



# THE PEACE LUTHERAN

VOLUME 49, ISSUE No. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

## JANUARY – FEBRUARY SCRIPTURE READINGS

January 7: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12;  
Matthew 2:1-12

January 14: Genesis 1:1-5; Romans 5:1-11;  
Mark 1:4-11

January 21: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31;  
Mark 1:14-20

January 28: Deuteronomy 18:15-20;  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

February 4: Isaiah 40:21-31; 1 Corinthians 9:16-27;  
Mark 1:29-39

February 11: 2 Kings 2:1-12;  
2 Corinthians 3:12-18, 4:1-6; Mark 9: 2-9

February 14: Joel 2:12-19; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10;  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 18: Genesis 22:1-18; James 1:12-18;  
Mark 1:9-15

February 25: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Romans 5:1-11;  
Mark 8:27-38

## MEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Morning Bible Study meets every other Thursday morning, (with the exception of holiday's) at **7:00AM, (please note the new time)**, in Sanctuary Hall. Led by Pastor Brown, the class is studying the Large Catechism, with Annotations and Contemporary Applications. Future Bible study dates can be found on our church website calendar or watch the weekend bulletin.

## VOTERS' ASSEMBLY REMINDER



Monday, February 12  
7:00 pm - Sanctuary Hall

## HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE



Holy Communion is offered on the first, third and fifth Sundays of each month.

**REV. DR. JON FURGESON, SENIOR PASTOR**

314-601-1039

[pastor.furgeson@peacelutheranstl.org](mailto:pastor.furgeson@peacelutheranstl.org)

## NEW MEMBER CLASSES



A six week, new member class begins on Sunday, January 21, from noon to 1:30PM in Sanctuary Hall. A light lunch will be provided each week. It's not too late to sign-up! Please visit our website or the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board across from the gym.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD OPEN HOUSE



Please join us on Tuesday evening, February 6, 5:30-7:00PM, for our Early Childhood Open House. Tour the classrooms, meet our teachers, enjoy refreshments while learning about our programs. Registration is now open for the 2024-2025 school year. For more information, please contact Susan Velten, 314-892-8844 or email to [earlychildhood@peacelutheranstl.org](mailto:earlychildhood@peacelutheranstl.org).

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



Wednesday, February 14

11:00AM - Organ Recital

Burnell Hackman, Peace

11:30AM - Service w/Holy Communion

5:00PM - Lenten Supper

6:30PM - Service w/Holy Communion

See the full Lenten, Organ Recital and Easter schedule inside this issue!

## SAVE THE DATE - IMPACTLIFE BLOOD DRIVE



Saturday, February 24, 2024 • Peace Gymnasium  
9:00AM - 2:00PM



To register early, scan the QR code.

Watch the bulletin and Commons for opportunities to sign up!

**REV. ROBERT BROWN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

618-580-8817

[pastor.brown@peacelutheranstl.org](mailto:pastor.brown@peacelutheranstl.org)

**ALASKA MISSION**  
**CHICKEN DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION**



Join us Sunday, February 4, for our Alaska Mission Chicken Dinner and Silent Auction in the gymnasium at Peace. Doors open at 5:00PM, with dinner served at 5:30PM. Enjoy our fabulous fried chicken, delicious sides and desserts, along with a presentation of our continued mission work in Hooper Bay, Alaska! All proceeds from the event will fund our mission work. Tickets are available to purchase at the Commons counter in between services. Tickets are \$12 each, children ages 10 and under are free. Tickets at the door are \$14. Auction items are welcomed. We will once again offer credit card payments for the auction this year! For more information, please contact Jackie Hoeflerin at 314-440-1693.

**PALMS AND EASTER FLOWERS**



Palm trees, Easter lilies, azaleas and tulips will decorate our Chancel for Palm Sunday, Confirmation and Easter. If you would like to purchase a palm or flowering plant, please complete this form return to the church office, with payment of cash or check payable to Peace. Orders are due by Sunday, February 18. Questions, please contact Tami Behnke at 314- 596-7350.

I/We: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for:

- # \_\_\_\_\_ Easter lilies (white) (\$12 each)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ Azaleas (pink) (\$18 each)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ Tulips (bicolor, pink and white) (\$8 each)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ \*Palms (\$20 each) for Palm Sunday  
 (\*Limited to 4, please contact Tami in advance to check availability.)

Choose one:

\_\_\_\_\_ To the Glory of God

\_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of (Name):  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of (Name):  
 \_\_\_\_\_



Boy Scout Troop 584 will again be selling Super Sub sandwiches with three meats, two cheeses, and "Mama Luther's Special Sauce" beginning January 27. There are two sub sandwich options available:

**Whole (16") for \$15 or Half (8") for \$10**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Whole Sub – \$15  
 (# subs ordered)

\_\_\_\_\_ Half Sub– \$10  
 (# subs ordered)

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Attach cash or check made payable to "Boy Scout Troop 584". Pick up Super Subs at Peace after any service on February 10/11. Proceeds will benefit camping and our scouting programs. We thank you for your support! Please contact Lisa Rainey at 314-602-7602 with questions. You may mail your order and payment to Troop 584, c/o Lisa Rainey, 3740 Park Crest Drive, Saint Louis 63125, or drop-off in the church office before February 5.

**STAMPS FOR MISSIONS**



LWML Ladies Guild extends a great big thank you to our church family for saving cancelled stamps. Our Missouri LWML District has earned \$17,600 for Mission Grant Projects. All stamps are welcome except the metered stamps and stamps from advertising bulk mail. Stamps may be placed in the container on the Commons counter.

LWML Ladies Guild

**2024 LUTHERAN WITNESS**

If you would like to **renew** or **subscribe** to The Lutheran Witness for the 2024 calendar year (**new subscription begins in April 2024**), please complete the slip and return to the church office with your payment of \$20.00, or **use the special envelope included in your 2024 offering envelopes, by Friday, February 2**. Checks payable to Peace.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Attached: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 2024 LENTEN & EASTER SCHEDULE

### **Ash Wednesday**

February 14 11:00AM Organ Recital  
Burnell Hackman, Peace  
11:30AM Service\*  
5:00PM Lenten Supper  
6:30PM Service\*

### **Mid-Week Lent-2**

February 21 11:00AM Organ Recital  
Matthew Gerhardt, St. Paul's, Des Peres  
11:30AM Service  
5:00PM Lenten Supper  
6:30PM Service

### **Mid-Week Lent-3**

February 28 11:00AM Organ Recital  
Kevin Huckshold, Holy Cross, St. Louis  
11:30AM Service  
5:00PM Lenten Supper  
6:30PM Service

### **Mid-Week Lent-4**

March 6 11:00AM Organ Recital  
Elin Hogan-Gomez, Salem, Black Jack  
11:30AM Service  
5:00PM Lenten Supper  
6:30PM Service

### **Mid-Week Lent-5**

March 13 11:00AM Organ Recital  
Nancy Peterson, Zion, Mascoutah, Illinois  
11:30AM Service  
5:00PM Lenten Supper  
6:30PM Service

### **Mid-Week Lent-6**

March 20 11:00AM Organ Recital  
Michelle Sliger, Peace  
11:30AM Service  
5:00PM Lenten Supper  
6:30PM 2024 Junior Confirmation Questioning

### **Palm Sunday**

March 24 5:00PM Service\*  
March 24 8:00, 9:20, & 10:30AM Services\*  
2:00PM Junior Confirmation Service\*

### **Maundy Thursday**

March 28 11:30AM Service\*  
7:00PM Living Last Supper\*

### **Good Friday**

March 29 11:30AM Service  
7:00PM Service

### **Holy Saturday**

March 30 5:00PM Service\*

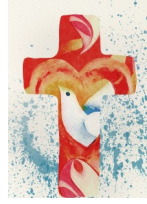
### **Easter Sunday**

March 31 6:30AM Sunrise Service\*  
8:00, 9:20 & 10:30AM Services\*

\*Holy Communion

## 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION

### BANNER NIGHT & PARENT MEETING



Confirmands and their parents will construct their Confirmation Banners on **Thursday, January 25**, at 6:30PM. Check your family mailbox for more information.

Please mark your calendars for a parent meeting on **Wednesday, February 21**, immediately following the Lenten worship service at 7:20PM in the sanctuary. We will be discussing details about Confirmation Day, Sunday, March 24.

## 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION

### TESTIMONY DATES

February 21: Joey Burgess, Avery Caron,  
Bryce Chitwood, Ava Gamayo

February 28: Vera Harrison, Teddy Herold,  
Lydia Jurchen

March 6: Erick Jacobsmeyer, Ashley Kaul,  
Paige Keiser, Lucie Wildman

March 13: Rachel McElroy, Brock Orf,  
Sofia Palma, Blake Van Wyk

## CONCERTS AT PEACE PROUDLY PRESENTS

Be sure to mark your calendar for these upcoming music concerts in 2024.

### **Sunday, March 3 - 6:00PM**

*Music Department of  
Lutheran High School South  
Home Concert*

### **Thursday, March 14 - 7:00PM**

*Music Department of Valley  
Lutheran High School  
Saginaw, Michigan*

### **Sunday, April 14 - 3:00PM**

*Chamber Music Musicians  
of Peace Lutheran Church*

### **Sunday, May 19 - 3:00PM**

*The Heart of Bach, Choral Motets  
and Organ Chorales  
The Bach Society of St. Louis*

**Tickets are required for this concert**

### **Saturday, May 25 - 6:45PM**

*Celebrate! Summer  
Winds of Peace*

## ADULT CO-ED VOLLEYBALL AT PEACE



Co-Ed volleyball plays on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-8:00PM in the gymnasium. Co-Ed volleyball is open to anyone 18 years and older. For more information please contact Cameron Stinnett at 314-413-3412 or camstinn16@gmail.com.

## PICKLEBALL OPEN PLAY AT PEACE



Adult, co-ed Pickleball plays on Sunday evenings, 6:00-8:00PM in the gymnasium. The group is open to all levels of experience, ages 17 and older, with equipment and training provided. For more information please contact Jack Jeffcott at liporccarman@gmail.com or 314-856-5379.

## SURVIVING SPOUSES BREAKFAST

Join us on Thursday, February 8, at 9:00AM at the Denny's on South Lindbergh. Our group meets on the second Thursday of each month.

## MENS CLUB

Join us for our upcoming meetings on Tuesday, January 23, and February 27, from 6:00-9:00PM. Our evening begins with a meal and fellowship, followed by our regular meeting. Men's Club is open to all men of Peace, 21 and up!

## MARY MARTHA BIBLE CLASS

Ladies, please join us each Thursday morning 9:00AM for fellowship, followed by Bible Study at 9:30AM, in the Kitchen Meeting Room (please note our location change.) Pastor Brown is leading the class on the Book of Colossians. We hope you will join us!

## QUILTERS CORNER



Thanks to all the wonderful gals who embroidered for us in 2023! We are excited to be expanding our quilt styles to include more quilt patterns, and invite you to use your awesome needle skills to come and quilt with us! We quilt on Tuesdays from 9:00AM to 2:00PM in Sanctuary Hall. Be sure to bring lunch! If you have any questions, please call Cheryl at 314-223-0744.

**"Quilting is my passion...  
chocolate comes in a close second!"**

## LADIES CLUB

Please join us on Tuesday, February 20, at 7:00PM for our monthly meeting. Ladies Club is a social organization and open to female members of Peace, ages 18 and up.

## PLASTIC MAT MAKING

Our mat-making group meets on the first and third Tuesdays each month, from 9:00AM to noon. We crochet plastic grocery bags into sleeping mats for the homeless. We would love to have more helpers! If you don't crochet, you can help fold, cut or loop the plastic bags. Anyone can handle these tasks, men, women, and children. Oh, and we also have a lot of fun while we work. If you're not available on Tuesdays, we can show you how to work from home. Please contact Anita Thomas at 314-200-6753 for questions or more information.

## LWML-LADIES GUILD

Peace LWML meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:45AM in Sanctuary Hall. Our next meeting is February 15. We hope you join us!

News from the LWML Missouri District: the District convention will meet in Independence, Missouri June 7-9, 2024, under the theme "He will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6) Peace will be sending both delegate and alternates to the convention. Here's a quote from one who attended the National convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin this past June: "One amazing thing about an LWML convention is seeing the impact of all the little things we do each day. Our little coins from pockets and couch cushions and bake sales are used to do amazing things for the Lord's Kingdom. People know Jesus because of my pennies!!"

## MARRIED COUPLES CLUB



Join us on Saturday, February 10, at 6:00PM in Sanctuary Hall, for a game of Match Your Mate! Cost is \$10 per couple. Please bring a snack or dessert to share. Beverages will be provided.

## THE PEACE LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER



Our newsletter is published eleven times per year, with a June/July combined issue. It is mailed at no cost to our members, friends, and is also available on our website.

## OFFICIAL ACTS

### ADULT CONFIRMATION

November, 26, 2023 - Jonathan Wallace Declue

### BAPTISMS

November 25, 2023 - Makayla Lee Bullard  
November 26, 2023 - Aubrey Mariah Declue  
November 26, 2023 - Jonathan Wallace Declue  
December 3, 2023 - James Champion Hudson, Jr.  
December 10, 2023 - Henry David Johansson  
January 6, 2024 - Maxine Grace Wirthlin  
January 14, 2024 - Ezra John Reynolds

### FUNERALS

November 28, 2023 - Louis F. Goetz, Jr., 88  
December 18, 2023 - Janet R. Duncan, 83  
December 22, 2023 - Gilbert E. Day, 91  
January 13, 2024 - \*Elmer L. Burstadt, 95  
January 17, 2024 - \*Kevin M. Nobe, 36

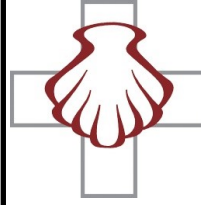


\*Non-Member



## BAPTISM CLASS

**Sunday, March 10, 9:15 - 10:15AM**  
**Commons Conference Room**



Pastor Brown and/or Christina Stackle will lead the class and will cover the basic teachings and logistics of baptisms at Peace. To register, please visit our website at [www.peacelutheranstl.org](http://www.peacelutheranstl.org). For more information please call the Church Office at 314-892-5610. If you cannot attend this class, but desire to have your child baptized prior to March 10, please contact the church office. Future class dates: May 5 and July 14.

*"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself." Acts 2:38-39*

## LIFTING PRAYERS



Please pray for member Elyn Petrovic, as she will serve as a short-term volunteer in Business and Accounting, in the Dominican Republic, from January 16 - April 10, 2024. Prayers for safety as she serves along side the missionaries.

## PEACE 8:00AM SERVICE LIVE ON KFUO IN FEBRUARY, MARCH, AND APRIL

Thanks to all those who are sponsoring our KFUO radio broadcasts this February, March, and April. Your contributions make our 8:00AM broadcasts possible. The following are the Peace members that are sponsoring a Sunday this year:



February 4	Chuck and Judy Mitchell
February 11	Baese and Suedkamp Families
February 18	Carol Kohn
February 25	Ray and Ellen Fassold
March 3	Merrily Goldsmith
March 10	Ken and Carol Doering
March 17	Dave and Heather Carlson
March 24	Nancy Fischer
March 31	Jackie Schramm
April 7	Sharon Grisham
April 14	Wayne and Marilyn Schuessler
April 21	Terry and Debby Hutton
April 28	Lorin and Carol Dressel

We would like to also thank our broadcasters, audio engineers, and video engineers who make our broadcasts and live-streams possible. Broadcasters: Rick Goodman, Alan Hopfer, Kyle Hopfer, Janice McCreary, Jeanette Mattingly, Bob Mullen, Wayne Schuessler, Dean Seyfert, Christina Stackle, Matt Thiel, and Bob Uthoff. Audio engineers: Bryan Dressel, Dennis Gerfen, Terry Hutton, Alan Hopfer, Wayne Schuessler, Jeanette Mattingly, and Rick Goodman. Video engineers: Bill Hentchel, Luis Palma, Wayne Schuessler, and Bob Uthoff.

**Just a reminder that Peace's Sunday service is rebroadcast on KFUO AM 850 every Saturday, from 4:00-5:00PM. Please share this information with your neighbors, friends, family, and especially our homebound members.**

## ADOPT A FAMILY - THANK YOU!



On behalf of the Social Ministry team we thank our Peace families for the wonderful response to the Adopt-a-Family program this year. We had 23 sponsors, and we adopted 35 families this year totaling 77 people!

Jesus said in Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you do for the least of these, you do it for me."

-God's Blessings in 2024!

## GIVING TREE - THANK YOU!



A huge note of thanks to our Peace members for remembering our Feed My People clients this Christmas! We had such an overwhelming response and were able to share gifts to those in need. Many thanks to each of our team members who helped cut and hang the ornaments each week, decorating the trees. We collected about 500 gifts to donate this year!

-Social Ministry

## MEN'S CLUB - THANK YOU



A huge **Thank You** to all who worked or purchased trees from the Men's Club Tree Lot! We sold out early in the season - again!

## BOY SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST THANK YOU!



Many thanks to everyone who patronized the Boy Scout Troop 584 Pancake Breakfast in November. It was an honor to serve our Veterans.

## 2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES



If you didn't receive your 2024 envelopes and would like to have a box, or if you received envelopes and would rather just have an assigned number, please contact the church office.

## ALTAR FLOWER ORDERS



Altar Flower orders are received through the Church Office. Arrangements are \$25 each. Please call the church office with your requests at least two weeks in advance.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL - HELP NEEDED

Sunday School is looking for classroom helpers to assist with preschool and sixth grade. Instruction will be provided. Also needed, beginning June 1, is a new Sunday School Superintendent. For information on these volunteer opportunities, please contact Jacque McElroy, Christina Stackle, or Pastor Brown.

## USHERS NEEDED



We are still looking for men who are willing to serve on an usher team. This is one of the easiest ways to serve our congregation. Typical service is only one Saturday/Sunday per month, with the exception of months with special services, (e.g., Lent, Advent, Christmas, etc.) If interested, or for more information, please contact Barry Hammon at [barry.hammon@wwt.com](mailto:barry.hammon@wwt.com).

Join us for Fellowship Time

Every Sunday  
at 9:00AM  
in the  
Commons



## FELLOWSHIP TIME - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help is needed with the coffee and pastry set-up on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Please contact Ralph or Grace Truemper at 314-544-0233.

## PEACE COMMUNICATION SIGN-UP



If you would like to receive text and/or email notifications when a beloved church member dies, or for emergency situations such as church event cancellations due to inclement weather, please contact the church office to sign up. You may choose email and/or text.



## PEACE EARLY CHILDHOOD

### Preschool Plus and Half Day Preschool

*Helping the Church Grow by helping God's Children Grow*

**JANUARY 2024** - *God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9*

**FEBRUARY 2024** - *For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*



Our preschoolers are ready to ring in the New Year! We have been practicing songs to learn days of the week and months of the year, and we enjoy finding each friend's birthday on the bulletin board in our classroom. Each of these things help us understand how time goes by. Throughout January, our Bible focus will be on baby Jesus presented in the temple, the baptism and temptation of Jesus, and Jesus calls his disciples. We will learn about letters M, N, O, and P, and continue our focus on recognizing and writing numbers to 10. We will continue to build math concepts such as greater than/less than, patterning, and graphing through winter activities. Even though temperatures may be cold outside, we will see that January can be the warmest time of the year—warm mittens, hugs, cozy times by the fire, and making room for friends! Books such as *The Mitten*, *The Mitten Tree*, and *Winter is the Warmest Season* reinforce sharing, thinking of others, and giving to those in need. We enjoyed our January chapel with Pastor Brown and our children brought in an offering of hats and mittens to benefit Alaska Missions. We are also eager to celebrate Lutheran Schools Week beginning January 21! We have been memorizing the months of the year in preschool, and learning about the holidays that occur in each month. When many of us think about February, we think about Valentine's Day. What a wonderful time of year to focus on the love that God has for us! Throughout the month, we'll be focusing on Jesus' work as he began his ministry: the wedding at Cana, Jesus and Nicodemus, and how Jesus healed a blind man. We are learning names for Jesus. He is the Lamb of God, and yet he is also The Good Shepherd. We will be focusing on letters Qq, Rr, Ss, Tt, and letter sounds, numbers 6-10, comparing groups (greater than/less than/equal to), hexagons, trapezoids, and sorting pennies from other types of coins. We will also learn about past presidents, and notice them on the different types of coins we're discovering! Pastor Furgeson will lead our February chapel on February 7, and the children will be bringing an offering of toothpaste and toothbrushes. Be sure to let thoughts of God's love keep you warm through these weeks of winter! To learn more about our programs, or to schedule a tour, please contact Sue Velten, 314-892-8844 or email to [earlychildhood@peacelutheranstl.org](mailto:earlychildhood@peacelutheranstl.org). Visit our webpage at [peacelutheranstl.org](http://peacelutheranstl.org), and follow us on Facebook at Peace Early Childhood.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED



Early Childhood is seeking a Preschool Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. Class time is 8:45 - 11:45AM. For qualifications and detailed information, interested candidates should contact Sue Velten at 314-892-8844.

### CHILDREN DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS



Parents are the primary faith formators for their children and Peace is excited to partner with them, providing resources to help them raise their children in the faith. Our prayer is that these resources can help parents talk to their child about Jesus and guide them in their faith growth at home. These quarterly devotional magazines will be placed in families' mailboxes throughout the year. Preschool and Kindergarten children receive a copy of "Happy Times," First and Second grade children receive "Living with Jesus," and Third through Sixth Grade children receive "My Devotions." A few extra copies will be available on the Commons counter each quarter for others to share Jesus with children they know.

### MISSIONARY NEWS



Newsletters from Pastor Jensen in Germany and Pastor Cundiff in Latvia are available on our Peace Website or the Bulletin Board in the Commons. To support the missionary efforts of Pastor Jensen and Pastor Cundiff, please direct your contributions to "Synodical Missionary Support" at Peace.



Congratulations to Peace members, Lucie Wildman (8th grade), and Henry Wildman (6th grade). Lucie placed 1st in the Geography Bee held on December 14, and Henry placed 3rd. Runner-up was David Kettler (7th grade).



**Stay N Plays** are scheduled for February 8 and March 4, from 8:30-10:30AM. This is a free open gym for little ones ages 5 and under, accompanied by an adult. The gym will be filled with a bounce house, hula hoops, scooters, a ball pit and more for the kids, and coffee and tea for the adults. Parents and grandparents, bring your little ones so they can burn off some energy!

Join us for our **Eat and Earns** throughout the year which help support Green Park. Eat at the location listed on the date of the Eat and Earn and a percentage of sales goes directly back to Green Park. Upcoming Eat and Earn: February 6-Freddy's, 5479 Southfield Center Drive. Eat in or take out, Freddy's will donate 15% back to Green Park. Mobile order use code: GIVEBACK, in store orders must mention Green Park to the cashier prior to checkout.

**Open House at Green Park** is on **Sunday, January 21**, from 1:00-3:00PM and kicks off National Lutheran Schools Week. We welcome current families as well as families considering a Christian education for their children from ages 3 through 8th grade. Find out what makes us the best private elementary school in South St. Louis County where our students are known, loved, and valued. Interested in a Christian education for your child, but can't make it to Open House? Private tours are scheduled year-round. Please contact Katie Gaeta at [katie.gaeta@greenparklutherschool.org](mailto:katie.gaeta@greenparklutherschool.org) or call 314-544-4248 to schedule a tour.

**Green Park Sunday at Peace is Sunday, January 28!** We look forward to celebrating our ministry together!

**A Night For Our Vikings, Dinner Auction, Friday, March 8, at Royale Orleans!**

**Donations** are being accepted through February 1. Please send new, unused items to the Green Park office along with a donation form.\*

**Advertising & Sponsorships** are needed. Please consider how you can support in this way! Want to give a shout out to your favorite teacher, staff member or even your child/team? Place an Ad! Know someone who would be willing to place an Ad or Sponsorship? Print a copy of the form online\* or contact the school office! Ads & Sponsorships need to be submitted by February 15.

**Tickets\*** are available for purchase. Please don't hesitate to get yours, it makes planning much smoother if you register sooner than later.

**Please get the word out!** Share the Facebook Auction page posts and chat with school families to see if they're attending.

\*Donation forms, advertising/sponsorship forms, ticket sales & monetary donations can all be done via our website: <https://greenparklutherschool.org/auction/>

*The mission of Green Park is to welcome and care for all families with the love of Jesus and to academically prepare children in a challenging and enriching environment.*



Follow us at:

[www.greenparklutherschool.org](http://www.greenparklutherschool.org)  
[www.facebook.com/greenparklutherschool](https://www.facebook.com/greenparklutherschool)  
[www.instagram.com/greenparkls](https://www.instagram.com/greenparkls)  
[www.twitter.com/greenparkls](https://www.twitter.com/greenparkls)





# LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH

Mizzou running back and Lutheran South grad Cody Schrader won the Burlsworth Trophy in a ceremony at the University of Arkansas, recognizing him as the most outstanding former walk-on in college football this season. "My journey from high school to Truman State Division II to the University of Missouri wasn't easy. It definitely had a lot of lonely nights...But the only thing I stayed true to was the work. The only thing that follows work is results, and I truly believe that anything you want in this life you can achieve. It just takes dedication, discipline, and you just have to love this game." Schrader finished his college career as a consensus All-American, solidifying his status as one of the nation's top players and the best running back to play for the Tigers.



Savi Butterfield was named a high school Athlete of the Week by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch! Savi returned from a month-long injury by scoring 25 points, four rebounds and four steals at a holiday tournament in Phoenix, Arizona. She then had a career-high 31 points and 10 steals in the next game, closing the tournament with 26 points, six steals, four rebounds and four assists.

Brian Lind logged his 300th career win as Lutheran South's head basketball coach. Coach Lind reached the milestone with a win against Valley Park earlier this season. Brian graduated from Green Park in 1986 and from Lutheran South in 1990. He is a former player, and has coached the Lancers for 24 years, with nine District Championships.



Senior Maddie Holland, sophomore Nathan Burbank, and freshman Mara Queen auditioned for and were accepted into the Metro 8 District Honor Band. Nathan was named to the District Concert Band on trombone, and Maddie was selected as alternate tenor sax. Mara was named to the District Jazz Band on bass.

Seniors Lindy French and Nathan Spear have been named the Lutheran Church Extension Fund fall scholar-athletes for their commitment to their classes and their sports. Lindy, who is involved in LuSo's STEM program, was first-team All-State with a batting average of .488. She was a leader on the softball team and invested in every player, exhibiting her faith on and off the field. Nathan, who is a member of the Wind Symphony and also involved in STEM, ran all four years on the cross country team. He finished his high school running career as the third fastest on the team.

## St. Trinity CEMETERY

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As the calendar turns to a new year, St. Trinity Cemetery is still dealing with the impacts of the storms of 2023. As mentioned in earlier articles, there was major damage inflicted on several large trees during last year's summer storms. At the November Board Meeting, a resolution was approved to completely remove the six most damaged trees and to grind away the remaining stumps.

Removing these trees is necessary to protect both patrons and cemetery personnel from falling branches and limbs. In addition, falling limbs can damage monuments. Removal will also help mitigate the need for "emergency" cleanup efforts if a future storm causes these damaged and dying trees, or large limbs from them, to fall. While removing these six trees will help with the immediate tree maintenance needs of the cemetery, there are additional trees which may also need to be removed at some point in the future. There is still a significant amount of preventative trimming to be done, as well, to keep St. Trinity Cemetery beautiful, and safe, for everyone to enjoy. The Board will be addressing these needs, and identifying potential ways to fund them, in the coming months. The Board of Directors of St. Trinity Cemetery wishes you many blessings for 2024! Follow us on Facebook at St Trinity Cemetery or visit our website at [www.sttrinitycemetery.com](http://www.sttrinitycemetery.com).

## CHANGES TO THE ONLINE SERVICE FORMAT FOR 2024



In the new year, we are making a few changes to the uploading of our YouTube services and our system surrounding our channel. We will no longer be tracking attendance online. The reason for this is because our theology dictates the Divine Service is a *physical* gathering of God's people around His gifts, not a *virtual* one. The video of a service is not a person participating with the greater congregation, even if it is live, but is more like a devotional. We read a devotion someone else wrote and pray the prayer they wrote, but we do not confuse that with gathering with the author or praying with them. Likewise, the video is a personal and family devotion time. God still works through His word, but the two are qualitatively different.

The second aspect of that change will be the upload of the service will take place at noon, after the services are done, and the livestream will be ceased. This will help eliminate confusion regarding the theological difference between watching the service and in-person participation. We will still record and post the services, however, for later viewing as we currently offer, particularly for our homebound members. We hope this helps to clarify and emphasize the importance God places on the physical gathering of His people to receive His gifts of Word and Sacrament in His house.

-Pastor Furgeson

## PASTOR FURGESON IS GOING ON SABBATICAL: WHAT IS A SABBATICAL?

This summer, I am going on a sabbatical. It means a time of rest. A sabbatical is a time for a pastor to pause and reflect, to recenter his life spiritually and in other ways. It can also be a time to think through theological issues he has not had time to mentally engage.

My call documents to Peace, the list of duties and policies you gave me when you all first called me as your associate pastor, say I am *supposed* to take a sabbatical every 10 years. Entering now my 18<sup>th</sup> year, I thought it was probably about time to do so.

I want to emphasize a major point here: while most pastors take a sabbatical because they are "burning out" or are really struggling with some kind of issue, **that is not the case here.** I love being at Peace, love my job, have a happy family life, and am treated wonderfully by the congregation. God has and continues to provide an abundance of blessings to me! But as I move inexorably into the role of "elder statesmen" among many of my pastoral peers in our circuit, most of whom are anxious to ever step away from their congregation lest it somehow fail without them at the helm, I think it will set them a good example to do this when a person is supposed to do so: when one is still in good shape. Me being who I am, I will also be poking at several theological topics while away and working on a few ideas.

As noted earlier, this will take place this summer. My family and I are going to see our relatives in Hong Kong. I will add my sabbatical around that trip, effectively being absent from Memorial Day to Labor Day in 2024. During that time, our retired and other member pastors will be helping out here and there to assist Pastor Brown in the summer work, especially on the weekends. I and my family will be around for a couple of weddings, but that is about it. I am happy to answer any questions from anyone in the congregation regarding this event.

-Pastor Furgeson

## PICTORIAL CHURCH DIRECTORY APP



Our church directory is a great resource tool to get to know our church family better! Simply visit the App Store on your phone and search for Instant Church Directory, and download the free app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to create a login for the first time you use the directory app.



**You can update your family information and picture at any time!** If you're not listed in the directory, OR, if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.

## EVANGELISM NEWS



**A 2024 New Year's Resolution:** Do you have non-churched friends and family you wish knew the joy and peace Jesus gives to those who believe? We have good news! The Holy Spirit works through people like you to help share the truth about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Below are some suggestions on how you can start sharing Jesus with the people God has put in your life.

1. Make a list of the names of people you would like to share Jesus with.
2. Pray. For them and that the Holy Spirit will help you share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them.
3. Concerned you may not have the right words? Open Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation (2017) where you can learn and grow in knowledge of God's Word and how to answer some of life's tough questions.
4. Schedule a time to talk with someone on your list. At this meeting don't be quick to share, but instead listen and ask questions to learn what they think about Jesus. Repeat this step until you feel you really understand their position.
5. When asked a question or your opinion, do not argue or criticize, but say you will share with them what the Bible says on the matter.
6. When sharing what the Bible says, always have a Bible passage or note for them to reference later.
7. Lastly, always share with them that Jesus said He came to tell us the truth about God, the world, eternal life, and the great love of God for people. A truth that is true for you, as well as them.

\*Keep an eye on the Sunday bulletins and monthly newsletters for more about how you can learn to share the love of God with others.

**"Thank you to our merry band of carolers** who sang Christmas carols on the streets surrounding our church. A very special thanks to Jonathan and Jacqui Gathman for playing their recorders, to Cindy Neff and Mary Suda, who provided a lunch of delicious homemade chicken soup and sandwiches, and to Peace's anonymous cookie baking elf for the wonderful cookies.

**John 15:26-27 (Jesus said to His disciples) "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning."**



## LIFE MINISTRY - LIVE NOT BY LIES



Aleksander Solzhenitsyn was a famous Soviet dissident who coined the phrase: "live not by lies." That phrase has more meaning than ever since speaking and defending truth in our society has become a revolutionary act. As our culture rejects Christianity, it embraces and reinforces the lies of Satan. Abortion is being voted into state constitutions. Euthanasia is being peddled as "death with dignity." Traditional marriage is decreasing. Our young people question their gender identity. Addiction is at an all-time high.

People are moving from major cities as crime and lawlessness increase.

Our culture declined gradually over decades because we as Christians merely accepted the changes as inevitable. The other common argument is "that's their right and their business." Yes, people have the right to do things that are morally wrong even if they are legal, but when most people accept immorality, society eventually falls apart. The Bible is full of such examples: Sodom, Gomorrah and the earth in Noah's time are extreme ones. The fall of Israel and Judah to foreign nations is a more common outcome.

It's easy to feel overwhelmed by all this, especially when Christianity is mocked and blamed for intolerance, bigotry and outdated values. It's even more difficult when co-workers, friends or relatives are the source of such mockery. Yet those are the people who need to be respectfully told God's truth and like it or not, we're the ones God can use to speak it. That's quite a challenge for many of us. We value our relationships, and we don't want to make waves. Yet every time we fail to stand up for the truth, we're allowing lies to remain affirmed and reinforced. We're reaping the consequences now.

January is a month for resolutions. How about this one? "Live not by lies." It's a challenge to live your life with integrity, not just by staying out of trouble and being a good person. It's a call to actively take a stand for what you know is right. You don't have to be aggressive or confrontational; just point out what you know to be right and let your light shine. As things get darker, that light becomes ever brighter. Live not by lies.

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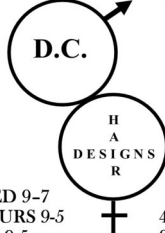


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JANUARY/FEBRUARY - 2024 ISSUE

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