



349 Wegge Ct
Burlington, WI 53105
(262) 763-5024
Pastor Carol:
(303) 909-3064

peacelca@gmail.com
peacelutheranburlington.org

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July 2026 Peacepipe

Peaceful Ponderings...

Pastoral Ponderings...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

As we prepare to celebrate the Semi quincennial (250th birthday) of America it is time to give thanks for those leaders who wrestled with how to form a nation out of 13 colonies comprised of thousands of people who had come to the New World from a myriad of backgrounds and for a myriad of reasons. Some fled religious persecution and other difficulties; some came to make a better life for themselves and their families; some came with little or no choice.

The colonies were not settled by a homogeneous group of people. Among other things, people held many different religious beliefs. New Englanders declared that the Congregational church was the established state church. In the southern colonies, the Anglican Church was established as the state church. The more tolerant middle colonies had a mix of Christian denominations, although they didn't always get along. Many Quakers settled in Pennsylvania, Maryland was established as a Roman Catholic colony, and Baptists - banished from Puritan churches in Massachusetts - settled in Rhode Island. There were Jewish communities in South Carolina and New York as well.

One of the most significant challenges faced by the Founders was to bring this vast and diverse collection of colonies and its inhabitants together. The shared belief that "all men are created equal", as stated in the Declaration of Independence was the beginning foundation. The commitment to freedom of religion, as stated in the First Amendment of our Constitution: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof" became the binding mortar.

There is a contemporary myth in our culture that claims America was founded as a Christian nation. THIS IS A NOT TRUE! Early efforts to establish a state religion failed, as did efforts to require candidates for elected office to be members of a church. Recognition of the diversity of God's creation required acceptance of different understandings of the Divine - and acceptance of atheism as well.

Our nation was and is an experiment rooted the understanding that all people are created in the image of God, and therefore, all people are valued. Granted, we have never lived up to that understanding. My hope and my prayer is that this great experiment will not be destroyed.

As we celebrate this 250th anniversary of the declaration of the independence of America, I thank God for this country, and for everyone who has worked to live out the values defined in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. May God strengthen us to continue. Amen.

Peace,

Pastor Carol

July 2026 Peacepipe



Celebrating 50 Years of Ministry

Our celebration of 50 years of ministry has begun! On May 31, we kicked off the celebration by remembering the early beginnings of the congregation, up to Organization Sunday, November 14, 1976. On June 28, Pastor Dave Berggren, his wife Susan, and their daughter Krista, joined us to celebrate and give thanks for the first decade, from 1976—1986. Pastor Berggren preached, memories were shared, and ice cream was enjoyed. Upcoming anniversary celebration events are:

Sunday, July 26, 9am Worship, (1986-1996) and Picnic 10:30am-12pm, RSVP July 5.

Sunday, August 30, 9am Worship with Community Speakers (1996-2006)

Sunday, September 27, 9am Worship (2006-2016)

Monday, September 28 - Community Meal served **11:30-1pm** and **4-5:30pm** at Peace.

Sunday, October 25, 9am Worship with Affirmation of Baptism (2016-2026) and Family Potluck 10:30am-12pm. Please RSVP by October 4.

Sunday, November 15, 9am Anniversary Celebration Worship and Reception

As we look back on five decades of faith, fellowship and community we are reaching out to the people whose presence and contributions over the years helped shape who we are today. If you have any contact information for past members, please forward their information to Janet McGinty so we can personally invite them to all our festivities.

Giving...

Life Choices... We are collecting diapers of all sizes for July, but especially smaller sizes.

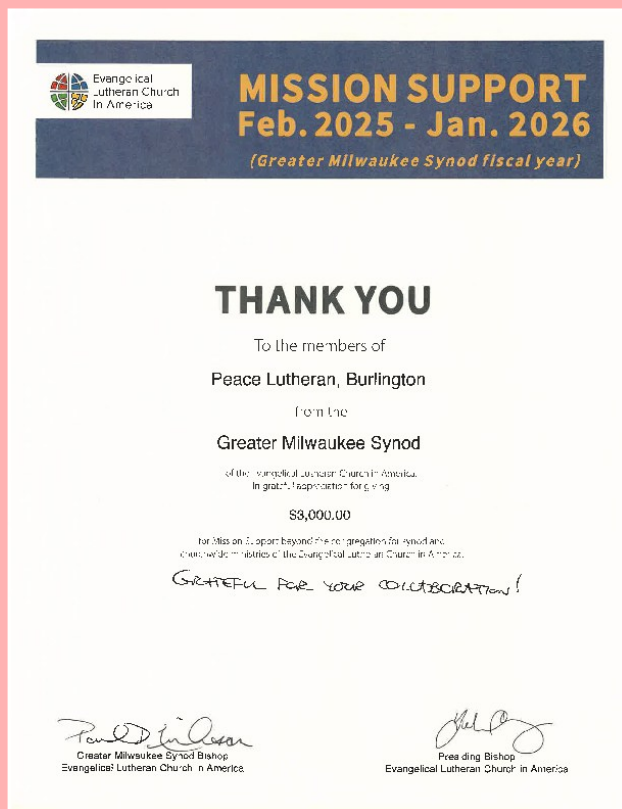
Ground Zero Veteran's Outreach... currently has 2 locations. In Union Grove it is the Fresh Start where food and personal items are stored, and in 2024 they opened a farm oasis. They are currently serving 18 veterans. Small tools are needed as well as non perishable food. We will be collecting items in August, to be delivered September 1st. A more detailed list of needs will be posted August 1st.

Hebrews 13:16 Don't forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices.

Thursday Morning Bible Study... will take a break for the summer!

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.

Outreach for Hope... supports Greater Milwaukee Synod congregations and ministries serving low-income communities. Neighbors receive practical, life-sustaining care – including food, clothing, youth programs, medical clinics, and more – along with the relationships, dignity, and hope that strengthen communities. This year's Ride Run Walk event will be Saturday, September 26th. More information, flyers, forms are in the church office or online at OFHRRW.org.





Financial Report

	Deposits	Expenses	Difference
May 2026	8,253.00	8055.23	197.77
Year to Date	\$ 47,768.04	\$ 39,352.15	\$ 8,415.89

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Worship Assistants for July

Date	Council Person in Charge	Lector	Communion Assistant	Fellowship Snacks	Counter
July 5	Marilyn Hart	Marilyn Hart	Renee Knapton	open	Kent Zahn
July 12	Janet McGinty	Dan Knapton	Bev Stobber	Monsens	Janet McGinty
July 19	open	John Jeunnette	Janet McGinty	McGintys	John Monsen
July 26	Sharon Ryd	Ken Christensen	Ken Christensen	Anniversary picnic	Sharon Ryd

July Birthdays

Leslie Zahn—July 2
 John Jeunnette—July 4
 Chris Monsen—July 5
 Terri Schildt—July 8
 Sharon Ryd—July 15
 Ryan Bieneman—July 17
 Janet McGinty—July 22



July Anniversaries

Jennifer Muffick & Ed Drewitz—July 8
 Tom & Karen Erhardt—July 24



PEACE

LUTHERAN

CHURCH:

A Small Family of

Christian Believers

Working to

“Grow in Peace”



Concerts...

Pastor Carol will be playing with the Milwaukee American Legion Band on Tuesday, June 29 at *Chill on the Hill* at the Humboldt Park Band Chalet, 3000 S. Howell in Milwaukee (Bay View). Music begins at 6:30. Bring lawn chairs and a picnic, or visit one of the great food trucks. The program includes marches, *American Salute*, *Phantom of the Opera*, and the *1812 Overture*, service marches and more. We close with *Stars and Stripes*. (Pastor Carol gets to play piccolo on this one!).

Kerry Bieneman is doing a Singer-Songwriter Showcase with Ryan Charles on July 11 from 6-8pm in the fellowship hall of Norway Lutheran Church. It is a fundraiser for their music program. Ticket are \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door, and includes food and beverages.

Anyone interested in attending should contact Kerry or Marilyn.

Council retreat... will be held Saturday, July 18 from 9am to approximately 1pm at Pastor Carol's home. All council members should plan to attend.

Pastor Carol's Office Hours for July...

Pastor Carol's office hours are 9 am - noon Wednesdays, July 1, 8, 22 & 29.

On Wednesday July 15 9am—11am.

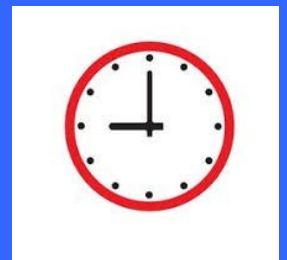
Drop in and say "Hi" during those hours!

If you need to reach Pastor any other time feel free to call (303) 909-3064.

SCAMS We Have Encountered! Help!

All of us have encountered them, and some of us have been caught!. Unfortunately, scams are part of life these days as people try almost anything to part others from their money. And there always seems to be something new.

On August 23, after worship, we will spend some time talking about the many scams out there, how to recognize them, and what we can do if we get caught. Later in the summer, we will spend some time talking about AI (Artificial Intelligence) - how it might help and how it might hurt us. (Pastor Carol would appreciate help with this! If you are AI savvy, please let her know).



Adhesive
Perforation Fold line

? Buying a gift card to pay someone?

! STOP. It's a scam!

! Gift cards are for gifts.

Do NOT use a gift card to pay: the IRS or Social Security, tech support, a family member in trouble, ransom or to avoid arrest or deportation, a member of the military, or to keep your utilities on.

HANG UP ON Gift Card Scams

ReportFraud.ftc.gov

Report gift card scams at: **ReportFraud.ftc.gov**

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 for August are due on Saturday, July 18.



2026-2027 Church Council Members

President --- Marilyn Hart

Secretary --- Sharon Ryd

Vice-President --- Ken Christensen

Treasurer --- Sean McGinty

Nurturing the Faith (Worship) --- Janet McGinty

Nurturing the Faith (Education) --- Pam Mueller

Growing Relationships --- Renee Knapton

Inviting People In --- Carol Chaffee

Caring for the Community --- Carol Chaffee

Property --- open

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/>



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Council Meeting May 3, 2026

Council Members Present: Carol Chaffee, Ken Christensen, Marilyn Hart, Pastor Carol Jeunnette, Renee Knapton, Sean McGinty, Sharon Ryd, Bev Stobber.

The meeting was called to order at 10:14 a.m. by President M. Hart

Opening Prayer: Led by B. Stobber

Additions to Agenda : None

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

Pastor's Report: • Planning to get back to the Parent Hope Project, pastoral care team, classes about death/dying. • Out of town this week Monday through Wednesday. • Purchased townhouse in Oak Park to eventually relocate to. Will still commute back to Peace twice a week. • Out of the country June 7-22. Plans to cover worship the 14th and 22nd are set. Looking ahead to a trip to New Zealand after Christmas. • Pastor Kristen Nielsen will be with us in November for the big anniversary celebration.

Secretary's Report (Sharon Ryd): Motion by R. Knapton, seconded by C. Chaffee, to accept the minutes of the April 12th council meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (Sean McGinty): Deposits for the month of April were \$9,500.00. Expenses were \$7,329.52. The net balance for the month is a positive \$2,170.48. No extraordinary expenses for the month. **Motion by B. Stobber seconded by R. Knapton, to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.**

Nurturing the Faith – Worship (Bev Stobber):

- Plans are all set for Music Sunday May 17.

Faith Nurturing – Education (Chris Monsen): No report.

Growing Relationships (Renee Knapton): No report.

Caring for the Community – (Carol Chaffee):

- Donations for May, June and July are set. Add vinegar to items needed by TLC.
- Working on 50th anniversary celebration.

Inviting Folks In – (Carol Chaffee): No report.

Property Report – Open :

- Jim Hart attended the meeting briefly to discuss landscape quotes for stones around the west and north sides of church, and for landscaping the old playground area. Both quotes were significantly higher than we hoped. There is also a concern about bringing in large equipment and possible damage to the parking lot. Pastor knows of another individual to get a quote from and will put him in touch with Jim H. Decision is tabled until the next meeting. If that additional quote is also high, we will likely table the projects for now and use weed killer (hopefully environmentally safe) where the stones are to keep it looking well.
- All council members are asked to walk around the building prior to next month's meeting to get a clear picture of needed maintenance, especially painting that is needed.
- Still waiting for Fox Lane Lawns to apply initial lawn treatment.

Church Council Meeting May 3, 2026 (cont.)

- Prepared property and tractor for spring/summer. Need to get firm commitment from Jim R. his availability/willingness to mow lawn. Discussed ideas for other options.

Vice-President's Report (Ken Christensen):

- Has talked to 3 people regarding council positions. We need 2 people for sure, preferably 3. Names due by May 20 for annual report.

President's Report (Marilyn Hart):

- Prepared agenda/reports for meeting.
- Gathered hymn suggestions for music Sunday.
- Passed along information about weed kill/fertilizer to Jim H.

Unfinished Business:

- Plans for 50th anniversary celebration are going very well.
- A great deal of time was spent discussing/evaluating our ministry together since Pastor Carol joined us last year. Many good goals were established and a council retreat will be set up to further define these goals (possibly July 18) once new council is established.
- Synod luncheon for clergy/congregations celebrating milestone anniversaries was April 30. Attended by Pastor Carol, Bev Stobber, Carol Chaffee. Great response to the fact that we will celebrate our 50th for an entire 6 months. Many other congregations and clergy celebrating significantly long service to our God.
- Reminder - all annual meeting reports due to Sharon by May 20. Sharon will send email notification to members about the meeting prior to her vacation.

New Business:

- It was decided that we should go ahead with additional 2 lawn treatments after the initial one. With all our anniversary celebrations, we want to ensure the property looks well.
- Additional sign ups completed through June for Council Person in Charge.
- Approved Bev's personal use of tables in May.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2026 (briefly) after the annual meeting. Installation of council June 28. Next full meeting July 12.

Motion to adjourn made by B. Stobber, seconded by S. McGinty. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Ryd Council secretary

