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The monthly newsletter of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

June 2022





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

<u>Purpose:</u> 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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Did You Know...

You can use the Peace Playground and the Disc Golf course all week long? Bring your kids or grandkids and enjoy our beautiful property!



June Activities at Peace

Sunday, June 5 Pioneers' Awards 10:30 am Join us for food, fellowship, and to celebrate a year well-done with our Pioneers.

Saturday, June 25 Pioneers' Day Camp See page 3 of this newsletter for more information

Tuesday, June 28 Red Cross Blood Drive Be sure to sign up to donate at www.redcross.org.



Find rest with Jesus this summer!

Summer is a time for us to slow down, relax, and truly enjoy the blessings of life, especially in a beautiful place like where we get to live! Summer provides us a unique opportunity to find rest, not just for our bodies, but also for our souls.

All kinds of things in life make us crave rest. Stress hurts our health and our relationships. It can even significantly shorten our lives if not dealt with in healthy ways. In this hectic world full of such big problems for so many people, how can we ever get any real rest? We receive the best invitation of all from Jesus. In the middle of your stress, come find rest with Jesus because he gives us rest from our sins!

The burden of our sins is the heaviest 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. We are arrogant. We are selfish. A little greed here, a little lust there, it doesn't seem to wear on us that much, does it? When we have hateful thoughts or gossip, a little bit of spiritual energy disappears, but we barely seem to notice. But here is the problem: a lot of little sins take a huge amount of our spiritual energy. 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.

But people still try to carry at least some of that burden by themselves. Some people throw themselves into drugs and alcohol for an escape. People seek solace for their hearts in their wealth and possessions, falsely thinking these things give them lasting security and peace of mind. Still more look to the power and influence they have built up for the certainty of rest from the rat race of life. But sadly, all of these people will not have true rest for their souls.

We have One whose whole mission in life was to come and carry the burdens of life which make us weary in our place. Jesus entered our human story as the God-man to be 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. That death gives us eternal rest. That sacrifice brings us peace for our hearts. The death of Jesus grants freely to each of us the rest from our sins we needed most. In Christ, we are free from the unrest, the weariness, the burdens sin puts on our hearts. The burden of guilt has been carried by Jesus. The Lord 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. You can really come and find rest with Jesus because he gives us rest from our sins.

Shame cannot sap the energy from our souls any longer. The emptiness left by lust, the gaping holes in our hearts we could not fill with our greed, these too are filled with the rest of Jesus which only he could give. When we hear of the love of our Savior, the stresses of life which try the hardest to suck away our spiritual strength are themselves 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 through Jesus.

Not just in the summer, but throughout our lives, let us find rest with Jesus!



Does Prayer Really Make a Difference?

"I must not be asking God for the right things."

"If only I could concentrate better when I pray."

"Maybe God is not really listening after all."

If these are thoughts that ever cross your mind or settle in your heart, then maybe you are asking the question, "Does prayer really work?" Maybe you have been praying for a long time and have not received the answer you wanted or felt that there hasn't been any change.

Well, there is good news. Prayer really does make a difference. There are two reasons for this. First, prayer does not depend on us. If answers to our prayers depended on us, we would never have our prayers answered, because as sinful people God would not listen to us. That might hurt our feelings, but it is the truth.



That leads to the subsequent reason why prayer makes a difference. It depends upon God. In the Bible, we read this little prayer, "Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief" (Psalm 143:1). The person who spoke this prayer recognized that it was God's faithfulness on which the answer to his request depended.

God's faithfulness was demonstrated when he kept his promise to send us Jesus. In saving love, Jesus died to pay for our sins that had separated us from God and had closed his ears to our prayers. Jesus' perfect sacrifice opens the way to God and gives believers in Jesus the gracious promise that their prayers are heard and answered.

If you are struggling with prayer—if you don't know what to pray for, or how to pray—worship with us to hear more about your Savior, Jesus, and the difference he makes for your prayers. Because of Jesus, prayer really does work. We have his Word on it.



Have you longed for healing in our shattered, fragmented world? Do you feel detached and torn because everyone is at odds? Why can't we get along? The world is desperately searching for solutions, but it can't find the answer. These longings can only be fulfilled as we dig into Scripture and learn God's truth.

Join women from every walk of life at the WELS Women's Ministry Conference July 21-23, 2022. As we study Ephesians we'll learn to cultivate unity that begins with grace for me and grace for others. When we start here, we can identify barriers that get in the way, stand firm on Scripture in the face of conflict, and extend grace in our everyday relationships. As Christians we are Won to be One.

For more information or to register visit: www.wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/womensministry/womens-ministry-conference-won-to-be-one/

Lutheran Girl Pioneers International Convention 2022

Saturday, October 1 St. John's, Watertown, Wisc

Join other leaders and supporters of LGP in Watertown for our biannual Convention. Workshops, fellowship, worship, and lots of great food await attendees. Girls ages 3rd grade and up can attend too! For more information, visit www.lgp.org or speak to Christine in the office!



Plant your roots in Christ and let Him be the foundation for your life. Colossians 2:7



URGENT NEED



We are <u>in urgent need</u> 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.

New Hymnals



If you would like to purchase a hymnal for the sanctuary in honor of or in memory of someone, please see Christine in the

Peace Pantry Hours

Peace Pantry is open during regular office hours during the week and by appointment. The pantry is open to our members and the community. Call Christine at 920-787-3856 for more information.



Pioneers Day Camp

Saturday, June 25 9 am- 3 pm at Peace

All kids ages 5K-high school, even if you're not a Pioneer, are invited to join us for Pioneers' Day Camp on June 25 at Peace.

See Christine in the office for more information or to find out how to register for this fun, free day!





Coffee Hour

Church

If you would like to host coffee hour, please sign up on the sheet on the table at the back in the fellowship hall.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Tuesday, June 28 11 am-4:30 pm

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

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Peace Church Council Members			
Kevin Bohn, <i>President</i>	920-765-2146	kbohn93@gmail.com	
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Anchor of Hope Day Camp July 11-15, 2022 8:30 am- 1 pm



Kids ages 4K- 8th grade are invited to this fun, free Day Camp! We'll have games, crafts, music, and so much more! This event is free and you can bring friends!

Breakfast and lunch included.
Email the church office at peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com to register early or for more information.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please see the back table in the fellowship hall if you are able to help at VBS, or could donate items needed. Call Christine at 920-787-3856 or see Tim Quinn with any questions or concerns.

Church Picnic

Sunday, July 17

Worship at 10 am, picnic to follow Join us for food, fellowship, and lots fun! Bring a dish-to-pass and a friend!



LWMS Spring Rally Re-Cap

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Spring Rally was held here at Peace on May 7. We had 32 adult and children volunteers with over 80 attendees from churches from our LWMS circuit. Our speaker was Pastor Paul who talked about Asian missions and his life experiences. We received two Thrivent grants which helped fund the luncheon and the centerpieces. We raised more than \$1000 for missions at this rally!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, including two Boy Pioneers (greeted and helped with the luncheon) and three Girl Pioneers (who ran the childcare), and to everyone who came.

The Circle of Peace



Girl Pioneers Mya, Kenzie, and Allison in the childcare room



Marilynn C. welcoming guests



Volunteer Opportunities

There are lots of volunteer opportunities available at church this summer! If you would like to volunteer, see Christine in the office!



Coffee Hour (6/19 & 8/21) Host coffee hour after church Red Cross Blood Drive (6/28 & 8/25) Registration table

Vacation Bible School (July 11-15) Various jobs- see the sign up sheets on the back table in the fellowship hall

Church Picnic (7/17) See Christine in the office for details

August Fest booth (8/13) Work the booth downtown Wautoma

Serve one another in love. (Galatians 5:13)



June Birthdays

- 6/1 Doreen Walton Sheryl Bohlmann Jennie Sigourney
- 6/4 Sam Tews
- 6/7 Bob Sittig
- 6/8 Melissa Wedell
- 6/10 Matthew Tews
- 6/11 Kaylee Lemke
- 6/14 Nancy Quinn 6/19 Alisa Lemke
- 6/21 Dan Lemke
- 6/22 Benjamin Sigourney
- 6/23 Roger Jansen
- 6/26 Rod Nelson



June Anniversaries

- 6/4 Jim & Jan Schroeder (56)
- 6/6 John & Judy Benz (58)
- 6/14 Kevin & Christine Bohn (25)
- 6/15 Jim & Karen Mosier (59) 6/16 Carlyle & Phyllis Schmidt (60)
- 6/17 Tom & Nancy Klusmeyer (45)
- 6/21 Tom & Linda Welty (53)
- 6/22 Don & Marlene Nelson (49) Neal & Cindy Roebke (38)
- 6/24 Pastor & Heather Tews (10)
- 6/29 Jeff & Marilyn Dehling (32)

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

We wrapped up Sunday School 2021-22 on May 22. We played "The Great Sunday" School Bible Challenge." It was a trivia-like game filled with questions about all of the lessons we had this past year! The teachers were seriously impressed with how I much the kids remembered! There were I five rounds- each with its own spin. Round I one was regular trivia questions, round Itwo had the kids racing to find the correct I answer in a pile of pictures, round three iwe took a break from questions and itossed cotton balls into a bowl (way more ifun- and harder- than it sounds!), round four the kids had to put together a timeiline of Biblical lessons, and the final round iwas a lightning round of true or false questions. We finished off our fun day with ice cream sundaes.

The Peace Lutheran Sunday School staff would like to thank all the parents and I grandparents for bringing their child to I class each week. We strive to not only I teach each week's lesson, but to show the I kids how and why it matters to them today. We love teaching your children and are I grateful for the opportunity to be part of I their faith Journey.

About

Church

Family

Mark your calendars for the first day of Sunday School for the 2022-2023 school year: September 11, 2022.

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.

Christine Bohn (920-765-2147) Sunday School Superintendent