

TIDINGS OF PEACE

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONGRATULATIONS 2024 CONFIRMANDS



'TIDINGS OF PEACE' from

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

TO:

Three vertical lines for an address.



JACKSON HARTWELL

¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

1 John 3:16



LAYTON HINZ

¹⁴ "Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

Joshua 24:14



CLARA HURST

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:8-10



BROOKLYNN TIDYMAN

¹⁰ fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10



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FROM AN ELDER

After Easter Thoughts;
What happens when we die;
Why the Christian hope in resurrection matters.
The apostle Paul reminds us in 2nd Thessalonians, that they were the first fruits of salvation, having been sanctified by the spirit, and they already believed in the gospel truth, what were they still lacking? And what is the glory of Jesus? The glory of Jesus that they hoped to obtain is the resurrection of the dead. Resurrection isn't merely being brought back to life only to die again eventually, like those raised to life in the Gospels, but the soul living in an incorruptible body that wont die. Paul tells the Thessalonians to hold on to the teachings that were passed onto them.

Jesus himself argued himself for the resurrection of all people, not just his own. The priestly class in Jerusalem rejected the idea of resurrection and tried to trap Jesus. They used the law of Levirate marriage (Deuteronomy 25:5-10)- a man must marry his brother's widow if she has no sons in order to provide an heir- to mock the idea of the resurrection. If a woman was married to seven brothers in this life because she could not conceive a child with any of them, in the resurrection, whose wife would she be?

The question is really good, because it does not confront the idea of the resurrection head on but delivers directly to complicate the details of what resurrection life may be like. But if their question was clever, Jesus's answer was brilliant. Knowing the Sadducees only held the five book of Moses to be authoritative Scripture, Jesus reminds them of God's self introduction in Exodus 3:6 "I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob". He argued that God is not the Dead, but of the living, and that to God, even those who wait for the resurrection are regarded as alive (Luke 20:38).

The returnees to Jerusalem (Ezra) after the Babylonian exile were not impressed with state of the rebuilt temple. It was smaller and less grand, but the Spirit of the people was great, and after a little while, the splendor of the house would surpass that of the former house.

Jesus looked at the temple and, when the people remarked at its beauty, said, Destroy this temple and I will rebuild it in 3 days; (Mark 14:58). Jesus didn't rebuild the physical temple, but he showed the transformation of the temple can be understood as a similarity to the resurrection.

Just as his body was destroyed, and three days later, he rose again, so will our resurrected bodies put to shame the state of our current bodies.

We confess in the creeds that we believe in the resurrection of the dead.

This is a core element of our faith, and the Bible is full of passages supporting this belief.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Tina Cummins	4/1	Seth Koetter	4/13	Krystal Downing	4/22
Rachel Lietka	4/3	Steve Eckhoff	4/14	Brooklynn Tidyman	4/23
Lance Gillen	4/5	Dan Hartwell	4/14	Harold Carlson	4/25
Lola Downing	4/6	Carter Watts	4/14	Carter Hartwell	4/27
Steven Kircher	4/6	Chase Pierson	4/16	Jeffrey Unger	4/27
Thatcher Skolout	4/7	Torryn Schumacher	4/16	Brooklynn Gillen	4/28
Kelsey Gillen	4/8	Olivia Koetter	4/18	Robert Stecker	4/28
Tanner Doucet	4/9	John Hanson	4/21	Hanah Nothnagel	4/29
Denise Gillen	4/9	Kimberly Kuykendall	4/21	Drew Shields	4/29
Carmen Custer	4/13				

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Les & Sue Fahrenbruch	4/2/1994	30	Ron & Deb Lauer	4/8/1989	35
Ron & Doris Friehe	4/3/1976	48	Alex & Melissa Hanchera	4/9/2016	8
Monte & Mary Hazlitt	4/7/1984	40	Joseph & Gina Vetrovsky	4/14/2018	6
Kenneth & Dorinda Polly	4/7/1956	68	Myra & Dan Stoney	4/17/1999	25

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 (Mar 24th-Mar 30th)	Month to Date (Mar 3rd-Mar 30th)	Actual Year to Date (Jan 7th-Mar 30th)
Offerings	\$3,771.00	\$16,205.00	\$64,000.00
Expenses	\$1,628.00	\$18,919.00	\$69,685.00



WELCOME

Please welcome our newest member, Scarlett Kay Turpin, joining us by the waters of baptism. Scarlett was baptized in Benkelman March 23rd. She is the infant daughter of Michael and Samantha Turpin. Proud grandparents are Mark and Tina Cummins. Welcome Scarlett!



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.

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!**

APRIL READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
7th	The 2nd S. of Easter	Acts 4:32-35	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
14th	The 3rd S. of Easter	Acts 3:11-21	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36-49
21st	The 4th S. of Easter	Acts 4:1-12	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
28th	The 5th S. of Easter	Acts 8:26-40	1 John 4:1-21	John 15:1-8



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

Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor’s possessions are his: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.



ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN

Adopt a chaplain is a program that supports deployed military chaplains and the troops they serve. We meet at Peace Lutheran to send care packages that the chaplains use as they care for the troops. All of the Chaplains that we supported at Christmas have returned home. Whenever possible we adopt the chaplains that replace them and commit to sending care packages each month. Two LCMS pastors were supported at Christmas and have returned safely home, they are Chaplain David McCarthy and Chaplain David Wurdeman. Through the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces, we will now adopt Chaplain Brian Banke, who was recently deployed to Saudi Arabia. Prayers are needed for all deployed chaplains and troops. Everyone is invited to help pack on Tues, April 16 at 1:00 pm. Thank you for your support!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 10th, 11th, & 12th

“Hands of Jesus”

Our VBS is for children pre-K (age 3 and potty trained) through 5th grade. Please join our three-day event and register by May 20th in order for your child to receive a t-shirt (size guide is found under downloads, you will be asked to enter size when registering). Late and walk in registrations will be accepted however T-shirts may not be available so we encourage you to register by the deadline. **Check out all the details and register at:** www.myvbs.org/plcmccook



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, 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

April 7th	
Elder on duty	Brandon Kuykendall
Organist	Oraleen/K.C.
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Usher	Gene Meints
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Cathy Broz
Late Service	
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	Gary Hunkins
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Ben Schow
Live Stream	Blayzon Mooney

April 14th	
Elder on duty	Victor Lauer
Organist	K.C. Eckhardt
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Late Service	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Live Stream	Ian Brown

April 21st	
Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	Oraleen/Charlene
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
Late Service	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Live Stream	Carter Hartwell

April 28th	
Elder on duty	Fritz Hubert
Organist	Charlene Pfanstiel
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Nancy Rippen
Greeter	
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Harold Carlson
Late Service	
Greeter	Pat Penner
Greeter	
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Gary Hunkins
Live Stream	Layne Sarvela



PEACE TALK

Where did that pothole come from? One colorful explanation of the word "pothole" dated back to the Roman Empire when potters, for simplicity reasons, would dig up clay from a rut in the road. Thus, when a wagon would come by and drop into one of these holes, they knew a potter had been digging there. Potholes, so the story goes, have been the term ever since. Well, there must have been a few pots made from the ruts in our road, because there is an abundance of potholes. As I was driving the other day, not paying close enough attention, I managed to drive right into one of these potholes. Bang. As I bounce off the seat so does my hot spiced chi tea from the securement of the cupholder. Now, that drink I was looking forward to all morning, is poured out on the console, me, and the floor of my truck. It was like that pothole just come out of nowhere. Disgruntled for more reasons than one, I got to wondering... How much does this episode parallel my spiritual life? Just like falling into a pothole of doubt and fear, lack of faith and hope, poor health or sorrow, loss, or pain. Blindsided by a pothole that spills out sinful actions. However, Jesus says we will encounter these hazards in the road of life (John 16:33), not only that, but potholes will also be plentiful, for the road is wide that leads to destruction (Matthew 7:13), and the forces of evil are waiting for us to fall into that pothole, everywhere we turn (Ephesians 6:12). How will you respond when hitting these bumps of trials and temptations? What will you do when your cup of chi tea spills out? When we bounce into these holes in the road in our life, whatever our cup is filled with inside of us will spill out. Is it filled with hatred, anger, greed, or self-pity... ready to spill out when blind sighted by a pothole? I must admit, as Christians we are not exempt from getting angry or upset. That is why God has given us emotions that will be outwardly visible. But it is the way that we handle our emotions from within that will spill out and reflect our spiritual image (Mark 7:20). As Christians, our cup should be full of the "Fruit of the Spirit" the Apostle Paul talks about in Galatians 5:22-23, "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control." Through faith, the Holy Spirit will keep our cup filled with these things, so when we do hit a pothole in life, that is what will spill out of us. So, as you travel down life's highway, remember that your cup of tea will spill out from the potholes you drop into. But make sure you fill it right back up again with the Holy Spirit. Then, keep on trucking down that highway of holiness (Isaiah 35:8). Dear Lord, help me keep my cup full of your goodness, ready to spill out when I run into that pothole in the road. Amen.

Peace, Love, and Unity
Phil Bamesberger

