PRINTS OF PEACE



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

240 West 9th Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54902

Sunday Service at 9 AM in-person and YouTube Live

SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

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

FROM THE PASTOR



The bells of Christmas chime once more;
The heav'nly guest is at the door.
He comes to earthly dwelling still
With new year gifts of peace, good will.
Nikolai Grundtvig
ELW 298 "The Bells of Christmas"

I pray the hope, peace, joy and light of the Christmas season sustains you into the new year. I am writing this before Christmas, and in the car on the way to the office this morning I heard the song "The 12 Days of Christmas". Before playing the song the DJ was thinking of what day of Christmas we were on. So though you may know this already, from that experience, I feel compelled to give my yearly reminder that, despite what the pre-Christmas countdowns claim, the 12 days of Christmas start on Christmas Day and end with Epiphany on January 6, the day the church commemorates the visit of the Magi. So if you're reading this before January 6th, Merry Christmas!

Rather than linger in the Christmas story though, for me and my family, we are in an extended Advent this year, a time of waiting and preparation. We are excited to share the news with you that our family is growing! Baby Berndt-Dreyer #3 is due at the beginning of June. We welcome you to share in our joy and excitement as we await new birth and prepare to become a family of five.

This month, our life together as a community of faith includes our annual meeting, a time we gather after worship to look back and celebrate the ministry we did together over the last year and a time to look ahead and plan (as much as we can) the ministry we will do in the year ahead. Of course, we plan with flexibility and trust, remembering that this is God's church. The Spirit is at work, and we cannot predict what the Spirit will do.

I am so grateful to be doing ministry with you all. I look forward to another year together. God's peace and blessings to you in the new year.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Maggie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Looking Back

Throughout 2023, we continued to see the positive effects of God working to support our congregation, not only in the calling of a new pastor, but in the filling of our Music Curator and Organist positions. 2023 was Peace's first full year with Pastor Maggie Berndt-Dreyer. Both in worship and the day-to-day operation of Peace, Pastor Maggie has shown that she is the intelligent, strong, and caring shepherd we trusted God would provide for our congregation.

During the past year, I used the "From the President" space in Peace's newsletter to highlight each of Peace's Mission Teams and what they do. These teams are staffed by members of Peace. Their work supports not only our church (building and people), but reaches outside our walls into the community of Oshkosh and beyond. The good news is, there are opportunities on all of our mission teams for more people to participate...for people to share their gifts/talents to help fulfill the mission God has given all of us. Each Team Leader's name is included in our monthly newsletters. Please don't hesitate to reach out to them to find out how you can combine your strengths with that of others to do God's work.

Looking Ahead

2024 is the beginning of another new year in the life of Peace. We don't know everything that 2024 will hold for us, or all the challenges we'll face. What we do know is that by working together and asking God for His help and guidance, and then trusting His response, we can tackle whatever lies ahead of us. Together we'll discover more about where God is leading us on the journey to fulfill our mission: Called to make disciples, sent to share Christ. Together, we can continue to do spectacular, loving, and generous things to serve one another and our community. Peace!

Dirk Kagerbauer Leadership Team President

NOTES FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

You can stay up to date on the work of the Leadership Team and other Mission Teams of Peace Lutheran Church by reading the reports in the Tuesday email blast or visiting the church office for paper copies.

The Annual Meeting will be January 28th following the Sunday Service. Refreshments will be served in the Narthex.

Peace Constitutional Update- the Constitution Team has completed proposed updates to the Peace Constitution to bring it up to date with the synod's Model Constitution. Updates will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting. You will be able to view the proposed updates in advance on Peace's website by 12/28 or by requesting the information in paper form from the Church Office.

There will be a Budget Forum on January 21st in the Fireside Lounge led by Randy Hartman.

MUSIC NEWS

A Musician's Musings

On Christ the King Sunday, back on November 26, Pastor Maggie presented a service based on The Church Year. So much of our Lutheran materials are structured around our church year. One reminder of that struck me on November 26 as we went through the seasons of that year. You might have noticed that, as we sang a song from each season, we always just turned ahead in our hymnal. That was no accident. The hymns are clustered around themes. The first hymns, #1-150, are the Psalms. We just have the words and some Psalm tones. We last used one of these at the first Midweek Advent service. Then comes Service Music. This contains musical settings of part of the liturgy: Kyries; Glory to God; Alleluias, etc. which gives us the ability to be endlessly creative in our worship while still using the worship texts of our Christian tradition. We last used that when we welcomed new members in December and sang the 'Celtic Alleluia'. Next comes the first 'real' hymns, the kind of hymns that I think of when I hear that word. It starts with Advent and goes through, you guessed it, the Church Year. That is why we had no need to jump around the hymnal as sang our way through the church year ending with Pentecost. (Actually The Holy Trinity which is always the first Sunday after Pentecost.) After that we are in ordinary time and the hymns are grouped by occasion and topic: Festivals and Commemorations, End Time, Holy Baptism, Holy Communion, Word of God, Gathering, Sending, Morning, Evening, Vocation & Ministry, Marriage, Grace & Faith, Confession & Forgiveness, Healing, Hope & Assurance, Community in Christ, Witness, Stewardship, Lament, Justice & Peace, Creation, Prayer, Trust & Guidance, Commitment & Discipleship, Praise & Thanksgiving, and National Songs. A hymnal is a wonderful guide for expressing faith. It is worth exploring.

Dave Berndt Curator of Music

SMALL PROJECTS

Two projects were completed in November and December to enhance Peace worship space.

New upholstery was put on the kneelers at the altar rail. A medium-toned tan color fabric with threads of red was selected to both stand out and compliment the sanctuary's red carpet.

And to welcome both members and visitors through the doors at Peace, two welcome banners were placed on the sanctuary entrance light posts.

Funding for these projects came from the 2023 Park Dance funds.





PEACE TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Peace is in the process of installing security cameras throughout the building. This project came about because our building ministry partners wanted more security. We also saw the benefit to our renters and our staff.

The initial installation of cameras will be placed to record at entrances numbers 3, 7 and 9 to the building, in both the circular drive and main parking lot, and in the upper-level hallway and lower-level, east-west hallway. Additional cameras may be added in the future covering more entrances, and public areas of Peace. No cameras will be installed in private areas such as offices or bathrooms. The primary objective is to create a safer environment for everyone who visits or utilizes our facilities. The presence of these cameras will act as a deterrent to potential security threats and will also provide valuable assistance in the unlikely event of an incident. We believe that investing in this security measure aligns with our commitment to creating a welcoming and secure space for worship, fellowship, and community activities.

We understand that privacy is a concern, and we want to assure you that the surveillance system will be implemented responsibly and with utmost respect for individual privacy. The audio recording features will be deactivated. The footage will be used exclusively for security purposes and will be accessible only by authorized personnel: The Pastor, Church Admin and Technology Team, Preschool and Head Start Administrator.

We have started installing the cameras and more will be installed as our volunteers' time allows. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to the church office.

Blessings, Michael Stromberg and Matthew Pfluger

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Pictorial Directory Update

We had 64 church families come in to have their photo professionally taken for the church directory. The church office volunteers are now working through the most recent directory list to connect with all of the remaining families to ensure we have the most current directory information. If you did not have your photo taken, you should expect a phone call from the church office. Our hope is to get more family photos digitally submitted to the office by the end of January. We are happy to accept any digital photo of your family that you can give to us. It can be a snapshot, or it can be professional.

Digital submissions should be made to office@peaceoshkosh.org through the end of January.

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

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 Augsburger Herb & Bev Dieckmann Joan Duwell Donna Lord Lucy and Paul Lund

GABRIEL'S VILLA

Marillyn Campbell

MIRAVIDA LIVING

Paula Albee Ellen Bruce Bernice Clark Donna Miller

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!

CITYWIDE THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE AND PIE SOCIAL

The joint service with All Saints, Calvary, Christ Our Savior, First English, St. Andrew's and St. John's Lutheran Churches was well attended. There were 168 people in attendance. Clergy leaders were Rev. Maggie Berndt-Dreyer, Rev. Connie Weiss (Christ Our Savior), Rev. Bryan Schmidt (St. Andrew's) and Vicar Beth Sell (Seminarian.) Dave Berndt led a joint choir singing "Grace Abounds for All" and "With a Voice of Singing." There was a lovely pie social following the service. Members of Peace acted as hosts and the visiting churches provided the pies.

The \$410 of Loose Offering collected that evening was allocated to Lutheran Disaster Response – Middle East Crisis.







These photos are from Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church Facebook Page - Photo credit goes to Rev. Connie Weiss Shared with permission

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.

Poinsettias 2023

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

Given this Christmas in Memory of:

- Lynx Martin and Travis Martin Balch from Heather, Travis, Dylan and Cameron Miller
- Eugene & Lois Becker *from* Mary Jo Becker; Sue & Neal Eichman; Cathy Dahlke; Dan & Liz Becker and Family
- Ann & Marion Books, Karen Andersen, and Frode Andersen from Jean & Jesse Andersen; Cory, Emily, Elijah, Nora & IsaiahAndersen; Kelsey & Drake Gutsmeidl; and Gail & Gary Pucci
- Burton Bradley from Bonnie & Harry Barkelar
- Wayne Bradley from Elaine Bradley and Steve & Susan Sorenson
- James Buck, Dale Smith, Henrietta & Reuben Tesch,
 Charles Smith and Violet & Orla Smith from Sally Buck
- Mr. & Mrs. Herman Cornell from Karen & Al Neubauer and Reg Jennerjohn
- Robert Cornell from Marilyn Cornell, Karen & Al Neubauer and Reg Jennerjohn
- Bob Dawson from Kim Dawson
- Bill Dawson from Kim Dawson
- George Fredrick from Marge Fredrick and Family
- Matthew Freiberg, my Godson from Nancy Lokken
- Gail Hable from Dennis & Joyce Nikolaus
- Jean A. Haley from Richard Haley and Family
- Harold & Neva Helm and Ray & Dolores Lokken from Dave & Nancy Lokken
- Nanie Horn from Paul E. Schmidt, Jr, DDS
- Carol Jennerjohn from Reg Jennerjohn, Karen & Al Neubauer

- John and Doris Kieckhaefer from Joyce and Mike Christianson
- Louie and Dorothy Klitzke from The Family
- Mike Kritz from His Family
- Mark Leiby from Patricia, Scott, Linda, Jan and Lori
- Richard & Doris Martin from Elaine Bradley and Steve & Susan Sorenson
- Michael A. Nelson from Ann Nelson and Family
- Mrs. Hilda Rand from Karen & Al Neubauer and Reg Jennerjohn
- Faye Reinert from Ken Reinert
- The Rothenbach Family from Susan & Jeffery Breier
- Paul E. Schmidt, Sr from Paul E. Schmidt, Jr, DDS
- Alice & William Schmidt, Sr from Paul E. Schmidt, Jr, DDS
- Sue & Jim Schneider from Carole & Kenley Steinert
- Clarence & Valores Schock from Michael & Karrie Suess
- Shannon Clark Showers from Mark, Kelly and Ryan Showers
- Jean Stecker, our daughter from Roger and Joanne Stecker
- Michael Stecker, our son from Roger and Joanne Stecker
- Warren Steinert from The Steinert Family
- Stephen & Elfrieda Stewart from Patricia, Scott, Linda, Jane and Lori
- Kay Thorton from Patricia, Scott, Linda, Jane & Lori
- Ronald Tomasko from Pauline Hughes
- Frank Topp from Lori Topp
- William & Mildred Weitz from the Weitz Family
- Sally Wilde from Jan Steinert

You are loved.

You are missed.

You are remembered.



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.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Day By Day

Our Mission & Outreach Team led a great group of volunteers serving a meal at the Day By Day Warming Shelter on December 3rd. We brought our annual December tradition to them by hosting a Spud Feed (baked potato bar) which ended up being a hit with guests! Be on the look out for future volunteer opportunities and if you're interested in helping plan, join us at a M&O Team meeting!









Noisy Offering for Bus Tokens

There will be Noisy Offering on January 21st, so start saving up your change! Mission & Outreach Team will be collecting money to buy bus tokens for guests at the Day By Day Warming Shelter. Guests use these to get to doctor appointments, work, and other places to keep warm on these freezing days.

Peace Annual Spudfeed 2023

Thanks to the efforts of Kim Dawson, Katelyn Olds, Barb Molash and Janell Duwell, the members of Peace started their Midweek Advent Service with a loaded baked potato bar!

Thank you to Kim Dawson, the Andersen's and the McKnights for leading the clean up.



SANCTUARY DECORATING

Thank you to the gracious work of Jean & Jesse Andersen, Mary Davis, Andy Janke, George & Kathi Sawall and Ruth Vorpahl.



CHILI COOK OFF

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!

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 on the shelves 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.

2023 IN PERSON ATTENDANCE

Nov. 19 - 90

Nov. 22 - 168 - Thanksgiving Eve Service

Nov. 26 - 84

Dec. 03 - 125 - Sunday School Program

Dec. 06 - 31 - Midweek Service

Dec. 10 - 132

Dec. 13 - 26 - Midweek Service

Dec. 17 - 90

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



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







Preschool smiles, surprises, and learning experiences.

STAFF

PASTOR

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PARISH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

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CURATOR OF MUSIC

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

PIANIST ORGANIST

Janell Duwell 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 Groundskeeper Erin Chapin Andy Janke

TEAM LEADERS

LEADERSHIP Dirk Kagerbauer Randy Hartman **TREASURER** Barb Molash CARE OF THE CONGREGATION MISSION ENDOWMENT Jean Andersen Diane Friday MUTUAL MINISTRY **PROMOTION** Matt Crowe Jesse Andersen **PROPERTY** IT TEAM Michael Stromberg WORSHIP Kim Dawson Kim Blake-Jungwirth **HOSPITALITY**

Katelyn Olds

MISSION AND OUTREACH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dirk Kagerbauer, Jean Andersen, Kim Dawson, Randy Hartman, and Kim Blake-Jungwirth

LEADERSHIP

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ORGANIZATIONS

PEACE LUTHERAN CEMETERY Dirk Kagerbauer

PEACE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

Barbara Probst

