



The

# Peace Lutheran Messenger

6580 Twenty-Four Mile Road • Shelby Township, Michigan 48316

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This month we celebrate Independence Day, a day for us to pause to give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States. The Fourth of July reminds us of the courage, sacrifice, and dream of those who looked to establish a country founded on the principles of liberty and justice.

This year's Independence Day celebration is even more special as we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. On July 4, 1776, our founding fathers boldly stated that all people are endowed by their Creator with certain Unalienable Rights, including Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

As the Believers in our Lord, this anniversary gives us the opportunity to celebrate our nation's history – but also remember where our true freedom comes from. The Bible reminds us in Galatians 5:1 – *“Christ has set us free to enjoy our freedom. So, remain strong in the faith.”* Yes, we celebrate and give thanks for the religious liberties we have as Americans, we also know, our greatest freedom is found in Jesus.

As we celebrate our Independence this year, let us thank God for the many blessings we enjoy. Let us pray for our nation's leaders and for unity amongst all our people.

Wishing you and your family a safe, joyful, and blessed Independence Day.

God's Peace,  
Pastor Klemm

## A Message from Our Deacon...



July! Ah, July. Our country has its 250th birthday! We are blessed to live where we can worship our God freely! So many incredible freedoms we have because so many men and women sacrificed their lives. So, this is an unusual year. Normally, we look forward to some vacation time, Bar-BQs, time at the beach, fireworks, campfires, and s'mores. That should fill up our month. We get to spend time with friends and family too. So many blessings from our God! With this free time, you could spend some with just you and God. A great time to read your Bible.

My wife and I look forward to seeing the beauty of God's creation. Swimming, sunsets, and of course ICE CREAM!

I pray that God keeps you and your family safe! Do not forget to worship! The office staff can help you find a church where you are going spend vacation time. You can worship online if that is more convenient. Many blessings! Shalom, Shalom!

Serving Jesus and His People,  
Deacon Jim Schurig



## A Message from the Editor...

Dear Readers,



**From the Editor**

I pray that you are enjoying your summer vacation, and that Rainforest Falls VBS was an inspiring experience for both kids and adults! We had over 280 kids registered this year! We are extremely grateful to the 109+ volunteers who helped make this year's VBS possible! Thank you so much for your service, you donations, and your participation!

Peace is not the only grateful group! Please see the special "thank you" from Samaritan House on Page 6 of this newsletter! Thank you again to all who donated food items to help families in our community.

Happy 250<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> of July! Celebrate safely!

Jackie Pilan

PS: The deadline for August's "Peace Lutheran Messenger" is **Monday, July 20.**



# A Message from Our E.C. Director...

## Celebrating Freedom and God's Blessings



As we celebrate our nation's 250th anniversary this July, we pause to give thanks for the many blessings God has graciously bestowed upon our country and our families.

The Fourth of July is a time to reflect on the gift of freedom and the countless sacrifices made by those who have helped preserve it. We are deeply grateful for the brave men and women who have served, and continue to serve, our nation in defense of our freedoms. Their courage, dedication, and sacrifice are a blessing to us all.

As Christians, one of our greatest blessings is the freedom to worship, pray, and share our faith openly. We are thankful for the opportunity to praise our loving God, gather as a church family, and teach our children about His endless love and grace.

We asked our preschool students what freedom means to them. Their answers reminded us that sometimes the biggest truths come from the littlest voices!

### Freedom means:

- "I can play outside!"
- "I can eat my favorite ice cream!"
- "I can like all the colors of the rainbow!"
- "I can go to my school!"
- "I can pray to God!"

While adults often think about freedom in big and important ways, our preschoolers helped us remember the simple joys that freedom brings—playtime, ice cream, colorful choices, learning with friends, and the blessing of sharing our faith.

While ice cream may not be listed in the Constitution, we agree it is definitely something worth celebrating! We are thankful for the freedoms we enjoy each day, and for the sweet reminders our little learners give us to appreciate them.

This Independence Day, may we celebrate with grateful hearts, remembering that every good gift comes from our Heavenly Father. We pray God's continued blessings upon our nation, our military families, our church, school, preschool, and each of you.

Wishing you a joyful, safe, and blessed Fourth of July!

*"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."* — Psalm 33:12

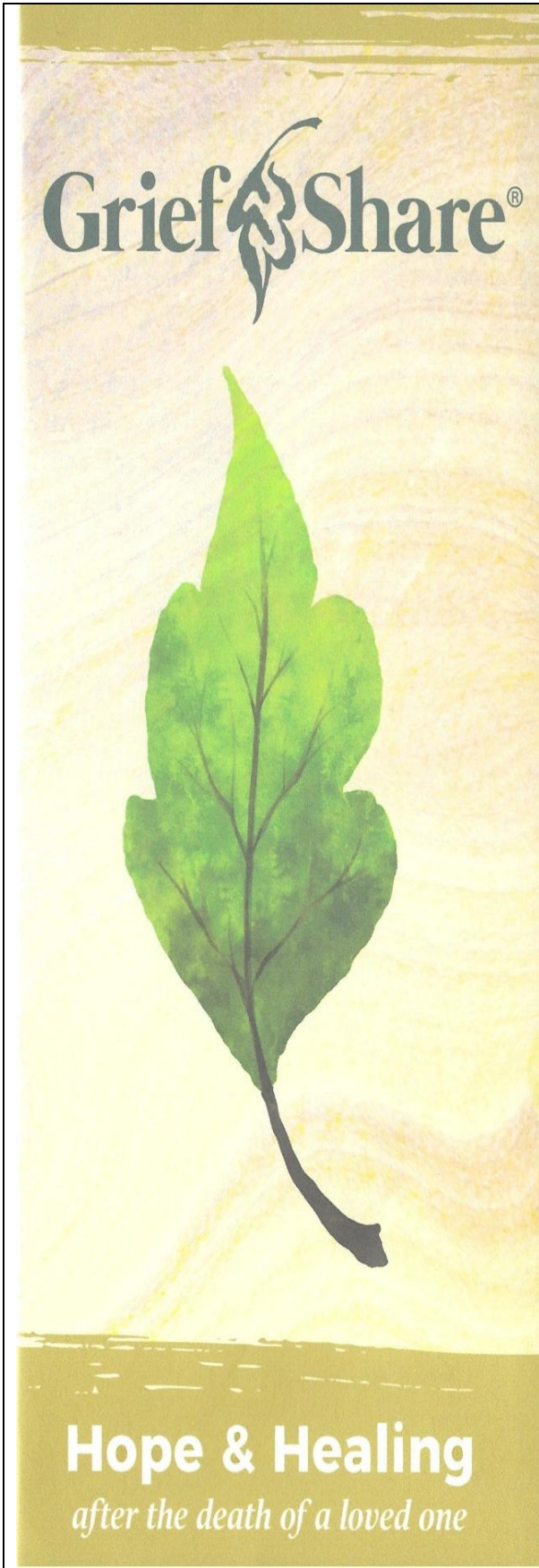
Happy Independence Day from our preschool!

Blessings,

Suzette Quail, Early Childhood Director



# Board and Ministry News...



## GriefShare Grief Support Group

No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful, confusing process. A GriefShare group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this 13-week support group program, you will discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you will learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability – and gain solid support each step of the way.

At each weekly meeting, you will view a video featuring respected counselors, pastors, and healthcare professionals on grief-related topics; plus you will hear relatable personal stories of grief. After that, is a small-group discussion to allow people time to talk, share support, and personally apply what they learned on the video. Everyone will receive a book to take home filled with valuable exercises for navigating their personal grieving process.

Topics include how to manage grief-related emotions such as loneliness, anxiety, sadness, anger and regret; how to cope with the changes in your life and relationships, and how to recognize what's normal in grief and what to do if you feel stuck or hopeless.

GriefShare group participants have repeatedly shared that they feel comforted and encouraged by being in a place where people truly understand what they are going through. And they feel a sense of relief when they are given guidance and tips on how to deal with the daily challenges.

Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. No matter how long it has been, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling.

**A new 13-week session starts on Monday, September 14, and ends on Monday, December 7, from 6:00-8:00pm. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Pam Aulgur at [griefshare@peaceshelby.org](mailto:griefshare@peaceshelby.org) or at 586-781-3100. You may also contact Karin Sparks at 586-731-4120.**

If you have experienced the death of a family member or friend, you are invited to attend. Please register at <https://www.peaceshelby.org/griefshare-group>.

**60+ GROUP**

**MONTHLY ADULT  
MINISTRY**

**RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER**

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**



**American  
Red Cross**

*Together, we can save a life*

Peace is Red Cross Blood Drive, held on June 9, 2026, was successful due to all of our generous donors and helpers! We had a total of 38 donations, including 26 whole blood and 6 power red donations!

**Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for January 18, 2027.**

## **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

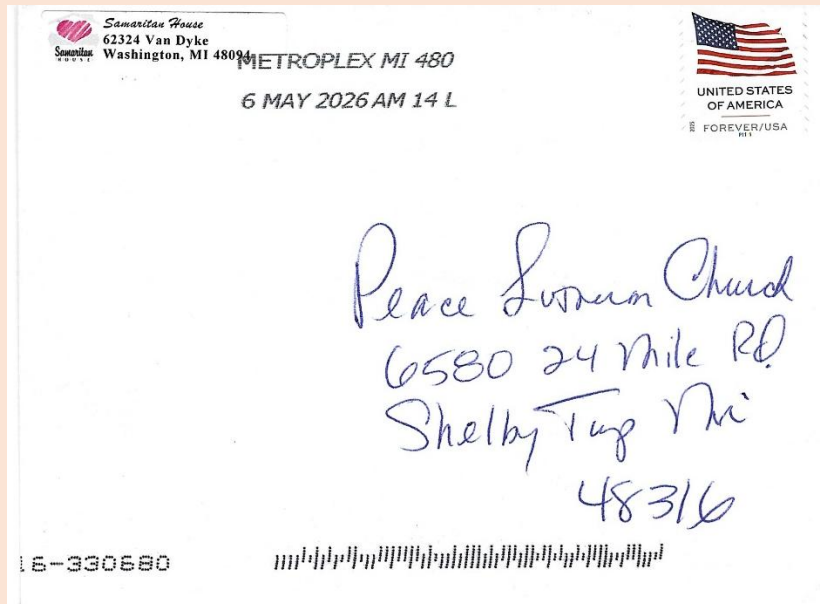
**MONDAY, JUNE 22 – FRIDAY, AUGUST 21**

**8:00AM - 12:00PM**

**CLOSED**

**MONDAY, JUNE 29 – FRIDAY, JULY 3**

# Thank You from Samaritan House...



5/5/2024

Thank you SO much for  
the food that was  
collected for our Pantry



*On behalf of The Samaritan House Board of Directors I would like to thank you for your recent donation and your continued support. Because of your generosity we are able to continue to carry out our mission of recognizing and providing for the needs in our community so that suffering can be relieved dignity preserved and love shared.*

*God Bless,*

*Kathy Wojcik*

*Kathy Wojcik, Executive Director*

## 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**

SEE YOU IN THE FALL!  
9:45-10:30am

### **HSYM/JYM**

9:45am

### **KidZone and Nursery**

During the 10:30am Service  
KIDZONE RESUMES IN THE FALL

## Wednesday Bible Studies

SEE YOU IN THE FALL!

### **Wednesday Morning Bible Study**

10:00am, Gathering Room

### **Wednesday Night Bible Studies**

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

## Thursday Bible Study

SEE YOU IN THE FALL!

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

### **Prayer Group**

2:30pm, Mondays, at the  
Klein Residence

## Church Calendar

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

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](mailto:enews@peaceshelby.org).

## ***Peace Lutheran Board of Directors***

Rev. David Klemm, Pastor  
Holly Nelson, Family Life Director  
Michael Nelson, Principal  
John Matalavy, President  
Russ Kouba, Vice President  
Aaron Wilks, Comptroller  
Cindy Almstadt, Secretary  
John Blanchard, Board of Elders, Chairperson  
Jason Abele, Board of Trustees, Chairperson  
Judy Franckiewicz, Board of Christian Care, Chairperson  
Tom McClelland, Board of Christian Education, Chairperson

## ***School Faculty***

Michael Nelson, Principal  
Suzette Quail, Early Childhood Director  
Ronda Spalding, Lutheran Special Education Ministry  
Andrea Reed, 8th Grade Teacher  
Kathy Schurig, 7th Grade Teacher  
Heather Abele, 6th Grade Teacher  
Ruth Smigielski, 5th Grade Teacher  
Carolyn Zuccherino, 4th Grade Teacher  
Janel Stier, 3rd Grade Teacher  
Marisol Nieto, 3rd Grade Teaching Assistant  
Heidi Chaplin, 2nd Grade Teacher  
Lana McIntosh, 2nd Grade Teaching Assistant  
Erin Geffert, 1st Grade Teacher  
Mel Sledzinski & Karin Sparks, 1st Grade Teaching Assistant  
Megan Willemsen, Kindergarten Teacher  
Erin Olsen & Gail Willemsen, Kindergarten Teaching Assistants  
**Preschool Staff:** Jessica Bailey, Emily Cisneros,  
Josie Docherty, Lisa Johnson, Melissa Jones, Michelle Jones,  
Heather Lewis, Kaitlin Lewis, Heather Maes, Susan Muraszewski,  
Candy, Orvelo, Sadie Schwark, Lydia Tomczyk, Sandra Vitale,  
Janice Yizze

**Latchkey:** Rebecca Polchowski, Suzette Quail

**Lunch Coordinator:** Jennifer McCoy

**Office Assistants:** Kim Domerese, Sarah Johnson,  
Talayna Redford

**Financial Accounts Manager:** Diane Dawson

**Deacon:** Deacon Jim Schurig

**Media Liaison:** Jessica Franckiewicz

**Website and App Maintenance:** Jackie Pilan

**Organist:** Mark Holz    **Praise Team Lead:** Stacy Babich

## **Contact Information**

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Website: [www.peaceshelby.org](http://www.peaceshelby.org)

## **Office Hours**

Monday through Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm  
Peace Lutheran Church and School  
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