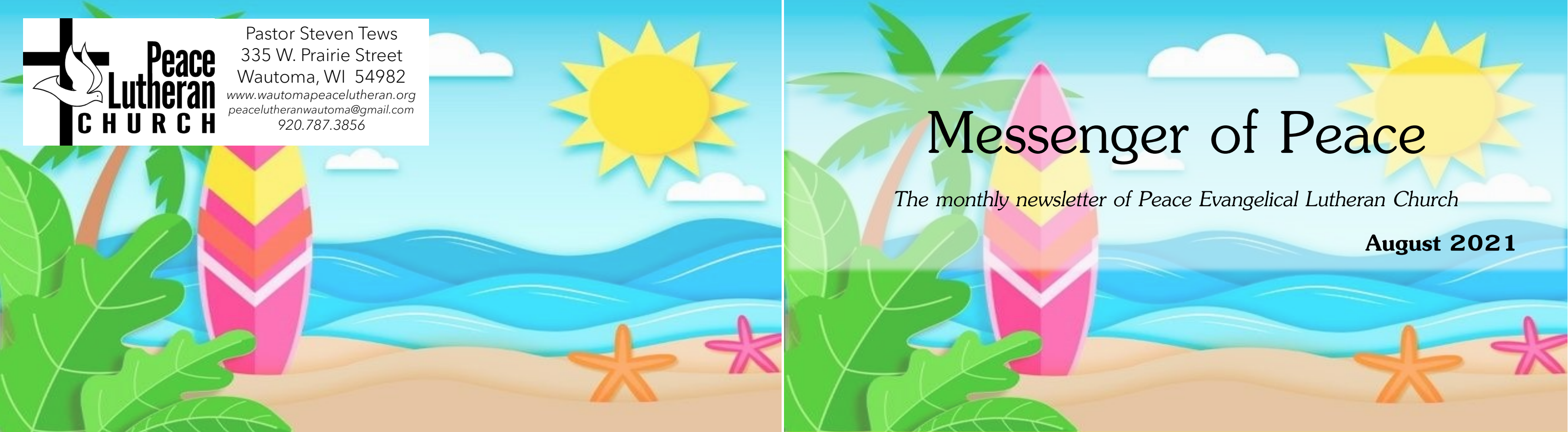




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Messenger of Peace

The monthly newsletter of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

August 2021



Messenger of Peace is a publication of Peace Lutheran Church, Wautoma, Wisc.

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.

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Voters' Meeting Sunday,
August 1 at 10:15 am



Come Find Rest With Jesus!

The burden of our sins is the heaviest burden we will ever bear. Guilt crushes our hearts. Shame squeezes the energy from our souls. Each time we sin, our hearts become a little more tired. The overwhelming burden of our sins wears on our hearts and leaves us feeling drained, edgy, and restless. We need some serious help. Left alone, we can never carry the burden of our sins.

We have One whose whole mission in life was to come in our place and carry the burdens which make us weary. Jesus entered as the God-man as our perfect substitute. And Jesus did this to help us with our worst problem of all: our sins. All of the problems we have in life trace their roots back to the one real problem of sin. Christ came and ***"took up our infirmities, he carried our sorrows. The punishment that brought us peace (and rest!) was upon him. By his wounds, we are healed."***

Now we can follow with joy the gracious invitation of Jesus. ***"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*** What a blessing for us that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are given the rest we really need, directly from Jesus. On his cross, Jesus died to forgive the sins of the world, to forgive you and me and all people. That death gives us eternal rest. That sacrifice brings us peace for our hearts. In Christ, we are free from the unrest, the weariness, the burdens sin puts on our hearts. Jesus suffered for our sins that we might not know the fullest extent of God's wrath over sin but the fullest peaceful rest he originally intended for us as his children. At the invitation of our Savior, you can come to him and find real rest.

When we hear of the love of our Savior, the stresses of life are removed by the rest of Jesus. No matter the sin—arrogance, selfishness, hatred or gossip—we can find the best rest in the wounds of the only Savior we will ever need, our Lord Jesus Christ. That rest will outlast this life until the everlasting rest of heaven is ours, all through Jesus. Where will our souls find the strength to endure the hardships and challenges to our faith we face which will not end until heaven? Come find rest with Jesus because he gives us rest for our souls!

In life, the hardships we face wear heavy on our hearts each day. The problems of life strain our spiritual nerves. How sad a statement on our society it is when even our "fun" activities begin to seem like work!

For just such times as these, Jesus gave us his words to consider: ***"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*** Jesus is the only way to make sense of these words. How can the yoke of following Jesus be easy or his burden light? The yoke he lays on us is easy because Jesus has already carried the weight of our sins for us. The yoke he gives us to wear for him is simply following him as his disciples. Any suffering or pain that causes finds its remedy in Jesus. The burden is light because Jesus bore in himself both the sins of the world and their penalty from God. We receive from him only the ***"yoke and burden"*** of forgiveness of sins, salvation, and eternal life.

In Jesus, our weaknesses are made strong. In the rest of Jesus, we can be at peace no matter how much the storms of life howl around us and try to knock us down. Those storms have names like substance abuse, domestic violence, lies, gossip, cancer and Alzheimer's. At those times in life dear friends, come to Jesus. See him coming to you in his Word, in baptism and the Lord's Supper. In these beautiful ways, we can find rest and refuge in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. No one can take his rest away from us, no matter what. Find strength for the trying times of life in Jesus, and you will have this rest for your very own.

Come find rest with Jesus, the rest of forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life in heaven. You have that rest with Jesus because he has given, and will always give, you rest from your sins and for your souls!



Every so often our news will carry a story about a school struggling with the question of going to mandatory uniforms. It's easy to understand the logic. Some of the most respected people in our society are those who wear uniforms.

Proponents of school uniforms could probably produce studies that show that students are more likely to respect themselves and each other when wearing uniforms, too.

On the other hand, we also hear stories about people bringing disgrace to the uniforms they wear: criminal charges against professional ballplayers, corruption in police departments, and sexual abuse by clergy. Examples such as these indicate that just putting on a uniform does not make a person better.

Listen to the apostle Paul describe a different kind of clothing: ***"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience"*** (Colossians 3:12). Notice that Paul isn't just describing a change in outward appearances. Nor is he suggesting that we can somehow will ourselves into better behavior.

We don't earn the right to wear the clothes Paul describes. They come from being loved by God. It all starts with the compassion Jesus had that moved him to lay down his life for the world.

Believing that Jesus loved us enough to die for us is what makes us one of his people. It also is what produces a change in our attitude.

As God's dearly loved people, we want to reflect the kind of compassion Jesus showed. That is something that will be as plain to see as any uniform. Real changes in our lives won't happen just because we put on a district-mandated or color-coordinated outfit. That clothing just changes us on the outside. The inner change begins when we are clothed with God's love.



Heart-to-Heart Parent Conversations

In how many activities should my children be involved?

Every family is different and there are no right or wrong answers. I think we can all agree that the number of options for activities has exploded.

Back when I was a kid, my athletic options were basketball and softball. The only other activity or group option that I can recall was Lutheran Pioneers. I rarely remember having practices for my teams in grade school. I'm sure we had some, but I really don't think they were three nights a week.

Now we could fill this page with nothing but structured activity options through school, church, the community, summer sports camps. Our temptation as parents is to be involved in more than we can handle. Perhaps there is even a bit of worry as parents that if our children are not taking advantage of the activities that other families are, maybe our kids won't grow up as well-rounded adults.

With no easy answers, how do we make decisions on activities? My wife's and my efforts fall on trying to limit participation rather than having our kids overinvolved. Here are a couple priorities we keep in mind.

Priority #1: Love

The most important thing we done is make it clear to our kids that their participation and success in any activity is not something they need to do to get our love. God's love for us is unconditional. We don't need to perform in order to receive God's love.

Priority #2: Balance

This can get tricky. As adults it seems balance in life can be hard to find, and our own activities and responsibilities can feel overwhelming. If our kids learn from us, what are we teaching them? Are we teaching them to live a balanced life or a life filled with stress and anxiety? What's the lesson as we move hastily from one thing to the next, getting short and angry with one another because we always feel late and behind? Family balance is important. Our family needs time. We need time simply to be together, go for a bike ride, watch a movie, and even do chores together. It's the time needed to teach and show them God's love. If the outside activities infringe on the family connectedness, then it's time for us to pull back.

Looking back in my life, what did I do with all my time? I wasn't bored. I have great memories of participating in unstructured activities. I'm not calling for us to bring back the "good ol' days." I think all the activities offered now are amazing, but developing a few simple priorities has helped our family maintain balance.

Dan Nommensen and his wife, Kelly, have a daughter and a son.

<https://wels.net/heart-to-heart-parenting-conversations-activity-involvement/>

Providing Care

WELS Christian Aid and Relief announced it has approved \$470,882 for humanitarian aid projects in WELS mission fields throughout the United States and worldwide for 2021-22.

Projects are developed by WELS home and world missionaries, who look for opportunities to serve hurting people in their communities with ongoing basic needs like food, clothing, shelter, and medical care. Rev. Daniel Sims, director of WELS Christian Aid and Relief, says, "When our missionaries can assist people in this way, it also helps to build trust and leads to many opportunities to then share the life-changing news of the gospel."

WELS members can support the work of [WELS Christian Aid and Relief](#) through prayers and offerings. In addition to humanitarian aid grants, the organization also provides disaster relief and medical financial emergency grants to people in need.

View a complete list of humanitarian aid projects supported by WELS Christian Aid and Relief through your offerings here: <https://wels.net/serving-others/christian-aid-relief/humanitarian-aid/>

URGENT NEED



We are in urgent need of people to learn how to run the sound/video equipment for church services, as well as people to learn how to use the Hymnsoft for when we don't have an organist.

Please talk to Kevin Bohn (920-765-2146) if you can assist in either of these ways.



Worship at the Cross

Thursday, August 26 at 6:30 pm
or Sunday, August 29 at 9 am

What is a Worship at the Cross service?

Worship at the Cross is a simplified worship service. Each person in attendance will be able to worship in the way that they understand. Worship at the Cross is designed to make each part of the service meaningful, especially for people with cognitive impairments. We will see symbols that help illustrate each part, hear a bell ring, sing and make music, and say prayers.

Who can come to a Worship at the

Cross service? While it's specifically designed to help those with cognitive disabilities to worship, everyone can come! Everyone will appreciate the simplicity of hearing God's Word in a way that all will understand! The simplified service is perfect for young children, as well.

"Worship at the Cross" is part of the Jesus Cares Ministries. For information about Jesus Cares Ministries, please visit <https://www.tlha.org/jesus-cares-ministries>



Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, August 12, 2021
12-5:30 pm

If you are able to help at the registration table, please see Christine in the office.

Peace Pantry Hours

The Peace Pantry is open during regular office hours during the week and by appointment. The pantry is open to our members and the community.

If you, or someone you know, is in need, please utilize our Pantry!

Call Christine at 920-787-3856 for more info.

Searching For....

The Peace Lutheran Girl Pioneers are searching for women who would like to participate in a Secret Sisters program. It's so simple- and a great way for our girls to get to know women in our church family!

It's simple: Each girl will be given a Secret Sister. Then once a month or so, the Girl Pioneers will write a card, make a craft, or some other fun activity to give to their Secret Sister. Then at the end of the school year, we will have a Secret Sister tea party where each girl's Secret Sister will be revealed!

What will you have to do? Not much! You will fill out a form so your Girl Pioneer will get to know a little about you; you can, if you want, give cards, notes, or little trinkets to your Girl Pioneer (like a birthday card or small Christmas ornament, etc.); be available for our tea party in May 2022.

Let's build some connections! If you are interested, please see Christine Bohn (920-787-3856).



Pioneers August Activities

Pioneers' Family and Friends Swim Party
August 1st at 11 am

At the Schroeders. Bring a dish-to-pass. Pioneers will supply brats, hotdogs, hamburgers (and all the fixin's), drinks, and dessert. Everyone is invited to attend- bring a friend and spend the day at beautiful Silver Lake!

Pioneers' Leader Meeting

August 15 at 10:15 am.

Please see Christine Bohn (920-787-3856) for more information.

Knitters and Crocheters

If you are interested in coming to the Knitters and Crocheters group, please call Linda Welty at 715-927-2455. All skill levels and ages welcome!

Advent by Candlelight

Table hostesses needed

Want to ensure you have a seat at this year's Advent by Candlelight? Volunteer to be a table hostess and we will reserve a chair for you!

Hostesses provide table settings, holiday decorations, and a dessert for a table of 6-8 ladies. Many partner with one or two others to host a table. It is lots of fun, and requires only a few hours of your time for planning, baking (or buying) and decorating.

If you want to host a table this year (or need more information before committing), please call Christine at 920-787-3856.

Wautoma's AugustFest

Peace Lutheran Church Outreach Committee will have a booth at Wautoma's AugustFest on Saturday, August 14. If you would like to help out at the booth for an hour or two, please see Kevin Bohn (920-765-2146). Even if you can't help, be sure to stop by and say hi!

Evangelism Sunday

Sunday, September 12

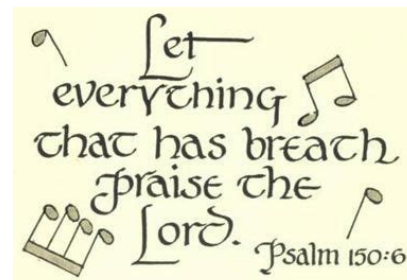
As Christians, we have the privilege and the command from our Lord to tell others about salvation through Jesus.

Do you ever have concerns or fears about witnessing in Jesus' name? Take out your Bible (or Bible app) and read the following passages: Luke 10:16; Matthew 10:19-20; Isaiah 55:11; Matthew 28:20.

God will never fail you. He will use your witness and make it serve the purpose He intends. Trust God's promises and share Jesus!

Evangelism Sunday is a great day to that!

Invite your friends, family, or neighbors to join you for church on September 12 at 9 am. Have your children invite their friends to join them at Sunday School. There will be a fun coffee hour after the service.



New Bible Study Opportunity

Sundays at 10:15 am

beginning September 12

Everyone is invited to join us for Bible Study in the sanctuary beginning September 12. This study is called "One by One" and through videos and discussion, explores how to reach out to others with the saving love of Jesus- one by one.

Please talk to Pastor Tews for more information about this exciting Bible class.



August Birthdays

8/4 Joy Woreck
8/11 Eryn Lemke
8/12 Helen Timmermann
8/16 Terry Proctor
8/17 Dale Ast
8/26 Pastor Tom Klusmeyer
8/30 Susie Frohman



August Anniversaries

8/5 Jason & Betsey Welty (21)
8/5 Greg & Mindy Hintz (15)
8/18 Megan & Tom Kubasta (25)
8/22 Brendan & Tanya Rooney (6)
8/25 Don & Helen Timmermann (64)



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.

Congratulations!

Christopher & Jennifer

Stoffregen

joined in holy
matrimony on
July 14, 2021

Jesus said, "They are no longer two, but one. Therefore, what God has joined together, let man not separate."

Matthew 19:6



Sunday School Corner

Save the Date! *The first day of Sunday School for the 2021-2022 school year will be on September 12.*

4K and up will meet in the Sunday School classroom directly off the fellowship hall on the left side. The 2-3 year-olds will meet in the preschool/Kindergarten room in the Sunday School hallway. We meet from 10:15 am until 11:15 am.

We use the ChristLight Sunday School curriculum from Northwestern Publishing House (the publishing house of the WELS). We will study lessons from both the Old and New Testaments.

Our Sunday School program also includes music; we are planning on singing in church a few times during the school year, as well as our annual Children's Christmas Service, which will be the Sunday prior to Christmas.

All families will be receiving a letter with details of our year towards the end of August.

Children are encouraged to invite their friends to join us for any class!

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

