

April 2026



NEWS OF PEACE

United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Peace ELCA

A Good Word from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

With these words our Easter celebration begins! Easter is celebrated as a “week of weeks.” You’ll notice there are seven Sundays of Easter. The number ‘seven’ in the scriptures and in our liturgical life is a number meaning ‘perfection’ and ‘completion.’ The seven weeks of Easter are the perfect celebration of Christ’s risen life that makes all the difference in the world.

In Christ’s resurrection the future of humanity has been changed forever! Yes, that’s the future of humanity, not just Christians. The Risen Christ is Lord of the whole world whether the world recognizes Him or not!

Jesus Christ lives and because He lives, those who place their trust in Him live also. Because of Christ we live a new life now and forever. Because of Christ’s rising, we live new life now and forever. We are united with Christ’s dying and rising in the waters of Holy Baptism.

As Martin Luther encourages us, each morning when we rise, we make the sign of the cross over our bodies saying, “In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” we think to ourselves, “But I am baptized!” As we sign ourselves in God’s name, we understand what a good and gracious life we live because of Christ. Marked with the cross we understand that no matter what happens today I am always a child of God. That makes all the difference!

As we live in these days when our divisions, our hatreds and our violence are so powerfully seen all around us, may we keep our eyes on Christ and His power to transform the “powers” of the world. Keeping our eyes on Christ, we have peace and hope beyond all human understanding. Keeping our eyes on Christ, may we see more clearly the needs of our brothers and sisters across the globe and reach out both in prayer and action.

Easter blessings,

Pastor Ken



Below are the contributions for the month of March

(thru March 23rd)

\$5,786.79 is needed weekly to meet our budget.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Weekly Offering</u>	<u>Received Year To Date</u>
1&2	\$7,028.00	\$49,274.42
7&8	\$4,763.00	\$54,037.42
15&16	\$7,456.00	\$61,493.42
21&22	\$5,833.00	\$67,326.42

Operating Fund Balance as February 28= \$ 25,726.68



HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 2 Holy Communion
6 pm

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3 6 pm

EASTER SUNDAY, April 5
6 am Sunrise Holy Communion
9 am Holy Communion



CONFIRMATION will start back on April 12th at 10am on Sunday's. Do not forget to do your Sermon Reflection.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
YOUTH TO MINNEAPOLIS

BBQ
FUNDRAISER

APRIL 26,
2026

10:30 AM - 1:00 PM

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
303 W. MULBERRY, STEELEVILLE

**PULLED PORK SANDWICHES, BRISKET SANDWICHES,
SLAW, BAKED BEANS, DRINK, & DESSERT**

**FREE WILL DONATION
CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Get ready for an ice-cold summer adventure, packed with cool winter activities.

Join us for Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS. Snowball Mountain Challenge is an exciting winter sports event held every year on Snowball Mountain.

Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS is based on Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." This verse reminds us that with God's strength through Jesus we can do more than we ever thought possible and can face challenges that come our way.

This year VBS will be held from June 15 through June 19, 2026. Please volunteer; don't wait to be called! If you can help, contact either the church office (965-3119) or Michelle Gremmels (615-3535).

We will be holding the Mother's Day Brunch in the Fellowship Hall on May 4, 2026.



Grief Support Deb Rathert is working on a new grief support program, "Hope Beyond Today".

This is a 6 week program and is completely free of charge. It will begin April 13th at St. Luke in Campbell Hill at 7:00pm. Please call Deb at 618/318-2026 with any questions.

LOWER-LEVEL RENOVATION UPDATE

- Work is continuing on the projects associated with the water damage and renovations to the basement. New flooring and baseboards have been installed in the Fellowship Hall, kitchen, all basement hallways, and restrooms. A minimal amount of work remains to be done on that portion of the project.
- Repairs to the water-damaged walls in the Fellowship Hall women's restroom have been completed thanks to Dike Hamilton. New shower surrounds and shower floors in both Fellowship Hall restrooms are a work in progress, as is FRP (waterproof) board on both walls.
- Marc Kiehna has completed painting the walls in the renovation areas. Thank you, Marc! Some doors and trim remain to be completed.
- A contract has been signed and a down payment made to replace guttering on both the church and parsonage as soon as weather permits.
- Thresholds on both doors at the west entrance have been ordered and will be installed in the near future.
- The deck at the parsonage has been removed. Earth work to remove the deck footings and improve drainage from the church building remains to be done.
- Lower-level indoor items have been completed thanks to the many volunteers who helped on the three workdays held.
- Bids for new quartz countertops for the serving counter and island in the kitchen have been received and are indicated below.

The following list indicates projected costs to date:

ITEM	TOTAL COST
Flooring	\$31,552.58
Guttering	8,230.00
Paint & Shower Surrounds	1,004.37
West Entrance Door Thresholds	860.00
FRP Board on Restroom Walls	318.64
Cabinet Under Women's Restroom Lavatory	357.06
Earth Work	?
Kitchen Counter Tops	7,229.72
Construction of Additional Confirmation Picture Frames	600.00
Grand Total	\$50,152.37

The grand total needed to fund the renovations (not including the drainage earth work) is \$50,152.37. Thus far, we have received \$6,750.00 in donations and \$252 Thrivent Choice Dollars. That leaves a balance of \$43,150.37 needed to pay off the projected costs. We can use up to \$50,000 from our Stifel-Nicolaus investment account to pay the additional amount due for the project, However, if you would like to help with the renovation expenses, donations are certainly welcome.