

PEACE TALKS

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH – Missouri Synod

Finlayson, Minnesota

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www.plcms.com

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Saints of God through Jesus Christ,

Not too long ago, I was talking to Ed Barnick. We were sitting outside where the leaves were just beginning to change color. He pointed out that we get so excited to see those fall colors because they are so rare. We see green for so long that when the oranges and reds and yellows come forth, they are visually striking to us. They are rare enough that we try to capture them in our minds or on our cameras.

What is also striking is that the colors we notice all around us at this time of year are actually the result of decay and death occurring. When you look at the trees from afar you would think they are more alive than they have been the whole year, bursting forth with color. But in reality they are fading away. That is what produces those magnificent hues.

These fall colors can be to us a wonderful picture of something we are called to do as God's people. They can remind us of God's call to confess our sins to one another. Now, in one way confessing our sins does not seem all that rare in our congregation's life together. We do it all the time. We come here week after week and say, "I, a poor miserable sinner."

But there is another kind of confession that is quite rare among us. And that is the confession that happens one-on-one between individuals, whether between two people at odds because of sin or simply the confession of specific sins between one Christian and another Christian or their pastor. Admitting specific sins to other people is all too rare. It should not be rare among us Christians, but it is.

And why is it rare? Well, because to confesses one's sin to another is in a sense to die right before them. It is admitting that the things you are speaking about are not signs of life and wholeness and well-being. They are signs of disease and decay and death.

But God turns such revelations of death into the most beautiful moments, just like He does with the fall leaves. What up close is unpleasant to experience initially is truly beautiful when God gets involved and does His work. He brings the forgiveness and life of Jesus right there into the places where such confession is happening. He removes the old sins and sinfulness confessed, casting them away to the ground. He then brings forth new life, the life of His crucified and now risen Son. From death, He brings forth new life. Just like those fall leaves tumble to the ground ultimately to make way for spring blossoms, through confession God sends sins tumbling away in order that new life can come forth.

So today, I asked you as you read this to think about one person if not more than one person to whom you truly owe a confession. Someone you have hurt with your words or your deeds. Or if you cannot think of such a situation, consider simply going before another Christian or your pastor to confess specific sins which trouble your conscience. Go before them and admit your sin.

Oh yes, it will feel unpleasant at first for it is the revelation of death. But God has promised that right where such revelation occurs, new life will be made present. Only if the leaves fall off the trees in the fall can new life once again blossom on them in the spring. So also here.

As we together take up this task, it will be as striking as the colors you see all around you at this time of year. That which is all too rare will cover the whole landscape. As death and decay are brought into the open, God will bring the life of Jesus to bear. Then we will rejoice.

In Christ,
Pastor Philip Hoppe

++QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING++



The Voters of our congregation will meet this month on Sunday, October 20th 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. 16th is the date for our annual Holiday Bazaar here at Peace. Now is the time to start thinking about preparing your crafts and planning your baked goods.

Also home canned items such as jellies, relishes, pickles, and any "specialty of the house. A sign-up sheet will be out in a few weeks for lunch item donations, and times to help. Be watching the bulletins as more information becomes available.

++WEAR & SHARE++



The "Women of Peace" will once again head up our annual "Wear & Share" event. Give-away will be Friday, October 11th ONLY, from noon to 6 pm. Volunteers from the congregation will be needed during the week of October 6-10 to help sort clothing, so if you have a few minutes in your day, please stop in and help. We are asking for clothing that is clean and in good condition, from congregation members and friends & family of members. PLEASE, DO NOT bring in your donations until the 6th.

~~CELEBRATION!!~~

Immanuel, Giese and Trinity, Sandstone, along with their pastor, Rev. Richard Langhorst, have been welcomed back into the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and our circuit. There will be a service to mark this joyous occasion held at

Trinity Lutheran in Sandstone on Sunday, October 13th at 2:30 pm. MN North District President, Rev. Donald Fondow will preach at this service. We would love to have some of our members go and celebrate with them. Let Pastor know if you plan on going.



CONGRATULATIONS -

- to Lowell Pogatchnik who turned 85 on September 1st.

- to Evelyn Kraetzner celebrating her 90th birthday on September 22nd. Her family surprised her with a coffee fellowship with congregation members on the 22nd, followed by a luncheon served for her family members, by her children and grandchildren.

- "Thank you to all who helped me celebrate my 90th birthday. I was overwhelmed by all the expressions of love shown to me by friends and family. I am truly blessed!"

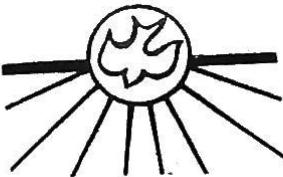
"Love, Evelyn

- to Thor & Barbara celebrating 60 years of marriage.

- and to LeRoy & Donelda Thurn celebrating 51 years of marriage. (I wasn't aware they celebrated their golden anniversary last year)!



- and congratulations to Pastor & Jaimee on the birth of #7, Aleah Grace, born on September 11th, weighing in at 7# 12 oz. With 8 other members in the family, I don't think this little one ever gets put down. Very exciting for all!



We rejoice that Aleah was received into the Kingdom of God when she was baptized on Sunday, Sept. 22nd. Her sponsors are Matt & Jayne Maser.

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

**PEACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
AMERICAN RED CROSS
COMMUNITY BLOOD
DRIVE**

**Monday, November 18,
12 noon – 6:00 pm**

**Watch for sign-up sheets
Contact Bev Mensing or Trice Olson
for more info or questions**

**The need is constant
The gratification is instant.
Give Blood!**

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 Reasons 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 & 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 summer.
10. People who make soap are only after your money.

LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP

- **2nd ANNUAL CREATION CONFERENCE**

October 18-19

Does God exist? How can anyone believe in religion when science has neither a need nor a place for God? Is evolution happening today? If God is a God of love, why do we suffer and die? Creation Ministries International is coming to LIC on Friday, October 18, beginning at 6 pm, and Saturday, October 19. Come and hear Joel Tay expose the evolutionary myth. At this presentation, you will learn how the scientific evidence, when properly understood, confirms the details of the biblical account. Topics covered on Friday evening & Saturday are: Creation: Impacting Our Culture; The Truth About Dinosaurs; Where did the Different Races come From?; The Genesis Account.

This would be an excellent event for families, confirmation groups, youth groups, and those who are interested in the biblical truths about creation.

Speaker Joel Tay majored in Evolutionary Biology and Genetics, with the sole purpose of increasing his own apologetics arsenal to the non-believer.

I don't have registration information or cost, but you can contact www.islandcamp.org or www.christserveranch.org for more information.

- **REFORMATION FOR TODAY
"Grace in Africa"**

"We are saved by Grace" is Good News for all people in all lands. The Rev. Mark Peske was blessed to travel on a mission trip to Africa. He will tell of God's grace at work through him and others this past summer in the Sudan. Join Rev. Peske on **Sunday, October 20th** at LIC. Registration (\$25) begins at 2:30; Hymn sing at 3:00; Guest speaker, Mark Peske, 3:45-4:45; German Dinner at 5:00. Call 218-583-2905 to register.

SOMEONE you know

Prayer for SOMEONE YOU KNOW who doesn't know Jesus as Savior, or who has drifted away from church:

Lord God, heavenly Father, SOMEONE I KNOW needs Your grace and mercy in their life. Give me an opportunity, this week, to talk to _____ who needs to hear Your love. Keep my eyes open for the opportunity I know You will give me. Make me bold and courageous in my witness or invitation. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Need help getting started?



Matthew 7:7-8 - "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."



Pray for an opportunity to talk to SOMEONE YOU KNOW who doesn't know Jesus or has drifted away from church.



Look for the opportunity - God will give it to you.



Act on the opportunity that God will give you. Be bold and courageous.



Let them know what the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ means to you. Invite them to church with you. Don't worry about the results - let the Holy Spirit do His Work.

LEARN MORE HERE:



32nd Annual

MN Lutheran Free Conference

Hosted by MN North Confessional Lutherans & Other Friends & Supporters
(At a free conference it's the speakers who are free, free to speak as individuals, and not as representatives of a church body.)

"Christ's Hope Amid Cultural Madness & Immorality"

WHEN: Saturday, October 26, 2019
Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.
Conference begins at 9:30a.m. - Adjourns at 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Redeemer Lutheran Church
2719 Third Street North
St. Cloud, MN

SPEAKERS: **Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford**
President, MN South District, LCMS

Rev. Dr. Karl Weber
Pastor of St. John, Ottertail & St. Paul's Richville
1st Vice President, MN North District, LCMS

Cost: \$25/person; \$10/high school or college student (includes coffee, rolls, & lunch). Though this fee is not due until you register at the door, the cooks at Redeemer would like to know if you're planning to attend & have lunch. So, on or before Monday, October 21st, please contact Redeemer at 320-252-8171, or email: office@redeemerstcloud.org to let them know you're planning to attend.

Though Redeemer is the host congregation, it does not plan this conference. A committee of pastors from both the MNS and MNN Districts of the LCMS is responsible. Therefore, questions about this conference are not to be asked of Redeemer or her pastor, but are to be directed to committee member Rev. John Grein (320) 583-7788 or jgrein@mediacombb.net.

When You Quit Going to Church

Your Condition is a Matter of Grave Concern to God.

Jesus pictured a shepherd, whose concern for a sheep away from the fold, caused Him to leave ninety-nine sheep in the fold and go out and painstakingly search for the one which was missing (Luke 15:4). This is a picture of God's concern for those who are away from Him!

You are Depriving Yourself of Spiritual Health

The failure to worship and serve God results in the shriveling of the soul! Your spiritual nature cannot survive if you do not feed it. Your absence from church diminishes and weakens you.

Your Talents and Abilities are Being Wasted

Jesus taught that we have all been given the opportunity and ability to serve God in some way (Matthew 25:14,15). So much more good could be done in the world if all would use their talents as God desires. When you fail to do your part as a member of God's work force, then the cause of Christ suffers. You are needed!

You are Letting your Influence Work Against God, the Truth, and the Church.

Although you do not intend it so, your example says to all who observe your life that the church is not important and that God may safely be ignored. It is especially tragic that those who read this message in your example are often your own children and grandchildren!

Others Need You and You Need Them

We need the mutual encouragement of one another in living the Christian life. By your absence from church you deprive others of the encouragement you could give them, and you deprive yourself of the strength which they could share with you.

Your Separation from God may Become a Permanent One

Life is uncertain. We have no guarantee of what the future holds. Though you intend to come back to the Lord, you may wait too long or life may end too soon. The emphasis of the Bible is always upon now (II Corinthians 6:2). The future is too uncertain to risk your soul on it.

From "Pulpit Helps"

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT - PHONE SCAMS

Phone scams are an increasingly prevalent form of fraud. The ordinary phone is today's weapon of choice for criminals.

Common examples of phone fraud:

- "I'm calling from Microsoft and it appears you have a computer virus..."
- "You've won a foreign lottery and you just need to send money to claim your winnings ..."
- "This investment is low risk and high return."
- "This offer is good for today only."
- "This is your grandson and I'm in jail and need bail money."
- "You owe money and face serious consequences."

-- DON'T answer phone numbers you don't know.
-- Sign up for the "Do Not Call" list and take yourself off multiple mailing lists.
-- NEVER give personal information over the phone.
-- Don't be a courtesy victim - Feel free to say NO!

To report fraud call 1-800-657-3602.

OCTOBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Peace Bible Studies 3:00 & 6:30 Regional AA Meeting @ Peace 7:00	2 Confirmation 3:30 Board of Elders 7:00	3 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm Confirmation 5:00 Bruno Bible Study 6:30	4 Pastor's day off	5
6 Bible Study 8 am Peace Comm. 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Bruno Comm. 11:00	7 Quilting 9-12	8 Peace Bible Studies 3:00 & 6:30	9 Confirmation 3:30 JOINT Church Council Meeting @ Peace 7:00	10 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm Confirmation 5:00 Bruno Bible Study 6:30	11 <i>"WEAR & SHARE"</i> <i>12-6 pm</i> Pastor's day off	12 <i>"Men of Peace"</i> <i>9:00-noon</i>
13 Bible Study 8 am Peace Worship 9:00 SS & BC 10:15 Bruno Worship 11:00 Nursing Home 2:30 Baby Shower for Aleah Grace-1:00	14 Quilting 9-12	15 Peace Bible Studies 3:00 & 6:30	16 <i>"Women of Peace"</i> 1:00 Confirmation 3:30	17 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm Confirmation 5:00 Bruno Bible Study 6:30	18 Pastor's day off	19
20 Bible Study 8 am Peace Comm. 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Bruno Comm. 11:00 *Bruno Voters-noon *Peace Voters-2:00	21 Quilting 9-12	22 Peace Bible Studies 3:00 & 6:30	23 ~NEWSLETTER DEADLINE~ LWML Rally in Isle 8:30 Confirmation 3:30 Young Families Group 6:00	24 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm Confirmation 5:00 Bruno Bible Study 6:30	25 Pastor's day off	26
27 Reformation Sunday Bible Study 8 am Peace Matins 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Bruno Matins 11:00	28 Quilting 9-12	29 Peace Bible Studies 3:00 & 6:30	30 Confirmation 3:30	31 Pastor office hours in Bruno 3-5 pm Confirmation 5:00 Bruno Bible Study 6:30		