



Herald of Peace

Mid month
November 2006

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church
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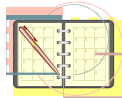
New Newsletter Format

Times they are a-changing, and so is the way we will communicate with our Peace church assembly. On the basis of things you asked for in the recent communications survey, the newsletter will now be prepared, collated, individually labeled and ready to mail out unless the mailing date falls near a Sunday. Then the copies will be at church. Labeled copies that are not picked at church that day will be mailed to you the next morning. For those who prefer an e-mailed newsletter, that will happen too, and will save us the expense of creating a hard copy for you. So welcome to the new Herald of Peace. We hope it will be easier for you to receive, read, and open and print on your computer.

Also – in your Sunday bulletin

you now can also expect to see church event information; just short reminders you will need while you are there that day at church, but in a format so that our visitors can get a full picture of events that are happening at Peace. (Bulletin notes will be e-mailed as well) Let us know how you like the new communications method by e-mailing, or leaving a message at the church office.

This month at Peace:



Saturday 11/18	Pie Making	10:00
Sunday 11/19	Apple Pie Pick Up	AM
Tuesday 11/21	I'd Rather be Reading	7:00
	ABC	7:00
Wednesday 11/22	Children's Choir	5:30
	Confirmation	6:30
	Classes	
	Thanksgiving Service	7:30
Wednesday 11/29	Children Choir	5:30
	Confirmation Class	6:30
	Wednesdays "Unplugged"	7:30
Thursday, Dec 1	G.O.A.L.	10:00
	Senior Choir	7:30
Saturday, Dec 2	Parlor Decorate	10:00
Sunday, Dec 3	Advent Potluck Dinner (Parlor)	12:00

This week's worship

Sunday, November 19th - Holy Communion - 11:00
Celebrant: Albert Le Blanc, Jr. - Lay Minister
Sermon Topic: "Time to Clean House"

Wednesday, November 22nd (Thanksgiving Eve) - Holy Communion - 7:30 PM
Celebrant: Albert Le Blanc, Jr. - Lay Minister
Sermon Topic: "Let's Do Thanksgiving Right"

Words from those who lead us



If you didn't make it to church on Nov 11, you missed an incredible worship experience. It was our first Sunday without a pastor—Albert was speaking, and I was canting the communion liturgy. At about five minutes to eleven, we realized that we were not going to have an organist for this service! There wasn't even a piano player in the house. After a couple of minutes of intense panic, we decided to do the entire service a capella. We sang familiar hymns and a familiar liturgy together. We heard God's Word in the readings and sermon, and received the Holy Eucharist as one family.

From this little "accident", it became clear to me that Peace has the strength and ability to punch through adversity. Everyone, even the "singing impaired", cranked it up a notch, to make up for the lack of accompaniment. Many of us are cranking up our involvement a notch or two in the absence of a full-time pastor. (We still need more help, though.) I hope that your singing sounded as great from the pews as it did in the chancel. It was very uplifting. Last Sunday will be etched in my memory forever. It will be filed away in my head under the category named "what a strong congregation can do when the chips are down". You guys were awesome!

Don Silsbe
Chairman

Christmas at Peace



It may seem like it's far away; however, I know many people are already making plans with friends and family for the Christmas holiday. We would love that you include us in on your plans...we would even love if

you would bring along your friends and family.

Listed below is the worship schedule for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Christmas Eve

11:00 AM -(Regular Sunday worship) Advent IV
Worship Leader: Albert Le Blanc, Jr. - Lay Minister

7:00 PM - Nativity of Our Lord - Candlelight Service, Holy Communion
Celebrant: Albert Le Blanc, Jr. - Lay Minister

11:00 PM Nativity of Our Lord - Candlelight Service, Holy Communion
Celebrant: Albert Le Blanc, Jr. - Lay Minister

Christmas Day:

11:00 AM-Nativity of Our Lord, Holy Communion
Celebrant: Albert Le Blanc, Jr. - Lay Minister

Christmas Poinsettias

Sunday, Nov. 19th is the last day to order poinsettias for Christmas:
Large: \$15 Ex-Large: \$20
Any questions, call Norma Wansa at 313-386-6869.

Financial Committee News

The finance committee has been meeting on a regular basis discussing our situation at Peace, gathering all our bills, paying them when due and planning for the future.

I want to take this time to inform the congregation that we have the situation well in hand; we know where we are and what we need to do to keep up in good order.

We want to thank all the members of our church for their support during these times of need. We are moving forward with confidence

Don Pushman, Treasurer

"I'd Rather Be Reading"

The next selection for the November 21st "I'd Rather Be Reading" Group is: Shop Till You Drop by Elaine Viets. We will meet at Karen McNeil's home at 7:00pm. Come join us!

Apple Pie Sale

Come, learn how to make a wonderful pie, by helping at the Mary Martha Guild prepare for the Pie sale. We can use that help on Saturday. If you have or can borrow an apple peeler/corer', please bring it or loan it to us for the day. It makes the job so much easier. Assembly line will begin at 9:30 am. It really is a fun time! Many hands and our efficient assembly line can have you home in time for the Big Game.



Pies can be picked up on Sunday, November 19th. They have been pre-ordered, and cost \$7.00, if you haven't paid yet.

For your address book

Pastor Mary Duerksen
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
2600 Pontiac Rd.
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
248-373-5222 pastor@gloriadei.cc
Website: www.gloriadei.cc
home email: heatherbrae@comcast.net
home phone: 734-362-8010

News from Our Music Department

(If you look around, you will see a familiar face in the hallways of Peace Church. Bonnie Schippling is our new choir director. She attended Peace as a child, has now grown up and is a music major in college. It is so nice to see her smiling face here again. Please give her a warm welcome.)

I am really excited about this coming season for choir here at Peace. I know there are plenty of you out there who sing in your car on your way to work, and many more who sing at the top of your lungs in the shower each morning. Well, we happen to have a few seats waiting for you on Thursday (Continued, Page 3)

nights from 7:30pm until 9pm, and we have plenty of music to go around.

(from our Choir Director, continued) You might be thinking, "Well, I wish I could sing, but my knees aren't what they used to be, and I don't think I could take all that walking up to the front and back." Have no fear, because I think if you have the heart to sing, you should be up there singing! We'll be performing from the choir pews in the front of the church, so you'll be in one spot from warp ups Sunday morning until the close of the service. You also might be thinking, "I just don't think I'm that good of a singer to be in choir." I've got more news for you. In many Psalms, you can find the words, "Make a joyful NOISE unto the Lord." So what if you're not the best singer in the congregation signing record deals and selling top 40 hits. Neither am I. If you have the heart, but maybe not the voice you think you'd need, stop in anyway. I'm sure we'll be able to work on it. And you still think you can't do it because you're busy, right? Well, it just so happens that on Sundays when the choir isn't singing, we'll need small groups and soloists to sing in their place. If you're going to be in church anyway... You may as well sing something! Rehearsal schedules for those things can be worked out for the individuals. Basically, you should come to choir or come sing solos because I would love to see you all each week and hear your hearts through your music. If you need to contact me for anything, feel free. My phone number is (313) 999-1012, and my email address is bonnieschipping@hotmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you! In Christ, Bonnie Schipping

Senior Choir Practice – Thursdays 7:30
Contact Bonnie Schipping at (313) 999-1012 or bonnieschipping@hotmail.com for more information.

Automatic Contributions to Church

In today's electronic age, more and more people are paying their bills and offering donations electronically. Soon, Peace will be offering the same opportunity to you through Thrivent & Venco Services. This can be done by filling out a simple form, along with your bank account information and submitting it for processing. Then, automatically, your contributions to the church will be made in the amount you specify and only on the days you

specify. You can change or stop these contributions as you see fit.

The Bible says that we should not go into debt to meet our commitments to the church. We are not asking that of you. We are offering a simple way to offer your tithings to the church for those who are interested in using it. This is also a great way to help the church for those of us who feel guilty for not tithing on weeks we are not in church. Please stay tuned in the coming weeks for more information as to when this will be available.

Lansing Youth Gathering – December 27-30

High School Youth interested in attending the Lansing Gathering contact Kevin Bogusz at 283-8827. This year's Gathering features a Christian stand-up comedian, bands such as Drake and Dan Villiancourt, and much more.

Check it out at www.migathering.org Pastor Mary and Mike Duerksen will chaperone our students along with students from Gloria Dei. Cost: \$125 per person which includes everything but meals. \$75 deposit per person is due with registration.

Just Reading the Bible

Where we are so far – I Kings 1
This is a group that meets in the church office at 9:45 on Sunday mornings. Join them anytime.

Mary Martha News

The Mary Martha Guild met on Nov 14 in the church parlor. We viewed an interesting presentation by Carolyn Racklyeft on the data projector, "Earthen Vessels". This was followed by a short meeting in which we voted to donate \$1000 for the roofing fund, and \$400 towards the ceiling projector project. We thank all at Peace for your generous support of our recent sales that has allowed us to make this gift.

Sunday School News

Bethlehem Village Update

Our Bethlehem Village program has been running now for five weeks and is off to a great start!!! Our travels back in time will continue until December 10th. This Sunday, November 19th we have four new shops opening--- Musical Instrument Shop, Carpentry Shop, Dye Shop, and a combined shop consisting of a Grain mill, Bakery, and a Farmer's Market. The popular



Mosaic Shop will be continuing with a new twist--- the apprentices will be working on a group project to be displayed at Peace, as a remembrance of their "trip to Bethlehem. Also this week we will have games in the playground, learn more about our Messiah, and his importance in our (Sunday school news, continued) life, along with traditional customs in Tribe time, and of course sing and dance with joy in praise to God during our Gathering time. Next week, we look forward to visiting and disagreeing with our Roman Census taker, while learning some historical facts from him, and avoiding his Roman soldier. Also next week will be another exciting drama from our talented Peace actors. Tribe Time, Gathering, and Marketplace shops will be open as usual.

Sunday School Christmas Program

On Sunday, December 17th at 9:30am, we will have our Sunday School Christmas program-- "Bethlehem Village, Where a Savior is Born! The children will be performing a program that centers around all that they have learned in the past 9 weeks. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. This is sure to be memorable with all the enthusiasm they have shown for participating. After the program everyone is invited to return to our village marketplace for refreshments.

More events

December 24th--no Sunday School
December 31st--Sunday School Party during Sunday School
January---Exciting Details to be announced.

Just Great News

We welcome to the Sunday School staff Beth Meyers (our beloved and successful beggar from Bethlehem Village). Beth has volunteered to take over the High School class and beginning in January will be teaching a program called Jesus - The Life Changer which encourages teens to take a closer look at their personal convictions about Jesus and the deeper purpose of their lives, perfect for every teenager no matter where they are in their faith. Students are shown unique glimpses into the Savior's life, stirring them to examine the Scriptures for themselves.

Who Do I Call or Contact

During or current pastoral vacancy, the elders and your chairpersons thought it would be helpful to post key numbers for communicating pastoral needs and church concerns. There is a business size card available in the Narthex for you to carry our in your wallet with this vital information.

Pastoral & Church Needs

For all church and pastoral matters, please call an elder. If the elder you called does not pick up, please try other elders until you to physically speak to someone. Of course, you can leave messages, but you may encounter a delay in your response.

Gail Andrews --(734)-785-4404

Albert LeBlanc (734) 552-8863

Rob Montie (313) 929-1512

Barb Pushman (734) 658-7454

Terri Silsbe (248) 798-4425

Wendy Tinsler (734) 818-0310

Jeri Wicklander (734) 283-4214

Office Matters

The church office will not be staffed on a regular basis until our Interim Pastor has been identified and a clearer path is laid out on our needs. For office matters, please feel free to call an elder, or you can call Kris Jaskula directly. Todd Pushman will be helping Kris.

Kris Jaskula - (734) 671-8726 (home)

(734)775-7886 (cell)

Todd Pushman - (734) 658-7453

And finally, for the record, you can always call our Chairperson:

Don Silsbe (248) 798-4426

don4peace@comcast.net

Many Thanks

Thanks to the following people, who have pitched in to help during our "in-between" time:

Don Pushman, for taking over the confirmation class on Wednesday nights.

Sean Morse and Don Silsbe, for leading Wednesday night's "Unplugged" worship service.

Jeri Wicklander, for organizing a fantastic halloween party.

(many thanks, continued)

Ruth Schmidt, Janet LeBeau, Fran Gerhardy, Ida MacLeod, Kim Bogusz, Jerry Gnad & Mary Jacobs, who have or will be helping Kris in the church office.

Picking up the Slack

In order to maintain continuity at Peace, many of us must pick up all of the duties that are normally handled by our pastor. There's a whole lot to the job besides the highly visible Sunday morning responsibilities! In the long hallway you'll find a more complete list. But the following are some of our urgent unfilled needs:

- A leader for our youth: Pastor Mary did a great job-- can you fill these shoes?
- Make some hospital calls: Bill Racklyeft heads a small team that is doing this. Why not join them in this fulfilling work?
- Adult Bible Class (Sunday mornings): study aids are available for anyone willing to lead a group. No experience is necessary!
- Office Help: Some have signed up for this, but we need more. If you are available for a few hours a week, it will help us to keep regular office hours. If we don't have enough help, the office will be closed. It is not safe for Kris to be there alone.

Peace and her leaders also need prayer. Please include them in your prayers!

Please contact Don Silsbe or Todd Pushman, if you'd like to serve the Lord in one of these opportunities.

Bottle and Can Drive Results

GRAND TOTAL: \$ 563.70

From the Trustees

The trustees goal this year is to complete the replacement of the roof. We have a poster in the parlor to sign up and fill in the contribution you can make to help us reach this goal. The education wing roof repair is under way. We need \$20,000 to start the project which must be done before winter snows set in. Total Project Goal \$60,000 - Money Received \$2000 - Balanced needed to start \$18,000 and \$40,000 to completion as of November 15, 2006.

The Trustee's are looking for at least two more to join us on our board. Please contact Bob Snell if you would like to help out. Many hands make little work. An exiting goal we have for next spring is to

clear out the area that is now the former day-care playground....and turn it into an pleasant area we can use for outdoor services, and picnics. Please pray that your trustee board finds additional members, and the "extra hands" help they need to accomplish these goals.

Advent Lunch – Sunday Dec 3

Following the wonderful success of last months Parlor potluck, the MMG has decided to do it again. This time, we will clear the parlor for more table room, like we do for the Advent Tea .This event will be held immediately after the 11:00 service. It will be a potluck dinner, and a list of needed food items is on the round table in the parlor. Please help us by bringing a dish if you are able. After a wonderful meal, we will have a short meditation, a couple of songs, and will send our Peace family on its way prepared to observe a meaningful season of Advent. No reservations needed, sign up to bring a dish if you are able. Our table decorations will be Advent Wreaths\candles. Do you have one to loan us for the day?

Deck the Halls – of our church

The Christmas Decorating of the church will be done on 2 days:

December 2 10:00 a.m. This will be primarily to decorate the parlor with greens, and set up for the Advent Dinner, We will need to clear part of the parlor to make room for our Sunday dinner. Easy job when we have some energetic people.

December 9 - 10:00 a.m. All hands are needed, and strong backs too, as we haul up and assemble our beautiful Christmas tree, and decorate the nave for Christmas. Do come, and bring the children so that they, too, can experience the pride, and beauty of decorating their church home for the wonderful celebrations of Christ's birth. We would like to have recorded music of past Peace Christmases playing in the background as we do this. Bring any recordings that you have.

Shut In Basket Assembly – Dec 12

The regular MMG meeting this month will consist of assembling Christmas gift bags for our shut ins. All are welcome to donate items for these bags, and all are welcomed to come to help put them together. And all are welcome to help in the best part of all, the poignant visits to deliver, and visit with members of our Peace family no longer able to attend church regularly. Please consider "cranking

your involvement up a notch” and treat yourself to the joy of giving your time to make a short visit to brighten the day of these dear people. Maybe it is someone you haven’t seen for a long time, maybe it is someone you have yet to meet. All will be meaningful. Call Dorothy Pushman if you would be willing to do deliver a basket or two in your neighborhood.

Upcoming Birthdays

Nov. 19th: Rosa Fox
Nov. 20th: Lonnie Fredricks
Nov. 21st: Joann Balogh:
Nov. 23rd: James Shepard
Nov. 24th: Nancy Harvey
Nov. 26th: Patricia Stull, Kelerin Jerden
Nov. 29th: Andrew Campbell

Christmas Boutique – December 10

This is a major MMG fund raiser, and always a popular event. Look for tables overflowing with cookies, gift items, “nearly new” Christmas décor, religious items, plants, and crafts from our generous Peace community. It will be held before and after the 11:00 service this day. Set up and early delivery of items will be December 9 1:30 to 2:30. Counter help always welcomed on sale day. Thanks for your donations, and thanks for your patronage!

Giving Tree

The “Helping Hands” tree in the Parlor has been transformed into a “GIVING TREE.” As you leave church this Sunday please stop and talk to Bev Helms or Dawn Bernard. They can give you details on how you can help bring joy to a child this Christmas.

The tree is now decorated with Christmas ornaments. Each ornament has the name, gender, age, size and dreams of a refugee child from Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. These are the children of the refugee families we helped with kitchen and bathroom boxes when we “Marched to the Manger.” Family ornaments are coded so that if several members want to get together and adopt children in the same family we can make that happen.

ELCA Workshop

ELCA is coming out with a new core worship resource (hymnal) entitled Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

Upcoming dates have been set for introducing the new resource:

- Sunday, Dec. 3 @ Genesis Lutheran, 7200 Mack, Detroit
- Saturday, Jan. 20 @ Christ the Redeemer, 1232 W. Maumee, Adrian
- Sunday, Jan. 21 @ Christ of the Lakes, 9101 W. Highland Rd, White Lake

Cost of the workshops/Church Days is \$17 and you can register at the site or call the Synod office: 313-821-1055. Each person attending will receive a copy of the new hymnal with their registration- what a deal! Contact Don Silsbe if you are interested in attending. Editors note: (Ruth Gierke and Dorothy Pushman attended this session last week, and were quite “blown away”. What glorious music!! What wonderful musicians and preachers. How wonderful to have a new hymnal introduced this way)

The “Leisure Timers”

We are trying out a new relational group in our church. During the week before Christmas will be the first outing of the “Leisure Timers” – adults that would like to get together during daytime hours to enjoy enriching and enjoyable events and the company of other Peace members. The first outing is being sponsored by Dorothy Pushman and Mary Jacobs. Friday, December 15, 2:00. It will be a visit to the beautiful Wyandotte Historical museum in all its Christmas glory, and rich area history. This will be followed by a stop at Tim Hortons for coffee or tea before we part. Do you get the idea of this club – easy, easy, no meetings, no officers, just interested members who now and then make suggestion and the easy arrangements for the next outing. Call Mary to get on the “list” for this month, and let her know if you need a ride. Meet at the museum on Biddle, at 2:00 p.m.



Important People in our Sunday School

Sunday School Student

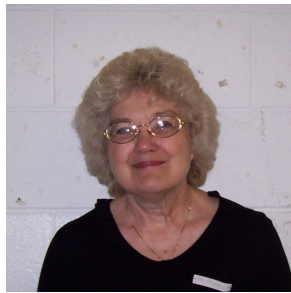


My name is Nick Cade and I am ten years old. I am in the fifth grade at Monroe School. I live in Wyandotte. My favorite color is red, my favorite food is pizza and my favorite thing to do is play video games.

There are four members in my family, my mom, dad, sister, Katie and me. We also have a dog named Buddy. My favorite thing to do with my family is to go places with them. I have been a member of Peace Church for 10 years. My favorite thing about church is learning about God. I like learning about Jesus in Sunday School and would like to learn more about God. If I could speak to Jesus/God in person I would ask him, "When is the world going to end?" I would like everyone to pray for peace.

Sunday School Teacher

My name is Carolyn Racklyeft and I live in the city of Southgate. My family consists of my husband Bill and children, David, Ann, Robert, Daniel, Lynn, and Michael. My favorite color is blue, my favorite food is shrimp, and my favorite thing to do is to be with my family. I work as a Program Director, and at my job I work with people who need medicine and medical equipment. I have five adopted pets that are cats. My favorite thing to do with my family is to celebrate their special occasions. I have been a member of Peach Church for 15 years. My favorite thing about church is working with the children. I have been teaching Sunday school for 14 years and I enjoy teaching it because I love to share Jesus' love with them. If I could speak to Jesus/God in person I would ask him to make me a stronger Christian. I would like everyone to pray for peace.



This is an area made for you to "tear out". Keep it near to you, even in your devotional book, or Bible, or wallet.

These are the people from our church and their friends and acquaintances that are having crisis' in their lives and need our prayers.

"Prayer changes things"

JOHN DEMYON, RUTH TAYLOR, NORMAN KAMINSKI, ELNORA EBENDICK, BARB BYRD, ROSA FOX, JEFF THOMAS, ALBERT LEBLANC, Sr., AL VARGA, DOROTHY ROSENTERER, WILMA LOOKER, TERRI SILSBE, and PEACE CHURCH.

BONNIE ATKINSON, EARL DOUGLAS, AGNES, KATHY, LORI, JEFF, LISA, RITA, DONNA, DAVID, HARROLD, SHARON, JIM, COURTNEY EATON, CRAIG, ALAN MOODY, EDDIE, DIANE, BETH, LOUISE, ROBERT NAPPER, STEVE, JEAN, KAREN, NICK, DALE SORENSON, JOHN CULP, SANDY, TIM, TODD BREWERS, NORM, MILDRED, DIANE PORONPO, SHIRLEY, PASTOR ARMSTEAD, CARRIE, BARB, JAKE WILLIAMS, STEPHANIE, BETTY, GRACE (prayer of thanks), BERNICE BELLINGER, MARK, KEITH, KRISTEN, EDITH TAN, STEVE, NORM, and ALGIS.

Members are in **Bold**

Telephone Prayer Chain Contact: Mary Jacobs, 734-283-7792 -

E-prayer chain: Todd Pushman at tpushman@yahoo.com

New Selections available in the library

Our "growing" library contains an interesting variety of books and tapes for young and mature readers from fiction including recent book club selections, biographies, inspirational and religion/theology themes to children's' selections including some recent "new" titles.

Also available are books on tape, complete audio versions of the Bible and copies of Peace performances. Check out is self-administered - just fill out a line in the check-out book on the desk. The library is in the wide hallway left as near the parking lot doors, and has comfortable wing back chairs, a study desk, and a table suitable for small meetings.

Want our newsletter via e-mail?

If you have an e-mail address and monitor in frequently, please consider whether you would like to receive newsletters and bulleting announcements via e-mail. More and more of our Peace assembly is doing it and it is saving us a lot of money in mailing expenses. To have this happen send your e-mail address to peacelutheran@ameritech.net. If you want to receive e-mail at more than one address that is fine too – also members of you family can each receive their own e-mailed copy.

All other members, non computer users, will of course, receive newsletters by mail if they haven't been in church that Sunday to pick up their copy.

The Herald of Peace

Peace Lutheran Church
12250 Fort Street
Southgate, MI 48195

Address block