



# PEACE AND PROCLAMATION

May 2008

## A message from Pastor Pete

**Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.** (Proverbs 22:6)

Amazingly, more than half of Peace's members are school age or under. Right now Peace has a list of 109 children and youth that have been touched by our ministries in the past year. This is both an awesome blessing...and an awesome responsibility.

Peace has put a lot of hard work into our youth ministry. We have a team of committed Sunday School teachers who have faithfully gathered to teach children the story of God at work in the world. We have passionate leaders of our popular mid-week youth ministries. These touch lives of Peace kids as well as their friends. It has been exciting to see God at work in what has been happening!

Every few years it's important to sit back and evaluate the ministry that God calls us to. We need to ask:

- Is the ministry we're doing as effective as it can be?
- What are the goals of Peace's children/youth ministry?
- What is the most efficient way to accomplish these goals?

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Watch your mailbox for a survey which will help Peace's education leaders set forth goals for our ministry. What deep desires do we have for our children? What do we want their faith life to look like? We're asking for a quick turn-around time on this survey. We ask that the survey be returned to worship on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. We will have extra surveys available on May 4<sup>th</sup>. If you can't finish it right away, we will take it any time.

**On May 11<sup>th</sup> during the Sunday School hour the adults of Peace will meet to discuss this survey and to prayerfully consider the future of our youth/children's ministry** (the kids will have other activities at that time). If you have ANY concern for the faith life of your child, we need you to join the conversation. God has given you insight to share. We remain open to God's desires for us. There are things we do well. There are things we can always improve on. Come be a part of the conversation.

This is an exciting time to be God's church. Our children and the youth of Peace deserve the best ministry that Peace can offer.

### Inside this issue:

Building Planning Team (page 2)

May Readings (page 4)

March 9th Council Minutes (pages 10-11)

Worship Assistants (page 3)

Church News (pages 5-8)

March 30th Council Minutes (page 12)

May Birthdays (page 4)

Christian Ed (page 9)

May Calendar (page 13)

## Building Planning Team:

For years Peace has talked about having a building of our own. As many of you know, Peace currently owns a 6 acre parcel at the corner of Hwy 42 and Knowledge Road. Peace fully owns this property. Due to some past fund-raising, Peace also had approximately \$280,000 earmarked in savings to be used for a building.

Conversations about building have been around for the entire 10 year history of Peace. Three years ago Peace made a formal application to the Mission Investment Fund (a group within the ELCA that makes very low interest loans to congregations) to proceed with a building project. At the time of the application attendance and financial giving had dropped for three straight years. Donations from Peace members accounted for only 40% of our annual budget. The MIF denied our application with the note that we needed to be much more self-sufficient before we could take on a mortgage and build. The congregation itself needed to be built before a building could come.

The leaders of Peace took this very seriously, and in the past three years the growth has begun. The average worship service has grown from around 60 people a week to 90 a week. In 2007 Peace covered 60% of our budget with our offerings. Peace is headed in the right direction.

With all this in mind, the Peace church council met with the MIF and a MIF architect in January to discuss the possibility of using the \$280,000 that we have saved to build something on our land, even if that something might simply include office and youth ministry space (plan #1). A plan #2 would include worship space as well. This discussion was positive, but brought the council to one important question. **What activities would God call us to do in a new building?**

As a way of kicking off this discussion, the church council formed the Building Planning Team (BPT) which is now underway. The BPT begins with this very specific task.

*Building Planning Team members will gather input for both plan one and plan two from various stakeholders. This input will help the BPT define the needs of the community and of the congregation and identify potential activities that Peace Lutheran can provide in the new facility.*

What this phase is:

- A community survey to determine the activities that would take place in the proposed building

  - These activities may be ministry related for Peace or they may be community related.

- A time to ponder the question, "If space were not an issue, what ministry could Peace do?"

- A time to assess the needs of Eyota and determine how a Peace building might meet those needs.

What this phase is not (there will be a time later for these discussions):

- A time to figure out building style, size, appearance, shape, materials, etc

- A time to debate the feasibility of building

Watch your mail soon for a survey which will kick off this process. A letter with the survey will fully explain the timeframe that the BPT sets for this phase of analysis

The BPT consists of 7 members and Pastor Pete. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Wayne Mehrkins (chairperson), John Cafilisch, Sue Johnson, Curt Olson, Phil Sorom, Dave Turnquist, and Cindy Woltman.

## WORSHIP ASSISTANT INFORMATION

### The 7th Sunday of Easter — May 4, 2008

Worship Asst: Julie Porcher  
Reader: Chuck Johnson  
Communion Asst's: David & Debbie Turnquist  
Hospitality: The Caflisch, Helgeson, Enright, & Hanley Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Brockway, Porcher, Wallace, & Austin Families



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### The Day of Pentecost — May 11, 2008

Worship Asst: Steve Szuberski  
Reader: Emily Porcher  
Communion Asst's: Al & Jan Begin  
Hospitality: The Crenshaw, Johnson, Keach, & Schreier Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Klein, Spafford, Turnquist, & Wendt Families

### The First Sunday after Pentecost — May 18, 2008

Worship Asst: Kay Klein  
Reader: Jeff Klein  
Communion Asst's: Emily Porcher & Shelia Mix  
Hospitality: Cindy Woltman, & The Sorom, Welsh, & Olson Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Szuberski, Peterson, Johnson, & Rucker Families

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — May 25, 2008

Worship Asst: John Caflisch  
Reader: Julie Porcher  
Communion Asst's: Jamie Olson & Chris Austin  
Hospitality: The Zeimer, Pristash, Rhone, & Klein Families  
Set-up/Ushers: Caflisch, Jeche, Morton, & Helgeson, Families

## May Birthday's!

Justin Gilbertson 5/2  
Alec Ziemer 5/4  
Aaron Szuberski 5/6  
Owen Ziemer 5/8  
Michelle Helgeson 5/9  
Mike Sass 5/9  
Kevin Coppock 5/10  
John Helgeson 5/10  
Derrick Turnquist 5/13  
Joel Spafford 5/15  
Jaylynn Begin 5/16  
Gary Brockway 5/17  
Michelle Gilbertson 5/19  
Matthew Johnson 5/21  
Sheila Mix 5/21  
Callie Hanley 5/22  
Luke Rasmussen 5/22  
Cody Johnson 5/25  
Jon Tangen 5/26  
Laura Welsh 5/26  
Samuel Wick 5/26  
Reece Olson 5/30



If we have missed your birthday or have the wrong date in past newsletters, please email the church office so that we can get our records correct! We're sorry about any mistakes!

## ~May Readings~

### May 4, 2008

Acts 1:1-11  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Luke 24:44-53

### May 11, 2008

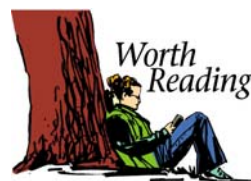
Acts 2:1-21  
I Corinthians 12:3b-13  
John 7:37-39

### May 18, 2008

Acts 2:14-42

### May 25, 2008

Acts 2:43-47, 5:1-11



# Church News!

**Next Interfaith Hospitality Network date: June 22-29** - Hosting will be done in Plainview at Community Presbyterian Church - 505 W Broadway - Plainview, MN 55964. If you are interested in volunteering for these dates or getting trained to volunteer, please contact Carrie Rhone. We are in need of drivers, meal hosts and overnight hosts.

Future dates for your calendar: **September 14-21** (Host site: Community Presbyterian Church, Plainview) and **December 21-28** (Host site: Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Eyota).

**Float design:** If you are interested in participating in the construction of the float for the Viola Gopher Count and Eyota Days Parade, please let Carrie Rhone know. Parades are coming up in June, but the preparation needs to take place in April and May. We have an exciting theme that will involve our church and community. Calling all handyMen, handyWomen and handyChildren!

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is...  
"To call people to Christ, nurture them into the faith, and send them out in witness and service."  
Worship—9:15am: @ Dover-Eyota Elementary School-27 Knowledge Road, Eyota  
Church Office: 515 S. Jefferson Avenue—(507) 545-2535—[www.peaceeyota.org](http://www.peaceeyota.org)  
Future Home of Peace: 6 acres @ corner of Knowledge Road & Hwy #7  
Pastor Pete's Home Phone: 545-1272



## Sermons On-Line

If you're going to be away and can't worship on any Sunday, hop onto [www.peaceeyota.org](http://www.peaceeyota.org) and hear the sermon for that week!

## Ways To Give

"Ways To Give", for the last 3 1/2 years, has been working with Olmsted County Social Workers in helping meet the needs of the families on their caseloads. Any information you can share with the members of your congregation is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Jan Vetter at 328-7290.

## Noisy Collection

Sunday, **May 4<sup>th</sup>** is Noisy Collection Sunday, with the money this month going to help the Eyota Ambulance purchase a book on personal safety for each child in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This is part of a community based effort to keep our kids safe!

Mark your calendars now for:

### Sunday, May 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

Worship @ 9:15 a.m. @ DE Elementary

#### Sunday, May 4th

Sunday School 10:30-11:15 a.m.

#### Sunday, May 11th

Sunday School 10:30-11:15 a.m.

(LAST DAY)

10:30 Future of Youth Ministry Meeting

#### Wednesday, May 7th

Weekday school @ DE Elementary

5:45-6:45 p.m. Grades 1-6 @ Peace Lutheran Office

6:00-8:00 p.m. Grades 7-8 @ Arbor Gardens

(LAST DAY)

#### Sunday, May 18th

Church Picnic

#### Saturday, May 24th

Phil Sorom Wedding

### Our Council Leaders!

**Council President:** Jeffrey Reiman

**Vice-President:** Cliff Schreier

**Council Secretary:** Su Spafford

### Peace Teams and Leaders

**Education:** Su Spafford

**Property:** Wayne Mehrkins

**Finance:** Chuck Johnson

**Worship:** Cliff Schreier

**Outreach:** Carrie Rhone

**Spirituality:** Brenda

## Ditch Clean-Up

You may have noticed that the stretch of road that Peace normally cleaned is now listed as 'This Space Available.' Recently Michael Ranfranz, an Olmsted County Narcotic Investigator, met with the Eyota ambulance and talked about the dangers of drug paraphernalia in the local ditches. Since many of the byproducts of these drugs are quite dangerous (and illegal), they are often thrown into the local ditches. They strongly recommended that children not take part in a ditch clean-up effort. Since children were a large proportion of the people involved from Peace, the church council made the decision to discontinue the program.

## New Intern

Peace looks forward to welcoming Amanda Stamp as our new intern beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>. Unlike Maureen (who already lived in the area), Amanda will come without any connection to the Eyota area (she's an Iowa gal). As you make summer plans (day trips, ball games, etc), please consider including Amanda so she can get to know the area (and the people).

## Summer Worship

Summer in Minnesota is a time to travel and enjoy the few days of nice weather we have in this state. Nearly every weekend families head to the cabin/lake/river/campground. This naturally keeps people away from worship in Eyota on Sunday mornings. In order to give people an opportunity to worship God, on **June 18<sup>th</sup> Peace will begin a simple worship service on Wednesday nights at 7:00** at the newly remodeled church office. It will be a 'come as you are' time of prayer and reflection.

## Summer Dates to keep in mind:

June 9-13 Vacation Bible School

June 19 - 10:00 Viola Gopher Count Parade

June 18 - 7:00 Mid-Week Worship and Conversation begins

June 25 - 6:00 Blessing of the Bikes (at Westside Park)

July 20 - Eyota Days Community Worship at tent by Legion

August 20 - 6:00 Blessing of the Animals (at Westside Park)

**Viola Gopher Count Parade / Eyota Days Parade:** Our parade theme this year is surrounded around our Outreach Event - Don't Go To Church (**June 22nd**) - Be the Church. We are putting our faith in action and worshipping God by serving the community. The parade is a way to advertise and communicate this event! We are looking for people of all ages to hand out candy, walk the parade route with signage and be the church! If you are interested in participating in the parades this summer, please sign up in church over the next several weeks. Viola Gopher Count is **Thursday, June 19th** and Eyota Days is **Saturday, July 19th**.



**Join Peace in worshipping God by serving the community.** We have several events lined up that you may participate in (Pajama Program, Diaper Project, Painting curbs & fire hydrants for City of Eyota, Arbor Gardens landscaping, etc. )

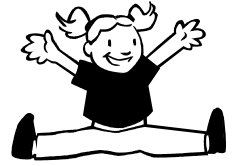
## Christian Education Opportunities

### Sunday School

Pre-School – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

10:30 – 11:15 a.m. Eyota Elementary School

Please call church office 545-2135 or Su Spafford 545-2954 for more information.



### Christian Education Calendar – updates

**Noisy Sundays!!!! 1st Sunday of each month!!!!**



Bring your Change,



bring your child,

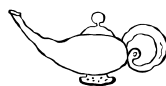


hear them sing,

**May 7, 2008** – Last Day of Weekday School Picnic, 5:45 – 6:45 PM Meet at Peace Lutheran Office

**May 11, 2008** – Last Day of Sunday School

**June 9 – 13** – Vacation Bible School – watch bulletin and newsletter for updates or go on-line to: [www.peaceeyota.org](http://www.peaceeyota.org)



**“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds” (Matthew 5:16)**

**Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**

**3/09/2008**

**Noon**

Present: Maureen Hagen, Jeff Reiman, Wayne Mehrkens, Pastor Reuss, Carrie Rhone, Cliff Schreier, Su Spafford, Brenda Szuberski,

Devotions: Acts 11:19-30

| <b>Topic</b>                          | <b>Discussion</b>   | <b>Action</b>  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Call meeting to order: Cliff Schreier |   | Meeting called to order – Noon   |
| Secretary's Report: Su Spafford       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes 3/9/08</li> </ul>  | Motion to approve amended minutes – Cabinet approved for 1,600.00 and Skip Church Sunday discussion – Approved Mehrkens, Reuss   |
| Treasurer's Report: Jeff Reiman       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Szuberski, Merhkens, changes will be made to show budget, expensed and total left.</li> </ul>   |
| Team Reports:                         |   |  |
| Education Team: Su Spafford           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basement</li> <li>VBS</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to paint the floor and prepare it</li> <li>VBS is progressing</li> <li>Holy Week plans</li> </ul>  |
| Finance Team: Jeff Reiman             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will update financial report</li> <li>Will provide report on noisy Sunday</li> </ul>  |
| Outreach: Carrie Rhone                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IHN March 3 - 10</li> <li>Don't Go To Church</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IHN needs are many for week of 3/16</li> <li>Looking at June 22, need to plan events</li> </ul>   |
| Property Team: Wayne Merhkens         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property Team Set Up Teams</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to find someone to mow property</li> <li>Carpet for the office</li> <li>There is a need for another office key</li> </ul>  |
| Spirituality: Brenda Szuberski        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spirituality</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 26 training for passionate spirituality</li> <li></li> </ul>  |
| Worship Team: Cliff Schreier          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sedar Supper</li> <li>Good Friday</li> <li>Easter Sunday</li> <li>Nursery update</li> </ul>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sedar Supper will take place at St. Paul's – anticipate 70 people</li> <li>Good Friday will be at St. Paul's -</li> <li>Palms are ordered, flowers are ordered, set up for Easter will occur Saturday night before</li> <li>Nursery set up is going out soon</li> </ul>   |
| Pastor Update                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pastoral updates</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Developers (Pastor after the Mission Pastor)</li> <li>Flood damage funds</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>229 baptized, 142 confirmed</li> <li>Pastor continues to meet with like Pastors in same situations.</li> <li>Checks were distributed to people within the congregation who have had flood damages. This money was given to our church through the SE MN Synod and Pastor Pete distributed the money.</li> <li>Currently we have 10 potential first communicants.</li> </ul> |

|               |        |   |
|---------------|--------|---|
| Intern Update | Update | Maureen has been appointed to the SE District and will be placed within that area.<br><br>Maureen will provide a list to the council of tasks she has done and the council will need to assign these duties.. |
| OLD BUSINESS  | NONE   |   |

|                      |                         |  |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| <b>New Business</b>  |                         |  |
|                      | Possible 2008-09 intern | Application has been sent for possible grants for intern<br><br>There may be a possible intern who may be available<br><br>The decision to continue moving forward with the possibility of an intern will continue forward until we either get one or cannot move forward  |
|                      | Building Strategy       | Mission Investment Fund is in discussion now to determine what funds or opportunities for borrowing are available to Peace Lutheran.<br><br>Motion to ask the nominating committee to move forward with the nomination of a seven member Building Planning Team to be approved by the Church Council to proceed with Phase One Assessment – Szuberski 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reiman |
|                      |                         |  |
| Adjourn              |                         |  |
| Next Council Meeting | April 14, 2008          |  |

**Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**

**3/30/2008**

**Noon**

Present: Maureen Hagen, Jeff Reiman, Wayne Mehrkens, Pastor Reuss, Carrie Rhone, Cliff Schreier, Brenda Szuberski,

| <b>Topic</b>                          | <b>Discussion</b> | <b>Action</b>  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Call meeting to order: Cliff Schreier |                   | Meeting called to order – 10:30 A.M.   |
| Phase One – Building Project          |                   | <p>A Short council meeting was held on March 30, 2008 after church service. Cliff Schreier called the meeting to order. Pastor Pete reported that the nominating committee had selected 7 people as members of the building team for handling Phase One of the Building Project. Those individuals were Wayne Mehrkens, Dave Turnquist, John Caflisch, Cindy Woltman, Phil Sorom, Sue Johnson and Curt Olson and all have agreed to be on the team for Phase One.</p> <p>Jeff Reiman made a motion to approve these seven individuals as members of the building team for Phase One. Brenda Szuberski seconded the motion. The Council then voted and passed the resolution to approve these seven individuals as the Building Team Members.</p> <p>The meeting was then adjourned.<br/>Motion to approve amended minutes – Cabinet approved for 1,600.00 and Skip Church Sunday discussion – Approved Mehrkens, Reuss</p> |

