



'TIDINGS OF PEACE' from

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

TO:

Three vertical lines for an address.

September 2021
TIDINGS OF PEACE
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Hello again, As I write to you today, I've been wrestling with the words of Isaiah the Prophet as he speaks of God's judgment upon the people of Israel, and ultimately upon all nations—God calls His people to repentance—He calls them to change their ways, but they liked things the way they were, so they did and said the things they thought God wanted to see and hear, all the while continuing to do their own thing. They ignored the reality that the approaching Assyrian army was God's rod of discipline, but God will not be ignored.

As I wrestled with these things, I wondered about the things we see happening in Afghanistan, and around the world. Isaiah speaks to those who think they can hide their dark plans from the Lord; they think they can do whatever they want and the Lord doesn't see, or He can't do anything to stop them.

The deeds of darkness still abound in our day; the things sinful men do flood the news. And we may lament, saying; "Where is God?" or, "How long O Lord?"

Let us trust that God is still in control, and that He knows what He is doing. Just as Jesus reassured His disciples in the days before His death on the cross, may His words also give assurance to us; *"you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. But see that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. (Matthew 24:6).*

Isaiah speaks of sinful mankind trying to turn things upside down, but

he also proclaims that evil WILL NOT prevail! Isaiah speaks of the divine reversal that God has already established in Christ Jesus—the coming Day of the Lord.

In that day, tyrants and mockers, enemies of God, will be brought low. Wickedness and injustice will be duly punished; evil men will be humbled, and the humble will be exalted. In that day the blind will see and the deaf shall hear. *"The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel." (Isaiah 29:19)* *"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31)*

I encourage you to hold fast to one another, continue in worship and prayer, be filled with God's Word that you may be wise as serpents, and innocent as doves." (Matthew 10:16)

As Jesus said to His disciples while still in Samaria, so also, He reminds us today to stay focused on His Great Commission, Jesus said; *"Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may rejoice together."*

Let us ask the Lord for courage to stay strong in His Word, *"He who calls you is faithful, He will surely do it."*

Thank you for reading; I strongly believe that the Lord will still do wonderful things with you, His people.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Felcher



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FROM AN ELDER

"Is It Peace You Seek?"

Ephesians 2:13-14 - But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility.

What marvelous verses these are. This truth is emphasized by our text when, pointing to the crucified Christ, the apostle Paul says in these five simple words, "He Himself is our peace." When the Savior comes into the human soul, the Gospel of His grace, by the renewing power of the Holy Spirit, works a startling transformation. By this I mean a new heart, a new spirit, and a new life is given to those who believe in God's Son as their Savior.

Literally, they become new creatures in Christ. Instead of seeking to be served, they seek to serve others. Remember it was in the words of first-century enemies of the cross who said of Jesus' followers—they "have turned the world upside down." And how was this so? It was because they witnessed God's life-transforming Gospel at work in the lives of others.

We thank God that He does this for us, that He cleanses our conscience and saves us through His beloved Son. The glorious truth of the Gospel is that all men, regardless of race, country, creed, or station in life are the same in Christ's sight. He loves them all and gave Himself for them all. This is the surest basis of peace the world has ever known.

It is also true that as in Christ you strive for peace among your fellow man, by the Holy Spirit's power you will also find peace for yourself. Pointing to the cross, you can say of the crucified One, "He is my peace—no matter how restless and disturbed the world around me may become."

To find this peace from above, behold the cross and learn to say, "He is our peace." Then believe that just as Christ's anguish was part of God's eternal plan for our salvation so, too, those things you face in life are serving to draw you closer to the Father. In this knowledge you can rest, trusting that in the end all things "work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28b).

So, if it is peace you seek—true, everlasting peace, then look to Him who has broken down the "dividing wall of hostility," separating us from God. If it is new life you're looking for then believe in Jesus Christ and you will find it. For it was He who said, "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:40).

In Jesus there is peace—the kind the world does not know, the kind the world cannot offer.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Kapri Loop	9/2	Monte Hazlitt	9/15	Sarah Krauss	9/21
Steve Fritz	9/3	Brian Wiemers	9/15	Janet Bamesberger	9/22
Boden Goltl	9/5	Donna Rawn	9/16	Charlie Mollring	9/22
Creighton Shields	9/6	Connor Tidyman	9/16	Jessica Gramins	9/23
Lucas Curl	9/7	Greg Parde	9/17	Sarah Schneider	9/23
Everett Gass	9/7	Dorene Hoffman	9/18	Aiden Bauer	9/24
Janet Hubert	9/8	Stephanie Oetting	9/18	Susan Chipman	9/25
Victor Lauer	9/8	Sarah Calvin	9/19	Jackson Hartwell	9/25
Jeanne Rogers	9/10	K.C. Eckhardt	9/19	Doris Leibbrandt	9/25
Patricia Eilenberger	9/12	Doris Friehe	9/19	Lydia Risenhoover	9/25
Arlo Nothnagel	9/12	Robert Geisler	9/19	Payton Messington	9/26
Beverly Unger	9/12	Porter Rice	9/20	Susan Ankersen	9/28
Ryker Mooney	9/14	Elfriede Keen	9/21	Georgia Lutzi	9/30
Spencer Reiners	9/14				

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Lance & Denise Gillen	9/1/1990	31	Victor & Sandy Lauer	9/23/1978	43
Jonathan & Angie Reiners	9/14/1996	25	Keith & Nadien Oetting	9/29/1973	48

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

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

OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE

	Week to Date (August 22nd-August 28th)	Month to Date (August 1st-August 28th)	Actual Year to Date (January 3rd-August 28th)
Offerings	\$2,693.00	\$25,315.00	\$168,659.00
Expenses	\$4,572.00	\$21,568.00	\$167,853.00



BOARD OF EVANGELISM

The Board of Evangelism met for their monthly meeting with all member present and Pastor Felcher. The meeting opened with prayer. There were no newcomers this month to be added to the list. Cards will continue to be sent for birthdays and anniversaries. It is noted that once again postage stamps will be increasing in price. Discussion was held concerning the families that need to be contacted concerning Meal Ministry. Grief Ministry booklets will continue to be sent for those who have experienced a current trauma in their life. Members should be encouraged to contact a committee member if they know of someone who could benefit from such a booklet. Cookies with attached booklets of church information were assembled for the students at MCC. Starting dates for the students will be gathered and the cookie packets given to them at that time. Pastor Felcher expressed a need for Advent booklets for the upcoming season. It was decided to order the booklets through the office soon in order to have them in plenty of time before the season. The meeting was concluded with the Lord’s Prayer.

FARM FRESH EGGS

Farm-fresh eggs are available in the kitchen refrigerator to anyone who needs them. If you feel moved to donate toward this ministry just put your donation toward your church offering.

If you feel compelled to give, offering can be brought into the church office, mailed to P.O. Box 240 or direct deposited.

SEPTEMBER READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
5th	The 15th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 35:4-7a	James 2:1-10, 14-18	Mark 7:(24-30) 31-37
12th	The 16th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 50:4-10	James 3:1-12	Mark 9:14-29
19th	The 17th S. after Pentecost	Jeremiah 11:18-20	James 3:13-4:10	Mark 9:30-37
26th	The 18th S. after Pentecost	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29	James 5:(1-12) 13-20	Mark 9:38-50



The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod
 Stewardship Ministry
 Newsletter Article – September 2021

At the end of the first of his chapters on the virtue of faith in *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis provides a helpful reminder, by way of analogy, for the foundation of stewardship. He wrote:

“Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. So then, when we talk of a man doing anything for God or giving anything to God, I will tell you what it is really like. It is like a small child going to its father and saying, ‘Daddy, give me sixpence to buy you a birthday present.’ Of course, the father does, and he is pleased with the child’s present. It is all very nice and proper, but only an idiot would think that the father is sixpence to the good on the transaction. When a man has made these two discoveries God can really get to work. It is after this that real life begins. (128-129).”

This is the first thing we are given to confess about stewardship, and it has to do with ownership. God owns everything, and we are simply managers – stewards – acting on His behalf. This is true not only of all that we have in this life (Deut. 8:17-18) but also all that we are in this life (1 Cor. 6:20).

The rest flows from here. Since we are stewards, or managers, of what belongs to God, entrusted to make use of it according to His will, there is an expectation of responsibility and accountability. For the Lord said, “Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more” (Luke 12:48b). And from this comes blessing and reward: “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master” (Matt. 25:21).

We have everything we need to support this body and life from our God’s fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We have everything we need for our spiritual life also from His merciful hands. On account of the sacrifice of His Son, our Lord Jesus, through the preaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments, we have the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and everlasting salvation delivered to us with absolute certainty that it is ours – not as stewards but as sons (Gal. 4:1-7). Let us then, as His own sons, press all that He gives to us into the service of His church and to His glory.



KNGN

KNGN radio station is in desperate need of funds to be able to stay on the air. We are selling fun pasta, to order, go to <https://funpastafundraising.com/shop.kngn>. You may also send donations to 38005 Road 717 McCook, NE 69001 or donate online at <https://kngnradio.org/>.

ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN

Everyone is invited to help pack care packages for the troops on Tuesday, September 14th at 1:00pm . Donations can be left across from the church mailboxes. Please pray for all our soldiers.

For more information about Adopt a Chaplain please contact Linda Nielsen or Jane Schuster.

SCHOOL OF RELIGION

The kickoff party will be held at the skating rink on September 1st from 6:00 to 7:30pm. (In case of inclement weather) - kickoff will be held at Peach Lutheran Church. In case of an emergency and to help our teachers, we ask you fill out a new registration card on behalf of your child(ren). We will have cards available the first few nights of S.O.R. Classes start Wednesday, September 15th. We truly hope you can make it! S.O.R. is a mid-week program for Pre-K children through the 6th grade. School of Religion is a great opportunity for your child to grow in the faith and become an active part of the body of Christ. *Doors open at 5:55 p.m. as there will NOT be supervision until that time.* Our school calendar follows the McCook Public Schools calendar. If there is a snow-day on a schedule School of Religion day there will be no School of Religion.

If you have an article, an announcement, pictures, etc... that you would like to submit for the "Tidings of Peace" newsletter, please bring it by the church office no later than the 4th Thursday of the month.



TOOLS FOR STEWARDSHIP and EVANGELISM

SHUT INS

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

Hillcrest: Pam Leibbrandt, Ruth Woodhams, Darlene Leibbrandt, Jean Sehnert, Lois Lepper and Barbara Klein.

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

Highland Park: Harlan & Bernita Reiners

El Dorado Manor: Mark Cummins and Art Sonksen **Arapahoe:** Joyce Stupka

York: Joyce Hofman

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 - Harold Carlson, Phil Bamesberger, Victor Lauer, Fritz Hubert, Brandon Kuykendall, Curt Swanhorst or Fred Gleason.

FOOD PANTRY

As discussed at a 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. **Of course all donations are welcome (like cake mixes, icing, condiments, etc.),**

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.



Altar Flowers

5th-Available
12th-Available
19th-Available
26th-Available

KNGN Sponsor

5th-Available
12th-Available
19th-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.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

September 5th

Elder on duty	Brandon Kuykendall
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Usher	Dennis Chipman
Lay Reader	Grant Pfanstiel
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Late Service	
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	Jim Dejonge
Lay Reader	Nick Nothnagel
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Ben Schow

September 12th

Elder on duty	Victor Lauer
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Mike Nielsen
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Late Service	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	
Lay Reader	Sarah Risenhoover
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen

September 19th

Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Gary Buk
Lay Reader	Randon Peters
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	Phil Bamesberger
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	

September 26th

Elder on duty	Fritz Hubert
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	
Greeter	
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Jerry Calvin
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Harold Carlson
Late Service	
Greeter	Patsy Fisher
Greeter	Pat Penner
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Lay Reader	Fred Gleason
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Gary Hunkins



PEACE TALK

We have a lot of health care providers in our family, so during family gatherings, we have the bases covered when it comes to knowing how to handle minor accidents or injuries on the farm. Invariably, one of the grandchildren will come sobbing with an ouchie incurred while playing. It is usually quite dramatic as they seek out their Mother for comfort. More times than not I hear from Mom or Dad, "you're fine, it's not even bleeding!" Not the words the traumatized child wants to hear as you would expect. That's when it's "Band-Aid time." I enjoy the process of taking the sniffing injured to the Band-Aid station. Just the very motion of reaching in the cabinet for the box has an immediate calming effect. Placing a Band-Aid on the spot that is hurting miraculously changes the mood from hurting to healed, especially if the Band-Aid is colorful or has spider man on it. Sometimes I think I am the same way. When I have an ouchie I seek out a "Band-Aid" to comfort my hurt and pain, looking to make that transition from hurting to healed. However, I know where to find what I am looking for with my faith and belief in God and I take my requests to Him in prayer. But just like the children, after the hurt has been healed or the comfort that I asked for has been received, I tend to continue on with life until the next time, forgetting to be thankful for what God has already done for me. The same thing happened in the Bible as Luke tells us a story of the ten lepers in chapter 17 verses 11-19 where the ten lepers stood at a distance and asked for healing. Jesus gives them all a "Band-Aid" and they were healed. *"One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him - and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleaned? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then He said to him, "Rise up and go, your faith has made you well."* How easy it becomes after God listens to our needs, answers our prayers, heals our hurts, and then we run off like the children to play again and not look back. Are we just too busy? It doesn't mean that we are not thankful, we just tend to not take a moment and give thanks for the small "God given Band-Aids." Maybe we should stop at the Band-Aid station in the closet, open up one of those colorful healing aids, put it on the back of our hand and use it as a reminder to always give thanks for all the healing blessings that have been given to us, great and small. *"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comforts, who comforts us in all of our troubles."* 2 Corinthians 1:3-4a Dear Lord, thank you for all the times you have answered my prayers with your gracious healing, Amen.



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September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00pm School of Religion Kick-Off	2	3	4 7:00am Men's Bible Study
5 8:00am Worship 9:15am. Bible Study 10:30am Worship	6 <i>Office Closed</i>	7 9:00am Worship Committee 6:30pm Board of Elders	8 7:00pm School of Religion Teacher Meeting	9	10	11 7:00am Men's Bible Study
12 <u>Communion Sunday</u> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	13	14 1:00pm Adopt-A-Chaplain packing 6:30pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	15 6:00pm School of Religion	16	17	18 7:00am Men's Bible Study
19 8:00am Worship 9:15am. Bible Study 10:30am Worship	20	21	22 6:00pm School of Religion	23 2:00pm Kinship Pointe	24	25 7:00am Men's Bible Study
26 <u>Communion Sunday</u> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	27 2:00pm LWML	28	29 6:00pm School of Religion	30 Upper Fellowship Hall reservation		