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Worship every Sunday @ 9 am
every Thursday @ 7 pm
Bible Study Sundays @ 8 am
Tuesdays @ 9 am
Thursdays @ 9 am & 7:45 pm



Messenger of Peace is a publication of: Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wautoma, WI.

Purpose

Messenger of Peace serves the Peace Ev. Lutheran Church family with information about people and events that are part of the Peace ministry and with articles that encourage Christian living.

Articles

Please forward information and articles to Christine in the office by the third Sunday of each month. Put in the office or email it to: peacelutheran@centurytel.net.



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Circle of Peace
Sat, August 8 9 am
Curious what we do?
Interested in women's ministries? Want to serve but don't know where? Join us at Circle of Peace! All the ladies of Peace are invited to join us!



Dealing With Suicide Workshop

Pastor Ken Wenzel, chaplain for Wisconsin Lutheran Institutional Ministry (WLIM) and UW Hospital in Madison, will present a 3-hour seminar on the topic of suicide. The program will include videos, Bible study, and handouts. Chaplain Wenzel is certified in teaching a national prevention program. This will be open to anyone, so please feel free to invite a friend. Please register by calling the church office at 920-787-3856.

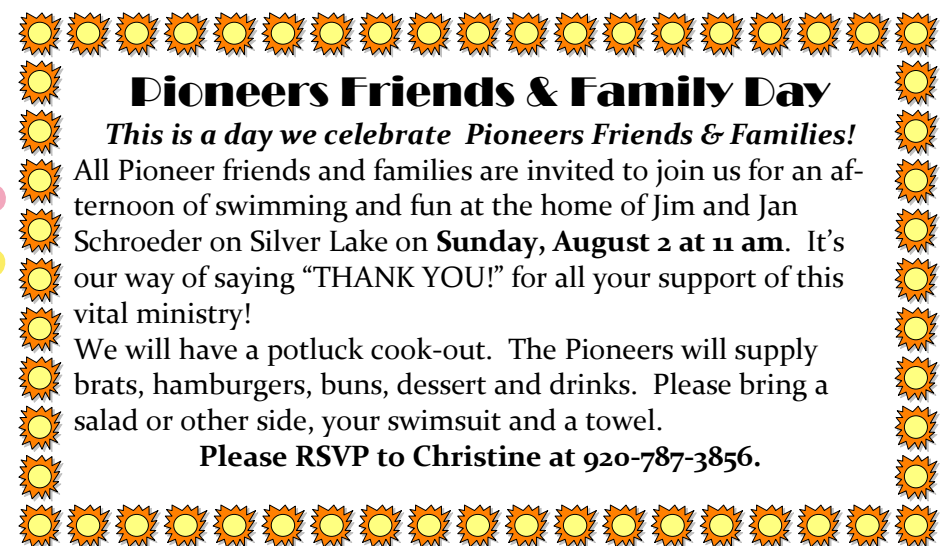
Date: Saturday, August 1, 2015

Time: 9 am-12 pm

Place: Peace, Wautoma

Topic: Dealing with Suicide

There is no cost to attendees, but you may contribute to a free-will offering to help cover the cost of coffee & doughnuts. Everyone, teenage and up, is invited to attend. Please see Pastor Riedel with any questions or concerns.




Pioneers Friends & Family Day

This is a day we celebrate Pioneers Friends & Families!

All Pioneer friends and families are invited to join us for an afternoon of swimming and fun at the home of Jim and Jan Schroeder on Silver Lake on **Sunday, August 2 at 11 am**. It's our way of saying "THANK YOU!" for all your support of this vital ministry!

We will have a potluck cook-out. The Pioneers will supply brats, hamburgers, buns, dessert and drinks. Please bring a salad or other side, your swimsuit and a towel.

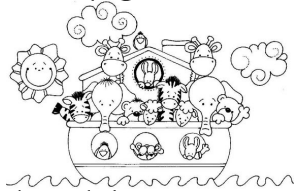
Please RSVP to Christine at 920-787-3856.



Peace Lutheran Church Library


Summer Story Hour

Tuesday, August 11 at 10 am



Children up to 3rd grade and their parents are invited to join us for Summer Story Hour in the church library! Come hear some great books, make a craft, sing a song, play a game and have a snack- all for FREE! Bring a friend. Mark your calendars and join us!

Please see Emily Rose (787-7078)
or Emily Diane (920-765-2147) with questions.



God's Glory

It is a pleasant July evening as I write this note for the August newsletter. I'm sitting by my campfire at Camp Phillip, a few miles west of Wautoma. The twitter of birds and the chatter of squirrels can be heard around the camp site. The sounds of laughter and singing can be heard in the distance, as the staff leads young campers and their parents in an evening of games, devotion, and songs of praise to the Lord. A gentle breeze rustles the oak leaves overhead. The bright blue sky is slowly fading into dusk. I watch and listen to the multicolor flames of my campfire as they gradually consume the wood in the fire ring. A waft of smoke lazily rises from the flames into the night sky.

My eyes and my mind drift heaven-ward. A fingernail-shaped moon reflects the light of the setting sun. Darkness is setting in. One by one, and then – all of a sudden – a multitude of sparkling stars fill the heavens above me. The night sky is a magnificent canvas, a unique tapestry, displaying the power and wisdom of our Creator-God. I am both humbled and filled with awe at the beauty of our world and the universe.

Our God is so great. And His creation attests to His greatness. Most certainly the beauty and complexity of what He made, and upon which I gaze this evening, announces: “The LORD is awesome!” My heart and my mind are practically singing the words of Psalm 19:1: **The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.** (ESV) Such great glory. Such heavenly handiwork. Yes, the heavens declare God's glory, and the sky proclaims His amazing wonders.

Consider with me the various ways the skies declare God's glory:

Have you taken a little time in your busy life to watch the birds which flit and fly above and around you? What marvelous beauty and variety! Cardinals, orioles, goldfinches, hummingbirds, bluebirds, purple finches, sand hill cranes, bald eagles, and the list goes on. Each bird a fabulous color. Every one programmed by the Almighty to have young and further the survival of its species.

You can't tell me that you have never watched the clouds drift overhead. Sometimes you may even see shapes and designs in the spectacular white puffs in the sky. Who could imagine that water vapor could appear so light and fluffy and white, or so frightening as a gray and black summer thunderstorm? I especially enjoy seeing the clouds as part of the sunrise or sunset that the Lord paints across the horizon at the bookends of each day.

What comes to mind when you see a rainbow in the sky? They appear as a sprinkler is sending a light mist over your yard or through a farmer's field. We see rainbows after a storm has passed. They are an awesome sight! A crisp and bright band of color – red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple. I am reminded of God's judgment against the wicked world in the days of Noah and His promise never to flood the earth again. The rainbow in the sky is a reminder of God's faithfulness in keeping His promises.

Something more beautiful and inspiring than birds and clouds and rainbows once decorated the sky. Do you remember what happened forty days after Jesus rose from His three-day tomb? He ascended into heaven! After all His work was completed – the living without sin, the dying for our sin, the conquering of sin, Satan, and the grave – Jesus returned in glory to His throne on high to rule over His creation. He ascended and promised to return in power and glory one day. In the meanwhile, Jesus is preparing an eternal, sinless home for His believing children. What a magnificent sight it will be to see our Savior visibly returning to earth with His angels and hearing the trumpet call of God on the Judgment Day. It is humbling to consider that sinners such as you and me have been fully and freely forgiven, and that our future is certain through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

I hope that you pause this summer and take a little time to look up – with your eyes, with your heart, and with your mind. Look up and see the magnificent beauty our God has made to delight your eyes. Look up in faith to the One who will make His grand return to claim His redeemed and believing children to live with Him in His mansions above. Will you join me in God's house this summer to gaze upon the glory of God and to worship Him?

Pastor Roger Riedel

A Short Story

Our 2015 “A Short Story” series will offer a collection of articles that provide scriptural answers to questions that people often ask or wonder about Christianity, such as “What happens when we die?” and “God doesn’t always answer my prayers-why?”

These articles are designed to help you reach out to people with God’s Word– to give you the knowledge to answer some of life’s biggest questions. We hope you enjoy this year’s series: “Fair Questions – Honest Answers.”



What is a Christian Worldview?

Sam and Harry are two brothers who are able to see eye to eye on just about everything. But every August, it seems that they have a hard time agreeing on anything. Whenever football season starts up, Sam and Harry are always at odds. Though these two men had been born brothers, they grew up rooting for different teams. And whenever their rival teams play each other, Sam and Harry leave the stadium with very different views of the same game.

In many ways, Christians and non-Christians are able to see eye to eye when it comes to the ways of the world. Most people, no matter what their beliefs may be, like to be treated fairly, to have a feeling of personal security, and to have a sense of purpose in life. There are times, however, when a Christian’s view of this world can be very different than their neighbor’s. Often, it’s the joys and woes of daily life that demonstrate the differences. Whether celebrating a milestone, or coping with a disappointment, or even facing death, Christians and non-Christians can think, talk, and act very differently.

What makes a Christian ‘tick’? Why do believers look at their world with such a different perspective? The answers to these questions reveal what Christian faith is all about. While the world around them believes in things like fairness, decency, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, a Christian believes in the God who is this world’s Maker, Savior, and Counselor. Simply by speaking the words of a *Creed*, every Christian makes a powerful statement of who they really are—not only in relationship to their world, but also in relationship to the God whose world it is.

When a non-Christian sees a lifetime’s worth of achievements as the sum total of hard work or as simple dumb luck, the Christian sees the hand of God. When a non-Christian sees a world filled with madness and uncertainty, the Christian sees a world for which Christ died. When a non-Christian struggles to see their purpose in life and where they ought to fit in the world, the Christian sees God’s own Spirit at work. Christians confess their faith in God. “*This is the God who made me what I am, gives me what I have, and who holds this whole world in his hands!*” Even if Christians and non-Christians can’t see the world eye to eye, the truth of God is always in view.

For more Questions & Answers, go to www.WhatAboutJesus.com, then Questioning God.





Interactive Faith

An Online Bible Study Series Wednesdays, September 9—October 7

Adult Discipleship offers LIVE online Bible studies for use by congregations, small groups, or individuals to serve as a mid-week Bible study. Gather at your church or around the computer to join in fellowship and learn about the Bible with brothers and sisters in faith from around the country.

Rev. Keith Wessel, professor at Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn., will lead the next Interactive Faith Bible study, which will be streamed online live each **Wednesday, Sept. 9 through Oct. 7, at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.**

His study will focus on the life and ministry of Elisha. There are times for lecturing and times to allow local congregations to discuss on their own. To view the study, you will need a high-speed internet connection.

Go to www.wels.net for more information.

What's in a Name?

We often refer to our synod as the WELS. Did you know that this acronym stands for the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod? We admit, it's a mouthful. But each word is significant.

Wisconsin is where three pastors serving German immigrants joined together in a common fellowship more than 150 years ago. Today, it is still where more than half of our membership calls home—but now we have congregations spread all across North America and missions spanning the globe.

Evangelical is a Greek word. Literally translated it means “gospel oriented.” It is an apt description, for the gospel of Jesus Christ is at the core of all we believe and proclaim.

Lutheran refers to those who adhere to the teachings of Martin Luther, the leader of the Reformation in Germany. God used Luther to point out the errors of the church some 500 years ago—that salvation was something that must be earned. It was Luther who once again made clear that salvation is received through faith in Jesus as a gift from God (Ephesians 2:8,9).

Synod literally translated means “walking together.” As a fellowship of Christians, we walk together as individuals and congregations sharing a common bond of faith in Jesus articulated in the Lutheran Confessions.

Country Commandments	
Submitted by Darlene Travers	
There is only one GOD.	No hankerin' for others stuff!
No cussin'!	
Gather on Sunday.	No killin'.
Mind your ma and pa.	No cheatin'.
Y'all don't steal.	No white lies or gossipin'.
No false gods!	



Save the date for our 2016 Women's Ministry Conference!

Lead. Serve. Inspired.

The Women's Ministry Conference team is making final arrangements for speakers, breakout groups, and panel discussions for the **2016 Women's Ministry Conference** taking place **July 21-23, 2016 at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wisconsin.**

Please join us in praying that our highest priority be to design a Christ-centered, Biblically-based conference for women. Pray that the Holy Spirit work through the Word to encourage, nurture, and equip each woman in attendance to use their time and talents in service to God.

We will keep you informed of details in the months ahead!

WELS Women's Ministry
N16W23377 Stoneridge Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188



Financial Report

Thank you to all the members of Peace for your support in meeting our budget for the first half of the year!

Budget	\$97,245
Actual	\$102,172

As you can see, we are slightly ahead of the budget. However, we do have a large remodeling project at the parsonage (kitchen, dining room, and entry way) that will begin soon. The projected cost for this project is \$30,000 plus. Our improvement fund is at \$24,600. We could use some help in reaching that \$30,000. May the LORD continue to move us in the right direction with our financial gifts.

Bart Bartel, Financial Secretary

Circle of Peace

Paine Art Centre Outing

Ladies of Circle of Peace went to the Paine Art Center on Wednesday, July 15.

Marilynn Chesbrough, Jan Schroeder, Bernice Beranak, Donna McKay, and Barb Bartel went to see the Downton Abby "Changing Fashions for Changing Times" exhibit. The beautiful costumes worn by the actors were surprisingly tiny. We were amazed any actress could fit into them. We were surprised the servant staff even wore silk black dresses with white starched aprons. After touring the historic lumber baron Nathan and Jessie's mansion where the exhibit is housed, we enjoyed lunch at Robbins in Oshkosh. A good time was had by all.

Why Lutheran Pioneers?

"Why should my child be a Pioneer? We're so busy!"

The Peace Pioneers strive to be a group that not only has tons of fun (which we do!), but instills a love for our Savior and teaches our youth how to show that love in every aspect of their lives.

When Pioneers began (ten years ago!), I'm pretty sure that the majority of this congregation believed that the Pioneers wouldn't last. Maybe I even believed that (but just a little!). But then, after the first meeting, and the second, something was happening. These kids WANTED to come to Pioneers. It was no longer their parents encouraging them to come, it was them.

And now I see friendships that may not be as strong (or at all), if not for Pioneers. I see older Pioneers taking a genuine interest in younger Pioneers. I see adult leaders & helpers hugging Pioneers that they may not have gotten the chance to know without this ministry. I see Pioneers talking easily about Christ to each other and to their non-Pioneer friends. I see love for each other. I feel love. And that is exactly what I had hoped for when I asked Pastor Roebke if we could start a Pioneers ministry. I wanted children and families to feel like they belong here- 'cause they do! Ask any Pioneer why they come back every year. Ask leaders why they work hard all year long. It's all about love. Jesus' love for each one of us and our response to that.

Please consider registering your child, aged Kindergarten-high school. We have children of all ages! The Pioneers is an open program which means we encourage our Pioneers to invite their unchurched friends. If you know anyone who isn't a member of Peace, but would benefit from the Pioneers, please see Christine Bohn. About 1/2 of our Pioneers last year were not members of Peace, and 1/2 of that number were from unchurched families.

Pioneers reaches families easily because of our "fun" focus, and then keeps them because the kids make friends, the parents trust the leaders and everyone hungers for the same truth- the truth that is expressed at EVERY Pioneers meeting and outing- the truth of Jesus.

All Sunday school students families, ages 5K and up, will be receiving a letter along with a registration form soon! If you don't receive one, or need extras for friends, let any Pioneers leader know.

Because this our tenth year at Peace, we will be having some pretty fun stuff going on- and not just for the kids! Our theme this year is "Everyone a Pioneer" and that includes YOU! Watch for information throughout the year!

If you would like to help out at any of our meetings, or if you're interested in being a leader, please speak with any of our leaders.

Our first meeting will be on Sunday, September 13 at 1 pm.

For more information about the Pioneer ministry, please contact any Pioneers leader:

Pastor & Beth Riedel 920-765-2883

Kevin & Christine Bohn 920-765-2146; 920-765-2147

Ahnsharee Klusmeyer 920-539-3560

"We are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10

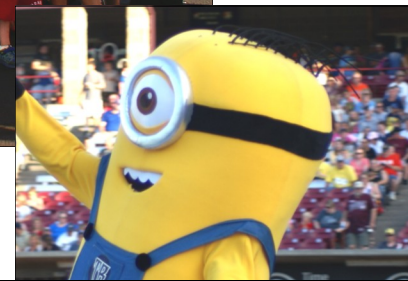
Vacation Bible School



Peace Lutheran Boy & Girl Pioneers

Timber Rattler Baseball Game Outing

Fifty three people joined us for the annual Timber Rattler Game outing on Friday, July 17. The weather was hot and humid, but the fellowship was great and the Ratters pulled off a win! It was Minion night at the game, so the kids could get their pictures taken with the Minions. Thanks to everyone who came!



News About Our Church Family

3 Lessons Christians Need to Learn from Satanism

On July 25, the Detroit chapter of the Satan Temple is supposed to unveil a bronze Baphomet statue. According to news reports, "The one ton, 9-foot tall monument reportedly pays homage to Satan."

You might not be surprised to hear that communities aren't exactly embracing the idea, though the statue's proponents are not giving up trying to find a location for it. As the local citizens and church leaders go back and forth about if and where this statue should go, here are three takeaways for believers who are watching this battle from a distance.

1. Take Satan seriously.

Way back in the day, Satan roamed the earth looking for someone to tear away from God. That's how he came across Job. Today he is still working: **"Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour"** (1 Peter 5:8). He's after you, so keep your guard up. A statue may be lifeless, but there is real, active, evil power in this world. That evil would love to tear your world apart, to tear your eternity apart too. To take that threat lightly will make you an easy target.

2. Don't be afraid.

After he rose, Jesus went and proclaimed victory to those in hell. Through his victory, Jesus secured your position in God's family. Satan himself can't take that away from you. The statue is simply a visual reminder that you are evil's enemy. Satan is powerful, but your heavenly Father is powerful. And Jesus shares his strength with you. Now your daily marching orders are to **"submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you"** (James 4:7). Don't cower. The all-powerful God is on your side!

3. Think about your own idolatry.

It's easy (and good!) to be appalled by an idol dedicated to the father of lies and the accuser, because anything that isn't for God, is against him. That's pretty black and white. As we look at the statues other people have built, it's an opportunity to see if we have any idols in our hearts that exalt things in this world (even good things) and make them the Most Important Thing. What in your life isn't for God? Tear 'em down because they won't save you or love you. Only Jesus does.



Written by Linda Buxa, blogger for Time of Grace Ministries. Growing up she learned a morning prayer written by Martin Luther. It ends with, "Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me." The older she gets, the more important this portion of the prayer becomes to her.



Birthdays

8/3 Randy Wilcox
8/4 Linda Stechmesser
8/8 Helen Timmermann
8/10 Lucy Hansen
8/11 Eryn Lemke
8/15 Wes Hetcher
8/17 Dale Ast
8/26 Ruth Bartforth
Pastor Tom Klusmeyer
Emily Rose Riedel
Caleb Hansen
8/30 Susie Frohman

Anniversaries

8/3 Del & Karleen Meyer (47)
8/5 Pastor Russell & Verona Kloehn (48)
8/5 Jason & Betsey Welty (15)
8/5 Greg & Mindy Hintz (9)
8/10 Larry & Nicole Anderson (2)
8/17 Russell & Deanna Eichsteadt (13)
8/18 Tom & Donna Kuenn (24)
Megan & Tom Kubasta (19)
8/25 Don & Helen Timmermann (58)
8/27 Dan & Michelle Lemke (21)
8/28 Watson & Joyce Woodruff (61)



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, that means the church does not have it. Please drop off dates at the church office, call 787.3856 or email peacelutheran@centurytel.net.

