



Peace Progress

Editor, Kay Glathar

August 2016

A Word from Our Pastor:

Dear Family of Peace,

In case you have not noticed, this year is an election year. It is hard not to notice with all of the advertisements, analysis, and 24 hour news coverage. Everyone seems to have all of the right answers to the problems that plague us.

For Christians, election years are reminders of who our Savior actually is. Our Lord did not take the path of popularity to gain the most votes. Nor did He quickly speak anecdotes to convince others of His opinions. Jesus' primary goal was to save those who were lost. In Jesus' life, He paid extra attention to those who did not have a seat at the table in society—outcasts and sinners. In Jesus' teaching, He highlighted the joy of receiving that which was lost (Luke 15). In Jesus' death, He actually paid the ransom so that sinners could be brought into His kingdom. For all the selfishness, greed, and positioning we will see in the months ahead, it will be important for us to contrast with Jesus. As our hymnody suggests: "Jesus shines fairer, Jesus shines purer.....". Thanks be to Jesus!

I would challenge you to also be thinking about this question as we face the election: "Who am I becoming?" I like this question because it focusses us not on all happenings in society in places like Baton Rouge, Minneapolis, and Kansas City. It keeps us from listing off the problems we see in the world and then proceeding to anger. It keeps us from being simply reactive when circumstances do not go our way. The question "Who am I becoming?" is a deeply personal question. It asks us to look inside and more importantly, challenges us to grow.

Consider what Paul says in Philippians 3:12, "Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own,

because Jesus Christ has made me his own." Christians should never think that they have arrived and have figured everything out. There is room to grow!

I was reminded of this truth at the pastor's retreat Alicia and I attended in Lake Tahoe. As a Christian, I need to grow in my faith. I may have learned Hebrew, Greek and Latin and studied heavy topics at seminary, but I have absolutely not arrived. I need to grow! As soon as I have stopped growing, I am in trouble spiritually.

To further grow and investigate the Christian question, "Who am I becoming?", Peace will be studying the Fruit of Spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23a in adult Sunday Bible Study class as we start off the fall season on September 11th. To best prepare yourself, I would like for you to be thinking about the way God is changing you:

How has God changed you in personal qualities or characteristics, such as joy and kindness?

How has God changed you in the way that you relate to others?

How has God changed you in the activities that you are a part of?



I am looking forward to this journey with you. There will certainly be times of discovery, challenge and growth. When we are about these qualities, we are on the narrow path Jesus mentioned.

Thank you for growing with me as we "partner together in the Gospel".

In peace and joy,

Pastor Lucke

**Preparing for Worship**

Scripture lessons for August:

August 7:

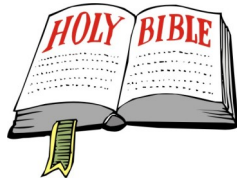
Genesis 15:1-6
Hebrews 11:1-16
Luke 12:22-34

August 14:

Jeremiah 23:16-29
Hebrews 11:17-31; 12:1-3
Luke 12:49-53

August 21:

Isaiah 66:18-23
Hebrews 12:4-24
Luke 13:22-30

**August 28:**

Church in the Park at 10:30 am!

Attendance and Grace of Giving

DATE	COUNT	GRACE OF GIVING	
6/19/2016	127	Offering	\$1,883
6/26/2016	102	Offering	\$2,425
7/03/2016	100	Offering	\$4,030
7/10/2016	73	Offering	\$1,550
7/17/2016	100	Offering	\$1,531

Request!

I would like to assist College Methodist with an on-going fundraiser (Teen Challenge -- Adults) by collecting BiMart receipts. I will pass them on as they accumulate. Please put yours in the Gutbrod mailbox at church where I will place a large envelope.

Carole Gutbrod

Progress and Encouragement

Major progress has happened at Peace. "Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good!"

President Todd Muhly led the church council as they discussed a "Needs and Wants" list that dates back to 2012. The list included the following items:

- Lectern
- New altar for sanctuary
- Altar Paraments
- New pulpit for sanctuary
- Window shades for all windows in Fellowship room
- Projector screen for sanctuary
- Stained glass window in sanctuary
- Projector screen for Fellowship room
- Banners for Sanctuary
- Hearing Assisted System
- Memorial trees
- Nativity Set for outside the church
- Renovate original restrooms
- Furnace, replacement for the one failing
- Update old kitchen
- Carpet for narthex
- Concrete for courtyard
- Carpet for Hallway
- Large capacity Shop Vacuum
- Pull down ladder for access in storage room

All but six of the items on this list have been obtained! And many more projects that were not listed on this original list have been accomplished.



Be sure to thank the council at Peace and/or someone who helped participate in this important work. Ask someone about what still needs to be done. Praise be to God alone!



Town Hall Meeting

All are invited for a town hall meeting at Peace on Tuesday, August 30th at 7pm to discuss the most recent Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod National Convention. Pastor Lucke will be sharing and explaining the most significant resolutions that were passed. Time for questions and comments will be given. To prepare for our time together, read President Linnemann's response to the passing of Resolution 13-02a:

Sisters and Brothers of the Northwest District,

On Tuesday at the 2016 LCMS Convention, the delegates approved [Resolution 13-02a – To Regularize Status of Licensed Lay Deacons Involved in Word and Sacrament Ministry](#). This resolution effectively limits the future ministry of Licensed Lay Deacons. Many in the Northwest District and elsewhere in the Synod are disappointed with the result. It presents us with a real challenge as we consider future ministry in the communities in our District. First, let me assure you that the District staff and delegates to the convention were involved as much as we had the opportunity to do so. We have sought to tell the story of Licensed Deacons in our District, but too many delegates were left unconvinced. I sought to convey to the floor committee and to the convention delegates that the resolution assumed a theological consensus across the Synod that does not, in fact, exist. We are not united as a Synod. I believe this is truly the case.

I am writing to let you know that your District Board of Directors is meeting in August, and we will be considering a response to this resolution. To those of you who are distressed by this outcome, please allow your Board and your leaders some time to identify an appropriate response. As members of the Synod, it is important for us to honor the covenants of love we have with one another while we seek to communicate our perspective and concerns. We will share future developments as soon as we are able. Please continue to pray for wisdom and grace as we

walk this road together. Pray for your leaders. Pray for the ministries affected by this decision and for our response to it.

I would encourage you to read the resolution carefully. Continue to carry out your ministry as you have. The resolution does not call for any immediate change to the ministry you have been carrying out. Your community needs you.

Lord of the Church, We pray for Your peace and Your wisdom among us as we respond to the future of Licensed Lay Deacon ministry in our District and across the Synod. Bless us with insight as we seek to be faithful to the call You have given us to make Your gifts available to both the communities in our District and to our covenants of love with the people and ministries of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As we put our energy and our gifts to the task of a response, we pray that Your Spirit would lead us all to an outcome that is pleasing to You and a blessing to the ministry You have given to us. Lead us in the days ahead. In Your holy name, Amen.

God be with us and bless us as we continue to reflect the love of Jesus to each other and to His people.

Serving Christ Together,

Rev. Dr. Paul Linnemann, President
Northwest District – LCMS

Rally Day/Patio Dedication



Rally Day and the patio dedication will take place on Sunday, September 11. All are invited! There will be a bouncy play structure, games for the kids, balloons, and hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and ice cream to eat. Bring a side dish to add to the meal and enjoy this special day to begin the new Sunday School year and dedicate our new patio. Activities will begin around noon.