



Making Christ Available to All..
by Rejoicing, Renewing and
Reaching Out

Herald of Peace

March 2023

Peace Lutheran Church,
1301 Ave. D, Billings, MT 59102

(406) 252-5504
peacelutheranbillings.com

Leadership Directory

Pastor: **Rev. Seth Ramage**
pastorrumage@gmail.com
Office 406-252-5504 Cell 406-298-2672

Office Manager: **Sue Vigesaa**
peaceoffice1301@gmail.com
Office 406-252-5504 Cell 406-861-1140

Youth Director: **Vanessa Steiger**
peaceclcyouth@gmail.com
Office 406-252-5504 Cell 406-698-5576

Treasurer: Steve Frank
Worship Accompanists:
Robin Goodheart
Sue Vigesaa

Bells of Peace: Julie Draeger
Altar Guild Treasurer: Molly Johnson
WELCA Treasurer: Connie Hausauer

Church Council

Bob Bakko—dr.bobbakkolcpc@gmail.com
Ann Barsness—aadebarsness@outlook.com
Clarice Beery
Lisa Donovan—lisadonovan14@hotmail.com
Julie Draeger—julie.draeger@icloud.com
Wendy Goodheart—bellgirlwendy@yahoo.com
Molly Johnson—m64johnson@gmail.com
Jeff Murray—jeffreymurray@yahoo.com
Jody Pierce—bjjpierce@hotmail.com
Bob Peterson—bobsyl@bresnan.net

Peace Office Hours

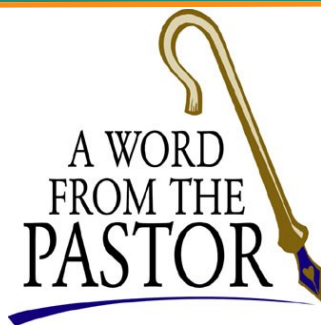
Monday– Friday
9am–12pm & 1pm–4pm

Weekly Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm
In-Person and on Facebook
Sunday: 9:00 am
Community Channel 7
Sunday: 10:00 am
In-Person



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



Lent is upon us! As I write this article on February 23, I am reflecting on what was a wonderful Ash Wednesday service here at the church. Back pain aside, I felt very connected to the worship and the congregation as we gathered to remind each other of our mortality and God's promise to keep us in God's love despite all the ways we try to pull away. As I discussed in my sermon, Ash Wednesday is somewhat odd, but what a way to begin a somewhat odd season of the church year. Lent is a time set aside for us to reflect on our humanity, God's divinity, and Jesus' bridging of the divide. Jesus came to earth as both God and human, to show us that we are not nearly as far away from God as we might think. As one of my favorite theologians (Richard Rohr) puts it, *"I have only ever been distant from God in my own mind."*

Lent thus is a period of reflection. Reflection on who we are, who God is, and the way the Spirit reveals Jesus' work of bringing us back to God. Traditionally, this reflection has gone hand-in-hand with fasting during the season of Lent. In some communities, this meant a true fast from food—reflecting Jesus' forty day fast in the wilderness of the Jordan (Matthew 4). In others, this has been a spiritual fast, where a believer

Prayer Concerns of those we prayed for January 2023

For praise and thanksgiving

Elizabeth A. Eaton - Presiding Bishop, ELCA

Laurie Jungling - Bishop - Montana Synod

For people around the world in need

Prayers for Peace in Ukraine

President Joe Biden and all elected officials

For illness or injuries of members

Monica Aalgaard

Kathy Gilbertson

John Modde

Carol Hauge

Geri Frasch

Ken & Marge Peterson

Leroy & Gertie Gross

Luella Ketterling

Lisa Grimsley

Ron Zech

Howard Albers

Hank Tungstall

Darlene Thompson

Ann Barsness

For illness or injuries of family and friends.

Rene Klimer – Marlin & Muriel Overstreet daughter, healing

Marlin Reeck, Roslind Bulger's brother health issues

Lauri, friend of Mike Brown health issues

Carrie – friend of Jo Pates, cancer

Taryn Befinzi - Ken Peterson's niece

Carol – Lois Gorseth's sister, cancer

Kelly Miller -Pastor Kim Wilker's daughter, cancer

Gary Olson - Rick Olson's brother, hospice care

Gary Boje - Darlene Thompson's brother, recovery

Denise- Bonnie Hovik Clausen's daughter in law

Rako Zech & family - Ron's Zech son, cancer diagnosis

Gary Fink - healing

Ann Strecker - friend of Rick & Barb Olson - healing

Laura Fisher- Jodi Peterson's cousin, cancer

Bud Leuthold - friend of Joy Lindberg, leukemia

Connie Sider- Chuck's Sister, hospice

Carol Lee- Barb's Mother, hospice

For those grieving ..

Suek family, upon the sudden death of Holly's brother Matt Behlke

Goffena family upon the death of Amy's father, Richard Hereim



Payer Concerns is a published list of those on the prayer chain, who have given permission to publish their names. If you are interested in praying for these, as well as others, please join the prayer chain. They have leaders who call or email.

Please call Ione Bloom at 406-652-2441 or Lisa Grimsley 406-656-8113.

Congregational News



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS
WEDNESDAYS THROUGHOUT LENT
6:00-7:00 p.m.

Please sign up to provide soup, rolls or desert.

Committee Hosts:

March 1- Education/Youth

March 8- Worship

March 15- Abundant Life

March 22- Property/Men's Breakfast

March 29- Mission and Service

Hello everyone!

On behalf of the congregational council at Peace Lutheran, I am excited to share with you that we have approved the hire of our new Office Manager!

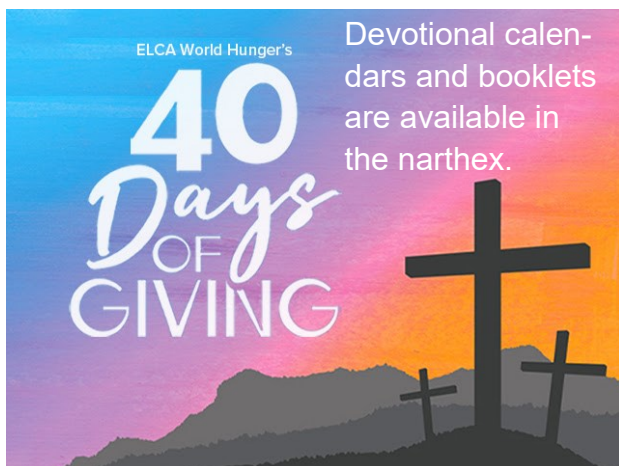
Sue Vigesaa will be joining the office staff at Peace, beginning next Monday, February 26. She will be in the office Monday-Friday, 9 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 4pm. She will also continue to be part of our rotation of worship accompanists. She has resigned her position on the council, but will continue to attend meetings as a staff representative.

This coming Sunday, we will install Sue as our new Office Manager during our morning worship service. Please feel free to reach out to her to congratulate her on her new role with Peace.

As you have been so patient and understanding with Vanessa and me during this time of transition, please extend that same courtesy to Sue as she learns the ropes in the office. We are blessed to have such an excellent person joining the staff at Peace!

I am excited to see Sue's smiling face in the office on a daily basis!

Peace,
Pastor Seth



Help Needed: We are in need of lectors for each Saturday and Sunday worship services. The signup sheet is in the narthex. If you enter your email address the church office will send you a copy of the reading a week in advance. If you have any questions contact Julie Draeger. Thank you!



Continued from Page 1

may abstain from a certain practice, or when repeating a pattern of behavior they see as spiritually dubious, may turn to God in prayer. In more contemporary times, we often hear people discuss a partial fast, in which someone “gives up” something for Lent, such as sweets or coffee, alcohol, or something similar. Our Roman Catholic siblings in Christ often abstain from meat on Fridays.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 6 that we are not to pray on streetcorners, give alms in public, draw attention to our fasting. Rather, we are to engage our spiritual practices in private, where only we and God are aware of what we are doing. Along with this guidance from Jesus, I often encourage people not to “give up” something for Lent, but instead to “take something on.” Whether it is a daily time set aside for prayer and meditation, a new devotional, or reading through a book of the Bible (gospel or otherwise) during Lent. If we are to give something up, I encourage folks not to withhold something superficial, but to really explore what it is that continues to impede your relationship with God and others and try to lessen your interaction with that thing or way of being.

And that, in a nutshell is the point of these Lenten fasts— we are trying to clean up, just a little bit, our side of the relationship with our creator and everything God created. We are attempting to reflect and remember where we stand in the grand scheme of things, both being humbled by our insignificance and emboldened by the love of God. As a season, Lent encourages us to engage this way of thinking and being that is outside our “normal,” and in so doing, relate to the promises of God in a new way.

As you read this reflection, we will have already been in the season of Lent for about a week. But I would like to encourage you to consider the ways God is calling you to engage this time of the year, the ways God is guiding your reflections as you listen for God’s love calling to you from eternity.

And of course, as we walk toward the Three Days, may we always remember the gift of love Jesus gave us as he showed that *nothing* can get in the way of the love of God revealed to us in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:31-39).

May this be a blessed Lent for you.

Peace,

Pastor Seth

Pastor Seth



Holy Week and Easter

at Peace Lutheran Church

1301 Avenue D Billings, Montana

Palm Sunday April 1 & 2

Saturday Evening- 5 pm
In Sanctuary and Online
Sunday Morning- 10 am
In Sanctuary

Easter Morning April 9, 2023

SONrise Worship- 7 am
At Front Entrance of Church
Traditional Worship- 9 & 10:30 am
In Sanctuary and Online

Maundy Thursday April 6

Dinner Church- 6 pm
Fellowship Hall

Continental Breakfast Served
7:30 - 10:30 am
Fellowship Hall

Good Friday April 7

Worship- 7 pm
In Sanctuary and Online

Easter Egg Grab
10:00 am
Front Lawn



Find us online!

PeaceLutheranBillings.com

Facebook.com/PeaceLutheranBillings



Congregational News

Upcoming Mission & Service Opportunities to Watch For

The Mission and Service committee continues to offer many opportunities to serve others. Please consider praying for where you can personally be doing God's work with your hands, and pray for those who will actively participate.

Here are the upcoming Mission and Service opportunities.

† Lenten Offerings- Lenten offerings will be supporting:

Lutheran World Relief (February 22)

Family Service (March 1)

Meals on Wheels (March 8)

Christikon (March 15)

Amani for Africa (March 22)

Luther Lodge (March 29)

† Family Promise- Peace's next week to support Family Promise with meals will be April 9-15.

† Buck-a-Chick- Watch for more information as to how you can support this annual giving at Easter.

As a friendly reminder, all committees could always use new volunteers. Consider exploring the numerous committee opportunities available at Peace Lutheran. You can find committees listed on page 12 of this newsletter.



Peace Quilters

Quilting has returned to our regular Wednesday meeting times, 9:00 in the fellowship hall downstairs on the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays. We welcome anyone who would like to help make mission quilts with us. It is not difficult to do! We will teach you to tie the square knots needed to put the quilt together. Or maybe you would like to lay

out squares to be sewn into tops. There are several other things to do in making beautiful quilts.

Looking forward to meeting many new people and having many productive meetings. Coffee and treats are available again at 10:30.

Worship News**March Worship Themes****March 4th & 5th**

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

Readings and Psalm Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

ELW Setting 3

March 11th & 12th

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Readings and Psalm Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

ELW Setting 8

March 18th & 19th

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

Readings and Psalm 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41 **ELW Setting 10**

March 25th & 26th

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

Readings and Psalm Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Country Gospel

Education and Youth News

March Youth Group

Happy March! We will be meeting every Wednesday this month. The Elementary Youth Group begins at 5:30 PM. **Just a reminder, during Lent Peace Pals will only be 30 minutes long due to Lenten Soup Suppers.**

March 1st- *John 3: 1-17*

March 8th- *John 4: 5-42*

March 15th- *John 9: 1-41*

March 22nd- *John 11: 1-45*

March 29th- *Matthew 27: 11-54*

Youth Spring Fundraiser

March 10th, 6:00-7:30 PM

We haven't done a Spring Youth Fundraiser since 2019, and the Education/Youth Committee is super excited to announce that we are bringing it back this year!

Tickets to the Fundraiser will be \$10/person and it will provide dinner. The kids from the Peace Youth program will be serving you! We will have Silent Auction items and a dessert auction. You can sign up on the Youth Bulletin board starting February 4th.

We will also be looking for Silent Auction items, please contact Vanessa if you are interested in donating an item or a basket.



Lent Youth Group Schedule

Since Lenten Soup Suppers will begin at 6:00 PM, Peace Pals (Elementary Youth Group) will only be from 5:30-6:00 PM. We are asking parents to plan accordingly during this season!

Soup Suppers will begin on February 22nd, [2023](#) and run through March 29th. There will be no Wednesday night activities on April 5th due to Holy Week. Thank you for being patient during these time changes! On April 12th, all activities will resume to their normal times.

Hymn Madness!

Are you familiar with the NCAA's March Madness Basketball Tournament? Well, we are going to do something similar here at Peace. Except instead of basketball games, we are going to use hymns!

Every weekend starting February 25th & 26th leading to Easter will have two popular hymns that are battling against one another. After the service, you can vote for the hymn you'd like to see move on to the next round! Each vote is \$1. You can vote as many times as you would like!

This Fundraiser will be benefiting Music Programs at School District 2.

HYMN MADNESS

HYMN MADNESS

A Mighty Fortress
Hymn #504

February 25th & 26th

**I Want Jesus to
Walk with Me**
Hymn #325

March 25th & 26th

**Shall We Gather at
The River**
Hymn #423

March 4th & 5th

Lift High the Cross
Hymn #660

April 9th

April 1st & 2nd

**Jesus Keep Me
Near the Cross**
Hymn #335

March 11th & 12th

**I Heard the Voice of
Jesus Say**
Hymn #611

Be Thou My Vision
Hymn #793

March 18th & 19th

Amazing Grace
Hymn #779



Making Christ Available to All

Community News

Christikon Clip

March, 2023

*Information for our Congregations***Christikon is an extension of your congregation's ministry.**

Bus Attendants needed for 2022 — Would you or someone you know be willing to ride with youth on their way to Christikon? Yes? Please call Kerry in the office at 406-656-1969 or email at secretary@christikon.org for details. It pays a daily rate as well!

Don't miss out on the Early Registration Discount for youth campers: Register by April 1st and save \$25 in any youth session. If you don't have the camp brochure mailed to you, pick one up at the church, or register online.

Adults and families: Watch for the special focus for each of the family/adult weekends next summer at Christikon: work projects, faith formation, and Bible study will be woven together with worship, meal fellowship, re-creation, folk dancing and much more. Check out camping for adults and families online at www.christikon.org.

Annual Benefit Auction is on April 30th at the Billings Depot. We are looking for items for the auction such as: fishing trip, weekend getaway, dinner out, themed baskets. Have an idea? Let us know! Watch for more details as they become available on our website.

It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ—exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.

CHRISTIKON • 1108 24th Street West • Billings, MT 59102
406 656-1969 • secretary@christikon.org • www.christikon.org



Peace Lutheran Family Promise Dates 2023

While Family Promise continues to discern how their program will continue as they work with the City of Billings to return to congregations, we at Peace have been given the next set of dates in which we will provide food for families in need:

April 9-15

August 13-19

October 15-21

Please consider helping during at least one of those times. Thank you for your continued support and generosity for this essential ministry!



Across the ELCA we are connected through the stories we tell, the stories we hear and the stories we experience in ministry among one another. "[Stories of Faith in Action](#)" features vital ministries made possible by the generous Mission Support shared by ELCA congregations. This Mission Support is available because of the faith-filled regular offerings that individuals give to their congregations. Learn about leaders who step out in faith to try something new, and people who open their arms and their hearts to meet people in new places. Read "Stories of Faith in Action" at LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA.

Save the date for the Montana Synod Assembly! We will meet in Great Falls at the Heritage Inn starting Friday morning, June 2 and ending Saturday, late afternoon.

Congregational News

Staff E-mail Addresses

Pastor Seth Rumage

pastorrumage@gmail.com

Office Manager Sue Vigesaa

peaceoffice1301@gmail.com

Youth Director Vanessa Steiger

peacelcyouth@gmail.com



facebook

Find Peace Lutheran on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/PeaceLutheranBillings>

Watch worship live, or on your own time. Keep up-to-date with goings on at church. Even send a message to chat with Pastor Seth or Vanessa!



Lent Wednesday Worship will begin at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. We will also stream the service live on Facebook and our website. Join for a soup dinner at 6:00, or come just for the service! A blessed Lent to you all!

Simply Giving Program

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings taken from your bank account as you do other monthly drafts? Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsors a program called Simply Giving which offers this service for people who wish to have offerings transferred electronically to Peace Lutheran Church account. For those who travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with their intended offerings, and it

will keep you from having to make up the difference later. Contact the church office for more details.



Congregational Life Committee

The Congregational Life Committee is responsible to touch the lives of the people of Peace Lutheran Church by involving them in the life and ministry of the church. One of the most visible responsibilities is fellowship following worship services. We moved from asking service committee members to bring cookies, etc., to providing doughnuts. So, the duties have been reduced and only one or two people are needed for each Sunday. We will continue to assign monthly service committees as we have done in the past. If we have a potluck or other congregational function during the month, the committee may be asked to help. A committee chairperson will be assigned each month and will ask committee members to help with the fellowship/coffee following Sunday worship.

March Serving Committee

Bernie Mason, chair

Steve Frank

Elaine Shong

Paula/John Jackson

Fern Schock

Sandy Johnson

Jacki Fayram

Jerilyn Dukart

Erica/Andrew Hayshida

Luella/LeRoy Ketterling

Donna Boeck

Shelly Popp/Greg Popp

Seth/Katrina Rumage

Serve

Congregational News

Peace Lutheran 2023 Boards and Committees

Women of the ELCA

2023 Women of the ELCA Circles:

Everyone is welcome!

Martha Circle

*Meets Third Wednesday, at 10:00 am
in the Fellowship hall*

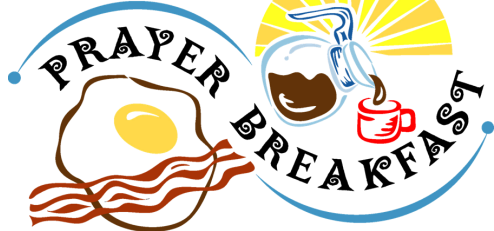
Katie Circle

*Meets 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 pm
Peace Fellowship Hall*

Ruth Circle

*Meets second Tuesday at 11:30 am
Pizza Hut 2530 King Ave W*

MEN'S



**Men's Breakfast and Bible Study meets
Wednesday at 6:30 am in the
Fellowship Hall.**

**New-comers and one-timers are
always welcome.**

**Bring yourself and your appetite—
food and Bible study resources will be
provided!**

Delegates to Ministries

Christikon

Mike Brown
Lois Gorseth
Katrina Rumage

Endowment Trustees

Bernie Mason
Rhonda Heidner
Dean Welliever
Dave Draeger
Melissa Sider

Lutheran Center

Pastor Seth Rumage**
Rhonda Heidner

Shepherd Cluster

Joan Brown
Deb Sider

St. John's Ministries

Holli Miller
Rhonda Sappington

Synod Assembly Delegates

Clarice Beery**
Connie Hausauer

**Designates Committee Chair*

***Designates Congregation
Council Member*

Congregational Committees

Abundant Life

Clarice Beery**
Mike Brown
Bob Peterson**
Danny* & Laura Quanbeck
Rhonda Sappington

Congregational Life

Joan Brown
Molly Johnson**
Holli Miller*
Jeff Murray**
Deb Sider
Melissa Sider

Education/Youth

Lisa Donovan**
Robin Felton
John Goodheart*
Tony Pecarina
Jody Pierce**
Vanessa Steiger

Mission and Service

Ann Barsness**
Paula Jackson
Bryan Peterson*
Rich & Cinda Robbins
Linda Strosky
Nancy Taylor

Mutual Ministry

Mike Brown
Holli Miller
Bob Peterson**
Sharon Schatzke
Chuck Sider

Nominating

Dewey Anderson
Steve Frank
Rhonda Sappington

Personnel

Bob Bakko**
Lisa Donovan**
Wendy Goodheart**
Bryan Peterson
Melissa Sider

Property

Jeff Murray**
Tony Pecarina*
Paul Strosky
Louis Taylor

Scholarship

Wendy Goodheart**
Holli Miller
Melissa Sider

Worship

Ann Barsness**
Julie Draeger**
Wendy Goodheart**
Sue Vigasaa

March Serving Committee

Bernie Mason, chair
Steve Frank
Elaine Shong
Paula/John Jackson
Fern Schock
Sandy Johnson
Jacki Fayram
Jerilyn Dukart
Erica/Andrew Hayshida
Luella/LeRoy Ketterling
Donna Boeck
Shelly Popp/Greg Popp
Seth/Katrina Rumage

Next Newsletter Deadline:

March 23, 2023

Please send newsletter information to
peaceoffice1301@gmail.com





Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

PRAYER VENTURES MARCH 2023

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 Women's History Month Remember, celebrate and give thanks for the contributions, achievements, leadership, wisdom and gifts of women and girls throughout history in the church, our communities and the world.

2 In January there were 52 mass shootings in our nation. Pray that God will hear our yearning for the peace, safety and transformation of our society for the sake of protecting life. Ask the Spirit to awaken us from the fear, numbness and feelings of powerlessness that can discourage us from taking risks and making sacrifices that will lead to consequential change in our nation.

3 Pray for people and communities impacted by flooding and storms in California and by tornadoes, flooding and severe weather across the southern United States. Remember those who grieve the loss of loved ones and homes, those suffering trauma and those in the long process of recovery, especially those without shelter and most vulnerable.

4 Pray that the invasion of Ukraine will end and that Russia will halt the violence that stands in the way of peace, reconciliation, recovery and healing. Pray especially for those who suffer most from the unrelenting misery, violence and destruction.

5 Ask God for the curiosity, boldness and humility of Nicodemus, a Pharisee who sought to understand Jesus, the ways of God and the work of the Spirit.

6 Remember in prayer people and communities recovering from the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Ask God to sustain their hope, ease their grief and give them the resources they need for relief and rebuilding, especially in remote areas.

7 Give thanks for siblings in Christ, throughout history and in the present, who proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and incite our faith in God's promise of love and forgiveness.

8 International Women's Day On this day we join our neighbors and siblings in Christ around the world in praying for the total inclusion, equity and advancement — social, economic and political — of women and girls everywhere. Give thanks for the work we do together through the ELCA International Women Leaders program, the Justice for Women program and ELCA World Hunger.

9 Pray that when we see or use the symbol of the cross, we will remember the sacrifice made by the Son of God — Jesus Christ — for the sake of the world, to free us from the constraints of human weakness, fear and death.

10 "I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1-2). Give thanks that God is mindful of our struggles and uncertainties and provides care, support and counsel through the people around us, including strangers. In turn, ask God to work through us so that we will be alert, empathetic and responsive to the needs of our neighbors.

11 Pray for college and university students during spring break, that they will be renewed, build friendships and serve their neighbors in need through service-learning experiences.

12 "I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Behold, I freely give the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live'" (ELW 611). Give thanks that God attends to our spiritual thirst through the life-giving gift of Jesus Christ, who restores and sustains us to face life's challenges, share the gospel and do God's work in the world.

13 Pray for ELCA missionaries serving with our global companions in Asia and the Pacific: the Rev. Jeffrey Truscott and the Rev. Charles Peterson (Indonesia), the Rev. Jessica Derise (Thailand) and Julie Gerrish (Malaysia).

14 Pray that our prayer and song will express our joy, thanksgiving and praise to God — our creator, our defender and our source of salvation.

15 Give thanks for mid-week Lenten meals that draw us together, that we might reflect on our humanness, find hope and comfort in God's love and mercy, and strengthen our unity as children of God and siblings in Christ.

16 Pray that, when we experience quarreling, division and hardship as a community of faith, we will trust one another as siblings in Christ and turn to God for reassurance, knowing that the Spirit leads us to reconciliation and unity.



Evangelical
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PRAYER VENTURES MARCH 2023

17 Thank God for the ELCA's special relationship with the Moravian Church in America, a full communion partner since 1999. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

18 Give thanks to God for those who harvest the abundance of lakes, rivers and oceans to feed themselves and others. Pray that they will be safe, that their fishing will be successful and that they will wisely and generously steward our food resources and environment for the sake of all generations.

19 Pray that, as our neighbors suffer misfortune, poverty, hunger, homelessness or physical or mental illness, we will not judge them, blame them or decide where they do and don't belong but will instead respond as Jesus did, with boundless mercy, respect, care and hospitality.

20 Remember in prayer leaders meeting in Minneapolis for the Assistants and Associates to Bishops Gathering. Pray that their faith, lives and ministries will be enriched and supported by their time together.

21 Give thanks that God has brought us out of darkness and into the light of Christ, which reveals what is good, just and pleasing to God.

22 World Water Day Praise God for the gift of water in all its forms. Pray that we will not take water for granted or squander it. Ask the Spirit to guide and sustain our efforts to guarantee all people and communities access to clean, safe and abundant water, a life-nourishing resource and gift from God.

23 Pray for the leaders across our church who serve on the ELCA Church Council. Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire their deliberations and work, which support, shape and further the growth and mission of our church in the world.

24 Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop of El Salvador (1917-1980) Give thanks for the life of Bishop Romero and those who demonstrate courage and persistence in their faith, public witness, compassion and advocacy. Pray for those who still suffer poverty, violence, oppression and injustice in Central America.

25 With joy and thanksgiving, praise God for drawing us close and restoring our relationships, and celebrate that nothing can separate us from God's love, demonstrated to us through the life, sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

26 Amid solemn Lenten reflections, take heart and give thanks for the promise and proclamation Jesus made to Martha, the sister of Lazarus: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live" (John 11:25).

27 Lift up prayerful sighs of relief and gratitude that God is our help and refuge, trustworthy and ever present. "My Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm" (ELW 333).

28 How is the Spirit at work in you? Pray that we will be mindful of how the Spirit dwells within us and of the diverse and surprising results of its work.

29 Pray for ELCA missionaries serving with our global companions in Slovakia: Megan Freudenberg, Naomi and Nicholas Sveholm, the Rev. Kyle and Anna Svenningsen, the Rev. Bradn Buerkle, Elizabeth Kuster, Michelle Lauder milk, Mitchell McDonald, John Rogers and Christina Sunstone.

30 Give thanks for the Lilly Endowment grant that will enable the ELCA and ELCA Youth Ministry Network to collaborate on new models for youth ministry, equip 3,000 leaders for ministry with younger generations and provide ELCA congregations with accessible and affordable resources to engage youth in faith formation.

31 Pray that our congregations will prove resilient to the severe weather that often comes with spring, serving as centers for relief, shelter and hope when disasters occur in their communities.



2023

MARCH

Peace Lutheran



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00a Congregational Life 10:00a Worship 1:30p Al Anon	27 5:30p OA meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	28 11:30a Ruth Circle 6:30p Katie Circle 	01 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:00a Quilters 5:00p Bells of Peace 5:30p Peace Pals 6:00p Lent Soup Supper 7:00p Lent Worship	02 9:00a Bible Study 12:00p OA Meeting	03 12:00p Al-Anon Meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	04 5:00pm Worship [In-Person and Online] 
05 9:00a Congregational Life 10:00a Worship 1:30p Al Anon	06 5:30p OA meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	07 11:30a Ruth Circle 6:30p Katie Circle 	08 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:00a Quilters 5:00p Bells of Peace 5:30p Peace Pals 6:00p Lent Soup Supper 7:00p Lent Worship 	09 9:00a Bible Study 12:00p OA Meeting	10 12:00p Al-Anon Meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	11 5:00pm Worship [In-Person and Online]
12 10:00a Worship 1:30p Al Anon	13 5:30p OA meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	14 11:30a Ruth Circle 6:30p Katie Circle 	15 6:30a Men's Breakfast 10:00a Martha Circle 5:00p Bells of Peace 5:30p Peace Pals 6:00p Lent Soup Supper 7:00p Lent Worship 	16 9:00a Bible Study 12:00p OA Meeting	17 12:00p Al-Anon Meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 	18 5:00pm Worship [In-Person and Online]
19 10:00a Worship 1:30p Al Anon	20 5:30p OA meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	21 6:30p Church Council	22 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:00a Quilters 5:00p Bells of Peace 5:30p Peace Pals 6:00p Lent Soup Supper 7:00p Lent Worship	23 9:00a Bible Study 12:00p OA Meeting 	24 12:00p Al-Anon Meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	25 5:00pm Worship [In-Person and Online] 
26 10:00a Worship 1:30p Al Anon	27 5:30p OA meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	28 6:30p Church Council	29 6:30a Men's Breakfast 9:00a Quilters 5:00p Bells of Peace 5:30p Peace Pals 6:00p Lent Soup Supper 7:00p Lent Worship	30 9:00a Bible Study 12:00p OA Meeting	31 12:00p Al-Anon Meeting <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	01

Peace Lutheran Church

Non-Profit Organization
1301 Avenue D
Billings, MT 59102-3196

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

March 2023