PRINTS OF PEACE

MAY 2023



8 AM to 12 PM Monday through Friday

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Service at 9 AM in-person and YouTube Live

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10 AM Sunday mornings in room 203

SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 10 AM

FROM THE PASTOR

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28.

May is mental health awareness month. Historically, churches have been less than helpful when it comes to supporting people through times of mental illness by at best maintaining silence about the topic or at worst, spreading lies and placing blame. It's time to do better. Let's be clear about some things:

- 1 in 5 adults live with a mental illness. You are not alone.
- Just like it's not your fault when you get a physical illness, it is not your fault when you have a mental illness.
- You cannot, nor should you be expected to, "pray away" a mental illness. This is where the church has been the most harmful: suggesting that people experiencing mental illness are somehow weak in their faith, or not yet close enough to Christ; that if you just pray harder everything will get better. This is not how any of this works. Jesus is not a magic genie who magically makes you always joyful, and your life free from struggle. Jesus is present in the pain and makes a way through it, but the state of your health physical or mental is not a judgment on how "good" your faith is. Mental illness is real and manageable with the right help.
- If it feels like too much for you to handle, it might be. The phrase "God doesn't give you more than you can handle" is a misquote of a verse from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians that gets taken out of context and used to make people feel like they have failed if they feel overwhelmed by all the stressors in their life. It's just not true. We were made in the image of God who is Triune who exists as a relationship. We were not made to do everything on our own. Sometimes we help others and sometimes others help us.
- Asking for help takes strength. You are strong, not weak. Sometimes we need help processing our thoughts and behaviors with a trained professional. Sometimes we need medication to help us feel like ourselves again. All of that is okay. Mental health professionals are skilled and compassionate and can help. If you're not sure where to find one, ask your Pastor. I am here to help.

If you want to learn more about mental health, the National Alliance on Mental Illness is a great place to start (NAMI.org). Be gentle with yourself and one another. God cares for all of you, including your mental health, and so do I!

In Christ, Pastor Maggie



FROM THE PRESIDENT

On April 5th, Deb and I had the opportunity to attend the For King & Country concert in Green Bay. We knew this was a Christian pop duo, but were unfamiliar with their music. The two brothers are a favorite of our friends from Wisconsin Rapids, and they invited us to attend the concert with them. The crowd waiting to enter the Resch Center wasn't your typical concert crowd. Ages ranged from 7 to 70+, a lot of parents were there with their children, and the messages on t-shirts and sweatshirts were positive and Christian. Once inside, you could feel the excitement as the crowd waited for the concert to begin. When the band hit the stage, the music was heart-pounding and loud which, as children of the 60s and 70s, Deb and I thought was fantastic! Although we didn't know the words to the songs, we were definitely in the minority. Most of the other 8,000+ people in attendance knew all the words and didn't hesitate to sing along with those on stage. Throughout the evening, it was exhilarating to see how For King and Country's message of love, acceptance, and inclusion presented through music and conversation was embraced by the audience.

Listening to music has always been part of Deb's and my daily lives. Seeing how this group's music and message impacted so many people reinforced our belief in the power of music to bring people together, especially around Jesus Christ. Music can be a powerful ministry, both on its own and as part of worship services. That idea is reinforced by what I see happening at Peace. Music gives individuals the opportunity to share their musical gifts, and by doing that, makes our worship services richer and more meaningful to a wide range of participants. All forms of music, from our organist and Instruments of Peace leading songs of praise, to our recently re-formed vocal, bell, and brass choirs, invite us to participate in the praise and thanksgiving that is such a big part of worship. This was never more true than at Peace's Easter service. I heard so many positive comments about the music played and sung during that service that I went to Peace's website, clicked the YOUTUBE link, and watched the service for myself. (Deb and I traditionally attend Easter worship with our two sons and their families at St. Luke's in Middleton.) People were right. What I experienced as I listened to Peace's organ, brass, bells, and choir (not to mention Pastor Maggie) was as meaningful as any other Easter service I've attended. Music is a growing ministry at Peace. If you, or anyone you know would like to be part of this ministry by sharing your musical talents, instrumental or vocal, connect with David Berndt, Peace's Curator of Music.

Leadership President Dirk Kagerbauer

CHURCH CONSTITUTION

A congregational constitution provides the foundation and framework for our ministry together. It's important to continually revisit our constitution to ensure it continues to allow for both the flexibility and accountability needed to live out our mission. The ELCA churchwide body recommends this practice every 3 years. Peace's constitution was last updated in 2014. We are overdue for an update! For that reason the Leadership Team is currently looking for volunteers from the congregation who would like to join the team that will be updating Peace's constitution. If you are interested in being a contributing part of that team, please contact Jean Andersen @ 920.233.5325.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

Easter Sunday Service was an amazing collaborative effort led by Pr Maggie and organized with many helping hands. With a variety of beautiful music coordinated by Dave Berndt and accompanied by guests on brass instruments, songs sung by the Chancel Choir, and an arrangement played by the Handbell Choir all 232 people in attendance were amazed. A postlude on the organ of Handel's "Alleluia Chorus" was a final treat. The service began with the lights shut off in the sanctuary, and with each call and response of "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" "He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!" lights came back on and the shroud over the stained glass cross was removed.

We have been blessed with much positive energy at Peace and Easter was a great display of that positivity!



Thank you to all who joined us to celebrate Christ's victory over death.Pastor Maggie led the children on a hunt for the missing Alleluiah.

PRAYER PARTNER CELEBRATION

The year has once again flown by and we find ourselves wrapping up confirmation classes for the year. The prayers never cease but the gathering time sadly does come to an official end for the year. As we traditionally do, please join us to celebrate the end of the year with dinner and games alongside your confirmation prayer partner. This final meeting for the year will take place on May 10th at 6:00pm. We will be both indoors and outdoors at different points throughout the evening. Please dress and plan accordingly. Please see Nicki McKnight if you have any questions or are unable to attend. Keep an eye out for more details and dinner information via email in the coming weeks.

CEMETERY POSITION AVAILABLE

The cemetery is currently looking for one person to work as part of a 3-person team, one day a week (7 – 9 hrs.), maintaining the cemetery lawn during the summer of 2023. The day of the week will vary depending on how the grass grows. Pay is \$15.00/hr. Must be able to operate a zero-turn mower and gas trimmer. For more information, call or text Dirk Kagerbauer at 920-988-2476.

ROOTS

Not just for confirmation students. We invite and welcome any youth grades 6th through 12th

May 3rd 6:00 optional dinner before confirmation

May 3rd 6:30 Confirmation class

May 10th 6:00 Prayer Partner End of the Year Celebration

May 17th 5:30 8th grade rehearsal for Confirmation Sunday

May 19th 6:00-8:00 Bowling at Rev's

May 21st 9:00 Confirmation Sunday

June 5th Great America Day



For the most up-to-date information, be sure to read the weekly Roots Review

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

That's all folks! Thank you to our families for all your support and dedication to the Christian education of our middle school youth. Our last class with an official Bible lesson will be on Wednesday, May 3rd. Please continue to bring your materials for this final lesson. Confirmation class will conclude for the year on Wednesday, May 10th with a dinner and celebration along with our Prayer Partners. Please note, we will meet earlier than usual for this final gathering of the year. The evening begins at 6:00 and will end at 8:00. We will be both indoors and outdoors at different points throughout the evening. Please dress and plan accordingly. Please see Nicki McKnight If you have any questions or are unable to attend.

SIX FLAGS GREAT AMERICA

RPM June 5th Great America Day RMP (Roots Mixers @ Peace)

Start your summer break on a high note. Looking for a fun adventure with your Peace peeps? Anyone entering 6th grade through graduating Seniors are invited to join us at Great America for the day. Your entrance ticket will be paid for by Peace. If you want to bring a friend who is not a member of Peace they only need to pay 50% (approx. \$60). Food, snacks and souvenirs will be up to individuals to purchase or you can pack a meal. We will have coolers in the van. Food and drink cannot be brought into the park but with a stamp we can exit, picnic, and re-enter. This will be an all day event. We will meet in the Peace parking lot at 8:00am. We will return to the Peace parking lot at approximately 10:30pm. To reserve your ticket and spot in the van, please contact Nicki no later than June 1st. If you have any questions or need more information or are ready to make your reservation please email Nicki McKnight nicki@peaceoshosh.org or call/text at (949)690-4177. Drivers are needed, please see Nicki, thanks in advance.

SUPER THANKS

All star thank you to the one and only AJ Hayes. He was our only youth volunteer at both the Rummage Sale and the Cemetery Clean up. Thank you AJ for giving back in so many ways to your church and to your church family. We see you and we thank you. Keep up the good work.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WRAP UP

Our last week of Sunday School for the year will be on Sunday May 14th at 10:00. Please make sure to join us for a family craft and celebration of the year. We will have snacks and refreshments available for all. We will meet in room 203 but dress accordingly, if weather permits we will be outside for a portion of the time.

VBS

I am so excited to announce that we are starting plans for a VBS this summer. We will be teaming up with other ELCA churches in the area for the biggest faith-building week yet! Some details need to be worked out still, but you can mark your calendars and save the dates. We will be hosting the event starting Sunday evening July 16th through Thursday July 20th. VBS attendees can range from entering Kindergarten- Fifth grade in the fall of 2023.

FIRST COMMUNION

In April, Peace welcomed four young gentlemen to the table, officially. After two study Saturdays with Pastor Maggie and some bread making with Nicki, we celebrated this milestone in the church by breaking bread for the first time with the students during the Sunday service. The dedication the young children showed to the class was something amazing to watch firsthand. Thank you to the families who attended the classes, the baking, and the Sunday service to honor each one of the students' commitment to their Holy Baptism through Holy Communion. Peace has always had an open table that welcomes all but it is truly special to know that these four young people have a deeper understanding and stronger commitment to the confession and forgiveness of sins through Holy Communion. If you see any of these amazing students be sure to congratulate them on their renewed commitment in God's family and in Peace's family. God Bless Lincoln Noah Elmer, Tristan Kyle Nachman, John Robert Nelson, and Samuel George Scheivert.

BOWLING NIGHT

May 19th 6:00-8:00 pm

Any youth 6th-12th grade interested in getting together for a night of fun, fellowship, food and faith? Please join us for bowling at Revs. We will meet at Rev's Bowling Alley from 6:00-8:00pm. Pizza, shoes, and lanes will all be provided. No bowling skills required. Anyone 6th -12th grade is welcome to attend and to bring a friend or a few. Please RSVP by 5/17. We will meet at the bowling alley but if you are in need of transportation, just ask! We can always work something out for pick up and or drop off. If you have any questions or to RSVP please see Nicki McKnight nicki@peaceoshkosh.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Many thanks and recognition to our youth who helped with our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday evening services. Your presence in the church is noticed and appreciated. Everyone did a fantastic job and I look forward to the next opportunity for each of you to shine as volunteers in many different ways.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2023

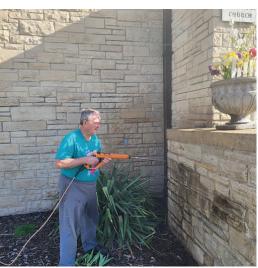
On May 20th, Kim Jungwirth and Steve Berholtz will join Pr Maggie at the Annual Synod Assembly to represent Peace Lutheran Church. Each year our synod identifies a meaningful way to support a faith-based mission in the synod's community. This year the East Central Synod of Wisconsin will be supporting Linwood Community, a ministry of Fox Valley Lutheran Homes. Peace will be collecting requested items to contribute to this year's assembly project. You can help by contributing to Peace's collection of: Postage Stamps, Reams of Copy Paper, 500 Piece Puzzles, Coffee Supplies, Paper Products: single use utensils, napkins, cups and plates, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Potting Soil or Gift Cards to: Steins, Home Depot, and Gas Stations. Collection will be in the church Narthex.



GARDEN TEAM

The Garden Team is back in action. This seasonal, fun-loving, hardworking team is led by Kathi Sawall. Each week Kathi helps plan out areas of the Peace grounds that could use a little TLC, she sends out a text message to the team, and those who are available come and work. Those who can't make it one week, just wait for the next week. Work days are typically a weekday morning and have a limit of two-hours – Kathi likes to keep the work regular so it can stay light and fun. If you'd like to join the Garden Team call Kathi directly at 920.420.1694.





OUR CHURCH FAMILY

In the hallway between the church sanctuary and the church office is a lovely bulletin board called Our Church Family, created by the Care of Congregation Team. This bulletin board reminds us to keep in our prayers the members of our Church Family who may not be able to worship with us each week. Some have moved to different home arrangements, some are serving in the military, and some have passed away. We do our best to keep the board up to date so we can all remember these members in our prayers.

If you are able to help us with any updates, please reach out to Heather Miller.

heather.miller@peaceoshkosh.org | 920.231.4730



ASPIRE

Kathleen Achterberg

BELLA VISTA

Carol Hintz

CARMEL

Ruth Vorpahl Ken Reinert Nancy Hiebel Dennis & Joyce Nikolaus Sandra Kriz

EDEN BROOK

Dawn Springborn Margaret Voss

EDEN MEADOWS

Carol Schrock
Suzanne Lannbrecht

EVERGREEN

Arlene Augsburger Herb & Bev Dieckmann Joan Duwell Donna Lord Lucy and Paul Lund

GABRIEL'S VILLA

Marillyn Campbell

MIRAVIDA LIVING

Donna Miller Bernice Clark Ellen Bruce

OMRO COUNTRY VILLA

Rev Ralph Hanusa

PARKVIEW

Al Neubauer

SIMEANNA 3

Mary Jo Becker

The Residence

George Reischl

AT HOME OR WITH FAMILY

Paula Albee
Arlene Augsburger
Jan Kornder
Jeri Ann Kunde
Doris Otto
Annette Rice
Don Patt
Elmer Hielsberg (with Family)

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Captain Andrew Duwell Sr. Airman Samantha Hall

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you or someone you know (with their permission) would like to be on the prayer list, contact the office by phone (920)231-4730 or email office@peaceoshkosh.org.

PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW WHEN SOMEONE IS HOSPITALIZED.

CARE OF CONGREGATION

Our Care of Congregation Team is trying to reach you! You can help us by connecting with us when you need help with Meals that Heal or to be a recipient of a Sunshine Bag. Meals may be helpful when you are ill, have been hospitalized or other events have made life challenging. Self-reporting is not selfish, it is helpful to our team!

MAY FLOWERS

05/07: In celebration of Kenley and Carole Steinert's 66th Wedding Anniversary.

05/28: In celebration of Bill and Judy Hesser's 63rd Wedding Anniversary.

ALTAR FLOWERS

You can sign up for Altar Flowers on the calendar located in the Peace narthex or by calling the church office. The cost of sponsoring altar flowers is \$30. If you opt to pick up the flowers from our florist and deliver them to the church on the Friday before your selected Sunday, the cost is \$25.

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The church office to start our summer office hours following Memorial Day, May 29th.

The office will be open Monday through Thursday 8AM until 12PM.

LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Food donations can be put by the altar. Food donations can also be brought anytime the church is open. Those donations should be put in the gray cabinet next to the elevator at the Ninth Avenue entry by the Circle Drive.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY SUNDAY IS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Donations can be put by the altar. Nonperishable food, personal care items and gift cards may be left in the Pantry at any time. Overflow donations can be placed on the shelves near the elevator at Ninth Avenue entry of the Circle Drive anytime the church is open. Cash donations should be dropped off or sent to the church office.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have additional information for the Newsletter, please contact communications@paeaceoshkosh.org by the 18th of each month.

2023 IN PERSON ATTENDANCE

Mar. 26: 89

Mar. 29: 54

Apr. 02: 105

Apr. 06 Maundy Thursday: 55

Apr. 07 **Good Friday @ 2 pm:** 34

Apr. 07 Good Friday @ 6:30 pm: 60

Apr. 09 Easter: 232

Apr. 16: 96

Apr. 23: 104

OFFERING REVENUES

Annual Target: \$278,800.00 Monthly Target: \$23,233.33

OFFERINGS TO THE GENERAL FUND IN 2023

January: \$24,063.06 February: \$21,257.45 March: \$17,658.20

April:



"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."



Ms Nicki leading 3K chapel



3K Children lined up for a sunny drive on the playground



Ms Heidi's 3K children exploring with paints and syringes

REFLECTIONS ON GOD'S WORD

The questions we start with guide the answers we uncover as we read the Bible. In my reflections during the last two years, I've started with the question, "What is this telling me about my relationship with God and other people?" In a recent sermon, Pastor Maggie posed the questions, "What is God doing here, and how can I be part of it?" Starting this month, I'm going use those two questions to guide my reflections on verses from the weekly Bible readings. When time allows, re-visit the Sunday Bible readings. Look for verses that help answer those questions for you.

Dirk Kagerbauer, Leadership Team

Week of May 7, 2023

John 14:5-7 5Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" 6Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Throughout the Old Testament, God repeats His promises to the Israelites over and over again. And more often than not, they still don't get it. In these verses, God uses Jesus to once again try and drive home to the disciples who He really is. We don't need to spend time wondering who God is. Through Jesus we know. And, we know exactly what our response to the love He has shown and the sacrifices he has made on our behalf should be. Jesus showed us and told us.

Week of May 14, 2023

John 14:15-20 15"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 18"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

Jesus assures us that neither he nor God will abandon us even after he, Jesus, has left this earth. God will send the Holy Spirit, the third part of the Trinity, to live within us, to guide and strengthen us. We just need to open our hearts and invite the Holy Spirit in.

Week of May 21, 2023

Acts 1:8 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Why does God send us the Holy Spirit? It's not to keep her hidden inside us. Rather, it's so that we use the courage and strength the Holy Spirit gives us to share with the world the news of God's love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

Week of May 28, 2023

Acts 2:1-4 1When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. 2And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. The Holy Spirit gave the apostles the ability to speak in different languages so that they could share the news of God's love and forgiveness with a variety of people. God, through the Holy Spirit, gives each of us gifts that we can use to share that same good news. Our challenge is to discover what our spiritual gifts are, and then use them to fulfill the mission God has laid out for us.

SUNSHINE EASTER BASKETS

Using funds secured from a Thrivent Action Grant, the Care of Congregation Team had the enjoyable task of putting together 40 Easter Baskets and delivering them to select members of the Peace congregation. Sunshine Baskets are a fun seasonal project of the Care of Congregation Team; if you know someone who may smile upon receiving a small care package, share their name with the Care of Congregation Team. They love suggestions and they love to share the love!







ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Kim Blake-Jungwirth was very proud of her large volunteer base for the April Rummage Sale. People were lined up in the parking lot to enter the Social Center when the doors unlocked at 8 a.m. From a couple of summer sales and the rummage sale, \$3000 was earned and placed into the Capital Improvement Fund. Thank you to Kim and all of those who stepped up to help with this annual event.





WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Have you been considering being a Sunday Service Worship Assistant? Could this person be you? You are invited to sign up digitally through the sign up link shared in the Tuesday email blast. Don't do emails? You can call Heather in the church office.

We are always looking for:

- Ushers and greeters
- Readers
- · Join the altar guild
- AV booth volunteers

STAFF

PASTOR

Maggie Berndt-Dreyer 920-231-4730 cell 920-385-6166 pastor@peaceoshkosh.org

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Janell Duwell Joseph Scheivert

CURATOR OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Matt Crowe 920-231-4730

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CURATOR OF BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

George Sawall

text George @ 920-420-3937

Custodian Groundskeeper Erin Chapin Andy Janke

TEAM LEADERS

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HOSPITALITY Kim Blake-Jungwirth MISSION AND OUTREACH Katelyn Olds

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dirk Kagerbauer, Jean Andersen, Kim Dawson, Randy Hartman, and Kim Blake-Jungwirth

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Dirk Kagerbauer

PEACE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

Barbara Probst

