

October 2023



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

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General Announcements

Adults Study with Pastor Ian: Books are in! Come join us on October 29th after worship as we begin our study of "Sealed: An Unexpected Journey into the Heart of Grace" which will help us learn about the faith of the Latter Day Saints, and in so doing, deepen our own! If you would like a book, please talk to Pastor Ian. Cost of the books is \$14.95. You may also purchase an audio version on your own if you prefer. If you can, please try to read the Introduction and first three chapters before our class.

Mary Cocking will be leading another season of "The Chosen" (season 3) this Fall. Dates will be announced soon!

A Message from Jaime Colyar: Charge Fastpitch a club fastpitch softball team is wanting to make a positive impact by collecting old sneakers. We will be sending the sneakers to a business in Georgia to be recirculated to secondhand markets so people can access quality, pre-owned footwear at affordable prices. Please consider recycling used athletic shoes (running, walking, basketball, gym & training), baseball/football/soccer cleats rubber only, or hiking and trail shoes. Thank you for helping us make a positive impact. There is a donation bin in the welcome area near the Television.

During the month of October, Peace Lutheran Church will be delivering for Meals on Wheels! There is a sign up sheet at the entrance of the sanctuary, or you can sign up via the google doc link found in your weekly announcements email, or speak with Catherine Olson. Many hands make light work and this is a great way to give back to the community!

Looking Ahead:

1. We will be hosting Family Promise on October 19th. If you can help serve or provide items towards the meal, please contact Mary Cocking.
2. The Fall Highway liter pickup will take place Saturday, October 21st (weather permitting). Time is TBD, but it's generally in the morning. Please contact Rex if you can assist!
3. Our Fall Clean-Up day for the church interior/exterior will be on Sunday, October 22, following Worship. Many hands make light work! A list of projects will be available soon.

Offerings

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

September Birthdays

5th - Diane Miller

13th - Nick Cocking

14th - Rich Landers

15th - Tom Cocking

19th - Nathan Cocking

20th - Kiah Miller

23rd - Amber Sellars (Boyd)

Traci Hart

24th - Arlene Hatley

25th - Dan Hart

Megan (Teade) Moos

30th - David Repp Jr.

Sunday Attendance

| Week 1 September 3 | Week 2 September 10 | Week 3 September 17 | Week 4 September 24 |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 18 | 27 | 20 | 28 |

PLC Treasurer's Summary Report

8/31/2023

PLC Treasurer's Summary Report

| | 2023 YTD | |
|--|-------------|------------|
| Regular Offerings | | \$ 82,3000 |
| Funds transferred from other accounts for non-budgeted expenses/Grants | | \$ - |
| Total offerings available for expenses | \$ - | \$ 82,300 |
| | | |
| Budgeted Expenditures | | \$ 91,761 |
| Non-Budgeted Expenditures/Refunds | | \$ - |
| Total Expenses | \$ - | \$ 91,761 |
| | | |
| Net Balance | \$ - | \$ (9,461) |

Pastor's Message

Luke 23:44-49

44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45 while the sun's light failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. 47 When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." 48 And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. 49 But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching these things.

Dear People of Peace and Trinity,

Many of you know that I am taking classes to receive my Doctorate in Educational and Organizational Leadership from Concordia, St. Paul. If you didn't, my fault! Now you do! All of the classes are online and, after two years, I only have three more classes to go! However, the program culminates in a research study and a dissertation, which will begin in earnest this December with my written exam. This exam essentially tells my professors that I know enough about what *other* people have said about my topic that I am qualified enough to say something myself. That is the next step!

What is my topic you might ask? I'm curious about the leadership capabilities of leaders in Lutheran higher education. What frameworks do they follow? Is there anything specifically Lutheran about those frameworks? What does that say about the mission of the college or university itself? You might imagine that this phase involves a lot of reading. One of the books I am relying most heavily on is *Leading Lutheran Higher Education in a Secular Age* by Brian Beckstrom. In the book he makes a lot of good points, but the one I find most compelling is the question of whether or not Jesus really had to die in order for the university to fulfill its current mission. In other words, did Jesus have to die and rise again so that students could discover their purpose (vocation?) Is there still a connection between Lutheran's commitment to the education of all (the

priesthood of all believers) and Jesus on the cross? Is learning connected to the greater good? Or is it for our own sake? Or is the string severed and those are simply nice things that our schools do? In other words, is the mission transcendent? Or is it simply a nice addition to worldly things? He explores these questions, and more in his book and comes up with a proposal that aligns nicely with these goals, but does not give any firm answers.

It does have me thinking, however, about whether or not the church is at least partially in the same boat. My preaching professor in seminary, it turns out, asked much the same question. He said, "If Jesus didn't have to die for you to write what you are writing in your sermon, it is the wrong sermon." Is what we are doing, with community service, with quilting and bundle making, with education, with worship even, are all of those things simply nice things to do for the neighbor? Or are we called by our God to do those things because God died, rose and loves us still? Can we articulate that to anyone who might be wondering?

My job, in this article at least, is simply to pose the question. I hope this gives you the chance to think about things in a new way, to think about how you might articulate what you do everyday in terms of Jesus' call on your life, and that we might work together, each Sunday and every day in between, to remember the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and how he has forever changed the world because of it.

Peace,
Pastor Ian

