

Findings of Peace

February 2021 Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church, Deshler

Designated Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.

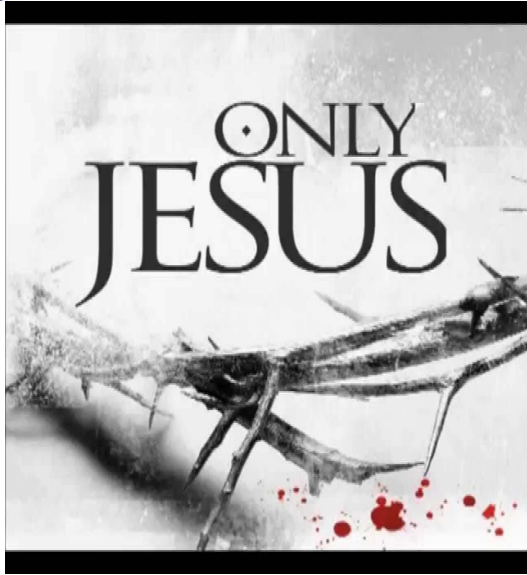
9:00 - 5:30 Wed.

◆ Phones: Office: 402-365-7746 ◆ Preschool/Parish Hall: 402-365-7855 ◆

◆ Pastor Joe Love ◆ Bill Mize, President ◆

◆ Marla Maschmann, Office Administrator ◆ Kim Roth, Preschool ◆

◆ Chandra Hillman, Youth Director ◆ Jami O'Neal, Custodian ◆



Only Jesus...

During the Lenten season we wish to accomplish two goals. First, we want to remember our Lord's Passion history. We also want to prepare our hearts for Easter. "*Only Jesus*" is the theme for our services throughout Lent and on Easter morning because ONLY JESUS can help us to accomplish these goals.

We pray that we will be led by God's Word to meditate on this unique character and work of Jesus, as well as to reflect on our response to our Savior. May God's love and Spirit guide us this Lenten season as we remember that ONLY JESUS can bless us and fill our lives with peace.

Please join us for worship and INVITE A FRIEND!

Lenten Schedule...

Services are Wednesdays at 7:00 PM.

NO Meals planned at this time due to COVID.

*LENTEN OFFERINGS are split equally between
Peoples' City Mission, Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach,
Deshler Public School backpack program,
& Habitat for Humanity.*

Ash Wednesday, February 17

† "Only Jesus Can Cleanse the Temple!" †

Matthew 21:12-17

Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion

1st Wednesday in Lent, February 24

† "Only Jesus is Worth That Much!" †

Mark 14:3-9

2nd Wednesday in Lent, March 3

† "Only Jesus Could Challenge

Us to Move Mountains!" †

Matthew 21:18-22

3rd Wednesday in Lent, March 10

† "Only Jesus Can Make

Us Look UP on the Last Day!" †

Luke 21:25-28

4th Wednesday in Lent, March 17

† "Only Jesus Would Wait

So Long for Someone!" †

Matthew 26:20-25

5th Wednesday in Lent, March 24

† "Only Jesus Would Let Someone

Else Determine His Destiny!" †

Matthew 26:36-46

Palm Sunday, March 28

† "Only Jesus Can Make Us See Clearly" †

Mark 11:1-11

Maundy Thursday, April 1

† "Only Jesus Would Wash Between

Our Toes!" † John 13:1-17

Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday Tenebrae - April 2

† "Only Jesus Would Take

Our Place in Hell!" † Matthew 27:45-46

Easter Sunday Holy Communion, April 4

† "Only Jesus Can Roll Away Stones!" †

John 20:1-18

Weekend Worship SCHEDULE

9:00 AM Sunday School for all
10:00 AM Sunday Worship

FEBRUARY 7 - Epiphany 5

Theme: "A Non-Anxious' Christ." Text: Mark 1:29-39
Holy Communion

FEBRUARY 14 - Transfiguration Sunday

Theme: "Peaks and Valleys" Text: Mark 9:2-9

FEBRUARY 21 - Lent 1

Theme: "God's Kingdom Personified" Text: Mark 1:9-15
Holy Communion

FEBRUARY 28 - Lent 2

Theme: "It's All About HIM!" Text: Mark 8:31-38

MARCH 7 - Lent 3

Theme: "Deep Cleaning!" Text: John 2:13-22
Holy Communion

Peace Happenings...

February Birthdays...

Please let Marla know if a birthday/anniversary date is incorrect or missing. It helps insure that the church records are accurate. Thanks!!

Feb. 3	Tiffany Beam	Feb. 16	Dorothy Renz	Feb. 22	Ryan Brandt
Feb. 4	Levi Nelson		Matthew Marquart	Feb. 25	Taylor Wharton
Feb. 6	Konner Ostdiek		Gracie Miller	Feb. 26	Melissa Powers
Feb. 7	McKylie Smith	Feb. 18	Leah Ryan		Brad Schultz
Feb. 8	Bill Callahan		Josh Weber	Feb. 27	Anthony Hillman
Feb. 11	Jason Reinke	Feb. 19	Ragan Pohlmann	Feb. 28	Jason Hintz
Feb. 12	Anthony Collins	Feb. 20	Blake Befort		Josh Mosier
Feb. 14	Terri Williams	Feb. 21	JoAnn Ehlers	Feb. 29	Jan Freitag

February Anniversaries

Feb. 9, 1964	Roger & Rachel Hoffmeyer	Feb. 16, 2002	Bay & Onna Robinson
Feb. 14, 1981	Mike & Yvonne Hoops	Feb. 20, 1988	Tom & Paula Dahl
Feb. 14, 1987	Wayne & Marty Pohlmann	Feb. 27, 1987	Kirk & Michelle Culler
Feb. 14, 2005	Jon & Kathy Marquart	Feb. 28, 1965	Fred & Ardith Maschmann
Feb. 15, 2003	Bryce & Betty Mammen		



Welcomed into the Family of God through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on

Saturday, January 16, 2021 was Alainey Skye Thompson, daughter of Jacob & Paige (Culler) Thompson. Alainey was born on May 18, 2020 at Twentynine Palms, California. Her sponsors are Tanner and Paige Culler.

Congratulations to Scott and Connie Eitzmann at the official addition of their newly adopted granddaughter, Lanae Nicole Eitzmann, who after 3+ years became the daughter of Barry and Danae Eitzmann on Friday, January 15, 2021. Lanae will celebrate her 4th birthday on March 28th and is blessed to have 2 sisters, Amiyah (age 7) and Jorda (age 5). *An answer to prayers! God Bless!!!*



CHANGE IS...

(select one)

☐ GOOD! ☐ NOT GOOD!

How many church members does it take to change a light bulb? "CHANGE?! Who said anything about change?!"

Though not always popular, the call to prepare for change is not unfamiliar to Christians. With the year still relatively new and with many challenges that have been laid before us as a congregation – this subject of change again comes to the forefront.

It's often easy to think that what we've grown accustomed to is best. Sometimes it is. But other times it is not. In the following classic letter, governor of New York, Martin Van Buren wrote to President Andrew Jackson, appealing to keep the status quo, in the face of what he assumed would be a negative change:

To President Jackson:

The canal system of this country is being threatened by the spread of a new form of transportation known as "railroads." The Federal government must preserve the canals for the following reasons:

One: If canal boats are supplanted by "railroads," serious unemployment will result...

Two: Canal boats are absolutely essential to the defense of the United States. In the event of the expected trouble with England, the Erie Canal would be the only means by which we could ever move the supplies so vital to waging modern war.

As you may well know, Mr. President, "railroad" carriages are pulled at the enormous speed of 15 miles per hour by "engines" which, in addition to endangering life and limb of passengers, roar and snort their way through the countryside, setting fire to crops, scaring the livestock, and frightening women and children. The Almighty certainly never intended that people should travel at such breakneck speed. (1)

Martin Van Buren
Governor of New York

As threatening as change may be, if we are not open to changes God desires for us (as individuals and as a church), we may miss an excellent part of His plan for taking us to new levels of Christian character and usefulness.

"When Jesus said to the disciples, ... 'I will make you fishers of men.' He was giving fair notice that those who want to follow Him can expect to experience significant change. When we follow Him, nothing is safe from His reforming touch." (2) This includes our conduct and attitudes about career, marriage, singleness, parenting, money, friends, enemies, entertainment, current affairs, challenges, trials, etc.

It isn't that God doesn't love us and accept us as we are. But, His death on our behalf, was not only to free us from the consequences of our sins and defeat the work of Satan, but also to repair the damage that our fallen, sinful nature and action has caused.

(2 Corinthians 3:18)

"And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

He saved us to transform us to His likeness. Who could argue that becoming more like Him wouldn't be a vast improvement? May God enable us to surrender our wills unto His will – even where that includes His "reforming touch" of change. We have such opportunity to prepare ourselves for such reforming and change this Lenten season, which begins on February 17th with our Ash Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m. May God bless us as we continue to grow in Christ's love and the Word and to share Christ's love with the world!

In Christ's service and yours,
Pastor Love

(1) *Following Christ*. By Joseph M. Stowell. Zondervan Publishing House. 1996.
(2) *Ibid*.

Worship, Education and Stewardship for Jan. 2021...

Worship Attendance*(Compared to one year ago)*

Jan. 3	78 +124 FB	123
Jan. 10	75 +119 FB	95
Jan. 17	91 + 115 FB	132
Jan. 24	76 + 114 FB	123

Stewardship

Gen. Budget

Jan. 3	\$1707.00 (+\$15 Bldg. Fund)
Jan. 10	\$4365.10 (+\$115 Bldg. Fund)
Jan. 17	\$2089.00
Jan. 24	\$2814 (+\$50 Bldg. Fund)

Education Dec. thru Feb. is for Heifer International

Jan. 3	Adult Class Only
Jan. 10	Adult Class Only
Jan. 17	45 \$27.65
Jan. 24	44 \$48.00

**Sunday School Offering for Dec. - Feb.
is designated for Heifer Project.**

**Congregational Mission Offering for February is
designated to My Bridge Radio, plus our continued
monthly support of \$300 to Paul & Comfort and
\$950 to our African Well Project.**

Church Staff Update...

WELCOME TO THE STAFF...

We'd like to welcome to the Peace Lutheran Church staff, Jami O'Neal, who has been hired as the new custodian for Peace. *Congratulations ~ we're looking forward to serving with you!*

YOUTH CO-LEADER POSITION

Church Council is looking for a male co-leader to share the position of Youth Director 50 % with Chandra Hillman. If interested you may speak to Council President Bill Mize, Pastor Joe or Chandra Hillman for more information.

Thank You's Received...

Thank you for the stockings will with goodies and special thanks to the PEEP children for the cute little ornament. God Bless! ~ Larry & Deanna Holtzen

I wish to thank the church for the large Christmas stocking full of treats. It was such a nice variety of goodies! ~ Sincerely, Ken Torbeck

Operation Christmas Child...

EXCITING NEWS FROM OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD HEADQUARTERS—Today we're sharing the number of Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts donated in 2020!

This past year, the COVID-19 pandemic left people around the world searching for hope, and it became more important than ever for children to hear that God loves them and has not forgotten them. Despite a challenging year, shoebox packers answered the call and stepped up to provide Gospel Opportunities for boys and girls around the world. Now the official numbers are in, and we're thrilled to celebrate 9,113,853 shoebox gifts donated worldwide in 2020!

We praise God that these shoebox gifts will open doors for local believers to share the love and hope of Jesus Christ with hurting children in their communities during these uncertain times. As the gifts you packed make their way around the world and into the hands of boys and girls in need of the Gospel, please continue joining with us in prayer. And don't forget to mark your calendars for National Collection Week 2021—Nov. 15-22.

We at Peace are celebrating!!! 9,113,853 shoebox gifts were packed worldwide in 2020. Praise the Lord for 9,113,853 more children who have the opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ! Thank you to all who helped in any way to make this miracle possible. Be watching the bulletin and newsletter for upcoming information on packing boxes for 2021. Yvonne Hoops - OCC Coordinator

WOW Board Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Jami O'Neal. Nine members were present. We welcome new board member Kimberly Fayle.

Becky gave the opening devotion, "Turning", a reading based on Psalms 80 about making the right choice.

Becky Mize made a motion to keep the officers the same, seconded by Chandra. Motion carried.

Connie made a motion to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Linda Loontjer. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was given by Jami, showing a balance of \$2298.11. Lori made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Seconded by Chandra. Motion carried.

Mission Growth - We will start to deliver casseroles to families or individuals that need a little pick me up. We will call the family first to make sure it is ok with them and get instructions how they would like the delivery to be made.

Mission Community - Lori reported that we have 6 graduates this year. Lori discussed ideas for college students.

Mission Action - Becky reported that she had some kits ready for members to pick up and sew quilt tops. The committee is looking into starting the quilt tying with safety procedures. Watch for more information in the newsletter and bulletins.

At this time WOW will not serve Lenten meals or funeral luncheons because of Covid.

Thank you's were received from Sydney Roth, Kim Roth and the Orphan Grain Train.

A big thank you goes out to Sandy Spitler for serving on the board for the last few years.

Next meeting will be February 10, 2021 in the parish hall

Women's Morning Circle Bible Study...

The Morning Circle is starting a new study entitled "A Women After God's Own Heart - Becoming a Woman of Beauty & Strength (Esther) by Elizabeth George.

Become a woman God can use with this encouraging study focused on helping Christian women know how God desires for them to live. We meet at 9:30 a.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, currently meeting in the overflow. We'd love to have YOU join us. © You may purchase a book if you like, or we'll have copies/books available for you to use if you'd like to sit in a time or two first. Please talk to Jeanette Mohrmann or Lois Nelson if you'd like to pick up a book ahead of the study. The books will be in the church office for \$8.00.

Hygiene Kits from Becky Mize, Mission

Action Team Coordinator

As in years past, during the weeks of Lent, we will be collecting items for hygiene kits. Hygiene kits distributed through Orphan Grain Train provide dignity and self-worth to those who don't have access to these basic items. A hygiene kit can be such a blessing to someone who has been displaced from their home by a natural disaster, fire, or other circumstance beyond their control. Another group of people we at Peace Lutheran help are the kids who attend a local Royal Family Kids Camp. Some of these children lack the skills and items needed to care for themselves on a daily basis. At camp they are taught basic hygiene habits and a hygiene kit is sent home with them. This small act can help restore self-worth to a child who may think no one cares about them. Hygiene kits include the following items:

- 1 bath towel – dark colors
- 1 wash cloth – dark colors
- 1 adult size toothbrush in original package-soft bristle preferred
- 1 bar of soap – in original wrapper
- 1 sturdy comb – large tooth
- 6 band aids – ½" or ¾"

RFKC has requested we also include elastic hair ties, elastic headbands, and barrettes for the girls. Any donation of these items will be appreciated. You may bring your items any time and place them in the plastic tote in the overflow. The kits will be assembled soon after Easter. Thank you for your compassion to those in need and for sharing your blessings with others.

"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me"
Matthew 25:40 NRSV

Peace Lutheran Church Preschool is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2021-22 school year and spots are filling up! To enroll or inquire, please contact Preschool Director, Kim Roth, at #402-365-7855 (school) or #402-430-0042 (cell).

Signs of Love ~ Prayer Page for February

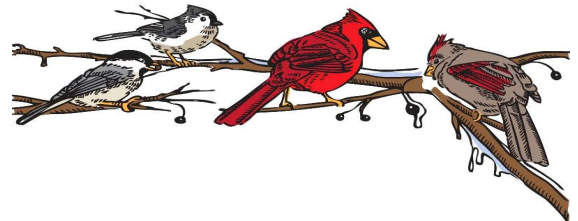
WE HOLD IN SINCERE SYMPATHY AND PRAYER...

- ...Larry and Deanna Holtzen, their family and friends, at the death of Larry's niece, Cheryl (Vieselmeyer) Gerdes of Kearney, Nebraska on January 7, 2021.
- ...Luke and Rose Johnson, their family and friends, at the death of Rose's niece, Belinda M. Bice Kamler, 49 of Hastings, Nebraska, who passed away December 24, 2020, at Immanuel Hospital in Omaha. A private memorial service will be held with inurnment to follow in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Hebron.
- ...Hailey Gehle, Kailyn and Kinslie, their family and friends, at the death of her boyfriend, Sam Lindley, who lost his life in a car accident on Wednesday night, January 20, 2021. Hailey is expecting the couple's first child in February. A celebration of Sam's life was held on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at the Community Building in Plymouth, Nebraska, with Pastor Mike McDonald officiating.
- ...Marilyn Cook and Kenny Muehling, their family and friends, at the death of their cousin, Stan Hoffmeyer (son of the late Otto & Lottie Hoffmeyer). He was from Hastings, Nebraska and passed away on Thursday morning, January 28, 2021.
- ...Larry and Deanna Holtzen, their family and friends, at the death of their daughter-in-law, Karen Holtzen, wife of James Holtzen of Simi Valley, California. She passed away on January 21, 2021, at Thousand Oaks Trauma Center in California.

THANK YOU'S RECEIVED...

The family of Irene Fintel would like to thank everyone for the love and support shown to us during our time of sadness. Thank you for all the prayers, kind words, cards, phone calls, flowers, food and memorials. Your kindness was truly appreciated ! Warm regards ~ the family of Irene Fintel

Thank you to all who offered sympathy in various ways at the passing of our mother, Leora. We appreciate your kindness. We are also thankful to all who visited her during her time in the care home. She always enjoyed visiting with you. ~ The family of Leora Freitag



February 2021 Serving Page

GREETERS

Bruce & Jan Maschmann

ACOLYTES

FEB 7 Holden McDonald & Manny Motto
FEB 14 Easton Nash & Kris Collins*
FEB 17 (*Ash Wed.*) Braelynn Renz & Danica Buckles
FEB 21 Danessa Buckles & Addy Hintz
FEB 24 (*Wed.*) Holden McDonald & Tasia Schardt
FEB 28 Danica O'Neal & Manny Motto
MAR 3 (*Wed.*) Kris Collins & Daphne Smith
MAR 7 Chloe Fangmeyer & Marlee Webber

SCRIPTURE READERS

FEB 7 Marvin Koester
FEB 14 Janet Kruse
FEB 21 Linda Loontjer
FEB 28 Deanna Maschmann
MAR 7 Ardith Maschmann

USHERS

Co- Head Ushers - Glen Maschmann & Marvin Koester; Earl & Chandra Hillman, Fred & Ardith Maschmann

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Becky Mize & Chris Roth

FLOWER COMMITTEE - JoAnn Bohling

ALTAR GUILD - George & Janet Kruse

PEW RESTOCKERS: Sondra Ehlers & Becky Cahill

SOUND SYSTEM - Nate Brandt

SCREEN OPERATOR - Lori Grummert

BULLETIN FOLDERS - Parkview Haven Residents

Preschool News

I always enjoy Christmas break, but it sure has been nice getting back into the preschool routine! It always takes a few days for the kids to get back on track, but we are off and running!

This month we focused on a lot of science activities. The kids mixed milk and food coloring to make color swirls; made crayons; microwaved Ivory soap and used it to make some "clean" mud; designed a marble run; made butter; and did some experimenting with eggs just to highlight a few activities. Below are pictures of the preschool "MAD SCIENTISTS"! ☺ It's been so much fun and the way the kids think always amazes me!

One of my favorite things to do is read books to the class. It's so important to me to instill a love of reading into the kids. We have lots of stories to choose from and a wide variety of genres available. Story time is a favorite time for all of us! It's fun to see the kids recognize letters, numbers, rhyming words, and different things we've talked about while reading stories.

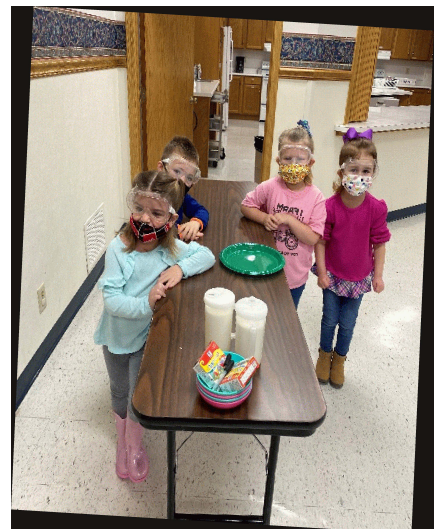
For Jesus time we have moved on to the New Testament stories. When returning from Christmas break-we focused on how Christmas really isn't over because we should celebrate Jesus EVERY day! We will be learning about The Widow's Gift, Loving the Lord with all of our heart, and some of the many miracles that Jesus performed.

I am blessed and feel so honored to be able to teach these preschoolers. As always, thanks for your prayers and support in this ministry.

Kim Roth Preschool Director/Teacher



Ben Zucker, Joe Zucker, Kaleb Monk, Duncan Finke



Mary Werner, Millie Schardt, Theo Schardt, Lucy Baden

Youth of Peace News

by Chandra
Hillman, Youth
Director



Looking back at January:

What a joy it has been to be back at our Sunday morning Bible studies! We continue to study the seven spiritual disciplines. Our last spiritual discipline was on the importance of being in scripture and keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus. The next discipline the youth will be learning about is prayer. We will discuss what prayer is, what it isn't and what hinders prayer. In our Bible study we will also talk about what is promised to us if we pray according to God's will and why we should be in constant prayer.

Last month, the youth sold Little Caesars Pizza as a fundraiser to raise money for our mission trip this summer, for upcoming service projects and youth activities. A total of \$843 was raised. The youth and I are grateful for everyone's support.

A PEPY meeting was held to discuss upcoming events and the mission trip this summer.

The youth had a movie night where they watched "Overcomer." In our devotions, we talked about who we are and what we allow to define ourselves. In the movie, the character, Hannah, learned she was a child of God and she read in Ephesians what else she was. "I am created by God. He designed me, so I am not a mistake. His Son died for me, just so I could be forgiven. He picked me to be his own, so I am chosen. He redeemed me, so I am wanted. He showed me grace, just so I could be saved. He has a future for me because He loves me. So I don't wonder anymore, I am a child of God."

We too are a child of God. Being an overcomer means there is pain and life can get tough, yet we have joy, peace and all the things that we can only have if there is an anchor in our soul.

Hannah's father said in the movie, "Your identity will be tied to whatever you give your heart to." People can tell who you are by what you give your heart to. 1 John 5:4 says, *"For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith."*

So, what are you giving your heart to? Who are you giving your heart to? Overcome any obstacles, overcome any fears by putting your faith in the One who gives His heart to you. Take heart, Jesus has overcome the world.

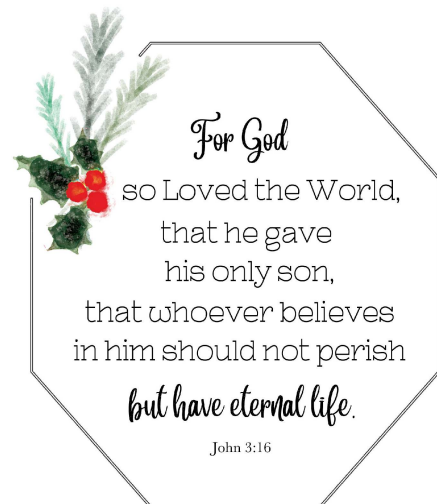
Looking ahead to February:

Sunday, Feb. 7 - "Souper Bowl Sunday" Monetary donations go to the 2 local food pantries.

Sunday, Feb. 14 - Pick up pizza orders after church

Sunday, Feb. 28 - Youth planning meeting and youth activity following worship

With Valentine's Day coming up, may we all know the greatest love that only our loving Father can give.



Love in Christ,

Chandra