

Good News of Peace

September 2016 A.D.

A Caring Family ✦ Reaching Out ✦ Sharing Christ's Love ✦ Teaching God's Word!

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we reach the end of August, move into September, and enter the new school year, a number of important church activities are on the horizon. Before I call your attention to a couple of them, in particular, I'd like to begin by saying just a word about this year's **Back-to-School Night**.

This year's event, held on Monday, August 22, was again a tremendous success. Our goal was to be able to give away 125 bags of school supplies to children and families in our community. Thanks to the many generous donations we received from our members again this year, we were able to compile 125 bags of supplies and give away 120 of those on the night of the event! That is our highest total yet. Thanks to backpack donations in addition, we were also able to give away roughly 30 backpacks. Many, many thanks to all our members for your generosity, kindness, and assistance. We would simply not be able to put on this event without you!

A word of thanks, as well, to all who volunteered their time and effort for this year's event, from helping to set up the Fellowship Hall beforehand, to operating the registration table, to manning the tables of school supplies, to guiding our guests where they needed to go. A special word of thanks to Lisa Coolman and Gail Boughner, who served as co-coordinators this year and did a terrific job!

If you have never been to Back-to-School Night, you may not know that we also invite various community organizations to be represented during the event, in order to provide information and resources to the children and parents who attend. This year's participants included representatives of The Gideons, St. John's Lutheran Pre-School, 4-H, Head Start & Early Head Start, Great Start, the Presque Isle District Library, the Rogers City High School Counseling office, and Thunder Bay Community Health Services. In addition to serving the families of our community with free school supplies, Back-to-School Night provides us with a wonderful opportunity to partner with these community organizations.

What's next? A number of those in attendance for Back-to-School Night expressed interest in future family-oriented activities here at Peace. To date, our

congregation has not been particularly successful in putting follow-up events like those in place, which would provide an opportunity for those parents and children to return. That is one of the challenges that will be facing our Planning Team, and boards like our Boards of Education and Evangelism, in the coming months.

With Back-to-School Night behind us, and the new school year less than two weeks away, the beginning of the new Sunday School year is also fast approaching. This year's **Rally Day** will take place on Sunday, September 11. Sunday School classes, for preschool through 8th grade, and High School and Adult Bible Classes, will begin that morning. This year's Sunday School staff will also be installed during the service that morning.

One other important date to put on your calendar is Sunday, October 2. That will be the date for this year's **Mission Festival**. That morning's service will include a special celebration for the *burning of our building mortgage*, which we successfully paid off this summer. We will also use that as an opportunity to focus our attention upon and celebrate the mission opportunities that are before us as a congregation in the coming months and years. A potluck luncheon will then immediately follow the Christian Education Hour.

As we look forward together to the busy weeks of Fall ahead and to continued opportunities for ministry, the Lord's richest blessings to each of you!

In His Service,

Pastor Derek Riddle

Project Connect

for residents of Presque Isle County

October 18, 2016
10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

St. Paul's Hall in Onaway, MI

Peace has been asked to donate cans of soup this year. There will be a box in the narthex for you to put your donations. Thank you.

TUNNEL TO TOWERS - 5K RUN/WALK SEPT 24, 2016 10:00 AM Alpena Band Shell

September 11, 2016 will mark 15 years since the attack on the twin towers in New York City. On that morning Stephen Stiller, a NY firefighter, had just returned home after his shift, only to hear of the attack on the towers. He grabbed his gear (60 pounds) and headed back to the towers. When he got to the tunnel, it was already closed. That meant he had to take his gear and run back to the area. He, along with many others, died that day. From that, the Stephen Stiller Foundation was started; of which, 93% of all monies raised go back to the foundation to be used to help America's Bravest- firefighters, police and military heroes.

The building of SMART HOMES for America's Bravest is one of their programs. These houses let the home dweller use their phone to control the functions of the house. Only 50 houses have been built around the country and only one in Michigan, and that was built in the Alpena area. This home went to an American military hero who lost both legs and one arm fighting for our freedom.

On September 24, 2016, at 10:00 AM a 5K Run/Walk will start from the Alpena Band Shell. You can sign up for this event at WATZ radio station or visit SharonCWATZ.com. Shana, Brady, Chelsea, and myself are going to be part of this wonderful event. To raise some funds, we are having a bottle drive. Anyone who would like donate cans or bottles, please drop off at the church or my house (651 Oak Street) or give me a call at 734-2926, and I will pick up.

So many have given SO MUCH for our freedom...please SUPPORT THEM. Don't forget them. But most importantly, PRAY for them.
Thank you for your time,
Shana, Brady, Chelsea and Cinda

The Lutheran Hour

The Lutheran Hour can be heard locally on Sunday mornings at 7:00 a.m. on 92.5 FM and at 11:00 a.m. on 1450 AM. You can also listen on-line or via podcast at www.lutheranhour.org. Now you can also download the new Lutheran Hour Mobile App to your mobile device. Instructions for doing so can be found at www.lhm.org/apps/.

September 4

"Choose Life!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
In Christ, you have been called God's friend. Now you get to befriend others in His Name.
(Deuteronomy 30:15-20)

September 11

"There's No Other Friend Like Jesus"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
We befriend, love, and show care for other people because Jesus loved, befriended, and saved us.
(Luke 15:1-10)

September 18

"Be Careful Who Sings Your Praises"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
God invites us to take all that He gives us and then put it to work for others.
(Luke 16:1-15)

September 25

"Unlimited Patience--Almost"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
In this life the Lord of perfect patience invites sinners to faith and forgiveness. But remember, it is an invitation for this life only.
(1 Timothy 1:15-16)

Stewardship Corner

The devil, though defeated by the death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, remains a very capable and clever foe. He is smarter than we are. He's been watching us and taking notes for a very long time. He knows what we want, and he knows how to lure us away. And he does this by telling us what we want to hear. That's what makes it so difficult.

To us who are greedy, he says: "You are not greedy. You are prudent. You are frugal. You are a good steward with your money. God doesn't want you not to have all the things you want. He wants you to be happy. He wants you to have the latest and greatest toys for both young and old." So if you consider yourself to be wise in the way of money and finances, beware of who just might be telling you these things.

Satan is a liar. He tells us what we want to hear. He lures us away from repentance and confession and faith, so that we harden our consciences and place our souls in peril. We must not underestimate the enemy. We have all taken his bait. We have all failed in this. None of us can say that we have fought this temptation to hold back with everything we have and won.

And we must repent. Yes, God wants us to be happy. But this happiness is never at the expense of faithfulness. We have a calling. We are a member of His family, the church. That relationship places a duty upon us: to give a generous proportion of the first fruits of the income He provides.

Only God is true to His Word. Only God is true to His promises. His promises never fail. His Word endures forever. His mercies are new every morning. He is faithful. He provides everything that we need. He provides food and clothes, house and home, everything that we pray for in the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer.

There are a whole host of things that we have that we do not need. The question that we need to ask ourselves is whether these have come at the expense of our faithful, generous proportion of the first fruits of our income. If they have, then we must repent, turning away from our selfishness to Him who is faithful by giving His Son into death so that we are reconciled to Him and justified in His sight.

The devil will always tell you what you want to hear. But God tells us and gives us what we need to hear. With law and gospel, he cuts us to the heart, so that we will repent and believe His Word and promises. He is faithful. He is good. He will not forsake you, or leave you destitute. So believe and trust in Him. And you will not only be happy. You will be blessed.

Taken from www.lcms.org