

PRINTS OF PEACE

APRIL 2025

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP & SPECIAL EVENTS

SCRIPTURE READINGS



SUNDAYS
April 6, 13, 27

In-Building and Online Worship (9 a.m.)
Coffee Hour (10:15 a.m.)
Inclusive Evangelicals Group (10:30 a.m.)

TUESDAYS
April 1, 8, 15

Lenten Bible Study (10:30 a.m.)

WEDNESDAYS

Choir (5:00 p.m.) April 2, 9, 16, 30
Soup Supper (6:00 p.m.) April 2, 9
Lent Worship (7:00 p.m.) April 2, 9

THURSDAYS

Bells (4:00 p.m.)

**THURSDAYS
& FRIDAYS**

Ana's Place Afterschool Program (4:00 p.m.)
(unless cancelled for school vacation days)

- Apr. 5 Mary Adams Memorial Service (10:00 a.m.)
Apr. 6 Home Visitors Meeting (10:30 a.m.)
Apr. 8 Council (6:30 p.m.)
Apr. 12 Really, Really Free Market (10:00-2:00)
Apr. 13 Palm Sunday Worship with Processional (9:00 p.m.)
Baby Shower for Amanda & Clark (10:30 a.m.)
Apr. 17 Mobile Food Pantry (7 a.m.)
Choir & Bells (5:00 p.m.)
Maundy Thursday Worship (6:00 p.m.)
Apr. 18 Good Friday - Mount Cristo Rey Stations of the Cross
- Self Guided Prayer Station at Peace
Apr. 19 Easter Vigil Service (5:00 p.m.)
Apr. 20 Easter Sunday Worship (9:00 a.m.)
Easter Brunch Potluck (10:15 a.m.)
Apr. 21 OFFICE CLOSED - EASTER MONDAY
Apr. 21-24 PASTOR OUT
Apr. 23 Green Team (3:45 p.m.)
Apr. 27 Advocacy Sunday & Offering of Letters

April 6

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

April 13

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14—23:56

April 20

Acts 10:34-43
Isaiah 65:17-25 (alt.)
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
Acts 10:34-43 (alt.)
Luke 24:1-12

April 27

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29
Psalm 150 (alt.)
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

PLC STAFF

Rev. Hannah DiPasquale, Pastor
pastorhannah@peacelutheranlc.com

Anna Dykeman, Deacon
deaconanna@peacelutheranlc.com

Sandy Johnson, Parish Admin.
office@peacelutheranlc.com

Jieun Newland, Music Minister

Tommy Grimes & Phil Lingle, Custodians

HAPPY EASTER!



www.peacelutheranlc.com



www.facebook.com/peacelutheranlc

Pastor's Message

Rev. Hannah DiPasquale

I have a friend who is so positive that, even in the deepest grief or the hardest situations, she will sit and smile, with eyes full of tears, insisting: "I'm fine. Everything is fine." Even when, quite objectively, everything is not fine. (In fact, I think I have several friends...several parishioners...who do this. I think I do it sometimes, too.)

"This Lent has been the Lentiest Lent that's ever Lented." It's been a difficult season. A violent tragedy struck our community—our neighborhood—showing us, again, that young lives are lost way too early too often in our city, and in our country. We've lost so many of our own, too. Beloveds from our community, our church family, our lives, who are no longer with us on this walk on earth.

Grief marks our journey to the cross this Lent. And this season reminds us we are all headed there—and Jesus went there, too. Jesus went all the way to *death* (and through death) to reveal just how much God is with-us.

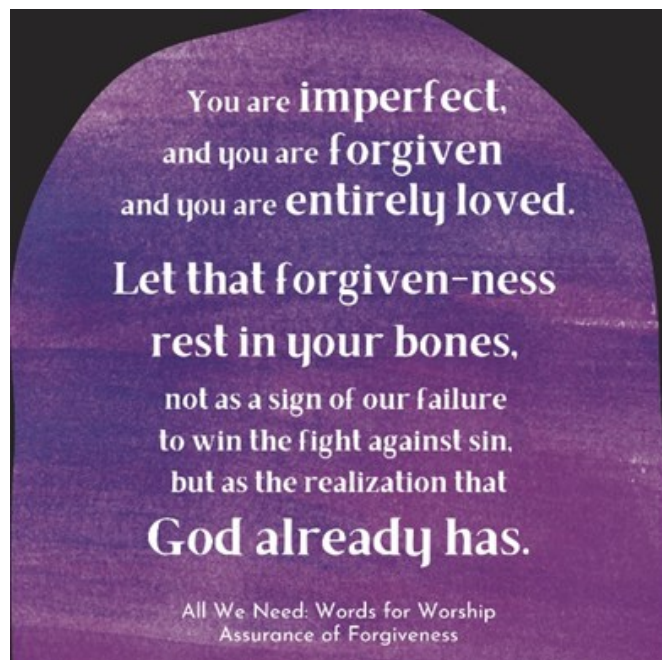
Although I love the positive people in my life, and I don't try to deter people from finding the bright side of things, sometimes we just need to make room for grief and be honest about how hard things are.

Jesus did not go to the cross smiling through the tears (except perhaps to his disciple friends who I imagine he had such deep love for he couldn't help but smile through his grief at them). But instead of always trying to stay positive, Jesus let himself weep. He mourned, he hungered, he suffered. I wonder if he knew that the human experience would never be rid of these things, so he allowed himself to feel it all. To enter into it deeply, in full solidarity with us, in full accompaniment with the human experience.

Friends, we are not alone in our grief and sorrow. Lent reminds us that *God is still with us*, in the trenches and on the margins. And, we have each other. We continue to show up with and for one another—coming to worship even when our legs shake—even when our voice trembles—even when we don't feel like it. We reach out to that friend who is struggling even when we ourselves are struggling—even when we are so, so tired.

But this is how we resist the violence. This is how we resist the despair. We continue doing the important work of showing up as God's people, promoting peace and connection. We work towards a Kingdom not built on violence but a Kingdom built on empathy and compassion and love. At our table, we proclaim: ALL are welcome. Even those who are smiling through the tears saying everything is fine.

Easter brings us hope. We cling to that hope—*hoping* that it is true and real. Begging it to be so.



In the meantime...we find Jesus headed toward death. Jesus who did not consider "equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness ... he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:6-8)

Jesus is in the midst of it *all*. Jesus is in our grief, our suffering, our loneliness—AND Jesus is in the connections we make with one another as we continue to show up for one another, glimpsing hope that perhaps death—whether real or the little deaths we die everyday—are not the end.

Holy Week is an invitation to lean into *all* of it, not in order to make us feel worse or in order for us to become depressed or intrenched in the sadness; but in order for us to more clearly see God in the midst of it all. We are being invited to draw near to a God who does not shy away from our tears or from our pain. So I invite you: come as you are. Show up honestly and as your full self, and together let's see where God is still showing up.

Deacon's Message

Deacon Anna Dykeman

Are you curious as to what an ELCA deacon is all about?

The ELCA and Peace Lutheran Constitution share these descriptions:

Who is a Deacon?

- Deacons are Ministers of Word & Service. Pastors are Ministers of Word & Sacrament.
- Deacons are an ordained roster in the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). This means that they are specifically trained, educated, and called to serve as leaders in our church.
- Deacons serve in a variety of settings, including congregations, hospitals, and schools. Many deacons serve as chaplains, youth ministers, educators, community service leaders, administrators, and more. A deacon's ministry responds to the needs of a specific community or context.
- From Peace Lutheran Church Constitution Section *C9.23:
Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, every minister of Word and Service shall:
 - a. Be rooted in the Word of God, for proclamation and service;
 - b. Advocate a prophetic diakonia that commits itself to risk-taking and innovative service on the frontiers of the Church's outreach, giving particular attention to the suffering places in God's world;
 - c. Speak publicly to the world in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, calling for justice and proclaiming God's love for the world, witnessing to the realm of God in the community, the nation, and abroad;
 - d. Equip the baptized for ministry in God's world that affirms the gifts of all people;
 - e. Encourage mutual relationships that invite participation and accompaniment of others in God's mission;
 - f. Practice stewardship that respects God's gift of time, talents, and resources;
 - g. Be grounded in a gathered community for ongoing diaconal formation;
 - h. Share knowledge of this church and its wider ministry of the gospel and advocate for the work of all expressions of this church; and
 - i. Identify and encourage qualified persons to prepare for ministry of the gospel.

Over the next several months, I will be getting to learn and know Peace Lutheran and what you all, as the people who call this place community, are all about. Together we will discern where the Spirit is equipping and calling us as a congregation to serve the people and places around us. This congregation is passionate about Word and service work! I look forward to accompanying you and seeing what God is already up to in Dona Ana County. In the meantime, let's get to know each other more.

Thanks for you!

Deacon Anna

Worship

Council Representative: Ginny Acosta

EASTER FLOWERS

This year we want to decorate the sanctuary with YOUR flowers and flowering plants. If you'd like to bring something, please bring it to the church on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday so the committee can have them ready for Sunday morning. Following worship you should take yours home to continue to celebrate Easter there.



COMMUNAL WORSHIP - APRIL 2025

And now April finds us in the midst of Lent which will end on April 17th, Holy Thursday.

Maybe your Lenten journey has been one of discovery for you: new blessings and/or opportunities, new friends in Christ, more prayer time (and its inherent discoveries) and more giving to where your passions lead you. Maybe those are to serve in Church, to give donations of time or monies to charities of your choice or to donate clothing or food to others who lack in life. Lent is more than giving up as it is giving oneself to others, to Christ. Perhaps your Lenten journey has been a difficult one or even filled with some unexpected turn of events. God is still always with you in your Lenten journey.

April will also mark the beginning of Holy Week, starting on Palm Sunday and pressing on through the darkness of Friday into the Light of Easter morning. Darkness will never win; the Light of Christ will always prevail.

Please consider joining us for the Holy Week opportunities of worship. Check the church's website, newsletter and those announcements during church service. Palm Sunday, April 13, begins Holy Week and we recall Jesus riding a young foal or donkey into Jerusalem, an abiding symbol of the King of Peace. We too will have a Palm Processional so please do join us that morning.

For Maundy Thursday, April 17, we will have Holy Communion as well as foot/hand washing before the Altar is stripped bare. This worship commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ. Maundy comes from the Latin word of *mandatum* which means command or mandate. It refers to Jesus's command to his disciples to "love one another" and others (as He loved them and others). During this meal, the Last Supper, with Jesus and the disciples, He establishes the sacrament of the Eucharist (known as Holy Communion). This moving worship experience begins a 6 p.m. that evening.

Friday, April 18, will have as an opportunity for self-guided Stations of the Cross and other events will be announced for that day.

Saturday, April 19, will be the Vigil of Easter here at our church. Easter Sunday is on April 20th with worship followed by an Easter Brunch Potluck.

Easter – a time to remember we worship a Risen, Reigning and Returning Redeemer!

Worship

Council Representative: Ginny Acosta

continued

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2025

Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday

9:00 AM Worship with Palm Processional

Thursday, April 17 - Maundy Thursday

6:00 PM Holy Communion Service with Foot/Hand Washing & Stripping the Altar

Friday, April 18 - Good Friday

(Time TBA) – Mount Cristo Rey *Stations of the Cross* Hike (El Paso).

(9:00-1:00) Self-Guided Prayer Stations in the sanctuary

Prayer booklets will be available to take home to use on your own.

Saturday, April 19 - Holy Saturday

5:00 PM - Easter Vigil Service

An ecumenical service with our Episcopalian neighbors here at Peace with a fire pit, candle procession, special service of Word & Sacrament, and fellowship around the fire after the service.

Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday

9:00 AM - Worship followed by a Brunch Potluck



Holy Week

More about Holy Week...

Come have your feet or hands washed on Maundy Thursday!

Maundy Thursday will be a full service of Holy Communion, optional Foot/Hand Washing, and Stripping the Altar. You are invited to come and participate as fully as you feel comfortable. We will have stations available for foot or hand washing; although you can do both! We follow Jesus' example of service when, at the table, he "poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet..." (John 13:5)—participating in that act of humble service for one another, being sent out into the world to serve our neighbors too.

What's happening on Good Friday??

We will not have one communal worship service on Good Friday. Instead, we will offer a printed guidebook with prayer stations that you can use on a hike up Mt Cristo Rey (carpooling to be available), on your own on a favorite trail or walking path, or within the Peace sanctuary at a designated time. You are invited to engage with the stations individually and introspectively, at your own pace. The prayer stations will invite you to consider what's in your environment and keep our gaze upon the Cross.

Easter starts on Saturday!

We are working with St. Andrew's Episcopal to prepare a special Easter Vigil worship on Holy Saturday. We will gather outside at Peace before moving into the sanctuary for a special service with readings, holy communion, and asperging (come see what that is). We'll enjoy s'mores and refreshments around the fire after the service with our friends from other churches.

Administration

Council Representative: Lisa Bates

PLC VISION TEAM

In January 2025, we launched a Vision Team, contracting with a program called *Churches in Mission (CIM)* out of Western Seminary and funded by the Lilly Endowment. *Churches in Mission collaborates with congregations who see a social, economic, or physical change in their neighborhoods that they want to explore and desire to know and listen to their neighbors, participate in acts of gratitude and story sharing, and are looking for new partners in ministry.*

We have called together a team to engage in this process. The team includes **Amanda Goodluck, Jeanne Brown, Mary Luckie, Ryan Steinmetz, and Pastor Hannah**. Our CIM coach has been leading us through a process of listening to our congregation and our community. Our hope is to embrace our mission and discern God's direction for Peace moving forward. After an initial training, the next step has been to *Listen and Discover*. This phase includes completing **interviews** both with congregation members and people in our neighborhood. The team is also researching demographics of our congregation and our community.

If you get asked to complete an interview with a member of the team, please say 'yes' and enter the conversation openly and honestly. We look forward to listening to you and then teasing out what we hear from church and community members to help us discern how we respond faithfully and move forward as a congregation.



SAVE THE DATE – CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – SUNDAY MAY 4TH

After worship, we will elect new Church Council and standing committee members and hear several updates about the congregation. Plan to join us!

COUNCIL MEETING NOTES - MARCH

We welcomed Deacon Anna to the Church Council. We heard an update about the solar panel initiative and how the pledge goal is almost met. Minutes from two recent congregational meetings were reviewed and will be presented to the congregation for approval at the next congregational meeting. The Nomination Committee has been mobilized to complete their nominations for new council and committee members to be elected in May. We discussed ways for Deacon Anna to stay in touch with the congregation and keep the church updated about what she is working on.

Advocacy

Council Representative: Gene Quandt

Sunday, April 27 – ADVOCACY SUNDAY at Peace

Webster dictionary defines advocacy as “the act or process of supporting a cause or proposal.”

Peace Lutheran Church is an advocating church that supports several causes, including Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM and Bread for the World.

This year Bread for the World will be celebrating 50 years of advocating for legislation that will provide funding to support and protect nutrition programs for children. This ties into this year’s theme: Nourish our Future. On April 27th we will participate in offering letters to our Congressmen regarding legislation to support nutrition programs for women and children.

Come hear from Kurt Rager, the director of Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-New Mexico who will be joining us for worship and preaching. There will also be a special presentation for a lifetime achievement in advocacy award to one of our own Peace members.

Fellowship

Council Representative: Karen Harvey

BABY SHOWER - April 13

Join us for a **BABY SHOWER** in honor of **Amanda & Clark's baby girl arriving soon!** On Sunday, April 13, during coffee hour after worship, we will have cake and refreshments to celebrate. You are welcome to bring gifts, money, or gift cards to support the family. Gift registry: www.DreamList.com/for/amandaandclarksbabygirl

WIM - WOMEN IN MOTION

We won't be meeting in April since the 3rd Thursday is Maundy Thursday. All women of the congregation are invited to come when we'll meet for lunch and to get to know one another in May. We also take an offering which the group donates to different projects.

If you wish to be on our email list, please send your name and email to Karen Harvey at khpollype@gmail.com or give your email to the church office.

BIRTHDAYS

4/1	Austin Powell	4/17	Phil Yost
4/4	Susan Smith	4/19	Dick Irons
4/7	Linda Braxton	4/21	Rick Redshaw
4/7	Jessie Stockberger	4/26	Adam Roberts
4/8	Marty Avelsgaard	4/26	Kristen Rogers
4/8	Lily Pinkes	4/28	Becky Simpson
4/12	Sam Winkles	4/30	Collin Roberts

Please let us know if your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect or you have updated contact information.



DIRECTORY UPDATES

Barons - email change
DAVEBARB.BARON@gmail.com

Becky McNair - new addresses
12122 N. Finch Dr
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

Ed McNair
Fountain Hills Village C213
16455 E. Ave. of the Fountains
Fountain Hills, AZ

Clarice & Dick Irons - new address
2880 N Roadrunner Pkwy, Apt 214
Las Cruces NM 88011

ANNIVERSARIES

4/19 Diane & David Powell
4/23 Barbara & Dave Baron

Service

Council Representative: Amanda Goodluck

SOLAR PANEL UPDATE from the Green Team



We officially signed the contract for the 30 solar panel installation with Organ Mountain Solar on Feb. 18th. The solar company has done a basic survey of our property, but we are still waiting for the structural engineer. We did confirm that **if** the structural engineer determines there is absolutely no safe place to put the panels, we do not owe the solar company more than \$2,000. Depending on the configuration of the panels, the cost of adding a bird barrier around the base of the panels may be zero, in which case it would be a no-brainer to install.

Organ Mountain Solar said they expect installation to start in early May and go live in June or July. The New Mexico Chapter of Interfaith Power & Light will be able to assist us with both federal and state tax rebates.

THANK YOU SO MUCH to everyone that has already pledged or donated to the Solar Panel Initiative! There has already been 27 households that have pledged a total of **\$21,825**. We are over 95% toward our goal! But we still need a little more! If you haven't pledged yet, we welcome small \$5 or \$10 donations, too! We would like as many people to contribute and have a sense of ownership of this initiative as possible!

If you have already made your pledge, you may write your check(s) to **Peace Lutheran Church** and putting "**Solar Initiative**" in the memo, preferably by May 1st. Your support is appreciated by the Green Team, Council, God's creation, and the spirits of those suffering the worst from climate change.

The Solar Initiative's HOME STRETCH!

Peace is ONE solar panel away from our goal!



Will **YOU** be the person to push us over the finish line?

- Giving can look like this:
- \$750 = 1 panel
 - \$375 = 1/2 panel
 - \$150 = 1/5 panel
 - \$5, \$10, \$25 = "microshares" of a panel

Any funds received over our goal will be used to install smart thermostats.

Maintenance & Stewardship

Council Representative: Ross Staffeldt

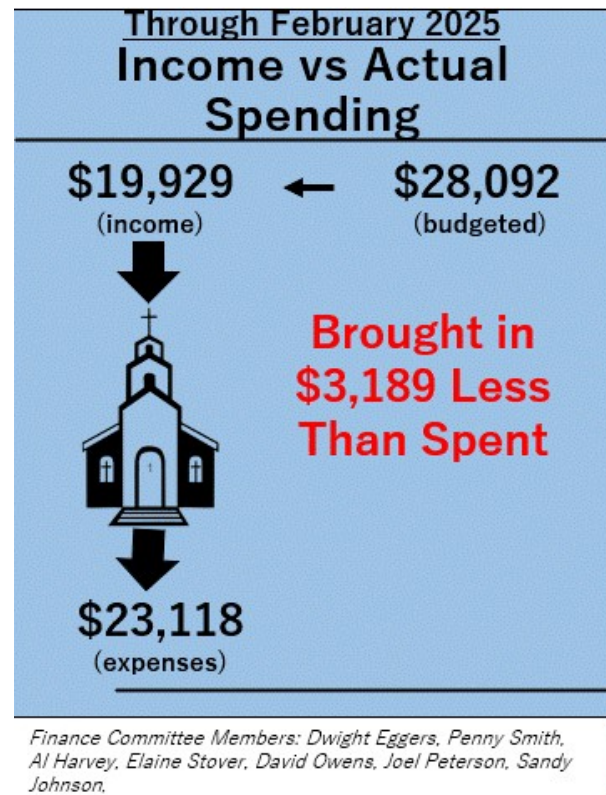
MEMORIALS COMMITTEE REQUEST

Peace is in need of someone to enter names into the Gifts Book where we recognize the memorials given in memory of our members.

If you have calligraphy skills or very clear and readable printing skills, please contact Susan Yarne.



FINANCIAL REPORT



SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE: APPLY by July 15 DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

The Mason S Brown Scholarship has been made available through the generosity of Mike and Jennifer Brown more than 19 years ago after the death of their infant daughter, Mason. In spite of their grief, God inspired the Brown family to consider the needs of others, and this scholarship is a witness to their love.

Peace Lutheran hopes to award the Mason S. Brown Scholarship to a graduating high school senior or person who is attending a college, university, community college, or vocational-technical school on a full-time or part-time basis, and is an active member/participant in good standing at Peace Lutheran Church.

Application forms are available at Peace Lutheran Church and must be submitted by July 15. Scholarships will be awarded during a worship service in August.

If you would like to contribute to this scholarship fund, please place your donation in the offering plate or send it to the church office. We can continue to help students with this scholarship through your generosity.