

# Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

June-August 2017

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**

As we begin the month of June many of our activities here at Peace will stop for the summer and many of our church family will be traveling. Many of you have grandchildren who have graduated and will be starting a new adventure in their lives. Let us keep each of them in our prayers as God guides and directs them. The other young people in our lives will be looking forward to summer time activities with family and friends, we keep them in our prayers as well that they might have a safe and happy summer.

For all the faithful volunteers, here at Peace I want to once again thank you for your willingness to serve. As I said in the congregational meeting this past Sunday we are truly blessed as a family here at Peace.

With that being said, we always have many opportunities for those who are wanting and willing to help. One area that was discussed was the need for more volunteers to help keep our church building cleaned and looking nice each week.

As a family, I ask that you look out for one another. If you don't see someone on Sunday morning let them know you missed them. A simple phone call can brighten up the day of someone who is alone and feeling sad or ill. It's always nice to know that someone is thinking of you. And of course, pray for one another, we all know how special the gift of prayer is. We have all felt and witnessed its power in our own lives.

May God bless each of you!  
Pastor

## From the President

GREETINGS FROM GARRY

HELLO PEACE FAMILY, IT'S BEEN ANOTHER EXCITING MONTH AT PEACE. WE JUST HAD OUR SPAGHETTI SUPPER; MOST OF THE FOOD WAS DONATED SO WE DIDN'T HAVE TO SPEND MUCH MONEY. WE GROSSED 405.00. THANK YOU TO ALL THAT PITCHED IN AND HELPED, ALSO THANKS TO THOSE MEMBERS THAT CAME AND SUPPORTED THE DINNER.

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE LACK OF PARTICIPATION AT PEACE LUTHERAN. WE HAD A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY MAY 21 AND HALF THE CONGREGATION WAS MISSING AND SOME ABLE BODIES LEFT BEFORE THE MEETING STARTED. CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS ARE FOR THE CONGREGATION. WE HAVE THEM SO THE CONGREGATION KNOWS WHATS GOING ON WITH THE BUSINESS SIDE OF CHURCH, I WAS SURPRISED THAT FOLKS WOULD JUMP UP AND LEAVE BEFORE THE MEETING EVEN STARTED. AT THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IT'S THE CONGREGATIONS CHANCE TO SPEAK ABOUT ANY MATTER PERTAINING TO PEACE. IT'S YOUR MEETING. I CERTAINLY UNDERSTAND THAT SOME MEMBERS HAVE TO LEAVE. BUT FOR HALF THE CONGREGATION NOT TO EVEN BE AT CHURCH WAS VERY DISAPPOINTING.

I'M NOT GOING TO START PREACHING BUT WE NEED EVERYONES PARTICIPATION, NOT JUST THE HANDFUL THAT ALWAYS VOLUNTEER FOR EVERYTHING. WE ALSO NEED FOR EVERYONE TO COME TOGETHER FOR THE GREATER GOOD OF THE CHURCH AND STOP THE NEGATIVITY.

GODS BLESSINGS,  
GARRY KURTH

## **Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting May 8 2017**

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

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

**Correspondence:** We received a Thank You letter from Universal Lutheran Church & Student Center.

**Minutes:** Hope Kurth made a motion to accept the minutes from Aprils meeting. Ron Cowan seconded. The minutes were accepted.

**Financial Secretary:** Becky Williams fund summary report was accepted.

**Treasurer`s Report:** Rita Cowan`s reports were accepted.

**Trustees:** Linda Williams was not present but she submitted her report. Ron Cowan purchased a fence post driver. She thanked Gene Lutz for building and mounted a small food pantry outside the front door. When Gene Lutz returns, we will ask him to put doors on the pantry to keep the "critters" out. Lastly, her report suggested hiring Mrs. Marsh to clean the church weekly at a fee of \$35 per

week. Much discussion followed. It was determined that this will be brought up at the Church Congregational Meeting.

**SCRIP:** March`s order totaled \$1,925 with a profit of \$68.97.

**Elders:** Nothing to report.

**Pastor:** Jerry and Janice Robertson will be received through letter of transfer to our congregation. Pastor also stated that 3-4 more people will be joining shortly. Pastor thanked Gene Lutz for fixing the sprinkler system near the prayer garden. He also thanked Sam McKee for replacing bulbs at the exit light near the front door.

**Old Business:** The church collected \$1,000 to donate for the Military Biblesticks. Pastor McKee then stated that our funds will be matched! The Spaghetti Supper plans are coming along. Lastly, the Ace Hardware charge account has not been set up yet.

**New Business:** The Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 21st 2017. Reformation Sunday is on October 29<sup>th</sup> 2017. This will be the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Pastor McKee suggested having a dinner after service. This will be brought up to the congregation at the meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Sharon Cassan has volunteered to be our new publicity director.

Hope Kurth made a motion to adjourn. Rita Cowan seconded. The meeting closed with the singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jan Barker, Secretary.

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**Peace Lutheran Church  
Congregation Meeting  
May 21, 2017**

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

Attendance: 37

**Minutes:** Hope Kurth made a motion to accept November 20 2016 minutes. Linda Williams seconded. The minutes were accepted.

**Correspondence:** None

**President`s Comments:** President Garry Kurth introduced himself and told of his church background. He urged us to try to encourage new members, especially younger people. He also said he will do what is right for the church`s well-being. Lastly, he encouraged our members to become more active in the church.

## **Reports:**

**Financial Secretary:** Becky Williams submitted her fund summary. It was reviewed with no questions or concerns.

**Treasurers Report:** Rita Cowan submitted her reports. Also submitted was a letter to the church advising how blessed we have been in donations etc. She also thanked Garry Kurth, and Chet and Dianne Rochette for volunteering their time for special projects. Lastly thanking Cindy McKee for finding a much cheaper health insurance plan for Pastor.

**Trustees:** Linda Williams advised that Gene Lutz has made a Pantry Box located near the front door. We will probably need doors made when Gene returns from his vacation to help keep the critters out.

**SCRIP:** Barbara Miesen explained the SCRIP project in full. Every SCRIP card purchased for any amount is given to the buyer in that amount. The SCRIP vendors give a commission back to our church for every card purchased. It is a great way to help raise money for the church.

**Elders:** Doug O'Hara stated that his main focus is the spiritual well-being of Pastor McKee and our Peace family. He wants us to use the talents of all our members, such as participation in one of our events, or going into

town and inviting family, friends or strangers to our church.

**Pastors Report:** Pastor Terry reminded everyone of the Ascension Service on Thursday, May 25 at 7:00 PM. He said we have been blessed with taking in 15 new members since our last meeting in November. Also, Jerry and Janice Robertson will be transferring to Peace. Pastor is working on having another class for others wishing to join our Peace family. He then reminded the congregation to greet one another at Sunday worship. Also, to talk to visitors before or after service to invite them to be part of our fellowship time.

**Old Business:** The kitchen project has been completed. Sam McKee thanked Jean Bozak and Pastor Terry McKee for all their help. The Audio Loop System has been installed and is working great. We are prepared for any new members or visitors with hearing impairments. Lastly, a CD player has been installed for the playing of the music during service, which works much better than the old computer system.

**New Business:** The pantry box has been installed. The 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation is October 29 2017. We will have a special service, celebration and a dinner following the service. Cindy McKee will be planning the dinner. Linda Williams has someone she knows who is willing to clean the church for \$35 per week.

She thanked some members for going that extra mile to help, but she encouraged more volunteers to step up to help. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

**SCRIP Profits:** Cindy McKee stated that she works at The Inverness Club. It is a Senior Residence for low income seniors over 62 years of age, and disabled people of legal age. It provides low income housing and one meal a day for the residents. Cindy explained that there are many residents that struggle every day to meet their bare necessities.

**Motion:** Don Dow made a motion to purchase 16 \$25 gift cards, Total of \$400, (which is the profit from the SCRIP program) to be handed out to some of the members of the Inverness club. Hope Kurth seconded the motion. Cindy McKee will coordinate with the Director at the Inverness Club as to who receives the gift cards. Discussion followed. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Sharon Cassan has volunteered to be our new publicity person. Lastly, Tricia and Trina Ruttinger and Jae Ann Witzgall will be taking over our Facebook page. Sheryl Lutz will continue to handle the church's website.

The meeting closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Barker, Secretary

## Scrip Program

On Sunday, I gave a talk during the congregation meeting explaining the signup process and also the many positive advantages of supporting the Scrip Program to benefit Peace Lutheran Church. There wasn't a large turnout but I did get some positive feedback and I am hoping to get some new orders on June 5. We shall continue to be positive and hopefully we will continue to exceed our expectations.

Thank you all for your participation.

Barbara Miesen,  
Scrip Coordinator

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

**Birthdays**

- 06.06 Carolyn Turner
- 06.13 Janice Manning
- 06.28 Virginia Sullivan
- 06.29 Robert Sullivan
  
- 07.02 Jerry Cook
- 07.09 Cindy McKee
- 07.13 Yvonne Conner
- 07.26 Jean Poffenbaugh
- 07.30 Karen Sokolowski
  
- 08.02 Rebekah (Becky) Williams
- 08.05 Garry Kurth
- 08.08 David Ruttinger
- 08.24 Bunnie Daniels
- 08.28 Jean Methlie

**Anniversaries**

- 06.03.1978 Donald & Yvonne Conner
- 06.13.1970 Dennis & Jae Ann Witzgall
- 06.18.1988 Ron & Rita Cowan
  
- 07.02. - Jim & Carole Tobin
- 07.12.1947 Donald & Janice Scheib
- 07.13.1991 Michael & Carol Hummel
- 07.20.2015 Garry & Hope Kurth
  
- 08.30.2014 George & Bunnie Daniels

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**First Saturday**

On May 6th we passed out flyers advertising our spaghetti supper. We made several children happy by giving them books with Bible stories. We will be setting up our booth on Saturday, June 3 in front of the Lion's Club building in Dunnellon. We have several items to give out. Some of the items we pass out are book marks, books, Bibles, candy, and various other favors. Thank you to all who participate in this monthly event. Stop by and chat. We will not set up in July and August. Becky and Jackie would like to thank Gene and Sheryl Lutz, James Spiegleberg, Pastor and Cindy McKee, Bob Sullivan, and all who support this important outreach program. We will continue setting up in September.

Jackie Hucker

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## OUR NEW COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY



You may have noticed the box with canned foods near the front door. Some folks in our community need help, as you might imagine. We as a church and a congregation can't be everywhere, so we do what we can where we are. These boxes are called "Leave one/Take one", and are used for many things: food, books, whatever is needed. Ours will be used for food and daily needs. If you can leave something, thank you. If you need to take something, please do. As Florida has a great population of hungry bugs (plus squirrels, raccoons and other animals), we are asking that **ONLY** canned goods and/or plastic containers be supplied. The only exceptions to this is daily needs.

Here is a partial list of foods/other items we can take:

Canned: meats, vegetables, fruits, applesauce

Plastic: peanut butter, jelly, liquid soap, shampoo, lotion

Other daily needs: bars of soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

Sheryl Lutz

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### TURN TRASH INTO CASH!

LWML's project to raise funds for its 2019 National Convention is still going strong! All **you** have to do is donate your ***empty inkjet printer cartridges, empty laser printer cartridges, used cell phones, laptops, digital cameras, e-Readers, tablets, GPS systems, and Scientific Calculators (please include power cords for everything if possible)***. Ask your friends to collect and bring you the empty cartridges they get, too. We turn them into a company – for cash- that will safely recycle them. It's easy and it's the right thing to do. Just bring your contributions to Sheryl Lutz or leave them on the "recycle/info table" on the far side of the Fellowship Hall, and they will be collected. Your LWML thanks you, and so will the environment!

Sheryl Lutz,  
LWML Society Facilitator

**From the Editors**

We are taking a break for the summer and will resume publishing PEACE OFFERINGS at the end of August 2017.

The "Those Serving Schedules for June through August are printed on the reverse side of the June through August Church calendars.

Have a good summer and God Bless!

Bob Sullivan and Jackie Hucker

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