



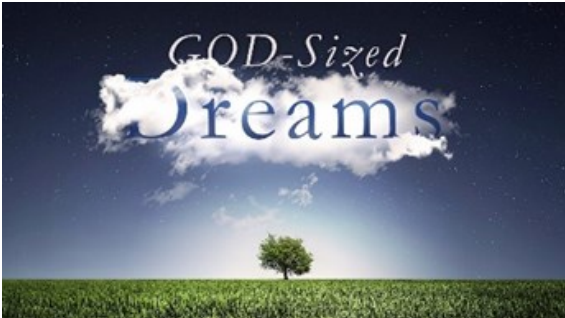
*Peace Lutheran Church
 Newsletter
 Love God, Love People,
 and Serve the World!
 March 2023*

Midweek Lenten Series - Dare to Dream

Have you ever had a dream that you couldn't quite remember? Maybe it took you some time to retrace the steps as it became clearer. God has a dream for this world. This Lent we are waking up and remembering God's dream.

Join us each Wednesday night in Lent at 6:30 pm, and let us dream together.

Each week is preceded by a meal from 5:30-6:15 pm followed by worship @ 6:30 pm



- 3/01 Discovering Our Birthright
- 3/08 Our Burning Bush
- 3/15 Lose the Big Buts...
- 3/22 What's In Your Hand?
- 3/29 Perseverance



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A Message from the Pastor

Conspire

“At the moment of commitment the entire universe conspires to assist you.”
— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

In February, leaders from our council, ministry teams, and vision team convened to discern what does it mean to be God’s church in this post-pandemic world. We prayed, read scripture, worshiped, learned, and wrestled with this question. We talked about our aspirations or hopes for the future. We visioned together knowing full well this is an ongoing, open-ended question. But as a cohort of disciples, we hoped that God would speak in our midst and the Holy Spirit would anoint us with guidance and purpose.



Our facilitator of the day, Bruce Rockstroh (a new partner in ministry here at Peace) quoted Goethe’s statement above: “At the moment of commitment, the entire universe conspires to assist you.” The same root word for aspire, or inspire, or conspire is to breathe in.

God breathes in the Holy Spirit to inspire us. We aspire, that is we breath out that Spirit so that the hope of this vision can move outward. And we conspire, literally meaning “with breathing” or close enough to be whispering and conspiring together. Therefore, people off whispering to each other were conspirators. The point is that it takes people getting close enough to breathe in and out together.

It is no coincidence that God breathes into humanity in Genesis in order to create life. God gets close and the Holy Spirit innervates our lives.

At the moment of commitment, the entire universe (Christians would call that God) conspires to assist you.

As we discern and listen to the whisper of God’s voice, won’t you conspire with God and the church together? Will you take make that commitment, that first step to intentionally listen to God? Because when you make even a small step, a small commitment, The Holy Spirit will conspire (speak with you) to assist you.

**Peace,
Pastor Jake**

**God whispers
because God
is close by.**



Abundant Blessings

March Birthdays

04 Mike Stallings
 04 Lydia Simmont
 05 Charlotte Killian
 06 Theresa Stanley
 10 Leslie Valentine
 11 Kurt Andersen-Vie
 13 Darrell Skeen
 14 Margot Roessing
 15 Lillian Morelock
 16 Debra Mincemoyer
 16 Kristyn Ladshaw
 16 Alyssa Gonzalez
 18 Salim Khalil
 22 Verlene Saur
 23 Madyson Kriley
 24 Judith Spindt
 24 Preston Stone
 26 Sandra Amori
 27 Bruce Rockstroh
 27 Greg Mosher
 27 Robert Oestreich
 27 Jillian Wold
 28 Norvin Roessing
 28 Brian Tiemann
 31 Roger Gawlitta

March Anniversaries

Raymond and Michelle Rappmund
 March 1, 2014
 Michael and Marsha Dove
 March 14, 2015
 Greg and Tina Butrico
 March 22, 1986
 Kez and JoAnna Wold
 March 27, 1999
 Andre and Holly Guerin
 March 29, 2003

Peace Prayer Ministry

Peace Lutheran Church has an active Prayer Ministry. We have an Email Prayer Chain, we have a Zoom "Sweet Hour of Prayer" Group that meets every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. and we have



a Prayer loom that is included in our Sunday morning prayers. All are welcome to join our email Prayer Chain

and our Monday morning Prayer Group. We have experienced some amazing, answered prayers this year and we have given comfort to many of our members in their times of distress. Please consider being a part of our Prayer Ministry in this new year. You can email me at

beckyvoges@yahoo.com

Prayers

Barbara Hodde
 Michelle Rappmund
 Rick Smith
 Betty Wilcox
 Major Friedrich
 Tommy Perkins
 Margaret Weese
 Luke Padalecki
 Judy Phife
 Sharon Podojil
 Earl Blaschke
 Art Woytek
 John Claycomb
 Margo Woollven
 Arlene Wold
 Martin Franz
 Helen Probst
 Trice Kastein
 Cody Smith

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Skye, Cora, and Jacob Johnson
 with Pastor Jake



A special celebration to Jacob and Cora Johnson as we give thanks for the public witness of God's promise in their lives. Cora and Jacob were baptized at Peace on February 19th.

We also had the joy of commissioning a new baptismal font. The font is a custom-made bowl in the shape and design of the globe replete with blue and green hues to symbolize the baptism into the entire family of God's kingdom throughout the world.

*For God so loved the world
 that he gave his
 one and only Son,
 that whoever believes in him
 shall not perish
 but have eternal life.
 John 3:16*

In Sympathy



Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Sharon Monroe, who passed away on February 20th.

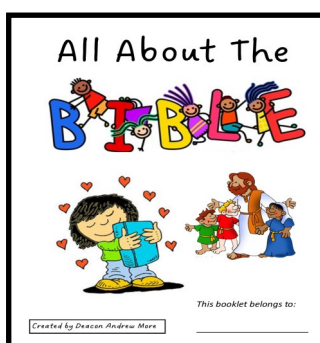
From the Desk of Deacon Andrew



Wow! Two Great Retreats!

Elementary Retreat at Slumber Falls

On Saturday, January 21st we held a retreat for our Kindergarten – 5th grade youth together with St. Andrew. We spent the day at Slumber Falls retreat center, enjoying the beautiful weather, the rushing river, and lots of great conversations and fun! Our retreat theme was ***“All About The Bible”***. Pastor Jake, Pastor Paul and I led the retreat through stories, songs, game, and a special Bible booklet we created for the kids. In the evening, all the families all joined us for a big group dinner. We had a blast and learned a lot!



Confirmation Family Retreat at Ebert Ranch

The beginning of February twelve confirmation youth from Peace and St. Andrew and their families enjoyed a two-day retreat at Ebert Ranch. Our theme was ***“Sabbath”***, and we looked at the biblical origins of sabbath and how God created sabbath as a gift for humanity, for worship, rest, and to encourage us to live healthy balanced lives as individuals, families, and a faith community. Our confirmands went through a high ropes course adventure, and several of our group got to go horseback riding. We had plenty of opportunities for games, crafts, hiking, and even a campfire with S’mores Saturday night. We closed our weekend with an inspiring worship service Sunday before heading home.



From the Desk of Deacon Andrew



Young Family Gathering
Sunday, March 19th
11:30 am—1:00 pm



What Is Lent and Holy Week?

Our Young Family group (families with elementary age and younger) will meet immediately after worship on March 19th to spend time learning about the season of Lent as well as the events and meaning of each part of Holy Week. Pastor Jake and Deacon Andrew will lead us in activities to explore this very important time of the church year and what Lent and Holy Week means to us as people who follow Jesus. Lunch will be provided. To RSVP, please contact Deacon Andrew.



Family Easter Celebration
Saturday, April 8th
10:30 am—Noon

Calling all families with children elementary school age and younger! Join us on Saturday, April 8th @ 10:30 am for an outdoor family Easter celebration at the church featuring an Easter egg hunt, singing, Easter crafts and other activities! Be sure to invite friends!

SAVE THE DATE!

VBS Day Camp Is Coming!

Monday, June 11th—Friday, June 16th
8:30 am—3:30 pm
At Peace Lutheran Church

All children who have completed Kindergarten—5th grade are invited to join us for a fun week of VBS adventures, led by the camp staff from Camp Lutherhill. Registration will open March 15th. Friends are welcome and this is open to the community. For more information or if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Deacon Andrew.



Summer Camp Registration Time!

Cross Trails Ministry Summer Camps are held at Ebert Ranch, Camp Chrysalis and unique off-site locations. Campers share in Christian community as they play, explore and discover a deeper, personal faith while forming friendships and developing skills that last a lifetime. You can view the current availability for the Cross Trails summer camp season at <https://crosstrails.org/availability-calendar/> Please let us know when you register your son/daughter. **This year we've decided that the church will reimburse families for \$300 per camper.** You'll need to turn in your receipt to the church office (either Valerie or Deacon Andrew) in order to receive reimbursement.

Lenten Suppers



Served from 5:30-6:15 p.m.
 Mar. 1 – Pancakes & Sausage
 Mar. 8 – Assorted Casseroles
 Mar. 15 – Baked Potato & Salad
 Mar. 22 – Frito Pie
 Mar. 29 – Hamburgers

St. Baldrick's Day Childhood Cancer Research

Join Brody and Shannon Johnson and Nate Fain on Saturday, March 4th at the Freiheit Country Store from 1pm-4pm to watch these three shave their heads.

Why are we shaving our heads with St. Baldrick's?

Because with your donation "on our heads," together, we can save lives. Research is hope for kids with cancer.



St. Baldrick's began when three Irish-Americans wanted to raise money to provide more resources for child cancer. They started it on St. Patrick's Day and they decided they'd shave their heads to raise support. Hence, the name St. Baldrick stuck. Today it's the largest nongovernmental funding for child cancer research sprawling across the countries with groups forming their own head-shaving venues.



Your gift will give kids hope, supporting the best research across the country, through the largest charitable funder of childhood cancer research grants. Cancer kills more of our kids than any other disease. Join the fight against childhood cancer. You can give, join the team, or show up on March 4th to cheer and support. For more information and for ways to give visit:

www.stbaldricks.org/teams/mypage/135098/2023

Or contact Brody Johnson at 830-609-7291

Peace Feast



You are invited to participate in Peace Feast (a small group gathering for a meal and conversation to get to know one another). The host of the month will be in contact with you to determine the date, time, and location of a meal. It can be either at a restaurant or in a home.

If interested in partaking in a meal, register [HERE!](#)

For more information or questions, please contact Jane Moeller at 830-214-0539 janecmoeller@gmail.com or Darcy Mittelstaedt at 480-231-0658 darcy.mittelstaedt@gmail.com

P.S. We have/had 24 people signed up for February! One group has already met and reported it went very well and looking forward to the next month.

Day Trippers Buggy Barn Outing Thursday, March 16

The Buggy Barn Museum is located in the beautiful hill country of Blanco, Texas. Just 50 miles from almost all surrounding areas; the museum makes it a great place to escape for the day.

There are over 200 unique buggies, carriages and wagons with no two the same! Dating from the 1860s-1900s, you'll be sure to step back in time! Several buggies were used in movies such as the remake of *True Grit*, *Abraham Lincoln Vampire Hunter*, *There Will Be Blood*, *The Redemption of Henry Myers*, *Deliverance Creek*, *Killers of the Flower Moon*; the television series: *Revolution*, *Underground* and so much more!



We will visit the Museum and then find a place to have lunch. Admission is \$10.00 for Seniors. We will meet at the church at 9:00 a.m. and carpool to Blanco. Please RSVP to Becky Voges by March 14, at 830-587-4003.

Peace Lutheran Church
March 2023 Mission Spotlight



Family Promise

of Greater New Braunfels

Family Promise's mission is to help families with children facing homelessness achieve and sustain independence. Families move to a new congregation each week in which they are hosted as guests. Congregations provide shelter, meals, and community for the families in the evenings.

Peace is a host congregation for Family Promise of Greater New Braunfels four times a year. We are hosting families this year on the weeks of **April 9th, May 28th, July 16th, and November 26th.**

Each week we need the following volunteer areas filled to welcome our guests:

- Serve as overnight hosts (2 individuals each night)
- Help with the afternoon/evening set up, clean up, and engagement with families (2 individuals each day)
- Support meal preparation, cooking, and serving (1 to 2 individuals each day)

If you would like to support this cause financially, please make checks out to Peace Lutheran Church. Giving online is available as well by clicking the link or scanning the code below. Regardless of your method of support, please be sure to include "Mission Spotlight" in the memo.

<https://bit.ly/3MP8sPF>

SCAN ME



Little Pantry

Our Little Pantry is blessing lives each day because of your support. As we head into the coldest months of the year we would like to place a few hats and gloves in the pantry for people who stop by. Any donations you have can be placed in the SOS Shopping Cart in the Narthex.

If you would like more information or would like to volunteer to help stock the pantry, please contact Becky Voges at beckyvoges@yahoo.com.



Holy Week Schedule

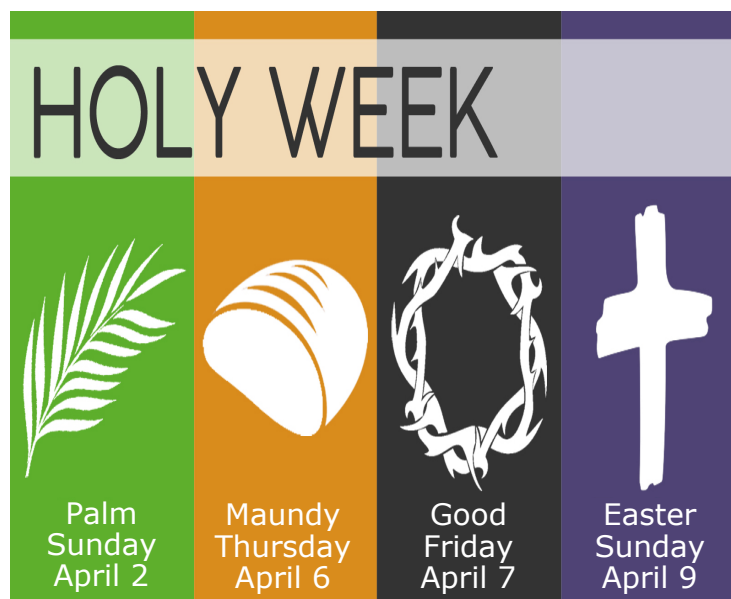
4/2 Palm/Passion Sunday - Join us @ 10am to enter the story of Jesus' final week beginning with the triumphal entry and the waving of Palms.

4/6 Maundy Thursday - Join us @ 6:30pm for the Living Last Supper worship as we sit around the last supper table with Jesus and the disciples.

4/7 Good Friday - Join us @ 6:30pm for a Tenebrae worship commemorating Jesus' death on the cross and the extinguishing of the light of the world.

4/8 Easter Vigil - Join us @ St. John's Episcopal Church at a TBD in a service of light in expectation of dawn of Easter morn.

4/9 Easter - Join us @ 8am or 10am for the joy of Christ's resurrection and Jesus' victory over death.



Annual Church Picnic



Our Annual Outdoor Worship Service and Picnic at Cypress Bend Park is back!

Mark your calendars for **April 30**. The service will begin at 10:00 am, with the picnic meal to follow.

Thrivent for Lutherans will be sponsoring our meat. Attendees will be asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

For more information, contact Becky Voges at beckyvoges@yahoo.com



2023 Flowers

Signing up for flowers is just a click away. We utilize a Sign Up Genius online.



Visit the Peace website at www.peacenb.org. Scroll to the bottom and click on the Flower Button. This will take you directly to the Flower Sign Up Genius.

Please review the available slots, click on the date to sign up, then scroll to the bottom and click the Submit and Sign Up Button. Enter your dedication, name(s), and email. Click the Sign Up Button Now.

The cost of the flowers has increased to \$50.00. Make checks payable to Peace and mark "flowers" in the memo. Contact the church office if you need any assistance.

Nursery News

The Nursery is currently open for the 10:00 am Sunday Service! All volunteers have been certified to serve in this ministry. However, we need more volunteers to help keep it up and running. If you're interested, please contact Deacon Andrew for more details.



Church Council and Ministry Team Leaders 2023

Carol Franz - President
 Megan Wenzel - Vice President
 Matthew Simmont - Secretary
 Don Hodde - Treasurer
 Kathi Anderson - Member At-Large
 Vicki Hillmer - Member At-Large
 David Thomas - Member At-Large
 Forrest Willis - Member At-Large

Fellowship Team - Becky Voges
 Finance Team - James Huston
 Outreach Team - Open
 Property - Open
 Service Team - Brandi Raschke
 Worship Team Judi Miller

Giving at Peace

There are several giving options at Peace: Offering Envelopes; Online Giving (Website); Peace Church App; Bank Drafts. If you would like more information on any of the options listed above, please give our Business Administrator, Valerie, a call at 830-620-0618.



Finances January 2023

FUND	BEGINNING BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSE	TRANSFERS	ENDING BALANCE
General Fund	\$ 26,610.76	\$ 29,696.99	\$ 35,289.82		\$ 21,017.93
Building Fund	\$ 12,875.55	\$ 6,025.41	\$ 7,913.73*		\$ 10,987.23
Endowment Fund	\$ 7,310.69	\$ 132.46	\$ 0.00		\$ 7,443.15
Endowment Investment Fund	\$ 119,333.64	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 119,333.64
Deferred Maintenance Fund	\$ 5,801.43	\$ 5.84	\$ 3,154.00**	\$ 1,000.00***	\$ 3,653.27
Designated Funds	\$ 33,936.09	\$ 1,866.64	\$ 1,426.64		\$ 34,376.09
Total Funds	\$ 205,868.16	\$ 37,727.34	\$ 47,784.19	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 196,811.31

*\$7,913.73: \$2,000.00 - Vented Laundry Room and Bathroom; \$5,913.73 - Insurance Claim: Water Restoration and Move Supply Register and Repair Blower Wheel in Air Handler

**\$3,154.00: Replaced Sodium Vapor Lights; Installed Photo Cells; Installed Lights for Cross and Playground

***\$1,000.00: Property Plant Equipment Reserve Transfer to Deferred Maintenance



Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Friday
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Worship Service

Sunday
10:00 am - Indoor Worship and Livestream @ Peace
peacemb.org/live

Peace Lutheran Church
1147 S. Walnut Ave.
New Braunfels, TX 78130
Web address: www.peacemb.org
830-620-0618

830-312-8797 - Pastor Jake Fain
830-609-8359 - Valerie Wood



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