

Mission:
To love like Jesus so
that each person
experiences God's way.

Peace Lutheran Church Newsletter August 2024



**Love God, Love People,
and Serve the World!**

Back to School Blessing



Back To School Blessing

Sunday, August 18th *(during worship)*

Join us as we gather to celebrate and bless all students, faculty, and school staff for the 2024-2025 school year. All students and teachers are invited to join us! Also, we will have new backpack tags for anyone who would like one, whether you are in school or not, to remind you that you are a beloved child of God and disciple of Jesus wherever you are!



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A Message from the Pastor

Narrative Lectionary

Christianity is grounded in the story of God for this world with the arc contained within many books that we call the Bible. The Bible is a collection of history, songs, prayers, letters, poetry and stories from people stretching over 3000 years over many continents.

We are a storied people who immerse ourselves in the Biblical world so that we can seek the presence of God and join in the story of God's love for all creation. Stories have a way of shaping our lives. You may not remember dates and precise details, but a story encapsulates the meaning of an experience. That's what the Bible does and why we read it regularly including in our time of worship.



Over the centuries churches used ways to organize a prolonged approach to enter the story. They developed a systemic way to read the Bible over the course of a year called lectionaries (prescribed readings for every day or every Sunday in worship). These varied based on the locations of their time.

In the mid-late 20th century, the church began to utilize a more universal lectionary system called the Common Lectionary and Revised Common Lectionary which included a reading from the Old Testament, Psalms, New Testament, and Gospels which were divided up into 3 years to get a comprehensive cycle of the Bible—a system we have been using for decades now.

However, new models continue to emerge to ensure Christians can continue to find their place in God's story. The Narrative Lectionary is a modern approach to selecting and reading biblical texts in worship services began by Luther Seminary in 2010 as a way to help people build Biblical fluency.

It includes a 4-year cycle with each year going through a progression of the story focusing on walking through the Old Testament in the Fall and the New Testament in the Spring. There will be a primary Scripture reading that we focus on in a linear progression rather than multiple texts.

Here are some benefits to making this move:

Focus on Narrative Flow: It emphasizes reading Scripture as a cohesive narrative, following key themes and storylines across the Bible. This helps congregations grasp the overarching story of God's redemptive work more clearly instead of 4 off disjointed readings.

A Message from the Pastor Continued



Seasonal Structure: It organizes readings into a seasonal structure, often covering the major themes of the Christian faith throughout the church year. This can provide a more comprehensive understanding of biblical teachings over time. This enables the church to build week after week a larger narrative instead of jumping around without understanding the broader context.

Educational Value: By following a structured reading plan, the Narrative Lectionary encourages deeper engagement with Scripture. It allows for continuity in

teaching and preaching, helping congregants connect each week's passage with previous and upcoming readings. Think of it like watching a series on TV. It's hard to understand the character development and plot when you jump into the middle of season 5 of a series without understanding where each of the characters have been.

Accessibility: It can make the Bible more accessible to both regular attendees and newcomers alike, providing a coherent framework that aids understanding even for those less familiar with Scripture. In an increasingly secularized world, fewer people have been raised with a deep understanding of the Bible.

Preaching and Teaching: Think of the Narrative Lectionary as one large sermon series in a 9-month progression. When creating sermon series it's often a thematic approach to understanding an overarching purpose. The Biblical witness does just that and is designed to be read holistically.

Community Building: Following a common lectionary can foster a sense of community and shared spiritual journey among disciples of Jesus, as they explore God's way together. Though we all have our own paths, we are not free-floating individuals; we are storied people united in God's greater story. We develop a deeper understanding of ourselves, others, and the world around us as we enter into God's story together.

We begin the Narrative Lectionary this Fall on September 8th. We pray that as we are immersed in God's story, we might learn our place in God's kingdom. Looking forward to entering the story with you.



*Peace,
Pastor Jake*



A Message from the Deacon

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering



Highlights from our amazing week in New Orleans!



Let's Have Breakfast Tacos!



Let's Have Breakfast Tacos!

Sunday August 18 the Fellowship Board will be serving Breakfast Tacos. This is our fun little send off for everyone who is going back to school and college. We will be serving from 8:30 - 9:45 a.m. We will be set up under the canopy at the Narthex entrance. You can pick up your taco and go inside for coffee and fellowship. 🍌

Peace Little Pantry



Peace Little Pantry

We are really doing well with supplies for our Little Pantry, thanks to each of you. We do need Pantry Angels for the months of **October, November and December**. In case you want to pick items up for the Pantry when you shop, these are the items we always stock.

Canned meats, fruit cups, puddings, crackers, tuna packets, granola bars, peanut butter, plastic wares, toiletry items, toothbrushes and toothpaste, juice boxes and bottled water.

Snapology is Here for the Summer!

Our friends at Snapology are back at Peace from May 27 to August 16, 9am - 4pm, Monday - Friday.

The Fellowship Hall will be unavailable for rental or events during that time. If you will be in and out of the church this summer, please respect their time and space.



New Group for Peace Seniors

The Compassion Team is looking forward to seeing Peace Seniors (no age limit) that might be interested in a time of fellowship, games and stories. **You're invited to join us on Wednesday, September 4th at 11:30 a.m. for a light lunch hosted by the Compassion Team.** We would love to hear what you might like to do for the remainder of the year and beyond as a group. Some ideas have already been out to eat, special trips, games and perhaps informative topics of interest to the group. Call Cathi Fain by September 1st so we can get a head count. Cathi's number is 830-660-4956 or email Cathi at cathifain@yahoo.com. We will also have a sign up in the Narthex on August 25th and September 1st.



School Donations Needed

Fall is coming and that means school! This year we will be donating school supplies to Maria's Closet, a charity that provides school supplies and gently used/new clothing to all families in need. Maria's Closet is a charitable program run by NBISD.

Supplies most in demand:

- Glue sticks
- Crayons (24 count)
- Prong plastic folders with pockets in solid colors
- Tray of watercolors (eight count)
- Bottles of glue (4 ounces)
- Metal scissors (pointed)
- Package of highlighters
- Composition books
- Wide ruled notebook paper
- Colored pencils
- Large pink eraser
- Tennis shoes
- Boys and girls backpacks for kinder thru 5th grade



Please bring your donations to Peace, now through August 18th, and drop them in the bin located in the Narthex. If you have some free time available, local schools run on volunteer power, consider volunteering with the school near you. Contact Karen with questions at (830) 584-4068.

Sisters in Christ



Sisters in Christ

A few months ago some of our Peace friends decided to celebrate Birthdays by going to lunch. This idea has grown and we have had more ladies wanting to be part of our group. We have decided to open this up to any sister in Christ. We all desire to be around women who are good for our souls don't we? If you would like to join our monthly gatherings, let me know.

We will meet once a month on the 4th Weds. Of each month. We might meet at a restaurant, someone's home, or maybe even at church. Our next outing will be at Krauses Café, Aug. 28, 11:00 a.m. We will not only be celebrating birthdays, but just life! For August we will be celebrating two of our sisters moving into their new homes. If this appeals to you, let me know at beckyvoges@yahoo.com.

August Mission Spotlight



Save the Date - Fall Festival



Looking ahead!

The Fellowship crew will partner with St. Andrew Lutheran Church for their annual Fall Festival that will be held on **Oct. 26**. It is time to think about the Craft and Bake Sale items we can have for our booth. Fall, Halloween, and Christmas items are always good sellers. We will once again have a Christmas Tree set up, so ornaments are great items to sell. Can't be with us that day? We will be delighted to have your baked goods and craft items to sell. Questions? Contact Becky Voges at beckyvoges@yahoo.com

Peace Mission Endowment

INFORMATION MEETING

Sunday, September 22nd

The Endowment Fund Committee will be hosting an informative lunch and meeting on Sunday, September 22nd immediately following church service. We will have a representative from the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest share with us what an endowment fund is, how it is administered by both their organization and Peace Lutheran and educate us how an endowment gift is a "gift that keeps on giving" into the next generation.

Our wonderful Fellowship Team will be serving lunch that day. We would like to have a "ballpark idea" of how many people to plan for lunch. Please email, call, or text Cheryl Braaten or Nathan Anderson to join us for this event.

cherylbraaten@gmail.com 832-603-0530
nanderson5663@gmail.com 713-376-0273



*"We enjoy shade from trees we did not plant and water from wells we did not dig."
 Deuteronomy 6:11*

Lutheran Men in Mission Retreat

Hundreds of men have already experienced One Year To Live. Here's what they're saying...

"Like most men I used to have only passing conversations with other men at church. Now I have brothers in Christ."

"Wow. I had no idea how powerful the OYTL experience was, and still is, in my life. I found a true band of brothers and developed friendships that have just grown richer over time."

"What I thought were my biggest liabilities are my greatest assets. I can share them with others to give them hope."

"The OYTL retreat allowed me to not only realize how much pain I buried, but also how to accept healing through the word of God and communion with other holy men."

"You will come out of the weekend a better man. I totally recommend this weekend if you are serious about renewing your life."



As iron sharpens iron...



so one man sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE RETREAT

Contact Retreat Coordinator/s below::

Dennis Hickey
(210) 347-6338

David Umlang
(210) 645-5036

info@swtmm.org

Video Testimonies and Scholarship Information are available at:

lutheranmeninmission.org/experiences/one-year-to-live

OR



Brought to you by:

**LUTHERAN
MEN IN MISSION**

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ABOUT "ONE YEAR TO LIVE"

Men of all ages yearn for real friendships and a closer relationship with Christ.

Join us and be...

- Adventurous and courageous
- Genuine and spiritual

Look forward to...

- Banding together and being challenged
- Examining your life and making decisions

Be prepared for a spiritual boot camp.

This 45-hour experience is not for the faint of heart!

WHAT TO BRING

- Casual clothes for 2 days
+ 1 set of clothes to leave behind to donate
- Comfortable shoes or boots
- Sleeping bag, pillow, towel & swim trunks
- Personal items
- Bible, notepad/journal & pen
- Snacks to share
- Non-alcoholic beverages only
- No electronic devices
- Flashlight

SCHEDULE

- Arrive promptly at 5:30–6:00 pm on Friday
- Depart at 3:00 pm on Sunday
- Plan to stay for entire retreat—no exceptions



An Experience that meets men where they are!

September 13-15, 2024

Camp Chrysalis

391 Upper Turtle Creek Rd

Kerrville, TX 78028



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Early Registration: \$150
by 7/15/2024

Regular Registration: \$175
by 8/15/2024

Includes lodging, 5 meals & materials.

Register Online with credit card at:
lutheranmeninmission.org/experiences/one-year-to-live

OR



Registration is non-refundable, but is transferrable.
Scholarships are available!

If registering by mail, please contact the Retreat Coordinator.

Bulletins Return

On 9/8/2024, the Worship Team will bring back bulletins! We are excited for this transition and we welcome your questions & concerns. Please reach out to a Worship Team member for more information.



Abundant Blessings

August Birthdays

Lupe Salas 8/1
 Sarah Fain 8/3
 Tina Scott 8/4
 Xenia Khalil 8/5
 Forrest Willis 8/7
 Lyndsey Wilkie 8/8
 Genevieve Butrico 8/10
 Vivienne Khalil 8/13
 Cheryl Braaten 8/13
 Thomas Braaten 8/14
 Eric Ralph 8/14
 Ken Witten 8/14
 Judith Johnson 8/16
 Karl Stellges 8/17
 Shelby Pampell 8/18
 Barbara Hodde 8/19
 Lupe Travis 8/21
 Nora Miller 8/23
 Bettina Butrico 8/24
 Betty Rust 8/27
 Michael Wenzel 8/28
 Haley Morelock 8/28
 Nathan Anderson 8/28
 Earl Blaschke 8/31

Peace Prayer Ministry

Peace Lutheran Church has an active Prayer Ministry. We have an Email Prayer Chain, we have a Zoom "Sweet Hour of Prayer" Group that meets every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m., and we have a Prayer loom that is included in our Sunday morning prayers. All are welcome to join our email Prayer Chain and our Monday morning Prayer Group.



We have experienced some amazing, answered prayers this year and we have given comfort to many of our members in their times of distress. You can email Becky at beckyvoges@yahoo.com for info.

August Anniversaries

Kimberley & Bryce Huntsman
 8/12 - 35 years
 Gayle & Michael Morris
 8/14 - 48 years
 Ceretta & Thomas Daum
 8/29 - 42 years

Prayers

Lavern Kistner
 Martin Franz
 Carol Franz
 Bob Johnson
 Jim Miller
 Riley Martinez
 Rick Smith
 John Claycomb
 Arlene Wold
 Helen Probst
 Stella Leissner
 Eleanor Koester
 Earl Koester

Giving at Peace

There are several giving options at Peace: Bank Drafts; Online Giving (Website); Offering Envelopes. If you would like more information on any of the options listed above, please give our Finance Administrator, Theresa, a call at 830-620-0618.



Finances June 2024

FUND	BEGINNING BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSE	TRANSFERS	ENDING BALANCE
General Fund	\$ 13,744.56	\$38,298.13	<u>\$ 32,266.89</u>		<u>\$ 19,775.80</u>
Building Fund	\$ 14,650.93	\$ 900.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 15,550.93
Endowment Fund	\$ 7,817.39	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 7,867.39
Endowment Investment Fund	\$136,188.01	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00		\$136,188.01
Deferred Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,324.87	\$ 120.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 1,444.87
Designated Funds	\$ 39,875.32	\$ 3,068.99	\$ 1,567.64		\$ 41,376.67
Total Funds	213,601.08	\$ 42,437.12	\$33,834.53		\$222,203.67



Peace Lutheran Church

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New Braunfels, TX 78130

Web address:
www.peacenb.org
830-620-0618

Pastor Jake Fain
830-312-8797

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Thursday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Friday

Office Closed, Phones Open

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday

10:00 am - Worship

Livestream @ peacenb.org/live