



'TIDINGS OF **PEACE**' from

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

TO:

August 2022

TIDINGS OF **PEACE**

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Be still, and know that I am God. *Psalm 46:10*

All things God work together for the good. *Romans 8:28*

Casting all your anxiety on Him. *1 Peter 5:7*

Know whose I am! *1 John 3:1*

Trust in the Lord with all my heart. *Proverbs 3:5*

Open my eyes to see the truth. *Psalm 19:18*

Show me your ways, Lord. *Psalm 25:4*

Create in me a clean heart, O God. *Psalm 51:10*

He who is in you is greater... *1 John 4:4*

Obey the voice of the Lord my God. *Deuteronomy 27:10*

In Lord, you are my strength and my shield. *Psalm 28:7*

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us. *Psalm 33:22*



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FROM AN ELDER

What Is The Church?

Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein." Matthew 18:14

Sometimes we need the understanding of a little child to guide us. Jesus reminded us of this when He said, "whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein."

In Article XII of the Smalcald Articles¹, Martin Luther cited a child's knowledge to answer the question "What is the church?"

In his statement that the church is "the holy believers and lambs who hear the voice of their Shepherd," Luther also answered another important question; "When are we the church?"

There has been a great deal written and said about what the church is...and what the church is not. The statement "the church is the people not the building" is a well-worn refrain from people who have a poor understanding of the church. It is a silly statement that is asserted as though people believe that the building itself is the church.

In referring to the building in which the church gathers to hear God's Word and receive His Sacraments, we are not denying what the church is. Instead, we are reinforcing both what the church is and when we are the church.

The church is the believers who gather around a local pulpit and altar under their Shepherd's care. This happens in a place. The building we call a church is the place where the believers come together to be refreshed and renewed by God's good gifts. It is where and when we are the Church Gathered.

But the church is not always gathered. Actually, the church spends very little of its time as the Church Gathered. Most of the time we are the Church Scattered. We are the Church Scattered when we as believers are serving our various vocations in our everyday lives.

We continue to be the church in our workplaces, in our neighborhoods, with our families, at dance recitals, baseball practices and wherever the Lord places us in the world. In these roles and places, the Church Scattered touches the lives of people who have no connection with the Church Gathered.

If we see ourselves as the church only when we are "in the building," we fail to heed our Savior's call to be the salt and light in the world through the various vocations in which He has placed us. We are the church when we come together for Divine Service and fellowship in a local congregation. We are the church when we leave the building and disperse into our individual corners of the world (our mission field). We are the church even when we are not able to meet together with other believers.

Whether male or female, slave or free, together or apart, we are by our baptismal identity in Christ, the church. We are the church whenever and wherever we are.

¹A summary of the Lutheran Doctrine written by Martin Luther in 1537.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Jamie Gray	8/2	Ron Lauer	8/10	Paxton Messinger	8/18
Fritz Hubert	8/2	Madelyn Bird	8/11	Linda Parde	8/19
Abby Barth	8/5	Patricia Penner	8/12	Madison Aufrecht	8/20
Cody Göttl	8/5	Phillip Bamesberger	8/14	Bailey Crick	8/27
Lucas Post	8/5	Jacob Curl	8/14	Kristyl Hanchera	8/27
James Hall	8/6	Debra Gleason	8/14	Lee McConville	8/27
Samantha Huryta	8/6	Emily Kjendal	8/15	Judy Schow	8/27
Nathan Cummins	8/7	Dane Foster	8/16	Susanne Bolt	8/28
Lisa Koetter	8/7	Rylee Mooney	8/16	Janet Gray	8/28
Christina Coelman	8/9	Kenneth Polly	8/16	Brooks Lietka	8/28
Linda Nielsen	8/9	Adam Rawn	8/17	Taylor Dicenta	8/30
Hallie Watts	8/9	George Wurm	8/17	Elaine Polly	8/30
Katherine Kjendal	8/10				

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Dillon & Audrie Göttl	8/2/2014	8	Steven & Sharon Kircher	8/17/1984	38
Stephen & Brigitta Post	8/2/1980	42	Gary & Jessica Gramins	8/18/2001	21
Samantha & Elliot Huryta	8/4/2018	4	Robert & Joann Nemechek	8/19/1972	50
Rachel & Dakota Lietka	8/10/2019	3	Zachary & Becka Hueftle	8/20/2016	6
Fred & Debra Gleason	8/11/1973	49	Keith & Kelsey Messinger	8/20/2011	11
Jeff & Kimberly Pinkerton	8/11/2001	21	Roger & Karen Ziebell	8/21/1971	51
Curt & Cindy Swanhorst	8/11/1984	38	Jeffrey & Kelly Unger	8/22/2009	13
Randall & Carrie Göttl	8/12/1988	34	Larry & Linda Richards	8/26/1962	60
Randon & Laurie Peters	8/13/2006	16	Lonnie & Tanna Felcher	8/28/1976	46

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

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

OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE

	Week to Date (July 24th-June 30th)	Month to Date (July 3rd-July 30th)	Actual Year to Date (January 2nd-July 30th)
Offerings	\$2,158.00	\$16,301.00	\$138,009.00
Expenses	\$4,679.00	\$19,204.00	\$136,320.00



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Board of Education is still looking for one 1st and 2nd grade teacher and one superintendent for SOR. It is one Wednesday a month, so please prayerfully consider volunteering. We are also still looking for someone to teach 2nd-4th grade Sunday School. We ask that you please give this consideration as well. Thank you

WELCOME



Please welcome our newest members. Wade River Bedore was received by the waters of baptism in June. Wade is the infant son of Kody and Jessica Bedore. In July, Haven Janiece Curl was also received by the waters of baptism. Have is the infant daughter of Luke and Hannah Curl. Welcome Wade and Haven!



AUGUST READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
7th	The 9th S. after Pentecost	Genesis 15:1-6	Hebrews 11:1-16	Luke 12:22-40
14th	The 10th S. after Pentecost	Jeremiah 23:16-29	Hebrews 11:17-40; 12:1-3	Luke 12:49-56
21st	The 11th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 66:18-23	Hebrews 12:4-29	Luke 13:22-30
28th	The 12th S. after Pentecost	Proverbs 25:2-10	Hebrews 13:1-17	Luke 14:1-14



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Stewardship Ministry
Newsletter Article – August 2022

The Ceremony of the Offertory

Have you ever noticed the subtle ceremony involved in receiving the offerings during the Divine Service? After all the offerings have been collected, they are brought forward and given to the pastor or one of his assistants. The pastor then turns toward the altar, and as he slightly bows his head, the collection plates with the offerings in them are raised slightly to the Lord and then placed either on the altar or a table for the offerings. Why do we do have this ceremony? And what does it teach us? For that is what ceremony does; it teaches, as the Augsburg Confession tells us, what we need to know about Christ (AC XXIV, 1–3).

Originally, this ceremony included more than simply bringing forward what was collected in the offering plates. The elements for the Holy Communion—the bread and the wine—were brought forward along with the offering plates. As the offering plates and the elements were lifted toward the Lord, and placed upon the altar, the elements would be put in the center and the altar, now made a table, would be set for the Lord’s Supper.

These gifts brought to the altar came from the sweat of the people’s brow. It is the bread and wine, the fruits of the peoples’ labor in this fallen world. After six days of labor and toil, the people would bring a generous proportion for the Lord’s work. It was set upon the altar and offered to the Lord for Him to take up and press into His service for His gracious work in and among them.

For what they offered to the Lord from the sweat of their brow, the bread of anxious toil, came back to them as the bread of life, the bread come down from heaven that whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup would receive life through the forgiveness of their sins.

This is not unlike what the Lord did for His people in the Old Testament: You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household.

What a blessing! God provides for us in all things. He provides bread from the sweat of our brows, and He receives this from us in the first fruits offerings we give to Him in thanksgiving and praise. He receives and turns it into spiritual bread, heavenly bread, the bread of eternal life and gives it back to us so that we might have joy. So, the next time you are in the Divine Service, watch this ceremony in wonder, that the Lord gives back to us, what we have given to Him so that we may rejoice in the salvation He has won upon the cross and gives to us in His supper.



BOARD OF EVANGELISM

The Board of Evangelism met and opened with prayer. They went over the birthdays and anniversary names and encourage anyone who has been missed receiving a card please contact Tina at the office. Also more Visitor mugs were purchased. We are starting to think ahead about the live nativity and hope to meet with Phil and Janice to see what all we can do for them. We are looking into possibly having signs made to advertise the event. We also discussed the cookies for the freshman college students coming in. Sue has been discussing this with Sarah. No further business the meeting closed. Deb, Joann, and Sue

ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN

This is a program that supports deployed military chaplains and the troops they serve. Thank you to everyone who has donated supplies and handmade pocket crosses, for the care packages. Thank you for the donations to pay postage for the boxes. Your donations supported the National Guard from Kearney, they have returned home from Qatar. And your help is appreciated in August to support three deployed National Guard chaplains. One from Texas deployed to Kuwait; one from Kansas, with an undisclosed location; and a chaplain recently deployed to Poland. Prayers are requested for all of them. And everyone is welcome to help pack the care packages, the next packing day is Tues, Aug 9 at 5:00pm.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



Sunday, August 14th at the 10:30am service there will be a Blessing of the Backpacks, car keys, coaches' whistles, school keys, etc. to start off the school year!



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, and Barbara Klein.

Kinship Pointe: Betty Harms.

Highland Park: Harlan & Bernita Reiners and Arthur & Elaine Soncksen

El Dorado Manor: Mark Cummins **Ulysses, KS:** 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.),**

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.



August 7th	
Elder on duty	Brandon Kuykendall
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Usher	Gene Meints
Lay Reader	Renelle Mooney
Acolyte	Clara Hurst
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Cathy Broz
Late Service	
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	
Lay Reader	Sarah Risenhoover
Acolyte	Jackson Hartwell
Acolyte	Ellie Hartwell
Powerpoint	Ben Schow
Live Stream	Blayzon Mooney

August 14th	
Elder on duty	Victor Lauer
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Randon Peters
Acolyte	Brayden Watts
Acolyte	Tristen Watts
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Late Service	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	
Lay Reader	Nick Nothnagel
Acolyte	Avery Davidson
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Live Stream	Ryland Peters

August 21st	
Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Grant Pfanstiel
Acolyte	Cale DeWester
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	Curt Swanhorst
Acolyte	Zander Stewart
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Live Stream	Renelle Mooney

August 28th	
Elder on duty	Fritz Hubert
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Nancy Rippen
Greeter	
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Jerry Calvin
Acolyte	Cassidy Rogers
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Harold Carlson
Late Service	
Greeter	Pat Penner
Greeter	
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Lay Reader	Phil Bamesberger
Acolyte	Brooklynn Tidyman
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Gary Hunkins
Live Stream	Layne Sarvela

Altar Flowers
 7th-Available
 14th-Available
 21st-Available
 28th-Available



PEACE TALK

The tail wagging the dog. This expression reminds me of our family pet not long ago. Exuberant jubilee was a good way to describe our Lab who elevated "happy" to a new level. I know most all Labradors are extremely friendly, but this one would wag her tail with so much enthusiasm and glee that her whole body would follow the back-and-forth movement. Her tail was wagging so hard that it was as if "the tail was wagging the dog." Maybe some of you have had a dog that did the same thing. So, when you hear someone say, "This is a case of the tail wagging the dog," there is an understanding that something is backwards in some way. Obviously, we all know that the tail is not supposed to wag the dog. However, I got to thinking; does the tail wagging the dog apply to our spiritual day to day journey? Many times, our spiritual life can get turned around backwards, and more times than not it is when we try and do things "my way" instead of God's way. My way, at times, is driven by expectations, desires, needs, and sometimes... selfishness. God's way is not like that. Isaiah 55:8-9 defines the difference; *"Indeed, my plans are not like your plans, and my deeds are not like your deeds," says the Lord, "for just as the sky is higher than the earth, so my deeds are superior to your deeds and my plans superior to your plans."* So, the question arises. How do I let the dog wag the tail, instead of letting the tail wag the dog? I must hold fast that the Holy Spirit leads me to all truth (John 14:17) and dwells within me. When I don't have a definite answer, I can trust that the Spirit within me will provide what I need to make any decision with a clear and faithful heart. I need to trust in the plans God has for me (Jeremiah 29:11). I may not feel secure through life's darkest times, and that's okay. God doesn't expect me to fake a smile when I am facing trials and turmoil. Alternatively, He offers me His presence for peace and comfort. Then have assurance that everything will work out according to His plan (Ephesians 1:11). When I show God my willingness to trust Him in every situation, I become a part of that greater purpose. My friends, it takes an intentional daily relationship with God to keep His plan foremost in our hearts. As soon as we let our guard down, "my way" rears its ugly head and the temptations of the world consume our mind. So, when things in your life are in a disarray and the tail is wagging the dog, keep trusting in God's ways. Keep taking one obedient step after another. God is present, His plan is still good, and He can be trusted to guide us all when our path becomes uncertain. Be still and let the dog wag the tail. Dear Lord, may my will become your will. Amen.

Peace, Love, and Unity
 Phil Bamesberger



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August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 5:00pm Board of Education PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	2 9:00am Worship Committee 6:30pm Board of Elders Upper Fellowship Hall reservation	3 9:30am El Dorado	4	5	6 7:00am Men's Bible Study
7 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship Upper Fellowship Hall reservation	8 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	9 6:30pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	10	11	12	13 7:00am Men's Bible Study
14 Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/ Blessing of the Backpacks	15 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	16	17	18	19	20 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
21 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	22 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	23	24 Upper Fellowship Hall reservation	25 1:30pm Hillcrest 2:30pm Kinship Pointe	26	27 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
28 Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	29 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	30 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (WINKEL)	31			