



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.

Scripture Alone Faith Alone Grace Alone



It is by grace you have been saved, through faith—
and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—
not by works, so that no one can boast.
(Ephesians 2:8-9)



Messenger of Peace

October 2020

Please remember the following things when you come to church:

Masks are required inside the 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;
Sit every third pew & stay six feet apart*

Offerings
*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.

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"We are saved by faith alone, but the faith that saves is never alone."

Martin Luther

Trunk or Treat

October 24 2 pm- 4 pm

Peace is going to have our very first Trunk or Treat this year! What is Trunk or Treat? People fill the parking lot, set up fun fall scenes in the trunks of their cars (maybe even dress up in costumes!), and hand out candy!

We need your help! We need people who want to set up their trunks and hand out candy. Please see Christine (920-765-2147) with questions. She can even help you find a "theme" for your trunk!

Even if you can't help out, be sure to stop by with your kids and grandkids in your best costumes!





From our Pastor

Rejoice in Righteousness Outside of the Law!

How do school children learn what a word like anthropology or epidermis means? They look it up in a dictionary. But for certain words, the Bible proves itself a dictionary far better than anything Merriam-Webster could ever produce. Take the word sinner for example. The dictionary definition of a sinner is: one who sins. Could you be a little more specific, dictionary? The Bible can. It tells us exactly what it means for us to be called sinners: *“Now we know that whatever the law (here, all of God’s Word) says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God.”* We are under the law. What does the law do to those under its influence? Through the law, we are Shown Our Sins. We become painfully aware of just how many, and how often, of God’s laws we have broken. We cannot make excuses, saying things like, “I am certainly not as bad as that person. I have lived a pretty good life, never falling into one of those big sins.” The law takes all of those excuses away from us. It asks us the tough question. Have you been completely perfect in every way, right down to your thoughts? None of us can say we have.

God gave Paul a pretty good example to make sure we understand our sinfulness. *“Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.”* Imagine you are a teller at a large bank. You can see across the lobby to the loan officer’s desk. You see a black limousine pull up to the front of the bank. A chauffeur gets out to open the door for the passenger. A man exits the limo. His shoes shine brightly and he is wearing a well-tailored designer suit. The man confidently strides into the bank and sits down at the loan officer’s desk. He asks for a line of credit with the bank. After a brief conversation, the rich man gets up in a hurry and storms out of the bank. He has been denied a loan from the bank. Later on, a bum off the street comes in, seeking a loan to get back on his feet. Someone has promised him a job. The paychecks will be here soon, but he needs a loan now to make a rental deposit on an apartment, his first home in years. How much chance do you think he has of getting a line of credit with the bank if the rich man was denied?

The Jews of Jesus’ day were just like that rich man in our story. As God’s chosen people, they had it all, including the promise of the Savior to come from their people. But they had gotten the false idea that because God made special promises to them, they could make him happy by observing the law well. But their sins kept them from being righteous before God. No matter how hard they tried, nothing they did could make God declare them righteous. We are the poor man in the story. As Gentiles, or non-Jews, we are not the people God chose as the descendants of the Savior. We were not the ones God first chose to receive his laws. If God’s chosen people couldn’t be declared righteous by keeping the law, how could we expect to be declared righteous?

Paul says to all of us, *“There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”* but now here is God’s solution, *“and are justified (declared righteous) freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”* Our Savior came to bring it to us. *“A righteousness from God, apart from the law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.”* The whole Old Testament shouted with one voice, *“Repent! The Savior of the world from sin is coming! Get ready!”* The Jews didn’t want to listen, but we have heard that voice. Faith is the channel through which the blessings of Jesus become ours. *“This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.”* By God’s grace, we have that faith in our hearts. We know our sins have been forgiven by Jesus’ death on the cross. The bad debt of our sins has been removed forever. In its place we have the perfect life of Jesus credited to our accounts. This is truly grace, God’s riches at Christ’s expense. Jesus has done what is impossible for us to do on our own. We need to do nothing to be declared righteous before God. It has all been done for us, completely outside of ourselves, by Jesus.

This simple truth had a profound impact on the life of Martin Luther. More than 500 years ago, he was a monk with a tortured soul. No matter what he tried, even beating and starving himself, he found no peace. Then one day, Luther found a Bible. He finally found what his heart sought: peace with God. And it came to him through the free gift of God’s righteousness through Jesus. That message set Martin Luther on fire to bring the church back to the simple truths of God’s Word. The message of Jesus our righteousness changes us just as it changed Martin Luther. Our hearts find peace in knowing Jesus has forgiven all our sins. We can rest in God alone, knowing we have been declared righteous by the grace of Jesus apart from our works of keeping the law. A blessed Reformation to you and yours!



A Short Story

Holy Communion

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread,
and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,
“This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.”
In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying,
“This cup is the new covenant in my blood;
do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Often we have a hard time believing that we are loved. Men and women who have a keen awareness of their flaws will wonder if anyone can really love them. So we have a need to not only hear that we are loved, but also to receive tangible assurance of that love.

If we need that assurance from our fellow human beings, how much more do we need that assurance in our relationship to God?

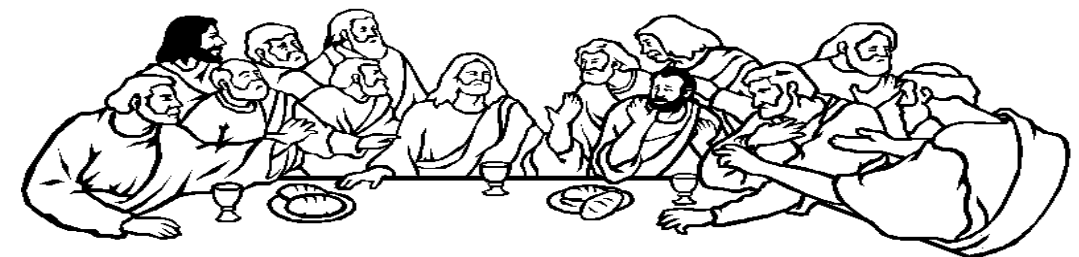
God knows us so well. He knows how we feel. He knows what we need. Not only does he tell us in his Word that he loves us, he also gives us personal assurance of that love.

How does he do that? He does so in what Christians call *Holy Communion* or *The Lord’s Supper*. In this special meal Jesus gives us bread that isn’t just bread. He tells us, “This is my body.” He also gives us wine to drink that isn’t just wine. He says, “This is my blood.”

Now before anyone gets grossed out, this isn’t some kind of weird cannibalism. It’s bread and wine that looks, smells, and tastes like bread and wine. Yet, in a way that we can’t perceive or comprehend, Jesus tells us that with the bread and wine, his body and blood are really present in this Supper.

Here’s why this is such a great gift. You may think, “I know that Jesus forgives all those other people out there, but I’m not really sure that he can forgive me.” In Holy Communion, Jesus comes to you personally and says, “I love you. Your sins are all forgiven. You want proof? Here’s the price I paid for you on the cross. This is my body which was sacrificed for you. This is my blood which I shed for you.”

Whenever we receive the Lord’s Supper, we remember Jesus’ saving, self-sacrificing love for us, and we personally receive not only assurance of that love, but we also receive his forgiveness.





News You Can Use

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



Every marriage has its “moments.” That’s why marriages need moments of encouragement and refreshment. *Marriage Moments* are short, weekly videos highlighting one Biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question. Couples may subscribe to receive the videos in a weekly e-mail.

To subscribe, visit:

welscongregationservices.net/ministry-resources/marriagemoments/



Peace Church Council Members

Terry Proctor, President 920-420-8190
AllSeasonsQuality@att.net

Tom Klusmeyer, Secretary 920-312-1148
pastortom@campphillip.com

Harold Stechmesser, Treasurer 920-765-0812
stechmesser2013@gmail.com

Fred Bohlmann, Maintenance Committee
414-975-2651 fsbohl1989@gmail.com

Bob Lang, Stewardship Committee
414-313-0662 bnlangs42@gmail.com

Mike Purtee, Outreach Committee 920-647-0108

Jim Schroeder, Board of Elders 920-787-4331
schroederjimjan@gmail.com

Bob Wedell, Financial Secretary 715-228-3957
themayor@uniointel.net

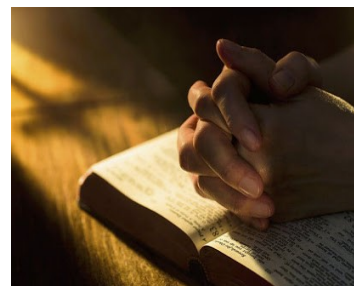
Tom Welty, Education/Communication
715-927-0550 wthomaslinda@gmail.com

Offering the True Hand of Help

It can be so frustrating. In love, you reach out a hand of help and get rebuffed: “Mind your own business!” It could be as minor as a child stubbornly saying, “I can do it myself.” It could be as tragic as a loved one enslaved in a dangerous habit, and refusing to see your offer as anything but meddling. Dangerous habits become tragic addictions and the person seems blind to the horrendous outcomes of ruined lives, empty bank accounts or worse. How can you show that person you care and not be pushed away?

Look to the One whose outstretched hands offer help for now and for eternity! Your Savior God says, **“I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.”** (Isaiah 41:13) Those hands of Jesus touched lepers and healed them. Those hands of Jesus smeared mud on eyes and turned the blind into seeing. Those hands of Jesus were stretched out and nailed to a cross in a love payment for all sins, even sins of addiction. Those hands of the resurrected Jesus were shown to doubting Thomas as proof positive of power to do the impossible.

The Lord Jesus still demonstrates the power to do the impossible and reaches out his hands of healing. Start with prayer and remember his promise: **“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”** (Isaiah 41:10)



Talk to your loved one and extend your hand in prayer with him or her. Don’t pretend you can fix it. Together ask Jesus for his powerful love to reach a heart. Ask Jesus to move that heart to see and reach for the many other hands offered to help: a pastor’s hand of Scriptural counsel, a doctor’s hand of medical help, a counseling center’s hand of intervention. Be patient and persistent in your love and in your prayers. Stay close to that person and lovingly remove opportunities to indulge the addiction.

Reach out in love, and remember your Savior’s promise, **“Nothing is impossible with God.”** (Luke 1:37)

Find more devotions like this on whataboutjesus.com.



Church News



Thanksgiving Food Drive October 18- November 15

As we embark upon the holiday season, let us all take into account how very blessed we are! As we give thanks for our blessings, let’s remember those in our community who are in need. Because that number is higher than any of us would like to admit, the Lutheran Pioneers are once again collecting food for a Thanksgiving Food Drive. We will make up boxes and deliver them the week of November 16 to needy families from our church and community.

If you would like to help deliver the boxes during the week of November 16, please talk to Kevin Bohn (920-765-2146).

If you know of any family that could benefit from a Thanksgiving Dinner box, please let Kevin or Christine Bohn know. **All names will be held in the strictest of confidences.**

See below for a list of food items that we will be collecting.

Thank you! Your Peace Lutheran Pioneers

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Please place these items in the freezer in the fellowship hall:

Whole Chickens/small turkeys/hams	Butter	Frozen whipped topping
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All these items can be placed on the table in the fellowship hall:

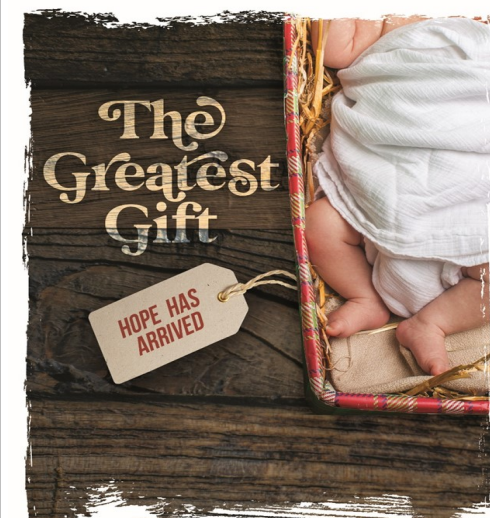
Canned pumpkin	Jell-O	Pudding mixes	Condensed milk
Sugar	Brown sugar	Flour	Marshmallows
Stuffing mix	Instant potatoes	Canned yams	Cream soups
Raisins/Craisins	Seasonings/ spices	Salt/pepper	Non-stick spray
Cornbread/ biscuit mix	Quick bread mixes	Broth/bullion	Canned veggies
Cranberry sauce	Jarred gravy	Pie crust mix	Peanut butter/jelly

From November 8-15, you can donate fresh items and put them in the refrigerator in the fellowship hall.

We will accept:

Carrots	Celery	Onions	Potatoes
Oranges	Apples	Eggs	1/2 gallon of milk

I have held many things in my hands and I have lost them all;
but whatever I have placed in God’s hands, that I still possess. (Martin Luther)



Advent by Candlelight December 6 at 1 pm *The Greatest Gift*

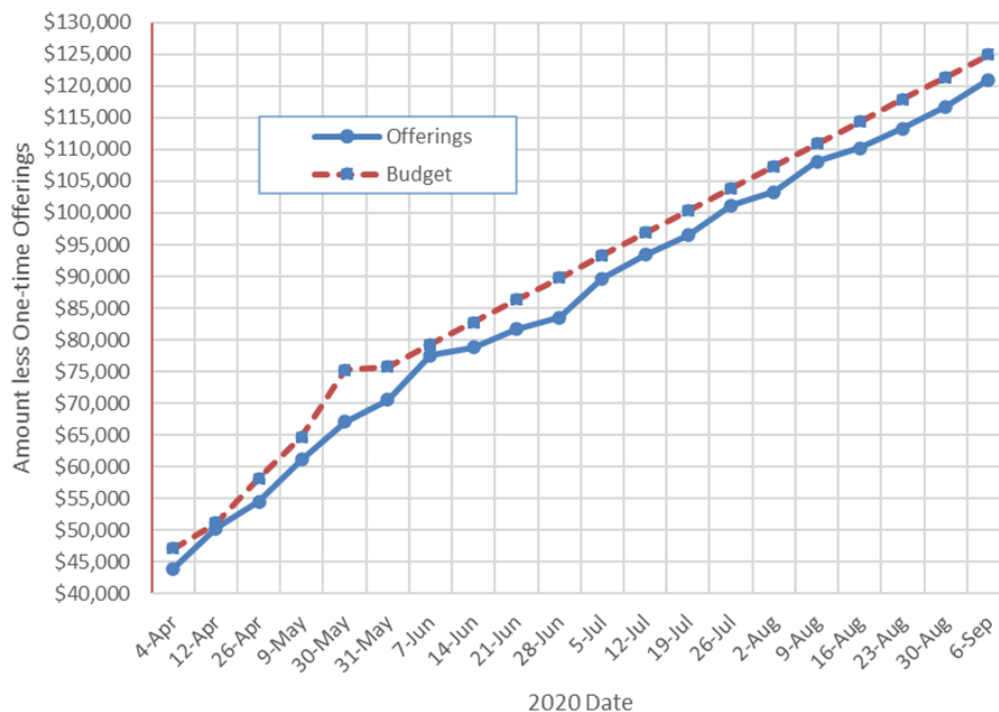


We are planning to have Advent by Candlelight in-person, but if we can’t, we will tape it and post it online. Please RSVP to Christine (787-3856) to guarantee a spot at Advent by Candlelight. Seating will be limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.

If you are interested in being a speaker during the program at Advent by Candlelight, please see Christine Bohn (920-787-3856). You do not have to memorize anything.

Budgetary Offerings Status

2020 Offerings vs. Adjusted Budget



Thank you for your continued financial support of our congregation. We were also blessed to have some large monetary donations received from visitors. Offerings currently are running about \$4,000 below budget. The status from April 4 through September 6 is portrayed below. The budget numbers have been adjusted to account for larger one-time offerings made by members earlier in the year.

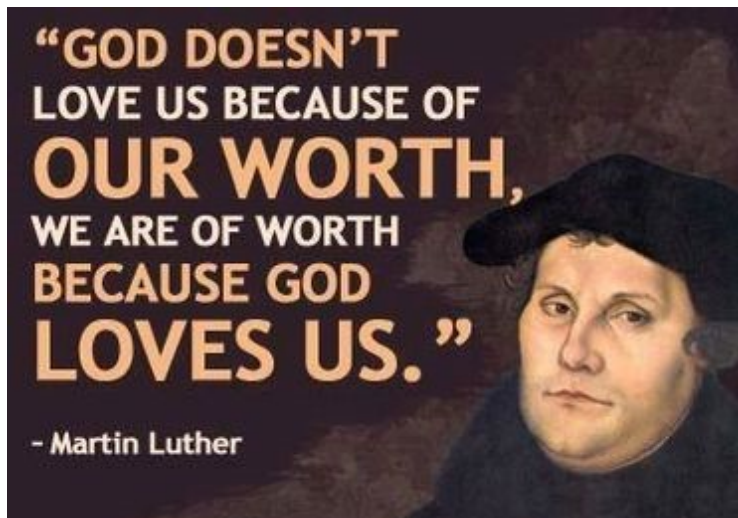
Respectfully submitted,

Robert Wedell

Bob Wedell
Financial Secretary (715-228-3957)



News About Our Church Family



Birthdays

10/1 Linda Welty
10/12 Judy Benz
10/16 Guy Oelke
10/21 Trent Nelson
10/23 Larry Anderson
10/28 Donna Boelk
10/30 Tom Fendler



Anniversaries

10/5 Nate & Jennie Sigourney (15)
10/4 Joe & Sue Siegel (34)
10/11 Bob & Donna Boelk (51)
10/18 Dan & Alisa Lemke (2)



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.

Sunday School Corner

Every Sunday 10:15 am- 11:15 am

Sunday School is in full-swing! We are keeping our kids safe by encouraging socially distancing, not sharing supplies and our wonderful custodian has been disinfecting our rooms each week.

October Lessons for 4K- 6th Grade

Date	Lesson
October 4	God Calls Moses
October 11	The Plagues
October 18	The Passover
October 25	The Red Sea
November 1	Quail & Manna



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

Pioneers News

The Lutheran Pioneers begins again starting September 27 at 11:30 am. If you know any child that would benefit from joining Pioneers, please encourage them to join- or to reach out for more information. Kids do not have to be a member of Peace to join! Your Pioneers Leaders, Christine, Kevin, and Becca Bohn



Stewardship Committee

Christian Stewardship means sharing God's gifts and talents that were given to us. The Stewardship Committee, together with the Building Grounds Committee, is raising funds to re-pave our parking lot. Together we can raise enough money to beautify and 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

VOTERS' MEETING

November 1 at 10:15 am

Voters: please plan on attending the Voters' Meeting on November 1. Two positions are up for election as we thank Bob Lang and Tom Welty for their service on the Council.

The nominees to fill these positions are:

Bob Boelk
Joshua Klamm
Guy Oelke
Larry Walton

Please see Terry Proctor, president, or any councilman for more information.