



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



The Methodist Messenger

March 2018

Church Office

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Phone: 218-741-7739
www.peaceumc.us
E-Mail: office@peaceumc.us
pastor@peaceumc.us

Our Staff

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

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

Worship Schedule

10:00 AM Peace UMC
303 South 9th Avenue
Virginia, MN 55792

Note: 1st Sunday of each month is
Communion Sunday

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

Thought for the month:

Lord, may I be of good heart, wise words and
strong action. Help me be stronger in spirit and
works each day.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

4	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
11	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
18	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 51:1-12	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
25	Mark 11:1-11 Philipians 2:5-11	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Mark 14:1-15:47	Isaiah 50:4-9	Psalm 31:9-16
29	Exodus 12:1-10, 11-14	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31-35
30	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:16-25	John 18:1-19:42

WATCH OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

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

Monday - 1:00 AM
Friday - 5:30 PM

Tuesday - 10:00 AM
Sunday - 9:30 AM

Thursday - 10:00 AM

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE 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	Jack Haugen/Diana Wallert
11	Gail Smith/Betsy Erickson
18	Virginia Askew/Shirley Woodward
25	Jack/Sandy LaBarre

USHERS

Jeff/Sarah Teasck Family
Betty Culbert/Kathy Oliver
Sue Carle/Kay Chapik
Dale Krog/Roger Rosandich

LITURGIST

Sheila Colosmio
Marshall Bergerson
Lynda Alar
Kathy Krog

COFFEE AN'

4	Sue Gilpin/Jim/Betsy Nelson
11	Joy Stanaway/Mary Stanaway
18	Terry Hilar/Iris Teasck
25	Kelly Dahl/Tom/Gail Johnson

COMMUNION

March 4 th	– Shirley and Gail Woodward
April 8 th	– Val and Paul Wier
May 6 th	– 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

1 – Annette Beise	1 – Jackie Campbell	2 – Ted Wirtz	3 – Louis Knoll
5 – Kerry Roen	7 – Terry Hilar	8 – Sharlene Smith	9 – Ashley Dahl
9 – Kathy Rice	11 – Donald Sklors	16 – Jeanene Hagberg	16 – Aleigha Putkonen
20 – Joey Aho	23 – Audrey Aho	26 – Ellie Werner	27 – Terri Rosenquist
27 – Carol Thomas	31 – Gerald Chapik		

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



From the Pastor

Lent always puts me in a reflective mood. I tend to think about what is in front of me and not about what is behind me. I am a planner, and a person who always wants to improve and improve things around me. This goes for the church, as well, in my ministry here. This church as adapted to much change and is reaching out to our community, but we could do better. There is so much need and many people

who are struggling to survive could use our help. How can we do this better? How can this church have a central mission vision and purpose that shows our community who we are? And how can we all work together in this common purpose?

My sermon on Ash Wednesday gave some examples of things we can give up that would help make us better persons and make room for God to enter our hearts more deeply. The list is from the Reverend Craig Gates of Jackson Mississippi with some of my own additions.

GIVE UP grumbling! Instead, "In everything give thanks." Constructive criticism is OK, but "moaning, groaning, and complaining" are not Christian disciplines.

GIVE UP 10 to 15 minutes in bed! Instead, use that time in prayer, Bible study and personal devotion. A few minutes in prayer WILL keep you focused.

GIVE UP looking at other people's worst attributes. Instead concentrate on their best points. We all have faults. It is a lot easier to have people overlook our shortcomings when we overlook theirs first.

GIVE UP speaking unkindly. Instead, let your speech be generous and understanding. It costs so little to say something kind and uplifting or to offer a smile. Why not check that sharp tongue at the door?

GIVE UP your hatred of anyone or anything! Instead, learn the discipline of love. "Love covers a multitude of sins."

GIVE UP your worries and anxieties! They're too heavy for you to carry anyway. Instead, trust God with them. Anxiety is spending emotional energy on something we can do nothing about: like tomorrow! Live today and let God's grace be sufficient.

GIVE UP TV one evening a week! Instead, visit someone who's lonely or sick. There are those who are isolated by illness or age. Why isolate yourself in front of the "tube?" Give someone a precious gift: your time!

GIVE UP buying anything but essentials for yourself! Instead, give the money to God. The money you would spend on the luxuries could help someone meet basic needs. We're called to be stewards of God's riches, not consumers.

GIVE UP judging others by appearances and by the standard of the world! Instead, learn to give up yourself to God. There is only one who has the right to judge, Jesus Christ.

GIVE UP thinking you are too busy. Write a note or letter to someone who hasn't heard from you in a long time.

GIVE UP control of people and situations. Control is an illusion and comes out of fear.

GIVE UP scarcity thinking. Live with gratitude. God is abundant. Always. Give thanks to God.

Wild Blessings,

~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

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.

LENT/EASTER

This Lent (February 14-April 1), the Bishop and Cabinet invite all Minnesota United Methodists to take on some intentional practices of being generous, hospitable, Spirit-led Christ-like missional people that surprise the world.

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

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.

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.

EASTER BREAKFAST – April 1st

Join us at 9:00 am for Easter Breakfast. The menu will include a **Ham-n-Egg Bake**, choice of either: egg bake plain, with cheese or with wild rice and cheese; Banana Orange Fruit Salad, Toast, Hardboiled Eggs, Milk and Juice. WE look forward to seeing you!

EASTER SERVICE – April 1st

Easter is a great time for family, friends, traditions, and celebration. Celebrate Easter with us and learn how it can bring us all new life and a renewed purpose.

EASTER MEMORIAL GARDEN

You are invited to bring in plants or flowers to decorate the church altar for Easter Sunday, April 1st. Because of allergies, we kindly ask you to choose flowers other than lilies, hyacinths and other overly fragrant flowers. Please complete the information form in the Library with your name and the name of your loved ones(s) by Sunday, March 25th to be included in the Easter Bulletin.

Please deliver your plants to the Church Library by Friday, March 30th. You will be able to take your flowers home following the Easter Service.

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

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

We celebrate Tracy Gasperlin who faithfully participated in the ministries of PUMC with her presence. Tracy attended every Sunday worship service in 2017!

YOUTH GROUP – Tubing @ Giants Ridge

Sunday, March 11th, 1:00-4:00; Stay after church for snacks and lunch. Cost is \$10/person – (Covers tubing ticket, lunch, and ride) RIDES AVAILABLE!! Questions? Contact McKenzie (780-6102)

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

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

ANNUAL CONFERENCE – May 30th – June 1st at St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center

The theme will be "Discover Joy: Live Deeply!" and the Bible verse will be John 15

METHODIST MOONLIGHTERS

The group is meeting Tuesday, March 27 at 6:00 pm at New China Buffet. The Theme is “Spring Cleaning in Our Hearts and Home”.

SAFE GATHERINGS

It has become the policy and covenant of PUMC to do everything in our power to prevent physical, emotional or sexual abuse against children, youth, and adults from vulnerable populations involved in any ministry sponsored by our local church. Further, we are called to minister to those persons who are experiencing abuse and to those who have been victims of abuse in the past. To that end we covenant to be aware of our legal responsibilities and to comply with those responsibilities and go beyond those responsibilities when necessary to act justly in the best interest of those who have been abused or those who are most vulnerable to abuse.

Peace United Methodist Church requires all those who serve in a role of leadership with children youth and adults from vulnerable populations to complete the Conference-provided Safe Gatherings abuse prevention and boundary awareness on-line training. All those currently serving in these positions must complete the training by March 15, 2018.

MARCH IS MINNESOTA FOODSHARE MONTH

Let's have a coin drive! Peace UMC is joining faith communities throughout Minnesota to raise funds for stocking our Food Shelves. Food shelves can stretch our cash and coins further than food donations because they have access to discount products and programs. This will be a fun, easy campaign. Collect your loose change, bring it to the church, and pour it into the gas tank of our FoodShare car in the Narthex. The FoodShare March Campaign runs from February 26-April 8th.

Pack-the-Pews Sunday, March 25th: This is a special Sunday that churches all over Minnesota participate in as part of our FoodShare March campaign. The Sunday School children will be collecting cash, coin, and food donations during children's time at our Palm Sunday service. Let's support our local Salvation Army Food Shelf!

Thanks, Diana Wallert, Outreach Ministry

REACH*RENEW*REJOICE (RRR)

Thank you for your financial support to RRR. I hope you find this newsletter inspiring and that it excites you as much as it does me to see the momentum of our United Methodist work and witness across our state with impact far beyond! ~ Dan Johnson, Twin Cities Superintendent and Director of Reach*Renew*Rejoice

Pick up your copy of the Winter 2018 “Breakthroughs” newsletter to become better informed about our progress and strategies and tactics that PUMC may want to implement (on the Welcome Table in the Narthex).

PRAYERS AND SQUARES QUILTERS

The Prayers and Squares Quilters meet at the church on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 9:30 to set up, until about 1:30 or 2:00 pm. We have six quilters, but need one or two more volunteers. We make quilts to give to organizations that house people in need, such as Bill's House, the Youth Foyer, The Wellstone Center in Eveleth, but mainly local homes. Our current quilters are: Virginia Peterson, Iris Teasck, Kathy Oliver, Connie Rabideaux, Char Cremers and Doris Knoll. You will enjoy doing some easy sewing, even if you have never quilted before. If you have any questions, please call Doris at 741-7635. We need you, and it's a great way to contribute to those in need locally.

RED BIRD MISSION TEAM

Our team has been accepted at the work site for the week of October 7th – 13th. We are excited to learn what project we will be assigned. We're also hoping for a little more seasonal weather this year: the 90 to 95 degrees last year were a tad warm for us northerners. :) Maybe we'll be lucky and see some fall color change in those beautiful mountains.

Our fundraising continues. We thank you for your generous support of our bake sales. You will most likely find our items unpriced from now on. Please donate for the items as you desire. White elephant items may be left in Room #14. We cannot accept clothing, electronics, and large or upholstered furniture.

We are also in the planning stages for the luncheon/bake and white elephant sale to be held on April 21st. We had tremendous support last year, with everyone so generous in offering their time and talents. Watch for upcoming meetings and sign-up sheets in the Library. We'll primarily need help with preparing and serving the luncheon. Donation of baked items will also be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for whatever you may do to help. We're still able to add more people to our team, so if you're interested in our trip, please talk to one us.

God's Blessings, Terry, Carter, Betsy, Connie, Jeanene, Chris, Mark, and Pam

2017 APPORTIONMENTS

I thank you for your faithfulness in paying 100% of your conference support through apportionment giving. When we work together with the other United Methodist Churches in Minnesota we are able to accomplish far more that we can on our own. ~Mark Miller, North Star District Superintendent (complete letter can be found on bulletin board outside the Office)

What are apportionments? The main way we support ministries of the church is through our apportioned funds, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the global and Minnesota church budgets to local congregations. Each year, every local church is assigned "a portion meant for others." The amount of money each congregation is asked to pay is determined by a formula that, in Minnesota, is based 15 percent on each congregation's number of members and 85 percent on each congregation's expenditures.

Together, through our connected congregations, we accomplish what no single church, district, or annual conference ever could hope to do alone. In this way, each individual, each family, and each congregation contributes to the church's work. We combine our prayers, presence, gifts, and service to make a significant difference in the lives of God's people.

SHOWER WITH GIFTS OF LOVE

Thank you for the generous "showering" of Courtney and her son with gifts of love! The pack-n-play was filled with many wonderful and needed items. The Baby is due in March!!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following people that volunteered for "Habitat for Humanity" on February 8th and 9th, 2018: Terry Hilar, Tod Swenson, Connie and Jim Rabideaux, Betsy Erickson, Al Williams, Chris and Craig Johnson, Mark Rasmussen and Michele Maki. We hope to this again.

MISSION U – EDUCATE TO TRANSFORM

Join us in St. Cloud for this wonderful opportunity for 3 days of in depth learning, worship and fellowship. Mission u (formerly known as School of Christian Mission) was created by Methodist women in the early-20th century in order to educate women and inspire them to a sense of mission at home and around the world. The

United Methodist Women remain dedicated to the planning and promotion of this program. The schools were formed by and for women but over the years the demographic has changed as men, children and youth take advantage of this rich opportunity.

At Mission u, we grow in understanding of the mission of the church in the current world context as we “learn together for the transformation of the world”. The three studies offered each year cover three aspects: spiritual growth, geographical and social issues.

The studies for 2018 are SPIRITUAL GROWTH: Embracing wholeness – an earth perspective for covenantal living; GEOGRAPHICAL: Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the US; and SOCIAL ISSUES: What about our money – a faith response.

July 13-15, 2018 at Kelly Inn, St Cloud, MN; for more information contact Diana Eickelbert, MN Mission u Dean at 507-358-9576 or mnmissionudean@gmail.com.

ESSENTIA ST. MARY’S EAST RANGE HOSPICE 8-WEEK GREIF SUPPORT GROUP

Experiencing the death of a loved one can be a very difficult experience. Discussing common themes and experiences about the grief process and having support from others can help a great deal. Please consider participating in our grief groups. They are available to anyone in our area who has experienced the death of a loved one.

The 8-Week Spring Session will meet on Mondays beginning March 5th from 6:00 PM – to 8:00 PM at Peace UMC in the Library. The groups are facilitated by Catherine Burt, Coordinator of Bereavement Services, St. Mary’s Hospice East Range Team and Kris Simensen, LSW, Social Worker Virginia Care Center. For more information, please call 218-749-7975.

THE GOSPEL OF MARK ALIVE!

On Wednesday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m., Rev. Bert Marshall will be at Messiah Lutheran Church to perform *The Gospel of Mark Alive!* This will be the second time that Rev. Marshall has performed the Gospel of Mark at Messiah. Prior to the performance, there will be a Chili Cook-Off from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. All proceeds from the Chili Cook-Off will support the youth attending the National ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston in June.

PORCH

5:00 PM - Dinner

7	Pasty Pie; Cole Slaw; Mile High Pie
14	Cook’s Choice
21	Hamburger/Bun and fixins; Tater Tots; Green Beans; Carrot Bars/Cream Cheese Frosting
28	Ham/Vegies or Chicken Noodle; Crackers; Meat & Cheese Rolls; Taste Like Éclair Dessert

6:00 PM - Adult Groups

7	Book Study – <i>Embracing the Uncertain</i>	Yoga
14	Book Study – <i>Embracing the Uncertain</i>	Yoga
21	Book Study – <i>Embracing the Uncertain</i>	Yoga
28	Music by the Dischords	Yoga

6:00 PM – Children (5-11)

7	Movie Night: <i>Free Willy</i>
14	Craft/Baking/Fun Activities
21	Craft/Baking/Fun Activities
28	Craft/Baking/Fun Activities

6:00 PM – Youth (12-18)

7	Movie Night: <i>Free Willy</i>
14	Craft Night: Moon Sand
21	Game Night:
28	STEM Night

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

	January	Year-to-Date	
		2018	2017
Cash balance @ Begin of Month	7,554.79	7,554.79	1,760.96
Cash Receipts			
Congregation Offering	11,291.37	11,291.37	12,703.00
Building Usage	195.00	195.00	-
Capital Project Funds	-	-	-
Church Groups	-	-	-
Benevolent Giving Income	280.54	280.54	554.62
Fundraiser Income	221.00	221.00	100.00
Memorial Funds	245.00	245.00	-
New Ministry Funds	-	-	-
	12,232.91	12,232.91	13,357.62
Cash Disbursements			
Apportionments/Other Askings	2,051.35	2,051.35	-
Capital Project Expenditures	-	-	-
Church Operations	6,786.89	6,786.89	3,011.91
Church Programs	1,452.25	1,452.25	1,471.68
Benevolent Giving Expenses	821.19	821.19	340.00
Administrative Expenses	213.74	213.74	147.65
Staff Expenses	10,568.18	10,568.18	11,701.55
	(21,893.60)	21,893.60	16,672.79
Other (Receivables)/Payables			
Payroll Withholdings	90.09	90.09	41.04
Funds transferred from (to) savings			
Endowment Advances	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	-
Money Market Savings	5,848.00	5,848.00	-
Parsonage Mntnc Savings	137.50	137.50	(312.50)
New Ministries Savings	3,032.80	3,032.80	2,586.62
Memorials Savings	-	-	-
	4,018.30	4,018.30	2,274.12
Cash Balance at End of Month	2,002.49	2,002.49	760.95
Cash Accounts			
General Checking		2,002.49	790.95
Money Market Savings		6,080.95	17,073.55
Parsonage Maintenance Fund		10,678.98	7,374.57
Memorial Checking		280.17	280.17
Memorial Savings		14,653.41	19,555.77
New Ministries Savings		9,550.60	13,319.12
UMFCFCC Savings		10.00	10.00
Total Cash		43,256.60	58,404.13
Endowment Accounts			
Hadden Endowment		529,397.95	463,528.56
Housing Endowment		109,358.97	175,752.86
MN UM Foundation Endowment		158,298.71	116,446.23
MN UM Foundation Endowment - Appel		150,334.66	112,074.17
Change in Market Value		27,813.14	18,289.31
Total Endowments		975,203.43	886,091.13

* 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.