

The Olive Branch

Volume 63
Issue 5

MAY ISSUE
2023

Peace Lutheran Church...

A Life-Changing Community, Sharing Christ's Love!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Of Special Interest

- Pastor's Message
- Council President
- PLC Treasurer Report
- Prayer Sisters Tea
- Vacation Bible School

Pastor's Message	1—2a
Council President	2b
Prayer Sisters Friendship Tea	3
Treasurer News	4
May Birthday's/Prayer/ Anniversaries	5
Extra! Extra!	6 & 7
May Calendar	8
Bits and Pieces	9

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Websites:

www.peacelutheranpb.org
www.facebook.com/peacelutheranpb.org
Facebook @peacelutheranpb

Staff:

Jacqui Robinson, Office Administrator
Cindy Wagman, Choir
Sally Cook, Pianist
Dina LaPlante, Custodian

Volunteer Staff:

Faye Schill, Treasurer
Lori Search—Food Pantry Director
Charlene O'Brien—Food Pantry
Mark Grice—Campus Maintenance
Steve Barnett—Campus Maintenance
Terry Zrutskie—Campus Maintenance
Christian LaPlante—Campus Maintenance



Dear Friends through Christ:

In just a few days, I'll be heading to Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina for nine days of glorious vacation with the most important people in the world, my family. Can't wait. It's about as close to heaven as one can get on earth.

I start my day at the crack of dawn, walking to the point of the island with my loving wife Sandra and my faithful companion, Ginger. At this time of the year, once we reach the point, I set this four-year-old Golden Doodle loose, free to galivant all her little dog heart desires. Back and forth, tail wagging. Ginger sort of looks at me like she is saying, "This is about as close to heaven as one can get on earth."

For the next 2-4 hours, Sandy and I walk the shallows of the inland waters searching for shells. All kinds of shells, but my favorite are the giant cockle shells that I collect and give away to remind people of their baptism. Folks, baptism is one of the greatest gifts given to humanity. Through these waters, we are reminded over and over again that each of us is a child of Most High and Living God. You are special! You are forgiven! You are loved!

These reminders are not easy to find. Some days I find none, other days I find a bunch. Seldom are these treasures just lying in the open, most are still in the water, covered partially by sand. It's funny, because if my sister, Donna, goes to the point with us, she takes her Golden Doodle, and that dog is actually a pretty good shell finder. You've heard of "bird dogs," My sister has a "shell dog." Can't teach my dog to help.

My success in finding shells determines how long I'm at the point. On a good day, I've been known to spend the entire morning. Following our morning adventure, Sandy and I make the long walk back to condo, with one tired puppy. I place the shells in a big bucket of bleach, have a bite, and then grab my fishing poles and truck back to beach—the biggest baptismal font on earth—where I do what I love best—fish. Here is where I have the best conversations with my Heavenly Father, with my feet in the water, a pole in my hand, looking out at the greatness of God. About as close to heaven as one can get on earth.

I like to compare my fishing skills to my style of ministry. After all, most of Jesus' disciples were fisherman and Jesus did tell them he would make them fishers of people. So, I use basically the same methods of catching fish and simply apply them to fishing for people. Some of the old timers rely upon the charts and only fish at peak hours and perfect conditions. I will throw in a line no matter what the time or conditions. There are always fish in the ocean, and they can always be caught. That's why fishing, why ministry requires patience, lots of it. A person can stand with a pole in their hand for hours and not catch a single fish, but all of sudden a small school swims by and bam. You've got to be patient and ready, just like in ministry. Plus, I am a very simplistic fisherman. I travel light. Just a couple of weeks ago, I was cracking up watching a father and his son make that long hard walk to the beach.

Continued on page 2

They had one of those big ole wagons with huge rubber tires. I thought dad might have a heart attack trying to navigate all their gear down those 15 steps. They've got eight poles, three tackle boxes, and a big cooler filled with five different kinds of bait. They lined those eight poles up and watched at a distance to see what happens. They simply waited for that fish to catch or hook itself. Then they would reel it in as fast as they could.

Me, I've got one single Wal-Mart rod and reel, a bucket to hold the fish, a little tackle box that looks like it belongs to a nine-year old, and one kind of bait—shrimp. Sure, there are certain fish that prefer certain baits more than others, but all fish eat shrimp. I keep the line tight, with my finger on that single line. I don't wait to see what happens, I wait and feel what happens. When fish even smell that shrimp, I'm ready. When they do bite, they are caught, guaranteed. That particular day, I ended up giving 6 nice pompano, 2 massive blues and 8 fat whiting to that father and son, who had only caught two small fish with their eight poles and five baits.

Well, I am also a very simplistic minister. I travel light. The Cross is the only gear I need to carry to any fishing hole. The life/death and resurrection of Jesus is capable of reeling in any and all species of people, any shape, size or color. The only bait I use is the Word of God and the Sacraments of Jesus Christ. That's it. All people are hungry for the Gospel. We don't need all the gimmicks and different baits to be fishers of people. However, we can't sit back and just wait for people to be hooked by the gospel on their own, we have to have a feel for those who are interested in the bait. At the right time, when you feel a nibble, have the Cross of Christ at your fingertips and hook them the Good News, bringing them in at their own pace. That's how I fish for people. Patiently and one at a time, using the best bait possible, the Holy Word of God and the Sacraments, the mysteries of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

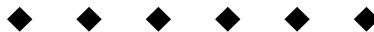
This is the kind of stuff I think about with my feet in the water, pole in my hand, just looking out at the greatness of God.

My, how times flies... I've just spent close to eight hours on the beach and now it's time to get cleaned up and eat supper. Here's where the craziness begins, because you never now what is going to happen when the Trexler clan gathers for a good meal, and trust me, we eat good on vacation, a feast every night. Following dinner, we might go to a movie, shop, play put-put, or cards, but I guarantee when our heads hit those pillows at night, we are a tired, yet grateful family. And guess what? Tomorrow, we get to do it all over again, for eight more days. God is Good!

Sandy and I would like to thank all of you for giving us the opportunity and the financial means to take a much-needed vacation. Truly, this is about as close to heaven as one can get on earth. When we return, I'll be rested and ready to get that line back in the water and return to my passion, fishing for people.

In Christian Love,

Pastor David Trexler



As you read this Olive Branch, I'll likely be at the last of three consecutive reunions. First, a Christ-focused, 3-day renewal, sleeping on an air mattress in a church basement. An awesome but exhausting experience among Christian brothers and sisters.

Then it's off to a USAF reunion spanning several generations of weathermen/women and their families. People very dear to my heart, as my father and I were Air Force weather officers when our weather "mafia" was more like a family (focused on meteorology, not organized crime!). I can't wait to hear the stories of my dad's and my own exploits that I've heard before but that seem to grow in infamy and exaggeration each time we meet.

Next, it's off to merry old England for the crowning of a British monarch, King Charles III with my sister, my twin nieces, and one of my sons. My sister and I were in England as toddlers when Queen Elizabeth was crowned 70 years ago, so she considers attending (or at least being close by) a royal coronation a family tradition. I'm not so sure, but how can I pass on the rare gathering of far-flung family?

I wrote some months ago that close relationships are the key to happiness. Thus, I should soon be one of the happiest fellows in town! But wait—there's more—I'll return after these reunions to the most important reunion, the most important relationship of all—celebrating our Lord Jesus Christ with my loving Peace family.

God bless all—just wait for the stories I'll have to tell!

Tom

Prayer Sisters Friendship Tea

Saturday, May 6th, 2023

10:00AM



We will gather for a Prayer Sister Tea, and all of our current Prayer Sisters will reveal their identity. Anyone wishing to have Prayer Sister, will receive one then. If you cannot attend the tea, let Sandy Trexler know and you can receive your Prayer Sister at a later time.

If you enjoy supporting other women of faith through prayer, you may consider being a Prayer Sister. The only requirement is that you pray for her. It is a secret and the comfort you receive from lifting up another woman in prayer cannot be explained.

Please fill out a Prayer Sister form found in the Narthex or ask Sandy for one. Make sure to return it to her prior to the Prayer Sister Tea. If that is not possible, let Sandy know and arrangements can be made.

"If you plan to attend, please sign up so we can plan for refreshments"



HAPPY

Mother's
DAY.



May 14, 2023

Treasurer's Report

God's blessings to all members, visitors, and friends of Peace Lutheran Church.

This month is usually when most of our snowbirds take off for the northern states. We will miss them dearly and wait for their safe return. Safe travels to all taking summer vacations, trips, and cruises. Thank you for supporting Peace Lutheran even when you are absent over the summer.

As you can see below, in March our income was over \$7,000 less than our expenses. We had good months in January and February because some members gave their yearly tithes in those months. Please support our church as you are able.

Our major expense for the year is our property insurance which will be coming due at the end of May. Last year it was \$19,221. Sometimes we have had to finance at an extra cost.

If you have been visiting Peace Lutheran for a while and want to join, we would love to have you as a member. Anyone wishing to join Peace Lutheran Church please fill out a membership form (located on the narthex table) and give to the Pastor or drop in the offering plate on Sunday. We would love to have new members and increase our church family.

Please keep Peace Lutheran Church members and finances in your prayers.

Your sister in Christ,
Faye Schill, Treasurer
treasurer@peacelutheranpb.org

Treasurer's Report of General Funds March 2023

	<u>March</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Contributions	\$10,179.00	\$50,058.79	\$48,904.26
Loose Contributions & Other	\$562.00	\$2,379.24	\$4,716.99
Use of Facilities	\$2,195.00	\$6,615.00	\$8,000.01
Total Income	\$12,936.00	\$59,053.03	\$61,621.26
Expenses	\$19,996.85	\$56,648.06	\$61,621.26

Excess Expense for March 2023: \$7,060.85
(Total Monthly Expense less Monthly Income)

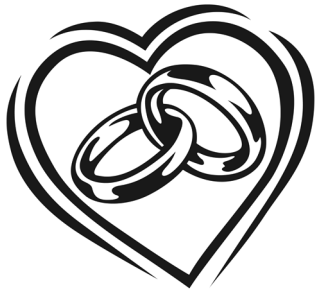
The General Fund account is used for regular expenses (utilities, salaries, lawn care, insurance, mortgage, etc.)

Did you know? Instead of writing multiple checks for individual contributions like the Children's Hunger Project, the Food Pantry, etc., you only have to write one check. Simply designate the breakdown of your giving in the check's memo area or on the envelope itself. "FP" for Food Pantry, "CHP" for Children's Hunger Project, and so on.



MAY
ANNIVERSARIES

BICKFORD, William (6) **5/01**
 STOTTLEMIRE, Lori (69) **5/01**
 GENRE-BERT, Ben (34) **5/07**
 FERENZ, Ed & Clare (26) **5/09**
 HARMON, Joe & Barb (45) **5/09**
 SANDBERG, Amber (18) **5/21**
 WRIGHT, Kenneth & Emily (9) **5/28**
 WAINIKAINEN, Paul & Donna (41) **5/29**



(numbers of years married)



MAY
Birthdays

CRUMP, Linda	5/01	HATON, Nancy	5/13
STOLPE A., David	5/01	RAKEBRAND, Elaine	5/14
SIENKIEWICZ, Jamie	5/02	DITOTA, Bob	5/16
CLIFFORD, Gail	5/03	RING, James	5/16
DUCOTE, Mitcheal	5/04	RING, Mary	5/16
SOUCY, Nancy	5/04	ZASTROW, Debbie	5/21
TREXLER, David	5/05	FERENZ, Clare	5/23
RING, Morrigan	5/06	TALLAU, Brita	5/24
DREHER, Shane	5/09	O'BRIEN, Michael	5/26
PADULA, John	5/11	SORENSEN, Elaine	5/26
PELLECCHIA, Richard	5/11	MOLESKI, Debra	5/29
COOPER, David	5/12		

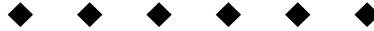


Marta T. Rodriguez	June Trotter	Pastor David & Sandy Trexler	Karl Bromm
Don Hoffman	Ariel Cook	Gary Witter	Paul Bickford
Susan Hildebrand	Manuel Rodriguez	Carolyn Tarkka	Sally Christensen
Gwen Newberry	David Flaherty	Helga Bromm	Rick Newberry
Lori Deaton	Viola Forrester	Phyllis Dale	Frank Miller
Ryan Dasinger	Gary Gossett, Jr.	Bill & Nancy Love	Sally Cook
Rick Pellecchia	Dan Rank	Christian LaPlante	Suzie McKeny
Ann Beardslee	David Pinkerton	Matt Parks	Gina
Jacqueline Darby	Maliaka Singleton	Betsy Witter	Megan O'Neal
Debbie Parks			

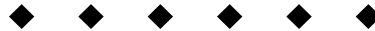
EXTRA! EXTRA!



The chancel choir will be having rehearsals on Sunday mornings at 9:15AM during the month of May. Anyone who would like to sing with us on a particular Sunday is welcome to come to rehearsal that morning. Hope you'll join us and give it a try!



The Space Coast Flute Orchestra will be presenting their spring concert on Sunday, May 7th at 3:00PM. The free concert is at First Baptist Church of Brevard at 4300 N Wickham Road. For more information, please speak to **Cindy**.



Easter Sunrise Service

What a beautiful time we had during our Easter Sunday Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 9th. The weather was perfect and it was nice to see 35 people in attendance. After the service, we all went to the Fellowship Hall for a delightful breakfast!



CDC Guidance for Faith Based Organizations

PLC Leadership routinely reviews COVID-19 guidance posted by the state of Florida and by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We will continue to practice sensible routine hygienic practices as we worship and gather for Sunday school/services and other church meetings. General guidance on everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then trash the tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects daily.

The COVID-19 Call Center is available 24/7 | 1 (866) 779-6121 | COVID-19@flhealth.gov



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023



The dates for Vacation Bible School have been set for **July 17 through July 21** for children between the ages of 5 to 11. This will run in the mornings throughout the week, and with help from In Seasons Ministries and Lifeline Academy School. We will focus on the children in this neighborhood and the member's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

This year's theme is "**God's Living Water**" and will feature Bible stories such as; *Jesus' Baptism, Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well, and Jesus washing the disciples' feet.* These lessons will be mixed with songs, crafts and games, helping to cement the lessons. There is also a time set aside for snacks for the children. Pastor David will be leading the opening and closing each day.

This is a huge undertaking for Peace Lutheran Church. **We need a director, teachers, escorts, projection person, crafts leader and all sorts of volunteers. If anyone could offer their help, it would be greatly appreciated. Please talk to Faye Schill or call the church office to offer your help.**

Last week a neighbor (not a member here) stopped and gave monies for our VBS program. God bless her.

Faye Schill
treasurer@peacelutheranpb.org
321-266-5266 (cell)

May 2023

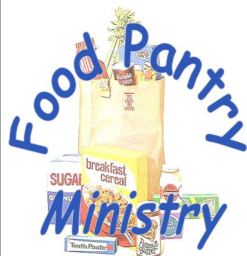
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	1 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	2 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Men's Via de Cristo 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo	3 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	4 9:00am Shepherd Center Classes 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 2:00pm Stamp Club FH	5 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	6 10:00am Prayer Sisters Friendship Tea 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
7 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	8 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	9 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm Men's Via de Cristo 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo	10 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	11 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	12 NO GARDEN CLUB FOR THE SUMMER! 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	13 NO SATURDAY NIGHT CASUAL WORSHIP 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch
14 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	15 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	16 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Men's Via de Cristo 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo	17 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	18 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	19 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 1:00pm Meals on Wheels Annual Luncheon - FH 8:45pm Panera Pickup	20 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
21 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	22 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	23 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Men's Via de Cristo 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo	24 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	25 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	26 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	27 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
28 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	29 Memorial Day! Office Closed! 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	30 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Men's Via de Cristo 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo	31 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	1 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 2:00pm Stamp Club FH	2 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	3 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship

Bits & Pieces

Check us out on Facebook @ Peace Lutheran Church

Give us a LIKE and get updates, spiritual messages, events and any changes.

Or visit us on our website
www.peacelutheranpb.org



Our Food Pantry is always in need of donations of either food or financial donations to support this much needed ministry. Our community is flooded with people looking for help, and we are grateful that as a church, we can help meet the need, anyway we can. Your generous donations will allow us to

continue to help them and together, we can see our community get stronger!

Our pantry is open on: **Tuesday's—9:00AM-11:00AM**

Thank you to everyone who has been donating to the food pantry. It truly makes a difference in our community.



Jesus says in Matthew 25, "For I was hungry and you gave me food... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Where do you buy groceries, gas, prescriptions? What restaurants do you like? Where do you purchase clothing or things for around the house? A couple weeks ago, Peace began a program called Scrip. Simply and I mean simply, purchase the cards following worship or order whatever you want for the following week. That's it. 100% of the proceeds will go toward our food pantry in feeding the poor.

We are going to shop no matter what. We might as well serve the Lord in the process. I love the program because it helps me think more about God. I don't always do that when I use my debit or credit card. When I'm out having a meal with family or friends, shopping at the mall with my wife, doing some work around the house, and I go to pay the bill with my Scrip card, I find myself lifting up a word of thanksgiving for being able to enjoy the blessings given by my Creator.

Give it try. See how you feel.

**Please help us keep our list of military personnel up-to-date!
Call or e-mail the office with any changes in status,
rank, or location! Thank you!**

E.J. Alcario, Iraq
John Bedford, Iraq
Kristen Hall AF, Iraq
Capt. Brian Nailing,
Co. Ft. Hood, TX
Maj. AD Dennis Peoples,
Rock Island Arsenal, IL
Major Nathan Schill,
Ft. Leavenworth, KS

USN FC3 Stephen Weaver,
USS Dewey
Navy Chief Sean Patrick Goguen,
Norfolk, VA
1st Lieut. Tanner Johnson—Army,
E. Africa



amazon
smile

PLEASE NOTE:

AMAZON HAS DISCONTINUED THEIR AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM AS OF FEBRUARY 2023. THEREFORE, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CHOOSE 'PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PB' TO DONATE WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR PURCHASES ON AMAZON ANY LONGER.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED TO PEACE IN THE PAST, WHEN YOU PURCHASED FROM AMAZON..

GOD BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY!

Peace Lutheran Church
1801 Port Malabar Blvd N.E.
Palm Bay, FL 32905

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PALM BAY
The Olive Branch

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Dated Material: **MAY 2023**
ISSUE

Return service requested

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Website: www.peacelutheranpb.org
Facebook: @peacelutheranpb

Senior Pastor: David L. Trexler

Worship

5:00PM—Saturday Night Worship
8:45AM—Sunday School
10:00AM—Worship Service



We Serve

Altar Guild—Set up and prepare for communion each week, usually serving one month at a time; more people are needed.

Worship Servants—Sunday Worship Assistants and Communion Assistants are needed.

Office Helpers—Those who help with mailings, preparing Welcome Packets, etc.

Chancel Choir—Wednesday night rehearsals—7:00PM

Bell Choir—Call Cindy Wagman to learn more about our choirs 321-830-4207.

Money Counters—Teams of two people working for one month at a time. Call church office if interested.

In the Nursery—Nursery is available during worship.

Property/Grounds—There is always plenty of work to be done here. Please contact Steve Barnett.

Projectionists Needed—People that are in the projection room Sunday morning for our Sunday presentations. Please sign up in the projection room.

Panera Bread Pick-up—Each Friday evening people are needed to go to Hammock Landings to get the goodies for Sunday morning Café Peace. Cindy Wagman at 321-830-4207

Call and Caring—Our team visits people who are in the hospital, nursing homes, and who are homebound. See Sally Christensen for more information.

Please call the office to be a servant for the Lord by taking on one or more of these opportunities. (321)727-3131



Saturday Night
**CASUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE**
EVERY SATURDAY 5:00PM

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1801 PORT MALABAR BLVD NE
PALM BAY, FL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: (321) 727-3131