



Messenger of Peace

"Where the Love of Christ is Shared"

August 2016

Peace Lutheran Church

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

Pastor
Mark Griesse

Office Hours

9:00 - 12:00

Tues - Wed. - Bethlehem
Mon. & Thu. - Peace
Afternoons by Appointment

Secretary

Tammy Peterson
9:00 - 1:00

Sunday Worship
9:00 AM

Sunday Adult Bible Class
10:30 AM

Website

Peacelutheran.360unite.com

Email

peacelutheranselah@gmail.com



Strength in Weakness

Many people have grown up learning that while we may have certain strengths in our personality, character, or vocational ability, we probably need to spend more time fixing or correcting our weaknesses. However, the reverse of that thinking suggests we not concentrate on our weaknesses but instead focus on our particular talents, so that we more fully live out our true strengths. It's an attractive philosophy for business, but it may also have some real value in the way we see our lives as Christians. The crucial question, though, is...

WHAT, IN FACT, IS OUR TRUE STRENGTH?

We all could identify any number of personal strengths. Each person, each member of the body of Christ, has been gifted and talented to the glory of God. Yet, too many times we rely on our professional abilities, our talents, our good nature, our parenting skills, our generosity for charitable contributions, or our acts of service and conclude that on the basis of these we have something to offer to God. And while our personal strengths need not be ignored and can be used effectively for God's purposes, they are never sufficient. Certainly they do not justify us before God.

Paul says he would boast not in his strengths, but in his weakness. He says: "If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness." Why? What kind of wisdom is that in today's culture? Paul reveals "when he is weak, then he is strong". The Lord uses our weaknesses to show us where true strength lies. Likewise, most of us would acknowledge that there are some things we have a hard time dealing with in our lives. These may be physical afflictions, emotional trials, family challenges, or vocational stress. And while we might pray repeatedly for the Lord to take away or change the situation, it may be that this is something that won't go away because, for now at least, it is a way for the Lord to demonstrate that "his grace is sufficient for you." By that thorn in your flesh, the Lord can draw you closer to him. He can use it to encourage you to lean on him and to help you see that his grace is sufficient. This grace is his undeserved mercy won on the cross and by the empty tomb. It is constant for you, now in life and forever when you die. And it is sufficient for you! When our weaknesses get overwhelming, we discover in the accepting arms of the forgiving Lord just how much he has done and is doing for us in his uncompromising love.

Our greatest weaknesses are God's greatest strength. Paul writes in Rom 8:32, "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"

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3. Take heart, have hope, my spirit
And do not be dismayed;
God helps in ev'ry trial
And makes you unafraid.
Await His time with patience
Through darkest hours of night
Until the sun you hoped for
Delights your eager sight.

4. Leave all to His direction;
His wisdom rules for you
In ways to rouse your wonder
At all His love can do
Soon He, His promise keeping
With wonder working powers
Will banish from your spirit
What gave you troubled hours.
(LSB 754 St. 3 & 4)

- - Pastor Mark Griesse

O.W.L.S. August Lunch

The O.W.L.S. will meet for lunch at **11:30 on Friday, August 12th**. Lunch will be at **Trout Lodge**. The restaurant requires a headcount so if you are planning to attend please **RSVP to Marcia Shotwell by August 5th**.



Your menu choices for lunch are:

***Chicken Salad Croissant**

*** BLT**

***Deluxe Burger**

(All above choices are \$9.95 + tax and must be ordered by August 5th)

You can contact Marcia at 697-4543 or shotwell@elltel.net



A Look Ahead ... Western Days

We will be celebrating the upcoming year of church activities with Western Days on September 11th an 12:30 at Harlan & Mary Lyso's house. Details will be announced soon.

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies ... would you be interested in participating in a Ladies Bible study? All the details can be decided and worked out by the participants. Please call Shirleen Wilhelm at 966-0544 or Sara Bicsak at 697-3862 if you would be interested.



Operation Christmas Child

Sandy Phelps, Jean Sinclair, and Linda Smith have been busy packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Below is a list of items they are in need of for filling the shoeboxes.

wash cloths
bar soap
pencils
small books
small toys
combs

toothbrushes
coloring books
crayons
individually wrapped candy (not soft that can melt)
water bottles
wrapped suckers



If anyone would like to donate items, you can leave them in the box below the coat rack. Thank you.

Men's Night Out!

Men of Peace, you are invited to a **Men's Night Out**. On **Thursday, August 25th at 7:00 p.m.** (location TBD) the men of Peace are invited to just hang out and enjoy an evening of "man talk" and fellowship. (Watch for more details).



Trip to Germany

Mark your calendar: There will be a meeting regarding the **2017 Germany Trip** on Wednesday, August 17th at 7 p.m. at River Ridge Restaurant. If you have questions, call Hilde Hibdon at 961-1793.

English Afternoon Tea



On Tuesday, August 16th at 3:00 p.m., the Fellowship Board will host a ladies English Afternoon Tea at Marcia Shotwell's house. All ladies will find an invitation in their member mailboxes. RSVP is needed by August 5th by calling Marcia at 697-4543 or Louise Schenk at 697-4747.

A Look Ahead

Our Ladies of Lourdes' Holiday Bazaar is scheduled in November. Peace will once again participate in the bazaar but will need items to sell. Now is the time to get those hands moving and begin making items that can be sold at the bazaar. If you have any questions contact Teri Sanchez.



Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Griesse will be on vacation August 1-12. If anyone needs pastoral assistance during that time please contact a Lay Minister.



"If telemarketers call, invite them to church."