



'TIDINGS OF PEACE' from

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

TO:

Three vertical lines for an address.

*H*ello again,

I think Spring has finally arrived; the trees are full of leaves; the birds are busy with their young; and baby Cottontails are making themselves at home in our flowerbeds. Things seem much different than when Tanna, Emmett, and I first arrived; I think the threat of snow every weekend has finally passed and has been replaced with some very pleasant rain.

Some things, like the weather, have changed since we first arrived, but other things, valuable things, have remained the same; by this I mean the hospitality and welcome we have received from all of you since the day we arrived in McCook; the people of Peace helped us that day to unload a huge U-Haul truck in 15-degree weather, all the while smiling and joking around; I thank you. I continue today to be humbled by your consistent kindness, hospitality and welcoming hearts. Knowing that it was a busy transitional time for me, you thoughtfully postponed a formal greeting for my family and I until after Lent and Easter, but despite the delay, your zeal has not

diminished, evident by your generously showering us with food, gift cards, greeting cards, and other means of welcome and well-wishes. Many of the gifts to my family and I were given anonymously, so in an effort to not miss anyone, I say to you now, thank you for your kindness and your welcoming us into your Peace Family! I am humbled, and I praise God for our partnership in the Gospel.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Lonnie Felcher

1Peter 4: 8-11

⁸ Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹ Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.



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The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Stewardship Ministry

June 2018: Newsletter Article
By Rev. Jason Braaten
Immanuel Lutheran Church - Tuscola, Ill.

“There are three conversions necessary to every man: the head, the heart, and the purse.” Attributed to Luther, though yet to be located in his vast writings, this statement echoes what Jesus taught about hearts and treasures. He said, “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:21; Luke 12:34).

But which conversion comes first? I submit that the order is this: first the head, then the purse, then the heart. Let me explain.

Our Lord Jesus Christ dwelt among us to save us. He took on our flesh, fulfilled the demands of the law in our place, became sin for us, and suffered torture and death on our behalf, in order that we would be free from sin, death, and hell. He gives us what He accomplished through Baptism, Absolution, and the Lord’s Supper.

And so, He doesn’t just do it for us but gives it to us, makes what He did ours by making us His. Thus, we are called by His name: Christians. We have a new life in Him.

Through the preaching of Law and Gospel, God grants us repentance, a changing of our minds. It is a conversion of the mind. We are called to turn away from our sins and turn toward Him for forgiveness, life, and salvation. For when God calls us away from something, He is, at the same time, calling us to something.

And thus, He calls us to a new life, with new deeds. This is the conversion of the purse. Jesus said that “it is easier for a camel to enter through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God” (Matthew 19:24). “For where your treasure is, there

will your heart be also.”

Notice that our hearts follow our treasures, not the other way around. As Christians, God calls us to invest our treasures in His Kingdom to ensure that the gospel is preached and the sacraments are administered. He calls us to share all good things with the one who teaches us the doctrines of Christ. He calls us to be generous in giving to the church, for it is more blessed to give than to receive.

So where is your treasure? If it is not invested in the kingdom of God, then the only response is repentance—a conversion of the heart—and to begin doing just that. And as our Lord promised, where your treasure is there your heart will be also.

This is not to say that you earn your way into heaven. It is simply to say that as Christians, those who have been made to be temples of the Holy Spirit, who have been given a new life in Christ, who are dead to sin and now alive in Him, we are, actually, to live — think (conversion of the mind), do (conversion of the purse), and be (conversion of the heart) — a new life in Him.

And when you fail, know that God in Christ loves and forgives you and still calls you away from that and to Himself.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Loren Brown	6/1	Harvey Ackermann	6/8	Adley Bauer	6/22
Nadine Oetting	6/1	Paul Meints	6/8	Tara Sarvela	6/22
Devin Reiners	6/3	Abigail Schneider	6/9	Nolan Yilk	6/22
Robin Calvin	6/4	Jeremy Yilk	6/9	Zachary Hueftle	6/23
Sue Carlson	6/4	Christian Kuykendall	6/10	Amanda Novak	6/23
Gene Meints	6/4	Rebecca Post	6/10	Dana Real	6/23
Gina Vetrovsky	6/4	Dania Wiemers	6/10	Kaden Pearce	6/25
Michael Nielsen	6/5	Carson Garretson	6/12	Emmalynn Seybold	6/25
Shannon Buck	6/6	Fred Gleason	6/13	Dillon Goltl	6/26
Gavyn Klein	6/6	Lilyanna Strauch	6/14	Justin Terry	6/26
Jane Schuster	6/6	Mitch Hazlitt	6/19	DeWayne Hanchera	6/29
Spencer Skolout	6/7	Paul Sellers	6/20	Jennifer Kircher	6/29
Megan Vetrovsky	6/7				

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
George & Ronda Wurm	6/2/1967	51	Robert & Janet Hein	6/17/1960	58
Michael & Linda Nielsen	6/3/1972	46	Harlan & Bernita Reiners	6/19/1960	58
Angela & William Watts	6/4/2016	2	Chet & Sarah Risenhoover	6/20/1998	20
Tomas & Angels France	6/7/2014	4	Alex & Molly Sharp	6/20/2015	3
Troy & Tammie Bruntz	6/8/1996	22	Robert & Elizabeth Geisler	6/21/1964	54
DeWayne & LaVonne Hanchera	6/9/1954	64	Brent & Candace Rogers	6/22/1996	22
Raymond & Judy Schow	6/9/1969	49	Edward & Jeannine Rinehart	6/24/1983	35
Todd & Lisa Koetter	6/10/1982	36	Jeremy & Elizabeth Yilk	6/24/2006	12
Walter & Jean Sehnert	6/10/1951	67	Charles & Mardelle Miller	6/27/1990	28
Lee & Lindsay McConville	6/12/2004	14	Gene & Karen Meints	6/30/1972	46
Arthur & Elaine Soncksen	6/14/1953	65	Richard & Sonja Thompson	6/30/2003	15

OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE

	Week to Date (May 27th-June 2nd)	Month to Date (May 6th-June 2nd)	Actual Year to Date (Jan. 7th-June 2nd)	Budget to Date (Jan. 7th-June 2nd) 22nd week
Offerings	\$2,316.00	\$10,247.85	\$80,719.33	\$106,308.62
Expenses	\$1,105.00	\$18,521.88	\$103,186.34	\$106,308.62

This month’s Going Beyond Sunday is for Lutheran Family Services.

Going Beyond Sunday for Heifer International was \$181.00.

www.plcmccook.org



Council - At a Glance

Peace Lutheran Church Council met on Tuesday May 15th and opened with Russ Ankersen leading devotions. There were no guests present for open forum comments.

Reports from the various boards and council positions were available either in print or presented verbally for review, discussion and approval. The proposed Preschool field trip policy was discussed and since it had already been presented last meeting, was voted to be approved and adopted.

Discussion on unfinished business topics including: 1.) Church 360 program – we will switch over to this program (from Shepherds Staff) soon after the new office computer has been purchased and installed. Along with this same project, Prairie Wind PC came out to evaluate our internet/wifi systems in the building for recommendation and possible upgrade. 2.) Fireworks booth – discussion and planning, Sue Ankersen will be the manager this year. Council approved her to take the church van (with kids from FIRE) to the managers meeting in Wahoo (6/2-3/18). 3.) Picture directory – sign up has been good with only a few time slots left. Those that cannot make the scheduled dates will be able to submit photos. Working on lining up someone to take photos of our retirement home residents and shut ins.

New business items/discussion: 1.) Preschool sign – some discussion that a nicer more permanent sign be prepared and installed on church property. Tabled till next meeting.

There being no other business, meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

President - Russ Ankersen



FROM AN ELDER

Two brothers living on adjoining farms fell into conflict It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side-by-side, sharing machinery and trading labor and goods as needed without a hitch. Then the long collaboration fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference and finally, it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence. One morning there was a knock on John’s door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter’s toolbox. “I’m looking for a few days’ work,” he said. “Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there I could help with? Could I help you?” “Yes,” said the older brother. “I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at the farm. That’s my neighbor. In fact, it’s my younger brother! Last week there was a meadow between us. He recently took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I’ll do him one better. See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to build me a fence—**an 8’ foot fence**—so I won’t need to see his place or his face anymore.” The carpenter said, “I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I’ll be able to do a job that pleases you.”

The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all that day—measuring, sawing and nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job. The farmer’s eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all—it was a bridge.. A Bridge that stretched from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work, handrails and all! And the neighbor, his younger brother, was coming toward them, his hand outstretched. “You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I’ve said and done.” The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in the middle, taking each other’s hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox onto his shoulder. “No, wait! Stay a few days. I’ve have a lot of other projects for you,” said the older brother. “I’d love to stay on,” the carpenter said, “but I have many more bridges to build.”

REMEMBER THIS....For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 In the end God won’t ask what kind of car you drove, but He’ll ask how many people you helped get where they needed to go. **God won’t ask the square footage of you house, but He’ll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.** God won’t ask about the clothes you had in your closet, but He’ll ask how many you helped to clothe. God won’t ask how many friends you had, but He’ll ask how many people to whom you were a friend. God Won’t ask about the color of your skin, but He’ll ask about the content of your character. **God won’t ask why it took you so long to seek Salvation, but He’ll lovingly take you to your mansion in Heaven, and not to the gates of hell.** God won’t ask how many people you forwarded this to, but He’ll ask why you were ashamed to pass it on to your friends.... This is why God sent his only son (**Jesus Christ**) to die for our sins, that we may have eternal life with him—And all we have to do is accept him and believe in him. If you would like to share this with someone in your life email office@plcmccook.org and we will send it to you.



Congratulations to our 2018 Confirmands!

Peyton Doucet and Landon Snyder



JUNE READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
3rd	The 2nd S. after Pentecost	Deuteronomy 5:12-15	2 Corinthians 4:5-12	Mark 2:23-28 (3:1-6)
10th	The 3rd S. after Pentecost	Genesis 3:8-15	2 Corinthians 4:12-5:1	Mark 3:20-35
17th	The 4th S. after Pentecost	Ezekiel 17:22-34	2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (11-17)	Mark 4:26-34
24th	Nativity of John the Baptist	Isaiah 40:1-5	Acts 13:13-26	Luke 1:57-80

**FORERUNNERS**

May 20, 2018

Members present were Jim and Donna Hall, Paul Sellers, Darrell and KC Eckhardt, Phil and Janice Bamesberger, Fred and Deb Gleason, Jerry and Robin Calvin and Russ and Sue Ankersen.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was read. The current account balance is \$668.72. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried. Dues were paid by Calvins and Bamesbergers.

In Old Business: The reception for the confirmands on May 27th has been planned. Renelle Mooney will be bringing frozen fruit cups, Charlene Pfanstiel is making a cake for the reception (we will reimburse her for this), Janice will bring eggs for casseroles as well as mints and nuts that were left over from the golf tournament, Sue will bring bread, milk and cheese for the breakfast casseroles and Robin will bring paper goods. The BOE asked if we would include the graduating seniors in the reception and we did agree to this.

In New Business: The practice of providing a rose from PLC for member's funerals has been dropped and Donna asked if our group would be willing to take this over. Each rose costs \$12.50. A motion was made and seconded to provide a rose for PLC member's funerals. Motion carried. Tina will be informed that we will be doing this and ask her to order the rose and give the bill to us.

Someone mentioned to Sue that they would like to see a coffee bar established in the spot that the card case is located. We do not want to give up selling the cards, but the case can be moved to a different location if/when this idea ever becomes a reality.

We will be taking a break over the summer and so our next meeting will be on September 16th at 6:00 pm. We will have a potluck dinner that evening and we will be cleaning the dining room chairs. Sue will order a case of Scotchguard for this project.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Darrell read a devotion, we played Screamo and a delicious dessert was served by KC.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Ankersen, Recording Secretary

BOARD OF EVANGELISM

The Evangelism Committee met April 26th with Pastor Felcher. Cindy, Cathy and Nancy were present. Packages were assembled for seven college students. The packages will be mailed so that they are received before students get out of school for the summer. The Meal Ministry was discussed. We have already provided meals for members who have been hospitalized and for a family who had a baby. The recipients have been very appreciative. We have also added additional names of members who would like to help provide food. If you would like to have us add your name to the providers list please contact one of the members on the Evangelism committee. The committee thanks those that are involved. We thank our committee's chairmans Doreen and Joanne. We have seen the Lord's hand at work in this ministry not only to the recipients but to those providing the food. The grief booklets have been mailed to members and to others in need of support in the loss of their loved ones. Please let us know if you have someone in mind that might find the booklets helpful. The committee continues to remember members with cards for birthdays and anniversaries. We will be sending cards to high school and college graduates and to the confirmands. If you have a graduate and you have not given us their name, please do so as soon as possible. We are continuing to take pictures of new members. The photos and an information card that they provide will be displayed in the narthex. We encourage newcomers to ask an usher to contact Cindy Swanhorst so that she can take your picture. The welcome mugs in the narthex are our way of saying "thank you for worshipping with us." If you are a visitor please feel free to take a mug. Respectfully submitted, The Board of Evangelism Nancy Rippen, Cathy Broz and Cindy Swanhorst

**TOOLS FOR STEWARDSHIP and EVANGELISM****SHUT INS**

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

Hillcrest: Willard & Carol Roedel, Orian Fritz, Ruth Shields, Pam Leibbrandt, Harvey Ackermann, Phyllis Berndt and Carl Mohr.

Brookdale McCook: Joyce Stupka, Leona Wudtke, Walt & Jean Sehnert, Paul & Ruby Ahrens and Adeline Kuhlmann

Highland Park: Fern Reiners, Fred & Lois Boerger, and Betty Harms.

McCook: Nancy Ott and Wallace Keen

Butte: Don Kisker

St. Paul: Sandra Novak

Lincoln: Carla Bales

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 – Paul Schaffert, Ron Aufrecht, Grant Pfanstiel, Harold Carlson, Darrell Eckhardt, 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 in the middle office. 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

June 3rd	
Elder on duty	Ron Aufrecht
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	NEED VOLUNTEER
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Powerpoint	Jeff Pinkerton
Late Service	
Greeter	Myra Teitz
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Usher	Darrell Eckhardt
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Powerpoint	Ben Schow
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

June 10th	
Elder on duty	Paul Schaffert
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Late Service	
Greeter	Janet Bamesberger
Greeter	Dale Bamesberger
Usher	Paul Sellers
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

June 17th	
Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Gary Buk
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Powerpoint	Jim Hall
Video	Russ Ankersen

June 24th	
Elder on duty	Ron Aufrecht
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	NEED VOLUNTEER
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Lois Lepper
Greeter	Pat Penner
Usher	Dennis Chipman
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Acolyte	NEED VOLUNTEER
Powerpoint	Stacie Aufrecht
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

Altar Flowers	KNGN Sponsor
3rd-Availabe	3rd-Availabe
10th-Available	10th-Available
17th-Available	17th-Available
24th-Available	24th-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



PEACE TALK

Why should I go to church? Do I have to go to church to be a Christian? Have you heard these quotes? "Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car." How about this one? "It is better to be fishing thinking about God than to be in church thinking about fishing." Oh but are they right? I worked all week and Sunday is my time for rest. All the great sports events are on TV. This is the only time I can play golf with my buddies. I don't like the music. I can get another half a day of farming in. I'm just too busy and besides I don't like organized religion anyway. These excuses are common these days. First of all, NO you don't have to go to church to be a Christian and YES, God is everywhere and you can worship Him at anytime. But can you experience the presence of God like you can in church? Can you reflect your gratitude to God while golfing? Do you humbly ask for forgiveness while sitting in a tractor or on the couch? Church or organized religion was very evident back in Moses' time. The Israelites veered off track when they did not follow the laws of the tabernacle. Jesus wanted believers to gather as well. He said He was going to build His church "And on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18) He came for the church "Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood." (Acts 20:28) He picked twelve leaders to start his church, and Jesus is the head of the church "For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior (Ephesians 5:23). Well I went to church on Easter and I plan on going this next Christmas! In Hebrews 10:25 we are cautioned, "and let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do." Could that be referring to anyone you know? There is no denying that going to church connects us with God. It gives us a chance to reflect on all of our blessings. It gives us a chance to pray and express humility and gratitude. It gives us the opportunity to share God's Grace and love with those in need. There is no better place to be reminded of the gift of forgiveness. Attending church reinforces the higher philosophy and purpose behind marriage and family. It gives us a greater sense of purpose and meaning. If you feel it is a burden to go to church, remind yourself, that is the sign you NEED church in your life even more. God will work through worship to help each and every one of us cope with all of our trials. One last quote, "The church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints." Dear Lord, help us all to realize the importance of going to church and worshipping with fellow sinners. Amen.

Peace, Love and Unity
Phil Bamesberger

Congratulations to our 2018
High School and College Graduates!
Racquel Bird, Avery Doucet, Rylee Mooney,
Devin Reiners, and Alyssa Rice (Smith)





Peace Lutheran Church

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June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 3:00pm MS Society	4 7:00pm Woman's Bible Study PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	5 1:30pm Worship Committee 6:30pm Board of Elders	6	7 4:00pm Board of Education 5:30pm Board of Evangelism	8	9 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
10 Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	11 7:00pm Woman's Bible Study PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	12 2:30pm Hillcrest Bingo 6:30pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	13	14	15 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (DISTRICT CONVENTION)	16
17 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	18 7:00pm Woman's Bible Study PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	19	20	21	22	23
24 Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	25 6:00pm LWML 7:00pm Woman's Bible Study PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	26	27	28 1:30pm Hillcrest Service 2:30pm Brookdale McCook Service	29	30 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation