

The Saint Peter Leader

A Newsletter of Saint Peter Lutheran Church
Greenwood Village, Colorado

April 2007

1

Palm Sunday

8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
Worship Center

5

**Maundy
Thursday**

8:00 p.m.
Worship Center

6

Good Friday

8:00 p.m.
Worship Center

7

Easter Vigil

9:00 p.m.
Worship Center

6-8

Prayer Vigil

Starting on Good
Friday at 9:00 p.m.
until

Easter Sunday at
4:00 a.m.

Worship Center

26-29

**Faith for All
Seasons Men's
Retreat**

Fly-fishing Retreat at
Rainbow Trail

Holy Week Worship Celebrate the Resurrection

Passion Sunday (also known as Palm Sunday: April 1)

8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
9:40 a.m.	Sunday Church School
10:45 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday (April 5) 8:00 p.m. Communion Service

Good Friday (April 6) 8:00 p.m. Service of the Word

Holy Saturday (April 7) 9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

The Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunday: April 8)

8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
10:45 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion

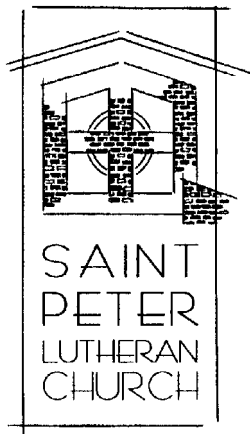
Men's Fly-fishing Retreat

at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp

April 26-29, 2007

All men are invited to join Pastor Dave for some fly-fishing in the famed Arkansas River – novice to expert, fishermen are encouraged to attend. Bible study, worship, prayer and conversation will be woven into the weekend so all can come away renewed spiritually, mentally and physically.

To register, visit www.rainbowtrail.org and click on the link to the retreat. The cost for the weekend is \$175, and includes meals, lodging and materials. Fishing equipment rental and river guides are available at extra cost. The deadline for registering is April 5th.



Our Life Together in Christ

Friday, May 4th
6:30-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 5th
8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday meals provided!

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Next Blood Drive

May 12th at Hope United Methodist Church. Contact Gayle Romcevich to schedule an appointment.



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May 2007 Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the May newsletter is Monday, April 16th. Please email your news article to Nadine at nakatani@StPLC.org.

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Our Life Together in Christ - A Retreat for Everyone!

Take a break from your many activities to feed your soul. Join us for this 24 hour retreat at Saint Peter Lutheran Church.

The purpose of "Our Life Together in Christ" is to provide a time for people to hear the essential message of the Christian faith and to share the significance of that message with other believers. Participants will discuss aspects of faith, share stories, deepen friendships, and grow spiritually. This retreat is valuable for everyone in the Saint Peter community. Contact Karyl Meyer or the church office for more information or to volunteer.

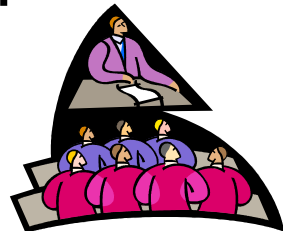


Friday, May 4th, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and
Saturday, May 5th, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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Sunday Morning Adult Forum for April

Holy Week is nearly upon us! On Palm Sunday, April 1st, Vicky Simpson will lead the class, focusing on prayer that moves inward, upward, and outward. The Easter prayer vigil starts on Good Friday, so come, embolden and revive your prayer life! To sign up for the vigil, contact Verna Leighton for your time slot!



The Sunday following Easter, April 15th, we will start a segment called "All God's Families". The first guest speaker is expert, Dr. Jane Mountain. She will present "Taking the Mystery out of Depression & Bipolar Disorder". This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about issues facing many of our families and friends.

On April 22nd, Anna Inazu, co-director of Community Programs at the Gathering Place, will present the latest information on their inner city ministry and new building project.

The final week, April 29th, Mary Pratt will help us focus on Building Relationships with the kids at Saint Peter. This is a good opportunity to build our community, and strengthen our "family" ties!

FYI - Our previous speaker from Metro Care-Ring, Liesl Pyle, has set a training class for individuals or groups who would like to participate in the Hope Family Mentoring program. This is for referred families, on the verge of homelessness, and offers support to help them stay off the streets. The class is on April 14th, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Call her at 303 350-3641 to sign up, or speak with Vicky Simpson for further information.

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Give Blood, Save a Life!

Thank you to Terri and Dave Mohrhaus, Ron and Verna Leighton, Steve Howie, Crystal Zagnoli, Steve Krebsbach, and Gayle Romcevich for donating blood on February 24th. A total of 63 units of blood were collected which will help 189 patients.

Our next Community Blood Drive will be on May 12th at Hope United Methodist Church located on the corner of Belleview and Dayton. Contact Gayle Romcevich at 303 741-0020 to schedule an appointment.

From the Pastor

Through the Cross and to the Resurrection

One of the most dramatic and powerful weeks of the church year is about to begin. April 1st is "Palm Sunday" this year, and begins what the church has come to know as "Holy Week." I'd like to invite each of you to join us for worship throughout that week on Palm Sunday (8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.), Maundy Thursday (8:00 p.m.), Good Friday (8:00 p.m.), Holy Saturday (9:00 p.m.), and Easter Sunday (8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.).

There was a time when Christians were less interested in the liturgies of Holy Week. Many would worship on Palm Sunday and celebrate with the people of Jerusalem as Jesus rode into town on a donkey, to shouts of "Hosanna in the highest!" and "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" Then they would return for Easter Sunday, and cry out together, "He is risen. He is risen indeed!" It gave the impression that the Christian faith was one great party – one great victory celebration.

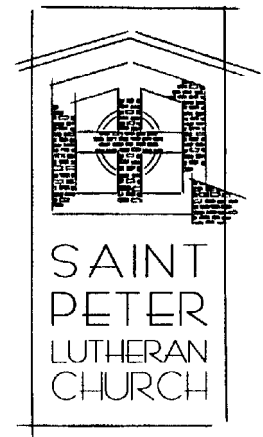
However, those who were faithful at worship throughout Holy Week developed a different impression of what the Christian faith is all about. They witnessed the anguish as Jesus and his disciples arose from the table (after his Last Supper) and made their way to the Mount of Olives where Jesus would be arrested, persecuted, and eventually sentenced to death. They contemplated his death on the cross, and the lengths he was willing to go to offer God's salvation to the world. They waited with the disciples through the agonizingly long hours of Holy Saturday. And they exploded with joy as his resurrection was finally announced on Easter Sunday.

The truth is, our Christian faith is not just one great party – one great victory celebration. Instead, Christian faith takes very seriously the pain and brokenness of this world. Christian faith understands that becoming a person of faith doesn't mean that one will avoid the difficulties that life presents. Christians die young, they face job uncertainty, they struggle through divorce, and they wrestle with relationships. Yet no matter how dark life's journey might become, we take heart because our God is one who has become human, and who knows how difficult life can be – and is there to offer us the gifts of hope and strength and joy.

My family has had a glimpse of the brokenness of this world, as we found ourselves temporarily homeless and unclear as to what the future held for us. But God has blessed us during these weeks of uncertainty. We have been touched by those of you who have been so generous with your time and with your resources. We have been reminded that ours is a faith which refuses to pretend that life is easy for those who believe. Staring pain and disappointment and death in the face, Christian faith holds on to the hope that is ours in Christ.

This year, I invite you to worship with us throughout Holy Week. Not just on Palm Sunday and on Easter, but also on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, as we celebrate the power of God that is able to transform the deepest darkness of this world, and flood it with the light of the resurrection. A blessed Holy Week to you all – I hope to see you often at worship!

God's peace to you all,
David J. Risendal, Pastor



Weekly Internet Devotions

Pastor Dave sends out a devotional message every Wednesday, which is usually based on the Gospel Lesson appointed for the coming Sunday, and is intended to help readers prepare themselves for Sunday worship.

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If you are interested in receiving these weekly devotional messages, please send him a note to that effect at

drisendal@StPLC.org

or check them out at

www.StPLC.org.

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