



# The Peace Messenger

Peace Lutheran Church  
2090 Commerce Drive  
North Mankato MN 56003

Newsletter  
July 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](mailto:pastorhartwig@gmail.com)

Pastor Matt Moldstad

Cell - 507-382-0045

[pastormoldstad@gmail.com](mailto:pastormoldstad@gmail.com)

Office - Karen Wold

Phone - 507-385-1386

[karen@peacemankato.com](mailto:karen@peacemankato.com)

## Church Council

President:

**Eric Woller**

Vice President:

**Jason DeWitt**

Secretary:

**Terry Field**

Spiritual Leadership:

**Craig Ferkenstad**

Christian Education:

**Joel Kom**

Property Management:

**Jesse Wolff**

Stewardship:

**Sergio Salgado**

Gospel Outreach:

**Ben Petzel**

## Jesus' Lambs Preschool

Joslyn Moldstad - 507-385-7752

[joslynmoldstad@gmail.com](mailto:joslynmoldstad@gmail.com)

## Crossed - Youth Group

[www.peacemankato.org/crossed](http://www.peacemankato.org/crossed)

[crossedyouth@gmail.com](mailto:crossedyouth@gmail.com)

## Special Interest Dates

18<sup>th</sup> Peace Writers' Group 10a

27<sup>th</sup> New2You Annual Meeting 5p

## Jesus' Workers of Compassion

**"When [Jesus] saw the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were troubled and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd." Matthew 9:36**

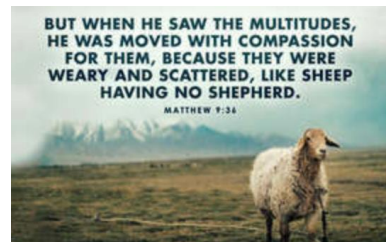
Do these adjectives describe you? I think lately in one way or another we have all felt a little troubled and downcast. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus shows us one of His strongest traits: His compassion.

The compassion of Jesus here in this account moved Him to do something about the hurt that was so prevalent- He sent His 12 disciples with power and authority, He sent them carrying His Word, His life-changing message of salvation through faith in Him as the Son of God and Savior of the world.

This message is unlike anything the world can provide and, in a way, we can say that it is exclusively inclusive. We're told that in one sense, Christianity is the most exclusive religion in the world in that there is only one single way to be saved. Jesus Himself says in John chapter 14, **"I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through me."** Salvation is found in no one else. It's only Jesus. It isn't giving enough money, doing enough good, trying hard enough, it's only Jesus. It's only belief that He is the Son of God. That through His perfect life and sacrificial death on the cross our sins are forgiven and we get to enter through that narrow gate that leads to eternal life.

But in another sense, we can also say that Christianity is the most

inclusive religion in the world. Because while there is one way to heaven, that way is open for all, it's not dependent on anything we are or anything we do- it depends on Jesus.



God's Word, the Bible, clearly teaches that all are perfectly equal- we each deserve exactly the same treatment. Because of sin, we are all equally deserving of hell. And

that hard-to-stomach truth is not dependent on the color of your skin or what country your ancestors were born in. But just as we are all equal in deserving damnation, we are also equal in how valuable we are in the eyes of our God. When you look at someone who is different than you remember that God loves them in exactly the same way He loves you, a love so deep that it moved Him to send His one and only Son to suffer hell in their place, so that narrow path to eternal life could be open to them as well, just as it has been opened to you.

This is the powerful message that changes hearts and we are blessed to be able to share it! Pray that the Lord would send out workers into His harvest field. Pray for the workers already there. Continue to look for opportunities to talk about your compassionate, loving Savior with your friends and neighbors. During difficult times that cause us to be troubled and downcast, our Savior brings us the joy of our salvation and reminds us that while in this world, we will have trouble- but that we can take heart because He has overcome the world, and through faith has made His victory ours!

- Board for Home Outreach

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## *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.

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**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/UCNk3WgwmGT67SHFOCIPeJdQ>

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

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

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

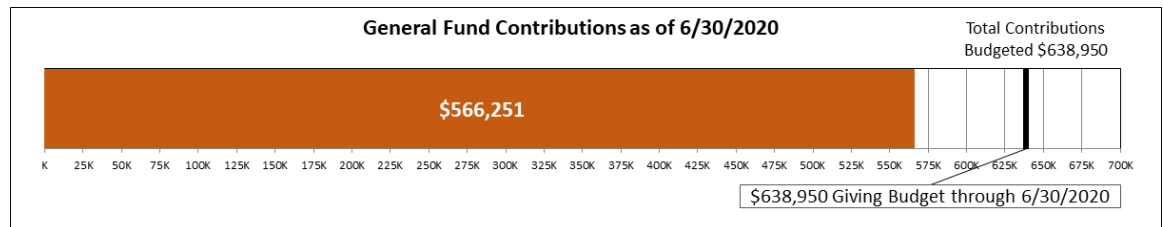
(Sermon podcast is available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Overcast, PocketCasts, Podbean and other services.)

**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>

## Peace General Fund Contribution Update



## OFFERING

*The members of Peace Lutheran Congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world.*

*"God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work."*

*(II Corinthians 9:8)*

**Please continue to give your offering:** by either bringing it to the church service, mailing your offering to the church, or using our online giving option (fees are deducted, up to 3.5%).

Thank you.

## Happy Birthday!



Alex Barnett	12 years old
Ian Kohls	14 years old
Samuel Kotulski	13 years old
Thomas Wosmek	6 years old
Faith Peters	11 years old
Ethan Evers	3 years old
Jonah Petzel	1 years old
Faith Petzel	1 years old
Alexis DeVos	11 years old
Ava Cook	5 years old
Marilyn Schletz	9 years old
Olivia Schletz	9 years old
Julia DeWitt	13 years old
Beckett Smith	5 years old
Quaid Hinkel	11 years old
Braydon Meyers	10 years old
Aubrielle Spivey	5 years old
Noelle Peters	5 years old
Rhea Tiegs	9 years old
Levi Moldstad	10 years old

**Also** – Carol Wiechmann, Kelci Wold,  
Roger Emmons, Bekka Wessel,  
Tammi Emmons, Seth Grabow,  
Missy Vandermause, Tim Loe, Ellie Clennon,  
Rebekah Hartwig, Carolyn Juliar,  
Jon Kammerer, Colin Anderson,  
Aaron Urke, Adam Lowrey,  
Lynnea Bunkowske, Tom Chopp,  
Larry Buck, Terry Field, Ezra Jones,  
Elizabeth Kassuelke, Mariah Londgren,  
Eric Halvorson Danielle Hoflock,  
Ellen Stark, Wayne Karlsrud, Carolyn Smith,  
Marc Flygare, Henry Heyer,  
Keith Wiederhoeft, Tonya Paulsen,  
Darci Theiste, Brian DeVos, Kory Meyers,  
Rachel Moldstad.

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



## Wedding Anniversaries:

Mike & Annie Moldstad	7/01/06	14 years
Josh & Kristi Ringen	7/01/06	14 years
Ben & Allison Petzel	7/05/14	6 years
Caleb & Sarah Heartbird	7/07/17	3 years
Benji & Alyssa Inniger	7/07/06	14 years
Brian & Markeita Tiegs	7/08/06	14 years
Micah & Malia Wiley	7/09/11	9 years
Jeff & Alison Huber	7/10/10	10 years
Dan & Amanda Quist	7/10/10	10 years
Nick & Emily Cook	7/13/13	7 years
Jason & Carla DeWitt	7/18/98	22 years
Jason & Pam Westman	7/19/03	17 years
Derek & Sarah Harstad	7/23/05	15 years
Ernie & Ione Geistfeld	7/25/59	61 years
Jonathan & Jen Stadler	7/26/08	12 years
Paul & Terri Fries	7/30/88	32 years
Jon & Denise Geistfeld	7/30/94	26 years
John & Joslyn Moldstad	7/30/77	43 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':*

## THE TREASURE OF EDUCATION

“You parents cannot prepare a more dependable treasure for your children than an education in the liberal arts. House and home burn down and disappear, but an education is easy to carry off.”



*“Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers.”  
Proverbs 16:20*



## Preschool News



Jesus' Lambs at Peace Preschool is preparing for its 17<sup>th</sup> year in operation, under God's grace. Our theme passage this year is from Ephesians 2:8-9 "Indeed, it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- not by works, so that no one can boast."

Our theme passage is a comforting message during these times of Covid 19, the rioting and unrest in our nation, as well as our own struggle with sin. God's word assures us that we have been saved by God's grace. He has forgiven our sins and it is He who gives us help in all distress and danger. We thank Him for His love, and we boast about His goodness to others.

Our preschool's Back-To-School Picnic will be held on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, from 6-8 p.m. Although this is our final registration, we ask that paperwork and tuition be brought and paid before this date, as much as possible, to avoid long lines and congregating with too many together. (If we have your paperwork ahead of time, you could simply drop off your child's supplies and enjoy our picnic planned for that evening.) A welcome letter with the list of supplies, calendar and snack calendar will be going out to each family this month. Please correspond with Karen Wold, our secretary, for registration and tuition payments.

We also remember our preschool graduates from 2006-2007 school year who are graduating from high school. We wish God's blessings to these students:

Austin Grosam, Benjamin Kies, Conner Blaukat, Dylan Larson, Emma Doell, Izayah Harrison, Jacob Norris, Jacob Wintheiser, Jasmine Fournier, Job Wosmek, Jordan Merseth, Kaydra Holt, Lauren Schauer, Mitchell Christianson, Rachel Trautman, Sam Neumann, and Tyson Chiet.

We pray that these young people continue to believe in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for their whole lives, until we see them in heaven one day.



**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](mailto:thalia.pollard@blc.edu). All moms welcome at any time!



**Now that the parks have opened up**, the M.O.M.s study group will begin its **summer park playdates**. All are welcome to join us **Thursday mornings** at a park. Park playdates are come and go from 9-noon. You are welcome to pack a lunch and picnic if you like. Thursday mornings in July will be at Sibley Park. Park playdates are a chance to get the kids out to play, and the parents to connect with other Christian parents. If raining, the playdate is cancelled. We hope to see you there! Questions? Email Kristen Lukasek at [mattlukasek@yahoo.com](mailto:mattlukasek@yahoo.com).

**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 10<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm.

**Pastor Hartwig** – 507-382-6826 [pastorhartwig@gmail.com](mailto:pastorhartwig@gmail.com)

**Pastor Moldstad** – 507-382-0045, [pastormoldstad@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](https://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!!**



**Are you unable to care for your feet?**  
**Foot Care** Your church home is offering a service to help you care for your feet and toenails.

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.

To watch our service live, go to: [www.peacemankato.com/livestreaming](http://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](http://www.vimeo.com/peacemankato) and you can choose which service you wish to watch.



**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](http://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.).

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
**COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for Indoor Worship**  
**June 14, 2020**  
**Preamble**

*Minnesota churches were able to gather for worship May 27<sup>th</sup> and following. At this time, In-person worship services indoors are limit to 50% of capacity up to 250 if social distancing is practiced according to the guidelines of the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). The guidelines strongly recommend the use of masks and the avoidance of congregational singing. You can view the entire list of recommendations for churches here: [https://mn.gov/deed/assets/worship-guidance-ACC\\_tcm1045-433301.pdf](https://mn.gov/deed/assets/worship-guidance-ACC_tcm1045-433301.pdf).*

*Peace Lutheran Church, directed by God's Word, desires to worship God (3rd Commandment), honor the government (4th Commandment), and protect the health of those gathered for worship (5th Commandment). How to meet these obligations is being hotly debated by churches throughout the country. When dealing with issues like "How to worship in a COVID-19 world," it is not necessarily a matter of right or wrong, but of wisdom. Wisdom may determine that our approach changes with time and new data.*

*In the application of wisdom, Christians sometimes lay aside their freedoms for the good of a neighbor. St. Paul told the Corinthians that if eating meat would cause a brother to sin, he would never eat meat again (1 Co. 8:13). In connection with our situation, the fears and concerns of our neighbor should motivate us to act with loving restraint. The current wisdom is that we should gather for worship as safely as possible so that we limit the possibility of spreading the coronavirus at our assemblies. This may mean that we have to wear a mask, worship without singing, or make other considerations for the good of our neighbor.*

*With these things in mind, Peace chose to hold outdoor services May 31 through June 14 as the safest and most beneficial course of action. This gave the leadership of Peace time to develop a plan for indoor worship. The plan is outlined below.*

*There is one more factor in that needs to be recognized. No one plan will satisfy every individual's concerns. Some people are more conservative in their approach and others are more comfortable with risk. Some people will think that our plan is too liberal and at same time, others think it too strict. The following plan is not proposed as the middle road, but as a safe and most beneficial approach.*

### **Worship Plan July 5<sup>th</sup> and Following**

Peace will begin indoor worship services on July 5<sup>th</sup>. The 8:30 AM service will be indoor. The 10:00 AM service will be outdoor and continue to operate under the appropriate worship guidelines. On July 8<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday evening services will be added to the schedule.

If you want to continue to worship in your car, the audio from the Sunday morning services will be broadcast to the parking lot through our FM transmitter (FM88.1). To continue to support online worship, the 8:30 AM indoor service on Sunday will be live streamed. If you wish to watch after that time, the service will be available through our Peace website [peacemankato.com](http://peacemankato.com), the Peace Facebook page, and the Peace Vimeo archive [vimeo.com/peacemankato/](https://vimeo.com/peacemankato/).

Singing is an integral part of who we are and how we worship. Though there is some concern about singing increasing the spread of COVID-19, recent studies have brought that into question. It is the opinion of the leadership that the benefits of singing outweigh the risks. Therefore, singing will be a part of our worship services.

To ensure a safe and edifying indoor worship experience, the following guidelines will be followed:

1. **If you or a family member:**
  - a. **have any symptoms of COVID-19 including fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, headache, muscle pain, sore throat or loss of taste or smell;**
  - b. **have been exposed to someone with these symptoms; or**
  - c. **have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19,**  
**please do not attend our in-person services until cleared by your doctor. We encourage you to take advantage of our online services.**
2. If you are in a higher risk category for COVID-19, please use the drive-in service or worship online.
3. If you are not comfortable with the worship setting that these guidelines provide, please use our online resources.
4. Face masks are
  - a. required for the Sunday morning indoor service. (Families with children too young to wear face masks can worship in the designated area in the fellowship hall. Adults and children who are able are to wear masks in this area.); and
  - b. strongly encouraged but not required at the Wednesday evening service.
5. Register online to attend the indoor service at <https://peacemankato.com/servicesignup> or call the church office 507-385-1386. If we reach the 100 person limit for attendance in our sanctuary, we will overflow to the narthex and the fellowship hall. If you have children that cannot wear a mask, please register for the fellowship hall area. The service will be projected onto the screen and there should be no delay between the audio in the fellowship hall and the sanctuary.
6. Social distancing (6ft) is to be practiced as you are coming and going from the service.
7. Ushers will be gloved and masked.
8. Ushers will ensure family groups remain separated by 6 feet. Seating will begin from the front to back to assist with social distancing. Please follow the directions of the ushers.
9. Single-use bulletins will be available but should be discarded or taken home after use.
10. The offering plates will not be passed during in the service. The plates will be in the narthex for you to leave your offering as you come or go from the service. If you participate in the drive-in service and online services, you can mail your offerings to the church office or give through our website [peacemankato.com](https://peacemankato.com) or through the Peace app [peacemankato.com/app](https://peacemankato.com/app).
11. Bathrooms will be available inside the church. Proper social distancing still applies. Only one person (or members of one family) will be allowed in any of the bathrooms at one time.
12. After the service, wait to be dismissed by an usher. Attendees will be ushered out from back of the church to the front.
13. Socialization after the service is discouraged. If you do visit with others, be aware of your surroundings and practice social distancing. Visiting outside appears to be the safest option.

#### **Plan for the Distribution of Holy Communion**

1. The elements will be prepared in a safe and sanitary process. The words of consecration will be spoken with the elements still covered. (The consecrated elements will be brought to the communicants in the fellowship hall and distributed appropriately.)
2. The pulpit side of the church will be communed first and the organ side second.
3. Communicants will line up in the center aisle, doing their best to follow social distancing.
4. Communicants are asked to sanitize their hands at the mobile dispenser in the aisle before receiving the elements.
5. Communicants will receive the elements in a continuous fashion. The pastors will not speak during the distribution.
6. Communicants will return to their seats by means of the outer aisles.
7. After all the communicants have receive the elements, the pastor will say the dismissal blessing.