



Messenger of Peace

"Where the Love of Christ is Shared"

October 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-
church.360unite.com

Email

peacelutheranselah@gmail.com



Dear Members and Friends,

This month we celebrate the Reformation. It is the beginning of the 500th anniversary year of the Reformation. Martin Luther was the central figure in the Reformation that began October 31, 1517, but he never could have accomplished it by himself. Twelve people were an essential part of the rise and the success of the Reformation. Interestingly enough, most of them never confessed the faith that Luther rediscovered: five of them condemned it; one knew nothing of it, and four were indifferent to it. In fact only two, in addition to Luther, could end up being called "Lutherans." But each of them played a necessary role.

Johann von Staupitz

Pope Leo X

Frederick the Wise

Johannes Gutenberg

Albrecht, Archbishop of Mainz

George Spalatin

Desiderius Erasmus

Johann Tetzel

Emperor Charles V

Philip Melanchthon

Cardinal Cajetan

Johann Eck

Each month during the 500th year celebration we will include in our newsletter a biography of each of these 12. The source of this material is Lutheran Hour Ministries – LHM.ORG.

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[Pastor's Letter continued from page 1]



Johann von Staupitz

1460-1524

No one was more instrumental in leading Luther to where he would discover God's free grace through Jesus Christ than his supervisor in the Augustinian Order, Johann von Staupitz. Of him Luther said, "If it had not been for Dr. Staupitz, I should have sunk in hell!" Staupitz heard Luther's confessions, and advised him through his spiritual struggles. When he recommended that Luther become a professor at the university in Wittenberg, he not only channeled Luther's amazing intellect and strong scruples, he directed him to the place where Luther would find the peace he had been desperately seeking.

His birth date is unknown, but Staupitz grew up in the town of Motterwitz in Saxony. One of his childhood friends would turn out to be Luther's future Protector, Frederick the Wise.

In 1485 Staupitz was accepted into the Augustinian Order in Munich. In 1500 he was made doctor of theology. In 1502 Frederick the Wise, Elector of Saxony, started a small university in Wittenberg, Germany. He chose his childhood friend Staupitz to be professor of the Bible, and dean of the theology faculty. At this same time, Staupitz was also the abbot of the Augustinian Monastery in Erfurt. In 1503 Staupitz was named vicar-general of the Reformed Congregation of the Hermits of St. Augustinian.

Luther's relationship with Staupitz began in 1507. He noted Luther's powerful intellect, and his scrupulous conscience. He became Luther's confessor. Noticing that Luther confessed the same sins repeatedly to quiet his guilty conscience, Staupitz sent Luther to Rome in 1510 to help with a controversy within the Augustinian Order. He hoped the experience would set things straight with Luther's soul. It didn't.

By 1512 Staupitz knew he did not have time for both of his positions, so he chose Martin Luther as his replacement for professor of Bible at the university. He reasoned that Luther would be so busy he wouldn't have time for his incessant self-examination. Staupitz convinced Frederick to pay for Luther's doctorate provided that Luther remained at Wittenberg for the rest of his life. Two days after Luther received his doctorate, he took Staupitz' post as professor of Bible. Staupitz continued to listen to Luther's confessions. He finally told Luther that he, too, had confessed daily and resolved to be devout, but then realized that every day he failed. He told Luther that repentance begins with the love of God. Later Luther wrote a letter to Staupitz telling him that the simple formula that repentance begins with the love of God suddenly opened his mind:

"These words stuck in me like some sharp and mighty arrow, and I began from that time onward to look up what the Scriptures teach about penitence." It was as a professor at Wittenberg that Luther reached the conclusion that salvation was by God's grace, without our works. While Luther tried to figure out what all that meant, his attention was drawn to something going on across the river.

PLENARY INDULGENCES

While Luther was pastor of the City Church in Wittenberg, he noticed fewer members were coming to confession. Then some began bringing him plenary indulgences they had bought from a monk named Johann Tetzel. Luther was outraged at the preposterous claims being made about these indulgences. But who was behind them?

Look for more on the Reformation in next month's Messenger.

Game Night and Potluck

The Fellowship Board will once again host a Game Night and Potluck beginning **Tuesday, October 4th at 5:30**. Everyone is invited to attend. Bring a food dish to share and stay for the fun after the meal!

O.W.L.S. Lunch



The OWLS will meet for lunch on **Friday, October 14th at 11:30 a.m.** at **Magic's Pizza** in Selah. Following lunch those who wish are invited to tour the Shotwell's

Halloween House. Please let Marcia know if you plan to attend the lunch.

A Look Ahead to the Holly Jolly Bazaar



Our Lady of Lourdes' holiday bazaar is scheduled in November and will be here before we know it! Peace has reserved tables to participate in the bazaar but will need items to sell. Now is the time to get those fingers moving and begin making items that can be sold at the bazaar. If you have any questions contact Teri Sanchez.

Thank You!

Thank you to those who donated yarn to Phyllis Fletcher. Phyllis knits hats for Samaritan's Purse and your yarn was greatly appreciated. If anyone has yarn they would like to donate, please contact JoAnn Adams.



Come and Quilt Day



The ladies of Peace are invited to a "Come and Quilt Day" on **Saturday, October 8th** beginning at **9:00 a.m.** at Peace Lutheran. Those attending will get lessons in triangles. See the flyer on the bulletin board and talk to Crystal West to sign up or get more information.

2nd Harvest

The **2nd Harvest / Thrivent Mobile Food Bank** will be at Peace Lutheran on **Tuesday, October 4th, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.**

Free produce, nutritious perishable products, and other groceries for **ALL families in need** of food assistance will be handed out. Once again, we will need volunteers to help set-up, distribute, and take down. Watch for the volunteer sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



New Members

James and Nancy Valenta and their children, Joshua, Moriah & Jessika, were brought in as new members of Peace by transfer on September 11th. Please welcome this family to our family here at Peace.



Flood Victims

For those wishing to make donations to the friends of Larry & Shirleen Wilhelm who were victims of the flooding in Louisiana, there are information sheets on the table in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, contact Shirleen Wilhelm at 966-0544.



*Autumn carries more gold in its pocket
than all the other seasons.*

~Jim Bishop

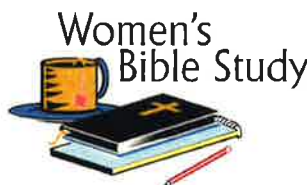
AARP Drivers Safety Refresher Class

Glenn Stocker will be leading an AARP Drivers Safety Refresher Class at Peace on **October 12th & 13th** from **8:30 - 12:30** both days. The fee is \$15.00 for AARP members and \$20.00 for non-members.

For more information, contact Glenn at 697-5022.



The Women of Peace Bible Study



The Women of Peace Bible Study meets each Saturday (through November 19th) at Peace Lutheran, **11:00 to 12:30**, to study the *Golden*

Fruit: Lessons about the Fruit of the Spirit. All women are welcome to attend.

If you have questions or for more information contact Shirleen Wilhelm at 966-0544.

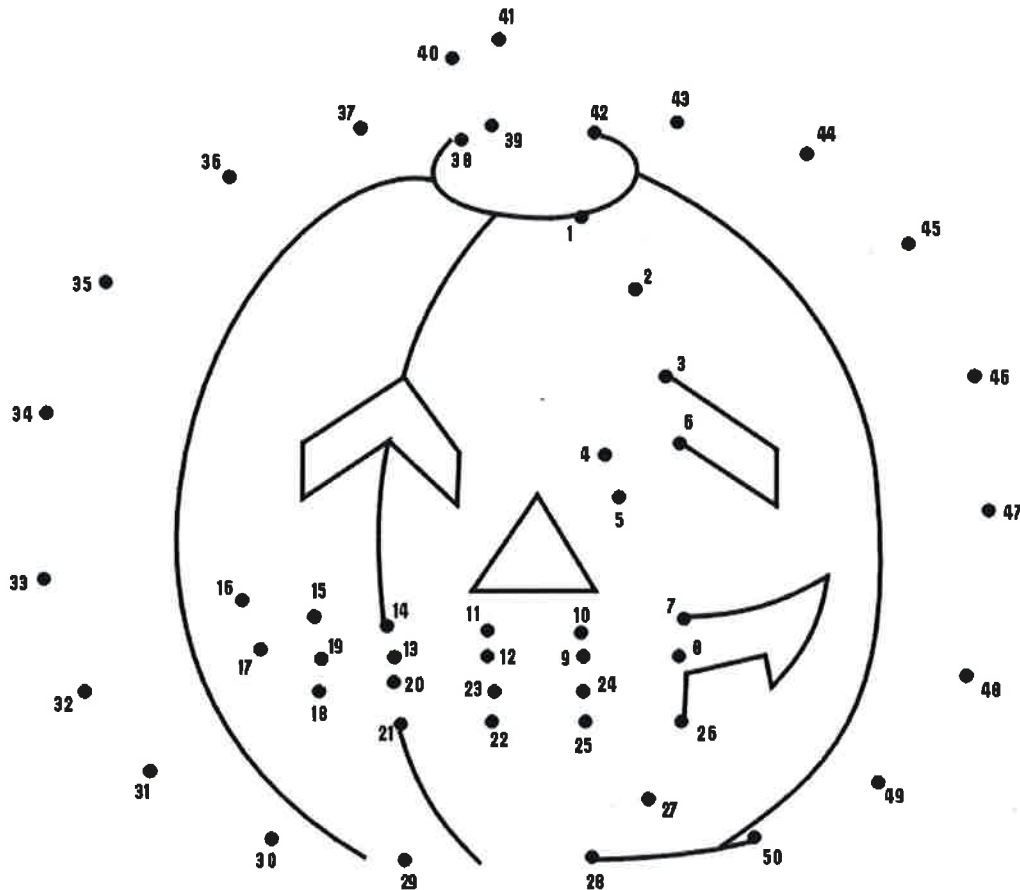
There is a Church Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 25th at 7:00. All board Chairpersons (or your board representative) are asked to attend.

Membership Transfer

Jim & Leota Lewis have transferred their membership to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sherwood, OR.

Halloween Open House

You are invited to a Halloween Open House at Steve & Marcia Shotwell's (705 W. Naches Ave., Selah) on October 11th or 13th. Please bring a can of food for the Food Bank.





Activists: West ignoring genocide of Middle East religious minorities

blogs.lcms.org/2016/west-ignoring-genocide

9/8/2016



Religious freedom advocate Katrina Lantos Swett, right, leads a panel for the opening of the In Defense of Christians national convention Sept. 7 in Washington, D.C. (RNS photo by Adelle M. Banks)

WASHINGTON (RNS) — Nearly six months after Secretary of State John Kerry declared the murder of Christians in the Middle East a “genocide,” Westerners are doing little to stop the killings, said activists gathered for a convention on the victims’ plight.

Religious freedom advocate Katrina Lantos Swett called the crisis “perhaps the great moral challenge of our time right now” at a Sept. 7 news conference opening the national convention for In Defense of Christians, an advocacy group.

“I am baffled and heartbroken, as the daughter of Holocaust survivors, at how it is possible for the West to seem so, so blind, willfully blind, or even worse, aware but relatively disinterested in what is unfolding in our

time, on our watch, in our purview of being able to act,” said Swett, president of the Lantos Foundation for Human Rights and Justice.

Activists are urging Congress to take decisive steps to protect the lives and culture of groups such as Assyrian and Coptic Christians, and non-Christians such as the Yazidis.

Rep. Dave Trott, R-Mich., announced plans during the news conference to introduce legislation to support the restoration of Coptic Christian churches destroyed by Egyptian looters in religious violence in 2013.

Andrew Doran, co-founder of In Defense of Christians, said his group and other advocates will be working together to seek congressional action on ending the conflict in Syria, which he said is breeding terrorism in that region and beyond it.

“It’s not coming, it’s here — it’s in our churches, it’s in our nightclubs and it’s in our public spaces and it will get much worse before it gets better,” Doran said. “If we move swiftly to end the conflict in Syria, we can save lives there now and save American lives and other lives elsewhere in the decades to come.”

— *Adelle Banks*

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Posted September 8, 2016

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