



# Peace Progress

Peace Progress  
Editor, Kay Glathar

February 2015

## A Word from Our Pastor:

Dear Peace Family,  
Conflict can go one of two ways. It can cause great damage.

*A family once invited friends over for dinner. At the table, the wife turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?"*

*"I wouldn't know what to say," the daughter answered.*

*"Just say what you hear Mommy say," the wife said.*

*The daughter bowed her head and said: "Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"*

I don't know how the rest of the dinner went after the daughter spoke those words. We can imagine that there were moments of uncomfortable silence with darting glances made around the table to see reactions. And I suppose that if the tension grew throughout the dinner and afterward, relationships were hurt, if not broken.

I don't have evidence, but it would be my guess that most conflict results in destruction. The marriage isn't able to mend itself. The boss and his employees don't respect one another's positions. The parent and child don't agree on curfew. The aging parent doesn't agree with their care plan. The citizen is so upset with the direction of their country.

Conflict doesn't always have to end up in destruction. If intentionally managed, conflict can bring joy.

The Apostle Paul once addressed what was probably quite a long running conflict between two ladies in the church at Philippi: Euodia and Syntyche (Philippians 4:2):

*"I entreat Eudoa and I entreat Syntyche to*

*agree in the Lord. Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and with the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life."*

Paul describes the conflict and then gives very practical advice when he says, "rejoice.....and let your reasonableness be known to everyone." I like to imagine that after Paul wrote these words Euodia and Syntyche did take the time to rejoice together and then, moved forward in their relationship by putting the best construction on everything. Conflict can bring a new joyful attitude and personal growth.

Peace is going to be focusing on the topic of conflict during Lent in our Sunday Adult Bible Study classes and during our mid-week Lent worship services. I believe it is a very worthwhile topic to discuss—not because Peace Lutheran Church is in conflict—but because we are in peace. It is always best to develop skills and tools when peace is in place long before conflicts form. Conflict is important to address in our community too. Every person in Philomath would benefit from the discussions in this class. Invite a friend or a co-worker or that difficult person in your family.

The bulk of our discussions will be based on Pastor Bill Graybill's book, "Resolving Conflict God's Way". Copies of the book will be made available soon. On April 11<sup>th</sup> Peace will be hosting a seminar for our church and community with Bill Graybill as our special guest. This event will be time well spent.

I am so thankful for the special family of Peace—what a privilege and honor it is to serve you! I look forward to partnering with you as we influence others *with* our peace and *to* practice peace.

Keep Looking Up,

*Pastor Lucke*



## “unChristian” Bible Study

The Schulze Bible Study this month is on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Come a little early for cookies and coffee. We are taking a look at David Kinman’s recent book, “unChristian”. The book makes the claim that Christianity has a significant image problem in the world today. Here is a synopsis from the book:

“Christians are supposed to represent Christ to the world. But according to the latest report card, something has gone terribly wrong. Using descriptions like ‘hypocritical’, ‘insensitive’, and ‘judgmental’, young Americans share an impression of Christians that’s nothing short of.....unChristian.”

Our study does much in addressing the perceptions many have of Christians. But more importantly, we will be discussing positive ways and actions to turn the situation around.

## Movie Night

This month we are celebrating love and God’s gift of marriage. On Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> we will gather in the fellowship hall at 6 pm for pizza and a showing of the movie, Shadowlands (1993). Shadowlands is based on the true story of the relationship between noted Christian scholar and writer, C.S. Lewis, and a Jewish-American poet. The story will inspire and move us toward love and commitment in our own marriages. The film is rated PG. Bring a drink and side dish to share. Pizza will be provided.

## Attendance and Grace of Giving

DATE	COUNT	GRACE OF GIVING	
12/21/2014	96	Offering	\$3,324.00
12/28/2014	82	Offering	\$1,262.00
1/4/2015	92	Offering	\$3,894.00
1/11/2015	106	Offering	\$4,128.00

## Preparing for Worship

### February 1:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

### February 15:

2 Kings 2:1-12

2 Corinthians 3:12-13;  
4:1-6

Mark 9:2-9

### February 8:

Isaiah 40:21-31

1 Corinthians 9:16-27

Mark 1:29-39

### February 22:

Genesis 22:1-18

James 1:12-18

Mark 1:9-15

## Garth Skaar

*This biography was dictated to me and submitted to the newsletter by Garth a couple of years ago.*

I was born in Arnegard, North Dakota in 1938. My mother missed a local harvest parade with bagpipes from Canada because of my birth, and she held it against me her whole life. But, even with Norwegian and German ancestry, I love Irish music and most anything else Irish.

My folks lost their farm at the end of the Depression so my dad became a heavy equipment operator. He worked on Fort Peck Dam, which was then the 2nd largest earth filled dam. Mom was a housewife and I was the eldest of 4, one brother, two sisters, and me.

We lived in Arnegard for only 2 years and Dad started moving west with his heavy equip. work. Our first stop was Lake Pend’d Orielle, Idaho. He was there to start construction on Farragut military base. About a year later we moved to Moses Lake, WA, preparing a bomber base. A year later we were in Hanford, WA, preparing the nuclear energy plant, although at that time I don’t think anyone knew it was a nuclear plant. Our last move was to Vanport, Oregon, on the banks of the Columbia and Willamette Rivers building ships for the war effort. At the end of the war we moved to Missoula MT where Dad was working on an irrigation project. 2 years after we moved out, the town of Vanport washed away in a flood. All that is remaining is the Portland International Racetrack.

I started school in Vanport and then went through 6th grade in Missoula. That’s where I learned my independence. My mom was home with my brother and the girls and I would take my bicycle and have fun all over town. When I was grown I told my mom what I had done in Missoula. She said “No, you didn’t. I knew where you were all the time”. And she never changed her mind. After 6th grade we moved to Kalispell Montana and



Dad worked on heavy equipment repair. I finished high school there. I had a job delivering furniture for a furniture company all over the area most of my high school years. I liked to square dance in high school and met this nice little gal. Six years later we got married and just celebrated 50 years of marriage.

We got married, had a two day honeymoon, went to fire school and moved onto a lookout tower in Swan Lake, MT. I don't like heights so the 45 ft up was quite a challenge for me at first. It was across the lake from a campground and people would see our light at night and then come visit. We were there for two summers and Janny was eight months pregnant when we left the second summer. During the winter months I went to college and then worked summers for the forest service.

I completed my teaching degree in 1962 and began teaching in Ely, Nevada. I picked Ely because it had the highest salary, \$4800 a year. Both of our children, Brian and Vicki, were born in Ely. We stayed there three years. At the end of our first year there I got a job with the sheriff's department which I kept part time through the school year and full time again the next summer. In 1965 we headed north back to the mountains and trees to Oakridge, OR. We dropped almost exactly one mile in altitude from Ely to Oakridge.

I taught business classes in Oakridge for 30 years. I was in the same classroom for the entire 30 years and went from manual typewriters, to electric, and lastly computers. During my teaching career I also coached golf taking the team to the state tournament 8 out of the 10 years. In 1980 we won the state championship. I was also the "voice of the Warriors" (that was our team name) and announced all the football and basketball games for about 28 years.

Our family lived in a mobile home the first year we were in Oakridge and then moved to Westfir where we stayed for the rest of the time we were there.

The whole family loved living close to the river. We all spent many hours in and on the river. It was a wonderful place to raise children. We all skied at Willamette Pass and I was on the ski patrol for 10 years so our whole family was able to ski free. Consequently, both of our children were avid skiers. We sometimes skied three times a week. We loved living in Westfir.

After our kids left home both of our mills closed and the timber industry changed.

Even though I didn't like heights, I had always wanted to fly so when the chance came that I was able to take lessons I did. We bought a Cherokee Archer and enjoyed it for a few years. Our last flight was over Mt. Saint Helen's the day before the airspace closed.

We had a Gold Wing motorcycle that I rode to school for many years and also took many trips on with Janny, sometimes our kids, and sometimes other biking friends. We were somewhere in Southern Oregon when we stopped for lunch and asked the other couple if they had seen the elephant in the field a few miles back. They hadn't, didn't really believe us, so hopped on their bike to go back and find out that it was true.

For about 15 years we always went camping on memorial day weekend with friends. In 1987 I woke up early and Brian and I went for a motorcycle ride. Less than a quarter of a mile later, Brian passed me and I took off after him and hit a tree. I don't remember much of anything for about a week after. I was helicoptered to Bend, Oregon, where I was put back together, mostly. The nerves from my right arm were pulled from the spinal column so even with all the physical therapy the arm stayed paralyzed. About two years after the accident the arm was just an added weight that was pulling it out of the socket and causing more pain. That was when we made the difficult decision to have it amputated. That was a life change. My superintendent was very understanding and allowed me to return and teach the next year for as long as I could. Some days it was one hour and some days it was four hours. I was able to go back full time at the beginning of the second semester, then taught until 1995 when I retired.

We both have loved traveling. We traveled quite a bit after our retirement and have continued as much as possible. We've taken two long motor home trips around the U.S. as well as many shorter trips to Canada and the western states but still have much to see.

Janny and I moved to Corvallis in 2001 to be closer to our children and grandchildren and moved in with our daughter Vicki and her husband. Three years later we moved to our own home and shortly after Vicki and David, plus three boys and two cats moved in with us.

We love it here and all of the people at Peace.