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PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

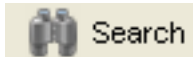
# Peace Bell

DULUTH, MN. \* REV. KATHRYN NELSON, PASTOR \* APRIL 2004

## April 2004

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### EASTER WEEK

Palm Sunday—Making Easter Real  
Intergenerational Church School

April 4, 9:30-10:30 am

What is Easter about? Decorate an Easter Egg, make a mural of hands, take a walk through history, plant some seeds, learn about Easter in different cultures, and more! Activities (and snacks!) are appropriate for all ages.

Maundy Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

This service will include a symbolic foot/handwashing and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Join us as we remember the final meal Jesus shared and continues to share with his disciples.

A Night to Remember April 8th

For Junior High/Senior High—See youth page

Joint Good Friday Service

Trinity Lutheran, Glen Avon and Peace Church  
Friday, April 9th at 7 pm at Trinity Lutheran



Those who are able are invited to walk with the cross from Peace to Trinity. We will meet at the Peace parking lot at 6:30. During the service we will hear the Passion Story again as candles are slowly extinguished to symbolize the flight of the disciples and others around Jesus. Members of all congregations will be readers and the choirs will be singing.

Easter Vigil at Brighton Beach April 10th

5 pm Hot Dog and Marshmallow Roast

Gather around a fire, sing songs of anticipation, chase darkness to light, and listen to stories of our faith, as we look forward to the joy that comes with Easter morn.



### EASTER MORNING

Worship led by our Youth  
8:30 am

Easter Egg Breakfast  
9:30-10:30 am

Served by the Peace Church Youth in the Fellowship Hall

Bring your family and celebrate Easter as you share in a meal with the church community. The youth will be serving egg bake, bagels, fruit, and juice for free will donations. Proceeds go to the youth for the National Youth Event. Come fill your stomach as Easter joy fills your soul.

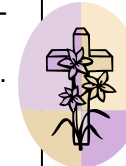
Hallelujah Hunt

10 am in the Fellowship Hall

Children are invited to meet at the entrance to the fellowship hall at 10 for a Hallelujah Hunt. Children will hunt for eggs filled with special little reminders of what Easter is really all about.

Festive Easter Worship

10:30 Traditional Easter Service including Choir Cantata, "Classic Easter", sermon, and brass accompaniment.



*LOOK FOR MORE HOLY WEEK  
AND EASTER NEWS ELSE-  
WHERE IN THE PEACE BELL*

## FROM YOUR PASTOR

Last Thursday Hannah, our 7 year old daughter, spent recess with two of her friends, Alexa and Tori, building fairy towns in mud. The rain and fog meant there was a lot of mud to work with, mud everywhere on the playground, she said. Her snow pants and boots affirmed her observation. Together their six hands built homes and even a castle for all their fairies.

The rain and fog that Thursday also meant that driving was difficult. What a loss for this community was the accidental death of Rev. Arthur Foy, the pastor of St. Mark's AME church and community leader. We will all grieve his death. He cared for so many people that others overlooked. Driving people somewhere, listening and challenging youth, preaching and singing his faith. What a passionate faith

But what I was thinking of and praying for on Thursday was his family—his daughter Alexa was one of those building fairy castles in the mud with Hannah. And there was a need to touch my own daughters again. To hold them. We need to feel—with our hearts and our skin. These moments of grief remind us of this again and again.

Jesus through out his ministry touches people, as he teaches, as he feeds, as he heals. His power and love is communicated through touch. And near the end of his life he too is touched, caressed and soothed. Mary touches Jesus. It is just six days before the Passover. Jesus and his disciples are at the house of his friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus in Bethany near Jerusalem. A supper is served among close friends. Stories are shared and although the disciples seem unaware, Jesus knows that their time together is quickly coming to an end.


The cross looms large before him. The raising of Lazarus has galvanized opposition to Jesus. The religious authorities are plotting his death. And yet Jesus moves in secret nearer and nearer to Jerusalem. The disciples are unaware, but Mary knows what is to come. She prepared the way with her tears and a jar of precious anointment. Unlike the others around her she knows that she is anointing a prophet for burial.

What a balm it must have been to Jesus' soul and heart to be so lovingly anointed. His loneliest hour was approaching, his closest friends were turning away in confusion, his death was in view. And Mary let him know that she understood, that he was not alone. . . As Joyce Hollyday wrote, "Mary is the poet who whispers of life's generosity, even while looking into death. Jesus gratefully accepts her precious gifts, her awareness of their relationship. And then he moves on to Jerusalem. In part through her love, he is able to trust the rest of the journey."

Intimate moments, sacred moments, are often indescribable, they defy words. Our God comes to us often with human hands, in fragrant odors, in the soothing warmth of another person. Rev. Arthur Foy cared for the flesh of God's people—food and coats, songs and dance. And his faith in Jesus Christ was the heart of it. He was quoted as saying after the death of Marcus Johnson, "Absent in the body, fully present in the Spirit." Rev. Foy is fully present to the kingdom of heaven, home. As our kids were saying in the car—"He is right up there sitting next to Jesus and Martin." That's the faith we celebrate at Easter.

We still have work to do here—work inspired by Christ and led in this community by Rev. Foy—homes to build—not for fairies out of mud, but hands working with our God, who fashioned all that is out of the earth, out of clay and water. Hands working together so that all God's children have home, and food. So that all are anointed by our loving God through our hands. Hands not afraid to get a little dirty. Hands lifted in praise. Peace friends—Kathy

## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

 **KEEPING THE FAITH** A Dialogue on the Role of Religion in the Public Square  
April 25, 2004 3 - 5 pm

This forum will feature brief presentations by panel members, and then an opportunity for community members to share their perspectives on the ways that religious faith and governmental politics should intersect. Building from the controversy over the Ten Commandments monument at the Civic Center, this is an effort to foster dialogue that can bring the diverse parts of our community together.

Sponsored by the Arrowhead Interfaith Council and The Bridge Syndicate. For more information, visit: [www.arrowheadinterfaith.org](http://www.arrowheadinterfaith.org).

**SPIRITUALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE  
AFTER 9/11**  
College of St. Scholastica  
April 16 & 17

This conference will explore causes of despair, injustice and violence, and look at ways to live in hope, justice and peace. Several Peace Church folks are participating in the program, and Sara Thomsen will be singing.

Keynote speaker is Fr. John Dear "A Hunger for Justice and Peace" on Friday evening.

**Please pick up flyers and registration info in the Narthex—Cost is \$20, registration deadline is April 8.** More info—723-6659

### Angels Wanted for Friendly Visiting

Lutheran Social Service Caregiver Support and Respite Program is looking for individuals to provide respite care for people caring for a person who is frail elderly, chronically ill or disabled. Your role would be as a friendly visitor, to ensure safety and security while the caregiver is absent. If you have a few hours a month to give, call Peg Kirsch Lee at 724-0648. (Call this number also, if you are a caregiver desiring some support and a much-needed break.)

Opening Our Doors,  
Opening Our Hearts  
Friday, April 30 - Sat., May 1st  
at First Lutheran Church

Learn how congregations can be more welcoming of GLBT folks. Peace Church is again co-sponsor of this annual conference, and Pastor Kathy will be on the program. Cost: \$20. Scholarships are available through our church.

Silent Auction Fundraiser Sunday,  
April 18th 2:00-7:00pm  
Peace Church Fellowship Hall

**Witness for Peace** will be hosting a Silent Auction Fundraiser to raise money for an upcoming delegation to Chiapas, Mexico in May. Stop by anytime to bid on an array of exciting items! If you can't make it to the auction, but have an item to donate please give Susana-Pelayo Woodward a call at (218)726-8444.

Faith-Based  
Organizing for Justice  
Tuesdays April 13 & 20, 7—9 pm  
McCabe Renewal Center

Steve O'Neil from the Gabriel Project will facilitate these sessions, exploring the fundamentals of community organizing, their foundation in our faith traditions and what we can do to resolve social justice issues today. Cost \$24, To register—724-5266.

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### April Nursery

- 4 Humphreys, Jen Ameal, Adams
- 11 Carla and Chris Stegmann, Angela O'Connell, Julia Horner
- 18 Misty Peterson, Laura Squillace, Charlie and Pat Kendall
- 25 Swanoski Family, Kaelene Arvidson-Hicks, Raquel Tahtinen



### April Set-Up

- 4 Deloris Thompson, Marsha Hystead
- 11 Peggy Skylondz, Pat O'Connell
- 18 Pomroys
- 25 Sue Kehtel, Amy Galarowicz



### April Servers

- 4 Melissa Kadlec/Dan Green
- 11 Lundbergs
- 18 Seversons
- 25 Devlins

### April Dishwashers

- 4 Carl Etter
- 11 Georgette Sarkela
- 18 Pomroys
- 25 Devlins

### April Greeters

- 4 Wes and Joan Severson
- 11 Pat and Lynn Devlin
- 18 Peggy Skylondz, Diana Soland
- 25 George and Peggy Maske

### April Lay Leaders

- 4 Betty Greene
- 11 Nadine Hubert
- 18 Bob Stevens
- 25 Penny Cragun

### 10:30 Comm. Servers

- April 4 Georgette Sarkela
- April 8 (Maundy Thursday)  
Georgette Sarkela

### April Ushers

- 4 Llonda & Megan Thompson  
Denise & Charla Buxbaum
- 11 Alison Wood, Denise Perry, Hysteads
- 18 Laurie Berner, Nettie Bothwell/Naomi Christensen
- 25 Jayme Hennen, Cheryl Walsh, Seversons

### April Monday Meals

- 5 No meal
- 12 Lisa Brown
- 19 Janell Kohls
- 26 Sharie Tedford



### Damiano Soup Kitchen

#### April 11th

- 1:30 Shari Tedford, Elsie Cook, Ann Sudoh
- 4:30 Steve & Lisa Horner, Betty Greene

### April Sunday Drivers

- 4 Don/Lillian— Diana Soland  
Ken—Nettie and Naomi  
Shirley—Kadlec/Green
- 11 Don/Lillian— Springsteeles  
Ken—Pat O'Connell  
Shirley—Seversons
- 18 Don/Lillian—Diana Soland  
Ken—Nettie and Naomi  
Shirley—Kadlec/Green
- 25 Don/Lillian—Springsteeles  
Ken—Kaelene Arvidson-Hicks  
Shirley—Seversons



### 8:30 April Communion Servers

- 4 White Family      18 Cindy McLean
- 11 Linda Goese      25 White Family

## SUNDAYS IN APRIL

Worship is each Sunday at 8:30 and 10:30 am—Childcare is Available During Both!!!

Our Early Service is always a communion service with times of quiet. Special music is often a part of this worship time. Our 10:30 am service has communion the first Sunday of each month and includes a children's time and singing by our choir.

The sermon and prayers are the same for each service.

### **Sunday, April 4 Palm Sunday**

Scripture: Luke 19: 28 – 40  
Sermon: "Crying Out"

This morning our praise and worship team will help to lead our music and our children will begin our worship with a Palm processional. The children's choir will be singing and we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together.

### **Sunday, April 11 Easter Sunday**

**8:30** Youth Lead Easter Service  
**9:30** Easter Egg Breakfast to benefit the trip to National Youth Event

**10:30** Worship with Senior Choir Cantata, "Classic Easter", accompanied by brass

Scripture: Luke 24: 1 - 12  
Sermon: Alleluia

### **Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**

Scripture: John 20: 19 - 31  
Sermon: "Seeing is Believing" Rev. Steve Olson from the James Company will be our preacher.

This morning we will kick off our capital campaign with the installation of our leadership team. We will also celebrate the baptism of Kaden Kozelka, son of Dennis and Sherry. Our praise and worship team will help to lead our music this morning.

### **Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

Sermon—Dialogue Sermon—Rabbi Amy of Temple Israel and Pastor Kathy: "Out of Egypt into Life" (See Rabbi Amy's article elsewhere in Peace Bell)  
Text: Numbers 15:37-41

This morning we will celebrate the baptism of Maleeah Langdon-Larson. Sara Thomsen will be with us for special music.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after the service to share a meal with members of Temple Israel and talk about the sermon.

### **Sunday Adult Forums 9:30 am in the Fireside Room The coffee is always on!**

Sundays at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room, the coffee is always on!

#### **April 4—2 choices:**

**From Jesus to Christ Video** on the formation of the gospels—in the Fireside Room

**Making Easter Real**, an intergenerational workshop in the Fellowship Hall

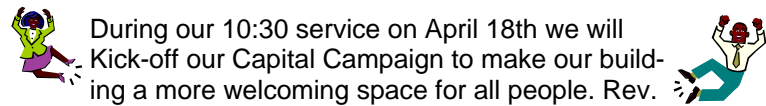
**April 11 Easter Egg Breakfast** Fundraiser (includes an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids)

#### **April 18 and 25**

Part 4 of "From Jesus to Christ" In the period between 100 and 300 CE the Jesus movement grew throughout the Roman empire. It became suspicious in the eyes of Roman authorities. At times there were heated debates about beliefs, worship and Jesus himself. At other times, faced by external threats, the movement pulled together. In the end what started as a small sect of Judaism became a significant part of the population, enough so that a new Roman emperor, Constantine, decided that they should be the official religion of Rome. As the fourth Century dawned, the cross was transformed into a symbol of triumph and Jesus of Nazareth became Jesus Christ.

Join us as we discuss all the changes the Jesus movement faced.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF—SUNDAY APRIL 18TH**



During our 10:30 service on April 18th we will Kick-off our Capital Campaign to make our building a more welcoming space for all people. Rev. Steve Olson from the James Company will preach and we will commission all those people who have agreed to work on our capital campaign . (See list at right)

At 11:30 we will have a meeting to hear a presentation on the conceptual plans for the building and to vote on sponsoring with First United Methodist Church a Habitat for Humanity House. This Habitat House would be our proportional giving from the Capital Campaign. Cheese, crackers and fruit will be served downstairs after the meeting.

We need everyone to make this campaign a success. Together we can **Open Our Doors – Build Peace**

**Gabriel Project**

The Gabriel Project is a collaboration between CHUM and six Hillside congregations: Peace, Gloria Dei, Trinity, First Lutheran, Temple Israel, and St. Mark's AME. Our goal is to help support our neighborhood of worship. We do this by providing social work, advocacy, outreach, and community organizing with our neighbors and each other.

Over 35 people attended our Housing and JRLC Legislative Advocacy Days on the Hill. We made two separate trips to the Capital to meet with our legislators and encourage the support of legislation in the areas of affordable housing, living wage, health care, and more. Thanks to everyone who joined us, and to our legislators for taking the time to meet with us.

We continue to work on the Housing 1000 plan for the creation of 1000 new units of housing (33% of these affordable) by 2010, and on our Dental Access Campaign, and we love volunteers! Call 625-1739 or 310-0063 for more information.

Simple Living Group meets April 18th 12 noon  
 "The System Belongs to God" Video

The Simple Living group will meet on Sunday, April 18 at noon to continue viewing and discussing a video series based on Walter Wink's books concerning the Principalities and Powers. A simple lunch of soup will be provided; bring a side dish if possible. Child care will be provided.

**Thanks to all who have volunteered for the Capital Campaign!**

Advance Leaders  
 Doug & Holly Bowen-Bailey  
 Joan & Alan Peterson  
 Lisa Pomroy  
 Justin & Jessica Olson  
 Emily Larson  
 Dick & Linda Goese

Event Leaders  
 Melissa Kadlec  
 Cindy Macaulay  
 Nettie Bothwell

Spiritual Emphasis Leaders  
 Bev and Dave Cave  
 Marge Anderson & Jerry Cleveland

Telephone Leaders  
 Mary Martin  
 Trudy Schwerdt

Publicity Leaders  
 Leanne Ventrella  
 Peggy Skylandz

Financial Recorder  
 John Ameel

The first meeting of all these leaders will be on Wednesday, April 14th at 7:30 at the church. **More volunteers are needed**—speak with Georgette or Pastor Kathy for more information.

**† MEMORIALS †**

In honor of Mark Sjolund by George and Peggy Maske

In memory of Mildred Hall from Phil and Ingrid Palmquist

**NEW DIRECTORIES ARE IN THE NARTHEX**

**MODERATOR'S REPORT by Jim McLean**

Mary Martin and Dan Green came to talk about a proposal recommended by the Just Peace Committee to sponsor a Habitat build in conjunction with First United Methodist. This would involve a financial commitment of \$15,000 and volunteers. We would use \$8,000 remaining from our previous pledge to donate part of the Strandjord estate to a community cause, making the amount we would need to raise equal to \$7,000 and designating that it be a contribution from the upcoming Capital Campaign. The Council voted to recommend this to the Congregation for a vote on April 18th.

Jim McLean apologized for a mistake made on the 2004 Budget that resulted in an under-report of expenses by \$2600. We will make up for it by holding tight some expense categories and Jim doing some extra praying this year.

Board Reports were brief due to the review of the building plans by the council.

**RECYCLING PEACE!**

2 box springs and 2 mattresses in good condition. Contact Julie or Alison 724-5690 if interested.

Free—Dishwasher (built-in) and washer/dryer (15 years old—works) Call Bill 525-1450

Lost: A new, blank, ivory colored scrapbook from the top of a file cabinet in the Historical Committee's area in the basement tunnel. Please contact Trudy Schwerdt, 529-5790 or the church office, 724-3637, if you have found it.

**BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

Boards and Committees will meet on Wednesday, April 14th at 6 pm.

**COORDINATING COUNCIL**

The Coordinating Council will meet on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Visitors are always welcome

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- Jim McLean 525-3526**  
Moderator  
jimmclean@chartermi.net
- Justin Olson**  
Vice Moderator  
jwolson22@hotmail.com
- Dick Goese 525-3412**  
Treasurer  
Goese@chartermi.net
- Cindy Macaulay 722-3432**  
Secretary  
macaulay@cpinternet.com
- Joan Peterson 724-6570**  
Past Moderator  
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- Doug Bowen-Bailey 728-2063**  
Stewardship  
Dbowen1@d.umn.edu
- Charley Kendall 724-2793**  
Just Peace Co-Chair  
kendall6@chartermi.net
- Lyn Clark Pegg 722-1532**  
Just Peace Co-Chair  
sunsails@chartermi.net
- Jonie Langdon-Larson**  
Dial 711 (tty) ask for **525-4127**  
Christian Education  
upnorth38@aol.com
- Nettie Bothwell 525-0071**  
Spiritual Life  
lamanane@earthlink.net
- Tom Hystead 728-3152**  
Member at large  
tlhystead@chartermi.net
- Laurie Berner 525-3670**  
Member at large  
laurie@residentialservices.org
- Pat O'Connell 525-0578**  
Member at large  
oconnp@superior.k12.wi.us
- Patty Beech 525-6638**  
Member at large  
pbeech@ardc.org

## REMODELING PLAN UPDATE . . . BUILDING PEACE

Wayne Dahlberg from BDP Architects presented his drawings for remodeling our building at a meeting for the congregation after Wednesday Service on March 10<sup>th</sup>. About 40 members of the congregation were there for this first look and provided comment. The drawings also were presented again to the congregation and the Council over the following two weeks. So far comments have been generally approving, but many questions have been asked along with some suggestions for changes.

The primary focus of Wayne's plans is to redesign the Narthex area with an addition in order to improve traffic flow and alleviate crowding. This will entail a whole new entrance to the building and a second stairwell down to the Fellowship Hall. The new Narthex would be lit largely with natural light and a second doorway into the Sanctuary would be created. It would be setup to dovetail nicely into any possible expansion of the Sanctuary in the future.

A large music/choir room would be created downstairs along with a classroom. Administrative offices would be moved across the current hallway to the west side of the building. The Fireside Room would be divided into a separate Library and Fireside Room with better use made of the existing space. The altar in the Sanctuary would be redesigned to make it larger and lower, and the seating would be increased.

The preliminary cost estimate based on the drawings and including the fee for the James Company to do the fundraising, is approximately \$954,000. Several people have commented on the cost. In general, commercial construction such as ours is more expensive than residential construction. It's important to keep in mind that the current estimate is based on the drawings and the architect's computer formula for square footage and construction type. The contractor might have a different estimate. Built into the current estimate is an 8% contingency fee for the unexpected.

Wayne's original draft called for doing all of the above plus extensive remodeling of the Sanctuary – reorienting it to face south towards the lake, improving sight lines and expanding its size. However, the cost estimate to do all of that came in at \$1.7 million. This was a great deal more than any lender was willing to consider giving us, and more fundraising than the Building Committee felt was realistic for our congregation at this time. The Building Committee felt it was more important to recommend to Wayne to focus on the other priorities identified by the congregation. However, the current plans to redesign the Narthex don't limit our options for Sanctuary expansion. At some point in the future the congregation may decide to take on the Sanctuary as a second phase of our remodeling project.

Comments from individuals and the various Peace Church committees are still coming in. A reminder in case we failed to make it clear before.....**THE CURRENT DRAWINGS ARE NOT THE FINAL DRAWINGS!** They are draft plans and can be changed. Please help us with this process by speaking your mind. The plan is to hear your comments over the next month and make necessary changes. We can and will literally go back to the drawing board if need be.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Mike Schrage  
878-0097  
mikeschrage@fdlrez.com

Marsha Hytead  
728-3152  
marshahystead@charter.net

Dick Goese  
525-3412  
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John Erickson  
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Jim McLean  
525-3526  
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Holly Bowen-Bailey  
728-2063  
Holly.Bowen-Bailey@duluth.k12.mn.us



## ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

### MEN'S SUPPER MONDAY APRIL 5, 6 PM

Join Peace Church men in the Fireside Room for a tasty meal and conversation.

### MEN'S RETREAT—MAY 7-9

The men's retreat will be held at the Isernhagen cabin near Gordon, Wisconsin. It is about a one hour drive from Duluth. Maps will be available.

Yes, we know this is Mother's Day weekend. The retreat will begin Friday evening with supper and end after breakfast and worship on Sunday morning. As in the past, feel free to come for part of the weekend and return home to help honor mom when you feel the need. All we ask is that you tell us ahead of time when you will be there.

This has always been a weekend combining relaxation, good food, and stimulating discussion. Please come!!

Any questions, call Dick Goese at 525-3412.



### SUNRISE COFFEE—APRIL 5, 6:39 AM FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

It's getting earlier—spring is coming! Join us the first Monday of each month at 21st Ave E and the Lakewalk (walk down the Lakewalk about 50 yards and you'll see us on the rocks)

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> 5:50 am—you can do it!**

### WOMEN'S BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

### APRIL 28TH AT NOON

Join us as we gather in the Fireside Room on the fourth Wednesday of each month at noon. Bring a sandwich; coffee and dessert will be provided.

### QUESTIONS ON THE WAY

TUESDAYS 12-1PM—FIRESIDE ROOM

Bring your lunch and come join in the discussion.



### EC—GLBT BIBLE STUDY

TUES. APRIL 6 AT 6PM

Join us for a potluck supper, worship and discussion. ALL GLBT people are welcome!! For more information please contact Jonie: UpNorth38@aol.com

## EASTER LILY ORDER FORM



On Easter Sunday, we will fill the altar with a memorial garden of lilies. If you wish to have a lily placed in memory or honor of someone, please complete the form below and return it in the offering or to the office by Wednesday April 7<sup>th</sup>. The price per plant is \$12 with \$2 going to the Peace Church Transportation Fund

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ Lilies at a cost of \$12 per plant.

Please enclose check made out to Peace Church and mark it "Lilies"

From: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

## KIDS AND YOUTH

### 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> GRADERS—SWIMMING

Let's go swimming! Not in the BIG lake—at the YMCA. **April 4<sup>th</sup> \$5/person.** Meet at church at 1pm. We'll return by 3pm. Sign up on the office window if interested.



### APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup> A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have been a disciple with Jesus throughout the week of his death and resurrection. What did Jesus' death mean then? What does it mean today? What does Holy Week mean to you? Come experience a powerful night that walks through this last week of Jesus' life. This is not an overnight that is filled with games and fun but rather a night to remember, and to experience your faith in a whole new way. Not sure if you should come? Talk to Julie. Sign up in the narthex.

### APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> YOUTH EASTER SERVICE AND BREAKFAST PREP

Set up and Service Rehearsal  
(Sunday early service and 9:30 breakfast)

All Sr. High Confirmation youth, youth attending NYE, and interested Jr. High youth should be at church by 10am (Saturday) to prepare for the Easter Service and breakfast and should be present Sunday morning to serve.

### STUPENDOUS SERVICE

Stupendous Service—Instead of church school on April 18th, we're going to Animal Allies—Meet at church at 9:15. We'll be back by the 10:30 service.

### Youth Choir Practice

New time — **Wednesdays at 5:45.**  
Jim Pospisil will be the director.

### THINGS TO LOOK FOR IN NEXT MONTH'S BELL:

- Last day of Church School
- Planning days for youth trips.
- Clean up your Bike Days!
- VBS Registration and volunteer jobs. . .

### Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

Come and be a part of an energetic group exploring faith in a variety of ways.

**Wednesdays** 7-7:30 pm Youth worship  
7:30-8:30 Youth Group

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month** there will be youth led Bible Study 6-7pm.

### NO YOUTH GROUP WED APRIL 7th

### COMMITTEES!!!

Here's when we'll meet—11:30 after church

**Service** - April 4 **Worship** - April 11  
**Social** - April 18

Find your name on the list below to see what committee you signed up for (if you forgot) and email Julie if you'd like to get on a committee. If you don't see your name below but would like to participate...just email Julie.

**Social:** Julia Horner, Mary Christensen, Philip Hubert, Sara Russell, Sara Adams

**Worship:** Ben Hlina, Vicky Johnson, Gilah Messerer, Katie Adams

**Service:** Paul Winchester, Sarah Messerer, Mariah Kirsch, Lauren Hystead

### SUMMER ALREADY?!

Yup, we're planning some fun for summer—hope you can join us!

**National Youth Event July 22-26<sup>th</sup>**  
(8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates and older)

**Jr High Canoe Extraganza**



**July 28-July 31<sup>st</sup>**  
(6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates)

**Vacation Bible School August 2-6** (Preschool and Elementary)

**Sr. High Kayak Adventure August 9-12**

(9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade graduates)



## JUST PEACE

### HALT THE ASSAULT

On Mothers Day, the Million Mom March will be rallying in Washington D.C. to call on Congress to renew and strengthen the Assault Weapons Ban, passed in 1994. It will sunset in September of this year unless Congress votes to renew it. An attempt was made to renew the Ban when an amendment was passed to the Gun Industry Immunity Bill, which was voted down recently in Congress. We need thousands of Americans demanding that this important piece of legislation get renewed and strengthened. If it does not pass, military style assault weapons will be legal again in America. These weapons are used to kill and maim many people at once and are often used against police officers. Terrorists also can purchase military style weapons at Gun Shows in our country from unlicensed dealers who are not required to do background checks. If you believe, as the majority of Minnesotans and Americans do in recent surveys, that Assault Weapons are not necessary for hunting or personal protection, please help by signing your name to a pink card which will be found in the church narthex during the month of April. Pastor Kathy will encourage members to sign cards, and Joan Peterson will be in the narthex or the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday, on April 18th and on May 2nd. Joan will be part of a delegation from Duluth who will go to Washington D.C. on Mother's Day to personally deliver the cards to Congressman Oberstar, and Senators Dayton and Coleman. As a Just Peace Church, Peace Church believes in non-violent solutions to solving problems.

Look for the pink cards and the box with pink on top in which to place the cards. If you have any questions, or can take some cards yourself to your place of work or an organization, please call Joan at 724-6570.

### FAIR TRADE INTEREST?

We're thinking of starting a bigger presence for fairly traded products in Duluth. Curious? A meeting will be set for late April to initiate the discussion. Let us know if you're interested. The goal of fair trade is to provide fair income to Third World people by selling their products here. For more information, contact Lyn Clark Pegg or Kristine Regehr.

### CHURCH AND POLITICS DO'S AND DON'TS

*The following is taken from a recent issue of the United Church News.*

Churches can engage in political—not electoral—activities.

Do educate your congregation about issues of morality, justice and public policy.

Do cover the issues relevant to the campaign, including candidates' positions.

Do focus on public policies and issue education, not electioneering.

Do encourage voter registration and participation.

Do speak as individuals, not as a congregation.

Do not support or oppose any specific candidate for political office.

Do not distribute materials prepared by political parties or candidates.

Do not contribute church assets to candidates' campaigns.

Do not endorse specific candidates in sermons or worship services.

**Do not be afraid: Advocating policy is a legal, acceptable activity for churches.**

For more information, see

<http://www.ucc.org/justice/election2004/index2.html>

Take Back the Night Rally  
Thursday April 29<sup>th</sup> at the YWCA

## JUST PEACE

### PEACE UCC - A JUST PEACE CHURCH TAKING A SMALL

**STEP** to promote peace and justice within ourselves, our church, our community and the world. A Just Peace Church strives to achieve this goal through spiritual development, education, community witness and political advocacy.

**April's Small Step:** April is the month for Earth Day, and what better time to consider what impact we have on the earth. One way to look at your own lifestyle and its effects is by taking an 'ecological footprint' quiz. You can find the quiz on the web at [www.myfootprint.org](http://www.myfootprint.org). It is short and easy to take. Just a neat way to look at how much space we all take up with what we use. You will be impressed at what effect your lifestyle would have if everyone in the world lived as you do. Give it a try. [www.myfootprint.org](http://www.myfootprint.org).

### Peacemaker Nomination

#### Jonie and Carla Langdon-Larson

The Just Peace committee would like to recognize Jonie and Carla Langdon-Larson as peacemakers among us. They have both been actively involved in teaching our youth at Peace - Carla has been a Sunday School teacher for years, and Jonie is the chair of the Christian Education committee. Carla has also led the Cradle Roll - welcoming babies in our congregation. Together they have done much to raise awareness within our congregation of people with disabilities, including Jonie's part in a children's sermon educating the kids up front and all of us in the pews about the special needs of one of their daughters.

Jonie and Carla are also very active with open and affirming activities within our congregation and community, including coordinating a GLBT Bible Study. They also recently made a public statement in our local news, bravely sharing their family with our community as two women in a committed relationship raising five children. For so many reasons, the Just Peace committee would like to join with the congregation in recognizing Jonie and Carla as Peacemakers among us.

## ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Pre-Earth Day  
Beach Clean-Up  
April 18<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm



Take a stroll along the beach and help clean up at the same time.

Garbage bags will be provided, but bring some gloves. Meet at church at 12:45 or down at the Franklin Lot on Minnesota Ave by 1pm (All ages of people and dogs are welcome!)

### CHOIR NEWS

You may have noticed our new choir director has a very familiar face! Our music director, **Jim Pospisil**, has very ably taken on the role of choir director.

#### Welcome to Janet Macleod our new choir accompanist

Janet is a very accomplished organist, and will be playing with some of our hymns. Jim will still be our pianist.

Anyone who likes to sing is invited to join the sanctuary choir. Rehearsals are at 6:15 on Wednesdays.



## PETER'S LESSON

By Julie Flotten, Children, Youth and Intergenerational Minister

March has been friend month during Faith Weavers. We've talked about different kinds of friends through activities and discussion on the disciples. One disciple in particular we talked about was Peter...

"Uh...I don't know him." "No, that's not MY friend." "Yeah...he's kind of weird. I don't hang around with him either."

I don't think Peter said exactly those words when asked if he knew Jesus, but the sentiment was clear: He didn't want to be associated with Jesus.

Here's the situation: Peter is hanging around in the courtyard below the house of the high priests, where Jesus is being questioned. Someone asks him, "do you know this guy?" "Aren't you one of his followers?" Imagine how Peter feels...here is this guy, Jesus, who has caused a ruckus, who some people dislike immensely, who is stirring things up and NOW is in BIG trouble with some very powerful people. Someone asks Peter if he's connected to Jesus. Peter loves Jesus, but what's he going to say? He understands the consequences: maybe he'll get tried as well, maybe he'll be arrested, jailed or even worse. Peter had to be terrified. Does he choose loyalty to his friend or does he save his own skin?

Fear is a powerful thing. We are bombarded with images and messages of being a certain way and the consequences if we aren't. On some level all of us are constantly faced with the choice that Peter had to make in the courtyard. If we don't have the right stuff, hang around with the right friends, maintain the right identities, we can be ostracized or shunned. No matter what age, we all know how painful that is. And yet love and loyalty can be just as powerful as fear. To stick up for a friend when she is getting picked on, to speak out against hurtful words and actions. I imagine Peter felt this, for after he denied Peter, after his fear for his reputation clearly won over love and loyalty, he wept with the realization that he had betrayed his friend. How his heart had to hurt with sorrow and disappointment! He let his friend down, perhaps at the time when Jesus needed him most.

They are hard choices and unfortunate ones to have to make: to have to choose between our reputations and our friends. Yet the choices exist. Peter shows us the consequences of letting the fear in our hearts choosing for us. May you have the courage to choose differently.

### PEACE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Nelson  
Children, Youth, and

Intergenerational Minister: Julie Flotten  
Shared Ministry Coordinator: Georgette Sarkela  
Music Director: Jim Pospisil



Befriender Ministries: Cheryl Walsh  
Bookkeeper: Beth Chelseth  
Office Coordinator: Janell Kohls  
Custodian: Brad Larson  
Gabriel Project: Emily Larson

**PEACE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY—9-3, PHONE: 218-724-3637**

**EMAIL ADDRESSES:** Kathy—[knelson@peaceucc.org](mailto:knelson@peaceucc.org) Georgette—[georgette@peaceucc.org](mailto:georgette@peaceucc.org)  
Julie—[julie@peaceucc.org](mailto:julie@peaceucc.org) Beth or Janell—[office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org)



## WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

### THE SCHEDULE — No WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES APRIL 7

5 pm: Children's Choir 5:15 pm: Centering Prayer in the Nursery 5:15—6 pm: Dinner for all  
6 pm: Faith Weavers in Classroom, Adult Study (Walter Wink videos 4/21, 4/28), Inquirers  
Class in Fireside Room (April 21 & 28, May 5) Boards and Comm. 4/14 6:15 pm Senior Choir  
7 pm Youth worship 7:30 pm Confirmation (see schedule below) Youth Group

### FAITH WEAVERS AND FRIENDS

WEDNESDAY 6:00-7:00PM PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY

We're continuing to meet each Wednesday to learn about the Bible through games, crafts, journal time and service. Also, once a month we welcome a guest speaker to our class.

This month's theme: GROWING PEACE It's spring, get your hands in the dirt and see how we can grow peace here at church and with friends!

April 14<sup>th</sup>—Guest presenter Judy Gibbs will come help us get our hands dirty!!!

All preschool and elementary age kids are welcome to join us at any time. A one time \$10 donation is requested to help cover the cost of supplies.

### CONFIRMATION I

**No class on April 7th due to the break.** Youth are encouraged to participate in the Holy Week Services—Maundy Thursday at 7 pm at Peace Church and Good Friday at 7 pm at Trinity Lutheran. We will need readers for both of these services, so if you can help let me know.

**Here's the schedule for the rest of the year.  
We meet at 7:30 in the Fireside Room.**

**Wednesday, April 14**—Mark Chapters 10 – 12

**Wednesday, April 21**

Mark Chapters 14 and 15—the Passion

**Wednesday, May 5**

Mark Chapter 16—the Resurrection

**Wednesday May 19**—Life of Jesus Exam and Ice Cream

**"PASSION DISCUSSION"** Join others as we view the "Passion" together on **Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 pm at Lakes 10.** We will go out together afterward to discuss it. Sign up in the entry way.

### **WEDNESDAY EVENING—ADULT FORUM 6 PM APRIL 21 AND 28<sup>TH</sup>**

View and Discuss two of the tapes from EcuFilm Series, "The System Belongs to God." The series is based on the work of Walter Wink. Wink is Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Auburn Theological Seminary in New York. He is a widely known author and lecturer.

### Interested in Joining Peace? Come to Inquirer's Classes

Weds. April 21, 28 and May 5 from 6—7 pm—New Members Sunday May 9th

We will have 3 Inquirer's classes this month. This is not required for membership, but it is a great opportunity to learn more about our local congregation as well as the UCC denomination. It's a good time to meet others who worship here, ask questions, and see where you might fit in with all that goes on here at Peace Church. You are welcome to come early for our Wednesday supper at 5:15 in the Fellowship Hall.

April 21—The UCC and Peace—an overview of our roots and beliefs told in video, booklet and discussion.

April 28—The grand tour—from the tunnel to the day care, the library and the prairie garden.

May 5—Peace today—our mission statement and long range planning process, boards and committees, volunteer ministry and pledge forms.

If you have any questions, or if you wish to join Peace Church, talk to Pastor Kathy or call the church office.

## PEACE PEOPLE

### THANK YOU!

• "To Peace Church Friends, Our family would like to thank everyone at Peace Church for all that was done for us upon the passing of our Dad, Don Schuler. We would like to thank Pastor Nelson for the beautiful service. It was a wonderful tribute to a special man. We would like to thank the church choir and Craig Walker for singing, Jim Pospisil for playing the piano and organ, and to Mike Schrage for his memories of Dad. Thank you to all the people who contributed memorial gifts, bars and cookies, those who set up the lunch and washed dishes and cleaned up. It all meant so much to us. Dad thought the world of Peace Church and it was so much a part of his life. We will always remember him in our hearts and with our memories. Gary, Vickie, Laura and Dan Schuler, Debbie and Craig Johnson."

• To the Care and Fellowship Committee for a great Potluck Birthday Lunch on Sunday, March 21. Thanks to Carrie Plamman, Rolf Hagberg, Jim and Sally Larson. Others are welcome to join this great committee!

• To Cindy McLean and Beth Bartlett for all their work on this year's Women's Retreat at Camp Miller. Plans are underway for next year's adventure—we are looking for a new site. The camp cost more than we charged, so any help with the overrun would be appreciated.

• To the youth and adult helpers for all their work on the Indian Dinner/Fundraiser for CHUM. The youth earned \$150 for the National Youth Event Trip

• From Jim Soderberg at CHUM "I want to thank Peace Church for your hospitality in welcoming us to your facility for the annual Salaam (Peace) Northland Dinner...I especially want to thank the youth for all of your work in helping to clean up after the event. This event is a valued gift from the Islamic Community to the residents of the Twin Ports and is becoming a tradition as an important community building event. It is also a fund raiser for CHUM that this year brought in over \$6,000, a very significant portion of CHUM's budget. The generosity of the Peace Church congregation helps make this possible.

• From Georgette Sarkela & Bill Hardestry— Thank you for your prayers for our son Ryan, who

has been deployed to Iraq. Our time with him before he left was wonderful. Though it was hard to say good bye, we also knew and felt the prayers of our Peace Church family. Your thoughtfulness and caring in so many different ways exemplifies God's love and how wonderful it is to be part of this faith community. Ryan's tour of duty is 12-14 months. Currently he is in Kuwait for training and will leave for Baghdad in a few weeks. Please continue to pray for the end of this war, for our troops and for peace.

• From Loaves and Fishes—Many thanks for your faithful monthly support...which enables us to help those in need. We are also grateful for your leadership and good work for peace and for the spiritual growth of all. May you and your efforts be blessed.

### SYMPATHY TO

- Joan Mork on the death of her father
- Lisa Pomroy on the death of her mother, Mildred Martell

### CONGRATULATIONS

- To Andy and Libby Fena on the birth of Benjamin on March 22nd.
- To Barbara Stretchberry, Madison WI, on the birth of Samuel Nevin on January 8th.
- To Stacy and Dustin Holden on the birth of their son.
- Natalie Walker who was recently accepted at PACE University Law School. She will be joining her studies there this Fall.

### KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Peter Barnett recovering from an infection in a shunt in his brain. He is at St. Mary's hospital. Anyone who can provide a meal for his family (Cynthia Fairbanks—mom) let the office know.
- Ryan Debeltz, Brian Sinclair and James Sandomeirski serving in Iraq
- Joyce Clement dealing with chronic pain
- Louise Grams recovering from knee surgery
- George Maske, recently hospitalized with bone pain, and prostate cancer.

## SHARED MINISTRY "Shaped for Serving"

By Georgette Sarkela, Shared Ministry Coordinator

**God had made us what we are, and in our union with Jesus Christ he has created us for a life of good deeds, which he has already prepared us for.** Ephesians 2:10

*In searching for meditation books to give to my son Ryan, I found "Meditation on the Purpose Driven Life" written by Rick Warren. It is a companion to his book "The Purpose - Driven Life." I will share one of his meditations that reflect shared ministry and one of many purposes we were created for.*

### "You were Shaped for Serving God"

"God has given you a unique S.H.A.P.E. There is no one else in the world just like you. Using your spiritual gifts, heart, abilities, personality and experiences for the benefit of others is your ministry. Your ministry and service is a propose God has created for your life.

**S-SPIRITUAL GIFTS:** Your special gifts given by the Holy Spirit to help others in God's family.

**H-HEART:** Your special passions, things that you feel strongly about, are to be used for God's glory.

**A-Abilities:** Your natural talents are built into you from birth.

**P-Personality:** Your uniqueness is what makes you different from everyone else.

**E-Experiences:** Your situation and the circumstances you face helps you empathize with others.

Using your God-given S.H.A.P.E. in ministry is the secret of fruitfulness and fulfillment. God wants you to be you! The better your service fits your SHAPE, the more successful you'll be."

*Please prayerfully seek out your uniqueness and ask God how you can share your S.H.A.P.E. with others. You will be a wonderful blessing to those you serve.*

*Here I am send me. Isaiah 6:8*

## Opportunities for Service

### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Are you interested in what the Peace Church kids learn in Church School? Are you a teacher who wants to help direct what curriculum you teach? Be a part of the **Curriculum Committee**.

We need 5-7 people to help research and choose Church School curriculum for next year (and hopefully a few years!) Time commitment: 3 meetings (to be scheduled at the group's convenience)



### CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Be a part of a great team! Be a church school teacher!

As this church school year winds down, we're already looking ahead to the fall. Join a group of dedicated and enthusiastic folks who help kids develop and grow in their faith. You don't need to have a Master's in Theology or even have taught Sunday School before! Call Julie if you're interested. Any current teachers, please call Julie if you're planning on teaching next year!

## BOOK TALK

Peace Church Book Club  
April 29, 6 - 7:30 pm  
in the Fireside Room



*The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*  
by Alexander McCall Smith

Start reading for May—  
*The Da Vinci Code*  
By Dan Brown

Peace Church Library

### Check it out!

Look for new videos—Babette's Feast, Clarence Jordan—A Legacy of Faith, and the Peace Church 2003 Christmas Pageant.

### Next Library Workday

Sat. April 17th 9:30 am-2 pm  
Anyone who is interested in our excellent library is welcome to come and help work with our books for all or part of this time. Bring a sandwich if you can stay through the lunch hour.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1	Fred Youngstrand	12	Mary Christensen
2	Melissa Kadlec		Kailin Hatlestad
	Nore Heinitz	14	Bud Trnka
3	Glenn Morris	15	Keely Shrake
	Jason Proetz		Kelly Larson
	Tony Johnson	16	Chad Humphreys
	Adrianna Hudyma		Bo Brown
4	Kristina Green	17	Cindy Macaulay
	Sophie Wilkowske		Lillian Day
5	Albert Johnson		Todd Hayes
6	Helva Paschke		Bill Pearson
	Alden and Zane Kaiser	19	David Sipila
7	Tom Heinitz		Brita Larsen
	Ann Lindblad	20	Grace Richey
	Kai Soderberg	21	Sophie Netland
	Nadine Hubert	22	Betsy Mork
8	Julia Finch-Newkirk		Justin Olson
	Michael Poe		Sarah Goese
	Cooper Carlson	23	Cylar Stegmann
9	Lyle Staubs	25	Harold Peterson
	Christine Daniel	26	Marge Anderson
10	Matt Hlina		Mary Youngstrand
	Paula Young		Joel Filiatrault
	Patty Johnson	27	Cathie Ham
	Lyn Kaim		Lucas Finch
	Andrew Sparrow	30	Lyn Clark Pegg
12	Gabriel Taggart		Mike Schrage

## In memory of Max Manjura by Trudy Schwerdt

We recently learned that Max Manjura, a subject of one of the historical sketches published in the Peace Bell during 2002, died Dec. 27, 03, at 90 years of age in Fern Park FL.

After WWII Maximilian and his wife Charlotte wanted to come to the United States. Max was not eligible to enter the U.S. because he had a felony on his record because he had struck a Nazi officer who had assaulted his wife Charlotte. Our pastor, the Rev. Walter Rasche, worked with Senator Hubert Humphrey to make it possible for Max and Charlotte to come to Duluth. The Kum Dubl Club, a group of young couples in the church, found a home, furnished it, and helped the Manjuras. Max was an excellent mechanic and it wasn't long before he owned a large gas station and garage. They later moved to Florida. Doris Godden has kept in touch through the years. If you'd like to send a card to Charlotte, her address is 2505 Truewood Lane, Fern Park FL 30730.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR—MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEA ON SATURDAY MAY 8  
AT PEACE CHURCH—WATCH FOR DETAILS

## From RABBI AMY

The following is my article for Temple Israel's April newsletter. I thought all of you at Peace Church might like to know the context out of which the joint sermons between Pastor Kathy and I evolved from my end. I look forward to seeing many of you at services and the ensuing discussion in April.

**From the Rabbi's Study** At the URJ Biennial this year Rabbi Eric Yoffie introduced a program called *Open Doors, Open Minds: Synagogues and Churches Studying Together*. In his introduction to the initiative Rabbi Yoffie states:

"In the 1950s and 60s, Reform Judaism was at the forefront of interreligious dialogue in North America. But in recent decades, interfaith work has declined precipitously; in many communities little survives beyond Thanksgiving services and model seders. We can no longer afford relations that barely exist...congregations are asked to join with a church in the community and commit to sessions at which adult learners will come together to learn about common aspects of our history and about critical distinctions and to engage in joint study of sacred texts..."

My colleague and friend, Pastor Kathy Nelson and I have been talking for some time about an adult learning partnership between our congregations. Peace United Church of Christ seems to me to be the natural partner for us in interfaith dialogue and in exploring liberal faith-based social justice issues. The UCC movement and its approach to social, political and religious issues are very much in line with Reform and Reconstructionist Judaism and Peace UCC embodies much of what is best about all three movements. I have been very impressed with the public stance that Peace has taken on various issues in our community and I believe we have much to learn from them. On a more personal level, Pastor Nelson is someone I deeply admire and respect. Her integrity and commitment to justice often place her on the margins of the Duluth Christian community and because of her courage and commitment to publicly defending liberal Christian ideas and values she has often made herself the target of hateful bigotry and discrimination masquerading as faith. I have learned a great deal from Pastor Nelson and hope to become more like her in my own rabbinate. I am honored to call her a friend and value both her counsel and example beyond measure.

In light of Rabbi Yoffie's Biennial Initiative I believe now is the perfect time to begin a joint study with Peace United Church of Christ. Pastor Nelson and I will deliver a sermon together at Temple Israel at Friday night services on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will deliver the same talk at Peace church on Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup>. Following the Sunday service we will hold a joint text study and discussion at Peace Church on the topic presented at services. People from either community can come to either service and we encourage people to consider attending the talk at the place of worship *not of their own faith*. If you know someone in the other congregation please invite them to come to services with you or invite yourself to join them at their service. The Sunday discussion is designed as the discussion component for *people of both congregations*. Our plan is to offer this format once a quarter.

Pastor Nelson and I look very forward to studying and speaking together once a quarter and to learning from the dialogue between our congregations at the scheduled Sunday discussions. We are fortunate to live in a time and place in which such enriching encounters are available to people of goodwill from differing liberal religious traditions. May our sacred study together bring the divine presence more fully into our own lives and into the lives of both our communities.

## REPORT FROM MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO

In January 2004, **Phyllis and Scott Mead** accompanied six other people from their former church, Hilltop Fellowship, near Millville, MN on a short term mission trip to Puebla Mexico. We'd like to share a little of our experiences with you, our new church family. Esperanza Viva was established nine years ago by Jerry and Sue McNally originally from St. Paul. Hilltop had been supporting Jerry and Sue for ten years already at the time they established this children's home. Esperanza Viva, Living Hope, is a home for 76 children, some without parents, some with imprisoned parents, and all have experienced abuse. They range in age from one year to 18 years old. The staff of 25 is composed of some missionaries from the States who come with their own support and many native Mexicans who work for an incredibly low wage. Most of the staff is on duty 24/7 with only two evenings and one full day off, away from the intense activity of the home. We were impressed by these highly qualified individuals dedicating their lives to this effort.

While there, we built a freestanding cinder block bathroom with two stalls for the youngest boys. Probably 30 of them had been sharing one bathroom before. Some of us traveled to two of the rental properties Esperanza Viva uses for dormitory space to scrub and paint. Daily we had some time with the children. Enough time to understand, in spite of language barriers, that these children were happy and healed from whatever trauma brought them there initially. Well known by this time, social agencies mostly refer children to Esperanza Viva. One woman with her five children has taken refuge in this self-contained facility from the lethal threats of her husband. She works in the kitchen and this family unit seems relaxed and content in this setting.

Affirming to see such pragmatic Christian faith at work, this place is run with high standards, high hopes, and very little cash. Local businesses donate foods, from the ubiquitous Wal-Mart to small neighborhood bakeries. The children are well dressed with worn donated items relegated to their small secondhand store that opens into the street. A laundry using donated machines runs continuously, doing the laundry from the home and selling laundry services from the street side of the facility. The laundry makes enough to cover its expenses and its upkeep. A school is run in a large tent with them accessing services for their special needs residents, a teenager going blind from a congenital cause, a four year old just learning language, and a physically impaired one year old. Part of little Bryan's therapy is being walked about the courtyard by his eight year old friends. There was a heartwarming mixing of staff with the children during leisure times and a visible respect and affection demonstrated by the children with each other and the adults working there.

Jerry and Sue and their organization are making an effort to empower local Mexican youth to become missionaries to Mexico and the world. They run a school a few months every year for this purpose. Besides the work at the children's home, they conduct a community outreach inviting neighborhood families to social events and to the church services. We had opportunities to participate in these and still had time for a little sightseeing and shopping in an open market. Loving the time we were able to interact with the children at Esperanza Viva we found ourselves sponsoring a group of three sisters. It is especially gratifying to be able to contribute a little towards their support as we know Lucero, Estrella, and Araceli and this pretty amazing place. Other children and staff are still in need of sponsorship. Anyone interested?

## BEFRIENDERS "Changing Lives Together"

by Cheryl Walsh, Befriender Ministries

What is the difference between being visited by a Befriender and being visited by a member of our congregation?

The Befriender to Friend ministry is a lay ministry of trained people who choose to "walk beside" those in difficult situations. This ministry is designed to assist those with specific needs and is available to anyone who is experiencing a difficult transition such as divorce, grief, depression, loneliness, or any life changing situation. It is strictly confidential, intentional, and defined by clear boundaries mutually agreed upon. Often a person who is struggling with an issue is "referred" to the pastor or Befriender Coordinator and after being informed of our program can then decide if they would like to have a Befriender. Befriender and Friend are then "linked" by the Befriender coordinator, come together at a mutually planned time and place. In this "sacred space" both parties agree to confidentiality and it becomes a sacred time of trust, mutuality, and sharing. The Befriender can help the person prioritize and clarify problems, explore resources within the community, discuss healthy ways of managing a problem. Befrienders, however, only help in ways that the Friend requests. Befrienders do not try to fix anyone, make judgments, give advice, solve problems, or attempt to influence the Friend to follow any particular path.

The visiting done by the members of our congregation is less structured and mutual sharing can occur without the constraints of time and place. Often this type of visiting happens between people who already know one another and have a history of shared friendship.

Peace church is fortunate to have a supportive community and to have many ways to care about one another. May we continue to "reach out in healing love" to all who may need a friend.

Call Cheryl Walsh—525-4129 or the church office for more information.

### Peace Church Transportation

#### Fund in need of donations!



If you are able, consider a donation to Peace Church, earmarked for our transportation fund. We have many requests for rides from folks who would like to worship with us, but have no car. Many of these requests are an outgrowth of our ministry at CHUM and the jail. We are also always in need of people willing to drive, both our own members and as an outreach to others in the community.

Anyone willing to offer rides, or to mentor folks new to our church, talk to Kathy or Georgette.

### CHUM NEWS AND NEEDS

**Food Shelf**—MN Foodshare cash donations are down 30% from last year. But it's not too late to donate. There is a foundation grant to provide a proportional match for donations during April.

**No egg cartons or plastic bags needed now.**

#### Drop-in Center and Shelter Needs:

Towels, bedding, esp. washable blankets and twin bed sheets, alarm clocks, travel shampoos, shaving cream, diapers, toilet paper, toothpaste, mops, brooms, cleaning buckets, laundry baskets.

#### Drop-in Center Nurse Clinic

*Desperately Needed—women's underwear sizes 5-7, men's briefs sizes 32-40 (new only)*

## RUMMAGE SALE

### It's the Annual Peace Church Rummage Sale

And we need your help!

The Annual Rummage Sale is a fundraiser for the church. Last year the rummage sale generated close to \$3000, which helped to support Vacation Bible School, the youth work camp to Minneapolis and the Clayton Jackson McGhie memorial.



#### Rummage Sale Events:

**May 13<sup>th</sup>, Thurs. all day:** Drop-off items

**May 13<sup>th</sup>, Thurs. afternoon & night:** Rummage Sales set up

**May 14<sup>th</sup>, Fri. :** Rummage Sales set up continues.

**May 14<sup>th</sup>, Fri. 4 – 7pm: Children's Pre-Sale** – Only the Children's area will be open for Shopping at this time.

**May 15<sup>th</sup>, Sat. 8am– 3pm: Rummage Sale, Bake Goods & Plant Sale.**

**Help is needed.... Fun and Fellowship is the reward!**

**Children's Sale Coordinator:** Someone to line up workers for the sale and organize the Children's area for the sale.

**Bake Sale Coordinator:** Someone to line up baked items for the sale and organize the effort and area during the sale.

**Poster/Sign Putter Uppers:** Thanks to Dan Green and his team who made all new outdoor signs, we have large signs to put out the day of the Rummage Sale. We will also have over 100 posters (8 1/2" x 11") to put all around town to advertise the sales. We need several people to help with this.



**Set-up help:** We need as many people as possible to help with this part!

**Sale Workers:** Since we are expecting an even larger crowd this year, we need many more workers for the day of the sale.

**Take-down, clean-up help:** This is the hard part! Any extra hands are welcome as there is a lot to do and we are always short the people power we need!

If you have questions please contact: Cindy Macaulay, Nettie Bothwell or Cindy Martins.

### WHOLE FARM CO-OP

**Order safe wholesome foods raised on Minnesota farms.**

Deliveries —2nd and 4th Friday of the month

Have your order in one week prior to delivery. Pick-ups are Sunday or Tuesday after delivery.

Price list available at [www.wholefarmcoop.com](http://www.wholefarmcoop.com).

Order online or call 877-203-5273. Questions—call Carrie at 525-0321

***IN MEMORY OF REVEREND ARTHUR FOY***

The death of Rev. Arthur Foy, III leaves a huge hole in our community. But it also offers some opportunities for us to respond in faith to be a part of the healing process. Checks for the Foy family can be dropped off here at Peace—you can make it out to

Jennifer Foy or to Peace Church with “Foy Memorial” in the memo. Checks can also be sent directly to:



Rev. Foy Memorial Fund  
Republic Bank  
306 W. Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55802

**Community Memorial Service  
Monday April 5 at 4 pm at  
First United Methodist  
Church (Coppertop)**

Our church is helping to provide finger food (veggies, bars, cookies) You may bring it to Peace on Sunday (label it Foy Service) or drop it at the Coppertop on Monday.

Thank you for helping to honor Rev. Foy’s memory.

**PEACE BELL** is a monthly publication of Peace United Church of Christ, Duluth, Minnesota  
*Our vision is to be an accessible, open and affirming community growing in Christian faith, committed to peace and justice, and reaching out in healing love to all people, respecting the diversity of people’s sexual orientation, race, culture, gender, age, opinions, and physical and mental abilities. Visitors are always welcome!*