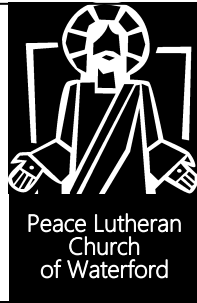


PAX PEACE



The Voice of Peace

"May the God of PEACE, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to who be glory for ever and ever. Amen." John 14:27

NOVEMBER 2016



The year long celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, or the return of the freedom of the Gospel, is now upon us! As Martin Luther said at the Diet of Worms:

"Since then your sere Majesty and your Lordships seek a simple answer, I will give it in this manner, neither horned nor toothed. Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the Pope or in Councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. May God help me. Amen."

(Reply to the Diet of Worms, April 18, 1521)

— **Martin Luther, Luther's Works, 33: Career of the Reformer III**

We also stand, as Luther did, looking at what is before us. How, and for whom will you vote? What will be your motive? It is my hope that, just as Luther, we all will be **captive to the word of God** in how we come to our decisions.

There is much to dislike with the choices set before us. But, there is also much, as we turn to the pages of Holy Scripture, to give us hope. In many places God uses those whom mortal minds would have discarded. Moses needed Aaron to speak for him. David was the least likely of the brothers to be King. However, God saw something special because God looked at David's heart. Jeremiah was in his own eyes only a youth, but God promised to give him the words he needed to speak. In John the Baptist, the Apostles Peter and Paul, and on and on, we see God use those we would not have chosen for the tasks appointed. But, as Saint Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 3:18-23:

¹⁸ Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. ¹⁹ For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness," ²⁰ and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile." ²¹ So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, ²³ and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

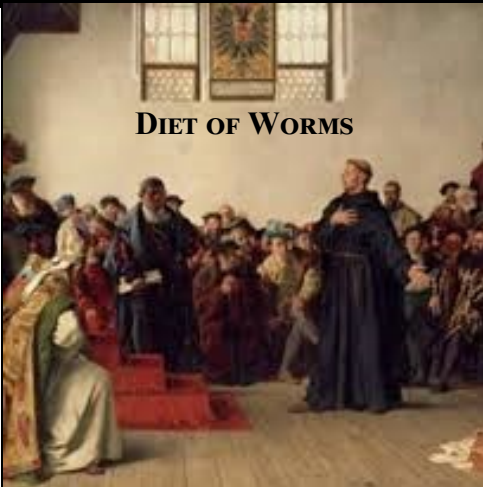
The favor of God on account of Christ is yours, given as a gift by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8-9). For many of us received the gift of faith through the waters of Holy Baptism, being marked and redeemed by God as his child. Luther knew this too and had to stand firm in that confession or stand in the hope of Popes and Councils. We must always stand in this life as Christ's child, captive to the word of God in how we live, think, act, and vote. It is incumbent for us as Christians, as we consider decisions in life, to look always to the Word of God for wisdom and guidance. Wherever your conscience leads you as you consider the choices before you, may you ever be captive to the Word of God. God help us all. Amen.

Blessings,
Pastor Tkac

"I AM BOUND BY THE SCRIPTURES."

— **MARTIN LUTHER**

DIET OF WORMS



**REFORMATION
2017 It's Still All About
Jesus**

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The Voice of Peace is the monthly Newsletter of:

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Editor: Debbie Wittke

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Office Hours

Pastor Tkac: Monday — Thursday
Debbie Wittke: Monday — Thursday

Worship and Class Schedule:

Saturday Divine Worship.....6:30pm

Sunday Divine Worship.....10:30am

Intergenerational Sunday School
For all ages

Held in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.

Midweek Adult Bible Class

Thursday..... 2:30—3:30pm

No Sunday School or Bible Class
Memorial Day — Labor Day

6th/7th Grade Confirmation Class

Monday.....5:30—6:30pm

8th Grade Confirmation Class

Monday.....6:30pm—7:30pm



NOVEMBER 2016 ~ ACOLYTE & READER SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 6:30 P.M.

05/06	Acolyte Reader	Olivia Fisher Mark Bunarek
12/13	Acolyte Reader	_____ Pastor Merrell
19/20	Acolyte Reader	Olivia Fisher Ginny McDonald
26/27	Acolyte Reader	_____ Judy Harroun

SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

Lauren Robar Darrell Roberts
Logan Thompson Lynette Bright
Brianna Squanda Joan Rich
Lauren Robar Robin Gallmeyer

NOVEMBER ELDERS: Mark Bunarek

Skip Bushart

NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD: Amy Thompson / Margaret Voss



Funds / Missions

Ladies Guild
Memorial
St. Paul Mission



Celebrating a BIRTHDAY

- 5 Walter Richley
- 6 Tammy Franckowiak
- 7 Marlene Wanke
- 8 Bryant Bright
- 10 Carol Hartig, Paul Wendland
- 12 Junette Rich
- 19 David Jones
- 23 Patricia Rich, Cynthia Salinis
- 24 Richard Heinz, Shelby Talkington
- 25 Veretta Cheal, Jonathan Nold
- 27 Hilary Brandon, Laurel Lemke, Kathryn Zolbe
- 29 Peggy Madsen



Celebrating an ANNIVERSARY YEARS

1	Duane & Eleanor Brown	69
15	Eric & Leanne Fisher	19
24	Timothy & Connie Kiefiuk	21

PLEASE NOTE: THE NOVEMBER BLOOD DRIVE HAS BEEN CANCELLED!

"Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum"



Latin for "The Word of the Lord Endures Forever," this motto of the Lutheran Reformation is based on Isaiah 40:6-8 and quoted by 1 Peter 1:25. Frederick the Wise, ruler of Saxony and one of Martin Luther's earliest and most powerful defenders, had the VDMA symbol sewn into the right sleeve of the official garments of his court. It was also used on flags, banners, swords, and uniforms as a symbol of the unity of the Lutheran laity who struggled to defend their beliefs, families, and lives against those who were intent on destroying them.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																																		
<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="7">October 2016</th> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>	October 2016							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="7">December 2016</th> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> </tr> </table>	December 2016							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>1</p>  <p>ALL SAINTS' DAY</p> <p><i>All Saints' Day</i></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>2:30pm Adult Bible Class</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00am Mens Breakfast Bible Study</p>  <p>6:30pm Worship / Holy Communion</p>
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<p>20</p> <p>Classes ~ see above</p> <p>10:30am Worship / Holy Communion</p> <p>Voters Meeting</p>  <p>Following Worship</p> <p>Newsletter DEADLINE</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm 6/7th grade confirmation</p> <p>6:30-7:30pm 8th grade confirmation</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>NO ADULT BIBLE CLASS</p>  <p>Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10-12pm Church Christmas decorating</p>  <p>Hanging of the GREEN</p> <p>6:30pm Worship</p>																																																																																																		
<p>27 <i>First Sunday in Advent</i></p>  <p>Advent</p> <p>Classes ~ see above</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm 6/7th grade confirmation</p> <p>6:30-7:30pm 8th grade confirmation</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6-6:45pm</p>  <p>Advent Dinner</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Midweek</p> <p><i>Advent</i> Worship</p> 	 <p>Rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you. ~ Deuteronomy 26:11 (NIV)</p>																																																																																																				

Mens Breakfast Bible Study



Join us for Bible study and breakfast, Saturday, **November 5, 2016**. Come and feed both soul and body. We will gather at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast and finish with Bible study. You will surely be built up in the faith that leads to life eternal as the Holy Spirit works within you!

The long view of Advent

First Sunday in Advent 11/27/16

Advent is about preparing not only for Christmas but also for Jesus' return. According to Scripture, that won't be the calm, silent scene described in Christmas carols.

In 1928, Dietrich Bonhoeffer preached: "It is very remarkable that we face the thought that God is coming so calmly, whereas previously peoples trembled at the day of God We have become so accustomed to the idea of divine love and of God's coming at Christmas that we no longer feel the shiver of fear that God's coming should arouse in us. We ... [forget] the serious aspect that the God of the world draws near to the people of our little earth and lays claim to us."

God is love; we'll be in good hands at the end of time. However, during Advent, also be in awe of God. Embrace a reverent fear of the Lord that reminds you how profound it is that God chooses again and again to draw near and lay claim to you.



Daylight saving time

Daylight saving time ends **Sunday, November 6**. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour on **Saturday, November 5**, before retiring for the evening.



Cast your vote



Be sure to vote **Tuesday, November 8**. As Americans we have the privilege to vote for our country's leaders — a privilege not all people have. As Christians we have the privilege to vote as both our conscience and Scripture dictate. **VOTE November 8!**

We look forward to seeing you

Our last Council and Voters Meetings for the year will be as follows:

Council Meeting ~ **Thursday, November 17** at 7:00 p.m.

Voters Meeting ~ **Sunday, November 20** following the worship service

Please make every effort to attend these important meetings (only council members need appear November 17) as we attend to those things that make the Body of Christ here at Peace run smoothly and efficiently.



Christmas decorating is swiftly approaching



We'll meet Saturday, **November 26**, from 10 a.m. — noon to decorate the Sanctuary and Church for Christmas. Join us for a fun time as we make ready for the coming of the Christ Child. Hope to see YOU there.

Advent worship and dinner



Advent midweek worship services are scheduled for November 30, December 7, and December 14 at 7:00 p.m. Soup and sandwich suppers will be available at 6 p.m. prior to worship. A freewill offering will be taken to help cover the cost.

Please speak to a Parish Guild member if you can help prepare dinner and clean up.



Advent by Candlelight



This year's program will be held on Thursday, **December 1**. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. with snacks and follow with desserts. Come and join us as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and make Him the reason for the season. Be sure to put this uplifting event on your calendar now. We look forward to sharing Jesus with you.