

News of Peace



Peace Lutheran Church, Camdenton, MO

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February 2023

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Obligatory Love

What holiday comes to mind when you think about February? Of course, Valentine's Day—the day we think about romantic love. Unfortunately, there are some for whom romantic love seems like something from the distant past. The Bible speaks of several kinds of love. Surely, when you “hear” Jesus say, “Love your enemies,” you don't imagine chocolate, cards, hugs or kisses. And the last thing you would think of is flowers for that person or group of people. To say it concisely, Jesus must be saying not to wish ill will (genuine injustices) upon our enemies.

Let's go all the way to the farthest end of the spectrum. How can a Christian whose family member(s) has/have been brutally or randomly killed forgive the perpetrator of the crime? And can such a family member ever “get over it”? Remember, however, that Jesus obliges us to have love for our enemies, and He obliges us to love fellow members of His Church. Well, how can we do that?

Some types of love are easy, and some are extremely difficult. It was easy for me to fall in love with Sara, but there has been just a handful of people for whom to love them was a huge challenge. Regardless, the beginning of love comes from the Lord. He *gives* it to us as a gift to be shared.

I don't know whether or not you get tired of hearing vocabulary from either Greek or Hebrew, but it would almost be malpractice if I didn't share with you what the Hebrew word *cheseth* means. It's found in Psalm 23, but you might never see it if it isn't pointed out to you. I know that everybody's favorite translation is from the King James Version, so I will point out where you find the word *cheseth* in that version: “Surely, goodness and *cheseth* shall follow me all the days of my life...” Later, God will tell Hosea that he must show *cheseth* to the wife the Lord told him to choose, **even though** she will literally leave him and prostitute herself to others. This was an analogy for the way Yahweh loved his people. It is this type of love that must prevail in our

Christian Symbols



ECCE AGNUS DEI—Latin for “Behold, the Lamb of God,” this is the phrase John the Baptist uses

twice to point out Jesus to others (John 1:29, 36). It marks Jesus' Epiphany (manifestation, revelation) as the Anointed One (Christ, Messiah).

HAND OF GOD—

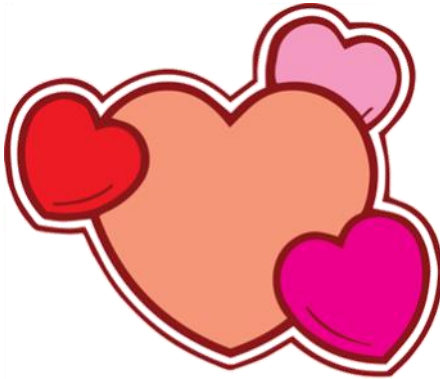
This symbolizes God the Father, as well as his ownership and care of all creation. During the Christian church's first 800 years, the hand was about the only symbol used for God. Many Bible verses speak of God's loving, protective hand (Psalm 138:7; Ecclesiastes 2:24; 1 Peter 5:6). In heaven, Jesus sits at God's right hand (Mark 16:19)



lives. And you might translate the word as: merciful love that *never* gives up and goes beyond reason.

Suppose, as Hall and Oates sang, that “you’ve lost that loving feeling” toward your spouse. There are plenty of ways to get it back, and Valentine’s Day is a good day to begin working to get it back. Rely first on God. Then, talk with your spouse about the earliest days of your relationship. What was it about her that drew you to her? What was your first date, and how did you feel while you were on it. What are some early memories you remember having? Another suggestion is to read a book. *Love and Respect* or *The Five Love Languages* are great reads to

help renew you feelings toward each other and understand what drives each other better.



“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy,” says Jesus at the beginning of The Sermon on the Mount. So those who are merciful to others will have God’s mercy poured out on them more and more. And you just can’t out mercy God. Surely

goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

If you decide you want to have more romantic love with your spouse or that you want to love others better, remember that love is an act of the will. It is not something one “falls” into or out of. Perhaps it’s easier to have your will inclined toward your spouse, but we also incline it toward others, even—perhaps especially—toward those who are difficult to love. May the Lord bless you in your efforts!

Pastor Anderegg



February 24 Sara Anderegg

February 24 Cindy Niebur

No anniversaries

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). Please keep in mind that privacy laws also 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:** Jeff Hedberg (573-819-4446), Jeff Emery (816-745-0229) and Earl Hartenstein (573-691-7117) 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.

Midweek Lenten Service Schedule

The Midweek Lenten service theme is Glittering Vices. The series will feature sermons on these six topics:

- Gluttony
- Greed
- Pride
- Sloth
- Envy
- Anger



A thorough description will be in the March newsletter. But plan on joining us beginning Ash Wednesday, February 22 at 6 p.m.



“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other Name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved”.
Acts 4:12

A few months ago on a flight from St. Louis to Chicago, I got into a religious conversation with the man sitting next to me. During the course of our discussion he said, “Tell you what, when we get off the plane, let’s go look at the board which lists the arrivals and departures.” He continued: “If we do, we will soon see that if I want to get to New York from Chicago, I can take any number of airlines. Let’s see, there’s United and American and Delta and ...” As a frequent flyer, his memory of the carriers and their schedules from Chicago to New York was most impressive. The point he was trying to make was simple: just as any major airline will take you from Chicago to New York, he believed any major religion can take you from earth to heaven. After we came off the plane, the walk to our connecting flights took us past one of those ever-changing electronic boards. Wishing to drive home his point, my temporary companion actually stopped, pointed to the board and with a sound of triumph, said, “See, there are any number of ways to get from here to New York ... and any number of religions will take me to heaven.” I couldn’t argue with the first part of what he had said: there

are a lot of ways to go from one big city to another. But before we turned away from the board, I asked, “I see the name New York appearing on that board a lot of times. But I don’t see ‘heaven’ being listed. Can you tell me which airline will take me to heaven?” He sputtered, “Don’t be ridiculous. No airline can take anybody to heaven.”

I observed, “Guess it’s easier to get to New York than it is to heaven. Fact is, no man-made plane can make that trip to heaven, and no man-made religion is able to do it either.” Before we parted I had the opportunity to share the passage that is at the head of today’s devotion:

“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

And this time it was his turn not to argue.

The Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus, every Christian is gladdened by the knowledge that You have given Yourself as the single sacrifice which forgives our sins and grants us heaven. May others be brought to see the uniqueness of Your gift of grace. In Your Name I give thanks. Amen.

Ken Klaus Speaker Emeritus

Every One His Witness **What Is Vocation**

“We always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of His calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by His power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12)

What is vocation? Vocation is what we were made and called to be. Vocation is our everyday life. Vocation is God’s calling: the act of calling someone or the goal to which one is called. Understanding vocation helps us understand what it means to be a witness of Jesus, because, like witnessing, vocation is what we were made and called to be. After creating Adam and Eve in His image, the Lord set them in their vocations. In Genesis 1:28, we see five commands given to them: be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, subdue [the earth], and, have dominion over [creation]. These commands fit nicely with God placing Adam in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it, and creating Eve to be a helper fit for him. Vocation shaped their lives before the fall into sin. It was part of God’s creation that He declared to be “very good”. Like everything else, vocation was adversely impacted by the fall. It remained an integral part of who they were as human beings, but it reflected the brokenness of sin. Adam’s vocation to work the soil became burdensome and Eve’s vocation became painful. Worse than that, death had entered the world. Sin and death continue to undermine our vocations. At the same time, in our vocations is God’s answer to sin and death because it is in and through our vocations that God has placed us as His witnesses. Vocation formed the basis of God’s Garden Commission and continues to shape our lives as God’s people living in this world. Vocation also shapes our lives as God’s people living out His Great Commission as witnesses of Jesus in our everyday lives.

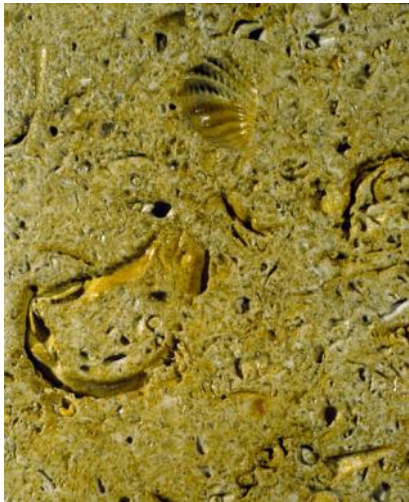
by Pr. Mark Wood, Director of
LCMS Witness & Outreach Ministry

Answering Objections to the Faith

The Problem of Darwinism

Argument 3: The Fossil Record

Bill Nye, in his debate with Ken Ham, tried to use the fossil record to discredit the Genesis account of creation by saying that the fossil record proves that the world is much older than Genesis would indicate. But is the fossil record accurate? For instance, evolution suggests that the dinosaurs lived and became extinct millions of years ago. But what if it could be demonstrated that humans and dinosaurs actually lived at the same time? First, all dating methods assume certain characteristics of the substance being dated at the beginning of the aging process. These are just guesses except in the case of carbon 14, where assumptions match observable processes. However, it is



useful for only a few thousand years and could have been distorted by any number of cataclysmic events. Second, evolutionist neglect relevant historical facts and documentation that have a major bearing on the history of life. Verifiable history and facts should take priority over assumptions every time. For example, we have numerous ancient artwork that clearly depict dinosaurs – some of which are engraved in stone, others in sculpture and mosaics. Sometimes the species can be identified as in the carved-in-stone relief of a stegosaurus in an ancient temple in Cambodia. Other examples can be found online by searching for “ancient artworks (or depictions) of dinosaurs.” (See also [Ten Truths about Evolution That Everyone Should Know](#) by Allen Quist). The authenticity of these works is beyond question. The only reasonable conclusion is that people and dinosaurs live at the same time. These examples and others raise serious questions about the validity of the geological column and related timetables used by evolutionist. More on that to come. from [The Reason I Believe](#) by Allen Quist submitted by Russell Schulz, Evangelism Chair

Easter Lilies

Once again we will be decorating our sanctuary with Easter lilies for Easter Sunday. A sign-up sheet will be located on the credenza in the Narthex. The cost for a lily is not known at this time of printing. If you have any questions about ordering a plant, please contact Penny Hansen.



On Sunday, February 12, the LWML will host a quiche brunch, after worship, for a free will offering.

A board is located in the narthex for people to sign up for food items and the number of people attending. Hope to see you there.

New Custodian



Don Springer is the new custodian at Peace. We thank Earl & Shelia Hartenstein for their 21 years of service as church custodians.



Thank you for your continued support of the **Pocket Change for Mites**. We collected a total of \$6.14 in January. **The total mites gathered for 2022 is \$301.07.** Our next Mites collection will be Sunday, February 5. Bring your mites anytime in the month and place in the LWML box in the back of the church.

Altar Guild Wise Hearted Women

They are the successors of the wise hearted women who helped furnish the tabernacle of God in the wilderness. Of them it is written: “All the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands and brought that which they had spun, both of blue and of purple and of scarlet and of fine linen” (Ex. 35:25). They are the followers of Mary, Martha, Salome, and the other women who ministered to our Lord and His disciples. They are the pastor’s assistants, who relieve him of certain work in the chancel which they can do, so that he can devote himself to other important matters. Their service is a beautiful and blessed one a labor of love in the church.

If you would like to become part of the Altar guild, please contact Diane Borgmann.

Time, Talents & Treasure Don’t Replace “And” with “Or”

We’ve all heard that stewardship means giving to the church of our time, talents, and treasure. This alliterative trinity helps us see that giving is not just about money but about our whole lives.

God gives us everything we have and enjoy, as *Luther’s Small Catechism* explains in the First Article of the Apostle’s Creed. First, we each confess that God “has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses” (SC II). Then, we confess that He gives us material things.

The time, talents, and treasure trinity places before our eyes the fact that we are to give something of all three of these things toward the mission of the church in thanksgiving for what God has provided. For everything we have, and indeed, everything we are, comes from God’s fatherly, divine goodness and mercy.

The problem with this alliterative trinity comes when we replace one little word with another little word — when we replace the word *and* with the word *or*. It is always written with the *and*, but when we read it, we read it with the *or*. Thus, this quite helpful trinity – which extolls that everything that we have and are is a gift from God, to be given back in service of His church – turns into a trinity that we can pick and choose from when we serve God. The giving of our time, talents *and* treasure turns into the giving of our time, talents, *or* treasure.



Then the question arises: Can we give of our time and talents instead of our treasure? Or perhaps it is the other way round: Can we give of our treasure and not of our time and talents? But these are the wrong questions.

The right question is: Can we give of our time and talents in addition to our treasure? Yes, indeed, we are called to give of all three. The things that God gives us are not to be pitted against one another. Rather, they are given to us, and we are to press them all into God’s service for benefit of His church and our neighbors in need.

Thus, we give all three. We give our treasure in the form of a generous, first-fruits proportion of our income. We give of our time in generosity for the benefit of Christ’s holy church. We give of our talents in the same manner. Since God gave us all these things, we are called to give generously of all these things in faith toward Him and in fervent love to our neighbors.

For God has provided all these things for us. Out of His fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, He gives us each time, talents, *AND* treasure as a means to bless those around us. We serve our neighbors with these things, blessing them with the blessings with which God has blessed us. We give of our time, talents, and treasure to our families, our society, our church, and our local congregations.

And we do this because we know that we are not our own. Rather, we belong to God. We have been bought with a price: the holy, precious blood, and innocent suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. He gave everything — His time, His talents, and His treasure — to have us as His own and to live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. We have these things as gifts and blessings from God.

Let us then press them all into service for the sake of His love — time, talents, and treasure together.

–reprinted from LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship



Council Minutes January 10, 2023

Vice President Brock Kliewer called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Pastor Anderegg opened with prayer.

The following board members were present: **Pastors:** Pastor Anderegg and Pastor Brandt, **Pres.** Bob Hansen, **Vice Pres.** Brock Kliewer, **Sec.** Susan Kral, **Trustee:** Chuck Kral, **Board of Elders:** Jeff Hedberg, **Board of Education:** Sara Anderegg, and **Evangelism:** Russell Schulz

Absent: **Treas.** Peg Callahan, **Financial Sec.** Brett Niebur, **Stewardship:** Dawn Hedberg, **Cemetery:** Diane Borgmann, and **Member at Large:** Paula Emery

The minutes from the December 10, 2022, meeting was approved as printed.

Financial Secretary: There was no report.

Treasurer: There was no report.

Elders: Jeff reported the following:

- It was decided that the new calling system will include regular attendees in addition to church members.
- The cost of replacement of the Communion Common Cup is more than was anticipated. Prices will be obtained to re-plate the cup.
- Voting delegates need to be registered for the upcoming Synod Convention. The election of delegates will be discussed at the upcoming Voters Meeting.
- Various options are being discussed for providing phone access for the church. Using COMO is one possibility.
- Church officers will be installed on January 15, 2023.
- New members will transfer in on February 5, 2023.

Jeff's report was accepted and approved.

Trustees: Chuck reported the following:

- He contacted All in One snow removal. They will plow the parking lot as needed.
- He has contacted several tree removal services. He has not yet obtained an acceptable bid.
- He intends to install reflectors that are more visible at the parking lot entrance.

His report was accepted and approved.

Education: Sara reported that the high school board members will continue to meet. Her report was accepted and approved.

Evangelism: Russell reported the following:

- Lake Media will be charging \$490.00 per year to run our ads. This is a \$5.23 increase per month.
- 198 outreach cards were sent in Dec. The cost was \$176.22.

- After all expenses are paid for 2023 for both Chambers of Commerce and The Village of Lights, there may be \$200.00 remaining in the evangelism budget. His report was accepted and approved.

Stewardship: There was no report.

Member at Large: There was no report.

Cemetery: There was no report.

Pastor's Reports:

Pastor Brandt reported the following:

- He and Pastor Anderegg have led the Advent and Christmas Worship Services.
- He visited Irma Trego on Jan. 5 and Jan. 8. He gave her communion on the 8.
- He assisted in taking down church Christmas decorations on Jan. 7 and then attended a Circuit Pastors' Epiphany party and luncheon at Pastor Rottmann's home in Versailles.
- Will and Rhonda Stalcup will become members on February 5. They are transferring from Faith Lutheran in Jefferson City.
- He thanks the congregation for the pay raise and the Christmas gift.

Pastor Anderegg reported the following:

- Our sound system is not working well. Upon Googling the current model, he learned that it is "classic." He requested that a committee be formed to address the issue.
- He has worked on our church phone issue. Bob Hansen will set up a committee to obtain phone service.

Both reports were accepted and approved.

President's Reports: Bob Hansen addressed the following issues:

Continuing Business:

- Don Springer has accepted the church cleaning position.
- The new security system is installed and functioning properly.

New Business:

- Bob suggested that warning signs be posted announcing that our property is covered by security cameras.
- The council discussed the possibility of holding a garage sale in the parking lot.

Pastor Brandt closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Kral, Secretary

Voters' Minutes January 17, 2023

Following a potluck dinner, President Bob Hansen called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Fourteen members were present.

Pastor Brandt opened with prayer.

The minutes of the October 19, 2022 Voters Meeting were approved as printed.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: There was no report.

Financial Secretary's Report: There was no report.

Auxiliary Organization Reports

LWML: Sara Anderegg reported the following:

- The Christmas stocking money was donated to Medical Missions for Christ. The amount was nearly \$200.00.
- A Valentine Brunch will be held after the Sunday service on February 12. Matthew Mayes will provide music. A free will offering will be taken to benefit the LWML General Fund.
- No meetings will be held in January and February.
- The LWML Spring Rally will be held here in April. Sara will be the speaker.

Thrivent: There was no report. Someone is needed to fill the position that Jaccy Heinlein held.

Pastors' Reports: Their reports are published in the monthly newsletters.

- In addition to what is published in the monthly newsletter, Pastor Brandt reported that he will be leading the Midweek Lenten Services. His sermon theme will be GLITTERING VICES! The six topics are gluttony, greed, pride, sloth, envy and anger.
- He praises and thanks God for sparing his life upon his New Year's Day accident.
- He will be taking time off from Jan. 30-Febr. 3.

Elders Report: The elder's report is printed in the monthly newsletter.

Trustees: The report is printed in the monthly newsletter.

President's Report:

- Bob thanked all past and new council members for their service.
- He announced that Sheryl Bald has resigned from the position of church secretary. She has graciously agreed to continue to publish our monthly newsletter.
- Mic Carlson will assist in training Pudge McCloud to fill the position. We thank Pudge for stepping up to this important job.

Old Business:

- The acquisition of a phone service was reviewed. It was decided that a Com Cast system be set up through an internet phone system. Pastor Anderegg will make the arrangements.
- Pastor Anderegg, Brock Kliewer, and Jeff Hedberg will work on replacing our sound system. The new system will include the ability to perform video and sound recording.

New Business:

- Voting delegates need to be appointed for the upcoming Synod Convention. Pastor Brandt and Jeff Hedberg will fill the positions. It was agreed that they will vote for the incumbent officers to fill the positions that are up for election.
- The council agreed that a garage sale will be held in the spring. Table rental fees collected will go toward a mission. The LWML will be in charge.
- Bob asked that Mic Carlson be paid a salary and be reimbursed at the government rate for his mileage to assist Pudge in learning the details of becoming the church secretary.
- Paula Emery and Dawn Hedberg will present choices for mission donations at the February council meeting.

Pastor Anderegg closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Kral, Secretary



Worship Schedules

Sunday Worship* 9:00 am
Bible Class/Sun. School 10:30 am

Wednesday Evening Services:

- Ash Wednesday 6:00 pm
- During Lent 6:00 pm
- During Advent 6:00 pm

Holy Week

- Maundy Thursday* 6:00 pm
 - Good Friday Service 6:00 pm
- Easter Sunday* 9:00 am

Thanksgiving Eve

Wednesday Evening 6:00 pm

Christmas Eve

Evening Service 6:00 pm

**Holy Communion*



The Lord's Servants at Peace

- **Elders—Monday before Council Meeting 9:30 am**
Chairman: Jeff Hedberg, Jeff Emery, Earl Hartenstein
- **Council—2nd Tuesday of Each Month 6:30 pm**
President: Bob Hansen, Vice President: Brock Kliewer,
Secretary: Susan Kral, Financial Secretary: Brett Niebur, Treasurer: Peggy Callahan
- **Stewardship As announced**
Dawn Hedberg
- **Evangelism As announced**
Russell Schulz
- **Education**
Sara Anderegg
- **Trustees As announced**
Chuck Kral, Rodney Schulz, Pat Callahan
- **LWML—2nd Mon. from March—November 9:30 am**
President: Sara Anderegg
- **Altar Guild As announced**
Diane Borgmann
- **Bible Studies As announced**
- *Elected Offices*

Heavenly Appearance

Our omnipresent God shows up in some unexpected places. People have “miraculously” seen Jesus’ face on everything from junk food to a rusty water tank. We don’t know what Jesus looked like, of course, but Scripture indicates his appearance was rather ordinary: “He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him” (Isaiah 53:2, NIV).

On one occasion, however, Jesus’ face was majestically transformed. At his Transfiguration, observed by many churches on the Sunday before Lent, Jesus’ “face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light” (Matthew 17:2, ESV). Some disciples witnessed Jesus’ glory — which will be ours, thanks to his death and resurrection. As 1 John 3:2 (NIV) promises: “When Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.”

from Church Art



Three in One

Everyday objects can serve as simple lessons about biblical truth. To illustrate the profound concept of the Trinity, for example, some teachers use an apple, an egg or a three-leaf clover. During winter, you can point to a kid-friendly snowman to describe how God is Three in One.

The ball of snow on the base represents God the Father, our Creator and strong foundation. The middle ball, with stick arms reaching to the side, reminds us of Jesus, who died on the cross. And the snowman’s head stands for the Holy Spirit, our ever-present Counselor who helps us and speaks God’s truth to us.

from Church Art

February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2  GROUNDHOG DAY	3	4
5 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Mites Collection	6 Elders Meeting 9:30 a.m.	7	8	9	10	11
12 Worship 9 am Valentine Brunch after worship	13 NO LWML Mtg.	14 Council Mtg. 6:30 pm 	15	16	17	18
19 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Transfiguration Sunday	20 Newsletter Deadline 9 a.m. Presidents' Day	21	22  Service at 6 pm	23	24	25
26 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	27	28				



News of Peace is a monthly newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church, 9307 North State Highway 5, Camdenton, MO 65020; Rev. Richard Anderegg: 573-528-4597, Rev. Gary Brandt: 580-481-8108; Church Phone: 573-836-3959; Office Hours: M, T, W, 8 am to 12 pm; Church email: plccamdenton@gmail.com; Website: www.plccamdenton.org

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."