



The Peace Messenger

Peace Lutheran Church
2090 Commerce Drive
North Mankato MN 56003

Newsletter
August 2020

Worship Schedule

Sunday morning

Indoor - 8:30 Outdoor - 10:00

Wednesday Evening

Indoor - 6:30

Serving Peace

Pastor Tim Hartwig

Cell - 507-382-6826

pastorhartwig@gmail.com

Pastor Matt Moldstad

Cell - 507-382-0045

pastormoldstad@gmail.com

Office - Karen Wold

Phone - 507-385-1386

karen@peacemankato.com

Church Council

President:

Eric Woller

Vice President:

Jason DeWitt

Secretary:

Terry Field

Spiritual Leadership:

Jeff Huber

Christian Education:

Joel Kom

Property Management:

Jesse Wolff

Stewardship:

Sergio Salgado

Gospel Outreach:

Jonathan Stadler

Jesus' Lambs Preschool

Joslyn Moldstad - 507-385-7752

joslynmoldstad@gmail.com

Crossed - Youth Group

www.peacemankato.org/crossed

crossedyouth@gmail.com

Special Interest Dates

4th Spiritual Leadership Meeting 7p

10th Gospel Outreach 3p

Bd. Of Education Meeting 6p

13th Council Planning Session 6p

15th Peace Writers' Group 10a

20th CDS Parent Meeting 6p

23rd Confirmation Recognition 10a

25th PreK Back-to-School picnic 6p

27th Red Cross Blood Drive 12p

28th Cornhole Tournament 5:30p

30th Officers/Boards Installation

Life in the End Times

Look around you. This is life in the End Times. What a mess. And still, we are being spared so much, if we can keep something of our health, a house to live in, our family around us, and daily bread. Thank God for clothing and shoes and transportation. Thank



God we have been spared so much persecution for so long. Thank God for the faith of our Christian brothers and sisters throughout the world who are suffering for that faith, at the hands of individuals, other religions, or at the hands of bad government. God help them.

Thank God above all for His Word, which speaks us poor sinners forgiven and righteous in God's sight for the sake of Jesus, the Righteous One, the Once-and-for-all Sacrifice to cancel guilt, pay our debt of sin, and set us free.

After all, what do God's people need to hear in a pandemic, exacerbated by race riots, financial uncertainty, political uncertainty, and the threatening erosion of cherished freedoms? *"Lift Up Your Heads! Your Redemption is Drawing Near!"* –Read Luke 21.25-28.

God's people have endured plagues before—even as a prelude to Exodus to freedom and new life with God (Exodus 12.) God's

people have been singled out, even for annihilation—before the man who plotted their destruction was hanged on his own gallows (Esther 9.) God's people have endured exile—before their corporate Resurrection and restoration to their Promised Land, flowing with milk

and honey for them once again.

In Revelation, John wrote down the words the angel spoke to him:

"Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. Let the evildoers still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy."

How long? None of us knows. But however long this time, it's a time of grace, to hear and to believe and to be gathered in and to be saved. Some have wandered. Some have been gone a long time. Some have strayed far away.

"The Spirit (God the Holy Ghost) and the Bride (the Holy Christian Church) say, 'Come!' And let the one who hears say, 'Come!' And let the one who is thirsty come. Let the one who desires take the water of life without price."

- Board for Home Outreach

Our Mission

The purpose of our congregation is **to worship** God, who gives life through Word and Sacrament; **to serve** one another in love and fellowship; and **to proclaim** forgiveness and salvation to all through Jesus Christ alone.

Are We Willing to Share?

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

1 Timothy 6:17, 18

If we're honest with ourselves, we'll admit that we're usually not as generous as we could be—not to the needy and not to God either. What's holding us back? One problem is fear. Our old Adam is always afraid that we won't have enough. He doesn't trust in God. He worries that God won't take care of us.

Pride and arrogance also make us less than generous. After all, if I'm the center of the universe, why concern myself with the cosmic dust on the fringes? Why flirt with scarcity for myself by sharing what little I have?

How different was the thinking of that widow in the temple who put her last two copper coins in the offering (Mark 12:41-44). Those two coins were all she had to ward off starvation. That's all she had to pay her creditors and meet her obligations. There was no secret stash that she had squirreled away for the future. There was no government safety net. Yet she gave her last two coins to God. She trusted that God could and would take care of her.

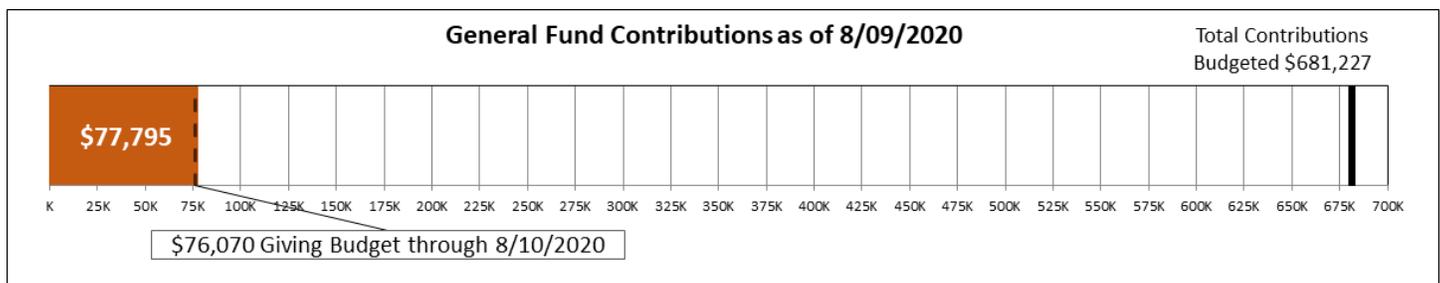
God's Word and promises work to build our trust. God promised that he will never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). Jesus said, "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" (Matthew 6:26). So, why worry? "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:32).

Life isn't without setbacks and difficulties. The money doesn't always last until payday. But at times like those, God uses our disappointments to show us the futility of trusting in ourselves or in our wealth. Money isn't everything. It isn't even close to being our most important possession. We have much greater riches. Even if we lose all our earthly possession, God's love and forgiveness will still be ours.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you have been more than generous with us, sacrificing your only Son for us. Help us to trust you more and make us willing to share. Amen.

Meditations Daily Devotional, August 11, 2020

Peace General Fund Contribution Update



Dear Members of Peace,

I'm excited to report to you that as of August 9th, Peace has received general fund offerings above and beyond our budgeted needs to date. This is awesome! So often we are looking at significant shortfalls, but as of right now we are on track with our budget. What do you say we try to do it again and keep it going through the end of August! We only have 3 weeks to go! May the wonderful comfort of God's love and forgiveness in Christ continue to overflow in your own offerings in thankfulness to God, but also to support the work of His Kingdom.

Pastor Moldstad

Happy Birthday!



Owen Risto	15 years old
Ian Risto	15 years old
Cecelia Wold	3 years old
Aubrey Bach	6 years old
Carter McCabe	17 years old
Greyson Zenk	2 years old
Evelyn Meyer	1 years old
Jakob Theiste	15 years old
Beau Fischer	3 years old
Grace Clennon	16 years old
Roman Lundsten	8 years old
Joel Hermanson	16 years old
Case Cook	2 years old
Chloe Theiste	14 years old
Emma Soost	6 years old
Claire Wolff	2 years old

Also – Ryan Geving, Marilyn Paulsen, Bob Paulsen, Mark Peterson, Austin Olsen, Elsa Ferkenstad, Kristi Hough, Pam Westman, Eric Woller, Chuol Buol, Karina Clennon, Josh Hoflock, Erika Lemke, Ashley Olsen, Katherine Botten, Justin Runke, Hannah Spivey, Kirsten Loe, Crystal Foslien, Brian Tieg, Amy Jo Reiner, Tom Schulz, Kyle Smith, Carla DeWitt, Ted Manthe, Lois Fenger, Rebecca Zenk, Greg Traylor, Jason Lowrey, Paul Fries, Gudrun Brueske, Katie Hartwig, Kristi Ringen, Kris Flygare.

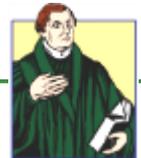
***May the Lord bless you,
today and always.***



Wedding Anniversaries:

Andy & Margaret Madson	8/02/59	61 years
Ron & Jeanne Lorensberg	8/06/00	20 years
Pete & Alisha Schuch	8/08/03	17 years
Thomas & Ellen Stark	8/09/14	6 years
Jesse & Emily Wolff	8/10/08	12 years
Eric & Laura Harstad	8/12/00	20 years
Chris & Dani Merritt	8/12/89	31 years
Mark & Becca Zenk	8/13/16	4 years
Jim & Debra Howson	8/18/95	25 years
Jeff & Amanda Kletschka	8/21/15	5 years
Dan & Whitney Holz	8/22/15	5 years
Keith & Joni Wiederhoeft	8/22/81	39 years
Al & Shelia Barnett	8/26/06	14 years
Dale & Kristie Mize	8/28/18	2 years

Congratulations! *May the Lord continue to bless you, and may your Christian marriage serve as an inspiration to others.*



*The following was taken from
'Martin Luther's Little Instruction Book':*

REASON FALLS SHORT

“Reason is...a beautiful light. But it cannot [alone]...find the path that will lead from sin and from death to righteousness and to life; it remains in darkness.”



“But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.” 1 Corinthians 1:30



Electronic Fund Giving

Just a reminder of the option you have of using “electronic giving” for making your regular church offerings or special fund offerings. Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your debit or credit card (*Peace is charged a larger percentage (up to 3.5%) of your donation for card usage*). The electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our congregation.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue in an uninterrupted basis.

You can set it up yourself by going to our website, www.peacemankato.com, click the “Online Giving” box and put in your information. You choose how often you donate (weekly, monthly, certain date(s), etc.).



Preschool News



Jesus' Lambs at Peace Preschool welcomes our 2020-2021 preschool families for our fall semester that begins Tuesday, September 8th. So far, we have 49 students! Our Bible theme this year is "Indeed, it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God -- not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

Our Back-To-School Picnic will be Tuesday, August 25th, 6-8 p.m. All families are invited to come for supper that evening. Please bring all paperwork, supplies and first month's tuition. (If you are able to settle the tuition before this evening, it will help us to do more social distancing.) The picnic will be outdoors and we will be able to have plenty of spacing and fun! This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to become better acquainted with our facility and we thank Thrivent Financial for also sponsoring our Back-to-School Picnic.

Our new teacher, Dani Merritt, will be a great help in the classroom. So that you can be more acquainted with her, she writes:

I am a mother of four, married for 31 years (in August) to Chris Merritt. I am originally from Northwest Arkansas, where my parents, only sibling and extended family still live. My college degree is a Bachelor of Science in Housing and Interior Design. I worked for an architect until we started our family, and then became a stay-at-home mom. In 2000, after being involved as an activities and newsletter coordinator with a mother-and-child playgroup for several years, and finding a preschool for my 2nd child, I became a teaching assistant there for a 3- and 4- year-old half day program, Get-Set! Preschool, at a local Christian church. The following year was asked to take over the responsibilities of the Director. I stayed in that position for one year as we added to our family again with the birth of a third child. I could see the Lord's guiding hand in being placed there. Our WELS church was in the process of beginning a Christian Day School. About a year and a half later, the Education Committee asked if I could assist them in beginning a preschool program just ahead of the K-8 school opening. Having had the experience of navigating a Department of Human Services-licensed preschool in Arkansas only a couple of years prior, I set about organizing and furnishing a new 3- and 4-year-old full day program, hiring teachers from within our congregation and developing a curriculum. The following year, I returned to teaching a half-day version of the program in the adjacent room. It then expanded to two full day classrooms of 40-50 students, with a teaching staff of 4, to complement the K-8 program, running across the hallway, with three WELS elementary school teachers. I then again stepped down from teaching and directing with the birth of our fourth child. We were again led by our Lord to choose Peace Lutheran Church after moving to Mankato in November 2010. I have enjoyed the opportunity to substitute when needed for *Jesus' Lambs at Peace* since that following spring, in 2011. I love playing with young children. I love seeing the thrill in their eyes, as they learn new things. Being able to provide that in a Christian environment became vital to me after the birth of my own children. I value each child as an individual, loved and redeemed by Christ. I want to see them grow and succeed in the sure confidence of their Christ-won salvation.

We welcome Mrs. Dani Merritt into our midst at Jesus' Lambs at Peace and we pray that God would bless our 2020-21 school year.





Meeting for Parents of Peace Students attending Mt. Olive or Risen Savior Schools – On **Thursday, August 20th, at 6pm**, we will be holding our annual meeting for parents of Peace students attending Mt. Olive and Risen Savior Schools. This meeting is to provide financial information concerning Peace's support of your students, as well as pertinent information from our Mt. Olive School Board liaison, Ben Kohls. We require that at least one parent from each family attend.

Confirmation

Recognition of Confirmation – Last Spring we had seven students who were confirmed in private ceremonies due to COVID-19. Now that some of the restrictions on gatherings have been relaxed, we would like to recognize their confirmations in a public way. On **Sunday, August 23rd**, we are inviting our confirmands to participate in a recognition of confirmation ceremony **at our 10am outdoor service**. We invite our members to attend and support our confirmands to congratulate them on this accomplishment and to encourage them in their faith life.



Jesus' Lambs at Peace Preschool is hosting a Back to School Picnic on **Tuesday, August 25th, 6-8 p.m.** We ask that paperwork and tuition be brought into the office before this date so that we can easily social distance inside the building and then enjoy the picnic, outside of the building. Supplies can be brought in on the August 25th date. (Don't forget your child's and family pictures.) If you would like to help host this event, please email Joslyn at joslynmoldstad@gmail.com. Thrivent Financial is also supporting this event for us!



Red Cross Blood Drive at Peace on August 27th, 12PM – 5PM. Free COVID-19 antibody testing will be done. The results of your antibody test will be available about 7-10 days after your donation by logging in to your Blood Donor account. Please call 1-800-733-2767, or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: PEACENOKNATO to schedule an appointment. *Come to give during August and you'll automatically be entered to a chance to win a trip for four to Cedar Point or Knott's Berry Farm! Includes travel, hotel, park admission and more! Terms and conditions apply, visit rcblood.org/CedarFair for details.*



Adult Fellowship Night Cornhole Tournament. Join us on **Friday, August 28th, from 5:30-8pm** for our 3rd Annual Cornhole Tournament at Peace! We invite adults 21+ to participate. (Childcare is not provided.) Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all of our activities will be outdoors. (Bathrooms will still be available.) We are inviting you to bring your own picnic dinner to enjoy on the lawn, drinks and individual wrapped ice cream treats will be provided. Sign up at peacemankato.com/cornhole if you have your team, otherwise we'll pair up the night of the event. We are also looking for a number of people to lend us their cornhole boards and bags. If you are willing, please let Pastor or Joni Moldstad know pastormoldstad@gmail.com. They can be dropped off in the church office before August 27th. Please label your bags!



Summer Moms On a Mission (M.O.M.s) Bible Study Opportunity Continues! The M.O.M.s summer evening study will continue through the summer months. They meet **Tuesday evenings at 7pm** in the library at Mt. Olive. They will be studying the book of Galatians. Study materials will be provided, just bring a Bible and writing utensil. If you would like more information, please contact Thalia Londgren at thalia.pollard@blc.edu. All moms welcome at any time!

Continued Pastoral Care – While we certainly want to follow the guidance of our government and shelter at home these next two week, both pastors will continue to be available to offer spiritual encouragement and care. We are available to meet with you over the phone, the internet, or in-person at your home, if the need arises. We will also make ourselves available to provide private communion at your home, upon request. We plan to resume the private communion at church again after the shelter in place directive is lifted on April 10th, at 5pm.

Pastor Hartwig – 507-382-6826 pastorhartwig@gmail.com

Pastor Moldstad – 507-382-0045, pastormoldstad@gmail.com

Need help? – During this time many are homebound and might have difficulty getting the food and supplies they need. If you are in need of assistance in getting items from the store, please contact the church office: karen@peacemankato.com or 507-385-1386, and we will work to try to find a way to assist you.



New 2 You is now up and running. Hours are 9:30am to 1:30pm, Tuesday through Saturday for now. Donations are taken at the front door of the former Curves space (near New 2 You front door); however, it would be wise to call first to see if FULL for the day. Again, thanks for your support of New 2 You through your donations, volunteering and shopping!

amazon.com **Do you shop on Amazon?** An easy way to generate donations to Peace year-round is to go to smile.amazon.com and choose to support Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church of North Mankato Inc. Always shop through smile.amazon.com (same website and prices as amazon). You will have a running tally of how much you have generated in donations to Peace! Donations are deposited in our account quarterly. **Thank you!!**



To watch our service live, go to:
www.peacemankato.com/livestreaming or
our Facebook page. The service will start
automatically when it is live (8:30AM regular service).
For recorded services, go to:
www.vimeo.com/peacemankato and you can choose
which service you wish to watch.



Are you unable to care for your feet?

Your church home is offering a service to help you care for your feet and toenails.

Foot Care
By appointment, a registered nurse, using sanitary equipment, will soak and wash your feet, trim toenails, and finish with a lotion foot massage. If the nurse feels further medical attention is needed, she may suggest an appointment with your health care provider. This service is free; however, donations will be accepted to go to a church cause.

For more information, or to set up an appointment, please call Amy Jo Reiner at 507-340-2061.

Digital resources at Peace – Happy 2020! The Gospel Outreach Board wants to let you know of the different types of digital resources that Peace is using. These resources provide multiple opportunities for outreach, as well as spiritual encouragement for members. We pray that these resources will be beneficial to you and to people to whom you reach out with the Gospel in the new year.

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/peacemankato>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNk3WgwmT67SHFOCIpeJdQ>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/peacemankato>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/peacelutherannorthmankato/>

Sermon Podcast: <http://www.anchor.fm/peace-mankato-sermons>

(Sermon podcast is available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Overcast, PocketCasts, Podbean and other services.)

Access to the Peace App through the Apple App Store: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/peace-lutheran-north-mankato/id1485749962?ls=1>

Access to the Peace App through the Google App Store:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=io.pushpay.peacemankato>