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“But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7 ESV



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH – HASTINGS, NE

JULY 2015

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A PASTORAL LETTER

President Harrison offers words of comfort, hope regarding South Carolina shootings

Another brutal and senseless killing spree by a crazed gunman, motivated by racial hatred, sends our thoughts swirling between despair and numbness. Why were these nine Christians martyred as they were taking in the life-giving Word of God in Christian Bible study? We know and are too often reminded that there is horrid evil in this world, and an “evil one” who bedevils the minds of such killers. Jesus said it would be so (John 17:15).

As the world devolves around us from insanity to insanity, I'm reminded of the statement of John Adams that “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” Nowhere is that more true than in the case of the Second Amendment. As both religion and morality are on steep decline among us, we can only expect more of this insanity by individuals unhinged from the safety of families and a society normed by natural law and influenced by the genuine teaching of the Bible. “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31).

No truth of the New Testament is so loudly stated by Jesus than that the Triune God is the creator of all people (Matt. 19:4); that God loves all (John 3:16); that all are equally indebted to God and valuable to Him (2 Cor. 5:14–15; John 8:12). Racism is a fundamental denial of the Word of God (cf. Acts 2:5ff.; Matt. 15:21ff.) and natural

NOTEWORTHY DATES

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| July 2 | 7:00p Stewardship Committee |
| July 5 | 9:00a Divine Service 10:30a Adult Bible Study in Fellowship Hall |
| July 7 | 6:00p Committees 7:00p Boards 8:00p Church Council |
| July 8 | 11:00a Senior Bible Study 11:30a Lunch at the Village Diner |
| July 10 | 6:00p Junior Youth & High School & Members Welcome to Decorate Float |
| July 11 | 9:00a Parade Line-up 10:00a Parade |
| July 12 | 9:00a Divine Service 10:30a Adult Bible Study & Endowment Mtg. Members Recognition of Rev. Jank, Sr.'s 70th anniversary as an ordained minister pg. 3 |
| July 13 | 9:30a Sewing for OGT 7:00p Elders Fire Staff |
| July 15 | 4:00p LWML Executive Board Meeting |
| July 19 | 9:00a Divine Service Voters' Meeting, Youth Bake Sale 2p College View 4:00p Farewell Service & Potluck Meal for Rev. Jim & Bev Witt, Blue Hill 5:30p Vacation Bible School Meal Begins 6-8:30p Classes & Worship Service |
| July 20 | 5:30p VBS Continues 6:30p LWML Salad Luncheon at Hoeger Hall |
| July 21-23 | 5:30p Vacation Bible School –continues |
| July 26 | 9:00a Divine Service 10:30a Adult Bible Study 2:30p Ladies Night Event |
| July 28 | 2:30p Calling & Caring |
| July 28-31 | High School Youth attend Higher Things, Seward, NE |



Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

8:30a-12:00p

1:00p-4:30p

Secretary:

Jeri Dush

Pastors:

Marcus J. Mackay

Benjamin R. Siebert

(402) 462-9023



law. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal" (Declaration of Independence). The denial of human rights, maltreatment of persons due to race, including the forbidding of the right for a man and a woman to marry without regard to race, is contrary to natural and divinely revealed law (Holy Scripture). It also contradicts the universality of the truth of the Gospel of Christ, who died for all (Romans 3:9-10, 19; 2 Cor. 5:19).

We mourn the loss of these dear Christians and pray for their loved ones. May they be consoled by "the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting," and the picture of heaven painted by St. John in Revelation of "a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands" (Revelation 7:9).

We reject racism and racially motivated hatred in all its forms. We repent where we have fallen short, and we pray for strength to stand for what is good and right and true. We pray for the perpetrator and his family, even as we demand the swift execution of justice.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor Matthew C. Harrison

President

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Erica and I would like to thank you all for your words of encouragement and for your prayers as we entered the holy state of matrimony. We appreciate that many of you were able to attend the service and take part in this special day. We also would like to offer our thanks for those who helped in so many ways and for the generosity shown us as we begin our life together. We would also like to thank Pastor Mackay for insisting on taking on the Sunday duties following our wedding. It was a treat to be able to sit together for our first time worshipping together as husband and wife. As Christ continues to preserve His bride the Church, may He sustain all who have been called into the estate of marriage in the same forgiveness of sins received each Sunday and spoken within all our callings.

Your servant in Christ, **Pastor Siebert**

Stewardship Committee Report on Mission Projects. Carol Metzger, Chairman

The Ahlman's in Germany - Since moving into Lukashirche (the opening service held on April 6th, 2015), the congregation added more bible studies, social engagements, a new regular Saturday Vespers, plus two musical concerts were hosted. They are currently in the planning stages of a German national broadcast of their Holy Communion service on Sept. 6. The first confirmation took place and the attendance increased by 15 people. A Dedication Service for the Old Latin School in Wittenberg (Project) was held on May 3rd. Dr. Ahlman was involved in the musical aspects of the dedication. He served as service and conference organist and sang in the Lutherera sacred and folk concert.

A baby girl, Helene, was born on April 12, 2015 to Dr. Christopher and Elizabeth. They spent weeks, with the help of Elizabeth's mother, getting her registered both with the City of Leipzig and with the US Embassy in Berlin. christoher.ahlman@lcmsinpl.org

Lutheran Heritage Foundation Approximately 3,500 pastors of the Mekane Yesus church in Ethiopia gathered on April 15-17 for a pastors conference. They met on the campus of Mekane Yesus Seminary (MYS) in Addis Ababa. The conference theme was "Our Vocation: Devotion to Prayer, Ministry of the Word and Leadership." A highlight of the pastors' conference was the presentation of the Book of Concord in Amharic by the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. Rev. Dr. Robert Rahn and Rev. Matthew Heise presented them to Dr. Wakseyoum of the EECMY. All 3,500 pastors received a copy of the Book of Concord in Amharic. www.lhfmissions.org

International Lutheran Ctr. Dedication in Wittenberg Nearly 450 people, including Wittenberg residents, LCMS representatives and international church partners from around the world — took part in the dedication service for the International Lutheran Center at die Alte Latein Schule (the Old Latin School) at the Town and Parish Church of St. Mary's on May 3, 2015.

Remodeling pictures and articles written on the Wittenberg Project can be seen at <http://thewittenbergproject.org/news-and-updates>

Thank You

May I express my thanks to all of you who remembered me at the time of my surgery. You showered me with cards, calls, and food, and I so appreciate each of your expressions of concern. Thanks to Pastor Mackay for the call and prayer before surgery and Pastor Siebert for the devotion and prayer while visiting me in the hospital. It meant a lot to me to know that their prayers and your prayers were lifted up on my behalf. May God bless each of you as you have blessed me. **Carol Hansel**

PEACE YOUTH

Teachers for Sunday school/Wednesday Family Night:

It is hard to believe it is time to start thinking of this next year's Sunday School Year, but it is time for all to start thinking and praying about helping in anyway for Sunday School Hour and/or Wednesday Night Family Night. We are in need of teachers, helpers, anyone willing to help in anyway would be greatly appreciated. The more helpers the lighter the load will be for everyone. If you have any interest or questions please contact one of the Board of Parish Ed Members,

Brenda Christensen, Dustin Russell, Jena Mackay

The Adams County FairFest parade is on Saturday, July 11, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. The Youth will have a float in the parade and we will also have the bus in the parade. If you would like to ride the bus in the parade, please call the Church Office. The bus can pick you up and we will meet downtown at 9:00 a.m. to line up.

Public Relations, **Lisa Novak**

High School Youth: Upcoming events:

July 10th help with VBS float 6pm at church.

July 11th Fairfest parade walk with VBS float.

July 19th: Bake sale after church.

July 28-31: Higher Things conference at Concordia, Seward, NE



Reverend Emeritus Roland Jank, Sr., who formerly served as Pastor of Peace has reached a remarkable milestone. This year marks the 70th anniversary of his ordination. Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Omaha will be celebrating this anniversary on Sunday, July 12th, where he has worshipped since moving to Omaha following his retirement and where his son, Roland Jank, Jr., serves as pastor. Recognition of Rev. Jank, Sr.'s 70th anniversary as an ordained minister will take place during our 9 a.m. Worship Service. A cake reception will follow during the Bible class hour (10:20-11:20a.m.). This celebration is also planned in conjunction with his 95th birthday which falls on July 14th.

We Welcome Members of Peace and any of the Members who were served by Pastor Jank, Sr., to attend Worship and/or Bible Class with us that Sunday to greet him in person. We look forward to meeting all of you and thank you for your assistance.

Yours in celebration of our Risen Savior, **Gloria Sorensen** Cards may be sent to Mount Olive Lutheran Church (RAJ, SR.) 7301 N. 28th Avenue Omaha, NE 68112.

Former pastor at Peace (1956-1971), Rev. Roland A. Jank, will be celebrating his 95th birthday on July 14th. His family would like to honor him with a card shower. This birthday also happens to coincide with his 70th year of ordination. He would be blessed by your thoughtfulness. Cards can be sent to: Pastor Roland A. Jank, 6803 N. 68th Plaza, #206, Omaha, NE 68152. Ellen Jank & Family



Vacation Bible School 2015

July 19th – July 23rd

6:00-8:30pm A meal is also served

at 5:30pm – ALL of this is provided FREE OF COST, but donations and freewill offerings will be accepted to help with meal, snacks & cost. Peace Lutheran Bus will run as needed.

Welcome Members of Peace: Farewell Service & Pot Luck Meal for Rev. Jim & Bev Witt at Trinity Lutheran Church, 301 N Pine, Blue Hill, NE 4:00 p.m. Sunday, July 19th

Born again by Word and water!

Kaïcen Eillek-Lee Morgan

Son of Mike & JayJay Morgan Born: July 24th, 2014

Sponsors: Jerry & Kellie Boutin, Larry & Judy Striggow

HOLY BAPTISM

June 7th, 2015



Peace Lutheran Choir

Enjoy time shared with Family this Summer!

Dave Witt



Heartwell Clovers 4-H

July and August are very busy months in the lives of 4-H'ers, getting ready to enter into the fair, all the activities during the fair, then school starting just a few weeks later. For this reason, the 4-H meetings for the months of July and August are canceled. We will have a meeting in September. Be sure to check – out our 4-H Exhibits! **Lisa Novak**



Moses the (speechless) Speaker

LWML Salad Luncheon 6:30p.m. July 20, 2015 Hoeger Hall **Marydae Eigenberg**

Members:

Altar Guild Is asking for donations to replenish Wine. Also funds needed to offset the cost of supplies for the Eternal Candle refill that we now make. Both items are used in the Sanctuary during the Divine Services here at Peace. Many Thanks! Questions see **Sandy Nissen**



July 13– 9:30a Sewing for Orphan Grain Train
July 15 4:00 PM Executive Board Meeting
July 20 6:30 PM Salad Supper at Hoeger Hall Good Samaritan Village, Each lady attending is asked to bring a salad . A special program will be given. All ladies of the congregation are invited. Hostesses are Carol Hansel and Dorothy Bauer July Greeting Cards Nadeen Debban/Altar Flowers Beverly Saathoff **Betty Krueger**

ATTENTION!!! All boards, classes, committees and organizations. L.W.M.L. will be doing a thorough cleaning of the kitchen and all appliances in it following Vacation Bible School in July. We would appreciate it very much if you would remove all food, toppings and pop that belongs to you as soon as possible. What is still remaining in the refrigerators after July 25 will be discarded. Only items to remain are coffee and ice cubes. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. **Nadeen Debban & Naomi Leising**, L.W.M.L. kitchen chairmen

School Supplies	
Spiral Note Books	8½” X 10” ruled
Pencils-unsharpened	W/eraser
Eraser-2 inch	
Blunt Scissors	
Crayons	
Ruler-reg/metric	
Glue Sticks	
Construction Paper	
Ballpoint Pens	
Washable Markers	
Protractor	
Pencil Sharpener	

We have something special planned for July Ladies Night Sunday afternoon, July 26, at 2:30pm. The Boxcar Youth Theatre Company will be presenting “The Enchantment of Beauty and the Beast” at French Memorial Chapel, Hastings College. This musical is made up of youth in 4th -10th Grades. If we can get a large group to go, Boxcar will give us discounted tickets. We will make the bus available to go as a group. (You can ride on the bus or drive). Everyone please sign up to qualify us for the discounted price. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex or call the Church Office to get your name added, or www.peacelutheranhastings.org . Questions, contact **Lisa Novak**.



+ Family of Ruth Selma Klein + Family of Lindsey Nylander + Lily Rose (prematurely born) + Baptism – Kaicen Eillek-Lee Morgan + Paul Alber + LeRoy Thom +Paula Long + Marie Haller + Dolly Muehlich + Gary Flesner + Juan Luis Alvidrez – lung cancer + Grayson Sharp + Sandy Nissen + Dale Hartman + Lynn Hagemeyer + Les Krueger + Scott Sunders + Dana Gilbert + Jeri Beverstock + Margaret Grotelueschen + Esther Hinze – hospice + Jon Bullard – Army (homeland) + Ross Peters – Navy (homeland) Please call the Church Office to be added to the prayer list. Names will be removed as need dictates. Keep us informed!

Five Points Bank	\$ 17,260	LCEF Church Savings Fund	\$ 5,841
Memorial Funds	\$ 15,163	LCEF Endowment Fund	\$ 52,717

YTD FACT & STATS AS OF May 31, 2015

Avg. Attendance:		Sunday	132
		Tues & Wed	67
		Total	199
CURRENT OFFERINGS	\$ 77,863	PROPERTY OFFERINGS	\$ 905
At 34% BUDGETED	\$ 94,190	At 34% BUDGETED	\$ 1,125
MISSION OFFERINGS	\$ 3,685	SPECIAL OFFERINGS	\$ 1,065
At 26% BUDGETED	\$ 5,813	At 47% BUDGETED	\$ 1,380

PLEASE REVIEW THESE NUMBERS. Per our budget, after five months, our income percentages should be 42%; we are sitting at 34% currently – if you convert this to dollars, we are short by \$16,297. The church expenses are at 40% which shows that we are tightening our belts a little. However, we need to keep in mind that for the year we are down \$14,005.00. Please don't wait until the end of the year to help play catch up – donate now so we can stay ahead. Thank you!

Open the Doors of Peace

Pledged Donations	\$392,995
Non-Pledged Donations	\$ 29,193
Interest	\$ 598

Respectfully Submitted, **Jan Hinze**, Treasurer