



335 West Prairie Street  
Wautoma, WI 54982  
www.wautomapeacelutheran.org  
peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com  
Pastor Steven Tews  
920.787.3856

Worship every Sunday @ 9 am; every Thursday @ 7 pm  
Bible Study Tuesdays @ 9 am  
Sunday School Sundays @ 10:15 am  
Pioneers last Sunday @ 11:30 am



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

#### Purpose

*Messenger of Peace* serves the Peace Ev. 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 third Sunday of each month. Put in the office or email it to: peace.lutheran.wautoma@gmail.com



# Messenger of Peace February 2021



## 2020 Annual Report



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### Lent & Easter Schedule

#### Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 17

Worship with Holy Communion at 12 pm & 7 pm  
(same service)

No Worship on Thursday, February 18

#### Midweek Lenten Services

Thursdays, February 25, March 4, 11, 18, and 25

Worship 7 pm

#### Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 28

Worship 9 am

#### Easter for Kids

TBA

#### Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 1

Worship with Holy Communion 12 pm & 7 pm (same service)

#### Good Friday

Friday, April 2

Good Friday Worship 12 pm

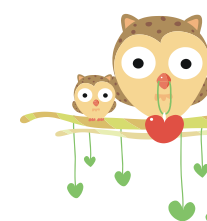
Tenebrae Worship 7 pm

#### Easter

Sunday, April 4

Sunrise Worship w/ Communion 7 am

Easter Song Service 9 am



### Voters' Meeting

Sunday, February 7 at 10:15 am





# From Our Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you read this, we are already well into 2021. Perhaps you are wondering, "Will 2021 be better than 2020? What if it is? What if it is much, much worse?" Lots of things change in the world around us every year. But in 2020, we faced more changes in a year than we have faced in perhaps any other year of our lives? How will we make it through another year like that, if things keep going this way?

Dear friends, by the grace of God we know and believe the answers to that question and all the others life can bring with it. Yes, life changes. Yes, this world is a cursed, sinful and dying place. Yes, we are all going to die one day. But, ***"All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."*** (Isaiah 40:7-8) The promises of our God to provide for both body and soul will never fail us. ***"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."*** (James 1:17)

We know what we deserve, but also through our Savior Jesus Christ, what we have instore for us. ***"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*** (Romans 6:23) Even when things get terribly bad and it feels like life is spinning out of control, when fear and anxiety try to grab us, we have this confidence. ***"After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who called you into his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will himself restore, establish, strengthen, and support you."*** (1 Peter 5:10) And, ***"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff, they comfort me."*** (Psalm 23:5)

With this comfort and confidence, dear Christian friends, what will we do as a church in 2021? St. Paul tells us. ***"Therefore, my dear brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the Lord's work, because you know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."*** (1 Corinthians 15:58) We will preach and teach Christ crucified and risen every chance we get by every means at our disposal. We will reach out to our community and strive to share and show the love of Christ to our friends and neighbors any way we can. Above all, we will cling to the forgiveness of sins, salvation and eternal life in heaven won for us by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given and poured out upon us in the Word of God, Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. Let us take up the work entrusted to us faithfully and rejoice in the results the Holy Spirit brings from it!

In Christ,

Pastor Tews



# Christmas at Peace



From mid-week Advent worship services to Advent by Candlelight, from the Sunday School children's Christmas service to Christmas day worship, Peace Lutheran Church is filled with Jesus' love during the Advent and Christmas seasons! **Thank you** to everyone who practiced Bible passages with children, read for Advent by Candlelight, decorated (and then undecorated) the church, and invited family, friends, and neighbors to join you at services or events.

**For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)**





# Church News

## Thank You!

Thank you members of Peace, chairmen of committees, presidents of groups, and everyone who contributed articles and information to this year's Annual Report.  
Thank you!



## Anniversaries

- 2/14 Steve & Kay Held (17)  
2/26 Steve & Heather Jansen (21)

## Birthdays

- 2/1 Donna McKay  
2/2 Pastor Tews  
2/3 Gloria Raatz  
2/5 Carson Sigourney  
2/6 Mike Woreck  
2/7 Emily Bohn  
2/9 Don Nelson  
2/12 Jean Lemke  
Emma Anderson  
Riley Anderson  
2/14 Michelle Wedde  
2/19 Jackie Putskey  
2/20 Jan Schroeder  
2/22 Bev Walker  
2/24 John Benz  
2/25 Sue Ratzburg



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](mailto:peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com).

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please remember the following things when you come to church:**

**Masks are required:** *If you don't have a mask, we have disposable and re-usable available*

**Please socially distance in the sanctuary:** *Families can sit together with no restrictions; Please sit every third pew (sit where there are no chains) & 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.**



# Committee & Group Members

## 2021 Church Council

Terry Proctor, *President*  
920-420-8190  
[AllSeasonsQuality@att.net](mailto:AllSeasonsQuality@att.net)  
Pastor Tom Klusmeyer, *Secretary*  
920-312-1148  
[pastortom@campphillip.com](mailto:pastortom@campphillip.com)  
Joshua Klamm, *Treasurer*  
262-989-8872  
[klammjos@gmail.com](mailto:klammjos@gmail.com)  
Robert Boelk, *Stewardship*  
920-450-8970  
[dboelkl4077@gmail.com](mailto:dboelkl4077@gmail.com)  
Fred Bohlmann, *Building & Grounds*  
414-975-2651  
[fsbohl1989@gmail.com](mailto:fsbohl1989@gmail.com)  
Kevin Bohn, *Outreach*  
920-765-2146  
[kbohn93@gmail.com](mailto:kbohn93@gmail.com)  
James Schroeder, *Board of Elders*  
787-4331  
[schroederjimjan@gmail.com](mailto:schroederjimjan@gmail.com)  
Robert Wedell, *Financial Secretary*  
715-228-3957  
[themayor@uniointel.net](mailto:themayor@uniointel.net)  
Thomas Welty, *Education-Communication Committee*  
715-927-0550  
[wthomaslinda@gmail.com](mailto:wthomaslinda@gmail.com)  
Pastor Steven Tews

## Church Secretary

Christine Bohn

## Church Custodian

Tom Jones

## Organists

Jean Bartel

## Treasurer

Joshua Klamm, Treasurer  
Karin Hetcher, Assistant

## Audit Committee

## Budget Committee

## Long-Range Planning Committee

## Finance Committee

Robert Wedell, Chairman  
Hannah Klusmeyer, Asst. Fin. Secretary  
Jim Lichtenberg, Counter  
M/M Rodney Nelson, Counters  
M/M Don Timmermann, Counters  
Beverly Walker, Counter

## Board of Elders

James Schroeder, Chairman  
DuWayne Bartel

Roger Jansen  
James Lichtenberg  
Everett Schulz  
Don Timmermann  
Beverly Walker, Deaconess

## Lay Altar Assistants

Steven Held  
James Lichtenberg  
James Schroeder  
Robert Wedell

## Shut-In Ministry

James Schroeder, Chairman  
DuWayne Bartel  
Roger Jansen  
James Lichtenberg  
Everett Schulz  
Don Timmermann

## Worship Committee

Pastor Steven Tews  
Marilynn Chesbrough, Chairperson  
Jean Bartel, Organist  
Megan Kubasta  
Jim Schroeder, Board of Elders'

## Choir

## Hymn Boards

## Worship Elders

Robert Boelk  
Fred Bohlmann  
Robert Lang  
James Lichtenberg  
Guy Oelke  
Neal Roebke  
James Schroeder  
Richard Vollrath  
Robert Wedell

## Education-Communication Com.

Thomas Welty

## Computer Music

Richard Vollrath, HymnSoft Operator  
Robin Rudolph, HymnSoft Operator  
Allan Metzger, HymnSoft Operator

## Confirmation

Pastor Steven Tews

## Library Committee

Christine Bohn, librarian

## Pioneers

Christine Bohn, Caravan Counselor  
Kevin Bohn, Trainmaster  
Rebecca Bohn, Leader  
Emily Bohn, Junior Leader

## Sunday School

Karin Hetcher, Superintendent

Heather Tews, 2/3 year old  
Christine Bohn, 4K-6th grade  
Jan Schroeder, 4K-6th grade  
Pastor Steven Tews

## Sound System

Kevin Bohn  
Megan Kubasta  
Robin Rudolph  
Allan Metzger  
Richard Vollrath

## Teen Group

## Webmaster

Pastor Tom Klusmeyer

## Building & Grounds Committee

Fred Bohlmann, Chairman  
Kevin Bohn, Maintenance  
Tom Jones, Custodian  
Mike Woreck, Outdoor groundskeeper

## Safety & Security Committee

Kenneth Kerl, Chairman  
Kevin Bohn  
Robert Lang  
James Schroeder  
Pastor Tews

## Safety & Security Drill Committee

Ken Kerl, Kevin Bohn, Judy Nelson,  
Beverly Walker

## Outreach Committee

Kevin Bohn, Chairman

## Peace Pantry

Christine Bohn, Manager

## Stewardship Committee

Robert Boelk, Chairman

## Men's Club

## Circle of Peace Ladies' Group

Sheryl Bohlmann, president  
Jan Schroeder, vice-president  
Barb Bartel, treasurer  
Doreen Walton, secretary  
Pat Campbell, sunshine committee

## Altar Care Committee

Allan Metzger

## Altar Flowers

Larry & Doreen Walton

## Card Counter

Jennie Sigourney

## LWMS

Marilynn Chesbrough, Reporter

## Vacation Bible School

Christine Bohn, director

# 2020 Ministrations

## NEW MEMBERS

Steven & Kay Held,  
*transfer from Peace, Hartford, WI*  
Carl & Jane Landwehr,  
*transfer from Mt. Olive, Iron Mountain, MI*

## CONFIRMATIONS

Thomas J. Klusmeyer  
Benjamin E. Sigourney  
Denis Hotzel, *adult confirmation*  
Mike & Joy Woreck, *adult confirmation*  
Alisa Lemke, *adult confirmation*

## BAPTISMS

Emily Jade Pena  
*born 3/11/2008      baptized 3/7/2020*  
Francisco Jiovanni Sandoval  
*born 11/9/2011      baptized 3/7/2020*  
Joel Felipe Jr  
*born 7/5/2014      baptized 3/7/2020*  
Lucas Paul Kuehn  
*born 1/25/2020      baptized 7/26/2020*

## WEDDINGS

## BURIALS

Daniel H. Baranyk  
*Born 1/20/41; Died 1/9/2020; Burial 1/14/2020*  
Dallas J. Krueger  
*Born 5/23/35; Died 1/28/2020; Burial 2/15/2020*

Violet V. Wangerin  
*Born 3/19/25; Died 2/20/2020; Burial 2/28/2020*  
Thomas Raatz  
*Born 3/4/51; Died 6/18/2020; Burial 6/26/2020*  
Watson B. Woodruff  
*Born 2/11/31; Died 7/30/2020; Burial 8/5/2020*

## TRANSFERS OUT

Tom & Donna Kuehn, *transferred to Immanuel, Mecan (Montello)*  
Ahnsharee Klusmeyer, *transffed to Peace, Green Lake*  
Kaliska Klusmeyer, *transferred to Peace, Green Lake*  
Kathi Dexter, *transferred to St. Mark's, Watertown*  
Nathan Klusmeyer & Grant, *transferred to Good Shepherd, West Allis*  
Thomas J. Klusmeyer, *transferred to Good Shepherd, West Allis*  
Harold & Linda Stechmesser, *transferred to St. Pauls, Adams*  
Harold Potthast, *transferred to Bethlehem, Richland Center*  
Buchanan Potthast, *transferred to Bethlehem, Richland Center*  
Bernice Baranyk, *transferred to St. Paul's, Slinger*

## RELEASED

Lana Sluga, *released by request*  
Russell & Deanna Eichsteadt, *removed for inactivity*

## Membership Statistics

### Worship Service Attendance

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only 42 weeks in 2020 had in-person worship and are counted for our attendance statistics. There were 10 special in-person services in 2020 (regular year: 16).*

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Sunday	2655	4559	4998	5537	5636
Thursday	751	1281	1474	929	879
Special	475	687			
Total	3881	6527	6552	7011	6565
Average	92	126	126	135	126
Special services average	48	62			

Bible Class Attendance      Average weekly attendance      15

### Membership

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Total Membership	226	237	235	244	246
Communicant Membership	195	205	208	213	215
Sunday School (2 y/o-8th grd)	21	23	17	24	26

### Holy Communion

*Pastor offered Holy Communion when the church was closed due to the pandemic, so this average includes the 10 weeks we didn't have in-person worship services.*

Avg. per communion week      91      (2019: 91; 2018:88; 2017: 93; 2016: 93)

# 2021 Budget

Pastor's Salary	\$41,624.00
Mileage Allowance	\$2,500.00
Housing Equity	\$814.50
Organist	\$4,500.00
Office Secretary	\$21,840.00
Custodian	\$3,500.00
Maintenance Wages	\$2,000.00
Treasurer/Fin. Sec. Wages	\$1,300.00
Employer Social Security	\$5,700.00
Health Insurance	\$26,436.00
Pension	\$4,740.00
Guest Pastor/Organist	\$1,000.00
Electricity	\$5,000.00
Heat	\$5,000.00
Water & Sewer	\$3,000.00
Telephone/Internet	\$3,850.00
Building & Grounds	\$15,500.00
Insurance (Bldg/Liab/WC)	\$6,000.00

### Local Missions

Comm./Education	\$5,000.00
Pioneers	\$3,500.00
Outreach	\$500.00
Stewardship	\$100.00
Kitchen Supplies	\$400.00
Worship Comm.	\$300.00
Circle of Peace	\$500.00
Financial Secretary	\$400.00
Office Budget	\$6,000.00
Treasurer	\$400.00

School Tuition	\$10,000.00
Synod Missions	\$20,000.00
Camp Phillip	\$1,800.00
LWMS Dues	\$85.00
Peace Improvement Fund	\$2,400.00
Miscellaneous	\$10.50

TOTAL      \$205,700.00

## Our God is Love

"How much do you love me?" Brenda asked her two-year-old son. Jonah held out his hands about a foot apart and said, "I love you this much."

Paul turned to Jonah's twin sister and asked her, "Hannah, how much do you love me?" Hannah extended her hands as far apart as they would go. "I love you this much," she said.

Four-year-old Kevin was watching closely. When Brenda and Paul asked him how much he loved them, they expected him to copy the actions of his younger brother and sister. Instead, he spread his arms out in front of him as wide as possible and then curled them down and behind his back until they met. Kevin said, "This is how much I love you, all the way around."

Brenda and Paul looked at each other in amazement. Kevin understood that the greatest love is all-encompassing!

If your sweetheart asks you how much you love her on Valentine's Day, you probably should not just stretch out your arms. You probably shouldn't even curl them behind your back, unless you have a gift hidden there! Yet, it is in the outstretched arms of Jesus that we know the love God has for us—all of us.

Perhaps you have seen pictures of Jesus with his arms spread wide on the cross. ***"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins"*** (1 John 4:10).

Valentine's Day is a good day to express your love for the special people in your life. It is also a good time as Christians to remember that ***"We know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them"*** (1 John 4:16).

Join us at church, either in-person or online, to celebrate more of God's love.





# 2020 Financial Statement

BEGINNING BALANCE January 1, 2020 (checking acct)		60,202.02
RECEIPTS		
General Fund	204,692.77	
Gifts	59,781.50	
Checking Acct. Interest	376.73	
Reimbursements	2,506.34	
Memorials	1,800.00	
Total Receipts		269,157.34
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS		329,359.36
EXPENDITURES		
Pastors Salary	40,725.00	
Mileage Allowance	1,520.01	
Housing Equity	814.50	
Organist	3,181.47	
Office Secretary	19,154.23	
Custodian	3,139.91	
Maintenance Wages	3,283.06	
Treasurer/Financial Secretary	1,200.56	
Social Security & Withholding Tax	9,463.53	
Health Insurance	24,233.00	
Pension	3,396.00	
Guest Pastor/Organist	489.80	
Electric	5,040.00	
Heat	4,355.79	
Water & Sewer	3,627.92	
Telephone/Internet	3,785.81	
Bldg. & Grds.	10,638.52	
Insurance (BLDG,LIAB,WC)	6,149.00	
Local Missions		
Communication/Ed Budget	4,104.43	
Pioneers Budget	4,000.00	
Outreach Comm. Budget	223.56	
Stewardship Comm. Budget	0.00	
Kitchen Supplies Budget	422.67	
Worship Committee Budget	300.00	
Circle of Peace Budget	321.91	
Financial Secretary Budget	387.78	
Office Budget	5,887.48	
Treasurer Budget	303.58	
Tuition	10,758.20	
Synod Missions	20,000.00	
Camp Phillip	2,850.00	
Northland Lutheran	0.00	
LWMS dues	170.00	
Peace Improvement Fund	0.00	
Misc./Other	6,705.43	
Non-Budget Expenditures	17,785.03	
Total Expenditures		218,418.18
ENDING BALANCE December 31, 2020 (checking acct)		110,941.18
Funds Balance in the checking acct	81,032.87	
12 Total Usable Funds		29,908.31



# Church President and Board of Elders

## Church President’s Annual Report

2020 has challenged all of us, including our church body. While we had several months of not meeting together, we were still able to conduct worship services that we recorded onto DVDs and put on the internet for members and guests to use. We were able to continue to offer Holy Communion to our members. We have successfully raised more than half of our goal to replace the parking lot. Since returning to in-person worship, our custodian has implemented a new sanitation process to ensure our church is sanitized properly. We installed hand sanitizer stations and offer face masks, both re-usable fabric ones and disposable (a huge thanks to Lea Pankau who made all the reusable masks we’ve been able to give away). We continue to follow the rules and regulations set before us by the health department. In 2021, we hope to finish raising all the funds to replace the parking lot.

*Please see page three for a complete list of councilmen.*

Your church council works to ensure that the business of the church is taken care of in a Godly manner. Please reach out to any of us on the council with any questions or concerns that you have. May God bless our endeavors in 2021, as he has in the past, and may he be with each of you.

Terry Proctor (920-420-8190)  
*Church Council President*

## Board of Elders’ Annual Report

*Please see page 3 for a complete list of the Board of Elders membership.*


Elders concern themselves with the total spiritual life of the congregation. 2020 continued to be an active year for our Board of Elders. Help was provided to Pastor Tews in scheduling and coordinating our worship services. The COVID19 pandemic presented a unique set of challenges this past year. We are thankful that we could continue having worship services throughout most of the year in as safe a manner as practicable. Thanks to many of you who volunteered to serve as Worship Elders, Greeters, Ushers, Organist and Hymnsoft Operators, Lay Altar Assistants, Sound Technicians, and Computer Technicians.

Our capability to visit our shut-ins was greatly diminished as Assisted Living facilities were kept quarantined most of the year. When possible, shut-ins were visited and served by our pastor and other volunteers. Thanks to all of you who took time to visit and comfort our shut-ins. Special thanks to Don Timmermann who continues to visit many of our shut-ins and bring them the Lord’s Supper. Our worship services are recorded and copied to DVD’s for distribution to shut-ins. Pastor Tom Klusmeyer is making sermons available on our church web site. Thanks also to those who routinely transport members who are not able to drive themselves.

Working with Pastor to restore inactive members was much more difficult in 2020, as some members were not comfortable attending worship in person for health considerations. I urge each of you to personally and lovingly encourage our fellow members with a simple phone call or note. A phone call or note from you means so much more than a contact from Pastor Tews or a member of the Board of Elders.

We will have many opportunities to serve our LORD in 2021. People are the engine of our church. Our members each contribute in their own way and are appreciated for everything they do. If there is an area in which you would be interested in serving, please let me know. We particularly need more Sound Technicians, Hymnsoft operators, and Worship Elders. Training is provided.

In His service,

  
Jim Schroeder (920-787-4311) *Chairman, Board of Elders*

# Committees

## Audit Committee

The Audit Committee for 2020 has not yet met. The Audit Committee Report will be in an upcoming edition of "The Messenger."

## Building & Grounds Committee

The Maintenance Committee had a relatively quiet year which helped us stay within our budget, even with the extra cleaning time and supplies needed.

*See page 3 for a list of our committee members.*

We would like to thank the donor for paying for the powered self-opening doors.

For the new year we look forward to the next challenges including: a broken bubbler, failing ceiling fans, and a new parking lot.

Many members have raised the needle on the parking lot fund past the halfway mark. We are encouraged to be able to get this done after many years of talking about it.

Fred Bohlmann (414-975-2651)

*Building & Grounds Committee Chair*

## Education—Communication Committee

There are 17 groups or activities that are included in the Education-Communication Committee.

Several have their own reports. Bible Studies, Pioneers, Library, Sunday School, and the church's Sound System represent a large part of the activities of this Committee.

Our church website at is an interesting place to get information about Peace. Visit it at [www.wautoma-peace.lutheran.org](http://www.wautoma-peace.lutheran.org) and tell us what you think!

In 2021, we plan on updating the church's wi-fi, making it easier to use in all the rooms of the church, including the back Sunday School rooms. We provide members with the Forward in Christ, My Devotions, and Meditations. The monthly viewing of the WELS Connection and Kids' Connection (in Sunday School) is also part of our effort to keep members informed of things happening around the Synod.

Consider joining us for Bible class. It is important that each of us members of Peace take an active part in the church and encourage others as well, so we are all growing in our faith.

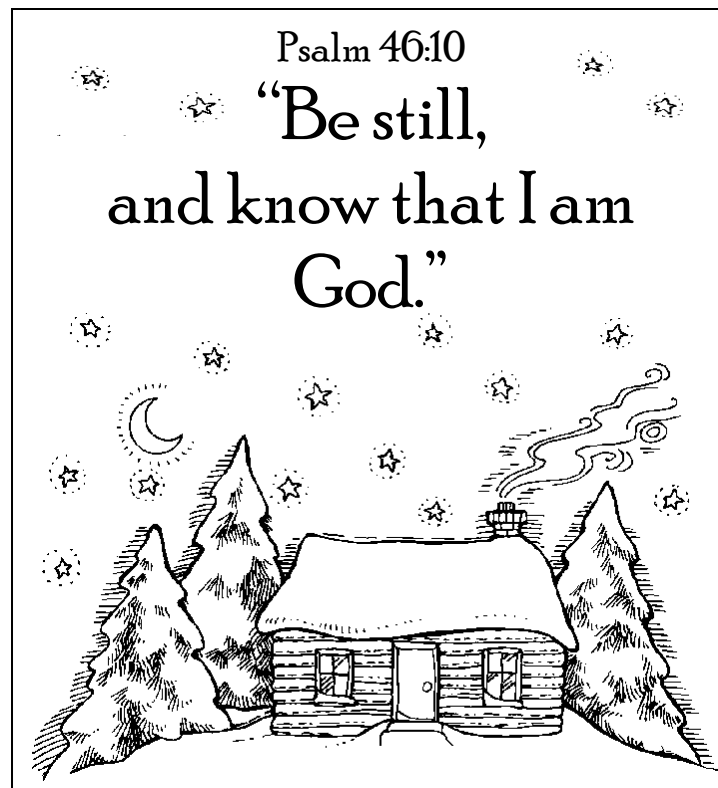
2020 proved challenging for a lot of us and this committee was not immune. In the spring, when we couldn't meet, Sunday School students and Pioneers received Sunday School materials each week via email. We couldn't have in-person VBS, but we did give away 30 VBS bags filled with activities for five days to all our families and three non-member families.

Our prayer for 2021 and beyond is to keep our focus on Jesus and do our best, safely, to reach every member of our congregation with the saving love of Jesus through the Christian education opportunities we offer here at Peace.

*A list of our committee members is on page three.*

Tom Welty (715-927-0550)

*Education-Communication Committee Chair*



## Finance Committee

No report submitted.

*Please see page three for a list of committee members.*

Robert Wedell (715-228-3957), *Financial Secretary*

# Groups

## Sunday School

2020 has been a year of trusting in the Lord to take care of all our needs: physically, mentally and spiritually. We lost in-person worship for a time and even though we have been able to come back, it's not the same. But one thing does not change and that is Jesus Christ as our Savior. We love to share this message with the children of our congregation, in whatever way that we can.

One way is through Sunday School. Our teachers and children are awesome. The boys and girls memorized their recitations and practiced the songs for the children's Christmas service every Sunday in December and provided us with a great message to end the calendar year.

Just because the service is over, it doesn't mean we stop preparing. We still say prayers at the dinner table and before bed. We continue to study the Bible whenever we can. The Holy Spirit is always working in our hearts. And we still have Sunday School class each week. Our teachers love sharing God's word with all the children. I would especially like to thank Christine Bohn, Jan Schroeder, and Heather Tews for the time and effort they put into working with our little lambs.

Why is Sunday School so important? During each class time, the kids learn a Bible lesson, and they learn why it's important to know, even two thousand years later! They learn how to use a Bible, how to find verses in the Bible, they learn hymns and other spiritual songs, and they also have fellowship with each other, developing Christian friendships with each other.

Please feel free to contact Pastor Tews, your child's teacher or me if you have any questions or comments regarding Sunday School. I look forward to working with all the teachers and students as we all prepare for that time when we will spend eternity praising Our Lord!

The Sunday School staff would like to thank everyone who supports this ministry financially, with prayers, and with service.

Karin Hetcher (920-787-9232), *Sunday School Superintendent*

## Teen Group

The Teen Group is a youth group for teens, 7th grade -12th grade.

We currently don't have a leader. If you are interested in this position, please see Pastor Tews.

## Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School is held each summer for the youth of our church and community. This year we couldn't have an in-person VBS, but knowing how important VBS is to our families' faith life, we chose to put together a virtual VBS program. With prepared videos from Concordia Publishing House, backpacks filled with crafts, treats, game ideas, and teaching materials for parents, we were able to create an at-home 5 day VBS for every family at church, plus three non-member families. We gave away 30 backpacks!

The dates for VBS in 2021 have not been set yet, but we hope to have these for you soon! We will be planning an in-person VBS, but will also have a Plan B in case we can't meet face-to-face. Watch the Messenger for updates!

Christine Bohn (920-787-3856), *VBS Director*







# Groups

## Lutheran Boy & Girl Pioneers

The Lutheran Pioneers and Lutheran Girl Pioneers are international organizations, affiliated with WELS, but completely self-sufficient (no synod money goes to either the Boy or Girl Pioneers). The Lutheran Boy Pioneers is based in Watertown and the National Office for the Lutheran Girl Pioneers is not only located in Wautoma, it's run by our own Caravan Counselor, Christine Bohn, who serves the National LGP as the Executive Director.

In 2020, the Pioneers cleaned the church kitchen, held our local Pine Car Derby, hosted Advent by Candlelight, and so much more! Our 2019-2020 year was cut short due to the pandemic. We are able to meet this year, thankfully, and have been meeting with masks on and socially distancing as best as we can. We collected food items to make Thanksgiving Food Baskets and gave away 12 of them this year! Thank you to everyone who donated to this amazing project. We did host a very small Advent by Candlelight, but it was so beautiful and the truth of Jesus' amazing love was spread!

In 2021, we will continue to follow the guidelines set before us regarding the pandemic, but we are optimistic that we will be on the other side of this before too long. Be sure to watch for activities and events hosted by the Pioneers! Everyone is invited to any and all of our regular meetings or fun events!

I would like to thank the members of our congregation for supporting us and knowing the importance of the Pioneers ministry. It gives the kids a sense of belonging here. It gives them the hope of faith and the fun of being with other Christians. *Please see page three for a list of our leaders.*

We have 12 kids in Pioneers for the 2020-21 year.

If you or someone you know would like to help at meetings, or if there is a child in your life, ages Kindergarten and up, who would like to join Pioneers, please give us a call! There is no charge to join the Pioneers!

Your Pioneers leaders,

Kevin & Christine Bohn (920-765-2147)

*Pioneer Leaders*

Rebecca Bohn (920-765-2145)

*Sunbeam/Buckaroo Leader*

## LWMS

*(Lutheran Women's Missionary Society)*

The LWMS is an organization was created by members of the Wisconsin Synod to aid and support synod missionaries both home and foreign. We, at Peace, are a member of the Wolf River Circuit of LWMS.

Each congregation in our Circuit is assigned three missionaries to encourage and support. Our missionaries 2021 are: Pastor Kevin Schultz, The Vine Lutheran Church, Hayden Idaho; Pastor Joel Schwartz, Trinity Lutheran Church, Trinity, Florida; and Pastor Guy Marquardt, a missionary assigned to India. I have the email addresses of each Pastor; contact me if you would like them. Our Wolf River Circuit bi-annually rally for 2020 have been cancelled due to COVID-19.

Our congregation contributes annually by using the pink envelopes in our Envelope Offering box - one in March and one in Sept. That goes to the Wolf River Circuit to help cover expenses both in Circuit expenses as well as our Central Office in Milwaukee.

We are praying that we will be able to hold our Spring Rally this April, depending on CDC regulations and vaccines.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilynn Chesbrough, *Reporter*

## Peace Pantry

The Peace Pantry strives to show our love and thankfulness to Jesus by serving our community by helping to fulfill the basic food needs of our friends and neighbors.

The Peace Pantry is located in the Fellowship Hall. It is a well-stocked cupboard filled with everyday items that may be taken anonymously whenever anyone is in need of something. It is open to everyone in our community and there are no fees and no requirements.

The Pantry is open Tuesday-Friday 8 am- 4 pm and by appointment. Due to COVID-19, we do recommend that you call the church office at 920-787-3856 before coming, but walk-ins are always welcome.

**Thank you** to everyone who has donated so generously this past year to the Pantry.

In Jesus' Service,

Christine Bohn (920-765-2147), *Manger*



# Committees



## Outreach Committee

Well 2020 was certainly a year for the books, wasn't it? We started the year strong, but by March our entire nation was in lock down due to the coronavirus pandemic. Our church was closed for ten weeks, but that did not hinder our ministry as one would think! Sunday School families received Sunday School materials each week through June. Pastor recorded worship services each week. "The Messenger" was put out, filled with encouraging messages. Members received Holy Communion at a rate that was similar to if we were having in-person worship services.

We put together bags for VBS, with the Education Committee, for members and others who requested one. We gave away 30 bags... that was five days of Christ-centered materials and activities that families received!

We didn't have Easter for Kids, but did put together Christmas for Kids bags to hand out to members and visitors.

We also had a Trunk or Treat event during Wautoma's trick or treating hours and that was very successful! It's our plan to have this event again. Our year certainly did look different, but the Word of God shines through!

In the next year, we hope, God-willing, to be on the other side of this worldwide pandemic and we are hopeful that we will be able to resume normal activities like Easter and Christmas for Kids, in-person VBS, helping at the Pioneers' Blue Ribbon Kids' Day booth, and other evangelism opportunities!

Outreach is something all of us can do! Invite your sister to worship. Tell your neighbor about an event at church. Let your light shine brightly wherever you go!

Kevin Bohn (920-765-2146), *Outreach Chair*

## Safety & Security Committee

No report submitted.

Ken Kerl (608-697-3096)

*Safety & Security Committee Chairman*

## Stewardship Committee

No report submitted.

Robert Boelk (920-450-8970)

*Stewardship Chairmen*

## Worship Committee

The Worship Committee this year has been very minimal due to the COVID-19 factor. The CDC and Governor Evers has caused us to not be meeting as a group so Pastor Tews has conducted all the service plans in our church since the middle of 2020. With all the special services, this has been an added task.

The committee has been down in numbers since losing two organists this year.

*Please see page 3 for a list of our members.*

In order to relieve our only organist, Jean Bartel, we have a faithful operator of our electronic Hymn Soft, Robin Rudolph. We thank Robin for operating the Hymn Soft music during Thursday evening services as well as on occasion for a special service or in absence of our regular organist.

We will continue our regular meetings when our "health issues" provide.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilynn Chesbrough (920-787-2519)

*Worship Committee Chairperson*



## Audio-Visual

2020 was certainly a busy year for the AV crew at Peace. When the shut-downs happened in early spring, we shifted gears and recorded every Worship service that was then posted, along with the bulletin, on Peace's website. Those in our congregation that did not have access to the internet were sent (or hand-delivered) DVDs and bulletins each week. We were able to supply those members without DVD players a portable one to use. We still deliver or mail DVDs to shut ins and those not attending church due to COVID each week. Pastor's sermons are posted on the Peace website each week as well. Heartland House and Welcome Home Assisted Living both play our service for residents each week.

This past year we added new microphones. In 2021, we are planning to install new camera, software and a computer that will enable us to livestream our services. We will need to purchase the proper licenses to be able to this, but are confident that we will be able to do so. Please prayerfully consider volunteering to run the sound system during church (we only have two people!) or learning HymnSoft. You will receive full training— it's not hard at all! All ages (even kids!) can volunteer to run the sound system. You can serve as often as you'd like. We will work with your schedule! HymnSoft operators usually run the system on Thursdays but we do need an occasional Sunday HymnSoft operator. Please see Kevin Bohn for more information about either of these fun volunteer positions.

Kevin Bohn (920-765-2146), AV Coordinator

## Altar Care

The main duties of the Altar Care committee are to change the paraments and banners at the appropriate times, and fill the oil candles. We also do the cleaning of the altar such as cleaning the glass on the altar and making sure the altar is dusted.

*Please see page three for a list of our members.*

This committee is overseen by the Circle of Peace.

Allan Metzger (262-443-9107), Altar Care

## Bible Classes

*Bible classes and Sunday School were put on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions in the spring. We restarted Tuesday morning Bible classes and Sunday School in the fall. During the stay-at-home orders, we sent Sunday School lessons to every Sunday School and Pioneers family each week.*

Bible Information Class (BIC) *This is an overview of the Bible. It is designed for those who wish to join our congregation, but is also great for anyone who wishes to "beef up" on their knowledge of the Scriptures.*

Tuesday *Tuesday morning study meets in the sanctuary at 9 am. Men and women of all ages and Bible knowledge are welcome.*

Confirmation *Level 1 Confirmation is a brief study of the Old & New Testaments. The class is an overview of the Bible's history. Level 2 Confirmation is our "traditional catechism class." We study the chief parts of the Bible as outlined in Luther's Catechism. Level 2 is for 2nd and 3rd year students.*

Sunday School *Sunday School is where you'll find the children of our congregation. We offer classes for ages 2 years old - 6th grade on Sundays at 10:15 am.*

For more information on any of the Bible Classes offered or for current topics, please talk to Pastor.

## Card Counter

Last year in 2020 the card counter offered a variety of greeting cards available for purchase, including Get Well, Thank You, Birthday, Wedding & Anniversary, Sympathy, Thinking of You and New Baby/Baptism cards. Additionally, seasonal greeting cards are also offered. Some of the seasonal cards were not able to be sold due to the Safer At Home guidelines, including Confirmation, Easter and Mothers' Day.

The card counter is "under construction" as the large glass counter is being removed and instead there is the new card stand. The card stand will hopefully make it easier to view the different styles of cards available while not taking up as much floor space. The card stand still needs to have the category signs created. Asking for your patience while this work is underway into 2021 and will be completed this spring.

Thank you for your support of the card counter, as all proceeds go to the Circle Of Peace to support our mission work, both local and abroad.

Jennifer Sigourney (715-228-3579)

Card Counter Manager

## Church Volunteer Cleaners

The volunteer cleaners of Peace Lutheran have been a tremendous help to our congregation and to our custodian, Tom Jones.

The responsibility of our volunteer cleaners is vacuuming the sanctuary, dusting, and cleaning the upstairs balcony.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered!

If you would like to volunteer, please call Jan Schroeder who coordinates the schedule.

Jan Schroeder (920-787-4331), Coordinator

## Church Library



The library is open, although we encourage social distancing while browsing! The library is open before and after worship services and during the week during regular office hours.

We are searching for a new librarian or librarians. In the past years, the Peace Church Library has hosted the WELS-Church Librarians' Organization's conferences, had summer story hours for families, and has been featured on the WELS Kids' Connection.

The church librarian position requires only a few hours per month and any age can do it! You would re-shelve books, order new materials and weed out old or outdated materials, update the bulletin board, and keep the library dusted and neat.

Please see Christine in the office for more information or to volunteer to be the librarian!

Christine Bohn (920)787-3856

acting Librarian

## Circle of Peace

*Please see page three for a list of our officers.*

Circle of Peace is a fun ladies' group that all are invited to join.

Our group supports our congregation through Christian fellowship, mission support, Christian charity, scholarships, Christian institutions, and caring for the altar.

This past year we served meals for three funerals, provided a scholarship for Nathan Klusmeyer, memorials, had a silent auction for the parking lot fund that raised \$910, gave a donation to Camp Philip, made goodie bags for the shut-ins, participated in Trunk or Treat, and made Christmas goodie bags.

Even with the challenges of the past year, we are filled with joy to serve one another in gladness and continue to pray for blessings in our mission to support one another in faith. Our dear Lord has blessed us indeed with dedicated helpers and volunteers, two members who retired and served many years- Donna McKay (president) and Jean Bartel (secretary). We thank them for all their hard work.

All ladies are invited and welcome to join our group. We meet once a month, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 12:30pm.

Sheryl Bohlmann (414-975-0179),

Circle of Peace president

## Flower Altar Care

Our job is to help keep flowers on the altar, to help the Lord's house look beautiful for services. We decorate for Easter and the harvest table in the fall.

We encourage anyone who would like to put flowers on the altar to please do so-for birthdays, anniversaries, remembrances of loved ones, etc. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to Pastor's office. You do not have to order flowers from a florist. Many people have their own gardens and those flowers are welcome!

We would love to see more people do this!

*This committee is overseen by the Circle of Peace.*

Larry & Doreen Walton, Flower Altar Care

