

*Peace Lutheran Church
Newsletter
May 2026*

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



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

Upcoming Events

Mother's Day

Breakfast

May 10, 8:00 – 9:30

We would like to honor the women in our lives with a special breakfast. The men will be preparing the breakfast so we can just sit back and enjoy it. We hope to see you there.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>Pastor's Message</i>	2
<i>Pastoral Care</i>	3
<i>Summer Staff</i>	4
<i>Grace Works Camp</i>	5
<i>Sisters in Christ</i>	6
<i>Little Pantry Angels Needed</i>	6
<i>Peace Council Corner & Spiritual Gifts</i>	7
<i>Mission Spotlight</i>	8
<i>Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Prayers</i>	9
<i>Giving & Contact</i>	10

Pastor's Message

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A Summer of Sabbatical: An Invitation to Renewal

This summer marks an important season in the life of our congregation. From **May 18 through August 17**, I will be stepping away for a sabbatical—a sacred time set apart for rest, renewal, and reconnection with God. Sabbatical is not simply time off; it is a spiritual practice rooted in trust—that God is at work not only through us, but also beyond us.

But here's the deeper invitation: **this is not just MY sabbatical—it is YOURS too.**

In a culture that equates stepping away with checking out, the way of Jesus invites something different. Sabbatical is not disengagement—it is **intentional re-engagement with what matters most**. It is a chance to slow down, listen more deeply, reconnect with God, and rediscover the beauty of community and purpose.

So rather than drifting away this summer, what if we leaned in?

Worship Series: Rooted & Reaching – Our Worship Team has thoughtfully prepared a summer series that mirrors this journey of renewal. Together, we'll explore three movements of faith:

- **Spirituality: The Inner Journey** – Deepening our relationship with God
- **Family: Beloved Community** – Strengthening our life together
- **Community: Witness in the World** – Living out our faith beyond these walls

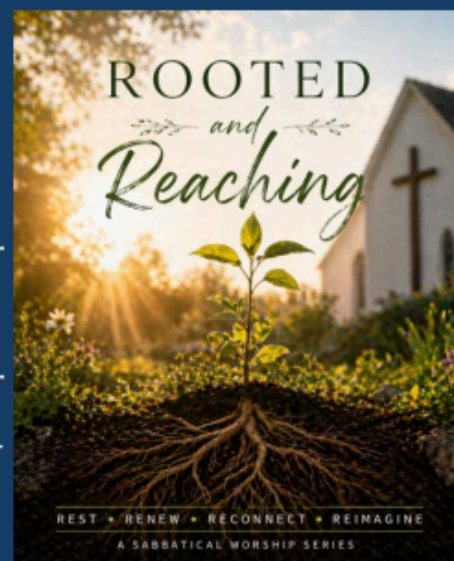
We will also welcome three special preachers, bringing fresh voices and perspectives, while Pastor Judi Miller will serve as a steady pastoral presence—helping weave these themes together and providing continuity throughout the summer.



Pastor Judi Miller

Staying Connected & Supported

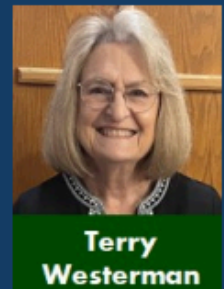
Even as rhythms shift, the ministry of the church continues strong. Care and leadership will be shared across our community. Please don't hesitate to reach out when there is a need. The congregation is here to support and walk with you throughout your life's journey.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care

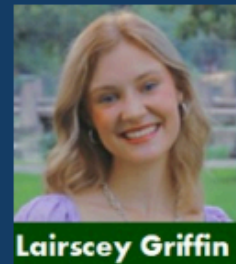
- The Compassion Team will lead visitation and care
- Deacon Terry Westerman will serve as the first point of contact
- Pastor Judi Miller will be available for emergencies (funerals, crises)



Youth & Family Ministry

Lairscey Griffin will provide part-time leadership, including:

- VBS Day Camp (elementary)
- GraceWorks servant week (middle & high school)
- Summer curriculum for God's Story Time in worship
- Monthly family activities



Who to Contact

- General Questions: Madison Briseno or Theresa Robinson (Office)
- Worship: Pastor Judi Miller
- Pastoral Care: Deacon Terry Westerman
- Administration: Dan Hill (congregational president)
- Youth Ministry: Lairscey Griffin

Your Sabbatical Invitation

What might it look like for you to embrace a sabbatical rhythm this summer?

Maybe it's:

- Setting aside intentional time for prayer or Scripture
- Reconnecting with family or meaningful relationships
- Serving in a new way or stepping into community
- Practicing rest—not as escape, but as trust



Sabbatical is ultimately about remembering this truth: **You are not what you produce. You are who God loves.**



As a congregation called "to love like Jesus so that each person experiences God's way," this summer is an opportunity to live that out more deeply—personally and together. So don't check out.

Lean in. Listen deeply. Be renewed.

And trust that even in the quiet, God is doing something new—in you, in us, and through us for the sake of the world.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jake



Summer Staff Support

Summer Staff Support



This summer we have contracted with Lairscey 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.

Lairscey's Bio:

Hey Peace! My name is Lairscey 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 Office Support

Need help? Our office staff are here to support the ministry of the church. Contact the church office 830-620-0618:

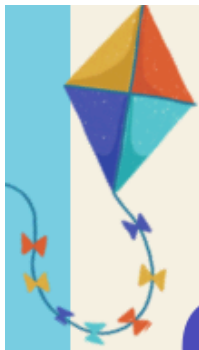


Office Administrator
Madison Clark Briseno
office@peacenb.org



Business Administrator
Theresa Robinson
finance@peacenb.org

Grace Works Camp



Peace New
Braunfels'

GRACE WORKS CAMP

Join us for a week of
serving our neighbor and
strengthening our
relationship with Christ!

Camp Highlights:

- Different Service Opportunity Each Day
- Valuable Conversations About Christ's Call to Serve
- Lunch and Transportation Provided



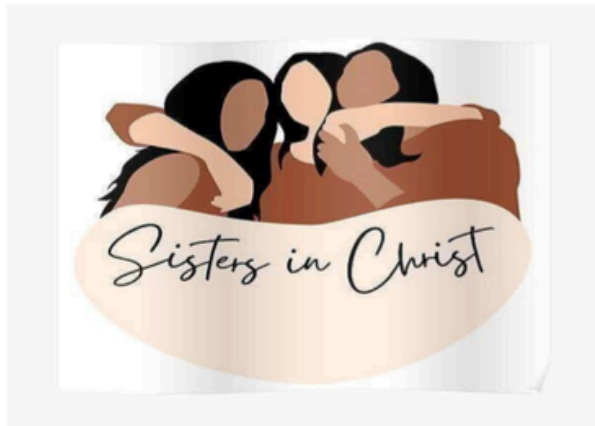
CAMP DETAILS

- Campers must be finishing grades 5-12
- Camp is from 9:00-4:00 each day!
- Call Lairscey Griffin with any questions at (936) 494-9757



Register
Here to
Participate!

Sisters in Christ



May 27, 11:00 a.m.

We will enjoy lunch together at
Chicken Salad Chick (1050 FM306).

You can meet us there, but I would like
to know if you plan to be there. Text
Becky Voges at 830-587-4003.

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—April 23, 2026

The following highlights are from the April meeting.

Governance reform— The Governance team has been working to revise our church’s constitution, by-laws and resolutions. The 4 pillars of Worship, Community, Stewardship, and Discipleship are being incorporated into a document that will ensure that Peace Lutheran continues to look forward in the ministry of the congregation. The ministry teams’ roles and alignment within the pillars are being updated to reflect changes in committee functions from many years ago. The timeline projection for the new constitution is the synod approval in September, and congregational approval meetings thereafter.

Pastor’s Sabbatical— Pastor Jake discussed ministry plans while he is away on Sabbatical. These are centered around a theme of Rooted and Reaching, with an emphasis that this is a faith journey for ALL of us! Please check the article in the May newsletter for this information.

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

Spiritual Gifts - Music

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 **Music**.

Music is the spiritual gift that enables the receiver to express personal faith and provide inspiration and comfort through singing or playing instruments.

Take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment today!



Scan the QR Code or go to:

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

May Mission Spotlight - Peaceful Quilters

Our May Mission Spotlight focuses on the industrious Peaceful Quilters of Peace Lutheran. Since 1999, with few exceptions, every Tuesday 6 to 10 faithful quilters arrive at 9 am or later and stay as long as their personal schedules allow, some as late as 2 or 3pm. That first year, 16 quilts were produced and sent to Lutheran World Relief.

Peaceful Quilters are both nonmembers and members of Peace Lutheran with active members serving this mission in excess of 20 years. During this time, community and church projects have included toss pillows for New Life at Canyon Lake, School Kits, Baby Layettes, Personal and Health kits, crocheted plastic mats and Home Altar Cloths for members of Peace.

October 2025 the Quilters completed over 400 quilts, with approximately 100 staying locally with clients of First Footing, Comal Crisis Center, New Life in Canyon Lake and Family Promise. The remainder join quilts from other churches and are sent internationally or remain in the US for disaster victims of flood, fire, earthquakes or hurricanes.

As of April 1, 2026, over 200 quilts have been completed with 75 quilts remaining in our area, along with 31 pillows to New Life, 5 crocheted blankets and a lap quilt to the Crisis Center. At the end of October 2026, all quilts designated for Lutheran World Relief will be blessed and sent on their way to people in need.

This year, an anonymous donor has generously come forward to match any funds collected for the May Mission Spotlight, benefiting Peaceful Quilters.

Most of the supplies used in the creation of the quilts are graciously donated. Colored or printed flat and fitted sheets and cotton fabrics, solid or printed are always welcomed. Monetary donations go to purchasing batting, the most costly item, or the shipping of the quilts in the fall.

May Mission Spotlight, will be Sunday, May 24th, and a dedicated offering will be collected for Peaceful Quilters.



Please continue to keep this labor of love in your prayers. Contact Carol Thatcher or Susan Heise if you are interested in donating time or supplies to the Peaceful Quilters.

Peace,
Karen Laughlin, Service Chair

Birthdays

Wade Ohnheiser 05/01
 Patti Kassel 05/02
 Carol Franz 05/05
 Kathi Chapman 05/06
 Brent Paullus 05/07
 Sydney Paullus 05/08
 Carson Tiemann 05/08
 Karen Laughlin 05/12
 Kellie Stallings 05/14
 Claire Friedrich 05/18
 Judy Phife 05/19
 Dannie Hill 05/21
 Rebecca Voges 05/21
 J. T. Miller 05/31

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

Steven & Kathleen Anderson
 05/01/1976 - 50 years
 David & Cindy Thomas
 05/03/1980 - 46 years
 Michael & Jamie Grimes
 05/06/1984 - 42 years
 Natanael Lizarazo Florez &
 Barbara Wangsness
 05/07/1988 - 38 years
 Mike & Kellie Stallings
 05/14/1988 - 38 years
 Wilfred & Becky Voges
 05/16/1970 - 56 years
 Roger & (Clara) Gawlitta
 05/22/1965 - 61 years
 Dan & Sinead Healey
 05/25/2003 - 23 years
 Tim & Erika Kaufman
 05/30/1998 - 28 years

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
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