



Peace Progress

Editor, Kay Glathar

September 2016

A Word from Our Pastor:

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your minds."

Dear Friends,

I am sure that you have heard many of the light bulb jokes that have circulated throughout the years. In case you haven't, here is a sampling:

How many Episcopalians does it take to change a light bulb? Answer: Ten. One to call the electrician and nine to say how much they liked the old one better.

How many Baptists does it take to change a light bulb? Answer: At least fifteen. One to change the bulb and three committees to approve the change and decide who will bring the potato salad.

How many Lutherans does it take to change a light bulb? Answer: None. Lutherans don't believe in change!

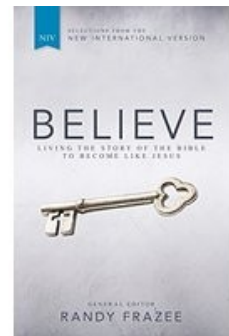
I think the reason that we like these jokes is because there is a little bit of truth embedded in them. Christians—no matter their denominational or non-denominational status—are reticent to change. I am including myself when I say this as I am continually discovering how little I like changes to my routine. Workouts are best in the morning. I like my coffee at just a certain time. I think that I am at my best when I go to bed and wake up at the same time each morning!

The Apostle Paul begins to lay out the Christian life as he transitions from weighty, theological issues in Romans 1-11 to more down to the earth, practical living in Romans 12-16. There can be a temptation to skip chapters 1-11 as it is always more fun to just find out what we should practically do. But, be sure to read and cherish these earliest chapters.

For Christians, these chapters lay the foundation for their identity. We should never quickly jump to do something without first knowing the why behind why we are doing it in the first place.

What Paul encourages in Romans 12 is this: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your minds." Paul is subtly saying that change for every person is inevitable. Either they are being conformed to the world or they are being transformed because of Christ's work. Staying in neutral position is not an option.

This year I would like for us to embrace change personally. In Paul's letter to the Galatians he encourages change toward the fruit of the spirit—love, joy, peace, self-control, hope, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness and humility. Peace is going to guide you through this personal change as we take a look at Randy Frazee's book, **Believe**. **Believe** is the follow up to **The Story** which we studied last year. My prayer is that this study is a blessing to us as we do seek to change in a positive way toward Christ.



In very few instances has change been an absolute pleasure. I can guarantee that this study will be a pleasurable change for you as we seek to live the life God desires for us.

Our study begins on September 11th at 9:45 in the sanctuary.

It is a great pleasure of mine to serve you at Peace as your pastor. I am available to talk or pray—I am never too busy!

God's Blessings,
Pastor Lucke

**Preparing for Worship**

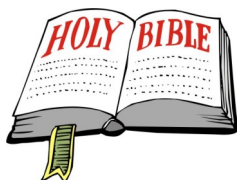
Scripture lessons for September:

September 4:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-35

**September 11:**

Ezekiel 34:11-24

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 16:1-15

Our Key Concept: Love. Read Chapter 21 of **Believe**.

Key Idea: I am committed to loving God and loving others.

September 18:

Amos 8:4-7

1 Timothy 2:1-15

Luke 16:1-15

Our Key Concept: Joy. Read Chapter 22 of **Believe**.

Key Idea: Despite my circumstances, I feel contentment and understand my purpose in life.

September 25:

Amos 6:1-7

1 Timothy 3:1-13

Luke 16:19-31

Our Key Concept: Peace. Read Chapter 23 of **Believe**. Key Idea: I am free from anxiety because I have found peace with God, peace with others and peace with myself.

Wisdom

Once all the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.

That's Faith

When you throw a baby in the air, she laughs because she knows you will catch her.

That's Trust

Every night we go to bed, without any assurance of being alive the next morning but still we set the alarms to wake us up.

That's Hope

We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.

That's Confidence

We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children.

That's Love

On an old man's shirt was written a sentence, "I am not 90 years old. . . I am sweet 16 with 74 years of experience."

That's Attitude

Submitted by Jim Holroyd

Attendance and Grace of Giving

DATE	COUNT	GRACE OF GIVING	
7/24/2016	92	Offering	\$2,231
7/31/2016	105	Offering	\$2,185
8/07/2016	82	Offering	\$5,199
8/14/2016	91	Offering	\$2,586

Rally Day/Patio Dedication

Rally Day, our celebration of the beginning of Sunday School, 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.

**Movie Night: God's Not Dead 2**

We will be showing the movie God's Not Dead 2 Friday, September 16th at 7 pm in the fellowship hall. There will be plenty of popcorn. Invite a friend and bring a drink! Check out the synopsis below for the movie:

High school history teacher Grace Wesley (Melissa Joan Hart) comes under fire for answering a student's (Hayley Orrantia) question about Jesus. When Grace refuses to apologize, the school board votes to suspend her and threatens to revoke her teaching certificate. Forced to stand trial to save her career, Grace hires young lawyer Tom Endler (Jesse Metcalfe) to defend her in court. Endler devises a powerful strategy to show the jury the historical significance of Wesley's classroom discussion.

Women's Bible Study: Entrusted

The Mid-Valley Women of Christ are starting another Bible Study this fall at Peace. The study will begin Tuesday, September 20th (9 to 11 am), meeting each Tuesday until the last session on November 1st. Contact Janet Cornelius at nve-beachvr@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions. The studies are based on Beth Moore's latest book, *Entrusted*:

We were never meant to take this journey of faith alone or in secret. God has entrusted us with the great and mighty gift of the gospel, something too precious and life-giving to keep to ourselves.

In this 6-session Bible study, Beth will encourage you to guard what God has entrusted to you, further His kingdom by sharing Christ with others, and pour into future generations just as Paul once mentored Timothy. Because in this journey of joy and hardship, we need each other to stay the

Humor Corner

A pastor was making his rounds on a bicycle when he came upon a little boy trying to sell a lawn mower.

"How much do you want for the mower?" asked the pastor.

"I just want enough money to go out and buy me a bicycle," said the little boy.

After a moment of consideration, the pastor asked, "Will you take my bike in trade for it?"

The little boy asked if he could try it out first and after riding the bike around a little while said, "Pastor, you've got yourself a deal."

The pastor took the mower and began to crank it. He pulled on the rope a few times with no response from the mower.

The pastor called the little boy over and said, "I can't get this mower to start."

The little boy said, "That's because you have to cuss at it to get it started."

The pastor said, "I can't cuss. It's been so long since I became a pastor that I don't even remember how to cuss."

The little boy looked at him happily and said, "You just keep pulling on that rope. It'll come back to ya."

**Men's Breakfast**

October 1st is fast approaching, time to begin the First Saturday Men's Breakfast. We meet from October-June on the first Saturday of the month. No topic has been decided yet for our breakfast. Should you have one that you would like to see discussed please let Pastor or me know. Remember coffee on at 8:15, breakfast served at 8:30, with discussion from 9 – 10. Please contact Oscar Gutbrod for questions – (541)231-3954.

