

# Peace Notes

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## Past-or Present

*Note from Pastor Michel: I chose to have this month's article written largely by my beloved bride, Sue.*

You have dates in your family's history that will never be forgotten. A birthday. An anniversary. The first day at a new job.

The Michel family had a period of days this past April that will not easily be forgotten. On Friday, April 12, we had ourselves a happy, healthy, family pet. The next morning, though, Percy Therapy Dog—our family pet—was not acting himself.

We took him to the vet that morning, and he was diagnosed with a condition called Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus (GDV), or commonly known as stomach flip, and had to be rushed into

emergency surgery at Wisconsin Veterinary Referral Center (WVRC) in Waukesha. While Percy survived the surgery, his recovery was incredibly difficult. At 1:30 am on Wednesday, April 17, we received a phone call from WVRC informing us that Percy had gone into cardiac and pulmonary arrest. At that moment we had no option but to euthanize Percy, who was only six years old.

During these five days in the week leading up to Easter, I (Sue) felt like my life had just about been sucked right out of me. The bond that I had with Percy, both as my family pet and as my working therapy dog, was so strong and I could not fathom how my life could possibly continue without him.

However, the phone rang. Someone was checking to see how not only I was doing, but

how our kids were doing. Facebook comments flooded my wall. People were praying. People were caring. The mailman delivered handwritten notes and thoughtful cards. Texts popped up on my phone so that I knew that someone was thinking of me.

On the morning of Wednesday, April 17 a life ended. Percy Therapy Dog was truly a dog—who did what doggies do on a patch of grass, slept on the chair when he really wasn't invited, and romped around in the backyard with the kids. Yet he was also a truly special dog with an amazing ability to work as a therapy dog in a hospital, nursing home, or hospice setting, in a room full of young children with special needs, or under a pew in a church full of people.

Yes, a life came to an end, but it wasn't my life. And that's where you, our precious church family, came in. My life had to go on. So you cared, you cried, you hugged, you gave me some space when I needed it, you listened, many of you gave generously in a financial way, and most of all you prayed. I felt all of your love, and care, and concern. By God's grace, and with your help, I made it through April 18, April 19, and the next day, through Easter Sunday, and even beyond.

“Thank you” isn't even a sufficient way to describe the gratitude in our hearts for the Christian love that you showed to our whole family.

I hope that there will be another red-letter day on the calendar again. A day that will mark the first time that we are able to walk into the doors of Peace Lutheran Church with another working dog. For it was you—the family of God at Peace—that Percy Therapy Dog cared the most for, and you could tell that by the way he greeted you with a wag, a lick, a lean, or a smile. If the Lord allows it, it is my most sincere wish that this red-letter day will one day come again.

In Christ's love,  
*Sue, Pastor, Jonathan and Rebekah Michel*

## Notes from Our President

This is the time of the year that the Ministry Council (MC) is focused on creating next year's budget to present to the congregation at the June voters meeting. This year the voters' meeting is scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 following the Sunday service. This is going to be important meetings so please plan to attend if at all possible.

I am very pleased to report that with the hard work of our staff, the staff of LLA, and our LLA advisory committee it appears that LLA will be at or very close to breakeven for the coming school year. We are not there yet but registration remains open through August and based on previous enrollment patterns we should be very close.

Also at the voters meeting we will be voting to fill open positions on the MC. This year the following positions are open:

- President
- Vice President
- 3 At Large positions

Our constitution limits these 2-year positions to 2 consecutive terms. Each of the 5 members of the current open positions has just completed their first 2-year term and is eligible to run for a second term but this certainly does not preclude anyone who is interested from being added to this year's ballot.

If you are interested or would like additional information please see Tom Hetrick, Pastor, or myself. The council has a regular scheduled meeting every other month with special meetings called as necessary. My experience has been that although the work of the council is not always easy it is rewarding and a wonderful opportunity to use your God given talents to do His work.

Please consider what is written in Isaiah 6:8  
“And I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”  
Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

Perhaps you are in a position to say “Here am I! Send me.”



Before I conclude I would like to thank Mona Vasholz for all the hard work she does voluntary for LLA. It has been brought to my attention by several people that Mona does a tremendous job keeping the financial records for LLA and creating models which are used to determine the most effective use of our LLA building space and staff. Thank you Mona, your work is really appreciated.

Peace and blessing,

*Jim Dumke*  
MC President

## **Women Connected in Prayer**

### *The Lord Goes Before You*

You may recall the story in 1 Kings 17 of a severe famine in the time of King Ahab, when God sent the prophet Elijah to stay with a widow who was basically out of food. She had only a little flour and oil left to bake one loaf of bread, and then she and her son expected to die of starvation. Yet God had Elijah's back, and amazingly, that little bit of flour and oil lasted for days—a miracle! I would suppose that the widow, her son, and Elijah all gave thanks and praise for God's goodness. What joy it must have been to fill their bellies!

But if the threat of starvation wasn't enough to bear, the widow's son then died of an illness. Even Elijah didn't understand why God let this happen. Yet he and the widow turned to God in prayer once again and asked the unthinkable, that the son be returned to life. Miraculously, he was! I would think they must have been giddy with joy at God's goodness.

Sometimes our own situations can lead us to despair. But God is with us. Always. *So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. (Isaiah 41:10)* God doesn't want us to despair. He wants to be our strength. Just as He took care of the widow and her son, our Father gives us that same assurance. *It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed. (Deut. 31:8)*

Without God, life is difficult, sometimes impossible. With God, we can surrender our troubles, lean on Him for guidance, and trust His promise to always be there. We do this not by ourselves, but through the Holy Spirit who gives us strength. And we pray.

Prayer is talking with a loving God who listens and responds to us. If you have a prayer partner, you can confidentially share the things that most concern you in your daily life and get the support of a fellow Christian to remember God's promise.

If you would like a partner to help you share your burdens and your joys with the Lord in prayer, please fill out an Info Card found on the bulletin board and place it into the WCiP mailbox. You will soon be contacted with the name of your prayer partner.

*Sue Getzel*



# Congregational Meeting



## Congregational Meeting

The next Congregational Meeting is set for Sunday, June 30 at 10:30 am, following service.

Don't forget!

# Celebrating a



## Happy Birthday

Mary Boesel	
Kim Roberson	June 2
Jean Christian	June 3
Brian McArthur	June 4
Jason Mansfield Jr	
Kieran Plautz	
Audrey Werther	June 5
Paul Eggold	June 12
Mark Gerke	June 13
Rachel Chapin	June 15
Bob Nelson	June 16
Rebekah Michel	

Lea Muehlbauer	June 17
Dolores McArthur	June 18
Jason Mansfield	June 20
Brett Gundersen	June 21
Harper Paque	
Quinn Paque	June 22
Donald Dzieminski	June 27
Jerry Klose	
Charlie Maris Sr	June 29
Abigail Boesel	
Jack Hunter	
Delaine Nelson	June 30



## What Rain Reveals

Unless you're a pluviophile (someone who loves rain), a stretch of sunshine-free days can seem drab and dreary. To make South Korea's long monsoon season more colorful, art students created murals on some Seoul sidewalks with hydrochromic paint. It's invisible on dry surfaces, but as soon as water hits, vibrant images appear. Rain transforms gray pavement into bright scenes of fish, whales and turtles.

Life's storms, whether literal or figurative, can dampen our enthusiasm and even challenge our faith. Yet adversity often reveals God's true colors — and ours. No matter what clouds pass overhead, God remains perfect, loving and steadfast. And by praising God "rain or shine," we, as his artwork, reveal that our Creator and his every brushstroke are trustworthy.

# COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



## Who's Hosting Coffee Sip?

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

### June 2, 2019

Plautz, Christopher	414-467-7964
Puetz, Daun	414-425-4597
Rewolinski, Tim & Kim	414-331-2463
Roberson, Tom & Kim	414-815-6680
Roller, Bruce & Chris	262-547-3120
<b>Rosandich, Brad &amp; Janet</b>	<b>262-794-3133</b>
Sapienza, Pete & Laurie	262-662-5203
Scalzo, Dave & Cathy	414-427-7756
Schmidt, Bruce & Vickie	262-547-1758
Schneider, Matt & Arlene	262-662-4747
Schneider, Matthew & Chelsea	262-744-4155
Schopf, Bonnie	262-679-3235

### June 9, 2019

Schopf, David & Lori	414-385-9003
Schopf, Richard	262-679-3235
Sholty, Amy	414-526-6165
<b>Shuler, Greg &amp; Sara</b>	<b>262-679-2073</b>
Simeone, Bob & Joan	414-858-9570
Slotke, Heather	414-520-3796
Slotke, Sue & Art	414-422-0277
Smith, Paul	262-662-5262
Springer, Don & Bev	262-679-0386
Stachewicz, Don & Bridget	262-349-9198
Stridde, Kristina & Scott	414-315-0309
Taylor-Smith, Susan	414-377-8850

### June 16, 2019

<b>Thompson, Art &amp; Marilyn</b>	<b>262-394-2251</b>
Treptow, Mike & Beth	262-389-4252
Tyler, Wendy	262-347-5090
Vasholz, Dan & Mona	262-706-3118
Vath, Bill & Bonnie	262-782-3359
Webb, Joanne & Gary	414-235-3918
Weber, Brian & Jessica	414-324-8897
Weber, Bob & Joan	414-425-9066
Welden, Tom & Rici	262-679-4206
Wolf, Verl	414-422-1466
Woodard, Patti	414-531-2335
Wright, Larry III & Sarah	414-416-3523

### June 23, 2019

Young, Bill & Gail	414-235-3515
Ambelang, Terry & Sheila	262-336-8139
Anderson, Dawn	414-529-1586
Aranda, Louis & Ann	262-971-1165
Balistreri, Tom & Mary	262-895-1016
Banks, Suzi	414-322-1380
Barg, Gary & Gretchen	262-971-9767
<b>Barry, Kurt &amp; Betty</b>	<b>414-422-1176</b>
Bartholomay, John & Sharon	414-467-1084
Besch, Mike & Pam	262-786-8896
Boesel, Lucas & Carol	262-679-4837
Borchardt, Joe & Amy	262-501-3310

### June 30, 2019

Borda, Mary Beth & Luis	414-328-9985
Brunn, Michelle	262-643-8711
Brunn, Roger & Gail	262-643-8711
Bunzel, Alan & Diane	414-731-2410
Christian, Jean	262-909-8431
<b>Coleman, Delores</b>	<b>414-425-5510</b>
Cordy, Andrew	713-578-0507
Cushman, Amy	262-332-1354
Davey, Bob & Nancy	262-751-7392
Disseler, Julie	817-421-6544
Dolezar, Mark & Laura	414-801-8108
Dumke, Jim & Jeannie	262-442-6050

The highlighted names will be the leader for the respective Sundays. If you have any questions, please contact Lynette Gerke 414-529-0207 or [mdglag@yahoo.com](mailto:mdglag@yahoo.com). Thank you,