

The Olive Branch

Volume 62
Issue 3

Peace Lutheran Church...

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

MARCH
2022

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Of Special Interest

- Pastor's Message
- President of the Council
- PLC Treasurer Report



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Dear Friends through Christ:

The world is turning faster and faster. The days get harder and harder. The season of Lent is exactly what we need right now! "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Folks if that don't shake the cobwebs loose, nothing will. Lent is a season of soul searching and repentance. It is a season of reflection and rededication. The disciplines of Lent are a 40-day spiritual struggle in which we follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ to the Cross. The goal is to realize what God has done. If we are to pull ourselves out of this blue funk; if we are to be lifted to the joy of Easter, we must take seriously these 40 days of Lent. As your pastor, I will try to be the best guide possible.

Traditionally during Lent, we make a sacrifice. Jesus gave up his life for us! Giving up something for Lent is simply an outward sign of our faith. We either give up something not good; or start something that is good. For my part on Ash Wednesday, I will give up smoking. I've never said this out loud or in writing. The only time in the past 50 years, where I haven't smoked were two days in boot camp on Paris Island. Every single day for 50 years. Folks, that's just crazy! But you know what? In my 65 years on this good green earth, I have yet to meet a single person that wasn't crazy or messed up in one way or the other. That's what makes God's love so spectacular. Pray for me and I will pray for you. Make a sacrifice in the name of Jesus.

Next, for 40 days, Ash Wednesday, March 2 to Good Friday, April 15, spend time with the Lord. When your feet hit the floor in the morning, when you splash water on your face, remember your baptism and the promises that come with being a child of the Most High and Living God. Find yourself a good daily devotional and perhaps share with another. Everyday. Everyday think about the Cross—the life/death and resurrection of Jesus.

Next mark your calendar with an X on Wednesday and Sunday to share in the greatest Love Story ever told. This Lenten experience we will examine, "The source of Sin and Evil, Who is Jesus, The Work of Christ, Word and Sacrament, The Work of the Spirit, and finally, What's next. Our Wednesday service will be offered at 12:00 Noon and 7:00PM. My prayer is that during these 40 days, you will examine your life and the life of Jesus Christ at a deeper level.

Pastor:

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

E-mail:

office@peacelutheranpb.org

Office Hours: M-F 8:30am -12:30pm

Office Phone: (321)727-3131

Dial-A-Story: (321)727-1048

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

Continued on page 2

Once we reach Holy Week, Palm Sunday we will celebrate with the Edwards' family for their daughter Olivia's First Communion and their newborn daughter Elizabeth's Holy Baptism, with Palm Branch waving. Peace will host **Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services also at 12 noon and 7:00PM**. Then on **Easter Sunday, April 17**, we will be offering an **Easter Sunrise Service by the Crosses in the back of the church at 6:30AM**, followed by a pancake breakfast, with two Sunday services at 8:30AM and 10:00AM.

I hope and pray during these fast times and hard days, you will commit a portion of your time and effort to these spiritual exercises. They will result in spiritual strength, and if you are anything like me, right now, we can use all the spiritual strength we can get our hands on. Allow Lent to do its work.

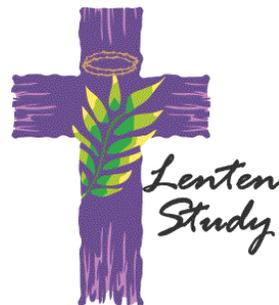
In Christian Love,

Pastor David Trexler



Wednesday March 2nd
12:00 NOON & 7PM
with Imposition of Ashes

Every Wednesday beginning March 9th—March 30th
12:00 NOON & 7PM



PLEASE NOTE

If you want to be taken off the newsletter mailing, please send an email to the church office at: office@peacelutheranpb.org or you can call: (321)727-3131
Thank you!



I'm composing these remarks prior to our annual meeting, anticipating that after hearing our plans for 2022, you are as excited and optimistic regarding Peace Lutheran Church's future as I am.

We recently lost one of my enduring heroes: Gail "Hal" Halvorsen, an Air Force pilot—the "Candy Bomber" of Berlin Airlift fame. He was 101. Given my own history as a USAF brat/vet who spent lots of time in Germany, his story really strikes home. It began in Winter 1945 with Halvorsen passing two pieces of chewing gum through a fence to the beleaguered children of Berlin. According to Halvorsen, the recipients broke the gum sticks into pieces and passed the wrappers to others. I cannot imagine a child so deprived that the mere smell of a gum wrapper brought intense pleasure. This simple gesture grew into an official mission dubbed Operation Little Vittles. American candymakers donated tons of sweets. By the end of the airlift, pilots had dropped a reported 23 tons of candy over West Berlin.

Quotes years later from surviving children really touch my heart: "There was no food or clean water in Berlin; we were starving to death," one told reporters in 2020. "Then along came this tall and skinny pilot, who reached into his pocket to give us all that he had. A kindness like that stays with you for a lifetime." From another: "You'd be walking along in the fog, and through the clouds came a little parachute with a fresh piece of chocolate. It was a symbol of hope that somebody out there realized you were under siege. I think hope is the thing, not the candy bar. It was the hope." Another: "It was his profound gesture, showing us that somebody cared."

Kindness. Caring. Providing hope where there seems to be none. As an aging Christian, the Candy Bomber story addresses one of my frequent discussion topics with God: "Why am I still here?" It also explains why and how our church thrives despite what is perhaps the most challenging time it has every experienced.

Gail Halvorsen's simple gesture of reaching out to an enemy led to a post USAF life of selfless service to charitable organizations. On the Airlift's 40th anniversary, he said: "The airlift reminded me that the only way to fulfillment in life, real fulfillment, is to serve others. I was taught that as a youth in my church, and I found when I flew day and night to serve a former enemy that my feelings of fulfillment and being worthwhile were the strongest that I've felt."

May we all be so greatly blessed!

Tom



Shepherd's Center
of South Brevard, Inc

Adventures in Learning



On Thursdays, beginning March 3—March 24th, the Shepherd's Center of South Brevard will once again conduct casual learning morning classes at Peace Lutheran Church, beginning at 9:00AM and lasting 50 minutes per lecture.

This session will include a Genesis study, Introduction to Astronomy, Indian River Lagoon and Storm Water issues, E-Bay and PayPal, Introduction to Bell Ringing, Poetry, Musical History Tour, German for Travelers, and "One Senior Place" on Aging Issues.

Additional info and brochures will be available at www.shepherdcenterofsb.org. Tuition will be \$ 20.00. If you would like a brochure e-mailed to you, e-mail a request to shepctrosb@gmail.com.

Peace Lutheran Church is a sponsoring church of the Shepherd's Center of South Brevard.

For more information contact Helga Bromm at Helga3040@aol.com.

Treasurer's Report

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Our noisy offering is going to a different worthy cause each month. During January, we raised \$180.00 for the Coffee and Fellowship Fund. February noisy offering was directed to the Food Pantry. March noisy offering will be going to the Daily Bread, who provides meals and showers to homeless individuals.

We start the new year on a positive note with excess income. We will need eleven more months like this.

The articles that have been published in the last two newsletters regarding qualified charitable contributions are worth rereading. These contributions are directed from your IRA directly paid to Peace Lutheran and can reduce your Adjusted Gross Income on your taxes. Some members have taken advantage of this so various times you may see a larger than normal contribution in the bulletin. We thank all our members and guests for their generosity.

Please keep Peace Lutheran Church members and finances in your prayers. Call or email me with any questions.



VANCO MOBILE APP

For those who are fairly tech savvy and want a straightforward way to contribute monies try the new Vanco Mobile app. This works on computers, android, and I-phones. You can give directly from your bank account, debit, or credit card, make a one-time payment, or set up a recurring payment, and give to General Fund, Food Pantry, Maintenance, Children's Hunger Project, or Memorial Fund. All through your phone or computer.

We have used Vanco for years and many of us have done recurring contributions. Before this you had to fill out paperwork and the treasurer had to enter the information for members. Now you can do this yourself.

Peace Lutheran Church is always grateful for your donations; however you wish to give.

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

Treasurer's Report of General Funds January 2022

	<u>January</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
Contributions	\$17,693.57	\$14,900.00
Loose Contributions	\$188.64	\$1,083.33
Other	\$72.06	\$250.00
Use of Facilities	\$2,985.00	\$4,000.00
Total Income	\$20,939.27	\$20,233.33
Expenses	\$18,280.22	\$20,233.33

Excess Income for January 2022 is: \$2,659.05) (Total Monthly Income less Monthly Expenses)

The General Fund account is used for regular expenses (FPL, 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.



MADDEN, Louis & Stephanie (18) 03/02
 HATON, Charles & Nancy (43) 03/16
 CRUMP, Rich & Linda (43) 03/24



(numbers are years married)



SPRENGLE, Regina	3/01	MARCUS, Barbara	03/22
MCVAY, Brianna	03/03	CLIFFORD, Janet	03/23
BRUNNER, Luke	03/18	DITOTA, Gabriele	03/23
BAKER, Ross	03/19	SCHILL, Larry	03/25
TARKKA, Carolyn	03/19	BURNS, Yvonne	03/27
SWARR, Peter	03/21	NEUMANN, Ed	03/31
DUCOTE, Ginger	03/22	PATELSKI, Steven	03/31



Susan Hildebrand	David Brunner, Sr.	Gary Gossett	Dan Rank
Gwen Newberry	Ann Beardslee	Molly Gossett	David Pinkerton
Lori Deaton	Marta T. Rodriguez	June Trotter	Courtney Hunter
Ryan Dasinger	Don Hoffman	Ron Nelson	Pastor David & Sandy Trexler
Mary Norwood	Betty Sheller	Ariel Cook	Jim Brailsford
Rick Pellecchia	Bill Leinthall	Manuel Rodriguez	Carolyn Tarkka
	Rebecca Leinthall	David Flaherty	Helga Bromm
	Bob Ruscoe	Viola Forrester	Stefan Ellrich
	Tonita Diaz	Mickael Chadwick	Leah Booth
	Theresa Bradley	Gary Gossett, Jr.	Beverly Sandberg

CDC Guidance for Faith Based Organizations

PLC leadership continues to follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance for faith based organizations. The most recent CDC guidance simply says: **"Infection/ transmission is minimal for fully vaccinated people; prevention measures are still recommended for unvaccinated people, including wearing masks, staying 6 feet apart from people who don't live with you, avoiding crowds and washing hands often."**



Most PLC worshippers are fully vaccinated; others are not. We are blessed with plenty of space in our sanctuary for attendees to do what is comfortable for them as far as masking and distancing.

Thanks to all for your dedication to Christ and devotion to PLC!

- **Maintain good hand hygiene, washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.**
- **If soap and water are not readily available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, tissues, and no-touch trash cans. (We have hand sanitizer readily available for your use)**
- **Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in a no-touch trash can.**
- **Face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.**
- **Do not place protective masks on anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, or anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.**



CROSS GARDEN

Have you seen the beautiful new Cross Garden as you come on the church grounds?

A huge thank you to **Mark and Jennifer Grice** along with **Debbie Minton**, who tirelessly cleaned up the garden and built brand new crosses! They also filled the garden with a beautiful red mulch!

If you haven't stopped by to see it yet, please go and take a look...its beautiful!



EXTRA! EXTRA!



The idea is to spread the Love of God and the stories of the Bible through short entertaining messages over the phone.

One simply calls **321-727-1048** and they hear a different story everyday about Flip the Flea, Dirty Windows, Phillip the Pig, and many other strange concepts and characters, all sharing a theme from Scripture. Granted some may seem a little off of the wall, but what better way to reach out? After all, aren't most of us are a little off the wall?

Your task is to not only use the service, but share this ministry with those around you.

Gotta go. Bye now. Seeeeee ya tomorrow!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

There will be a meeting to discuss the planning of VBS on Monday, March 7th at 7:00PM. We have invited other congregations in the area to join us in this ministry. If interested in helping, please attend this meeting or contact Pastor David Trexler or Faye Schill to express your wish to help. This is a great way to reach out and witness to children in our community.

Thank you.



March noisy offering will be going to:

**“Daily Bread
(Providing hot meals, showers,
etc. to the homeless)**

Thank you for your faithful giving!

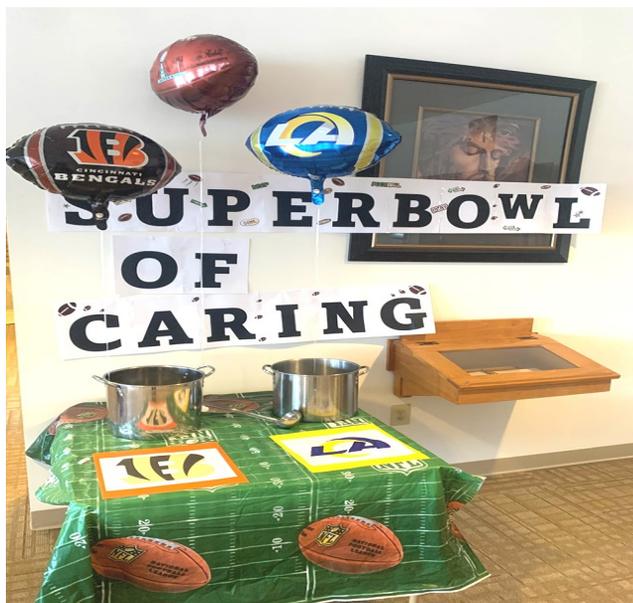


SUPERBOWL OF CARING

We had a blast on Super Bowl Sunday as members joined together and put donations in the pots, for which team was going to win. This was all in fun, but for a worthy cause.

The amount collected was \$224 and it went to the **PLC Food Pantry!**

Great job, everyone!





2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Transfiguration of Our Lord 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	28 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	1 9:00 AM FOOD PANTRY 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	2 Ash Wednesday 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 12:00 PM Worship Service - Imposition of Ashes 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Worship Service - Imposition of Ashes	3 9:00 AM Shepherd's Center Classes 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 2:00 PM Stamp Club FH	4 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 8:45 PM Panera Pickup	5 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA
6 1st Sunday of Lent 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	7 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 7:00 PM VBS Meeting	8 9:00 AM FOOD PANTRY 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 7:00 PM Council Meeting	9 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 12:00 PM Lenten Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Lenten Study	10 9:00 AM Shepherd's Center Classes 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	11 9:00 AM Garden Club 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 8:45 PM Panera Pickup	12 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA
13 2nd Sunday of Lent 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	14 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	15 9:00 AM FOOD PANTRY 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	16 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 12:00 PM Lenten Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Lenten Study	17 9:00 AM Shepherd's Center Classes 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	18 8:00 AM Garden Club Annual Plant and Yard Sale 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 8:45 PM Panera Pickup	19 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA
20 3rd Sunday of Lent 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	21 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	22 9:00 AM FOOD PANTRY 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	23 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 12:00 PM Lenten Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Lenten Study	24 9:00 AM Shepherd's Center Classes 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	25 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 8:45 PM Panera Pickup	26 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA
27 4th Sunday of Lent 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	28 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	29 9:00 AM FOOD PANTRY 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	30 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 12:00 PM Lenten Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Lenten Study	31 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA	1 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA 8:45 PM Panera Pickup	2 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch - AA

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



Did you know that every time you order from Amazon you can make a contribution to Peace Lutheran? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Peace Lutheran Church every time you shop, at no cost to you.



When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to **Peace Lutheran Church**.

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You will then be asked to pick your charitable organization. Make sure to pick **Peace Lutheran Church in Palm Bay, FL**. You may also want to share with your children and grandchildren as well when making their purchases on Amazon.com.

It may be helpful to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile.

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: MARCH 2022

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 Trexler

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—Because of Covid-19, there is a break.

Bell Choir—Call Cindy Wagman to learn more about our choirs 676-3849.

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 676-3849

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

JESUS SO LOVED US THAT
HE GAVE HIS LIFE FOR US.



WE SO LOVE JESUS THAT
WE GIVE OUR HEARTS
TO HIM.