

PRINTS OF PEACE

SEPTEMBER 2024

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP & SPECIAL EVENTS

- Sept. 1 In-Building and Online Worship (9 AM)
Coffee Hour (10 AM)
- Sept. 2 OFFICE CLOSED - Labor Day Holiday
- Sept. 8 In-Building and Online Worship (9 AM)
w/ Bishop Meghan Johnston Aelebouni visit
& Baptism of Elyas DiPasquale
Coffee Hour (10 AM)
- Sept. 10 Green Team (3:00 PM)
After-School Program Committee (5:00 PM)
Peace Council (6:30 PM)
- Sept. 15 In-Building and Online Worship (9 AM)
w/ Church Council Installation
Coffee Hour (10 AM)
- Sept. 16 Pastoral Care (11 AM)
- Sept. 19 Mobile Food Pantry (7 AM)
Women in Motion (11:30 AM)
- Sept. 22 In-Building and Online Worship (9 AM)
Coffee Hour (10 AM)
- Sept. 26-29 Pastor Hannah Away
- Sept/ 29 In-Building and Online Worship (9 AM)
Coffee Hour (10 AM)
Madagascar bishops visit in the evening

SCRIPTURE READINGS



September 1

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 8

Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 15

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 22

Jeremiah 11:18-20
Psalm 54
James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

September 29

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50



PLC STAFF

Rev. Hannah DiPasquale, Pastor
pastorhannah@peacelutheranlc.com

Sandy Johnson, Parish Admin.
office@peacelutheranlc.com

Jieun Newland, Music Minister

Tommy Grimes, Custodian
Francisco Rueles, Custodian



www.peacelutheranlc.com



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Pastor's Message

Rev. Hannah DiPasquale

I look forward to returning to Peace on Sunday, September 1st. Thank you all for your outpouring of support - your prayers, gifts, meals, kind words - and for your flexibility during my maternity leave.

A few extra special thank-yous:

- Diane Powell, the Pastoral Care Committee, and the Lay Eucharistic Ministers for coordinating care and communion visits
- Carol Eggers and Karen Harvey for stepping up in their roles as council officers and leading meetings
- Joel Peterson and Penny Smith for their continued stewardship of our church finances
- Rick Green, Lyn Barrett, and Ron Brooker for presiding and leading worship
- Jeanne Brown, Lynette Schurdevin, Clark Alves, and Kathie Rich for preaching wonderful lay sermons
- Karen Billings and Jieun Newland for continuing to enhance our worship with wonderful accompaniment
- last but certainly not least Sandy Johnson for her tireless work keeping the church running! Especially with last-minute funerals, new groups using our building, and all things Peace



It has been such a blessing to have this time at home to bond with little Elyas. He looks forward to meeting you all!

Service Mission Team

Council Representatives: Monica Hillmer and Gene Quandt

SOUTHERN NM PRIDE CELEBRATION



Peace Lutheran is preparing to have a BOOTH at PRIDE 2024 on Saturday, October 5. We know that we will need additional volunteers to set up, welcome the visitors to our table, and take down; a sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 5, from 5:00 to 10:00 PM in the Las Cruces Plaza on Main Street. Volunteer to help! Come to enjoy the hospitality of others, the food and entertainment, as well as join the walk.

There will be an interfaith Pride prayer service within the week before the Saturday celebration. Details TBD.

Service Mission Team

continued

GREEN TEAM

By Jane Proptom

I have always loved cooking and baking. As I've gotten older, I have taken an interest in food in a different way. I am interested in nutrition but also more in how the food choices I make affect the planet. I have gotten more interested in eating a whole food plant-based diet. This is similar to a vegan diet but, in addition to eating foods that don't contain animal products, a whole foods diet also minimalizes processed ingredients.



A whole foods diet has many healthy benefits. It can help to decrease weight gain and obesity, decrease heart disease, may decrease cancer and can help in decreasing diabetes. The other true benefit of a plant based diet is how much better it is for the environment.

Eating a meat based diet is huge source of water usage. According an article in *Foodtank*, it takes 1800 gallons of water to produce on pound of beef and 718 gallons of water to produce one pound of pork. To raise one pound of soybeans it take only 206 gallon of water. And consider how many people a pound of soybeans can feed. A lactating cow needs 2 gallons of water per 100 lbs. of body mass. The average weight of a milking cow is between 1200 and 1500 lbs. You do the math!!

According to a human league article in April 2024, what we eat is the biggest contributor to our individual carbon footprint. Every step of production for animal products contributes to greenhouse gases--these steps include clearing forests for grazing land, producing food to feed animals, and the mass of waste that animals produce. Oxford University has stated that we could decrease our greenhouse gasses by 73% if we went to a plant-based diet.

We lose species of plants and animals every day as more and more land is cleared to produce more meat. Deforestation for animal agriculture is the biggest cause of species loss. If we eat less meat, there will be less incentive for the meat industry to destroy more land. In addition, deforestation also leads to soil loss as there is less agriculture and more land for grazing.

As Christians, we need to always be thinking of those less privileged. Eating a plant based diet helps to combat world hunger. All the environmental changes caused by the meat industry increase climate change and puts more and more people at risk as our planet gets hotter and drier. With less land being used to produce meat products, we could also produce more plant products which would help to combat the world food crisis.

We as a population need to consider all we can do to save the planet Earth. Start simple--eat one meatless meal a week. Consider it an adventure. There are a million and one interesting recipes on the internet using all kinds of locally grown ingredients. I have even become a lover of tofu now that I know how to cook it. Are you ready to save the planet just one step at a time?

One of my favorite websites for recipes is Halfbakedharvest.com. Just for fun, try 20-minute Siracha Lime and Creamy Cashew Fettuccini. It's a very rich, healthy sauce that goes with vegetables and a starch of any kind. I like to add a little baked tofu to add a little extra protein. Enjoy the journey.

Service Mission Team

continued

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

For the past several years Peace Lutheran has had a team of walkers and virtual walkers join the WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS event to raise money for research and support services for the over 39,000 New Mexicans and their families affected by this disease. This year, the Southwest New Mexico Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS will be held later in the year - the date in November is not set in stone as of yet. This gives us more time to fund raise and add new walkers to the team.

You can join our team or make donations at alz.org/walk. Go to the Las Cruces Walk and join the Peace Lutheran Friends team or donate to the team or any of its members to help others meet their goal. If you have questions, contact the Team Captain, Sandy Johnson, skjohnso@cord.edu

Hospitality Mission Team

Council Representatives: Sue Ann Collins

Calling all Peace Greeters ...

Peace is a friendly church! All of us are greeters when visitors who are looking for a church home show up at our door. Here are some things EVERYONE can do.

- Smile and greet people warmly.
- If you're not sure if someone is a visitor or a member, don't worry! We are all unsure sometimes. Just say, "I don't recognize you. Are you a visitor or a member I haven't met yet?" They'll be happy you asked and, either way, you'll have made a new friend!

If you sign up to be an Official Greeter, here are some additional things for you to know. We have special Peace Mugs with tea and cookies prepared for new visitors, and we keep them in the upper freezer drawer in the small kitchen near the Bethlehem room. Before you situate yourself at the front door to greet, bring two of the mugs out and put them on the Visitor Table.



- Arrive at 8:30 am and stay at the door until the prelude begins.
- Greet everyone warmly as they come through our doors.
- If someone unfamiliar arrives, ask, "Are you a visitor or a member I haven't met yet?"
- If they are a first-time visitor, give them a Peace Mug as a gift,
- Ask all visitors to sign the guest book on the Visitor Table.
- If you are able, check on the visitors before and after service to make sure they've connected with someone.
- At the end of worship, return any unused mugs to the upper freezer in the small kitchen near the Bethlehem Room.

If you'd like to become an Official Greeter at the Door, sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. If you have questions, or want to know more, touch base with:

Kathie Rich, kathie.rich@hotmail.com
Lyn Bussian, revlynbarrett@gmail.com

Let's Keep Peace Friendly!!!

Communal Worship Mission Team

Council Representatives: Ginny Acosta and Carol Eggers

NEW BISHOP TO VISIT ON SEPTEMBER 8TH

Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelebouni, recently elected Bishop of the Rocky Mountain Synod, will preach and preside at worship on September 8th. During the service, we will also have the baptism of Elyas George DiPasquale, Pastor Hannah and Michael's new son. Cake and refreshments will be offered during coffee hour to celebrate Elyas's baptism and to welcome the bishop.



COMMUNAL WORSHIP - SEPTEMBER 2024

And now it's September and Pastor Hannah returns! Welcome back Pastor as she returns from maternity leave and leads us in worship on September 1!

To all those who volunteered during/for/and after worship services, thank you!

September will be a busy time in the life of our church. Please try to join us for as many of these special times and events:

September 8: Our newly elected and installed bishop will be coming to visit us. Bishop Meghan Johnston Aelebouni will actually be leading the worship service and will baptize baby Elyas (Pastor Hannah and Michael's son) on this date too. As you may know, the Bishop presides over the Rocky Mountain Synod and Peace Lutheran is, of course, part of this Synod. Pastor Hannah will also participate in the worship experience with our Bishop. This date is also designated as grandparents day. What an exciting and blessed Sunday awaits us!

September 15: We hope there will be a Church Council Installation that date during service. Several members have ended their terms, new council members are being welcomed and the work of this council continues for our church.

September 22 is the official date to welcome Autumn.

If you read the devotion booklet *Christ in Our Home*, you can see the different commemorations and lesser festivals cited in the front of the booklet. This booklet is available here at the church in two forms: a small pocket booklet and a large print booklet. You may really enjoy adding this booklet of daily devotions to your faith journey.

Faith & Fellowship Mission Team

Council Representatives: Karen Harvey

PREPARING FOR BIBLE STUDY: PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS

By Susan Mitchell

I look forward to starting a study of the Letter to the Romans, and I hope to see you on these dates: Tuesdays at 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. in Room 107 –

October 8th & October 22nd

November 5th & November 19th

December 3rd & December 17th

I am reviewing 2 study guides and will have a table in the narthex on Sunday, September 8th for you to see the material and sign up to participate. We may discover that we will need to continue the study after Christmas and New Year's in order to complete all 16 chapters of Romans. Pastor Ron Brooker and I plan to meet to discuss the study guides.

The guide I am most impressed with states the following objectives:

1. To provide you with a firm foundation of understanding and a thirst for learning.
2. To give you all the historical background, word definitions, and explanatory notes you need so that your main reference is the Bible.
3. To teach how to let God's Word transform you into Christ's image.

The introduction gives us background on Paul and Rome and a timeline of Paul's ministry. It has a summary of his work as a missionary, his background as Saul the Pharisee, why he wants to visit Rome, and his desire to make a journey to Spain, where the gospel has not yet been preached.

I will conclude this article by quoting from the guide: "The Righteousness of God"

"Paul's letter to the Romans systematically unfolds the gospel of God's Son, the revelation of the *righteousness of God* (see Romans 1:16-17). In it, Paul deals with such huge and knotty issues as sin, guilt, salvation, grace, law, faith, works, righteousness, justification, sanctification, redemption, death, resurrection, the place of the Jews in God's plan of salvation, and the way we should live in light of our salvation. Martin Luther calls this book "the daily bread of the soul." Feast on!"

WOMEN IN MOTION

By Karen Harvey

We were blessed with a visit from Pastor Hannah and Elyas last month! He was all smiles for us - such a joy! We had a full house with new visitors and plenty of delicious foods.

This month, we will again meet at Peace on the 3rd Thursday, September 19, at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is asked to bring a potluck item but you are welcome if you forget or plan to come at the last minute! All women at Peace are welcome; if you wish to be added to our email list, just contact me at the links below.

We bring cards for our birthday gals and pass around an envelope for donations to our end-of-year projects. Please let us know if you plan to come so we can make enough coffee and lemonade! Hope to see you all then! Contact: khpollype@gmail.com or 435.720.2520.

Faith & Fellowship Mission Team

continued

BIRTHDAYS

- 9/3 Carol Winkles
- 9/4 Dave Skari
- 9/10 Sharon Hartford
- 9/10 Denise Shepan
- 9/11 Connie McKinley
- 9/12 Mark Sanders
- 9/12 Kendra Sarabia
- 9/12 Cory Shepan
- 9/13 Travis Shepan
- 9/15 Ron Odegaard
- 9/20 Arlyss Skari
- 9/22 Ed Grave
- 9/22 Sue Smith
- 9/22 Ed Grave
- 9/23 Jim Bentley
- 9/26 Rhonda Simmons
- 9/26 Grant Stockberger
- 9/27 Mary Anne Staffeldt
- 9/29 John Behrens



Please let us know if your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect.

ANNIVERSARIES

- 9/3 Carol & Damian Blaschka
- 9/3 Betty & Don Lindsey
- 9/4 Karen & Al Harvey
- 9/7 Christina & William Little
- 9/16 Dennis Morin & David Owens
- 9/22 Geri Ayers & Lisa Bates
- 9/25 Chris & Mark Sanders
- 9/29 Denise & Lance Shepan

Expanding Vision Mission Team

Council Representatives: Ross Staffeldt

MASON S. BROWN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

The Mason S Brown Scholarship has been made available through the generosity of Mike and Jennifer Brown more than 19 years ago after the death of their infant daughter, Mason. In spite of their grief, God inspired the Brown family to consider the needs of others, and this scholarship is a witness to their love.

The Memorials Committee met on August 14, 2024, and is pleased to announce that we have selected Jeremy Townsend to receive the scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. He is a graduate student at NMSU pursuing a Masters degree in IT and he sings in our choir. Congratulations Jeremy.



& YOUR DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

If you would like to contribute to this scholarship fund, please place your donation in the offering plate or send it to the church office labeled as 'Scholarship.' We can continue to help students with this scholarship through your generosity.

Expanding Vision Mission Team

Council Representatives: Ross Staffeldt

COUNCIL NOTES

Our next council meeting will be on September 10th at 6:30 p.m. at Peace. Pastor Hannah is returning from her leave and we all welcome her guidance! We will choose officers and discuss our new mission team structure.

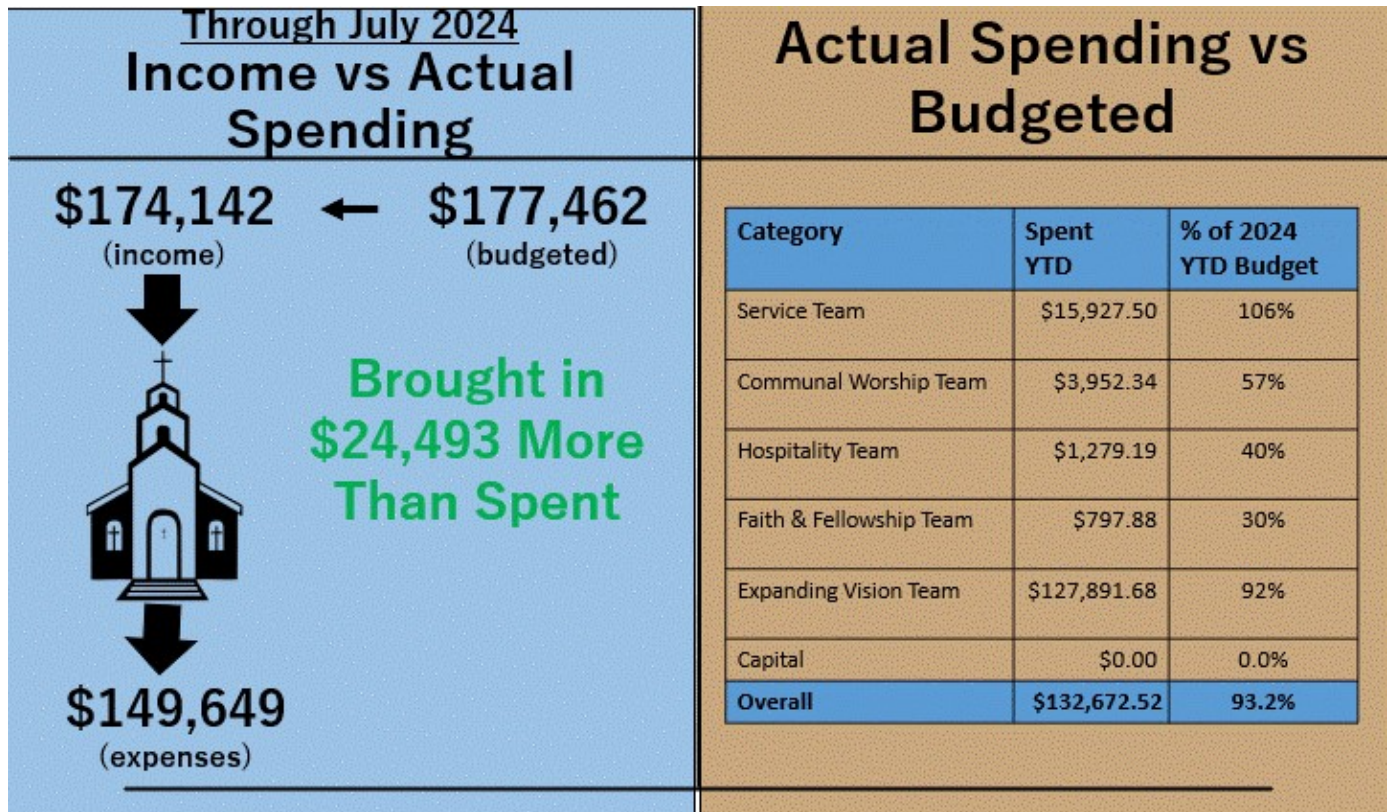
At our August meeting, we greeted our new council members, Lisa Bates and Amanda Goodluck; Marty Avelsgaard is out of state. We had a report from Dwight Eggers about the Endowment Fund and the applications for funds for this year. In new business, we approved changes in our policies on Abuse & Molestation, Required Reporting of Red-Flag or Inappropriate Behaviors and/or Policy Violations and the Incident Report Form. All were required for our change in insurance. We discussed an update of the description of the treasurer's duties. There were two items approved by the council to update the treasurer section of our Constitution. These will be on the agenda for approval at our next congregational meeting. The last item of business was the Pastor's compensation after her first year with us.

Karen Harvey, Secretary

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW: Through July 2024

You will notice a change in this chart.

The last column now is percent of the YTD Budget, not of the entire year as previously shown.



Finance Committee Members: Dwight Eggers, Penny Smith, Al Harvey, Elaine Stover, David Owens, Joel Peterson, Sandy Johnson

Expanding Vision Mission Team

Council Representatives: Ross Staffeldt

MISSION TEAM STRUCTURE BEING UPDATED

For the past several years, Peace has been organized into a *Deeply Rooted, Bearing Fruit* structure of five Mission Teams: Expanding Vision, Communal Worship, Service (previously Public Witness), Faith & Fellowship (previously Healthy Connections & Faith Formation), and Hospitality (new).

This structure has helped us live into our mission in Christ, especially through leadership transitions. The last couple of months the PLC Church Council has been in discernment about this might be restructured to better reflect how ministry happens and to encourage more participation from the whole congregation. The Council has been engaging in questions such as: *Is the Mission Team structure working? Does the congregation know about it? How do we invite the whole congregation to live out our shared mission? How could we function more effectively?*

For now we have identified 10 Focus Areas that capture ministries that happen here at PLC. **This is a work in progress.** There are likely things missing too. If you have any questions, thoughts, or suggestions, talk to a Council member or Pastor Hannah.

FOCUS AREA 1: VISION & MAINTENANCE (previously under Expanding Vision)

Property, Finance, Stewardship, Vision & Long-term Planning

FOCUS AREA 2: WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS (previously under Communal Worship)

Altar Care, Assisting Ministers, AV Volunteers, Communion Assistants, Greeters, Ushers

FOCUS AREA 3: WORSHIP: STAFF-LED (previously under Communal Worship)

Bulletins & Weekly Worship Prep, Music Ministries, Worship Planning, AV & Tech System, Zoom Coordination, Worship Emails

FOCUS AREA 4: SERVICE (previously under Service)

Mobile Food Pantry, Local Ministry Partners, Service Projects

FOCUS AREA 5: ADVOCACY (previously under Service)

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry, Bread for the World, Social Justice Initiatives

FOCUS AREA 6: FAITH FORMATION (previously under Faith & Fellowship)

Adult Learning, Bible Studies, Children & Youth Learning, Confirmation, Church Library, VBS

FOCUS AREA 7: PASTORAL CARE (previously under Faith & Fellowship)

Pastoral Care Committee, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Prayer Chain, Card Ministry, Rides to Church, Divorce & Grief Support

FOCUS AREA 8: FELLOWSHIP (previously under Faith & Fellowship)

Directories, Small Groups, Women in Motion, Soup Suppers, Coffee Hour, Fellowship Activities & Events, Funeral Receptions, New Member Orientation

FOCUS AREA 9: HOSPITALITY (previously under Hospitality)

Children's Table, Nursery, Welcome Ministry, Building Accessibility & Appearance, Advertising, Website, Social Media

FOCUS AREA 10: NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH (previously under Hospitality)

Campus Ministry, Emergency Funds/ Requests for Assistance, After-school Program, Neighborhood Events (Trunk-or-Treat, Family Fun Day, Etc.)



Peace Lutheran Church

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MISSION STATEMENT

**We are called to be an inclusive
community, sharing God's grace
through worship, service, and
hospitality.**

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 AM

Office Hours

M-T-W-F 9:00 AM—1:00 PM

Thursdays 1:00 PM—4:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 2024