

# THE PEACE LUTHERAN

VOLUME 49, ISSUE NO. 2

#### MARCH SCRIPTURE READINGS

- March 3: Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 2:13-25
- March 10: Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21
- March 17: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:32-45
- March 24: Zechariah 9:9-12; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 21:1-11
- March 31: Exodus:15:1-11; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John 20:1-18

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED



Early Childhood is seeking a Preschool Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year.

A detailed job description is posted on the church bulletin board, or you may contact the church office, or Early Childhood Director,

Sue Velten at 314-892-8844 for more information.



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

#### <u>30th Annual Presentation of the</u> <u>Living Last Supper</u>



In 1494, Leonardo da Vinci was commissioned to decorate the wall of the Church of Santa Maria Della Grazie in Milan, Italy. He chose the "Last Supper" as his topic portraying the moment just after our Lord said, "One of you will betray me." At that moment, the twelve apostles became men of twelve different moods and personalities.

On Maundy Thursday, "The Living Last Supper" will once again be presented here at Peace. The pose from da Vinci's painting will be recreated and one by one each disciple "comes to life" to share his thoughts and to wonder, "Is it I?" The Chancel Choir adds to the drama with various musical selections and the service culminates with the celebration of Holy Communion.

Come for an evening with the disciples as we begin the sacred three-day period recounting Jesus' last days - from the Upper Room to the borrowed tomb. Invite your family and friends for this unique opportunity to learn about our Savior and His disciples.

#### Maundy Thursday ~ March 28 ~ 7:00PM Doors open at 6:30PM

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1



**Rev. Robert Brown, Associate Pastor** 618-580-8817 pastor.brown@peacelutheranstl.org

#### MARCH 2024

#### MEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The 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, 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.

#### MARY MARTHA BIBLE CLASS

Bible

Ladies, please join us each Study Thursday morning 9:00AM for fellowship, followed by Bible Study at 9:30AM, in the Kitchen Meeting Room. Pastor Brown

and Pastor Furgeson are finishing the current study on Colossians. Watch the newsletter for more details. We hope you will join us!

#### **CHILDREN DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS**



Parents are the primary faith formators for their echildren 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.

#### **2024 LENTEN & EASTER SCHEDULE**

#### 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

11:00AM Organ Recital March 13 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



#### **BON VOYAGE TO LONG TIME MEMBERS**

We bid a fond farewell to several of our long-time Peace members.

Barbara Wilson, a member of Peace for 35 years, is moving to Caddo Mills, Texas, to live near her daughter; Nadine Day, a member at Peace for 50 years, is moving to Boulder, Colorado, to live near her son; and Kathy Ebmeier, a member of Peace for 37 years, moved to Melbourne, Florida, to live near her daughter. Although their memberships may remain at Peace, we shall miss their presence at worship and the many ways they were involved in our ministry. God's blessings to Barbara, Nadine and Kathy in their new homes!



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - 2024

## THE GREAT JUNGLE JOURNEY AN EPIC CRUISE FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION

## Online Registration Opens March 1st On Our Website

We will take a "Jungle Journey" this summer from June 24-28. Join us for an epic adventure from Genesis to Revelation. We will sail along on a fun

jungle cruise, stopping at seven ports of call (the 7 C's of History): Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, and Consummation, each day discovering how these events shape our world, while learning to reconnect the Bible to our everyday lives.

### VOLUNTEERS ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF VBS!

Please watch future bulletins and newsletters for details on how you can be involved. We have teams for games, music, crafts, registration, preschool, and photography. Some teams will need help prior to June, so even if you can't help during the week of June 24-28, you can still be part of this amazing week! We would love to have you join us on our **Great Jungle Journey** this summer!

#### LIVING EASTER CROSS

A 7-foot cross (wrapped with wire) will be standing for our Easter services in the Commons. Everyone is invited to bring fresh flowers to the Holy Saturday and Easter morning services. As they insert the flowers, eventually (by the 10:30AM service) the cross will be entirely filled as a Springtime reminder of new life in Christ through the resurrection of our Lord and Savior on Easter.

#### PLEASE REMEMBER BRING FLOWERS

As families and children insert the flowers, they recite together John 3:16. This living cross also creates a beautiful background for family photos on Easter morning.



Adult CO-ED VOLLEYBALL AT PEACE	
Co-Ed volleyball plays on Tuesc evenings from 6:00-8:00PM in the gympacium Co Ed yallayball is apon	ay Join us Tuesday, N
evenings from 6:00-8:00PM in t	he Jewelry and Acc

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@amail.com or 314-856-5379.

#### SURVIVING SPOUSES BREAKFAST

Join us on Thursday, March 14, 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 meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 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!

#### **QUILTERS CORNER**



Quilters meet each Tuesday 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 with friends keeps you in stitches!"

#### MISSIONARY NEWS



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

March 19, at 7:00PM for a Costume essory Swap. Please bring three or  $\mathcal{J}$  gymnasium. Co-Ed volleyball is open to four items to swap. 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**

Please join us for our monthly meeting Thursday, March 21, 10:45AM in Sanctuary Hall. Come for fellowship and find out how you can help further our mite collection and stamp collection which provides Grant Funds for Mission Projects. Thank you for supporting our congregations second Sunday Monthly Mite Collection! Pick up a mite box if you don't have one yet.

#### MARRIED COUPLES CLUB

Join us for Bunco Night on Saturday, March 16, at 6:00PM. in the gym. Cost is \$10.00 per couple. Please bring a snack or a dessert to share. Beverages will be provided. Even if you don't know how to play, we will learn together. RSVP to Gina Werkmeister at 314-638-8268.

Save the Date: Saturday, August 24, for our Trivia Night FUNraiser. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for detailed information.

#### LUTHERAN YOUNG ADULTS

Lutheran Young Adults (LYA) is a new group for young adults in the area to get together, meet new friends, and do something fun each month on Friday night each month! Their March event is volleyball night. Bring your "A-Game" and a snack to share on Friday, March 15, 6:30PM, at Holy Cross Lutheran School gymnasium, 304 South Street, Collinsville, IL 62234. We hope to see you there!

#### LADIES CLUB



#### **OFFICIAL ACTS**

#### **BAPTISMS**

January 21, 2024 - Eli James McAllister February 4, 2024 - Peyton Lynn Williams

#### FUNERALS

January 22, 2024 - \*Richard Morton, 66 January 25, 2024 - Grace E. Roenfeldt, 95 February 1,2024 - Janette Wyatt, 75

\*Non-Member

#### ALASKA MISSION DINNER AUCTION THANK YOU



A big THANK YOU to EVERYONE who helped make this evening a success. A delicious chicken dinner was enjoyed by all, as well as a slide show of our summer mission trip to Hooper Bay, Alaska.

An estimated \$4,000.00 in profits from the auction will help offset

our shipping costs. If you would like more information on Alaska Mission, please contact Jackie Hoeferlin at 314-440-1693. We are blessed and grateful for your continued support.

-Peace Alaska Mission Team

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### BOY SCOUT TROOP 584 THANK YOU



Many thanks to our Peace families for your continued generosity, orders and donations to the Super Sub Sale. We greatly appreciate your support!

-Boy Scouts of Troop 584

#### 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.

#### ST. TRINITY CEMETERY SPRING SPRUCE-UP SATURDAY, MARCH 23

It's time to spruce-up St. Trinity for spring! Please consider helping us out on Saturday, March 23, from 9:00AM to 1:30PM, for our annual spring cleanup at the cemetery. Lunch and water will be provided. Please bring rakes, gloves, blowers and plastic trash cans. To sign up, please contact 314-971-8430 Tracey Roesch at or email jtroesch96@gmail.com.

#### **CFNA - VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED**

Looking for ways to be the hands and feet of Jesus to refugees in St. Louis? Christian Friends of New Americans AMERIC AMERIC (CFNA) is seeking volunteers to drive clients refugee to medical appointments. Transportation to appointments is the last and most crucial link to accessing needed medical care. Appointments are mostly on weekdays during normal business hours. Interested? Please contact Paige Bernau, RN at pbernau@cfna-stl.org.

#### PEACE SHINE EVENT - SAVE THE DATE

Saturday April 13, from 8:00AM to noon for the 2024 SHINE Event. Watch the upcoming bulletins and April Newsletter for information on how you can serve and SHINF!

#### EASTER CANDY NEEDED FOR EGG HUNT



Easter candy is needed for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23. Please drop off wrapped candy to the church office by Sunday, March 3. Thank you!

#### **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS** DEADLINE - MARCH 31, 2024

If you would like to direct your Thrivent dollars to Peace, please do so by March 31, 2024. To direct your contribution to Peace, please call Thrivent directly at 800-847-4836, or go online to thrivent.com/thriventchoice. After contacting Thrivent, please call the church office and inform us where to designate your dollars (such as budget, Sunday School, Social Ministry, Boar's Head, etc.) so we can correctly apply the funds once received. Thank you!



#### 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.

#### 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.



#### SAVE YOUR CANCELLED POSTAGE STAMPS



LWML Ladies Guild extends a great big thank you to our Peace families for saving cancelled stamps. Our Missouri LWML District has earned over \$17,000 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 located on the Commons counter.





Congratulations to **Peace members, Henry Wildman** (6th Grade), and **Lucie Wildman** (8th grade). Henry placed 2nd and Lucie placed 3rd in the Bible Bee held during Lutheran Schools Week. Congratulations to Chloe Adams (8th grade) for her 1st place finish.

Further congratulations to **Peace Member, Lucie Wildman.** Lucie received the Kiwanis Student of the Month award. Lucie was nominated by the Green Park faculty and staff for the following attributes laid out by the Kiwanis Organization. Kiwanis honors an

"all around" outstanding 8th grade student, with high moral and academic standing, active participation in school, church and community activities. Lucie received her award, with her parents in attendance at a luncheon held on Wednesday, February 14.





A Night For Our Vikings - Dinner Auction, is Friday, March 8, at Royale Orleans! Tickets are available for purchase until February 23 on our school website. For more information, please contact Laura Reis at 314-544-4248.

**Our final Stay N Play is** Thursday, March 14, 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!

**Part-Time Childcare worker needed**. Hours are Monday-Friday, from 3:00-6:00PM. Qualifications would include a loving and caring personality, patience, and flexibility. Interested candidates should email April Baese, Child Care Director, at april.baese@greenparklutheranschool.org.

We are enrolling for the 2024-2025 school year! We have seen a 20% increase in enrollment over the last three years, with our current enrollment at 262; Kindergarten through 8th grade-219, and Junior Kindergarten-43.

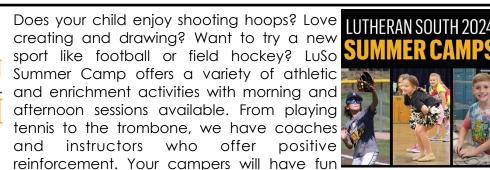
Grant Awarded to GPLS! Because the safety of our students, faculty and staff at is a top priority, Green Park was recently awarded a grant to address the safety and security of our school.

If you are considering Christian Education for your children, we invite you to come visit our school. Tours are scheduled year-round. Please contact Katie Gaeta at katie.gaeta@greenparklutheranschool.org or call 314-544-4248.

Follow us at: www.greenparklutheranschool.org www.facebook.com/greenparklutheranschool www.Instagram.com/greenparkls www.Twitter.com/greenparkls

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.







while learning a new skill. Register today at https://bit.ly/LuSoEvents.



HIGH SCHC

Five LuSo athletes signed to continue their academic and athletic careers in college. Connor Terbrock-Baseball at John Wood Community College, Mac Floyd-Baseball at Mississippi Valley State University; Ellie Buscher-Basketball at State Fair Community College; Lindy French-Softball at Colorado School of the Mines; and Taylor Lorenz-Softball at William Woods University.

Nine Lady Lancers were named to the 2023 Academic All-State Volleyball Team! Congratulations to **Peace member**, Haley Hinton, Aiyana Autry, Audrey Blancett, Jessica Meyer, Maddie Moorhem, Karah Osborne, Aubrey Pike, Riley Portell, and Madison Slinkard! These girls not only excelled on the court but also in the classroom, playing in 75 percent of varsity matches last year while earning a minimum 3.6 cumulative GPA.



LuSo art teacher, Mike Lorenz, received the Exceptional Educator Award from the Affton-Lemay Chamber of Commerce. Lorenz, LS '98, has a huge heart that seems to keep no record of time or workload. In addition to teaching painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, ceramics, and digital design, he coaches football and leads the Student Council. He is full of energy and devotes himself to ensuring that his students have the best high school experience possible.



The Lancerettes, including Peace member, Cece Palma, competed at the Fort Zumwalt North Invitational and stood out in a division of respected large schools! The girls placed 2nd in their Mix routine, and 3rd in Pom.

Peace member, Ella Arbeiter is the Conference Champion in the 200 and 500 free! Freshman Aubrey Yancey placed third in the 100-meter butterfly. And the pair, joined by Reese Schelp and Grace

Bollmeier, also placed third in the 200-free relay. The foursome broke a 17-year-old record in the medley relay with a time of 2:03.86. Aubrey also broke a record in the 100 backstroke by swimming it in 1:02.24 and went under a minute in the 100

butterfly tying the school record of 59.88.



Ella finished her incredible senior season, officially a State Champ! She won the 500 free with a time of 5:02:71, and didn't stop there! She took 2nd place in the 200 free, racing a personal best time and setting a new school record! Freshman Aubrey Yancey also had a fantastic swim, placing 7th in the 100 fly! We are so proud of both of these girls. Congratulations!



## St. Trinity CEMETERY

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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

Mark McDaniel Superintendent

www.sttrinitycemetery.com Monday – Friday 7:30 – 4:00 Saturday by Appointment Only

#### ST. TRINITY - INCREASE IN COST OF SERVICES

As we are all aware, costs are going up all over! Unfortunately, the cemetery business is not immune to these increases to the cost of doing business. As a result, St. Trinity Cemetery will be increasing the cost for all services approximately 10% effective March 1. Below is a sampling of the increases:

- The cost of a burial grave space will go up \$100 from a range of \$1,000 - \$1,100 to a range of \$1,100 - \$1,200.
- Standard weekday casket interment will increase from \$1,550 to \$1,700.
- Standard weekday cremation urn interment will increase from \$900 to \$1,000.

Columbarium niche prices remain unchanged, and range from \$1,700 to \$2,700.

## Peace members will be able to take advantage of the current pricing for the purchase of lots through April 30, 2024.

Brochures are available on the brochure rack in the Commons, the church office, or feel free to contact the cemetery directly at 314-892-3662.

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

#### BAPTISM CLASS

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



Pastor Brown will lead the class and cover the basic teachings and logistics of baptisms at Peace. To register, please visit our website at 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.

#### PEACE EARLY CHILDHOOD



Half Day Preschool and Preschool Plus Helping the Church Grow by helping God's Children Grow

#### MARCH 2024 I have stored up Your word in my heart. Psalm 119:11



The first day of spring this year is on March 19. As our children begin to excitedly recognize the signs of spring, we will be learning how God's word takes root in our lives and helps us grow! Our Jesus time focus this month will be that Jesus is true God (Jesus calms the storm), God's people praise him (Jesus rides to Jerusalem), and

Jesus says to serve (The Last Supper), and Jesus saves us from sin (Crucifixion and Resurrection). We have been memorizing the Lord's Prayer. Many of the children know it already!

Our preschoolers will build their literacy skills by continuing to master lowercase letters and recognize rhyming words. Those who are ready will keep working on beginning sight words (the, is, see, can, I, me, my). In math, we will explore numbers 10, 11, 12, and 13, while learning two new shapes: hexagon and trapezoid.

We have fun-filled weeks ahead during March! We will celebrate reading during Dr. Seuss - Read Across America Week (February 26-March 1), learn about the baby animals (March 4-8), and have an Easter Egg Hunt (March 28).

Our children's Chapel, led by Pastor Brown will take place on Thursday, March 7. Please note that our half-day preschool class will be on Spring Break during the week of March 18-22. Enjoy these last days of winter; spring is right around the corner!

To learn more about our programs, or to schedule a tour, please contact Sue Velten, 314-892-8844 or email to earlychildhood@peacelutheranstl.org. Visit our webpage at peacelutheranstl.org, and follow us on Facebook at Peace Early Childhood.





#### ALL YOUTH NEEDED FOR EASTER EGG STUFFING & EGG HUNT

Join us on Sunday, March 10, as we stuff 1500 Easter Eggs. Please meet in the youth room at 11:30AM. We will start with a pizza lunch, stuff plastic eggs with candy, prepare activities for the Egg hunt, and finish by 1:00PM. If you can help, please sign up using the link emailed, or on Facebook.

Youth are also needed at the Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 23, at 8:30AM to hide eggs, assist families around the building, and help with crafts and games. The Easter Egg Hunt will run from 10:00–11:30AM. Please sign up using the link emailed, or on Facebook.

#### ALL YOUTH RETREAT

All 6th-12th grade youth are invited to join us for the Missouri District Youth Gathering on April 5-7. Join together with 300+ other teens for worship, sessions led by DCE Cassie Moore and poet Tanner Olsen, topical break-out sessions, service projects, fun recreational activities, opportunities to build relationships centered around God's Word with others in Missouri, and more! The cost is \$140 and includes a registration fee, hotel room, and transportation. If you plan on attending, please speak with Christina immediately.

#### 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION FAITH 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, Rachel McElroy, Lucie Wildman
March 13: Brock Orf, Sofia Palma, Blake Van Wyk

#### 7TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS & PARENTS

We need all 7th grade students and parents to help set-up and take down the gym for the 8th grade Confirmation reception. We will set up the gym on Saturday, March 23, from noon-1:00 pm. (Immediately after the Easter Egg Hunt.) Clean-up is needed on Sunday, March 24, from 2:15-3:15PM. Please choose a day you can serve, and sign up using the link emailed, or on Facebook.

#### WELCOME TO HIGH SCHOOL EVENT FOR NEWLY CONFIRMED

Newly Confirmed youth are invited to attend the High School Bible Class in the youth room at 9:15AM, on Sunday, May 5, and at 11:30AM, for lunch and welcome event. Also, beginning Sunday, May 5, they are invited to attend all future high school activities.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING - HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

The High School youth will meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 for snacks, fellowship, and devotions. Join us on the following nights: April 3, 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8, 15.

#### HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SEMINAR

Join us on Sunday, April 14, 11:30AM-3:30PM as we discuss the importance of continued faith formation as we live as a child of God in the world away from our family, look at Myers/Briggs and other personality traits in regard to careers, learn skills to welcome and befriend new people, how to get along with roommates, and much more. Please register using the link that will be emailed soon.

#### SENIOR GRADUATION RECEPTION

A High School Graduation Reception honoring our Seniors and their families will be held during the 9:15AM Bible Class on Sunday, May 19, in the gym. We will send more info to each Senior about this special event.

#### HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER SERVANT EVENT

Youth currently in 8th-12th grades are invited to help restore hope within the community of Detroit, Michigan this summer during July 6-13. We will partner with LCMS Camp Restore and the community to help provide human care to people in need and engage in environmental and construction projects. We may help create a Spring Garden Haven that will house an amphitheater, flower gardens, pathways, benches, and more, work with children in tutoring programs, and help with home restoration projects. Registration cost for the week is \$200 and covers all expenses. Registration form and money are due by March 10. If you have any questions, please talk with Christina.

#### PEACE FOR 2024: SOME INITIATIVES

What are some of our priorities as a congregation in 2024? Here are some of the projects coming down the pipeline for the year ahead:

#### A THIRD PASTOR

At the February meeting of our Voters Assembly, the voters approved the formation of a call committee to look into calling a third pastor to Peace! The current desire is to find a pastor with a heart for and focus on youth and family ministry.

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

A committee was formed to consider what we should do with our campus regarding ministry for the next generation. Overwhelmingly, the continued need for our early childhood program remained our top ministry priority. Over the next year, the goal is to formulate plans to position the campus for excellent early childhood service for the next generation of parents and families.

#### WEB-BASED VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SYSTEM

We are putting together the programming and oversight for an online system depicting all of the service opportunities for members of our church, including for youth who need service hours.

#### CLARITY FOR MISSIONS

A mission oversight committee is being convened to provide our congregation with a clear understanding of our mission goals and how to structure our mission efforts for maximum impact.

As we go along through the year, please pray for God's guidance in all these initiatives, that we may well serve Him, our families, the community, and the world.

--Pastor Furgeson

#### NEW CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PETITION SEEKS TO ENSHRINE ABORTION IN THE MISSOURI CONSTITUTION

Like in Ohio last year, advocates for killing children in the womb are seeking to make abortion a constitutional right in Missouri. The petition called "Relating to Reproductive Health Care, version 10" and "The Right to Reproductive Freedom" not only seeks to remove Missouri's current abortion laws, but that the government must fund programs which promote and perform abortions. It also seeks to prevent abortion providers from being prosecuted in any way related to their abortive work.

The best way to fight this now is the three-fold initial phase of:

- first, raising awareness that "reproductive health" here means "abortion,"
- second, to refuse to sign the petition so it does not get on the ballot for a vote at all (and encourage others to refuse) and,
- third, to look up your state representatives and start already to put into their minds this is a bad idea.

Please pray for our state as abortion advocates seek to enshrine the murder of children, which is the only biblical stance on the subject.

For more information, you can visit the website for Missouri Right to Life, missourilife.org.

-Pastor Furgeson

#### EVANGELISM NEWS

#### From Every One His Witness Lutheran Evangelism Workshop



A WITNESS IS MOTIVATED BY LOVE. Witnessing flows from the love of Christ because He first loved us.

- Many Christians struggle with guilt over evangelism. They know they are supposed to tell others about Jesus, but don't for many reasons. Some of these reasons include, they fear they are unprepared or inadequate for the task, they worry about what others will think of them, and they are afraid they will say or do something that hurts rather than helps the message of the Gospel.
- Like all good works, sharing the Gospel flows from love, not guilt or shame. We want others to know about the life and salvation found in Jesus because they are the gifts we have received from God. In other words, we love our neighbor in this way because God first loved us.
- God does not want us to feel fear, guilt, and shame with being His witnesses. God wants us to see the opportunities He gives us to tell others about Jesus as a joyful expression of love. When we tell others about Jesus, we are expressing the highest form of love for our neighbor the love of God that brings eternal life.

You probably already know many relatives, friends, and co-workers who are the "DON'TS": DON'T go to church. DON'T know anything about Jesus. DON'T trust organized religion. DON'T believe in anything but the material world. DON'T believe the Bible is true. DON'T want to talk to you about Jesus.

With the help and by the power of the Holy Spirit, be the "DO" in their lives. DO pray for them often. DO look for opportunities to build lasting friendships that celebrate their joys and help during their hardships. DO talk about what the Bible says about Jesus. DO encourage them to go to church and receive God's gifts.

Keep an eye on your bulletins and newsletters for announcements on upcoming evangelism workshops, Bible studies, and events. If you are interested in volunteering to be a part of our evangelism events or team, please contact Pastor Brown at pastor.brown@peacelutheranstl.org. We are always looking for new volunteers!

"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:18-19

#### LIFE MINISTRY - MISSOURI'S DRED SCOTT DECISION



In 1857, the Dred Scott decision deemed African Americans to be property rather than humans. This case, originating in St. Louis, was decided by the U.S. Supreme Court in what is considered its worst decision ever. Another important decision will be made in Missouri this year. Missouri voters will decide whether the unborn will be considered outside the boundaries of legal protection. Essentially, they will decide whether babies are humans or property.

Missourians for Constitutional Freedom (MCF) is a pro-abortion group being supported by Abortion Access Missouri, the ACLU of Missouri and Planned Parenthood affiliates in Kansas City and St. Louis. MCF has one initiative petition (2024-086) which would effectively allow abortions until birth. It would also allow any "treating health care professional" (not only physicians) to determine whether a pregnant woman "needs" an abortion in the third trimester for "mental health" reasons. The definition of mental health is so general that any stress in life would meet this standard. Basically, this is abortion on demand until birth.

Canvassers are gathering signatures at libraries, shopping malls and college campuses. They are trying to get various initiative petitions on the November ballot so that the Missouri constitution can be amended. A minimum of 171,592 signatures must be collected by May 5<sup>th</sup> for this to be placed on Missouri ballots in November. MCF is well-funded, pays canvassers across the state and will likely succeed in reaching the minimum needed. In contrast, the pro-life groups opposing this initiative lack large campaign funding and rely heavily on volunteers.

If this initiative petition makes it to the November ballot, it is likely to pass. A recent Remington/MOScout Poll of 719 likely November election voters showed 52% voting "yes", 30% voting "no" and 18% undecided. Since Missouri has the low threshold of 50% plus one to qualify for passage, it is very likely that abortion until birth will be put into our state constitution.

**Missouri Stands with Women** is a new coalition of pro-life-groups dedicated exclusively to defeating this initiative petition. It is focused on educating voters to "Decline to Sign" before they are approached for signatures and to defeating it in the general election. The website for this group is *https://mostandswithwomen.org/*.

Historians look back on the Dred Scott decision and regard it as the worst Supreme Court ruling ever made. What will future generations say of us? Will we protect the lives of the unborn or will we classify our unborn babies as disposable property and condemn thousands of them to untimely deaths? Choose wisely.

Peace Life Ministry Team

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



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## **CONCERTS AT PEACE PROUDLY PRESENTS**

**BELL-A-BRATION** 

MULTIPLE AREA HANDBELL CHOIRS JOIN TOGETHER TO PRESENT A CONCERT. Sunday, February 25 - 7:00PM

> LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH - MUSIC DEPARTMENT Sunday, March 3 - 6:00PM

VALLEY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL, MUSIC DEPARTMENT SAGINAW, MICHIGAN Thursday, March 14 - 7:00PM

> CHAMBER MUSIC MUSICIANS OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Sunday, April 14 - 3:00PM

