



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

### **Peace UMC Mission**

Peace in our Communities,  
offering healing and  
wholeness to all in life's  
journey.

---

# **The Methodist Messenger**

## **May 2022**

### **Church Office**

Hours: Monday-Friday  
9:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Phone: 218-741-7739 or 218-741-7738  
[www.werpeaceumc.com](http://www.werpeaceumc.com)  
E-Mail: [pastor@werpeaceumc.com](mailto:pastor@werpeaceumc.com)  
[office@werpeaceumc.com](mailto:office@werpeaceumc.com)

### **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

### **Our Staff**

Pastor  
PORCH Director  
Administrative Assistant  
Custodian

Rev. Mickey Olson  
Rachel Bodas  
Joan Schriber  
Scott Lammers

### **Thought for the month:**

Psalm 30:4

You who are faithful to the Lord,  
sing praises to him;  
give thanks to his holy name!



## From the Pastor

Easter Sunday was amazing. We had over ninety in worship and people we hadn't seen since before the pandemic were present. Everyone was joyfully singing and we had a choir and more children for the children's message. In the middle of singing our first hymn, "In the Garden" I was overcome and began to cry. This is my last Easter with you. In a ministry marked by 10 years of firsts, I find myself faced with our lasts. I have been so busy making preparations that I have not allowed myself time to grieve. And this ending will cause me much grief.

In every ending is a beginning. That is the message of the Easter resurrection. That which felt comfortable and steady has been turned on its head. God is sending you not just one but two new pastors. They are friends of mine and I think you will be truly blessed by their ministry. God is doing something new. Our time together has born fruit for our church family and for the community. We have much to celebrate.

I hope you will support and love them as you have supported and loved me. I ask you to pray for them and their ministry here. I am excited for you as you live into this new thing.

With Love, Pastor Mickey



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.

Pastoral Calls: 218-343-6849

E-mail: [pastor@werpeaceumc.com](mailto:pastor@werpeaceumc.com)

**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.**

## BOOK STUDY

### ONE MORE BOOK STUDY BEFORE SUMMER

The May book study will begin on May 5th. The book we will be reading is "All the Light We Cannot See" , a novel by Anthony Doerr. There is a sign up sheet in the library. The cost of the book is \$11.00.

Everyone is welcome! Rachel Bodas

About the book:

Marie-Laure lives in Paris near the Museum of Natural History, where her father works. When she is twelve, the Nazis occupy Paris and father and daughter flee to the walled citadel of Saint-Malo, where Marie-Laure's reclusive great uncle lives in a tall house by the sea. With them they carry what might be the museum's most valuable and dangerous jewel.

In a mining town in Germany, Werner Pfennig, an orphan, grows up with his younger sister, enchanted by a crude radio they find that brings them news and stories from places they have never seen or imagined. Werner becomes an expert at building and fixing these crucial new instruments and is enlisted to use his talent to track down the resistance. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, Doerr illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another. From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, the stunningly beautiful instant New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

## FIX IT FELLOWSHIP

It's getting to that time of year, or at least it should be, when lawns need raking and small projects need doing. If you would like some help, pick up a form at the office (or request one mailed to you), fill it out and return it. We will get in touch with you to make arrangements.

## MISSIONS

May 29 will be noisy offering Sunday. Save your change as we will be giving our collection to UMCOR for relief for the people of the Ukraine.



Each year, churches in the Minnesota Annual Conference take a Love Offering for missions in conjunction with our Annual Conference Session.

The funds from this year's offering will go to:

- The Red Bird Missionary Conference in Appalachia (40 percent)
- Food insecurity across Minnesota (50 percent, divided among the three ministries)
  - Holy Grounds at Centenary UMC, Mankato (17 percent)
  - Simpson Food Pantry, Minneapolis (17 percent)
  - West African Family and Community Food Shelf, Brooklyn Center (17 percent)
- Volunteers in Mission scholarships (10 percent)

## OFFICE NOTES

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**-Pastor Mickey, along with four others, will be attending Annual Conference May 24-May 25 at St Cloud, Minnesota.

**METHODIST MESSENGER**- due to the Memorial Day Holiday please have all Messenger articles in the office by Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**MEMORIAL DAY**- Office will be closed Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.

**UPDATED EMAIL:** We are still receiving emails from the old email address. As we are unsure when the old email address will be shut down ; please update your devices to the new email listed on the front page.

**UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION:** Please contact the office when you change phone numbers, email addresses, or change of address.

## PORCH

I am happy to let you all know that we will be having PORCH two Wednesday evenings in May. I will be posting each evening's menu on facebook the Tuesday before PORCH evening. We are excited to start PORCH up again even if it is only for two evenings before summer starts. The plan is to have them back to back May 11th and May 18th starting at 6:00 pm for dinner and 6:30pm for entertainment. Everyone is welcome! Rachel Bodas

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Last month we wrapped up our lessons on Holy Week with some great building challenges. The students welcome everyone to view their builds during coffee n' and ask questions about their lego interpretations on everything from the last supper, the garden of Gethsemane, and the empty tomb.

To finish up the Sunday school year we will be discussing the Holy Spirit and the upcoming birthday of the church, Pentecost. We hope all the students will be able join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> for a special guest who will talk about languages found in our community. All ages are welcome. Here are some dates to remember:

May 1<sup>st</sup> – Pentecost – Guest Speaker

May 8<sup>th</sup> – Mother's Day Craft

May 15<sup>th</sup> – Last Day – Ice Cream Party



## WORSHIP HELPERS

A big thank you to everyone who does coffee "an," ushers, and reads for church! Their dedication is much appreciated. More worship helpers are always needed and welcomed. If you would like to volunteer contact Diane Hawley so she can put you on the July thru December schedule. For current worship helpers let me know of any changes you want to make or any dates you want me to work around by May 15. I am best reached at 744-5198 or texting at 218-404-2907. If I don't hear from you, I will assume that you will continue your present commitment.

## **CHOIR DIRECTOR**

As Jeanene Hagberg has decided that the time has come to step down, we would like to thank you, Jeanene, for the years you have served as choir director at Peace. Under your leadership, the choir has provided much joy and happiness for this congregation.

## **WORSHIP**

Thank you to all who generously donated flowers for the Easter altar. It was such a pleasure setting up the display with such beautiful flowers.

The Worship Commission

## **CUSTODIAN NEEDED**

If you know anyone interested in church custodial job, have them contact the office before May 13, 2022