

Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

April 2017

Peace Lutheran Church
7201 South Highway 41
Dunnellon, Florida 34432

Rev. Terry L. McKee, Pastor

Office: 352.489.5881
Pastor's cell: 352.817.8161
Email: terrymckee1957@gmail.com

www.peacelutheranonline.com

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

What a busy year so far and what a blessed one as well. It is always amazing while in the midst of being so busy we don't even notice how God is active and working in our lives. Yet, when we take time to just stop and reflect on our lives we see how richly God has blessed us and how He is working in our lives.

As we continue to travel through this Lenten season we look forward to the events of Holy Week and of course the Easter celebration. Our Lord came to

change everything and it all started in the lowly manger over two thousand years ago, when He was born. Our heavenly Father had a plan and that plan was His Son. He sent him to reconcile us to our heavenly Father, that is to have a relationship once again as Adam and Eve did before the fall. For most this wasn't even something on their minds and definitely not in their hearts. But our heavenly Father is all about relationships and He wants to have one with each of us. But sin, our sin separates us and keeps us apart. And the wages of sin is death. Not just physical death but a death that separates us from God eternally.

This is why the Lenten

journey we are now on is so important and we look forward to the events of Holy Week and Easter, which are life changing, even if we get so busy and distracted that we go through the season and never even give a thought about what Christ went through or what God wants us to have in this life and eternally.

I pray that, as we finish our Lenten time together and enter the Easter season, that you will set aside time to strengthen and feed yourself by being in God's Word and by being in worship and fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ. We have many extra opportunities to grow just check your calendars.

May God continue to bless each and every one of you and our Peace family.

Pastor

From the President

God's Blessings to everyone. What an exciting month. It is Eighteen days into March already. I wish to thank everyone that has come out for Lenten Services. If you haven't made it yet, there are still services to come. We also have Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. Hope to see you there.

As soon as we purchase a hot Water-heater for the Men's and Women's restrooms, I will install it.

We would like to get mulch for the prayer garden; it's getting a bit low. Hopefully we can get these things done soon.

Thanks to everyone who has helped with the different Peace projects. When we all come together there's nothing that can stop us. The Lord has given us, so many talented folks, at Peace, and every talent is necessary for the church to be a great place to worship.

One project I would like to try, is to get more members into Peace, especially young parents and their kids. We need the future generations to continue the message at Peace. If anyone has any ideas how we can begin to do this, I would appreciate your input.

Thanks again for all your support and love.

Garry Kurth
Congregation President

**Summary
of
Peace Lutheran Church Council
Meeting
March 13th 2017**

Present: Garry Kurth, Hope Kurth, Rita Cowan, Ron Cowan, Pastor McKee, Steve Cassan, Linda Williams, Becky Williams and Doug O'Hara

President Garry Kurth called the meeting to order and Pastor McKee opened the meeting with prayer.

Correspondence: None reported. (Secretary Jan Barker was not present).

REPORTS:

Financial Secretary: Becky Williams. We received \$1991 in donations and ticket sales for the Pancake Supper. Expenses were \$413. The net profit was \$1578. \$1420 was credited to the General Fund. \$158 was credited into the Missions fund. The 2018 Offering envelopes have been ordered.

Treasurer: The treasurer's report was accepted.

Trustees Report: There was a request to purchase mulch for the prayer beds. The Weight Watchers sign has been fixed. Steve Cassan has mowed the grass. Linda Williams has some extra light bulbs that she will be donating to Peace Lutheran.

SCRIP: March's order was \$1195 with a profit of \$45.12. The check-book balance is \$1600.17. Barbara Meisen requested that July and September SCRIP orders be collected on the second Sunday of those months due to the Fourth of July Holiday and The Labor Day Holiday. Her request was accepted. Rita Cowan posed a question as to what we will do with the SCRIP profits. The council will need to vote on this. It will be brought up at the April 2017 Council meeting.

Elders Report: Bud and Liz Koehlinger were granted a transfer to Ascension Lutheran Church in Tucson, AZ. Bob Owens was granted a peaceful release. We will be receiving Tom and LuAnn Cook as new members.

Pastor's Report: Pastor McKee thanked Garry and Hope Kurth for donating and installing the hot water heater in the front of the church.

OLD BUSINESS: Please see the above notes regarding the Pancake supper in the Financial Secretary's report.

NEW BUSINESS: Hope Kurth made a motion to pay \$60 to the Chamber of Commerce. In return, they will provide our name and any information we provide them to anyone inquiring about a local Lutheran

Church. Ron Cowan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The rummage sale has been scheduled for April 22 2017 from 8 AM to 2 PM. Thelma Grams will be asked if she is willing to coordinate the rummage sale.

Boomtown Days is scheduled for the same day, so it was decided to skip Boomtown Days this year.

Linda Williams will put up a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for the Easter Breakfast.

Ron Cowan made a motion to obtain hot water in the Men and Women`s Restrooms. Hope Kurth seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Peace Lutheran has been requested for a donation by Military Bible Sticks. Hope Kurth made a motion for set up a collection for the Bible Sticks. Doug O`Hara seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Spaghetti Supper has been scheduled for May 19 2017. The time is yet to be determined.

The flower shop we use has closed. We will purchase our flowers from "A Floral Occasion" beginning Palm Sunday. The cost will remain the same. (\$20)

Bob Sullivan will no longer be an offering counter. Linda Ryun will be away April and May. Bill Langstaff

and Rosemary Sheehan will begin serving as a counting team for April, May and June.

The meeting closed with the singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Barker, Secretary

P.S. I was absent at this meeting due to illness. I gratefully thank Hope Kurth for taking the notes for this meeting, making this report possible.

Scrip Fund for March

Our Scrip Order for March was \$1,195.00 and our profit was \$45.12. Because our order dates changed to the first Sunday of every month, it was probably too soon to place another order for some. Hopefully, in April we will see more orders.

Be sure to check Shopscrip.com, on line, for their daily specials that will be in effect for our March 5, 2017 orders.

Thank you,
Barbara Miesen
Scrip Coordinator



The Ladies of Peace LW.M.L.

April 2017

TURN TRASH INTO CASH!

I wanted to let you know our members have donated a lot of empty inkjet cartridges plus five computers I'm sending out this week! The weight for this box is **47 pounds!** The boxes must be at least 30 pounds, and up to now I've had to take our collections to the St. John's "collector" to add to her packages- (the District still gets the money, but Peace wasn't getting any credit for helping). This time, we have more than enough for our own box- yeah! And Thank you!

As you know, LWML FL-GA District is recycling electronics to raise funds to co-host our 2019 National Convention in Mobile, AL. The District goal is to make about \$7,000. At this point we have made \$4100. The \$25,000 I originally quoted is the total District budget we expect to need toward this 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).*

If you are still working, ask if you can take the empty cartridges for your church recycling program. Place your contributions in the inkjet recycling box on the "recycle/info table" in the Fellowship Hall, and we'll take care of them. If your laptop still has the hard drive in it, you can give it directly to me, and I will remove the hard drive and return it to you. Tablets you can reset to factory settings. For cameras, make sure your photo cards are removed.

Thank you! See Sheryl if you have any questions.



**Best wishes on your Special Day
To:**

Birthdays

- 04.02 Marion Conerly-O'Hara
- 04.08 Donald Dow
- 04.09 Jae Ann Witzgall
- 04.20 Jacqueline Hucker
- 04.22 Jan Barker
- 04.24 Dennis Witzgall
- 04.25 Larry Stichman

Anniversaries

- 04.03.2012 David & Karen Sokolowski
- 04.12.2015 Tim & Jan Barker
- 04.18.1959 Jay & Janice Manning



PEACE CHOIR

We will be wrapping up our choir season at the end of April. We hope to restart in September. A big thank you to the choir for their devotion and gifts of their voices through music. Please let them know that you appreciate their time and talents. If you have a musical talent you would like to share during our summer break, please let me know.

Blessings,
Lu Ann Cooke
Choir Director

From the Editor

The choir is very small and could use more voices, especially male voices.

I sit in church each Sunday and listen to a chorus of 60 to 70 male and female voices singing together in blended harmony.

A congregation is just a big choir.

If you can sing in harmony as a Congregation you can sing in a choir.

Bob Sullivan

HOSTING THE PRESENCE
EVERY DAY
by
BILL JOHNSON
March 14, 2017

Nothing is as fierce an opponent to the powers of darkness as the unified offering to God from multiple generations.

This is one of the places where we see the mystery of compound interest in effect in the things of the Spirit. The fact that the devil puts so much effort into dividing the family unit and splintering the generations should testify to us of its importance.

It has become all too common for one member of the family to stand out as the spiritual one, while the rest of the family is known for complacency. Tragically, the spiritual one often gets exalted in pride, which brings division, or they lower the standard of their passion to fit the lowest common denominator in the family. Neither route is effective.

The purpose of Heaven is connectedness among generations. This is the vehicle through which revival will be sustained- continuing on from one generation to the next. What one generation receives as revelation, the next will step into as a reality.

Prayer: Lord, I don't want there to be division in my family, in my church, or in the larger body of Christ. I pray

for a spirit of unity and humility to permeate all of us, so that the stronger ones can pull the weaker ones up. I want to receive from the generation that went before me so I don't have to start from scratch. Help guide me to people and resources from people who have gone before me who can impart revelation to me. Read Psalm 145.

Contributed by Sheryl Lutz

First Saturday

We will be setting up our booth in front of the Lion's Club building on April 1. We have lots of items to give out. Some of the items we pass out are bookmarks, books, Bibles, candy, and various other favors. We also meet and greet our Dunnellon friends. If you haven't stopped by our location yet, we welcome you to share this opportunity. Last month was very successful. We passed out flyers with our Lenten schedule. We also gave out several children's books.

Jackie Hucker

THE BUZZARD

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner.

The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

THE BAT

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air.

Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

THE BUMBLEBEE

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near

the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

PEOPLE

In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up!

That's the answer, the escape route and the solution to any problem....
just look up!

Sorrow looks back,

Worry looks around,

But faith looks up!

Live simply,

love generously,

care deeply,

speak kindly, and

trust in our God,

who loves

Contributed by Rebekah Williams

Those Serving in April 2017

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth
Communion assistant: Samuel McKee
Greeters: Rita & Ron Cowan
Lay reader: Sheryl Lutz
Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Sunday, April 9, 2017

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Ken Buschman
Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee
Greeter: Hope & Garry Kurth
Lay reader: Jackie Hucker
Counting team: Steve & Sharon Cassan

Maundy Thursday, April 13, 2017

Ushers: Sharon Zavertrnik & Linda Williams
Communion assistant: Bob Sullivan
Greeter: Linda Ryun
Lay reader: Bob Sullivan
Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Becky Williams

Good Friday, April 14, 2017

Ushers: Bob & Virginia Sullivan
Acolytes: Jeremy & Sam McKee
Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Becky Williams

Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017

Ushers: Jeremy & Samuel McKee
Communion assistant: Doug O'Hara
Greeters: Tricia & Trina Ruttinger
Lay reader: Barbara Miesen
Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Linda Williams

Sunday, April 23, 2017

Ushers: Bill Langstaff & Doug 'Hara
Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg
Greeters: Carla Ruttinger
Lay reader: Jean Methlie
Counting team: Bill Langstaff & Rosemary Sheehan

Sunday, April 30, 2017

Ushers: Ron & Rita Cowan
Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee
Greeters: Eugene O'Connell
Lay reader: Sam McKee
Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Becky Williams

Altar Guild April 2017

Cindy & Sam McKee