

# News of Peace



Peace Lutheran Church, Camdenton, MO

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April 2020

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## Happening This Month!

April 5	Palm Sunday	9 a.m.
	Mites Sunday	
	Bible Class	10:30 a.m.
April 6	Elder's Mtg.	9:30 a.m.
April 9	Maundy Thurs Service	6 p.m.
April 10	Good Friday Service	6 p.m.
April 12	Easter Sunday	9 a.m.
	Easter Breakfast	
	No Bible Class	
April 13	No LWML Mtg.	
April 14	Council Mtg.	6:30 p.m.
April 15	Voters Mtg	
	Potluck	5:30 p.m.
	Meeting	6:30 p.m.
April 19	Worship	9 a.m.
	Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
April 20	Newsletter Deadline	9 a.m.
April 21	LWML Rally	10 a.m.
	Potluck	5:30 p.m.
April 26	Worship	9 a.m.
	Bible Study	10:30 a.m.



## A Message from Pastor Brandt

### "Who Would Have Thought?"

Who would have thought that only six months ago we would practically be confined to our homes and half the world come to a shutdown—sporting events, schools, restaurants, and even worship services being canceled? Thank goodness for our truck drivers and grocery store clerks who are keeping us fed, even if you can't find toilet paper! Ha! This Corona Virus epidemic caused me to do a little research on the Black Death Plague. It was also referred to as the Black Plague, the Great Pestilence, Great Plague, and Great Mortality. It took its greatest toll in Europe from 1347-1351. An estimated 75-200 million Europeans died from it, 30-60 percent of the population. In England, an estimated 25 million people died from it. It took 150-200 years for the population of Western Europe to return to its pre-1348 level. It arrived in Germany in 1350, wiping out about 50 percent of the population. It originated in Central or Eastern Asia, probably China, traveling westward along the Silk Road, reaching Crimea by 1343. From there, it was most likely carried by fleas living on the black rats that traveled on Genoese merchant ships, spreading through the Mediterranean Basin, reaching the rest of Europe via the Italian peninsula, spreading into the other European nations from there. The plague recurred as outbreaks all the way until the early 20th Century. Dr. Martin Luther lived from 1483 until 1546, but even then he was having to deal with the Plague. How appropriate are these words he wrote in a letter to Rev. Dr. John Hess: "I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, He will surely find me and I have done what He has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me however, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God." How precious and relevant are these words for us today! As you know, our worship services have been suspended for at least two weeks until Palm Sunday, April 5th. We pray that we can resume then, but that is certainly unknown at this time. Please know that I am available to come to your home or meet you at church if you would wish to receive the Lord's Supper, especially



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# Newsletter DEADLINE

The **deadline** for the **May** newsletter is **Mon., April 20** at **9 a.m.** If you have an article you want published, or information you want to get out to the whole congregation, prepare it and send it to [plccamdenton@gmail.com](mailto:plccamdenton@gmail.com).



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**Rev. Gary Brandt**  
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**Office Hours:**  
Monday-Wednesday  
8:00 to 12:00 pm

**Church email:**  
[plccamdenton@gmail.com](mailto:plccamdenton@gmail.com)

**Website:**  
[www.plccamdenton.org](http://www.plccamdenton.org)



Peace Lutheran Church, Camdenton, Missouri  
Like us on Facebook

## Our Mission

"We the members of Peace Lutheran Church gather and grow together as God's children and rejoice in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, proclaim His word, and reach out with his love to: each other, our community, and the world."

*continued from page 1*

that we can resume then, but that is certainly unknown at this time. Please know that I am available to come to your home or meet you at church if you would wish to receive the Lord's Supper, especially if services are cancelled for a longer period of time. I am sure that Pastor Anderegg feels the same way. Russell Schulz has been sending out alternative ways to hear God's Word via various websites provided by the LCMS and our Synod's Radio Station KFUE. Please take advantage of these Lutheran resources. Also, never forget the wonderful devotions we provide, Portals of Prayer and Hopeful Living. Both of these provide relevant Scripture Readings. God is providing us with the opportunity to practice private, home quiet time for Reading and Praying. And yes, let's not forget to be diligent and steadfast in our prayers for a quick end to this dreadful virus. Pray also for our nation's President, Congress, and our Science and Medical Leaders, as well as all the doctors, nurses, and other health workers working so steadfastly day after day. Pray for our Churches' leaders and God's Holy Christian and Apostolic Church throughout the world, that many might come to faith at this time of crisis.

You may either laugh at this next statement or be mad at me for saying it, but do not neglect to set aside your offerings for our beloved Peace Lutheran. Most of our expenses are fixed and continue whether or not we are having services and activities. In addition, a major furnace repair is having to be done as I write this. In closing, I would like to share two Scripture Readings with you; the first one was our Epistle Reading for last Sunday, March 15th: "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts, through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us" (Romans 5:1-5). And from Hebrews 12:2-3, "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, **so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**"

May our changeless God bless you in these ever-changing times!  
In Christ's Peace,  
Pastor Gary Brandt

## Forsaken for us

Church reformer Martin Luther considered Jesus' cry from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46) as "the greatest words in all of Scripture," writes Timothy Keller. In *Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering* (Penguin Books), Keller notes, "Luther knew personally about what he called *Anfechtungen*, a word that means the 'assaults' that the world, the flesh and the devil make on human beings through the evils and suffering of life."

Jesus suffered *Anfechtungen* "in infinite degrees, beyond anything any other human being will ever experience," Keller writes. And he did it all for us. As Luther said, "In Christ, the God-forsaken sinner has a Savior who has taken on himself the full depths of human estrangement from God — and overcome it."





## Anniversaries and Birthdays

- April 3 Kayla Krammer
- April 5 Sam & Sharon Gillman
- April 6 Jeff & Paula Emery  
Chuck & Susan Kral
- April 7 Laura Parkhurst
- April 10 Beth Johnston
- April 17 Irma Trego
- April 30 Rita Riemann

## Mailboxes

We have removed the envelope numbers on the mailboxes in the narthex and put last names on the boxes alphabetically. We are utilizing the top four rows of mailboxes which should make them easier to utilize.



## Reminder

We ask every member and visitor to fill out an attendance card each Sunday. For our members, this is done to record attendance and communion. The attendance and communion record assist our Elders in their duties. The attendance cards are located in the box in the pew. Please take time to complete a card each week.

## Lake Regional Hospital Volunteers An Opportunity to Serve

In 1977—a year before the lake area’s only hospital opened its doors—an extraordinary group of men and women recognized the community's need to support quality health care and formed the Lake of the Ozarks General Hospital Auxiliary. Today, the Lake Regional Hospital Auxiliary boasts more than 350 enthusiastic, good-hearted members of all ages. These volunteers earned recognition as a 2018 Auxiliary of the Year from the Missouri Association of Hospital



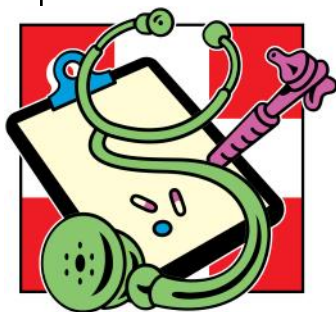
Auxiliaries. Auxilians are a diverse group comprised of retirees, active business people and others. They volunteer in a variety of activities that fit their special talents and interests, including staffing a gift shop at Lake Regional Health System. They also assist with the Auxiliary's hospital ball, held each October. “Volunteers support Lake Regional in countless ways, and we thank them for caring so deeply about our mission,” said Dane W. Henry, FACHE, chief executive officer of Lake Regional Health System. “Through kindness and generosity, our volunteers lift spirits and contribute to the healing work of our hospital. They remind us all of the good we can do when we focus our lives on others.” To learn more about volunteering, contact Terri Hall, director of Auxiliary and Fund Development, at 573.348.8153. All junior and adult volunteers must complete orientation before beginning work at Lake Regional Health System.

**Benefits and Dues:** Auxilians receive access to select hospital programs, recognition awards and the Mile Marker newsletter. They also have the satisfaction of knowing they’re making a significant contribution to the quality of health care in their community. Yearly auxiliary dues are \$5 per person or \$8 per couple. Lifetime dues are \$100 per person or \$150 per couple. Lifetime dues go to the Ethel Rayburn Nursing/Health Care Scholarship Fund, which awards annual scholarships to employees who are pursuing a nursing career.

## Hospitalized?

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, have experienced a death in the family, are home bound, or scheduled to go to the hospital, please call Pastor Brandt (580-421-8108). Pastor Brandt takes responsibility for calling on hospitalized and home bound members and loved ones. Please keep in mind that privacy laws limit the information hospitals can share with us. Both Pastor Anderegg (573-528-4597) and Pastor Brandt are available for any emergency, or any issue you and your loved ones might be having. Remember, our two Pastors are here to serve you.

**Our Elders:** Bob Mueller (573-286-7735), Jeff Hedberg (573-819-4446) and Joe Stauch (573-374-2903) will also assist in getting one of the Pastors to follow up on any issue, not just hospitalization for you, a loved one or a death in the family. To find out which Elder you are assigned to, please see the bulletin board in the Narthex.





## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Bob Borgmann, JaneAnn Brandt, Norma Flenker, Charlie Gifford, Shelia Hardenstein, Jim Janssen, Darlene Jost, Chuck Kral, Crystal Lewis (the recent death of her brother) and the Matthies family, Bob Mueller, Barb Powell, Russell Schulz, our visitors, those celebrating anniversaries, birthdays, those in the nursing home and care facilities, the peacemakers and protectors and their families, and all others who are troubled, lonely, ill or recovering from illness. We pray that our loving God will bless and comfort them.

? ? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

According to Matthew's account, what was torn when Jesus died?

- A. Mary's headdress — she tore it as a traditional Jewish sign of grief
- B. A Roman guard's sash — Peter grabbed and ripped it in anger
- C. Jesus' robe — the soldiers divided it among themselves
- D. The temple curtain — torn in two from top to bottom

March answer: C. See Esther 2:7).



A variety of greeting cards are now available for visitors and members to purchase for \$1.00 each on the honor system. The display cabinet is located in the narthex. The stewardship committee is sponsoring this project for missions.

### Monthly Devotion

## Jesus Is Coming Again!

**So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. Matthew 24:44**

Jesus warned, 'Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many' (verse 11). In our generation there have been high-profile preachers who set dates for Christ's second coming, and the press jumped all over it. That having been said, Jesus is coming again! In Scripture it is referenced more than 300 times. Charles Swindoll says: 'Critics have denied it. Cynics have scorned it. Scholars have ignored it. Liberal theologians have tried to explain it away (they call that "re-thinking it"). Fanatics have perverted it. And some have sarcastically said, "Where is the promise of his coming?" (2 Peter 3:4). Jesus' return has always been attacked, misused, and denied. But still it stands, solid as a rock, offering real hope in the midst of despair and unbelief. You say, "What should I do while I'm waiting?" First, understand what you shouldn't do. Don't sit around listening for a bugle call or looking for a rapture cloud. Don't quit your job, and don't set a date. Instead use the time to get your act together. Live every day like it's your last, but work like Jesus isn't coming back for another ten years. Shake your "salt" and shine your "light" wherever you go (see Matthew 5:13-16). Remain balanced, cheerful, pleasant, committed, and stable, anticipating the day of His return. And if you're not sure you're ready, get your ticket immediately. They're free. But if you're wise you won't wait! What good is a ticket when the event is over?' Today accept Jesus as your Savior and be ready when He returns. Jesus in His mercy gives you salvation free – that's the Good News! That's the Gospel because of the works of Jesus Christ for you!

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank you for your salvation that comes because of your Son, Jesus. Help me share and SHOW that to people who feel they have no hope. In Jesus' Name, Amen

*by Tim Hetzner, President/CEO of Lutheran Church Charities*

## Thoughts from Our President

While March 19 was the first day of spring on the calendar, March itself has been a spring month. Days in the high 30s and days in the high 70s, and the rain (which beats snow and ice).

We will remember March 2020 as COVID-19 month. The month this virus arrived in Missouri, the month that you could not get toilet paper in the stores, and the month that schools shut down late in the month until at least the second week in April. The month of fear and some panic, at least about the availability of toilet paper.

All of us need to take the COVID-19 epidemic seriously. Heed the information about sanitation and staying away from large gatherings. At the same we need to be mindful of the health of our souls.

This is the month we remember our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins and began the forty day journey before ascending into heaven. Because God sent his Son to die for us, we will live in eternity. We have a Lent Service the first day of this month, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and that great and glorious day of the Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday. Remember if you are physically able, to attend these services and strengthen your commitment to God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost.

I also encourage all of you to remember, there have been great epidemics throughout the ages. In Bible study when we were discussing this current epidemic, we also remembered those we have read about and those we have experienced in our lifetimes.

In our church most of us remember small pox and the vaccinations we took when very young. There was chicken pox, measles, scarlet fever and polio. I remember when I contracted scarlet fever. There was a quarantine sign on the front of the house, and no one, but my mother, sisters and the doctor could come in. My father would come by the house after work and talk to my mother through the window. He would get whatever groceries and necessities she needed for herself and the kids and leave them on the front stoop. After he left, she would go out and bring the groceries in. As I remember we were quarantined for two or three weeks. At the time it seemed like a lifetime.

I also remember when one of my friends, just four houses down the street from my house contracted polio. He was quarantined in his home for 30 days in an iron lung. Then he was in that iron lung for several months. I was told he could die and that if he lived, he would never walk again or lead a normal life. I remember at my high school graduation he crossed the stage on crutches with shriveled legs. I also remember eight or nine years later when the vaccine was discovered by Jonas Salk, standing in line at a clinic where the vaccine was being administered.

I had completed my newsletter article, and today I sent out a memorandum to all of our members, that the pastors and elders had determined to close the church at least through the period of March 19, 2020 through April 4, 2020.

God's peace be with you.

Mic Carlson, *President*

**Note:** With the temporary closing of church services from March 19 to April 4, and at the insistence of the pastors and elders I am reluctantly not operating normal church hours. I will have the church telephone and computer at my home, and you can reach me anytime on my phone (573) 216-7884 or the church telephone (573) 836-3959 or on email

at [plccamdenton@gmail.com](mailto:plccamdenton@gmail.com) or [michael\\_carlson@att.net](mailto:michael_carlson@att.net). I will drive up to the church on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to collect the mail, make sure the HVAC system is operational and the alarm appropriately set.



## March 9 LWML

### Minutes

Pastor Anderegg opened the Bible study with prayer. We continued studying the features of the ESV Lutheran Study Bible. He closed with prayer.

The meeting was called to order by President Sheryl Bald. Roll call was answered by eleven members with a Bible verse containing or about the word suffering. We had no guests.

Susan distributed copies of the treasure reports for January and February. Signature cards were updated for The Bank of Versailles.

Minutes of the meeting will be sent to each member via email.

Susan provided coolers for collecting can goods for the spring rally ingathering.

Our Mites reading, given by Cathie, was "Let Go and Pray" about making time throughout the day to pray.

Continue to save pop tops, and Box Tops for Education. Kitchen is in good shape.

**Human Care:** Lake Regional would like lap blankets for the cancer center and receiving blankets. Sara will chair the project.

**Old Business:** Sheryl is working on the manual for the spring rally.

Carol brought patterns and a sample of the Christmas Chrismons her former church made.

We will need to make 100-120 tray favors. Paula showed us the sample of the praying hand design. This project is on hold until the Corona Virus is over.

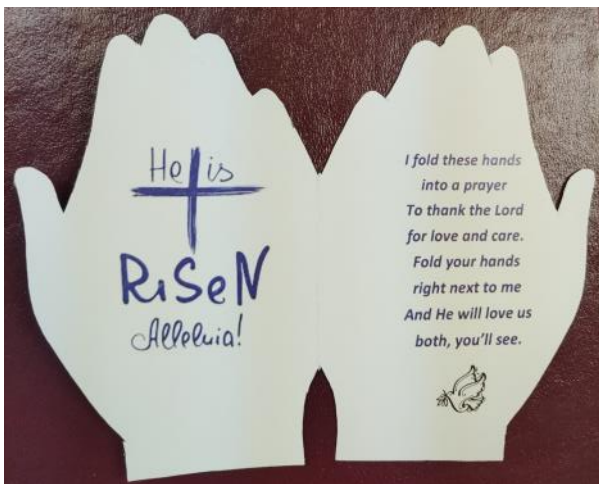
**New Business:** The Easter breakfast is a congregation project with LWML coordinating it. With the upcoming rally and Easter breakfast, it was decided to cancel the April 13 meeting.

Hostess for May 11 meeting will be Jaccy and the roll call word will be "ascension." Thank You to Vicki Stauch for hosting. We closed with the Lord's Prayer and the common table prayer.

Respectfully submitted  
Vicki Lamb, secretary

## Tray Favors

The Evangelism Board and LWML are teaming up to make tray favors for the hospital and nursing homes in the area. Paula Emery spearheaded the project and presented samples she had made to the LWML and the church council. Here are a few samples. Since the virus outbreak, we put this project on hold.



## Servants of God for April

Elder: Bob Mueller  
Altar Guild: Dawn Hedberg

April 5, 2020

Greeters/Coffee Servers: Janet Bartels & Rita Riemann  
Ushers: Robert Hansen, Penny Jost, Paul Bartels, Mark Riemann

Counters: Bob Mueller

Flowers: Penny Jost for her daughters Krista & Kayla

April 12, 2020

Greeters/Coffee Servers: Paula Emery & Shelia Hartenstein  
Ushers: Earl Hartenstein, Shelia Hartenstein, Jeff Emery, Paula Emery

Counters: Bob & Diane Borgmann

April 19, 2020

Greeters/Coffee Servers: Jeff & Dawn Hedberg  
Ushers: Bob Borgmann, Sheryl Bald, Diane Borgmann, Mic Carlson, Rodney Schulz

Counters: Mic Carlson

Flowers: Easter Lilies

April 26, 2020

Greeters/Coffee Servers: Matt & Sara Sosnowski  
Ushers: Jeff Hedberg, Dawn Hedberg, Bob Mueller, Russell Schulz

Counters: Ed & Jaccy Heinlein

Flowers: Easter Lilies

## April Worship Schedule

April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Gary Brandt

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service 1, Nicene Creed

Hymns: 441 (1-2), 443, 439, 441 (3-4)

April 9, 2020 Maundy Thursday

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Anderegg

April 10, 2020 Good Friday

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Brandt

April 12, 2020 The Resurrection of Our Lord

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Richard Anderegg

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service 1, Apostles' Creed

April 19, 2020 Second Sunday of Easter

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Gary Brandt

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service 1, Apostles' Creed

Hymns: 490 (1-2), 537, 618, 490 (3-5)

April 26, 2020 Third Sunday of Easter

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Richard Anderegg

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service 1, Nicene Creed





## Lutheran Apologetics

### Reasons to Believe

Continuing the **Special Revelation**  
of our Lord Jesus Christ  
more early eyewitness testimony

**L**ast month we saw that New Testament (NT) documents written too early to be legendary and that at least 10 non-Christian authors wrote about Jesus within 150 years of his life. We know of many NT manuscripts (copies) that were written very close to the time of the originals. One is of John 18:31-33, 37-38 (the Rylands fragment dated around A.D. 125 found in Egypt, far from where it was written in Asia Minor). Still earlier are the fragments from the Dead Sea Scrolls (A.D.50-70) that some are believed to be excerpts from six NT books. Also, early church fathers quoted all but 11 verses of the NT in their writings and so, in the case that every NT document was destroyed, they could be almost wholly reconstructed from them. Jesus is mentioned by at least 43 authors, nine of which were eyewitnesses and all writing independently of one another. The NT implies that the temple and Jerusalem, which were destroyed in A.D.70, were still standing and makes no mention of the Jewish war at that time, which would make the original writings predate that year. Surely there would've been at least some reference to that if they had been written later. Nearly all scholars believe that the 1Corinthians chapter 15 mention of Jesus' death and resurrection was written within a few years of when the events took place (as well as many other NT sources). So... the NT documents are early; the sources are earlier. But how do we know that they're true? Were there really eyewitnesses? "We did not follow cleverly invented stories... but we were eyewitnesses." 2 Peter 1:16. (Also see: Acts 2:32, Acts 3:15, Acts 4:18, 1 Peter 5:1, 1 John 1:1-2, Luke 1:1-2) Notice how boldly the apostles are in proclaiming the truth; Paul before King

5:1, 1 John 1:1-2, Luke 1:1-2) Notice how boldly the apostles are in proclaiming the truth; Paul before King Agrippa and Governor Festus in Acts 26; Peter and the apostles on Pentecost (Acts 2) and before the Sanhedrin (Acts 5). They certainly didn't behave like men who were making up a story for ulterior motives. Certainly they would've faced severe punishment – even death – if they were not telling the truth. Also, more than 500 witnesses were mentioned – some by name – so their claims could easily be checked out by Roman and Jewish authorities, but no one was able to falsify those claims. All four Gospels mention women as being witnesses. Women at that time had little credibility, their testimony was not admissible in court, and they had few rights. Why mention them at all if the claims are not true. The gospel of Luke contains the most eyewitness details and he is very meticulous in naming people, places, events, customs, and conditions as a good journalist would document. (Geisler and Turek mention 84 accounts in their book *I Don't Have The Faith To Be An Atheist*) All of these details could've been easily refuted if they were not true. Therefore, since Matthew and Mark tell essentially the same accounts, they must be true as well. Then what about the gospel of John? John's gospel contains many historically and geographically corroborated items including: the use of stone water jars, Jacob's well at its proper place, the pools of Bethesda and Siloam, the hostility between Jews and Samaritans, the nationalist fervor of 1<sup>st</sup> century Israel to make Jesus a king, severe storms were common on the Sea of Galilee, and many more. Geisler and Turek document 59 historically confirmed customs, conditions, places, people, events, as well as accounts that are very unlikely fictionalized thereby giving John's gospel extremely good credibility. To summarize:

1. The NT was written too early to be legendary or myth.
2. Many NT accounts can be corroborated by archeology.
3. At least 10 non-Christian writers affirm people, places, customs, and events mentioned in the NT.
4. We know that the NT was written by eyewitnesses because
  - (a) of the early authorship.
  - (b) the apostles boldly proclaimed the gospel risking severe persecution.
  - (c) the testimonies could have been proved untrue but never were.

**Next month:** 10 reasons why we know the New Testament is true.

*continued on page 8*

## Every One His Witness

And [Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

(Mark 4; 26-29) Witnessing is planting and watering – but not in vain. Be confident that it will bring the harvest that God intends. We don't know how large the harvest will be or how long before the harvest takes place but be assured of God's promise: "As the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes out of My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

(Isaiah 55:10) *(everyonehiswitness.org)*

**The Prayer:** Dear Lord Jesus, Your life's sacrifice and Your commitment on the cross have won my salvation. Now, I ask You to use me and my gifts to touch hearts that are still entrenched in sins unforgiven. In Your Name. Amen.

*(The Lutheran Hour Daily Devotion, February 5, 2009)*

Others say that Christians give to their congregation in ways much broader than money. They give of their time and their talents, and these, together with treasures (money), add up to more than a tithe.

Still others say they give of their treasures to other things besides their congregation, and they want to support those things alongside their church.

And there are those who think Christians shouldn't tithe because of fear. If they tithe, they are afraid their gift will be misused, and they are afraid they won't have enough to get the things they use, want, or need.

Following are some reasons for why Christians *should* give a tithe to their church.

Even though the New Testament doesn't specifically command Christians to give a tithe, the Old Testament people were commanded to tithe and did. On top of this, St. Paul often describes the giving Christians are to do in similar terms as a tithe: a regular and generous proportion of the first fruits of their income (1 Cor. 6:1-2; 2 Cor. 8:7-23; 2 Cor. 9:2-7).

But here's another way to think about it. What was the point of the tithe in the Old Testament? Where did it go? The reason for the Old Testament tithe was to support the full ministry of the Levites. They were not given any land because they had no time to farm; their full-time job was the ministry.

What does it say in the New Testament? "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14). This is the verse that Luther put in the *Small Catechism's* Table of Duties to cover what Christians owe to the support of the ministry.

It seems clear from both the Old and the New Testaments that the tithe is the goal of Christians in their giving. But what if we're not there yet? How should we handle this? What are we to do?

Let's answer this by asking a different question about something entirely different. What would you say to your adult children who only attended church quarterly or once a month? There, is after all, no passage in the New Testament that requires Christians to go to church weekly. Hebrews 10:25 is the closest we have, and it states simply for Christians to not neglect gathering together. Even though there is no passage that commands Christians to gather weekly, that is the implicit expectation throughout the Old and New Testaments. It is the goal.

So, what would you say to that son or daughter? I'd expect that conversation would be something like this: "I'm glad you're still going to church. It is a wonderful blessing to hear God's promises of forgiveness, life, and salvation, and to receive His gifts in the Word and the Sacraments. But you can do better, and it will only be a



**O**n the topic of stewardship, one of the most common questions a person might ask is *not* whether a Christian should give to their church. Everyone knows this. Of course, Christians should give to their church.

The most common question: "How much should I give?" But what they really mean is this: "Should Christians give a tithe of their income to their local congregation?" So, let's look at why you should or should not tithe.

Following are some reasons often offered for why Christians *shouldn't* give a tithe to their church.

Some say you shouldn't tithe because it isn't expressly commanded in the New Testament. Lacking that command, there is no "Thus saith the Lord" and no "should" for giving a tithe to your congregation.



blessing to you. There is a better way, and I'd really like you to try to attain it."

This same conversation is how we should approach the topic of the tithe. It's not specifically commanded in the New Testament, but it sure seems like the implicit expectation of both the Old and New Testaments. So, the church is ecstatic that you're giving when you're giving in all these ways – time, talents, and treasures.

*from the lcms.org website*



## March 10 Council Meeting

Vice President Jeff Emery called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Pastor Brandt opened with prayer.

The following board members were present: Pastor Anderegg, Pastor Brandt, Mic Carlson, Jeff Emery, Susan Kral, Rita Riemann, Vicki Stauch, Bob Mueller, Chuck Kral, Diane Borgmann, Dawn Hedberg, Bob Borgmann, Russell Schultz and Carol Murrell. Absent: None. The minutes from the February 11, 2020 meeting were approved.

**Financial Secretary:** Vicki Stauch reported that the February 2020 offerings exceeded the February 2019 offerings. The report was accepted and approved.

**Treasurer:** Rita presented her report. The report was accepted and approved.

### Elders:

Bob Mueller reported that the elders met on March 2, 2020. The current membership stands at 63 confirmed.

### Old Business:

- Jeff Hedberg reported that the Safety/Security

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- Jeff Hedberg reported that the Safety/Security committee headed by Jeff Emery will meet when all members are available. The security plan will include a tornado warning plan.
- It has been decided that the lower level door will be locked at the beginning of services. The alarm system warning bells that sound when someone enters either door need to be repaired or reset.

### New Business:

- Rather than having the congregation singing the communion hymn, it was decided that the music would be played but not sung.
- Pastor Brandt suggested updating the photo directory as many photos are from several years ago.
- His report was accepted and approved.

**Ushers:** Bob Borgmann reported that our lady ushers are doing a good job. He asks that ushers scheduled for a service arrive early. (No specific time was mentioned.) The music CDs will be locked up. His report was accepted and approved.

**Member at Large:** No report

### Trustees:

- Chuck Kral reported that a work day to fill holes made by armadillos will need to be set before spring mowing can be done.
- He arranged for a Ferrell Gas technician to meet with him to check our furnaces. Pressure regulators were recalibrated.
- Chuck ordered more propane to take advantage of our current price rate.
- He called Best Pest Control to move up the regular spraying date because unwanted living things have been spotted.

His report was accepted and approved.

**Education:** No report

### Evangelism:

Russell Schultz reported the following:

- Lifeline Screening will be held on June 25, 2020 from 9:00-4:00. Registration information will be coming.
- Our new business cards have arrived.
- Sheryl Bald has made Easter flyers.
- The Peace Lutheran video that airs at the Main Street Music Hall will be renewed.
- LWML Vice President Paula Emery will make tray favors for Lake Regional Hospital.
- The Easter Media Kit put out by LCMS will be added to our website.
- The article "joyfully Lutheran: Making Disciples for Life is now on our Facebook page.

Russell's report was accepted and approved.

**Stewardship:** Dawn Hedberg reported that greeting cards are now on display and are available for purchase. Dawn's report was accepted and approved.

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**Cemetery:**

Diane Borgmann reported the following:

- She received Thrivent gift cards for artificial flowers and for grub control.
- Rodney Schultz will begin spraying for grubs at an appropriate time.
- She needs congregation assistance fill holes made by armadillos, to blow off leaves, to apply snake control, and to remove the Watts cemetery stone before Rodney applies chemicals.
- She will make sure that the water soaker hose is in good repair.
- There are areas that may need more rock.

Diane's report was accepted and approved.

**Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor Anderegg is pleased that Bible Class attendance is increasing. He invites all to participate.
- Pastor Brandt reported that he has made two hospital visits and a nursing home call. He conducted a funeral service for the brother of Crystal Lewis.
- Both reports were accepted and approved.

**Old Business:**

President Mic Carlson reported the following:

- Work is progressing on the stained glass window in memory of Dale Murrell.
- We are waiting for the completion of repairs to the carillons and bells.
- A payment was made to Lake Central Fence Co. Our fence repair is on their schedule.
- Voter approval to amend Article VII of the Peace Lutheran Constitution and the Bylaws section 5.0. was given. The second reading will occur at the April 21, 2020 Voter's Meeting. The amendment will state that all formerly elected elders who have served at least two three year terms and are still members will automatically become an Elder Emeritus.
- Nothing further has been accomplished on completing the State of Missouri forms to make our cemetery a perpetual cemetery under state guidelines.
- Power Church Plus is operational. Vicki Stauch is entering weekly donations into the system. She has also offered to enter attendance information into the system. **The congregation is being asked to complete attendance cards at each service so that Vicki has an accurate count.**
- Mic, Paul Bartels, and Earl Hartenstein will complete the audit of our books for 2018 and 2019.

**New Business:**

President Mic Carlson reported the following:

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President Mic Carlson reported the following:

- He has scheduled a Planning/Finance Committee for March 12, at 6:30 P.M.
- Mic, Vicki, and Rita are working to enter Thrivent Choice Dollars into the Financial Secretary system.
- Mic has travel plans scheduled. All service bulletins will be prepared ahead of time.
- Volunteers are needed to run the IPOD music system while Mic is gone.
- Transfer papers for Charlie and Teresa Gifford have been received. They will be brought into membership at the first opportunity.
- An Easter breakfast will be held following the Easter service. Free will donations will provide meals for homeless persons.

The meeting was adjourned, and Pastor Anderegg closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Kral, Secretary

**PUZZLE** ★

Picturing the *Lord's Supper*

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples as a symbol of the new covenant.

Directions: Use the picture clues to fill in key words from Luke 22:19-20, NIV.

And he took \_\_\_\_\_, gave \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my \_\_\_\_\_ given for you; do this in \_\_\_\_\_ of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This \_\_\_\_\_ is the new \_\_\_\_\_ in my blood, which is \_\_\_\_\_ out for you."

LUKE 22:19-20, NIV