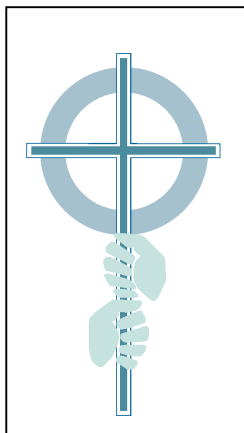


July & August
2009

Peace Lutheran Church Newsletter



Peace Lutheran Church

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Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning
8:30am (Traditional)
10:00am (Praise)

From the Pastor – “Trust Me”

Trust me, I did not write this month's article. Instead I'm borrowing it from the Lutheran Hour Men's Network, "Man's Stuff" article posted on June 16th. Since we are trying to grow the Men's Ministry at Peace, I wanted to introduce you to this resource. We are using the Men's Network studies for our "Men's Breakfast" on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. The "Man Cards" distributed during the Father's Day services came from the same source. You can check out the Men's Network at www.lhmmen.com. You can also find information there about the 2009 North American Fishing Tournament.

All the "Men of Peace" and their friends are invited to the Men's Breakfast on July 11 and 25 at 8:00am. Guys are also invited to be part of our first ever Peace Fantasy Football League this fall. Watch for more information about a "Draft Party" before the start of the NFL season.

Now, "Trust Me."

It seems the older I get, the more cynical I become. For example, if someone says to me, "Trust me," I probably won't. I wasn't always that way.

When I was in kindergarten, my teacher asked for and received my trust. When I was in grade school my parents asked for and received my trust. So when did I become cynical?

For me it was a long, slow process of having been taken advantage of, lied to, and conned. First I began to mistrust the government with corrupt, elected officials lining their pockets with my money. Then it was salespeople who offered great deals and delivered shoddy merchandise. Along the way, I met my share of people who would promise and not deliver. Self-absorption and self-promotion became the norm. The Internet allows people to misrepresent the truth, lie, and cheat. People everywhere are offered "make-thousands-of-dollars-at-home" schemes. E-mails blitz our in-boxes proclaiming us winners of a multi-million dollar lottery or asking us to launder a million-dollar inheritance.

The freefall of the auto industry, the dismal failure of financial institutions, and the imposed redistribution of wealth have me doubting anyone and everyone who wants to work for "my good" and the future. Even something as innocuous as the wise use of natural resources has me gritting my teeth wondering what agenda is being foisted on me and for whose gain. I do not trust. That is sad.

That being said, however, I must retract, at least on one count, my last words -- for I do trust. I trust in God. In a day when it is not popular or prudent to proclaim a trust or a faith in God, I do and I will. God is the constant, the very help in the day of trouble, the One who is with me always. He is the powerful Creator, the Sustainer of the Universe, and the One who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He is the power to overcome sin, Satan, and the world's headlong trip to hell. He has saved me and all believers. In Him, do I trust.

I will live my life confident in His unchanging grace. I will ask no man to trust me, but live my days so all men can. I will beg no man to trust God, but live my life as an example of that trust. When I fail, I trust God and His promises. Jesus Christ can and does forgive, for it is not about me -- but always about Him.

Larry Courson
One of the "Men of Peace"

New Budget

The Voter's approved the new fiscal budget that begins on July 1st. We realize in the current economic situation that we have to hold expenses down. To meet budget expenses in the new fiscal year we will need to average \$5,712 in general fund offerings each week. Thanks to everyone for your generous support of Peace and the mission that we share of reaching the lost for the Lord, growing with them in faith and serving the Lord.

Wednesday Morning Adult Bible Study

"Out of Nothing: The Word, Creation and Faith" begins July 8th at 10:00am. This five week study takes a closer look at the importance of creation and the difference belief in God the Creator makes in our world and in our lives. The study is open to all adults. The weekly topics are:

SESSION 1: How Can I Know?

SESSION 2: When a Day is Just a Day

SESSION 3: Human Authority Vs. Divine Authority

SESSION 4: Faith Meeting Facts

SESSION 5: Foundation for Evangelism

New Member Welcome

On July 12th we will be welcoming new members into our family at Peace during both Worship services (8:30am & 10:00am).

Softball at Peace!

Tyler Steffey Field is just waiting to be used. So let's play a little softball on it this summer. We're planning to have some pickup games on the Sundays at 6:00pm between the "Family Fun Nights." So grab your bat, ball and glove, bring a neighbor or a friend and join us on July 19th, August 2nd, 16th and 30th for some slow pitch softball and fast paced fun.

Family Fun Nights at Peace!

Join us on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in July and August (July 12, July 26, August 9, & August 23) for Summer Family Fun Nights. Come as often as you can. Each night will be a similar set-up but different experience (so don't feel badly if you have to miss one or two). This program encourages families and specifically kids to learn and explore how God can use them to be a light to others for Him. This is for kids and adults of all ages. We will use a common theme on Christ like Compassion but unique event each time. Activities include object lessons, games, crafts, Bible Story discussion, and so much more!

If you would like to help with these events please contact Abby Moss. Check out the church bulletin board for more information on how you can help or hit reply to Abby Moss at abbymoss@peaceaa.net. We're especially looking for helpers who would be willing to share special skills. Volunteers can help with one or all of the sessions.

We're starting to plan for the Fall!

If you have ever considered teaching Sunday School, leading Children's Church, or helping with youth events, please let Pastor or Abby know. We are in need of more help for these programs with the growing number of young people at Peace. We are starting to make plans for the Fall and would love to include you in the process. Thanks!

Faith in Action Food Drive

Peace will be collecting food for the Faith in Action Food Bank on the **first Sunday of each month**, to help stock the Dexter area food bank. An updated list of donations needed from Faith in Action is located on the counter in the church entry. Thank you!

Peace Families

We will once again be offering a devotional and educational experience for stepfamilies. The series is entitled Stepfamilies Bringing the Pieces to Peace. This study is designed to provide practical information for the inevitable challenges of stepfamily life.

We encourage all members of Peace to attend, but especially those in stepfamilies.

You are in a stepfamily if:

- You are remarried and one or both of you have children (in or out of the home)
- You are divorced with children and your ex-spouse is remarried.
- Your partner has children (any age counts), even if you don't
- You have grandchildren from an adult child who is divorced, remarried, or whose ex-spouse is remarried.
- You have a family member (i.e. sibling, child, or grandchild) in any of the above situations.

This class will also be beneficial to you if:

- You are divorced, single, or widowed with children and hope to be (re)married someday.

We will meet Sundays starting July 12th, after the 10am worship service (~11:15) until about 12:30PM. Just show up if you would like to attend this course or talk to Abby Moss with any questions. If you will need child care, please let Abby know. The course will run for 6-7 weeks.

Attention Families!

As a member of Peace or someone that worships with us often, you have probably noticed the abundance of children in our church. As leaders of our church, this really excites us! The children keep our church lively and exciting. Jesus encouraged the little children to come to Him in Matthew 19:14. We want to do everything we can to help these children grow in faith and that means doing our best to support you as parents and grandparents and to support families in general. We always want children to feel welcome here.

Because of the number of children we have we are considering some changes to our children's programming (Sunday school, Children's Church, Nursery, and Playgroups) in the fall and we need your help to determine needs and how to best address them.

To help us in this effort, we would appreciate it if each family could fill out a survey (attached at the end of this newsletter and also found online) to confirm the ages, grades, and birthdays of each of their children/grandchildren/friends that attend with them on a semi-regular basis. This will help us plan and order accordingly for the fall. Please take the time to fill this out so that we can serve you better. Thank You! Thanks to all those who have already completed our survey.

Wednesday Women's Bible Study

The group will attempt to meet every other week throughout the summer. Meeting dates are June 24, July 8, 22, Aug 12, 26. This is the second and fourth Wednesday each month. Please call Dorothea Paulen(426-1535) to verify as our location will be very flexible, perhaps Hudson Mills, picking raspberries, or someone's back deck with the hummingbirds.

Moms In Touch

The prayer group is temporarily suspended for the summer. If you have a prayer request throughout the summer, Lori and/or Dorothea would be glad to meet your prayer needs. It would be our privilege to pray for your son/daughter. Call Dorothea anytime, 426-1535.

August Newsletter

Please note, for August we will only send a Calendar and Peace Helper list at the end of July. A full newsletter with Calendar and Peace Helpers list will be sent in late August for September.

Youth News

Sr. High Youth Nights at Peace!

Pastor Courson will lead Sunday Evening events on July 26th and August 23rd. More information will be coming your way soon. Hope to see you and your friends this summer!

Sr. High Youth Ronald McDonald Dates

The Sr. High Youth will be serving food at the Ronald McDonald House on Tuesday, July 7th and Monday, August 10th. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the church entry for the Sr. High youth to sign up to volunteer for these dates. We will post a signup sheet for food donations from the members of Peace.

Middle School Sports Night!

Come rain or shine on Saturday, July 25th from 4-6pm for an afternoon of activity, sportsmanship, and competition at Peace. Join us for some rousing rounds of wiffle ball, crab soccer, HORSE, relays, and fun with the green machines. Please feel free to bring some (or a lot) of friends. Questions, concerns or want to RSVP? Reach Abby at Phone: 734-424-0899 or Email: abzymoss@peaceaa.net. Please RSVP by July 19.

Middle School (7th & 8th Graders) Pool Party!

Join us in August at Peace for water wars with water balloons and more! Watch the mail for more details.

July Worship Themes

5th

God Bless America

The Psalmist tells us the nation is blessed when God is the Lord. As we celebrate our nation's birthday, we pray that God would bless America with men, women and children of faith who lead lives of faithfulness. It is when we as a people turn back to God in repentance and faith that we have hope that he will heal and bless our land.

12th

Faith, Doubt & Belief that Really Count

In a strange way, faith requires doubt because we can't believe everything. But we believe a lot of different things. So what kind of belief really matters?

19th

Leaping Toward Home

"There's no place like home." "Home is where the heart is." Home is important to us. God wants us to be home with him. Jesus has prepared a place for us in His home in heaven. He calls us to follow him. We answer that call when we take the leap of faith, trusting in His promises.

26th

Third Day Hope

God is a "Third Day God!" When things go bad (1st day), and we are waiting to see what happens (2nd day), God offers us hope (3rd day). Even though things may have gone bad in our world, and we are caught in the middle of everything that has happened, we can still have hope in the Lord because Jesus rose on the 3rd Day. Our hope is not in things, but in the Lord.

August Worship Themes

2nd

Pastor Pete Larsen Preaching

9th

Jesus is Good 4U

16th

Seeking God in Real Time

23rd

The Armor of God

30th

July Daily Bible Readings – found on page 297 of the LW Hymnal

1. Deuteronomy 32:1-4; 1 Samuel 28-31
2. Psalm 28; 2 Samuel 1-3
3. Psalm 29; 2 Samuel 4-6
4. Psalm 30; 2 Samuel 7-9
5. Psalm 31; 2 Samuel 10-12
6. Psalm 32; 2 Samuel 13-15
7. Psalm 33; 2 Samuel 16-18
8. Psalm 34; 2 Samuel 19-21
9. Psalm 35; 2 Samuel 22-24
10. Psalm 36; 1 Kings 1-2
11. Psalm 37; 1 Kings 3-6
12. Psalm 38; 1 Kings 7-8
13. Psalm 39; 1 Kings 9-11
14. Psalm 40; 1 Kings 12-14
15. Psalm 41; 1 Kings 15-17
16. Psalm 42; 1 Kings 18-20
17. Psalm 43; 1 Kings 21-22

18. Psalm 44; 2 Kings 1-3
19. Psalm 45; 2 Kings 4-6
20. Psalm 46; 2 Kings 7-9
21. Psalm 47; 2 Kings 10-12
22. Psalm 48; 2 Kings 13-15
23. Psalm 49; 2 Kings 16-18
24. Psalm 50; 2 Kings 19-22
25. Psalm 51; 2 Kings 23-25
26. Psalm 52; 1 Chronicles 1-5
27. Psalm 53; 1 Chronicles 6-10
28. Psalm 54; 1 Chronicles 11-15
29. Psalm 55; 1 Chronicles 16-20
30. Psalm 56; 1 Chronicles 21-25
31. Deuteronomy 32:1-4; 1 Chronicles 26-29

July Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| John Stone | 7/2 |
| Brett Wakefield | 7/5 |
| Barry Stone | 7/10 |
| Joan Courson | 7/12 |
| Stephen Courson | 7/14 |
| Kyle Schebor | 7/15 |
| Kayla Garant | 7/20 |
| Ian McNish | 7/25 |

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Dick Koester | 7/27 |
| Ginny Koester | 7/27 |
| Olivia Teachout | 7/27 |
| Bonnie Engstrom | 7/30 |
| Nancy Eichenberg | 7/31 |

July Anniversaries

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|----------|
| Mark & Diane Bacon | 7/9 | 15 years |
|--------------------|-----|----------|

August Daily Bible Readings – found on page 297 of the LW Hymnal

1. Habakkuk 3:2-19; 2 Chron. 1-3
2. Psalm 57; 2 Chronicles 4-6
3. Psalm 58; 2 Chronicles 7-9
4. Psalm 59; 2 Chronicles 10-12
5. Psalm 60; 2 Chronicles 13-15
6. Psalm 61; 2 Chronicles 16-18
7. Psalm 62; 2 Chronicles 19-21
8. Psalm 63; 2 Chronicles 22-24
9. Psalm 64; 2 Chronicles 25-27
10. Psalm 65; 2 Chronicles 28-30
11. Psalm 66; 2 Chronicles 31-33
12. Psalm 67; 2 Chronicles 34-36
13. Psalm 68; Ezra 1-5
14. Psalm 69; Ezra 6-10
15. Psalm 70; Nehemia 1-3
16. Psalm 71; Nehemia 4-6
17. Psalm 72; Nehemiah 7-9

18. Psalm 73; Nehemiah 10-13
19. Psalm 74; Esther 1-3
20. Psalm 75; Esther 4-6
21. Psalm 76; Esther 7-10
22. Psalm 77; Job 1-3
23. Psalm 78; Job 4-6
24. Psalm 79; Job 7-9
25. Psalm 80; Job 10-12
26. Psalm 81; Job 13-15
27. Psalm 82; Job 16-18
28. Psalm 83; Job 19-21
29. Psalm 84; Job 22-24
30. Psalm 85; Job 25-27
31. Habakkuk 3:2-19; Job 28-30

August Birthdays

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Grace Varblow | 8/1 |
| Joshua VonTom | 8/3 |
| Matthew Bacon | 8/4 |
| Anne Gebhardt | 8/6 |
| Kira McCreadie | 8/7 |
| Leslie Binder | 8/10 |
| Kevin Paulun | 8/10 |
| Amanda Varblow | 8/10 |
| Julie Cabble | 8/11 |
| Herbert Jones | 8/11 |
| Heidi Biggs | 8/16 |
| Robin VonTom | 8/16 |
| Riley Melody | 8/19 |

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Jeffrey Geer | 8/22 |
| Alan Eichenberg | 8/23 |
| Paul Engstrom | 8/23 |
| Ellen Campbell | 8/24 |
| Connie Roberts | 8/24 |
| Mary Teachout | 8/25 |
| Patti Boik | 8/26 |
| Anna Jones | 8/28 |
| Savanah Rosentreter | 8/28 |
| Madison Ruhlig | 8/28 |
| Nicholas Larsen | 8/30 |
| Jackie Walworth | 8/30 |
| Ray Essell | 8/31 |

August Anniversaries

| | | |
|---------------------------|------|----------|
| Ted & Ruth Aufdemberge | 8/14 | 49 years |
| Scott & Barbara McCreadie | 8/19 | 14 years |
| Jim & Sara McCrea | 8/20 | 19 years |
| John & Bonnie Engstrom | 8/28 | 33 years |
| Tim & Chris Wild | 8/28 | 10 years |
| Craig & Diane DeVoogd | 8/29 | 17 years |

July 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| <p>June 28</p> <p><i>Pastor Courson & Abby at Michigan District LCMS Conference through July 1</i></p> | <p>June 29</p> | <p>June 30</p> | <p>1</p> <p>9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study at Shirley Mitchell's home</p> | <p>2</p> <p>12:00pm Dexter Kiwanis</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team Practice</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p> <p><i>Abby on vacation through July 10</i></p> | <p>4</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>4th of July!!</i></p>  |
| <p>5</p> <p>8:30am Worship With Communion</p> <p>10:00am Worship Service</p> | <p>6</p> <p>No Playgroup Today</p> <p>10:30am Jackson Trippers</p> | <p>7</p> <p>4:30pm Sr. High Youth at Ronald McDonald House</p> | <p>8</p> <p>9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study – lunch out after</p> | <p>9</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team Practice</p> | <p>10</p> <p>Pastor & Abby's Day Off</p> | <p>11</p> <p>8:00am Men's Breakfast</p> |
| <p>12 <i>New Member Welcome</i></p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>10:00am Worship Service with Communion</p> <p>11:00am Step-Family Class</p> <p>6:00pm Family Fun Night</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> <p>11:30am Playgroup</p> <p>Summer Schedule</p> <p><i>Independence Lake</i></p> | <p>15</p> <p>9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study</p> | <p>16</p> <p>12:00pm Dexter Kiwanis</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team Practice</p> | <p>17</p> <p>Pastor & Abby's Day Off</p> | <p>18</p> |
| <p>19</p> <p>8:30am Worship With Communion</p> <p>10:00am Worship Service</p> <p>11:00am Step-Family Class</p> <p>6:00pm Pickup Softball Game</p> | <p>20</p> <p>9:30am Playgroup</p> <p>Summer Schedule</p> <p><i>Pierce Park</i></p> | <p>21</p> <p>7:30pm Elder's Meeting</p> | <p>22</p> <p>9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study</p> | <p>23</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team Practice</p> | <p>24</p> <p>Pastor & Abby's Day Off</p> | <p>25</p> <p>8:00am Men's Breakfast</p> |
| <p>26</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>10:00am Worship Service with Communion</p> <p>11:00am Step-Family Class</p> <p>6:00pm Family Fun Night</p> <p>7:00pm Sr. High Youth Night</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> <p>9:30am Playgroup</p> <p>Summer Schedule</p> <p><i>Ryan Rd.</i></p> | <p>29</p> <p>9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study</p> | <p>30</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team Practice</p> | <p>31</p> <p>Pastor & Abby's Day Off</p> | |