



# Peace Notes

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA

Volume 26, Issue 9, September 2021



TOGETHER  
IN LOVE

Above all these things put on love,  
which holds all things together.

~COLOSSIANS 3:14

## ***Together In Love*** - A year long theme.

This has been a hard year and a half... global pandemic, political divide, and the increased awareness of the racial injustices in our country, just to name a few. We at Peace Lutheran have deeply missed the care, connection, and celebration of being together, in all the old familiar ways.

What do we need? The Apostle Paul said in Colossians 3:14, "Above all these things put on love, which holds all things together." Moving through this next year, with COVID's ups and downs and all the other things that will come our way, let us put on love. Together with committee members, our Minister of Music Stef and I have selected a hymn to center our thoughts and actions, which will debut on Welcome Sunday, September 12, and serve as a recurring theme all year.

***continued on page 2***

## WELCOME SUNDAY, SEPT 12, 2021

Worship 9:00 am  
Blessing of the Backpacks during worship

Change the World Carnival 10:00 am



PEACE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

"CHANGE"  
THE WORLD  
CARNIVAL



### Inside This Issue:

FALL 2021 WORSHIP

**FAITH IN DAILY LIFE:**  
Lisa Lukis

PEACE RETREAT

**UPDATES AND NOTICES**

We will continue to offer virtual worship via our website and YouTube channel.

# Together in Love



*continued from page one...*

**Together in Love** is all about God's love that is in us and flowing through us. As a congregation we are drawn together in God's love, as we tell about how God's love is lived out in particular ways amongst us. Naming how God is moving in the life of Peace Lutheran, is acting on our mission.

Beginning on Welcome Sunday we will use Biblical stories to ask, "How is God moving at Peace through care, connection, and celebration?" This will empower us to see how God is at work and how the Holy Spirit continues to inspire people to see God's action today. We are also reconnecting with our mission to care, connect, and celebrate. Together, our goal is living into our Mission, Vision, and Values.

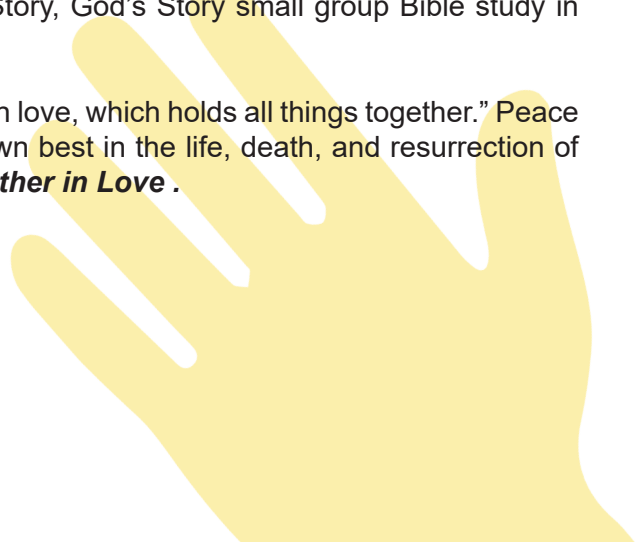
**As part of *Together in Love* I would like to connect with every household at Peace, hear about your cares and celebrate your joys.** Part of this is hosting "Coffee and Donuts with Pastor Kjell" at the church. During September and October drop in Tuesday 9 am-11am, 11 am-12pm or Wednesday 1-6pm to share where God is moving in your life and where you see God at work in the life of Peace Lutheran Church. If these times don't work just call or email me **so we can find another time or location...** I'm flexible and excited to **connect**.

Sharing stories is a vital part of the connection and communication essential for **Together in Love**. Our fall Vocation series, which starts October 24, is about sharing and listening to each other's stories in the midst of God's unfolding Biblical story. Look for registration information for the Your Story, Our Story, God's Story small group Bible study in early October.

As the Apostle Paul said in Colossians 3:14, "Above all these things put on love, which holds all things together." Peace Lutheran is a gathering of God's people united by the love of God, known best in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Let's work together to care, connect, and celebrate... **Together in Love**.

Christ's Peace,

Pastor Kjell



## CHURCH COUNCIL & BRIDGE BUILDERS

Council and the Bridge Builders Team have been working since March to better understand the most essential needs for the future of Peace Lutheran Church. The group is working to develop the processes and experiences to foster trusting relationships that are the heart of ministry. The group deeply desires your input and is happy to share individual updates on the process, so please connect with them.

*Angela Birnbaum, Anne Stern, Jason Tofteland, Michael Sorenson, Erin Jopke, Janelle Leppa, Dan Anderson, Matt Peterson, Val Sorenson, Annie Bonow, Scott Rusten, Randy Berg, and Videll Pfeifer*

IT'S WELCOME SUNDAY - Invite neighbors, friends, and family!



**"CHANGE"**  
THE WORLD  
CARNIVAL



WELCOME SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 12  
AFTER WORSHIP

9:00 am Worship  
10:00 am Carnival

## **"Change" the World Charity Carnival**

**Sunday, September 12th, after worship.**

**It's Welcome Sunday - Invite neighbors, friends, and family!**

### **HOW IT WORKS:**

1. Bring your loose change\* to donate.
2. Everyone at worship receives 5 tickets.
3. Play carnival games to earn more tickets.
4. Use tickets to vote for one of three charities.
5. Funds will be proportionally divided between charities based on ticket votes!

\*Cash, check, and credit card will also be accepted.

### **CHARITIES**

**House of Charity** - a Minneapolis non-profit dedicated to helping those experiencing homelessness to develop healthy independence.

**Jonathan House** - extends shelter, hope, and healing to asylum-seekers in Minneapolis/St. Paul.

**TreeHouse** - a local mission to end hopelessness among teens, helping them form meaningful relationships and realize their true value.



Carnival volunteer spots are still available.

Use the QR code or visit [PeaceOfPlymouth.org](https://PeaceOfPlymouth.org) and click on the button to sign up.

# FALL 2021 WORSHIP “Now the Feast and Celebration”

by Stef Fiser Kleven, Minister of Music

**Can you hear the music in your head?** We will sing Marty Haugen’s liturgy “Now the Feast and Celebration” in worship for our first liturgical season of the program year. It has been a few years since we sang it together, and it’s time to dust it off, mainly because our FAITH PRACTICE for the months of September to December is SACRAMENTS.



A sacrament is a solemn Christian rite instituted by Jesus, and Lutherans celebrate two sacraments: Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. Each of these sacraments symbolizes God’s love and grace, connected to an earthly element. In Baptism, we honor the water that washes away our sins and makes us clean, and in Communion, we remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ in giving his very body and blood for us, remembered through the bread and wine.



This fall in worship, we will remember the sacraments by celebrating Holy Communion and reciting the Thanksgiving for Baptism, which is similar to Confession. We will do both sacraments in worship every week! Let us join together in love with these tactile reminders of God’s love for us.

## HOW IS THE SCRIPTURE CHOSEN EACH SUNDAY?

The Bible readings used on Sundays come from the Narrative Lectionary. Professors from Luther Seminary put together the Narrative Lectionary for use by congregations in weekly worship. The readings start in the beginning with the book of Genesis and go chronologically through the Old and New Testaments. We read the grand story of God’s love for God’s people, as told in the Bible.

**September 12, Creation by the Word**  
Genesis 1

**October 3, God’s Name Is Revealed**  
Exodus 2-4

**September 19, Binding of Isaac**  
Genesis 21

**October 10, God Provides Manna**  
Exodus 16

**September 26, Jacob’s Dream**  
Genesis 27-28

**October 17, God Calls Samuel**  
1 Samuel 3

## Worship Sunday, August 1st, 2021



# Peaceful Nights Programming

**From September 15 - October 13, here's a snapshot of Wednesday nights:**

FALL 2021 Wednesdays	Elementary	Pre-Confirmation	Confirmation	Adults
5:30-6:00pm	Dinner (Fellowship Hall)			
6:05-6:40pm	Music Workshop	CONNECT	Lutheran LIVE! (Fellowship Hall)	
6:45-7:30pm	Youth Music* (Sanctuary)	Youth Music* (Sanctuary)		Bible Study (Fireside Room)
7:45-8:45pm				Adult Choir (Sanctuary) Adult Bells (Bell Room)

*\*Youth Music is geared towards upper elementary and middle schoolers who are proficient in reading and who want to share music in worship, especially singing and handbells.*

## Sunday, August 1st, 2021 Ice Cream Social & 5G Summer





# Put these dates on your family calendars!

## Peace Lutheran Church 2021-2022

### 2021

#### September - December Faith Practice: SACRAMENTS

Sunday worship at 9:00am, in person and on live-stream

#### SEASON OF PENTECOST

September 12 - October 17

LITURGY: *Now the Feast and Celebration*

##### Sunday, September 12 -

Welcome Sunday Carnival,  
Blessing of the Backpacks

##### Wednesday, September 15 -

First Peacefull night dinner &  
programming

##### Friday, Sept. 24 -Sunday, Sept. 26

Peace Retreat at Luther Crest,  
Alexandria, MN

##### Stewardship Sundays -

October, 3, 10, & 17

#### SEASON OF PENTECOST

October 24 - November 21

LITURGY: *Vocation*

SERMON SERIES &  
SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY: *Vocation*

##### Sunday, October 31-

Reformation Day

##### Sunday, November 7 -

All Saints Day

##### Wednesday, November 24 -

Thanksgiving Eve Worship &  
Pie Fellowship, 6:30pm

*Plans subject to change. Please refer to the weekly e-news for details & updates.*

#### ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

November 28 - January 2

*Special events during worship:*

##### Sunday, November 28 -

Greening of the Church

##### Sunday, December 12 -

CROSS+Generational  
Christmas Pageant

##### Sunday, December 19 -

Music Festival

##### Friday, December 24 -

Christmas Eve Worship, 4:00pm

### 2022

#### January - April Faith Practice: WORSHIP

#### May - August Faith Practice: SERVICE

#### SEASON OF EPIPHANY

January 9 - February 27

LITURGY: *TBA*

##### Sunday, January 23 -

Budget Meeting after worship

##### Sunday, January 30 -

Annual Meeting after worship

#### SEASON OF LENT

March 2 - April 15

Sunday LITURGY:  
*ELW Setting 4*

Wednesday night LITURGY:  
*ELW Evening Prayer service, 6:30pm*

LENTEN BOOK STUDY & SMALL GROUPS:  
*Topic TBA*

##### Wednesday, March 2 -

Ash Wednesday Worship, 6:30pm

##### Sunday, April 10 -

Palm Sunday fellowship event

##### Thursday, April 14 -

Maundy Thursday Worship &  
First Communion, 6:30pm

##### Friday, April 15 -

Good Friday Worship, 6:30pm

##### Sunday, April 17 -

Easter Worship, 9:00am

#### SEASON OF EASTER

April 24 - May 29

LITURGY: *Earthkeeping*

##### Sunday, May 8 -

Music "Informance" by the kids

##### Sunday, May 15 -

Music Festival

##### Wednesday, May 18 -

Spring Picnic

#### SEASON OF PENTECOST

June 5 - November 20

##### Sunday, June 5 -

Day of Pentecost,  
recognition of high school graduates

##### Sunday, June 12 -

Blessing of the Bikes



## PEACEFUL NIGHTS DINNER

Eating together is a great way to be Together in Love! Fellowship and education time for families and older adults is a priority for our congregation, so we plan to resume Peaceful Nights on Wednesday, September 15. Tracy, who cooked the meals starting in the fall of 2019, will resume planning and cooking with the help of two volunteers who will serve and clean up.



## Lutheran LIVE!

It's a talk show. It's a skit. It's the vocation and history of the Reformation! It's Confirmation and intergenerational. And it's crazy fun! Attend the Lutheran LIVE! Talk Show each Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall, 6:05-6:40 pm.

The Confirmation students will lead this weekly exploration of vocation and Lutheran theology: Eleanor Ferris, Sylvi Leppa, Mirah Lukis, and Erin Taylor. This Confirmation crew will share a portion of the Lutheran Small Catechism, then interview a guest from our congregation each week. The core questions are:

- 1) Can you share a bit about yourself and your faith story... especially as a kid?
- 2) In what ways do you use your God-given gifts to serve others?
- 3) How does this piece of the Small Catechism connect with you and your faith?

Whether just finishing dinner, waiting while kids are in a music workshop, participating in the Bible Study, or just arriving for fellowship...all ages are invited to come and watch the show!

## WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

6:45 pm-7:30 pm

Join in a lively discussion about the coming Sunday's Biblical text. We will also have an opportunity to share reflections from the previous week, discuss themes from the sermon, and pray.

## WEDNESDAY MUSIC WORKSHOP

September 15 - October 13

All elementary students are invited to participate in our first Music Workshop, a five-week mini-class with Minister of Music Stefanie Fiser Kleven. We'll meet on Wednesdays from 6:05-6:40 pm throughout the year and learn to play different musical instruments in each workshop. We plan to share our first piece during worship on Sunday, October 17, 2021!

## YOUTH MUSIC

Does your upper elementary schooler or middle schooler love to sing and play instruments? They are invited to Youth Music on Wednesday nights from 6:45-7:30 pm. We will deepen our faith by singing and playing hand chimes and handbells and prepare pieces to be shared on Sunday mornings. This group is for proficient readers who are dedicated to contributing to a positive small group music-making environment. Please direct your questions to Stefanie Fiser Kleven at [stefanie@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:stefanie@peaceofplymouth.org). Our first rehearsal will be on September 15!

## ADULT CHOIR

It's time to sing again! Join the Adult Choir - whether you're a long-time member or need a new activity in your life, all are welcome. We rehearse on Wednesdays, 7:45-8:45 pm, and share music in worship a couple of times per month and at special services. Due to COVID, at this time, the plan is to physically distance and wear masks for rehearsals and worship. Please contact Stefanie Fiser Kleven if you are interested - all God's critters have a place in the choir! [stefanie@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:stefanie@peaceofplymouth.org)

## ADULT BELLS

We are calling all ringers! Adult Bells is starting back up this fall, and you are invited. Some music-reading experience is helpful but not required. We rehearse on Wednesdays from 7:45-8:45 pm. Want to know more?

Contact Nancy Peterson. [mnpeterson@comcast.net](mailto:mnpeterson@comcast.net)

# FAITH IN DAILY LIFE

By Joni Sutton

She is a wife and a mother. She holds degrees in Art History and French. She has an M.A. from Luther Seminary and is a self-described “reluctant preacher” at Peace. She is a singer and a “ringer.” **Lisa Lukis** is all of these things and much more.

Lisa and her husband, Brian, have been members of Peace since 2003. She grew up in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and did her undergraduate work at Gustavus Adolphus College. Lisa and Brian have three children: Mirah, Daniel, and Gwen. Lisa says that one of her vocations is parenting and that she strives to be an authentic caregiver, raising people “who can in turn be authentically themselves.” She remembers being raised surrounded by many wonderful older adults and that it is now her joy to work amongst this age group (at Luther Seminary, she studied aging). For the past four years, she has been a volunteer with Grace Hospice as a companion visitor. In that role, she is matched with a hospice patient. She gets together with this person and responds to whatever they might desire, be it a conversation partner, a comforting presence, a reader, a tidier, or even a Scrabble opponent. After seminary and before having children, Lisa worked with Presbyterian Homes doing activities. She has also worked at the Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota.

When asked what the main challenges and joys are of her vocation, she replies that the main challenge in all areas of her vocation is that people are complicated! “But,” she adds, “I have a lot of curiosity about the spaces between us and how we respond to one another in all phases of life.” She says that there is nothing like true and deep soul connection, “where our God-created selves really experience one another.” She tries to be a good listener, an encourager, a seeker, and one who brings out the best in others. She adds, “I fail often, but try to return to my deep understanding that everyone is a beloved child of God.”

Lisa has worn many hats at Peace Lutheran. Early on in her membership, she helped out with high school youth, including driving a van of students to Chicago. Lisa has served on the church council, has sung with the Celebration Singers. She has helped plan family camps and retreats, served on the Health Ministry committee, facilitated small groups, was a lector, played in the Adult Handbell Choir, and led worship, including - despite her reluctance - doing some preaching.

When asked what thriving looks like to Lisa, she replies that it looks like “being a whole person who experiences suffering and joy, one who is immersed in the both/and – sinner and saint, death and resurrection.” Lisa’s friends recognize that she not only works towards being a person who experiences life fully with its range of emotions and feelings, but she also brings these qualities out in those around her: with laughter and, when needed, with poignancy and compassion. Thank you for sharing your many gifts with our congregation, Lisa!



Lisa & Brian Lukis, children: Mirah, Daniel, and Gwen

Vocation  
Faith in Daily Life

## PEACE RETREAT IS BACK!

**September 24-26**  
**Sign up Online!**

This fall, we will once again have the opportunity for relaxation and restoration in the form of a retreat. Have you ever been on a retreat? This type of gathering allows for a sense of renewal in a comfortable camp atmosphere. Throughout the weekend, there will be opportunities to worship, reflect, play, be outside and inside, be alone and together, share meals and have time to get to know one another better. All are welcome to sign up. We will be staying at Luther Crest Bible Camp (Alexandria, MN) in the Adult Retreat Center, where the hotel-style rooms have space for 3-4 people each, along with a private bath and desk area.

The retreat center is wheelchair accessible and has an elevator. Bring your family, bring your friend, bring yourself--all ages welcome! We look forward to quality time together with our Peace community. Sign up today! Go to [www.peaceofplymouth.org](http://www.peaceofplymouth.org) to register.

# VACCINES

by Dan Anderson, Infectious Disease Consultant & Hospital Epidemiologist

We all desperately want to get back to “normal” life at church, work, home, and school. We want to gather with friends and family and resume doing the things we used to do. Getting vaccinated and wearing masks are things one can do to protect oneself and the community to help us all get back to that more normal life. The vaccines are proven safe and very effective. With hundreds of millions of doses of vaccines delivered worldwide, their short-term safety and efficacy have been proven. People can get COVID-19 more than once, and studies are now showing getting a vaccine can significantly reduce the risk of getting infected again, even for people who have had COVID infection before.

If COVID-19 is active in the community, the transmission will occur. New mutants or variants may arise that could be more contagious and deadly than the “delta variant” or even not susceptible to vaccine immunity.



## Why get the COVID-19 vaccine?

- Vaccines dramatically reduce the risk of getting COVID-19, being hospitalized, or dying from COVID-19 and having “long COVID” symptoms that can persist for months – **even if one has already had COVID-19 infection.**
- By reducing the chance of getting COVID-19, one’s family and friends are less likely to be exposed and potentially infected.
- As more people in the community are vaccinated, there will be fewer infections. That means less viral replication and random mutation, which will reduce the probability of the appearance of variant strains of COVID being more deadly than current strains.
- Masking and getting the vaccine are things in our control to help us all get past the pandemic and sooner get back to as normal a life as possible.

May God be with us all and give us the strength to get through this pandemic.



# Amnicon Campers and their families August 2-7, 2021



# Updates and Notices

## WELCOME SUNDAY AND CHANGE THE WORLD CARNIVAL

Blessing of the backpacks

September 12, 2021, 9:00 am

## COFFEE AND DONUTS WITH PASTOR KJELL

Join Pastor Kjell at Peace Lutheran for coffee and a donut. During September and October, drop in Tuesday, 9 am-12 pm or Wednesday, 1-5 pm to talk about where God is moving in your life and in the life of Peace Lutheran Church.

To schedule another time, email [kjell@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:kjell@peaceofplymouth.org)

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Sunday, September 19th, 10:00 am or Wednesday, September 22, 6:30 pm

Join Jason Tofteland, Church Council Treasurer, for an update on church finances and a time for Q&A.

## PEACE RETREAT

Sept. 24 - 26 Sign up at [www.peaceofplymouth.org](http://www.peaceofplymouth.org)

## SAVE THE DATE: A COMMUNITY THAT MATTERS

Do you desire a community that matters?

Our faith tradition talks about two ways that a community matters:

- 1) It can matter in our personal/family's journey of life and/or
- 2) It can matter in the life of our community/society.

The Vocation Bible Study and Sermon Series will use the power of stories to wonder about God's call to be a meaningful community. **Registration starts in October 2021.**



### Church office hours:

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 am - 4 pm  
or by appointment.

### Please send mail to our street address:

3695 County Road, 101 N., Plymouth, MN 55446  
The P.O. Box has been closed.



**Pastor Kjell** can be reached  
Sunday-Thursday  
at [kjell@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:kjell@peaceofplymouth.org)  
or 763-571-2919  
(in case of emergency 24/7)

### Prayer Requests

If you have prayer requests you can send them to [prayer@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:prayer@peaceofplymouth.org) and they will be added to the prayer chain email. If you would like to receive the prayer chain emails sign-up under "News & Events" at [peaceofplymouth.org](http://peaceofplymouth.org)

**Peace Notes is a monthly newsletter.**  
**Deadline for submissions**  
**is the 5th of the month**

### Peace Lutheran Church Staff

Lead Pastor ..... Rev. Kjell Ferris  
Minister of Music..... Stefanie Fiser Kleven  
Organist..... Anne Phillips  
Office Manager ..... Chris Bacon



3695 County Road 101 N.  
Plymouth, MN 55446

763.478.9406

[peace@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:peace@peaceofplymouth.org)  
[www.peaceofplymouth.org](http://www.peaceofplymouth.org)

## COMMUNICATIONS

Want an announcement into the weekly email? Email [Chris@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:Chris@peaceofplymouth.org) by Thursday 5pm.

Want an announcement into the monthly newsletter? Email [Chris@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:Chris@peaceofplymouth.org) by the 5th of the previous month.



# PEACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

3695 County Road 101 N  
Plymouth, MN 55446-2907

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Welcome, Sunday and Carnival!**

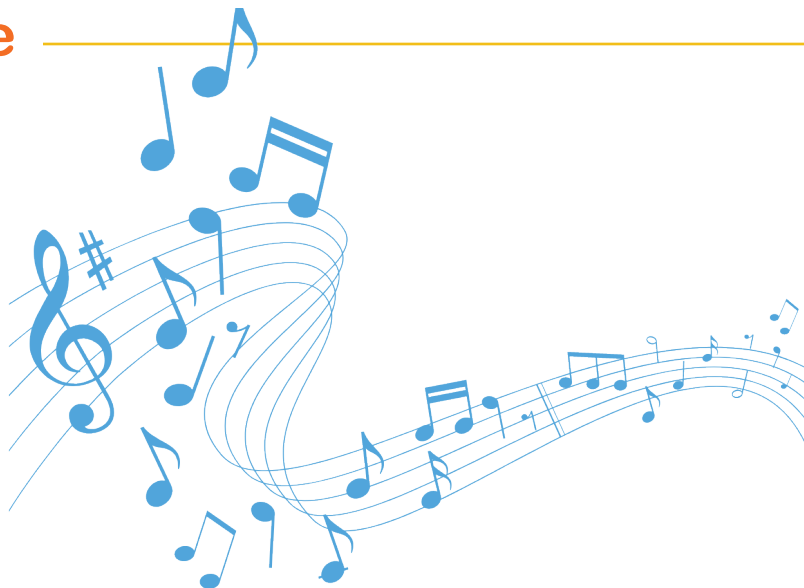
**Sunday, September 12, 2021**

Worship, 9:00 am

Change the World Carnival, 10:00 am

**All Are Welcome Here**

*Invite Your Family & Friends*



### SUNDAY MORNING

9:00 am —Worship Live Streamed & In-Person

9:45 am —Fellowship & Education  
for all ages via Zoom Ministries.

Find these on [peaceofplymouth.org](http://peaceofplymouth.org)



**YouTube**

### Peace is social!

Find us on Facebook

@PeaceofPlymouth or search

Peace Lutheran Church Of Plymouth to stay connected.

Youtube Channel: Peace Lutheran Church of MN

**Welcome. Worship. Service.**

3695 County Road 101 N., Plymouth, MN 55446-2907

[www.peaceofplymouth.org](http://www.peaceofplymouth.org) | 763.478.9406 | [peace@peaceofplymouth.org](mailto:peace@peaceofplymouth.org)