

March 2008

A message from Pastor Pete

The Cross



We're so used to seeing crosses that sometimes we miss the meaning behind it. History tells us that the cross was an instrument of torture and death in the Roman Empire, yet we make earrings of it and make it look pretty. It would be like glorifying the electric chair or firing squad. On the surface, it makes little sense. Why would we glorify death?

The Christian faith begins with a specific death on a specific cross outside of Jerusalem. For Jesus the cross represented suffering, pain, and death (the purpose of a cross!). For us, Jesus' cross shows the depths of God's love. We proclaim a God who not only created the world; who not only performed miracles; who not only conquered death. These are all great and powerful things! We proclaim a God who suffered and died for us.

Sometimes we miss the scandal of it all. The Son of God died to save sinners – Jesus died to give hope to us. The cross reminds us that faith is much more than good deeds and morality that we do to impress God. Jesus didn't die for people who could brag about their good deeds. Jesus died for people who have failed God. The last time I checked, we all fit this category.

The cross is our constant reminder that God will never abandon us. The cross remains central to all that we believe. So while we prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter morning, let us first go to the cross. That will be where God's love for us is seen clearly.

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A message from Maureen:

Newsletter Article – March 2008



So, you've discovered a time when you can truly focus on praying and determined that this is a habit that you really want to cultivate. But then the question comes: what do I say? How do I pray to God?

There is no absolute formula for prayer. There are no magic words that *must* be said that guarantee that God will listen. We trust that God will listen because Jesus taught us that God would. There are numerous examples in the Bible of Jesus praying to God and it is assumed that God is listening to him.

When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray he responded with the Lord's Prayer. You will never go wrong by praying the Lord's Prayer. But sometimes the words of this ancient prayer don't communicate what we want to say to God. Over the years other patterns of prayer have been developed that you may use as a guide when you want to talk to God.

One pattern is called **ACTS**. **ACTS** is an acronym that stands for **A**doration, **C**onfession, **T**hanksgiving and **S**upplication. This model begins your prayer time with Adoration or prayer for who God is. Following Adoration you spend time in Confession and own up to your sins. Next comes Thanksgiving: a time when you thank God for all God does for you and your family. This model closes with Supplication. Supplication means making requests. The point is to ask God to *supply* you with the things that you and your family need.

Another pattern that is fun for kids to learn is called the **Five Finger Prayer**. This prayer uses your fingers to give you a pattern. You begin with your thumb and pray for those that are closest to you. From your thumb you move to your pointing finger and pray for those that guide us: teachers, doctors, clergy, counselors, social workers, mentors, and parents. From your pointing finger you move to your middle finger which is your "tallest" one. This finger reminds you to pray for those who stand tall: those in government, civic, or business leadership as well as everyone who keeps us safe: police, firefighters, 911 dispatchers, and ambulance crews. Moving to your ring finger you are reminded that it is your weakest finger. This is when you pray for those who are weak: the poor, the sick, infants, the homeless, those displaced by war, and the powerless. You are now at is your smallest finger: your pinkie. Use it to remind you to pray for yourself and for your needs.

A third pattern is the **TRIP** with God. Using this acronym you ask yourself the following questions. Begin your prayer with **T**hanks: for what am I thankful? Continue with confession or **R**egret: what do I regret? **I**ntercession: whom do I need to pray for? **P**urpose: what is my purpose or plan (for today, for this week, or for my life)? Notice that this pattern is quite similar to the **ACTS** model. The difference is that the **ACTS** model includes adoration or worship of God which the **TRIP** model does not have. The **TRIP** model on the other hand includes a plan or a purpose and allows room for us to have conversation with God about things that are going on in our lives. It opens us up to living our lives in a manner that is consistent with God's plan for our lives.

It is not important that you use one of these models. What is important is that you take the time to have conversation with God and that you do it regularly. May God bless you in your efforts. Your intern, Maureen Hagen



WORSHIP ASSISTANT INFORMATION

The 4th 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



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

The 5th Sunday in Lent — March 9, 2008

Worship Asst.: Julie Porcher
Reader: Emily Porcher
Communion Asst's.: Al & Jan Begin
Hospitality: The Schreier, Sorom, Turnquist, & Wallace Families
Set-up/Ushers: The Caflisch, Zeimer & Spafford Families

Palm Sunday — March 16, 2008

Worship Asst.: Steve Szuberski
Reader: Jeff Klein
Communion Asst's.: Samantha Porcher & Becky Crenshaw
Hospitality: The Wendt, Welsh, Zeimer, & Begin Families
Set-up/Ushers: The Szuberski, Peterson, Johnson, & Rucker Families

Easter Day — March 23, 2008

Worship Asst.: Kay Klein
Reader: Julie Porcher
Communion Asst's.: Jeff & Tanya Reiman
Hospitality: The Brockway, Caflisch, Crenshaw, & Enright Families
Set-up/Ushers: The Porcher, Morton, Reiman, & Jeche Families

The 2nd Sunday of Easter — March 30, 2008

Worship Asst.: John Caflisch
Reader: Kay Klein
Communion Asst's.: Cindy Woltman & Steve Szuberski
Hospitality: The Hanley, Helgeson, Johnson, & Keach Families
Set-up/Ushers: The Brockway, Schreier, Wallace, & Austin Families

March Birthday's!

Zach Klein 3/3
Cliff Schreier 3/3
Wayne Mehrkins 3/4
Seth Berning 3/6
Joe Couch 3/14
Steve Rucker 3/14
Su Spafford 3/17
Julie Nord 3/19
Tanya Reiman 3/21
Tina Sass 3/21



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

~March 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?

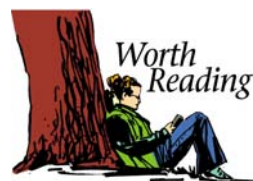
Mar 2 - God Answers Prayer
Genesis 45:25-46:7
Mark 10:46-52

Mar 9 - How is God Using Us?
Genesis 41:39-57
Matthew 25:31-46

Mar 16
Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Philippians 2:5-11

Mar 23
Acts 10:34-43
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-18

Mar 30
Acts 2:14a, 22-32
I Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31



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.

Teen Sobriety Support Group: Finding Freedom

Dealing with an addiction alone is a battle not easily won. "Finding Freedom" is a support group for young adults who have the desire to free themselves from the confines of addiction. Recovery is possible, "Finding Freedom" is the solution!" "Finding Freedom" will be held at the **House of Hope, 525 West Broadway, Plainview, MN, starting Thursday, February 28th at 7:00 PM**. This initial portion of the meeting will have a twelve step format and a secondary emphasis will be non-using social activities. A PEM senior and her adult sponsor will be organizing the group sessions. All teens who need recovery are welcome to attend.

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



Sermons On-Line

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

Daylight Savings Time

Daylight savings time begins on **March 9th**, please move your clocks ahead 1 hour.

Special Breakfast Fund-raiser

WW II Memorial Flight..providing transportation for WWII veterans to travel to Washington D.C. to view the WW II memorial. Fund raiser breakfast will be **March 9th** at the Eyota American Legion beginning 8:00 a.m.

The WW II memorial flight will be April 19th 2008. For more info please contact Dennis Kullot at 545-2350 or the Eyota American Legion Hall.

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 continue through **March 12th**.

Holy Week

It's hard to believe, but Easter is right around the corner! The date for Easter follows a lunar calendar so it can fall anywhere from March 22 to April 25. This year we'll celebrate Easter about as early in the year as ever!

Holy Week is the week leading up to Easter Sunday. While Easter is the celebration of the resurrection, the week leading up to Easter hold enormous significance. This is when we walk with Jesus to the cross. This year we will join together with St. Paul UCC for our services. On **Thursday, March 20th at 6:00** we will gather at St. Paul for a **Seder Dinner**. This is a very family friendly night where we celebrate the meal that Jesus would have eaten at the Last Supper. The service is wrapped up within the meal. Please talk to Cliff Schreier or the church office if you plan to attend so we can plan on the correct amount of food. On **Friday, March 21st at 6:30** we will again gather at St. Paul to complete Jesus' walk to the cross. The kids of Peace will be singing at this **Good Friday** service. **Directions to St. Paul:** Go 2 miles north from Eyota on County Rd #7 (straight off of Center Ave), 1/2 mile east on County Rd #9.

Interfaith Hospitality Network will be in Eyota March 16-23rd (Week of Easter)

LOCATION - Holy Redeemer Catholic Church (Rectory) 22 2nd Street SE * Eyota

* The rectory is the house behind the church (south)

Job Descriptions:

Meal Hosts: 5-8 PM

Provide evening meal for up to 14 guests, along with 2-3 volunteers. Help serve the evening meal and help with clean up.

Overnight Host:

Sleep overnight at the host site; 8:00 pm - 7:30 am (am times can be flexible) (always 2 overnights on duty)

Evening Hosts: provide hospitality to guests from 6:30 8:30 pm; read to children; visit with parents; lend a listening ear and caring heart (always 2 volunteers on duty)

Note: Eyota doesn't normally have someone doing this role, as we have two meal hosts on from 5-8 and the two overnight hosts come on at 8. If meal host or overnight hosts volunteers are not able to stay their duration, then two evening hosts would need to assist.

Contact Carrie Rhone if interested in volunteering: 545-0101

| <i>Sunday</i> | <i>Monday</i> | <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i> | <i>Saturday</i> | <i>Sunday</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|-----------------|---------------|
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Host Site Coordinator Setup | | | | | | | |
| AM driver | AM driver | AM driver | AM driver | AM driver | AM driver | | |
| PM driver | PM driver | PM driver | PM driver | PM driver | Host Site Coordinator Tear down | | |
| Meal Host | Meal Host | Meal Host | Meal Host | Meal Host FILLED | Families put up in Hotel Good Friday - Easter | | |
| Overnight Hosts FILLED | Overnight Hosts *2 people | Overnight Hosts *2 people | Overnight Hosts *2 people | Overnight Hosts *2 people | | | |

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 | No Elementary Weekday School - No Lent services |
| March 20, 2008 | Maundy Thursday - Seder Supper at St. Paul's UCC Church on County Rd. 9 @ 6:00 p.m. |
| March 21, 2008 | Good Friday Services @ 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's UCC Church |
| March 23, 2008 | No Sunday School - Easter Breakfast at 8:15 a.m. and Worship @ 9:15 a.m. |
| 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.



Christian Education Opportunities

Wednesdays

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

Sundays

.Pre-School - 8th 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, March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

Worship @ 9:15 a.m. @ DE Elementary

Sunday School 10:30-11:15 a.m.

March 19th

6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth

Ministry/Hymn Sing @ Arbor Gardens

No Elementary Youth Ministry

March 21st

6:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship

March 5th, 12th

5:45 p.m. Elementary Youth Ministry

March 20th

6:00 p.m. Seder Dinner

March 23rd

8:15 a.m. Easter Breakfast

9:15 a.m. Easter Worship

No Sunday School

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

Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

1/14/2008

6:30 PM

Devotions: Acts 11:1-48

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Call meeting to order: Chuck Johnson | | Members Present: Carrie Rhone, Jeff Klein, Su Spafford, Jeff Reiman, Pastor Pete, Maureen Hagen |
| Secretary's Report: Su Spafford | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes 12/10/07 | Motion Jeff, second Su |
| Treasurer's Report: Chuck Johnson | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peace came in \$3,000 under budget for the year 2007 and \$182.00 over in contributions (2007 62% self sufficiency). Motion Su, second Jeff. |
| TEAM REPORTS | | |
| Education Team: Su Spafford | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion of opportunities for junior and senior high youth ministry. |
| Finance Team: Chuck Johnson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates Donation envelopes 2008 Budget | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donation envelopes are in & will be distributed this Sunday. 2008 budget on general offering would put the church at 70% self sufficiency. |
| Outreach: Carrie Rhone | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IHN Update Updates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 24, 7 p.m. will be IHN meeting in Eyota at Our Saviors Lutheran. 7 families participated in the IHN Christmas giveaway. |
| Property Team: Jeff Klein | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church office basement update New building update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church basement is still under construction; delay is due to funding from government. Check list for set up is being developed and will be available for all set up teams. New building was discussed and a building team is going to be put together to research the options. |
| Spirituality: Brenda Szuberski | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Bible Study Spirituality Committee Small Groups update | Not report |
| Worship Team: Cliff Schreier | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursery Update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team met and planning for Lent is underway Nursery is continuing to be developed |
| Pastor Update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastoral updates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 229 baptized 142 confirmed Funding available from synod may be available for flood victims in the congregation. Annual reports are in and being prepared. |
| Intern Update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maureen has been approved for ordination and her last Sunday her last Sunday is April 27th. |
| OLD BUSINESS | | No old business |

| NEW BUSINESS | | |
|----------------------|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative assistant update • 2008 Budget | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion by Su, second by Jeff to approve raise for administrative assistant. • Motion by Jeff, second by Su to approve 2008 amended budget. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set council retreat date • Set council meetings for 2008 • Ice Fishing – January 25-27 | |
| Next Council Meeting | February 4, 2008 6:30 p.m. | |

Peace Lutheran Annual Meeting Minutes

2/03/2008

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Call meeting to order: Chuck Johnson | | |
| Secretary's Report: Su Spafford | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 Annual Meeting | Motion Jeff Klein, 2 nd Cindy Woltman |
| Treasurer's Report: Chuck Johnson | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving doubled in 3 years, Peace 62% self sufficient, |
| TEAM REPORTS | | |
| Education Team: Su Spafford | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 Annual Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Education Team report, presented 1/27/08 |
| Finance Team: Chuck Johnson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 Annual Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Finance Team report, presented 1/20/08 |
| Outreach: Carrie Rhone | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 Annual Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Outreach Team report, presented 1/20/08 |
| Property Team: Jeff Klein | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 Annual Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Team report, presented 1/27/08 |
| Spirituality: Brenda Szuberski | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 Annual Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Team report, presented 1/20/08 |
| Worship Team: Cliff Schreier | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 Annual Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Team report, presented 1/27/08 |
| Pastor Update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastoral updates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 baptized, 29 new members, • Improved technology |
| OLD BUSINESS | | No old business |

| NEW BUSINESS | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Nominating Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2008 annual meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE MN Synod Delegates: Ken Morton, Shannon Reuss • Zumbro Conference Delegates: Church Council Members • Peace Lutheran Church Nominating Committee: Jeff Klein, Chuck Johnson, Heather Ohl, Chris Austin, all terms expire Jan 2009 • Peace Lutheran Church Audit Committee: Chad Ohl, term expires Jan 2011 • Finance Team Leader: Jeffrey Reiman, term expires Jan 2011 • Property Team Leader: Wayne Mehrkens, term expires Jan 2011 <p>Motion to approve: Julie Porcher, 2nd Myra Wick</p> <p>Amendment to constitution passed and will take effect 2009.</p> <p>Motion to appoint Cliff Schreier council president for 2008 – Spafford, 2nd Rhone</p> <p>Motion to appoint Carrie Rhone council vice-president for 2008 – Reuss, 2nd Spafford</p> <p>Motion to appoint Su Spafford council secretary for 2008 – Reuss, 2nd Rhone</p> <p>Motion to adjourn 2008 Annual church meeting – Paul Spafford, 2nd Julie Porcher & Chris Austin</p> |
| Next Council Meeting | February 11, 2008 6:30 p.m. | |