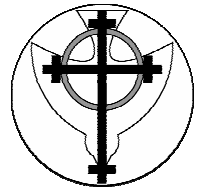
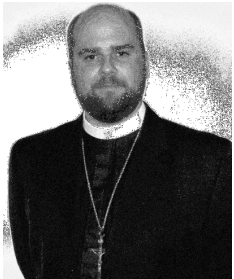


The Peace Post



The peace of the Lord be with you always. Amen!



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MESSER

"He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!"

What follows is a sermon preached by Rev. David H. Petersen, who serves as pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, IN. Pastor Petersen acknowledges that it was inspired by, and borrows extensively from, a sermon preached by Rev. Eugene A. Gardner at Zion Ev. Lutheran Church in Williamsport, MD in 1977. It is an excellent sermon and I include it for your edification as we enter the season of Easter.

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

From chaos to order. From cacophony to symphony. In the beginning, in perfect love, the Holy Trinity called forth creation out of nothing. The Spirit hovered. The Father spoke. And His Voice was the Word which would become Flesh. The Trumpet sounded forth and creation became. And it was good. All creation joined the song of God's love and echoed back His grace and peace in perfect harmony. Rock and fur, leaf and feather, Adam and Eve, all things were good, and all things sang God's praise.

But then, in the garden, came a cracking, rasping voice, in a minor key, in evil monotone, with nearly perfect tenor. With alluring tones, it sang: "God is not true." And Adam and Eve dropped the instruments of love and took up the chorus, "God is not true." Chaos returned for the sake of pride. With that first and feeble failure,

Adam inflicted all the universe with the curse. And the din that ensued was so great it nearly drowned out the adoration, by creation, of her God. Creation fell back to strident cacophony and death was born.

But that most Holy Trinity would not let Satan win. He raised the creative Trumpet to His lips, again. The Trumpet Promise blasted forth: "I will send My Son. He will be Enmity between Satan and Eve. He will restore." And that simple shepherd, on Chaldea's dusty plain, Father Abraham heard the call. And he picked up the song of God's love and sang. And once again creation praised Her God. From him issued forth a mighty people, a mighty chorus praising God's love and mercy and peace. Sing Jacob, sing Moses, sing David, too. Sing Rahab, Tamar, and Bathsheba. Sing Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, and Malachi. Sing the song the Trumpet played, the Promise of God's Redeemer yet to come, of living forgiveness not yet born.

But the false note was still there. The rasping monotone in minor key, in nearly perfect tenor, with alluring tones, it had not quit. It still pulled at the hearts of men with false promises and with false threats, but like the sirens of Greek Mythology, with deadly seduction nonetheless. And, so strong it played at times it nearly drowned out the adoration, by creation, of her God.

And so that most Holy Trinity, who would not let Satan win, raised the creative Trumpet of His love to His lips again. And in Nazareth, the royal peasant girl of David's line, the Virgin pure, heard the song from Gabriel's mouth. And near Bethlehem, she sang along: "My soul doth magnify the Lord!" And soon, scared shepherds, an angelic chorus, and wise men from the East, joined in, too, and took up the song that none could deny: "Glory be to God

on high!" Sing Simeon, sing Anna, sing John on Jordan's bank. Creation praised her God, sung adoration for the goodness of Him who is, who was, who ever shall be, who gives, who loves, who keeps His promises.

But still, the evil serpent's voice was there, in rasping monotone, with ever-alluring, deadly seduction it sang. And, once again, the hearts of men were bound to him in sin. And to "God is not true," they added that hateful line "Crucify Him!" And so loud, in one voice they cried, united in their hatred and greed, and it nearly drowned out the faithful singers adoring God. The earth quaked. The sun went dark. But! But, the

Continued on page 4

It is finished!



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PEACE LUTHERAN LIBRARY



Donations are always welcomed:

If you are thinking about donating one or more books to our library and are not sure what to be looking for, we have a "wish" list of suggestions in the church office. Prices and books can also be found in the CPH catalog, also in the church office.

We would like to encourage people to use our Church Library more often. We will be encouraging people to read books and share a book review with the congregation via the monthly newsletter. If you have read a book from our library that you enjoyed, or that inspired you, and you would like to share it, please contact Beth Brostrom or Coaline Luplow.



CHURCH DIRECTORY



The church office is currently working on a new phone/address directory for the congregation. If you have a change of address or new phone numbers, please get them to Beth Brostrom as soon as possible. We are planning on having them available at the April Voters Assembly, Sunday, April 22, 2007.

PYG NEWS

April Events:

Higher Things "FOR YOU" planning
meeting - Sunday, 15, 12-1 pm
PYG Meeting - Sunday, 22, 12-2 pm

Greetings in Christ. He is risen, indeed!

Easter is almost here, and once again we are selling lilies for use on the altar as a fund raiser. There are \$16.00 this year and after Easter morning services you are welcome to take them home with you. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall if you are interested. If you have any questions please feel free to get with me before or after church.

We will be meeting on the 15th with the youth and parents of our Higher Things participants to discuss and set up expectations and needs for the trip in July.

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

EASTER BREAKFAST

8:30 AM

MENU:

STRATA
COFFEE CAKE
FRESH FRUIT
JUICE, COFFEE, MILK



Want something included in "The Peace Post" next month? Email Beth or Pastor Messer (addresses on back page) by April 25 with your item. Also, call or email them anytime with your feedback and/or ideas!

Synopsis of March 6, 2007 Church Council Minutes

Call To Order & Opening Prayer- President Jakolat called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Pastor Messer conducted the opening prayer. The following members were present: Vern Jakolat, Megan Brown, Carol Zeile, Don Reithel, Bill Brostrom, Sharyn Greening, Andrea Elliott. Members absent: Miguel Ortiz, Coaline Luplow, Dick Kohler. Non-voting members present: Rev. Thomas Messer.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes- The minutes of February 6 and February 28 were approved as presented.

Report(s)- The following reports were presented and received into record: Pastor's Report, Board of Elders Report, Board of Trustees Report, Board of Christian Education Report, Board of Evangelism Report, Peace Lutheran Ladies Guild Report, Constitution & Bylaws Report. **Treasurer's Report:** After discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Brostrom, supported by Councilmember Reithel to borrow \$4,000.00 from the building fund to make up for the shortfall in the checking account. Motion carried unanimously. After discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Reithel, supported by Councilmember Brostrom to allocate \$400-500 for Pastor Messer to attend the ACL Conference. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- 2006 Mission Funds - After discussion it was moved by Councilmember Brostrom, supported by Secretary Brown to send a letter to District requesting permission to forgive the balance due for 2006 due to current financial situation and set a mission goal of \$1,000 for 2007. Motion carried unanimously.
- Individual Cups - Pastor presented the attached letter of the history and intention of the use of individual cups during Holy Communion. He and the Elders will continue discussing the practice.

New Business

- Use of Jon Greening Memorial Funds
 - *Sisters of Jon Donation - Jon's sisters have approximately \$2,000 to donate but need guidance for ideas. Secretary Brown will continue discussions to narrow focus of use.
 - *General Donations - Councilmember Greening suggested the idea of using memorial funds for new stained glass windows at the rear of the sanctuary. Councilmember Greening and Secretary Brown will continue to discuss the idea.
- Purchase of Additional White Boards - It was moved by Councilmember Reithel, supported by Councilmember Brostrom to purchase two white boards for classrooms with funds from the building fund. Motion carried unanimously.
- Purchase of Small Catechism Books - This item was tabled until the next meeting.
- Trumpet Player for Easter Service - It was moved by President Jakolat, supported by Councilmember Greening to pay Kevin Smith \$75.00 for the playing of the trumpet during Easter Service. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2007 Organist Workshop - It was moved by Councilmember Brostrom, supported by Councilmember Greening to allocate \$500 for Mary Jakolat to attend the organist workshop in June. Motion carried unanimously.
- Pastor's Personal Financial Situation - Pastor presented the Council with information regarding unpaid property taxes for 2005 and 2006. After discussion, it was moved by Treasurer Zeile, supported by Councilmember Greening to pay the outstanding 2005 property taxes using funds from the building fund to avoid foreclosure. Motion carried unanimously. The Council tabled the 2006 property taxes until the next meeting as more information was needed. The Council also discussed options of refinancing.
- Katie Conference - This conference is for the wives of pastors. The total cost for the conference is \$150-200. The Ladies Guild will cover half of the costs. It was moved by Councilmember Brostrom, supported by Councilmember Reithel to cover half of the conference expenses including meals. Motion carried unanimously.
- Overture to the 2007 LCMS Convention - Pastor provided the Council with the attached overture for informational purposes.

Adjournment & Closing Prayer- It was moved by Secretary Brown, supported by Councilmember Reithel to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:07pm. Pastor Messer conducted the closing prayer.

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,
Megan Brown, Secretary

Special Meeting - Peace Lutheran Church Council

Call To Order & Opening Prayer - President Jakolat called the meeting to order at 6:59pm. Pastor Messer conducted the opening prayer. The following members were present: Vern Jakolat, Megan Brown, Carol Zeile, Coaline Luplow, Dave Zeile, Bill Brostrom, Sharyn Greening, Larry Elliott, Dick Kohler. Members absent: Miguel Ortiz. Non-voting members present: Rev. Thomas Messer.

2006 Outstanding Taxes - After discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Greening, supported by Councilmember Zeile to loan Pastor Messer the money due for the 2006 taxes with the repayment method to be determined at the April Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment - It was moved by Secretary Brown, supported by Councilmember Luplow to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,
Megan Brown, Secretary

“He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!” continued from page 1

Temple veil was torn in two. The graves were opened and the dead alive. The New Adam, the perfect Adam, who did all that Adam should have done but did not, breathed His last and died, that Adam might enjoy the benefits not only of creation, but also of redemption, of restoration, of heaven!

And there, at the foot of the cross, a lone voice rang out which remembered the song of God's love. Crystal clear the solo rang. It was not the Marys. It was not John. It was the centurion. That unlikely Gentile singer praised God at Jesus' death and sang: "Surely this Man was the Son of God." For a fearful Sabbath, the faithless and unfaithful disciples failed to rest for anxiety and sorrow. They had thought Him the One. And now they mourned the loss of Him, as though He were dead, as though He had failed and Satan won, as though God were not true.

And so that most Holy Trinity, who would NOT let Satan win, raised the creative Trumpet of His love to His lips, once again! The Trumpet blasted free the sealing stone. It rolled away. The guards were frozen like dead men. And the Marys came, with still half-plugged ears and sleepy eyes not knowing what was in store. And, along with that Resurrection Trumpet, to them, the angel sang: "He has risen. He is not here." And soon the Eleven, at the women's call, picked up that song and by them thousands were added who once again sang the song of God's risen Love. Sing James and John. Sing Peter and Andrew. Sing Thomas and Nathaniel, too. Sing Stephen, and from the Road to Damascus all the way to martyrdom in Rome, sing Paul! Sing the story of God's love that would not let Satan win, sing of the cross and empty tomb! To all creation sound the Trumpet and let them know that God has won, that death is swallowed up in death and that Satan is cast down. Let them know that death has no sting and the grave now no victory. Death is dead. Life lives!

And so that song went forth from those Eleven to the thousands on Pentecost, to a multitude that today no one, save God, can number. And the Promise to Father Abraham is fulfilled in you. All over the world these Easter weeks God's people sing: "He is risen. He is risen, indeed. Hallelujah!"

But still, that rasping, defeated voice in evil monotone, it will not quit. It tugs at the hearts of men. It recruits. Men pick up the hateful tones. And here we are, with half-plugged ears and sleepy eyes and the battle close at hand. The enemy's camp makes such a racket at night, as to nearly drown out our praise, our thanks. We seem so insignificant arrayed against the mighty hosts of Hell, as insignificant as one Man weak, bloody, and dying between two thieves with truth called blasphemy nailed above His head.

Truth be told, we, too, have reveled in that drunken hate. We have sat at the enemy's fire and warmed ourselves by selfish glee. And the doubts arise in our hearts. The Tempter whispers in our ear: "Is it too late? Can I still come Home? Can I be forgiven?"

Yes! Yes! For this He came, for this He died, for this He rose: To love you, to forgive you, to win you, to have you. Because that most Holy Trinity will not let Satan win. He will not!

Steals upon the ear the distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again and arms are strong! The Resurrection Trumpet and its triumphant cry floats to us across the plain. Soon, soon to weary warriors cometh rest! Soon that Trumpet shall sound its last great "Hallelujah" and the dead will rise, and our bodies will be reunited in their proper place, with our souls, before our Lord in heaven, where we shall sing His praise forevermore, where sin will harass us no more! Jesus Christ glorified will come to judge the quick and the dead, and then that rasping, defeated voice will be silenced once and for all by the Resurrection Trumpet that none can silence or mistake. And the hearts of men will be free as the hearts of men were meant to be!

You who have ears to hear, hear the song. As Abraham's true children, clinging to the faith that Abraham confessed, and as Our Lord's own dear brothers and sisters, sing along. Let creation yet again sing the praise, the adoration of her God, that most Holy Trinity, who would not let Satan win! Sing Luther, sing Walther, sing Fort Wayne! Sing the song of God's love. Sing the song of Christ crucified and risen unto all the ends of the earth: He is risen. He is risen, indeed. Hallelujah! In Jesus' Name. Amen!

Rev. David H. Petersen

Redeemer Lutheran Church

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Friends in Christ, may our voices be joined to the voices of the faithful of all time, that we may "sing the song of God's love" now and forevermore! Happy Easter!

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Messer

CONGRATS TO DOROTHY TRGINA!

Dear Members of Peace Lutheran Church,

I am happy to let you know that a member of your church has been chosen as Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Michigan Region's Adult Volunteer of Excellence Award for 2007. Dorothy Trgina will be honored at our Volunteer Appreciation events in September.

I thank you for all of the things that YOU did to make much of Dorothy's volunteering possible. You truly "set the stage" for many of the opportunities Dorothy had to minister!

Thanking you for all you do to Care for Others!

Kathy Reither

Lutheran Community Services Specialist

Michigan Region

18258 Birch Drive, Macomb, MI 48044



St. Louis resident recognized for volunteer service with Thrivent Financial

Regional Thrivent Financial office honors Dorothy Trgina with Volunteer Excellence Award

Frankenmuth, MI 3-7-07 – Dorothy Trgina of St. Louis, MI, has been awarded the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Michigan Region Volunteer Excellence Award in the Adult category.

Thrivent Financial selected Trgina for this honor because of her dedication to helping others through volunteerism and service using Thrivent programs in 2006. During the year, while serving as the Congregational Service Team Director for the Central Michigan Chapter, she significantly helped the congregations in her area connect to and work with the Chapter Leadership Board. She also co-facilitates the Parkinson Disease Support Group for Gratiot County, volunteers at the Gratiot County Commission on Aging, serves as secretary for the Parks and Recreation Commission for the city of St. Louis, and participates with Relay for Life.

As a faith-based not-for-profit organization, Thrivent Financial and its members give back to congregations and communities. Members are organized into 1,362 local chapters and conduct approximately 75,000 volunteer activities each year. Dorothy Trgina is a volunteer in the Central Michigan Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, which serves the Mecosta, Isabella, and Gratiot County area.

"Dorothy is very deserving of this prestigious honor," said Mike Redford, manager of Lutheran community services for the Thrivent Financial Michigan Region. "She is among thousands of Thrivent Financial members who generously give their time and talents to help others in the community through Thrivent activities. Dorothy's example is one that we all can applaud."

"Every day, members of Thrivent Financial join together to demonstrate their care for others through their volunteer service," said Brad Hewitt, Thrivent Financial senior vice president of fraternal operations. "We are delighted to honor Dorothy for leveraging Thrivent Financial resources and programs to meet real needs in the community. She truly merits this Volunteer Excellence Award recognition."

Thrivent Financial provided \$250 in Trgina's name to Gratiot County Commission on Aging, the charitable organization of her choice. As a regional winner, Trgina will be automatically included as a nominee for Thrivent Financial's national Volunteer Excellence Award. National winners will be announced during National Volunteer Week in April.

About Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping nearly 3 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities. Thrivent Financial and its affiliates offer a broad range of financial products and services including life insurance, annuities, mutual funds, disability income insurance, bank products and more. As a not-for-profit organization, Thrivent Financial sponsors national outreach programs and activities that support congregations, schools, charitable organizations and individuals in need. For more information, visit www.thrivent.com.

LADIES & ALTAR GUILD INFO

- **LADIES GUILD MEETING:** Guild will meet Monday, April 2 at 7:00 pm. Hostess: Beth Brostrom. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend our guild meetings; if you are a confirmed female member of Peace, you can be a member of the guild. We would sincerely encourage you to participate and be an active member of the guild.
- **LADIES GUILD PRAYER CHAIN:** The Ladies Guild has a prayer chain in place. If you wish to be included in the prayer chain as a caller, see Marlene Wiltshire. If you wish to add yourself or someone else to the prayers, call Marlene Wiltshire (463-4101).
- **ALTAR GUILD DUTY:** April - Carol Zeile; May - Gretchen Harrison/Marlene Wiltshire; May - Marilyn Oswald
- **ALTAR FLOWERS:** There is a flower calendar for 2007 posted on the fellowship bulletin board. If you wish to place flowers on the altar some time during the year, fill in your name and/or contact Beth Brostrom. A bouquet usually lasts about one (1) month and the cost is about \$25.



UPCOMING COFFEE HOSTESSES:

April

1 - Jenny Baughman
8 - Easter (no Coffee)
15 - Carol Zeile
22 - Jo Wendt
29 - Coaline Luplow

May

6 - Tammy Oswald
13 - Darlene Palmer
20 - Youth Group
27 - Maxine Isaksson/
Helen Meyers

June

3 - Mary Jakolat
10 - Gretchen Harrison
17 - Arlene Hale/Janet Isom
24 - Joyce Kohler

S.A.L.T. NOTES

1. **FOOD BANK COLLECTION SUNDAY** is the first Sunday of every month. Please help the S.A.L.T. committee give aid to families and seniors of Gratiot County by bringing non-perishable, canned or packaged foods on Sunday, March 4. Suggestions are posted on the S.A.L.T. bulletin board. Place your donations in the **RED COLLECTION TUB** in the fellowship hall.



2. **LADIES LUNCH BUNCH** - Tuesday, March 20th the Ladies Lunch Bunch met at Kristopher's Restaurant in Ithaca for lunch. This was our third te-together and we increase in number each time. We meet once a month and would like any ladies in the congregation who are interested to join us. It's just a fun, sociable hour or two. Our next get together is planned for Tuesday, April 17th at the Grand Traverse Pie Restaurant in Mount Pleasant at 1:00 pm. We plan to meet at the church at 12:30 and car-pool. If you have any questions ask Mary Jakolat or Jo Wendt. There will be a sign-up sheet on the S.A.L.T. bulletin board.



3. **EASTER EGG HUNT** - April 1 - 3:00 pm
Volunteers: please be at the church by 1:30.



QUARTERLY VOTERS ASSEMBLY

Sunday, April 22, 2007

**All confirmed
members, 18 years
and older, are
invited and
encouraged to
attend Voters'
Assembly.**

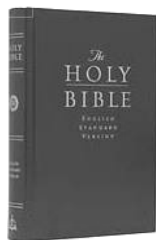
PEACE SERVICE SCHEDULE

Holy Week and Easter Service Schedule

Palm Sunday	Apr. 1	9:30 a.m.	Divine Service 1 (w/Procession of Palms)
Monday in Holy Week	Apr. 2	12:00 p.m.	Divine Service 3 (spoken w/ Holy Communion)
Tuesday in Holy Week	Apr. 3	12:00 p.m.	Divine Service 3 (spoken w/Holy Communion)
Wednesday in Holy Week	Apr. 4	12:00 p.m.	Divine Service 3 (spoken w/Holy Communion)
Holy (Maundy) Thursday	Apr. 5	12:00 p.m.	Divine Service 3 (spoken w/Holy Communion)
		7:00 p.m.	Divine Service 1 (w/HC & Stripping of Altar)
Good Friday	Apr. 6	12:00 p.m.	Noonday Sacred Service (w/Holy Communion)
		7:30 p.m.	The Office of Tenebrae (w/Sounding of Strepitus)
Holy Saturday	Apr. 7	12:00 p.m.	Divine Service 3 (spoken w/Holy Communion)
Easter Sunday	Apr. 8	9:30 a.m.	The Resurrection of Our Lord (DS 1 w/HC)

NOTES ON THE ABOVE SCHEDULE:

- **Palm Sunday Procession:** To commemorate our Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall and process into the nave together carrying palm branches and singing, "All Glory, Laud, and Honor." Divine Service with Holy Communion will follow.
- **Daily Services during Holy Week:** We will restore the very ancient tradition of having daily Communion Services during Holy Week this year here at Peace. These Services are being scheduled for Noon to give those who work during the day the opportunity to attend during their lunch break (if possible, of course). They will be no more than thirty minutes in length and the Liturgy will not be sung, but spoken responsively. They will be a blessing to all who can attend. (NOTE: Communion will be distributed by common cup and will be semi-continuous at these Services)
- **Holy (Maundy) Thursday:** Our focus this evening will be on the Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood, which He instituted on the night He was betrayed. Divine Service with Holy Communion will include the "Christian Questions with Their Answers" prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament. The Service will conclude with the Stripping of the Altar while Psalm 22 is being read.
- **Good Friday Noonday Sacred Service:** This Service will be a complete Divine Service with sung liturgy and hymns (unlike the other Daily Holy Week Services). According to Scripture, our Lord hung upon the Cross from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Until recent times, it was a given that the Church would have Service during this Sacred time. The most traditional Service the Church would have is called the *Tre Ore* (three hours) Service, which would begin at Noon and end at 3:00 p.m. and would be a meditation upon the last three hours our Lord spent on the Cross. Our Service this year will be an abbreviated form of the traditional *Tre Ore* Service. It will focus on the Seven Words of Christ from the cross and the Service itself will be less than an hour in length. However, to honor this sacred time and to give anyone who would like to meditate further upon the Lord's suffering and death for our sins the opportunity to do so, we will keep the Church open until 3:00 p.m., at which time, we will have a short devotion and prayer to commemorate the hour in which our Lord gave up His Spirit.
- **Good Friday Office of Tenebrae:** Please note that the time of this Service is different from our normal evening Services (7:30, not 7:00). The reason for this is to allow it to be a little darker in the Church for the dramatic conclusion of the Service. Also, please note that this Service is NOT the same as the Noonday Service. It is completely different. It will be identical to the Service we held last year. Many who attended last year commented that it was the best Good Friday Service they had ever attended. We hope and pray that it will be just as meaningful for those who attend this year.



ESV PEW BIBLES FOR SALE

Thanks to a generous donation, we have a case of 24 ESV Pew Bibles for sale. If you would like to purchase one, please see Pastor Messer. The cost is \$8.00 (normally \$16.99). We will use the money we receive from these to replenish our supply of Small Catechisms, since we are currently out of them.

LENTEN & HOLY WEEK SERMON SERIES

“COMING HOME FROM EXILE: THE EXODUSES OF THE SCRIPTURES”

Ash Wednesday	Feb. 21	“The Ashes of Paradise Lost” (Genesis 3:1-24)
2nd Wed. in Lent	Feb. 28	“Abram’s Exodus Before the Exodus” (Genesis 12:10-20)
3rd Wed. in Lent	Mar. 7	“Jacob the Heel Comes Home” (Genesis 28:10-17)
4th Wed. in Lent	Mar. 14	“Out of Egypt I Have Called My Son” (Exodus 14:1-31)
5th Wed. in Lent	Mar. 21	“Exile and Return from Our Babylons” (Ezra 1:1-4)
6th Wed. in Lent	Mar. 28	“The Promise of a Cosmopolitan Exodus” (Isaiah 11:11-16)
Maundy Thursday	Apr. 5	“The New and Better Passover Meal of Meals” (Ex. 12:1-14)
Good Friday	Apr. 6	“Christ, the Firstborn, Is Sacrificed” (Exodus 12:21-32)

PEACE RECEIVES BEAUTIFUL NEW ALTAR CRUCIFIX

A huge THANK YOU to Christopher and Megan Brown for gifting Peace with a beautiful new altar crucifix. They made this donation to the glory of God and in honor and memory of our dearly departed brother in the Lord, Jon Greening. We blessed the crucifix during Divine Service on Palm Sunday, April 1. May it be a blessing to our congregation for years to come as we look upon it and remember the sacrifice our Lord Jesus Christ made for our sins, and as we receive the Fruits of that sacrifice from the altar through the Sacrament of His Holy Body and Blood.



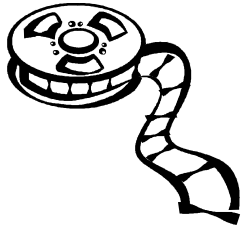
Why I Joined Peace Lutheran Church

When My wife, Jennie, and I moved to Ithaca, due to my forced retirement brought on by M.S, we began looking for a Lutheran Church we could settle into. I went to the LCMS website and looked for Churches in our area, and found Peace. The item that caught my eye on your website was that Communion was served every Sunday. I emailed your Pastor of my interest and had a response within 24 hours. I wanted to meet your Pastor first before I attended a worship service. I was surprised by his openness and kindness and downright good sense of humor.

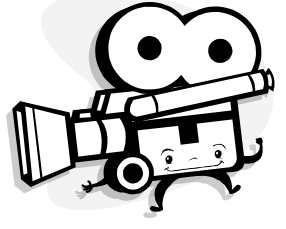
I asked Pastor Messer to walk into your sanctuary and was drawn to your altar. I prayed my first prayer on the steps of that altar and knew this was going to be home. We attended our first service and it was a joy! The Liturgy was not a sideshow as I have seen in so many Lutheran Churches; it was worship, true worship pointing to the King of Kings. My first service at Peace also had the Procession of the Cross. This was the first time since my confirmation in 1992 I had ever seen this. I swear my heart must have skipped a beat seeing the beauty of the Cross moving towards me. The Pastor’s message was pointing to Christ and His Sacrifice. Every worship service I have attended, I felt that true worship of the King, not as a sideshow, but as the center of the worship service and the center of the Congregation.

To my young friends in the Congregation, our Liturgy is a message within itself, a fellowship of the Congregation - the Message, the Forgiveness of Sins, the Lord’s Supper all come together in the worship of Jesus Christ our King. Some would call our Congregation too orthodox, but I call it, “Finally, somebody got it right!” What a blessing it is to be home!

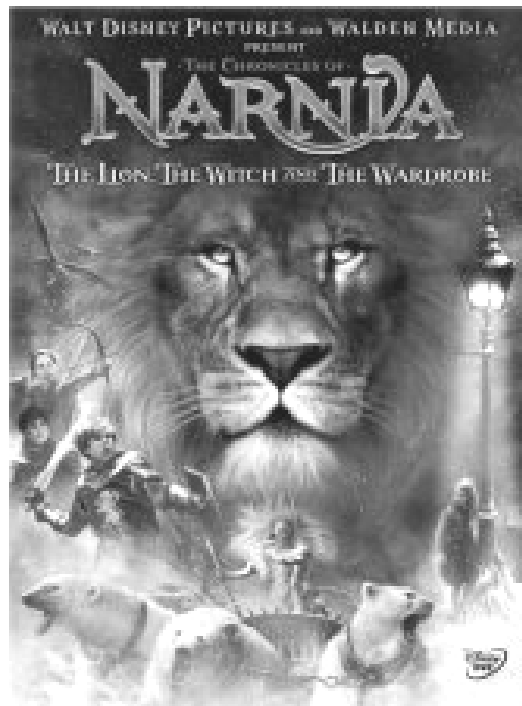
Your brother in Christ,
William Harmon



PEACE MOVIE NIGHT



FRIDAY, APRIL 27 ~ 6:00 pm



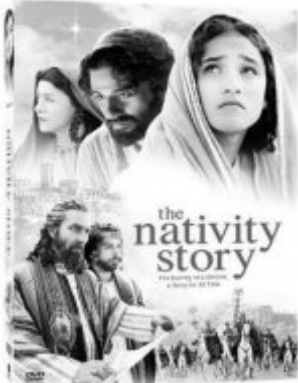
6:00 pm—FELLOWSHIP & FOOD

(Pizza, popcorn, chips, candy, and soft drinks will be provided)

6:30 pm—INTRODUCTION & DEVOTION BY PASTOR MESSER

6:50 pm—THE MOVIE

DISCUSSION LED BY PASTOR MESSER AFTER THE MOVIE



COMING IN MAY:

“The Nativity Story”

Friday, May 25

6:00 p.m.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT PEACE

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

- Sunday School is offered each week for grades K-8.
- Adult Bible Class is offered **every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.** for all confirmed members of Peace and adult guests. We are currently engaged in a detailed study of **Revelation**.

Youth Confirmation Class

- Youth Confirmation Class takes place each Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

“Life With God” Adult Confirmation/Information Class

- We will schedule a class in the future when the need presents itself. If you ever know of anyone who may be interested in learning about what we believe or joining our congregation, please see Pastor Messer.

Together in the Word

- Our *Together in the Word* Bible Study takes place **Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m.** All men and women of Peace who are available at that time are encouraged to join us. Guests are always welcome, too. We are currently engaged in a detailed study of the **Gospel of John**. Please plan on joining us soon.

“It’s All Greek to Me”

- *It’s All Greek to Me* is a class for those interested in learning elementary Biblical Greek and meets on **Sundays at 12:15-2:30 p.m.** (following Adult Bible Study).

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 - Roger Humphrey
- 1 - Freda Hill
- 1 - John Row III
- 7 - CJ Oswald
- 10 - Lauren Penzien
- 13 - Joshua Gustavison
- 14 - Tim Gustavison, Jr.

- 15 - Jenny Baughman
- 17 - Danielle Hinton
- 20 - Carol Zeile
- 21 - Jack Langan
- 25 - Janice Langan
- 28 - Michael Byers
- 30 - Samantha Messer

Happy Anniversary to:

- 8 - Megan & Chris Brown
- 22 - Carol & Dave Zeile
- 23 - Lori & Tim Mikek



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



EUCHRE NIGHT!

Our next gathering will be **SATURDAY, APRIL 21 at 6:30 pm.** There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to come and have fun playing the great game of euchre. Please bring a dish to pass. See you there!



TABLE TALK

Our next Table Talk will be held on **Thursday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m.** Come and join us for what are always informal and informative discussions with Pastor Messer on various topics decided by the group in attendance. We hope to see you there!

PAROCHIAL REPORT

(As of March 28)

Membership at Peace

Baptized - 183; Confirmed - 142

Official Acts:

None

Membership gains: 3

Michael Gilbert, Jennie Harmon; Ella Shaw-
Profession of Faith

Membership losses: 0

Financial Report

YTD Receipts: \$21,163.41







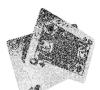



Budgeted YTD: \$23,940.00

Rev. Thomas C. Messer
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(989) 289-3908—Cell
pastor@peacealma.org

Peace Lutheran Church
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(989) 463-5754
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April 2007

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8:30 - Choir Rehearsal 9:30—Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—SS/BC		2 12:00 pm - Div. Service 7:00 - Ladies Guild Hostess: B. Brostrom	3 <i>No Together in the Word</i> <i>(Pastor at Winkie)</i> 12:00 pm - Div. Service	4 12:00 pm - Div. Service	5 12:00 pm - Div. Service <i>5:00 pm—WW</i> 7:00 - Divine Service 	6 12:00 pm - Div. Service 3:00 - Sacred Hour Devotion 7:30 pm - The Office of Tenebrae 	7 12:00 pm - Div. Service
8 <i>Resurrection of our Lord</i> 8:30 - Breakfast 9:30—Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship		9	10 7:00 pm Council mtg.	11 3:30 - Girl Scouts	12 <i>5:00 pm—WW</i>	13	14
15 <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00—Elders Mtg. 8:30 - Choir Rehearsal 9:30—Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—SS/BC 12:15 pm - PYG Meeting		<i>Pastor at</i> ACL Conference in St. Louis, Missouri	17 9:30—Together in the Word 12:30 - Ladies Lunch Bunch@ Grand Travers Pie Restaurant 8:00 - Trustees Meeting	18 3:30 - Girl Scouts	19 <i>5:00 pm—WW</i> 5:30 pm - Confirmation Class 7:00 pm—Table Talk 	20	21 <i>6:30 pm - Enchre Night</i> 
22 <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i> 8:30 - Choir Rehearsal 9:30—Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—QUARTERLY VOTERS ASSEMBLY 12:15 pm - Greek Class Resumes		23	24 9:30—Together in the Word	25 3:30 - Girl Scouts	26 <i>5:00 pm—WW</i> 5:30 pm - Confirmation Class	27 6:00 - Peace Movie Night - 	28
29 <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i> 8:30 - Choir Rehearsal 9:30—Divine Service 10:45—Fellowship 11:00—SS/BC 12:15 pm - Greek Class		30	MAY 1 9:30—Together in the Word	MAY 2 3:30 - Girl Scouts	MAY 3 <i>5:00 pm—WW</i> 5:30 pm - Confirmation Class	MAY 4	MAY 5

Newsletter information due by April 25.

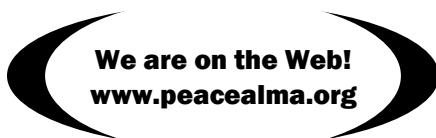
SERVING IN APRIL

	<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>ORGANIST</u>	<u>ELDER</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
APRIL					
1 - 9:30 am (Palm Sunday)	CJ Oswald Kelsey Gensler	Beth Brostrom	Terry Luplow	Bill Brostrom Jon Penzien	Helen Meyers/ Lois Ramsey
5 - 7:00 pm (Maundy Thursday)	Sarah Messer Jessica Oswald	Beth Brostrom	Terry Luplow	Bill Brostrom Jon Penzien	
6 - 7:30 pm (Good Friday)	Samantha Messer Tyrel Harwager	Mary Jakolat	Dave Zeile	Burt Henry Miguel Ortiz	
8 - 9:30 am	Alex Henry Melanie Penzien	Mary Jakolat	Dave Zeile	Burt Henry Miguel Ortiz	Gary & Marlene Miller & Charlotte Dargie
15 - 9:30 am	Philip Schafer Lauren Penzien	Beth Brostrom	Don Reithel	Bill Hendrick James Sager	Mike & Sue Ortiz
22 - 9:30 am	Jordan Henry CJ Oswald	Mary Jakolat	Larry Elliott	Curt Oswald Vern Jakolat	Jon Penzien & Family
29 - 9:30 am	Sarah Messer Kelsey Gensler	Beth Brostrom	Terry Luplow	Chris Brown Bill Brostrom	Vern & Mary Jakolat
MAY					
6 - 9:30 am	Jessica Oswald Samantha Messer	Mary Jakolat	Dave Zeile	Jon Penzien Burt Henry	Bob & Jo Wendt

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

Peace Lutheran Church
325 E. Warwick Dr.
Alma, MI 48801

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E-mail: contact@peacealma.org
Pastor's Home: 989-796-4453
Pastor's Cell: 989-289-3908
E-mail: pastor@peacealma.org



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.