

Peace Notes

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Past-or Present

This month's article introduces a new missions-related effort in the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, to which Peace belongs. Our English District is launching a new model for funding missions to which every congregation is invited to participate, and our plan here at Peace is to begin our participation next month with the start of the Lenten season. It is completely voluntary, but we believe that as God's people see and hear what is being accomplished specifically and directly in support and development of new missions and enhancing existing missions, more and more will want to be involved.

This funding model is based on the belief that "there is power and strength in many giving a little." Loving our neighbor includes caring for their spiritual well-being. This is why the need exists for God's people to come together in support of missions that are bearing kingdom fruit.

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" - Romans 10:13-15

This effort is simple. Very simple. It is NOT burdensome, nor sacrificial. It involves every baptized member of the Body of Jesus here at Peace, from the newest baby baptized to the oldest member. It demonstrates the power of the beautiful body of Christ working together, prompted by faith. It shows how much can be accomplished by many, giving little.

Here's the plan:

\$1/per baptized member/per week

Simple, right? All can participate. If every baptized member in our English District congregations did this, we could produce \$2.5 million in addition to our district's total budget of \$1.8 million. Just think what else we could do in our mission work together!

Questions About "A Dollar for Missions"

1. What is "A Dollar for Missions?"

It is a simple mission funding model every English District congregation is being invited to join in on. Each baptized member is asked to give one dollar extra per week. \$1/per member/per week. Thus, "1-1-1".

2. Why is "A Dollar for Missions" necessary?

Often people believe or say we can't support new missions or missionaries because of lack of funds. This simple funding model would provide enough money to fund most missions we would like to start. This funding model allows us to dream big together.

3. Is this \$1 included in our regular stewardship giving?

No. This is \$1 *extra* given every week. Please don't subtract a dollar from anywhere else in your giving.

4. Why are baptized children also included and not just communicant members?

They are members of the body of Christ. Their parents can give the dollar for them. This model incorporates the whole Body of Christ working together. Letting young children put their dollar in the mission collection box teaches them from an early age to be involved in the support of missions.



5. Are these extra dollars for our own mission efforts at Peace?

No. The purpose of this funding model is to gather dollars for missions outside of our congregation and community. The English District selects the missions that will receive these extra dollars.

In next month's article I will describe the missions our District is currently supporting with "A Dollar for Missions."

Peace and joy in Christ,

Pastor

Galatians 2:20

News from Our President

Last month I wrote about the Ministry Council's (MC) desire to assure Peace's long-term financial health by taking action at its last meeting to form a Stewardship committee. At the same meeting we also recognized that for Peace to be successful in our mission of "Caring, Connecting, and Celebrating" we need not only to be financially strong, but also to have robust culture of volunteer workers.

Peace has always been blessed with a wonderful group of members willing to give of their time and talent to serve the Lord. It is important that we expand the opportunities for members to experience this joy of service.

In 1 Peter 4:10 we are reminded, “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”

There are many ways to serve at Peace, such as ushering, altar guild, reading the lessons, senior ministry, and counters, just to mention a few. Two new opportunities to serve have also been recently created: a safety action team and a Little Lambs Academy (LLA) advisory committee. Detailed information about these groups will be forthcoming soon. If you have any questions on these positions, please feel free to contact myself, Pastor, or any staff member. I encourage you to prayerfully consider how you may be able to share your talents to help Peace accomplish our mission and goals.

I am extremely happy to be able to report this month that the Founders Hall roof replacement project has been completed. This has been a very long and drawn-out project, complicated by many obstacles and challenges.

A big thank you to Greg Matz for doing much of the initial legwork. Greg researched different roofing options as well as evaluated potential contractors. At that point last August, Ted Maris joined our staff as Facilities Manager and subsequently saw the project through to completion. Working with some of the subcontractors proved to be somewhat challenging, but Ted demonstrated strong management skills, working with all parties concerned to get the job done. Also, Jake Hockett must be recognized for his contribution to the project. Jake altered his schedule in order to quickly take down and remove some of the trees next to the building to meet the contractors’ requested time line.

Because of the availability of funds from our Paving the Way campaign, we were able to pay cash for this project and avoid having to borrow any money. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this campaign.

Peace and blessings,

Jim Dumke

For Seniors & Those Who Care for Them

If you have questions or insights into the matter of aging, you’re invited to join us in the Gathering Place on the third Thursday of each month at 11:00.

The group, *Grace-filled Aging* is facilitated by Julie Disseler and talks about topics ranging from caregiving to housing to activities that keep us mentally and physically healthy.

This group isn’t just for “seniors”, but all ages who might have concerns and suggestions regarding the aging process. At the first meeting, ages ranged from 55 to 92, and several topics for future discussion were shared. The next meeting is February 21 at 11:00, but it is ok to come late if necessary.

Someone shared Ecclesiastes 3:1, “*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.*” This may be the season of Winter for many people, but in Winter there is also the hope of Spring and the newness of life again.

Regardless of where you are in this season, or where the person you take care of is, you can be encouraged by this group and be reminded of the grace given to each of us every day.

If you have any questions about *Grace-filled Aging*, please see or call Julie Disseler at 817-421-6544.



Women Connected in Prayer Gathering

Prayer, Partners, Peace

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, let your requests be known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians. 4:6-7)



These words that Paul the Apostle wrote in his letter to the Philippians will be the theme of the annual *Women Connected in Prayer* Gathering on Saturday, March 2. All women are invited to attend!

Whether you have had a prayer partner before or thinking about joining this ministry for the first time, we hope you will join us. We'll gather in Founders Hall at 8:30 am for breakfast, prayer, song, and Bible study. Afterwards you will be matched with a prayer partner, and the two of you can spend some time getting to know one another. The program will conclude about 10:30 am.

Being part of this ministry is easy. You and your prayer partner arrange to connect with each other on a regular basis and share prayer requests. Through the Holy Spirit, your prayer partner will pray for you as you pray for her. And God will listen to your prayers and help you build a relationship that will strengthen your faith and trust in Him.

We need to plan, so please sign up at the Info Desk. And please sign up even if you cannot attend so you can be matched with a prayer partner for the next year.

If you have any questions, please contact Sue Getzel at 414-573-4776.

A Report from the Field

A Christmas Present at Socorro

I have spent much of the past six months in Guatemala responding to the Volcano Fuego disaster. As we made our way to the project site, we passed El Rodeo – a grim reminder of our work. The community was destroyed by Volcano Fuego's lahar that buried the community's home in hot ash, boulders and debris. The roadway had been cleared, but one could not help but see the once thriving, happy community.

We arrived in Socorro, a community that is in the heart of sugar cane country, whose people make a living by chopping cane in near 100 degree humid weather. After a few days, the community opened up about the fateful night of the eruption—June 2nd—and I could not help but be reminded of the song lyrics "*Does anyone know where the love of God goes, when the waves turn the minutes to hours.*"

They told of the loud explosions and the ground shaking from the lahar flowing in the river. This was not new to them, as the community was heavily damaged 54 years ago by a similar event when the lahar filled the river with ash debris and pushed the river into their homes. That event killed several members of the community and they were afraid. They stood on the banks of the river and watched the lahar flow and turn their once clean, friendly stream into an ugly and threatening foe, killing all the fish and vegetation that once thrived within its banks. The lahar was so hot that it burned anyone who dared to touch it. Soon the footbridge over the river was overcome and destroyed, eliminating this important evacuation route to safety. This is what brought me and the Rotary / EWB team to this community. We were there to replace this important connection for the people to education, markets, healthcare...and safety.

Many families sent the women and children away to stay with other family members for safety. They knew that the eruption was not the only risk to the community and their homes.

When the rains came, the lahar would return, and nobody knew if additional, even more powerful eruptions loomed in the future. But many stayed and dealt with the risk of living without a safe evacuation route to cross the river.

Maria is a proud and strong grandmother who sells tortillas three times a day to make a living. She told the story of misjudging the river one day when she attempted to cross with her grandson, Julio. As they reached the strongest current in the river, the water swept the legs out from under little Julio, and she knew she was in trouble. She hung onto both of his hands as his legs stretched out downstream, being pulled by the current. He never said a word, or even cried, but looked at her knowing that she was the only thing between life and death. As her grip on Julio's little hands started to wane, Maria cried out for help, and luckily two men came to her rescue. She wiped the tears from her leathery cheek and proud face as she trembled, thinking what might have happened.

As we worked on the new bridge, the landscape sent us a constant message of the volcano's presence. We could see five volcanos from the site – Fuego, Acatenango, Agua, Pacaya, and Atitlan. Fuego erupted every hour or so, sending a plume of ash high up into the sky. Sometimes, the eruption was more serious and demanded our attention with loud explosions. Try as one might, you could not help but wonder if the “Big One” was yet to come.

It was cane harvesting time in the area. The fields are first burned and then the cane is chopped by the workers, stacked and put into large trucks to be taken to the sugar mill. When the fields are burned, the iguanas flee and make for easy pickings for the local people. Iguana is a welcome source of protein for the families here, and we were no different. Cata, our reliable cook, made a wonderful stew, or “caldo de iguana.” The cane harvest went on seven days a week without pause. This made it difficult to find the 40 volunteer men that were needed to work on the bridge. A community meeting was called to discuss the challenge. Many talked about asking for help from the government or other groups. Then Audry, the

leader from Socorro, asked if women might be able to help. Mincho, our construction foreman, immediately said “yes,” and we would show them how. It is extremely rare for us to have women workers on the construction sites in Guatemala.

So the next morning at 6:30 a.m. 25 mothers and grandmothers, many with children in tow, came to work. They worked tirelessly carrying rocks the size of volleyballs, mixing and carrying concrete. Doing this work is a challenge for even an hour or two, but these ladies kept up the pace all day long. Just when I thought that they might give out, Audry starts to sing a hymn, and the rest of the group all join in. The following day 25 teenage girls also came ready to pitch in. They were eager to show their fathers, brothers, and boyfriends that they too could do a day's work. I was amazed watching the work, which now progressed rapidly. The women were always socializing, talking about their families, complaining about their men, and urging each other on.

The excitement grew as the bridge took shape. First the tall towers were done which were followed by the cables and the suspenders that would form the deck. In the evening a crowd would gather at the site to track the progress of the work, pointing and waving as the women workers showed their men the day's progress.

When we started construction in November, the goal of a community Christmas present was set, and people scoffed not thinking it could be done. Now the ladies waited impatiently for the men to finish the fencing, so they could place the last concrete on the ramp up to the bridge. As the bridge was completed a few days before Christmas, the tears of joy and prayers of thanks now flowed as safe passage over the river was again a reality. Soon, Maria came to thank me for our help, only to be unable to utter a word due to emotion. As we hugged instead, she knew no further words were needed.

As I looked at the bridge, I remembered Audry's courage and determination at the community meeting and how it made all the difference in the project. She did not look outside for help to the

problem, but within. She did not fear the construction work, but knew that with God's help, all things are possible. She tackled the impossible task with a hymn on her lips and joy in her heart, and she never complained. She put her faith in God and simply said, "Here I am God, send me."

What a wonderful lesson and gift she had given me this Christmas.

Mike Paddock, PE, PS

L.W.M.L. — Lutheran Women in Mission

Your Mites at Work:

Eldercare Home in Haiti



*... As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.
(Matthew 25:40)*

What if you lived on a small island nation with over 11 million people? What if it was the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere? What if you had gone through a devastating earthquake only 8 years ago, only to experience another one this past year? What if you are over the age of 60 and had outlived all your family members? What if you had no home to live in?

The country, of course, is Haiti. Life expectancy there is short (63 years), and so people generally devote their energy towards day to day survival, not paying attention to the possibility of living to old age.

After the devastation of the 2010 earthquake, the "Lutheran Village" concept was developed during the rebuilding effort. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti in the town of Jacmel acquired property and dedicated a church, then added small, safe residential homes; later an orphanage was built. Now the final phase, the Christian Eldercare Facility is finally under construction. **The mites you have gladly given have fully supported the LWML Mission Grant of \$100,000 to build this facility.**

Mission teams from all over the Midwest U.S. (including Shepherd of the Hills, Appleton, WI) will be traveling to assist in the building construction this spring.

Jackie Rychel, Grant Administrator for Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti, says she's working with other RCO's for help to train the Haitians in Eldercare, help in collecting and shipping of furnishing for the elderly, and with other groups that would donate bedding, blankets, and other humanitarian supplies. She writes: *Thank you for making possible a safe, caring, and healthy home for those elderly Haitians that have outlived their families where they can have clean water, beds, food, and care while also being fed nourished with the Gospel.*

If you would like to read more about this mission, please visit

<http://www.lwml.org/posts/thanks/you-are-making-an-impact-for-grant-10-in-haiti>.

Sue Getzel



Ladies that Lunch

Ladies that Lunch are back to their usual week for fellowship on Thursday, February 7 at Open Flame in Hales Corners. Join us at 11:30 for some wonderful conversation and great food.

New faces are always welcome to join us whenever you can. Carpooling is available from the College Ave parking lot at 11:00. Sign up at the Info Desk to reserve your spot.

Melody Erblich

Are You “Enough”?

Has work, the kids, and just life got you in a slump? Some days we just feel as if we’re not enough...smart enough, pretty enough, creative enough or even loving enough.

Do you feel anxious, tired, or overwhelmed by the pressures of everyday life?

You are not alone.

You just need some time to be reminded of who you really are! And the *I Am Enough in Christ* conference is perfect for you!

You will hear from exceptional ladies who felt (and sometimes still do) inadequate but learned to rise above their feelings when they learned (and remember) how their Creator sees them!

Be Encouraged! Be Invigorated! Be Empowered!
Be Inspired! Be Enough!

Grab your friends and join us for all of this and more on Saturday February 23 at Brooklife Church in Mukwonago! Doors open at 8 and the event begins at 9. Register today at iamenoughinchrist.com.

Sign up for carpooling at the Info Desk.

See Melody Erblich for more information.



Fellowship Corner

It is hard to believe that the Christmas season is over and we are now preparing for the Easter season. The Advent dinners were well attended and the food was delicious thanks to the efforts of our Men’s Bible Study groups, Women’s Ministry and Bible Studies, as well as Ministry Council and Staff. Please know that your efforts in food preparation and clean-up was greatly appreciated by all. I would also like to thank Sheila Ambelang for coordinating the Advent luncheons for those attending the noon services. Many helpers provided soup and salads for lunch and it was greatly appreciated.

It is wonderful to know that we have such a loving congregation who volunteer their time and energy to make events happen at Peace. We are now entering the Easter season with Lenten dinners on Wednesdays starting March 6. The Elders groups will be each taking a Wednesday to prepare more delicious meals for us to enjoy. Please assist your elders when it is your group’s turn to serve. Thank you for making our dinners so much fun. There will also be sign-up sheets going up for the Easter Breakfast in March so make sure you sign up to help, make something, attend, and clean up.

It is a pleasure to serve you.

Joan Weber
Fellowship Coordinator,

Thank You

I sincerely thank you for the many prayers and well wishes I received during my surgery and healing. Many blessings were received because of your intercessory prayers including the gift of patience during these past 11 weeks of recovery.

Please don’t underestimate the power of prayer, or it’s benefits in our life. Our Heavenly Father hears them all, and in His good mercy and timing provides good things for His children.

Melody Erblich



February Birthdays

Lucy Abel	February 2
Matt Bennett Isabella Sholty	February 3
Valerie Allerheiligen Dan Frank Jennifer Langbauer Jill Paque	February 5
Luke Carey Jasmine Davey Jon Lassa	February 6
Evelynn Kenyon	February 8
Suzi Banks Sherry Gunderson Deb Hoepner	February 9
Bret Langbauer Bryan Webb	February 10
Michelle Brunn	February 12
Amy Barry Suzanne Nievinski	February 13
Hanna Rewolinski	February 14
Jeffrey Barg LaRae Malinauskas	February 15
Chris Fulcer Marcia Schelle	February 16
Patti Woodard	February 17
Ava Jakubowski Nicholas Morrell	February 18
Greg Barg Verl Wolf	February 20
Erin Carey Jim Dumke	February 21
Jeff Carey Owen Malinauskas	February 26
Joe Malinauskas Emily Maris	February 27
Matthew Mansfield	February 28

Love Conquers All

The love for equals is a human thing — of friend for friend, brother for brother. It is to love what is loving and lovely. The world smiles.

The love for the less fortunate is a beautiful thing — the love for those who suffer, for those who are poor, the sick, the failures, the unlovely. This is compassion, and it touches the heart of the world.

The love for the more fortunate is a rare thing — to love those who succeed where we fail, to rejoice without envy with those who rejoice, the love of the poor for the rich The world is always bewildered by its saints.

And then there is the love for the enemy — love for the one who does not love you but mocks, threatens and inflicts pain. The tortured's love for the torturer. This is God's love. It conquers the world.

—Frederick Buechner,
The Magnificent Defeat





Who's Hosting CoffeeSip?

Those serving coffee sip for the month of February are listed below. Thank you all for your assistance in this fellowship function.



February 3, 2019

Eggold, Paul & Sue	414-421-8988
Engelhardt, Richard	262-679-2395
Erblich, Bill & Melody	414-422-1210
Eurick, Bill & Donna	262-662-3486
Fontanez, Carol	262-993-4554
Frank, Dan & Lea Ann	414-529-1368
Fredlund, Craig & Wendy	262-971-1547
Fulcer, Bill & Christine	262-488-0538
Gerke, Mark & Lynette	414-529-0207
Gersonde, Elizabeth	414-258-1749
Getzel, Buzz & Sue	262-679-0476
Glysch, Craig & Mara	414-235-3783

February 10, 2019

Gridley, Scott & Linda	262-797-6163
Groth, Lisa	414-254-7737
Guise, Eleanor	262-679-2911
Gundersen, Griff & Sherry	414-217-7730
Halverson, Tom	414-915-3155
Hart, Steve & Pam	414-529-7568
Hetrick, Tom & Carole	262-679-4716
Hockett, Jake & Jennifer	262-751-7742
Hoepfner, John & Debbie	262-786-0488
Hubbard, Dianne	414-425-1758
Hubert, Doug & Jill	262-707-7516
Hutter, Rob & Amy	262-993-5217

February 17, 2019

Isaksen, Roy	262-679-7671
Jaeger, Sharon	414-526-2306
Jakubowski, Phillip & Kim	262-679-2352
Javens, Cindy & Jeff	262-679-3686
Kaschak, Matt	414-234-0719
Kleinhans, Eric & Patty	920-246-8203
Klepatz, Paul & Lanette	414-425-6858
Klose, Jerry & Robin	262-679-0430
Korselt, Anthony & Courtney	262-436-0053
Kritter, Dan & Lynn	262-679-2631
Kust, Jeep & Vickie	262-782-0060
Langbauer, Steve & Jennifer	262-662-1665

February 24, 2019

Lewandowski, Doug & Mary	262-679-8110
Loppnow, Janet	262-544-1539
Loppnow, Tom & Dori	262-392-4142
Luling, Mark & Darcy	262-896-7779
Malinauskas, Joe & LaRae	414-704-2532
Mansfield, Jason	262-853-7612
Mansfield, Lisa	414-759-7797
Maris, Charles Sr & Linda	262-821-1957
Matz, Greg & Kris	262-524-5542
Matz, Paige	262-662-2240
McArthur, Brian & Laurie	262-662-0497
Merk, James & Linda	262-364-9550

The highlighted names are the leaders for that Sunday.

If you have any questions please contact Lynette Gerke 414-529-0207 or mdglag@yahoo.com.

Thank you.

**COFFEE
FELLOWSHIP**

