



'TIDINGS OF PEACE' from

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

TO:

Three vertical lines for an address.

*H*ello again,

As I write to you today, it's a pleasant August morning in McCook, my office window is open to let in the cool air and the smells of summer. As I sat down to begin my day, I began with my daily devotion from Lutheran Hour Ministries. This particular devotion was based on Matthew 16:13-20. And as I read, the author of that devotion reminded me of something I think we all lose sight of from time to time; in Matthew 16:18 Jesus said to His disciples that He was going to build His church, and He told them that He would build His church on Peter's confession; *"Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. and I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."*

Jesus here describes the Church on the offensive—not hell. In fact, Hell is losing; have you ever thought of it that way? I think that all too often, we Christians assume a defensive role. By all the things we see and hear in the media it would seem that the devil is making great inroads, deceiving more and

more people—causing more and more corruption and suffering, but we are reminded today that God's people are carrying the battle to the very gates of hell—and beyond.

We can do all things through Him who gives us strength, and nothing will be able to withstand you with God on your side. *"For if God is for us, who can be against us?"*

As our children head back to school—as our own preschool prepares to reopen—and School of Religion prepares to reopen, let us never lose sight that for which we fight! Let us fight for our children and grandchildren—let us fight for the people we love, and for those oppressed, and let us begin on our knees. Let us get involved. Let us confess boldly that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Let us trust that God's Word will accomplish that for which it was sent, and nothing, not even the gates of Hell will prevail against it!

God be with you this day and every day.  
Pastor Lonnie

*"He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen"* Revelation 22:20-21



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### FROM AN ELDER

When all else fails, pray..." or "As a last resort, you can always pray...". When was the last time you heard either of those phrases or even said them yourself? For most of us, it's far too often, and without thought.

God doesn't want us to view prayer in this manner. As a confirmation student, we learned that prayer was described as a "Heart to Heart talk with God". How much more personal can you get? We have the opportunity to speak directly to our Heavenly Father, and you can be assured He's always listening. Most of the time, we have so many distractions that prayer is certainly not one of our priorities in our daily life.

Some of us have prescribed prayer times, be it as soon as we rise in the morning, some as they prepare for bed at night, and some in between. And if you are like me, it would be when the mood hits you or the demand seems to dictate it. But God isn't choosy as to when, He just wants us to do it. If we talked to God as much as we talk to our friends, how wonderful that would be, and what a relationship it would be!

Recently, I had a conversation with an acquaintance whose wife had recently passed away, after a seven year struggle with ailments and surgeries. I had often prayed for her recoveries from surgeries or her most recent hospitalizations. Sunday after Sunday, when we had the opportunity to insert her name or anyone else's name in our Sunday morning prayer list, her name was one of the first I thought of. I truly prayed for her and her illnesses, but also for her family. In a couple of conversations with her husband, I mentioned to him that I was praying for her every Sunday, for which he was very appreciative. But now since she has died, he told me one day "thanks for all your prayers", and I was ashamed that I hadn't kept up on those prayers.

In Scripture, we are told to pray without ceasing. In our elders' meetings, we pray often for Pastor Felcher and his family, as well as our church. We pray for each other, pray that the decisions that we make are beneficial to Peace congregation, and to the glory of God. As you see, the list is endless of what and for whom we should pray, so don't let the size of the prayer or how it's worded be a concern. God hears all our prayers, and He will answer them all. It may not be to our satisfaction, but remember, He is in control and knows what's best for us!



### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Kapri Loop	9/2	Spencer Reiners	9/14	Elfriede Keen	9/21
Steve Fritz	9/3	Monte Hazlitt	9/15	Betty Knapper	9/21
Creighton Shields	9/6	Brian Wiemers	9/15	Sarah Krause	9/21
Lucas Curl	9/7	Donna Rawn	9/16	Janet Bamesberger	9/22
Everett Gass	9/7	Connor Tidyman	9/16	Charlie Mollring	9/22
Jan Hubert	9/8	Eldon Parde	9/17	Sarah Schneider	9/23
Victor Lauer	9/8	Dorene Hoffman	9/18	Aiden Bauer	9/24
Jeanne Rogers	9/10	Stephanie Oetting	9/18	Susan Chipman	9/25
Patricia Eilenberger	9/12	Sarah Calvin	9/19	Jackson Hartwell	9/25
Arlo Nothnagel	9/12	K.C. Eckhardt	9/19	Doris Leibbrandt	9/25
Beverly Unger	9/12	Doris Friehe	9/19	Payton Messinger	9/25
Edward Rinehart	9/13	Robert Geisler	9/19	Lydia Risenhoover	9/25
Ryker Mooney	9/14	Joyce Wolters	9/20	Susan Ankersen	9/28
				Georgia Lutzi	9/30

### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Lance & Denise Gillen	9/1/1990	30	Jonathon & Angie Reiners	9/14/1996	24
Gerald & Diane Gohl	9/3/2011	9	Victor & Sandy Lauer	9/23/1978	42
Duane & Patricia Fortkamp	9/5/1971	49	Keith & Nadien Oetting	9/29/1973	47

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

### CREATIVE PRESCHOOL

Creative Preschool is starting on September 9th. Please consider giving scholarships for preschool students. Information is on the table across from the mailboxes. Thank you.

### OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE

	Week to Date (August 23rd-August 29th)	Month to Date (August 2nd-August 29th)	Actual Year to Date (January 5th-August 29th)
Offerings	\$7,286.00	\$21,322.00	\$141,575.00
Expenses	\$3,747.00	\$20,750.00	\$156,524.00



**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**



Pastor blessed the children’s backpacks and some of their parents’ car keys for them to have a safe and blessed school year

**CONGRATULATION CONFIRMANDS!**

We would like to recognize this year’s confirmation class. Treven Critchfield, Alexander Nielsen were confirmed last month. Korina Rippen, Addyson Snyder and Austin Thompson were confirmed in May  
Way To Go!



**WELCOME INTO GOD’S FAMILY**

Please welcome our newest members. Torryn Kacy Schumacher was received by the waters of baptism last month and her brother Talan was received by transfer. Talan and Torryn are the children of Dylan and Danielle Schumacher. Welcome Schumacher family!

**SEPTEMBER READINGS**

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
6th	The 14th S. after Pentecost	Ezekiel 33:7-9	Romans 13:1-10	Matthew 18:1-20
13th	The 15th S. after Pentecost	Genesis 50:15-21	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
20th	The 16th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 55:6-9	Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30	Matthew 20:1-16
27th	The 17th S. after Pentecost	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32	Philippians 2:1-4 (5-13) 14-18	Matthew 21:23-27 (28-32)



**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
Stewardship Ministry  
Newsletter Article – September 2020**

*“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Ecclesiastes 9:10).*

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil (those who live contrary to God’s will) and to reward those who do good (those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will). Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are support them by their prayers and their gifts.

Each of these callings from God place a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence; on our prayers; and our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.





## BOARD OF EVANGELISM

The Board of Evangelism met August 9<sup>th</sup> for their monthly meeting. Visitors were Phil and Janice Bamesberger and Sue Ankersen. Plans for the Living Nativity were discussed. Dates are finalized for December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 and 6:00. As in previous years there is a need for many volunteers. This is a great opportunity for members to support a church activity. The Living Nativity is a wonderful community outreach ministry. Meal Ministry is available. Meals are offered to members who have recently been hospitalized or who have had a baby. Contact Dorene Hoffman or Joann Nemechek. Grief booklets continue to be sent. Visitor mugs are available. Cookies are ready to be delivered to McCook Community College. Packets include a schedule of church activities and facebook information. These are given to Freshman students. The Adopt-A-Chaplain outreach is going well. Co-chairman Jane Schuster and Linda Nielsen welcome donations and help packing boxes monthly. Donations can be put in the tote in the Narthex. The next packing date is August 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at the church. The devotional exchange is ongoing. Feel free to donate and/or take books. The tote is in the Narthex. Respectfully submitted. Cathy Broz, Deb Gleason, and Nancy Rippen

## ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN

Support the troop. This group met in August to pack boxes of snacks, magazines and toiletries for deployed troops. Each item is sent with a bible verse or a note of encouragement attached. The care packages are sent to Chaplain Andrew Baird in South Korea and Chaplain Michael Kearney in Afghanistan for the battalions they care for. Thank you to everyone who left donations for the care packages. Next packing day is Tuesday, September 15th at 1:00pm.



Check out our Facebook page! Don't forget to "Like", "Follow" and "Share" it! You can find us at Peace Lutheran McCook NE.

[www.plcmccook.org](http://www.plcmccook.org)



## 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, Pam Leibbrandt, Ruth Woodhams, Martin Fortkamp, Darlene Leibbrandt and Evelyn Hilker.

**Kinship Pointe:** Walt & Jean Sehnert, Paul & Ruby Ahrens, Betty Harms, Shirley Lichty, and Barbara Klein.

**Highland Park:** Harlan & Bernita Reiners

**McCook:** Mark Cummins

**York:** Joyce Hofman

**Lincoln:** Carla Bales

**Arapahoe:** Joyce Stupka

**Butte:** Don Kisker

**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, Phil Bamesberger, Victor Lauer, Fritz Hubert, Curt Swanhorst or Fred Gleason.

### 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.



<b>Altar Flowers</b>	<b>KNGN Sponsor</b>
6th-Available	6th-Available
13th-Available	13th-Available
20th-Available	20th-Available
27th-Available	27th-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.

<b>September 6th</b>	
Elder on duty	Victor Lauer
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Usher	Dennis Chipman
Lay Reader	George Wurm
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Jeff Pinkerton
<b>Late Service</b>	
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Usher	
Lay Reader	Fred Gleason
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Ben Schow
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

<b>September 20th</b>	
Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Gary Buk
Lay Reader	Grant Pfanstiel
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
<b>Late Service</b>	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	Sarah Risenhoover
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Video	Russ Ankersen

<b>September 13th</b>	
Elder on duty	Ron Aufrecht
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Rondon Peters
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
<b>Late Service</b>	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	
Lay Reader	Nick Nothnagel
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

<b>September 27th</b>	
Elder on duty	Fritz Hubert
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	
Greeter	
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Jerry Calvin
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
<b>Late Service</b>	
Greeter	Patsy Fisher
Greeter	Pat Penner
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Lay Reader	Curt Swanhorst
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Gary Hunkins
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER



PEACE TALK

A few months ago, we were on our way home from Nashville and arrived in the airport early enough to see people boarding a flight to Denver. Which was our destination in two hours. So, we asked if we could switch flights if they had room. With the grace and hard work of the airline attendee, we got on board with just seconds to spare. However, it just so happened that the only two seats left were in first class. We sat down in the large seats and felt happy to be able to get to our destination earlier than planned. I felt an uneasiness in the air; we were being stared at for being the last ones to board sitting where the first to board belong, it felt we were out of place, and a stewardess was quick to point that out. We didn't pay for first-class... but there we were, plane backing away from the terminal, wondering why they allowed us on and if they were going to hand us a parachute. After liftoff, I watched the attendant giving the first-class travelers special food, drinks, and constant attention for any comfort need. The coach passengers did not get this attention. Even though anyone can pay more for a ticket and sit here, the message was clear, this area was for the elite. It didn't seem to matter that it came with a higher priced ticket. I glanced back in the coach seating where we normally sit and felt that is where I belonged. Can this feeling happen in our spiritual journey? Do we look across the aisle and feel like we do not belong? We have all experienced a sense of not belonging, missing out, being on the outside looking in. Whether it is the first day in new school, the first day of a new job, or going someplace where you don't know anyone. Ultimately, I think we can agree, it is no fun. None of us like to be left-out, none of us enjoy being excluded, none of us like feeling we don't belong. In Ephesians 2:19 the Apostle Paul tells his listeners, "Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household." Those who have come to Christ are no longer strangers, you are not going to be left out. The fear of "not belonging" is diminished with the knowledge that God has given you everything. And now, knowing that you are once and for all included, inside the family; inside the promises; inside the dearly loved prized possession of God's grace, it frees us from that nagging sensation that we might be left out. It motivates us to give thanks for what is first class in the eyes of God and what is not. Through the eyes of God, we are all equal, we are all on the same flight, same destination, to spend eternal life with our Lord and Savior. Lord, thank you for giving us all first class seats and help me keep my eyes fixed on my eternal flight plan. Amen.

Peace, Love, and Unity  
Phil Bamesberger



**Peace Lutheran Church**

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# September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 6:30pm Board of Elders	<b>2</b> 9:00am Lifelight	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study
PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (VACATION)						
<b>6</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	<b>7 Office Closed</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00am Worship Committee 6:30pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	<b>9</b> 9:00am Lifelight 7:00pm SOR Teacher orientation	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study
PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (VACATION)		Kitchen and Fellowship Hall floor installation				
<b>13 Communion Sunday</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	<b>14</b> 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	<b>15</b> 1:00pm Adopt-A-Chaplain packing	<b>16</b> 9:00am Lifelight 9:00am Quilt Room clean-up 6:00pm School of Religion	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am LWML Watch Party
	PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE					
<b>20</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	<b>21</b> 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00am Lifelight 6:00pm School of Religion	<b>24</b> TBA Hillcrest Service TBA Kinship Pointe Service	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study
	PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE					
<b>27 Communion Sunday</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	<b>28</b> 2:00pm LWML 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00am Lifelight 6:00pm School of Religion			
	PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE					