

# partners

Peace Lutheran Church

Spring, 2022



Growing a community that nurtures a deeper relationship  
with Jesus Christ.

# Seasonal Worship Guide

## March

2	6	13	20	27
Ash Wednesday, 6:30pm	First Sunday in Lent, 9:30am	Second Sunday in Lent, 9:30am	Third Sunday in Lent, 9:30am	Fourth Sunday in Lent, 9:30am
Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson	Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson	Preacher: Pastor Joe Orner	Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson	Preacher: Pastor Joe Orner
Imposition of Ashes, Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion, Commission Queen Louise Mission Trip Participants	Holy Communion
—	Adult Education: "Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action"	Adult Education: "Exploring My Strange Bible"—Part 1—Narratives and Poetry	Adult Education: "Cross: Where God Is"	Adult Education: "Exploring My Strange Bible"—Part 2—Laws, Sermons, Letters, and More

## April

**Lenten Wednesdays**  
**March 9, 16, 23, 30, and**  
**April 6**

**Worship at 6:30pm**

**Supper preceding**  
**5:30-6:15pm**  
**\$5/person; \$15/family**

3	10
Fifth Sunday in Lent, 9:30am	Palm/Passion Sunday, 9:30am
Preacher: Pastor Joe Orner	Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson
Holy Communion	
Adult Education: "Joy: Finding Presence and Purpose in the Here and Now"	Palm Sunday Pancake Fundraising Breakfast

## April

14		15		17		24	
Maundy Thursday, 7:00pm		Good Friday, 7:00pm		Easter Sunday, 9:30am and 11:15am		Second Sunday of Easter, 9:30am	
Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson		Preachers: Pastor Mark Nelson and Pastor Joe Orner		Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson		Preacher: Pastor Joe Orner	
Holy Communion		Lessons, Prayers, and Meditations		Holy Communion		Rite of Confirmation Holy Communion	
—		—		Happy Easter! No Adult Education on this day.		Adult Education: "Religion: Spirituality is Not Enough"	

## May

1		8		15		22		29	
Third Sunday of Easter, 9:30am		Fourth Sunday of Easter, 9:30am		Fifth Sunday of Easter, 9:30am		Sixth Sunday of Easter, 9:30am		Seventh Sunday of Easter, 9:30am	
Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson		Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson		Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson		Preacher: Pastor Joe Orner		Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson	
Holy Communion Church Council Installation		Holy Communion Teacher Recognition				Rite of Membership			
Adult Education: "Pandemic Learnings: Year 2"		Adult Education: "Pandemic Learnings: Year 2"		Fellowship after worship		Fellowship after worship		Fellowship after worship	

## The Journey of Lent

Lent begins soon—March 2<sup>nd</sup> to be exact. Considering that we're still in the pandemic, Lent seems, frankly, redundant. Haven't these last two years been grim enough? As a child, I had this idea that Lent was a time to suffer through, with the sense that the suffering itself is what made it good for us. It's no wonder that the late journalist H.L. Mencken rejected those who rejected Puritan Lenten observers as those who were preoccupied with "the haunting fear that someone, somewhere may be happy"!

So why Lent? In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Lutherans and many other



Christian denominations, to observe forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with rough a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the river Jordan, Jesus went off alone in the wilderness where he spent forty days facing up to who he was—and wasn't.

During this Lent, we will do much the same thing. We won't have to walk through a desert. We don't even have to be good! But we will spend time in worship and in personal devotion facing up (like Jesus) to who we are, who we are not, and who Jesus is for all of us. That's not always easy. But if ashes are at the beginning of Lent, something like Easter can be at the end. New life, new hope; new you and new me;

happiness—all out of the goodness of God in Christ who died and rose for us.

After all, the word "Lent" comes from a Middle English word meaning, "spring." There's the story about a Lutheran who resolved not to drink beer during Lent. But this proved a too-daunting task and the man had to go to church with a weight on his conscience—and perhaps with something convicting on his breath as well. But as he leaves worship one Lenten Wednesday and steps out into the warm mercy of a spring evening, he is reminded of the grace of God. Indeed, Spring—Lent—means that the sun shines longer and longer on the saints and sinners we all are. Thanks be to God.....and have a good Lent!

## Congregational Care Call on March 20

In response to Christ's grace to us, we are called to love one another. In this challenging time, we want to extend caring, concern, and support for members of Peace. So, toward that end, we are holding a "Congregational Care Call." What is a "congregational care call"? Some time between **4:00**

**and 8:00pm on Sunday, March 20th**, a fellow member/Council member of Peace will contact you by phone with the simple question, "*How are you?*" There will be no requests for you to do anything; this is just a phone call to hear how you're managing through this unique time in our lives. We look

forward to contacting you, along with all the members of Peace.

If you have any questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me (952.944.6510).

—*Pastor Mark Nelson*

# Sunday Adult Education

## March 6--"Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action"

The ELCA recently released the study guide for the church's newest social statement, "*Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action*." This social statement is the culmination of a seven-year process across the ELCA. Led by a national task force and supported by synod-based volunteers, the process of the social statement was the result of a long conversation among ELCA members. The social statement is designed to help people hear God's promise of abundant life and call for justice, see the complex harm caused by sexism, and pursue gender justice through personal and collective actions. Through guided discussion and video, we will explore gender justice to pursue fairness for women and girls. Come join us on this day for the conclusion of this discussion.

## March 13—"Exploring My Strange Bible"

Why *how we read* is almost as important as *what we read*.

Part 1: Narratives and Poetry.



## March 20—"Cross: Where God Is"

We will explore questions about the Cross, with perspectives (on video) from Pastor Nadia Bolz Weber.

## March 27—"Exploring My Strange Bible"

Why *how we read* is almost as important as *what we read*.

Part 2: Laws, Sermons, Letters, and More.

## April 3—"Joy: Finding Presence and Purpose in the Here and Now"

April 10—Pancake Breakfast. No Adult Education.

April 17—Easter Sunday. No Adult Education.

## April 24—"Religion: Spirituality is Not Enough"

In light of Easter, what is "religion" anyway? We'll view a video by Pastor Lillian Daniel and discuss.

## May 1 and May 8—Pandemic Learnings: Year 2

We've been in the pandemic over two years. What have we learned about ourselves? Our faith? Our world?

—Pastors Mark Nelson and Joe Orner

## Wednesday Evening Bible Study

### **"Hope in Times of Fear: The Resurrection and the Meaning of Easter"**

From the book of First Peter we read: "In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...and so your faith and hope are in God."—1:3, 21

On Easter Sunday we hear the Good News that God has raised Jesus from the dead and that death has been defeated in him. So what does this event mean for you and for me? Especially now. We are in the midst of the worst world pandemic in a century. We are an anxious, uncertain people right now. Into our fragile situation, the resurrection of Jesus brings us hope for our daily lives and all that is to come.

We'll look at New Testament texts about certain hope, future hope, hope in the face of suffering, hope for justice, hope for us personally. The resurrection proclaims: "Jesus is alive" and he is giving us hope in all things. Come join us from 6:00-7:00pm on Wednesday nights at Peace beginning April 20.

### Lenten Events at Peace

- **Sunday, February 27,** Printed copies of the 2022 Lenten Devotional Booklet available.
- **Wednesday, March 2, Ash Wednesday,** Online daily devotionals begin; Lenten Supper 5:30-6:15pm; Worship at 6:30pm, Imposition of Ashes, Holy Communion.
- **Wednesdays, March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6,** Lenten Supper 5:30-6:15pm; Worship 6:30pm; Confirmation 7:15-8:00pm.
- **Sundays, March 27, April 10,** Honor or remember someone special with an Easter Flower donation.
- **Sunday, April 10—Palm Sunday,** Breakfast 8:30-9:15am, 10:30-11:30am, Worship 9:30am.
- **Thursday, April 14, Maundy Thursday,** Worship 7:00pm, Individual Absolution, Holy Communion, Stripping and Washing the Altar.
- **Friday, April 15, Good Friday,** Worship 7:00pm, Readings, Prayers, Music, Meditations.
- **Sunday, April 17, Easter Sunday,** He is risen indeed! Worship offered y7at 9:30 and 11:15am.

## Lenten Devotionals

### Online or In Print

*“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.”*

—Philippians 2:5

It is the Palm/Passion Sunday reading, a vision of Jesus’ followers being remade in the mind of Christ. It is also the goal and direction of Lent that will soon begin.

This season gives us a riches of Bible stories and texts in which the people of God are mirrored both in our faithfulness and our struggle to live into the mind of Christ. The Sunday Gospel readings alone—from Jesus’ temptations to his determination to love us; to the question posed to him about tragedy and suffering; to the famous parable of the Prodigal Son/Father; to Mary’s

anointing of Jesus; to the Cross and Easter—all are continually calling us to life and faithfulness in following Christ.

To assist you, there is worship and the Lenten devotional booklet for your daily devotions. I encourage you to take time with both with the Bible texts and the various responses; let them shape your lives. Our thanks to all the contributors for their thoughtful work and my thanks to all of you for “keeping Lent.”

May Jesus, God’s promised one, be with you throughout Lent, fill you with lasting hope, and bring you Easter joy! Today is a new day in which to “let the same mind be among you that was in Christ Jesus.”

—Pastor Mark Nelson

## Palm Sunday Fundraising Breakfast

On Sunday, April 10, the youth who will be participating in this summer’s youth trip will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser.

From 8:45-9:15am and from 10:30-11:30am, come and eat breakfast with the church and support a valuable Peace ministry and its wonderful students!

Tickets will be sold starting Sunday, March 20 and can also be bought the morning of the breakfast. Tickets are \$5 for individuals and \$20 for families.





# The Easy Yoke

## 2022 Lenten Wednesday Worship

*“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and I will give rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”—Matthew 11:28-30*

Lent is a 40-day period in the church’s year in which we renew our commitment to Christian discipleship and respond to the call to follow Jesus Christ all the way to the cross so that, on Easter, we too might discover a new and transformed life that looks more like Jesus’ own life.

Throughout the Wednesday evening Lenten services, we will be looking at the Beatitudes in Matthew—*“Blessed are....”*—provide a fabulous description of what this new character is that Jesus is building in all of our lives.



The framework for this series comes from Matthew 11. Jesus says, *“Take my yoke upon you.”* Jesus suggests that the salvation and life that he offers us

does not remove burdens, but it gives us the right burdens to bear—the same burdens that Jesus bore and the burdens that change us. In baptism, the Holy Spirit binds us to Jesus Christ. To be yoked to Jesus means to travel with him and, along the way, his life is developed within us. When we bear the burden of Christ, we find the blessings of the Beatitudes form in our lives.

—Pastor Mark Nelson

## Wednesday Lenten Suppers

Lenten Suppers will be offered from 5:30-6:15pm on Wednesdays. March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6. The price is \$5/person or \$15/family. Please note, we are planning on offering Lenten suppers, however, due to COVID-19, we may need to make a last minute adjustment. We ask for your understanding should that occur!

### Weekly Schedule

- **Wednesday, March 2 (Ash Wednesday)**
  - ◇ Texts
    - ◆ A responsive reading of Psalm 51:1-17
    - ◆ Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
    - ◆ Matthew 11:28-30
  - ◇ Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson
  - ◇ Message Title: “The Easy Yoke”
- **Wednesday, March 9**
  - ◇ Primary Text: Matthew 5:1-3
  - ◇ Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson
  - ◇ Message Title: “Yoked to a Blessing”
- **Wednesday, March 16**
  - ◇ Primary Text: Matthew 5:4-5
  - ◇ Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson
  - ◇ Message Title: “Yoked to a Savior”
- **Wednesday, March 23**
  - ◇ Primary Text: Matthew 5:6-7
  - ◇ Preacher: Pastor Mark Nelson
  - ◇ Message Title: “Yoked to Grace”
- **Wednesday, March 30**
  - ◇ Primary Text: Matthew 5:8-9
  - ◇ Preacher: Pastor Joe Orner
  - ◇ Message Title: “Yoked to Peace”
- **Wednesday, April 6**
  - ◇ Primary Text: Matthew 5:10-12
  - ◇ Preacher: Mark
  - ◇ Message Title: “Yoked to the Kingdom”

# Queen Louise Home for Children

## 2022 Spring Mission Trip to Queen Louise

Preparations continue for 15 Peace members who will travel to St. Croix, USVI to continue our ministry at Queen Louise Home for Children.

Since 2008, five groups of youth and adults have given their time and effort to support the staff of Lutheran Social Services in their life-giving ministry on behalf of neglected children.

From March 27-April 3, Inga Borggreve; Nick, Emmy, Trevor and Ben Budz; Holly, Jason, Adam and Avery Rich; Sue and Andrea Larson; Tom Tisthammer and Michelle Johnson; Marcie Horner and I will be spending time doing some maintenance on the Home and activities with the children. This experience of service, fellowship, worship, and learning is life-changing; a wonderful adventure of Christian life and community. I am grateful to the ongoing support of the congregation for this work.

From Christmas gifting year-after-year, to needed medical equipment, and to these mission trips. Thank you....and pray for us!

—Pastor Mark Nelson



### Christmas at Queen Louise

At Christmas, the staff at Queen Louise Home for Children work hard to decorate the gathering spaces and to surprise the children with wrapped gifts.

Peace received an email with a photo showing how some of the toys that we purchased for residents were displayed on Christmas morning.



We have an ongoing donation box in the Narthex beside the information kiosk for collecting “most wanted items” namely shampoo, liquid hand soap, laundry detergent, toothpaste and toothbrushes, baby wipes, personal care items, and dog and cat food. These items are always in short supply at VEAP.

Items are brought to VEAP as soon as the bin is filled and they are grateful for every item they receive.



# A Special Effort: Welcoming Afghan Evacuee Families

## Making New Homes in Minnesota

Over the next 2-3 months, there will be some 250 Afghan families arriving in Minnesota.

Having to quickly leave their home country, they come here with very little. They often have no money, nowhere to stay, and nothing to eat.



clothing, medical care, and temporary housing. The needs are urgent.

Will you join us in welcoming Afghan evacuee families making a new home in Minnesota?

Over these next months, our children's

offering and the Wednesday Lenten worship offering will be given in support of our Church's effort. You can also help incoming Afghan families by offering them gift cards to Cub Foods, Aldi, or Visa so that they can purchase food while they

wait for emergency government assistance.

All gifts of cards, cash, or checks (write "Afghan Evacuees" in the memo line) can be placed in the children's offering church or sent to the church office (8600 East Bush Lake Road, Bloomington, MN 55438).

Your gift of any amount will help respond to the basic needs of our friends and their families as they flee for their lives. Thank you in advance for your compassion and your generosity toward immigrants and refugees!

Beginning on the first Sunday of Lent, March 6, and continuing through Lent, we are joining the efforts of Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services in helping to provide basic necessities; food,

## 2021 ELCA Good Gifts Recap

What a generous congregation! There were \$5,187 worth of ornaments on the Good Gifts Tree, and another \$1,000 worth of gifts that had been sent through our church office without ornaments, for a total value of \$6,187.

Our congregation loves goats: 32 goats this year...including a "Herd of Goats." Chicks came in second at 13; then 11 Pigs; 20 School Fees, Uniforms and Supplies, 1 for an entire

classroom; 5 Vaccinations for a child; 2 Roosters; 8 Honeybees; 5 Fruit tree seedlings; 4 Micro-loans for women; 1 Stocking a health clinic; 2 Latrines; 2 Stock-a-backpack with food; 1 Bible; 1 Mosquito net; 1 Feed 50 at a soup kitchen; 1 Veggie Garden & Supplies; 1 Water filter; 2 Cows; 1 Seeds and gardening tools; 2 Water filters; 1 Feed a Refugee family for a week; 3 Nutrition for a child one year; 1 Community Garden; 1 Motor Bike for a

Pastor; and from our Sunday School 1 complete Fish Farm and share of another.

All these gifts are 'life giving/life saving,' and will keep on giving for years to come. Your gift, big or small, will make a difference. You made a difference and what a Christmas blessing that is. Thank you.

—David Dynneson, Chair of the Service and Mission Committee

# Children, Youth and Family News this Winter

During the season of Lent, the 40 days that precede Jesus' death and resurrection, many Christians around the world pause to take an inward look at their faith and their relationship with the world. A common tradition has been to give up something as a means of drawing closer to God. For example, you could give up using some or all social media if you felt like it was distracting you from some of the more important aspects of your life. Conversely, others might take on a spiritual practice to help them grow in their faith—reading a verse or chapter of scripture every morning with breakfast, praying before dinner every night, etc.



In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus gives a message commonly referred to as the “Sermon on the Mount,” where he declares a list of blessings. But, much to the surprise of the people listening to him, the blessings are for people whom his audience would not have expected—the humble, the persecuted, the grieving, the peacemakers, the merciful.

Jesus did this as a promise of hope, but also as a reminder of God's reign here and now. Jesus sees us in our struggles and difficult situations, and promises salvation; Jesus sees us in our struggles and difficult situations, and assures us of his presence

with us through them.

As we journey to the cross together this Lenten season, I invite you to consider the awe-inspiring reality of the Resurrection: that it is our inheritance as God's beloved children, and that God's love is, and always will be, for you.

And finally, as we receive this Resurrection blessing, Jesus gives us a direction as the Church: to share the blessing with others. May that can be your faith practice over the next 40 days—receive the blessing, and be a blessing. Amen!

—Pastor Joe Orner

## Sunday School News

In January, we had the joy of celebrating eight students and their families who recently completed their communion education class here at Peace.

These students learned about the Last Supper, the special meal of bread and wine shared with his disciples, and how the sacrament of communion is God's body and blood given for us. Additionally, students came away knowing that communion is all about the gift and promise of God's unconditional love and forgiveness—freely given for each and every one of us.

Join us in recognizing: Henrik Anderson, Niklas Anderson, Ben Budz, Emery Byers, Kalin Losinski, Elsie Macejkovic, Ayla Rogers, and Addison Tschida.—Pastor Joe Orner



# Lenten Faith Practice for Families

Families! Looking for a fun and easy faith practice to engage in during Lent? Peace will be sending Lenten Prayer Calendars. Each day you can select something or someone to pray for. Then pray together as a family: "Dear God, today we pray for \_\_\_\_\_. Help them to \_\_\_\_\_. Amen!"

## Summer's Coming!

### VBS

How great is God's love? It's Monumental!

This summer we will once again be working together with Community of the Cross Lutheran Church for Vacation Bible School, where we will be "Celebrating God's Greatness!" Through fun

games, engaging Bible stories, captivating music, and more, kids will come away with new friends and a Monumental experience of God's love.

Registration begins in April!

**2022 Dates: June 20-23;  
9:00am-12:00pm**



## Camp Wapogasset Camps

### For Grades 1-3, Youth Grades 4-8, and Families

At Camp Wapo, students and families will enjoy campfires, vibrant worship, meaningful Bible studies, swimming in Lake Wapogasset, time in the great outdoors, and their favorite camp games and activities.

This summer's theme is "Take Hold," which is inspired by John 16:33, which they translate as: "I

have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take hold! I have conquered the world."

Join us for Seeds Weekend (1st-3rd Grade), Youth Camp (4th-8th Grade), or Family Camp (all ages).

Family Camp registration will be open until March 15.



**2022 Dates:**

**Seeds Weekend: July 29-31 | Youth Camp: July 31-August 5 | Family Camp: August 12-14**

## Confirmation

This year in Confirmation, our students have been discovering how we embody God's Church together. At the beginning of February, our students got to enjoy a retreat to Gustavus, where we talked all about "Jesus, the Church, and Me:

Parables, People, and Purpose." During our time together, we learned about how Jesus loves us, how churches are called to worship God and serve others, and how we are each called to share God's love using our own unique gifts.

In April, join us in celebrating this year's confirmands: Jonah Gehant, Elsa Oman, and Avery Rich.

—Pastor Joe Orner

### Coming Up:

March 2—Faith Statements Due for 8th Graders

March 6 and 13—8th Grade Confirmands will assist with worship

April 24—Rite of Confirmation; 6th and 7th Grade Confirmands will assist with worship



## High School Youth Ministry

In January, our high school students helped shine a light on mental health. One in five teens struggle with a mental health condition, and less than half receive treatment. Of additional concern, one out of five young people experiencing mental

health struggles don't feel like they have someone they can turn to for help. At Peace, we are working to make sure all students have adults and peers they can turn to for support, because as Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians when talking about

the body of Christ, "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it."

—Pastor Joe Orner

## ELCA National Youth Gathering

Sadly, in light of concerns about COVID-19 and care for our neighbors, the 2022 ELCA National Youth Gathering was cancelled. Plans are currently being made for an alternative experience for our students to grow in their faiths and their relationships with one another. Stay tuned for more information!

—Pastor Joe Orner



# Spring Fellowship

## Family Ministry Spring Events

Peace has several fun spring events planned for families...and events that the entire congregation can join in! Mark your calendars for the following dates.

Keep an eye out in the Sunday bulletin, Pastor Mark's Friday e-Note, and Pastor Joe's Thursday Children, Youth and Family Blast for registration information.

### March

Feed My Starving Children Food Packing, Chanhassen, Friday, March 18, 2022, 7:00-8:45pm

### April

Palm Sunday Breakfast, Sunday, April 10, 8:30-9:15am and 10:30-11:30am

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 16, 10:00am at Peace

## 20 & 30 Somethings

Are you in your 20s-30s? Looking for Christian community? Peace 20 & 30 Somethings is FOR YOU!

Together, we've met at Peace, at Wooden Hill Brewing, and packed meals at Feed My Starving Children while discussing the challenges of living out our faith and of navigating adulthood. Sometimes, sharing God's light means simply showing up for one another, listening, and supporting one another.

We give thanks to God for all adults in their 20s and 30s, and pray that God would continue to shine through them!

—Pastor Joe Orner

### Upcoming Events:

**March 6**—Wild Minds Artisan Ales (6031 Pillsbury Ave. S., Minneapolis), 4:00pm,

**April 3**—9 Mile Brewing (9555 James Ave. S., Bloomington), 4:00pm

**May 1**—St. Paul Saints Game (Saints vs. Nashville Sounds), 2:00pm





# Older Adult Fellowship at Peace

## March 17 and May 12

This spring Peace will host two fellowship events for our older adults for those over the age of 80.

On Thursday, March 17 we will host a luncheon at Peace starting at 11:30am. Then on

Thursday, May 12 we will host a dinner starting at 4:30pm.

Transportation will be arranged for those who need a ride.

If any Peace members would like to volunteer with

transportation, cooking, serving, or clean up, please contact Daina Sivanich at 952-944-6510 or send her an email at [daina.sivanich@peacebloomington.org](mailto:daina.sivanich@peacebloomington.org).

## An Interview with Marian Fronk

Marian Fronk and her husband, Bob, joined Peace in 2009. Now at age 94, Marian reflects on life and faith.

Marian was born in Minneapolis in the house that her father built. Marian met the kind and generous Bob Fronk through friends. Before marrying, Marian stated that she wanted to complete her social work degree at the University of Minnesota and visit Norway, from which both of her parents had emigrated. Once she had her a degree in hand, Bob proposed honeymooning in Norway and plans fell into place. They were married in 1950 and embarked on a four-month honeymoon in Norway, meeting many relatives with whom Marian has maintained life-long connections.



Working in her field of study was put aside to raise four children, all of whom were baptized and confirmed as Lutherans.

At age 45, Marian went back to school to become an elementary school teacher and happily taught for many years at The Blake School. At Friendship Village, where she now resides, she has even run into former students who have now become neighbors!

### How has your faith changed during your life?

**MF:** My faith has helped give me good guidance, such as when my daughter, Mary, was sick with cancer and died on her 50th birthday. It was hard to say goodbye; I miss her every day. I had strong people around who helped me.

### What are important life and faith lessons that you've learned?

**MF:** Have good friends and a good church, and be willing to admit that you are not right all the time!

I try to live so my children see that things change, but you still do what you need to do.

### What are your favorite things about Peace Lutheran Church?

**MF:** Peace is a happy place with captivating sermons. I love the singing and the service.

### Do you have a parting word for Peace members of all ages?

**MF:** When you experience big changes in life, you know that you need to go on and your faith is a big help. God is a helping hand through all the problems of life. God will be with me wherever I am.

—Daina Sivanich

# Welcome, Patti Arntz, Director of Music



*“Sing the Lord a new song. Let the sea with its creatures, the coastland and its people fill the world with praise. Let every village and town, from Kedar on the plain to Sela in the hills, take up the joyful song. Sing glory to the Lord, give praise across the world.”—Isaiah 42:10-12*

Peace has a long tradition of excellence in worship music. “Music is a gift of God,” Luther said. And we have been gifted by excellent music and worship and music leaders in our past: Jon and Anita Young for so many years, Judy Belmore, and in recent years with MaryLynn Mennicke, the Choral Scholars, Katie Jonza, and Bruce Hudson. Indeed we have been blessed!

So it’s with thanks to God that we welcome another gifted musician to Peace and Director of Music, Patti Arntz. She has been a music educator and church musician in the Twin Cities area for over 40 years. With degrees in music from

Hamline University, St. Paul, MN and Drake University, Des Moines, IA and a Master’s Degree in Education from the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Patti has experience directing singers of all ages.

She recently retired from teaching elementary music with the Robbinsdale Area Schools in the Twins Cities area. During her 30 years of instructing young children to sing and make music, she also directed the Robbinsdale All-District Elementary Choir for 15 years. Each year, this choir consisted of over 100 5th grade students from all of the elementary schools in the district. They had many opportunities to perform for local and national music conventions, choral festivals and a yearly performance at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis, MN. Other activities included local tours, recordings and singing the National Anthem for the Minnesota Twins for many years.

Throughout her teaching career, she also served as an organist and director of youth/adult choirs in local churches. Since retirement in 2017, Patti has been active in church music by building and directing a youth choir

program at a prominent Twin Cities church. Keeping in touch with her elementary music roots, she serves as an adjunct professor at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, Minnesota, instructing elementary education majors on teaching and integrating music into their future classrooms.

Patti lives in Savage, MN with her husband, Rolland, where she enjoys outdoor activities, reading and cooking. She sings with a local choir, Singers in Accord, serving as the Soprano section leader. Her adult children, Kyle and Melani are both very involved in music in the Twin Cities area.

Patti began her ministry at Peace on February 1st and will—pandemic permitting—be getting the Choir back together. Please welcome Patti when you see her. We look forward to—together with Patti—“singing glory to God.”

—Pastor Mark Nelson

## Did You Know...

**Did you know...**that goats were the top ELCA Good Gift among Peace members? 32 Goats including a herd of goats were given this past Christmas season.

**Did you know...**that 23 Sunday School children participated in the December 19, 2021 Christmas Program along with the Peace Choir?

**Did you know...**that Peace owns 1 organ, 2 pianos, 1 keyboard, handbells, 1 djembe, 2 xylophones, 3 triangles, and 5 sets of jingle bells?

**Did you know...**that the Friday e-Note contains a link to the Thursday Children, Youth and Family Blast penned by Pastor Joe. Great for grandparents or if you missed the Thursday Blast!

**Did you know...**that Bruce Hudson plays the French Horn for the Minnesota Orchestra.

**Did you know...**that Peace is an Ambassador member of the National Lutheran Choir?

**Did you know....**that you can pay for camps, trips, and events online? Just visit Peace's website's home page and click on the "Click here to Give Online" button. You may then select to give to the General/Operating fund or Miscellaneous.

## Electronic Giving

Peace offers electronic giving as a way to automate your offering. Online giving is simple and secure. It offers convenience for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

**Direct Debit Giving** is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

**Credit/Debit Card Giving** allows you to make offerings automatically from your card. Both of these options can be one time or on a recurring schedule that you choose.

You can access electronic giving through the Peace website; [peacebloomington.org](http://peacebloomington.org). The giving button is on the home page. You can also go directly to the Vanco website, [vancopayments.com](http://vancopayments.com).

If you do not wish to use the Vanco website, you can also have recurring electronic payments sent from your bank or other financial institutions.

If you have any questions regarding electronic giving, please contact Lori Thomson at 952.944.6510 or [lori.thomson@peacebloomington.org](mailto:lori.thomson@peacebloomington.org).

Thank you for your faithful support of Peace!

—Lori Thomson

## New Member Orientation

Peace welcomes new members! On Sunday, May 15 at 11:30am we will host an orientation session. It's a great way to learn more about Peace, its resources, and meet other new members. New members will be received in worship the following Sunday, May 22. Please call the church office at 952.944.6510 to register for orientation.

# New Members

In January, we received nine members. Some are newer to Peace and some are people that have been here awhile. Regardless, we welcome you all! Please warmly welcome each of them and get to know the following folks.



Kris Holm



Kevin and Courtney Johnson and daughter, Bergen



Holly Long



Joanne Vance



Trevor and Ashley Winkelman and daughter, Isla

## partners

Spring 2022

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Submissions  
Do you have an idea for a story or would love to write? Contact our Managing Editor with your submission, but please keep in mind the following guidelines: (a) Your article will be reviewed by the editorial staff for suitability and may be edited for length and content. (b) Articles must fit the overall theme of the issue and reflect the mission of Peace Lutheran Church.

## Church Life

### Births

- **Nolan Lawrence Hansen**, born on November 18, 2021 to Mark and Rachel Hansen. Nolan is also welcomed by grandparents Jon and Betty Hansen, and by Matt, Lauren, Luke, Audrey and Claire Toppin and Bobby and Erin Dorn.
- **Emilia Barnett Talbott** born on December 15, 2021 to Sam and Sarah Talbott. Emilia is welcomed by grandparents, Bob and Kim Barnett, and by John, Katie, and Taylor Thompson.
- **Gene Henry Lovell** born on January 23 to Dustin and Kirstin Lovell. Gene is also welcomed by grandmother, Holly Long.

### Grieving

- **Jon and Betty Hansen** upon the death of Betty's aunt, Lori Dreier.
- **Andy and Katie Loeffler** upon the death of Katie's father, Jeb Griffith.
- **Paul and Deborah Guiher** upon the death of Paul's mother, Alice Guiher.
- **Ken and Bev Viken** upon the death of Ken's daughter, Christine Viken.
- **Rick and Linda Glasgow** upon the death of Linda's father, William Andrews.
- **Jack and Andi Bidwell** grieving upon the death of Andi's mother, Shirley Dangerfield.
- **Brian and Pam Sjoquist** upon the death of Brian's cousin Charlene Nyberg and Pam's brother, Tim Ernest.
- **Rolland and Patti Arntz** upon the death of Rolland's mother, Bernice.

## Annual Peace Congregational Meeting Elections

At our annual congregational meeting on Sunday, January 30, 2022 the following people were elected.

### Church Council

The following people were elected: Jason Rich, Kara Stender, and Adam Tschida.

We thank outgoing council members Cecelia Byers, John Kennedy, Ann Losinski, and Julia Macejkovic for their service to Peace.

### Nominating Committee

Dave Dynneson and Jeremy Macejkovic were elected to the Nominating Committee.

We thank the outgoing Nominating Committee members: Julia Macejkovic, Ann Losinski, John Kennedy, Bill McNally, and Andy Stockinger.

### Auditing Committee

Bev Schlink was elected to the Auditing Committee. We thank Michelle Johnson and Larry Albert for their work on behalf of Peace.

Installation of the new council will be on Sunday, May 1 during worship.



## Devotion: *Missing Pages?*

I was the guest preacher. I had returned to a congregation I once served. There were a few familiar faces and many good memories; I had looked forward to the day. And now I was preaching. The congregation seemed to be engaged. I thought I had begun well. I had some fairly funny jokes thrown in—and they even laughed!

I was moving along, making some point. And that's when things went south. I turned the page of my sermon manuscript and realized that the last two pages were missing. Tell a story like this to a group of preachers and it's like running your nails down a chalkboard; it's the stuff of preacher nightmares. I had left them on the printer in the church office.

I think that a similar sense of panic happened when the early Christians read Mark's gospel, the oldest gospel in our New Testament. The original manuscript ends with a small group of women that discover Jesus' tomb is empty, run away, as Mark reports, "for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." That's it! Not exactly inspiring. In fact,

Mark's ending made the early Christians panic, like the Gospel writer had lost the last few pages of his manuscript. Some were so worried about this that they added some other stories onto the end that finished the resurrection story nice and tidy.

But the Easter story doesn't end that way. The women are scared. Can you blame them? They had seen an empty tomb! Life was not over for Jesus or for them. Death had been defeated. Jesus was alive and out ahead of them we're told, on his way to Galilee. That's how the greatest story ever told ends. Pages missing? Maybe not.

Even as we head into Lent and Holy Week; even as we too might be afraid of all that is going on around and within us; it's good to be reminded once again: the story is not over! Jesus is on the loose! Death does not have the final word. Life will prevail. Good will overcome evil. Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

—Pastor Mark Nelson

## Staff and Contact Information

952.944.6510 | [www.peacebloomington.org](http://www.peacebloomington.org)

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**PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Website: [www.peacebloomington.org](http://www.peacebloomington.org)  
Sunday Worship: 9:30am



Growing a community that  
nurtures a deeper relationship  
with Jesus Christ.

## 2022 Lenten and Easter Worship at Peace

### Ash Wednesday, March 2

Lenten Supper, 5:30-6:15pm  
Worship, 6:30pm

### Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 10, Worship at 9:30am  
Maundy Thursday, April 14, Worship,  
7:00pm  
Good Friday, April 15, Worship, 7:00pm  
Easter Sunday, April 17, Worship, 9:30am  
and 11:15am

### Lenten Wednesdays,

March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6

Lenten Supper, 5:30-  
6:15pm  
Worship, 6:30pm  
Confirmation, 7:15pm