

The Olive Branch

Peace Lutheran Church...

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

Volume 63
Issue 4

APRIL
ISSUE

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Of Special Interest

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- Holy Week & Easter
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- Prayer Sisters

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Pastor:

Senior Pastor—David Trexler
Cell Phone— (321)289-7115

E-mail:

office@peacelutheranpb.org

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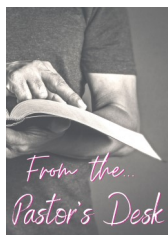
www.peacelutheranpb.org
www.facebook.com/peacelutheranpb.org
Facebook @peacelutheranpb

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:

My how time flies. Hard to believe Easter is upon us again. But it is. Hard to believe that just three years ago, Peace did not have Easter services. But believe that too. Even harder to believe that two thousand years ago, "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." But believe it we must! Because our faith is the only thing needed to stand before God when time ceases to fly by. And folks, this faith comes by hearing God's word. Make some time during this Holy Season to hear that Word.

A good group of Saints and Sinners at Peace Lutheran (30-40) traveled through Lent these past six weeks, every Wednesday, examining how a person crosses over from the Law of God to the Love of God. We learned that if humanity could keep the law of God, the ten commandments, teaching, instructions, our world would be paradise. But we also learned human beings cannot keep the law of God. These teachings exist to show you and I our sin. Why? Because we are addicts. Humanity is addicted to sin. We learned the only bridge to move from the Law of God to the Love of God is the Cross of Christ. The Cross! The life, death and resurrection of Jesus is the only solution to our addiction.

So, what do we do? Nothing! There is not a darn thing we can do. Our eternal salvation is out of our hands. The Cross of Jesus Christ has already done it all! But for the most part, we don't like this. Too easy. Too cheap. There's gotta be something, anything I can do, to at least contribute to my salvation. But there isn't. Your good works don't mean squat. Your strong freewill will only get you into more trouble. Only your faith makes you right with God. Faith is what God wants. Faith is what Adam and Eve lost in the garden and this faith is restore by grace alone through the Cross of Jesus. Grace says, "Believe this! And everything is already done!" Your salvation is secure through your faith. Once the Spirit of God touches you with this faith, "it will become in that person a spring of water welling up to eternal life," says Jesus in John 4:14. It is like the joy and ecstasy of being loved. Faith needs nothing. And folks, this faith comes by hearing God's word. Make some time during this Holy Season to hear that Word.

And there will be plenty of opportunities to hear that Word in the upcoming weeks. By the time you receive this letter, Holy Week will be upon us. Our worship schedule will look like this:

March 30th Maundy Thursday 12 Noon and 7PM

Maundy Thursday is a time when Jesus and his disciples travel to Jerusalem to celebrate the most important date of the Jewish calendar—The Passover—a seven-day festival celebrating the Israelites release from slavery in Egypt by the hand of God, some 1500 years earlier. The blood of a slaughtered lamb was placed upon the doorpost of their homes and the angel of death passed over. At this celebration, Jesus instituted the gift of Holy Communion. "This is my body. This is my blood. Do this in remembrance of me." Jesus will now become the spotless sacrificial lamb and with this blood spilled from the Cross, marked upon the doorpost of our hearts, the angel of death will Passover. Also on this special evening Jesus, the son of God, takes off his robe and washes the feet of his disciples, and says to them, says to us, "A new commandment I give to you," that's what Maundy means, commandment. Jesus says, "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

Continued on page 2

By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” Can you see why Maundy Thursday is such an important day? Remember, faith comes by hearing.

March 31st Good Friday 12 Noon and 7PM

On this solemn day we hear the entire narrative of Christ Jesus’ betrayal, his beatings, his crucifixion, his death. Crazy that we call the brutal execution of God’s only Son—Good Friday! That in itself should prove to us that we do not understand God. Yet from that Cross,

this spotless lamb of God cries out, “Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.” Jesus the Christ dies for all your sins. Not just some of them, but all of them, even the ones you are ashamed to even think about. Your sins have been forgiven upon that very Cross. Did he die in vain? This my friends is a story you really need to hear.

April 1st Saturday Easter Vigil 5PM

Seeing that Peace Lutheran already offers a Saturday night worship experience, this year I would like to incorporate a shorten version of the Easter Vigil. I’ll try and keep it around one hour or so. Jesus has been crucified. Jesus is now dead and has been place in the tomb. On this Holy Saturday all we can do is wait, hope and pray in the promises of God, just like his family and disciples must have done. In the early church the community gathered at sunset, lit a small fire and throughout the entire evening they sang songs and read about all the miraculous deeds of God found in the Bible. We will try to remember that spirit. Please remember, faith comes by hearing.

April 2nd Easter Sunrise Service 6:45AM

For those of you who want to roll out of bed and be the first to shout out “He Is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!” then you’ve come to the right place. Or perhaps, family and friends are visiting? Start your morning out right and have the rest of the day to spend with your loved ones. Either way, Peace will offer a scaled down version of the Easter festival at the crack of dawn right in front of the three wooden crosses behind the sanctuary. Following the Easter Sunrise Service, breakfast will be served. Not just any breakfast, but homemade egg strata, sausage and Mark’s famous pancakes. Breakfast will be served till 9:00AM, so even if you don’t make Sunrise Service, stop in for a bite before worship. Your fellow saints and sinners will be happy to serve you.

April 2nd Celebration of Easter 10:00AM

He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed! A celebration of the greatest event in the history of the world! Death has been conquered through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Your debt has been paid on the Cross and your future is bright. Come celebrate together in an Easter setting, with beautiful music and open your heart and mind to the greatest event in the history of the world. Always remember, faith comes by hearing.

April 9th thru December 31st Sunday Bible Study 8:45AM

Want to talk about coming to the hear the Word of God. We meet in the fellowship hall and study the readings for the following week in our lectionary, raising questions and discussing whatever the text generates. Fun time. Very informative.

April 9th thru Eternity Sunday Worship 10AM (subject to change)

Every Sunday is a celebration of Easter. Every single Sunday we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Here is where we sing songs of praise, confess together our weekly shortcomings, return to our baptism, feast on the body and blood of our Risen Savior for forgiveness and strength, but most of all, a place where we hear the Word of God being read aloud and pondered upon. Through the month of April and most of May our stories deal with the resurrection of the one who gave his life for you. You don’t want to miss any of those stories. After all, faith comes by hearing.

I started this newsletter with nothing to say. I guess I was wrong. But the whole point of the letter is rather short and simple. Peace Lutheran offers a lot of opportunities for a person to grow in their faith. Make some time during this Holy Season to hear that Word.

In Christian Love,

Pastor David Trexler

PS: Another opportunity to grow in faith I almost forgot. From April 13th to May 4th, I am offering a class on the Gospels through the Shepherd Center program, every Thursday at 10AM in the old sanctuary. Shepherd Center is a wonderful program everyone should take advantage of. Keeps the mind and body active. My class will examine each of the gospels and the different, yet same stories they tell about the life/death/resurrection of Jesus. Hope to see ya there. Now I’m done. Amen.



Our “new”, nine-member church council met on March 14: Your 2023 council: Terry Zrutskie, Tom Accola (President), Gabriele DiTota (Vice President), Carolyn Tarkka, Terry Neumann, Ed Neumann, Stephanie Madden (Secretary), Dale McKeny, and Bob Salmons. We reaffirmed Faye Schill as our church treasurer. A reminder: all congregational members are welcome to join us and observe your PLC council at work. Our next meeting is in the Fellowship Hall at 7PM on Tuesday, April 11.

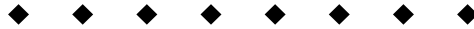
It's great to have the leadership stability that results from reelected council members and officers. I am so grateful that these dedicated, God-inspired brothers and sisters are willing to continue to dedicated their time and work to PLC. But it would be even better to have more members step up to leadership roles: the council has the authority to appoint members to our two vacant council positions. Consider joining our leadership team!

Check out our PLC website. We've updated the “members” section of our PLC website to include the most recent annual reports, congregational meeting/monthly council meeting minutes, and treasurer/pastor monthly reports. We continue to receive much positive feedback from Pastor David's Facebook sermons postings.

Our Lenten Wednesday soup/sandwich gatherings and Sunday school prior to Sunday services have been great blessings as we look forward to an amazing Easter week of praise and worship.

God continues to bless our church mightily! Christ is risen!

Tom



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday
April 2, 2023
8:45AM - Sunday School
10:00AM - Worship



Maundy Thursday
April 6, 2023
12PM & 7PM



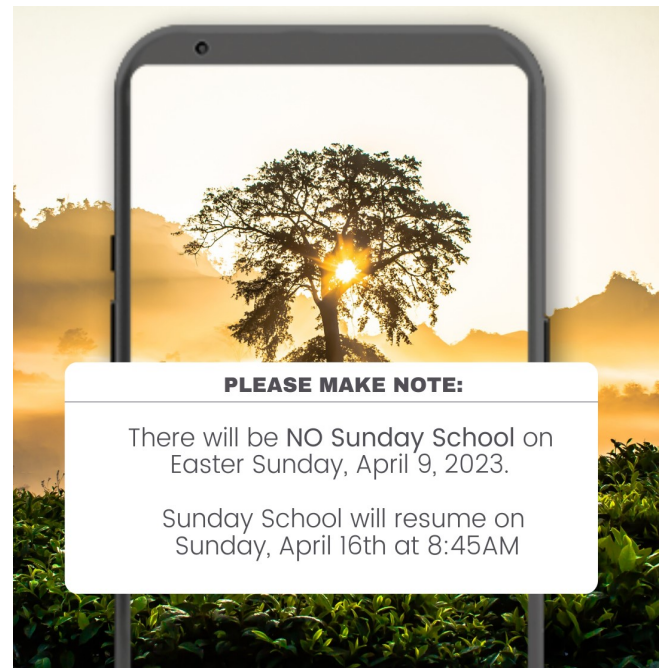
Good Friday
April 7, 2023
12PM & 7PM



Easter Sunday
April 9, 2023
6:30AM- Sunrise Service
7:30AM - Breakfast
10AM - Worship



Peace Lutheran Church * 1801 Port Malabar Blvd NE
Palm Bay, FL * (321)727-3131
Pastor David Trexler



PLEASE MAKE NOTE:

There will be NO Sunday School on
Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023.

Sunday School will resume on
Sunday, April 16th at 8:45AM

Treasurer's Report

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

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 February 2023

| | <u>February</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Contributions | \$15,060.00 | \$39,879.79 | \$32,602.84 |
| Loose Contributions & Other | \$1,282.72 | \$1,817.24 | \$2,944.56 |
| Use of Facilities | \$2,485.00 | \$4,420.00 | \$5,333.34 |
| Total Income | \$18,827.72 | \$46,117.03 | \$41,080.84 |
| Expenses | \$18,510.79 | \$36,651.21 | \$41,080.84 |

Excess Income for February 2023: \$316.93
(Total Monthly Income 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.



| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| GRICE, Mark & Jennifer (47) | 04/02 |
| BAUMUNG, Paul & Deborah (49) | 04/06 |
| BARNETT, Steve & Yonna (51) | 04/08 |
| RAMSEY, Chris & Sue (40) | 04/22 |
| MITCHELL, Ronald & Judy (63) | 04/30 |

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| MASSEY, Steven | 04/01 |
| BARNETT, Steve | 04/02 |
| WAINIKAINEN, Paul | 04/02 |
| LEINTHALL, William | 04/06 |
| FLAHERTY, Janet | 04/09 |
| PATELSKI, Jeffery | 04/12 |
| SEARCH, Lori | 04/17 |



(numbers of years married)



| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Marta T. Rodriguez | June Trotter | Pastor David & Sandy Trexler | Karl Bromm |
| Don Hoffman | Ariel Cook | Gary Witter | Larry Kilcullen |
| Susan Hildebrand | Manuel Rodriguez | Carolyn Tarkka | Paul Bickford |
| Gwen Newberry | David Flaherty | Helga Bromm | Sally Christensen |
| Lori Deaton | Viola Forrester | Phyllis Dale | Rick Newberry |
| Ryan Dasinger | Gary Gossett, Jr. | Bill & Nancy Love | Frank Miller |
| Rick Pellecchia | Dan Rank | Christian LaPlante | Steve Massey |
| Ann Beardslee | David Pinkerton | Matt Parks | Suzie McKeny |
| Jacqueline Darby | Maliaka Singleton | Betsy Witter | Gina |
| Debbie Parks | Megan | | |

Prayer Sisters Friendship Tea

Saturday, May 6th, 2023



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. We will gather for a Prayer Sister Tea, reveal our prayer sister from the past year and will receive a new sister for the next year.

Anyone who would like to have a Prayer Sister, see Sandy Trexler for a form and return it completed. **Stay tuned for time and more information!**



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



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



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| 26 5th Sunday in Lent 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 1:00pm Via de Cristo Women's Team Meeting - FH | 27 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 28 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 | 29 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Worship 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Sandwich 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 30 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 31 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup | 1 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship |
| 2 Palm Sunday 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 1:00pm Via de Cristo Women's Team Meeting - FH | 3 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 4 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 | 5 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 6 Maundy Thursday 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship 2:00pm Stamp Club FH 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship | 7 Good Friday 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Good Friday Worship 7:00pm Good Friday Worship 8:45pm Panera Pickup | 8 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship |
| 9 Easter Sunday 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service 7:30am Easter Breakfast 10:00am Easter Celebration Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 10 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 11 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 | 12 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 13 9:00am Shepherd Center Classes 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 14 9:00am Garden Club 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup | 15 8:00am Via de Cristo - FH 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship |
| 16 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 17 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm Turkey Creek HOA Annual Meeting - FH | 18 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 | 19 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 20 9:00am Shepherd Center Classes 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 21 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm BBB set up for Saturday Event - FH 8:45pm Panera Pickup | 22 10:00am Brown Bag Bunch (AA) 29th Anniversary Celebration - FH 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship |
| 23 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 24 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 25 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 | 26 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 27 9:00am Shepherd Center Classes 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch | 28 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup | 29 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 4:00pm Via de Cristo - FH 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship |
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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



**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



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.

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: APRIL 2023
ISSUE

Return service requested

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Dial-A-Story: (321)727-1048
Email: office@peacelutheranpb.org
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

