



Messenger of Peace

"Where the Love of Christ is Shared"

February 2017

**Peace Lutheran
Church**

91 Wernex Loop
Selah, WA 98942
Phone: 697-4353

**Pastor
Mark Griesse**

Office Hours

9:00 - 12:00

Mon & Thu @ Peace
Tues & Wed @ Bethlehem
Afternoons by Appointment

Secretary

Tammy Peterson
9:00 - 1:00

Sunday Worship

9:00 AM

**Sunday Adult
Bible Class**

10:30 AM

Website

peacelutheran-
church@360unite.com

Email

peacelutheranselah@gmail.com



Dear Members and Friend,

I have a friend who has been a friend of mine for a long time. Over the years we have changed. The things that seemed very important and vital at the time we were involved in them, seem like a distant memory. Over the years, they have become less significant. Some of the things that we thought were insignificant have become much more important. Through it all, our friendship has remained, it has grown, it has matured. It has always been exciting. We have disagreed very strongly on any number of issues, but in spite of our disagreements we have always maintained our relationship and it continues to remain strong. I think this is because we have always understood that the relationship is more important than the current issue. We allow for disagreement, yet respect the other person.

St. Paul describes the church as the body of Christ. He says the ear cannot say to the body, I have no part in you. Whether the ear recognizes it or not, the ear remains part of the body. Neither does the ear separate itself from the body, but continues to function as a vital part of that body.

We in the church need to remember the important point that Paul is making here. The church and individual parts (members) have not always agreed with each other. As a matter of fact, too often, discord and disagreement are the regular state of the church. We live in a state of sin that does not often put the needs of others as a high priority, focusing rather on our own needs and concerns. Yet we remain a part of the church, the body of Christ. The relationship we have with the body (the church) and its parts (members) is more important than the most current issue. Through the church we are connected to Christ, who is the head of the church, and all the members seek to give him honor and praise.

As we move forward in ministry here at Peace/Bethlehem Lutheran, there have been and will be issues that divide us. Yet that does not mean we cease to be a part of the body. We owe each other the respect that comes with being a part of the same body. We owe them a listening ear that seeks to understand their point of view, even if we don't agree with them. We owe them the benefit of the doubt, or as the eighth commandment says: we need to put the best construction on everything. We seek to be united in our worship and praise of God, realizing that each of us has different gifts and abilities, and these are put into service to God in different ways. Through it all we seek to keep the relationship with God and with each other strong by regularly worshiping and coming together in fellowship, in mission, and in service to Christ.

May God empower and enable us to service in His Name!

-- Pastor Griesse



February O.W.L.S. Lunch

The O.W.L.S. will meet **11:30 a.m.**
Friday, February 10th at **River Ridge Golf Course** in Selah.

You need let Marcia Shotwell know if you plan to attend
(697-4543 or shotwell@fairpoint.net.)



Game Night/Potluck



The next game/potluck night is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 21st at 5:30 p.m.** Come and have a fun evening with good food, Just bring a dish to share and stay for the fun and games.

Men's Night Out

The next Men's Night Out will be **Monday, February 20th at 7:00 p.m.** at Tailgaters. All Peace men are invited to attend. Just "shoot the breeze" and have an enjoyable evening.

Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study

Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study continues through February. There is a morning class at **Bethlehem Lutheran at 11:00 a.m.** and an evening class at **Peace at 6:30 p.m.**



Secret Pals



A look ahead: Secret Pals will have their "revealing" in March (date to be determined). Current Secret Pal members will get to see who their Secret Pal was! Also at that time, anyone interested in joining the Secret Pal group can fill out a form (all current members will need to fill out a new form also).

Our Adopted Veterans

We are collecting items for the care packages for Peace Lutheran's adopted veterans and their families. Below are some items needed for February's care package. You can leave any donated items in the box under the coat rack. If you have any questions contact Jean Sinclair.

Bathroom Supplies

Toilet paper
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Shampoo & conditioner
Hand Towels

Misc.

Dish cloths
Canned food
Chili
Soup
Crackers

Please Note

We are having an issue with the back door (by Pastor's office) being left unlocked or not latched all the way.

PLEASE ... if you use this door make sure it is latched and locked.



Baby Bottle Campaign

LifeChoices of Yakima has launched their annual Baby Bottle Campaign. Peace Lutheran is once again participating in this fundraiser. Empty baby bottles are available in the Fellowship Hall at church. If you'd like to participate all you have to do is take one home and fill it up with your loose change. Once full, bring the bottle back to the church. It's that easy!



Selah Shares

Selah Shares clothing bank has given us a list of specific items they are in need of. If you would like to donate, please make sure all items are clean and in good condition.

They need the following for **men, women, & children.**

Socks
Gloves
PJs
Coats
Blankets



Peace Lutheran Church's Marriage Policy

At the last Voters' Meeting, the new Statement of Belief document was discussed. After much deliberation and discussion it was decided to shorten the Statement and make it Peace's Marriage Policy (instead of Statement of Belief). You can find the new Policy below. Please read through it and if you have any comments or questions, please see Steve Shotwell or Pastor Griesse. We will be taking a vote on the Policy at a special Voters' Meeting on February 12th.

MARRIAGE POLICY OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Marriage Policy of Peace Lutheran Church, Selah, WA, a member congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, is and always has been consistent with the Synod's beliefs on marriage. We believe that marriage is a sacred union of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24-25), and that God gave marriage as a picture of the relationship between Christ and His bride the Church (Eph. 5:32). Our pastors will not officiate over any marriages inconsistent with these beliefs, and our church property may not be used for any marriage ceremony, reception or other activity that would be inconsistent with our beliefs and this policy. Every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Peace Lutheran Church.

STEPHEN MINISTRY...A helping hand during the winters of life.

The weather can be symbolic of what may sometimes happen in life. A crisis hits, and we feel like we're buried beneath a drift of snow. Relationships can become icy, or we can feel frozen by life circumstances. Little difficulties build up like slush, making us slip and slide, causing every decision to seem treacherous. Life seems dreary, and we begin to doubt that spring will ever come. We can wonder, "Is God even there?" "Does He ever have a shovel big enough to find me?"

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide confidential Christian care, giving you the emotional and spiritual support you need to make it through a winter in your life. To learn more about how a Stephen Minister can help you or someone you know, contact Pastor Griesse. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you.





Johannes Gutenberg

1395-1468

It may seem strange to think a man whose earthly life ended some 15 years before the birth of Martin Luther could have had an important impact on the Reformation, but it's true. However, it wasn't the man so much as his invention that proved indispensable to the success of the Reformation.

Without Gutenberg's moveable type for the printing press, Luther's voluminous writings would have had to be handwritten. Their viral spread throughout Germany and Europe would never have happened, and Luther would have remained an obscure monk. The Pope might have dealt with him quietly, and the Reformation would have been nipped in the bud. Gutenberg's moveable-type press made Luther a popular figure and brought a groundswell of public support that proved vital for the success of his reforming ideas.

Johannes Gutenberg was born on an unknown date around 1395. He was the youngest son of an upper-class merchant and the daughter of a shopkeeper. He was an enterprising stonecutter and goldsmith from Mainz, Germany. By the middle of the 15th century several print masters were on the verge of perfecting the techniques of printing with movable metal type. But Gutenberg was the first man to demonstrate the practicality of this invention.

His process made it possible to print many copies of one document, and then reuse the separate pieces of type, or letters, simply by arranging them in the desired order. Interestingly, the first documents Gutenberg printed were indulgences. He used profits from these to undertake printing the Bible of his day, the Latin Vulgate. He completed the printing of the Bible in 1455. By 1517 there were many printers in Germany using Gutenberg's movable metal type. To expand their business they were looking for writings to print—writings that would appeal to a wider public. In the Reformation they found the perfect material and eagerly printed both sides of the argument: Roman Catholic and Protestant.

Gutenberg's printing press first entered the Reformation story after someone, probably students, translated Luther's 95 Theses into German. These German translations went viral; within weeks they spread across Germany, and in two months all of Europe was aware of the defiance of this professor in Wittenberg—and anxious to hear how Rome would respond.

ROMAN REACTION TO THE 95 THESES

Within three months Tetzel responded to Luther's 95 Theses. On January, 1518, he presented 106 theses written against Luther's view by a Frankfurt Professor named Konrad Koch at a disputation at Frankfurt. Again, thanks to Gutenberg's invention, these theses were hastily printed and eagerly read by the lay people of Wittenberg. Luther realized he needed to make his own 95 Theses more accessible and understandable to the general public. To do this he wrote a sermon in German: "A Sermon on Indulgence and Grace." In April 1518 Tetzel wrote a German treatise, *Vorlegung*, a rebuttal to refute Luther's sermon.

In May 1518 Johann von Staupitz invited Luther to present his disputation to a gathering of the Augustinian Order in Heidelberg. Luther never mentioned the 95 Theses, but began to expand his theological foundation with a presentation of his "theology of the cross," which he used to expose the Catholic Church's "theology of glory."

Also in May Tetzel escalated his argument by publishing 50 theses he had used in defense of his doctorate at Leipzig. These were based not on the theology behind the indulgences, but the Pope's authority to issue them.

In August, Luther produced a printed sermon that questioned the historical primacy of the Catholic Church in Rome and cast doubts on its authority to excommunicate in every case. By that same August, Pope Leo X's investigation into Luther's teachings was complete. He sent Luther a citation to appear in Rome to answer the charge of heresy. The man who delivered that citation was the next member of our Reformation Twelve—Johannes Tetzel's earlier superior in the Dominican Order, Cardinal Cajetan.