

**Peace Lutheran Church
Newsletter
April 2026**

**Love God, Love People,
and Serve the World!**



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

Upcoming Events



Peace Lutheran/St. Andrew Annual Picnic

April 26, 10:00 a.m. Worship

(Lunch to follow Worship)

Comal County Fairgrounds

We will supply the meat and beverages, you bring a vegetable or desert side. Special thanks to Thrivent for Lutherans for donating the meat for our picnic. We are in the Food Court, which is covered, so we will have our picnic rain or shine.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>Pastor's Message</i>	2
<i>Worship</i>	3
<i>Summer Staff</i>	4
<i>Church Potluck</i>	4
<i>Sisters & Brothers in Christ</i>	5
<i>Little Pantry Angels Needed</i>	5
<i>Peace Council Corner & Spiritual Gifts</i>	6
<i>April Mission Spotlight</i>	7
<i>Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Prayers</i>	8
<i>Giving & Contact</i>	9

Pastor's Message

Pastor's Message: Entering Holy Week

Holy Week is the heart of our faith. It is the culmination of Jesus' ministry in which we celebrate each year as the holiest time to enter God's presence.

It is not just a story we remember—it is a journey we enter. From the table to the cross to the empty tomb, we walk with Jesus through love, suffering, and ultimately, new life. Each step invites us to slow down, to pay attention, and to open our hearts again to what God is doing.



Preparing for Holy Week doesn't require perfection—it simply asks for presence. Make space. Come with honesty. Bring your whole self—your questions, your burdens, your hopes. Let the story shape you as you move through it.

This year, we invite you into four powerful experiences:

- **6pm Maundy Thursday – A Living Last Supper**
Step into the upper room and hear the voices of the disciples as Jesus gives us a new commandment: to love one another.
- **6pm Good Friday – The Seven Last Words of Jesus**
Gather at the foot of the cross and reflect on Christ's final words—words of forgiveness, suffering, and surrender.
- **8pm Easter Vigil – with St. John's Episcopal Church**
In the quiet darkness, we listen, remember, and watch for the first light of resurrection breaking in.
- **8am & 10am Easter Morning – The Resurrection of Our Lord**
Celebrate the transforming power of the risen Christ, who meets us even now and calls us into new life.

Holy Week reminds us that God does some of God's deepest work in the places we least expect—around tables, in suffering, in silence, and in the breaking of a new dawn. Come and walk the story. And discover how it is already shaping yours.

Worship

Narrative Lectionary April Worship Series: The Good News Spreads

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY

The story doesn't end at the empty tomb—it begins there.

This April, we journey through the powerful movement of the gospel as it breaks through fear, doubt, and even prison walls. From resurrection morning to lives radically transformed, we'll witness how the risen Jesus continues to show up, call people by name, and send ordinary people into extraordinary purpose.

- **April 5 — John 20:1-18**

Jesus is Risen! In the quiet of the garden, grief turns to joy as Mary encounters the risen Christ.

- **April 12 — John 20:19-31**

Thomas Doubts Jesus meets us in our questions and invites us to believe beyond what we can see.

- **April 19 — Acts 9:1-19a**

Saul's Conversion A persecutor becomes a proclaimer—because grace has the power to rewrite any story.

- **April 26 — Acts 16:16-34**

Paul in Prison Even in chains, the good news cannot be contained. God is still setting people free.

Come and experience how the good news is not just something we hear—it's something that spreads, transforms, and sends us out into the world.



New Staff for Summer 2026

Summer Staff Support



This summer we have contracted with Lairsey Griffin to help us with our Discipleship programming for our youth.

She'll be leading programs like Summer Day Camp (VBS), GraceWorks servant camp week, and organizing God's Story Time. Be on the lookout for more info for registrations.

Lairsey's Bio:

Hey Peace! My name is Lairsey Griffin and I am super excited to start serving the families and youth in this community! I have ministry experience as a senior counselor at Lutherhill for 4 years!

I was also the Faith and Fellowship intern at the United Campus Ministry at Texas State University! I graduated with a Bachelor's in Sociology in May and am currently teaching English and ESL at Lockhart Junior High School. Please feel free to reach out with any questions!

Phone: (936) 494-9757

Email: lairsceygriffin@gmail.com

Church Potluck Every 5th Sunday

5th Sunday Potluck – March 29th

In an effort to build community and remain connected as a church, the church council is bringing back 5th Sunday potlucks after worship. The next 5th Sunday is **March 29th** (Palm Sunday). Bring a dish to share and a chance to sit down with others and listen to God's Spirit speak through your neighbor. Our church council and ministry leaders will also share some of the happening this coming quarter.



Sisters and Brothers in Christ



Sisters and Brothers In Christ

We will be traveling to Kerrville to see the Empty Cross and the Sculpture Gardens on Weds., April 22. We will meet at the church at 10:00 a.m. to carpool to Kerrville. Please contact Becky if you plan to come at 830-587-4003. Yes, the men are invited to join this time!

Peace Little Pantry Angels Needed



Little Pantry Angels Needed!

**Would like to take a month to take care of our Little Pantry?
Contact Becky Voges at 830-587-4003 for more information.**

Council Corner: Information from Church Council Meeting—March 26, 2026

The following highlights are from the March meeting.

Synod representative— Mike Stallings is a lay representative on the Southwestern Texas synod council, and provides a direct line of communication from the congregation to the synod. Mike informed the church council of grants that are available, such as the Transformational Ministry grant and the Tiemann Leadership Development grant. For individuals that are interested, there is more information on the synod website, <https://www.swtsynod.org/>, or you may speak with Mike Stallings. If you would like to receive the synod newsletter and communications from the bishop, <https://www.swtsynod.org/enews> provides a link for signing up.

Summer staff— Lairscey Griffin will be directing activities this summer for our youth. This will include Vacation Bible School, Grace Works, and God's Story Time. We are excited to welcome her as an addition to our faith formation ministry.

Governance reform— The Governance team will be working hard in the next 6 weeks to update our church's constitution and revise by-laws and resolutions. A major goal is to center our part of the document around the 4 pillars of Worship, Community, Stewardship, and Discipleship. The ministry teams will also be incorporated into those 4 pillars.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to speak to any council member.

Spiritual Gifts - Mercy

What are Our Spiritual Gifts?

Christian discipleship is a journey of living out and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. The more that we can discover who we are and whose we are, the more we can appreciate the journey to which we have been called. This includes discovering our Spiritual Gifts. Each one of us is given gifts by the Holy Spirit that shape who we are and how we operate in the body of Christ. When we identify these gifts, we can better use them to grow in faith, life and discipleship.

Each month we will highlight one of the spiritual gifts that are part of our Spiritual Gifts Assessment. This month we will highlight the gift of **Mercy**.

Mercy is the spiritual gift that moves the receiver to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need & act to meet that need. People with this gift are empathetic, caring responsive, kind, compassionate, sensitive and burdenbearing

Take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment today!

Scan the QR Code or go to:

<https://www.peacenb.org/pages/spiritual-gifts-survey>



April Mission Spotlight

The April Mission Spotlight joins the Southwestern Texas Synod 2026 Assembly as it convenes May 1-2 with an offering designated for the Tiemann Leadership Fund.

The Tiemann Endowment Fund for Leadership Development was established by the Synod in 2018 for the continuing education of clergy, lay leaders and deacons. An annual distribution of about \$6,000 has been granted to equip lay leaders, pastors, and deacons serving under Letter of Call in building and strengthening our congregations and ministries.

The Endowment Fund was created to honor Bishop Tiemann's eighteen years of faithful service and to invest boldly in the future of the church.

The vision was simple and powerful. Create a fund that leaders, especially lay leaders, could access for leadership development, continuing education, and formation, ensuring God's work continues through well-equipped and confident servants.

Today the Tiemann Endowment is a permanent fund managed by the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest, with grants awarded annually under the oversight of the Synod Council.

As this endowment grows, so does its impact. It will provide lasting support for lay leadership development and new models of ministry— investing in leaders who will serve faithfully in shaping the future.

Please join Peace Lutheran by prayerfully joining the Synod as it lifts up The Tiemann Leadership Fund. Sunday, April 26 as we collect a designated offering to benefit the Tiemann Leadership Fund.

Peace
Karen Laughlin
Service chair



Birthdays

Jadelynn Lawton 04/01
 Alvin Bravenec 04/02
 Kathleen Mosher 04/04
 Missy Paullus 04/04
 Bruce Thatcher 04/04
 Frank Krause 04/06
 Terry Westerman 04/07
 Evelyn Healey 04/08
 Kimberley Huntsman 04/08
 Judy McCarthy 04/09
 Emma Fain 04/09
 Gwen Briner 04/12
 Sharon Anderson 04/13
 Ann Keeler 04/14
 Ashlee Lynch 04/15
 Carola Davis 04/15
 Jane Moeller 04/16
 Vicky Roda 04/16
 Jace Kaufman 04/17
 Matthew Tippens 04/18
 Courtney Peebles 04/25
 Lukas Tippens 04/25
 Bradley Thomas 04/26
 Alise Davenport 04/26
 Camryn Wilkie-Dickman 04/27
 Brandie Luce 04/29

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 for info.



Anniversaries

Rory McNeill & Gabe Rodriguez
 04/06/2014 - 12 years
 John & Patti Kassel
 04/07/2001 - 25 years
 Amy & Bill Lawrence
 04/15/2011 - 15 years
 Brody & Shannon Johnson
 04/22/2000 - 26 years
 James & Brandy Huston
 04/24/2004 - 22 years
 Justin & Miranda Fryar
 04/26/2025 - 1 year
 Beverly & Jim Giacoletti
 04/27/1984 - 42 years

Prayers

Earl Blaschke
 Martin Franz
 Carol Franz
 Jim Miller
 Rick Smith
 Bonnie 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

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Web address:
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