

Peace Lutheran Church
2084 County Road N
Baldwin, WI 54002

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(ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED)



January 2019

Tidings of Peace Newsletter

Scrip orders due – January 6 and February 3 (1st Sunday of the month)
Congregation Bake Sale – January 20 (3rd Sunday of the month)

REV. JOHN R. HANSON, PASTOR
Peace Lutheran Church (a place of welcome...)
Church Office 715-684-2770
welcometopeace.org
peaceoffice@baldwin-telecom.net

Join us Sunday mornings!
Worship at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

President – Bruce Ashlin
V. President – Wayne Miller
Secretary – Laurie Mueller
Treasurer – Rich Carlson

Board of Deacons

Joan Ford
Peder Parizek
Jim Hauschild, Jr.
Jeff Schulke
Sue Gillis
Carla O'Connell

Board of Trustees

Rich Cronk
John Vrieze
Jena Kaiser
Derek Miller
Jon Veenendaal
Char Vrieze

Board of Education

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Cristy Peavey
Shelley Wynveen
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Board of Stewardship

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Kathy Miller
Jan Hanson
Heather Serier
Scott Brushaber
Sherry Neisius

Women of Peace

Shirley Rode

Logos Team Builders

Heidi Dumond
Renee Dykhouse
Julie Hanson / Amy Larson
Carla O'Connell
Kari Wangen

Usher Committee

Ken Rimer

Youth on Fire

Laurel Carlson

Director of Family Ministries

Pauline Wangen

Staff Support Committee

Leann Huston / Chris Corrigan
Jerry Emmert / Abbey Arndt
Angela Mathison / Jayne Rimer



...my perspective (words from our President)

Tradition

The Christmas season is upon us as we celebrate the birth of Christ through our family traditions. As I'm writing this, I notice our traditional Christmas tree in the corner of the room, all decorated and lit up with wrapped presents beneath it. I look around and see the other symbols that we display to celebrate the season. We have pillows that read "fa la la," snowmen on the left and right sides of the fireplace, and a poinsettia on the table in the next room. Other signs of the season in our home include wooden crafts with messages that read JOY, BELIEVE, and MERRY CHRISTMAS! We also have table top crafted trees, reindeer, an angel, and much more. Yes, there is a Nativity on our table, but to me, it seems to take a back seat to everything else. That's something we have to fix!!!

I've been doing some reading about Christmas traditions and have learned that these traditions are extremely important for children. Given my profession, I know that children thrive when they have routine in their lives. Regardless of how much they may whine about it, they like it and need it! Christmas traditions fall into the routine category. The rituals that families implement during Christmas provide children and adults with a sense of comfort and security because it helps them feel like they belong. The fascination of a Christmas ritual helps children explore their artistic, spiritual, and emotional dimensions that will continue to develop throughout their lives. Most importantly, Christmas traditions help to pass on family values from generation to generation.

Given all of this, I have noticed how children at Peace, who attend regularly, really feel like they belong. How do I know? Watch how they interact with the other kids and many of the adults before, during, and after church and/or Sunday School. Also, watch how they move throughout the building and on the grounds. Many of our Peace kids know the building better than the adults. Everything I see from our regular attendees gives me every reason to believe that they see Peace Lutheran Church as a second home because of routine. What a great place to be!

As we move through the Christmas season, I pray that we all have a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and successful new year! As always, I encourage everyone to do their best to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Thanks be to God.



Bruce

What Is Your “Takeaway” From This Year?

The takeaway is the main point of something, like a lesson or presentation, to learn and remember. As we celebrate the New Year and say farewell to 2018, what did you learn and what do you remember?

Each day and each experience can shape us, but it doesn't have to define us. Consider this takeaway from our faith story: Could it be that the grace of God, made known to us in Jesus Christ, is such a magnificent gift that we would be blessed by his coming to dwell among us? I mean really “among us.” Not like a hall monitor who stands in the midst of us but not really a part of our experience just one who observes and reports; not like a manager who observes from the office space, the one who gets to make or enforce the rules but not necessarily has to work according to them.

Martin Luther writes about the birth of Jesus, *“In what more lovely manner could he [Jesus] have shown his grace to the humble and despised of earth than through this birth in poverty, over which the angels rejoice and make it known to no one but to the poor shepherds?”* Could it be that the same source of power that was used to make the world and everything in it was necessary to be used to separate us from our imperfections and renew us as children of God?

John 1:1-5 The Life-Light – (The Message) 1-2 The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word. The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one. 3-5 Everything was created through him; nothing—not one thing!—came into being without him. What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by. The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out.

Some of the most freeing and empowering takeaways that pointed me to start my theological studies and guided me as I began my ministry were the power of forgiveness and the opportunity that it gave people to be “redeemed,” given value, as people with potential no longer encumbered by their past but empowered to address anything life might throw at them!

I would hope to be one of those who bears this good news of great joy! What I want most for you in this New Year is to join you in seeing Christ in all his fullness and that together, we would be able to love what we see with a love that is far beyond our own half-hearted human capacities.

What is your takeaway from 2018? If your lessons and remembrances only highlight your inadequacies or ways you have fallen short, then you are starting the year unforgiven and decaying. This baggage is enough to limit any attempts to make healthy choices as well as derail any attempts to be renewed. This message of restoration and forgiveness is so central to our celebration of Christmas that it was used at the conclusion of all the Christmas Eve services (John 1:1-14) and then it was the Gospel message for Christmas Day. Amid all the readings used at this celebration time for Christ's birth – about Mary and Joseph, overbooked hotels, stars, angels, shepherds, and in the mix of the carols – this Gospel proclamation of renewal and rebirth is central to our celebration of Jesus. The message of the magnificent power used in creation (as noted earlier) is now made available to us, *“Those who believed who he was.”*

John 1:9-13 (The Message) The Life-Light was the real thing: Every person entering Life he brings into Light. He was in the world, the world was there through him, and yet the world didn't even notice. He came to his own people, but they didn't want him. But whoever did want him, who believed he was who he claimed and would do what he said, He made to be their true selves, their child-of-God selves. These are the God-begotten, not blood-begotten, not flesh-begotten, not sex-begotten.

I want to wish you a Happy New Year. But I pray that you embody that gift of NEW as it is made available by our God, made known in Jesus Christ, and available to all who receive him still, empowered by the Holy Spirit. Don't put this message of Emmanuel, “God with us,” into storage for the rest of the year...live it, daily. This is the gift of Christmas to ALL!

PEACE - PASTOR JOHN'S PEN

P.S. I want to personally share a “thank you” for all the support which Peace has received for ministry this year. We were able to meet the budgeted requirements for the year as well as reduce our loan balance to \$496,420.31! In this one year, we reduced our loan principal by \$329,896.66!!! We were also able to upgrade our bus, expand our staff to include a new Family Ministry Director, purchase and install new playground equipment, fund a remodel of the parsonage exterior, provide life changing ministries in Guatemala and Kenya, and many other ministry moments! Thank You! Thank God! Amen!



BOARD of TRUSTEES
December 11, 2018

BOARD of TRUSTEES Present: John Hanson, Rich Cronk, Jena Kaiser, Jon Veenendaal, John Vrieze, Rich Carlson, and Amy Hutchins.

Call to Order: Rich Cronk called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Secretary's Report: John Vrieze moved and Jena Kaiser seconded approval of the secretary's report. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report and Approval: John Vrieze moved and Jena Kaiser seconded approval of the treasurer's report. Motion approved.

Old Business – Maintenance Projects: *Parsonage Update:* All of the windows are in and they are trimmed. The siding is here, and we are currently on the list for installation. Pastor John plans on taking care of the disposal of the old windows from the parsonage. *Overhead Door:* Installing an overhead door in the shed would not leave enough clearance for the bus. Therefore, Rich Cronk looked into a bi-fold door for the shed. A bi-fold door proved to be too expensive. The board is looking into other options for the shed during the winter months. *Parking Lot Lights:* Pastor John shared that Lance Jensen is installing new LED lights in the parking lot this week.

The interior lights will eventually be changed out as well. *Snow Removal:* A discussion was had about winter snow removal. Rich Cronk will be in contact with a current snow removal volunteer to see if they will oversee a snow removal contact list to ensure the church is always plowed. Thank you to everyone that has been helping with snow removal!

Staff Bonuses: A discussion was had about staff bonuses. Each staff member will be receiving a bonus this year. Thank you for all you do for our church family!

Director of Sunday School Position: Pastor John recommended Angie Bierwerth for the Director of Sunday School position. John Vrieze motioned, and Jon Veenendaal seconded, that Angie would take on the Director of Sunday School position when Jody Ramberg is done.

Loan Payment: John Vrieze motioned, and Jon Veenendaal seconded, that we make a payment on the loan so we are under \$500,000 before 2019. This extra loan payment will be around \$8,000. Thank you for your financial support in making this possible!

New Business: none.

Folder Items: none.

Meeting adjournment was moved by Jon Veenendaal and seconded by John Vrieze. Motion approved. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jena Kaiser



BOARD of DEACONS
December 23, 2018

The Deacons met on Dec. 23rd, between services, to assign duties for the month of Jan. We are encouraged at the response to the call for volunteers to help with the duties of helping with services, and with Amy's help, we will be able to cover these duties without those question

marks in the weekly bulletin. Thank you for the response. We would like to thank all those who help: musicians, acolytes, greeters, lectors, Communion assistants, counters, ushers, and those that make coffee and provide treats for fellowship between services. If we are forgetting anyone, we apologize.

Respectfully submitted, Sue Gillis



Women of Peace

WOMEN of PEACE
December 5, 2018

The Women of Peace, their husbands, and other guests met on Wednesday, December 5, at 11:30 a.m. with a potluck lunch served at noon. There were twenty people in attendance. Pastor John said the table prayer. After

the meal, fifteen of us joined in a simple dice game where we each ended up with a surprise \$1.00 gift.

Shirley Rode called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. Marie Ista read the Treasurer's report for November. Joanne Melander made the motion and Dee Campbell seconded it to donate \$2500.00 from our General Fund to the church mortgage fund. Motion passed.

(cont.)

Pastor John was presented a card and check to thank him and Julie for all they do for the Women of Peace during the year.

It was decided to give the gifts we collected for the nursing home residents to Parkview Home this year. Vi will deliver them.

The Women of Peace were asked to purchase a commercial style mixer for the church kitchen. After

a discussion, this item was tabled until our January meeting.

A decision was made to hold the January 10 meeting of Joy Circle at the A & W at 1:00 p.m. We will do our Bible study there.

The meeting was adjourned about 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Vi Roquette, Secretary

WOMEN of PEACE DATES

General Meeting – 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 2

Joy Circle – 1:00 p.m. Thursday, January 10, at A & W

Work Day – 9:00 a.m., Monday, January 21

Pauline Wangen is the Director of Family Ministries (pauline.wangen@gmail.com or 651-210-5106). Sign up and get more information at the Family Ministries Board on the wall outside the offices or pick up a flyer from the usher stand.

FAMILY
ministry

Over 55 Group - Everyone 55 and older is invited!

- * Tuesday, January 15, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (mission project, games, & lunch - \$5 donation)

Family Events

- * Snowshoeing, Sledding, and S'mores, January 13, 12 to 3. **Sign up & reserve snowshoes by Jan. 9.**
- * Willy Wonka, Jr., 6:15 p.m., February 22. **Sign up & pay by January 18.**

Adult Events

- * Bible Studies – join us Saturday mornings at 7:15 a.m. or Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m.
- * Piecing it Together Craft Night (join others at church to get that craft project done!), January 11, 5 to 10.
- * Fellowship & Fun, Thursday, January 24, 6:00 p.m. **Sign up by Jan. 22.**
- * Buckets & Tap Shoes at Mabel Tainter (music, dance & drumming), Jan. 26. **Sign up & pay by Jan. 6.**

Peace of Mind Adult Respite Program – This is a friendly, social respite program for older adults with memory loss and their caregivers. Trained professional staff along with trained volunteers take special care of your loved one and provide attention and support during all activities and snacks. Adults over age 60 with memory loss or physical frailties are eligible. We meet Thursdays from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at Peace Lutheran Church starting **January 3**. Space is limited to ensure we have enough staff and volunteers to provide the support needed for participants. Contact Pauline Wangen at pauline.wangen@gmail.com or 651-210-5106 to sign up or for more information. **To ensure a safe and fun environment we need plenty of volunteers to help. Please contact Pauline if you are interested.**



Laurel Carlson is the Youth Director (carlsonl3@csp.edu or 715-781-0862).

Youth on Fire (YOF): Youth on Fire has activities for students in grades 8-12 to connect with others in a faith-based environment while having fun.

UP NEXT: Ski trip to Michigan, Jan. 19 to 21. \$50 deposit due January 7.

Young Adult Fellowship: Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 8:00pm, Grades 10 to 12 are welcome to come to church for a casual night of devotions, games, activities and fellowship. And bring your friends!

| FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---|------------|
| <i>Weekly</i> budgeted expenses (w/mortgage) | \$ 8,468 | <i>YTD</i> budgeted expenses (11/30/18) | \$ 397,190 |
| <i>Weekly</i> income (12/09/18) | \$ 9,219 | <i>YTD</i> income (11/30/18) | \$ 397,083 |
| Difference | \$ + 751 | Difference | \$ - 107 |
| 01/01/18 Loan Balance | 12/20/18 Loan Balance | 2018 PRINCIPAL REDUCTION | |
| \$ 826,316.97 | \$496,420.31! | \$329,896.66!!! | |

Please remember the **Food Pantry**. The "Lord's Cupboard" is at the north end of the Fellowship Hall. Food may be dropped off anytime the church is open.



CANS and CARTRIDGES - We collect aluminum cans and inkjet and deskjet toner cartridges as fundraisers for the Building Fund. We cannot take laserjet cartridges. Cans can be thrown in the trailer at the north end of the farthest parking lot (up by the new shed) and cartridges can be left in the box in the entry by the office.

JANUARY SCRIP ORDERS - The next deadline for ordering Scrip is Sunday, **January 6**. Orders will be ready for pick up on Sunday, January 13. Debit/credit cards may be used to pay for scrip orders. Use the card terminal in the narthex of church (directions are located next to the unit). To place an order, simply complete your order form (blank forms are at the Scrip station in the narthex and on the website) and place it in an envelope along with your cash, check or debit/credit card slip. Place your envelope in the wooden Scrip box in the middle church office or in either drop box. If you have any questions regarding the Scrip program and how easy it is to use, please contact Sharon Hauschild 715-307-2531 (cell). Thank you!



**SCRIP
DEADLINE**

Gifts and Memorials

Gifts were received in memory of Chuck Christenson, Annie Dunn, and Warren Rode and in honor of Ole & Nola Monicken for the Building Fund and the Love of Peace.

PEACE MENTOR PROGRAM - Anyone that might be in need a mentor or know of someone else that might be, or anyone interested in being a mentor and getting more information about it, please reach out to Leann Huston at 715.556.2129 or lhuston13@yahoo.com.

PASTORAL ACTS

December 8 - Wedding service for Julie Hanson and Ryan Morgen

ATTENDANCE

| | | |
|----------------|------|--------------|
| December 2 | 8:00 | 10:30 |
| December 9 | 140 | 92 |
| December 16 | 148 | ??? |
| December 23 | 126 | 200/175 |
| December 24/25 | 95 | 82 |
| | | 275/72/76/50 |



1 - Bruce Ashlin/Justen Walton/Katie Borowicz/Tom Mueller/
Asher Thomason - 2 - Grant Hutchins/ Jennica Driscoll/Scott
Brushaber/Brystol Shearer - 3 - Adeline Hink/Dan Smith/Jody
Graese/Madison Carey - 4 - Cadyn Winger - 5 - John Salaba/
Char Vrieze/Braxton Ramberg - 6 - Charles Anderson/Barry
Serier/Gavin Emmert - 7 - Renate O'Brien/Janine Serier - 8 -
Sharon Hauschild/Allie Nelson - 9 - Dan Van Someren/Eric

Wangen - 10 - Jeremy Werner - 11 - Nicolle Emmert/Monica Polk - 12 - Gerald Larson/Hayden Shearer -
13 - Melissa Fussy/Tori Thompson/Stone Parizek/Kelly Meyers/Jake Griffin/Rylan Schumacher/Remi
Roy - 15 - Chuck Ford/Amy Hopkins/Audrey Mathison - 16 - Caleb Gustafson - 17 - Lisa Knutson/Keagan
Martino - 18 - Lauren Thompson - 19 - Josh Vrieze - 20 - Sidney Roemhild/Owen Roettger - 22 -
Jennifer Winger/Ashley Read - 23 - Myrna Larson/Nancy Larson/Kim Thomason/George Helgeson/Ali
Newton - 24 - Ellie French/Nick Russell - 25 - Hudson French - 26 - Liz Rust/Jake Freese - 27 - Larry
Larson - 28 - Grady Paulson

* * * BULLETIN BOARD * * *

SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY – Everyone is invited to come at 7:15 a.m. on Saturday mornings for Bible study (please bring your Bible). If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Peder Parizek at 715-441-3357 or vwpeder@juno.com.

SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY – Join us when you can at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings starting January 6 as we dig deeper into the New Testament. This is an open, judge-free discussion for all to learn more about the Bible - no prep needed. *Contact Pauline (Director of Family Ministries) if you need child care.*

TUESDAY COMMUNITY SUPPER - There will not be a Tuesday Community Supper in January 2019 at Gethsemane because the first Tuesday falls on New Year's Day. See you Tuesday, February 5th!

HIS PEACE SOUP & BREAD MAKING OPPORTUNITY! Our next session is **January 5** at 9:00 a.m. This time we are making beef veggie barley soup – yum! Join us for fellowship and fun as we prepare to share God's bounty. If you have any questions, contact Cheri Rott 715-928-0440 or cherigary@gmail.com. Can't make it this time but would like to be added to the email group for future sessions? Let Cheri know at cherigary@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE! We are having Vacation Bible School during spring break, **March 11-15, 2019** from 9 to 1 with extended child care before and after (6 to 6). School age children can attend 1-5 days. Volunteers are needed. Contact Pauline (pauline.wangen@gmail.com or 651-210-5106) for more information.

ASSISTANT HELP – If you are willing to be part of a rotation to lector, greet, usher, or serve communion, please fill out a yellow sheet from the Usher Stand or leave your name, number, and email, along with which duties you are willing to do and which service you prefer in the office. Thank you!

YOUTH ON FIRE SKI/SNOWBOARD TRIP – We need at least 20 people to make the ski trip happen this year (so we get better rates). The dates are Saturday, January 19 (departure TBD) to Monday, January 21. If you are going, please leave a \$50 deposit along with your name in the office by January 7.

January 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|----------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 9:00 Women of Peace 6:45 Celebration Singers NO Logos/Confirmation/YA | 3 9 to 12 Peace of Mind 9:30 Prayer Time | 4 | 5 7:15 Bible Study 9:00 His Peace Soup & Bread |
| 6 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 SS & Adult Ed 6:00 Bible Study | 7 | 8 9:30 Worship @ BW Apts. 6:30 Guatemala 7:15 Logos Board | 9 LOGOS 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Young Adult Fellowship 6:45 Celebration Singers | 10 9 to 12 Peace of Mind 9:30 Prayer Time 1:00 Joy Circle (A&W) | 11 5 to 10 Craft Night | 12 7:15 Bible Study |
| 13 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 SS & Adult Ed 9:15 Stewardship 12:00 Snow/Sled/Simores 6:00 Bible Study | 14 | 15 10:00 Over 55 Group 6:00 Trustees | 16 LOGOS 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Young Adult Fellowship 6:45 Celebration Singers | 17 9 to 12 Peace of Mind 9:30 Prayer Time | 18 | 19 7:15 Bible Study YOF Ski Trip? |
| 20 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 SS & Adult Ed 6:00 Bible Study | 21 9:00 WOP Work Day | 22 7:00 Church Council | 23 LOGOS 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Young Adult Fellowship 6:45 Celebration Singers | 24 9 to 12 Peace of Mind 9:30 Prayer Time 6:00 Over 55 Group | 25 | 26 7:15 Bible Study Mabel Tainter Buckets & Taps |
| 27 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 SS & Adult Ed 6:00 Bible Study | 28 | 29 | 30 LOGOS 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Young Adult Fellowship 6:45 Celebration Singers | 31 9 to 12 Peace of Mind 9:30 Prayer Time | | |