



Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday, February 25, 2024

Peace Lutheran Church

ELCA

WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Whether you are joining us in-person or on-line we are blessed to have you worshiping with us today. We pray that our time of worship together further encourages and strengthens our call to discipleship.

MISSION STATEMENT

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we share God's grace and mercy. We welcome and encourage all to grow with us in God's kingdom through praise, worship, and service.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE — "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us", Tune Bradbury by William B. Bradbury, David Paxton, arr., © 2002 Lorenz Publishing Co. Organist — Brenda Peck

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.**

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

**For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord.**

Amen.

Here is a flood of grace:
 Out of love for the whole world,
 God draws near to us,
 breaks every snare of sin,
 washes away our wrongs,
 and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

ELW #334



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
 2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed
 3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of
 on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and
 though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
 bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the
 sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.
 bod - y of our Lord.
 riv - er, you the sea.

Final Verse:

In our call to be a blessing,
 may we be a blessing true;
 may we live and die confessing
 Christ as Lord of all we do.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Gloria!

Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!
Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

Open now our lips and our mouths shall give praise.
Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!
Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

O Lord, rush to help to deliver Your world.
Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!
Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

Maker, Spirit, Friend, You are Great Mystery!
Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!
Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!
Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 22:23-31 Read Responsively

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;**

but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

You Are Slow

You are slow to an-ger full of com-pas-sion A-bound-ing in un - fail-ing love

You are slow to an-ger full of com-pas-sion A-bound-ing in un - fail-ing love

Teach us your way and we will walk, we will walk in it

Teach us your way and we will walk, we will walk in it

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GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

The holy gospel according to St. Mark the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR MARY E. ZUPANSIC

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

All My Hope on God is Founded

ELW #757

- 1 All my hope on God is founded
who will all my trust renew,
who through change and chance will guide me,
only good and only true.
God unknown, God alone,
call my heart to be thine own.
- 2 Mortal pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
what with care and toil we fashion,
tow'r and temple, fall to dust.
But thy pow'r, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tow'r.
- 3 Great thy goodness, e'er enduring;
deep thy wisdom, passing thought;
splendor, light, and life attend thee,
beauty springing out of naught.
Evermore from thy store
newborn worlds rise and adore.

- 4 Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of God's own Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; para. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt.

+ AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM + NEW MEMBERS



We welcome Ron and Sandy Guppy as new disciples at
Peace Lutheran Church.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

THE SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

CHOIR ANTHEM — What Grace is Mine

Lloyd Larson

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+ THE MEAL +

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS *Thank you for your continued support of the ministry of Peace Lutheran Church. We gladly accept your offerings via US Postal Service, Tithe.ly, or direct deposit from your bank.*

OFFERING HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW #186

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.

**Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.**

**Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.**

We pray this in your name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

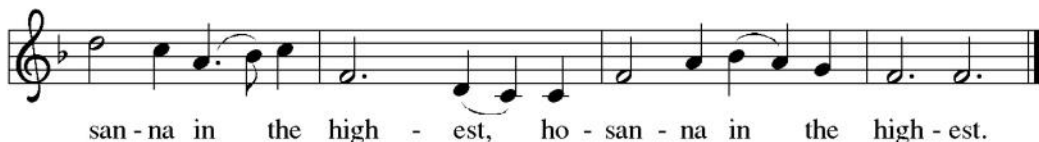
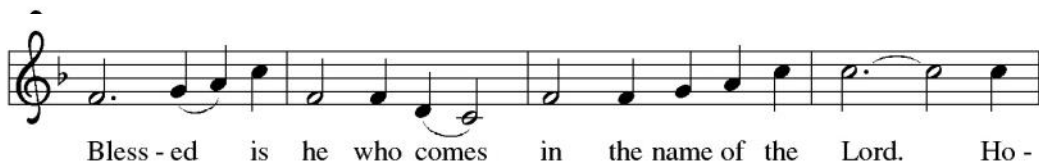
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW P. 207



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,
our living Water and our merciful Guide,
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert,
pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin,
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey.
A feast for hungry hearts. Come!



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION SONG/HYMNS *Wonderful Merciful Savior*
Lord Jesus, You Shall be My Song

Video Song
ELW #808

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
 strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God,
 at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
 As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
 now make us one loaf to feed the world;
 in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

Amen.

BLESSING

Beloved,
 we are God's own people,
 holy, washed, renewed.
 God bless you and keep you,

shower you with mercy,
 fill you with courage,
 and ✚ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

ELW #802



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - ti - ence bear our cross.
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
 Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE — "Holy God, We Praise Your Name", Tune Grosser Gott from "Katholisches Gesangbuch", Edward Broughton, arr., © 2009 Lorenz Publishing Co.

Organist — Brenda Peck

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ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

THE SECOND COVENANT IN THIS YEAR'S LENTEN READINGS IS THE ONE MADE WITH ABRAHAM AND SARAH: GOD'S PROMISE TO MAKE THEM THE ANCESTORS OF MANY, WITH WHOM GOD WILL REMAIN IN EVERLASTING COVENANT. PAUL SAYS THIS PROMISE COMES TO ALL WHO SHARE ABRAHAM'S FAITH IN THE GOD WHO BRINGS LIFE INTO BEING WHERE THERE WAS NO LIFE. WE RECEIVE THIS BAPTISMAL PROMISE OF RESURRECTION LIFE IN FAITH. SARAH AND ABRAHAM RECEIVE NEW NAMES AS A SIGN OF THE COVENANT, AND WE TOO GET NEW IDENTITIES IN BAPTISM, AS WE PUT ON CHRIST.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

PETE ELLERTSEN, DEBI ELLERTSEN, PAULA TONELLATO,
NORM KOEFOED, IVY KOEFOED, RON WEBER,
GENE WALKER, BILL SPINDEL, NANCY KIEL, RAY STROH,
VALERIE SPURGEON, DIANE CHRISTELL

If you would like to be added to the prayer list, or know someone who would like to be added to our list, please fill out a Prayer Request Card, send an email to peace.lutheran@comcast.net OR call the Office at (217)546-7646. Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name.

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25:

PRESIDING AND PREACHING: PASTOR MARY E. ZUPANSIC

ASSISTING: MICHAEL HORN

USHERS: ANDREA BERRYMAN, VERN KLEEN

CAMERA: AMANDA KIM

POWERPOINT: CARTER KIM

MUSICIAN: BRENDA PECK

REFRESHMENTS: LOIS MOORMAN

FLOWERS: LINDA SHUDROWITZ — IN HONOR OF DAD'S BIRTHDAY

ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM — 9:30AM
NEW MEMBER RECEPTION AFTER WORSHIP
DWELLING IN THE WORD — 10:45AM
FAITH FORMATION — 10:45AM
SUNDAYS@6 — 6:00PM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

LENTEN DINNER CHURCH — 5:30PM
CHOIR PRACTICE — 7:00PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM — 9:30AM
DWELLING IN THE WORD — 10:45AM
FAITH FORMATION — 10:45AM
SUNDAYS@6 — 6:00PM



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIDWEEK LENTEN DINNER CHURCH

Lent is a time of grace, a
time to convert and live
out our baptism fully.

Pope Francis

Wednesdays @ 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 21, 28 & Mar. 6, 13, 20

GROWING IN BAPTISMAL GRACE

During the season of Lent all are invited to Dinner Church on Wednesday evenings. Dinner church is a type of worship that involves fellowship, a meal, scripture, discussion, and Holy Communion. Pope Francis has said, "Lent is a time of grace, a time to convert and live out our baptism fully." Each week we will consider a facet of Baptism. There will be opportunity to discuss the significance of this sacrament as well as a hands-on activity each week. Join us as we dive deeper into our baptisms and learn how we can live out our baptisms more fully!

WORSHIP/MEAL BEGINS AT 5:30P.M. FEBRUARY 21, 28, MARCH 6, 13, 20




ANNOUNCEMENTS

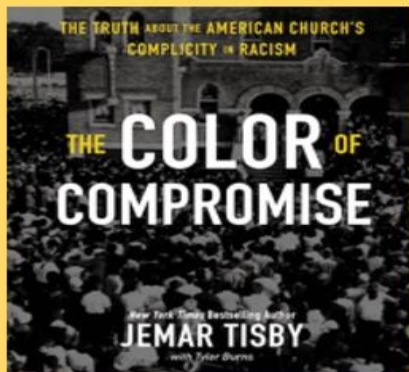


Welcome, New Members!

**NEW MEMBER RECEPTION
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
WORSHIP**



DWELLING IN THE WORD
Sundays at 10:45 a.m.



Sundays@6
Adult Faith Formation

Begins February 4
6 to 7 p.m.

For details, contact Debi and Pete Ellertsen
edmund.ellertsen85@gmail.com
217-793-2587

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Food Baskets for Blackhawk School

It's time to begin collecting food items for Peace's annual gift of Easter food baskets to 20 families at Blackhawk Elementary School, in partnership with the Grace Lutheran Food Pantry. Each year at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, we provide families at Blackhawk with a large tote of non-perishable foods, a 10-pound ham, a gallon of milk, a dozen eggs, a loaf of bread, a sack of snacks, and a bag of personal hygiene items. Below are a suggested schedule for the items we will collect and the quantities we need. In addition to food, you can support this project with monetary donations earmarked for "Holiday Food Baskets." The baskets will be packed at Grace Food Pantry and delivered to Blackhawk on Wednesday, March 27.

- February 18 - 20 boxes of Cereal
- February 25 - 20 boxes of Cereal
20 Cans of Peaches
- March 3 -- 20 packages of Spaghetti
20 cans of Pasta sauce
- March 10 - 20 cans of beef ravioli
20 cans of pork and beans
- March 17 - 20 jars of peanut butter
20 jars of jelly
- March 24—20 boxes of mac and cheese



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LET'S DECORATE FOR EASTER!!



6" LILIES – \$10

8" LILIES – \$25

CASH DONATIONS ALSO ACCEPTED.
SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX OR CALL
YVONNE IN THE OFFICE. ORDERS
MUST BE IN BY MARCH 8.

TO SIGN UP FOR REFRESHMENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER WORSHIP,
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX OR CONTACT LINDA RICE AT 217-494-
2658 OR lrice10650@gmail.com.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Sponsors needed for
2024! Sign up in the
Narthex, or call Yvonne
in the church office to
pick your date! \$35.00
217-546-7646
SEVERAL DATES STILL
AVAILABLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For The ♥ Of Reading

WE ARE COLLECTING NEW BOOKS FOR
BLACKHAWK SCHOOL.
SEE NYCU FOR A LIST OF
PREFERRED BOOKS.

KLEENEX FOR KIDS



Collecting throughout February and March for
Blackhawk and the Early Learning Center
SEE NYCU FOR MORE INFO

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP US
STOCK OUR
MICRO
PANTRY
STORAGE
SHELVES



- OATMEAL, CEREAL AND PANCAKE MIX
- **PASTA SAUCE IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS**
- PASTA
- PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS
- BROTH
- INSTANT POTATOES
- CRACKERS
- SOUPS
- TUNA IN A POUCH INSTEAD OF A CAN
- NOODLE SIDES
- STUFFING MIX
- CEREAL BARS, GRANOLA BARS, TRAIL MIX AND NUTS
- COFFEE
- PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT

THANK YOU FOR BEING A NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBORS!



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If you would like
a visit from
Pastor Mary or
you have a
pastoral
emergency,
please call
Pastor on her
**cell phone at
920.671.4338.**