

Peace Lutheran Church  
Newsletter  
February 2026

Love God, Love People,  
and Serve the World!



Happy Valentine's Day

**Mission:**  
To love like Jesus so  
that each person  
experiences God's way.

## Valentine's Breakfast

### Valentine's Breakfast

Feb. 15, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Come join us for a full breakfast prepared  
with love, for the people we love!



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

|                                                |   |
|------------------------------------------------|---|
| <i>A Message from the Pastor</i>               | 2 |
| <i>Worship &amp; The Little Pantry</i>         | 3 |
| <i>Groups</i>                                  | 4 |
| <i>New Worship Display Fundraising</i>         | 5 |
| <i>Volunteering &amp; Giving</i>               | 6 |
| <i>Mission Spotlight</i>                       | 7 |
| <i>Birthdays, Anniversaries, &amp; Prayers</i> | 8 |
| <i>Giving &amp; Contact</i>                    | 9 |

## A Message from the Pastor

### Pastor's Message Dinner Church

#### What Is Dinner Church?

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus does some of his most important ministry around tables. One scholar writes, "In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus is either headed to meal, enjoying a meal, or headed from a meal."

Indeed, every time we worship we center around the Table to receive his body and blood in remembrance of him and his gracious gift of life. For the first 300 years, Christianity was done around dinner tables more than any other way.

#### **Dinner Church is worship centered around a shared meal.**

We gather around tables to eat together, hear scripture, reflect in conversation, pray, and sing. It's church that engages the whole person—body, mind, and spirit. Instead of rows and pews, there are tables. Instead of long sermons, there is listening, storytelling, and space for God to meet us in community.

Dinner Church is intentionally simple and welcoming. You don't need to know the "right" words. You don't need to be a regular churchgoer. You don't need to have everything figured out. Dinner Church is for anyone longing for connection, rest, and a place to belong. So whether you have been a Christian all your life, or if you're someone seeking Spirit and truth, everyone is hungry and God feeds us around tables.

After we share a meal in the community space, we move together into the sanctuary for a time of prayer and meditative song. This gentle transition allows us to carry what we've shared at the table into a quieter space with God—holding our joys, concerns, and hopes before Christ.



## Worship

### Hungry for Jesus: Dinner Church in Lent

This Lent, our Dinner Church gatherings will follow the theme **Hungry for Jesus**. Lent reminds us that we are people who hunger—not only for food, but for meaning, forgiveness, healing, and hope. Rather than ignoring that hunger or trying to fill it ourselves, this season invites us to bring it honestly to Jesus, the Bread of Life.

Over five Wednesdays in Lent, we'll explore what it means to:

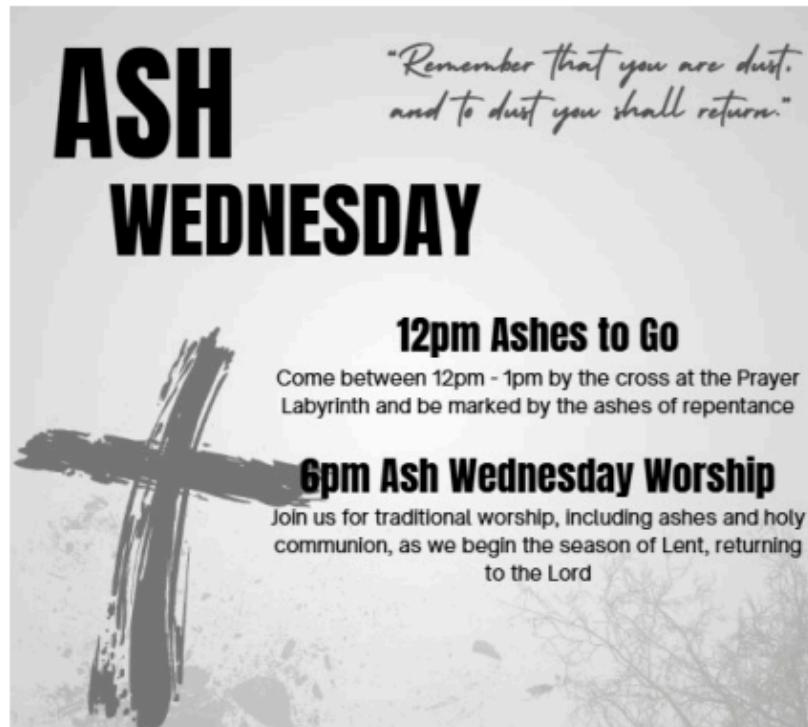
- Name our hunger
- Trust Jesus to feed us
- Receive grace
- Share what we've been given
- Be sent to nourish a hungry world

#### Wednesdays in Lent:

**February 18**

**Ash Wednesday**

(No Dinner Church—traditional Worship)



February 25 • March 4 • March 11 • March 18 • March 25

#### 6pm—7:15pm Meals, Community, Discipleship, Worship

Come for one week or all five. Come alone or bring a friend. Come as you are. There will be food at the table, space for conversation, and room for prayer.

In a season that calls us to slow down and return to God, Dinner Church offers a place to be fed—by community, by grace, and by Jesus himself.

There is a seat waiting for you at the table.

Peace,  
*Pastor Jake*



## *Sisters in Christ Group*



**February 25, 11:00 a.m.**

All women of Peace are cordially invited to join us for  
Lunch at Krause's Café at 148 S. Castell St. No  
RSVP required, just come!

### *Annual Reminder for Thrivent Choice Dollars*

Thrivent is a membership-owned fraternal organization dedicated to serving the unique needs of our clients—guiding them toward financial choices that will help them live the lives they want today and tomorrow.

As a fraternal benefit society, we have a shared purpose, have clients who share a common Christian bond, provide mutual protection in the form of insurance to eligible clients and offer clients opportunities to support their local communities through regional Thrivent Member Networks.

Through Thrivent Choice®, members can contribute to organizations and causes they care about—and influence how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funding through Choice Dollars®. Peace Lutheran Church New Braunfels is a designated organization to receive Choice Dollars.

Through Thrivent Choice®, more than \$618 million has been distributed to churches and nonprofits nationwide.

Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year.

Any questions can be directed to Michele Bauman.

## Help Peace Towards a New Worship Display



We're launching **VisionCast** – “Bringing Every Message into Clear View”

- Makes Scripture, Lyrics, and Announcements easier to see
- Ways to Give: Offering (Memo: **VisionCast**), Online, Church Office
- *Thank you for making worship brighter!*

## VisionCast: “Bringing Every Message Into Clear View.”

- We're upgrading our sanctuary with a new display to make worship clearer, more accessible, and more engaging for everyone.
- From Scripture and song lyrics to announcements and community updates, VisionCast will help us share the Word with crystal clarity.
- **Why it matters**
  1. **Readable Scripture & lyrics** for all ages and seating areas
  2. **Accessible visuals** for guests and those with sight or hearing challenges
  3. **Clear announcements** for events, ministries, and prayer needs
- **How you can help (every dollar makes a difference)**
- **“Give what you can—every contribution counts.”**
- **“Small gifts, big impact for our sanctuary.”**
- **Ways to give**
  1. **Offering:** Note “**VisionCast**” on your envelope or check memo
  2. **Online:** Use our giving page and select **VisionCast**
  3. **Church Office:** Drop off a contribution during office hours
- **Join hands to make worship brighter.** Thank you for helping bring every message into clear view for our church family and guests.

## ***Family Promise***

Once again, our church family has completed a year of giving and supporting the families that are experiencing homelessness in the Family Promise program. The program is evolving and currently the families are remaining at the Day Center, with us bringing the evening meal to them.

Due to space limitations at the Center, dining with them can be a little crowded, so we are planning to provide a small potluck, the first Sunday of our rotation, at Peace Lutheran. This will give us an opportunity to get to know them, and allows them to see that Peace is invested in helping them succeed.

The program is going through a growth phase, with a new Social Worker coming on board the end of January, as well as two other new staff members. Our next rotation is set for Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> thru Saturday, March 7. Watch for information, as it becomes available in future Eblasts and posters in the Narthex as Family Promise grows and addresses the needs of the unhoused in our community.

Tentatively, our potluck will occur on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Let me know if you are interested in taking part.

Peace  
Karen Laughlin FP coordinator

## ***Mission Spotlights for 2026***

- January 25 - First Footing
- February 22 - SOS Foodbank
- March 22 - Family Promise
- April 26 - United Campus Ministry
- May 24 - Peaceful Quilters
- June 28 - School Supplies
- July 26 - Communities in Schools School Supplies
- August 23 - Lutheran World Relief
- September 27 - Peace Pantry
- October 25 - Crisis Center
- November 22 - Salvation Army
- Bell Ringers - Angel Tree
- December 27 - Family Life Center

*Dates and missions are subject to change*

## February Mission Spotlight

Our Mission Spotlight is Spirit of Sharing (SOS) Food Bank. In 1988 a single church started SOS, over time, many other churches and service organizations have partnered to continue the mission.

Spirit of Sharing is dedicated to preventing hunger in our community. They offer an emergency food supply for anyone and require only a photo ID. This service is limited to once every six months, but clients requiring emergency help are encouraged to join a monthly allotment program if the need persists.

The monthly allotment program provides food to residents of the Greater New Braunfels area who have completed the registration process.

SOS is open six days a week and Peace Lutheran is an active member church. A dedicated group meets the second Monday of each month at the Food Bank located at 250 W. Meriweather Street from 1pm to 4pm to distribute food to SOS clients.

Other opportunities to support this mission are available. The “Ugly Shopping Cart” in the Narthex collects all nonperishable food donations for the Food Bank. Prayerfully lift up this cause as it continues to follow Jesus’ mission to take care of our neighbors.

Please contact Martin or Carol Franz if you would like more information.

Sunday, February 22, we will spotlight SOS Food Bank. A dedicated offering will be collected.

Peace  
Karen Laughlin, Service Chair



## ***Birthdays***

David Keeler 02/03  
 Antonio Rosales 02/03  
 Anthony Rosales 02/06  
 Lavonne Ohnheiser 02/08  
 Pamela Kurczewski 02/09  
 Taylor Martinez 02/10  
 M. L. Friedrich 02/11  
 John Kassel 02/14  
 JoAnna Wold 02/15  
 Larry Carney 02/19  
 Steven Robbins 02/21  
 Joseph Wold 02/23  
 Jathan Tucker 02/24  
 Michelle Ohlschwager 02/26  
 Amy Lawrence 02/27  
 Vicki Ralph 02/28  
 Michele Kriley 02/28

## ***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. You can email Becky at [beckyvoges@yahoo.com](mailto:beckyvoges@yahoo.com) for info.



## ***Anniversaries***

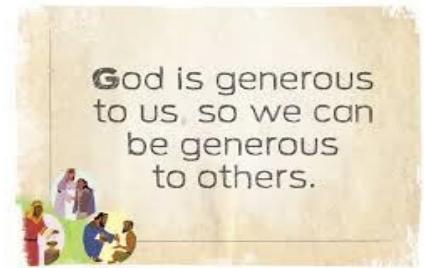
Bobby & Karen Laughlin  
 02/02/1980 - 46 years  
 Don Ohlschwager Jr. & Karen Ryan  
 02/24/2018 - 8 years

## ***Prayers***

Earl Blaschke  
 Martin Franz  
 Carol Franz  
 Jim Miller  
 Rick Smith  
 John Claycomb  
 Arlene Wold  
 Stella Leissner  
 Earl Koester  
 Jenny Phillips

## ***Giving at Peace***

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



**Peace Lutheran  
Church**  
1147 S. Walnut Ave.  
New Braunfels, TX 78130

Web address:  
[www.peacenb.org](http://www.peacenb.org)  
830-620-0618  
Pastor Jake Fain  
830-312-8797

**OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday - Thursday**  
9:00 am - 2:30 pm

**Friday**  
Office Closed

**Sunday**  
10:00 am - Worship  
Livestream @ [peacenb.org/live](http://peacenb.org/live)