



The Compass of Peace

Peace Lutheran Church, January 2018

FROM PASTOR CAREY

SPRING FLING: LIFE'S TRANSITIONS WITH GOD'S GRACE
WELCA DAYTON CONFERENCE
APRIL 7, 2018 FROM 10:00AM – 4:00PM
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, 3530 DAYTON XENIA RD, BEAVERCREEK

This April, the Dayton Conference of the WELCA will gather here at Peace Lutheran for the annual Spring Fling to faithfully explore, discuss, pray, and worship around our theme: **Life's Transitions with God's Grace.**

What is WELCA? It's an easy way to say Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, which can be quite a mouthful. WELCA includes Lutheran women of all ages who gather in more than 7,000 locations in the U.S. and the Caribbean for service, study, advocacy, fellowship, and more. WELCA embraces all kinds of ministries that support our mission of mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our calling, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.

Come and join other women of all ages from around the Dayton area on **April 7, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** as we explore the various transitions in our lives with God at our center. Deuteronomy 31:8 says, "It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." As we experience life's transitions, we will be reminded that God's Grace is present even as our lives change. We will begin the day with large and small group discussions centering on our own personal transitions everything, from changes in our physical abilities to changes in our family structure, those transitions that bring loss as well as those that bring joy. We will look at God's continues promise of presence even in the midst of our transition.

As we spend the day together, we will have opportunities to share the joys and challenges of our transitions. We will name and claim the presence of God in the midst these transitions and explore how we can care for ourselves in those times using prayer and exercise practices. We will explore how we can be present with others in their transitions though mat making and explore how we can utilize community resources during our transitions.

FROM PASTOR STEVE

Beginnings and endings cause stress. Change causes stress. Stress is an outcome of anxiety. While the holidays of Christmas and New Year's celebrations are fun and we do them each year, these holidays bring their own stressors: family, travel, finances, that list goes on and on. We experience anxiety as we wonder the "what ifs" of what is to come. The "what ifs" flood our minds and our senses and cause our bodies to be on a heightened state of alert. This state eventually wears down our adrenal glands and our bodies risk succumbing to illness.

What if there was a way to handle our "what ifs" in a way that stops this cycle. There is a way to reduce or slow down the effect of this cycle. It is called faith. Trusting in the creator of the universe helps us to let go of those re-occurring "what ifs". As we all know, no one gets this perfect. That's why we practice our faith.

In January we will venture into a sermon and teaching series based on Max Lucado's book *Anxious for Nothing* that will equip us to practice faith. In it we will focus on Philippians 4:4-8 that will help us practice our faith and learn how to let go of those "what ifs" that plague us. Philippians reads: *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.* ⁵*Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.* ⁶*Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.* ⁷*And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Join us this Epiphany as we read *Anxious for Nothing*, dig into this scripture, and learn from this book how to let go of our "what ifs." May we all have a blessed new year!

Peace, Pastor Steve

On behalf of Pastor Carey and myself, thank you for the financial gift you blessed us and our families with this Christmas. I also would like to say thank you for the care, love, and gifts you shared with us and the whole staff this past year. It is an honor to serve you, the people of Peace.

FROM LINDA LALLY

CHANCEL CHOIR AND PEACE RINGERS WILL BE MOVING TO A NEW TIME FOR 2018!

Effective January 4, the Chancel Choir will rehearse from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays in the choir room. The Peace Ringers will rehearse from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, also beginning January 4. New singers and ringers are welcome. Please contact Linda Hill Lally, Director of Music, if you are interested in joining either ensemble.

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION RETREAT DISCIPLESHIP REDEFINED: February 16-18, at Lutheran Memorial Camp for all confirmation students. Transform your confirmation experience by getting out of church and into the camp setting where we will explore the theme "Discipleship Redefined" with hands on Bible study activities that will engage our youth. The cost of the retreat is \$106.00 and the **registration deadline is January 28**. Please see Pastor Carey or Deacon Dan for registration materials or if you have any questions.

FUN-IN-FAITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RETREAT February 23-24, at Lutheran Memorial Camp, Friday – Saturday. Come and experience a great introduction to camp through fun activities, while learning about your faith. **This is a retreat for all of our children grades 2-5.** Student Leaders (9-12 grade youth) are encouraged to attend and help lead and engage the younger students. The cost of the retreat is \$71.00 and the **registration deadline is February 4**. Please see Pastor Carey for registration material or if you have any questions.



WHERE
Your
HEART
IS

The Lord Is One

Jesus answered, “The first is ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your

neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”
Mark 12:29-31

They lived quite humbly for a doctor’s family. A thriving ophthalmologist practice in a good-sized community brought in a good-sized income. Some folks wondered why they didn’t build a more lavish lifestyle for themselves. Others wondered why they went on such long vacations.

Those who knew the doctor and family knew how much they loved God and how they lived out that love in a very real way. They didn’t ask for donations for their work, but quiet donations were handed over by individuals and community groups alike. Benefit concerts were planned to raise money for their ministry. When they had enough to cover their expenses, they skipped town for six months.

Where did they go? Not vacation after all. In Sierra Leone, miracles began to happen. The doctor helped the blind to see, and promising young men and women learned the skills of ophthalmology that they could use to improve and even return the sight of many of their countrymen and women. Medical supplies were replenished. Hospital conditions improved.

The couple returned with empty suitcases and lots of stories. Back at the clinic, the lucrative medical practice continued. Across the oceans, the blind continue to see. New medical instruments and supplies offered hope to others. The work continues.

Six months here. Six months there. Living simply and sharing the rest. They wouldn’t have liked the word “sacrifice.” They would have called it loving God and loving their neighbor.

There are so many ways to show our thanks to God for the blessings we have received. Some, like this generous doctor, returned thanks to God by using particular skills to serve others. We may not feel as if we have something so tangible to offer, but God doesn’t expect everyone to have the same gift. In fact, all God asks is that we use what we have, and let God do the rest!

FROM KEVIN PYLE

NEW GIVING KIOSK

Many of you are already familiar with the Simply Giving by Vanco option we offer for who wish to have their offerings automatically processed by their banks. We've added a new service from Vanco called "Give+".

On the Welcome Center counter there is a terminal that will permit you to make offerings via credit card. Currently the available funds are Identified / Operation, Building, Adopt-a-Family and Youth Mission. We will add and remove funds periodically so you'll be able to pay for VBS as an example.

The process is very simple. Even Pastor Carey figured it out. Each screen has green buttons that are your prompts. Touch the green button and the next screen opens. Select the fund to which you wish to contribute. If you want to select an amount different from the defaults, touch the "Other Amount" button and then use the keypad. At the bottom of the screen will be the total of your gift. Now press the NEXT button in the lower right corner.

On this page you enter your contact information. Or, just swipe your credit card in the black swipe unit on the right side. Be sure your credit card front is facing the announcements monitor.

The screen will open automatically showing you your total gift. You can then choose to print a donation slip or a regular credit card receipt. Tear off your receipt and press the "Done" button in the lower right corner.

We'll have a copy of the instructions on our web site. We also have instructions at the kiosk.

(Security Note: The kiosk uses industry standard PCI DSS security systems. Vanco a PCI Level 1 Compliant Service Provider. The unit is locked down and only one person can access the device. The touch screen is also locked down and the church uses strong security for its network.)

FROM DEACON DAN

ONGOING GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER FOR YOUTH MISSIONS

Help us raise money for youth missions such as the meal packing event in April or the Youth Gathering in June by simply shopping. All you have to do is purchase gift cards from the church youth and use them for your normal shopping. The church receives a small rebate from each card. It's that simple! These gift cards can be used for any of the shopping that families already do on items like groceries, gas, clothes, hotel, travel, office supplies, toys, and gifts. Physical and electronic gift cards are available from most major retailers.

Physical cards may be purchased at church on the weekends.

Electronic gift cards may be purchased at any time with a computer or smartphone and may then be used immediately to make purchases. Simply go online to www.peacebeavercreek.org/gift-card-fundraiser and follow the instructions to register your family with the Peace Lutheran Church Youth fundraiser. Once you are registered, you could be sitting at a restaurant and buy an e-gift card to pay your check or be standing in line at the store and buy a card to cover the cost of your purchases. Every card you buy raises money for the youth!

We greatly appreciate all the support you provide to the youth ministries of the church and especially the fundraiser that makes our mission events possible. Peace, Dan

FINANCIAL STANDINGS

November 2016

GOAL	\$69,962
INCOME	\$49,805
EXPENSES	\$81,885

November 2017

GOAL	\$63,574
INCOME	\$53,823
EXPENSES	\$53,574



Peace Lutheran Church

3530 Dayton-Xenia Road
Beavercreek, Ohio 45432

www.peacebeavercreek.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

5:15 p.m.

Praise Service

SUNDAY

8:15 a.m.

Heritage Service

9:30 a.m.

Faith Formation Hour

10:45 a.m.

Celebration Service

Church Office:	937-426-1441
Website:	www.peacebeavercreek.org
Email:	churchsecretary@peacebeavercreek.org
Our Ministers:	Every Member
Senior Pastor:	Stephen Kimm
Associate Pastor:	Carey Hovland
Youth Ministry Leader	Deacon Dan Jacob
Parish Administrator	Kevin Pyle
Director of Music	Linda Hill Lally
Administrative Assistant:	Carol Kromphardt
Custodian:	Brad Saunders
Nursery:	Melissa Ellis and Lindsay Hoskins
Wedding Coordinator:	Robin Jones