

Peace Lutheran Church  
2084 County Road N  
Baldwin, WI 54002

(ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED)



February 2024

## Tidings of Peace Newsletter

### ***PEACE WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:***

- 1. In-person at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. on Sundays*
- 2. On Facebook (streamed live at 8:00 a.m. and then posted following the service)*
- 3. On Cable Channel 16 at 7:00 p.m. Tuesdays and 9:00 a.m. Wednesdays*
- 4. On YouTube anytime (search for Peace Lutheran Church Baldwin)*

John R. Hanson and Christian Magnell, Pastors  
Peace Lutheran Church (a place of welcome...)  
Church Office 715-684-2770  
welcometopeace.org  
office@welcometopeace.org

Join us Sunday mornings!  
**Worship at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday School & Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.**  
(September to April)

## A Clean Heart

This year, (a leap year!), is one of those years in which Easter arrives “early” – and, by extension, Ash Wednesday and Lent as well.

Ash Wednesday is on Valentine’s Day (or maybe Valentine’s Day is on Ash Wednesday?). One day is a creation of Hallmark (sort of)...I think you can guess which one! The Hallmark holiday is still an important day, and I hope you will get away some time that week for a dinner, or something special, if you’re married. This newsletter is not your excuse!

But back to Ash Wednesday. It begins an important time for Christians, a season of focused reflection, maybe denial, and definitely, growth and learning. Early Christians who were waiting to be baptized would use this time before Easter to study and learn about the Christian faith before their whole families – babies through adults – were baptized the night before celebrating the resurrection. I remember seeing the baptismal font at the ruins of St. John’s Church in Ephesus in modern day Turkey (history holds that the altar was built over John’s grave). The baptismal font was shaped like a cross – one “arm” had a small font for babies, the other arm was slightly larger for children, and the middle was designed for adults.

The sacraments, as means of God’s grace, remind us of two things – the brokenness of our lives (our tarnished hearts) and the cleansing that God brings (giving us clean hearts). In Psalm 51, David cries out: “Create in me a new heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”

During Lent, people often give something up. This, itself, doesn’t give us clean hearts. But it opens us up to extra time with God. The benefit of a fast of any kind is not the act of giving something up but the addition of greater trust or reliance on God. If you choose to give something up during Lent, choose to add an extra time of prayer, a new devotional or something to replace that thing you’re giving up.

Love in Christ, Pastor Chris

## Assessment

It’s that time of year when the kitchen counter is covered with all sorts of reports, invoices, and receipts from last year. Each has its proper pile, separated into categories of things like W-2 and 1099 forms, contributions, dividends, interest, income and expenses, housing and property costs. (I’m not going to lie, Julie addresses all of this, “Thanks be to God!”). An appointment might be made with an accountant to make sure certain things are done correctly and then one will await the final tally for “a share” of the taxes. Some may ask the taxman to do some magic, but the bill will eventually come. What does Jesus say about taxes? There was the response of Jesus when his enemies tried to trap him by asking whether it was right for the Jews, whose nation had been taken over by the Roman Empire, to pay tribute to the Roman emperor, Caesar. Jesus, after looking at the image on the coin, said, “Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s and unto God the things that are God’s.” (Mark 12:27)

My point here is not to condemn nor condone the tax codes that we live with. I am very interested in raising the challenge of assessing what we might owe to God. Have we made an account of how full are our baskets of blessings? I remember as a child singing a song at Bible camp that would often break into a round and the harmonies would blend as each section would break off: “For life and health and daily food [every good] we give you thanks, O Lord.” Sometimes we would sing it one time through and other times as many as a dozen. It was much later in life that I took this little tune to heart and began to try and make an account of what I was singing about for life, health, food and every good. I have come to realize that we are truly blessed people.

So, what do we owe God for all this? “He has shown you, O people, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8) How are we doing in repaying this assessed debt? I believe it would be a lot easier if we just had to pay the taxman! How do we pay for the assessed cost of living in God’s kingdom? Well, when a lawyer was approached about his desire to attain eternal life, Jesus used the story of the Good Samaritan to answer. In conclusion, when Jesus asked him who had been a neighbor to the man left for dead along the side of the road, “Was it the Priest, the Levite, or the Samaritan?” the lawyer said, “The one who had shown mercy.” And Jesus said, “Go and do likewise.” I guess our cost for living in this world is summed up in that phrase, go and do likewise. Go and bring mercy, bring grace, bring love, bring justice in a humble way, walking with God. No crowds cheering you as you fulfill your obligations, no confetti, no bands. Just do it – daily – with humility. Is that too much to ask?

Let’s walk.

PEACE, PASTOR JOHN’S PEN



## BOARD of DEACONS

January 7, 2024

Present: Robert, Nicole, Josh, Joy, Rachel and Sharon.

January 14<sup>th</sup> is scheduled installation date for Pastor Christian. Probably will need more communion trays than normal. Discussion held on when the deacons would like to have a get-together with Pastor Christian and his family to meet the deacon members in a small group setting. It was proposed to see if Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> for lunch after the

annual meeting would work for them. Sharon will contact him to see if this date and time work for him. Lunch will be Rigatoni – Joy / Salad – Rachel / Bread – Sharon / Dessert – Nicole.

Next meeting will be Sunday, February 11, at 9:15 a.m.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Hauschild, Secretary



## BOARD of STEWARDSHIP

January 7, 2024

Present: Scott Brushaber, Sherry Neisius, Heather Serier, Kathy

Pankratz, and DeeDee Ashlin.

This is Scott and Sherry's last meeting with us. Thank you both for sharing your talents with us

during these past six years! Bruce Ashlin will be joining our board! We are still seeking one more person to join.

We will be setting a date next month to meet with Pastor Chris and his family to chat about our role as members on this committee. We discussed sending out the recommitment cards earlier this next year. More to come on that.

Ended the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, DeAnn Ashlin



## BOARD of EDUCATION

January 8, 2023

Members present: Missi, Angela, Laurie, Leah, Stacy, Nicole & Pastor Christian. Council rep - Angie & Nicole will attend for January and Nicole will be there for February.

Nicole McKone and Mikaela Walker will be joining the board to replace Stacy & Leah.

Pancake breakfast to be held on 1/14/24 – **Thank you to Verla for all of her years of helping with the pancake breakfast and egg bakes for the Board of Education. Thank you to Ray & Missy Gessler for donating syrup for the pancake breakfast.** Angie will cook the sausage before dropping off all of the ingredients at the church. Angela, Stacy, Laurie & Nicole will be at the church at

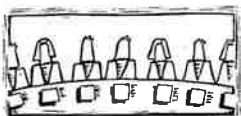
6:30 on Sunday am to start cooking. We will serve from 8:30am until 10:30am. We are expecting a large crowd as it is installation Sunday for Pastor Christian. We will serve pancakes, egg bake, juice, milk. Angie is picking up all the ingredients.

Family Valentine's Dance will be held on 2/17/24 – Missi will look for what she had from last year to do some advertising. She also reached out to Sam regarding music/tech needs. Angela will help with a balloon arch and Missi will cover snacks.

Future topics: Picking a meeting time and date that will accommodate all members. Review By-Laws with new members. Bake Sale on March 24.

Next meeting: February 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted, Stacy Shafer



## BOARD of TRUSTEES

January 14, 2024

**Call to order:** Jim called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. Those attending were Jim Hauschild Sr., Weston Arndt, Cole Tobin, Jeanette Dahl, Chris Iverson, Dick Ulrich and Amy Hutchins. Pastor John Hanson and Sam Niebeling attended part of the meeting. Cristy Peavy was absent.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the December meeting were emailed to all in attendance, hard copies were available. Jeanette made a motion to approve the minutes and Chris seconded. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Amy reviewed the December monthly report. Amy discussed how December is always a good month for offering. Offerings up \$11,000 for the year. December was a three-payroll month and bonuses were paid in December. Income vs expenses were up \$6000 on the year. Amy expects LCMC draw for

(cont.)

the pension and housing equity to be made on January 30, estimated at \$4,500. Discussed mileage expense reimbursement process. Cole made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Wes seconded. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

1. Endowment Fund – Looking at a winter date to invite Joan Bartz to a meeting.
2. Peace Child Care – Cole has agreed to participate in PCC board meetings.
3. Facility Maintenance –
  - a. Roof improvements: Following up with insurance regarding payment/reimbursement for the emergency repairs prior to winter.
  - b. Parsonage improvements: Cole will work with Pastor Chris to address doors and storage in the parsonage. New boiler was installed on January 12 by Countryside P&H.
  - c. Cole stated the facility assessments estimate would be about \$1,500. This would provide documentation and plan for future maintenance, repairs, and replacements. Will discuss timing on this moving forward.
4. Will plan to paint Sunday School classrooms after Sunday School year.

5. With Jim and Jeanette's terms expiring, two trustee positions will open. We have one interested person but will be seeking another.
6. Pastoral Office Space – Discussed using John's office as a private meeting space.
7. Space needs – Will continue discussions moving forward.
8. Fellowship hall air conditioning – Signed contract with Countryside to move ahead in the spring.

**New Business:**

1. Snow Removal – Discussed contract options. Wes will gather information and report back via email.
2. Farmland Rental – Barry Seirer no longer wishes to farm the 4 acres adjacent to Hwy 63. Josh Newton has expressed interest. Wes will follow up with Josh.

**Next meeting date:** February 18, 9:15 am

**Next council representative:** Wes

**Next month's review of books:** Dick and Jim

**Adjournment:** Motion by Jeanette and seconded by Dick to adjourn at 10:10 am and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Weston Arndt



**CHURCH COUNCIL**

**January 16, 2024**

**Call to order:** Peder Parizek at 7:10 p.m.

**Attendance:** Peder Parizek, Pastor John Hanson, Pastor Christian Magnell, Brenda Cronk, Amy Hutchins, Pauline Wangen, Cristy Peavey, Scott Brushaber, Bonnie Braymen, Cole Tobin, Becky Anderson, Angie Bierwerth, Leann Huston, Ken Rimer, and Nicole McKone. Joining via Zoom was Nerissa Krosnoski.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Moved by Nicole McKone and seconded by Leann Huston. Carried.

**Next Meeting:** February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. Brenda Cronk/Devotions.

**Secretary's Report:** As printed in the newsletter. Moved by Leann Huston and seconded by Angie Bierwerth. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Submitted with agenda. Moved by Leann Huston and seconded by Becky Anderson. Carried.

**Reports: Pastor Christian Magnell** - Transition has gone well and settling into the parsonage. **Pastor John Hanson** - Bus had some repairs. There is a need for music leaders/musicians and will need more discussion. **Board of**

**Trustees** - Working with insurance on the roof. The boiler was replaced in the parsonage. The upcoming facility assessment will help with long-range plans. Looking at snow removal options including quotes from contractors.

**Board of Stewardship** - Recommitment cards will be sent out earlier next year. They need two additional members on their board.

**Board of Deacons** - There is one more position on the board they are working on. February schedule is complete. **Director of Family Ministries** - Skiing will be in February. Second Friday of the month will be craft night. January 23<sup>rd</sup> will be bingo and potluck for Over 55. **LOGOS** - Worked to have a back-up plan if bus isn't available. There will be openings on the board. They are looking at ways to submit electronic forms.

**Child Care** - The building inspection is complete. Fundraising will begin for new playground equipment with a spaghetti dinner in February. **Board of Education/ Director of Sunday School** - Valentine's Dance will be February 17<sup>th</sup>. Bake sale will be Palm Sunday. **Women of Peace** - They talked about their schedule for the year. **Youth on Fire** - Ski trip was postponed due to bus repair. Watch for upcoming date changes in February. **Ushers** - Ken will try to recruit more ushers so there can be (cont.)

two ushers per service. Please step up and assist if you see a need.

**Old Business:** Staff Support is working on job descriptions. Transition Team will meet next month to talk about a five-year plan and finding replacements for YOF and musicians/music leaders.

**New Business:** Annual meeting is February 4<sup>th</sup> following 10:30 worship. Board representatives that share their reports at the annual meeting should highlight any changes or additions for the next year and be prepared to answer

any questions. Moved by Pastor John Hanson and seconded by Nicole McKone to accept Pastor Christian and Allie Magnell as new members. Carried. Deacons will organize groups to serve Lenten suppers at 5:45 with services at 6:30.

**Adjourn:** 8:30 p.m. Moved by Leann Huston and seconded by Becky Anderson. Carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Brenda Cronk

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### PASTORAL ACTS

**December 23** – Service of Holy Baptism for Otto J. Stauss, son of Ben and Mara Stauss (Pastor John Hanson)

**December 31** – Funeral service for LaVonne Hampson (Pastors John Hanson & Christian Magnell)

**January 14** – Service of Installation for Pastor Christian Magnell (Pastor John Hanson)



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 (**PLEASE THROW THEM IN LOOSE – NO BAGS**) and cartridges can be left in the box in the entry by the office.

### FEBRUARY SCRIP ORDERS

The January deadline for Scrip is **Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**. Your order will be ready for pick up the following Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. **Debit/credit cards may also 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 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 "scrip box" in middle office or either of the church drop boxes. 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!



### *Gifts and Memorials*

Gifts were received in honor of Ole and Nola Monicken's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and in memory of LaVonne Hampton.

**Leann Huston is the Youth Director at Peace (lhuston13@yahoo.com or 715-556-2129)**



**YOUTH on FIRE** - is a program open to all 8th - 12th graders. You are welcome to join us for one event or all of them! We understand your schedule is busy, but we would be thrilled for you to join us as often as you can. Our goal is to encourage and strengthen your faith while teaching you to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Currently, YOF holds a monthly activity, and we also offer bible studies periodically. Each year, usually in June, we take our church bus on a week-long mission trip, somewhere throughout the USA to a location or area that needs our help. Please join us and bring a friend if you or they are currently in 8-12<sup>th</sup> grade!

**Next Event: February 10 & 11 – Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser**

February 10<sup>th</sup>: 6pm – 10pm - make rolls

February 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30am – 11:30am – bake and serve rolls

**Skiing/Snowboarding** - Unfortunately, we had to cancel our original ski/snowboarding event, but it has been rescheduled to **March 16<sup>th</sup>**! Let Leann know by March 13<sup>th</sup> if you will be participating!

**Searching for a Youth on Fire Director** – if you are interested, please contact Pastor Magnell or Pastor Hanson.

There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches. Proverbs 13:7

**\*\*Parents or Members of Peace – we always need chaperones** – Looking for ways to help but not sure how? Join our YOF events! This is a wonderful opportunity for you to make a difference in the faith journey of our youth!!! Please reach out to Leann – we would love your help.

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**Pauline Wangen is the Director of Family Ministries**  
([pauline.wangen@gmail.com](mailto:pauline.wangen@gmail.com) or 651-210-5106).



**February Donations – Halos of St. Croix Valley** (<https://www.halosofthestcroixvalley.org/donate>)

**Blood Pressure Checks**

Blood Pressure checks will be offered one Sunday of the month between church services. The next one is February 4. Look for signs in the Fellowship Hall.

**Family Skiing & Snowboarding at Trollhaugen – Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**

This is a family event, and everyone is invited to attend. The bus will leave church at 12:30 pm. (you can also drive yourself). We will ski from 2:00-6:00 pm. and then the bus will leave Trollhaugen at 6:30 pm. *These are group rates* - if we have less than 20, the cost will be higher. Skiing: \$25.00 lift ticket, \$24 rental. Free beginner ski/snowboard lessons available. **Sign up and payment is due by Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.** Contact Pauline at [pauline.wangen@gmail.com](mailto:pauline.wangen@gmail.com) to reserve your spot. Please put payment in mailbox by church office and indicate it is for skiing.

**ONGOING Weekly Ministries at Peace**

**TOPS Club** (Take Off Pounds Sensibly). Meetings are weekly on Thursdays from 5:15-6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, check out [www.tops.org](http://www.tops.org) or contact Pauline Wangen.

**Bible Study** – Saturdays at 9:00 am in person or on Zoom. Contact Pauline for login.

**Bible Study** – Sundays between services in person or on Zoom. Contact Pauline for login.

**Rise & (Son)Shine** – Join us on Thursdays from 7-8:30 a.m. at church for Bible study and exercise. Contact Cheri Rott for more information ([cherigary@gmail.com](mailto:cherigary@gmail.com)).

**\*\*\* BULLETIN BOARD \*\*\***

**TUESDAY COMMUNITY SUPPER** - Gethsemane Lutheran Church will be serving the TCS from 5pm – 6pm on Tuesday, **February 6**, in the Fellowship Hall at Gethsemane. Please come and enjoy the company of your friends and neighbors. The Tuesday Community Supper is served the first Tuesday of the month at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 1350 Florence Street, Baldwin. This is a free meal open to anyone in the community. Area churches, businesses, and organizations take turns preparing and serving good nutritious food.

**FAMILY VALENTINE'S DANCE at PEACE** – 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., Saturday, **February 17**. Dancing fun for the whole family as you listen, dance, hop, spin, and twist to the music! We will have a DJ and photo booth along with snacks and drinks for a freewill donation. Come and join the fun!

**NEW MEMBERS** – If you are interested in becoming a member of Peace, please contact the office at office@welcometopeace.org or 715-684-2770, and we will set up a time for you to meet with one of the pastors.

**PEACE'S TURN TO HELP** – It is Peace's turn to cook and serve the Tuesday Community Supper at Gethsemane on Tuesday, **March 5**. Watch for a sign-up sheet in the entry for ways you can help.

***ANNUAL MEETING** – The Annual Meeting of Peace Lutheran Church is Sunday, **February 4**, starting with worship at 10:30 a.m. followed by the business portion at 11:30 a.m. Annual Reports will be available the day of the meeting.*

***ASH WEDNESDAY, LENT, and SOUP SUPPERS** – Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, **February 14**. Each Wednesday during Lent we will be serving simple soup suppers starting at 5:45 p.m. with worship following at 6:30 p.m. Please join us! Worship will take the place of Wednesday night Confirmation class during Lent.*



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| 1 – Brenda Cronk<br>/Amy Roemhild<br>/Brody Tobin  | 15 – Norma Wold/Carol Zevenbergen/Mitch<br>Thomason/Ashley Walton/Brexley Schumacher |
| 2 – Eva Freese                                     | 16 – Ken Freeman/Laura Hanson/Maddi Monicken   |
| 3 – Eric Brown, Jr./Reggie Bignell                 | 17 – Keegan Ofstie/Holt Jacobson   |
| 6 – Mollie Burns                                   | 18 – Karter Dykhuse/Kolin Dykhuse/Izzy Stevens                                       |
| 7 – Greg Hillstead/Scott Thompson/Clint Schumacher | 19 – Cleo Kitchner   |
| 8 – Chris Grinde/Jenna Grulke                      | 21 – Melissa Lunde/Brian Bergseng  |
| 9 – Joy Ulrich/Scott Mathison                      | 22 – Chris Corrigan/Kingston Arndt/Joshua Anderson                                   |
| 10 – McKayla Custer/Mason Gedatus                  | 23 – Kinsley Arndt   |
| 11 – Christopher Wangen                            | 24 – Wayne Miller/Carrie Weinandt/Kinslea Wallace                                    |
| 12 – Craig Rasmussen/Ana Krueger                   | 26 – Dean Bergseng/Mike Hanson/Miley Smith   |
| 13 – Stacy Goossens/Brant Peavey                   | 27 – Alex Greenfield/Jadyn Lardahl/Gavin Munson                                      |
| 14 – Karie Serier/Ross Roemhild/Eva Polk           | 28 – Olivia Dumond/Madi Krueger/Robert Serier/Isla<br>Grognet                        |
|  | 29 – Renee Dykhuse/Abram Bakkum  |

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2024</h1>						
				1 7:00 Rise/Shine	2	3 9:00 Bible Study
				5:15 TOPS	7:00 AA (Zoom)	
4 <b>8:00 Worship</b> 9:15 SS/Bible Study <i>Blood Pressure checks</i> <b>10:30 Worship w/Annual Meeting following</b>  <i>Scrip orders due</i>	5  5:30 Bible Study	6	7  LOGOS 6:30 Celebration Singers 6:30 Confirmation	8 7:00 Rise/Shine  5:15 TOPS	9  6:00 Craft Club 7:00 AA (Zoom)	10 9:00 Bible Study  6:00 YOF Rolls
11 <b>8 &amp; 10:30 Worship</b> 9:15 SS/Bible Study 9:15 Board of Deacons <i>YOF Cinnamon Rolls</i>	12  6:30 Board of Ed	13	<b>14 ASH WEDNESDAY</b>  LOGOS 5:45 Lenten Supper 5:45 Celebration Singers <b>6:30 Lenten Worship</b>	15 7:00 Rise/Shine  5:15 TOPS	16  7:00 AA (Zoom)	17 9:00 Bible Study  6:30 Valentine Dance
18 <b>8 &amp; 10:30 Worship</b> 9:15 SS/Bible Study 9:15 Board of Trustees <i>12:30 Family Ski Day</i>	19 9:00 WOP Quilting	20  6:00 Child Protection Policy 7:00 Church Council	21  LOGOS 5:45 Lenten Supper 5:45 Celebration Singers <b>6:30 Lenten Worship</b>	22 7:00 Rise/Shine  5:15 TOPS	23  7:00 AA (Zoom)	24 9:00 Bible Study  <i>5 - 7 Peace Child Care Spaghetti Dinner</i>
25 <b>8 &amp; 10:30 Worship</b> 9:15 SS/Bible Study	26  6:30 Guat Team	27	28  LOGOS 5:45 Lenten Supper 5:45 Celebration Singers <b>6:30 Lenten Worship</b>	29 7:00 Rise/Shine  5:15 TOPS		