



Peace Progress

Editor, Kay Glathar

September 2015

A Word from Our Pastor:

Dear Peace Family,

You are making a difference! This past month we celebrated National Night Out at Peace Lutheran Church. It was a great pleasure of mine to sit back and see members of Peace plan, serve and participate in the event. There is no greater joy in ministry then seeing God’s people go to work in service to others.

Our focus tends to be on the development of faith in Jesus as Lord—and rightly so. Good works are important too! Consider James 2:14, “What good is it...if someone says he has faith but does not have works?.....faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” A quote attributed to St. Francis puts it this way, “Preach the gospel, if necessary, use words.”

It is our works and deeds that shine Christ in this world.

You are making a difference! Perhaps you have missed the thank you notes posted on the bulletin board as you make your way for coffee Sunday morning. I would like to highlight what some of those notes have said:

“Thank you for your generous donation of \$291.52 for the Philomath Food Bank. Your donation will provide needed services to our neighbors in the Philo-

math Community through Holiday Cheer, June’s Kids Closet, Lupe’s Community Garden, Philomath Food Bank and Philomath Community Gleaners (From Philomath Community Services).”

“You gifts help us to help churches transform lives and our community in the name of Christ. We could not do what we do without your support and it is a privilege to walk this path with you..... thank you for your faith-filled giving (From Love INC).”

“Thank you for supporting the ministry of Camp Lutherwood with your gift of \$126.82. The summer theme is “What Matters Most” where we will explore stories and characters from the Old Testament and learn to “love God with all of our heart, mind and strength (From Camp Lutherwood).”

In addition to these notes that Peace received this month, I received personal thanks from the Northwest District of the LCMS and Zion Lutheran School. These gifts do much more than support institutions, they support the making of disciples. Here is a full run down of the monies that have been given this year (thank you Karla and Deeg for putting this together!):

- Benevolent Fund.....\$310
- Love INC\$1,173
- Luther House.....\$225
- Camp Lutherwood.....\$294

- Philomath Food Pantry..... \$676
- Zion Lutheran School..... \$1,805
- The NW District-LCMS \$2,985
- We Care Benton County..... \$328
- Youth Pizza..... \$67

We can make the biggest difference for God and His Kingdom when we keep our ministries and life together simple. Thom Rainer says it in his book Simple Church, “Ironically people are hungry for simple because the world has become much more complex. Churches with a simple process for reaching and maturing people are expanding the kingdom.”

I do think Jesus would have agreed with Rainer’s assessment. It was Jesus who gave the original commission to the church in Matthew 28:19-20. The verbs in Jesus’ last charge relate the simplicity of what we are to do: go, make disciples, baptize and teach. No gimmicks. No fancy complicated plans. Jesus was asking his followers to work out their faith in straightforward ways.

Thank you again for the working out of your faith. I hear often from those in the community how thankful they are for the Peace Lutheran Church family. It is a great pleasure representing you!

God’s Blessings,
Pastor Lucke



Georgia Hering

Our dear friend and sister in Christ, Georgia Hering, has transitioned to a foster home near her daughter, Lisa Ruppel, in Tacoma, Washington. Lisa reports that Georgia has settled in and is doing quite well. Lisa also requests that cards for Georgia be sent to her (Lisa Ruppel) so she prompt her with memories of the sender. Lisa's address can be found in your church directory.

Sunday School Snacks

It is that time again. Sunday school is just around the corner! We are hoping to get a few people to donate snacks so we can stock up ahead of time. We have a peanut allergy and a gluten free child. Some snack suggestions that seem to be a hit are granola bars, fruit snacks, fruit cups, hot cocoa and juice. Let Brandy Stokes know if you can help. Thank you in advance!



Congratulations!

Over the last 5 years, eligible Thrivent members have recommended that Thrivent Financial distribute more than \$225 million in charitable grant funds to more than 25,600 enrolled churches and organizations through Thrivent Choice. Peace Lutheran has received \$9,922 in Choice Dollars since enrolling in the program.

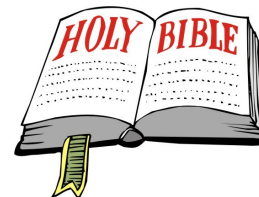
Attendance and Grace of Giving

DATE	COUNT	GRACE OF GIVING	
07/19/2015	86	Offering	\$2,008
07/26/2015	83	Offering	\$1,252
08/02/2015	71	Offering	\$3,511
08/09/2015	84	Offering	\$3,839
08/16/2015	76	Offering	\$1,272

Preparing for Worship

Scripture lessons for September:

September 6:
Isaiah 35:4-7a
James 2:1-10, 14-18
Mark 7:31-37



September 13:
Genesis 1:1-4
John 1:1-18

From **The Story** Read Chapter 1 (pages 1-12)
Consider this question: God pursued Adam and Eve after they had sinned. God pursued Cain even as Cain was made as a swarm of bees. Have you ever had a time when you realized then or realize now that God was pursuing you?

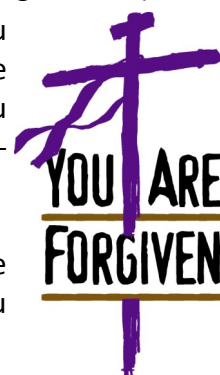
September 20:
Genesis 12:1-3
Matthew 18:15-22

From **The Story** Read Chapter 2 (pages 13-27)
Consider this question: God's story is full of characters. In these chapters, we've encountered many including Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, Noah, Abraham and Sarah. What patterns do you see in how God relates to these people?

September 20:
Genesis 37:2-8
Luke 6:35-38

From **The Story** Read Chapter 3 (pages 29-42)
Consider these questions: As you walk in Joseph's shoes, what are the places in his life when you would have been tempted to surrender your hope and trust in God?

Joseph had to struggle to forgive those who hurt him deeply. Do you have anyone you need to forgive?





The Story

Peace begins its journey with The Story on Sunday, September 13th. This will be a very intentional journey as all age groups will study the same lesson in Sunday School. The message each week will also be based on the lesson from the book. If you do not want to read The Story, don't worry, worship will still be in the same format. Pastor Lucke has adjusted the readings each week so that we are reading the Bible in a lectionary format like we always have. Here are some frequently asked questions that you also may have:

What is The Story?

The Story is an abridged, chronological Bible that reads like a novel. There are no verse references, and Scripture segments are seamlessly woven together with transition text into a single grand narrative. For those intimidated or overwhelmed by the unabridged Bible, The Story helps people understand God's Word more fully and engage with it more easily.

Simple, accessible, and easy to use, churches are finding The Story a powerful way to engage their people in Bible reading like never before. As The Story brings the Bible to life, the broad scope of God's message will penetrate hearts. People of all ages will be swept up in the story of God's love and God's plan for their lives.

Where can I pick up the book?

Talk to Oscar Gutbrod or Pastor. Books have been ordered and are on the way. The book can be purchased on-line for \$10 to \$12. Kindle versions are also available.

Why is this important for Peace?

- To increase Biblical awareness and knowledge.
- To unite our church family as we all engage in the same lesson each week.

- To better understand God's desires for us in the community.

Is there homework?



Well, yes. Check the newsletter for what is coming ahead. Read the chapter and consider the question(s) that go with each week!

Ladies Guild Begins

Ladies Guild begins again after a summer break on September 3rd at 1:00pm. All women in the church are welcome to join this service group.

We will be planning our Fall Bazaar and ask that all members of the church begin creating some wonderful items for this event. The Bazaar is Nov. 14th this year so it's time to get busy!

Note . . .

The previous kitchen behind the offices will again be used for the high school Sunday School class. Please remember to not use this space for storage. Thank you!

Men's Breakfast:

Please mark your calendar for **October 3rd**, time for the Saturday Men's Breakfast to begin the new year of coming together for men's fellowship. I am looking for a new scramble egg cook. Kris Holt has taken a new job in Colorado Springs, so if there is someone interested in helping with cooking let me know. Hopefully, Chuck Lane will continue to be the head sausage cook. At this time no topic has been selected. We might discuss our 31 weeks of using "The Story" in our next year's worship service? **Remember** – coffee on 8:15 and breakfast at 8:30 – discussion 9:00 – 10:00 Looking forward to our first fellowship in October. Oscar Gutbrod - (541)-231-3954



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH FALL KICK-OFF

Please join us as we kick off our fall schedule! This Sunday, we are having a celebration after church. There will be a lunch with free hot dogs, chips, ice cream for dessert, music, games, a bouncy play structure, balloons, and more. Please come, bring your friends, and join in the fun!

We look forward to sharing a wonderful experience with you!

- WHO:** YOU, FAMILY, & FRIENDS
- WHEN:** SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2015, NOON
- WHERE:** PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, PHILOMATH, OREGON
- TIME:** SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:45; CHURCH AT 11 AM

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU EACH SUNDAY!
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!
ALL ARE WELCOME!**





“Home-Going Celebration”

Funeral Service Preparation Workshop

Presented by Healing Hearts Ministry
Karen Bull, Director

WHEN: Wednesday, Sept. 9, Time: 7:00 PM

WHERE: Peace Lutheran Church

2540 Applegate St, Philomath, OR

Many people have their wills, insurance policies, legal papers, and living wills in order and yet have given their “*Home-Going Celebration*” service little thought. This service can touch lives for God’s kingdom and bring glory to our Lord. By having your wishes and desires carried out, your service would be very personal and alleviate undue stress for your family members. When you plan ahead, all the information will be available to help not only your family but your pastor, too.

Healing Hearts Ministry is offering, for young and old like, an opportunity to pre-plan your “*Home Going-Celebration*” service. Karen Bull will provide you with materials you can take home, discuss with your spouse or family, and complete at your convenience. Once completed, copies will be made for you and your family to keep on file. Later, this information will be a blessing for family members who desire to respect your wishes. It’ll truly be a “*Home-Going Celebration!*”

NO COST to attend. BOOKLET opt: \$15 for one, \$25 for two

Checks made payable to: Healing Hearts Ministry

RSVP: Peace Lutheran 541-929-5504 or HHM 541-752-1646 or

Email: karen.bull@comcast.net

----- (tear and place in offering) -----

I PLAN TO ATTEND PHONE: _____

NAME: _____