



THE PEACE LUTHERAN

VOLUME 50, ISSUE No. 5

MAY 2025

MAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

May 4: **Third Sunday of Easter**

Acts 9:1-22; Revelation 5:8-14; John 21:1-19

May 11: **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 20:17-35; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-33

May 18: **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 11:1-18; Revelation 21:1-7; John 16:12-22

May 25: **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 16:9-15; Revelation 21:9-17; John 16:23-33

May 29: **The Ascension of Our Lord**

Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

80TH ANNIVERSARY: PREACHERS OF PEACE

As part of our observation of the 80th Anniversary of Peace Lutheran Church this year, we are inviting guest preachers connected to our congregation. Peace has a long history of producing pastors from our community and forming pastors through our fieldwork program. As such, we have a preacher each month who you have helped to shape for their life of service to God:

- Commander Matthew Prince, Navy Chaplain, kicked off our guests in February
- April 27: Mr. Zak Kreidler, son of the congregation, Concordia Theological Seminary Student
- May 10/11: Mr. Ryan Milbrath, current fieldworker at Peace, Concordia Seminary Student
- June 21/22: Pastor Steven Andrews, son of the congregation, St. Matthew, Lee's Summit, MO
- July 12/13: Pastor Nathan Nelson, son of the congregation, Trinity, Leavenworth, KS
- Aug 16/17: Pastor Jeff Carlson, former fieldworker, Our Redeemer, Eau Claire, WI

We rejoice in the work God does through them, shaped in part by your faithfulness as God's people of Peace Lutheran Church!

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE



Join us for our Ascension Day Service, with Holy Communion, on Thursday, May 29, at 7:00PM.

REV. DR. JON FURGESON, SENIOR PASTOR

314-601-1039

pastor.furgeson@peacelutheranstl.org

Happy Retirement

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR SUE VELTEN

After serving in our Peace Early Childhood for 38 years, Sue Velten is retiring at the end of July! Sue began her ministry in 1987, working in the Early Childhood Parent's Day Out Program, and in 1992, became the Early Childhood Director.

In celebration and recognition of her retirement, we will be honoring Sue on Sunday, May 18. Please join us for a reception at 9:00AM in the Commons during Fellowship Hour, followed by a Retirement Blessing Send-off during the 10:30AM service.

If you would like to get a card for Sue, there will be a collection box in the Commons beginning Monday, April 28, through Sunday, May 11. Donations and cards may also be dropped off to the church office. The Congregational gift and cards will be presented to Sue on Sunday, May 18, during her reception.

Sue is looking forward to retirement, with plans to take an extended vacation to some of her favorite places with her son, Steven.

We give thanks to God for Sue's ministry at Peace, and look forward to celebrating her retirement. We hope you will join us!

MAY VOTERS' ASSEMBLY REMINDER

Don't Forget



Join us on Monday, May 12, at 7:00PM in Sanctuary Hall, for our quarterly Voters' meeting. All communicant members are welcome to attend and participate at a Voters' meeting.



Celebrating Peace's 80th Anniversary!

Join us on Friday May, 23! See the back page of the newsletter for details. We hope to see you there!

REV. ROBERT BROWN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

618-580-8817

pastor.brown@peacelutheranstl.org

MOTHER'S DAY FOOD DRIVE



Social Ministry is hosting a Mother's Day Food Drive to benefit Feed My People.

Grocery bags will be handed out the weekend of May 4, following services. Inside the bag is a flyer with a suggested list of items most needed.

Please consider filling the bag with food items, and return to church Mother's Day weekend, May 11. Thank you for your continued support!

SAXON LUTHERAN MEMORIAL - GOFUNDME SUPPORT



On the evening of Sunday, March 30, a storm came through Frohna, Missouri and lightning struck a tree near the visitors center of the Saxon Lutheran Memorial, catching the tree and the center on fire. Thankfully, no

one was there at the time. The center was completely destroyed and all of the historical artifacts inside are also gone. By the time the local emergency response firefighters arrived it was totally engulfed in flames.

What is the Saxon Memorial? It is an outdoor history museum which includes many buildings and artifacts from the Saxon Germans who migrated from Saxony, Germany, and settled here and elsewhere in East Perry County, Missouri. The Saxon Memorial has been a place for Peace's 6th grade VBS class to visit each summer, participating in many hands-on activities, including their favorite, making butter!

A GoFundMe account for Saxon Lutheran Memorial has been established to help financially support the initial clean-up, planning and rebuilding of a new structure. If you would like to donate, please access the GoFundMe page at: <https://gofund.me/2e6418f2>.

If you need more information, contact Dan Prange, (314)540-2017, Grace Truemper, (314)544-0233, or Wayne and Marilyn Schuessler, (314)293-0303.

THE PEACE GROUNDS CREW IS FORMING!



Do you like to work in the yard? Would you be interested in helping keep the outside of Peace looking as nice as the inside? The Peace Grounds Crew might just be the place for you! This volunteer group will assist with maintenance of the landscaping around the building and in the parking lots. Work days will be announced weekly, bi-weekly or monthly depending on the time of year and tasks at hand. To join the crew, visit the "Opportunities" page on the church website. For more information, please contact John Roesch at 314-630-8377 or Ed Stackle at 314-520-2992.

BSA TROOP 584

ANNUAL AMERICAN FLAG RETIREMENT



In commemoration of Flag Day, Boy Scout Troup 584 will have their annual Flag Retirement Ceremony Monday, June 2, at 7:00PM, in the parking lot behind the kitchen. If you have any American flags that are torn, faded or tattered (unserviceable), please bring them to church beginning the weekend of May 17/18, and place in the designated box in the Commons. Any questions? Please contact Julie Hake at 314-210-9103 or Katie Davis at 920-246-1231.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 584 & ST. TRINITY CEMETERY TO HONOR OUR VETERANS



ALL ARE INVITED to join Boy Scout Troop 584 and the St. Trinity Cemetery Board of Directors on Thursday, May 22, at 6:00PM for a Memorial Day Ceremony at St. Trinity Cemetery to honor all Veterans.

After the ceremony, our Scouts will place flags at the graves of the many Veterans buried at St. Trinity Cemetery. Refreshments will be served and we ask attendees to please bring a lawn chair.

Join us for Fellowship Time

**Every Sunday
at 9:00AM
in the
Commons**



SAVE THE DATE - BLOOD DRIVE AT PEACE

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

**FRIDAY
AUGUST 1**

**1:00 - 5:00PM
PEACE GYM**



Registration information will be available in our upcoming *Newsletter* and weekly *News & Notes*. Donations save lives!



OFFICIAL ACTS

FUNERALS

April 15, 2025 - Shirley Duckworth, 93
April 21, 2025 - Kenneth Doering, 84

BAPTISMS

March 22, 2025 - Jack Richard Allen
March 23, 2025 - Charles Louis Harder
March 29, 2025 - Remi Lynn Surwillo
April 6, 2025 - Lucille Elyse Nathaniel
April 13, 2025 - Rhett Harold Rainey
April 13, 2025 - Graham Daniel Brink Waser

WEDDINGS

March 22, 2025 - Allison Joyce Frisella
and Michael Angelo Rois



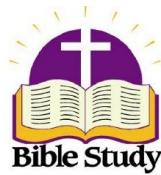
BAPTISM CLASS

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 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 June 8, please call the Church Office at 314-892-5610. Future class dates offered include September 7 and November 16.

BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION



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**. Future Bible study dates can be found on our church website calendar, or watch the weekend News and Notes.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, April 30, at 7:00PM in Sanctuary Hall, and continues with a study of the **Book of Acts**. Everyone is welcome!

Mary Martha Bible Class - Many people run in a race, but only one wins the prize! We Christians are to run so that we can win the eternal prize. Join the Mary Martha Bible Class on Thursday mornings in the Kitchen Meeting Room for fellowship at 9:00AM, followed by Bible Study at 9:30AM. Hebrews 12:1-3, "Let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

SUNDAY SERVICE ON KFUE



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

HOLY COMMUNION WEEKENDS



Holy Communion is offered on the first, third and fifth Sundays of each month. Dates for May include: May 3/4, May 17/18, and May 29.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Greetings to our Sunday School parents and fellow parishioners at Peace.

It's May and we are getting ready to close out yet another school year. There are only a few more lessons for the children in Sunday School and then we move onto the summer curriculum. We cannot express how much of a privilege and honor it has been to teach your child/ren the word of God during this school year. **"Behold, children are a gift from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward" Psalm 127:3.** Almighty God holds instructors of His word to the highest standard and we continually pray that He gives us the wisdom and knowledge to teach His full counsel through Law and Gospel.

This month the Parents and Me class will be wrapping up their study of God's word using a variety of ways applicable to our youngest students. Our Preschool and Kindergarten students will look further at the resurrection, read about Jesus' appearance to Thomas, as well as His appearances on the Emmaus Road and in Galilee. The first and second grade students will continue in the Old Testament by learning about God's people entering the Promised Land, the Fall of Jericho, as well as Deborah, Samson, and Ruth. The third and fourth grade students will cover Jeremiah and God's Covenant, the three men in the fiery furnace (*Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego*), Daniel in the Lion's Den, and Esther. The fifth-grade students will begin a study entitled, *Not-So-Nice Bible Stories* (Gory Deaths Bible Study), published by Concordia Publishing House.

I want to give a HUGE thanks to our dedicated Sunday School teachers. They are the best!!

Parents and Me (Rachel Palma, Heidi Caron, and Jeanette Mattingly)

Preschool (Ashlen Rainey, Christie Lindemann, and Kristen Hammon)

1st and 2nd Grade (Tom Zaretsky, Mary Ann Tyra, and Audrey Wolff)

3rd and 4th Grade (Tracy Zaretsky and Karla Lunsford)

5th Grade (Linda Wolff and Alexia Arensmeier)

6th-8th Grade (Sarah Baese, Pastor Brown, Madison Fritsche, Eric Glessner, Rick Goodman, Mike Renner, Sarah Irwin,

Mark Maloy, Ann Ryherd, Dan Suedkamp, Gavin Summerfield, Christina Stackle, Ed Stackle, Meghan Uthoff)

High School (Christina Stackle, Aaron and Abby Reynolds)

Please encourage your children to hide God's Word in their hearts through the memorization of scripture. **"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."** Matthew 6:19-21

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

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



THANK YOU



A NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank everyone who sent cards, visited, called, and lifted prayers during my cancer surgery and recovery. You are a true blessing to me. -Helen Hellwege

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Many thanks to our members and friends for their sponsorship. If you would like sponsorship information, please contact the church office.

LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AUCTION

LESA would like to thank Peace members for their support with the annual Auction on April 5. The Scholarship Challenge raised \$54,895 for the 2025-2026 school year. There is still time to contribute to the \$100,000 Scholarship Match. Visit www.lesastl.org to support Lutheran School students.

Join one of the upcoming LESA Special Experiences. Visit www.lesastl.org and click the EVENTS tab to sign up!

1. Tasting Experience with the STL Bourbon Society, appetizers, dessert, and live music by guitarist Kraig Holt on **June 8, 4-6PM at the home of Tim & Tami Behnke**. Ticket deadline is May 28.

2. Cookie or Cupcake Decorating with Laura Mielenz-Barton, a Professional Pastry Chef, on July 26, 9-10:30AM or 11-12:30PM at the Fireside Room at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. Only 20 tickets available for each session.



Join us for
Vacation Bible School
June 23-27
9:00AM to Noon
Registration officially closes on May 4



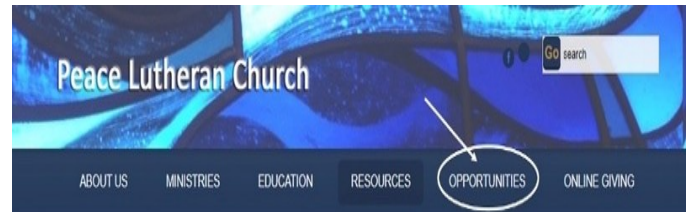
Congratulations to our
2025 Grade School,
High School, and
College Graduates!

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.

VOLUNTEER & SIGN-UP OPPORTUNITIES



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 sign-ups that we have available.

CURRENT SIGN-UPS AVAILABLE

- **VBS Registration and Volunteers** (Urgently Needed)
- **Peace Grounds Crew**
- **Greeters**
- **Altar Guild:** What is Altar Guild? The Altar Guild plays an important role in making sure the chancel area of our Church sanctuary is beautiful and ready to go for any given Church service. The Altar Guild Members take turns setting up, resetting, and cleaning up at services with Holy Communion. Members are scheduled every 6-8 weeks during the year. Two members of the guild will help serve the entire weekend. Member duties include: set up of the elements for Holy Communion, carrying the trays of wine up and down stairs, attention to the chancel area to ensure the paraments and other appointments are correct for the Church season, and cleaning of all the communion ware following the last service of the weekend. Altar Guild leaders will provide training for all of the tasks related to being a member of Altar Guild.
- **Ushers:** 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, contact Barry Hammon at barry.hammon@wwt.com.

If you have any questions or need assistance with sign-ups, please contact the church office.



St. Trinity CEMETERY



Kyle Rieger
Superintendent

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

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

ST. TRINITY CEMETERY

ALL ARE INVITED to join Boy Scout Troop 584 and the St. Trinity Cemetery Board of Directors on Thursday, May 22, at 6:00PM for a Memorial Day Ceremony at St. Trinity Cemetery to honor all Veterans. After the ceremony, the Scouts will place flags on the graves of the many Veterans buried in the cemetery. Refreshments will also be served. Attendees, please bring your lawn chairs. We would also like to thank all of those who helped with cemetery cleanup at the Shine event this year. Much was accomplished, and we are grateful to those who came out to help on a drizzly day. We appreciate our volunteers! Follow us on Facebook at St Trinity Cemetery or visit our website at www.sttrinitycemetery.com.

YOUTH NEWS



New Confirmands, the High School Youth Group would like to welcome you to our group on Sunday, May 18 at 9:15 in the gym. We will be celebrating our High School graduates that morning. Donuts and bagels will be provided.

Confirmands are invited to attend all future high school youth activities. High School Bible class is taught each week in the youth room. We would love to have you join us.

The High School Youth Group will meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00PM on the following nights: April 23 and 30, May 7 and 28.

A High School Graduation Reception honoring our Seniors and their families will be held during the 9:15AM Bible Class on Sunday, May 18, in the gym. We will send more info to each Senior about this special event.

MEET & HEAR LCMS SEMINARY PRESIDENTS

Dr. Jon Bruss, President of Concordia Theological Seminary-Fort Wayne, Indiana and Dr. Thomas Egger, President of Concordia Seminary-St. Louis, Missouri will be speaking at the 2025 Issues, Etc. "Making the Case" Conference Friday, July 18, and Saturday, July 19, at Concordia University Chicago. CNN Political Commentator Scott Jennings will also be speaking. We will be announcing the rest of the speaking lineup in the next few weeks.

Early bird registration is \$140, and includes three meals. Attendance is limited. For more information please visit their website at issuesetc.org.

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.

PICTORIAL CHURCH DIRECTORY APP



It's time to update your picture in the Church Directory. If you have a current picture of your family, please consider updating your photo, or sending us a picture for the first time. You can upload your picture directly or email to the church office. Our church directory is a wonderful resource tool to get to know your church family better! If you haven't downloaded the App, simply visit the App Store on your phone and search for Instant Church Directory, and download the free app to begin. If you don't use

the App, you can still access Instant Church Directory online. To login for the first time, you will use your email address listed in the directory to create a login and password. If you're not listed in the directory, OR, if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.

CHURCH CALENDAR QR CODE



To access the most up-to-date changes on the church calendar, please visit the church website, scan the QR code, or type this address into your web browser. <https://73936888.view-events.com>.

IMMANUEL, ST. CHARLES - RHINE RIVER CRUISE

Immanuel Lutheran Church is going on a "**Taste of Christmas River Cruise, November 15-24, 2025**." Please join fellow Immanuel Lutheran, St. Charles members and Head Pastor Schmieding, as we cruise the Rhine River from November 15-24, 2025. The cruise embarks in Amsterdam, and stops in charming towns and Christmas markets along the Rhine, Cologne, Rudesheim, Heidelberg and Strasbourg, France are just a few of the stops. Pastor Schmieding will be discussing Martin Luther's visit to the Speyer Cathedral when the boat docks in Ludwigshafen. We disembark the ship in Basel Switzerland, but not before a beautiful tour of Lucerne. If you are interested, please contact Karen Twillmann at 314-391-6176 or email to: karen@aldinettravel.com.



MARRIED COUPLES CLUB

Join us for our Couples Club May Event! We will meet at 9 Mile Garden, Saturday, May 17, at 5:00PM. Please bring your lawn chairs. Please RSVP to Rick or Tammy Goodman at 314-546-9943.

Save the Date for our **2nd Annual Trivia Night FUNraiser** on **Saturday, August 23**. We hope you will join us.

MEN'S CLUB

Please join us for our monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 27. Enjoy 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.

LADIES CLUB

Ladies Club May event is Saturday May 3, in Kimmswick, Missouri for a day of lunch and shopping. Rain or shine, we will meet at church at 10:00AM to carpool together, returning to church by 4:00PM. For space availability, please contact Betty Via or Lisa Santiago.

Membership dues of \$12 are due at this time. If you are joining us for the first time, you can attend for two months before becoming a paying member.

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

LWML Ladies Guild will end their spring season with a lunch at Bill Gianino's Restaurant, 4571 Chestnut Park Plaza on Thursday May 15, at 11:00AM. New members are welcome to join us for fellowship and to get acquainted! Please RSVP to Julia Petrovic at 314-809-5447.



Our annual Rada Cutlery fundraiser is Sunday, May 4, in the gymnasium before and after all services. Come and see the excellent knives they have. All proceeds will benefit LWML Mission Projects.



LWML Ladies Guild is very thankful to Peace members and friends for saving their cancelled postage stamps. All stamps are welcome, except metered stamps, and stamps from advertising bulk mail. Stamps may be placed in the container located on the Commons counter. All money earned benefits the Missouri District Mission Grant Projects.

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, May 8, 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.

QUILTERS CORNER



If you would like to join us, we quilt each Tuesday from 9:00AM-2:00PM. Bring a sack lunch, and we'll provide fellowship and dessert! We have several baby and toddler quilts and wall hangings ready for purchase. If you are interested, please contact Cheryl Turley at 314-223-0744.

Eat, Sleep, Quilt, REPEAT!

PROPERTY TAX FREEZE FOR SENIORS

Did you know the Saint Louis County Department of Revenue has an application for Senior Property Tax Freeze Program? For eligibility qualifications and requirements contact 314-615-7100 and enter prompt 2. Paperwork and appointments are necessary. Application deadline is June 30, 2025. This is a Saint Louis County Program authorized by §137.1050 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri, that freezes certain real estate property taxes for eligible seniors. The program does not include personal property.

ALTAR FLOWER ORDERS



Altar Flower orders are received through the Church Office. Arrangements are \$25 each. Please call the church office with your requests.

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 book rack each quarter for others to share Jesus with children they know.



The Combined Band Concert is scheduled for 5th-8th Grades Thursday, May 1, at Lutheran South. The 5th Grade Concert begins at 6:00PM and 6th-8th Concert begins at 7:30PM.

Sunday, May 4, our faculty and staff will celebrate Green Park Sunday at Gethsemane.

It's hard to believe the end of the school year is already approaching! Our last day of school is May 22, with 8th Grade Graduation at 7:00PM. **Congratulations to Peace Members, Bella Blanc, Hailey Brawley, Hannah Brawley, Aubrey DeClue, Rain Dillender, Madison Gersman, Lyla McCarty, Grace Robinson, Annabelle Sanders, and Kaleb VanDenBerg.**

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? Private tours are scheduled year-round. Please contact Katie Gaeta at katie.gaeta@greenparklutherschool.org or call 314-544-4248 to schedule a tour today.

Visit the website where you can find news, schedule tours, view the weekly Green Sheet newsletter, see sports schedules, sponsorship opportunities, and more! Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see frequent updates about Green Park students and staff.

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.



**LUTHERAN
HIGH SCHOOL
SOUTH**

The cast and crew of LuSo OnStage performed the very first show in the new Duesenberg Theater with an incredible performance of *Little Women*, the Broadway Musical. Countless hours of work went into this production. From the costumes and set to the vocals and orchestra pit, the 72 students who participated in the production did a fantastic job!

Concert Choir performed at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica with the world-renowned group VOCES8. The Concert Choir worked on pieces for this concert over the past six months, including two workshops with the VOCES8 Foundation.

Modern Language Honor Society inducted 76 French, German, Spanish, and ASL students, **including Peace members, Marlee Michelsen and Lauren Truemper.** To be eligible for this distinction, students must be recommended by a teacher, meet minimum GPA requirements,

and be dedicated to pursuing their chosen language through the highest level offered at Lutheran South. Forty-five seniors additionally received graduation cords in honor of completing their course of studies.

Sydney Pfister, Anna Wangia, and Jessica Meyer were named to the Class 4 District 4 All-District Team! The trio was additionally named to the All-Conference Team, as well as Kendra Howard, who received an honorable mention. Senior James McCoy broke the school record for the boys discus with a throw of 49.13m in the first meet of the season! The previous school record was set in 2004 by Sky Hagy with a distance of 48.01m. The baseball team took a trip to St. Petersburg, Florida, where they purchased items for the Delores Food Pantry at Hope Lutheran Church with money they had raised. During their trip, they played seven different games against teams from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. Senior Nolan Brannam was baptized on the beach while there over spring break. Our campus chaplain arranged for an LCMS pastor to baptize the baseball player at St. Pete Beach as he was surrounded by his coaches, teammates, and school families.

Congratulations to fourteen student athletes who signed this spring to continue their academic and athletic careers in college: Mason Beshears - Westminster College - Baseball, Moriah Bolin - Missouri Valley College - Golf, Nolan Brannam - Westminster College - Baseball, Jacob Cody - Greenville University - Baseball, Dustin Duke - Mineral Area College - Baseball, Nathan Green - Concordia University Wisconsin - Soccer, Aiden Greiner - Culver Stockton College - Soccer, Alex Kinser - Concordia University Chicago - Football, Ben Long - Washington University - Track and Field, Travis Luhnning - William Woods University - Soccer, Ashlynn Maness - State Fair Community College - Softball, James McCoy - Calvin University - Track and Field, Malachi Seyer - Saint Xavier University - Volleyball, Kayla Spieler - Truman State University - Track and Field

Celebrating Dan Harms - After 52 years as Dean of Students, Dan Harms is retiring from full-time ministry and stepping into a new role at Lutheran South. Join us in honoring his legacy as he throws out the first pitch at Lutheran Day at the Ballpark on Sunday, May 4 before the Cardinals v. Mets game in Busch Stadium. We invite you to reminisce with Harms beginning at 11:15AM in Busch Stadium's Cunningham Corner. Ballpark snacks and adult beverages will be provided. Harms will throw out the first pitch at 12:30 p.m. The Cardinals game is at 1:15PM. Lutheran South will play Lutheran St. Charles following the Cardinals game. Get your tickets at <https://www.slancers.org/events>.

Support a Mission Trip - The LHSS Spanish team going on a mission trip to Belize in May! To raise funds for their trip, they are offering dinner, crafts, games, a movie, and lots of fun for your kids at Lutheran South on Saturday, May 3, from 5:30 - 8:30PM. This event is designed for kids ages 3 and up (*must be potty-trained*). That same evening from 6:30 - 8:30PM, we will additionally host a calligraphy workshop to learn brush pen illustration and lettering. All supplies are provided, and you will leave with a set of three cards, a brush, and a workbook to continue practicing at home! Donations are accepted for both. Reach out to Joanna Wescoatt with any questions at jwescoatt@slancers.org. Register at <https://www.slancers.org/events>.



PEACE EARLY CHILDHOOD

Preschool Plus and Half Day Preschool

Helping the Church Grow by helping God's Children Grow

MAY 2025 - I trust in you, O Lord. Psalm 31:14

Our preschoolers have made so much wonderful progress during our school year together! It has been a joy to build relationships with each child, and watch their skills develop! The children are filled with pride in their accomplishments, and it's a blessing to see their confidence.

Our Jesus Time focus during the month of May will be God gives the gift of the Holy Spirit; Peter and John heal a crippled man; God forgives those who wander from Him (The lost son). Our academic themes will include a study of plants/seeds, farm, and summer fun.

We will continue to build upon our prereading skills. We will review number sense, and begin learning how to tell time to the hour. Our next chapel will be May 14 with Pastor Brown. Our offering of blankets, towels, and pet toys will benefit the Humane Society. Our closing preschool programs are scheduled for Monday, May 19, for Miss Tammy and Miss Peggy's class, and Tuesday, May 20, for Mrs. Kaiser's class. Both programs will begin at 6:30PM. *(Children should arrive in the classrooms by 6:00PM.)* We are looking forward to our annual picnic on Friday, May 23.



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.

LIFE MINISTRY - A GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES



Can you believe that it has been five years since we went through the Covid lockdowns? Remember how terrified people were at the thought of contracting a disease that could prove fatal or permanently disabling? How about all the businesses that closed, leaving many unemployed? Remember being unable to visit loved ones in nursing homes or hospitals? Did you miss your friends at church? Did those Zoom calls replace face-to-face contact with friends? How did your kids or grandkids do with remote learning? Did you or any of your friends feel depressed by all the isolation and anxiety?

Thank goodness these changes were lifted and life has returned to normal, but our society is on the brink of some profound *permanent* changes brought about by Artificial Intelligence (AI). Recently, Elon Musk predicted that AI could surpass human intelligence within the next five years. AI would no longer be a tool controlled by humans; it would be a self-aware entity with a 20% chance of causing the extinction of humanity. How is that for progress?

Already, some professions are seeing the effects of AI as it performs research, writing and analysis currently done by well-paid professionals. A doctor's visit might include AI recording your conversation and offering advice. Shopping could be managed by an "AI assistant" that anticipates your needs and preferences, orders your groceries and schedules a time for them to be delivered when you are home. Some people may find their social needs met by an "AI companion" that interacts as a friend. Sounds crazy, but think about how cellphones have impacted human behavior. The first iPhone came out in mid-2007. While it brought so much convenience to our fingertips, it also resulted in a loss of privacy and social skills.

These changes will be fast and hard-hitting. They will force us to ask some basic questions about what it means to be human. We find fulfillment and self-worth through work and relationships. We take pride in learning new skills and acquiring knowledge. What becomes the purpose of an education when AI can out-perform us intellectually? What happens when you lose your job because of AI? What happens when social needs start being met with AI instead of people? How will we know that information, images and voices are from humans when AI is just as believable? How does it feel to live in a society in which every detail of your life is stored in a database and such information can be used to control you? What happens when war is waged by machines guided by an AI that lacks any moral compass?

Interesting times indeed. As humans, we find change inconvenient and unsettling; rapid change even more so. But always remember, we have a God who never changes. *"Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory."* Psalm 73:23-24.

"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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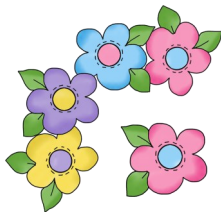
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May 2025 Issue



Celebrate Summer!

Friday, May 23, 2025

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Games – Food
Bounce Houses

On the East Parking Lot

7:00 pm

Orchestra of Peace Concert
featuring
Scott and Emily Kennebeck

Ice Cream during Intermission
in the Gymnasium