



WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

“Welcoming and accepting all people” – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. “*along*” – is an invitation to join together side by side. “*journey of faith*” – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing “*service*” – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.



HOLY WEEK

SJCC and PLC Schedule

Holy Week begins with worship on **Palm Sunday**, April 2. We will celebrate the entrance of Jesus into the Holy City with music and palms, and proceed throughout the service to hear the events that transpired from the excitement of the entry to the Last Supper on Thursday evening, preparing the way for his betrayal and crucifixion to follow. SJCC Worship and Children Worship and Wonder at 10:45 a.m.

You are invited to join the people of Peace Lutheran Church and the members of South Joplin Christian Church’s choir on Thursday, April 6, at 6:30 p.m. for **Maundy Thursday** worship. The evening hours of Maundy Thursday mark the time when we remember the covenant of mercy given to us in the meal of Holy Communion as well as Christ’s commandment to demonstrate our love for one another in the sign of footwashing. We recognize that footwashing is not common in today’s culture. Please know that you are invited to participate in our ritualized version of this action (we make it as easy as possible) but you are also welcome to participate by simply praying or joining in the singing of hymns and songs during this portion of the service. If you would like to participate in the footwashing ritual, we encourage footwear that is easy to remove and put back on again. In addition to footwashing and Holy Communion, the service includes key anchor points of confession and forgiveness as we begin and stripping of the chancel before we conclude for the evening and then pause worship until we are gathered again on Good Friday.

Good Friday is time between—a time for waiting, a time for solemn devotion—as we meditate and pray on the meaning of Christ’s cross and God’s triumph over death. On this day, Friday, April 7, we’ll resume our worship again at 6:30 p.m. Highlights of this service, hosted by Peace Lutheran Church, include hearing the Passion story from the Gospel according to John, the bidding prayer of the church, the solemn reproaches, and then proclaiming the triumph of the cross through song before pausing once again until God gathers us on Easter Sunday.

Then, on **Easter Sunday**, April 9, we gather in festive witness to the Resurrection of Our Lord as we proclaim Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! On this day, Peace Lutheran Church will host worship at 9:00 a.m.; South Joplin Christ Church (Disciples of Christ) will host worship at 10:45 a.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 6:30 PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 6:30 PM

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9—PLC 9AM;

SJCC 10:45AM “Love Wins”*

*Please remember to bring fresh or silk flowers to transform the cross of nails into a symbol of new life.

The Easter Offering, received by most congregations on **April 2 & 9, 2023**, supports several of the general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your gift supports college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and so much more, changing lives across the world. You may designate your special Easter Offering on your



EVENTS/OTHER

Intersex Inclusive Pride Flag at PLC



Several people have noticed the new flag hanging in the narthex at Peace Lutheran Church, and many of us at SJCC are delighted to see the flag displayed prominently in the space that welcomes all to the building. There are over twenty Pride-related flags, so this one was chosen with specific intentionality to reflect the diversity of our worshipping community. The colors represent the following:

Red = Life; Orange = Healing; Yellow = New Ideas; Green = Prosperity

Blue = Serenity; Violet = Spirit

Black/Brown arrows = People of Color

White/Blue/Pink = Trans community

Purple circle on yellow triangle = Intersex community (added in 2021)

We are so very blessed to be in relationship with a diversity of persons in our congregation, and look forward to all the ways we may grow and keep expanding in our future. God is good!

New Member

We rejoice to welcome Rev. Debi Lorenz into membership at SJCC. She is new to Joplin, and is a retired Disciples minister, having served most recently in Parsons, Kansas.

Her address is 2525 E. 32nd St. C145, Joplin MO 64804.

(620) 820-9196.

Welcome, Debi!

Adult Faith Formation for April

April 2: (No SS)

April 9: Easter— “Love Wins”

April 16: Earth Sunday—Robin Wall Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass*

April 23, 30: J.D. Crossan video series, *Violence Divine: Overcoming the Bible’s Betrayal of Its Non-Violent God*

All meetings are in the fellowship hall at PLC, starting at 9:30 am. Join us for lively discussion and faith formation!

Summer Church Camp Information

Church camp dates have been announced for children and youth of all ages, including a “Try-it Camp” for pre-schoolers, float camps and a Sons and Fathers retreat. To look at the full list and registration information, go to www.mid-america-disciples.org/summer. The registration deadline for most camps is May 15th. SJCC has scholarship funds available for any of our children and youth who attend. See Pastor Colleen for more information.



It's Campfire Time!!



Instead of our Fellowship Dinner on Sunday, April 16th, on Saturday evening April 15 (Rain Date April 22) SJCC and PLC are getting together for hotdogs and fun and fellowship, at 6 pm in the campfire area in back of the PLC building. Bring your chair and an appetite for hotdogs, nachos and sides which will be provided. Watch email and Facebook for any updates in case of threatening weather or high winds which would make an open fire inadvisable.

RTF UPDATE

Leadership teams from South Joplin Christian Church and Peace Lutheran Church have been meeting these past few months. The results of those meetings include the moving of our organ and piano into the sanctuary here, creation of a Worship & Wonder room and, this week, a nonbinding memorandum of understanding that indicates the desire of both congregations to move along this journey.

The Relocation Task Force has examined various properties in either our size range or our price range. Unfortunately, nothing has come close to being a good fit for us – either the property is too expensive, or the renovations and repairs required would force us into a long-term debt situation. Plus the time involved to make the space worshipful.

In February, the SJCC team presented Peace leadership with an offer to purchase their property. Peace leaders took that proposal to their congregation at a special forum yesterday. No vote was taken; they basically shared information and invited feedback. They, like we have been, are looking at their future. This week, Peace leadership indicated it is in their best long-term interest to transfer the property to us.

Nothing has been formalized, and we don’t have a firm proposal to bring to the SJCC Board and congregation. We recognize that this current church building is a little tight for our needs. That’s why, in our proposal, we offered a low initial cash payment so that resources for some expansion – namely to the worship space, fellowship hall and addition of classrooms/offices – would be financially possible for us. That’s also why the proposal includes 25 years rent free for Peace Lutheran. That brings the value of the deal more in line with what would be a normal purchase price; the rent free proposal also calms any fears Peace members may have of being forced to leave the gathering space they have called home for the past 10 years.

We are not sure if they will make a counter offer, or the timing of all of this. They know we are eager to settle, but we also have to recognize the emotions they are feeling as they relinquish ownership of their sacred space. We are committed to further discussions in ways that will be pleasing to God and both congregations.

If and when we negotiate the best deal we can, the contract will go to the Board first for discussion and possible approval, and then to the congregation for discussion and a yes/no vote. At the same time, the Peace Council will discuss and vote, and then put it to a congregational vote. In the meantime, hold our Peace Lutheran friends in your prayers. We have already experienced the pain of letting go, and they need the same grace that has been extended to us.

- Jim Cullumber on behalf of the SJCC Relocation Task Force



Please note our new address and fax number:

SJCC Offices:
1910 S. Wall Ave.
Joplin, MO 64804
Phone: 417-624-2522
Fax: 417-553-4804

CROSSLINES MINISTRIES

Our Crosslines challenge for April is:
60 boxes or bags of cereal (hot or cold).
Please bring your donations to PLC and put them on the cart by the welcome table by April 24.
SJCC Workday: **April 27, 9:45am-2pm**
New volunteers always appreciated.

Joplin Interfaith Coalition



Spring Panel Discussion

Topic of Discussion:
Spring Holy Days
HOW WE CELEBRATE THEM,
AND HOW THEY CAME TO BE


10 am - 12 pm
Saturday
May 6

Hosted By:
First Presbyterian Church
509 S Pearl Ave.

Prayer Requests

Medical:
Christa Paige (Meadows),
Anthony Rabuano, Judy
Schnieder

Sympathy:
Kenneth Burns (Meadows);
Craig Millard

Military:
Michael Crofford; Corey Irwin;
Josh Robb; Dylan Theil; Gary
Wald

Ongoing:
Connie Abraham; John Asher;
Carol Bach; Judy Ballard; Kittie
Blankenship; Dani Bowen
(Meadows); Gloria Brady
(Abraham); Ellen Broglio; Janet
Burns; Veronica Carnahan;
Betty Coan; Dayton and
Daislee Cohen; Timicia Curtis;
Wes Davenport; Lois Demaree;
Bailee Evans; Margie Fitterling;
Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Mary
Gilmore; Alyxis Hefty; Patt
Hinds; Darius Hughlett (Wilson);
Daryl Hughlett; Roland
Hughlett; Bethany James; Betty
Kemp; Sam Knudtson; Lamley
Family; Shirley Martin; Betty
McKelvey; Sara Metts;
Missionary families (Huff,
Reaves, Wilson); Arlene Nash;
Nancy Nauser (Fitterling);
Bethany Newman; Jim Owen;
Matthew Paulda; Josh Petty;
Reese Prater; Todd Prater;
Cameron Ransom; Sharon
Reeve; Raquel Sapien; Brady,
Baylee and Calvin Shafer; Sue
Smith; Lou Starks; Richard
Stiles; Connie Sullivan; Mike
Tesh; Roger Traver; Michelle
Vorhees; Tova Wallace-Lee;
Karen Patchin Watson; Charles
Wilson; Birdie Woods; Mary Lou
York, and all unspoken
requests.

Other:
SJCC Relocation

Global Ministries Focus:
April 2: China
April 9: Honduras
April 16: East Timor
April 23: Lebanon
April 30: Korea

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Birthdays			
1	Benjamin Delehanty	11	Lisa Wise
4	Judy Schneider	15	Anita Frieze
5	Lou Starks	19	Becky Martino
6	Pat Wolfenbarger	24	Cyndi Cogbill
7	Keziah Curry	25	Dia Curry
8	Connie Abraham	30	Jeanie Morrison
8	Rachel Eckhardt		
<u>Anniversaries</u>			
13	Tim & Carey Prater		



SunMonTueWedThuFriSat

		All activities at Peace Lutheran Church unless specified otherwise.				1 Pastor—Mtg in KC
2 Palm Sunday First Easter Offering Pastor—Mtg in KC 9:30 SS (kids only) 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/ CW&W	3	4 6:00 pm Worship Team Mtg. (Theil/ Umphenour home)	5 9:30 am— Noon—CWF 7:00 pm Choir	6 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship	7 6:30 pm Good Friday Worship	8
9 Easter Sunday Second Easter Offering 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/ CW&W	10 Board Reports Due	11	12 7:00 pm Choir	13	14 7:30 pm Iftar @ Islamic Center	15 6:00 pm Firepit/ Cookout (PLC)
16 Earth Sunday 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/ CW&W	17	18	19 7:00 pm Choir	20	21	22
23 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/ No CW&W	24	25	26 7:00 pm Choir	27 9:45 am— 2:00 pm Crosslines	28	29
30 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/ No CW&W						