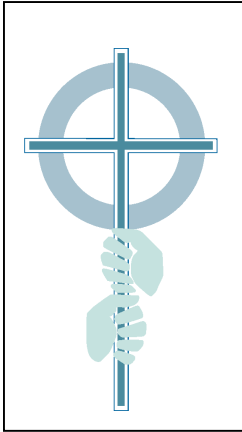


February 2010

Peace Lutheran Church Newsletter



Peace Lutheran Church

8260 Jackson Rd.
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Larry Courson, Pastor
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Abigail Moss, Director
of

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Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning

8:30am (Traditional)

9:45am Sunday School &
Bible Class

11:00am (Praise)

From the Pastor – Why Celebrate Lent?

The Lenten Season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Lent is a season of reflection and repentance. Some people have the practice of giving something up for Lent as a reminder that Jesus gave up His life for us. It is easy to understand why we observe Lent, but why do we celebrate it?

People celebrate at Mardi Gras because they don't think they will be able to celebrate for the next 40 plus days. But for many people Mardi Gras is only an excuse to party.

We celebrate Lent because it is the time in the church year that we recall all that Jesus did to redeem (buy us back) from sin and to restore us to God's family. Lent is a celebration of God's love in action for us and all people. Jesus said the greatest love is giving up one's own life for someone else. That is exactly what Jesus did on the cross. He gave up His life for us. He paid the price for sin.

The word "Lent" is an Old English word that means spring. The Lenten Season always ends with the celebration of Easter. And Easter always follows the first day of spring. So we celebrate Lent in anticipation of Easter. That is why the six Sundays that fall during the Lenten Season are not counted in the 40 days of Lent, because Sunday is the day that Jesus rose. So every Sunday is a little Easter celebration.

But we also celebrate Lent to remember God's love for us. Lent is not about what we give up for God. It is all about what God gave up for us. Lent is not about what we have to do for God. Lent is about what God did for us, to ransom us from sin and death. And that is worth celebrating.

I hope you will join us for the Celebration of Lent this year on both Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings as we look at the journey Jesus made to the cross and get a better understand of who Jesus really is.

Thanks for partnering in the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Pastor Larry Courson

Next Steps Task Force Report and Follow up Team

The Next Steps Task Force presented their report to the congregation on Sunday, Jan. 24th. Their recommendation was accepted in principle by those in attendance. A group of volunteers has offered to help us follow up on the report and make sure that we take steps to implement the plan. The members of the Follow Up Team at this point are Bob Boik, Barb McCreadie, Jason McNish & Catherine Larsen Meuwissen. Our thanks to Bob, Barb, Pete Larsen, Beth Heiss and Daphne Wakefield for serving on the Task Force. A summary of the report can be found on the church website at www.peaceaa.net.

Get Involved!

There are many opportunities for you to get involved in the ministry of Peace and in our community. If you haven't already received one, pick up a copy of the "Get Involved" booklet at the church, take a look at the wide variety of ways that you can make a difference, check off where you would like to help and return the completed booklet to the church. Thanks!

Celebrating the Lord's Supper. . .

Beginning in February, we will again offer the common cup during communion. The common cup was temporarily removed from the services due to the flu season. Holy Communion is offered on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month.

Faith In Action (FIA) Food Drive

Peace will be collecting food for the Faith in Action Food Bank on February 7th to help stock the Dexter area food bank. A list of items needed is located on the counter in the entryway.

Ash Wednesday and Wednesday Lenten Meals

Our Ash Wednesday Worship Service will be held on Feb. 17th at 7:00pm. Lenten services will be held each Wednesday in Lent at 7:00pm. We are looking for people and/or Bible Study groups willing to help serve a meal on Ash Wednesday, and/or choose a Wednesday in Lent to serve supper at 6:00pm before the Worship service. If you are willing to help, please contact Pastor Courson. Dates for Wednesday's in Lent are: Ash Wednesday (Feb. 17th), February 24, and March 3, 10, 17, 24.

Peace T-Shirts Are Here!



The New Peace T-Shirts are here and will be available for purchase beginning February 14th. The shirts have the Peace logo on the front and a baseball diamond on the back with the question, "What Position Would Jesus Play?" A booklet answering the question is also being produced that can be used to either help you answer the question or to give to anyone who asks you about it. The goal is to get our members to wear the shirts to practices and games to open a conversation about Peace, the Tyler Steffey Field and faith in Jesus. Suggested donations for the Shirts with the handout booklets will be \$8.00. A special thanks to Scott Kivi for making the shirts for us.

Secret Sisters Annual Reveal and Draw Party

Ladies, the annual Secret Sisters Reveal and Draw Party will be Sunday, Feb. 14th, from 3-5:30PM at Peace. If you are a woman age 18-100+ you are invited to join us. Secret Sisters is a ministry designed to practice random acts of kindness and to support, comfort, and nurture another woman at Peace (secretly) throughout the year. If you would like to get involved in Secret Sisters during the coming year, fill out a Secret Sisters information form and return it to the box at church. Please return a form, even if you can't attend the party. We will draw names for 2010 and find out who our Secret Sisters were in 2009 at the party on the 14th. Please talk to Lynn Visel or Abby Moss with any questions.

Nursery help needed!

We still have a few open dates where we need people in the nursery while our college students are home on spring break. Check the bulletin board to sign up during one of our services or the Sunday school and Bible Study hour on Feb. 28th and March 7th.

Peace Professional Services Directory

We are looking into putting together a Peace Professional Services Directory. If you have a specialized field (contractor, painter, home/auto sales, etc.) which you would like listed in this directory, please email the church office at peacelutheran@peaceaa.net with your name, email address, contact phone number and the service you can provide.

Bible Study Groups Meeting at Peace. . . .

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible Study group meets Sunday mornings at 9:45am in the Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Homebuilder's Bible Study

The group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6:45pm at Peace. New members are always welcome! For more information, contact Todd or Heidi Biggs at 734-424-0843.

Wednesday Morning Adult Bible Class

The class is completing a study of "How We Got The Bible." In February, we will begin a study on Job. There is an empty chair waiting for you to fill it at Peace on Wednesdays at 10:00am.

Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study Breakfast

Men of Peace! – We will meet for our Breakfast and Bible Study on February 6th & 20th from 8:00am – 9:30am. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the church entry for you to sign up so we know how much food to prepare.

Stress Management Small Group Study

"Discovering Contentment in Stressful Times" is the title of this study group. The group meets at 10:00am Feb. 13th (topic: The Stress of Relationships), and Feb. 27th (topic: The Stress of Loss).

Bible Study Groups Meeting Outside of Peace. . .

Wednesday Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study group meets weekly on Wednesday mornings at 9:00am. What a great way to begin the New Year – learning more about your Father in Heaven! Meetings in February will be at the home of Sue Zalucha, 6700 Mast Road, Dexter. New people are always welcome. Questions and directions can be directed to Dorothey at 426-1535 or Sue 426-1969.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Are you struggling to find intimacy with God in the busyness of life? This Bible Study group will examine this issue in a 12 week Bible Study based on the book *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*, by Joanna Weaver. The group meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the home of Amanda Varblow. Contact Amanda at 734-433-9659 for directions or more information. You are welcome to bring your children!

Moveable Feast Bible Study

The Bible Study group meets twice a month for dinner and Bible Study. Contact Lynn and Ken Visel for locations, as the group rotates their location each meeting.

Moms in Touch International

If you have a heart for your student, their teacher(s), and your school district, there is a place to be supported and encouraged in lifting your concerns to our Father in Heaven. Moms in Touch have been a wonderful group of supportive moms and have greatly enhanced my prayer life. www.momsintouch.org is the web site where you can get connected to a group in your area, or you may call Dorothey Paulun at 426-1535 for a Dexter area group.

Helping With World Health Needs

Members of Peace have a chance to be directly involved in supporting the efforts of Lutherans in Medical Missions (LIMM), and it is so easy. Entitled **“HEARTS FOR WORLD HEALTH”** Peace is launching a new program to give us a chance to be directly involved in touching health needs in third world countries. And it can involve children as well! We have just seen the enormous needs in Haiti from the earthquake. Aid will flood in there as it should. But also of need throughout the third world is an effort to educate people to provide for the needs of their own people when relief workers leave. That is the work of LIMM.

On Feb. 7th, at both of our services, Betty Roon, a nurse at the University of Michigan Hospital, will speak to us about her work as a volunteer missionary with LIMM in starting a Community Health Education (CHE) program in various countries. She is currently working in Cambodia. Next fall she will be going to Thailand or Vietnam. For 14 years Betty has been involved in domestic and international missions here in the USA and in 26 other countries. The CHE program teaches local women nutrition, women and children's health, prevention and treatment of communicable diseases, and first aid. Women work in their villages providing care and educating people on the basics of health. As these CHE volunteers work with people, they are in need of the most basic supplies such as antibiotic creams, bandages, and the like. And, as fellow Christians and fellow Lutherans, they do it all in the name of Christ as an outreach of their local church.

Here is where we come in. Eventually a program will be in place for CHEs to fund replacement of these supplies. For now, especially since typhoons and flooding have made the needs so intense, we are being asked to purchase supplies for Betty to take to Cambodia when she goes this spring. Beginning Feb. 7th, a tree will be in the back of church with heart shaped ornaments on it indicating supplies needed. Please take at least one heart and purchase the supplies indicated on it, returning them to church by Feb. 28 in the receptacle which will be provided. Involve your kids in this, teaching them their partnership with far away Christians in meeting human needs in the name of our compassionate Lord Jesus. Help these women serve their communities as they bring the life changing message of Jesus Christ. Questions? Contact Pete & Pat Larsen or Diane DeVoogd.

Youth News & Events

Senior High Youth Events

You are invited to a Super Bowl party on February 7th at Peace. We'll meet at 6:15PM and watch the game (or just the commercials) on the big screen. We'll also have plenty of food and drinks. So invite some friends and join us for a great evening. Please RSVP to Abby so we know how many to prepare for.

7th & 8th Confirmation and Middle School Events

Students in the 7th and 8th Grade Confirmation Class have completed an overview of the “Story” of God's plan to restore people to His family. During February and March, they will be taking a closer look at the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. That will be followed up with a review of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as the 8th graders prepare for Confirmation the 1st Sunday in May.

Basketball Game!!

The Middle School students and their friends will be taking on their parents in a basketball game on Sunday, February 21st at 2:30 PM. We will be playing in the gym at the home of Steve and Lori Sarnes.

February Daily Bible Readings – from “The One Year Bible”, NLT

1. Matthew 21:23-46
2. Matthew 22:1-33
3. Matthew 22:34-23:12
4. Matthew 23:13-39
5. Matthew 24:1-28
6. Matthew 24:29-51
7. Matthew 25:1-30
8. Matthew 25:31-26:13
9. Matthew 26:14-46
10. Matthew 26:47-68
11. Matthew 26:69-27:14
12. Matthew 27:15-31
13. Matthew 27:32-66
14. Matthew 28:1-20
15. Mark 1:1-28

16. Mark 1:29-2:12
17. Mark 2:13-3:6
18. Mark 3:7-30
19. Mark 3:31-4:25
20. Mark 4:26-5:20
21. Mark 5:21-43
22. Mark 6:1-29
23. Mark 6:30-56
24. Mark 7:1-23
25. Mark 7:24-8:10
26. Mark 8:11-38
27. Mark 9:1-29
28. Mark 9:30-10:12

February Birthdays

Ted Aufdemberge	2/1
Deanna Steffey	2/7
Jane Harlow	2/8
Jason Biggs	2/15
Wendy VonTom	2/16
Megan Bauer	2/17

Louise Howland	2/18
Suzanne Korcek	2/20
Barb McCreadie	2/21
Chris Bacon	2/22
Claire DeVoogd	2/25

February Anniversaries

Ron & Alice Talbot	2/25	60 years
Becky & James Geer	2/28	12 years

Board of Directors

President:	Jim Korcek
Vice President:	Juan Ramos
Secretary:	Heidi Morgan-McNish
Treasurer:	Jessica Towers
Stewardship:	Stephanie Julian
Youth:	Bryan Varblow
Christian Growth:	Lynn Visel
Property:	Kevin Knapp

Elders

Bill Spargur – Head Elder
Todd Biggs
Carroll DeLancey
Jay Fredericks
Paul Larsen
Fred Schebor
Kurt Walworth

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734-424-0899 www.peaceaa.net email: peacelutheran@peaceaa.net

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 9:30am Playgroup</p> <p>10:30am Jackson Trippers</p> <p>7:00pm 4-H</p>	<p>2 9:30am Playgroup</p> <p>6:30pm Spanish Class</p>	<p>3 9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>4 12:00pm Dexter Kiwanis</p> <p>Abby at Family Life Meeting in Grand Blanc.</p> <p>6:15pm Hand Bells</p> <p>7:00pm 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team</p>	<p>5 <i>Abby & Pastor's Day Off</i></p> <p>7:00pm AA Group</p>	<p>6 8:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study</p>
<p>7 8:30am Worship with Communion</p> <p>9:45am Sunday School & Bible Class</p> <p>11:00am Worship with Communion</p> <p>6:15pm Sr. High Super Bowl Party</p>	<p>8 9:30am Playgroup</p>	<p>9 9:30am Playgroup</p> <p>9:00am Circuit Pastor Mtg. at CUA</p> <p>6:30pm Spanish Class</p> <p>6:45pm Home Builder's Study</p>	<p>10 9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Elder's Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00am Abby at Family Life Mtg.</p> <p>6:30pm Hand Bells</p> <p>7:00pm 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team</p>	<p>12 <i>Abby & Pastor's Day Off</i></p> <p>9:00am Quilter's</p> <p>7:00pm AA Group</p>	<p>13 10:00am Stress Management Small Group</p> <p>10:00am Family Shop at CUA</p>
<p>14 8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:45am Sunday School & Bible Class</p> <p>11:00am Worship</p> <p>3:00-5:30pm Secret Sisters</p>	<p>15 9:30am Playgroup</p>	<p>16 9:30am Playgroup</p> <p>6:30pm Spanish Class</p>	<p>17 9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study</p> <p>6:00pm Lenten Dinner</p> <p>7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service</p> <p>Director's meeting following the svc.</p>	<p>18 12:00pm Dexter Kiwanis</p> <p>6:15pm Hand Bells</p> <p>7:00pm 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team</p>	<p>19 <i>Abby & Pastor's Day Off</i></p> <p>7:00pm AA Group</p>	<p>20 8:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study</p>
<p>21 8:30am Worship with Communion</p> <p>9:45am Sunday School & Bible Class</p> <p>11:00am Worship with Communion</p> <p>2:30pm Basketball Middle School vs. Parents</p>	<p>22 9:30am Playgroup</p>	<p>23 9:30am Playgroup</p> <p>6:30pm Spanish Class</p> <p>6:45pm Home Builder's Study</p>	<p>24 9:00am Staff Devotions</p> <p>10:00am Adult Bible Study</p> <p>6:00pm Lenten Dinner</p> <p>7:00pm Lenten Worship Svc.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:15pm Hand Bells</p> <p>7:00pm 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>7:00pm Praise Team</p>	<p>26 <i>Abby & Pastor's Day Off</i></p> <p>9:00am Quilter's</p> <p>7:00pm AA Group</p>	<p>27 10:00am Stress Management Small Group</p>
<p>28 8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:45am Sunday School & Bible Class</p> <p>11:00am Worship</p>						