

Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

September & October 2023

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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.



Blessings to my Peace family! I want to start by thanking you for your prayers and well wishes during my latest knee replacement. And thank you Randy Priem and Sam McKee for stepping in and conducting the services and Laurie DeChello for leading the Bible class.

Now it's time to start back with our regular schedule and activities. Ladies of Peace monthly Bible study resumes on Tuesday, September 5th at 10am. It will go back to the first Monday of the month in October. We will celebrate the 506th anniversary of the Reformation on October

29th. And what a blessing that we have been able to continue our free community meals on the 3rd Monday of each month.

On a personal note, I have had the pleasure and honor of serving on the region 2 ministerial interview committee. We interview candidates for the ministry, whether full time at the seminary or

through one of our alternate routes. President Rockey has now asked me to chair this committee which I gladly accepted. It is a joy to interview candidates who are considering the office of holy ministry.

God bless, Pastor Terry

WANTED/NEEDED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR beginning January 2024! See Sheryl (You can help me with the Jan/Feb issue in December), & I will help you with Mar/Apr)

Who? What? Where? When? Why? How? a/k/a WWWWWH?

This column was begun about 10 years ago because questions were asked in a Bible study group about the three Creeds and after a worship service about the word “Paschal”. That’s still what it’s about! So, if there’s a word in a hymn or reading and you have no idea what it means, please ask. If it’s something that might also be of interest to others, it’ll be in this column. Here are two recent topics:

The **clergy collar** was originally worn by a Protestant clergyman in Scotland in 1865 and is not “Catholic” in origin. Today it is worn by clergy of many denominations. Two basic types are a band around the entire neck, fastened with brads to a collarless clergy shirt, or the Roman type where a white strip of linen or plastic is inserted into the front of a special shirt collar. It is not required that clergy wear a collar, but it does symbolize their occupation. Neither is a gown or robe required. A suit and tie were often worn under a black gown.

What is a “**winkel**” (Vink-el)? This German-Jewish term means “shop”, as in “corner shop”. Pastor McKee attends a monthly “Winkel” with the other pastors in our Circuit and there they talk “shop”, exchange thought, discuss practice, share concerns, give support to one another in ministry. Someone asked me what that entry meant on our monthly calendar. It caught her attention because it is a family name. You never know what’s going to peak one’s curiosity!

Another purpose of this column is to remind us of the **significance of the colors** used in our altar and pulpit hangings and the stole worn by the pastor. Still another is to emphasize specific days in the Church and calendar years. Here’s a look at September and October:

The color for this season of the Church Year is **GREEN**, a reminder in nature as well that we are still growing in faith. On Reformation Sunday the color will be red which symbolizes the blood of Christ shed for our sins. Let’s

plan to wear **RED** on **Reformation Sunday, October 29th**! October 31st is the actual date on which Martin Luther posted his Ninety-Five Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg seeking to debate discussion points regarding practices of the Roman Church. He was not trying to start a new denomination carrying his name.

May Church Council Meeting Recap

Your Church Council met on May 4, 2023, to conduct the business of our congregation. Minutes of the previous meeting and the financial reports were approved as presented. There was general discussion regarding the future need to replace the roof and repave the parking lot. Well and pest control issues continue to be addressed as they arise. The proceeds from the April 29th Rummage Sale were \$1309, of which 10% was designated for Missions and \$300 was given to the LWML for their mission endeavors. The remaining balance was contributed to the General Fund. There will not be a rummage sale in 2024. A proposal was made and encouraged to be pursued to replace it with a subscribed-vendors event to include food sales. There would be a designated mission-focused goal for receipts from the event. The Council approved a motion to accept the transfer of Shirley Runke to Peace from a sister LCMS congregation. The Council will take a hiatus in June, July and August, and meet to conduct church business when necessary. Respectfully submitted by Becky Williams, Council Secretary

COMMUNITY DINNERS



Thank you to all who participated in any way for the past dinners and to those who will in the September & October dinners! In July we served about 110 meals, and in August it was 170! It’s getting around that Peace has the best food in town! September will be Brats! And October, Lasagna!



Jackie "helping" with dinner...

LADIES OF PEACE / LWML

Hi, All,

Thank you to all who donated baby items for the **Dunnellon Family Hope and Resource Pregnancy Center!** There is a "thank you" note from them on the bulletin board.

Thank you also for the donations to our **Pantry box!** Our community has made great use of the items placed in there. When those folks get back on their feet they bring things FOR the box, which was, and is, the idea behind it.

A third thank you to those faithfully bringing in filled **mite boxes!** This money gets sent to The LWML FL-GA District, who keeps most of it for District LWML grants, and a percentage goes to National for those grants. So far this year we've sent an average of \$70/month! (August's deposit was \$108 alone!). Our **next two Mite Box Sundays** are **9/3 and 10/1.**

We'll resume our Bible study from "Chosen: A Study of Esther", by Donna Snow. on **September 5 at 10am.**

I am going to the **LWML FL-GA District Retreat 9/21- 24**, at the **St. Augustine Golf Hall of Fame.** Wish more ladies from our church were going as well!

Peace will celebrate LWML Sunday October 8. (The ladies usually do all but the sermon and communion that day).

Our Zone Rally is Saturday, October 21 at Our Redeemer on 200, Ocala. We will carpool, so if you would like to go, let me know. They are a LOT of fun!
In His Service, Sheryl Lutz



(Belated for July and August)

07. 08	Zander DeChello
07. 09	Cindy McKee
07. 18	Bill Bohannon
07. 28	Bob Holloway
08. 02	Becky Williams
08. 05	Garry Kurth
08. 24	Joan Reagan
09. 11	James Crapps
09. 29	Hope Kurth
09. 29	Linda Priem
10. 09	Maggie Santos
10. 15	Bill Langstaff
10. 17	Rich Hulse
10. 22	Sharon Zavertnik
10. 26	Randy Priem
10. 28	Linda Williams



(Also belated for July and August)

07. 02. 1954	James & Carole Tobin
07. 13. 1991	Michael & Carol Hummel
07. 20. 2015	Garry & Hope Kurth

- 08. 16. 1968 Bob & Sue Holloway
- 09. 15. 1962 Bob & Virginia Sullivan
- 09. 23. 2000 Bob & Laurie DeChello
- 10. 02. 1971 Gene & Sheryl Lutz
- 10. 10. 1970 Rich & Joan Hulse
- 10. 15. 1978 Terry & Cindy McKee
- 10. 18. 1975 Randy & Linda Priem

ALTAR FLOWER NEWS

I have chosen to begin this article by saying that this church does NOT have a Flower Fund. Each bouquet is ordered and paid for by members of the congregation. The new Flower Chart is ordered and hung before January of the coming year.

Hopefully, everyone knows where the Flower Chart resides; however, it has been posted in different places and if you aren't sure ask anyone to help you. When I walked out of church a couple of hours ago, it was still in residence on the wall left of the bathrooms and just before the door into the nursery. You've gone too far if you are at the entrance where Adult Bible Study is in session, starting at 8:45 a.m. Sunday mornings.

If you would like to order a bouquet, you must pick the date on the chart by signing your name, and adding information as to whether it is in memory of a special person, a special occasion or a specific holiday. That information will appear in the bulletin on the date chosen. You may request a preferred choice of color and we will try to accommodate you. On many occasions I leave it up to the florist who is aware of the colors in the big window behind the Altar. Ginger, the florist, artistically, tries hard to enhance the beauty of the window and the color of the flowers she has in stock.

On the chart, there is a line drawn through the dates during Lent. No flowers are placed

on the Altar during Lent. Occasionally, such as Reformation Sunday, October 29, the color must be All Red.

The price is \$25.00 per bouquet. Two bouquets may be ordered for a single date but both will be identical.

Place cash or check into a "Flowers" envelope from your (envelope) box, or a pew envelope and mark it "flowers" and put it into the collection plate. I call the flower order in to the florist on the 18th of the month prior to the date you have chosen.

Submitted by Cynthia Cotter

SIGN-UP SHEETS

Sign-up postings for Coffee Hour, Community Meals, and other events are now located along with the Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall near the water fountain



COFFEE HOUR

When there's something to enjoy along with coffee, especially after Sunday worship, some of us are spending a bit more time getting to know our guests and one another. Please stay awhile, if you can. And, if you can bring something to share one Sunday, that would be great, too!



Stewardship in the First Commandment

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word “enchiridion” is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for “handbook.” The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

The First Commandment:

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I)

We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the

most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 5–9)

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect our belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry:

lcms.org/stewardship



