

Peace † Grue

God's Country News
An ELCA Parish



APRIL 2024



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Women of the ELCA

NW MN Synodical Women's Organization 2024 Conference 8 Spring Gathering Saturday, April 27, 2024, 8:15 am



Hosted by WELCA of Peace & Grue Lutheran Churches at 306 Larson Ave, Ashby MN
Guest speaker: Patty Wetterling



Reminder

CONFIRMATION
CLASSES WILL START
BACK UP ON
WEDNESDAY,
April 3rd, 2024

The last day of confirmation class this year will be on Wednesday, May 8th.





Pastoral from the Pastor

April 2024

Dear friends in Christ at Peace and Grue,

During the season of Easter, the Old Testament readings are replaced with passages from the book of Acts. Acts continues the story of Jesus as it moves forward in the experience of his followers-not all of them, but a few key figures. While Acts shows very little interest in the details of these figures' lives, the book directs our attention toward God and the difference God is making in the world because of what Jesus did and continues to do, prompting us to consider who God is and how God operates.

As acts tells the story, God intrudes and the gospel is, in a word, disruptive. Whether by sending people out to declare the good news about Jesus, preserving a shipload of desperate travelers during a violent storm, or creating communities where people gather together to worship, learn, and care for one another, the intrusive God who inhabits the pages of Acts repeatedly causes "no little disturbance" (Acts 19:23) in the lives of Jesus' followers and the wider population.

There was a time when people spoke about God as intimately engaged with and influencing the ordinary and extraordinary happenings of life. A belief in God's presence and activity plays a big role in many people's everyday piety. Consider these prayers: "God give me strength to get through this difficult day;" "Lord, see my mother safely through this surgery"; "Help me pass this math test"; "Let us win the big game".

Those types of belief also create problems for us. We are suspicious of claims of divine activity as the cause of earthquakes and game winning free throws. Scientific developments have made certain claims about God's activity more dubious or at least in need of more elaboration than many of us feel we can provide. Add to this the vulnerabilities of our lives repeated daily in reports of war, natural disasters, and random violence, and many become more and more uneasy about making statements to suggest God actually does much of anything at all in this disastrous world.

In this kind of environment, we might be frustrated or even embarrassed by the book of Acts. We ask ourselves if these events described in Acts could really have happened. Are we still in touch with the same God? Has God changed? Does God still disrupt lives and societies today"? If so, would that even be considered good news? By exploring these expectations, we become more creative, perceptive, and even suspicious in our outlook on where we might encounter God, as Acts prompts us to consider the question of what we are looking for and reminds us of the incomplete and elusive character of our talk about God.

Through its relentless attention to what God makes possible through Jesus Christ and the spread of the Christian gospel, Acts invites us to think about God in the choices we make and the promises we cling to as we live out our faith. Any disturbances that come from our exploration might not be as raucous as a riot in Ephesus (Acts 19:23). You might not feel an emotional rush on par with all the narrow escapes described in Acts, as if you've survived a dramatic shipwreck (Acts 27:13-44). Nevertheless, reading Acts and reflecting on the revolutionary activities contained in the book will lead into a deeper awareness of what it means to live faithfully and responsively to God. When that happens, all sorts of things become possible.

Enjoy your Easter,

Pastor Dan

READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

April 7, 2024	April 14, 2024	April 21, 2024	April 28, 2024
First Reading Acts 4:32-35	First Reading Acts 3:12-19	First Reading Acts 4:5-12	First Reading Acts 8:26-40
Psalm Psalm 133	Psalm Psalm 4	Psalm Psalm 23	Psalm Psalm 22:25-31
Second Reading 1 John 1:12:2	Second Reading 1 John 3:1-7	Second Reading 1 John 3:16-24	Second Reading 1 John 4:7-21
Gospel John 20:19-31	Gospel Luke 24:36b-48	Gospel John 10:11-18	Gospel John 15:1-8



PEACE CHURCH ACOLYTE \$CHEDULE 2024

April

- 7 Liam Hansen / Evan Rossum
- 14 Troy Walvatne / Joey Johnson
- 21 Gavin Balgaard / Traeton Nelson
- 28 AJ Olson / Beckett Johnson

May

- 5 Darian Holte / Noah Anderson
- 12 Finn Thompson /Evan Rossum
- 19 Liam Hansen /Joey Johnson

26



***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.

April Birthdays

April 1st

Charles Hanson <u>April 2nd</u> Zach Barry

April 3rd

Heidi Grove

Daniel Martinson

April 4th

Jennifer Holte

Gregory McPike

Erin Peterson April 5th

Isaiah Anderson

Darcy Sorenson

April 6th

Fynn Miller Kristyn Fick

Reuben Sorenson

April 7th

Brenda Johnson

April 8th

Erica Runningen Aaron Dahlen

April 9th

Reyna Langlie

April 10th

Carmen Odegaard

April 11th
Lisa Behrens
April 15th

Haley Ness April 16th

McKenzie Drexler

April 17th

Carolee Hokanson

April 18th

Jade Bjornson Mya Roley

April 19th

Aaron Thompson

April 20th

Deb Hanson

Wayne Vorland

April 21st

Kathleen Johnson

Abby Evavold

April 23rd

David Grover

Ryan Palm April 24th

Robert Anderson

April 25th

Emily Johnson

Joyce Langlie April 27th

Amy Maunumaki

Alexander Hammer

Aubree Runningen

April 28th

Erika Goette

(Sorenson) April 29th

Samantha Olson

April 30th
Jackie Huseth

God's Country News
Articles are DUE by the

15th of each Month

Newsletter Newsletter

Newsletter Newsletter



GRUE Bible Study:

Newsletter

Tuesday, April 16th @ 1:30pm.

PEACE Bible Study:

Tuesday, April 16th, 9:00am @ PEACE



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

Grue Trivia 1968-1978

Q: When did the Grue Women order the orange & gold metal serving trays for the kitchen?

A: Aug 15, 1974

	Peace - APRIL- Sunday School at 10:15
3	10:15 a.m.
10	10:15 a.m.
17	10:15 a.m.
24	10:15 a.m.,
31	10:15 a.m.

	Grue - APRIL - Sunday School at 9:30
3	9:30 a.m.
10	9:30 a.m.
17	9:30 a.m.
24	9:30 a.m.
31	No SS

Celebrating 150 Years of Grue 1874-2024

Trivia 1968-1978

Q: What woman was in charge of the cookbook made for the Centennial?

A: Hazel Bowman

Q: What church did the pews we currently use come from?

A: Faith Lutheran, Evansville

Q: When were the pews delivered to Grue?

A: September 18, 1975

Q: When did the Women decide to have two circles - one afternoon and one evening?

A: December 9, 1978.

Q: At the Dec. 16, 1976 Women's meeting Mrs. Swenson read the Christmas Story in Norwegian. What was Mrs. Swenson's first name?

A: Lillie

(Look for others spread through out the newsletter)

PEACE WELCA NEWS



APRIL WELCA MESSAGE

2024

A huge thank you to everyone that helped with all of our worship services in March, Sunday Worship and noon and evening Lent Worship. You are very much appreciated.

Saturday, April 27, we are hosting a gathering for women from Conference 8, part of the Northwest Synod. Patty Wetterling will be our guest speaker and we are anticipating 75 to 100 attendees. Thank you to men from both Peace and Grue that will help prepare the noon meal so ladies can relax and enjoy the morning. We are hopeful many of the ladies from Peace and Grue will join us for this event. The theme for the day is FAITH, Like a Mustard Seed.

We have 2 ladies from our congregation that know the Wetterling family and on Sunday, April 7, they will take a few minutes during worship and share their stories. Happy Spring everyone!!!

God's Blessings to All

Val Fick Co-President WELCA

"Mary Anderson from Battle Lake was winner of the quilt drawing for March at the thrift store"

Scholarships

If your student is attending a church college, Peace WELCA has scholarships available. See Melissa R. in the office for the application.

We provide the scholarship for 3 years for each student attending a church college.

There are also scholarships available through the Synod if you are a member of an ELCA church and attending an ELCA college.

Questions can go to Luella Thom, PO Box 103, Carlos, MN 56319. Phone is 320-815-7701 and her email is thom17@wisper-wireless.com

Worship Committee Meeting Minutes Feb. 4, 2024 8:15 am

Members Present: Candy Catoe, Teresa Ohren, Brenda Risbrudt, Cindy Vorland, Carol Koefod

Members Absent: Pastor Dan

Old Business:

- I. Acolyte: Schedule has been sent for March, April and May. Students will only be assigned for Sunday services. Ushers or students in the congregation will be asked to acolyte for special services.
- II. Discuss any changes for next school year. * Looking to Pastor Dan and Ed. Committee to discuss smaller numbers of students and how they wish to proceed for acolytes and Psalm readers. Also asking Pastor/Council if acolytes need to continue to wear robes.
 - III. Coffee cup Sundays: Share initial thoughts
 - 1. Well received in Jan and Feb.
 - 2. Will do again next year. Asking council if we should plan to have all Jan and Feb services be Coffee Cup services. Keeps the heat down upstairs and makes for a more intimate and cozy worship for the coldest months.
 - 3. We will ask for ushers/greeters next time to help with hymnals and helping people find seats etc.

IV. Sound System

Has been fixed! Should work well moving forward for the near future.

Praise Band Letter sent to council regarding frustrations over needs to "fix" it nearly each week. Discussion: Council has agreed to lock the soundboard in order to maintain the integrity of the sound system. Community will still be able to use the sanctuary for worship, we are just asking that no changes be made to the sound system.

We will need a new sound board in the not too distant future. Worship Committee will start this discussion with the Church Council in hopes of securing funds should/when this needs to be replaced in order to have no down time without sound system.

New Business:

- I. Vacancies to be filled:
 - 1. Council Representative for WC: Will talk to Council about representative.
 - 2. Poinsettia/Lilly Orders: Candy working with Missy on this.
 - 3. Baptism Banners Emily Evavold will continue to do this.
 - 4. Other Committee Responsibilities:

II. Spring Services

- A. March Services:
 - 1. Asking Council if Sunrise Services should be the 9:00 Service and eliminate the 7:00am Service as numbers continue to decline.
 - 2. Worship committee members will assist with Maundy Thursday and Sunrise Services
- B. April Services:
- C. May Services:
- II. Summer Meeting to discuss June, July and August Services will be held: Sunday May 5 after services.

Submitted by: Carol Koefod

PEACE COUNCIL MEETING

Peace Church Council Minutes

3-10-2024

Members present: Linda Bahnson, Gene Jensen, Duane Spielman, Pastor Dan, Wayne Vorland, Tim Cunning-

ham, and Jody Dahlen

Additions to the Agenda: Tuning of the pianos

Secretary's report: M/S/C to accept the report as written

Treasurer's report: M/S/C to accept the report as written-Council continues to recognize and discuss the budget

shortfall.

Pastor's Report: 6 meetings, 20 visits, 0 hospital visits, and 7 events.

Committee Reports:

Education: No report

Christian Growth: No report

Worship: Council is in full support of continuing the Coffee Cup Sunday's indefinitely-however will leave the details up to the Worship Committee to decide.

Property Management: One of the outside lights to the main entrance isn't working. Driggin's Electric will be contacted. Jason and Jody Dahlen will no longer be able to continue snowplowing/sidewalk maintenance moving forward. Council will be looking for someone to provide this service.

Old business:

The Ark has been used to collect donations for Ashby Post Prom in March. It will be counted and donated.

New Business: Donation requests received from various organizations. Council agreed that the ARK would be designated for donations to the Fireworks for Ashby Appreciation Days for the month of April. The remaining donation requests cannot be fulfilled due to budget constraints.

M/S/C to have all the pianos tuned in the church in the next month or so.

A considerable memorial donation will be made to Peace in the next month or so. Agreed to engage a staff member from the Synod to assist with these types of monetary donations. Pastor Dan will coordinate.

M/S/C to adjourn. Next meeting will be Sunday, April 14th after the 9:00 service.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Dahlen

Peace Council Secretary

GRUE COUNCIL MEETING

Grue Council Meeting March 10th, 2024

In attendance: Randy Koefod, Darlane Miller, June Bjornson, Sonia Heibel, Gwen Lillemon, Char Woldahl, and Melissa Runningen.

Absent: Sharon Hermanson & Pastor Dan.

President Randy Koefod called to meeting to order.

Additions to agenda - Thrivent Choice dollars to be allocated to kitchen remodel project.

- -Kitchen remodel project committee from Council is Darlane Miller and Gwen Lillemon
- -Madison is going to take cupboard doors & drawers and sand them.
- -Need to check with Grue Ladies and see how much is available from Twila donation for remodel.
- -Dar is checking on regulations for putting outlets in serving counter.

How much is flooring going to cost (sq. footage)

- -Inquire if families would like to purchase a box of flooring.
- -Pastor Dan and a few other congregation members will install flooring.

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

Treasurer's Report – read and approved. – M/S/C

Old Business:

Randy Koefod is going to check into the Church Ins.

Hopefully talk to Chris Roley to find to different insurance.

Darlane Miller is delivering the Quilt & \$100 check to BL Post Prom.

Sending a Quilt & \$100 check to Ashby Post Prom.

New Business:

Donation of \$100 to Ashby Fire Department

New Church Marquee – Randy Heibel has designed the new marquee sign. Randy Koefod said maybe Excel will donate materials for sign (like they did for the Church sign by 78). Randy Koefod said cost may be around \$1500, Church responsible for posts & Excel would wrap them in vinyl. Could possibly be using stones/bricks around base (landscape).

Light the sign with existing electrical

Just for info – County is putting up new signs (blue not green)

Grue sign – they will reimburse as we bought one just last year.

M/S/C to adjourn. Next meeting is Sunday 4/14/24 at 9:45 am.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted for Sharon Hermanson by Melissa Runningen



Prayers

Posted by: Kdaisy On: February 20, 2024

Sitting in church today I found myself wondering how to teach my children how to pray. I find this has been perplexing for me, because I did learn how to pray in the conventional way through church and Sunday school, but I pray so much differently now.

The prayers that I pray now come during different times of the day, and in different ways. Sometimes if I'm having a difficult day they are for strength, understanding, and peace of mind. If I'm having a particularly great day, they are for continued happiness and health. I feel the older I get and the further into my faith I get, the prayers have become so much more powerful for my mindset.

In our church when the children go up for the children's message, they pray after the Pastor or the deacon, and I feel this is showing them one way of prayer for sure. It's not just children who do not know how to pray. I feel that there are probably some adults that do not know either.

The biggest thing I want to teach (which I also had to learn) is that prayer is not an essay. There is no right way or wrong way to do it. If you want to talk to God, ask him a question, tell him thank you for something, or if you just need to talk to someone without judgement. He is always there! There is no judgement period!!!

For me- prayer is about getting these things off your mind and into His hands. He will always want you to lean on Him. Give it to the Lord and rest.

I found a few techniques online that I wanted to share. There is a method that you teach them the acronym PRAY.

P- for Praise – or giving thanks!

R- for Repent- or asking for forgiveness!

A - for Ask - for help, strength, whatever you are struggling with!

Y – for Yield- asking please lead us down the right path.

I found this really helpful for me and the way I want them to learn how to pray. There is also a great website called ministryspark.com. They have a great article called 11 creative ideas for teaching kids how to pray. I suggest you give it a look. I found a lot of really great ideas on that article for different ages and teaching prayer.

Grue Trivia 1968-1978

O: How did the Women divide themselves into two groups for church cleanings in 1968?

A: West side/East side with Hwy. 78 being the dividing line.

Train up a child in the way the should go, and even when the

are old they will not depart

Sitting and talking with my daughter, she definitely has the fundamentals for prayer. She can understand what she should be asking for and the ways in which she can pray, but she is not confident in it. This is what I can work on with her. The confidence that there is no perfect way to pray.

In Romans 8:26 the Bible states "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans."

I find this verse to be so true. When I start to pray sometimes I do not know what I all need to pray for, but somehow the right words always seem to come.

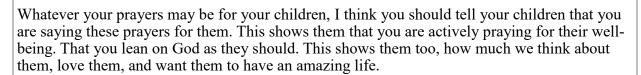
Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." – Matthew 19:14

Let's help our little to understand the importance of prayer, and how this can improve their mindset, hearts, and help them to remember He is always here for them.

How can we pray for our littles?

I always start by praying for their happiness and health. That the Lord bless them with everlasting joy, and that He may comfort them when they are going through hard times. We can pray for good social interactions at school, online and in all the parts of their lives. We can pray for their hearts to be kind to others, for those who are struggling in their lives and bring their worries to our children, and for all to accept that we are all here for one another.

We can pray for confidence, strength, understanding, courage, kindness, empathy, and compassion in our child's hearts and minds.



It's hard to teach all these things, but you can do it! You got this! Kristy (Sharon Hermanson's daughter)

https://followingwildflowers.com/prayers/

Grue Trivia 1968-1978

Q: In 1975 we helped sponsor a family from what country?

A: Vietnam

Women of the ELCA NW MN SWO 2024 Conference 8 Spring Gathering

@

Hosted by: WELCA of Peace & Grue Lutheran Churches
306 Larson Ave
Ashby, MN 56309

Dear Unit Presidents and Circle Chairmen:

Please share this invitation with the women of your congregation. You do not have to have a WELCA unit. <u>All women of your church are welcome</u>. Come and join us in Worship and Christian Fellowship.

Saturday, April 27th @
Peace Lutheran in Ashby
8:15-9:00 AM Registration & Fellowship
Noon Lunch

Theme: FAITH, Like a Mustard Seed Theme verse: Matthew 17: 20 & 21

Guest Speaker: Patty Wetterling

Speaking on: How her faith kept her going for two plus decades waiting for closure on her missing son, Jacob

The Registration fee of \$ 15.00 will cover the cost of lunch, refreshments, and materials. An offering will also be received. This includes both individual and unit offering. Each unit is asked to pay an assessment fee of \$ 25.00. Make your checks out to "Women of the ELCA". On the memo section of the check, please write "Assessment Conference 8". Registrations are needed by Friday, April 12, 2024. Lunch count is based on this, so please register ASAP. Send your registration and check made out of "Women of the ELCA" to:

Cindy Vorland @ 306 Larson Avenue, PO Box 157, Ashby, MN 56309

Email wcvorland@hotmail.com Phone: 218-731-0561

The WELCA units of Peace and Grue are asking each church to bring a quilt from your quilt groups. They will be displayed, blessed by Pastor Maddie. They will be donated to Anna Marie's Alliance in St Cloud, women's shelter supported by Patty Wetterling.

Patty will not be selling any books at the Spring Conference, however; will gladly sign books if attendees have them with you.

Women of the ELCA NW MN Synodical Women's Organization 2024 Conference Spring Gathering Saturday, April 27th, 2024

Hosted by WELCA of Peace Lutheran & Grue Lutheran 306 Larson Avenue
Ashby, MN 56309



Theme: FAITH, Like a Mustard Seed Matthew 17: 20 & 21

^oSo Jesus said to them, "Because of your wunbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. ²¹ Whowever, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

Guest Speaker: Patty Wetterling

Speaking about how her faith kept her going for two plus decades waiting for closure on her missing son, Jacob.

Registration and fellowship: 8:15-9:00 am Noon Lunch: Cost is \$ 15 per person Registration Deadline: April 12, 2024

Send registration and fees to: Cindy Vorland, 306 Larson Ave,

PO Box 157 Ashby, MN 56309

Phone: 218-731-0561 Email: wcvorland@hotmail.com

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO: WOMEN OF THE ELCA

God's People	e in Service	APRIL 2024	Peace†Gru	ue Lutheran Parish	
Grue LATE Worship 10:45 a.m. SS 9:30	April 7 White Holy Communion Gideons here Restad Baptism	April 14 White	April 21 White	April 28 White Senior Recognition Day	
Janitors/Ushers	Randy & Sonia Heibel and				
Reader	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	
Music	Denise Juven	Cindy Vorland	Contemporary	Denise Juven	
Peace EARLY Worship 9:00 a.m. SS 10:15	April 7 White Holy Communion Gideons here	April 14 Whit e	April 21 White	April 28 White Senior Recognition Day	
Music	Brenda Risbrudt	Cindy Vorland	Contemporary	Brenda Risbrudt	
Ushers	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	
Readers	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	
Psalms	Evan Rossum	Joey Johnson	Traeton Nelson	Beckett Johnson	
Acolytes	Liam Hansen Evan Rossum	Troy Walvatne Joey Johnson	Gavin Balgaard Traeton Nelson	AJ Olson Beckett Johnson	
Communion Helper (set up, serve, clean)	The Sorenson Family		•••••	••••••	
Cookie Servers	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	The Sorenson Family	
ZHappy Caster	Serving Team Peace Lutheran, Month of April 2024 Chairpersons: Russ & Darcy Sorenson *Ushers are reminded to pick up bulletins and trash and replace hymnals in racks prior to leaving the sanctuary. Make sure lights are turned off and doors are locked				

Peace † Grue Lutheran Parish — April 2024

PARISH OFFICE 218-747-2273, Cell# 218-770-8457 Email peace@prtel.com
306 Larson Avenue, Box 157, Ashby, MN 56309 Church website: www.peacegrue.org
PASTOR Dan Hermanson 612-877-0722 Email: dlhermanson@hotmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	Confirmation 5:30 - 6:30 PM	4	5	6
7 Holy Communion PEACE service 9:00 a.m. SS 10:15 a.m. GRUE service 10:45a.m. Restad Baptism SS 9:30 a.m. Gideons short presentation after each service	8	9	Confirmation 5:30 - 6:30 PM	11	12	13
PEACE service 9:00 a.m. SS 10:15 a.m. Peace Council mtg after services GRUE service 10:45a.m. SS 9:30 a.m. Grue Council mtg @ 9:45	15	16 Peace Bible Study 9:30 a.m. GRUE Bible Study 1:30 p.m.	Confirmation 5:30 - 6:30 PM AL Bible study- 10:30	18	19	20
PEACE service 9:00 a.m. SS 10:15 a.m. GRUE service 10:45a.m. SS 9:30 a.m. Cub Scouts meeting – Peace Afternoon	22	23	24 Confirmation 5:30 - 6:30 PM	25	26	Welca Spring Conf 8 Hosted by Peace/ Grue Lutheran Church @ Peace
PEACE service 9:00 a.m. SS 10:15 a.m. GRUE service 10:45a.m. SS 9:30 a.m.	29	30	PEACE Church service 9:00 am, SS 10.15 am GRUE Church service 10:45 am, SS 9:30 am PQ - Peace Quilting, 1 st & 3 rd Wed., at 9:00 am			