



Parables

A monthly publication of Peace Lutheran Church

October 2018



A Word from Pastor Keith

OUR MISSION:

Connecting people to Christ through discipleship

OUR VISION:

TO BUILD A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES WHO ARE ACTIVELY PURSUING CHRIST'S MISSION FOR THE CHURCH.

Matt. 28: 19-20



Brothers and sisters in Christ,

I recently returned from the annual retreat of the Society of the Holy Trinity (<http://www.societyholyltrinity.org>). The Society is a ministerium of Lutheran pastors from all different types of Lutheran church bodies who commit to living according to a Rule. The Rule, at its core, simply restates what Lutheran pastors vows to do at ordination: study God's Word, preach and teach according to it and the Lutheran confessions, pray daily, etc.

The Society is incredibly important because pastors are like everyone else – we can get so busy with life (job, family, friends) that we can fall to the temptation of putting aside prayer and worship. Pastors may get asked how many people were in worship or Sunday School... or how the latest program was... or how is giving... but pastors are almost never asked how their prayer life is or if they are spending enough time devotionally with the Bible (note: sermon and Sunday School prep are very different from reading the Bible devotionally!).

So I, and my fellow pastors, greatly treasure and need the time on retreats with the Society of the Holy Trinity. I attend chapter retreats twice a year in Wichita, and the General Retreat for the whole Society in Chicago every September. We get to worship without worrying about leading; we get to listen to sermons instead of preach them.

My spiritual tank is filled at these retreats, and I thank you for your willingness to let me go on such retreats. Quite simply, I am a better pastor because of the retreats. If you are interested in supporting the Society of the Holy Trinity beyond supporting my membership in it, please visit the website and find the Endowments page, or talk to me about it.

In His peace,

Pastor Keith



Peace Lutheran Church
 2600 East Danforth Road
 Edmond, OK 73034
 (405) 341-3205 (office)
 (405) 341-7630 (fax)
www.peace-lutheran.net

Worship Schedule

Worship: 8:15 and 10:45 am
 Christian Education Classes (all ages): 9:30 am

Office Phone Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Staff

Pastor.....Keith M. Falk
 Director of Youth & Family Ministries.....Scott Saxton
 Director of Music/Organist.....Tony Carrillo
 Director of PreschoolSonya Easley
 Office ManagerDonna Pflaum
 Facilities Manager.....Al Remi

Executive Board

Pastor.....Keith M. Falk
 Chair.....Joe Spahr
 Vice Chair.....Steve Wackerly
 Past President.....Susan Bedwell
 Financial Coordinator.....Kevin Clark
 Volunteer Coordinator.....Beverly Funderburk
 SecretaryCindy Houghton

Ministry Team Leaders

Finance and Planning.....Kevin Clark
 Discipleship.....Courtney Coghill
 EvangelismMary Kay Schroeder
 Worship & MusicPhil Coghill
 Facilities.....Al Remi
 Preschool.....Lori Clark



Peace Preschool

Peace Preschool had a wonderful start of the school year last month with 80 happy children coming through our doors.

About half of these children are experiencing school for the very first time! Making new friends, sharing with others, and learning school routines are all part of the developmental process. I find that our teachers at Peace are simply the best at helping children adjust to this new experience. We always begin with the units of “All About Me” and “Colors”. The children especially feel proud of themselves as they learn the Spanish words for all the colors. (Singing makes it easy!) Other favorite activities were red balloons on Red Day, making blueberry muffins on Blue Day, and reading Dr. Seuss’ classic “Green Eggs and Ham” on Green Day. As you can see in the picture, Miss Amy and Miss Melissa are doing some fun crafts right before they cook up some green eggs for the children to try at snack. Yum! Whether at Chapel time or in the classroom, September was a great month to share about God as our Wonderful Creator!



Blessings, Miss Sonya



Office Phone
 405-341-1659

Email
peacepreschool@peace-lutheran.net

Director
 Sonya Easley

Teachers
 Karen Chutek
 Lori Clark
 Mary Kay Schroeder

Administrative Staff
 Shelly Duke
 Kathryn Phillips

Connecting People to Christ
through discipleship



Kairos Prison Ministry Fall 4 Day 2018
Cimarron Correctional Facility, Cushing, Ok.
November 8-11, 2018

Jesus in the parable of the sheep and the goats told us that when we care for the least of his children we also care for him! He told us to take his message of love inside (Matthew 25:40). Kairos is an international prison ministry which has been serving God inside since 1976. It has a presence in over 350 prisons in the United States.

Again, this year Kairos will follow a historically successful program of presenting a 4 day weekend of carefully coordinated talks, discussions, chapel meditations and music led by volunteers. This 4 day experience may lead participants to a desire to become a Christian or to continue and enhance their present spiritual journey. After the weekend volunteers continue to come into the prison every week to assist in discipleship groups. In these groups men learn to support each other and grow together in their walk with Christ. This is the purpose of Kairos: to develop a stand-alone Christian community on the inside. This changes the prison environment! John Klinka, Gregg Hostetler, and Les Broker are active in this ministry. This falls’ 4 day weekend is November 8-11.

The members of Peace Lutheran Church can support this ministry in many ways. The first is pray! Pray for the men that are invited by the Chaplin to participate in the 4 day. Pray that the Holy Spirit would soften their hearts and open their minds to hear the Word of God. Pray for the Kairos team that they may form a unified group of servants to present the love of Christ during the weekend and through the weekly visits. And pray for the facility and the staff that they embrace this ministry. Secondly support Kairos financially. It costs approximately \$7000 to put on a weekend. John, Gregg and Les will be selling tax deductible meal tickets which will be used to purchase food. These tickets will be placed on the meal plates indicating the love and support for the inmates from those on the outside. Thirdly, bring packaged cookies to the church. Kairos is jokingly known as “the cookie ministry.” Over 5000 dozen cookies are used on a weekend. Kairos bags these cookies into 3500 individual bags and delivers them to every inmate on the facility twice over the weekend. This creates interest in the Kairos program and shows God’s love for all. Also, many cookies are used for snacks for the 42 men who attend the weekend. And fourth, fill out the prayer chain sheets which will be in the church over the coming months. These are cut into individual links which are brought into the gymnasium after a presentation of God’s love as shown through other people. This chain wraps around the gym at least three times and signifies God’s love brought to the prison from those of us on the outside. It is one of the main highlights for the inmates. Most of these men either did not have families as we know them or have been abandoned by their families over the years of their incarceration. And fifth write letters or sign posters at Kairos display letting the men inside know that there are others outside who want them to have a second chance through Christ love. All these above items are “AGAPE”– signs of God’s love for each of these incarcerated men delivered through God’s followers on the outside.

God created all of us and loves all of us. God’s forgiveness is not for the “good people” but for all of us because we are all sinners. Jesus said; “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners” as he ate with tax collectors and other less than desirable people (Mark 2:13-17). These men on the inside should be given the opportunity to have a second chance at life. A new start even if it is while they are serving their time. God offers us all second chances; we have all fallen short! Kairos brings your AGAPE into the prison environment as a symbol of God’s offer of love, mercy, forgiveness and hope. Kairos volunteers get to witness the effect of God’s love in the changed lives of these men on the weekend and in the continuing ministry of weekly visits. We get to see Christ’s love change the prison environment. Men that have a transformational faith experience on the inside have a much higher chance of remaining changed on the outside.

We thank the congregation of Peace Lutheran Church for supporting this ministry. We thank you for your direct and indirect participation with us in these four-day weekends. We know that not everyone wants to go into prison. We get that! Most of us who serve inside felt the same way at one point in time. But by helping us from the outside with your AGAPE you make a tremendous difference in men’s lives. Just ask any of us, John, Gregg and Les, to tell you stories of men who have seen the light of Christ. We would also invite you to join us for the Sunday afternoon closing to the 4 day weekend. If you are curious about the effect of the Kairos program on the inmates who participate ask one of us volunteers to get you the necessary forms and come and see at closing.

May God bless us all and thank you again from the Kairos team.

Your brother in Christ’s ministry, Les Broker



October Birthdays



10/2	Madge Arthur Hayden Bedwell Al Reml	10/15	Christopher Falk
10/3	Bradley Clark	10/17	Margot Schroeder
10/5	Atticus Candler	10/18	Angie Spahr
10/7	Ellie Doudican	10/19	Jane Ratke
10/8	Charles Jones	10/20	LouAnn Gallion
10/9	David Enterline Jeff Watts	10/21	Chuck Funderburk Dillon Prater Annabelle Watts
10/10	Gregg Hostetler	10/29	Keeton Jones
10/14	Lorna Clement Shelly Duke Laura Ezersky Arlen Rewerts Jackson Watts	10/31	Sharon Mellies Stan Dobler



October Anniversaries



10/10	Bob & Flo O'Reilly	54 years
10/10	Ron & Marilyn Powell	54 years
10/16	Arlen & Margaret Rewerts	59 years
10/23	Patrick & Donna Pflaum	25 years
10/27	Branson & Christy Cole	17 years

Happy Anniversary to all of you! Please let me know if I missed a birthday or anniversary. – Thanks, Donna

Small Groups and Classes

MONDAYS

Faith Builders Christ Care ~ 2nd & 4th Monday, 9 am, Parish Hall at Peace (Arlen Rewerts - 282-3774). Study: *The Holy Spirit* (repair, maintenance, cleanup projects on the 3rd Monday, 8:30 am at Peace).

TUESDAYS

Prime Time (for Senior Adults) ~ 1st Tuesday of the month (Sept.—May) at Noon, Parish Hall. Education, fellowship and activities for seniors, but all are welcome. Mission: support senior ministries and outreach in the community.

Women Growing in Grace ~ 2nd & 4th Tuesday evenings (Cynthia Baim 348-2925). Mission: Edmond Mobile Meals, Citizens Caring for Children, and school supplies.

WEDNESDAYS

Women Exploring the Bible (WEB) ~ Wednesdays, 9:15am, Parish Hall at Peace (Jane Ratke 478-8524). Childcare is provided.

Revelation ~ Wednesdays, 6:30 pm in Room 203 led by Pastor Keith. Childcare is provided.

THURSDAYS

Men's Fellowship & Study ~ Thursdays, 6:00 am at Denny's on 2nd Street in Edmond. (Paul Ratke 359-9267). Join in at any time!

Women of Peace ~ 1st Thursday of the month, 9:30 am, conference room at Peace (Jan Collins 341-9390).

SATURDAYS

Men's Fellowship Breakfast ~ First Saturday of each month, 7:00 am in the Parish Hall at Peace. Breakfast and fellowship in one hour or less! (Paul Ratke 359-9267).



Worship & Music October 2018

Sunday Worship Schedule for September

Sunday, October 7 8:15am & 10:45am **Organ Led**

Sunday, October 14 8:15am **Organ Led** 10:45am **Revive Band Led**

Sunday, October 21 8:15am & 10:45am **Organ Led**

Reformation Sunday, October 28, 8:15am **Organ Led** 10:45am **Revive Band Led**

Tony Carrillo, Director of Music

Sanctuary Choir Workshop - Rescheduled:

When: Saturday, October 6, 2018

Where: Music Room and Parish Hall

When: 10am-3pm

Purpose: To Rehearse Christmas Music – the Cantata –“Festival of Carols” ~Martin and other Christmas anthems.

All are invited to join us as we lift our voices in celebration of our Lord.

The Marks of Discipleship

We believe that as a discipleship church we will individually strive to: **PRAY** daily, **WORSHIP** weekly, **READ** the **BIBLE** regularly, **SERVE** at and beyond our church, **ENCOURAGE** spiritual growth in others through relationships and fellowship, **SHARE** our time, talents and resources. We believe it is the calling of the pastor and lay leaders to equip the congregation to do the ministry of the church. Eph 4:11-12

2018 FALL BREAK

Wednesday, October 17 – **NO** Rehearsal for:

- + Little Angel Choir,
- + Joyful Noise Choir,
- + Celebration Youth Bells
- + Canticle Ringers - Adult Bells

Thursday, October 18 – **NO** Rehearsal for Sanctuary Choir

Youth and Family News

Camp
Lutherhoma
Fall Force
November 16-18, 2018



PLC parents,

Camp Lutherhoma is excited to offer a new retreat opportunity for our younger children. Fall Force, November 16-18, is a weekend retreat designed for the children 8-12 years old in our church and community. The hope is this new retreat will be a blessing to the younger youth, since there is so much available to the older youth. Through this fun weekend program the hope is that campers will reconnect with friends and counselors they may have met at summer camp, create new relationships, grow in their faith as they study God's word, and perhaps experience Camp Lutherhoma for the first time. The retreat will be led by the summer camp coun-

selor who are eager to share God's love with each camper!

All Campers will be divided by age and gender to live in cabin groups led and supervised by college-age Camp Lutherhoma summer counselors. We will register as a Group. We need to have our registration complete and sent to Lutherhoma no later than Monday, November 5th. We will travel together after school in a van on November 16th, eating dinner on the way there, and begin our Check-in at Lutherhoma between 8-9pm. We will then begin our activities with an all-camp activity at approximately 9pm. We will end our weekend with a Closing worship service at 11:00am on November 18th, and leave Lutherhoma for Edmond immediately after worship.

Goals for the weekend are:

- Reconnect with friends and counselors they may have met at summer camp.
- Create new friendships.
- Grow in their faith as they study God's word.
- Possibly experience Camp Lutherhoma for the first time through this weekend format.

AGES and COST:

- 8-12 year old campers
- \$130 per camper

A sign-up sheet is on the YFM table in the PLC Narthex for those youth who are interested. Registration WILL BE COMPLETED no later than November 5th.

Scott Saxton, Director of Youth and Family Ministries

LOFT-Letting Our Faith Thrive. .

is the High School (9th-12th grade) youth group that meets Wednesday nights for food, fun, fellowship and faith-formation. We look forward to seeing all of you high school youth at LOFT!!

LUFF-Letting Us Find Faith. . .

is the 6th-8th grade youth group that meets on Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00 pm. We're in the Yellow Room upstairs. See you there!

LUCK-Lifting Up Christ King...

is the K-5th grade youth group that meets on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:00 pm September—May in the KMotion Room downstairs on the Sunday School wing. Join us for dinner and fun!

Can you Sponsor pizza for LOFT???

If you are interested in sponsoring one of the LOFT Wednesday night pizza meals, please see Scott Saxton.

Can you Sponsor a LUCK dinner?

If you are interested in sponsoring one of the Wednesday evening meals for our youngest youth group, please see Scott Saxton or Elena Falk.

PEACE PIECES

Interested in joining Peace?

Interested in learning more about Peace Lutheran Church or even joining? Please contact Pastor Keith at pastorkeith@peace-lutheran.net or 405-341-3205.

Peace Lutheran Core Values

The Core Values have been put into a booklet form and placed in the bookcase in the Narthex. Please use them to show visitors who we are at Peace Lutheran Church and what we are about. Feel free to take them home to show neighbors, family, and friends.

Prayer Chains Link us to God

PRAYER IS POWERFUL

The Peace WEB Group (Women Exploring the Bible) maintains a prayer chain ministry (via e-mail) for those having special needs. If you would like to join the chain or add someone to the Prayer List, contact Mary Hendrickson at mhend@cox.net.

Wall of Crosses



Please continue to bring in a cross to represent your family to add to our Wall of Crosses display. Bring your cross with name on it to the front office.

Flowers for the Altar

The **2018 Flower Chart** is posted on the bulletin board across from the Parish Hall. To donate flowers, write your name on a date line of the chart. The office will send an email reminder and ask that you share any dedications or acknowledgments at that time. Check the bulletin board for the Guidelines for Altar Flowers.



Let's make 2018 a year of beautiful flowers for our Sanctuary!

**Check your mailbox
in the Parish Hall!**

Wear your nametags!

www.peace-lutheran.net

Parables Deadline: 20th of the month
Bulletin insert deadline: Tuesday by noon
(very brief information for the Sunday Insert)

Please forward your article to:
donna@peace-lutheran.net or drop off a copy at the front office by the appropriate date. Include your photos or graphics for the *Parables*.

Peace Calendar

A copy of the church calendar for the next 2 months can be found outside the office workroom for your reference.

To Schedule an event at Peace...

Please contact the church office during work hours to schedule an event or request a room. A Calendar Event Request form must be completed. If you wish to reschedule or cancel an event, please remember to contact the church office.

A Simple and Convenient Way to Give

Consider signing up for electronic giving. Peace relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. Contact Donna Pflaum for details.



Check Request Policy

All check requests for reimbursement must be approved before a check can be cut. Checks take about 7-10 days to be processed. Please see Donna Pflaum if you have any questions.

Security at Peace

Security is everyone's concern and responsibility. If you have a meeting or event at Peace and are the last one to leave, please be sure that all doors are locked when you depart the premises. **Keep the doors locked while inside.** Encourage your meeting participants to use the doorbell instead of keeping the door unlocked.



HOW IT WORKS

ACTION TEAM

Thank you to all who have applied for the Thrivent Action Team gift cards to support one of our ministries here at Peace.

Think about an unmet need in your community and how you could help. Apply to lead your volunteer team in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Once your project is approved, you'll receive a Thrivent Action Kit, including:

- Promotional banner.
- Invitations and thank-you cards.
- Thrivent Action Team T-shirts.

A \$250 Community Impact Card you can use as seed money to get your project off the ground and make a bigger impact.

~ Cooks' Night Out ~ Friday October 19 @ 5:00 pm Come join the line...



~ Cooks' Night Out ~
Third Friday of Every Month

Get **Involved**
unteer...and EAT FREE!

All ages are welcome and appreciated!

Contact Velta Johnston for information on how you can help at:
veltajohnston@gmail.com



Parents and Youth!

Get the latest news and stay updated on what's happening with Peace Lutheran Youth and Family Ministry. **Text @33218 to 81010.**

This is the **REMINd** short code we created. You can join the group without sharing personal information.

Get the latest on LOFT/LUFF/LUCK events, time changes, and weather notifications that impact this ministry. You can sign up as a student or parent and choose to receive messages by text.

REMINd is FREE to join!



 remind

Thank you to all who donated to Noisy Offering in September! Through your generosity, Peace Lutheran Church was able to give **\$175.00** to Edmond Pregnancy Resources.

The God of Chocolate—Cynthia Mendenhall

A devotion from the book If I Can Do All Things Through Christ...Why Can't I Find My Car Keys?

"If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you." James 1:5

Ruth Ann answered her door with a hug, and I timidly handed her a chocolate bar.

She gasped, "Oh, no!" My heart sank as she covered her face and began to cry. Certain I had messed up, I offered Ruth Ann another quick hug and nervously waited.

Ruth Ann is homebound and receives regular visits from our women's ministry, which is why I was there. Before going, I had asked God if there was some tangible way I could encourage her. I was thinking fresh flowers, a special Scripture, or a magazine, maybe. I often distrusted my ability to discern God's voice and direction, so I hesitated when the thought popped into my mind: *Take a chocolate bar.*

Really, God? I doubted. I had stumbled upon a sale at Godiva, so I had a small stash. It almost seemed too easy, though-too small a gift to be significant.

God said, "Trust me, take it."

I grabbed one chocolate bar as I left my house but still doubted. What if she doesn't like chocolate—especially dark chocolate? She may even be diabetic. If it hadn't been such a hot sunny day, I probably would have left it in my car rather than be embarrassed by giving such a small gift to someone whom I had come to love. *God repeated, "Take it to her."* I obeyed, and now this sweet woman was in tears.

Once Ruth Ann regained enough composure to speak, she blubbered, "How—how did you know...how did you know I wanted a chocolate bar?"

"Um," I began hesitantly, "I asked God what I should bring you."

She continued, "I have wanted a chocolate bar for weeks. I even asked the girl who picks up my groceries to buy one for me, but she said it was too hot in the car. She bought hard mints instead. God sent this to me."

By this time, I was crying too. I was surprised God could use me in such a simple way. He proved that day he will honor even my smallest requests for guidance. I had no other way of knowing Ruth Ann wanted chocolate. I only had to ask him.

We both laughed later, agreeing we were thankful and encouraged that we serve a God of Chocolate!

Find the Joy: The next time you are in the grocery store, ask God how you can be a blessing to someone in your life. Then get the items you feel he is leading you to buy, and drop them off on the way home.