

Peace Weekly Messenger

December 18, 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



4th Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2019

9:45 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

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

Thursday, December 19

Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pastor Larry: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
12:00 p.m. S- Anon
7:00 p.m. Tai Chi

Friday, December 20

Office Closed

Saturday, December 21

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

Sunday, December 22

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

Monday, December 23

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

**Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve**

Office Open 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 25

Office Closed

Thursday, December 26

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

Friday, December 27

Office Closed

Saturday, December 28

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

Sunday, December 29

No Sunday school
9:45 a.m. A Service of Lessons &
Carols
2:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Tuesday, December 31

New Year's Eve
Office Open 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Wednesday, January 1

New Years' Day
Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pastor Larry: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
12:00 p.m. S- Anon
7:00 p.m. Tai Chi

Friday, January 3

Office Closed

Saturday, January 4

FISH Deliveries
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
8:00 am. Women's Meetup
12:00 p.m. Al-Anon
2:00 p.m. Portrait Art Group

Sunday, January 5

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

Serving this Sunday
4th Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2019
Worship with Holy Communion

Assisting Minister: Susan McLemore
Lector: Ryan Toby
Sound: George Anderson
Ushers: David Marquette, Tom Mustaleski
Greeters: David & Judy Terwell
Tellers: Donna Ellstrom, Eva Kratts
Altar Guild: Mary Gage, Ginger Tevault
Bread & Wine: Kangas Family
Flowers: Christmas

Peace Prayers

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

Members:

Cassie Barnes (daughter of Tom & Janet), **Ernie Dickson** (shut in); **Butch Henderson** (church member); **Ida Jenkins** (shut in); **Dale Kangas** (church member); **Toni McSorley** (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

12/19 Ginger Tevault

Baptismal Anniversary

12/22 Cassie Barnes

ELCA Prayer Ventures

December 18-25

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. |

19

Over 47,000 people in the United States died by suicide in 2017, and there were approximately 1.4 million suicide attempts. Pray for hope, relief from suffering and skilled, compassionate care for people who struggle with loneliness, isolation and depression, especially during the holidays. Ask that the Spirit will move us to see and respond to the people around us and to engage in and support suicide-prevention efforts such as the work of the Suicide Prevention Ministry, an independent Lutheran organization.

20

Give thanks and praise to God, who lifts up those bowed down and oppressed, watches over strangers and sets free the bound and imprisoned.

21

Remember in prayer the many people who work and serve during the holidays, including first responders, care providers, law enforcement, medical personnel, pilots and attendants, truck drivers, men and women serving in the military, seafarers, social service staff, and people serving in stores, restaurants and hotels.

22

In the story of Mary, Joseph and the humble birth of Jesus, we sense God's love for humanity and God's understanding of the diverse contexts in which we live. Praise God for loving us as we are and for reaching into the world in ways that we can relate to, understand and embrace.

23

Ask that we will be strengthened and inspired by the Holy Spirit for sharing the story of God's love and mercy – the story of Jesus – in today's world and culture.

24

Christmas Eve

What draws you to Jesus? What are you looking for in God's promises? Give thanks to God for revealing to us through Jesus Christ the gifts of fullness of life and the one true light that illuminates God's ways and truth.

25

Christmas Day

Join with our sisters and brothers around the world and with all creation in lifting up prayers and songs of praise and thanksgiving for God's gift of love and life, manifested in the birth of Jesus Christ – a light in the darkness that cannot be overcome.

DISCIPLESHIP

How Jesus Became God classes will return on December 22.

How Jesus Became God is the title of a book by Dr. Bart Ehrman, which is presented as a series of lectures in The Great Courses series. This is topic of the adult Sunday school class that begins at 8:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Moderated by Allan Ellstrom, the course looks at the historical setting during the time Jesus lived, how people understood who Jesus was, how Christianity became a dominant force in the world and much more. Participants can more fully engage by reading Dr. Erhman's book. It is available in print and electronic forms.

Santa is coming TONIGHT!

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 this evening 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

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 gluten-free, 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.

"Soups and Breads" Dinners

The season of Advent is nearly over, and we have enjoyed our "Soups and Breads" Dinners. The dinners will conclude this evening beginning at 6:00. A special thank you to the Nurture Commission for organizing the meals.

MISCELLANEOUS

New Year's Eve at the Tevault's

You are invited to welcome in the New Year at the Tevault's house on December 31, beginning at 6:30 p.m. We would like to revive the pizza party tradition with appetizers, games, and pizza. All are invited to attend - just RSVP to Don or Ginger by December 28 at 938-1738 or dgtevault@comcast.net. If you can't stay up until midnight, come for as long as you'd like. Bring a game, finger foods to share, and whatever you want to drink. Pizza will be provided sometime during the evening.

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 one of the following people:

Andrea Holloman andreholloman@gmail.com (919) 429-9108

Tom Barnes tnbarnes568@gmail.com (865) 387-6769

Pastor Larry pastor.larry@peacelutheranknoxville.org (865) 333-6327

Pastor Norma pastor.norma@peacelutheranknoxville.org (865) 387-2105

THOUGHTFUL FAITH

Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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 **THIS SUNDAY**, 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