

THE GOOD NEWS OF PEACE

Our Vision Statement: *Sharing Peace Faithfully

Our Mission: *To bring people into contact with the gospel, and help them grow in their relationship in God in Christ

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A Waste of Time

You don't mean to do it. You start watching some show on tv and the only thing going for the show is a favorite actor or some minor story line that hooks you. At the end, you realize it was a waste of time. Sometimes we have set aside the time, but it just wasn't worth it. Other times we get sucked in far longer than we intended by YouTube or binge watching some series or the like. Beyond the tv or computer, we've stood in line for something that was a disappointment; we've invested ourselves in a relationship that had all kinds of warning signs; we've tried diets that promised the moon and delivered dirt.

Imagine coming to the end of our lives and concluding our lives were a waste of time. How absolutely tragic that would be! Even if someone wouldn't say his or her whole life was a waste, to conclude that a big portion of it was, or the time after retirement was – what an empty feeling. Some people are trying very hard to guarantee that their lives are valuable by achieving certain positions or accolades. Some are trying to assure their value by accumulating wealth or surrounding themselves with the equivalent of a monument. Some are convinced if they can have enough friends (acquaintances), then surely their lives have counted.

God has a different perspective. It starts with a declaration: we are of such value that God, who needs nothing, has chosen to love us and be in relationship with us and guide us in paths that will bring us true meaning. Much of God's plan and advice runs counter to what some consider to be common sense. Common sense would tell you to strive and be on top and always win. God says if you want to be at peace, then be a servant. It is not designed to get you ahead, and sometimes it will even cost you dearly. But it will not be a waste of time. You will be participating with the way of God! At the beginning, middle and end of our lives, we will contribute to *the* value that brings joy, peace, forgiveness, hope, and more.

Pastor Dave Hedlin

Prayers Requested

Julie, Cie, Michele Lenz, Marylyn Tyler, Eileen & family, Ann Ciannella, George Buddy Cantor, Ed Ziolkowski, Amber, Mike Traken, Leslie Walton, Rayna, Bill, Alexis Flynn, Dan Obuchina, Craig, Bob Brynteson & family, Karen Mezera, Frank Rossi Sr., April, Nancy, Delaney Hunt, Paul, Bill Reidy, April Veerman & family, the family of Diane Breausche, the family of Bill Gade Jr., Alice, Nancy, Nate Petreli, Dave Boer, Anne, Carl, Don, Diane, Ryan, Ted, Sue Cash, Lorraine & family, Donna L., Kim Liebendorfer, Jim Grosche, John Westhus, the family of Madeline Brown

Sympathy

The congregation of Peace wishes to extend its sympathy to:

the family of Lillian Severson, mother of Patti Olofsson-Elkow, Karen Severson & Brian & Pete Severson;

the family of Lillian Mack, mother of Louise Mager.

Congratulations

Lisa Lippe and Mike Rumbaugh on their marriage, June 24;

Joy Treasure and John Sotiros on their marriage, July 6;

Melody & Brandon Ploof, parents, and Kathy & Jeff Walker, grandparents, on the birth of Aidan Walker Ploof.

Welcome to the Lord's Family

Maksim Millard Holeman was baptized on July 7.

Thank You Very Much!

The list that follows is for those who have done something for the first time. (If we miss someone, please let us know!) We are thankful for all the people who give of themselves to make ministry happen, even though their names don't keep getting mentioned here.

To:

Jeff Anderson, Ken Gatewood, Jim Hunziker – lawn mowing

Carol Wadleigh, Kathy Sons, Jeri Sandt – collating bulletins

From:

Soldiers in Bagram, Afghanistan – for the 7 boxes of treats & supplies

Workforce Services – for the donation of business clothing

Operation Care Package – for the donation

Chicago CHARGE speech & debate group – for use of the church for meetings

Claudia Green – I just want to thank the congregation of Peace Church for the many cards, flowers, meals and prayers that you sent my way during my recovery. The prayers especially mean everything to me and I know that they are the reason that I am recovering so quickly.

Diane Cochran, Christina Montgomery, Deacon Shari, Darrell Holmquist, Suzanne Holmquist, Ed Hovi, David Rubner, Darlene Terrell, Cindy Chubb, Renee Gatewood, Penny Havlicek, Abbey Lindeman, Sarah Walton, Erik Torkelson, Katelyn Bell, Jack Goesel, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Trailblazers – Art Fair participants and John and Amy Ambrose – Art Fair coordinators & Helen, assistant

Do You Give Electronically or Want To?

For those of you who give electronically and would like to put something in the offering plate, we have cards located on the counter you may use. If you would like to sign up for automatic withdrawals, please contact the office. Also, if you want to give on-line at any time, you can go to our website (www.peacenewelenox.org), click on the donate tab and then use the donate through Paypal tab. You can use most major credit cards.

Beauty Items Requested

The Good Shepherd group is seeking donations of NEW beauty items (make-up, make-up brushes, eye shadow, lotion, hair bands, cologne, lipstick, hair care products, combs, brushes), bathing items (sponges, bubble bath, shower gel), and travel size toiletries for homeless and abused persons. Items can be left in the basket on the table in the narthex.

Addresses for Service Personnel

Mail for four of our members serving overseas in the military can be sent to:

MA 3Connor Wayne Baker
PSC 455 Box 173
FPO AP 96540-1070

Sgt Pafford, Devin
MC Alpha
PO Box 92421
Yuma AZ 85369

Daniel Treasure
USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115)
Unit 100415 Box 1505
FPO AP 96694

Jacob Treasure
3749 Radcliffe Rd.
Abilene, TX 79602

Remember Our P.O. Box

Use P.O. Box 205 for mail addressed to Peace

GriefShare Ministry Resumes – Sept. 10

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you heal after losing a loved one. The group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days. They meet on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and will begin weekly meetings again on Sept. 10.

If you would like more information, contact Janet, Margie, or Pat at griefshare.plc.60451@gmail.com.

Alzheimer's Association Support Group

Do you care for someone diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia? Are you looking for information and support? You are not alone.

There is an Alzheimer's Association Support Group meeting at Peace the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome! For more information, contact Karin Knutson at karinknutson@hotmail.com.

Addiction and Family Support Group

An Addiction & Family Support Group meets here at Peace each Tuesday night from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Addiction is a family disease, because everyone in the family suffers if someone is addicted to or abusing drugs. The good news is people can and do recover and lead happy and productive lives. Please join us! This support group meeting is for those struggling, those who love someone struggling, or those who just want to learn about the epidemic of heroin and prescription pain medications in our community. For more information, contact Tom Moore at 815-354-3195.

Quick Reminders

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS **Aug. 26**. If you get your newsletter late, please pick one up here, or if you want it mailed first class or via e-mail, let us know.

* **The Will-Grundy Medical Clinic** is now accepting patients for free healthcare for the uninsured and those who qualify. Appointments are available onsite or over the phone, Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. To schedule a free screening appointment, please call (815) 726-3377, ext. 228. For patient eligibility information: <http://willgrundymedicalclinic.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Eligibility.pdf>.

* **Crutches and walkers available** – The church has received crutches and walkers from members. Please feel free to contact the church office if you need to borrow one of these items.

* **Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Cards** – Suicide is not about wanting to die, but about a powerful need for pain to end. You can help someone today by reaching out, listening, and letting them know you care. Be sure that the person can reach you and several responsible others if the desire to commit suicide becomes strong or if he/she just feels the need to talk to someone. Give the individual the names and telephone numbers of people who could be contacted and if possible, have the person meet these people. Give them the suicide prevention hotline. **Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Cards** are always located in the entrance area. Let's remember to keep in mind to spread the word that no one is alone in a time of need. Suicide destroys everyone who cares! Help someone today who is reaching out for help by picking up the cards and being attentive to what people are saying about their lives. Crisis Line – (815) 469-6166, text line – 741741, and online – www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

* **Bereavement Support Groups**

- *GriefShare* – Resumes Monday, Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m. Meets each Monday through Jan. 7, 2019. (Will not be meeting Dec. 24 or Dec. 31)

- *Evening Adult Support Group* – Meets the third Thursday of the month, (with the exception of the month of March), December - June 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. at Joliet Area Community Hospice, *donation appreciated*.

- *Afternoon Adult Support Group* – Meets the second Friday of the month, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at Joliet Area Community Hospice, *donation appreciated*.

For other services offered, including individual counseling, parent support and general grief support, please visit the Joliet Area Community Hospice website: www.joliethospice.org or call (815) 740-4104.

* **Thrivent members** – For those of you who have Thrivent dollars to donate, don't forget Peace is one of those choices.

* **LSSI's Joshua Arms Website** - Joshua Arms has a website that makes it easy for visitors to see all that the affordable senior housing development in Joliet has to offer. Visit the site at www.LSSI.org/JoshuaArms. Located at 1315 Rowell in a tree-lined residential area, Joshua Arms offers 186 independent, apartment-style units and 56 supportive living units, where residents can receive three meals a day, housekeeping and other daily living services. The new website is an easy to use tool for potential residents and family members to learn about Joshua Arms, including eligibility and floor plans.

* **Cleaning for a Reason** – Provides free housecleaning once a month for 4 months for women currently undergoing chemotherapy. For more information or to sign up please go to: www.cleaningforareason.org/cancer_patients_acct.html You will need a doctor's note confirming treatment to sign up and Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in your zip code area arrange for service. This organization serves the entire US and currently has 547 partners to help these women.

* **diakonia™** – Is diakonia™ the next step in your growth as a Christian? This two-year course of study will change your life! If you are interested, you can apply now to become a participant in next series of courses that will meet on Tuesdays, beginning September 4, 2018, at St. John Lutheran Church, 2650 Plainfield Rd., Joliet, IL. For more Information talk with Pastor Dave or Deacon Shari or Dr. Trenton Ferro, (724) 762-0305 or trferro@yahoo.com.

C.D.s & Podcast Available

Would you like a C.D. copy of a worship service? Look for the sign-up on the counter in the narthex. You can also hear them online at www.peacenewlenox.org.

The Hope Fund

If your child(ren) would like to participate in a youth event but the cost involved is keeping him/her/them from joining us, we have a fund available to help you. The Hope Fund has been established through the generous donation of a Peace Lutheran Church family. Just talk to Deacon Shari or Pastor Dave – and no one else will know.

Summertime Quilting – Aug. 13 & 27

Summertime quilting will meet every other Monday at 9:30 a.m. It's very casual and if you can't make it each time, just come when you can. Questions? Call Karen (815) 462-9527 or Synda (708) 479-7338.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Aug. 8 & 22

Come and prepare shawls for people who need to be wrapped in God's love. We meet every other Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Bring yarn, hooks/needles and patterns or we can provide these for you. If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Gamen at (815) 462-3089. If you know someone who could benefit from a prayer shawl, please put your requests in the box on the narthex counter. We will contact you when your shawl is ready.

Trailblazers – Aug. 21- Road Trip

Our next meeting will be a road trip to see Millie Cappolillo. So, we'll leave church at 10:55 and car pool to Crown Point to see her and share lunch with her. (We have drivers.) We are going to take our food along with us and will have our own room to visit with her and each other. We'll have all kinds of sandwich fixings plus what you bring that you'd enjoy sharing with the group - salad or dessert. Be sure to let us know if you're coming!

Peace Buddies – Sept. 23 – Church Picnic

Peace Buddies is a special needs youth group for high school age and older. New Buddies are always welcome! You do not have to be a part of our church to join us. If you know someone, please invite them to come. We usually meet on the first and third Sundays of the month from **noon – 2:00 p.m.** We will resume meeting on Sept. 23, at 12 noon and participate in the church picnic. (Please see the announcement for the church picnic below for more details.) Any questions please see Pastor Dave or call Emilie Harvey at (815) 529-7546.

Church Picnic – Sept. 23

Mark your calendars now and save the date for our annual church picnic on Sunday, Sept. 23, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We are in the planning stages right now, so if you would like to help, please contact the church office.

Peace Page Turners – July 29

The next meeting will be July 29 at 9:45 a.m. We will be discussing *Under the Overpass, A Journey of Faith on the Streets of America* by Mike Yankoski. All are welcome. Join us even if you haven't read the book. Questions, contact Kathy Davenport (815) 545-2806

Adult Fellowship & Out to Eat Group Dinner Hopping – Aug. 5

Our next Adult Fellowship Event will join with the Out-to-Eat Group for a summer time food tasting event. It will start at Panera's in Frankfort at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 5, with you ordering soup or salad or bread of your choice. Then we'll walk or drive the short distance to Meatheads for the main entree, with choices of hamburgers, chicken sandwiches or hot dogs. The finale features ice cream (or other options) with a short drive to Oberweiss/Baskin-Robbins. Nice weather? There's outdoor seating & indoor seating available at each place. Bad weather? Indoor seating will be the plan. Let us know if you're coming by using the sign-up or contacting the church office.

Faith Discussion Group – Aug. 23

Our small group meets once a month to discuss various topics, to deepen our faith and build relationships within the group. We welcome anyone to join - men and women of all ages - you do not have to attend all meetings! The next is on Aug. 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Janet Stoller's home. If interested, please email her at jlstoller2000@yahoo.com. P.S. we have great snacks!

Peace Women's Group – Aug. 25

The Peace Women's Group is open to all women 18 and up. All are invited to join us for our events. Save the date: Saturday, Aug. 25 at 2:00 p.m. - we will meet at Synda Lindbloom's home for food and fun. Watch the bulletin for more details.

Ping Pong Club Will Resume in the Fall

The ping pong club at church meets regularly on the third Sunday of the month at 6:00 p.m. - however, we are taking a summer break and will resume in the fall. We have two tables, so there is a lot of action. The group can include all levels of play in rounds of doubles.

Summer Adult Education

Keep God in your thinking year-around! The beginning time is 9:45 a.m.

July 29 - *Is There a Hell? And If So, Who's Going?*

Aug. 5 - *Women in Ministry* led by Christina Montgomery

Aug. 12 - *Discussion on the ELCA's proposed Social Statement on Women and Justice* (You can go to the ELCA's website www.elca.org, and search for it, or more specifically: <http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Current-Social-Writing-Projects/Women-and-Justice/Draft.>) - Deacon Shari will lead the discussion from which we will send comments to the writing team.

Aug. 19 - *The 60's & 70's (and Today) - Culture Wars and Scripture* - How do the massive changes in culture relate to the Bible?

Aug. 26 - *Danielle Steinwart on her year as a Young Adult in Global Mission* - We sponsored Danielle this past year and are so excited to welcome her back! Come and hear all about her experiences.

Sept. 2 - *I'm No Good Is Not Humility* - reclaiming a true sense of God's version of you.

Sept. 9 - *When God Is Hiding* - a look at this ancient lament in the Bible and in our own day (And we'll also get your input on what topics to cover in 2018-2019.)

Everybody Read

Our desire to have people read a common Bible passage is part of our Book of Faith effort. Each month we'll pick a passage, invite everyone to read it sometime that month, and then those who are willing, write a sentence or two (or more if you'd like) about what you got out of the passage. August's passage is 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Suggestions Welcome for a New Class

Our once a month Bible Study on the third Tuesday evenings has come to an end. It means Pastor Dave is ready and willing to teach something else in its place. It could be a series that would last a few months, or a collection of one-time classes. Please let us know your ideas through the sign-up, email the church at peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org, or come to the **What's the Scoop** event at noon on Aug. 5!

Caring Ministry Team – Aug. 7

We care about people who have not attended recently. This team wants to find compassionate and respectful ways to reach out and offer ministry to them. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, August 7, at 6:30 p.m.

Looking Ahead...

July 29 – *Peace Page Turners 9:45 a.m.*

5th/6th Grade Event Planning Meeting 9:45 a.m.

July 31 - Aug. 3 – *Vacation Bible School 9:30 - noon*

Aug. 5 – *What's the Scoop (share your ideas) 12 noon*

Youth Ministry Meeting w/P360 4:30 p.m.

Adult Fellowship & Out to Eat Group 5:30 p.m.

Aug. 7 – *Caring Ministry Team 6:30 p.m.*

Aug. 11 – *Blood Drive 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

Baptism Orientation 3:30 p.m.

Aug. 13 – *High school walk through 10 a.m.*

Aug. 19 – *Sox Game 1:10 p.m.*

Aug. 25 – *Women's Group Event 2:00 p.m.*

Aug. 25/26 – *Offering of Letters*

Blessing of the Backpacks

Aug. 26 – *Sun. School Teacher/Asst. Meeting 9:45 a.m.*

Danielle Steinwart shares her experiences before and after worship and during adult class

Sept. 9 – *Sunday School Rally Day 9:45 a.m.*

Sept. 10 – *GriefShare Ministry resumes 6:30 p.m.*

Sept. 11 – *Dartball resumes 7:30 p.m.*

Sept. 12 – *Children's Choir resumes – 6:00 p.m.*

Confirmation Orientation 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 16 – *Golf Outing at Woodruff 2:00 p.m.*

Sept. 22/23 – *Bibles given to 3rd graders and older*

Sept. 23 – *Church Picnic 12 noon*

Peace Buddies at church picnic 12 noon

Oct. 21 – *New Member Orientation 9:45 & 6:30*

Nov. 9-11 – *Adult Retreat - Michigan*

What's the Scoop? (Bring Your Ideas to the Group!) – Aug. 5

As a part of our Long-Range Plan's 2018 ideas for implementation, we wanted a new way of including people in brainstorming ideas and getting them going. We'll meet next on Aug. 5 at noon. We'll eat and share ideas for ministry and try to be finished in 1.5 hours or less. We'll be having pizza and encourage you to bring something to share (salads or fruit would be nice). We'll also have ice cream (in keeping with our title!). The teens have volunteered to provide childcare during the meeting. Please call the office to let us know if you're coming and if you need childcare.

New Member Orientation in October

We will be receiving new members again in October. The orientations are Oct. 21, at 9:45 and 6:30 and the reception of new members will be Oct. 28 during the 11:00 worship followed by a luncheon at noon. Please call the church office to let us know if you will be involved.

From Deacon Shari Trotter

Dear Members and Friends of Peace,
I am so sorry to have missed last month's issue of the newsletter, but I was in Houston at the National Youth Gathering. It was an absolutely amazing time! To say that it was fun is an understatement. We had so much fun as a group and as individuals. We played a giant blow up human hungry, hungry hippos game, adults versus teens. We challenged each other to ride a mechanical bull and we played Gaga Ball together. We ate! Boy did we eat! We had chicken and waffle sandwiches, BBQ, and Tex-Mex. We spent a lot of time waiting in lines, but once we got our dishes it was worth it!

It was very, very, very hot!!! We used cooling cloths and drank lots of water. We must have been made for the Texas heat because the only day that seemed to really bother us was the day that it rained and we got to experience real humidity. As fun as all of this sounds, it was not our favorite part.

The speakers! The speakers were amazing and absolutely were our favorite part. The gathering really focused on human justice and especially on topics that affect teens. Some of the most memorable speakers spoke on their experience with self-harm, eating disorders, and being transgender or on the LGBTQIA spectrum. Our youth were moved by their presentations and it allowed us to ask big questions of one another and our Church. The speakers helped to form our faith for a world that is consistently changing and looking for Jesus. We came home on fire to share the gospel with all whom we meet.

Please be looking forward to our National Youth Gathering worship service, where we will share more of what we have learned and the music that we heard! The date for this service is still to be determined but we will announce it as soon as it is decided. We are excited to share with you that our call, God's love, God's grace, God's hope, and Jesus changes everything!
God's Peace,

Deacon Shari

Blessing of the Backpacks and More – Aug. 25 & 26

Blessing of the Backpacks will take place during services on Aug. 25 & 26. Students, teachers and anyone who works in the schools are invited to bring their backpacks, briefcases, tote bags, etc. to be blessed at this time.

Vacation Bible School – July 31 - Aug. 3

Our theme will be *Finding God's Treasures*. The dates are July 31 -Aug. 3 from 9:30 - noon. VBS is for children 4 yrs. old – 5th gr. There is still room for you! Please call the church office ASAP to register.

Sunday School Begins Sept. 9!!

Rally Day, Sept. 9, 9:45 a.m. marks the beginning of our theme of "R.O.A.R with God" (Respect, Overcome, Accept, Rejoice). The year will be filled with special events and projects that celebrate how all of us can link ourselves together to grow in faith and make a difference for kids 3 years old and older. The Rally Day celebration will include a **free t-shirt**. Sign up now!

Join us for a great year of Sunday School where you can make new friends and GROW IN YOUR FAITH! (Adults and teens, if you'd like to help out this year in some way, please be sure to let us know that too.)

Sunday School Teacher/Assistant Meeting

Our Sunday School staff is getting together for orientation, materials, and some inspiration! The meeting date will be Sunday, Aug. 26 at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday School Helper Invitation

Wouldn't you like to make a life-long difference in people's lives? Being involved in Sunday School is a sure-fire way. Many of our needs are short-term or a one-time basis Why not take a leap of faith and volunteer!

Adult Retreat – Deposit Due by July 30

Need a special break? Imagine two autumn nights on the shores of Lake Michigan. No cooking. Roaring campfires. Linens & meals included. Walks on the beach or in the woods, plus fellowship, star gazing, and more. The cost is \$125 per person. The dates are Nov. 9-11. The location is top secret - except it's 84.3 miles from Peace Church and in Berrien County, Michigan. Space is limited. Contact Jan (jlstoller2000@yahoo.com) or Pat (pjhaugen@gmail.com) now if you would like to attend. **A deposit of \$50 is needed by July 30.**

Baptism Orientation – Aug. 11

August 11, at 3:30 p.m., marks the next baptism orientation class for those who wish to have children baptized at Peace in the next few months.

Adult Choir Invitation

Calling all men and women who love to sing, come join us! The Adult Choir will be starting up again in September and we would love to welcome you to the choir. No auditions, just a love of singing is required. If you would like more information, please call the church office with your contact information.

Ladies Ensemble Invitation

Ladies! A new year of singing and fellowship is right around the corner. If you enjoy singing please consider joining the Ladies Ensemble. No auditions and limited rehearsals, but lots of fun while sharing God's spirit through song and fellowship. If interested, please call the church office with your contact information.

Bell Choir Invitation

Thinking of joining the hand bell choir at Peace? We'd love to have you! Our hand bell choir offers the opportunity for individuals to worship God through music. The choirs prepare music at scheduled rehearsals and then share our music with the congregation at selected worship services. We are active from Labor Day through Memorial Day. No audition or advanced musical skills are necessary-just a commitment to attend all rehearsals and participate in all performance opportunities. Please contact our director, Erica Desaulniers, at ericasagerman2019@u.northwestern.edu for more details!

Our Sponsored Missionary

Danielle plans to be with us on Aug. 26 for both services, and for the adult class to share her experiences. (Our next Young Adult in Global Mission has not been assigned yet, but we hope to see him or her before he or she leaves for that assignment – stay tuned.)

New Ticket Options! Let Us Know Your Interests

The Fellowship Committee would like to find out the level of interest in these shows. If we get enough interest, we'll follow through and get the tickets.

Just Added: *Sister Act* – Oct. 13 – deadline Aug. 26
This musical pits disco-dancing nuns against dangerous gangsters in a joyous, feel-good comedy. It celebrates the universal power of friendship, sisterhood and music. The venue will be the Drama Group in Chicago Heights. The tickets are \$23 (\$21 for seniors & \$17 for students).

The Hit Men – Nov. 10 at 8:00 p.m. – deadline Aug. 26
This is not a tribute band. Listen to the actual musicians who played and recorded with the likes of Elton John, Paul McCartney, Journey, The Turtles, and more. Besides the music, they'll share insider stories. Tickets are \$30 and the performance will be at Governors State.

5th & 6th Grade Parents' Meeting – July 29

We have so much potential to help our 5th & 6th graders get excited about being in youth ministry together. We would like to plan an activity about once a month during the next school year. This past year's method worked great: Several different parents took a turn being chaperones and/or drivers. To get the same ball rolling for next year, please set aside **Sunday, July 29**, at 9:45 a.m. for a brief planning meeting. If you can't make the meeting, but are willing to help, let Deacon Shari know.

Blood Drive – Aug. 11

First, thanks for your great response to the last blood drive on June 16. We had 14 products, 3 incomplete, and 3 deferrals. All who donate in Aug. will receive a special edition Chicago Bears long sleeve shirt.

Health Care Ministry - Blood Pressure Screenings – Aug. 12

Our next monthly screening date is Aug. 12, between the two services. Your pressure is measured by health care professionals and kept strictly confidential. If you have any questions or have clinical experience in taking blood pressures and would like to help, please contact Marylynn Tyler at (815) 423-6407.

Building assets in youth and community

Our asset this month is Positive Relationships. Here are some suggestions for how to help this asset happen at home, at school, in the community, and in church or public organization.

At home:

Give your children opportunities to spend time with other adults. Encourage your children to join groups, troops or teams. Write thank you notes to adults who positively interact with your children and get to know your children's friends.

Teachers at school:

Have an open-door policy for students who want to talk. Be available. Take time to ask students at least one question about themselves as often as possible. Don't consider it wasted time when teachers spend time talking with students. Occasionally eat lunch in the cafeteria with the students.

In the community:

Create opportunities for youth and adults to work and play together.

In the church or public organization:

Have youth-involved programs where teens both participate and help lead. Create/publicize places kids can go after school and on weekends where caring adults and other kids can be safe and available. Do service projects, retreats, team building, etc., that are beyond the normal schedule.

Youth Announcements

Confirmation Orientation - Sept. 12

A meeting for all students in 7th and 8th grades and at least one parent/adult is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 12, at 7:00 p.m. This important night incorporates information about schedules, expectations, youth events, volunteering, and more! If you know someone who is not a part of any church but has a student in this age bracket, please invite them to come too.

High School

Peace 360 Meets Sundays at 4-7 p.m.!

Attention all high school youth! Have you ever wished that there was a place that you could hang with your friends (from church and elsewhere)? We have that place for you... Peace 360! We will meet most weekends on Sunday evenings at 4:00 p.m. If you can't make it every week, that's okay. Whenever you can be here you'll be a welcome addition! **During the summer months Peace 360 will meet 2 times a month.**

Aug. 5 – 12 noon What's the Scoop. We will be helping babysit for this church event and we will have the opportunity to share ideas with the congregation. At 4:30 p.m. we will have a Youth Ministry meeting to discuss new activities and events for Peace 360!

Aug. 19 – We are heading out to the White Sox game! We will be taking a bus. Please bring \$5 for the bus and extra money if you would like food/drink. Please use the online sign for this event.

Bible Buddies

We are trying something new! Once a month students 5th gr. - 12th gr. are invited to come and have dinner together on Wednesday night. Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m! At 7:00 p.m. the 7th and 8th graders will go into confirmation with Pastor Dave and the 5th and 6th graders will be split into small groups led by the high schoolers and monitored by Deacon Shari. This will be a fun time to get introduced to youth group and explore the Bible stories with other youth in a new way! For our high schoolers this will be an awesome opportunity to be leaders and create relationships with the younger youth of our congregation! Bible Buddies will be once a month starting at 6:30 p.m. and ending at 8:00 p.m. If your youth is interested in participating in Bible Buddies please contact Deacon Shari and indicate this on your interest indicator!

Building Assets in our Youth and Community

The asset for the month of August is:

Positive Relationships

Young people have support systems in place, besides their parents, to whom they can turn to for advice and support. Ideally, three or more others, including adults, to serve in this role.

August quote of the month:

“Be somebody who makes everybody feel like a somebody”

-Anonymous

7/8th gr. & High school Messtival – Sept. 9
September 9 at 4:00 p.m. we will be having our third annual Messtival! What's a Messtival you ask? It is a time to come together and celebrate the beginning of our year as well as get to know other youth, and at the same time have a lot of fun with very messy games! Grades 7-12 are invited to come and see that God loves messy people! (Parents: we could use your help to set up and clean up. You can join in on the fun of getting messy, too!) To sign up, please go to the church **website** <http://www.peacenewlenox.org>, under "EVENTS". **There are 2 sign up links one is for the youth and one is for parents. Parents we will need your help! Please sign up if you can.** Please wear clothes that can be ruined and closed toed shoes. Parents bring a garbage bag when you pick up your youth to protect your car seat.

Offering of Letters – Aug. 25 & 26

What good can one letter do? How about when we combine that letter with millions of others? Time and again the Bible, including Jesus himself, advocates on behalf of the hungry. You can do your part to make this simple, but profound statement on behalf of them. We'll try to make it easy....on Aug. 25/26 we will have sample notes you can use to write to members of Congress (and the White House, if you wish) advocating for the ones in our country and around the world who go to bed hungry, and who can be helped! We'll even provide the paper, envelopes and stamps. Bread for the World is a national organization, led by a Lutheran pastor, whose results have been amazing! Please take the time to help.

Questions Kids Ask

The questions keep coming! This month two of them were (1) Since Christmas is Jesus' birthday, how come we get presents? And (2) Is heaven just like Earth? How would you answer those questions? Pastor Dave's answers in worship were that (1) giving inspires giving – just as our parents feel good giving us good things, so one day we'll be able to do that – and it will feel just as good to give as it does to get. We honor Jesus by giving to others. (2) No, heaven will be a whole lot better than Earth! We don't know what it will be like, exactly, but we know we'll be totally loved and all the problems of life on Earth will be gone.

School Supplies to Help Others by Aug. 31

As you shop for school supplies, please consider helping others by picking up some extras. This year the bulk of the supplies will go to help kids through our mission partners at Santa Cruz in Joliet. We give all the supplies away to kids that otherwise couldn't start the year right! Please bring the supplies by Aug. 31.

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| 6" Fiskar scissors | 24 count crayons |
| 70 page spiral notebooks | blue/black/red pens |
| 140-200 count loose-leaf 3-hole paper | |
| 8 count washable classic color markers | |

Get Ready Get Set....GOLF!! – Sept. 16

The Second Annual Peace Lutheran Church Golf Outing will be held on Sunday, September 16 at 2:00 p.m. at Woodruff Golf Course on Gouger Road in Joliet. This is an outing for men and women. More details will be coming soon, but tell all your family and friends! Don't "FORE" get to mark your calendars and join us for a great afternoon of golf and fellowship! Questions, contact Marylynn Tyler at (815) 423-6407.

Peace Church Fantasy Football League

Interested in playing Fantasy Football? Do you enjoy friendly competition and trash talking all in good fun? Join the 2018 Peace Lutheran FFL! Please contact Al Davenport at al.davenport@comcast.net if you would like to sign up. Because the NFL season is fast approaching, please respond by Aug. 12. Once there are 10 or 12 teams, Al will contact you with a draft date. Put your general manager hat on and get in the game!

Dinners for Eight –

New Groups Starting This Fall

Do you enjoy gathering with a small group for dinner or dessert? We will soon start another round of "Dinners for Eight", a small group dinner setting in individuals' homes. This is a great way of getting to know different members of our church community. Each group of eight decides what to eat and how often to meet over the course of a year. All ages are welcome. For those with children, childcare options are decided within each group. If interested, please use the sign-up slip in the bulletin or call Angie & Todd Klock, 815-463-1848.

Because of You and Your Gifts

“Whole person care” – that’s a phrase you’re likely to be hearing more often. To Lutheran Social Services of Illinois it means: compassion, respect, and the dignity of the individual; serving not only a person’s challenges, but also their hopes and dreams; healing – which always involves more than treating symptoms; surrounding each person with a network of supports. When a person’s needs are outside of LSSI’s service offering, they build a network of providers who can meet those needs, building a person-centered treatment team. “Whole person care” produces better outcomes for the individual, reduces the cost of health care, and reflects LSSI’s belief that all people are created in the image of God. Your support of LSSI through our church makes a difference!

Ambassadors Wanted!

We are looking for welcomers of visitors to our church (Ambassador). The “duties” are simply to help greet visitors after the church service. We hope to have one person, besides Pastor Dave or Deacon Shari, welcome new people to the church after each service. If you are interested, please call the office.

Favorite Hymns

Do you have a favorite hymn that you don’t get to sing as often as you’d like? Well, here’s your chance to sing it! Throughout the summer weeks, for about five minutes before each service starts, Todd will give everyone in the congregation an opportunity to call out the number of a favorite hymn. We’ll sing a verse or two of as many hymns as we have time for. So, check your hymnal and get ready to call out the number of your favorite!

Caregiver Tip of the Month

Care-giv-er: a person who gives help, protection and direct care (as for children, elderly people or someone who is sick or chronically ill). This pretty much puts us ALL down in the books as caregivers. Remember to take some time for yourself every single day, and know that God will care, help, and protect YOU along the journey. *(For information about being a caregiver and other related topics - see our display in the narthex and don't forget to borrow a book from the bin.)*

Gardeners for MorningStar

For those of you who like to garden, when your produce starts to come in, if you have any extras, bring them to church and we’ll bring them to MorningStar mission.

Wow! Business Attire Blessings

We’re going to take a break from collecting the business attire clothing until next year. What a great success we had in this year’s giving. The grand total of items collected for giving away was 1,301! Imagine the difference that can make in people’s lives as they search for and land new jobs. Thanks be to God for your caring about others!

Do you have passion for the environment? A Reduce-Reuse Emphasis?

We are forming a new group in our church called Waste-Watchers which will focus on finding additional ways to reduce our carbon-imprint here at church. We’d also like to encourage others to consider ways to do that every day. Use the sign-up if you’re interested.

Away From Home Addresses/Emails

It’s that time of year when we ask for the addresses and email addresses for young people who are away from home. We like to email them the newsletter and let them know we’re thinking about them. Please use the sign-up or call/email the church office.

Helping Santa Cruz’s Food Pantry

We have an ongoing partnership with Santa Cruz Lutheran Church in Joliet. They have a food pantry & resource pantry for people of their neighborhood who are hungry or in need. We have a list now of specific items they can use in their pantry. You can bring these anytime and put them in the baskets on the floor heading into Fellowship Hall.

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| cereal (all kinds) | canned fruit |
| coffee (ground) all kinds | creamers (powdered) |
| ice cream cones (summer only) | juices |
| hand soap (bar & liquid) | toothpaste |
| dish soap | disposable diapers |