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Peace Lutheran Church

# ANNUAL REPORT



Photo by Shane Kruse

*Here brought together by grace — We are gathered as friends in this place.  
And assembled as one, In the name of the Son, Lifting hearts, lifting hands,  
Celebrating as friends, And proclaiming the Lord, All our praises afford.*

*We are brothers and sisters in Christ.*



[plchutch.org](http://plchutch.org)

400 Franklin St. SW. Hutchinson, MN ✠ 320.587.3031



*...serve him faithfully with all your heart;  
consider what great things he has done for you.*

*1 Samuel 12:24*

## **Peace Lutheran Church Staff**

**Pastors:** Rev Glenn Meyer, Senior Pastor, IIM (began July 2022)  
Rev Gerhard H. Bode, Pastor Emeritus - assisting  
Rev Joseph Asher, Vacancy Pastor (thru July 2022)  
Rev James Fuchs, Vacancy Pastor (thru July 2022)  
Rev Layton Lemke, Visitation Pastor

**Director of Music:** Dr. Joan DeVee Dixon

**Sunday School Coordinator:** Deaconess Dr. Jennie Asher

**Volunteer Youth Coordinator:** Sadie Jenkins

**Volunteer Coord of Early Childhood Ministry:** Missy Kohls

**Administrator/Bookkeeping/HR:** Sue Kroyer

**Communications Coord/Administrator Assist:** Lisa Kirchoff

**Bookkeeper:** Mike Eggert

**Parish Services:** Marlys Palmer (thru June 2022)

**Custodians:** Ken Wornson, Dennis Jannusch, (thru April 2022)

Sarah Radunz, Joe Hilsen

**Parish Health:** Shirley Wurdell, Renee Clabo

## **Peace Lutheran Church Officers**

### **Church Council**

**President:** Steve Wick

**Vice President:** Lynn Brown (thru May 2022) Chuck Jones

**Secretary:** Kim Borka

**Treasurer:** Kevin Heikes (thru May 2022)

**Council Board:** Chuck Jones, Barb Otte, Shirley Ulbjerg,  
Kathy Hochsprung, Brad Wick

### **Board of Elders**

**Chairman:** Robbie Peterson,

**Vice Chair:** Justin Evenson

**Secretary:** Jeff Weckwerth

Doug Brown, John Lietz, Matthew Markgraf, George Quast,  
Dale Schumann, Wayne Vinkemeier, and Peter White.

## **Little Lambs Christian Center Staff**

(thru 5/22)

**Director:** Heather Pagel (thru 2/23) Merline Duering

**Assistant Director/Teacher:** Megan Schlueter

**Infant Teacher:** Bethanie Vossen

**Toddler Teacher:** Amanda Lokensgard

**Toddler Teacher:** Andrea Rubischko

**Preschool Teacher:** Angela Kuttner

**Preschool Teacher:** Jenessa Kosek

**Pre-K Teacher:** Robin Kruse

**Pre-K/School Age Teacher:** Carli Balster

**Kitchen Aide:** Janelle Katzenmeyer

**Floating Aide:** Paige Sturges

**Floating Aide:** Cherish Jorgensen

**Floating Aide:** Karlee Wolff

In a letter to the Little Lambs Community on 5/19/2022,  
Merline Duering, Interim Executive Director wrote:

*"The Church Council voted to close the center, effective  
May 27, 2022. We apologize for the difficulty this will place  
on your family. It is the Council's desire to sincerely and  
prayerfully seek God's will as we look for options to reopen  
the center at some future date."*

Please note in Pastor Meyer's Annual Report letter #3 reference to Little Lambs Christian Center, "We have a team working on finding a way to restart our preschool & childcare ministries in a viable, sustainable manner."

## **Prince of Peace Retirement Living Board**

**President:** Gary Havemeier

**Vice President:** Dan Mahon

**Treasurer:** Sue Trautman

**Secretary/Liaison to PLC:** Cindy Mons

**Board:** Renee Bryan, Jon Carrigan, Scott Haag

**Exec. Director:** Destini Doring

Thank you to ALL the volunteers, teachers, mentors, board members,  
& committee groups at Peace who tirelessly give their time  
and resources in carrying out our mission . . .

*We are a loving community, called by God's grace – that all will know the peace of God.*



## A Message from our Pastor: Rev Glenn Meyer, IIM



Dear Members & Friends of Peace Lutheran Church:

I have learned from my wife Sue to often say, "God is good!.... All the time!.... All the time!..... God is good!" I think of Romans 8:28 (NIV) "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

I have been serving as your Intentional Interim Pastor (IIM) since August, 2022. We have faced challenges this year, we have made mistakes, and we have experienced some amazing blessings. I thank God for the many excellent people of faith whom I have come to already know here at Peace and in the Hutch area. God continues to be at work among and through us as His people of faith.

### Some things in process:

**1. Setting up the Interim Task Force (ITF) who will start meeting in February.**

[As shared at our Fireside Chats (close to 170 members & friends of Peace were part of this effort) – the ITF will process all the notes gathered and will seek additional information from various sources. They will put together a report about Peace Lutheran: our strengths, weaknesses, issues identified, what has been done, is being planned, still needs to be addressed, opportunities for ministry, and what we think our key signature ministries should be going forward in Christ! They will share their report with the congregation in a Town Hall meeting here at church, possibly late April. If accepted by the congregation, this report will start our call process with district.]

**2. The staff and a couple of volunteers have put together an application for a DCE Intern.** We are hopeful for a positive reception. We were also told that there are twice as many applications as interns. "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few, beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers!"

**3. We have a team working on finding a way to restart our preschool & childcare ministries in a viable, sustainable manner.** (Watch for reports.)

**4. We made some efforts to sell or rent our Peace Place to a Christian ministry** – this does not appear to currently be an option. We are taking the approach to accept Peace Place as a resource from God to be used in ministry.

**5. Working to expand Junior Youth & Senior Youth ministry efforts.**

I and other volunteers are working to be able to meet with parents & youth in finding ways to reopen the Peace Place and also in other ways to expand our youth fellowship, involvement, Bible Class & mission opportunities.

**6. Working to have a God-pleasing Ministry Financial Support Plan (budget).** We are committed to having a balanced, sustainable, detailed support plan that will never spend what doesn't need to be spent, support our staff, and maintains our commitments to missions.

**7. Have started our 'Debt Free in 7 Years Initiative'.** We have paid off much of our building debt, (over half?) but need to now finish paying off the remaining debt from the remodeling, elevator, sprinkler system additions we made in the Berg Center (current debt: \$2,280,000). [We need to average about \$28,000 per month towards principal.] (Watch for exciting updates on this effort.) Our general ministry support budget covers the interest costs.

**8. We attempted a Stewardship & Commitment Sunday effort in November.** Many chose not to sign their commitments, so it did not inform the church budget process for 2023. However, it did have a positive impact on leading people to prayerfully consider all their financial blessings and respond with first-fruit giving, tithes, and offerings of thanks and praise to God. Our costs are being watched closely. Our giving appears to be on a growing trend.

**9. We managed to set aside \$50,000 as a General Reserve Fund** (at the end of the year) that will be kept for those rare instances where we may need help with cash flow. We will maintain this reserve fund, replenish it from our General Fund if/when necessary after Easter & after December 31 of each year. In this way we hope to never have to use our Line of Credit with the bank and this will help us keep our pledge to never borrow from designated funds.

**10. Pastor Bode is teaching Bible Class in the Peace Center Sunday mornings. Pastor Asher is teaching a class in the Berg Center on Sundays through May.** We are thrilled to see so many adults attending Bible Class on Sunday and throughout the week. Come and join us!



11. We rejoice in again seeing more children in Sunday School and are making efforts to encourage and welcome more and more of these children, with their parents, at our weekend worship services.

12. The importance of us returning to and staying focused on the mission of Peace: "We are a loving community, called by God's grace – that all may know the peace of God."

As I hope you can see, there are a lot of things happening. At so many levels we see God's hand of guidance and blessing, and we rejoice and praise God!

In all things, we seek to honor God, support and expand His kingdom work, and encourage and show compassion to our fellow Christians, starting with our own families and our household of faith here at Peace Lutheran.

We are working hard to have a culture of love, care, compassion and kindness going forward which will be exhibited by all members, leaders and staff! Yes, we will deal with whatever needs to be dealt with. Yes, we will trust the entire congregation with details of financial support for ministry, budgets, and ministry concerns. We will not allow any to 'lord it over others' but will instead encourage servant leadership. We have seen the importance of recognizing our fellow Christians as members of the Body of Christ. People who are to be accepted and valued for their thoughts, gifts and insights to the ministry we all share in Christ!

Not one of us has all the answers. But, together, God has given us the various gifts, insights, talents and resources to do all that He has called us to do.

Yes, it takes true love for the Lord! It takes total commitment and a willingness to maintain our Lord Jesus as Lord of ALL of our life! It's not easy, but it is so worth it! I'm in, totally! – What say you? Let's experience together what God has in mind for Peace Lutheran this coming year, and for the years to come. Let's set a good and secure foundation in Christ, maintain a culture of love and respect, and a profound desire, in ALL things, 'Not my will, but God's will be done!'

And in anything good that happens to God be all the glory and praise!

In Christ,  
Rev. Glenn Meyer  
Intentional Interim Pastor (IIM)  
Senior Pastor, Peace Lutheran, Hutchinson, MN

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## A Message from Congregation President

2022 has been a very interesting year to say the very least; the church Council made some hard business decisions that needed to be addressed, none of which were taken lightly. I would very much like to thank Pastors Asher and Fuchs for their help during this time of transition, until PLC could call Intentional Interim Minister Glenn Meyer, to help navigate the church through this difficult time of healing.

The following are some of PLC Council's activities. Provide Council minutes to the congregation faster. Council has changed the monthly meeting date to facilitate this endeavor so that information can be available to the congregation in a timely manner. Once again, the Messenger is on a monthly basis according to PLC policy instead of every other month. An organizational structure chart was completed by the establishment of a flow chart detailing operations. This linear chart shows how communications(operations) flows between the congregation to the Council, the Council to Boards, staff and committees as well as the operational flow with staff reporting to the appropriate person in the chain of command. We are in the process of getting a current orientation manual in place for the Council and its new members, a policy manual updated so staff has the needed information at the ready to keep confusion to a minimum when questions arise. The Council is taking the initial steps of investigating the possibility of a DCE hire. The Council is building a solid foundation for the future so PLC operates in most effective and efficient manner as possible. We are entering a period which I will call "reset phase" or "new beginning" where PLC will be entering into the process of calling a new minister.

I, as Council President and as a member of Peace Lutheran Church, would very much like to encourage members to step forward and use your gifts and talents to serve God. We all have an opportunity to reach out and touch lives, with family, at work, in the community at large or wherever you may be at any given time. For those of you not attending on a regular basis, I personally invite you to attend PLC worship services and explore our education opportunities offered to all adults and children. Come, join us in celebrating the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Steven Wick, President  
Peace Lutheran Church Council

# CONNECT

*Connect to God and His people in Worship & Music*

2022

## **WORSHIP, MUSIC and Audio-Video Ministries**

**Director of Music:** Dr. Joan DeVee Dixon

We are grateful for the leadership and talents shared by those participating in the worship, music and audio-video ministries. We continue to look for additional volunteers who have a passion for serving with their talents in these areas.

### **Handbells**

Tony and Abigail Amundson  
Cheryl Huls  
Abby McKimm Westlund  
Jeff and Melissa Weckwerth  
Liz Brusehaver  
Arlene Benshoof  
Renee Clabo  
Jacquelyn Dixon  
David Hines  
Paul Otte

### **Audio Video Ministry**

Kevin Schmuhl  
Evenson family  
Peterson family  
Kruse family  
Gartner family  
Sturges family  
Jacquelyn Dixon  
Bob Sylvester  
David Hines

### **Praise Team**

Renae McKimm  
Deb Wiprud  
Gene Ebnet  
Arlene Benshoof  
Amy Paulson  
Sadie Jenkins  
Kevin Pfau  
Kenny Wornson  
Shane Kruse

This summer, Pastor Meyer, the church council and Elders adopted a new worship schedule for Peace. Worship service times were changed to Saturday at 6:30pm, and Sundays at 8:30am in the Sanctuary and 10:30am in the Peace Center, with a Pastor's Bible Study at 9:30am (Pastor Meyer 9:40-10:20am). Additional meetings will take place this spring to determine the 2023 summer schedule.

Additional worship services include: Advent and Lent (11:30am and 6:30pm), a Children's Christmas Service, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, Thanksgiving Eve, Thanksgiving Day, Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings.

2022 was our 36th year of Summer Concerts at Peace. This series remains very popular and features area musicians. We are grateful to Delores Reiner and Jacquelyn Dixon and the many kitchen volunteers who provided the terrific meals which support these programs. As we look toward 2023, we are looking at changing the concert start time to 11:30am with a 12:15pm lunch. This will match our Advent and Lenten times, and provide the ensembles with more time for their performances. Programs run from the last Wednesday in June through the first Wednesday in August.

## **Visitation Ministry**

**Visitation Pastor:** Layton Lemke

In September I completed twenty-two years of Visitation Ministry here at Peace. Other than the Covid scenario and occasional weather-related issue I have been able to do the ministry each month. It continues to be rewarding to me, and from the feedback I receive from the individuals and institutions I visit it is very rewarding and comforting for them as well. The facilities I visit are always ready for me having the individuals gathered as appropriate, and the people living at home always have the doors unlocked ready for me to come in. I greet them and check with them if there is anything new I need to know, do my devotion followed by the communion setting, have a closing prayer adapted to their concerns, close with a blessing, leaving a sheet with a hymn verse or Bible verse and my next visit day and time filled in as well as a church bulletin. Quarterly I distribute Portals of Prayer. This past December I also distributed nearly 100 bags of cookies prepared by some parish members and Christmas cards made by some young people in the parish. The people were delighted. The numbers are down at some of the facilities due to Covid, deaths and related issues, but the number of stops I make remains about the same. This past year I have visited in Hopkins, Glencoe, Buffalo Lake, Brownston, Gaylord, Dassel, St. Louis Park, Waconia, and of course Hutchinson. My visits are usually made the week of the month with the third Thursday. Also I have done several funerals as requested. I do feel very blessed to have opportunity to do this ministry to help people find joy in living the latter years of their lives and helping them to have peace in their hearts and minds for dying.



# GROW

*Grow together in God's Word*

## ► Children's Ministries

Early Childhood Teacher: Missy Kohls

Sunday School Coordinator/VBS: Deaconess Dr. Jennie Asher (December to present)

It has been an exciting year in Children's Ministries. It has been an absolute joy to see all the smiling faces in Sunday School each week. We want to thank each parent for bringing your child to God's house to grow their faith, learn God's word and to know they will always have a safe place to go and people that love them. We have been enjoying the Enduring Faith Curriculum. Each class has been working on the same message each week, in hopes that when you have your family time at home your children can each be talking about the same lesson and what they have learned.

In Early Childhood Ministries (3 yr-Kindergarten) we are averaging 16 children each week which is wonderful. We are learning some tradition songs i.e. "This little Light of Mine", "Jesus Loves Me", "My God is so Big", to newer songs like, "The Bible is a Treasure", "Hosanna Rock", and "Peace like a River". We will continue to introduce new fun songs each month. We also have a continuous Scrabble board going in our room that hangs on the South wall. We add one important word from each week's lesson to it and recap the entire board at the end of each month. The kids sure have been enjoying this game. We keep thinking of new crafts and fun activities to do with them each week with the reassurance that God will always love them, God will always keep his promises, God will always listen and will always forgive. The Christmas program was a huge hit and I may be a little bias, but I think our little kiddos out sang the big kids.

New this year, I and a small group of amazing ladies have banded together to try and have a **Family Day** each month or at least through the school year. It will be the last Saturday of each month starting in **January**. Our first event is a twist on a drive-in movie. We are asking parents to bring a laundry basket for their child(ren) that they can fit in and we will decorate it into a car. They will then sit in their 'car' for the movie. The adults and older children will then sit or lay on the blanket they have brought and everyone can enjoy popcorn, boxed candy and a drink. We will be watching the movie "The Star". **February**, will be "Spread Love". They will have the option to decorate cut out cookies, make cards or make a couple bracelets. They can make one for themselves, but then they have to make one to give to someone else to 'Spread Love' and joy that this world has to offer. **March**, we are looking to do a Family Game Day, where we 'check our phones at the door as they say and enjoy good old fashion board games, and card games. **April**, we hope to do another movie. For the rest of the year stay tuned to the newsletter, Messenger, and/or the bulletins for fun family events.

I would also like to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to all our families and friends here at Peace for being patient with us in getting our Children's Ministries figured out. I'll be the first to admit that we don't have all figured out but, with God's help, TOGETHER we will carry out His mission for Peace. I also want to give a HUGE THANK YOU to all the helpers, teachers, Dr Joan and Paul Otto for Music and to many subs that help make our Children's Ministries a success. Without you and your commitment in serving the Lord it would not be the success it is.

Blessings to you in Christ ~

Missy Kohls ~ Teacher of Early Childhood





## *Grow together in God's Word*

### ► Sunday School

The goal of Peace Lutheran's Sunday School is that each child will know that Jesus died and rose again to give him/her eternal life with Him in heaven. For the 2021-2022 academic year, six classes were offered (Preschool/Kindergarten, Grades 1-2, Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5, and Grades 6-8). We had an average attendance of 47 children per week. In August, family names were divided among the teachers and every family was telephoned and invited to attend Sunday School. With the help of Chuck and Michelle Jones we also contacted every high school student to invite them to a new class that was offered just for them. For the 2022-2023 academic year the senior high class was added and average attendance for all classes through December was 56 students. Students not attending are sent "Miss You" cards and families are emailed or telephoned.

We thank God for our dedicated teachers and assistants: Melissa Kohls, James and Tricia Merkins, Jen Mueller, Keith Anderson, Sadie Jenkins, Nevaeh Nass, Barb Otte, Lori and Kevin Buss, Darlyn Egge, Lynn Brown, Tammy Jelkin, Amanda Kaping, Margo Kaping, Heidi Sickmann, and Chuck and Michelle Jones. We also thank Dr. Joan for assisting with music.

We continue to use the "Enduring Faith Curriculum" by Concordia Publishing House (the LCMS Publishing House). We are completing an overview of major Old Testament accounts and will begin the New Testament in March 2023. Baptism birthdays are recognized on the first Sunday of each month. A small gift, including a candle, is sent home so that the child's family can celebrate the day he became a child of God. We also continue to learn a Bible memory verse each week related to the lesson of the week. The children are also learning verses and Biblical truths through music, and they share one of their songs each month during a worship service.

In September 2022 the children selected a mission project to help others learn about Jesus. Offerings will be sent to the LCMS to help build a tin roof for a church in Africa. At the time of this report, the children have contributed nearly \$300 toward a roof.

More than 60 students (grades Preschool through 8th grade) participated in the Children's Christmas Service, "A Promise Kept". The children told prophecies about Christ and shared the story of His birth. We thank Dr. Dixon for all of her help with music, and Jacquelyn Dixon for making our costumes. Recognizing that fellowship opportunities are needed at a young age, we offered a pizza party after a Saturday morning rehearsal the day before the service. Thanks to Tammy Jelkin's coordination and the help of 14 parents a great time was had by all!

Thank you for giving me the privilege of coordinating the efforts to share God's love and the Good News of Jesus with the children of Peace. I pray that the children, their families, and the teachers may grow closer to Christ their Savior!

Deaconess Dr. Jennie Asher  
Sunday School Coordinator



### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was held at Peace June 13-17, 2022 for students age 3 through grade 5, with students in grades 6-12 serving as helpers. The theme was "God's Wonder Lab", and the children explored Science experiments as well as Bible lessons, sang Scripture verses and songs that spoke of Jesus's love, had Christian fellowship, and witnessed adults and youth modeling a life of faith and service in Christ. With each lesson the children learned a Bible memory verse (set to music). We had an average attendance of 40 children each day along with more than 40 teachers and helpers participating on some or all of the days.

We were challenged with a lack of volunteers for pre-VBS activities such as decorating and set up. It may be beneficial to consider having an evening VBS in the future (Sunday through Thursday evenings with a 5:30 meal and lessons/activities for ALL ages from 6:00-8:30) to meet the challenges of staffing as well as conflicts with children's summer activities (e.g., swimming lessons, sports camps). We were blessed with many members contributing supplies and snacks.

Thanks to the expertise of Chuck Jones, we implemented new security procedures this year, including managing drop-off/pick-up traffic and having a security team walk the perimeter of the building as well as monitoring visitors to the building while children were present.

A huge "thank you" to Lisa Kirchoff for her assistance in planning, managing registrations, decorating, and pitching in wherever needed!

Deaconess Dr. Jennie Asher  
VBS Coordinator



# GROW

*Grow together in God's Word*

## ► Confirmation (6 - 8 grade)

Paul Otte

Our confirmation program at Peace has been challenged of late because of the blizzards and school cancellations. We lost two weeks of classes. But we're trying to catch up.

- 6th grade is studying the Bible (Genesis - Revelation) this year, so there's much to learn. (Sometimes I think we should offer this course for everyone in the congregation!)
- 7th Graders are primarily studying the Ten Commandments and The Apostles' Creed this year using a workbook and Martin Luther's catechism.
- 8th Graders work with Pastor Asher and are covering many topics from the Catechism.

We have some great students who buckle down and do their assignments and their weekly memory work. We emphasize faithful church attendance as well, and the students write a brief sermon report when they attend. I am personally VERY grateful for the parents who faithfully bring their kids to church. Nothing they will ever do will be as important as a lifelong commitment to weekly contact with God and His people. That's why God gave us the Third Commandment.

Please remember our Confirmation program and keep the kids in your prayers. Today's world, even in the USA, is not supportive of Christian teaching and practice, so we need to take every opportunity to keep close to Christ Jesus. Congregation members are welcome to come to visit our classes if they wish! They are on Wednesdays (6th Grade 3-4 pm, 7th and 8th grades 5-6:15pm).

A special "thank you" to Lynn Brown, Tammy Jelkin, and Barb Otte for faithfully showing up on Wednesday evenings to be listeners to memory work.



## ► Youth Ministries

Middle School and High School

A few of the activities and education opportunities offered in 2022 were Sunday School and High School Bible Study, See You at the Pole, Trick or Treat for Food Shelf, HAY Lunches, Snow Tubing at Powder Ridge, 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat at Camp Omega. Middle School Madness included Valley Fair and Summer Olympics with HAY ministries, Lutheran Island Camp. Students were good stewards by cleaning up the Peace Cemetery, filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, packed food at Feed My Starving Children, sold pizzas and also assisted in the Easter Brunch.

We honored Senior students at the Baccalaureate and Senior Class Recognition Brunch in May.

Thank you to all who have supported our youth ministries through prayers, encouragement and monetary donations.

Thank you to parents for encouraging your children to grow their faith and love for God through the many outlets at Peace and beyond. A special thank you to Sadie Jenkins for her love and commitment to the students at Peace and our Youth Ministries.





## *Grow together in God's Word*

### ► Prince of Peace Retirement Living

**Executive Director:** Destini Doring

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.

POPRL had another big year with many things to celebrate. We have almost completed our Modernization Plan updating the remaining commons areas in the original portion of the building providing a seamless transition to the expansion. Merline Duering, Director of Development and previous Executive Director, has moved onto her full time Lead Pastor position at Winthrop's Faith United Church. Our Waiting List remains strong keeping our community fully occupied. We are excited to see the new coming to fruition but embrace the "old - tried and true" in keeping with our mission.

Lisa Hoff continues, with great success, to set up free education through our Aging Adults and Parents meetings, while highlighting a different topic each month. In addition, continues to bring back socialization opportunities while adding new options for all of our community members.

Special thanks are also 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 1,333 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.

Destini Doring, Executive Director



### ► Annual Women's Retreat

**Committee Members:** Debbie Koglin, Tricia Merkins, Amanda Kaping, Destini Doring, Jill Lieder, Missy Kohls



It was the 13<sup>th</sup> year for the Women's Retreat and Debbie Koglin's last year as Committee Chair. The retreat is held once a year on a Saturday morning where women can put aside some time for fellowship, singing, and wonderful conversation. Joanie's Catering provided brunch, Sarah Legband, our guest speaker "There is Power in the Name Jesus". There were many wonderful door prizes and each lady brought home a sample from Buff City Soap and a 6x6 Jesus plaque.

For 2023, the Women's Retreat is to be determined. We ask that you watch the bulletins, and Messenger as we get closer to October for more details. We are actively looking for more ladies who would like to be a part of this committee, please feel free to reach any of the committee members above. We would enjoy the insight and ideas you have to share for the Women's Retreat.

Special thank you to Deb Koglin, for your many years of Chairing the Women's Retreat Committee.

Blessings to you in Christ ~ Missy Kohls

### ► Peace Lutheran Quilters

Come have some fun with the Peace quilters! They meet 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday of each month at 1 pm in the church basement. Quilts are distributed through Lutheran World Relief in 19 countries. LWR distributed its first quilts in 1945 to families in war-torn Europe following the Second World War. Within a decade, the ministry was reaching around the globe to villages far removed from the world's attention. Today, an average of 300,000 quilts are lovingly given worldwide each year. If you would like to help with this mission through quilting, fabric donations, or monetary gifts, please call the church office and we can assist you.



# SERVE

*Serve Christ with our Words, Service and Resources*

## ► Parish Health Ministry

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

- New this year is coffee and treats in Peace Center between services and during Bible Study.
- Taxi service is available for all worship services. Members call the taxi to arrange what is best for them. More independence and flexibility for individuals.
- Red Cross Bloodmobile is on the second Tuesday each month. We have new volunteers from Peace and also from the community. We average 130-140 units per month.
- CPR classes taught by John Arlt were offered to staff, ushers and leaders in February. We provide first aid kits and AED for the church building.
- Driver safety programs through Minnesota Department of Transportation are provided about every 6 weeks for members and the community, provides discount on insurance and makes safer drivers. 10 Drivers Discount classes were held in 2022 with a total of 182 participants.
- We began supplying personal care items in the women's restrooms and also provide personal size tissues for worship serves.

*It is a pleasure to serve.*

### Other Parish Health Projects:

- ~ We did crib checks at Little Lambs until they closed.
- ~ We participated in Relay for Life as a team.
- ~ We provide yarn for making prayer shawls and give shawls to provide comfort.
- ~ We did monthly blood pressure checks.
- ~ We were the nurse for VBS.
- ~ We gave first aid kits to Peace graduates.
- ~ Made donation to help Chad Kirchoff when fire destroyed his home.
- ~ We worked with Common Cup to collect school supplies, diapers, warm coats, backpack food items, back packs and distribute information about their activities.



## ► Community Outreach

### Operation Christmas Child

In October, Peace participated in Operation Christmas Child. This program packs 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 10th year. In 2022 we packed 100 shoeboxes. Thank you for the kind donations to support this mission.

### Good Samaritan

Through kind donations to the "Good Samaritan" fund, Peace has been able to offer emergency help to those in need in our community. Thank you for the generous donations to this fund. If this is a ministry you feel moved to support, please contact Sue or Mike in the finance office.

### Common Cup

Common Cup Ministry is now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year of outreach and continues to grow and change yet stay consistent with the Mission of serving those in need through gathering community and church resources into one "common cup"! Common Cup continues to listen to the needs of those in our community. A few of the collections Peace participates in: August diaper drive, school supply collection, back-pack program, coat collection and ongoing food drive. Peace also gave a portion of their Thanksgiving offering to Common Cup. Thank you to Peace members for your continued support of this much needed mission in our community.



# SERVE

*Serve Christ with our Words, Service and Resources*

## ► Board of Elders

### Board of Elders

**Chairman: Robbie Peterson, Vice Chair: Justin Evenson, Secretary: Jeff Weckwerth, Doug Brown, John Lietz, Matthew Markgraf, George Quast, Dale Schumann, Wayne Vinkemeier, and Peter White**

The Elders are thankful to Pastor Joseph Asher and Pastor James Fuchs for their dedication to Peace Lutheran until Pastor Glenn Meyer was installed in July.

The Elders welcomed Pastor Meyer, Intentional Interim Pastor, to Peace Lutheran and are glad to have his expertise to help guide our congregation. With Pastor Meyer's guidance, the Elders created a new worship schedule to include time for a Sunday morning Bible Study to enable all adults the opportunity to grow in the word of God. Holy Communion is now being offered more often at the worship services.

## ► Adult Education

We believe at Peace Lutheran that God desires every one of every age have the opportunity to grow in the knowledge and understanding of God's powerful Word and loving direction for our lives. **If you have questions about any of the Bible Study's, call the church office, 587-3031.**

### Current Weekly Bible Studies

Sunday - Morning Fellowship/Bible Study, 9:35 am Peace Center

Sunday - Bible Study, 9:35 am Room 208-209

Monday - Body & Soul, 9 am Upper Conference table with Anita Miller

Monday - Small Group Bible Study, 3:00 pm Room 208-209 with Cyndy Fallon

Tuesday - Women's Small Group Bible Study, 10:30 am Room 210

Tuesday - Prince of Peace Retirement Living, 10 am Commons Area with Wayne Vinkemeier, Bob Sylvester

Tuesday - Promise Keepers, 6:30 pm Room 210 with Paul Otte

Wednesday - Lunch & Time in God's Word, 11:45 am Peace Center with Pastor Asher



*We welcome you to join any of these groups! Please call the church office for more information, 587-3031*

## ► Library

Some of you might have noticed some changes in the library this past year. A library is like a garden. Periodically, it requires a good weeding.

This past summer several boxes of books were sold at the Peace Lutheran Garage Sale in August and several books were donated to Bethesda. An entire bookshelf was moved into the Pre-K Sunday School room bringing the books to the children.

The DVD collection is slowly growing. We have some wonderful offerings for a small group or Bible Study. We have received some great donations and I would encourage you to come and see what is available.

I would love to re-introduce you all to your library. It contains a wealth of resources to enrich your journey with our Lord.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cyndy Fallon





## ► 2022 Peace Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)

### Annual Report

Treasurer: Hazel Sitz

LWML Deligate: Sandra Hall, LWML Alternate: Nona Anderson

Meetings were held each month on the second Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. Each meeting opened with a devotion and featured a program or speaker. Highlights from some of the meetings were:

- Memorial service for deceased members in February
- LWML Prayer service in March
- McLeod Zone Spring rally in Brownston in April
- Quilt Sunday in June
- Harmony River birthday party in June
- Annual picnic in July with guests from Our Saviors and Peace staff members
- McLeod Zone Fall rally in Glencoe in October
- LWML Sunday in October
- Annual Christmas party in December
- Decorated Christmas tree in Church office at December meeting

Other activities included the LWML Card Shop, Cheer Committee, Funeral serving groups and Mission Servants who made 300 quilts and 300 baby kits. We also performed an Honor Guard at the funerals of deceased members. We have suspended meetings for 2023 and do not have elected officers at this time.

### DORCAS MISSION PROJECTS 2022

Mission Projects for 2022

Total donated: \$7,648

Total Mites collected: \$1,195

Large print Portals of Prayer  
3 Lutheran Hour broadcasts  
LCMS Disaster Relief  
Office supplies for Peace office  
Lutheran Braille Workers  
Bell Tower repair  
LCMS World Relief – Ukraine  
Gifts of the Heart – Spring Rally  
Offerings – Spring Rally  
District convention offerings  
District convention Gifts of the Heart  
Vacation Bible School  
Concordia Seminarian (2 times)  
Common Cup  
PLC Youth  
Offerings – Fall Rally  
Gifts of the Heart – Fall Rally  
McLeod Alliance  
Tell the Next Generation

## ► Prayer Chain

**Members:** Annette Kohler, Arlene Benshoof, Lynn Brown, Sandra Hall, Phyllis Hecht, Joyce Young, Pat Schmidt

Prayer chain meets monthly to share and update prayer requests and discuss other concerns in our church, community, state, country, and the world. When new prayer concerns arise throughout the month, those are emailed to everyone to add their prayer list. What a comfort it is to share one's burdens and know that their faith community is praying for them or their loved ones!

More prayer warriors are always welcome!! Please contact Annette Koehler at 587-6484 or the church office at 587-3031 if you would like to join the prayer chain or to request prayer.

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Colossians 4:2

*"Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for your selves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be." Luke 12:32-33*

# SERVE

*Serve Christ with our Words, Service and Resources*

## ► Trustees

**Co-Chairs:** Justin Evenson and Marvin Seller. Louis Schmeling, Mike Fallon, Roger Kaufmann, Jerry Haag, Travis Brecht, Al Trautman, Tim Puchalski, Dean Kirchoff, Ed Homan

Special thanks to Joe Keilen for faithfully checking the boiler every week!

### **2022 Trustee Committee Projects Completed**

- Rebuild hvac system over Commons Area
- New WiFi Router and network installed
- Fiber optics by Nuvera
- Landscape repairs on north side of church
- New roof over ramp

### **Projected 2023 projects**

- Install pavers and bench near Columbarium
- Cemetery line clean up trees
- Replace Narthex carpet
- Ongoing bell tower repairs

## ► Cemetery Report

We Had:

- 17 Burials w/1 in Columbarium
- 4 Lots were sold

Special Thanks To:

- Youth that assisted in picking up sticks and other debris after wind/storms
- Al Koglin for your continued mowing/trimming to make our cemetery look great!

Thank you,  
Lonnie Kohls, Superintendent



## ► Congregational Fund

**Committee Members:** Marc Max, 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.

# 2022 OFFICIAL ACTS

## 2022 BAPTISMS

February 26th	Evan Michael West, son of Steven and Caroline West
February 27th	Christian Michael Fromm, son of Jeffrey Fromm and Jill Lieder
March 6th	Brynlee Olive Root, daughter of Brandon and Kelci Root
March 27th	Blake Ryleigh Johnson, daughter of Brian Johnson and Cassidy Dansby
June 5th	Elsie Lucille Telecky, daughter of Jacob and Ashley Telecky
July 11th	Cameron Anthony Pearson, son of Nathan and Allyson Pearson
September 2nd	Bode Warner Sanken, son of Aaron and Sara Sanken
September 3rd	Briggs Kelby Theis, son of Spencer and Fallon Theis
September 11th	Collins Mildred VanOverbeke, daughter of Jason and Courtney VanOverbeke
October 29th	Marley Helen Wilder, daughter of Anthony & Ashley Wilder
November 6th	Casey David Will, son of David Will and Brigitte Buss
November 13th	Ava Lynn Kvam, daughter of Joseph and Jessica Kvam

## 2022 WEDDINGS

August 5th	Kendra Telecky and Jeffrey Zander
September 17th	Sonya Leintz and Kevin Pfau
December 10th	Abby McKimm and Alec Westlund

## 2022 FUNERALS

January 7th	Leona Peterson, 86, passed away December 31st
January 10th	LeOra Pittman, 92, passed away December 27th
January 13th	Judith Radunz, 82, passed away January 9th
February 1st	Joyce Reinke, 98, passed away January 27th
February 19th	Eileen Mielke, 98, passed away February 10th
March 1st	Donna Reetz, 76, passed away February 25th
March 29th	Hildegard Wagner, 92, passed away March 25th
April 2nd	Dorothy Korngiebel, 88, passed away March 19th
April 21st	John Bradley, 91, passed away April 17th
April 22nd	Dennis Jannusch, 71, passed away April 17th
May 5th	Laura Wendorff, 100, passed away February 2nd
May 5th	LaVonne Hansen, 75, passed away December 15, 2019
May 9th	Ronald Lueck, 66, passed away May 3rd
May 14th	Charles Yerks, 91, passed away April 26th
June 16th	Erlin Thran, 80, passed away June 11th
June 30th	Michael Fuchs, 37, passed away June 22nd
July 7th	Warren Macemon, passed away June 29th
August 12th	Vera Meyer, 89, passed away August 6th
August 24th	Ronald Swenson, 77, passed away August 29th
August 27th	Kathy Baker Miller, 65, passed away August 12th
October 8th	Shirley Burmeister, 84, passed away October 3rd
October 27th	Sandra Dietz, 64, passed away October 11th
November 11th	Pastor Herman Hannemann, 87, passed away November 4th
December 28th	Clarice McKimm, 100, passed away December 22nd
December 30th	Amy Roulet, 49, passed away December 24th



## **2022 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

### **Received by Transfer/Other Lutheran**

Kay Falling from First Lutheran, Glencoe MN  
Marilyn Becker from St. Johns, Kimball MN  
Lana Schmidt, profession of faith  
Kevin Pfau from Zion Lutheran, Bismarck ND  
Jeffrey Zander from St. James Lutheran, Howard Lake MN  
Jean Schultz from Christ Victorious, Chaska MN

### **Transfer Out**

Brian and Stephanie Reiersen & Children to First Lutheran, Baudette MN  
Adam and Betsy Telecky & Children to Immanuel Lutheran, Brownton MN  
Georgia and Craig Buss & Children to St. Martin's Lutheran, Watertown SD  
Tom and Donna Orwell to Zion Lutheran, Ft. Myers FL  
Ronney and Wanda Wendlandt to Trinity Lutheran, Lake George MN  
Randy and Sharon Celandor to St. Pauls Lutheran, Litchfield MN  
Angie Dobratz to St Anastasia Catholic, Hutchinson MN  
Ken and Shelly Quast to Christ the King Lutheran, Hutchinson MN  
Rhonda and Greta Berg released  
Nathan Blom released  
Cynthia Fink to Christ the King Lutheran, Hutchinson MN  
Jason and Amanda Sifferath to Gloria Dei Lutheran Pequot Lakes MN  
Lucas Runke to St. Johns, Kimball MN  
Taylor and Amanda Fenrich & Children to Immanuel Lutheran, Litchfield MN  
Wesley, Brooke and Blaire Corrigan to Trinity Lutheran, Waconia MN  
Bill and Jean Coulthard to Immanuel Lutheran, Brownton MN  
Jason Hochsprung and Children to Immanuel Lutheran, Brownton MN  
Ross, Norah and Judson Wendling to Faith Lutheran, Hutchinson MN

## **2022 CONFIRMANDS**

1. Brody Aiden Anderson, son of Jake and Erin Anderson
2. Austin William Barlau, son of Fred and Barb Barlau
3. Kali Ann Berggren, daughter of Carrie Ann Berggren and Justin Lee Berggren
4. Braydon Michael Bode, son of Nathan and Lynn Bode
5. Kaiden Eliza Fitterer, daughter of Jamie Sorgatz
6. Mason Richard Litzau, son of Michael & Patty Murphy / Andrew & Brittany Runke
7. Levi Rudolph Luedtke, son of David and Stacey Luedtke
8. Preston Allan Lund, son of Nick & Elizabeth Losievski
9. Nevaeh Mae Nass, daughter of Justin & Kalee Nass
10. Bianca Michele Plath, daughter of Brian M. Plath & Amber M. Plath
11. Caydence Jae Reiner-Albrecht, daughter of Carl Albrecht & Mackenzie Reiner
12. Jackson Joshua Rettig, son of Joshua Rettig and Shauna Rettig
13. Cash Joseph Roiger, son of Joe and Mandi Roiger
14. Donavin James Ross, son of Jessica Ross and Nathan Ross
15. Naomi Helene Sickmann, daughter of Cory and Heidi Sickmann
16. Ryker Michael Taraldson, son of Justin and Amanda Taraldson
17. Toryn Ryan Timm, son of Ryan Timm and Kristi Fallon
18. Ian Thomas Todd, son of Elizabeth and Thomas Todd
19. Garrett Steven Uecker, son of Brent and Michelle Uecker
20. Mackenzie Mae Wendinger, daughter of Lisa Wendinger and James Wendinger
21. Victoria Jae Willett, daughter of Jason & Tammy Willett, Christina Greiner
22. Clayton Reuben Witte, son of Justin and Sara Witte

# Heartfelt THANKS

Peace is blessed to have dedicated volunteers that are committed to giving their time and talents to support the many ministries of Peace Lutheran Church.

If you would like to volunteer on a group or committee,  
please call the church office - 320-587-3031, everyone is welcome!



## plchutch.org

This report provides an overview of some of the ways God blessed Peace Lutheran during 2022, 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 2023!