# The Peace Post



The peace of the Lord be with you always. Amen!



From the Desk of Pastor Messer

# Amen to "Amen"



Greetings in the Name of our Crucified and Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Last year, I attended my first Higher Things Conference ("For You" in Minneapolis). I was very impressed. Having attended a plethora of youth conferences over the years, none of them even came close to comparing to Higher Things.

After attending the Higher Things "Amen" Conference in Scranton, PA at the end of June with five of our youth and two other adults (Tyrel Harwager, Sarah and Samantha Messer, C.J. Oswald, Rebekah Rodriguez, Anna Brostrom, and Sharyn Greening), I remain very impressed. The group at Higher Things does a FANTASTIC job of preparing top-notch youth conferences! Once again, this year, we worked when it was time to work, played when it was time to play, and worshipped when it was time to worship, never confusing or mixing the three. What a wonderful and faithful way to organize a youth conference!

This year, I had the added privilege of teaching one of the In-Depth Sectionals and I had an absolute blast! The only drawback was that I didn't have enough time to cover my topic (Second Coming of Christ - End Times) as thoroughly as I would have liked (I know that's hard to believe!), but I knew that would be the case going in. Nevertheless, the class was very receptive and far more enthusiastic than I anticipated and, as I said, I had a blast teaching it.

Pastors George Borghardt and Mark Buetow led the Plenary Sessions this year and they both did a fantastic job. These guys are very talented speakers and gifted teachers and were able to catechize the youth (and adults) in a way that kept everyone's attention and yet avoided "dumbing things down," which is always a neat trick.

But, the highlight of the conference this year was the same as it was for me last year—the Services! Words simply cannot describe how beautiful and awe-inspiring it is to be in the midst of over 600 youth singing the liturgy of Matins in the morning, Vespers in the afternoon, Evening Prayer (with incense) in the evening, and, of course, the grand-daddy of them all, the Divine Service with Holy Communion. You really just have to experience this for yourself to truly understand.

And, thanks be God, you will all have that opportunity next year, as one of the Higher Things "Sola" Conferences is going to be held in Grand Rapids, MI. No, everyone cannot register for the Conference, for they simply do not have the room to accommodate everyone. But, they started a new feature this year where anyone who desires can come and spend a full day at the Conference. I strongly recommend that you consider doing so next year, for there is no telling when a Conference will again be held in Michigan, and you simply do not want to miss this opportunity if at all possible. Look for more details on this in the Fall.

I, for one, cannot wait until next year. These Conferences are an absolute blessing and a wonderful gift of God to Christ's Church.

A HUGE THANK YOU to those of you who donated so that the kids could have some extra spending money during the trip. It was wonderful to be able to give each kid \$60.00 to spend as they wished. You should have seen their faces light up when I gave it to them. They were happily surprised and extremely appreciative. So, thanks again, it really meant a lot!

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Messer

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Thoughts on "Amen"	2-4	Christian Education	10
"Issues, Etc."	4	Birthdays & Anniversaries	10
LHF Sunday	5	Parochial Report	10
Council Meeting Minutes	s 6	August Calendar	11
Peace News & Notes	7-8	Serving in August	12
Ladies & Altar Guild	9		



## Some thoughts from those who attended . . .

#### From C. J. Oswald

Going to the Higher Things Conference was a different experience; a different one, but a good one. But it didn't feel like a conference; it felt more, well, I don't know what, but whatever it felt like, it was good. We all got to learn things in a more fun environment, even though it wasn't meant to be all fun and games. It was supposed to teach about the Holy Trinity, which it did very well. But you could learn about something very important, but in a more fun way.

You got to chose what you wanted to do for four breakaway sessions and one in-depth session. For example, when it came to my in-depth, I chose the subject of Gnosticism. These people say they're Christians, but they aren't. They put words into Jesus' mouth. I won't get into much more because it can get confusing for someone not interested, of course. The subjects here were based for what anyone wants. Some of these subjects lead into more subjects talked within the youth group (which I'm sure every other youth group did talk about more subjects, right).

They did have a theme of course. It isn't a conference without one, or it's a really bad conference. The theme was "Amen." It was a very good theme, too. We found out that Amen means "yes, yes it is so" or "gift received." This was very important, knowing that Amen isn't just a word, but that it actually means something worthwhile. Who knew?! The two pastors who taught this were The Rev. George F. Borghardt III and The Rev. Mark T. Buetow. These two taught the theme very well and made us all laugh at one time or another.

One thing that was amazing was the Services. All together, we had 10 Services! They were all amazing, each one with a reading and a sermon to help explain Amen. Although we had only one Divine Service, it all worked out. The hymns were amazing, too. Plus, all the people there were singing - you wouldn't believe it unless you were there!

Finally, to all the people who gave us all money for our trip to New York City, thank you. It was very thoughtful of you to put money towards us to get something nice. So again, thank you all for the money - you wouldn't believe how thankful we all are.

#### From Sharyn Greening

It is June 24, 2008 in Scranton, PA. Anna is getting all of our registration information, and Pastor is quite intent on having all of us moved into the dorm so we can get to Opening Vespers. I am dragging my suitcase (which is way too big) up to the third floor as fast as I can. I have been to youth conferences, large and small, several times. What is the big deal? We make it to Opening Vespers just in time, and I know why it is a big deal. All the voices, together, singing, chanting and praying. I have been to youth conferences before, but I never did this! When do I get to do it again?

Evening Prayer-Service of Light is at 10:00 p.m. with incense. I have been to Plenary and Breakaway sessions and now my day ends with another glorious service. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday I am fed well in the cafeteria and with the Word of God in Services, Plenary, In-Depth, and Breakaway sessions and in conversations with those in attendance. Divine Service on Thursday was especially grand with over 600 in attendance raising their voices in praise and receiving those gifts of Absolution and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. I am especially taken by the fact that it is not just the 'older' people taking part in the liturgy of the services but all the youth as well. They are comfortable and accepting of worshipping in this manner.

It was an honor to be able to attend the Higher Things Conference with Sarah, Samantha, CJ, Tyrel, Rebekah, Anna and Pastor Messer. We spent a couple busy days traveling to New Jersey and New York and taking in the sights, traveling again to Scranton, worshiping together, attending sessions and ending our day with Prayer at the Close of the Day.

It was my privilege also to attend Worship Services with my Pastor. He usually leads me in Worship, and, yes, he is worshipping with me, but this was a special opportunity. As I stated before, I have been to youth conferences, large and small. I was entertained and motivated, but that was all. At Higher Things I received the Word of God through faithful preaching and devotion. Next year's conference, "Sola," will be held in Grand Rapids, July 21-24. You will have the option of attending the conference for a day. I strongly encourage you to do so. In the meantime, visit www.higherthings.org.

Amen!



# Some thoughts from those who attended . . .

#### From Sarah Messer

Higher Things was a great experience last year and this year. This year we went to Scranton University in Pennsylvania. Everyday at the conference started and ended with Service, with one service in the middle of the day. And the Services were absolutely beautiful!

While we were not in Service, we were either in a Breakaway Session, an In-Depth Session, a Plenary Session, or having some fun during free time. You can choose between several different Breakaway Sessions and In-Depth Sessions. I chose the In-Depth Session my dad was teaching on the End Times, and besides the Services, it was the best thing about my conference experience, and I'm not just saying that because he's my dad. I really learned a lot!

On Thursday, we gathered together for Divine service. While all of the Services are awesome, Divine Service at the conference is especially beautiful. The music is what got to me. Plus, I got to see some things during the Services that do not happen at our church. For example, the bowing every time you sing the Holy Trinity, or when the pastors genuflect during the Creed. It is a very reverent and awesome thing to witness!

I learned so much during both of my Higher Things conferences and I encourage anyone who is interested to go next summer. It is very worth it and I promise you will learn something new.

Also, thank you to all who donated money for us to be able to spend during our awesome trip to New York City. It was great to receive an additional \$60 I wasn't expecting, and it allowed me to get a few souvenirs I wouldn't have been able to get. Thank you very much!

#### From Anna Brostrom

The Higher Things "Amen" conference was an amazing and rejuvenating experience. The plenary sessions did a good job of explaining the Gospel story, 'salvation achieved, salvation delivered' in a new light, and reminded us that Jesus is God, with using the name "I am" and that He completed the work of our salvation, delivering it to us through His testament (last will) of the Sacrament of the altar. The second set of plenary sessions related the second table of the law to us, "Amen to loving your neighbor". I especially liked the way this was done, with portraying the law as more then just rules to try and follow, but as the gifts God has given us that we reject. To illustrate this, the parable of the prodigal son was used, starting with the problem of the question, what can 'I do'. In and of ourselves we can not keep the law, and in the parable the law walks by concerned with doing good works and trying to keep the law by itself. The Gospel is what walks by and digs us out of the ditch. Faith does not concentrate on what good works will be done, if you are talking about it, there is no action taking place. We do good works because we are in Christ.

The breakaways and in depth session that I attended all had a very similar theme to them all. All dealt with false religions in one form or another, from Gnosticism to scientism. The topic that seemed to always come up in each session, no matter what religion was being talked about was that they involved the people within them to look inside themselves to find truth. It was all a good reminder that we do not look to ourselves for answers, that God has taken it upon Himself to redeem us. Most also had no historical bases for their claims.

Higher things services were also refreshing; it is nice to use all the wonderful liturgies services that the Lutheran tradition has to offer.

#### From Samantha Messer

Higher Things was really fun this year! We all learned a lot and the food was great. I don't know what the best thing was, but it was between the awesome Services, especially the Evening Prayer Services with incense, and the classes, especially my dad's where I really did learn a lot.

Now that I have attended two Higher Things conferences, I can't wait to go again next year. They are great!

We also were able to go to New York City for a day and that was simply the best. It was a great experience and I would like to go back again some day, because one day is simply not long enough. We all want to thank all of you who donated spending money for us. It made our trip much more fun. Thanks a lot!



## Some thoughts from those who attended . . .

#### From Rebekah Rodriguez

Higher Things is a conference that is held once a year and it's an experience to learn more about your faith and the Lord. This year's conference was held in Scranton, Pennsylvania at the University of Scranton. Some of the things you do at Higher Things is take classes called Breakaways. These classes teach more about your faith and some compare real world situations with God and the Church. There are many varieties of topics.

This year's conference was called "Amen." During our Plenary Sessions we learned about the meaning of Amen and its significance. In our Breakaways this year, I took one on Scientology. Some things I learned in this class are that there are eight levels of Scientology and they claim to have eight million members. I learned more about Scientology and its dangers by taking this Breakaway. I also took a Breakaway on Witchcraft, Neo-paganism, Sects. Some things I learned is that Gothic Witchcraft was developed in the Middle Ages and that a coven is a social unit of witches. I learned a lot of interesting things at Higher Things this year and I had a lot of fun!

While we were there we went on a side trip to New York City and that was a lot of fun, and it was really big and busy, but my favorite part was going to the Saks and the Empire State Building—that was sweet. I also got to ride a train for the first time! I'm so glad I had the opportunity to go there! And I'm thankful to all of you who gave us extra spending money for our trip. I hope to attend the Higher Things conference again next year!

.....

#### From Tyrel Harwager

#### Dear members of church,

Thank you to those of you who donated money for us to use in New York while we attended the Higher Things conference. And thank you to the church for allowing us youth group to visit New York City. The best part was walking the city streets - there are so many people there and it was really neat at night. I recommend you all go there!

At the Higher Things conference, I learned the differences of what humans think and what is the truth. It was a great program. Once again I thank all of you who made this possible.



The resurrection of "Issues, Etc." has been even better than anticipated! Rev. Todd Wilkin and Mr. Jeff Schwarz have done a fantastic job of restoring this excellent radio program. "Talk radio for the thinking Christian" is back in full force! This is your resource for tackling the issues of the day, both within and outside of the Christian Church, from a truly confessional Lutheran perspective. I highly recommend you listen as often as you can. You can do so by going to **www.issuesetc.org** and clicking the On Demand link. We hope to be able to add CDs of the program to our Peace Library in the near future, so that anyone who may not be able to listen online will have the opportunity to check those CDs out and listen. I also recommend that you consider supporting this faithful voice. "Issues, Etc." is an independent, listener-supported broadcast. You can learn how to support this program and keep this much needed voice on the air at their website.

# LHF Sunday to be held at Peace on August 17

The Rev. James Fandrey, *Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) Church Relations*, and soon to be *LHF Executive Director*, will be visiting our congregation on Sunday, August 17 to preach during Divine Service and to lead a presentation on LHF during Bible Study. We are honored to have Rev. Fandrey join us and hope that many of you will stay for his presentation on this very important and faithful missions organization. Included below is a little information on LHF to get you acquainted with the wonderful work they do.



So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" Acts 8:30-31

Just as God used Philip to open the Ethiopian's eyes to the Bible's teachings, so He today uses the Lutheran Heritage Foundation to open the eyes and hearts of hundreds of thousands of new Christians around the world.

LHF supports the mission of the church - to make Christ truly present in people's lives. We do this by translating, publishing, distributing and introducing Lutheran books and materials, both historical and new. These materials are used in seminaries, Lutheran church bodies and mission settings in more than 90 languages in 80 countries around the world, including Russia, Latvia, Ukraine, China, Nigeria, Kenya, Sudan, India, Thailand, Japan and even Scandinavia and the United States.



Sadly, there are many countries around the world where Lutheranism has never existed, or it's been greatly damaged through persecution. LHF has been instrumental in supporting newly-emerging Lutheran churches and church bodies in these places.

One area where LHF's work has been vital is the former Soviet Union. Under the

Communist regime, pastors were imprisoned and killed, and Christian books were destroyed. When the doors opened to the West, LHF was there, supplying textbooks and other educational materials in the languages of the people. Now, four seminaries operate in Latvia, Siberia, Ukraine and Russia, their classrooms stacked with books produced by LHF.

In 1994, Rev. Andrew Mbugo Elisa of Sudan contacted Rev. Robert Rahn, LHF's executive director, requesting Lutheran instructional materials. LHF sent five copies of *Luther's Small Catechism* and a *Book of Concord*. From there, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sudan (ELCS) was born. Now a body of more than 70 congregations and 15,000 members, the ELCS has been further assisted by LHF with building Lutheran schools and establishing a Lutheran seminary.

LHF materials are even used right here in the United States. Pastors and missionaries in areas with populations of Hmong, Vietnamese, Sudanese and Arabic-speaking people have found instructional books like the Small Catechism very helpful in reaching out to immigrants and international students.

# LHF produces Lutheran books in the languages of the people

- Luther's Small Catechism
- The Book of Concord
- Selected Writings of Luther
- A Child's Garden of Bible Stories
- Good News About Jesus
- The How to Respond series
- Walther's Law and Gospel
- God's No and God's Yes
- · Life of Luther
- Many, many more!

Congregations, Sunday schools, Christian day schools, VBS, youth groups and men's and women's groups (LLL, LWML) actively support the work of LHF. Certain fraternal organizations, such as Thrivent, will match money and conduct projects for the benefit of LHF. Your assistance is needed to organize such support for LHF in your own congregation.

LHF's work has been a catalyst for a "second Reformation." Through the donations of people like you, we've put books into the hands of the people -books that help them understand God's Word. All books published are offered free of charge to missionaries, churches, church bodies and individuals.

To support this work, please make your gifts payable to "LHF" and send to the address on the front of this insert.



To learn more about the worldwide mission efforts of LHF, call (800)554-0723 or visit us online at www.LHFmissions.org

#### Synopsis of July 1, 2008 Council Meeting Minutes

#### Call To Order & Opening Prayer

- President Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Pastor Messer conducted the opening prayer. The following
  members were present: Chris Brown, Megan Brown, Carol Zeile, Gary Miller, Gretchen Harrison, Larry Elliott and
  Sharyn Greening. Pastor Messer was also present.
- Prior to any action or discussion, Dorothy Trigina presented information on Thrivent's Habitat House program. She
  requested to hold a fundraiser brunch on September 20 following bible study. Motion made by Councilmember Elliott,
  supported by Financial Secretary Miller to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Approval of Agenda

 Motion made by Financial Secretary Miller, supported by Secretary Brown to approve the agenda with the following amendments: removal of Business Item d. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – June 3

 Motion made by Treasurer Zeile, supported by President Brown to approve the minutes from June 3. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Report(s)

- Pastor Pastor Messer presented the attached report. The Council received the report into record.
- **Treasurer** Treasurer Zeile presented the attached report and reviewed the changes with the Council. The Council received the report into record.
- **Financial Secretary** Financial Secretary Miller informed the Council that the second quarter statements had been distributed to members.
- Boards: Elders Councilmember Elliott presented the attached report. The Council received the report into record;
   Trustees No report; Christian Education Councilmember Greening presented her report. The Council received the report into record; Evangelism Councilmember Elliott presented the attached report. The Council received the report into record; Stewardship No report.
- Organization and Committee Reports: Peace Youth Group No report; Budget & Finance No report.

#### **Business**

- Long Distance Phone Service Treasurer Zeile informed the Council of changes she made to the long distance service after receiving approval at the previous meeting. Verizon had not given her complete information and she changed the local service to a plan costing \$16 per month and the long distance service to a plan costing \$23 per month. Motion made by Financial Secretary Miller, supported by Councilmember Elliott to ratify the decisions made by the Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.
- Trustees Operating Procedures This item was tabled until a special meeting could be called.
- Financial Pledge to Michigan District Pastor Messer suggested that the Council consider an alternate place or group to redirect this money. He suggested the money go to Issues, Etc. as part of the 300 Congregations. This item will have to go before the Voters' Assembly for final approval. Motion made by Financial Secretary Miller, supported by Councilmember Harrison to make a determination on this line item to present Voters' Assembly. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **General Comment**

- Sanctuary Renovation Project Summary The project has been completed and was very successful. The only cost was the carpet, which was just over \$1700.
- **Higher Things** Pastor Messer and Councilmember Greening reported that the conference in Scranton was wonderful. The conference next year will be held in Grand Rapids.
- Issues, Etc. Pastor Messer informed the Council that the show is back on the air and can be heard at www.issuesetc.org.
- Cleaning Committee Marlene Miller has volunteered to chair the Cleaning Committee.

**Adjournment & Closing Prayer** – Motion made by Councilmember Elliott, supported by Councilmember Greening to adjourn at 9:40pm. Motion carried unanimously. Pastor Messer closed with the Lord's Prayer and Benediction.

# **DEACE NEWS & NOTES**

#### PEACE LUTHERAN LIBRARY

#### Donations are always welcome!



If you are thinking about donating one or more books to our library and are not sure what to be looking for, we have a "wish" list of suggestions in the church office. Prices and books can also be found in the CPH catalog, also in the church office.

We would like to encourage people to use our Church Library more often. If you have read a book from our library that you enjoyed, or that inspired you, and you would like to share it, please contact Beth Brostrom or Coaline Luplow.

#### S.A.L.T. NEWS & NOTES

Our camping weekend is coming up August 15-17 at



Wilson State Park (Bud Lake) in Harrison. Campsites are already reserved, but we invite everyone to come up for the day on Saturday, August 16. We will be having a potluck at 5:00 p.m.

followed by an outdoor church service. Questions? Contact Larry or Andrea Elliott at 463-2604.

S.A.L.T. is our Evangelism Committee here at Peace.

Its mission is to **S**hare with **A**ll the **L**ove and **T**ruth of Jesus Christ!

#### **GOTTESDIENST**

Gottesdienst is an excellent theological periodical published quarterly. Go to www.gottesdienst.org or see Pastor Messer if you are interested in learning more or to subscribe.

#### Come join us on the Trail!



The Wittenberg Trail is the online community for people exploring and confessing the Lutheran faith. To join the ETENBERG community, go to:

www.wittenbergtrail.ning.com

To join our Peace Lutheran group on the Trail, go to: www.wittenbergtrail.ning.com/group/ peacelutheranalmamichigan

# HELP WANTED

People who love our church and want to help keep God's house clean. No experience needed, flexible schedule, two hours or less a week, no pay except the good feeling you get for helping take care of the Lord's house. If you can even help the regulars, that would be great! Please call Marlene Miller 463-3710 if you can help out.

# BLOOPERS

An Episcopal diocesan bishop went to an unfamiliar church to celebrate the Eucharist. There was a microphone on the altar, and being uncertain whether it was switched on, he tapped it gently with no result. So leaning very close to it, he said in a loud whisper which echoed around the church: "There is something wrong with this microphone."

The well-trained and responsive congregation, very familiar with the latest in liturgical language, replied at once, "And also with you."

#### TABLE TALK . . .

... Will resume in September. Watch for more information in the next issue.



# **PEACE NEWS & NOTES Cont'd**

#### **CAREGIVER CONFERENCE**

Saginaw County Commission on Aging Caregiver Support Program

#### Thursday, September 25

8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Horizons Conference Center 6200 State Street Saginaw, MI 48603

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Ranjana Dutta Assoc. Professor Department of Psychology Saginaw Valley State University Presents

# "Mindful caregiving: Overcoming the roller coaster of yesterdays and tomorrows"

Register now if....

- you are a family caregiver caring for an adult/senior with a chronic illness.
- You are an adult child concerned about aging parents or grandparents.
- You are a resident of Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac or Tuscola Counties.

Advance Registration Required No Fees—No Costs Space is limited.

For more information and to register, contact Julia at 989-797-7564 or 989-797-6880.

# AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE

The relay will be held at Alma High School August 8-9, from 3 p.m. Friday to 3 p.m. Saturday. Relay team members may turn in pledge money and



provide luminaria names (for the luminaria ceremony) to Don by Sunday, August 3. Questions? please contact Don Reithel by cell phone at 989-289-2274 or by email at dreithel@edzone.net

#### THE GOSPEL SING

You are encouraged to attend "Get All Excited & Sing for Habitat" sponsored by Mecosta County Habitat



for Humanity, in cooperation with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. The Sing will be held on August 24, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at Chapel of the Lakes Lutheran Church, 9407 90th Avenue, Mecosta, Michigan. There is

no admission fee, but there will be a free will offering to benefit Habitat. Thrivent Financial will provide matching funds up to \$1,300. Under the direction of Dave Marasus, the Sing will feature the Mecosta Community Choir along with other individual and group performances.

## Central Michigan Chapter "Thrivent Builds with Habitat" 219 Monroe, Big Rapids

Lutheran congregations in our Central Michigan Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans are being asked for support by physical (working on a house) and financial (fundraising) efforts. All dates are tentative. Ladies and Youth Groups are welcome!

Tuesday, August 5—Drywall

(need a couple men from each church)

This is the last ALL Thrivent day!!

Wednesday, August 20—Only skilled workers for Tile/Hardware installation and driveway tentative, and

Wednesday, August 27 thru September 5—Finish Painting (may be earlier)

we are ahead of schedule, so it may be anytime!!

75% of the house to be completed by September 1. Landscaping—students from Central Michigan University and Ferris State University.

Questions? Contact Don Reithel at cell phone 989-289-2274 or email dreithel@edzone.net.



# LADIES & ALTAR GUILD

#### Ladies Guild Meeting

Our Ladies Guild next meets on Monday, September 8, at 7:00 p.m. All Ladies of the congregation are invited to attend our Guild meetings. If you are a confirmed female member of Peace, you are a member of Guild. We would sincerely encourage you to participate and be an active member of the Guild.

#### PLC Women's Prayer Chain



If you wish to be added to the prayer chain as a caller, see Carol Durst or Beth Brostrom. If you wish to have yourself or someone else "sent through the chain," call Carol Durst at 463-2270.

#### Altar Flowers

There is a Flower Calendar for 2008 posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board. If you wish to place flowers on the altar sometime during the year, please fill your name in on the calendar and contact the church office with any information that you wish to have included in the bulletin. A bouquet usually lasts about one (1) month. We now have 2 plant stands for flowers and would like to encourage 2 persons (families) to purchase flowers each month. Checks may be made payable to Peace Lutheran, marked "Flower Fund," and placed in the offering plate or in the Financial Secretary's inbox in the church office. Thank you for helping to beautify our chancel. Questions? See Beth Brostrom, Cheryl Henry or Marilyn Oswald.

#### ALTAR GUILD DUTY

Augu	ıst
Phyllis	

<u>September</u> Carol Zeile

October Carol Zeile



#### **COFFEE HOSTESSES**

# <u>August</u>

- 3 Mary Jakolat 10 Marilyn Oswald
- 17 Beth Brostrom
- 24 M. Miller/C. Dargie
- 31 Lois Ramsey

#### <u>September</u>

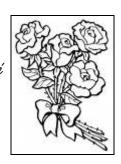
- 7 S. Greening/M. Brown
- 14 Cheryl Kuehnlein
- 21 Youth Group
- 28 Cheryl Henry

#### October

- 5 Janice Sager
- 12 Jenny Baughman
- 19 Lisa Messer
- 26 Coaline Luplow

# LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

Our next luncheon is planned for Tuesday, August 26. We will meet at the Country Chef Café in Ithaca at 1:30 p.m. All ladies of Peace are welcome and also may invite a guest—someone without a church or someone living alone. Please join us!



#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT PEACE

#### Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

- Sunday School will re-convene in September.
- Adult Bible Class is offered every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. for all adult members of Peace and guests. We are currently studying the Book of Concord, which contains our Lutheran Confessions. This is an excellent opportunity for you to come and learn what we Lutherans truly confess and believe. So, come and learn!

#### Youth Confirmation Class

• Youth Confirmation Class will re-convene in September.

#### Together in the Word

• Our *Together in the Word* Bible Study meets on **Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m.** All men and women of Peace who are available at that time are encouraged to join us. Guests are always welcome as well. We have completed our study of Genesis and are currently studying the book of **Exodus**. Please plan on joining us soon. (PLEASE NOTE: We will not be meeting on August 7.)

#### "It's All Greek to Me"

• It's All Greek to Me is on summer break and will re-convene in September.



#### Happy Birthday to:

1Violet Byers22Bonnie Mier1Jacob Strand25Megan Kuehnlein5Phillip Schafer29Jeannette Bigelow7Bill Hendrick*29Mike Harrison10Jennie Harmon30Amy Lesinger20Megan Brown31Jonathan Penzien			1 1 2	•
5 Phillip Schafer 29 Jeannette Bigelow 7 Bill Hendrick* 29 Mike Harrison 10 Jennie Harmon 30 Amy Lesinger	1	Violet Byers	22	Bonnie Mier
7 Bill Hendrick* 29 Mike Harrison 10 Jennie Harmon 30 Amy Lesinger	1	Jacob Strand	25	Megan Kuehnlein
10 Jennie Harmon 30 Amy Lesinger	5	Phillip Schafer	29	Jeannette Bigelow
·	7	Bill Hendrick*	29	Mike Harrison
20 Megan Brown 31 Jonathan Penzien	10	Jennie Harmon	30	Amy Lesinger
	20	Megan Brown	31	Jonathan Penzien



#### Happy Anniversary to:

- 9 Larry and Andrea Elliott
- 14 Lois and Phil Ramsey
- 18 Tina and Blaine Schafer
- 23 Jack and Janice Langan

\*was on July list in error

If we ever miss your birthday or anniversary, please let us know so that we can update our records.

#### PAROCHIAL REPORT

(as of July 27)

Membership at Peace

Baptized - 149; Confirmed - 132

Official Acts:

Baptism, Mary Girard

Membership gains: 0

Membership losses: 0

Financial Report

YTD Receipts: \$59,499.80 YTD Budgeted Needs: \$67,050.00

#### PEACE OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

#### **Pastor Messer's Office Hours**

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Other times by appointment

Please note: These are the hours Pastor Messer will regularly be available in his office at the church, but please check the monthly calendar to ensure that he is not tied up elsewhere (winkel, conference, etc.). Feel free to pop in on him during these hours, but please know that his duties may call him away from the office from time to time (hospital call, lunch meeting, member visitation, etc.), so if you want to make sure he is there before you come for a visit, call ahead of time. Lastly, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Messer at any time should you desire or need to speak or meet with him beyond these posted office hours.

Rev. Thomas C. Messer (989) 463-3093—Home (989) 388-2037—Cell pastor@peacealma.org

# August 2008

Peace Lutheran Church 325 E. Warwick Drive Alma, MI 48801 (989) 463-5754

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 11th Sunday after Trinity 4		5	6	7	1	В
9:30—Service of Prayer and Preaching		Election Primary 7:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.		No Together in the Word	<b>8</b>	*
duremontal Level		7:00 Church Council		5:00 p.m.—WW	I <sup>©'</sup> I I I I	for Life FOR LIFE
		; 1	Pastor on Vacation		 	distriction of states of s
		12	13	14	15	16
9:30—Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—Bible Study				10:00 a.m.—Together in the Word	Peace Campout	Peace Campout
				5:00 p.m.—WW		
17 13th Sunday after Trinity 18		19	20	21	22	23
9:30—Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship		i i		19:00 a.m.—Together in the Word		
11.00—Dinc Study		1,000—11thstees		5:00 p.m.—WW		
24 Feast of St. Bartholomew 25		26	27	28	29	30
8:30—Choir 9:30—Divine Service		1:30 p.m.—Ladies Lunch Bunch		10:00 a.m.—Together in the	12:00—Divine Service	
10:45—Fellowship 11:00—Bible Study		September newsletter articles due today		Word 5:00 p.m.—WW	The Margredon of St. John the Baptist	
31 15th Sunday after Trinity 8:30—Choir 9:30—Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—Bible Study						

Peace Lutheran Church 325 E. Warwick Dr. Alma, MI 48801

Church: 989-463-5754

E-mail: contact@peacealma.org Mary's Home: 989-463-3067 Pastor's Home: 989-463-3093 Pastor's Cell: 989-388-2037



The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.

#### **SERVING IN AUGUST**

AUGUST	<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>ORGANIST</u>	<b>ELDERS</b>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
3 - 9:30 am (11th Sunday after Trinity)	Melanie Penzien Rebekah Rodriguez	Mary Jakolat	Terry Luplow Don Reithel	Jim Sager Gary Miller	Dick and Joyce Kohler
10 - 9:30 am (12th Sunday after Trinity)	Sarah Messer Phillip Schafer	Beth Brostrom	Dave Zeile Bill Harmon	Curt Oswald Jon Penzien	Helen Meyers
17 - 9:30 am (13th Sunday after Trinity LHF Sunday)	Jordan Henry Ashleigh Rodriguez	Mary Jakolat	Don Reithel	Burt Henry Michael Gilbert	Miguel and Sue Ortiz
24 - 9:30 am (14th Sunday after Trinity)	Samantha Messer Jessica Oswald	Mary Jakolat	Dave Zeile Don Reithel	Vern Jakolat Chris Brown	Curt and Tammy Oswald
31- 9:30 am (15th Sunday after Trinity)	Melanie Penzien Tyrel Harwager	Beth Brostrom	Bill Harmon Larry Elliott	Bill Brostrom Bill Hendrick	Jon Penzien and Family
SEPTEMBER 7- 9:30 am (16th Sunday after Trinity)		Beth Brostrom	Terry Luplow Larry Elliott	Jim Sager Gary Miller	Lois Ramsey