

**PEACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

91 WERNEX LOOP
SELAH, WA 98942
509-697-4353

**Pastor
Mark Griesse**

Office Hours
9:00-12:00

Mon. & Thu. @ Peace

Tue. & Wed. @
Bethlehem

Afternoons by Appointment

**Secretary
Tammy Peterson**

9:00-1:00
Mon-Fri

Sunday Worship
9:00 a.m.

**Sunday Adult
Bible Class**
10:30 a.m.

Website
peacelutheran-
church.360unite.com

Email
peacelutheranselah@gmail.com



Messenger of Peace

Dear Members and Friends

Transfiguration Sunday (February 23) is the one Sunday in the church year when the story of Jesus going up a mountain with the inner circle of his disciples is told. Before the eyes of Peter, James and John, Jesus was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes were as white as light. In addition, there appeared before the disciples, two other figures from the ancient past, Elijah and Moses.

It must have been an amazing experience. They were not sure how to react. First they reacted in fear, but Jesus comes and touches them. They look up and he is the same as he was before, no one was with him, and he bids them come down the mountain. Before we can truly understand the glory of God we need to understand his power over sin and death, which is what the resurrection is all about.

You see it is not an accident that the Church has chosen to make Transfiguration Sunday the transitional Sunday between Epiphany and Lent. We begin the Church Year with Advent, a season of repentance and anticipation of the coming Messiah. Christmas proclaims that a Savior has come, born in Bethlehem, born of a woman, born under the law that he might redeem those under the law.

The Epiphany Season follows Christmas and tells how Jesus the light of the World has come into the world to illuminate us. In this Season of Epiphany we learn about Jesus and his message of salvation. We learn that he is the fulfillment of the law of God. The Law given by Moses on Mt. Sinai had to be kept. The people of Israel demonstrated that they were unable to keep the commands of God. For salvation to come to the world the Law had to be fulfilled and Jesus is the one who is able to do it.

On Ash Wednesday (February 26) we will enter into the season of Lent. Lent is a dark season. It is a season of suffering, of denial, of betrayal, and of death. In this season we examine the passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, his innocent suffering and death on our behalf.

Continued next page...

Continued from page 1...

Transfiguration Sunday forms the bridge. It is the transitional Sunday between a season of light and illumination and a season of darkness and death. It is a reality check Sunday. Things were going so well, it seemed, for the ministry of Jesus. He had been healing the sick, he had been casting out demons, he had changed water into wine, and he had fed five thousand people with 5 small barley loaves and two small fish. People had noticed; there was a great deal of interest in this Jesus of Nazareth.

Maybe that is why Jesus only took his trusted inner circle of disciples up on the mountain to see his glory. They would be the ones who would follow him all the way. They would see him suffer, they would see him mistreated by the authorities, they would see him die a criminal's death on a cross. They would have to understand that the way to glory with God is not a way paved with luxury and ease. They got a glimpse of his glory, but they would get a full dose of his agony. Being a Christian does not make you immune to suffering. Christians suffer just as much as anyone else. They get sick and die just like everyone else. Cut a Christian and he bleeds red blood, just like everyone else.

The message is that it is through the way of the cross that salvation came. Jesus' agony and death was God's way of saving the world from the consequences of sin. Those who are called to follow Jesus are called to follow him on the way of the cross. The comfort that comes to Christians is that even in the midst of suffering they can know that Jesus is with them. They can see the glory at the end of the way of suffering.

As Christians, even though we have suffering, disappointment, and loss we also have hope. The hope of Christianity is that through the suffering of Jesus we have been rescued from the fate of eternal death and hell.

The glory that the disciples saw, we see. Oh, we don't see it all the time, but there are glimpses. Perhaps you have had a glimpse or two of the glory of Christ. An experience that confirmed your faith, a high point when you felt really close to Jesus, a time when you knew you were in his loving hands. These are not everyday occurrences, and most of the time we live rather normal and mundane lives. Every once in a while, however, God shows us his love. It might be through another Christian, or through your parents, or through your spouse, when God shows you a glimpse of his unconditional love, grace, and mercy. Certainly we can see the cross. There God shows his love for mankind by punishing a sinless Jesus for the rest of the human race, and thereby setting us free from sins penalty.

~~Pastor Griesse

* * * * *

February O.W.L.S. Lunch

O.W.L.S. will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on **Friday, February 7th at Red Lobster** in Yakima). If you plan to attend please let Marcia know at 697-4543 or at shotwell@elltel.net.



The next **Men's Night Out** is scheduled for **Monday, February 17th**. All Peace Lutheran men and a guest are invited to meet at Tailgaters in Selah at 6:30 p.m. for an evening of relaxing and just shooting-the-breeze.

Voters' Meeting...

There is a Voters' Meeting scheduled for Sunday, February 9th following the Worship Service. There will be a potluck following the meeting so please bring a food dish to share.

Baby Bottle Campaign...

Life Choices of Yakima is once again doing their "Change for Life Baby Bottle Drive". Peace is participating in this drive and we have baby bottles available for those wishing to take part. All you do is take an empty baby bottle home, fill it with your spare change and return it to the church. (Return deadline for the bottles is February 16th.)

2020 Church Directory...

The new 2020 Church Directory is ready! You can find them in the Fellowship Hall.

The Life and Times of Paul & Grace Rath...

The life and times of Paul and Grace Rath started in Yakima High School in the early 1950s. Grace was born in Yakima. Paul and his family moved from Missouri when Paul was the age of 10. Paul and Grace have German ancestry. Paul's father came from Germany as a child.



Grace and Paul met in a Biology class at Yakima High School. It was "romance at first sight." We are not sure if it was Paul that persuaded Grace or the other way around. Nevertheless they got married right out of high school. Both claimed to be winners.

Both worked at various places and then moved to Wenatchee in 1957. As Paul was already a Lutheran, Grace decided to join him with her church membership too. She was confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran in Wenatchee. While in Wenatchee, Paul worked in a drug store for 13 years. He drove truck for warehouses for 27 years and delivered apple trays for 12 years. Grace worked at fruit warehouses for 12 years.

In 1967 they moved back to this area settling in Selah. Grace worked at the U.S. Post Office for 26 1/2 years delivering mail. Upon returning to the area, Rev. Dean Hempleman of Selah called on them and they immediately joined Peace Lutheran Church. Some years later they transferred to Christ Lutheran in Yakima, but returned to Peace just in time for our 50th Church Anniversary.

Grace and Paul were blessed with six children. Three were born in Wenatchee and the other three in Yakima. Five of the six still live in this area and the other one lives in Salt Lake. They also lay claim to fifteen grandchildren, twenty-five great grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Along the pathway of life they also cared for fifteen foster children. This Christmas time they hosted twenty-seven at their home. What a noisy party that must have been.

Grace's interests include quilting, taking interest in her many grandchildren, and collecting "Precious Moments." Paul helps with church maintenance and upkeep, plays golf four times a week, does woodworking, and repairs items for his family. Along with Randy Bicsak, Paul can be seen every Sunday morning preparing for the coffee and snack hour. It's called "Randy and Paul's Best Coffee" after the label of "Seattle's Best" (however Grace claims she taught Paul everything he knows). Paul also takes credit as he initiated for initiating the "Men's Night Out" at the Tailgater's in Selah once a month. In the past he has been a church elder and Sunday School teacher.

Grace previously served on Altar Guild and is considered a "Quilting Consultant." We thank them for all of their service as valued Servants of Christ at Peace Lutheran Church.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program! On air since 1930 and broadcast in more than 80 countries.

February 2020

February 2

"Gold without Glitter"

Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Genesis 42)

February 9

"Break Through the No-Go Zone"

Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Genesis 43-45)

February 16

"Families and Joseph's Tears"

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Dean Nadasdy
(Genesis 50:15-26)

February 23

"TBD"

Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Listen to The Lutheran Hour



LHM MOBILE APPS



The LHM Mission: *Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church*

LHM plays a vital role in helping spread the Gospel message all over the world with 34 ministry centers on six continents reaching into more than 50 countries, often bringing Christ to places where no other Christian evangelistic organizations are present. LHM's flagship ministry, The Lutheran Hour®, airs weekly on more than 1,800 radio stations and the American Forces Network.

MINISTRY NEWS

Don't Give Up Witnessing For Lent!

Invite a friend to experience it with you. Encourage others to explore Christ's Passion by studying Lenten devotions from LHM. Share these poignant messages of God doing His redemptive work through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. In "**Deliver Us: Jesus Sets Us Free**", you'll see God's love in action—working His purposes through human affairs, drawing us into a relationship with Him. Available to read online or as an e-mail subscription throughout the Lenten season.

Ambassadors: Use this link to access website banners and buttons, print materials, and logos. Print up bulletin inserts to give to congregation members or as an outreach tool with your visitors or guests. www.lhm.org/lent/promokit

Want to know more about LHM?

Lutheran Hour Ministries has a team of talented staff that can speak to a wide variety of topics from curriculum development to how to talk with friends about Jesus. They can walk your congregation through the many resources LHM has to offer or help unpack the critical research available through the Barna partnership.

www.lhm.org/requestaspeaker

LLL/LHM Districts

The Lutheran Laymen's League (LLL) is divided into regional districts and district zones, each zone having ambassadors for each of their zone churches. Districts partner with an Int'l LHM ministry center. Districts have the opportunity to choose from a variety of ministry center needs, allowing them to reach out with effective ministry to the people of that region.

Global Focus- Middle East and North Africa

Website: www.lhm.org/intlportal

Through a strategic partnership between Lutheran Hour Ministries and SAT-7, the first and largest Middle East and North African Christian TV network, millions of Persian-speaking children, youth, and women are hearing the Gospel daily on television programs. Many of the people in this region have faced trials and hardships in their lives. The SAT-7 PARS programming shares that there is hope that comes from a relationship with Jesus. One of the children's series offered through this partnership is Golpand, which means "beautiful" or "golden advice". LHM has initiated a support partnership for this program and provides funding for staff and production as well as design and implementation of a new web page for the SAT-7 PARS channel.

In this program, a fox, canary, and other animal friends live in "The Jungle of Golpand." In each episode, the animals have a lesson based on a biblical perspective, which helps them change their behavior. Children call in to the show to help the animals learn the lessons of that day's episode and encourage the animals to change their bad behavior. Topics on Golpand range from creativity to eating healthy, with many others in between.

Taraneh is a young Afghan girl who lives in Tajikistan and regularly calls in. Her inspiring enthusiasm and faith, despite her family's difficult circumstances, shine through in her messages to the channel. "We have to travel three hours to go to my uncle's house to watch the program. I go to play with my cousin because I like it, and I go there to watch your program, too." During one episode, exploring what it means to be thankful, she called to say: "I give thanks for having a mom and dad, a family who are Christians, and that I have been freed from sin."

We are thankful for this partnership and opportunity to spread the love of God to children in the Middle East and North Africa.

Lutheran Hour Ministries International Ministry Centers in more than 30 countries serve the needs of hurting people. Ministry center volunteers reach out to their neighbors and communities in culturally appropriate ways with the story of Jesus—sometimes at great personal risk. Every \$10 you give enables us to reach 1,000. To donate or for more info: www.lhm.org/international



SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION WORKSHOPS

Date: February 22, 2020

Time: 10AM to 2PM

Location: Mt Olive Fellowship Hall

Cost: Free; Lunch provided

**RSVP by Feb 20th by calling or texting
5098339725**

 LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

Lutheran Hour Ministries and the Barna Group have partnered to research the state of Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age. This research has produced powerful insights about the nature of spiritual conversations and has led to two simple, powerful tools for Christians who want to grow in their witness. These tools are presented in a two-part engaging workshop filled with helpful insights, inspiring stories, and practical guidance.

Jesus called His disciples to go as witnesses throughout the world (see Acts 1:8). But how do you do that when more and more of us every year are reluctant to even talk about our faith in everyday life? The latest research has revealed five key characteristics shared by Christians who are comfortable, and even eager, to talk about their faith. The first part of the workshop will help you discover this important EAGER Profile, assess your own readiness for witness, and make a spiritual growth plan.

Paul encouraged all Christians to wisely discern “how to answer” each non-Christian in their life (see Colossians 4). But how exactly do we do that in an age where many non-Christians have experienced “church hurt” and don’t show any interest in Jesus at all? The second part of the workshop will help you discover the simple but revolutionary wisdom tool that can help you discern how to talk with the non-Christians God has put in your life.

Join us for a lively workshop that will present timely practical tools that equip you to become an effective witness for Jesus.

New Members to Peace...

We would like to welcome Josh & Sharon Green and Rene & Shirley Pedraza as new members of Peace Lutheran. Rene & Shirley are retired; Josh & Sharon have three boys—Braden, Elijah & Keegan. Please introduce yourselves and welcome them to our church family.

Parking Lot Repairs...

Our Church parking lot is in need of some repair; it needs to be crack-sealed (and possibly a top coat applied). We would like to ask the congregation for donations to have this done. If you would like to donate to this project please mark your donation "Parking Lot" and place in the offering plate or give to Tammy in the office.

Church Cleaning...

Our janitor, John Skogen, is not able to clean the church at this time. **We are asking the congregation to help by filling in to clean until John is able to.** There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall; just write your name on the Saturday you'd like to clean. (The church can be cleaned on Friday but only in the morning or late afternoon.) If you have any questions contact Steve Shotwell or Russell Hibdon.

Member Mailboxes...

It's time to clean out your member mailboxes! There are items left over from Christmas, your End-of-Year statements, some offering envelopes, etc. Please check your box and take all the old stuff out.

Ladies Lunch...

Ladies, let's start a lunch group! We'd like our first date to be March 10th at Noon, at the Golden Bull Chinese restaurant in Selah. If you are coming, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. We will call to remind you. For more info contact Elaine Smith or Sara Bicsak.