

TIDINGS OF PEACE

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH



'TIDINGS OF PEACE' from

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

411 EAST 6TH STREET

MCCOOK, NE 69001

TO:

Luke 18:27 "But he said, "What is impossible with men, is possible with God."

The other day I was musing through "famous last words" that came to me in an email. I found some of them pretty interesting, but this goes to show you the limitations man puts on himself. Here are some of them:

"This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us." --Western Union internal memo, 1876. Of course we can see that the telephone revolutionized the communication industry, and just look at what this idea morphed into with cell phones.

"Everything that can be invented has been invented." --Charles H. Duell, Commissioner, U.S. Office of Patents, 1899. We see new ideas, and new inventions every day that seek to make our lives easier. Mr. Duell, way back in 1899, couldn't have been more wrong.

"The wireless music box has no imaginable commercial value. Who would pay for a message sent to nobody in particular?" --David Sarnoff's associates in response to his urgings for investment in the radio in the 1920s. As we know, the radio has blossomed into a way to get information out quickly and has become for us entertainment. The radio makes possible ministries like KNGN that put the Word of God out over the airwaves so those who can not attend church are able to still hear it.

"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers." --Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943.

"Computers in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons." --Popular Mechanics, forecasting the relentless march of science, 1949.

"But what ... is it good for?" --Engineer at the Advanced Computing Systems Division of IBM, 1968, commenting on the microchip.

"There is no reason anyone would want a



computer in their home." --Ken Olson, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977.

The computer has revolutionized everything we do today. In some fit or fashion computer technology has crept into almost every aspect of our lives. As we know, industry now continues to look for new ways to use computer applications and technology.

What is so amazing to me here is that those people in the business of developing technology were putting a cap on what it was they could and could not make. What is even more amazing is how we have advanced technologically despite ourselves.

Is it possible that today, we too might put limitations on where the Holy Spirit works in the church. As we reach these summer months, it is no longer a necessity to stay indoors and not be out among God's people. It is a time for interaction and letting the Spirit work within us and through us as we move forward in our ministry here at Peace.

Have you given much thought to where God is at work in the midst of His church? Have you given much thought to where He is using you to advance His kingdom here on earth? What is His vision for our future? What does He want to see accomplished, or better yet see us be part of accomplishing? There will likely be those who want to tell you that "it can't be done", or "we've tried

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PLC WEBSITE

Be sure to visit us on the web at: www.plcmccook.org. Here, you can see all the latest announcements, notices, contact information, and more. The site is now *updated weekly* for changes on the church calendar and latest news.

From An Elder

Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.
Matthew 22: 21b (ESV)

A friend of mine recently sent me an email of a YouTube video of a man who sang the 4th verse of the Star Spangled Banner. It was a beautiful rendition, and it made me think. I don't know about you, but I didn't know that our National anthem even had four verses. Let me print the fourth verse for you.

*Oh, thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n-rescued
land*

*Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a
nation!*

*Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust":
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

It's interesting to note that this 4th verse is the only one that mentions anything about God or 'the Power that hath made and preserved' our nation.

Our forefathers understood the importance of our God not only in the formation of America, but also in the ongoing preservation of our nation. Satan is trying with all his might to destroy our country and our liberty, but if we continue to offer our praise, thanksgiving and our service to our loving God, we can be confident that He will continue to bless us with His boundless Grace and Mercy.

As we celebrate Independence Day, let's always remember, "To God be the Glory!"

Grant Pfanstiel
Elder Chairman



July Birthdays

Tom Albertson	7/1	Tyler Loop	7/15	Richard Thompson	7/21
Allison Dupler	7/1	Richard Cummins	7/16	Charles Coleman	7/22
Cinda Schmidt	7/3	Patricia Phinney	7/16	Lila Leibrandt	7/22
Kayla Koetter	7/4	Gertrude Potthoff	7/16	Karen Cummins	7/24
Chelsey Hartwell	7/6	Easton Gillen	7/17	Mark Cummins	7/24
Dalton Downing	7/7	Grant Pfanstiel	7/17	David May	7/24
Cindy Swanhorst	7/8	Floyd Bales	7/18	Roger Stupka	7/27
Don Hall	7/9	Angela Bamesberger	7/18	Deb Laur	7/28
Nancy Ott	7/10	David Barenberg	7/18	Kristi Novak	7/29
Hannah Goltl	7/11	Ron Fritz	7/18	Brigitta Post	7/29
Elaine Soncksen	7/11	Michael Chipman	7/19	Chad Coleman	7/30
Melissa Ankersen	7/12	Craig Nemechek	7/19	Nate Schneider	7/30
Tom Ott	7/13	Sonya Thompson	7/20	Cathy Broz	7/31
Ruby Ahrens	7/15	Janine Hall	7/21		

July Anniversaries

NAME	DATE	YRS	NAME	DATE	YRS
Ron & Christine Buck	7/8/1988	23	Brian & Savannah Stauch	7/18/2009	2
Dee & Mary Traphagan	7/10/1978	33	Calvin & Brenda Grube	7/20/1984	27
James & Patricia Phinney	7/14/1995	16	Mark & Tina Cummins	7/27/1991	20
Ronald & Patricia Penner	7/18/1986	25	Phillip & Janice Bamesberger	7/28/1979	32

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

The office is currently updating the Church Registry. If you have moved or changed your phone number since the last book went out, please contact the office

@ 345-2595 so we can make the change.

Our Finances At A Glance

	Week to Date (June 26th - July 2nd)	Month to Date (June 5th-June 26th)	Actual Year to Date (Jan 1st - July 2nd)	Budget to Date (Jan 1st - July 2nd) 26st week
Offerings	\$2,944.50	\$13,761.33	\$102,715.12	\$122,031.52
Expenses	\$4,820.90	\$15,374.24	\$102,096.20	\$122,031.52

Going Beyond Sunday for Joplin Tornado Relief was \$469.00



2011 VBS

This year, children from the ages of 3 years through the 6th grade had an opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of "Hometown Nazareth" at Peace Lutheran Church's annual Vacation Bible School.

The Nazareth program was structured a bit different than what has been done normally in the past. Children were gathered into tribal families, named after the 12 Tribes of Israel. From there, they met with their leaders to talk about where in Nazareth they were going to go that day.

Hometown Nazareth consisted of Mary's house (*Mary played by Liz Yilk*), where they heard stories about Jesus, a fun and games area, and the hometown marketplace, where children had the chance to make crafts, and talk to the "townspeople" about Jesus and His works. Marketplace shops included; The Farmer's Field, The Wool Shop, The Rock Quarry, The Bead Shop, The Olive Oil Shop, The Food Market, and The Carpentry Shop.

On average, there were 55 to 60 children who attended VBS towards the end of the week, not including all the Tribal Leaders, Shopkeepers, and a multitude of various helpers.

Once again, we would like to thank all those who donated food, craft and decorating supplies, and their time to make this year's VBS a successful outreach ministry to the children in the local area. May God bless each and everyone of you!!



July Readings

Dat	Season	1st Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
3rd	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	Zechariah 9:9-12	Romans 7:14-25a	Matthew 11:25-30
10th	4th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 55:10-13	Romans 8:12-17	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
17th	5th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 44:6-8	Romans 8:18-27	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
24th	6th Sunday after Pentecost	Deuteronomy 7:6-9	Romans 8:28-39	Matthew 13:44-52
31st	7th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 55:1-5	Romans 9:1-5 (6-13)	Matthew 14:13-21



that before and so we shouldn't try that again," or "it's too much trouble".

I look back over the past month and have seen the church in action. We had a wonderful Vacation Bible School. We had many children here in our facility – some who know who Jesus is and whose parents think that it is important enough that they receive this kind of exposure to their Lord, and those who did not know Jesus, but do now through the love and care of people who have a heart for ministry. Many thanks to all who helped out that week.

But ministry is not about doing something to help others hear the message about Jesus and saying, "I'm done." It is a continual act of those Jesus calls to be disciples – being that living confession of faith. There are many other activities coming to us on the horizon. Our Youth will be in full swing selling fireworks as their annual fundraiser by the time this comes out. However, there is more to it than just selling fireworks. As DCE Intern Brad Rogers and I have been discussing, we are reshaping our youth program to develop Christian leaders, and that everyone who participates with us is part of our ministry team. I am so encouraged that the youth and their parents see the importance of giving back to God for the blessings they receive in the fireworks sales. They will be making a donation to the Joplin, MO relief efforts.

Our Bible studies continue and are open for others to join. We have the Monday night Women's Bible Study, the Saturday morning Men's Bible Breakfast, Sunday Bible Study (we just began a study of the Book of Revelation and all are welcome to join us.) Brad is working on a class for adults and senior High Youth that focuses on what it is we believe. Let's not leave out our Sunday morning Sunday School classes for the children.

As I said there are many things on the horizon. To name a few (the list is not all inclusive) that are in the planning stages, Russ Ankersen, our Congregation President, is leading a committee aimed at expanding our contemporary worship from one Sunday to two per month. There are a lot of needs for help in this service, and I am sure his committee would welcome those who want to be part of that ministry. The Stewardship committee is planning our annual church picnic. Our School of Religion is getting ready to begin a new school year. Our preschool is full for the next school year, and there is another committee looking at providing a nursery during our Sunday worship and Sunday School hour so parents can attend worship and Bible Study. We support those of our faith in nursing homes by providing monthly worship services, and more.

We praise God for the work of the Holy Spirit among us and how God uses us as His instruments to proclaim the Gospel. In all of this we very quickly come to the conclusion that it is not us who are doing all of these things, but God doing His work through us. All that we do, whether supporting our mission and ministry through our donations, or with our time, and talents, is all to the glory of God.

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever." (Ephesians 3:20-21) We just don't know where God is taking us in ministry, but we are all part of the journey he has us on. We can be assured, though, that God is not finished with His desire that all people be saved, and using His people to deliver that message. Even though at times we want to say that it can't be done, *"What is impossible with men is possible with God."*

Pastor Tom



TOOLS FOR STEWARDSHIP and EVANGELISM

LCMS CAMPUS MINISTRY—For all college-bound students—

www.lcmscampusministry.org

What happens when you don't let a Lutheran campus ministry know about your college-bound student? The student will: a) find another campus ministry on his/her own; b) go with a friend; or c) risk disconnection with the church and with Jesus—and assume the church doesn't care. The most likely answer is C. Help us minister to your student! Visit www.lcmscampusministry.org today and connect through the StudentConnect service. It's free—and can make a difference. An LCMS pastor or campus ministry worker from the campus community will contact the student personally and offer some information about the local Lutheran campus ministry and how to get involved there. When your college-bound student gets connected to a ministry, their faith grows, they engage in building up the body of Christ, and they reach out to their campus community with the love and power of God. Registering through the StudentConnect service can be done by the college-bound student or a parent from the comfort of your own home.

LYF Teen Leadership Retreat—August 5-6, 2011

Using the biblically-based training materials, "Teen Leadership Training," the Leadership Retreat equips **youth to be leaders** in their home congregations, families, high schools and communities by challenging them to see that they are **not the church of tomorrow... they are an important part of the church right now**. **WHO:** High school youth (completed 8th grade) with potential and desire to be leaders in the church today and in the future are welcome to attend. **WHEN:** August 5-6 from 7pm to 2:30pm (overnight). **WHERE:** Heartland Lutheran High School in Grand Island, NE. **COST:** \$50 (transportation and meals are included in the cost).

DEADLINE: All forms and registration money must be turned in to Brad Rogers by **July 11**. Forms can be picked up at the counter to the right when you enter the church, in the youth room or by talking to Brad Rogers.

Youth Ministry Fireworks Fundraiser—June 28-July 4 @ Pizza Hut (10am-10pm each day, with the exception of Sunday, July 3 when the stand will be open 12pm-10pm).

Youth ministry's Fireworks fundraiser is in full swing. Your support and prayers are needed and very much appreciated for youth ministry and this fundraiser as we hope to raise funds to continue this ministry of PLC to youth and families; and as we strive to prepare and equip youth and adults in their journey as Christian leaders living a life of faith beyond this time and place. **A portion of the funds raised will go to support LCMS World Relief and Human Care efforts in Joplin, MO** in the aftermath of the devastating tornado that brought destruction, pain and suffering to that town. It is our hope and prayer that these funds will support the work of the Church in sharing the love of Jesus to the people of Joplin in such a difficult time.

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.

www.plcmccook.org



BRAD'S CORNER

Peace Lutheran Church's FIRE Youth Ministry exists to **extend** Jesus' love to all senior high school students, to help them **grow** in their relationship with the Lord, to **praise** and **honor** God in Christian **service**, and to **care** for one another.

The world has a distorted view of who we are and what we should be about; and it does not match what God desires for each one of us. In Jesus, God sees each one of us as His beloved child; and through Christ, we are so much more. Each one of us is **called** to be so much more. As disciples of Jesus, **we are called to change the world for Jesus Christ**. Our goal, through the Holy Spirit, is to help youth and families do just that. ***FIRE youth ministry strives to prepare, nurture and equip youth and adults to be Christian leaders prepared for service, living a life of faith, beyond this time and place.***

As I shared awhile back, we are trying to be intentional with each aspect of youth ministry; that it would help support our mission and goal of preparing youth to be Christian leaders. In talking with Pastor Tom and the Board of Education, we were looking for a curriculum that would help support us in this goal. We believe we have found that with Group Publishing's LIVE. It is a four-year curriculum created specifically for high school students, intending to guide teenagers toward a Jesus-centered life. It also has a family component which allows families to keep that week's discussion going at home.

I am excited about this curriculum's potential; and to see how God will work through it to prepare Christian leaders. This curriculum will be the primary resource used for Wednesday night FIRE, starting towards the end of July, early August. Wednesday night FIRE is a chance for fellowship, Bible study, prayer, fun and activities.

If you are a high school student, I invite you to join us for Wednesday night FIRE each Wednesday from 7:30-8:30pm in the youth room, **starting July 13**; unless noted otherwise. And bring a friend too! If you are the parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin, sibling or friend of a teenager, please encourage them to join us. Thank you for your love for teenagers.

If you would like more information about what is going on in FIRE youth ministry, be sure to check your family's PLC mailbox as I put out a monthly youth ministry newsletter discussing the who, what, when, where, cost, of various opportunities available to youth and adults as part of PLC FIRE youth ministry. We are also looking to get all youth ministry related information and forms up on the PLC website (www.plcmccook.org) very soon.

If you have interest in a role in youth ministry, please contact me at brad.rogers@plcmccook.org or 308-345-2595.

Serving with you!

Brad

www.plcmccook.org

**July 3rd Early Service**

Organist KC Eckhardt
 Audio Harold Carlson
 Greeter Donna Hall
 Greeter Jim Hall
 Usher Ed Rinehart

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Powerpoint Jim Hall

July 3rd Late Service

Greeter Betty Knapper
 Greeter Myra Tietz
 Usher Robert Hull

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Powerpoint Angie Reiners

Video **NEED VOLUNTEER****July 19th Early Service**

Organist Zona Fritz
 Audio Cathy Broz
 Greeter Charlene Pfanstiel
 Greeter Grant Pfanstiel
 Usher Lois Calvin

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Powerpoint Brad Rogers

July 19th Late Service

Greeter Dorothy Henton
 Greeter Garnet Henton
 Usher Ron Buck

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Powerpoint **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Video Russ Ankersen

Altar Flowers

3rd- Available

10th- Available

17th- Available

24th- Available

31st- Available

KGNG Sponsor

3rd- Available

10th- Available

17th- Available

24th- Available

31st- Available

Note: Cost to sponsor a "Your Hour of Worship" program on KGNG 1300AM Radio is \$45. If you are interested in sponsoring a program, please call the church office for available dates.

July 10th Early Service

Organist Joyce Hofman
 Audio Russ Ankersen
 Greeter Deb Shields
 Greeter Evelyn Salyer
 Usher Eugene Custer

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Powerpoint Russ Ankersen

July 10th Late Service

Greeter Janet Bamesberger
 Greeter Dale Bamesberger
 Usher Dee Traphagan

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Powerpoint Russ Ankersen

Video **NEED VOLUNTEER****July 24th Early Service**

Organist KC Eckhardt
 Audio Jon Reiners
 Greeter Gary Buk
 Greeter Karen Berry
 Usher Jeff Pinkerton

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Powerpoint Jon Reiners

July 24th Late Service

Greeter Velma Kircher
 Greeter Phyllis Berndt
 Usher Curt Swanhorst

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Powerpoint Jon Reiners

Video **NEED VOLUNTEER****July 31st Early Service**

Organist Joyce Hofman
 Audio Cathy Broz
 Greeter **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Greeter **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Usher Ed Rinehart

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Powerpoint **NEED VOLUNTEER****July 31st Late Service**Greeter **NEED VOLUNTEER**Greeter **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Usher Don Hall

Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Acolyte **NEED VOLUNTEER**Powerpoint **NEED VOLUNTEER**Video **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Lutheran Study Bibles Available

Lutheran Study Bibles are still available for purchase in the Church Office

Regular Size Print—\$34.95

Large Size Print—\$44.95



WEDDING RECEPTION

As most of you know our son and brother Bill Traphagan married Steph McGarvey on June 4, 2011, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Peoria, IL. Since it was so far away we are have a reception for Bill and Steph Traphagan at Peace Lutheran Church on July 10, 2011 from 2 PM - 5 PM. Please come for some cake and coffee and say hi to them. Around 2:30 PM they will give a report on their mission trip to Haiti and the many blessings that God is providing there. Bill is a second year seminarian and Steph is entering the deaconess program this fall at the Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IL.

KNGN NEWS

Here is some information about the Maintenance Missionaries ministry we support. This is a group of volunteers that help "maintain" KNGN's physical location by cleaning, repairs and upgrades. They have begun to remodel the entrance of the station, repainted and repaired the bathrooms, replaced toilets, and cleaned the station top to bottom. They have also begun to replace the roof and have many more plans. How are the projects paid for? Donations that are collected by the Maintenance Missionaries. We NEED help badly! Thanks so much for all you do for us! We are blessed and thankful that we can call you our congregation! God's Blessing, Adam Spanier

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE LAYETTES

Our local chapter of Lutherans for Life is collecting donations for baby layettes to be given to new mothers at local hospitals. This is an exciting way to honor the gift of life and to say a special word of thanks and praise on behalf of Lutherans for Life. Donated items may be placed in the basket in the narthex. Items to include would be newborn diapers, newborn socks, onesies, baby washcloths, burp cloths and baby toiletries. We will be collecting materials through the month of July. For additional information you may contact Charlene Albertson at 737-1057.



Peace Lutheran Church

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Email: office@plcmccook.org

July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	2 Wedding Reservation
3 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	4 Church Office closed No Monday night service Happy Independence Day!	5 2:30pm Worship Committee 6:30pm-Board of Elders DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	6 5:30pm-Board of Ed 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Committee	7 COUNCIL REPORTS DUE	8 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	9 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
10 <u>Communion Sunday</u> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Upper Hall Reservation	11 7:00pm-Worship 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	12 2:30pm-Hillcrest Bingo 6:30pm-Board of Elders 7:00pm-Council	13 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Committee 7:30pm-FIRE	14	15 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	16 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
17 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	18 7:00pm-Worship 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	19 7:00pm-- Bylaws Committee	20 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Committee 7:30pm-FIRE	21 TIDINGS ARTICLES DUE	22 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	23 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
24 <u>Communion Sunday</u> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	25 7:00pm-Worship 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	26	27 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Committee 7:30pm-FIRE	28 11:00am-LWML 1:30pm-Hillcrest Service 2:30pm-Willow Ridge	29 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	30 7:00am-Men's Bible Study Upper Hall Reservation
31 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship 5:00pm-Stewardship Committee Meeting						