

Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

March-April 2019

Peace Lutheran Church
7201 South Highway 41
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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

It seems like we just put away the Christmas decorations and took down the Christmas tree but here we go! March 3rd is the last Sunday before Lent begins. March 3rd is also the Transfiguration of Our Lord, a special Sunday to get us ready to go into Lent. Ash Wednesday is March 6th so that means on March 5th we will have our 27th Shrove Tuesday Potato Pancake Super. We can use your help as this is probably the biggest undertaking, we have all year. So, please, volunteer your time, you won't regret it, we have a wonderful time getting ready and then welcoming the community.

This year our Lenten theme is a "Lent to Remember." Our mid-week services begin on Ash Wednesday and

each Wednesday following April 10th. The Wednesday prior to Holy Week. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and the Maundy Thursday service is a special service in which we remember and celebrate the gift of Holy Communion given to us on the last night before our Savior was crucified, this service followed by the Service of Stripping the Altar preparing us and our Chancel for Good Friday. The Tenebrae Service (Good Friday) is a combination of special hymns and readings. If you haven't made these special services a part of your Lenten preparation in the past let me encourage you too this year, you won't regret it. I promise! If you don't or can't drive at night, we have volunteers who will give you a ride.

So, as we will begin our Lenten season with our Shrove Tuesday Potato Pancake Supper, and we will begin our Easter season with our

annual Easter breakfast. We have a lot going on here at Peace so if you are bored come on out and if you are willing, we can always use more hands to help.

God bless!

Pastor

President's Message

Dear Peace Family,

We are in to the New Year and things seem to be rolling right along. Our Community meals are a great success and I would like to thank all the members that are involved. It takes a great deal of planning and time to prepare these meals. I can see how much the community appreciates the extra food and fellowship.

Just a quick reminder, the Lenten season starts on Ash Wednesday March 6th. I want to challenge our congregation to try to make these services. There is a lot of preparation that goes into these services each week. They are just as important as coming on Sundays. Try to come and worship with us.

Thank you, council members, for your continued dedication to Peace. And thank you members for your dedication as well.

We have several events coming up, thankfully members have stepped up to host and work these events. Shrove Tuesday, rummage sale, spaghetti dinner, and our continuing community meals. Let's keep up the good work.

Garry Kurth
President, Peace Lutheran Church

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
January 14, 2019**

Present: Garry Kurth, Linda Ryun, David Sokolowski, Jackie Hucker, Yvonne Conner, Linda Williams and Pastor Terry McKee.

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

Correspondence: Letter from Duke Energy stating they reviewed our electric usage over the past 12 months, and feel we are on the best available electric rate. They will again review our electric usage in 12 months.

Minutes: The December minutes were accepted.

President's Comments: Garry Kurth thanked David Sokolowski (Treasurer & Trustee) and Jackie Hucker (Financial Secretary) for accepting the call to fill our positions on the Council. He also thanked the other members of the Council, and looks forward as we all continue God's work in our church and community.

REPORTS:

Financial Secretary: The report the Financial Secretary did last year will now be included in the Treasurer's Report. Jackie had a little problem

with her first entry and had to redo it, however she feels it will go smoothly now.

Treasurer: Reports were provided and discussed. The Council Secretary will type a letter to change the Signatures of our accounts for our new Treasurer.

Trustees: Linda Williams is still looking into the cost of a shade/banner for our cross window. David Sokolowski reported the chlorinator for our well must be working now since we have the correct chlorine count in our water sample.

Elders: None.

Pastor: Reported he has received requests for change in our Peace membership.

Jackie Hucker made the motion to have Pastor process the appropriate paperwork to change the status of the following:

Transfer of Jerry and Rita Cook to Bethel Lutheran, DuQuin, Illinois.

Release for Barbara Sadler to non-LCMS congregation.

Receive Randy and Linda Priem from St. John's Lutheran.
Seconded by Yvonne Conner.
Motion Passed.

Pastor also stated he received a phone call asking Peace to host the Financial Peace University Program again this year on Wednesday evenings. Since it is a nine-week course, the timing may cause problems with our Lenten services. Pastor will contact the presenter before committing.

A member reminded Pastor about the Council's plan to have cabinets made in the large Sunday school room so our supplies can be stored behind closed doors. President Garry will contact Chet Rochette or Gene Lutz to see if one of them would be willing and able to make these cabinets for us.

OLD BUSINESS:

LCEF/Cadence Bank Account: The motion from last month's meeting cannot be done. The LCEF CD with the 4% interest cannot use existing LCEF funds. The Cadence Bank Account goes dormant with no activity.

Motion by Linda Ryun to take the money from the Cadence Bank and close the account. Transfer that money (\$30,859.84) to LCEF and invest it in the CD at 4%.
Seconded by David Sokolowski.
Motion Passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Quote to Repair Church Sign, \$430.52:

Motion by Jackie Hucker to order the part required to repair our sign.
Seconded by Yvonne Conner.
Motion Passed.

Officially Appoint David Sokolowski to Fill the Remaining Term of Outgoing Treasurer. David stated he would also remain on the Board of Trustees.

Office Chairs: Pastor's chair is falling apart.

Motion by Yvonne Conner to have Pastor purchase a new office chair for his office, and possibly a new chair for the church office.
Seconded by Linda Williams.
Motion Passed.

Church Events/Advertising: Becky Williams is willing to continue making the flyers and keep track of the Church Event Calendar. Sharon Casan will contact the newspapers regarding advertising, but we need to remember to get the information to her **at least** 30 days prior to the event. We also need to make sure Sheryl Lutz (Web site) and Jae Anne Witzgall (Facebook) also have this information.

Dates Chosen for Our 2019 Events:

Need a coordinator for each event.

Tuesday, March 5 – Shrove Tuesday
Potato Pancake Supper

Saturday, April 27 – Rummage Sale

Saturday, May 18 – Spaghetti Supper

Saturday, September 28 – Oktoberfest

Sunday, October 27 – Pastor Appreciation Sunday

Also, continue the 3rd Monday Community Meal

Hangers for Storing our Christmas Wreaths Inside: Request to place hangers in the storage area inside so the wreaths can be reused.

Change in Monthly Reporting and Some Accounts: Some minor changes were made to facilitate the flow between our financial secretary and treasurer reports.

Mission Gift to Circuit Outreach Fund:

Motion by Linda Ryun to send \$500 to the Circuit Outreach Fund. Seconded by Linda Williams. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn. Pastor closed the meeting with prayer, Council members joined in singing the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Ryun, Council Secretary

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
February 11, 2019**

Present: Garry Kurth, Hope Kurth, Linda Ryun, David Sokolowski, Jackie Hucker, Doug O’Hara, Donald Conner, Yvonne Conner, Linda Williams and Pastor Terry McKee.

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

Correspondence: None

Minutes: The January minutes were accepted.

President’s Comments: Garry Kurth said things are going smoothly, and members are beginning to step up and do more things here at church.

REPORTS:

Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Reports were provided and discussed. Things are going well.

Trustees: The Christmas Wreaths have been hung on the wall in the storage room, and the church sign has been repaired. Yvonne Conner mentioned she noticed some of the dividers on the hymnal/Bible holders on the pews are in need of repair. The trustees will check all of them to access how to fix them. The well chlorine level is okay now.

Elders: Doug O'Hara reminded us we are moving into our Lenten season, and he hopes our worship attendance will continue to grow.

Pastor: Reported we will have 7 Lenten Services on Wednesday evenings at 7 P.M. The theme will be: "A Lent to Remember." He is hopeful we will have more attending our Lenten services. It was suggested we bring our friends, or offer to pick up our members who no longer drive at night, so they can worship with us. Pastor also stated the Financial Peace University Program facilitator has not returned his call following last month's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

LCEF/Cadence Bank Account: The money from the Cadence Bank Account has been moved into an LCEF CD, and the Cadence Bank Account has been closed.

Office Chairs: Pastor has not shopped for the chairs, but plans to do that soon.

NEW BUSINESS:

Shrove Tuesday Potato Pancake Supper Update: Jackie Hucker and Thelma Grams are coordinating this dinner. Sheets for Volunteers Needed will be placed on the bulletin board.

Easter Breakfast April 21st at 8:30 A.M.: Coordinators - Linda Ryun and Linda Williams. A signup sheet will be placed on the bulletin board.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn. Pastor closed the meeting with prayer, and Council members joined in singing the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Ryun, Council Secretary

Financial Secretary

Jackie Hucker

Thank You to all who volunteered to count the offerings. We have 10 teams who count the offerings each week. To help the teams, please write the amount you are putting in the envelope on the amount line and the check number in the top right corner. If you are giving cash, write the word cash in the upper corner. If you have forgotten your envelope, please use the pew envelopes and put your number, plus cash or check number on it. If you are giving for a special occasion (such as Bible Study Books, Flowers, etc. write that category on your envelope. Team members count once each month.

LADIES OF PEACE
LWML UPDATES

Without God, our week would be:
Sinday, Mournday, Tearsday,
Wasteday, Thirstday, Fightday and
Shatterday

I've always loved this statement- it says it all, doesn't it?

Anyway, can't believe it's time for the March- April newsletter already! Our ladies' Bible study has been doing very well, with about 10 of us attending each month. We will meet at

Becky's house for both March 4 and April 1. This study, "Mirror, Mirror" is really interesting, with a lot of Bible references. We'd love to have you! We expect to finish this book in May, take off June- August, and begin in September using Bible study lessons from our LWML Quarterly magazines. For anyone who gets this magazine, when you are finished, if you'll give it to either Becky or me (Sheryl), we'll pull out the lessons and make necessary copies to use at our Bible studies. Thanks in advance!

Saturday, April 6 is our Zone Spring Rally at First Lutheran, Inverness. As the Zone VP of Communication, I will be going- let me know if you'd like to attend! The Gifts from the Heart is the Pregnancy and Family Life Center, Inverness. If you'd like to donate to this cause, you can either bring in: **Size 4 & 5 Diapers; Pull Ups; Baby Wash; Baby Wipes** or give me a check to place in the basket at the Rally. Checks should be made out to: **North Central Florida Zone LWML.**

Linda Ryun will be representing us at the National Convention in Mobile, AL in June. If you'd like to go to it, let me know, I'll get you an application.

Remember to continue filling your mite boxes and turning them in to Thelma Grams. Every penny helps- and goes a long way in places our grants go to!

Have a great Lenten Season and
Happy Easter!

Sheryl Lutz

WhoWhatWhereWhyWhenHow?

By Becky Williams

During March and April, there will be several color changes on the Altar and Pulpit. On March 3, green reminds us of our growth in Christ over the last few months. During Lent, the color violet reminds us of Christ our royal King's suffering for our sake. The white on Easter indicates His purity.

During Lent, we omit the singing of "Alleluia" and "Hallelujah", which in Hebrew mean "praise be to God". These words will return in our hymns and liturgy on Easter. We also do not use flowers until Palm Sunday.

Shrove Tuesday is March 5. And, yes, it's the date of our annual Potato Pancake Supper! "Shrove" is Latin for scribe or write; the past tense of "shrive", which means "to confess". Christians may choose to give up a favorite food to remind themselves of Christ's giving of His life for their sins.

Other names for Shrove Tuesday are Fat Tuesday and Pancake Day. It is celebrated by most Lutherans,

Episcopalians and Catholics. Why pancakes? They use up eggs, milk and sugar so that during Lent there's less temptation to indulge in rich foods!

The following day is Ash Wednesday, March 6. Lutheran, Catholic, Methodist and Anglican churches include the imposition of ashes in their Ash Wednesday services. The cross-shaped mark on the forehead (or if preferred the back of the hand) is symbolic of our belonging to God's Son. The practice dates from the 900s.

This year, St. Patrick's Day is on Sunday, March 17. St. Patrick's given name was Maewyn. He was born in Wales about 385. He was a pagan until he was 16, was a slave for six years, studied in a monastery for 12 years, and was a priest and second Bishop of Ireland for 30 years until his death on March 17, 461. During his ministry, he was arrested several times for his preaching and teaching. He established numerous schools, churches and monasteries. He used the shamrock to teach the concept of the Holy Trinity. Irish Catholics wear green in his honor; Protestants wear orange. If someone does not wear either of these colors on St. Paddy's Day, it is OK to pinch them! You've been warned!

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, April 14. Maundy Thursday is April 18. "Maundy" is based on the root word for "command", as we heed Jesus' command to wash one another's feet as an act of servitude and humility. At the conclusion of the evening worship service, all of the linens and furnishings are removed from the altar area and the altar is draped in black as a reminder of our sin and Christ's suffering for them.

Good Friday, April 19, is our remembrance of Christ's death. The evening's service is very solemn and meaningful.

Easter is on Sunday, April 21, and we look forward to once again singing "Alleluia" as we celebrate Christ's resurrection. Why isn't Easter on the same date every year like Christmas? Jesus and His disciples celebrated Passover according to the Jewish calendar on the 14th day of the first month after the full moon (their month of Nisan). Over the centuries, the day was celebrated at different times by different cultures. To lessen confusion, the Council of Nicea (which compiled our Nicene Creed) set the date of Easter as the first Sunday after the full moon after the vernal equinox (the day in Spring when the day and night are the same length). The Greek Orthodox church uses a different calendar and

celebrates Easter on another date than we do.

Did you know that butterflies, which leave their cocoons, and also hard-boiled eggs are reminders of Christ's bursting from the tomb? Nice thoughts on any day!

Have a most blessed Lententide and Easter!

Altar Flowers

We do not place flowers on our altar during Lent to remind us to focus on Christ's suffering for us and our repentance. They will be all the more glorious when they return on Palm Sunday as we remember His triumphal entrance into Jerusalem.

We order two bouquets each Sunday. You may donate either or both. Open dates include Palm Sunday, April 14, and Easter, April 21, and Sunday, April 28. Please note the reason for your floral offering on the flower chart. The cost remains \$20 for each arrangement. If you would like a certain flower to be included or a particular color to be used, please let Becky Williams know.

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10: Spring Forward One Hour so you won't miss church!

Sunday Coffee Hour

Becky Williams

A very special "Thank You" to both members and "winter visitors" who have contributed sweets and coffee or given me a donation towards them this year. When you are able to provide something, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. That way, I'll know to expect there'll be treats or if I'll have to be sure that there will be.

It's always a nice surprise when someone bakes or buys something sweet, but knows that if those goodies remain in their house, they'll indulge, and to avoid that temptation, will bring a partial coffeecake or other treat for the rest of us. It is also a nice "problem" to have too many items. In that case, if they'll freeze well, they'll be used another day. The Wednesday morning Bible class is quite willing to enjoy the largess!

Maybe we should just serve coffee during Lent and give up the goodies. We'll leave that as an individual choice. More important than the coffee and sweets is that we enjoy a time of fellowship to welcome guests and get to know each other better.



Best wishes on your Special Day To:

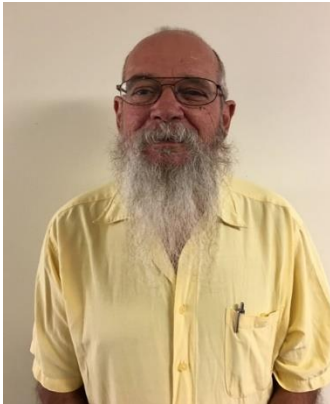
Birthdays

03.03	Pamela Zwick
03.05	Alan Riedel
03.12	Samuel McKee
03.18	Trina Ruttinger
03.18	Sharon Cassan
03.19	James Spiegelberg
03.19	Carla Ruttinger
03.20	Eugene O'Connell
03.24	Kenneth Buschman
03.26	Rita Cook
03.31	Audrey Stichman
04.02	Marion Conerly-O'Hara
04.02	Donna Race
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

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
04.03.2012	David & Karen Sokolowski
04.12.2015	Tim & Jan Barker

OUR NEW SEXTAN



Have you noticed how clean everything is lately? Well, you can thank Randy Priem! (Not that the Trustees weren't working hard, but they had other duties as well). Randy has been our new Sextan for about 2 months now, and I think he's doing a great job! Let him know if you think so, too.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

David and Karen Sokolowski are members of our Church Council. David is our Treasurer, and both Dave and Karen are Church Trustees. David grew up in Northern Wisconsin before moving to Pennsylvania. Karen was born and raised in Virginia, and then moved to Pennsylvania. They met each other through a mutual friend.

They came to the Dunnellon area after buying their land sight unseen. It was the warm weather, the fishing and the economy at the time that lured them here.

David works in construction. Karen has been a school bus driver, a Safety Coordinator, and is presently a nurse. Their hobbies together are fishing, crabbing and camping. Karen also enjoys reading and gardening.

David's favorite things are animals of all kinds and Ramon noodles, Karen's favorites are sea food, the beach and Nature.

Those Serving March 2019

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Mona Bermudez
Communion assistant: Samuel McKee
Greeters: Linda Neblock & Trudy Kreuzer
Lay reader: Jackie Hucker
Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth
Communion assistant: Doug O'Hara
Greeters: Barbara & Donald Thomas
Lay reader: Hope Kurth

Sunday, March 10, 2019

Ushers: Dennis Witzgall & Sharon Zavertnik
Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee
Greeters: Linda Williams &
Bill Langstaff
Lay reader: Barbara Miesen
Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Becky Williams

Sunday, March 17, 2019

Ushers: Linda Williams & Bill Langstaff
Communion assistant: Samuel McKee
Greeters: Linda Ryun & Bunnie Daniels
Lay reader: Randy Priem
Counting team: Linda Ryun & Eugene O'Connell

Sunday, March 24, 2019

Ushers: Ron & Rita Cowan
Communion assistant: Doug O'Hara
Greeters: Carla & Trina Ruttinger
Lay reader: Trina Ruttinger
Counting team: Jae Ann Witzgall & Bunnie Daniels

Sunday, March 31, 2019

Ushers: Doug O'Hara & Bob Sullivan
Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee
Greeters: Peggy & Ken Buschman
Lay reader: Bob Sullivan
Counting team: Linda Williams & Linda Neblock

Altar Guild March 2019

Carla & Trina Ruttinger

Those Serving April 2019

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth
Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg
Greeters: Jae Ann & Dennis Witzgall
Lay reader: Becky Williams
Counting team: Becky Williams & Linda Riedel

Sunday, April 14, 2019

Ushers: Jeremy & Samuel McKee
Communion assistant: Doug O'Hara
Greeters: Bunnie Daniels & Linda Neblock
Lay reader: Linda Ryun
Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Sunday, April 21, 2019

Ushers: Ron & Rita Cowan
Communion assistant: Samuel McKee
Greeters: Bob Sullivan & Sharon Zavertnik
Lay reader: Samuel McKee
Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Becky Williams

Sunday, April 28, 2019

Ushers: Sharon Zavertnik & Linda Williams
Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee
Greeters: Doug O'Hara & Linda Ryun
Lay reader: Sheryl Lutz
Counting team: Linda Williams & Linda Neblock

Altar Guild April 2019

Rita Cowan

