

PEACE TALKS

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH – Missouri Synod

Finlayson, Minnesota

Rev. Philip Hoppe, Pastor - Phone: 320-372-0773 (cell) 320-233-6138 (church)

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www.plcms.com

October 2020

People of God,

We speak as if we are still very isolated from one another. There are some things of course that we are still asked to refrain from doing. But largely for many of us, we are seeing more and more people. We may still not have our normal interactions with those people in every space, but we are not just stuck in our homes. While we may still long for whatever normal was, we have returned to some of our familiar patterns.

But some are still isolated. Some are isolated because of their own choices about what they feel they should do for their safety or the safety of others. Others are isolated because they live in places where they have very little choice in regard to their actions at all, being at a hospital or nursing facility. Others are isolated in way unrelated to the virus at all. They moved to a new town for one reason or another and never found a real group to socialize with once they settled in. Others are isolated because their health concerns make it hard to get around. They can see or hear or move well, and so they stay to themselves. Some have lost a spouse who was their primary companion. Some young people feel like they don't fit in and therefore sit in their room endlessly alone. The list could go on and on.

Maybe as you read this list, I am describing someone you know. Maybe I am describing you. But I think all of us in these last months got a taste of what isolation means for our wellbeing. While there is good in solitude, prolonged isolation is not good, not even for the greatest introverts. I pray that all of us leave our period of isolation more compassionate towards those who are or feel alone much of the time.

God has given us a life together. This is true of humanity in general. Remember God said in perfection, "It is not good for man to be alone." (Genesis 2) But it is even more true for those of us given new life in Christ. We have been made into one body where the absence of one member affects the whole. (Romans 12)

Let me challenge you this month in a couple ways. One, become less isolated yourself. Of course, do this safely. I am not speaking about doing this as a reaction to be forced to isolate but out of a conviction that it is not good for any of us to be alone. I am speaking about in one way or another, even if not physically yet, reaching out to others more. Make a phone call. Send a message. Write a letter or send a card.

And secondly, make sure that some of those you call or write or stop by on are people you know might likely feel very isolated in general right now. If you know someone in a nursing facility, send them a card. If you know a youth who is growing more and more withdrawn, send them a message, and offer to talk. If you know someone who is isolated because they are fearful of going out or see it as their duty to stay home, give them a call. If you really can't think of anyone, send a card to one of Peace's shut-ins. Even if you are from Bruno, they will be happy to feel less isolated. And even if you do think of others, still reach out to these people. They would love to hear from you.

Phyllis Erickson - Augustana Mercy
4572 County Road 61 Moose Lake MN 55767

Ken and Marcella Pirella – Apt. 101
300 Commercial Ave. Sandstone, MN 55072

Marion Voit – Room 220
1250 Northland Dr., Princeton, MN 55371

Joyce Volk
214 Lark St. Sandstone, MN 55072

Or pick out someone from our prayer list and send them a note. Those suffering often feel isolated.

But overall, live the truth that begins the whole story of the Bible, that man should not be alone. God took it so seriously that He came and visited us in the flesh. He saved us from the isolation that sin works and brought us to be one with him and with all who believe. Let us remind each other of this in small ways this month and rejoice in God's goodness in providing for us fellowship with Him and each other. Pastor Hoppe

++QUARTERLY VOTERS'
MEETING++



The Voters of our congregation will meet this month on Sunday, **October 18th** at 2:00 pm for their Quarterly meeting. Voters, please note and plan to be in attendance as we do the Lord's work together.

++HOLIDAY BAZAAR++



Saturday, Nov. 14th is the date that was set for our annual Holiday Bazaar here at Peace.

As of now, the Bazaar is on hold until more discussion can be held. Please be watching the bulletins as more information becomes available.

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**~~Thank You!~~**

A special thanks to all of those who remembered us with cards, emails, and phone calls, on the occasion of my retirement and 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination. Also, thank you to those who braved the pandemic and joined us in person on August 30! Your thoughtfulness is so very much appreciated!

God's blessings,  
Pastor George & Julene Sagissor

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~~We would like to thank everyone who sent cards, visited our mother, sat with her so we could go shopping, etc. We would REALLY like to thank Pastor for his many, many visits to help comfort Mom or us kids. Also to those who set up for her funeral and served food. It was a great comfort to us.

Linda & Bob

Duane & Sue

Dave & Marge

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**~~ Don't stay away from church because it is not perfect. How lonely you would feel in a perfect church!**

**LIBRARY BOOKS**

PLEASE DO NOT bring books to the library here at church that have been on your garage sale or a friend's sale or an estate sale. We have no one to take care of the library and we don't need them. Instead, please take them to the local thrift stores. Thank you!

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**CONGRATULATIONS -**



- to Bob & Judy Koski who celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- to Marcella Pirila who celebrated her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- to Dave & Crystal Ziegler who celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 6<sup>th</sup> with a gathering of family & friends who brought them special anniversary wishes.

- to Frank & Marian Skaff celebrating their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 18<sup>th</sup>.



**We wish all of these members many more years of God's blessings and much happiness!**

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**REFORMATION**

Martin Luther in the sixteenth century said, "I am much afraid that schools will prove to be the great gates of hell, unless

they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures, engraving them in the hearts of youth. I advise no one to place his child where the Scriptures do not reign paramount. Every institution in which men are not unceasingly occupied with the Word of God becomes corrupt."

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**~~ God never sends a burden to weigh us down without offering His hand to lift us up!**





**Peace Lutheran Church  
Regular Council Meeting  
Wednesday, September 9, 2020**

**Present were:** Tim Koski, John Pitts, Dennis Korpi, Bill Tvedt, Royce Larson, Pastor Hoppe.  
Additional attendees: Josh Alleman & Glen Hemphill

Chairman Tim Koski called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Pastor opened with prayer.  
The **Minutes** of the August 2020 Council meeting were approved as read.  
The **Treasurer's report** was approved as presented by Dennis Korpi.

**Cemetery maintenance:**

Josh Alleman outlined some of the problems with mowing the cemetery such as the speed of the cemetery's mower versus his mower. There was further discussion about the use of personal equipment and the rate of pay. The Council agreed with Glen Hemphill, Cemetery Custodian, that some of the details of mowing need to be clarified. The Council agreed that the rate to be paid for each mowing, beginning in 2021, should be \$75 and that includes using a personal mower, trimmer and all labor. For Memorial Day, a one-time more comprehensive mowing/trimming should be done at a rate of \$100.

**Pastor's report:**

- The new camera equipment installation has been completed.
- There are 10 confirmation students at this time, all from Peace.
- A list of service normally provided by a Funeral Director has been further refined to advise those who choose not to use a Funeral Director that, if these services are desired, the family will have to make their own arrangements for them.
- Additional training on the responsibilities for record keeping of the sexual abuse prevention documents is needed to provide some redundancy in the administration of the policy.
- The Circuit Convocation planned for November has been cancelled for 2020.
- A proposed upgrade in the audio system is being reviewed.
- Training to continue videoing of services is taking place.

**Elder's report:**

- The Council approved a transfer request from Erika Winter to Zion Lutheran (LCMS) in Hopkins, MN. Motion by John Pitts, second by Dennis Korpi, and carried.
- Help for Pastor in the technical areas, such as video management, uploading services, dealing with audio problems, and the like, has been requested by the Elders for consideration. All agreed that Pastor needs the time for pastoral duties and others can handle these tasks. More to follow on this topic.
- The Council decided to recommend a one-time bonus payment to Pastor, in addition to the salary change for 2021, at the Voters' Assembly meeting in October. In addition to any salary changes at that time, the bonus recommended would be \$2,500. Motion by John Pitts, second by Bill Tvedt and carried.

**Trustee's report:** The tree removal is scheduled in the near future.

**Old Business:**


- The canopies have been purchased as previously authorized by the Council.
- The parking lot repairs have been completed.
- The steps will be repaired soon.

**New Business:** Motion by Royce Larson, second by Bill Tvedt to approve using the church for a blood drive in the near future.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Royce Larson, Council Secretary

# OCTOBER 2020

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                               | Monday                     | Tuesday                                                                   | Wednesday                                                                                                | Thursday                                                                                                 | Friday                                                             | Saturday                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <br>Bible Study 8 am<br>Peace Comm. 9:00<br>Sunday School 10:15<br>Bruno Comm. 11:00<br><b>4</b> | Quilting 9-12<br><b>5</b>  | Regional AA Mtg. @<br>Peace 7:00<br>Peace Bible Study<br>3:00<br><b>6</b> | Peace Confirmation<br>3:30<br>Board of Elders<br>7:00<br><b>7</b>                                        | Pastor office hours in<br>Bruno 3-5 pm<br>Bruno Confirmation 5:00<br>Bruno Bible Study 6:30<br><b>8</b>  | <i>Wear &amp; Shure</i><br>12-6 pm<br>Pastor's day off<br><b>2</b> | "Men of Peace"<br>9:00-noon<br><b>3</b>                 |
| Bible Study 8 am<br>Peace Worship 9:00<br>Sunday School 10:15<br>Bruno Worship 11:00<br><b>11</b>                                                                                    | Quilting 9-12<br><b>12</b> | Peace Bible Study<br>3:00<br><b>13</b>                                    | Peace Confirmation<br>3:30<br>JOINT Church Council<br>Mtg. @ Peace 7:00<br><b>14</b>                     | Pastor office hours in<br>Bruno 3-5 pm<br>Bruno Bible Study 6:30<br><b>15</b>                            | Pastor's day off<br><b>16</b>                                      | <b>17</b>                                               |
| Bible Study 8 am<br>Peace Comm. 9:00<br>Sunday School 10:15<br>Bruno Comm. 11:00<br>*BRUNO VOTERS-Noon<br>*PEACE VOTERS-2:00<br><b>18</b>                                            | Quilting 9-12<br><b>19</b> | Peace Bible Study<br>3:00<br><b>20</b>                                    | "Women of Peace"<br>1:00<br>Peace Confirmation<br>3:30<br><b>21</b>                                      | Pastor office hours in<br>Bruno 3-5 pm<br>Bruno Confirmation 5:00<br>Bruno Bible Study 6:30<br><b>22</b> | Pastor's day off<br><b>23</b>                                      | <b>24</b>                                               |
| Bible Study 8 am<br>Peace Matins 9:00<br>Sunday School 10:15<br>Bruno Matins 11:00<br><b>25</b>                                                                                      | Quilting 9-12<br><b>26</b> | Peace Bible Studies<br>3:00 <del>4:00</del><br><b>27</b>                  | **NEWSLETTER<br>DEADLINE**<br>Peace Confirmation<br>3:30<br>Young Families Group<br>6:00 pm<br><b>28</b> | Pastor office hours in<br>Bruno 3-5 pm<br>Bruno Confirmation 5:00<br>Bruno Bible Study 6:30<br><b>29</b> | Pastor's day off<br><b>30</b>                                      | Check Facebook and<br>website for updates!<br><b>31</b> |