



# PEACE AND PROCLAMATION

February 2008

## A message from Pastor Pete

For the pastor's gathering I recently attended in Orlando (yes, it was warm there!), I was asked to read a very interesting book, Blue Like Jazz by David Miller. The book provides a fascinating reflection on a life of faith and the struggles that come with it. I highly recommend it.

I really appreciated this section.

*For me, however, there was a mental wall between religion and God. I could walk around inside religion and never, on any sort of emotional level, understand that God was a person, an actual Being with thoughts and feelings and that sort of thing. To me, God was more of an idea. It was something like a slot machine, a set of spinning images that doled out rewards based on behavior and, perhaps, chance.*

*The slot-machine God provided a relief for the pinging guilt and a sense of hope that my life would get organized toward a purpose. I was too dumb to test the merit of the slot machine idea. I simply began to pray for forgiveness, thinking the cherries might line up and the light atop the machine would flash, spilling shiny tokens of good fate. What I was doing was more in the line with superstition than spirituality. But it worked. If something nice happened to me, I thought it was God, and if something nice didn't, I went back to the slot machine, knelt down in prayer, and pulled the lever a few more times. I liked this God very much because you hardly had to talk to it and it never talked back. But the fun never lasts.*

We proclaim a living God who calls us to a relationship, but do we simply turn God into a slot machine to dole out rewards on a random basis? God wants to live with us daily. For the next seven weeks worship will focus on seeing God active in our lives on a daily basis. God constantly remains active among us. That's more than a 'slot machine God' would be willing to do! My prayer is that God will open our eyes to what God does!



### Inside this issue:

Maureen's Article (page 2)

Worship Assistants (page 3)

February Birthdays (page 4)

February Readings (page 4)

Church News (page 5-6)

Christian Ed (page 7-8)

Church Council December Meeting

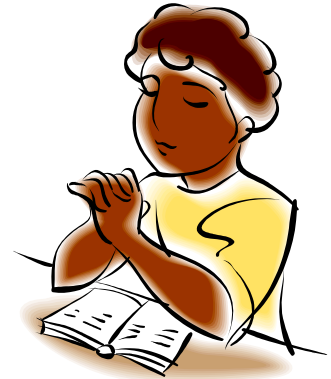
Minutes (page 9-10)

February Calendar (page 11)

## A message from Maureen:

Praying through a Prayer List:

*“Wow, that’s a really big problem, Janine. I’ll pray for you.”* How many times do we try to help a person by saying that we will pray for them? How many times do we actually do the praying we say we will? How do we develop the habit, and how do we maintain the habit? In the matter of prayer lists I am far from being an expert. In addition, I have only been using a prayer list for about 6 months. But I am happy to share with you what I have discovered.



**What is a prayer list?** Usually a prayer list is just what it says: a list of people, organizations, or situations that a person specifically names before God on a regular basis.

**Where does one write their prayer list?** The short answer is to put it someplace where you have regular access to it. I put my prayer list on a 3 by 5 card that I tuck in my daily devotions book. My daily devotional routine closes with a time of prayer and that is when I pray down the list. My list consists of the name and the concern. When I hear that a solution or resolution has occurred I make a note of that as well. Other people take a small notebook and do the same thing with their list but with the added advantage of keeping all of their lists in one place. What is critical to both ways of keeping lists is to note when prayers are answered and to look back occasionally to see how God has been actively answering your prayers.

**How do we maintain the habit?** To start with, a person has to develop a habit of regular praying that works for them. Last month I mentioned prayer during my walks and when I vacuum. If those are times when you can pray, then add praying down the list to that time. If you are an early riser and eat breakfast, pull out your list and pray down it at breakfast. If you close your evening with a bit of quiet reading, pray down the list at that time. The key is choosing a time when it feels natural to you. This will help you develop a routine that is easy to continue.

Since maintaining a prayer list is new to me I really wasn’t sure what to expect. Recently when I realized that many of the names on my current list had received an answer or come to a resolution to their situation something clicked in my head and in my heart. I took that list, removed names as appropriate and started a new list. It felt great. I really started to see God at work in the world answering prayer in a way that I had never experienced before. I was getting the feedback I needed to maintain the habit.

I pray for my children all the time. But I have found that now as they are older and have left home that it is a powerful thing to be able to say to them that I pray for them or for a specific situation in their lives every day. Often their eyes light up and the tone of their voice changes when you say that you are specifically praying about the situation. Not only does this happen with my children, but it also occurs in my conversations with acquaintances who have landed on my prayer list for various reasons. The light in their eyes and the gleams of hope that I see are enough to keep me praying through my list.

I am a list keeper. I get a strong sense of accomplishment when I cross things off of my to-do list. Keeping a prayer list has turned into something that really works for me. If you are a list keeper and you know that it helps you to accomplish things, I suspect that you too will find that keeping a prayer list is beneficial to your prayer life. Best wishes as you pray, Maureen.

## WORSHIP ASSISTANT INFORMATION

### Last Sunday after the Epiphany - February 3, 2008

Worship Asst.: Eric Porcher  
Reader: Kay Klein  
Communion Asst's.: Jeff & Kay Klein  
Hospitality: The Wallace, Wendt, Welsh, & Zeimer Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Caflisch, Zeimer, & Spafford Families



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### The First Sunday in Lent — February 10, 2008

Worship Asst.: Jeff Klein  
Reader: Eric Porcher  
Communion Asst's.: Jamie Olson & Chris Austin  
Hospitality: The Begin, Brockway, Caflisch, & Crenshaw Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Szuberski, Peterson, Johnson, & Rucker Families

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent — February 17, 2008

Worship Asst.: Tanya Reiman  
Reader: Becky Crenshaw  
Communion Asst's.: Eric & Julie Porcher  
Hospitality: The Enright, Hanley, Helgeson, & Johnson Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Porcher, Morton, Reiman, & Jeche Families

### The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent — February 24, 2008

Worship Asst.: Laurie Mickow  
Reader: Chuck Johnson  
Communion Asst's.: David & Debbie Turnquist  
Hospitality: The Keach, Klein, Mickow, & Mix Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Brockway, Schreier, Wallace, & Austin Families

### The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent — March 2, 2008

Worship Asst.: Chuck Johnson  
Reader: Myra Wick  
Communion Asst's.: Emily Porcher & Shelia Mix  
Hospitality: The Olson, Porcher, Pristash, & Rhone Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Klein, Helgeson, Turnquist, & Wendt Families

## February Birthday's!

Bruce Mickow 2/1  
Chad Nelson 2/6  
Heather Ohl 2/7  
Jenna Rasmussen 2/12  
Ashlyn Enright 2/14  
Tamara Rasmussen 2/15  
Cindy Woltman 2/15  
Noah Hanson 2/16  
Brenna Mickow 2/22  
Carol Purcell Cluney 2/23  
Britni Berning 2/24  
Danielle Fields 2/24  
Tanner Rhone 2/24  
Cole Yust 2/25  
Neil Rasmussen 2/26



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@peaceeyota.org](mailto:office@peaceeyota.org)

## ~February Readings~

Lessons for Lent, 2008

**Lenten theme...Opening our eyes to God at work among us.**

**Ask yourself: Where was God in my life today?**

**Feb 3** - Overview of Lent and Annual Meeting

**Feb 6** - Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalms 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**Feb 10** - God Gives Strength in Challenges

Genesis 39:1-23

Luke 10:1-17

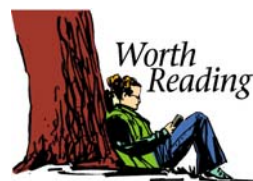
**Feb 17** - God in the Coincidences of Life

Genesis 40:1-41:14 (this covers parts of 2 chapters) Matthew 12:9-13

**Feb 24** - God Speaks to Us in Dreams

Genesis 41:15-39

Matthew 27:11-26



# Church News!

## A Disney Cruise??

Everyone at Peace is invited on a grand adventure! Plans are underway for a week long Disney Cruise on October 11-18, 2008 (yes, MEA week of 2008!). Prince of Peace in Burnsville is inviting anyone from Eyota to come and join in this week long adventure. This is the advantage of being a Mission Church! Plans are being made this far in advance so that families can financially plan for the cruise (costing in the neighborhood of \$1000-\$1500 per adult (kids cheaper), depending on lodging). Full details can be found at <http://www.travelsbydesign.com/famfest.htm>. It will be a great time for family and faith building.

## Ash Wednesday

In the church year, Ash Wednesday kicks off the season of Lent (see below). On Ash Wednesday, ashes are placed on your head as a reminder that 'you are dust, and to dust you will return.' You may remember seeing people at work with black crosses on their foreheads. It's a time to be reminded that we have nothing to brag about as we stand before God. We totally depend on God's mercy and grace. The date for Ash Wednesday changes as Easter changes, and this year both are very early. Peace will gather for **Ash Wednesday worship at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**.

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](http://www.peaceeyota.org)  
Future Home of Peace: 6 acres @ corner of  
Knowledge Road & Hwy #7  
Pastor Pete's Home Phone: 545-1272



## Sermons On-Line

If you're going to be away and can't worship on any Sunday, hop onto [www.peaceeyota.org](http://www.peaceeyota.org) and hear the sermon for that week!

## Annual Celebration of Ministry

As we begin a New Year it's time to reflect on God's ministry here at Peace. Every year we must gather and conduct some official business. Our gathering will take place during worship on **February 3<sup>rd</sup>**. This is a time to celebrate God's work among us! Good things are happening at Peace.

## Proposed Change to Constitution

At the annual celebration of ministry on February 3<sup>rd</sup> Peace will have the opportunity to revise a portion of the congregational constitution. Currently the constitution reads:

**C10.04. A simple majority of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.**

The proposed change reads:

**C10.04 10% of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.**

This would go into effect after the 2009 Annual Meeting. This change would bring Peace in line with the most ELCA congregations as it sets a realistic goal for attendance.

## Annual Cub Scout Pancake Breakfast

The Annual Cub Scout Pancake Breakfast will be held Sunday, **February 3<sup>rd</sup>**, 8:00 am until Noon at the Eyota American Legion. Cost: \$20 per family or \$5.00/adult, \$3.00/child ages 3-10 yrs, & children under 3 are free.

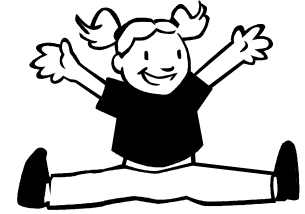
## First Communion

First Communion Class dates for our Second Graders have been finalized and will be held on Saturday morning **Feb 9<sup>th</sup>** and **Feb 16<sup>th</sup>** from 11:00 until Noon. First Communion worship will be on Sunday, **February 17<sup>th</sup>**. We ask that each child bring an adult with them to the class. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Pete or Maureen.

## Mid-week Lenten Worship

As we prepare to walk with Jesus to the cross on Good Friday, Christians traditionally spend the season of Lent (the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter) reflecting on faith. This year we at Peace will be finding ways of seeing God active in the world on a daily basis. God is there...we just don't notice it! The Sunday themes will carry over into a Wednesday night discussion. We will begin with **supper at 5:45** at the elementary gym, followed by **worship and discussion from 6:15-6:45**. The kids in the elementary youth group will also be at the gym, beginning with a quick supper and then moving to their regular ministry activities. These gatherings will begin on **February 13<sup>th</sup>** and continue through **March 12<sup>th</sup>**.

## Christian Education Opportunities



### Wednesdays

Grades K - 6, 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. @ Elementary School

### Sundays

.Pre-School - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

10:30 - 11:15 a.m. Eyota Elementary School

Please call church office 545-2135 or Su Spafford 545-2954 for more information.



Mark your calendars now for:

### Sunday, February 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

Worship @ 9:15 AM @ DE Elementary

Sunday School 10:30-11:15 AM

### Ash Wednesday, February 6th

Worship at 6:30 pm

### Wednesday, February 13th

Weekday school @ DE Elementary

5:45-6:45 Grades 1-6

5:45 Supper

6:15 Worship

6:15 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth meet for worship and then gather separately for Highs & Lows and prayer.

### Our Council Leaders!

**Council President:** Chuck Johnson

**Vice-President:** Cliff Schreier

**Council Secretary:** Su Spafford

### Peace Teams and Leaders

**Education:** Su Spafford

**Property:** Jeff Klein

**Finance:** Chuck Johnson

**Worship:** Cliff Schreier

**Outreach:** Carrie Rhone

**Spirituality:** Brenda Szuberski

## Christian Education Calendar - updates

February 6, 2008	No Weekday School - Ash Wednesday Service @ 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 13 - Mar. 12	Weekday School during Lent - Elementary School 5:45 - 6:45 p.m.
Feb. 17, 2008	First Communion Sunday
March 16, 2008	Palm Sunday
March 19, 2008	Weekday School - No Lent services
March 20, 2008	Maundy Thursday - Seder Supper
March 21, 2008	Good Friday
March 23, 2008	No Sunday School - Easter Breakfast and Worship
May 7, 2008	Last Day of Weekday School
May 11, 2008	Last Day of Sunday School
June 9 - 13	(Tentative) Vacation Bible School

### Noisy Sundays !!



The first Sunday of each month is NOISY Sunday - the children collect change in tin cans. The children will also sing on the first month of every Sunday.

### Volunteer Opportunity - ----- Vacation Bible School

We are looking for volunteers for VBS coming up in June - Can you volunteer? Planning, teaching, supervising, music, food helpers, crafts, many opportunities are available. Please contact Pastor Pete 545-2535 or Su Spafford 545-2954.

Thank you for allowing the Christian Education Staff an opportunity to work with your children: Kari Wendt, Maureen Hagen, Becky Crenshaw, Carrie Rhone, Kim Ziemer, Jan Begin, Julie Hanley, Tammy Rasmussen, Lee Ann Hermanson, Nguyen Nguyen, Shannon Coppack, Paul & Su Spafford, and Pastor Pete Reuss.



**Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**

**12/10/2007**

**6:30 PM**

Devotions: Acts 9:1-19

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call meeting to order: Chuck Johnson	Welcome visitor Jeff Reiman – considering council role	Present: Chuck Johnson, Carrie Rhone, Maureen Hagen, Brenda Szuberski, Pastor Pete, Cliff Schreier, Su Spafford, Jeff Klein
Secretary's Report: Su Spafford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes 11/12/07</li> </ul>	Approved Jeff, second Brenda
Treasurer's Report: Chuck Johnson		Approved Cliff, second Carrie
Team Reports:		
Education Team: Su Spafford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baptisms</li> <li>• Christmas Program – 12/16/07</li> <li>• Weekday school – average 26/week</li> <li>• Sunday school – average 25/week</li> <li>• VBS budget update – not all money is in</li> <li>• Budget for 2008 – 13% decrease overall</li> <li>• 12/23 &amp; 12/30 Movie Days</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need help with program set up</li> <li>• Movie has been purchased for movie Sundays.</li> <li>• Sunday School &amp; Weekday School material has been paid.</li> </ul>
Finance Team: Chuck Johnson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personnel Policy update - action</li> <li>• New finance team members – action</li> <li>• Budgets for 2008</li> <li>• Benevolent - Local</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No update on personnel policy</li> <li>• Trying to recruit new finance team member</li> <li>• Discussed budget items for 2008, added dollars to landscape budget, added expense of supply pastor for January – approved Cliff, second Jeff</li> <li>• Benevolence – Local Good Samaritan Dental \$300, Good Earth Village \$1,100, Channel One \$500, Heifer Project \$300, Lutheran Disaster Response \$500, Salvation Army \$200, Lutheran Campus Center \$300, Woman's Shelter \$500, Ronald McDonald \$300,</li> </ul>
Outreach: Carrie Rhone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IHN Update - December</li> <li>• Bell ringing report</li> <li>• Daycare while adults shop report</li> <li>• Carrie is working on renovations to the web site yet this year</li> <li>• Carrie is looking at a portable banner for the entrance to Peace Lutheran</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IHN week of 12/9/07 – no guests at this time</li> <li>• Bell ringing went well until weather cancelled the later volunteers</li> <li>• Day care went until 3:00 p.m. for Christmas shopping</li> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> grade bell ringing went well</li> <li>• Web site report template is coming</li> <li>• Portable banner coming soon</li> </ul>
Property Team: Jeff Klein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set Up Team – how is it going?</li> <li>• Church office basement update</li> <li>• New building update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up discussion to help with electronics set-up</li> <li>• Church basement – discussion with property owners for fix up is on-going</li> <li>• January 9 meeting with Richard Mork</li> </ul>
Spirituality: Brenda Szuberski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women's Bible Study</li> <li>• Spirituality Committee</li> <li>• NCD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 women attended the December bible study</li> <li>• Spirituality Committee has 5 people ready to be trained</li> </ul>

Worship Team: Cliff Schreier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nursery Update</li> <li>Sound system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nursery update – Cliff and Maureen will meet to discuss training</li> <li>Group care packages went out and were well received</li> <li>Software update – all is loaded</li> </ul>
Pastor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pastoral updates</li> <li>New intern</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baptisms – 2</li> <li>New members – 2 families</li> <li>Confirmed - 4</li> <li>Insurance has been paid for the basement damages</li> </ul>
Intern Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates</li> </ul>
OLD BUSINESS		
		None

<b>New Business</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set council meeting for January</li> <li>Set council meetings for 2008</li> <li>Set Retreat date</li> <li>Ice Fishing</li> <li>Annual Meeting</li> <li>Annual reports due</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual meeting will be 2/3/08, team reports will be presented 1/20/08 (Chuck, Carrie, Cliff) &amp; 1/27/08 (Brenda, Su &amp; Jeff)</li> <li>Annual reports are needed as soon as possible</li> <li>Amend Church Constitution to change C10.04 'A simple majority of the voting members shall constitute a quorum' to read 10% of the voting members shall constitute a quorum. This would go into effect after the 2009 Annual Meeting. Approved Su, second Cliff</li> <li>January council meeting will be January 14, 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>February council meeting will be February 4, 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>Ice fishing weekend is 1/27/08</li> </ul>
Next Council Meeting		Adjourn – motion Brenda, second Jeff

