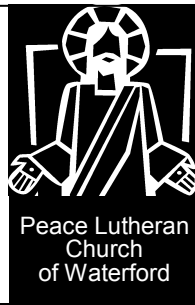


PAX PEACE



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 who be glory for ever and ever. Amen.” John 14:27

MARCH 2015

We continue our Lenten discipline

Join us as we continue our 40-day penitential journey through Lent and are renewed in our Baptism into Christ Jesus and prepared for the Easter Feast of Christ, his Passover through death into LIFE for US!

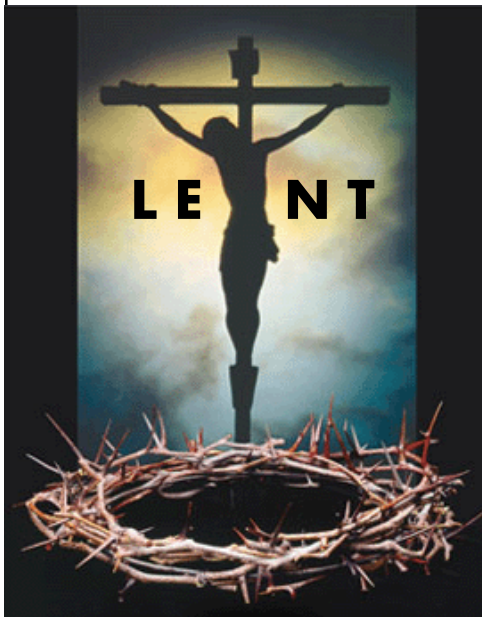
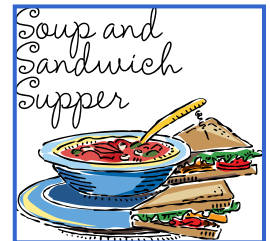
WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES DINNER AT 6:00 P.M. ~ WORSHIP AT 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday Midweek Lent III ~ March 04

Wednesday Midweek Lent IV ~ March 11

Wednesday Midweek Lent V ~ March 18

Wednesday Midweek Lent VI ~ March 25



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Palm Sunday Eve ~ March 28

Palm Sunday ~ March 29

Maundy Thursday ~ April 02

Good Friday ~ April 03

Holy Saturday ~ April 04

Easter Sunday ~ April 05



Holy Week is a humbling opportunity for us to grow in faith. The means of God's grace supplied *will* satisfy your hungry soul! How you ask? By exposing those who attend its services to God's Word and Holy Sacrament. In other words, we grow in Holy Week not by presenting a reproduction of Christ's last days. Rather, we grow as the Holy Spirit works through the Gospel and Sacrament that we hear and receive during this time. ***This Holy Week 2015, taste and hear and you will see that the Lord is good!***

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The Voice of Peace is the monthly Newsletter of:

Peace Lutheran Church

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Waterford, MI 48327

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Pastor Emeritus:

Rev. William D. Merrell

Home: 248.623.0717

E-Mail: peacefulshepherd@sbcglobal.net

Editor: Debbie Wittke

E-Mail: peacewittke@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours

Pastor Tkac: Monday — Thursday

Debbie Wittke: Mon., Wed., Thurs.

Regular Worship/Class Schedule:

Saturday Divine Worship.....6:30pm

Sunday Divine Worship.....10:30am

Sunday School Classes

Age 3—grade 4...during 10:30 worship

Grades 5 and up.....9:15am

Adult Bible Class.....9:15am

8th Grade Confirmation Class

Monday Evenings.....6:30-7:30pm

Midweek Bible Class

Wednesday Bible class 3:30—4:30pm

Summer Schedule:

(Memorial Day — Labor Day)

Saturday Worship.....6:30pm

Sunday Worship.....9:30am

Sunday school for ages 3 — grade 4 during worship the fourth Sunday of June, July, and August.

All other Sunday classes and Wednesday Bible class resume after Labor Day



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

Bible study and breakfast for men



All men, young and old alike, are invited on **Saturday, March 7** at 9:00 a.m. for Bible study and breakfast. Why not join us for life-giving food for both body and soul? You will be blessed! *Please let the office know (248-681-9360) by **Wednesday, March 4** if you will be attending so that we have plenty of food. Thank you!*

Turn your clocks ahead

Daylight saving time begins **Sunday, March 8**. Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday, March 7 prior to retiring for the evening!



Youth to hang out Friday, March 20



The youth will be gathering for a Hangout Night on **Friday, March 20** from 6:30-9 p.m. We will be doing a service project for the animal shelter and some other stuff. A light meal will be served. Let Monica know if you plan on attending. RSVP by **March 18** to Monica Tkac at peacetkac@aol.com or leave a message on the church answering machine (**248-681-9360**). Fill out a permission form only if you didn't fill out a yearly one. If you have friends who would like to come, they will need to fill out a permission slip as well. Forms are on the back hallway table.

We're having a Kid/Youth Easter Party March 28

All children and youth age 3 through grade 12 are invited to our special Holy Week event, which will be held the Saturday before Holy Week begins. The afternoon activities will include making a craft, having a snack, and watching a movie on Easter.



Date: **Saturday, March 28**

Time: 1:30 - 3 p.m.

RSVP: peacetkac@aol.com or sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board

Please note that a parent must accompany children under age 12, and please feel free to bring a friend! This opportunity is a wonderful way for the children to learn the significance of the events of Jesus' death and blessed resurrection for not only their forgiveness and salvation but that of the whole world!

Dear friends in Christ,

As you walk the walk of faith with Christ during this Lenten season, may the Lord bless you as you focus on Jesus, who in his humiliation went to Jerusalem to redeem the entire world from sin, death, and the power of the devil. He did this for you by his active obedience to the will of God ultimately leading to his trial, crucifixion, and death to accomplish your redemption and the redemption of the whole world. I also want to share a letter from our Synod President, Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison from Ash Wednesday.

The Blood of the Martyrs

“The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.”

Some 1800 years after Tertullian of Carthage wrote these words about Christian martyrdom at the time of Roman emperor, Septimus Severus, his prophetic utterance comes to mind at the news that radical Muslims murdered 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians on the same North African coast not 750 miles from Tertullian’s home. It is a sad reminder of the horrid conquest by Islam of the once thriving and dominant intellectual center of Christianity in North Africa. Pope Francis’ words were right. We, too, stand with all martyrs and confessors of Jesus, no matter what Christian church or confession. These men died with the words, “Jesus, help us!” on their lips. That is the fundamental confession of a genuine faith. We mourn with the Coptic community, not only in Egypt and North Africa, but here in the United States.

As Christians, we plead in prayer for secular leaders everywhere and certainly for our own. We also plead in prayer for our brothers and sisters in the faith all over the globe, particularly in the morass of the Mediterranean, the Middle East, Asia, Nigeria, and wherever else the irrationality of radical Islam and Islamic states threatens the lives of not only Christians but also Jews and of anyone who dares to contradict the dictates of their insanity. As Christians, we know Tertullian’s words are true. We know that, in the divine plan of the suffering and cross of Christ, the victory belongs to Christ. We know that martyrdom is the normal course of Christianity (Luke 21:12). *“I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. They cried out with a loud voice, ‘O Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?’”* (Rev. 6:9–10). Even as we know the Lord’s recompense must come, we will continue to pray for the souls of those who are possessed of the devilish delusion that such murderous action is pleasing to God. “Pray for those who persecute you,” is a mandate of the Savior (Matt. 5:44).

We also stand and bear witness to the genius of Luther’s two-kingdom doctrine. Religion and government are distinct. “Our churches teach that lawful civil regulations are good works of God. They teach that it is right for Christians to hold political office, to serve as judges, to judge matters by imperial laws and other existing laws, to impose just punishments, to engage in just wars, to serve as soldiers, to make legal contracts to hold property . . .” (Augsburg Confession XVI 1–2). “The Gospel does not introduce laws about the public state, but is the forgiveness of sins and the beginning of a new life in the hearts of believers” (Apology of the Augsburg Confession XVI 58). “Therefore the two governments, the spiritual and secular, should not be mingled or confused” (Augsburg Confession XVIII 12). Governments do not possess authority over the mind and heart, and certainly not faith. “Render unto Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s” (Mark 12:17). We seek no Christian government per se. We seek governments that recognize the basic and universal dignity of all people, the right of free speech for all people, and the right of freedom of faith and worship for all people and all religions. Such freedom guarantees the free course of the Gospel. Islam’s “one-kingdom” dogma—that is, that state and religion are one—is a gross confusion of what God has determined ought be distinct and separate,

Continued in right column

and it threatens not only Christianity but free intellectual discourse as well as the rational functioning of the state in carrying out its divinely mandated and rationally determined functions. The state exists for the protection of life, property, and freedom. The governing authorities, according to the Bible, “do not bear the sword in vain” (Romans 13:4). No soldier or government official is criticized for his vocation per se in the New Testament (Luke 3:14). Governments are to punish evil and wage just war. Wanton violation of the rights of Christians, and any and all citizens in this world, demands the recompense of legitimate authority.

By all accounts, Christianity in America is following the path it has taken in Europe. Luther, whose death we commemorate today (February 18), prophesied that the Gospel is like a passing rain shower, which comes for a time and then leaves. He correctly foretold that after a time in Germany, the Gospel would leave, and they would have Islam. That is coming true today, even as many German Muslims are converting to Christianity. The reason the Gospel passes away, according to Luther? Thanklessness (*Luther’s Works*, 23:261).

On this Ash Wednesday, and during this Lenten season, may the horrid events of the past days in Libya and beyond, remind us of what a precious treasure the Gospel is and the freedom to believe and act upon it as we see fit. Lord, have mercy upon us, and grant us ever-thankful hearts.

We continue to accept Easter chocolate orders

The women’s guild has been busy making white and milk chocolate lambs, crosses, and suckers for Easter.



If you have not already done so, please turn your order(s) in so that we have enough on hand for the sale. Orders will be available for pickup following all services the **week-ends of March 21/22 and March 28/29.**

In appreciation...

A special thank you to all who served the Lord's church here at Peace by assisting with Altar Guild duties during 2014. Your help has been greatly appreciated!



— Erika Hoffmann

Thank you for helping with our blood drive



Thank you to all of you who gave blood at our recent blood drive. A big thank you as well to those who assisted with set up and registration and who provided snacks for our donors. Those on the receiving end of blood can't thank you enough!

Thank you dear Christian friends!



Whether you worshiped with us, made a memorial donation, sent a card, lifted Mom and us up in prayer, or continue to keep the family in your prayers, we wish to extend our sincere thanks for your Christian friendship. Now that Mom is in the loving arms of Jesus, in the room He prepared for her, she is free of tears and pain. Our comfort now rests in the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion in heaven!

— Debbie Wittke and the Hazel Prescott Family

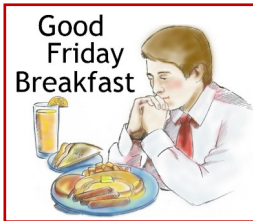
The Bulletin Board

EASTER PLANT ORDER FORMS —

Order forms for Easter plants to adorn the Lord's altar are on the back hallway table. All **orders must be completed** and to Erika Hoffmann no later than **Wednesday, March 25**. Payment for all plants is due to Erika **no later than Wednesday, April 1** (checks payable to Erika Hoffmann).



GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST —

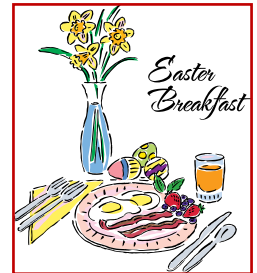


Good Friday Breakfast

We'll meet for Good Friday Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. on **Friday, April 3** at the Big Apple located on 4750 W. Walton Blvd. near Dixie Hwy. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board so that we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.

HELP IS NEEDED FOR EASTER BREAKFAST —

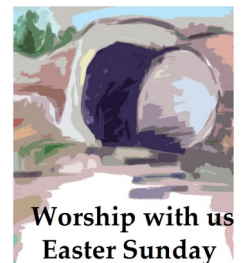
Assistance is needed on **Saturday, April 4** from 10 a.m. — noon to set up for Easter breakfast. Also needed is help on **Sunday, April 5** to cook, serve, and clean up after breakfast. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Your help is greatly welcomed.



SIGN UP TO ATTEND EASTER BREAKFAST AND JOIN US FOR WORSHIP —



Easter is **Sunday, April 5**. Join us for breakfast, which will be served between 9 and 10 a.m. A freewill donation will be accepted. Worship with Holy Communion will follow at 10:30 a.m.

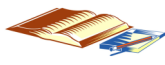




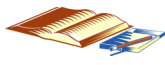



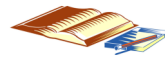




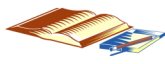



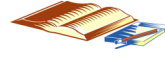



Worship with us
Easter Sunday

Sunday School Ages 3—grade 4 ~
during the 10:30am worship service
Grade 5 and up ~ 9:15 a.m.

MARCH 2015

Sunday Adult Bible Class ~ 9:15 a.m.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																																	
<p>1 <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p>10:30am Worship Holy Communion</p> <p>See classes above</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation</p> 	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6-7pm Dinner</p> <p>7:00pm Lent III Worship</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>3:30pm Adult Bible Study</p> 	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00am Men's Breakfast Bible Study</p>  <p>6:30pm Worship Holy Communion</p>																																																																																																	
<p>8 <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p>10:30am Worship Holy Communion</p> <p>See classes above</p> <p>Spring Ahead </p> <p><i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i></p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>8:30-1:30pm Pastors' Circuit Conference / St. Matthew, Walled Lake</p> <p>7:00pm Parish Guild—Make Easter Candy</p> <p>7:00pm Elders Meet</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6-7pm Dinner</p> <p>7:00pm Lent IV Worship</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>3:30pm Adult Bible Study</p> 	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30pm Worship Holy Communion</p> <p>St. Paul Noisy Collection</p> 																																																																																																	
<p>15 <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p>10:30pm Praise Worship</p> <p>St. Paul Noisy Collection</p> <p>See classes above</p> <p>Newsletter DEADLINE</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation</p> 	<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day </p> <p><i>St. Patrick's Day</i></p>	<p>18</p> <p>6-7pm Dinner</p> <p>7:00pm Lent V Worship</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>3:30pm Adult Bible Study</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>6:30-9pm Youth Hang Out Event</p> <p>First Day of Spring </p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30pm Worship</p>																																																																																																	
<p>22 <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p>10:30am Worship Holy Communion</p> <p>See classes above</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation</p> 	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Easter Plant Orders Due</p> <p>6-7pm Dinner</p> <p>7:00pm Lent VI Worship</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>3:30pm Adult Bible Study</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>1-3pm Kid's Easter Party</p> <p>FOR KIDS AND YOUTH </p> <p>6:30pm Worship Holy communion</p>																																																																																																	
<p>29 <i>Palm Sunday</i></p> <p>10:30am Worship Holy Communion</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation</p> 	<p>31</p>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">February 2015</th> <th colspan="7">April 2015</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	February 2015							April 2015							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25								26	27	28	29	30			 <p>40 Days of Lent Reflection Reconciliation Renewal</p>
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Celebrating a BIRTHDAY

MARCH

- 1 Judy Burmeister, Daniel Enzor
- 2 Joshua Rappuhn, Sue Vogt
- 3 Jason Mathews, Sr.
- 4 Gibson Brown, Kari Gray
- 5 Max Hammarlund, Monica Lee, Luanne Susick
- 6 Shannon Squanda
- 7 Sean Henry, Danny Price
- 8 Chelsea Baber, Joshua Klein, Garry McCallum, Jessica McGregor, Jacqueline Nast
- 9 Julie Merrell
- 10 Karen Passmore, Kayla Stachowiak
- 11 Dolores Moore
- 13 Irene McNair
- 14 Taylor Papcun
- 15 Joshua Baker, Tonya Boettge, Amanda Gralinski, Daniel Penner, Heidi Steffens
- 17 Mark Hagen, Jesse Taylor
- 18 Michael Mosser, Heidi Tanner
- 19 Matthew Enzor
- 22 Kristen Gray, Delaney Jones, Julian Tanner, Lilianna Tanner
- 23 Mike Thompson, Judy Bowles, Karen May, Marilyn Rappuhn, Lisa Zangara
- 24 Nathan Boettge, Sharron Gross
- 25 Barbara Jones
- 26 Easton Junis, Emma Junis
- 27 Terri Breit, Nicole Rickard
- 28 Sarah Blovet, John Bushart, Nicholas Robinson
- 30 Justin Bonner, Kerrie Harter
- 31 Linda Reading



Celebrating an ANNIVERSARY

MARCH

YEARS

- 1 Ed & Virginia Blasius 63
- 2 Mike & Kathy Thompson 47
- 4 James & Emily Collier 15
- 7 Robert & Sandra Butzke 45
- 20 Darrin & Shannon Proulx 16
- 26 Ed & Terry Rimatzki 49
- 28 Michael & Karen Mosser 27
- 30 Sean & Nicki Potter 8



Joan Kitzman
13310 Denver Drive
Hartland, MI 483536



If you have a prayer need, call Judy Harroun at 682-6426 or Nancy Merrell at 623-0717. Either Judy or Nancy will call the first person on the list. Please write down details to pass on. Contact the next person on the list. If that person is unavailable, please call the next person, and so on.

JUDY HARROUN 682-6426
Theresa Gray 666-1408
Sue Vogt 698-2072
Florence Adkins 623-0159

NANCY MERRELL 623-0717
Joan Kitzman 363-1470
Hilda Klein 682-2497



Our Gifts At WORK

Donations have been made to the following funds / needs during January / February here at Peace.

*Wish List / Fund / Congregational Needs

Peace Parish Ladies Guild
Special Needs
St. Paul, Pontiac Mission
Sunday School

✧ CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS ✧

ROOSTER

The rooster is reminiscent of Peter's threefold denial of Jesus on the night of Jesus' trial (Matthew 26:34, NIV); thus; it may represent faithlessness in general, especially in the face of danger. Because of the rooster's early-morning call, it's also symbolic of watchfulness: "Therefore keep watch," said Jesus, illustrating the return of the Son of Man, "because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back — whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn" (Mark 13:35, NIV).



Peace Lutheran Church

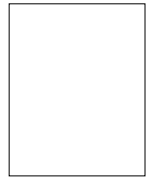
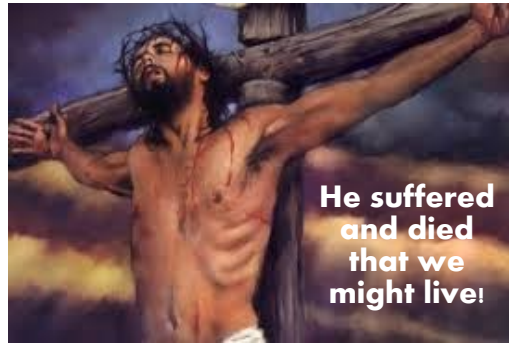


7390 Elizabeth Lake Road
Waterford, MI 48327

www.peacewaterford.org

Telephone:
(248) 681-9360

Address Service Requested



When the Pharisees complained about the noisy crowd praising God as Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, what did he say would shout out if the people were silent?

- A. The stones
- B. The trees
- C. The palm branches
- D. The donkey



Answer: A (See Luke 19:40.)

Why do we celebrate Lent for six weeks?

Kids in the Divine Service by Christopher I. Thoma. Copyright 2000 by the Commission on Worship of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Used with permission.



Don't forget what Lent is all about! It is a time when we are reminded of what Jesus gave up for us, and a time when we look forward to and prepare for His death and resurrection!

We celebrate
Lent for six weeks.

Not counting Sundays, this adds up to forty days. These forty days remind us of Christ's temptation in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11). There He was without food for forty days. We remember the temptation of the Israelites in the desert after the Lord had delivered them from Egypt. This lasted forty years (Numbers 14:34). Finally, we can remember the story of Noah and his family. After forty days and forty nights in the ark, it finally stopped raining, and the Lord delivered them just as He promised (Genesis 7:17).

During these forty days of Lent, we remember the faithfulness of God to His people and how His faithfulness is complete in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Jesus remains faithful to us, always being where He promises to be: in His Word and Sacraments. Wow! What a Savior!

For Parents

Continue to encourage your children in their Lenten preparation. During worship, point out the places where our Lord comes to us (i.e., God's Word, Holy Communion, Holy Baptism, Absolution). Remember that being their example and companion on this Lenten journey makes a difference!