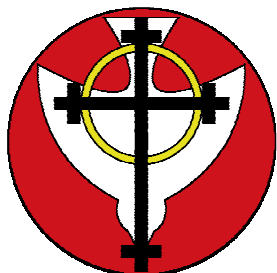


# The Peace Post

Peace Lutheran Church ~ Alma, MI

Vol. 10, No. 4 April 2014

Peace Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. We believe, teach, and confess the doctrine of the evangelical, catholic faith as it is taught by Holy Scripture and faithfully confessed in the Book of Concord of 1580. We are committed to the pure preaching of God's Word and the right administration of the Holy Sacraments, catechesis of all people in the Christian faith, and liturgical worship consistent with our Reformation heritage. We are an evangelical, orthodox, and catholic congregation, proclaiming Jesus Christ crucified, risen, and reigning for the salvation of the world!



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## From the Desk of Pastor Messer

### "The Holiest Week of the Year"

In just a couple weeks, we will enter the most important week in the Church Year. Holy Week is so named because, well, it is the holiest week of the year. Why? Because, during this week, we commemorate the Passion of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, by which He won salvation for us through His holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death. This is the week when we most fully meditate upon the mysterious and glorious work our Lord did in our place and on our behalf. This is the week when the reason for our celebration at Christmas finds its fulfillment, for the Baby born in Bethlehem came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and became man precisely to do what He does during Holy Week—to suffer and die on the cross to save us, and to rise on the third day to open for us the way to eternal life.

The whole world should stop everything during this week and take time to meditate upon its holy events. But, the whole world won't do that. This will just be another week for the world. Businesses will not close; sporting events will not be put on hold; the television will not cease broadcasting its shows, and so on. The world will march through this week without giving its holy nature a second thought.

This is to be expected, of course. The world wants nothing to do with Christ and His salvation, as we're learning more and more each day in our own country. There is nothing holy about this week in the eyes of the unbelieving, dead and dying world.

But, who would expect Christians to allow this week to come and go without embracing its holy nature? Indeed, how could Christians possibly let this week just pass them by? It seems unthinkable, and yet, this is exactly what many Christians do. They pay the holiest week of the year little attention, if any—and that is very sad.

I pray fervently that such will not be the case with the saints here at Peace. Do not let this week just pass you by, dear friends. You are Christians, and Holy Week is all about what your Lord and Savior did for you, so that you may receive the blessings which belong to Christians.

As has been our custom here for years now, we will have multiple Services daily during this Holiest of Weeks (see the full schedule on the next page). I pray that many will take advantage of them. At the very least, you should try to make the beautifully solemn Services on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. These set the stage for the joy of the Paschal Feast on Easter Sunday, and you will be blessed all the more having held the Passion and Death of Jesus in devout remembrance. Indeed, to that end, let the following prayer be said of the saints at Peace this Holy Week:

*We implore You, O Lord, that Your abundant blessing may be upon Your people who have held the Passion and Death of Your Son in devout remembrance, that we may receive Your pardon and the gift of Your comfort, and may increase in faith and take hold of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

# Holy Week Schedule



## Palm/Passion Sunday—April 13

9:30 a.m.—Divine Service w/Procession of Palms

*To commemorate our Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall and process into the nave together carrying palm branches and singing, "All Glory, Laud, and Honor." Divine Service with Holy Communion, including the responsive reading of the Passion of Our Lord According to St. Matthew, the Evangelist, will follow.*



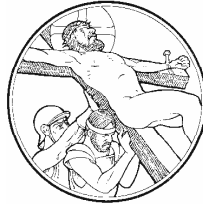
## Holy Monday—April 14

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

5:15 p.m.—Vespers

6:00 p.m.—Divine Service



## Holy Tuesday—April 15

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

5:15 p.m.—Vespers

6:00 p.m.—Divine Service



## Holy Wednesday—April 16

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

5:15 p.m.—Vespers

6:00 p.m.—Divine Service

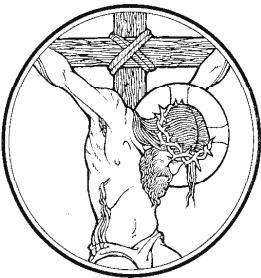
*We will begin each day throughout Holy Week with the praying of Matins at 7:30 a.m. Divine Service (spoken liturgy) will be held at both Noon and 6:00 p.m. on Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, and Holy Wednesday. The Divine Service on these days will be the same at Noon and 6:00 p.m. to allow everyone the opportunity to attend and receive the blessings of Word and Sacrament. We will pray Vespers on these days at 5:15 p.m. Matins and Vespers will continue to follow the readings and Psalm schedule we have been following on Wednesdays since last fall.*



## Holy (Maundy) Thursday—April 17

7:30 a.m.—Matins 12:00 p.m.—Divine Service 6:15 p.m.—Vespers 7:00 p.m.—Divine Service

*The focus on this Most Holy Day is on the Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood, which He instituted on the night when He was betrayed. The Divine Service at 7:00 p.m. will be different from the spoken Divine Service at Noon, and will include the "Christian Questions with Their Answers," written by Dr. Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament, and will conclude with the Stripping of the Altar while Psalm 22 is being read. Please note the later starting times for Vespers and the evening Divine Service, as we will follow our traditional schedule from Holy Thursday through Easter Day.*



## Good Friday—April 18

7:30 a.m.—Matins

12:00 p.m.—Divine Service

3:00 p.m.—Devotion at the  
Sacred Hour

6:30 p.m.—Vespers

7:30 p.m.—Tenebrae

*The Sacred Noonday Good Friday Service will focus on the Seven Words of Christ from the Holy Cross, and will include the Procession of the Sacred Cross and the Distribution of Holy Communion. A short devotion will take place at the Sacred Hour (3:00 p.m.) in which our Lord gave up His Spirit and died. Vespers will be prayed at 6:30 p.m., and the evening Tenebrae Service, which is completely different from the Noon Service, will be held at 7:30 p.m. in order allow it to be a little darker in the church for the dramatic conclusion to this Most Holy and deeply profound Service.*



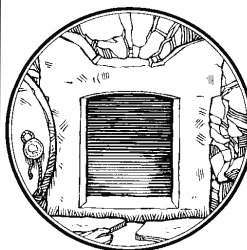
## Holy Saturday—April 19

7:30 a.m.—Matins

10:00 a.m.—Divine Service

7:00 p.m.—Easter Vigil

*After Holy Saturday Divine Service at 10:00 a.m., we will decorate the Church for Easter. Then, we will gather together at 7:00 p.m. for Easter Vigil, one of the most ancient and special Services within the tradition of the Holy Church.*



## Easter Sunday—April 20

7:30 a.m.—Matins

8:30 a.m.—Easter Breakfast

9:30 a.m.—Divine Service

*Easter Sunday begins with the singing of Matins at 7:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m., and the glorious and celebratory Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord will be held at 9:30 a.m. Alleluia! Alleluia! He is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!*

**HE IS RISEN!  
HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

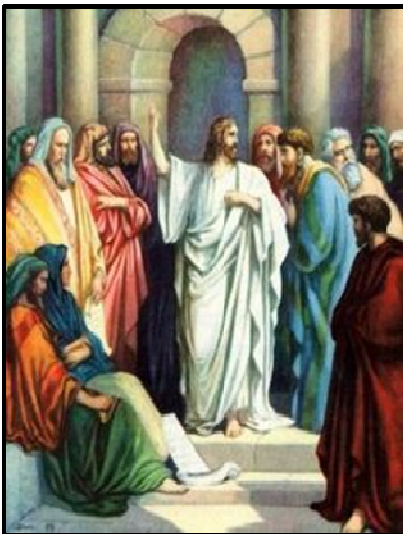
# Chronological Holy Week

Each day during Holy Week, we will meditate upon the actual events that transpired. Most Christians are well aware of what happened on Palm Sunday and from Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday, but not so familiar with the events of Holy Monday through Holy Wednesday, which set the stage for our Lord's Passion. Below is a summary of the first half of Holy Week:



## Fig Monday (Holy Monday)

After the Triumphal Entry on the previous day (Palm Sunday), Jesus retreats to Bethany to rest and pray. He and His disciples go back to Jerusalem in the morning. On their way, they come across a fig tree, which Jesus curses, which is why Holy Monday is also known as Fig Monday. The cursing of the fig tree serves as an object lesson regarding the fruitless works being done in the Temple. Faith without works is dead, but it is equally true that works without faith is dead. That's the lesson, which Jesus drives home further when they get to the Temple later that morning, as He takes up a whip and drives out the money-changers and vendors in righteous anger. The zeal of His Father's House consumes Jesus. It is to be a House of Prayer and they have tuned it into a den of robbers. The Jewish religious leaders are none too happy about Jesus cleansing the Temple, since the activities of the money-changers and vendors in the Court of the Gentiles is under their authority and makes a good profit for them. Nevertheless, because of the great crowds, they do not publicly oppose Him this day, but secretly plot how they might destroy Him. After teaching in the Temple all day, Jesus and His disciples retreat again to Bethany in the evening to rest and pray.



## Confrontation Tuesday (Holy Tuesday)

Holy Tuesday is a day of great confrontation and conflict. Jesus and His disciples head back to Jerusalem in the morning. On their way, they pass the fig tree that Jesus had cursed the previous morning and notice that it is withered and dead. When they get to the Temple, the Jewish religious leaders are waiting to confront Him. Immediately, they ask Him where He thinks He gets the authority to cleanse the Temple, which begins the day of confrontation and conflict. Jesus holds nothing back on this day. He goes after the scribes, Pharisees, and other Jewish religious leaders, with vengeance, accusing them in parables and in direct language, calling them hypocrites, a brood of vipers, and such. Jesus is making sure on this day that Good Friday will happen, for He riles up the Jewish religious leaders to such hatred for Him that they will find a way to put Him to death. This is the last day of our Lord's public teaching. He not only goes out of His way to rile up the Jewish religious leaders, but He spends a good part of the day teaching His disciples and the people in several parables, many of which are focused on the End Times. In the evening, after what was surely an exhausting day for our Lord, He and His disciples again retreat to Bethany to rest and pray.



## Spy/Silent Wednesday (Holy Wednesday)

Holy Wednesday is known as both Spy Wednesday and Silent Wednesday, the latter title being due to the fact that Holy Scripture is silent regarding our Lord on this day, except for the account of Jesus' head being anointed by an unnamed woman at the house of Simon the Leper. It is assumed that Jesus spent this day resting from the activities of the previous two days and prayerfully preparing for the salvific work of His Holy Passion, which would begin the following evening. It is known as Spy Wednesday because it was on this day that Judas made the deal with the Jewish religious leaders to betray Jesus. It is Judas who takes the initiative, sneaking off and seeking the Jewish religious leaders. It may be that the woman anointing Jesus' head with expensive ointment was the final straw for Judas, who thought it to be a waste. Just a few days earlier, Mary of Bethany had anointed Jesus' feet with expensive ointment, and Judas had complained then. But this second anointing was too much for him. Whatever the case, we know that Judas was under the influence of Satan and sealed our Lord's fate by making the dastardly deal. The fulfillment of this deal will happen the following night in the Garden of Gethsemane when our Lord is arrested.





# St. Romanos the Melodist

## “Again to Paradise”

Pilate fixed three crosses on Golgotha: two for the thieves, and one for the Giver of life. When Hell saw it, he said to those below, “My ministers and powers, who has fixed a nail in my heart? A wooden lance has suddenly pierced me and I am being torn apart! My insides are in pain, my belly in agony, my senses make my spirit tremble, and I am compelled to disgorge Adam and Adam’s race. All men were given to me by the Garden’s tree—but now a tree is bringing them back again to Paradise.”

When he heard this, Satan, the cunning serpent ran crawling and said, “What is it, hell? Why do you groan for no reason? Why produce these wailings? This Tree, at which you tremble, I carpentered up there for Mary’s Child. I suggested it to his enemies for our advantage, for it is a Cross, to which I have nailed Christ, wishing by a tree to do away with the second Adam, just as I did away with the first one. So do not be afraid. It is dry and barren. It will not harm you. Keep hold of those you have. Of those we rule, not one will escape again to Paradise.”

Hell replied to Satan, “You have lost your senses—you, the cunning snake of old! All your wisdom has been swallowed up by the cross, and you have been caught in your own snare. Lift up your eyes and see that you have fallen into the pit you dug! Behold that Tree, which you call dry and barren, bears fruit: a thief tasted it and has become heir to the good things of Eden. Moses’ rod led the people out of Egypt, but this tree brings mankind back again to Paradise.”

Satan answered, “Wretched hell—cease this cowardly talk! Your words reveal your thoughts. Are you afraid of a cross and of the Crucified? Not one of your words has shaken me, for these deeds are part of my plan. I will also open a grave and entomb Christ, so that you may enjoy your cowardice doubly—from his tomb as well as from his cross. When I see you, I will mock you. For when Christ is buried I will come to you and say, “Who now brings Adam back again to Paradise?”

Then hell spoke back, “Now is the moment for you to listen, Satan. Now you will see the power of the Cross and the great authority of the Crucified. For you, the cross is folly. But the world sees it as a throne, on which, as though seated, Jesus is nailed and hears the thief cry to him, ‘Lord, remember me in your kingdom.’ Listen now as he answers, kingly, ‘Today, poor beggar, you will reign with me. For with me, you will go in again to Paradise.’”

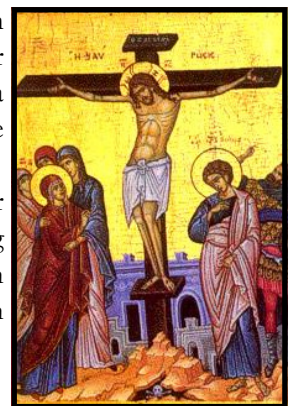
At these words, Satan began to wilt, and what he heard he saw: a thief witnessing to Christ crucified. And so, amazed, he struck his breast and said, “Christ did not answer his accusers, and yet he speaks to a thief? To Pilate he never spoke a word; but now he addresses a murderer, saying, “Come, live in pleasure”? What is this? Who has seen words or deeds done by this thief, by means of which he goes again to Paradise?

Again the devil called out, “Receive me, Hell. I turn to you; I submit to your views, I, who did not believe them. I saw the Tree at which you shuddered, made red with blood and water. And I shuddered, not, I tell you, at the blood, but at the water. For the blood shows Jesus’ slaughter, but the water shows his life, for life has gushed from his side. For it was not the first but the second Adam who carried Eve, the mother of all the living, again to Paradise.”

Now Hell and Satan cried out together, “Let us lament as we see the Tree which we planted transformed into a holy trunk, beneath which thieves, murderers, tax collectors and harlots will find shelter, and reap sweet fruit from what seemed barren. For they cling to the Cross as the Tree of Life. Pressed against it and swimming, through it they escape, and come again as to a harbor, again to Paradise.”

Hell said to Satan, “Swear, tyrant, finally to crucify no one.” And Satan replied, “You take an oath to kill no one. We have had our experience, let us draw back our hand. Let neither of us ever again tyrannize the race of Adam, for it has been sealed by the Cross, it has been given life, like a treasure of a precious pearl in a fragile pot; life, which a thief, well-suited to his trade, took on the Cross. For stealing he was nailed up to die ; and having thieved he was called again to Paradise.”

O most high and glorious, God of fathers and of youths, your willing outrage has become our honor. For in your Cross, we all may boast. To it we have nailed our hearts, that on it we may hang our instruments and sing to you, the Lord of all, from the songs of Zion. The ship from Tarshish once brought gold to Solomon; but to us your Tree gives back, every day and every moment, wealth beyond price. For it brings us all again to Paradise.





# *The Easter Resurrection Homily of*

## **St. John Chrysostom, a.k.a. “Golden Mouth”**

*This classic Paschal or Easter Sermon on the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is from Saint John Chrysostom, fifth century early church father and one of the greatest preachers of all time. This homily for Holy Pascha exhorts all, even those who have not kept the Lenten fast, to rejoice and enter into the Easter feast of the resurrection.*

**L**et all Pious men and all lovers of God rejoice in the splendor of this feast; let the wise servants blissfully enter into the joy of their Lord; let those who have borne the burden of Lent now receive their pay, and those who have toiled since the first hour, let them now receive their due reward; let any who came after the third hour be grateful to join in the feast, and those who may have come after the sixth, let them not be afraid of being too late, for the Lord is gracious and He receives the last even as the first. He gives rest to him who comes on the eleventh hour as well as to him who has toiled since the first: yes, He has pity on the last and He serves the first; He rewards the one and is generous to the other; he repays the deed and praises the effort.

**C**ome you all: enter into the joy of your Lord. You the first and you the last, receive alike your reward; you rich and you poor, dance together; you sober and you weaklings, celebrate the day; you who have kept the fast and you who have not, rejoice today. The table is richly loaded: enjoy its royal banquet. The calf is a fatted one: let no one go away hungry. All of you enjoy the banquet of faith; all of you receive the riches of his goodness.

**L**et no one grieve over his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed; let no one weep over his sins, for pardon has shone from the grave; let no one fear death, for the death of our Savior has set us free: He has destroyed it by enduring it, He has despoiled Hades by going down into its kingdom, He has angered it by allowing it to taste of his flesh.

**W**hen Isaiah foresaw all this, he cried out: "O Hades, you have been angered by encountering Him in the nether world." Hades is angered because frustrated, it is angered because it has been mocked, it is angered because it has been destroyed, it is angered because it has been reduced to naught, it is angered because it is now captive. It seized a body, and lo! it discovered God; it seized earth, and, behold! it encountered heaven; it seized the visible, and was overcome by the invisible.

**O** death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? Christ is risen and life is freed, Christ is risen and the tomb is emptied of the dead: for Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the Leader and Reviver of those who had fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.



# PEACE NEWS & NOTES



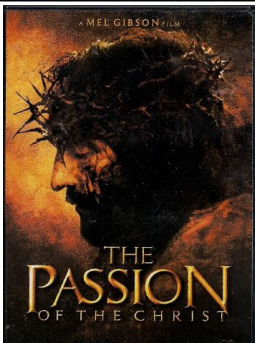
## Happy Birthday

1 Roger Humphrey	22 Mabel Elliott
1 John Row III	22 Kyle Stahl
10 Lauren Penzien	25 Janice Langan
15 Jenny Baughman	28 Mike Byers
20 Carol Zeile	30 Samantha Messer
21 Jack Langan	

## Happy Anniversary

8 Chris and Megan Brown  
22 Dave and Carol Zeile

*If we ever miss your birthday or anniversary, please let us know so that we can update our records.*



## PEACE MOVIE NIGHT

Please join us on Friday, April 11, for our annual viewing of *The Passion of the Christ*. This has become a Lenten tradition for us at Peace, and it is the perfect way to prepare for our entrance into Holy Week.

Pizza and snacks will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by the movie at 7:00 p.m. No matter how many times you watch this movie, it proves to be a vivid reminder of what our Lord Jesus did for us to win our salvation.

*"But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).*

Hope you'll consider joining us!

**Quarterly Voters' Assembly**  
**Sunday, April 27**  
**11:00 a.m.**

## SALT NEWS

Stay tuned for information about upcoming meetings. We welcome anyone who would like to join us.

### Advent Tea Date for 2014

Save the date: This year's Advent Tea will be held on Thursday, December 11, at 7:00 pm. The color will be green. Host a table, or just come and relax. It is always a beautiful evening!

## REMEMBERING OUR SHUT-INS

We all love to receive greetings from people who care for us. What better way to remember our shut-ins (when it is difficult for us to make a personal visit) than to send a note or a card periodically to let them know we are thinking of them and to give them something to look forward to in the mail. Please consider dropping a few lines to our shut-ins once in a while.

Marlene Wiltshire	Joan Burch
Warwick Living Center	Schnepf Health Center
842 W. Warwick Dr.	427 E. Washington
Alma, MI 48801	St. Louis, MI 48880

Bill Harmon  
470 E. Buchanan Rd.  
Ithaca, MI 48847

Also, while correspondence is not requested for him, please remember our dear brother in Christ, Dick Wiser, who is at Pine River in St. Louis, in your prayers.

### The Prayer of the Church

From time to time, I have people ask me about our practice of praying for people by name during the Divine Service on Sundays, especially when it comes to those who remain in the prayers for long periods of time. Usually, those whose names you hear week in and week out for extended periods of time are those who have ongoing medical issues (and our shut-ins). It may be the case once in a while that the member who had requested the addition of someone to our prayer list forgets to let us know to take that person off, but usually these are people who are struggling with ongoing issues. I am happy to include the family and friends of our members in the Prayer of the Church, and will continue to do so, upon request. There are no hard and fast rules to this. Obviously, we can't pray for every family member and friend of every member by name each week, so the only thing I would ask is that members request prayers for those who are suffering some current affliction, and remember to let us know when we can remove them from the list.

In Christ,  
Pr. Messer

# Attentive in Lent

By Pastor Kurt Onken

Despite all the laws in place forbidding the use of cell phones while driving, I still see many people holding their devices up to their ears or texting while operating their vehicles. Every so often, I'll see one of those drivers make a dangerous move ... or fail to move when the light is green, holding up traffic because they are so engrossed in their conversation that they don't notice what's going on around them.

Distracted driving is perilous, both to the driver and to other drivers and pedestrians. And it's not just cell phones that are the culprits. Eating fast food or gulping down a latte or fiddling with the radio is also distracting. Small children who whine and cry and complain and fight with their siblings in the back seat can also hamper our safe driving abilities. I speak from experience!

Our lives are full of distractions that hamper our spiritual life. They draw us away from reading the Scriptures, spending time in prayer, joining in worship with our fellow believers in Christ, missing out on receiving the body and blood of Jesus regularly in the Eucharist. When our attention is drawn away from Christ, it could even be perilous to our spiritual life. We may run off the road and dive into the ditch of despair, collide with complacency, or smash into the brick wall of unbelief.

The season of Lent can refocus our attention in the midst of our distractions. It invites us to slow down and take some extra time for both corporate and personal devotion. The fasting that some people engage in (whether it's giving up chocolate or abstaining from a meal) reminds us in a small way of the fasting of Jesus during his forty days in the wilderness. We deny ourselves in order to refocus our attention on Christ and the fact that he gave up his life for us at the cross. Others also take the opportunity to serve their neighbor in some fashion, reminding themselves how Jesus served us in his life and death, and how he continues to serve us with his light and life as our risen Lord and Savior. Lent keeps us on the road of joy, hope, and trust in our Triune God who continues to work in our lives in Word and Sacrament.

Easter is still a few weeks away, so it's not too late to be attentive during Lent. Take some time out from your distractions and devote yourselves to prayer and Scripture reading. Join us at church on Sunday and also on Wednesday nights for our midweek Lenten services. Set time aside for all the services of Holy Week. The story is so familiar, but we need to hear it over and over again, because it's the story of how God rescued us from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. And it's more than just a story ... it's "the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:16). Then, join us for a joyful Resurrection celebration when our "Alleluias" return and our restrained Lenten devotion breaks forth into exuberant Easter praise.

In Christ's service and yours,  
Pastor Onken

*Pastor Kurt Onken serves at Messiah Lutheran Church in Marysville, Washington*



# Ladies' Guild

## Ladies Guild Meeting

Our Ladies Guild will meet on **WEDNESDAY, April 2 at 12:00 pm.** with Charlotte Dargie as hostess. All Ladies of the congregation are invited to attend our Guild meetings. If you are a confirmed female member of Peace, you are a member of Guild. We would sincerely encourage you to participate and be an active member of the Guild.

## PLC Women's Prayer Chain

The current list is posted on the Ladies' Guild Bulletin Board. All participants should have a copy. If you wish to be added to the prayer chain as a caller, or if you wish to have yourself or someone else "sent through the chain," please see or call Marlene Miller at 463-3710.

## Altar Flowers

There is a flower calendar for 2014 is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board. We are now working toward ordering altar flower arrangements that coordinate with and enhance the liturgical colors of each Season of the Church year. Depending on the dates, flowers may not always be displayed for a calendar month. Some Seasons of the Church year cross calendar months. If you wish to place flowers on the altar sometime during the year, please put your name on the calendar. A bouquet costs \$25. We encourage two persons (families) to purchase flowers each month, one for each plant stand. Please make checks payable to Peace Lutheran Church, attach a note marked "Altar Flowers" and place in the Financial Secretary's envelope in the church office. Any questions may be directed to Carol Zeile or Coaline Luplow. Thank you for helping to beautify our church.

## PEACE LUTHERAN LADIES GUILD



The Ladies' Guild is collecting the following items to send to Lutheran World Relief:

### PERSONAL CARE KIT

1- BATH SIZE TOWEL

2- BATH SIZE BARS OF SOAP

1 TOOTHBRUSH (IN ORIGINAL PKG)

1- STURDY COMB

1 METAL NAIL CLIPPER (REMOVE FOR PKG.)

**\*\*TOOTHBRUSH MULTIPACKS MAY BE USED BY SEALING AN INDIVIDUAL TOOTHBRUSH IN A BUSINESS ENVELOPE.**

### COLLECTION DATES:

April 1—June 30

## PEACE LADIES GUILD COOKBOOK

Cookbooks are available for \$10.00 and can be purchased during fellowship time from any member of the Guild. Please see Coaline Luplow with any questions.

## LADIES GUILD SELLS CUTLERY

Rada cutlery is on display the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month in the fellowship hall during the coffee hour. We have seven different items in stock: Paring Knife, Large Slicer Knife, Tomato Slicer, Serrated Steak Knife, Spatula, Pie Server, and Veggie Peeler. A product catalogue is available for viewing and orders may also be placed through the catalog.



### April

Carol Zeile



6 Cassie Tennant  
13 Lois Ramsey  
20 Easter  
27 Y.Elenbaas/M.Girard

### May

#### Altar Care

Megan Brown

#### Coffee Hostesses

4 Carol Zeile  
11 S.Greening/M.Brown  
18 Dorothy Trgina  
25 Miriam Cross

### June

Carol Zeile

1 Andrea Elliott  
8 Gretchen Harrison  
15 Coaline Luplow  
22 M.Isaksson/H.Meyer  
29 Lisa Messer



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT PEACE

## Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

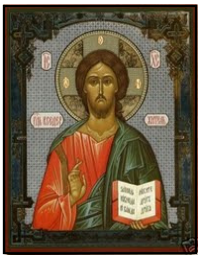
- Sunday School and Adult Bible Class (beginning *John* on Sunday, April 6) is offered on **Sundays at 11 a.m.**

## Wednesday Bible Studies

- At our **10:00 a.m. Bible Study**, we are currently studying *Nehemiah*, which we'll finish on Wednesday, April 2, and begin a study of *Esther*.
- At our **6:00 p.m. Bible Study**, we are studying *Isaiah*.

## First Communion and Confirmation Classes

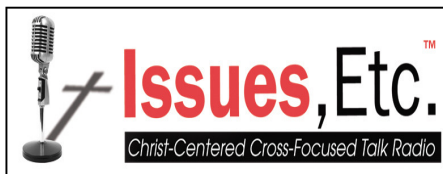
- First Communion Classes take place as arranged (see Pastor Messer if interested); No Youth Confirmation Class this year.



### PASTOR MESSER IS BLOGGING!

[www.abideinmyword.blogspot.com](http://www.abideinmyword.blogspot.com)

*Check in from time to time  
to see what's on his mind.*



### TALK RADIO FOR THE THINKING CHRISTIAN!

Listen to what you want, when you want at:  
[www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org)

### PAROCHIAL REPORT (as of 3/31/14)

#### Membership at Peace

Baptized - 129; Confirmed - 109

Membership gains: 0

Membership losses: 1

*Katie Logan-Dinco released upon request*

#### Financial Report as of 3/31/2014

YTD Budgeted.....\$28,288.00

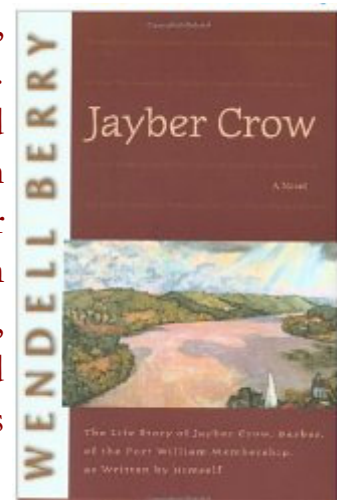
YTD Receipts.....\$28,428.75

Difference.....+ \$140.75

## Peace Book Club

Because of issues with snow and schedules, the Book Club decided to postpone our March meeting until after Easter. We will meet on Thursday, May 1, at 7:00 p.m. at the Zeiles. Please join us! Following is a repeat of the information about our next book that appeared in the March Peace Post:

The next book we will tackle is *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry. Berry is a prolific author and has written several books about the fictional town of Port William, Kentucky. "*Jayber Crow* is another story of the Port William membership, the community whose life--and lives--Berry has unfurled over the course of a half dozen novels. Jayber himself is an orphan, lately returned to the town. And his status as barber and bachelor places him simultaneously at its center and on its margins. A born observer, he hears much, watches carefully, and spends 50 years learning its citizens by heart."





## 4TH ANNUAL CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION

**WHEN: APRIL 19, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING OUR EASTER VIGIL**

**WHERE: FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**WHAT: CHAMPAGNE AND SPARKLING GRAPE JUICE, OTHER BEVERAGES, HOR D'OEUVRES, AND DELICIOUS DESSERTS SERVED AS WE CELEBRATE OUR LORD'S GLORIOUS RESURRECTION!**

**IF YOU HAVE NOT ATTENDED THE EASTER VIGIL SERVICE IN THE PAST, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MISSING. COME FOR THE SERVICE AT 7:00 PM AND STAY FOR THIS WONDERFUL RECEPTION, HOSTED BY OUR LADIES' GUILD.**

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### EASTER BREAKFAST

**8:30 A.M. ON EASTER SUNDAY**

**AGAIN THIS YEAR THE LADIES' GUILD AND YOUTH GROUP WILL WORK TOGETHER TO PROVIDE A BREAKFAST AT 8:30 AM ON EASTER MORNING, BETWEEN MATINS AND THE DIVINE SERVICE.**



**THE MENU INCLUDES: STRATA, FRENCH TOAST, SAUSAGE, SCRAMBLED EGGS, FRUIT, COFFEE CAKE, JUICE AND COFFEE. ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. A FREEWILL OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED.**






**PLEASE JOIN US!**



Rev. Thomas C. Messer  
(989) 463-3093—Home  
pastor@peacealma.org  
pastormesser@gmail.com  
www.abideinmyword.blogspot.com

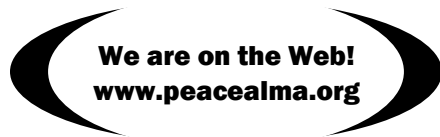
Peace Lutheran Church  
325 E. Warwick Drive  
Alma, MI 48801  
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contact@peacealma.org  
www.peacealma.org

# April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <i>Laetere Midweek</i> 9:30 am - Matins 10:00 am - Bible Study ( <i>Nehemiah, Esther</i> ) <b>11:30 am - DS (St. Ambrose, Bishop)</b> Noon - Ladies' Guild 4:30 pm - Vespers 5:00 pm - Bible Study ( <i>Isaiah</i> ) <b>6:00 pm - DS (Passion of Our Lord Pt.4)</b> 6:45 pm - Casserole Supper	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <i>Judica</i> (Lent 5) 8:30 am - Choir Practice <b>9:30 am - Divine Service</b> 10:45 am - Fellowship 11:15 am - SS & BC 	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:00 pm - Church Council	<b>9</b> <i>Judica Midweek</i> 9:30 am - Matins 10:00 am - Bible Study ( <i>Esther</i> ) <b>Noon - DS (St. Mary Clopas)</b> 4:30 pm - Vespers 5:00 pm - Bible Study ( <i>Isaiah</i> ) <b>6:00 pm - DS (Passion of Our Lord Pt.5)</b> 6:45 pm - Casserole Supper	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  6:30 pm - Pizza 7:00 pm - "The Passion of the Christ"	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i> 8:30 am - Choir Practice <b>9:30 am - Divine Service</b> 10:45 am - Fellowship 11:15 am - SS & BC 	<b>14</b> <i>Holy Monday</i> 7:30 am - Matins <b>Noon - Divine Service</b> 5:15 pm - Vespers <b>6:00 pm - Divine Service</b>	<b>15</b> <i>Holy Tuesday</i> 7:30 am - Matins <b>Noon - Divine Service</b> 5:15 pm - Vespers <b>6:00 pm - Divine Service</b>	<b>16</b> <i>Holy Wednesday</i> 7:30 am - Matins <b>Noon - Divine Service</b> 5:15 pm - Vespers <b>6:00 pm - Divine Service</b>	<b>17</b> <i>Holy Thursday</i> 7:30 am - Matins <b>Noon - Divine Service</b> 6:15 pm - Vespers <b>7:00 pm - Divine Service</b> <i>This Is My Body</i>	<b>18</b> <i>Good Friday</i> 7:30 am - Matins <b>Noon - Divine Service</b> 3:00 pm - Devotion 6:30 pm - Vespers <b>7:30 pm - Tenebrae</b> <i>It Is Finished!</i>	<b>19</b> <i>Holy Saturday</i> 7:30 am - Matins <b>10:00 am - Divine Service</b> <b>7:00 pm - Easter Vigil</b> <i>Champagne Reception following the Vigil</i>
<b>20</b> <i>Resurrection of our Lord</i> 7:30 am - Matins 8:30 am - Easter Breakfast <b>9:30 am - Divine Service</b> <i>No SS or BC</i> <i>He is Risen Indeed!</i> 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30 am - Matins 10:00 am - Bible Study ( <i>Esther</i> ) 11:45 am - Sext 5:30 pm - Vespers <b>7:00 pm - DS (St. Mark, Evangelist)</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <i>Quasimodo Geniti</i> (East. 2) 8:30 am - Choir Practice <b>9:30 am - Divine Service</b> 10:45 am - Fellowship 11:15 am - Voters' Assembly 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30 am - Matins 10:00 am - Bible Study ( <i>Esther</i> ) 11:45 am - Sext 5:30 pm - Vespers <b>7:00 pm - DS (St. Philip &amp; St. James)</b>	<b>May 1</b> 7:00 pm - Book Club	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

Peace Lutheran Church  
325 E. Warwick Dr.  
Alma, MI 48801

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E-mail: [contact@peacealma.org](mailto:contact@peacealma.org)  
Mary's Home: 989-463-3067  
Pastor's Home: 989-463-3093  
Pastor's Cell: 989-388-2037



*The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.*

## *Serving in April*

	ELDERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETERS
<b>April</b>				
6 - 9:30 am <i>Judica (Lent 5)</i>	Larry Elliott	Zane Luplow Savannah Blair	Tyrel Harwager Gabriel Blair	Jim & Janice Sager
13 - 9:30 am <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Terry Luplow	Sierra Luplow Noah Cross	John Lemmermann Aaron Messer	Blair Family
17 - 6:00 pm <i>Holy Thursday</i>	Terry Luplow	Farrah Blair Morgan Johnson	Daren Johnson Miguel Ortiz	
18 - Noon <i>Good Friday</i>	Larry Elliott		Gary Miller Vern Jakolat	
18 - 7:30 pm <i>Tenebrae</i>	Miguel Ortiz			
19 - 6:00 pm <i>Easter Vigil</i>	Gabriel Blair Larry Elliott	Farrah Blair Savannah Blair	Daren Johnson Miguel Ortiz	
20 - 9:30 am <i>Resurrection of our Lord</i>	Miguel Ortiz	Myka Luplow Natalie Penzien	Chris Brown Terry Luplow	Jenny Baughman
27 - 9:30 am <i>Easter 2</i>	Gabriel Blair	Zane Luplow Aaron Cross	Troy Cross James Sager	Charlotte Dargie Marlene Miller
<b>May</b>				
4 - 9:30 am <i>Easter 3</i>	Larry Elliott	Sierra Luplow Paige Harwager	Jon Penzien Tyrel Harwager	Yvonne Elenbaas Mary Girard

*"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men" (Eph. 6:7)*