



PRINTS OF PEACE

OCTOBER 2021

Sow the seed in Word and deed; lead and feed and give heed to human need.



Reformation Day, October 31, 2021

The Prints of Peace newsletter is published monthly by:

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 5615 SW 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50315

Michael Barnes, Pastor

Jan Scott, Parish Worker

Church office: 515.285.3769

Email: peace@peacedsm.com

Website: www.Peacedsm.com

This is your newsletter. We welcome all your comments, criticism, letters, articles, questions and whatever else you might have for the newsletter. We would like to thank all those who have contributed articles and who shared their time for this month's issue.



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

AT PEACE

BEGINNING THIS FALL

Sunday Morning

Adult

8:30am

Before Worship

[Galatians, etc.]

A study of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians [the shorter letters of St. Paul]

11:00am After Worship

[Introduction to the Bible]

An overview of each book of the Bible to give the students “a feel” for each book and how they all relate together. Geared for those who may not know the Scriptures as much as they would like, for those who desire to see how it all ties together and for those who would like an overview experience.

Youth

11:00am Sunday School / Youth Group

Traditional Sunday School in the context of today.

Wednesday

7:30-8:30am

Early Risers

[The Psalms]

Seeing Jesus in the hymnal of the Old Testament and their power for us today.

10:30-11:30am

Young at Hearts

[The Acts of the Apostles]

The expanding Church after Pentecost and the missionary journeys of a most amazing man.

4:30-5:30pm

Junior Confirmation

7:00-7:30pm

Vespers

A devotional time to lift up our prayers and thanksgiving to God. Readings and short devotions, a hymn, and chanted liturgy.

7:30-8:30pm

The Lutheran Confessions [Formula of Concord]

After the death of Martin Luther there arose a number of challenges to the faith. These were settled on the basis of the Holy Scriptures and recorded in the Formula of Concord. Oddly enough, these same issues have continued to challenge faith even in our own day. Topics include: *Original Sin; Free Will; The Righteousness of Faith before God; Good Works; The Law and The Gospel; The Third Use of God's Law; The Holy Supper of Christ; The Person of Christ; The Descent of Christ into Hell; Church Practices; God's Eternal Foreknowledge, Predestination, and Election; Other Factions, Heresies and Sects.* Each of these shall be looked at in a basic way.

Thursday

9:30am Casey Group Study (1st Thursday)

9:30am Carlisle Group Study (4th Thursday)

These study groups are the result of a confessional study group that pastor helped to start in the late 1980's. Topics that have been covered include Law and Gospel; Communion Fellowship with Those Who Believe Differently; The Three Creeds of the Church; etc. [9:30am Matins, Study, Going out to eat together for any interested.]

7:00-8:00pm

Lifelight

[Book of the Old Testament]

The Lifelight study desires to look at a book of the Old Testament. Isaiah has been put forward.

Adult Instruction (*offered as needed*)

STEWARDS
WALKING
BY *Grace*

I am pleased to inform you that next month we will be offering an exciting new stewardship emphasis titled **Stewards Walking by Grace**. This three-week emphasis will start on November 6 and 7. For three weeks, we will focus on one verse that the Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the church in Corinth. *“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work”* (2 Corinthians 9:8). The weekly themes are as follows:

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you.

Week 1: “All Grace Abound to You” Grace is a foundational pillar of our faith. Understanding grace is essential for us as God’s people. Because we are sinful people incapable of doing anything in our helpless state, we are in need of God’s grace. We don’t deserve God’s love and mercy, but, by His grace, He gives us all things. Grace changes everything. Knowing that both our physical and redeemed lives are gifts from God, we thank, serve, and praise Him.

so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times,

Week 2: “Having all Sufficiency” The world teaches us that we can and should depend on our own sufficiency. Through the lens of faith, we see God’s truth which enables us to see that we are not *“sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God”* (2 Corinthians 3:5). God’s sufficiency is always sufficient. Without God’s sufficiency, there is no forgiveness, no abundant life on earth, and no life eternal with Him.

you may abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

Week 3: “Abound in Every Good Work” Good works are deeds done in service to others prompted by love through faith. Our good works are evidence of changed hearts. Because of our relationship with Jesus, we seek opportunities to express our love and gratitude for Who He is and what He has done for us. We do good works without any prodding, because we are eager to be of help to others. When God works in and through us, we engage in a lifestyle of good works. The good works are done unconsciously by God’s grace for God’s purposes.

May God’s grace in Jesus give us our sufficiency to be about glorifying Him by loving and serving others. Blessings on your journey as a steward as you walk by God’s grace.



CALL IT IN - For anyone who wishes to attend one or more of Pastor Barnes' led Bible classes, as shown in the bulletin This Week at Peace, and cannot be there in person, a conference call connection is available. You may call 1-408-650-3123 and follow directions. You will be asked for an Access Code 841 605 965 followed by a # sign. You do not need any additional codes to join. Please note that if the organizer, Peace, does not login before you have been logged in on your phone for about 10 minutes, your connection will be ended and you will need to start over.

“I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer.”

— Martin Luther

“It’s better to be an optimist who is sometimes wrong than a pessimist who is always right.” — Mark Twain

“It is in your hands to create a better world for all who live in it.” — Nelson Mandela

The Study of Isaiah

In the new Lifelight study we take up the book of Isaiah. We read that God is so angry with His chosen people that He will destroy them, but first He will tell them why. Not that He hopes they may change, because He doesn't - they are judged, they are doomed. He will destroy them. His anger burns and there is no changing His mind. God calls on Isaiah to tell His people of the judgment that is to come.

I relate the book of Isaiah to a courtroom setting where the trial is over, the verdict is in and the sentence pronounced. The defendant is guilty. All that remains is the punishment. But first the judge tells the clerk of the court to read the list of charges against His people to explain to everyone the reason and severity of the punishment that is to come.

I also relate this reading to the present time. The conditions in America today are so similar to what I read in Isaiah that everyone should sit up and take notice. In Isaiah's time there was lying, cheating, stealing, disregard for the weak and downtrodden, opulence, drunkenness, hatred, crooked politicians and judges and indifference toward God. WOW! That sounds like life in America today.

The America I see today is severely split along political lines and there is no desire to come together. But the worst condition is the split of the people and the church. People from both sides of the political spectrum are siding against the church.

When we went to war against Germany and Japan, we took God with us. At that time America had a good relationship with God; we had just come out of WWI and the Great Depression and we had learned to be nice to our neighbors and help others. And we won that war. In Korea not so much and we came out with a draw. By the time we went to Viet Nam - well we didn't do so well. We withdrew leaving behind a countless number of people who risked their lives to help us to save themselves from the enemy we were fighting - does this sound familiar?

When we don't study history, it repeats itself.

Come join us in the study of Isaiah.

Mike Grubb



**Friendship Sunday will begin
on September 12 and continue
on the second Sunday of each
month.**

*** Bring a friend to church ***

We have problems coming to terms with our bodies.

And yet many of today's most important issues have to do with the body: abortion, COVID policies, health care, genetic engineering, transgenderism, sex, pornography, homosexuality, marriage, parenting, race, virtual reality, virtual communities, the metaverse. . . .

Both Christians and non-Christians seem to be caught in a web of Gnosticism, that ancient heresy that taught that the body doesn't exist or, at most, doesn't matter. This worldview manifested itself in the two opposite, but related, extremes of hyperspirituality (pursuing the "spiritual" while suppressing and trying to escape from the physical) and moral permissiveness (indulging all physical desires, since only the "spiritual" counts, it doesn't matter what the body does). And so it is today.

Christianity counters Gnosticism with its doctrines of creation, incarnation, sacraments, and vocation. But those teachings do not carry the weight they used to.

The late Pope John Paul II...wrote a ground-breaking treatise entitled The Theology of the Body: Human Love in the Divine Plan. This has become very influential in conservative Catholic circles...That book has launched a myriad of other theological treatments of the body, including some from Protestants.

But now we have Wonderfully Made: A Protestant Theology of the Body by the Australian theologian John W. Kleinig...well-known in confessional Lutheran circles...he is a resource that all Christians can draw on.

I can think of no other author who can take on this subject in a more Biblically-rich, Gospel-centered, scholarly, readable, engaging, and devotional way than John Kleinig.

Appreciating your pastor

Many people have complex relationships with their pastors because faith, church and God involve a mix of emotions. We have particular ideas about church practices, congregational priorities, the minister's use of time, money, authority and more.

But most pastors are deeply devoted to Christ and believe that God has called them to serve in a certain place. They have the best of intentions and work hard to share the good news of the gospel. So in honor of Pastor Appreciation Month in October, consider the following:

God doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called. Your pastor may need time to learn and develop certain skills. (Everyone does!) Bless pastors with your patience.

We don't change the message; the message changes us. You probably won't like all your pastor's sermons or newsletter columns. But instead of complaining, ponder that something may rub you the wrong way because God is trying to change you. Keep an open mind and heart.

If a church wants a "better" pastor, it just needs to pray for the one it has. Pray often and caringly for your pastors, church leaders and their families. The role is challenging, so support them spiritually and ask God to reveal his love and grace to these special servants.



AGAPE RESOURCE SPEAKER OCTOBER 10, 7:00PM
SPONSORED BY THE LWML

LWML has invited Agape Pregnancy Resource Center to Peace Sunday October 10 at 7:00 pm and we are inviting all members to join us.

Their Mission is to demonstrate the Truth and unconditional love of Jesus in a safe and confidential environment to women, men, and families experiencing pregnancy or the effects of sexual relationships.

Agape continues to be passionate about doing all that they can to ensure that every child be born, but they are ALSO passionate that every child have a better life by equipping parents for the task of providing and parenting well.

THEIR SERVICES: Pregnancy Tests, Ultrasounds, STD Tests, Parenting Classes, Case Management, Telehealth, Group Classes, Tiny Hands Boutique, Helping Hands Pantry, Post Abortive Healing.

To Help Agape with their NEEDS LIST we are collecting the following:

Hygiene Items:

Shampoo and Conditioner

Deodorant

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Dawn Dish Soap

Multi-Purpose Cleaner

Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Toilet Brush

Toothpaste

Baby Shower Items:

Size 4 Diapers

Boy Clothing N – 4T

Girl Clothing N – 4T

Baby Lotions/Shampoo

Onesies NB – 18 Months

Pacifiers – Teethers

Small Toys – infant +

Shoes – Infant +

Baby Socks

Hooded Towels

Baby Washcloths

There will be a box in the entry way for donations.

Thank you and see you Sunday October 10th at 7:00 pm.

FULL OF TALENT

In Matthew 25:14-30, the master rewards servants who use their gifts instead of hiding them. What talents has God given you?



What you need:

- Construction paper (2 sheets)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Gold crayon or pen
- Black pen

What you do:

1. Fold one sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Trace your hand and lower arm so your arm touches the folded edge. Cut out the arm and hand, keeping the folded edge uncut.
2. Glue the folded hand to the other sheet of paper.
3. In gold, draw five coins in the hand. In black, write the skills and gifts God has given you.
4. Open the fold and draw 10 gold coins in the two open hands. In black, write how you can use your skills and gifts to help others and honor God.



BLOOD DRIVE SEPTEMBER 3, 2021

The Blood Drive was held on September 3rd from 3:30 to 6:30pm and was held in the Fellowship Hall. There was no bus as the Life Serve Blood Center has a shortage of bus drivers at this time. Our next Blood Drive will be on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 and will also be in the Fellowship Hall. The hours will be the same from 3:30 to 6:30pm.

The results of our last drive are as follows:
18 people on the schedule going into the drive
12 registered to donate
10 were able to donate
10 units of blood collected
Up to 30 lives saved or sustained

The drive went well and the set-up in the Fellowship Hall was very satisfactory and presented no problems.

The next drive will be on December 14, 2021 as stated previously. Please mark your calendars and be sure to ask family members, co-workers and friends to donate. Thanks to all who signed up to donate and we hope we will have another successful Blood Drive this December.



SERVING THE LORD THIS MONTH

LAY MINISTRY:

10/2 Mike Sheets
10/3 Steve Kannenberg
10/9 Mike Sheets
10/16 Mike Sheets
10/17 Troy Trevino
10/23 Mike Sheets
10/30 Mike Sheets
10/31 Chuck Helmuth



USHERS:

Roger Wheatley
Marilyn Rehbein
Don & Denise Clouse

FINANCE COMMITTEE TEAM:

Roger & Lyn Wheatley

ALTAR GUILD:

Denise Clouse
Ron & Kathy Harder

GREETERS:

Mike Sheets
Ken & Barb Drewes

FLOWERS:

10/3 Rod & Angela Reed
10/10 Ken & Barb Drewes
10/17 LWML
10/24 Open
10/31 Open

ETERNAL CANDLE:

10/3 Open
10/10 Ron & Kathy Harder
10/17 Open
10/24 Open
10/31 Open

Mixed signals

A newcomer approached the pastor after worship and said, "I'd like you to pray for my hearing."

Placing hands on the man's ears, the pastor said a very passionate, earnest prayer and then asked the visitor, "How's your hearing now?"

With a confused look, the man said, "Well, it's scheduled for tomorrow."

Grace — what a gift!

Grace strikes us when we are in great pain and restlessness. It strikes us when we walk through the dark valley of a meaningless and empty life. It strikes us when our disgust for our own being, our indifference, our weakness, our hostility, and our lack of direction and composure have become intolerable to us. It strikes us when, year after year, the longed-for perfection of life does not appear, when the old compulsions reign within us as they have for decades, when despair destroys all joy and courage.

Sometimes at that moment a wave of light breaks into our darkness, and it is as though a voice were saying: "You are accepted."

—Paul Tillich



The **Portals of Prayer** are now available for the months of October through December and are located on the back table in the Narthex.

Going to extremes

When a herd of elephants ventured into a town in eastern India, people chased them away. But soon they learned that a baby elephant had fallen into a 30-foot well and been left behind. Workers had to use three backhoes to free the calf, breaking down the brick well and digging a sloping trench for the youngster to walk out on.

Righting a wrong — and even saving a life — may require extreme measures. A structure holding someone captive may need to be torn down. And in many cases, it's better to allow the trapped one as much independence and agency as possible. Rather than hoisting the elephant out vertically, which might have been dangerous and traumatic, helpers made a path so it could take part in attaining its freedom.

God often works like this, restoring and equipping us to partner with him. How can we assist others while granting them the dignity of being part of the solution?

—Heidi Hyland Mann

+ + + + + + + + +

Dear Congregation, \

The Wyckoffs appreciate so much of letting us be apart and grow with the Congregation. For me, you guys and the Lord have blessed us so much: from baptizing me, marrying us, having kids and baptizing them. Thank you for all of your kindness over the years. Now the Lord has blessed us to move to country where we can be stewards of a different land. Once again thank you all for all the years.

God Bless,
The Wyckoffs
Joe, Lindsey, Thatcher, and Marina

Lessons from lilies



Recently I was challenged to think about what consumes me —and what distracts me from giving God more. In Matthew 6:25-34, Jesus tells us not to worry about what we eat, drink and wear. I've read those verses numerous times and usually respond, "Yeah, but the birds and lilies don't have mortgages and bills! How can I not worry?" I'm finally realizing that if I put Christ first, my trust in him affects my day-to-day decisions. Plus, negative thoughts start to fade.


When do you respond, "Yeah, but..." to God? Maybe it's when you want to sleep in on Sunday, or when the offering plate is passed, or when you're asked to teach Sunday school. Try reciting Matthew 6:33 often: "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (ESV). When we prioritize Jesus, he guides us toward him and away from worries.

—Julie Lee

Bible Quiz

Hebrews 11 is called the Hall of Faith because it's a partial list of ancestors who lived out their belief in God. Who is named in this chapter?

- A. Adam, Eve and Seth
- B. Abel, Enoch, Noah and Sarah
- C. Moses' parents, Moses and Rahab
- D. Deborah, Bathsheba and Huldah
- E. A and B
- F. B and C
- G. C and D



Answer: F

General Fund information as of August 31, 2021



General Fund Balance on 8/1/2021	13,397.01	General Fund Balance on 1/1/2021	4,441.73
Receipts for August	12,003.97	Year-to-date receipts	101,346.24
Disbursements for August	9,294.09	Year-to-date disbursements	89,681.08
Balance 8/31/2021	16,106.89	Balance 8/31/2021	16,106.89

In November 2014 Voters authorized obtaining a line of credit to be used to prevent the General Fund from borrowing net new funds added to the Dedicated Funds since 9/1/2014. No funds have been borrowed on a line of credit through 6/30/2019.



10/3 Peter Wegner
10/4 Gage Taylor
10/5 Dave DeVries
10/7 Nichole McCain
10/9 Jeremiah Murdy
10/9 Victoria Routh
10/9 Rev. Peter Wegner
10/12 Dennis Baber
10/13 Jennifer Clark
10/14 Dean Larmon
10/15 Debra Feller
10/16 Jeff Baber
10/16 Andrea Knisley
10/17 Allyce Page
10/17 John Prohaska
10/18 Larry Cook
10/19 Katie Bingham
10/20 Roger Sanders
10/21 Angela Irons
10/22 Liz Handy
10/23 Skylar Ayala
10/24 Brian Baber
10/24 Darby Poller
10/25 Brooke Green
10/25 Hayley Kannenberg
10/25 Samantha Urlis
10/26 Daniel Hodges
10/26 John Sanders
10/27 Nathan Gordon
10/28 Nic Buhr
10/28 Mike Leach
10/28 Joy Prouty
10/29 Mary Gutuskie
10/29 Sara Hein
10/31 Brooklyn Page



10/1 Charlene Knisley
10/3 Michael Wegner
10/6 Mikel Friend
10/10 Caden Cole
10/12 Melissa Hill
10/13 Olivia Adamovicz
10/13 Ryan Burns
10/14 Shawn Kannenberg
10/14 Peter Wegner
10/16 Jerry Sanders
10/17 Meagan Poller
10/17 Greg Schrader
10/20 Marilyn Lohmeier
10/20 Eric Revell
10/20 Sandra Sharpe
10/21 Kayla Campbell
10/21 Jennifer Clark
10/21 Charissa Shepherd
10/22 Judy Lensch
10/24 David Schneider
10/26 Rev. Peter Wegner
10/29 Eric Irons
10/30 Erika Burns
10/31 Candy Shepherd



10/8 Tom & Linda Healy - 44 years
10/10 Cameron & Kayla Campbell - 23 years
10/14 Roger & Joan Sanders - 60 years
10/22 Dave & Marilyn Bagley - 38 years
10/22 Ed & Deb Ross - 16 years
10/26 Doug & Amy Shaw - 25 years
10/29 Jake & Vickie Whipple - 27 years

Before saying yes

I keep learning the same lesson over and over (so maybe that means I haven't learned it yet). With church, school and community volunteer work, my schedule is packed. I'm exhausted! And to be honest, only about a third of the roles truly excite me.

Of course, service is important and yields blessings. And in a pinch, helpers need to step up. But consider all these benefits of occasionally saying no:

- You give someone else a chance to shine and thrive.
- You free up your schedule to be present elsewhere.
- You protect your mental resources for existing roles.
- You gain a bit more sleep or rest.

The last time you felt fully alive while volunteering, what were you doing? Who was serving alongside you? Can you do this — or something similar — again?

Before quickly agreeing to a request, see if God is tugging your heart in a certain direction. If he prompts you, by all means, shout yes! If not, "rest" assured that it's okay to say no.

—Janna Firestone