



**PEACE**  
NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**February 2023**



## *JANUARY 29 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING*

This message is from the Outreach Committee that started in 2022. Despite issues of COVID, some things have been very positive. This past year the outreach has reached into the community with the following:

Blood Drives with the Red Cross have been going good and have been meeting their quota of 18-20 people.

Berrien County Youth Fair passing out Bibles and making a presence known in the community. For years Peace never had a presence at the Berrien County Fair. Many churches have a booth at the fair. We continue to look for ideas and help man the booth this fall.

Movie Nights to the public. Currently not being done. Under review.

Wednesday Bingo attending 22-25 people every Wednesday. We have people from the Bingo filtering into the Bible Class on Wednesdays, which is great. Barb can always use your help from time to time pouring coffee, writing up numbers and greeting new people.

Bible Study attendance with Wanda's Bible Briefs was about seven. I have taken over with a new Bible study. and we have been about

the same attendance.

This year the ORC will launch a music school. The teachers will consist of Debbie Kroening, Bob Phillips and Jim Thurman. We will be passing out a flyer of the information. This will be for all ages and taught at Peace Lutheran. Since you know Bob and I ... Jim is a currently a member of Bethel Church in South Bend (ELCA). He is also willing at this time to become an associate member to Peace. Jim plans to help musically with our services, and will be here on February 5 for worship. The plan is to teach music to students and then have a recital 2-3 times a year in the fellowship hall with the students, parents and members of Peace. Hopefully to join Peace with some of the youth, and possibly new members with musical talents.

The ORC is always looking for new ideas to bring the church and community together. So please contact us with your ideas.

As it says in our mission statement:  
*"The purpose of PLC is to express by Word and Deed the Love of God revealed in Jesus Christ to those within and to those outside its fellowship"*

SUBMITTED BY DEBBIE  
KROENING

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
3590 Lincoln Avenue  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Phone: 269-556-7000  
Church Office Email:  
PeaceLutheranStJoe@sbcglobal.net  
Church Website:  
Peacelutheranstjoe.org

**Church Office Hours:**  
Monday through Thursday  
9 a.m.—12 p.m.

**Audio/Video Requests:**  
For Audio CD call:  
Josh Lochner 429-4415  
For Video DVD call:  
The Church Office 556-7000

**Weekly Worship & Praise Opportunities:**  
*Sunday*  
**10:15 a.m. Worship**  
*also streamed on Facebook Live or YouTube Live*  
*Permission to podcast/stream the music in our services obtained from One License with license #A-722704.*





**Exciting news!**  
**The church building will be paid off **THIS YEAR!****  
**See the schedule below and join in the countdown!**

### Payment Schedule

| Date Due  | Principal   | Interest | Balance      |
|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|
| 3/1/2023  | \$ 2,284.37 | \$ 82.63 | \$ 18,589.38 |
| 4/1/2023  | \$ 2,293.42 | \$ 73.56 | \$ 16,295.96 |
| 5/1/2023  | \$ 2,302.50 | \$ 64.50 | \$ 13,993.46 |
| 6/1/2023  | \$ 2,311.61 | \$ 55.39 | \$ 11,681.85 |
| 7/1/2023  | \$ 2,320.76 | \$ 46.24 | \$ 9,361.09  |
| 8/1/2023  | \$ 2,329.95 | \$ 37.05 | \$ 7,031.14  |
| 9/1/2023  | \$ 2,339.17 | \$ 27.83 | \$ 4,691.97  |
| 10/1/2023 | \$ 2,348.43 | \$ 18.57 | \$ 2,343.54  |
| 11/1/2023 | \$ 2,343.54 | \$ 9.28  | \$ -         |
|           |             |          |              |

# Our Church Council Members

Term expires at the end of January of listed year



**Bob Philllips**  
2026 - 2<sup>nd</sup> term  
269-429-7462



**Secretary**  
**Chris Bennett**  
2025 - 1<sup>st</sup> term  
269-208-4946



**V. President**  
**Ken Berry**  
2026 - 1<sup>st</sup> term  
269-925-4862



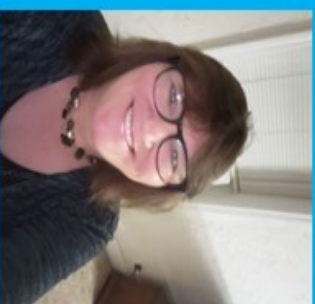
**Ed Zajac**  
2024 - 1<sup>st</sup> term  
269-944-7639



**Virgil Bennett**  
2024 - 1<sup>st</sup> term  
269-208-4946



**Herb Kroening**  
2024 - 1<sup>st</sup> term  
269-556-9878



**President**  
**Teresa Hogan**  
2025 - 1<sup>st</sup> term  
269-757-6429



**Barb Berry**  
2025 - 2<sup>nd</sup> term  
269-925-4862



**Ginger Kunst**  
2026 - 1<sup>st</sup> term  
269-428-3463

# UPDATE ON BIBLE STUDY, BINGO AND LENT

Lent begins Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m.

On the following dates:

**BINGO** will be moving to Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m during the Lenten season.

Feb 22, March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29, April 9

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**BIBLE STUDY of “The Chosen”** will be on hold until after Lent. It will reconvene on Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. The new Chosen is listed below, 8 sessions.

*April 12 - Thunder.* Tensions build among the disciples in Samaria. Jesus rebukes Big James and John for their prejudice and after a near violent encounter, gives them a new nickname.

*April 19 - I Saw You.* A mysterious visitor seems too hesitant. Tension builds between Simon and Matthew. As the group head to a new city, word arrives that Jesus’ fame is growing.

*April 26 - Matthew 4:24.* A long, exhausting day turns Jesus to deal with a large crowd hoping to be healed. Around the campfire over dinner, the group tried to get to know each other better, but tensions erupt.

*May 3 - The Perfect Opportunity.* As Jesus and the disciples head to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of the Tabernacle, a new enemy follows them, while a familiar enemy awaits!

*May 10 - Spirit.* After stirring the water, Jesus is now pursued by Simon the Zealot, Atticus, and Shmuel. John the Baptizer visits the group and tells Jesus his dangerous mission. Meanwhile, back at the camp, Mary Magdalene is devastated by an encounter with a mysterious and dangerous stranger.

*May 17 - Unlawful.* Matthew and Simon try to get along as they search for Mary in dark places. The group fears for Mary as they struggle with the lack of food and bad news about John the Baptizer. Meanwhile, Jesus continues to upset the Pharisees across multiple regions.

*May 24 - Reckoning.* After learning of Jesus’ whereabouts, Quintus sends Gaius to arrest him. The disciples lose control as they argue about how to respond. While seeking information about where Jesus has been taken, Andrew and Philip encounter old friends.

*May 31 - Beyond Mountains.* While Jesus and Matthew prepare the content of the big sermon, the disciples spread the word while fighting amongst themselves. A high-ranking Sanhedrin member is shocked by Shmuel’s reports on Jesus. Thousands arrive for the sermon, including familiar faces.



# February

## THIS MONTH'S READINGS



|      | <b>Welcome Center</b> | <b>Lector</b> |
|------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 2/5  | Heidi Sorenson        | Greg Solak    |
| 2/12 | Tammy Steinbauer      | Nan Hacker    |
| 2/19 | Roxanne Beck          | Barb Morgan   |
| 2/26 | Chris Bennett         | Larry Hacker  |

### February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany  
Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1  
Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

### February 12, 2023

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany  
Exodus 24:8-18; Psalm 2:6-12; 2 Peter 1:16-21;  
Matthew 17:1-9

### February 19, 2023

Transfiguration of Our Lord  
Genesis 3:1-21; Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 5:12-19;  
Matthew 4:1-11

### February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday

### February 26, 2023

First Sunday in Lent  
Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-8, 13-  
17; John 3:1-17

## Servants needed!

Think you'd like to be a greeter or lector?  
Call Nan Hacker at 470-9925

Want to try ushering?  
Call Wayne Schuermann at 463-8966.

Willing to help prepare the altar for  
communion?  
Call Ginger Kunst at 428-3463.

### Altar Guild

2/5 Ginger Kunst  
2/12 Bev So  
2/19 Margaret Schmeiding  
2/26 Maria Tallman

### Greeters

February 12 - Teresa Hogan & Virgil Bennett  
February 19 - Barb Berry & Ginger Kunst  
Fat Tuesday Fellowship  
February 26 - Ed Zajac & Teresa Hogan

Visit our website!



# DUST to DUST

## Why the Ashes on Ash Wednesday?

We put ashes on our foreheads in Lent to remember that we are sinners in need of God's grace and mercy.

When our first parents, Adam and Eve, lived in the Garden of Eden they enjoyed perfect love and perfect communion with the Lord. God instructed them not to eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. But Satan, the enemy, twisted God's words and created doubt in their minds. They wondered, "Does God really have our best interests at heart? Can we really trust him or is he holding out some special secret or power from us?"

The first couple believed the lie. They ate against God's clear instructions. They wanted to be like the Creator, to control their own lives rather than be obedient to God. This was the first sin - and every human since Adam and Eve has committed similar sins because we want to be in charge of our own lives rather than be faithful to God.

God searched for the couple after they had sinned. He knew they were ashamed and he covered them. But because of their disobedience they were cast from the garden and would spend their lives working the land and toiling for their needs. To the woman God pronounced pain in childbirth. To the serpent God cursed him to slither on the ground and eat dirt. And to Adam God said, "By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."



The ashes come from burning last year's dried palm fronds. The ashes are mixed with some oil so they will spread easily on each believer's forehead.



"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." (Genesis 3:19)

# February 2023

| Sun   | Mon                   | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri                 | Sat                      |
|---|-----------------------|---|--|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
|   |                       |   | 1<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>6:00 Bingo<br>7:30 Bible Study                   | 2<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>7:45a Men's Bible Study<br>7 p Prayer Mtg               | 3<br>Office Closed  | 4                        |
| 5<br>10:15 Worship w/communion<br>Council Mtg | 6<br>9-12 Office Hrs  | 7<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>5:30 p Fellowship Mtg   | 8<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>6:00 Bingo<br>7:30 Bible Study                   | 9<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>7:45a Men's Bible Study<br>7 p Prayer Mtg<br>7 p Choir  | 10<br>Office Closed | 11                       |
| 12<br>10:15 Worship w/communion               | 13<br>9-12 Office Hrs | 14<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br> | 15<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>6:00 Bingo<br>7:30 Bible Study                  | 16<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>7:45a Men's Bible Study<br>7 p Prayer Mtg<br>7 p Choir | 17<br>Office Closed | 18<br>10-12 CPR Training |
| 19<br>10:15 Worship w/communion               | 20<br>9-12 Office Hrs | 21<br>9-12 Office Hrs   | 22<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>6:00 Bingo<br>7:30 Bible Study<br>Ash Wednesday | 23<br>9-12 Office Hrs<br>7:45a Men's Bible Study<br>7 p Prayer Mtg<br>7 p Choir | 24<br>Office Closed | 25                       |
| 26<br>10:15 Worship w/communion               | 27<br>9-12 Office Hrs | 28<br>9-12 Office Hrs   |  |   |                     |                          |

### Birthdays

1 Raymond Lietz  
6 James Chapman Jr  
7 Maria Tallman  
11 Jacob Tallman  
12 Alison Adkins  
13 Ken Berry Jr  
13 Rebecca Carpenter  
21 Debbie Kroening  
21 Janet Lietz  
25 Bob Phillips  
28 Rev. Schmidt

### Shut-Ins

To keep our shut-ins safe, please call the church office for mailing addresses.

Leona Barowicz  
Andrea Barowicz  
Thomas Boozer

Evelyn Chevrette  
Darlene Gaul  
Delores Gaul  
Dolores Kraklau  
Harold Lick  
Ruth Retzke  
Gloria Siewert





Join us for mid-week Lent services! Watch the bulletin for more details.



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St. Joseph, MI 49085

