



PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship and Events APRIL 2026

Wed, Apr 1	Choir Practice	5 pm
Thur, Apr 2	Campanas de Paz Practice Maundy Thursday Service Peace & Pride Community	4 pm 6 pm 7 pm
Fri, Apr 3	Good Friday Stations	9 am – 6 pm
Sat, Apr 4	NO Really Really Free Market Paul Miller memorial service Easter Vigil - St James Episcopal	11 am 7 pm
Sun, Apr 5	EASTER Sunday Potluck Brunch follows	9 am
Tue, Apr 7	Bible Study	10 am
Wed, Apr 8	Choir Practice	5 pm
Thur, Apr 9	Campanas de Paz Practice	4 pm
Sat, Apr 11	Really Really Free Market	10 am
Sun, Apr 12	Education Hour	9 am
NEW TIMES!!	Sunday Worship	10 am
Tue, Apr 14	Bible Study Church Council Mtg	10 am 6 pm
Wed, Apr 15	Choir Practice	5 pm
Thur, April 16	Mobile Food Pantry Women in Motion Campanas de Paz Practice	8 am 11:30 am 4 pm
Sat, April 18	Earth Day Bird Walk @ Mesilla Valley Bosque (sign up)	8am
Sun, Apr 19	Education Hour Sunday Worship Earth Day Sun Day Celebration	9 am 10 am 11:30 am
Tue, Apr 21	Bible Study	10 am
Wed, Apr 22	Choir Practice	5 pm
Thur, Apr 23	Campanas de Paz Practice	4 pm
Sun, Apr 26	Education Hour Sunday Worship	9 am 10 am
Tue, Apr 28	Bible Study	10 am
Wed, Apr 29	Choir Practice	5 pm
Thur, Apr 30	Campanas de Paz Practice	4 pm

Ana's Place After-School Program –
Every Thurs & Friday at 4:15pm!



PLC Staff

Rev. Hannah DiPasquale, Pastor
Pastorhannah@peacelutheranlc.com

Diane Haugesag, Office Admin
office@peacelutheranlc.com

Dr. Seth Zamora, Music Director
szamora@peacelutheranlc.com

Dr. David Klement, Choir Director

Tommy Grimes, Custodian

**Rocky Mountain Synod
Assembly** is April 23-25 in
Denver. Pray for our Peace
delegates, Kathie & Dennis Rich;
Lynette Schurdevin, member of
the RMS Council; and all those
gathered.



**Save the Date! Sunday May 3rd –
Congregational Meeting**
We will elect new Council &
Committee members & hear
updates from church leaders.

April Birthdays

Austin Powell	Apr 1	Debby Watson	Apr 20
Susan Smith	Apr 4	Ron Bussian	Apr 25
Carol Powers	Apr 5	Kristen Rogers	Apr 26
Linda Braxton	Apr 7	Lance Shepan	Apr 26
Jessie Stockberger	Apr 7	Becky Simpson	Apr 28
Marty Avelsgaard	Apr 8		
Sam Winkles	Apr 12	April Anniversaries	
Glen Kuehn	Apr 13	Diane & David Powell	Apr 19
Phil Yost	Apr 17	Barbara & David Baron	Apr 23

Church Council Updates – Lisa Bates

Council continues to move forward in helping to plan for the transition to a 10:00 am start time on April 12th. Keep looking for more updates as it gets closer.

Earth Day Sun Day will be **April 19th!** There will be a special Sunday Service and dedication for our new Solar Panels followed by a community luncheon. We are combining our quarterly community event with a public dedication of Peace going solar! Look for volunteer sign-up sheets to be posted in the Narthex soon. We will need help setting up, serving, cleaning up and, of course, some delicious side dishes. We will need many hands to make this another successful event like FriendsGiving!

The Property Committee has been completing many maintenance, repairs and upgrades around Peace. Please let them know how much they are appreciated. Thank you all!! Members are:

Karen Quandt, Gene Quandt, Geri Ayers, Dan Diemer, Amanda Goodluck,
Joel Peterson, Steve Ruwoldt, Jonathan Danielson, Rick Green, Mary Green

The Personnel Committee, Lynette Schurdevin, is looking for more members. She is currently updating all our human resource documents and policies and procedures. Do you have a background and/or knowledge in policy development, hiring/firing procedures, performance evaluations, job descriptions, etc.? If so, we would love to hear from you. If this is something you'd be interested in, please contact Lynette, any council member, and/or the Pastor.

We have hired a new AV Technician, Guillermo Canaway. Please be sure to welcome him with the warm Peace hospitality that you all have. We are looking forward to improving and enhancing our AV skills and abilities. One way we are already improving is figuring out ways to help hearing impaired persons attend the Bible studies. If you have suggestions or ideas, please present them to Guillermo, the Pastor or me.

Mark your calendar for the next Congregational Meeting, **May 3rd** immediately following the Sunday service. We will be voting for Council and committee members along with other important updates.

Pastor's Message – Rev. Hannah DiPasquale

“Take a deep breath in... and out...”

I didn't know how powerful it could be to simply breathe together.

As I led us through the *visio divina* practice on Wednesday evening, I felt God's presence Anew through our shared breathing in between pauses and gazes.

The Sunday before, a church member asked before worship, “Are we going to breathe this morning?” Wondering, of course, about my new habit of leading us in a shared deep breath together before we worship each Sunday.

Taking a moment to breathe is intentional. It centers us, relaxes us, and you can *feel* it when we all do it at the same time.

Breathing is resistance. Taking the moment to breathe is not only a moment of relief, it is an act of resistance against consumerism, against productivity, against the temptation to *go, go go* all the time.

Breathing is an invitation. An *Invocation*. Inviting the Spirit to be present among us, as we remind ourselves of the Spirit already within us, filling our lungs with air.

Holy Week is another time to breathe. To slow down, to enter more intentionally the path of Jesus, and join him in his final breaths. We approach the fate we know is coming, not running away from it, but *trusting God's intention through it*. Traveling even through the darkest valley with our Lord—God-with-us, in full solidarity and suffering as one of us—not apart from us. Not forcing us to fester guilt or shame, but inviting us in. Drawing near—as near as our next breath.

“Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.” (Mark 15:37)

As we hold our breath, from Good Friday to Easter morning, we remember God's promise Goes beyond even that last breath. God's Spirit of Breath transcends even death—with Jesus traveling all the way to death, and also *through* death, sealing the promise of Eternal Life for each and all of us.

But before we jump to Sunday, we slow down for some tomb time. We continue to breathe When Jesus can't anymore. We are the hands and feet of Christ, carrying his embodied hope into the world today.

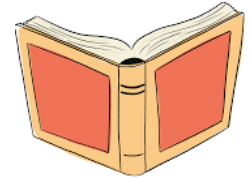
New life emerges once the earth has had a chance to breathe anew. Resurrection doesn't Come without death.

“Rain don't change the sun. Jealous is the night when the morning comes... and it always comes.” (Delta Rae, *Morning Comes*)

Bible Study at Peace – Book Study – Paul Christensen

The latest Bible study, based on the book *Through Middle Eastern Eyes - Cultural Studies in the Gospels* by Kenneth E. Bailey, continues weekly at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays**. We continue to meet in **Fellowship Hall**. All are welcome to join us as you are able! The study relies on in-class reading and discussion. Discussions are frequent and fruitful, and the fellowship is great.

The author is a research professor of Middle Eastern New Testament studies who shares the cultural context of those living during biblical times. These insights bring richer meaning to much-loved scripture including Jesus' birth, the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer, Jesus' parables, and more. The author's writing style is easy to read and has led many to an even greater appreciation for the richness of scripture.



Holy Week Schedule & Information

Sunday, March 29 – PALM SUNDAY

9:00 AM Worship w/Palm Processional (in-person and streaming [online](#))

We begin worship outside for this special service marking Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and inviting us into Holy Week.

Thursday, April 2 – MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service w/ Holy Communion, Foot/Hand Washing, Stripping of the Altar (in-person and streaming [online](#))

All are invited to come and participate as fully as you feel comfortable. Stations for both foot and hand washing will be available, you can do one or the other, or none, or both!

Friday, April 3 – GOOD FRIDAY

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Self-guided Stations of the Cross (Sanctuary; in-person only)

We will not have one communal worship service on Good Friday. Instead, a printed guide will walk you through prayer stations set up in the sanctuary all day, and you are invited to engage with the stations individually and introspectively at your own pace anytime.

Saturday, April 4 – VIGIL OF EASTER

7:00 PM Ecumenical Vigil Service @ St James Episcopal Church (in-person only)

We gather at St James (102 St James Ave.) for this special service of new fire, readings, and holy communion with our Episcopalian siblings in Christ.

Sunday, April 5 – EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 AM Worship (in-person and streaming [online](#))

We celebrate the resurrection of Christ with a brass quintet and special worship service. Followed by Brunch Potluck - bring something to share!



Earth Day Sun Day Celebrations!



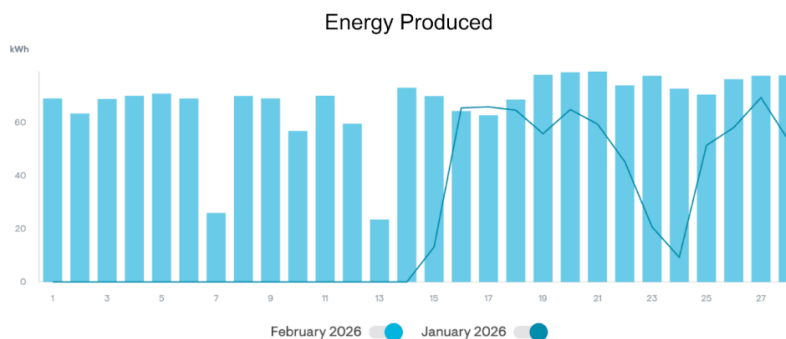
As a part of Earth Day Sun Day celebrations, Peace is sponsoring a **Saturday Bird Walk on April 18** at the Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park. Please sign up in the narthex, then meet us in the parking lot of the church at 7:45 am or at the Bosque at 8:00 am. Participants with out-of-state license plates should carpool with in-state license plates to avoid paying a parking fee. Dress for the weather with comfortable walking shoes and bring water, sunscreen, and binoculars if you have them. Questions? Ron Bussian, 575-636-4093.

Come to worship on **Sunday April 19th at 10 am** to dedicate the new solar panels to our Creator and thank the donors who made this possible. Immediately after service, at **11:30 am**, we will celebrate Earth Day with our neighbors by enjoying **lunch** and **solar-themed activities!**

There will be cake, a piñata, corn hole, and more! We have invited the community to share our joy so that they will know we love God’s creation, not in words, but in deed and truth (1 John 3:18).

We are looking for volunteers to bring side dishes, serve food, or host a game or activity! Sign-up sheets are in the narthex. Contact Amanda Goodluck, Mary McDermott, or Pastor Hannah for more information.

February Solar Panel Production



In the month of February, our solar panels produced **1.9 Megawatt hours!** That is equivalent to **1.3 tons of carbon dioxide** reduction, or **22 trees** planted, or **162,700 phones** charged.

From the beginning of production to the end of February, the panels have produced **2.8 Megawatt hours!** That is equivalent to **2 tons of carbon dioxide** reduction, or **33 trees** planted, or **239,400 phones** charged. Stay tuned March’s numbers, and remember to join us in dedicating the panels to our Lord on April 19th during worship with a meal to follow!

Women in Motion (WIM) – Karen Harvey

WIM (Women In Motion) is for all women and their guests at Peace. There are no special requirements other than that we enjoy each other's company and share a meal together. We do occasionally sponsor some of the activities at Peace by organizing and bringing food, but participation is totally voluntary. If you would like to be on an email list to find out about our activities, contact the church office with your email or email Karen Harvey at khpollype@gmail.com.

We meet monthly for a potluck luncheon on the third Thursday of each month, bringing a dish to share with coffee and tea provided. We also celebrate our birthday gals with cards and a joyful, noisy "Happy Birthday!" We will meet on **Thursday, April 16, at 11:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall at Peace.



From the Memorial Committee



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 an active member/ participant in good standing at Peace Lutheran Church who is a graduating high school senior or person attending a college, university, community college, or vocational-technical school either full-time or part-time.

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.

Food Pantry Update – Dennis Morin

Thank you to the people who brought volunteers in March - it really made a difference. If new volunteers want to return next month, many hands make light work! I received several positive comments from the clients, saying that we are very organized and everything ran smoothly. Thanks again!

Our total served in March was 84 households, 227 individuals, 15 new households, including 49 new individuals served. Bravo to you all!



April's food pantry will be held on Thursday, 16th beginning at 8 a.m. If you are interested in volunteering with this important community ministry, contact Dennis Morin for more information: dennismorin39@gmail.com.

THANK YOU – Lent Soup Suppers

Thank you to all who made Wednesday night soup suppers happen!

Thank you for making soup, bringing bread, setting up, washing dishes, serving drinks, welcoming neighbors. We are grateful for this community that values hospitality and good food!

Financial Report (February vs. January 2026)

RECEIPTS

<i>BUDGETED</i>	<i>ACTUAL Feb. 2026</i>	<i>ACTUAL Jan. 2026</i>
\$30,195*	\$31,138	\$29,409

**giving not including dedicated & pass thru funds*

EXPENSES

<i>BUDGETED</i>	<i>ACTUAL Feb. 2026</i>	<i>ACTUAL Jan. 2026</i>
\$26,475	\$30,729	\$35,729

For February, we received \$1,102 more than we spent.

Finance Committee Members: Joel Peterson, Dwight Eggers, Sandy Johnson, Sue Miller-Wiltz, David Owens, Steve Ruwoldt, Penny Smith, Elaine Stover



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MISSION STATEMENT

We are called to be an inclusive community, sharing God's grace through worship, service, and hospitality.

Sunday Worship Service 9:00am

TIME CHANGE BEGINS 4/12/26

Education Hour 9:00am

Worship 10:00 am

Office Hours: Mon 11:00am-3:00pm

Tues-Fri 9:00am-3:00pm

April 2026



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