



## Peace Lutheran Church

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### What Married Folks Do

The summer is a time for weddings and wedding anniversaries. (In fact, I write this article on my wedding anniversary.) As anyone who has been married for any length of time knows, there are good ways to conduct yourself in a marriage and there are, quite frankly, many stupid ways of conducting yourself in a marriage. Consider the following case.

A man claims he loves his wife and says that he looks forward to growing old together with her. Yet, at the present time, he doesn't seem to want to spend any time with her at all. Oh, he never says that in so many words, but his behavior seems to indicate it. When his wife presents him with a wedding anniversary card, he's not interested in reading it. When she wants to sit down and have him talk to her personally, he's not interested. When she wants to get together with their friends, he doesn't want to. When she prepares him a sumptuous meal, he doesn't want to partake of it. In fact, when it comes time to celebrate their anniversary, he wants to escort another woman out on that night. After all, he reasons, his wife knows that he loves her.

If any man acted remotely the same as this, he would be in divorce court so fast that it would make his head spin. As extreme as this man's treatment of his wife is, it is not unlike the way many Christians today treat their God. If you change just a few words in that story, the husband's actions could be that of many Christians.

Many people claim to believe in God and believe they are going to live forever in heaven. Yet, at the same time, they show no interest in spending time with God while they are on earth. They are not interested in reading what God has to say in the Bible. They neither read it privately at home, nor study it with fellow Christians at church. They have no time for or interest in talking to God in prayer. When Christians gather to worship God and receive His gifts, many people are not interested or have no time. When their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ invites them to a sumptuous banquet in which He feeds them with His body and His blood for the forgiveness of sin and the assurance of salvation, they are not interested. In fact, despite claiming love for God, all of their time is spent on other pursuits which seem to be more important, figuring God will understand.

Such people seem to think everything is fine if they express some belief in God and some desire to be in heaven when they die. As long as they have that, they feel that they can do anything they want. Jesus has some harsh words for such people. Jesus says, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21) What is the will of our Father in heaven? The Word of God says that He desires us to have faith in Him and to serve Him by serving others.

Simply professing belief in God is not faith. The Word of God says that even the demons believe in God and shudder (James 2:19). Claiming to be a Christian does not make one a Christian. Faith in Jesus Christ makes one a Christian and such a faith shows itself in good works. James reminds us that faith without good works, no matter how well intentioned the person might be, is dead (James 2:17). Intentionally living by different priorities than those in the Word of God while, at the same time, claiming to be Christian is kind of like dating another woman while claiming to love your wife. (That is why the Bible, especially the Old Testament, refers to idolatry as spiritual adultery.) Of those who only talk the faith and do not live it, Jesus will say on the Last Day, "I never knew you; depart from me." (Matthew 7:23)

The way to save a marriage may not be as complicated as it seems. Simply allow your actions to correspond to your words, rather than contradict them. If you love your spouse, read their notes and cards to you. Speak with them often. Spend time with him/her and your friends. Participate in the meals that are prepared for you. You will have a long and happy marriage.

The way to save a spiritual marriage is similar. If you love your Lord, read and study his Word. Talk to him often in prayer. Gather together with God's people to worship Him and receive His gifts in Word & Sacrament. Receive His body and His blood in the Lords Supper often. Serve Him by serving others. By doing these things, you receive back so much more than you ever give. You receive His grace & mercy; the forgiveness for all of your sin; a new life now; and eternal life in heaven. You will have a strong faith and live forever in heaven.

That's all the time I have now. It's time to spend time with my bride of 36 years; read the card she got for me; talk with her about life together and enjoy dinner with one another. Likewise, with the Lord, it's time to spend time with Him; read the Word which he has for us; speak with him in prayer; gather together with His people and accept his invitation to dinner on a regular basis. Isn't that what married people do?

In Christ,

Pastor Schlund

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**Everyone** who helped with VBS this year.

**Arnie Gidlow** 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 Senior Living 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 clean the kitchen each Sunday.

**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.

## Ladies Bible Study Schedule

Bible study is in recess for this month. However, on Friday, September 7th the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS will begin a new study of I & II Peter. Plan now to join them as they explore God's Word next month.

Assisted Living Ministry continues during the last summer month before school starts. Ladies and gentlemen will lead hymn singing and a devotion at the following locations. On Tuesday, August 14th at 11 a.m. they will gather at Bee Hive Home #2, 2816 15th Ave So. There will be a no host lunch on August 17th at 11:45 at Jaker's, 1500 10th Ave So. Following the lunch, many will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave So. Always feel welcome to join one or all of these activities!



## August Anniversaries

August 5 - Michel and Nancy Wayman  
 August 16 - Shannon and Tara Birkholz  
 August 17 - Kevin and Linda Aguiar  
 August 20 - Jake and Natasha Meierhoff  
 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
- Michael Drummond** – Lupus
- Leonard Gidlow** under Hospice Care
- Jane Hering** under Hospice Care
- Connie Juden**
- Rev. Erich Kaelberer**
- Dorothy Neuman**
- Jean Radke**

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

## Ushers for August

August 5	-----	Darrell Greenwood
	-----	Kevin Aguiar
August 12	-----	Ed Ostlund
	-----	Pat Lewis
August 19	-----	Eric Fletcher
	-----	Mitch Martin
August 26	-----	Jeff Blomgren
	-----	Greg Franczyk

# Finances

JANUARY 1, TO JUNE 30, 2018

CHURCH INCOME	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET
Regular Offerings	\$63,604.15	\$70,750.02
Interest Income	\$651.30	\$600.00
Total Income	\$64,255.45	\$71,350.02
Church Expenses		
Personnel/Benefits	\$46,540.46	\$46,859.26
Administrative	\$3,502.16	\$4,391.98
Buildings & Grounds	\$13,976.02	\$13,085.00
Missions	\$5,426.84	\$5,749.98
Worship	\$376.58	\$574.98
Christian Education	\$1,774.97	\$1,862.04
Evangelism	\$483.34	\$1,812.52
Total Expenses	\$72,080.37	\$74,335.76
Net Church Income	(\$7,824.92)	(\$2,985.74)

## Book available 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.

## "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 make 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*

# LWML

- ♥ **Thank you** to all of the ladies who came and helped us plan the coming year's events and projects!
- ♥ **Central Zone Fall Rally** – The theme is “The Lord is my Rock” from Psalm 18:2. We will meet on **Saturday, August 25 at Zion Lutheran Church in Chinook, from 9am -3pm**. We are looking forward to hearing God's word through Bible Study, Worship and devotions lead by Pastor Williams and guest speaker Shari Miller LWML Montana District President. Registration begins at 9am cost of \$5.00 includes a light breakfast and lunch. We will be having a food drive at the Rally to help with the shortage of food at the Chinook Food Panty so with everyone's help we can stop the hunger. We will be carpooling, so if you would like a ride, please see Ruth Denning or Val Martin.
- ♥ **Our next meeting and Bible study will be Monday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m. Please note the day change!** We have changed our meeting day to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. This way we are the only ones to meet at the church that evening and there will not be a conflict with other groups. All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come. Remember your Mite boxes!
- ♥ **The LWML Fall Retreat will be at Trinity Lutheran Camp in Big Fork on September 21 through 23.** “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 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.
- ♥ **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.