



'TIDINGS OF **PEACE**' from

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
411 EAST 6TH STREET  
MCCOOK, NE 69001

TO:

Three vertical lines for an address.

# TIDINGS OF **PEACE**

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH

**B**lessed March to you all!  
The season of Lent is upon us!  
Soon we will be celebrating His resurrection!

The Spring Semester is nearly halfway done! It's hard to believe that it was only a couple of months ago that it was 2024 and we were visiting you all! I have classes all week, and then the Seminary has Reading Week (aka Spring Break) at the conclusion of Friday's classes. The Seminary has no classes for that following week, although there are usually reading assignments and a test or two to complete during the time off. Angela is on Spring Break as well, so it will be a blessing that we both can take some time away from the daily grind. We both report back on Monday the 24th. One month later is Easter Break, a week after that is Call Day, and two weeks after that is Graduation. You really can't blink, or this semester will be over before you know it!

I have been interviewed by the Rocky Mountain District. Nothing is solidified until we experience Call Day, but it looks like we could be heading back to Colorado for my vicarage placement, and then a year later I seeks to be ordained in that same church. It is hard not to be looking at houses, getting moving trucks

March 8th

scheduled, and getting stuff all packed up, but we really should wait until after Call Day so that we know for absolutely certain where we are heading. It is so very hard to be patient, and to focus on classes! We will have both sets of parents joining us for Call Day, along with some of our siblings, so it will be a joyful week for sure.

We hope the Peace Lutheran congregation is having a wonderful 2025 so far! We keep an eye on the weather out there, and wow, you all have had some interesting stuff going on! It has been weird here, too, but not as weird as last year was. I think we had Tornado Sirens go off once a week for at least two months! None of that has happened yet! Prayers for good weather for everyone, especially so you all can have good weather for planting soon! May God bless you all through the Lent and Easter seasons! May the Lord bless the Peace Lutheran congregation through the Spring and may He bring you all a great year in everything you all set out to do! Thank you so very much for contributing to the support of my schooling and for the prayerful support as well. We will continue keeping you all and the McCook community in our prayers!

Craig Wenzlick



**PLC Shepherd**

Pastor Lonnie Felcher  
revfelcher@hotmail.com  
Emergency (308)737-6750

**Family Life Minister**

Hanah Nothnagel

**Creative Preschool Director**

Kelsey VanPelt  
mycreativepreschool@gmail.com

**Administrative Assistant**

Tina Cummins  
office@plcmccook.org

**Congregational President**

Curt Swanhorst  
curtswanhorst@gmail.com

**Congregational Vice President**

Russ Ankersen

**Elder Chairman**

Fritz Hubert

**Council Secretary**

Linda Smith

**Treasurer**

Melissa Hanchera  
plctreasurer1908@gmail.com

**Financial Secretary**

Sarah Risenhoover  
peacefin28@gmail.com

**COLLEGE MEMBERS**

We would like to send a gift to our college members as they start their finals this spring to let them know that we are thinking about them during this taxing time. If you have a young adult in college, please put their name and address on the sign-up sheet on the buffet in the narthex, or text their information to 308-350-5677 before April 28th. Thank you for your help. The Board of Evangelism.

**LIST OF GRADUATES**

Please call the church office with the names of your high school or college graduates so they can be recognized in May.

**HELP NEEDED**

People are needed to do the live streaming, running PowerPoint and sound on Sunday mornings. If you can push a button, you have what it takes to help. Training and checklists are available.

**EASTER BREAKFAST**

The Board of Ed is sponsoring the annual Easter Breakfast. It will follow the 7am service. There is a sign up sheet for items needed on the easel in the narthex. Thanks for your support.

**EASTER LILIES**

There is a sign up sheet on the buffet in the Narthex for Easter lilies. They are \$16 this year. Please make checks out to Peace Lutheran Church.



**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Tina Cummins	4/1	Seth Koetter	4/13	Brooklynn Tidyman	4/23
Rachel Lietka	4/3	Steve Eckhoff	4/14	Harold Carlson	4/25
Lance Gillen	4/5	Dan Hartwell	4/14	Carter Hartwell	4/27
Lola Downing	4/6	Carter Watts	4/14	Jeffrey Unger	4/27
Steven Kircher	4/6	Torryn Schumacher	4/16	Brooklynn Gillen	4/28
Kelsey Gillen	4/8	Olivia Koetter	4/18	Robert Stecker	4/28
Tanner Doucet	4/9	John Hanson	4/21	Emma Malleck	4/29
Denise Gillen	4/9	Kimberly Kuykendall	4/21	Hanah Nothnagel	4/29
Carmen Custer	4/13	Krystal Downing	4/22	Drew Shields	4/29

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Les & Sue Fahrenbruch	4/2/1994	31	Alex & Melissa Hanchera	4/9/2016	9
Ron & Doris Friehe	4/3/1976	49	Patricia & Howard Frisbey	4/10/1976	49
Monte & Mary Hazlitt	4/7/1984	41	Joseph & Gina Vetrovsky	4/14/2018	7
Ken & Dorinda Polly	4/7/1956	69	Myra & Dan Stoney	4/17/1999	26
Ron & Deb Lauer	4/8/1989	36			

We apologize if we have made a mistake. Please contact the office so we may get it corrected.

Check out our Facebook page (Peace Lutheran McCook NE)! Don't forget to "Like", "Follow" and "Share" it! We now have a YouTube channel (Peace Lutheran Church McCook) to view the Sunday services.

If you feel compelled to give, offering can be brought into the church office, mailed to P.O. Box 240 or direct deposited.

**OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE**

	Week to Date (March 23rd-March 29th)	Month to Date (March 2nd-March 29th)	Actual Year to Date (Jan. 5th-March 29th)
Offerings	\$3,027.00	\$21,338.00	\$71,695.00
Expenses	\$6,161.00	\$22,932.00	\$57,810.00



## FROM AN ELDER

As the season of Lent is nearing and end, we look towards Holy Week. With Maundy Thursday and Good Friday looked upon as being somber events, we know that the culmination of them is a joyous one, When we observe Easter, the joy of worshipping with fellow believers is indeed uplifting.

But we mustn't let the festivities obscure the real reason that we are excited. Every Christian looks forward to Easter, but why? As Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper and Good Friday shows us the passion of Jesus, we have to think of why all this was done. We now get to participate in the Lord's Supper, and we should do so frequently, but the persecution, the agony, the punishment for our sin has been accomplished on that Good Friday. We now know that all of our sins have been paid for through His death on the cross.

This was the plan of the Heavenly Father. Because He loved us so much, and Jesus allowed Himself to be our substitute, we are assured that our celebration of Easter will be a celebration of what awaits us at our death, a perpetual Easter with fellow believers, our own personal resurrection. John 3:16 says that *"for God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."* May the blessings of Easter be yours now and through the year!

## COOKBOOKS

There are still cookbooks available. They are \$20 and make great gifts. Just contact the church office.

## APRIL READINGS

Date	Season	First Reading	Epistle	Holy Gospel
6th	The 5th S. in Lent	Isaiah 43:16-21	Philippians 3:4-14	Luke 20:9-20
13th	Palm Sunday	Deuteronomy 32:36-39	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 22:1-23:56
20th	Easter Sunday	Isaiah 65:17-25	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12
27th	The 2nd S. of Easter	Acts 5:12-32	Revelation 1:4-18	John 20:19-31



## CREATIVE PRESCHOOL

**Creative Preschool is now accepting new registrations for the 2025-2026 school year!**

For more information or to register your child, please call us at 345-2595, message us on our Facebook page or email us at [mycreativepreschool@gmail.com](mailto:mycreativepreschool@gmail.com)

We look forward to meeting you! 😊

## CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Would you like the church directory on your phone? Just download the app from the app store. Search for Universal Church Directory. Enter your families Unique Identifier that was emailed to your households email. If you did not receive an email, please call the church office for your Unique Identifier. Then you can begin using your church app features.





### LET'S DO SUPPER TOGETHER

Join us young adults (kids included) for a pot luck style dinner together at the church. April 6th at noon where we will cook together, socialize, and kids can play and have fun! This month's meal: brisket and Bingo. RSVP to Hanah at 737-1905 so we can assign menu items. If this month doesn't work for you, don't worry!! The plan is to make this a regular monthly event where we can cook together, eat and have fun.

### SAVE THE DATE

Save the date for Vacation Bible School June 9th, 10th, 11th. More information will be found on our Facebook page.

### ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN

This program support US troops through the ministry of their chaplains. We are under a national group that keeps a list of chaplains that are able share their addresses. Now many deployed chaplains and troops cannot give out their locations, especially those in the Middle East and Europe, and we pray that God protects them. Pray that God provides a way that we can continue to support those in areas of greatest tension. Thank you for the many supplies and donations!! Thanks for helping pack! We are grateful for the support of Peace Lutheran Church and many individuals and groups in our area. Next packing day is Monday, April 14 at 1:pm.

### CHURCH SECURITY

Based on some concerns raised at our last voter's meeting and discussion at church council, we are forming a temporary committee to review current policies and possible improvements that could be done to help ensure the continued safety of our members, guests, and preschool. If you are interested in being on this committee, please contact Curt Swanhorst or Russ Ankersen.

### BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED

Bloom where you are planted! Women's afternoon of lunch, fellowship, and activities. April 27th at noon. RSVP to Hanah at 737-1905 or sign up on the sing up sheet at church.



## TOOLS FOR STEWARDSHIP and EVANGELISM

### SHUT INS

Please remember those who are unable to worship with us for one reason or another.

**Hillcrest:** Pam Leibbrandt, Ruth Woodhams, and Karen Berry.

**Kinship Pointe:** Betty Harms, and Lois Brown.

**Highland Park:** Harlan & Bernita Reiners and Ken & Dorinda Polly

**Benkelman:** Mark Cummins

### ELDER VISITATION

In order to facilitate better connection between the church and members, the Elders are well into a program whereby they have been assigned specific sections of the city and make contact with all members within their assigned area. The purpose of these visits is to not only make contact, but also update contact information and discuss spiritual needs that our members may have. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Elders – Fritz Hubert, Brandon Kuykendall, Harold Carlson, Nick Nothnagel, Lee McConville, Russ Ankersen or Curt Swanhorst.

### FOOD PANTRY

As discussed at a meeting, here are the items for Peace to place an emphasis on, by month. January – soup or stew, February – crackers, March – Mac & Cheese, **April – canned meats**, May – canned vegetables, June – flour & sugar, July— flour & sugar (again), August – Peanut butter, September – canned fruit, October – pork & beans, November – dry pasta, and December – beans. **Of course all donations are welcome (like cake mixes, icing, condiments, etc.)**

*If you have an article, an announcement, pictures, etc... that you would like to submit for the "Tidings of Peace" newsletter, please bring it by the church office no later than the 4th Thursday of the month.*





# SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

<b>April 6th</b>	
Elder on duty	Lee McConville
Organist	
Audio	Cathy Broz
Greeter	Grant Pfanstiel
Greeter	Charlene Pfanstiel
Usher	Gene Meints
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	Emmett Felcher
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Cathy Broz
<b>Late Service</b>	
Greeter	Jane Schuster
Greeter	Myra Tietz
Usher	Gary Hunkins
Lay Reader	
Acolyte	Maxson Stewart
Acolyte	Zander Stewart
Powerpoint	Ben Schow
Live Stream	Jackson Hartwell

<b>April 13th</b>	
Elder on duty	Brandon Kuykendall
Organist	
Audio	Russ Ankersen
Greeter	Deb Shields
Greeter	
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Randon Peters
Acolyte	
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
<b>Late Service</b>	
Greeter	Cindy Swanhorst
Greeter	Curt Swanhorst
Usher	Harold Carlson
Lay Reader	Sarah Risenhoover
Acolyte	Emmett Felcher
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Russ Ankersen
Live Stream	Ian Brown

<b>April 20th</b>	
Elder on duty	Harold Carlson
Organist	
Audio	Paul Sellers
Greeter	Elaine Polly
Greeter	Jeff Polly
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Renelle Mooney
Acolyte	Kysen Hazlitt
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Tina Cummins
<b>Late Service</b>	
Greeter	Donna Hall
Greeter	Jim Hall
Usher	Ben Schow
Lay Reader	Rylee Mooney
Acolyte	Emmett Felcher
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	
Live Stream	Tina Cummins

<b>April 27th</b>	
Elder on duty	Fritz Hubert
Organist	
Audio	Harold Carlson
Greeter	Nancy Rippen
Greeter	
Usher	Eugene Custer
Lay Reader	Jerry Calvin
Acolyte	Hunter Kunkee
Acolyte	Will Kunkee
Powerpoint	Harold Carlson
<b>Late Service</b>	
Greeter	Pat Penner
Greeter	
Usher	Curt Swanhorst
Lay Reader	Curt Swanhorst
Acolyte	Ryker Mooney
Acolyte	
Powerpoint	Gary Hunkins
Live Stream	Jackson Hartwell



## PEACE TALK

If you are an action movie enthusiast, you have probably watched "Mission Impossible." This movie series has entertained viewers for decades. It so happens to have a very identifiable theme song that is nearly impossible to get out of your head... Dun Dun Dun da dada Dun Dun Dun da dada...! As the show begins, you would hear a voice from a reel tape recorder... "Your mission, should you accept it is..." Then after the mission was revealed, it would end with... "This tape will self-destruct in five seconds." Poof! In a cloud of smoke, the tape would evaporate! From there, the task at hand would begin, centered around spies and secret government agents competing in dangerous missions. Each mission, seemingly impossible to accomplish. As I thought about these suspenseful films, I got to thinking about the challenges we face in this world today that can be a very real "mission impossible." The things we face in life that seem impossible to overcome. A hurtful relationship, harder than anticipated schoolwork, overwhelming work situations, or a severe health condition. It's during these challenging times, where we might be pondering, "It's impossible! I just can't do it." I'm sure we all have been in one of these situations or know someone who has. As a matter of fact, it is during these uncertain times we need to be reminded that God is willing to help us with our impossible task. Giving us a mental sticky note so we can recall that there is no such thing as an impossible mission with our loving God (Job 42:2). The blessed assurance of knowing that He wants to remove our burdens from us (Matthew 11:28). And the certainty that He is always present to be our refuge and strength in those times of trouble (Psalm 46:1). When we look to Jesus, we will grow the confidence of knowing He will carry us through our perilous missions (Ephesians 3:20). So, if you are facing a situation that seems impossible to overcome, know that when you trust in Christ, you will find solace in Him (2 Corinthians 1:4). Not only that, but through faith, the impossible becomes possible (Mark 9:23). Holding fast to the confident expectation of what God has promised my friends, will help you overcome what seems impossible. Calmed with the assurance that our troubles on this side of heaven are only temporary, not eternal. Building strength to stand firm on the solid rock of faith and hope in Christ, who through His works on the cross, has justified you and I and declared us righteous by God (Romans 5:1-2). There is no one out there that can help us in our impossible missions like God can. Find that peace in His Word today (2 Corinthians 1:3). Then when you get the assignment of your mission impossible, your discouragement, disappointment, grieving, healing, or painful situation... whatever it may be, can be comforted with His presence. Dear Lord, help me on my mission impossible and give me the strength to do what is possible through You. Amen.

Peace, Love, and Unity  
Phil Bamesberger



**Peace Lutheran Church**

411 East 6th Street  
 PO Box 240  
 McCook, NE 69001  
 PH (308)345-2595  
 Email: [office@plcmccook.org](mailto:office@plcmccook.org)  
 Website: [plcmccook.org](http://plcmccook.org)  
 Facebook: Peace Lutheran McCook NE  
 YouTube: Peace Lutheran Church McCook

# April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 9:00am Worship Committee	<b>2</b> 11:00am Midweek Lent service 6:00pm School of Religion 6:30pm High School Bible study 7:30pm Midweek Lent service	<b>3</b> 5:00pm Preschool Open House	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
<b>6</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Worship F.I.R.E & Young Adults lunch	<b>7</b> 7:00pm Women's Bible study  PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	<b>8</b> 2:00pm Hillcrest Bingo 6:00pm Board of Elders 7:00pm Council	<b>9</b> 11:00am Midweek Lent service 6:00pm School of Religion 6:30pm High School Bible study 7:30pm Midweek Lent service	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study
<b>13 Communion Sunday</b> 8:00am Worship Confirmation reception 9:15am F.I.R.E. 10:30am Worship with Confirmation	<b>14</b> 1:00pm Adopt-A-Chaplain packing 7:00pm Women's Bible study  PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 11:00am Maundy Thursday service 7:30pm Maundy Thursday service	<b>18</b> 11:00am Good Friday service 7:30pm Good Friday service	<b>19</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study Upper Fellowship Hall reservation
<b>20</b> 7:00am Worship Easter Breakfast 10:30am Worship	<b>21 Office Closed</b> 7:00pm Women's Bible study  PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	<b>22</b>  PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE (WINKEL)	<b>23</b> 6:00pm School of Religion End Of Year Party	<b>24</b> 1:30pm Hillcrest 2:30pm Kinship Pointe	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study
<b>27 Communion Sunday</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Bible Study 9:15am F.I.R.E. 10:30am Worship Upper Fellowship Hall reservation	<b>28</b> 2:00pm LWML 7:00pm Women's Bible study  PASTOR IS OUT OF THE OFFICE	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			