THE PARABLES

Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

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April 2021

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Sunday Worship

8:00 am & 10:30 am

Facebook Live at 10:30 am

Sunday School Begins @
9:15 am Children
9:30 am Adult

Sunday service will be posted on Peace's Website on Monday morning.

Office Hours 8:30—1:30 pm M-Th ***Newsletter Information due by Tuesday at noon***

2600 E Danforth Road, Edmond, OK 73034 ***(405) 341-3205*** ***Website: www.peace-lutheran.net***

CHURCH CALENDAR—APRIL 2021

1
MAUNDY THURSDAY
4pm Cheer 4 Christ
6:30pm Worship
7pm Praise Band Practice

2
GOOD FRIDAY
6:30pm Worship

4
RESURRECTION SUNDAY (EASTER)
8am Worship
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Sunday Worship
2pm VERADEN WORSHIP

5
6:30pm Troop 386 Boy Scouts
7pm Way of Life

6
9am Staff Meeting
9:30am WEB PH
4pm Cheer 4 Christ

7
9:30am Women of Peace PHX
5pm HANDBELLS
6pm Youth Group - LUFF/LOFT
7pm Way of Life

8
4pm Cheer 4 Christ
6:30pm Finance Ministry Meeting
7pm Praise Band Practice

10
11 am—1 pm BSA Court of Honor

11
8am Worship
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Sunday Worship
2pm VERADEN WORSHIP

12
9am FAITH BUILDERS
6:30pm **Executive Board Meeting**
6:30pm Troop 386 Boy Scouts
7pm Way of Life

13
9am Staff Meeting
9:30am WEB PH
4pm Cheer 4 Christ

14
5pm HANDBELLS
6pm Youth Group - LUFF/LOFT
7pm Way of Life

15
4pm Cheer 4 Christ
7pm Praise Band Practice

17
Troop 386 Parking lot Fundraiser

18
8am Katelynn Marie Prater Baptism
8am Worship
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Sunday Worship
2pm VERADEN WORSHIP

19
6:30pm Blue Star Mothers
6:30pm Troop 386 Boy Scouts
7pm Way of Life

20
9am Staff Meeting
9:30am WEB PH
4pm Cheer 4 Christ

21
5pm HANDBELLS
6pm Youth Group - LUFF/LOFT
7pm Way of Life

22
4pm Cheer 4 Christ
7pm Praise Band Practice

25
8am Worship
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Sunday Worship
2pm VERADEN WORSHIP

26
6:30pm Troop 386 Boy Scouts
7pm Way of Life

27
9am Staff Meeting
9:30am WEB PH
4pm Cheer 4 Christ

28
5pm HANDBELLS
6pm Youth Group - LUFF/LOFT
7pm Way of Life

29
4pm Cheer 4 Christ
7pm Christian Education mtg
7pm Praise Band Practice

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3 Jett Pruitt
4 Amy Pruitt
5 Susan Bedwell
6 Harrison Walters
Hudson Pruitt
7 Macie Cohlmia
11 Bob Schmidt
Natalie Naegeli
16 Caleb Saxton
17 Mary Hendrickson
18 Flo O'Reilly
19 Kathryn Phillips
Lena Broker
21 Benjamin Watts
23 Helen Aanes
Leon Collins
24 Abby Schroeder
25 Hank Borck
Jim Bartlett

FROM PASTOR ORREY

Dear Sisters and Brothers of PLC,

One of the best (and shortest!) Easter sermons I've ever read was written in the 4th century by St. John Chrysostom. "Chrysostom" in Greek means "golden-tongued." John received this name because of his eloquence: the man knew how to turn a phrase. This sermon is his best known. It's saturated with Scripture and declares without equivocation the hope and joy that Christ's resurrection gives to us.

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice!

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Are there any who are devout lovers of God? Let them enjoy this beautiful bright festival! Are there any who are grateful servants? Let them rejoice and enter into the joy of their Lord! Are there any weary with fasting? Let them now receive their wages! If any have toiled from the first hour, let them receive their due reward; if any have come after the third hour, let him with gratitude join in the feast! And he that arrived after the sixth hour, let him not doubt; for he too shall sustain no loss. And if any delayed until the ninth hour, let him not hesitate; but let him come, too. And he who arrived only at the eleventh hour, let him not be afraid by reason of his delay. For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first. He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, as well as to him that toiled from the first.

To this one He gives, and upon another He bestows. He accepts the works as He greets the endeavor. The deed He honors and the intention He commends. Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord! First and last alike receive your reward; rich and poor, rejoice together! Sober and slothful, celebrate the day! You that have kept the fast, and you that have not, rejoice today for the table is richly laden! Feast royally on it, the calf is a fatted one. Let no one go away hungry. Partake, all, of the cup of faith. Enjoy all the riches of His goodness! Let no one grieve at his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again; for forgiveness has risen from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Death of our Savior has set us free. He has destroyed it by enduring it. He destroyed Hell when He descended into it. He put it into an uproar even as it tasted of His flesh.

Isaiah foretold this when he said, "You, O Hell, have been troubled by encountering Him below." Hell was in an uproar because it was done away with. It was in an uproar because it is mocked. It was in an uproar, for it is destroyed. It is in an uproar, for it is annihilated. It is in an uproar, for it is now made captive.

Hell took a body, and discovered God. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it did not see. O death, where is thy sting? O Hell, where is thy victory? Christ is risen, and you, O death, are annihilated! Christ is risen, and the evil ones are cast down! Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice! Christ is risen, and life is liberated! Christ is risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ having risen from the dead, has become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen!

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Forgiveness has risen from the grave! Let us rejoice during this Easter season!

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

Peace Lutheran Church
Executive Board Meeting

Monday, March 8, 2021

Draft minutes – not yet approved

I will give them a heart to know Me, for I am the LORD; and they will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with their whole heart. -Jeremiah 24:7

Gregg Hostetler	**Joe Palmer**	**Joe Spahr**
Susan Bedwell	**Mike Freeman**	**Pastor Orrey McFarland**
Phil Coghill	**Les Broker**	

Guests: Cathy McVay, Ron Powell

Meeting was opened with devotion and prayer from Pastor Orrey McFarland at 6:32pm.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Joe Palmer and seconded by Susan Bedwell to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2021 Executive Board meeting with a request to add comments regarding the OKC Heat volleyball group to the discussion about PLC's COVID precautions. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Financials: Updated financial reports for February 2021 were circulated by email prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Susan Bedwell and seconded by Phil Coghill to approve the report. **Motion carried unanimously.**

COVID-19 Update: Susan Bedwell reported that case counts and hospitalizations have dropped off significantly in both the OKC metro area and the state. The Edmond mask mandate will likely be allowed to expire on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. The social distancing requirement is likely to remain in force for some time. Some members of the Executive Board spoke in favor of removing the mask requirement immediately, while others suggested waiting until after Easter due to the likelihood of higher attendance making it difficult to socially distance. An additional proposal was suggested that a section of the sanctuary or the cry room be set aside for those who do not want to wear masks, however there were concerns that would create unwanted divisions among the congregation. **The Executive Board agreed to survey the congregation regarding the continued use of masks in worship once the mandate is lifted.**

Budget Proposal: Most, if not all, of the ministry teams have completed their budgets based on the numbers disseminated from Finance. The Finance Team will need to make additional modifications to the administrative part of proposal at their next monthly meeting. **The Executive Board agreed to table this item until its April meeting with the goal of holding the biannual congregational meeting in May.**

Parsonage Property: The Executive Board reviewed and approved the proposed agenda for the Special Congregational Meeting to be held on March 14, 2021.

BOARD CONTINUED

New Business

San Miguel Lutheran Church Proposal: The Executive Board reviewed the project update from Lynn Kickingbird that was distributed by email. The board approved the agreement regarding the role of PLC in collecting and distributing funds. Concerns were raised about whether the proposal would necessitate additional effort from the church secretary position which already has most of its time spoken for. It was agreed that most of the responsibility for this project would be taken up by volunteers from the Missions Team.

Ministry Team Updates

Facilities: The Facilities Team requested the Executive Board approve two changes to the building use policy. The first change requires ministry teams to partner with the Facilities Team before making permanent changes to the facility. The second change states that, in the event of a closure of the PLC facility, no use of the facility will be permitted including members and outside groups. **A motion to adopt the proposed changes carried unanimously.**

Christian Ed: The Christian Education team needs help recruiting volunteers to re-open the nursery.

Board Reminders & FYIs

The Gideons made a generous donation of two Bibles to Peace Lutheran Church in honor of Pastor McFarland's installation. A copy of the postcard that was sent to Gregg Hostetler will be distributed to the congregation.

The special congregational meeting to discuss the parsonage property will be held between worship services on Sunday, March 14, 2021.

Next meeting: Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:30pm

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:07pm.

FACILITIES MINISTRY

The Facilities ministry has been hard at work this past month!

- The ladies restroom is coming along nicely and should be ready after Easter.
- The restoration on the classrooms is in progress.
- The congregation approved the sale of the parsonage and talks are in the works to put it on the market.
- Thank you to everyone who came out to help clean out the classrooms after the flooding.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School for Children and Youth

9:15 a.m.

Children Sunday mornings in the K-motion room.

Confirmation (6th—8th grades) Upstairs in Confirmation room.

High School (9th—12th) Upstairs in the High School room.

Classrooms for the elementary, confirmation, and high school classes have temporarily changed due to the restoration repairs.

9:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School in the Parish Hall

Wednesday nights @ 6:30 p.m.

LOFT 9th-12th grades

LUFF 6th—8th grades

Courtney Coghill, David Ezersky, and Angie Spahr lead this group to encourage Christian relationships through bible study, missions, and food.

Summer Sunday school begins May 30. Anyone interested in teaching either elementary and middle school classes, please email Jane Ratke at ratke1@cox.net.

Senior Recognition Day

May 23, 2021

Please send your senior picture and a short write-up of your accomplishments in school and at Peace to donna@peace-lutheran.net by May 16.

Peace Lutheran Church
Student Scholarship

Each year, Peace likes to recognize it's High School seniors by offering scholarship money to one of it's members who exemplifies Christian youth today. If you would like to apply for this scholarship, please fill out an application found outside the office door. You may return it to the same box when you are finished by April 29th. Recipient will be announced on Senior Recognition Day, May 23.

For those members wishing to help fund the scholarship, please make your check out to Peace Scholarship and put in the donations box in the narthex no later than May 1st.

Summer Registration NOW OPEN!!! Summer 2021 Theme: "The Time Of Grace"
NEW THIS SUMMER: Summer Family Camp, July 4-8.
Come for the whole week, Sunday-Thursday, or for a shorter stay of 1,2, or 3 days.

Summer 2021 Promotional Video on YouTube:

Information	Youth and Teen	Family Programs	Summer Schedule	F A Q	Adventure Options	Summer Theme	Summer Staff

2021 SESSIONS	AGES	DATES	COST
Work Weekend	Families	May 28-31	Free
Force 1	9-12	June 13-18	$430/$400 Early
Kinetic 1	7-9	June 13-18	$430/$400 Early
Mommy/Daddy and Me	Families	June 18-20	$120/$100 Early
Force 2	9-12	June 20-25	$430/$400 Early
Kinetic 2	7-9	June 20-25	$430/$400 Early
Force 3	9-12	June 27-July 2	$430/$400 Early
Rock and Ride Adventure Trip	14-18	June 27-July 2	$430/$400 Early
Summer Family Camp	Families	July 4-8(Thursday)	TBD
Force 4	9-12	July 11-16	$430/$400 Early
Energy 1	13-15	July 11-16	$430/$400 Early
Force 5	9-12	July 18-23	$430/$400 Early
Energy 2	13-15	July 18-23	$430/$400 Early
Dynamic	14-18	July 25-30	$430/$400 Early

Christian Ed has camp scholarship money available to help defray the cost for those who may need it. Contact Jane Ratke at ratke1@cox.net for more information.

PRAYER VIGIL

HOLY WEEK PRAYER VIGIL

WHEN: Good Friday Morning at 9 AM until 10 PM (with 1.0 hours out for the service at 6:30); Saturday 7AM – 12 Noon.

WHAT: A Journey through 6 Prayer Stations in the Sanctuary; Praying from Home

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Prayer Vigil is to grow as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ by:

Being obedient to God's Word – "…pray constantly…, "…

Spending time for quiet and extended reflection during this most holy of days

Praying for and reflecting on the needs of the congregation and the Greater Church

Praying for concerns, needs and blessings of people and ministries.

Growing in relationship with our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Several people can cycle through the prayer stations at one time. It is hoped that between people at home and praying in person all time slots will be filled.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Thanks to Peace Lutheran Hand Bells

+ Congratulations to the Peace Lutheran Hand Bells who did a beautiful job playing for Prelude and Communion on Resurrection Sunday, April 4. May GOD bless your efforts!

2021 Resurrection Liturgy

Starting with Resurrection Sunday, April 4, thru Sunday, May 30, HOLY TRINITY we will transition to the recognizable and much-loved Liturgy – With One Voice, HOLY COMMUNION, Light of CHRIST, Setting 4.

We are so Blessed to Worship a Remarkable, Breathtaking and Awe-inspiring GOD with Extraordinary Liturgies!!!

Message from the Peace Lutheran Music Department:

"May 2021 Holy Week and Resurrection of Our Lord fill your hearts with Joy, Thankfulness, and Praise of our Awesome God, Savior, and Holy Spirit."

PEACE PRESCHOOL

Peace Lutheran Church Preschool
2600 E. Danforth
Edmond, OK 73034
405.341.1659
www.peace-lutheran.net/preschool

The children were so excited to move into their "new temporary classrooms" on March 1 with some new challenges in place. However, the stairs do not seem to bother the preschoolers at all and the teachers are determined to "get fit" while climbing them several times a day! We all DO mis the playground being right outside our classroom door, but are so thankful that Peace Preschool was able to continue after the flood. God is Good!

March was full of two fun holidays. First, the children were able to celebrate an early St. Patrick's Day before Spring Break. Some mischievous but "friendly" leprechauns played little tricks all week but in the end were quite nice. They left a penny trail that led to a pot of gold (candy, of course) and the children were delighted. Our last week of March was a wonderful time to share the Easter story of our risen Lord through books, crafts, and the "resurrection eggs". Our once-a-week Chapel is always a significant time to share bible stories and the children had fun parading into the sanctuary for a Palm Sunday Procession. Pastor Orrey will continue the Easter story explaining the Last Supper, Resurrection and Jesus' return. At Peace Preschool, we place a high priority on nurturing the spiritual development of these young ones as well as their social and cognitive skills.

Enrollment for the Fall is coming along quite nicely and it looks like Peace will be able to bring back one of the two main classes that we had to drop because of Covid. We have felt the Hand of God covering our school this past year as all our new safety precautions have been a huge success. Parents were receptive to the new restrictions and have not only willingly complied, but have praised our efforts. Several of these new procedures will remain in place for the Fall. What an amazing Provider our Lord has been!

In Christ's Love, Miss Sonya

Preschool Enrollment Open

Priority enrollment for church families is open for the 2021-2022 school year. We will offer preschool classes for Older 2's – 5 year olds. Enrollment packets are available on the preschool bulletin board in the education wing or at www.peace-lutheran.net/preschool. Please return your enrollment form and fee to Sonya Easley by January 31 before enrollment opens to the public. If you have any questions, please contact Sonya at 341-1659 (office) or peacepreschool@peace-lutheran.net.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Year B

Apr 1
Maundy Thursday
Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Apr 2
Good Friday
Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1—19:42

Apr 3
Resurrection of Our Lord—Vigil of Easter
Romans 6:3-11
John 20:1-18

Apr 4
Resurrection of Our Lord—Easter Day
Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43
Mark 16:1-8 or John 20:1-18

Apr 5
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Genesis 1:1-19
1 Corinthians 15:35-49

Apr 6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Genesis 1:20—2:4a
1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Apr 7
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Song of Solomon 3:1-11
Mark 16:1-8

Apr 8
Psalm 133
Daniel 1:1-21
Acts 2:42-47

Apr 9
Psalm 133
Daniel 2:1-23
Acts 4:23-31

Apr 10
Psalm 133
Daniel 2:24-49
John 12:44-50

Apr 11
Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1—2:2
John 20:19-31

Apr 12
Psalm 135
Daniel 3:1-30
1 John 2:3-11

Apr 13
Psalm 135
Daniel 6:1-28
1 John 2:12-17

Apr 14
Psalm 135
Isaiah 26:1-15
Mark 12:18-27

Apr 15
Psalm 4
Daniel 9:1-19
1 John 2:18-25

Apr 16
Psalm 4
Daniel 10:2-19
1 John 2:26-28

Apr 17
Psalm 4
Acts 3:1-10
Luke 22:24-30

Apr 18
Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

Apr 19
Psalm 150
Jeremiah 30:1-11a
1 John 3:10-16

Apr 20
Psalm 150
Hosea 5:15—6:6
2 John 1-6

Apr 21
Psalm 150
Proverbs 9:1-6
Mark 16:9-18

Apr 22
Psalm 23
Genesis 30:25-43
Acts 3:17-26

Apr 23
Psalm 23
Genesis 46:28—47:6
Acts 4:1-4

Apr 24
Psalm 23
Genesis 48:8-19
Mark 6:30-34

Apr 25
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

Apr 26
Psalm 95
1 Samuel 16:1-13
1 Peter 5:1-5

Apr 27
Psalm 95
1 Chronicles 11:1-9
Revelation 7:13-17

Apr 28
Psalm 95
Micah 7:8-20
Mark 14:26-31

Apr 29
Psalm 22:25-31
Amos 8:1-7
Acts 8:1b-8

Apr 30
Psalm 22:25-31
Amos 8:11-13
Acts 8:9-25

BIBLE STUDIES AT PEACE

Women Growing in Grace
2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Ladies looking for an evening Bible study are invited to join the Women Growing in Grace on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. . Masks and social distancing will be observed as we gather around the tables to study God's Word. If you are interested in joining, call Cynthia Baim at 405-850-8884.

Women of Peace
1st Wednesday

This bible study group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at Peace. If you are interested in joining this lovely group of ladies, please contact Jan Collins at jmariec@cox.net. Masks and social distancing procedures will be followed.

Faith Builders
2nd Monday

If you are looking for a Monday morning bible study for you and your spouse, or just yourself, Faith Builders is the one for you! This group meets on the 2nd Monday at 9:00 a.m. at Peace. For more information, contact Arlen Rewerts at (405) 282-3774.

Women Exploring the Bible (WEB)
Tuesdays

WEB (Women Exploring the Bible) meets Tuesdays at 9:30 am in the Parish Hall. We will be studying the Parables of Jesus and how they relate to lives today. Come join us every Tuesdays to be uplifted in God's Word through reading, studying, discussing and praying together! Study led by Jane Ratke. (ratke1@cox.net)

Ways to Give

Please continue to give to the Church if you are able by:

- Mailing in your contribution

-PLC has a Vanco account and a Paypal account.

Thank you for your continued support of Peace!

In our Prayers. . . . .

Members:

David Coghill
Jay Doudican
Jan and David Enterline
Chuck Nestander
Mel & Sherry Stensrud
Nelda Wallace

Friends and family:

Sandra Roberts
John and Karen
Sean—ALS
Ron Hamm
Roman Hajek
Carl Hostetler
Helen Hindman
Liam
Noelle
Maryann
Mike Marshall
George Matheson
Greg Nortz

Missions

Didi and Serafina Panzo
San Miguel Lutheran Church, Pr. Ron Portillo
Oaks Indian Mission
Project 66 Food Pantry

Please let the church know if you have a special prayer request at ***donna@peace-lutheran.net.***

Online Resources

Daily Devotions – www.thenalc.org/reading/

Family Devotions – www.holyfamilytime.com A resource of the NALC & Sola Publishing

Sola Publishing - www.solapublishing.com/ Under HOME – Free Resources

For Parents – www.ministry-to-children.com