empty things

We once had an egg hunt where the goal was to find the empty egg. Oh, the coins and candy in the other eggs were certainly exciting, but the goal to find the empty egg was to remind all of us about the empty tomb on the first day of the week, when the angels asked, “Why do you seek the living among the dead?” (Luke 24:5).

It gets me to thinking about the other things Jesus empties as He comes into this world to prove the love of God for us.

He begins by emptying Himself: “… Jesus, who although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself…” (Philippians 2:6-7). He sets it all aside as He sets out to accomplish the will of God to save the world He so loves.

And the Word became flesh, dwelling among us full of grace and truth (John 1:14). After the birth of Jesus, He leaves behind an empty manger. Though the world is comfortable with “baby Jesus”, Jesus grows up - full of grace and truth. By grace He casts out demons, heals the sick, raises the dead, cleanses lepers, forgives sins, and in truth confronts the hypocrisy of the religious. Such truth is not tolerated - then or now - and is opposed often to the point of death, “…even death on a cross” (Philippians 2:8).

On the cross, God proves His love for us. Jesus, the Lamb who comes to take away the sin of the world, suffers and dies for us. This One who is willingly broken to make a broken world whole; this One who is without sin becomes sin on our behalf so we can become right with God (2 Corinthians 5:21). The cross is also left empty by Jesus: emptied of its curse and condemnation by the One who is cursed and condemned for us, His wounds making us whole (Isaiah 53:5).

And then there is the tomb. Death could not hold Him and in Him, death no longer holds us. That third day morning, as those who arrived to prepare a life-less body are instead greeted by giddy angels who gladly tell them “He is risen just as He said”. Death emptied of its grip. We are indeed no longer empty, but deeply and lavishly filled with His love which calls us to be His children; our faith in this One, Jesus the Christ!

He is risen! He is risen indeed!

Pastor Jon Anderson
Annual Spring Facility Improvement Day!
It’s that time of year again and yes, we’re asking for your help again – just for a few hours. Our annual workday has been scheduled for Saturday, **May 4**, from 9 am till we get ‘er done (hopefully by 2-3 pm).

This year’s events will include repair and painting of the old She Shed and the addition of a ramp for the entryway.

The pastor’s office will be repainted and made ready for Pastor Anderson.

There will be some bark replacement on the east ends of the tree lines (nothing compared to last year’s project).

There are sure to be more items that could be addressed and if you’ve been noticing something that needs attention, let us know and we’ll try to get it taken care of. **Thanks for your help!**

Gordon Schoonmaker, P&M Team

Dear Congregation,

Fresh out of the inspiring message from Cindy Wood’s (Family Promise North Idaho Director) sermon last month, Family Promise is gearing up for a great year of hosting and our first week is right around the corner from May 5-12. New volunteers have been engaging over the last several months to help grow our team of members that are directly utilizing this opportunity to reach the hurting and homeless families in our community! If you have helped before, or if this is a new area you would like to explore, we welcome you to sign on to MealTrain at the link below to receive messages about our upcoming week, see all the different ways you can help, and chose a volunteer item that fits with your time and talents. You may be wondering what those might look like...so here are a few highlights:

1. Provide food items for lunches
2. Provide part of a meal
3. Help set up or clean up
4. Spend 2 hours with the family during an evening
5. Support this program financially to help us buy food and other needed supplies
6. PRAY! It’s the most important contribution and one that we can all do!

This upcoming host week we will be blessing the families with a fun Luau night as an early gift for these Moms on Mother’s Day. Looking ahead, please mark your calendar for July 14-21, for our second host week of the year. Our sign-ups for May 5-12 are going great, but there are a few openings for which we need volunteers. If you prefer not to use MealTrain and would like to still be a part of this ministry, we welcome you to call Jolene Pooley (208-818-6286) or Maren Snyders (208-818-7055).

**Meal Train Plus for Family Promise May 5-12, 2019**

Currently, we have two families. The first is Mom & Dad, with children ages 12, 7, and 1. The second family is Mom & Dad with a 2 year old. There is the possibility that a third family could enroll between now and May 5, but we will plan for these two families until we hear otherwise. If you are providing part of a meal, plan for approximately nine people as we feed the dinner hosts along the families. Please click here to volunteer using our personal MealTrain link: [https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/w7ezqe](https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/w7ezqe)

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.* I Peter 4:10
Camp Ministry
Have you considered sending your child to camp for a week this summer? Registration is open now at Lutherhaven Ministries – Camp Lutherhaven, Shoshone Mountain Retreat, and Shoshone Creek Ranch, all premier camps where your children will be enliven by the Word of God. To make this more affordable, Peace has a campership fund and it has been our privilege to support campers with $100 toward cost. Thank you to church council for selecting our campership fund for a Q2 benevolence support, and to recent gifts received. If you have been wondering about a great place to make an extra donation, this is certainly it! Let’s build that fund and help our youth experience the richness of camp ministry! – Lynn Affeldt

Christian Education & Bible Studies

Sunday Adult Study – 8:30 AM
Thank you to Steve Hagler who has been leading Adult Study the last two months! What’s next? Ideas?? ~Our older youth in 7-12th grade meet at the home of Pastor Gail every Sun morning at 8:30 am for study, and relevant discussion. Coffee’s on – come on over, the door is open! ~ Confirmation continues each Wed led by Pastor Gail. Amy Birge is our substitute when needed!

Wednesday Serendipity Bible Study – 10 AM
Come early to share prayer needs and concerns at 9:45 am, and we will promptly begin our in-depth study of Genesis from 10-11 am. Please bring your Bible, and any version is acceptable. If you can’t be with us every Wed, join us when you can. – Pastor Gail

Thursday Bible Study – 11 AM
A new study just begun on Apr 25, entitled We Still Believe! A Seven-Session Bible Study on Lutheran Themes in “The Common Confession” The Common Confession is a basic seven-part summarizing key themes in Biblical Lutheran doctrine. “As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believe, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writing s that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.” (2 Timothy 3:14-15)
Please use the sign-in sheet or contact Jim Wardlow at 253-219-4461, or e-mail diwardlow50@gmail.com with any questions. Look forward to seeing you as we explore the Scriptures together!

CANCER & COMMUNITY CHARITIES (3Cs) Coeur d’Aleers will present their annual Spring Concert on Friday, May 3, 7:30 pm, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 812 N 5th St, Coeur d’Alene. Tickets are $8 each or two for $15 and can be purchased at the door. Please come and enjoy an evening of wonderful music sung by volunteer women for charity. All money raised by the 3C’s is given out annually to various charities in Kootenai County.

Betty Nomanson

Craft workshops are held on the fourth Fri of each month from 9 am to noon at PLC. The crafts we’re making now are for this year’s Christmas Bazaar later in Dec. Look for a different display at the church entrance each month with a sample craft and info. At the April workshop, we finished our double handed hot pads and made simple, wooden Nativity scenes – just beautiful! In May, we’ll be making bird feeders/treats. All are welcome!
Mary Cockerham, PLC Fellowship Team

We are collecting pretty pillowcases to be used to make sundresses to take along on the Uganda Medical Mission trip next year. They can be any size and gently used or even new! Drop off at the church anytime. The Dorcas quilters are also making flannel diapers again to be included. They just ordered nice diaper pins!
Treasurer’s Report for Mar 2019
Submitted by Lynn Affeldt, Apr 9, 2019

Balance Sheet: 3-31-19
Ministry & Facility Fund $21,702
All Designated Funds $35,236
Total US Bank Checking $56,938

Thrivent Mortgage Balance $327,491 $328,370 (Feb)

Income & Expense: 3-31-19
Actual Giving $21,520 (Plan for Giving $19,642)
Actual Expense $17,881

YTD Income & Expense: (Jan-Mar 2019)
Actual Giving $54,624 (Plan for Giving $58,925)
Actual Expense $49,664

Mar Designated Funds:
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<th>Fund Balance</th>
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Be a Good Steward of Your Health!
Come visit a Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS, Inc.) at the Post Falls Chapter meeting, on Thursdays from 8-10 a.m. here at Peace. The group is here to support, encourage and build you up. They share struggles, joys, educational tools, inspiring speakers, and programs to help support your weight loss effort. Your first visit is free; yearly membership is $32 and the chapter’s monthly dues are $5. Please call Judy Halone at 208.618.9769 for more info. You may also visit www.tops.org to find out more information about this program!
“VOICES UNITED” – A CONCERT CELEBRATING SPRING

Chorale Coeur d’Alene has enjoyed Peace’s hospitality for several seasons now, and it’s time to once again say THANK YOU. Join us for a free concert in your lovely Sanctuary on Tuesday May 14, 2019 at 7 PM. There will be a free will offering, but this is our opportunity to pay back – and forward – for your good will.

We are seeing growth in our group, in both numbers and artistry. HELP US CELEBRATE!

The atmosphere and musical fare will be more informal than you’ve come to expect – we’re showing our lighter side, with selections from the gospel and familiar “Christ the Appletree” and “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” to favorites from The Sound of Music, to a Leonard Bernstein Choral Suite. You’ll experience our 60+ voices under the baton of Dr. Stan McDaniel with David Brewster at the piano, as well as the treble voices of Belle Coeur, when we bring you VOICES UNITED.

For more information about the Chorale please visit us at www.choralecda.com, and we look forward to seeing you! – Judith Horton, Chorale Member

From Craig James, Prairie Camp Gideons, who has made a presentation here & worshiped with us:
Dear Peace Lutheran Friends,

My wife wears many Gideons hats – in addition to being our camp’s auxiliary president, she is also the state auxiliary VP, plus she is the Gideon Cards Liaison Officer for our camp. In her role as Gideon Cards Liaison, she goes to churches and gives short presentations on our Gideon Card Program. The Gideon Card Program is one of two sources of income for the purchase of the Bibles that we distribute. Here’s how it works:

1. An individual picks out a card to memorialize the passing of a loved one or friend; or to honor or recognize some event in someone’s life; or to pray for a particular situation (e.g. illness). The cards themselves are free.
2. After picking out the card, the person decides how many Bibles, at $5 each, they want to pay for that will be placed to honor the person being recognized or memorialized. They indicate the number of Bibles in the card, and also in the form that comes with the card.
3. They can then mail a check payable to the Gideons International for the $$ amount of the number of Bibles to be placed - $25 for five Bibles, for example. There is an envelope that comes with each card.
4. They give the card to the person being honored, or to the family or friend of the person being memorialized.

If you think you might ever want to have my wife, Vicki, come out and give a Gideon Cards presentation to your congregation or maybe one of your Bible study groups, I know she would love to!

Blessings in Christ,
Craig James, Prairie Camp Gideons

You may find the cards in the holder on the kitchen window this month!
We’re Praying for…

Pam Kirking, shoulder surgery; Margie Hill, Lee Wood, Suzie English, Joyce Beghtel, Sharon Alexander, and Debbie Wardlow, healing; Frank Dailey, chemo; Caren Woods, chemo; Pr. Spike Shine, Katherine Featherstone, Bob Newman, health issues.

Julian & Aaron Redman, climbing to Everest Base Camp (Lynn Affeldt); Noah Anderson (Pr. Jon & Chris’ son) Marine, deployed to Japan; Colleen (Mike Hill’s sister) cancer, both lungs, and Margie’s sister, Arlene, lung cancer; The family of Francis Rainer in his passing (Charlotte Newman); Mary Hess in the passing of husband, Tex (Bernita Carlson); Joni, (friend of Karen Jones) thyroid cancer; Bill Pickett (Connie Arthur’s friend) Agent Orange health issues; Jim Dykes (Tanya Frey) congestive heart; Chuck Lempesis (Pfundheller’s son-in-law) cancer; Nephew Wally, spinal cord issues and brother Wally, mental health (Vivian Harvey); Debbie Zavadil (Wardlow’s friend), Amy Howard (Pollard’s daughter-in-law), Dana Collins (Georgiann Davis’ friend), Kathy Vitu (Kit Carey’s sister-in-law), and Arnold (Wanda Gunning’s son), healing; Cynthia (Karen Jones’ friend) kidney disease, ovarian cyst; Vicky (Becky Ellflood’s sister) stroke; Danielle Henson (Stephanie Hite) malignant cancer; Susan Myers (Maggie Carlisle’s friend) breast cancer; Mary Templin (Mona Ley) stroke; Tom Rohme (Wardlow’s friend) stage-4 colon cancer; David (Sharon Alexander’s nephew) esophagus cancer; Joanne (Elleflood’s employee), and Donna (Bill Ellefloot’s mom), healing; Jade Harlow (Caren Woods) recovering; Trudy Morrill (Jan Johnson’s friend) lung cancer; Bonnie (Heidi Ely’s friend) radiation treatments; Scott Birge (Amy Birge’s uncle) thymic cancer; True & her sister Wendy Holt, health issues (Lee Wood).

Ministries We Share:
Lutherhaven Ministries; LAM Christian Academy; Family Promise; Local Food Banks; UGM; The Village at Orchard Ridge; EFK; Open Arms PCC; Uganda Medical Mission; OCC Shoebox Gifts, and LCMC.

Have a Prayer Tree request? Please email the Church Office at office@peace-lutheran.com

Welcome Teams:
May 5  Les & Sondra Palocsay
May 12 Owen W. & Bethany F.
May 19 Jim & Roxanne Helgeson
May 26 Andy Anders & Jerry Bittner

Counters:
Barb Nimke & Eunice Gillam
Valda Pfundheller & Ardella Quaale
Maggie Carlisle & Amy Birge
Chris Clark & Barb Hunley
**News & Events**

**Apr Gifts:** Thanks to all for the bountiful rummage sale donations & our wonderful sale volunteers! Durf Fueller was smiling down from heaven as he watched Gordon Schoonmaker tidy up the grounds before Easter service! P&M Team have been doing a multitude of tasks around God’s house – thanks guys!!

Thank you for your generous Lenten offerings toward our Uganda Medical Mission next year. A total of $1,517 was received (the year of the Reformation – coincidence???). What an incredible Holy Week we had and Easter worship. Thank you to Stephanie Hite, Scott & Jeff Leete and other volunteers for organizing the Easter Egg Hunt for the children. And, thank God for the blessed and beautiful day He gave us!

Our Rummage Sale did very well this year with your abundant donations totaling $3,355 toward our Uganda Medical Mission next year. Every penny counts! Grateful thanks to Marge Freligh, Coordinator, Sale Team Members and all volunteers that worked through the week organizing, pricing items, and being on hand during the two-day sale event. Special shout out to Bill Arthur for sign patrol!

May 2: Attend a National Day of Prayer event: McEuen Park, Veterans Memorial, and at City Hall in Post Falls, both at noon. There is an incredible lineup of local pastors participating. Info brochure on the table!

The church will be closed May 3 & 24 as Lynn Affeldt takes some PTO. The church will also be closed for the Memorial Day holiday on May 27.

Jon Davis will be attending the LCMC Northwest District Gathering in Richland, WA, May 3-4, as our elected delegate. The event is based upon Psalm 62:6 “My Feet are on the Rock: Standing Firm in a Shifting World”

*Please look for the latest quarterly devotionals on the table in the fellowship hall.*

**Mon:** The Dorcas Quilting Group meets the first and third Monday of the month from 9 am – 1 pm or when the whimsy takes them! **Need:** People that can simply pin tops and backs together with batting in between. All supplies are here. Please contact Cinda Fueller if you would like to help with this great ministry! Chorale CDA board members meet the fourth Mon at 6 pm.

**Tue:** Text Study, for the local LCMC pastors, will continue on the first Tuesday of the month from noon to 3 pm. Thank you to Steve Hagler for continuing to lead the group until Pastor Jon arrives. Chorale CDA rehearses each Tue from 5-9 pm during the season.

**Wed:** Genesis Bible study at 10 am with Pr. Gail. Do you want to sing or play an instrument? Music rehearsal gathers each Wed. Kids Choir is at 4:30 with rehearsal at 6 pm. Confirmation with Pastor Gail begins at 5:30 pm.

**Thu:** TOPS meets every Thu morning from 8-10 am, and all are welcome. Bible study begins at 11 am led by Jim Wardlow. The Ramsey Raiders 4-H group meets the fourth Thu of the month at 6 pm.

**Fri:** Craft Workshop at 9 am on the fourth Fri – come share your crafty talents!

**Donation Needs:** We still could use more coffee, and need real sugar packets. Please see Lynn in the church office for a tax-deductible receipt for your very appreciated GIK.

The Post Falls Food Bank received **36.5+ lbs** from Peace in Apr donations – thanks go to Ardella Quaale for delivering! Did you know our food banks can always use personal care items and pet food donations? You may recycle your clean, plastic grocery bags and **DOZEN egg cartons** here for the food banks to reuse!

*Copies of the May newsletter can be found in the holder on the table in the fellowship hall. PLC Directories are also available in the holder & update monthly – grab a new one!*
**Lutherhaven Ministries**

**LAST CALL: Spring Golden Agers’ Day Out: April 30, 10 am – 2 pm**
One Of The Best And Most Popular Retreats We Do! Spend a beautiful spring day at Camp Lutherhaven! Golden Agers’ is a one day retreat especially for retirees, senior adults and older adult groups; a great day during a beautiful time of year at camp!

**Man Camp: May 17 - May 19 Choose Your Own Adventure!**
No other weekend like it: bunch o’guys...weekend away in the mountains...bacon...Jesus! It doesn’t get any better!
Man Camp has a special emphasis on bringing *generations of guys* together: dads and sons, grandpas and grandsons, uncles and nephews, big brothers with younger bros! Or how about a trifecta: grandpa, sons, and grandsons!
Don’t forget! We have special reduced rates for young men aged 12-18.
*New this year: choose to tent camp or bring your RV (water & electric) for $20 off adult registrations!
Play all weekend, or serve at camp part of the weekend, play the rest!

**Theme & Speaker**
Dust Kunkel grew up in Ghana, West Africa, the son of Lutheran missionaries, and has served for eight years as executive assistant to the president of the Northwest District. He’s a former Lutherhaven staffer, a singer-songwriter, and he has a heart for missions. He’ll be leading us in a look at the heart of David the warrior/king.

Find these spring events and more at [www.lutherhaven.com/events](http://www.lutherhaven.com/events)!

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**Camp Lutherhaven**  
208-667-3459

**Shoshone Mountain Retreat**  
208-682-2267

**Website**  
[www.lutherhaven.com](http://www.lutherhaven.com)

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**Peace Lutheran Church**

8134 N Meyer Rd (at Prairie Ave & Meyer Rd)  
Post Falls, ID 83854  
Phone: (208) 765-0727  
Website: [peace-lutheran.church](http://peace-lutheran.church)  
Email: office@peace-lutheran.com

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**Sun Christian Ed 8:30 AM**  
**Sun Worship at 10 AM**  
**Wed Bible Study at 10 AM**  
**Thu Bible Study at 11 AM**  
Pastor Jon Anderson  
Pastor Emeritus, Gail Gutterud