



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

PEACE + GRUE

God's Country News

AN ELCA PARISH



TO BECOME THE
VOICE AND
HANDS OF JESUS

August 2023

Inside this issue:

Pastoral from the Pastor	2
BIRTHDAYS-August	3
PEACE WELCA News	4
GRUE WELCA News	5
Reading's for August	6
Peace Council Minutes	7
Grue Council Minutes	8
Peace Sunday School News	9
Shared Ministry Team	10

PEACE/ GRUE PARISH WORSHIP-PICNIC

Sunday, August 20th

PARISH WORSHIP-PICNIC

Eagle Lake Park

38377 S Eagle Lake Rd. at 10:30 am.

GRUE hosting

Bring your favorite summer to dish share...



September thru December

Grue 9:00 a.m.

Peace 10:45 a.m.



Church Picnic

"God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6, NKJV)

Confirmation and Sunday School will be starting in September





Dear friends in Christ at Peace and Grue,

The most hopeful affirmation in Christian life occurs at the graveside: “In sure and certain hope of resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our brother/sister and we commit his/her body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.” This declaration stems from a confidence that the one who created all life will also renew that life that the one who “formed man from the dust of the ground” (Gen 2:7) is not done creating.

Farmer/writer Wendell Berry, in his book “The Gift of Good Land, says:” “I wish to deal directly at last with my own long held belief that Christianity, as usually presented by its organizations, is not earthly enough.” Most often, theology begins with the fact that there is a God to whom each person is equally precious. But human life is obviously more than a relationship with the Creator. Because one is related to the Creator, one is intimately connected with the whole creation, human and non-human, part of the web of life. When a person is disconnected from life’s web, he or she falls into the illusion of being the creator of life and the environment, leading to violence, disregard of the ecological balance, and uncontrolled hunger for power. This in turn leads to the denial of the ancient Ash Wednesday affirmation: “You are dust, and to dust you will return” and all that comes with it to symbolize new life and hope.

Since the Renaissance, God has been understood one-sidedly as “The Almighty.” Omnipotence has been valued as the supreme characteristic of godliness. God is the Lord and the world is God’s property to do whatever God wills. As God’s likeness on earth, we humans must see ourselves as having the knowledge and the will to shape the world, as we see fit. Or so said the French philosopher, Rene Descartes, who at the beginning of the modern era declared in his philosophy of science that it is to be the aim of the natural sciences to make the human, “Lord and owner of nature.” According to this understanding, neither through goodness and truth, nor through patience and love, but through power and domination humans prove their likeness to God.

Is this true? Is nature our property to do with what we want, or are we part of the larger family of nature which demands and deserves our respect? Do the forests and fields, the rivers and lakes belong to us, or are they the home of many plants and animals and do they, like us, belong to the earth? Is the earth our “environment”, or are we simply guests on this earth which tolerates us humans so patiently and graciously?

If nature is nothing other than our property, then we will simply address ecological challenges with more technology. Through genetic engineering we will attempt to create climate resistant plants and animals and breed a new human race which needs only a more sophisticated technological environment. We may well be able to create such an artificial world, a global space station perhaps, to support our visions and habits, but how shall we change ourselves?

We Lutherans have understood living in the faith as a “daily dying to self” leading to daily renewal. As Luther argued in the “Large Catechism:” “Now, when we enter Christ’s kingdom, this corruption must daily decrease so that the longer we live the more gentle, patient, and meek we become, and the more freed from greed, hatred, envy and pride.” It is the greed, hatred, envy and pride which pulls us away from our humanity. Conversely, gentleness, patience, and meekness brings us closer to the earth, and attentive to the web of life in order that we learn to respect, if not to love the dust, that thin layer of topsoil spread so unevenly over our planet on which all life depends.

Hope your Summer is going well,
Pastor Dan

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 1st

Chris Roley

August 3rd

Laverne Peterson

Brad Barry

August 4th

Beth (Odens) Finkelson

Andrew Aamot

Teresa Magnuson

Sharon Nelson

August 5th

Katlyn West Moe

Pauline Martinson

August 8th

Annah Evavold

August 9th

Dorothy Albertsen

August 10th

Vicki Dorn

August 11th

Charlotte Woldahl

August 12th

Joe Scholl

August 13th

Linda Williams

Courtney Koefod

August 14th

Nick Story

Gwen Lillemon

Jacob Rasmussen

Cory Van Santen

Justin Anderson

August 15th

Vickie Ness

August 17th

Jeannette Evavold

Klair Sorenson

August 19th

Bernice Hobbein

August 20th

Virginia Driggins

Jonathan Driggins

August 22nd

Jacob Rein

August 24th

Courtney Neterval

Savanna Melberg

August 25th

Traeton Nelson

Ayden Behrens

August 26th

Erika Heibel

August 27th

Amelia Barry

Christian Miller

Greg Lillemon

Dennis Evavold

August 28th

Linda Bahnson

Mitchell Griep

Marcia Koefod

Blake Ohren

Dylan Barry

August 29th

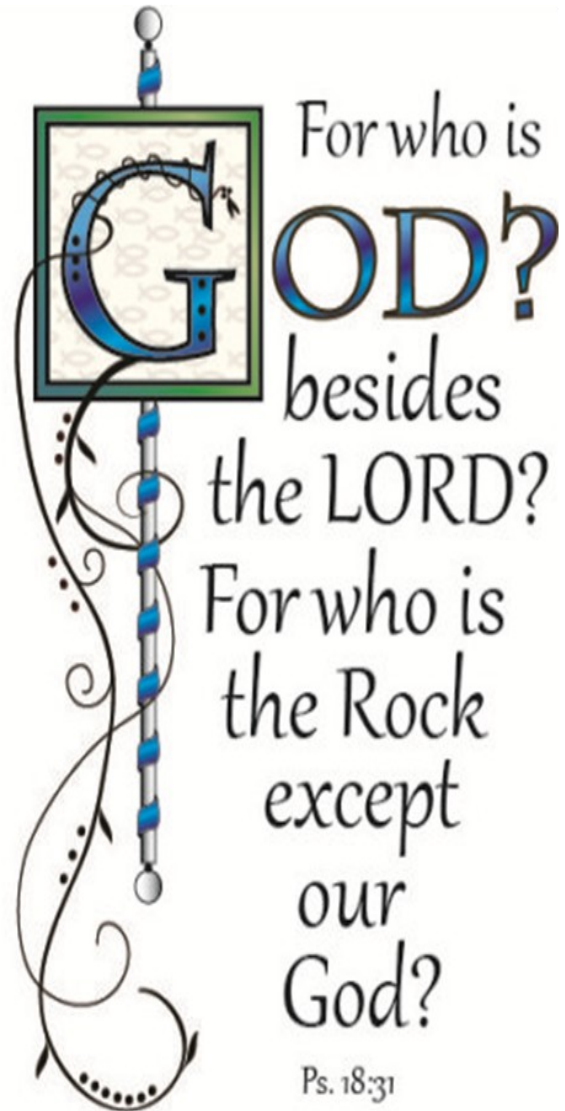
Gene Jensen

August 30th

Betty Rustad

=====
*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*

Melissa R



GRUE women meet:

Tuesday, August 15th @ 1:30 pm.

at Ashby Living Center



NO!! RUTH / REBECCA

Circle meeting for August:

Thank you to Chuck and Dee Holte, Joyce Lacey and Russ and Darcy Sorenson for securing volunteers to assist with summer worship and thank you to all of you that helped with worship. You are all very much appreciated.

The Synod Convention is only 1 day this year, scheduled for Saturday, September 9, at Zion Lutheran in Thief River Falls. Registration forms available with Melissa in church office.

Our Annual Stew Feed and Fall Bazaar will be Saturday, September 23 with doors opening for shopping at 10 am and lunch being served from 11 am to 1 pm. Drawing for the quilt and Viking basket will not be until 7 pm that evening.

Thank you to three of our members we have delivered a beautiful quilt to Luther Crest for their fall fund raiser auction. Katie Johnson donated the fabric, Lynette Rolhoff constructed the top and Chile Anderson donated her Thrivent grant for the quilting which was done by Quilters Cottage. And, most certainly a huge thank you to Marcie Cawelti for donating fabric, construction of the queen size quilt and the quilting of said quilt for our Bazaar raffle. We are touched by your generosity.

Following are the booths/tables and coordinators for each. Please call one of them and volunteer to help and save them several calls. Again, this is our major fund raiser for the year to fund food shelves, youth camps and education, campus ministries and many other mission projects.

Kitchen - Janet Novak and Darcy Sorenson

Dining Room - Teresa Ohren

Bakery and Books (located in quilting room) - Carold Koefod and Jody Dahlen

Basket Raffle - Leslie Anderson

Crafts, etc. - Mona Evavold

Farmers Market - Brenda Risbrudt

Circle of Quilts - Joyce Langlie and Ione Quam

Treasurers - Wendy Merrick, Sandy Cunningham and Heidi Grove

May God Bless all of you and your families as we enjoy the rest of our summer and begin to plan for fall events.

Val Fick

WELCA Co-president

The Grue Bible Study met June 20th at 1:30 at the assisted living in Ashby with friends attending.

Our study was on John 7:1-52. Confused over Christ, about Jesus Christ and why faith in him is so important. It was a very interesting study. How we can respond in a Christ like manner to those who attack our faith in Jesus.

We enjoyed having coffee & goodies and visiting with our friends there after our studies.

The Grue Bible study met on July 18th at 1:30 at the assisted living in Ashby with friends joining us. We enjoy having them with us.

Our study was on John 7:53-8:11 Caught in Adultery, to show Jesus' compassion toward all of us who are guilty of sin. Forgiveness gives the person freedom to change without the threat of punishment hanging over them. Jesus was not condoning their sin; he was empowering them to change.

We enjoyed the fellowship with our friends and the coffee & goodies.

Our next meeting will be Aug. 15th at 1:30 at the assisted living in Ashby; you're welcome to join us. Our study will be on John 8:12-59, Shine, Jesus, Shine. Jesus makes a series of claims about himself.

Have a great day.

Bea Runningen, Sec.

*Each time and act of love is
shown; God is making
his presence known.*

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

✉ Newsletter

✉ Newsletter

✉ Newsletter

✉ Newsletter



READING FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

<p>August 6 First Reading Isaiah 55:1-5 Psalm Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 Second Reading Romans 9:1-5 Gospel Matthew 14:13-21</p>	<p>August 13 First Reading 1 Kings 19:9-18 Psalm Psalm 85:8-13 Second Reading Romans 10:5-15 Gospel Matthew 14:22-33</p>	<p>August 20 First Reading Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Psalm Psalm 67 Second Reading Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Gospel Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28</p>	<p>August 27 First Reading Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm Psalm 138 Second Reading Romans 12:1-8 Gospel Matthew 16:13-20</p>
---	---	--	--

Family

*like branches on a tree,
we all grow in different directions
yet our roots remain as one.*

PEACE Council Minutes

Peace Council Minutes 7-9-2023

Members present: Tim Cunningham, Louise Lang, Jody Dahlen, Donna Grover, Duane Spielman, Don Hanson, Wayne Vorland, Gene Jensen, and Pastor Dan.

Secretary's Report: MSC to approve as written,

Treasurer's Report: MSC to approve as written. Discussion on concern for church budget. Balance is far below last year currently. Council agreed to send out letters, and phone message regarding budget shortfall.

Pastor's Report: 3 hospital visits, 27 home visits, and 12 events.

Committee Reports:

Education: Heidi Balgaard and Amber Driggins would like to continue having Sunday School at Peace. Missy Evavold has resigned as confirmation coordinator. The church council is looking for a parent of a confirmand to take over this role.

Christian Growth: No report.

Worship: No report.

Property Management: Gutters were installed. Tree removal has not been completed due to the difficulty in finding a tree service that can complete.

Old Business: Secretary position was discussed. Personnel Committee will be meeting to decide on applicants.

New Business: Suggestion for screens in the church to be installed that would display the words to the hymns and weekly readings on Sundays.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 9th, 2023, Parish Council-Peace to host. Church Council after the Parish Council.

MSC to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jody Dahlen, Secretary

**Gathered-Renewed-United-Enriched
To Become the Voice and Hands of Jesus**

GRUE Council Minutes

Grue Council Meeting, June 14th, 2023

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

Devotions: We listened to Pastor Dan read Psalm 50 and a brief reading.

Additions to Agenda: Outside cross and louvers.

Secretary's report: M/S/C

Treasurer's report: M/S/C

Pastor's report: Pastor Dan reported on visits.

Old Business:

UMM update- a few council members will be meeting with Brian Herrmann on June 20th @ 4:30 to discuss use of the church.

Parish Picnic: scheduled for August 20th @ Eagle Lake shelter. Service starts at 10:30am. A potluck lunch will be served afterwards. Please bring a lawn chair and a dish to share. We hope to see you there. Come and worship in God's beautiful creation.

Youth fundraisers update: We have raised a total of \$1448.00 so far for the youth and chaperons to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans next July. Next bake sale event is July 15th @Ashby Appreciation Days. Please contact Darlane if you would like to donate to the sale.

New Business:

Brochures: council members looked over the brochure for any changes to be made. Melissa will be updating and get it ready for printing.

Communion 2x month: the council tabled it until this fall.

Parish secretary opening: June is retiring at the end of June. A personal committee will be formed from the Parish council to interview any applicants.

Church eaves on the south side of church will be removed. The snow had ripped them half off.

The outside cross will be getting new solar lights installed. Darlane and Carl will be purchasing and donating them. Thank you for your generosity.

A report on the Teddy Roosevelt event was read. It was a wonderful evening attended by many. After expenses were paid, there was money left over. The councils have decided to split the amount between the Otter Tail and Grant County Humane Societies.

Next council meeting will be the Parish meeting on August 9th @ Peace starting at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn - The Lord's Prayer was prayed in unison.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Hermanson, council secretary

PEACE SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School Meeting notes.

Meeting on June 20th 2023 at 6:30 PM

The Meeting was open for all congregation members to attend.

In Attendance: Donna Grover, Pastor Paul Snyder, Pastor Dan Hermanson, Carmen Odegaard, Lynn Jensen, Val Fick, Amber Driggs, Heidi Balgaard.

Pastor Paul Snyder presented a brief overview of how Worship on Wednesdays has worked for their parish over the last school year.

Discussion by all members of pros and cons regarding moving Sunday School Worship to Wednesdays vs continuing with Sunday morning. At this point attending members and attending Sunday School teachers agreed that Sunday Morning still works best for our church. We would like to make some changes to the Sunday School format this year and several suggestions were made.

One of the suggestions was to have a sign-up board for congregation members to sign-up and teach one Sunday School lesson.

Sunday school lesson suggestions were:

- A Sunday of singing.
- A Sunday of Crafting with a lesson.
- A Sunday of cooking.
- A Sunday of games.

Also mentioned was to shorten the Sunday School Term to Oct - Dec and Feb-April. Specific Dates to be discussed at a later meeting. The shorter Sunday School terms would allow families to get into the School Routine in September and to be more available for Family Holidays through the whole month of January.

Another suggestion is to post "What's Happening" with our youth on one of the Church Bulletin Boards. This would highlight church youth and give the church members an opportunity to Congratulate our young members on their accomplishments.

Respectfully Submitted by Carmen Odegaard



SHARED MINISTRY EVENT - TEDDY ROOSEVELT NIGHT

This event took place on June 2 right after last newsletter was distributed so would like to take this opportunity to recap and thank everyone that helped to make this event a huge success: Boy Scouts for their patriotism and presenting our flags, the Praise Band for opening the evening program with music, the youth for clearing tables and operating the dishwasher and everyone else that helped in any way; especially to Larry and Nancy Purdon for hosting the Roosevelts at their home for the weekend.

We served over 100 for both the evening meal and ice cream social following the program. Between 140 and 150 attended the program.

We spent Saturday with the Roosevelts and they visited our Veterans Memorial, the Veterans Museum and Baseball Museum at the Ashby Legion; they visited old Fort Pomme de Terre, the original town site of Ashby located at Gary and Gail Olson and the Northwest Retreat Center where they enjoyed the story of James Hill and the story of the Kittson Hotel and the Grover's coming back to Ashby and converting the Trinity Church building into the beautiful bed and breakfast that it was and its history to present.

A thank you note from the Roosevelts is posted in the Narthex of Peace church and little Miss Millie, (their dog) has recovered and is enjoying Medora with the Roosevelts.

Your comments to any council member on how to proceed with the Shared Ministry events are most certainly welcome.

Shared Ministry Team



The Best Day of My Life

Today, when I awoke, I suddenly realized this is the best day of my life, ever!

There were times I wondered if I would make it to today; but I did!

And because I did, I'm going to celebrate!

Today, I'm going to celebrate what an unbelievable life I've had so far: the accomplishments, the many blessings, and yes, even the hardships because they served to make me stronger.

I will go through this day with my head held high, and a happy heart.

I will marvel at God's seemingly simple gifts: the morning dew, the sun, the clouds, the trees, the flowers, the birds. Today, none of these miraculous creations will escape my notice.

Today, I will share my excitement for life with other people. I'll make someone smile.

I'll go out-of-my-way to perform an unexpected act of kindness for someone I don't even know.

Today, I'll give a sincere compliment to someone who seems down. I'll tell a child how special he is, and I'll tell someone I love just how deeply I care for them and how much they mean to me.

Today is the day I quit worrying about what I don't have and start being grateful for all the wonderful things God has already given me.

I'll remember that to worry is just a waste of time because my faith in God and His divine plan ensures everything will be just fine.

Tonight, before I go to bed, I'll go outside and raise my eyes to Heaven. I will stand in awe at the beauty of the stars and the moon, and praise God for these magnificent treasures.

As the day ends, and I lay my head down on my pillow, I will thank God for the best day of my life.

And I will sleep the sleep of a contented child, excited with expectations because I know tomorrow is going to be . . .

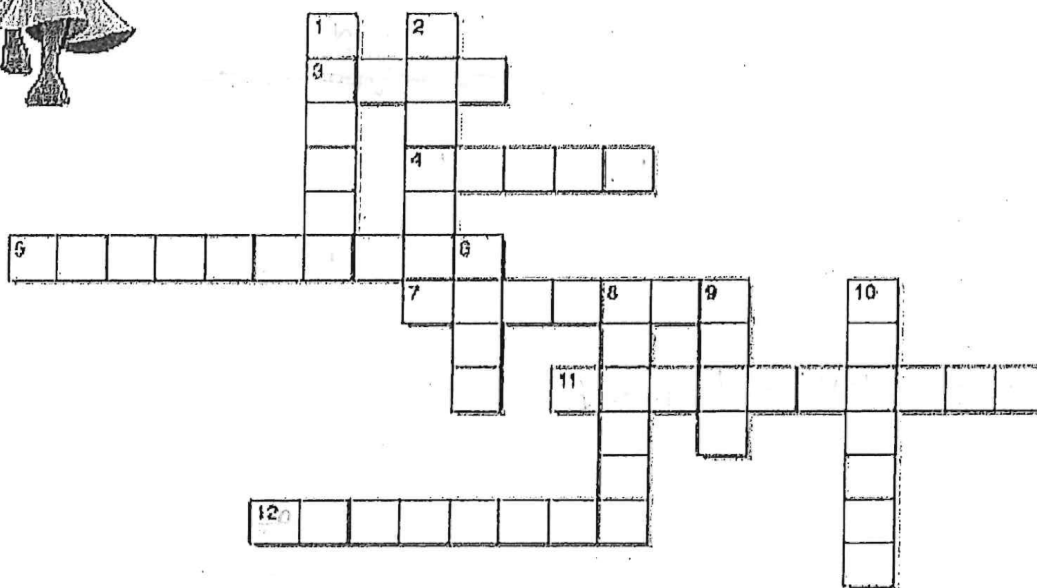
The best day of my life!



Bible Pathway Adventures

CROSSWORD

THE LORD'S PRAYER



MATTHEW 6:9-13

ACROSS

- 3) Keep us safe from the _____ one. (verse 13)
 4) For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the _____ forever. (verse 13)
 5) Bring us not into _____, (verse 13)
 7) In which book of the bible can we find Yeshua's prayer?
 11) Give us today our _____, (verse 11)
 12) As we also have _____ our debtors. (verse 12)

DOWN

- 1) Pray to your Father who is in _____, (verse 6)
 2) May your _____ come., (verse 10)
 6) May your _____ be kept holy. (verse 9)
 8) Our Father in _____. (verse 9)
 9) Your _____ be done on earth as in heaven. (verse 10)
 10) _____ us what we have done wrong.. (verse 12)

For more free Bible resources and Teacher Packs including coloring pages,
 worksheets, quizzes and more visit our website at:
www.biblepathwayadventures.com