



Peace Lutheran Church
2540 Applegate Street
Philomath, OR 97370

Peace Progress



April 2026

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Peace Progress



From the Pastor

Dear friends,

Blessed Easter! Does Easter make that much of a difference? Will it really change my everyday routine?

I think so. I pray so. Jesus' first words after his resurrection to his disciples were "Peace be with you" (John 20:19 and Luke 24:36). These words were more than a greeting like "Hey, I'm here" and "Good evening." These words were not merely a platitude to bring comfort. These words were not a statement about Jesus and what he had done. Jesus was communicating a new lifestyle and way of being for the disciples. The word for peace in John 20:19 is Eirene in the Greek. I don't know of a word in modern English that captures its meaning very well. It means tranquility, harmony and wholeness. Jesus was communicating that the disciples were now living in a new reality. Life would be very different in a most excellent way!

Peter was there in the moment when Jesus shared the words, "Peace be with you." Peter then encountered Jesus at least two more times before Jesus ascended into heaven. He was there when Jesus approached Thomas and the disciples again. Jesus appeared to Peter on the shore, while Peter was out on a boat. Peter jumped in the water and swam to Jesus. These encounters changed Peter. Around AD 65, Peter composed I Peter in the New Testament. In this letter Peter enthusiastically explains the change in lifestyle that comes to Christians because of the joy and power in Jesus' resurrection. I'll be sharing more about these realities on Easter and the following Sundays. Here is the plan:

- Easter--April 5 | Peter 1:17-25 "Resurrection Realities on Lifestyle"
- April 12 | Peter 2:19-25 "Resurrection Realities on Relationships"
- April 19 | Peter 2: 2-10 "Resurrection Realities on Identity"

Be open to the positive change that Easter brings to our lives. We are Easter people!

There is a story (not true but used as a parable to teach a lesson) about a spy who was captured and then sentenced to death by a general in the Persian army. This general had the strange custom of giving condemned criminals a choice between the firing squad and a big, black door. As the moment for the execution drew near, the spy was brought to the Persian general, who asked the question, "What will it be; the firing squad or the big, black door?" The spy hesitated for a long time. It was a difficult decision. He chose the firing squad. Moments later shots rang out, confirming the execution. The general's aid asked, "What lies beyond the big door?" "Freedom," replied the general, "but people prefer the known to the unknown."

Walk through door of Easter this year. It will communicate much more than freedom. You have freedom. You have peace. You have rest. You have certainty of eternal life. You have a new lifestyle.

Peace and Joy are yours,
Pastor Lucke

PEACE BY THE NUMBERS

Date	Attendance in Person	Online Views	Offering
March 1	109	220	\$6,328
March 8	85	215	\$4,140
March 15	98	153	\$1,749
March 22	102	101	\$3,284
March 29	121	65	\$8,940

PLAN FOR WORSHIP

April 5 – 10:00am Worship service with Communion. Easter Sunday.

April 12 – 10:00am Worship service. Second Sunday of Easter.

April 19 – 10:00am Worship Service with Communion. Third Sunday of Easter.

April 26 – 10:00am Worship Service. Fourth Sunday of Easter.



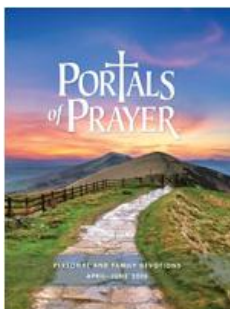
LITTLE LIBRARY

We are looking for someone to lovingly look after our Little Library that faces Applegate Street.

Job duties include checking the Library regularly to make sure it is clean and filled up with appropriate materials. Let Karyn or Pastor know if you would like to volunteer!



PORTALS OF PRAYER



The new Portals of Prayer are available in the entryway at church. Portals of Prayer comes in small and large print. Consider taking one and even sharing one with someone you know--we have plenty. This is an excellent way to connect with God's Word and be encouraged each day.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

April is Blood Drive month again. As we move into spring, consider giving the gift of life. We are having a blood drive on Friday, April 24th from Noon to 5. There are still some spots available if you would like to donate. Also, cookies or other baked goods would be appreciated and can be delivered to the church kitchen on Thursday or Friday morning by 11:30. Your prayers for a successful drive for this life-saving item are very much appreciated.



GRANNY'S ATTIC DONATIONS



Every year at our fall bazaar we have Granny's Attic. It is a separate area where we sell items at thrifted prices. Over time this sale has been extremely successful and has become a critical element of our event.

If you have excess items or clutter or if you are planning a summer garage, yard sale or organizing projects please consider donating. We happily accept gently used items to Granny's Attic! Please no clothing. Jani Burton is accepting items now.

MEN'S BREAKFAST IN APRIL

Men of Peace, please join us for the April Men's breakfast in the fellowship hall on Saturday, April 4. Coffee on at 8:00am and breakfast will start around 8:30. Start your day off right. Talk to Mark for more information and to let him know if you will attend so he knows how many meals to prepare.



THERAPEUTIC ART WITH MAXTIVITY

All are welcome to attend the Dementia Warriors activity on Wednesday, April 15 at 2:30 pm in Peace's fellowship hall. Maxtivity, a business from Philomath, will be sharing an activity based on the concept of Therapeutic Art. Perhaps an art project is exactly what you need to bring calm? Hope to see you there!

A POEM BY GARY BLANCHARD

BIRTHDAYS

As we celebrate our birthdays
with ice cream and cake
each is a joyous occasion
and another mem'ry to make

Older folks count them by decades
and would like to slow down their pace
but kids wish they'd come faster
like running a race

There are many milestones
along the pathway of life
Most will be good ones
a few will bring strife

How 'bout your first day in school
leaving the comforts of your home
did you come back elated
or did you feel all alone

Or when you turned sixteen
and your driver's test you did pass
you were on top of the world
until you had to buy your own gas

Then there was high school
you made it through
would there be more schooling?
what kind of work would you do?

Then came twenty one
Now you could buy beer
but it didn't taste very good
and you wanted your mind to be clear

How 'bout your love life
your friends were getting wed
would you find the right one
to share the vows to be said

And then came the children
to add to your fold
but they kept growing out of their shoes
so you put your vacations on hold

But birthdays kept coming
and when you looked back did you see
Was the person you saw
who you wanted to be

It really matters not
the years of your age
The way you have lived life
is really the right gauge

So at last you have accepted
what God had in store
You will make the best of each one
and just hope for some more

NEW CARPET INSTALLATION

The week of April 27 – May 1, new carpet will be installed in the Fellowship Hall! We are excited to update this area and appreciate everyone who worked to help make this project happen. The installers will need uninterrupted access to the Fellowship Hall this week. Please note that there will be no access to the Fellowship Hall this week for meetings or other activities. Thank you for planning accordingly.

In addition, to prepare for the installation to begin, we will need help moving everything out of the Fellowship Hall space on Sunday, April 26 directly after Fellowship. On the back end, we will need some help moving everything back late afternoon on Friday, May 1 (worst case scenario Saturday, May 2) in preparation for Sunday. Please let Karyn know at peaceinphilomath@gmail.com if you are able to assist. We will need at least four people each day to help the process move quickly.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU BY PEGGY KRUEGER



Ruth Moser

Ruth is a feisty 92-year-old member who has been a member of Peace for 44 years. Ruth was born in Gravity, Iowa and moved with her family to Philomath in 1941. She went to grade school and high school in Philomath and graduated in the class of 1952. She married 2 months after graduation. Her husband was stationed on Widby Island in Washington for 2 years. They returned to Philomath after that and raised 3 children, a son and 2 daughters. Both daughters are members of Peace. Throughout her marriage, Ruth worked in a bank for a couple of years, then went to work for a lumber company (Northside) for many years. She is so proud that her husband, son and grandson have been or are state policemen. Ruth was married to Ben for 32 years. She remarried Lyn who passed away in 2011.

Ruth's favorite pastime is playing games on her i-pad. She says if "you don't use it you will lose it" referring to her brain. She also is involved with Pieces by Peace and a card club that meets twice a month. She is always smiling and willing to pitch in and help when needed. She loves her family more than anything and this love is also extended to her Peace family.

PREPARING FOR EASTER

HE HAS RISEN! Easter Service is April 5 beginning at 10 a.m. followed by Easter fellowship (No Sunday School). Please consider bringing finger foods only so that we can have an easy cleanup. The Easter egg hunt for children through 6th grade will immediately follow the church service, around 11:15.

Every year a wooden cross is placed at the entrance to the church, and it is decorated with cut flowers. Please bring cut flowers to help decorate the cross anytime on Good Friday up until Saturday at noon when the cross will be decorated. Flowers can be placed in the buckets of water in front of the church. Be looking in your yard and think about contributing flowers.

Plastic eggs will be available for people to take home and fill with goodies for the Easter egg hunt—candy, stickers, money, anything fun that can fit in an egg.

And last, please consider bringing an Easter lily to church to help decorate the Sanctuary. Place them in the kitchen on the counter.



CLEAN UP CREW

There are a few members that need people to help with yard and lawn clean up. Do you have a desire to serve in this way? Please let Pastor Lucke know.

EXPLAINING HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday—April 2 at 7 pm with Holy Communion. This service captures the happenings of Jesus with his disciples in the Upper Room before his arrest and betrayal. This service gives us much to think about. If we were there as one of Jesus' disciples, what would we have been thinking? Undoubtedly, we'd marvel at Jesus' call for humble service as he washed his disciples' feet. Come this night to hear about Jesus' desire to serve you! The stripping of the altar ends the Maundy Thursday service—this is a moving way to represent Jesus' humiliation at the hands of those who crucified him. The stripping of the altar happens in silence as we prepare our hearts and minds for Good Friday and Jesus' death.



Good Friday — April 3 at 7 pm. What is so good about Good Friday? Come and find out! This is an austere and simple service that focusses on the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ Jesus' death—the full payment for our sins—that's why Good Friday is "good." At Peace we recognize this in a personal way. Each participant receives a nail at the beginning of worship that can then be placed into the cross on the narthex at the conclusion of the service. This reminds us that our debt has been paid by Jesus' death. This service will be live-streamed.



Easter — April 5 at 10 am with Holy Communion. Easter is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Jesus did not remain in the tomb, but rose from the tomb and lives. This is a day of celebration! We will welcome back our church choir to sing some powerful Easter songs. When the pastor says, "Alleluia. Christ is risen", be ready to reply, "He is risen indeed! Alleluia." This is our way of saying, "Jesus wins and so do we!"



CORVALLIS FOR REFUGEES FOLLOW UP

Peace is in partnership with Corvallis for Refugees to assist those adjusting to life in our area. Sarah Sims visited our church in February and encouraged us to consider some intentional ways to be more involved with CFR. Here are some specific opportunities for this month:

- Taste the Nations International Food Event on Friday, April 10 at Imagine Coffee from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Come and taste foods directly from refugee neighbors from Syria, Ukraine, Turkey, Guatemala, Venezuela and Afghanistan.
- *CRF Volunteer Training on Tuesday, April 28 at Northwest Hills Community Church. Please let Elder Dave or Pastor Lucke know if you'd like to attend. This training is needed if you would desire to be on Peace's Care Team for the potential family assigned to Peace.*


Check out Corvallis for Refugees' website (www.corvallisforrefugees.com) or stop by the office at 2121 NW Fillmore Avenue, Corvallis if you would like to learn more!

UPDATE FROM OUR MISSIONARY...JP CIMA

Sometimes, God brings the right people together at just the right time for the sake of His mission. In February, God brought a mission team from Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Los Gatos, CA to partner with local leaders, churches, and schools. The result? The Gospel went into the ears of over 300 children. What a blast! Thank you for your prayers and financial support. Your partnership is greatly appreciated!

God bless and keep you!

With love,
J.P., Aimee, Celeste, Bella, and Isaac




FEB. 2026
CIMA NEWSLETTER Vol. 20 No. 2
SQUAD # TWO

Praise: for the VBS in Kampong Thom and Siem Reap; for the team from Holy Cross; for a successful women's treat for OIM ladies; for a resolution to Isaac's health issues. **Prayer:** that kids who joined the VBS will continue to hear about Jesus; for another mission team arriving in March from Cary, NC; for the upcoming start of new projects with the CLC.

WANTNA HELP US IMPACT THE PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA? Give [here](#) or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166 (payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write "Cima family-Cambodia."

Our time with the team from [Holy Cross Lutheran Church](#) in Los Gatos, CA was amazing! Five of the seven team members were alumni of the trip [two years ago](#). After a [couple of days orienting in Phnom Penh](#), we traveled to [Kampong Thom](#) to begin the children's programs. Partnering with the Cambodia Lutheran Church (CLC), the team helped host a Vacation Bible School (VBS) at a local Lutheran church. [Pastor Leang Ly](#) gathered over 150 kids, most of whom were unchurched. On [day one](#), after initial [songs](#) and [prayer](#), the kids heard a lesson on [the lost sheep](#), identifying Jesus as the Good Shepherd who searches for and saves the lost. Each kid then made a [cotton-ball sheep](#) to remind them they are lost sheep. After a snack, kids had a chance to engage in [crafts](#) and [outdoor games](#). Even more kids came for [day two](#), which followed a similar pattern, but with the lesson of [the mustard seed](#), showing how God, by His Word, has planted the seed of faith in our hearts. That small seed can grow into a vibrant, strong faith in Jesus. At the end of the second day, Pastor Leang Ly closed with prayer and encouraged the kids to come to church each Sunday to keep hearing about Jesus. The CLC/Holy Cross team then traveled to [Siem Reap](#), where they were invited to put on a [mini-VBS](#) at two [Garuna Christian schools](#) for another 180 kids. Finally, they capped their time in Cambodia with a visit to [Angkor Wat](#).



All told, well over 300 kids heard the Gospel and had a lot of fun through these efforts! Doing a program like this took a [whole team](#) of people from the CLC, the local church (not least our awesome [local translators!](#)), and Garuna. Of course, none of it would have happened without the time and effort of Holy Cross, including those who traveled to Cambodia and the countless others who helped make preparations for the event and supported them in their travels. We are thankful for each of these people and groups, and most of all to God, through whom it is all possible.

MINISTRY PARTNER THANK YOUS



RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION
MARRIAGE MENTORING
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

February 2026

March 3, 2026

Jeremy Lucke
Peace Lutheran Church
2540 Applegate St
Philomath, OR 97370-9366

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2540 Applegate St
Philomath, OR 97370-9366

Dear Members of Peace Lutheran Church,

Greetings from camp! Thank you for your recent gift of \$860 to Camp Lutherwood Oregon. Your support is vital to the continued success of our mission: to create intentional experiences for people to access the outdoors for restoration, play, and growth. Your generosity is felt by all us, thank you.

In December, we launched our 2026 summer camp registration, with this summer's theme of *Create*. In January, we hosted our first Youth Justice Retreat over MLK weekend for middle and high schoolers. It was a great weekend of centered around exploring the role that justice has in our faith and in our lives. We can't wait to do this again in 2027! We are also busy getting ready for our second season of spring Outdoor School and for our Spring Break Makers Camp.

Summer camp season is quickly approaching and Steven Joinson, Director of Programs is busy getting his team of summer camp counselors hired, getting the camp sessions filled, and curating an exciting schedule of activities for our campers. We can't wait for all the fun and sun that this summer will bring!

Your generous gift this season has a significant impact and we can't thank you enough!

With Gratitude,


Robin Eisenbach
Executive Director

Thank you so much for your support. We are so grateful for your friendship.

No goods or services were received in exchange for this gift. Camp Lutherwood Oregon is a registered 501c3 organization. EIN#93-0587009. Your gift may be tax deductible in accordance with the IRS regulations.




February 23, 2026

Peace Lutheran Church,

Zion Lutheran Christian School would like to take the time to sincerely thank you for your donation of \$860.00. With your generosity, the donated funds are used towards costs that help the school function throughout the school year, sustains our mission, and allows us the opportunity to grow!

Your donations help us keep tuition costs affordable for our families through scholarships. Donations like yours also allow us to continue to upgrade our security on campus, upgrade our technology infrastructure and equipment to accommodate increased usage, fund our after-school programs, provide school supplies, and fund extracurricular student programs. Due to increased enrollment we have been able to purchase classroom furniture & language arts curriculum with these funds as well. God has blessed us with our extended Zion family to financially support the exciting growth on our campus!

We appreciate your willingness to give. It is with giving hearts that our school thrives and allows for a Christ centered education that our students so greatly benefit from. Our students and staff thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Sincerely,

Charlotte Bohlmann, Principal
Federal Tax ID # 93-0564827

Dear Pastor Jeremy,

As we find our stride in a new year, we are reminded of God's faithfulness and His continual invitation to renewal, restoration, and hope. It is a privilege for us to walk alongside individuals and couples as they pursue healthier, stronger relationships.

The ministries and services of *Friends of the Family* are possible because of YOUR faithful generosity and partnership. Thank you for your gift of \$860. Through your support, God is using this ministry to bring encouragement, healing, and renewed hope to couples and families throughout the Mid-Willamette Valley.

We are grateful for you and for the way God works through your generosity by bringing His love to so many through the services, programs, and events we offer.

With sincere gratitude,



We Care

125 NW Tenth St. Corvallis, OR 97330
Non-profit 501(c)(3) agency
IRS ID 93-0822417

November 23, 2025

Peace Lutheran Church
2540 Applegate Street
Philomath, OR 97370

Dear Peace Lutheran Church,

We are sincerely grateful for your continuing support of the work We Care does in our community! As you know, your dollars make it possible for families and individuals to obtain or remain in adequate living accommodations, to have heat, water, medical attention or to provide for other emergency needs as they arise. We could not do this work without you!

Beyond monetary assistance, We Care provides a person who respectfully listens to their stories, tries to understand the difficulties they are facing and helps them think of a path to sustainability.

Thank you very much for your recent check dated February 17, 2026 for \$860.00. We appreciate your support of We Care and your commitment to strengthening our community and helping those in need.

In addition to your monetary support, being a Faith Partner with We Care, brings us hope, energy and a supportive community to walk with in our efforts to assist those in need in our community.

Please know how much we appreciate this gift and your ongoing support of We Care!

If you have questions, please call Johanna Peterson at (541-740-3683).

With Gratitude
We Care Board of Directors



Thank you!



Birthdays

2 Bryan Baker
3 Mirdza Abele
3 Dalene Pittman
5 Holley Held
6 Savannah Stokes
8 Casey Croy
8 Derek Guenther
14 Ruth Dally
15 David Leding
16 John Filbert
17 Sally Stouder
19 Lew Miller
20 Lynnette Marso
20 Kathy Wylie
25 Carole Gutbrod
25 Raymond Leeson
28 Aaron Foster

Anniversaries

4 Henry & Ruth Post
9 Jim & Jan Kilgore
19 Anthony & Sarah Glathar

April Volunteers

April 5	
Ushers	Sharon Starr, Angela & Allan Sanford
Reader	Margaret Phillipott
Fellowship	Sally Stouder, Sharon Starr, Anna Colwell, & Diane Heitmeyer
Flowers	Easter Lilies
Communion	Elaine Schwartz & Rachel Harrington

April 12	
Ushers	
Reader	Debbi Weiler
Fellowship	Lou Ann Mergl & Margaret Phillipott
Flowers	Ruth Daly

April 19	
Ushers	Jim & Lynn Reams
Reader	Sophia Snyder
Fellowship	Lindy Young
Flowers	Audrey Bond
Communion	Elaine Schwartz & Rachel Harrington

April 26	
Ushers	
Reader	Wilson Schroeder
Fellowship	Janette Payne
Flowers	Margaret Phillipott





Save the Date – important dates beyond the month of April

- **May 24 – Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday**
- **May 25 – Memorial Day**
- **June 14 – End of School Year BBQ (after church)**
- **June 19 – Red Cross Blood Drive**
- **June 21 – Peace 75th Anniversary Celebration & Father’s Day**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray 2:30 Dementia Warriors	2 Maundy Thursday 7:00 Men at Imagine 10:00 Ladies Guild Meeting 7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship w/Communion	3 Good Friday 7:00 Good Friday Worship	4 8:00am Men’s Breakfast
5 Easter Sunday 10:00 Worship Service with Communion 11:00 Easter Fellowship and Easter Egg Hunt	6 8:15 TOPS	7 12:00 Rotary Board Meeting	8 7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray 1:30 Dementia Warriors Leaders Meeting	9 7:00 Men @ Imagine	10 5-9pm Celebration of Life for John Leach – Fellowship Hall	11
12 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service 12-4pm Celebration of Life for Bill Harris – Highland Bowl	13 8:15 TOPS 10:00 Pieces by Peace (Susan Durham’s Hosue)	14 12:00 Rotary Board Meeting	15 7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray 2:30 Dementia Warriors – Maxtivity Art Project 4:00 Elders Meeting	16 7:00 Men @ Imagine 12:00 Chamber of Commerce	17	18 5-8pm Salmon & Jazz Fundraiser - PHS
19 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service with Communion	20 8:15 TOPS	21 12:00 Rotary Meeting 7:00 Church Council Meeting	22 7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray	23 7:00 Men @ Imagine	24 12:00 Red Cross Blood Drive	25
26 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service	27	28	29	30	1	
	Carpet Installation in Fellowship Hall					
	8:15 TOPS		7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray	7:00 Men @ Imagine		