



Herald of Peace

March 2007

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church
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From Don's Desk

Lately, I've been preparing for the Wednesday evening Lenten services. I've been looking at different lessons and hymns for the season of Lent, and one thing just stood there looking... it was the cross of Christ. No, I'm not talking about some sort of creepy movie. I was thumbing through my hymnal under the section entitled "Lent". Nearly every hymn in that section looked to the cross of Jesus. Albert has chosen an excellent Lenten devotional book for us "Your Nail". This, of course, also looks to the cross of our Lord. So during Lent, let us focus our thoughts on the cross of Christ. Let this be our perspective.

We are experiencing turbulent and troubling times here at Peace. Conflict seems to be lurking at every turn. Just when you think it is about to come to an end, a new chapter of the story unfolds. I suggest that we fix our eyes on the cross of Jesus. Consider our sinfulness and his sacrifice, our repentance and his reconciliation. All people are sinners, from the greatest to the least. Churches and church organizations are made up of groups of sinners. We will stumble, and sometimes we will fall. But it is the cross that will save us every time.

In the weeks ahead, we will be facing many difficult decisions. It will be easy to get so embroiled in the discussion that we lose perspective. I tell you that it is vital for us to keep a Christian perspective. We must keep our eyes fixed on the cross of our Lord. His loving sacrifice is our purpose.



March Worship Schedule:

Sunday, March 4th

"Listen Here, Mr./Ms. Fox!" – Luke 13:31 – 35
Do you have foxes in your life? Do you have someone or something that hunts you down and tries to put fear, doubt, or obstacles before you? We are assured through the Word of the Lord that, with Christ's power, we can tell the "foxes" in our lives that we can live well; that there is nothing that they can do to stop us.

Sunday, March 11th

"Why Do Good People Suffer?" – Luke 13:1 – 9
Have you asked the questions: "Why do bad things happen to good people?" or "Why do I experience sorrow or suffering?" We will take the time to explore this and look at how suffering gets our attention and reminds us that we cannot make it without God.

Sunday, March 18th

"Restoration!" – Luke 15:1 – 3; 11 – 32
Do you enjoy restoring items that you find or perhaps that have been lost for a long period of time? Well, even we Christians lose our way. When that happens, Jesus finds us and restores us. The joy of restoration...ahh...it's good to be a Christian.

Sunday, March 25th

"Say It with Flowers" – John 12:1 – 8
If you have ever experienced a loss in your family, you may be familiar with this image: You're standing in a funeral home surrounded by relatives and friends; people have sent flowers with cards stating how much they loved the deceased; people surrounding you stating that they wish that they could have just one more moment in time with the deceased. If you have experienced this, the sermon for today will be about how we need to tell our loved ones what they mean to us while they are still with us. We will talk about how we need to send our "flowers" now.

Baptism Announcement

On Sunday, March 11th we will welcome into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism Elaine Kathleen Paige Miller, daughter of Robert and Cynthia Miller. Serving as Godparents for Elaine are Garrett and Nori Setser. Let us all come on March 11th and welcome our new little sister in Christ.

Board of Christian Outreach

Our SOUP & BREADLINE was a HUGE success. We had a great turn out that shared the wonderful and delicious selections of soups, chili's (11 in all) and breads. The fellowship was just as wonderful, if not better. Thank you to each and every person that participated and attended this event. A special thank you to Bonnie and the children's choir who performed a marvelous selection of songs as our entertainment. They were great!!!! GOD is doing a mighty work in our congregation. We raised \$277 to benefit the Wyandotte Food Pantry and have requested matching funds from Thrivent. Mark your calendars for our next Soup & Breadline which will be the Sunday before Advent and will benefit our Youth for outings and camp costs

"I'd Rather Be Reading"

The next gathering will be March 20th at Diane Setser's home at 7p.m. The discussion will be on Marley and Me. Come join us for an entertaining evening. Questions or more information, call Karen McNeil @734-362 8223.



Notes from Bonnie

Choirs --As another month filled with such beautiful voices and wonderful smiles comes to a close, I can't thank the congregation enough for all the support the choirs have been getting. As most of you know, the Jr. Choir had a month filled with activities in February; they sang at the Soup and Bread Bowl Luncheon, and they sang at Blessed Hope on Valentine's Day and passed out Valentines that they made to the folks at Blessed Hope. The Sr. Choir has also been working very hard, and this month you should see the back pew filled in the choir loft as we welcome at least four new members to the choir! Don't get your hopes up thinking YOUR spot is filled, though. I want YOU to come, too!

Band rehearsals for youth band for Easter will start March 11th following the 11 o'clock service in the choir room, so all you who play an instrument, please attend. (By the way, I know who you are... There is an ongoing list in the choir room, and if you don't find me, I will find you!) For any grown up kids willing to play for Easter, I am interested in you playing as well; show them how it's done. I will have music ready on March 11th for this group as well.

And finally, the **Talent Show**: I have heard from a few people that there are ideas passing through people's minds, and I am thrilled! One thing I'd like to do, because it's bringing back an old Peace tradition, is make it a Reunion Talent Show. I already have something in the works for some special guests, but I need to hear from more people before I can confirm these plans. So, whether it be lip-synching, dancing, telling cheesy puns, belly dancing, standing on your head, playing an instrument, singing, performing with puppets, or underwater basket weaving, I want to hear about it, and we can figure out a way to get this going!



Come to the Café!

Join fellow Peace members for coffee and fellowship at the tables near the kitchenette off the Parlor from 10:00-10:50am before Sunday services.

Office Hours

Tuesdays: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Thursdays: 9am – 11:00am.

If you need to talk to Kris you may call her at home at 734-671-8726 or on her cell phone 734-775-7886.

Galilee By the Sea Starts March 4th! Catch Jesus in Action!!

Come and join us on Sunday mornings during Sunday School 9:45-10:45 as we return to the Holy Land this time to visit the Seaside town of Galilee!!! Our program will run for 10 weeks and everyone of every age is welcome!!

Program Highlights:

Bible Points

1. Jesus chooses us!!
2. Jesus teaches us!!
3. Jesus heals us!!
4. Jesus protects us!!
5. Jesus provides for us!!

Tribe Time--travel as a group and meet to discuss traditions and bible stories.

Gathering Time--learn all new songs and dances. Dramas--exciting dramas that will make each bible point and the story behind it come alive!!

Synagogue School--learn just like people did in Jesus' time. You'll find out about rabbis, the torah, menorahs and more!!

Seaside Playground---new fun is in store with "catching fish", archery, marbles and more!!

... and of course the popular **Marketplace Shops** will be back and all new. We will have stone carving, sandal making, yarmulke decorating, and rope making just to name a few.



March Birthdays

- 3/2 Michael Wansa, Jr.
- 3/6 Patti Mulligan, Katherine Rowledge
- 3/8 Robert Gagnier, Amanda Bain
- 3/9 Kevin Mulligan
- 3/10 Lise Corby
- 3/11 Richard Geiser
- 3/12 Kathy Vallade, Catherine Bush
- 3/14 Claudia Sendo
- 3/15 Tony Anderson
- 3/18 Norman Kaminski, Dolores Kaminski,
Daniel Schlembach
- 3/21 Dorothy Kromrei, Monika Fuchs
- 3/22 Robert Gnad, Pamela Schlembach,
Jason Brandt, Anthony Anderson, Jr.
- 3/23 Catherine Russell
- 3/24 Jean Koons, Megan Stewart,
Ryan Simonson
- 3/25 Barbara Byrd, Patrick Singstock,
Amie Ferullo
- 3/26 Laraine Hustler, Jenine Rhoades
- 3/27 William Martin
- 3/28 Cynthia Miller
- 3/29 Rachel Pritchett, Stephen Fields
- 3/30 Freda Cullendar, John Osborne, Jr.
- 3/31 Daniela Rosinski

“Time for Devotion”

**Led by Albert Le Blanc, Jr.
Sunday Mornings during Lent
at 9:45 AM (in the Sanctuary)**

You are invited to deepen your relationship with God during this Lenten season by participating in a special time that is set aside each Sunday morning for devotion. We will be following the devotional material titled “Your Nail”. Devotions are a Lenten tradition of meditation-opening oneself to the meaning of Christ's suffering and death for our own life. Please join us for this time for reflection; this time for silent contemplation; this “Time for Devotion”. Lenten devotional material will be available.

Devotions will begin at 9:45 AM and will conclude by 10:15 AM. The sanctuary will remain in a state of silence until 10:30 AM for those who wish to remain and enter further into prayer. At 10:30 AM, preparations will begin for our 11:00 AM worship service; therefore, the silence will be broken.

Easter Flowers

To help beautify our worship space for Easter please use the sign-up sheet on the Flower bulletin board to order your Easter flowers:

Lilies -- \$15

Azela and Hydrangeas -- \$20

Daffodils and Hyacinths -- \$10

Last day to order: Thursday, March 22nd. Any questions, please call Norma Wansa, 313-386-6869.

Peace Players Regroup!!

The Peace Players are once more practicing to bring you a play for your enjoyment geared to the Lenten season. Titled, “Virgil's First Easter”, you will meet Virgil, a simple guy who is a new Christian and his girlfriend Margaret along with Mrs. Tishwater, the town's foremost hypocrite and her spoiled daughter, Tisha. Couple this with two dumb demons, a Christian, who befriends Virgil and Margaret, a sincere pastor, and you have a funny poignant, thought-provoking play. Oh, and did we mention it's a dinner play? Our youth will be putting on a spaghetti dinner between acts. A free will offering will be taken. How can you miss!! Dinner and a play.

Date: Sunday, April 1st

Time: Watch future announcements

Sign-up sheets will be out soon. Don't miss, “Virgil's First Easter”.

Thrivent Matching Funds- Care in Community

Please see Dawn Bernard for any questions or to obtain an application to submit to the Chapter Board for fundraising events that you wish to obtain Thrivent matching funds.

Oh the Beans They are a Changin'!

There is bad news from Lutheran World Relief Just in time for Lent, our beloved Café Nica has been discontinued. Never fear, Don's got a back-up plan. We will offer two coffees as a replacement. Organic Columbian is one we've tried before. It is a medium-bodied coffee with incredible coffee aroma. We have not tried Café Salvador before, but is very popular at Pastor Bux's church. Since this coffee is not organic, it will sell for \$5.00 instead of \$5.50. Let's try these coffees together. Buy or share a bag with a friend. Tell me which one you prefer, or if you'd like to try another. By the way, we'll only be buying whole bean coffee this time. I you want me to order drip grind for you, please let me know.

And I almost forgot—the Earl Grey the is a big hit.

More is on order!

Don Silsbe



First Communion Class—

We are offering a class to prepare for First Communion. This class will take place on the following Wednesdays, February 28th, March 14th, March 21st, March 28th, and April 4th. The time is from 6:30pm-7:20pm each week. The class will be taught by Diane Rowledge. Recommended ages for the class is 3rd-5th grade or when the parents decide that their child is ready.

First Communion will be celebrated on Easter. If you are interested in signing up for this class, please contact Kim Bogusz at 734-283-8827, forms will also be available on the table.

Support our Youth!

Our own Robert Anderson will be playing the part of the Wizard in Southgate High School's performance of The Wizard of Oz. Performances will be two weekends, March 16 and 17 and March 23 and 24. Tickets are about \$4. Watch for performance time in upcoming announcements.

Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 31st - 12:00pm SHARP



For children 12 years old and younger. Please RSVP to Janet LeBeau, 734-283-1283 or send a note to 12432 Irene, Southgate, MI 48195 with information on how many children are

coming with their ages and how many adults will accompany them. Cut off date: March 19th

From the Trustees

Our new roof is completed!! We are still in need of pledges to pay off the loan we secured to finish the project.

Also, we still need more trustees. Please think about this and give us a hand. Thanks.

Bob Snell, Trustee Chairman

New Member Classes

We are so happy that you have been coming to our church to worship with us. If you have made the decision that you would like to join our church family here at Peace, please contact Albert Le Blanc so that he can work with you during this process. There are materials that you will be provided with, as well as, discussion sessions that will be scheduled. These sessions are very informal; very relaxed. They will be designed with your needs in mind. After your initial meeting, we will be able to determine the number of future individual sessions. Albert's contact information is as follows: Home (734) 281-1297; Cell (734) 552-8863; or Email:

a.leblanc.jr@sbcglobal.net.

Church Renewal

As we prepare our hearts and minds for the Easter celebration of hope and renewal, let us put true Spirit to work through our hands as well. Let us keep the spirit of our Peace renewal going by brightening and energizing our surroundings.

From March 25 through March 31, we hope to get many chores accomplished. Please sign up for an hour or a block of time and take on an 'opportunity' of your choice. If we all do a little (or a lot) so much can be accomplished. Supplies will be furnished as needed and someone will be at the Church as "team leader". Drop ins welcome!

"We know that all things work together for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."
Romans 8:28

For further information contact Dorothy Pushman --- March 1-17 or Karen McNeil after 17th.



Peace Lutheran Church

March 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Office Hours: 9am-11am 10:00: G.O.A.L. 7:30: Sr. Choir	2	3
4 Lent 2 9:45: Lenten Devotions 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: COMMUNION	5 7:00: Elders Meeting	6 Office Hours: 10am-2pm 7:00: Church Council Mtg.	7 5:30: Jr. Choir 6:30: Confirmation 7:30: Lenten Vespers	8 Office Hours: 9am-11am 10:00: G.O.A.L. 6:30: Brd. of Finance 7:30: Sr. Choir	9	10
11 Lent 3 9:45: Lenten Devotions 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: Worship Band Rehearsal	12	13 Office Hours: 10am-2pm	14 5:30: Jr. Choir 6:30: First Communion 6:30: Confirmation 7:30: Lenten Vespers	15 Office Hours: 9am-11am 10:00: G.O.A.L. 7:30: Sr. Choir	16	17
18 Lent 4 9:45: Lenten Devotions 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: COMMUNION	19	20 Office Hours: 10am-2pm 7:00; "I'd Rather Be Reading at Diane Setser's	21 5:30: Jr. Choir 6:30: First Communion 6:30: Confirmation 7:30: Lenten Vespers	22 Office Hours: 9am-11am 10:00: G.O.A.L. 7:30: Sr. Choir	23	24
25 Lent 5 9:45: Lenten Devotions 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: Worship	26	27 Office Hours: 10am-2pm	28 5:30: Jr. Choir 6:30: First Communion 6:30: Confirmation 7:30: Lenten Vespers	29 Office Hours: 9am-11am 10:00: G.O.A.L. 7:30: Sr. Choir	30	31 12:00 Sharp! Easter Egg Hunt

Those Who Serve...

Date	Worship Leader	Elder	Acolytes	Trustee	Ushers	Sound Tech	Altar Guild	Readers	Organist
March 4	Albert LeBlanc, Jr. Cantor: Don Silsbe & Stephania Andrews	Rob Montie	Jack Bogusz, Kevin Bogusz, Connor Winton, Kyle Winton	Robert Bernard	M. Ziesmer, G. Elsner, M. Catalano, N. Yakowich & R. Wilson	Janet LeBeau	Lucille Hrivnak	Ruth Schmidt , Rob Montie	Jennifer Rosati
March 7	Don Silsbe								Mary Tollefson
March 11 Baptism: Elaine Kathleen Paige Miller	Albert LeBlanc, Jr.	Terri Silsbe	Andrew Campbell, Laura Campbell, Mike Wansa, Mike Neifert	Bob Snell	M. Ziesmer, G. Elsner, M. Catalano, B. Gnadt & J. Thomas	Tonya Cade	Lise Corby	Dorothy Pushman, Gerre Menzel & Jan Scherbarth	Jennifer Rosati
March 14	Don Silsbe								Mary Tollefson
March 18	Albert LeBlanc, Jr. Cantor: Don Silsbe & Stephania Andrews	Barb Pushman	Alex Wayt, Kevin Mulligan, Amanda Mulligan, Shelby Morse	Peter Montie	M. Ziesmer, G. Elsner, M. Catalano, R. Wilson & N. Yakowich	Sean Morse	Nancy Harvey – (Individual Cup)	Terri Silsbe & Mary Jacobs	Mary Tollefson
March 21	Don Silsbe								Mary Tollefson
March 25	Albert LeBlanc, Jr.	Terri Silsbe	C.J. Morse, Stacy Catalano, Britnie Ford, Blake Menzel	Robert Bernard	M. Ziesmer, G. Elsner, M. Catalano, B. Gnadt & J. Thomas	John Cade	Jan Scherbarth	Alan Campbell, Don Pushman & Barb Pushman	Mary Tollefson
March 28	Don Silsbe								Mary Tollefson

Bread Baker for March is Barb Fredricks

WHAT IS LENT?

A message from your brother, Albert Le Blanc

What exactly is Lent? What's it all about? We take this time to experience self-denial, a time to give up something. Perhaps you have given up chocolate or your favorite TV show or perhaps something else that you love. But Jesus isn't concerned with chocolate and TV shows – he's concerned with what's going on in our hearts. Lent is a time to give up those sins in our lives. It's a time to give up the sin of hypocrisy – acting like a Christian on the outside, but being proud and self-centered on the inside. Lent is a time to give up the sin of duplicity – being a Christian on Sundays, but being an unbeliever on Fridays. It's a time to give up the sin of being lethargic – “someday I'll get my act together spiritually. Right now, though, I'm just too busy focusing on everything except God.” When pondering Lent, read the parable taught in Luke 18:9-14. Then ask yourself, “What is Lent?” Lent is that man who stood in the back of the temple, and looked down at the ground, and prayed to God, “Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.” Lent is a time for us to be like that man, to give up our sinful habits, our sinful attitudes, to stand before God and to ask him to forgive us, to wash our sins away, and to empower us to turn away from our sinful past and to live new lives that are dedicated to God.

And after we lay our sins before Christ, Lent is also a time to give up our guilty feelings. Just as that tax collector walked home justified before God (v14), so can we walk away, knowing that we have been forgiven. We can say, “I no longer have to feel guilty about my sins. I no longer have to beat myself up about the way I've been living. I have been forgiven. My sins have been washed away by the blood of Jesus Christ. I can start over. I can work hard to be someone who obeys God, who worships God every day with the way I live my life.”

Lent is an attitude. It's an attitude of honesty and humility, as we confess our sins to God. But Lent is also an attitude of relief and joy, knowing that our sins have been forgiven, that our Lord has been wiped us clean as we seek to serve our God with our lives.

If people want to temporarily give up certain things for Lent as a sign of love for their Savior, that's fine...go for it! But what Christ is really concerned about is what's in your heart.

Brothers and sisters, we are now beginning that long walk to the cross, where we see just how serious and terrible our sins are. But there we also see how wonderful and deep our Savior's LOVE is for us. The road doesn't end there, but at the empty tomb, where Jesus rises from the dead to prove that all of your sins have been forgiven. I am honored to have walked with you, side by side, during this time of contemplation and ultimately a time for joy. May God bless you and your families as you begin your Lenten journey.

This is an area made for you to “tear out” Keep it near to you, even in your devotional book, or Bible, or wallet.

These are the people from our church and their friends and acquaintances that are having crisis' in their lives and need our prayers.

“Prayer changes things”

Shirley Balger, Gail Andrews, Mary Ann Buchau, Mary Jacobs, Mike Ziesmer, Barb Byrd, Julie Rettke, Norman Kaminski, Dolores Kaminski, Terry Koons, Betty Rehbein, Rob Montie, John Demyon, Dave & Ruth Taylor, Elnora Ebendick, Rosa Fox, Jeff Thomas, Al Varga, Wilma Looker, John Balger, Marilyn Jacob, and Peace Church.

Prayers are requested for **Albert LeBlanc's** upcoming meeting with local Synod ELCA and his involvement in the SAM program. We ask that the Holy Spirit be present and lead all parties involved, directly or indirectly, to the path that best serves the Lord considering Albert's calling, Albert's Gifts, **our Congregation**, past, present and future members, the greater church and our mission in fulfilling God's purpose. Let us hope that the path that should be taken is exposed so that we can start following it where God wants to lead us.

Nick, Nancy, Jerry Varga, Lucy Black, Helen, Rich, Raymond Cade, Sr., the Family of Sam Geer, Amy Simonson and Mitchell Hall residents, Bobbi Forten, Doris, Lil, and Ken Rockensuess.

Members are in **Bold**

Telephone Prayer Chain Contact:
Mary Jacobs, 734-283-7792
E-prayer chain: Todd Pushman at
tpushman@yahoo.com

Want our newsletter via e-mail?

To have this happen send your e-mail address to peacelutheran@ameritech.net. If you want to receive e-mail at more than one address that is fine too - also members of you family can each receive their own e-mailed copy. All other members, non computer users, will of course, receive newsletters by mail if they haven't been in church that Sunday to pick up their copy.

Bottle and Can Drive Results

Total: \$749.90. This money goes to our general fund. Thank you for your support!

Just Reading the Bible

Nehemiah 9 - We meet at 9:45 on Sunday mornings in the church office. Join us anytime.

The Herald of Peace

Peace Lutheran Church
12250 Fort Street
Southgate, MI 48195

