

**NEWSLETTER** 

**JANUARY 2022** 

Published Monthly—Issue 202201

Peace Lutheran Church 240 West 9th Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54902 (920) 231-4730

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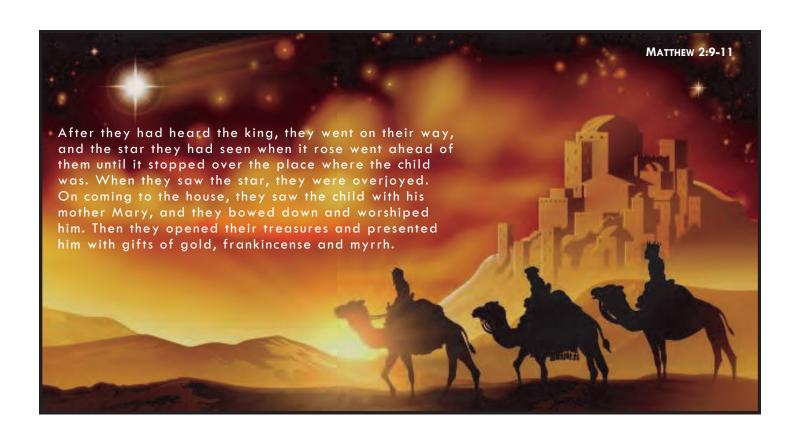
#### **OFFICE HOURS**

8:00am—3:00pm Monday—Thursday

8:00am—12:00pm Fridays

IN-PERSON WORSHIP SCHEDULE—Sunday Service at 9:00am
What is happening now because of the COVID-19 crisis? Some precautions/restrictions are in place

JOIN US FOR OUR VIRTUAL SERVICE—9:00AM SUNDAYS
LIVE on our FACEBOOK page
Available on our website, www.peaceoshkosh.com.
SUNDAY SCHOOL—10:00AM SUNDAYS



### **CURATOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES**

### FAMILY TIES

Family Ties is a group of families that love parenting but find it to be even more rewarding with faith, friends, fun, and of course food. The group is open to families young and old, big and small, many or just one. After all, we are all family at Peace. If you are interested in being included in our events and want to join our mailing list, please sign up with Nicki. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Nicki at nicki@peaceoshkosh.org.



### FAMILY TIES SUNDAY FUNDAY JANUARY 23RD 11:30 BRUNCH AND SLEDDING

The fun starts with brunch at Peace. *All are welcome!* It has been far too long since we have had a family focused gathering at Peace with our Family Ties group. Let's get back to family and of course food. Food and drink will be provided Next, pack your snow gear too, because after our food, if Mother Nature cooperates and sends some snow, we will try to do some Sunday Sledding at Garbage Hill. If we have no snow, we will have some indoor family games to play.





### Roots

Not just for confirmation students. We invite and welcome any youth grades 6 through 12th

- January 5th 6:30 Confirmation class/Prayer Partner Meeting
- January 12th 6:30 Confirmation class
- January 19th 6:30 Confirmation class
- January 23rd 2:00 Sledding (snow pending)
- January 23rd 6:30 NYG Prep class,

mandatory meeting for all youth attending

- January 24th 3:30 (or as close to as possible)
- Ski-Boarding Trip to Sunburst
- January 26th 6:30 Confirmation class
- January 28th 6:00 Brave Space



### Getting Ready Study January 23rd 6:30-8:00pm

There are five units in this curriculum to correlate with the five daily themes of the Gathering. Each unit has two sessions, each approaching the theme from a different perspective.

In addition to exploring the daily themes, each lesson also provides opportunities for group building and practical preparation for going to Minneapolis.

These sessions are scheduled for once-a-month meetings and are mandatory as part of our agreement in attending the gathering next summer.

Please plan on attending every month.

### **CURATOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES**



**SUMMER** CAMP Fun times are in our future. Summer camp registration is open! Spots will be limited to provide greater safety for campers and staff. Register early to secure yours. With Crossways, there is a camp for everyone both young and old.

**Pioneer Camp for 1st-3rd graders** which offers three days and two nights of immersion fun. **Pathfinders camp for 3rd-5th grade** has both  $\frac{1}{2}$  week and full week options.

6th-8th graders can attend Maverick camp for a week of outdoor adventures and fun.

Even the older kids can be a part of the fun with Settlers camp for 9th -12th and LIT (Leaders in Training) for 10th-12th grade.

They didn't forget the moms, dads and even grandparents with options like Family Camp and Grandcamp.

There are multiple camp locations to choose from. Find the group, dates and locations that best fit your family's adventurous dreams at <u>crosswayscamps.org/summer-camp</u>. Crossways has an updated COVID policy for 2022 and can be found through a link on the menu bar at the top of their website pages.

### WERE YOU THERE?

It felt like a special day and a big celebration, it was the return of children to our sanctuary.





How wonderful it was to see the kids all dressed up and lining the steps in front as part of the service in December for their Sunday School Christmas program. It was only a few songs but it was something very wonderful. Thanks to Pastor Sara, it was also the first children's sermon since pre-COVID! I don't know about you, but I got a little choked up watching them both singing and engaging in the message. Thanks to all the families who participated and practiced. Thank you to Sommer for accompanying. What a blessing. Prayers that this will be the first of several more appearances as we navigate our new normal.

### **CURATOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES**

### January Fun Skiing, Boarding & Sledding





### Sunday January 23rd 2:00 Sledding

Looking for something a little closer to home and less expensive? Sledding at Garbage Hill (across from West High School). Meet at the hill at 2:00. B.Y.O.S (bring your own sled). Weather and snow pending, you never know in Wisconsin! After, we will walk down to Dairy Queen to warm up with some hot chocolate or ice cream if you so choose. Please RSVP on Sunday morning at the latest.

### Monday January 24th trip to Sunburst Resort.

We will meet at church as soon as possible after school. We will return no later than 10:30 (hill closes at 9:30). Lift tickets are provided by Peace. Rentals for boards or skis are on your own and are just \$15. There is ski school available if needed. Dinner is on your own. There is food available for purchase or you can pack a sack. You must have a signed permission slip and completed hill waiver to attend.







### Sign up for Spring Blast Retreat at Pine Lake

Another great retreat opportunity for the whole confirmation class. Engage the minds and hearts of even the toughest-to-reach middle schooler. Reserve spots soon, because these retreats fill up FAST! We will register as a group once I have a headcount.

Please RSVP with me directly by February 1st.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY 2021!

I think this is one of my FAVORITE youth nights in the WHOLE year!

A yummy hot cocoa drink bar was served and delicious Christmas treats and goodies were devoured, gifts were exchanged and my famous trivia stumped even the brightest and best Christmas elves. What a great way to end a fabulous year. Thank you to everyone who joined us.



Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.



### **CURATOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**



#### **MINISTRY SITE PROFILE**

There is much interest in our progress for finding a new pastor. While our church family has been through the process before, for many of us, the process is still a mystery.

One thing you should all know for certain, it is a long process. L-O-N-G!

The first step is to update a Ministry Site Profile, MSP.

### YOU CAN BE A PART OF THIS PROCESS!

Updating the MSP is a group project that typically takes 3-6 months. Our group for this project is supposed to be comprised of Peace Lutheran Church members who range in age from Confirmation Students to their grandparents. We need diversity, a little bit of everyone from the congregation. Are you interested in being a part of the first step?

Please contact Heidi Nelson at <a href="mailto:heidi.nelson@peaceoshkosh.org">heidi.nelson@peaceoshkosh.org</a>.
OR you can catch her at church.

#### What is the MSP?

#### PURPOSE:

The purpose of the MSP Process is to enable the Congregation to:

- $\cdot$  Claim ownership of the mission of the Congregation and the Call Process .
- · Review the Congregation's life and mission as the Church, the Body of Christ .
- · Discuss the Congregation's challenges & opportunities for the next 5 years .
- · Evaluate the Congregation's present strengths & areas that need strengthening.
- · *Identify* resources necessary to fulfill the mission of the Congregation, especially mission tasks to reach out to your own neighborhood.
- · Arrive at a current understanding of the vision and mission of the Congregation.
- · Identify the gifts and vision that are most important for the next pastor to possess.

#### THINGS THAT CANNOT BE EXPLAINED:

One evening in early December, while I was walking through the narthex, I looked out the glass door windows of the sanctuary and saw an odd sight. Dozens of gray, plastic Walmart bags filled with groceries were piled on the landing of the sanctuary steps.

Due to impending cold weather, all of the grocery bags were brought into the building and then appropriate space was eked out for the refrigerator foods and the freezer foods. The

following day Nicki McKnight did some investigative work on the phone with Walmart. They said the grocery order was worth over \$400 but they could not take it back after a misdelivery.

Knowing that there was a family in the preschool program in a very unfortunate situation, we were able to bring almost all of the groceries over to this extremely grateful family.

It may have been a Walmart mistake but I like to believe it was the guiding hand of our Father caring for his flock.



### **CURATOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

#### MISSION AND OUTREACH

In the month of December, Mission and Outreach, being coordinated by Kim Dawson, headed up a team that prepared and served a meal at the Day by Day Warming Shelter.

In early December the Mission and Outreach directed \$250 worth of their mission budget to go to the Lutheran Disaster Response for Tornadoes. This letter from the Rev. Daniel Rift was in response to the donation.

Rev. Daniel Rift Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund



### Friends,

On the night of Dec. 10 and early morning of Dec. 11, an outbreak of at least 30 tornadoes swept through six states. So far, 94 people are reported dead across five states, more than 80 of those in Kentucky. For those unaccounted for, search-and-rescue operations are underway. Homes and businesses were destroyed, and over 300,000 people were without electricity.

Lutheran Disaster Response is collaborating with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod and other partners in the area to assess the damage and develop an immediate and a long-term response plan. Your gifts to support these response efforts will empower our partners to meet survivors' immediate and long-term needs. Given the extent of the damage, recovery will take years as thousands of homes will need to be rebuilt or repaired. With your support, Lutheran Disaster Response can accompany survivors on the long road to recovery.

Your gifts to "U.S. Tornadoes" will be used in full (100%) to help people impacted by the tornadoes until the response is complete.

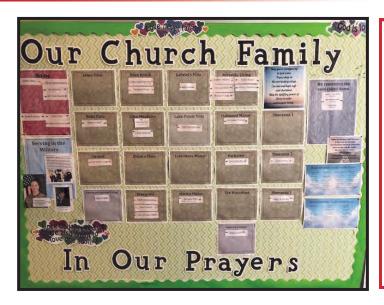
The season of Advent is a time of hope as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth. Right now, we have an opportunity to share hope with our neighbors in their time of greatest need. Please join me in prayer and consider giving if you are able.

PLEASE GIVE NOW In Christ's service. **Daniel Rift** 





### **MEMBER INFORMATION—CHURCH FAMILY BOARD**



In the hallway between the church sanctuary and the church office is a lovely bulletin board called Our Church Family, created by the Care of Congregation Team. This bulletin board reminds us to keep in our prayers the members of our Church Family who may not be able to worship with us each week. Some have moved to different home arrangements, some are serving in the military, and some have passed away.

We do our best to keep the board up to date so we can all remember these members in our prayers. If you are able to help us with any updates, please reach out to Heather Miller.

Email: heather.miller@peaceoshkosh.org

Phone: 920.231.4730

ARBORVIEW	BELLA VISTA	CARMEL	COURTYARD	EDEN BROOK
		Marilyn Campbell Ruth Vorpahl	Sally Wilde	Dawn Springborn Margaret Voss
EDEN MEADOWS	ELIJAH'S PLACE	Evergreen	GABRIEL'S VILLA	LAKE POINTE VILLA
Don Bartelt Carol Schrock Suzanne Lannbrecht		Herb Dieckmann Joan Duwell Lucy and Paul Lund		
LAKE SHORE MANOR	MARION MANOR	MIRAVIDA LIVING	OAKWOOD MANOR	OMRO CARE
	Brenda Wiles (moved to assisted living)	Amber Anklam Donna Miller Bernice Clark Ellen Bruce Elmer Hielsberg	Germaine Nelson	
OMRO: COUNTRY VILLA	PARKVIEW	SIMEANNA 1	SIMEANNA 2	SIMEANNA 3
Pr Ralph and Doris Hanusa Doris Martin			Lois Perdue	Mary Jo Becker
THE WATERFORD	Ат Номе	SERVING IN THE MILITARY	CALLED HOME 2021	
	Paula Albee Kathleen Achterberg Arlene Augsburger Jan Kornder Jeri Ann Kunde Doris Otto Annette Rice	Captain Andrew Duwell Sr. Airman Samantha Hall	Eugene L. "Gene" Brewer 1931-2021 May Catherine Ziebell 1924-2021 James Yager 1956-2021 Eugene Rice 1932-2021 Bian McBriar 1970-2021	Patti Daugherty 1940-2021 Nancy M. Schettl 1944-2021 Richard Campbell 1932-2021 Robert Lund 1932-2021

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

*If you or someone you know* (with their permission) would like to be on the prayer list, contact the office by phone (231-4730) or email <u>office@peaceoshkosh.org.</u>

### PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW WHEN SOMEONE IS HOSPITALIZED.

We don't know someone is hospitalized unless we receive a call. HIPAA regulations have made it difficult for us to get that information.

#### **PRAYER**

"Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Military Deployment: Andy Duwell, Samantha Hall

Health/Healing: Jens Andersen, Kathy Berholtz, Jim Blake, Tom Filsinger, Andrew Fox, Carol Frederick, Pastor Ralph and Doris Hanusa, John Hesser, Pauline Paulsen, Jason Pick, Sue Schneider.

**Encouragement:** Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Anne Edison-Albright, PLC Leadership Team, PLC Office Staff

**OUR SYMPATHIES TO:** 

Family and friends of *Robert W. "Mert" Lund*, who died on November 23, 2021.

The Mike Thomas family on the loss of his mom.

### **SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN**



Please notify the office if members of your family are in the armed forces along with their addresses. We want them to know we care.

### ALTAR FLOWERS/GARDEN DONATIONS



January 2 Available
January 9 Available
January 16 Available
January 23 Available
January 30 Available

The above *available* dates are open to honor/remember a loved one. Please see page 12 for more information.

### IN-PERSON WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

November 21	56	December 5	56
November 28	70	December 12	54

#### SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sunday Worship in-person and on Facebook Live—9am Sunday School—10am

Sunday Coffee Hour—10am, 2nd and 4th of the month Wednesday—Facebook Live Service is on pause. Wednesday—Confirmation Class—6:30pm

#### ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendars for Peace Lutheran Church's Annual Meeting.

We need everyone to stay after the January 30th Worship Service to vote on our budget, elections and other issues that impact our church.



January 30th following service

### **ADMINISTRATION CHANGE**

As you all know, Kim Blake-Jungwirth will be retiring from the Peace office in January. Heather Miller has graciously accepted Kim's position. Please keep both in your prayers as they navigate this change.

#### **PANTRY COLLECTIONS**



LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. Food donations can be put by the altar. Food donations can also be brought anytime the church is open. Those donations should be put in the gray cabinet next to the elevator at the Ninth Avenue entry by the Circle Drive.

See related article on page 11.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY SUNDAY IS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. Donations can be put by the altar. Non-perishable food, personal care items and gift cards may be left in the Pantry at any time. Overflow donations can be placed on the shelves near the elevator at Ninth Avenue entry of the Circle Drive anytime the church is open. Cash donations should be dropped off or sent to the church office. For more information about the Little Free Pantry, visit

https://www.facebook.com/littlefreepantryatpeace/.

#### **CHURCH HUMOR**

"Pastor," Johnny says, "I heard you say today that our bodies came from the dust."

"That's right, Johnny, I did," he says.

"And I heard you say that when we die, our bodies go back to dust."

"Yes, I'm glad you were listening," the pastor replies. "Why do you ask?"



DOST RONNIES

"Well you better come over to our house right away and look under my bed, 'cause there's someone either comin' or goin'!"



"You're born. You suffer. You die. Fortunately, there's a loophole."

BILLY GRAHAM

THE PROPERTY TEAM HAS TWO BIG-TICKETS PROJECTS MARKED FOR 2022 that we are bringing

forward in hopes that members of the congregation would like to financially support these projects.



**REPLACING THE BLUE CARPET IN THE UPSTAIRS HALLWAY:** This project has been talked about for over a decade and this will be the year the change happens. A few professional estimates brought the project in at about \$7000. The property team is exploring their options, including if they can logistically do the project themselves using carpet squares. As the project is being planned out, church family support for the project will be welcomed. Whether the project is completed with professionals or with church members' sweat and tears, there will be a decent expense with the upgrade.

**POURING NEW CEMENT AT THE CHURCH OFFICE ENTRANCE AND BY THE MAINTENANCE SHED:** The cement in this area has been settling, causing odd angles, cracks, uneven squares and crumbling. This entrance, which is also our handicapped accessible entry, could pose as a liability problem to those who utilize it. Preliminary professional bids for this project are coming in around \$5000. For those who are interested in supporting this project the property team thanks you in advance for your support.

### NOT SO SILENT NIGHT

Early in December some of us gathered in the cold around a roaring fire to sing Christmas carols and sip some cocoa. It was a great way to kick off the holiday season and a fabulous tradition to come out of COVID. Thank you to our barista Mr. Travis Miller. Thank you to everyone who joined us!





### PRAYER PARTNER

See you very soon.

Our winter meet up is scheduled for January 5th at 6:00. Please plan on attending. This is one of just three scheduled opportunities to meet up with your Prayer Partner during the confirmation year. Drinks and light snacks will be served, we will not have a formal meal at our event this year.

. 423	Week Target: \$5,125	Month to Date Target: \$20,500	Year to Date Target: \$266,500	Note
11/14 - 11/20	\$5,579.00	4/1	1 111	. //:
11/21 - 11/27	\$3,522.00	1.74(1)).	11/1/	1/11/2
11/28 - 12/04	\$2,224.00	4411111	\$215,203.29	Month of November: \$20,245.03
12/05 - 12/11	\$4,799.00	\$6,479.00	\$220,002.29	
12/12 - 12/18	\$9,629.00	\$17,261.75	\$233,425.04	
12/19 - 12/25	9	MIMIN D		
12/26 - 01/01	200			Month of December: \$

### **OFFERING REVENUE 2021**

Previous Monthly Tota	Is
Month	<b>Total</b> Target: \$20,500
January 31 through January 31	\$16,064.00
February 01 through February 28	\$15,441.00
March 01 through March 31	\$27,394.00
April 01 through April 30	\$18,732.00
May 01 through May 31	\$18,875.00
June 01 through June 30	\$26,264.00
July 01 through July 31	\$17,564.00
August 01 through August 31	\$18,417.00
September 01 through September 30	\$14,456.00
October 01 through October 31	\$22,602.62
November 01 through November 30	\$20,245.03

#### PASTORAL VACANCY

At this time, there are nearly 30 churches in the Northeast Wisconsin ELCA Synod without a pastor. Finding an interim pastor as we begin the process to call a new pastor to Peace will be an interesting task.

#### **PULPIT SUPPLY UPDATE:**

- Pastor Sara Gorman will remain with us on Sundays through the end of January.
- Pastor Barb Girod will be with us for the month of February and the first Sunday in March.
- We have a good lead on an interim pastor whom we believe will be with us March 6th through the end of July. More details to follow.



#### **WEEKLY SERVICES**

At this time, the weekly service will be in person on Sunday mornings. The service will be played live via Facebook and a recorded version will be shared via the Sunday email blast.

Until further notice, the Wednesday evening and Sunday morning online services will be put on pause. We hope to be able to add them in the future, but at this time they will not be available.



### **MASKING IN THE SANCTUARY**

Going forward, as we invite guest pastors into our Church, we will need to return to masking while in the sanctuary. This is a gesture of care that guest pastors, the Leadership Team, and the Synod Office have asked of our congregation. We hope you understand why we are going back to masking and we ask you to be helpful with this request.

THANK YOU!

### People often ask "What could the LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY use in food donations?" Following are items that would be very useful.

While food commodities are always very generous, they are generally staple items. The pantry is stocked with canned corn, green beans, garbanzo beans, kidney, black beans, pasta sauces, peanut butter, tomato, vegetable, cream of mushroom & chicken soups. canned peaches, pears applesauce, mixed fruits.

ALSO mac & cheese, various pastas, rice, dry peas/ beans.

What the pantry can use are the 'extras.'

**Baking supplies:** (including but not limited to)

Flour & sugars (granulated, brown or powdered)

Any brands of hamburger/tuna helper Stuffing

Potato

Canned Ravioli, Beefaroni, Spaghetti w/wo meat

Boxed/bagged/canned meals



#### Miscellaneous:

Jams/jellies

Canned cranberries/pineapple

Small cans of tuna

Crackers: saltine and miscellaneous

snack crackers

Bagged snacks: chips, Cheeto's, etc.

Individually wrapped 'treats': fruit snacks, crackers, small

snack bags, sweets, granola bars

These types of foods are dependent on food donations and food drives. With the COVID shut downs these 'extras' were missed.

#### **Personal Products**

Tooth brushes, tooth paste, creams, lotions, disposable

razors, soap (bar or liquid) Any type of paper products.

toilet paper, paper towel, tissue, foil, baggies





Frosting mixes

Jello/pudding boxes

Spices or spice mixes

Catsup, mustards, BBQ sauces etc. Any flavor of salad dressings

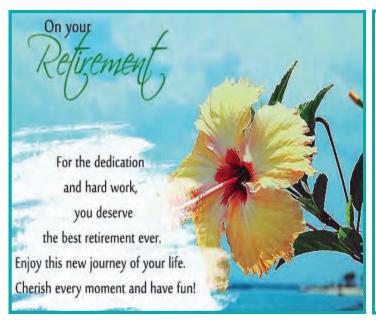
Mixes: cake, muffin, cookie, breads



### Miscellaneous Soups:

ALL varieties of canned soup are a need especially in winter for children. Chunky, Healthy Choice, Progresso)

Miscellaneous soups are depleted at this time.



### A NOTE FROM OFFICE KIM:

On January 14, 2022, I will be retiring from my job at PLC. I am going to be home taking care of my soon-to-be 94 year old father.

I just want to say thank you to my PLC church family for making the last five years a joy and a blessing to me. I am so grateful for all of you! I will not be far away (about 8 blocks) and I still plan to be an active member of Peace.

I would like to invite you to a celebration of retirement for me on:

Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.
Oshkosh Marine Corp League Clubhouse
4715 Sherman Road, Oshkosh 65904
OR I will be hosting hospitality between services on
Sunday, January 16th, after the service.

## MEMORIAL/CELEBRATION FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2022 Memorial and Celebration Flower Calendar is available in the church narthex. Please remember, you have the option to purchase real flowers OR you can donate your funds to the Garden Team and a beautiful silk arrangement will be put on display.

Either option will honor your memorial and celebration in the church's newsletter, announcement slides, and email blast.

If you are not able to sign up in person, please call the church office and let the them know which Sunday you would like.





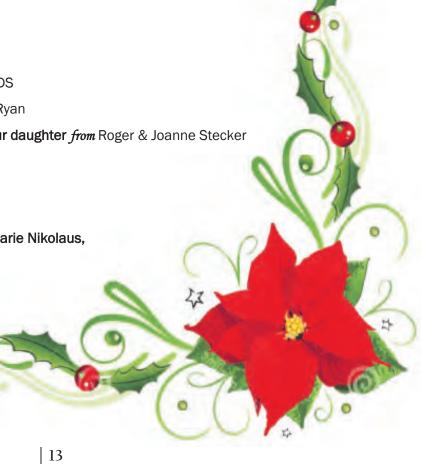
### **POINSETTIAS 2021**

May the memories of those we love shine brightly this holiday season.

#### **GIVEN THIS CHRISTMAS IN MEMORY OF:**

- \* Roy Abraham and Our Deceased Parents and Family Members from Patti and Mike Fox
- \* Lynx Martin and Travis Martin Balch from Heather, Travis, Dylan and Cameron Miller
- \* Gene & Lois Becker from Mary Jo Becker; Sue & Neal Eichman; Cathy Dahlke; Dan & Liz Becker and Family
- \* Ann and Marion Books, Karen Andersen and Frode Andersen from Jean & Jesse Andersen; Cory, Emily, Elijah, Nora & Isaiah Andersen; Kelsey & Drake Gutsmeidl; Gail & Gary Pucci
- \* James Buck, Charles, Miller, Robert Paffenroth, Dale Smith, Henrietta & Reuben Tesch from Sally Buck and Bev Paffenroth
- \* Pearl Dawson from Kim Dawson
- \* All Family Members from Mary Davis and Family
- \* George Fredrick from Marge Fredrick
- \* Matthew Freiberg, my Godson, from Nancy Lokken
- \* Harold & Neva Helm and Ray & Delores Lokken from Dave, Nancy, Danielle, Michael & Michelle Lokken
- \* John & Doris Kieckhaefer from Joyce and Mike Christianson
- \* Louie & Dorothy Klitzke from The Family
- \* Mike Kritz from His Family
- \* Michael A. Nelson from Ann Nelson and family
- \* Paul E. Schmidt, Sr. from Paul E. Schmidt, Jr. DDS
- \* Shannon Clark Showers from Mark, Kellie and Ryan
- \* Michael Stecker, our son, and Jean Stecker, our daughter from Roger & Joanne Stecker
- \* Warren Steinert from the Steinert family
- \* Joan Voelkel from Her Sisters
- \* William & Mildred Weitz from the Weitz Famly
- \* Our parents Ed & Ruth Zimdars and Jacob & Marie Nikolaus, from Dennis & Joyce Nikolaus





### **PEACE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL**







I have not shared an update about our preschool for too many months. It's time to catch up! To say our preschool is busy, would be an understatement. From the office aspect, this is the busiest year that I have experienced in my 11 years as the director, and most of the busyness stems from operating a state-licensed program for which norms and rules are still being established for COVID protocols. As a state-licensed center, our preschool is required to follow the guidance of our local county health department—a department that has been extremely helpful. The guidance is quite strict. Our preschool has had to quarantine students, staff, and even entire classrooms. I'm not going to lie to you, it's been a big task. The enormity of what this year would require certainly blind-sided me. We operated last year, and since this was year number two. I thought we were ready for what was coming.

What I want to highlight is the amazing staff who have stepped up, gone with the flow of rules they may not have agreed with, and continued to provide the preschool children of our community a fabulous experience. We have had frustrated parents, but that is understandable. We are fortunate for a church that supports us and a safe place to offer our services to our preschool family.

#### Stabilization funds from the state:

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) launched an updated Child Care Counts: Stabilization Payment Program to support Wisconsin's early care and education community. Regulated child care providers, like Peace Christian Preschool, are eligible to receive monthly payments through 2023, providing the financial stability they need to stay open, to recruit and retain qualified staff, and to continue providing high-quality care for children.

A total of \$351 million in funds were made available over the next 18 months and are being distributed through two programs targeting the challenges early care and education providers are facing. These funds have become essential to our program's operation.

Change in position: As you may have learned from other communications, I will be stepping down from being the preschool director at the end of this school year and will be moving my career upstairs to be the Parish Administrator for Peace Lutheran Church. There will be a few preschool-related office jobs that will follow me upstairs which will keep me connected to the program. I am very much looking forward to the transition.

### REFLECTIONS ON GOD'S WORD

I often forget the Bible readings shortly after a church service...unless I take time during the week to revisit them. Fortunately, our Sunday services are available to listen to online. When I re-listen to the Bible readings I always learn something about myself and my relationship with God.

Below are verses from January's Bible readings that made me stop and think. If time allows, take a few moments to re-listen to each week's Bible readings. When you find a verse that makes you stop and think, ask yourself, "What can I learn about my relationship with God from this verse?"

Dirk Kagerbauer, Leadership Team



Week of January 2, 2022

John 1:12

<sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.

Forgiveness of sins and eternal life; God makes these things available to everyone. They are always there for us, always available. All we have to do is accept Jesus Christ as our savior and guide...follow in his footsteps. Accepting is easy. Following is the challenge, one I need God's help with every day.

Week of January 9, 222

Isaiah 43:1-3

<sup>1</sup>Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

What a tremendous promise. I know this doesn't mean I won't face challenges or disappointments. What it does mean is that I don't have to face them alone. All I have to do is connect with God and He will give me the strength and resources I need to work through the difficulties I face.

Week of January 16, 2022

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 <sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Each of us has gifts, talents, given to us by the Holy Spirit. Discovering and developing my gifts is one part of God's reason for giving them to me. Learning to use those gifts in service to God and other people is the second part of why God gave me the gifts He did.

Week of December 26, 2021

Week of January 23, 2022 Psalm 19:14

<sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

I know pastors often say this verse to themselves before starting a sermon. And I should start each day with this verse in my heart as a reminder of how I should conduct myself as a Christian.

Week of January 30, 2022 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

The gifts God has given me came from the Holy Spirit. I need to remember that the purpose behind those gifts is to show others the kind of love that God first showed me through his son, Jesus Christ

## YOUR LEADERSHIP



For your leadership, passion, and commitment,

We are Thankful for You! Remember that you can follow along with the work of your Leadership Team. Go to <u>www.peaceoshkosh.org</u> Click on "News", and then "Leadership"

You will find many hyperlinks within the minutes that will take you to additional meeting notes from the church's mission teams.

### YOUR LEADERSHIP

#### PEACE LUTHERAN WEBSITE ADDRESS:

www.peaceoshkosh.org

OFFICE EMAIL: office@peaceoshkosh.org

OFFICE PHONE: 920-231-4730

#### STAFF:

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Email: office@peaceoshkosh.org

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Email: kim@peaceoshkosh.org

CUSTODIAN MARY WILLEY
ORGANIST SOMMER LOAR

#### TEAM LEADERS:

LEADERSHIP Heidi Nelson TREASURER Matthew Pfluger Barb Molash CARE OF THE CONGREGATION Jessica Felker ENDOWMENT MUTUAL MINISTRY Diane Friday PROMOTION Matt Crowe PROPERTY Jesse Andersen IT TEAM Michael Stromberg Worship Kim Blake-Jungwirth Heidi Nelson HOSPITALITY

ORGANIZATIONS:

PEACE LUTHERAN CEMETERY

PEACE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

Heather Miller

TEACHERS' CLOSET Kay Kuenzl-Stenerson

#### Executive Team

Heidi Nelson, Dirk Kagerbauer, Kira Labby

### Leadership Team Members

Here is your current Leadership Team.
They have provided contact information so that you may reach them anytime you have a suggestion, question, any concerns, positive or negative feedback.

Heidi Nelson, President 920-362-4227—

heidi.nelson@peaceoshkosh.org.

Dirk Kagerbauer, Vice President 920-988-2476—ddkagerbauer@gmail.com

Kira Labby, Secretary 715-853-8359—labbymd@gmail.com

Matthew Pfluger, Treasurer 920-680-9122-

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Lucinda Porter 920-573-3183—Lucindaporter18@gmail.com

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"The story of the church, as depicted in the book of Acts, is one of a community of faith directed by a team of leaders working together toward a common vision. Had the church relied upon a single, incredibly gifted, magnetic individual to replace Jesus, the church would surely have collapsed."

- George Barna, The Power of Team Leadership

This newsletter is designed by Joyce Nikolaus as a project of the Promotion Team.

All articles are due on the *15th of the month* prior to publication.

Please email items to *both:* 

i lease citiali items to **botii.** 

Joyce at jdnikolaus@gmail.com.

The church office at office@PeaceOshkosh.org.



### **Peace Lutheran Cemetery**

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### THE TEACHERS' CLOSET



Wednesday & Thursday 3:00 to 5:30 p.m.

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