

# Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

February 2017

Peace Lutheran Church  
7201 South Highway 41  
Dunnellon, Florida 34432

*Rev. Terry L. McKee, Pastor*

Office: 352.489.5881  
Pastor's cell: 352.817.8161  
Email: [terrymckee1957@gmail.com](mailto:terrymckee1957@gmail.com)

[www.peacelutheranonline.com](http://www.peacelutheranonline.com)

*Our Mission: We are a family of Christians called, equipped and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed through God's holy Word and Sacraments.*



**To my Peace family**

As we look forward to God's blessings and care in 2017 I pray that the divisiveness that has taken over our country and in many cases even the church will end. We are so blessed as Christian Americans and as members here at Peace. God has given us so many opportunities to care and share with those around us and to love one another. May His love continue to grow as we stand united as His Church bringing the Gospel to the dark corners of our community, country and world. Love truly does conquer all.

Each day the District office gathers for prayers and devotions. They share these with church workers via email each morning. Last week I was drawn to the day text from Ephesians 4:1-16.

***"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each***

**one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held**

**together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love."**

We all come from different places and different backgrounds. God has brought us together, called each of us and given us different gifts. But Christ is the head and cornerstone. Our focus must be on Christ and the Kingdom's work which He places before us. When we instead focus on personal differences, likes and dis-likes the church suffers and we are not growing and moving forward. As I shared last week "United We Stand" divided we fall. I know sometimes it's hard to put aside personal agendas but for the sake of the church, the family called Peace Lutheran we must.

What a blessing it has been to be your pastor this past twelve years and see firsthand how God works, blesses and uses each of you and myself to accomplish His will. What a joy to see you come together working to hold events like the Shrove Tuesday Pancake

Supper, the rummage sale, spaghetti supper, Oktoberfest and other events. I look back over the last 12 years and think how this church family has changed and grown. The focus is no longer on keeping the doors open but instead on how we can grow and be part of our community doing God's work being His witnesses as we share and live the Gospel.

My prayer is; as 2017 continues to unwind we can continue to move forward looking to Christ, united in Christ as brothers and sisters who have been called and gifted for His purpose.

God bless  
Pastor

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### **From the President**

Happy New Year! I would like to thank the Pastor and Congregation for putting your trust in me to be the President at Peace Lutheran. It is an honor to serve the Lord and Peace in such a capacity. With the help of the Lord, other council members, and our Peace family, we can make 2017 a great year. I will work hard as your

President. Hope we can all come together and do what is best for the Lord. In the end, that should be our main goal.. God's blessings to you.

Hope to see you at Peace.

Garry L. Kurth  
Congregation President

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### **Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting January 9<sup>th</sup> 2017**

Present: Garry Kurth, Hope Kurth, Jan Barker, Rita Cowan, Rebekah Williams, Doug O`Hara, Ron Cowan, Linda Williams, Rev Terry McKee. Guests: James Spiegelberg and Don Dow.

President Garry Kurth called the meeting to order and Pastor McKee opened the meeting with prayer.

**Correspondence:** None reported.

**Minutes:** Accepted.

#### **Reports:**

**Financial Secretary:** The fund summary was accepted.

**Treasurers Report:** The treasurer's report was accepted. Rita Cowan mentioned that the new copy machine is saving us \$50 to \$60 a month.

Pastor Terry thanked Rita for doing such a wonderful job.

**Trustees Report:** Linda Williams advised that Chet Rochette is willing to change the three windows. He provided 3 different styles of windows. Much discussion followed. It was decided that Linda Williams will ask the kitchen committee which style of window they want. The loop system should be installed tomorrow. Lastly, the light on the church front overhang was repaired. Linda does not know who repaired it.

**SCRIP:** December's profit was \$77.13. The total profit for the year was \$774.16

**Elders:** Doug O'Hara advised that members Gloria and Duane Robinson have requested a peaceful release from the church. Doug advised that he is granting their release.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor advised that we will be receiving four new members to the church on January 29<sup>th</sup>. They are Jerry and Rita Cook, and Dennis and Jae Ann Witzgall. We have three frozen turkeys that were donated to the church. After discussion, it was decided to donate the turkeys to the Covenant House. Pastor reminded us that our circuit will be hosting a mission convocation on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> at St. John's

Lutheran Church in Ocala. We have eight members who will be going. Pastor also advised that Shrove Tuesday is February 28<sup>th</sup>. Ash Wednesday is March 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be followed by five Lenten services on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 15th, 22nd, 29<sup>th</sup>, and April 5<sup>th</sup>. Maundy Thursday is April 13th, Good Friday is April 14<sup>th</sup> and Easter on April 16th. Trina Ruttinger will be confirmed on Palm Sunday.

### New Business

**Shrove Tuesday.** On February 28th We will be having our annual pancake supper. The cost will be \$7.00 per person and will be held from 4:30 to 7:00. Becky Williams will make the tickets, Rita Cowan will get the food, and Linda Williams will post a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for volunteers.

**Rummage Sale:** Linda Williams stated that since LWML does most of the work for the rummage sale, she will bring this issue up at the next LWML meeting. Discussion was tabled until the next council meeting in February.

**Church Office Computer:** The computer is not able to connect to the internet. It is a very outdated computer. There was discussion whether we should repair or rebuild it. Linda Williams made a motion to purchase a new computer. Hope Kurth seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Since Rita Cowan is the primary user, she will speak with the computer store salesman and make sure the new computer has everything we need. Ron Cowan made a motion to adjourn. Linda William seconded. The meeting closed with the singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jan Barker, Secretary

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### **Scrip Program**

For the past several years Peace Lutheran Church has chosen the Scrip Program as a fund raiser. The best part of this program is that the “user” has the ability to choose whatever “gift cards” they want. We have a Retailer List attached to the bulletin board with over seven hundred vendors. We also have blank forms on the bulletin board with approximately thirty vendors.

You can start this Program by going on line at [Shopwithscrip.com/](http://Shopwithscrip.com/) and fill out a simple form registering you in the Program so that you can place your orders on line. Or, if you don’t like to use the computer, you can use the paper forms. You can add as many vendors to the bottom or back of the form as you need. Then, on Scrip Sunday, all you have to do is

give me a check or cash for the amount you have purchased.

Using Wal Mart as an example, this is how it works:

Wal Mart cards come in \$25.00 or \$100.00 amounts. Order \$100.00 and Scrip will pay 2.5% of the \$100.00 order to our Church and give you the full \$100.00 on your card.

Each company, (vendor) decides their own percentage, which varies from 1.5% to 14%. If you are going to spend \$100.00 at WalMart that week, why not get their card and help raise funds for the Church? Or, if you are going out to eat out, say at Chili’s, they pay 11% to the Church.

When you give me your check or cash, I make out a deposit slip to the Bank and the money is deposited directly to Scrip. After Scrip processes the order, they deposit the percentage due for the entire order in the Peace Scrip account. Fed Ex delivers the cards to my home on Thursday and I give them out the following Sunday.

It is an easy process and anyone who wishes to may order at any time. It costs nothing to register on-line and you may view and copy their vendor list to be available as you decide which cards you require. Your cards do not expire and you do not have to order a minimum amount or every time.

Why not try using the paper form first.

Remember, I am only a phone call away (465-5989) or see me any Sunday after Church. The web site I referred to has more information and they even accept phone calls from prospective members to answer any questions you may have.

Scrip Coordinator  
Barbara Miesen

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### **First Saturday**

We will be setting up our booth on Saturday, February 4th, in front of the Lion's Club building. We have plenty of items to give out: Book marks, books, Bibles, candy, and various other favors. Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be Also be publicized. Thanks to all who participate in this monthly event. Stop by and chat with us and members of the community.

Jackie Hucker



***The ladies of Peace L.W.M.L.***

***February 2017***

### **PEACE LWML NEWS**

I don't have a lot to report about the January LWML meeting I was unable to attend due to a doctor appointment. Thankfully, Sheryl filled-in for me. I know Becky started a new Bible study and Sheryl announced the Prayer Service First Lutheran in Inverness is hosting at 10:00 A.M.on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Our next meeting will be the 6<sup>th</sup> of February at 10:00 A.M. I hope everyone can attend. Remember; ALL the ladies of Peace are welcome. As usual, we will have Bible study and talk about up-coming events. On the agenda will be the rally on the 25<sup>th</sup>, Shrove Tuesday on the 28<sup>th</sup> (provided the kitchen is complete) and the Rummage sale. I hope to see everyone there.

That's all the news for January.  
*God's Blessing to all: Linda W.*



**Best wishes on your Birthdays**

**To:**

02.02	Terry McKee
02.08	Donald Scheib
02.20	Sheryl Lutz
02.27	Rosemary Sheehan

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**PEACE HAS A NEW CHOIR**

Please consider joining your choir in song and fellowship. No experience is necessary; just a willing heart and mind to praise our Lord and Savior by lifting up your voices. We will be singing a variety of songs, some old and some new. If there is something in particular that you would like to hear, let me know. Rehearsals are Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. for an hour. If you have any questions you may contact me by email at: [bluann@tampabay.rr.Com](mailto:bluann@tampabay.rr.Com) or call 352-794-3366.

Respectively submitted,  
Lu Ann Cooke

## Those Serving in February 2017

### **Sunday, February 5, 2017**

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth  
Communion assistant: Doug O'Hara  
Greeters: Eugene O'Connell & Doug O'Hara  
Lay reader: Sam McKee  
Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

### **Sunday, February 12, 2017**

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Ken Buschman  
Communion assistant: Bob Sullivan  
Greeter: Sharon Zavertnik & Linda Williams  
Lay reader: Barbara Miesen  
Counting team: Steve & Sharon Cassan

### **Sunday, February 19, 2017**

Ushers: Bill Langstaff & Doug O'Hara  
Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee  
Greeter: Carla Ruttinger & Linda Ryun  
Lay reader: Ken Buschman  
Counting team: Bob Sullivan & Linda Williams

### **Sunday, February 26, 2017**

Ushers: Jeremy & Sam McKee  
Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg  
Greeters: Rita & Ron Cowan  
Lay Reader: Diane Rochette  
Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Linda Ryun

### **Altar Guild February 2017**

Jan Barker & Linda Ryun

