

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May

Altar Committee: Holly Schneider

Communion Committee: Doreen Corso, Sharon Murphy, Anna Steinhilb
Nicola Giordano

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Mark Schneider

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Lance Carus

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Tom Aidich

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, August 23rd – 132 (7:45); 85 (10:30); 91 (Bible Class)

Wednesday, September 2 – 26

Thursday, September 3 – Chapel Matins – 39 Coffee Break – 41

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Last Week's Plate Offering

General fund:	\$ 5,050.00
Capital Improvement fund:	\$ 00.00
Sacred Appointments Fund	\$ 00.00
Goehner Scholarship Fund:	\$ 100.00
International Mission Fund:	\$ 00.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 00.00
	<u>\$ 5,150.00</u>

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN AUGUST 2026:

General funds received in August:	\$ 49,997.18
Capital Improvement funds received in August:	\$ 100.00
Sacred Appointments Fund received in August:	\$ 150.00
Goehner Scholarship funds received in August:	\$ 680.00
International Mission funds received in August:	\$ 153.00
Mercy funds received in August:	<u>\$ 205.00</u>
	\$ 51,285.18

* Full-month numbers include online gifts.

Needed for general ministry for 2026-27: \$594,500

Received fiscal year-to-date from all sources: \$93,092 (16%)

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

THEME: Pastoral Care for the Straying Sheep

Jesus prefaces his comments concerning dealing with a sinning brother by telling the parable of the Lost Sheep and by warning His disciples causing offense to “one of His little ones.” Who are Jesus’ little ones? They are not only the young in age, they are, rather, all the baptized children of God. In fact, no one can become a Christian “unless,” in Jesus’ words, “they are converted and become as little children.” “Becoming as a little child” does not draw attention to the virtue of small children but rather draws attention to the new life of faith which is a gift of God and how that life is fragile and must continue to be nurtured by the Gospel in order to be sustained against the enemies of faith. This understanding must be brought to bear in “dealing with a sinning brother.” A “confrontation” with a sinning brother (which is a brother who is living in impenitence) is never to be done to get one’s pound of flesh, to seek revenge, or to punish the brother. It is always to be done in love and with the motivation to win the brother back to the faith from which he departed through impenitence. Any other motivation threatens to put “a stumbling block” in the path of that brother and cause him to stumble.

Guests—Welcome to our Divine Service! We are pleased that you are with us. If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you. Before you leave this morning, please sign our guest register in the narthex.

First Communion – We give thanks to God that **Cassie Villalpando** was received at the Altar for her first communion this past Wednesday at the evening service. We give thanks to God for Cassie’s confession of faith and pray God’s blessing upon her continued catechesis.

We welcome Pastor Fabrizio who will be preaching this morning and leading Bible class while Pastor Bender leads a retreat on the Catechism in northern Minnesota. (This retreat was originally scheduled on the weekend that Pastor’s mother died.) Pastor Fabrizio served Our Father Lutheran Church in Greenfield, WI and is now retired. He is the author of the 10-volume set of *Bible Stories for Daily Prayer* published by the Concordia Catechetical Academy (CCA)



Peace Lutheran Church and Academy
W240 N6145 Maple Avenue, P.O. Box 123, Sussex, WI 53089
Office: (262) 246-3200
The Rev. Peter C. Bender, Senior Pastor — (262) 370-1189
The Rev. Gary V. Gehlbach, Asst. Pastor — (262) 325-3032
Divine Service: Sunday – 7:45 and 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday – 6:30 p.m.
Bible Class and Sunday School: Sunday – 9:15 a.m.

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD’S WORD — “*Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it*” (Luke 11:28). Each week the faithful gather to receive the Word of their Lord.

THIS WEEK:

- **Private Confession and Absolution:** *Sundays 6:30 to 7:00 a.m. or by appointment, by calling or texting Pastor Bender at 262-370-1189*
- **Sunday:** **Divine Service at 7:45 & 10:30 a.m.**
Bible Class at 9:15 a.m. — Pentecost 15 Propers
- **Tues-Friday:** **Daily Chapel at 8:00 am**
- **Wednesday:** **Homeschool Catechesis at 4:00 p.m.**
- **Wednesday:** **Divine Service at 6:30 — Pentecost 15**
- **Thursday:** **Matins with Communion at 8:00 a.m.**
Coffee Break Bible Study at 9:00 a.m.

Coffee Break Bible Study has resumed. Join us Thursday mornings at 9:00 to study the book of Acts. In September, we will meet on the 3rd, 10th, and 24th.

The Lutheran Day School: Its Theological Foundation and Practice (part 2) A study of the Three Estates—Family, Church, and State will be the focus of our Sunday Bible Class on September 20, 27 and October 4.

Sunday Morning Bible Class: Didache and the Augsburg Confession, will run October 11 through May. This adult catechesis class will link together an in-depth study of *Lutheran Catechesis* with an in-depth study of the Augsburg Confession, the seminal confessional document of the evangelical Lutheran Church.

Every Adult! Prepare for Didache and the Augsburg Confession. Beginning on October 11, we will begin an extensive study in Bible Class of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. See the table in the narthex with sample copies of *Lutheran Catechesis*, *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, *Lutheran Book of Prayer*, and *Lutheran Service Book*. These resources will be used throughout the year in Bible Class. We are able to offer these books at a discount, and prices are listed on the order sign-up sheet at the table. Join the congregation in studying the treasure of Lutheran Theology in Bible Class, and make these resources part of your home devotional life as well. Please order by September 20 and pick up your books Oct 4.

Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions is also available online, in a mobile-friendly format for free at bookofconcord.cph.org.

The first YOUTH GROUP of the new school year will meet next Sunday after the 10:30 service. Pastor Bender will begin catechesis on Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. For this first session of the year, please bring your own lunches. Cookies will be provided by Mrs. Smith.

Sunday School is for the whole family! Lessons are posted under the Family Prayer tab on our website for your family to meditate upon during the week. There are printable lessons with related artwork as well as recordings by Pastor Bender to help guide the study. The lesson this week is *Joseph Flees from Adultery—Genesis 39:1-23*

NEWS AND NOTES

Senior Choir begins this Wednesday, September 9, after the Divine Service. If you haven’t sung in the choir and have an interest, talk to Pastor Bender.

The office will be closed tomorrow, September 7 for Labor Day.

Thrivent Members: Changes have been made to Thrivent Choice Program, so if you have a Thrivent account, please log in to see if you have Choice dollars to direct—even if you haven’t in the past, you may now!

Congregational Assembly meets Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. Agendas are available in the Narthex.

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 8/30/2026

Number of families participating: 7 (in-person) + 11 (online)
Attendance: 243
Gross sales: \$1,775.00 Profit earned this week \$101.25
Total profits earned this fiscal year: \$1,201.87
Profit paid to the Academy: \$492.87

If you would like to sign up on the RaiseRight app, please contact Julie Goltermann or the church office to get the enrollment code.

Raise Days is September 11-14. Extra bonuses can be earned on digital purchases of e-Gift cards, reloading gift cards, and online shopping. Go to RaiseRight.com to check it out and shop.

\$100 Pick ’n Save gift cards remain unavailable, but extra \$50 Pick ’n Save cards are stocked for cash & carry orders.

There is 1 \$100 Kohls gift card available. We would like to sell it, and then we will only carry \$25 cards on hand.

Sunday Order of Service
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026

Divine Service Setting Three
Lutheran Service Book p. 184

Please follow the order of service printed in the hymnal beginning on page 184. The propers for the day (readings, hymns) are listed below.

Hymn of Invocation **614**
“‘As Surely as I Live,’ God Said”

Introit *sung responsively with the pastor*

Antiphon *Psalm 92:5*
How great are Your works, | O LORD! *
Your thoughts are | very deep!

Psalm *Psalm 92: 1-4*

It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*
to sing praises to Your name, | O Most High;
to declare Your steadfast love in the | morning,*
and Your faithful- | ness by night,
to the music of the lute | and the harp,*
to the melody | of the lyre.
For You, O LORD, have made me glad | by Your work;*
at the works of Your hands I | sing for joy.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son *
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

(Antiphon is repeated)

Old Testament Reading **Ezekiel 33:7-9**
The prophet is called to warn the impenitent

Gradual *sung by the congregation in unison.* *(Ps. 34:9, 19, alt.)*
Fear the LORD, | you His saints, *
for those who fear Him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous, *
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle **Romans 13:1-10**
The Christian’s relationship to the governing authorities

Alleluia Verse *(Matt. 5:3)*
The congregation sings the triple Alleluia before and after the verse of the Day.
The pastor sings the appointed verse.

Blessèd are the poor in | spirit, *
for theirs is the kingdom of | heaven.

Holy Gospel **Matthew 18:1-20**
Who is the greatest in the Kingdom?

Nicene Creed *confessed after the Holy Gospel*

Hymn of the Day **820**
“My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker”

Common Proper Preface III

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: Holy, holy, holy...

Distribution Hymns
“Baptismal Waters Cover Me” **616**
“Jesus Comes Today with Healing” **620**
“Lord Jesus Christ, the Children’s Friend” **866**

Hymn to Depart **865**
“Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain”