



PEACE AND PROCLAMATION

April 2009

A message from Pastor Pete

Death. We have nice ways to talk about it. We say someone 'passed away.' We say they are 'gone.' The words can't cover the terrible truth.

In my life, I have endured the death of my mother and three grandfathers. One of my high school classmates died of cancer. As a pastor I have encountered death many times, several times praying with a person as they breathed their last. Last week I attended the committal of a one month old boy. As I looked at that tiny coffin, the reality hit. Death is final. We bury bodies in cemeteries and put stones over their heads. We know we will never see them again.

Death hurts. It comes as the ultimate end of a relationship. Those who die will never again be with us on this earth. We live the rest of our days without them. That reality is sometimes more than we can bear.

Death lies around the corner for all of us. We all share a common story. We were born. We will die. Nobody on this earth can avoid it. No matter how far the medical field advances, we cannot do a thing about it. Death will come to you, and to me.

Death also came to Jesus. This core of our Christian faith can be easily glossed over. We've heard it many times, "Jesus died for you." It seems cliché. But the reality of Jesus' death is no mere cliché. Jesus endured whips. He endured nails in his wrists. He cried out in agony as they raised the cross into position. Blood flowed from his wounds. Jesus died.

Ironically, that death leads to our hope. Jesus did not stay dead! The cross is central to our faith, and the empty tomb is the sign that death cannot overwhelm us. Jesus' story becomes our story. Jesus died...and Jesus rose again. We will die...and we will rise again! Death could not hold Jesus, and it cannot hold us. Jesus conquered death, so that we might be forgiven and live with Christ forever.

Death seems so final to us, and in earthly terms it is, but the reality is that death is NOT the end. Death is the gateway to life. Not life on this earth as a ghost or something - but life with God forever.

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WORSHIP ASSISTANT INFORMATION

April 5, 2009

Worship Asst: Eric Porcher
Reader: Tamara Rasmussen
Communion Asst's: Jon & Diane Tangen
Hospitality: The Porcher, Rhone, Schreier, & Sorom Families
Set-up/Ushers: The Szuberski, Peterson, & Rucker Families



April 12, 2009

Worship Asst: Jeff Klein
Reader: Becky Crenshaw
Communion Asst's: Jamie Olson & Chris Austin
Set-up/Ushers: The Porcher, Morton, & Reiman Families

April 19, 2009

Worship Asst: Tanya Reiman
Reader: Chuck Johnson
Communion Asst's: David & Debbie Turnquist
Hospitality: The Begin, Brockway, Caflisch, Crenshaw & Enright Families
Set-up/Ushers: The Brockway, Schreier, Wallace, & Austin Families

April 26, 2009

Worship Asst: Julie Porcher
Reader: Myra Wick
Communion Asst's: Kevin & Amanda Back
Hospitality: Curt & Kathy Olson and The Hanley, Helgeson, Sass, & Wick Families
Set-up/Ushers: The Klein, Helgeson, Turnquist, & Wendt Families

April Birthdays!

LeeAnn Hermanson 4/2
April Mehrkins 4/2
Peter Reuss 4/2
Kyle Fagerlind 4/9
Joseph Trom 4/9
Carrie Rhone 4/11
Dick Lee 4/14
Emmylou Hermanson 4/16
Jared Rucker 4/16
Sue Johnson 4/17
Shannon Reuss 4/18
April Coppock 4/22
Brandi Hermanson 4/23
Amanda Lee 4/26



If we have missed your birthday or have the wrong date in past newsletters, please email the church office so that we can get our records correct! We're sorry about any mistakes!

office@peaceyota.org

~April Readings~

April 5

The Crucifixion

Mark 11:1-11

April 12

Easter

Mark 16:1-7

April 19

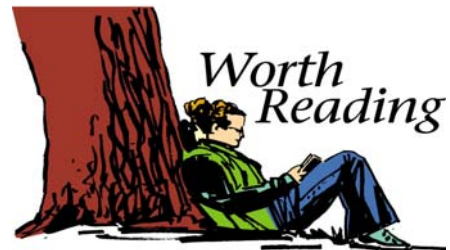
The Reaction to Easter

Mark 16:1-8

April 26

Jesus on the Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:13-35



Church News!

Palm Sunday



Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Peace will join that celebration on **April 5th**, beginning with a fun procession of palms!

Seder Dinner

The annual Seder Dinner on **April 9th**. This is the meal where we not only remember God's great action in saving Moses and the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt, we also remember that it as a Seder Dinner that Jesus used to institute the sacrament of communion. The Seder Dinner is a wonderful opportunity for the entire family to eat special foods and remember God's work. We again will hold the Seder Dinner together with St. Paul UCC, and the meal will be held at St. Paul (2 miles north of Eyota). The cost is \$5 per person, \$10 per family. To reserve space, please contact Cliff Schreier (cliffs@us.ibm.com) ASAP.



The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is...
"To call people to Christ, nurture them into the
faith, and send them out in witness and service."
Worship—9:15am: @ Dover-Eyota Elementary
School-27 Knowledge Road, Eyota
Church Office: 515 S. Jefferson Avenue—(507)
545-2535—www.peaceeyota.org
Future Home of Peace: 6 acres @ corner of
Knowledge Road & Hwy #7
Pastor Pete's Home Phone: 545-1272

Good Friday

Peace will join with St. Paul UCC on Friday, **April 10th** at 6:30 pm to commemorate Jesus' death. Worship will be held at St. Paul (2 miles north of Eyota on Hwy 9). The youth of Peace will be in charge several parts of the service (both singing and stripping the altar area).

Easter!

Come celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Sunday, **April 12th**. We will begin with a breakfast at 8:15 am (free will offering with proceeds to support our high school youth trips). Worship is at 9:15 am. Jesus has risen!



10 AM SATURDAY, APRIL 11th
Toddler Hunt 10:15 | School Age Hunt 10:30 | Prizes | Easter Story

JOIN US!! EVERYONE WELCOME

EASTER EGG HUNT

FREE
Bring 12 eggs
per child and
join in the fun

Sponsored by
Peace Lutheran Church

Location: Future home of
Peace Lutheran Church
Lot on the corner of
County Rd 42 and Knowledge Rd

The sign features a map showing the intersection of HWY 14 and Knowledge Rd, with a pink arrow pointing to the location. The word 'EYOTA' is written above the map. A logo for 'Peace' is also visible.

Mid-Week Youth Ministry

On **April 15th**, the mid-week youth ministries will be back to the normal schedule. The last day of these gatherings will be on May 6th.

- ◆ 5:45-6:45 pm, Elementary at Church Office
- ◆ 6:00-8:00 pm, 6th-8th Grades at Arbor Gardens

Eyota God Squad

Several churches in Eyota are working to get a community Christian youth group up and running! To kick off the concept, there will be a MAJOR Christian concert at the D-E Elementary School on Saturday, **April 18th** at 6:30 pm. Bright Light Parade and Pilot for Kite will both take the stage! Samples of their music will be heard at worship for the next few weeks. This event is FREE ...and is intended for those in 7th-12th grades. There will be youth from many surrounding communities joining in the fun. Don't miss out!

First Communion Classes



Those in 2nd grade are invited to bring a parent to the church office on **April 19th & 26th** from 6:00-7:00 pm. These classes are in preparation for our First Communion Sunday on **May 3rd**.

Friendly Visitor Volunteers are Needed

The Elder Network is in need of Friendly Visitor Volunteers. Because of the flexibility of this program, it is a great opportunity for working people and for families to visit for one hour a week with a lonely senior in our community. Please call 285-5272 for more information.



Attend Our "DAY OF CARE"



Are you caring for someone . . . perhaps a spouse, parent, grandparent, neighbor or friend? When caring for someone else, we sometimes forget to "take care" of ourselves. Please join us for a wonderfully relaxing "Day of Care" to be held at **Zumbro Lutheran Church in Rochester on Saturday, April 18th from 8:45 am - 2:00 pm.** We hope you will take this time to relax a bit. You can also learn about resources and receive information to help you in your caregiving journey. Lunch will be provided as well as on-site respite care for your loved one - **all of this at no cost to you!** Please call Elder Network at 285-5272 for additional information. Remember, caring requires caring. Take some time to care for yourself!!

Calling all Facebook Members

Peace just started a Facebook page (Peace Lutheran Church, Eyota). If you're a Facebook type person, stop on by and become a fan! Larry the Puppet also started his own Facebook page! Find him under Larry T Puppet.



Special Sunday School Events



After Easter there are only four more weeks of Sunday School! Instead of the same-old same-old, special events are being planned for all four of those weeks! We'll keep you posted as we get all the fun details pinned down. Don't miss out!

Kids Against Hunger



On **April 9th** the elementary school is hosting Kids Against Hunger, a program where food is packaged to be shipped all over the world to fight hunger. The community is invited to come and help in one of three shifts (3:00-4:00 pm, 4:00-5:00 pm, or 5:00-6:00 pm). Contact Carrie Frank at the school for more info. The April Noisy Collection will go to support this.

Pastor Pete's Phone Number

When not in the office, the best way to contact Pastor Pete is on his cell phone, 696-3309.



Small Group Updates



M. I. A.

Mom's in Action

MIA is undergoing a transformation! MIA exists is to allow moms (or any women) to have some time together to unwind and have a night out. To achieve this goal, the gathering time has shifted to Friday evenings at 7:00 and it will now move to homes (instead of the church office). **This group will meet on Friday, April 24th at Jan Begin's house (311 Pine Ave SE, Eyota).** For more information, feel free to call Jan 208-1761.

Peace Scrappers

If you like to scrapbook (or want to learn more), this group is for you! Contact person - Becky Crenshaw-545-1290. They normally meet in the church office on the 2nd Saturday each month, but due to Easter the time is being changed. Please talk to Becky if interested.



"Instruments of Peace"



Open to all members of the congregation. We normally meet the **2nd Thursday of each month 7 - 8:30 PM at Shannon Reuss' home.** If you enjoy singing or playing music please come and be a part of this fun group. Please call Shannon Reuss with any questions, 545-1272.

Southern Minnesota Synod Lutheran Men in Mission Seventh Annual

BREAKFAST WITH THE BISHOP!

KEYNOTE

Charlie Ruud is a unique individual and future ELCA pastor. He graduated from Luther Seminary in 2008 with a Master of Divinity Degree and is currently seeking a call to a congregation. His limitation—he wants a least a fifth season as a pitcher for the St. Paul Saints in 2009. Charlie has had good success since joining the Saints in 2005, after being a star pitcher at St. Olaf College from 2001-2004.

Charlie had a record of 12 wins—4 losses in 2008 and a 3.85 ERA with the Saints, which led to an All-Star Game start at Midway Stadium. Charlie has signed a deal for the 2009 St. Paul Saints season, and he begins spring training in May.

So in addition to fielding infield hits, Charlie fields spiritual questions from teammates, and to some he is nicknamed "The Minister."

He has been blessed by God with many talents and abilities, and when a ministry call comes, Charlie will be sure to step up to the plate and offer his best to God.

"ON BEING A SAINT"

Saturday, April 18, 2009

8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

\$10/person

Cabela's in Owatonna
(on I-35 north of Owatonna)

****Opening prayer by Bishop Harold Usgaard****

Send reservations & check by **April 8th** to: Nick Nikoley, 320 22nd St. SE, Owatonna, MN 55060. Questions? Call 507-451-6335



Christian Education Calendar - updates

Noisy Sundays!!!! 1st Sunday of each month!!!!

Bring your Change, bring your child, hear them sing,



- April 5, 2009 - Palm Sunday
- April 8, 2009 - No Weekday School - No Lent services
- April 9 & 10, 2009 - Maunday Thursday - Sedar Supper
- April 12, 2009 - No Sunday School - Easter
- May 3, 2009 - First Communion Sunday
- May 6, 2009 - Last Day of Weekday School
- May 10, 2009 - Last Day of Sunday School
- June 8 - 12, 2009 - (Tentative) Vacation Bible School

Christian Education Opportunities

Sundays—10:30—11:15 a.m. D-E Elementary Gym/Pre-school—8th grade

Wednesday—5:45—6:45 p.m. Peace Lutheran Church Office/Pre-school—5th grade

Wednesday—6:00—8:00 p.m. Arbor Gardens 6th, 7th & 8th grade

The Noisy Collection

The Noisy Collection on April 5th will go to the Kids Against Hunger event at the elementary school on April 9th.

Vacation Bible School



VBS will be held the week of June 8-12. We are pleased to have Kathy Olson (545-1229) and Heather Ohl (545-0140) be Peace's coordinators. They will soon be looking for teachers and helpers. If you're interested in being a part of VBS this year, please talk to either Kathy or Heather.

Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

02/10/09

7:00 PM

Devotions: Acts 20:7-12

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call meeting to order: Jeff Reiman		
Secretary's Report: Carrie Rhone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve Minutes 01/09 	Motion by Myra, seconded by Wayne.
Treasurer's Report: Jeff Reiman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates Offering balance 	The budget is set up for 80% self sufficiency. Motion by Wayne, seconded by Brenda.
Team Reports:		
Education Team: Curt Olson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates 	Meeting on the 24th for the Sunday School teachers. Su is finishing up for this year for Sunday school lead. Kari Wendt and Ramona Back will lead efforts in Fall '09.
Finance Team: Jeff Reiman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates 	Noisy collection for January: \$110.21 ELCA world hunger. Noisy collection for February: \$74.30 went to Salvation Army Heat Share. Good Samaritan Dental clinic for March Idea for April: Kids Against Hunger Motion by Pastor Pete, seconded by Myra.
Outreach: Carrie Rhone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IHN dates for '09 (3/22-3/29, 7/5-7/12, 9/13-9/20, 12/6-12/13) IHN OF Greater Rochester - Staff/Volunteer Application and Disclosure Form (To be completed by ALL staff and/or volunteers who will have contact with IHN guests) 	We will double check policy for background checks for volunteers. Not certain we can share this info with IHN. To: Get the vinyl sign that is out on Sunday finished.
Property Team: Wayne Merhkens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates Building Planning Team 	Blinds are up and looks good. Linda will contact person that Wayne set up for purchase of new chair. Building team is on hold until Fall, due to ministry plan. We need to start looking for someone to mow the land. Need to look at 2 or 3 times during the warmer months.
Spirituality: Brenda Szuberski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates Small Groups 	Small groups are up and running. Will discuss prayer group for future dates.

<p>Worship Team: Myra Wick</p>	<p>Updates Grant Money from IBM (projector) Nursery info</p>	<p>During Lent we will be teaming up with St. Paul's church. On Ash Wednesday we will have a meal. For all Lenten services they will join us at the Elementary school. We will divide the meals with them. Service 6:15-6:45</p> <p>Sedar Supper and Good Friday service is being planned with them and will be held at their location. Palms will be ordered and need to have Linda put the Easter Lily flowers added to Sunday signup form.</p> <p>Grant money has been spent. Only spent 500 on projector, so have about half the amount left to use on technology items.</p> <p>Nursery is still being discussed to get things organized.</p>
<p>Pastor Update</p>	<p>Pastoral updates Baptised/Confirmed #'s New Members Updates on March 8 meeting w/ Luther Snow</p>	<p>234 baptized and 150 confirmed. Change - failed to report baptism of Samuel Johnson (9/21/08).</p> <p>Members received by transfer from other ELCA congregations are the Back and Halvorson families.</p> <p>We agreed as a congregation at the annual meeting to hire Luther Snow. On March 8th we will have lunch and then meet with Luther until around 5pm. It's an important meeting so we can make a strong Ministry plan and move forward as a congregation. The council and any member of the congregation can attend. An email has gone out to the Elementary School to confirm that we can have some space to meet.</p>
<p>OLD BUSINESS</p>	<p>Picture Directory</p>	<p>Software is loaded and it's easy to use. If Linda can get a rough draft done we can see where we need to fill in the holes with scanned photos.</p>

NEW BUSINESS		
	<p>Administrative Assistant: projects and responsibilities</p> <p>Youth Trips</p>	<p>Need to start the discussion of how to use Linda more effectively.</p> <p>The junior high/high school group (God Squad) in St. Charles has contacted Pastor Pete to discuss participation. The first event may be a band and it would be organized by the St. Charles Group and possibly the three churches in Eyota. This will fill in a gap in our youth ministry as well as the community. Discussions will continue.</p> <p>Youth Trips - Jackie Boettcher and Pastor Pete are planning trips, yet the challenge is funding the leaders for these trips. The Easter Bruch free will offering may be a possible way to fund these trips.</p>
Adjourn		Motion by Wayne, seconded by Myra.
Next Council Meeting	Meeting with Luther Snow after service on Sunday, March 8 th 2009.	<p>Upcoming Council Meetings: 6:30 PM</p> <p>Tuesday, March 10th</p> <p>Tuesday, April 14th</p> <p>Thursday, May 14th</p> <p>Wednesday, June 3rd</p> <p>Tuesday, August 11th</p>