



August, 2018

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

What does it mean to be a Church Member? This is the title of the Every Member Book study set to begin the week of Sept. 9. While it may sound like a silly question to ask a person who has attended worship her entire life, the question is not as strange as it seems.

Building on the concept developed by the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 12: 12-27 that we are all members of the body of Christ, this book explores what it means to be connected to one another just as the parts of the body are interconnected. Looking at Church membership from a biblical perspective may challenge long-held assumptions about what it means to be a member of a congregation.

I encourage you to consider trying something new here at Peace. Read a book at the same time as other people and then gather together to discuss the book, one chapter at a time. There are several advantages to this: you will get to know several other members on a deeper level; you will have your ideas and preconceptions either affirmed or

challenged; and you will spend time looking at biblical passages. Time spent in God's written word is always time well spent.

A small group of women met throughout the program year to read several books. What they found, in addition to their learnings, was a deeper appreciation for each other as personal stories were shared in the context of the material being discussed. They grew in their faith through time spent in reading and discussing, and they grew in their bonds of affection through learning about each other.

Participating in the Every Member Book study might just draw you closer to God and to those in the congregation. Isn't that worth an investment of your time?



**SENIOR PASTOR
STEVE HARTTEN**

Peace Lutheran Church

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St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: 269-556-7000

Church Office Email:

PeaceLutheranStJoe@sbcglobal.net

Church Website:

PeaceLutheranStJoe.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday

9 a.m.—12 p.m.

Pastoral Contact Info:

Rev. Steve Hartten

Senior Pastor

Phone: (H) 281-0307

(C) 303-638-7598

Rev. Ronald Schmidt

Staff Pastor

Phone: (H) 983-2590

Audio/Video Requests:

For Audio CD call:

Josh Lochner 429-4415

For Video DVD call:

Jim Damaske 769-3792

Weekly Worship & Praise Opportunities:

Sunday

9:15 a.m. Worship

Thursday

7 p.m. Worship

Tuesday

11:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting

Pastor Steve to attend NALC Convocation

Pastor Steve will be in Denver, Colo., for the NALC annual Convocation Aug. 11 – 17. Pastor Ron Schmidt will be leading worship and available in case of a pastoral emergency.

COUNCIL MINUTES

Peace Lutheran Church Council Minutes July 18, 2018

Call to Order at 6 p.m.

Kevin Kunst

Members present: Kevin Kunst, Josh Lochner, Barb Berry, Ed Zajac, Karen Richardville, Mark Carpenter, Jerry Pliley, Virgil Bennett, Bev So

Also present: Pastor Hartten

Devotional and prayer

Pastor Hartten

Pastor read from John 10. In this reading Jesus is talking about being a shepherd. We are to stop, look, and listen. These are good directions for our council. Stop, look around, look within ourselves, look to the Lord for direction. Look to Him. Listen to Him.

Approval of agenda

Karen made a motion to approve the agenda. Jerry seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer's report

Becky Carpenter

	Current		Over(Under)
	Month	Budget	Budget
Income	\$ 14,432	\$ 16,042	\$ (1,610)
Interest	\$ 17	\$12	\$5
	\$ 14,449	\$ 16,054	\$ (1,605)
	YTD	YTD Budget	Over(Under)
		Budget	Budget
Income	\$ 98,517	\$ 96,250	\$ 2,267
Interest	\$ 97	\$ 72	\$ 25
	\$ 98,614	\$ 96,322	\$ 2,292

Old Business

NALC sign on marquee

Kevin/Jerry

After discussion it was suggested putting it on a metal plate on the side of the present sign, on the brick column.

Policy Manual Update

Virgil

Virgil and Pastor have met to discuss what needs to be done and the process in doing it. Virgil emphasized that the manual needs to be updated to current procedures used. Council members and other committee members will be included in the revision at

some point during the next several months.

Sylvia's Garden Plan

Pastor/Bev

Kevin will be putting in edging. Some of the plants were taken to Bev's house and will be returned to the garden this fall when the temperatures are cooler.

Banister

Kevin

Thank you to Jerry Pliley and Jim Steinbauer for installing the beautiful new banister to the altar.

Vacation Bible School

Thank you to Becky Carpenter and Linda Roberts for their exceptional job in planning, preparing, and implementing the Vacation Bible School. It was well done and a truly positive experience enjoyed by all.

Update on Basement Humidifiers

Jerry

Two new humidifiers were purchased from Lowes and are working well.

Standing Committee Reports

Worship/Music

Nan Hacker/Ken Berry

Acolytes will continue lighting the candles, but not assist in communion.

Reviewed the calendar for October, November and December.

Thursday night services are going well.

Discussion of the worship committee budget will take place at the next meeting.

Discussion of weekly communion.

Will suggest to council that we have a ministry fair this fall.

The second Sunday in October will be a lesson on the liturgy we use and why we worship this way.

Property

Jerry/Kevin

People have been coming on their own to pull weeds and tidy the property.

Pastor's report

Pastor Hartten

The small group leader training for the Every Member Book Study has been completed. Sign up sheets for the groups are in the narthex. Members are encouraged to participate. The book is called "I Am a Church Member".

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National Back to Church Sunday

This year's National Back to Church Sunday is Sept. 16. Congregations across the United States are making an intentional effort to invite friends and neighbors to attend worship. Peace Lutheran is participating in this invitation event again this year! The theme this year is "You Belong Here"- a great reminder that Christ's Church is for all people. Watch for more information during announcements before worship, on our website and our Facebook location. This is a wonderful way to kick off the traditional "program year."

Coming this Fall to Peace Lutheran Church— No Excuse Sunday

To make it possible for everyone to attend worship, this Fall we are going to conduct a special "No Excuse Sunday." Cots will be placed in the narthex for those who say "Sunday is my only day to sleep in." We will have steel helmets for those who say "The roof would cave in if I ever came back to church." Blankets will be furnished for those who think the building is too cold; fans for those who say it is too hot. We will have hearing aids for those who say the pastor speaks too softly, and cotton to put in one's ear for those who say he speaks too loudly.

Score cards will be available for those who like to list all the things wrong with worship. A few unattached relatives will be in attendance for those who like to visit on Sundays. One section of the chancel will be landscaped with real shrubbery and Astroturf® for those who find God in nature. Finally, the sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who have never seen the church without them. It's No Excuse Sunday! See you in worship!

**Peace Lutheran Church's
Silver Anniversary Celebration**

The Heritage Center, Downtown St. Joe

7 p.m. Saturday, October 27, 2018

Cocktail hour 6-7 p.m.

*Catered Dinner with choice of entrée
(vegetarian option available)*

Tickets are \$15 per person

On Sunday, October 28th there
will be a Festival Worship to
Celebrate 25 Years of God's Grace



Council

Continued from Page 2

The following is a brief summary of pastor's activities since the last meeting: Leader book training, home visits, hospital and nursing home visits, Lutheran clergy text study, office visits, Tuesday prayer meeting, Vacation Bible School, workplace visits, worship committee meeting, Thursday and Sunday worship services.

New Business

Ministry Fair/Back to Church Celebration Sept. 16

Pastor Hartten

Council will host the potluck, providing fried chicken. This will coordinate with a ministry fair, followed by bingo. Games for the children will also be planned.

A motion by Virgil was made to move forward with the plan as presented. Ed Zajac seconded the

motion. The motion passed.

Paul Todd Concert

Kevin/Shari Schmidt

Ticket sales are going great. Shari Schmidt and the committee has done a fantastic job getting this project done. An interview on WSJM with Virgil Bennett and Shari Schmidt airs on Tuesday night at 5:40 p.m. Following the concert, the committee will have a meeting to discuss the success and any shortcomings in planning for this concert. They will share their results with the council. The idea is to use this as a template for future events at Peace.

Faith Based Budget

Pastor Hartten

After discussion it was decided to table until next month.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerry at 7:32 p.m. The meeting closed with a prayer by Pastor Hartten.



Paul Todd - Paul Todd Jr. Benefit Concert raises \$3,000 for Berrien County Cancer Service

The July 19 Paul Todd – Paul Todd Jr. Benefit Concert raised \$3,000 for Berrien County Cancer Service.

Ticket sales reached 157 and, because the concert was underwritten 100 percent by generous donations from several individuals, Peace will be able to make a donation to BCCS for more than \$3,000. Watch for an announcement soon for the check presentation to BCCS!

Paul Todd and his son, Paul Todd Jr., entertained attendees for more than two hours with musical selections of sacred music, patriotic songs, show tunes, Broadway hits, and tributes to

several artists. They used their God-given talent, personal testimony and sharp sense of humor to demonstrate their commitment to Christ throughout the show.

The show would not have been possible without the generous donations and enthusiastic support of many people in our congregation. Peace's outreach into the community reached literally thousands of individuals. We had people in attendance from Weko Beach to Grand Rapids.

God is Good! His Blessings were abundant!



What Does This Mean to Me?

This regular newsletter feature—playing on Luther’s famous line in the Small Catechism—is designed to help us all better understand why things happen as they do at Peace. The worship committee actively seeks feedback or questions from congregation members confused or concerned about worship practices.

“Why does the congregation collect an offering during worship?” Part IV

The primary purpose of giving tithes and offerings is to honor God. When we offer up to God the material goods we have been entrusted with, we are telling God that He is more important than any of our material goods. Proverbs 3:9 states “Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce.” Giving reflects a grateful heart that wants to give back to God a portion of what is already His.

A common misconception is that we give to support the budget. Nothing could be further from the truth. Hypothetically, if a donor gave \$250,000 to Peace tomorrow that would more than cover our budgeted expenses for the year. Would that mean that we could all stop giving? We’d finish the year in the black? Isn’t that the goal? Why not use the benevolence of this individual to shore up our personal bank accounts or splurge on something extra



for ourselves?

I encourage you if you have never tithed, to commit to increasing your offering by 1 percent per year. If you are giving at 4%, aim for 5% in 2019. See if you won’t still have enough for your essentials. It is OK to wade into the water; you don’t have to jump right in and increase giving by 6%. Whatever you are currently giving, may it be with a joyful heart in thanks for what God has done for you. I’m not asking us to make this commitment in order to increase the congregational budget. I view this as a spiritual discipline- a way to put our professed trust into action. During this past Spring’s Lenten Series exploring Wilderness Times, we looked at how periods of despair, desolation, and loneliness help us see our reliance upon God more clearly. What better way to demonstrate this reliance than by trusting God with the financial portion of my life?

The goal of giving is to remind us of what is most important in our lives. The purpose of giving is to honor God. We are bombarded with cultural messages to store up treasures on earth. Materialism has been elevated to a level where living in debt has become acceptable. As Christ followers we are called to free ourselves from the bondage of debt so that our resources are available for His purposes. We give not to support a budget, but to identify what is important in our lives and to honor the creator and owner of this planet.

Thank You

To: Peace Lutheran Church Members

Thank you for the visits, phone calls and many cards that we received during Al’s illness

To: Pastor Hartten

Thank you for coming to help us at 3 a.m. in the morning. I don’t know what we would have done if you had not lifted Al up from the floor, carried him to his chair, calmed him down, stayed with us and prayed with us until 6:30 a.m. in the morning.

To: Our Savior Jesus Christ

Thank you for blessing all of us through our Pastor.

Sally Reschke

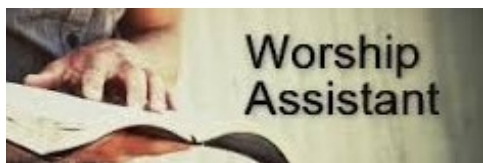
Stuff the Tonka Truck for NALC Disaster Response

Congregations will once again be “Stuffing the Truck” during the NALC Conference in August.

This year, the goal is to stuff the Tonka Truck with gift cards to stores such as Home Depot, Lowes and Target or Wal-Mart.



Please have donations in by Aug. 9 so Pastor Steve can take the donations with him to the conference on Aug. 11.



SUPPORTING OUR WORSHIP

Serving this Month:

Worship Leaders: Pastor Steve Hartten, Pastor Ron Schmidt

Organist: Maria Tallman

Choir Director: Debbie Kroening

Audio: Josh Lochner,
Mark Carpenter

Video: Jim Damaske

Ushers: Patrick Cahill and Jacob Tallman **(Th:)** Ron Wilson

Communion: Marty Tallman and Autumn McCune **(Th:)** Ron Wilson

Altar Guild: Margaret Schmieding **(Th:)** Louise Solak

August 5

Greeters/Ushers: Karen and Gary Richardville

Lector: Shawn Cahill

Altar Flowers: Open

Fellowship: Open

August 12

Greeters/Ushers: Chris and Virgil Bennett

Lector: Amy Cahill

Altar Flowers: Open

August 19

Greeters/Ushers: The Sorensen Family

Lector: Bev So

Altar Flowers: The Cahill Family

Fellowship: Open

August 26

Greeters/Ushers: Debbie and Herb Kroening

Lector: Herb Kroening

Altar Flowers: Sandy Warren

THIS MONTH'S READINGS



Sun., Aug. 5 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-15, Psalm 145:10-21

Ephesians 4:1-16, John 6:22-35

Sun., Aug. 12 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-8, Psalm 34:1-8

Ephesians 4:17-5:2, John 6:35-51

Sun., Aug. 19 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18, Psalm 34:12-22

Ephesians 5:6-21, John 6:51-69

Sun., Aug. 26 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 29:11-19, Psalm 14

Ephesians 5:22-33, Mark 7:1-13

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9-12 Office Hours	2 9-12 Office Hours 7p Worship	3 Office closed	4
5 9:15 Worship	6 9-12 Office Hours 6 p Fellowship Committee Mtg	7 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg	8 9-12 Office Hours	8 9-12 Office Hours 10 Quilters 7p Worship with communion	10 Office closed 9 Soup Kitchen	11 P. Steve NALC
12 P. Steve NALC 9:15 Worship with communion	13 P. Steve NALC 9-12 Office Hours 7p Worship Committee Mtg	14 P. Steve NALC 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg	15 P. Steve NALC 9-12 Office Hours	16 News due P. Steve NALC 9-12 Office Hours 7p Worship	17 P. Steve NALC Office closed	18
19 9:15 Worship	20 Amy vacation 9-12 Office Hours 6p Council Meeting	21 Amy vacation 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg	22 Amy vacation 9-12 Office Hours	23 Amy vacation 9-12 Office Hours 10 a.m. Quilters 7p Worship w// communion	24 Office closed	25
26 9:15 Worship with communion 4p Zajacs for Family Fellowship	27 9-12 Office Hours	28 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg	29 9-12 Office Hours	30 9-12 Office Hours 7p Worship	31 Office closed	

Birthdays

2 Ginger Kunst
3 Rich Carpenter
7 Betty McKee
9 Herb Kroening Jr.
10 Elaine Chartrand
20 Tiffany King
21 Rob Harbin
22 April Lochner
23 Ray Dalrymple
24 Leon Miller
25 Karen Coffey
25 Keith Hettig
28 Christian Nitz
29 Beverly So

Anniversaries

14 Rob & Holly Harbin
16 Shawn & Amy Cahill
19 Herb & Debbie
Kroening Jr.
20 Bill & Judy Konar
20 Jerry & Sandy Pliley

Military

Brandon M Enders
1061 USS Tennessee
Ave
Kings Bay, GA 31547

Lt/jg Chad Knipschild

301 Maple
Edgewater, MD 21037

Shut-In's

*To keep our shut-ins
safe, please call the
church office for mailing
addresses.*

Albert Beebe
Marian Hogue
Joe Naines
Betty Robbins
Barbara Southland
Mildred Wantz

CHURCH CALENDAR IS LIVE!
VIEW LATEST UPDATES AT
PeaceLutheranStJoe.org



If you have a loved one serving in the military, we'd like to know about it!
We recognize service members on a special bulletin board in the Narthex and include them on our prayer list. Please contact the church office or Ted Hollacher with a photo and details.

MUSIC IN THE PARK AT THE ZAJACS

Aug. 26 4 p.m.
Everyone welcome



Our August Family Fellowship will be at the Zajacs' house, 1574 Lemon Creek Road in Baroda. We'll have a meal and then listen to the Village of Baroda's Music in the Park from 6 to 7:30 p.m. from the Zajacs' back yard. The Zajacs will provide brats, hot dogs, hamburgers and water. If you plan to attend, please bring a lawn chair, a dish to share and beverages of your choice. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

Every Member Book Study Sign-up

It's not too late to sign up for the Every Member Book Study beginning the week of Sept. 9. There are six group leaders. Study options include afternoon and evenings sessions meeting at the church, in members' homes or at a coffee shop. Please reserve your space by signing up on the chart in the Narthex by Wednesday, Aug. 22. This will allow time for the books to be ordered (\$5 each) so that all can read Chapter 1 before the first session.



Peace
LUTHERAN CHURCH

3590 Lincoln Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085

