

# Peace Notes

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## From the Pastor's Pen

**“You cannot use your time to better advantage than by serving well the young people of the congregation.”**

This is a quote by C.F.W. Walther, the First President of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod which he spoke to Seminary Students.

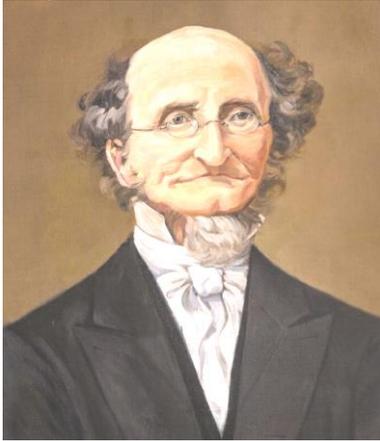
Walther lived from 1811-1887 and immigrated from Germany to America in 1838. He married Emilie Buenger and together they had six children. He was the head of the LC-MS and also the first Concordia Seminary President in St. Louis.

He recognized and understood the importance of serving well the young people of the congregation and encouraging future pastors to do the same. When we baptize our children, raise them in the Christian faith, worship with them, surround them with prayer, teach them the



**Daylight Saving Time**  
SUNDAY, MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>

love of Jesus and how to respond to God's grace and love their neighbor then we are using our time advantageously.



These words still ring true today. Peace continues to build up God's Kingdom as we share this love and good news of Jesus to everyone—especially young ones. What a blessing to walk alongside Little Lambs Academy, Kidz Jam, our Jr. and Sr. High Youth Ministries and also the younger adults of our congregation. For today's Christian youth are tomorrow's future Christian servant leaders.

By God's grace and mercy let's keep doing all we can to encourage, build up, and serve well the young people in Jesus' name.

*Pastor Kruse*

### *Ministry Council News*

Greetings, Peace family!

What a wonderful turnout we had for our February 1 Voters' Meeting—thank you to everyone who showed up, shared feedback, and joined the conversation. Your voices truly matter.

The majority of voters supported partnering with Auxano as we move forward in our visioning process. We're finalizing the steering team now and hope to share those names soon, with our first meeting planned for March.

I'm praying for continued engagement from all of us as we step into this journey together. Charting

our future is something we do side by side, as one body in Christ.

As I sat down to write this month's article, one word kept rising to the surface: gratitude. In the short time I've been serving in this role, I've gained an even deeper appreciation for all the behind-the-scenes work that makes Peace such a special place. So many of you generously share your time, gifts, and energy—far too many to name, but each one deeply valued. We are also blessed by your faithful financial support, which gives us a strong and steady foundation to build upon.

Thank you for who you are and all you do. I'm truly excited to see where God leads us through this visioning process—and I'm grateful we're walking it together.

Blessings to all!

*Carol Fontanez*



### *Lenten Midweek Worship & Dinners*

We continue our Lenten Midweek services March 4 through March 29 starting at 6:30pm following dinner at 5:30.

The Fellowship Team has set a schedule for the Lenten Dinners that begin at 5:30 pm.

- March 4
  - Pizza & Garlic Bread
- March 11
  - BBQ & Italian Beef Sandwiches
- March 18
  - Italian – Youth Fundraiser
- March 25
  - Chili

*Mary Lewandowski*

## *Easter Egg Hunt*

Our Easter Egg Hunt at Peace will take place between services on Easter Sunday at 10:30. Please invite friends, neighbors, grandchildren! All ages are welcome!

If you want to donate plastic eggs filled with treats (wrapped or prepackaged candy or trinkets) please drop them in the church office no later than Monday, March 30th. Please have the eggs stuffed.

I am also looking for youth volunteers to help me distribute the eggs before the hunt. This will take place on Easter Sunday, right after the 9:00 am service. If you are interested please contact me at 920.277.6984 or [amysukowaty@yahoo.com](mailto:amysukowaty@yahoo.com).

God's blessings,

*Amy Borchardt*

## *Mission of the Month*

In April a group from Peace will be traveling to the Holy Land to see some of the places that Jesus walked. We believe that the trip will make a difference in our own faith journey and at the same time we would like to make a difference in the lives of some children.

With that in mind, we are highlighting the work of Shevet Achim. This Christian organization was started in 1994 because one mom was desperately seeking lifesaving treatment for her son. Soon a small international community of Christians and Israeli citizens banded together to help this child get the help he needed to live. They soon realized that there were other children, precious in God's sight, who needed lifesaving heart surgery and needed help getting that surgery.

They started with children living in Gaza and the West Bank, but as they grew, God opened doors for them in Iraq in 2003 and later in Syria. They help these Muslim families who could not access or afford heart surgery for their children by connecting them to Jewish Doctors at the biggest hospital in Israel.



Paying for all of this is a group effort. Some Jewish heart surgeons established a foundation to offset some of the medical expenses, and the hospital discounts the cost of surgery by 50% and then Shevet Achim pays for the surgeries, travel and other expenses. They also have a recovery apartment where families go post-surgery while the child is recovering and make sure they get to their post-surgery checkups. They have many volunteers that make all this happen.

Our own Beckie Kruse had visited the recovery apartment a few years ago on a previous trip to Israel. She was very impressed when she got to see their ministry in person. Shevet Achim is recognized in Israel and in the Islamic community as an organization to be trusted. If you would like to help us to support children from Gaza and other Islamic countries, this is an outstanding organization to support. There are specially marked envelopes on the information desk.

For more information, their website is [www.shevet.org](http://www.shevet.org). Thank you for making a difference in the lives of children in need!

*Marilyn Thompson*



### **Update on the Lutheran Bible Translator Missionaries**

Back in October 2025, we raised money for Naomi and Michael Erslund, LBT missionaries. They had just completed the Komba Bible translation in Ghana and were back in the USA awaiting their next mission to Tanzania. Michael had worked on the translation for nine years and others had put in years of work prior to that.

Since then, they were able to travel back to Ghana for two weeks to participate in the dedication of the printed and audio Komba Bibles. There was quite a bit of pageantry on the big day. Their latest newsletter will be posted on the bulletin board by the coat closet if you would like to read all about it, but it sounds like there was a lot of singing, dancing and praying!

The Ersland's have reached 40% of their funding goal for housing and car expenses in Tanzania and as soon as they raise the additional funding needed, they will travel to Tanzania and begin Swahili language learning. Peace donated \$1,347 to their fund from money raised from you, our congregation!

If you would like to help the Ersland's further, please see the posted newsletter or contact Marilyn Thompson. Thanks!

*Marilyn Thompson*



*Little Lambs Academy News*

March brings lots of fun and learning to our Preschool and Child Care 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*. At the end of the month, we will learn how Jesus suffered and died on the cross to save us from our sins. All of our children will make Easter projects and end the month with an Easter egg hunt!

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 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 Rr, Ss, Tt and Uu. They will also study outer space - the moon, the Earth, the Milky Way galaxy and the planets! They will take a field trip to visit the Retzer Nature Center & Planetarium right after Easter break. Our 4K students work on subtraction during math time and do lots of reading with little reader books about space and leprechauns.

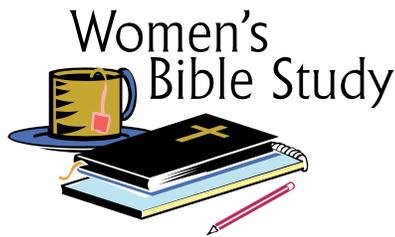
Our 2 year old Toddler & Caregiver class is finishing up our Winter Session and starting our Spring Session. The children will make a keepsake book with art projects about colors and shapes.

Our Preschool and Childcare will be closed for Spring/Easter Break the week of March 30 - April 6.

Registration for 2026-27 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. Sara Henson and Mrs. Jen Lehmann at [preschool@peacelutheran.org](mailto:preschool@peacelutheran.org) to schedule a tour.

*Stacy Abraham*  
*LLA 3K and 4K Lead Teacher*





## *New Bible Study Opportunity*

On March 12 the Thursday Women's Bible Study will begin a study on the book of John using God's Word for Today study from Concordia Publishing.

We meet from 12:30 until 2 every Thursday except for the first Thursday of the month when many of us attend Ladies that Lunch.

We will meet in the Gathering Room and the cost for the book is \$9.50. Sign up at the info desk. We'd love to have you join us.

*Melody Erblich*



## *Happy Anniversary*

Kyle Jones & Lauren Beeson	March 11
Bill & Donna Eurick	March 12
Robert & Donna Gliniecki	March 18
Dave & Suzi Banks	March 24
Bruce & Vickie Schmidt	March 26



Julie Peters	March 2
Sue Zuchowski	March 4

Arlene Lassa	March 6
Mike Besch	
William Kleinhans	March 8
Amy McVoy	
Megan Schopf	March 13
Luce Boesel	
Bob Weber	March 14
Lynette Gerke	
Paul Smith	March 15
Paula Whittow	March 18
Everly Barg	March 19
Sharon Jaeger	
Dorothy Range	March 20
Brian Gerke	
Griff Gunderson	
Steve Langbauer	March 22
Eric Kleinhans	March 24
Dave Weiss	March 25
Katherine Hoffmann	March 26

## **HOLY WEEK**



## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

### *Holy Week*

Palm Sunday—March 29 at 9am  
 Maundy Thursday—April 2 at 6:30pm  
 Good Friday—April 3 at Noon and 6:30pm  
 Easter Sunday—April 5 at 9 and 11am

Easter Brunch - 10:30-11:30am

Free will offering. RSVP to bring a dish to pass and for attendance on Poster or SignUp Genius.

Contact: Mary Lewandowski

Easter Egg Hunt 10:30