# **NEWSLETTER**

April 2022

# Peace Talk

House of Prayer on Parker and Main

#### PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Grace, Mercy and Peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

"The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God." Psalm 14:2

There is a Bollywood film entitlement "PK," and in the film an alien comes to earth. Minutes after his arrival, the remote control for his spaceship is stolen. When he asks people where it might be, he is told "God only knows." With this bit of information he sets out to find God. He never succeeds. He does figure out the reason he hasn't found God is people are calling the "wrong number," which means praying to the wrong god.

In the garden of Eden, we were in God's presence and in a perfect relationship. We didn't seek God. We didn't need to. Instead, we sought to be gods like him.

We will never be successful in seeking God. Our sinful nature wants a god that will be tolerant of our sins, harsh against our enemies, intolerant of the sins we personally despise.

That is why God, the Father, sent his son, Jesus, to seek **US** out and why Jesus sent to the world the Holy Spirit after His ascension. This is why Jesus equipped his disciples and then sent us to carry out the mission of telling others about him.

A lost or injured person may look for help but they don't know where they will find it. If the person has any hope, it is that someone is looking for them and won't give up until they are found.

The Psalmist in psalm 14:1 tells us "the fool says in his heart there is no God." In verse 3 he says all people have wandered. That's what our search looks like. We head out figuring it's all up to us because we assume no rescue team has been sent. In the beginning as we wander, we make the rescue teams' job harder by leaving the spot they will start looking to find us.

Jesus came because God saw that We had scattered, wandered each according to his own way. Once he found us and adopted us into his family, he made us part of the rescue team. We know the terrain we have wandered in life, that lost sinful condition. We also know the **one** who rescued us.

For this reason, God sends us out to help lead others back to the one who can save them. God's on an intensive search. He wants everyone accounted for and brought home safely.

In the film, "PK" never finds God. All he finds are the false gods that people put their trust in.

Soon we will be retelling the story of the one true God who cared enough to seek us out, pay the penalty for our sin and die on the cross in our place. There is no better time to invite someone who doesn't know the price that was paid for them and for us to remember the cost as we journey to the Cross with Christ.

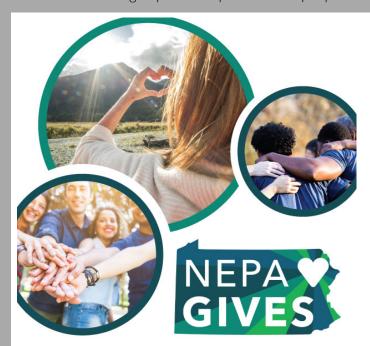
Please find time to have someone fill out an opinionaire and find someone to invite church. May God bless the remainder of your Lenten season, passion week, and Easter celebration. Amen.

SDG,

Pastor

# News of Lutheran Education!

Working in partnership with God's people to raise up a new generation of faithful Christian men and women!



## **JOIN OUR GIVING DAY!**

Support us and give back on June 3, 2022 12am-12am

#### For more information, go to NepaGives.org

The Lutheran Academy is joining 250+ other area non-profits in Northeast PA for a 24-hour day of giving. We hope you will consider making a donation to The Lutheran Academy on June 3rd to help us wrap up the school year and be part of this hisory-making event. More information will be shared in the coming weeks on our Facebook page and website, as well as in the May newsletter.

## Spirit Week 2022

On Wedensday of Spirit Week at The Lutheran Academy, we celebrated our diverse backgrounds with a Heritage Day Luncheon. We enjoyed food from Germany, Russia, Italy, Poland, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Philippines, Israel, Puerto Rico and more! All agreed, we must do this again! Here are a few photos from the day.



## **TACO & TREATS Fundraiser**

Saturday, April 30th

Noon-2pm

At the Academy building, 1546 Monsey Ave, Scranton

We are pleased to be holding our 2nd Annual Taco Fundraiser. Stop by for Tacos, chips & salsa, and a variety of delicious sweets!

Weather-permitting, there will be a block party vibe as we play music and our 7th & 8th graders lead games for kids of ALL ages.

Please help us spread the word about this event.

Thank you for your support of all the great things happening at The Lutheran Acdademy!

# Pray without ceasing - 1 Thes. 5:17

## Remember to ask: "How can I pray for you?"

We are in the season of Lent. While it is traditional to give something up for Lent, I have asked you to take something on for Lent.

Each week ask at least one person, either someone you know or someone you don't the questions on this opinionaire. Faithfully record their answers. Then either e-mail a copy or scan of the results to Pastor at <a href="mailto:pastor@yourpeace.org">pastor@yourpeace.org</a> and hand the hard copies in at church on Sundays.

In May we will announce the results of the opinionaire in the newsletter about where our community stands in their understanding of the questions asked.

There are three rules you must follow.

- 1) Do not share your faith unless asked. You are only trying to learn their opinion.
- 2) If asked about your faith you may answer their question(s). But do not tell them whether their response is right or wrong. You may have many that ask this or "How'd I do?"
- 3) Often people asked will ask to be contacted with more information about our church. Make sure if you receive this response that you let Pastor, Amy, or one of the elders know right away.

SDG, Pastor John

## **Opinionaire**

Date:	
Person doing survey	
First name of person being asked	

Do you belong to a church? If yes, who is the Pastor/Priest? How did the world come into being?

If the answer is God made it, then ask: Is He finished with His creation or is it an ongoing process?

Who is God?

Who is Jesus?

What is the purpose of life?

What do you believe happens after death?

Do you have something we can pray for? If a personal request (illness of family member or self, find a job etc. then ask) Is it ok for us to follow-up with you about your prayer request to see how we can pray more specifically to any changes?

If follow-up is ok, contact information:

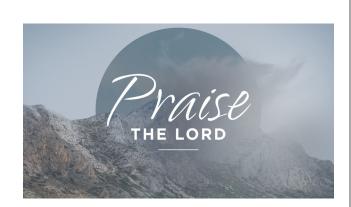
## + HYMN OF THE MONTH: My Soul Now Praise My Maker #820

In 1519 Martin Luther debated Catholic scholar John Eck. Eck brought with him Johann Pollander to take dictation. The result of Pollander's attendance that day and his service was that in 1522 he left Leipzig and became a Lutheran working to further the cause of the Reformation. The hymn "My Soul Now Praise My Maker" was written in the 1525 at the request of Margrave Albrecht who was heard singing it afterward, even on his deathbed.

Pollander served as a pastor, a founder of schools, and worked against the errors espoused by the Anabaptists.

The hymn pours out praise to God for not giving us the punishment we merit but rather a Father's love and compassion. Assuring us "God in his arms will gather all who are in his childlike fear." This gathering is not just a hope and expectation to come but rather is real and present now. Because of this, we offer "Praise to him forever reigning. All you hear his word our life and also sustaining, my soul all praise the Lord!"

As we follow Christ the cross, the empty tomb, and beyond, let us also praise the Lord in soul, spirit, heart, and voice.



Church website: www.yourpeace.org Office email: amybetts@yourpeace.org Phone: 570-703-0607



#### Easter is April 17, 2022

If you would like to sponsor lily plants for the altar area, they are \$10 each. You can complete the bulletin insert or call/email the church office with your information. Deadline to sponsor is April 10th. Lilies can be left at the church or taken home after Easter. Thank you.

# **EASTER SCHEDULE**

Wednesday, April 13	NO Midweek Service	
Thursday, April 14	Maundy Thursday	7:00pm
Friday, April 15	Good Friday	10:30am
	Good Friday Tenebrae	7:00pm
Saturday, April 16	Easter Vigil	5:00pm
Sunday, April 17	Easter Sunday	8:15am
		10:30am

#### APRIL

#### **Birthdays**

Tonya Evans 4
Christian Sauter 8
Kiana Sauter 12
Alfred Betts 20

### **Baptism Birthdays**

Kobe Sauter	1
Kiana Sauter	18
Susan Crosbie	19
Terry Kramer	23
Doug Roberts	

# **Palm Sunday Breakfast**

Sunday, April 10th 9:00-10:15am Free-will donation



Enoy a breakfast including eggs, sausage, pancakes, coffee, juice and more!

Enjoy a time of food, fellowship, and supporting our youth.

All funds raised will be used to help Faith and Tanya Babbitts attend the LCMS National Youth Gathering in Houston this July.

APRIL 2022	day Saturday	2	5:00pm Worship with Holy Communion	6	5:00pm Worship with Holy Communion	5 10:30am - Good Friday Service	7pm - Good Friday 5:00pm Easter Vigil Tenebrae Service	2 23 5:00pm Worship with Holy Communion	SO Academy TACO Fundraiser 5:00pm Worship with Holy Communion
	Friday	_		<b>∞</b>		10:30an Friday 8	7pm - Go Tenebrae	22	29
	Thursday			7		4	7pm - Maundy Thursday Service	7	28 6:30pm -Council Meeting
	Wednesday			9	Noon- Lenten Midweek Service	<u> </u>		20	27
	Tuesday			2		12		<u>6</u>	26
	Monday			4		=		<u>&amp;</u>	25
	Sunday			$\sim$	8:15am Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship Service	Palm Sunday 8:15am Worship Service	9:00-10:15 Breakfast Fundraiser 10:30am - Worship Service with Communion	EASTER 8:15am Worship Service with communion 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship Service with communion	24 8:15am Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship Service

APRIL 2022	Saturday	2 Rev. Adam Carnehl, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Randolph, NJ	9 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Lawrenceville, NJ	6 Martin Luther Chapel Lutheran Church, Pennsauken, NJ	23 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hamburg, NJ	30 St. John Lutheran Church, Bloomfield, NJ
	Friday	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Blairstown, NJ	8 Rev. Craig Lutz, Holy Faith Lutheran Church, Oak Ridge, NJ	5 Rev. Ebenezer Mallepalle, Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Blackwood, NJ	22 Rev. Ernest Mercer, Peace Lutheran Church, Galloway, NJ	29 St. John Lutheran Church, Bound Brook, NJ
	Thursday		Rev. Andrew Wolfgram, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Bordentown, NJ	4 Rev. Jace Detrie, Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Tinton Falls, NJ	2   Rev. Deric Taylor, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Fairlawn, NJ	28 Rev. Daniel Berteau, Redeemer Lutheran Church of Manchester,
	Wednesday		Rev. Dr. L. Richard Vossler Jr., Grace Lutheran Church, Livingston, NJ	3 Rev. Steven Vera, King of Kings Lutheran Church, Mountain Lakes, NJ	20 Rev. Christopher Sadlo, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fords, NJ	27 Rev. Gary Timm, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Westfield, NJ
	Tuesday	<b>AR</b> es in New Jersey	Sev. Peter Bauernfeind, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Palisades Park, NJ	Rev. Timothy Casaday, Immanuel Lutheran Church, East Rutherford, NJ	Pev. Philip Song C Rey, New Jersey Korean Cho Won Lutheran Church, Palisades Park, NJ	26 Rev. Lawrence Gboeah, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Newark, NJ
	Monday	PRAYER CALENDAR  Pastors & Churches in New Jersey	4 Rev. Philip Ressler, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Old Bridge, NJ	Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Garfield, NJ	8 Mile Square Lutheran Church, Hoboken, NJ	25 Rev. Brian Handrich, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Newton, NJ
	Sunday	PRAYER	Sev. Christian Schonberg, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Point Pleasant, NJ	Rev. Dale Fjordbotten, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Somerset,	7 Rev. Dr. Martin Erhardt, Messiah Lutheran Church, Princeton, NJ	24 Rev. Kenneth Fosse, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Howell, NJ