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August 2025 Peacepipe

Peaceful Ponderings...

From my desk at home, I look out a picture window to the circle in front of our house. It seems late in the season for this to be happening, but cottonwood puffs are lazily floating through the air - taking forever to reach the ground. They seem to be hanging in air - suspended.

Early August often feels like that to me. It is warm, if not hot, which slows down activity. For me, summer musical rehearsals and concerts have wound down. We are long past the Fourth of July festivities, and still a ways from Labor Day and Rally Day at church. My garden is growing. Watering and weeding are helpful, but we aren't quite up to harvest time. Life slows down. If inspired, I could try to line out the fall at church - look at lessons and see what comes to me. But, that is unlikely. "It makes sense," I tell myself, "to just sit back and relax a little. The 'busyness' of life will return soon enough. Breathe. Look around. Listen. Give thanks."

The gospel for last week was the story of Jesus visiting Mary and Martha. Mary sat at Jesus feet, while Martha took care of the tasks of entertaining. When frazzled Martha complained to Jesus that her sister had left her do to all the work, Jesus said to her, "Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed - indeed only one," (Luke 10:38-42).

Mary sat at Jesus' feet. In his presence. She breathed in his love, his grace, his wisdom. My guess is that when she went back to serve again, she was a slightly different person: a little more loving, a little more graceful, and a little wiser.

For me, late summer is a slower time, a time when I can sit at Jesus' feet and breathe in his presence. It is part of a rhythm of life that is crucial, but easily overlooked in the business of life and ministry.

John and I are preparing for a road trip to Mt. Rushmore and Yellowstone National Park, with a stop to see my brother's family in Denver on the way home. This is a family trip, taken with our son, his wife and their three young sons, and his wife's mother and aunt. I can easily be overwhelmed on these journeys, and find myself "worried and distracted by many things." I remind myself that "other things are needed." My mantra over this next few weeks will be: "Breathe. Look around. Listen. Give thanks."

May you find time this month for sitting at Jesus' feet - whether in study, prayer, relationships, or just looking around at the lush, growing world in which we live, and in which Jesus is continually present. May we breathe in Jesus love, grace, wisdom. May we return to serving as slightly different people: a little more loving, a little more grateful, and a little wiser.

Blessed August.

Peace,
Pastor Carol

Thank You Kerry!

In June 2023, Kerry Bieneman stepped in as secretary of Peace Lutheran. It isn't a massive job, but it is a very important one that she has done extremely well. As well as producing many, many bulletins and newsletters, she has provided stability during multiple pastoral transitions.

But, as you know, our gifted Kerry has many, many 'irons in the fire,' and she has determined that it is time to step back from the secretarial position here at Peace in order to attend to other important things in her life. Kerry will continue to be our Music Director, and to provide recordings for our worship, but as of the first of August, she will be handing over secretarial responsibilities to Sharon Ryd.

Kerry - thank you so much for sharing your gifts, and for your good work and commitment to the vision of this faith community!

We are planning a time to officially thank Kerry on a Sunday morning. Because of Kerry's other commitments, it looks like that will not happen until October. We will let you know.

In the meantime, Kerry, please know that we are grateful for your presence and ministry here at Peace.

Welcome Sharon Ryd

We are very happy to announce that Sharon Ryd will be our new church secretary starting August 1. Sharon just retired from full time employment the end of July. We are excited that she is bringing her knowledge and talents to Peace as a regular member of our staff. Feel free to congratulate Sharon on her retirement AND on her new job :) Keep in mind that items for announcement in the newsletter, bulletin, pre-worship slides or email will still get to her officially through the peacelca@gmail.com email address.

Rally Sunday Pot Luck

We will be having a potluck brunch after the service on Rally Sunday, September 7th. A sign up will be posted in the narthex.



Financial Report

	Deposits	Expenses	Difference
June 2025	\$8,383.00	\$6,303.37	\$2,079.63
Year to Date	\$52,382.00	\$40,707.05	\$11,674.95

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Worship Assistants for August

Date	Council Person in Charge	Lector	Communion Assistant	Fellowship Snacks	Counter
Aug 3	Chris Monsen	Chris Monsen	Janet McGinty		Pam Mueller
Aug 10	Bev Stobber	Pam Mueller	Bev Stobber		Sharon Ryd
Aug 17	Ken Christensen	Ken Christensen	Ken Christensen		Janet McGinty
Aug 24	Marilyn Hart	Sharon Ryd	Elaine Sherry		Sharon Ryd
Aug 31	Carol Chaffee	Carol Chaffee	Bev Stobber		John Monsen

PEACE

LUTHERAN

CHURCH: A Small

Family of Christian

Believers Working to

“Grow in Peace”



August Birthdays

Sue Koch—August 9

John Monsen—August 11

Kerry Bieneman—August 16

Adam Bieneman—August 22



Peace Lights and Peacepipe Deadline Dates

Please have all information and/or articles emailed to peacelca@gmail.com by the following dates and times:

- Peace Lights information for the bulletin emailed by Tuesdays at 5:00 pm
- Peacepipe articles by the 3rd Saturday of the month

****Peacepipe articles for September are due on Saturday, August 16.**



Growing Relationships

Contact Renee Knapton by phone at 262-492-0718 or by e-mail at reneeknapton@gmail.com with any joys, sorrows, prayer requests, etc. that you wish shared with fellow members.

Homily Hash

A reminder that all are welcome to join "homily hash", thoughts and discussion about the morning's sermon, after worship 10:15-10:45 most Sundays in the narthex.

TLC Giving Baskets

There are no specific suggestions for the Giving Baskets for the summer. However, if you are inclined to make a monetary donation so they are able to buy more fresh foods, that would be much appreciated!



Food Pantry Donations

As part of our Caring for the Community for the month of August we will be collecting non-perishable food and personal hygiene items for the Burlington Library Food Pantry. This effort will bring happiness and smiles to those in need and we will be caring for the need of others. Place items in baskets in the church, and they will be delivered on September 1.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Council Meeting, June 15, 2025

Council Members Present: Carol Chaffee, Ken Christensen, Elsie Goulding, Marilyn Hart, Pastor Carol Jeunnette, Renee Knapton, Sean McGinty, Chris Monsen, John Monsen, Elaine Sherry, Bev Stobber.

The meeting was called to order at 10:13 a.m. by President M. Hart

Opening Prayer: Marilyn shared reading the “Behavioral Covenant” with each member continuing with each principle.

Additions to Agenda: None

Approval of agenda: Motion by R. Knapton, seconded S. McGinty to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Pastor’s Report: Outlined her activities for the month of May. Reminded the council of upcoming workshops – “Being Different Together” and “Healthy Start”. Pastor Adam Miller-Stubbendick, Carthage College Pastor will be with us Sunday August 3rd. Will be in Door County after worship July 13th, returning on July 15th.

Secretary’s Report (Bev Stobber): Motion by S. McGinty, seconded by C. Monsen, to accept the minutes of the 2025 Annual Congregational meeting on June 1, 2025. Motion carried. Motion by C. Monsen, seconded by R. Knapton to approve the minutes of the May 11th council meeting. Motion carried. Motion by S. McGinty, seconded by R. Knapton to approve the minutes of the June 1st council meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report (Sean McGinty): Deposits for the month of May were \$66551.00. Expenses were \$7445.16. The net balance for the month is a negative \$894.16. Motion by B. Stobber seconded by C. Chaffe, to accept the treasurer’s report as presented. Motion carried.

Nurturing the Faith – Worship (Elaine Sherry): Stressed the need to create a “Altar Care/Banner” group. A need for this group will be outlined in the July PeacePipe. Thanks to Elaine Sherry and Elsie Goulding for many years of dedicated service caring for altar needs and sanctuary decorating.

Faith Nurturing – Education (Chris Monsen) None

Growing Relationships (Renee Knapton): Have kept the congregation, as well as former members who like to be kept informed of our activities, updated of performances that involve our members, namely Kerry and Pastor Carol. Open to suggestions for the church sign. (Message can have a maximum of 42 characters)

Caring for the Community – (Elsie Goulding): TLC requests are posted.

Inviting Folks In – (Elsie Goulding): Birthday/anniversary and visitor cards continue to be sent

Property Report – Open: Bought and delivered 20 bags of mulch for garden.

Vice-President’s Report (John Monsen): A new sign-up sheet for “council member in charge” was circulated

President’s Report (Marilyn Hart): Prepared agenda for council meeting, emails to all. Check-in call with Pastor Carol. Attended and reported on Synod Assembly. Held a council executive committee meeting to discuss job description changes to the secretary’s position for upcoming new employee interviews and selection. Discussed new gooseneck microphone to attach to lectern with Sean and approved. Discussed possible purchase of tractor shed with Jeanne R. and then with Jim H. to see what could be done.

Unfinished Business: Synod has approved the Memorandum we have signed with Pastor Carol.

New Business: New Church council positions are as follows:

President – Marilyn Hart, Vice-President – Ken Christensen, Secretary – Sharon Ryd, Treasurer – Sean McGinty, Nurturing the Faith – Worship – Bev Stobber, Nurturing the Faith – Education - Chris Monsen, Growing Relationships – Renee Knapton, Caring for the

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Church Council Meeting, June 15, 2025, continued

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Behavioral Covenant was signed by each member. Contact information sheet was signed by each member.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2025

Motion to adjourn made by R. Knapton, seconded by S. McGinty. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 am.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Stobber

Council secretary

Sunday Worship Live Stream

If you are unable to join us Sunday mornings at 9:00, join our live stream worship here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81030134191>.

For listening to the service over your phone, dial (312) 626-6799,
Meeting ID #810 3013 4191 and wait to be let into the meeting.

We also upload our Worship Service to our website for a later viewing option.
<https://peacelutheranburlington.org/>.

