

Peacefully Yours

Pastor's Message

By Pastor Paul Spira



Fall Schedule at a Glance

- Preschool starts Sept 8
- Confirmation Classes Resume Sept 13
- Men at Peace Sept 19
- Final Food Truck Night Sept 24
- Pastor Spira Last Services Sun Oct 4 & Wed Oct 7
- Past Mann Installed Oct 11 at 3pm

What's Next?

I've been getting that question a lot lately - what's next? Ever since last January when we announced my intent to retire, people have asked about our plans once we finally reach that point. And the short answer is, we don't know yet. We DO know that we have family stuff to take care of - helping our son and his family relocate from Florida to Westfield, Indiana for his new call as Pastor at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. Assisting our daughter and her family as they finish their transition to a new house and sell the old one. Helping our oldest grandchild Auggie settle in as a new Kindergartner at LSUS and #2 Eleanor into Mrs. Tinsley's room at Peace Preschool. Then there's a little family project back in Wisconsin that's been backburnered for over a year - getting Dad's condo emptied out and ready to sell (he moved to assisted living in May, 2019). Once we get all of those things settled, well....



What we also know is that we have no intention of moving anywhere else anytime soon. Now that both of our kids and all the grandkids will be in the Hoosier state, there's even more incentive to stay put. We do intend to spend a significant part of the winter months somewhere without ice and snow, but haven't figured out yet where that might be.

As for my work in the ministry, we certainly expect that God will have more for us to do in the future and that He will make that path clear at some point. Lately I've been telling people that we're taking a "Gap Year" to figure out what that path might be. Some young people are blessed to take such a year-long break between school or work commitments as a way to discover new things about the world and themselves. Well we're doing the same thing, just at the opposite end of our working life. I'm reminded how my dear departed stepmother used to joke that our culture gets retirement backwards - that people should take retirement when they're young enough to enjoy it and then work until they drop. Not sure what effect her plan would have on productivity or incentive to work, but it's an interesting thought.

The other big question, of course, is "What's Next for Peace?" and for that I could not be more excited. Having Pastor Kevin Mann (see pg 4 for more details) accept the call to become Peace's next pastor is truly a blessing and gift from our loving and gracious God! Longtime Lutherans know that our congregations can sometimes go without a permanent pastor for many months if not years.



~continued on page 15

Pastor Kevin Mann & Family

President's Letter

By Mike Nowling



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Paul Spira, Pastor,
744-3062

Rose Murphy, Youth & Café
Ministry, 744-3869

Sheila Nehrenz, Principal,
Lutheran South Unity School,
744-0459

Barb Bradtmueller,
Preschool Director,
456-6605

Krista Koch, Organist

Gary Gerke, Music Director

Caryl Spira, Newsletter
Editor

Becky Rutkowski,
Church Secretary (M-W)

Nancy Herber,
Church Secretary (T & Th)

"Lord God, I will come in the power of your mighty acts, remembering your righteousness—yours alone. God, you taught me from my youth, so I am still declaring your awesome deeds" Psalm 71:16-19

The Ministry of Pastor Paul and Caryl Spira

Starting Point for Pastor and Caryl at Peace Lutheran Church- April 23, 2008

"Having called on the Lord, our God, for guidance and in the exercise of the authority with which He has vested His church on earth, the divine call was exercised by members of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church." The Diploma of Vocation, the call document, was signed and forwarded to Reverend Paul Jerome Spira on April 23, 2008.

When Pastor Spira accepted the call to Peace there was much excitement and celebration! We were thankful and joyful to have a new Pastor to lead us into the future. This began a wonderful twelve year relationship between Peace congregation and Pastor and Caryl Spira. This relationship is also a glorious and meaningful chapter in the 74 year history of Peace.

Looking Back: Where did Pastor and Caryl come from before Peace?

Pastor Spira and Caryl are from Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, which is best known as the home of "Jimmy the Groundhog," famous every February 2nd. That places Jimmy the Groundhog in competition with "Punxsutawney Phil" from Pennsylvania.

At Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sun Prairie, Pastor was very active in stewardship, elders, and capital funding. Both Pastor and Caryl taught Sunday school for many years.

Pastor earned his Bachelor degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout. He later earned a MBA in Marketing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1989. He completed his Master of Divinity degree in 2008 at the Fort Wayne Seminary. Prior to being called to the ministry, Pastor had 20 years of experience in marketing and worked in administration, organization, communication, and strategic planning.

Caryl has a Bachelor degree in Communication from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. When the Spiras moved to Fort Wayne, she began working at Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW). As the Program Manager in the Outreach office for the College of ETCS, her responsibilities included event planning, volunteer coordination, newsletters, communications, website updates and media releases.

Pastor and Caryl started their ministry at age 47 and brought with them two wonderful children. At the time, Lizzy was 18 years old and attending Harvard, and Ethan, then 15, was attending Concordia High School. All of the members of the Spira family are very talented and passionate about what they do.

Pastor and Caryl's Legacy at Peace

To administer to us the Word of God in its full truth and purity

Pastor's sermons have been inspiring, thought provoking, and meaningful. Even when our church was closed because of the pandemic, Pastor still shared God's Word and his messages were of God's love and hope for us in Jesus. In good times and challenging times the services at Peace were always uplifting and hopeful. Also, Pastor Spira, as a member of Peace's choir, walked many miles from pulpit to choir loft to proclaim God's Word in song. ~continued on page 14

Sharing Peace Café

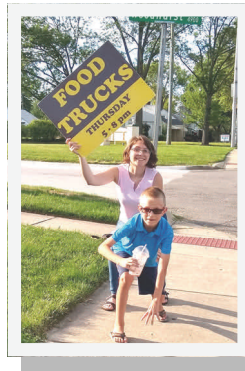
By Rose Murphy, Youth & Café Ministry

Sharing Peace Café is currently open: **Monday thru Thursday 9am-1pm**

Many of our regulars have returned! Several moms and friends meet up on the patio while their kids play in the play area. There is tutoring going on in the conference room while others are in the café to chat, work, study or just come in to get their favorite drink and bakery item while saying HI to our friendly Sharistas! It's so good to be back!

Even in this time of unknowns, we're looking forward to future activities.

- ♦ **FOOD TRUCK THURSDAYS** – Thursday evenings from 5-7pm (note time change) through Sept. 24, and possibly for special outreach events throughout the year. The Café is also open for carry-out from 5-7pm. Come out to support our local food truck vendors, while meeting some of our pretty awesome neighbors!



Sharing Peace Café Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00am-1:00pm

Friday-Sunday
CLOSED

- ♦ **TRUNK OR TREAT** – Saturday, October 31 (Time to be determined)
Social distancing will be key and we'll need to be much more creative this year. This great outreach event will require masks, but hey...isn't that part of the fun on this day anyway?! Many fun and friendly helpers will be asked to join in on the fun. Everyone has God-given gifts, and this event has plenty of ways to serve with your gifts. Watch for ways to serve in the upcoming weeks!



- ♦ **CARDS IN THE CAFÉ** – I know many of you are wondering about our Cards in the Café days. We're not quite there yet, but hopefully in the very near future. We want to be sure everyone is safe as can be!
- ♦ **EXERCISE CLASSES** – Classes have been suspended at the café for some time and we're just waiting for the day we can meet to move and groove again! Watch for more information from our parish nurse, Cheryl Erickson. Currently Chair Yoga is still offered via Zoom M-W-F from 11am-Noon.





Baptism



On Wednesday, August 5, 2020 **Caelia Belen Neaville** was baptized at Peace Lutheran Church. Caelia is the newborn daughter of Micaela Neaville and Dylan Henricks. Caelia's sponsors are Bonnie Johnson and Lillian Lindsey.

Wedding



On Sunday, August 2, 2020 Peace members Greg Hill and Athena Ervins were united in marriage. The ceremony took place at Lakeside Park with Pastor Spira officiating. Kameron Hill was the best man. Carmen Seemann is Greg's grandmother and Kam's great-grandmother. Congratulations to Greg and Athena!

Welcome Pastor Kevin Mann

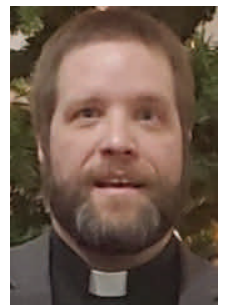


At a special Voters Meeting, Pastor Kevin Mann was selected for a Call to be the next Pastor of Peace Lutheran Church and he has accepted. The **Installation Service is scheduled for Sunday, October 11 at 3 pm** and all are invited to this joyous occasion.

Pastor Mann, 44, graduated from Concordia University River Forest in 1998 with a BA degree and then received his MDiv from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 2009. He has been serving a medium-sized congregation in the rural town of Henning, MN. Previously, he was a teacher, financial clerk and analyst and an internal auditor. His prior calls were to schools in Dallas and Temple, TX and a parish in Melrose, MN.

Pastor Mann's father graduated from the Fort Wayne Seminary and he has some family ties to Concordia Lutheran High School, so he's been to Fort Wayne and is a little familiar with the city. Fort Wayne is also a convenient location to relatives in Michigan and Ohio. He's a Detroit Red Wings hockey fan.

He and his wife Dawn have 5 children ranging in ages from 5 to 15. They desire their children to have the opportunity to attend Lutheran schools. Both he and his wife love music and sing in their church's choir. The Manns have purchased a home and will be moving here around the end of September. Please keep the family in your prayers during this time of transition.



Neighborhood Outreach at Peace

Even though the pandemic has changed so much of how we can operate, Peace members continue to carry on our neighborhood Outreach efforts. **We have some exciting NEW additions to the Café, patio area and raised garden beds thanks to these talented and dedicated volunteers.**

SHUFFLEBOARD

The Café's much loved (and used!) air hockey table had to be retired as it was losing its functionality. In its place Jerry Branstrator handcrafted a stunning shuffleboard game for the Café, using wood donated by his friend Augustine Crookston. It's a beauty! Jerry will soon post the rules of the game along with the pucks.



LITTLE LIBRARY

Thank you to Mart Erickson for spearheading the project to bring a Little Free Library to our Café patio. Mart assembled, painted and installed it. Please consider adding to or borrowing books from our little library collection. It is located on the Southeast corner of our building by the playground. This is free for all ages to use.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Thanks to the ongoing gardening efforts and green thumbs of **Brenda Gensic** and **Katrina Marcum**, our community garden outreach program has been blessed with a bounty to share with neighbors and church members. One day a neighbor came over while Katrina was picking and asked her for green tomatoes **so together** they picked a few.

Thanks also to Jerry Branstrator for initiating this project and expanding the garden bed this year. As the harvest is plentiful, volunteers are appreciated to help pick ripe produce and bring it into the Café where it's distributed for free.



Peace received this card from a neighbor following the Woodhurst street construction:

We moved across the street a year ago and have enjoyed looking at your beautiful church. You were so gracious to let us park in your parking lot during construction. Thanks for being such great neighbors!

John & Judy Erb



National Lutheran
School Accredited

Our PreSchool Philosophy

God tells us through His word *“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

Proverbs 22:6

Following these words we have established a Christ-centered environment where children are encouraged to grow in faith and knowledge.

Through play, exploration, and discovery children learn to interact positively with each other and with adults who assist them in developing educational readiness and a love for learning.

Using developmentally appropriate practice, children are encouraged to learn in a manner that best fits their needs and in a way that makes the most sense to them. Through active learning they acquire the ability to grow spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically, and cognitively.

Peace Lutheran Preschool

By Barb Bradtmueller, Director

Our Mission Statement

Peace Lutheran Preschool exists to reach out with the Gospel and love of Jesus to young children and families in our congregation and community by providing excellence in early childhood education.

This is the mission that we stand by every single year.

This school year begins with many challenges just like the last year ended; however, we are positive about our mission and message and look forward to a new *beginning*. *The teachers are working diligently to prepare and plan. We are focusing on what we CAN do but understand that we also need to be flexible.*

We will be making a few changes to our days. Drop off and pick up will be at door #1 – the Narthex door to minimize the number of adults in the building. The outside pre-school door entrance #3 will be locked during preschool hours and we encourage members to enter either through the café door #4 or the church office door #2. This not only enhances the safety of the children, but also assists the preschool staff with requiring less disinfecting of hand rails and door pulls.

We are also going to discourage neighborhood children from entering the playground during preschool hours. We want our preschool families to feel comforted knowing that we are doing all we can to make the environment safe for their children.

We will be requesting members to sign up to be Prayer Angels again this year. This connection between church and preschool is so important! Thank you in advance for taking this opportunity to connect with a preschooler and his/her family through the course of the school year.

God tells us through His word, *“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”* Proverbs 22:6

God bless our new preschool year!

An update from Ale and Zach

We were sad to say good-bye but happy for members Zach and Ale Bultemeier as they left Fort Wayne to begin their next life chapter in Richmond, Virginia. Zach's last service as our Accompanist was Wednesday, July 29. Now that they've moved, here's an update from Ale.

Zach is the Organist/Director of Choirs and Director of Operations at Trinity Lutheran Church. Trinity has 1000 baptized members and worship about 400 a weekend across 4 services. Zach is adjusting to his new position and absolutely loving it. He is finding ways to make the services as musical as possible while still following COVID guidelines. I am just beginning my first week of school the day after Labor Day. I'm teaching 7th grade math completely virtually and am excited to get started and meet my students. We're both taking in our new surroundings every chance we get. We've already made it to the beach, downtown a few times, and found some yummy local restaurants. We are very blessed to feel super welcomed at Trinity and are looking forward to getting more comfortable in our new city.



Youth News

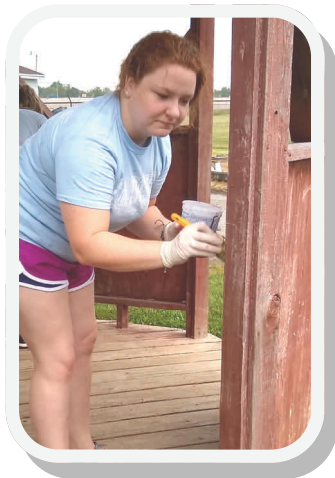
By Rose Murphy, Café and Youth Ministry

SR. HIGH CROSS TALK – Tuesdays at 6pm on Zoom

The Sr. High youth are still meeting weekly to spend time in God's word, share, discuss, pray, play games and just hang out. Keeping our youth connected to our church family is more important to them than many would realize. They find so much peace in knowing they have someone to share their faith with without being judged. And, some have expressed how great it feels to share their faith when asked, especially from friends at school who may not know God. God's light shines brightly through these young men and women! If you are in high school and would like to come to youth group, let Rose know and she will send you information to join us on Zoom.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY – 3rd Sundays at 4pm on Zoom with young adults ages 18-25 and out of high school.

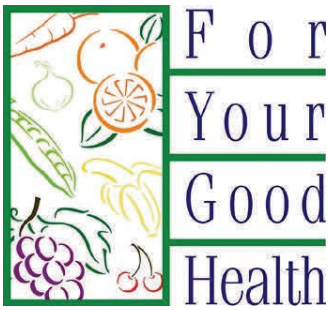
Several of our former high school youth are now in college and have expressed their desire to stay connected to their church family. Most of them are away from home and we have found technology as a gift for us to keep meeting! We will begin meeting on Sunday, Sept. 20 at 4pm on Zoom. If you are a young adult who would like to take part in this ministry, contact Rose at 260.402.1679 and she will arrange for you to receive Zoom information.



Youth in Action

On a summer Sunday in July our Youth & Young Adults joined in volunteering at LSUS to help prepare the school and grounds for opening in August





Restorative Wellness

By Rose Murphy

RESTORATIVE WELLNESS Pilot Program

Peace has become part of a Restorative Wellness Pilot Program that is offered by “*Run Hard. Rest Well.*” founder Brenda Jank, and partially funded by The Lutheran Foundation. This 12-month program is intended for church leaders, school faculty and staff and other groups at Peace who may benefit as they transform from “running on empty” to being replenished and restored to be their best for those they love, lead and serve. This can be accomplished with God’s design for work, rest and rhythm, highlighting four rhythms of restoration found in scripture: Sleep, Sabbath Keeping, Stillness (personal prayer) and Solitude (personal retreat).



Retreats were held recently with Peace Pre-school and LSUS teachers & some of our Peace leadership. There is a retreat coming up soon for our Café staff as well. We will continue on this 12-month journey as we redefine rest, recognize red flags and the price tags of overload, practice stillness, find what refreshes us, and more as we implement the 4 Rhythms of Rest.



A simple and brief congregational assessment survey will be sent out via email in the upcoming weeks (hard copies will be available in narthex for those who don’t have email) as part of this pilot program. Watch your email and bulletins for more information!

Contact Rose Murphy at 260.402.1679 or cafeministry@peaceclutheranfw.org if you have questions or would like more information on this program.



Election Site - November 3rd

Peace will be a polling location for voters on **Tuesday, November 3 from 6am-6pm.** Although there will be poll workers to give instructions to voters, having several hosts from Peace will be important as well to help direct people. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex in the next several weeks for you to choose a shift to serve. Our PreSchool will not be meeting on November 3rd.



Parish Health and Wellness

By Cheryl Erickson, RN, FNP-BC

In October, the following emphasis is being placed on Mental Health.

Mental Illness Awareness Week (Oct. 4–10)

National Depression Screening Day (Oct. 8)

World Mental Health Day (Oct. 10)

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:7).

As a Parish Nurse, wholistic care — body, mind and spirit — of self and for others is important. Perhaps we exercise and eat right for our physical body. We have daily devotions and attend church and Bible studies to help our spiritual growth. What are we doing for the wellbeing of our mind, our mental health?

You might think that you, your family or church family are not affected by mental health struggles, but we all are, in one way or another, at one time or another, in our life. Nearly 1 in 5 individuals in the United States experience mental illness. There are more than 200 classified forms of mental illness, with the most recognized ones being anxiety and panic disorders, bipolar disorder, depression, eating disorders, schizophrenia and substance abuse and addiction.

As I think about mental health, I am thankful to God. He cares for each of us and often works through individuals such as doctors, counselors, pastors, parish nurses, Sharistas and friends in Christ. God also uses medicines and exercise programs to strengthen our mental health. (There are various screening tools available on the Internet to use for yourself, family member or congregant, which often open conversation to seek professional care.) And of course, our Lord wants us to put Him first in our lives, to communicate with Him through prayer and to study His Word.

In Christian culture, mental illness has at times been seen as a sign of weak faith, lack of spiritual willpower or a source of shame. But the fact is that mental health conditions are no different than physical conditions. We wouldn't suggest that someone with cancer, diabetes or a heart condition should just pray about it without seeking treatment. But for many who struggle with depression or anxiety, or worse, that's what is often implied, or even said. What's more, they often face dehumanizing stigma and prejudice.

In addition to investing in churches, schools and organizations, The Lutheran Foundation created LookUpIndiana.org, a one-stop-shop website that offers real resources and help for mental illness. LookUpIndiana.org is a comprehensive resource that offers easy access to a wealth of mental and behavioral health information, a searchable database of service providers, information about upcoming events, and access to 24/7 help. Check it out.

WELLNESS CLASSES

Some exercise classes are being held via Zoom at this time. We are evaluating the situation on a regular basis. Our Walk 15 instructor had surgery in late August and plans to resume later in fall after her recovery. All regular Yoga classes are cancelled until further notice. **Chair yoga continues on M-W-F via Zoom from 11am-Noon.** Contact Cheryl for further information on how to access classes.



From Parish Nurse
Cheryl Erickson RN, FNP-BC

September Office Hours

Friday, Sept 18 & 25
10-11:30 am

October Office Hours

Friday, October 2, 9 & 30
10-11:30 am





For immediate assistance
with health-related
questions, call Cheryl at
341-8215.

Parish Nurse Email is
[Parishnurse@
peacelutheranfw.org](mailto:Parishnurse@peacelutheranfw.org)

Blood pressure screenings
offered 30 min before and
after worship on 2nd
Midweek Service and 3rd
Sunday in lounge.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
DUE TO COVID-19 ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND MORE EVENTS MAY BE ADDED. WATCH FOR WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS.		1 Bulletin Items Due 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom	2 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship Service	3 5:00-7:00pm Food Trucks 	4 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	5
6* 9:00 am Worship with Communion	7 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>Café & Office Closed</i>	8 Bulletin Items Due 9:00 am 1st Day of Preschool 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom 6:30p m Board of Directors	9* 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship with Communion <i>BP screenings</i>	10 5:00-7:00pm Food Trucks 	11 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	12
13* 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:30 am Confirmation 11:00 am LSUS Teacher Installation at Peace	14 6:30 pm Board of Elders 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	15 Bulletin Items Due 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom 6:30 Board of Worship	16* 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship with Communion	17 5:00-7:00pm Food Trucks 	18 10:00-11:30 am Parish Nurse is in 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	19 9:00 am Men at Peace
20 9:00 am Worship Service <i>BP screenings</i> 10:30 am Confirmation 4:00 pm Young Adult Ministry via Zoom (see pg 7)	21 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	22 Bulletin Items Due 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom	23 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship Service	24 5:00-7:00pm Food Trucks 	25 10:00-11:30 am Parish Nurse is in 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	26
27* 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:30 am Confirmation	28 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	29 Bulletin Items Due 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom	30* 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship with Communion			



October



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	DUE TO COVID-19 ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND MORE EVENTS MAY BE ADDED. WATCH FOR WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS.			1	2 10:00-11:30 am Parish Nurse is in 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	3
4* 9:00 am Worship with Communion <i>Pastor Spira's Last Sunday Service Reception to follow</i>	5 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	6 Bulletin Items Due 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom	7* 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship with Communion <i>Pastor Spira's Last Mid-Week Service BP screenings</i>	8	9 10:00-11:30 am Parish Nurse is in 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	10
11* 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:30 am Confirmation 3:00 pm Installation Service for Pastor Kevin Mann Reception to follow	12 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Board of Elders	13 Bulletin Items Due 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom 6:30 pm Board of Directors	14* 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship with Communion	15	16 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	17 9:00 am Men at Peace
18 9:00 am Worship Service <i>BP Screenings</i> 10:30 am Confirmation 4:00 pm Young Adult Ministry via Zoom (see pg 7)	19 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	20 Bulletin Items Due 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom	21 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship Service	22	23 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	24
25* Reformation Sunday 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:30 am Confirmation	26 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	27 Bulletin Items Due 6:00 pm SH Cross Talk via Zoom 6:30 pm Board of Worship	28 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom 6:30 pm Worship Service	29 6:30 pm Worship Service	30 10:00-11:30 am Parish Nurse is in 11:00am Chair Yoga via Zoom	31 Trunk or Treat Time TBA

* = Communion Service SH = Sr. High JH = Jr. High



SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS



Date	Greeters	Readers	Acolytes	Communion Assistant/Elder	Nursery	Ushers	Counters
Contact Person	Mart Erickson 747-1976	LaDonna Keck 456-1526	Rose Murphy 402-1679	Jerry Branstrator 747-2098	Nancy Herber 456-8458	Mart Erickson 747-1976 (L=Lead)	Dick Rutkowski 436-2112
2 <i>Wednesday Worship Service</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Teresa Bower	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Grant Acker	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Richard Burkholder* Bob Floyd	
6* <i>Sunday Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Elizabeth Bercot	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Mart Erickson	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Mike Strasen* John Bercot Jerry Branstrator Kevin Knoch Ben Strasen Maddie Strasen	John Bercot Kevin Knoch
9* <i>Wednesday- Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Erin Floyd	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Grant Acker	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Mart Erickson* Bill Scott	
13* <i>Sunday Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Larry Bower	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Jerry Branstrator	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Ken Heingartner* Ron Gehring Eric Lehman Dennis Wheeler	Joe & Elaine King Don & Judy Parker
16* <i>Wednesday Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Val Nowling	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Dennis Wheeler	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Grant Acker* Herb Acker	
20 <i>Sunday Worship Service</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Barb Bradtmueller	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Dennis Wheeler	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Dick Rutkowski* Ivy Harkenrider Greg & Kam Hill Bob Michael Payton Sells	Dick & Becky Rutkowski Nancy Thieme
23 <i>Wednesday Worship Service</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Grant Acker	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Grant Acker	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Ron Daseler* Jason Sells	
27* <i>Sunday Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Bob Michael	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Mart Erickson	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Gene Koch* Tom Fuelling Mike Murphy Sharon Weaver Ken White	Tom Fuelling Ken Heingartner Ken White
30* <i>Wednesday Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Cheryl Erickson	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Dennis Wheeler	No Nursery due to COVID-19		

* = Communion
Service
L = Lead

**SPECIAL MONTHLY
VOLUNTEERS**

Altar Servers: Nancy Herber and Stacy Jackson

Cards to Shut-in Members: Ruth Ann Schimmel

Pew Supplies: Caryl Spira-L, Lucille Wilson, Sandy Henry and Linda Mahrt



OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS



Date	Greeters	Readers	Acolytes	Communion Assistant/Elder	Nursery	Ushers	Counters
Contact Person	Mart Erickson 747-1976	LaDonna Keck 456-1526	Rose Murphy 402-1679	Jerry Branstrator 747-2098	Nancy Herber 456-8458	Mart Erickson 747-1976 (L=Lead)	Dick Rutkowski 436-2112
4* Sunday <i>Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	John Bercot	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Ken Heingartner	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Mike Strasen* John Bercot Jerry Branstrator Kevin Knoch Ben Strasen Maddie Strasen	John Bercot Kevin Knoch
7* Wednesday <i>Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Diana Gotsch	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Grant Acker	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Richard Burkholder* Bob Floyd	
11* Sunday <i>Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Marty Blessing	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Mart Erickson	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Ken Heingartner* Ron Gehring Andy Klage Eric Lehman Mike Nowling Dennis Wheeler	Joe & Elaine King Don & Judy Parker
14* Wednesday <i>Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Teresa Bower	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Grant Acker	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Mart Erickson* Bill Scott	
18 Sunday <i>Worship Service</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Lizzy Hoham	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Jerry Branstrator	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Dick Rutkowski* Ivy Harkenrider* Greg & Kam Hill Bob Michael Payton Sells	Dick & Becky Rutkowski Nancy Thieme
21 Wednesday <i>Worship Service</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Erin Floyd	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Dennis Wheeler	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Grant Acker* Herb Acker	
25* Sunday <i>Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Ron Gehring	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Ken Heingartner	No Nursery due to COVID-19	Gene Koch* Tom Fuelling Mike Murphy Sharon Weaver Ken White	Tom Fuelling Ken Heingartner Ken White
28* Wednesday <i>Worship with Communion</i>	No Greeters due to COVID-19	Grant Acker	No Acolytes due to COVID-19	Grant Acker	No Nursery due to COVID-19		

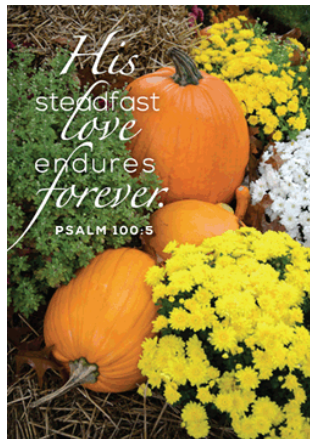
* = Communion Service
L = Lead

SPECIAL MONTHLY VOLUNTEERS

Altar Servers: Nancy Herber and Katrina Marcum

Cards to Shut-in Members: Ruth Ann Schimmel

Pew Supplies: Deb Lahrman-L, Sharon Weaver, Ben Meyer and Pam Flory



President's Letter

(Continued from page 2)

To administer the holy sacraments.....

Holy Communion is always a joyous celebration as we participate with the communion of saints and partake of the meal which was instituted by Jesus. It is a foretaste of the feast to come. Pastor Spira passionately served and administered Holy Communion with a joyful smile, a cheerful song and powerful words.

To demonstrate the mind and spirit of Christ.....

Our mission statement is: Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to reach the lost and to provide for spiritual growth and nurture of our family of believers through education and ministry of Word and Sacraments. Pastor Spira strove to make Peace's mission a reality.

To perform the functions of a pastor in an evangelical manner.....

Pastor and Caryl touched hundreds of lives with the love and compassion grounded in faith. Pastor promoted spiritual growth in members of all ages, visited the sick and the dying, administered weddings, baptized infants and brought into faith many others. Caryl, always the evangelist, greeted visitors with warmth and welcome. On occasion, she was known to have chased them into the parking lot to get their names.

To perform and promote faithfully the spiritual welfare of the members.....

Pastor Spira loved playing his guitar and singing with the Peace Pre-School students. Pastor led Chapel Services at LSUS and supported the school in many ways. At Peace, he taught confirmation classes to young adults so that they may grow in knowledge and become faithful members. When Pastor was not teaching the confirmands he led Adult Bible classes in a variety of topics and themes. These classes were meaningful and thought provoking with much interaction and discussion. Caryl provided snacks and coffee for the classes and organized meals for before Lenten and Advent services. In addition, she used her skills to create and publish the Peacefully Yours congregational newsletter. The Spiras provided a great team ministry.

To promote and guide mission activity of the congregation as is related to the local community.....

The Sharing Peace Café came about because of Pastor Spira's vision to create a mission that would reach out to the community. This led to a massive building campaign to improve our entire facility and gave us a different kind of presence in the neighborhood.

Mission Accomplished –A Job Well-Done!

Peace is a much stronger congregation because of Pastor Spira and Caryl's ministry. Their leadership and talents have helped us all to grow in our faith. We are thankful that Pastor and Caryl so faithfully used their abilities to serve and lead us in many worship services, classes, and activities. The Spiras are truly loved and appreciated and we pray for the very best in their future plans.



Pastor's Letter

(Continued from page 1)

Before I was called here our congregation was vacant for about two and a half years. So having Pastor Mann accept the call, and his being the very first call we issued, is a real blessing. I think we can and should feel very good about that and certainly we should give God all thanks and glory for taking care of us. But I also think that this blessing comes with a message. It reminds me of Jesus' parable of the wise and faithful manager in Luke 12 which he concludes with this statement: *"Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required..."* (Luke 12:48a) We have been greatly blessed during my tenure as your pastor at Peace, and now God has blessed us with an under-shepherd who has new and different skills and abilities. Our task moving forward is to once again ask the Lutheran question: What does this mean? What will our congregation and our ministry look like in the coming years? Having been in this same position a dozen years ago, I can say with confidence and enthusiasm that this is an exciting time to be a member at Peace!

Now many of you have expressed to me a mixed set of emotions about all this change going on. You're happy that Caryl and I get some time to relax, but sad that I'll no longer be your pastor. Believe me, I appreciate your heartfelt sentiments and can honestly say that I too struggle with the changes. But I also know that in the family of God, in the Body of Christ we call the church, there is no lasting sadness or separation from loved ones. In Christ we are indeed all one, and when we gather together around the Word of God and the sacrament of Jesus' body and blood we do so as one complete family unit. For me as a musician, I also experience this sense when singing or playing together in worship to God. Singing the words of ancient hymns I can still hear in my mind the voices of loved ones who no longer walk this earth but are now singing in the presence of Jesus. All of this echoes what Paul wrote to the people of Corinth, *"Now I know in part; then I shall know fully"* (1 Cor. 13:12a). This is the assurance we live with as Christians; no matter what trials or challenges or changes we go through in this life, we know there is much more to come...and it's going to be magnificent!

God's richest blessings and peace to you all.

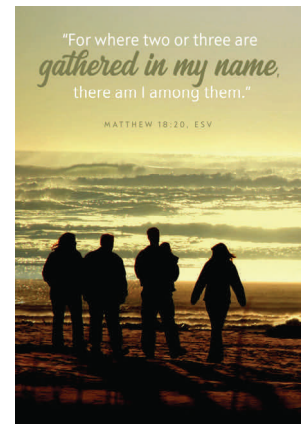
Pastor Spira

Fall Schedule

by Caryl Spira

As this issue of the PY was prepared, there still is a lot of uncertainty on when many activities and events may resume at church due to the ongoing pandemic and the resulting health guidelines. So you don't think you missed something, we currently **don't have dates yet to resume** Parish Choir, Cross Trainers, Adult Bible Class, Sunday coffee & treats, Small group Bible study, Cards in the Café, PreSchool Library Story Hour, in-person exercise classes, and the Rummage & Bake Sale. Watch the weekly announcements for future start dates.

What dates we DO KNOW is Peace PreSchool opens Sept 8. Confirmation will be starting Sunday Sept 13 after church. Men at Peace meet the 3rd Saturday of the month. Food Trucks plan to continue through Thursday, Sept 24 from 5-7pm. Trunk or Treat is being planned for Oct 31st with a new set of social distancing parameters!



Due to the continuing pandemic, the LWML cancelled the Three Zone Rally that was scheduled at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on September 19, 2020. (It will be re-scheduled in the Spring, date and site to be announced)



The Future of the Newsletter

By Caryl Spira



It's been a privilege to serve as Editor of the *Peacefully Yours* newsletter for the past five years. While it has definitely challenged me, I announced to our Board of Directors several months ago that the September/October issue would be my last one. With my husband joining me in retirement, I decided to also retire from this role.

So "What happens next for the PY?" As with any time of change it is a great opportunity to step back and look at what we're doing now, to ask if it still makes sense, and to assess if there's a better way moving forward. A newsletter called *Peacefully Yours* has been produced by this congregation for most of her 70+ years. It has taken on different formats, timetables, and methods of delivery, but the name remained the same. The current format of PY was designed many years ago by Peace member Gretchen Hollman using Microsoft Publisher.

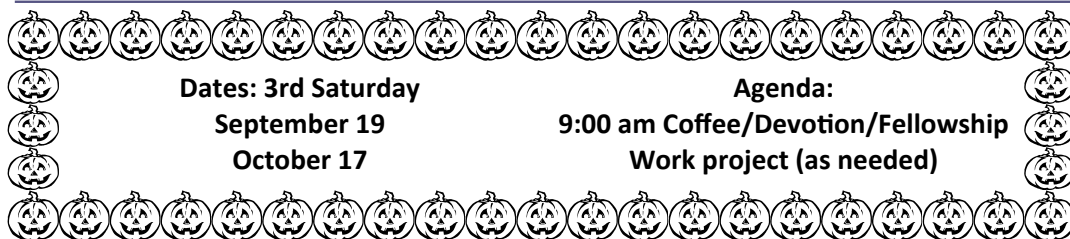
But much has changed in the world of computers and desktop publishing since the mid-2000's, and there are far more efficient ways to assemble, organize, and distribute information today. Pastor and I had a very nice phone meeting with Gretchen to talk newsletters (among many other things!), and it was exciting to see and hear what she is now doing for the church she serves. Of course that congregation is many times the size of Peace, but we got some very good ideas.

This current format of PY is a beautiful church newsletter and a wonderful way to capture and share about the ministry of Peace - in full color! But the production of this format takes an incredible amount of hours, and honestly the software I've used for years no longer is compatible and can't support what we're trying to do. These last two issues had to be manually scanned and printed which produced less natural color, scan lines and oddly placed spaces in the middle of articles. So even if I was staying on as Editor, I would have to change how we put the newsletter together. While there is still a need for some printed copies of PY, many people today prefer to get their information electronically by phone or computer. That's how many churches today distribute information, and it's faster, easier, and more cost efficient.

With Pastor Mann beginning his ministry in October, I wouldn't expect that creating a brand new PY format is going to be among his top priorities. However he will have experience and ideas from his past congregations that can assist in figuring this out. Thankfully we have other means of getting information distributed in our congregation, most notably the weekly *Share, Serve, Celebrate* announcement page that's inserted in our bulletins. If however desktop publishing and/or communication skills are gifts you possess and would like to takeover doing the PY, let me know!



Men at Peace



Dates: 3rd Saturday

September 19

October 17

Agenda:

9:00 am Coffee/Devotion/Fellowship

Work project (as needed)



Lutheran School News

Concordia Lutheran High School

CLHS In-School and In-Person

CLHS returned to school with two orientation days on August 11-12 and then the first full day of school on August 13. Students are masked up and in class.

CLHS Golf Outing

Concordia will host its annual Golf Outing at Chestnut Hills on October 1. To register, go to www.golf4cadets.com.

Watch Cadet athletics live

Because of the "no fan" rule set forth by the SAC, Concordia is livestreaming its volleyball and soccer games on its YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/FWCadets>. Summit City Sports will continue to stream our football games at <https://www.youtube.com/SummitCitySports>. Go Cadets!

Drama production

Come out and see the Fall Play and the One Act put on by CLHS students.

Vintage Hitchcock: A Live Radio Play

September 26 at 7:30 pm and September 27 at 2:00 pm

Spies, murder, love, and other trademarks of Alfred Hitchcock come to life in the style of a 1940s radio broadcast of the

master of suspense's earlier films. With *The Lodger*, *Sabotage* and *The 39 Steps*, Vintage Hitchcock: A Live Radio Play is a triple feature, complete with vintage commercials, that recreates a daring train chase, a serial killer's ominous presence, and a devastating explosion through the magic of live sound effects and musical underscoring.

One Act: Black Sheep Records

October 3 at 2:00 pm

A talk show's new sound editor unsettles his shock-jock partner's ego while showing the station's staff and listeners that not everything is as it seems - not even himself.



Please order your tickets ahead of time through the Presale Ticket form at www.clhscadets.com/drama. Seats will be assigned. Tickets may also be purchased at the door. \$7 for adults and \$5 for students in high school or younger.

- ◆ Fall Break October 23-26
 - ◆ Thanksgiving Break Nov 26-27
 - ◆ Looking Ahead
- Cadets in Cadence Dinner Auction
Saturday, December 5



Lutheran South Unity School



Susan Mittelstaedt Retirement Celebration

43 years serving God's children

Sunday, October 11, 2020

9:30 am service followed by an open house from **10:45 am-Noon**

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church & Family Life Center

1819 Reservation Drive Fort Wayne, IN 46819

COVID restrictions will be in place. **Please wear a mask.** Plenty of room for social distancing.

If unable to attend, cards may be sent to: Natalie Reynolds
Lutheran South Unity School • 5401 S. Calhoun St. • Fort Wayne, IN 46807



LSUS Rite of Installation

The principal & teachers at LSUS will be installed for the new school year during a short Rite of Installation service at Peace on **Sunday, Sept 13 at 11am**

Everyone is welcome to attend.



For the Record

Soul Accounting



Baptism

Caelia Belen Neaville

Baptized on
August 5, 2020

Daughter of
Micaela Neaville and
Dylan Henricks



August 2, 2020

**Greg Hill and
Athena Ervins**

Address Update

Larry & Teresa Bower
412 Three Rivers East
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

David Paetz
9323 Mariners Ridge Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46819

Judy Stoppenhagen
Lutheran Life Village
Room 429
6701 S. Anthony Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46816
260-492-3165



Mary Brown 9/1
Deborah Ricks 9/1
Kameron Hill 9/3
Andrew Bercot 9/5
Chase Campbell 9/6
Greg Murphy 9/6
Haley (Daseler) Blanchette 9/7
Cody Fairchild 9/7
Christine Slattery 9/8
Bob Michael 9/10
Nancy Lohr 9/14
Elijah Ricks 9/20
Josiah Ricks 9/20
Millye Hunter 9/21
Andrew Mahrt 9/21
Sandy Meyer 9/21
Jackie Walhart 9/25
Casey Marcum 9/28
Amanda Beeks 9/29



Ralph and Vicki Beeks 9/15
Harry & Claudia Russell 9/20
Tim and Treva Strasen 9/20
Bob and Barbara Jordan 9/23
Eric and Pam Lehman 9/24

If your birthday, anniversary or change of address is not listed, kindly contact the church office with your information.

Giving & Attendance

June 28, 2020 through Sept 2, 2020
contributions and attendance were as follows:

June 28/July 1	\$ 6,283.00	57/17
July 5/8	\$ 4,953.00	45/16
July 12/15	\$ 4,318.00	65/12
July 19/22	\$ 2,683.00	47/18
July 26/29	\$ 2,929.00	55/30
August 2/5	\$ 5,696.00	64/26
August 9/12	\$ 4,694.00	60/14
August 16/19	\$ 2,760.00	61/16
August 23/26	\$ 3,978.00	53/14
Aug 30/Sept 2	\$ 5,474.00	69/17

Budget

New Fiscal Year 8/1/2020 - 8/1/2021
Weekly 2020-2021: \$ 5,853.00



For the Record



Bertie Hormann.....10/3
 Amy Bredemeyer.....10/4
 Dick Burkholder.....10/4
 Ivy Harkenrider10/4
 Jack Klage10/6
 Jeremiah Ricks.....10/7
 Pastor Spira10/8
 Dennis Wheeler.....10/8
 Rachael Bercot.....10/11
 Barbara Grote.....10/13
 Molly Hutmacher.....10/13
 Bill Scott.....10/13
 Caleb Meyer10/16
 Kassandra Hormann10/21
 Max Moore-DeZaldo10/21
 Andrew Heingartner.....10/24
 Jay Lahrman.....10/24
 Ben Strasen10/30

Dick and Becky Rutkowski..... 10/4
 Adam and Linda Erickson 10/5
 Jay and Deb Lahrman 10/8
 Grant and Lora Acker 10/10
 Pastor and Caryl Spira 10/11
 Chris and Alissa Till..... 10/11
 Adam & Danielle Ramsey10/13
 John and Karen Bercot 10/21
 Anna & Michael Bishop 10/21
 Tony and Laura Hill..... 10/24
 James and Judy Uffelman..... 10/25
 Don and Judy Parker 10/27
 Scott and Brie Marker 10/28



In Memory of

Elsie Anderson

by Members

Marty & Michele Blessing
 Jerry & Lois Branstrator
 Dick Burkholder
 Margaret Doell
 Mart & Cheryl Erickson
 Ron & Terry Gehring
 Jim & Nancy Herber
 Eric & Pam Lehman
 Nancy Lohr
 Mike & Rose Murphy
 Dick & Becky Rutkowski
 Ruth Ann Schimmel
 Nancy Thieme
 Joan Thompson
 Ken & Ann White
 by Non-Members
 Carol Cretsinger
 Cathy Roemke
 Faye Roemke
 Carol Simon

Additional gift

In Memory of

Carla Scott

by Members

Mike & Cathy Gastineau

Donations

Kroger Community Rewards

April 1-June 30, 2020

19 Households=\$50.50 donation

Thank you for participating!

If you have a Kroger Plus card and are not enrolled in the community rewards program you can enroll at

www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/ or from the app under Rewards>Community Rewards

Peace Lutheran's organization **account number is SH442**. Once enrolled, your register receipts will show that Peace is the organization you are supporting. It doesn't cost anything to participate.

SMILE has been added to the Amazon app so it's easy to earn SMILE donations through orders place via the app. Find SMILE under your Amazon app settings to opt-in.



If you order through the Amazon website, the smile link for Peace is smile.amazon.com/ch/35-1018958

When you use AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Peace Lutheran Church. Bookmark the link and support Peace every time you shop.



4900 Fairfield Ave.
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

Phone: 260-744-3869
www.PeaceLutheranFW.org

Return Service Requested

Mission

**Peace Evangelical Lutheran
Church exists to reach the
lost and to provide for
spiritual growth and nurture
of our family of believers
through education and
ministry of Word and
Sacraments.**
