



Peace United Methodist Church
 Pastor Lisa Vick
 303 Ninth Avenue South
 Virginia MN 55792

PASTORAL CARE

Please notify the church office (218-741-7739) if you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care for illness, hospitalization, surgery or emergency.

Pastoral Calls: 612-558-5316
 Email: pastor@werpeaceumc.com

Mediacom channel 5TV
 Peace church service
 Weekly air times

Sunday	9:00 am, 8:00 pm
Monday	2:00 am
Tuesday	10:00 am
Wednesday	none
Thursday	10:00 am
Friday	5:30 pm
Saturday	10:00 am

Our Mission at Peace United Methodist Church

Peace in our Communities, offering healing and wholeness to all in life's journey

The Methodist Messenger

March 2026

Church Office

Hours: Monday – Thursday
 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Phone: (218) 741-7739 or (218) 741-7738
 Website: www.werpeaceumc.com
 Email:
 Pastor Lisa pastor@werpeaceumc.com

Office office@werpeaceumc.com

Worship Schedule

10:30 AM Peace UMC
 303 South 9th Avenue
 Virginia, MN 55792

Note: 1st Sunday of each month is
 Communion Sunday

Find our online worship service at
www.werpeaceumc.com or on our Facebook page.

Our Staff

Pastor
 Administrative Assistant
 Custodian

Rev. Lisa Vick
 Rachel Bodas
 Neil Strong Sr.

Find us on Facebook:

We R Peace UMC

Take a look.

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People of the Way: An Underground Lenten Invitation

In the earliest days of the church, followers of Jesus didn't call themselves "Christians." They were known simply as People of the Way — not because they had everything figured out or had perfect faith, but because they were trying, day by day, to walk in the way of Jesus.

And it was dangerous. To be known as a follower of Jesus could cost you your reputation, your livelihood, your family, even your life. Gathering for worship was not a public event. There were no signs on the lawn, no websites, no social media posts. They met quietly, in homes, in basements, in borrowed rooms — often late at night and often in secret.

They gathered around simple meals and honest conversation, clinging to the stories of Jesus, sharing bread and prayers, and encouraging one another to keep going. They didn't gather because it was easy. They gathered because they believed the way of Jesus was worth the risk.

Something about that spirit has been stirring among us lately.

After the parsonage basement was freshly repainted, a few of us stood there looking at this beautiful, newly bright space and thought, it feels too good to go unused. Almost immediately, the idea surfaced — what if we created a small, "underground" kind of gathering? A place for real conversation. Real questions. Real faith. No pressure. No perfection. Just people wanting to walk the way of Jesus together.

Beginning **Wednesday, February 25**, we'll gather as People of the Way — an informal, underground-style Bible study rooted in conversation, prayer, and shared life. We'll begin with a **shared meal at 5:30 pm**, followed by the study at **6:00 pm** at the parsonage.

All are welcome. Bring your questions. Bring your doubts. Bring your hunger. Children are welcome too — and yes, I have toys.

This isn't a class where you need to have answers. This is a circle for seekers, question-askers, long-time believers, and those who aren't quite sure what they believe anymore.

In a world that feels noisy, divided, and exhausting, maybe what we need most is to gather quietly, break bread, open Scripture, and practice being People of the Way again.

If you feel even a small nudge of curiosity, that might be the Spirit's invitation.

Come join us, any questions talk to me!

— Pastor Lisa

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

From the Missions Committee

Your support for the Souper Bowl Sunday collection by the Sunday School was amazing! We now have a wonderfully stocked church food pantry.

March is Food Shelf month where all donations to the Quad City Food Shelf are matched, so food will again be our focus in March. Watch your bulletin for ways you may participate if you wish. Unfortunately, food shelf utilization continues to increase, so our help is greatly appreciated.

God's blessings, The Missions Team

Weekly Lenten Service Opportunities

Here at Peace UMC, we will be offering a soup lunch with a table devotion on Wednesdays at 12 noon. Starting on February 25th and continuing on March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th. You are invited to come one week or every week. Lunch and devotion will be in the Fellowship Hall. There is a signup sheet in the library for anyone who wants to help bring in soup, setup, and or cleanup. All help is welcome!

Beginning Wednesday, February 25, we'll gather as People of the Way — an informal, underground-style Bible study rooted in conversation, prayer, and shared life. We'll begin with a shared meal at 5:30 pm, followed by the study at 6:00 pm at the parsonage.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church will be having Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers & Worship: February 25th, March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th. Soup Supper at 6pm and Worship at 6:30pm. You are invited to come for either or both – One Week or Every week. Supper and service will take place in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday School Souper Bowl Success

The Sunday School students are happy to celebrate the success of the Souper Bowl fundraiser, thanks to the generous donations and assistance from our Peace congregation. The church crossed the finish line and scored big with over 350 food items given. It was exciting and fun for the children to see how the fundraiser progressed in the Fellowship Hall as they lined up the food items on the yard lines—ultimately to score a big win.

We wish to thank all of our Peace members for their generous participation in this special mission project for our church food pantry. We had fun doing it. We have another busy month ahead with important messages to share. The Sunday School Leaders

Easter Garden

There will be a signup sheet in the library for anyone wanting to provide flowers for our Easter Garden on April 5th. Please bring your flowers to the church by 2pm on Thursday, April 2nd or they may be dropped off when you come for the 6:00pm

Maundy Thursday service that evening. Please no Easter lilies as there are people who have allergies to them.

Holy Week Schedule

March 29th @ 10:30 am - **Palm Sunday Service**
Breakfast will be served after worship.

April 2nd @ 6:00 pm - **Maundy Thursday Service**
with Communion

April 3rd @ ?????? - **Good Friday Service**
(The time for this service will be in the April Messenger)

*This will be an Ecumenical Service **at**
Messiah Lutheran Church in Mountain Iron

April 5th 10:30 am - **Easter Sunday Service**
As we focus on celebrating Easter Sunday, Communion will not be observed that day. We invite you to join us for Communion on Sunday, April 12.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 – Annette Beise | 20 – Joey Aho |
| 4 – Sue Carvelli | 21 – Carol Marolt |
| 5 – Kerry Roen | 22 – Barb Porter |
| 7 – Terry Hilar | 23 – Audrey Aho |
| 9 – Kathy Rice | 24 – Richard Gasperlin |
| 9 – Ashley Dahl | 24 – Jan Mesich |
| 15 – Cayleigh Murray | 25 – Rachel Bodas |
| 16 – Aleigha Putkonen | 26 – Ellie Werner |
| 17- Mary Lyden | 27 – Carol Thomas |
| 17 – Renee Hultman | 29 – Devan Ekmark |
| 19 – Layla Moller | 29 – Madeline Lackner |
| | 29 – Pamela Genilini |

March Worship Helpers

<u>Date</u>	<u>Coffee 'AN</u>	<u>Friday Reader</u>	<u>Sunday Reader</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Power Point</u>
<u>3/1/26</u>	Besty Erickson Carol Thomas	2/27 Val Wier	Holly Lundgren	Jim & Betsy Nelson	Ann Voss B. Norlander	Rachel Bodas
<u>3/8/26</u>	C. Wickham Gail Smith	3/6 Bill Robillard	Courtney Wickham	Betsy Erickson Kathy Oliver	Tom & Gail Johnson	Gary Picek
<u>3/15/26</u>	Mark Knutson Pam Omersa	3/13 Ann Voss	Craig Johnson	Gary Picek Joe Stanaway	J. Matinson Carol Thomas	Joan Schriber
<u>3/22/26</u>	Diane Hawley Sue Kolstad	3/20 Pam Omersa	Lois Lackner	Bill & Lois Robillard	Gale Switzer Kathy Rice	Holly Lundgren
<u>3/29/26</u>	Mark & Ellen Hedlund	3/27 Rachel Bodas	Catherine Branville	Branville Family	Pam Omersa Kathy Oliver	

Communion Steward

March – Diane Hawley/Courtney Wickham

April – Pam Omersa/Sue Kolstad

May –

June -

COFFEE AN' HOSTS

****Donuts for Coffee an' are to be picked up at Super One SOUTH.

You will need to pick up the Peace UMC account card from the office before going to Super One South. The church has an account set up for payment; you must go through the checkout line and show the clerk the account card. If you have any questions, please call the Office.

Did You Know . .

Lent is a time to grow closer to God through prayer, reflection, and spiritual practices. Spiritual discipline such as prayer and meditation are ways to deepen one's faith and integrate spiritual practices into our daily lives.

Devotions are personal or communal acts of worship that involve prayer, meditation, and reading scripture. They are an opportunity to deepen one's relationship with God, seek guidance, and reflect on one's beliefs and actions.

The importance of devotions lies in their ability to provide a sense of peace, purpose, and connection. They offer a structured time to step away from the distractions of daily life and focus on one's spiritual well-being. Regular devotions can foster a sense of discipline, encourage introspection, and strengthen one's faith through consistent practice and reflection. Moreover, they can create a supportive community when shared with others, enhancing our collective spiritual experience.

Devotions can be found in various forms and places. Many people turn to the Bible for guidance and inspiration during their devotional time. There are numerous devotional books such as "Jesus Calling" and guides, like The Upper Room, which offer daily readings and reflections tailored to support spiritual growth. Online platforms and mobile apps have also become popular resources for finding daily devotionals, allowing individuals to access spiritual content conveniently from anywhere.

Did you know. . .

Peace UMC has a subscription to the Upper Room available for you to take home.

The Upper Room® is a global ministry dedicated to supporting the spiritual life of Christians seeking to know and experience God more fully. From its beginnings in 1935 as a daily devotional guide, The Upper Room has grown to include publications, programs, prayer support, and other resources to help believers of all ages and denominations move to a deeper level of faith and service.

Take home your copy of the Upper Room found in the Narthex; download the Upper Room mobile app; or subscribe to a paper or digital subscription at www.upperroom.org.

To learn more visit www.umc.org and www.umcdiscipleship.org