

# PAX PEACE



## The Voice of Peace

"May the God of PEACE, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." John 14:27

### FEBRUARY 2017



Dear friends in Christ,

It is the beginning of my fifth year in ministry here at Peace as your Pastor. How has life here at Peace changed in the last four years? I looked at worship attendance for mid-January over the last four years. In 2013, we had 95, in 2014 – 88, in 2015 – 72, in 2016 – 69 and last weekend we had 57. This is not encouraging. Of the attendance drop, 38 from 2013 to 2017, 24 were members who regularly attended worship and have passed on to heaven, while a few who also had attended regularly have moved away or are dealing with serious and long-term illnesses. How should we view this? I believe that we need to look at this through the eyes of hope. It is the Lord's Church, and in His way and in His time, He is still in control.

We have been blessed to be sustained by Him over these last four years. What has changed? Well, just over the last few years, God has opened our worship services to four settings from the Divine Service of the Lutheran Service Book, as well as the Service of Prayer and Pleading and Confession and Absolution that we've used throughout the last four years for midweek services.

God has brought us Katherine Nold, an organist of great talent, skill and dedication; though we might not have seen His hand at work in her coming to Peace. In hindsight, we can see clearly God's directing, and we as His people have been blessed by it. God also has given us an exceptional organ for a small installation cost that has enhanced our worship and music and brought the blessings of our Liturgy to its full potential. You will not find better music offered in the Divine Service anywhere. Preaching? Probably ... but music ... no!

We have a new Sanctuary Cross that was built by member Doug Marquardt. This brought into our worship life the cross high and lifted up down to eye level and a seasonal decoration. It enhances our time together and brings an object lesson into view each time we enter the Sanctuary.

The new padded chairs in the fellowship hall, a gift from Marilyn Wendt, remind us all of the comforts in Christ as we serve Him ... or at least it keeps our backsides from aching while we continue to do the Lord's work through the years ahead. Jay Squanda, Matt Rich, Bob Poe and Jim Rich have also become active in teaching Bible Study for our intergenerational Bible Class. While we have not seen as many children, we still had an average of 12—18 people in attendance! Children cannot drive, so their lack of attendance is largely due to their parents or guardians not coming or being unable to come. Thankfully, we have Elise and Beth ready to teach when and if they do come.

Advent by Candlelight, Chicken BBQ, Easter Breakfast and Mid-week Bible Study all continue to bring opportunities for us to invite others and share the joy we have in Jesus. Serving the needs of the church is made available for members by elected officers on many congregational boards and by service guild members.

Continued on page 4, right column.

**TO THE KING OF THE  
AGES, IMMORTAL,  
INVISIBLE, THE ONLY  
GOD, BE HONOR AND  
GLORY FOREVER AND  
EVER. AMEN.** 1 TIMOTHY 1:17

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**The Voice of Peace is the monthly Newsletter of:**

**Peace Lutheran Church**

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**In the Office**

Pastor Tkac: Monday—Thursday  
Debbie Wittke: Monday—Thursday  
Hours: 9 am—4:30 pm

**Worship and Class Schedule:**

**Saturday Divine Worship** ..... 6:30 pm  
**Sunday Divine Worship** ..... 10:30 am

**Intergenerational Sunday School**  
in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am

**Midweek Adult Bible Class**

Thursday ..... 2:30—3:30 pm

**No Sunday School or Bible Class**  
**Memorial Day — Labor Day**

**6th/7th Grade Confirmation Class**

Monday ..... 5:30—6:30 pm

**8th Grade Confirmation Class**

Monday ..... 6:30—7:30 pm



**FEBRUARY 2017 ~ ACOLYTE & READER SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY 6:30 PM**

4/5 Acolyte: Olivia Fisher  
Reader: Mark Bunarek

11/12 Acolyte: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reader: Judy Harroun

18/19 Acolyte: Olivia Fisher  
Reader: Ginny McDonald

25/26 Acolyte: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reader: Pastor Merrell

**SUNDAY 10:30 AM**

Brianna Squanda  
Beth Schreiner

Lauren Robar  
Kim Deckard

Logan Thompson  
Bob Poe

Brianna Squanda  
Elise Tilley

**SATURDAY**

**FEBRUARY ELDERS:** Mark Bunarek

**SUNDAY**

Jay Squanda

**FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD:** Laura Grodzicki / Joan Rich



**Our Gifts  
at WORK**

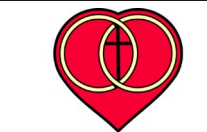
Funds & Missions

Carpet Fund  
St. Paul Mission



**Celebrating a  
BIRTHDAY**

- 3 David Zangara Jr.
- 8 Nancy Aronson,  
Melanie Slavik
- 9 Mallorie Zangara
- 10 Jerry Curlee
- 11 Tyler Blum
- 12 Kimberly Gray
- 13 Ruth Dow, David  
Zangara
- 14 Rebecca Tilley
- 16 Marie Zangara
- 21 Tom Drumm
- 24 Lowell Slater



**Celebrating an  
ANNIVERSARY**

YEARS

14 David & Lisa Zangara 31



Chris & Rachelle Junis  
4440 Motorway  
Waterford, MI 48328

Walter & Anna Slavik  
5099 Talbot St.  
Detroit, MI 48212

**Lenten dinners**

We will once again have a light dinner before our Mid-week Lenten worship services. Dinner will begin at 6:00 pm followed by worship at 7:00 pm. We are looking for people to help prepare the dinners and clean up. Please sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board with the date you would like to help prepare and/or clean up. A \$3.00 donation will be appreciated to help cover the cost of the meal. Midweek worship services are March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5.



As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. John 15:9

# February 2017

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friend. John 15:13

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																				
<div>January 2017</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					<div>March 2017</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		 <p>The Transfiguration of Our Lord February 26, 2017</p>	1	2  2:30 pm Adult Bible Class	3	4  9:00 am Mens Breakfast Bible Study   6:30 pm Worship / Holy Communion
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## Mens Breakfast Bible Study

Join us for Bible study and breakfast on Saturday, **February 4**. Come and feed both soul and body. We will gather at 9:00 am for breakfast and finish with Bible study taught by Pastor Tkac. You will surely be built up in the faith that leads to life eternal as the Holy Spirit works within you!



## Our February blood drive



Thursday, **February 16, 2017** is the date for our next drive. Be sure to mark your calendar now. Make your appointment now at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code "peacelutheran". Please contact Beth Schreiner at 248-904-3332 and let her know if you can help with the drive.

## What is the Easter Vigil?

Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church • 715 W Southern Ave, Tempe, Arizona 85282 (taken in part)

The Easter Vigil is a special Liturgy used to celebrate Easter. It takes place on the evening of Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. It may have been celebrated in Jerusalem already by the second century, and it soon spread to the rest of the Church.

### Timing of the service ...

Perhaps the first question that might occur to someone is, "How can we celebrate Easter on Saturday?" Christ rose on Sunday. However, in Jesus' day, people reckoned time differently than we do today. One day ended and a new day began at dusk (6:00 pm). This is why the Jewish leaders were in such a hurry to get the bodies down from the cross (John 19:31) and why Joseph and Nicodemus were in such a hurry to bury Jesus' body (Luke 23:55, 56).

Based on this way of reckoning time, the first day of the week, the day of Jesus' resurrection, began at dusk the evening before. By the time the women arrived at the tomb "early in the morning" and "before it was light" the stone had already been rolled away, and Jesus was gone (Luke 24:1, John 20:1). By this time, Jesus had also completed his post-resurrection descent into hell (1 Peter 3:18, 19). All of this happened before the sun rose on Sunday morning. Therefore, celebrating Jesus' resurrection already on Saturday after dusk is entirely appropriate.



Where will Peace be in the next year? Only the Lord knows. We do know where we are and what we can and should do. Be faithful in Word and deed to serve the needs of the body, and care for our neighbors with the Love of Christ.

As we ponder those who have left us and gone to be with the Lord and those who continue to struggle with illness in their life, we are reminded of the brokenness of sin and our reliance on God in Christ for our eternal wellbeing. It is not about Peace, but it is about the peace of Christ that passes all human understanding. We exist here to serve the Lord. Our focus must never be on what we need to do to grow, but how we might be faithful in service to God and neighbor so that God might use us to grow His kingdom here at Peace until Jesus Christ returns in glory. May this always be our focus, mission and service.

In Christ,

Pastor Tkac

Soli Deo Gloria ✝ To God Alone Be Glory

+++++

## Lent begins March 1, 2016

The season of Lent will soon be upon us. Our Lenten journey takes us down a road of affliction, agony and anguish. All these things were put upon and suffered by our Lord Jesus on our behalf as He took upon Himself the punishment the whole world and we deserve. As we remember Jesus' cost for our salvation, Lent also leads us to that part of the journey in which we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday. Although the journey of our lives are also filled, at times, with affliction, agony and anguish, it is good to know and remember that because of His perfect life, suffering, death and resurrection, we too shall rise and live with Him forever in heaven by His gift of faith to us!

Our Lenten/Holy Week Schedule of services is listed below. Join us as we prepare in repentance and faith for the most blessed Resurrection of our Lord!

### Lenten / Holy Week Worship Schedule

				ASH
Ash Wednesday	3/1/17	7:00 pm		Wednesday
Wednesday	3/8/17	7:00 pm		Midweek II
Wednesday	3/15/17	7:00 pm		Midweek III
Wednesday	3/22/17	7:00 pm		Midweek IV
Wednesday	3/29/17	7:00 pm		Midweek V
Wednesday	4/5/17	7:00 pm		Midweek VI
Palm Sunday	Saturday 4/8/17	6:30 pm		
Weekend	Sunday 4/9/17	10:30 am		
Holy (Maundy) Thursday	4/13/17	7:00 pm		
Good Friday	4/14/17	7:00 pm		"It is finished."
Holy Saturday	4/15/17	6:30 pm		
Sunday, Easter Day	4/16/17	10:30 am		He Is RISEN INDEED!
<b>The Resurrection of our Lord</b>				