



Peace United Church of Christ

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The Tidings

August 2023



THE TIDINGS – AUGUST 2023 – From the Pastor's Vikar's Study

As twelve members of Peace set out to work on a house in Red Wing, Minnesota, I, being one of them, had no real idea about what to expect. The only house I ever built was probably made out of Lego's (even though, as I'll explain later, that would prove to be closer to reality than expected).

First, we arrived at Pine Island High School which, apparently, is an unusual place for a Habitat crew to settle in, as most trips have been hosted by a local church building. This time though the church in question was occupied by yet another Habitat group working on a different project. So, we got an orientation (that helped orient us only a little bit) and decided to camp out in the library. I chose the spot between the "Fantasy" and "American History" sections, funny how those seem so closely related.

Anyway, the place was a maze on three levels, especially with all the classroom stuff piled in abandoned hallways (including some rather menacing PCR-dolls). Soon enough, when night set in, rattling haunted doors and unexplainable noises were discovered throughout. Still, cots and mattresses did their job and gave us a good rest.

After a short hike on one of the bluffs around Red Wing proper we arrived for lunch at Wanamingo, at a church right across from the worksite where we met Bob (the actual builder) for the first time, who would become our faithful instructor for the week. Despite some severe private issues he shared with us, his clear direction and heart of gold would be the true rock on which the foundation of the house was built upon.

First of all, we split into two groups: one to rebuild the fence to the neighboring property, one to go into "the hole", or, as we chose to say, "the trenches" (just sounds more intense, doesn't it). As part of Team Trenches, I can really only tell about that. There we had to set all the prerequisites for the concrete to be poured in (on Thursday) which meant hammering a sheer endless amount of stakes in and connect those with boards. Down in the dirt the hammer and me became one in the merciless heat of the scorching Minnesota sun (okay, maybe I'm getting carried away here).

Needless to say, we got the job done, despite smaller setbacks. Rain on Wednesday sadly forced us to have a good time in a nearby coffee shop, (that sweet Caramel Grande, or whatever it was called, was something else)! Soon enough, we returned and prepared the lanes enough for the concrete to arrive the next day. That involved using an electronic laser-leveling thing that would drill holes into your brain by its endless beeping. They should really work on some more satisfying sound solutions for finally hitting the right level!

Thursday was the day we experienced the most visible progress both on and off the worksite. For one we got the concrete poured and the styrofoam wall-parts upon it set (literally like building Lego's), thus giving the whole place finally a shape resembling a house. The fence also got nearly finished. And, to top it all off, we went to a wonderful picnic at the banks of the Mississippi in the city of Red Wing, where we met the other

Habitat group (sent out by a Unitarian Universalist congregation), some Habitat officials and the family who would receive the house. It was a heartfelt meeting with a lot of gratitude to be felt – by the family for us, and by us for having the opportunity and honor to help.

On Friday, after another half-day of work finishing up on what we had built, we took to the high school showers one final time and set course back to Wisconsin. It was a fun trip full of community moments when we gathered daily for devotion, new skills, great teamwork and the good feeling of putting your body's work to a noble purpose. Where we did our part, others will take over and build upon what we've accomplished – just as it is in the life of the church and of anyone journeying in the faith.

May God bless us,

Vikar Jakob

Worship Schedule for August 2023

Sunday, August 6 – 9:00 a.m. – PICNIC - Communion

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 17:1-7, 15 • Isaiah 55:1-5 and Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 •
Romans 9:1-5 • Matthew 14:13-21

Sunday, August 13 – 9:00 a.m.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 and Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b • 1 Kings 19:9-18 and Psalm 85:8-13 •
Romans 10:5-15 • Matthew 14:22-33

Sunday, August 20 – 9:00 a.m.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15 and Psalm 133 • Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 and Psalm 67 •
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 • Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

Sunday, August 27 – 9:00 a.m.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10 and Psalm 124 • Isaiah 51:1-6 and Psalm 138 •
Romans 12:1-8 • Matthew 16:13-20

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday! (Ages 1-18)

Aug 12 Coralee Kivell
Aug 17 Ella Schmidt
Aug 21 Wyatt Herman
Aug 25 Benjamin Herbst
Aug 31 Jackson Brei, Nora Brei

Anniversaries

Aug 3 Vance & Susan Reif (32)
Aug 4 Ron & Lynn Rusch (61)
Aug 4 Steve & Whitney Volm (5)
Aug 9 Barry & Bonnie Clark (43)
Aug 10 Darrel & Judy Nonhof (66)
Aug 13 Eric & Tricia Walker (18)
Aug 15 Jim & Idelle Breitbach (42)
Aug 15 Bruce & Donna Stenhardt (41)
Aug 19 Tim & Sharon Zolp (34)
Aug 28 Gary & Janice Fisher (58)
Aug 30 Dan & Kathy Rundquist (48)
Aug 31 Scott & Sarah Augustin (21)

Birthdays (80 years plus)

Aug 2 Connie Zemlicka (81)
Aug 14 Bill Grahl (81)
Aug 15 Betty Graff (90)
Aug 21 Dean Roe (89)
Aug 23 Janette Loomis (89)
Aug 23 Bev Winninghoff (84)
Aug 31 Della Lehamn (83)
Aug 31 Rosemarie Maeder (88)
Aug 31 Jerry O'Connor (88)

Events and Activities

Peace United Church of Christ Scholarship Fund

The purpose of the Scholarship Fund is to give financial aid and recognition to members of this Church who have shown significant academic and other constructive accomplishments in their school career and church participation.

All members of the Church who, in the opinion of the Committee are qualified and worthy recipients based upon the following criteria are eligible to receive a scholarship:

- Academic achievement
- Service to the Church
- Christian character
- Educational aims

Members may re-apply annually. Applicants may request aid toward the education of their choice beyond High School.

Application forms are available in the Church office or on our website. Applications must be received by **AUGUST 1, 2023**.

Notification of scholarship awards will be made by July 1. The amounts will vary annually. Applicants selected to receive a scholarship shall be expected to remain in continuous attendance in school for the entire semester. **Applicants must submit a**

transcript of their grades ASAP before February 1, 2024, following the completion of the first semester, in order to receive their scholarship. Applicants must have successfully completed 12 credits, (full-time student) with no less than a 2.0 grade point average (based on a 4.0 scale).

The Peach Church Wednesday Morning Book Group will be reading the following books during the 2023 - 2024 year:

Sep 6 The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards
Oct 4 The Forest of Vanishing Stars by Kristin Harmel
Nov 1 The Yellow Bird Sings by J. Rosner
Dec 6 Women Talking by Miriam Toews
Jan 3 Still Alice by Lisa Genova
Feb 7 East of the Mountains by David Guterson
Mar 6 Three Weeks With My Brother by Nicholas Sparks
Apr 3 Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel by Bonnie Garmus
May 1 The Seed Keeper by Diane Wilson
Jun 5 Take My Hand by Dolen Perkins Vallez

The first meeting for the season will be Wednesday, September 6, at 9:30 a.m. in the music room across from the church office. Everyone is invited to be a part of the group. For more information, please contact Lynn Rusch by e-mail, lynnrusch@yahoo.com or by phone, 262-306-4025.

Financial Report

Financial Report June 2023

General Fund

Adjusted Beginning Balance as of May 31, 2023	\$ (54,204)
Receipts	24,714
Expenses	(\$28,823)
Ending Balance as of 6/30/2023	<u>(\$58,313)</u>

Benevolence Receipts

Peace Pantry	220.00
Kewaskum Food Pantry	10.00
Total Benevolence Receipts	<u>230.00</u>

Church Kitchen Remodeling Project \$(40,074.67)

Church Council Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2023 Peace United Church of Christ Consistory Meeting Minutes

Those in attendance: Kathy Charland, Mark Bocher, Clark Pearson, Becky Manthei, Lisa Atwater, Brad Preder, Melinda Sargent, Tim Stoffel, Paul Behring, Kathy Mertz, Chris Rode, Ken Singer, Vance Reif, Melissa Polzin, Cathy Stern, Pastor Eric, and Vicar Jakob.

Those absence: none

Meeting opened at 6:05 with a prayer from Vicar Jakob.

Motion made by Mark B with a second by Clark to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion made by Tim S with a second by Kathy M. Motion carried.

Motion made by Clark P to suspend payments to OCWM until the general fund is in a better state. No second motion received.

Discussion about OCWM and what the church has given so far. There is concern over the increasing general fund deficit, and what we can afford to give. Rev Andrew from conference will be preaching on June 4th. Looking at having conversations with Rev Andrew when he is here. Request made to have questions ready for Rev Andrew. Talked about bringing up the offering plates again to help keep giving fresh in everyone's mind. Another meeting will be called to talk about further actions to be taken to promote giving.

Cathy S advised that any future kitchen expenses will be taken from the building fund or the general fund based on the type of the expense. We will keep the kitchen fund to showcase what giving is needed in order to pay off this project. Looking for a few people to complete the financial audit with Cathy. Ken volunteered to take part in the audit. Also looking to start the budget process in August. Clark advised that Tom Kolb is willing to assist with the budget process.

Clark P made a motion to place the financial report on file for audit. 2nd motion from Lisa Atwater. Motion carried.

Clark P made a motion to spend \$2000 out of building fund to replace the ceiling fans in the sanctuary and securing the lift. John Kletti will volunteer his time to get them hung. 2nd motion from Melissa P. Motion carried.

Vance R made a motion to spend \$750 out of the building fund to pay Chezak for replacing the ceiling tiles. 2nd motion from Ken S. Motion carried.

Becky M made a motion to spend up to \$4000 out of the building fund to replace the main breaker box and breakers. 2nd motion from Kathy M. Motion carried. John Kletti will volunteer his time to put it in and will work with getting others to volunteer their time.

Chris R, Kathy C, Pastor Eric and Vicar Jakob to attend the Annual meeting the weekend of June 9th.

Kathy C received a request from the Kewaskum school to use our parking lot as overflow parking for parents attending field trips. We have gotten this request in the past and will let them know what areas are ok to be used.

Chris R has spoken with several people about other service options. Looking at kicking off an alternate service on a weekday night. Looking at having the first service on Wednesday, June 7th at 7:00pm. Brad P will email the Statesman to get our community meal in June on the calendar of events as well as this evening outdoor service.

Kathy made a motion to survey the congregation to go one service. Second motion from Lisa A. 1 vote No, 1 Abstain and the rest yes. Motion carried.

Pastor Eric submitted a pastoral report for review. He lifted up that we will be gathering and marching together with others at the Pride parade in Milwaukee on June 4th. Pastor and Vicar Jakob will be providing blessing at Pride Fest on Saturday, June 3rd.

Kathy C adjourned the meeting at 8:08 pm with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Manthei



Peace Church Picnic

**AUGUST 6TH - 9:00 A.M.
RIVER HILL PARK**

**WORSHIP - LUNCH (HAMBURGERS, CHICKEN
SANDWICHES, GERMAN POTATO SALAD,
WATERMELON, CORN-ON-THE-COB, BEVERAGE) -
LIVE MUSIC - DESSERTS
RAFFLES - KID ACTIVITIES**

WWW.PEACE-UCC.ORG

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
ADULT \$15, AGE 6-11 \$10,
CHILDREN 5 & UNDER FREE
NEW THIS YEAR: FAMILY TICKET -
2 ADULT AND UP TO 5 KIDS \$50**

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		LECTIONARY 10 AM				
	V A C A T I O N B I B L E S C H O O L					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 9:00 AM PICNIC		LECTIONARY 10 AM Church Council 6pm	XYZ CLUB Midweek Worship 7 pm	Grief Group 1 pm		CANOE TRIP – Aug 17
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 9:00 AM		LECTIONARY 10 AM TIDINGS DEADLINE	XYZ CLUB Midweek Worship 7 pm			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 9:00 am		LECTIONARY 10 AM	XYZ CLUB Midweek Worship 7 pm	Grief Group 1 pm		Peace Church – Piggly Wiggly Brat Fry
27	28	29	30	31		
Worship 9:00 am		LECTIONARY 10 AM	XYZ Club Midweek Worship 7 pm			