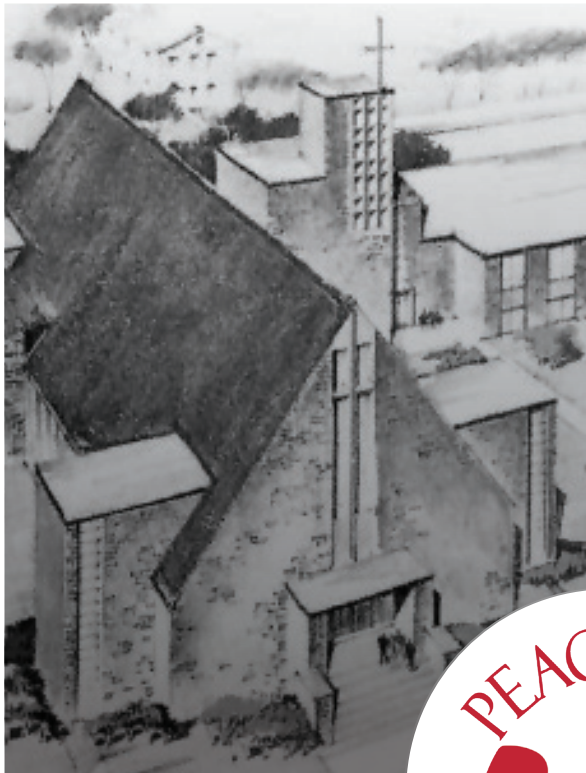


PRINTS OF PEACE

FEBRUARY 2024



Ash Wednesday Service

February 14th
2:00 PM and 6:30 PM



Adult Education

Sundays - After worship service on the
1st and 3rd Sundays of the month

Wednesdays - Meet weekly at 2 PM

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

240 West 9th Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54902
(920) 231-4730
office@peaceoshkosh.org
www.peaceoshkosh.org

OFFICE HOURS

8 AM to 12 PM Monday through Friday

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Service at 9 AM in-person and YouTube Live

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10 AM Sunday mornings in room 203

SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 10 AM

FROM THE PASTOR

Observing the season of Lent is an ancient Christian tradition rich in spiritual disciplines. As a community, we set Lent aside as a time for deeper reflection, coming together more often in fellowship around the table, in worship and in prayer. Lent is an opportunity to revive your life of discipleship with the hope that we arrive at Easter renewed and refreshed in our faith.



Here's what you can expect this Lent:

Sundays: The Seed of Joy, in the heart of fear and pain, God plants the seed of our joy.

This year, Sundays in Lent will have the theme "The Seed of Joy" using a worship resource from *Barn Geese Worship Creative Resources*. From the series introduction: "A joyful Lent is not an oxymoron. As it turns out, joy is right at home during a minor-key season like Lent – and if joy is there, perhaps there are other seasons of life that joy calls home, too. Joy is a beacon that points us toward God's unfailing presence, even in the heart of fear and pain."

For Midweek Wednesdays we are collaborating with other ELCA congregations in Oshkosh for soup suppers and Holden Evening Prayer. Gathering around the theme "Created for Community" each Wednesday Midweek Lenten soup supper and service will be hosted at a different location around Oshkosh. See page 10 for the Midweek Worship schedule. Inspired by the communal feel of worshiping together with a church full of robust singing, and valuing collaboration with one another, Pastors Connie Weiss at Christ Our Savior, Jon Radichel-Wills at First English, Richard Collier at St. John's, and I are excited for more opportunities to gather together in fellowship and prayer as people of faith in Oshkosh. I hope you will join us for supper and worship around Oshkosh this Lent.

Also available for you this Lent: *Tending Joy*, a daily devotional guide that helps you reflect on the weekly scriptures we'll hear in worship and focuses on cultivating joy. Copies of this devotional by Wild Goose Worship will be available near the entrances of the sanctuary for any who would like one. If there are none available please ask and more will be printed.

Christ be with you as we journey together towards the cross, being surprised by joy along the way.

Pastor Maggie



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Every year at this time, Peace, like most other ELCA churches, experiences a period of transition and renewal. Our constitution outlines term limits for those serving on some Mission Teams and representing Peace on various boards. At the end of January, these people end their time of service, and we use part of our Annual Meeting to elect individuals to take their place. This cycle gives the people who are stepping down a chance to recharge. At the same time, it provides other individuals in our congregation with the opportunity to share their thoughts, ideas, and energy in fulfilling Peace's mission: Called to make disciples, sent to share Christ. By design, a number of team and board members continue to serve in their current roles to insure an orderly transition and continuity of purpose. That's the wonderful thing about congregations. It's not a pastor or any one congregation member that keeps the church moving forward. It's all of us working together. The people of Peace are the essential constant during this, or any, transition. By combining our individual spiritual gifts, we are always able to continue the work of fulfilling the mission God has given us:

19Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

Dirk Kagerbauer
2022-2023 Leadership Team President

NOTES FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Each month, before the start of a Leadership Team Meeting, a volunteer member of the team leads the group in a thoughtful devotion. This year, the Leadership Team mostly read devotions from a booklet titled “Character-Driven Leadership” which was based on the book *Lead Like it Matters to God* by Richard Stearns. In January, during the last meeting of the current year's Leadership Team, Steve Berholtz wrote and shared aloud a personal letter to the team. When Steve finished sharing his letter, he was urged to share what he wrote with our greater church team- you. Please take a minute to read and mindfully take in the following message written by Steve.

I am going to go against the normal and let us think a little on what has taken place over the last year or years when we have been on Leadership.

First, if you're listening to this, you're most likely a leader. The truth is that virtually all of us are leaders in some dimension of our lives. While we might not be a corporate CEO or member of Congress, we may be leading a team of people at work, serving in a leadership role in our home, serving in a leadership role at Peace (of which we all are), or in your community. Most of us are leaders in some way or another or followers in others. And leadership matters a great deal here at Peace. Good (and I emphasize the word “GOOD”) leaders help accomplish important things/ideas here at Peace just like bad leaders can do great harm to people or organizations.

Second, the character of a leader is defined by the values we demonstrate to others in our daily work. A godly leader leads with values like integrity, humility, excellence, love, perseverance, courage, forgiveness, generosity, sacrifice, and encouragement. These values were the ones we learned about each month we had a Leadership meeting. Think about this: never once in all our meetings were they not civil. We met and discussed a problem/idea and never had the President intervene. A tip of the hat to each one of you here. This kind of leadership is a powerful witness, not just to your fellow leadership members, but to the many other people we come in contact with in the course of being a member of Peace Lutheran Leadership. If you're a believer in Jesus, your character IS your witness.

From *Our Daily Bread*, Richard Stearns puts it this way: Most of us live and work in secular environments that are often hostile to our faith. Bringing our faith into our daily lives may seem like a difficult or even hopeless task. We all probably feel like you're not making a difference. Richard Stearns said this: "I heard a story that Senator Mark Hatfield told. The Senator made a trip to meet Mother Teresa in Calcutta to see her work there administering to the poor and the sick. He quickly assessed the magnitude of the problems compared to the size of the limited resources available. (Does this not sound like what Peace Leadership faces at times?) Hatfield asked Mother Teresa, "Mother, don't you get awfully discouraged when you see the magnitude of the poverty and realize how little you can really do? She answered, "My dear Senator, God did not call me to be successful, he called me to be faithful".

Third, let's look what Leadership guidance has done with God's helping hand in the last year or so:

- Our music is in the greatest shape in a long time
- We found a Pastor who has righted the ship
- An office staff that is stable, very accommodating, and inviting
- Handicap accessible pew and child's play area
- A gym floor that is flashing newness
- Coffee hour on the 2nd and 4th Sundays
- Niki McKnight working hard with youth
- A Treasurer who takes off and runs and never misses a stroke
- And many more.

And let's not forget that, leadership played a hand in most if not all of it.

When Richard Stearns thought of the apostle Peter when he needed to be reminded that God can use anybody to accomplish his purposes. Peter was totally unqualified to lead the early church – uneducated, impulsive and with little relevant experience. Most HR managers would have tossed Peter's resume into the waste basket. But Jesus chose Peter anyway. What the apostle had to offer was his PASSION & AVAILABILITY. Each one of us seems to have that PASSION & AVAILABILITY. God will always use women & men of character who are willing to be His ambassadors.

I think we should all pat ourselves for a job well done. January is sort of an oxymoron in that it is the beginning of a new year as far as a calendar is concerned but for our church it is also the end. The end is that our leadership will change. Peace is so lucky to have had Dirk, Paul, Kim (Blake-Jungwirth), and Jenny serving on Leadership. You also helped steady the "SHIP".

In conclusion let me quote Mark 12:29-31: Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your mind, and all your strength. The second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Pictorial Directory

I am happily going to extend the digital photo submission deadline to February 14th because I am very hopeful that a few more of our Peace members will take a moment to send me a photo. I can't stress enough that having a photo of our members is extremely helpful to Pastor Maggie and all of the staff and volunteers. Plus, you're beautiful and we want to see you! If you have not yet sent in a digital photo, please send one to office@peaceoshkosh.org by February 14th.

The following is a list of who we have digital submissions from:

Russell Beck	Jim and Laurie Kleveno
Elaine Bradley	Donna Lord
Nancy Bradley	Don Patt
Susan Erdmann	Samantha, Joseph and Lincoln Pfeilstifter
Jari and Timothy Hall	Jim Steinhilber
Deb and Dirk Kagerbauer	Shannon and Al Ziltner

This list does not include the 64 households who came for professional photos.

If you submitted a digital photo but you do not see your name it means that I did not place your photo in the appropriate digital file, please contact me at 920.231.4730 and we will hunt it down together.

Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes are a traditional way for our members to mindfully make financial contributions for the operations and missions of Peace Lutheran Church. If you are a person receiving contribution envelopes but not using them, please let the office know; we will remove your name from the recipient list. If you are a person who likes to use the envelopes but are not receiving them, please contact the office; we will get you on the recipient list. In 2023 Peace spent \$1,300 on offering envelopes. The "Initial Offering" envelope is intended to help offset the expense of the envelopes; in 2023 the Initial Offering envelopes brought in \$460. You may want to consider a small contribution in your initial envelope in 2024.

HYGIENE DRIVE

The Family Radio Network's Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive runs February 11 – March 3, 2024. Peace will have a collection box in the narthex. Help us fill it!

Most urgent needs include:

- Soaps: laundry, dish, soft, shower gel, 2-in-1 shampoo
- Trash bags (shelters especially need these for bedrooms)
- Diapers (sizes 3-6 and Pull-Ups)
- Deodorant (unscented)
- Wet wipes
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Disposable razors
- Tampons and maxi pads



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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.

heather.miller@peaceoshkosh.org | 920.231.4730



BELLA VISTA

Carol Hintz

CARMEL

Darlene Gehrke

Sandra Kritz

Dennis & Joyce Nikolaus

Ken Reinert

Peggy Staples

Janet Steinert

Ruth Vorpahl

EDEN BROOK

Dawn Springborn

Margaret Voss

EDEN MEADOWS

Suzanne Lannbrecht

Carol Schrock

ELIJAH'S PLACE

Gordon Hielsberg

EVERGREEN

Arlene Augsburg

Herb & Bev Dieckmann

Joan Duwell

Donna Lord

Lucy and Paul Lund

GABRIEL'S VILLA

Marillyn Campbell

MIRAVIDA LIVING

Paula Albee

Ellen Bruce

Bernice Clark

OMRO COUNTY VILLA

Elaine Bradley

PARKVIEW

Al Neubauer

SIMEANNA 3

Mary Jo Becker

THE RESIDENCE

Lois Perdue

George Reischl

Vern & Silvia Wepner

AT HOME OR WITH FAMILY

Jan Kornder

Jeri Ann Kunde

Bonnie Marshek

Annette Rice

Don Patt

Sandra Sonn

CARE FACILITY OUT OF OSHKOSH

Elmer Hielsberg - WI

Sherry Redlin - MO

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Captain Andrew Duwell

Sr. Airman Samantha Hall

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you or someone you know (with their permission) would like to be on the prayer list, contact the office by phone (920)231-4730 or email office@peaceoshkosh.org.

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

CARE OF CONGREGATION

Our Care of Congregation Team is trying to reach you! You can help us by connecting with us when you need help with Meals that Heal or to be a recipient of a Sunshine Bag. Meals may be helpful when you are ill, have been hospitalized or other events that have made life challenging. Self-reporting is not selfish, it is helpful to our team's mission!

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Scholarship applications will be available February 01, 2024. You can pick up a hard copy form from the church office or print off the paperwork from Peace's website. All application paperwork will be due by noon on the 3rd Friday of April.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS REMINDER

Do you have insurance with Thrivent and have the ability to allocate financial support from Thrivent to Peace Lutheran Church through their Thrivent Choice Dollars program? Each year Thrivent allocates a portion of their funding from insurance premiums and contracts to non-profit organizations working in our communities. Peace Lutheran Church is an eligible recipient of Thrivent Choice Dollars. If you are an eligible Thrivent member, please consider taking the time to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Peace Lutheran Church.



WORSHIP TEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Worship Team is looking for a volunteer or a small group to organize and lead preparing Easter Breakfast. We'd love to bring this fellowship time back, but need those with the talent and time to make this happen. Please contact the office or Kim Dawson if you are interested.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2024 Memorial Flower Calendar is available in the Narthex

You can sign up for Altar Flowers on the calendar located in the Peace narthex. The cost of sponsoring altar flowers is \$30. If you opt to pick up the flowers from our florist and deliver them to the church the Friday before your Sunday, the cost is \$25.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Confirmation will be hosting hospitality on February 11th in the Fireside Room and cooking up some pancakes with a selection of toppings. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend and or help out.

Funds raised by this event support the youth going to the Youth Gathering in New Orleans!



CHILI COOKOFF AND ENDOWMENT SUNDAY

The Annual Chili Cookoff takes place in coordination with Peace's Mission Endowment Sunday.

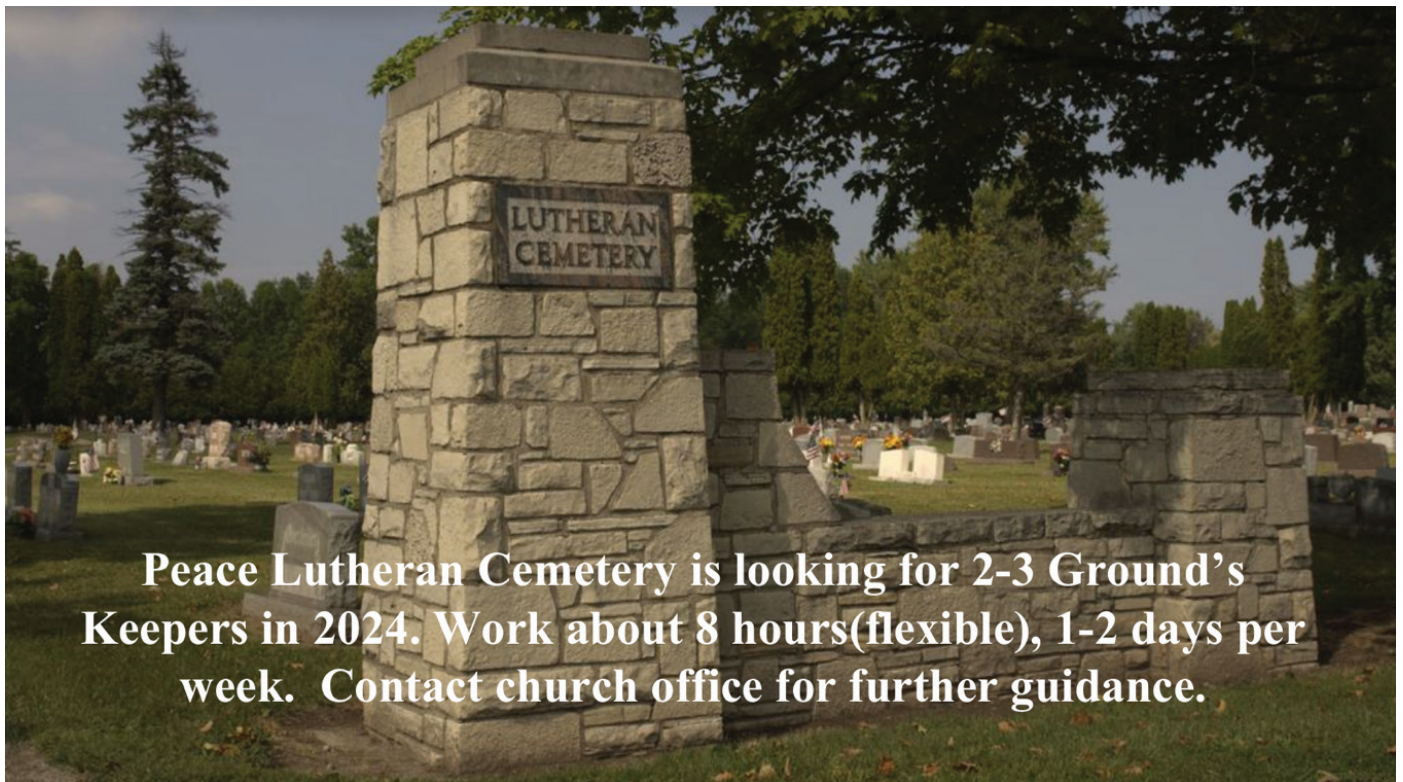
The date is set for February 25th. You are invited to enter the Chili Cookoff, contribute a raffle basket, or just join in the festivities.

Funds raised by this event support the youth going to the Youth Gathering in New Orleans!



NOISY OFFERING 1/21

Mission and Outreach raised \$562.04 from their Noisy Offering Collection to purchase Bus Tokens for the Day by Day Warming Shelter during service on Sunday, January 21st. Thank you to all who helped make a joyful noise!



Peace Lutheran Cemetery is looking for 2-3 Ground's Keepers in 2024. Work about 8 hours(flexible), 1-2 days per week. Contact church office for further guidance.

YOUTUBE LIVE

The Peace LiveStream can be found on YouTube, the channel name is Peace Oshkosh Creative. Once you have accessed the channel, click on the LIVE menu item to access the LiveStream as well as past services.

If you are having issues with finding our live stream, please email communications@peaceoshkosh.org and Matt will provide further assistance.

PANTRY DONATIONS

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.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY SUNDAY IS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Donations can be put by the altar. Nonperishable food, personal care items and gift cards may be left in the Pantry at any time. Overflow donations can be placed in the cabinet near the elevator at the Ninth Avenue entry of the Circle Drive anytime the church is open. Cash donations should be dropped off or sent to the church office.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have additional information for the Newsletter, please contact communications@paeaceoshkosh.org by the 15th of each month.

IN PERSON ATTENDANCE

Blue Christmas Service: 11
Advent 4 Sunday Service: 77
3 PM Xmas Eve Service: 132
5 PM Xmas Eve Service: 101
Christmas Day Service: 46
December 31st: 67
January 7th: 88
January 14th: 70
January 21st: 72

OFFERING REVENUES

Annual Target: \$278,800.00 | Monthly Target: \$23,233.33

OFFERINGS TO THE GENERAL FUND IN 2023

January: \$24,063.06
February: \$21,257.45
March: \$17,658.20
April: \$30,219.47
May: \$16,720.08

June: \$15,982.09
July: \$20,930.39
August: \$16,026.44
September: \$16,784.39
October: \$20,832.10
November: \$37,864.69
December \$26,418.41
(updated 01/15/2024)



"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'"



Dear Members of Peace Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the staff of Peace Christian Preschool, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the congregation for your generous contribution of essential Christmas gifts to our preschool. Your kindness has helped our children by providing items that are essential to their year-round, daily needs. We are truly grateful for your continued support and commitment to fostering a caring community.

Warm regards,
Barbara Probst

STAFF

PASTOR

Maggie Berndt-Dreyer 920-231-4730 cell 920-385-6166
pastor@peaceoshkosh.org

PARISH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Heather Miller 920-231-4730
office@peaceoshkosh.org

CURATOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Nicki McKnight 920-231-4730
nicki@peaceoshkosh.org

CURATOR OF MUSIC

David Berndt 920-231-4730
david.berndt@peaceoshkosh.org

PIANIST

Janell Duwell

ORGANIST

Joseph Scheivert

CURATOR OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Matt Crowe 920-231-4730
communications@peaceoshkosh.org

CURATOR OF BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

George Sawall
text George @ 920-420-3937

Custodian

Erin Chapin

Groundskeeper

Andy Janke

TEAM LEADERS

LEADERSHIP

TREASURER

CARE OF THE CONGREGATION

MISSION ENDOWMENT

MUTUAL MINISTRY

PROMOTION

PROPERTY

IT TEAM

WORSHIP

HOSPITALITY

MISSION AND OUTREACH

TBD

Randy Hartman

Barb Molash

Jean Andersen

Diane Friday

Matt Crowe

Jesse Andersen

Michael Stromberg

Kim Dawson

Kim Blake-Jungwirth

Katelyn Olds

LENT SCHEDULE



Created for Community

Using readings from Mark's gospel, this series invites us to reflect on what it means to be in community with one another, with the world, with creation, and with God.

Soup Supper beginning at 5:30 PM followed by a service of Holden Evening Prayer at 6:30 PM.

FEB 14 ASH WEDNESDAY

2:00 PM and 6:30 PM Services Peace

FEB 21 St. Andrew's (1100 E. Murdock Ave)

FEB 28 Christ Our Savior (1860 Wisconsin St)

MAR 6 First English (1013 Minnesota St)

MAR 13 St. John's (808 N Main St)

MAR 20 Peace

ORGANIZATIONS

PEACE LUTHERAN CEMETERY
Dirk Kagerbauer

PEACE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL
Barbara Probst

