

MAR 1

Kaden Brownlow
Nevaeh Boulton
Trinity Boulton

MAR 2

Nicole Tschetter
Oakley DeBower
Sarah Dankert

MAR 3

Lee Rupp

MAR 4

Brice Luebe
Kevin Johnson

MAR 5

Connie Kumpf
Madix Schleich

MAR 6

Jon Hitz
Terrie Ewert

MAR 7

Clarissa Brittenham
Lisa Rosendahl

MAR 8

Colby Adkisson
Frank Skorupa
Nick Lutjens

MAR 9

Kari Urkoski



MAR 10

Dana Terrell
Matthew Schleich
William Wenske

MAR 11

Alicia Wenske
Barb Ludden
Chris Benson
Colton Rupp
Maddison McKee
Mayzie Harsh

MAR 12

Derek Sharman
Jackson Hopwood
Keegan Fluckiger

MAR 13

Blake Bubak
Donette Vis
Ed Scriven
Rachel York
Rhonda Wyatt
Trey Vetter

MAR 14

Billi Benson
Calli Helms
Becky Fox

MIRANDA MATAS

Todd Sander
Warren Korte
Wes Matas

MAR 15

Allison Wagner

MAR 16

Alice Plummer
Jakob Delozier

MAR 17

Ashley Thalken
Jordyn Kroft
Logan Mimick
Shayna Thalken

MAR 18

Braxtyn Konwinski
Joel Ripke
Shelly Rodriguez

MAR 19

Ann Kramer
Randy Mueller

MAR 20

Amber Kallhoff
Trenton Rodriguez

MAR 21

Kayla Hollatz
Ruthie Lingenfelter
Simon Lingenfelter

MAR 22

Chuck Ewert
Jen Brownlow
Jessica Kuhr
Jodi Zaura

MAR 23

Amy Nelson
Laiten Braithwait
Nikki Bergland
Taylor Helms

MAR 24

Derick Traub
Mark Rupp
Stacy Mead

MAR 25

Jeanne Kohtz

MAR 26

Connie Hellbusch
Gracie Kroft
Kade Lantis

MAR 27

Jack Hellbusch
Rachel Braithwait

MAR 28

Amelia Hamer
Cori Fullner
Troy Urkoski

MAR 29

Anisten Barnett
Dylan Geier
Eastyn Klink
Joey Kallhoff

MAR 30

Becky Turner
Darlene Brandl
Larry Anding
Peggy Schmidt
RoJean Lambrecht
Todd Schleich

**THANK YOU
FOR BEING
BORN!**



*He put a new song in
my mouth, a hymn of praise
to our God. Many will see
and fear the Lord and put
their trust in Him.*

PSALMS 40:3

Connections

March 2024

A FAMILY ENCOURAGED • A COMMUNITY EMBRACED • EVERYONE SAVED



2720 28th St
Columbus, Nebraska 68601
(402)564-8311
www.peacecolumbus.org
FaceBook: Peace Lutheran Church
Instagram: @peace.columbus
YouTube.com/c/peacecolumbus



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Return to the Lord

“Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.” Joel 2:13

We are in the middle of the season of Lent, the 40 days (not counting Sundays) leading up to the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord, also known as Easter. The focus of Lent is summed up in Joel 2:13; to return to the Lord our God.

Return to God from what? From our own selfishness! From the first fall into sin in Genesis 3 to the latest sin-of-the-day, they all focus on self, on OUR desires rather than God’s will for us. We think that we know better than the one who created us, who provides for us, who has given us a hope and a future!

Our selfishness leads us to treat others as objects to be used instead of human beings loved by God in need of His (and our) grace. It leads us to use our possessions solely for our enjoyment, instead of using even a tenth of them to further God’s kingdom. It turns our sole focus on ourselves, what we want, what we think we need, what will make us “happy”.

Yet outside of Jesus and His will, we will never be content, never be happy.

Lent is a call to return to the Lord our God, to leave our wants and will to return to the Lord. It leads us to repent of our sins and to return to the One who can and will forgive us. Jesus, the one who set aside His comfort, His desires, and His needs, to suffer and die to forgive our selfishness and self-focus.


It is a call for us to turn back to Jesus and His love, grace, and mercy that He continues to show to us.

Return to the Lord this Lent. Join us each week-end and Wednesdays to return to the Lord our God, to put aside self, and to receive His forgiveness and grace!

In His Peace,

Pastor Cory Buema





Sea of Galilee

All women are invited to the Lutheran Women in Mission Quarterly Gathering Monday, March 11, 2024 6:30pm

Joyce Peterson will be sharing about her fall trip to Israel. There will also be devotions, sharing about future events and refreshments.

Can you or your group serve refreshments following a Lenten service?

Please sign up on the sheet on the information table.

Refreshments Following Lenten Services



See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

ISAIAH 43:19

Morning Prayer

Dear Father God, Today's a new day, I will rejoice and be glad in it! It's a chance for a new start. Yesterday is gone and with it any regrets, mistakes, or failures I may have experienced. I give thanks, Lord for not leaving me where I am but renewing my mind, giving me new opportunities to love, give, and be all that you want me to be today.

In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.



Know someone interested in full-time ministry?

Retreat April 14-16

Retreat, a free three-day opportunity geared especially for college students or second-career adults who are interested in serving as a pastor, deaconess, missionary or chaplain. Registration closes March 29.

<https://www.csl.edu/admissions/visit/vocatio-retreat/>



Myrene Hoge

of Columbus will be honored for her 80th birthday at an

Open House

by her children. Please join us!

Saturday, March 23

1:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Peace Fellowship Hall

Cards would be appreciated. No gifts please.

COMMUNITY




Come build with us!
Peace Lutheran's
Build Day is on
June 1st.
Mark your calendars
and plan to join us.

MARCH
Women's Connect

MARCH 5TH | 6:30PM
PEACE CHAPEL

*"Live a life filled with love,
following the example of Christ"*
Ephesians 5:2a

Collecting:
JEAN POCKETS



If you have adult blue jeans that you are discarding, we would like the **back pockets**. You can donate the whole jean, or you can just bring the back pockets. When cutting them off of the jeans - leave them as a "pocket" - so they will hold something. There is box by the coat racks in the hallway for them. Thank You.

CONNECT GROUPS

Connecting with Christ and one another

Connect Groups continue through March. You are still welcome to join one. See a full list at www.peacecolumbus.org/cg

GATHERING Grounds


PROCEEDS WILL GO TO


Columbus, Nebraska

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:26

Practice
Voices of Peace
6:00 pm
Choir Room


MEN'S CHOIR

Practice
TUESDAYS
5:30 pm
Choir Room

SECOND Serving

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink"*
Matthew 25:35

MARCH

- ☒ PASTA NOODLES
- ☒ PASTA SAUCE
- ☒ GREEN BEANS

WOMEN'S Creative CONNECTIONS

Thursdays • 9:00 am • Peace Chapel

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Official Acts – December 2023

Membership	1178
Baptisms:	1
Confirmations:	0
Transfers in:	0
Deaths:	0
Transfers out:	0
Releases:	2
Conf. Members:	931
Bapt. Members:	1178

Official Acts – January 2024

	2024 TOTAL	2024 Avg/WK	2023	2023 AVG
JAN In-Person: (4 wks)	849	212	1232	246 (5 wks)
Care Cntr Worship	20		15	
On-Line Views: (4 wks)	268	67	334	67 (5 wks)
YTD Avg Weekly	212		246	
Worship: 264 Goal: 311 average per weekend				

Official Acts—January 2024

Baptisms: Caidence Elaine Furasek, 1/7/2024, Parent: Andrew Furasek

Weekend of 1/14/24 had one service due to snowstorm and cold (37 attended) which lowered the average of January in-person and increased average on-line views. With that weekend removed, the attendance would have averaged 271.



Behold the Lamb of God
WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD
JOHN 1:29

PEACE STAFF

Church Office: Joyce Peterson
402-564-8311 • church@peacecolumbus.org

Lead Pastor: Rev. Cory W. Burma
402-860-0443 • cburma@peacecolumbus.org

Director of Discipleship: Cami Hamer
chamer@peacecolumbus.org

Vicar: Joel Ripke
jripke@peacecolumbus.org

Daycare Director: Lisa Thomas
firststeps@peacecolumbus.org

Business Manager: Linda Schmidt
business@peacecolumbus.org

Communications Coordinator: Tracy Buzynski
communications@peacecolumbus.org

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM

Sunday 10:30 AM
Livestreamed

CHURCH BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

Robbin Cutsor (402) 270-3305
robbincutsor@yahoo.com

Amber Kohl (402) 276-4304
amberjkohl@gmail.com

Jim Kramer (402) 270-3151
drjim@bettertrick.com

Jeff Luebbe (402) 276-3156
jjluebbe1@gmail.com

Troy Urkoski (402) 613-0140
troymu22@hotmail.com

Tyson Wagoner (402) 630-5229
tysonwags@hotmail.com

Darcy Wiselhart (402) 910-8467
dawiselh@gmail.com

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

January 2024 Financials

Peace Lutheran Church

Income	Actuals	Budget
Offerings	\$42,389	\$54,815
Other	\$2,092	\$948
Total Income	\$44,480	\$55,763
Expenses		
Personnel	\$27,768	\$28,959
Ministry	\$19,739	\$21,928
Facil./Adm.	\$12,367	\$8,171
Total Expenses	\$59,873	\$59,059
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$(15,393)	\$(3,296)
First Steps Day-care	Actuals	Budget
Income	\$20,760	\$27,820
Expenses	\$21,877	\$29,813
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$(1,117)	\$(1,993)
Combined Net Gain/(Loss)	\$(16,511)	\$(5,288)
YTD Church	\$(29,186)	\$4,023
YTD Daycare**	\$(19,656)	\$(8,352)
YTD Overall	\$(48,842)	\$(4,329)

**This year's daycare budget deficit of up to \$23,101 will be covered by Reserve Funds carried over from the daycare surplus in the 2021/2022 fiscal year.

Why Jesus Compares Us to Sheep...

1. **Sheep Follow Others Blindly**—Many people say sheep just aren't very smart. I read about a farmer who stretched a rope across the door of a barn and called the sheep out. He let a few sheep jump over the rope as they exited the barn door. He then cut the rope. The remaining sheep continued to jump over the "invisible rope," not thinking twice. It's funny to listen to stories about sheep—until we realize Jesus was talking about us! We are compared to sheep because we will follow anyone without thinking, we have no sense of direction, and we cannot defend ourselves in times of trouble.
2. **Sheep are Emotional and Recognize the Shepherd's Voice**—Sheep have a remarkable instinct for knowing the voice of their shepherd as they are emotional creatures. Amazingly, they will fear a stranger's voice and flee. Just like sheep, we get anxious, distressed, and feel sadness. It is important we listen for the shepherd's voice to keep us calm in times of trouble.
3. **Sheep Will Settle for Less**—When sheep are thirsty, they will stop at a dirty puddle right in front of them instead of going for the clean, still waters ten feet ahead. Sadly, they are content with filth, so long as it satisfies at the moment. How many of us have settled for less? This is why we need a shepherd. He leads us to better things and cleans us up when no one else will touch us.
4. **Sheep are Valuable**—Sheep were treated as prized possessions in Jesus' day. You were counted a wealthy man if you owned large flocks because they provided meat, milk, and wool. In addition, they produced offspring. How much more precious are we than sheep? God compares us to sheep in the Bible because He views us as priceless. So valuable that He was willing to give His Son's life for us!

Source <https://www.christianparenting.org/>

MINISTRIES



Comfort Dog Ministry

What's happening...

Team Eden was called to two of our local high schools in the past month to offer comfort and be a presence for the students and staff after the tragic deaths of their students. The first visit was to the Lakeview school district on January 24th, following a traffic accident which took the life of one of their students. On February 7th, Team Eden was called to the Columbus Senior High School to be present with counselors and students following the death of one of their students. Both of these situations were very trying and emotional for everyone involved and it is Team Eden's hope that our "Loving God" can provide love and peace to both families and schools.

The past month also saw Eden make her first initial visits to the Columbus Hospital and Daycare Center. Team Eden

was on the second floor visiting both patients and staff, and received many positive comments and thanks from everyone she met.

On February 1st, Team Eden was invited back to Callaway, Nebraska to re-visit their school system. Their students were all interested in what and where Eden had been in the last year. The staff was amazed at the calming effect Eden had on their students.

The last invitation was to the Scotus Central Catholic Schools on February 13th. Eden spent 2 hours in the school cafeteria meeting elementary, middle school, and high school students and their teachers. We had many great questions concerning Eden and our ministry in Columbus followed by a huge thank you from their school counselors and lunch staff.

Our monthly visits were also completed to Immanuel Lutheran School, Brookestone Acres, Emerald Care, and Real Life.

Team Eden is planning a special event for March 9 and 10th, which happens to be Eden's birthday (March 10th). More information will be forth coming as the date approaches.

Blessings,
Warren Hellbusch, Top Dog
& Team Eden

Our next Comfort Dog meeting will be
Tuesday, March 12th
7:00 pm
In the Peace Chapel

MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH



Youth for Christ—Campus Life



Youth Missionary, Shannon Buzynski, grew up in Columbus and is serving God faithfully pursuing middle school students in Lincoln, NE. While many may believe that kids have heard about Jesus in South Lincoln, the reality remains that a broken generation of teenagers is searching for their identity in all the wrong places. Shannon’s mission is to go meet kids who would never step foot in a church building and walk along side them showing them the love of Jesus.

As Youth For Christ – Campus Life Director, Shannon and her team go into six Lincoln area Public Schools on a weekly basis. Through creating events such as Crowned (shown above), winter retreats, Fall Festival, weekly clubs — Cats & Coffee Girls Small Group, and Dogs & Donuts Boys Small Group and a week long summer camp are some of the fun ways of sharing the good news of the gospel to at-risk students. Sharing the hope and love of Christ, kids blossom and grow. Discipleship happens and students become leaders who share Jesus with others.

- Pray for Shannon to reach more students and their families, for God to soften hearts and lives to change.
- Sign up to receive her prayer email, send an email to ShannonB@yfclincoln.org
- Youth For Christ—Campus Life, 6401 Pine Lake Road, Lincoln, NE 68516 | 402-420-7475 | <https://yfclincoln:givingfuel.com/staffsupport> (select Shannon Buzynski)

Earlier this month, the stage was set for "Crowned". 27 middle school girls enjoyed homemade soup, charcuterie cups, and cake! They got their hair, make up and nails done, and then had fun singing karaoke. Most importantly, they heard the message of how Jesus sees them. He crowns them with their identity in Him!



Shannon Buzynski

All Mission donations received in March will go to Shannon Buzynski at Youth for Christ—Campus Life.

EGG MY YARD 2024

Let the Peace Lutheran High School Youth Group EGG your yard this Easter! Or surprise someone by having their yard filled with eggs without them knowing!

- 2 Dozen - \$17
- 3 Dozen - \$25
- 5 Dozen - \$35
- 7 Dozen - \$45
- 9 Dozen - \$55

Order Here



www.peacecolumbus.org/eggmyyard

Eggs will be filled with candy and other surprise goodies. Peanut Free and other dietary needs are accommodated upon request.

All proceeds help High School Youth attend mission trips and youth gatherings.

Orders and Payment are due March 20th

Eggs will be hidden the evening of March 30th.



OBJECTS OF GOD’S GRACE
WORSHIP SERIES

Throughout God’s Word, objects are used to convey God’s grace to His chosen people. Sometimes they are simple, such as a burning ember that touches the lips of the prophet Isaiah; other times it is complex, such as the ark which was build according to the plans God gave to Noah. Yet each of them was a means through which the gifts of God were given to His people. During this Lenten series we will look at a different object each week, seeing how God’s grace that was shared then is given to us now in Jesus Christ.

MIDWEEK
WORSHIP

Wednesdays at
2:00 pm & 7:15 pm



The Lutheran Witness Magazine

Interpreting the Contemporary World From a Lutheran Christian Perspective

Whether you prefer to read it in print or online, The Lutheran Witness, the official publication of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, is a must-read for Lutherans of all ages! This publication keeps you updated with news from around the Synod, and addresses topical issues with feature articles, columns, Q&As, and more that will both inform and inspire.

Would you like to receive a subscription to The Lutheran Witness magazine? Our church will be sending in our order for any subscriptions for the year on March 25th. The 2024 Lutheran Witness Price is \$20.65/ year for 11 issues. If you are currently receiving the magazine and would like to continue, please submit your check made out to Peace Lutheran to the church office and let us know of any address changes. If you would like to start receiving The Lutheran Witness Magazine, please sign up on the sheet on the information table and drop off your check at the church office.



LCEF Nebraska District College Scholarship

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) Nebraska District College Scholarship was developed to encourage college students in the Nebraska District of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) to pursue their educational goals.

Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. Applicants must be a graduating high school senior with a minimum 3.0 GPA or current full-time post-secondary student at an accredited institution with at least one year of courses remaining and a minimum 2.5 GPA. Applicants must also be a member of a congregation belonging to the Nebraska District LCMS.

Applications close April 14, 2024. Winners will be announced on May 6, 2024. Learn more and complete your application at lcef.org/nebraskascholarship

IN THE FIELD



Cundiff Family Update

We’ve had lots of people ask us about winter darkness in Latvia. Latvia sits at about 57 degrees latitude north; in North America, this is about the same level as Kodiak Island in Alaska. However, Latvia benefits from the shelter of the Baltic Sea so that its winters are not so frigid.

During the winter, around the time of the winter solstice (December 21st), the country gets a mere 6 hours and 43 minutes of

sunlight per day (sunrise at 9:00 am and sunset at 3:43 pm).

Of course, you can still see sunlight even if the sun isn’t up, but it is a far cry from the summer solstice in mid-June, during which the sun rises around 4:29 am and sets at 10:21 pm – a total of 17 hours and 52 minutes of direct sunlight.

As I (Lindsay) write this – on February 2nd – we are already back up to 8 hours and 32 minutes of sunlight daily.

Many people in Latvia use vitamin D supplements to help with mood during this time of year. We’ve even seen billboards with ads by local pharmacies selling their vitamin D.

It is truly bizarre for Carter, in the middle of winter, to leave at 7:40 am for school in the dark and return home at 4:30 pm in the dark. Luckily, the local schools recognize this as a potential issue, so they have recess outside every day, and sometimes multiple times per day, so that the kids can get a better chance of experiencing daily sunlight.

This does leave us yearning for the long, long days of summer, which leads to our upcoming Home Service time in the United States! We will depart for the States around the second week of June and stay until the end of July. Quintin is currently scheduled for two separate weeks of Ph.D. intensives at Fort Wayne, but we are working to meet with as many people and congregations as possible during the rest of the time! We will likely be mainly in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri. If we cannot meet with you “in the flesh,” we are happy to schedule a time to chat with you via Zoom! Please let us know if you would like to be considered for a time slot so we can better formulate our plan – we would love to see you!

Blessings, Lindsay Cundiff

The Cundiff’s serve the Lord through LCMS in Riga, Latvia

OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP

HOLY WEEK
WORSHIP

Maundy Thursday

2:00 pm & 7:15 pm

Communion will be served at both services.

Good Friday

2:00 pm & 7:30 pm

Easter Services

6:30 am, 8:30 am

& 10:30 am

Communion will be served at all services.

February 28 – A Wooden Staff – Exodus 14:10-18 —

A simple wooden staff, through which God would provide His greatest salvation in the Old Testament, points forward to the greatest saving action ever!

March 6 - A Serpent on a Pole – Number 21:4-9 —

Simply look to a snake on a pole and be saved. Could it really be that easy?

March 13 – A Shadow – Isaiah 38:1-8 —

A shadow moving backwards, getting smaller in the evening instead of larger, points to the Light that will remove all darkness.

March 20 – A Burning Ember – Isaiah 6:1-7 —

A burning coal touched to the lips to purify the words of Isaiah sounds painful! Yet it is nothing compared to what was necessary to purify our lives.

March 24 – Water – Romans 6 —

Water connected to the Word of God does amazing things, connecting us to the King of Kings!

March 28 (Maundy Thursday) – Bread and Wine – Matthew 26:26-28 —

Through the basic items of a ancient feast Jesus give of Himself to His disciples.

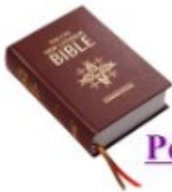
March 29 (Good Friday) – The Cross – Mark 15:22-39 —

An instrument of the cruelest of Roman execution methods becomes a life giving tree.

March 31 (Easter) – The Empty Tomb – Mark 16:1-8 —

The tomb was empty, and the world was changed forever!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



Seek and Serve Day
LWML Nebraska North and South Districts

Saturday, April 6, 2024 - 9:30- 3:30

Peace Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall 2720 28th Street,
Columbus Ne

Serve One Another: Let each of you look not only to his own
interests, but also to the interests of others. Philippians 2:4

All Women are invited!

9:00 - 9:30am Coffee and Snacks

2 Bible Study session led by Remkea Ockander

Lunch will be provided

Service Project to work on jean pocket favors for
2025 LWML National Convention in Omaha

3:15pm Closing devotions

Cost \$15

Ingathering for Peace Lutheran First Steps Day Care will be burp cloths,
bibs, books, colors, color books, markers, paint brushes, water colors, glue,
construction paper, craft paint and paper. If you can help serve or bring snack
items, please contact Edie Aerni or Frances Steinbrook.



To register please fill out this form and send to the following
Lynette Koehler 85865 547th Ave. • Pierce, NE 68767 Deadline: March 25. 2024

Make Check Payable to LMWL Nebraska North District

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Dietary Restrictions _____

YOUTH

High School

SMALL GROUP

(9th —12th Grades)

Meet at Small Group
Leaders Homes on
WEDNESDAYS.

See Calendar for dates.

7:15— 8:30 pm.



LARGE GROUP
Meets: MAR 6th
7:15-8:45 pm in
Fellowship Hall
(First WED of the mo.)

A variety of
appetizers will be
served.

Food • Games • Bible • Fun!



Summer 2024
Internship
Opportunities
at CPS



CPS is looking for 2024 summer interns for a variety of areas, including IT, human resources, creative marketing and business administration. Interns should be entering their junior or senior year of college in Fall 2024 and available to serve at the International Center in St. Louis May 29 through July 26. Our paid internship program helps young people develop skills through project work, creates meaningful mentor relationships with experienced professionals, offers training on real-world business scenarios and more. To learn more visit ConcordiaPlans.org/careers.



YOUTH



Join Us for ReFUEL!

Wednesdays • 6:00—7:00 pm

- **No ReFUEL on MAR 13th (Spring Break)**
- **No ReFUEL on MAR 27th (Holy Week)**

- ReFUEL is a weekly educational opportunity for children to learn more about their faith, God, and the Bible.
- ReFUEL is open to Pre K 3 year olds who are potty trained through 6th grade.
- Check-in is from 5:50—6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall ReFUEL meets 6:00—7:00 pm.
- Check out is from 7:00—7:10 pm
- Sign up by going to www.peacecolumbus.org/children



**Middle School Youth Night
Peace Chapel**

**All 7th and 8th
graders are welcome!**

Come for a Bible Study, games, snacks, and more. Youth nights this month are...

- **Middle School Youth
MARCH 10th & 24th**

We will continue to look at the Life of Jesus as we watch The Chosen.

6:30-8:00 pm • Peace Chapel

**Joyful Sound
Children's
Choir**

Wednesdays before ReFUEL.
5:30-6:00 pm

- No practice on MAR 13th & 27th



**Wednesdays
7th & 8th Grade
6:00 — 7:00 pm
Fellowship Hall**

- **No Confirmation on
March 13th & 27th**

OPPORTUNITIES TO BLESS



Thrivent Choice Dollars

Eligible Thrivent members who still have 2023 Choice Dollars to direct to a cause have until March 31 to do so. You are invited and encouraged to designate your Dollars to Peace Lutheran. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to support your church. To direct Thrivent give back to Peace Lutheran Church, simply visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice, or call 1 800 847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted.

Thank you to all Thrivent members who have directed Choice Dollars to Peace Lutheran in the past. Since its inception in 2010 Peace has received \$269,297.83 Choice Dollars grant funds. Projects funded in 2023 include the following:

- Upgrade to the sanctuary sound system
- Midweek End-of-Year Bash
- Veterans Dinner
- 2 portable projectors, cases,
- screens, speaker systems and stands
- Kitchen supplies

On the Choice Dollars committee are Darwin Anderson, Ron & Carolyn Cattau, Shirley Henke, Bev Mackie, Gayle & Carolyn Meints and Carolyn Petersen. Please contact any of these individuals to request Choice Dollars for a project, or if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions.

Bev Mackie
Choice Dollars Committee

Nebraska Lutherans for Life 2024 Essay Contest

Nebraska Lutherans for Life would like to invite students in grades 6-12 who are members of a Lutheran congregation or attend a Lutheran school in Nebraska to participate in this year's Lutherans for Life Essay Contest, based on the 2024 Conference theme: Life Shines in Darkness with the Bible verse: "In Him was life and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:4-5.

One winner will be selected for grades 6-8 and one for grades 9-12. Winning entries (one from Grades 6-8 and one from Grades 9-12) will be awarded \$100 each. The winning Nebraska essays will be entered in the national contest. Grand Prize for the national winning entry at each level will be \$250 plus free conference registration to a 2024 Regional Conference and one night at a conference hotel. Second place national winners at each level will receive a \$125 prize.

Essays should, of course, be the students' individual, original work, but pastors, teachers, and parents are encouraged to discuss the criteria on which the essays will be judged. The same rubrics will be used at both the state and national levels. Please request a copy of the rules and rubrics from Bob Saeger, Nebraska LFL president, at saeger001@windstream.net • **Entries must be submitted electronically by April 1, 2024.**



A FAMILY ENCOURAGED
A COMMUNITY EMBRACED
EVERYONE SAVED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Communion will be served at all services on the 1st and 3rd weekends.		WEDNESDAYS ReFUEL 5:50 Check In ReFUEL 6:00—7:00 pm 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:00—7:00 pm Check Out from ReFUEL 7:00—7:05		Connect Groups Sunday • 9:15 am Monday • 9:30 am, 7:00 pm Wednesdays • 6:00 & 7:00 pm Thursdays • 12 pm, 6:30 pm & 7 pm	1 Office Closed	2 Worship 5:00 pm
3 Worship 8:00 am Connect Group 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Financial Peace University 6:00 pm	4 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	5 Morning Bible Study 7:00 am Brookestone 3:00 pm Men's Chorus 5:30 pm Women's Connect 6:30 pm	6 Lent Worship 2:00 pm Joyful Sound 5:30 pm ReFUEL 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Voices of Peace 6:00 pm HS LARGE Group 7:15 Lent Worship 7:15 pm	7 Ruth's Circle 9:00 am Women's Creative Connection 9:00 am Bells of Peace 6:30 pm	8 Office Closed	9 Worship 5:00 pm
10 Worship 8:00 am Connect Group 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Financial Peace University 6:00 pm Middle School Youth Night 6:30 pm	11 LWML Qtly Meeting 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Compassionate Friends 7:00 pm	12 Morning Bible Study 7:00 am REAL Life 10:30 pm Men's Chorus 5:30 pm Comfort Dog Meeting 7:00 pm	13 Lent Worship 2:00 pm NO ReFUEL Voices of Peace 6:00 pm Lent Worship 7:15 pm HS Small Group 7:15 pm	14 Women's Creative Connection 9:00 am Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Bells of Peace 6:30 pm	15 Office Closed	16 Worship 5:00 pm
17 Worship 8:00 am Connect Group 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Financial Peace University 6:00 pm	18 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	19 Morning Bible Study 7:00 am Prairie Village 2:30 pm Men's Chorus 5:30 pm Church Board Meeting 7:00 pm	20 Lent Worship 2:00 pm Meridian Garden 2:00 pm Joyful Sounds 5:30 pm ReFUEL 6:00 pm Voices of Peace 6:00 pm Lent Worship 7:15 pm HS Small Group 7:15 pm	21 Women's Creative Connection 9:00 am Bells of Peace 6:30 pm	22 Office Closed	23 Worship 5:00 pm
24 PALM SUNDAY Worship 8:00 am Connect Group 9:15 am PINK Meeting 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Financial Peace U— 6:00 pm Middle School Youth—6:30 pm	25 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	26 Morning Bible Study 7:00 am Men's Chorus 5:30 pm	27 NO ReFUEL 6:00 pm Voices of Peace 6:00 pm HS Small Group 7:15 pm	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY Women's Creative Connection 9:00 am Worship 2:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Seder Meal 6:00 pm Bells of Peace 6:30 pm Worship 7:15 pm	29 GOOD FRIDAY Office Closed Worship 2:00 pm Worship 7:30 pm	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY Worship 6:30 am Worship 8:30 am Worship 10:30 am						