April 2015
The April newsletter of
Peace Lutheran Church
8240 Blue Ridge
Kansas City, MO 64138
816-353-3813
Fax 844-272-8926
peacelutheranlcms.org

Here we are in the month of Holy Week remembering what the Lord did, does and will do for us. His work of Good Friday that enables us to forgive others and our selves as He forgave us. His work on Easter morning that frees us from the fear of death so we may live our lives in freedom and joy. Come Lord Jesus indeed: We also look ahead to April 29th for our Lord’s plan for Peace Lutheran Church. On that day we will find out His work for Peace. I have that date circled twice on my calendar.

But until then, what do we do? Well, the Word of God says to basically prepare and wait. John the Baptist would have us to prepare the way for the Lord. Especially now, individually and as one body we should prepare for the Lord’s gift of a called servant. As one body prepare by shoring up any needs that the church has now so the Pastor is free to move the church forward. Prepare individually by remembering whoever the new pastor will be, he will hold the office of the Holy Ministry, an office that demands the respect and loyalty of the laity just as it demands from the Pastor faithfulness to Word and Sacrament and an attitude of service and humility. Prepare by understanding he will be a sinner, will be new to his calling and therefore will be in great need of the laity’s understanding, patience, support and forgiveness.

We also wait. Psalm 27:14, *Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.* Waiting with patience is a frequent theme of Scripture. Waiting is hard because we want what we need and we want it now. This is why patience is a gift of the Holy Spirit for it is not natural to wait. Patience in the Lord means...as the King James translated it - long suffering. But with Jesus, we suffer for good reason. His timing concerning the next pastor is worth waiting for, worth suffering for. Isaiah 30:18 *The Lord longs to be gracious to you, He rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for Him.* Let us prepare now for the coming of the Lord! *For blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!*

Blessed Holy Week and Easter season to all!

In Christ
Pastor Zerkel
Check it out! Grow in Peace children sang at Lent worship services. Go to your Facebook page and in the search box put “Grow In Peace Childcare.” It should bring up GIP. Scroll down the page and you will find the children singing “Jesus Loves Me” and “Squeaky Clean.”

**Easter Services**

Maundy Thursday, April 2  
Holy Communion  
11:00 am & 7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 3  
11:00 am & 7:00 pm

Easter, April 5  
6:30 am - Sunrise Service  
7:30 am - Breakfast  
9:30 am - Easter Festival Service

**Easter Morning Breakfast**

We will be serving Easter Breakfast again  
April 5 from 7:30 to 9:00 am.  
There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

1 sheet - for attendance.  
1 sheet - for volunteers to help cook, setup and clean up.  
1 sheet - for people to provide sweet rolls or bread.

**Newsletters By Email**

ATTENTION

The newsletters will be sent by email and posted on the website, peacelu-theranlcms.org. Please make sure that the church’s email address is in your contact list. If you have trouble receiving emails please contact the church office and make sure we have your current email address.
The topic for the April 2015 Circle Meeting is in the Spring 2015 Quarterly, on page 16 entitled “Seedy Characters”, written by Elaine Bickel. Another thought provoking Bible Study. We would not like to think of ourselves as seedy characters, but Isaiah 64:6 puts all of us in that category with the words, “We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment”.

The Roll Call word is “Listen”.

Alpha Circle will meet the first Monday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Wanda Thurnau, with Jean Roberts as her co-hostess. The topic will be led by Jean Roberts. Carol Head will check the Acolyte Robes for laundering or mending needs. For more information please call the President of Alpha circle, Elaine Nolen at 816-763-1773.

Esther Circle will meet the second Saturday, April 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall with Norma Derringer hosting the meeting. The topic will be led by Kathy Boehm. For more information please call the President of Esther Circle, Lois Gilham at 816-353-3110.

Mary Martha Circle will meet the second Wednesday, April 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall with Peggy Noah and Wilma Seutter hosting the meeting. For more information please call the President of Mary Martha Circle, Peggy Noah at 816-358-0601.

“Witnessing Christ through prayer, mites, and Mission Grants”

Thank you Kay our LWML President for sharing your unforgettable story of your trip to Manila, Czech Republic and Poland.

Her article is in the LWML Spring 2015 Quarterly. I encourage everyone to read it and then appreciate the work the LWML does with the pennies and dimes collected in our little “Mite Boxes”.

She saw first hand what the LWML Mission Grants selected and voted on each Biennium in our Conventions do for the people in the areas like the Philippine Islands.

The Silesian Diakonia, an organization she visited, whose purpose is mercy work, is closely linked to the Silesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (SECAC). It provides social work throughout Silesia, with 102 programs in 60 centers, (orphanages, homeless shelters and sheltered workshops) benefiting over 8,000 needy people.

Her group also visited a factory that employed people with disabilities and a home for the disabled. She witnessed the many opportunities internationally made available to the disabled of the country.

Next, her journey took her to Cieszyn, Poland, where she toured Jesus Church, one of the largest and most important Protestant churches in Poland. Constructed between 1709 and 1950, the church is rich with history. The Silesian Lutherans did not always have the freedom to worship. In 1654, the Lutheran Churches were taken away. For over six decades, Lutherans secretly met and worshiped in forests “up the mountain”. Today several thousand meet annually to celebrate their Lutheran faith “at the Stone” on Mt. Rownica.

On June 25-18 the LWML will meet in Des Moines, Iowa for another convention. They will be electing new officers and choosing Mission Grants for the many mission projects across the globe. Our 2013-2015 Mission Goal was $1,830,000.00. Each time you put those pennies in your Mite Box, think of the many children who live on pennies a day.

Spring Rally

April 25, 2015 at Timothy Lutheran Church 425 West R. D. Mize Road, Blue Springs

Registration 9:00 am
Opening Devotion 9:30

Cost: $5

Rally Theme: “The More of God”

Theme Verse: Psalm 145: 15-16 “The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.” Continued on Page 8
Easter Flowers

Easter flowers can be picked up after the last service on April 5th.

The flower calendar has several Sundays available for you to recognize birthdays, anniversaries, or remembrances. Please sign up for that special occasion.

The flower fund is 100% donations. Without you, there are no flowers.

If you would like to contribute, contact Cheryl Enke at 816-478-0009 (hm), 816-590-0189 (cell), or cenke1053@comcast.net.

Sewing Bee

The ladies plan to meet every Monday in April. We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. Bring a sack lunch and stay into the afternoon. By mid March we had completed 35 quilts. An average of nine ladies come and we would be happy to have others join us.

Please save your Best Choice UPS’s, “Box Tops for Education” and “Labels for Education”. Also save your cancelled postage stamps and leave about 1/4 inch margin of envelope around the stamp. Containers for these are on the shelf in the Narthex.

Religious Display

Check out the wide variety of greeting cards sold individually for $0.50 each or by the box at $5.00 per box. Bookmarks are 5 for $1.00. If you are looking for something special, contact Cheryl Enke to see if it can be ordered. Each purchase helps support the LWML.

Book Club

After four harrowing years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, nearly half a day’s journey from the coast. To this isolated island, where the supply boat comes once a season, Tom brings a young, bold, and loving wife, Isabel. Years later, after two miscarriages and one stillbirth, the grieving Isabel hears a baby’s cries on the wind. A boat has washed up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby.

LUMA Annual Dinner

You’re invited...
Thursday
April 16, 2015

Arrival: 6:30 pm - Dinner: 6:45 pm
Complimentary Dinner, Ministry Update & Opportunity to Financially Support the Ministry of LUMA

The Pavilions - 14831 E US Hwy 40 KCMO
10 minutes east of the Sports Complex off Noland Rd

RSVP to Linda at 913-948-9700 ext 140 or lumakc.org

Peace Organizations
Lord Jesus,
As Spring approaches, we give thanks to you for the renewal you give to us with each changing season. You give us the Grace to come before you, humbled! May we seek your Love and your forgiveness in the thought, words and deeds done and undone in our daily lives. AMEN!

Open Invitation to Attend Church Services
We extend to you a standing open invite to come and explore Peace Lutheran Church and the ministries it serves. Listed below are the times for services. If you would like more info, please ask Ms. Carla or call the Church office at 353-3813.

Easter Services for Peace Lutheran
Maundy Thursday with Communion - April 2
11:00 AM & 7:00 PM
Good Friday - April 3 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM
EASTER SERVICES - April 5 6:30 AM; 9:30 AM

Opportunities for worship and Bible Study include:
Traditional Service at 8:30am on Sunday's
Contemporary Service at 11:00am on Sunday's
Sunday Bible Study 9:45 to 10:45am on Sunday’s
Midweek Bible Study 6:00 to 7:15pm on Wednesday’s

Look for the Church on the web at www.peacelutheranlcms.org and on Facebook at: http://www.facebook.com/#!/PeaceLutheranChurchKansasCity or visit in person during one of the service times or Bible Study times.

Peace Lutheran exists to encourage and equip Christ followers to

GIP is asking for donations of items for classroom usage: Batteries, size AA, AAA, C, and D. Standard size pillow cases, (any colors used to store children’s naptime blankets).

***We would gladly accept monetary donations! Grow in Peace can give you a tax exemption! Donations are always welcomed and very much needed for Grow in Peace Child Care Center!

New Children Joining Grow in Peace
Rai Leigh Roberts – Toddler
Lexie Matt – Toddler
McKinley Reasoner - Toddler
Sedona Grace Medgysei – Two’s
Michael Matt – Two’s

May God bless the education and care they will receive while attending Grow in Peace.
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td><strong>Easter Sunday</strong></td>
<td>6:30 am Sunrise Service 7:30 am - 9:00 am Breakfast (FH) 9:30 am Easter Festival Service</td>
<td>7:00 pm Alpha Circle</td>
<td>1 9:00 am GIP Chapel 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study</td>
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<td><strong>Food for Needy</strong></td>
<td>9:30 am Sewing Bee (FH) 7:00 Pm AFS</td>
<td>10:00 am Knit/Crochet Group (M/M) 10:30 OWLS (FH)</td>
<td>8 9:00 am GIP Chapel 9:30 am Mary/Mary Church</td>
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<td><strong>Mite Box Sunday</strong></td>
<td>9:30 am Sewing Bee (FH)</td>
<td>10:00 am Knit/Crochet Group (M/M)</td>
<td>15 9:00 am GIP Chapel 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study</td>
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<td>6:30 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm Church Council</td>
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<td>9:30 am John Knox Bible Study 9:30 am Pastors’ Conference 5:30 pm Knit/Crochet Group (FH) 6:30 pm Adult Choir Practice 6:30 pm LUMA Annual Dinner at the Pavilions</td>
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Peace Lutheran Church—April 2015
Church Office 353-3813 Fax 844-272-8926 GIP 353-3910
www.peacelutheranlcms.org
Yard Sale

May 28, 29 & 30
Proceeds will go to Bessie’s House

As a drop-in center for the homeless, Bessie’s House endeavors to provide nutrition, clothing, grooming, referral services, and mentoring in an environment of spiritual development and friendship. They provide a peaceful environment where one can eat, shower, talk and have laundry done. They also have a pantry. While laundry is being done, regulars eat a warm meal or wait their turn for a fifteen-minute shower. Others chat on the front porch or in the living room. It is located in the Old Northeast neighborhood of Kansas City.

Donations (no adult clothing) can be placed in the Sunday School room on the lower level marked “Yard Sale.”

Lutheran Hour Spinner Continued:

If either of these topics touch a neighbor or friend, please take it off the spinner located in the entrance way and share:

“Battles with the Bottle” This is a book about battles: the battle with the bottle – and the battle beyond the bottle. If you find yourself engulfed in either of these battles, this booklet is for you!

“Alzheimer’s: Facing the loss of a Lifetime” Alzheimer’s disease alters the brain, causing memory loss and personality change. While the clinical effects of the disease are well-known, the impact it has on the person suffering – as well as the family who cares for them – is much more complex. Told through the eyes of a family experiencing Alzheimer’s, this booklet explores the effect of the disease on both the patient and the caregiver. Offering insights on the joys that are still possible throughout the disease this booklet gives hope by reminding us that though we may forget who we are, God never will.

Special Guest: Kristy Carter, LWML MO District V. Pres. of Communications

Guest Speaker: Rachel Almstedt is a Life Coach and Certified Nutritionist and a member of Christ Lutheran in Platte Woods. She will speak on what God gives us is more than we ever ask for or can find in this world. She will compare things the world says or defines as joyful to the joy of knowing Jesus - the ultimate joy. Her company is Pray, Live, Eat.

Ingathering: Food and monetary donation for LUMA, Our Redeemer and Immanuel food pantries.

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Great News! Lutheran Women’s Missionary League -Missouri District has been approved to participate in the Thrivent Choice Program.

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STAMPS: The LWML Mo District has collected approximately $3,939.02 from stamps beginning 2014-1/31/15. WAY TO GO LADIES

Ruth Oexman, LWML Publicity
A Lutheran Institution Near and Dear to Our Heart:

More than 19 years ago, the members of Peace took Proverbs 22:6 as the focus of their ministry at 82nd and Blue Ridge: “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Committees were formed, monetary commitments were garnered and walls were built. Carla Hamilton, Grow in Peace’s Director, has faithfully guided and implemented the evolving daycare ever since it opened its doors in 1996 to the Kansas City/Raytown communities.

Hard work and countless study hours, with the implementation necessary, procured National Lutheran School Accreditation in August of 2013. Grow in Peace is also Missouri state licensed, which means there is state oversight to ensure that the daycare is operating up to the highest standards. A Childcare Board, meeting the third Tuesday of the month, has always been in place to assist in the administration of the business part of this ministry. The current board consists of Peggy Noah, President, and members Linda Curtis, Joe Rice, Ruth Oexman, Jenna Larkworthy and Stan Christopher.

Those who have attended the morning Advent and Lent services have had their worship enhanced by the singing of the 3, 4 and 5 year olds attending GIP. What joy to see and hear 38 children raise collective voices in praise of their Jesus. Grow in Peace’s website boldly proclaims Luke 2:40: “And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.” Wisdom and grace are two awesome words that define what is going on right next to our church during the week. You and your fellow Peace members are ensuring that 139 impressionable little ones are learning and growing spiritually every day.

Are you looking on GIP as your opportunity to serve God and the community that your church is sitting in? If so, how? If not, how come? Are you, personally, committed to the continuance of GIP and Peace Lutheran Church in the future? It is only with united effort that this will be. We can’t leave it to “someone else” – to the other fellow – it takes personal ownership of these two facilities that we are entrusted with - not because they are an earthly investment as much as they are a spiritual investment.

Jesus gave each one of us the command to “evangelize”. He didn’t just throw His command out to the wind – He said it to each one of us. Are you really familiar with the definition of that important word - evangelize? A dictionary would give these three definitions: 1. To preach the gospel; 2. To convert to Christianity; 3. To promote a doctrine or idea enthusiastically. Each member of Peace is an evangelist with different abilities, talents and resources. Donations whether monetary or physical and especially individual prayers are always needed and appreciated. Each of us needs to search our own heart as to our personal efforts on behalf of Christ’s Kingdom.

If you’ve never been inside Grow in Peace’s building, what’s stopping you?! After all, it belongs to YOU! Check it out! Give a word of encouragement and praise to the staff who are caring for your earthly and heavenly investment. Then put on your thinking cap and ponder what you can do to be a more vital part of this ministry. You’ll be glad you did.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Liturgy</th>
<th>Ushers</th>
<th>Elders</th>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>After Care</th>
<th>Altar Guild</th>
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<td>April 5</td>
<td>LSB</td>
<td>Dayle/Sandy Olson</td>
<td>Punky/Carol Head</td>
<td>Nellie Fritz</td>
<td>Adult Choir</td>
<td>8:30 - Praise Team</td>
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<td>April 12</td>
<td>LSB</td>
<td>Cliff/Peggy Noah</td>
<td>Praise Team</td>
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<td>Adult Choir</td>
<td>9:30 - Praise Team, Trumpet</td>
<td>9:30 - Praise Team, Trumpet</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
<td>LSB</td>
<td>Dennis/Carol Head</td>
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<td>April 26</td>
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<td>Praise Team</td>
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<td>Adult Choir</td>
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- **Love in Action**
- **Elders**
- **Ushers**
- **Music**
- **Greeters**
- **After Care**
- **Altar Guild**

**2015 Peace Lutheran Church April Worship Schedule**

- April 5: LSB, Punky/Carol Head, Nellie Fritz, Adult Choir, 8:30 - Praise Team, 8:30
- April 12: LSB, Cliff/Peggy Noah, Praise Team, 9:30 - Praise Team, Trumpet, 9:30 - Praise Team, Trumpet
- April 19: LSB, Dennis/Carol Head, Praise Team, 9:30 - Praise Team, Trumpet
- April 26: LSB, Adult Choir, Adult Choir, 9:30 - Praise Team, Trumpet
April Birthdays

1 Iva Pickler
2 Tyler Ledgerwood
3 Bruce Johnson
4 Blayne Halling
5 Matt Ratcliffe
6 Jim Cooper
7 Jana Harms
8 Williams Okpewho
9 Signe Cochran
10 Michael Bartlett
11 Val Rieger
12 Edie Kirchoff
13 Clara Stachling-Hampton
14 Zoey Schroeter
15 Gisela Anderson
16 Timothy Ruth, Jr.
17 Robert Brown
18 Stan Christopher
19 Rick Ledgerwood
20 Elaine Nolen
21 Stefon Griddine
22 Jennifer Larkworthy
23 Sheila Dalen
24 Betty Halling
25 Ruby Rapp
26 Carla Hamilton
27 David Petrus
28 Jennifer Cooper
29 James Autrey
30 Cynthia Slater

April Baptisms

1 John Bartels
2 Ina Huth
3 Connie Shepard
4 Cara Ewart
5 Ben Brackman
6 Ron Miller
7 Peggy Noah
8 Luke Harms
9 Ryan Shropshire
10 Katie Biddix
11 Cindy Thurnau
12 Rev. Keith Ratcliffe
13 Megan Johnson
14 Jason Nutt
15 Daniel Vachalek
16 Christina Wall
17 Kimberly Benavides
18 Alex Hamilton
19 Val Rieger
20 Diana Worthington
21 Tyler Ledgerwood
22 Lisa Noah
23 Larry Borchardt
24 Michael Bellach
25 Mark Brackman
26 Ernie Jarvis
27 David Ferber
28 Mickey Olson

* = Date unknown
MISSION GRANT STORY

PREPARING LEADERS FOR A DIVERSE WORLD
- CONCORDIA COLLEGE, SELMA, ALABAMA   $50,000

Concordia College Alabama, was founded in Selma over 90 years ago by Lutheran Educator, Rosa Young. She had a passion for raising up leaders for the church and working with Lutheran Missionary, Reverend Nils Bakke. She founded over 20 Christ-centered church schools in rural Alabama. The students of these schools would otherwise have nowhere to receive an education. These church schools needed pastors and teachers, which led to the start of the training academy in Selma. That academy became Concordia College Alabama. Many black pastors and teachers serving in the The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) today or retired can trace their roots to Concordia College Alabama. It is the only black college in the Concordia University System and the only Lutheran historically black college in the nation. It’s strong education program and deep Lutheran roots in the African-American community position it uniquely to raise up needed African-American leaders for the LCMS in its schools, daycare centers, parishes, and outreach ministries.

As communities across the nation become more diverse, it is important for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to begin preparing a diverse church workforce. Seminary classes are offered at Concordia College Alabama to raise up church workers with special abilities to serve the diverse cultural needs of the church. Concordia College Alabama’s teacher graduates are much sought after for their excellence in the classroom. This mission grant will allow an endowed scholarship for pastors and deaconesses, as well as allow a deepening of Concordia College Alabama’s teacher education program through partnerships with Lutheran parochial schools in Alabama, national and international recruitment, and scholarships to increase the number of students pursuing a Lutheran Teacher’s Diploma and Early Childhood Education degree.