

Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

April, May, June, 2022

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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.



To my Peace family

As the Lenten season draws to a close, we prepare to celebrate the events of Holy Week and Easter. We finish our journey to Jerusalem and the cross taking time to offer our thanks and praise to our Lord and Savior. But Easter is more than just one Sunday in the Church year or even a season. Easter changes everything and everyone. As Jesus Christ came forth from the grave, He brought the gift of life to all who are dead in sin. And this gift of life is eternal.

As we live this new Easter life, we focus on what lies ahead. Like St. Paul tells us we focus on the prize. In our Baptism we were washed and claimed as children of God. We celebrate what we have in Christ, and we pray for those who walk in darkness. We see what's happening in

Ukraine, in our own country and around the world, the darkness is all around us. But this is nothing new it has been the same since Adam and Eve listened to Satan's lies. We are called to let Christ's light shine in and through us into the darkness.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who give of your time and talents here at Peace both on Sundays and throughout the week. Keeping up our facilities and grounds can be time consuming, thanks you trustees, lawn crew and everyone who see something needs done and takes care of it. And to those of you who make all the events, services and functions go smoothly.

Thank you to all of you and God bless!
As summer draws near let us pray for those who will be headed back north and

for those who will be traveling. Let us continue to pray for our country and all who are in harms way around the world. Covid update, as this newsletter arrives in your mailboxes we seem to be getting through the panic and pandemic. Starting April 10th, Palm Sunday we will return to pre-pandemic service practices. We will collect the offering as part of the worship service following the sermon. We will come forward for communion up the center isle and exit down the side isles. We will once again be offering the common cup during communion. The fellowship records will once again be in the pews for everyone to fill out. May you have a blessed Easter and Summer!
Pastor Terry

From our President

Greetings Peace family,

As you read this, we have moved from rummage sale to pancake supper to Lent. A common theme to all of these is recognizing God's gracious gifts to us. As we move from the penance of Lent to the glory of Easter let us rejoice that God as restored our broken relationship with Him through the perfect gift of His Son. I ask you to consider: what will be your response to God's great love? Let us give Him all laud and honor and praise in our thoughts, words, and deeds.
Respectfully submitted, Randy Priem

First Quarter Church Council Report

Becky Williams, Council Secretary

The Church Council meets on the second Monday of the month. The meetings begin and end with prayer and conclude with the singing of *The Doxology*. President Randy Priem made special note at January's meeting that the Church works only when the people in it work together. In March, he stressed the importance of "doing" vs. "responding" and gave as an example the cooperation witnessed between the many members who helped in various ways in preparing for and hosting both the Rummage Sale in February and the Potato Pancake Supper on March 1st.

In the first three months of 2022, the Council has discussed and/or addressed several matters and received reports as follows:

Financial: Although income averaged an approximate \$500 shortfall each month in 2021, all obligations were met. Our income requirement for 2022 is \$2,532 per week. January's shortfall was \$2186.29 and February's \$233.49. There remains a positive balance in the checking account. 10% of the proceeds of the Rummage Sale and the Potato Pancake Supper have been designated for missions. Half of the balance of the proceeds from the Rummage Sale were given to the LWML for their mission efforts. Mission funds for 2021 were distributed to the Florida-Georgia District President's Discretionary Fund; the FL-GA District Circuit 7 Pastors Discretionary Fund; and the Family Hope

Resource and Pregnancy Center in Dunnellon in the amount of \$500 each.
Facilities: At the present time, everything is in working order, although aging. Issues will be addressed as they arise. The Trustees have been trained to test the water to keep us in compliance with county and state requirements. Several areas of the carpeting need attention to prevent hazards. For the long-term solution, possible replacement, or installation of a combination of carpet, laminate or tile, will be investigated for further discussion as information becomes available. “Little Pantry” supply and bookshelves have been built and installed in the Library. Many of the tools available to the lawn crew are in poor condition and a mower needs replacement. Members are welcome to donate tools they no longer use.

Pastor’s Report: Due to continuing concerns over the COVID-19 variants, returning to previous worship practices regarding communion, offerings, sign-in sheets, etc., has been postponed at least through March. Safe practices will be encouraged with regard to worship and fellowship activities. Council will continue to evaluate resumption of fellowship and community meals.

LADIES OF PEACE / LWML

Hi, Happy Spring to All!
 First, thanks to everyone who helped with our Rummage Sale in February! We had a LOT of great help the whole week plus the day of the sale and made almost \$1400! The first 10% goes to missions,

and half of the balance goes to our treasury, of which most will also go to missions (we usually send/give most of our treasury away around Christmas).



Also, great thanks for all the socks! We will continue to put some in the pantry box outside along with food for anyone needing them. Beginning April 1, we will begin collecting diapers and baby wipes for The Family Hope, Resource and Pregnancy Center in Dunnellon. Working toward 80 packages (not individual diapers or wipes).

Donna Hagan from the Pregnancy Center (the group who will receive our diapers/baby wipes) visited us at our March 7 Bible study. Wow! She and her husband have taken the Pregnancy Center that was there and exploded it exponentially, with resources for pretty much anything you might need help with, and EVERYTHING they do is backed up by the Bible. We had a wonderful Bible lesson that day, as well as learning how they support members of our community. I’m sorry more folks couldn’t be there, but Donna says, “Whoever God wants to be there will be there”, and eight of us were there.

We will continue with our book, “Pew Sisters” at Bible study, on April 4 and May 2, take the summer off and start up again September 12.

Our next three Mite Sundays are April 3, May 1 and June 5. Thank you again for filling and bringing your mite boxes regularly!

Our Zone Prayer Service at Our Redeemer on March 19 was very nice-great program- and there were four of us from Peace, about 30 ladies total. It was so great to see them!

Upcoming LWML events: Spring Rally- Trinity Lutheran, Summerfield, Saturday, April 23; LWML FL-GA District Convention- Tampa Bay Downtown, Friday, September 23-25.

In His Service, Sheryl Lutz

WhoWhatWhereWhyWhenHow?

Here we are beginning the second quarter of 2022. We’ve held a rummage sale and a potato pancake supper after experiencing two years of being nearly immobilized by COVID and its variants. Our faithful God has brought us through and we acknowledge He will always be in control no matter how dire our circumstances. Whew! It’s not up to any one of us.

We are in the season of Lent leading up to Easter on April 17th. The parament colors change from violet to white, then black, red, and green. Violet signifies Christ’s royalty; white, His purity; black, our sins which He took upon Himself; red, His blood shed for us; and green, represents our growth in learning about Him.

Alleluias and hallelujahs return in our liturgy and hymns on Easter! This new quarter also includes Palm Sunday on April 10th; Maundy Thursday, April 14 (“maundy” is based on the root word for “command” as Jesus commanded His disciples to wash one another’s feet); Good Friday, April 15; Ascension Day on Thursday, May 26th; Pentecost on Sunday, June 5th; and Trinity Sunday, June 12th, on which we use the Athanasian Creed which teaches the distinction between the Persons of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We remember the Apostles, Sts. Philip and James, on Sunday, May 1st, and the Nativity of St. John the Baptist on Sunday, June 26th.

Secular commemorations include Mother’s Day on May 8th; Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 21st; Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th; Flag Day, June 14th; Father’s Day, the 19th; as well as Juneteenth the 19th.

Submitted by Becky Williams





04/12/2015 Tim and Jan Barker
 04/15/1961 Barney & Joan Reagan

ALTAR FLOWER NEWS

Now that we are all making the twice a year adjustment to our clocks and our bi-annual habits that put a smile on our faces, we definitely get the feeling that Spring is in the air once again.

Before we know it, we will again look to the celebration of Palm Sunday, followed by Easter Sunday and the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior. What a celebration for all Christians everywhere through the world.

Our large Sanctuary window can be adorned with floral bouquets once again. A new beginning!

New things are happening all the time, every day and everywhere. Perhaps you recently stopped and read the posted news at the Bulletin Board. If you did not, this is the perfect opportunity to let you know



- 4/01 Sandra Doudt
- 4/04 Alan Plocharczyk
- 4/08 Don Dow
- 4/15 Louise Plocharczyk
- 4/20 Jackie Hucker
- 4/22 Jan Barker

- 5/06 Peggy Buschman
- 5/09 Tricia Ruttinger
- 5/18 Linda Ryun
- 5/23 Korene Clemings
- 5/29 Chet Rochette

- 6/1 Trudy Kreuzer
- 6/6 Carolyn Turner
- 6/17 Nicole Purrazzi
- 6/28 Virginia Sullivan
- 6/29 Bob Sullivan

that at the end of July we will no longer be able to use the floral services of Kami, the proprietor of Lily Of The Valley Florist of Dunnellon, as in August, she will be going off to attend a Bible College where she will ultimately enter the Mission Field.

Kami will be missed and our Altar may be bare of flowers until we can make new arrangements; but, the wonderful news is that she will help us until she makes her initial step into her dream-come-true. Kami has worked hard to accommodate our Peace family and I am sure that we all will keep her in our thoughts and prayers and know that she will be blessed with success. She will always be part of our church family. Maybe she didn't attend services here at Peace, but her talent, truly a gift from our Father to Kami, was a "pass-it-on gift" from Kami, and we, brothers and sisters in Christ enjoyed the arrangements. I sincerely believe she will be His gift to many as the years go by. Searching for a florist is imminent. Please, talk to me if you know just the name of a florist in the area or someone with a special talent with flowers.
Cyndy Cotter

Ever wonder how to pronounce words you run across while reading the Bible? Words/names like: Syntyche, Euodia, Carmel, hyssop, Bethel, etc.... Well, there is a website that can help you! It is:
www.betterdaysarecoming.com
Try it!

Calendar for Daily Stewardship with God

The **Sabbath Day** we serve the Lord
And thank Him from our hearts.
On **Monday**, we should seek His help
As routine toil starts.

Tuesday, why not start the day
By looking to the sky
And thanking Him for all the needs
His Love and care supply.

Wednesday is another day.
We could just do some good
By helping someone in distress
To feel he's understood.

Thursday, maybe it will bring
A closer walk with Thee
By hearing someone say to us,
"He must a Christian be."

Friday, let us not forget
To look to God and say,
Please help me, Lord, to do Thy will
And follow in Thy way."

Saturday, as we look back,
We wonder and we ask,
"Should we receive so very much,
So little is our task?"

So let us always in our hearts
Be thankful and be kind.
Let's serve our fellowmen and God
With heart and soul and mind.

Mabel Kurre

(This poem was written by Becky's Mom)

Blessed Shall You Be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.
(Deuteronomy 28:3-6)

This is God’s promise to the Israelites as they stood beyond the Jordan outside of the Promised Land. He promises blessing to His people. He will make them prosper, whether they are in the city or the field. He will make their fruit of their work to prosper, whether from the ground, their wombs, their flocks, or their herds. He will make them to prosper in all things, whether upon their coming in or their going out.

But there’s a catch. He would do this for Israel only “*if you obey the voice of the LORD your God.*” (Deut. 28:2b) If they did that, He would cause that “all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you.” (Deut. 28:2a). If they didn’t obey the voice of the Lord, if they didn’t keep the commandments of the Lord and “walk in his ways” (Deut. 28:9), they would be met with curse and woe. The blessings would be replaced with curses. Everything that the Lord promised to prosper and bless would be cursed and fail.

Thanks be to God that our Lord Jesus Christ has come into our flesh and fulfilled the law for us – in our place and for our benefit. Our Lord Jesus Christ died for us – in our place and for our benefit. Our Lord Jesus Christ is risen from the dead for us – in our place and for our benefit. By this we have justification before God. We are forgiven, clean, holy, and righteous. The blessing of God is promised to us in Christ Jesus. It depends upon his work, not ours.

All this is ours in Holy Baptism. For in Holy Baptism, God claims us as His own, makes us His children, His heirs, and His holy people. And so it is that the work of our hands and its fruit is holy because we are holy in Christ. It is pressed into His service, and it thereby becomes a blessing to us and to our neighbor.

For this great gift, our reception of the blessings of God because of Christ Jesus our Lord, it is our duty to thank and praise, serve, and obey Him. This is not in order to receive the blessings but because in Christ we already have. With this in mind, we sit down on the first day of the week and set aside as He has prospered us to give to His church for His work of blessing in our midst (1 Cor. 16:2).

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship Submitted by Jackie Hucker

A church’s new mission statement: **Connecting All to Christ to Become Healthy in God, and Courageous in Love.** From Walking in Grace Guideposts, February 13, 2022, by John Dilworth

Connecting All to Christ: would others know that I follow Jesus if they spent time with me today? Did I thank God today? Did I extend Christ’s kindness today?

To Become Healthy in God: did I actively seek ways to grow spiritually today? Did I obey the teachings of Jesus today? Did I open my life to be changed by Christ today?

And Courageous in Love: did I see every person as a child of God today? Did I make someone’s life better today? Was Christ my priority as I used my time, talents and treasures today?

WHO'S DOING WHAT?

Newsletter: Caroline Turner: Sheryl Lutz is interim as Carolyn is unable, but if someone would be willing to take over, she would not mind, and would help you as much as you need!

Altar Guild: Cindy McKee. Speak with Cindy to learn how to set up communion, and why it's done in that way! **Wine for Communion:** Check the Sacristy or ask Cindy what we use. You can purchase 1 bottle or a case. Everything helps.

Flowers: Cynthia Cotter. The Flower List (if you don't know) is on the bulletin board, \$25/bouquet.

Visitor Bags: Carol Hummel. Check one of the bags and see what goes in them. You can donate some of the items (or some other "welcome to our church" item).

Music: Lucinda (Cindy) Bornander is our organist. When she can't be here, we need someone to play the CD in the player for that service. **Bob Holloway or Linda Williams** usually take over; speak to either of them if you'd like to learn.

Choir: Ron Bornander is our Choir Director- we can always use more voices!

Kitchen Steward: Open

Sunday Morning Fellowship Snacks: Bob Sullivan. Not paid for by the church, so you can bring goodies (currently need them individually wrapped if possible).

Offering Counters: Linda Ryun. Speak to her if you are willing to be part of a team.

Ladies' Bible study: Becky Williams. 1st Monday of every month at church (except Labor Day).

LWML: Sheryl Lutz (Secretary/Contact)/Thelma Grams (Treasurer). The first Sunday of each month is Mite Box Sunday.

Greeting Cards: Virginia Sullivan. She can probably use stamps.

Lawn Crew: Bob Sullivan, Steve Cassan, Bob Holloway, and Gene Lutz. Speak to one of them, you will be called when they are mowing/working.

Garden Weeding: Sharon Zavertnik. NO ONE will get their hand slapped for helping here!!

Sign: Open

Newspapers and radio: Sharon Cassan.

Facebook: Open

Website: Sheryl Lutz

Prayer Chain: Thelma Grams

Phone Chain: Sharon Zavertnik

Community Meals: Open

Gift cards: We as a congregation (through Council) and our LWML ladies give Pastor money each year to purchase gift cards he can give to needy folks who come to our door. You can also purchase gift cards for stores/gas and give them to him as an extra bonus.

Pantry box: The brown box outside our front door (in case you didn't know) is a pantry with food and personal items anyone can take (or donate to). There is a list on the front of suggested items. Many people are involved with keeping this filled, some even from the community. You are welcome to leave any items missing or getting low. Canned foods with pop tops are the best, and/or plastic jars. Check the Library (right side behind office door) to see what all is there, what might be missing.

