



'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

Psalm 107:1- Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!

Only 25 days after the Declaration of Independence had been signed by the last delegate, General George Washington's army found itself trapped on the edge of Brooklyn, New York's, East River. The British had 20,000 seasoned soldiers ready to attack the 8,000 inexperienced, raw Colonials.

The end, as everyone could plainly see, was imminent.

It would have been imminent, but for some reason -- some illogical, inexplicable reason -- the British forces drew up short. They hesitated. Some have suggested the British commander was waiting for his fleet to sail up the river. The fleet didn't come, at least not when they were expected. A northwest wind blew, rains came, and the British ships couldn't set sail.

If the British hesitated, Washington didn't.

Under the cover of darkness, using small boats, Washington led his men in retreat. With haste, carrying a few men at a time, the boats crisscrossed the river. The goal was to save as much of the army as was possible. The night passed before the job was completed. The approach of dawn would make the ferrying boats target practice for the skilled artillerymen of the British.

That's the way history might have written the end of the Rebel Army, but it didn't happen that way.

Just as the sun came up, so did a fog. It wasn't so thick you couldn't see your hand in front of your face, but it was thick enough so visibility was reduced to less than 20 feet. The fog hung on until the last Colonial boat, the one with Washington, was launched.

The best the British could do was lob some shells at Washington's boat, which was out of range.

Sitting, as you are in your comfortable house, far removed from that time, you may be thinking quite a coincidence or some luck or a great throw of the dice. It would be foolish to think that God sent the rains, that God directed the winds, that God brought up the fog.

Every modern, sophisticated thinker knows Washington's escape was pure fate.

That's what we would say, but almost every one of the American soldiers who recorded the events of that night gave credit for these "coincidental happenings" to the Triune God. And there were many British troops who wondered if they shouldn't go home since the Lord was obviously fighting for the Colonies.

No doubt, many of the American men, having been delivered by this miracle, thought of Psalm 107:1: "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!"

Of course, all this was over two-and-a-quarter centuries ago. Much of America has become too sophisticated to rely on God, to think of Him, or thank Him. And that, my friends, is a big mistake. You see, God's mercy endures forever, but His patience does not.

Far better for those in America, or whatever country you call home, to give thanks to the Lord for not only giving us forgiveness and salvation through His Son, but also for His blessings and freedoms, which are far more dependable than are our thanks.

THE PRAYER: On this day of picnics and fireworks and family, may Your people also give thanks for Your hand of protection, which has guided us in the past even as it does today. This I ask in the Savior's Name.



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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Camp Luther will be leading Vacation Bible School, scheduled for July 20-22. The hours are 9am to 1:30pm for PreK through 6th graders. Board of Ed is still looking for some classroom help. There is a sign up sheet on the buffet in the Narthex as well as registration forms.

HELP WANTED

The Elders are looking for office assistants. We would like to compile a list of volunteers, men and women, willing to sit in for Tina when needed. No computer work will be required, just a person in the office to answer the telephone and take messages. Please contact any elder if you are interested.

GREETERS

Calling all Greeters. The greeting calendar is being updated. Current greeters and any new person(s), couples or families that would be interested in being added to the calendar, please contact Dorothy Henton, 345-4447 or Deb Shields at 340-4054.

MEETING NOTICE

Kitchen and Dining Room Chairperson meeting July 17, 2017 at 7pm at the church. Any others on the committees or that would like to be are welcome also. Questions call Deb Shields at 340-4054.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN EVENT

There is a Feed My Starving Children event in Holdrege, August 11th & 12th. Their goal is to raise \$59,875 and deliver 350,000 meals. They have raised \$19,578 and have church pledges of \$17,375 that is 62% of our goal. Sign-up sheets and the two day shift schedule have gone out to your church. Please consider supporting this great mission. Thank you from Holdrege Rotary.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Karinne Kulwicki	7/1	Ruby Ahrens	7/15	Charles Coleman	7/22
Jack Seybold	7/1	Tyler Loop	7/15	Lila Leibrandt	7/22
Cindy Soucek	7/2	Patricia Phinney	7/16	Mark Cummins	7/24
Cinda Schmit	7/3	Kasen Yilk	7/16	David May	7/24
Kayla Koetter	7/4	Carla Bales	7/17	Laney Peters	7/26
Chelsey Hartwell	7/6	Easton Gillen	7/17	Karli Swink	7/26
Justin Kulwicki	7/6	Grant Pfanstiel	7/17	Roger Stupka	7/27
Dalton Downing	7/7	Angela France	7/18	Deb Lauer	7/28
Cindy Swanhorst	7/8	Michael Chipman	7/19	Kristi Novak	7/29
Nancy Ott	7/10	Craig Nemechek	7/19	Brigitta Post	7/29
Hannah Golti	7/11	Sonja Thompson	7/20	Chad Coleman	7/30
Elaine Soncksen	7/11	Janine Hall	7/21	Nate Schneider	7/30
Tom Ott	7/13	Richard Thompson	7/21	Cathy Broz	7/31

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Kiley & Cailtlin Roundtree	7/2/2011	6	Calvin & Brenda Grube	7/20/1984	33
Breann & Christopher Cerda	7/10/2015	2	Andrew & Bobbie Ziebell	7/21/2012	5
Dee & Mary Traphagan	7/10/1978	39	Mark & Tina Cummins	7/27/1991	26
James & Patricia Phinney	7/14/1995	22	Phillip & Janice Bamesberger	7/28/1979	38
Allyx & Dillon Garretson	7/19/2008	9			

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

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.

OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE

	Week to Date (July 2nd-July 8th)	Month to Date (July 2nd-July 8th)	Actual Year to Date (Jan. 1st-July 8th)	Budget to Date (Jan. 1st-July 8th) 26th week
Offerings	\$2,799.75	\$2,799.75	\$94,315.98	\$123,201.00
Expenses	\$1,715.81	\$1,715.81	\$77,474.07	\$123,201.00

This month's Going Beyond Sunday is for Camp Luther.

Going Beyond Sunday for the Orphan Grain Train was \$112.00.



BOARD OF EVANGELISM

We continue to provide salads every other month for the “Feeding My Flock” community dinners at the Methodist Church. Thank you to everyone who provided salads for the June dinner. We are scheduled to provide salads again August 24. We have struggled some months to provide the 10 salads that are requested and ask that members prayerfully consider supporting this important ministry. We are always happy to deliver salads for anyone who needs help. The Board also continues to mail out anniversary and birthday cards to members. Through information provided by the Welcome Service, we also reach out to newcomers in the community who list their church preference as Lutheran or who note no church preference. A church pamphlet is mailed out along with an invitation to worship with us. Tina continues to mail out cards to visitors and the Board of Evangelism is looking into delivering a coffee mug to those visitors from McCook or presenting it in person after church. We encourage everyone to check out the new member board in the narthex. We will feature a new family every month. This year we again plan to deliver packages of cookies along with a church brochure to incoming freshman at the college. We would also like to stay in touch with college students from Peace, so please get us addresses for your college-bound students.

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Broz

CREATIVE PRESCHOOL

You can help out our own Creative Preschool by clipping UPC codes and box tops. It's as easy as cutting out the UPC code from “Campbell's” and “Our Family” products and any “Box Top” (Campbell's no longer accepts the full label.) UPC codes and Box Tops collected help buy various supplies needed for day to day operation of the preschool.

In the past these programs helped the preschool purchase supplies, the large color and shape carpet, books, science and math activities and many other items. The UPC codes and Box Tops can be returned to Mandy or the church office. Thank you for supporting Creative Preschool!



JULY READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
2nd	4th S. after Pentecost	Jeremiah 38:5-9	Romans 7:1-13	Matthew 10:34-42
9th	5th S. after Pentecost	Zechariah 9:9-12	Romans 7:14-25a	Matthew 11:25-30
16th	6th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 55:10-13	Romans 8:12-17	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
23rd	7th S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 44:6-8	Romans 8:18-27	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
30th	8th S. after Pentecost	Deuteronomy 7:6-9	Romans 8:28-39	Matthew 13:44-52



FROM AN ELDER

God Is My (Co-Pilot) Pilot

Dr. Ken Matto has some very profound thoughts about who is in charge of our lives. A common bumper sticker states “God is my Co-Pilot”. Don't you agree we should change seats? Isaiah 58:11 says “The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy you needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.” Moses could not have produced the plagues, parted the sea and lead the Israelites out of Egypt. The security of the Israelites would come from faith in God's daily care. Moses knew he was the co-pilot.

In Deuteronomy 31:8 we have four promises and two commands. The First Promise says no matter what a person is facing, God is in the forefront. When David faced Goliath, he knew God was the pilot. In Zechariah 4:7 it states: “Where are you, O mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of “God bless it! God bless it! “Faith in the power of God's Spirit can overcome mountainous obstacles. When your situation looks like a mountain, God will make it a plain.

The Second Promise is He will be with you. When Daniel was put into the lions' den because he would not worship King Darius, Daniel knew God would protect him. Proverbs 16:7 states: “When a man's ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.”

The Third Promise states that the Lord will not fail you. When the armies of the Ammonites and Moabites were assembled to attack Judah, Jehoshaphat knew this principal well. In 2 Chronicles 20:15b it states: “This is what the Lord says to you: “Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's.”

The Fourth Promise tells us that the Lord will never forsake us. Hebrews 15:5 says, “Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have because God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.’”

The two Commands God gives us are:

1. Fear Not. 2 Peter 1:4 says, “Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.” When we look toward heaven, fear vanishes.
2. Do not be discouraged. Isaiah 41:10 says, “So do not fear, for I am with you, do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Let us focus on the Lord and not allow this world to do our thinking for us. Let God be our pilot.



COUNCIL CORNER

Council - At a Glance

Peace Lutheran Church Council met on Tuesday June 13th and opened with Janice Bamesberger leading devotions. There were no guests present for open forum comments.

Reports for the various boards and council positions were available either in print or presented verbally for review, discussion and approval. Council approved and authorized purchase of several items for praise band using funds designated for that purpose. Pastor Hinrichs reported on official acts, current and possible upcoming new member classes and that he has been doing visits as time permits. As he accepted the call to Illinois and will be moving soon, his last Sunday at Peace will be July 9.

Discussion on unfinished business topics including: 1.) TCN (transforming church networks) update – nothing to report. 2.) Fireworks – Renelle Mooney and Jan Hubert will be co-managers. Trailers have been delivered, plans are in place for set-up, and sign-up sheets for work schedules are being routed. 3.) Golf tournament – Photo shoot for Gazette presenting a check for \$5655 to Food Pantry is planned. 4.) Ramp project team – Schamel family offered to donate an aluminum ramp for the cause (plans to use it at Ken Frick residence). 5.) Health Fair – discussion on alternatives to spark more interest. 6.) VBS – set for July 20-21-22 due to some conflicts – still looking for help. 7.) Feed my starving children event set for August 11-12 in Holdrege, NE. Peace has been invited to participate. 8.) Sarah Kanoy (missionary) – She will speak at Peace on (Wed) October 18th during SOR.

New business items/discussion: 1.) Call process – Voters extended call to Pastor Garen Pay (SD). Call documents along with information about Peace and McCook were mailed to him. An invitation for him to visit was extended and council voted to cover any travel expenses. 2.) Nativity grant – Phil applied for and received a grant from LCEF to help with expenses for additions to this display for Christmas 2017.

There being no other business, meeting was closed with the Lords Prayer.
President - Russ Ankersen

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preschool to 5th grade children are invited to Sunday School each Sunday from 9:15-10:15am in the basement. 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.

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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, Don Smith, Orian Fritz, Ruth Shields, Pam Leibbrandt and Rod Berry.

Brookdale McCook: Edna Ficken, Erv Friehe, Joyce Stupka, Leona Wudtke and Walt & Jean Sehnert.

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

McCook: Nancy Ott, Wallace Keen, and Adeline Kuhlmann

Butte: Don Kisker

Grand Island: Marie Alberts

St. Paul: Sandra Novak

Kearney: Florence Potthoff

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, Russ Ankersen or Phil Bamesberger.

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.

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SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

July 2nd	
11:00am Service	
Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Usher	Eugene Custer
Usher	Robert Hull
Lay Reader	Paul Schaffert
Acolyte	Need Volunteer
Acolyte	Need Volunteer
Powerpoint	Jeff Pinkerton

July 9th	
11:00am Service	
Elder on duty	Paul Schaffert
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Paul Sellers
Usher	
Lay Reader	Russ Ankersen
Acolyte	Need Volunteer
Acolyte	Need Volunteer
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen

July 16th	
10:30am Service	
Elder on duty	Darrell Eckhardt
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Janet Bamesberger
Greeter	Dale Bamesberger
Usher	Ben Schow
Usher	Brandon Smith
Lay Reader	Brandon Smith
Acolyte	Need Volunteer
Acolyte	Need Volunteer
Powerpoint	Nadia Schoup

July 23rd	
10:30am Service	
Elder on duty	Ron Aufrecht
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Need Volunteer
Greeter	Phyllis Berndt
Usher	Dennis Chipman
Usher	
Lay Reader	Phil Bamesberger
Acolyte	Need Volunteer
Acolyte	Need Volunteer
Powerpoint	Stacie Aufrecht

July 30th	
9:00am Service	
Elder on duty	Grant Pfanstiel
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	
Greeter	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Sue Carlson
Usher	Gary Buk
Usher	
Lay Reader	George Wurm
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	

Altar Flowers	KNGN Sponsor
2nd-Available	2nd-Available
9th-Available	9th-Available
16th-Available	16th-Available
23rd-Available	23rd-Available
30th-Available	30th-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.



PEACE TALK

When a traffic light turns red do you stop? When you walk into Wal-Mart does the door open for you? When you push on the gas pedal does your car go faster? When you turn on a light switch does the room get brighter? These are all expectations we encounter every day and don't think twice about them. Throughout our daily routine I'm sure we could make quite a list of things we expected to happen, and sure enough it does. But what if these things go against our expectations? Well in our examples, we get a traffic violation ticket, bump our nose on the door, call the mechanic to fix the car, and replace a burnt out light bulb. As we ponder all these expectations we so often take for granted, we realize that we subconsciously expect a tremendous amount every single day. So what do we expect from God? We expect Him to be with us at all times, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9) and He is, that was an easy one. God is good. Now how about a harder one? What do you expect when you talk to God? Like a text message, do we wait for a response to see if the recipient actually got the message? All we would require is a simple response back like "K" or "J" but we don't. What we do know is the Lord hears our prayers "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us" 1 John 5:14. We also know that He promises that all things will work together for our good "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" Romans 8:28. But just like our daily expectations, what can come in the way of God sending us a response? The Apostle Paul explains this in 1 Thessalonians 2:18 "For we wanted to come to you – certainly I, Paul, did, again and again – but Satan blocked our way". We must not be discouraged however, just as the room doesn't get brighter or the car isn't working properly, taking a little more time out of our day, we keep praying and know that everything God can give us is beyond our expectations. Don't wait for the response to come back from your message and "walk by faith and not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). God is working in your life right now. Whether you see it or feel it or not, keep praying and expecting because God is longing to be gracious and good to you. Brothers and sisters, let this continually encourage us to expect more from our faith and watch God do more than we expect!



Peace Lutheran Church

411 East 6th Street

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McCook, NE 69001

PH (308)345-2595

July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 7:00am Men's Bible Study
2 8:30am Prayer & Preaching 9:45am Bible Study 11:00am Worship 3:00pm MS Society	3	4	5	6	7	8 7:00am Men's Bible Study
9 <u>Communion Sunday</u> 8:30am Prayer & Preaching 9:45am Bible Study 11:00am Worship	10 5:30pm Board of Elders Pastor Kahle in the Office	11 2:30pm Hillcrest Bingo 7:00pm Council	12	13	14	15 7:00am Men's Bible Study
16 8:00am Prayer & Preaching 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 7:00pm Forerunners	17 11:00am Worship Committee Pastor Kahle in the Office	18	19	20	21	22 7:00am Men's Bible Study
23 <u>Communion Sunday</u> 8:00am Prayer & Preaching 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	24 Pastor Kahle in the Office	25	26	27 1:30pm Hillcrest Service 2:30pm Brookdale McCook Service	28	29 7:00am Men's Bible Study
30 8:00am Bible Study 9:00am Worship	31 6:00pm LWML Pastor Kahle in the Office					