

Weekly Messenger

December 19, 2018

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

Pastor

Ralph Kirkpatrick



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Ministry Staff

Pastor

Rev. Ralph Kirkpatrick
ralphkirkpatrick@me.com

Music Director

Dr. Bernardo Miethe
beinado@gmail.com

Accompanist

Peggy Ransom
pegransom24@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Andrea Holloman
peaceknoxville@icloud.com

Custodian

Butch Henderson
gdhndrsn@aol.com

Nursery

Attendant
Tasha Abbott
changed42006@gmail.com

Church Council

Janet Storm-Barnes,
President

Tom Barnes
Vice-President

Bill Halsey,
Administrative

Deb Buckley,
Secretary

John Stegner,
Treasurer

Peace Weekly Calendar

Wednesday, December 19

6:00 p.m. Advent Meal
6:50 p.m. Advent Worship
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice & Men of Peace

Thursday, December 20

Pastor Ralph's Day Off
12:00 p.m. S-Anon
7:00 p.m. Tai Chi
7:00 p.m. Troop 20574

Friday, December 21

8:00 a.m. LifeLine Screening Event

Saturday, December 22

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

Sunday, December 23

9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
2:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve
Church Office Closed
4:30 p.m. Family Worship Service with Communion
5:30 p.m. Al-Anon
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship with Choir, with Communion
11:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship with Communion

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day
Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26

Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 27

Church Office Closed
12:00 p.m. S- Anon
7:00 p.m. Tai Chi

Friday, December 28

Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 29

9:30 a.m. Serve at KARM
12:00 p.m. Al-Anon
2:00 p.m. Portrait Art Group

Sunday, December 30

9:30 a.m. Lessons and Carols
2:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Serving This Sunday

9:30 a.m.

Worship with Holy Communion
December 23, 2018

Assisting Minister: Ellstrom, D.
Lector/Comm Asst.: McSorley
Sound: Klukken
Ushers: Ellstrom, English
Greeters: Ried, Shedden
Altar Guild: Shared Responsibility
Bread & Wine: Anderson
Tellers: Simon, Bachmann

Birthdays

12/19 Ginger Tevault
12/26 Donna Ellstrom

Baptismal Anniversaries

12/19 Allison Kroninger
12/22 Cassie Barnes
12/22 O'Neill Bergeron
12/26 Amy Kroninger

Peace Prayers

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

Members: Amy Anderson, Cassie Barnes, Molly Biscoe, Margaret Blombach, Ernie Dickson, Ida Jenkins, Gary Kratts, Bethany Ladner, Bill McCamy, Stacy Nelson, Sterling Nelson, Mary Newman, David & Charlene Ottinger, Noreen Quirand, Grace Schirmer, Dee Smolik, Ruth Stallmann

Family & Friends: **Samantha Adamson** (niece of Eva Kratts); **John Anderson** (Tasha Abbott's step father); **Anya** (Lisa Lyford's niece); **Nathan Benko** (Adele Soucy's grandson) **Courtney, Marlon, and Heaven Beverly** (friends of Marianne & Andy Stephansen); **Jeff Brig & Vincent Briguccia** (Eileen Zetterberg's sons); **David Brondos** (missionary to Mexico); **Joan Carnahan** (friend of Don & Ginger Tevault); **Rosemary Clause** (Sue Carlson's cousin); **Betty Collins** (Butch Henderson's sister); **Jeff Davidson** (friend of Janet Barnes); **Sarah Davidson**, (Daughter-in-law of Soni & Janet Davidson); **Maryann Dusbabek** (Eva Kratts aunt); **Al & Lois Etzler** (Pete's brother & sister-in-law); **Kristyn Farley** (daughter of Marianne Stephansen's friend); **Amy Franken** (sister of Kristi Shedden); **Martha Kratts** (Gary Kratts' Mother); **Andy Hedberg** (cousin of Simone Hedberg); **Adele Krans** (John Stegner's sister); **G. W. Larson** (father of Bill Larson); **Jan Law** (Sue Nevedal's mother); **Kenneth Lee** (son of Eric Carlson's friend); **Wendy Mallaber** (Gary Kratts' sister); **Ann Miller & Karen Milanc** (friends of the Carole & Tom Mustaleski); **Marjorie Miller** (mother of Darlene Smolik); **Linda Millis** (Rosemary Ried's daughter); **Paul Montgomery** (friend of Mike Nelson); **Dorothy Noel** (friend of Mary Gage); **Lisa Oakley** (co-worker of Nancy Simon); **Greg Pfahles** (Cousin of Sue Carlson); **Deb Phillips** (former teacher of Angie Moore); **Taylor Ramsey** (friend of Carlsons); **John Rogers** (friend of Angie Moore); **Charles Savas Family** (friends of Rosemary Ried); **Mel Schulz** (Eva Kratts' uncle)

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); **Timothy Brig** (grandson of Eileen Zetterberg); **Paul Newpher** (Jim & Susan McLemore's son-in-law); **Jeff Smolik** (son of Darlene & John Smolik); **Terra Caldwell** (Ginger Tevault's niece)

ELCA Prayer Ventures *December 19-26*

19

Pray for the safety and protection of all who are traveling during the holidays.

20

Remember in prayer first responders, firefighters, doctors and nurses, military, law enforcement and care providers working the holidays for our safety and well-being; pray for people who serve the public in retail stores, restaurants, and the hospitality and travel industries; and pray they all find opportunities for renewal and time with the family, friends and communities that enrich their lives and faith.

21

During the past year, the ELCA and the Episcopal Church have been committed to prayer, fasting and advocacy addressing cuts to public programs that are vital to hungry people who are living in poverty. Remember to continue praying for these concerns, our leaders and people in need.

22

Pray that during our congregational activities, worship, gift sharing and community meals we remember to reach out and involve individuals and families confined to home or care facilities, without family or friends, homeless or forgotten.

23

God's presence and the ways in which the Holy Spirit works in our lives can catch us by surprise and unprepared just as it did

pregnant Elizabeth and Mary. Ask God to open our hearts, minds and senses to the amazing, subtle and life-changing things that God is accomplishing in the world, often through us.

24

Christmas Eve

Pray we are childlike in our faith and excitement for the birth of Christ – a gift of light that no darkness can overcome, a gift for us that is full of life, grace and truth.

25

Christmas Day

Glory to God in the highest! Give thanks and praise to God for the birth of Jesus Christ, the son of God, who lived among us full of grace and truth, that God's love for humankind might be clear, tangible and revealed in ways that speak to our human needs and senses – then and now.

26

Pray we exercise daily unbiased generosity with all the gifts, resources and abilities God has entrusted to our care and use.

WORSHIP

Advent Worship

Our Advent mid-week worship concludes this evening at 7:00 p.m. with the Children's Christmas Program. The service will be preceded with a hymn sing, starting at 6:50 p.m.

OUTREACH

KARM Meal

Our next turn to serve is December 29. If this is something you want to do, sign up on the Outreach board early, as we only need 10 people to serve. Contact the Ellstroms or the Terwells if you have questions.

Gift Card Tree

In order to help the ministry at Steps House for homeless veterans, we are asking for \$10 gift cards to places that sell gasoline. Pilot and Weigel's are suggestions. Put the card on a dove on the small tree in the hallway.

Thanks to the Youth Group

It seemed like it would be an easy job, but when we got there, we realized we had a lot of work to do. Kristi Shedden came with Violet Etzler and her friend Abby Marshall, Ethan Crossley, Justyn Selles, Erin Stephansen, and Ellie Bachmann. Pete Etzler and Donna Ellstrom provided adult assistance as needed. **The young people bagged 294 bags of groceries!** Before that, they made double bags out of the singles. This group worked long and hard, and we thank them very much for the work they did.

NURTURE

Peace Women's Meet-Up

Peace Women's Meet-Up, Saturday, January 5 at 8:00 a.m. BYOQB (Bring Your Own Quick Breakfast). No sign up - just show up.

Men's Breakfast January 5

The men's breakfast will be held Saturday, January 5, at 8:00 a.m.. Come join us to enjoy some good breakfast and conversation with other church members and friends. Bring some grocery breakfast item or volunteer to help with the cleanup. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Peace Women's Book Group

On Tuesday, January 8, at 10:00 a.m., we will discuss *The War that Saved My Life*, by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley. (**Note change to the second Tuesday of the month.**) Looking ahead: February 5, *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah.

2019 Flower Chart

The 2019 Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board. Please sign up for those significant dates that you would like to "reserve," as well as any other "just because." You will be contacted the week of your donation to see if you would like to provide them or if you wish us to do the arrangement. Questions, contact Jan Larson, jan@thelarsons.info.

Advent Meals

We will have soup and bread at this season's final Advent meal. The meal will begin at 6:00 p.m.

DISCIPLESHIP

Decorate for Jesus

At our Advent worship this evening, there will be special service and pre-service activities for all generations. Before the meal, beginning at 5:30 p.m., children can come and decorate a special holiday treat. Anyone arriving early can select a costume and decorate yourself as one of the many Christmas story characters. Costumes will be available in the foyer, however, if you have a costume from home, feel free to come already “decorated” for Jesus (bathrobes are acceptable). We will retell the Christmas story during the worship service and we would love for everyone to participate. If you have any questions please see someone from the Discipleship commission-Lori Burnett, Susan McLemore, Anne Hudnall, and Kristi Shedden.

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. The gifts are given to:

- Andrea Holloman, *Administrative Assistant*
- Latasha Abbott, *Nursery Attendant*
- Butch Henderson, *Sexton*
- Bernardo Miethel, *Music Director*
- Peggy Ransom, *Accompanist*
- Ralph Kirkpatrick, *Pastor*

Thank you,
Peace Lutheran Church Council

MISCELLANEOUS

Life Line Screening

Peace Lutheran Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on 12/21/2018. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount you must call [1-877-380-1743](tel:1-877-380-1743), visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle. You can also text the word **circle** to 797979.

Creature Comforts

It's almost winter and animals get cold, too. Zoo Knoxville needs your gently used towels and blankets (no holes). The animals also enjoy new smells. If you have some spices, powder or liquid, colognes, perfumes, etc., they would enjoy those. (*After Christmas, you can send along*

that bottle of Jean Nate or Brut which was lovingly given to you.) Just give them to Allan Ellstrom and he'll make sure they are put to good use. Thank you.

Dear Members of Peace:

The school which is housed within your walls is a special place. It is a refuge for children who have been bullied (sometimes by their teachers) humiliated and taught that they are insufficient.

These kids are amazing! They are bright, creative, kind and generous. Learning is something they enjoy (well, maybe not on test days) and because of you they have a sanctuary to shelter them so that they *can* learn.

When a parent calls and talks about their special-needs child, crying about the pain their child endures because they don't "fit in," it is a special blessing that I can offer them a place where their child WILL fit in! That would not be possible without this safe place for them to be.

When a child who has been pushed to (and over) the limit because their mind works in a non-typical way or because their physical body is atypical, what would happen to them if they had not other avenue for education? They have every advantage possible here, because of you.

Children who have come in sullen and afraid have found themselves accepted for their unique selves. They have learned to accept others. They become friends who care about each other. Those feelings of fear have dissipated into the knowledge that they are loved, no matter what.

Parents who have shed many tears over the inability to protect their child from the abuse that happens in other school situations, suddenly find themselves able to relax. They see the progress of their sons and daughters. Home life is much improved because the child builds self-respect, confidence and self-discipline. No one calls them and yells that 'that child of yours...' Kids and parents have more laughter and smiles together, and families have some healing, so the effects go far beyond the student.

All of this is just to tell you how grateful myself, the children, and the parents are to this congregation for welcoming us into your midst and providing a place where these children can grow, learn and expand their natural talents. For all of them, for the teachers, and for myself I want to thank you. Most of all I thank God for bringing us together. Blessings on you all!

Toni McSorley
Staff and Teachers of Exceptional Children