

Dear Church,

Christ is Risen...He is Risen indeed!

Earlier last month, when the snow was still covering the ground and the temperature was still “frigid” (in my opinion, anyway), I remember driving home after church one Sunday and as I turned into my neighborhood, I noticed the smallest patch of green pushing through the still-frozen ground. I hadn’t been looking for it, hadn’t been expecting anything new yet—and still, there it was. That quiet, stubborn sign of life caught me off guard and filled me with a hope I didn’t realize I needed. So much of life feels like that. We move through routines, schedules, and seasons (where we might even feel stuck), and then—unexpectedly—God plants something new right in front of us. We find ourselves waiting without even knowing we were waiting.

As we approach Easter, we often think of anticipation as something obvious—the countdown to celebration, the familiar story we know is coming. But the first disciples didn’t experience it that way. Their anticipation was tangled with grief, confusion, and fear. And yet, in the midst of that uncertainty, God was already at work, preparing something beyond their imagination. In the Gospel of John, Mary Magdalene stands at the empty tomb weeping, not yet realizing that resurrection is right behind her (John 20:11–16). How often are we standing in our own moments of sorrow or uncertainty, unaware that new life is already unfolding? This is the promise of Christ. This is the promise of Easter. God moves in unexpected ways - bringing hope where we least expect it, and reminding us that resurrection often begins quietly, just beneath the surface. May you hold tight to that promise this season.

Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed!

See you in church!

*Pastor Melissa*



Ministry Highlights from Pastor Melissa’s Council Reports:

February:

- Bible & Basketball night - some of our college kids came back to lead a bible study for our high school kids this night. So cool!
- Camp Sunday, Camp Night on Wednesday, & promoting camp - we currently have 19 kids signed up for summer camp! Wahoo!!
- All Church Tubing-Sledding Night at Trollhaugen (over 100 people came and we had so much fun! - little kids, big kids & families!)

March:

- Family Lent Event to kick off Lent
- Agape Concert with Youth
- Wednesday nights (Songs of Peace. All the guest artists have been wonderful!!)
- Staff Retreat at Wapo (also scouted for next year’s women’s retreat)
- 7th - 8th grade Confirmation Overnight Retreat at Wapo

Pastoral Acts:

- Todd Neidermire Baptism (2/22/26)
- Delaney Dalton Baptism (3/22/26)
- Ongoing Pre-marriage Counseling with 2 couples

# NOTES

from the office

## APRIL/ MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 5: Easter Sunday  
April 12: Holy Humor Sunday  
April 26: Children's Sunday and Praise Band  
May 24: Praise Band

Noisy Offering: April 26th & May 31st

## ATTENDANCE / FINANCIAL

### February

1:152 8:140 15:150 22:225

### March

1:141 8:116 15:0 22:195

### Financial Giving - January

Budget \$44,609

Noisy Offering \$266

Building Maintenance \$160

Designated Memorials: \$6,330

### Financial Giving - February

Budget \$39,331

Building Maintenance \$1,950

Designated Memorial \$170

### **The Church's Weekly Financial Needs:**

\$10,690

## WELCOME NEW ONLINE MEMBER!

Kirk Brust

160 KUGER LANE, GRANTS PASS, OR 97527

## WEEKLY @ PEACE

### Sundays

- Worship Service at 9:00 am
- Children's Church at 9:15 am
- Coffee & Fellowship at 10:00 am
- Choir Practice at 8 am OR 10:15 am
- Ukelele Gathering at 1:00 pm  
(All levels welcome)

### Tuesdays

- Coffee & Conversation at 9:00 am
- Staff Meeting at 9:30 am

### Wednesdays

- Quilting Group at 8:30 am
- Scripture Study at 1:30 pm w/Pete
- CLUB 56 (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) at 5:30pm
- Dinner at 6:30 pm
- Confirmation & HS Youth Group at 7pm

### Thursdays

- AA at 7:00 pm

## MONTHLY MEETINGS/GROUPS

- Worship Ministry Meeting  
Tuesday, May 12, 8:00 am
- Adult Ministry Meeting  
1st Tues. at 6:00 pm -April 7
- Caregiver Support Group  
3rd Tuesday at 2:00pm
- Breast Cancer Support\_Group  
1st Monday at 6:30 pm. For more info, contact Becky Anderson 715-557-0836
- Youth Ministry Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 5:00 pm
- Peace Council Meeting  
3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm
- Itty Bitty Book Bunch Last Sunday of the month at 10:00 am
- Outreach Ministry Meeting  
Monday, May 4 at 1 pm (tentative)
- Property Committee Meeting  
Monday, April 13 at 6:00 pm at F.B. Contracting Office

He is Risen

March 29 - Palm Sunday Worship at 9 am  
(\*Breakfast to follow)

April 2 - Maundy Thursday/Communion Service at 7 pm  
Crockpot Dinner 5:45 pm-6:45 pm  
Mentors 6:30 pm

April 3 - Good Friday Service at 12:00 pm

April 5 - Easter Sunday Services:  
7:00 am Sunrise Service  
9:00 am Traditional Easter Worship - with  
livestream  
10:30 am Traditional Easter Worship



**JOIN US**

**Usher/Reader Schedule April/May**

**Usher**

**April 2:** Sue Rawlings & John Adam  
**April 3:** Michelle Merritt & Claire Chinander  
**April 5: 7:00 am** Robin & Drew Ekstrom  
**9:00 am** Prokop/Todd Family  
**10:30 am** Dick Blattner & Kim Kaiser  
**April 12:** Larissa/Alyssa Chapman  
**April 19:** Michelle & Peter Ward  
**May 3:** Sue Rawlings & Ben Peterson  
**May 10:** Jeff & Melissa Hall  
**May 17:** Mark & Maria Gjovig  
**May 24:** Paul Lindholm & Dick Blattner  
**May 31:** Steve & Karrie Swenson

**Reader**

Pat Adam  
Michelle Merritt  
Diane Lechman  
Pete Peterson  
Sara Haase  
Pat Kirby  
Mary Lee  
Daniel Hanson  
Melissa Hall  
Joe Rysdam  
Anne Miller Solsrud  
Karrie Swenson

**SPRING CLEANING?**

**THINK OF OUR QUILTERS**

If you're doing some spring cleaning or browsing garage sales, our quilting group would love your gently used blankets and solid-color sheets (flat sheets preferred). Your donations help support their meaningful work!

**Spring/Summer Clothing Donations**

We'll be accepting gently used spring and summer clothing starting April 12. Please separate items by gender and size and clearly label your bags. Thank you for helping us keep everything organized!

**CLOTHING SHARE EVENT at Peace Volunteers NEEDED**

We're looking for 3-4 able-bodied helpers to set up the fellowship hall on **Saturday, April 18 at 10 a.m.** If you can lend a hand, we'd truly appreciate it!

We need lots of helping hands to set out the clothing right after the service on **Sunday, April 19.**

We're also looking for 2-3 volunteers to help clear out any remaining items **at 6 p.m. on April 20.** Thank you for serving with us!

Questions contact Diane Moser

**Giving Envelopes Reminder**

Our giving envelopes no longer have numbers for tracking donations. Please write your name on your envelope so we can accurately record your gifts for giving statements.

Thank you!



**The Parables of Jesus Bible Study  
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm April 15-May 6**

During His earthly ministry, Jesus was an amazing teacher. The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke include some of the stories Jesus told to help people understand profound truths about God's grace, love, and mercy. We call these stories, The Parables of Jesus. We are excited to invite you to join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm as we take a closer look at the stories Jesus told and how they are shaping our lives today. Even though you might not want to miss a single week, this is a pop-in, no homework study group, so come when you can, join the fun, and let the stories Jesus told strengthen your faith and guide you in love. Contact Pastor Lori if you have questions.

# Welcome TO



Community Referral Agency

YOU are always welcome here

We are happy to have guests and visitors here at Peace Lutheran. We are also happy to have all those interested in membership join our pastors at the next "Welcome to Peace Gathering" on May 17 at 8:15 am. If you have questions about becoming a more committed partner in our church and ministries, we'd be happy to help. Feel free to contact Pastor Melissa, Pastor Lori, or the church office at office@plcdresser.org or 715-755-2515

New Member Sunday ~ May 17

The shelter in Milltown has been one of our benevolences for 35+ years. CRA provides a safe place for a short-term stay and helps women with emotional issues, the legal system, and finding safe living arrangements. Please pray for these families!

If you would like to give a financial donation you can do so by sending it to:  
PO Box 365, Milltown, WI 54858



## Interfaith Caregivers of Polk County NEEDS YOUR HELP

### Looking for volunteers

Call: 715-483-8500 or sign up online  
interfaithpolk.org/volunteer

**BLOOD DRIVE**  
Let's save some lives on Monday,  
April 27 from 12 pm-6 pm  
To register: REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG  
Enter Zip Code: 54009 or call 1-800-733-2767



### JANUARY 2027 JAMAICA MISSION TRIP



We are currently accepting registrations for the 2027 All-Church (ages 10+) Mission tTrip to Jamaica. We will be working with our ministry partner, Robin's Nest Children's Home while we are there. This mission trip is open to ages 10+ and all abilities. Whether you have gifts in construction, holding babies, yard work, nursing, or anywhere in between, we can use you! For more information and to register, contact Pastor Melissa. (Note: there is a 16-person limit for the mission trip and registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.)

### JOHN LARSON FAMILY POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Deadline is May 15  
Applications available at  
the Welcome Desk or online

# YOUTH AND FAMILY

For more information regarding youth and family programs or to register, contact Pastor Melissa or the church office. As a reminder, fundraising and scholarships are available for all summer programs for our Children & Youth!

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY IS APRIL 26TH

Hey KIDS ~ **save the date** to help lead worship on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be looking for kids (ages 4k-6<sup>th</sup> grade) to help usher, read scripture, pray, share special music, and more! Contact Pastor Melissa if your child would like to help lead worship this day.

## TENNESSEE (HIGH SCHOOL) YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIP ... UPCOMING DATES!

- Wednesday, April 8: Parent/Student Meeting #2 at 8 pm
- Wednesday, May 6: Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction (sign up to help online)
- Sunday, June 28: Blessing & Send off 9 am, Final Meeting with Parents/Guardians 10 am



Peace Lutheran Church  
2355 Clark Road - Dresser

# Spaghetti

## Fundraising Dinner

Wednesday, May 6th  
5:00-7:00pm



Do you have a business or skill that you would be willing to donate?

Contact Pastor Melissa, as we are always looking for great items to include in our silent auction.

**THANK YOU for supporting our youth!**

**BIG**  
**THANKS**

## TO ALL LEADERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all the youth and adults who helped make Children's Church, Confirmation, Youth Group, and all Children, Youth, and Family Programs great this year! If you helped with the weekly programs for our children or youth this year, we want to THANK YOU!



**YOU ARE APPRECIATED MORE THAN YOU KNOW!**

## 9th GRADE

**9<sup>th</sup> GRADE:** Students should be finishing up their coursework for the year from their Peace University Book. All 9<sup>th</sup> grade students, along with one parent/guardian, will sign up for a time to meet with Pastor Melissa for the year-end check-in and to hear about plans for students' final projects and what to expect next fall.

\*\*\*More information will be emailed out to parents/guardians soon.

## Confirmation Year End Information

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** The last day of Confirmation will be Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Families are encouraged to attend the spaghetti dinner fundraiser together, beginning at 5:00 pm, and then small groups will be presenting final projects in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. Parents are welcome to stay while we enjoy root beer floats.

## SUMMER NEWS:

Check out the Summer Catalogue in this month's newsletter and save the dates for these exciting summer opportunities for Children, Youth & Families!

### Toddlers & Preschool ~ Bubbles & Buddies (NEW)

Tuesdays: June 2, 6 July 7, 21 August 4, 18

### Elementary - Summer Spark Day Camp (NEW)

Wednesdays: July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

### 5th & 6th Grade - Club 56 Camp-Out: August 28-29

### Middle School - Summer Serve

Wednesdays: July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (Valley Fair Day)

### High School - Tennessee Mission Trip: July 10-19

### All Ages Family Camp Wapo - Various Dates

### Touch A Truck Event: Wednesday, July 22

### Animal Blessing Worship: Sunday, August 2 at 9:00 am

### Summer Shindig @ Croix-View Farm: Wednesday, August 12, 5:00-9:00 pm



## Graduating Seniors.... We want to HONOR You!!

Congratulations to our Seniors who will be graduating this spring. We want to honor you.

Please plan to join us on the following dates:

**April 22:** Wednesday - 8:30-9:00 pm Meet Pastor Melissa at Church! You will receive a special gift. You get to pick out your blanket for "Senior Sunday", and we will chat about upcoming events and hear a short devotional as you prepare for graduation. Nelson's Ice Cream included!

**May 10:** Sunday - Senior Recognition Sunday. Join us at the 9:00 am service as we recognize you, bless you, and send you off wrapped in blankets as you enter this new part of your journey. Treats and refreshments will be given out in your honor following the service.

**May 13:** Wednesday- 7:00 pm Baccalaureate Service for Osceola and St. Croix Falls Graduates at Alliance Church of the Valley. Join in celebrating your faith and graduation during a special service for you.

A letter will be sent to each of you with more details about these upcoming events. Contact Pastor Melissa with questions.



## Message from Pastor Lori

Happy Easter, Peace Family!

As the days get longer and we continue to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, I would like to thank all the musicians who shared their music, faith, and songs during the season of Lent. There are 400 references to singing in the Bible. More than 40 times, the faithful are told that singing psalms and spiritual songs is an act of obedience that enhances our worship, lifts our spirits, and helps us memorize scripture and other profound truths about God.

The Cambridge Institute for Music Therapy Research has recently discovered that joining together in song can bring other wide-ranging benefits, including giving our health a boost. Singing brings people closer together socially and lift our spirits. It can prime our bodies to fight off disease and suppress pain. Singing is being used to help people with lung diseases, to improve heart rate, and to reduce blood pressure. Singing activates the vagus nerve, releasing endorphins, which improves our sense of well-being and calms our nerves. Even the most reluctant of singers benefit because it activates the part of the brain that deals with language, balance, movement, and posture.

So, as you live into the hope and promise of new life, and resurrection hope - don't forget to raise your voice in song. Join us in worship, sing Gospel songs in the shower and with the radio. God knows that singing praise and thanksgiving is an act of worship that feeds our souls and provides other physical, social, and spiritual benefits that are just beginning to emerge from the world of science.

Happy Easter, Happy Spring, and Happy Singing!

*Pastor Lori*



### Pastor Lori's Ministry Highlights:

- Blessing Little Dresses and Africa Mission Team Blessing
- Family Bingo
- Ukulele Ministry Events
- Ash Wednesday and "Songs of Peace" Lenten Services
- Encounters with Jesus Book Study and visit from Audrey Edmunds author of; "It Happened to Audrey"
- Member visits with Easter deliveries
- Staff Retreat at Camp Wapo

### Pastoral Acts:

- Worship Services
- Home Communion Visits

# Adult Ministry

## *Growing Together*



### Grow In Faith

Wednesdays at 1:30pm (ongoing)  
Gospel Study with Pete

Wednesdays at 6:30pm (April 15-May 6) The  
Parables of Jesus Bible Study

Every Other 1st Thursday at 10:45am  
Eagle Ridge Worship with Communion

Third Thursday at 1:30pm  
Forest Heights Bible Study

Fourth Tuesdays at 1:30pm  
Rachel Circle Study

April 7-9th  
Adult Spiritual Retreat at Camp Wapo

### Connect

Tuesdays at 9:00 am (ongoing)  
Coffee & Conversation

Second Sunday Suppers at 5:00 pm  
(adults) April 12 at Big Guys BBQ  
Roadhouse, Hudson, WI

Wednesday, April 22 11:00 am  
Senior Blessing Brunch (80 years+)

Wednesday, May 13th 6:30 pm  
Paint & Snack Night Out

Sunday, May 31, 4:00pm-6:00pm  
Intergenerational BINGO & Supper

Ukulele Gatherings Sundays at 1:00 pm

### COMING THIS FALL:

#### Faith University

4-week classes offering overviews of  
the Bible, Sacraments, and World  
Religions

### Luck Community Education Opportunities

April 1st Deadline (\$169)  
August 8 "Wicked" at the Orpheum

April 14th Deadline (\$83)  
May 20 at Minnesota Arboretum

**Sign up sheets and information are located at the Welcome Center desk.**

**“2nd Sunday Supper” at Big Guys BBQ  
Roadhouse, Hudson, WI  
Sunday, April 12th at 5:00 pm**  
No event in May

Please join us for a time of fellowship. We love meeting our Peace members in a casual setting. Good food and lots of laughter! RSVP to the church office by April 9.

**Spring Seasoned Saints (80+) Luncheon  
at Peace  
April 22nd 11:00 am-1:00 pm**

We hope you are able to join us for the *Seasoned Saints* Blessed Luncheon. The program this spring will be focused on “Spirit-Filled Encouragement”. We look forward to welcoming you and spending time together in fellowship.

Cozy Up with Vintage Charm  
(see photo)  
**2 Vintage-Style Quilts - \$150 Each**

60-80 inches of brand-new comfort, crafted with timeless fabrics. Perfect gift for Mom!  
Get them by April 19

All proceeds go to  
“Feed My Starving Children”

Stop in the  
Narthex to  
check them  
out!



## Fellowship Join Us!

**SYNOD ASSEMBLY - Building Bridges**  
Bethany Church, Rice Lake  
April 25, 7:30 am-4:30 pm

If you are interested in attending, please connect with Pastor Lori or Pastor Melissa



**An Event for Adults and  
Children at Peace!  
Sunday, May 31, 4-6pm**

Fun for all ages! Join us as we play Bingo from 4-5:30 pm and then gather for a light meal together. Free Will.

## Feed My Starving Children Polk County Mobile Pack 2026



This year's mobile pack, partially sponsored by Peace as a member of a coalition of churches, will take place on April 23, 24, and 25 at the Polk County Fairgrounds in St Croix Falls. Our Outreach Ministry has been involved in the planning for this event and we aim to pack about 175,000 meals to feed malnourished children around the world, adding to the more than 1.6 **million** meals that have been packed since the inception of the Polk County event.

**We need your help!** You can sign up for one or more of the packing shifts by finding the Polk County event on the website at [fmcs.org](http://fmcs.org). These shifts can be great fun for families or other groups, and are also a fun way to meet like-minded volunteers.

We especially need workers for the setup of the equipment and supplies on Wednesday, April 22 starting at 4:30. There are tasks for all ages and abilities.

In addition, we need bakers to provide individually wrapped cookies or bars that are sold to workers who have completed their shifts to raise money for our effort.

Please join us! You'll have fun, and you'll experience the satisfaction of knowing you've helped children who are in desperate need. Thanks, and God bless you from Outreach!

# Happy Birthday!!!

## APRIL

- 2 Jenny Corbett  
Andrew Simpkins
- 3 Mary Lou Bailargeon  
John Lee
- 4 Justin Wynne
- 5 Jan Bents
- 7 Mary Cotch  
Margo Langer  
Garrett Slater
- 8 Reed Corbett
- 9 Monica Robinson
- 10 Don Dehmer  
Ashley Maloney
- 12 Selah Greenquist
- 13 John Adam  
Lori Maypark
- 14 Ruby Demulling
- 16 Barbara Hanson  
Amy Hagen  
Jameson Tracy
- 17 Debbie Kravik
- 18 Mary Lee  
Steve Kromrey  
Rick Dvorak
- 20 Mark Gjovig  
Minnie Kolve  
Kelly Waalen
- 21 Ashlyn Tinney
- 22 Judi Rondeau
- 23 Linda Meixner  
Rebecca Tangen
- 24 Constance Landgren  
Hallie Glenna  
Natalie Betow  
Reese Hanson
- 25 James Kirby  
Ben Neumann  
Trey Anderson
- 26 Trisha Slater  
Kurt Lietz
- 27 Pam Brunclik  
Peter Ward  
Abigail Wynne
- 28 Barb Boyken  
Bill Schmidt  
Beverly Hanson
- 29 Michelle Widiker  
Sarah Kromrey
- 30 Jonah Lietz

## MAY

- 1 Bonnie Crary  
Isaac Demulling
- 3 Donald Meixner
- 4 Jan Museus  
Mari Swanson
- 5 Kelly Bliese  
Aiden Steffen  
Elinor Hagen
- 7 Dianne Bystrom  
Delaney Steffen
- 8 Dick Tomforde  
Mary Jo Cavallin  
Soren Skinner
- 9 Kathy Stephansen  
David Swiontek  
Callie Halstrom  
Abigail Jensen
- 10 Arianna Miller
- 12 Marian Sinclear  
Emmet Berg
- 13 Ben Brown
- 14 Mavis Lindahl  
John Leisch
- 15 Craig Corbett
- 16 Ronda Haley
- 17 Pete Peterson  
Zachary Solsrud
- 18 Maxine Waddick  
Ethan Campbell
- 19 Anna O'Hare
- 20 Shay Rysdam  
Lucas Hale
- 21 Vicki Simpkins  
Jennifer DeMulling
- 22 Carrie Larson  
Chris Larson
- 23 Jennifer Roytek  
Sarah Hanson  
Jadie Simpkins  
Peyton Everson  
Jerzie Peterson
- 24 Andrea Skinner
- 25 Trish Thompson  
Whitney Olson  
Brielle Lewis
- 27 Rylie Windsor
- 28 Barb Lear
- 29 Steve Schiebel
- 31 Julie Campbell  
Kylie Johnson



We're so grateful for Pete Peterson and Gloria Hutton and the quiet, faithful ways they bless our church family each Sunday. Pete arrives early to brew the coffee that welcomes us into fellowship, and Gloria lovingly steps in afterward to make sure everything is cleaned and cared for. Their simple acts of kindness help make our Sundays warmer and more connected. Please join us in thanking Pete and Gloria for serving with such generous hearts!



### THE STEWARDSHIP CORNER - APRIL/MAY 2026

"What they trust in is fragile; what they rely on is a spider's web. They lean on the web, but it gives way; they cling to it, but it does not hold." Job 8:14-15, New International Version.

This quote comes from Bildad, one of Job's so-called friends, who visits Job after he has been afflicted in so many ways. The original purpose of their visit was to comfort Job, but their efforts quickly become accusations as they share their opinions about the reasons for his alleged punishment.

Does Bildad's accusation apply to us? Are we guilty of placing our trust in earthly things, including our wealth and other possessions? Does this misplaced trust keep us from accepting God's promise of eternal life through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ?

May we follow Jesus' teaching as recorded in Matthew 6:19-21: "Do not store up for yourselves treasure on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in Heaven....For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." See you next time!

The Mission of the Stewardship Ministry of Peace Lutheran Church is to educate all Peace members about God's Scriptural teachings regarding stewardship; namely, that our lives and our property belong to God, and that our grateful response should include generously, intentionally, proportionately, and joyfully sharing our time, talent, and treasure for use in His service.



### COLLEGE STUDENTS

We need your address!!!

We hope to send a little encouragement to all our college students. Please email Pastor Melissa (PastorMelissa@PLCdresser.org) with your child's address by April 8. If you are attending college and living at home, let us know too.





**JOIN US ON  
APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> AT 9:00 AM  
TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THE  
MISSION TRIP TO AFRICA**



**ZAMBIA**