

Peace Lutheran Church – Rogers City, MI  
Congregational Officer Orientation  
Tuesday of Epiphany 3  
January 26, 2016

## **Agenda**

### **1. Opening Devotion & Prayer: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (see handout)**

- (1) Paul compares us as Christians to a \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) Paul says that this comes about by means of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (3) Which part(s) of the body does Paul say is/are the most valuable?
- (4) Look at verse 21. Are you sometimes tempted to operate this way? If so, then what?
- (5) Paul says that God's design & desire is that there be no \_\_\_\_\_ in the body.
- (6) Do you notice this happening anywhere within our congregation?

### **2. Why are we here tonight?**

- a. To continue a Peace practice
- b. To help us to be on the "same page" – pastor & congregational leaders
- c. To help us to get to know each other better
- d. To re-orient ourselves at the beginning of a new year & to review how we operate as a congregation
- e. To answer your questions & concerns
- f. Please share this info. with Board & Committee members not present

### **3. What is the purpose of the Church?**

- a. Read Matthew 28:18-20 – see handout
  - (1) The Church exists to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (2) What does this mean outside the church?
  - (3) What does this mean inside the church? (see below)
- b. Read Ephesians 4:11-16 – see handout
  - (1) God desires that His saints/the body of Christ reach \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (2) How does this happen?
- c. Inreach cannot be at the expense of Outreach. Read Luke 15:1-10 (see handout).
  - (1) Outreach is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (2) How might this influence how we operate as a congregation?
  - (3) District 5-2 Network Emphasis: "Start new to reach new."

#### 4. What is the purpose of this congregation?

- a. **Mission Statement: Peace Lutheran Church ... Our mission as a caring family is to reach out to all, share Christ's love, and teach God's Word.**

**Or: Caring – Reaching – Sharing – Teaching**

b. **Constitution**

(1) Article 2: Purpose (pages 2-3) & Bible verses (see handout)

(2) By-Laws Articles 4-9: Boards (pages 20-23)

(3) By-Laws Article 3: Standing Committees (pages 16-19)

- These exist to enhance Peace's mission & vision & serve in an advisory capacity to the Council.

(4) Council & Voters Meetings:

- Help maintain order & communication
- Help us to avoid surprising the congregation: Voters agenda & minutes

c. **Core Values – separate handout**

d. **Board & Committee Chairmen:**

(1) Please share and/or review this info. with your members.

(2) Please keep this info. in mind and use as a guide for your activities & decisions.

#### 5. What is your job?

a. Rite of installation – see handout

b. By-Laws – Constitution, pages 13-23

c. If you have questions, ask.

d. **Invite others to work with you.**

e. Be on the lookout for potential successors.

#### 6. What does it mean to be a congregational officer? My pleas to you:

a. You are a leader (see Core Value #5).

b. You are an example – both inside (participation, church attendance, Bible Class) & outside the church. See the Rite of Installation (handout).

c. You represent the congregation and, more importantly, Christ.

d. Please speak well of the congregation, its ministry, its staff, fellow leaders, etc.

e. You are part of a team – a “body” of believers (see 1 Corinthians 12:12-27).

(1) It is important to work together – we need each other.

(2) It is important to support, encourage, & assist each other – and not to compete against one another, vie for control, tear each other down, etc.

(3) It is important to **be patient** with each other when we have differing perspectives & approaches and **to communicate** with each other.

- (4) It is important to be able to admit that you were wrong when necessary, to apologize when necessary, and to be ready & willing to forgive.
- (5) This is a **place of grace!** We are recipients of it & need to be dispensers of it.

## 7. Communication

### a. Office Hours

- (1) Peggy – Wednesdays 9-1
- (2) Pastor's Schedule:
  - **Best times to catch me: Tuesdays & Thursdays, app. 10-2**
  - Worst times: M (not in office), W (Confirmation) & F (sermon)
  - By appointment preferable. However, my door is open, even when it isn't.

### b. Meeting Schedule

- (1) Church Council – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday after Elders 7:00 p.m.
- (2) Voters – **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of odd-numbered months (+ December)** following service
- (3) Boards
  - (a) Elders – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
  - (b) Trustees – ?
  - (c) Education – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday following Christian Education Hour
  - (d) Sunday School – ?
  - (e) Evangelism – ?
  - (f) Stewardship – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 6:00 p.m.
- (4) Committees
  - (a) Church Furnishings – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday every other month 6:00 p.m.
  - (b) Fundraising – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 6:00 p.m.
  - (c) Music Ministry – tentatively meets quarterly
- (5) **Strategic Planning Process – Planning Team**
  - (a) 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 7:15 p.m.
  - (b) Currently completing “Together With Impact” process
  - (c) Currently sponsoring “Keep Our Ministry Growing” campaign
  - (d) Next steps: create task forces for target areas (C-R-S-T) & expand
- (6) **All Boards & Committees: Please consider beginning with a devotion & always begin with prayer. See me for help.**
- (7) Minutes
  - (a) Please complete & distribute to your members within a week (or so).
  - (b) Please place a copy in your binder in the narthex – for congregational reference.

**c. Publication Deadlines**

- (1) Weekly bulletin – Wednesday 1:00 p.m.
- (2) Monthly newsletter – last Wednesday of the month 1:00 p.m.

**d. Other Means of Communication**

- (1) Web Site: [www.peacelcms.org](http://www.peacelcms.org)
- (2) E-mail:  
Peggy: [peggyschautd@peacelcms.org](mailto:peggyschautd@peacelcms.org)  
Pastor: [pastorjdriddle@peacelcms.org](mailto:pastorjdriddle@peacelcms.org)
- (3) Facebook: Peace Lutheran Church – Rogers City, MI
- (4) List of Congregational Officers ([separate handout](#)) – **please check for accuracy**

**8. How should we conduct ourselves and treat each other?**

- a. The 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment: put the “best construction” on everything ([see handout](#))
- b. Matthew 18:15-17 – one-on-one; not behind-the-back ([see handout](#))
- c. Philippians 2:3-4 – humility; look to the interests of others ([see handout](#))
- d. James 3:9-10 – our “tongues” should not be used to tear each other down

**9. Your Questions & Concerns**

- How can I and/or the congregation help you to do your job?

**10. Closing Prayer & Blessing – from the Rite of Installation**

**P:** Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks that You have raised up these servants for work among Your people. We humbly implore You to grant them, by Your Holy Spirit, those gifts needed for the faithful carrying out of their tasks, most especially wisdom, strength, and willing hearts. Let Your blessing rest on this congregation. Strengthen the faith, quicken the love, and enkindle the zeal of its members, so that Your name may be glorified and that here and in all places under heaven the kingdom of Your Son may be advanced. We pray that in the end of days we, with all Your faithful people, may hear the voice of Christ saying: “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world”; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**L: Amen.**

**P:** Go in the name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**L: Amen.**