



Ministry Board Meeting Agenda
September 15, 2025
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call / Attendance
- III. Devotions – Bill Helfritz
- IV. Open Forum
- V. Adopt Agenda
- VI. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Approval of Ministry Board Meeting Minutes from August 18, 2025
 - B. Approval of Special Ministry Board Meeting Minutes from August 28, 2025
- VII. Reports
 - A. Financial Report
 - B. Pastor's Report
 - C. Mark's Report
 - D. Design Team Report
 - E. Ministry Team Reports
 - i. Finance
 - ii. Hospitality
 - iii. Hospitality – Craft Weekend Committee
 - iv. Outreach
 - v. Property
 - vi. Stewardship
 - vii. Worship & Music
- VIII. Old Business
 - A. I-Team Candidates and Description
 - B. Internship for Mark Nisen
- IX. New Business
 - A. Sunday School
- X. Adjourn
- XI. Closing Prayer
- XII. Information
 - A. Next Meeting: October 20, 2025 | Executive Board Meeting October 16, 2025
 - B. October Meeting Devotions: Ted Pew
 - C. October Communion Assistants: Ted Pew and Jon Peterson

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
UNAPPROVED Ministry Board Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2025

- I. Call to Order:** 6:31 pm by Cathy Rieckenberg at Peace Lutheran Church.
- II. Members Present:** Bill Helfritz, Dan Nelson, Jon Peterson, Cathy Rieckenberg, Tory Schmidt, and Pastor David Hanson
- Absent:** Karen Dressel and Ted Pew,
- III. Devotions:** Done by Jon Peterson
- IV. Open Forum:**
- A. Ann Goebel presented to the Ministry her findings for Strategic Planning. New goals, mission, and Core values were discussed with the new survey results in mind. Ann will fine-tune our discussion and come back for a second presentation
- B. Ron Boettner discussed Strategic Planning, where the church currently is, and where it is going. We went through a letter, which he had written to Cathy and Jon.
- V. Adopt Agenda:**
- VI. Approval of Minutes - tabled**
- VII. Reports:**
- A. Financial Report: Tabled
- B. Pastor's Report: Tabled
- C. Mark's Report: Tabled
- D. Design Team Report: Tory updated the Ministry Board on the current progress. Due to the limited time, the contract presented by Norson for the next phase was discussed briefly by Tory. It was decided that he would be talking to Eric about the price on the contract and Cathy would reach out to Kristi Mittlestadt for her to review this contract.
- E. Ministry Team Reports: Tabled
- Finance
 - Hospitality
 - Missions
 - Outreach (July and August)
 - Property
- VIII. Old Business:**
- A. Call Committee: Tabled
- B. Corn Feed Review: Tabled
- C. Pastor David: Tabled
- D. Cash Handling Policy: Tabled



NEW BUSINESS:

A. Interim Schedule: Tabled

B. Rally Sunday and Pie Auction: Tabled

IX. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon / Bill / Carried. Adjourned at 9:35 pm

X. Closing Prayer

XI. Information:

- Next meeting Thursday, August 28 at 6:00 pm
- September Ministry Board Meeting September 15, 2025, | Executive Board Meeting September 11, 2025
- September Meeting Devotions: Bill Helfritz
- September Communion Assistant / MB serving: Bill Helfritz and Ted Pew

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
UNAPPROVED Special Ministry Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2025

I. Call to Order: 6:02 pm by Cathy Rieckenberg at Peace Lutheran Church.

II. Members Present: Karen Dressel, Bill Helfritz, Dan Nelson, Jon Peterson, Ted Pew, Cathy Rieckenberg, Tory Schmidt, and Pastor David Hanson

Absent:

III. Devotions: Done by Jon Peterson

IV. Open Forum: None

V. Adopt Agenda: Add to Old Business D. Cash Handling Policy

Motion to approve Ministry Board Meeting Agenda as amended. Ted / Bill / Carried

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Ministry Board Meeting Minutes from July 21, 2025.

Motion to approve the July 21, 2025, Ministry Board meeting minutes as written. Ted / Bill / Carried

VII. Reports:

A. Financial Report:

Reviewed Financials: Karen reviewed the financials and Finance Ministry Team minutes.

Motion to approve Financial Report as written. Jon / Ted / Carried.

B. Pastor's Report:

Motion to approve Pastor's Report as presented. Karen / Bill / Carried.

C. Mark's Report:

Motion to approve Mark's Report as written. Karen / Bill / Carried.

D. Design Team Report: Tory updated the Ministry Board on the current progress. Contract review is underway.

Motion to approve the Design Team Report as presented. Dan / Jon / Carried.

E. Ministry Team Reports

- Finance
- Hospitality
- Missions
- Outreach (July and August)
- Property

Motion to accept Ministry Team Reports as written. Bill / Jon / Carried

VIII. Old Business:

- A. Call Committee: They met on August 20. Pastor John Hopper will advise the committee. Jake Bohler is the chair, and Karleen Boettner is the secretary. The next meeting is on September 3.
- B. Corn Feed Review: Karen will schedule a meeting.
- C. Pastor David:
- D. Cash Handling Policy: Discussed policy presented by the Finance Ministry Team. Added “Noisy offering change will be taken to the bank and run through the coin counter” to the policy, per Sue Buelke’s usual monthly process.

Motion to approve the Cash Handling Policy with addition of the Noisy Offering procedure. Bill / Jon / Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Interim Schedule: Pastor John will start on September 2 with his first sermon given on Sunday, September 7. His schedule will be Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday.
- B. Rally Sunday and Pie Auction: Short discussion on sign-ups. Pastor David suggested that next year we start with a call to the baker’s from 2025. He also suggested – when asking the congregation for help, make sure we talk about how it supports Peace’s ministry.

IX. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill / Jon / Carried. Adjourned at 6:54 pm

X. Closing Prayer

XI. Information:

- Next meeting September 15, 2025, | Executive Board Meeting September 11, 2025
- September Meeting Devotions: Bill Helfritz
- September Communion Assistant / MB serving: Bill Helfritz and Ted Pew

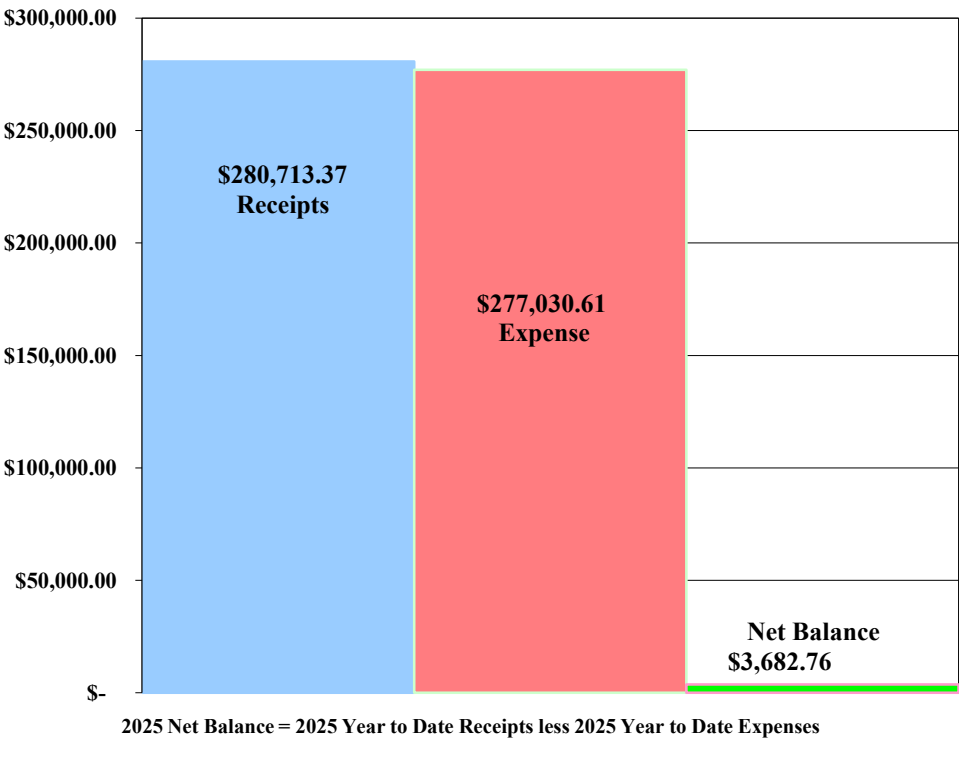
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT

July 31, 2025

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

General Fund 2025 Receipts and Transfers In	\$	280,713.37	
General Fund 2025 Expenses	\$	277,030.61	
General Fund - 2025 Net Balance			<u>\$ 3,682.76</u>

2025
Year-to-Date
General Fund



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 31, 2025

Statement of Activities for Period 8 - August
Company#: 1 Name: Peace Lutheran Church
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2025

	<u>Current</u> <u>Period</u>	<u>Current</u> <u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>Prior</u> <u>Y-T-D</u>
Income			
Operating Income			
401010 General Fund	\$48,561.62	\$254,346.62	\$244,636.81
401010-5 General Fund - Initial	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
410005 Christmas Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
410010 Easter Offering	\$0.00	\$4,422.60	\$4,721.00
410015 Lenten Offering	\$0.00	\$5,093.25	\$4,376.00
410030 Cash Offering	\$606.00	\$4,105.55	\$2,569.92
410035 Miscellaneous Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
410040 Mid-week Summer Worship Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$688.00
410050 Interest Income	\$1,870.10	\$6,367.43	\$8,624.32
410200 Youth Events Income	\$346.00	\$800.00	\$979.75
410300 VBS Registrations Income	\$0.00	\$2,600.96	\$2,380.45
410305 VBS Income - Donation Income	\$0.00	\$53.96	\$105.00
410400 Education-Confirmation Retreat Income	\$0.00	\$2,265.00	\$2,666.00
410450 Education-Adult Events Income	\$0.00	\$658.00	\$265.00
Total Operating Income	\$51,383.72	\$280,713.37	\$272,722.25
419090 Nesvold Matching Gift Income	\$0.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
419091 Capital Campaign 2025 Income	\$83,958.00	\$182,880.00	\$172,690.00
419092 Capital Campaign 2025 Interest Income	\$5,963.76	\$15,411.32	\$0.00
419125 Good Samaritan Fund Income	\$0.00	\$480.00	\$225.00
419135 Seminary Support Fund Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$541.00
420160 Thrivent Mission Fund Income	\$32.00	\$1,121.00	\$539.00
430110 Noisy Offering Fund Income	\$455.52	\$2,936.66	\$2,401.34
430115 Youth Ministry Fund Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$229.00
430122 Youth Mission Trip Fund Income	\$0.00	\$17,551.33	\$21,951.00
430125 Youth Mission Trip Fundraisers Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
430126 Sunday School Fund Income	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
440100 Outreach Fund Income	\$0.00	\$2,120.04	\$1,145.49
440105 Outreach Events	\$150.00	\$1,353.00	\$1,130.00
440200 Hospitality Fund Income	\$0.00	(\$1,800.67)	\$5.00
440205 Lenten Suppers	\$0.00	\$802.00	\$627.00
440210 Hospitality Events	\$30.00	\$234.00	\$150.00
440215 PIE Auction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
440220 Easter Breakfast	\$0.00	\$369.00	\$121.00
440300 Technology Fund Income	\$0.00	\$3,793.34	\$259.00
445105 Easter Flowers	\$0.00	\$1,344.00	\$1,230.00
490010 Refunded Transactions Income (1)	\$0.00	\$14,238.77	\$0.00
490020 Baptism Gifts	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
490040 Refunded - Coffee Income	\$230.00	\$1,774.00	\$1,882.60
490100 Refunded - Donations Income	\$0.00	\$1,696.95	\$1,887.99
490200 Office Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$56.07
Total Income	\$142,403.00	\$627,418.11	\$580,102.74

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 31, 2025

Statement of Activities for Period 8 - August
Company#: 1 Name: Peace Lutheran Church
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2025

	<u>Current Period</u>	<u>Current Y-T-D</u>	<u>Prior Y-T-D</u>
Operating Expenses			
Benevolence			
Total Benevolence	\$2,600.00	\$27,800.00	\$26,000.00
Insurance			
Total Insurance	\$1,625.00	\$14,205.79	\$10,892.09
Salaries			
Total Salaries	\$22,805.34	\$156,394.73	\$152,566.58
Pastor Benefits			
Total Pastor Benefits	\$2,253.90	\$12,268.03	\$11,289.08
Office			
Total Office	\$4,976.34	\$16,949.40	\$13,162.77
Other Finance			
Total Other Finance	\$775.90	\$5,093.59	\$2,980.05
Total All Finance	\$35,036.48	\$232,711.54	\$216,890.57
Property			
Total Property	\$1,468.84	\$14,274.86	\$10,546.88
Education			
Total Education	\$538.82	\$10,261.44	\$9,281.25
Youth Activity			
Total Youth Activity	\$1,063.20	\$3,840.95	\$2,956.98
Missions			
Total Missions	\$0.00	\$43.28	\$82.47
Stewardship			
Total Stewardship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Care Ministry			
Total Care Ministry	\$53.56	\$677.91	\$833.50
Outreach			
Total Outreach	\$1,545.58	\$7,334.75	\$4,197.40
Hospitality			
Total Hospitality	(\$16.71)	\$2,884.93	\$1,746.95
Music			
Total Music	\$1,217.00	\$2,436.74	\$920.00
Altar Care			
Total Altar Care	(\$37.92)	\$1,350.11	\$1,422.47
Technology			
Total Technology	\$417.33	\$1,214.10	\$3,493.67
Total Operating Expenses	\$41,286.18	\$277,030.61	\$252,372.14

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 31, 2025

Statement of Activities for Period 8 - August
 Company#: 1 Name: Peace Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2025

	<u>Current Period</u>	<u>Current Y-T-D</u>	<u>Prior Y-T-D</u>
810090 Nesvold Matching Gift Expense	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$0.00
810115 Build The Future Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,958.34
810121 Good Samaritan Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$224.95
810153 Seminary Support Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$146.60
810154 Properties Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$203.75	\$0.00
810160 Thrivent Mission Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
810190 Jerry Hendricks Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$222.19
820100 Music Ministry Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
830110 Noisy Offering Fund Expense	\$1,484.19	\$3,968.12	\$0.00
830115 Youth Ministry Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$698.91
830122 Youth Mission Trip Expense	\$0.00	\$21,001.12	\$19,630.99
830125 Mission Trip Fundraiser Expense	\$0.00	\$993.95	\$3,446.45
830135 High School Scholarship Fund Expense	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
835100 Mission Ministry Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
840100 Outreach Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$960.00	\$3,458.05
840200 Hospitality Fund Expense	\$54.79	\$1,736.47	\$1,573.78
840205 Hospitality Events Expense	\$0.00	\$214.83	\$34.50
840300 Technology Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$3,806.02	\$348.99
840500 Care Ministry Fund Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13.75
845100 Special Gift-Altar/Flower Fund Expense	\$70.00	\$511.50	\$1,194.44
845105 Memorial-Altar Care Expense	\$0.00	\$1,125.20	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$44,395.16	\$314,661.57	\$314,824.08
Net Income	\$98,007.84	\$312,756.54	\$265,278.66

(1) Final ERTC refund received

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT**

August 31, 2025

August 31, 2025	2025	2024
Operating Income .	\$ 280,713.37	\$ 272,722.25
Operating Expense	\$ 277,030.61	\$ 252,372.14
Balance	\$ 3,682.76	\$ 20,350.11

Previous Month YTD Comparison

July 31, 2025	2025	2024
Operating Income .	\$ 229,329.65	\$ 238,532.93
Operating Expense	\$ 235,744.43	\$ 226,125.42
Balance	\$ (6,414.78)	\$ 12,407.51

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 31, 2025

Statement of Financial Position for Period 8 - August
Company#: 1 Name: Peace Lutheran Church
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2025

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD Current</u>	<u>YTD 2024</u>
Assets		
Citizens Alliance Checking	\$5,359.81	\$2,549.19
Citizens Alliance HY Money Market	\$204,956.21	\$254,369.22
Edward Jones - 6 mo. CD	\$250,000.00	\$175,000.00
Edward Jones - 12 mo. CD	\$250,000.00	\$175,000.00
Edward Jones - 4 mo. CD	\$140,000.00	\$0.00
Edward Jones - 6 mo. CD	\$80,000.00	\$0.00
Edward Jones - 6 mo. CD	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Edward Jones - Investment/CD	\$25,129.03	\$23,375.37
Edward Jones - Investment Interest (3)	\$18,077.61	\$0.00
Total Assets	\$1,023,522.66	\$630,293.78
Liabilities		
Credit Card Payable	\$5,950.76	\$2,055.68
Total Liabilities	\$5,950.76	\$2,055.68
Net Assets		
General Fund Balance (A)	\$112,834.86	\$112,330.08
Nesvold Matching Gift Fund (1)	\$295,344.81	\$232,845.39
Capital Campaign 2024/25 Fund	\$459,862.00	\$172,690.00
Capital Campaign Interest Fund (2)	\$21,515.92	\$4,608.06
Prepaid Faith Promise - 2024	\$0.00	\$8,844.35
Prepaid Faith Promise - 2025	\$4,420.00	\$0.00
Executive-Undesignated Memorials Balance	\$480.00	\$230.00
Brick & Mortar Fund Balance	\$25,129.03	\$23,375.37
Good Samaritan Fund Balance	\$4,420.69	\$7,281.74
Rainy Day Fund Balance	\$16,362.06	\$11,215.68
Seminary Support Fund Balance	\$394.40	\$394.40
Properties Fund Balance	\$351.17	\$554.92
Repairs and Maintenance Fund Balance	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
Thrivent Mission Fund Balance	\$2,695.00	\$1,539.00
Music Ministry Fund Balance	\$5,465.08	\$5,465.08
Noisy Offering Balance	\$234.51	\$3,254.44
Youth Ministry Fund Balance	\$1,158.88	\$1,585.29
Youth Mission Trip Fund	\$2,827.83	\$11,089.97
Sunday School Fund Balance	\$200.00	\$0.00
High School Scholarship Fund	\$4,200.00	\$7,200.00
Mission Ministry Fund Balance	\$3,539.47	\$3,557.00
Outreach Fund Balance	\$5,102.18	(\$768.71)
Hospitality Fund Balance	\$17,536.37	\$18,795.03
Technology Fund Balance	\$1,527.62	\$922.63
Care Ministry Fund Balance	\$731.25	\$731.25
Altar Care Fund Balance	\$1,086.19	\$497.13
Corn Feed Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Refunded Transactions Fund Balance	\$15,152.58	\$0.00
Total Net Assets	\$1,017,571.90	\$628,238.10
Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,023,522.66	\$630,293.78

(A) Reclassed the \$36k ERTC to Refunded Transactions Fund Balance for MB approved project use

(1) Nesvold matching gift total \$381,500

(2) Separated Capital Fund interest income from the Capital Fund account (earned, not raised)

(3) August YTD interest recorded from Edward Jones investment CD's

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 31, 2025

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 8 - August 66.67%

Company#: 1 Name: Peace Lutheran Church

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2025

<u>Acct # Description</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Budget for Period</u>	<u>Actual for Period</u>	<u>Variance for Period</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Var. Actual to Annual Budget Dollar</u>	<u>Var. Actual to Annual Budget %</u>
Expenses								
Operating Expenses								
Total Finance								
Benevolence	37,940	2,600	2,600	-	27,800	27,800	(10,140)	73.27%
Insurance	12,100	2,375	1,625	(750)	12,100	14,206	2,106	117.40%
Salaries	258,532	23,865	22,805	(1,060)	165,181	156,395	(102,137)	60.49%
Pastor Benefits	19,602	955	2,254	1,299	11,561	12,268	(7,334)	62.59%
Office	20,185	1,532	4,976	3,444	13,907	16,949	(3,236)	83.97%
Other Finance	5,247	617	776	159	3,383	5,094	(153)	97.08%
Total Total Finance	353,606	31,944	35,036	3,093	233,932	232,712	(120,894)	65.81%
Property	23,960	1,480	1,469	(11)	13,815	14,275	(9,685)	59.58%
Education	14,760	-	539	539	12,860	10,261	(4,499)	69.52%
Youth Activity	9,100	758	1,063	305	6,067	3,841	(5,259)	42.21%
Missions	1,550	129	-	(129)	1,033	43	(1,507)	2.79%
Stewardship	3,000	100	-	(100)	1,400	-	(3,000)	0.00%
Care Ministry	1,800	75	54	(21)	1,000	678	(1,122)	37.66%
Outreach	11,710	1,435	1,546	111	8,815	7,335	(4,375)	62.64%
Hospitality	4,900	275	(17)	(292)	3,200	2,885	(2,015)	58.88%
Music	4,385	880	1,217	337	3,055	2,437	(1,948)	55.57%
Altar Care	2,000	100	(38)	(138)	1,600	1,350	(650)	67.51%
Technology	3,435	-	417	417	3,435	1,214	(2,221)	35.34%
Total Operating Expenses	434,206	37,176	41,286	4,110	290,212	277,031	(157,175)	63.80%

September 2025 Pastor's Report

ADMINISTRATIVE

- **Expecting:**
 - Dylan Anderson and Arianna Columbus
 - Curtis and Rachel Sagstetter
 - Taylor & Chase Rizo
- **Potential Baptisms**
 - Jarren Braegelman (Ashley & Jesse Braegelman)
- **Weddings**
 - Ella May – October – off-site
 - Mikayla Thorson – October – off-site
- **Facility Rental**
 - Lotitos – Baby shower for Rachel – September 6
 - Sandy Fleischman – Eagle Scout Court of Honor – September 14
 - Marla Erickson – family event – October 25
- **Removed from directory**

○ Renata Dahl	○ Rupp family	○ Linda Reinert	○ Baumann family
○ Maggie Grosshuesch	○ Cook family	○ McClay family	○ Ladner family
○ Adam Hanson family	○ Grotbo family	○ Lindblom family	○ Petree family
- **Vacation Days**
 - Sandy – Monday, Sep 15; Feb 17-26 tnt
 - Mark – Monday, Sep 15

OUTREACH

- New Member Sunday – August 24 (One household received: Sue Neisen and Robert Koenig)
- Ladies Night Out – October 9
- Next Coffee, Cake & Conversation – October 19
- Next New Member Sunday – November 9

MISSIONS

- Mission Sunday – September 28 – The Mission Team is doing a great job planning this special Sunday.
 - Invited LOVE INC Executive Director – Jim Homlund to attend / display
 - Invited GATHER & GROW Executive Director – Angie Cruzen to attend / display
 - Invited GIDEONS representative – Janis Runka to attend / display
 - Researching – keynote speaker from FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN – young woman
- Operation Christmas Child kick off – October 12
- Feed My Starving Children packing event – October 16

WORSHIP & MUSIC AND TECHNOLOGY

- All Saints worship – November 2
- Tech booth updates are complete.
 - The desk looks great, thank you again to Arvin Senne and Tony Griebel.
 - The wrap-around glass helps hide and protect the cords.
 - Updated technology is working well. Mark is working on training the streaming team.

STEWARDSHIP

- Sunday, October 5 kicks off our fall stewardship series entitled: Growing in Faith
- Stewardship Packets will be mailed to each Peace household – containing their “Faith Promise Card” which will be returned to the church on Celebration Sunday, October 26.
- Each week, PEACE CAFÉ will be serving a special pumpkin treat.



EDUCATION / YOUTH

- IGNITE Confirmation kick off (parents' meeting and student class) – September 17
- Sunday School kick off with outdoor activity – September 14; in-class starts September 21
- Bible 101 – September 14
- Fall youth group schedule starts – middle school will be Sundays following worship; high school will be Wednesdays at 7.
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes starts – we usually host the 4th and 5th Wednesdays, although this month we are hosting on September 17.
- See you at the Pole – September 24
- Fall Story Time starts on October 8 (switching to Wednesday mornings)
- MEA Weekend – October 16-19
- Augustana District High School MEA Retreat – October 17-19
- Trick or Treat for the Food Shelf – October 26
- Christmas Program rehearsal will start end of November

OTHER EVENTS

- Rally Sunday – September 7
 - We auctioned off 31 pies and raised \$5,790 which will be split between the Youth Mission Trip and Hospitality. Thank you to everyone who donated and purchased a pie.
- Bible presentation Sunday and fun Sunday school event – September 14
 - We will be handing out 32 Bibles. 17 to 7th graders and 15 to 3rd graders.
- Romans Bible Study starts – September 14. There are currently 48 people signed up.
- WOW Fall Gathering – September 20
- LCMC Annual Gathering – October 5-8
- Pregnancy Loss Awareness Sunday – October 5 (Care Team)
- Tater Tot Hotdish contest – October 12
- Fall Craft Weekend – November 7-8
- Family Movie Night – November 8 – Showing “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever”
- Cribbage Tournament – November 21
- Surviving the Holidays grief support – November 23 (Care Team)
- Community Thanksgiving Worship – November 26
- Church office closed on November 27 and 28
- Advent starts on November 30

SUMMER WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	2025			2024			2023		
	Date	In attendance	Notes	Date	In attendance	Notes	Date	In attendance	Notes
Summer Sunday Worship									
<i>Memorial Day Wkend</i>	05/25/25	85		05/26/24	120		05/28/23	85	
	06/01/25	189		06/02/24	190		06/04/23	157	
	06/08/25	175		06/09/24	152		06/11/23	175	
	06/15/25	214		06/16/24	193		06/18/23	135	
	06/22/25	118		06/23/24	172		06/25/23	129	
	06/29/25	161		06/30/24	141		07/02/23	101	
	07/06/25	103		07/07/24	170		07/09/23	178	
	07/13/25	132		07/14/24	147		07/16/23	120	
	07/20/25	119		07/21/24	143		07/23/23	179	
	07/27/25	125		07/28/24	116		07/30/23	147	
	08/03/25	155		08/04/24	108		08/06/23	102	
	08/10/25	172		08/11/24	202		08/13/23	145	
	08/17/25	302		08/18/24	156		08/20/23	117	
	08/24/25	143		08/25/24	163		08/27/23	168	
<i>Labor Day Wkend</i>	08/31/25	163		09/01/24	130		09/03/23	125	
Total		2356			2303			2063	
Average		157			154			138	
Percent Increase / Decrease		2.30%			11.63%			-1.06%	
High		302			202			179	
Low		85			108			85	
Total without Memorial or Labor Days		2108			2053			1853	
Average		162			158			143	
Percent Increase / Decrease		2.68%			10.79%			-3.14%	
High		302			202			179	
Low		103			108			101	





2025 SEPTEMBER YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The school year has begun and so has our fall ministry here at Peace. The school year, while busy, also offers so many great opportunities to get out and support students in their sports and activities. Beyond that, the school schedule honestly offers some good consistency, and we see students coming back to youth group. Here is a look at what is going on in youth ministry and what I am currently working on.

MEA Retreat

- Currently, I am working on organizing the Augustana District LCMC retreat. This is a retreat we have done for the last 2 years and is a fantastic weekend. We go to Luther Crest Bible camp with a couple of other churches for a weekend of good time together, time in the Word, and fun.
- This year, we are taking time to walk through the books of 1st and 2nd Timothy and focusing on our students being leaders for Christ in this world.

Confirmation

- We have a huge year of confirmation coming up. Currently, we are looking at having over 39 students in confirmation.
- This year, our topic will be diving into the Small Catechism and what it means to be Lutheran.
- 7th grade-17 students, 8th grade- 11 students, 9th grade- 11 students. These numbers could still change a bit.
- Pastor John and I will co-teach and work together on designing the lessons for this year.

HS Youth Group

- Currently, we are diving into parables in the Gospel of Luke. We will take about 4 weeks looking at different parables and their meanings for our life and for our relationship with Jesus.
- Following this series, I am working on doing a series of lessons on: 1-3 John, The Story of Joseph, and Living our Faith Boldly

MS Youth Group

- Middle School Youth Group kicks off on September 21st, following worship. We will gather for about an hour.
- This fall, we are talking about some of the stranger stories in the bible and learning from them.

FCA Gatherings

- FCA(Fellowship of Christian Athletes) will start its weekly gathering next Wednesday. They gather before school begins, and they rotate which churches they gather at week to week. We will host the first gathering on the 17th.
- This is a great chance for us to get students into our building and for me and other leaders to get to know other kids who don't attend our church or youth group.
- I also often try to attend when this is at different churches.



2025 SEPTEMBER YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Youth Group Adult Leaders

- Currently, I am working on trying to recruit a couple of adult leaders so that we can set up an adult leader schedule for high school youth group. My goal is that we can develop a rotation of about 8-10 adults so that adults are not getting burned out.

See You At the Pole

- On September 24th, we will be gathering with youth from around the country for See You at the Pole. It is an event where students gather before school to pray around the flagpole.
- We will gather to pray for the school, teachers, students, our nation as a whole, and the world.
- Open to middle and high school students from 7-7:40. We will also have coffee, hot chocolate, and donuts.

Trick or Treat for the Food Shelf

- October 26th! This is a huge event that I am proud to say Peace takes the lead on. During this event, we go door-to-door to every house in Watertown to collect food for our food shelf. It is an event that the food shelf has come to rely on before the busy holiday season.
- We need adult help driving students, and also a team of people helping to unload at the food shelf. We need students to collect food. For this event, we really could use around 30 students!

Next Summer's Mission Trip

- Our youth activities board will help me to decide where our trip will be next summer. Sign-ups will begin at the start of October.

I am looking forward to another busy year of ministry here at Peace. It has been excellent getting to see our youth grow. This week I was thinking back to 5 years ago, starting in the small classroom, now we can't even fit one grade of confirmation in that room! It is a blessing and a great responsibility that Christ has given all of us to serve the youth of our church and community. I pray that we can all do this together well!

Spread Joy,
Mark

Finance Team Minutes

September 8, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Opened Meeting at 6:07 pm

Attending: Dan Cowger, Karen Dressel, Bill Helfritz, Linda Senne, Julie Potter

Adopt Meeting Agenda for 9/08 Meeting: approved unanimously

Approve Minutes from 8/11/2025 Meeting: approved unanimously

Reports:

Special Giving Committee

They held a meeting on 8-19-25 and discussed speaking with the congregation at the Oct. 5th service, approved with Pastor John. Linda will request copies of their meetings be sent to her and Dan C. (Deb Wasser is secretary).

August Giving Report- Sue B

Dan and Julie reviewed August's giving-
2 gifts of Stock were given to Peace church

1. Approx \$7,500 to general fund
2. Approx \$75,000 to capital campaign

August Financials- Julie P

- Julie reviewed financials- see report
- Discussed having Dan C. transfer \$75,000 from HY Citizens Account to another CD for a 6-month term (higher Interest). FB agreed that Dan C. should renew an expiring CD of \$75,000 for 6 months to take advantage of the interest.
- Discussed interest for month of August on CD's, approx. \$7,300- this is split between the general fund and the Capital campaign.
- Julie set up a special account to record Pastor's retirement gift, party expenses
- Pie Auction received approx. \$5,800 per Jill Blair- ½ to Hospitality and ½ youth mission trip
- Julie will also look at Refunded donations to each group and make sure we are tracking them correctly.
- Discussed Thrivent cards used for different events, but hard to track as they are given to individuals to purchase items.

Current Building Status- Karen

New contract was given to Kristi to review and she has some questions that need to be answered. MB is looking for a new board (may have some design team members) called the Implementation Team, they will look at drawings and items might go out to bid, hopefully in January.

Julie and Linda would like a short discussion with the Implementation Team when it is set up to discuss who to sign off on payments to Nor Son and create a process so payments aren't delayed. Will discuss when Team is in place.

Money Counting Procedure-

Bill H told us that the MB approved the proposed "Money Counting Policy" policy, and he counted on Sunday and said all went well.

New Business:

- Procedure for retaining finance documents - Tabled until next meeting.
- Discussed Technology being over budget--- where to place? Tabled until next meeting.
- Faith Promises for 2026 and Budget Process 2026-- Stewardship will be working on Faith Promises, and Julie will get numbers after 3rd quarter for group budgets.

Next Meeting: Oct. 13th @ 6:00 pm Meeting Adjourned at 7:06

Hospitality Meeting Minutes Monday, September 8th, 2025

Present: Billie, Laurie, Lindsey, Karen, Robert, Dan, Jill

Shared thank you note from Cathy R and the Ministry Board regarding the Luau.

Rally Sunday: 31 pies, \$5,790. 50% will go to hospitality, and 50% Youth Mission Trip next summer.

- 2 serving lines for 206 worked well
- Coffee and punch on the high tops in the corner by the doors leading outside worked well. Laurie pre-poured and filled several
- Dessert table between the preschool and Youth Room worked well
- The actual auction wasn't an inclusive event. Next year have a \$20 table with pies, maybe even sourdough bread, other baked goods, so everyone can be a part of it.
 - Tabled until closer to the event. We don't want people to feel left out.

Healthy Peace Café options: Keep it simple! Banana cut in half, clementines,...

Treats for Church School Kiddos: plan on 20-25 per Sunday

- Have a cart with the same treats as Peace Café – don't need to put an individual cookie on napkin. Treats with some napkins is fine. Also 2 pitchers of water with cups.
- Have Pastor announce that the kids need to stay in the sanctuary and wheel the tray into the sanctuary towards the front during the last song. Music needs to happen with JoAnn right away.

Need to simplify the treats we are offering: agreed that we need to keep things simpler and affordable.

- Donut holes, strudel bites, cookies, wafer cookies, sandwich cookies
- Things we can purchase in advance so someone isn't going to the store every week

It was suggested to place clear coverings on high tops to prevent laundering. Robert found something on Amazon and will send link to Sandy. They were \$40 each and 4 were ordered.

- Sandy suggested something for the coffee tables. Let's see what the product looks like. We can discuss at our next meeting. Also let's discuss if this is a hospitality expense or a more general church expense. (I'm new and don't know the history of things).

Mini refrigerator for Youth: It was discussed whether to purchase a refrigerator for the Youth and take over the black refrigerator for events. At this time we are not going to do that. With simplifying the Peace Café treats maybe we don't need that extra freezer space.

Tater Tot Hotdish Competition Sunday, October 12th: Karen and Laurie will not be there on that Sunday.

- People vote on 1st, 2nd and 3rd place on sheet of paper
- Get pictures with the big trophies and they get a small trophy to take home
- Sandy has SUG out and signup sheet at church
- Serve bread with the tater top hotdish. Maybe bake fresh rolls at church.
- One person behind each crockpot
 - Billie & Brevik, Andrea & Brad Plahn, and Jill said they would help. We need 6-8 more, Sandy has the request on the SUG.
 - Pre-fill 2-oz cups with numbers on the bottom
- Puts pens and voting ballots on tables. Vote for their top 3.
- Pre-number 2 oz cups on the bottom

Movie Night Saturday, November 8th: Karen is handling the movie and getting the theater popcorn

Cookie Walk & Christmas Bazaar Saturday, December 6th:

- Lindsay Schmidt is handling the vendors. If you are at a craft show and see someone you think would be a good addition, get their card and give it to Lindsay.
- Laurie, Deb Nesvold, and Jill will handle the Cookie Walk part

Craft Weekend Meeting – Wednesday August 27, 2025, 5:30 pm @ Peace Lutheran

Attended- Susan Kohls, Robert & Karen Lotito, Beth Seefeldt, Taylor Lauman, Jaime Carlson

Absent – Charlotte Helfritz, Doreen Seal, Karen Dressel, Susie Schultz, Jayne Unglaub, Julie Maas-Kusske

Opening Prayer – Jaime Carlson – meeting began at 5:05.

Agenda –

1. The Big Idea:

- a. Original intention was for fellowship & getting caught up on personal craft projects.
- b. Gotten unnecessarily expensive & chaotic.
- c. Accumulating many misc. craft pieces – Not going to move with us in 2028 to Texas.
- d. May not be a good use of Thrivent Action Team dollars.
 - i. Could be used on more important items: Missions, Hands/Feet of Christ!
 1. Blankets for homeless/Brittany's Place/Baptisms etc.
 2. Items for Brittany's Place Bags. See request from B.P.

2. Restructuring the Event:

- a. Back to original idea – crafters bring a craft to work on & a snack to share.
- b. Still keep with Friday evening – as late as they want & Saturday most of the day.
- c. Everyone sets their own space as they need when they arrive.
- d. Everyone brings their own craft to work on.
- e. Open to share our crafting skills with anyone who wishes to learn their craft.
 - i. Sign up with what you will be working on for others to learn too.
 - ii. Crafter can team up with new crafters on what they will need to begin.
- f. Easier Clean up at the end as everyone will be responsible for their own space.

3. Potluck:

- a. People bring what they want to share. Keep it simple & easy.
- b. BYOB as before.
- c. Smaller amounts of food, easier to manage & clean up after.

4. Brainstorming:

- a. Decided on Friday November 7th 4:30- ? & Saturday November 8th 9:00-3:00
 - i. Jaime will reach out to Sandy to make sure church is available.
- b. Karen Lotito has MANY tie blankets she will bring to work on & could use help with.
- c. Hobby Lobby has taken over JoAnn Fabrics-same price for tie blankets-Thrivent Action Team possibility in the future.
- d. Susan Kohls is planning to begin a prayer shawl ministry group once a month beginning in January – Saturdays from like 9:00 until noon. Crafters are encouraged to join her for this.
- e. Discussed incorporating a small devotional to the Craft Weekend Saturday morning – Susan Kohls will lead this first one. Sign up to lead the following during the weekend.

Change isn't always a bad thing. Sometimes change leads to wonderful, beautiful things!

Meeting adjourned at 6:30.

OUTREACH UPDATE for September 2025

The regular September meeting was cancelled.

Upcoming Events:

October Outreach Meeting: Monday, October 6, 6 p.m.

LADIES NIGHT OUT: Watertown, Thursday, October 9, 5-8 p.m.

COFFEE and CONVERSATION: Sunday, October 19th, held after worship, for those interested in learning more about Peace

Property Ministry Team Notes

September 11, 2025

- Parking lot cracks to be filled in September.
- Fall cleanup is set for October 18 at 9:00
- The fire department will hopefully assist in a burn on the 1-acre conservation easement in late October.
- Painted the pastor's office
- Looking for a volunteer or 3 to help with sidewalk snow removal.
- Need to decide if we will hire out the grass cutting for next year or buy a lawn mower and do it ourselves.

Stewardship Minutes

September 9, 2025

Present: Bill Helfritz, Bob Rieckenberg, Amy Peterson, Ted Pew, Jon Peterson, Pastor Hopper.

Absent: Sue Beulke, Steve Dvorak.

Meeting called to order at 6:02.

Opening prayer/devotion – Bill Helfritz.

President: motion made/carried to elect Sue Beulke as president of the stewardship team. Bob/Jon.

Finances: discussed General Fund Summary/Treasurer's Report - overall in good shape. No budget yet.

Stewardship Discussion:

- Biblical – build on thankfulness
 - Care for what is not ours
 - Focus on God's gifts to us
 - Gracious management of God's gifts
 - Good works are our thank-you to God
 - Build off Missions Sunday
- Packet
 - Fewer items compared to past / to fit in regular/standard envelope
 - Letter
 - Double-sided Step Chart of Peace members/graph of annual income with percentages
 - Pledge card/envelope
 - Other? TBD
 - Mail out to congregation Sept. 22-23 / members receive before Missions Sunday, Sept. 29
- Sermons – following Pastor's David's format with some tweaking -
 - Oct. 5 – “Small Seed Sunday” focuses on the Parable of the Sower
 - Pass out pumpkin seeds, extra in baskets/available throughout Oct.
 - Oct. 12 – “Pumpkin Patch Sunday” focuses on I am the Vine
 - Oct. 19 – “Just a Little Faith Sunday” focuses on Luke 13
 - Oct. 26 – “Celebration Sunday” focuses on Parable of the Pumpkin
 - Procession of pledges to altar
- ~ 150 Pumpkins per Ted and Jon; it was a very wet growing season
 - Enough to mark with names for birth to 8th grade and member prayer list (~10)
 - TBD non-member prayer list (~30)
 - Will put names on pumpkins Friday, Sept. 12 @ 4:30
- Time/Talents
 - Proposed staffing Connect Counter as go-to for member involvement in October and beyond
 - No team foam core boards

Closing: Lord's Prayer

Worship & Music Ministry Team
September 9, 2025
Minutes

- Attendees: Pastor John, JoAnn, Kevin, Ted, Marla, Ruth, and Edie.
- Opening prayer by Ruth
- Next meeting date: **Tuesday October 14th at 9am is confirmed**
- Other business:
 - Review next page that was provided by Sandy. It has the music that was used the last time Peace used the Pumpkins theme.
 - Edie will make an announcement Sunday the 14th in an upcoming service that we are looking for a reliable backup for her and potentially take over the role of creating the Sunday presentations.

Please save the sign-in information for CCLI. When accessing the account, please be careful not to change the password or userid/email.

CCLI website: <https://us.ccli.com> | Email: office@come2peace.com | Password: PraiseB@nd1!

From Small Beginnings...Great Things Come! 2026 Stewardship Theme
October 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2025
Music ideas for 2018 Stewardship Theme

October 5

Scripture: Genesis 2:5 – 25 (2)
Hebrews 2:1 – 13 (1205)
Gospel: Luke 8:4 – 18 (1036)
Sermon Title: “The Gracious Sower”
Praise Prelude: “Great is the Lord” – CCLI #1149
Call to Worship: “You are the Vine” – CCLI #52538
Sermon Song: “I am the Vine” Kevin Schroeder
Offering Response: “Give Thanks” – Celebration #170
Communion Songs: “Come to the Table (of Mercy)” – CCLI #675056
“All Who are Thirsty” – CCLI #2489542
“Abide with Me” – LBW #272
Closing Song: “Go My Children with My Blessing” – WOV #721
Praise Postlude: “Shine Jesus Shine” – WOV #651

October 19

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 5:10 – 20 (665)
Hebrews 4:1 – 13 (1206)
Gospel: Luke 13:18 – 21 (1046)
Sermon Title: “Just a Little Faith”
Praise Prelude: “God Will Make a Way” “God Will Make a Way” – CCLI # 458620
Call to Worship: “You Are the Vine” – CCLI #52538
Sermon Song: “The Power of Your Love” – CCLI #917491
Special Music: “Make My Life an Alleluia” Adult Choir
Offering Response: “This is the Feast” – LBW page 81
Communion: “Come to the Table (of Mercy)” – CCLI #675056
“You Are My All in All” – Celebration #583
“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” – LBW #482
Closing Song: “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore” – WOV #784
Praise Postlude: “Your Grace is Enough” – CCLI # 4477026

October 12

Scripture: Amos 5:6 – 7; 10 – 15 (917)
Hebrew 3:12 – 19 (1206)
Gospel: John 15:1 – 17 (1081)
Sermon Title: “Growing in Christ”
Praise Prelude: “God is Here” – WOV #719
Call to Worship: “I’d Rather Have Jesus” – Celebration #506
Opening Song: “Here in this Place (Gather Us In)” – WOV #718
Sermon Song: “Children of the Heavenly Father” – LBW #474
Special Music: “You are the Vine” Children’s Choir
Offering Response: “Thank You Lord” – Celebration #513
Closing Song: “10,000 Reasons” – CCLI # 6016351
Praise Postlude: “Blessed be Your Name” – CCLI # 3798438

October 26 – Reformation Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 46 (*after Welcome & Announcements*)
Revelation 14:6 – 7 (1246)
Romans 3:19 – 28 (1129)
Gospel: John 8:31 – 36 (1073)
Sermon Title: “The Parable of the Pumpkin”
Praise Prelude: “How Great is our God” – CCLI # 4348399
Processional: “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” – LBW #229
Call to Worship: “You Are the Vine” – CCLI #52538
Sermon Song: “In Christ Alone” – CCLI # 3350395
Special Music: “Now Thank We All Our God” Combined Adult & Youth Choir
Offering Response: “We Give Thee but Thine Own” – LBW #410
Closing Song: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” – LBW #543
Praise Postlude: “As for Me and My House” – CCLI #1402510

SEPTEMBER MUSIC PLAN

October 5th Mark 4: 1 – 9, 13 – 20 (1004) *The parable of the Sower and A Lamp on a Stand*

- Sermon Title: “The Gracious Sower”
- Stewardship Month

Praise Prelude: “Great are You Lord” – CCLI #6460220

Call to Worship: “You are the Vine” – CCLI #52538

Sermon Song: “Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil” – WOV #713

Special Music: “Be Still” Lauren Hopper performing an original song

Offering Response: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful” – LBW page 86

Communion Songs: “Come to the Table (of Mercy)” – CCLI #675056

“Let Us Break Bread Together” – LBW #212

“Bread of Life from Heaven” – Gather #803

Closing Song: “Awesome God” – CCLI #41099

Praise Postlude: “Awesome God” – CCLI #41099

October 19th Luke 13:18 – 21 (1046) *The Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast*

- Sermon Title: “Just a Little Faith”
- Stewardship Month

Praise Prelude: “Voice of Truth” – CCLI #4196620

Call to Worship: “You are the Vine” – CCLI #52538

Sermon Song: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” – LBW #479

Special Music: “All Good Gifts” Peace Choir

Offering Response: “This is the Feast” – LBW page 81

Communion Songs: “We Remember You” – Celebration #459

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken” – LBW #200

“Let Us Be Bread” – Gather #808

Closing Song: “We Believe” – CCLI #6367165

Praise Postlude: “We Believe” – CCLI #6367165

October 12th John 15:1 – 17 (1081) *The Vine and the Branches*

- Sermon Title: “Growing in Christ”
- Stewardship Month

Praise Prelude: “Hosanna (Praise is Rising)” – CCLI #4662491

Call to Worship: “You are the Vine” – CCLI #52538

Sermon Song: “What a Friend We have in Jesus” – LBW #439

Special Music: “You are the Vine” Children’s Choir

Offering Response: “Now Thank We All Our God” – LBW #534

Closing Song: “For the Fruit of All Creation” – LBW #563

Praise Postlude: “Hosanna (Praise is Rising)” – CCLI #4662491

October 26 – Reformation Sunday John 8:31 – 36 (1073) *Dispute over Whose Children Jesus’ Opponents Are*

- Sermon Title: “The Parable of the Pumpkin”
- Stewardship Month

Praise Prelude: “Presence” – CCLI #4408215

Call to Worship: “You are the Vine” – CCLI #52538

Sermon Song: “The Potter’s Hand” – CCLI # 2449771

Special Music: Youth

Offering Response: “Thank You, Lord” – Celebration #513

Closing Song: “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” – LBW #229

Praise Postlude: Double chorus of “The Potter’s Hand” – CCLI # 2449771