

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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Potholes

“Tis the season” takes on a new meaning at this time of the year: allergies, lawn mowers, longer daylight, and let’s not forget, potholes, to name a few. Some days, traffic on the so-called expressways gets delayed by moving roadwork as crews try to keep on top of the results of winter. We know those repairs are necessary and we want to keep our cars from being swallowed up (or at least our tires from exploding), but if you get delayed, you may still not like the fix.

When it comes to potholes in our lives, there is no season. Some of them are small and simply annoying. Some of them cause a great deal of damage. Illness, finances, relationship problems, grades, co-workers, the news – the list never ends and varies greatly for each one of us. When a road needs repair, a crew can be dispatched with asphalt. But what about when the potholes are in us or our society? What can help then?

Some people’s answer is to try to escape. Alcohol and drugs are two negative ones, and even more positive ones (like a vacation) will not fill them. Some people complain about them like crazy, but never do anything about them. Some people give up with thoughts like “nothing will work,” or “there are too many of them.” Some people try to fill them with ideas, practices, people that are not solutions but are only phony fillers.

What does work? A crew with “asphalt!” The crew are people (sent by God, not the road commissioner) and ideas and practices that God also has provided that have stood the test of time. The crew may show up in the form of a little kid with a hug or a professional counselor or a hundred other forms. The ideas and practices are things like “you’re going to be okay” and “this too shall pass” and “love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” and “forgiveness” and “God doesn’t make junk” and many more – each one tailored to meet your pothole at that moment.

Whatever potholes you have in your life, call for and be on the lookout for God’s crew and God’s asphalt! They’re working 24/7 365 days a year.

Pastor Dave Hedlin

Prayers Requested

Helen Bohr, Edwina Wilber, Donna L., the Neff family, the family of Sharon Lotz, Cathy Rumbaugh, Daniel Obuchina, Brock Johnson, Siri Moss, George G., Hildegard Hanson, Sandra O’Shaughnessy, Andrew, Karin Knutson, Marissa, Lt. Col. Jonathan Genge, Stefanie Bonomo, Danny Krzak, Margaret Lindbloom, Monica, Barry, Junior, Frank & Heather, the family of Joyce McKay, Preston Klug, Sandy Robertson, Christina Montgomery, Jim Pander, Denise Jones, Claudie Shehorn, Kelly Muehlnickel, Amanda Muehlnickel, Jan Wolske, Ashley Mike, Kurt

Sympathy

The congregation of Peace wishes to extend its sympathy to:

the family of Leilani Murphy, mother of Victoria Breslan-Golub.

Welcome to the Lord’s Family

Frederick Logan Sickman was baptized on Apr. 14;

Russell Eric Scanlan was baptized on Apr. 22.

Mother’s Day Singing

We have a tradition for Mother’s Day weekend for how we sing the opening hymn. We hope you’ll add your voice to the glory of God!

Baptism Orientation – May 12

May 12, 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.

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:

Diane Vick – for the Palm Sunday banner
Sophia Dahl Santoro – acolyte
Jodie Bugler, Ed Cochran, Renee Gatewood,
Margaret Haugen, Olivia Koenig, Karen Krzak, Don
Lafferty, Janet Stoller, Chuck Vick, Eric Wesel –
Stewardship leaders, callers & visitors
Mike & Paula Miller and Pam Vanick – delivering
candy to Santa Cruz

From:

Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest – for the
donation of toys & books (for the Asset Toy Drive)
New Lenox Girl Scout Troops – for all the support
ELCA World Hunger – for the donation
Will County Clothes 4 Work Closet – for the
donation of business clothes
Chris Meade – for the prayer shawl
LSSI – for the donation
Trinity Services – for the donation

Golden Opportunity Books – Reduced Price

Courtesy of the company, the price of these coupon books has been lowered to \$15 each. We still have 10 left (in one of the cubbies under the counter.) Help yourself!

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.

Recycling Items Revised

We have two options now! The following items can be dropped off in the basket in the narthex. DVD players, Game Boys, digital cameras, laptops, tablets, cell phones & most printer cartridges, including Epson! Chargers and cables are now also recyclable.

Address for Our Sponsored Missionary

Danielle sent a very nice email to the Peace Church families. You can find a copy on the bulletin board in the hall leading in to Fellowship Hall. If you would like to send Danielle a note sometime this year, here is her address. (Postage is \$1.15.)

Danielle Steinwart
High House,
St. Swithun's School
Alresford Rd
Winchester SO21 1HA, United Kingdom

Addresses for Service Personnel

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

MA 3Connor Wayne Baker	Sgt Pafford, Devin
PSC 455 Box 173	MC Alpha
FPO AP 96540-1070	PO Box 92421
	Yuma AZ 85369

Daniel Treasure	Jacob Treasure
USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115)	3749 Radcliffe Rd.
Unit 100415 Box 1505	Abilene, TX 79602
FPO AP 96694	

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! If you would like more information, please 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. Are you or a loved one struggling with heroin or opiate dependence? 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 **May 27**. 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* – Currently not meeting -please watch the newsletter for future dates.

- *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.

* **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.

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

***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.

***L.O.M.C. Memorial Day Work Weekend**

May 25-28, 2018 – Help get the camp ready for another great year of summer camp. For questions, contact Ken Dilbeck at ken@lomc.org or 815-978-5843.

If housing is needed, contact Audrey Adams at registrations@lomc.org or 815-732-2220.

***Manhattan Friendship Garden Inc.** – The vision of a small group moved to nourish body, mind and soul has a simple mission. Grow fruits & vegetables and friendships in the process. Give to Manhattan community neighbors in need. Help supplement food supplies at the local food pantries. Teach others for grow and preserve their own produce that can be enjoyed year-round. To volunteer or if you have any questions, please call Dale at 815-478-5165 or email manfriendshipgarden@gmail.com.

Prayer Group – May 16

Denise Jones hosts a monthly gathering for prayer. The prayers include our church, our young people, those on the prayer list from the bulletin, and any other concerns or celebrations. The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:45 a.m. at her home (17013 Geneva Ave., Lockport). Please call her (815) 838-0388 or the church office (815) 485-5327 so she can prepare appropriately.

Ruth Circle Quilters – May 7 & 21

Quilting will meet on Monday, May 7 & 21, at 9:00 a.m. **No experience necessary.** You just have to know how to have fun to join. On May 21 we will have our end of the year potluck! If you have questions, call Karen Dircks (815) 462-9527 or Syndy Lindbloom (708) 479-7338. During the worship services on the weekend of May 12/13 some of the quilts we have completed during the past months will be displayed in the sanctuary. Fill those lazy days of summer making quilts and enjoy fellowship. Summertime quilting will start in June 4. Watch the bulletin for details. If you have any questions, call Karen Dircks (815) 462-9527 or Syndy Lindbloom (708) 479-7338.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – May 16 & 30

Come and prepare shawls for people who need to be wrapped in God's love. We meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. every other week. Bring yarn, hooks/needles and patterns or we can provide these for you. Questions, contact Cheryl Gamen at (815) 462-3089.

Trailblazers – May 15

Our next meeting will be our usual luncheon on Tuesday, May 15, at noon here at church. The menu will be pizza.... plus what you bring that you'd enjoy sharing with the group (salad, side dish, dessert.) If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Invite a friend!

Peace Buddies – May 6 & 20

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. May 20 will be our last meeting before we break for the summer. The meeting time is **noon – 2:00 p.m.** Questions, see Pastor Dave or call Emilie Harvey at (815) 529-7546.

Men's Dartball – May 8

Dartball meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month. No prior experience is needed (or helpful). Please join us! We finish up at 9:00 so you've got time for your bedtime ice cream, too. (Who's idea is that???)

Ping Pong Club Invites You – May 20

The new ping pong club at church is underway and having a great time. They meet regularly on the third Sunday of the month at 6:00 p.m. We have two tables, so there can be a lot of action. The level of play has been competitive, but the group is very willing to include all levels of play in rounds of playing doubles (evens the playing field). Plus, the camaraderie is outstanding. So, if you're in the mood to join them, show up on May 20, at 6:00 p.m.

Peace Page Turners – May 6

The next meeting will be May 6 at 9:45 a.m. and the book we will be discussing is *A Streetcat Named Bob: and How He Saved my Life* by James Bowen. Join us for the discussion, even if you haven't read the book. All are welcome. Questions, contact Kathy Davenport (815) 545-2806

Peace Women's Group

The Peace Women's Group is open to all women 18 and up. All invited to join us for our next events.
May 20 – 1:00 -3:00 p.m. We're riding! Join us at Nova Quarter Horses, 10129 187th St. in Mokena. We will have a one hour ride, most likely inside unless the weather is good and one hour in the party room after. We will bring our own food, utensils and BYOB. Cost is \$45 per person, cash or check only. Attire: jeans and sneakers are ok, boots if you got 'em! (no open toed shoes). Please use the sign up and let me know what type of snack you wish to bring. RSVP by May 10.
June 2 – 12:45 p.m. In response to overwhelming requests, we will visit Orland Prayer Center Mosque, 16530 S. 104th Ave in Orland Park.
We will be seated by 1 p.m., prayer will be observed, there will be a basic presentation about Islam, question and answer session, tour of the building, and we will finish by 2:00 p.m. All women must wear long sleeves and long skirts or pants, no need to cover hair
If you have already indicated your interest, you do not need to sign up again, if not please use the sign up slip.
July 13 – 7:30 p.m. Joliet History Museum Summer Concert Series "Great Moments in Vinyl" - on the rooftop. Admission is \$10. Snacks and drinks on the roof will also be available. Please use the sign up slip and RSVP by 6/10.

Adult Class Topics...

Come to our Sunday ***weekly adult class***. It usually meets in the back of the sanctuary, starting about 9:55. Here are the scheduled topics for the coming month.

May 6 - *Feeling Safer in an Uncertain World*

May 13 - *Let God Be on Your Team (whether for parenting, work, school, or whatever)*

May 20 - *Resilience Is Not Equal to Toughness (how to bounce back without just putting on a happy face)*

May 27 - *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory (a look at the Civil War and some of the dilemmas faced by Christians)*

June 3 - *Good Stewardship Will Make You Rich (money is optional)*

June 10 - (After special congregation meeting) - "I Saw It on the Internet, So It Must Be True???"

June 17 - *No class - Father's Day ice cream event*

Summer Sunday & Other Class Ideas

Before we know it, the regular Sunday School year will be over (May 20), and summer adult class sessions will be up and running. Each year Pastor Dave solicits ideas for classes you would like to have. He usually does these between services on Sunday, but is open to other times as well. Please use the sign-up in the bulletin or call the church office. The first one will be June 3.

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. May's passage is Matthew 4:18-22.

Evening Bible Study – May 15

Our next meeting date will be May 15 at 7:15 p.m. You don't need to know anything about the Bible to benefit. Luke 11:42 is where we will pick it up. We do need to have a few more people come regularly for this class to continue. (If you'd like a reminder that week, let us know and we'll do that.)

Offering Envelopes

The new offering envelopes (that begin in June) should be arriving soon. Please look for them on the table in the narthex beginning May 12/13.

Looking Ahead...

May 5/6 – *Commitment Weekend*

Teacher Appreciation Weekend

May 6 – *Peace Page Turners 9:45 a.m.*

What's the Scoop (Bring ideas to the group) potluck & idea exchange 12 noon

May 8 – *V.B.S planning meeting 9:00 a.m.*

May 12 – *Budget Meeting 10:00 a.m.*

Baptism Orientation 3:30 p.m.

Out to Eat Group – Mamma Onestra's 6:30 p.m.

May 13 – *Mother's Day & Quilt Display*

May 15 – *Evening Bible Study 7:15 p.m.*

May 19/20 – *Congregational Affirmation of Baptism*

May 20 – *Last Day of Sunday School*

Confirmation Sunday 11:00 (1st option)

May 26 – *5th & 6th grade Messy Games Event 10 a.m.*

May 27 – *Confirmation Sunday 11:00 (2nd option)*

Cubs Game Outing 7:05 p.m.

May 29 – *Church Council 7:30 p.m.*

June 1/2 – *NYG Lock In*

June 2 – *Chicago Design Museum 12 noon*

June 2/3 – *Recognition of Graduates*

June 3 – *Adult Choir singing at Santa Cruz 9:00*

June 10 – *Special Congregational Meeting 9:35*

Outdoor Worship & Potluck 6:00 p.m.

June 16 – *Blood Drive 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

June 17 – *Ice Cream Social 9:45 a.m.*

July 30 – *Vacation Bible School Set-up*

July 31 - Aug. 3 – *Vacation Bible School*

Aug. 19 – *Sox Game Outing 1:10 p.m.*

Congregational Affirmation of Baptism – May 19 & 20

The church's confirmation services for this year's 8th graders will be May 20 & 27 at the 11:00 worship. The affirmation of one's faith is not a one-time event! So, to encourage all of us to say "yes" to God again, we are going to have an opportunity to express that formally during the 5:00 p.m. service on May 19 and the 8:30 a.m. service on May 20. (There will not be a test!)

Confirmation Sundays – May 20 & 27

On both May 20 & 27, at the 11:00 service will be the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation). While that service will be crowded, there's always room for you! (Of course, you do have the option of 5:00 on Saturday night or 8:30 Sunday.) Additional parking is available in the lot next door.

From Deacon Shari Trotter

Dear Members and friends of Peace,
What is faith? This was the question we asked each other at our recent high school lock-in. The theme of the lock-in was “Faith is my Super Power”. This theme was chosen because of the release of the most recent Marvel movie and so of course part of the retreat was seeing the movie together! It was awesome! I highly recommend seeing it!

The retreat was also Awesome! This was our first completely youth led high school retreat. The youth planned, organized and taught the whole retreat! A special thanks to two amazing youth, Emily Pfeffer and Nathaniel Knutson for their leadership. We have some very talented and incredibly faithful youth! We not only saw the movie together, but we also had several discussions about how to grow our faith and live into it. We discussed that faith is a gift given to us at our birth, claimed for us in our baptism, and lived into and nurtured through our whole lives. We talked about and wrestled with whether or not it was ok to question God’s plan for our life. We came to the conclusion that questions are good because questions are how you learn and asking questions of God is growing in relationship with God. We went deep together during discussion and prayer stations where we talked about our goals in our life and for our faith.

I was constantly impressed by the maturity and the engagement of our youth. These young people are amazing co-workers in the sharing of the Gospel. We are very lucky! I would also like to say a special thank you to some wonderful adults who helped to nurture this retreat and allow the youth the safety and delicious food that makes a retreat GREAT! Special thanks to the ladies who came and cooked dinner again! The best hamburgers ever! Special thanks to Jess Lindeman and Angie Klock for breakfast! Pancakes, sausage, and bacon; who could ask for more? Special thanks to my chaperones John Pfeffer, Eric Wesel and Shane Brinegar! Thanks for crashing at the church and reminding these youth that they are valued and loved not only by God but by this church as well!
So, what is faith? It is a gift from God that we are given to reassure us in our struggles, to empower us in our joy, and to challenge us in our laziness. God we give you thanks for the gift of faith!

God’s Peace,

Deacon Shari

2018 Stewardship Appeal

we say
Yes!

This appeal is a special effort to celebrate how God has blessed us as a church and how that enables us to serve God and one another. We have seen it time and again: God’s love shows up in our daily lives and in our combined efforts as a church to make a difference. That’s why your saying yes matters!

What are the goals for this year’s appeal?

1) *Support new ministries envisioned by our long-range plan*

We said yes to thirteen concrete plans for 2018, including multiple upgrades to our presence on social media, which have a price tag. Some of them will be enabled because of the support of your financial giving, and some by our time and abilities. What a great opportunity to reach out to others and increase the faith of all of us.

2) *Support existing ministries, staff and programs*

Our church has a great staff and great programming, including a growing youth ministry. We also have a beautiful facility. We recognize it takes money to support those in ways that matter.

3) *Support local & world-wide efforts to further the Gospel*

We will still be very generous in reaching out with the Gospel as we help sponsor a missionary, provide support to the ELCA’s 5-year plan to start more churches, train more pastors, feed more hungry people, be involved in our community, support local causes that have been so meaningful to us.

What would you like me to consider giving so we can achieve our ministry goals?

Consider how God is asking you to respond in faith by giving financially from the heart. Pray about it. Talk with others. Reflect. Every gift matters!

- For those who already tithe, we trust you will continue. (We’ve never met a tither who regretted the commitment.)
- For those who have not yet begun the habit, we would invite you to consider percentage giving. We believe that giving on a planned, percentage basis is a faithful way to follow God’s plan. It also can help us talk about our priorities in life—a good thing to do.
- In your reflections, if percentage giving is not in your plans, then pray and consider an increase of 10% in your giving level. (Look at what you’re giving now and add 10%.)

Thank you for all your wonderful support!

What's the Scoop? (Bring Your Ideas to the Group!) – May 6

It used to be called, “Everybody Come” night. But as a part of our Long-Range Plan’s 2018 ideas for implementation, we wanted a new title. At the annual meeting we also heard a great idea about moving the time and date so more people could participate. So, we’re “on” for May 6 at noon. We’ll eat and share ideas for ministry and try to be finished in 1.5 hours or less. For the food, we’ll provide hot dogs, and we 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. We’ll have these sessions four times a year.

Health Care Ministry - Blood Pressure Screenings – May 13

Our next monthly screening date is May 13, 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.

Blood Drive – June 16

Thank you to everyone who donated in April. We had 21 people register and collected 18 whole units, 4 double red units and had 3 deferrals. Our next Heartland blood drive will be June 16 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Teacher Appreciation Weekend – May 5/6

We like to say thanks to teachers – both in our Sunday School and in the world of education. May 5 & 6 will be this year’s official time to express our appreciation. Students, feel free to invite a teacher to worship with you!

Budget Meeting – May 12

This year’s opportunity to help put together the budget for 2018-2019 will be May 12 at 10:00 a.m. It is such a blessing to work on this after we have received people’s joyful responses to our appeal! (We don’t give to a budget. We let a budget help point to where God is leading us.)

Faith Discussion Group – May 31

Our next small group meets on May 31 at 7:00 p.m. at Janet Stoller’s home. We will discuss various topics, usually centered around a book, and are designed 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 of the meetings! If interested, please email jlstoller2000@yahoo.com.

Recognizing Graduates – June 2/3

On the weekend of June 3/4 during the worship services, we would like to recognize all those who are graduating from high school, college and beyond. Please call the church office with the information.

Pentecost Begins June 2/3

The worship committee is asking everyone to think “red” that weekend. To celebrate if you’d like, please bring red flowers to church with you. The flowers will then be planted around the outside of the church building.

Adult Choir Singing at Santa Cruz – June 3

On Sunday, June 3, the Adult Choir will be singing at the 9:00 a.m. service at Santa Cruz/First Lutheran Church, 55 W. Benton, Joliet. (Santa Cruz is our mission partner congregation.) Anyone who would like to attend this service is welcome!

Outdoor Worship & Potluck – June 10 Hosting Sunny Hill & Santa Cruz

On Sunday, June 10, at 6:00 p.m., we will have an outdoor worship service (if it’s raining or cold we’ll be in Fellowship Hall.) It will be a shortened service but otherwise have all the regular pieces, including special music! Following the worship we will also have a time of fellowship with a potluck. We will provide sloppy joes and hotdogs. So, bring side dishes, salads or desserts. We will also be hosting residents from Sunny Hill Nursing Home and Santa Cruz/First Lutheran in Joliet. Use the sign-up slip in the bulletin or call the church office if you are able to join us.

Out to Eat Group – May 12

Our next outing will be May 12, and our destination will be Mamma Onestra's, 1100 S. State St., Lockport. We'll gather there by 6:30. The place gets very high marks, so we have another new opportunity to "taste and see," surrounded by others from our church. We have been having some great outings, and hope you can join us for this one! Please call the church office by May 5.

Special Congregational Meeting – June 10

A special meeting to approve the budget will be held June 10, at 9:35 a.m. While the meeting is usually brief, it is an opportunity to officially act on our 2018-2019 budget plan.

Strawberries, Cake & Ice Cream – June 17

You'll want to come (or stay) on June 17 between services for our eleventh annual strawberries-cake-other toppings & ice cream social in Fellowship Hall. Please let us know if you'll be coming (and/or if you'd provide a cake) by calling the church office or using the sign-up at church. The previous ten years were delicious successes! (And it will be a fun way for us to honor Father's Day too.)

Chicago Design Museum – June 2

Our Fellowship Committee is always trying to find new ways to bring people together. Our next offering will be a trip to the Chicago Design Museum (108 N. State St., Third Floor, Chicago) on June 2, meeting there at noon. [The museum is run by the daughter (and her husband) of our members, Wallace & Kristie Paprocki!] The museum is free, and we will get our own tour guide through their current exhibition, *Great Ideas of Humanity: Out of the Container*. This exhibit seeks to celebrate and share the ideas that unite us, inspire us, and caution us; to consider ideas that transcend our individual worldviews and establish a common ground that binds us. As a special component to the exhibition, 10 posters reflect the quotes of distinguished Chicagoans such as Ida B. Wells, Buckminster Fuller and László Moholy-Nagy, and are designed by Chicago artists and designers. For more information on the museum and this special exhibit, see <http://greatideasofhumanity.com>. Please sign up so we can let them know how many to expect, and whether you would like to carpool.

Vacation Bible School – July 31 - Aug. 3

Our amazing Vacation Bible School planning crew met and has created another outstanding opportunity for kids (and volunteers) to grow closer to God. Our theme will be *Finding God's Treasures*. The dates will be July 31 - Aug. 3. The next planning meeting will be May 8 at 9:00 a.m. If you'd like to help in any way this year (including more planning!), please let us know in the office. Registration forms will be in a rack on the counter in the narthex or online through our website.

White Sox Tickets – Free – Aug. 19

We had fun going to a Sunday game last year, so we're going again! The game starts at 1:10, so kids and adults can both enjoy the game before it gets too late. We'll be in section 163 and the tickets are FREE. We have 100 tickets available, and probably could get more if need be. More good news: we also coordinate a bus so you don't even have to fight traffic or find parking. (The bus will leave at 11:15 a.m. If you're taking the bus, the cost is \$5 each and a maximum of \$10 per household.) Use the sign-up slip or call the office. Yes, your friends are welcome to come. With the whole package, the only thing we can't do is watch the game for you!

Opportunity to Bless Others – Business Attire

The Will County Center for Community Concerns helps people who are unemployed find jobs, including training them for interviews and for how to dress for success. We can help! We're looking for business attire and business casual clothing, including gently used shoes, suits, sport coats, ties, shirts, blouses, dresses, skirts, pants, sweaters, whatever you think would help someone get and keep a job! Look for the bin in the narthex.

Do You Have a Passion for the Environment?

We are looking for people who are interested in a new group in our church (which we're calling Waste-Watchers) that has a passion for "reduce, re-use, recycle." We have been trying to reduce our own carbon-imprint for many years here at church and would like even more ideas. We'd also like to encourage others to consider easy (and not-so-easy) ways to do that every day. Let us know if you're interested!

Discussion Starters for Families

Search Institute has identified five essential actions in Parent-child relationships that help children and teens grow up well. Here is one of the discussion-starter questions that can help you talk with your children and teens about different parts of your relationship. The goal is not to get the right answer, but to share each person's experiences, feelings, and beliefs so you get to know each other better. Ask these questions when people are not rushed or distracted. Start with just one question. Then try others if people are interested and available. Have fun discovering new things about each other and your family and watch the newsletter for more discussion-starter questions.

Challenge Growth: Challenging growth focuses on the ways we encourage, inspire, push, or otherwise influence each other to try new things. These discussion starters can help you think of how challenging growth works, or doesn't work in your family:

- What are some challenges we've faced together in our family? In what ways did we grow during those challenges?
- In what ways have you challenged other people to do things that would help them learn and grow? How did they respond?
- What are ways other family members have challenged you to learn and grow? How did you respond? What made it easier or harder to keep working to complete your task or goal?

Building Assets in our Youth and Community

The asset for the month of May is:

Optimism

Youth are more likely to grow up healthy when they are optimistic about their personal future.

May quote of the month:

"Keep looking up...that's the secret of life..."
~ Snoopy

Youth Announcements

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!

May 6 – What's the Scoop, babysitting/ Cinco de Mayo

May 13 – No meeting, Mother's Day

May 20 – Finals study group and dinner

May 27 – TBD

June 10 – Service project with NYG, Care packages for the troops.

Confirmation:

Confirmation Sundays– May 20 & 27

5th & 6th grade Messy Games– May 26

It's time to get MESSY! We will meet at Church, on May 26th at 10 a.m. to have some fun and get messy! All the games we will play have a messy factor to them. Be prepared to stick your toes in Jell-O, paint with pudding and throw spaghetti! Please come in clothes that can get messy! We will eat pizza for lunch so bring a couple dollars to contribute for that. Have you ever used your nose or ear as a paint brush? No? Come and learn how! Deacon Shari is ready to get MESSY! Use the sign up form on the church website under the "Events" section.

National Youth Gathering–

NYG is gearing up for their trip to Huston! During the next few months they will be doing a lot to prepare for their trip!

May 6 – 9:45 Meeting, parents should attend. We need to finish filling out some paper work.

May 19 @1:30 – Service project at The Cottages

June 1/2 –Lock In

June 8 – Ropes course

June 10@ 4-7 p.m. –NYG and P360! will team up to do a service project! We are making care packages for the troops.

June 27-July1 – Houston Trip

Plastic Jars Needed for VBS

VBS is in need of clean plastic jars with lids - mayonnaise, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, small Gatorade bottles, etc.- for a craft project. If you have any, please bring them to church and there will be a box in the narthex where you can leave them. Thank you!

Small Toys Needed

Jodie Brugler is creating a prize box for the children at the school where she works. If you have any small toys (McDonald's Happy Meal toys, dollar store toys, etc.) laying around your house and would like to donate them, please look for the box marked small toys in the narthex. Thank you!

Summer Camp

Summer camp is a great way for kids to enjoy God's creation in fellowship with others. Three great options are Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (LOMC), Camp Manitoqua, and Lutherdale in Wisconsin. Brochures are now available on the narthex counter. Or you can look, and register, online at www.LOMC.org and www.manitoqua.org and www.lutherdale.org.

Prayer Shawls

Do you know someone in need of being wrapped in prayer? Our Prayer Shawl Ministry will create a prayer shawl for that person. Please put your requests in the box on the narthex counter. We will contact you when your shawl is ready.

Because of You and Your Gifts

This is what happens because we stand with Lutheran Social Services of Illinois in 2018: You will provide safe, loving foster homes for 2,000 children in Illinois who have suffered from abuse or neglect. You will offer counseling to all kinds of people - some with severe mental illnesses and others who are coping with common difficulties of ordinary life. You will give the person struggling with drug and alcohol addiction the opportunity to regain his/her sobriety, surrounded by understanding and support. You will offer those being released from incarceration the skills they will need to find employment and become productive citizens. You will provide safe, affordable housing for senior citizens and people with disabilities.

Caregiver Tip of the Month

Who's calling me? Where did I put that bill? What day is that appointment on? Where are my glasses? Did I take my medicine this morning? Did I eat breakfast? What day is today? Do you feel like you're losing your grip and your daily routine is all out of order? STOP! One deep breath in. FOCUS!! You're not alone especially when you are caring for a loved one with greater needs. Start your day with a quiet moment. Pray. Meditate. Maybe take a soothing bath. Calming the waters before they overflow is super beneficial. Try it. REALLY....try it!!!! (*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.*)

Questions Kids Ask

We had an opportunity to have a presence at an expo that was comprised of "secular" booths. It is wonderful to be able to let our simple message be heard in that kind of environment because we don't have to use a bullhorn. We can let people know their questions about God are legitimate, whether as children or adults.

Willing to Help at Worship?

Summer is a busy time and the office is frequently looking for substitutes for the many Worship roles, such as usher, communion server, nursery or acolyte. Please let the office know if you would be willing to help and we will contact you when a need arises.

Check out Our New Website!

Our long-range plan's dream is now another of our welcoming pieces. The goal of our new website is to make our church visible on social media in a way that points to Christ and welcomes people to come and see for themselves. Check it out! See all the new things on it and promote it to others.

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.