



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The weather is warming up, Spring is leading us to thoughts of Summer, and we have a full calendar this month at Peace!

On May 5 two youth will Affirm their Baptisms; Ainsley Cahill and Emily Sorenson. This Rite of Confirmation is an important milestone in a Christian's faith formation. While it often means the conclusion of formal biblical learning, it represents the beginning of a new chapter of growing closer to God. Gathering together for worship is a wonderful way to illustrate the Body of Christ; a body that these youth are willingly joining.

May 12 is Favorite Hymn Sunday- the Sunday where hymns take the place of the formal liturgy. As families gather together to celebrate Mothers, we are offering an opportunity to sing the old favorites and have the Sanctuary's rafters ring with a joyful sound.

May 19 is a Special Congregational Meeting to begin the process of updating our local constitution to bring it in line with the NALC model constitution. Our documents state that every three years we will review the constitution, and 2019 is the third year since the last revision.

The warm weather leads us outdoors for camping, fishing, and a multitude of recreational activities.

As you feel the urge to be out and about on a Sunday- remember that there is a full slate of activities at church as well.



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:
Jim Damaske 769-3792

Weekly Worship & Praise Opportunities:

Sunday
10:15 a.m. Worship

Tuesday
11:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting

Thursday
7 p.m. Choir

Special Offering for North American Lutheran Seminary

The NALC has designated May as North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) month; in response the Church Council has designated Sunday, May 5, for an additional offering that will benefit the NALS. The NALS has been very creative in working with select undergraduate institutions to help streamline the track for becoming a pastor. In addition, students do not pay

tuition when attending the NALS- the cost is underwritten by the seminary. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the seminary on May 5. This is a gift to our congregation's future and the future of the NALC; the seminary is the training ground for our clergy.



COUNCIL MINUTES

Peace Lutheran Church Council Minutes Monday, April 15, 2019 6 p.m.

Members present: Beverly So, Kevin Kunst, Barb Berry, Virgil Bennett, Karen Richardville, Rich Steinbauer, Ed Zajac

Also present: Pastor Hartten

Absent: Mark Carpenter

Call to Order

Bev called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Opening Devotional/Prayer

Pastor Hartten gave the opening devotional on Proverbs 3: 5-8, asking us, through prayer, to trust and follow God's will rather than leaning on our own understanding.

Approval of April agenda

Karen made a motion to approve the agenda, Ed seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Approval of March 2019 minutes made via email.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer's report was sent via email to Bev as Jon Kooiman (Acct. Mgr.) was not able to attend the meeting.

| | Current Month | Current Month Budget | Over (Under) Budget |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Offerings | \$15,344 | \$16,042 | (\$698) |
| Interest | \$ 16 | \$ 12 | 4 |
| Total | \$15,360 | \$16,054 | (\$694) |
| | YTD Actual | YTD Budget | YTD Over/Under |
| Offerings | \$41,819 | \$48,750 | (\$6,931) |
| Interest | \$ 48 | \$ 39 | 9 |
| Total | \$41,867 | \$48,789 | (\$6,922) |

Old Business

Update on Constitution Review

Rich presented the proposed updates for council's review. After reviewing, Kevin made a motion to

accept as discussed. Rich seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Changes will be mailed to the congregation and then presented at the Congregational Meeting.

Mail Max Ad Update

Council was very pleased with the ad in the Mail Max. Council wants to thank Virgil and Amy for putting this together.

Storage Cabinets for Soup Kitchen Items

Beverly presented the proposed storage cabinets to be purchased for the Soup Kitchen needs. Virgil will check to find out the best price Whirlpool can give us on the locking cabinets.

New Direction Youth Group

Information was sent to Bev via email from Debbie Kroening regarding the new young people's group, "New Direction". Council discussed Deb's desire to form a new committee for the young people's group to plan for group activities and other ideas. The "New Direction" will be part of the worship service on April 28. Kevin made a motion to approve the formation of the committee for the youth group. Virgil seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Standing Committee Reports Worship (via email)

Council discussed the Worship Committee's recommendations from the survey findings and will be discussing it further. Council approves of the changes to Advent/Christmas on a trial basis.

Fellowship

Committee discussed having next year's Chili Cook-off in November. They are planning a "Trunk or Treat" for Halloween in our parking lot. They will be passing out flyers at that time for our Chili Cook-off at church for the next week.

Fellowship will serve cake on May 5 after confirmation.

Building/Property

Jim Steinbauer and Virgil will be cleaning out the gutters when the weather is a little better. Kevin will set a clean up day for church sometime during the first part of May.

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Discretionary Giving at Peace Lutheran Church

This relatively unknown way of our Christian outreach has been a traditionally-accepted practice for some time now at Peace Lutheran Church and in many other churches across America.

Discretionary giving is shared by our Pastor in providing care for the needy, some of whom might be members of our church and some who are not. Examples of its use might include money given to a hungry family to purchase groceries; money given to an ailing elderly woman to provide her with transportation to a doctor appointment; money for a new pair of slacks for a homeless person or perhaps only gas money for a woman stranded in the area with no money to fuel her car for a trip back home.

Within our own church, for instance, we provided such help to a member who had trouble paying his utility bills.

Our pastor is allowed to spend no more than \$50 at any one time based on his sole judgement of need and at his complete discretion. This form of sincere,

heartfelt giving is confidential financial support and for people truly in need.

This form of giving may very well be the most poignant example of Jesus' teaching where we help the poor and downtrodden

and where we share freely of the blessings that God has given us. If you wish to contribute to the Discretionary Giving Fund here at PLC (either in cash, gift card or simply a promise of a service such as a local car ride), contact the church office and tell us how you'd like to help.



Council Minutes

Continued from Page 2

Also the west end of the parking lot will be cleaned up. Council discussed fertilization and weed control for the grounds. The cost is about \$782 for four applications from Lawn Medic in South Bend. Plan is to wait until next year and add into budget.

Pastor's Report

The summary of pastor's activities are as follows: Chili Cook-off, Church Council Retreat, Confirmation Class, Family Fellowship, Home Visits, Hospital Visits, Lenten Soup Suppers, Lutheran Clergy Text Study, Mutual Ministry Committee, Nursing Home Visits, Office Visit, Ordination in Hammond, Ind., Radio Interview, Thursday, Men's Bible Study, Tuesday Prayer Meeting, Tutoring at Upton Middle School, Worship Committee, Worship on four Sundays and four Wednesdays.

NALC convocation is in Indianapolis, Indiana in early August, from Wednesday at noon, until Friday at 5 p.m. Peace can send one delegate and a visitor. This year the new bishop will be elected, so it is very important to send a delegate from Peace.

The tax schedule has changed on figuring mileage. Pastor suggested to receive \$.15 per mile for gas when he rides his scooter, instead of the \$.585 a mile when he drives his car. Virgil made a motion to pay \$.15 per mile for gas when Pastor Hartten rides his scooter, Kevin seconded the motion and the motion was

passed.

New Business

Bev discussed tuition assistance for the North American Lutheran Seminary. Last year we had a special offering plate in May to contribute to the NALS. Kevin made a motion to have a special offering plate for NALS tuition assistance. Ed seconded the motion and the motion passed. It was decided to have the special offering on Confirmation Sunday, May 5.

Discretionary fund

This fund was set up many years ago for the pastor to use at his discretion in case of an emergency need for a congregation member or a member of our community. This is a fund that members donated monies for these special needs. An article will be published either in the newsletter and/or a bulletin to further explain this fund.

Closing notes

Pastor passed out a flyer titled "Make your church both Safe and Welcoming". This is a topic that will be discussed at a later time.

Motion to adjourn. Karen made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Closing Prayer - Pastor Hartten



April showers bring . . .

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS for Berrien County Cancer Services

I am but one person . . . what difference can I make?

BCCS receives no Medicare, Medicaid or insurance payments. Your donations stay in our community – “neighbors helping neighbors” - BCCS provides in-home nursing visits, needed equipment, supplies, financial assistance, support groups for patients, caregivers and programs for families. Donations and volunteers are key to continuing services at no cost for those with cancer or related illnesses.

HELP US FILL THE JAR IN THE NARTHEX!
Collecting now through Sunday, May 5th
Together, we make a difference!



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF - BASKETS OF PROMISE 2019

Our Lenten collection is ongoing throughout the month of April. Donations and contributions are welcome over the next couple of months as we continue to assemble kits. Your generosity helps turn ordinary items into extraordinary gifts of hope for the growing number of people the world over dealing with some of life's most challenging situations.

Many thanks to our members and friends who annually support these acts of care and love for local and global programs such as Berrien County Cancer Service, LWR Personal Care and School Kits, NALC-DR and other ongoing and new service efforts throughout the year. With the frustration we feel as we watch the daily news – these are things we can do to make a difference in the world.



Many thanks to our volunteers who assembled our Care Kits.

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen donations appreciated

Thank you for your contributions of food, gift cards, and money donated during our annual Soup Kitchen drive held in February. Your contributions are very important for our continued service to the clients of the Soup Kitchen in Benton Harbor.

In February we prepared and served 91 people a meal of chicken and noodles, corn, mixed fruit, bread and dessert. In April we served 113 people a meal of ham, hash brown casserole, corn, tossed salad, mixed fruit, bread, and dessert. Those who prepare

THE BENTON HARBOR
SOUP KITCHEN™
HEART-TO-HEART™



and serve from our congregation are also appreciated very much. Anyone is welcome to help. It is a joyful and humbling experience.

Thank you again.

Barb Barry and Bev So

Last chance to add new cards to our SCRIP Box

We currently carry 35 different vendor gift cards, in varying denominations, in our Cash and Carry SCRIP inventory. We plan to eliminate a few in order to make room for your favorite restaurant, grocery store and gasoline choices.

What do we offer?

Ace, Amazon, Applebee's, BP*, Bath & Body Works, Best Buy*, Bob Evans, Burger King, Celebration Cinema, Chili's, Clementine's*, Cracker Barrel, CVS, Dairy Queen, GFS, Penney's, Jo-Ann Fabrics, Kohl's, Lowe's, Marathon, Martin's, Meijer, Outback*, Panera, Parable, PetSmart, Pizza Hut, Red Lobster, Roger's, Shell local, Subway, Home Depot, Walgreens, Walmart/Sam's Club, Wendy's.

(*recently added) Do you shop regularly at a vendor you would like to see added to the list? Olive Garden, Whole Foods, Taco Bell, iTunes, Papa John's, Dunkin' Donuts, Staples and Ulta are possibilities.

For those once or twice a year purchases on other cards, you can always order cards on Sunday and usually have them in your hands by Wednesday. You

can use this method to purchase Christmas gifts, lodging, airline tickets, theme parks, etc.

To see a complete list of retailers to choose from, go to shopwithscrip.com. At the bottom of the page you will see the option to see the retailer lists either alphabetically or by category.

Make your suggestions in May. Changes will be made June 1.

Low Denomination Cards Now Available

Until May 24, select retailers are offering low denomination gift cards, which are perfect for teachers' gifts, graduation gifts and confirmation gifts.

\$5 cards are available from Barnes & Noble, Blimpie, Cold Stone, Panera, Starbucks and Taco Bell.

\$10 cards are available from Amazon, Applebee's, CVS, Olive Garden/Cheddars, The Home Depot, IHOP, Meijer, Outback, Red Lobster, Regal, Safeway, Target and Walmart.

Spring is Here! It's time to get out to our gardens!

To help you plant beautiful, productive gardens, Peace will again partner with Barbotts to offer quality bedding plants for your gardens at rock bottom prices!

We've lowered certificate prices this year for even more savings!

It's a Win - Win - Win situation!

- Barbott provides certificates to Peace at discounted prices - **Barbott wins with plant sales!**
- Peace prices include a rebate you earn for the church with each certificate - **Peace wins!**
- Peace offers certificates to you at lower than market prices - **You win with lower costs!**

Get your Certificates through Scrip on Sundays or M - TH in the office through May !

Help support our local nursery, the church, and your budget, too!

Available items include:

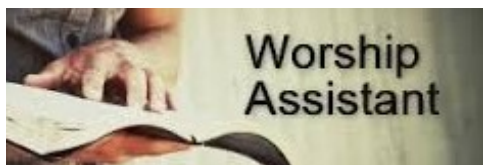
- **48 Plant Flats for \$11.** You can mix and match veggies and flowers. Items include tomatoes, peppers, broccoli, cauliflower, green beans, pumpkins, alyssum, wax begonias, salvia, coleus, dianthus, dusty miller, shade impatiens, lobelia, marigolds, moss roses, pansies, petunias, salvia, snapdragons, verbena, vinca and zinnias.
- **10" Hanging Baskets for \$12.50.** Choose from begonias, impatiens, petunias, geraniums, ferns and more.
- **4.5" Round Pots for \$3.50.** These are mostly annual flowers including grasses, ageratum, angelonias, argythemums, bidens, million bells, cleome, coleus, euphorbia, lantana, lobelia, phlox, heliotrope, gerbera daisies, ivy, geraniums and begonias.
- **4" Square Pots for \$2.** These include perennials, herbs, vinca vines, asparagus fern, spikes and vegetables.

Planning is underway for the 2019 Paul Todd Benefit Concert

We are planning to bring Paul Todd and Paul Todd, Jr. back for a repeat concert, most likely in early August. We are waiting for a list of open dates at this time. As soon as we get a firm date, we will send the information out so you can mark the date on your calendars and start telling your friends and family about it.

Put this on your calendars for sure! Last year's concert was a huge success; with many folks asking if they were coming back this year.

If anyone would like to lend a hand in the planning of the concert please notify Sharon Schmidt (983-2590).



SUPPORTING OUR WORSHIP

Serving this Month:

Worship Leaders: Pastor Steve Hartten,
Pastor Ron Schmidt

Organist: Maria Tallman

Choir Director: Debbie Kroening

Audio: Josh Lochner, Mark
Carpenter

Video: Jim Damaske

Usher: Ken Berry

Communion: Amy Cahill and Teresa
Hogan

May 5

Greeters/Ushers: Rich and Norma
Carpenter

Lector: Shari Schmidt

Altar Guild: Ginger Kunst

Fellowship: The Fellowship Committee,
The Sorensens and The Cahills

Altar Flowers: Bev So

May 12

Greeters/Ushers: Louise and Greg Solak

Lector: Louise Solak

Altar Guild: Margaret Schmieding

Altar Flowers: The Cahills

May 19

Greeters/Ushers: Barb and Ken Berry

Lector: Herb Kroening

Altar Guild: Louise Solak

Altar Flowers: Open

Fellowship: Open

May 26

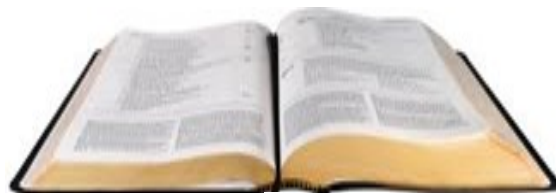
Greeters/Ushers: The Cahill Family

Lector: Amy Cahill

Altar Guild: Mark Carpenter

Altar Flowers: The Cahills

THIS MONTH'S READINGS



Sun., May 5 - Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-22, Psalm 30

Revelation 5:1-14 John 21:1-19

Sun., May 19 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 150

Revelation 21:1-7, John 16:12-22

Sun., May 12 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 20:17-35, Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30

Sun., May 26 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15, Psalm 67

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27, John 16:23-33

FAVORITE HYMN SUNDAY
MAY 12
10:15 A.M.



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|--|---|---------------------|-----|
| | | | 1 9-12 Office Hours 2:30 Upton 7:30p Genesis Study | 2 9-12 Office Hours 8 Men's Ministry 7p Choir | 3 Office closed | 4 |
| 5 10:15 Worship Confirmation 11:15 Fellowship | 6 9-12 Office Hours 6p Fellowship Committee Mtg | 7 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg 7p Discipleship Class | 8 9-12 Office Hours 2:30 Upton 7:30p Genesis Study | 9 9-12 Office Hours 8 Men's Ministry 7p Choir | 10 Office closed | 11 |
| 12 10:15 Worship Favorite Hymn Sunday | 13 9-12 Office Hours 7p Worship Committee Mtg | 14 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg 7p Discipleship Class | 15 9-12 Office Hours 2:30 Upton 7:30p Genesis Study | 16 News Due 9-12 Office Hours 8 Men's Ministry 7p Choir | 17 Office closed | 18 |
| 19 10:15 Worship 11:15 Congregational Mtg | 20 9-12 Office Hours 6p Council | 21 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg 7p Discipleship Class | 22 9-12 Office Hours 2:30 Upton 7:30p Genesis Study | 23 9-12 Office Hours 8 Men's Ministry 7p Choir | 24 Office closed | 25 |
| 26 10:15 Worship | 27 Office closed for Memorial Day | 28 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg 7p Discipleship Class | 29 9-12 Office Hours 2:30 Upton 7:30p Genesis Study | 30 9-12 Office Hours 8 Men's Ministry 7p Choir | 31 Office closed | |

Birthdays

1 Roger Siewert
2 Teresa Hogan
4 Betty Hettig
6 Ruth Retzke
11 Barb Berry
12 Ainsley Cahill
12 Sue Enders
14 Nancy Cooley
15 Lee Hornack
23 Eleanor Rinas
25 Loretta Hartten
25 Bud Talbot
26 Miles Farmer
27 Darlene Gaul
28 Veronica Coulombe
28 Amy Cahill
31 Patrick Cahill

Anniversaries

7 Josh & April Lochner
12 Ray & Cathy Dalrymple
14 James & Judith Priebe
18 Virgil & Christine Bennett
23 Ken & Barb Berry Jr.
30 Kevin & Carrie Kutchie

Military

Lt/jg Chad Knipschild
301 Maple
Edgewater, MD 21037

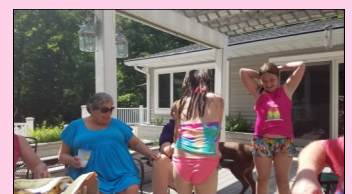
Shut-In's

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

Albert Beebe
Marian Hogue
Joe Naines
Ruth Retzke
Betty Robbins
Roger and Elaine Sirk
Barbara Southland
Mildred Wantz

No Family Fellowship for May

May is such a busy month for our young families that we are not planning a Family Fellowship event for May. Stay tuned to see what we cook up for June.





**Join us for
Confirmation Sunday on
May 5**

**Please pray for Ainsley Cahill
and Emily Sorensen as they
prepare to
Affirm their Baptisms**

Special Congregational Meeting

**May 19
following the
10:15 am.
Worship Service**



Peace
LUTHERAN CHURCH

3590 Lincoln Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085

