. You are living for a reason. Your life has purpose. Without purpose, life is boring and meaningless; there is little sense of life's significance and value. Having a life filled with purpose is not just for the super-successful and highly important. God doesn't just look after famous people who have accomplished great feats or individuals who have been placed in high positions of leadership. He cares for everyone. From the macro to the micro level, he declared his love for the world. There is no doubt, he loves you and gives your life real purpose. He does all this, not because you are deserving, but purely by his grace.

God demonstrated his grace when he saved you through your Savior, Jesus Christ. Jesus' perfect life counts for you. He suffered and died as your substitute. His rising from the grave means that you will also rise from the dead. And since he has saved you for all eternity—the greater thing—does he not also have great purpose for you in this life, the lesser thing? Yes! What is more, God says that he has created you to do what he has already planned for you. With every task and responsibility God has given your life purpose.

There is purpose in the mother who cares for her newborn and the father who teaches his son to double-knot his shoelaces. There is purpose in children who obey, just as there is purpose for the soldier who follows orders, the citizen who respects leaders, and the employee who goes to work.

Even your average day has purpose, for God has equipped and called you for each task of life. He does not intend life to be mundane mediocrity. Life is not meant to be compartmentalized into significant and insignificant pieces. Instead, God wants you to see his purpose for you as the fiber seamlessly woven through fabric of every facet of your life.



You have important purpose in life. Primarily, it is to know God's love for you through Jesus. Motivated by his grace, you can willingly follow his lead through life and lovingly serve the people he brings into your life. That's living with real purpose!



News You Can Use

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



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



CONNECTING CAMPUS TO CHRIST

College is hard.

Don't leave your faith life at home. We can help.

In 1920, the first campus ministry program began at the UW–Madison. For 100 years, thousands of young adults have found spiritual comfort, community, and encouragement through WELS campus ministries around North America. WELS Campus Ministry, a ministry of WELS Home Missions, continues that legacy by providing resources and support to congregations that serve these college students during a critical transition point in their life. The WELS Campus Ministry Committee currently provides about 30 campus ministries with financial support and assists hundreds of other congregations in their campus ministry outreach.

Visit www.wels.net for more information.



Peace Church Council Members

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Jim Schroeder, *Board of Elders* 920-787-4331
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Church News

Continued from previous page...

When it comes to work, the Holy Spirit gives our hearts an attitude adjustment. Now we see that God gives us work to bring us joy and blessings. *"A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?"* In thanksgiving for Jesus' perfect life, work becomes a gift of God for our happiness. Work is an opportunity for us to serve our Lord with the talents and abilities he's given us. It could be doing those never-ending piles of laundry. If you're retired, maybe it's helping the neighbors down the street with baby-sitting or odd jobs. Whether your job is changing light bulbs or balancing the company books, do it the best you can. Whether or not your boss is watching, work hard. It's not that your work isn't meant to please other people. It does, and that's wonderful. Whether or not it's Labor Day, let's strive to see our work as the gift of God and to God it really is.

Pastor Steven Tews



Due to the pandemic, we didn't have 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 put together bags that were delivered to homes that contain everything families needed to have VBS! Everything was included, from crafts, lessons, and to links to fun videos and the theme song!

This has been 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 we hope this at-home VBS helped you do both!



Stewardship Committee

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*



Boy Pioneers Family Adventure Days

Several of our Pioneer families attended the Boy Pioneers Family Adventure in July at Pineridge Campground in Waldo, WI.





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
Cereal Granola bars Pancake mix
Syrup Baking mix Cake mix/frosting
Sugar (1#) Flour (1#) Coffee/tea
Powdered creamer Salt & pepper
Oil 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:

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 Pioneers?

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

Sunday School is planning on meeting in-person, beginning on September 13. Class will be from 10:15-11:15 am. Families will receive a letter specifying our new policies and class set-up.

NEW! We will be starting up our 2 & 3 year old class, taught by Heather Tews.

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



Change of Addresses



Joyce Woodruff
c/o The Courtyard at Oshkosh
3851 Jackson Street
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920-787-2685

Mike Grunert
c/o Heartland House
668 Cummings Road
Wautoma, WI 54982



Birthdays

9/1 Karen Mosier
9/8 Ardell Schwersenska
Allen Raatz
Nancy Lang
9/11 Marion Mischka
Tim Quinn
Cami Buscke
9/13 Gerald Kraus
9/15 Harold Stechmesser
9/20 Tom Welty
9/21 Leana Pankau
9/26 Clara Beyer
9/28 Florence Bettin
9/29 Mike Grunert
Jean Doubek

Anniversaries

9/3 Jeffery & Debra Raatz (15)
9/4 Jim & Pat Lichtenberg (49)
9/17 Tom & Terri Jo Fendler (32)
9/20 Tim & Nancy Quinn (40)
9/24 Bart & Jean Bartel (60)
9/24 Bob & Nancy Lang (37)



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.

Please Keep Our College Students in Your Prayers

Brooke Blader-Lucht, UW-Stevens Point
Rebecca Bohn, Midstate Tech College
Gus Hetcher, Michigan Tech University
Sandra Klamm, Milwaukee Area Tech
Dayna Lemke, UW- Stevens Point

In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:6