

Peace Weekly Messenger

December 11, 2019

Vision Statement

Bringing Christ to Our World

Mission Statement

*Saved by Grace, Nurtured in Faith, Equipped to Serve:
we are God's hands for others*

Ministers

All Members of Peace Lutheran



3rd Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2019

9:45 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 11

Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pastor Larry: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Pastor Norma: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
8:00 a.m. Inicios Spanish
Immersion
6:00 p.m. Advent Meal
6:45 p.m. Hymn Sing
7:00 p.m. Advent Worship
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 12

Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pastor Larry: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
12:00 p.m. S- Anon
6:00 p.m. Inicios Spanish
Immersion
6:30 p.m. Troop 20227
7:00 p.m. Tai Chi

Friday, December 13

Office Closed
8:00 a.m. Inicios Spanish
Immersion

Saturday, December 14

12:00 p.m. Al-Anon
2:00 p.m. Portrait Art Group

Sunday, December 15

8:45 a.m. Sunday school
9:45 a.m. Worship w/Holy
Communion
2:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Monday, December 16

Office Closed
5:30 p.m. Monday Night Men
5:30 p.m. Al-Anon
7:00 p.m. Tai Chi

Tuesday, December 17

Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pastor Larry: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
8:00 a.m. Tuesday Morning Men

Wednesday, December 18

Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pastor Larry: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Pastor Norma: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Advent Meal
6:45 p.m. Hymn Sing
7:00 p.m. Advent Worship
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Serving this Sunday 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

Worship with Holy Communion

Assisting Minister: Nancy Simon

Lector: Ryan Toby

Sound: Ryan Toby

Ushers: Pete Etzler, Gary Klukken

Greeters: Bob Storm,
Eileen Zetterberg

Tellers: Kathleen Schuller,
Ryan Toby

Altar Guild: Susan McLemore,
Judy Terwell

Bread & Wine: Hudnall Family

Flowers: Gages for
Richard's Birthday

Peace Prayers

Please let the church office know of any changes in the prayers.

Members:

Cassie Barnes (daughter of Tom & Janet), **Margaret Blombach** (church member), **Ernie Dickson** (shut in); **Butch Henderson** (church member); **Ida Jenkins** (shut in); **Dale Kangas** (church member); **Stacy Nelson** (church member), **Noreen Quirand** (shut in)

Family & Friends:

Jeff Brig & Vincent and Linda Briguccia (Eileen Zetterberg's sons and daughter-in-law); **Rodney Holloman** (Andrea's husband); **Barb Johnson** (friend of Pr. Norma); **Rick Klukken** (Gary's brother); **Martha Kratts** (Gary's mom); **Rebekah Lake** (niece of a friend of Beth English)

Military:

Jon Ackiss (nephew of Bill Larson); **Erik Aderman** (nephew of Allan Ellstrom); **Tarren & David Barrett** (daughter & son-in-law of Janet & Tom Barnes & granddaughter of Bob and Evalyn Storm); **Angela Batastini** (niece of Bill Larson); **Zach and Terra Bennett** (Ginger Tevault's niece & nephew); **Timothy Brig** (grandson of Eileen Zetterberg); **Jeff Smolik** (son of Darlene & John Smolik)

Birthdays

12/13 Pete Etzler

12/15 Annastasia Chitwood

Baptismal Anniversary

12/15 Grace Schirmer

ELCA Prayer Ventures

December 11-18

11

Pray that God's righteousness, justice, peace and compassion for the poor and oppressed will flourish in the world, and that we will be bold and persistent in doing God's work together.

12

Remember in prayer people, especially women and children, who live in refugee camps and immigration detention centers. Pray that they will soon return home or move to a community or country where they are welcome and safe, able to reunite with family and reestablish their lives. Give thanks for our church's and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service's commitment to advocate and care for refugees and immigrants everywhere.

13

Remembering that we have been welcomed without hesitation into the body of Christ, pray that we will exercise, without judgment or partiality, grace and hospitality toward our neighbors – friends, antagonists and strangers alike.

14

Give thanks to God for the gifts, service and ministry of women as we celebrate 50 years of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States, 40 years of women of color being ordained and 10 years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely.

15

Give thanks for being reminded and reassured – through the word of God, the sacraments and the witness of one another – that Jesus is the promised

Messiah, our savior, teacher, life and hope.

16

Pray for ELCA missionaries and young people serving in the Young Adults in Global Mission program who are separated from their families and home congregations during the holidays yet celebrate the good news and gift of Jesus Christ with our companion churches and brothers and sisters in Christ around the world.

17

Pray that wherever the weather turns cold and damp, all people will have the warmth and safety of shelter, and that where shelter is absent or difficult to find, the love and generosity of God dwelling in us will move us to create and open shelters in our congregations, community spaces and homes.

18

Give thanks for ELCA Good Gifts, an opportunity to support ELCA ministries and programs in nearly 80 countries around the world, including the United States. These funds and gifts support work being carried out by our congregations, companion churches and ecumenical partners.

DISCIPLESHIP

How Jesus Became God classes will return on December 22.

PSSST! Santa is coming!

No Really! Santa is coming to Peace Lutheran Church! Have you ever wondered what Santa says about the meaning of the REAL meaning of Christmas? Join us on December 18 at 7:00 p.m. to hear what Santa says! Invite your friends and neighbors. Contact Lori Burnett if you have questions.

No Sunday School

Please mark your calendar! There will be no Sunday school on the Sunday after Christmas (December 29).

Pastor Larry's Wednesday Morning Bible Class Resumes January 8

Our morning Bible Study with Pastor Larry will resume on January 8. We invite all former participants of that class, as well as any new participants, to join us in this time of study and fellowship. We meet Wednesday mornings at 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday Night Bible Study Resumes January 8

Wednesday Night Bible Study will resume on January 8. Contact Nancy Simon if you have questions.

WORSHIP

FOR TO US A SON IS BORN!

Christmas will be here before you know it. Please join as when Peace Lutheran celebrates Christmas Eve with our candlelight services. The first service begins at 4:30 p.m., and is going to be a child-friendly service. Bring your children, grandchildren and their friends for a special service. The traditional service will begin at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you at one, or both, services, to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

OUTREACH

THANK YOU for serving at KARM

A big thank you to our Peace volunteers who cooked and served lunch on Saturday, December 7 at KARM! Included were Eva Kratts, George Anderson, JB and Sylvia Johnson, Donna and Allan Ellstrom, Gary and Marlene Klukken and Adele Soucy. They served 77 meals, and had enough left to use for lunch on Sunday.

Thank you, FISH Teams

Three teams, John & Lori Burnett, Audrey Henderson, Angie Moore, Tom Mustaleski, Ann Kampwerth, and Donna Ellstrom delivered to 15 households. There were several large families; so 80 people were served with these deliveries. Pete Etzler took the phone calls and organized our deliveries so that no one had to drive in all four cardinal directions.

Bread for the World Works to End Hunger

As printed in the most recent Bread newsletter, "Bread for the World has played a leadership role in recruiting more than 175 cosponsors in both the House of Representatives and the Senate for the Global Nutrition Resolutions. These bipartisan resolutions make accelerating progress on global nutrition--especially for mothers and young children--a priority of the U.S. government. Your contributions and letters have also led to bipartisan Congressional support for continued funding for poverty-reducing humanitarian aid in the 'Northern Triangle' countries of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador."

What is FISH?

Many decades ago, several Christian churches decided to work together to provide emergency food to people in need. Today, 24 churches take calls from the same phone number. Some churches have their own pantries; some do walk-in service, as well as delivery. Fifteen of those churches, including Peace, use a communal pantry, the West Knox County FISH Pantry, from which we get the bags of groceries to take to people who call in. The churches who use the pantry take turns stocking the pantry with groceries; you may have noticed that we are doing so this month.

When someone calls for food, the person taking the call gets the necessary information (number in household, address, etc.), and teams make the deliveries in the early afternoon. We welcome new volunteers to those who regularly make deliveries. Peace takes the first Saturday in every month, but no volunteer works all twelve months. Being on "the list" of willing volunteers means that you will be asked if you are available when delivery day comes up. Please see Donna Ellstrom if you are willing to give this a try. We team new people with experienced volunteers to learn the way it's done.

NURTURE

Can You Help?

Toni McSorley is going to have shoulder surgery on December 20. During her rehabilitation, it will be difficult to cook, so she could use some freezer meals for her family. There are 3 adults and 2 children in the home, and there are some food restrictions. The family is vegetarian, and Toni is allergic to onions and walnuts. One child is allergic to eggs. If you can help Toni and her family with a frozen item, please place it in the freezer in the main kitchen at church, labeled for Toni, before December 20. Thank you for helping to make this time a little easier for Toni and her family. Contact Linda McClanahan if you need additional information

Peace Women's Book Group

On Tuesday, January 7, at 10:00 a.m., we will discuss *Women Rowing North: Navigating Life's Currents as We Age* by Mary Pipher. Looking ahead: February 4, *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah.

Women of Peace Christmas Luncheon

The women of Peace traditionally gather for a Christmas luncheon in December. Whether you have come regularly to the meetings of the Women of Peace or not, you are invited to the luncheon. This year we will meet at Lulu's Tea Room in Powell, on Clinton Highway near Thress's Nursery, December 17, at 11:30 a.m. Sign up in the hallway. We will arrange carpools so that no one will be left behind. If you want to do so, you may bring an item for a gift bag for a Mobile Meals client. The list of suggested gifts is above the luncheon sign-up. You are not asked to buy enough for a complete gift bag, just an item or maybe two items. You may go directly to Lulu's, but parking space there is not abundant and many of you do not know where it is. So, if you prefer, meet in the Peace parking lot at 10:45 a.m., where we will form carpools and leave by 10:55 a.m.

"Soups and Breads" Dinners

Advent is near, and we will have our annual "Soups and Breads" Dinners before our Advent Services on Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. The dates are this evening and December 18. Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board so we know how many are coming to eat, and how many will be "cooks," how many will be "set-up helpers," and how many will be "clean-up helpers" each Wednesday. We look forward to this time of food and fellowship every Advent, come and be part of it. Contact Linda McClanahan or any member of the Nurture Commission for more information.

MISCELLANEOUS

A Thank You from Charlene Ottinger

For all your kind and heartfelt expressions of love and concern upon the passing of David, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. My burdens would have been much harder to bear without your help and prayers. The beautiful cards and phone calls have helped me the past years as David dealt with kidney disease, diabetes and other health issues. Your help was practical Christianity in action and I will never forget all you have done. Weather permitting, a memorial service will be held in Jasper, AL on Monday, December 16. We will meet at 11:30 a.m. at 6th Avenue Church of Christ then go to Oak Hill cemetery where David will be buried in the family plot. David's sister Nina who died in August will also be buried next to her mother.

In Case of Emergency

Should a need arise after office hours that requires notifying the congregation, please contact Andrea Holloman by text at 919-429-9108 or email andrea_holloman@gmail.com. You can also contact Tom Barnes at 865-387-6769 or tnbarnes568@gmail.com.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The holiday season is upon us, and as we are focused on our work, we must stop and take inventory of our church staff and the work they do for us. I know we are all so very grateful for their effort and support.

Our physical facility gives us a place to meet and share the good news, and the people who gather within it each week are truly unique. Many volunteer their time, but there are still functions and talents we recognize as vital to our existence. We must have individuals who are trained to perform these duties serving to enrich our experience.

I ask that you take time to think about our staff members. Please pray and thank God for their service and consider how they impact each of us at Peace Lutheran Church.

Here at Peace, it has always been our joy to extend our thanks and blessings with a monetary gift. Please prayerfully consider including a donation toward these gifts in the upcoming offerings. Please make your contribution by December 22, and note "Staff Gifts" on the memo line. The gifts are given to:

- Pastor Norma Johnson
- Pastor Larry Richardson
- Latasha Abbott, *Nursery Attendant*
- Butch Henderson, *Sexton*
- Andrea Holloman, *Administrative Assistant*
- Bernardo Miethe, *Music Director*
- Peggy Ransom, *Accompanist*

Thank you,
Peace Lutheran Church Council

THOUGHTFUL FAITH

Matthew 11:2-11

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.