



THE PEACE LUTHERAN

VOLUME 51, ISSUE No. 4

MAY 2026

MAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

May 3: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 10: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:16-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 14: The Ascension of Our Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

May 17: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:12-26; 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11

May 24: The Day of Pentecost

Numbers 11:24-30; Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39

May 31: The Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Acts 2:14a, 22-36; Matthew 28:16-20

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE



Join us for our Ascension Day Service, with Holy Communion, on Thursday, May 14, at 7:00PM.

FLAG PLACEMENT AT ST. TRINITY CEMETERY THURSDAY, MAY 21 6:00PM

~ CONGREGATION IS INVITED TO HELP ~
~ REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED ~

SIGN UP ON THE OPPORTUNITIES PAGE

SOCIAL MINISTRY - MOTHER'S DAY FOOD DRIVE



Just a reminder that Grocery bags will be handed out the first weekend of May, following all services. Inside the bag is a flyer with a suggested list of items most needed. Please consider filling the bag with food items, and return to church Mother's Day weekend, May 10. All donations will benefit Feed My People and Concordia Seminary Food Bank. Your continued support is appreciated!

CELEBRATE SUMMER!



Join us on Friday May, 22! See the back page of the newsletter for details. We hope to see you there!

MAY VOTERS' ASSEMBLY REMINDER

Don't Forget



Join us on Monday, May 11, at 7:00PM in Sanctuary Hall, for our quarterly Voters' meeting. All communicant members are welcome to attend and speak at a Voters' meeting. Attending two meetings and signing our Constitution allows members to become an official Voting member.

THANK YOU FROM THE KASTENS FAMILY



The words thank you are hardly sufficient to express our gratitude to all who supported our family with Pastor Kastens' passing. Your prayers, concern and offer of help, and the generous donations in his memory are greatly appreciated. Although we miss him terribly, we know that since Christ was raised from the dead we also will rise at the last day and live with Him in eternity. In Christ our hope and comfort. —Alice Kastens and family

NEW MEMBER CLASSES JUNE 7

A new session of our New Member Classes will be offered beginning Sunday, June 7, from 11:45AM to 1:30PM in Sanctuary Hall. A light lunch will be provided each week for those attending. Our New member class covers a series of topics over a six-week period and is designed for those desiring communicant membership or any current members looking for a review of Lutheran teaching. To register, please sign up on our website, by Friday, June 5. For additional information, please contact the church office. We look forward to you joining us.

W E L C O M E !

BSA TROOP 584

ANNUAL AMERICAN FLAG RETIREMENT



In commemoration of Flag Day, Boy Scout Troup 584 will have their annual Flag Retirement Ceremony on Tuesday, June 9, at 7:00PM, in the parking lot behind the kitchen. If you have any American flags that are torn, faded or tattered (unserviceable), please bring them to church beginning the weekend of May 23/24, and place in the designated box in the Commons. Any questions? Please contact Julie Hake at 314-210-9103 or Katie Davis at 920-246-1231.

REV. DR. JON FURGESON, SENIOR PASTOR

314-601-1039

pastor.furgeson@peacelutheranstl.org

REV. ROBERT BROWN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

618-580-8817

pastor.brown@peacelutheranstl.org

BAPTISM CLASS

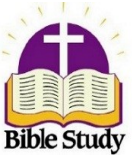
SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 9:15 - 10:15AM
KITCHEN MEETING ROOM



Pastor Brown will lead the June Baptism Class covering the basic teachings and logistics of baptisms at Peace. This class is designed for all expectant parents, and anyone desiring baptism. To register, please see the "Baptism Class Signup" button on the homepage of our website. If you are unable to attend this class, but desire to have your child baptized prior to September 13, please call the Church Office at 314-892-5610.

2026 Future Class Dates: September 13 and November 8

BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION



Bible Study

Men's Morning Bible Study meets every other Thursday morning (with the exception of holidays) at 7:00AM in Sanctuary Hall. Led by Pastor Brown. The class continues its study of the **Large Catechism**. Upcoming class dates include May 7 and May 21. Future Bible study dates can be found on our church website calendar, or watch the weekend News and Notes.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study meets at 7:00PM in Sanctuary Hall. The class is studying the Book of Isaiah.

Mary Martha Bible Class - Please join our Bible study every Thursday morning at 9:00AM in the Kitchen Meeting Room for fellowship, with class beginning at 9:30AM. "For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life." Proverbs 6:23 Christianity becomes something that is absorbed, a true blessing.



CANDIDATES OF THEOLOGY PLACEMENTS

Candidate of Theology and Diaconess Placements were announced on Tuesday, April 28, at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

Abby Reynolds, has been called to serve as Part-time Diaconess at Peace Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Missouri.

Kurtis Hankemeier, received his Vicarage Assignment to Immanuel Lutheran Church, St. Charles, Missouri.

Joshua Kastens, the grandson of Alice Kastens (and the late Rev. Dr. Kastens) has been called to serve as Associate Pastor at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Ryan Milbrath will return to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis later this summer from serving his vicarage at Zion Lutheran Church in Linn, Kansas. We look forward to his return to Peace.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Becoming a Stephen Minister is a wonderful opportunity to care for a brother or sister in Christ from our congregation. The Stephen Ministry training equips you to walk alongside someone who is hurting and share the love of Christ through your caring presence. One Stephen Minister described her experience, saying: "Because of Stephen Minister training, I relate better to family, friends, neighbors—everyone I meet. I've experienced the fruit of the spirit in a whole new way, and God is part of my daily life more than ever before."

Pastor Brown and I are working on putting together a class of Stephen Ministers to begin training in the near future. Please pray and consider whether becoming a Stephen Minister could be a way for you to serve at Peace! Reach out to Pastor Brown (pastor.brown@peacelutheranstl.org) or Abby Reynolds (diaconess@peacelutheranstl.org) with any questions.

OFFICIAL ACTS



BAPTISMS

March 29, 2026 - Ellie Marie Eaton
April 26, 2026 - Mason Cole Justus

ADULT CONFIRMATIONS

March 29, 2026 - Nicholas M. Brawley
March 29, 2026 - Chelsea Brawley
March 29, 2026 - Heather W. Schickedanz
March 29, 2026 - Eric S. Wellen

FUNERALS

April 8, 2026 - Rev. Dr. Dennis Kastens, 86
April 9, 2026 - Richard Meyer, 86
April 20, 2026 - *James Liddell, 94
April 22, 2026 - Charles Zalaudek, 82
April 23, 2026 - Dorothy McCutchen, 86

*non-member

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

ROOTED IN CHRIST



Greetings to our Sunday School parents and fellow parishioners at Peace.

It's May and we are getting ready to close out yet another school year. There are only a few more lessons for the children in Sunday School and then we move onto the summer curriculum. It has been a privilege and honor to teach your child/ren the word of God during this school year. Almighty God holds

instructors of His word to the highest standard and we continually pray that He gives us the wisdom and knowledge to teach His full counsel through Law and Gospel.

This month the Parents and Me class will be wrapping up their study of God's word using a variety of ways applicable to our youngest students. Our remaining students (preschool through 5th grade) will read and learn about the appearances of Jesus after His resurrection, the ascension of Jesus from the Mount of Olives near Bethany, the sending of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, and St. John's vision of Heaven.

I want to give a HUGE thank you to our dedicated Sunday School teachers and helpers. They are the best!!

- Parents and Me (Sarah Gregory and Jeanette Mattingly)
- Preschool (Christie Lindemann and Kristen Hammon)
- 1st and 2nd Grade (Tom Zaretsky and Mary Ann Tyra)
- 3rd and 4th Grade (Tracy Zaretsky and Karla Lunsford)
- 5th Grade (Linda Wolff)
- Teacher Assistants (Greg Wirtel, Lindsay Cundiff, Amanda Daniels, Jacqui Gathman)
- Welcome Desk (Liz Santiago, Katie Uthoff, Gina Long)
- Pastor Brown, Christina Stackle, and Abby Reynolds and the office staff

Please encourage your children to store God's Word in their hearts through the memorization of scripture. **A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger** (Proverbs 15:1)

God's continued blessing on you and your loved ones.

Robert Wolff
Sunday School Superintendent
314-374-8044 (Cell)



Vacation Bible School June 15 - 19

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!

Registration is now closed!
Our VBS is full!

Sign up to volunteer on the VBS
link on the Peace website.



JOB OPPORTUNITY AT PEACE LUTHERAN EARLY CHILDHOOD



Peace Lutheran Early Childhood is looking to hire an individual who loves children and wants to provide a nurturing and engaging learning environment. We are currently looking to fill the following position:

**Full Time Preschool Teacher Beginning
August 2026**

Please contact Sara Watson at 314-892-8844 or email resume to earlychildhood@peacelutheranstl.org.

FREEZER MEAL MINISTRY



Our kitchen freezers are stocked with meals and we are excited to deliver them to families or individuals in need! Thank you to the team who volunteered in the kitchen during the Shine event. Please contact the Church Office if you would like to receive a meal. A gluten and dairy free option is available.

Qualifications for receiving a meal:

- Someone in your household in the hospital or undergoing surgery
- Birth of a baby
- Death of a family member
- Ongoing treatment or therapy (chemotherapy, etc.)
- Special circumstances

If we can bless you with a meal, please contact Abby Reynolds in the church office, or email to deaconess@peacelutheranstl.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY



Would you like to join one of our music programs? Our new Director of Parish Music, Justin Knabach, has begun handbell choir, chancel choir, and orchestra rehearsals. He would love if you would come and see what his music program is all about. Rehearsals will continue until the end of May, and then take a break for summer, so now is a great time to see if one of these music opportunities is for you! If interested, contact Justin at music@peacelutheranstl.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY AT FEED MY PEOPLE!

Volunteer opportunities are open at Feed My People again! Pastor Brown and/or Abby Reynolds will be volunteering one Saturday morning each month and can bring a small group. Join us to serve with our hands and feet to bring the love of Christ to those in our community. Our planned dates are May 16, June 27, July 18, and August 15.

Feed My People is a Christian organization right down the road from Peace that strives to show God's love and compassion to all people, particularly those in need. Feed My People offers several services to help those in need - whether homeless or low-income - including a food pantry, several thrift stores, and assistance with finding and interviewing for employment.

Please consider joining us! Sign up through the Opportunities page on the church website or through this QR code.



RECIPES NEEDED FOR CHURCH COOKBOOK!



Peace's Ladies Club is putting together a new church cookbook and we need your help! We will be collecting recipes from our members, and we hope you can contribute! A box is on the commons counter where you can put your recipes. Categories for the recipes will include the usual ones such as Desserts, Appetizers, Main Dishes, etc., but we will be labelling allergy-free recipes (for example, gluten-free or nut-free) and also "legacy" recipes. The legacy recipes will be favorite ones you submit from a past church cookbook that were submitted by a former member. We hope we can collect many recipes and we look forward to having the cookbook printed and ready by the October Sausage Dinner. Deadline for submitting recipes is July 31. If you have any questions, contact Jeanne Hooss or any other Ladies Club Board member.

SEMINARIAN HOUSING NEEDED



Concordia Seminary will soon begin demolition of the existing married student housing in the Woods in order to build new housing that will serve our students and their families for decades to come. The long-term benefit is great, but it will come with short-term difficulty. The housing will be demolished and rebuilt in phases over the next two academic years. During that time, there will be diminished housing available which creates a significant challenge for students who anticipated that their family would be able to live in the Woods. Residential Services is looking for people within our LCMS Congregations who owns a home or other suitable rental property and would consider renting it to a seminary family? This would be especially helpful if the rent was rated for a seminarian (even as the Woods is significantly below market value in rent). If you know of a member or another who may be willing and able to have their home rented by a seminarian, please contact the Seminary's Administrator of Residential Services, Mike Broberg at brobergm@csl.edu.

Attendance Prizes Dress up Just for Fun

Aloha Nights Trivia Night & Silent Auction

Saturday August 22
Peace Lutheran Church in the Gym

Doors Open at 6:00pm - Trivia Begins at 6:30pm
\$20/per person Tables of 8-10
Bring your own snacks & beverages

Questions: Contact Gina - 314.638.8268 or Barb - 314.541.5898
ginarose828@sbglobal.net 3huntersandme@sbglobal.net

Sponsored by Peace Married Couples Club



PEACE EARLY CHILDHOOD

Preschool Plus and Half Day Preschool
Helping the Church Grow by helping God's Children Grow

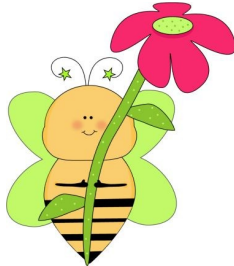
It's hard to believe our preschool year is coming to an end already! Wow—what a fun year it has been. We want to wish all our preschool graduates many blessings as they finish the school year. May God guide, guard, bless, and keep you safe as you take this exciting next step into kindergarten!

We will celebrate the end of the school year with a closing program and graduation ceremony at church, followed by a picnic at the park. We look forward to celebrating the preschoolers!

During the month of May, our Bible stories will focus on how the Holy Spirit works in our lives and we will learn about Strong Samson and The Feeding of the 5,000, reminding us of God's strength and provision.

Our classroom themes this month include Mother's Day, bugs and insects, favorite things, and Memorial Day. We will continue practicing recognizing colors, shapes and numbers.

We also look forward to celebrating our amazing staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you, Peace Early Childhood teachers, for your dedication to nurturing little hearts and minds each day—you are truly a blessing! Thank you to our church family for your continued prayers, encouragement, and support of our preschool ministry.



CONGRATULATIONS TO **ABBY REYNOLDS** HYMN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Abby's hymn text, **"I Thank You, Father, for This Night"** was selected as one of three winners of the 2025-26 Prevallet Hymn Scholarship Competition at Concordia Seminary. The hymn was premiered during chapel on Friday, April 17.

Beginning the day with Luther's Morning Prayer is a beautiful practice that centers us on God's grace and will for us. This hymn text is a reiteration of Luther's Morning Prayer. The tune Twenty-Fourth was chosen for its familiar and simple melody that reminds the author of a clear morning sky. This hymn is designed to be sung in congregational settings, family worship, or personal devotions.

*I thank you, Father, for this night,
Through Jesus Christ your son,
Who kept me safe until the light
Shone from the rising sun.
Keep me this day, Lord, I implore,
Safe from the tempter's sway.
Help me to trust your promise sure,
And walk the narrow way.
Oh, let me work today for you—
Curb all my inner strife!
This day, let all I say or do
Be pleasing in your sight.
Into your hands, Lord, I commend
Myself and all I am.
Your love for me will never end—
Care for your little lamb.
Your holy angel send to me;
Grant me the strength to fight
The evil one, and faithfully,
Do what is true and right.*

St. Trinity CEMETERY

Non-Sectarian – Endowed Care
Owned and Operated by Peace Lutheran Church



Kyle Rieger
Superintendent

2160 Lemay Ferry Road
(Lemay Ferry at Reavis Barracks)
St. Louis, MO 63125
314-892-3662

www.sttrinitycemetery.com
Monday – Friday 7:30 – 4:00
Saturday by Appointment Only

ST. TRINITY - SPRING SPRUCE-UP AND A NEW CHAIRMAN



We had a wonderful day on Saturday, March 28, as 31 volunteers came to help clean up around the cemetery. Tree limbs were picked up and hauled away, gumballs raked, weeds trimmed, flower beds mulched, and the area near Lemay Ferry Road was cleaned. The day was cool, but

the volunteers worked hard! We thank everyone who came out to help!

We welcome Bob Uthoff as the new Chairman of the Cemetery Board. He will be replacing Craig McElroy who faithfully served on the board for nine years. Thank you, Craig, for your years of service to the board!

We are still in search of a Treasurer for the board. If interested, please contact Wayne Schuessler.

Follow us on Facebook at St Trinity Cemetery or visit our website at www.sttrinitycemetery.com.

THRIVENT RETIREMENT STRATEGY WORKSHOP

thrivent Learn how to create an efficient tax strategy and avoid common mistakes when it comes to your investment portfolio, health care and estate strategies. This Thrivent Member Network - Heartland Region sponsored workshop provides answers to critical questions you must answer before retirement. Explore how to help dodge the social security "tax trap" and more.

Join us on Wednesday, May 13, at 5:30PM, at Sunset Event Space, St. Louis. Seating is limited so be sure and reserve your spot today. Dinner will be served. To register, scan the QR code or visit: bit.ly/savvytax-stl-2026



FOR I KNOW
THE
plans
I HAVE FOR
YOU.

JEREMIAH 29:11

Congratulations to our 2026
Grade School, High School,
and College Graduates!

BACH SOCIETY CONCERT AT PEACE



Join us on Sunday, May 17, 3:00PM at Peace Lutheran Church as the Bach Society presents J.S. Bach's *Magnificat*, one of his most joyous and colorful works.

Under the direction of Music Director and Conductor A. Dennis Sparger, The Bach Society Chorus and Orchestra will also perform C.P.E. Bach's *Magnificat*, offering a bold and expressive complement to his father's masterwork. Join in for an afternoon of timeless music and tradition as we mark the close of our 85th season.

BACH'S MAGNIFICAT

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026 | 3 PM
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE BACH SOCIETY
OF SAINT LOUIS

PROMO CODE for Peace members only!

PEACE20 (20% off General

Admission Floor/Balcony). For more information, visit bachsociety.org/magnificat

5TH ANNUAL TIP-OFF BASKETBALL CAMP



This basketball camp, led by Peace member, Jacob Stackle and friend, Brady Susic will be offered May 26-29, 9:00AM to noon for boys age 7-10, May 26-29, 6:30-8:30PM for middle school girls, and July 6-10, 9:00AM to noon for boys age 11-14.

A registration link is on the Peace website on the Opportunities page. More information can be found on the flyer on the Commons bulletin board.

Join us for Fellowship Time
**Every Sunday
at 9:00AM
in the
Commons**



CHILDREN DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS

*jesus
LOVES
you*

Parents are the primary faith formators for their children and Peace is excited to partner with them, providing resources to help them raise their children in the faith. Our prayer is that these resources can help parents talk to their child about Jesus and guide them in their faith growth at home. These quarterly devotional magazines will be placed in families' mailboxes throughout the year. Preschool and Kindergarten children receive a copy of "Happy Times," First and Second grade children receive "Living with Jesus," and Third through Sixth Grade children receive "My Devotions." A few extra copies will be available on the book rack each quarter for others to share Jesus with children they know.

EAGLE SCOUT CONGRATS



Edward "Ward" Davis III achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on April 6, 2026. As a scout, he attended four summer camps: S Bar F, Lake of the Ozarks and Camp Lewallen, twice. He camped with the troop at Fort Leonard Wood where he engaged in military-style training and hiked the Civil War battlefields of Shiloh and Fort Donaldson. To date, Ward has earned 42 merit badges, camped a total of 50 nights, and completed over 40 service hours with the troop. He is

also an Arrowman in the Order of the Arrow. For his Eagle Project, Ward led the planning, pouring and placement of concrete section markers at the historic Concordia Cemetery in South Saint Louis City.

Ward and his family would like to thank Mr. Eric Glessner for his leadership and generous dedication over the years. They also thank the congregation for its continued support of Troop 584's adventures.



OPEN HOUSE

Retirement Party

Honoring

**Mrs. Jan Cibulka &
Mr. Dave Rusert**

Sunday May 31, 2026
12:30pm - 3:30pm
Green Park Lutheran School

Share a Memory!
Send cards or notes, or upload
photos/videos by May 1st

Cards:

Green Park Lutheran School
c/o Stephanie Torbeck
4248 Green Park Rd
St. Louis, MO 63125

Email:

retirement@greenparklutheralschool.org

RSVP or upload
via QR code:



WHAT DID I JUST SING? A LOOK AT SOME IMAGES IN OUR HYMNS

What is an Ebenezer, and why am I raising it?

First, we contemplated the *Sanctus* and its use of the term “*Sabaoth*.” Then, we examined the scene depicted in the hymn *Holy, Holy, Holy*. Today, we look at Robert Robinson’s, *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*. The song has several metaphors. What strikes most persons, though, is the first line of the second verse: “Here, I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I’ve come; and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home” What is an Ebenezer and why are we raising it? The most famous use of Ebenezer is in Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*, as the first name of Scrooge, who does not seem to be someone to raise up (at least, for most of the book).

To find out more, we need to go to 1 Samuel 7. At the end of the time of the judges, Samuel is often the guide for God’s people as both priest and prophet. At this point, the Philistines had defeated Israel and taken over parts of the country for themselves. They had stolen the Ark of the Covenant, which was just recently returned after God struck any Philistines living near the Ark with tumors and cancer.

Samuel gathered the people of God at the town of Mizpah to pray. When the Philistines heard the people of Israel were gathering, they either assumed it was for battle or saw an opportunity to attack. Either way, the armies of the Philistines gathered to attack those at Mizpah.

The people called to God for help and Samuel sacrificed to God. Then God “thundered with a mighty sound that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion, and they were routed before Israel” (1 Sam 7:10). They freed Israel that day from Philistine subjugation. Samuel set up a large stone as commemoration of the event and called it the “stone of help” since God so clearly helped them that day. In the Hebrew, the two words are *eben* (stone) and *hazer* (of help). We put them together to make the name of the stone Ebenezer.

So, when we go back to the hymn and we sing about raising our own stone of help, we do so looking back at how God has cared for us throughout our lives and pray He continue to keep us until we are beyond this time of struggle into eternity with Him. We are making a confession of faith in this verse: God has been with me thus far and will continue to be so, even as He promised. I stake my life, publicly, with Christ.

This is why Dickens named Scrooge as he did—once Ebenezer learned what it meant to love his neighbor, he became the rock by which so many were helped. May you and I both remember each day what God has done for us in making us His children in Jesus, but also let us act so that others might see in us a stone of help which reflects into the world God’s redemptive love given to us.

--Pastor Jon Furgeson

LIFE MINISTRY – #NO CONTACT



May and June are the months we celebrate Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. Unfortunately, for many parents, there will be no celebration with an adult child because of the #No Contact trend. Sadly, this is a fast-growing trend in which siblings are breaking contact with one another and adult children are breaking contact with parents and grandparents. Another variation is breaking contact with an ex-spouse or ex-boyfriend or girlfriend, but let’s face it: there is no such thing as an ex-parent or an ex-sibling.

A 2025 YouGov poll found that 38 percent of American adults are estranged from at least one family member. One in four adult kids have gone “no contact with a parent.” Joshua Coleman, a clinical psychologist wrote the book *Rules of Estrangement* in which he identifies “harmful” behaviors that were once considered normal parenting. Dr. Lindsay Graham’s book *Adult Children of Emotionally Immature Parents*, helps people identify their parents’ flaws and label them as “toxic” or “emotionally immature.” Both books justify and encourage estrangement from parents in the name of protecting one’s own well-being.

These books resonate with a generation heavily influenced by TikTok and YouTube; a generation largely lacking good interpersonal skills because it’s fixated on screens. It’s also a generation lacking strong analytical thinking and debating skills because it has been trained to view the world through feelings. Of course, one’s life seems easier when you cut off challenging relationships rather than doing the hard work of trying to repair and improve them. It’s even easier when you can shift the blame entirely onto another person and simply walk away.

But going #No Contact with family members affects an entire system of relationships that extends through generations. It also sets the stage for future failed relationships in that person’s life since blaming others and walking away can become easy to repeat in other situations. #NoContact might be an appealing solution for a young person, but decades later that person’s life will look rather empty and sad. If they have a family, they run a good chance of having their children become estranged from them since their value system didn’t include strong family ties much less demonstrate how to maintain them.

The Bible gives us an example of a son’s estrangement from his father: Absalom and King David. Absalom’s rejection broke David’s heart and it had terrible consequences for everyone in the family, especially Absalom. Jesus’ parable of the prodigal son also shows estrangement between a son and his father as well as between siblings. But we see how precious we are in God’s sight and how much He loves us.

With a sizeable percentage of our population experiencing family estrangement, there is a growing need for support groups and resources to help parents and their adult children to deal with reconciliation. Our churches could help fill that need.

“Through the love of Jesus Christ the Life Ministry Team exists to equip Peace Lutheran Church to sanctify life at all stages”

—Peace Life Ministry Team

HOLY COMMUNION WEEKENDS

Holy Communion is offered on the first and third Sundays of the month. May dates include the weekends of May 2/3, May 14, May 16/17, and May 30/31.

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Altar Committee will have several meetings this year to go over changes that are occurring within the services. Meetings will be held on Thursday evening, August 20, at 6:30PM and again on Sunday, August 23, at 11:45AM. If you would like to join Altar Committee or are already a member, please plan to attend one of the August meetings. Look forward to seeing you there!

FELLOWSHIP TIME - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help is always needed with the coffee and donut set-up on Saturday evening, and clean-up on Sunday morning. If you would like to help, please contact Ralph or Grace Truemper at 314-544-0233.

MARRIED COUPLES CLUB

Join us for "Maifest" at Grants Farm, Saturday May 16, at 5:00PM and after. Admission is free, parking is \$18 per vehicle when purchased in advance online, and \$27 if purchased at the gate. Please join us for a night of German-inspired traditions, cheerful music, delicious food and drinks. Children and grandchildren are welcome! Please be sure to RSVP to Barb Decker at 314-541-5898.

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, August 22 for our Aloha Nights, Trivia Night and Silent Auction. Ticket sales begin the last weekend in July.

MEN'S CLUB

Please join us Tuesday, May 26, at 6:00PM for our monthly meeting. Come and enjoy a great meal and fellowship time! Men's Club is open to all men of Peace, age 21 and up! Questions? Contact John Hooss at 314-913-3072.

LADIES CLUB

Ladies, join us on Tuesday, May 19, 7:00PM in Sanctuary Hall for a Tea Party! Bring your favorite cup and saucer, and we will enjoy tea, sandwiches, appetizers, and desserts. Wear a fancy hat, if you feel so inclined! We hope you can join us for a fun evening of fellowship and food. Ladies Club is open to all women of Peace, age 21 or older.

PLASTIC MAT MAKING

Our group meets on the first and third Tuesdays each month, from 9:00AM to noon in Sanctuary Hall. We would love to have more helpers. If you don't crochet, you can help fold, cut or loop the plastic bags. Can't make it on Tuesdays? We can show you how to work from home! For more information, please contact Anita Thomas at 314-200-6753.

LWML-LADIES GUILD

Don't miss our upcoming Rada Cutlery Fundraising Event on Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, before and after services in the Commons Conference Room. Rada has the best assortment of knives. All proceeds will be used for LCMS Mission Grants.

All women of Peace are invited to attend our end of year fellowship lunch for LWML Ladies Guild is here! Thursday, May 21, at 11:00AM at Bill Gianino's Restaurant 4571 Chestnut Park Plaza 63129. Come celebrate our gifts for our Mission Projects this past year.

ADULT CO-ED VOLLEYBALL AT PEACE

Co-Ed Volleyball plays on Tuesday evenings in the gym from 6:00-8:00PM. Anyone 18 years and older are welcome to join in the fun! For more information please contact Cameron Stinnett at 314-413-3412 or camstinn16@gmail.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flower orders are received through the Church Office. Arrangements are \$25 each. Please contact the church office at least two weeks in advance.

PICKLEBALL OPEN PLAY AT PEACE

Adult co-ed Pickleball plays on Sunday evenings, 6:00-8:00PM in the gymnasium. The group is open to all levels of experience, ages 17 and older, with equipment and training provided. Please watch the church calendar for event conflicts to make sure we are playing. For more information please contact Jack Jeffcott at liporccarman@gmail.com or 314-856-5379.

SURVIVING SPOUSES BREAKFAST

Join us Thursday, May 14, 9:00AM at the Denny's on South Lindbergh. Our group meets on the second Thursday of each month. For more information, please contact Joyce Schutte at 314-267-7051.

QUILTERS CORNER



Please join us every Tuesday from 9:00AM to 2:00PM in Sanctuary Hall. Quilters of all ages and experience are WELCOME! Bring a sack lunch, we'll provide the fellowship and dessert! Please call Cheryl at 314-223-0744 if you have any questions.

A Quilt is Love Made Visible!

MISSIONARY NEWS



The current newsletter from Pastor Jensen serving in Germany can be found on our church bulletin board, or on our website, under Resources/Missionary News. If you would like to support the missionary efforts of Pastor Jensen, please direct your contributions to "Synodical Missionary Support" at Peace, or directly through the LCMS website.

SUNDAY SERVICE ON KFUD



Peace's Sunday service is rebroadcast on KFUD AM 850 every Saturday, from 4:00-5:00PM. Please share this information with your neighbors, friends, family, and especially our homebound members.

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES - DAILY DEVOTIONS

Does your morning coffee need a friend? Lutheran Hour Ministries offers the following ways to receive Daily Devotions.



- Read or listen online: lhm.org/dailydevotions
- Get the app: lhm.org/apps
- Listen on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, or iHeartRadio: lhm.org/podcasts

Would you like to receive Daily Devotions to your email every day? Please call LHM at 1-800-876-9880, or subscribe online at lhm.org/dailydevotions.

ALASKA MISSIONS



The Alaska Mission Team collects items year-round to prepare for their summer mission trip. If you would like to help, please see the list of suggested items located on the Commons counter. All donations can be placed in the Alaska Mission Box in the Commons.

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Many thanks to our members and friends for their sponsorship. If you would like sponsorship information, please contact the church office.





Please consider supporting Green Park on Give STL Day, coming up on May 7! Our goal is to raise \$6500 that will go toward the purchase of 30 padded Green Park branded folding chairs to enhance seating for community events, gatherings, and athletics.

Support Green Park by eating at Chick-fil-A at either the Old Tesson Rd location or the Sunset Hills Plaza location on May 12, between 4:00-8:00pm. A percentage of the sales that night at either location are donated to our school.

The last day of school for 1st-8th grade is May 21, with 8th Grade Graduation that evening at 7:00PM.

Green Park Lutheran School is hiring for three positions within our Christ-centered school community. As we celebrate the blessings of dedicated staff members entering retirement and a valued teacher aide stepping into a full-time teaching role, we are seeking a caring and dependable Teacher Aide to support our elementary classrooms, an organized and proactive Educational Technology Coordinator to assist with integrating technology across our PreK-8th grade program and managing our 1:1 devices and systems, and a compassionate, qualified School Nurse to oversee student health needs, maintain records, and serve as a resource for students, staff, and families. Candidates should have a heart for working with children and a desire to support their academic, physical, and spiritual growth in a faith-based environment (nursing applicants must hold an active Missouri license and CPR certification). If you or someone you know feels called to serve in this meaningful work, please contact Lisa Waltenberger, Lisa.Waltenberger@GreenParkLutheranSchool.org to learn more or apply.

Find out what makes us the best private elementary school in South St. Louis County where our students are known, loved, and valued. Interested in a Christian education for your child? Private tours are scheduled year-round. Please contact Katie Gaeta at katie.gaeta@greenparklutherschool.org or call 314-544-4248 to schedule a visit today.

The mission of Green Park is to welcome and care for all families with the love of Jesus and to academically prepare children in a challenging and enriching environment.



Junior Aubrey Yancey has been named to the Post-Dispatch All-Metro girls swim team! Aubrey enjoyed another strong state meet this year. She posted third-place finishes in the 100-yard butterfly and 200 free finals after finishing third and fourth, respectively, in those events last season. We can't wait to see what she accomplishes her senior year!



LuSo OnStage put on a fantastic production of the satirical play, "The Importance of Being Earnest, a Trivial Comedy for Serious People." Congratulations to the cast and crew, who spent countless hours making the show the absolute best it could be. We are beyond proud of your talent, creativity, and dedication to sharing this beloved classic by Oscar Wilde, where "too much is barely enough."



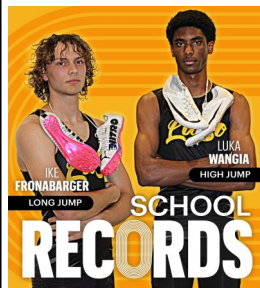
Congratulations to the seven athletes who signed to continue their academic and athletic careers in college! Chris Heinlein - Principia College - Baseball; **Peace Member, Evan Michelsen - Concordia Wisconsin - Tennis**; Chase Lowry - Maryville University - Stunt; Ike Fronabarger - Lewis University - Track & Field; Liz Altenbernd - Greenville University - Soccer; Brooke Ronshausen - Paradise Valley Community College - Soccer; Anna Wangia - State Fair Community College - Basketball.



Pastor Joe Cox was named the Missouri Mock Trial Coach of the Year! The award, presented by the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, cements his legacy in the Missouri High School Mock Trial Coaches Hall of Fame. Pastor Cox transformed his classroom into a courtroom, complete with a witness stand and jury box. He has taken the LuSo team to competitions in Philadelphia and Boston and has competed at State six times in the last eight years. He was nominated by his students and selected for his demonstrated success and commitment to fairness, honesty, and civility.



Seniors Hayden Coombs, Joshua Cloeter, Abigail Warren, and Kevin Friel completed Lutheran South's Kaleo Academy, an additional course of study that prepares students for future careers in church work. In addition to their required theology classes, these students participated in various activities from serving in their home congregation to shadowing at a church-work agency. The program is designed to help students deepen their faith and explore potential careers in service and leadership to the church. We can't wait to see how God will work through them!



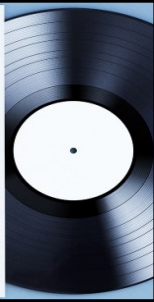
Track and field had a successful start to the season with Ike Fronabarger and Luka Wangia, breaking two school records in their events. Ike jumped 23' 1.75" breaking his own record of 22' 10." Luka jumped 6' 6.75" breaking a 1998 record.

Junior, Noah Canady set the State record for his weight class, benching 355 pounds at the Missouri State Powerlifting Meet! He placed third overall in squat with 415 pounds and first overall for deadlift with 485 pounds. His accumulated wins make him the State champion for the 195 weight class.

This is your last chance to join a tackle football team for grade school athletes at Lutheran South. The Southside Football team will be made up of students entering 4th and 5th grade in the 2026-27 school year. The season will run from August through October, and practices will begin in July at Lutheran South. Contact Jeff Slinkard by May 15, at jefferson.slinkard@gmail.com for more details.



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VOLUNTEER & SIGN-UP OPPORTUNITIES

Peace Lutheran Church

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Looking for ways to volunteer and get involved? Please visit our Peace website and click on the “OPPORTUNITIES” button on the top banner of the homepage. It will take you to our Portal Page which details all of our upcoming events and sign-ups that we have available.

CURRENT SIGN-UPS AVAILABLE

- **Baptism Class**
- **Altar Guild**
- **Ushers**
- **Feed My People Volunteers**

For questions or assistance with sign-ups, please contact the church office.

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May 2026 Issue

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