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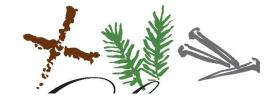
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The Season of



Lent is the period of 40 days before Easter, not including Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday after Good Friday.

During Lent, Christians enter a period of preparation, reflection and repentance as we examine our lives, looking to realign our focus on God. We use this time to rid ourselves of those things that would distract us from being the faithful and loving disciples Jesus has called us to be.

#### The Lenten Season begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, at 6:30pm Join us for our Ash Wednesday Service

This year's Lenten Sermon Series gives us the chance to explore the extraordinary characteristics of our <u>Savior</u>, <u>Servant</u> and <u>Friend</u>, <u>Jesus</u>. It is a time to appreciate the many blessings we received when Jesus laid down his life for us on the cross and then rose triumphantly from the grave. Each sermon in this series will look at a different aspect of our greatest Friend and what each characteristic means to us as Jesus followers and friends.

(Lent Schedule on Page 2)

<u>Ash Wednesday</u> – <u>FORGIVER</u>: Jesus forgives us again and again, even though we do not deserve it

Week 1 – HEALER: Jesus heals us when we are wounded and weakened by sin

Week 2 – LISTENER: Jesus listens to us like no other and He answers our guestions and concerns

Week 3 – ENCOURAGER: Jesus encourages us in our faith to live our lives for him

<u>Week 4</u> – <u>PROTECTOR</u>: Jesus protects us from the devil and from danger and keeps us safe in him

<u>Week 5</u> – <u>COMFORTER</u>: Jesus comforts us in struggles and sorrows so that we might find rest in His promises

**Palm Sunday** – <u>KING</u>: Jesus enters Jerusalem as our king, ready to overthrow sin, death and the devil **Maundy Thursday** – <u>SERVANT</u>: Jesus is a servant to his friends when he washes their feet and serves them his body and blood in bread and wine

<u>Good Friday</u> – <u>SAVIOR</u>: Jesus is our Savior, who dies on the cross to reunite us with God and one another

Easter Sunday - REDEEMER: Jesus is our Redeemer, who frees us to live a new life

# A Message from Our Deacon...



So, we are 'marching' into March. February has been a tough month. Many have been very sick and then there is the cold and snow! Now, we look forward to the first day of Spring, March 20! Spring gives us the promise of warm(er) temperatures. Remember those? We will also begin the season of love on March 5, also known as Ash Wednesday.

During Lent, we get to focus on the love that Jesus has shown us. We get to think about how Jesus suffered and died for us. He came to earth to take our sins away! He did not have to do it; He volunteered to pay for your sins and mine! How amazing! During Lent, we can remember how much God loves us. It

is a great time to talk to others about what you know about your Savior. Each person on this earth NEEDS a Savior. None of us can get to heaven on our own. We all need to hear about Jesus. You can talk to your friends and family in a loving way. Just the stuff that you know–Jesus died for your sins and wants you to be in heaven with Him. If you have questions, please talk with Pastor or me too. Jesus loves me this I know ... Think warm thoughts!

Blessings!

Serving Jesus and His people, Deacon Jim Schurig



"An effort made for the happiness of others lifts us above ourselves." —Lydia M. Child (Used with permission from newsletternewsletter.com)



# A Message from Our Principal...



Peace Lutheran School is ready to March into the new month! What we are really excited about is that we are entering March is reading month. We have many activities planned to help our students cultivate a love of learning. Some of the events are Drop Everything and Read Day, Crazy Hair Day, Polka Dot Day, and Children's Book Bingo. All month long, our teachers will be helping and encouraging our students to keep reading. In fact, we have a school-wide goal of 200,000 minutes of reading! We believe our 300 students can reach this goal. In an attempt to model lifelong reading habits, we are enacting a teacher goal as well. We are hoping our 50 teachers and staff can read 100,000 minutes! I also want to extend special thanks to our library and technology specialist, Jessica Curley, who has spent a lot of time organizing these activities.

I am also excited to share that our enrollment for next year is going well. Peace has several full classes with waiting lists, as well as a very high retention rate for next year. Please continue to pray for any families that are considering attending Peace. May God send the students He desires to be here, and may our faculty and staff have ready hearts to serve the many children that attend Peace.

Finally, we are looking forward to our auction next week. Many people have spent countless hours planning and decorating for this event. We are looking forward to spending the evening with many of you as we celebrate the amazing things God is doing at Peace. Continue to pray for the success of this event as we look to raise money to continue to make improvements here at Peace.



Michael Nelson, Principal

# SPRING BREAK MARCH 24 - MARCH 28 OFFICE HOURS MARCH 24 - MARCH 28 S:00AM-12:00PM

# A Message from Our EC Director...

# March is Reading Month



March is Reading Month, a time to celebrate the joy of reading and its importance in academic development, especially for preschoolers.

#### **Tips for Reading to Your Preschooler**

- **Make it Fun:** Use funny voices, act out the story, and make reading an enjoyable experience.
- **Choose Age-Appropriate Books:** Select books with colorful illustrations and simple text.
- **Read Regularly:** Set aside time each day for reading, even if it is just for a few minutes.
- Talk About the Story: Ask questions about the characters to engage your child.
- Visit the Library: Make regular trips to the library to explore new books.

This March we invite families in our church and community to join us Thursday, March 6, 13, and 20 from 11:30-12:30, in Room 114, for Free Story Time led by our preschool staff. Story Time includes a favorite child's book, craft, finger play activity and sensory experiences. Invite a friend or neighbor to join you!

Let us make reading a priority for our preschoolers. By reading to them, we are not just teaching them to read, we are also giving them the gift of knowledge, imagination, and a lifelong love of learning.



Happy Reading!

Suzette Quail Early Childhood Director

# A Message from the Editor...

#### Dear Readers,



March 9 is Daylight Saving Time. Remember to set your clocks forward one hour. It is also a great time to check and change your batteries in all of your important devices.

Editor Jackie Pilan

PS: The deadline for April's "Peace Lutheran Messenger" is Thursday, March 20.

# **Board and Ministry News...**

# PEACE STUDENT COUNCIL EYEGLASS DRIVE

# Please Help by Donating:

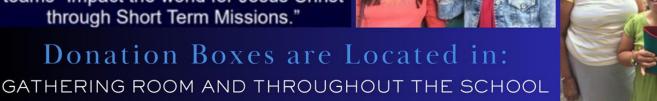
- Adult-sized Glasses
- Child-sized Glasses
- Non-Prescription Sunglasses

Your donations will help our eyeglass teams "Impact the world for Jesus Christ through Short Term Missions."









In partnership with Hearts for Jesus and our 3rd quarter offerings, Peace's Student Council will also be hosting an Eyeglass Drive through the 3rd quarter to help support MOST ministries eyeglass teams spread the word of Jesus!



## Ash Wednesday March 5, 2025

Join us as we begin the Lenten Season at our Ash Wednesday service on March 5.

The service will begin at 6:30pm. Join us in person or via livestream on our app, YouTube, and Facebook page. Ashes will be offered.

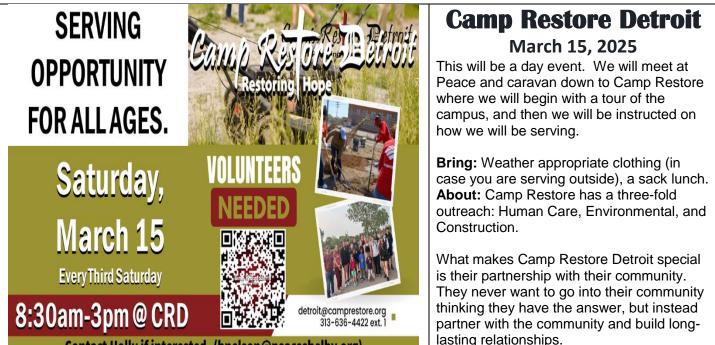
# 60+ GROUP WEDNESDAY - MARCH 12 - 12:30PM LUNCH AT KAY JAY'S IRISH PUB

6:30PM

**MARCH 5** 

## 60+ Group St. Patrick's Day Lunch March 12, 2025

Join us for lunch at Kay jay's Irish Pub at 5491 Auburn Rd, Shelby Township, Michigan, on Wednesday, March 12, at 12:30pm. Please RSVP to Holly Nelson at hnelson@peaceshelby.org.



Contact Holly if interested. (hnelson@peaceshelby.org)

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# Thursdays in March: 6, 13 & 20 11:30-12:30

Celebrate literacy during March Is Reading Month with Peace Panther Cubs teacher, Mrs. Pate. Join us for Story Time featuring a read aloud, music and movement and a craft!

For more information, call the school office at 586-731-4120.

Open to children ages 2-5 with parent/caregiver









🐞 Youth Fancy Bowling Night! 🐌

Grab your best outfit for a night of strikes, spares, and style! Join us for **Youth Fancy Bowling Night**, where we hit the lanes in our fanciest attire for an evening of fun, laughter, friendly competition and some pizza. Don't forget to bring a friend—because bowling is always better together!

■ Date: Sunday, March 16 Location: TBA Time: 6:00-8:00pm ✓ Registration opens soon!





# TRUE NORTH VB\$ 2025

#### Point kids to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust.

Take kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where the northern lights shine over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and sparkling glaciers. As they trek the tundra, they will discover how easy it is to lose sight of what is true in our wild world today. Guiding them towards Jesus, True North VBS reveals that He is a faithful friend we can always trust. He is our True North!

PARTICIPATION REGISTRATION OPENS ON APRIL 1, 2025! VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION IS OPEN! PLEASE REGISTER AT <u>HTTPS://WWW.PEACESHELBY.ORG/VBS</u>.

# **Peace Lutheran Prayer Opportunities**



Are you or a loved one in need of prayer, or would you like to share your gift of prayer with others? If you do, Peace Lutheran welcomes you to participate in one or more of our many opportunities!

## **Sunday Morning Service**

There is a Prayer Request Stand set up, as you enter the middle aisle of our Sanctuary on Sunday, for you to write down and submit your prayer requests. Pastor Klemm will bring your petitions before God during both services, and fellow worshipers will join him in prayer for you.

It is never too late to submit prayer requests. There are Prayer Request forms in the back of each pew for you to write down your request. Please submit your request to an available usher or place it in the basket of the Prayer Request Stand.

## Join Our Monday Afternoon Prayer Group

Does the thought of praying aloud frighten you? Our Monday Afternoon Prayer Group offers a no-pressure opportunity to bring your personal prayer requests to a group of 6-7 friends who join together to simply talk to God. Please contact Pat Klein at 248-326-4795 for more information and to confirm that the group is meeting as situations arise from time to time that cause cancellations.

## E-mail Prayer Chain

Do you have a desire to join others in prayer for the needs of others, but find it difficult to attend groups due to a demanding personal schedule? Then join 30 others who are members of our Email Prayer Chain, and have requests sent directly to your e-mail's inbox. Please contact us at 586-731-4120 to have your name added to our prayer warrior list.

## **Pastor's Personal Prayer List**

As always, you can call the office with your requests at 586-731-4120. Pastor Klemm will gladly add your needs to his personal prayer list, and will only share those requests with our congregation or other groups upon request.

## Peace App

Technology has made sending a prayer request as quick as a click! If you are in need of immediate prayer, please select the Prayer Request option and fill out the form on our app. Peace Shelby App can be downloaded at the Google Play Store for android users or at the App Store for Apple users.

## Website

If a sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please contact the church office at 586-731-4120, email us, or complete our Prayer Request Form at <u>https://www.peaceshelby.org/prayer-requests</u>. Our prayer warriors will begin praying for you. Jesus said to call upon him in every need.

We assure you that whichever prayer opportunity you choose, your requests will be kept strictly confidential. We only ask that you keep us updated on the people and situations that we are praying for, so that we can update the

prayer requests as necessary and/or extend a prayer of thanksgiving to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.





## by Beverly Porter



To be called a friend is a title earned, not a badge given indiscriminately. To have a friend is a responsibility and not to be taken lightly. With this relationship comes an investment of time, sacrifice and a willingness to make that person's needs as important as your own. Some friends remain and we learn from them, but a deeper level of friendship is not reached. We have not entered that sacred place where SOUL LANGUAGE is exchanged, a sharing of mutual beliefs and discovery of who we really are. We have not entered that sacred place where soul touches soul. To be blessed with a soulmate is an honor. The boundaries of friendship and trust expand rapidly. There is no agenda in discovering what secrets, dreams, fears, hopes, personal

thoughts, etc. reside in their heart. It just happens. We will always remember our soulmate as one who has left an imprint on our life. We have found in each other, the desire to "Come and sit a spell".

My first real friendship was formed in Kindergarten. Susan had RED hair, and I immediately knew that I wanted to be her friend. There were not the usual connecting ingredients that you might expect in forming a friendship. She was popular; I was ordinary. I loved to sing, but I did not get solo parts in the school talent shows as she did. Her home life was different from mine. Her mother was very involved in our school, not a very good housekeeper, overweight and made wonderful bread and strawberry jam. My mother was not as involved in the school, was slim, a very good housekeeper and bought our bread and jam. Nevertheless, I enjoyed a friendship with Susan that I remember to this day. She is the reason I color my hair red.

Today, I value friendship and the responsibilities that accompany it much more than I did in the earlier decades of my life. Most of these relationships center around Jesus. A bedrock of faith connects us and the bonding that takes place here is stronger than common interests. The later commonalities are the "frosting on the cake", but are not essentials. Spiritual ties are the strongest of all, and give us the desire to work out the strains that inevitably occur because of our humanness. The terms Loyalty and Dependability come to mind and keep the relationship in its coveted place. I do reality checks on occasion and ask myself, "Am I a good friend?" What could I be doing to make my friendships better? I have a favorite quote that sums up the word, Friend:

"A person can have no greater epitaph than that which is inscribed in the hearts of his friends."

I want to leave an imprint on the lives of the people I call FRIENDS. I want them to be able to say, "She passed this way and left part of herself."

Jesus elevates friendship to even a higher level, for he is our best friend. He told his disciples and now to all who believe in Him:

"Love each other in the same way I have loved you. There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friend." John 15:12-13



## **Worship Services** On-Site Sunday Worship

8:30am Traditional 10:30am Contemporary

## **Online Worship**

Streaming Sunday at 10:30am on Peace's App, YouTube Channel and Facebook Page

#### **Sunday Bible Studies**

Adult Bible Studies 9:45-10:30am

#### HSYM/JYM 9:45am

**KidZone and Nursery** During the 10:30am Service

#### Wednesday Bible Studies

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10:00am, Gathering Room Wednesday Night Bible Studies 6:30pm, Bible Study 7:00pm, Zoom Study

#### **Thursday Bible Studies**

6:30pm, Women's Study, Gathering Room

#### **Saturday Bible Studies**

Men's Bible Study 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, 7:30am

#### **Prayer Group**

3:00pm, Mondays, at the Klein Residence

## **Church Calendar**

https://www.peaceshelby.org/church-eventscalendar

To subscribe to or to unsubscribe from the .pdf e-news version of the monthly "Peace Lutheran Messenger," please send your request with your name and e-mail address to <u>enews@peaceshelby.org</u>.

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#### **Contact Information**

Office: 586-731-4120 Fax: 586-731-8935 Website: <u>www.peaceshelby.org</u>

Office Hours Monday through Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm

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