Jesus stood before the Jewish Ruling Council on trial, late at night. A parade of bribed witnesses croaked their lies against Jesus. But God’s Lamb simply stood there, silent, just as Isaiah had prophesied some 700 years earlier. “He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearsers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.” (Isaiah 53:7 NIV 84)

Finally the frustrated High Priest challenged Jesus. “I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” “Yes, it is as you say,” Jesus replied. “But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.” (Matthew 26:63-64 NIV 84)

I suppose you could say that God’s lamb growled a bit. Yet some 30 years later, the Apostle Peter (who may have been hiding off in the shadows listening in on Jesus’ trial), penned these words by inspiration. “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. (1Peter 2:22-23 NIV 84)

Like a lamb to the slaughter: through the trials before the Sanhedrin; the beatings; the early morning trial before Pilate; the side-show before Herod; the mockery of the crown, the staff, the purple robe; the path of sorrows to Golgotha; the cursed center cross on the Place of the Skull. Never once did the Lamb lash out in anger. Never once did he whine in self-pity. If the Lamb opened his mouth, it was only to bless, only to comfort, only to fulfill Scripture’s prophesies.

“Father, forgive them.” “Today you will be with me in paradise.” “Dear Woman, here is your son. . .here is your mother.” “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me.” “I am thirsty.” “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.”

And then the Lamb Roared! With his last breath, in a loud voice, “It is finished!” (John 19:30; Matthew 27:50) The temple curtain was torn in two. A mighty earthquake split rocks in two. Tombs were opened, and many believers were raised to life!

Then three days later the Lamb Roared Again! With a rolled-away stone, an empty tomb, and angel messengers! With our sins washed away, our death defeated, and heaven opened to us! For you see, God’s Lamb, our lamb, is also God’s Lion, our Lion, who has triumphed! (Revelation 5:5) When our Lamb-Lion roars the devils flee, and the earth melts. Our hopes are restored, and our heart and mind is put at ease. For in Jesus we have true, everlasting peace. I pray this peace is yours.
March Council Meeting

Pastor noted that at family request, he visited Louis Paredes, 88, of Dollar Bay, after Louis was hospitalized at Portage Hospital due to a massive heart attack. Pastor witnessed to Louis on Wednesday, March 8th and the next two days. On Saturday morning, March 11th, Louis passed away at the Omega House. We pray that the message of Jesus the Savior took root in Louis’ heart, so that at the end he could be held forever safe in the Good Shepherd’s arms.

Pastor reported that Brian and Kaitlyn Weinkauf were blessed with a healthy baby boy, Ezekiel Scott, on Monday, March 13th. Mom needed complete bed-rest after the birth, but otherwise both Mom and baby are doing well.

Our Lutheran Collegians want to help with more service projects, so we are having a work-day on April 1st, 9:00 AM following. Our goal will be to paint the church foyer (and perhaps hallway). We may do some other cleaning as well, if we get enough volunteers. Please note: this work day is for both Lutheran Collegians and Peace members! We hope we get a good turn-out. Lunch will be provided.

Estimates are being received for renovating both of the parsonage bathrooms. The project includes replacing moldy damaged drywall, flooring, wall cabinets, shower stall in the guest bathroom, and the two bathroom sinks. A voters’ meeting is scheduled for after the worship service on Palm Sunday, April 9th. It will have the single purpose of discussing this renovation and deciding whether or not to approve it. Obviously, we hope to have the bids in hand by then!

Our Lutheran Collegians

Student Custodian Applications

Right now we have a tentative summer 2017 custodian application from Jennifer McDonald. Jennifer McDonald is approved for the fall semester, but so far is the only one. We are looking for more applications for both summer and the fall semester. However, our campus house is not co-ed, so any other custodians approved would need to be women. Joining Jennifer in the spring semester (2018) will be Taylor Garbe and Rachel Schlicker.

MTU commencement is on Saturday, April 29th. We will say farewell to our college graduates on Sunday, April 23rd, during our fellowship hour after worship.

6 Lutheran Collegians spent spring break by going to the Creation Museum and also the Ark Encounter in Kentucky. USG funding through MTU helped make this trip possible. We rejoice that God’s angels brought these students back to us safely from this trek!

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of George Isola. George passed away after a brief hospitalization on Monday, February 27. His funeral was held at Erickson Crowley Peterson Funeral home on Monday, March 6th. The following Sunday, March 12, the Isola’s home burned down. It is a complete loss. Diane Isola (George’s wife) has since been at the Omega House, Houghton. If you’d like to stop in for a visit or send a card, Diane’s address is, 2211 Maureen Ln, Houghton, MI 49931. Diane is in room 4. The phone at Omega House is (906) 482-4438.

After a hospitalization at Marquette General, and less than one day at the Lighthouse Nursing Center, Hancock, Art Demars passed away on March 4th. His funeral was held at Peace on Thursday, March 9th, at noon. A luncheon followed. We thank everyone who helped make Art’s family feel at home in our chapel and fellowship hall. We know the family appreciated it, and we pray our Savior was given glory through these efforts!

Our prayers continue to go out for Nicholas Vlahos, Dave Robb, Terry Schwanke, and everyone in our church family who is struggling with serious health problems. May our Lord bring healing and strength for the road ahead.
April, 2017

**Ushers**
- 2 Salo/Krug
- 9 Miers/Mulroy
- 16 Salo/Krug
- 23 Lutheran Collegians
- 30 Del & Evan Platzke

May 7: Salo/Krug

**Counters**
- 2 Steve Krug
- 9 Scott Miers
- 16 Toivo Salo
- 23 Doug Groeschl
- 30 Del Platzke

May 7: Steve Krug

**Snacks**
- 2 Hughes/Young
- 9 Kramer/Krug
- 16 Easter Breakfast
- 23 Miers/Mulroy
- 30 Olson/Platzke

May 7: Sakkinen/Karpinen

If you can’t serve on the Sunday for which you are scheduled, please “swap” with someone else on the list!

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**Birthdays:**
- Nicholas Vlahos 4/03
- Kate Groeschl 4/07
- Lisa Mulroy 4/25
- Kristie Vlahos 4/27

“God’s richest blessings to our brothers and sisters on their “Big Day!”

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**Cross-words!**

**April 5, 6:30 PM**
Wednesday Lenten Service

**April 9, 10:15 AM:**
Palm Sunday Worship

**April 13, 6:30 PM:**
Maundy Thursday worship with communion

**April 14:** 1:00 and 6:30 PM, Good Friday Worship Services

**April 16:** 9:00 AM, Easter Breakfast (details to follow)

**10:15 AM, Festival Worship**

**Cross-words:** Our Lenten, Holy Week and Easter theme is not meant to puzzle you! Rather we’re reviewing basic Scriptural terms that help us remember what Jesus did for us with his suffering, death and resurrection!

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Find our monthly Google calendar & newsletter on the web at www.peacehoughton.org

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