

THE PEACE LUTHERAN

VOLUME 50, ISSUE NO. 1

2025: 80 YEARS OF BLESSINGS

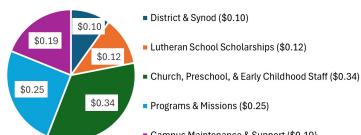
As we enter the 80th year of our community of faith, we find God's grace evident among us! We have grown each year since the pandemic, and look forward to how God will shape us in the future. Looking ahead, 2025 milestones for Peace will include:

- The potential renovation of our Early Childhood, Preschool, and Sunday School areas, making them safe and ready for future generations to grow in Christ among us.
- The potential addition of a third pastor as we grow and seek to rightly engage the families of our Peace congregation and local community.
- The full cleanup of the Sanctuary to its original condition.
- An increase in opportunities to engage in and with our Peace community.
- A celebration of 80 years of God's blessings among us and to us.

Thank you for all of your financial support (see the chart below for how each dollar is spent), as well as all of the time and effort so many of you put in with the unique gifts God has given you. May God grace our year ahead and our path to a century of faithful service to Him!

Pastor Jon Furgeson

Where Each Dollar Goes at Peace 2025



Campus Maintenance & Support (\$0.19)

JANUARY 2025

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TU - 12/24	12:00PM - Christmas Eve 3:00PM - Christmas Eve 5:00PM - Christmas Eve 11:15PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight
W - 12/25	9:30AM - Christmas Day
M - 1/6	7:00PM - Epiphany
Holy Communion celebrated at all services.	





EPIPHANY WORSHIP

Monday, January 6 Holy Communion 7:00PM



VOTERS' ASSEMBLY REMINDER

Monday, February 10 7:00PM - Sanctuary Hall

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARDS



There's still time to turn in your 2025 pledge card. As you look to the year ahead, we ask you to consider Peace as an integral part of your financial planning. Toward that end, as we plan ourselves, we ask you to complete a pledge

card so we can anticipate giving for the year, and plan our mission work and programs accordingly. Pledge cards are available in the church office. You may also enter your pledge on the Peace website.

Rev. Dr. Jon Furgeson, Senior Pastor 314-601-1039 pastor.furgeson@peacelutheranstl.org **Rev. ROBERT BROWN, Associate Pastor** 618-580-8817 pastor.brown@peacelutheranstl.org

LIFE MINISTRY - BABY BOTTLE DRIVE



Baby bottles will be distributed the weekend of January 18-19, after each service. They will be used to collect money for the Pregnancy Help Center of South County. Proceeds enable the center to reach mothers in need through a strong internet presence and to provide life-saving ultrasound services to women considering abortion. Bottles can be returned the following two weeks at the Commons

Counter. <u>Please note that if you include a check</u> <u>inside your bottle, please make check payable to</u> <u>Pregnancy Resource Center</u>.

MEMBER HELP NEEDED



Peace member Evelyn Uhlig is looking for in-home help Monday-Friday, approximately two hours per day, from 3:00-5:00PM. Tasks include assistance with mail, light dinner prep

and other general tasks. Compensation would be \$150 per week. If interested, <u>please contact Evelyn after January 1</u>, 2025 at 314-487-4226.



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

On Friday, February 21, from 1:00-5:00PM, the American Red Cross will be at Peace for a winter blood drive.

To register, please scan the QR Code or visit: https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/driveresults?zipSponsor=PLC.

If you need assistance with registration, please contact the Church office. Donations save lives!





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.



Looking for ways to volunteer and get involved? Please visit our Peace website and click on the "OPPORTUNITIES" button on the top banner of the homepage. It will take you to our Portal Page which details all of our upcoming events and signups that we have available. Current needs:

<u>GREETERS</u>

Greeters are needed for our Sunday morning services in 2025. This involves welcoming our families and visitors as they enter the sanctuary for worship services. Thank you for considering this valuable service!

<u>USHERS</u>

We need men of our congregation who would be willing to serve on an usher team. This is one of the easiest ways to serve our congregation. A typical service is only one Saturday/Sunday per month, with the exception of months with special services, (e.g., Lent, Advent, Christmas, etc.) For more information, please contact Barry Hammon at barry.hammon@wwt.com.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 584 - SUPER SUB SALES

Order your Super Subs online!

If you have any questions about our new system, please call the Church Office.







JANUARY SCRIPTURE READINGS

January 5: Second Sunday after Christmas 1 Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52

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

January 12: **The Baptism of Our Lord** Isaiah 43:1-7; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 3:15-22

January 19: **Second Sunday after the Epiphany** Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

January 26: Third Sunday after the Epiphany Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:16-30

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX!

Middle School Parents and students,

You are invited to join our DCE, Christina Stackle, and Pastor Brown for a four-week class about sex and our sexuality. The class will be centered on how we as God's children can live sexually pure and decent lives. Each class will focus on a different aspect of sex and our sexuality. Session one is called, "God and our Sexuality (Adopted in Christ)." Session two is called, "Redeeming Puberty (Redeemed in Christ)." Session three is called, "Sanctifying our Sexuality (Sanctified in Christ)." Session four is called, "Living of Sexual Integrity."

We understand that having conversations about sex and our sexuality can often be difficult and uncomfortable, but if we are to live as Christians in all areas of our lives then it's important that we have those harder conversations too. Especially as we live in a culture that is constantly bombarding our children with messages about sex and their sexuality. So, Let's Talk About Sex, as God intended it to be in our lives.

The class dates are as follows: January 5, 12, 19, and 26 (all four Sundays in January). If you are a Middle School student, your class will meet in your usual Sunday School classroom from 9:15-10:15AM. If you are a parent of a middle school student, then your class will meet in the Kitchen Meeting Room from 9:15-10:15AM.

To register for the class, please visit the church website, on the "Opportunities" page under the "Family Discipleship" tab. We hope you'll join us for this journey in learning about one of the greatest gifts God has given to us. If you have any questions or want more information, please contact Christina or Pastor Brown.

BAPTISM CLASS Sunday, February 2, 9:15 - 10:15AM Kitchen Meeting Room



Christina Stackle will lead the Baptism Class and cover the basic teachings and logistics of baptisms at Peace. This class is highly encouraged for all new and expectant parents. To register, please see the "Sign-Up for

Baptism Class" tab on the homepage of our website. If you are unable to attend this class, but desire to have your child baptized prior to February, please call the Church Office at 314-892-5610. Baptism Classes will be offered March 30, June 8, September 7, and November 16.

MEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY



Men's Morning Bible Study meets every other Thursday morning (with the exception of holidays) at 7:00AM in Sanctuary Hall. Led by Pastor Brown, they are

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 News and Notes.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Our Wednesday evening Bible Study will break December 4 through January 1. Class will resume on Wednesday, January 8 at 7:00PM in Sanctuary Hall. Pastor Furgeson will begin the new year, with a study of the **Book of Acts.** Everyone is welcome!

MARY MARTHA BIBLE CLASS

Please join us on Thursday mornings for our weekly Bible Study. We meet at 9:00AM for fellowship, with Bible Study at 9:30AM, in the Kitchen Meeting Room. Our studies are lead by Pastor Furgeson and Pastor Brown. We hope you will join us.



NEW TOPIC SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY AND A GUEST INSTRUCTOR!

Longtime teacher and Lutheran Hour leader Dr. Gerald Perschbacher will teach a four-week study starting December 29. Dr. Perschbacher will lead the Sunday morning Bible study on faith through the eyes of Matthew, Mary, John, and Peter and how each informs our own understanding of faith today. We hope you can make it to our Adult Bible Class for this series!

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.

QUILTERS CORNER



Happy New Year from the Peace Quilters! Please join us each Tuesday from 9:00AM-2:00PM. We will be quilting temporarily in the brides room during the work in the Sanctuary. For questions or more information, please contact

Cheryl Turley at 314-223-0744.

Quilting is sharing yourself with others.

MARRIED COUPLES CLUB



Couples Club January Event - **Match Your Mate** is Saturday, January 11, at 6:00PM in the gym. Cost is \$10 per couple. Please

bring a snack or dessert to share. RSVP to Gina Werkmeister, 314-650-2915 by January 9.

MEN'S CLUB

Men's Club will meet Tuesday, January 28, from 6:00-9:00PM. Please join us for a great meal, followed by our monthly meeting. Men's Club is open to all men of Peace, 21 and up! For more information, please contact John Hooss at 314-913-3072.

SURVIVING SPOUSES BREAKFAST

Join us on Thursday, January 9, at 9:00AM at the Denny's on South Lindbergh. Our group meets on the second Thursday of each month. For more information on Surviving Spouses, please contact Joyce Schutte at 314-267-7051.

LADIES CLUB

Were your holidays joyous, but exhausting? Regardless, it is time to finally sit down and relax. Come join us Tuesday, January 21, for the first Ladies Club night of 2025. Enjoy and evening of fun, fellowship, snacks and drinks. Since we all worship at different service times, we don't get a chance to know and see everyone, but we want to. Come share your holiday stories, in the comfort of your pajamas and slippers (optional), and enjoy a stress free evening. During our brief business session, we vote on accepting the updated by laws for our club. If accepted, the new bylaws will better reflect how the club operates moving forward.

PLASTIC MAT MAKING

Our group meets on the first and third Tuesdays each month, from 9:00AM to noon in Sanctuary Hall. We would love to have more helpers. If you don't crochet, you can help fold, cut or loop the plastic bags. Can't make it on Tuesdays? We can show you how to work from home! For more information, please contact Anita Thomas at 314-200-6753.

LWML-LADIES GUILD



Did you know that the LWML Ladies Guild has been around since 1942, and continues to contribute towards Mission Grant Projects? In 2024, your mite donations were a part of the \$1,576,988 to 18 recipients. Your faithful support is what enables LWML

to joyfully proclaim the Gospel and support missions in 84 countries worldwide.

Mite Collection Sunday at Peace is the second Sunday of each month. Thank you for donating stamps and "Mites" at our Welcome Center Counter!



FELLOWSHIP HOUR - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Help is always needed with the coffee and donut set-up and clean-up on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. If you would like

to help, please contact Ralph or Grace Truemper at 314-544-0233.

OFFICIAL ACTS

BAPTISMS

November 24, 2024 - Austin James Hughes December 14, 2024 - Knox Robert Guardado

FUNERALS

December 4, 2024 - Lorin Dressel, 93 December 12, 2024 - Terry Grosjean, 80 December 18, 2024 - Patricia Broy, 88





St. Trinity CEMETERY



Non-Sectarian – Endowed Care Owned and Operated by Peace Lutheran Church

> 2160 Lemay Ferry Road (Lemay Ferry at Reavis Barracks) St. Louis, MO 63125 314-892-3662

Kyle Rieger Superintendent

St. Louis, MO 63125 314-892-3662 www.sttrinitycemetery.com Monday – Friday 7:30 – 4:00 Saturday by Appointment Only

ST. TRINITY CEMETERY

Farewell Mark...Hello Luke!

It's the end of an era, as Mark McDaniel will officially retire from St. Trinity Cemetery at the end of 2024 after 28 years. We are so thankful for his years of service and dedication, and wish him well in this new chapter of his life. Anyone who wishes to express their thanks via card or note can place them in Tracey Roesch's mailbox (664) and they will be given to him.



Luke Dodson started at St. Trinity Cemetery mid-November as our new full-time Groundskeeper. Luke enjoys being outside in his free time and at work. His previous jobs were grass-cutting and landscaping, and he most recently worked for Park Lawn Cemetery for two years. Luke

and his wife, Sarah, have three dogs and enjoy playing video games together. He also spends several hours a week practicing archery in his back yard. Welcome to St. Trinity Cemetery, Luke!

Follow us on Facebook at St Trinity Cemetery or visit our website at www.sttrinitycemetery.com.



MISSIONARY NEWS



Current newsletters from Pastor Jensen in Germany and Pastor Cundiff in Latvia are available on our Peace Website or the Bulletin Board in the Commons.

If you would like to support the missionary efforts of Pastor Jensen and Pastor Cundiff, please direct your contributions to "Synodical Missionary Support" at Peace, or directly through the LCMS website.

SUNDAY SERVICE ON KFUO



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.



2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES



2025 Offering envelopes have been distributed. Please note that numbers have been assigned for 2025. Beginning January 1, 2025, please discard any old, unused

envelopes. If you didn't receive envelopes and would like a box, 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.



On behalf of Social Ministry, we thank our Peace

families for their outpouring of support to benefit

- Thanksgiving Food Drive \$2,955 in monetary offerings to share with Feed My People and Concordia Seminary Food Bank, and an overwhelming donation of food.
- Adopt-A-Family 27 families adopted, totaling 85 people!
- Angel Giving Tree approximately 500 gifts donated this year to Feed My People.

The giving spirit from our congregation helps to make the holiday season bright for so many families in need! Thank you for your continued generosity!

MEN'S CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE LOT

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

BOAR'S HEAD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Thank You to everyone who supported this year's festival! "What a great performance!" "Blown away!" "9.9--and I don't give anything a 10!" These are some of the comments we received after the Boar's Head Christmas Festival this year. We give God all of the glory as we praise and thank Him for the wonderful weekend - ideal weather, everyone healthy, great audiences (over 1,400 in attendance), and enjoyable fellowship. If you missed it this year, mark your calendars for our 29th annual festival next year - December 4, 5, 6, and 7, 2025!



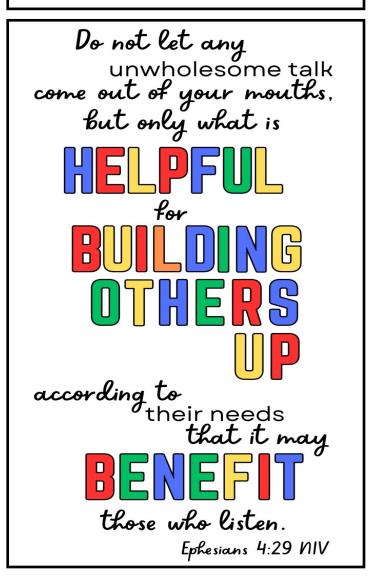






Early Childhood Open House Tuesday, February 4, 2025 5:30-7:00PM

Please join us for our annual open house! Tour the classrooms, meet our teachers, enjoy hot dogs, chips and dessert. There will be slide shows of daily routines and children's artwork will be on display. For more information, please contact Susan Velten, 314-892-8844 or email to earlychildhood@peacelutheranstl.org.





Stay-N-Play - Thursday, January 9, from 8:30-10:30AM. Stay-N-Play is a free open gym for little ones ages 5 and under accompanied by an adult. The morning of fun includes 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!

Future Stay-N-Play dates are on the second Thursdays of the month, February 13, and March 13.

Chapel - Please join us on Wednesday mornings for Chapel in the gym from 8:30-9:00AM. Join us to witness a vital piece of our student's Christian education as they hear the word of God. Please note, there is no Chapel on the first Wednesday of each month as Faith Families meet during that time.

Green Park Sunday at Peace - January 12! Green Park's faculty and staff will be at the 10:30AM service as we celebrate our ministry together!

Open House - Sunday, January 26, from 1:00-3:00PM. Looking for a school where your child can receive an unmatched faith-based Christian education? Come see what Green Park Lutheran School has to offer and what our students have been working on in their classrooms. Find out what makes us the best private elementary school in South St. Louis County where our students are known, loved, and valued.

Change Challenge - Classrooms competed in the Annual Change Challenge. Thank you to everyone who participated! We heard of many heartwarming stories of students pulling money from their own piggy banks to participate. In the end, we collected a whopping \$6,100 which will be used to install new bottle filling drinking fountains around school. Congratulations to Miss Marty's Kindergarten class on their big win. Mrs. Madsen's 3rd grade class came in 2nd place, and Miss Berry's 2nd grade class came in 3rd place.

Trivia Night - The Disco-Themed Trivia Night was a spectacular success, raising nearly \$10,000 for Green Park's Tuition Assistance Fund! The event was a blast, with participants rocking their best '70s style while testing their knowledge. A special thank you to our generous sponsors: Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Christ Memorial Lutheran Church, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Peace Lutheran Church, Katie Gaeta Photography, Pfitzer Property Group, Ryburn Property Group, ZAP Squared Embroidery, ABS Home Services, The Torbeck Team, Amen, Gantner & Capriano, and Hellwig Hardscapes, for their support in making this event possible. Together, we're helping more students dance their way to a brighter future at Green Park!



Dueling Pianos - Saturday, February 1, 7:30PM at Peace! Get ready for an unforgettable night filled with music, laughter, and friendly competition! The GPLS Dueling Pianos Event is the perfect opportunity to enjoy live entertainment with friends while supporting a great cause.

Here's what you can expect:

Live Dueling Piano Performances Delicious Appetizers and Dessert Special VIP tables

Tickets on sale now on the GPLS website! Grab your friends and reserve a table before they sell out! Want to support the event and get your brand noticed? Check out our sponsorship packages and secure your spot as a partner.



Visit the website where you can find news, schedule tours, view the weekly Green Sheet newsletter, see sports schedules, sponsorship opportunities, and more! For questions regarding admissions and enrollment, or to schedule a tour, contact Marketing and Admissions Director, Katie Gaeta at katie.gaeta@greenparklutheranschool.org.

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.



It's the night we've all been waiting for! Come check out our new Jubel Center for the Arts and join us for the Grand Opening Celebration with **Lusopaloozo**! The night will include music by Ariel McMahon and Adam Countryman and feature a reunion of the alumni band, "The Rock." The

Lutheran South Pep Band, Concert Choir, and some surprise guests will also make appearances. Tickets are \$25 each if purchased before February 1. We can't wait to celebrate with you! https:// www.lslancers.org/events





The Lutheran South bands will host Big Band Swing on Friday, February 7, from 6:00-10:00PM. The night will feature the local professional big band "The Ambassadors of Swing." Tickets are available for \$30 each and include beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres. Free swing dance lessons will be offered at 6:30PM. It is sure to be a fun evening as we raise money for the band to go on tour this spring! **Register at https://www.lslancers.org/events**

Calling all former Lancerettes! Whether you danced Lancerette Alumni Night

in the 1980s or the 2010s, we want you to join us! Please come back to campus for a varsity boys basketball game, meet our current squad, reconnect... and maybe even dance! We have added two, 8-counts to our routine for Friday, January 17, and would love to have you dance with us! If you're more comfortable just attending, that's an option, too! Either way, we hope you join us! **RSVP to attend, or attend and perform: https://www.lslancers.org/events**



Friday, January 17



Mark your calendars for the annual Lutheran South Basketball Trivia Night on Saturday, January 18, 2025. Doors open at 6:30PM and games begin at 7:00PM. \$200 for tables of 8. Silent auction, games and prizes will take place throughout the evening. Bring your own food and beverages. (Adult beverages allowed.) Register at https://www.lslancers.org/events

Have your name hang in our new Legacy Loft in the Jubel Center for the Arts slated to open next month! Nominations are now open for Lutheran

South's next class of Distinguished Alumni. This award recognizes the outstanding achievements of alumni who graduated at have realized significant least 10 years ago and accomplishments after high school. Its purpose is to honor alumni who, through success in their professions or service to their communities, have made a significant impact in the world around them, and in doing so, have brought credit to themselves, to Lutheran South, and to God. Periodically, an additional award will be given to student groups or athletic teams that excelled at South and the faculty member who led the group.

Nominate a graduate here: https://bit.ly/LuSoDA



MOSCHOLARS TAX CREDIT PROGRAM



MOScholars is a tax credit program that provides scholarships for students attending Missouri LCMS schools. To date, more than \$1.25 million has been awarded by the Missouri District through the program. With no additional cost and minimal effort, being a part of this opportunity is easy. Begin the process today:



Visit mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars to reserve your tax credits Scan here to check it out!



Complete the prompts and select 'The Missouri District" for the EAO

Mail your check to the Missouri District Note your confirmation number in the memo. Make the check payable to "Missouri District LCMS". Mail to: Missouri District LCMS 660 Mason Ridge Center Dr., Suite 100 St. Louis, MO 63141 or



Questions? Contact Leah: 314-590-6211

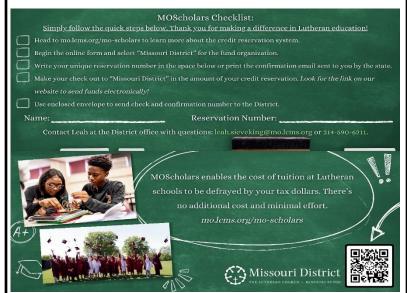
leah.sieveking@mo.lcms.org

Contact us to send funds electronically!

It's a win for taxpayers, students, families, and LCMS schools in our state. Thank you for your participation!



🐴 Missouri District





LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

LESA equips Lutheran schools, families, and communities with resources to build God's kingdom. In its 20-year history, LESA awarded \$8.2 million to over 4,000 students.

A special congratulations to Green Park Lutheran School, where 41 students were awarded a total of \$30,260 in tuition assistance from LESA for the 2024-2025 school year. For more information about how you can support the next generation of Christian leaders, visit lesastl.org.



CHILDREN DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS



Parents are the primary faith JESUS formators for their children and **LOVES** Peace is excited to partner with them, providing resources to help MFO 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 receive "Living with Jesus," and Third through Fifth Grade receive "My Devotions." A few extra copies will be available on the tract rack near the church office each quarter for others to share Jesus with children they know.





Questions? Contact Denise Grant @ 314.591.8207 or email finance@peacelutheranstl.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Welcome 2025!!!! By the grace and mercy of our beloved, Almighty God, we have been blessed with another year. Let us use this precious time given to us to bring glory and honor to Him.

The 2024 Sunday School Christmas Service was a huge

success. A big thank you to all the students who actively participated in the service and to their parents for helping along the way. Thanks to Pastor Brown, Christina Stackle and all the wonderful teachers who helped plan and make the service possible.

It is our mission at Peace Lutheran Church Sunday School to teach the children entrusted to us the full counsel of God through Law and Gospel. Saint Paul, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote in 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

This month, our Parents and Me class (0-3-year-old students) will continue learning about God and His ways. Preschool and kindergarten students will learn about the baptism of Jesus as well as His temptation in the wilderness by the devil. They will then hear how Jesus called His disciples, including Matthew, a tax collector despised by the people. The first and second grade students will return to the pages of the Old Testament and study the life of Joseph, the "favored" son of Jacob. This "favored" status caused Joseph many problems with his eleven brothers who sold him into slavery. But God used the evil actions of Joseph's brothers for the ultimate good of His people Israel. The third and fourth grade students will also return to the Old Testament and learn about the biblical characters Samuel, Saul, David, Goliath, and Jonathan. This will be an exciting study highlighted from the books of 1st and 2nd Samuel. The fifth grade students will begin a study of the life of Martin Luther and his role in the Reformation of the church.

Please encourage your children to hide God's Word in their hearts through the memorization of scripture. [Jesus said,] **"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."** John14:6.

God's continued blessing on you and your loved ones.

Robert Wolff, Sunday School Superintendent 314-374-8044(Cell)





PEACE EARLY CHILDHOOD

JANUARY 2025

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. Psalm 9:1

Happy New Year! As we enjoy learning together this winter, the preschoolers will discover more about Jesus, and how God fulfills his promises. We will see that God's Word is important, as we read about young Jesus spending time in the temple. We will learn about Jesus' baptism, and how we are brought into God's family through Holy Baptism. We will also focus on the miracles of Jesus healing ten lepers, raising Jairus' daughter, and feeding the 5,000. As we explore these miracles, we will learn about germs, doctors, and

healthy food, too! Our alphabet focus will be on letters Nn, Oo, and Pp, noticing details, rhyming words, and asking "w questions" (who, when, where, why). Our math focus will be comparing quantities, patterning, and writing numbers 0-5. Our Chapel with Pastor Brown will take place on January 8, with an offering of hats and mittens to benefit Alaska Missions. We are also eager to celebrate Lutheran Schools Week the week of January 27! To learn more about our programs, or to schedule a tour, please contact Sue Velten 314-892-8844, at or email earlychildhood@peacelutheranstl.org. For more information please visit our webpage at peacelutheranstl.org, and follow us on Facebook at Peace. Early Childhood. We wish everyone a joyous holiday season!





ALASKA MISSION CHICKEN DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION



Save the date and join us on Sunday, March 2, for our Alaska Mission Chicken Dinner and Silent Auction in the gymnasium at Peace. Watch the newsletter and weekly News and Notes for ticket sales!

Address: _____

Name:

City/State/Zip: _____

with your payment of \$21.00, or you may use the

special envelope included in your 2025 offering envelopes. Checks payable to Peace. **Deadline to**

place your order through church is February 3.

Attached: \$_____

LIFE MINISTRY - THE WHITE ROSE



Hans Scholl and his sister Sophie were planning on meeting their friend Dietrich Bonhoeffer on February 25, 1943. They never kept that appointment. On February 18, 1943, the two were arrested by Nazi authorities for distributing pamphlets critical of Hitler's Nazi regime. Their small group of young people, the White Rose, urged the German people to do whatever possible to resist this evil government. Along with another friend, they were interrogated and beheaded by guillotine a few days later on February 22. Sophie was only 21 years old. Bonhoeffer was hanged on April 9, 1945. It appeared that darkness and evil had won.

Many in the pro-life movement have been demoralized by the passage of constitutional amendments in several states, including Missouri. Pro-life advocates saw their years of work toward abolishing abortion negated on November 5, 2024. The status of pregnancy help centers is in question. Parental rights are also challenged. Taxpayer dollars and insurance premiums will be used to fund abortion. Single-sex public bathrooms and sports teams are also at risk. There will be many lawsuits to sort out what all this means.

It appears that Missouri has entered a time of darkness. A culture that devalues human life spoke on November 5. It affirmed that lives of the unborn are expendable when they prove to be inconvenient. It eroded the rights of parents to make decisions for their minor children. In fact, they will no longer have the right to know whether their teenage daughter is considering an abortion. Neither will they have the right to know if their school-age child is considering transitioning to the opposite sex. Meanwhile, those providing abortions or gender transition services will not be held liable if their clients die or suffer permanent damage. It's open season on the most vulnerable people of our state: the unborn and children.

It would be easy to throw in the towel and be done with all this, but that's exactly what Satan would have us do. On January 24, 2025, the National March for Life will take place in Washington, D.C. The theme, **"Every Life: Why We March"** underlines why we cannot give up in the face of defeats at the ballot box. Many of those participating in this march will be young people just like Hans and Sophie Scholl. Their energy, idealism and optimism are more important than ever because they keep the momentum going. Those who have worked in this movement for decades can derive inspiration and encouragement from these young people.

When we celebrate pro-life Sunday in January, we have a white rose on the altar in remembrance of the unborn who died before birth. But the white rose should also remind us of people like Hans and Sophie Scholl, as well as Dietrich Bonhoeffer: devout Christians, whose idealism and courage meant sacrificing their lives to fight evil. Sophie's last words were "The Son still shines." She was right. He does!

"Through the love of Jesus Christ the Life Ministry Team exists to equip Peace Lutheran Church to sanctify life at all stages"

Peace Life Ministry Team



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Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. II Corinthians 5:17

HAPPY NEW YEAR! God's blessings in 2025!