

**Peace Lutheran Church
Hutchinson, Minnesota**



2017 Yearbook

Our Vision Statement:

*“Touching Lives with the Love and
Saving Grace of Jesus.”*

Dear Members,

"You will see greater things than these . . ." - John 1:50 Jesus speaks these words in the gospel of John just before a series of miraculous signs reveal the identity and mission of Jesus. Even the identity and mission of Jesus is always being revealed. It is unfolding before us as we read through the gospel of John and the other gospels as well.

Likewise, our identity and mission are always in a process of discovery as these components of our life together unfold before us. I am convinced that God has greater things in store for us. Much of this is still a mystery to us. But what I have seen grows out of our mission of "Touching Lives With the Love and Saving Grace of Jesus."

Looking forward to 2018 there are several items that I am excited about. Mid-January I began the new year by meeting with each member of the Peace Lutheran Staff to discuss the role exchange between Pastor Bode and myself. The Senior Pastor will now have the responsibility of supervising the staff. The meetings have been a terrific opportunity to outline our new relationships. But also, to discuss the great role each of our staff members plays in the various ministries at Peace Lutheran.

The next item will be an opportunity for the staff to grow as a team. Steve Gasser has setup 6 training meetings for our Peace Lutheran staff to complete over the course of three months. I am excited to see how our staff will grow and work closer together with a clear understanding of the mission of the church.

The third area that we will be focusing on is growing as children of God. The words Connect, Grow and Serve are a very simple way that we are to focus on three areas of our life in Christ.

Connect – helps us to remember that our life in Christ starts and grows with God. We connect with God in worship and the reception of His means of Grace. The Lord commands us to "remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." He does so for us and our life in Christ – to be healthy children of God – growing in faith. The word Connect reminds us to have an active worship life.

Grow – Grow in your relationship with God and other people through the study of God's Word and fellowship. Bible Studies, Small Group Studies, VBS, Sunday School, are all splendid examples that we are to grow in a deeper way with God.

Serve – reminds us that God is with us while at church and outside the walls of Peace Lutheran. What a wonderful way to serve God – be active here at Peace Lutheran Church! Ministry in Motion is a series of videos that will play over the course of the next year. Each of the videos will highlight the many ways that serving God at Peace Lutheran is "Touching Lives With the Love and Saving Grace of Jesus."

And you can serve God outside the walls of Peace Lutheran. Our Lord shared, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' Loving our neighbor - can take us next door or half way around the world. Either is equally important when we are reminded of serving God in the world around us.

Connect, Grow and Serve will be used to remind our leaders, staff and members to look at the ministry of Peace Lutheran in these three areas. Our Lord uses these areas to help us grow as His disciples.

We have an amazing staff at Peace Lutheran – each blessed in their own special way. They are deeply committed to serving their Lord. God has greater things to show us as we look to the future. My prayer is that the members of Peace Lutheran Church will celebrate what God continues to do in our midst!

Pastor John Pasche

Dear Members of Peace,

This year we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. 500 years ago, Martin Luther had the courage and ability to stand up for the Biblical truth that we are saved by faith alone through God's grace. Here at Peace Lutheran Church, 500 years later, we can still share this good news with everyone.

We share this good news through our worship services and all the wonderful ministries that take place on a continual basis. This year we will begin a video series titled "Ministries in Motion". Each month a new video will highlight one of the areas of ministry here at Peace. The first video will touch on the ministry of worship.

The purpose of these videos is to:

- Create a better awareness and understanding of all the wonderful ministries here at Peace.
- Show how each area of ministry is "Touching Lives with the Love and Saving Grace of Jesus".
- Help us understand that the lives of those who work within these ministries are also touched.
- Allow each of us to discover new and exciting ways to use the gifts God has given us to serve others.

God has truly blessed Peace Lutheran Church with beautiful facilities, an awesome staff and members with a giving heart. It is through these blessings that we can reach out with the good news of Jesus. The opportunities are unlimited. A great example is our Little Lambs Christian Center that was voted Hutchinson's favorite Child Care and Preschool for 2017! All we need to do is keep our eyes and hearts open to see the opportunities and to respond by saying "Here am I. Send me." Isaiah 6:8

As we enter the new year of 2018, I would like to ask each member of Peace to consider the bible verse 2 Corinthians 9:7 where it says, "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give...for God loves a cheerful giver." Giving comes in many different forms. Giving can be in the form of financial support, it can be giving of your time, and it can be the giving of your talents. God has given each of us a set of special gifts, and sharing your gifts can be extremely rewarding and bring great joy to your life. In 2018, let's all set out to reach a new level of giving and sharing God's blessings to enhance and grow all of the wonderful ministries that Peace Lutheran Church has to offer, and to "Touch Lives with the Love and Saving Grace of Jesus".

Sincerely,

Dan Cowger - President



PARISH REPORT - 2017

<u>Statistics</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Baptized	2643	2636	2663
Communicant Members	2032	2026	2032
Baptisms, Children	34	34	38
Baptisms, Adults	0	0	0
Confirmation, Junior	27	27	25
Adult Instruction/Affirmed Faith	14	15	6
Marriages	8	11	14
Deaths	31	39	25

Communicants

<u>Gains - 2017</u>		<u>Losses - 2017</u>	
Transferred in	11	Transferred Out	10
Received Other Synods	10	Released Other Synods	9
Adult Instruction	6	Released to non-Lutheran Church	1
Affirmed Faith	3	Requested Release	5
Confirmation, Juniors	25	Losses by Death	25
Total Gains	55	Total Losses	50

Church Attendance - Head Usher's Report

<u>Services</u>	<u>Number</u>		<u>Attendance for Year</u>	
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Sunday Morning Services	153	151	19,279	19,640
Saturday Evening Services	51	50	3,684	3,968
Ash Wednesday	3	3	400	426
Lenten Services	10	15	1,653	1,678
Maundy Thursday	3	3	415	389
Good Friday	2	2	225	264
Easter Sunday	4	4	946	963
Thanksgiving Eve	1	1	229	173
Thanksgiving Day	1	1	115	120
Advent Services	12	10	1,135	1,146
Children's Christmas Programs	2	2	896	777
Christmas Day	Mon.	1	Mon.	98
Candlelight Services	3	3	741	742
New Year's Eve	1	0	97	0
Totals	246	246	29,815	30,384

2017 BAPTISMS

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Middle Name</u>	<u>Birthdate</u>	<u>Baptism Date</u>	<u>Parents</u>
Jindra	Anakin	Kenneth	7/26/16	1/29/17	Jason & Jennifer Jindra
Reierson	Nathan	James	11/1/16	2/18/17	Brian & Stephanie Reierson
Plath	Diem	Adria	10/14/16	2/26/17	Derrick & Chelsie Plath
Christensen	Parker	William	12/23/06	2/26/17	Jason & Annalisa Christensen
Nass	Sydnee	Evelyn	12/3/16	3/4/17	Justin & Kalee Nass
Feider	Avery	Lynn	12/20/16	3/12/17	Christopher & Jaimie Feider
Mackedanz	RaeLynn	Grace	1/31/17	3/19/17	Brandin Mackedanz & Courtney Hanson
Patro	Gracie	Leeann	3/6/17	3/24/17	Keith Patro & Krystal Schulte
Handeland	Madison	Marie	12/9/16	3/19/17	Jason Handeland & Holly West
Brigden	Rosalie	Elizabeth	12/26/16	3/26/17	Daniel & Melissa Brigden
Hansen	Bennett	Percy	2/26/17	5/6/17	Andrew & Linsey Hansen
Montes	Alexis	Jill	11/2/16	5/13/17	Roberto Montes & Jill Rauch
Erickson	Everett	Lee	5/21/13	5/28/17	Derek & Tina Erickson
Erickson	Hazel	Grace	7/28/16	5/28/17	Derek & Tina Erickson
Talbott	Colton	James	3/24/17	6/4/17	Laurence (Barry) & Lisa Talbott
Doring	Vayda	Marie	4/8/17	6/11/17	Theodore & Destini Doring
Rogers	Hunter	Ryan	4/13/17	6/17/17	Ryan Rogers & Karisa Showalter
Boeff	Lauren	Marie	8/11/16	6/17/17	Dillon & Heidi Boeff
Hansen	Seersha	Bella	1/11/17	6/25/17	Steven & Cherise Hansen
Dahlke	Braelyn	Vera	2/9/17	6/29/17	Russell Dahlke & Sabrina Dillon
Greiner	Ella	Marie	6/19/11	7/9/17	Jeff Greiner & Stacey Greiner
Greiner	Matthew	James	7/12/14	7/9/17	Jeff & Stacey Greiner
Greiner	Elizabeth	Lynn	12/19/16	7/9/17	Jeff & Stacey Greiner
Bjork	Roderick	Gregory	5/30/17	8/12/17	Gregory & Jenna Bjork
Broll	Eric	James	3/20/17	9/10/17	Allen & Ashley Broll
Sifferath	Cole	Richard	7/11/17	9/10/17	Jason & Amanda Sifferath
Theis	Knox	Spencer	8/20/17	9/15/17	Spencer & Fallon Theis
Arndt	Gustav	Eric	7/27/17	9/24/17	Eric Arndt & Brittani Waldorf
Kaping	Charlie	Frank	6/1/17	10/1/17	Michael & Jamie Kaping
Ryberg	Charlie	Rae	6/19/17	10/14/17	Tayler Ryberg & Taylor Dansby
Ryberg	Reagan	Jane	6/19/17	10/14/17	Tayler Ryberg & Taylor Dansby
Sparby	Raelyn	Lavay	8/11/17	10/21/17	Kyle & Jayme Sparby
Kohls	Monte	Joseph	5/24/17	10/22/17	Matthew & Melissa Kohls
McCormick	Charlie	Roger	8/14/17	11/5/17	Dylan & Cortney McCormick
Soja	Brenden	Charles	1/1/04	11/11/17	Linsey (Allen) Anderson
Johnson	Daryn	Keith	1/1/09	11/11/17	Linsey (Allen) Anderson
Tabberson	Everly	Lyn	12/4/16	11/11/17	Adam & Ashley Tabberson
Schumaci	Grayson	Drew	9/10/17	11/18/17	Eric & Chelsey Schumaci

Total Baptisms = 38

2017 CONFIRMATIONS

Elise Bock	Jacden Knutson-Dostal	Connor Reiter
Mikayla Brecht	Austin Lang	Jordan Schmidt
Madison Carrigan	Austin Losievski	Benjamin Sickmann
Kierra Dennis	Isaac Nass	Paige Telecky
Branden Evenson	Megan Nelson	Myranda Uecker
Cheyenne Fischer	Avarie Petersen	Katrina Urban
Cole Gartner	Cole Rahne	Audrey Weckwerth
Jerome Hilgemann	Branna Rasmussen	Ashley White
Jacob Huls		

Total Confirmations: 25

2017 WEDDINGS

March 11, 2017	Patty Litzau & Michael Murphy
June 3, 2017	Nancy Rickert & Pastor John Pasche
July 17, 2017	Jill Rauch & Roberto Montes*
July 29, 2017	Georgia Klancke & Craig Buss
August 12, 2017	Kelly Rauch & Walter Pickering
August 26, 2017	Rachel Telecky & Jeron Thielen
September 15, 2017	Fallon Macemon & Spencer Theis*
September 23, 2017	Ann Janning & Tony Olson
September 30, 2017	Kelly Nelson & Chad Beilke
October 14, 2017	Luana Issendorf & Duane Remer
October 14, 2017	Courtney Rossow & Kyle Witte*
October 28, 2017	Ashley VonBerge & Bradley Jackson
November 11, 2017	Linsey Allen & Jay Anderson
November 25, 2017	Christopher Wateland & Latanya Gabaldon

Total Weddings: 14

*Not held at Peace

2017 DEATHS

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Date of Funeral</u>
Schwartz	Scott	01/24/17	01/29/17
Teubert	Shelly**	01/21/17	01/30/17
Kizer	Kevin**	(Arizona)	(Arizona)
Schulz	Larrie	02/07/17	02/13/17
Hemmann	Gloria	04/03/17	04/22/17
Moudry*	Anita	04/23/17	04/28/17
DeBlock*	Cornelius	05/24/17	05/31/17
Norgaard	Veloris	06/04/17	06/08/17
Janicke	Jerry	06/21/17	06/27/17
Holtz	Marion	06/27/17	06/29/17
Kenning	Ruth	07/02/17	07/06/17
Schulz	June	07/15/17	07/20/17
Braun	Mildred	07/16/17	07/21/17
Sturges	Delmer	07/28/17	08/04/17
Plath	Wallace	08/06/17	08/11/17
Janke	Leona	08/17/17	08/19/17
Fisher*	Stella	09/03/17	09/07/17
Muckala	Raymond	09/08/17	09/13/17
Zieman	Shayne	09/17/17	09/21/17
Rewerts	Emma	09/22/17	09/25/17
Celander	DeLoris	09/20/17	09/26/17
Katzenmeyer	Irma	10/15/17	10/20/17
Rauch	Stella	11/23/17	11/27/17
Rannow	Evelyn	11/30/17	12/04/17
Fitzloff	Earl	12/04/17	12/09/17
Plath	Albin	12/14/17	12/15/17
Renstrom	Helen	12/11/17	12/16/17
Dascher	Janice	12/24/17	12/28/17

Total Deaths: 28

*Non-member

**Funeral not held in Hutchinson

Peace Lutheran Cemetery

We sold 9 lots. There were 8 burials at our cemetery in 2017. Thanks to all volunteers who assisted in the maintenance of the cemetery.

Lonnie Kohls – Superintendent

Membership Changes

Received by Transfer from Same Synod

Georgia Buss, Jasmine, Bryce*, Jaden* & Jewel* Klancke
Megan Dolly
Tammy Sifferath
Darren & Jung-ah Sombke & Isaac
Alan & Laurie Rowland
Barry & Lisa Talbott

Received from other Lutheran

Joey Becker
Kayloni Hammer
Andrew Hansen
Jenny Hausladen, Megan*, Carter* & Zachary*
Blake Kaping
Lois Olson
Joe & Kristin Perrault, Judah*, Micah* & Johanna*
Blake Rarick*
Nathan & Michelle White, Caleb*, Abigail*, Cooper* & Ava*

Received Profession of Faith

Lucille Kelley
Dawn Rauch
Bart Roepke

Received by Adult Instruction

Toni Becker
Ashley Bryant
Jeff & Stacy Greiner
Linsey Hansen
Hunter Weber

Received by Youth Confirmation

Megan Nelson

Transferred to LCMS Church

LeeAnn Blumhoefer
Linda Goetz
Roger Goetz
Rev. Chad & Raquel Kirchoff, Carli, Cassadi & Jackson
Karlee Klabunde
Desiree Teubert

Transferred to Other Lutheran Church

Tony & Anna Alseben, Evan*, Annika* & Ella*
Serenity Kizer*
Christopher Wilke & Isaac*
Mark & Johanna Hanneman
Cynthia Windschitl
Russell & Dawn Schlueter, Savannah* & Ethan*
Sara Yarand

Released to Non-Lutheran Congregation

Jacob Brusehaver

*Baptized Member

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

This past year we have been intentionally refining the Elementary programs to reflect and support the vision and values of Peace Lutheran. All our programming is designed to "Touch lives with the love and saving grace of Jesus". We have also been striving toward more authentic relationships, empowered growth, energized serving and creative worship.

Children's Ministry continues to grow. We continue to reinforce to the children that all children are welcome at Peace and that we all have the responsibility to ask those who do not know Jesus to come and experience the love and saving grace of Jesus. The children respond by bringing friends and visitors with them to our programs.

The relationship between Little Lambs Christian Center and the programs at Peace has grown significantly. These numbers are reflected in the Mission Awareness Program (M.A.P), VBS, and the Elementary Youth Group. Again, we have refined these programs to reflect the core values and vision of PLC, and it has resulted in substantial blessings.

The awareness of responding to God's grace and our responsibility to others continues to grow through mission work. Some of the projects we worked on were shoe boxes of gifts for "Operation Christmas Child", warm mittens for Common Cup and our local community, and cards for "Shut ins"

These programs are only possible with the incredible help and commitment by adults and older youth to our Elementary youth to teach the next generation. We are blessed and grateful to those who share their gift to teach, mentor, chaperone, walk, drive, cook, serve, track, prep crafts and teach crafts, lead games, take registration, etc. If you would like to be a part of this team and help tell the next generation of the Love and Saving Grace of Jesus, please call Sandy Kephart at 587-3031 or email maizy@hutchtel.net

Sandy Kephart - Director of Children's Ministry

EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY

Peace Lutheran has 54 happy, energetic and remarkable young children enrolled in Early Childhood Sunday School. They are all eager to learn about Jesus' love and want Him to be their life-long friend.

We look forward to...Singing at the 9:15 am Family Services on February 11 and Palm Sunday, and Kindergarten Graduation May 13th.

Thank you to my awesome support staff of Sunday School teachers – Stacy Miller, Eleanor Weckwerth, Kati Katzenmeyer, Sara Witte, Audrey Weckwerth, Mary Hilgemann, Branna Rasmussen, Katrina Urban. Their love for Jesus shines through each week in their words and actions.

S.H.E.L.L. Ministry – There were 38 baptisms in 2017. All received shells and a Christmas ornament from Peace.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for Early Childhood Ministry.

Lisa Kirchoff - Coordinator of Early Childhood Ministries

LITTLE LAMBS CHRISTIAN CENTER

Loving, caring, nurturing: this is the atmosphere that children get to experience every day at Little Lambs Christian Center (LLCC) as our vision statement is based on the desire to teach and nurture the lives of children and families with the love and saving grace of Jesus through age-appropriate learning experiences in a loving and safe environment. Our childcare, which is licensed by the state of Minnesota, provides for all children ages 6 weeks to 12 years of age. In addition, LLCC offers a fully licensed preschool for ages 3 through 5 years old. The key to establishing a Christian environment at LLCC is the amazing teachers who have committed their lives to Jesus Christ and use his love to teach and care for all his little children!

2017 was an incredible year at Little Lambs Christian Center. As we saw our numbers reach the maximum that we can hold, we recognized the outreach of God's love that is being sent into our community through the families who are involved here at Little Lambs Christian Center. As we hear the parents of the children in our center tell us how their children are singing Bible songs at home and leading prayers before the family meal, we know our Christian message is spreading beyond our walls. The Little Lambs Christian Center's ministry has touched over 100 children and 80 families in 2017. In turn, these wondrous children touched many lives as they successfully ran a food drive and proudly donated 90+ pounds of food to the local food shelf. While we delight in the successes of 2017, we welcome the many celebrations we anticipate in 2018.

Looking ahead, our main goal is to keep reaching out to our families and the community through the continuous teaching of the love and saving grace of Jesus as we continue to tell Bible stories, sing Bible songs, and do activities to help them understand the amazing God that we have. The Little Lambs Christian Center Board of Directors and Little Lambs Staff would like to thank everyone who is involved in making this ministry possible! It is with your prayers and financial support that we constantly see God's love in the many new faces and places within this community.

Rhonda Rokala - Director

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation (6 grade)

Peace Lutheran has asked our members to include 6th Grade as a part of a three-year Confirmation Program. We felt that by requiring the 6th grade year we could better prepare our students for their 7th and 8th grade years. 6th grade has been focusing on a better understanding of the Bible. A majority of the year will be spent on discussing the books of the Bible. And we will complete the year with lessons on a better understanding of worship.

Confirmation (7-8 grades)

Peace Lutheran is well into another Confirmation year! Dr. Dixon and I have been conducting opening worship with our 7th, 8th, and High School students each week. Dr. Dixon has done a wonderful job of asking students to sing and asking praise band members to help with music. Our openings provide a time in song and God's word to begin our Wednesday evening classes. Since adopting the large group/ small group style of teaching we have been working to improve the curriculum and the small group experience. The goal is to have enough mentors to keep our small groups down to 6 or less students per mentor. This year began with the 7th grade attended a retreat at Camp Omega. The 8th grade class will close out their year with a similar retreat. The retreats have become a wonderful opportunity to get to know the students outside of a class room setting. I am so thankful for the dedication and the care our small group mentors are providing for the students of our congregation!.

Post High School

Peace Lutheran has set a goal to reach out to those students who have recently graduated from High School or are currently away furthering their education. I am so thankful for the support and hard work on the part of our Peace Lutheran members. Judy Radunz and Melva Plath have helped with tracking the ongoing changes to students contact information. Peace Lutheran has been working to establish "authentic relationships" with these students. Our prayer is that they know their church continues to provide prayer and support wherever they might be. And that we would like to help them get connected to an active church life while they are away from their home. Again, helping them to understand how the Lord helps us to grow in our faith and serve in His name. We continue to look at ways to reach out throughout the year - mailing devotions, sending words of encouragement, etc.

If you would like to help or learn more about Confirmation or being a mentor, please contact Pastor John Pasche.

2017 YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT



Our theme verse was in honor of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation where Martin Luther stood up for his beliefs and started a movement.

Love should not be just words and talk it must be true love which shows itself in action - 1 John 3:18

Our hope is that the youth of Peace Lutheran Church will become strong leaders in their personal beliefs and “walk the talk” of our Christian faith and Lutheran heritage. We spent the year exploring 1 John 3:18 and how we can do this as disciples of Jesus.

Summer 2017 NEW! Mission Trip for Middle School Youth was started this summer. The first group headed to Green Bay, Wisconsin through Youthworks and had a wonderful week serving the local community. We are encouraged to have simple, week long service experiences within 5 hours of Hutchinson each year moving forward for our middle school youth. **Idaho Servant Adventures:** This annual yearbook could be filled solely on our high school mission trip to Idaho, there are countless stories and pictures that share the joyful, wonderful experience we had in 2017. This group was composed of youth who didn't really know each other as they nervously got into the van the first morning, but by the end of the trip they were transformed through worship, exploration, study and service (CONNECT, GROW, SERVE) into a family. They lovingly named the van “Buffalo Alice”, even starting an Instagram feed to share our adventures, reflecting God and their love for Christ all along the way. This is how God can work through mission trips! This group is still meeting weekly through a Buffalo Alice Bible Study (BABS) on Wednesday nights.

Middle School Sunday School (MS3) Sunday mornings at Peace Place are still active and exciting with 6, 7 and 8th grade youth connecting to God's word through a series of hands-on activities and games. We attempt to follow the liturgical year, expanding on what is shared during the worship services each morning.

Confirmation Ministry See page 12 regarding information on this ministry.

RECHARGE & High School Youth Group Change in Fall 2017 God continues to use our after-school program, called Recharge, to reach the unchurched or unconnected. The youth who are attending, especially the high schoolers, would be labeled “at risk kids”. However, many of our “church kids” have stopped participating in our youth programs because of the “roughness” of the crowd. It is important that we provide a safe and nurturing place for all youth to attend.

After serious thought and much discussion, it was decided that when this program returned in Fall 2017 a change was needed. We have now split when the middle school and high school ages meet. Wednesday afterschool RECHARGE is now only for middle school youth. Thursdays are only high school youth. This change has freed us to meet the needs of our youth. We can minister to them where they are socially, educational and spiritually – this has been a true blessing. However, adding a second day has impacted the “staffing” needs. The number of hours and demands of ministry for Erika, our part-time youth director has increased, as well as the need for many more volunteers to keep these programs safe and impactful.

A Note from the Director of Youth Ministry:

Our world seems to be increasingly instable and chaotic. Young people are sponges and mirrors. They learn how to behave and view the world from the people around them. Their lives reflect (or mirror) what their families instill into them. We need to keep praying that God's love will enter their lives and transform chaos and instability into peace and a richer life with the fullness of Jesus. I pray that more members of our congregation understand what it means to live out our mission statement: to touch lives with the saving grace of Jesus. I pray that more people will come forward and volunteer their time and talents, especially within the youth program. The teenagers that come to Peace Lutheran need all of us to show them how to live a Christian life.

Erika Durheim - Director of Youth Ministry **(Romans 12:11-12)**



ADULT EDUCATION

Nevertheless, At Thy Word

*We have toiled all night and have taken nothing,
nevertheless, at Thy Word I will let down the net. Luke 5:5*

One of the greatest fishing stories of all time is recorded in the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 5.

The focus of this fishing story is the conversation between Peter and Jesus. The disciples were experienced fishermen, knowing where, when, and how-to fish. For many of this group before following Jesus, fishing was their livelihood.

So, let's get on with this fishing story. Jesus meets Peter and the disciples on the edge of Lake Gennesaret early in the morning. Peter and the group had just returned from fishing all night with no success. They were tired and disappointed, they had done everything a good fisherman would do, yet their nets were empty.

And then they hear the words of Jesus, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets." Every experienced fisherman, including Peter and the disciples, knew this suggestion was totally unreasonable. What did Jesus think they had been doing the past 8 hours? Peter replied, "We have toiled all the night and have taken nothing".

But wait, as we read on in Luke, chapter 5, we find Peter's response continues with the words, "Nevertheless, at Thy Word I will let down the nets." It didn't matter to Peter that the advice was unrealistic, that it was contrary to all his experience as a fisherman. It was the Word of Jesus, his Master, nothing else counted.

Guess what! Luke tells us that when Peter listened and obeyed the words of Jesus there were so many fish in the net that they needed a second boat to help bring the fish to shore.

What a great fishing story! What a great reminder to each of us that, like Peter, when it comes to hearing and obeying the Word, even though there are times we are tempted to doubt or even think we know better, our response through faith must always be "*Nevertheless, at Thy Word*".

Looking back on 2017, we praise God for the opportunities to gather together around His Word and be Blessed by the work of the Holy Spirit.

Believing it is God's desire that we be actively growing in His Word, it is our desire in 2018 to intentionally walk alongside our vision and core values that we may Connect, Grow, and Serve. New and creative opportunities to read and study God's precious Word will be added in 2018 including an individual self-study video series. An exciting change for 2018 will be offering the spring Small Group Study (*Anxious for Nothing* by Max Lucado) to both the congregation and community.

Special thanks to Nick Brellenthin, Lesley Brellenthin, Lee Ulbjerg, and Shirley Ulbjerg for their wisdom and guidance in providing opportunities for members of Peace Lutheran and the community to grow in their faith as a follower of Jesus.

Paul A. Berg - Minister of Adult Education

MUSIC MINISTRY

We are grateful for all musicians who participate in the musical ensembles here at Peace. This includes the Peace Singers, Hosanna Handbells, Brass Ensemble, Praise Teams, PRAYZ team, Sunday School students, and soloists.

Our "PRAYZ team" sings for 6:15pm confirmation opening, 5:15pm worship in Advent and Lent and 9:15am family services. Children are also encouraged to sing at 9:15am in the summer when there is no conflict with Sunday School. This ensemble is open to all students and youth.

2018 will be our 32nd year of Wednesday Noon Concerts. Several area musicians perform each year. Marlys Palmer and the kitchen staff graciously support these programs with a wonderful salad luncheon each week. Proceeds benefit the Music Ministry at Peace. Programs are also recorded and broadcast on HCVN.

Audio-Video Ministry

The new video systems in the Peace Center and Sanctuary have been completed, with High Definition cameras, recording and "live streaming" equipment. We are very grateful for the generous donations to this major project.

HCVN now broadcasts our services four times each week. The 8:00am worship service plays on Sunday nights at 7:00pm and Thursday mornings at 10:00am. The 9:15 service plays on Wednesdays at 5:00pm and Sundays at 10:00am (one week after the actual service).

All our Sunday worship services are "live streamed" and the number of online viewers continues to steadily rise, including over 20 states and few foreign countries. In December 2017, we had over 300 different IP (computer) addresses that watched us online, including over 125 locations in Minnesota.

Many thanks to our many AV team leaders and volunteers for their support of this ministry. We wish to continue to look at ways to expand this ministry to reach those who do not have a church home, are looking for one, or are unable to worship in person because of health or travel concerns.

Walker Pipe Organ

The Walker Pipe Organ is now 20 years old. It is a magnificent instrument that continues to serve this congregation well.

The organ needs some repairs. The festive trumpet and trombone need to be re-racked so that the pipes do not collapse. The keyboards also need to be regulated. We have been working with Walker for the past year to schedule these repairs.

At some point in the not-too-distant future, the organ will also need a full cleaning, which will be a major undertaking and expense. To clean the instrument, all the pipes must be removed. When that happens, the sanctuary will not be available for a period.

Several fundraisers are being planned and we are hopeful that either Walker Organ Company or Dobson Organ Company will be able to complete the trumpet repairs in 2018.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

CONNECT – At Peace Lutheran Church, we connect with God and other believers as we gather together in worship each week.

Peace offers a wide range of worship styles, opportunities, and times.

- Regular worship: Saturdays at 6:15pm, Sunday at 8:00, 9:15 (Peace Center), 10:30. 9:15 is outdoors in June, July and August
9:15 family worship takes place on Rally Sunday, Epiphany, mid-February, Palm Sunday and Mother's Day.
- Wednesdays in Advent/Lent: 11:30am, 5:15pm (Peace Center), 6:45pm.
- Wednesday Confirmation opening at 6:15pm (September to May).
- Special services for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Children's Christmas programs, Thanksgiving Eve, Thanksgiving Day, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.
- Funerals and Weddings.
- Monthly worship, with communion, at Harmony River (Pastor Bode and Pasche) and Evergreen, Pines and Park Towers (Pastor Lemke).

This is over 350 worship services each year!

Sunday and Wednesday services are "live streamed" and archived for 24/7 viewing every week. In addition, Pastor Bode writes devotions for KDUZ radio and the Hutchinson Leader at least two weeks each year.

It takes many volunteers to assist with these services -- Elders, Greeters, Ushers, Altar guild, Readers, Acolytes, Custodial staff, and Musicians. We are grateful to everyone who regularly serves in some way.

These are the persons who coordinate regular opportunities for service. If you do not yet have a place of service at Peace, please join one of these groups!

Worship committee chair:	Anita Miller
Pastors:	Pasche and Bode
Elders:	Ken Quast
Music:	Dr. Joan DeVee Dixon
Readers:	Cyndy Fallon
Altar Guild:	Betty Ruskamp
Ushers:	Mike McKimm
Greeters:	Cassie Padrnos
Acolytes:	Pastor Pasche
Audio-Video teams:	Kevin Schmuhl, Eric and Monica Padrnos, Justin Branden and Michael Evenson, Brian, Cole and Reese Gartner, Ross Peterson, Darrell Rusch, David Hines, and Connor and Sam Reiter.
Kitchen volunteers:	Marlys Palmer

Dr. Joan DeVee Dixon - Minister of Music

VISITATION MINISTRY



ALMOST HALFWAY.....

I am almost halfway to the moon calculating the miles driven in my visitation ministry over the last seventeen plus years. It seems like a lot of miles, but is balanced out by the appreciation from those visited and the support of the congregation and staff. The miles are very much worth it as well as the time spent, over 9000 hours. The small group ministries as well as ministry to individuals and couples is always an enjoyable and rewarding experience as I help them toward the finish of their lives having peace and contentment from the Lord and His Word. The communion setting, as I view it, is always a "foretaste of the feast to come" in heaven as well as reassurance of the intimate closeness of Jesus to everyday life. Thanks to the congregation for supporting me in this ministry to its members and in offering comfort and peace to others who join in periodically or regularly. It is following through on Jesus words: "Come unto Me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

I don't know if I will make it to the moon in the years to come, but I will enjoy the journey as long as I am able.

Layton L. Lemke - Visitation Pastor

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY

Members this past year: Renee Clabo, Mary Haag, Sally Moehring, Marith Witte, and Shirley Wurdell

The purpose of the Parish Health Ministry is to promote health and wellness of body, mind, and spirit for Peace congregation and the community. Our activities this year included:

- Coordinated the Red Cross Bloodmobiles on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to provide blood for McLeod County and others in need. We average over 100 donors per month.
- Sponsored the Taxi Program providing transportation to worship services for our church members who request it
- Hosted Driver Improvement Program to help seniors keep up with new laws and promote safer drivers and safer highways
- Maintained First Aid Kits and Defibrillator for church and LLCC
- Promoted and sponsored Peace Power Team in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life for McLeod County
- Supported the Lutheran Social Service Caregivers Program
- Provided blood pressure screenings on the second Sunday each month to help detect early signs of hypertension and provide contact to the congregation
- Supplied and/or presented prayer shawls to members and others as a way to share God's love in times of need
- Maintained Parish Health bulletin board on the ramp
- Wrote articles for the Messenger
- Worked and promoted with Common Cup Ministry projects.
- Continued monitoring procedures and safety equipment per state relations at LLCC by parish nurses and conducted SIDS/Shaken Baby Classes
- 3 Parish Health Members served as mentors for the Wednesday After School Youth Workshops.
- Sponsored a Matthew 14:16 meal for those in need of nutrition and socialization in Hutchinson

We appreciate the opportunity to serve.

In 2018 we plan to continue the services from 2017 and would like to encourage new congregational participation.

"Serve one another in love." Galatians 5:1

CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

In the past year Parish Services has been responsible for many church and community activities. One of the main goals of each of these activities is to reinforce Peace Lutheran's friendly, caring image in the community and surrounding area. We allow several non-profit groups to utilize our facility and welcome the public to the many events sponsored by Peace.

Parish Services continues to assist groups within the church who require extra help in planning and carrying out their fellowship events and fundraisers. This is done only through the hundreds of volunteer hours of dedicated people who want to provide a professional and positive experience for our groups. Scheduling weddings and working with soon-to-be married couples remains an important part of this ministry.

This year some of our outings included our annual trip to Lutheran Night at the Twins game, the Mystery Tour, trips to the Plymouth Playhouse and Escorting 54 people to Branson.

We also helped plan, prep and service the noon recitals, three evening dinner concerts, Advent and Lenten suppers, Little Lambs annual Turkey supper, LL Sunday spaghetti dinner, Alaska Mission group Soup Lunch and Mother's Day Brunch, baking for and working at the annual Christmas Cookie Sale, to name a few.

We gathered shoes for Barefoot Sunday sent to Orphan Grain Train and collected small personal items and purses to be distributed to various facilities in the area.

I would like to thank the many loyal volunteers who have faithfully filled our needs the past year. It is because of their willingness to serve that Peace remains a positive force in our community and makes the varied areas of Parish Services possible. May the many hours spent as a Peace volunteer be a positive experience for everyone involved. Members of the Parish Services Committee are Diane Lind, Jan Klockmann, June Beach, Darleen Knigge, Nina Mattkins, Marsha Volkenant, Judy Radunz, Staff: Marlys Palmer. Our Mission & Ministry Rep. is Cindy Mons.

"Serve one another in love." Galatians 5:1

Marlys Palmer, Parish Services Director

PEACE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONAL FUND

The Congregational Fund Committee was established in 1993 to encourage members and friends of Peace Lutheran Church to make lasting gifts and bequests that will continue serving in their memory long after the gift is made. It is set up as an endowment fund with only the interest allowed to be used by the church.

Currently interest earned from the Congregational Fund is being directed to help pay for the building mortgage at Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). The Congregational Fund contributed \$5,000/mo. towards the building mortgage payment in 2016.

The committee is available to serve and assist you, collectively or individually. Should you have questions regarding wills, trusts, estate planning, etc. you may contact the church office or any of the committee members: Marc Max, Jim Wendling, Scott Haag, Bonnie Lickfelt, Connie Lambert.

Marc Max

BOARD OF ELDERS REPORT

For the 2017 year, the Board of Elders welcomed two new members as they joined eight returning members. The new members were Jon Bock and Gus Wurdell. They joined returning members John Lietz, Ken Quast, Matt Markgraf, Weston Plath, George Quast, Doug Brown, Jerry Haag, and Scott Brusehaver.

The Board of Elders met to elect their new leadership positions. Ken Quast was elected as the Chairman of the Board of Elders, Scott Brusehaver was elected as the Vice Chairman and Jerry Haag was elected as the Secretary.

The Elders held 12 regularly scheduled meetings, and several sub-committee meetings, with minutes being submitted to Mission and Ministry, and distributed to the other committees. We have also provided worship assistance to the Pastors during all regularly scheduled worship services throughout the year, including 4 services each weekend, 3 mid-week services during Advent and Lent, and special services for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Members of the Board of Elders also participate as liaisons to other committees such as Harmony River, Worship, Youth Ministry, and AV. Continuing our support of Peace Lutheran Church's mission of "Touching Lives with the Love and Saving Grace of Jesus" members of the Board of Elders:

1. Assisted with the monthly Harmony River Worship services, for Peace Lutheran members and non-members who currently reside at Harmony River Nursing Home.
2. Visited with several members of our congregation who have not participated in worship for some time. This will continue to be an item of attention for the Board of Elders. We also supported the work of Jan Bakken who has volunteered to reach out to those who have been absent for a significant period of time.
3. Worked with Mission and Ministry to make a recommendation to the congregation, that we swap Pastors' roles of Senior and Associate Pastor. A Call Committee was formed, to review and adjust the Position Descriptions, review salary impacts, and once again to make a recommendation to the congregation. As a result, in July, Pastors Pasche was installed as our new Senior Pastor and Pastor Bode was installed as our Associate Pastor.

Once again, as we move into 2018, the Board of Elders will continue our interest in our Youth Ministries as a basis for building the future of our Congregation, as well as supporting our Pastors and other Worship and ministry leaders as we prepare for the future of our congregation.

Ken Quast – Chairman

TRUSTEES COMMITTEE

Members: Louis Schmeling, Marvin Seller, Roger Kaufmann, Ron Swenson, Terry Knoll, Jerry Haag

Projects Completed in 2017

- 1) Seal coating and stripping of parking lots
- 2) Slab jacking sidewalks of Little Lambs Christian Center
- 3) Peace Lutheran Cemetery Expansion Proposal received approval from the Hutchinson Planning Commission-proceeding with expansion surveys
- 4) Continue landscaping projects of church properties
- 5) Made repairs and additions to the sprinkler system
- 6) Replaced two water fountains in the church
- 7) Made ramp way roof repairs

Once again thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with various maintenance and grounds keeping projects throughout the year. Special thanks to Duane Arndt and Roger Lambert for their years of service on the Trustees Committee.

The passing of Jerry Janicke has left a huge hole with the Trustees and the entire Peace Lutheran family. He is and always will be missed.

PRAYER CHAIN



*"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication,
with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."
Philippians 4:6*

Members of the Prayer Chain continue to confidentially bring prayers of spiritual and physical needs to our loving God, who, in His wisdom and timing, answers each petition. Prayers of praise and thanksgiving are gratefully offered as well.

We welcome your calls for prayer to Annette Koehler at 587-6484 or the Church office at 587-3031.

Everyone is welcome to be a part of the ministry of the prayer chain by just attending our monthly gathering on the first Monday of the month in the office Conference Room or becoming a link in the chain. Give it a try and experience God's amazing answers.

We encourage use of the daily prayers listed in the Peace Messenger each month and prayers for those listed in the Sunday bulletin.

May God bless you as you respond to His call to "pray for one another" James 5:16.

USHERS STAFF - 2018

Chief Usher: Mike McKimm

Assistant Chief Ushers: Marlin Haag, (MID-WEEK) John Lietz

***Team Captain**

****Co-Captain**

Team #1 (8:00)	Team #2 (8:00)	Team #4 (8:00)	Mid-Week Services
Glenn Witte	Rod Huls	Alan Hagen	John Lietz*
Doug Witte	Dwayne Briese	Scott Streich	Louis Schmeling
Scott Lund	Ellsworth Huls	Mike McKimm	Delton Haag
Brian Koehler	Wally Kohls	Marlin Haag	Donald Janke
Roger Lambert	Allan Fuchs	Nick Tews	Mel Klockmann
	Rusten Huls	Troy Kurth	Doug Brown
	Riley Huls	Colin McKimm	
		Owen Streich	
		Zac Wacker	

Team #3 (10:30)	Team #5 (10:30)	Team #6 (10:30)
Kyle Wendling*	Dale Froemming*	Weston Plath*
Dan Kellerman	Bryce Cassens	Brad Havemeier
Ross Wendling	Dale Schumann	Roger Kaufmann
Gus Wurdell	Joel Haag	Gary Havemeier
Jason Van Marel	Robbie Peterson	Travis Brecht
Marc Max	Ross Peterson	Ethan Kaufmann
Mitchell Max		

Saturday Night Ushers –

June Beach	Richard & Corinne Higgins	Kathy Hochsprung	John Housenick
Dean & Lisa Kirchoff	Louis & Arlene Schmeling	Marc & Brooks Telecky	

TEAM SCHEDULE FOR 2018

January	Teams 1 & 3	May	Teams 4 & 6	September	Teams 2 & 5
February	Teams 4 & 6	June	Teams 2 & 5	October	Teams 1 & 3
March	Teams 2 & 5	July	Teams 1 & 3	November	Teams 2 & 5
April	Teams 1 & 3	August	Teams 4 & 6	December	Teams 4 & 6

2018 Special Services Midweek Ushers

11:30 am Lenten Services – (Wed) Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 4, 11, & 18

11:30 am Maundy Thursday – March 29, Noon Good Friday – March 30

11:30 am Advent Services – December 5, 12 & 19

Date	Service	Time	Team	Date	Service	Time	Team
Feb. 14	Ash Wed	6:45 pm	6	Nov. 21	Thanksgiving Eve	6:45 pm	6
Feb. 21	Lenten (Wed.)	6:45 pm	1	Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Day	9:00 am	4
Feb. 28	Lenten (Wed.)	6:45 pm	3	Dec. 5	Advent	6:45 pm	3
Mar. 7	Lenten (Wed.)	6:45 pm	5	Dec. 2	Advent	6:45 pm	1
Mar. 14	Lenten (Wed.)	6:45 pm	2	Dec. 16	Children's Service	3:00 pm	3
Mar. 21	Lenten (Wed.)	6:45 pm	4	Dec. 19	Advent	6:45 pm	5
Mar. 29	Maundy Thurs	6:45 pm	6	Dec. 24	Children's Service	3:00 pm	4
Mar. 30	Good Friday	6:45 pm	2	Dec. 24	Candlelight	5:00 pm	1
Apr. 1	Easter Sunday	6:30 am	4	Dec. 24	Candlelight	7:00 pm	6
Apr. 1	Easter Sunday	8:00 am	1	Dec. 24	Candlelight	10:00 pm	2
Apr. 1	Easter Sunday	9:15 am	5	Dec. 25	Christmas Day	9:00 am	5
Apr. 1	Easter Sunday	8:30 am	3	Dec. 31	New Year' Eve	6:45 pm	4

Prince of Peace



301 Glen Street SW
Hutchinson, MN 55350
(320) 234-7588
Cell: (320) 583-2117
Fax: (320) 234-6355

Retirement Living

Website: www.poprl.org
E-mail: merline@poprl.org

Prince of Peace Retirement Living (POPRL) has been in operation since 1995. Our mission continues to be the top priority of the Board of Directors and the staff. We celebrated another successful year, which is only possible by the Grace of God and good staff. Please visit our web page, www.poprl.org for information regarding this mission.

Prince of Peace Retirement Living has undergone a continued change of residents; 39 apartments are rented as this report is being written. POPRL finished the year at 92% occupancy with 1 open apartment and four individuals on the waiting list.

The ministry of "touching the lives of others with the Love and Saving Grace of Jesus" through Peace Lutheran Church also continues to be very rewarding not only to the Board of Directors and staff, but also to the Residents. Paul Berg's willingness help with the Spiritual growth of our residents through Tuesday Bible Study is such a blessing. Weekly, Our Savior's Bible Study group meets in the dining room. St. A's communion group meets weekly in one of their member's apartment and has conducted several series of Bible Studies in the conference room. Monthly, Pastor Lemke provides communion to PLC members. We are continuing to fulfill Prince of Peace Retirement Living's philosophy "to provide ministry and guidance to all our Christian residents" through these activities.

Prince of Peace Retirement Living' annual fund raising continues to grow allowing us to provide services we offer our residents at a low cost to them. Please contact Destini Doring directly if you have any questions regarding future endowments or donations.

Special thanks are also to all the volunteers and professional persons that have provided special services (board members, dining, entertainment, crafts, and assistance) to residents living at POPRL. 97 volunteers have provided over 1,375 hours of service this past year alone, many who are PLC members.

July will be my 20th year of service here at POPRL. Destini Doring, LouAnn Kulberg, Frank Pfarr, Lindsay Muchow, Angie Miller, Colleen Bird, and Dixie Pfarr complete the staff.

2017 Board of Directors - President Dale Froemming, Vice-President Renee Clabo, Treasurer John Kalenberg, Secretary and Liaison to Peace Lutheran Church Doug Brown, Mark Yira, Bev Wangerin, and John Sanken.

By the grace of God and with the continued prayers and support of the members of Peace Lutheran Church, the ministry to Prince of Peace Retirement Living will flourish.

Merline Duerig - Executive Director

DORCAS WOMEN IN MISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Dorcas society meets the second Thursday in each month to conduct its meetings as members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League - Minnesota So. District. The focus of Dorcas is mission work, local and outreach projects. Dorcas is divided into groups and committees.

- Funeral Group served many funerals this past year and the donations received from families and offerings from others go toward our funding.
- Cheer Committee visits shut-ins monthly and cards are mailed to others on their special occasions.
- Mission Service Group meets twice monthly and have made approximately 100 quilts throughout the year.
- Fifty-one layettes were assembled and sent to Lutheran World Relief. Several boxes of rolled bandages were sent to Global Health Ministries.
- Dorcas supports a student, Brian Shane, at Concordia Seminary, through the time of his ordination.

Local projects Dorcas provides support to are: PLC Audio - Video Fund, Common Cup Ministries, Little Lambs Christian Center, PLC - Tell the next Generation: Principal, Prince of Peace, OSL tuition - two students, Back Pack Program- Hunger McLeod, McLeod County Veterans Service.

Other outreach projects - Orphan Grain Train, Terebinth Refuge in St. Cloud, large print Portals of Prayer, LCMS Disaster Relief, National Mite Offerings, Alaska Mission for Christ, Alaska Mission- three students, LWML Convention Offering, LWML Gifts from the Heart, Camp Omega, Zone Rally gifts /Disaster Response, Wheat Ridge and Bethesda Communities for a total of \$8,370.00. Mite box offerings from the congregation and Dorcas were \$ 1,744.00.

“Serve the Lord with Gladness“ Psalm 100: 2

Respectfully Submitted,
Marianne Johnson, Secretary

ANNUAL DORCAS STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

January - December 2017

Balance Forward January 1, 2017 **\$6,237.32**

Receipts:

Offerings	\$3,070.00
Mites	\$1,744.84
Funerals	\$3,100.00
Memorials & Special Donations	\$1,845.00
Donations Fall Letter	\$695.00
4/29 Luncheon	\$1,360.00
Card Shop Sales	\$660.50
Interest on Checking Account	\$5.28

Total Income **\$12,480.62**

Receipts and Balance **\$18,717.94**

Disbursements:

Mission Projects	\$7,500.00
Memorials to LWML	\$90.00
Mileage -Bethesda	\$385.00
Card Shop	\$374.66
Mites to LWML	\$1,744.84
Tax on Card Sales	\$52.00
Convention Offering	\$494.00
LWML Quarterlies	\$200.00
4/29 Luncheon Speaker & Expenses	\$613.57
Lg. Print Portals of Prayer - 4 Quarters	\$960.00
Convention Registration & Expenses	\$351.08
LWML Dues and Equalization Fee	\$452.00
Postage	\$147.00
Annual Meeting Lunch	\$208.91
Supplies & Miscellaneous Expenses	\$738.60

Total Disbursements **\$14,311.66**

Balance December 31, 2017 **\$4,406.28**

Melva Plath, Treasurer