

# The Olive Branch

Peace Lutheran Church...

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

Volume 63  
Issue 2

FEBRUARY  
ISSUE

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

### Of Special Interest

- Pastor's Message
- Council President
- PLC Treasurer Report
- Saturday Night Worship
- Annual Congregational Meeting



Pastor's Message	1—2a
Council President	2b
Annual Congregational Mtg/ Upcoming Events	3
Treasurer News	4
February Birthday's/Prayer/ Anniversaries	5
Prayer Sisters/Peace News	6 & 7
February Calendar	8
Bits and Pieces	9

Dear Friends through Christ:

My how time flies! In just a few weeks Ash Wednesday will be upon us. It marks the beginning of Lent, where we begin our walk with Jesus to the Cross. Ash Wednesday is one of the more somber times in the church year, where we "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Folks, that about as low as we can get! Yet it is meant to convince us that there is only one hope for our sorry souls and that hope comes only from the Cross—the life/death and resurrection of Jesus.

People for centuries have claimed that the season of Lent is depressing. Why in world would I want to put myself through so much trouble? Giving up stuff, works of sacrifice, attending worship on a Wednesday! Why? The simple answer is that before there can be a resurrection, a death must occur. We must see the depth of our brokenness before we can see the glories of His resurrection and begin to understand what Jesus accomplished on the Cross. When that happens, you will begin to see the world through your brand new "Christ Glasses." What happens around you, can begin to make some sense. Is it worth the trouble?

This Lenten Season, Peace Lutheran will begin with two Ash Wednesday services. One at 12 noon and the other at 6:45PM. This schedule will run for the next SIX weeks—12 noon and 6:45PM. If we have enough saints step up to the plate, soup and sandwiches will be provided at 6:00PM. Since to word "Lent" mean "to lengthen or stretch," we are going to stretch our minds with an in-depth study entitled, "On Being A Theologian of the Cross," based on Martin Luther's writing called the Heidelberg disputation, written in 1518. *(Simply a debate held in Heidelberg)*

You see, following the posting of the 95 theses in 1517, the theologians throughout Germany, knew this was going to cause a great riff in the Roman Catholic Church, and their livelihood is at state. So, they ask Luther to present his case— in writing—in Heidelberg. In this historical writing, Martin Luther puts forward "a theology of the cross," as opposed to "the theology of glory." Luther put forth 28 theses' that will stretch your understanding to the limit, then tries to explain them. There are very few pastors who would attempt to teach this historical writing to a congregation, but I believe God has given the gift of taking these theological nightmares and turning them into something meaningful. At least, that is my goal. These writings brought the Cross to Life, brought Scripture Alive for me and hopefully will do the same for you.

Ash Wednesday will start the Lenten session off quite well with remembering that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Then as a teaser the next five weeks will cover the following:

### **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

Continued on page 2

- March 1st**      **Two Stories: The Glory Story and the Cross Story**
- March 8th**     **The Problem of Good Works (Theses 1-12)**
- March 15th**    **The Problem of Will (Theses 13-18)**
- March 22nd**   **The Great Divide: The Way of Glory versus the Cross (Theses 19-24)**
- March 29th**   **God's Work in Us: The Righteousness of Faith (Theses 25-28)**

Like I said, Lent is a season of stretching the mind and growing our faith. This Lenten Season let us grow together toward Being Theologians of the Cross. Always remembering, faith seeks understanding.

Please start thinking about what you will give up or sacrifice for the One who sacrificed everything for you. Mark on your calendar every Wednesday from February 22nd to March 29th, either at 12 noon or 6:45PM. Come and grab a bite to eat at 6:00PM, share some fellowship and learn what being a theologian of the cross is all about.

In Christian Love,

**Pastor David Trexler**



*The Real Secret of Lifelong Fulfillment*



February greetings, fellow church members. Here we are, about to launch another church year at our annual congregational meeting after services on Sunday, Feb 19. There's still to volunteer to fill one of our vacant church council positions—a great way to contribute to the vitality of Peace Lutheran Church.

A recent Wall Street Journal essay really caught my attention. It was titled "The Real Secret of Lifelong Fulfillment", and it was based on a new book: "The Good Life: Lessons from the World's Longest Scientific Study of Happiness." In 1938, Harvard's Study of Adult

Development began tracking an original group of 724 men and more than 1300 of their male and female descendants over three generations, asking thousands of questions and taking hundreds of measurements to find out what really keeps people happy and healthy. According to the study, through all those years and all those lives, one crucial factor proved to be the key to physical and mental health and longevity. Are you ready? Good relationships.

The WSJ essay didn't mention whether the study specifically addressed religion. Surely, it must have. But I'm not sure we need an 85 year, 3-generation study of thousands to conclude that the real secret to lifelong fulfillment is good relationships. I mean, it's right there in the bible, and, if we're listening, it's the underlying theme of most of Pastor David's sermons. Our baptism in Christ--our faith--blesses us with a deep and abiding relationship, through the Holy Spirit, with God, in communion with our Christian brothers and sisters. Our happiness is in Christ!

**Tom**



[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](mailto:COVID-19@flhealth.gov)**



ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on  
**Sunday, February 19, 2023** after the  
10AM morning Worship service.

This is an important meeting for the members of Peace,  
so please make plans to attend.



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
*Soup & Sandwich Supper*  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND  
6:00PM

**WE WILL GATHER PRIOR TO WORSHIP FOR A MEAL  
TOGETHER. SOUP AND SANDWICHES WILL BE SERVED  
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 6PM.**



**SUPERBOWL OF CARING**

**WHO WILL IT BE?  
WHO WILL WIN THE 2023 SUPERBOWL?  
OUR FOOD PANTRY!**

WE WILL ONCE AGAIN BE VOTING FOR THE  
WINNER OF THE SUPERBOWL WITH OUR \$\$\$  
AND THE MONEY RAISED WILL GO TO THE  
FOOD PANTRY. THIS IS A FAVORITE MINISTRY  
HERE AT PEACE LUTHERAN AND WHERE OUR  
SERVANT'S HEART IS MOST VISIBLE.

REMEMBER TO JOIN IN ON THE FUN,  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH.**



**SUNDAY  
02.12.2023**

# Treasurer's Report

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

If you notice that our expenses were a little high in December, it is because in December we had three payrolls subtracted. This happens twice a year usually in June and December. Fortunately, our contributions were good due to a generous congregation and Christmas services.

Unfortunately, the 2023 contribution envelopes have not arrived due to paper and other supply issues. Please continue to use envelope from your 2022 box if you have some unused envelopes. Otherwise, use a pew envelope and write your number and your name on the envelope or just write your envelope number on your check.

If you have never used envelopes before and wish to do so for 2023, please let the undersigned know. Every member has an individual contribution number. If you're not sure of your contribution number, 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 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.

Your 2022 Tax Statement from Peace Lutheran was mailed with the Pastor's "Love Letter to God." If you haven't seen your statement, it can be reprinted for you by contacting the undersigned.

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

Your sister in Christ,  
**Faye Schill, Treasurer**  
[treasurer@peacelutheranpb.org](mailto:treasurer@peacelutheranpb.org)

## Treasurer's Report of General Funds December 2022

	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Contributions	\$23,238.82	\$172,237.38	\$181,800.00
Loose Contributions & Other	\$1,327.00	\$7,308.91	\$18,600.00
Use of Facilities	\$2,175.00	\$31,730.46	\$48,000.00
Total Income	\$26,740.82	\$211,276.75	\$248,400.00
Expenses	\$27,341.88	\$247,262.16	\$248,400.00

**Excess Expenses for December 2022: \$601.06**  
**(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.

# February anniversaries

ACCOLA, Thomas & Brenda (19) 02/07  
 ROSALES, Samantha & Marcel (1) 02/12



(numbers of years married)



# February BIRTHDAYS

RING, Alexandra 02/01  
 ADILOFF, Mary 02/03  
 COTTON, Steve 02/11  
 WRIGHT, Emily 02/28



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



# 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.



**NEW YEAR BUNCO/POKER PARTY**

**THANK YOU TO ALL 26 PEOPLE WHO SHARED SOME NEW YEAR REVELRY AND SUPPORTED OUR FOOD PANTRY. THREE HUNDRED SIXTY DOLLARS WERE RAISED, AND A LOT OF FUN WAS HAD. MAYBE WE CAN DO IT AGAIN NEXT YEAR!**



*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



2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	30 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	31 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	1 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	2 9:00am Shepherd Center C 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 2:00pm Stamp Club FH 7:00pm Fairways of Brevard Mtg - HOA	3 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	4 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
5 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	6 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	7 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	8 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	9 9:00am Shepherd Center 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 5:00pm Via de Cristo Ultra
12 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 Happy Valentine's Day! 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Council Meeting	15 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	16 9:00am Shepherd Center 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	17 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	18 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
19 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Annual Congregational Meeting 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 1:00pm Via de Cristo Women's Team Meeting - FH	20 President's Day 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	21 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo -JWW	22 Ash Wednesday 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Worship 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Sandwich - FH 6:45pm 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 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 -JWW	1 Lent 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Worship 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Sandwich - FH 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



# 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](http://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 IS **DISCONTINUING** 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*

NON PROFIT ORG  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
MELBOURNE FL  
PERMIT 144

Dated Material: FEBRUARY 2023  
ISSUE

Return service requested

Phone: (321) 727-3131  
Dial-A-Story: (321)727-1048  
Email: [office@peacelutheranpb.org](mailto:office@peacelutheranpb.org)  
Website: [www.peacelutheranpb.org](http://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

