



'TIDINGS OF PEACE' from

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

TO:

TIDINGS OF PEACE

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 2023

Hello again, Back in June, I had written to you about the difficulty of finding time for our children—I had lamented not giving enough time to my oldest son—and I spoke of placing time on my daily calendar as a means of forcing myself to set aside time for my son, and for all my kids.

Well, in response to that newsletter article, one of our members, Jerry Calvin, came into my office one day and said; *"I liked your newsletter article; what are we going to do about it?"*

Out of that conversation He and I scheduled a father - son BB-gun shoot. It was a lot of fun! And we have scheduled another on August 13.

But as an overarching desire to get better at being a dad, since those early days, I am always searching for Biblical resources to help me learn about being a dad. I've spoken with some of you in the past about an organization called Trail - Life USA; and while this is NOT an effort to pursue Trail Life, I have learned recently that Trail - Life USA has partnered with Focus - On - The - Family in a joint effort to provide a resource; a video series that is free on line. The videos are short and I've watched two thus far, and have found a couple nuggets of value, so I have asked Tina to provide information on how to access that resource.

The resource is entitled "Raising Godly Boys." The

information thus far, while it has not been a lot of "experts say this or that," the information has been very practical; things I've thought about, but figured I was the only one.

The conversation this week talked about a boy's self-worth and where it comes from. Boys hear, from various sources; piers—social media-- movies, what it means to have worth, or value, but these sources can be confusing and can disagree with that which is healthy and pleasing to God. The challenge for us dads, and for moms as well, is that we be attentive to the things our sons, and daughters are exposed to—our challenge is that we be available to listen to them and to talk with them—if they are watching a show, and you see a negative, or positive, example of self-worth; take the opportunity to talk about it. The message is that we communicate more often than these outside sources, with our words and with our actions, that our sons and daughters are highly valued by us, and by their Lord.

Thanks for reading.
Pastor

(Proverbs 1:8-10) "Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck. My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent."

**PLC Shepherd**

Pastor Lonnie Felcher
revfelcher@hotmail.com
Emergency (308)737-6750

Creative Preschool Director

Kelsey VanPelt
mycreativepreschool@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Tina Cummins
office@plcmccook.org

Congregational President

Curt Swanhorst
curtswanhorst@gmail.com

Congregational Vice President

Russ Ankersen
RJAnkersen@parker.com

Elder Chairman

Phil Barnesberger

Council Secretary

Layne Sarvela

Treasurer

Melissa Hanchera
plctreasurer1908@gmail.com

Financial Secretary

Sarah Risenhoover
peacefin28@gmail.com

FROM AN ELDER

Then the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" - Jonah 4:4

I love the story of Jonah! It's full of drama and important life lessons. After stubbornly refusing to do God's will, Jonah finally preached a revival service in Nineveh that would have made him one of the most successful missionaries of his time. When the people repented and turned from their wicked ways—and when God relented and turned from His anger against them—you would have expected Jonah to rejoice. Instead, he was angry that God was merciful. Why? Although he was finally obeying God by doing the right thing in the right place, he was deeply flawed on the inside.

Like Jonah, if we are not careful, we can be spiritually "looking good" on the outside, but far from God in our hearts.

Suppose Joseph Stalin had repented, that he had come to faith in Christ on his death bed. Would you be pleased to meet him in heaven? Or suppose Emperor Nero or Jeffrey Dahmer or the executioner who beheaded St. Paul would greet you as you enter paradise. Suppose your place at the Lord's eternal banquet is set next to that neighbor whose habits now drive you to distraction. Suppose your place card at the table would put you across from the supervisor you can't please, or that relative you could never get along with. Would you ask for a new seating assignment?

We are all prone, you see, to Jonah's sins—lovelessness and judgmentalism. Like Jonah, like the older son in Jesus' parable, we often serve the Father reluctantly. And then, as if to minimize our own disobedience of heart, we sometimes look down our noses at others whose sins we see as worse.

How good for us that just as the Lord acted in patience with Jonah, so He acts patiently toward us, too. How good that when we blame and judge and hate, our Savior keeps calling us to repentance, just as He did Jonah. God's forgiveness and favor belong to you in Christ's cross. Fall into your Father's arms and receive them.

If God controls you on the inside, you'll be genuine on the outside.

**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 Goltl	8/5	Phil Barnesberger	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
Samatha Huryta	8/6	Emily Kjendal	8/15	Judy Schow	8/27
Nathan Cummins	8/7	Dane Foster	8/16	Susie Bolt	8/28
Lisa Koetter	8/7	Rylee Mooney	8/16	Janet Gray	8/28
Christina Coleman	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 Götl	8/2/2014	9	Steven & Sharon Kircher	8/17/1984	39
Steve & Brigitta Post	8/2/1980	43	Gary & Jessica Gramins	8/18/2001	22
Samantha & Elliot Huryta	8/4/2018	5	Robert & Joann Nemechek	8/19/1972	51
Rachel & Dakota Lietka	8/10/2019	4	Zachary & Becka Hueftle	8/20/2016	7
Fred & Deb Gleason	8/11/1973	50	Keith & Kelsey Messinger	8/20/2011	12
Jeff & Kimberly Pinkerton	8/11/2001	22	Roger & Karen Ziebell	8/21/1971	52
Curt & Cindy Swanhorst	8/11/1984	39	Jeffrey & Kelly Unger	8/22/2009	14
Randall & Carrie Götl	8/12/1988	35	Larry & Linda Richards	8/26/1962	61
Randon & Laurie Peters	8/13/2006	17	Lonnie & Tanna Felcher	8/28/1976	47

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

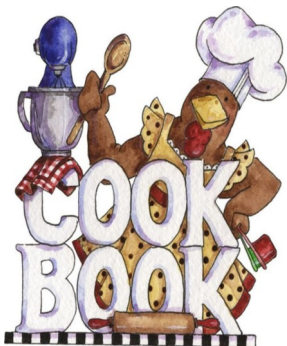
Check out our Facebook page (Peace Lutheran McCook NE)! Don't forget to "Like", "Follow" and "Share" it! We now have a YouTube channel (Peace Lutheran Church McCook) to view the Sunday services.

OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE

	Week to Date (July 23rd-July 29th)	Month to Date (July 2nd-July 29th)	Actual Year to Date (Jan 1st-July 29th)
Offerings	\$3,575.00	\$14,185.00	\$147,111.00
Expenses	\$4,224.00	\$16,307.00	\$142,929.00



CALLING ALL COOKS



Peace Lutheran LWML is sponsoring a church cookbook. Proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will go to mission projects within Peace Lutheran Church. Please submit your favorite recipes with your name on it or in honor of someone. We are accepting recipes from May 1st to September 1st. These would make wonderful Christmas gifts. If you would like to help with the cookbook, please contact Deb Shields at 308-340-4054. Recipes can be put in a box in the narthex or emailed to debrashields76@yahoo.com. Order forms will be put out at a later date.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

It's time for a new Pictorial Directory! Our dates of photography are September 21st (2:00 to 8:30) 22nd (2:00 to 8:30) and 23rd (10:00 to 4:00). To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com. Enter NE220 in the Church Code field and enter photos in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. Click on to the schedule your photography session on the right side. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. Or sign up in person

August 6th,
13th and
20th after
each service.
Contact Sue
Ankersen for
assistance
308-350-
5677



AUGUST READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
6th	The 10th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 55:1-5	Romans 9:1-13	Matthew 14:13-21
13th	The 11th S. after Pentecost	Job 38:4-18	Romans 10:5-17	Matthew 14:22-33
20th	The 12th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 56:1, 6-8	Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32	Matthew 15:21-28
27th	The 13th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 51:1-6	Romans 11:33-12:8	Matthew 16:13-20



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Stewardship Ministry
Newsletter Article – August 2023

Define Your Life by How You Give

Winston Churchill reportedly said that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill, our lives are defined not by what we have gotten, but by what we give away.

Our Lord's life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God's Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserved for our sins. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death and hell. And so it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it also is for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living has on us. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives — our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question, “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor and servant to others,” to asking the question, “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, we do not become less; rather, we have more and become more. When we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the divine nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



Sunday, August 13th 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!



SCHOOL OF RELIGION

A party to welcome the School of Religion children, their guests, and children in this area, will be held in Norris park on August 23, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The party will include food, fun and music for all the children. Many volunteers are needed be able to have this party,



ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN

This program supports deployed military chaplains and the troops they serve. In July, we are adopting Rev David McCarthy. Rev McCarthy previously served congregations in southwest Nebraska, and now serves an LCMS congregation in Montana. He is deployed as a chaplain to Kuwait, and is asking for snacks and drink mix boxes. We are planning to send care packages to him and 4 other chaplains. Everyone is welcome to help pack at Peace Lutheran, Tuesday, Aug 15, at 5 pm.



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, Art Soncksen, and Karen Berry

Kinship Pointe: Betty Harms, and Lois Brown.

Highland Park: Harlan & Bernita Reiners and Elaine Soncksen

El Dorado Manor: Mark Cummins

Lincoln: Carla Bales

Ulysses, KS: Joyce Stupka

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 – Phil Bamesberger, Victor Lauer, Fritz Hubert, Brandon Kuykendall, Curt Swanhorst, Russ Ankersen or Barry Mooney.

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.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

August 6th

Elder on duty	Brandon Kuykendall
Organist	Shawn Pfanstiel
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Usher	Gene Meints
Lay Reader	Sue Ankersen
Acolyte	Ryker Mooney
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Cathy Broz
Late Service	
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	Gary Hunkins
Lay Reader	Nick Nothnagel
Acolyte	Jackson Hartwell
Acolyte	Ellie Hartwell
Powerpoint	Ben Schow
Live Stream	Jackson Hartwell

August 13th

Elder on duty	Victor Lauer
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Randon Peters
Acolyte	Juliatt Critchfield
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Late Service	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Sarah Risenhoover
Acolyte	Avery Davidson
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Live Stream	Carter Hartwell

August 20th

Elder on duty	Barry Mooney
Organist	K.C. Pfanstiel
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Renelle Mooney
Acolyte	Tristan Watts
Acolyte	Brayden Watts
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	Blayzon Mooney
Acolyte	Hunter Kunkee
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Live Stream	Tina Cummins

August 27th

Elder on duty	Fritz Hubert
Organist	K.C. Pfanstiel
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Nancy Rippen
Greeter	
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Russ Ankersen
Acolyte	Clara Hurst
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Harold Carlson
Late Service	
Greeter	Pat Penner
Greeter	
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Lay Reader	Riley Mooney
Acolyte	Brooklynn Tidyman
Acolyte	Lexi Koetter
Powerpoint	Gary Hunkins
Live Stream	Layne Sarvela



PEACE TALK

Oh no, not now! That's what I think when I get a flat tire on my vehicle. I did not allow enough time to deal with this right now. But there it is, flat as a pancake. It is going to take forever to get my jack out and put the spare tire on. Ugg, I'm going to be late for my appointment. By the time I get this done I will be quite dirty. How will I get cleaned up? Maybe someone will drive by and help... But nobody travels this road. Maybe I can call someone, but then again, I would have to walk to the top of the hill to get cell phone service. The Bible tells me not to be anxious about anything (Philippians 4:6). That's easy for the Apostle Paul to say. He didn't have a flat tire. For crying out loud, I had to read the owner's manual to find out where my jack is; unload a ton of stuff to get the spare out; and then wonder if I would ever get the overtightened lug nuts loose. I pause and wonder "what am I going to do?" My plans are ruined... Even though I dramatized this situation, there are many things that can cause anxiety. Has anything interrupted your schedule recently? There will be inopportune events erupting in our life that will deflate plans for the day. So remember, as we are in the midst of a frenzy, be prepared to answer God's question, "Am I in any of those plans?" We are told that our ways are not God's ways, and His thoughts are not our thoughts (Isaiah 55:8-9). With all those thoughts racing through our mind amidst challenging moments, God wants us to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). No matter how difficult or inconvenient a situation finds us in, there is nothing that God cannot do for us (Job 42:2). In fact, just as that flat tire seemed to traumatize my day, God might have used that to make me stronger in some way. Making me realize that I need to listen to His voice as I realize my dilemma in the bigger scheme of things, is quite trivial. Paul shares another message in *Romans 5:3*, "*Let us exult and triumph in our troubles and rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that the pressure and affliction and hardship produce patient and unswerving endurance.*" We all face obstacles from time to time. God doesn't remove every one of them because He just might be using that moment to bring us back to Him. When we deal with various difficulties, we often become stronger in our faith. A flat tire in my day to make me realize that there are a lot of larger obstacles I will face in the future. I must use this small hurdle to strengthen my faith for a larger one I might face tomorrow. Whatever the flat tire that you are facing today, stand strong in faith knowing it cannot restrain God's plans and blessings for you. Dear Lord, help me to not fret about my one flat tire, but to give thanks for the other three that are not. Amen.

Peace, Love, and Unity
Phil Bamesberger



Peace Lutheran Church
 411 East 6th Street
 PO Box 240
 McCook, NE 69001
 PH (308)345-2595
 Email: office@plcmccook.org
 Website: plcmccook.org
 Facebook: Peace Lutheran McCook
 NE

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
		PASTOR AT CONVENTION				
6 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	7 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	8 9:00am Worship Committee 6:00pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	9	10	11	12 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation Lower Fellowship Hall reservation 2:00pm Funeral service
13 Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/Blessing of the Backpacks	14 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	15 5:00pm Adopt-A-Chaplain packing	16	17	18	19 7:00am Men's Bible Study
20 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	21 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	22	23 5:30pm School of Religion Back To School party	24 1:30pm Hillcrest 2:30pm Kinship Pointe	25	26 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
27 Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	28 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	29	30	31		