

The Good News Of Peace

To live as God's family gathering around His Word and promises
to effectively share
The Good News of God's love in Christ with our neighbors.

Peace Lutheran Church

Chehalis, Washington

February 2026

Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

"Shrove Tuesday? What's that?" Shrove Tuesday is the English name for the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The French call it "Mardi Gras," or "Fat Tuesday." "Shrove" is said to be derived from the now-unused English word "shrive" which referred to the practice of confession and absolution which was a common preparation for Lent.

"What's a pancake got to do with it?" With the fast of Lent coming on, households needed a way to get rid of foods that would not be permitted during the Lenten fast. Pancakes are an easy way to use up all the fat and milk and eggs in the house without using up much else (except a little flour).

"Why are we having a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper?" Why not? It is an opportunity for our church family to come together for good fun and good food.

The menu will consist of German Potato Pancakes, German Sausages, and regular pancakes for those who don't fancy German pancakes.

If you would like to help by providing ingredients, sausages, griddles, your warm body to help prepare the food, etc. contact Dawn Freeman.

See you at 6:00pm on Tuesday, February 17th.



SHROVE TUESDAY

Ash Wednesday

Please join us as we begin the season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday communion service on February 18th at Noon and 7:00pm. (There will not be a soup supper before this service.)



Why Ash Wednesday?

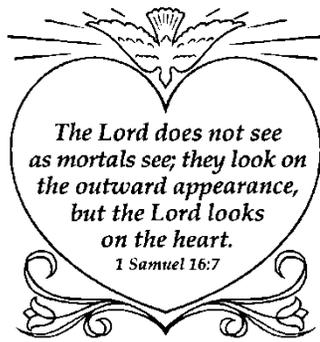
Traditionally, the Christian Church has observed the seven weeks before Easter as a time of penitence and spiritual self-examination.

Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent, derives its name from the ancient practice of marking the foreheads of worshippers with ashes from the unused palm branches of the previous year. Ashes historically have had a dual significance.

First, they are Old Testament Symbols of sadness and humility. Job, in the midst of all his troubles, cried out to God from the ash heap.

The second symbolic meaning of ashes is as a reminder of our mortality. Each of us faces the inevitability of physical death. Our bodies and material possessions eventually will turn to dust and ashes. This is a reminder that we dare not trust in things that crumble.

But Lent does not leave us on the ash heap. It begins with Ash Wednesday but ends with Easter. And Easter proclaims that, through Christ, God resurrects us from our dust and ashes, makes us new creatures, and brings life out of death.



Lenten Fasting

(Lutheran Style)

“Fasting? Isn’t that a Romish thing which the Lutheran Confessions abolished?”

Not exactly. The Augsburg Confession (in Article XXVI—The Distinction of Foods) does decry fasting or abstaining *for the sake of earning grace or making satisfaction for sin*. Only Christ makes satisfaction for sins. And He delivers the result of that satisfaction—the forgiveness of sins—to us solely by His grace on account of His mercy; and He does so whether we fast or not. So fasting is not a matter of salvation; but that does not mean that fasting is not a meet, right, and salutary practice.

Jesus, in the Gospel lesson appointed for Ash Wednesday, assumes that His disciples will fast: “And *when you fast*, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others...But *when you fast*, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret” (Matthew 6:16-18—emphasis added). Twice, Jesus says to His disciples “when you fast.” He does not say, “if,” but “when.”

Likewise, St. Paul, in the Epistle lesson appointed for Septuagesima tells his readers that he disciplines his body: “I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified” (1 Corinthians 9:27).

Luther in the Small Catechism, in the section on the Sacrament of the Altar, writes “Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training.”

In LSB hymn #418, “O Lord, throughout These Forty Days,” stanza 3, we sing:

Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed
And fixed Your mind above;
So teach us to deny ourselves,
Since we have known God’s love

Fasting reminds the body that “man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes

from the mouth of the LORD” (Deuteronomy 8:3 [and quoted by Jesus in Matthew 4:4]). Fasting reminds our bodies that our bellies (really all our fleshly demands) are not our boss. It is a reminder that ultimately no earthly food can satisfy the true hunger of man—the Blessed Holy Trinity. And fasting frees up time for prayer and money for charity.

Lent—the season of penitent preparation for the Great Feast of Easter—is a fine time for such bodily discipline. In fact, to this day in Germany, Lent is known as Fastenziet—i.e. fasting-time.

Fasting is not ‘giving something up for Lent.’ That is abstaining (another fine discipline). Fasting is decreasing your overall intake for a time to allow your body the discipline of remaining in want. Obviously, for some, this may be medically inadvisable. (It’s a good thing that our salvation doesn’t depend on fasting, but on Christ alone.)

There can be no laws for how one fasts. But the traditional Lenten fast of the Western Church might look something like this: 1/4 meal for breakfast and lunch, with a simple dinner. In other words, for breakfast maybe half a slice of toast, for lunch an orange. Then a regular dinner—but nothing fancy. Something like that was observed throughout the days of Lent. Further, Western Christians have traditionally abstained from meat and wine on the Fridays of Lent.

Maybe food is not what your flesh craves most. Maybe it is video games, or beer, or even books. In that case, these might make fine abstentions for Fridays (and/or Saturdays and/or Wednesdays [it all depends on which tradition you consult]).

Again, fasting (and abstaining) is not just for fasting’s sake. It goes along with prayer and meditation on God’s Word and with almsgiving. When you spend less time eating and preparing elaborate meals, you have more time for prayer and meditation. When you spend less money on food, you free up funds for giving to those for whom hunger is not voluntary but an everyday way of life.

In Gospel freedom you may consider Lent as a time to discipline your wayward body and rejoice that “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). A blessed fastenzeit to you all!

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Freeman

(Much of the above was ‘borrowed’ from the Rev. William Weedon, Director of Worship and Chaplain of the International Center of the LCMS)

Brief Summary of our Annual Congregational Meeting

On January 25, 2026, the Voters' Assembly held its regular, annual meeting. At that meeting the voters elected the following to office:

President:	Tom Howsden
Board of Education:	Michelle Schaefer
Board of Property:	Eren Millam
Board of Stewardship:	Crystal Sipp
Elders:	Brian Hill Tom DeTray

Also, a small amendment was added to our Ceremonial Property Use Policy.

Board of Education Youth Group News

HIGHER THINGS CONFERENCE

The 2026 Higher Things Conference, "Dying Church Rising Hope", registration opened November 1st. Please let Pastor Freeman or Michelle Schaefer know if you are interested in going to the Conference. We are planning on going to the third one, July 14th – 17th, at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

I hope everyone had the chance to come and enjoy the Children's Christmas program on December 20th. It was a success and those involved had a good time doing the performance.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

There will be a Family Fun Night on Thursday, February 12th, from 5:15-7:30/7:45. There will be a dinner of hot dogs, chili, chips, and salads provided. Please consider bringing a desert to share though.

The evening will begin with a worship service at 5:15, followed by dinner, and as people finish eating there will be games to choose from to play.

If you have a game you would like to share, please feel free to bring it. We will begin cleaning up around 7:30.

Hope to see you there.

LUTHER CLASSICAL COLLEGE (LCC) UPDATE

Luther Classical College (LCC) is still diligently looking for its next President. A Call was issued and returned. LCC is having to back track a few steps and continue their search for a new President.

Luther Classical College (LCC) has entered a restructuring positions and resources phase, in connection with preparing for a new president. One of the changes that has been made is the naming of Rev. Jacob Benson to the newly established Chief Advancement and Admissions Officer (CAAO). This transition will take him out of full-time teaching and allow him to oversee both admissions and advancement which has been identified by the college as two closely related departments. This merging of departments allows the college to maximize the skills of its current employees while planning for the future.

The CAAO position will be permanently based on the Beech Street campus in Casper. The position will include significant travel, while still allowing regular engagement with students and faculty on campus.

Recent changes also include combining certain operational roles to enhance collaboration and reduce overhead. The staff, faculty, and board at LCC have carefully reviewed the finances and are working to make decisions to strengthen their ability to carry out the mission of LCC in a finically responsible way.

Men's Bible Study Breakfast

Men, please join us on the third Saturday of every month at 9am to study the Word of God and to enjoy hearty breakfast.

Attention All Men!



Annual Sweetheart Banquet

Hey guys, it's that time of the year to honor our sweethearts. Yes, it's the Sweetheart Banquet to be held Sunday, Feb. 15th immediately following Bible Class.

Dust off those culinary skills and bring your favorite lady and a dish to share. Since this is their day, we gents will set up and finish with cleanup.



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

The LWML Advent Tea was held December 6th, with a great attendance of 38 women. Amelia Helman (with the help of little Andrew Helman) described her experience as a "Young woman of LWML" and her attendance at the last spring convention. Muriel Tosh also described the many LWML projects, not only for our community, but all over the world. It has been rewarding as these efforts have helped so many people, young and old. A big thank you to Amelia, Muriel and all the women who attended the Tea.

Our last meeting was on January 13th, Linda Huyck gave the devotion and the hostess was Shirlee Hall.

Our next meeting will be on February 10th at 1p.m., Muriel Tosh will give the devotion, and Carol Kuhlman will be the Hostess. Please help us decide what to do for our Spring Joyshop.

We hope you will attend and children are welcome.

February Birthdays

1. Linda Huyck
5. Edie Schroeder
7. Margaret Honnaker
8. Nelly Morast
John Foss
John Shea
9. Jacob Nay
11. Reagan McAllister
14. Slade Heinricher
17. Linda Boetsch
Lillie Hughes

February Anniversaries

10. Patrick & Pamela McConkey
1979
26. Dillon & Alyssa Naillon
2022
28. Frank & Judy DeVaul
1987

Flower Chart and Flower Fund

The flower chart for 2025 has been posted on the bulletin board in the hallway near the restrooms so you may sign up for the days you would like to provide flowers for the altar.

In case you don't want to be responsible for a Sunday all by yourself, but still want to help provide flowers, there is a way to do that, too. A fund has been established to use to purchase flowers for the altar on the Sundays when no one has signed up. If you would like to contribute to that fund, please mark your offering envelope and your check "Flower Fund".

If you have any questions about altar flowers, please call the church office

February Elder: John Foss						
DATE	USHERS	ACOLYTE	ALTER GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	COUNTERS	FLOWERS
1	Tom Howsden & R. Falb	Ronan Lupo	K.Howsden & Cheri Hill	*T. Bryant/L. Follett/S. Kilbourn(C)	Doenchs	OPEN
8	S. Dumoulin & Dick Piesch	J. Millam	M. Farrell & C. Pfaff	*S. Lupo/M. McHenry/L. Boetsch	Farrell & Falb	OPEN
15	K. Engelbertson & G.Schaefer	W. Engelbertson	T. Bryant & J. DeTray	*J. Liseth/K. Howsden/S. Engelbertson(C)	Hepola	OPEN
18	Brian Hill & Rick Bryant	L. Engelbertson	Rita Nay & Cheri Hill	N/A	N/A	N/A
22	J. Hardy & M. Hardy	J. Freeman	22/25 Mary McHenry	* M. Schaefer/K. Foss/R. Nay (C)	Bryants	N/A

◀ Jan 2026 **February 2026** Mar 2026 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30am Matins 9:00am Divine Service 10:45 Sunday School Adult Bible Study	2	3 10:00am – Quilters	4 10:00am – Bible Study	5 Council – 7:00pm	6	7
8 9:00am Divine Service 10:45 Sunday School Adult Bible Study	9	10 10:00am – Quilters 6:30pm – Lutheran Confession Studies @ Olympia	11 10:00am – Bible Study	12 5:15pm- Family Fun Night	13	14
15 9:00am Divine Service 10:45 Sunday School Adult Bible Study Noon – Sweetheart Banquet	16	17 10:00am – Quilters 6:00pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	18 Ash Wed. 10:00am – Bible Study Noon & 7:00pm Ash Wed Divine Service	19	20	21 9:00am- Men’s Bible Study
22 9:00am Divine Service 10:45 Sunday School Adult Bible Study	23	24 10:00am – Quilters 6:30pm – Lutheran Confession Studies @ Peace	25 10:00am – Bible Study 6:00pm – Soup Supper Noon & 7:00pm Lenten Service	26 Elders – 7:00pm	27	28 2:00pm – Abigail Rueter Baby Shower

Peace Lutheran Church
2071 Bishop Road
Chehalis WA 98532

Return Service Requested

The Good News of Peace is published monthly by Peace Lutheran Church, 2071 Bishop Road, Chehalis, Washington 98532. We are affiliated with the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS).

Church telephone: 360-748-4108
Email: peacelc@yahoo.com

Pastor Daniel L. Freeman
Email: pastor_freeman@juno.com

Sunday Worship at 9:00 am
First Sunday of Month, Matins at 8:30 am with Divine Service at 9:00 am
Sunday School – all ages – 10:45 am

We are located four miles south of Chehalis on the corner of Jackson Highway and Bishop Road