



Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
Pastor Terry's Thoughts of the Week

Our Peace

As I'm beginning to think about this topic for the week, we have just heard of the earthquake in Haiti – obviously these packets are done kind of far ahead! The 'quake was horrible and cleanup and assistance will be needed for a long time. There is no peace in the land.

We've also seen wars and rumors of wars for my entire life on this earth – there is never complete peace in our land either.

Our lives are sometimes in turmoil. There is not one of us who has not had moments – or more – in our lives when we have felt something far less than peaceful. Yet, as Christians, we believe that peace is possible. We are called on to work for peace, to accept peace in our lives, to maintain peace as much as possible. Yet, there is no peace!

The definition of peace that is given on the youth page is “peace, a state of unity and friendship”. That gives us a point to strive for. If we think of the unity part, that means we share the pain of those whose lives are not in a state of unity – homes fallen, family torn apart, death and destruction on every side. For those who have served in the military, the scene may be all too familiar. For some who have done extensive volunteer work, it is also familiar. Sharing the pain means we do what we can to alleviate that pain.

Some of us are too old, and some too young, to go away and work in those situations of despair. But none of us is too young or old to pray. There are those who feel that prayer is an easy way out – but I disagree. True prayer is filled with the power of God and that power comes to those in need in a way we could never imagine.

TMK

-- *Week of February 14, 2010*