



**'TIDINGS OF PEACE'** from

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
411 EAST 6TH STREET  
MCCOOK, NE 69001

TO:

Three vertical lines for an address.

May 2019  
**TIDINGS OF PEACE**  
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

It has been said of Nebraska that if you don't like the weather, just wait a bit and it will change. I have seen that to be true of these last couple weeks as we have experienced a taste of all four seasons. Yet I'm guessing that it won't be long before we will be running our air-conditioners and longing for cooler weather. Our God is a God of order, and though we experience these little glitches, His creation moves forward and the seasons run as He has intended; nothing is out of His control.

In recent days I have had the privilege of watching my son transition from a tricycle to a two-wheeler with training wheels. And as he makes this transition I've noticed myself transitioning also; instead of just following behind to give a little nudge once and while, I now find myself hovering around him more; walking beside him cheering him on, rushing ahead to warn him, and to catch him if need be if there is a down-hill or sharp turn, and at times I find myself carrying the bike while he runs because the up-hills are too long and steep, and I find

myself running and shouting, "be careful," as he peddles faster and faster yelling, "lets race!" In all these things I find myself dreading the inevitable skinned knee and elbow.

As I consider our heavenly Father, I can't help but think that He does these kinds of things with each of us; giving a gentle nudge to keep us going, surrounding us, cheering us on, warning us of danger, and grieving when we hurt, and picking us up when we fall. I find comfort in the fact that I am never out of His sight, and nothing is out of His control; at times, life for us, can be as unpredictable as Nebraska Weather, and yet in the unpredictability of life; in life's difficulties and life's joys, our heavenly Father is never surprised or caught off-guard;

He is steady! He is the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

God bless your spring  
Pastor Lonnie



### FROM AN ELDER

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*Acts 5:12-14, 17-20 - Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women ... But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." You've probably seen the game Whack-a-Mole. Plastic moles come up out of holes in the game surface, and your job as a player is to whack them on the head with a hammer, forcing them back into their holes. Of course, they never stay gone forever—as soon as you whack one mole, you can count on it coming right back.*

The Jewish religious leaders in Jerusalem must have felt like they were playing a game of Whack-a-Mole. First, there was Jesus, healing and teaching and becoming vastly popular with the people. They arrested Him and put Him to death. But now Jesus was back again, in the person of His disciples. They also were teaching and healing, and "the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women." What could they do? The same thing they did the first time—they arrested the

disciples, just like Jesus. But again, it didn't work. An angel came and opened the doors to their prison, sending them to the temple to start teaching about Jesus again! It must have been incredibly frustrating for the priests. But I imagine it was rather hard on the disciples as well. They were not idiots. They knew perfectly well that the last time the priests got this jealous of anyone, He wound up crucified. But it didn't stop them. They continued to teach others about Jesus. How could they do that, when they knew the price they might pay for it? Only in one way—by putting their trust in Jesus, laying the whole weight of their fears on Him. Most of us don't live under the same sort of persecution the disciples did. And yet sometimes we, too, feel like we are on the receiving end of a Whack-a-Mole hammer. We run into temptation after temptation. Trials afflict us—disease, death, loss of work or home or friendships. Just keeping going as a Christian can sometimes be incredibly hard. We think we're finally getting somewhere, and then BAM! The hammer comes down again. What can we do in this situation? Exactly the same thing as the disciples did. We can throw our whole weight of trust onto Jesus our Savior—not trying to handle things ourselves, but totally leaning on Him for help. He knows what it is like to suffer and be weary. He loved us enough to die for us. He will certainly help us.

**THE PRAYER:** Dear Lord, help me when the troubles of my life become too much. Strengthen me through Your Holy Spirit. Amen. This Daily Devotion was written by Dr. Kari Vo.



### MAY BIRTHDAYS

Ron Buck	5/1	Nicole Rawn	5/10	Scott Hanchera	5/19
Jerry Calvin	5/1	Lisa Schoup	5/11	Susan DeJonge	5/20
Sarah Risenhoover	5/1	Jennier Doucet	5/12	Joseph Vetrovsky	5/22
Brenda Grube	5/2	Derek Metzger	5/12	Jayde Aufrecht	5/23
Austin Thompson	5/2	Patricia Nielsen	5/12	Vaunda Hyde	5/23
Samson Ziebell	5/2	Kysen Hazlitt	5/14	Peggy Poore	5/23
Lonnie Felcher	5/3	Allyx Garretson	5/15	Danielle Schmacher	5/24
Jeff Polly	5/5	Amanda Pearce	5/15	Lindsay McConville	5/25
Henry Rawn	5/6	LaVonne Hanchera	5/16	Shane Buck	5/26
Sharon Kircher	5/7	Jenna Moench	5/17	Gerald Gohl	5/29
Dale Poore	5/8	Luka Rawn	5/17	John Swanhorst	5/30
Harlan Reiners	5/8	Linda Richards	5/17	Treven Critchfield	5/31
Jacob Krause	5/9	Spencer Rogers	5/18	Elizabeth Yilk	5/31

### MAY ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Alyssa & Todd Bauer	5/3/2014	5	Mitch Aimee Hazlitt	5/22/2010	9
Cindy & Mitchell Soucek	5/12/2000	19	Ron & Jeanne Rogers	5/23/1971	48
Tom & Cindy Shields	5/14/1983	36	Harold & Sue Carlson	5/24/2008	11
Joel & Linda Smith	5/18/1991	28	Gerald & Krisit Novak	5/30/1981	38
Nicholas & Hanah Nothnagel	5/21/2016	3	Raymond & Patricia Fisher	5/31/1964	55

We apologize if we have made a mistake. Please contact the office so we may get it corrected.



### WELCOME INTO GOD'S FAMILY

We would like to welcome Pake Dee Hamilton, who was brought into God's family through the waters of baptism on April 27th. Pake is the son of Logan and Nikki Hamilton.

### OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE

	Week to Date (April 21st-April 27th)	Month to Date (April 7th-April 27th)	Actual Year to Date (January 6th-April 27th)
Offerings	\$8,100.00	\$16,637.00	\$71,093.00
Expenses	\$3,805.00	\$15,977.00	\$77,481.00

This month's Going Beyond Sunday is for TBD.



## CREATIVE PRESCHOOL

Our last day of preschool will be May 7<sup>th</sup>. During the last hour of class on this day, we will be having a Field Day which will take place on the grass field across the alley from the preschool. Families are invited and encouraged to attend! Please make sure to dress your child in comfortable clothes for running and jumping. After our medals are awarded, we will celebrate with a root beer float, and enjoy playing together. You and your family are free to leave whenever you like, but please sign your child out with us before you go.

Thanks for being such great families to work with and for allowing us to be a part of your lives. It's been a great year! Have a wonderful summer and God bless all of you!

Mandy, Kelsey and Dani

### Forerunners Meeting April 14, 2019

Present for the meeting: Victor and Sandy Lauer, Fred and Deb Gleason, Darrell and KC Eckhardt, Curt and Cindy Swanhorst, Bob and Joanne Nemechek, Jim and Donna Hall, Jerry & Robin Calvin, Russ and Sue Ankersen. The minutes from the March, 2019 were read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried. The treasurer's report was given by Bob. The current bank balance is \$492.04. There were no bills to present. Old Business: The balance for the replacement of the church's vacuum is still at \$200. The Trustees need to be informed about this money and more money needs to be raised before this purchase can be made. New Business: Due to scheduling conflicts, there will be no meeting in May. We will, instead, meet on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 for a Grill/Potluck meal. KC and Darrell are the hosts for this meeting. We will clean and spray the dining room tables and chairs at our September meeting. We will meet at 5:00 that evening and will again have a Grill /Potluck meal. The safety stripping on the sidewalks in the front of the church need to be touched up and we will do that at the September meeting as well. Jerry asked that we discuss some ideas for a community outreach event sponsored by Forerunners. There were several ideas brought forward and we will discuss things in September. Bob mentioned that we gave a gift of \$75 to F.I.R.E. last year to help with expenses of the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter morning. A motion was made and seconded to give F.I.R.E. a gift of \$75 again this year to help with the expenses of the Easter Egg Hunt. Motion carried. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. Devotions were given by Fred, we played charades and Deb served a wonderful dessert.

## MAY READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
5th	The 3rd S. of Easter	Acts 9:1-22	Revelation 5:(1-7) 8-14	John 21:1-14 (15-19)
12th	The 4th S. of Easter	Acts 20:17-35	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
19th	The 5th S. of Easter	Acts 11:1-18	Revelation 21:1-7	John 16:12-22 or John 13:31-35
26th	The 6th S. of Easter	Acts 16:9-15	Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27	John 16:23-33 or John 5:1-9



## The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article – May 2019

Stewardship is not just about giving money to the church. It includes this, to be sure, but it is not limited to it. Stewardship involves our whole life – everything we have and everything we are.

Let us not, though, fall into the trap of thinking that because we give of ourselves in one area we can neglect giving in another. Stewardship is not stealing from Peter to pay Paul. It is not a game we play whereby we justify ourselves in not giving a tenth of our income because we have given in some other way. This is why our Lord warns:

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe the mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.” (Matthew 23:23)

We are given to do both – tithe of ourselves and what we have. And so it is that St. Paul makes his appeal to us:

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2)

We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God. We are not to have the mind of the world, where we exchange equal weight of this for an equal weight of that, and then think that we have done what God has required.

Our whole life is given over for service in and for the Church of God. This is to be done in thanksgiving for what God in Christ has accomplished for us. This is our spiritual worship, the reasonable response to what He has done for us – not one for the other, but all in all.

But what does this look like? St. Paul never lays down a general principle without also giving us some practical application of what shape that principle is to take concretely. He gives the general principle that our bodies are to be living sacrifices to God, and, after admonishing those who have been given particular gifts of grace to serve the church, St. Paul then speaks generally of what is expected of all. He says:

“Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” (Romans 12:9-13)

This is what it looks like to present your bodies as living sacrifices. This is how we live out the grace of God here in time.

Let us then heed the apostle's teaching. Let us present our bodies – everything that we have and everything that we are – as living sacrifices to God, our reasonable response to what God in Christ Jesus accomplished for us by His death and resurrection.

Through this we have forgiveness of sins, a new life in Christ, and eternal salvation. And through this worship, the grace of God is made manifest in His saints – for the church and the world.



### SKETE SHOOTING EVENT



## TOOLS FOR STEWARDSHIP and EVANGELISM

### SHUT INS

Please remember those who are unable to worship with us for one reason or another.

**Hillcrest:** Orian Fritz, Ruth Shields, Pam Leibbrandt, Harvey Ackermann, and Phyllis Berndt

**Brookdale McCook:** Leona Wudtke, Walt & Jean Sehnert, Paul & Ruby Ahrens, Adeline Kuhlmann, and Betty Harms.

**Highland Park:** Fred & Lois Boerger.

**McCook:** Mark Cummins

**Arapahoe:** Joyce Stupka

**Butte:** Don Kisker

**St. Paul:** Sandra Novak

**Lincoln:** Carla Bales

**Scottsbluff:** Betty Knapper

### ELDER VISITATION

In order to facilitate better connection between the church and members, the Elders are well into a program whereby they have been assigned specific sections of the city and make contact with all members within their assigned area. The purpose of these visits is to not only make contact, but also update contact information and discuss spiritual needs that our members may have. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Elders – Ron Aufrecht, Harold Carlson, Darrell Eckhardt, Phil Bamesberger, Victor Lauer, Fred Gleason or Russ Ankersen.

### FOOD PANTRY

At the November 2013 meeting of the Ministerial Association, one of the topics discussed related to support to the food pantry by the McCook congregations. One of the pastors put together a spread sheet based on the regular needs of the food pantry – the staples. The spread sheet identified an emphasis that each congregation can focus on for each month of the year to help stock the pantry. **Of course all donations are welcome (like cake mixes, icing, condiments, etc.),** but this provides an idea of their specific needs. As discussed at our meeting, here are the items for Peace to place an emphasis on, by month. January – soup or stew, February – crackers, March – Mac & Cheese, April – canned meats, **May – canned vegetables,** June – flour & sugar, July flour & sugar (again), August – Peanut butter, September – canned fruit, October – pork & beans, November – dry pasta, and December – beans.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preschool to 5th grade children are invited to Sunday School each Sunday from 9:15-10:15am downstairs. We have snacks, playtime, opening prayer, Bible study, and closing prayer. Currently our Bible time involves learning about the various people of the Bible and their influence on passing along God's Word to us today. Parents are always welcome to join us.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Altar Flowers	KNGN Sponsor
5th-Calvin	5th-Available
12th-Available	12th-Available
19th-Hyde	19th-Available
26th-Available	26th-Available

Note: Cost to sponsor a "Your Hour of Worship" program on KNGN 1300AM Radio is \$45. If you are interested in sponsoring a program, please call the church office for available dates.

May 5th	
Elder on duty	Victor Lauer
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Harold Carlson
Acolyte	Jacob Risenhoover
Acolyte	Blayzon Mooney
Powerpoint	Jeff Pinkerton
Late Service	
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Usher	Dennis Chipman
Lay Reader	Renelle Mooney
Acolyte	Joy Rippen
Acolyte	Kori Rippen
Powerpoint	Ben Schow
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

May 12th	
Elder on duty	Ron Aufrecht
Organist	Eric Geilenkerchen
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Grant Pfanstiel
Acolyte	Addyson Snyder
Acolyte	Austin Thompson
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Late Service	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	Paul Sellers
Lay Reader	Sue Ankersen
Acolyte	Ryland Peters
Acolyte	Laney Peters
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

May 19th	
Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Gary Buk
Lay Reader	George Wurm
Acolyte	Alexander Nielsen
Acolyte	Aaron Nielsen
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	Fred Gleason
Acolyte	Trevon Critchfield
Acolyte	Delaney Critchfield
Powerpoint	Jim Hall
Video	Russ Ankersen

May 26th	
Elder on duty	Darrell Eckhardt
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Melissa Blauvelt
Greeter	Jay Blauvelt
Usher	Jay Blauvelt
Lay Reader	Russ Ankersen
Acolyte	Camryn Yilk
Acolyte	Kapri Loop
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Lois Lepper
Greeter	Pat Penner
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Lay Reader	Phil Bamesberger
Acolyte	Emma Brown
Acolyte	Elizabeth McConville
Powerpoint	Stacie Aufrecht
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER



PEACE TALK

Watching television is not a common occurrence in our household, but when an evening is set-aside for "movie night," we usually pick something on Nefflix. Now I can watch a western, drama, suspense, horror, sci-fi, or any type of film you can imagine and never judge its content, unless it is religious. For some reason I have to put on my faith filters during a movie, that has anything to do with God or the church. What am I afraid of? Am I impassioned that I might have to defend God, or fear an unhappy conclusion? Anyway there I sat, watching this film about the life of an energetic Pastor leading a prosperous congregation, until he felt God revealed to him there was no Hell. The events leading up to the point of him loosing his church were filled with great drama and debates, climaxing eventually with his return and starting another congregation. This movie was not on my list of great movies, but it got me to thinking about how that spiritual mole creates meaninglessness in Christ's coming. Is there a Hell? Yes, look in the Bible, Matthew 3:12, 13:41-42, 24:51, Mark 9:43, John 3:18-20, Jude 1:7, and Revelation 14:10-11, 21:8. However, my takeaway from this film was the fact that this pastor thought God spoke to him no matter how counterintuitive this message was. We can easily fall into Satan's trap as well. He can disguise himself so people do not even realize who he is. What is Satan's appearance? Is he really a red horned, forked tail man with a pitchfork? I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but Satan will appear beautiful and tempting. "Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" (2 Corinthians 11:14). Satan's mission is to always stop God's work, a wolf in sheep's clothing. Satan will sway you with his lies (John 8:44) blinds the minds of unbelievers (2 Corinthians 4:4) comes as false apostles (2 Corinthians 11:13-15). Satan's mission is to stop God's work just like he did with this Pastor in the movie. He works on you and me as well as we become victims in our own society, blasted with evil from every direction. Therefore, we need to be constantly on guard and deeply rooted in scripture to battle these schemes of the devil. Now I like movies that have a happy conclusion, but the new church this pastor started was with his unchanged pagan belief. Not only was he risking his own salvation, but all his followers as well. To make this an extra sad movie was the fact that it was a true story. To me it was an awakening. It is our responsibility toward fellow Christians to set fallen saints straight, who are on the edge of diverting from the truth (James 5:19-20). Satan has proven he is "more cunning than any beast of the field" (Genesis 3:1). Lord, give us the wisdom to know the truth through your word. Protect us against temptations and deliver us from the evil one. For this we give you thanks Lord, for your steadfast love endures forever. Amen.



**Peace Lutheran Church**

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May

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 4:00pm Board of Education 5:30pm Board of Evangelism	3 Upper Fellowship Hall reservation	4 Upper Fellowship Hall reservation 7:00am Men's Bible Study
5 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 3:00pm MS Society Randall Goltl family Jamie Gray	6 7:00pm Women's Bible Study  PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	7 1:30pm Worship Committee	8	9 6:30pm Board of Elders	10	11 7:00am Men's Bible Study
PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (VACATION)						
12 <u>Communion Sunday</u> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship David & DeEtta Grooms Brenda Grube family	13 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	14 2:30pm Hillcrest Bingo 6:30pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	15	16	17	18 7:00am Men's Bible Study
PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (VACATION)						
19 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship Emily Haarberg Patricia Hagan	20 7:00pm Women's Bible Study  PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	21	22	23 1:30pm Hillcrest Service 2:30pm Brookdale McCook	24	25 7:00am Men's Bible Study
26 <u>Communion Sunday</u> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship Janine Hall-Patenburg James & Donna Hall Upper & Lower Fellowship Hall reservation	27 <u>Office Closed</u> 6:00pm LWML 7:00pm Women's Bible Study  PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	28	29	30	31	