



Summer Mission Trip

Summer Mission Trip
By Deacon Andrew

Peace and St. Andrew are taking a road trip to North Carolina to participate in a mission trip to Lutheridge, a beautiful ELCA camp near Asheville, NC. We have 6 youth and 4 adults from the two congregations going on this trip, which is open to our senior high youth, and will travel from Sunday, July 23rd to Sunday, July 30th.

Why Lutheridge?

I spent 20 years serving in the South Carolina Synod, and Lutheridge is the closest ELCA camp, so I am very familiar with it. I've taken many groups of youth up to Lutheridge for summer camp, confirmation, and other activities. I've also been there many times for congregation and synod retreats. The new director of Lutheridge, Pastor Drew Yoos, was in my youth group in the first congregation I served in South Carolina in the early 2000s. It was during a conversation with Pastor Drew that the invitation to participate in this trip came about.



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A Message from the Pastor

Gathered and Scattered

This past month I gathered with 5 other cohorts of congregations in Corpus Christi (the name of the city means “Body of Christ” which was an added bonus) at Galilean Lutheran Church for a weekend retreat examining what it means to be the church.

In the gathering space, I noticed 3 tubes full of golf balls hanging from the ceiling. I wasn't sure if it was there for the upcoming VBS week as some kind of prop. But it certainly stood out. On closer inspection, the first of the three tubes had a green outline to it, the second had a red one along with a few other colors. And finally there was one brown golf ball at the very end.

What in the world was I staring at? So I asked and found out it symbolized the time we spend in the week. Each of the 168 golf balls represented one hour of time we have every week. One third of that time was to sleep; another major bulk to our work lives; and some other various times dedicated to recreation and other responsibilities. The final brown ball represented the one hour in worship that we have.



Interestingly, our whole conference was based on how we are church every moment of our lives. However, somewhere along the way we associated church with only the times that we gather.

If you do an internet search of “what is church”, almost every picture would be of a church building. We know deep down inside that’s not what church is, and yet it is so ingrained in our vocabulary that it undercuts the power of

church.

The goal is to recognize that sometimes we are the gathered expression of the church when we worship or have Bible studies or congregational service projects or other celebrations... But the reality is by far, most of the time we are the scattered church in the world.

How many times do you equate your ministry in daily life as sacred and commissioned work in the world?

- For parents raising their children and teaching them their Christian values
- For the worker punching in and making something that brings life to the world
- For the family member sitting in the hospital with their loved one

A Message from the Pastor

Notice that in each of these scenarios, there's no organized congregational program to ensure this happens. No, quite the contrary. It's the organic way in which we live out our baptismal promises:

- **live** among God's faithful people
- **hear** the word of God and **share** in the Lord's supper
- **proclaim** the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- **serve** all people following the example of Jesus
- **strive** for justice and peace in all the earth

(Affirmation of Baptism, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 236)

The first two baptismal promises focus on the gathered church. But even still, what would it mean if we recognized that God's faithful people are all throughout the world and we are connected to them. Seeing Christ face in the world means we can connect to the holiness of every day life.

Hearing God's word is through every conversation we have, and every meal we share is an encounter with Jesus.

Proclaiming is witnessing your faith. Think of a story specific to you in which you witnessed God's presence and shared that news in word of action. Until we can actually name stories and encounters living faithfully is only head knowledge, God as an idea, instead of a living way of life.

And of course serving all people and striving for peace and justice means that no matter where you are: at home, work, with family or friends or strangers, we are living out our faith and striving for God's dream of love shared in the world.

What if we could multiply ministry not by asking people to spend extra time in an age in which we are already overtaxed for time? What if we recognized that the 168 hours in our week are already being used for the glory of God and the sharing of his dream?

This month I encourage you to think about the way you spend your time. I'm not asking you to add anything. Rather, examine how God is at work in your daily life and how each moment is a gift meant to express God's purpose for you. Write down a couple stories. If you're really bold, share them with someone including me.

**Peace,
Pastor Jake**



Abundant Blessings

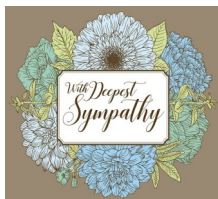
July Birthdays

01	Lillie Braune
02	Cason Miller
04	Zac Fain
05	Judy Clark
06	Art Woytek
10	Sandra Freeman
10	Heidi Brundrett
10	Cary Stanley
11	Natanael Lizarazo Florez
11	Estelle Raschke
12	Kez Wold
13	Caleb Simmont
15	Michael Amori
16	Joanne Mathis
19	Kay Skaggs
19	Shelley Simmont
19	Scott Weese
19	Connor Healey
20	David Martin
24	Stella Leissner
24	Leslie Tippens
25	Richard Kawazoe
27	Kathy Smith
27	Pam Krause
28	Mitch Fain
29	Brenton Davenport
30	Michele Bauman
30	Sharky Anderson
30	Shea Henderson
31	Wil Voges

In Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of :

- ♥ Rhonda Schmidt
- ♥ Boots Sexton
- ♥ Carroll Schumann



July Anniversaries

Michael and Linda McClintock
July 1, 1967
Dennis and Jessica Tumlinson
July 11, 2019
Tim and Pam Kurczewski
July 14, 1993
Rick and Kathy Smith
July 17, 1982
David and JoBeth Oestreich
July 19, 1986
Glenn and Kerri Clausen
July 20, 1996
Jason and Kim Pampell
July 22, 2006
Matt and Shelley Simmont
July 23, 2005
Alvin and Helen Bravenec
July 26, 1957
Brian and Courtney Peebles
July 27, 2013
Ken and Shauna Bradstreet
July 28, 1979

Thank You

I would like to send a huge thank you to Peace Lutheran for celebrating my 20 years of playing music. It has been a blessing to play for such a wonderful congregation that sings so well. They are always able to cover my many bloopers. Thanks also to all who had a hand in making this a special day. With all the food and decorations. I very much appreciate all of the cards, kind words and best wishes from everyone. Thanks for a truly memorable day. Jeannie Kawazoe

Dear Pals at Peace Lutheran,
Thank you so much for your generous hospitality and kindness. Thank you for the laughs, smiles and treating my inner child to some mini M&Ms. I will never forget you guys. My heart won't let me. May God bless you all.
Sincerely,
Mari, Jojo and Nickey Mouse

Prayers

Darrell Skeen
Maureen Garcia
Steven Robbins
Bob Johnson
Gus Rust
Jim Miller
Jack Ralph
Jim Johnson
Boots Sexton
Riley Martinez
Michelle Rappmund
Rick Smith
Betty Wilcox
Tommy Perkins
Margaret Weese
Judy Phife
Earl Blaschke
John Claycomb
Margo Woollven
Arlene Wold
Martin Franz
Helen Probst
Cody Smith

Peace Prayer Ministry

Peace Lutheran Church has an active Prayer Ministry. We have an Email Prayer Chain, we have a Zoom "Sweet Hour of Prayer" Group that meets every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. and we have a Prayer loom that is included in our Sunday morning prayers. All are welcome to join our email Prayer Chain and our Monday morning Prayer Group. We have experienced some amazing, answered prayers this year and we have given comfort to many of our members in their times of distress. Please consider being a part of our Prayer Ministry in this new year. You can email me at beckyvoges@yahoo.com for info.



Quilts of Love

Dear Peace Family,

Were you aware that we have a group of dedicated women who meet once a week at the church to create quilts for various organizations? They are called the Peaceful Piecers and they have been quilting for as long as I can remember. They spend all year sewing and tacking quilts. Last year they made 703 quilts, that were donated locally and overseas.

Quilting is near and dear to my heart. I began quilting in 2004 when someone from church asked me if I wanted to learn. I didn't own a machine or even know how to sew, but I wanted to give it a try. Creating a quilt is a time-consuming process. There are several steps, and great thought must be given to each step. First, choose a pattern. Maybe you want to make a baby blanket, wall hanging, lap quilt, or bed cover. Once you



know the pattern, select the fabric. This is the step that takes the longest for me because there are so many choices. I can spend hours at the fabric shop searching for just the right colors, patterns, stripes, polka dots, etc. to fit the style and pattern of my quilt. The fabric is cut into the proper shapes and sizes, and then lovingly sewn together. I underline that word because there are times when I am ripping out a seam that I don't feel I am sewing with love. Once the quilt top is complete, it is layered with batting and a back like a sandwich. Now it is time to quilt your masterpiece. Many people still quilt by hand but I choose to take mine to a wonderful lady who quilts on a long arm sewing machine. Once quilted, it is returned to me. Binding is sewn on and then tacked down. A "handmade" label is attached to the back and your quilt project is now complete. Whew! I'm exhausted just thinking about it.

My thoughts drift to those wonderful ladies who meet every Tuesday to create quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Crisis Center and New Life Children's Home. They go through each step—choosing the pattern, picking the fabric, sewing the pieces together, layering, and finally tacking them to form a unique and beautiful quilt. They are packed up and sent all over the world (LWR), where they are used to keep someone warm, serve as a tarp for cover from the elements, or to comfort those who are ill. Those quilts that are donated locally are used to comfort a teenage girl from a broken home or a woman fleeing an abusive relationship. **The Peaceful Piecers rely on donations to continue this blessed work. If you would like to help, they are in need of fabric, twin-size flat sheets or monetary gifts.**

Stop and look at a quilt sometime. The construction of a quilt reminds me of God's people. Quilts are created with love just as God created man. Quilts are made with fabric of every color, shape, and size which, when sewn together, makes a beautiful keepsake. God created His children in the same manner. He is the stitching in our quilt which helps bring people together. Quilts sometimes have imperfections and when used frequently, become worn. Like quilts, we are imperfect because we sin. Prejudice, greed, hatred, and envy get in our way. As Christians, we should strive to love our brothers and sisters, whether they are different, tattered, or torn.

I think Mary Tatem said it best in her book, *"The Quilt of Life"*, "When God formed us, He knew His wonderful plan for our lives. Even when we have messed up His plan, He continues to work His design in us and provide the stitches to hold us together."

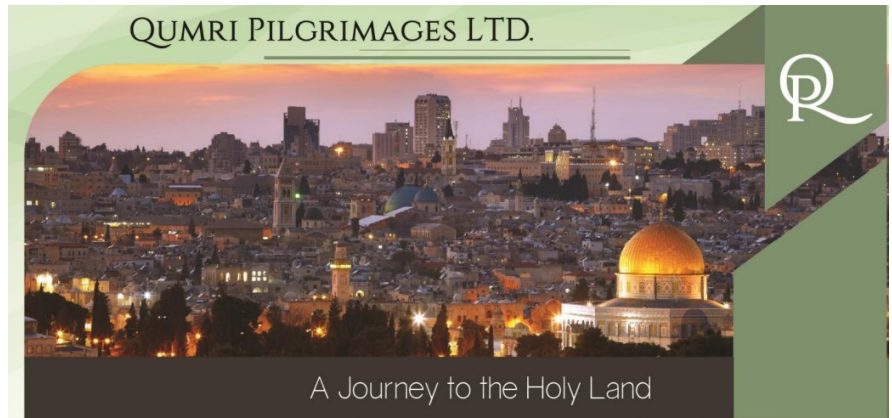
Peace and love,

Valerie Wood
Business Administrator

Living Stones: A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Living Stones: A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land January 14-25, 2024

Join with Bishop Sue, Pastor Jake, and others from around the synod on our Living Stones Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We will renew our baptismal vows in the Jordan River, explore holy sites, learn from local guides and leaders, and connect with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.



Who: This trip is designed for anyone in the Southwestern Texas Synod. We are hoping for a good mix of lay and rostered ministers, younger and older, first-timers and repeat pilgrims from all over the synod.

What: Join with Bishop Sue, Pastor Jake, and others from around the synod on our pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We will renew our baptismal vows in the Jordan River, explore holy sites, learn from local guides and leaders, and connect with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

When: Participants will leave the United States on January 14 and leave from Tel Aviv on January 25. Two pre-meetings are required: August 20 and a date to be determined.

Where: We will visit a variety of sites on this trip, including the Jordan River, the Western Wall, local Lutheran churches, Gethsemane, and Emmaus. These important sites are not the only stones we will encounter, however. We will also spend time in worship, fellowship, and learning from our local guides and guest speakers on topics like Palestine, Israel, and Islam. This is not a tourist trip but an opportunity to deepen our faith and expand our worldview together.

How: Use the QR code below to register or contact pastorjessicacain@gmail.com for more information. Scholarships are available at various levels. The cost for this trip is \$2800 excluding airfare for double occupancy.



For a video with Bishop Sue check out <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7npE44Fg2MA>

Pastor's Check-In

Join Pastor Jake on Mondays at 3pm on Zoom for an open chat with others from the church. There is no agenda except for the one you bring. Want to talk about things happening at Peace? Great! Got theological questions or insights? Come share them! Just want to hang out with some others and listen? You are welcome!

Look for the e-news for the zoom link or you can join by accessing the calendar page: www.peacenb.org/pages/calendar and clicking on the Pastor's Check-In. Need technical help with zoom? Call the church office and we'll help you out.

Be sure to check out the calendar page for times Pastor Jake may be out, particularly in the summer months.



Family Promise

Peace will have our next Family Promise rotation July 16 through July 23. During our May coordinators meeting, it was determined that during the month of July, Family Promise clients will not be staying at host churches means Peace will not be hosting our family/families during this period.

Instead, the families will remain at the Day Center and we are asked to deliver dinner Monday, July 17 through Friday, July 21. There are multiple reasons for this trial. Several churches did not return to Family Promise after the pandemic and this left holes in the host calendar so that over the summer the families would be shuffled between the Center and host churches. Other host churches are having problems filling out their volunteer rosters, particularly in the summer when people are vacationing.



We will have a signup genius and more information for our volunteers as we get closer to mid July. At this point whether the meal providers will stay and dine is undetermined and the Family Promise staff suggested that in addition to providing a meal, there could be a Grub Hub or Uber Eats option for the tech savvy volunteers.

Please bear with us as the Family Promise staff works through this trial period to keep this valuable program accessible to both the participants and volunteers.

If you have any questions your Family Promise coordinators are Karen Laughlin, Shannon Johnson and Brandi Raschke.

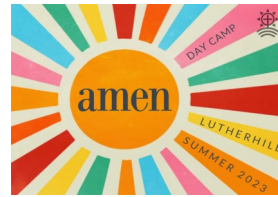
Church Council and Ministry Team Leaders 2023

Carol Franz - President
Megan Wenzel - Vice President
Matthew Simmont - Secretary
Don Hodde - Treasurer
Kathi Anderson - Member At-Large
Vicki Hillmer - Member At-Large
David Thomas - Member At-Large

Fellowship Team - Becky Voges
Finance Team - James Huston
Outreach Team - Open
Property - Open
Service Team - Brandi Raschke
Worship Team Judi Miller

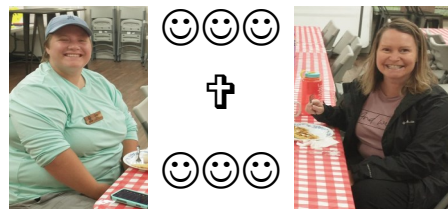
From the Desk of Deacon Andrew

VBS Day Camp 2023



What a fantastic week! Huge thanks especially to:

- Our VBS planning team: **Becky Voges, Ann Keeler, Ceretta Daum, and Deacon Andrew**
- **Rev. Jen Kittsvatter** and **Chloe Smith** for stepping in literally at the last minute as our awesome Lutherhill program leaders
- Our fabulous kitchen crew: **Becky Voges, Ceretta Daum, Mary Sweet, Vicki Hillmer, Kathi Anderson, Ann Keeler, Beverly Giacoletti**
- Our youth helpers, **Claire Friedrich, Nate Fain, Zac Fain, Emma Amescua**, and also to **Adele**, and **Arianna**
- Our evening counselor hosts: the **Fain, Johnson, Stallings, Hodde, Daum**, and **Thomas** families
- Our VBS campers and their families for donating 60 lbs. of non-perishable food items for our Little Pantry and the SOS Food Bank
- Our super 24 campers who prayed, played, and sang their hearts out to God all week, and, of course, Jesus!



Summer Mission Trip

(continued from page 1)

What We Will Do

It's a 2 day drive to Lutheridge. We'll stay at an ELCA congregation on the way there and back, and will spend 4 full days (5 nights) at camp. The program is called **Asheville Servant Adventures**, and has 4 main components::

- A day enjoying camp activities onsite at Lutheridge
- A day doing service projects around the Asheville area
- A day going to Cherokee, NC in order to learn about the Cherokee tribe, community, and the ELCA partnership with Living Waters Lutheran Church
- A day of white water rafting on the Nolichucky river in just across the border in Tennessee



How You Can Help

First and foremost, keep our group in your prayers as we prepare and throughout our trip. We have rented a large 14 passenger van so that we can all travel in one vehicle. We are asking both congregations for donations to offset the cost of the van rental and gas. Any contribution is most appreciated! You can designate your gift to "Youth Mission Trip 2023". **This Summer Mission Trip will be the designee of the July 2023 Mission Spotlight.**

There will be a Litany of Blessing on Sunday, July 23rd, as the group prepares to depart.

Snapology

Snapology is an interactive camp meant to teach kids STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) skills through play.

The program offers a wide variety of FUN programs for children ages 5-14. From fun LEGO-themed programs to robotics to engineering to animation.

Peace is partnering with Snapology for the summer hosting its programming efforts as an outreach to the community.

This summer our Peace facilities will have kids utilizing the Fellowship Hall area from Monday—Friday. For a full schedule you may visit our calendar page: www.peacenb.org/pages/calendar

For a detailed list of scheduling you may visit: <https://pages.e2ma.net/pages/1924293/34150> or click [HERE](#)



Camps run weekly (M-F) May 29th through August 18th.

Half-day morning (9am -12pm) \$169 per week
 Half-day afternoon (1pm - 4pm) \$169 per week
 Full-day (9am - 4pm) \$289 per week

Little Pantry News



Can you believe it, our Peace Little Pantry has her 1st birthday this month! Since that time, countless individuals have been nourished and loved by the food and items that have been donated--all because of your generosity.

Special thanks to our Pantry Angels who monitor the Pantry each month. We still need Pantry Angels for September-

December. If you would like to take a month, just let me know.

Our Day Campers gave the Pantry a nice little boost with their special prayers they wrote to be placed in the Pantry with their donations. They were very excited about being able to help with our Pantry ministry.

We are always looking for donations of canned meats with pull tabs, individually packed fruits, puddings, crackers, cereals, peanut butter, take out knives, forks and spoons and bottled water and juices. We could also use some Bibles and devotionals.



If you have questions, please contact me at beckyvoges@yahoo.com.



The Peace Day Trippers will be taking the months of July and August off. Stay tuned for new events coming this fall.

Giving at Peace

There are several giving options at Peace: Offering Envelopes; Online Giving (Website); Peace Church App; Bank Drafts. If you would like more information on any of the options listed above, please give our Business Administrator, Valerie, a call at 830-620-0618.



Finances May 2023

FUND	BEGINNING BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSE	TRANSFERS	ENDING BALANCE
General Fund	\$ 5,652.67	\$ 45,300.27	\$ 39,934.18		\$ 11,018.76
Building Fund	\$ 12,111.82	\$ 1,245.05	\$ 0.00		\$ 13,356.87
Endowment Fund	\$ 7,840.47	\$ 52.64	\$ 0.00		\$ 7,893.11
Endowment Investment Fund	\$ 125,335.89	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 125,335.89
Deferred Maintenance Fund	\$ 6,669.62	\$ 8.58	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,000.00*	\$ 7,678.20
Designated Funds	\$ 32,076.67	\$ 591.83	\$ 410.91		\$ 32,257.59
Total Funds	\$ 189,687.14	\$ 47,198.37	\$ 40,345.09	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 197,540.42

*Transfer Property Plant Equipment Reserve from the General Fund to the Deferred Maintenance Fund



Peace Lutheran Church
1147 S. Walnut Ave.
New Braunfels, TX 78130
Web address: www.peacenb.org
830-620-0618

830-312-8797 - Pastor Jake Fain
830-609-8359 - Valerie Wood

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Friday
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Worship Service

Sunday
10:00 am - Indoor Worship and
Livestream @ Peace
peacenb.org/live



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