

February, 2010

The Peace Post

Peace Lutheran Church ~ Alma, MI

From the Desk of Pastor Messer

“Will We Observe Lent?”



Dear fellow redeemed in Christ,

In a little over two weeks from now, we will begin the season of Lent. Or, will we?

Yes, we’ll bring out the ashes on Ash Wednesday; and, yes, we’ll pull out the purple paraments for the season; and, yes, we’ll have Midweek Services; and, yes, we’ll hear all of the familiar readings, including the Passion Account as the season progresses. Rest assured, we will observe Lent here at Peace. But, will we observe Lent? Will you? Will I? Or, will we just go through the motions?

The holy and penitential season of Lent beckons us, my friends, but will we heed its call? Will we accept its invitation to truly examine ourselves, to do some soul-searching and analyze how we’re doing in relation to God’s commandments? Will we seize the opportunity this season provides for us to recognize more deeply our need for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? Will we heed its call to amend our sinful lives and re-dedicate ourselves to the faith we confess? These are pointed questions, to be sure, but they are questions each one of us should be asking ourselves.

You see, Lent is faithful. It will not let us down. It comes every year and provides us with the same opportunity to do some much needed spiritual house-cleaning. But, it will do us no good if we do not seize the opportunity it provides. It will avail us nothing if we just go through the motions.

So, how do we seize the Lenten opportunity? Well, the answer to that question will be different for each one of us as we examine ourselves and identify our spiritual shortcomings. But, here is a list of things we would do well to think about:

1. Church attendance - Obviously, attending Church where the Lord comes to be in our presence and give us His gifts through Word and Sacrament should be a high priority in our lives. Is it? Do we attend as often as we possibly can?
2. Bible Study - This is another obvious one, for all Christians know the importance of being in the Word of God. Or, at least, they should. Are we in the Word as often as we should be?
3. Prayer/Devotional Life - How is our prayer and devotional life going? Do we set aside some time each day to spend with the Lord?
4. Attention in Church - When we attend Service, do we strive to pay attention to the Word in the liturgy, hymns, readings, and sermon, or are we guilty of simply going through the motions?
5. Service - Are we committed to serving the Lord and His Church with our time, talents, and treasures? Does He get our first-fruits or our leftovers? Are we committed to serving our neighbor or are we too busy taking care of ourselves?
6. Confess - Do we strive to confess our faith in word and deed, or do we forget we’re Christians between Sundays? Do we invite people to the Divine Service, where Jesus is present for us?
7. Striving against sin - Are there certain sins that seem to have control over us? Do we struggle against them and strive to defeat them, or do we simply throw in the towel and indulge them?

My friends, this short list is, by no means, exhaustive, but it’s a good start. The holy and penitential season of Lent provides us with an opportunity to look at these areas of our spiritual lives, examine how well we’re doing and, most importantly, to strive to improve where we are lacking. I know there are many areas in which I have much room for improvement. What say you?

It is my sincere hope and prayer that each one of us would truly observe Lent this year, that we would not just let it come and go, but embark on the spiritual journey it invites us to take. It is only as we truly examine ourselves that we will come to appreciate more deeply the salvific work our Savior did to atone for our sins, and then, motivated by that awesome Gospel, strive to lead godly lives. Lent provides us with this opportunity. Will we seize it? I pray we will!

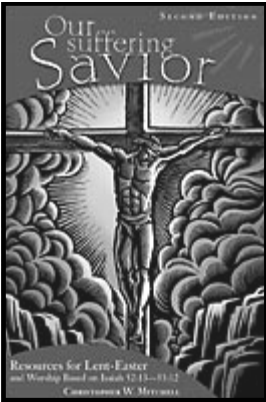
Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Messer



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“Our Suffering Savior”

Lenten Sermon Series & Bible Study

This series will focus on the Fourth Servant Song of Isaiah (52:13-53:12), which is a key passage for reflection on the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world.

Each Wednesday, beginning with Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17, we will have Bible Study at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m., and Divine Service at 7:00 p.m. We hope that you will consider making your Lenten journey to the cross and to the empty tomb more meaningful this year by joining us as we meditate upon the Passion of our Lord in study, fellowship, and worship.

“Our Suffering Savior” Schedule

Ash Wednesday—February 17

5:00 p.m.—Bible Study; 6:00 p.m.—Soup Dinner; 7:00 p.m.—Divine Service
Bible Study/Sermon Title: *“Who Has Believed?” (Isaiah 53:1)*

Invocabit Midweek—Wednesday, February 24

5:00 p.m.—Bible Study; 6:00 p.m.—Soup Dinner; 7:00 p.m.—Divine Service
Bible Study/Sermon Title: *“Appearances Can Be Deceiving” (Isaiah 52:14; 53:2-3)*

Reminiscere Midweek—Wednesday, March 3

5:00 p.m.—Bible Study; 6:00 p.m.—Soup Dinner; 7:00 p.m.—Divine Service
Bible Study/Sermon Title: *“By His Wounds We Are Healed” (Isaiah 53:4-5)*

Oculi Midweek—Wednesday, March 10

5:00 p.m.—Bible Study; 6:00 p.m.—Soup Dinner; 7:00 p.m.—Divine Service
Bible Study/Sermon Title: *“Stray Sheep” (Isaiah 53:6)*

Laetare Midweek—Wednesday, March 17

5:00 p.m.—Bible Study; 6:00 p.m.—Soup Dinner; 7:00 p.m.—Divine Service
Bible Study/Sermon Title: *“Knowing When to Keep Quiet” (Isaiah 53:7)*

Judica Midweek—Wednesday, March 24

5:00 p.m.—Bible Study; 6:00 p.m.—Soup Dinner; 7:00 p.m.—Divine Service
Bible Study/Sermon Title: *“Is There No Justice?” (Isaiah 53:8)*

Holy Thursday—April 1

7:00 p.m.—Divine Service w/Stripping of the Altar
Sermon Title: *“Bloodbath” (Isaiah 52:15)*

Good Friday—April 2

7:30 p.m.—Service of Tenebrae
Sermon Title: *“A Rich Burial” (Isaiah 53:9)*

Easter Sunday—April 4

9:30 a.m.—Divine Service
Sermon Title: *“Satisfaction Guaranteed” (Isaiah 53:10-12)*

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” (LSB 451)

*Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
See Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;
Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long expected Prophet,
David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it:
'Tis the true and faithful Word.*

*Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,
Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning,
Foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him,
None would intervene to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him
Was the stroke that justice gave.*

*Ye who think of sin but lightly
Nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed,
See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.*

*Here we have a firm foundation,
Here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation,
Is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on Him their hope have built.*



Lord Jesus Christ,

You endured great shame, were spit upon and mocked, pierced with thorns, nails, and spear all for me, and yet I have often lived as though none of it mattered. Forgive me, Lord, and use this holy season of Lent to enliven my faith and bring me closer to You. In Your Holy and Precious Name. Amen.

Synopsis of January 5, 2010 Church Council Minutes

Call To Order & Opening Prayer

- President Brown called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Pastor Messer conducted the opening prayer. The following members were present: Carol Zeile, Chris Brown, Carolyn Johnson, Vern Jakolat, Larry Elliott, Sharyn Greening and Megan Brown. Pastor Messer was also present.

Approval of Agenda

- Motion made by President Brown, supported by Councilmember Johnson, so approve to agenda as amended to include the following items under Business: Health Insurance, Night Deposit Bag and Water Cooler. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Motion made by Councilmember Johnson, supported by President Brown to approve the minutes from December 1 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Report(s)

- **Pastor** – Pastor Messer presented the attached report. He also shared a short publication from Issues, Etc and informed the Council that the Ladies Guild has donated \$200 towards Issues, Etc.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Zeile presented the attached report which included a comparison of fiscal years 2008 and 2009. It was noted that offerings increased by approximately \$12,000. The Council also had a discussion about the proposed 2010 budget.
- **Financial Secretary** – No report.
- **Boards**
 - **Board of Elders** – No report.
 - **Board of Trustees** – No report.
 - **Board of Christian Education** – No report.
 - **Board of Evangelism** – Councilmember Johnson informed the Council of upcoming events and fundraisers. More details to follow.
 - **Board of Stewardship** – No report.
- **Organization and Committee Reports**
 - **Peace Lutheran Ladies Guild** – No report.
 - **Peace Youth Group** – No report.

Business

- **Health Insurance** – Councilmember Elliott presented information to the Council regarding health insurance plan proposals for Pastor Messer. There was discussion, but no action was taken. The matter will be discussed at the January Voters Assembly.
- **Night Deposit Bag** – Treasurer Zeile and Financial Secretary Miller have asked that additional people be added as authorized individuals that can pick up the empty bag from the bank. Motion made by Councilmember Elliott, supported by President Brown to authorize the following people to pick up the empty night bag from FirstBank: Marlene Miller, Gary Miller, Carol Zeile, Sharyn Greening, Megan Brown and Chris Brown. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Water Cooler** – Treasurer Zeile informed the Council of the cost of the water cooler service by Ken's Culligan. After a discussion, a motion was made by President Brown, supported by Treasurer Zeile to cancel the service provided by Ken's Culligan as an offer was made by members so that no further costs will be incurred by the congregation. Motion carried unanimously.

General Comment

- Councilmember Elliott reminded the Council that Bob Eldridge would be meeting with members of the congregation on January 12 at 7:00pm to discuss the landscaping plans.

Adjournment & Closing Prayer

The meeting adjourned at 8:48pm. Pastor Messer led the Lord's Prayer and conducted the Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Brown, Secretary

(Note: Complete minutes with all attachments are available in the church office for review.)

PEACE NEWS & NOTES

PYG NEWS

February Events

MONTHLY MEETING

Sunday, February 28 - 5pm-7pm

Fellowship Hall

HOSTING LENTEN DINNER

Wednesday, February 17

PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Sundays during Fellowship

Youth Room

Greetings in Christ,

The snow is still flying, but we are working on plans for Youth activities and events for the warmer weather. Planning discussions will be Sundays during fellowship in the Youth Room in the back of church. Ideas for activities, service projects, and fundraisers are welcome. Please see any of the Youth or myself during fellowship, or contact me at penzdragon@charter.net with your ideas and suggestions.

Our monthly meeting was a little light in January, but we still got together and are maintaining our goal of being here when planned. Remember that all youth are welcome. Bring a friend!

I want to thank everyone for your continued support with our on-going fundraisers - pop cans, cell phones, and Spartan labels. During our Sunday planning discussions, we will be talking about the up-coming Lenten Dinner on February 17, and other up-coming fundraisers.

May the Spirit of the Lord be
with you,
Jonathan Penzien



LENTEN SUPPERS

Lenten dinners will be held at 6:00 p.m. prior to Services starting February 17 with Ash Wednesday. Soup, salad and dessert will be furnished by SALT, Youth Group and various members of Peace Lutheran Church. Free will donations are welcome. Watch the bulletins for details.

S.A.L.T. NEWS

Sharing with All the Love and Truth of Jesus Christ!



SUPER BOWL PARTY



We will be gathering at the home of Megan and Chris Brown to celebrate Super Bowl Sunday on February 7. Please sign the sign-up sheet on the SALT bulletin board if you plan on attending.



SALT FUNDRAISER

*Please support our Evangelism Committee
by attending an:*

AUTHENTIC MEXICAN DINNER

Friday, February 26

6:00 pm—7:00 pm

\$5.00/person; \$2.00/12-and-under

Peace Movie Night will follow the dinner (see p. 5)

Come for dinner only, or stay for the movie!

Bring a guest or two!

Help us prepare by signing the sign-up sheet

located on the SALT bulletin board

Hope to see you there!

Ladies Lunch Bunch

We will meet at Tacho's Mexican Restaurant in St. Louis for lunch on Monday, February 8 at 1:30 pm. All ladies of Peace are welcome and also may invite a guest—someone without a church or someone living alone. Please enter your name on the signup list posted in Fellowship Hall and join us!

TABLE TALK

Our Table Talks are informal and informative discussions with Pastor Messer on various topics decided by the group in attendance. Plus, THEY'RE FUN! Our next Table Talk will take place on **Thursday, March 4, at 7 pm** (location will be announced). All are invited. We hope you'll be able to join us!



PEACE NEWS & NOTES Cont'd

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

The following message was sent to everyone in our email address file on January 27. "Per our conversation at Sunday's Voters' Assembly, we are intent on finding ways to save money on our monthly copy expenses. The suggestion was made that one way we could do so is to decrease the number of printed newsletters we produce by sending electronic (pdf) copies to those who would be willing to receive them that way. So, we are asking for your help. If you would be willing to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter on a monthly basis via email, please let us know."

The response has been great! So, the newsletter this month will be sent in pdf form to everyone who responded. If you did not receive the original email message, it means we do not have your address on file. Please send an email to the office at contact@peacealma.org so we may add your address to our file. For those who received our January 27 email, if you do not receive your newsletter via email by Monday, February 1, please let the office know by sending your email to contact@peacealma.org to be certain that we have your correct address.

Thanks so very much for your help in trying to conserve on copy costs.

DID YOU KNOW that hospitals do not always notify us when one of our members has been hospitalized? Please call the church office at 463-5754 or Pastor Messer at 989-388-2037 (cell) when a member of Peace has been admitted to the hospital. Thank you.

PEACE MOVIE NIGHT

"Surrogates"

Friday, February 26

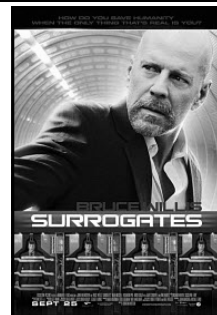
Movie will start around 7:30 p.m.

(following Authentic Mexican Dinner)

Bring comfy chair and snacks if you wish.

NOTE: This movie is rated PG-13

According to "Christian Spotlight on Entertainment," this movie has numerous Christian elements, so it will be interesting to watch and discuss. Hope you'll join us!



Issues, Etc.™

Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

If you have not listened to Issues, Etc. lately, you simply do not know what you are missing! This is the absolute best Christian radio program gracing the airwaves today, bar none. You can listen to what you want, when you want, by going to www.issuesetc.org and clicking on "Listen," then "On Demand Archives." We also have CDs available in the Fellowship hall for you to check out anytime.

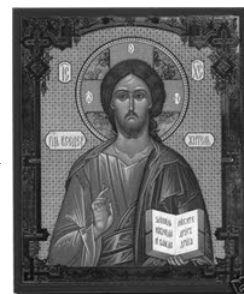
In order to support this Christ-centered, Cross-focused Worldwide Outreach, our congregation has pledged to be a part of the "Issues, Etc. 300," which consists of 300 LCMS congregations that give \$1000 (or more) annually. In doing so, our congregation is advertised during the program, on the Issues, Etc. website, and in the Issues, Etc. Journal. In order to fulfill our pledge, we need help. We have budgeted \$500.00, but we need to collect the remaining \$500.00 in donations. Please consider helping us do so. This is money extremely well spent, as Issues, Etc. is bringing the pure Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to people all over the world.

If you would like to give a donation to help our congregation fulfill our pledge, please see Pastor Messer and make checks payable to Peace. Thanks in advance for your support!

**PASTOR MESSER
IS BLOGGING!**

www.abideinmyword.blogspot.com

*Check in from time to time
to see what's on his mind.*



Abide In My Word!

Ladies' Guild

Ladies' Guild Meeting

Our next meeting will be **Monday, March 1 at 7 pm.** Hostess will be Marlene Miller. All Ladies of the congregation are invited to attend our Guild meetings. If you are a confirmed female member of Peace, you are a member of Guild. We would sincerely encourage you to participate and be an active member of the Guild.

PLC Women's Prayer Chain

The updated list is posted on the Ladies' Guild Bulletin Board. All participants should have received a copy. If you wish to be added to the prayer chain as a caller, or if you wish to have yourself or someone else "sent through the chain," please see or call Marlene Miller at 463-3710.

Altar Flowers

There is a flower calendar for 2010 posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board. We are now working toward ordering altar flower arrangements that coordinate with and enhance the liturgical colors of each Season of the Church year. Depending on the dates, flowers may not always be displayed for a calendar month. Some Seasons of the Church year cross calendar months. If you wish to place flowers on the altar sometime during the year, please put your name on the calendar and contact the church office with any information that you wish to have included in the bulletin. If there is a specific date in the month that commemorates an occasion, please also enter that date. A bouquet costs \$25. We encourage two persons (families) to purchase flowers each month, one for each plant stand. Please make checks payable to Peace Lutheran Church, attach a note marked "Altar Flowers" and place in the Financial Secretary's envelope in the church office. Any questions may be directed to Carol Zeile. Thank you for helping to beautify our chancel.

PEACE LUTHERAN LADIES GUILD

AND



Ladies Guild is collecting the following items to send to Lutheran World Relief:

- 2 - receiving blankets
- 2—shirts
- 2 - gowns or sleepers
- 4 - cloth diapers
- 1 - sweater
- 2 - washcloths
- 1 - bath-size bar of soap
- 2 - diaper pins

Wrap the items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins.

Any of the above items may be donated separately from the kit.

Collection Date to March 31, 2010

COOKBOOK

Ladies, gentlemen and kids who love to cook, Peace Lutheran Ladies Guild is collecting your favorite recipes to put into a cookbook. It can be the simplest of drinks to complicated desserts and casseroles.

Please write them, type them or make a copy of them and give them to Coaline Luplow or Mary Jakolat in the office.

You can also e-mail them to the office or Coaline at luplow2@hotmail.com.

Altar Care



February

Marlene Miller
Charlotte Dargie

March

Carol Zeile

April

Carol Zeile

Coffee Hostesses

February

7 Jennie Harmon
14 Y. Elenbaas/M. Girard
21 S. Greening/M. Brown
28 Carolyn Johnson

March

7 Andrea Elliott
14 Jo Wendt
21 Cassie Tennant
28 Jenny Baughman

April

4 Easter - NO COFFEE
11 M. Miller/C. Dargie
18 Peace Youth Group
25 Carol Zeile



Ladies' Guild (continued)

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH LADIES' GUILD MINUTES - JANUARY 4, 2010

Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President: Coaline Luplow – **Vice-President:** Carol Zeile – **Secretary:** Lois Ramsey – **Treasurer:** Sharyn Greening – **Banner Committee:** Gretchen Harrison – **Altar Committee:** Carol Zeile – **Kitchen Committee:** Coaline Luplow and Lois Ramsey – **Sunshine Committee:** Marlene Miller – **Library Committee:** Coaline Luplow – **Special Events Committee:** Coaline Luplow and Lois Ramsey – **Charitable Donations Committee:** Dorothy Trgina

Call to Order: President Coaline Luplow gave the call to order at 7:05 p.m. Those attending were Coaline Luplow, Carol Zeile, Lois Ramsey, Sharyn Greening, Dorothy Trgina, Mary Jakolat, Gretchen Harrison and Pastor Messer.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the December 7 meeting were approved, with a couple of changes (Megan Brown will be asked to meet with the Constitution Committee; The Jakolats loaned their outside wreath for this year only, no permanently).

Treasurer Report: Account Balances. Savings, \$2,355.58; Checking, \$437.55. Cookie Walk and Craft Show. A \$20 table refund and other small expenditures, plus the Care in Congregation Funds received (\$420) increased the revenue raised at the 2009 event to \$2,014.24.

Committee Reports:

- **Altar:** Carol Zeile. Carol read a portion from the LCMS Altar Guild Manual about the season of Epiphany. Carol also discussed the possibility of leaving the Christmas decorations in place until after the Feast of the Purification of Mary and Presentation of Our Lord, which will be observed on February 3 (all agreed to take the decorations down the following Saturday, Feb. 6). Carol also reported that all the ordered Superfrontals, Chalice Veils, and Book Marks have been received. The Altar Guild now has everything needed for all the Seasons for the entire Church Year.
- **Banner:** Gretchen Harrison. At some point, a banner photo book was assembled and it was presented for viewing. The banners will be inventoried. The present storage area for the banners was discussed, deemed to be inadequate and that a larger area is required. New banners have been purchased and some older banners may be retired.
- **Kitchen:** Coaline Luplow and Lois Ramsey. Sunday morning coffee donations totaled \$41.50, supply purchases totaled \$67.19, and the current fund balance is \$40.73.
- **Library:** Coaline Luplow. No report.
- **Sunshine:** Marlene Miller. No report.
- **Special Events:** Coaline Luplow and Lois Ramsey. To welcome Kyle and Jilian Stahl, Adult Confirmands, a decorated cake was served during the December 27 fellowship hour.

Other Reports:

- **Charitable Donations:** Dorothy Trgina. Dorothy produced a flyer that was placed in Sunday bulletins, *The Peace Post*, and member mailboxes, regarding the Baby Layettes to be collected for LWR from January through March. Dorothy showed some diapers she had made from diaper material purchased at JoAnne's Fabrics. It was decided to make it clear to everyone that they may donate individual items toward Layettes and do not have to donate the entire Layette. Dorothy will make sure that info gets out.
- **Comments by Pastor:** Pastor talked about the Issues, Etc. 300 (300 congregations donating \$1000/yr.). After discussion, **a motion by Sharyn, support by Carol, that Ladies Guild contribute \$200 to Issues, Etc. Approved.** A discussion ensued about church history and it was suggested that we take note of our annual anniversary as a congregation in the bulletin and newsletter, and that we plan for ways to celebrate our 50th anniversary throughout the year in 2012 (Peace was organized on November 11, 1962 and became a member of the LCMS on March 17, 1963).
- **Seminary Student Report:** Our current student will graduate in May. A new student will be selected soon.
- **Projects:** Discussed the need for a more spacious area to store our Banners. Also discussed a Prie Dieu (kneeling bench) for Pastor Messer. Both items were tabled for further research to be done.

Old Business:

- **Cookie Walk:** Coaline presented a final report on the Cookie Walk and Craft Show.
- **Acolyte Robes:** The Acolyte robes are in bad shape. Carol presented information on new robes. A catalogue was passed around. Sizing is determined by length, and prices vary from \$35.75 to \$41. **Motion by Mary, support by Carol, to purchase one robe on approval to determine the quality and sizing of the robes. Approved**
- **The Constitution/By-Laws** The revision committee will meet Monday, January 11 from 6 until 7:30 p.m.

New Business:

- **Ash Wednesday** is February 17. After discussing the Lenten pre-service meals, the ladies decided to replace the usual pot-luck fare with soup and salad. Coaline Luplow will organize. S.A.L.T. and the Youth Group will each be invited to host one of the meals.
- **Guild Hostess:** Lois Ramsey will be hostess for the March meeting
- **Christmas decorations:** Decorations will be removed on Saturday, February 6, beginning at 10 a.m. No lunch will be served.
- **Recipe Book:** Coaline presented a copy of an attractive recipe book compiled by an area church. Discussion and consensus for Peace Ladies Guild to compile a cook book, with an invitation extended to all members of Peace Lutheran to participate. Some recipes from the Cookie Walk are already collected. Notices will be placed in the Sunday bulletins and in the Peace Post. Recipes can be placed in Coaline's mailbox.

Thank you to Mary Jakolat for serving as hostess for tonight's meeting. The next meeting will be February 1, with Marlene Miller as hostess. The meeting closed at 8:45, with Pastor leading the ladies in The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Ramsey, Secretary

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT PEACE

Youth Confirmation Classes

- First Year Confirmands meet for instruction on at 10 am, followed by Second Year Confirmands at 11 am.

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

- Sunday School and Adult Bible Class is offered **every Sunday at 11 am** for all children, adult members of Peace, and guests. We are currently using **“A New Song Unto the Lord”**.

Together in the Word

- Our *Together in the Word* Bible Study meets on **Thursday mornings at 10 am**. All men and women of Peace who are available at that time are encouraged to join us. Guests are always welcome as well. We are currently studying the book of **Romans**.

“Christian History 101”

- Weekly classes are held on **Wednesdays at 6 pm**. The class is studying the history of the Christian Church from the time of the apostles to today. On **February 17** (Ash Wednesday), we will take a break from this class to engage in the “Our Suffering Savior” Lenten Bible Study **at 5 pm**. We will return to Christian History after Lent.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

FEBRUARY

Happy Birthday to:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Sierra Luplow | 24 Sally Pease |
| 5 Connie Cook | 24 Melanie Penzien |
| 6 Dorothy Wisner | 24 Amber Rosalez |
| 12 Yvonne Elenbaas | 24 Jeffrey Sager |
| 21 Eric Lovejoy | 28 Rebekah Rodriguez |
| 21 Coaline Luplow | |

Happy Anniversary to:

- 19 Barbara and Ernest Komar

If we ever miss your birthday or anniversary, please let us know so that we can update our records.

PAROCHIAL REPORT

(as of 1/24/2010)

Membership at Peace

Baptized - 137; Confirmed - 119

Membership gains: 0

Membership losses: 6

Sue Reithel, Dale & Trina Palmer (Heather, Brian, Darren)
- released by Voters' Assembly for self-exclusion

Financial Report

YTD Budgeted.....	\$ 8,736.00
YTD Receipts.....	\$ 6,648.50
Difference.....	\$- 2,087.50

A Little Lenten Humor . . .

An Irishman moves into a tiny hamlet in County Kerry, walks into the local pub, and promptly orders three beers.

The bartender raises his eyebrows, but serves the man three beers, which he drinks quietly at a table, alone.

An hour later, the man has finished the three beers and orders three more. A while later, this happens yet again.

The next evening, the man again orders and drinks three beers at a time, several times. Soon, the entire town is whispering about the “Man Who Orders Three Beers.”

Finally, a week later, the bartender broaches the subject on behalf of the town. “I don't mean to pry, but folks around here are wondering why you always order three beers?”

“Tis odd, isn't it?” the man replies. “You see, I have two brothers, and one went to America, and the other to Australia. We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank as a way of keeping up the family bond.”

The bartender and the whole town was pleased with this answer, and soon the “Man Who Orders Three Beers” became a local celebrity and source of pride to the hamlet, even to the extent that out-of-towners would come to watch him drink.

Then, one day, the man comes in and orders only two beers. The bartender pours them with a heavy heart. This continues for the rest of the evening—he orders only two beers. The word flies around town. Prayers are offered for the soul of one of the brothers.

The next day, the bartender says to the man, “Folks around here, me first of all, want to offer condolences to you for the death of your brother. You know, the two beers and all . . .”

The man ponders this for a moment, then replies, “You'll be happy to hear that my two brothers are alive and well. It's just that I, meself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent.”



Update from the Treasurer

For those of you who were unable to attend, following is a summary of the report presented at the Voters' Assembly on January 24, 2010 and a comparison between income and expenses for 2008 and 2009.

PLC Income and Expenses

	As of 12/31/09 Total Actual	Total Budgeted	As of 12/31/08 Total Actual	Total Budgeted
<u>Income</u>				
Offering	\$103,663.81	\$114,655.00	\$91,015.22	\$114,655.00
Rental Income : City	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Rental Income : Weight Watchers	\$1,440.00	\$1,560.00	\$1,140.00	\$1,560.00
Total Income	\$105,253.81	\$116,215.00	\$92,725.22	\$116,215.00
 <u>Expense</u>				
Church and Worship : Altar and Worship	\$1,857.76	\$1,500.00	\$1,365.59	\$1,800.00
Church and Worship : Christian Education	\$975.42	\$800.00	\$735.27	\$1,000.00
Church and Worship : Evangelism	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Church and Worship : Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Church and Worship : Music	\$2,016.34	\$2,000.00	\$1,508.25	\$2,500.00
Church and Worship : Stewardship	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Church and Worship : Youth Group	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,606.25		(\$69.98)	\$0.00
Missions : Issues, Etc.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Missions : Local	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$180.00	\$250.00
Operating Expense: Administrative Assistant	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00	\$3,848.00	\$3,000.00
Operating Expense : Advertising	\$131.31	\$200.00	\$616.00	\$900.00
Operating Expense : Building Maintenance	\$1,975.36	\$1,000.00	\$1,601.07	\$2,000.00
Operating Expense : Insurance	\$2,190.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,132.00	\$3,000.00
Operating Expense : Janitorial	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1716.00	\$1,716.00
Operating Expense : Snow Removal	\$1,080.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,088.00	\$1,284.00
Operating Expense : Maintenance Supplies	\$566.50	\$250.00	\$684.68	\$250.00
Operating Expense : Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Operating Expense : Office Expense	\$3,908.17	\$2,400.00	\$3,342.08	\$1,750.00
Operating Expense : Telephone/Internet	\$2,100.29	\$2,000.00	\$2,012.25	\$1,750.00
Operating Expense : Utilities	\$5,429.29	\$5,500.00	\$4,676.93	\$5,500.00
Pastoral Expense : Benefit Package	\$22,236.24	\$22,000.00	\$20,390.73	\$19,000.00
Pastoral Expense : Book Allowance	\$524.81	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Pastoral Expense : Cont. and Training	\$1,138.82	\$1,000.00	\$1000.00	\$1,000.00
Pastoral Expense : Down Payment Loan	\$2,220.00	\$2,220.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
Pastoral Expense : Guest Pastors	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$400.00
Pastoral Expense : Mileage	\$2,148.72	\$2,000.00	\$2,076.48	\$2,000.00
Pastoral Expense : Salary	\$62,045.00	\$62,045.00	\$59,645.00	\$59,645.00
<u>Total Expenses</u>	\$120,550.28	\$116,215.00	\$113,918.35	\$116,215.00
	(\$15,296.47)		(\$21,193.13)	

Please let me know if you have questions.

In Christ,
Carol Zeile

2010 BUDGET

The Peace budget for 2010 was the main topic of conversation at the January 24, 2010 Voters' Assembly. The goal of the proposal was to help the congregation achieve a balanced budget while also providing adequate funds for those items with which there is little flexibility. Below is a comparison of the 2009 budget and the 2010 budget adopted by the members present at that meeting. Please see a Council member if you have questions or comments.

<u>Expense</u>	2009 budget	2010 budget
Church and Worship : Altar & Worship	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
Church and Worship : Christian Education	\$800.00	\$800.00
Church and Worship : Evangelism	\$500.00	\$0.00
Church and Worship : Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
Church and Worship : Music	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Church and Worship : Stewardship	\$100.00	\$0.00
Church and Worship : Youth Group	\$500.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous		
Missions : District	\$0.00	\$0.00
Missions : Issues, etc.	\$500.00	\$500.00
Operating Expense : Administrative Assistant	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00
Operating Expense : Advertising	\$200.00	\$0.00
Operating Expense : Building Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Operating Expense : Insurance	\$2,800.00	\$2,000.00
Operating Expense : Janitorial	\$0.00	\$0.00
Operating Expense : Lawn/Snow Removal	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Operating Expense : Maintenance Supplies	\$250.00	\$0.00
Operating Expense : Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
Operating Expense : Office Expense	\$2,400.00	\$3,000.00
Operating Expense : Telephone	\$2,000.00	\$2,100.00
Operating Expense : Utilities	\$5,500.00	\$5,000.00
Pastoral Expense : Benefit Package	\$22,000.00	\$23,000.00
Pastoral Expense : Book Allowance	\$500.00	\$500.00
Pastoral Expense : Conf. and Training	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Pastoral Expense : Down Payment Loan	\$2,220.00	\$2,220.00
Pastoral Expense : Guest Pastors	\$200.00	\$200.00
Pastoral Expense : Mileage	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Pastoral Expense : Salary	\$62,045.00	\$62,045.00
<u>Total Expenses</u>	\$116,215.00	\$113,565.00

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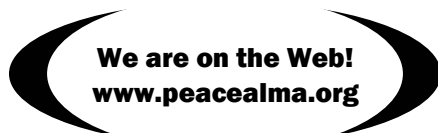
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February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	
	7 pm—Ladies Guild	6 pm—"Christian History" 7 pm— Divine Service <i>Purification of Mary and Presentation of Our Lord</i>	10 am—Together in Word 5 pm—Weight Watchers	10 am - Take Down Christmas Decorations		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sexagesima 8:30—Choir 9:30— Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—BC, SS	1:30 pm—Lunch Bunch at Tacho's	7 pm—Church Council	6 pm—"Christian History" 7 pm—Vespers	10 am—Together in Word 5 pm—Weight Watchers	10 am—1st Yr. Conf. 11 am—2nd Yr. Conf.	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Quinquagesima 8:30—Choir 9:30— Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—BC, SS	7 pm—Board of Christian Education	Ash Wednesday (Lent begins) 5 pm—Lenten Bible Study 6 pm—PYG Supper 7 pm— Divine Serv.	10 am—Together in Word 5 pm—Weight Watchers	10 am—1st Yr. Conf. 11 am—2nd Yr. Conf.		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Invocabit (Lent 1) 8:30—Choir 9:30— Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship	<i>Newsletter articles due</i>	5 pm—Lenten Bible Study 6 pm—Soup Supper 7 pm— Divine Service	10 am—Together in Word 12 pm— Divine Service <i>Feast of St. Matthias</i> 5 pm—Weight Watchers	Mexican Dinner & Peace Movie Night <i>Dinner from 6-7pm Movie ("Surrigates") will start around 7:30pm</i>	10 am—1st Yr. Conf. 11 am—2nd Yr. Conf.	
28	<i>March 1</i>	2	3	4	5	6
Reminisce (Lent 2) 8:30—Choir 9:30— Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—BC, SS 5-7 pm—PYG	7 pm—Ladies Guild	Reminisce Midweek 5 pm—Lenten Bible Study 6 pm—Soup Supper 7 pm— Divine Service	10 am—Together in Word 5 pm—Weight Watchers 7 pm—Table Talk	10 am—1st Yr. Conf. 11 am—2nd Yr. Conf.		

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The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.

Serving in February

February	ELDER	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETERS
7 - 9:30 am <i>(Sexagesima)</i>	Terry Luplow	Samantha Messer Myka Luplow	Gary Miller Jim Sager	Bob and Jo Wendt
14 - 9:30 am <i>(Quinquagesima)</i>	Miguel Ortiz	Morgan Johnson Tyrel Harwager	Bill Hendrick Jonathan Penzien	Larry and Andrea Elliott
17 - 9:30 am <i>(Ash Wednesday)</i>	Larry Elliott		Vern Jakolat	
21 - 9:30 am <i>(Invocabit - Lent 1)</i>	Terry Luplow	Aaron Messer Natalie Penzien	Chris Brown Daren Johnson	Helen Meyers
24 - 7:00 pm <i>(Invocabit Midweek)</i>			Vern Jakolat	
28 - 9:30 am <i>(Reminiscere - Lent 2)</i>	Miguel Ortiz	Sarah Messer Paige Harwager	Vern Jakolat Kevin Sellke	Jim and Janice Sager
March				
3 - 7:00 pm <i>(Reminiscere Midweek)</i>			Vern Jakolat	
7 - 9:30 am <i>(Oculi—Lent 3)</i>	Larry Elliott	Melanie Penzien Sierra Luplow	Vern Jakolat Phillip Schafer	Jenny Baughman

“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men” (Eph. 6:7)