



**GREET, GATHER,
GROW AND GO
IN GOD'S GRACE**

PEACE + GRUE

God's Country News

AN ELCA PARISH



**TO BECOME THE
VOICE AND**

MAY 2023

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FORMER PRESIDENT TEDDY ROOSEVELT IS COMING TO ASHBY

Mark your calendars for Friday, June 2 for the next 4-church event.

Larry and Julia Marple from West Charleston, Ohio, travel to Medora, ND each summer to portray and illustrate the life of Teddy Roosevelt, including the time of his life in western North Dakota. They have camped at the Sundowner Campground at Ashby several times on their way to their summer home in Medora and are excited to come into town and share an evening with us.

5:30 pm - Minnesota Hotdish supper hosted at Peace Church (casseroles, breads and beverages provided by Peace, Grue, Presbyterian and OSTML each asked to bring 5 salads (2 quart bowl size)

7:00 pm - Program starting with Boy Scouts, Peace Praise Band and Teddy Roosevelt presentation (open to the community)

8:00 pm - Ice Cream Social and fellowship with friends and the Roosevelts



**May thru August
Peace 9:00 a.m.
Grue 10:45 a.m.**



Congratulations to our seniors at Peace Class of 2023



Ethan Johnsrud, Ryleigh Brendmoen & Hannah Johnson
Baccalaureate @ the Ashby High School Wednesday, May 24, 2023 @ 7pm
Ashby High School Graduation Sunday, May 28th at 2pm

I hereby command you: "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Pastoral from the Pastor May 2023



Dear friends in Christ at Peace and Grue,

“Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the close of the age.’” (Matthew 28:18-20)

Christians have received an awesome privilege: By following Christ we become God’s partners in seeking the realization of God’s loving purpose for the world. Biblical writers explain this privilege in different ways, but the key point is that the church has a critical role in helping all people respond to the good news of God’s mighty deeds for the world as the One who creates it, redeems it, and brings it to its final fulfillment.

The church’s record of handling this privilege is spotty. On some fronts we and our forebears have done better, on others worse. In modern times with the rise of secularism, the church has been better at gathering people, proclaiming Christ in their midst, caring for them, and talking about faith than it has been at setting people free for the ordinary activities of life in which God finds us, and we can find God at work.

Christian theology, especially Lutheran theology, has an answer to our broken, compartmentalized lives. God made our faith personal through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and God made our faith communal so that we nurture one another in this faith. We have something to offer those who are yearning for wholeness. When people discover Christ’s presence in their daily lives, when they make connections between their faith and their unique strengths, when they experience a deep sense of belonging and are confident that they will make a difference in the world, they will discover, as Frederick Buechner wrote, “the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”

The Christian church is not an end in itself; it is God’s mission for the world. When the church focus on the internal work of the congregation rather than its people, the church competes for members’ time, energy, and money. When the church equips its people to do the work of God, to take their ethics into the world, and to pour out their lives of faith in those places where they spend most of their waking hours, working for good pay, inadequate pay, or no pay; wearing white collars, blue collars, or no colors; enjoying it, hating it, or tolerating it, the power of God’s people will be unleashed and the Christian church will flourish through God’s activity in the lives of his people. This work is neither evangelism nor social action in the contemporary sense of those terms, but it will help make a congregation attractive to those who yearn to bring their lives to God, and it will help every disciple of Jesus be of earthly good.

A life centered in Jesus Christ gives identity and a place to stand in a chaotic and compartmentalized world. It’s wisdom is “ec-centric,” centered outside itself in Christ for the world, and “ec-static,” alive to the Spirit’s agency in and through it. We believe that God’s Holy Spirit is stirring the church for service in the world that God so loves. We believe the people of the church are God’s gifts called to serve in Jesus’ name. We believe “we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us” (2 Corinthians 5:20), as we live out our Easter faith.

Pastor Dan



**PEACE CHURCH
ACOLYTE SCHEDULE May 2023**

May

- 7 Ayden Behrens & Lily Balgaard
- 14 Abigail Spielmann & Mia Thompson
- 21 Jacob Sorenson & Emily Evavold
- 28 Lily Balgaard & Abigail Spielmann

******If you are unable to acolyte on the Sunday that you are listed please contact another youth and switch or ask them to cover for you-thanks.***

READING FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

MAY 7th	MAY 14th	MAY 21th	MAY 28nd
First Reading Acts 7:55-60 Psalm Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 Second Reading 1 Peter 2:2-10 Gospel John 14:1-14	First Reading Acts 17:22-31 Psalm Psalm 66:8-20 Second Reading 1 Peter 3:13-22 Gospel John 14:15-21	First Reading Acts 1:6-14 Psalm Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 Second Reading 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 Gospel John 17:1-11	First Reading Acts 2:1-21 Psalm Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 Gospel John 20:19-23



MAY - Sunday School at 10:15	
7	10:15 a.m.
14	10:15 a.m.
21	10:15 a.m. LAST DAY OF SS Breakfast (Egg bake, Muffins ,Juice & coffee) Everyone is invited
28	

BIRTHDAYS

MAY BIRTHDAYS



May 1st

Wesley Shaffer

May 4th

Ron Peterson

May 5th

Donna Lindemeyer

May 6th

Lillian Evavold

Orland Norenberg

Amy Bidleman

May 10th

Carson Spangler

Carter Spangler

Jason Odens

Chad Van Santen

May 12th

Odin Restad

May 15th

Deb Story

May 17th

Teresa Barry

May 18th

Levi Driggins

May 19th

Terry Ohren

Shawn Spangler

Betty Torgrimson

May 20th

Vernie Alvstad

May 21st

Joan Maunumaki

Lola Thompson

May 22nd

Wavely McCarty

Gavin Balgaard

May 23rd

Tyler Barry

May 24

Amber Driggins

Nicholas Lambertson

May 26th

Joel Holte

May 27th

Megan Rein

May 29th

Anthony Ohren

Emily Williams

Char Hanson

May 30th

Corinne Dahlen

May 31st

Reid Magnuson

If I don't have your birth date or if I have it listed incorrectly please e-mail or call me - 747-2273 / peace@prtel.com

June

There are *Angels* God puts on this Earth

Who care for us and guide us.
You can feel their love and gentleness
as they walk through life beside us.
They do great thing for us every day
they whisper in our ears,
they even hold us in their hearts
when we are filled with all our fears.
They are always there to give a hug
and try to make us smile.
They treat us with respect and love,
they treat us like their child.
God blessed me with an Angel,
I'm proud to call my own.
She's been with me throughout my
life, been with me as I've grown.
She's guided me the best she can,
she's taught me like no other,
and I'm, thankful I'm the lucky one
who get's to call

her..... *Mother*

Happy Mother's Day Mom's!



Ruth / Rebecca Circle meeting with Grue WOMEN :

Tuesday May 16th, 10:00 a.m.
Going to "Lady of the Hills"
and lunch after



The Grue Ladies Bible study met Tuesday April 18th at 1:30 at Grue Church.

It was a good meeting again after the winter months. Our study was on Jesus, The Bread of Life (John 6). How a few loaves of bread & 2 fish fed an enormous crowd. (John 6:5-9) and why they did not believe that Jesus claims to be the bread of life. A very good study.

We ended our meeting with showing the jean quilt that we made for Erika for her graduation, a gift from the church. It was presented to her on Sunday the 23rd, we also enjoyed cake and coffee honoring her. We wish her a great future.

We are quilting every Wed. at 10:00, weather permitting. We have had to cancel a few due to Wednesday snowstorms. Spring is here "I think".

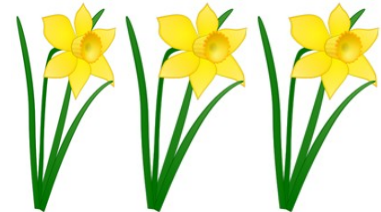
Our next meeting will be May 16th at 10:00 am. We will be joining the Peace Bible study group at the "Lady of the Hills" and then going for lunch. Sounds like a wonderful day.

Spring is here, the tulips and crocuses are trying so hard to bloom.

We hope you all had wonderful holidays with friends and family and now the sunshine and summer fun.

It takes both rain and sunshine to make a rainbow.

Smile God loves you.



on to

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2023

June 3rd 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p. m.

4 Location

- **Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls**
- **Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Moorhead**
- **Our Saviors Lutheran church in East Grand Forks**
 - **Calvary Lutheran Church in Bemidji**

Zoom Login 5:30-6:30 P.M. May 21th @ 7:00 p. m.

<https://cord.zoom.us/j/99359936648>

May 22 @ 1:00 p. m. <https://cord.zoom.us/j/9935327952459>

The representatives of the churches of the Northwestern MN synod are

Voting members from PEACE are ??????????????????????????????

Voting members from GRUE Darlane Miller & June Bjornson

Pastor Dan

PEACE WELCA NEWS



Thank you, thank you everyone that stepped up to the plate and said "yes" to Carol Koefod who organized the volunteers for April. There were extra people needed for the Bake Sale, Senior Recognition Sunday, in addition to all the Sunday and extra Easter services. You are all appreciated. May volunteers are being coordinated by Ray and Carol Dahlen.

Thank you to all that baked and delivered for the Bake Sale on April 1, and for purchasing the goods. The weather on the day and evening prior to the bake sale was very stormy and a lot of "usual bake sale and coffee goers" were stranded Saturday morning so crowd was small; however, we took in over \$800.

With Senior Recognition Sunday in April, May is a quiet month for WELCA. We wish God's blessing on our graduating seniors and we look forward to you returning to Peace and sharing your experiences with us.

June 2 and Teddy Roosevelt Night will be here soon and as we call for volunteers to help with the Minnesota Hot dish Supper and Ice Cream Social to follow the program, we hope you are able to say "yes".

Winner of the multicolored quilt drawing at Second Chance Thrift was Julie Kirchenwitz. We were not able to locate the winner from the March drawing so we drew again this month and the St. Patricks Day quilt went to Trista Olson. Congratulations ladies and thank you for supporting your local business. The quilt for the May drawing is pink and white with a floral border

God's BLESSings to all
Val Fick
WELCA Co-President



**God's Country
News Articles
are DUE by the
20th of
each MONTH**



*God has a reason for
allowing things to happen.
We may never understand
His wisdom, but we simply
have to trust His will.
Psalm 37:5*

PEACE Council Minutes

Peace Church Council Minutes

4-15-2023

Present: Tim Cunningham, Jody Dahlen, Wayne Vorland, Donna Grover, Duane Spielman, Gene Jensen, and Pastor Dan.

Devotions/prayer was led by Donna Grover

Additions to the Agenda-Office Copier

Secretary's report: Reviewed with no corrections. Motion made by Duane, 2nd by Gene to accept report as written.

Treasurer's report: Reviewed with no corrections. Motion made by Wayne, 2nd by Duane to accept as written.

Pastor's report: 22 visits, 14 meetings, 3 events.

Committee Reports:

Education: Meeting on 4-19-2023 regarding confirmation. Council discussed confirmation.

Christian Growth: Peace will be hosting Teddy Roosevelt and his wife on Friday, June 2nd. Hotdish dinner will be served at the church before the program, with ice cream sundaes/root beer floats after the program.

Worship Committee: There has been a request to have communion twice a month. If volunteers are willing to sign up to serve that second time a month, council would be in favor of having communion the first two Sundays a month. Call the office if you would like to help.

Old Business:

Brandon Sethre was contacted about pressure washing the church. He will get Donna a bid in the next couple weeks.

New Business:

Office Copier: The copier and the parts to fix it are obsolete. Tim indicated that Liberty Business Systems can get us a new copier on a new lease and save us 20.00/month. Motion by Jody, second by Gene to move forward with the new copier.

Sunday School end of the year celebration-May 21st. Egg bake and muffins are being planned.

Reminder: Church service times switch May 7th Peace at 9:00, Grue at 10:45.

Motion to adjourn: Duane 1st, Jody 2nd.

Next Council meeting is a Parish Meeting at Grue: May 10th 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jody Dahlen

GRUE Council Minutes

Grue Council Meeting, April 16th, 2023

In attendance: Gwen Lillemon, Denise Juven, Melissa Runningen, June Bjornson, Darlane Miller, Sharon Hermanson and Pastor Dan.

Meeting called to order

Additions to Agenda: Inga M. Johnson Endowment Grant
New Printer for Secretary's office

Secretary's Report: M/S/C

Treasure's Report: M/S/C

Pastor's Report: attended many meetings and events over the last month.

We took in just under \$2,000 from Lenten services that went to the Food Shelf's.

Old Business: CD renewal at the Bank. Motion was made and approved by majority vote via text messages with council on April 18th, 2023 to change the CD to 14 month with interest of 4.25%. Melissa Runningen has been approved to added to the card at Viking Bank to have access to the safety deposit box.

New Business: Outside church clean up will be set when warmer temps arrive.

Youth fundraiser dates: The date of May 20th is the Fergus Falls City wide garage sales. Darlane will be contacting them to see where we can set up a table to sell baked goods and other items. We will be asking the congregation to contribute baked goods to sell.

Bake Sales dates are planned as follows:

4 Congregation event June 2nd in Ashby (evening)

Ashby Appreciation Days- July 15th

Battle Lake Wenonga Days- July 21st - July 22nd.

Senior recognition- We will be recognizing Erika Heibel on April 23rd for her upcoming graduation from Battle Lake High school and presenting her with a quilt.

Congratulations Erika!

June presented the information on replacing the copy/ printer in the office. The new lease is a \$20.00 per month savings to the parish.

Darlane applied on behalf of Grue Church to the Inga M. Johnson Endowment Grant / West Central Initiative. If we receive the grant, it will be applied towards those attending the Youth National Gathering in 2024 in New Orleans. A portion will also go towards our Sunday school program.

Next council meeting is the Parish council scheduled for May 10th, 2023 @ 7:00pm at Grue church.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Hermanson, Council Secretary

May this Spring be a time of Growth in Christ

Parish Education Meeting

April 19, 2023

Attending: Pastor Dan: from Grue: Denise, Sharon, and Darlane; from Peace: Donna, Carmen, Missy, Amber and Heidi.

Peace's Sunday School business

May 21, 2023 will be the last day of Sunday school. Egg bake, muffins and juice will be served at church services. Peace Ed committee members ask that Sunday school teachers stay in contact about their decision to teach or not next year.

The idea for 7-12 grade Sunday school was brought up. Currently looking for a teacher. Suggestion made to use the preschool room for a place to meet, have it be more like a youth center and less like a Sunday school room. Having the kids remodel and create their space may make it more inviting.

Missy resigned as Sunday school treasurer. Two new people, Carmen Odegaard and Heidi Belgaard, will need to go to the bank and sign the signature form to take over the treasurer position.

Vacation Bible School at the Presbyterian

will be held July 24-26 at 5:30 (meal time) to 8 and on 26th a community meal will be served. Peace and Grue were invited to attend.

Parish Confirmation

9 kids getting confirmed this fall-all are doing a good job at keeping up with sermon notes.

Suggested to get rid of sermons. Tabled

Suggested to get rid of all online sermon notes. Tabled.

Suggested to bring back the activity point system in lieu the sermon notes. Tabled.

Suggested having ushers stamp sermon notes, would be used as a form of attendance. Tabled.

After much debate it was decided to keep current requirements: 60 sermon notes in two years-of that 60 only 6, three per year, can be from Peace's online service, 3 faith partner activities each year.

Pastor Dan talked about how the Presbyterian church has moved all church education to Wednesday nights. Apparently it's been well received by that congregation. Pastor Dan agreed to talk to Pastor Paul about coming to an Education meeting to discuss the change and the impact on the congregation.

Respectful submitted
Darlane Miller

Name: _____ Date: _____

Spring Crossword Puzzle

Across

4. What may you need to carry in the month of April?

7. These start to shoot out of the ground in Spring

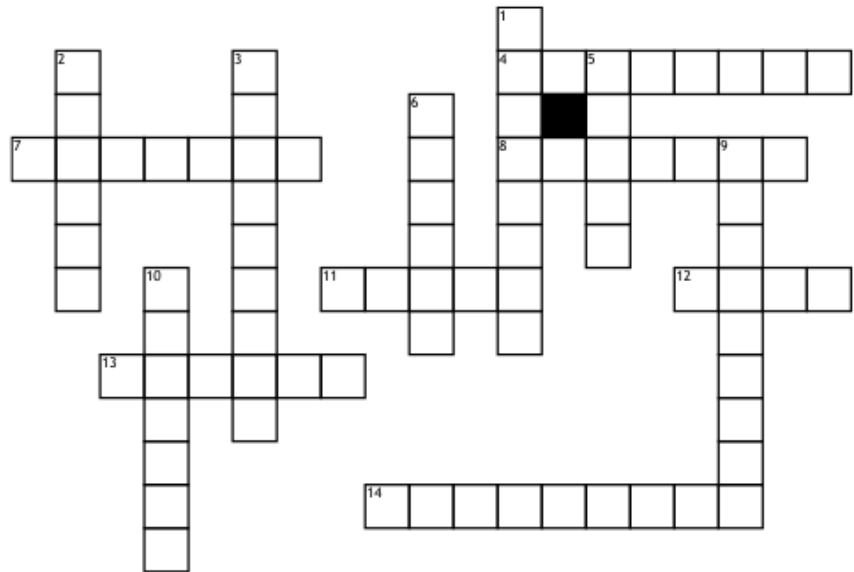
8. What happens in April to bring May flowers?

11. What color your lawn turns in Spring?

12. What finally starts to melt away in April?

13. What you call sitting on a blanket on the grass eating food

14. What flower is one of the first of Spring?



Down

1. We have more of this in the sky in Spring.

2. Which flower do the Dutch grow with pride?

3. These enthusiasts spent more time outside in their backyard doing this?

5. What do the flowers do in the Spring?

6. What you decorate your lawn with?

9. What do you feel fall on your head in April?

10. After a shower, what is something colorful you might see in the sky?

