



PEACE  
NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2021

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

October is shaping up to be a busy month! It begins with our congregation taking a turn at hosting the Michigan Mission District annual meeting on Saturday, October 2nd. All members are invited to attend this gathering that rotates from congregation to congregation within the District. This year we are blessed to have Bishop Dan Selbo, the Presiding Bishop of the NALC available for a question and answer session during the meeting. Members are welcome to remain after the conclusion of the meeting at 3:00 p.m. to visit with the Bishop before he heads north to visit St. Thomas, Trufant for Sunday worship. On Sunday afternoon, October 3rd, Peace will once again host the Blessing of the Animals at 3p.m. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor, especially one with a pet. Weather permitting we gather on the front lawn in a large circle for a brief worship service and then each pet receives a personal blessing from the pastor. At the conclusion a group walk towards the I-94 Bridge allows the animals and owners to socialize.

The last weekend of the month will feature Trunk or Treat on Saturday later afternoon/evening and the yearly celebration of the Reformation actually falls on Sunday, October 31st. Many

hands are needed to make these events happen. While it is tempting to pull back as the days become shorter and the temperature cools, these events provide wonderful opportunities to prayerfully invite people to "come and see" how God is at work at Peace Lutheran. It is easier for a friend or neighbor to respond to the invitation when there is an assurance that the person does not have to attend alone. That a familiar face will accompany the visitor throughout the event. May we take advantage to learn more about our denomination from Bishop Selbo and then utilize the opportunities to share our knowledge with someone we invite to visit Peace.



SENIOR PASTOR  
STEVE HARTTEN

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
3590 Lincoln Avenue  
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:  
The Church Office 556-7000

**Weekly Worship & Praise Opportunities:**  
Sunday  
10:15 a.m. Worship  
also streamed on  
Facebook Live  
or  
YouTube Live  
Permission to podcast/stream  
the music in our services  
obtained from One License  
with license #A-722704.

**Trunk or Treat will be on Saturday, October 23rd from  
3-5pm!**



# COUNCIL MINUTES

**Monday, July 19, 2021**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Members present:** Barb Berry, Teresa Hogan, Herb Kroening, Bob Phillips, Bryan Sorensen, Rich Steinbauer, Ed Zajac

**Absent:** Virgil Bennett

**Also Present:** Pastor Hartten

**Call to Order:** Ed Zajac called the meeting to order at 6:34pm.

## **Open Devotion/Prayer Pastor Steve Hartten**

The opening devotion was based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. This is a well known passage that deals with the balanced nature of life and says there is a proper time for everything and a season for every activity. In the verses, there are examples of contrasting activities and how life is composed of various seasons. The proper activity at the right time brings about God's purpose and is a beautiful part of God's overall plan. Pastor prayed

## **Approval of September agenda**

Barb made a motion to approve the September agenda and Teresa seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Approval of August 2021 minutes** made via email.

## **Treasurer's report Jon Kooiman (acct. mgr)**

<b>Curr.</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Over/(Under)</b>
Offerings	\$16,055.58	\$15,666.66	\$388.92
Thrivent Choice		\$45.83	\$45.83
Soup Kitchen	\$25	\$33.33	\$(8.33)
Fellowship		\$11.66	\$11.66
Interest		-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,080.58</b>	<b>\$15,757.48</b>	<b>\$438.08</b>
<b>Year-to-Date</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Over/(Under)</b>
Offerings	\$115,617.65	\$125,333.36	\$(9,715.71)
Thrivent Choice	\$1,000	\$366.38	\$633.32
Soup Kitchen	\$1,160	\$266.68	\$893.32
Fellowship	\$153.19	\$93.36	\$59.83

Interest	\$16.50	-	\$16.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$117,947.34</b>	<b>\$126,060.08</b>	<b>(\$8,112.74)</b>

## **Old Business**

### **COVID-19 update and discussion**

Our area is still considered red as we continue to take precautions as necessary. At the last minute, we decided the charity event should be take out only with a limited number of people eating outside under the tent.

### **Audio/Video Room Clean Up (July) Ed**

The group has been working to clean the room downstairs. Brandi will start tackling the paperwork to be sorted.

### **Update on Flag Pole Virgil**

We are still waiting for the company to have time to drive out and give us a quote.

### **Charity Event Eddie/Bob**

The charity event was very disappointing in the number of dinners we dispersed. The committee felt advertising could have been better. Ginger made a suggestion for individuals to put poster board signs in their front yards to help advertising for future events. Also the planning of the event should have taken place in February, not in June. There was a good turnout of helpers to set up the tent on Friday and work the event on Saturday. Ed and Bob will send out a report of the charity event in the near future.

### **Update on Bookkeeping and CDM Pastor Hartten**

October 1 is the date to transfer over to the new system. Shawn Cahill and Jon Kooiman are helping with the setup. Brandi is learning the new system. It will be a learning curve for everyone involved.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **Worship Ken Berry**

No meeting to report. The Worship Committee

will meet September 27th.

### **Fellowship**

**Teresa**

Teresa talked about the potluck for the congregational meeting. Individuals may bring a salad or dessert. The main meal will be leftovers from the charity event. Fellowship committee is bringing breakfast items for the mission district meeting on October 2nd and the church will be providing lunch. All members are welcome to attend, but please call the church ahead of time so they can plan on enough lunches for all.

### **Building and Grounds**

**Virgil**

No Report

### **Grounds Committee**

**Ken Berry**

No report

### **Pastor's Report**

**Pastor Hartten**

The summary of the pastor's activities are as follows: Church Council, Confirmation Instruction, Home Visits, Lutheran Text Study, Mekane Yesus Advocacy Team, New Member Classes Office Visits, PCAT meeting at Peace, Pre-Marriage Counseling, Tuesday Prayer Group, Vacation, Sunday Worship.

### **New Business**

#### **October Greeters**

**Barb**

October 3 Teresa and Bryan  
October 10 Ed and Rich  
October 17 Herb and Bob  
October 24 Bryan and Virgil  
October 31 Barb and Ed

### **Congregational Meeting**

Shawn Cahill will have the financial numbers available for the congregational meeting. Pastor will be showing a video at the meeting about the Ethiopian Mekane Yesus Church. The seminary has a vision of constructing a multi-level building to rent out retail space on the first floors and the upper level set aside for training pastors and Bible translators. We will also discuss the possibility of a Monday night worship service

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Bryan made a motion to adjourn.

### **Closing prayer**

**Pastor**

Pastor prayed.

### **Church Council met in Executive Session**

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## **SCRIP NEWS**

**THINK CHRISTMAS – THINK SCRIP!**  
**Christmas will be here before you know it!**  
**Scrip cards make great stocking stuffers or**  
**gifts to mail to family & friends!**  
**INCREASED REBATES**

**DAIRY QUEEN REBATE IS 20% !!!!!**  
A delightful way to support Peace and enjoy a DQ treat at the same time!

**SHELL REBATE IS NOW INCREASED**  
**TO 5% *FOR USE AT ANY SHELL***  
***STATION* !!!!!**

This rate was previously available at only 2 local stations.

### **PLANNING AHEAD – STILL PURGING OUR CASH AND CARRY BOX**

6 cash & carry cards were discontinued last year, but we still have cards that are no longer popular. I'll list a few each month. We have \$710.00 tied up in the cards below; cash that may be used more effectively to stock more popular cards.

**ACE HARDWARE** - \$25 – 4% Rebate - 2 cards left (No sales in over 1 year)  
**ARBY'S** - \$10 – 8% Rebate – 4 cards left (No sales in over 1 year)  
**BOB EVANS** - \$10 – 10% Rebate – 2 cards left  
**BP** - \$100 - 1.5% Rebate - 6 cards left (No sales in over 2 years)

## **Crossroads Prison Ministry**

While I was working our booth at The Berrien County Youth Fair, I met a gentleman working another booth close to ours. His name is Don Hallock, and he lives in South Haven. We talked quite a bit during the week. He does many things for his Church, and has delivered sermons. We talked about our experiences and I found he is a very interesting person. He told me about The Crossroads Prison Ministries, which he is involved in. When I heard about this, I thought that some of our members might like to participate, so I want to tell you about this program. Crossroads is looking for people who will be "Christian Mentors" to prison inmates all over the US. If you decide to participate, once a month you will receive a Lesson Book in the mail. The prisoners who have signed up for this program will also receive the same book. You will have a chance to read over this book and familiarize yourself with the questions and lessons. Each prisoner will read the lesson and answer the questions, then they mail it back to the Crossroads office. The office will then send these books out to the Mentors all over the US at random. You will get the envelope addressed to you, with the booklet in a return envelope addressed to the prisoner. That is the only way you will know the prisoner's name. As a Mentor, you will read the prisoner's answers, and make notes in the spaces provided. For example, a question might be, "Do you know and Love Jesus?" and the prisoner might answer Yes. Then you could write in the space "What do you think caused you forget his teachings and place you where you are?" Remember, you will have already read the questions in the lesson and know what it's all about before you receive this. There is also a sheet of paper with the Crossroads header. This is so you can write a letter back to the prisoner. This is the only paper you can use, but you can make a copy if you need more pages. You will sign the letter CPM, for Crossroads Prison Ministries. You NEVER sign your name. You return it to the Crossroads office, who will send it to the prisoner. The prisoner will not ever know

your name or where you live.

This is a nice ministry because with Covid, most Clergymen who visited inmates were forced to stay out of the prisons, so their ministries had to stop, but this is only through the mail, so it can continue.

This would take about 2 hours of your time each month. I thought it was a very nice thing to do, and wanted to share this with you all. Don Hallock said he would be happy to come to our church, or to do a Zoom Meeting with a group of people interested in this program if we would like him to explain it further. I can contact him to do this if we have interest in it. The Crossroads Website is [cpministries.org](http://cpministries.org) if you would like to visit it for more information.

-Bob Phillips

## **DECK THE HALLS WITH ..... HATS!**

The hallway at Peace is once again filled with beautiful, colorful knitted, crocheted and handmade fleece hats. With the help and guidance of God, the ladies on the Hats Mission Team have worked throughout the year to create those warm hats for kids in need. We're pretty good on hats, but as in years past, we are in need of gloves for each child as well. Please consider donating gloves for these children. In years past we have delivered our 'gifts of love' just before Christmas, to the nearly 400 children at Lybrooke Elementary School in Eau Claire where we started our journey in 2011. Many years we have had bitterly cold weather in November, so we plan to deliver them the first week in November this year. Since that first delivery in December 2011, Peace Lutheran Church has shared the Love of God with nearly 4000 Berrien County children who needed warm hats and gloves.

When God gives a vision he also gives the ability to complete it. We need only to have faith and follow his leading!



**THIS MONTH'S  
READINGS**



**Sunday, Oct 3 - Nineteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost**

Genesis 2:18-25, Psalm 128  
Hebrews 2:1-18, Mark 10:2-16

**Sunday, Oct 10 – Twentieth Sunday after  
Pentecost**

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15, Psalm 90:12-17  
Hebrews 3:12-19, Mark 10:17-22

**Sunday, Oct 17 – Twenty-First Sunday  
after Pentecost**

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20 Psalm 119:9-16  
Hebrews 4:1-16, Mark 10: 23-31

**Sunday, Oct 24– Twenty-Second Sunday  
after Pentecost**

Jeremiah 31:7-19, Psalm 126  
Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 10:46-52

**Sunday, Oct 31 - Reformation Sunday**

Revelation 14:6-7 Psalm 46  
Romans 3:19-28, John 8:31-36

# Altar Guild



## **We are looking for Altar Guild helpers; are you interested?**

Being able to serve is very easy: you are committed to serve just one Sunday every other month. Duties include setting up before church service., filling the trays with wine and grape juice, adding wafers to the paten. You would also make glasses of water for the Pastors. After service there is clean up that takes about 15 minutes. Please contact Ginger if you're interested; she would be more than happy to help you with the first time.



10/3	Teresa Hogan & Bryan Sorensen
10/10	Ed Zajac & Rich Steinbauer
10/17	Herb Kroening & Bob Phillips
10/24	Bryan Sorensen & Virgil Bennett
10/31	Barb Berry & Ed Zajac

## **The Dead Shall Rise**

### **By Joni Eareckson Tada**

*"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first."*

*- 1 Thessalonians 4:16*

What an odd Sunday afternoon I had. My mother-in-law recently purchased a family grave plot at a cemetery called Forest Lawn. However, she would not sign the papers until Ken and I looked at the lot and gave our approval. "Do I have to?" I whined at Ken. I could think of better things to do with our Sunday afternoon.

Being the submissive wife, I trekked to Forest Lawn with Ken, looked at my gravesite located in the section called "Murmuring Pines," and listened to the realtor (that's what she was actually called) remind me that what with my head "here" and my feet "there," I would have a grand view of the valley and distant mountains. That's important, I told her. I also told her I did not have plans to stay there very long. Smile.

While the realtor and my mother-in-law conferred over the papers, I looked around at the hundreds of tombstones. It suddenly struck me that I was sitting on the exact spot where my body will rise, should I die before Christ comes. Sitting on that grassy hillside did more to ignite the reality of the Resurrection than hearing sermons or reading essays on the subject.

The Resurrection is not something to be spiritualized away. One day actual spirits will return to actual graves and reunite them to rise. Dead men, one day, shall live, hallelujah!

*Lord, You are the Resurrection and the Life and I praise You that eternal life is Your glorious gift to those who believe. One day the dead shall rise - me included! Amen!*

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## **1517.org**

The 1517.org website is a confessional Lutheran website featuring podcasts, articles, even on-line adult classes specifically designed for lay people. If you are hungry to learn more about the Gospel, you desire more course offerings than are available at Peace, this is a site to visit! The "1517" refers to the year that Martin Luther posted the 95 Thesis, the year scholars attribute to the start of the Reformation. There are old-time familiar names contributing to the site as well as young and upcoming theologians. Take a few minutes to check out the current offerings.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Office Closed	2 10am MI Mission District Meeting
3 10:15 Worship w/communion 3p Pet Blessing	4 9-12 Office Hrs 7p Fellowship Mtg	5 9-12 Office Hrs 7p Prayer Mtg via Zoom	6 9-12 Office Hrs	7 9-12 Office Hrs 7p - Choir	8 Office closed	9
10 10:15 Worship w/communion 630 Forgiveness Class	11 9-12 Office Hrs 7p Worship Committee 130: Forgiveness	12 9-12 Office Hrs 7p Prayer Mtg via Zoom	13 9-12 Office Hrs	14 9-12 Office Hrs 7p - Choir	15 Office closed	16
17 10:15 Worship w/communion 630: Forgiveness Class	18 9-12 Office Hrs 6:30p Council Mtg 130 Forgiveness Class	19 9-12 Office Hrs 7p Prayer Mtg via Zoom	20 9-12 Office Hrs	21 9-12 Office Hrs 7p - Choir	22 Office closed	23 Trunk or Treat 3-5pm
24/31 10:15 Worship w/communion 630: Forgiveness	25 9-12 Office Hrs 130 Forgiveness Class	26 9-12 Office Hrs 7p Prayer Mtg via Zoom Pr.	27 9-12 Office Hrs	28 9-12 Office Hrs 7p - Choir	29 Office Closed	30

## OCTOBER



### Birthdays

2 Sandra Warren  
4 Norma Carpenter  
4 Nathaniel Tallman  
5 Braelynn Adkins  
7 Orlo Gleason Jr.  
11 Alec Carpenter  
18 Emily Sorensen  
21 Todd Nitz  
23 Martin Tallman  
31 James Steinbauer

### Anniversaries

1 Thomas & Hilde Boozer  
10 Rev. Ronald & Sharon Schmidt  
12 Steve & Loretta Hartten

### Military

**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.

Ruth Retzke

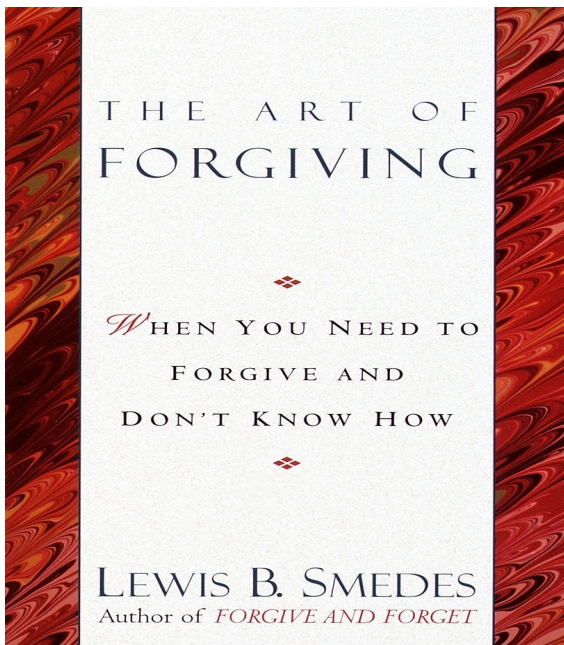
**Blessing of the Animals  
Sunday, October 3rd at 3pm  
In Honor of St. Francis Day**

This special event will include a short worship service on the church lawn, individual blessing of each animal and social time for people and pets on the church property.

The community is invited, so spread the word!

Let **everything**  
that **breathes**  
**praise** the  
**LORD!**

Psalm 150:6, NRSV



Pastor Steve will be offering a 7 week course on Forgiveness beginning the week of October 10th and concluding the week of November 28th. Classes will be offered Sunday night from 6:30-8pm and Monday afternoon from 1:30-3pm. Sessions are the same Sunday night or Monday afternoon; it is a matter of convenience which one to attend. Parable Book Store will be stocking the book.

The Art of Forgiving - Lewis B. Smedes

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