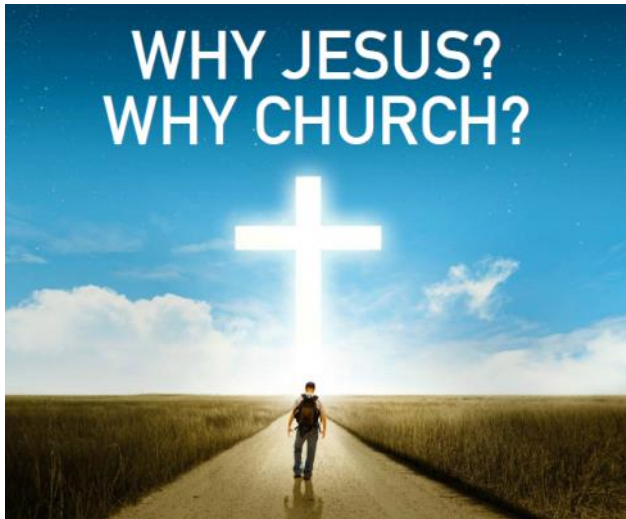




Peace Notes

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA

Volume 24, Issue 1 | January 2019



Why Jesus?

Questions are essential to the life of faith; religion is an expression of organized beliefs and faith is a dialogue with doubt. From January 6 through March 3, Peace will ask the question “Why Jesus?” and discuss, together, the story of God which is at the core of our faith. In worship and Sunday School, Peace will explore how we can be in relationship with Jesus, how we experience Jesus through his light, blessings, trustworthiness, love, and so much more.

How have you been touched by God? What are faith questions you ask yourself? How do you experience Jesus in your daily lives, through his light and love?

Planning for the certain uncertainty

a note from Pastor Kjell

Planning wills, healthcare directives and power of attorney seem like tasks that can be done tomorrow, next year or when you are older. In actuality, if you are over the age of 18, these are all things you start to plan. I have always known this in my head and my wife, Heidi, and I have done some of them, but like you it was just another thing on the to-do list--until last fall. Our dear friend, a mother of three small children, had a heart attack and spent almost two weeks in the hospital before she died during surgery.

Now having been in the room with her husband as doctors needed answers, there are questions I want to talk about and document. This new year I have resolved to complete these important details and Peace is partnering with experts to help us provide information to members. Join us on January 6 for a Healthcare Directives Forum. This forum will be lead by Sondra Weinzierl, our Faith Community Nurse. On January 13, Marjorie Austin, who is an attorney, will lead the Wills, Trusts and Durable Power of Attorney Forum. All are welcome and encouraged to attend these important forums.

Please Keep in Mind...

The Annual Meeting will be on January 27 following worship. Your presence is welcomed and appreciated.

Gifts continue to be given to the Capital Appeal - thank you! \$151,418 has been pledged thus far and the first improvements are underway including a new projector in the sanctuary.

The Long Range Planning night for committees is January 8 at 7pm. Please come prepared to discuss ideas with fellow committee members.

INSIDE

- Forum leader Marjorie Austin
- Keeping our children safe
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On January 13, Marjorie Austin will be leading the forum on the Legal Aspects of Advance Planning.

Marjorie Austin is the sole proprietor of MJ Austin Law. She practices law, specializing in the area of estate planning. Marjorie is a passionate "Legacy Life-guard"; helping families - all kinds of families - provide good legal protection for their loved ones. Listening closely to client's needs and wishes is extra important

at MJ Austin Law. Marjorie views Peace Lutheran as her home church; she and her family were charter members when Peace Lutheran first came to Wayzata. Marjorie is the mother of two daughters, Meg and Jenny, and has three grandsons. In her spare time, she enjoys singing and playing piano and organ, leading church worship music, reading, needlework, enjoying friends, and hanging out in the North Woods of Minnesota at her lake home.



A big thank you to those who participated and gave their gifts during the CROSS+Generational Christmas Pageant and Christmas Music Festival. More photos can be viewed on our Facebook page or website.

OPERATION BOOTSTRAP AFRICA

For well over a decade Marv and Ruth Larson have supported girls from the MaaSAE Lutheran Secondary School in Tanzania. The school, started by Lutheran missionaries, educates girls from the area west of Arusha--in the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro. The school was started in 1995 with four teachers and one of them was a member of Peace, Jane Tellekson. Today there are over 325 girls from impoverished backgrounds leaning in this nurturing environment.

Peace Lutheran has a long history with the MaaSAE school, having sponsored the entire second class of girls from 1996 through the early 2000's. Peace continues to support this mission; this fall we are paying for the construction of new desks for an entire classroom. The desks will be made with local materials and local workers. This means that Peace's gener-

osity not only provides students with a place to sit and learn but also needed cash and meaningful work for families in the community by the school.

Last year, Peace funded five partial scholarships. The total cost for a student to learn and live at the school is \$1000 per year. This year, Peace is continuing to fund those partial scholarships; this means the same students we supported last year will have the same opportunity this year.

Education Makes a Difference

An education triples a woman's income. She will reinvest about 90 percent of her income into her family. With a secondary education, she will marry later and have 2.2 fewer children and is seven times less likely to contract HIV/AIDS. Her children also benefit and have a 40 percent better chance of living to age 5.

Peace Notes is a monthly newsletter.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month.

Pastor — Rev. Kjell Ferris

Communication Specialist — Marta Johnson

Parish Nurse — Sondra Weinzierl

Office Specialist — Chris Bacon

Minister of Music — Stefanie Fiser Kleven

Organist — Anne Phillips

Childcare Specialists — Brenna Kylo & Olivia Akhigbe

Keeping Children Safe at Peace

We all want Peace to be a safe place for children. When we create a safe environment, we can better focus on telling God's story, sense belonging in this faith community and live out the God-given purpose in our lives.

In September, 2018, teachers and volunteers who work with children and youth attended a safety training workshop and completed background checks. In addition, members of the staff recently attended a workshop sponsored by the ELCA that emphasized safe boundaries in working with children and youth.

The Safe Church task force, the Children's Ministry and the staff at Peace have developed several guidelines to help keep children and youth safe. Here are just a few of them:

All staff, teachers and volunteers working with children and youth must submit and pass a background check before starting their work.

Volunteers supervising children or youth must be active at Peace for a minimum of six months before providing direct service to children or youth.

All staff, teachers, volunteers will avoid be-

ing alone with a child/youth in a place that cannot be observed by others.

All staff, teachers and volunteers shall intervene whenever seeing behavior among children, youth or their supervisors that is bullying, demeaning, or harmful.

If anyone becomes aware of an inappropriate relationship or behavior between an adult and a child/youth he or she must immediately report it to the Pastor or Parish Nurse who will follow Peace's protocol.

Those who are considered mandatory reporters must follow the guidelines from the State of Minnesota re: reporting signs of abuse, neglect or maltreatment.

Peace is updating written policies and procedures and, over the next several months, will be reviewing, revising and adding to them. If you are interested in helping with that project or have questions, please contact Sondra, Chris Bacon, or Pastor Kjell.

We want Peace to be a welcoming, secure environment for all.

Peace,
Pastor Kjell and Sondra (Faith Community Nurse)

Activities

>ROMEO BREAKFAST

Monday, Jan. 7 @ 8a; Perkins

>BREWING FAITH

Monday, Jan. 14 @ 4:45p
Rock Elm Tavern

>QUILTING

Thursday, Jan. 10 & 24 @ 9a

>WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, Jan. 16 @ 8a; Panera

>KNITTING & NEEDLEPOINT

Thursday, Jan. 17 @ 7p; Panera

>BUNDLES OF LOVE

Thursday, Jan. 24 @ 3p

>YOGADEVOTION

Mondays @ 5:30p
Saturdays @ 9a

Events & Notices

January 6 - Forum on Health Care Directives

Join our Faith Community Nurse, Sondra Weinzierl, as she leads you through information on how to complete your Health Care Directive and why it is important to have one. The forum starts after worship at 10am.

January 13 - Forum on Legal Aspects of Advance Planning

Marjorie Austin will lead a forum on the legal aspects of advance planning such as wills, trusts, and durable Power of Attorney. She is the sole proprietor of MJ Austin Law. The forum will start at 10a after worship.

January 20 - Budget Forum

On Sunday, January 20 after worship there will be the annual budget forum with Lance Novak. Your presence is appreciated.

January 27 - Annual Meeting

On Sunday, January 27, the annual meeting will take place. Your presence is appreciated.



Peace Lutheran Church
3695 County Road 101 N
Plymouth, MN 55446-2907
Peaceofplymouth.org

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Welcome!

At Peace , people of all ages — children, teens and adults—are a very important part of the faith community. You'll see children in worship, teens serving, and families exploring their faith together in Jesus Christ.

Ministries for all ages help people grow in faith, connect in the community, and share their strengths by serving others.

At Peace, there is a place for you!



Adults:

- Men's & Women's Breakfast groups, Brewing Faith, Hope Circle
- YogaDevotion, Faithfully Fit & Health Forums
- Knitting, Quilting, Bundles of Love and Needlepoint groups
- Adult Choir & Adult Bells
- Serving, Community Garden & Peace Retreat

Children & Youth:

- Sunday School & Nursery
- Confirmation & Youth Group
- Children's Music Ensemble & Youth Handbells
- Summer Youth Trip & Children's Day Camp

SUNDAY MORNING

9:00-10:00am—Worship

10:00-11:00am—Fellowship & Education for All Ages



Peace is social!

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to stay connected.

Welcome. Worship. Service.