

TIDINGS OF PEACE

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends."

John 15:13

The time of Easter is upon us. It is during this time of Lent that we come before our God in repentance recognizing our need for a Savior, but look forward to the love of God shown to us through Christ Jesus on the cross. That love becomes very real for us as we examine the empty tomb on Easter morning and can only exclaim with Christians around the world that "He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!"

Having had a little windshield time here over the course of the past month, I have made trips east and west. It got me thinking about a story I had heard of a little boy asking his father how big God's love is. All the boy knew what what was around him and where he had been in his lifetime.

He knew that there was a lot of open space between the town they lived in and others so he began to point in different directions asking his father if God's love was bigger than say the distance to Denver. His father said, "Yep, bigger than that." Then he would point and ask is God's love was bigger than the distance,



"Yep, bigger than that too." No matter what direction the boy pointed or what town he would name, his father would explain to him that God's love was bigger than all of them.

After basically exhausting the points of the compass, the boy turned to his father with a grin that went from ear to ear, and said to him, "Dad, isn't it great to be right in the middle of God's love?"

We, too, are standing in the middle of God's great love. This month we see how great God's love is as we near our Easter celebration. That God so loved us, He gave us Jesus to save us from sin, death, and the devil, and that there is nothing that will ever separate us from that love.

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'TIDINGS OF PEACE' from

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

411 EAST 6TH STREET

MCCOOK, NE 69001

TO:



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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.

www.plcmccook.org

From An Elder

“Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how He told you, while He was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise” Luke 24: 5b – 7 (ESV)

As the women went to prepare Jesus’ body for final burial, they got a huge surprise. Jesus wasn’t there. Instead, they were greeted by two men in dazzling apparel, telling them something that they already knew. The Scripture tells us that they “remembered his words.”

How blessed we are. We have been taught these truths from our youth and the Holy Spirit has given us the faith to believe that Jesus suffered and died because of our transgressions, and rose again on that Easter morning to proclaim Victory over Death and the Devil.

And that is why we can say “To God be The Glory!” He is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluiah!

Happy Easter to you and your family.

Grant Pfanstiel
Elder Chairman

April Birthdays

Cummins, Tina	4/1	Gillen, Kelsey	4/8	Strauch, Savannah	4/17
Fornander, Aubrey	4/2	Gillen, Denise	4/9	Berndt, Phyllis	4/18
Friehe, Nadine	4/2	Bamesberger, Dale	4/11	Koetter, Olivia	4/18
Potthoff, Marvin	4/2	Roedel, Carol	4/11	Hanson, John	4/21
Bonar, Lonnie	4/3	Salyer, Evelyn	4/11	Kuykendall, Kimberly	4/21
Goltl, Rachel	4/3	Leibrandt, Yoshiko	4/12	Lichty, Shirley	4/22
Hazlitt, Lindsey	4/3	Custer, Carmen	4/13	Reiners, Griff	4/22
Hueftle, Chad	4/3	Koetter, Seth	4/13	Bonar, Pearl	4/23
Bauer, Jacob	4/5	Bruntz, Spenser	4/14	Carlson, Harold	4/25
Fritz, Corina	4/5	Fidler, Bettie	4/14	Hartwell, Carter	4/27
Gillen, Lance	4/5	Hartwell, Dan	4/14	Gillen, Brooklyn	4/28
Sellers, Stacy	4/5	Penner, Ronald	4/14	Shields, Drew	4/29
Kircher, Steve	4/6	Reiners, Wayne	4/14	Swanhorst, Hanah	4/29
Skinner, Frank	4/7	Spires, Charlyne	4/15	Traphagan, Dee	4/30
Skolout, Thatcher	4/7	Pierson, Chase	4/16		

April Anniversaries

NAME	DATE	YRS
Ronald & Doris Friehe	4/3/1976	35
Willard & Carol Roedel	4/4/1965	46
Steve & Gayla Swisher	4/5/1975	36
Melvin & Glenva Unger	4/5/1953	58
Christopher & Robin Klein	4/6/1996	15
Dennis & Susan Chipman	4/7/1973	38
Monte & Mary Hazlitt	4/7/1984	27
Kenneth & Dorinda Polly	4/7/1956	55
Ron & Deb Lauer	4/8/1989	22
Donald & Norma Kisker	4/14/1957	54
Tim & Tempie Krause	4/16/1988	23
Myra & Dan Stoney	4/17/1999	12
Eldon & Fay Barenberg	4/27/1957	54
Garnet & Dorothy Henton	4/29/1950	61

Our Finances At A Glance

	Week to Date (Mar 27th - April 2nd)	Month to Date (Mar 27th - April 2nd)	Actual Year to Date (Jan 1st - April 2nd)	Budget to Date (Jan 1st - April 2nd)
Offerings	\$5,193.00	\$13,699.38	\$46,192.02	\$61,015.76
Expenses	\$6,174.16	\$22,355.87	\$46,853.13	\$61,015.76

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St. Paul LWML invites all ladies of our congregations to attend the McCook Zone Christian Life Workshop

Saturday, April 16th, 2011

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Rural Wauneta, NE

Registration & Fellowship: 8:30am-9:00am MST



Hosanna! Blessed is HE!

A Study of the Passion Week

Presented by our Zone Pastors

Registration Fee: \$4.00

Human Care Ingathering:

New, wrapped, bath or sample size bars of soap for Orphan Grain Train and Lutheran World Relief



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.*

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.

April Readings

Date	Season	1st Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
3rd	4th Sunday in Lent	Is. 42:14-21	Eph. 5:8-14	John 9:1-41
10th	5th Sunday in Lent	Ezek. 37:1-14	Rom 8:1-11	John 11:1-45
17th	Palm Sunday	Is. 40:4-9	Phil. 2:5-11	Matt. 26:1-27:66
24th	Easter	Acts 10:34-43	Col. 3:1-4	Matt. 28:1-10

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Because of God's great love for us we can truly recognize that, **"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends."** We can't help but grin, like that little boy grinned, when we recognize that we are the object of God's love.

As we make our way through this Lenten time, we continue to have our midweek Lenten services where we are hearing the Words of the passion. We are focusing on the Words of Jesus from the cross and their application to us even today. You are invited to join us for mid-week worship and encouraged to bring a friend. Please see your worship bulletin or page 5 of this Tidings Newsletter to see our worship schedule. We have been having a dinner sponsored by the ladies of the LWML after our morning services. Good food, and fellowship are being enjoyed by all, and all are welcome to join us.

There are many who are serving to make our Easter celebration special this year. Our vocal choir and hand bell choir are practicing in preparation for our Holy Week services. The Board of Education is planning an Easter Breakfast to benefit our Vacation Bible School (Yes it is close to that time of the year).

Sunday school continues at this time with opportunities for our children and adults between our two services. What a joy it is to see our numbers begin to increase a little in our Sunday school for our children. If you have a child who isn't attending Sunday school, come check it out. Also, it is never too late to join our adult Sunday school as we continue to study the death and resurrection of our Lord through viewing of a DVD and discussion. Watch your bulletin for future Bible Study opportunities.

We also continue to have other Bible study opportunities with our men meeting on Saturday morning at the Chief Restaurant at 7:00 am. They are studying the book of Genesis. We also have a women's Bible study on Monday evenings. They will be studying through a Beth Moore series on the book of Daniel beginning on April 11. Our School of Religion and FIRE high school youth also continue to meet on Wednesday evenings.

As we make our way to the empty tomb this Easter morning, we can all rejoice that God's love has saved us.

In His Service:
Pastor Tom

www.plcmccook.org

Pastor Tom



TOOLS FOR STEWARDSHIP and EVANGELISM

FROM ONE OF OUR SEMINARY STUDENTS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your continued prayers, cards, and support! So much has happened since the last time I was among you at Thanksgiving. I have wanted to write to you for weeks now, but life has been a blur since December. Stephanie and I are getting married in Peoria, Illinois at her home church on June 4th and we recently returned from our trip to Haiti. The wedding plans are coming along quickly, but June 4th is coming even quicker. There is so much to tell about Haiti that it will have to wait until we are in your midst. We had a wonderful time in Haiti and the Christians there send their greetings. God is doing great things in the midst of all the hopelessness. I want to come home again soon, but it will not happen for a few of months yet. We are planning to come back on July 10th. I cannot wait to see you again and Stephanie is anxious to meet you.

Currently, I am on break, but will return to the classroom soon for the third quarter. Stephanie is still busy working at Camp Lutherhaven, but she will be joining me at the seminary next year as she begins deaconess classes. Thank you for your prayers, especially while we were in Haiti. Please continue to pray for the people of Haiti, for Stephanie and me as we prepare to begin our marriage, and for my formation at the seminary. We continue to pray for you and the ministry at Peace Lutheran Church. Thank you for giving a warm welcome to my brother, Brad. I pray that he will be a great asset to your ministry and that he might encourage you in your faith as you build him up in Christ!

In Christ,

Bill Traphagan

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



BRAD'S CORNER

Peace Lutheran Church's FIRE Youth Ministry exists to extend Jesus' love to all senior high school students, to help them grow in their relationship with the Lord, to praise and honor God in Christian service, and to care for one another.

The above statement is the reason for our youth ministry's existence. This statement is built around the five purposes found in the Great Commandment of loving God and our neighbor (Matt. 22:37-40); and in the Great Commission of making disciples, baptizing and teaching them found in Matt. 28:19-20. The five purposes being: evangelism (extend), worship (praise and honor), fellowship (care), discipleship (grow) and ministry (service).

Pastor Tom and I have had good conversations with past and present members of the Youth Ministry team and the Board of Education. What do we want youth ministry to work towards? We identified a goal of equipping and preparing youth to be Christian leaders living out a life of faith beyond this time and place as a high school student in McCook, NE.

This is definitely a lofty goal to shoot for; but it is one worth pursuing. It is with this in mind that we are looking to purposefully and intentionally structure everything we plan, do and say with youth ministry towards this goal of developing, equipping and nurturing Christian leaders for service.

God has given us a great responsibility to make disciples of Christ; it is a responsibility entrusted to us all. We need your help in making youth ministry all that it can be. I ask you to please prayerfully consider your interest in joining the team. You might be thinking to yourself, *I don't have any high school youth; or I don't like to lead Bible study; or I don't know how you can use my gifts for youth ministry; or I don't want to be tied down to something forever.* If you have a love for God and a heart for students, you have the potential for service in youth ministry; for one-time events and longer term. We are in need of prayer warriors. Maybe you have a particular skill or have access to a particular resource. Perhaps you do want a more hands-on role with the youth. These are just a few of the possibilities. I am here in this place, in part, because an invitation was extended to me 8 years ago to get involved in youth ministry. It was the best decision I ever made. I extend the same invitation to you now. Seek God's guidance, and if the Spirit is moving you to play a role in developing, equipping and nurturing Christian leaders, please contact me at brad.rogers@plcmccook.org or by calling the church office.

Please continue to keep our youth ministry and our youth in your prayers as we seek to follow God's guidance and direction in preparing Christian leaders for service.

Serving with you!

Brad

**April 3rd Early Service**

Organist	Joyce Hofman
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Jeff Pinkerton
Acolyte	Luke Lichty
Acolyte	Luke Curl
Powerpoint	Jim Hall

April 3rd Late Service

Greeter	Betty Knapper
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	Robert Hull
Acolyte	Chance Koetter
Acolyte	Thatcher Skolout
Powerpoint	Angie Reiners
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

April 10th Early Service

Organist	Joyce Hofman
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	Evelyn Salyer
Usher	Ed Rinehart
Acolyte	Katie Kjendal
Acolyte	Logan Kircher
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen

April 10th Late Service

Greeter	Janet Barnesberger
Greeter	Dale Barnesberger
Usher	Dee Traphagan
Acolyte	Raquel Bird
Acolyte	Karlie Swink
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

Altar Flowers

3rd- Available
10th- Reserved
17th- Reserved
24th- Available

KGNG Sponsor

3rd- Available
10th- Reserved
17th- Reserved
24th- Reserved

April 17th Early Service

Organist	
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Usher	Eugene Custer
Acolyte	Brandon Smith
Acolyte	Easton Gillen
Powerpoint	Stacy Sellers

April 17th Late Service

Greeter	Dorothy Henton
Greeter	Garnet Henton
Usher	Ron Buck
Acolyte	Chance Koetter
Acolyte	Thatcher Skolout
Powerpoint	NEED VOLUNTEER
Video	Russ Ankersen

April 24th Early Service

Organist	
Audio	Jon Reiners
Greeter	Gary Buk
Greeter	Karen Berry
Usher	Lois Calvin
Acolyte	Raquel Bird
Acolyte	Karlie Swink
Powerpoint	Jon Reiners

April 24th Late Service

Greeter	Velma Kircher
Greeter	Phyllis Berndt
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Acolyte	Devin Reiners
Acolyte	Spencer Reiners
Powerpoint	Jon Reiners
Video	NEED VOLUNTEER

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 EASTER SERVICES**

Maundy Thursday, April 21st @ 11:00am and 7:00pm

Good Friday, April 22nd @ 11:00am and 7:00pm

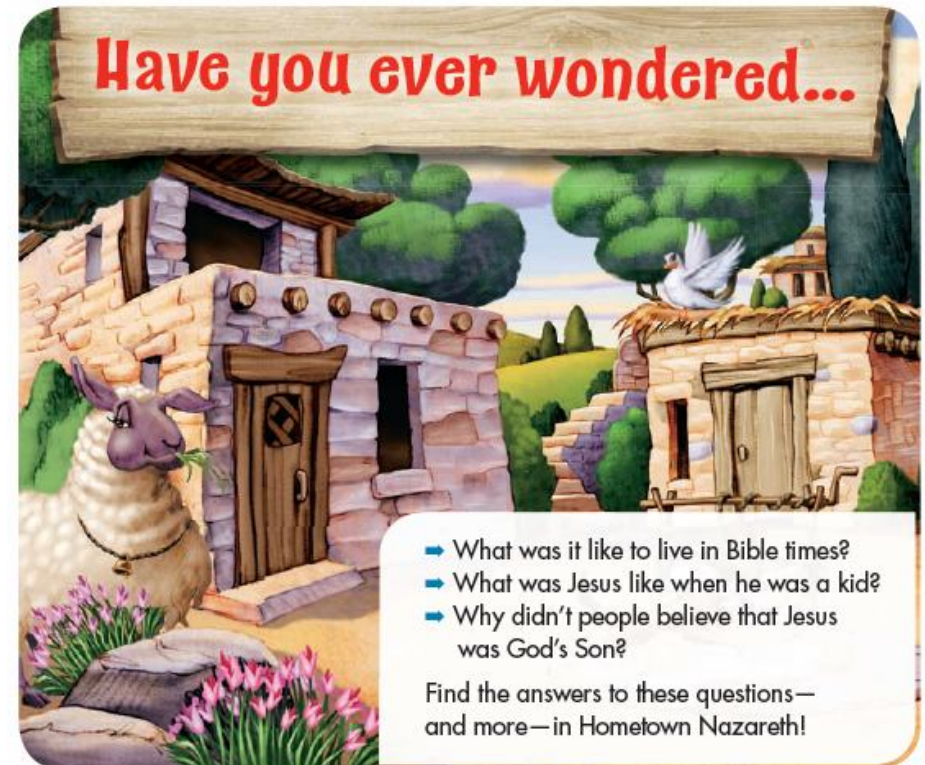
Easter Sunrise Service , April 24th @ 7:00am

Followed by Easter Breakfast, sponsored by the FIRE Youth



and the Board of Education

Easter Worship Service , April 24th @ 10:30am



Vacation Bible School

Week of June 6th through the 10th

Watch out for more details!!!!

Be sure to watch the church bulletin and website at: www.plcmccook.org



Peace Lutheran Church

411 East 6th Street

PO Box 240

McCook, NE 69001

PH (308)345-2595

Email: office@plcmccook.org

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	2 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
3 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-Bible Study 10:30am-Worship	4 2:30pm-Worship Committee 7:00pm-Bell Choir 8:00pm-Vocal Choir 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	5 6:30pm-Board of Elders 7:00pm-Council	6 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Lenten Lunch 5:45pm-SOR 7:30pm-Worship 8:30pm-FIRE	7 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE/ Winkle Meeting DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	8 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	9 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
10 Communion Sunday 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-Bible Study 10:30am-Worship	11 7:00pm-Bell Choir 8:00pm-Vocal Choir 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	12 2:30pm-Hillcrest Bingo	13 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Lenten Lunch 5:45pm-SOR 7:30pm-Worship 8:30pm-FIRE	14	15 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	16 7:00am-Men's Bible Study 9:00am-LWML Zone Meeting
17 Palm Sunday <u>Going Beyond Sunday</u> 8:00am-Worship 9:15am-Bible Study 10:30am-Worship	18 7:00pm-Bell Choir 8:00pm-Vocal Choir 8:00pm-Women's Study DCE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	19	20 5:45pm-SOR 8:30pm-FIRE	21 Maundy Thursday 11:00am-Worship 1:30pm-Hillcrest Service 2:30pm-Willow Ridge 7:00pm-Worship TIDINGS ARTICLES DUE	22 Good Friday 11:00am-Worship 7:00pm-Worship	23 7:00am-Men's Bible Study
24 Easter Sunday <u>Communion Sunday</u> 7:00am-Sunrise Service Easter Breakfast to follow 10:30am-Easter Worship	25	26	27 5:45pm-SOR 7:30pm-FIRE	28	29 PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	30 7:00am-Men's Bible Study