

November 2022



PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Where everybody is somebody because Jesus Christ is Lord!"

Ministers: The Congregation
Pastor: Ian McMichael
Church Secretary: Kristi Nelson
Pianist: Kate Schneider
Custodian: Rex Rutledge

309 N. Lake Street
Colfax, WA 99111
Phone: (509) 397-2121
PeaceLutheranColfax@gmail.com
<http://PeaceLutheranColfax.org>

General Announcements

Dear Members of Peace Lutheran Church,

We have a wonderful council! I had the pleasure of meeting with them, as we do every month, to talk about the wonderful things happening here at Peace. We continue to believe in our vision for this place, that it is and will remain a *compassionate and dynamic place where people want to gather*. We do this in worship by making use of the plethora of liturgies available to us, singing songs of praise, hearing the Word, receiving the sacraments and welcoming new people into our midst. We do this by providing the opportunity for our Confirmation students to spend time at Lutherhaven. We do this through various educational and conference opportunities.

Obviously, one of the things I am most excited about is our new childcare center, upon which the staff, council, community partners and myself continue almost daily work. The first part of our mission states that we are called to “*Provide for the diverse needs of the community by opening our doors and going out to the world.*” This childcare center is an expression of a mission that we have committed ourselves to for more than a decade. It is a continuation, albeit a large one, of who we have said we are for the last ten years. I’m anxiously awaiting updates on this front and will share them as soon as I get them. In the meantime, I covet your prayers and willingness to spend time in making this necessity a reality in our community.

I have talked quite a bit about scarcity and abundance over the last three years. Our vision calls us to abundance. The world calls us to scarcity. It is all too easy to look out and think that what we have is never enough. We often think about the world as a zero sum game. If *they* have, then *we* cannot have. Therefore, the world would say, we need to put the brakes on our mission and vision until we can get the resources that our neighbor has and, at that point, and only at that point, will we be stable enough to dream big.

I hope you recognize now that the Gospel calls us to something bigger than the world’s view of scarcity. **We are currently running a \$24,000 deficit in our church budget.** It would be all too easy to back away from anything that costs money, but so too would we be forced to essentially abandon our mission. The Good News of the Gospel is that we can live in the tension of currently not having, but being willing to continue the big dreams that we, and God, have for this place. We can live out mission, even as we are

worried about ending the year in the hole. While it is anxiety producing, I believe it is also the call of Christ, and in that we can take comfort.

Of course, that being said, if you have not given this year, for whatever reason, now would be a wonderful time to start. If you have given, but are able to give a larger gift in the church's time of need, that would also be greatly appreciated. We have many options for you to give. You can give on Sunday, online, drop your gift off at the church or simply send it in. We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this matter!

The call to abundance does not mean ignoring reality. We are in the hole. It is important that you know that. But the call to abundance also dictates that we know the one in whom we place our trust, and we trust that God will see us through. As we journey together, let's keep our mission front and center. Let us not abandon the work that God has called us to. Let us continue to, as our mission statement says "*Welcome all people to celebrate together God's love through worship, teaching and service.*" Ultimately, I do not believe that there is any greater gift to the world! I am grateful to be on the journey with all of you!

Peace,

Pastor Ian

Pastor Ian will be on vacation November 21-December 2 (Pastor Jeannette will be covering on November 27)

We give thanks to Kent Miller, who has led the litter pick up for many years. Kent is stepping down for this position and **we are now in need of a new person** to take up the charge. If this is of interest to you, please talk to Pastor Ian. If no one is able to lead, we will have to give up this ministry and we certainly don't want that!

The Campus Ministry Board at WSU is looking for board members! The time commitment is minimal, but the impact is large! If you are interested in hearing more, please come talk to Pastor Ian.

Adult Bible Study has started meeting at 10:00 following worship. We are working from the book by Gavin Ortlund, "*Finding the Right Hills to Die On*". Regarding church theology, some hills are worth dying on and others are not. But how do we know which ones? This book will show us how to prioritize church doctrine in order of importance

to protect our churches from further division and learn why tolerance is often more important within the church as Christ meant it to be.

Additionally, starting Sunday Nov. 6 at 6:30 pm, we will be showing Season 2 of *The Chosen* at the church like last year. All are welcome!

THANK YOU to all who helped deliver Meals on Wheels during the month of October!! You are appreciated and as a church, we have helped fulfill a great need within the community!

We continue diligent work with our partners as we strive together to make Play & Learn Childcare Center a reality here at Peace Lutheran! This last month we were officially approved for our \$45,000 grant from the Department of Commerce. With that money, we are excited to continue work with our architect, begin marketing the center and think more seriously about fundraising and large grant writing. We are also excited to begin work on a survey to get more specific data from the community that will be helpful as we open the center.

We continue to work with our community partners to secure a major grant to truly lift this project off the ground. I look forward to updating you as things progress on that front.

If you have any questions, please reach out to myself, or a member of our church committee! It is a good time to be the Church!"

Peace,

Pastor Ian

Your financial gifts can be received in a number of ways!

In addition to leaving your offering during in-person worship, we also have, Tithe.ly, our online giving platform, which can be found here:

https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1302894

You may also may also drop your offering in the mailbox at church or mail it to:
309 N Lake Street, Colfax, WA 99111

November Birthdays

NOVEMBER:

7th - Lyndell Repp

18th - Becky Hart

19th- Hans McMichael

21st - JP Wigen

Mary Ann Wigen

24th - Steve Larkin

27th - Chad Maki

29th - Mike Conklin

November Anniversaries

NOVEMBER: 1st - Pete & Brandy Wigen (2003)

Pastor's Message

Proverbs 9:10

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

I am a student of Lutheran schools. I was at a college fair in my hometown of Hermiston, OR one night during the spring of my junior year. The vast majority of my classmates were gathered around the state schools. Most had ambitions to become a Beaver, while a fair few wanted to be a Duck. Truth be told, all I wanted to do at that point was join the crowd around the green and yellow tablecloth. While my dad shared no special affection for the University of Oregon, that is his *alma mater* and he was more than happy to accompany me over to that table. However, on the way there we spotted Pacific Lutheran University. I had no real interest in attending, but my dad said something like, "Well, as good Lutherans, should we at least stop by PLU?" I'm sure glad he said that, because PLU changed the trajectory of my life in more ways than one. It is a school of strong mission, grounded hope and commands a commitment to student leadership from all of its students. It teaches people not simply to accept the world as it is, but to ask the hard questions that allow the world to become what it might be. If you know of any students in high school, check out PLU with them, or send them to me!

I realize now that PLU was a bit more of a nuanced Lutheran. As I look back, the entire experience was grounded in a Lutheran understanding of vocation, community, critical thinking and tension. It wasn't about singing the right Lutheran liturgy, but rather discovering and living out vocation and seeking God in the tension. During my time, I was heavily involved in campus ministry but the vast majority of students, even fifteen years ago, were not Lutheran. A large percentage were not even Christian. A few people from my childhood church in Hermiston went to PLU in the 60's and they tell me the student population is much different today than back when they went to school, when there were curfews and dancing was forbidden. What a different experience! Still, one of the things I remember seeing every day was a big, beautiful rock on the outside of the Administration Building with the words "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" written on it, and I think there is something to that.

Lutheran higher education, essentially all 26 undergraduate institutions which the ELCA claims, have the same questions: How do we hold on to our roots, while we also innovate into the future? We look different than we did before, but our mission remains. What's next? I think the Church could ask many of these same questions. In reality, the world should probably ask these questions, too! And it is here that the words from Proverbs can give us guidance: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Do you know what the difference between a Lutheran school and just another liberal arts college is? For that matter, do you know what the difference is between a church and a great non-profit organization? The difference is that, at our core, we believe that God is active in the world. That there are many challenges to be overcome and the path is far from straight, but in all of that, God has something to say. God is acting in the world on our behalf, the beginning of knowledge, and it is our job to be intentional and see it. It is an exciting time to attend PLU, to be part of discernment and, by extension, it is an exciting time to be part of the Church. They will both look different in ten years than anyone expected, but God is active in that change, and to me that is kind of exciting! Thank God for Lutheran colleges, especially PLU! And thank God for the Church, ready to ask questions and great creative for the greater good of glorifying God!

Peace,
Pastor Ian

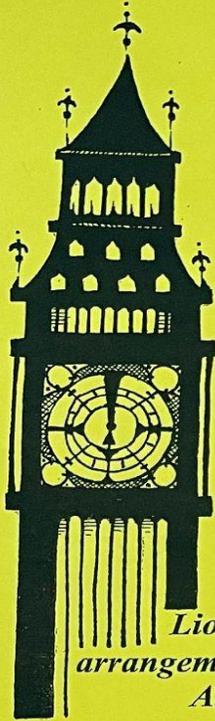
Sunday Attendance

| Week 1 October 2 | Week 2 October 9 | Week 3 October 16 | Week 4 October 23 | Week 5 October 30 |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 33 | 23 | 19 | 20 | 19 |

| | | | |
|--|--|------|--------------|
| <i>PLC Treasurer's Summary Report</i> | | | |
| 11/1/2022 | | | |
| | | | 2022 YTD |
| Regular Offerings | | | \$ 78,471 |
| Funds transferred from other accounts for non-budgeted expenses/Grants | | | \$ 1,500 |
| Total offerings available for expenses | | \$ - | \$ 79,971 |
| | | | |
| Budgeted Expenditures | | | \$ 103,060 |
| Non-Budgeted Expenditures/Refunds | | | \$ 1,097 |
| Total Expenses | | \$ - | \$ 104,157 |
| | | | |
| Net Balance | | \$ - | \$ (-24,186) |

Account Balances

| | | | 31-Oct |
|------------------------|--|--|-------------------|
| Checking | | | \$ 10,064 |
| Campaign Fund | | | \$ 65,815 |
| Emergency Fund | | | \$ 5,049 |
| Foster Kids | | | \$ 156 |
| Lutheran World Relief | | | \$ 2,828 |
| Other Benevolence Fund | | | \$ 460 |
| Peace Stickers | | | \$ 295 |
| Youth Fund | | | \$ 2,881 |
| Other Building Fund | | | \$ 4,285 |
| Memorial Fund | | | \$ 18,333 |
| Endowment Fund @ ELCA | | | \$ 41,347 |
| Total Cash | | | \$ 151,513 |



Colfax High School Presents

Lionel Bart's

OLIVER!

*Book, Music & Lyrics by
Lionel Bart*

*Lionel Bart's Oliver! is presented through special
arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also
supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com*

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Nov. 17,18,19,21</i> | <i>7:30pm</i> |
| <i>Nov. 22 (limited seating)</i> | <i>9:00am</i> |
| <i>Nov. 23 (limited seating)</i> | <i>9:30am</i> |
| <i>Adults</i> | <i>\$7.00</i> |
| <i>Seniors/Students</i> | <i>\$5.00</i> |
| <i>Children under 12</i> | <i>\$5.00</i> |

*Tickets are available at the door for
all performances. No reserved seating.
For advanced ticket sales call 360-310-8414
or email colfaxmusical@gmail.com.*

CAC 2022

