

Peace Offerings
The Newsletter Of Peace Lutheran Church
July & August, 2020
Rev. Terry L. McKee, Pastor

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Our Mission: We are a family of Christians called, equipped and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed .



To my Peace family

Greetings to all my Peace family, here we are amid the COVID-19 pandemic trying to figure out what the new normal will be. I hope and pray all are doing well and adjusting. It is nice to be back worshipping together even as we continue to social distance and wear mask. Our worship services are a little different as we avoid passing things to one another and communion looks different, yet we still receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in with and under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins. Hopefully, you can listen to my Sunday messages if

you are still unable to attend on Sundays.

We are also resuming our Wednesday and Sunday morning Bible classes. I have missed them and am looking forward to resuming our studies of Romans on Sunday morning. When we finish the last two lessons of our Roman's study, we will begin studying 1st Corinthians. On Wednesdays we are studying Galatians, Philippians, Colossians.

Have you noticed all the improvements both inside and out at church? They really look great. The church continues to do God's work both here and in our community. The food pantry box has been a blessing to so many in our community. Thanks to all who bring in items to keep it supplied. One of the most important things we can do while going through this pandemic is to pray for one another and talk to

one another. We have so many members who are home alone and would love to have someone to talk too. So, I invite you to pick up your directory and start calling one another.

During this time, we have missed many opportunities to celebrate and come together. So, let us take time to congratulate all who have celebrated God's gifts. We celebrate with our families who have had graduations as well as other achievements. We celebrate with Trina Ruttinger on her high school graduation and many of you who have grandchildren who have graduated. We pray God's blessing upon them as they enter new phases of their lives.

In closing just let me say once again how great it is to be back worshipping together and being in God's Word as a family.

May God continue to bless each of you and keep you safe!!

Pastor

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Presidents's Message

Dear Peace Family.

God's blessings to everyone, it's so nice to see church opening again. I'd like to thank everyone for following the protocols set by our Governor, and the CDC. One thing I would like to clear up is that masks are mandatory as well as social distancing. Hopefully as time goes by we will see things starting to return to normal for our

Peace family. I certainly understand that there are members and friends that are not comfortable returning to church, I support your decision and I hope your using the options available to you, set up by Pastor McKee to continue to worship.

In your spare time pick up your phone and call some members, see how they are doing, let them know you care about them. I'm sure they would love to hear from you. Thank you in advance.

In the last few weeks I've' noticed that the church grounds haven't been taken care of. If your on the grounds crew and do not want to be, please let me know so I can find someone to take your place. There's more to maintaining the church grounds than mowing. There's fertilizing, weeding, edging weed control etc... We may need to think about hiring a lawn crew to do the Church.

Gods Blessings,
Garry Kurth
President Peace Lutheran Church.

Secretary's Message

During the time that we were sheltering in place, I thought often of Pastor Terry and the other ministers and pastors. How do you shepherd when your flock is scattered and you cannot go to them? Many creative ways for pastors to reach their congregations included using social media and meeting in parking lots. Our earthly shepherds could only hope and pray the scattered sheep were finding the offered guidance and were not lost.

But what about the obligation of the flock to self-shepherd while we are self-isolating? God uses many events to teach and lead us closer to Him. Before the entire country shut down and our busy lives were upended, it was easy to let the week slide by and then sit in church on Sunday and feel that would do for now, we would do more later.

But in our days and weeks of limited activity are opportunities to learn to shepherd ourselves a little. How many of us start each day with prayer? Pray before each meal? End each day with prayer? How many of us take even 10 minutes a day to read a devotion or the Bible? Before COVID-19, we could plead being too busy. But not during the long months of April and May.

And as our cities, state and country slowly emerge from our forced hibernation, it is not too late to take the opportunity to start a new routine that includes

a few minutes of prayer and Bible or devotion reading. Stop for a moment and let God work in your life during this time of crisis so the Church, its members, and Pastors come out of this deeper in faith and strengthened in the much-needed tools to continue God's mission work.

Your council secretary,

Linda Azwell

LADIES OF PEACE / LWML JULY- AUGUST 2020

Ladies of Peace stopped their Bible studies after our March get-together. We are hoping to begin meeting again on **Monday, September 14th at 10am**. We will keep you updated about it, but keep that date in mind. I have missed them, and I'm sure you have, too.

LWML (if you are a lady of Peace, you are LWML!!) is still moving on globally. We are one of THE largest missionary groups in the world! Even though our unit is not "active", we are still part of the big picture. By LWML standards, the fact that we turn in mites and meet regularly for Bible study keeps us active in their eyes. I am currently the VP of Communications at our Zone Level, and *Evangel* Editor (quarterly e-newsletter) at FL-GA District level. Our Zone (North Central Florida with 9 active churches) has 3 members out of 19 positions (and 19 zones) on the district board, including

District Treasurer and Scholarship Chairman! If you'd like the *Evangel* and don't get it, go to: www.flgalwml.com and click on the "*Evangel*" tab to receive it in your email.

Due to Covid-19:

Our LWML Zone did not hold a Spring Rally, and we won't be having a Fall one, either. However, we DO need a Zone President, Treasurer and VP of Spiritual Growth (Bible study at the rallies). We are working on a slate (I am the Nominating Committee Chairman), and all voting will be done through email. If you would like to be part of a GREAT thing, please let me know you would be interested in having your name on the ballot.

Also because of that C-19 thing (he/she gets around...):

2020 LWML FL-GA DISTRICT CONVENTION (which was to be in conjunction with the Equip Pastor/Layman Conference) will also be completely done by email, USPS and our district website. We have 2 delegates from our church: Linda Ryun and me. We will make sure all ladies are given a ballot to vote on our District Officers slate, as well as for grants from our District Grant list when it comes out. A timeline and more information for

delegates on just how this will be done will be published in a few weeks, via the *Evangel*, www.flgalwml.com and Facebook.

Submitted by Sheryl Lutz



ALTAR FLOWERS

Some folks have chastised me for advertising Blue Creek's services, but once I explain to them that other florists expected \$50 per bouquet plus delivery charges, they back off! For using stems left over at the end of the week in order to provide our flowers for \$20 is nothing short of a miracle in my book. Teresa has accommodated special flower and color requests as much as possible. I cannot thank her enough! They did not charge us anything for the month that was all Lent or for the time we used flowers on the tables for a community meal.

WhoWhatWhereWhyWhenHow?

Submitted by Becky Williams

Especially if you are one of our Sunday service readers, you may have found it challenging to pronounce Bible names and places! You are not alone! An excellent resource is

www.betterdaysarecoming.com Select the **Bible Words Phonetic Pronunciation** chart for an extensive alphabetized list of just about any person or place name in the Bible. In the far right hand column, it will tell you exactly how to pronounce the word, where you will find it, and other interesting information.

Here's a little bit of our Peace church history you may also find interesting. The little magnolia tree on the front lawn was planted in memory of the children who perished in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. The Sunday School children raised the monies to buy it. Over the years, whenever there was talk of taking it out because it wasn't measurably increasing in size or hadn't ever bloomed, it was given one more year...year after year. For many years, it's only "flowers" were yellow ribbon bows. It didn't bloom until 2013...18 years after the bombing! Now, 25 years after that horrific event, it blooms regularly.

Pastor's Prayer List

Following is a list of some of the Peace family that are on the prayer list.

Lance Bermudez, Mona Bermudez's, son
Desiree Colonia, Mona Bermudez's daughter

Lois Luedtke had surgery two weeks ago and is doing very well.

Ron & Pat Doan, Ron is almost bed bound but "hanging in there" according to Pat.

Debbie Uffelman: Becky William's sister had a heart attack in early March. She is doing well, adjusting her diet, and going to PT three times a week.

Cheryl Street: Becky William's niece, who has had various health issues since she was diagnosed with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis as a young child, has ovarian cancer and a tumor in her neck. She is receiving chemo and tolerating her arthritis pain.

Seth Nakashige: Becky William's 38 year-old nephew, who had pneumonia in December **2017** and whose lung functions have deteriorated drastically over the **last 2-1/2 years**. He is on oxygen 24/7, is on a specific diet to lose weight and lower his levels, in order to be able to go onto the lung transplant list.

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Please notice there have been some additional contributors. Thank you. If anyone would like to put an article in the Newsletter please send to Carolyn Turner at: Ct222577@gmail.com.

It will be published per Pastor's approval



- 07.05 Duane Zwick
- 07.09 Cindy McKee
- 07.13 Yvonne Conner
- 07.24 Connie Smith
- 07.28 Bob Holloway
- 07.29 Barbara Thomas
- 07.30 Karen Sokowski

- 08.02 Becky Williams
- 08.05 Gary Kurth
- 08.08 David Ruttinger
- 08.24 Bunnie Daniels



- 07.02.1954 James & Carole Tobin
- 07.13.1991 Mike & Carol Hummel
- 07.20.2015 Garry & Hope Kurth
- 08.16.1968 Bob & Sue Holloway

The "Eyes" Have It

The wearing of face masks has caused us to read people's eyes instead of facial expressions.

This morning at Peace, I noticed there were sad eyes, worried eyes, happy eyes and yes, even a few unfriendly eyes.

Wouldn't it be great if others could look at us and see church eyes.

Gosh, we have JOHN 3:16 down in our soul - let us show it over those swatches of material. Let those eyes just sparkle for the world to see.

Let us not "mask" our free gift of salvation.

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Yvonne Connor doesn't know what's going to happen, but suggested we collect supplies.

Those Serving July 2020

Sunday, July 5, 2020

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth

Communion assistant: Samuel McKee

Greeters: Sheryl Lutz & Jackie Hucker

Lay reader: Sheryl Lutz

Counting team: Becky Williams & Jackie Hucker

Sunday, July 12, 2020

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Mona Bermudez

Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee

Greeters: Trudy Kreuzer & Sharon Zavertnik

Lay reader: Jackie Hucker

Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Sunday, July 19, 2020

Ushers: Jeremy & Sam McKee

Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg

Greeters: Linda Williams & Bill Langstaff

Lay reader: Hope Kurth

Counting team: Steve & Sharon Cassan

Sunday, July 26, 2020

Ushers: Sharon Zavertnik & Linda Williams

Communion assistant: Samuel McKee

Greeters: Rita & Ron Cowan

Lay reader: Samuel McKee

Counting team: Linda Williams & Linda Azwell

Altar Guild July 2020

Sharon Zavertnik & Linda Williams

Those Serving August 2020

Sunday, August 2, 2020

Ushers: Bill Langstaff & Bob Sullivan

Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee

Greeters: Linda Ryun & Linda Williams

Lay reader: Bob Sullivan

Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Linda Azwell

Sunday, August 9, 2020

Ushers: Ron & Rita Cowan

Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg

Greeters: Carla & Trina Ruttinger

Lay reader: Trina Ruttinger

Counting team: Linda Ryun & Eugene O'Connell

Sunday, August 16, 2020

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth

Communion assistant: Samuel McKee

Greeters: Bob & Virginia Sullivan

Lay reader: Linda Azwell

Counting team: Steve & Sharon Cassan

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Mona Bermudez

Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee

Greeters: Jackie Hucker & Trudy Kreuzer

Lay reader: Becky Williams

Counting team: Becky Williams & Linda Azwell

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Ushers: Jeremy & Sam McKee

Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg

Greeters: Ron & Rita Cowan

Lay reader: Linda Ryun

Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Linda Williams

Altar Guild August 2020

Cindy & Sam McKee