

PEACE TALKS

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS

Finlayson, Minnesota

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www.plcms.com

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Why do Christians care about legislation and judges and presidents? Well, I suppose if we were honest, the reasons would be many. And our reasons would be some of the same reasons the world would have to care about these things. We care because such things affect our finances. They affect our freedoms. They affect our friends and family members in practical ways. And we are tied emotionally to all these things and people.

But why should we care? Well, two reasons. First, out of love for God. God has established all authorities that exist and he uses them for his purposes. And therefore, we cannot dismiss such things as unimportant. We understand that God intends to rule through them and therefore we should care whether they allow such rule or not. Furthermore, we recognize that any government that forgets that it answers to the one true God can also end up doing things that hurt God's Church which he has chosen to do a different work through. They can even end up demanding that the true worship of God and proclamation of the Gospel cease. And so we care.

But secondly, we care out of love of our neighbor. God has established government to reward good and punish evil not because he just wants to hold people accountable to random rules he creates, but because walking in good and not in evil is truly good for all in his creation. It benefits every individual and their life together with everyone else. And so we desire that our laws would closely match God's laws, not to prove us right but to make evident that the creator knows what is good for his creation.

We understand that when we fight for what God speaks of as good we are helping our neighbor. When we stand against abortion, we are doing so for the child and for the mother. When we stand up for those who are impoverished by the crafty ways of those with means, we are doing so for the welfare of the poor and their children. When we talk about marriage and sexuality, we are not doing so to steal someone of their fun or happiness, but rather are trying to open their eyes to what is truly good for all people in regards to their bodies and their lives.

Put more simply, we are often interested in legislation and judges and presidents because of our selfish interest. But we should be interested in them because we desire, as baptized people filled with the Holy Spirit, to love God and neighbor. We want to recognize God's purposes for these things. We want to understand that through them he gives gifts to all people, even to the wicked.

The specifics of how we engage these issues and even what issues we ought to engage is too large of a topic to discuss here, but it is enough to say that those discussions should be had in the context of love for God and love for neighbor and that these general guides are not just catchphrases to be defined according to our desires. We make our case based on what God has revealed as his purpose for government and what he says is loving to reveal to our neighbors.

We must be clear, for clarity is charity to our neighbors.

In Christ,
Pastor Philip Hoppe

USHERS

Sunday, November 1 – Leon & Lucas Payne
Sunday, November 8 – Ron Osladil & Dick Alleman
Sunday, November 15 – John & Marcus Pitts
Sunday, November 22 & Thurs., Nov. 26 (10 am) – Bill Tvedt & Dwight Hahn
Sunday, November 29 & Wed. Dec. 2 (7 pm) – Ed Barnick & Kenny Ziegler



NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD - Diane Howard

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>
Sunday, November 1	Jack Meier	Ron Osladil & Don Weiss
Sunday, November 8	Justin Colsrud	
Sunday, November 15	Josiah Hoppe	Ron Volk & John Pitts
Sunday, November 22	Amelia Thurber	
*Thursday, Nov. 26 (10 am)	Dustin Rother	
Sunday, November 29	Maison Rother	

WOMEN OF PEACE

The "Women of Peace" cancelled their October meeting due to the weather, so in place of their usual minutes, I found this little gem in the Askov American Newspaper.

~~SEVENTY-FIVE YEAR AGO - October 25, 1945~~

The Ladies of Peace Lutheran Church in Finlayson will hold their annual fall sale Saturday, October 27th in the church basement.

Fancy work, baked goods, rummage articles and Christmas cards. Lunch will be served all day – chicken sandwiches, pie and coffee.

Everyone welcome! ☺

ABRAHAM LINCOLN... made sense then... makes sense now!

- You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.
- You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.
- You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.
- You cannot lift the wage earner up by pulling the wage payer down.
- You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.
- You cannot build character and courage by taking away people's initiative and independence.
- You cannot help people permanently by doing for them, what they could and should do for themselves.

Peace & St. Paul's Lutheran Churches
JOINT Council Meeting @ Peace
October 14, 2020 – 7:00 pm

Present were: (Peace) Tim Koski, Dennis Korpi, Bruce Pogatchnik, John Pitts, Don Weiss, Royce Larson, (St. Paul's) Dave Gassert, Mike Gassert, Brad Jensen, Pastor Hoppe

Peace Chairman Tim Koski called the meeting to order. Pastor Hoppe opened with prayer and a portion of Psalm 78.

The Minutes of the October 2019 Joint Council Meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer's report was distributed to Peace Council members by Dennis Korpi.

Pastor's report:

- Pastor distributed the proposed schedule for the church year.

- The service schedule for the Advent and Lenten Seasons:

- **Thanksgiving**, November 26th – Joint Church Service @ Peace 10:00 am
- **Advent Services – Peace** – Wednesday's, Dec. 2, 19, 16 @ 7:00 pm
 - St. Paul's – Thursday's Dec. 3, 10, 17 @ 6:30 pm
 - **Christmas Eve – St. Paul's** 4:30; **Peace** 7:00 pm
- **Christmas Day – Joint Church Service @ Peace** 10:00 am
- **Lenten Services (2021) – Peace** – Feb. 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 @ 7:00 pm;
 - St. Paul's – Feb. 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25 @ 6:30 pm
- **Maundy Thursday, April 1st** – Joint Church Service @ Peace 7:00 pm
- **Good Friday, April 2nd** – St. Paul's 5:30 pm; Peace 7:00 pm
- **Easter Services, April 4th** – Peace 7:00 am; St. Paul's 9:30 am

The schedule was approved by the Joint Council on Motion by Don Weiss, second by Dave Gassert & carried.

- The District Convention is being planned for April 12-14, 2021 at Madden's Resort on Gull Lake. Leading up to the Convention, several actions are needed by the congregation. These actions will be made by the Voters' Assembly in October or at the Annual Meeting in January.
- The copier lease currently is \$185 per month. A new 60-month contract was approved by the Joint Council for a copier, like the current one being leased, however the cost will now be \$136 per month. Motion by Mike Gassert, second by Don Weiss and carried.
- The Circuit Youth Worker is currently being supported by Peace and St. Paul's at \$200 per month. Some congregations are unable to continue their support, so Peace and St. Paul's have been asked to increase their support to \$250 per month. The matter will be brought to the Voters' Assembly in October.

Old Business: There was no old business

New Business: The Joint Council will recommend to the Voters' Assembly a 2021 salary for Pastor of \$52,641. Motion by Brad Jensen, second by John Pitts and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Royce Larson, Council Secretary

Peace Lutheran Church
QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING
Sunday, October 18, 2020 – 2:00 pm

President Tim Koski called the meeting to order. Pastor opened with prayer.

Voter Roll Call: Ed Barnick, Quinton Finley, Marge Haefner, Dwight Hahn, Glen Hemphill, Roland Henkel, Pastor Hoppe, Dennis Korpi, Tim Koski, Royce Larson, Elaine Steeg, Bill Tvedt, Don Weiss.

Other attendees: Leon Payne, Carla Larson

Minutes from the July 19, 2020 Quarterly Voters' Assembly Meeting were approved as read.
Dennis Korpi distributed and reviewed the **Treasurer's report**. The report was accepted as presented.

Pastor's report:

- The District Convocation planned for November 1st has been cancelled.
- VBS was held for one day in August.
- The MN North District Convention will be held April 12-14, 2021. Peace & St. Paul's will be allowed one lay representative total from the two congregations, and Pastor Hoppe, to attend the Convention. Our Circuit needs to hold a Forum to elect a Circuit Visitor. The Voters nominated Pastor Kleppe for Circuit Visitor on motion by Pastor Hoppe, second by Don Weiss. Tim Koski volunteered and was approved as Forum representative from Peace. Motion by Royce Larson, second by Bill Tvedt and carried.

Elders: The Elders are assisting the Pastor by attending Confirmation classes as a second non-related adult. There are nine students attending these classes.

Trustees: Three maple trees along the East property line have been removed. Stump grinding remains to be done. Trees will be planted in the spring to replace those removed. Downspouts have been repaired.

Old Business:

- The parking lot has been sealed and re-striped. The front steps need to be repaired yet.
- Background checks for those working with the youth will be expanded to include two names if a person's name has changed in the last seven years.

New Business:

- The Council recommended, and the Voters approved, a one-time bonus of \$2,500 to recognize the additional work that Pastor has done in the last few months because of the pandemic. Motion by Tim Koski, second by Don Weiss and carried.
- The Joint Council recommended, and the Voters approved, a 2021 salary of \$52,641, plus benefits, for Pastor Hoppe. St. Paul's pays 25% of the salary. Motion by Roland Henkel, second by Bill Tvedt and carried.
- An upgrade of the entire sound system for the church building, to be integrated with the video system, is being considered. The technician/sales rep that is familiar with the system will be asked to make a comprehensive proposal, that includes recommendations for correcting all deficiencies.
- The District Mission commitment for 2021 was approved at \$11,000 on motion by Bill Tvedt, second by Don Weiss and carried.

The Circuit Youth Worker (Leann Gregoire), is currently being supported by five congregations, at \$200 per month each. Because of the possibility of losing one of the congregations currently supporting this ministry, Peace/St. Paul's has been asked to increase their support to \$250 per month. The joint Council recommends the increase in support, and the Voters approved on motion by Don Weiss, second by Roland Henkel and carried.

The Elders have recommended additional help for Pastor in handling all of the technical tasks of uploading services, backing up church records, and similar tasks. There will be a notice in the Bulletins and the Newsletter asking for anyone interested to let the Elders or Pastor know.

The MN North District is sending a truckload of potatoes, 42,000+ pounds, to El Paso to be distributed to those in need in that area. The Voters approved a donation of \$300 towards the cost of shipping the load. Motion by Ed Barnick, second by Bill Tvedt and carried.

Leon Payne has requested to be a Voter. This will be voted upon at the next Voters' Assembly.

Meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm. Pastor led all in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Royce Larson, Council Secretary

NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Bible Study 8 am Peace Comm. 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Bruno Comm. 11:00	2 Quilting 9-12	3 Peace Bible Study 3:00 Regional AA Meeting @ Peace 7:00	4 Peace Confirmation 3:30 Board of Elders 7:00	5 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm Bruno Confirmation 5:00 Bruno Bible Study 6:30 AA Mtg. @ Peace 7:00	6 Pastor's day off	7
8 Bible Study 8 am Peace Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Bruno Worship 11:00	9 Quilting 9-12	10 Pastor on Vacation	11 AA Mtg. @ Peace 7:00	12 AA Mtg. @ Peace 7:00	13 AA Mtg. @ Peace 7:00	14
15 Bible Study 8 am Peace Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Bruno Worship 11:00	16 Quilting 9-12 RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE @ Peace 12-6 Pastor on Vacation	17 Peace Bible Study 3:00	18 “Women of Peace” 1:00 Peace Confirmation 3:30 Council meeting 7:00	19 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm Bruno Confirmation 5:00 Bruno Bible Study 6:30 AA Mtg. @ Peace 7:00	20 Pastor's day off	21 “Men of Peace” 9:00-noon
22 Bible Study 8 am Peace Comm. 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Bruno Comm. 11:00	23 Quilting 9-12	24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Peace Bible Study 3:00	25 Peace Confirmation 3:30	26 JOINT CHURCH THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP @ Peace 10:30 am	27 Pastor's day off	28
29 Bible Study 8 am Peace Matins 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Bruno Matins 11:00	30 Quilting 9-12					Check Facebook and website for updates!



