

Peace Notes

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Daylight Saving Time
SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, March 24 at 9 & 11 (Journey)
Maundy Thursday, March 28 at 6:30pm
Good Friday, March 29 at Noon & 6:30pm
Easter Sunday, March 31 at 9 & 11 (non Journey)
Easter Brunch 10-11am
Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30

From Pastor Kruse's pen

Pastorally, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for your partnership in the Gospel. Your prayers, encouragement, and support have been invaluable to me, and I am so grateful for the start of our journey together.

Hopefully, my Pastoral Installation was a great day of joy and celebration for you as much as it was for Beckie and myself! Thank you again to all those who put in extra time and effort to create a lovely day. I hope and pray that we will have many years to mature together in Christ.

As I prepare the Lent worship services and midweek worship services, I'm also taking the time to build relationships with each of you. With this in mind, I am beginning home visits to members. My goal is to hopefully meet with everyone in the first year.

I'm starting by connecting with our leadership, new members, and those with needs, special requests, or who may be homebound. I'll be personally making the calls and setting up the visits. When possible, my wife Beckie will join me as well.

If you've never been visited by a pastor before, here is the key. Be yourself! You do not need to clean the entire home or go above and beyond what you do for a guest (I can sit wherever is most comfortable for you). I'll be asking the same questions to each family/individual and close our time with a blessing/prayer.

I will love you as a brother/sister in Christ and meet you wherever you are in your walk of faith. Thank you again for your unwavering support and friendship.

I'm excited to see how God uses us together to advance His Kingdom of Grace, Love, Forgiveness, and Peace as members of Christ's Body. Recall the apostle Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 12:27, "*Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.*"

As we continue our Lent journey may we always be guided to the cross and empty tomb of Christ for this is God's love for us as we connect, care, and celebrate together at Peace.

Pastor Kruse



Ministry Council News

Greetings all,

The Ministry Council will be holding its meeting on February 29th – too late for this month's Peace Notes. But there will be a full report next time.

This month's little article is driven by a comment that Pastor Kruse made the other morning. In essence he said, "You know what really amazes me about Peace is that everything just happens. People just seem to step up and get done what needs to get done."

If you will remember, back in October we celebrated Church Worker month and recognized all those who work in our church – i.e., those who make a living at it. But as everyone knows, and Pastor Kruse has recognized, there are a lot of people who volunteer to make things happen. And that is the focus of this article. We want to recognize and highlight all the volunteers at Peace. So here goes, and in no particular order: (I am using first names at times just to keep this article within space limits.)

Beginning with individuals and smaller teams:

Thanks to Clare Schulz who has for many years been our **Church Librarian**.

Thanks to **Dan** who makes things for the church – like a really big cross!

Have you noticed the pretty flower gardens or the green plants that adorn the inside of the church? Thank **Bruce and Vickie**.

We thank **Mike M and Julie** for being our outreach team to the local retirement homes. And for Julie who sends out birthday cards and runs the Gracefully Aging program.

Like to drink coffee on Sundays? Thank **Bob**.

And then there are the three M's who lead **Adult Bible study**: Marilyn, Melody, and Mike. Jill also leads classes from time to time.

Then we have the **Confirmation Instructors**, Linda S and Linda D.

And don't forget the **Youth Leaders**, Arlene and Matt.

Amy Borchard has for some time been our **Sunday School Leader**. This year her teachers are: Kim, Aimi, Steve, Amber, Ben, Amanda and Marilyn.

And we can't forget all the work that Melody and Bill do in putting together the **Peace Notes** newsletter each month.

Often helping out with **Technology and Computer** issues is Bill Erblisch.

Did you ever wonder who changes the letters in our **Billboard Signs**? That would be Patti Woodard.

Mona Vasholz is the one who organizes the signups for the **Altar Flowers**. Mona also does the budgeting for the Little Lambs Academy. And Wally is the go-to person for whatever Little Lambs might need in the way of assistance.

Moving to groups, boards, and committees: The **Spiritual Care Ministers** maintain contact with all our families and reach out when we haven't seen someone for a while. Thank Melody's team: Suzi, Gretchen, Joe, Sue E, Jill, Debbie, Bridget, and Marilyn.

The **Love and Care Committee** care for those who are experiencing health issues, or issues of any kind. Sheila Ambelang coordinates the team of Michelle, Linda, Bridget, Arlene, Alicyn,

Bonnie, Melody, Nancy, Debbie, Shirley, Suzi, and Paige.

The **Mission and Ministry Board** is headed by Marilyn with help as needed from Stephanie, Shirley, Marcia, Sara, and Darcy (and Anna, Eric, and Art too.)

Where would we be without the **Altar Guild**? Laurie McArthur leads the group made up of, Melody, Darcy, Lynette, Michelle, Bridget, Linda G, Sherri, and Vickie. Laurie also appreciates the assistance of a few helpers: Brian, Bill, Don, Scott G, and Mark. Our Live Nativity has a stable thanks to Don Springer, Mark and Bill.

Then we have the **Little Lambs Committee**. We thank Laurie K, Joe, Bob, Griff, Greg, Mona, and Sue.

Another group that performs wonderful work is the **Quilters**. They make the most beautiful quilts and distribute them to members in need of support or warm thoughts. Thank Sue S, Suzi, Gretchen, Bonnie S, Rici, Joyce, Vickie, Linda, and Bev.

Then there is a group that of late has been busy almost every week. Lutherans it seems like to eat and to celebrate. We thank, most sincerely, the **Fellowship Committee**, headed by Mary Lewandowski and made up of: Arlene, Jill P. Lynn, Gretchen, Alicyn, Sherry G, Darcy, Joyce, Bonnie S, Linda D, Bonnie V, Sherri W, Paige, Chris, and Scott P! (I happen to know that Griff, Gary, Bruce and Mark help set up and cleanup a lot too.)

Turning to the church services, the church service is often beautified by the work of our **Bell Choir**. Led by David, this choir is made up of Lani, Bob, Gary, Michelle, Gretchen, Sherry, Darcy, Carole, and Laura.

The wonderful **Trumpet** enhancement that we hear on festival days is provided by our member, Jeep Kust.

On festival days we hear the **Festival Choir** under the direction of Tom Halverson. The members include Stephanie, Laurie, Debbie, Suzi, Anna, Alicyn, Heather, Melody, Courtney, Laura, Sue, BJ, George, Oliver, Steve, and Mike.

A “new” group, the **Elders**, is formed by Mike M, Art, and Matt.

Then we have quite a number of **Lectors** who bring us the Word of the Lord each service: Suzi, Mike B, Joyce, Carol, Scott, Bev, Steve, Lani, Darcy, Paige, Mike M, Debbie, Sue S, Bridget, Marilyn, and Patti.

An indispensable team, the **Ushers**, is made up of: Roger, Bill F, Matt G, Sharon, Paul, Mark, Brian, Patrick, Brad, David, Bruce, Don Springer and Don Stachewicz, Anna, Art, Dan, and Bob.

The **Sacramental Ministers** who I have listed on the roster are: Joe, Roger, Bridget, Matt S, Mike B, Griff, Mark, Arlene, Tom R, Bruce, Gary, and Bill F.

Then a smaller group that could really use some additional members is the **Slide Operators**. As of now we have: Suzi, Sue S, Lynette, Laura, and Wally.

We are also blessed to have nine young people who serve as **Acolytes**: Amelia, Sophia, Grace, Alyssa, Harper, Quinn, E.J., Samantha and Liam.

Ever wonder who counts the contributions and keeps track of all those records? That would be, for lack of a better term, the **Counters**. This is a really big group! Rici Welden heads up the team made up of: Darcy, Gary L, Jill, Tom H, Sue E, Heather, Gretchen, Bonnie S, Gary, Sherry, and Bill E.

And finally, we come to the **Church Council**. At present the Council is made up of: Mark, Marcia, Wendy, Scott G, Bob, Griff, Bruce, Patrick, and Mike B.

Have you noticed that many names appear on more than one list? They say that many hands make light work.

Take a look at these groups. Perhaps if you are not yet involved in one of these efforts, you might see an opportunity to join in. Your help would always be greatly appreciated, and you’d get to better know some really, wonderful people.

In the meantime, take the opportunity to thank these volunteers. They are doing the Lord’s work here at peace.

Blessings always,

Mike Besch



The Gracefully Aging class will not be meeting in March. Watch for the April topic in the next newsletter.

Julie Disseler

Little Lambs Academy News

March brings lots of fun and learning to our Preschool and Childcare classes. In our Chapel lessons, we talk about how much Jesus loves us. We pretend to be the people waving palm branches and singing “Hosanna to the King!” as we learn the story of *Jesus riding into Jerusalem*. Then we hear about *the Last Supper* before *Jesus Suffered and Died*.



The 3K students will be learning about their Five Senses during March. We will do an instrument parade, look at things with a microscope and magnifying glasses, touch many different textures, make and taste ice cream and butter, and use our sense of smell to sniff popcorn! We use our senses to ask questions about our world and do some fun science experiments. This time of year we are busy practicing our counting skills, as well as getting lots of practice with writing our names and other fine motor skills as we prepare for 4K. We are growing by leaps and bounds!

During March, the 4K students will learn letters R, S and T. They will also study outer space - the moon, the Earth, the Milky Way galaxy and the planets! Towards the end of the month, they'll visit the Retzer Nature Center & Planetarium. 4K starts subtraction during math time and continues lots of reading with little reader books about space and leprechauns.

Our 2-year-old Toddler & Caregiver class is finishing up our Winter Session and starting our Spring Session. The children will make a keepsake book with art projects about the song "Slippery Fish."

We just started up our Pre3K class, where new 3-year-olds come to class without their grown-up, many for their first time! March will find us learning about the weather. We do a craft each day to build gluing and coloring skills, plus we work on counting, sitting for rug time and transitions. We hear a short Bible story each week and sing lots of songs.

Registration for 2024-25 is underway and some classes are filling fast! If you have a child, grandchild or friend who is looking for a high quality, faith-filled preschool or child-care program, please contact Mrs. Laurie Kieliszewski at preschool@peacelutheran.org to schedule a tour. You can also visit the website at <https://www.peacelutheran.org/little-lambs-academy>.

Thanks and have a blessed day!

Stacy Abraham

Ysleta Lutheran Mission Trip

Excitement is building as the date of the trip is nearly here! Our team of 11 will be leaving on March 16 and returning on March 23. Our team members are Art, Marilyn and Eric Thompson, Mark and Darcy Luling, Louise McKinney, Gil Duchow, Tom Roberson, Greg and Sara Shuler, and Scott Paque. Plane tickets are booked, forms are filled out, and passports located. Things are falling into place!

We want to thank all the people who donated money to pay for the building supplies! We met our goal and even exceeded it a bit!! I'm sure we can find a great use for any extra money that came in.

Also, the family we are building for has been chosen and we just received some information on them. We will be building a 12 by 24-foot home for Angela Villa Espinoza and her husband and 3-month-old daughter. They are currently living with her parents and brothers, and the home we will be building will be on the same property as her parents. Angela is looking forward to having a home of her own. She currently stays home to take care of her daughter while her husband works.

Angela has been a member of the San Pedro and San Pablo Lutheran Mission Church in the KM 30 area of Juarez for 15 years. This mission church does not have a building but meets regularly at the home of one of their members. It is supported by Santisima Trinidad Lutheran Church in the Zaragosa area of Juarez. Santisima Trinidad was the first Lutheran church started by Ysleta Lutheran Mission back in 1997 and now there are several others in Juarez.

We hope you will remember Angela and her family, and the Peace mission team in your prayers. We greatly thank you for your support, both financially and through your prayers. God is good!

Blessings to you all,

Marilyn Thompson



Drivers Needed

Would you like to help out the Ysleta Lutheran Mission Team and you have a vehicle? We could use a few drivers that would be willing to drive us and our luggage from Peace Lutheran to the airport in Milwaukee on Saturday, March 16 around 2 pm and/or pick us up at the airport on Saturday, March 23 also around 2 pm and bring us back to Peace. This would help us keep the cost of the trip down as parking is getting pretty pricy at the airport.

If you can help with this, please contact Marilyn Thompson at 414-870-6461. Thanks!!

Marilyn Thompson



It's Almost Here!

Our new photo directory will be in your hands soon. We just need some finishing touches.

Leaping into this project lacking computer “talent” and equipment left me needing help. As in every circumstance, God provided!

Thank you to Pat Packard, Jennifer Langbauer, Melody and Bill Erlich, Tom Halverson, and Arlene Schneider.

So I guess when we are nudged to take on a project at church and we're unsure or nervous, it all works out with God's guidance.

Although it's not perfect, I hope we can put more names to faces and be even closer as the wonderful church family that we are.

Debbie Packard



A special thank you to Peace and all of you lovely members for your many kindnesses to Beckie and myself. Installation Day was filled with great joy and celebration!

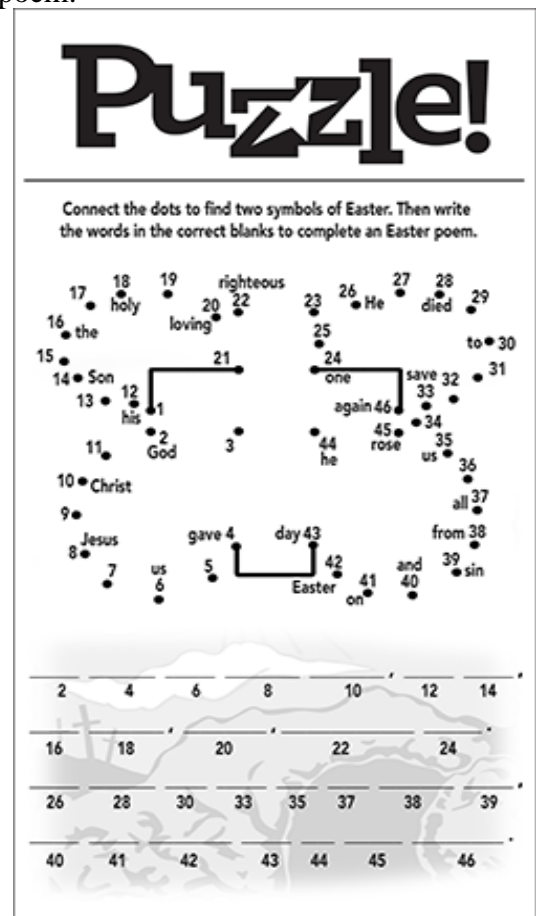
We loved the service and reception afterwards.
Thank you for your sacrifice, time, and effort.

We look forward to a few date nights together with the restaurant gift cards. Thank you also for the Peace Cardinal Print for my office, Pastoral Stole, Peace Cookbook and words of encouragement and congratulations. What a blessing it is for us to be together at Peace!

In Christian love,

Pastor Kruse

Connect the dots to find two symbols of Easter. Then write the words in the correct blanks to complete an Easter poem.





March Birthdays

Alex Kohrs	March 3
Sue Zuchowski	March 4
Brady Allerheiligen	
Arlene Lassa	March 6
Mike Besch	
Belle Nelson	March 8
Amy McVoy	
Megan Schopf	March 13
Luce Boesel	
Bob Weber	March 14
Lynette Gerke	
Paul Smith	March 15
Paula Whittow	March 18
Kimberly McArthur	March 19
Sharon Jaeger	
Dorothy Range	March 20
Brian Gerke	
Griff Gunderson	
Steve Langbauer	March 22
Dave Weiss	March 25
Tom Hetrich	March 29



"Behold,
THE LAMB OF GOD,
who takes away
THE SIN
OF THE WORLD!"

JOHN 1:29, ESV



Happy Anniversary

Kyle & Lauren Beeson Jones	March 11
Bill & Donna Eurick	March 12
Dave & Suzi Banks	March 24
Bruce & Vickie Schmidt	March 26

Jesus Answers Our Uncertainties

During our life of faith, we all face questions, doubts and despair. In *Fearless*, Max Lucado says Jesus' responses to us echo his responses to the disciples. His answer to our doubt is the same as with Thomas: "Touch my body" — which we do every time we connect with the church (the body of Christ), wounds and all. As with the Emmaus disciples, Jesus urges us to ponder his story found in Scripture — which we do through Bible reading and study. Today, just as long ago, Jesus meets his followers — in his body, in his Word — and strengthens our faith.

