



PEACE
NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN CHURCH

August, 2020



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The past weeks we have been learning how to gather together for worship following social distance guidelines and “best practices” for minimizing the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. We’ve had some “hiccups” along the way, but for the most part we are living into this new method of worshiping with grace and understanding.

While adjusting to change is difficult, these past weeks have demonstrated that we have the ability to make necessary changes. With that in mind, I am asking us to consider making another change. Instead of thinking about Peace as an established congregation, I’d like us to start thinking about Peace as a new mission start. I know this might sound strange since we have a history together as members and pastor, but I think that there is merit in changing our mindset.

Non-denominational congregations have figured out an effective model for new mission starts. An existing congregation sends one of its pastors along with about fifty members to start a mission together. Sometimes the new mission is located one town away; sometimes it is multiple states away.

The new start consists of people who have known each other and have a history with their pastor. Their purpose is not to remain a closed community focused inward upon themselves. They are to interact with the surrounding

community and share God’s love. The new mission start is not large enough to survive on its own; it is dependent upon growth to sustain itself. Sustaining isn’t the goal; fulfilling Christ’s command to “Go and make disciples of all nations” is the goal. Numerical growth is a byproduct of the members’ faithful response to God’s command.

Only God can provide the growth. Our part is to spread the word, plant the seeds so that others may come to know and love Jesus, as he first loved us. Our worship attendance pre-virus is about the size of a new mission start. The congregation has history with both staff pastors. Can we imagine as we continue to adjust to worshiping during a pandemic that we are a new mission start, called to reach others in the greater St. Joseph area with the Good News of Jesus Christ? We have been given a new opportunity due to the changes wrought by the current pandemic. Our on-line worship was reaching more screens than there were people attending



**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.

Continued on Page 6



COUNCIL MINUTES

**Peace Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
Monday, July 20, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

Members present: Virgil Bennett, Barb Berry, Bob Phillips, Bev So, Bryan Sorensen, Rich Steinbauer, Ed Zajac

Absent: Herb Kroening, Pastor Hartten

Call to Order

Bev So called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Opening Devotion/Prayer

Bev So

The devotion was taken from 1 Corinthians 12:7-11. "Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines."

The second Bible verse was from Romans 12:3-8. "For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members and these members do not have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." We all have talents to serve. We should also let others know how valuable they are to this parish and to the Lord. The Lord leads us and we need to look to him for guidance.

Approval of July agenda

Virgil made a motion to approve the July agenda

and Bryan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of June 2020 minutes made via email.

Treasurer's report

June	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)
Offerings	\$19,971	\$15,450	\$4,521
Thrivent Choice	-	\$67	(\$67)
Soup Kitchen	-	\$33	(\$33)
Fellowship	-	\$25	(\$25)
Misc.	-	\$35	(\$35)
Interest	\$16	\$16	0
Total	\$13,825	\$15,626	(\$1,801)

Year-to-Date

Year-to-Date	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)
Offerings	\$87,816	\$92,700	(\$4,884)
Thrivent Choice	\$462	\$402	\$60
Soup Kitchen	\$450	\$198	\$252
Fellowship	\$632	\$150	\$482
Misc.	-	\$210	(\$210)
Interest	\$97	\$96	\$1
Total	\$89,457	\$93,756	(\$4,299)

Old Business

Council in need of another member to replace Mark Carpenter

Bev So

If any member of the congregation would like to suggest themselves or someone else to serve on the council, please contact one of the council members.

North Property Report

Bob Phillips/Ed Zajac

Youth got together with the committee for the North Property to suggest ideas for the property. One of the suggestions is building a pavilion. This can be built in several phases starting with just the cement and roof. Bob will get estimates on building an Amish building.

This will be discussed at the Congregational Meeting in September.

Zajac benefit dinner, Saturday, Aug. 29

Council members have all agreed to help on the day of the benefit. Bryan is working on the banner for the event.

Continued on Page 3

Help needed for the Eddie Zajac benefit Aug. 29

Peace Lutheran's Barbecue to benefit Ed Zajac will be Saturday, Aug. 29, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. The event was originally scheduled for earlier in the year, but was delayed because of the coronavirus pandemic. The benefit committee is hopeful this is the best time to begin raising funds for Eddie and his family.



Eddie served honorably in the United States Navy during the heart of the Cold War from 1976 to 1980 as an Operations Specialist aboard the guided missile cruiser U.S.S. Towers. Several months ago, he underwent a leg amputation made necessary by diabetes complications. Eddie faces considerable surgical and therapy expenses in a long recovery as he learns to use a prosthesis. All proceeds will go to help offset these expenses.

Since large indoor gatherings are prohibited in the state, the barbecue will be held entirely outdoors as a drive-up and carryout affair. Volunteers will direct customer auto traffic into the Lincoln Avenue entrance

where their orders will be taken, cooked fresh on our large grille and side dishes added to complete the order. Meals may either be taken home, or a limited number of diners may park and eat under Peace's outdoor tent. Exiting auto traffic will use the Maiden Lane exit drive.

The cost will be \$8.50 per adult or \$4.50 for children (advance purchase) or \$10/\$5 for tickets bought "at the door". The menu includes a choice of

bratwurst or hotdog, bun, baked beans, chips, coleslaw and a dessert. Bottled water will also be included. To purchase tickets, visit the church website at www.peacelutheranstjoe.org. Volunteers will also sell tickets in person following worship on Aug. 9, Aug. 16 and Aug. 23, and from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday the week of the benefit.

Benefit volunteers are always needed. Bev So will have a sign-up sheet outside the narthex on Sunday, or you can contact her. Watch future issues of This Week at Peace for more information.

Council Minutes

Continued from Page 2

Property clean-up - follow-up Bev/Rich Steinbauer

Good job was done by all. Mulch was spread in the center island and around the front. Ten yards of mulch was purchased.

Standing Committee Reports

Building/Property

Virgil Bennett

Since Kevin has stepped down from the Building/Property Committee, we need someone to take his place. If anyone is interested, please contact a member from council to answer any questions.

Pastor's Report via email

Pastor Hartten

The summary of pastor's activities are as follows: Church Council, home visits, Mutual Ministry Committee, office visits, telephone calls, Tuesday Evening Prayer Meeting, Virtual Lutheran Clergy Text Study, Sunday Worship.

Pastor will be on vacation for three weeks and will be back in the office on Aug. 12.

New Business

Communion schedule

Bev So

Worship Committee is working on a safe process for distribution of communion and also a start date. This will be sent out for approval to the council when

completed.

Greeters for August

Bev So

August 2 - Bryan and Bob

August 9 - Rich and Ed

August 16 - Bev and Barb

August 23 - Bev and Bryan

August 30 - Bob and Bev

During Pastor's vacation, council members will give the announcements before the worship service. Bev will give announcements on July 26, Virgil on Aug. 2, and Ed on Aug. 9.

The greeters and the person manning the Welcome Center should be ready to talk to visitors and members about the protocols in place during this difficult time.

One last note to let everyone know how worship services have been performing: attendance and live stream are working very well. Last week there were 48 in attendance and 16 livestream households checked in. We have also had some visitors worshipping with us.

Motion to adjourn

Virgil made a motion to adjourn.

Closing prayer

Council joined together in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Church Council plans “Swell Cells” small groups for members

At the council retreat in February, the council focused on several items to work on during the following 12 months. The council agreed that our members need to have opportunities to combine their talents and interests in small groups. It was decided to call the small groups cells.

A cell is usually a small group of members that meet on a regular basis. The idea is that the core group stays together the entire year. Additional members may join, especially the book/Bible studies, but there is always a core group. The members of each cell have a specific goal in mind. It is suggested that each group also have service goals when not meeting. For example: a book study may only last for 6 weeks meeting in the months of October and November. Another study with the same group may not start again until February. During the months of December and January that cell would do a project of some sort. In other words, the cell would function the entire year. It is suggested that each cell also do one project in the summer.

The following are examples of cells that could be formed at church. It is the hope of the council that everyone at Peace become a member of at least one cell. A member may have more than one interest in the cells. That member could choose to belong and participate in more than one cell. Some of you may have other ideas for these cell groups or ways we could implement and develop them. Please contact Virgil Bennett, Barb Berry, or Bev So with any suggestions.

Bible/book studies for women

Soup Kitchen 2020 Summer Update

During the months of April and June, members prepared 130 sack lunches for The Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen. The team made ham sandwiches in April, and ham salad sandwiches in June. The lunches also included chips, fruit cups, and desserts provided by The Flour Shop. Bottles of water were requested and delivered for the June meal.

With the continuing concerns of the pandemic, the Soup Kitchen crew will again prepare sack lunches for the Aug. 14 meal. The plan is to make ham and cheese sandwiches, and include similar items to the previous months.

The gift cards and cash donations given during the February drive are greatly appreciated. We are still purchasing items from Feed America when items we can use are available. The fruit cups were purchased from Feed America at \$.18 per pound. Our total purchase for the fruit cups each month was less than \$8. Those are not available at this time, so we will need to purchase a similar product from GFS or the grocery store. Again, your donations have been very much appreciated.

If you have any questions about the Soup Kitchen, contact Barb Barry or Bev So.

1. Sharon Schmidt - leader
 - a. Luncheon study
 - b. Dinner study
2. Tuesday night study for women
Bev So and Loretta Hartten - leaders

Wednesday Night Bible study for men/women

Pastor Schmidt leader

Thursday morning men’s study

“Choir” Cell

“Helping Hand” Cell

Fix-it minded members wishing to help other members, especially our senior-senior members with needs. This could include gardening, inside/outside repairs, etc.

“Agape Agri(culture)” Cell

Loving care of our Peace grounds in association with the grounds committee.

“Dinner of 8” Cells

Monthly evening dinners. Each group of eight decides whether they want the dinners in member homes or to eat out. One or the other, but not both.

“Senior lunch” Cell

“Senior visiting” Cell

Visit members in nursing homes or those that mostly are home.

Church Council seeks new members

The Church Council will be looking for new members this fall. There are two positions that need to be replaced because of term limits. Our council is asking for members to step forward to serve in these and other committee positions. Each member of our congregation can play a valuable part in the life of our church. Please talk to any council member if you are interested. Please do not be shy. Pray about it.

Just so you know, Jesus attends all of our meetings.



Eddie Zajac Benefit Dinner

Brats and Hot Dogs - Drive-thru/Carryout

Peace Lutheran Church NALC

3590 Lincoln Ave., St. Joseph

Saturday, Aug. 29, 4:30-7 p.m.

\$8.50 for adults, \$4.50 for children in advance

\$10 for adults, \$5 for children day of as you drive thru the parking lot

Eddie is a Navy Veteran who recently lost his leg due to diabetes complications. Help him return to living his best life by Lake Michigan. All proceeds will go toward his medical and rehabilitation expenses.

Visit www.peacelutheranstjoe.org for tickets



Peace Lutheran Church NALC



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

Live streaming: Bryan Sorensen

August 2

Lector: Beverly So

Welcome Center: Dominic So

August 9

Lector: Nan Hacker

Welcome Center: Barb Berry

August 16

Lector: Amy Cahill

Welcome Center: Ginger Kunst

August 23

Lector: Larry Hacker

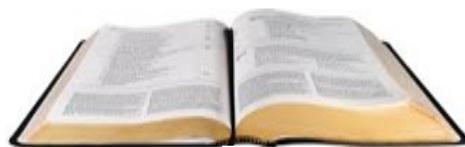
Welcome Center: Ken Berry

August 30

Lector: Teresa Hogan

Welcome Center: Margaret Schmeiding

THIS MONTH'S READINGS



Sun., Aug. 2 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 55:1-5, Psalm 136:1-9

Romans 9:1-13, Matthew 14:13-21

Sun., Aug. 9 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:4-18, Psalm 18:1-16

Romans 10:5-17, Matthew 14:22-33

Sun., Aug. 16 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32, Matthew 15:21-28

Sun., Aug. 23 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138

Romans 11:33-12:8, Matthew 16:13-20

Sun., Aug. 30 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 15:15-21, Psalm 26

Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28

Help Needed on Grounds Committee

Council is looking for someone to take Kevin Kunst's place on the Grounds Committee. Kevin has decided to step down for now.

Pastor's Message

Continued from Page 1

worship in February. Three months without publicly gathering for worship provides the option of

rethinking our purpose and mission. May we seize the opportunity we have been given to fulfill the Great Commission by reaching out in new ways to the surrounding community.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 P. Steve vacation
2 P. Steve vacation 10:15 Worship	3 P. Steve vacation 9-12 Office Hours	4 P. Steve vacation 9-12 Office Hours Election Day 7p Prayer Mtg	5 P. Steve vacation 9-12 Office Hours	6 P. Steve vacation 9-12 Office Hours	7 P. Steve vacation Office closed NALC Convocation	8 P. Steve vacation NALC Convocation
9 P. Steve vacation 10:15 Worship	10 P. Steve vacation 9-12 Office Hours 7 p Worship Committee Mtg	11 P. Steve vacation 9-12 Office Hours 7p Prayer Mtg via Zoom	12 9-12 Office Hours	13 News Due 9-12 Office Hours	14 Office closed Soup Kitchen	15
16 10:15 Worship	17 9-12 Office Hours 6:30p Council Mtg	18 9-12 Office Hours 7p Prayer Mtg via Zoom	19 9-12 Office Hours	20 9-12 Office Hours	21 Office closed	22
23 10:15 Worship	24 9-12 Office Hours	25 9-12 Office Hours 7p Prayer Mtg via Zoom	26 9-12 Office Hours	27 9-12 Office Hours	28 Office closed	29 Ed Zajac Benefit 4:30-7p
30 10:15 Worship	31 9-12 Office Hours					

Birthdays

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

29 Beverly So

Anniversaries

16 Shawn & Amy
Cahill
19 Herb & Debbie
Kroening Jr.
19 Bryan & Heidi
Sorensen
20 Bill & Judy Konar

Military

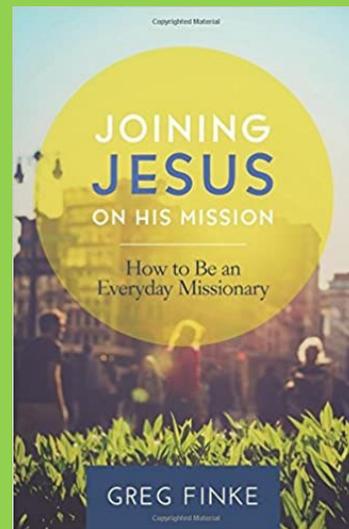
**Lt/jg Chad
Knipschild**
301 Maple
Edgewater, MD
21037

Shut-In's

*To keep our shut-ins
safe, please call the
church office for
mailing addresses.*
Marian Hogue
Ruth Retzke
Betty Robbins
Elaine Sirk
Mildred Wantz

Sign up soon for the “Every Member Book Study”

Beginning the week of Sept. 13, Peace will once again host an “Every Member Book Study.” This year’s book is *Joining Jesus on His Mission – How to Be an Everyday Missionary* by Greg Finke. Greg is a lay member of a Lutheran Church in Texas and together with his wife offers coaching, consulting and training experiences for congregations and their leaders in discipling, living missionally, and multiplying mission communities. The book is easy to read and offers down-to-earth practical insights into how to live out one’s faith in everyday situations. The study will last 7 weeks, concluding by Nov. 1.



Benefit Dinner for Ed Zajac



Tickets are now on sale for the
Ed Zajac Benefit Dinner
4:30 to 7 p.m. Aug. 29
Visit www.peacelutheranstjoe.org to order!

The proceeds will assist with Ed’s medical bills.
To volunteer to help, contact Bev So!

 **PEACE**
NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN CHURCH
3590 Lincoln Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085

