

The Peace Post

Peace Lutheran Church ~ Alma, MI

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Peace Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We believe, teach, and confess the doctrine of the evangelical, catholic faith as it is taught by Holy Scripture and faithfully confessed in the Book of Concord of 1580. We are committed to the pure preaching of God's Word and the right administration of the Holy Sacraments, catechesis of all people in the Christian faith, and liturgical worship consistent with our Reformation heritage. We are an evangelical, orthodox, and catholic congregation, proclaiming Jesus Christ crucified, risen, and reigning for the salvation of the world!



Fifty Years of God's Grace

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From the Desk of Pastor Messer "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word"

Our Lord Jesus said: "If you abide in My Word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32).

Abiding in the Word, dear friends in Christ, is what the Reformation was all about. It was the Holy Spirit who guided our beloved Dr. Luther, the Blessed Reformer, in his study of God's Holy Word, and allowed him to rediscover the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, which had been all but forgotten during the Middle Ages. When Dr. Luther was brought to realize that we are justified not by our own works, but by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, it was as if heaven itself had been opened to him and he could hear the choirs of angels and saints singing praises to the Lord. He had long been haunted by the image of Jesus Christ as a ruthless judge who demanded the impossible, and then punished those who did not achieve it. But now, as he discovered the Holy Gospel in the pages of Holy Scripture, He came to know Jesus Christ not as that ruthless judge, but as his loving Savior—the One who lived the perfect life he couldn't live, and died on the cross to pay the full price for all of his sins. What joy filled Dr. Luther's heart!

That same joy should fill our hearts as well, my friends, for we still have the glorious Good News of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, taught and preached in our midst. That is not as common as you might think. We live in a day and age when the Holy Gospel is every bit as hidden away and obscured as it was in Dr. Luther's day. Tune in to those claiming to be Christian teachers on the television or radio and you will likely hear Jesus being promoted as a mere example to follow, or as a "life-coach" cheering you on to better living and greater blessings. Visit many Protestant congregations (and even, sadly, many "Lutheran" congregations) and you will hear the same sort of teaching coming from the pulpits (or stages). You will be motivated to "Live Your Best Life Now" or "Become a Better You" or to live a "Purpose-Driven Life," and so forth, the focus being completely on what you need to do and how you need to live as a Christian. Rather than Law and Gospel sermons

based on a lectionary, you will be subjected to messages on such topics as money management, good parenting, healthy eating, relationship building, and even on how to have good sex. The Good News about what Jesus has done, and continues to do, for you is rarely heard (if ever!), the idea being that Jesus did His part, but now it's up to you to do your part.

Oh yes, dear friends, the same joy that filled Dr. Luther's heart should fill ours, for against the rising trend to forsake the Gospel in favor of the Law-focused, Me-centered agenda which has been adopted by many—an agenda that lures many away from the truth by promoting itself as new and hip and relevant and useful, etc.—we still have the Holy Gospel preached to us in its purity and the Holy Sacraments administered to us according to Christ's institution.

Let us never take this for granted, but heed our Savior's exhortation to abide in His Word. To abide in His Word means that we never outgrow, or move beyond, the Holy Gospel. As long as we breathe in this vale of tears, we remain in desperate need of the salvation won for us by the perfect life and death of Jesus. We never stop being sinners this side of heaven, so we never stop needing a Savior. We abide in His Word when we cling to Him in faith as our only hope. We abide in His Word when we return regularly to where He promises to be for us—in the Divine Service, where He delivers to us the forgiveness, life, and salvation we need by means of His Holy Word and Sacraments. In short, we abide in His Word by placing ourselves in His continuous care, for our Lord Himself accomplishes for us, and in us, what He demands. He feeds and nourishes us, strengthens and preserves us, and keeps us in the faith—and all this by the very same Word in which He would have us abide.

Thus, do we Lutherans ever pray, in the words of Dr. Luther's famous hymn, "Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word." For the Good News is not only that our Lord Jesus has done everything necessary for our salvation, but that He continues to keep us in the one, true faith through His gracious and merciful Service to us here and now. He promised to be with us always, and so He is—with us in His written, preached, and taught Word, and with us most intimately in His very Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist.

Let us give hearty thanks to God as we approach our annual celebration of Reformation Day for preserving among us the true and saving Gospel. May we learn to cherish it as Dr. Luther did, realizing that the saving Gospel of our Lord Jesus opens up for us sinners the way to eternal life in the Paradise of His Kingdom, which shall have no end. May we be moved and empowered by the Holy Spirit not only to cherish the Holy Gospel, but to defend it, and to support it with our time, talents, and treasures, so that it may continue to be preached, taught, and delivered here at Peace Lutheran Church in Alma, MI until our Lord Jesus Christ returns in great glory on the Last Day! Amen.

A Blessed Reformation Celebration to You All!

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Messer

About Reformation Day



On October 31, 1517, an Augustinian monk posted ninety-five statements for discussion on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Dr. Martin Luther hoped that posting his theses would bring about an academic debate regarding repentance, the sale of indulgences, and other matters of concern within the Roman Catholic Church. However, Rome eventually excommunicated Luther, judging him to be a heretic. Luther's reforms, centered on the teaching that a believer is justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, sparked religious reforms not only in the German states but also in many European countries. In 1667, Elector John George II of Saxony standardized the custom of observing Luther's October 31 posting of the Ninety-five Theses.

—Treasury of Daily Prayer, p. 868

May you ever cherish and treasure this thought. Christ is made a servant of sin, yea, a bearer of sin, and the lowliest and most despised person. He destroys all sin by Himself and says: "I came not to be served, but to serve" (Matt. 20:28). There is no greater bondage than that of sin; and there is no greater service than that displayed by the Son of God, who becomes the servant of all, no matter how poor, wretched, or despised they may be, and bears their sins. It would be spectacular and amazing, prompting all the world to open ears and eyes, mouth and nose in uncomprehending wonderment, if some king's son were to appear in a beggar's home to nurse him in his illness, wash off his filth, and do everything else the beggar would have to do. Would this not be profound humility? Any spectator or any beneficiary of this honor would feel impelled to admit that he had seen or experienced something unusual and extraordinary, something magnificent. But what is a king or an emperor compared with the Son of God? Furthermore, what is a beggar's filth or stench compared with the filth of sin which is ours by nature, stinking a hundred thousand times worse and looking infinitely more repulsive to God than any foul matter found in a hospital? And yet the love of the Son of God for us is of such magnitude that the greater the filth and stench of our sins, the more He befriends us, the more He cleanses us, relieving us of all our misery and of the burden of all our sins and placing them upon His own back. All the holiness of the monks stinks in comparison with this service of Christ, the fact that the beloved Lamb, the great Man, yes, the Son of the Exalted Majesty, descends from heaven to serve me.

—From a sermon by the Blessed Reformer, Dr. Martin Luther

Luther's Response at the Diet of Worms

"Unless I am convicted by the testimony of Scripture or by evident reason - for I trust neither in popes nor in councils alone, since it is obvious that they have often erred and contradicted themselves - I am convicted by the Scripture which I have mentioned and my conscience is captive by the Word of God. Therefore I cannot and will not recant, since it is difficult, unprofitable and dangerous indeed to do anything against one's conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen."

Thesis 1 of 95

"Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, when He said, 'Repent,' willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance."





Thoughts on Reformation Day Charles Porterfield Krauth

C. P. Krauth was a Lutheran pastor and theologian in the 19th century, who contended for orthodox Lutheranism at a time when many Lutherans were abandoning the Lutheran Confessions and following after the Americanized Protestants in America. What follows are some thoughts he expressed concerning our observance of Reformation Day—thoughts still every bit as applicable today as they were when he penned them.

It is from the nailing up of the 95 Theses the Reformation takes its date (October 31, 1517). That act became, in the providence of God, the starting-point of the work which still goes on, and shall forever go on, that glorious work in which the truth was raised to its original purity, and civil and religious liberty were restored to men. That the Reformation is the spring of modern freedom is no wild assertion of its friends. One of the greatest Roman Catholic writers of recent times, Michelet, in the Introduction to his Life of Luther, says: “It is not incorrect to say, that Luther has been the restorer of liberty in modern times. If he did not create, he at least courageously affixed his signature to that great revolution which rendered the right of examination lawful in Europe. And, if we exercise, in all its plenitude at this day,

When the Festival of the Reformation shall come and shall wake no throb of joy in [the Church’s] bosom, her life will have fled.

this first and highest privilege of human intelligence, it is to him we are most indebted for it; nor can we think, speak, or write, without being made conscious, at every step, of the immense benefit of this little intellectual enfranchisement;” and he concludes with the remark: “To whom do I owe the power of publishing what I am now inditing, except to this liberator of modern thought?” Our Church, as clearly, in one sense, the mother of the Reformation, as, in another, she is its offspring, the first, and for a time, the exclusive possessor of the name Protestantism, its source and its mightiest bulwark, our Church has wisely set apart a day in each year to commemorate this great deliverance, and wisely has kept her great Jubilees. There are other ways of noting time, besides by its loss. The Church Festivals note it by its gains, the Church Year marks the time which has been redeemed for ever. An old writer describes the Church of All-Saints at

Wittenberg, as a manger, where in his lowly glory the Son of God was born again. Blessed forever be the day! On it, through all time, men shall gather, bringing their offerings of praise; remembering, treasuring, and keeping untarnished, the holy faith whose restoration was thus begun.

It is well, then, to have added to the grand order of the Church Year, the Festival of the Reformation, and to the revolution of the centuries, its Jubilee. Whether as the child or as the parent of the Reformation, whether she would awake her heart to gratitude as its daughter, or arouse herself to an earnest sense of responsibility as its mother, our Church can claim it, as pre-eminently her privilege, and acknowledge it as pre-eminently her duty so to do. When the Festival of the Reformation shall come and shall wake no throb of joy in her bosom, her life will have fled. For if the Reformation lives through her, she also lives by it. It has to her the mysterious relation of Christ to David; if it is her offspring, it is also her root. If she watched the ark of the Lord, the ark of the Lord protected and blessed her, and when it passes from her keeping, her glory will have departed. Let her speak to her children then, and tell them the meaning of the day. In the pulpit, and the school, and the circle of the home, let

these great memories of men of God, of their self-sacrifice, of their overcoming faith, and of their glorious work, be the theme of thought, and of word, and of thanksgiving. The Festival of the Reformation is at once a day of Christmas and of Easter and of Pentecost, in our Church Year; a day of birth, a day of resurrection, a day of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost. Let its return renew that life, and make our Church press on with fresh vigor in the steps of her risen Lord, as one begotten again, and born from the dead, by the quickening power of the Spirit of her God. Let every day be a Festival of the Reformation, and every year a Jubilee.



Who Lutherans Are and What We Believe



We are a Catholic, Evangelical, Orthodox, and Lutheran Community of disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ:

- We are catholic. That is, we believe and teach what has been taught and believed by the Church of Jesus Christ throughout the ages.
- We are evangelical. That is, we are centered in the Gospel of Christ. The focal point of our beliefs is the amazing work that God has done on behalf of His people in order to rescue them from sin and all its consequences.
- We are orthodox. That is, we are zealous for the right teaching and proclamation of the treasure that Jesus has entrusted to His Church. In this way, we are able to give God the right glory that He so richly deserves.
- We are Lutheran. That is, we are identified with the Spirit-led reformer of the 16th century who initiated the rediscovery of the Gospel which had been obscured by centuries of false teaching and traditions.

Our basic beliefs:

- We believe, teach and confess that there is one God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Apart from this Triune God (One God in three distinct persons) there is no other. Rejected is the error that the True God is any other than the Triune God, or the error that all religions essentially lead to the True God.
- We believe, teach and confess that the Second Person of the Trinity, the Lord Jesus Christ is True God, begotten of the Father from eternity and True Man, born of the virgin Mary, by the working of the Holy Spirit. He alone is the Savior of all, whom the Father sent to restore all things. Rejected is the error that Jesus is not God or that He did not accomplish all things necessary for man's salvation.
- We believe, teach and confess that at the fall into sin, man's nature became so totally and thoroughly corrupted that he is by nature turned away from God and, from the time of conception, is under God's just condemnation. Rejected is the error that man is somehow morally neutral or that in some regard, he has retained certain powers which may aid him in returning to God.
- We believe, teach and confess that salvation is by God's grace alone through faith in the atoning work which the Son accomplished on behalf of all men. Rejected is the error that man may/must somehow aid or cooperate in some way in order to obtain salvation.
- We believe, teach and confess that this Christian faith is solely the work of the Holy Spirit, bringing light into man's sin-darkened heart, bringing life to that which was dead, making those who were enemies of God into God's dearly loved children. Rejected is the error that man must open himself, call upon the Lord or invite Him into his heart.
- We believe, teach and confess that the Holy Spirit, using His chosen means, namely the Word and the Sacraments, converts, saves, forgives sins and brings to everlasting life. Rejected is the error that the Spirit works apart from means or that man should expect the Spirit in other than His chosen means.
- We believe, teach and confess that Jesus has established His Holy Christian Church to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments, so that all might become disciples of the Lord. Rejected is the error that Jesus established His Church with powers other than the preaching of the Gospel and making disciples of all nations.
- We believe, teach and confess that the good works that man does is a result of the good that the Holy Spirit has placed within him. They are the fruit of a living faith. Rejected is the error that man may somehow do good works apart from faith or that they contribute toward faith, or in aiding to gaining salvation.
- We believe, teach and confess that at the Last Day, all men will rise again, and that those who are believers in Jesus will receive everlasting life, and that those who reject Jesus will receive everlasting condemnation. Rejected is the error that those who do not have faith in Jesus can somehow receive eternal life or that there is no everlasting condemnation for the evil.



A Reformation Day Sermon

30 October Anno -†- Domini 2011

Rev. Larry Beane II

Salem Lutheran Church in Gretna, LA

Text: Rom 3:19-28

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

“For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.”

Some might argue that the “we” in this sentence means “Lutherans.” But it doesn’t. For when St. Paul – under the Holy Spirit’s inspiration – penned this verse as part of his letter to the Roman Christians, there was no such thing as a “Lutheran.” Even the Christian pastor whose last name would lend itself to Lutherans would not even be born for another 14 centuries – another Christian theologian who was to write a few letters of his own to Roman Christians as well.

“For we hold...” says St. Paul. “We” is an important word, especially in our day and age of individualism and as we live in a culture where all opinions are considered equal. But the text says: “For we hold” – not “I hold.” The confession of faith that a person is “justified by faith apart from works of the law” is not merely a personal opinion or a Lutheran opinion, but rather the one universal Christian truth. This is not just what we believe because we bear the name of one man, Martin Luther, but rather because we – the big “we,” the collective “we,” the catholic “we,” – all Christians of every time and place “hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.”

This biblical understanding of the relationship of faith, works, and the law is crucial to the confession of the Christian faith. So crucial, in fact, that St. Paul is really saying that unless you believe this, you are no Christian at all.

Does this mean that only Lutherans are real Christians? Not at all, dear friends! Not at all! For even though Lutheran and Roman Catholic theologians fought over this point, it is also true that rank and file Christians of every denomination believe that Jesus Christ is their Savior, that they cannot earn salvation by their works, that sin has crippled them to the point that they must depend on God’s mercy through the blood of Christ the Crucified, and that we, as St. Paul teaches us, have nothing to boast about in ourselves.

We Lutherans come from a tradition within the Christian church that teaches this point with clarity and confesses this doctrine, hopefully, with charity – knowing that this is not merely a Lutheran doctrine, but a Christian doctrine, not merely something the “small we” of Lutheran Christianity confesses, but the “large we” of the Church catholic has always confessed with St. Paul and the apostles and the martyrs and the doctors of the Church – right up until our own day and age.

Today, we celebrate the contribution of the sixteenth century reformers of the Church, largely led by a priest and doctor of theology named Martin Luther, in searching the Holy Scriptures for truth instead of relying on the fallen grace, through faith, and not by our own works.

And we thank God for Doctor Luther and the reformers for preaching this, even when the hierarchy of the Church was more interested in saving dollars than saving sinners, more concerned with hoarding up treasures of gold for itself than for storing up treasures in heaven for the redeemed. The Church’s leaders needed to change, to repent, to hear and heed the Word of the Lord – but they refused.

And this is why the Reformation is such a bittersweet celebration. Of course, we are honored to wrap ourselves in the mantle of Luther, but we also know that it is a mantle that is splattered with the blood of thousands of peasants, of innocent victims of religious warfare, and of the devastation of war crimes committed in the name of the Prince of Peace.

We surround ourselves today in the color red: not only the color of the Holy Spirit's fiery Pentecost descent upon the Church that He watches over, "calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies," but it is also the color of the blood of the martyrs – ancient and modern – whose lives were laid down as a witness and testimony of a truth so sacred that people were, and are, willing to die rather than surrender it.

Many who confessed this truth of the "eternal Gospel" were put to death. Many were tortured. Many were exiled. Many were put on trial. But as our Lord taught us: "The kingdom of heaven has suffered violence." Satan has always unsheathed his loathsome sword to shed the blood of confessing Christians. The Reformation was tragic insofar as Satan had infiltrated the Church itself and used Christians to shed the holy blood of other Christians – the blood of the body of Christ Himself being spilled by the Church in the name of Jesus.

And yet, brothers and sisters, our forebears made the good confession: pastors and laymen, men and women, nobles and peasants – people who yearned for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and who were taught the faith from preaching, from the liturgy, from the catechism – all rooted and grounded in the Holy Scriptures themselves. This is what we celebrate in the Reformation – and it is a great and wonderful celebration – even if it is muted by the senseless and horrific acts of violence that characterize this period in our history.

But notice, dear brothers and sisters, dear catholic Christians who to this day bear the name "Lutheran," notice that we are not to boast. For let us not forget what St. Paul also taught us: "What then becomes of our boasting? It is excluded." We have nothing to boast about. The fact that we hold this clear and biblical teaching about justification is nothing for us to brag about, hold other Christians in contempt over, nor puff ourselves up. It is purely by God's grace that we – each one of us – confess the teachings laid out in Luther's Small Catechism. We have been taught the truth of Scripture, and we joyfully confess it – but never apart from the humility with which our Lord exhorts us to display. For we have been saved by grace, by God's mercy – nothing more, nothing less. And we deserve this grace no more or no less than any other poor, miserable sinner. For that is the definition of grace: it is undeserved mercy. Dear friends, our own boast is in Christ. Christ alone. All other boasting is excluded.

Rather than boast, we are to be about the good works prepared before the foundation of the world that the Lord has prepared for us. We are to work out our salvation – that salvation given to us as a free gift – by doing the works that we do not have to do out of fear, but rather that we wish to do out of love.

St. John saw a beautiful vision that has been placed into our ears again this morning: "Then I saw another angel... with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people."

Given that we confess the gospel in its purity, we are not called to boast, but to proclaim, not to pat ourselves on the back, but rather to be the hands of Christ in the world, proclaiming an "eternal gospel" to all people.

When we are busy doing the work we have been given, knowing that we have been saved by grace, there is neither the inclination nor the time to boast. Dear friends, let us confess the eternal Gospel with clarity and let us confess this doctrine of justification with charity, knowing that our only boast is in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Let us celebrate the Reformation not with pride, but with humility, knowing that at the heart of our Reformation is the cross – by which the Lord has saved us by the shedding of His blood. *Soli Deo Gloria* – to God alone be the glory – now and forever. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Reformation Celebration!

Reformation Day

Sunday, October 28

Festival of Reformation Day at 9:30 a.m.

Reformation Celebration Immediately Following

(With Pastor Appreciation Dinner)

Come join us as we enjoy:

Delicious Food!

Games for Adults and Children!

(With Prizes!)

Relaxing Fellowship and Conversation!

“Lutheran” Beverages!

(Bring your own beer, if you wish)

Desserts and Coffee!

And More!

Don't miss out!

Come and Celebrate Our Lutheran Heritage
with Us; Friends and Family Welcome, Too!

Sponsored together by S.A.L.T. and our Ladies' Guild!



PASTOR YUCEF NADARKHANI FREED!

Youcef Nadarkhani, the Iranian pastor who was recently released from prison, after originally being sentenced to death for being a Christian, and after facing numerous execution dates during his three year imprisonment, which were thankfully never carried out, has written a powerful and moving letter thanking the world for prayers lifted up on his behalf. Please take a moment to read the words of a man whose faith was tested yet proclaimed undying love for Christ in the face of death! This is a poignant reminder to those of us who are blessed to live in a country where we are free to worship our God without threat that we have brothers and sisters in Christ around the world who still face persecution and the threat of execution for believing in Jesus Christ.

Salaam! (Peace be upon you!)

I glorify and give grace to the Lord with all my heart. I am grateful for all the blessings that He gave me during my whole life. I am especially grateful for His goodness and divine protection that characterized the time of my detention.

I also want to express my gratitude towards those who, all around the world, have worked for my cause, or should I say the cause that I defend. I want to express my gratitude to all of those who have supported me, openly or in complete secrecy. You are all very dear to my heart. May the Lord bless you and give you His perfect and sovereign Grace.

Indeed I have been put to the test, the test of faith which is, according to the Scriptures more precious than perishable gold. But I have never felt loneliness, I was all the time aware of the fact that it wasn't a solitary battle, for I have felt all the energy and support of those who obeyed their conscience and fought for the promotion of the justice and the rights of all human beings. Thanks to these efforts, I have now the enormous joy to be by my wonderful wife and my children. I am grateful for these people through whom God has been working. All of this is very encouraging.

During that period, I had the opportunity to experience in a marvelous way the Scripture that says: Indeed, as the sufferings of Christ abound for us, our encouragement abound through Christ. He has comforted my family and has given them the means to face that difficult situation. In His Grace, He provided for their spiritual and material needs, taking away from me a heavy weight.

The Lord has wonderfully provided through the trial, allowing me to face the challenges that were in front of me. As the Scriptures says, "He will not allow us to be tested beyond our strength..." Despite the fact that I have been found guilty of apostasy according to a certain reading of the Shar'ia, I am grateful that He gave the leaders of the country, the wisdom to break that judgment taking into account other facts of that same Shar'ia. It is obvious that the defenders of the Iranian right and the legal experts have made an important effort to enforce the law and the right. I want to thank those who have defended the right until the end.

I am happy to live in a time where we can take a critical and constructive look to the past. This has allowed the writing of universal texts aiming at the promotion of the rights of man. Today, we are debtors of these efforts provided by dear people who have worked for the respect of human dignity and have passed on to us these universal significant texts. I am also debtor of those who have faithfully passed on the Word of God, that very Word who makes us heirs of God.

Before ending, I want to express a prayer for the establishment of an unending and universal peace, so that the will of the Father be done on earth as it is in heaven. Indeed, everything passes, but the Word of God, source of all peace, will last eternally.

May the grace and mercy of God be multiplied to you. Amen!

Yousef Nadarkhani

(Letter courtesy of Present Truth Ministries)

Rediscover a Great Biblical and Literary Classic!

THE APOCRYPHA

The Lutheran Edition with Notes

For more than 100 years, most Protestant publishers have left *The Apocrypha* out of English versions of the Bible. Concordia Publishing House is proud to announce the release of the first and only ESV edition of *The Apocrypha* with notes and annotations by Lutherans.

I know, I know, you've always heard that Lutherans don't include "those books" in their Bibles; that's a Roman Catholic thing! Not true. Luther included *The Apocrypha* in his German edition of the Bible, and the tradition of including *The Apocrypha* remained among Lutherans until they

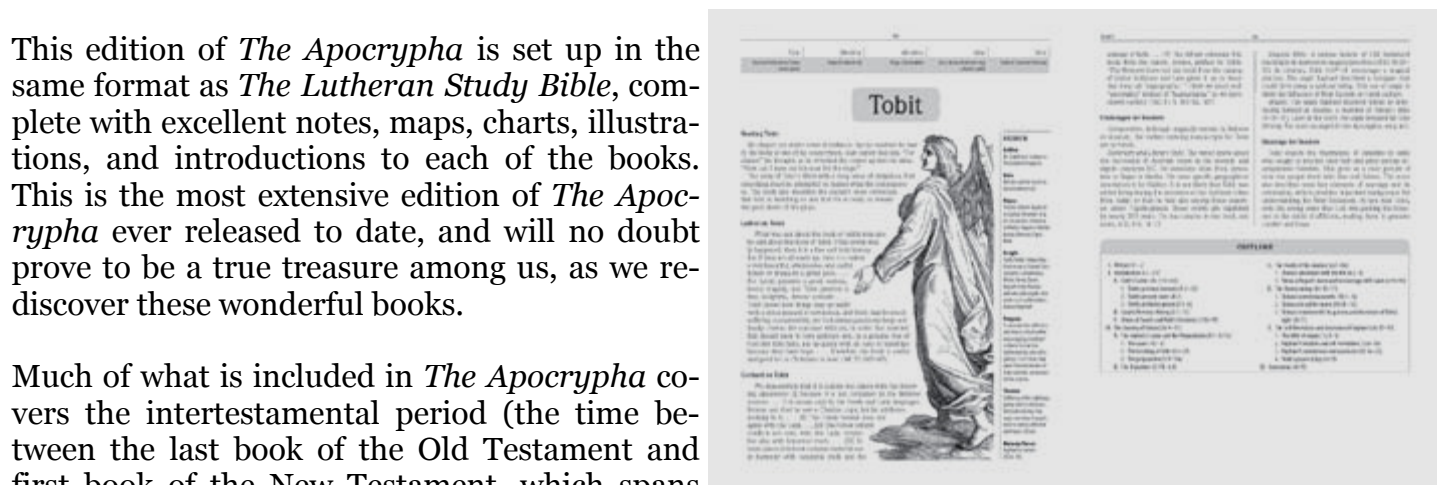
began using English editions of the Bible about 100 years ago. The move away from including *The Apocrypha* was not fostered by Lutherans, but by other Protestants, who did not share the Lutheran confession about these books. But, you can learn all about that, and so much more, in this excellent edition of *The Apocrypha*, recently released by our superb publishing house, as there is a ton of historical and theological background included therein. It really is a most amazing publishing endeavor, which is being lauded by Christians from many different backgrounds.

This edition of *The Apocrypha* is set up in the same format as *The Lutheran Study Bible*, complete with excellent notes, maps, charts, illustrations, and introductions to each of the books. This is the most extensive edition of *The Apocrypha* ever released to date, and will no doubt prove to be a true treasure among us, as we rediscover these wonderful books.

Much of what is included in *The Apocrypha* covers the intertestamental period (the time between the last book of the Old Testament and first book of the New Testament, which spans about 400 years), and we simply would not have that historical information available to us without it. There are also many things in the New Testament that we simply wouldn't fully understand were it not for *The Apocrypha*, since our Lord and His Apostles often make reference or allude to it. Plus, whether you are aware of it or not, you have often heard from *The Apocrypha* during Divine Services, for many of the historic introits and collects (prayers) come directly from these books.

Concordia Publishing House has done a great service not only to our church body, but also to the church at large, with the release of this fantastic resource. And, they are currently offering it at the introduction price of **\$34.99 (offer valid until December 31, 2012)**. Plus, if a congregation orders 10 or more, they will waive the shipping.

We will be including a bulletin insert with information about this exciting new release soon, and we will have a sign-up sheet on one of the bulletin boards in the fellowship hall for those who wish to order. If you have any questions about *The Apocrypha*, please see Pastor Messer, as he would love to tell you more about it.





LCMS Launches "Free to Be Faithful" Awareness Campaign

In response to increasing intrusions by government into the realm of the church, the LCMS is launching "Religious Liberty: Free to Be Faithful," an education and awareness campaign aimed at inspiring LCMS rostered members and laity to take informed action to protect the freedom of religion.

"We are committed to working to ensure that we remain free to practice the teachings of our faith and that we retain our rights of conscience," said LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison. "Freedom of religion extends beyond the practice of our faith in houses of worship. We must be free to put our faith into action in the public square and, in response to Christ's call, demonstrate His mercy through our love and compassion for all people."

The goals of the campaign are to provide clarity about the church's role in matters of Christian citizenship and impress upon elected representatives the vital nature of protecting First Amendment rights for all religious organizations -- not just houses of worship -- so that they are free to operate according to their religious beliefs.

Harrison said that "the immediate focus of the campaign is to provide educational materials prepared from an LCMS perspective that our members can use and share so they are equipped to participate in the electoral process and make informed decisions at the polls in November."

Beginning in late September, educational resources available online include a Bible study and bulletin insert, articles and commentaries, a sample advocacy letter and additional materials, which can be found at: www.lcms.org/freetobefaitful.



**3,700 children are aborted every day
in the United States.**

The Church can make a difference.

Plan now to attend the January 2013 LCMS Life Conference.

Hyatt Regency Crystal City
2799 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202
703-418-1234

(Attendees must secure hotel lodging independently)

This historic conference will begin on the morning of Friday, January 25, 2013 with Divine Service, hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church and her pastor, Rev. Christopher Esget, who will serve as Conference Chaplain. Then, participants will spend the day marching in the 40th Annual Nation March For Life in Washington D.C., concluding the day by praying Vespers in the evening back at the hotel.

The second day, Saturday, January 26, 2013, will offer a full slate of excellent speakers, including LCMS President Matthew Harrison, Rev. Todd Wilken, Mrs. Mollie Ziegler Hemingway, Rev. Jonathan Fisk, Rev. Robert Benne, Rev. Greg Williamson, Tim Goeglein, Carol Tobias, and more. Sessions for both Adult and Youth attendees will be held throughout.

Registration for Adults (18-and-over) is \$175.00; Youth (under 18) is \$100.00. Lodging is not included in registration fee (to stay at the Hyatt where the conference will be held is \$129/per night).

If anyone is interested in attending this historic conference, please see Pastor Messer.

PEACE NEWS & NOTES



Scrip Program at Peace

As most of you know, Peace has been participating in the Scrip Program since October, 2011. During this past year we have earned over \$1200 solely by members buying gift cards that they then use for normal everyday purchases or as gifts. Cards can be used just as you use cash or a debit card at any participating merchants. They also can be used online at many of the merchants' online ordering sites. The Peace Council authorized purchase of gift cards that are then used to buy church office supplies and the Ladies' Guild has purchased cards for kitchen supplies. Sounds easy, doesn't it? Members contribute to their congregation by continuing their normal buying patterns. And it really is that simple.

It's true that some budgeting and planning is required by members. Carolyn Johnson ably administers the Program for Peace and orders cards every few weeks on Sunday. She receives the cards by Tuesday or Wednesday and distributes them promptly. Think about what you normally purchase — gasoline, food, prescription drugs, an occasional gift for a family member... Check the Scrip Pro merchants list to see the wide variety of cards available. Carolyn can supply you with a list or you can see it online at <http://www.scrippro.com>. If you have not tried this Program yet, please consider making a small order of one card and giving the Program a try. And, if you are using it, consider additional ways that you could participate. Since Christmas is quickly approaching, perhaps you could purchase a gift card for someone on your list for whom you never know what to buy. With gas prices as they are, a gas card would be a welcome gift for anyone who drives. It's a wonderful way to contribute to Peace without having to take any additional funds from your personal budget.

SALT NEWS

Next SALT meeting will be **Tuesday, October 23, 6:30 p.m.** at the church.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us.

Please see our Meeting Minutes on the SALT Bulletin Board

VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO ADMINISTER SUPPORT FOR OUR TROOPS

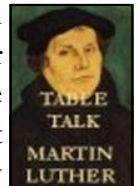
This is an ongoing outreach for the SALT Committee. Additional help is needed to inventory items and ascertain what can and cannot be shipped. If you can assist with this, please contact Carolyn Johnson. Also, please get in touch with Carolyn if you know of a person in the armed forces who is serving abroad. (email ckj1969@yahoo.com).

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

We will meet on Monday, October 15 at 1:30 p.m. at JJ Ruby's. Please add your name to our signup list in the fellowship hall. All ladies of Peace are invited and also may invite a guest - the more the merrier!

Table Talk

Our Table Talks are informal and informative discussions with Pastor Messer on various topics decided by the group in attendance. Table Talk is a great time to take advantage of the opportunity



to ask any questions you may have. Our next Table Talk will be held on **Thursday, October 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the church.** We would love to have you join us!

PEACE NEWS & NOTES Cont'd

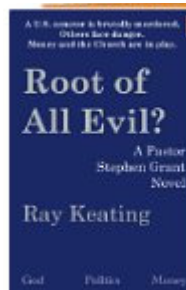
PEACE BOOK CLUB



In September, we met at Pastor Messer's home to discuss the four books we read during the summer. Lisa prepared amazing snacks. The pesto was my personal favorite! Thanks, Lisa. We had a rousing conversation of our summer reading. If you're ever looking for a good book, any one of these would make a good choice. They were all very different, and all readable and enjoyable. See Pastor Messer's blog, (<http://abideinmyword.blogspot.com/>) for a more detailed summary.

Our **October** meeting will be at the home of Sharyn Greening on the **16th at 7:00 p.m.** We all are excited to read ***The Root of All Evil: A Pastor Stephen Grant Novel*** by Ray Keating and discuss it at this meeting. Our first Book Club selection was ***Warrior Monk: A Pastor Stephen Grant Novel***, also by Ray Keating. We all are anxious to learn more about Pastor Stephen Grant and his exploits.

If you have never attended a book club meeting, this would be a great time to start. ***The Root of All Evil*** promises to be a fun and easy read and to explore topics that are thought provoking and good conversation starters. Please join us!



REMEMBERING OUR SHUT-INS

We all love to receive greetings from people who care for us. What better way to remember our shut-ins (when it is difficult for us to make a personal visit) than to send a note or a card periodically to let them know we are thinking of them and to give them something to look forward to in the mail, and especially at this time of the year! Please consider dropping a few lines to our shut-ins during the course of each month.

Marlene Wiltshire
Warwick Living Center
842 W. Warwick Dr.
Alma, MI 48801

Vivian Strom
Masonic Pathways
1200 Wright Ave.
Alma, MI 48801

Joan Burch
Schnepp Health Care Center
427 E. Washington
St. Louis, MI 48880

Marion Greening
1025 Vassar Street
Alma, MI 48801

Also, while correspondence is not requested for him, please remember our dear brother in Christ, Dick Wisner, who is at Pine River in St. Louis, in your prayers.

2012 TELEPHONE DIRECTORY CHANGES September 21, 2012

Please note the following changes in your August 2012 Peace Lutheran Church Members Telephone Directory:

Paige Harwager (under Baughman, Jenny)
Cell phone # should be: 1-989-495-3632

Dargie, Charlotte
New cell phone # 1-989-285-4208

Luplow, Myka
Delete email address

Miller, Marlene
New cell phone # 1-989-285-4049

Please let the office know whenever you have a change in address or phone number so we may keep our telephone directory up to date. Thank you.

PEACE NEWS & NOTES Cont'd



OCTOBER

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Marlene Wiltshire | 15 Blaine Schafer |
| 3 Jack Lesinger | 15 Lucille Slick |
| 7 Charlotte Dargie | 15 Carolyn Johnson |
| 12 Brent Meyers | 30 Myka Luplow |

Happy Anniversary

- 14 Kevin and Linda Sellke
14 Gary and Marlene Miller
28 Thomas and Sally Pease

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

Church Cleaning and Supplies

As you have heard in the past, we are always looking for members who can help with the cleaning of the church. If you or your family have a little bit of time each week that you could devote to a simple task to help keep the church building clean, please contact Marlene Miller. Any help is greatly appreciated. Also, if you are not able to help with cleaning but could assist by providing cleaning supplies or money to help purchase those supplies, that would also be a great help. The people who doing the cleaning also provide the supplies and anything you can give will help them. Following are items we use on a regular basis: bathroom deodorizers, liquid soap, toilet bowl cleaner, all purpose cleaner for the sinks and floors, comet or ajax, window cleaner, toilet paper, tri-fold towels and garbage bags. See Marlene Miller if you can help in any way.

Thank you!

Peace 50th Anniversary Celebration

The 50th Anniversary Committee is making wonderful progress at completing plans for the celebration that will take place on November 11, 2012. You should have all received an invitation, either in your church mailbox or through the US Mail. If you have not received an invitation, please contact Carol Zeile (carol.zeile@gmail.com). Notice that there is a request for RSVP on the invitation. In order to assist us to prepare for plenty of food and seating, please do let us know if you will attend. Many of our former members and pastors, including Charter Members, will also be receiving invitations. This will be a good time to reconnect with them.

As part of the activities, we will be putting together displays of photographs from past events at Peace. If you have any pictures that you would like to share for decorating purposes (you will get them back), please date them and give them to Coaline Luplow or Sharyn Greening.

Through fundraising events and contributions, we have done very well raising the funds necessary to provide this important celebration in the life of our congregation. The Committee has a working budget and is still in need of some additional donations. If you are willing/able to contribute, please see Carol Zeile. Thank you very much to all who have helped so far.

In addition to funds, we also need volunteers to help with preparations and on the day of the celebration, **November 11, 2012**. If you are willing to help, please contact any of the committee members listed below. We need the help of as many as possible in order to make the celebration great. If you have questions or can help in any way, please contact one of the following Committee members: Amy Blair, Sharyn Greening, Coaline Luplow, Pastor Messer, Dorothy Trgina, Jo Wendt and Carol Zeile.

Ladies' Guild

Ladies Guild Meeting

Our Ladies Guild will meet on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, at 12:00 pm.** 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

The current list is posted on the Ladies' Guild Bulletin Board. All participants should have a copy. If you wish to be added to the prayer chain as a caller, or if you wish to have yourself or someone else "sent through the chain," please see or call Marlene Miller at 463-3710.

Altar Flowers

There is a flower calendar for 2012 is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board. We are now working toward ordering altar flower arrangements that coordinate with and enhance the liturgical colors of each Season of the Church year. Depending on the dates, flowers may not always be displayed for a calendar month. Some Seasons of the Church year cross calendar months. If you wish to place flowers on the altar sometime during the year, please put your name on the calendar and contact the church office with any information that you wish to have included in the bulletin. If there is a specific date in the month that commemorates an occasion, please also enter that date. A bouquet costs \$25. We encourage two persons (families) to purchase flowers each month, one for each plant stand. Please make checks payable to Peace Lutheran Church, attach a note marked "Altar Flowers" and place in the Financial Secretary's envelope in the church office. Any questions may be directed to Carol Zeile or Amy Blair. Thank you for helping to beautify our chancel.

PEACE LUTHERAN LADIES GUILD



The Ladies' Guild is collecting the following items to send to Lutheran World Relief:

FABRIC KIT

2 PIECES OF COTTON OR COTTON-BLEND FABRIC:

2 1/4 YARDS OF 60" WIDE FABRIC or
3 YARDS OF 44" WIDE FABRIC or
4 YARDS OF 36" WIDE FABRIC

2 SPOOLS OF MATCHING GENERAL PURPOSE THREAD-250-300 YARDS EACH

FOLD THREAD AND ONE PIECE OF FABRIC INSIDE SECOND FABRIC AND TIE WITH YARN, STRING, RIBBON OR FABRIC.

COLLECTION DATES:

OCTOBER 1—DECEMBER 31

PEACE LADIES GUILD COOKBOOK

Cookbooks are available for \$13.00 and can be purchased during fellowship time from any member of the Guild. Please see Coaline Luplow with any questions.

LADIES GUILD SELLS CUTLERY

Rada cutlery is on display the 3rd Sunday of each month in the fellowship hall during the coffee hour. We have seven different items in stock: Paring Knife, Large Slicer Knife, Tomato Slicer, Serrated Steak Knife, Spatula, Pie Server, and Veggie Peeler. A product catalogue is available for viewing and orders may also be placed through the catalog.



October

Megan Brown



7 Lisa Messer
14 S. Greening/M. Brown
21 M. Isaksson/H. Meyer
28 Reformation—No coffee

November

Altar Care

Amy Blair

Coffee Hostesses

4 Dorothy Trgina
11 Lois Ramsey
18 Amy Blair
25 Gretchen Harrison

December

Carol Zeile

2 Andrea Elliott
9 Jo Wendt
16 Cassie Tennant
23 Coaline Luplow
30 Jenny Baughmann

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT PEACE

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

- Sunday School and Adult Bible Class is offered on **Sundays at 11 a.m.**

Together in the Word

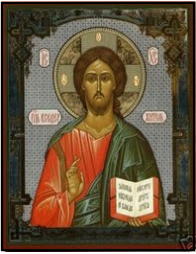
- We meet every **Thursday at 10:00 a.m.** We are currently studying *1 Kings*. All are welcome to join us!

Wednesday Bible Study

- Meets every Wednesday at 6 pm for a study of *Acts*.

First Communion and Confirmation Classes

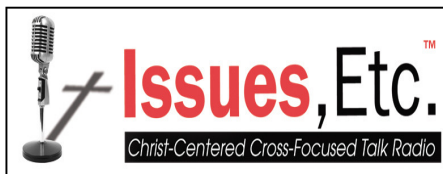
- First Communion Classes take place as arranged (see Pastor Messer if interested); Confirmation Class meets Thursdays, 6:00-7:30 p.m.



PASTOR MESSER IS BLOGGING!

www.abideinmyword.blogspot.com

*Check in from time to time
to see what's on his mind.*



TALK RADIO FOR THE THINKING CHRISTIAN!

Listen to what you want, when you want, at:
www.issuesetc.org

PAROCHIAL REPORT (as of 9/23/12)

Membership at Peace

Baptized - 139; Confirmed - 118

Membership gains: 0

Membership losses: 0

Financial Report as of 9/23/2012

YTD Budgeted.....\$84,903.00

YTD Receipts.....\$73,188.80

Difference.....-\$11,714.20

PEACE MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, October 26

6:30 p.m.—Pizza

7:00 p.m.—Movie

**In honor of Reformation Day, we'll
watch "Luther" again this year.
Bring your own comfy chairs and
snacks if you wish.
Hope you'll join us!**



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

The SALT Committee and the Ladies' Guild decided this year to celebrate Pastor Appreciation and the Reformation on the same day, Sunday, October 28. That decision came about since we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary on November 11 and are involved in all of the arrangements for that day, and because of other scheduling conflicts. Both Pastor Appreciation and Reformation are important events in the life of our congregation. Please join us to honor Pastor Messer and his family and to celebrate Martin Luther and our Lutheran heritage. A dinner is planned that will take place following the Reformation Divine Service. Please see the article about Reformation celebration for more details. All are welcome. If you would like to contribute food for the meal, please sign-up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

As a gift to Pastor and Lisa, there will be a basket in the fellowship hall for cards. Our love and support is an integral part of the ability of our pastor to serve us effectively. Please consider showing your appreciation through a written message and/or a monetary gift. Thanks in advance for your help in making this dinner a success. If you have any questions, please contact Coaline Lu-plow, Carolyn Johnson or Dorothy Trgina.

Although we are setting aside this time to specially recognize Pastor Messer and his family, we all need to remember that pastor appreciation is a year-round activity. Ultimately, pastor appreciation by a congregation is thanking God for sending His servant to us. Loving and appreciating our pastor shows that same love and appreciation to God and reveals more about the congregation than it does about the pastor. Leadership in any organization requires risk. Pastors risk being emotionally hurt when they open up to us and love us unconditionally. Pastors risk being disliked if they make an unpopular decision. Pastors risk criticism for nearly every choice they make, every sermon they preach and every person they love. Many members of the congregation have demanding and critically important vocations that we preform each day. However, most of us get a weekend now and then, holidays off, and at least an annual vacation. Even when our pastor does get a day off or a vacation, he is available to us. Being a pastor is a 24/7 vocation, since many of the most important functions of the position happen unplanned and at any time of day. Pastor appreciation encourages men, who are sinful human beings like us, to continue to make the difficult choices and serve with love, even when we are making his life difficult or the rigors of daily life in this world seem too great. There is no way that we can completely understand the trials of our pastor, but we can tell him that we appreciate his dedication to our Lord and to us.

Dear Lord,

Thank you for our pastor. Help us to always remember that You sent this pastor to shepherd us and to mentor us, to teach us and to correct us, to comfort and guide us and to be Your representative among us. Our pastor makes many sacrifices of which we are completely unaware. But, Lord, You know his needs. Help us to be more aware of them also. When our pastor and his family need prayer, remind us to approach You on their behalf. Help us to be more loving toward our pastor and his family by being less critical, more sensitive to his needs, speaking words of encouragement to and about him, and remembering to say thank you. Thank you for our pastor and his family and for sending them to us. Lord, please bless, keep, and protect them always. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL
AUGUST 14 MINUTES**

Call To Order & Opening Prayer

- President Zeile called the meeting to order at 6:34pm. Pastor Messer opened with prayer. The following members were present: Dave Zeile, Gary Miller, Carol Zeile, Larry Elliott, Terry Luplow, Sharyn Greening, Carolyn Johnson and Cassie Tennant. Pastor Messer was also present.

Approval of Agenda

- Motion made by Gary Miller, supported by Sharon Greening to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Motion made by Carol Zeile, supported by Gary Miller, to approve minutes. Motion carried unanimously

Report(s)

- **Pastor** – Full report attached; **Treasurer's Report** – Full report attached; **Financial Secretary** – Full report attached; **Board of Elders** – No report; **Board of Trustees** – need volunteer to place patch on the roof, dead trees have been taken down, need people to clean up and take away the wood, organ has been repaired, and the carpets have been cleaned; **Board of Christian Education** – Rally Day is September 9th; **Board to Evangelism** – Next meeting is September 20th at 6:30pm; **Board of Stewardship** – Need to finish writing the letter, meeting August 28th

Business

- **Scrip proceed usage clarification** - We need to maintain a \$400 balance in the Scrip account. This leaves \$800 available to split 50/50 between Anniversary Committee and Bathroom Renovation

General Comments: None.

Adjournment & Closing Prayer

- Motion made by Gary Miller, supported by Terry Luplow to adjourn at 7:15 pm. Motion carried unanimously. Pastor Messer closed with Prayer and Benediction

**PEACE LUTHERAN VOTERS' ASSEMBLY
JULY 22 MINUTES**

Call To Order & Opening Prayer

- President Zeile called the meeting to order at 11:03am. Pastor Messer led us in prayer. There were 28 members present.

Approval of Agenda

- Motion by Marlene Miller, supported by Sharyn Greening, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes regular meeting April 22, 2012

- Motion by Carol Zeile supported by Larry Elliott, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously

Report(s)

- **Pastor** – Group of 11 going to Higher Things Youth Conference; **Treasurer**- Full report attached; **Financial Secretary**- Quarterly reports are in the mailboxes, full report is attached; **Board of Elders** – No report; **Board of Trustees** – Cassie's dad is going to cut down two trees on the 28th of July, need volunteers to cut the trees; **Board of Christian Education** – VBS went well, \$50 donation was made to ULC, Sunday school rally day with potluck is set for September 9th; **Board of Evangelism**- no report; **Board of Stewardship** – pray about giving time, talents and treasures; **Peace Lutheran Ladies Guild** – Second time around sale raised \$629. New ribbons were put in all the hymnals; **Peace Youth Group**- Green Recycling fundraiser is still on going; **50th Anniversary Celebration** – Meeting July 23rd at 7pm. Any donations for the event should be given to Carol Zeile.

Business

- **Release of Don and Aaron Reithel for self-exclusion** – Motion by Larry Elliott, supported by Megan Brown to remove Don and Aaron for self-exclusion. Motion passed unanimously
- **Remodeling the Bathrooms** – Art Tennant has some drawings, estimate \$6,000-7,000. Members are needed to volunteer to help. There was a discussion about using the memorial funds to fund the project, Motion by Carol Zeile, supported by Cassie Tennant, to authorize the trustees to use the memorial funds to renovate the bathrooms. The motion passed with 3 no's.
- **Discussion of Scrip proceeds and uses for those proceeds** – Motion made by Dorothy Trgina, supported by Gary Miller, to use the current proceeds to help fund the anniversary event and the remodeling of the bathrooms, however an appropriate balance has to be left in the account. Once these two projects are complete then the congregation will have to discuss the uses of the proceeds again at a later congregation meeting. The motion passed with 3 no's.
- **Thrivent Choice Dollars** – Have to designate funds to Peace Lutheran recurring. Please make this designation before the 9th of every month. We have received and allocated \$1250 to Ladies Guild, Youth Group and Anniversary committee. There is a balance remaining of \$444.87

General Comment: None.

Adjournment & Closing Prayer

- Motion by Gary Miller, supported by Jon Penizen, to adjourn at 12:05pm. Motion passed unanimously. Pastor closed with Lord's Prayer and Benediction.




Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Tennant, Secretary

Rev. Thomas C. Messer
(989) 463-3093—Home
pastor@peacealma.org
pastormesser@gmail.com
www.abideinmyword.blogspot.com

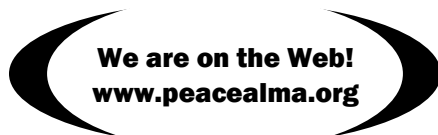
Peace Lutheran Church
325 E. Warwick Drive
Alma, MI 48801
(989) 463-5754
contact@peacealma.org
www.peacealma.org

October 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1		2 6:30 pm - Council	3 12 pm - Ladies' Guild 6 pm - Bible Study (Acts) 7 pm - Divine Service <i>Saint Jerome</i> 	4 10 am - Together in Word 5 pm - Weight Watchers 6 pm - Confirmation	5	6
7 <i>Trinity 18</i> 8:30 am - Choir Practice 9:30 am - Divine Service 10:45 am - Fellowship 11:15 am - SS & BC 	8	9	10 6 pm - Bible Study (Acts) 7 pm - Divine Service <i>Abraham Patriarch</i> 	11 10 am - Together in Word 5 pm - Weight Watchers 6 pm - Confirmation	12	13
14 <i>Trinity 19</i> 8:00 am - Elders 8:30 am - Choir Practice 9:30 am - Divine Service 10:45 am - Fellowship 11:15 am - SS & BC 	15 1:30 am - Ladies' Lunch Bunch	16 7:00 pm - Peace Book Club	17 6 pm - Bible Study (Acts) 7 pm - Divine Service <i>St. Luke the Evangelist (Obs.)</i> 	18 10 am - Together in Word 5 pm - Weight Watchers 6 pm - Confirmation	19	20
21 <i>Trinity 20</i> 8:30 am - Choir Practice 9:30 am - Divine Serv. 10:45 am - Fellowship 11:15 am - Voters' Assembly 	22	23 6:30 pm - SALT meeting	24 6 pm - Bible Study (Acts) 7 pm - Divine Service <i>St. James of Jerusalem (Obs.)</i> 	25 10 am - Together in Word 5 pm - Weight Watchers 6 pm - Confirmation 7:30 pm - Table Talk	26 Peace Movie Night 6:30 pm - pizza 7:00 pm-Luther 	27
28 <i>Festival of Reformation</i> 8:30 am - Choir Practice 9:30 am - Divine Service 11:00am - Pastor Appreciation & Reformation Celebration 	29	30 7 pm - Stewardship	31 6 pm - Bible Study (Acts) 7 pm - Divine Service <i>St. Simon and St. Jude (Obs.)</i> 	November 1 10 am - Together in Word 5 pm - Weight Watchers 6 pm - Confirmation	2	3

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 October

	ELDERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETERS
October				
7 - 9:30 am (Trinity 18)	Miguel Ortiz	Sierra Luplow Savannah Blair	Daren Johnson Vern Jakolat	Sharyn Greening
14 - 9:30 am (Trinity 19)	Gabriel Blair	Aaron Messer Georgie Bebow	Miguel Ortiz Gary Miller	Terry and Coaline Luplow
21 - 9:30 am (Trinity 20)	Larry Elliott	Morgan Johnson Myka Luplow	Tyrel Harwager John Lemmermann	Lillian Manns Lois Ramsey
28 - 9:30 am (Festival of Reformation Day)	Terry Luplow	Farrah Blair Paige Harwager	Gabriel Blair James Sager	Dave and Carol Zeile
November				
4 - 9:30 am (Festival of All Saints' Day)	Miguel Ortiz	Sierra Luplow Georgie Bebow	Jonathan Penzien Terry Luplow	Helen Meyers

"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men" (Eph. 6:7)