



January 2023
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A New Year brings back Old Memories

Last month I was thinking of my dad because it marked 12 years since he died. I recalled how it was so hard to receive the news of his death, because it was so sudden. I remember making the funeral arrangements. I recalled the visitation at the funeral home, how packed it was because so many people came to show their support for his family and share how my dad had impacted their life. You see, my dad was special. He was kind, loving, charismatic, supportive of people, and a great dad. But to hear those good and positive things people were saying about my dad made a lasting impression on me.



It made me think about my life and how it would be cool if I could make the same kind of impression on people as my dad did. I thought, “Are there things I might need to change in my life?” Exactly what impression do I want to leave on the people in my life? I know I want people to know how much God loves them and what Jesus has done for them. I want people to see Jesus in my life along with God’s love. But how is this achieved?

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I need to walk the walk. I need to trust Jesus totally with ALL the things in my life – trust Him in the good times as well as the bad. I need to not live in fear. I need to remember that He is in control. Also, I need to put other’s needs in front of my own. If I want people to see Jesus in me and my life, people need to know they matter. Phone calls, lunch dates, and texts go a long way. But I need to spend time with people that need a friend.

And I want my family to feel loved, supported and encouraged by me. I want them to know without a doubt that they are loved, prayed for, and that they can count on me. How? I need to pray for them individually. I need to ask for specific prayer requests from them. I need to love unconditionally and not give advice when it is not wanted. I want to be the best friend any one could ask for. How? I want to be reliable, dependable and there for them under any circumstance. I want to pray for them and follow up on things they have shared, to show them I care.

I want to love myself better. I want to honor God by taking care of my body better! I need to exercise, eat better and not be hard on myself on days when I need to rest. I need to be less critical of myself and not worry about things I cannot control!

I want to be, more like my dad. I want to accept what God has planned for me. I want to be thankful and content in all circumstances. I want to have and be a positive impact on people’s lives. I want show people, God’s unending love for them.

A great goal for 2023 if for all of God’s people to have, and be, a powerful, loving and lasting influence on others.

God’s Peace and Blessings on a great 2023,
Pastor David Klemm

A Message from the Editor...

Dear Readers,



From the Editor

I hope that all who attended or live-streamed the Christmas concert were as overjoyed and inspired as I was. From the praise team to the puppeteers, a joyful noise to the Lord was heard! It was also a pleasure to once again hear the readings of the Christmas story by our leaders, and the heartfelt hymns of our choir!”

Happy New Year!

Jackie Pilan

PS: The deadline for February’s “Peace Lutheran Messenger” is **Friday, January 20.**

A Message from Our Principal...

Peace Panthers News!

Happy 2023! I pray your Christmas and New Year's celebration were a blessing. And now that empty calendar of 2023 lays before you! How will you fill it? How will those precious minutes be spent? What does God have planned for your days of 2023? So much anticipation!

I hope you had the chance to come see one of our Christmas Programs in December as the students shared the good news of Jesus! Thank you to Kathy Schurig, Holly Nelson, and Jessica Curley for their work with the K-8 program, and Suzette Quail for the Preschool program, as well as all the classroom teachers that worked to help the students be prepared. This year we opened the K-8 Christmas program up to everyone at 9:30am and at the traditional 6:30pm. We thought the 9:30am would be a great time to beat the crowded evening, drive in the daylight, and a perfect time for our congregation to see what the students do. Whether you have children or grandchildren here or not, we are your school, and you are welcome! If you missed it this year, please plan on it for next year!



January events include Family Floor Hockey and Lutheran Schools Week celebration! We are so thankful that our congregation is mission-minded, and Christian education focused! What a blessing you are to the families who send their children to Peace. Please know each day you are sharing the gospel with 165 school age children and 130 preschoolers! THANK YOU for your support in prayer and finances. You are a blessing! Peace is a blessing.

Continuing on our discovery of our classrooms, this month we meet our 3rd Grade!

Mrs. Janel Stier is our third grade teacher and this is her second year at Peace. When I think of Mrs. Stier's teaching style, the first thing that comes to mind is technology. Each month when she and Mrs. VanHouten return from their TEC21 class, she shares the newest tech tool she learned about with great excitement. Her students definitely are motivated by using technology. The students also enjoy the various 3rd grade projects (candy pumpkin catapults and Thanksgiving Balloon Parade come to mind), and of course their Science Fridays in lab coats!

Mrs. Stier has been teaching for over 20 years in Lutheran, public and charter schools. She herself is the product of Lutheran schools and Concordia University, Ann Arbor. She has three sons in their early 20's, Chad and twins Nick and Trevor, and 2 golden retrievers, Angel Paws and Venture.



Board and Ministry News...

“THE TALK”

Dangerous. Beautiful. Gift.

6 SESSIONS (FOR PARENTS)

BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

@ 6:30PM

CONTACT HOLLY WITH QUESTIONS (hnelson@peaceshelby.org)

REGISTRATION ENCOURAGED

“The Talk”

Let us have a conversation together about how to have a conversation with your son or daughter about growing up and the changes that are going on in their body. This is a Biblically-based, six-session multimedia program that empowers parents to have healthy, ongoing conversations with their kids about love, s_ _ (birds and bees), and relationships. It is never too early to begin thinking about these conversations. Join our Family Life Director, Holly Nelson. Please email hnelson@peaceshelby.org with any questions. Register at <https://www.peaceshelby.org/the-talk>.



Blood Drive

MONDAY

January 16

1:00pm – 6:45pm

Register at www.redcrossblood.org
enter sponsor code: peaceshelby

Red Cross Blood Drive

Peace is hosting a Blood Drive on **MONDAY, January 16, from 1:00pm to 6:45pm**. A single blood donation may help up to three different people. Walk-ins are welcome, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) for availability or go to www.redcrossblood.org and search sponsor code: peaceshelby or call Peggy Bobel at 248-840-0553.

The Digital Culture of Kids

Thursday, January 26



PARENT PRESENTATION: 6:30PM–8:00PM

K-8 PRESENTATION: DURING SCHOOL



**PROTECT
YOUNG EYES™**



- benefits of digital trust
- awareness of hardware & software
- greater confidence in the digital age

Protect Young Eyes

Date of presentation: January 26, 2023

Grades K-8: During the school day

Parent Presentation: 6:30-8:00 pm, "The Digital Culture of Kids"

Learn about protecting your child on the web. Protect Young Eyes presents

The Digital Culture of Kids: Building a Framework of Trust (Parents and Caring Adults, 14+)

Technology can do so much good in the world. But if not used well, it can also do so much harm. Never before in human history have young people had the ability to so radically change the trajectory of each other's lives so quickly.

After 7+ years, over 1,500 presentations, testifying in front of Congress, and countless conversations with parents, students, educators, and officers, PYE has discovered that parental controls alone do not work and instead, there are 5 traits that often determine digital success in many families. We call these 5 traits the Digital Trust Framework. What is Digital Trust? Do you have it? How does it apply to conversations about social media? YouTube? TikTok?

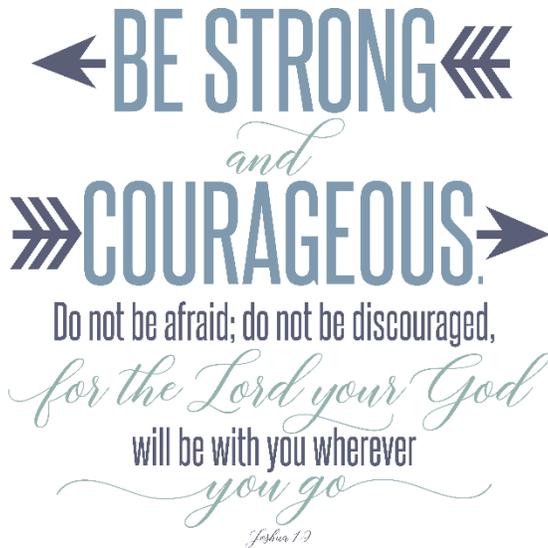
Our fast-paced talk will use stories, simple examples, and quick tips that will give your family immediate actions.

Our desired outcomes include:

- Knowing the benefits of creating digital trust.
- Greater confidence leading your family in the digital age.
- Awareness of the hardware and software tools that support your digital goals.

Register and view introductory video at <https://www.peaceshelby.org/protect-young-eyes>,

COURAGE: OUR INVISIBLE STRENGTH By Beverly Porter



Webster defines courage as the ability to do something that you are afraid to do. I would like to suggest that the word “attempt” might be a better understanding of the great phenomenon called courage. One of my favorite quotes explains the expanded definition.

“Courage does not always roar. Sometimes it is a quiet voice at the end of the day that says, “I will try again tomorrow.” Author unknown

The success of courage does not only lie in the ability to do what we fear. It is in the determination to try again if not successful in the first attempt. Courage is found deep inside a person's soul and must be coaxed to come to the aid of its host. This is the lifeline that makes doing the right thing possible when it would be easier to ignore the situation.

I had an inner battle between fear and courage years ago when we took our four grandchildren, ages six through twelve, to a local water park. The large pool had age appropriate activities at each end, and it was the two “giant” water slides that captured the attention of all four children. One slide blatantly displayed descending ridges all the way down. Even using a water sled, one can imagine the bumpy ride each time your sled hit a ridge. No thanks. But it was the other slide that had the greatest appeal. It was a structure with a large, winding enclosed tube. As you slid down this great unknown, you ended up in the water. Of course, it was too risky for the two younger children and they went with my husband to the safer area. I stood on the bridge that separated the two pool areas, and watched my brave granddaughters catapult down the tube and come out with a big splash as they landed in the water. They were laughing and having a great time. I could not imagine why.

All went well until my wet and happy girls wanted to go down the slide again and this time they wanted their grandma to join them. Already I felt butterflies in my stomach, but I reluctantly went with them to buy more tickets, one of them being mine. Up the staircase we went, each step bringing me closer to my doom. We got into the short line to wait our turn. In my fear, masquerading as politeness. I kept giving up my coveted spot as first in line. The girls were outside waiting for me on the bridge, expecting me to appear any minute. I could see and hear them saying, 'Come on Grandma, you can do it! What was keeping me from entering the dark, enclosed tube? A dim light accentuated the fact that you could have a claustrophobic attack or become stuck. Should I lay on my back, fold my arms, or keep them bent? Keep them bent were the last words I heard as I pushed off. Before I knew it, I was in the water, arms flailing as I struggled to the surface. The water was only about three feet deep, but fear has a way of taking the safe and making it dangerous.

Was this an act of courage on my part? Yes it was, because I was terrified, despite the evidences that it was so safe that even a child could do it. I did reach down and grab the courage from within and forced myself to do what I would have given anything not to do. However, I must confess that there was one other motivating factor besides prayer, and that was to save face with my granddaughters. I said I would go down the slide and I meant to keep that promise. The girls congratulated me and wanted the three of us to do it again! I said “OK”. Now that was not courage. That was showing off!

Psalm 56:3: *“When I am afraid, I will put my trust in you.”*

Deuteronomy 31:6: *“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified for the Lord your God goes with you, never leaving your side.”*

Worship Services

On-Site Sunday Worship

8:30am Traditional
10:30am Contemporary

Online Worship

Streaming Sunday at 10:30am
on Peace's App, YouTube Channel
and Facebook Page

Sunday Bible Studies

Adult Bible Studies

9:45-10:30am

JYM

9:45am

KidZone and Nursery

During the 10:30am Service

Wednesday Bible Studies

Wednesday Night Bible Study

6:30pm On-site Bible Study
6:30pm Zoom Bible Study

Saturday Bible Studies

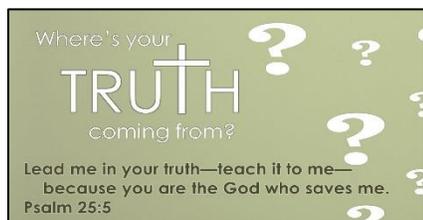
Men's Bible Study
2nd and 4th Saturdays, 7:30am

Prayer Group

7:00pm, Mondays

Church Calendar

<https://www.peaceshelby.org/church-events-calendar>



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Ruth Smigielski, 5th Grade Teacher
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Karin Sparks, 1st Grade Teacher's Aide
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