

The Olive Branch

Peace Lutheran Church...

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

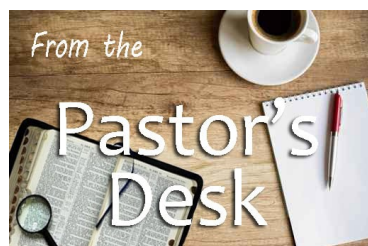
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MARCH ISSUE
2023

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Dear Friends through Christ:

Today I had a surprise visit from one of my oldest friends, Bob. (really, that's his name) Bob was a friend of my younger brother, Danny. Bob was 18 and needed a place to stay because his parents were moving, and we all know that Chicago is nicer than Boston. The year was 1981. I was 25 and happened to work for the largest Scrap company in the country, Hyman Michaels. I had plenty of room. Got Bob a job picking up dog poop from eight Dobermans that ran the property at night. As I moved up in the Excess/Secondary Steel market, I brought Bob along, four different times. Even made certain he inherited my good accounts when I entered the seminary. Now, forty-five years later, Bob is part owner of one of the largest distribution centers in the country, Jade-Sterling Steel, earning what most of us can only dream.

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
Christian LaPlante—Campus Maintenance

I'll admit Bob's surprise visit brought up mixed emotions. On one hand I almost feel like a proud dad seeing this mixed-up teenager grow into a successful good man. Yet it does sting a little, knowing what I gave up to follow a call into the ministry. Sometimes, I just say to myself, "What were you thinking?"

But you see, the transition from steel broker to pastor was not that big of a jump. I still need to convince the purchasing agent, you, to look at other options to running your company, or your life. For twenty years I took steel products that were going to be cut up into little pieces, thrown into the fiery furnace as scrap and found them a home. These steel products were simply cleaned up a little and turned into something that was still useful. I became most knowledgeable in the science of metallurgy. I knew that entire book like the back of my hand.

Now I know a different book like the back of my hand. One that teaches the nature of God and the scrap-like human condition. Now, people who are treated or feel like scrap can be cleaned up a little and turned into something that is useful by the Holy Spirit of God. I still try helping, now people, from being thrown into the fiery furnace. In some ways, I'm doing the same thing I guess I was created to do. I just never imagined, it would be harder to give away the gospel of Christ Jesus, than to sell excess/secondary steel products. That is still the one thing that catches me off guard.

Continued on page 2

Ok, so maybe Bob does earn in one month what it takes me all year to earn, but I am paid in a different type of currency. There is nothing more fulfilling when one scrap-like person accepts the gospel I try my hardest to give away. When someone thanks me for a message or a class that touched their heart. When the gospel gives hope to a grieving widow at the funeral. The baptism of a young woman. Last rites given at a hospital bed. The loved shared at a beach wedding. The intimacy of home visits. When I see a person finally “get it.” Watching people from all walks of life, completely different, sitting down to share a meal at a Potluck. A person bringing a neighbor to church. Simply when any of you share how the Lord made a difference in your week. This is a currency that keeps me fed and full!

So, thank you Bob for stopping by this morning unexpected and giving me a topic for this month’s newsletter. Thank you for reminding me of my true calling—A Scrap Broker for the Lord.

In Christian Love,

Pastor David Trexler

PS: Remember the entire month of March we have Lenten Worship at 12 Noon and 6:45PM, with soup and sandwich starting at 6:00PM. *I changed the topic.* The first couple of weeks we will examine the Law of God, most clearly seen through our 10 Commandments. The final couple of weeks we will examine how the Cross of Christ Jesus serves as the bridge from the Law of God to the Love of God. Hope all of you can put aside the busyness of the world and take time to grow in faith. Perhaps even share a meal with your fellow scrappy brothers and sisters and give some currency that is priceless—your faith.



Thanks to all for their attendance and support at our annual congregational meeting on Sunday, Feb 19. We had few issues to address this year: approving our annual budget and council member elections were the major items on our agenda—the only ones requiring votes (not counting votes to approve last year’s meeting minutes and close the meeting). We welcomed **Terry Zruitski** to the council; he’s a veteran council member, having served previously. We bid farewell to **Deb Moleski** and **Lynn Bender** who completed their 3-year terms, and also to **Steven Massey**, who joined us in Dec 2020 to serve the remainder of a vacated, unexpired term. Thanks to these individuals for their leadership and commitment during their time on the council.

Your 2023 council members: **Terry Zruitski, Tom Accola, Gabriele DiTota, Carolyn Tarkka, Terry Neumann, Ed Neumann, Stephanie Madden, Dale McKeney, and Bob Salmons.** We’ll elect council leadership: President, VP, and secretary at our March council meeting. **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 **7 pm** on **Tuesday, March 14.**

With our emergence from pandemic restrictions and, so far, no major issues to address, it will be tempting to fall into a routine, ‘no boat-rocking’ normalcy this year. Let’s not let that happen. There are so many good things we need to make happen—so much we can do to grow our church and support our community. Let’s move forward with enthusiasm and energy!

May God’s love surround us as we place our trust in Him!

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

Treasurer's Report

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

The 2023 contribution envelopes have arrived and are placed on the narthex table. If you don't see one with your name and you wish to have envelopes please contact the undersigned.

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.

IRA owners.....did you know that tithes/donations to Peace Lutheran Church (PLC) directly from your IRA can lower your taxes? A qualified charitable deduction (QCD) is an otherwise taxable distribution from an IRA owned by an individual that is 70 ½ or over that is paid directly from the IRA to a qualified charity. Paying tithes/donations to PLC from your IRA, reduces your AGI (Adjusted Gross Income), and might keep you in a lower tax bracket. Your tax preparer/ IRA managers are familiar with the process.

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 January 2023

	<u>January</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Contributions	\$24,819.79	\$16,301.42
Loose Contributions & Other	\$534.52	\$1,572.33
Use of Facilities	\$1,935.00	\$2,666.67
Total Income	\$27,289.31	\$20,540.42
Expenses	\$18,140.42	\$20,540.42

Excess Expenses for January 2023: \$9,148.89
(Total Monthly Expenses 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.



SPRENGLE, Regina	03/01	DUCOTE, Ginger	03/22
MCVAY, Brianna	03/03	MARCUS, Barbara	03/22
TAYLOR, Katherine	03/04	CLIFFORD, Janet	03/23
ROBERTSON, Sylvia	03/10	DITOTA, Gabriele	03/23
BRUNNER, Luke	03/18	SCHILL, Larry	03/25
BAKER, Ross	03/19	BURNS, Yvonne	03/27
TARKKA, Carolyn	03/19	NEUMANN, Ed	03/31
		PATELSKI, Steven	03/31

MADDEN, Louis & Stephanie (19)	03/02
HATON, Charles & Nancy (44)	03/16
CRUMP, Rich & Linda (44)	03/24



(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	Family of Ron Nelson
		Betsy Witter	Sean McKeny

Prayer Sisters



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. More information on dates coming.



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



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 1st 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 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo - WWV Room	1 Lent 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Worship 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Sandwich Supper - FH 8:45pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	2 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 2:00pm Stamp Club FH	3 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	4 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
5 2nd 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	6 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	7 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo - WWV Room	8 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Worship 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Sandwich Supper - FH 8:45pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	10 9:00am Garden Club 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	11 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
12 3rd 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	13 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	14 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo - WWV Room	15 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Worship 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Sandwich Supper - FH 8:45pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	16 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	17 8:00am Garden Club Plant Sale 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	18 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
19 4th 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	20 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	21 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo - WWV Room	22 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Worship 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Sandwich Supper - FH 8:45pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	23 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	24 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	25 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
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 Women's Via de Cristo - WWV Room	29 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Worship 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Sandwich Supper - FH 8:45pm Lenten Worship 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

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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PERMIT 144

Dated Material: MARCH 2023
ISSUE

Return service requested

Phone: (321) 727-3131
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.

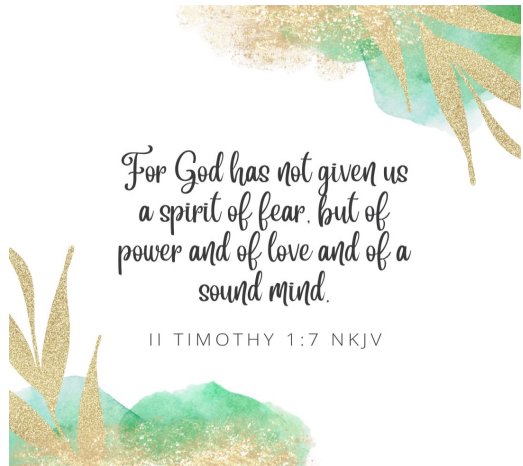
Property/Grounds—There is always plenty of work to be done here. Please contact Steve Barnett.

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



*For God has not given us
a spirit of fear, but of
power and of love and of a
sound mind.*

II TIMOTHY 1:7 NKJV