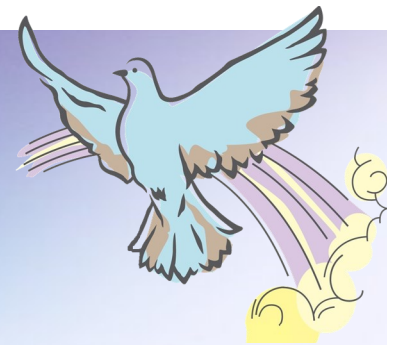


News of Peace



Peace Lutheran Church, Camdenton, MO

Published monthly by Peace Lutheran Church

February 2025

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Christian Symbols

Descending Dove



The descending dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. "As soon as Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit

of God descending like a dove" (Matthew 3:16, NIV). The three-rayed nimbus around the dove's head identifies the Spirit as a member of the Trinity. A dove shown without the nimbus is a symbol of peace.

Crook

The shepherd's crook is a symbol for Jesus, the Good Shepherd. "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). The crook also symbolizes the shepherds who visited the baby Jesus in Bethlehem. It's also used in connection with King David, who had been a shepherd when he was young.



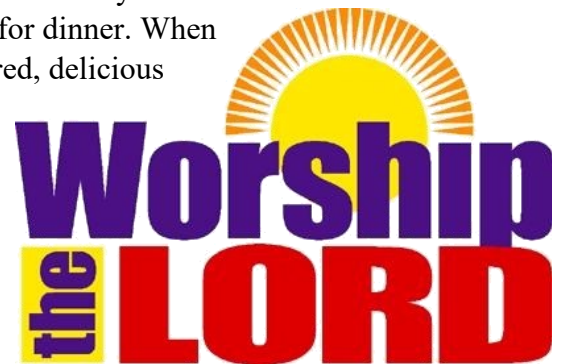
Worship is About God's Gifts to You

Encore Post: In most churches, worship is about what Christians do to glorify God. It is about praying, giving contributions to support the work of the Church, singing your song, and dedicating yourself to follow Jesus. Lutherans understand worship as all about what God gives to us — Absolution, God's Word read, sung by us and preached to us, and the Sacraments, especially the Lord's Supper, where Jesus gives us his body to eat with bread and his blood to drink with wine. In these gifts, his means of grace, mysteriously, God places and strengthens faith in our hearts, gives us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We sing his praises, pray to him at his invitation, and offer the sacrifice of our lives to thank him for these gifts.

So, worship really is not about us — it is about God's gifts. God invites us to gather together the same way that our mothers and fathers gathered for dinner. When we call us to eat a well-prepared, delicious feast, we don't say "Do I have to eat it?" or "But we just had a big dinner last week!" We get up and hurry to receive this wonderful gift of our host's love and enjoy the time together with those we love.

So, the question we should ask ourselves and each other is not: "Do we have to go to church?" but really is "Do we get to go to church?" The Lord and Creator of the Universe is coming to church. He is the same Jesus who loved us so much that he became one of us, suffered, died and rose again so that he could give us his gifts, forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. So, let's go and unwrap them!

Rev. Robert E. Smith
Pastor Emeritus
Fort Wayne, Indiana



FEBRUARY

EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS

Seek

The first “S” in LASSIE stands for **Seek**.

As you listen, be attentive and alert and seek the ways and means by which you can effectively speak of Jesus.

The seeking is not done by the non-churched person, (though they may be seeking something); it is the seeking that a witness undertakes as he looks for an effective way in which to speak of Jesus to a non-churched person.

A good example can be found in the apostle Paul’s experience in the city of Athens. (Acts 17:16-34). While Paul was waiting for Silas and Timothy to meet him, he noticed many idols on display. Troubled, he

began speaking with people in the marketplace. This led him to engaging with some philosophers who were intrigued by his message.

They invited him to the Areopagus, an elite gathering of philosophers, which was a great honor and a rare opportunity.

Paul saw that the idols provided him with a point of connection



Paul Preaches in Athens

tion with the people listening to him. He began by addressing this connection point. “Men of Athens, he said. “I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.” (Acts 17:22-23).

Paul sought and found a connection with the members of the Areopagus. He connected with them and they were very interested in what he had to say.

We may not be invited to a place like the Areopagus, but in our everyday lives we have opportunities to connect with the people who are idolaters like the men of Athens.

Seeking a point of connection opens the way to share the message of the God who loves them even though He is unknown to them.

Next month: Learning how to seek a connection with head, heart, and hands people.

The LASSIE Approach To Witnessing (Listen, Ask, Seek, Share, Invite, Encourage) by Mark Wood director of LCMS Witness & Outreach Ministry



“Love is something more stern and splendid than mere kindness.” — C.S. Lewis



- 14 Ron and Linda Meyer
- 14 Kyle and Tammy Wright
- 17 Judy Slough
- 22 Enzo Estes
- 23 Noah Estes
- 24 Sara Anderegg
- 24 Linda Meyer
- 24 Cindy Niebur

In order for a pastor to fulfill the Lord’s command to feed God’s flock, the sheep must show up during feeding times.

Bible Quiz



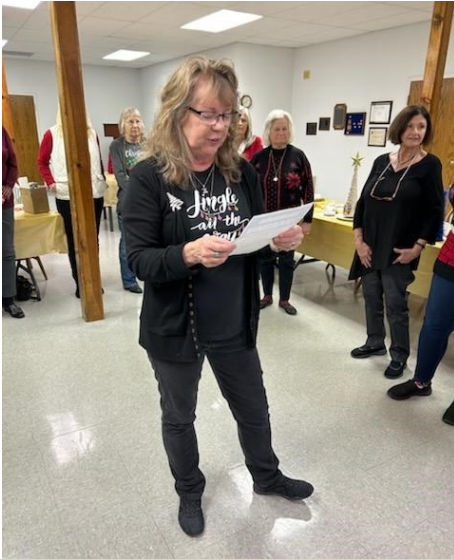
The short Old Testament book of Lamentations is a set of communal laments (sorrowful songs) about the destruction in 587 B.C. of which city, by which people?

- A. Babylon; the Assyrians
- B. Jerusalem; the Babylonians
- C. Rome; the Greeks
- D. Caesarea Philippi; the Romans

Answer: B (See Bible commentaries.)

More Pictures of the LWML Christmas Party!

Members attending provided an ornament for the gift exchange. Pictures submitted by Peggy Callahan and Pudge McCloud







The Frog

Each lady attending received a party favor of a frog (with a real flower in the middle). The word “frog” stands for **Fully Rely On God**. When they look at the frog, it would remind them to fully rely on God when they worry.

LWML Moines Breakdown for Missions In December

Dec. 1 (Pocket Change for Mites)	\$13.02
Painting & Quilt.....	\$200.00
Soup Suppers	\$332.00
Holiday Gift Shoppe	\$182.00
Cookie Sale.....	\$69.00
Total	\$796.02



Did You Know...

LWML Missouri District

Board of Directors (BOD) meet in February and September. Meetings include elected and appointed officers, Zone Presidents, and Pastoral Counselors. The BOD conducts the business of the Missouri District and plans Missouri District Conventions.

Zones

Zones consist of societies and/or individuals within a convenient geographical area in accordance with LCMS circuits. The Missouri District has 21 Zones:

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| • Altenburg | • Jefferson City | • St. Louis N |
| • Cape Girardeau | • Kansas City N | • St. Louis S |
| • Carrollton | • Kansas City S | • St. Louis W |
| • Columbia | • Northeast | • Sedalia |
| • Concordia | • Rolla | • Southwest |
| • Iron Mountain | • St. Charles | • Springfield |
| • Jackson-Bootheel | • St. Joseph | • Washington |

Each zone has representation at LWML conventions, have board meetings, host rallies and sponsors events throughout the year that encourage and equip women to reach out with the love of Jesus in their congregation, community, Missouri District, the nation and the world.

Local Society

Societies meet for spiritual growth, fellowship, mission work and specific projects. The district has 198 Societies, and around 3,100 members. The societies in our Sedalia Zone are:

- Peace, Camdenton
- Trinity, Clinton
- Holy Cross, Cole Camp
- Mt. Hulda, Cole Camp
- St. John's, Cole Camp
- Trinity Esther Circle, Cole Camp
- Trinity Martha Circle, Cole Camp
- Trinity, Creighton
- St. Paul's, Stover
- Faith, Warsaw



Our new and current officers were installed on Sunday, January 19 by Rev. Gary Brandt. Photo submitted by Pudge McCloud.

Ladies of Peace

The Altar Guild is still in need of ladies to sign-up to set up communion for the months of March, June, September and October. You can divide the month with someone if you are not able to do the whole month. Consider serving the Lord in this capacity. Contact Dawn Hedberg for more information.



Support Schedules

	Elder	Altar Guild
February	Jeff Emery	Paula Emery
March	Larry Trick	
April	Jeff Hedberg	Diane Borgmann
May	Jeff Emery	Deb Mayes
June	Larry Trick	
July	Jeff Hedberg	Dawn Hedberg
August	Jeff Emery	Cindy Niebur
September	Larry Trick	
October	Jeff Hedberg	
November	Jeff Emery	Paula Emery
December	Larry Trick	Dawn Hedberg
Minister	Rev. Gary Brandt	
Organists	Rev. Gary Brandt, Diana Schwab	

Ushers

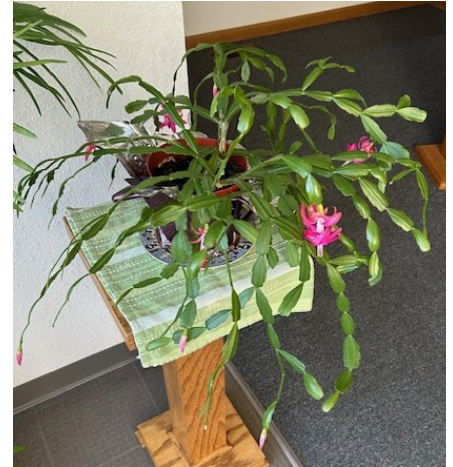
1st Sunday	Robert & Penny Hansen, Paul Bartels
2nd Sunday	Earl Hartenstein, Jeff & Paula Emery
3rd Sunday	Diane Borgmann, Rodney Schulz
4th Sunday	Jeff & Dawn Hedberg, Russell Schulz
5th Sunday	Robert Hansen, Earl Hartenstein, Jeff Hedberg

Counters

1st Sunday	Jeff & Dawn Hedberg
2nd Sunday	Jeff & Paula Emery
3rd Sunday	Brett & Cindy Niebur/Pudge McCloud
4th Sunday	Matt & Deb Mayes
5th Sunday	Pudge McCloud



Christmas Cactus in Bloom



We enjoyed the beautiful flowers of the Christmas Cactus during the Christmas season. The plant was given to us by a former member Jacque Heinlein. Photo submitted by Peggy Callahan

Valentines For Kids

Valentine's Day isn't just for schoolchildren and sweethearts. Loving parents should strive to give their children these life-changing gifts during February and beyond.

- **Acceptance:** Say and show that you love children for who they are. Give this gift with a kiss.
- **Self-confidence:** Help boost kids' trust in themselves. Give this gift with a hug.
- **Peace:** Model how to give your worries to God. Offer this present with laughter.
- **Gratitude:** Help children be genuinely thankful for each new day and for all of life. Give this gift as they go out the door.
- **Faith:** Introduce children to Jesus, the best friend they'll ever have. Do this by taking them to church and Sunday school regularly.

Stewardship



“Christ’s Life, and Love, and Light”



Open our eyes Lord to see Your love’s intent,
To know with minds and hearts its depth and height
May thankfulness be days in service spent
Reflection of Christ’s life, and love, and light. (*LSB* 788)



As stewards enter the month of February, it is fitting that we look at the last stanza of the stewardship hymn, “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness” (*LSB* 788). It is in these words that we see that the heart of stewardship is indeed love. Love has flowed from our Lord to us in the person and work of Jesus Christ. This love is then to flow from us to others. Being a conduit of love is really the central task of what it means to be a steward. The Lord entrusts us with His love that reconciles us to Himself, so that we might be stewards of the Gospel reconciliation that is freely given through us to those around us.

If we don’t see this love from God to us, then through us, to others, our eyes will be closed not just to the needs of those around us. They will also be closed to the very heart of the Gospel itself. This is why the hymnwriter prays that the Lord would “Open our eyes, Lord, to see Your love’s intent,

To know with minds and hearts its depth and height.”

Only when we are immersed in God’s Holy Word, washed in Holy Baptism’s life-giving water and fed on the holy, precious, body and blood of Jesus in the Holy Supper, will the Spirit be able to open our eyes to see the Lord’s loving intent for us, and those we know and love. Sin blinds us. It makes us think that we are the center of our world, and our pleasure is the key.

In the Word, the Lord shows us the depth and height of His love. The depth of that love is what moved Him from His throne in heaven into our world. There He would don our human flesh, walk the dusty roads of Palestine, and set His face toward Jerusalem. Once there we get to see the height of His love, as He is elevated on a Roman cross to die a death that we deserve. But that would not be the end. He would be lowered into a tomb for three days. On that third day we then see the heights of love ascended to in His resurrection.

This resurrection is already ours too!

The depth and height of this love poured out on us by the Holy Spirit then is distributed through us to others. Christ’s servant love is shown in our servant love. The hymn utters the prayer of every Christian steward:

May thankfulness be days in
service spent
Reflection of Christ’s life, and
love, and light.

This is the task for which stewards were originally created. Bearing the image of creation and redemption, we reflect Christ’s love to those around us. The light of Christ shining through us to others is the true stewardship to which we are called. It takes place in our homes. It is lived out in our workplaces and classrooms. As we bear the life, love and light received in Word and Sacrament, we carry it out in service to our neighbor and for the glory of God!

Forgive us, Lord, when our stewardship of thankfulness is shallow or lacking! Fill us with Your life, love and light! Not just for us, but through us to those we know and love, that they may know Your life, love and light for them!

Reprinted from the LCMS Stewardship website

February Devotion



The Fool

The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” ... Psalm 14:1a

We often think that denying God is a recent invention. It isn't. Back in the 1800s, the most famous atheist was a fellow by the name of Robert G. Ingersoll. So strong was his doubting of the Lord's grace that he took his show on the road, making speeches in large towns and small.

One time, Ingersoll took out his watch and said, “I'll give God a chance to prove that He exists. I challenge Him to strike me dead within 15 minutes! Those who were there said: at first there was silence. It was so silent people in the back rows could hear that watch tick. The silence was soon replaced by uneasiness. Some folks left the lecture hall; one woman fainted. At the end of the 15 minutes, Ingersoll proudly said, “I am still here. My proof is solid: there is

no God!” That's when a Christian lady stood up and said, “But sir, you haven't proven that there is no God. All you've done is prove that God isn't taking orders from atheists tonight.” Knowing that he had been bested, Ingersoll never used that illustration again.

Did that story make you smile? It most certainly brings about that reaction from me. When I think upon the courage of that lady as she took her stand, I smile -- and I smile a second time when I realize that once again God allowed a David to bring down a Goliath.

Sadly, in every generation there are many Christians who believe that the world is smarter than they are, may even be “righter” than they. Well, some unbelievers may be smarter than some of us, but we have something they don't have: we have the Lord's story of salvation. We have God's truth which speaks of His Son coming to earth so He might pay the ransom price for our salvation.

The fool may not like that story which tells of Jesus' wonderful sacrifice and our redemp-

tion. Indeed, like Ingersoll, he may continue to believe there is no God; it is his right. But the day will come that he will find the Lord remains in the driver's seat. To warn unbelievers that Jesus Christ can save them from a most unpleasant day -- that is the message which we are privileged to share. It is our joy to let a lost and sinful world know the Triune God remains in control.

Let Us Pray: Dear Lord, the world wishes to deny You and intimidate us. May we recognize that when all is said and done, You remain in control. For having sent Your Son to defeat sin, death and devil, for allowing Him to save me, I give thanks. Grant me the gift to share Jesus' story with those who don't know the Lord of love.

In my Savior's Name. Amen.

Pastor Ken Klaus

(Pastor Klaus 1948-2023 former speaker of The Lutheran Hour® Lutheran Hour Ministries www.lhm.org archived devotions)

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

• Elders—First Sunday of Each Month

Chairman: Jeff Hedberg, Jeff Emery, Larry Trick

• Council—2nd Tuesday of Each Month 6:30 pm

- ♦ **President:** Brock Kliewer (two yr term)
- ♦ **Vice President:** Noah Estes (fill vacancy for one yr)
- ♦ **Secretary:** Susan Kral (two yr term)
- ♦ **Financial Secretary:** Brett Niebur
- ♦ **Treasurer:** Peggy Callahan (two yr term)

• **Stewardship:** Dawn Hedberg

• **Evangelism:** Cindy Kaminski (finishing term)

• **Education:** Open

• **Organists:** Rev. Gary Brandt, Diana Schwab

• **Trustees:** Kyle Wright, Rodney Schulz, Pat Callahan
Chuck Kral

LWML—2nd Monday from March—Nov. 9:00 am

Co-Presidents: Dawn Hedberg and Cindy Niebur

Altar Guild: Dawn Hedberg

Bible Studies As announced

• *Elected Offices*

Looking Ahead to March

Life Line Screening

event  2025

Thursday, March 13
here at Peace

Watch for more information as it becomes available.

January 12 Council Minutes

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

The following board members were present: **Pastor** Gary Brandt, **President** Brock Kliewer, **Treasurer** Peg Callahan, **Elder** Jeff Hedberg, **Secretary** Susan Kral, **Stewardship** Dawn Hedberg, **Trustee** Chuck Kral, **Evangelism** Cindy Kaminski, **Cemetery** Diane Borgmann, and **Church Member** Pat Callahan

Absent: Vice President Noah Estes and **Financial Secretary** Brett Niebur

The minutes from the December 10, 2024 meeting were approved as printed.

Financial Secretary: Brett Niebur submitted a printed report listing all the assets of Peace Lutheran Church. Offerings exceeded the budget in 2024. His report was accepted and approved.

Treasurer: Peg's report included the following:

- All bills are paid and paperwork is current.
- Peg will write checks to the organizations voters selected to support.

- Jim and Judy Jansen donated forever stamps to the church. Members may purchase them for \$10.00 per page. They are available in the office.
- Sheryl Bald sent a thank you note for the Christmas gift that she received.

The report was accepted and approved.

Elders: Jeff reported the following:

- The elders moved the January voters meeting to January 26, 2025.
- Eagle Security has Peace Lutheran on their list to replace the smoke alarm in the sanctuary.
- The elders would like to designate a reserved parking spot for Carol Murrell.
- The elders approved the design that Pat Callahan submitted for a wrought iron cross for the narthex. There will be research done to learn the history of the wooden cross that has been in the narthex for many years. The possible change will be discussed at the January 26, 2025 voters' meeting.

The report was accepted and approved.

Trustees: Chuck reported the following:

- Tom's Heating and Air was the only company that responded when furnace work needed to be done.
- Pat replaced the mailbox.
- Southwest Electric is no longer responsible for the maintenance of any of the parking lot lights. Reinhold Electric was contacted. Repairs were made.
- A new rubber molding needs to be installed on the downstairs door.

Chuck's report was accepted and approved.

Education: Vacant

Evangelism: Cindy reported the following:

- The cost of sending 122 outreach cards in December was \$120.78.
- The Lake Media bill was submitted to Peg.
- There will be a Life Line screening held at Peace on Thursday, March 13, 2025.

Cindy's report was accepted and approved.

Stewardship: Dawn will provide Peg with the dollar amounts voters agreed to donate to three organizations.

Member at Large: Vacant

Cemetery: Diane reported the following:

- Rodney Schulz removed leaves from the cemetery and both sides of the road.
- She will order a Thrivent card for cemetery upkeep at the end of February and a card for fuel at the end of March.

Diane's report was accepted and approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brandt reported the following:

- He was pleased with the participation at the Mid-week Advent Services and worship services. We enjoyed a beautiful Christmas Eve service. He thanks everyone for all that was done to make our services and activities special.
- He has prepared the scripture readings and hymn selections for all of 2025.
- The Sedalia Circuit Pastors' Conference was held here at Peace on January 14th. Thank you to the LWML ladies who prepared and served food. Six pastors attended.
- His MRI which was done several weeks ago showed the following: some arthritis, some scoliosis, and three pinched nerves. He has an appointment in Jefferson City with a spine doctor. He is praying that the doctor can provide relief.
- Our Ash Wednesday service will be held on March 5, 2025. Easter falls on April 20th.

His report was accepted and approved.

President's Reports:

Old Business

- Jeff Hedberg will look for an appropriate "No Trespassing" sign for our cemetery.
- Peg submitted a list of the congregations' favorite hymns selections.

New Business

- There was a discussion regarding an increase in salary for Don Springer. The council decided upon an increase of \$50.00 per month.

Both business reports were accepted and approved.

Brock adjourned the meeting at 7:25. Pastor Brandt

led the closing with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Kral Secretary

January 26 Voters Meeting

President Brock Kliwer called the meeting to order at 10:20 A.M. Twenty-four members and one guest were present. Pastor Brandt opened with prayer. The minutes of the October 10, 2024 Voters Meeting was approved as printed.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: The reports are printed in the monthly newsletters.

Financial Secretary's Report: The reports are printed in the monthly newsletters.

Auxiliary Organization Reports:

LWML: Penny Hansen stated that the next LWML meeting will be held on March 10, 2025.

Thrivent: A volunteer is needed to fill the position of Thrivent representative.

Cemetery: Cemetery reports are printed in the monthly newsletters.

Pastor's Reports: In addition to what is reported in the monthly newsletters, Pastor Brandt reported the following:

- On Thursday, January 23 he visited with Noah Estes' wife Anna and his mother Jayne during Noah's surgery at University Hospital in Columbia. He will be hospitalized for about one week.
- Mike Loman's heart valve transplant on January 24 was successful. Please pray for Noah, Mike and Earl Hartenstein.
- He has done preliminary reading for midweek Lenten services. Our Ash Wednesday service will be held on March 5. Easter Sunday is April 20.
- Pastor will be seeing a pain management doctor for his back issues.
- He thanks the members for all that is done to serve our Lord and Peace Lutheran.
- His report was accepted and approved.

Elders Report: The elders' reports are published in the monthly newsletters

Trustees: The trustees' reports are published in the monthly newsletters.

Evangelism: The reports are printed in the monthly newsletters.

President's Report: The president's reports are published in our monthly newsletters.

Old Business: Jeff Hedberg reported that Eagle Security was scheduled to replace the fire alarm in the sanctuary on January 21. Weather conditions prevented their keeping that appointment.

New Business:

- A vote was taken to determine if the metal cross made by Pat Callahan will replace the wooden one in the narthex. The vote for replacing the wooden cross was 19-3. There was discussion as to where the wooden cross will be placed.
- Susan Kral asked if members would be interested in holding a garage sale in the parking lot this fall. The council will set a date.
- Pudge mentioned that there are several areas that need attention:
 1. Don Springer wants to put felt pieces on the legs of our wooden chairs to prevent scratches on the floors.
 2. The front door windows are cloudy. An estimate for replacing them will be obtained. It would also be possible to have plastic sheeting installed to cover them.
 3. The church business cards need to be updated. The phone number is no longer accurate. Pastor Anderegg is still listed as a pastor.
 4. She suggested that an awning be installed over the front door.
- The books for 2024 need to be audited. Jeff Emery and Paul Bartels will meet with Peg Callahan.
- In lieu of pinning prayer requests on the wooden cross that was in the narthex, members will now be asked to give written prayer requests to an elder who will give them to the pastor. This information will be printed in Sunday bulletins.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40.




Closing: Pastor Brandt closed the meeting with The Lord's Prayer. After reciting the common table prayer, attendees enjoyed pizza, salad, desserts, and fellowship. A surprise card shower was given for Kyle and Tammy in celebration of their upcoming wedding.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Kral, Secretary





FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Elders Mtg. Mites Collection	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	10 LWML will not meet this month.	11 Council Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	12  Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 	15
16 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	17 Newsletter Deadline 9 a.m.	18	19	20	21  Washington's Birthday	22
23 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	24	25	26	27	28	



News of Peace is a monthly newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church, 9307 North State Highway 5, Camdenton, MO 65020; Rev. Gary Brandt: 580-481-8108; Church Phone: 573-836-8141; Office Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs., 8 am to 12 pm; Church email: plccamdenton@gmail.com; Website: www.plccamdenton.org; Facebook: Peace Lutheran Church—Camdenton—Greenview—Missouri **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."