

## May 2024 Table of Contents

Money and the Great Commission (Pages 1 and 2)

A Message from Our Principal (Page 2)

A Message from Our EC Director Page 3)

A Message from the Editor (Page 4)

Board and Ministry News (Pages 4-9)

"Finding the Mundane" (Page 10)

## Money and the Great Commission



Jesus' parting command was: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20). Jesus was very direct and explicit with His mandate. There is no question as to where or with whom we are to share the Gospel. The love that God gives to us is to be shared by us with all people everywhere. He has given us our marching orders, and, in His strength, we can give ourselves fully to His work.

Because God has chosen to use us as His tools to bring salvation to all people, we must use our lives and gifts to spread the Good News. Paul wrote, "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us" (2 Corinthians 5:20). One of the tools that God gives us to use in our mission of reaching out to others with the Gospel is our money. According to an old stewardship phrase, "Stewardship without mission is unnecessary and mission without stewardship is impossible." Stewardship and mission are inseparable. The funding of the Great Commission needs to come from believers. The money which God entrusts to us has many purposes, and the funding of mission work is of first importance. Through the giving of our money, we demonstrate our obedience to Jesus' command to reach out to all people. Paul wrote that, through our giving, we "test the sincerity of [our] love by comparing it with the earnestness of others" (2 Corinthians 8:8). (Continued on Page 2)

For nonbelievers and those who lack spiritual maturity, the giving of money is done begrudgingly out of a sense of obligation. By the grace of God, our attitude toward giving is a "want to" rather than a "got to" give. We view giving as a privilege and an opportunity to spread the Gospel through our money. Our giving expresses our gratitude for who God is and all that He has done for through His Son. Through faith, we hold onto our money loosely and then are privileged to experience the joy of giving as we give God our first and best. As Christians, we understand that God has a claim on all that we have, so we willingly and cheerfully give our money to help all people hear of God's love. Money is an important tool for God's mission. Through our faithful giving, we are able to continue our witnessing to all people.

## A Message from Our Principal...

Ready. Set. Wrestle! This month we had our final reward for reaching our goal of raising \$50,000 during Raise Craze in November. Pastor and I were the main event, but we had the privilege of five other matchups to warm up the crowd for us. Special thanks to Mrs. Quail, Ms. Stier, Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Wysocki, Mr. Mel, Pastor Crabb, Mrs. Kasprik, Mrs. Zuccherino, Mrs. VanHouton, and Mrs. Nelson for joining us.

If you watched the video, you know it was loud! The kids had a great time cheering on their teachers in celebration of a job well done.

As we enter the final full month of the season, I want to thank you for all of the prayers and monetary support you provide for Peace Lutheran School. If you were able to stay after church on April 21, you were able to see some of the many upgrades God has blessed us with through grants



and fundraising. If you still want to see all of the updates, we will be hosting another one after services on May 19. We thank you in advance for your help as we wrap up this year and begin the exciting planning for the 2024-2025 school year!

#### **Upcoming Chapels:**

May 1 → Pastor Koy

May 15 → Willemsen, Special Person's Day

May 29 → Deacon Jim

May 8 → Pastor Klemm

May 22 → Joint 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade chapel

June 7 → Closing Chapel with 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Clap out

Michael Nelson,

Principal



## **Camp Concordia Opportunities this Summer!**

Kids, are you looking for something kid-friendly and fun to do this summer, including making new friends, camping, kayaking and swimming? Camp Concordia has summer camp opportunities for grade s 1 through high school! Talk with your parents and check out Camp Concordia through the following link: https://www.peaceshelby.org/youth-ministries.

## A Message from Our EC Director...



Our preschool has a lot happening this month to finish out our school year. Our 3s will visit Wolcott Mill Farm and our 4s and Young 5s will visit Upland Hills Farm to coincide with our thematic learning units on garden, pond, and farm life. We will also celebrate Muffins with Mom and Donuts with Dad at school.

All of our classes will celebrate their achievements and all their learning and growth this past year with special end of the year celebrations.

Our 4s will have a graduation celebration on May 22 in the church. It is hard to accept that they are growing up and moving on from preschool. Many of the

students have been enrolled in our program since Panther Cubs 2 year old through 4s. I am excited to see and hear about all of the wonderful things they will accomplish. Just a few things for our preschoolers to remember as you grow:

- 1. Jesus loves you! Always know your worth. You were fearfully and wonderfully made by a God who loves you dearly.
- 2. Always follow your heart and do what you makes you happy.
- 3. Be confident and do not let anyone tell you that you cannot make your dreams come true.
- 4. Always be kind.
- 5. The truth is always the answer. Be honest. Be true.

You will always be part of our Peace family, so please visit often. Congratulations and best wishes, graduates!

Our preschool is offering summer camp this year for three weeks in June. Led by our amazing staff, your child can start summer break with fun, engaging activities that will keep them busy and learning. Camps are offered the weeks of June 3, 10, and 17. Each week is a different theme of activities. Camps are Monday-Thursday from 9-12. Please see the flyer on Page 7 of our newsletter, or visit our website to register: <a href="https://www.peaceshelby.org/preschool-summer-camps">https://www.peaceshelby.org/preschool-summer-camps</a>. This is open to the community, so invite your friends and join us for some fun!

Suzette Quail, Early Childhood Director

The Michigan District is currently seeking an individual to fill a staff position.

#### ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER POSITION OPEN

The Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is seeking applicants for an Assistant Business Manager. The position can be structured to be either full-time or part-time. This position assists the Vice President of Finance in human resources, business, financial, and legal affairs of the Michigan District. Position requirements include a minimum of a bachelor's degree in business with coursework in human resources, a minimum of five years' experience in the area of human resources and/or finance, and outstanding relationship building and communication skills. You can download a full job description here. If interested, please mail your résumé to Mr. Chad Woltemath; Vice President of Finance; Michigan District, LCMS; 3773 Geddes Rd; Ann Arbor MI 48015 or email him at chad.woltemath@michigandistrict.org.

## A Message from the Editor...

Dear Readers,



Thank you from the bottom of my heart, teachers, mothers, and veterans and your families for your tireless service and sacrifice for our country and communities. May God bless and keep you safe! Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-10, Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12, and Memorial Day is Monday, May 27.

From the Editor

Jackie Pilan

PS: The deadline for June's "Peace Lutheran Messenger" is Monday, May 20.

## **Board and Ministry News...**



Join us on **Sunday, May 12, at both our 8:30am and 10:30am services** for our Mother's Day service. All women receive a special gift!

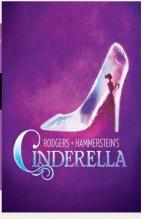
Happy Mother's Day!

## SENIORS' GROUP

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

**LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHWEST** PRESENTS "CINDERELLA"

MATINEE SHOWTIME AT 1:00PM



## PLEASE CONTACT HOLLY WITH QUESTIONS

## **Seniors Group**

May 15, 2024

Seniors! Join us on Wednesday, May 15, at Lutheran High Northwest to attend a matinee performance of the Spring Musical, "Cinderella." Showtime is 1:00pm. We will meet at Northwest (1000 Baglev Ave. Rochester Hills, 48309) at 12:45pm. There is no cost to attend the performance. For more information, contact Holly at hnelson@peaceshelbv.org.

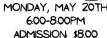


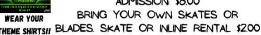


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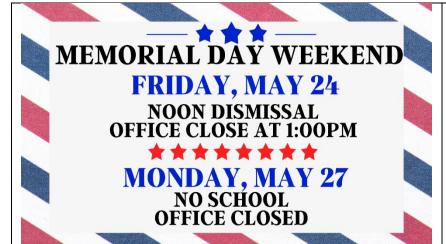




## **Skate Party**

May 20, 2024

Our Student Council is hosting a Family Skate Night and would like to invite all of our church and school families. Please join us on Monday, May 20, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at The New Rink for a night of fun. Skates will be available for rental for \$2.00 or you can bring your own. Food and drinks will also be available for purchase. Please wear your WORD theme shirt! For questions, please contact the school office at 586-731-4120.



## **Memorial Day Weekend Office Hours**

May 24-27, 2024

If you wish to conduct any business with our office, please be advised that hour hours of operation will be shortened in observation of the Memorial Day weekend. We will be open until 1:00pm on Friday, May 24, and we will be closed on Monday, May 27. We will resume our regular hours of operation, 8:00am-4:30pm, on Tuesday May 28.

## **Bible Reading Plan**

Join us in reading the Bible this year! Each day challenges you to read one chapter. You can even read on the go! Be sure to download the Bible App on your Phone or Tablet. Find Bible verse references and resources at https://www.peaceshelby.org/bible-reading-plan.



# An Afternoon at the Ballpark

June 2, 2024

Peace is headed to the ballpark! Join your Peace Family on this kick-off to summer outing.

Join your Peace Family for an afternoon of fun, entertainment & baseball at Jimmy John's Field on **Sunday**, **June 2**, at **1:05pm. Gates open at 12:00pm.** 

Wear your favorite Peace shirt!

Register for our Ballpark event at <a href="https://www.peaceshelby.org/jimmy-john-s-outing">https://www.peaceshelby.org/jimmy-john-s-outing</a>.



# VBS DONATIONS NEEDED!

Due no later than June 19.

Please sign up for as many items as you would like to. Donations are due no later than **Wednesday, JUNE 19.** Please let Holly know if you have any questions!

The Financial, Item, and Amazon Wish List Donation links are located on our website at https://www.peaceshelby.org/vbs.

Please join us in asking God to bless our VBS Ministry and all our volunteers and participants!







**BLOOD DRIVE** 

TUESDAY

JUNE 11

12:00pm – 6:00pm

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

## **Blood Drive**

June 11, 2024

Peace is hosting a Blood Drive with the American Red Cross on **TUESDAY**, **JUNE 11**, **from 12:00pm to 6:00pm**.

Please consider donating blood. 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 <a href="www.redcrossblood.org">ww.redcrossblood.org</a> and search sponsor code: peaceshelby. You may also call Peggy Bobel at 248-840-0553.



## **Camp Invention**

June 17-21, 2024

Introducing our all-new 2024 Camp Invention experience!

Give your young innovator an inspiring, action-packed summer adventure! Exciting, hands-on challenges will spark curiosity and build their confidence as they jump into limitless STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fun with opportunities to imagine, experiment and create. Read more about what your camper will experience at camp and register at <a href="https://www.peaceshelby.org/camp-invention">https://www.peaceshelby.org/camp-invention</a>.



## **Scuba Peace VBS**

June 24-28, 2024

Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they will experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about! For more information and to register, visit

https://www.peaceshelby.org/vbs.



## Junior Youth Ministries (JYM) District Gathering (6th-8th Grade)

The Michigan District, LCMS Junior High Youth Gathering 2024 is all about the MESS! God's mess?! It is true! When we look at God's plan for His people and their salvation—His Son being born as a regular human baby, touching the messy/untouchable, dying bloody on the cross—it all looks messy... that is, until we look at our own lives. We ARE certainly a MESS in our sin and shame. But God reached into that mess and showed us His great love and mercy, reconciling us to Himself through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Peace is sending current 6th-8th Grade Youth. It is going to be three days of messy fun, messy friends (old & new), and messy lessons of God working in His creation and our lives.

Dates: July 30-August 1

Cost: \$125\*

Who: Current 6th-8th Grade Youth Where: Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, MI

Registration and Tentative Schedule: https://www.peaceshelby.org/junior-youth-district-gathering

\*Please contact Holly if cost is a hindrance. We want to see every youth who would like to go to be able to go.

### Spirit Wear Store is Now Open!

Our athletic apparel and accessories support our school and make great gifts! Check out our store at <a href="https://www.peaceshelby.org/spiritwear">https://www.peaceshelby.org/spiritwear</a>.

#### FINDING GOD IN THE MUNDANE



I accepted a spiritual challenge recently. What did I have to lose? For the past three weeks prior to Easter, I had been sick, causing my husband and me to cancel Easter plans, family visits, and a trip. My social calendar consisted only of doctor appointments, and I found their attempts of social hospitality depressing. Instead of food, entertainment, and conversation, I was given a mask, a digital thermometer on my forehead and prescriptions. Yes, I was ready for the adventure of looking for God's presence even when life at the moment was mundane. The challenge was to see that God has not forgotten us when nothing appears to be happening. When we discover this "jewel in the desert," we should think back: Was this also a repeat of how He has worked in your life on former occasions, and now it is also an "aha" moment as well?" The intent being that He has intervened in like manner and can do it again. This seemed like a hard, but still interesting, assignment.

That afternoon, my husband and I were watching the movie, HEAVEN IS FOR REAL, and I commented that I had heard of the book that preceded the movie. "Wouldn't it be funny if we had the book among all of our books on the bookshelf?" Actually, it would be time consuming to find it because some of the shelves contain books that are two rows deep. I do not ever remember seeing the book, but I have books I have not read and have forgotten about. I immediately went to the most remote end of the bookcase, pulled back the second row of books and there it was. There was my manifestation of God's supernatural power in the midst of the mundane. I then remembered the rest of the assignment: Has this ever happened before? Four other occasions came to mind where I was supernaturally directed to find something immediately, with no prior knowledge of its whereabouts. I do not look for these faith-building experiences or have them as the foundation of my relationship with God. But, I do appreciate these few times that He has let me participate in His awesome power and let me know that He is found in the ordinary, mundane times of my life. He created us to reflect His glory. What a kind and loving God we serve. The words of a friend wisely sum up such encounters... "Sit back and watch the fireworks!"

"He raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in heavenly places in Christ Jesus..." Ephesians 2:6,7

"I will give thanks to you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works and my soul knows it very well." Psalm 139:14

Written by Beverly Porter



# **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

#### HSYM/JYM

9:45am

#### **KidZone and Nursery**

During the 10:30am Service

## **Wednesday Bible Studies**

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10:00am, Gathering Room

#### **Wednesday Night Bible Studies**

6:30pm, Bible Study 7:00pm, Zoom Study

## **Thursday Bible Studies**

6:30pm, Women's Study, Gathering Room

### **Saturday Bible Studies**

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Men's Bible Study} \\ 2^{\text{nd}} \text{ and } 4^{\text{th}} \text{ Saturdays, 7:30am} \end{array}$ 

## **Prayer Group**

3:00pm, Mondays, at the Klein Residence

#### **Church Calendar**

https://www.peaceshelby.org/church-eventscalendar

To subscribe to or to unsubscribe from the .pdf e-news version of the monthly "Peace Lutheran Messenger," please send your request with your name and e-mail address to enews@peaceshelby.org.

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#### School Faculty

Michael Nelson, Principal Suzette Quail, Early Childhood Director Andrea Reed, 8th Grade Teacher Kathy Schurig, 7th Grade Teacher Heather VanHouten, 6th Grade Teacher Ruth Smigielski. 5th Grade Teacher Carolyn Zuccherino, 4th Grade Teacher Janel Stier, 3rd Grade Teacher Marisol Nieto, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teaching Assistant Heidi Chaplin, 2nd Grade Teacher Lana McIntosh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teaching Assistant Erin Geffert, 1st Grade Teacher Karin Sparks, 1st Grade Teaching Assistant Megan Willemsen, Kindergarten Teacher Gail Willemsen, Kindergarten Teaching Assistant Kaysey Kasprik, Kindergarten Teacher Mel Sledzinski, Kindergarten Teaching Assistant Preschool Staff: Josie Docherty, Dena Galovich, Lisa Johnson, Melissa Jones, Michelle Jones, Kristen Leo, Heather Lewis, Kaitlin Lewis Erin Olsen, Amanda Pate, Brandi Taylor, Denise Verrier, Sarah Wysocki Latchkey: Diana Griswold, Kristen Leo, Rebecca Polchowski, Suzette Ouail

**Lunch Coordinator:** Jennifer McCoy

Office Assistants: Kim Domerese, Talayna Redford, and Kelly Wilks

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#### **Contact Information**

Office: 586-731-4120 Fax: 586-731-8935 Website: www.peaceshelby.org

#### **Office Hours**

Monday through Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm

Peace Lutheran Church and School 6580 24-Mile Road Shelby Township, MI 48316