



# PEACE AND PROCLAMATION

February 2009

## A message from Pastor Pete

In this world of GPS systems and Garmins it's a lot harder to get lost. If you know where you want to go you simply need to plug in the destination and you will hear turn by turn instructions as to how to get there. You can know in an instant if you are on the correct path. One wrong turn and the Garmin or GPS will 'scold' you and recalculate the directions needed to arrive at the correct destination. They aren't foolproof, however. In order for the tools to work properly, you need to input the proper destination! You can't simply start driving and hope that it will guess the destination you seek. If you don't know where you are going - how do you know when you're going the right direction?

The next few months will be crucial ones in the life of Peace Lutheran Church. As part of the whole 'Readiness to Build' process we will take the time between now and May to develop a three year plan for ministry. This plan will be more than some document that a couple people type up to appease the process. This plan is essential to Peace's future. Every congregation has different gifts and different things to emphasize. We will take the time to discern God's call for us. We will prayerfully consider the direction that God wants us to take. Without that kind of goal, we will just wander aimlessly. A few years ago we had a good sense of this mission and this congregation grew quickly. Since the flooding of August, 2007, we have lost that sense of who we are. It's time to find our way again. With the proper focus for ministry, Peace WILL grow. It's happened in the past. It will happen again in the future.

We will use 'Asset Mapping' to help us develop the ministry plan. The 'Asset Mapping' process argues that God has ALREADY given Peace all the gifts that we need to have to do powerful ministry in Eyota. Through many conversations within the community of faith, we will see what gifts, abilities, and passions that God has given to Peace people.

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## PEACE AND PROCLAMATION

We will then consider how *God* can use those gifts, abilities, and passions to do *God's* work here in Eyota. We're not 'just a small mission congregation.' We are a mission outpost for the kingdom of *God*. One of the experts in Asset Mapping in congregations is Luther Snow. It just so happens that he lives nearby in Decorah, IA, and is available to come and consult with us in the process. He will work with Linda Gunderson of our synod office to lead us. With Luther and Linda we are receiving the very best leaders on Asset Mapping that are available today!

We need everyone to be a part of this process. On Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> (the date is tentative) we will kick off the ministry plan process. More details will follow, but the plan is to have a lunch after worship and then an afternoon of beginning the Asset Mapping process. Luther Snow will lead us that day and he will return again in May (on a date to be set) to help us complete the process.

I'm excited to get this planning underway. As we involve many people from Peace we will sense the many wonderful gifts that *God* has given to us. Remember, we already have all we need to go awesome ministry in Eyota. *God* has big plans for Peace Lutheran Church. It's time to charge forward in ministry.

## A message from Amanda:

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ~Philippians 1*

As I write this article, I am preoccupied with verb tenses. I sit at my desk and write this just days before my internship officially ends, but most of you will read it after I am gone. Do I use the past to describe my time here at Peace, or do I use the present? Ultimately, though, the decision must be to use the past tense, because even if I'm not gone yet, most of my time with you has already passed.

I think this preoccupation with verbs is masking something deeper for me. I sit in this office knowing that I won't spend much more time here. I reminisce about my time with you knowing that I only have a few days left with you. In so many ways I am just beginning to share in life with you, and time is almost over. There are big things on my horizon - assignment, graduation, ordination - and I am very excited to move into that future. But in this moment of reflection, I see the things I will miss so much.

The thing I will probably miss the most about Peace is the sense of liveliness here. Between kids zooming through on hee-les, dogs looking for a pat on the head, and people who are always there with a comeback, Sundays are more fun here than at any other church I have ever attended. This fun-loving feeling overflows into church council meetings, committee meetings, and just about everything that the church does. Peace is not just a faithful congregation - Peace is also a fun place to be!

This is an odd good bye article. I know that I will be coming back to preach for you a couple times this spring. So instead of saying good bye, I will say thank you. I have learned so much from the time I have spent with you. I have grown in confidence in myself and my abilities. I have experienced a whole different take on what a church can be. My ministry will be richer because of you, and I thank you for that. There's also a pastor-less church somewhere (hopefully NOT in western North Dakota) that thanks you for that also. Know that you will be in my thoughts and prayers often during the coming year. You have as many exciting things on the horizon as I do. We'll have to keep in touch as the plans that God has for us become clearer!

## WORSHIP ASSISTANT INFORMATION

### February 1, 2009

Worship Asst: Kay Klein  
Reader: Emily Porcher  
Communion Asst's: Emily Porcher & Sheila Mix  
Hospitality: The Brockway, Caflisch, Crenshaw, Enright, & Hanley Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Porcher, Morton, & Reiman Families



### February 8, 2009

Worship Asst: John Caflisch  
Reader: Shannon Reuss  
Communion Asst's: Al & Jan Begin  
Hospitality: Curt & Kathy Olson & the Helgeson, Wick, & Tangen Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Brockway, Schreier, Wallace, & Austin Families

### February 15, 2009

Worship Asst: Eric Porcher  
Reader: Jeff Klein  
Communion Asst's: Samantha Porcher & Becky Crenshaw  
Hospitality: Cindy Woltman & The Reiman, Keach, Klein, & Mickow Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Klein, Helgeson, Turnquist, & Wendt Families

### February 22, 2009

Worship Asst: Jeff Klein  
Reader: Julie Porcher  
Communion Asst's: Jeff & Tanya Reiman  
Hospitality: Jamie & Christine Olson & The Mix, Pritash, Porcher, & Rhone Families  
Set-up/Ushers: The Caflisch, Ziemer & Spafford Families

## February Birthdays!

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~

### February 1

Jesus Clears the Temple Courts  
Mark 11:12-33

### February 8

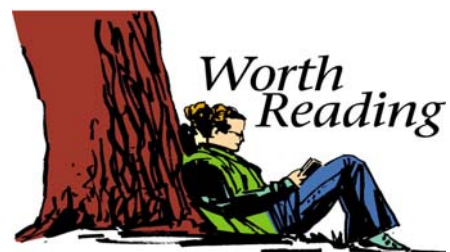
Parable of the Tenants  
Mark 12:1-12

### February 15

The Great Commandment  
Mark 12:28-34

### February 22

Jesus Speaks of The End Times  
Mark 13:1-37



# Church News!

## Now you see her - now you don't!

While Intern Amanda's internship ends on February 1<sup>st</sup>, Peace welcomes her back to preach on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> while Pastor Pete is at a preaching seminar.



## Pastor Pete's Phone Number

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

## Vacation Bible School

It looks like 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.



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) .

## Annual Celebration of Ministry

During worship (at 9:15) on February 1<sup>st</sup> Peace will take some time both to celebrate what God has been doing at Peace as well as to look at the directions God calls us to. God calls us to worship...so why not celebrate, elect & install leaders, and look ahead to ministry while we praise God! This celebration will fulfill the constitutional requirements for an annual meeting!

At the annual celebration of ministry on February 1<sup>st</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 change would bring Peace in line with the most ELCA congregations as it sets a realistic goal for attendance. This amendment passed at the last congregational meeting, and to take effect it needs to pass at this meeting by a 2/3 majority.

### Peace Budget Update (year to date through 12/31/08)

Actual Offerings	\$ 74,967
Budgeted Offerings	\$ 95,085
Actual Mission Partner & Misc. Income	\$ 17,380
Actual Expenses	\$ 134,647
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 136,649
% of Self-Sufficiency (actual offerings vs actual expense)	56%

### Our Council Leaders!

**Council President:** Cliff Schreier

**Vice-President:** Carrie Rhone

**Council Secretary:** Su Spafford

### Peace Teams and Leaders

**Education:** Su Spafford

**Outreach:** Carrie Rhone

**Worship:** Cliff Schreier

**Finance:** Jeffrey Reiman

**Property:** Wayne Mehrkins

**Spirituality:** Brenda Szuberski

## Welcome-To-Peace Small Group

In **March** Peace will once again gather people together who would like to learn more about Peace and who might be interested in joining Peace as members. If you are interested (or know someone who is), please talk to Pastor Pete!

## Small Group Updates



M. I. A.

Mom' s

### Mom's in Action

This will be a group where mom's can get together for a little open discussion. Get free advice from other mom's who have gone thru, or are going thru similar situations, and know that you aren't the only one who struggle to get their kids to bed at night, or to brush their teeth. There will be no special speaker or book to follow, just the voice and opinions of us fellow M.I.A's. **This group will meet on Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at the church office.**

### 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 Valentine's Day they will meet on **Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from 6-10 PM.**



### "Instruments of Peace"



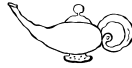
Open to all members of the congregation. We meet the **2nd Thursday of each month 7 - 8:30 PM at Shannon Reuss' home.** If you enjoy singing or playing music please come and be a part of this fun group. Please call Shannon Reuss with any questions, 545-1272.

### Weight-loss Achievers

Coming this January! Starting the **first Thursday of January and proceeding every Thursday for three months starting at 6 PM.** A group for support and weight-loss. Every Thursday we will meet at the church office for a weigh in and topic discussion, followed by a walk around the neighborhood. Each meeting will be 1 hour in length. Sheila Mix is the contact person for this



# YOUTH MINISTRY AT PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds”

(Matthew 5:16)



God has a plan for all of us and some have been called to teach, play and share. If you have 45 minutes of time you can share with our youth we are looking for people who can assist in playing games, helping with crafts or telling stories. Sound EASY? It is! *Call us!*

This year Sunday School will have a whole new look and feel, each week the students will act out the story of the day, play a game which emphasizes the message or create something in crafts and of course there will always be music. We are trying out a new rotation style Sunday School which is more like Vacation Bible School and will move very quickly.

Please look at the Christian Education Calendar and if there is a special event that your child may miss due to other family obligations please let us know we will do everything we can to make sure they can still participate. Your child's Christian Education is important, please let us know if you have any suggestions on how we can accommodate your child's learning experience.

Pastor Pete or Amanda Stamp 545-2535

Su Spafford 545-2954



## Christian Education Calendar - updates



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

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

- February 25, 2009 - No Weekday School - Ash Wednesday
- March 4 - April 1 - Weekday School during Lent - Elementary School  
5:45 - 6:45 p.m.
- 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—6th grade

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

## The Noisy Collection

The Noisy Collection on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> will go to the Salvation Army's Heatshare program. HeatShare provides emergency assistance with heating and utility bills on a year-round basis. When we give to HeatShare, we are helping warm the lives of the elderly, disabled and others who have nowhere else to turn. HeatShare is a last resort for many who have no other resources available to see them through the winter.