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PERMIT NO. 329

HASTINGS, NE 68901

PLEASE USE THE NEW ENTRANCE TO ENTER & EXIT SERVICES & EVENTS!

NOTEWORTHY DATES

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| Jun. 7 | 1:30p | L.W.M.L. |
| Jun. 11 | 9:30a | Sewing for Orphan Grain Train |
| Jun. 12 | 6:00p | Trustees & Elders |
| Jun. 13 | 11:00a | Senior Bible Study 11:30a Lunch Village Diner also on July 11th |
| Jun. 16 | 10:00a | Senior Youth Mini Golf Fundraiser |
| Jun. 18-21st | 9:00a-11:30a | Vacation Bible School Pg. 6 |
| Cancelled | 7:00p | Right to Life Board Will not meet June, July, August - Summer Break |
| Jun. 27 | 2:00p | Calling & Caring |
| Jul. 4 | | July 4th Observed: Office Closed |
| Jul. 9 | 9:30a | Sewing for Orphan Grain Train |
| Jul. 10 | 1:00p | L.W.M.L. Exec. Board Meeting 6:00p Trustees & Elders 7:00p Church Council |
| Jul. 16 | 6:30p | L.W.M.L. Salad Supper & Quarterly Meeting |
| Jul. 22 | 9:30a | Quarterly Voters' Meeting |
| Jul. 23-27th | | Higher Things Conference Sr. Youth Pg. 7 |
| Jul. 25 | 2:00p | Calling & Caring |

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

| | |
|---------|---|
| Sunday | Divine Service 8:00a & 10:30a Bible Class 9:30a-10:15a |
| Tuesday | Bible Study 9:30a-10:30a Cancelled - June & July Summer Break! |



Lamplighter

"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

JUNE/JULY 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

1. Mission to the DR
2. Open the Doors II Thanks, Finance
3. LWML June/July Projects, Invite
4. Prayers, Facts & April Stats
5. Choir, Meet our Confirmand, OGT Fish Feed Invite, Youth Fundraiser
6. VBS Information, Right to Life Big Sale & Article
7. Plans-Senior Youth Pro-Life Message from Rev. Maronde
8. Calendar Dates

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

9:00a-12:00p

1:00p-4:00p

(402) 462-9023

Office Secretary:

Mrs. Jeri Dush

Pastor:

Rev. Marcus J.

Mackay



FROM OUR MISSIONARY IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Greetings, friends of the DR mission,

It has been awhile since we sent out an update on our work here in Santiago. What follows is a summary of recent news!

Our church in Palmar is strong with roots reaching deeply and branches extending in all directions. We have about forty-five members who attend church on a regular basis. Forty-five more are baptized, but need to be encouraged to return, and we are looking for many more through ongoing evangelism efforts. Right now we are focusing on visiting every member in our community. Something to keep in mind when making visits in Palmar is that whenever you visit a person, that person is seldom alone, but is surrounded by several people at almost all times. This, together with their instinctive Dominican hospitality, often leads to conversations with groups of people. In no way does this suggest that everyone you meet is open to the gospel—formalities can be deceiving—however, it ensures that you have a forum for preaching and a potentially rich conversation. Our every-member visits have had promising results inasmuch as they have led to several new contacts that we are currently pursuing. Our visits reveal the spiritual needs among the people of our community and generate requests on the part of friends and family to have their children baptized. Requests to have children baptized lead to Bible classes. Bible classes tend to invite more people, at least initially, and many of these visitors are unchurched. The main challenge is keeping up with visits on a consistent basis. I will elaborate on this and other challenges below.

I'd like to highlight a few individuals who have either been our main focus over the past couple months or will be in the near future:

Carmen is the oldest member in our congregation. She is a diabetic and lacks the ability to walk to church. The pastors (Pastors Idjon Fritz and I) visit her, usually together, every Wednesday at 5:00. We have a brief service of the Word, including the Lord's Supper once per month, and have anywhere between five and fifteen people in attendance. These regular services have led to contacts with Odaly, Carmen's granddaughter, and her friend, María Magdalena. Both have requested to take catechism classes and have their five-month-old boys baptized. Odaly has recently lost her young husband to sudden death and now has to work ten hours per day to put food on the table. We are looking for opportunities to meet with her and serve her spiritual needs.

Van y Maria are former members of the church. Van, an American who came down ten years ago with a short-term team from Fort Meyers, Florida, to build the school, has recently fallen ill. We visited him regularly in the hospital and received funding from St. Michael and Zion Lutheran Churches in Fort Meyers to pay for his medical expenses before we sent him to the U.S. for more medical care and an operation. Meanwhile, we have built a strong relationship with his family (his wife, María, her six kids, and a daughter-in-law). We have Bible classes in her home every Thursday at 5:00. We are working to "rekindle their first love" and bring them back to communion with Jesus.

Hector, the farmer, has lived across the street from church watching the mission grow from his own perspective ever since its inception. Over the past year he has also worked under the direction of the deaconesses and with the help of the seminary students to plant and cultivate a field that yields fruits for the group home and the congregation at large. He has always had a cordial relationship with the missionaries, members, and school children in Palmar and visited our church occasionally over the years. Recently, he has taken confirmation classes with the pastors and has taken his wife to church. He was just recently confirmed and become a communicant member of the congregation.

Reyes is the mother of six children living in Palmar. Her oldest, Sheyla, has been a member for years and serves as secretary of our school. After her mother died, Reyes began to take confirmation classes together with her son, Odji. The pastors had visited her mother several times when she was on her deathbed, there in Reyes's house, and after a series of brief services of the Word in her home, she began to attend church regularly. She rarely misses a service. It is with great thankfulness to God that we have received her as a member of our congregation. Her son, Odji, has a few classes left before he, too, God willing, will be confirmed.

We have been working with several other individuals, members and non-members, young and old, in matters of conflict, seeking to bring about reconciliation to estranged loved ones. We pray that these

meetings yield good fruit and lead to ongoing pastoral relationships, church attendance, and communicant church membership. Pictured on the left, you see an aerial view of Palmar. There is much opportunity for evangelism among this village's people.

Francis lives with the kids in the group home, Casa Hogar. He is deaf and in need of special care. Now that he is sixteen years old, he is becoming more inquisitive, independent, and self-aware. While Marisol, the director, and several of the workers, called "tíos" and "tías," have come a long way in their ability to communicate with him, we consider it a high priority to be able to preach the gospel of Christ and the forgiveness of sins to him as clearly as possible. We also hope that by improving our sign language we may be able to provide him with more effective discipline. God grant it!

In addition to individuals, we are also working with various groups including the deaconesses, the kids at the Casa Hogar, and the school. All of these areas need improvement. The pastors and deaconesses have not been meeting regularly because of schedule conflicts. We have not been having regular Bible studies with the group kids, although they are regularly in church, or sitting outside listening in some capacity. We will resume special classes with these people as soon as we work through some scheduling difficulties. The school shares a chapel service (Divine Service) with the seminary each Friday morning in the Palmar Church sanctuary. While it has put many kids in contact with the means of grace and led to good conversation, there is still much work to do in terms of discipline and evangelism. Due to a shortage of help, Pastor Idjon, the school chaplain, has been teaching all the theology classes himself. We hope that, with the arrival of new seminary students from Bolivia, we may be able to take some of this burden off of the pastor. In turn, he can focus on outreach to students' parents.

Additionally, the pastors have been concentrating on the youth of our congregation. We have many young folks attending church regularly. Most of them are girls, but they are growing up fast. Girls who were just two years old when Deaconess Danelle Putnam arrived in Palmar twelve years ago are now young ladies. And they have boyfriends. At the pastors' insistence, they have recently been bringing their boyfriends to church, one of them every Lord's Day for the last five weeks. This creates a whole new and exciting dimension of pastoral care. We hope to see more attendance, and through visitations and youth activities—we have youth activities one Saturday per month on the Mercy Center upstairs—we will see Christian weddings and marriages and the next generation of Christian children. How exciting!

Jenny and the kids are doing very well. My return home to them every day is very restorative, as things carry on there with the usual "joyful chaos" and I am met with stories about their day and questions and hugs. They are busy finishing up the school year and are preparing to spend a some time in the US this spring visiting family, where they will do some supplemental educational field trips as well as attend a home-school convention and do medical checkups. Their Spanish is coming along very well, and Jenny is feeling more like this is "home" now that she is driving and able to communicate better. I am thankful.

By way of conclusion, there are a few challenges and opportunities we face with our work here. First, we are two pastors each with two full time jobs. I am a full time seminary professor, and Pastor Idjon is still a student at the university. Often, we are having trouble with schedules and appointment changes and broken routines. A lack of consistency has been an impediment to effective evangelism. We are working to overcome this obstacle, and we ask for your prayers. We are looking at tremendous opportunities all the while. We have hard working pastors who love the gospel they are privileged to bring to the nations. We have several other pastors who share the burden of preaching with us and are every bit as dedicated to the truth of God's love in Christ for all people. We have a hymnal coming out soon that is full of good Lutheran hymns that teach the gospel to our people. We have seminary students (pictured) who are dedicated to their education and tasks. And, what is more, we have the promise of God that his Word does not return to him void. May God keep us steadfast, humble, and useful in his Dominican vineyard!

Thank you for your continued thoughts, prayers, encouragement, and support!

In Christ,
Pastor David Preus Missionary in the DR



PEACE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH



Seven Youth, (Vanessa, Abbie, Allie, Matthew, Malachi, Matthias & Brandt) along with Pastor Mackay & Sr. Youth Leader (Gwen) will be going to "Sanctified" the Higher Things Youth Conference July 24-27 at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas. We have mustered and sent payment for the registration fees for all to attend which depleted our youth account that all of our fundraising monies have gone into. Peace Lutheran will be providing transportation for Pastor Ohlman and 4 of his youth from Immanuel Lutheran in Polk, NE. We will be taking Peace Lutheran's bus and will have gas expenditures for travel. We plan on spending the day in Kansas City on Sunday July 22nd, enjoying Worlds of Fun Theme Park (\$40 each) on Monday July 23rd (spending two nights at the homes of some of Pastor Mackay's relatives) prior to the conference start on Tuesday. Our plan is to travel directly home on Friday once the conference concludes. On campus during the conference all meals and sleeping arrangements are provided and included with the registration fees. Thanks to all Members of Peace for your Support!

Senior Youth, *Gwen Ruppert*

Pro-Life Message from Rev. Christopher Maronde

"Being pro-life is more than being anti-death!" The first time I heard these words, it was a fellow seminary student who had uttered them, and to be perfectly honest, it took some time to completely grasp what he meant and to wholeheartedly agree. The media calls us 'anti-abortion,' Planned Parenthood calls us 'anti-choice,' but we call ourselves 'pro-life.' We have chosen to identify ourselves by what we are for, not by what we are against. At least in the label we have selected, we declare ourselves to be for God's gift of life, not simply against man's use of death. Certainly we take our stand against the forces of death, but we do so knowing what we are for: we are for life, any life, at any stage. Lutherans know this quite well; our confessions are arranged in just such an order. First, we state, boldly, unequivocally, what we believe, then we declare what we do not believe. The rhythm of the Book of Concord is "We believe, teach, and confess..." followed by "We condemn..." It is the same with our efforts on behalf of life. We believe, teach, and confess that all life is precious, worthy of protection, honored by God and to be honored by all, and thus we condemn any effort that would destroy innocent life or take away the dignity that each life is owed by virtue of its creation by God. To be pro-life is more than being anti-death. To be pro-life is to celebrate life, every life, even if it was conceived in sin, even if it is using up taxpayer dollars on a hospital bed. To be pro-life is to celebrate that life that doesn't come as we expected. It's easy to celebrate life when a happy couple is showing off ultrasound pictures; it's much harder when a single woman has fallen into sin and has the consequence of that sin growing in her womb. Both children are knit together by God Himself, both children are loved by God, and thus, both children are to be protected and cared for by their mothers and by us. Both children are to be celebrated. We must speak firmly about the Sixth Commandment—indeed, the disdain for the Sixth Commandment among us is the reason we have crimes against life—but we must also be able to celebrate life when God gives it. To be pro-life is to celebrate and encourage large families. You cannot imagine the kinds of things said to parents of large families, even by Christians, even in church! Pro-life is to welcome and encourage families blessed with special-needs children. Thousands of Down's Syndrome babies are genetically identified in the womb and destroyed because their parents are afraid and alone. To be pro-life is to show that all life is precious, that the community of faith is there to support and help with every child. To be pro-life is to visit the elderly in the nursing home, to give them the dignity that they have as children of God. To be pro-life is to love the mothers, to love these women who are caught by circumstances, to help them with physical as well as spiritual needs. In this way, crisis pregnancy centers are absolutely vital outposts of life-giving mercy in a world of death. We are defined by what we are for, not by what we are against, because that is the way Jesus came among us. "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." (John 3:17) Jesus came to save us, to show love to us; He came because He is pro-life, pro-eternal life, and He came to give eternal life to you, to me, to those children unwanted by anyone else, to those mothers who have fallen into sin, to the disabled and elderly forgotten by everyone else. Jesus came for you, not to condemn you, but to save you. **Joan Primrose**

Our new facilities are such a blessing to our congregation! Thanks to all who have supported and donated thus far. OUR DOORS ARE OPEN!

Will you help us pay-off our new addition? Remaining Debt \$ 196,892.00 (designate on check/envelope) to

"Open the Doors II"
 Peace Lutheran Church
 906 N. California
 Hastings, NE 68901

"HELP WANTED" A.S.A.P. ASSISTANT TREASURER NEEDED

Responsibilities to Include: Count Weekly Offerings & Record into Member Database; Input Weekly Deposits, Print Annual Member Statements.

Contact: Jan Hinze
Work: 402-462-5544
Cell: 402-469-6541
Email: jan@balancedbooksllc.com

A BIG "THANKS" TO CAROL METZGER FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE!!



"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."
Proverbs 22:6



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

At Splash Canyon VBS, your children or grandchildren will look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, and learn God's Promises are Yes in Jesus! Kids confidently celebrate that our faithful God is with us on life's wild ride. God saves us through Jesus and gives us life and hope every day of our lives and forever. Alleluia!

Join us for Bible stories, music, crafts, snacks, games! Bring your children, grandchildren, and neighbor kids. Monday, June 18, 2018, thru Thursday, June 21, 2018, 9:00-11:30 a.m. 3 years

-old through entering 6th grade this fall. Register at vbsmate.com/peacelutheranhastingsvbs or call the Church Office at 402-462-9023. Volunteers are welcome! **Joan Primrose**

RIGHT to LIFE GARAGE & BAKE SALE

What: Fund Raiser for South Central Nebraska Right to Life

Where: St. Michael's School Gym 7th & Creighton Ave.,

Hastings June 12, donations accepted (Noon to 5 P.M.)

June 13, donations accepted (9 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

Sale Begins, June 14 (9 A.M. – 7 P.M.)

Sale Continues June 15, (9 A.M. – 7 P.M.)

Sale Continues June 16, (9 A.M. – 2 P.M.) All Items-Good Repair

Please Pre-Price your Donations. Questions or wish to volunteer, call Marge and James Koepp PH: 402-418-8117



In a shocking and disturbing tweet from the abortion providers affiliate Planned Parenthood Keystone in Pennsylvania, the official Twitter account posted that Disney needs to have a princess who's had an abortion, is pro-choice, and who's transsexual, among other things. The tweet has since been deleted, but not before a screenshot of the post was already taken and a fury of controversy has surrounded the abortion provider. Disney has yet to comment. Life News reported that Planned Parenthood Keystone received \$3.5 million in tax dollars in 2016 alone. **Joan Primrose**



Ingathering- Layette items needed in June

- 2 Receiving
- Blankets
- 2 undershirts or onesies
- 2 gowns/sleepers
- 4 cloth diapers or 6 disposable diapers
- 1 sweater
- 2 wash clothes
- 2 safety pins

Ingathering Items for July School Kits

- 2 notebooks
 - 8 1/2" X 11in
 - 1 blunt tip scissors
 - 1 ruler inch/metric
 - 1 glue stick
 - 6 pencil w/eraser unsharpened
 - 1-2 inch eraser
 - 1 box crayons
 - 12 sheets construction paper
 - 1 cloth bag w/handles 14" by 18"
- L.W.M.L. says
**Thank You
For your
Support!!**



June

Thursday, June 7th - 1:30pm Fellowship and Topic

Monday, June 11th - 9:30am Sewing for Orphan Grain Train

July

Monday, July 9th - 9:30am Sewing for Orphan Grain Train

Tuesday, July 10th - 1:00pm L.W.M.L. Executive Board Meeting

Monday, July 16th - 6:30pm Annual Salad Supper and Quarterly Meeting, please see flyer below for details.



LADIES OF PEACE

LWML invites you to our Annual Salad Supper and Quarterly Meeting.

Come join our fellowship.

6:30 Monday July 16th

Guest Speaker: Mary Ann Niemoth
About her Mission Trip to Tanzania.

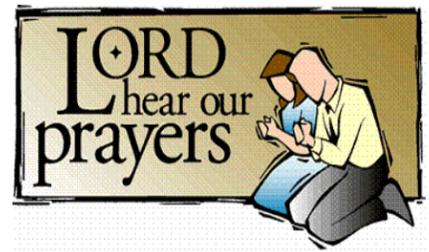
Everyone please bring a salad
to share if you are able

All ladies of PEACE are members

The Bus will be
available. Please
call the office.



Texas School Shooting + Hawaiian Volcano + Mourning + Family of Edna Stichweh + Family of Leonard Krueger + Family of Phyllis Heath + Family of Barbara Thurin Hospice, Recovering, Surgery, or Hospitalization + Janice Callan + Kay Krueger + Carol Krause + Al Kress + Viola Melvin + LeRoy Thom Health Issues + Carol Smith + June Rose + Randy Russell + Jesse Beran Cancer + Andy Jacques + Ed Elshof + Marilyn Houston Military + Gary Thompson + Ross Peters



April Financial Summary Reports 2018

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| General Fund | \$ 38,518 | Property Improvement Fund | \$ 3,356 |
| Memorial Fund | \$ 20,809 | LCEF Endowment Fund | \$ 68,404 |
| Church Savings | \$ 535 | Petty Cash | \$ 150 |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|------------|
| YTD Weekly Average Church Attendance | | | | 185 |
| CURRENT OFFERINGS | \$ 53,071 | PROPERTY OFFERINGS | \$ 725 | |
| At 30% BUDGETED | \$ 59,651 | At 21% BUDGETED | \$ 1,167 | |
| SPECIAL OFFERINGS | \$ 700 | | | |
| At 53% BUDGETED | \$ 442 | | | |

FINANCIAL NOTES: We are off to a good start for 2018! We are sitting at 30% for Income/Budget, so the Church is close to budget. Expenses are running at 40% - but please remember that this includes annual payment for our insurance.

Open the Doors of Peace – Ending April 30, 2018

(totals include all monies that have been received from 2013 to present)

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Capital Campaign I-Pledged Donations | \$ 799,806 |
| Capital Campaign I-Non-Pledged Donations | \$ 31,976 |
| Capital Campaign II | \$ 178,764 |
| Alan Koepke Pledge | \$ 43,788 |
| Interest | \$ 3,892 |
| Total expenses | \$ 1,262,497 |
| Current Building Loan Balance | \$ 196,892 |

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Hinze,
Treasurer

Choir
Join Us
Wednesdays
6:00pm
Dave Witt
Dr. Phil



Lutheran
Witness
Magazine

Recipients should receive your home copy in the mail starting the month of June!

TUESDAY
MORNING
BIBLE
STUDY

Our Ladies voted to take months June & July off for Summer Break!
Nadeen
Debban

10:00 AM SENIOR YOUTH MINI GOLF FUNDRAISER

Please Support Our Youth!!
10:00am Saturday, June 16th
1220 W 18th, Hastings NE



2018 Confirmand Seth Latta is the youngest son of Richard and Sonya Latta. He has two older brothers, Jordan and Aaron. Seth competed in a Special Olympics event May 18th and brought home first place in softball throw and second place in swimming power walk. Way to go, Seth! He also likes bowling, track, and basketball. Some of his favorite things include ice cream, Jesus his Savior, Pop Tarts, and people in general.

He likes to interact with people and his great smile tells us so. Seth is pretty excited to begin summer school classes at Hastings High School where he will have the opportunity to work out in the public at the First Christian Church at 12th St. and Sheridan Ave. This will be a totally new experience for him. Music is his favorite subject in school and "Jesus Loves Me" is his favorite Christian song. He also really likes the Special Olympics theme song "We Will Rock You—We Are the Champions." One of Seth's favorite Bible verses is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13. When asked what does knowing Jesus as your Savior mean to you, Seth said, "Jesus saved me from my sins."
Joan Primrose

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN FISH FEED

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

465 S MARIAN ROAD HASTINGS, NE

SPONSORED BY ZONE 8, LLL OF HASTINGS AREA

5:15PM-7:00PM June 15, 2018 WEST FELLOWSHIP HALL
FISH-POTATOES-ONIONS-SALADS-DESSERTS-DRINKS

FREE WILL OFFERING FOR ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO 100% SHIPPING –
SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING BY THRIVENT FINANCIAL

