



**GREET, GATHER,  
GROW AND GO  
IN GOD'S GRACE**

# PEACE + GRUE

## God's Country News

AN ELCA PARISH



TO BECOME THE  
VOICE AND  
HANDS OF JESUS

# MARCH 2023



**Inside this issue:**

Pastoral from the Pastor	2
PEACE Sunday school News	3
PEACE WELCA News	4
BIRTHDAYS-March	5
PEACE Council News	6
Parish Council News	7
GRUE Council News	8
MARCH for Sunday School	9
Crossword	10

**LENTEN THEME AND SCHEDULE**

*At The Crossroads*

**WEEKLY SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT 7:00PM  
EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING, ALTERNATING  
CHURCHES, WITH LIGHT SUPPER SERVED  
BEGINNING AT 5:30PM.**

**MARCH 1: OSTML**

**MARCH 8: GRUE CHURCH**

**MARCH 15: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**MARCH 22: PEACE CHURCH**

**MARCH 29: OSTML**

**A SOUP LUNCHEON AND ABBREVIATED SERVICE  
WILL BE HELD AT NOON EACH WEEK AT PEACE.**

**ALL ARE WELCOME AT EITHER SERVICE.**

**Contact Linda Bahnson if you would like to volunteer.**

**218-685-4301 or 218-405-0250**

**LENT**

**-40 Days of Renewal-**

*myloview*



**REMINDER  
CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

**WILL START  
BACK UP ON  
WEDNESDAY,  
April 12, 2023**

The last day of confirmation  
class this year will be on  
Wednesday, May 24th..



The forty days of Lent mirror the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness (Matthew 4, Mark 1, Luke 4). If we have observed Lent during our lives, most of us have probably engaged it as a time that is very individually focused. We take stock of our lives, the way we spend our time, the things we do that keep us from living faithfully, the bad habits we can't seem to shake, the need for more devotional time with God. Sometimes I have given something up for Lent. Other years I have added something in. Either way, the idea is to be more intentional in my walk as a follower of Jesus.

What used to be central to Lenten observances, but seems to have gone out of style over the course of my lifetime, is a focus on the question, "How are we doing before God?" The proclamation of the gospel should expose us sinners and apply to us the gracious message of God's acceptance. The traditional law-gospel, sinner-justified tension untrammelled by talk about progress or overcoming the harm we've done personally and collectively to other humans or the creation itself.

Ethics, on the other hand, deals with a different question: "What sort of person should we be, and what ought we do to serve our various neighbors?" Ethics is concerned with the Christian response to God's will in this finite, earthly life. Ethics is governed not by the distinction between law and gospel, but by the biblical story of creation, sin, and redemption.

While the term "ethic" was foreign to Luther, Luther thought of people living the gospel as something inseparable from the preaching and hearing of the Word.

In one of his less familiar works, "A sermon on the Three Kinds of Good Life for the Instruction of Consciences," Luther concludes "...good works without faith cannot happen and faith without good works cannot endure. One should not try to separate the two although one should push faith to the fore."

One of the reason for this inseparability is that for Luther what is central is not the external deed, but the person who does it. The attitude and motivation of the person is the critical factor apart from which no good deed is possible. Ethics involve not simply what we do but the kind of person we are. As Luther repeatedly asserts, "only the good tree bears good fruit." And again, Luther writes, "O it is a loving, busy, active mighty thing, this faith; and so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly..."

In both his theology and his practice Luther reminded us of some things we often forget today. Primarily he reminded us that the concern of Christian ethics is the formation of a Christian people. And he reminds us that it is through the on going journey of preaching that a Christian people is formed. Because of the intimate relationship between the Word and the Spirit, person and deed, faith and works, the most crucial moral work actually takes place, not in the moment of choice or action, but in the hearing of the Word as the Spirit alters the direction of the person's movement from a prideful one to a selfless one.


Blessing on your 2023 Lent journey,

Pastor Dan *Pastor Dan*

**READING FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH**

March 5, 2023	March 12, 2023	March 19, 2023	March 26, 2023
<b>First Reading</b> Genesis 12:1-4a	<b>First Reading</b> Exodus 17:1-7	<b>First Reading</b> 1 Samuel 16:1-13	<b>First Reading</b> Ezekiel 37:1-14
<b>Psalm</b> Psalm 121	<b>Psalm</b> Psalm 95	<b>Psalm</b> Psalm 23	<b>Psalm</b> Psalm 130
<b>Second Reading</b> Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	<b>Second Reading</b> Romans 5:1-11	<b>Second Reading</b> Ephesians 5:8-14	<b>Second Reading</b> Romans 8:6-11
<b>Gospel</b> John 3:1-17	<b>Gospel</b> John 4:5-42	<b>Gospel</b> John 9:1-41	<b>Gospel</b> John 11:1-45

**God's Country News Articles are DUE by the 20th of each MONTH**




**PEACE CHURCH**  
**ACOLYTE SCHEDULE 2023**

March

5 Emily Evavold / Liam Hanson  
 12 Lily Balgaard / AJ Olson  
 19 Beckett Johnson / Joey Johnson  
 26 Jacob Sorenson / Evan Rossum

April

2  
 9 Easter Sunday

16  
 23  
 30



*\*\*\*If you are unable to acolyte on the Sunday that you are listed please contact another youth and switch or ask them to cover for you-thanks.*

Greetings to all!

Thank you to Melissa Steuve for finding all our volunteers for February and thank you to all of you that stepped up and said "yes, I can help". Cindy has been working on filling the March calendar and, again, we appreciate all your help. Please note there was an error in the WELCA booklet this year. There will be an in-person bake sale this year; it is scheduled for Saturday, April 1. We hope you can share some of your favorite baked goods and take time to stop for a cup of coffee and fellowship. Craig and Carol Koefod's group will organize details for the bake sale. Betty Decker was winner of the quilt drawing at thrift store in February. As we enter this Lenten Season, we hope everyone takes a few minutes each day for extra prayer and time for reflection. God's blessings to all during the coming Easter season.

Blessings, Val Fick

Sister in Christ and WELCA Co President



### **NEXT Combined- CHURCH EVENT**

Former President Theodore Roosevelt and his wife Edith /aka/ Larry and Julia Marple will be here Friday, June 2. In real life, Larry is a teacher in Ohio and he and his wife, Julia, travel to Medora to dress and act the part of President Roosevelt and the first lady. They have camped at The Sundowner Campground at Ashby several years on their way back and forth between Medora and Ohio. It will be an evening event, either in the City Park or Peace Church depending on outdoor temps. More details to follow in April and May newsletters.



# BIRTHDAYS

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

### March 1

Troy Johnsrud  
Harold Jensen

### March 2

Allen Hammer  
Dee Holte  
Michael Maunumaki

### March 4

Trevor Beving  
Lynn Jensen

Keith Nichols

### March 5

Evelyn Schamber

### March 6

Rachel Runningen  
Alexa Griep

### March 7

Terry Fick

### March 8

Zach Cunningham

### March 9

Ethan Roley

### March 11

Karl Miller

### March 12

Kathy Van Santen

### March 13

Miles Wing

### March 15

Brighton Moen

### March 17

Elroy Anderson  
Susan Casberg  
Paul Christensen  
Terrance Johnson  
Penny Scholl



### March 18

Jill Evavold  
Gordan Rohloff

### March 20

Kirsten Moe (Drexler)

Brady Sunby

### March 22

Deanna Thronson

### March 24

Vanessa Field

Anne Mueller

### March 25

Paul Johnsrud

Robert Moerke

### March 26

Sadie Ness

### March 28

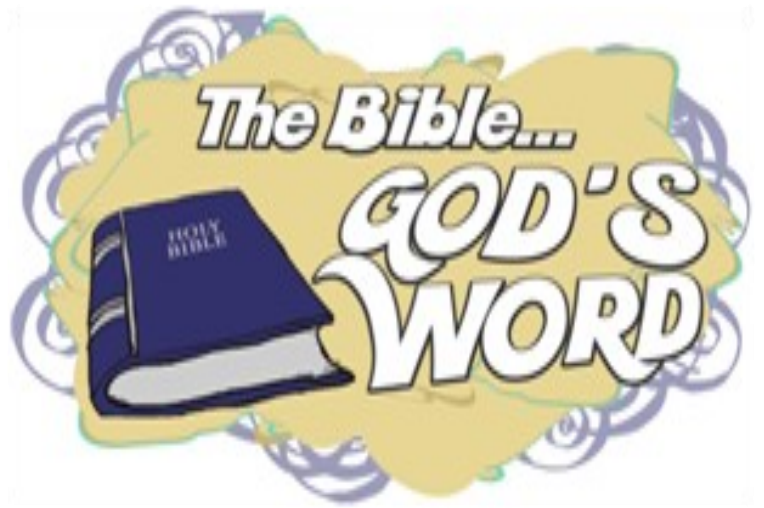
Kyle Fick

### March 29

Steven Alvstad

### March 30

Vance Johnson  
Aiden Eberhardt



### **GRUE women meet:**

Tuesday, March 21st @ 1:30 pm. @ GRUE  
Quilting 9:30 a.m.



### **NO Ruth / Reecca Circle meeting:**



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*If I don't have your birth date or if I have it listed incorrectly please e-mail or call me - 747-2273 / peace@prtcl.com June*

<b>PEACE COUNCIL MEETING</b>	
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Peace Church Council Minutes 2-8-2023

Council present: Donna Grover, Wayne Vorland, Louise Lang, Jody Dahlen, Gene Jensen, Duane Spielman  
Tim Cunningham, Don Hanson, and Pastor Dan.

Secretary's report: Approved as written, Louise first, Don second.

Treasurer's Report: Approved as written, Gene first, Wayne second.

Committee Reports:

Education-no report

Christian Growth-no report

Worship-no report

Property management-Gutters will be replaced in the Spring. Donna Grover will call Brandon Sethre and get a quote on how much it would be to power wash the outside of the church. WELCA has agreed to generously donate half towards that expense. Jody Dahlen will be contacting Driggins Electric about getting the outside timer for the lamp posts fixed. The timer is located over by the elevator.

Stewardship-no report

Old Business-Discussion of continued streaming of the church service, as it costs the church 1200.00/year. Discussion of using Facebook to stream the service, as a license is in place to be able to use this platform, however availability of Facebook of our parishioners was a concern. The decision was tabled for another meeting.

New Business-Pelican Lake Cemetery Clean-up. Due to low attendance, the council decided to let the Cemetery Board decide on how it would like to have help cleaning up. Duane indicated there are some boys in need of an Eagle Scout project, and that may be an option.

Aaron Vorland generously donated his time and materials for a pine box for the hand bells that were purchased in memory of Judy Kronberg. Thank you, Aaron!

Peace will be hosting the summer event between the 4 congregations the first weekend in June. "Teddy Roosevelt" will be coming to provide the presentation. Stay tuned for more details!

Motion to adjourn: Louise first, Gene second.

Next meeting: Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Dahlen, Secretary

**Gathered-Renewed-United-Enriched  
To Become the Voice and Hands of Jesus**

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Parish Council Meeting, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

In attendance- Donna Grover, Gene Jensen, Wayne Vorland, Don Hanson, Tim Cunningham, Louise Lang, Jody Dahlen, Duane Spielman, Denise Juven, Melissa Runningen, June Bjornson, Sharon Hermanson and Pastor Dan.

Meeting was called to order by Donna Grover

Devotions - Pastor Dan read Romans 4:1-5; 13-17

Secretary's Report- read and approved M/S/C

Treasurer's Report- discussion- read and approved M/S/C

Pastor's Report- discussion on Lenten services. Dialogue with Pastor Paul.

Ash Wednesday- Confession- King David / Imposition of Ashes & Communion

2<sup>nd</sup> week- Betrayal

3<sup>rd</sup> week- Judgement

4<sup>th</sup> week- Compassion

5<sup>th</sup> week- Obedience

Lenten Service schedule: February 22<sup>nd</sup>- Ash Wednesday @ Peace

March 1<sup>st</sup> @ OSTML

March 8<sup>th</sup> @ Presbyterian

March 22<sup>nd</sup> @ Peace

March 29<sup>th</sup>@ OSTML

Maunday Thursday & Good Friday services @ individual churches.

Service at 7:00pm with a little meal of soup & sandwiches at 5:30pm.

UN-Designated offerings will go towards Food Shelf's in Grant & Otter Tail County.

The council approved Pastor Dan's request to continue to put a percentage of his salary towards housing.

Old Business: No old business to discuss.

New Business: Approved Melissa Runningen as new Treasurer at Grue and to be on the Peace/Grue Parish accounts.

Had some discussion on Parish Council By-laws. Tabled full discussion until next Parish Council meeting in May.

Next Parish Council meeting is Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> @ Grue Church.

Motion to adjourn the meeting- M/S/C

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Hermanson, Council Secretary

**GRUE COUNCIL MEETING**

Grue Council Meeting February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

In Attendance: Denise Juven, Melissa Runnigen, June Bjornson and Sharon Hermanson.

Denise called the meeting to order.

Additions to Agenda- The 2023 Great Get Together

Secretary's report- read and approved. M/S/C

Treasurer's report-read and approved. M/S/C

Pastor's Report-report given at Parish council meeting.

Old Business- No business to discuss.

New Business- Harvest Meal is scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup>. Chairpersons - Scott Juven, Randy Heibel and Darlane Miller.

March 8<sup>th</sup> Lenten soup & sandwich supper- There is a sign-up sheet to bring soup- sandwiches and bars on the table in the gathering area.

Supper starts at 5:30pm with service at 7:00pm.

2023 Great Get-Together is scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup> in Bemidji.

Those attending will be June-Darlane- Sharon and Pastor Dan.

The council discussed on planning a Palm Sunday Brunch. Offering for the brunch will go towards the youth that will be attending the 2024 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, July 13<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup>.

Next meeting is March 8<sup>th</sup> after Lenten service.

Meeting adjourned. M/S/C

The Lords' prayer was prayed in unison.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hermanson, Council Secretary





HEY PEACE KIDS, JOIN US!!!

**MARCH** TO SUNDAY SCHOOL  
**AND**  
**MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE**  
**TO THE LORD**

**WHAT'S NEW THIS SPRING STARTING MARCH 5th ?!**

### **DURING THE CHURCH SERVICE:**

FUN WAYS FOR PEACE KIDS TO BE INVOLVED AND **MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!!**

### **OFFERING:**

All PEACE KIDS are welcome to join in collecting **NOISY CAN OFFERING**

### **SENDING HYMN:**

All PEACE KIDS are welcome to the front to use  
 musical instruments and **MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!!**

### **DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

More fun songs to **MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!!**

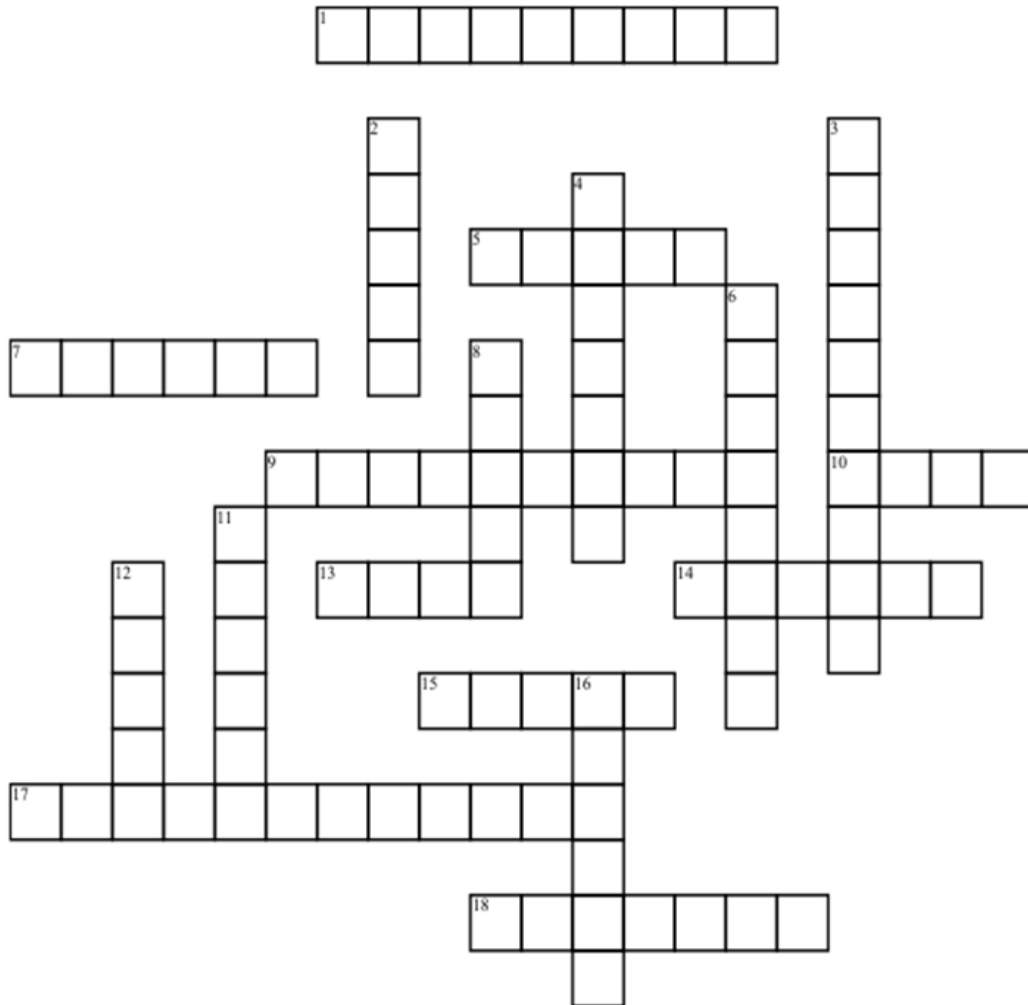
More activities &/or crafts to go along with our lessons each week

**SUNDAY MARCH 12: SPRING RALLY SUNDAY**

**PEACE KIDS SING DURING CHURCH**

**Picnic lunch served after church!**

# LENTEN CROSSWORD



## Across

1. ASH \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. The Christian holy book  
 7. Jesus entered Jerusalem on this animal  
 9. Day in Lent recalling Jesus' death (2 words)  
 10. Branches waved at Jesus upon his entry into Jerusalem  
 13. Was with Jesus at the cross

14. Jesus prayed for 40 days here

15. What Jesus died upon

17. We spend Lent preparing for Jesus death and \_\_\_\_\_

18. Giving to \_\_\_\_\_ is a good Lenten practice

## Down

2. What Jesus shed for our sins

3. Holy Communion started after this

4. To go without

6. The final week of Lent (2 words)

8. Number of days in LENT

11. Season after Lent

12. Disciple who betrayed Jesus

16. PALM \_\_\_\_\_