



'TIDINGS OF **PEACE**' from

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
411 EAST 6TH STREET
MCCOOK, NE 69001

TO:

March 2024

TIDINGS OF **PEACE**

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Have you ever wondered how to share time in the Bible with your teenage child or grandchild in a way that they will **HEAR** it?

It has been suggested that the acronym **H.E.A.R.** might be a helpful tool for slowing down and talking briefly about God in our life. Start by choosing a short Bible reading—perhaps from a children's book they enjoy; or from a daily devotion; or a reading from a "read the Bible in a year" calendar.

After reading the verses together, **H**ighlight a verse that stands out for your child or grandchild—**E**xplain what that verse means—to help your child or grandchild own, or internalize, the verse, try to **A**pply that verse to your own life, or a real-life example. And then help them **R**espond

to what they have learned about God in that verse. Their response might be a response of thanksgiving, or it might be a response of I don't quite understand. Either way, their response may open the door for more conversation. If it does—embrace the opportunity to talk—if it doesn't, that's ok, there's always tomorrow.

And that's the key; setting aside five or ten minutes each day to share in God's word together.

Thanks for reading,
Pastor Felcher

*Proverbs 22:6
"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it."*

**PLC Shepherd**

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FROM AN ELDER**A Time For Everything**

- 1 There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the
heavens:
- 2 a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
- 3 a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
- 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
- 5 a time to scatter stones and a time to
gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain
from embracing,
- 6 a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
- 7 a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
- 8 a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

Does it sometimes seem that your life has become one long "To Do" list? The first eight verses of Ecclesiastes make even being born and dying one more thing on the list of life's tasks. Live "under the sun," life lived apart from God in Jesus Christ, can bring the shroud of drudgery and meaninglessness even to times of dancing, hugging, and peace.

For those of us who live in the light of the Son of God who came to earth to share our burdens and to die for our sins, life in this world is something of a warm-up activity, a practice run for the grand celebration we will enjoy throughout eternity. Those who do not know Jesus ask, "Is this all there is?" And without Christ, the answer is, "Yes." Hope dies as surely as leaves on an unwatered plant dry up and drop off. We can enjoy life's times to laugh. We can grieve in life's times to mourn. We find meaning in all of life in Jesus, but only in Jesus.

So, what about the children in your neighborhood who don't know the love of Jesus? How about that co-worker at your shop whose family laughs and mourns without Christ? Pray and think about those you know who need the Gospel. Then plan a winsome witness.

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

Pake Hamilton	3/4	Paul Schaffert	3/11	Addyson Snyder	3/20
Chad Hueftle	3/4	Gary Gramins	3/12	Brock Hubert	3/23
Ezra Nothnagel	3/4	Charles Miller	3/12	Banks Schumacher	3/23
Talan Schumacher	3/4	Janet Hein	3/13	Ronald Friehe	3/25
Tom Shields	3/4	Kamry Crick	3/14	Aric Sharp	3/25
Kandi Eckhoff	3/5	Jaelyn Kuykendall	3/16	Blayzon Mooney	3/26
Gunner Gramins	3/5	Michael Leibbrandt	3/19	Michael Schoup	3/27
Lewis Leibbrandt	3/6	Korina Rippen	3/19	Curt Swanhorst	3/28
Jennifer McConville	3/6	Tyler Rogers	3/19	Joel Smith	3/29

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Brent & Jennifer Doucet	3/28/1998	26			

We apologize if we have made a mistake. Please contact the office so we may get it corrected.

If you feel compelled to give, offering can be brought into the church office, mailed to P.O. Box 240 or direct deposited.

Check out our Facebook page (Peace Lutheran McCook NE)! Don't forget to "Like", "Follow" and "Share" it! We now have a YouTube channel (Peace Lutheran Church McCook) to view the Sunday services.

OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE

	Week to Date (Feb 11th-Feb 17th)	Month to Date (Feb 4th-Feb 24th)	Actual Year to Date (Jan 7th-Feb 24th)
Offerings	\$9,704.00	\$27,531.00	\$45,014.00
Expenses	\$14,110.00	\$27,197.00	\$49,239.00



WELCOME

Please welcome our newest members, Dee Wyatt Ziebell and Rivington Forrest Gass, joining us by the waters of baptism. Dee was baptized at the early service on February 11th. He is the infant son of Andrew and Bobbie Ziebell. Rivington was baptized here February 24th. He is the infant son of Jordan and Adrianna Gass. Welcome Dee and Rivington!

HILLCREST BINGO

LWML will be helping with bingo at Hillcrest on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 2pm. If you would like to help, there is a sign up sheet on the buffet in the Narthex.

EASTER LILIES

If you would like to sponsor an Easter lily, there is a sign up sheet on the buffet in the Narthex. They are \$20.00 this year. The deadline for orders is March 13th.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

It is time again to sign up for the Lutheran Witness and Portals of Prayer. If you would like a subscription to the Lutheran Witness it is \$20.65 for the year. If you would like a subscription for the Portals of Prayer: Regular size is \$9.50, Digest size is \$12.50, and Large size is \$14.50 for the year. Please call the church office at 345-2595 to place your order before March 18th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is at 9:15am for preschool through 2nd grade. There will be fun, games, and treats. ***Reminder: The child must be age 3 and potty trained. Thank you!**

MARCH READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
3rd	The 3rd S. in Lent	Exodus 20:1-17	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 2:13-25
10th	The 4th S. in Lent	Numbers 21:4-9	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
17th	The 5th S. in Lent	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Hebrews 5:1-10	Mark 10:32-45
24th	Palm Sunday	Zechariah 9:9-12	Philippians 2:5-11	John 12:20-43
31st	Easter Sunday	Isaiah 25:6-9	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Mark 16:1-8



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article – March 2024

Cherish What God Has Given

In the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right which must be done.

The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

“You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other” (SC I).

Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.

Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God’s fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have — every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God’s purposes. My possessions should be shared generously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.



ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN

Adopt a chaplain is a program that supports deployed military chaplains and the troops they serve. Thank you to all who have donated supplies, your treats and other items are now on their way to lift the morale of soldiers deployed halfway around the world. Most of the chaplains that request care packages are deployed to the areas of greatest tension, including Syria, Kuwait, Iraq, Poland and South Korea. Prayers for the chaplains and the troops are needed. Everyone is invited to help pack on Tues, March 19 at 1:00pm



TOOLS FOR STEWARDSHIP and EVANGELISM

SHUT INS

Please remember those who are unable to worship with us for one reason or another.

Hillcrest: Pam Leibbrandt, Ruth Woodhams, Art Soncksen, Karen Berry, and Roland Carlson.

Kinship Pointe: Betty Harms, and Lois Brown.

Highland Park: Harlan & Bernita Reiners

Benkelman: Mark Cummins

Lincoln: Carla Bales

Ulysses, KS: Joyce Stupka

ELDER VISITATION

In order to facilitate better connection between the church and members, the Elders are well into a program whereby they have been assigned specific sections of the city and make contact with all members within their assigned area. The purpose of these visits is to not only make contact, but also update contact information and discuss spiritual needs that our members may have. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Elders – Phil Bamesberger, Victor Lauer, Fritz Hubert, Brandon Kuykendall, Curt Swanhorst, Russ Ankersen or Harold Carlson.

FOOD PANTRY

As discussed at a meeting, here are the items for Peace to place an emphasis on, by month. January – soup or stew, February – crackers, **March – Mac & Cheese**, April – canned meats, May – canned vegetables, June – flour & sugar, July – flour & sugar (again), August – Peanut butter, September – canned fruit, October – pork & beans, November – dry pasta, and December – beans. **Of course all donations are welcome (like cake mixes, icing, condiments, etc.)**

If you have an article, an announcement, pictures, etc... that you would like to submit for the "Tidings of Peace" newsletter, please bring it by the church office no later than the 4th Thursday of the month.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

March 3rd

Elder on duty	Brandon Kuykendall
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Usher	Gene Meints
Lay Reader	Riley Mooney
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Cathy Broz
Late Service	
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	Gary Hunkins
Lay Reader	Nick Nothnagel
Acolyte	Emma McConville
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Ben Schow
Live Stream	Blayzon Mooney

March 10th

Elder on duty	Victor Lauer
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Randon Peters
Acolyte	Clara Hurst
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Late Service	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Sarah Risenhoover
Acolyte	Brooklynn Tidyman
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Live Stream	Carter Hartwell

March 17th

Elder on duty	Barry Mooney
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Renelle Mooney
Acolyte	Kysen Hazlitt
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	Fred Gleason
Acolyte	Ryker Mooney
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Live Stream	Jackson Hartwell

March 24th

Elder on duty	Fritz Hubert
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Nancy Rippen
Greeter	
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Jerry Calvin
Acolyte	Ellie Hartwell
Acolyte	Jackson Hartwell
Powerpoint	Harold Carlson
Late Service	
Greeter	Pat Penner
Greeter	
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Lay Reader	Curt Swanhorst
Acolyte	Zander Stewart
Acolyte	Maxson Stewart
Powerpoint	Gary Hunkins
Live Stream	Tina Cummins

March 31st

Elder on duty	Curt/Phil
Organist	
Audio	
Greeter	Sue Carlson
Greeter	Harold Carlson
Usher	Gene Meints
Lay Reader	Harold Carlson
Acolyte	Layton Hinz
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Late Service	
Greeter	
Greeter	
Usher	Steve Post
Lay Reader	Blayzon Mooney
Acolyte	Cooper Davidson
Acolyte	Avery Davidson
Powerpoint	
Live Stream	



PEACE TALK

Use the plastic! That's a viable solution to purchasing just about anything anymore. Credit cards are simple to apply for, easy to get, and a source of available funds right at your fingertips. They are a necessity if you want to purchase something online, ensure emergency funds, or a source of protection against fraud. Depending on the card, you can even get cash back, frequent flyer miles, or earn rewards and benefits. However, the interest rates are high. If not managed properly, you will accumulate too much debt, hurt your credit score, and it will become financially burdensome. I use a credit card often, especially if I go somewhere. Using the plastic for airline tickets, parking garage, and food. Then again for gifts and attractions. Completely unaware of the balance I am building up as my mind is glazed over by the convenience of swiping my card. The secret, as painful as it might be, is to have the discipline to keep a "short account." By this I mean to keep paying off the account as soon as the bill arrives to avert paying those high rates. This is also true with Christian living. We must keep a "short account" with God and each other. That also takes discipline. If you are like me, it is so easy to get wrapped up in my job, my hobbies, or many self-interests. Not keeping God in my heart and allowing my sins to build up a large balance in that account. This happens when I ignore the warnings that I must curb my anger when things are not going my way (Ephesians 4:26-27). Failure of acknowledging the necessity of telling someone I am sorry if I have hurt them (James 5:16). And lacking the presence of mind to show others love, even those that might be hard to love. Just like Christ has shown so graciously to me (Ephesians 5:1-2). Yes, I know that I will continue to sin, but as I strive to humbly walk with Christ, these are the things expected of me. Having these disciplines is a requirement for Christian life (Micah 6:8). Maintaining my short account by confessing my sins and asking for forgiveness from a loving God who understands all my shortcomings (1 John 1:9-10). These rewards are much better than plastic. Through my faith and Christian walk with Christ, I will be aware of my balance, benefits, and rewards. No matter what my balance has been in the past, my bad credit score has been wiped clean with Jesus' life-giving forgiveness through His sacrifice on the cross (Hebrews 10:12). Just wait! It won't be long before life happens again and you will be asked, "are you using cash or credit?" No matter what you decide, remember to keep your account short. Especially with God, as we confess our sins and forgive one another continually as we walk with Christ to eternal glory. God's "credit card" is easy to apply for (believe), easy to get (grace), and a source of available forgiveness and mercy. Just keep your account short. Dear Lord, thank you for your forgiveness and promise of an eternity spent with You. Amen.

Peace, Love, and Unity
Phil Bamesberger



Peace Lutheran Church

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March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
3 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	4 7:00pm Women's Bible Study PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	5 9:00am Worship Committee	6 11:00am Midweek Lent service 6:00pm School of Religion 7:30pm Midweek Lent service	7	8	9 7:00am Men's Bible Study
10 Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/ Installation of Officers	11 7:00pm Women's Bible Study PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	12 6:00pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	13 11:00am Midweek Lent service 6:00pm School of Religion 7:30pm Midweek Lent service	14	15	16 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
17 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship Upper Fellowship Hall reservation	18 7:00pm Women's Bible Study PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	19 1:00pm Adopt-A-Chaplain packing	20 11:00am Midweek Lent service 6:00pm School of Religion 7:30pm Midweek Lent service	21	22	23 7:00am Men's Bible Study Preschool Open House
24 Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/ Confirmation Upper Fellowship Hall reservation	25 2:00pm LWML 7:00pm Women's Bible Study PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	26 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (WINKEL)	27	28 11:00am Maundy Thursday service 1:30pm Hillcrest 2:30pm Kinship Pointe 7:30pm Maundy Thursday service	29 11:00am Good Friday service 7:30pm Good Friday service	30 7:00am Men's Bible Study
31 7:00am Worship Easter Breakfast 10:30am Worship						