

The Peace Post

Peace Lutheran Church ~ Alma, MI

April, 2011

Peace Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We believe, teach, and confess the doctrine of the evangelical, catholic faith as it is taught by Holy Scripture and faithfully confessed in the Book of Concord of 1580. We are committed to the pure preaching of God's Word and the right administration of the Holy Sacraments, catechesis of all people in the Christian faith, and liturgical worship consistent with our Reformation heritage. We are an evangelical, orthodox, and catholic congregation, proclaiming Jesus Christ crucified, risen, and reigning for the salvation of the world!



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From the Desk of Pastor Messer

"It's Not About You; It's About Jesus For You"

My favorite tagline for my favorite Christian radio program, Issues, Etc. (as if I needed to tell you that), is: "It's not about you; it's about Jesus for you." This is Christianity in a nutshell, my friends.

Sadly, when most people think about Christianity, they think of it in the same terms as they think about all other world religions. They think that Christianity, like all other world religions, is a religion of the law—a religion that focuses on morality and virtue; a religion that puts before you good and bad, right and wrong, and implores you to follow the good and do the right; a religion whose sacred book (the Bible) is like all other "sacred books" of all other religions, serving as a guidebook for living. Indeed, even many Christians, who should know better, think about Christianity in these terms.

But, Christianity is not at all—NOT AT ALL!—like other world religions. It is completely different, wholly unique, for Christianity is not a religion of the law, but a religion of the Gospel; the only religion of the Gospel that exists. Christianity is not about you following the good and doing the right, and the Bible is not a guidebook for Christian living. Christianity is about what Jesus has done, and continues to do, for you, and the Bible is the revelation of God's will and His plan of salvation accomplished through Jesus.

"It's not about you; it's about Jesus for you." It's about Jesus, who came down from heaven and was born into our flesh to fulfill the Law in our place and to be the sacrifice necessary to atone for all of our sins. It's about Jesus dying on the cross to win our forgiveness, and rising on the third day to open the door to everlasting life to us. It's about Jesus still coming among us in His Holy Word and Sacraments to deliver the salvation He won to us.

"It's not about you; it's about Jesus for you." That's more than a clever tagline; it's an eternal truth. Remember it. Meditate upon it. And, give thanks for it!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Messer



The Holiest Week of the Year

*(Based on an article by Pastor Messer
from yesteryear)*

In a few weeks, we will enter the most important week in the Church Year. Holy Week is so named because, well, it is the holiest week of the year. Why? Because, during this week, we commemorate the Passion of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, by which He won salvation for us through His holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death. This is the week when we most fully meditate upon the mysterious and glorious work our Lord did in our place and on our behalf. This is the week when the reason for our celebration at Christmas finds its fulfillment, for the Baby born in Bethlehem came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and became man precisely to do what He does during Holy Week—to suffer and die on the cross to save us, and to rise on the third day to open for us the way to eternal life.

The whole world should stop everything during this week and take time to meditate upon its holy events. But, the whole world won't do that. This will just be another week for the world. Businesses will not close; sports events will not be put on hold; the television will not cease broadcasting its shows, and so on. The world will march through this week without giving its holy nature a second thought.

This is to be expected, of course. The world wants nothing to do with Christ and His salvation. There is nothing holy about this week in the eyes of the unbelieving, dead, and dying world.

But, who would expect Christians to allow this week to come and go without embracing its holy nature? Indeed, how could Christians possibly let this week just pass them by? It seems unthinkable, and yet, this is exactly what many Christians do. They pay the holiest week of the year little attention, if any—and that is very, very sad.

I pray fervently that such will not be the case with the saints here at Peace. Do not let this week just pass you by, dear friends. You are Christians, and Holy Week is all about what your Lord and Savior did for you, so that

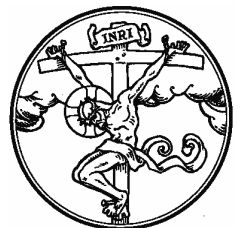
you may receive the blessings which belong to Christians.

In order to give all of the saints here at Peace an opportunity to embrace this holiest of weeks, we are offering numerous Holy Week Services again this year. Every day of Holy Week (Monday through Saturday) will begin with the praying of Matins at 7:30 a.m. On Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, and Holy Wednesday, Divine Service (spoken) will be held at both Noon and 7:00 p.m. (the Divine Services on these days are identical, but are being offered twice to allow everyone the opportunity to attend). On Holy (Maundy) Thursday, we'll have Divine Service at Noon (spoken) and a different, sung Divine Service at 7:00 p.m., featuring the Stripping of the Altar. On Good Friday, we'll gather for the Chief Divine Service at Noon, have a short Devotion at the Sacred Hour at 3:00 p.m., and gather for the Service of Tenebrae at 7:30 p.m. On Holy Saturday, we'll have Divine Service (spoken) at 10:00 a.m. and then gather for Easter Vigil at 7:00 p.m., with a Champagne Reception following. Then, finally, on Easter Sunday we'll celebrate the Festival of the Resurrection of Our Lord at 9:30 a.m. (no Sunrise Service this year; Easter breakfast served at 8:30 a.m.). You can read more about our Holy Week schedule on the next page.

Dear friends in Christ, I sincerely hope and pray that these additional opportunities to be in the Holy House of the Lord during the holiest week of the year will afford all of you the chance to allow Holy Week to have its way with you, bringing you ever closer to your Lord, that you may come to the celebration of the Paschal Feast on Easter in all sincerity and truth. Indeed, let us pray:

We implore You, O Lord, that Your abundant blessing may be upon Your people who have held the Passion and Death of Your Son in devout remembrance, that we may receive Your pardon and the gift of Your comfort, and may increase in faith and take hold of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

In Christ,
Pastor Messer



Holy Week Schedule



Palm/Passion Sunday—April 17

9:30 a.m.—Divine Service w/Procession of Palms

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, including the responsive reading of the Passion of Our Lord According to St. Matthew, the Evangelist, will follow.



Holy Monday—April 18

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

7:00 p.m.—Divine Service



Holy Tuesday—April 19

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

7:00 p.m.—Divine Service



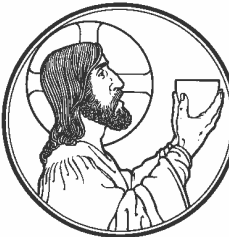
Holy Wednesday—April 20

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

7:00 p.m.—Divine Service

We will begin each day, throughout Holy Week, with the praying of Matins at 7:30 a.m. Matins will be spoken responsively, using the readings and prayers found in the Treasury of Daily Prayer, and will provide us the opportunity to begin each day during Holy Week prayerfully focused on our Lord and His Passion. Divine Service (spoken liturgy) will be held at both Noon and 7:00 p.m. (same Service) to allow everyone the opportunity to attend and receive the blessings of Word and Sacrament.



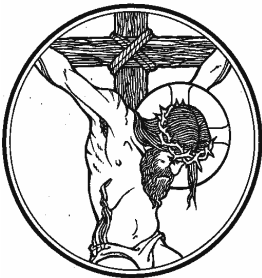
Holy (Maundy) Thursday—April 21

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

7:00 p.m.—Divine Service (strip altar)

The focus on this Most Holy Day is on the Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood, which He instituted on the night when He was betrayed. The Divine Service at 7:00 p.m. will be different from the spoken Divine Service at Noon, and will include the "Christian Questions with Their Answers," written by Dr. Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament, and will conclude with the Stripping of the Altar while Psalm 22 is being read.



Good Friday—April 22

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

**3:00 p.m.—Devotion at the
Sacred Hour**

7:30 p.m.—Tenebrae

The Sacred Noonday Good Friday Service will focus on the Seven Words of Christ from the Holy Cross, and will include the Procession of the Sacred Cross and the Distribution of Holy Communion. A short devotion will take place at the Sacred Hour (3:00 p.m.) in which our Lord gave up His Spirit and died. The evening Tenebrae Service will be completely different from the Noon Service. Please note the later start time, which will allow it to be a little darker in the church for the dramatic conclusion to this Most Holy and deeply profound Service.



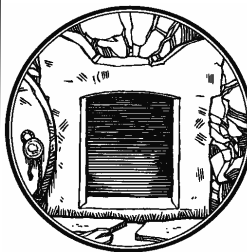
Holy Saturday—April 23

7:30 a.m.—Matins

10:00 a.m.—Divine Service

7:00 p.m.—Easter Vigil

After Holy Saturday Divine Service at 10:00 a.m., we will decorate the Church for Easter. Then, we will gather together at 7:00 p.m. for Easter Vigil, one of the most ancient and special Services within the tradition of the Holy Church.



**HE IS RISEN!
HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

Easter Sunday—April 24

7:30 a.m.—Matins

8:30 a.m.—Easter Breakfast

9:30 a.m.—Divine Service

With the Easter Vigil in place, there will be no Sunrise Service this year, but we will pray Matins at 7:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m., and the glorious and celebratory Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord will be held at 9:30 a.m.



St. Romanos the Melodist

“Again to Paradise”

Pilate fixed three crosses on Golgotha: two for the thieves, and one for the Giver of life. When Hell saw it, he said to those below, “My ministers and powers, who has fixed a nail in my heart? A wooden lance has suddenly pierced me and I am being torn apart! My insides are in pain, my belly in agony, my senses make my spirit tremble, and I am compelled to disgorge Adam and Adam’s race. All men were given to me by the Garden’s tree—but now a tree is bringing them back again to Paradise.”

When he heard this, Satan, the cunning serpent ran crawling and said, “What is it, hell? Why do you groan for no reason? Why produce these wailings? This Tree, at which you tremble, I carpentered up there for Mary’s Child. I suggested it to his enemies for our advantage, for it is a Cross, to which I have nailed Christ, wishing by a tree to do away with the second Adam, just as I did away with the first one. So do not be afraid. It is dry and barren. It will not harm you. Keep hold of those you have. Of those we rule, not one will escape again to Paradise.”

Hell replied to Satan, “You have lost your senses—you, the cunning snake of old! All your wisdom has been swallowed up by the cross, and you have been caught in your own snare. Lift up your eyes and see that you have fallen into the pit you dug! Behold that Tree, which you call dry and barren, bears fruit: a thief tasted it and has become heir to the good things of Eden. Moses’ rod led the people out of Egypt, but this tree brings mankind back again to Paradise.”

Satan answered, “Wretched hell—cease this cowardly talk! Your words reveal your thoughts. Are you afraid of a cross and of the Crucified? Not one of your words has shaken me, for these deeds are part of my plan. I will also open a grave and entomb Christ, so that you may enjoy your cowardice doubly—from his tomb as well as from his cross. When I see you, I will mock you. For when Christ is buried I will come to you and say, “Who now brings Adam back again to Paradise?”

Then hell spoke back, “Now is the moment for you to listen, Satan. Now you will see the power of the Cross and the great authority of the Crucified. For you, the cross is folly. But the world sees it as a throne, on which, as though seated, Jesus is nailed and hears the thief cry to him, ‘Lord, remember me in your kingdom.’ Listen now as he answers, kingly, ‘Today, poor beggar, you will reign with me. For with me, you will go in again to Paradise.’”

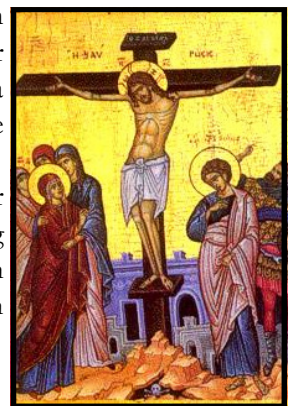
At these words, Satan began to wilt, and what he heard he saw: a thief witnessing to Christ crucified. And so, amazed, he struck his breast and said, “Christ did not answer his accusers, and yet he speaks to a thief? To Pilate he never spoke a word; but now he addresses a murderer, saying, “Come, live in pleasure”? What is this? Who has seen words or deeds done by this thief, by means of which he goes again to Paradise?

Again the devil called out, “Receive me, Hell. I turn to you; I submit to your views, I, who did not believe them. I saw the Tree at which you shuddered, made red with blood and water. And I shuddered, not, I tell you, at the blood, but at the water. For the blood shows Jesus’ slaughter, but the water shows his life, for life has gushed from his side. For it was not the first but the second Adam who carried Eve, the mother of all the living, again to Paradise.”

Now Hell and Satan cried out together, “Let us lament as we see the Tree which we planted transformed into a holy trunk, beneath which thieves, murderers, tax collectors and harlots will find shelter, and reap sweet fruit from what seemed barren. For they cling to the Cross as the Tree of Life. Pressed against it and swimming, through it they escape, and come again as to a harbor, again to Paradise.”

Hell said to Satan, “Swear, tyrant, finally to crucify no one.” And Satan replied, “You take an oath to kill no one. We have had our experience, let us draw back our hand. Let neither of us ever again tyrannize the race of Adam, for it has been sealed by the Cross, it has been given life, like a treasure of a precious pearl in a fragile pot; life, which a thief, well-suited to his trade, took on the Cross. For stealing he was nailed up to die ; and having thieved he was called again to Paradise.”

O most high and glorious, God of fathers and of youths, your willing outrage has become our honor. For in your Cross, we all may boast. To it we have nailed our hearts, that on it we may hang our instruments and sing to you, the Lord of all, from the songs of Zion. The ship from Tarshish once brought gold to Solomon; but to us your Tree gives back, every day and every moment, wealth beyond price. For it brings us all again to Paradise.





The Easter Resurrection Homily **of**

St. John Chrysostom, a.k.a. “Golden Mouth”

This classic Paschal or Easter Sermon on the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is from Saint John Chrysostom, fifth century early church father and one of the greatest preachers of all time. This homily for Holy Pascha exhorts all, even those who have not kept the Lenten fast, to rejoice and enter into the Easter feast of the resurrection.

*L*et all Pious men and all lovers of God rejoice in the splendor of this feast; let the wise servants blissfully enter into the joy of their Lord; let those who have borne the burden of Lent now receive their pay, and those who have toiled since the first hour, let them now receive their due reward; let any who came after the third hour be grateful to join in the feast, and those who may have come after the sixth, let them not be afraid of being too late, for the Lord is gracious and He receives the last even as the first. He gives rest to him who comes on the eleventh hour as well as to him who has toiled since the first: yes, He has pity on

the last and He serves the first; He rewards the one and is generous to the other; he repays the deed and praises the effort.

*C*ome you all: enter into the joy of your Lord. You the first and you the last, receive alike your reward; you rich and you poor, dance together; you sober and you weaklings, celebrate the day; you who have kept the fast and you who have not, rejoice today. The table is richly loaded: enjoy its royal banquet. The calf is a fatted one: let no one go away hungry. All of you enjoy the banquet of faith; all of you receive the riches of his goodness.

*L*et no one grieve over his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed; let no one weep over his sins, for pardon has shone from the grave; let no one fear death, for the death of our Savior has set us free: He has destroyed it by enduring it, He has despoiled Hades by going down into its kingdom, He has angered it by allowing it to taste of his flesh.

*W*hen Isaiah foresaw all this, he cried out: "O Hades, you have been angered by encountering Him in the nether world." Hades is angered because frustrated, it is angered because it has been mocked, it is angered because it has been destroyed, it is angered because it has been reduced to naught, it is angered because it is now captive. It seized a body, and lo! it discovered God; it seized earth, and, behold! it encountered heaven; it seized the visible, and was overcome by the invisible.



Synopsis of March 1, 2011 Council Meeting Minutes

Call To Order & Opening Prayer

- President Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Pastor Messer conducted the opening prayer. The following members were present: Carol Zeile, Dave Zeile, Chris Brown, Cassie Tennant, Sharyn Greening, Carolyn Johnson, and Vern Jakolat. Pastor Messer was also present.

Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve President Brown, supported by Sharyn Greening, motion carried unanimously

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Motion made by President Brown, supported by Treasurer Zeile to approve the February 7 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Report(s)

- Pastor** – Pastor Messer presented the attached report. The Council received the report into record; **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Zeile presented the attached report. Transfer of \$5000 from CD account to checking account was done; **Financial Secretary** – no report.
- Boards:** **Board of Elders** – No report; **Board of Trustees** – Parking lot to be repaired this summer, need volunteers and funding, more information at next meeting. Discussion on pest control and continuing doing business with Orkin; **Board of Christian Education** – VBS meeting has been scheduled; **Board of Evangelism** – Next meeting March 22, Mexican dinner scheduled for March 18, survey done about in-reach activities; **Board of Stewardship** – No report
- Organization and Committee Reports:** **Peace Ladies Guild** – No report; **Peace Youth Group** – No report.

Business

- Larry and Pastor working on recording services for shut-ins, providing both audio and video. Will need volunteers to record and distribute copies to the shut-ins on Sundays after service

General Comments: None

Adjournment & Closing Prayer

- Motion made by Carolyn Johnson, supported by Trustee Jakolat, adjourn at 7:33pm. Motion carried unanimously. Pastor Messer closed with the Lord's Prayer and Benediction.

Synopsis of January 23, 2011 Voters' Assembly Minutes

Call To Order & Opening Prayer

- President Brown called the meeting to order at 11:11am. Pastor Messer conducted the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

- Motion made by President Brown, supported by Jon Penzien to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Motion made by President Brown, supported by Coaline Luplow to approve the October 24 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Report(s)

- Pastor** – Pastor Messer is working on annual report and has asked all 2010 officers to prepare annual reports for their committees; **Treasurer** – Treasurer Zeile presented the attached report and it was received into record; **Financial Secretary** – Financial Secretary Miller informed the Assembly that the yearly reports have been distributed.
- Boards:** **Board of Elders** – sent letters to members and continuing with elder duties; **Board of Trustees** – no report; **Board of Christian Education** – planning for VBS will start soon; **Board of Evangelism** – meeting in February; **Board of Stewardship** – preparing an article for the February newsletter
- Organization and Committee Reports:** **Peace Lutheran Ladies Guild** – website developed, presented attached report; **Peace Youth Group** – monthly meetings, collecting cell phones

Business

- 2011 Budget-** Elder Elliott is exploring health insurance coverage and cost for Pastor, Motion by Financial Secretary Miller and supported by Jon Penzien, passed with majority, attached budget was received into record.
- Snow Plow Duties-** thank you to Larry Elliott, Gary Miller, and Daren Johnson for taking care of snow removal

General comments

- Post cleaning supplies list for members to donate items
- Reception of an extra \$200 a week in collection plates would help meet budget needs

Adjournment & Closing Prayer

- Motion made by Financial Secretary Miller, supported by Coaline Luplow to adjourn at 12:05pm. Motion carried unanimously. Pastor Messer closed with the Lord's Prayer and Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Tennant, Secretary

PEACE NEWS & NOTES

HOLY WEEK AND LAMENTATIONS

As noted on our Holy Week schedule, we'll begin each day praying Matins at 7:30 a.m. We started this a couple of years ago and it has been a real blessing to those who have been able to attend. There is just nothing like beginning each day of Holy Week in the Lord's House in quiet prayer and devotion. And, what makes our Holy Week Matins all the more special is the fact that we work our way through the entire book of Lamentations during the week. The laments recorded by the prophet Jeremiah concerning the destruction of Jerusalem juxtaposed with the events of Holy Week are a spiritual treasure trove and really put things in their proper perspective. I would dearly love to have more of you join us to pray Matins this year, but if you are not able to do so, I encourage you to read through Lamentations during the week. Here is the schedule we follow:

Holy Monday	Lamentations 1:1-22
Holy Tuesday	Lamentations 2:1-22
Holy Wednesday	Lamentations 3:1-33
Holy Thursday	Lamentations 3:34-66
Good Friday	Lamentations 4:1-22
Holy Saturday	Lamentations 5:1-22

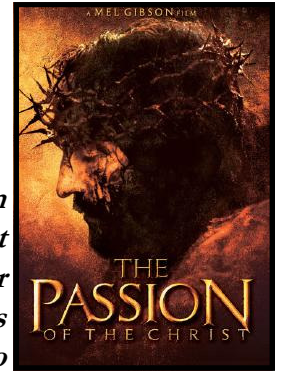
"This Book [Lamentations] shows us the consequence of ignoring the confession of our sins and daily repentance. Likewise, it firmly proclaims that the Lord's steadfast love never ceases, even amid the worst sufferings." (TLSB, p. 1295)

PEACE MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

"The Passion of the Christ"

We will watch this movie once again as we prepare to enter the Holiest Week of the Church Year. No matter how many times you watch this movie, every viewing is edifying, so please plan on joining us!



6:00 pm - Pizza and beverages

6:30 pm—INTRODUCTION & DEVOTION BY
PASTOR MESSER

6:50 pm—THE MOVIE (Length: 2 hours, 6 minutes)

9:00 pm—DISCUSSION LED BY PASTOR MESSER

Bring your own comfy chairs if you wish
A freewill offering will be collected to support
future movie nights. Hope to see you there!

NOTE: This movie is rated R for sequences of graphic violence
(children under 17 must be accompanied by an adult or parents
must speak with Pastor Messer to give their consent)



CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION

Immediately following our Easter Vigil
Champagne (Sparkling "Wine" for kids) & hor d'oeuvres to
be served as we celebrate our Lord's glorious resurrection!

EASTER BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday

Strata, French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Coffee Cake, Fruit, Orange Juice,
Tomato Juice, Milk, and Coffee to be served!

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THESE WONDERFUL
OPPORTUNITIES HOSTED BY OUR LADIES'
GUILD FOR FELLOWSHIP AND
REFRESHMENT!**



PEACE NEWS & NOTES CONT'D



PYG NEWS

<u>April</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Location</u>
	Monthly Meeting	4/17	5:00 pm	7:00 pm	Fellowship Hall
	Fellowship	Sundays	10:45 am	11:15 am	Fellowship Hall
	Easter Decorating	4/23	11:00 am	12:00 pm	Fellowship Hall
	Easter Breakfast	4/24	8:00 am	9:00 am	Fellowship Hall

Greetings in Christ,

Monthly meetings are continuing to grow as we meet to share God's Word and our Christian fellowship.

We will again be handling the ordering of Easter lilies for our Easter morning service. The cost will be \$20 and you may take them home with you after the service. Please see the sign up sheet on the Youth board in the Fellowship Hall for more information.

Thank you again for your support of the Youth of Peace.

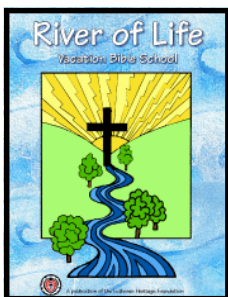
May the Spirit of the Lord be with you.

Jonathan Penzien



Issues, Etc.
Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

A HUGE THANK YOU to all of you who donated toward our Issues, Etc. 300 collection. We raised the \$600 necessary to match the \$400 we had budgeted and sent in our donation a couple of weeks ago. What a blessing it is to be numbered among those congregations that support this Christ-centered, Cross-focused Worldwide Outreach! Thanks again!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Spring is here (maybe) so Summer and Vacation Bible School will be here soon! The Board of Christian Education has chosen the program "River of Life" provided by the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. VBS will take place June 20-24 from 9:00-12:00 for preschool to age 12. We will

need volunteers in the following areas:

- Teachers
- Teacher assistants
- Decorating
- Printing student materials
- Providing snacks or menu items for the closing lunch
- Providing craft materials
- Donations to help defray costs

Please be thinking of children in your family/extended family, friends or children in your neighborhood you could encourage to attend VBS in June.

See Sharyn Greening for any questions you may have or to volunteer.

SALT NEWS

MEXICAN MEAL & MOVIE NIGHT

We held our Mexican Meal and Movie Night on Friday, March 18, and had nearly 30 people in attendance. We raised \$106.00 for our SALT account, which will be used for future inreach and outreach endeavors. Thanks to all who came out for a delicious meal and to be entertained by the movie "Secretariat." It was a great night!

BOWLING NIGHT

We are planning a Bowling Night to be held in May; look for date and details in next month's newsletter.

2011 CAMPING

Scheduled for the weekend of July 15.

MEETINGS

Please see the Minutes of our last meeting on the SALT Bulletin Board.

Next meeting - **May 5 at 6:30 p.m.**

We welcome anyone who would like to join us.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

This is an ongoing outreach for the SALT Committee. If you know of a person in the armed forces who is serving abroad, please contact Carolyn Johnson (email ckj1969@yahoo.com or telephone 463-3052).

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Will meet at 1:30 pm on Monday, April 4 at the Anschutz Café in Breckenridge. 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. We have a wonderful time together. Please 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! Due to the busy schedule in April, our next Table Talk will take place in May. Look for date and details in next month's newsletter. If the weather cooperates, we may have Table Talk Around the Campfire at Pastor Messer's house. We hope you'll be able to join us!

Ladies Guild

Ladies Guild Meeting

Our Ladies Guild will meet on **Monday, April 4 at 1 pm.** Hostess will be Carol Zeile. 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 current list is posted on the Ladies' Guild Bulletin Board. All participants should have 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 2011 is 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 chapel.

PEACE LADIES GUILD COOKBOOK

Cookbooks are now available; price is \$13.00 and can be purchased during fellowship time from any member of the Guild. There are flyers available in the fellowship hall to be used for posting on bulletin boards at grocery stores, offices, and the like. You may use your phone number for contact information or Coaline's name and number. Questions, ask a member of the Guild.

LADIES GUILD ON THE WEB

Ladies Guild coffee hostesses, Altar Guild assignments and Ladies Guild events appear on the Peace website. See www.peacealma.org and click Ladies Guild.

PEACE LUTHERAN LADIES GUILD LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

For the next portion of the Lutheran World Relief project, the Ladies Guild is asking for your help in supplying the following personal care items:

hand towels
wash cloths
toothbrushes
combs (wide tooth)
metal nail files
nail clippers (w/file attached)
band aids (1/2 to 2/4 ")
soap (bath size bar)

Collection period: April 1 to June 30

LADIES GUILD SELLS CUTLERY

Rada cutlery is on display the 3rd Sunday of each month in the fellowship hall during the coffee hour. We have seven different items in stock: Paring Knife, Large Slicer Knife, Tomato Slicer, Serrated Steak Knife, Spatula, Pie Server, and Veggie Peeler. A product catalogue is available for viewing and orders may also be placed through the catalog.



April

Carol Zeile

May

Altar Care

M.Miller/C.Dargie

June

C. Zeile/J. Harmon

Coffee Hostesses



3 Jo Wendt
10 M.Miller/C.Dargie
17 Peace Youth Group
24 Easter - No Coffee

1 Coaline Luplow
8 Gretchen Harrison
15 M.Isaksson/H.Meyers
22 Mary Jakolat

5 Tina Schafer
12 Peace Youth Group
19 Lois Ramsey
26 S.Greening/M.Brown

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT PEACE

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

- Sunday School (studying Sunday's Gospel) and Adult Bible Class (currently studying *Galatians*) is offered on **Sundays at 11 am.**

Together in the Word

- We meet every **Thursday at 10:00 am.** We are currently studying *Judges*. All are welcome to join us!

Christian History 101

- Weekly Wednesday classes meet at 6 pm, followed by Divine Service at 7 pm (during Advent and Lent, class is at 5 pm).

First Communion and Confirmation Classes

- First Communion Classes take place as arranged (see Pastor Messer if interested); Confirmation Class for our 2nd-year confirmands (Sierra Luplow and Aaron Messer) will meet on Thursdays at 5 pm. (no 1st-year confirmands this year).

QUARTERLY VOTERS'

ASSEMBLY

SUNDAY, MAY 1

11:00 A.M.

Since Easter falls on the fourth Sunday of April this year, the Sunday on which we regularly hold our Quarterly Voters' Assembly, we will move it to the following Sunday, May 1.

"JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY" (LSB 457)

*Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*

*But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*



APRIL

Happy Birthday

1 Roger Humphrey	21 Jack Langan
1 John Row III	22 Mabel Elliott
10 Lauren Penzien	22 Kyle Stahl
15 Jenny Baughman	25 Janice Langan
20 Kevin Sellke	28 Mike Byers
20 Carol Zeile	30 Samantha Messer

Happy Anniversary

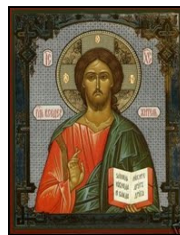
8 Chris and Megan Brown
22 Dave and Carol Zeile

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

TALK RADIO FOR THE THINKING CHRISTIAN!

Listen to what you want, when you want, at:

www.issuesetc.org



PASTOR MESSER IS BLOGGING!

www.abideinmyword.blogspot.com

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

PAROCHIAL REPORT

(as of 3/27/11)

Membership at Peace

Baptized - 132; Confirmed - 114

Membership gains: 0

Membership losses: 0

Financial Report as of 3/27/2011

YTD Budgeted.....\$ 27,391.00




















YTD Receipts.....\$ 21,116.00

Difference.....\$ - 6,275.00

Rev. Thomas C. Messer
 (989) 463-3093—Home
 (989) 388-2037—Cell
 pastor@peacealma.org
 pastormesser@gmail.com
 www.abideinmyword.blogspot.com

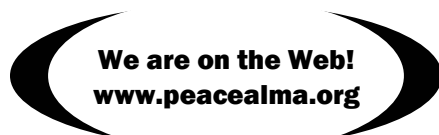
Peace Lutheran Church
 325 E. Warwick Drive
 Alma, MI 48801
 (989) 463-5754
 contact@peacealma.org
 www.peacealma.org

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 Lactare (Lent 4) 8:30 - Choir 9:30 - Divine Service 10:45 - Fellowship 11:00 - BC,SS 	4 1 pm - Ladies Guild 	5 <i>Pastor Messer at Winked</i> 7 pm - Church Council	6 Lactare Midweek 5 pm - Christian History 6 pm - Soup Dinner 7 pm - Divine Service 	7 10 am - Together in Word 5 pm - Weight Watchers 5 pm - Confirmation Class	1/8	2/9
10 Judica (Lent 5) 8:30 - Choir 9:30 - Divine Service 10:45 - Fellowship 11:00 - BC,SS 	11 1:30 pm - Lunch Bunch	12 7 pm - Elders Meeting	13 Judica Midweek 5 pm - Christian History 6 pm - Soup Dinner 7 pm - Divine Service 	14 10 am - Together in Word 5 pm - Weight Watchers 5 pm - Confirmation Class	15 6 pm - Peace Movie Night <i>"The Passion of the Christ"</i> 	16
17 Palm/Passion Sunday 8:30 - Choir 9:30 - Divine Service 10:45 - Fellowship 11:00 - BC,SS 5-7 pm PYG 	18 Holy Monday 7:30 am - Matins 12 pm - Divine Service 7 pm - Divine Service 	19 Holy Tuesday 7:30 am - Matins 12 pm - Divine Service 7 pm - Divine Service 	20 Holy Wednesday 7:30 am - Matins 12 pm - Divine Service 7 pm - Divine Service 	21 Holy Thursday 7:30 am - Matins <i>NO Together in Word</i> 12 pm - Divine Service 5 pm - WW 7 pm - Divine Service 	22 Good Friday 7:30 am - Matins 12 pm - Divine Service 3 pm - Devotion 7:30 - Tenebrae 	23 Holy Saturday 7:30 am - Matins 10 am - Divine Service 11 am - Decorate Church 7 pm - Easter Vigil <i>Champagne Reception</i> 
24 Resurrection of Our Lord 7:30 - Matins 8:30 - Easter Breakfast 9:30 - Divine Service 10:45 - Fellowship <i>No BC or SS</i> 	25	26 7 pm - Stewardship	27 6 pm - Christian History 7 pm - Divine Service <i>Easter Monday (Observed)</i> 	28 10 am - Together in Word 12 pm - Divine Service <i>Feast of St. Mark</i> 5 pm - WW 5 pm - Conf. Class 	29	30
MAY 1 Quasimodo Geniti (Easter 2) 8:30 - Choir 9:30 - Divine Service 10:45 - Fellowship 11:00 - VOTERS' ASSEMBLY 	2 1 pm - Ladies Guild <div>Newsletter articles due</div>	3 7 pm - Church Council	4 6 pm - Christian History 7 pm - Divine Service <i>Easter Tuesday (Obs.)</i> 	5 10 am - Together in Word 12 pm - Divine Service <i>Feast of Sts. Philip and James</i> 5 pm - WW 5 pm - Conf. 6:30 pm - SALT 	6	7

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

Church: 989-463-5754
E-mail: contact@peacealma.org
Mary's Home: 989-463-3067
Pastor's Home: 989-463-3093
Pastor's Cell: 989-388-2037



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 April

	ELDERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETERS
April				
3 - 9:30 am (Laetare - Lent 4))	Terry Luplow	Sierra Luplow Morgan Johnson	James Sager Daren Johnson	Bob and Jo Wendt
6 - 7 pm (Laetare Midweek)				
10 - 9:30 am (Judica - Lent 5)	Miguel Ortiz	Myka Luplow Natalie Penzien	Vern Jakolat Tyrel Harwager	James and Janice Sager
13 - 7 pm (Judica Midweek)				
17 - 9:30 am (Palm/Passion Sunday)	David Zeile	Paige Harwager Melanie Penzien	Gary Miller Philip Schafer	Jenny Baughman
21 - 7 pm (Holy/Maundy Thursday)	Larry Elliott	Aaron Messer Morgan Johnson	Bill Hendrick Chris Brown	
22 - 12 pm (Good Friday Noon)	Terry Luplow		Vern Jakolat Jonathan Penzien	
22 - 7:30 pm (Good Friday Tenebrae)	Miguel Ortiz		Gary Miller James Sager	
23 - 7 pm (Easter Vigil)	David Zeile	Samantha Messer Aaron Messer	Vern Jakolat Daren Johnson	
24 - 9:30 am (Resurrection of Our Lord)	Larry Elliott	Sierra Luplow Morgan Johnson	Miguel Ortiz Kevin Sellke	Charlotte Dargie Marlene Miller
May				
1 - 9:30 am (Quasimodo Geniti - Easter 2)	Terry Luplow	Myka Luplow Natalie Penzien	Jonathan Penzien Chris Brown	LeRoy and Maxine Isaksson
8 - 9:30 am (Misericordias Domini - Easter 3)	Miguel Ortiz	Paige Harwager Melanie Penzien	James Sager Daren Johnson	Helen Meyers