



Peace United Methodist Church  
Pastor Mickey Olson  
303 Ninth Avenue South  
Virginia MN 55792



# The Methodist Messenger

## February 2018

### Church Office

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Phone: 218-741-7739  
[www.peaceumc.us](http://www.peaceumc.us)  
E-Mail: [office@peaceumc.us](mailto:office@peaceumc.us)  
[pastor@peaceumc.us](mailto:pastor@peaceumc.us)

### Worship Schedule

10:00 AM Peace UMC  
303 South 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Virginia, MN 55792

**Note:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month is  
Communion Sunday

The Nursery is staffed each Sunday  
from 9:30 – 11:30 am

### Our Staff

Pastor  
Youth Coordinator  
Administrative Assistant  
Music Director  
Choir Accompanist  
Custodian  
Nursery Attendant

Mickey Olson  
McKenzie Fossell  
Holly Lundgren  
Jeanene Hagberg  
Char Cremers  
  
Petra Hagberg

### Thought for the month:

Affirming people's potential is more important  
than reminding them of their brokenness.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

4	Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalm 147:1-11, 20	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39
11	2 Kings 2:1-12	Psalm 50:1-6	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9
14	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Psalm 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
18	Genesis 9:8-17	Psalm 25:1-10	1 Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15
25	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Psalm 22:23-31	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38

## WATCH OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

Peace United Methodist Church services are aired on Mediacom Cable TV Channel 5

Monday - 1:00 AM

Tuesday - 10:00 AM

Thursday - 10:00 AM

Friday - 5:30 PM

Sunday - 9:30 AM

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.PEACEUMC.US](http://WWW.PEACEUMC.US) to watch our Sunday Worship Services; the 4 most recent services are there to view. Find this under the WORSHIP Tab – View Worship Service.**

## WORSHIP HELPERS

### GREETERS

4	Kathy Krog/Kay Chapik
11	Holly Lundgren/Virginia Peterson
18	John and Mary Bratt
25	Shirley Woodward/Kelly Dahl

### USHERS

Kay Chapik/Pat Sklors
Roger and Jean Rosandich
Iris Teasck/Joanne Foster
Roger Summers/Gerald Bodas

### LITURGIST

Ann Voss
Jerry Pfremmer
Tod Swenson

### COFFEE AN'

4	Diane Hawley/Tod Swenson/Tiffany Eck
11	Pam Omersa/Betsy Erickson
18	Jeff/Sarah Teasck/Chris/Jeanene Hagberg
25	Lois Lackner/Pam Hartline

### COMMUNION

February – Sandy and Jack LaBarre
March – Shirley and Gail Woodward
April – Val and Paul Wier
May – Nancy Wright and Marshall Bergerson

**A NOTE TO ALL: In the event, someone comes in during the Sunday Worship Service in need of help, invite them to join us for worship and Pastor Mickey or someone will meet with them AFTER the service.**

## BIRTHDAYS

6 – Tia Langfeld	6 – Judy Venaas	13 – Shannon Gunderson	13 – Jane Ouke
15 – Mary Bratt	19 – Ellen Hedlund	20 – Robert Hooper	21 – Marilyn Nelson
25 – Chris Johnson	29 – Gage Choitz		

If you or a family member's birthday is not listed or is incorrect, Please let the Office know (741-7739).



## From the Pastor

I am glad that January is behind me. Not only for the cold. Sometimes life is like that as sad and difficult things happen while you are in the midst of other trying things. Though my dental problems continue and I have been diagnosed with a couple more, the good news is that my eye surgery was successful and I am regaining my sight in that eye. My Dad's death and funeral were particularly

difficult. I know he is happy now as his quality of life continued to disintegrate and he missed my Mom terribly. I thank you for all of your prayers and support in all of these things.

February always means winter is slowly leaving us as the days get noticeably longer. As we enter the season of more daylight, we are reminded of the darkness of Lent. Ash Wednesday is on February 14<sup>th</sup>, which is an interesting conjunction of what love means. We have a book study for lent about following Jesus in uncertain times. Our world is changing so rapidly that we can't keep up and we don't know what all of these changes mean. So, I invite you to come and devote yourself to the services and learning of Lent.

May you find Jesus as you walk through the darkness of Lent on to the promised resurrection and life.

Wild Blessings,

*~Pastor Mickey*

Thank you for the commitment of this congregation to maintaining unity as the United Methodist Church and the Way Forward seeks God's guidance and will in the inclusion of GLBTQ persons. The discussion was thoughtful and respectful. I will continue to update you as the Conference provides us with more information. Please hold the Methodist Church in prayer as we wait and discern God's will. The book *Unity of the Church and Human Sexuality – Study Guide* is available in the Library to read and consider. Pastor Mickey

The result of our pledge campaign was 51 members pledging for a total of \$101,945. In 2017 there were 52 members pledging for a total of \$97,030.

This is an amazing increase in the pledged amount. We give thanks to all of you who stepped up in faith and trust in God to pledge your gifts to the ministry of Peace UMC. Pastor Mickey

### PASTORAL CARE

Please notify the Church Office (218-741-7739) if you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care for illness, hospitalization, surgery or emergency.

**Emergency Pastoral Calls:** 218-343-6849

E-mail: [office@peaceumc.us](mailto:office@peaceumc.us)

**Pastor's Phone Number** - Please put my cell phone number in your cell phone directory for emergencies. If I don't answer, please, please, please, leave a message. Please do not give my cell phone number out to strangers asking for help. I pray you will call me when you need me.

### PRAYER CHAIN

If you have someone you wish to include on our prayer chain, please contact one of the following:

Gail Johnson: 741-0972

Mary Bratt: 744-2754

Office (Holly): 741-7739

### CHURCH CLOSINGS

On the occasion a church event is cancelled due to inclement weather, please check the local TV and Radio Stations. (KBJR News 6, Range 11, 3; WDIO News 10/13; FOX 21 KQDS)(Duke – WDKE, WEVE, KQDS, WTBX, WUSZ). Please use your own judgement when it comes to traveling in winter weather.

## LENT

### **ASH WEDNESDAY – February 14th**

The Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6:00 PM. “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” Genesis 3:19. The ashes that mark our foreheads, remind us of our vulnerability, our frail nature, our weakness, mortality and our sin. Ash Wednesday begins a season of intentional discipleship, to follow Christ each day of our life with study, prayer, and introspection.

### **PALM SUNDAY/TENNEBRAE SERVICE – March 25th**

The hour is at hand. The time has come. We experience the joyous demonstration of loyalty to Jesus as he enters Jerusalem, only to be betrayed, tried and crucified a few days later. This is a day to remember and reflect on the culmination of Jesus’s journey and the shocking reality his followers faced when they saw him convicted and killed. The hour is at hand. The time has come.

### **GOOD FRIDAY – March 30th**

The Good Friday Service will be a joint service with Hope Community Presbyterian Church at 6:00 pm. Please join us for this powerful and meaningful reflection as told from the viewpoint of each of the characters at the cross.

### **LENTEN BOOK STUDY – *Embracing the Uncertain*, by Magrey R. deVega**

Just turning on the news lets us know we are living in uncertain times. Economic instabilities, eruptions of violence, and natural catastrophes can alter the lives and landscapes of entire communities. Our individual lives are often just as unsteady: relationships can break, plans can falter, and confidence can fail. Most of us find uncertainty to be uncomfortable, preferring stability and a predictable future to an unknown fate. We are wired to want to control our destiny. *Embracing the Uncertain* invites you to take a different perspective this Lenten season. Instead of ignoring or hiding from life’s uncertainties, you can engage them with confidence and find a stronger faith along the way

In *Embracing the Uncertain*, Magrey deVega explores six stories in the Gospels as Jesus travels toward Jerusalem, where he will be down at a world filled with uncertainty, yet pointing forward to a cross that can show us how to follow Jesus with courage, obedience, and the hope of the resurrection. Each chapter includes questions for reflection and discussion and a practical focus for the upcoming week.

The reality is that in our fast-changing, unpredictable world there are few guarantees in life. It's those who are willing to embrace uncertainty and make the risky decision to follow Jesus despite the many "unknowns" who will reap the greatest rewards.

Join This Lenten study, *Embracing the Uncertain* to engage and wrestle with life’s uncertainties, not ignore them. Pastor Mickey will be leading this Book study Wednesdays during PORCH. Come for dinner at 5:00 and the Book Study at 6:00. The Books are available in the Library.

## DISCIPLESHIP AND MINISTRY

“As a member of this congregation I will faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness.”  
Membership Vows - UMC

### AN INVESTMENT IN RELATIONSHIPS

We are friendly but are we as welcoming as we could be? Try the **CIRCLE OF 10** rule on Sundays: Everyone (member, visitor, guest, newcomer) who comes with 10 feet of you will be greeted and engaged in conversation! Or the **RULE OF 3** – It only takes 3 minutes for people to exit the church. Therefore, it is helpful to spend the first 3 minutes after church engaging in conversation with those you don't know well, with visitors, and with newcomers!

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE – May 30<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> at St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center

Great things are being planned. Watch for details!

### PEACE FOOD SHELF

Many have been coming to Peace for food items. Our Food Shelf stock is low and we are in need of canned meats, soups, single serving bottles of juice and bottled water. Thanks!

### LITTLE FREE LIBRARY (LFL)

The Readership has been down a little in January (probably due to cold) but is picking up again. In February, I am going to feature “Chicken Soup for the Soul” books again with a free packet of chicken soup for a bookmark! Anyone who wants to donate a “Chicken Soup” book can bring it to the library. I am also going to feature some favorite “Love Stories” for Valentine's Day if you have some to share! Stay warm and keep reading! Blessings, Chris Johnson

### METHODIST MOONLIGHTERS

The group is meeting Tuesday, February 26 at 6:00 pm at Adventures. The Theme is “Share an Inspirational Message”.

### YOUTH GROUP – Tubing @ Giants Ridge

Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>; \*Must be 5yrs old and 42" tall\* \$10/person – (Covers tubing ticket, lunch, and ride)  
RIDES AVAILABLE!! Questions? Contact McKenzie (780-6102)

### RED BIRD MISSION TEAM

We have selected the week of October 7 - 13 for our trip this year. We are submitting our application and excited to possibly have a team of ten this year. There is always room for more volunteers. Contact any of the team members if you have questions. Once we have our week set, and the Work Camp has the number of people in our group, they will review our skill set and find a suitable project for us. All levels of ability are needed: never feel you wouldn't fit. The ability to interact with the people we serve is as important as the ability to do construction/repair.

To facilitate our trip, we rely on the generosity of our church in supporting our fundraisers. We will continue to have a monthly bake sale to be held on the first Sunday of each month. We also plan to have another mini bazaar on Saturday, April 21st, following the same format as last year: a sandwich loaf luncheon, white elephant sale, and bake sale. Last year was very successful thanks to the help of so many of you (including Pam Hartline's organizational skills). We hope all of you will be interested in helping again. We will have a Bazaar planning meeting on Thursday, Feb 15th at 10 am. Please plan to attend.

Thanks for your ongoing support of our mission. The Red Bird Team

## **SHOWER WITH GIFTS OF LOVE**

Something exciting is about to happen! A young woman, Courtney is about to be a mother. As a new young mother, she of course needs everything.

As a congregation let's "shower" her and her new baby boy with gifts of love, from Peace UMC. There will be a pack-n-play in the narthex to collect our gifts until February 18th. Courtney can use diapers, wipes, sleepers in various sizes, blankets, toys. Target and Walmart gift cards can help her purchase the larger items she needs such as the car seat, high chair, and stroller. Questions can be addressed to Jeanene Hagberg, Shannon Malovrh, or Anne Voss.

## **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROJECT**

We have an opportunity to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity on Thursday and Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm each day. We'll be working on the interior of a house in either Mt Iron or Virginia. Groups of four to eight people are needed each day. Volunteers are needed at all levels of ability, and no one is ever expected to do anything they aren't comfortable doing. Please volunteer! Sign-up sheets are in the library. Need more information? Call Diana Wallert at 218-404-6232.

## **CAMP MINNESOTA 2018 – It just wouldn't be summer without camp!**

An amazing experience awaits campers of ALL AGES this summer at your Minnesota United Methodists Camps. Whether it's a day camp for our first time campers, two-night camp for those ready for a bit more, or a week-long camp for our campers who are ready for adventure, there's something for everyone at camp in 2018!

A camping experience with your MN UM Camps has been part of countless people's faith stories for generations. At our camps, Christ is shared in song, word, worship and example. Camp provides an unforgettable summer experience, where campers can discover and explore exciting activities in a carefully supervised Christian environment. Lives are changed forever!

Pick up a Camp booklet on the Welcome table in the Narthex or check out the website at [www.campminnesota.org](http://www.campminnesota.org) for more information, including details on all events, retreats, and how to get involved!

## **THE ELI PROJECT**

Churches need passionate young leaders, and young leaders need opportunities to discover their gifts for ministry. Since 2014, The Eli Project has been pairing young college leaders with clergy mentors giving each an opportunity to lead, grow, and learn. All young people are invited to apply to participate in a hands-on learning experience to use their gifts for ministry and explore whether they are called to vocational ministry. The ELI Project is a nine-week, paid summer internship for college students. For more information contact Jody Thone, Director of Leadership Development at [jody.thone@minnesotamc.org](mailto:jody.thone@minnesotamc.org) office: 612-230-6134

## **LUTERAN SOCIAL SERVICE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER (Youth Shelter)**

The LSS Family Resource center is a non-profit youth crisis shelter owned and operated by the Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota. The majority of the children served at the shelter is a victim of abuse and/or neglect, and cannot safely remain in their homes.

Contact information: LSS Family Resource Center, 507 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Virginia;  
Laurie Olds, 218-741-3343 or 218-410-0520; [Laurie.Olds@lssmn.org](mailto:Laurie.Olds@lssmn.org)

The following is a "wish list" of current needs at the shelter:

Baby wipes	Crib sheets
Diapers (sizes 5 and 6)	Twin size sheets/mattress pads)
Large size Pull-Ups	Pillows
Hygiene supplies	Socks (all sizes)
Wash cloths	New girls underwear (sizes S-XL)
Bath towels	Winter jackets (all sizes)
Dish towels	Toys and games, art and craft supplies
Target, Walmart or Super One gift cards	

## PORCH

### 5:00 PM - Dinner

- Feb 7 Ham and Scalloped Potatoes, Corn, Apple Cole Slaw, Brownies
- Feb 14 Pork Noodle Hot Dish, Pretzel Salad, Bread, Bars
- Feb 21 Rigatoni and Meatballs, Garlic Bread, Tossed Salad, Cupcakes
- Feb 28 Sloppy Joes, Veggies and Dip, Chips, Chocolate Chip Cookies

### 6:00 PM - Adult Groups (No Yoga the month of February)

- Feb 7 Book Study – *Razing Hell*
- Feb 14 Ash Wednesday
- Feb 21 Book Study – *Embracing the Uncertain*
- Feb 28 Book Study – *Embracing the Uncertain*

### 6:00 PM – Children (5-11)

- Feb 7 Craft/Baking/Fun Activities
- Feb 14 Craft/Baking/Fun Activities
- Feb 21 Craft/Baking/Fun Activities
- Feb 28 Movie Night: Willie Wonka & the Chocolate Factory

### 6:00 PM – Youth (12-18)

- Feb 7 Ted Talk: Want to Change the World? Start By Being Brave Enough to Care By: *Cleo Wade*
- Feb 14 Craft Night: Popsicle Stick Painting
- Feb 21 Game Night: Board Games
- Feb 28 Movie Night: Willie Wonka & the Chocolate Factory

**Peace United Methodist Church  
Treasurer's Report 2017**

	December	Year-to-Date	
		2017	2016
<b>Cash balance @ Begin of Month</b>	<b>2,404.16</b>	1,760.96	5,939.53
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Congregation Offering	22,565.10	161,579.70	155,422.14
Building Usage	300.00	1,340.00	1,071.00
Capital Project Funds	-	4,784.00	5,000.00
Church Groups	-	1,103.00	404.00
Benevolent Giving Income	(1,747.75)	6,160.62	17,768.32
Fundraiser Income	2,030.29	2,555.09	6,170.40
Memorial Funds	250.00	46,222.00	211,730.00
New Ministry Funds	-	13,450.00	20,000.00
Other Income	-	200.00	-
	<b>23,397.64</b>	<b>237,394.41</b>	<b>417,565.86</b>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>			
Apportionments/Other Askings	2,536.92	24,149.77	22,455.99
Capital Project Expenditures	-	56,875.85	22,799.07
Church Operations	3,613.38	42,437.54	38,083.18
Church Programs	2,124.89	17,395.69	16,166.71
Benevolent Giving Expenses	976.53	7,263.12	16,509.08
Administrative Expenses	1,439.48	7,415.87	9,547.23
Staff Expenses	9,652.69	124,572.14	124,482.16
	<b>(20,343.89)</b>	<b>(280,109.98)</b>	<b>(250,043.42)</b>
<b>Other (Receivables)/Payables</b>			
Payroll Withholdings	<b>(133.14)</b>	<b>78.63</b>	<b>(342.64)</b>
<b>Funds transferred from (to) savings</b>			
Endowment Advances	10,000.00	38,770.00	20,000.00
Money Market Savings	(7,561.88)	5,154.38	4,881.65
Parsonage Mntnc Savings	(312.50)	(3,750.00)	(2,396.00)
New Ministries Savings	989.40	3,339.73	10,664.60
Memorials Savings	(885.00)	4,916.66	(204,508.62)
	<b>2,230.02</b>	<b>48,430.77</b>	<b>(171,358.37)</b>
<b>Cash Balance at End of Month</b>	<b>7,554.79</b>	<b>7,554.79</b>	<b>1,760.96</b>
<b>Cash Accounts</b>			
General Checking		7,554.79	1,760.96
Money Market Savings		11,927.95	17,072.12
Parsonage Maintenance Fund		10,816.48	7,062.07
Memorial Checking		280.17	280.17
Memorial Savings		14,652.17	19,554.11
New Ministries Savings		12,582.34	15,904.38
UMFCFCC Savings		10.00	10.00
<b>Total Cash</b>		<b>57,823.90</b>	<b>61,643.81</b>
<b>Endowment Accounts</b>			
Peac UMC		529,397.95	463,528.56
Aho/Appel		158,205.15	111,994.92
* Parsonage		104,358.97	116,446.23
		791,962.07	691,969.71
** Appel Outreach		150,245.80	175,628.58
Change in Market Value		-	-
<b>Total Endowments</b>		<b>942,207.87</b>	<b>867,598.29</b>

\* The PUMC Parsonage Endowment Funds are only to be used for capital improvement expenditures on the church or parsonage.

\* The Appel Outreach Endowment Funds are designated for missions and ministries sponsored by the United Methodist Church; This Fund is a permanent endowment with only the income to be spent for charitable giving; The Fund is administered by the United Methodist Foundation. These funds are not available to Peace UMC.