

# Peace Notes

17651 W. Small Rd.

New Berlin, WI 53146

Telephone: 262-679-1441

Fax: 262-679-0292

Web Site: <http://www.peacelutheran.org>

February  
2018



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## Past-or Present

God's Old Testament people saw an uncertain future ahead of them. Forced to live in a foreign land far from home, they felt hope slipping away. Gathered by the waters of foreign Babylon, these exiles regretfully wondered: *Is God for real? If so, does He really care about us? What does our future hold? Will this ever change?* God's people had watched their world shatter into a million pieces. They were demoralized and disillusioned. Life was a disaster, and they thought it might as well end.

Do you ever feel this way? Does it look as though your current problems are more than you

can bear? Do you find yourself asking: *Why did this happen? Why did God allow it? Is there any order in the world? Will God really deliver on what He said?*

The prophet Isaiah answers these questions in chapters 40–55 of his book. He announces that just when Israel's history seemed closed and controlled by the Babylonian empire and hope seemed lost, to the shock and surprise of everyone the Lord will stir up a king named Cyrus. . . and hope will explode in the desert! A Servant will be wounded for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities. And barren Zion

will be given so many children that, like the old woman in the shoe, she won't know what to do!

Standing behind these marvelous promises is God's almighty Word: "*The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever*" (Isaiah 40:8). The exiles are going home!

That's why we are "Singing with the Exiles" as they are restored to their home.

During the month of February and all throughout the Lenten season, Isaiah chapters 40–55 will shape us as we explore the following themes in our Sunday worship services:

- February 4 – "The Fowlest Sermon"  
(Isaiah 40:21-31)
- February 11 – "God Has a Word for That"  
(Isaiah 41:14–16)
- February 18 – "He Only Has Eyes for You"  
(Isaiah 43:1–7)
- February 25 – "Marked"  
(Isaiah 44:1–5)
- March 4 – "Breaking Down the Gates"  
(Isaiah 45:1–8)
- March 11 – "Get Out!"  
(Isaiah 48:17–22)
- March 18 – "One Little Word Can Fell Him"  
(Isaiah 49:1–6)

Plan now to sing with the exiles as we learn from Isaiah to walk the Lenten way to the cross and to the empty tomb. God promises to turn our weeping into joy and our present pain into an endless "Alleluia!"

Singing with you in the joy of the Lord,

*Pastor*

*Galatians 2:20*

## *News from Our President*

Welcome to 2018 everyone.

The Ministry Council did not meet in December due to the holidays. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday January 25<sup>th</sup> so I do not have any council activities to report this month. Ash Wednesday is Feb 14<sup>th</sup> this year. This gives us about 30 days before Lent begins to reflect and make our personal commitments for the New Year.

I would like you to consider two opportunities to serve. The first would be to join our senior ministry team. This group goes to area senior care facilities twice a month and leads a short (2 page) service including communion. Most of the people we serve are lifelong church folks who due to their current health status can no longer attend church. I can tell you from my own experience in serving them they are very appreciative of what we do and the entire experience is very gratifying for everyone involved.

The ideal teams would consist of 2 people per facility, one to lead the service, and one to assist with distribution of the service material, making sure everyone is on the correct page, etc...

Diane Nowak has agreed to lead this group and will be holding a meeting Monday January 29<sup>th</sup> as 7:00 PM to review our current position with this program, see if any adjustments need to be made, and perhaps set some goals to expand it. If you are at all interested or curious about this opportunity to serve please join us on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

The second opportunity I would like you to give serious consideration to is our annual food pack. There are two ways to support this mission, first is a donation to help cover the cost of the ingredients to be packed, and second is to volunteer to help pack for a couple of hours.

If you have never seen the food packing in progress I can tell you it is quite a sight to see. There is a very effective system of measuring, packing, and weighing the food packs in a fast

and efficient manner. The whole process is amazing to watch or be part of. And yes, it is fun and everyone seems to really enjoy the experience.

It's not possible to think about the food pack without thinking about Marilyn Thompson, the driving force behind the success of this project. I would like to thank Marilyn for all the work she puts into these food packs and also all the mission work she leads. These projects all require a great deal of time and work (not to mention all the Sunday morning announcements.)

One of the things that impress me the most when working with Marilyn is that she never begins a project with an easy goal. She always stretches what would be easy to accomplish with a very challenging goal using her strong faith as her co-pilot and knowing anything is possible with God.

Thank you for carefully considering and supporting these missions with your prayers and participation.

Peace and Blessings,

*Jim Dumke*

## *Join Us for Lenten Midweek Services*

Beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 14, make plans to gather for Lenten midweek services each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. during this special season. Plan also to join us prior to each Wednesday service for supper, beginning at 5:30. We thank the Board of Elders for sponsoring our Lenten midweek suppers!

There will also be an 11:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday service followed by a soup luncheon.

The theme for our Lenten midweek services this year is "Thy Will Be Done." Jesus prayed these words to His Father the night before He went to the cross for our salvation. And that is our

prayer as well this Lent as we seek to do God's will in our lives, as we draw near to the observance of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection during Holy Week and Easter. Each service in the series focuses on a different aspect of God's will at work among us. Biblical characters are used as insightful reference points each week to guide us in following our Lord more nearly day by day.

## *Sunday School News*

In response to the wonderful thank you letter last month....

I am honestly astonished by the way God blesses our Sunday School Christmas program!!! Remembering the tired but friendly smiling faces around my table talking about this project brings such happiness to me!! You've got to know these amazing wonderful people who did just as much if not more than I did!!!

Amy B - As a superintendent she kept everyone informed by sending countless emails and reminders, made our beautiful poster, copied scripts and was tirelessly available at all the practices even when not feeling well—Thank you!!

Amy S – As a superintendent she was a much needed help at tryouts in casting the kids (This is really hard for me!), found, ordered and built all of the really cool Lego ornaments for the kids' treat bags and was a consistent calm encourager during all the practices with many many great ideas—Thank you!!

Andrew C – As our DCE he helped choose the super fun theme/script, designed the beautiful bulletin cover and pp slides, made sure the microphones and tech was working coming to all our practices giving much needed prayers and support—Thank you!!

Ava J – As a student costume designer she hand made our new Mary costume that fit and looked amazing—Thank you!!

Bekah M and Emma D – As our prop ninjas they dropped what they were doing Sunday morning and helped us in a huge way—Thank you!!

Christopher P – As our music director he not only helped his 3 kids learn their parts, but rehearsed with the Sunday School kids as well as the bell choir, Preschool-Kindergarten and the Journey Band—Thank you!!

Deb Olson – As our all-around helper she helped as director, costume designer and support during our Saturday practices and performance—Thank you!!

Dori L – As our bulletin specialist she formatted and arranged for printing the bulletin in addition to being the go to girl—Thank you!!

Eleanor G – As our 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher she supported her students and all of us with her joyful smiles, prayers and encouraging words—Thank you!!

Heather S – As the Preschool teacher she taught and practiced the song and Bible verse over and over with her class for weeks before the program and then organized and supported them during all the practices and program—Thank you!!

Joanne W and Little Lambs Academy – As our preschool ministry they helped us by sharing responsibility for setting up risers and the stage—Thank you!!

Jodi P – As stage manager she organized the props and timing during our practices and performance as well as stepping in to direct for me on our first practice night—Thank you!!

Journey Band – Tom, Joe, Sue, and Paul practiced an extra night as well as Saturday and the performance learning two new songs in addition to the many traditional carols—Thank you!!

Julie M – As a Preschool teacher she helped teach and practice the song and Bible verse alongside Heather over and over in addition to packing all the fun delicious treat bags—Thank you!!

Matt and Arlene S – As the stage designers they reassembled our wooden crèche and created a beautiful arrangement that not only looked great but worked well for everyone—Thank you!!

Rob and Amy H – As the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher team they not only helped their son with parts, but the whole group during practices on Saturday mornings with great ideas and direction—Thank you!!

Melody E – As the Peace Notes editor has faithfully organized, printed, and published the Peace Notes each month and is publishing this note as well—Thank you!!

Natalie F – As technician she made numerous decisions about the design of the power point, downloading photos and typing lyrics—Thank you!!

Nikki N – As the 1<sup>st</sup> /2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher she directed the Nativity scene being an amazing help during practices encouraging me/us with calm wisdom when I wasn't—Thank you!!

Pastor M – As our pastor he was very flexible in helping us during the performance and each Sunday with prayers, teaching and blessings—Thank you!!

Rachel C – As the bells/chimes director she composed a beautiful bell part just for the program teaching and rehearsing with the group during Sunday School and Saturday practices—Thank you!!

Rici W – As our costume organizer she sorted, selected and sized costumes for all our Nativity characters being available during our practices and program—Thank you!!

Roger B – As our Sunday school attendance and offering counter he faithfully helps each week—Thank you!!

Sara W – As the Kindergarten teacher she not only practiced with and organized her class, but went to The Block Party and ordered, designed, and transported all of the Lego designs used in the program—Thank you!!

Sue M – As our bulletin helper/pianist she correlated and typed the bulletin as well as practiced/played in the Journey band—Thank you!!

Tom H and the Peace Choir – As our main Christmas service music and a very busy group this time of year they met in the basement for their practice to let us use the sanctuary during the last run-through on Sunday—Thank you!!

As you can see, it was certainly a group effort that shows the love and dedication of many members of Peace who really care about the Christian faith of our children and are investing in the next generation. Please forgive me if I've forgotten anything here. You are so appreciated and your service is honored not only by all of us but by God himself.

Many thanks and hopes for you and for our next project together!

*Lea Ann Frank*

## *Little Lambs News & Notes*

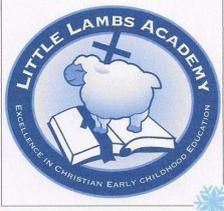
### **Enrollment is going on now for next school year!**

- We are currently accepting applications from currently enrolled families. (Peace members had first priority in January – but can still enroll if you haven't already.)
- Please share with friends, family and neighbors about the great school we have here! We would love to provide information and a tour to anyone who is interested in preschool for next year!
- Enrollment opens to the public on Feb. 27 at our Open House event (see flyer included) starting at 6:00pm

**LITTLE LAMBS ACADEMY**

# Open House

**Tues. Feb 27 6-7 pm**  
**17651 W. Small Rd. New Berlin**  
[preschool@peacelutheran.org](mailto:preschool@peacelutheran.org)  
**262-679-1441**



## A PRESCHOOL FRIEND!

BRING

Be entered into a drawing for  
**\$100 in FREE TUITION!**  
 Use for tuition, application fee,  
 or summer camp fees

**Winter Fest Games & Activities**

**Visit with teachers**

Adult/Child classes  
for Infants and Toddlers

Quality, structured Pre-3K, 3K and 4K  
Enrichment classes &  
Full or Part-time Wrap-Around Care

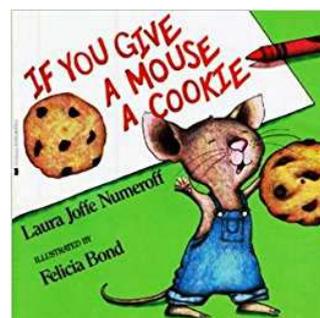


### **Get in on the ACTION!**

Little Lambs is looking for people who love the Little Lambs ministry and would like to get in on the action. Join our Ministry Action Team! No monthly meetings, no huge commitment, just action! We need people who specialize in business, graphic arts, maintenance work (handyman or woman), as we take our ministry to the next level. Email me if you feel God tugging at your heart.

[preschool@peacelutheran.org](mailto:preschool@peacelutheran.org)

### **February Book Club**



Monday, February 12  
6:00-7:00pm

Join us for activities, songs, story, craft and a snack!

Please RSVP - flyers are on the information counter.

## Tips and Tricks for parenting young children

### Pretend Play:

- Does your child love to dress up?
- Does your child love to pretend?
- How about using an object for something other than it was intended? (Turning a stick into a magic wand, for example)

Pretend play is *crucial* for healthy development! Take time *every day* to engage in play with your child, and help to expand their pretend play! Let your child take the lead.

These are just a few of the things your child is learning while playing:

- vocabulary
- social skills
- self-regulation
- following rules
- symbolic, abstract thought
- sequencing

PLAY IS IMPORTANT!

*Joanne Webb*

## *Women Connected in Prayer*



### *On Being Still*

*Be still, and know that I am  
God . . . (Psalm 46:10a)*

I receive daily devotions on my computer. Sometimes the devotions don't seem to directly apply to me, since once in a while they are focused on something that just doesn't fit my life. But this morning the devotion hit home. Maybe it will strike a chord with you, too. What follows is my paraphrase of *The Mustard Seed Daily Devotion* from Saturday January 13, 2018.

Anyone who has children in their lives (what a blessing!) has probably uttered "Enough already!" or "Quiet time—now!" on more than one occasion. You may even know adults that

you would like to tell to slow down or even just stop talking. Sometimes my own behavior is like that of a whirling dervish—especially after my morning cup of coffee.

In Psalm 46, God is telling us to "Be Still." He admonishes us, in a way. When we stop our activities, close our mouths, and open our minds to Him, it is then that we are most receptive to hearing His words. And here is what He is saying: "*Be still. Turn it over to Me. I know your concerns; they are My concerns, too. What you care about, I care about. Trust Me. Believe in Me. Be still. I can handle it.*" God instructs us to bring whatever is troubling us to Him in prayer, and then His Spirit helps us to *be still* as we await His answer.

There is a lovely hymn tune used in Lutheran worship, *Finlandia* (by Jean Sibelius), to which the words by Catharina von Schlegel were set in 1900. Catharina's reflections on God's faithfulness and promise are a perfect reminder to us:

*"Be still my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to order and provide; In ev'ry change He faithful will remain."*

I hope you can find time to *be still* with God each day. If you would like to receive the *Mustard Seed Daily Devotions*, please visit <http://www.lwml.org/stayintouch>.

*Sue Getzel*

## *LWML News*

### **LWML Giving Tuesday Report**

*Praise  
the Lord*

All praise and thanks to God for the generous donors who supported *Giving Tuesday*, November 28, 2017! \$26,314.05 was gathered for *Giving Tuesday*, bringing us to a grand total of **\$46,314.05**, with the matching funds.

Thanks to all of the LWML families that generously shared their God-given blessings to fund missions around the world that proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Thanks to our generous matching fund donors for challenging us to share even more! Many people will be blessed through these offerings.

*Praise the Lord! Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His loving kindness is everlasting!*  
(Psalm 106:1)

*Sue Getzel*

## *Altar Flowers*

2018 Flower Sign Up: Ready when you are!

Please consider expressing your love for Jesus by signing up for altar flowers. Our 2018 calendar is mighty bare, and it needs you. Commemorate an anniversary, birthday, holiday or just because.

Cost is \$35, and the flowers are yours to take home after the late service. Please sign up today



*Carol Fontanez*

## *A Report from the Field*

By Mike Paddock, Professional Engineer and Surveyor

For those who may not know me, I have been a member of Peace for nearly 30 years and have been thankful for all the support and prayers that have come my way from the congregation. Most of you know that I am a cancer survivor, and that experience has motivated me to engage in a career of volunteer engineering through

Engineers Without Borders and other groups. That is why you may not see me at church frequently, but I am always there in spirit. Several of you have urged me to keep you up to date on my adventures, so that was the motivation for this article.

My most recent adventure has been a trip to rural Ethiopia to assist an organization that focuses on maternal health—Village Health Partnership. Many areas in Ethiopia suffer from deficient health care due to a lack of water at the health centers and hospitals. Most of the medical facilities I visited received water only in five-gallon jerry cans carried by donkeys from a river. It is hard to imagine the challenges a lack of water presents to a medical professional. Something as simple as washing your hands becomes a luxury.

The area in Ethiopia is Orthodox Christian, which I have found fascinating. The early apostles visited Ethiopia, and of course the Queen of Sheba came from Ethiopia as well, so Christianity has a long and rich history there. Orthodox Christians believe as we do in a triune God and Jesus Christ as our Savior. Since the traditions and customs evolved separately from our own, they are quite different. For example, Christmas is celebrated on January 6, but still with a meal with family and friends, as we do. One difference is that they do not eat meat or any animal byproducts such as eggs or milk during Advent. That certainly makes Christmas a time to celebrate as the fast ends, and one would not want to be a chicken on Christmas Eve!

On our Christmas Day of December 25, I found myself working to provide water to a health center. They had a well but it was not producing water, and they believed it to be dry due to the dry conditions of the season. The medical professionals were embarrassed at the lack of cleanliness in the facility, but were doing the best they could without water.

Expectant mothers come from the surrounding area, many walking for a day or two, to give birth at the center. One of the initiatives of Village Health Partners is to provide maternal waiting areas so mothers can travel to the clinic a few weeks prior to giving birth so they can be

monitored. The lack of water contributes to high infection rates for the mothers and their new babies. This is not a question of a lack of knowledge, but simply a lack of access to water. I was so happy when I found that the well was not dry and we were able to modify the pump to generate clean, cool water for the health center.

I have to say that it was maybe one of the best Christmas Gifts I have ever received in my life when the community gathered around the well and thanked God for the gift of water. It made me think: Did Mary and Joseph have access to well water when Jesus was born in the manger?

I hope you and your families had a very Merry Christmas.

If you are interested in learning more about Global Water Crisis, check out <http://www.faithsforsafewater.org/what-you-can-do.html>.

*Mike Paddock*



### *February Birthdays*

Rob Tyler	February 1
Lucy Abel	February 2
Matt Bennett Isabella Sholty	February 3

Valerie Allerheiligen Dan Frank Jennifer Langbauer Jill Paque	February 5
Luke Carey Jasmine Davey Jon Lassa Suzi Banks Sherry Gunderson Deb Hoepfner	February 6
Bret Langbauer Bryan Webb	February 10
Michelle Brunn	February 12
Amy Barry Suzanne Nievinski	February 13
Hanna Rewolinski	February 14
Jeffrey Barg LaRae Malinauskas	February 15
Chris Fulcer Marcia Schelle	February 16
Patti Woodard	February 17
Ava Jakubowski Nicholas Morrell	February 18
Greg Barg Sarah Handlos Verl Wolf	February 20
Erin Carey Jim Dumke	February 21
Jeff Carey Owen Malinauskas	February 26
Joe Malinauskas Emily Maris	February 27
Matthew Mansfield	February 28





## Who's Hosting CoffeeSip?

Those serving coffee sip for the month of February are listed below. Thank you all for your assistance in this fellowship function.



### February 4, 2018

Slottke, Susan & Art	414-422-0277
<b>Smith, Paul</b>	<b>262-662-5262</b>
Springer, Don & Bev	262-679-0386
Stachewicz, Don & Bridget	262-349-9198
Stridde, Kristina & Scott	414-315-0309
Taylor-Smith, Susan	414-377-8850
Thomas, Dawn	262-679-8008
Thompson, Art & Marilyn	262-394-2251
Treptow, Mike & Beth	262-389-4252
Tyler, Wendy	262-347-5090
Vasholz, Daniel & Mona	262-706-3118

### February 11, 2018

Vath, Bill & Bonnie	262-782-3359
<b>Vossekuil, Andy &amp; Shelby</b>	<b>414-405-4432</b>
Webb, Joanne	414-235-3918
Weber, Brian & Jessica	414-324-8897
Weber, Robert & Joan	414-425-9066
Welden, Tom & Rici	262-679-4206
Wolf, Verl & Eugenia	414-422-1466
Woodard, Patti	414-531-2335
Wright, Larry III & Sarah	414-416-3523
Wright, Nick & Lisa	262-510-1579
Young, Bill & Gail	414-235-3515
Abel, Gregg & Brittany	414-870-2261

### February 18, 2018

<b>Allerheiligen, Jon &amp; Valerie</b>	<b>414-861-2261</b>
Ambelang, Terry & Sheila	262-336-8139
Anderson, Dawn	414-529-1586
Aranda, Louis & Ann	262-971-1165
Balistreri, Tom & Mary	262-895-1016
Banks, Suzi	414-322-1380
Barg, Gary & Gretchen	262-971-9767
Barry, Kurt & Betty	414-422-1176
Bartholomay, John & Sharon	414-467-1084
Bennett, Matt & Kris	262-971-9995
Benz, Wilma	414-425-2259
Besch, Michael & Pam	262-786-8896

### February 25, 2018

Beyer, David	414-871-6307
Boesel, Lucas & Carol	262-679-4837
Borchardt, Joe & Amy	262-501-3310
<b>Borda, Mary Beth &amp; Luis</b>	<b>414-328-9985</b>
Brunn, Michelle	262-643-8711
Brunn, Roger & Gail	262-643-8711
Bunzel, Alan & Diane	414-731-2410
Campbell, David & Tracey	414-801-1718
Christian, Jean	262-909-8431
Coleman, Delores	414-425-5510
Cordy, Andrew	713-578-0507

The highlighted names are the leaders for that Sunday.

If you have any questions please contact Lynette Gerke 414-529-0207 or [mdglag@yahoo.com](mailto:mdglag@yahoo.com). Thank you.

## COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

