

# *The Messenger*

***Our Monthly Newsletter June/July 2023***

**Peace Lutheran Church** 917 7<sup>th</sup> St., Menomonie, WI 54751

*Interim Pastor Gary MacManus*

www.plcmenomonie.com 715-235-2500



Summer is upon us. PLC has a transition pastor. Now what? GROW!!

It seems most people consider the summer to begin on or shortly after Memorial Day. I would like to propose we might think of the season Pentecost as summer. Summer times

seems to slow things down when it comes to church life. It doesn't seem to slow down for other aspects of summer living. But the pace does seem to change.

During COVID, it seemed to be a continued never-ending Hiatus. It has been differently strange as the former norm disappears, and some kind of new norm is settling in. It seems rather foreign and disconnected yet. We are growing into a different norm. As we try to understand what is changing, we also try to figure out how to respond to the changes. This is a time of growth- in the agricultural world, the business world, the post covid social world, and the world of spiritual well being.

Growing into a new paradigm can feel awkward, strange, threatening, frustrating and confusing. There can also be joy. I reflect on the disciples who left their former familiar environment and followed Jesus as they were looking for relief from the negatives that had also become the norms. When Jesus spoke about the new kingdom, He spoke

of God breaking into life as they knew it. It spoke of promised hope. Of a new life through death. Jesus had their attention. They followed.

What a strange journey that was. There were times Jesus was extremely popular. Thousands would turn out to listen, be healed, be fed, all because the Good News was proclaimed, and people needed to hear some good news. There were also times things didn't go as the disciples might have expected. NOT all responses to Jesus were overwhelmingly positive. Then there was Jesus himself. A Mystery Man/Son of God(?) that could calm storms with a word. He could miraculously heal the sick, resuscitate the dead, had this richly deep prayer life, could teach deep & wise lessons about living and spiritual life. He then

would talk about his going to die and be raised. On the road to Emmaus, the disciples didn't recognize him because it had been three days of death. The women reported the resurrection, but it was so weird, it was a hard story to believe.

NOW Pentecost- what a weird and other worldly experience! Wind, flames, earth trembling, languages...otherwise, it was a normal day(?). Maybe for a disciple, life never really slows down. It does change how we do living. What is the new paradigm of a disciple? Jesus calls his disciples into something completely new and different. Sharing the good news of the Gospel.



Jesus teaches much about discipleship by how he responds to the questions about who he spends time with. Jesus calls, claims, and sends. This sending is ongoing: discipleship ultimately necessitates a continual relationship initiating, building, and celebrating with thanks.

This 'ongoing' is accompanied by success, failure, and ability to adapt and overcome to do God's will. Jesus proclaims that by yourself, you are limited. Through God ALL things are possible. A cause for joyous celebration and hope.

Discipleship does take us in a different direction than what we first thought was impossible and improbable. The first disciples experienced it. Disciples of this time & place grow into it. It doesn't

always make sense and doesn't always feel warm and comfortable. God shapes and develops disciples in their faithfulness as they live.

The Good News grows faithfulness and sets into our hearts and minds as growing and learning disciples what God is up to. The Spirit directs us towards the cause and reason for celebration and thanksgiving. God has been with Peace Lutheran many faithful generations. There were and are times of learning and growing- challenging. There are also the peaks for joyous celebration with thanksgiving for what God has done through faithful disciples. Which time might Peace Lutheran be in now? ALL things are possible through God's grace, mercy, and power.

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#### TRANSITION TEAM NOTES:

I would hope and pray that going forward here at Peace Lutheran, the council will shortly selected and approve at maximum, a seven-member team that will have specific tasks related to gathering information, facilitating meetings, surveying, communicating, and creating the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) document for Peace Lutheran.

I would encourage the Transition Team to keep the congregation informed as to what is happening in this process through Newsletter articles, Temple talks, Fireside chats, and Town Hall meetings. This column would be a concise way to communicate what is happening, what has happened and what will be the next step in completing the MSP.

The purpose of the team is to mobilize, discover, and generate the capacity to thrive anew. Two major areas are 1) to discover a possible new, a deepened sense of identity and purpose of the congregation and 2) to establish a healthy relationship with the next pastoral leader who will walk with the congregation toward the renewed sense of purpose. The team activities gives the congregation council time and space to focus on continuing support of the ministries of the congregation.

The team will endeavor to (1) gather feelings and ideas of both members of the congregation and people living in the community regarding Peace Lutheran. (2) To provide a forum for sharing and focusing hopes and aspirations for the future. (3) Create the data to complete the MSP for council and congregation review.

Thanks for your continued support and interest of PLC!

Your Transition/Interim Pastor

Pr. Mac+



*God's Gifts Equip  
Us for Ministry*

# ***Peace Lutheran Church Council***

## **Council Officers:**

<b>President:</b>	Jodi Bird	715-308-3849	birdjL04@gmail.com
		(Note: Jodi's email is a lowercase L not a number 1)	
<b>Vice President:</b>	Anastasia Black	715-556-5750	anastasia_black@rocketmail.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	Marlene Schultz	715-505-7856	schultzma@uwstout.edu
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Kevin Hintzman	715-309-9221	rkkhintzman@yahoo.com

## ***Council Liasons:***

<b>Al Erickson</b>	<b>Board of Trustees/Property &amp; Finance</b>
	715-235-3321 <a href="mailto:areriver@charter.net">areriver@charter.net</a>
<b>Anastasia Black</b>	<b>Board of Faith Formation/Parish Education</b>
	715-556-5750      anastasia_black@rocketmail.com
<b>Luanne Prochnow</b>	<b>Board of Worship/Worship and Social Concerns</b>
	715-308-0270      lprochnow68@gmail.com
<b>Marlene Schultz</b>	<b>Evangelism</b>
	715-505-7856      schultzma@uwstout.edu
<b>Mike Colson</b>	<b>Board of Mission/Stewardship &amp; Fellowship</b>
	715-505-7039      mjcolson31@hotmail.com

## **A Note From Kevin Hintzman, Our Council Treasurer:**

**The table above shows year to date donations at Peace Lutheran Church.**

Year	Jan.-Apr. Donations
2023	\$66,777
2022	\$80,802
2021	\$87,041
2020	\$75,227
2019	\$80,386
2018	\$89,010

It is important to stay current on donations during the summer months when attendance is usually lower because so many people are vacationing.

Please note that total giving is down significantly this year. It is even lower than in 2020 when we were not having worship services. It is also unlikely that we will be able to withdraw any of the Kelling fund earnings in 2023.

# ***Church Council Minutes***

Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting  
April 18, 2023

Present: Jodi Bird, Al Erickson, Anastasia Black, Mike Colson, Marlene Schultz

Absent: Luanne Prochnow and Kevin Hintzman

Meeting called to order by Council President Jodi at 5:00 pm.

Devotional Prayer given by Jodi.

Minutes from March meeting were reviewed by Council. Motion to accept March minutes by Anastasia and seconded by Al. All approved.

Financial reports were reviewed by Council.

Updating three computers and router were discussed. Laptops were suggested for the three computers. Kevin will be asked to check out pricing and types of laptops and a new router and report back to Council.

Compensation/gift for Mary Hendrickson was tabled for future meeting.

Jodi reported on the Executive Committee meeting. Three candidates applied for the administrative assistant position. Interviews will be set up in May. Pastor Mac attended the meeting and signed the contract. The contract will run from May 1, 2023 to May 1, 2024.

Al reported on the Property Committee meeting. Dave Rolley is working on a maintenance contract for the elevator with Kone Care. \$1065 annually for 5 years. Motion to approve Property Committee to proceed with Kone Care by Anastasia and seconded by Mike. All approved.

Anastasia reported on the Parish Education Committee. Earlene Way will take care of ordering the cake for Confirmation on May 14. Kim Lehman is making the stoles, covers for the bibles and ordering the flowers. Senior Recognition will be May 21. We have 8 seniors graduating. A cake will be ordered, and fleece blankets are being made. Confirmation students are helping make the blankets. Planning for a picnic in June is in the works.

Mike made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Al. All approved.

The Lord's Prayer was said.

Meeting ended at 6:05.

Marlene Schultz  
Secretary



# Memorial Gifts and Pastoral Acts

We thank those who have given to our special funds in memory of the following people.

**In Honor Of** Baptism of Adalynn Hoover By: Betty Evenson

## Baptism

Adalynn Rae Hoover, daughter of Erica Kothlow and Edward Hoover was baptized on May 14, 2023. Her sponsors were Kayla Evenson, Haley Booth, Heidi Schadow, Patrick Wagner, Tom Evenson and Joel Dillon. Rev. Gary McManus officiated.

*Let your light so shine before others that they may see  
your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*

*Join us for a special  
Hymn Sing Worship  
9 a.m. on June 4*



## June/July Volunteers

	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Ushers (including but not limited to)</b>		
Sunday, June 4	Kalani Krautbauer	Mike Bird	Julie Halama	Josh Forster
Sunday, June 11	Gus Myron	Tom Johnson	Marlene Schultz	Kathy Forster
Sunday, June 18	Joann Trainor	Court Sand	Al Erickson	Shawn Swaenepoel
Sunday, June 25	Sharon Wold	Curt Hagberg	Jeff Eckert	Gus Myran
		Kari Samuel	Kevin Hintzman	Mary Hendrickson

# Youth Celebrations

God's blessings to the following youth  
who celebrated their Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday, May 14th:  
*Zak Jay Buck Brianna Rose Klimek Thomas Jeffrey Wheeler*



**High School Senior Recognition:** *Tucker Bird, Justin Boerner, Sam Dahms, Treadan Kietzer, Aleaha Miland, Brett Smith, Tali Swaenepoel, Anna Wheeler*

Below is an introduction to the graduates who returned our request for information on their future plans. They are also recipients of a \$1000 Scholarship from Peace.



## **Tucker Bird**

- ◆ Graduate of Menomonie High School
- ◆ Future plans are to attend UW-Whitewater and major in Business
- ◆ My favorite bible verse is: Psalm 23

## **Tali Swaenepoel**

- ◆ Graduate of Menomonie High School
- ◆ Future plans are to take a gap year to travel and then hopefully go back to school in the fall of 2024
- ◆ My favorite bible verse is: The Name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe. Proverbs 18:10.



## **Anna Wheeler**

- ◆ Graduate of Menomonie High School
- ◆ Future plans are to go to CVTC for graphic design
- ◆ My favorite bible verse is: Philippians 4:13

*May God bless them richly as they pursue their goals.*

# ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Peace Lutheran Church



*Thursday, July 13, 2023*

*4:00 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.*

*Full Meal: \$10.00*

## MENU:

Sandwiches: BBQ, Hot Dogs or Coney Dogs

Potato Salad, and Baked Beans

Pie (a la' mode), Ice Cream & Beverages



*Proceeds support our youth and community needs.*

Women <sup>of the</sup> ELCA 

Watch for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex for food donations and volunteers needed to help at the event. Contact Kathy Siler with questions.

# ***Your Attention Please!***



# ***Tuesday's Table***



## **TUESDAY'S TABLE an opportunity to volunteer JUNE/JULY 2023**

Tuesday's Table is a free meal served every Tuesday at St. Joe's Catholic Church to anyone who wishes to partake. Various churches in the community support this effort through volunteers.

PLC serves the second Tuesday of the odd-numbered months (Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., Nov. - ONLY 6 TIMES A YEAR!) Salem Iron Creek Lutheran will again serve along side Peace Lutheran volunteers.

With in-house dining resuming additional volunteers are needed. So, here's what's needed from Peace:

2 prep cooks from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., and

3-4 volunteers to help with clean-up, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

### **Thank You To Our MAY Volunteers:**

**Debbie Hitz, Debbie Verdon - the Clean-up Crew!  
Carolyn Knutson and Sharon Wold – Cooks**

The number of people being served is slowly increasing. On May 9, we served a little over 30. May's meal was spaghetti, tossed salad, garlic bread and lemon cupcakes.

### **DATES FOR 2023**

**JULY 11 - SEPTEMBER 12 - NOVEMBER 14**

**Our next opportunity to serve is:  
JULY 11**

Want To Get Involved?

Contact: Sharon Wold-715-235-9762

# *Witness & Service Committee*

GREETINGS FROM YOUR  
WITNESS & SERVICE COMMITTEE  
AT PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

June/July 2023

CURRENT MEMBERS: Deb Bell, Patty Bosse, Linda Lenz, Luanne Prochnow (Council Rep), Barb Sand, Sharon Wold (Chair)

## **WHAT IS WITNESS & SERVICE ALL ABOUT?**

"The committee must develop and increase awareness of witness and service opportunities within the congregation. It should educate members on the importance of outreach opportunities in our community. It may engage in shared ministry opportunities by working with area ELCA congregations and Lutheran Campus Ministry in witness and service activities." *Taken from PLC Constitutional By-Laws*

*In other words - We are the hands and feet for Jesus!*

*To know Jesus is to make Him known*

## **UPDATES:**

### **SPRING FLING EVENT UPDATE:**

This was a joint effort by the Witness & Service Committee and the Peace Lutheran Church Women's Board, held on May 13 at our church. It was attended by 43 people and 33 stayed for the luncheon. At this writing over \$1000.00 was raised for the Kuzniestsova family. For more information – see the PLCW Stewardship & Discipleship page.

### **GROCERY CART MINISTRY:**

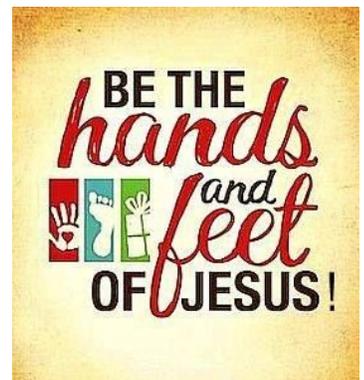
THANK YOU ALL for your on-going generosity and support of this important ministry! Generally the cart is emptied once a month, but it can be done more frequently! Non-perishable items are always welcome and **REMEMBER** every dollar given can purchase \$10 worth of food! The cart will remain in the lobby as a visual reminder. Also remember, Stepping Stones accepts donations of dog & cat food.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

Our next meeting is July 19 at 9:00 a.m. If you have ideas or suggestions for us, please contact one of the committee members or better yet, come and join us!

On the horizon:

- Connecting with our home-bound folks
- Homeless Veterans Project
- Foster Closet Needs
- Diaper Drive



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KIT TIME!!!

It's time to start looking for good deals on items for our Baby Care Kits and School Kits!

If you're a thrift saler, this is the time to start looking for those baby items. Stores will soon be offering deals on school supplies too.

We will be collecting items for the School Kits & Baby Care Kits throughout the summer months into September! So, be on the lookout for items needed. Collection Bins will be located under the table by Kate's window. Below are the items needed for each kit:

### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF BABY CARE KIT - 2023

- ◆ Two lightweight cotton T-shirts (no Onesies)
- ◆ Two long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- ◆ Two swaddling blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, 36" to 52" square
- ◆ Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- ◆ One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- ◆ Two pairs of socks
- ◆ One hand towel, dark color recommended
- ◆ Two or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- ◆ Two diaper pins or large safety pins

**Most needed items:** Long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers without feet; Jackets, Sweaters or Sweatshirts, Swaddling blankets, Hand towels, Soap

### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KIT - 2023

- ◆ Four 70-80 sheet notebooks (280-300 sheets total) of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8 x 10 ½ inches. No loose-leaf paper.
- ◆ One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ◆ One pencil sharpener
- ◆ One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- ◆ Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- ◆ Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- ◆ One box of 16-24 crayons
- ◆ One 2 ½ inch eraser
- ◆ \*One sturdy drawstring style, cloth backpack approximately 14 x 17 inches with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks); recommended fabrics include sturdy cotton, canvas, denim, and twill.  
\*drawstring bags will be provided

**Most needed items:** Notebooks, Pencil Sharpener, Crayons

**NOTE: The 2022-23 Quilt & Kit Guides are available on the table next to the**

**elevator.**

## DISCIPLESHIP & STEWARDSHIP - June-July 2023

PLCW Coordinators, Ginny Helgeson & Sharon Wold

### Reminders

#### Monthly Circle Meetings

Hannah Circle Meetings are held on the Second Monday of the month @ 3:00 pm. at the church.

All are welcome!

Contact - Kathy Siler  
715-235-5207.

Priscilla Circle Meetings are held on the Second Tuesday of the month at 1:30 pm. All are welcome! Please

Contact - Gladys Waller.  
715-235-5805.

### Looking Ahead

#### JUNE

1 Quilters 9:00 am  
4 Picnic  
6 PLCW Board – 9:30 am  
7-8 Chippewa Valley  
Conference at Luther Park  
12 Hannah Circle – 3:00 pm  
13 Priscilla Circle – 1:30 pm  
15 Quilters 9:00 am

#### JULY

4 No PLCW Board in July  
Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!  
10 Hannah Circle – 3:00 pm  
11 Priscilla Circle – 1:30 pm  
11 Tuesday's Table  
13 Ice Cream Social

#### UPCOMING EVENT

#### DATES

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

November 4 – Annual  
Mission Festival & Bazaar

*gather* Bible Study for Summer

Summer 2023 Bible study: Salvation Now by the Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen

#### Session One: Promised Salvation Now – Jesus Brings Wellness

Of all the gospel writers, John is uniquely concerned about the effectiveness of Jesus' immediate presence. One clue is his regular use of the word “now,” a tiny but powerful word which appears more here than the other gospels combined. Together, we'll note a few instances of the “Now,” and delve into John's observations about the way John focuses not so much on the “hereafter,” but more on sharing the difference that Jesus makes in people's lives, straight away.

#### Session Two: Tangible Salvation Now – Christians Bringing Wellness

Following Jesus means expressing our solidarity with Jesus and his mission, in all we do. Because Jesus is the bringer of salvation, in his name, so, too, are we. Where there are wounds and brokenness, we are called to bring Jesus and the salvation he embodied. Together we'll examine the biblical and theological reasons for not waiting for it to all come out in the wash later, but for us to become faithful ambassadors of Jesus' salvation now.

#### Session Three: Needed Salvation Now – A World Wanting Wellness

Anyone who's been to a sports game knows John 3:15 “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” Lesser known is John 3:17, which states: “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.” In this session, we'll explore John's commitment to service, how we as Christians see the needs of a hurting world, and how because Jesus is the bringer of salvation, we are compelled to follow Jesus into the need now.

#### SPRING FLING 2023 A GREAT SUCCESS!

**Over 40 attendees** came to hear the story of the Kuzniestsovas, a family of four, who fled Ukraine after the Russian invasion, and are now living here in Menomonie. Yuliia and her 18 year old son, Nikita, were present and told about their life in Ukraine and their harrowing experience of leaving their home with no more than the clothes on their backs and a backpack for each of them. The free will offering taken at the program **raised \$1000.00!** which will go to the family. A hand-made sunflower quilt (made & donated by Cheryl Johnson), and two fleece blankets (donated by our Fleece Fairies) were given to the family following the program. A delicious luncheon was served by the Board members.

#### Did You Know . .

The women of Peace Lutheran Church voted to send \$1000.00 to “Unbreakable” an organization for wounded children. It brings Ukrainian children who have lost limbs to the U.S to undergo treatment and get fitted for prosthetics. For more information on this charity as well as other Ukrainian donation opportunities. Please check out the Spring Fling Poster in the Narthex.