

# **PEACE TALKS**

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

Finlayson, Minnesota

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[www.plcms.com](http://www.plcms.com)

*SEPTEMBER 2018*

People of the Good Shepherd Jesus,

"In the end, it seems to me after thinking through everything after receiving your call that leaving here at this point would leave many things half-done."

These are the words I wrote to the people at Redeemer Lutheran in Arkansas City, Kansas to explain in the simplest terms why it was that I was returning their call and remaining here to serve as pastor. In deliberating any call, there are certainly many, many things to ponder and pray about. And yet this simple phrase accurately describes the key thought that led me to make the decision that I did.

So what is half-done? Well in one sense, the work of a pastor in the church is always half-done. There is never a time when a pastor's work is at a point of completion and perfection such that it would provide for an obvious opportunity for a pastor to change locations. But there were some things in particular here which seemed to me to be at a place where consistency in pastoral care might be best.

First, our young families group has been just going for a couple of months now. I truly believe that the future of the church will be significantly impacted by how parents choose to raise up their children in the faith. I believe they must take this task seriously enough they are willing to make it a part of their daily life in the home. I am so happy with the discussion and community this group has already shared and look for that to only grow. If you have children at home, please come and join us the last Wednesday of each month at 6pm.

Second, at Peace in particular, the elders and I are working on making sure that we do a better job at helping our members understand the importance of being gathered to God and his people every week in Church and daily in their homes. We are reaching out again to those who are not gathered here regularly in hope that a word that both warns and welcomes will restore those wandering sheep to the flock to be fed. We hope to teach all that coming to church is not just something a Christian may do, but something God commands them to do not to check off some holy to-do list item but because it is in the gathering that He gives them gifts like His Word proclaimed, His Absolution delivered and His Supper served.

Third, our circuit lay worker, LeAnn Gregoire is just getting started organizing events to give our youth opportunities to be with other Lutheran youth who live close to them. It will provide additional opportunities to teach our young people of God's ways and His love for them in Jesus. It will also give them chances to form relationships that will be of good encouragement for them in the living out of their faith in the Church.

There are many other things half-done as well. Some of you are in the midst of particular challenges. There are always ongoing situations or conflicts that need resolution. There remain many outside our congregations who need to hear of Jesus and be gathered into His Church.

Let us rededicate ourselves to our work together as Pastor and people in our congregations. And while we are at it, let us offer up prayer for the saints at Redeemer as they continue their search for the next pastor God will send them.

In Christ,  
Pastor Philip Hoppe





## ***VBS WRAP-UP***

Our 2018 VBS entitled, "*Splash Canyon: God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride*" finished up the week with a total of 46 registered students in five groups. Each morning began with music as the students were arriving and followed with the Opening. From there the groups rotated through Storytelling, Games, Bible Challenge, Crafts and Snacks. The morning was completed with the Closing for the day.

Part of the weekly program was the Concordia Gospel Outreach Mission Project *Madagascar* – providing Arch Books, Teen Devotionals, Coloring books, and Bibles with the Good News to children in that country. A total of \$544.64 accumulated during the week as well as Friday evening program donations.

The week ended with a program where the students sang highlights of the week for their families and friends. Afterwards all were invited downstairs for refreshments provided by the *Women of Peace & Ladies of St. Paul's*.

Thank you to all the people who worked so hard to make this possible:

Our willing, able, and very busy staff included:

**Site leaders** – Kathy Alm, *River Riffs Music*; Mary Nelson, *Wild River Opening & Closing*; Pastor Hoppe, *River Run Storytelling*; Lorelei Finley, *Plunge In Bible Challenge*; Karen Zebrasky, Bev Mensing, Lisa Gassert & Daryl Zebrasky, *Bountiful Blessings Snacks*; Jaimee Hoppe, Samantha Bennett, Sandy Goodman, Alexis Johnson, Vanessa Meier, *Sandbar Crafts*; Don Weiss & Elle Hoppe, *White Water Games*. Our **Group Leaders & helpers** included: Ron Osladil, Sue Koecher, Ginny Henkel, Sharon Tvedt, Katie Nelson, Bella Koski, Ava Dunkley, Jasmine Childers, Everett Ausmus, Corrina Tvedt, Olivia Hoppe & Damian Childers. **Registration** help was Liz Kelly & Olivia Hoppe, and **photography** was done by Brianna Childers.

Thank you also to Pete Seitz & Land 'O Lakes for the donation of milk all week; to Lampert Lumber for paint and float-building supplies; to Northview Bank for suckers for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July float; and to the many church members who provided food for the snacks and to anyone else who helped out in any way!!!!

**A special thanks** to this year's VBS director, **Mary Nelson**, for all of the many hours spent organizing this very tiring, hectic, but fun-filled, Christ-centered week!

**Thrivent Action Teams** were applied for to help with expenses for craft supplies, snacks, and T-shirts for staff & kids.

And of course, a most heartfelt thanks to God who not only blessed us with the ability to hold VBS, but also for the students that attended, the very perfect weather, and the strength and endurance to make it through the week without any serious mishaps. "God bless us, one and all!"

~~~~~FYI~~~~~

As most of you know by now, Pastor Hoppe has returned the call to Redeemer Lutheran Church in Arkansas, Kansas, and will continue his ministry here at Peace & St. Paul's. We are blessed to have him here to lead us in our spiritual lives and thank God for his ministry among us. We pray for those at Redeemer Lutheran that God would send them a shepherd to lead their flock soon.

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***SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS  
WITH RALLY DAY  
SEPTEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>***

Summer vacation is coming to an end, and once again our thoughts turn to Sunday school which will begin Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, from 10:15-11:30.

All children ages 4 (pre-school) thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join us. If you have any children in your neighborhood who are not attending Sunday school, please invite them. Share the Lord with someone you know. We look forward to seeing all the children again, not only in Sunday school, but in our worship services as well. Parents, please encourage your children to attend both faithfully.

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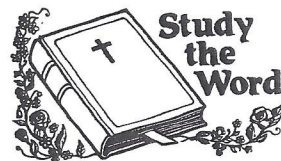
Pastor Hoppe will be gearing up for the Tuesday Bible studies, held here at the church at 3:00 in the afternoon and at 6:30, beginning Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>. We will continue with the study of Peter's Epistles. Please join in the study of God's Word, and the continuing education of your spiritual life.

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***ISN'T IT FUNNY? . . .***

-- that parents are so concerned that their children be able to participate in all kinds of sports and other activities, but are completely unconcerned about their spiritual growth!

-- how long an hour is spent in worship, but how short it is when fishing, golfing, or attending a ball game.





# THANK YOU

– **THANK YOU** to those who provided coffee and “Goodies” for the handful of summer coffee fellowships –

Barbara Moen, Carla Larson, Bernice Bergseth, LuAnn Alleman, Elaine Steeg, Kathy Alm, Trice Olson, Mary Nelson, Angie Gangelhoff & Diane Howard. Unfortunately we did not have good turn-outs, and very few signing up, so we only had the fellowships for six Sundays. We may have to re-think trying to have coffee fellowships next summer ☹

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On August 13, 2018, our Lord called home one of his servants, Rev. Eugene Larrabee at the age of 92 years, with his funeral service being held on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>

at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Chatfield, MN. Rev. Larrabee is known by many here at Peace as he served as a guest preacher now and then. Locally he served at Giese and McGrath for 10 years, but most of his ministry was in the Crown & Princeton area. He was married to Lavonne Schuett – sister of Audrey Meier, and we offer our sympathy to Jim & Audrey

*“Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to Your Word; for my eyes have seen your salvation.” Luke 2:29,30*

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~**CONFIRMATION PARENTS** Parents of 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are asked to come to an orientation meeting for this year’s Confirmation classes September 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm. At least one parent is expected to be present.



Quilters

~**QUILTING WILL BEGIN SEPT. 10<sup>th</sup>**

ATTENTION LADIES!!  
Quilting is to resume again on Mondays, beginning Sept.

10<sup>th</sup>, from 9-12. We welcome all willing hands to help cut, tie, pin, or sew edges, so bring your scissors, enjoy some fellowship, and stay as long as your schedule allows. Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday mornings!  
~Peace Quilters

# YOU'RE INVITED

to a Pro-Life Evening  
Presented by MCCL  
(Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life)

Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at  
St. Patrick's Catholic Church  
203 Lawler Ave. So., Hinckley.

Don't miss the discussion on current happenings; strengthen your pro-life beliefs, and discover how to be an active pro-life citizen.

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## UNCOVERING THE TRUTH ABOUT CREATION

Hosted by Christ Serve Ranch @ Lutheran Island Camp ~ October 26-27

You are invited to attend this day and ½ conference featuring two experts in Biblical Creation from the Institute of Creation Research. They will provide a great series of presentations that will be relative to participants who are middle school, high school, and adults. This will be a great event for families, youth groups, confirmation groups, Sunday school teachers, and those who want to be able to respond to individuals who question Creation. There are a few brochures/registration forms on the table in the narthex.

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## OUR CHILDREN

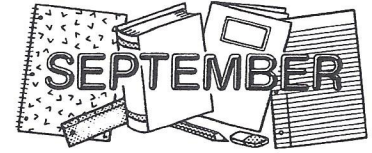
Children are a gift from God (Genesis 48:8-9), a heritage and a reward (Psalm 127:3), a source of joy (Psalm 113:9), and a crown in their parents' old age (Proverbs 17:6). It is a serious thing to abuse children (Matthew 18:1-6) or to neglect their spiritual training (Ephesians 6:1-4). The church is always only one generation short of extinction. If we fail to train our children for Christ, we forfeit the future.

-- Pulpit Helps



Sunday, September 2 – Ed Barnick, H.U., Dwight Hahn, Jacob Thurber, Allen Bennett  
 Sunday, September 9 – Ron Volk, H.U., Rich Mensing, Steve & Josh Martin  
 Sunday, September 16 – LeRoy Thurn, H.U., Lowell & Bruce Pogatchnik, Ethan Alleman  
 Sunday, September 23 – Ron Osladil, H.U., Dick Alleman, Josh Alleman, Glen Hemphill  
 Sunday, September 30 – John Pitts, H.U., Marcus Pitts, Leon & Lucas Payne

**Sunday, September 2 – Ron Volk & Dwight Hahn**  
**Sunday, September 16 – John Pitts & Ron Osladil**

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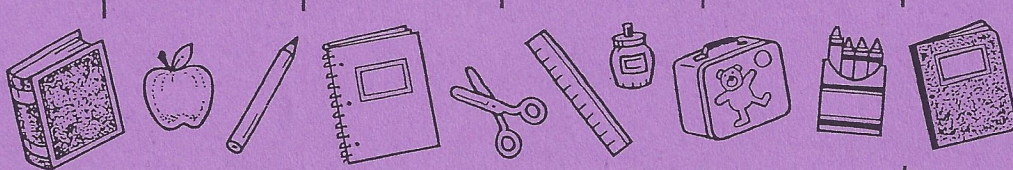

~~ Sharon Tvedt



# September 2018

| August 2018 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S           | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|             |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5           | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12          | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19          | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26          | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

| October 2018 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|              | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7            | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14           | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21           | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28           | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

| Sunday                                                                                                                 | Monday                                                                               | Tuesday                               | Wednesday                                                                        | Thursday                                                            | Friday                                   | Saturday                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                      |                                                                                      |                                       |                                                                                  |                                                                     |                                          |                               |
|                                                                                                                        |                                                                                      |                                       |                                                                                  |                                                                     |                                          | 1                             |
| 2<br>Bible Study 8 am<br>Peace Communion 9:00<br>Bruno Comm. 11:00                                                     | 3<br>LABOR DAY                                                                       | 4<br>Regional AA Meeting @ Peace 7:00 | 5<br>Board of Elders 7:00                                                        | 6<br>Pastor office hours in Bruno 2-5 pm                            | 7<br>Pastor's day off                    | 8<br>"Men of Peace" 9:00-noon |
| 9<br>SS RALLY DAY<br>Bible Study 8 am<br>(F) Worship 9:00<br>Sun. Sch. 10:15<br>(B) Worship 11:00<br>Nursing Home 2:30 | 10<br>Quilting 9-12                                                                  | 11<br>Peace Bible Studies 3:00 & 6:30 | 12<br>Confirmation & Parent meeting 4:30<br>Peace Council 7:00                   | 13<br>Pastor office hours in Bruno 2-5 pm<br>Bruno Bible Study 6:30 | 14<br>Pastor's day off                   | 15                            |
| 16<br>Bible Study 8 am<br>Fin. Comm. 9:00<br>Sun. Sch. 10:15<br>(B) Comm. 11:00<br>Youth potluck-noon                  | 17<br>Quilting 9-12                                                                  | 18<br>Peace Bible Studies 3:00 & 6:30 | 19<br>"Women of Peace" 1:00<br>Confirmation 4:30                                 | 20<br>Pastor office hours in Bruno 2-5 pm<br>Bruno Bible Study 6:30 | 21<br>--- Confirmation Retreat at Zion - |                               |
|                                                                                                                        |                                                                                      |                                       |                                                                                  |                                                                     | Pastor's day off                         | MORA                          |
| 23<br>Bible Study 8 am<br>Peace Matins 9:00<br>Sun. Sch. 10:15<br>Bruno Matins 11:00                                   | 24<br>Quilting 9-12                                                                  | 25<br>Peace Bible Studies 3:00 & 6:30 | 26<br>**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**<br>Confirmation 4:30<br>Young Family Group 6:00 pm | 27<br>Pastor office hours in Bruno 2-5 pm<br>Bruno Bible Study 6:30 | 28<br>Pastor's day off                   | 29                            |
| 30<br>Bible Study 8 am<br>Peace Worship 9:00<br>Sun. Sch. 10:15<br>Bruno Worship 11:00                                 |  |                                       |                                                                                  |                                                                     |                                          |                               |