Peace Lutheran Church 2355 Clark Rd., P.O. Box 655 Dresser, WI 54009

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PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Find us on facebook!
Online Worship Services:
youtube.com/peacelutherandresser

PLEASE use our Post Office box (not our street address) when mailing something to Peace!

News from Peace!

While Pastor Melissa has been away...

It seemed strange at first and I was maybe even a bit nervous about the 3-month span without Pastor Melissa in the office. Remembering who to call in a late night emergency, working with the different pastors on the bulletins and Sunday services, and other questions frequently ran through my mind at first. But then each pastor that was scheduled was so accommodating and easy to work with, Pastor Lori graciously took a late night call and officiated at a member's funeral. And as a staff, we work together to figure out things as needed. Our Parish Relations team has been meeting with us, one-on-one, to talk about how our job is going and what they can do for us. And the Peace Council and Church members have been very supportive and kind to us. Thank you!

One thing that I have enjoyed while Pastor Melissa is gone is using her "reserved" parking spot! Blessings, Pat

My office door is positioned across the room from Pastor Melissa's and it's very odd to look from my door to her desk and see that perfectly cleared spot with no opened laptop and nobody feverishly typing away at said laptop. When a visiting pastor is in the pastor's office moving about in preparation, I find I'm doing a double-take into the typically quiet quarters of the past two months!

I also find myself wondering with all of this winter's snow and ice accumulation (someone can stop pushing the repeat button, thank you) if our fearless leader would have ever put on boots vs. her slip-on shoes minus socks! (Many of you know what I'm talkin' about!) I literally get cold feet just thinking about that.

Stay warm and upright - if we're lucky it'll all be gone by May!!! Karen

I have stretched my wings and put on a few more hats...I have somehow been given a microphone and find myself speaking in front of the congregation...yikes! I'm not sure who thought that was a good idea? If I get too comfortable, Melissa might have to fight for her mic back. If you haven't noticed, I like to talk!!! The Children's Message has been a very fun experience. Our kids are great and love to interact!

I was quickly submerged in the Milestone Ministry Program and have enjoyed facilitating the milestones of each grade. This is a wonderful program and teaching the workshops has helped me greatly appreciate how truly special this is for the children.

The High School Youth each Wednesday evening has taught me patience and perseverance. We are having a great time together and it is a joy to interact with these beautiful souls as we challenge their minds and faith.

I continue to meet with the 2022 MN Mission Team every two weeks for Bible Breakfast at 6:45 am. I am not a morning person and would much prefer maybe switching to Bible midnight snack, but I have managed. With a group that continually declares that this breakfast is their favorite part of the day, who am I to stop them. When teenagers beg for Bible Breakfast...you get yourself up, make yourself presentable, and facilitate it with a smile!!! How can you not? It is a very special thing!

Organizing the Confirmation Mentor Program has been somewhat of a challenge and I pray that it will progress without too many hiccups. It is a great program with a lot of people to coordinate. Now, let's all pray the weather will cooperate so that some very strong relationships can form with NO MORE SNOW/ICE DAYS!!! God's Blessings to you all, Becky

I have really enjoyed getting to know all of the rotating Pastors! I cannot say enough positive about this format that was decided on. Thank you to every one of our congregation members who have stepped forward to assist during this time. The Peace family is truly a special family. Tammy

REFLECTION on FORGIVENESS during our LENTEN JOURNEY

Forgiveness is often described as a journey because it is a process that involves a series of steps and stages. Similarly, Lent is also a journey of spiritual renewal and preparation that involves a process of reflection, confession, and repentance. As we embark on our Lenten journey this year, let's reflect on how the two are similar and how we can look at forgiveness in a new light.

Here are some ways in which forgiveness and Lent can be seen as similar journeys:

- **Both involve self-examination:** Forgiveness and Lent both require us to examine our hearts and lives, to identify areas where we need to grow and change, and to seek God's guidance and help in our journey. The process of self-examination can be challenging, but it is an essential step towards healing and growth.
- **Both require humility:** Forgiveness and Lent both require a posture of humility and openness to God's leading. We must be willing to acknowledge our mistakes and shortcomings, to seek forgiveness from others, and to extend forgiveness to those who have wronged us. This requires a willingness to put aside our pride and ego, and to seek God's grace and guidance.
- **Both involve letting go:** Forgiveness and Lent both involve a process of letting go of the past, of releasing the anger, bitterness, and resentment that we may be holding onto. This can be a difficult and painful process, but it is necessary in order to experience true healing and freedom from pain.
- **Both are ongoing journeys:** Forgiveness and Lent are both ongoing journeys that require a lifetime of commitment and practice. We must continue to seek God's guidance and grace, to examine our hearts and lives, and to extend forgiveness to ourselves and others on a daily basis.

As we make this Lenten journey, know that praying for forgiveness can have a powerful emotional impact on us. Here are some of the ways in which praying for forgiveness can benefit us emotionally:

- **It helps us let go of guilt and shame:** When we pray for forgiveness, we are acknowledging our mistakes and shortcomings. This can help us let go of feelings of guilt and shame, which can be a heavy burden to carry effecting our daily living and relationships with ourselves and others.
- **It helps us accept responsibility for our actions:** Praying for forgiveness requires us to take responsibility for our actions and their consequences. This can help us develop a greater sense of accountability and integrity. It can also help us with pausing before reacting in a hurtful way.
- **It helps us cultivate humbleness and empathy:** Praying for forgiveness requires us to acknowledge our own limitations and weaknesses, and to extend grace and compassion to others who may have wronged us or whom's actions/reactions we see as a reflection of our past selves.
- **It helps us deepen our spiritual connection:** Praying for forgiveness can help us deepen our spiritual connection with God. It can be a way to seek guidance and support in our journey towards greater emotional and spiritual well-being.

This lent, I want to challenge each of us to make a conscious effort to examine the pain that we have been holding on to: pain we caused to ourselves, pain we have caused others and pain others have caused us. It is time to let go of that burden and let God take it from us. Let him take it, because we can't handle it ourselves and let go of it, so we can experience greater spiritual growth, healing, and freedom.

God's blessing on your journey. Tammy

FROM THE OFFICE

February 17: Funeral service of Lee Isaacson (Pastor Lori Peper officiated)

February Attendance:

5th: 115/32 **12th**: 107/34 **19th**: 94/34 **26th**: 101/53

Online Views: 5th-91 12th-64 19th-61 26th-62

Giving in February: Budget/Missions 31,921/\$662

Additional Giving this Month: Kitchen Fund (Water Softener) \$542

One Step Forward \$150, FMSC \$170



LENT Continues...

We are so blessed to have Pastor Maggie leading our Wednesday Lent services! The focus is worshiping at church and at home. Each week each family will receive an item symbolizing our Christian faith. By March 29th, each family will have all the items for their small home altar.

There is a sign up board in the Narthex for the Soup Suppers. Please consider signing up to help with the meals. Serving & clean up help is welcome also!!

Wednesdays, March 1st, March, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

6:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Lent Mid-Week Service

Holy Week:

April 2 - Palm Sunday (Service, Breakfast, 1st Communion Class)

April 6 - Maundy Thursday/First Communion

April 7 - Good Friday Service @ Noon

April 9 - Easter Sunday Services at 8:30 & 10:15 am



2023 PLC CHURCH COUNCIL and EMAIL

Larry Carlson (Property) larrycarlson65@gmail.com Ronda Haley (Worship) jhaleyr85@gmail.com Linda Moore (Parish Relations) lindakayemoore@yahoo.com (Parish Relations) tpauley@therivergroup.com Tim Pauley Sara Haase (Life & Growth) sarahaase15@gmail.com Nicole Kovar (Youth) kovarnicole@gmail.com Dawn Peer (Education) dpeer@somerset.k12.wi.us Maggie Isaacson (Outreach/Stewardship) leeives1muggsiefish@gmail.com Joe Kahl (Property) josephkahl@centurytel.net

This-n-That...

CAREGIVERS - YOU ARE PART OF THE STORY

a supportive and educational gathering specifically for those caring for someone with chronic illness/disability or memory loss

Featuring-

Allison Breininger, creator of *The Negative Space* and

Jim Adams, author of *Other Me's: My Caregiver Experience with Lewy Body Dementia*

Saturday, April 22nd, 2023 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM Peace Lutheran Church in Dresser, WI Free of Charge – Lunch provided*

Please RSVP by April 14th to Nicole Coulter @ 715-485-8449

Please make respite arrangements for your loved one so you can attend.

*We're unable to accommodate special dietary needs

Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." Matthew 25:35

Please save the date of <u>April 28th and 29th</u> when the Polk County Mobile Pack will be returning to the fairgrounds, & plan to join in the excitement of packing a meal!

Quilters News

Quilters are in need of needles for tying quilts. These are larger than regular needles. They are about 2 1/2" long, have a larger eye for threading and have a sharp point. We can't use darning needles that have a blunt point. We are having a hard time finding new needles that work.

Maple Syrup Ministry -

In March, the sap will be running and we will once again be gathering sap this spring from over 2,500 trees around town. If you are interested in being a part of the group who is notified when the sap is running, or if you are willing to help collect sap at local locations, please contact Vicky Koehler. Daytime or late afternoon/early evening options are available for collecting sap!

(Did you know...Everyone who collects sap benefits! **You can earn "maple bucks"** to use toward any ministry, offering, or event of Peace. Many people use their funds for mission trips, scholarships for family camps or youth camp, general offering giving, purchasing materials for our quilters, etc! The possibilities are endless!)

Perhaps the best part of this opportunity is spending time in God's amazing creation, building friendships and relationships with other sap collectors, and using the gifts that God gives us to further His Mission on this earth.

Your help is needed to sustain this great ministry!

Looking forward to a great sap season!!



Children, Youth & Family (CYF)

Ministry oversees our PreK-8th grade children's faith education. They are looking for new members. If you feel this is your calling, there will be an informational meeting during the Sunday School hour (9:30am) on March 12th.

Please contact Becky Anderson if you have any questions.

Dear Peace Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for the generous scholarship. I am currently a sophomore at Bethel University majoring in Biokinetics, and this money will help me achieve my career goals. I am so grateful for the encouraging community at Peace and appreciate your support through this scholarship. With Thanks, Bekah Robinson

Peace Lutheran, Thank you so much for the Larson Family Scholarship. I am currently a student at the University of Minnesota studying Architecture and Geography. I really appreciate it. Thanks, Alex Robinson

Peace Lutheran, Thank you for awarding me the John Larson Family Scholarship. I recently graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. I am currently enrolled in a MBA Program at Concordia University-St. Paul. This scholarship will help me to continue to pursue my graduate degree. Thank you very much! Hunter Robinson

My goodness! What a surprise and so much fun to hear from so many of you on the occasion of my 75th birthday! Yes, 75! I can't believe it either and, so far at least, it doesn't feel much different than 74. It was wonderful to get so many greetings and have the chance to catch up with you all.

We are doing well as we approach our 3rd anniversary of moving to Whitewater in April. We have met lots of new friends and have settled in here in this very nice 55+ community of Prairie Village. If and when you are in the area, please stop by for a visit! We would love to see you!

Pastor Wayne

Sock Drive

Peace is collecting pairs of socks (new or gently used) to be distributed to the SD Cheyenne Reservation (by People Loving People) and to others in need in our area. The box is in the Narthex.

Easter Flower Orders				
Lilies (\$15)	Azaleas (\$27)			
Tulips (\$15)	Hydrangeas (\$27)			
Daffodils (\$15)				
Name:				
In Memory or Honor:				
 	_			
There are order forms at	the Welcome Center.			
Checks payable to: Peace	e Lutheran			
Orders due	by March 8th			

High School Youth Programming Updates:

Confirmation...

During Lent our confirmation students will be meeting with their assigned mentors each Wednesday evening. We invite the students and mentors to eat dinner together at 6 pm, discuss the Lenten lesson in the mentor workbook at 6:30 pm and then worship together at our 7 pm Lenten worship service. This is a great opportunity for our students to make a special connection with an adult during their faith journey. It also helps to reaffirm that they are surrounded by a faith community that supports and cares for them.

High School Youth ...

During the month of March our HS Youth are invited to join us for dinner at 6 pm, have a short lesson at 6:30 pm, worship at 7 pm and meet to do a special project after the worship service until 8:30 pm. It will be fun!!!

The 2022 MN Mission Team continues to meet every two weeks for Bible Breakfast at 6:45 am. I am not a morning person and would much prefer maybe switching to Bible midnight snack, but if they want to meet, I'll be there!

With a group that continually declares that this breakfast is their favorite part of the day, who am I to stop them. When teenagers beg for Bible Breakfast...you get yourself up, make yourself presentable, and facilitate it with a smile!!! How can you not? It is a very special thing!!!

The 2023 TN Mission Team is beginning to fundraise. If you are planning to go on the Summer Mission Trip, but haven't heard from me, please let me know.

Butter Braid sales are underway and the Palm Sunday Breakfast is coming up. We've got some work to do!!!



2023 TN Mission Team Updates...

The TN Mission Team is <u>selling Butter Braids</u> through Sunday, March 12. The Butter Braids are \$15, extremely delicious and so easy to make. Look for team members selling in the Narthex Sunday mornings March 5 and 12 and Wednesday evenings March 1 and 8. You can also stop in the church office and place an order during regular church office hours. Your help in supporting the mission team is so greatly appreciated.

This Mission team will also be hosting the <u>Palm Sunday Breakfast</u> on Sunday, April 2 between worship services. All proceeds will benefit their trip to Tennessee. Join them for pancakes and fellowship as we support them on this mission.



Children, Youth & Families

Children, Youth and Families

The season of Lent has begun. In Sunday School we are using the symbol of the butterfly to remind us that through the death and resurrection of Jesus we are given new life, just like a caterpillar turning into a butterfly. Some of the children received a handout in Sunday School with a scripture reading schedule and a butterfly coloring page that corresponds with each reading.

If you did not receive a paper copy of the handout, please check your email, as I will be sending one digitally also. Each day during Lent, I encourage you to read the scheduled scripture lesson with your child as they color the corresponding verse on the butterfly and after the 40 days of Lent are complete, they will have a beautifully colored butterfly. There is also a daily prayer suggestion following the guide of the Lord's Prayer for you to use. This activity is a wonderful way to encourage your child to walk with Jesus as we follow Him to the cross during this special time. Below please find our March Schedule:



- 5 Lesson Special Easter themed movie

 4th Grade Milestone presentation/Blessing during 8:30 am worship service followed by an interactive workshop with parents at 9:30-10:15 am
- Singing in church at the end of the first service (be here by 9:10 am) and at the beginning of the second service at 10:15 am

 No Lesson Special painting activity during Sunday School
- 19 Lesson The Last Supper
- Lesson Holy Week

 1st Grade Milestone presentation/Blessing during the 8:30 am worship service followed by an interactive workshop with parents at 9:30 am 10:15 am

Save the Date:

- April 2 **Children Singing** during worship
 Palm Sunday breakfast
 5th **grade** milestone teaching (see below)
- April 6 Maundy Thursday 5th grade First Communion Milestone
- April 9 Easter No Sunday School
- April 16 **EASTER FOR KIDS** 8:30 am 10:15 am (ages PreK-6th Grade)

 Join us for the Easter Story, games, activities, snacks and fun as we celebrate our Risen Savior!!!

First Communion Class (5th grade) will be Sunday, April 2nd (11:30-1:45pm) and the youth will partake in their first Holy Communion on Thursday, April 6th during the Maundy Thursday service.

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30 am Quilting 6:00 pm Soup Meal 6:30pm Mentor / Student 7:00 pm Lent Serv.	2 10am Women's Bible Study 7pm-AA	3	4 Blue & Gold Banquet @ Peace
5 8:30 & 10:15 am Services, 4th Grade Milestone 9:35 am SS, Choir	6	7 9am Staff Mtg	8 8:30am Quilting 6:00 pm Soup Meal 6:30pm Mentor / Student 7:00 pm Lent Serv.	9 10am Women's Bible Study 7pm-AA	10	11
12 8:30 & 10:15 am Services 9:35 am SS, Choir Prac.	13	14 9am Staff Mtg	15 8:30 am Quilting 6:00 pm Soup Meal 6:30pm Mentor / Student 7:00 pm Lent Serv.	16 10am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Council Mtg	17	18
19 8:30 & 10:15 am Services 9:35 am SS, Choir Prac.	20	21 9am Staff Mtg 2:00 pm Care- giver Support Group	22 8:30 am Quilting 6:00 pm Soup Meal 6:30pm Mentor / Student 7:00 pm Lent Serv.	23 10:00am Women's Bible Study 7pm-AA	24	25
26 8:30 & 10:15 am Services, 1st Grade Milestone, 9:35 am SS, Choir Prac.	27	28 9am Staff Mtg 1:30 pm Rachel Circle	29 8:30 am Quilting 6:00 pm Soup Meal 6:30pm Mentor / Student 7:00 pm Lent Serv.	30 10:00am Women's Bible Study 7pm-AA	31	

March Usher/Lay Reader Schedule						
		8:30	10:15			
March. 5	Usher	Dick Blattner	Chad Slater family			
	Reader	Michele Merritt	Kayla Stankowski			
March 12	Usher	Jeff Hall family	Chris Chinander			
	Reader	Jeff Hall family	Anne Miller Solsrud			
March 19	Usher	Tom & Linda Moore	Eric Mayer family			
	Reader	Gene Jaremczuk	Claire Chinander			
March 26	Usher	Steve Swenson	John Haley			
	Reader	Karrie Swenson	Jan Museus			



1st	Stacy Everson	15th	Vince Hahn
	Adam Kovar	16th	Matt Haase
	Noreen Metz		Ethan Hall
	Jack McNitt	17th	Tim DeMenge
	Emily Hayes		Linda Moore
	Grace Hayes		Sara Larson
	Emma Paulson		Carleen Berg
2nd	Elijah Larson	18th	Bill Lones
3rd	Mike Williams	20th	Dallas Wynne
	Claire Chinander		Hope Anderson
4th	Linda Ferris	22nd	Jamie Neumann
	Kayla Sheehan		Addie Koenig
	Paetynn Bliese		Emmett Adam
5th	Opal Parel	24th	Melissa Hall
	Robin Ekstrom		Larissa Chapman
	Jacob Hall	25 th	Dave Lindahl
6th	Sue Jensen		Michael Hill
	Steve Edling	26th	Alma Gast
7th	Tammy Guggisberg		Porter Eckerman
	Anna Willeman		Dawson Eckerma
8th	Mia DeGroote	27th	Alison Wynne
9th	Tory Greenquist		Bennet Lechman
10th	Sam Glenna	29th	Roxann Nelson
	Shauna Fehlen		Michelle Ward
	Rylee Hall		Donovan Anderson
11th	Alex Willeman		Troy Dvorak
12th	Aurora Warner		Lana Miller
13th	Carrie Strege	30th	Lori Getschel
	Jennifer Pederson		Rene Lechman
14th	Jason Prokop		Carey Meyer
	Chad Slater		

Jenna Bents

PARISH NURSE NOTES

WELCOME to March and the Season of Lent! March is also known for its health-related observances, one being **American Heart Month.** For years now I occasionally hold blood pressure checks in between Sunday services. If you need to take medication in addition to making lifestyle changes to help keep your blood pressure at a healthy level, you're certainly not alone! But just how do these medications do that? BP medications can work several different ways to keep blood pressure in check. Antihypertensive medications can:

- Cause your body to get rid of fluid, which decreases the amount of water and salt in your body
- Relax your blood vessels
- Make your heart beat with less force/resistance
- Block nerve activity that can restrict your blood vessels

Most of the time, blood pressure medicines do not cause adverse effects. Some people may experience mild issues such as dizziness, cough, or leg/feet swelling. In general, the risks of taking BP medications are low. Many classifications of these medications have been around for years and are very commonly used. Their benefits are clear -- keeping your BP at a healthy level greatly reduces your risk of heart attack, and stroke. If you're already on a prescription to control your BP, do not stop taking your medication without first talking to your primary care provider/pharmacist.

March is also **National Nutrition Month**, a good time to re-evaluate how we care for ourselves by the foods we eat. After all, God created each of us and gifted us with our bodies – don't we owe it to God to attempt to fuel-up properly? Over the next few weeks, look around the church for signs of ways to make a positive impact on our diets.

I want to make everyone aware of an upcoming half-day **caregiver conference** that will be held here at Peace on April 22nd. *Caring for the Caregiver*, our monthly support group, is a collaborative venture between parish nursing and the Aging and Disability Resource Center of NW Wisconsin, and is a community outreach that we started almost 9 years ago. Throughout that time the group has grown and reached many in our community who are just trying to get through another day managing their loved one's care and illness. Thanks to some monetary donations, we're now able to offer this upcoming gathering free of charge to those who could benefit from the topics that will be addressed. If you know of anyone who is caring for a spouse, a parent, a chronically ill child, or other relative/friend, please refer them to the information found on page 5 in this issue of The Tidings.

May you pause during Lent to reflect on your faith and God's goodness, Karen



8:30 & 10:15 am Services each week9:35 am Sunday School7:00 pm Wednesday Lent ServicesLivestream is at 8:30 am.

Inclement Weather Rule

If St. Croix Falls or Osceola Schools are closed or release early due to winter weather conditions, there will be no events (Confirmation, meetings, etc.) at church that evening. If there is a large snowstorm on a scheduled worship day, we will post a decision to stay open or close on the PLC facebook page, website and send out a group email. As much as we want to have YOU at our worship services, we want you and your family to be safe!

CHURCH STAFF Contact Information

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