



Home Mission Monthly Summary

Report Month Range: Jan 2021 - Nov 2021

Peace Lutheran Church

202 Richland Ave W
Aiken, SC 29801-3866
United States

WELSource ID: 26445

Numbers reported are identified by icons:

* Average

~ Total

Personal Contacts

	Pastor	Laity
*First-time contact with new prospects:	10	5
*Prospect law/gospel presentation:	15	4
*Electronic personal contact with prospects:	23	8
*Other contact with prospects:	27	17
*Total prospect contacts:	77	35
Total number of prospects, August 2021:	388	
Total member contacts, August 2021:	45	34

E-news and Social Media Contacts

Type	Report Month	Number Reached	Description
Facebook	Aug 2021	7000	This includes worship services as well as other media types.
	Jul 2021	7000	This includes worship services as well as other media types.
	Jun 2021	7000	This includes worship services as well as other media types.
	May 2021	7000	This includes worship services as well as other media types.
	Apr 2021	8000	This includes worship services as well as other media types.
	Mar 2021	7000	This includes our worship service as well as other media types.
	Feb 2021	7000	This includes our worship services as well as other types of media.
	Jan 2021	7500	This includes our worship service as well as other media types.
YouTube	Aug 2021	120	We do seem to see just a little growth here at the moment.
	Jul 2021	100	Our worship services are live-streamed here.
	Jun 2021	100	Our worship services are live-streamed here.
	May 2021	100	Our worship services are broadcasted here.
	Apr 2021	100	Our worship services are broadcasted here.

YouTube	Mar 2021	150	Our worship services are broadcasted live here.
	Feb 2021	150	Our worship services are broadcasted live here.
	Jan 2021	150	YouTube is up and running well!

Personal Contacts Comments

Report Month	Comment
Aug 2021	August of 2021 was a month of heavy pandemic for us. The numbers show this to a degree. However, we remain surprisingly resilient.
Jun 2021	We remain here in a pandemic. I continue to believe this explains the low first-time guest rate we see here.
Apr 2021	Easter Sunday was big, but it did not account for as many of the first-time guests as one might expect. We saw a steady flow of new faces in April.

Communicant Membership Changes

~Confirmations - children:	3	~Deaths (communicant members only):	1
~Confirmations - adults:	13	~Transferred to sister congregation:	2
~Received by profession of faith:	0	~Joined other Christian church:	1
~Transferred from sister congregation:	0	~Removals:	1
Total communicants gained:	16	Total communicants lost:	5
Total communicants:	Dec 2020	Net gain/loss	Aug 2021
	129	11	136

Other Membership Statistics

~Adult baptisms:	1	Total baptized members, August 2021:	152
~Child baptisms:	2	Additional prospects under your spiritual care, August 2021:	0
Total baptisms:	3		

Membership Comments

Report Month	Comment
Jul 2021	It was a special blessing to be able to have taken youth through confirmation classes in such a chaotic time.
Jun 2021	I am still in awe at the number of confirmations we had here. The Father was drawing people to himself through the Word. We welcomed these new members at our "Snapback celebration" at Peace. It was a very special day for us at Peace.
May 2021	We made many contacts to close our time in the pandemic. We want our books to reflect accurately who is a member at Peace. This did result in recording the losses above.
Apr 2021	Our baptism of Anthony Graham this month was a pure miracle. God worked in his life over a period of four years. We baptized Brenda, his wife, at that time. Since then, we have patiently been loving and serving Anthony until the Lord brought him to faith through catechism instruction. So thankful to see that work in his life!
Jan 2021	It is such a joy to be able to still confirm people in a pandemic. I thank God that his Church still moves forward.

Worship

*Average weekly attendance:	111	*Average adult Bible class:	43
*Count of unique souls:	250	*Average youth Bible class:	3
*Count of first-time visitors:	10	*Average Sunday school:	8
*Count of repeat prospects:	64	*Bible Information Class prospects:	10
*Count of non prospects:	0	*Bible Information Class members:	0

Bible Study

Attendance Comments

Report Month	Comment
Aug 2021	July and August were tough pandemic months as Delta raged. I assess these numbers as continued resilience.
Jul 2021	I am reiterating that I am no longer reporting online reception of the Word but only in-person attendance. This was a solid month of that.
Jun 2021	I am changing here the way I am reporting attendance. I will not include people who watch us online. I am making this change in line with our "snapback." We are back to the way we were before the pandemic, even if there is still disease. Thus, quite a few people engage with us online, but I will not be reporting those stats unless I am asked to do so again.
May 2021	Our church wrapped up our pandemic protocols in early June. In the June report, I do not plan to share online statistics because we are now asking people to return to church. Above, I do include online live viewing. The in-person attendees were 89 per Sunday.
Apr 2021	We saw attendance come back very strongly in person averaging 103 between our two services. Our online performance remained strong as well. Easter bumped the average, of course, but honestly, if you strip out Easter, our attendance was still excellent.
Mar 2021	Our numbers seem to have steadied for in-person worship. We averaged 81 between our two services for this month. We continue to have about 40 devices tune in live for viewing the worship service.
Feb 2021	We averaged 73 for in-person attendance. We average 40 live viewers/service on Facebook or YouTube. We show high adult Bible class because we have a very well-attended Life Groups session going right now.
Jan 2021	We averaged 73 for in-person worship. We average 46 live viewings of the worship service. The hits go way up over time. Also, many people watch services together. In other words, the 120 for worship is very conservative.

Income

~Total local budget:	\$164,842.00	~CMO remitted:	\$14,817.00
~Total local offerings:	\$185,263.00	~CEF payment remitted:	\$92,664.00
~Total special gifts and offerings:	\$0.00		
~Subsidies received:	\$21,146.00		

Expenses

Finance Comments

Report Month	Comment
Jul 2021	We are beginning here what we hope will be our last year of subsidy from WELS. If we make it, we will have gotten off subsidy in 8 years. It will be something to watch this year to see if we make it.
May 2021	I do not believe there was anything special regarding finances. But, clearly, at the moment, we have strong giving that as we now finish out subsidy will keep our church going very well.

Jan 2021	This was an extraordinary month. I expect some of it was stimulus money being directed at Peace.
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Benchmarks

No benchmarks

Benchmark Comments

No comments

Share the rest of your story!

Category	Report Month	Comment
Education	Aug 2021	We worked very hard this month to prepare and advertise our fall programs including Peace Kidz, men's Bible study, women's Bible study, and a new session of Supper and Study.
	Jun 2021	We started a new ministry called Supper and Study, where the church gathers every Wednesday night for potluck and study. It's had excellent attendance. It includes elements of fellowship, teaching, and worship every week. We are working to build up our core to face a more complex spiritual future.
	Mar 2021	This month we returned heavily to Life Groups. We have five groups meeting around the city. There are prospects as well as members meeting. It's an amazing thing to be able to say especially while we are still in a pandemic. I'm so grateful to see God's people gathering around his Word like this.
	Jan 2021	We did a very intense and well-attended module on Christology at Peace. It was a lot of fun to teach the genera and help people understand the anthropological and salvific importance of the identity of Jesus Christ.
Elders	Mar 2021	We formulated and communicated to our church our strategy for our "snap back" to normal. We now have benchmarks set for when our church will move to continue its ministry the way it was before the pandemic. We do anticipate opening up fully soon.
Facilities	Jan 2021	We are once again beginning to plan to improve our property. Right now, we are in the midst of complete our trilogy of art for our hallway. We are excited to embody Christ's peace in pieces of art!
Fellowship	Jul 2021	We continued the new fellowship/spiritual growth program called Supper and Study this month. It had very good attendance.
	Feb 2021	This month we brought Life Groups back again. We did a major push with it for the season of Lent. We had our biggest commitment to it ever even as cases were still quite high with Covid. We're thankful people are gathering for Word and prayer.
	Jan 2021	We did a big wind-up for Life Groups for the seasons of Lent and Easter at Peace this month.
Member care	Aug 2021	We had planned a big push to bring delinquents back to church. It got shelved to a certain extent with the spread of Delta.
	Jun 2021	I began a big campaign to visit our straying members. This will be a big project that will last several months. It is working with members whose habits changed in the pandemic.

Member care	Apr 2021	We have also begun a program where we are working through our member list of people who haven't been regularly connected to Peace in person to see where they are at spiritually and attempt to plug them back in to the life of the church.
Other	Aug 2021	A big item this month was welcoming and orienting our new vicar, Ethan Schultz. We are thankful to be serving him and receiving his ministry as well.
	Jul 2021	We made good preparations to receive our first vicar at Peace, including some travel for Mequon to train the pastor to be a supervisor.
	Apr 2021	Easter was definitely a sign of the times at Peace. We had 150 people in worship that Sunday. People around us are mostly ready to be back in worship. The people who were not there are really dug in from the pandemic or have, honestly, become disconnected from our church. We have now put into place a plan for our church to "snap back" to what is completely normal for us on June 6th. This does not mean that no one will be wearing a mask. People can if they would like to do so. It does mean that we will not require it and will simply be going about church business as we have in the past. We are doing this because we believe it's our calling and mission to do so despite whatever risk there may be in doing so.
	Apr 2021	We also did, as the SAD DMB knows, apply for and then this month receive notification that we will be receiving a vicar. We are humbled and thank God for this trust to us and in us.
Outreach	Aug 2021	We continue to have a very healthy number of people in Peace 101 classes and people regularly joining the church through adult confirmation.
	Jul 2021	We saw many new people come into our church this month as we fully rolled back all our Covid precautions. It was a breath of fresh air from the months of Covid in SC. We are thankful that even though we have not seen many guests, we have continued to see a relatively high confirmation rate for times like these.
	Jul 2021	We worked very hard at following up with all our guests to plug them back into our ministry as the world seemed to open up. That is reflected in our statistics.
	Jun 2021	We had a substantial special celebration, outreach, and dinner that we called our Snapback Sunday. As a congregation, we took the time to grieve what we lost in the pandemic and begin looking forward to fully re-engaging our mission. The event gave us much excellent momentum heading into the summe
	May 2021	We spent the whole month preparing for our "snapback Sunday" on June 6th. We made it a big celebration bash. We did see a whole slew of people reengage the church! We also saw our guests getting involved at Peace.
	May 2021	We did take a big hit in terms of leadership this month. Our leader who was trained and starting to start our community outreach program in earnest was killed in a tragic accident. The Lord took him home. We are thankful that he has one of his saints home. We now regroup.
	Mar 2021	We did open up our church in terms of attendance caps for our Easter service and while we did not advertise on Facebook we did ask members to invite friends and family. We also provided business cards for that purpose.
	Mar 2021	I finished up class this month for Anthony Graham. Anthony came to us not knowing Jesus at all. We had the joy of introducing him to Jesus and see the Holy Spirit work faith into his heart even during the pandemic. Wow. It was a lot of evenings sitting in his backyard going through the Small Catechism and stories from Scripture.

Outreach	Feb 2021	We have shaped and now announced our "snap back" plan for the pandemic. We anticipate that it will go live at the beginning of June. It involved our church basically "snapping back" to the way things were back in February of 2020. We are also going to do some pastoral shaping in how we interact with each other as we work to regain our culture of welcome for our community.
	Feb 2021	We still are not going full bore into a lot of ads for Easter with Covid still a thing in Aiken. We are asking our members to reach out to friends and family to bring them as we move toward that day.
	Feb 2021	We do continue to have people in Peace 101. Every time I think the classes might dry up more people want to take them. Right now, I have a few people waiting in the wings to be confirmed who have finished the class and I have 7 confirmations that should be happening over the next couple of months. We are excited about a couple of adult baptisms we have coming up too! Yahoo!
	Jan 2021	We planned for an Ash Wednesday service. For us, it is always a good time to reach out to the community. We seem to always have new guests join us.
	Jan 2021	We completed a "snap-back" plan for our Covid response. We now have criteria for when and how everything will go back to normal. We also have a pastoral response planned for how to engage people again in the lived experience of the church, as opposed to watching on-line.
	Jan 2021	I put together a Keynote and presentation for Mission and Ministry in Mequon. It was a joy to support our synodical work.
Stewardship	Jun 2021	We finished a One for One campaign where we worked to reengage members in service to their church and communion in mission.
	May 2021	Huge this month was re-engaging our membership in service. We did a big initiative called "one for one" where all our service teams were restocked, trained, and prepared to return to full-time active service in the church after our "snapback Sunday." Our church is not primed and ready to get back into our mission.

Attachments

No attachments