

PEACE TALKS

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS

Finlayson, Minnesota

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www.plcms.com

JUNE 2020

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ-

In every area of life, and for each individual, there have been many decisions to make over the last several months which at least at the time seemed rather important. And any time important decisions are made, there is the possibility that one will later regret the decision that they made. I suppose all of us have already started to look back on certain decisions we or others made and wonder if they were wise or not.

As I think back about all the decisions we've made regarding church and continue to make, I'm not sure how they will all shake out. A lot of them we probably will never be able to know for sure if they were wise or not. Some of them, we may get a better sense as to their wisdom as time goes along.

But I do know one thing I regret not doing very early on. I regret not making a bigger emphasis during this time on home devotions. This lack of emphasis is not due to apathy on my part regarding this topic. I hope after hearing me preach and teach for five years, you know that in-home devotions are something that I feel are very important.

All the decisions that seemed to be needed to be made quickly were about how we would connect church and home in this time. How would we connect me, your pastor, to you, the people? That was not an insignificant concern. It deserved attention but the attention it received ate up all the time.

Back in the time of the Spanish Flu, the pastors serving in places where lockdowns were in place did not have the option of posting their sermons or services online. Telephones at that time were still relatively new technology. There were no copy machines to mass-produce items to be sent out and there was no USPS to deliver them anyways.

What did the pastors do back then? They urged the head of the household to make sure that the Scriptures were being read in the home and that family prayer was occurring daily. They knew how critical it should be always but how particularly critical it was when congregations were not meeting.

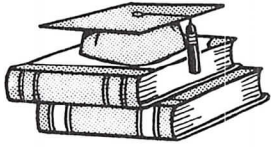
So hopefully you heard it from me in the past and it even crept into my thoughts during this time here and there, but if not let me say it now. Read the Scriptures in your home and pray together. Why? Well I'll let the article that I read from the Lutheran Witness published in 1918 tell you. It said this:

"Are you looking for some good work to do? Would you do something to glorify God, something whereby you may show your gratitude towards the Savior, something whereby you may yourself be blessed, and whereby you may bless your neighbor, something whereby you may be a blessing to your whole country? Institute family devotion daily in your home.

Go about it in a cheerful, friendly, evangelical manner. If that is daily done you have accomplished something that will bless you and yours in time and eternity."

In Christ, Pastor Philip Hoppe

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



We take this opportunity to congratulate our graduates from Peace – Gideon

Hoppe, graduating from home-schooling and enrolled at Bethany College in Mankato; Ricky Skaff graduating from Hinckley/Finlayson High School and plans on attending Hamline University in St. Paul; Olivia Raivo graduating from East Central and recently completed Marine Boot Camp; and our higher education graduate, Nick Bridenstine graduating from Bemidji State University last month.

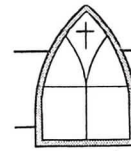
We wish them all God's blessings & safety as they pursue their future goals & dreams.

G oing forward
R eady to
A ccept
D etermined to
U nderstand His Word.
A lert to
T emptation
I nterested in
O thers
N ever forgetting that Christ is my Strength

PLEASE NOTE/FYI: The email address for Peace is changing since we will no longer be using Frontier. The new email is peacelutheranmn@outlook.com
Pastor Hoppe's email will remain the same which is pastor@ihoppe.com
... and be sure to follow our FACEBOOK page - Peace Lutheran Church - to keep up with all the latest updates regarding changes to worship services, Bible Studies, cancellations, etc.

~~USHERS~~

For the time being, I will not be making up an "Usher Schedule," but if you are interested in helping out on any given Sunday, please let Pastor or LuAnn know. We will only be using 1 maybe 2 ushers per Sunday until further notice.



MEMORIAL GIFTS

We wish to thank the family of Don Henkel for giving \$1,500 to the Memorial Fund in his memory.

-- and THANK YOU to Marge Haefner for getting all the lilies ordered for Easter. Even though we didn't meet here in church, we were able to see the altar adorned with the lilies in our on-line services - very beautiful. By ordering lilies, we were also able to help Cheri's

Flower Basket as she remained closed during this Corona time.



-- and a HUGE THANK YOU to Pastor Hoppe for all of his

tireless efforts in putting together our on-line services, Bible studies, the exhaustive duties that he and the Elders have had to deal with regarding decisions for our church services. Praying that this will be easing up soon and we can get back to some kind of normalcy - God willing!

~~~NEWS FROM LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP~~~

Several weeks ago the Board of Directors closed camp to activities and retreats due to the virus. It laid off all staff as well. At this point summer camp stands in jeopardy. With camp reservations stopped and continuing expenses, they face financial challenges.

You are invited to prayerfully consider making a gift to their emergency fund appeal. It will cover operation expenses and opening camp when in occurs. The unofficial goal is \$100,000. They have currently received \$43,800 in emergency gifts.

If you are able to help, please consider a gift to: Lutheran Island Camp, Emergency Fund, 45011 - 230th St., Henning, MN 56551

**Peace Lutheran Church
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, May 13, 2020**

Present were: Pastor Hoppe, Tim Koski, Dennis Korpi, Bill Tvedt, John Pitts, Bruce Pogatchnik, Royce Larson
Chairman Tim Koski called the meeting to order at approx. 7:05 pm. Pastor read from Titus and opened with prayer.

The **minutes** of the March 2020 regular council meeting were approved as read.
The **Treasurer's report** by Dennis Korpi was approved as presented.

Pastor's report:

- Pastor has purchased a new laptop and it is currently in use.
- Pastor has purchased a new cell phone and it is currently in use.
- The Convocation being planned for June will not be held at that time. Pastor will contact the speaker to see if he would be available at a later date. More to follow regarding this event.
- Pastor Hoppe led services in Kroschel on May 10th in the absence of their Pastor. Pastor Hoppe will continue to help them as needed until Peace resumes services on Sunday mornings.
- A request for \$400 of financial help for a friend of Peace was handled by four Peace members personally.

Elder's report:

- A request to purchase a computer for Pastor, a new cell phone, and to cover the expenses of putting videos online was approved by the Council.
- To clarify responsibilities under the new Constitution, the Council designated the Pastor, the Chairman, and the Head Elder to make decisions regarding holding or canceling services or church events for periods of less than two weeks. This is to clarify who will make these decisions in cases of snow storms, power outages, furnace failures, or other short term situations of similar nature. Motion by Bill Tvedt, second by John Pitts and carried.
- An additional \$500, above that which has been designated by offerings, was donated to the Sandstone Food Bank. Motion by John Pitts, second by Bill Tvedt and carried.

Trustee's report:

- The Council removed Bill Morgan as an authorized signor from the Cemetery Committee bank accounts and added Leon Payne as an authorized signor to the accounts. Motion by Bill Tvedt, second by Bruce Pogatchnik and carried.
- The Trustees will get bids for some landscaping on the property.
- There is a concern about the trees along the East property line. Trustees are considering options regarding this.

Old Business: The Insurance Company is requiring that all those working with the youth meet certain criteria. An extension of the time for meeting these requirements will be requested.

New Business: The Council authorized Pastor to spend up to \$5,000 from the Memorial Fund for video equipment for the church. The Memorial Fund currently has \$6,000. Motion by Bill Tvedt, second by Dennis Korpi and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. Pastor led all in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Royce Larson, Council Secretary

~~A TRIBUTE TO FATHERS~~

***A father is a guiding light, sent to us from above.
He listens to our sorrows, and soothes them with his love.
A father is a teacher, whose place no one could take.
For he's the source from which we learn to think and navigate.
A father is a gift from God, from whom we learn to be
Patient, strong and loving, filled with integrity.***

THE MEANING OF WORSHIP

Worship that is accepted by God is a privilege unique to the Christian (1 Peter 2:5). It is not a right. I am permitted to offer acceptable worship only by the grace of God.

Therefore it is disheartening when children of God deliberately reject this privilege and wantonly absent themselves from the public assembly God has ordained for His glory and our good.

Consider briefly the significance of worship:

It is obedience to a divine command.

It is a means of nourishing the spirit.

It assists in achieving spiritual growth.

It encourages others in their spiritual development.

It shows the world where my priorities are.

It is one means of expressing my love for God.

It is an avenue God has provided by which I can praise His name.

It is the offering of spiritual sacrifices.

It is a way of showing my thanksgiving to God for all He has done for me.

It is a period of communion with God with the world shut out entirely.

It is an experience that should make the heart of every Christian glad!

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— *The 10 Commandments are NOT multiple choice.*

— *Some people think the 10 Commandments are actually the 10 suggestions.*

— *The most expensive piece of furniture in the church is the empty pew.*

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"Are we glad to hear that you don't know where you'll get the money you need. For a minute there we were afraid you wanted to get it from us."

CATCH? DAD

To get his goodnight kiss he stood
Beside my chair one night
And raised an eager face to me,
A face with love alight.

And as I gathered in my arms
The son God gave to me,
I thanked the lad for being good,
And hoped he'd always be.

His little arms crept 'round my neck.
And then I heard him say
Four simple words I can't forget,
Four words that made me pray.

They turned a mirror in my soul,
On secrets no one knew.
They startled me; I hear them yet,
He said, "I'll be like you."

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## TEN REASONS WHY I NEVER WASH

A pastor, apparently disgusted with the excuses parishioners offered as to why they didn't attend worship services, included "Ten Reason Why I Never Wash" in the Sunday bulletin:

- 1) I was forced as a child.
- 2) People who wash are hypocrites – they think they are cleaner than everybody else.
- 3) There are so many different kinds of soap, I can't decide which one is best.
- 4) I used to wash, but I got bored and stopped.
- 5) I wash only on special occasions, like Christmas and Easter.
- 6) None of my friends wash.
- 7) I'll start washing when I get older and dirtier.
- 8) I can't spare the time.
- 9) The bathroom is never warm enough in winter or cool enough in the summer.
- 10) People who make soap are only after your money.

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**** A small boy's definition of Father's Day:**
"It's just like Mother's Day, only you don't spend as much on the present."

JUNE 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Regional AA Mtg. @ Peace 7:00	3 Board of Elders 7:00	4 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm	5 Pastor's day off	6
7 Bible Study 8 am Peace Comm. 9:00 & 2:00 Bruno Comm. 11:00	8	9	10 Church Council 7:00	11 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm	12 Pastor's day off	13 "Men of Peace" 9:00-noon
14 Bible Study 8 am Peace Worship 9:00 & 2:00 Bruno Worship 11:00	15	16	17 "Women of Peace" 1:00	18 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm	19 Pastor's day off	20
21 CONFIRMATION (Tentative) Bible Study 8 am Peace Comm. & Confr. Service 9:00 Bruno Comm. 11:00 Peace Comm. 2:00	22	23	24 **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** Young Families Group 6:00	25 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm	26 Pastor's day off	27
28 Bible Study 8 am Peace Matins 9:00 & 2:00 Bruno Matins 11:00 Circuit Youth Event 5-7 @ Isle	29	30	