

From the Pastor...

## Devotion April News Letter

In a few weeks, April 21<sup>st</sup>, as a congregation, we will celebrate “Shepard Sunday.” We will celebrate this together, yet, Psalm 23 is one of the most highly personal passages of scripture. So much of scripture is obviously produced with for a group (synagogue or church) in mind. The grand claims that scripture utters are usually those of the group, praise for our God, our life together, our shared salvation— to spoken as responses in unity and unison.

But Psalm 23 is deeply personal from start to finish. The psalmist is not speaking general religious principles and platitudes like the Proverbs, or ten commandments. He is not telling the historical acts of God and His people in the world. The psalmist is offering personal testimony.

The opening acclamation says it all: The Lord is **my** shepherd. In some places in the prophets, the Lord is praised as the shepherd of Israel. In the Gospels Jesus speaks of himself as a shepherd who cares for the sheep of the fold. Psalm 23 **makes that personal**, unashamedly claiming that God is not only the caring, guiding, protecting shepherd by my shepherd. It’s first person singular from start to finish.

Perhaps one implication of this deeply personal psalm is that until the good shepherd, Jesus, becomes your shepherd, **my** shepherd, until God’s goodness and mercy is claimed and named as there for you, specifically for you, then God is rather abstract and detached.

A bunch of scholarly types like to waste their time in discussions on the topic, “**Does God exist?**” Proving one way or the other the truthfulness or fallacy of the answer.

The existence of God is not even a concern. It is really just a distraction, it’s not really the question that gets to the heart of our concerns about God. “Does God exist?” is too intellectualized, too detached from the real question we have about God.

And what’s the real question we have about God?

It’s not “Is there a God?” The real question is: “Does the God **who is** care about me?” or “Is the God **who is**, there for me or not?’ That’s the question that haunts us.

Psalm 23 gives an unreserved, very personal, engaged response. The Lord is not only *the* Shepherd, *our* Shepherd, but is known to be **my** shepherd.

No wonder that, when we come to the end, and we are lowered into the ground in our death, and mourners surround the grave, we turn to Psalm 23. Those who are grieving, even in their mourning, are deeply comforted by being able to raise their voices, "The Lord **is my shepherd**, I lack for nothing...goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I'll dwell in God's house forever."

Perhaps the goal of the Christian life ought to be to live with God now in such a way so that at the end we may be able to say, with our last breath, that in spite of all the twists and turns in our lives, "the Lord, God of all, Creator of the universe, Lord of history, Lord of all Life—that God is **my** shepherd."



# BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES AT PEACE

## **Bible Study**

Sunday mornings 8:30 am

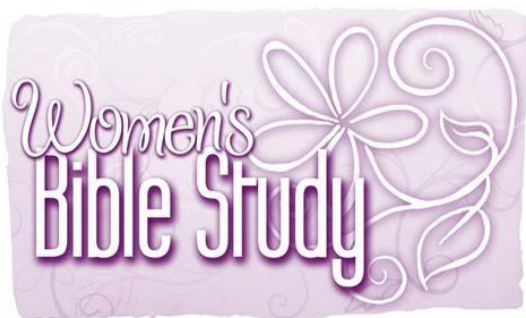
**Attend in-person in the Parish Hall or via Zoom.**

*To Join the Zoom Meeting via the Internet, use this information each week:*

Click [here](#) to Join (or launch Zoom and enter the ID and Passcode (below)

From any phone, dial - 1 669 444 9171

Meeting ID: 860 6410 8815 & Passcode: 861083



## **Women's Bible Study**

**Mondays, 12:30 pm in the Parish Hall**

Good studies. Great discussion. Wonderful fellowship. All ladies are encouraged to attend.  
Current study – Ephesians by Dr. David Jeremiah

## **Community Bible Study**

**Outside the Red Dirt Café, near Walmart**


**Time: Tuesdays, 7:30 am Topic: The Psalm of the Day**

We study a selection of Wisdom literature (from Psalms, Proverbs, etc.) appointed as a reading for the day. After reading the text, we discuss its meaning and application. Men and women, believer and seeker, all are invited!



# LWML News



We enjoyed our March LWML meeting with great fellowship, new ideas, a moving video by Dave and Barbara Anderson, and helping Miss Doris stuff hundreds of plastic Easter eggs for our beautiful preschool children to have their Egg hunt on Palm Sunday. They performed such wonderful songs for our worship service waving their palm fronds along with the congregation. How blessed are we to hear the laughter and singing of children!!

For our April 11th Thursday meeting at 10am we are going on a field trip! All ladies are invited to come see one of God's greatest creations of beauty! We will go to the Carrizo Plain National Monument to see the wildflowers in bloom! We will go to lunch afterwards and enjoy great fellowship. Let Sandy Shaw, Joyce Carpentier, or Janet Huwaldt know so we can get a headcount and carpool from the church at 10am. Come and join us for a special day! 

We pray you have a blessed Easter and know that HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! Alleluia!

See you on Thursday, April 11th at 10am for a fun day!

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim CHRIST, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

We'd like to thank our Amanda Rotta for making our holiday decorations so lovely at Peace, and known for being a chocolatier, and a graphic artist, we appreciate her many talents!!  

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Easter Sunday 8:30am - Bible Study 10am - WORSHIP 11:15am - Choir Practice	1 Preschool Closed 12:30pm - Women Study 6pm - Literacy for Life	2 7:30am - Bible Study RD 10am - Doll Club 10am - Prayer Warriors	3	4 9:15am - PS Chapel 10am - LWML Board	5	6
7 8:30am - Bible Study 10am - WORSHIP 11:15am - Choir Practice 11:30am - Cong Meeting	8 12:30pm - Women Study 6pm - Literacy for Life	9 7:30am - Bible Study RD 10am - Prayer Warriors	10 2pm - PS Board Meeting	11 9:15am - PS Chapel 10am - LWML Meeting	12	13
14 8:30am - Bible Study 10am - WORSHIP 11:15am - Choir Practice	15 12:30pm - Women Study 6pm - Literacy for Life	16 7:30am - Bible Study RD 10am - Prayer Warriors	17	18 9:15am - PS Chapel 1pm - Board of Directors	19	20
21 8:30am - Bible Study 10am - WORSHIP 11:15am - Choir Practice	22 12:30pm - Women Study 6pm - Literacy for Life	23 7:30am - Bible Study RD 10am - Prayer Warriors 10:30am - People's Kitch	24	25 9:15am - PS Chapel	26	27
28 8:30am - Bible Study 10am - WORSHIP 11:15am - Choir Practice	29 12:30pm - Women Study 6pm - Literacy for Life	30 7:30am - Bible Study RD 10am - Prayer Warriors	1	2 9:15am - PS Chapel 10am - LWML Board	3	4

# Peace Christian Preschool



## April

Doris Angel & Sierra  
Day, Directors  
805-489-9644  
director@peacearroyo  
grande.com

# Newsletter 2024



### Mark your Calendar

Chapel Every Thursday at  
9:15am. Families are  
welcome to join us!

**April 1: NO SCHOOL**

Teacher In-Service Day  
April 2-9: Mrs. Angel's  
Vacation to see new her  
Granddaughter that was  
born on March 6.

**Bingo Night Fundraiser**  
TBA

**Thank you to all the families that  
join us for Palm Sunday!**

**Thank you also for all the  
contributions for our Egg Hunt!**

**It was a blast even if we did have  
to do it in our classrooms!**

**The kids did a great Job singing  
their songs!**

**Happy Birthday**  
4/9 Royce R.  
4/13 Laurence K.  
4/15 Mrs. Angel

**School Closed**  
**On**  
**April 1**  
**Teacher**  
**In-Service**  
**Training**

We had another Graduate come out of our  
Infant /Toddler Classroom!  
Aaron Arnold is now a Little Sparrow!

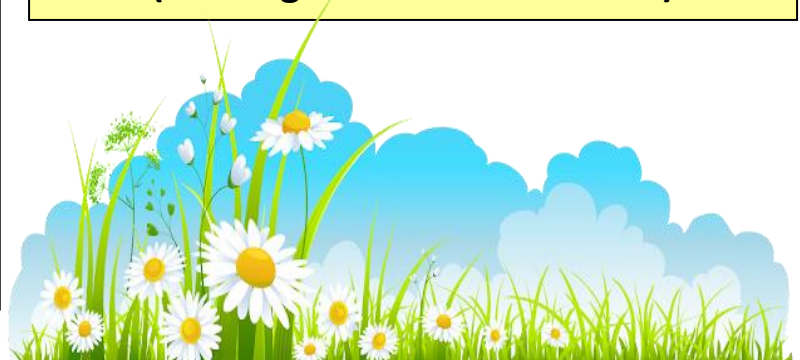


The children will be working in our  
garden boxes this month. Learning the  
Plant Cycle and learning to take care of  
plants. If anyone would like to donate  
seeds, small shovels, children's garden  
gloves or child size watering cans we will  
definitely put them to good use!

Thank you for your loving generosity!

**ANNOUNCEMENT** 

**Miss Cece's New Job title is now,**  
**Co-Director with Mrs. Angel.**  
**(No longer Assistant Director)**





*Peace Lutheran  
Church & Preschool*

*244 Oak Park Blvd.*

*Arroyo Grande, CA 93420*

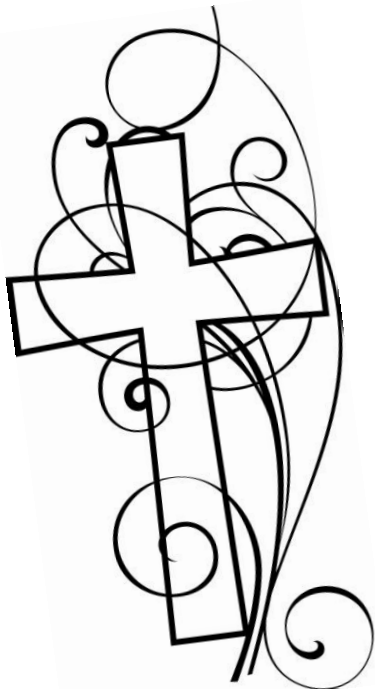
**Phone:** (805) 489-2708

**Email:** [office@peacearroyogrande.com](mailto:office@peacearroyogrande.com)

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

April 2024

Church & School Newsletters



## Peace Lutheran Church Mission Statement

In loving, caring fellowship, built upon the foundation of Word and Sacrament, we reach out with Gospel ministries to our community.