

Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

February 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

February has arrived, it almost feels like we skipped January altogether. The twelve days of Christmas seemed more like twelve hours. Epiphany and the four Sundays after are done and now as February arrives so the Season of Lent. This year we will look at the Lord's Prayer during our mid-week Lenten services. Once again, I hope you will join us each Wednesday at 7:00 PM as we consider the petitions of the Lord's Prayer and how important it is not just on Sunday but as part of our daily prayer life.

Before we begin the Lenten season, we first will celebrate our annual Potato Pancake Supper (February 9, 2016). This annual event is such a great time as we

come together to prepare and then to welcome and fellowship with so many people from our community and surrounding areas. Last year we served around 200 meals, the line was out the door. If you would like to help and be part of this wonderful event you can still sign up, all volunteers are welcome. If you have any questions please, ask Jim Lynch, he will also try to sell you some tickets.

We have a wonderful Wednesday morning Bible class. The participation level and discussions are always great and through our time together, we grow as children of God. I've willingly conducted Bible studies on whichever book of the Bible the class decided except the Book of Revelation. Well God has been telling me its time so we will be starting a study on Revelation as soon as we finish our current book

(2nd Corinthians). This will be a time for us all to grow together, no experts' just students of Scripture with a desire to learn and grow. If you haven't joined us in the past, we invite you to come and join us.

During the forty days of Lent, God's baptize people cleanse their hearts through the discipline of Lent: repentance, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Lent is a time in which God's people prepare with joy for the Paschal Feast (Easter). It is a time in which God renews His people's zeal in faith and life. It is a time in which we pray that we may be given the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. So in closing I offer this prayer:

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

God's blessings
Pastor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY TO ALL!

We're already beginning the busiest part of the year for our church (at least in my opinion): Pancake Supper 2/9; Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm on 2/10; Lenten Services 2/17 & 24, 7pm; Congregation Meeting 2/28. In March, we have the rest of the Lenten Services; four services from Palm Sunday to Easter; plus our Rummage Sale, which entails setting up all week. If you have not begun collecting things for it, this is a great time to start- we have a shed at the end of the parking lot in which to store stuff. Just ask a Trustee to unlock it for you.

Thanks to those who help keep us running, from the Altar Guild folks, to "Weed-pickers", Non-Trustee church cleaners, lawn crew, everyone bringing "goodies" for our morning coffee/visiting time, and those that get this newsletter edited, copied and distributed,! These are "behind the scene" folks who do important things most people don't know about, but need to be done. You're really appreciated!

If you don't know who your new church officers are, here's the new roster:

President- Sheryl Lutz, Vice President- Tom Victory, Secretary- Jan Barker
Treasurer- Rita Cowan, Financial Secretary- Becky Williams, Elders- Jim Lynch, Doug O'Hara, Bob Sullivan, and Bud Koehlinger;
Trustees- Vic Rochette (Head Trustee), Ron Cowan, Linda Williams and Jackie Hucker.

Other department heads/leaders:
SCRIP coordinator- Barbara Miesen
Sunday School- Linda Ryun,
Food-4-Kids- Jan Barker, Kitchen Stewards- Cindy McKee and Thelma Grams. Our new Stewardship person is Jackie Hucker.

LWML officers:

President- Linda Williams
Secretary- Jean Bozak
Treasurer- Thelma Grams
Spiritual Outreach- Virginia Sullivan (she's the one sending you those beautiful cards)
Bible Study Leader- Becky Williams;
Recycling Facilitator- me.

Welcome to our "Snow Birds"!! We're always glad to see you back- (even though some will admit to having brought cold or bad weather, we still love having you).

We need folks on the committee to recommend the best way to spend the

money we received from the state. Vic Rochette is heading up this committee; speak with him if you want some input as to how much goes where. The committee's recommendations will be presented to the Council, and then to the congregation. Please, if you are interested, speak up!

I would also like to see three more people willing to learn how to play our service music. I promise, it's not hard, and you will be trained!

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

Summary of Church Council Meeting Minutes January 11th 2016

Present: Sheryl Lutz, Rita Cowan, Ron Cowan, Becky Williams, Bob Sullivan, Jackie Hucker, Bud Koehlinger, Liz Koehlinger, Rev. Terry McKee, Jan Barker, Tom Victory, Jennifer Rochette and Vic Rochette.

President Lutz called the meeting . Pastor McKee opened the meeting with prayer.

Correspondence: We received a “Thank you” note from Covenant Children`s Home for our donation of \$250

Minutes: The minutes from the December 14 2015 minutes were accepted.

Treasurer: Rita Cowan presented the General Ledger Summary and the Check Register Report. The treasurer`s report was accepted.

Financial Secretary: Becky Williams provided the Fund Summary for the time period of 12/1/15 through 12/31/15 and also the Fund Summary for the time period of 1/1/15 through 12/31/15. The reports were accepted

Trustees: Vic Rochette reported that mulch has been removed and weed barrier fabric and red stone put in on the parking lot and back sides of the building. the flower borders, garden, and sprinklers have also been moved back. New surge protectors have been put in to protect against lightning strikes. Vic has arranged for a water bacteria and nitrate test to be done on 18 February. Vic also asked what his spending limit was and was told it is \$2,000 for 2016. It was discussed that routine supplies can be bought and submitted for reimbursement with a receipt and that he will be given a tax-exempt certificate. Bob Sullivan suggested

opening an account for the church at Walmart, Lowes etc.. Vic strongly suggested enclosing the well in addition to putting a roof over it. He will research this further and report at the next Council meeting. Vic has made up a work request form, which he will post on the bulletin board. This form may be used by members to address perceived maintenance needs around the church.

Elders: Peggy Kuhlman will be given a release from our church since she has moved.

Pastor: Pastor McKee stated that there are nine new members to be inducted into the church.

SCRIP: Barbara Miesen will be taking over this responsibility. She will only be taking one order per month. The first order will be taken on January 24 2016.

Old Business: Regarding the Smart TV for the fellowship hall. Pastor will make a request to the congregation for funds. It was discussed that we need a 50 or 55 inch. Regarding the new camera, Liz Koehlinger has bought one and is testing it out.

New Business: Sheryl Lutz advised that we can purchase a monthly ad to be placed in the Worship Guide section of the Village Crier. A full color ad will cost \$25 per month for 12 months. This will reach 11,000 households in Marion, Citrus and

Hernando Counties. Vic Rochette made a motion to purchase the ad. Tom Victory seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Liz Koehlinger passed around a new demographics report. There are more than 50,000 people living within 15 miles of Peace Lutheran Church.

Vic Rochette spoke of remodeling the kitchen. Vic knew someone with a barely used refrigerator (with a warranty) who was willing to sell it to us for \$500 (The refrigerator was *originally bought for \$1500*). Bud Koehlinger made a motion to purchase the refrigerator. Ron Cowan seconded the motion. After much discussion, Bud recalled his motion and it was dropped. Pastor then stated that there is a “Kitchen Committee” that includes Thelma Grams, Cindy McKee and Jackie Hucker. Vic will meet with them to move forward with ideas for the kitchen remodeling.

President`s Report: Next Council Meeting on 2/8/16; Pancake Supper on 2/9/16; Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 PM on 2/10/16; Lenten services at 7:00 PM on 2/17/16 and 2/24/16; Congregational Meeting 2/28/16.

Bob Sullivan made a motion to adjourn. Ron Cowan seconded the motion. The meeting closed with the singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Barker, Secretary

Scrip Report

Thanks to all who gave us Scrip Orders on Sunday. We had a very good order of \$1770 and we profited \$57.70. I was able to process my first order and thanks to Don Dow for all his help.

I hope you will review the new Scrip Poster on the Bulletin Board explaining the steps necessary to place your order on line. Some may prefer to use paper order forms. If you have questions, I`ll be happy to get the answers for you. Our next order will be taken February 21 and cards delivered February 28. With your help, we can make this an outstanding Fund Raiser for our Church.

Barbara Miesen,
Scrip Coordinator



LWML

The Ladies of Peace L.W.M.L. January

2016

The L.W.M.L. business meeting was a short one again last month. Becky led our bible study on "living the Chocolate Life" followed by a pleasant lunch and fellowship. At our meeting, which will be 10:00am on February 1st, we will host Carol Lynn Scheer; our Zone President. She will be speaking to us about the last national convention held in Des Moines Iowa. After the meeting, we will enjoy another potluck and fellowship.

The L.W.M.L. district convention this year will be September 30th to October 2nd. I will be attending again, and I`ll need another voting delegate to attend with me. It would be nice to have two alternates also. I know it`s still early, so give some thought and prayer to going. It really is a wonderful experience.

With the Pancake Supper coming up right after the L.W.M.L. meeting we all have a lot on our plate, so I`ll keep this newsletter short.

God`s Blessings to all: Linda W.

READY, SET, RECYCLE!

Your LWML is collecting *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)* to redeem for cash. The cash will be used to pay for expenses associated with hosting the LWML's National Convention to be held in Birmingham in 2019. Just bring your contributions to church and put them in the recycling bin (on the back table in Fellowship Hall). It's easy, and it's good for the environment, too. See Sheryl if you have any questions.

We (as a church) also collect can tabs & used eyeglasses (also on back table), aluminum cans (outside back door) and paper (dumpster in parking lot). Everything we collect brings in money for us, and helps the environment, too.

Thanks!, Sheryl Lutz

Those Serving in February 2016

Sunday, February 7, 2016

Ushers: Ron & Rita Cowan
Communion assistant: Bud Koehlinger
Greeters: Pat & Ron Doan
Lay reader: Diane Rochette
Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Ash Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Bud Koehlinger

Communion assistant: Doug O'Hara
Greeters: Doug O'Hara
Lay reader: Bob Sullivan
Counting team: Becky Williams & Jackie Hucker

Sunday, February 14, 2016

Ushers: Jeremy & Sam McKee
Communion assistant: Bob Sullivan
Greeter: Bunnie & George Daniels
Lay reader: Becky Williams
Counting team: Sharon Zavertrnik & Linda Williams

Sunday, February 21, 2016

Ushers: Sharon Zavertrnik & Linda Williams
Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee
Greeter: Barbara & Wayne Miesen
Lay reader: Linda Ryun
Counting team: Bob Sullivan & Jim Lynch

Sunday, February 28, 2016

Ushers: Bob & Virginia Sullivan
Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg
Greeters: Rita & Ron Cowan
Lay reader: Virginia Sullivan
Counting team: Linda Ryun & Jackie Hucker

Altar Guild February 2016

Sharon Zavertrnik & Linda Williams

A Word from Financial Secretary
Becky Williams

Thank you for using your offering envelopes! It isn't necessary to be a member of Peace to have numbered envelopes. If you are a frequent worshiper here, whether an area resident or a snowbird, and would like envelopes, please ask me to issue you a set.

If you don't know who I am, please have someone you know point me out to you.

Please consider joining a team to count offerings once a month or serving as a sub. I can give you a copy of the counting procedures to help you make this decision and, if you'd be more comfortable, I'll work with you when you are scheduled.

Thanks!



Best wishes on your special day
Birthdays

To:

02.02	Terry McKee
02.08	Donald Scheib
02.20	Sheryl Lutz
02.26	Thomas Victory



Hi Peace Family.

We are currently feeding 217 children. We have also added a child/family from Dunnellon High School. Peace Lutheran`s next packing date is at 1:30, Thursday, February 18, at the Food Pantry. Packers, please let me know who will be available. We are still looking for a new President and a Vice President. If anyone would like to come with me to the next board meeting on February 19, please let me know. Thank you all for your help!

Jan Barker

Mouse Droppings . . .

Brrr! Even with our fur coats, the Littlemouse Family has been shivering and we are really hoping for warming temperatures. We

understand why the snowbirds head here and are so glad they return to Peace every year. It is wonderful to see them and how they participate in the activities of the congregation while they are here!

Mrs. Littlemouse and I are having quite a time with our oldest, Sonny! Like many of you, he is quite fascinated with hearing about the Alzheimer's research Sam McKee has been asked to participate in at USF. Sonny wants to skip his classes and catch a ride to Tampa with Sam four days a week. Now, we tried to dissuade him by explaining about "lab rats", however, he said he's not heard they are experimenting with mice and has no fears. Can anyone give us any help here?

Daisy has been sitting in on Pastor's confirmation class with Trina, and Buddy, not to be outdone, attends Sunday school with David. We haven't heard any squeals from either room. I'll bet they've been bribed with Girl Scout cookies!

Our family is really excited to welcome new members (and returning ones). Even if they haven't met us, we are so glad to know the Buschmans, Cassans, Connors, Kurths, and Bob Orens. And, always to meet new Sunday guests who are part of the family of Peace after they've been here once.

February is going to be a very exciting month for us. You know

how much we like pancakes! We will definitely be there on Shrove Tuesday. I'm trying to talk Jim Lynch into a family ticket for \$20, but he's not budging from 2/\$15 for the Mrs. and me and even wants 3/\$10 for the kids! Well, that meal is worth it at any price and we'll be there. Please step carefully!

We'll see you often this month, especially Sunday mornings (yum...coffee hour) and Wednesday evenings; Bible studies on Sunday and Wednesday and information class on Thursday nights. There's something going every day and we stay very busy observing! Maybe someone will think to take me along to Brookdale or to pack Food-4-Kids this month...hint, hint.

Have a Happy Valentine's Day, too! It's on a Sunday this year.

Your faithful Churchmouse,

Little Mouse

WhoWhatWhereWhyWhenHow?
Submitted by Becky Williams

The colors for this month's altar and pulpit hangings (paraments) are white on the first Sunday and change to violet beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 10th. White signifies purity; violet signifies

royalty.

Sunday, February 7th, is the last Sunday after the Epiphany and is known as Transfiguration Sunday. The Lenten Season begins the following Wednesday, with Ash Wednesday. During the service that evening, worshipers may have ashes imposed in the shape of a cross on their forehead or back of their hand. This practice dates from the 900s and signifies mourning for our sins, our confession of them and that we are owned by God and belong to His Son.

Tuesday, February 9th, is Pancake Day here at Peace. The day is also known as Fat Tuesday or Shrove Tuesday. Shrove or "shrive" means to confess as we enter the season of Lent. To avoid the temptation to indulge in rich foods, pancakes were made to use up eggs, milk and sugar before the 40 days of Lent began.

We are not obligated to give up anything for Lent; however, doing so can remind us of how our Lord gave His life so that we may live with Him eternally. As a symbol of that, we do not place flowers in our sanctuary during Lent and their reappearance on Palm Sunday and Easter are more glorious because we have given them up for a time.

Did you know that Lutherans commemorate St. Valentine's Day as a feast day? St. Valentine is

remembered not for himself but for his witness for Christ. Valentine was condemned to death by Emperor Claudius for trying to lead him to faith and for that he died on February 14, 269. It wasn't until the 1300s that St. Valentine became associated with romantic love. Since the 1600s, his feast day has been on liturgical calendars of the Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran and other church bodies. This year St. Valentine's Day is on Sunday, February 14th, the First Sunday in Lent. And, no, we won't change the paraments to red in his honor!

We don't want to miss anyone who should be remembered this month. February 18, 1546, is the date of the death of Doctor Martin Luther, who never wanted a church body to be named after him. He definitely lost that argument as there are at least 40 Lutheran church bodies in the United States alone, comprised of 9,000,000 members, and there are 104,000,000 Lutherans worldwide! (These are 2012 statistics.)

Now for the question and answer of the month: What is the difference between a translation of the Bible, a transliteration, and a paraphrase? Originally, the Old Testament was written in Hebrew, the language of the Israelites, and the New Testament was in Greek, the language of commerce and culture. The OT was translated from the Hebrew into Greek about

300 years before Christ's birth for just that reason and because so many Hebrew peoples no longer knew their mother tongue. It was also translated from Hebrew into many other languages from about AD 150-400 and the NT from Greek into other languages. "Transliterations" or "paraphrases" of books of the Bible utilize appealing styles and aim for easy readability of translations from the original languages. The King James Bible (KJV) is a translation. The Revised Standard Version (RSV) changed the English usage of the KJV. "The Living Bible" and "Good News for Modern Man" are examples of paraphrased versions attempting to make reading of the Bible more easily understood by a wider range of readers. None is perfect; none is inadequate in every passage; some need to be read with greater caution. The Scripture readings in our Lutheran Service Book (LSB) are from the English Standard Version (ESV), an adaptation of the RSV. ESV Bibles are in the pew racks along with the LSB.

Outreach Tip of the Month
From Lutheran Hour Ministries



Valentine's Day - a Simple Opportunity for Witness

Do you remember the Valentine card exchange when you were in school? It took a little time the night before the party-picking out just the right selection for each close friend, and then looking over the cards left in the box to give to the rest of your classmates.

No matter what, the message of "Will you be my valentine?" still comes around every February. Maybe we don't give and receive cards from all our friends the same way we did when we were in school, but no doubt on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and even with a card for someone special, we will share a Valentine's Day greeting of love and care for others.

We possess a unique love as Christians, don't we? Our love comes from God, who sent us His Son, Jesus, to restore our relationship with Him. Take some time to consider how your message might become a witness opportunity about Jesus' love, which is given to

everyone. And unlike our love, Jesus' love is given without fail. Jesus said,

"Love one another as I have loved you. Greater Love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

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