

Peace Lutheran Church

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Where Everybody is Somebody Because Jesus Christ is Lord!



Ministers: The Congregation
Pastor: Ian McMichael
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OCTOBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
		1:30 Peace Stitchers				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Confirmation Training		1:30 Peace Stitchers 4:00 Eucharistic Minister Training 5:30 Council Meeting				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship (Pastor Gail Preaching)						
		1:30 Peace Stitchers				9:00-2:00 Rural Ministry Workshop
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00-3:00 Confirmation Class		1:30 Peace Stitchers				
27	28	29	30	31		
10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Reformation Worship	Pastor Ian out for Bishop's Convocation October 28th-30th			 Reformation Day Halloween		

Numbers 12:5-8

Then the Lord came down in a pillar of cloud, and stood at the entrance of the tent, and called Aaron and Miriam; and they both came forward. And he said, “Hear my words: When there are prophets among you, I the Lord make myself known to them in visions; I speak to them in dreams. Not so with my servant Moses; he is entrusted with all my house. With him I speak face to face— clearly, not in riddles; and he beholds the form of the Lord.”

Dear Siblings in Christ,

For the last ten months I have been a Fellow in a program called the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America (LECNA). In previous years, the program has been designed to bring together people of promise in the world Lutheran higher education. The hope was, and still is, to identify strengths, put words to personal vulnerability and help to craft strategic plans so that one day the Fellows would move up and become the Deans, Vice-Presidents and Presidents of our Church’s universities. The program basically mixes strategic frameworks and internal leadership models. It has, by all accounts, had tremendous success. Many VPs, Presidents and even a couple of Bishops have come through the program.

However, this last year was different. While LECNA still prides itself on working in the world of Lutheran higher education, they have expanded to include pastors and those working in the nonprofit sector connected to the Church. The goal, of course, is to create healthy leaders that can maintain, or help create, healthy churches. More than anything, I lucked into this program. The April midyear retreat was held at my previous church in Florida, so I was lucky enough to be one of the Fellows during this inaugural year.

The middle of this month the eleven other Fellows and myself, as well as our leaders Dr. Loren Anderson, former President of PLU, Dr. Tom Cedel, former President of Concordia-Austin as well as our executive coaches MaryAnn Anderson and Diane Gabriel will come together one last time in Chaska, MN. We will be presenting what we have learned throughout our time spent together in retreat, as well as our monthly coaching sessions.

I will be sharing my core values, that of trust and loyalty, and I will be comparing it to a bag of wheat that one of our congregation members gave to me. I will present on how trust engenders relationships and relationships build loyalty. I will also present my calling statement, namely that “I am called to walk with, love and serve people as we walk together to discern what God has in store for us.” Now, at first glance these may seem like lofty ideals, but I assure you that this has shaped how I view myself as a leader and a pastor in a myriad of concrete ways. I am excited to continue this walk among you all to discern, with intention, what God’s future has in store for us. I am grateful to programs like LECNA that are able to bring together concrete planning and internal strengths for the betterment of myself and the Church. However, I am even more grateful that we are on this walk together. We trust God’s promises to us and are loyal to them. We give thanks for the communities of Peace and Trinity this day and we welcome the chance to be led by God into a new future!

Peace,

Pastor Ian

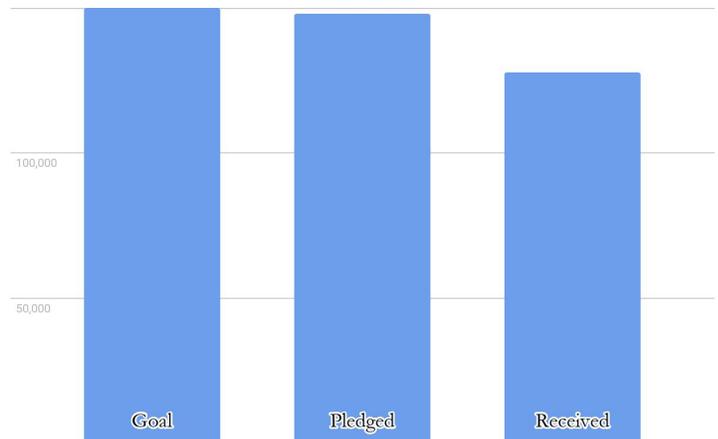
New Committee Formation

A committee is being formed to update Peace Lutheran's décor (floral, bulletin boards, etc.). If you have suggestions as to what should stay or what you'd like to see replaced, please let us know. If you wish to be part of this process, we would welcome your ideas, labor or financial support. Mary Ann Wigen, Marilyn Wigen and Georgie Leinweber

Pastor Ian will be out of the office October 10th-13th for continuing education- Pastor Gail will be supply preaching. Additionally, he will be out October 28th-30th for the Bishop's Convocation.

Growing into God's Future *Campaign News*

With less than a year left of the capital campaign, we are inching closer to our goal of \$150,000. As of the end of August, we have raised \$127,579.



God's Work. Our Hands. Recap

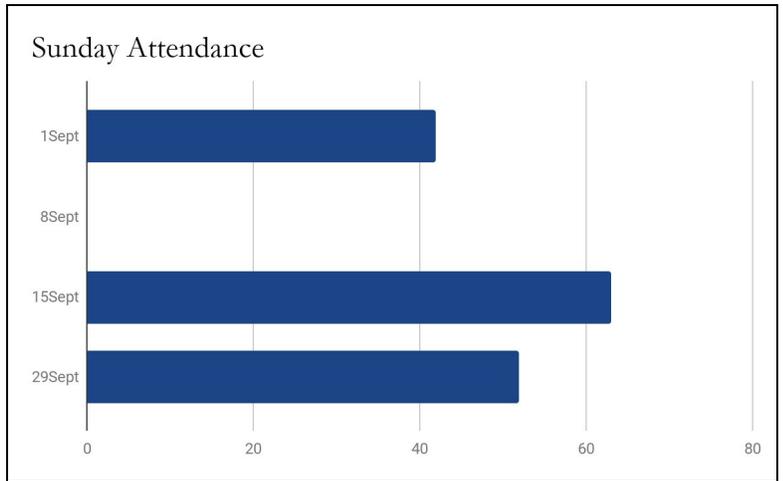
After an inspiring joint worship service at Trinity in Endicott the congregations joined together in the parish hall for a delicious potluck meal. The next item on the agenda was to complete a carport roof repair at the home of a community member in Endicott. The owner of the home was not able to perform this task due to health issues. The project was started earlier in the week by a community member and friends so there were just a few finishing touches to be done. Some congregation members finished their meal and headed out to finish the job. Others stayed back to complete a second project. They worked on sending notes to friends and shut ins of both congregations. Approximately 20 cards were sent out to say hello and send blessings to these special folks. The day was a total success and special thanks to everyone that helped with the activities. We are thankful to our God for the means to be able to help our neighbor with this project. Let's continue to serve our Lord by loving and serving all our neighbors not just one day a year but every day.

Birthdays

- 4th - Jennifer Gillespie
Brooke Waldo
- 5th - Diane Miller
- 6th - John Damery
- 7th - Shauna (Berdal) Phillips
- 9th - Ruth Bafus
- 13th - Nick Cocking
- 14th - Rich Landers
- 15th - Tom Cocking
Michael Conklin
- 19th - Nathan Cocking
- 20th - Kiah Miller
- 23rd - Amber Boyd
Traci Hart
- 24th - Arlene Hatley

Anniversaries

- 4th - Rick & Stephanie VanTine (1980)
- 20th - Charles & Carol Krahenbuhl (1973)
- 28th - Wayne & Christine Henning (1972)



Monthly Prayers

PRAYERS FOR CLUSTER G- Each month of the year we are going to pray for a different cluster of our Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod. During the month of October we are praying for Cluster G: The Lower Columbia Basin, or Grape Cluster. It is composed of the following congregations: Christ Lutheran, Walla Walla, WA; First Lutheran, Kennewick, WA; First Lutheran Pasco, WA; Lord of Life Lutheran, Kennewick, WA; Pilgrim Lutheran, Othello, WA. Thank you for your prayers.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Issues Pastoral Message

September 13, 2019

"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28).

"Racism — a mix of power, privilege, and prejudice — is sin, a violation of God's intention for humanity" (Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture, 1993).

Dear Church,

Centered in Christ, the 2019 Churchwide Assembly was significant in many ways: worship, thoughtful deliberation and prayer led to the adoption of memorials and resolutions that will shape this church for years to come. Among these decisions, this church was called to address the deadly power of racism and white supremacy. Martin Luther's clear exposition of the gospel — that God justifies, that we are redeemed by the death and resurrection of Jesus, and that grace is a gift — not only makes it possible to engage in this work but gives us a framework in which to do it. The doctrine of justification is a great leveler. It acknowledges that no one group of people can claim supremacy over others. We are all deeply in need of grace, and God gives this gift to all. Standing equally under the judgement and promise of the gospel, we, as a church, can recognize the overt and covert ways that a culture of white supremacy denies full humanity to all people, and we can work to dismantle it.

- We offered a public apology titled "Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent." In the context of the quadricentennial remembrance of American slavery in this country, we acknowledge that racism and white supremacy are deeply rooted in that history, and that the church is complicit. This apology "means working toward a deeper understanding of slavery and its legacy, of institutional and structural racism, of white privilege, and of attitudes and foundations of white supremacy." It was accepted by the African Descent Lutheran Association with a call to accountability. You can watch the video [here](#) and utilize this explanation as a resource. In June the Council of the Lutheran World Federation, our global communion, also adopted a resolution commemorating the quadricentennial.
- We adopted a resolution condemning white supremacy. Through study, prayer and action, we call "all congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to engage in communal study of the structures and rhetoric that empower and fuel racism and white supremacy and to take to heart the teaching of Scriptures, so we may all be better equipped to speak boldly about the equal dignity of all persons in

the eyes of God." Whether our churches and communities are racially diverse or predominantly white, this is work for all of us. We have several existing racial justice resources available to support this work.

- We adopted a resolution to establish June 17 as "Emanuel 9 Day of Repentance," commemorating the martyrdom of Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham-Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel L. Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson by a violent white supremacist, Dylann Roof, who grew up in the ELCA. The resolution calls for June 17 as a day of repentance, grounded in prayer; worship resources are currently in development. It also calls for deepening conversations with the African Methodist Episcopal Church on matters of racism and white supremacy, and building upon the long-standing relations between our two churches. A letter I received from the senior episcopal leadership of the African Methodist Episcopal Council of Bishops noted that "Martin Luther was the 'Great Reformer.' Richard Allen started the AME Church to reform the racially divided American Christianity he experienced in his lifetime. It is appropriate that Churches birthed by these two persons who sought more authentic and true expressions of Christianity engage in conversations that will lead to 21st Century reform, justice, and reconciliation." In response, I have acknowledged the significance of their willingness to engage in deeper conversations with us, as an affirmation of our striving to be accountable in and through authentic relationships. I shared my hope that our talks since 2015, as well as previous rounds of dialogue between our two churches, will enable us to develop new models that move us from dialogue to diapraxis, or dialogue in action, for the sake of our witness to our unity in Christ in these divisive and deadly times. As you think about possibilities in your local context, I commend to you the congregational resource we co-published in 1996, "Understanding One Another."

These recent developments build upon the continuous work we are doing as the ELCA and in ecumenical partnership. Through bilateral work, such as our joint Statement of Mission with the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and in councils and coalitions, especially the National Council of Churches and its A.C.T. Now to End Racism initiative and the cross-racial dialogue of the Conference of National Black Churches, we are doubling down on our work, witness and advocacy with other Christians against racism and white supremacy.

You, in congregations and synods, are identifying new and renewed possibilities for engaging in this difficult but life-giving work and witness. We take the next steps together assured that there is no longer that which divides us, for we are one in Christ Jesus.

In peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop, ELCA