



## WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

“Welcoming and accepting all people” – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. “along” – is an invitation to join together side by side. “*journey of faith*” – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing “*service*” – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.

### Ten Traits of Thriving Congregations

**#4 Thriving congregations reject fear mentality.** “Faith communities with a desire to thrive cannot be places of fear. Fear cannot live in a thriving congregation. Instead, fear must be replaced by courage and a willingness to act.” - Rev. Dr. Erin C. Cash, Lexington Theological Seminary

### Congregational Vote to Purchase PLC Property

At its meeting on April 9, the church board voted unanimously to approve the written proposal to purchase the Peace Lutheran Church property which we have been renting until this point. On Sunday, May 5 we will have a meeting following worship for the congregation to vote on the same proposal. Copies of the contract as well as a written summary are available from the church office by request. Questions may be directed to Jim Cullumber or Jennifer Reaves in advance, or at the congregational meeting.

### Changes in Worship for Adults and Children

While our congregational mission is to welcome all people, not all aspects of our worship are age-appropriate for children. We have consistently offered Children Worship and Wonder for preschool through 1<sup>st</sup> grade children, but our Faith Formation Ministry Team has now developed a Kids’ Church alternative for children in 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades, which will begin May 5 and take place in the classroom adjacent to the Fellowship Hall on all but the third Sunday of each month. These children will stay with their families in the sanctuary until after the Offertory, and then be dismissed with the teacher and helper to attend Kids’ Church which will consist of a story and accompanying activity.

There will be a significant change in the order of worship for adults in order to allow enough time for the planned Kids Church lesson. **Communion and Offering will be moved before the scripture reading and sermon**, directly after the choral anthem in our previous order of worship. This will begin May 5 and continue indefinitely, even on Sundays when there is no Kids’ Church.

### *Refreshing our Inner Spirit - Women’s Retreat*

*May 25, 2024 - 8:30 - 12:30 (approx.) - Peace Lutheran Church*

*We would like to invite you to a morning Retreat to refresh, relax, engage, converse, think, move, and just be with each other for this informative experience. Starting with a light breakfast (8:30), after which we will enjoy a session of “Motion to Music”. Speakers will be Robin Blair, discussing Self Care/Awareness; Becky Brown, guided meditation session; and Ellen Broglio. Other events as time and weather permit.*

*We will look forward to hearing from you with your RSVP by May 22, 2024 to Leanna Carrol 417-529-2787 or Patt Hinds 417-392-0307.*

### PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 19

**Wear red** and come prepared with a special offering for New Church Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

### Worship in May

May 5	John 15:9-17 “Bedrock”
May 12	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 “Time to Move On”
May 19	Pentecost Acts 2:1-4, 12-21 “The Rush of Wind and Spirit”
May 26	Mark 1:14-20 “Climb Out of the Boat”

## EVENTS/OTHER

### Sabbatical Policy

Our congregation adopted a Sabbatical Policy in 2003 allowing for three months at the end of each five years of ministry for its pastor(s), with full salary and expenses to be paid. Pastor Colleen began as our installed pastor in August of 2015, and has taken one month of sabbatical in the summer of 2022. She is scheduled for a 3-month sabbatical from June 17 through September 10 of this year. A send-off and litany of mutual blessing will be observed in worship on Sunday, June 9.

Sabbatical leaves typically include time for pastors to rest and renew away from the responsibilities of ongoing ministry. During her sabbatical, Pastor has registered for two events geared toward renewal. Wild Goose Festival is an outdoor conference in North Carolina with an emphasis on progressive Christianity. Renown speakers, musicians, and artists will be featured in the four-day festival in early July. September 3-6 Pastor will be in Washington DC for a clergy conference sponsored by the Pension Fund of the Christian Church. The remainder of the summer she plans to visit some churches with innovative ministries and make a dent in a stack of accumulated reading between occasional trips to be with family or relax at her home. The congregation is asked to respect her time away and work together to maintain congregational ministry in her absence.

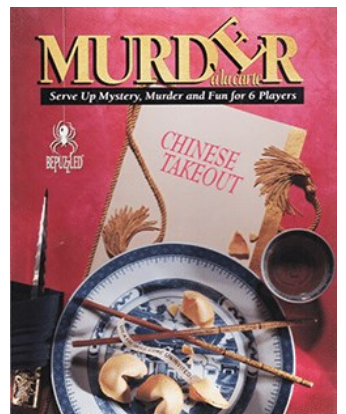
In the June newsletter we will introduce the Sabbatical Bridge Pastor, Rev. Teresa Spear, who will assist our Elders and leaders in providing worship and guidance during the sabbatical. To supplement expenses, we will be offering various activities and items via a silent auction throughout the summer, which Megan Bever and Daniell Sanders are scheduling. The first event is a Murder Mystery Dinner at Pastor Colleen's home in May (see below).

It is common for congregations and pastors to read a designated book during the sabbatical and our Sabbatical Committee (Mike Fitterling, Danielle Sanders, Ellen Broglio, and Megan Bever) chose a book by Adam Grant entitled *Think Again*. Daniell is coordinating an order for anyone who would like a copy provided by the church. The book is also readily available on a number of online sites. Pastor Spear will be leading a discussion on Sunday mornings for adults, and a weekday discussion will be led by Megan and Daniell.

### Sabbatical Auction: Murder Mystery Dinner for 6

Description: "*Chinese Takeout*"<sup>®</sup> is a role-play experience for six adults (three men and three women). The meal will be hosted at Pastor Colleen and Tom Hamm's home in Loma Linda. During the four-course Chinese meal, guests will take part in a scripted drama to discover which one of the six suspects committed a murder. Prior to the event, guests will be provided with a description of their character and costume suggestions to enhance the entertainment.

Available dates are Friday May 17, or May 31. Suggested minimum bid: \$90 for six guests.



**Adult Faith Formation** Ellen Broglio will be leading a study on Mary Magdalene and newly discovered *The Gospel of Mary* for adults on Sundays in the month of May. We will now be meeting in the classroom adjacent to the fellowship hall at 9:30 AM.

### Courageous Conversations

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion working group of Joplin invite you to the next Courageous Conversations on Tuesday, May 21 at 5:30PM at 530 Somewhere event center (530 S. Main St. Joplin). The topic is "Invisible Disabilities" and speakers will include Reese Prater, granddaughter of Joe Prater from SJCC. The event is free.

### Interfaith Panel on Science and Religion

On Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m., South Joplin Christian Church and the Joplin Interfaith Coalition will hold a panel discussion on Science and Religion. The session, to be held at Peace Lutheran Church will focus on how panelists understand the connections between their vocations in the sciences and their religious beliefs.

### CROSSLINES MINISTRIES

May Challenge is: TBD

Crosslines day for May 23

9:45 am - 2:00 pm.

New volunteers are always welcome!

### Fellowship Dinner

May 19 - Noon

If your last name begins with:

C bring main dishes;

D-G, H-P and Q-W bring sides or salads; and

A-B bring desserts.

In keeping with our Green Chalice designation, we encourage everyone to bring their own dinnerware.

## Prayer Requests

### Medical:

Catherine Cullumber; Robert Johnson; Larry, Franz, Marrie; Bill Howell; Betty Millard (Powers)

### Sympathy:

Donna Blankenship (Fitterling); Raymond Gall; Charles Wilson

### Military:

Michael Crofford; Corey Irwin; Josh Robb; Gary Wald

### Ongoing:

Connie Abraham; John Asher; Carol Bach; Judy Ballard; Kattie Blankenship; Kellie Blanton (Davenport/Plossl); Dani Bowen (Meadows); Gloria Brady (Abraham); Janet Burns; Veronica Carnahan; Betty Coan; Dayton and Daislee Cohen; Timicia Curtis; Lois Demaree; Bailee Evans; Margie Fitterling; Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Alyxis Hefty; Darius Hughlett (Wilson); Daryl Hughlett; Roland Hughlett; Bethany James; Betty Kemp; James Knudtson; Lamley Family; Shirley Martin; Sara Metts; Missionary families (Huff, Reaves, Wilson); Arlene Nash; Nancy Nauser (Fitterling); Bethany Newman; Jim Owen; Matthew Paulda; Josh Petty; Reese Prater; Todd Prater; Cameron Ransom; Nancy Righthouse; Jayne Sanders; Sue Smith; Lou Starks; Connie Sullivan; Mike Tesh; Roger Traver; Michelle Vorhees; Michael Wallace (Randall); Tova Wallace-Lee; Karen Patchin Watson; Birdie Woods; Mary Lou York, and all unspoken requests.

### Other:

Peace in war-torn countries—Ukraine, Israel, Gaza

### Global Ministries Focus:

May 5 Republic of Congo  
May 12 Palestine  
May 19 Venezuela

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### Elders

May 5 Ellen Broglio  
May 12 Jim Cullumber  
May 19 Margie Fitterling  
May 26 Patt Hinds

### Diaconate

May 5 Communion Prep—Carolyn Theil and Jessica Fletcher-Fierro;  
Homebound—Don Smith  
May 12 Communion Prep—Les Davenport and Terry Plossl;  
Homebound—Tom Hamm  
March 19 Communion Prep—Connie Abraham and Megan Bever;  
Homebound—Tom Wheeler  
May 26 Communion Prep—Sherry Crumbliss and Judy Akeman  
Homebound—Susan Wolfenbarger

### Camera & Sound

May 5 Sandy Meadows and Darryl Coit  
May 12 Jennifer Reaves and Ken Moser  
May 19 Judy Schneider and Don Smith  
May 26 Jennifer Reaves and Ray Reaves

### Kid's Church 2nd thru 6th Grades

May 5 Daniell Sanders and Margie Fitterling  
May 12 Darlene Coit and Anita Frieze  
May 19 None  
May 26 Karen Kemp and Sandy Meadows

### Children Worship & Wonder

May 5 Karen Kemp and Judy Schnieder  
May 12 Karen Fitterling and Taylor Reaves  
May 19 No CW&W  
May 26 Leanna Carrol and Alicia Ratliff

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

9 Austin Delehanty  
19 Tom Hamm  
26 Roger Traver

### Anniversaries

None

### Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Friday, May 24 for staff vacation and on Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1 May Day</b> 9:30 am— Noon CWF 6:30 pm Choir	2	3	4  10:00 am Interfaith Panel
5  9:30 am Adult Faith Formation 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship/CW&W/ Kid's Church Noon Congregational Mtg. 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection	6	7  6:30 pm Worship Team Mtg. (Umphenour /Theil Home)	8  6:30 pm Choir	9	10	11
<b>12 Mother's Day</b> <b>Pentecost Offering #1</b> 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship/CW&W/ Kid's Church 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection	13  <b>Board Reports Due</b>	14	15  6:30 pm Choir	16	17	18
19  <b>Pentecost Offering #2</b> 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation 10:15 am Children's Bells 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship Noon Fellowship Dinner 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection	20	21  5:30 pm Courageous Conversations (530 Some- where, Jop- lin)	22  6:30 pm Choir	23  9:45 am - 2:00 pm Crosslines	24  <b>Office Closed</b>	25  8:30 am - 12:30 pm - Women's Re- treat
26  8:00 am Elders 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship/CW&W/ Kid's Church 2:00 pm Interfaith Cooking Circle 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection	27  <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	28	29  6:30 pm Choir	30	31	

**All activities at Peace Lutheran Church  
unless specified otherwise.**