

Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

March 2016

Peace Lutheran Church
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Our Mission: We are a family of Christians called, equipped and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed through God's holy Word and Sacraments.



To my Peace family

Greetings for my Peace family,

It's been a busy couple of weeks, it's Monday morning and I'm just now starting to write my article for the month, which is due by noon. I had intended to write it Friday afternoon but God had other plans. I got a call from Jim Lynch; he needed to go to the Emergency room. I spent the next several hours with him not knowing at the time it would be the last time here on earth that I would get to see and talk to him. Nor would we hear his special for the upcoming meal; tickets are one for \$7:00 or two for \$15:00. Jim will be truly missed. The topic for my article this month is about how we are blessed

and how we bless others. So, I guess talking about Jim is appropriate. Everyone knew when Jim was in a room and he made sure everyone was having a good time and taken care of even if he had to put on his wig and be Luigi. Jim understood what it means to be blessed and be a blessing to others.

We have been truly blessed here at Peace; I think back over the almost twelve years that I've been blessed to be your pastor. We needed a new roof and God provided, we needed new air conditioning units and God provided. Time and time again God blesses and provides. We are blessed with each other also, to be part of this family together. Our family continues to grow here at Peace and at the same time, many have transferred to the Church

Triumphant over the years.

Each day is a blessing and gift from God, how we live and share our blessings is important. I look at how far we have come over the last decade with joy and thanksgiving but I also pause to wonder if we could do better at being a blessing to others. Are we using what God has given and continues to give to His glory and to do His Kingdom work? In particular, the funds we received from the state for the piece of property by the highway. Truly a blessing, we have a new well, which we needed, we have a new church sign that I get compliments on all the time. We've been able to do some needed repairs and are looking forward to remodeling our kitchen. However, how have we been a blessing to others with our blessing? We usually set aside 10% of any fundraiser or gift to the church for missions but we didn't in this case.

From the very beginning, God tells us: ***"I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."*** (Genesis 12:2b.) We all are brothers and sisters, part of the Body of Christ, one body of whom Christ is the

head. I challenge each of you to try and out bless God, it can't be done but we can have fun trying, along the way help, and bless a lot of people.

May God bless!

Pastor Terry

FROM THE PRESIDENT

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL! Our Pancake Supper was a HUGE success- THANK YOU to all who helped in any way! This includes planners, purchasers of food/supplies, setup folks, cooks, servers, ticket sellers, bakers and "cleaner uppers"! This month (March) we have a lot going on all the way up to the last Sunday (the 27th), which is Easter. The following Saturday (April 2) is First Saturday and our LWML Spring Rally at Our Redeemer. Saturday, April 9th is our Rummage Sale, and we can really use ALL the help we can get all week to get it set up, plus of course, the day of the sale. Please come when you can- we really do have a lot of fun emptying all the boxes to see what's in them! You can bring your own "stuff" any time- you can ask a Trustee to unlock the shed for you- and, you can even ask them

to unload your car if you can't.
I am still looking for at least three more people to take turns playing our service music. Please see me if you are interested.

I think that's all for now. Please continue praying for each other, and God's Blessings to All!

In Jesus' Service, Sheryl Lutz, Church Congregation President

**Peace Lutheran Council Meeting
Minutes Summary
February 8 2016**

Present: Sheryl Lutz, Tom Victory, Jan Barker, Rita Cowan, Becky Williams, Jim Lynch, Doug O'Hara, Bud Koehlinger, Bob Sullivan, Ron Cowan, Jackie Hucker, Vic Rochette, Liz Koehlinger, Rev. Terry McKee.
Guests: Jennifer Rochette, Chet Rochette.

President Sheryl Lutz called the meeting to order. Pastor McKee opened the meeting with prayer.

Correspondence: A Thank you note was received from Covenant Children's Home for our total 2015 donations of \$300. Also received was a letter from Lake Tropicana Volunteer Fire Dept. The letter explained how the Department works,

and asked for a contribution. Pastor Terry recommended conducting a door offering. Jan Barker made the motion to do a door offering. Doug O'Hara seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Guest: Chet Rochette purchased paint for the outside for the church. The outside of the church was painted by Chet and Dianne. The bill for the paint was \$806 before tax. Chet requested reimbursement for the paint. Bud Koehlinger made a motion to reimburse Chet for \$806.00. The funds will come out of the LCEF fund (improvement fund). Doug O'Hara seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chet then left the meeting.

Minutes: Vic Rochette commented on the "Kitchen Committee". It was determined there was a kitchen committee, in charge of keeping the kitchen stocked with whatever was needed. A new committee is now in place to discuss the kitchen remodeling. The minutes were accepted with the above addendum to be done.

Treasurer: Rita Cowan report was accepted.

Financial Secretary: Becky Williams Report was accepted.

Trustee Report: Vic stated that the parking lot is a safety issue due to the multiple cracks. It was determined that patching the parking lot is something that should be done. The renovation of Pastor`s office was discussed. Vic passed around a blue print of what is proposed. Tom Victory made a motion to do the renovations at a cost of approximately \$1,000. Jackie Hucker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Elders: Jim Lynch stated that he collected \$201.00 from the congregation for the pancake supper. Also, Thrivent`s grant provided \$250. Liz Koehlinger advised that all the newspapers and radio stations have advertised.

Pastor: Pastor Terry advised that he has a list of volunteers willing to help clean the church. He recommended having a Trustee for each month. Also, we are in need of a head usher. He also stated there are nine people who will be joining the church.

SCRIP: An email was received from Barbara Miesen stating that the SCRIP balance is \$871.44. The last order made a profit of \$57.80.

Old Business: Liz Koehlinger stated that she is still testing her new camera. She asked if we wanted to purchase an Easter Ad from the Village Crier. Doug O`Hara made a

motion to purchase the Easter Ad. Vic Rochette 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Vic Rochette stated that the permit for the new sign has not been completed. Vic will speak with Gene Lutz to discuss how this problem can be resolved.

New Business: Jackie Hucker made a motion to have the annual yard sale on April 9 2016. Jan Barker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Rita Cowan said that according to the State of FL we need to have a Registered Agent. This is a person that would be named to receive any subpoena`s for the church - In essence, to be a contact person in the legal sense. Doug O`Hara volunteered.

President`s Report: Sheryl Lutz reminded us there will be a Congregation Meeting on Feb 28 2016.

Bob Sullivan made a motion to adjourn, Doug O`Hara seconded. The meeting adjourned with the singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Barker, Secretary

From your Trustee

We all want to be good stewards of God's gifts to us. To me that means that we should use our money wisely. Don't spend it when we do not need to of course, although sometimes it becomes necessary. Case in point when it was reported that our refrigerator was on the blink. There were a choice of actions we could have taken: Call a technician to get it fixed and who knows how much that would cost, or whether that would even be worth it - after all, it is a 20 year old refrigerator and most likely an energy hog. Or, purchase a new one which we will inevitably do anyway, and that would in no way alter any future plans for the kitchen project.

Then Linda Williams came to the rescue and now we are out of crisis mode. It is always better to make purchase decisions at a slower deliberate pace. This now falls back into the future plan for the kitchen.

I am putting out the call for information from all personnel who have talents that may be useful in the future when we have repairs to be made. Case in point: If I had known ahead of time that we had a member that could trouble shoot a refrigerator then it would have been unnecessary to waste time calling, E-mailing, looking for deals, responding to each other.

So now thankfully, as YOUR trustee, I have one such member on

my list of contacts to call next time so we can avoid being in another "crisis mode". Don't hide your light under a bushel, No! Let it shine, let it shine. Call me, or anyone may contact me at vicjen5683@aol.com.

Semper Fi (Always Faithfull)
Victor Rochette
352-572-2993

A Word from Financial Secretary Becky Williams

Have you prayerfully considered giving of your time one Sunday each month to count our offerings and make the bank deposit? We need at least one more team to serve in the rotation and another, of individuals to serve as periodic substitutes. I will work with you until you are comfortable with the procedures.

If you are a non-member worshiper at Peace and would like to have a set of envelopes, please ask that they be issued to you. Of course, you may always use the ones provided in the pew racks. It is helpful for recording purposes to have the amount indicated on the front of those when they are used; however, if you forget, the counters will make note of the amount and whether it is cash or a check and fill that in. We retain all used

envelopes for one year just in case we need to refer to them for some reason.

There is a white letter-size envelope on the main bulletin board containing stickers you may want to attach to your contribution statement for 2015 in case your donations are ever questioned.

Thank you for continuing to support the ministry of Peace to our communities and one another!



LWML

The ladies of Peace L.W.M.L.

February 2016

The ladies of Peace hosted a visit from Carol Lynn Scheer; our district President, at our February meeting. Carol spoke to us about the national L.W.M.L. convention held in Des Moines Iowa last year. It was wonderful to hear about all the fine work done at the national level. Our meeting and visit by Carol Lynn ended with fellowship and a pot-luck lunch. Pastor Ron Scheer and Pastor Terry joined us.

On the 30th of January six ladies from Peace attended the L.W.M.L. Prayer Service hosted by the ladies of Forest Lutheran in Silver Springs. The theme was; "Wanted: Workers in God`s Harvest Field". It was a wonderful service. On our way back to Dunnell on the six of us stopped for an enjoyable lunch. Just as a side note; Sheryl Lutz has got to be the queen of the Florida U-Turn. {A little inside joke}

The ladies of Peace will meet again

March 7th at 10:00 am. A few things on the agenda will be the upcoming Spring Rally at Our Redeemer in Ocala and a shortage of Mite funds to meet our goals. I hope to see all the ladies there.

**God`s Blessings to all: Linda W.
READY, SET, RECYCLE!**

TURN TRASH INTO CASH!

LWML is recycling to raise funds for our 2019 National Convention! We are collecting *empty inkjet printer cartridges, empty laser printer cartridges, used cell phones, laptops, digital cameras, e-Readers, tablets, GPS systems, and Scientific Calculators (include power cords for everything you donate if you can, please)*. We'll turn them into a company – for cash- that will safely recycle them. Just place your contributions in the inkjet recycling box on the “recycle/info table” in the Fellowship Hall, and we'll take care of them. **Thank you** to all who are helping with this project! See Sheryl if you have any questions.

Those Serving in March 2016

Sunday, March 6, 2016

Ushers: Bill Langstaff & Gene Lutz

Communion assistant: Samuel
McKee

Greeters: Linda Ryun

Lay reader: Sheryl Lutz

Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean
Methlie

Sunday, March 13, 2016

Ushers: Ken Buschman & Doug
O'Hara

Communion assistant: Bud
Koehlinger

Greeter: Liz & Bud Koehlinger

Lay reader: Jackie Hucker

Counting team: Ron & Rita Cowan

Sunday, March 20, 2016

Ushers: Ron & Rita Cowan

Communion assistant: Doug 'Hara

Greeter: Sharon Zavertrnik

Lay reader: Pat Doan

Counting team: Bob Sullivan &
Linda Ryun

Maundy Thursday, March 24, 2016

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Bud

Koehlinger

Communion assistant: Bob Sullivan

Greeters: Jackie Hucker

Lay reader: Jean Methlie

Counting team: Becky Williams &
Jackie Hucker

Good Friday, March 25, 2016

Ushers: Sharon Zavertrnik & Linda
William

Counting team: Becky Williams &
Jackie Hucker

Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016

Ushers: Jeremy & Sam McKee

Communion assistant: James
Spiegelberg

Greeters: Pat & Ron Doan

Lay reader: Sam McKee

Counting team: Linda Ryun &
Jackie Hucker

Altar Guild March 2016

Rita & Ron Cowan



Best wishes on your special day

To:

Birthdays

- 03.06 Robert Orens
- 03.12 Samuel McKee
- 03.18 Trina Ruttinger
- 03.18 Sharon Cassan
- 03.19 James Spiegelberg
- 03.19 Carla Ruttinger
- 03.24 Kenneth Buschman

Anniversaries

- 03.03.1984 Wayne & Barbara Miesen
- 03.07.1987 Stephen & Sharon Cassan
- 03.16.1963 Ronald & Patricia Doan
- 03.17.2000 Douglas & Marion O'Hara

FIRST SATURDAY

We will be setting up our booth on March 5th in front of the Lion's Club building. We are excited to be able to distribute crosses to people who agree that Christians should show their love of their Savior, Jesus Christ. Below is the story of how this great display began. We invite all to come out to meet and greet this great community.

Jackie Hucker



Hi Peace Family.

Thank you all for helping to stuff the backpacks on February 18th. And believe me, the backpacks WERE stuffed! Dunnellon Food 4 Kids is

still looking for a new President to take over at the start of the next school year. If you, or anyone you know might be interested in getting more involved with this program, PLEASE let me know.

Thanks! Jan Barker

Mouse Droppings . . .

The Littlemouse Family has moved! The penthouse on top of the mail slots was quite drafty and it was difficult for us to see all of you from way up there, so we asked Gene Lutz to make us a garden-level apartment. Now, you can see us much better, too! We will be happy to share our space with you if you have anything you want to leave for anyone that won't fit in their mail slot.

We have been watching all the activity around the church building and in the parking lot. Wow, those Rochettes sure do work hard. They never seem to stop! The newly-painted building looks really nice. We've been keeping them company while they pound cold patch into the cracks in the parking lot. We really have to watch our tails and hope we haven't tracked anything into the church when we head back to our special pew.

Mrs. Littlemouse and I are keeping a very close watch on our mousekids because they've heard that some of the snowbirds are heading back home and we don't want to have them hitching a

ride.

Our family is looking forward to Palm Sunday and Easter with all the glorious music. We know that you are, too! May your celebrations be blessed!

Your faithful Churchmouse,

Little Mouse

PS - Remember there's a time change on Sunday, March 13 - "Spring Forward" an hour or you'll miss church!

WhoWhatWhereWhyWhenHow?
Submitted by Becky Williams

During the month of March, there are several changes in the colors displayed on the altar and pulpit because we transition from Lent to Palm Sunday, through Holy Week and into Easter. Pastor coordinates his stoles with the color changes. Violet represents Christ's royalty; red the blood He shed for our sins; white for His purity; and black for the sins He took upon Himself for our sins.

We continue to hold midweek Lenten services the first three Wednesdays of March. Palm Sunday is the 20th and begins Holy Week. Maundy Thursday is the 24th and Good Friday the 25th. Easter is March 27th. During Lent we exclude alleluias and hallelujahs and have no altar flowers. When they return on Easter Sunday, we rejoice together and declare "He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!"

March 25th is also The Annunciation of Our Lord. This festival celebrates the coming of the Angel Gabriel to Mary to tell her she will be the mother of the Messiah. How appropriate that this year the date is also Good Friday.

On page xii of the Lutheran Service Book in the pew racks, the list of Commemorations indicates that March 17th is the day Patrick, Missionary to Ireland, was born. His birth name was Maewyn and he was actually born in Wales about 385. He taught about the Holy Trinity by using a shamrock and that is why that symbol is used for St. Patrick's Day. Irish Catholics wear green in his honor; however, Irish Protestants wear orange. And, if you don't wear one of those colors on Thursday, March 17th, it is OK for someone to pinch you! If you are Irish wear green; if not, or you support a certain Florida team, go for orange to avoid being pinched.

If you have a question about a worship practice, would like to know

the meaning of a word used in Scripture or a hymn, or want to know more about what Lutherans believe, please ask me to write about it. You probably are not the only one who is curious and that is exactly what this column is all about.

Have a blessed Lententide and joyous Easter! He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

HELPING HANDS PROGRAM

Several years ago, we set up a program we named "Helping Hands". This was mostly designed to get meals by members to members who were sick, recovering from surgery, etc. who couldn't cook their own meals. Anyway, due to our small size for awhile, it was difficult to get enough cooks and delivery folks to truly help a family in need- (and often, those on the cook/delivery list were the very ones needing the meals)! Plus, sometimes we needed 3 shifts per day to make sure someone temporarily bedridden got all 3 meals. We would like to get this program going again, so if you are interested, can cook meals and/or deliver to sick/recovering members, please use the signup sheet that will be on the bulletin board. This is a really good way to get to know fellow members you might not normally spend

much time with (and a great way to get to know where they live and how to get there!). Don't worry, those receiving the food aren't looking for French dining stuff, so break out your best chicken noodle soup, chili and meatloaf recipes (or sandwich skills)...

We can also pick up groceries for them; the Men's club has led yard cleanups for members who normally take care of that themselves but need help for now; or take them to doctors if they can't drive yet, etc.

Or, if you can or can't help but need help yourself, let Pastor or me know, and we will set up what you need.

Also, when you need meals, let us know if you are allergic to anything, or just don't like something.

Sheryl Lutz



Outreach Tip of the Month
From Lutheran Hour Ministries

Clip out the following prayer list and

write in the people you know who are not connected to a church. You can even make two or three lists and put them in places where you will be reminded to pray for them. Some places used by others are: on a kitchen cupboard, on the bathroom mirror, on the computer screen frame at work, and in their Bible as a bookmark. Although the places are endless, put these names where you know you will see them at least once a day.

I PRAY FOR THESE PEOPLE
by name, daily, asking Your will to be done that they may come to know You as their Lord and Savior.

-

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-

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And I pray that the sharing of our faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.

two years, it finally hit them that a small cross in millions of front yards across our country could provide a powerful and inspiring message for all Americans passing them every day. It may be time to take this idea across America.

Crosses

When driving through Frankenmuth, Michigan, people are often intrigued by the many small simple crosses in the front yards of the homes they pass by. These crosses are a statement of support for Frankenmuth's Christian foundation.

Years ago an atheist living there complained about two crosses on a bridge in town. He requested that they be removed and the town removed them. He then decided that, since he was so successful with that, the city shield should also be changed since it had on it, along with other symbols, a heart with a cross inside signifying the city's Lutheran beginnings.

At that point, the residents decided they had had enough. Hundreds of residents made their opinions known by placing small crosses in their front yards. Seeing this quiet but powerful statement from the community, the man removed his complaint. Those simple crosses remain in those front yards today.

After passing those crosses for

IT'S TIME TO STAND UP
AND MAKE A STATEMENT, A
SMALL, QUIET, BUT POWERFUL
STATEMENT.

IF YOU AGREE, PLACE A SMALL
WHITE CROSS IN YOUR FRONT
YARD OR GARDEN FOR ALL TO
SEE THAT THEY ARE NOT ALONE.

It would be a beautiful thing to
see crosses all across America.

Let's tell everyone who we are!
Please pass this along. Encourage
all you know to stand up for our
American's Judeo- Christian
heritage and our religious freedom.

IN GOD WE TRUST!

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