

September 2022



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

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General Announcements

- Exciting news! At our special congregational meeting on July 24th the congregation unanimously approved plans to move forward to use the lower level of the church to create a child care center! Perhaps even more exciting, we chose a name! The center will be called Play & Learn Childcare! (Sort of a play on the initials of Peace Lutheran Church, PLC). The funding conversation continues to move forward, community interest has grown significantly over the summer and I am just overall excited to see what comes next! If you have questions or are willing to join the effort in a more active role, come find me! Pastor Ian
- Our next **Family Promise meal** will be **Thursday September 29th**, and we are looking for volunteers who can help fulfill items towards the meal. Please reach out to Mary Cocking if you are interested in helping!
- Save the Date! “**Gods Work, Our Hands**” will be Sunday September 18th, following the worship service. There will be a number of ways you can help! Lunch will be provided. Questions or ideas for projects? Contact Georgie Leinweber or Pastor Ian!
- We are still looking for an **Education Chair** to assist with children’s Sunday School programming! If you are interested, or have ideas on how to successfully bring Sunday School back this Fall, please talk with Pastor Ian.
- It is time for another update on Play & Learn Childcare! We will meet at **8AM on September 25th** for breakfast and a chance to hear the latest news about our child care center. We will also be discussing grant structuring and how we will receive and spend money through our latest grant opportunities. Come to this early morning meeting ready to eat and with lots of questions!

Dear Friends in Christ,

As past council president, I would like to thank you for your continued generosity in support of Peace Lutheran. You make a difference! It is exciting to see the enthusiasm surrounding the potential of adding childcare in the building. I would encourage each of you to be as involved as you can be or need to be in the life of the Church.

Live Generously! -Kent Miller

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

September Birthdays

1st - Jay Hart

14th - DJ Hart

18th - Curtis McNeilly

19th - Marc Larkin

Stephanie McNeilly

21st - Tom Schlueter

23rd - Ryan Teade

25th- Pastor Ian McMichael

29th - Alex Teade

Julie Teade

Pastor's Message

1 Peter 3:8-9

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse, but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were called—that you might inherit a blessing.

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The great Rev. Fredrick Buechner passed away in August. It took me a while to resist the urge to just round up about ten of his most famous quotes and simply make that the newsletter article this month. He was a prolific writer and had a way of digging down into the soul of the matter so that we could embody his words in an almost physical way. You've probably heard me quote him in a sermon, even if you don't remember. His most profound line, and the one that I pull out any chance that I get is, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." I think this speaks so distinctly to the Lutheran idea of vocation. God is calling us to something with purpose. God is calling us to meet a need. God is calling us to live deeply into ourselves and who God calls us to be in this world. That's wonderful.

However, today I am most intrigued by another one of his great quotes. Buechner writes, "Compassion is the sometimes fatal capacity for feeling what it is like to live inside somebody else's skin. It's the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you too." Harvest, for many of you, has made life busy again. Others of us had the pleasure of a slower summer in which we had more time to spend with family, relax, take a vacation or simply be. Whichever camp you happen to fall in, I can say with some degree of certainty that life is about to get hectic. The fall brings a flurry of activities, whether they be at school, on the field, at church or in the community. After a summer pause, our lives head back into the familiar routine of the school year.

In this routine, if I am not careful, I find myself simply going through the motions. Drop Hans and Wren off. Go to work. Pick Hans and Wren up. Drive home. Make dinner. Watch some Puppy Dog Pals with the kids. Give the kids a bath. Put the kids to bed. Watch Netflix. Go to bed myself. My routine can simply become about going through the motions. In this routine there is a distinct focus on making sure that things go exactly the way that they are supposed to. That is what routine does. It helps us expect things and then follow through on those expectations.

However, what routine is not great at, what routine does not help us with, is feeling. Like our passage from 1 Peter routine does not necessarily give us tender hearts, humble minds or compassionate mindsets. Routine can of course lead to blessing, but sometimes blessing is found outside of that routine. It is Buechner, I believe, can help us here. Compassion, the ability to feel not only for yourself but for another is such a vital emotion because through it we realize that joy cannot truly be present for me if it is not present for the other. Compassion helps us understand that not only does the other person matter because every person matters, but they also matter because I cannot truly be happy if others are not happy as well. Compassion, I believe, is one of those few things that makes us human. Compassion connects us.

So, as the fall routine begins again. As you rush from one place to another hoping that there is enough time to get it all done, remember to breathe, to check in on one another, to feel for the other, to realize that we are all in this together. Most of all, and this is a reminder to myself as much as it is to any of you, remember that, at the end of the day it is not about whether or not the routine went off flawlessly, but rather about how you took compassion on those around you, for your sake and for the sake of others.

May your fall be filled with blessings!

Peace,
Pastor Ian

Sunday Attendance

Week 1 July 3	Week 2 July 10	Week 3 July 17	Week 4 July 24	Week 5 July 31
22	25	23	37	16

Week 1 August 7	Week 2 August 14	Week 3 August 21	Week 4 August 28
13	20	22	13

PLC Treasurer's Summary Report

9/1/2022

2022
YTD

Regular Offerings				\$ 57,801
Funds transferred from other accounts for non-budgeted expenses/Grants				
Total offerings available for expenses			\$ -	\$ 57,801
Budgeted Expenditures				\$ 82,998
Non-Budgeted Expenditures/Refunds				\$ 96
Total Expenses			\$ -	\$ 83,094
Net Balance			\$ -	\$ -25,293

From our Stewardship Chair, Mary Cocking-

"THE RELATIONSHIP OUR PEOPLE HAVE TO MONEY IMPACTS THEIR
RELATIONSHIP TO GOD"

This truth is what energizes me to challenge people in their stewardship. **This ministry is not primarily a financial ministry; it is a discipleship ministry.** As church leaders, if we are not teaching and preaching about money we are leaving our people spiritually exposed to one of Satan's most effective tools.

In Matthew 6:24, Jesus says it is impossible to serve two masters. Either we will follow and serve the powerful force of money (Mammon), or we will serve the one true God. It is not possible to do both. Each one of us must choose whom to serve.

In one of the saddest passages in Scripture, we eavesdrop in on a conversation between Jesus and a rich young ruler. In Luke 18, the intelligent and influential man asks Jesus what he must do to gain eternal life. Jesus engages him in conversation and learns that the man believes he has kept the commandments from an early age. Knowing the one thing that was holding him back, Jesus asks him to part with his wealth and follow. When confronted with making Jesus or his wealth a priority, the rich young man chooses his wealth. **The power of money to deceive was stronger than his desire to follow the God of the universe. And he walked away sad.**

The stakes are high. We cannot leave people lacking a clear understanding of the spiritual implications of their relationship to money.

Dave Briggs - Central Christian Church, Arizona



Mary Cocking plans to host a Livestream of Be Bold For Jesus conference at our church on our TV this Fall!

It is Friday night, October 14 starting at 7:00 with popular christian comedian Ken Davis, Saturday from 8:30-4:30, then Jeremy Camp (very famous christian pop star) will be performing from 7:00-9:00, then Sunday morning starting at 10:45 will be Willie & Korie Robertson (from Duck Dynasty) will be doing a presentation, then it ends at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend! Please reach out to Mary with any questions.