



June, 2018

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

While reading my devotions one morning, I came across this piece from Father Alexander Schmemmann, an Orthodox Christian priest who taught in Paris, France, and New York City during the Twentieth Century.

"This is the mystery of the Church, the mystery of the body of Christ: 'Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.' (Matt. 18:20) This miracle of the church assembly lies in that it is not the "sum" of the sinful and unworthy people who comprise it, but the body of Christ. How often do we say we are going to church to obtain help, strength or consolation? We forget, meanwhile, that we are the Church, we make it up, that Christ abides in his members and that the Church does not exist outside us or above us, but we are in Christ and Christ is in us. Christianity consists not in bestowing on each the possibility of "personal perfection" but first of all in calling and commanding Christians to be the Church – to manifest and confess the

presence of Christ and his kingdom in the world." -

Eucharist: Sacrament of the Kingdom

As Peace continues to live out its 25th year, this serves as a reminder that what happens in worship on Sunday morning is to be carried out into the world

Monday – Saturday. Christ not only meets us in times of worship, He journeys with us as we leave worship to reengage the world. How people perceive us in the world will be their first impression of this congregation. We are all evangelists; we are all constantly representing the God we profess. How are people perceiving our Lord and Savior and His congregation we call Peace?



SENIOR PASTOR
STEVE HARTTEN

Peace Lutheran Church

3590 Lincoln Avenue

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: 269-556-7000

Church Office Email:

PeaceLutheranStJoe@sbcglobal.net

Church Website:

PeaceLutheranStJoe.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday

9 a.m.—12 p.m.

Pastoral Contact Info:

Rev. Steve Hartten

Senior Pastor

Phone: (H) 281-0307

(C) 303-638-7598

Rev. Ronald Schmidt

Staff Pastor

Phone: (H) 983-2590

Audio/Video Requests:

For Audio CD call:

Josh Lochner 429-4415

For Video DVD call:

Jim Damaske 769-3792

Weekly Worship & Praise Opportunities:

Sunday

9:15 a.m. Worship

Thursday

7 p.m. Worship

Tuesday

11:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting

Peace Lutheran Church's Silver Anniversary Celebration

The Heritage Center, Downtown St. Joe

7 p.m. Saturday, October 27, 2018

Cocktail hour 6-7 p.m.

Catered Dinner with choice of entrée



What Does This Mean to Me?

This regular newsletter feature—playing on Luther's famous line in the Small Catechism—is designed to help us all better understand why things happen as they do at Peace. The worship committee actively seeks feedback or questions from congregation members confused or concerned about worship practices.

“Why does the congregation collect an offering during worship?” Part II

Last month we considered the difference between a tithe and an offering. Since the congregation collects an offering and not a tithe, why give ten percent as an offering? Tithing is a way of teaching us that God must be our first priority. Deuteronomy 14: 22, 23b states, “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. . . that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.”

When a household budget is made, the household distributes its income on various categories: shelter, utilities, food, clothing, entertainment. If a large, modern home is important for the family, more money

will go toward a mortgage than if a simpler, older style home is preferred. If dining out is more important than cooking, the entertainment portion of the budget will be higher than the food portion. If keep up with the latest fashion trend is valued, then clothing will be a large expense line in the budget. People distribute their resources in a way that values what is important. So where does God fit into the budget?

The practice of tithing recognizes that God is first in our lives. The budget line item for offering comes first, giving is “first fruits” or “off the top.” God doesn’t get the leftovers; whatever we have after spending money on what we value. The value of our relationship with God and the means of expressing our thanks is at the top of the page; the appropriate location for what we value most.

If tithing is so important, does God need our tithes? We’ll take up that question next month.



SAVE THE DATE!


IN CONCERT
PAUL TODD & PAUL TODD JR.
July 19 – 7:00 p.m.



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3590 Lincoln Avenue, St. Joseph

These unique, energetic performers will bring your favorite songs and instrumentals to a whole new level! Paul Todd on six keyboards, Paul Jr. on percussion – it’s a MUST SEE!

TICKETS are \$20 - Available at the
Church Office - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. M-Th.

 **Cash and Check Accepted**

PROCEEDS BENEFIT BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE

Watch for more details

Coming in September: Every Member Book Study

The success of the Women’s Book Study group has inspired our leadership to invite every member to read the same book starting in September.

Small groups will form with facilitators to guide the discussion. The book is *I Am a Church Member* by Thom S. Rainer. The book is only 79 pages and it is divided into 6 chapters.

Easy reading and there are even discussion questions provided! Watch for more information in the coming months as we gear up for an Every Member Book Study in anticipation of our 25th Anniversary.



Don’t forget: Graduation Sunday is June 10.
Graduate Steven Chapman will be playing
“In Christ Alone” on his guitar for us.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH NALC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

MON-THURS,

JUNE 25-28

5:30 - 7:45 P.M.

LESSONS, CRAFTS, DINNER

THURS, JUNE 28

WRAP UP SERVICE AT 7 P.M.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL FOLLOWING



**REGISTER BY WED., JUNE 20
AND RECEIVE A PERSONALIZED
WATER BOTTLE**



Peace Lutheran Church

Located at the corner of Lincoln & Maiden Lane

3590 Lincoln Ave.

St. Joseph, MI 49085

269-556-7000

peacelutheranstjoe@sbcglobal.net

www.peacelutheranstjoe.org

REGISTRATION

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION OR REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.PEACELUTHERANSTJOE.ORG

Child's Name: _____ Boy ___ Girl ___

Birth Date: ___/___/___

Grade in Fall 2018 (circle one) PK K 1 2 3 4 5

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone # (to reach you during event if necessary): _____

Food Allergies or other health concerns: No Yes if yes, please explain: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Name of others who have permission to pick up your child: _____

I hereby give Peace Lutheran Church permission to photograph my child and to use the photos for the promotion and marketing of Peace Lutheran Church and future VBS programs: No Yes

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

7 Ways to Make a Church More Guest Friendly

By Rick Warren

There are a lot of reasons a church might grow. Sometimes people come because of the preaching. Sometimes people come because of the music. Some people like the great programs for kids and youth.

But I'm convinced that amid all of our emphasis in the last few decades on building weekend services that are more attractive to outsiders, there's an often overlooked factor in church growth . . .

Growing churches are friendly to guests.

All churches *think* they're friendly, but when you take a good look at them, you often discover they're friendly to people who have been attending for 15 years or more—not to *new* people.

A guest's experience in the first 12 minutes dramatically influences whether they're coming back or not. You never get a second chance to make a first impression.

When non-Christians come to your church for the first time, their number one emotion is fear. What will people think? What are they going to do? Am I going to have to sign something, sing something, sacrifice something, or say something? They don't know what's going on, and they're scared to death.

Your first goal with guests (and by the way, I never call them visitors) is to get them to **relax**. Then you can communicate with them. When people are afraid, their barriers are up and it becomes a case of, "I dare you to teach me something!" No matter how good your sermon is, they won't listen to the Good News about Jesus until they get past those fears.

You need to put guests at ease. How do you do that? Here are some ideas:

Reserve your best parking spots for guests. It just shows you're thinking about *them*. If you had guests for dinner at your house, you'd probably do whatever it took to make them feel more comfortable. You'd use your best silverware and your best dishes. You might ask them about food preferences before you plan the meal. You should show similar courtesies to guests at your church.

Station greeters outside your building. You need people strategically placed around your campus to greet guests. At Saddleback, we used to play a game. I would dare people to get into the building without having their hand shaken at least three times. We place greeters way out in the parking lot. Why? We've found that some people hate to be greeted publicly during the service, but they love to be greeted personally.

Set up an information table. Put all sorts of

information on the table that might help people find their way around. Put maps out with classrooms and restrooms easily marked. Put out brochures about the church that give people information they can take home and read at their convenience. Most importantly, have hosts stationed there to help people find their way around. Make sure your hosts know where the restrooms are and where the children should go!

Have music playing when people enter. In America almost every public building has music playing. Even in the elevator, music is playing. You go into the restroom and music is playing. You go into a restaurant and music is playing. People expect to hear music. If you walked into a church right now and everyone was dead silent, you'd probably be uncomfortable. On the other hand, if you heard fairly

loud praise music playing, you'd probably feel much more comfortable. Here's something interesting I've found: If you play soft music, people talk softly. But if you play loud music, people talk louder. When non-Christians come into your church, they want it to be noisy.

Allow guests to remain anonymous in the service. Please don't make guests stand up. The three greatest fears people have are going to a party with strangers,

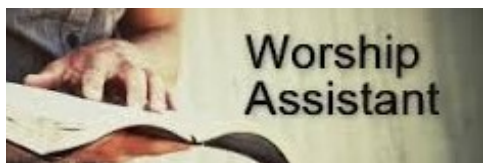
having to speak before a crowd, and being asked personal questions in public. So when we ask our guests to tell us their name and where they are from in front of everyone, we subject them to all three of their greatest fears at one time. Bad idea. How do you identify guests if you don't have them stand up? Have them fill out a welcome card. Then someone from the church can connect with them later.

Offer a warm, casual public welcome that relaxes people. If you want to make guests feel welcome, you've got to be at ease yourself. That's what most people expect—just watch the late-night TV shows. Like it or not, how the pastor and the worship leader interact with each other sets the tone for good or for bad in a service.

Use technology to break down the barrier. Have an app or web-based connection card. Allow people to send a text to a short number to get more information. Ask people to check in on Facebook. And help people know where to go online for more information if they skip the information desk (because most of them will).

You have to break down the fear barriers before people will ever open up to your message and consider coming back to your church. Try these guest-friendly tips in the coming weeks, and help your church grow this year.





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

Ushers: Rich Steinbauer and
Tammy Rosolik

Communion: Shawn and Amy
Cahill

Altar Guild: Ginger Kunst
(T): Jerry Pliley

June 3

Greeters/Ushers: Kevin and
Ginger Kunst

Lector: Marty Tallman

Fellowship: Quilters

Altar Flowers: The Cahill Family

THIS MONTH'S READINGS

**Sun., June 3 - Second Sunday after
Pentecost**

Deuteronomy 5:12-15, Psalm 81:1-10
2 Corinthians 4:5-12, Mark 2:23-28, 3:1-6

**Sun., June 10 - Third Sunday after
Pentecost**

Genesis 3:8-15, Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-35

June 10

Greeters/Ushers: Jim and
Shirley Chapman

Lector: Steven Chapman

June 17

Greeters/Ushers: Jim and
Elaine Chartrand

Lector: Elaine Chartrand

Fellowship: Open

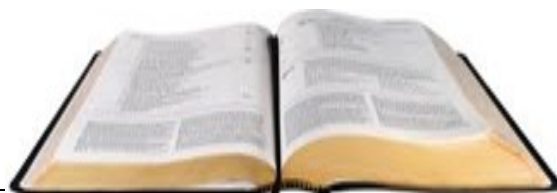
Altar Flowers: Dominic and Bev
So

June 26

Greeters/Ushers: Jim and
Judy Priebe

Lector: Jim Priebe

Altar Flowers: Jeannette Jeske



**Sun., June 17 - Fourth Sunday after
Pentecost**

Ezekiel 17:22-24, Psalm 1
2 Corinthians 5:1-17, Mark 4:26-34

**Sun., June 24 - Fifth Sunday after
Pentecost**

Job 38:1-11, Psalm 124
2 Corinthians 6:1-13, Mark 4:35-41

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Office closed	2
3 9:15 Worship	4 9-12 Office Hours 6 p Fellowship Committee Mtg	5 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg 7p Mutual Ministry Meeting	6 9-12 Office Hours 7:30p Genesis Study	7 9-12 Office Hours 9 Quilters 7p Worship with communion	8 Office closed 9 Soup Kitchen	9
10 9:15 Worship with communion Graduation Sunday	11 9-12 Office Hours 7p Worship Committee Mtg	12 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg	13 9-12 Office Hours 7:30p Genesis Study	14 News due 9-12 Office Hours 9 Quilters 7p Worship	15 Office closed	16
17 9:15 Worship	18 9-12 Office Hours 6p Council Meeting	19 9-12 Office Hours 11:30 Prayer Mtg	20 9-12 Office Hours 7:30p Genesis Study	21 9-12 Office Hours 9 a.m. Quilters 7p Worship with communion	22 Office closed	23
24 9:15 Worship with communion	25 9-12 Office Hours Vacation Bible School	26 9-12 Office Hours Vacation Bible School	27 9-12 Office Hours Vacation Bible School	28 9-12 Office Hours 7p Worship Vacation Bible School	29 Office closed	30

Birthdays

2 Ron Wilson
4 Albert Beebe
4 Shawn Cahill
4 Margy Scott
5 Jerry Pliley
7 Lisa Zajac
8 Shelly Fitzpatrick
9 Keith Chapman
9 Lorene Schlutt
10 Shane Miller
10 Sherri Nitz
13 Brynn Fitzpatrick
15 Brandon Enders
17 Christine Bennett
17 Ruth Lucker

23 Nolan Fitzpatrick
24 Beka Enders
25 Bradly Dalrymple
25 Nan Hacker
29 Larry Hacker
29 Jeannette Jeske

Anniversaries

14 Nancy & Bob
Cooley
16 Mark & Becky
Carpenter
16 Brian & Kelly Nimtz
24 Dominic & Beverly
So
25 Jim & Jeanine

Damaske
25 Doug & Sandy
Landis

Military

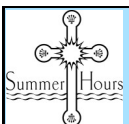
Brandon M Enders
1061 USS Tennessee
Ave
Kings Bay, GA 31547

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
Al Reschke
Betty Robbins
Barbara Southland
Mildred Wantz



Summer Hours are underway. Worship times are:
7 p.m. Thursday & 9:15 a.m. Sunday



April showers bring . . .

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS for Berrien County Cancer Services

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

*WE RAISED **\$350** FOR PATIENT CARE!*

'CHANGE' CAN BE A GOOD THING! Your donations will help BCCS continue -home nursing visits, providing needed equipment, supplies, and care programs for patients and families. Neighbors helping neighbors – your donations are key to continuing services. Seeking info on BCCS? See the table in the narthex for BCCS services, contacts and how to volunteer.

 *Thank You*

Together, we truly make a difference!



Ed and Lisa Zajac invite members of
the church to join them for the
3rd Annual Fun & Fireworks,
July 3rd, 2018

1574 Lemon Creek Road, Baroda
RSVP at 269-944-7537

Join the Zajacs for a great place to view the Baroda fireworks without the hassle. Lots of parking by the Zajacs and a quick escape route. Bring a lawn chair, beverages of choice... If you want to join them early, you can bring a plate to pass around. They will be making Hot Dogs and Hamburgers around 7:30 p.m. Fireworks at Dusk

Peace
LUTHERAN CHURCH

3590 Lincoln Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085

