MCCOOK, NE 69001

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IIDINGS OF I	PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH	11 EAST 6TH STREET
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Hello again, As I write to you, I've been pondering God's gift of rain. In the past week(s) I have shared the Bible narrative of Noah with the preschool students. Noah, and God's promise never to flood the whole earth again is one of my favorite Bible narratives. But as I reflect on that event in light of the recent rainstorm, I am even more in awe of just how powerful God really is. You may, or may not, recall the storm of Wednesday September ninth; Emmett and I were on our way home from School of Religion in the early stages of the stormlightning flashed and thunder rolled, but as we climbed into the pickup things were still dry. As we headed down the road toward home a few sprinkles hit the windshield, and Emmett said, "Dad, turn on the windshield wipers." But at that point that few drops would have just made a big mess. But by the time we backed into the garage, the sky opened up; we got a little wet as we raced for the house, but that's ok because we have been praying for rain. The next day, as I met folks on the street and at church, I heard reports of two and a half to three inches of rainfall. The Republican River that had been dry earlier that day, now had water running in it once again.

As I pondered these things, I wondered; "how much total water came out of that storm that dropped two and a half inches of water, and went on for miles and miles?" For us Nebraskans, a storm like that of September 29, 2021 are fairly common occurrences, and are soon forgotten. But I can't help but think how powerful God is, that He sends rain

from clouds that don't seem to get any smaller as they pour water on the land; all that water is up there, and yet we really don't see it until He makes it fall. I'm sure there are scientific explanations for all of these things, but the science, for me, makes God's gift of rainfall even more awe inspiring. If you have ever had the experience of filling and stack sandbags against the rising waters of a flood, then you have seen the destructive force waters can bring, and you have also experienced the power of God who says to the rising waters; "you can come this far but no farther.

Compared to the flood of Noah's time, the storm of September 29, 2021 is just a drop in a bucket. (3) And yet, it is also a reminder that God is still here, He is still in control of all things big and small, and He still provides for the needs of His creatures.

And for me, one of the most exciting things about a rainstorm, is that I am reminded that the promise God made to Noah is His promise to me and to you. In these things I am confident that God not only makes promises, He is powerful enough to keep all His promises.

"The Lord answered Job saying... 'who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, when I made clouds its garment and thick clouds its swaddling band, and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, and said, 'thus far shall you come and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed." Job 38:8-11

Thanks for pondering with me.

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Felcher



Page 2 TIDINGS OF **PEACE**

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

Fred Gleason ggmccook4@yahoo.com

Congregational Vice President

Curt Swanhorst curtswanhorst@gmail.com

Elder Chairman

Harold Carlson hsputz@gmail.com

Council Secretary

Layne Sarvela

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Sarah Risenhoover peacefin 28@gmail.com

FROM AN FLDEF

"Live Each Day As If It's Your Last"

My wife is a great shopper. When she shops for groceries, she reads all the nutrition labels and considers the best deal by looking at the price per unit. But her best trick is looking for the "use by" date. She doesn't just grab the first gallon of milk she sees; instead, she goes for the gallon with the latest "use by" date so she can bring home the freshest milk from the store.

In a sense, our lives are marked by "used by" dates—except that none of us knows the exact date when our heart will expire or we'll take our last breath on this planet. Given that reality, shouldn't we try a little harder to capture the moments we've been given? Capturing the moment means that we'll do things like love more deeply, forgive more quickly, listen more carefully, and speak more affirmingly.

Paul gives this good advice: "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16). He also instructs us to "walk as children of light... finding out what is acceptable to the Lord" (vv. 8-10).

Since none of us knows our "used by" date, we should capture the opportunities to brighten our world with the love of Christ today!

From: Our Daily Bread by Joe Stowell

Lord, grant me grace throughout this day
To walk the straight and narrow way,
To do whatever in Thy sight
Is good and perfect, just and right.
Huisman

4

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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Dwain Curtis	10/1	Benjamin Schow	10/7	John Hubert	10/21
Patricia Fisher	10/1	Garald Unger	10/8	Randon Peters	10/21
Benjamin Vetrovsky	10/1	Devonn Bruntz	10/11	Delaney Critchfield	10/23
Wade Hamilton	10/2	Marilyn Unger	10/11	Griffin Goltl	10/25
Iva Fritz	10/3	Lois Brown	10/12	Nathaniel Reiners	10/27
Velma Kircher	10/3	Mary Hazlitt	10/14	Dan Unger	10/28
Candace Rogers	10/3	Dorinda Polly	10/14	Barbara Dunker	10/29
Sandy Lauer	10/4	Danten Downing	10/15	Linda Smith	10/29
Ron Rogers	10/5	Ross Wiemers	10/18	Donna Curtis	10/30
Charles Seybold	10/5	Austin Grube	10/20	Joann Nemechek	10/30
Paul Ahrens	10/6	Alexander Nielsen	10/20	Charles Gray	10/31
Barbara Klein	10/6	Piper Sprague	10/20	Teagan Strauch	10/31
Mary Lou Hanson	10/7	Peyton Doucet	10/21	Angela Watts	10/31

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YE/	ARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Alyssa & Andrew Rice	10/1/2	016	5	Russ & Sue Ankersen	10/20/197	9 42
Michael & Patricia Leibrano	lt 10/3/1	981	40	Grant & Charlene Pfanstiel	10/22/198	3 38
Adrianna & Jordan Gass	10/4/2	014	7	James & Donna Hall	10/26/199	6 25
Justin & Kiah Terry	10/7/2	017	4	Thomas & Cathy Broz	10/27/198	4 37
Scott & Kristyl Hanchera	10/17/1	981	40	Mike & Terri Skolout	10/28/198	9 32

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 (September 26th-October 3rd)	Month to Date (September 5th-October 3rd)	Actual Year to Date (January 3rd-October3rd)
Offerings	\$6,843.00	\$16,645.00	\$187,277.00
Expenses	\$135.00	\$15,086.00	\$184,609.00

www.plcmccook.org

ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN

A group at Peace Lutheran is part of a program, called Adopt a Chaplain, that supports our deployed military around the world. We "adopt" and send care packages to deployed military chaplains; they in turn use the contents of the packages as they support the troops. Every month we send large care packages with snacks, magazines, and other items. We enclose notes that say "thank you for your service", and bible verses to encourage the men and women who are serving our country. We are currently supporting chaplains in Iraq, Kuwait, and South Korea. Everyone please join us to pack boxes Tue, Oct 19 at 1:00pm. There are extra boxes sent for support at Christmas. We will collect Christmas supplies in Oct and Nov, and pack in Nov. We need Christmas cards "to a soldier"; and items to send, such as candy, granola bars, and jerky. Please find a list of suggestions, and a tub for donations, across from the church mailboxes.

SCHOOL OF RELIGION



The kick-off party for School of Religion was held at the Riverside Rink. We are grateful to the Hubert family and everyone else who added to the fun.





OCTOBER READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
3rd	The 19th S. after Pentecost	Genesis 2:18-25	Hebrews 2:1-18	Mark 10:2-16
10th	The 20th S. after Pentecost	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15	Hebrews 3:12-19	Mark 10:17-22
17th	The 21st S. after Pentecost	Ecclesiastes 5:10-20	Hebrews 4:1-13 (14-16)	Mark 10:23-31
24th	The 22nd S. after Pentecost	Jeremiah 31:7-9	Hebrews 7:23-28	Mark 10:46-52
31st	Reformation Day	Revelation 14:6-7	Romans 3:19-28	John 8:31-36 or Matthew 11:12-19

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The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article - October 2021

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there's more to it than just obligation. We're not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we're not just doing what our Father said, we're also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don't want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable - and embarrassing situation - where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God - by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, "You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit - by which we cry out, "Abba, Father."

We are born again - born from above, born of water and the Spirit - to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As *Luther's Small Catechism* teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds.

Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week and set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the church. This is not done because He has commanded us so to do but rather because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And children want to be like their parents.

Page 4 TIDINGS OF **PEAC**

Memories with our grandparents

Pastor and Mrs. Staehr

At a horse show, July 4th weekend, in McCook, I had the pleasure of meeting Paul & Pat Schaffert and Harold & Sue Carlson and Roland Carlson. The conversation that began with horses lead to a connection with my grandparents.

It's difficult to put in to words the deep affection that my sisters and I hold for our grandparents. We were taught about Jesus and how much He loves us at an early age. As small children we attended Vacation Bible School for 2 weeks during the summer. We felt so special during those visits to McCook. Grandpa loved teaching the children about Jesus's love. We saw him work in his study - all of those books in his library were so impressive. We were allowed to help grandma get the church ready for Sunday service and help with other church behind the scenes jobs. At the end of the 2 week bible school there was the final VBS program. We remember the stories, crafts and songs. To this day, we hold dear the songs, Jesus Loves Me, This Little Gospel Light of Mine and What a Friend We Have in Jesus.

Grandpa and grandma had the most beautiful home. If only we could visit and run through the rooms one more time! They had a huge garden, fruit trees, a minnow pond (which we got to clean) and trophy walleye tacked to the trees.

They took us fishing, what a treat for us. Grandpa proudly told us about the different lakes and ponds and what we would be fishing for. We watched him make his dough balls and other bait to use. We were so lucky! Grandma packed a huge lunch and made her delicious German Chocolate cake for us.

The stories could go on and on but we'll end with what a blessed upbringing we had. Godly parents, grandparents and kind people who always welcomed us at Peace Lutheran. Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Marleen, Karen and I all live in the Walton/Lincoln area. Our train rides to McCook and special holidays spent with grandpa and grandma bring such fond memories – the best of times. What a privilege it is to be called their grandchildren.

God's blessings to Peace Lutheran Church and all of its members,

Cheryl Johnson
Karen Miller
Marleen Rickertsen
July, 2021

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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: 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 **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 2nd grade children are invited to Sunday School each Sunday from 9:15-10:15am downstairs.

www.plcmccook.org

Altar Flowers 3rd-Smith 10th-Available 17th-Available 24th-Available 31st-Available

KNGN Sponsor 3rd-Available 10th-Available 17th-Available 24th-Available 31st-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.

October 3rd	
Elder on duty	Brandon Kuykendall
Organist	KC Eckhardt
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Usher	Gary Buk
Lay Reader	Grant Pfanstiel
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Cathy Broz
Late Service	
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	Jim Dejonge
Lay Reader	Nick Nothnagel
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Ben Schow

October 10th	
Elder on duty	Victor Lauer
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Randon Peters
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Late Service	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	
Lay Reader	Sarah Risenhoover
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen

October 17th	
Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Gary Buk
Lay Reader	Renelle Mooney
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	Fred Gleason
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	

October 24th	
Elder on duty	Fritz Hubert
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Nancy Rippen
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	Sue Ankerson
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Gary Hunkins

October 31st	
Elder on duty	Curt/Phil
Organist	
Audio	NEED VOLUNTEER
Greeter	Sue Carlson
Greeter	Harold Carlson
Usher	Gary Buk
Lay Reader	Paul Schaffert
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Late Service	
Greeter	Karen Berry
Greeter	NEED VOLUNTEER
Usher	Steve Post
Lay Reader	Phil Bamesberger
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	NEED VOLUNTEER

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TIDINGS OF PEA

One of the many beautiful wonders of God's creation are the mountains and I always remain in awe when traveling through them. Vast evergreen forests with snowcapped mountains in the background, raging streams of water splashing over boulders, and occasional meadows with lush green grass waiting for wild game to venture there for grazing. It is hard to keep my eyes on the road and still absorb all these wonders. Especially when the highway has sharp curves and elevation changes known as switchbacks. A sheer rock wall on one side, a bottomless drop-off on the other. So, I drive...tuck it in left turn, tuck it in right turn, as the passengers start to turn green. It seems I am zooming along like a NASCAR driver until I look in the mirror and cars are staking up behind me. Need to go faster, lean left, lean right, gotta keep going, my knuckles are turning white and all of a sudden, the tension is making the back of my neck hurt. Everyone in the car now is getting weary. Someone has to go to the bathroom, someone else has a tummy ache. No place to pull over. We reach the interstate and everyone breathes a sigh of relief even though it might be rush hour traffic. At least the road is straight. Have you experienced this road in your Christian life journey? I know I have. The road winds around with sharp curves, it has hazards to the right, hazards to the left, sometimes I find myself nauseated and hurting, growing weary. But when I think about it, each bend, each switchback curve, all the hazards, all my fears and pain, brought me closer to the goal God made possible. Joshua was on a similar road when he gives assurance in chapter 1:9 "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. "He possibly learned this from Moses as he gives us the same message, "Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not fail you or forsake you. "Deuteronomy 31:6,8. When the road in your life seems to get treacherous and hazards surround you, place your trust in Jesus and He will guide you to the straight path. However, Jesus warns us there will be winding roads, "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation." John 16:33. In Jesus there is blessing, guidance, safety, healing and satisfaction, but there will also be trials from the world surrounding us. However, we can be assured that God will extend His protective hand during these trials. Treacherous roads will come, but let Christ take the wheel, He is our navigator and we should set our fears aside and enjoy the ride. Dear Lord, help me place my trust in you to be my navigator through the switchbacks in my life and hold fast to the promise at the end of the road, everlasting life. 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

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 7:00am Men's Bible Study
3 8:00am Worship 9:15am. Bible Study 10:30am Worship Church Picnic	4 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	5 9:00am Worship Committee 6:30pm Board of Elders	6 9:30am El Dorado service 6:00pm School of Religion	7	8	9 7:00am Men's Bible Study
10Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	11 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	12 6:30pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	13 6:00pm School of Religion	PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (WINKLE)	15	16 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
17 8:00am Worship 9:15am. Bible Study 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Voter's meeting	18 7:00pm Woman's Bible Study	19 1:00pm Adopt-A-Chaplain packing	20 6:00pm School of Religion	21	22	23 7:00am Men's Bible Study
24Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	25 2:00pm LWML 7:00pm Woman's Bible Study	26	27 6:00pm School of Religion	28 2:00pm Kinship Pointe	29	30 7:00am Men's Bible Study
31 8:00am Worship 9:15am. Bible Study 10:30am Worship						

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