



Peace Lutheran Church

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“Yes, I Will,” Said The Congregational Member July 2017

Perhaps you remember the story, “The Little Red Hen,” from your childhood. It is the story about a hen who wants to bake bread and is asking for help from the other farm animals. She asks, “Who will help me plant the wheat, harvest the wheat, take the wheat to the mill, and bake the bread?” In answer to each question, every farm animal said, “Not I.” So the little red hen did all the work herself. However, when the bread was finally baked, the hen asked, “Who will help me eat the bread?” Then every animal answered, “Yes, I will.” But the hen said, “No. This bread is for those who did the work to make it.” This is an illustration of a very common truth. Many people want to enjoy the benefits of work while few, if any, actually want to do the work.

This is a fairly common occurrence in churches. Many people want to enjoy the good things which a congregation has to offer. This may include something as simple as a variety of choices of food and drink during the fellowship hour. This also may include things more directly related to the ministry of the congregation: a strong Sunday School; a dynamic youth ministry; a successful evangelism outreach; a beautiful choir; and so on. Yet, when asked to help do the work to make these things happen, the responses is often, “Not I,” say many congregational members.

Why does this happen? As with all problems, the origin is traced back to sin. Our sinful nature causes us to focus in on ourselves. Because of the power of sin in our lives, we become accustomed to serving ourselves or expecting others to serve us. Thus, we are quite content to let others do the work of ministry, enjoy the benefits of the ministry, and complain when it’s not done.

What can we do to solve the problem? Bawling people out and making them feel guilty doesn’t help, but remaining silent doesn’t help either. Rather than addressing the question of what people have done (or not done), it is better to address the question of who people are. The question of our identity is vitally important for us. We are not slaves of God who must serve Him, but we are baptized children of God who are privileged to serve Him. In Holy Baptism, each of us has been re-created as a totally new person before God. We have new attitudes, new desires, and new power.

St. Paul says that each of us is a member of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12 – 27). In a body, each part is important. In the body of Christ, each person is important. In a body, every part has an important task to do which benefits the entire body. An eye sees; an ear hears; a foot walks. In the body of Christ, every member has at least one skill to perform various tasks which benefit the entire church. Some teach. Some usher. Some serve on the Board of Directors. Some attend voters meetings. Some man the state fair booth. Some pray for the success of the state fair booth, as well as all of the other ministries of the congregation. No member has to do every task, but every member has at least one task to do.

I’m sure you know what happens if enough parts of a body fail to fulfill their function. A body becomes sick or weak or paralyzed or dies. The same is true with the body of Christ. If enough members of any congregation continue to answer, “Not I,” and fail to fulfill their function within the body of Christ, then, not only are particular programs and activities threatened, but the existence of the congregation itself is at risk. While tasks and ways of service may vary and change throughout the years, there is never any reason for not serving and there is no retirement from serving.

While we may be tempted to behave like the little red hen and have one person or a small group do all the work in a congregation or try to limit participation in a program or activity to those who actually did the work on it, that doesn’t help the situation. Instead, let us remember three things. First, each of us is a baptized child of God and member of the body of Christ who is living a new life of serving God by serving our neighbor in church. Second, each of us has been given at least one, if not many, talents to use in service to God in this congregation. Third, for our congregation to survive and even thrive, each and every skill of each and every member must be employed in service to Christ and His church. Be excited that you have these opportunities for service in the church. Be thankful that you have the skills to serve from God. And, then, when someone approaches you with an opportunity to serve, rather than automatically saying, “No, not I,” be eager to answer, “Yes, I will.”

In Christ, Our Servant King,
Pastor Schlund

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TO**

Donnalene McPartlin for working for Ruth while she was on vacation.

Everyone who washed and vacuumed cars on June 10.

Everyone who helped with the Community Outreach event and signed up for the State Fair booth this year.

Arnie Gidlow for organizing the Community Outreach event and the State Fair Booth.

Everyone who helped with VBS this year.

Jennifer Lewis for organizing VBS this year.

All of the ladies who go to Benefis Skilled Nursing Center, Park Place Nursing Home, Bee Hive Home and Highgate House for hymn singing and devotions every month.

Gloria Creek and Val Martin for playing the organ during our worship services.

All those who volunteer to teach Sunday school, Bible class, and VBS classes.

Everyone on the Prayer Chain for their time and prayers.

Everyone who has donated treats for our fellowship time.

All of the men who volunteer to usher.

Angelika Fisher for cleaning the church.

All of the people who stay after and clean the kitchen after Bible study.

Cheri Magnuson for cleaning the Communion linens.

This list is not inclusive. Please accept our apologies if we have missed giving you credit for serving the Lord in any fashion. We know that the Lord knows your service to Him.

LWML

- ♥ **Thank you** to all of the ladies who came and helped us plan the coming year's events and projects!
- ♥ **During the month of August we are collecting school supplies for the students grades K through 6 at Sunnyside Elementary School.** You may purchase some supplies, bring them back to the church and place them in the box provided. We will be taking the items to the school on August 28, 2017. Look for the list of items needed for Sunnyside students at any department store.
- ♥ **From September 10 through October 8, we will be collecting hats, gloves, socks (size large) and mittens for the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indians on the reservations where Pastor Dan Jacobs and Pastor Dennis Bauer serve.** You may purchase these items and place them in the box provided. Ruth and Val will take them to Billings the weekend of October 13 and 14.
- ♥ **Our next meeting and Bible study will be Tuesday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come. Remember your Mite boxes!
- ♥ **The LWML Fall Retreat will be at Camp Utmost on September 15 – 17.** "As Far As the East Is From the West" based on Psalm 103:12 is the theme for the retreat! For the first time ever, it will be a 2 day retreat! We will meet at Camp Utmost on Friday afternoon at 4:00 PM and will depart for home after the Sunday morning Worship Service. Women from all over the state of Montana will gather. Registration fee for lodging and food for both days is \$85 per person and forms are in the latest issue of Montana Missive or in the church office. Plan now to come and join us! Rides are available, contact Ruth Denning.
- ♥ **The Central Zone Fall Rally will be held here at Peace on October 7 from 9:45 a.m. to about 3 p.m.** Val Martin will give a presentation on her experiences as the Central Zone delegate to the LWML Convention in Albuquerque!
- ♥ **Remember to bring your new soap for Soap Sunday on the second Sunday of each month.** Soap collected will go to Lutheran World Relief. Thanks for your continued support.

Ladies Bible Study Schedule

With summer half over the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS is planning their autumn resumption of the study of MATTHEW'S GOSPEL. Plan to join them when they start up again on Friday, September 8th!

Assisted Living Ministry continues in August with hymn singing and a devotion. Join in them at the following locations. On Tuesday, August 8th at 11:00 a.m. they will be at Bee Hive Home #2, 2824 15th Ave So. On Friday, August 18th there will be a no host lunch at 11:45 a.m. at Jaker's, 1500 10th Ave So. This is a favorite dining spot for the group, with many friends joining them. Consider yourself invited, also! After lunch many will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave So, where Kathy Politz and Bill & Dorothy Neuman are residents. How happy these three are to see familiar faces from Peace! Come and share God's love with them!!



August Anniversaries

August 5 Michel and Nancy Wayman
 August 7 Ken and Laura Brandt
 August 16 Shannon and Tara Birkholz
 August 17 Kevin and Linda Aguiar
 August 17 Don and Deloris Brown
 August 30 Carl and Carol Kangas

Baptismal Anniversaries

August 4 Roberta Beute
 11 Kevin Jacobsen
 12 Ed Ostlund
 14 Susan Knoll
 16 Ken Brandt
 17 Zachary Greenwood
 25 Loretta Walker
 29 Charlene Schottey
 29 Brook Gerard



INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

Tami Birkholz, Karen's sister-in-law who is battling a rare skin tissue disorder
Leonard Gidlow
Jane Hering
Connie Juden
Rev. Erich Kaelberer
June Meier
Bill and Dorothy Neuman
David Norman
Kathy Politz

One member who is away serving in the military is **Michael Lewis**.

Ushers for August

August 6 ----- Pat Lewis
 ----- Tyler Denning
 August 13 ----- Ed Ostlund
 ----- Darrell Greenwood
 August 20 ----- Eric Fletcher
 ----- Mitch Martin
 August 27 ----- Jeff Blomgren
 ----- Matt Schlund

Finances

JANUARY 1, TO JUNE 30, 2017		
CHURCH INCOME	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET
Regular Offerings	\$67,773.48	\$68,500.02
Interest Income	\$604.24	\$499.98
Total Income	\$68,377.72	\$69,000.00
Church Expenses		
Personnel/Benefits	\$43,490.94	\$43,539.30
Administrative		
	\$3,908.05	\$4,104.96
Buildings & Grounds	\$12,890.35	\$13,125.00
Missions	\$5,774.79	\$5,749.98
Christian Education	\$3,566.01	\$2,974.98
Total Expenses		
	\$69,630.14	\$69,494.22
Net Church Income		
	\$(1,252.42)	\$(494.22)

Deaf Camp 2017



Members of Peace Lutheran are invited to Deaf Camp 2017 from August 10 through 13, 2017 at Trinity Lutheran Camp in Bigfork, Montana. The cost for the camp is \$50 per person for people 13 years and older, if paid by August 5. Registration forms are in the church office. Come and join the fun!

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans For Life

“Should there be a line that determines when humans have value? Some say it’s at viability, others say when there’s a heartbeat, and others say at birth. Some even argue that the ability to reason should be the dividing line, which would making killing infants ok, too. These lines we draw are so arbitrary, meaningless. My seven-year-old sister gets that. Human beings are valuable because we are human beings. And it’s as plain and simple as that.” *Micaiah Bilger, education director of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

Proclaiming the Gospel to All Nations

Can you imagine teaching your young child about Jesus Christ – without having any kind of Sunday School materials, or even a basic Bible storybook? This situation is a reality for many Lutheran churches around the world, but the Lutheran Heritage Foundation is helping to change that. Next Sunday, August 6th, Rev. Ray Larson, an LHF representative, will preach at our worship service. Plan now to join us during Bible class when Rev. Larsen shares the exciting mission work LHF is doing worldwide.

Ordination of Marcus Williams

You are invited to the Ordination of Marcus Williams into the Office of the Holy Ministry and his installation as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Havre and Zion Lutheran Church, Chinook on Sunday, August 6th at 4:00 PM at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Havre. Join us in welcoming Pastor Williams and his family to Montana and the Central Circuit.

New Book by Rev. Dr. Mark Nicolaus

Rev. Dr. Mark Nicolaus has written and published his third book in the Puppity Pup series. We have some copies of the book titled “*Puppity Pup Goes to the Woods*” available for sale for \$10 each. If you want to purchase one, please contact the church office.

GET WET!

RALLY DAY POOL PARTY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 6 – 8 pm

WATERTOWER SWIMMING POOL

34th Street and 8th Ave South

BRING A TOWEL,

BRING A FLOATIE,

BRING A CHAIR,

BRING A FRIEND!!!!

Adults and kids!

Subs, Chips, Fruit, Soft Drinks

Fun for all ages!

Don't forget a chair, seating is limited.

For more info, call Jennifer or Donnalene

