

TIDINGS OF PEACE

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH



'TIDINGS OF PEACE' from

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

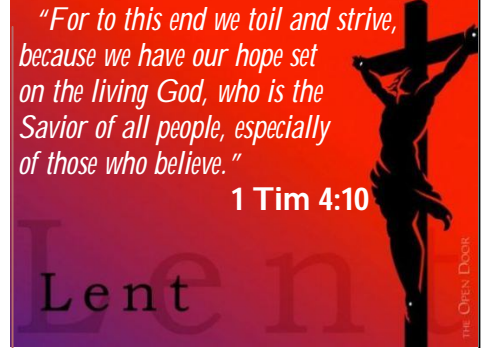
411 EAST 6TH STREET

MCCOOK, NE 69001

TO:



Lent is that time we begin working our way towards Easter and begin to turn our focus to the cross. Sometimes this is pretty hard to do, especially when our news headlines now a days center on three things. The first is the unrest we are seeing around the country and in our own backyard. Whole peoples are rising up against their governments – sometimes with varied results. The second has to do with the state of the economy and the impact the recent downturn has had on people. Thousands of people are without jobs, and more are losing them every day. People are forced to take lower paying jobs that are beneath their skill level just to feed their families. The third thing the headlines have been focusing on is the weather. Across the country there have been record snow falls and record lows reported, and this has strained already burdened finances. In addition to these external factors, we all have the stresses of deadlines and such to deal with that just exacerbate our own uneasiness with the world. With all of this going on in the



background we have to admit, the times are tough to try to live out our faith. Don't we want to try to push off the blame on someone else? It is even more disheartening when people of other religions can live out their faith and chastise the world and impose their value systems; but when Christians try to do the same things they are called intolerant, or said to have violated someone else's rights. This time of Lent we are entering is as important to us now as ever. We take our eyes off of others and we put them squarely on ourselves and our relationship with our Lord and Savior. It is a time we spend repenting of our own sins and shortcomings in sharing the message of the Gospel with others. **Continued on p.3**



PLC Shepherd
Pastor Tom Albertson
rev.albertson@plcmccook.org
Emergency (308)737-6657

DCE Intern
Brad Rogers
brad.rogers@plcmccook.org

Congregational President
Russ Ankersen
ankrsen@msn.com

Vice President
Fred Gleason
ggmccook4@yahoo.com

Elder Chairman
Grant Pfanstiel
pfanclub@mccooknet.com

Treasurer
Tina Cummins
treasurer@plcmccook.org

Creative Preschool Director
Kerri Unger
creativepreschool@plcmccook.org

Administrative Assistant
Angie Reiners
office@plcmccook.org

PLC WEBSITE

Be sure to visit us on the web at: www.plcmccook.org. Here, you can see all the latest announcements, notices, contact information, and more. The site is now *updated weekly* for changes on the church calendar and latest news.

From An Elder

(Jesus Said)" Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose, I have come to this hour. Father, glorify Your name." John 12: 27-28

Just a few short hours ago, Jesus was entering Jerusalem to the shouts of 'Hosanna, Hosanna'. Now, however, His soul is troubled. He understands what lies ahead, and perhaps just as we would be, He is sad. Jesus knows the suffering and death that awaits Him, yet He is willing to continue for the sake of all people on earth. Not just the Jews, but ALL people on earth who have been given the faith. And who is glorified? Not Jesus, but the Father!

This month we begin our journey to the Cross. After His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Jesus undertakes the tasks that His Father assigned to Him. He didn't complain or argue, He simply submitted to the Father's will. Jesus was willing to endure suffering and even death on the cruel Cross to save us from our own transgressions and to bring glory to the Father.

We celebrate Ash Wednesday on March 9th as the beginning of the Lenten Season. Join us at our midweek services as we follow our Savior to the Cross and our salvation. We have a morning Service at 11:00 am followed by a lunch and an evening Service which begins at 7:30 pm. And always remember, "To God be the Glory!"

Grant Pfanstiel
Elder Chairman



March Birthdays

Hull, Robert	3/2	Lichty, Luke	3/12	Fritz, Jessica	3/21
Klein, Kerrigan	3/3	Miller, Charles	3/12	Hubert, Brock	3/23
Shields, Tom	3/4	Nielsen, Amanda	3/12	Wiemers, Anne	3/24
Steier, Wilma	3/4	Hein, Janet	3/13	Friehe, Ronald	3/25
Kisker, Donald	3/5	Sehnert, Walter	3/13	Burton, Robert	3/26
Leibbrandt, Lewis	3/6	Kuykendall, Jaelyn	3/16	Pearce, Ryan	3/26
Buk, Gary	3/8	Ackermann, Bradley	3/19	Schoup, Michael	3/27
Bonar, Linda	3/10	Leibbrandt, Michael	3/19	Swanhorst, Curt	3/28
Schaffert, Paul	3/11	Rowland, Tyler	3/19	Swisher, Sarah	3/29
Bramer, Donald	3/12	Fritz, Jessica	3/21	Barenberg, Eldon	3/30

March Anniversaries

NAME	DATE	YRS
Griff & Fern Reiners	3/12/1946	65
Marvin & Florence Potthoff	3/20/1955	56
Dale & Peggy Poore	3/30/1952	59

March Readings

Date	Season	1st Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
6th	Transfiguration	Ex. 24:8-18	2 Pet. 1:16-21	Matt. 17:1-9
13th	1st Sunday in Lent	Gen. 3:1-21	Rom. 5:12-19	Matt. 4:1-11
20th	2nd Sunday in Lent	Gen. 12:1-9	Rom:4:1-8, 13-17	John 3:1-17
27th	3rd Sunday in Lent	Ex. 17:1-7	Rom. 5:1-8	John 4:5-26

Our Finances At A Glance

	Week of Feb to Date (Feb 20th - Feb 26th)	Month of Feb to Date (Feb 1st - Feb 26th)	Actual Year to Date (Jan 1st - Feb 26th)	Annual Budget to Date (Jan 1st - Feb 26th) 8th week
Offerings	\$2,955.00	\$12,391.14	\$30,039.14	\$37,548.16
Expenses	\$3,831.25	\$15,910.48	\$30,671.42	\$37,548.16



Forerunners' Christmas Exchange



Meet George's New Friend!

Ervain will be our chef in May.

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.

Holy Humor

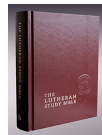
A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" He father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" the son replied, "I do know!" "Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?" "That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth'."

Lutheran Study Bibles Available

Lutheran Study Bibles are still available for purchase in the Church Office

Regular Size Print—\$34.95

Large Size Print—\$44.95



We pray for the families of those who passed away last month:

FUNERALS:

Melvin Reiners -February 1st, 2011

Sandra Bauer-February 17th, 2011

www.plcmccook.org



But, it is also a time of joy as we look forward to the celebration of our risen Lord and Savior on Easter morning. It is a time when our faith receives a shot in the arm. However, it is also a solemn time, a time spent in reflection on the reasons we have a need for a Savior.

Have you ever wondered what it is that truly opens our eyes to our need for God? If it is not the headlines we see each day, could it be the injustice we feel when someone wrongs us, or the pity we feel seeing someone in dire need? The sin of the world has led to despair in every aspect of our lives, which creates a need to seek something that is truly the opposite - deliverance. We seek God who saves us, who reflects His true love, and who can rescue us from all our sin and that of this world.

When we recognize our need for a Savior, this recognition leads us to Christ – the one who was led to Calvary to provide for our need for forgiveness through His selfless giving of Himself. When we recognize the sacrifice he made, it leads us to know of his great love for us and the desire to deliver us. And when we recognize his great unsurpassing love, it leads us to the knowledge that our toil is not in vain. That our God is a God of hope and promise.

This Lenten season, as you bow down before God in worship and repentance, set your hope on the living God, the Savior of all people. Seek him with your whole heart, and he will lead you to know the unsurpassing joy of a life filled with hope. This is a hope that is too great not to share. I encourage you to share the love of Christ with others so they too may experience the hope filled life we live as a people of God.

We seek God who saves us, who reflects His true love, and who can rescue us from all our sin and that of this world.

Pastor Tom

www.plcmccook.org



TOOLS FOR STEWARDSHIP and EVANGELISM

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Taken from the February Steward CAST.

What does the First Commandment have to say about Christian stewardship?

The First Commandment makes it very clear to the Christian steward that we belong to God. We are not our own. Raymond Olson writes in *Stewards Appointed*, "We owe everything we are to God. Nothing we will get out of life will be without His prior claim resting upon it and upon us. While He is under no obligation to us, we are under unremitting obligation to Him. We have not been given freedom to rule our lives and the world in which we find ourselves apart from the purposes and intentions of God. The steward is to be under no illusions about his position. He is steward and not Master. He is sinner and not Savior. He is to be guided. He is not the Guide. He is the property manager, not the property owner. He is the one entrusted, not the one who gives the trust. The purposes of life are revealed to him; he is not the determiner of those purposes. In his true devotion to God, he will find no sound reason to question this arrangement, but will understand that it is established in this way by the perfect love and infinite wisdom of God" (pages 19-20)."

The Christian steward understands and lives out the fact that he/she is a steward and not the owner. What does this mean to us today? We are reminded that everything we have or will have comes from and belongs to God. All of our time, talents and possessions (money, house, cars, toys and etc.) belong to God and are loaned to us during our lives. We are only giving back to God that which is already His.

THE PRAYER: Dear Father, You are the giver of every good and perfect gift. Looking at my sinfulness may I be proportionately appreciative of Your great grace. This I pray in the Name of Jesus who is the greatest Gift of all. Amen.

FREE! A GOOD TIME AND FELLOWSHIP

The Stewardship Committee will be showing the movie "The Greatest Story Ever Told", on **Saturday March 12, 2011** at Peace Lutheran Church, 411 East 6th, McCook Nebraska starting at 4:00 pm. This is the 1965 version and is quite long. There will be some snacks and drinks provided, but if you wish to bring some snacks to share please do, thank you.



BRAD'S CORNER

Brothers and sisters:

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:3-6). What a good feeling it is to know that your service is appreciated; that your efforts in the name of Jesus have not gone unnoticed. While the motivation for our service should not be the accolades we receive from others, it is no doubt a wonderful feeling to know you are appreciated; and to be encouraged in that service can be a most welcome thing in the midst of trial.

To this point, I have had the opportunity to serve with folks in the areas of Christian education for children and youth ministry. It is with that in mind that I wanted to take this opportunity to thank those individuals who are currently in leadership positions who have a heart for children, youth and a love for their Lord. Thank you to our Sunday school staff: Sue Ankersen, Jeannine and Angie Rinehart, Nancy Rippen and Judy Schow. Thank you to our School of Religion staff: Harold Carlson, Carrie Goltl, Grant Pfanstiel, Jeff & Kim Pinkerton, Stacy Sellers, Linda, Alyssa, Jenna & Joel Smith and Pastor Tom. Thank you to our youth ministry adult leaders: Robin & Jerry Calvin and Brigitta & Steve Post. Thank you to our Board of Education: Mary Hazlitt, Jan Hubert and Cindy Swanhorst. You are a blessing! Thank you for your service to Peace Lutheran sharing the Good News of Jesus!

Please keep these folks in your prayers; and if you see them around, encourage them with a word of thanks. Please also keep Sunday school and youth ministry in your prayers as we are in the early stages of mapping out a course of action of where we would like these programs to be (and those involved in them) over the next several years. This is an exciting time indeed! We need your prayers for God's guidance and support in this process to move us in His direction and not ours; that those involved in these programs would not only know Jesus as their Savior but be compelled to live their lives as disciples of Jesus.

Serving with you!

Brad, DCE Intern

**March 6th Early Service**

Organist	Joyce Hofman
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Jeff Pinkerton
Acolyte	Brandon Smith
Acolyte	Easton Gillen
Powerpoint	Jim Hall

March 6th Late Service

Greeter	Betty Knapper
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	Robert Hull
Acolyte	Raquel Bird
Acolyte	Karlie Swink
Powerpoint	Angie Reiners
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

March 20th Early Service

Organist	KC Eckhardt
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Usher	Eugene Custer
Acolyte	Katie Kjendal
Acolyte	Logan Kircher
Powerpoint	Stacy Sellers

March 20th Late Service

Greeter	Dorothy Henton
Greeter	Garnet Henton
Usher	Ron Buck
Acolyte	Raquel Bird
Acolyte	Karlie Swink
Powerpoint	NEED VOLUNTEER
Video	Russ Ankersen

March 13th Early Service

Organist	Zona Fritz
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	Evelyn Salyer
Usher	Ed Rinehart
Acolyte	Chance Koetter
Acolyte	Thatcher Skolout
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen

March 13th Late Service

Greeter	Janet Bamesberger
Greeter	Dale Bamesberger
Usher	Dee Traphagan
Acolyte	Devin Reiners
Acolyte	Spencer Reiners
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

March 27th Early Service

Organist	Zona Fritz
Audio	Jon Reiners
Greeter	Gary Buk
Greeter	Karen Berry
Usher	Lois Calvin
Acolyte	Brandon Smith
Acolyte	Easton Gillen
Powerpoint	Jon Reiners

March 27th Late Service

Greeter	Velma Kircher
Greeter	Phyllis Berndt
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Acolyte	Luke Lichty
Acolyte	Luke Curl
Powerpoint	Jon Reiners
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

Altar Flowers

6th-	Available
13th-	Reserved
20th-	Available
27th-	Available

KGNG Sponsor

6th-	Available
13th-	Available
20th-	Available
27th-	Reserved

Note: Cost to sponsor a "Your Hour of Worship" program on KNGN 1300AM Radio is \$45. If you are interested in sponsoring a program, please call the church office for available dates.

**JOIN US FOR LENTEN SERVICES****Ash Wednesday Services**

Wed. March 9th @ 11am and 7:30pm

Lenten Services

Wed. March 16th @ 11am and 7:30pm

Wed. March 23rd @ 11am and 7:30pm

Wed. March 30th @ 11am and 7:30pm

Lenten Lunches will be served, following the 11am services.

Lunches sponsored by Peace Lutheran's LWML..

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

McCook Community Hospital is beginning a grief support group for families or anyone who has experienced a recent loss of a loved one. It will begin on **March 1st, 2011**. More information can be found on the bulletin board, located across from the church mailboxes.

SUPPORT LFS WENDY'S KIDS

The Nebraska Wendy's franchise stores are currently conducting a campaign raising awareness regarding foster care adoption and funds for the Dave Thomas Foundation. This campaign funds the Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska Wendy's Wonderful Kids programs which aggressively seek permanent homes for children in foster care. The funds raised locally go directly toward the grants LFS is awarded each year. Please support the cause and visit your local Wendy's! Help cover the windows of each Wendy's location with hearts in support of the children LFS works with!

WEBSITE

We try to keep our website as up to date as possible. If anyone, while looking at items on the website, finds an error, please contact the office. Also, the schedule maintained on the website is updated as needed during the course of the month.



Peace Lutheran Church

411 East 6th Street

PO Box 240

McCook, NE 69001

PH (308)345-2595

Email: office@plcmccook.org

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5:30pm-Board of Education 6:30pm-Board of Elders	2 9:15am-Life Light 5:45pm-SOR 7:30pm-FIRE	3 COUNCIL REPORTS DUE 7:00pm-FIRE Leaders' Meeting 7:30pm-Life Light	4 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	5 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
6 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-Bible Study 10:30am-Worship	7 9:00am-Quilters Guild 2:30pm-Worship Committee 7:00pm-Bell Choir 8:00pm-Vocal Choir 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	8 2:30pm-Hillcrest Bingo 7:00pm-Council	9 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Lenten Lunch 5:45pm-SOR 7:30pm-Worship 8:30pm-FIRE	10 DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	11 DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	12 7:00am-Men's Bible Study 4:00pm-Church Movie
13 <i>Daffodil Sunday</i> <i>Communion Sunday</i> 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-Bible Study 10:30am-Worship DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	14 9:00am-Quilters Guild 7:00pm-Bell Choir 8:00pm-Vocal Choir 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	15	16 <i>Midweek Lenten</i> 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Lenten Lunch 5:45pm-SOR 7:30pm-Worship 8:30pm-FIRE	17	18 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	19 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
20 <i>Going Beyond Sunday</i> 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-Bible Study 10:30am-Worship and Praise Service	21 9:00am-Quilters Guild 7:00pm-Bell Choir 8:00pm-Vocal Choir 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	22	23 <i>Midweek Lenten</i> 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Lenten Lunch 5:45pm-SOR 7:30pm-Worship 8:30pm-FIRE	24 TIDINGS ARTICLES DUE 11:00am-LWML 1:30pm-Hillcrest Service 2:30pm-Willow Ridge	25 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	26 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
27 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-Bible Study 10:30am-Worship	28 9:00am-Quilters Guild 7:00pm-Bell Choir 8:00pm-Vocal Choir 8:00pm-Women's Study	29	30 <i>Midweek Lenten</i> 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Lenten Lunch 5:45pm-SOR 7:30pm-Worship 8:30pm-FIRE	31		