

# PEACE PASSAGES

Volume 39, Number 4, April 2020

Peace Lutheran Church  
514 Freedom Drive – P.O. Box 333  
Arlington, MN 55307-0333

Sunday School – 8:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m.

Church Phone Number	507-964-2959
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Web Site	
<a href="http://www.peacelutheranarlington.org">www.peacelutheranarlington.org</a>	
Rev. Dan Ritter	Vacancy Pastor
Ashley Dammann	Administrative Secretary

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the people at Peace is to be disciples of Our Lord who grow in grace and use the Word and sacraments to obey His command to make disciples of all nations.

*Easter Sunday – April 12*

*New Life through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ*

Dear friends and members of Peace,

Have you ever talked to someone who said they were in a real rut in life? Or maybe you yourself have experienced that. What a shame to just spin our wheels, so to speak, doing the same old things that don't bring us joy or satisfaction especially when there is an opportunity to live and experience life in a new way.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “*so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father so we might live in the newness of life.*” Romans 6:4

Life, brand spanking new is available to all of us, yet we often keep going about the same routine. We give the same offering year after year; we limit ourselves to just a few minutes with God in our daily devotion time, if we take time for devotions at all. We can rationalize and excuse our lack of involvement in service projects both here in church and in our community. We usually continue living life only to please and satisfy ourselves and then wonder why there is no thrill or excitement.

That newness of life St Paul was describing is a life that is focused fully on God and dedicated with heartfelt commitment to serving others. When life is lived in a love relationship with God and then with His people, that is when things will become new, fresh, and exciting. It was for that reason that died and rose again. His death enables us not to look at our past, because all of our sins and shortcomings in life have been forgiven. His glorious resurrection from the dead gives a new and living hope to live life in a new, fresh and exciting way.

This Easter as we celebrate the hope that is ours because of Christ's victory over death, let us step through the open tomb into a new life. Let's step into the life of loving God and serving His people. Experience firsthand the power of the Holy Spirit. Let's live the newness, the freshness, the excitement of life that God provides when we fall in love with Him and with His people.

God love you all,

*Pastor Dan*

## **Church Council Minutes**

The council of Peace Lutheran Church met February 19, 2020, at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Bob Wavrin called the meeting to order, and Pastor Ritter began with a prayer. The secretary's minutes and financial secretary's report were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$28,812.03 in the general fund. A motion carried to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills presented. Pastor Ritter distributed a written report of his activities since returning from his recent trip. He will conduct a special Bible study requested by the Sunday school teachers after the service next Sunday. He indicated he has a name to support the call committee. The elders have considered the members list and have sent the letters to those currently not attending. Keith suggested that carpeting in the furnace room specifically in the area where coffee is spilt needed replacement. He was encouraged to find materials to do the job. The board of education asked about posters for the Lenten suppers. It's up to each group. After a request for the painting of a Sunday school room, the teacher was encouraged to get the work done. BESS is sponsoring a Friday evening social event on February 21 for all members of the congregation. The food is to be pot-luck prepared, so all contributors are welcome. President Dave reported our call to Pastor Schnelle was returned, and he visited with him to discover what could be done to improve the process. The call committee will request a new list and add names that may be submitted. The March special offering will be for the teacher appreciation dinner. A constitutional

amendment on marriage policy will be presented in the April voters meeting for further action. A motion carried to hire Ashley Dammann to church secretary. A motion carried to present a thank-you gift to Sheila on her retirement. The meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

-Secretary  
Pauline Wiemann

### **Holy Week**

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>April 5</b>
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>April 9</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>April 10</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>April 12</b>

### **All things in common**



Just as the bread is made out of many grains ground and mixed together, and out of the bodies of many grains there comes the body of one bread, in which each grain loses its form and body and takes upon itself the common body of the bread; and just as the drops of wine, in losing their own form, become the body of one common wine and drink — so it is and should be with us. ...  
Through the interchange of [Christ's] blessings and our misfortunes, we become one loaf, one bread, one body, one drink, and have all things in common.  
—Martin Luther, *Treatise on the Blessed Sacrament*

### **Guild Meeting Minutes**

President Ruth Wolters opened with a devotion on the Transfiguration of Christ. The meeting was called to order; the Secretary's & Treasurer's reports were read and approved. There was no meeting in December or January due to the Holidays and inclement weather.

The new and updated booklets were distributed. Rosie Kauffmann (Kitchen Committee) reported that Peace has hosted Feeding of the 500 Club 3 times. Attendance on December 16 was 30, on January 20 was 23, & February 17 was 32. There was some discussion about the "Over 80 Recognition". Two Thank You's had been received for the gift and acknowledgement. Three of the honorees that attended were Eileen Bode, Esther Kuebler, & Marcie Schultz. The annual Soup & Sandwich was held on January 26. Thank you to all that organized, worked & attended this event. \$878.28 went to Missions and \$878.28 went to Parking Lot Repair Fund. Valentine Boxes were packed & sent to college students, 1 military member, & 9 shut-ins. The Arlington Zone Delegate Board meeting will be on February 23 at St Paul's Lutheran, Gibbon. The Spring Luncheon and Bake Sale will be held on Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>. We will be collecting items for the Orphan Grain Train in March. The next meeting is on March 23, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. Mites were collected & The Offering of Love was read. Meeting adjourned.

-Secretary  
Juanita Kube

### **A modern-day parable**

In Luke 15, Jesus tells three parables about the precious being lost and, at great lengths, found again. The kingdom of heaven, he says, is like that. But most of us don't shepherd sheep and wouldn't fret over one lost coin. A child, on the other hand ...

In fall 2019, as night fell in northern Minnesota, 6-year-old Ethan and his dog wandered off. Family and police grew frantic because the area consisted of fields, woods and swamps.

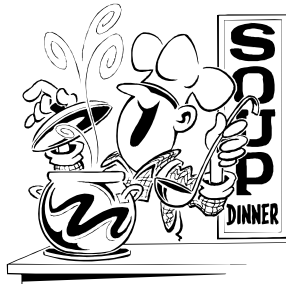
Authorities requested assistance.

The kingdom of heaven, Jesus might say, is like *600 volunteers* searching diligently in the dark for a child they didn't know. It's like Steve Fines who, though also a stranger to the boy, grabbed his company's pricy heat-seeking drone and worked the camera for hours, until it detected Ethan huddling with his dog, safe but cold. Yes, the kingdom of heaven — indeed God — is like people giving their all and refusing to quit until the lost one is found.

### **"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my  
abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than the  
sunshine of his face;  
Content to let the world go by, to know  
no gain nor loss,  
My sinful self my only shame, my glory  
all the cross.

—Elizabeth C. Clephane



The "Feeding of the 500 Club" will meet on April 20, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. Please feel free to join us.

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The office hours for September through May are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8 a.m. – noon and Wednesday 8 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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## NEWSLETTER" DEADLINE

Items for the May "Newsletter" are due in the church office by noon on Monday, April 18, 2020

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### April Readers

4/5 Ruth Wolters & Joyce Shaver

4/12 TBD

4/19 Brian Bullert & Emily Bullert

4/26 Lowell Nagel & Dave Halquist

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## Peace Guild

### Altar Committee for April

4/1-12 Pauline Wieman & Sharon Shimota

4/13-30 Juanita Kube & Jackie Lieske

### Kitchen Committee for April

Jonell Soefker

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## USHER/ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

For April

### Elder

Brian Bullert

### Acolyte

April 5, 2020	Kolten Luepke
April 9, 2020	Alexa Mathwig
April 12, 2020	Logan Ruiz
April 19, 2020	Caden Willmsen
April 26, 2020	Hayden Wesphalen

### USHERS

April 5, 2020	
*Jen Carpenter	Tony Carpenter
Alyson Dieball	Shelby Dieball

### April 9, 2020 MAUNDY THURSDAY-HOLY COMMUNION

*Allan Dose	Carl Dykhoff
Laura Dykhoff	Morgan Halquist

April 10, 2020 GOOD FRIDAY – VOLUNTEER USHERS

**April 12, 2020 Easter Sunday Holy Communion Special Offering Sunday**

\*Ellerd Mathwig                      Barb Mathwig  
Ron Laabs                                Betsy Laabs

**April 19, 2020 Holy Communion**

\*Morris Mesenbring                Emily Holmquist  
Dale Meyer                              Rich Mueller

**April 26, 2020**

\*James Mueller                      Jordan Mueller  
Joey Mueller                            Lowell Nagel

**See(k) first**

On Facebook, I can “follow” as many people as I want, viewing their messages, photos and activities. But I can choose only 30 to “see first” — that is, to prioritize in my news feed. As of this writing (Facebook changes often), if my “see first” list is full and I want to add someone new, I must “unprioritize” someone else.

That leads me to ponder bigger matters: I often claim to follow Jesus, but what might I need to “unprioritize” to make him not just a priority but *the* priority in my life? To what do I devote time and attention but ought to let go to follow Christ more closely? What activities, behaviors and values do I need to not just bump from my “see first” list but “unfollow” or “block” entirely? Perhaps they are antithetical to discipleship or simply take too much time away from prayer, Scripture and service.

This dilemma isn’t unique to the digital age. Facebook parlance is about what we “see first,” but in Matthew 6:33 Jesus says, “Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness” (ESV, italics added).

—Heidi Mann

**Bible Quiz**



Three of the Gospels tell that when Jesus was crucified, darkness covered the earth from noon until three in the afternoon. Which Gospel does not mention this event?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John

Answer: D (See Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, and John 19.)

**A reason to laugh**

The week after Easter, some churches observe Holy Humor Sunday — a tradition dating back to the fourth century. Early Christian theologians coined the term “*risus paschalis*,” or “the Easter laugh,” saying God played the supreme joke on death. Some believers celebrated Bright Monday, gathering the day after Easter to mock Satan’s defeat.

On the first day of April, remember that “we are fools for Christ” (1 Corinthians 4:10, NIV). Then later in the month, take time to smile and laugh, knowing that victory is yours, thanks to Jesus.



# PUZZLE

## Picturing the Lord's Supper

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



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



And he took \_\_\_\_\_, gave \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ it, and gave

it to them, saying, "This is my \_\_\_\_\_ given for you; do this in

\_\_\_\_\_ of me." In the same way, after the supper he

took the cup, saying, "This \_\_\_\_\_ is the new \_\_\_\_\_ in my

blood, which is \_\_\_\_\_ out for you."

LUKE 22:19-20, NIV

Answer: bread, thanks, broke, body, remembrance, cup, covenant, poured

## Scripture AND NATURE

Conduct a simple experiment to illustrate Easter's meaning.



### What you need:

- White carnations
- Scissors
- Vase
- Water
- Red food coloring
- Bible

### What you do:

1. Cut the carnation stems (at an angle) to about 8 inches long.
2. Fill the vase halfway with water. Add 10 drops of food coloring. (More may be needed to darken the water.)
3. Add the cut flowers and observe what happens to the petals over time.
4. Discuss how this is like Jesus' work on the cross. Read 1 Peter 2:22-24 (NIV) and reflect on what his death means for us.
5. To learn more about this experiment, research capillary action.

## **BE IN THE WORD**

As part of our continuing Bible emphasis, we encourage you to memorize one Bible passage per week. Listed below are the passages for the month.

### **April**

Ephesians 6: 10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power, Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Colossians 3:13 - Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Colossians 3:17 - Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

II Timothy 3: 16-17 - All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** "The Lutheran Hour" can be heard each Sunday at 6:05 a.m. from WCCO, 830 AM, on your radio and at 12:30 p.m. from KDUZ, 1260 AM, on your radio. Listed below are the topics that will be aired on that date.

### **April 2020**

**April 5**

**"There's Still Time"**

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

**People can be unreceptive to God's love because they are very bad-or because they think they are very good.**

**(Exodus 11-12)**

**April 12**

**"You Haven't Lost Me"**

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
(Exodus 14)**

**April 19**

**"TBD"**

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

**April 26**

**"TBD"**

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**