Dear Members,

We are a loving community called by God’s grace – that all know the Peace of God.

I wanted to share a little about how the early Christian Church displays our new Vision Statement!

1.) From the start of the New Testament, church was a community filled with God’s love! It was a community formed and centered on the love Jesus has displayed in His death and resurrection.

2.) God is speaking and believers are listening (everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself). God is giving gifts and believers are receiving gifts. They have surrounded themselves with the Word of God - “the apostles’ teaching,” as well as the sacraments, “baptism” and “the breaking of bread.”

3.) God comes to them with gifts of grace and they respond with faith and devotion. And it is witnessed by the community in “Baptism”, “fellowship” and devotion to “the prayers.” (worship)

They supported their community & ministry. (distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need) They were out together at temple, in their homes – (having favor with all the people). This was not an exclusive group but one that desired - That All Know the Peace of God.

This biblical account testifies to the regular manner in which these believers worshipped and reached out to unbelievers. As such, their worship and witness was the beginning of the resurrected Jesus’ call for believers to testify and teach about him to the ends of the earth:

“8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” Acts 1:8.

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” Matthew 28:19-20.

Peace Lutheran has been blessed with a new Vision statement for 2020. The Lord has revealed what it should look like (vision) – now we prayerfully ask for God’s guidance!

So this is my prayer for 2020:
The members of Peace will continue to develop as disciples of Jesus. (Connect, Grow and Serve)
And as we follow our Lord - He would help us to be a Loving Community, Called by God’s Grace so that Hutchinson would begin to be a community of Peace – That All Know the Peace of God.

In His Service,
Pastor John Pasche
This report provides an overview of some of the ways God blessed Peace Lutheran during 2019, and some of the ways in which our Peace Lutheran family members served. We hope you will be excited and encouraged by what God is doing here, and challenged to grow and be involved in new ways in 2020!
MISSIONAL FORMATION

2019 - the beginning of a new path for Peace

Congregational Consultation Report

Mission Formation – Prescription Steering Committee
On March 31, 2019 Dr. Phillip Johnson, Assistant to the President for Mission Formation, MN South District, issued his report to the members of Peace Lutheran Church. The report was the result of Dr. Phil and his consultation team members working with Pastor Pasche, the PLC staff, lay leaders and members of PLC to assess the current condition of PLC. The report included Observations, Commendations, Concerns and Prescriptions. On April 28, 2019 the Congregation approved the Report with a 91% vote.

The approved report includes recommendations for action by PLC in the form of five Prescriptions. In May 2019 Pastor Pasche assembled the Prescription Steering Committee, a team of 8 members including Pastor Pasche, to Manage the process and shepherd the process forward. The Prescriptions timetable extends through the year 2022. Current status is communicated in the Rx Prescription Pad status in the weekly Bulletins; names and contact information of each of the 8 team members are also included and the team members are available to everyone. Additional information is included on the website, in the Monthly Messenger and in other PLC communications.

The Current Status and Timetable of Each Prescription:

Prescription 1 Vision – Target adoption date is July 1, 2020
The 9 member Vision Prescription team was selected and their efforts were facilitated by Rev. Mark Frith utilizing LCEF Vision Path. On October 9, 2019 Rev. Frith and his team facilitated a PLC congregational “Vision Event” to review the Vision approach and provide specific Vision input from the Congregation. That Congregational input was used by the Vision Prescription team, working with Rev Frith to recommend a Vision “We are a loving community called by God’s grace - that all know the Peace of God”. The recommended vision was presented to the Congregation on December 8, 2019. The Vision has been widely communicated within PLC and the Congregation has a 90 day window to understand the Vision and provide Vision feedback. Final adoption of the Vision by the Congregation is expected on or about March 8, 2020.

Prescription 2 Structure – Target implementation date is September 1, 2020
The Structure Prescription considers three key components
1) The directives of the congregation (Constitution, Bylaws and Voters Assemblies)
2) Policy based governance and oversight through the Mission & Ministry Council
3) The many ministries of PLC. Kurt Bickel, Cornerstone Consulting, has been engaged to facilitate the Structure prescription with Ministry review from Rev Mark Frith LCEF “Ministry Planning”.
This process will have 2 key focuses:
1) Policy development and implementation. Policy development and oversight is the responsibility of the PLC governing body, the Mission and Ministry Council and policy compliance is the responsibility of the PLC Ministries.
2) Evaluation and Alignment. The ministries of PLC will be evaluated and aligned within the PLC structure in sync with the adopted Vision, in compliance with the established policies and in accord with the established procedures.

The Steering Committee has set July 31, 2020 as the Structure Prescription implementation date.
A Message from Congregation President: Nick Brellenthin

Dear Members of Peace,

The faithful members of the Mission and Ministry council are Nick Brellenthin; President, Lee Uldbjerg; Vice President, Colleen Dostal; Secretary, Troy Puckett; Treasurer, Kim Borka, Chuck Jones, Cindy Mons, Heidi Sickmann, and Barb Otte. All members of this council have worked with diligent hearts to carry out the duties that have been put in front of us this past year.

I would like to thank the members of Peace Lutheran for recognizing the opportunities we were given this past year and having the courage to embrace them. The prescriptions that the members have approved will help guide us back onto a path that will focus on our mission at Peace Lutheran.

I want to say a special “Thank You” to all who are and have volunteered on the many different boards, committees, and individual service commitments during the past year. Dedicating time to serve the Lord is seldom convenient but it is our response to God’s Love and Grace. I also want to thank Pastor Pasche, Pastor Bode, and the great staff we have at Peace Lutheran for their vision and hard work that at times goes unnoticed and unappreciated.

As we move through 2020 I would like to extend the challenge to the members of Peace Lutheran to stay united in the Love of our Lord, work hard on completing the prescriptions that we approved, and spread the peace of God through the community of Hutchinson.

Sincerely,

Nick Brellenthin

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2019 MUSIC MINISTRY

The Handbells were sent to the Schulmerich factory in Pennsylvania and completely refurbished. The original bells are 40 years old and were in desperate need of restoration. Several Thrivent Action Grants and proceeds from the Summer Recital Luncheons made this financially possible.

We welcome you to join us in sharing your gifts and talents on one of the music ministry teams at Peace, please contact Dr. Joan DeVee Dixon, 320.587.3031.

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2019 PARISH REPORT

A Complete PARISH REPORT for 2019 can be found at plchutch.org/resources-media/. You can also stop in the Church Office and ask for a printed copy.

- Church Attendance
- Baptisms
- Confirmants
- Weddings
- Deaths
- Membership Changes

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2020 WORSHIP

- The worship committee and elders will be discussing the possibility of worship schedule changes for the Summer months.
- We look forward to the call of a new Associate Pastor.

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JOIN A GROUP & SERVE!

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:
Acolytes: Pastor Pasche
Audio-Video teams: Kevin Schmuhl, Eric and Monica Padnos, Justin, Branden & Michael Evenson, Brian, Cole and Reese Gartner, Ross Peterson, Darrell Rusch, David Hines, and Connor and Sam Reiter.
Kitchen volunteers: Marlys Palmer
Little Lambs Christian Center

**Director:** Rhonda Hulzebos

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. LLCC offers education programs for Infants through Preschool in addition, LLCC has added a Kindergarten Readiness program for the year before children start kindergarten. 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!

2019

2019 was an incredible year at Little Lambs Christian Center. As we saw our numbers continue to 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 LLCC. 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 LLCC ministry has touched over 100 children and 80 families in 2019.

2020

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 LLCC 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.

Early Childhood Ministry

**Early Childhood Ministry Coordinator:** Stacy Miller

On Sunday mornings at Sunday School, our Early Childhood Ministry Program teaches 3 yr, 4 yr and kindergarteners about Jesus through activities, crafts, music and Bible stories. Our goal is to instill the importance of a life-long relationship with Jesus.

2019

January - we sent well wishes of our hand prints on a gigantic heart-shape to Jayme Closs.
March - we collected diapers for community children.
April - we grew grass cups for Gethsemane gardens celebrating Jesus death and resurrection for our sins.
May - we celebrated the graduation of 22 Kindergarteners from ECM to Children’s Ministry. Throughout the year we also participated in Palm Sunday, Vacation Bible School, Rally Sunday, 4 Family Worship Services, & 2 Christmas Programs.

2020

We welcome ALL children to ECM and encourage them to bring friends. Our goal is to continue to teach children how to develop life-long relationships with Jesus that are authentic and encourage them to love whole heartedly to all those around them. Many thanks to Peace members for your continued support of ECM.
Children’s Ministries

Director of Children’s Ministry: Sandy Kephart

The goal of Children’s Ministry is to provide programming for children to grow in their faith and provide opportunities for children to share the love of Christ. We are thankful for all of the help and encouragement we have received from the congregation. God has blessed us with many dedicated teachers and helpers, and many that are willing to give of their time and talents to teach the next generation.

2019
Children of Peace had opportunities to grow in their faith through Sunday school, Youth group, Mission Awareness Programs, Release Time, Vacation Bible School, which meets the first full week of Summer vacation. Art in The Park, outreach program and Spring Break Art workshops.

Worship
The Children have had opportunities to participate in two Children’s Christmas programs. The children have also had 5 family worship services that they had the opportunity participated in.

Service
This year we have made an even greater effort to share the love of Jesus through different service projects. Some of these projects include Operation Christmas Child, making Christmas cards for shut ins, tying blankets, making Valentines and prayer bracelets for soldiers that are deployed.

2020
Children’s ministry is looking forward to growing in our faith and discovering new ways that we to can implement the vision of Peace.

Youth Ministries

Youth Committee Chair: Becky Puckett

The goal of the middle school and high school program is to provide opportunities for the youth to grow in their faith.

2019
Sunday Morning Bible Study
Youth meet at Peace Place for Sunday school for breakfast and then lesson time. MS students meet on the main floor and have studied video-based series on Galatians and Proverbs. Their offerings go toward caring for others in need and have given towards dresses for widows in India and toilet paper for the food shelf. Last fall, Heidi Sickmann started Sunday school for HS students. They meet in the lower level of Peace Place. The average weekly Sunday school attendance at Peace Place is 17 students.

Worship
MS and HS Youth were involved in the Christmas programs. Seventeen students participated as readers, singers, and actors. Students have taken active roles in leading the family worship services.

Service
Service opportunities this past year have been a Matthew 14:16 meal, Trick or Treat for the food shelf and Free Lunch Thursdays for HS kids. We implemented “Sign-Up Genius, a free online software tool for volunteer management of kids & parents for Youth opportunities. Last Summer, eight MS students participated in mission trips, and seven HS students attended the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.

2020
We are looking forward to:
• Using our digital knowledge to learn about and share our faith. Look for posts on Facebook that have been created by the youth!
• Performing skits for upcoming Lenten and family services.
• A new service project for many of our youth – packing meals at Feed My Starving Children, February 28!
• This summer, we are looking forward to the trip to Lutheran Island Camp for 6th gr and YouthWorks trip to Duluth for 7th & 8th gr.
• Youth and their parents are involved in a number of fundraisers throughout the year. A big upcoming fundraiser is the Annual Fish Fry on Friday, March 13.
GROW

Grow together in God’s Word in small group settings

- **Confirmation (6 grade)**
  
  Pastor John Pasche

  Peace Lutheran has asked our members to include 6th Grade as a part of a three-year Confirmation Program. The 6th grade year better prepares 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 worship and a preview of the 6 chief parts of the Lutheran faith. If you would like to help or learn more about Confirmation or being a mentor, please contact Pastor John Pasche.

- **Confirmation (7-8 grade)**
  
  Pastor John Pasche

  Peace Lutheran is well into another Confirmation year! Dr. Dixon and I have been conducting opening worship with our evening 6th, 7th and 8th grade 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 great 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!

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

- **Post High School**
  
  Pastor John Pasche

  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. We are 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 with or learn about this ministry contact Pastor John Pasche.
Adult Education

Minister of Adult Education: Paul A. Berg

“Finding, Following God’s Directions”
“May the Lord direct Your Hearts to the Love of God And the Steadfastness of Christ”  2 Thessalonians 3:5

Have you never been on a trip in a car and you take the wrong turn and end up lost? Immediately one of the passengers says, “Why didn’t you follow the GPS directions” or Why don’t you look at a map?” or “Why don’t you stop and ask for directions?”

We as Christians often face a similar dilemma. God makes it absolutely clear that we are Strangers on this earth, far from our heavenly home. As we travel through life we too can end up taking the wrong road and end up lost, Spiritually lost!

The Apostle Paul in his second letter to the Thessalonians, chapter 3, verse 5, reminds us we desperately need God’s directions in our lives. That direction is available to each of us through the reading and study of God’s Word, the Bible. This is accomplished through our commitment on a personal level to the reading of God’s Word and by participating with others in a group Bible Study. God in His Grace has provided His Word that we may grow in knowledge and understanding of His Plan and Direction for our life. God has created, called, and redeemed us through faith in Jesus Christ, giving each of us gifts, abilities and purpose in life. The power of the Holy Spirit works through the Word and brings us growth in our relationship with Jesus and a greater understanding of His directions necessary to keep us on the road to eternal life.

It is my prayer as we enter the year 2020, you will engage yourself in God’s Word through the many opportunities available at Peace Lutheran including individual, Sunday Mornings, and Small Groups.

Visitation Ministry

Visitation Pastor: Layton Lemke

As I write this report during my visitation week in January several individuals in care facilities stated that they had felt so lonely, but now, after my visits they feel better, that God is really close, and not so far away. - And that’s what this ministry, to members of Peace and others that join in at several locations, is all about, bringing God’s presences to them through Word and Sacrament. He is the One whose closeness they need to feel and the accompanying comfort and peace.

As I visit private homes or apartments, the doors are unlocked, chairs are in place and warm greetings and smiles await me. I couldn’t ask for a better “job.” It is a lot of work, but I like to work and totally enjoy it.

The welcomes I receive from the staff at facilities are warm and wonderful. And I believe that Peace Lutheran is much acknowledged and appreciated for what it does for people in circumscribed situations and with closure to life awaiting them. Thanks to the congregation for supporting me and this ministry to usually over ninety people each month, sometimes over one hundred. With the drive time for the 560 odd miles and 30 some stops I usually spend about 46 hours for the week. This is my 20th year.

If you or a family member is in need of home visitation, or at a facility, please feel free to contact the church office, or me directly at 612-709-2370.

GROW

Grow together in God’s Word in small group settings
Prince of Peace Retirement Living

Executive Director: Merline Duering

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.

2019
• POPRL began a major change this year, when the Board of Directors decided to go ahead with an expansion. We are adding a new neighborhood (wing) which will include 11 new apartments (Large One Bedroom), an exercise room, a family room, and 14 more garages. This addition will also include a remodel of some common areas and relocation of the offices. We are excited to see the new coming to fruition but embrace the “old - tried and true” in keeping with our mission.

• Destini Doering continued, with great success, to set up free education through our Aging Adults and Parents meeting, while highlighting a different topic each month.

• Special thanks are in order to all the volunteers and professional persons that have provided special services (board members, dining, entertainment, crafts, and assistance) to residents living at POPRL. Our volunteers have provided over 1,439 hours of service this past year alone, many who are PLC members.

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.

Board of Elders

Chairman: Ken Quast

2019
Continuing our support of Peace Lutheran Church’s mission, 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 Living Center.
2. Assisted with all weekly, Lenten and Advent Worship services in the Sanctuary as well as in the Peace Center.

2020
As we move into 2020, the 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 work through the structure portion of our prescriptions, preparing for the future of our congregation.

Trustees

Chairman: Justin Evenson, Louis Schmeling, Duane Arndt, Marvin Seller, Roger Kaufmann, Roger Lambert, Ron Swenson, Jerry Haag
Parish Health Ministry

Members: Renee Clabo, Mary Haag, Sally Moehring, Marith Witte, Shirley Wurdell

2019
Parish Health continued with: blood pressure checks, monthly bloodmobiles, distributing prayer shawls, hosting driver discount/improvement programs, organizing a Relay for Life team, coordinating with Common Cup, providing Peace meals, taxi service, and we also hosted a community program that addressed Suicide Prevention in rural communities, especially among farmers.

2020
We are exploring resources for Pain Management while continuing our existing programs.

Prayer Chain

Members: Annette Kohler, Arlene Benshoof

Prayer Chain has been taking requests for prayers since the early 1970’s. We have prayed for and given thanks for over 8,000 prayers. Our goal for the coming year are to encourage new members to join our prayer chain. Please call the church office at 320-587-3031 or Annette Kohler at 587-6484 to request prayers for yourself or others. Our heavenly Father answers all prayers.

Congregational Services

Congregational Services members: Judy Radunz, Jan Klockmann, Diane Lind, June Beach, Marsha Volkenant, Nina Mattkins

Congregational Services Committee is a very busy group. Part of their responsibility is organizing and helping at the many social and meal events along with reaching out to the community with fellowship events and assisting with nonmember fundraisers.

2019
The committee feels the highlight of the year was the Annual Christmas Cookie Sale. The sale not only brings in funds for our church but the fellowship that happens during the baking days is truly amazing. Everyone has a positive and fun attitude. Anyone is welcome to join in at any of the events or to become part of our committee. We were sad to loose Darleen Knigge this year. We were blessed with her service many years.

2020
Congregational Services Committee has two goals for the coming year. One, to plan more community wide events, and two, to organize and control the kitchen inventory to make the Peace Center kitchen more efficient for everyone who uses our facility.

“Serve one another in LOVE.” Galations 5:1
Community Outreach

Matthew 14:16
Today, within the family at Peace Lutheran and the community of Hutchinson, there are those in need of something to eat, especially towards the end of each month. The mission of the “Matthew 14:16 Ministry” is to provide a nutritious meal once a month to those in need. The meals are served in an atmosphere encompassed in the love of Jesus through respect, dignity, and caring hospitality. The meals are served from 5:00-6:30 p.m. every third Friday of the month. There are three ways in which you can assist: 1) Pray for the Matthew 14:16 Ministry. 2) Help in preparing and serving. 3) Serve as a table host (sitting and eating with the guests who attend).

REACH Outreach Dinner
Families come together at Peace Lutheran each December to celebrate a great group of students at A Holiday Celebration Outreach Dinner hosted by Hutchinson High School, the REACH Program, and Peace Lutheran. We serve approximately 350 people at the dinner – it’s a wonderful evening to recognizing accomplishments of students! We are in our seventh year.

Operation Christmas Child
In November, Peace participates in Operation Christmas Child. This program collects shoeboxes filled with gifts and delivers them to children in need around the world. Every one of these shoebox gifts is an opportunity for the Gospel. We are in our seventh year. In 2019 we packed 350 shoeboxes. Thank you for your generous donation to support this mission.

Dorcas: Women in Mission

President: Sharon Christensen, Secretary: Carol Kubasch, Treasurer: Melva Plath, Christian Life: Nona Anderson, LWML Deligate: Barb Otte, LWML Alternate: RoxAnn Lauer, Past President: Judy Radunz

The Dorcas Society is a women’s organization at Peace Lutheran Church dedicated to outreach with the message of the Gospel, both locally and throughout the world. Our main focus as an organization is Mission Outreach.

2019
We donated $6,963 to various mission projects, including a seminary student, Orphan Grain Train, Large Print Portals of Prayer and many other local and national missions. Mission Sewing completed 188 quilts, seven were given to Common Cup and 181 were sent to Peru, and 77 layettes were completed which were sent to Nicaragua. We also hosted the Crow River Conference Rally for LWML.

If you would like more information on the Dorcas at Peace Lutheran, visit the website plchutch.org/serve/mission-trips/#dorcas-womeninmission.

Congregational Fund

Committee Members: Marc Max, Jim Wendling, Scott Haag, Bonnie Lickfelt, Connie Lambert

The Congregational Fund Committee 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, all 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 is contributing $5,000/mo. towards the $17,577.37 monthly payment that is made to LCEF.

The committee is available to serve and assist you, collectively or individually, should you have questions regarding wills, trusts, estate planning, etc. please contact the church office or any of the members.