



Happy Birthday,
Jesus!

Tidings Of Peace December 2011

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“Peace Lutheran Church is a community of caring and forgiven people being nourished and strengthened in the Christian faith that others may know Christ’s love.”

The Gift(s)

One word that keeps popping into my consciousness lately is GIFT. I’ve been listening to a set of CDs about Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life. In this presentation, Paula D’Arcy stated with certainty that “All things are Gifts.”

In the Parable class this fall, we read about the ‘talents’ given to servants to use while the master was away. We discussed how important it is to use our ‘talents’ (gifts). One of my classmates said that her grandmother always told her that one gift each of us was given equally was TIME.

Yes, we all have gifts given to us by the Spirit for use in the Kingdom...but how many of us, just shuffle our feet around, bow our head, and are willing to let someone else do the work? We tell ourselves that our gift is not as worthy as our neighbors. We tell ourselves that we do not have enough money. We tell ourselves that we do not have time to work in the Kingdom.

As we prepare our Christmas lists and to celebrate the Gift of the Christ-child...should we not also listen to the still small voice, urging us to give our gift(s) to the Kingdom...whatever that gift may be? To quote the scripture “All that we have is God’s alone, a trust Oh, Lord from Thee.”

Marianne Gould
Council President

Angel Tree

It’s that time of the year when we set up the Angel Tree and prepare to spread the joy of the holidays. This year we will help 50 children from Lutheran Social Services and 4 families from Peace. Drop by and take an ornament. Let’s help those families who may not have anything this Christmas season. Please bring items back by **December 7th**, to ensure that items will be delivered in time. If you have any questions, please call Donna Braune @ 606-0313. Members of the Service Ministry Team thank you.



Christmas Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th

7:00 pm - Contemporary Service

10:00 pm - Traditional Service

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25th

One Service Only

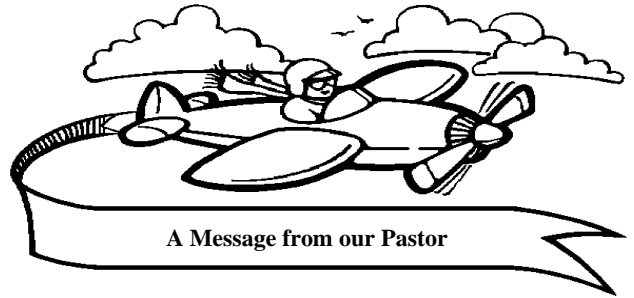
10:30 am - Traditional Service

No Sunday School

Dear Friends in Christ,

As our calendars turn to December we are reminded that Advent is upon us, days of preparation and joy as we prepare to celebrate one of the most festive times of the year. The days leading up to Christmas are filled with songs, gatherings of family and friends, gift buying and

making, the dazzle of multi-colored lights, ornaments and decorations hung, and room is made for trees in our homes. It's "the most wonderful time of the year" as the song goes.



As a child I awaited the coming of Christmas with great anticipation. There was a joy to the season. I couldn't wait to see what gifts I'd receive. Gathering with family for great food, card games, and just time to visit seemed to give everyone a happy heart. As I grew older, I became more aware of why we do all these things. God shared a precious gift. God gave us the birth of One who would bring great joy and hope. Two thousand plus years later we are still swept up in the effects of that birth. The amazing thing is that we can easily miss the point of all the hoopla though. That's why the days leading up to Christmas are useful for us. Advent gives us time to think about why we celebrate and what the history of it all means. There is something in the telling of that story than can touch us deeply and move us see life differently.

So in the midst of all the hustle and bustle and fun of the season, may you find room again for the story of the Christ child's entrance into human history. May you consider again what His birth says about God.....and you. And, in His life, death, and resurrection may you be given a reason to love as God so loved the world.

A prayer I've found helpful for the days of Advent is one from the works of Henri Nouwen:

Advent Prayer

**Lord Jesus, Master of both the Light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.**

We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

May God's joy, peace, and love fill these days for you with meaning.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Gary

Where We Stand Financially, October 2011

FUND	BALANCE 09/30/2011	INCOME	EXPENSE	TRANSFERS	BALANCE 10/31/2011
General Fund	\$ 6,502.77	\$ 23,960.18	\$ 22,253.69		\$ 8,209.26
Pre-Endowment Fund	\$ 84,357.81	10,524.67*	\$ 0.00		\$ 94,882.48
Deferred Maintenance Fund	\$ 28,416.49	\$ 9.34	\$ 0.00		\$ 28,425.83
Building Fund	\$ 21,582.36	\$ 11,551.65**	\$ 12,100.00***		\$ 21,034.01
Designated Funds	\$ 35,270.10	\$ 4,584.87	\$ 3016.29		\$ 36,838.68
Total Funds	\$ 176,129.53	\$ 50,630.71	\$ 37,369.98		\$189,390.26

*\$10,000.00 - Gift from Billy Deiker Estate; \$524.67 - Interest

**\$8,009.00 - Building Offerings; \$6.02 - Interest; \$3,536.63 - Oktoberfest Profit

***\$4,100.00 - Building Note Payment; \$8,000.00 - Additional Principal Payment

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:10-12

Attendance and Giving

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Gen. Fund</u>	<u>Building</u>
10/02	157	\$ 6,605.20	\$ 2,321.00
10/09	178	\$ 4,274.25	\$ 1,589.00
10/16	179	\$ 6,544.01	\$ 2,250.00
10/23	254	\$ 3,996.30	\$ 946.00
10/30	233	\$ 2,520.63	\$ 4,439.63
Weekly Avg.	200	\$ 4,788.08	\$ 2,309.13

Congratulations!

USABooknews.com, the premier online magazine and review website for mainstream and independent publishing houses, announced the USA "Best Books 2011" awards on November 1, 2011. Winners and finalists were recognized in over 140 categories covering print, e-books and audio books.



Adamant Aggressors: How to Recognize and Deal with Them, written by our very own Bruce Thatcher, is the award-winning finalist in the "Current Events: Political/Social" category. Published by Xlibris Corporation in June, 2011, the book takes a business-case look at five adamant aggressors – Mehmed the Conqueror, James K. Polk, Adolph Hitler, Chaim Weizmann/David Ben-Gurion, Joseph Stalin – and what they teach about recognizing and dealing with adamant aggressors who may be threatening America today. Thatcher says, "The lessons in this book may not ensure that the best choices will be made today, but understanding them will surely help to reject demonstrated bad choices and, thus, more likely arrive at better choices. *Adamant Aggressors* will help scholars, political scientists, policy-makers and laymen understand specific lessons that history has for the present time."

Diane Donovan at Midwest Book Review says of *Adamant Aggressors* "Any history collection serious about analyzing historical trends for modern applications should consider this a top pick ..."

Ministry Team Minutes - November 2, 2011

EDUCATION/YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM:

- Members Present: Amanda Henderson, Ceretta Daum, Becky Krogness, April Phillips, Mary Ann Pfennig, Rhonda Schmidt, Tim Clark and Kellie Stallings.
- Verified 2012 Ministry Team Members. They are Mary Ann, Tim, Rhonda, Amanda, Ceretta, Becky and April.
- 2012 Chairperson: Ceretta Daum is considering the position.
- Sunday School Superintendent: We will be sending out letters of call to members.
- Look into babysitting class or training class for Nursery attendants.
- Cross Trails Representative: Pipeline for retreats.
- Do we need TLU representative for TLU events?
- Council Action: Place money from Day Camp Fund into the General Fund.
- Items For Long Term Planning: CPR/First Aid - Red Cross disaster response.

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM:

- Members Present: Lillie Braune, Merle Cavanaugh and Walt Warren.
- We looked at the new chairs. We have 15 round tables now. We can set up on Saturday for Thanksgiving meal. David Martin will help. The meal consists of turkey, dressing, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, pumpkin pie and carrot cake. The Support Ministry Team will decorate.
- Advent meals will be done by the Service Ministry Team. There will be a free will offering. All monies will be given to the SOS Food Bank.
- We have \$1,252.00 in our accounts.

OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM:

- Members Present: Barbara Lippe and Nathan Weir.
- Reviewed budget.
- Review follow-up visits.
- Continue work on picture board.
- Discussion of ministry team liaisons with Marianne Gould.
- Preparing Annual Report.
- First Sunday Breakfast for December: Jean Pfluger will coordinate.
- 2012 budget addition of Stephen Ministry ad.
- Need new team leader for 2012. Jean Pfluger and Rick Smith will fill in thru December.
- Jean Pfluger will place Advent ad in newspaper.
- This was Nathan's first meeting, so we discussed many of the various current duties and other possibilities for next year.

PROPERTY MINISTRY TEAM:

- Budget proposal is \$35,900. Current year is \$36,079.
- Will prepare a list for workday.
- Building shelves for the choir.
- Water leak repaired and redesigned to prevent reoccurrence. Thank you to Russell Behrens.
- Cross and sign painted. Ken Voss is the bucket man all the way.
- Need to dispose of the old altar platforms. Ask Valerie to place an article in the bulletin.

SERVICE MINISTRY TEAM:

- Members Present: Joyce Voss, Donna Braune and Helen Probst.
- November 25th: Set up Angel Trees at 9:30 am.
- November 30th: Advent Meals begin. 1st - soups; 2nd - sandwiches; 3rd - soups; 4th - sandwiches.
- December 7th: Last day for Angel Tree. We will help 50 kids and 2 families at Peace.
- December 11th: Put baskets together following the late service.

SUPPORT MINISTRY TEAM:

- The Support Ministry Team did not meet in November.

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM:

- Members Present: Walt Sparkman, April Warren, Jeannie Kawazoe, Robbi Will and Mildred Schumann.
- Discussed Christmas tree placement and decorating the tree and church.
- Discussed Advent, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services and times.
- Worship Ministry Team is responsible for the November First Sunday Breakfast.
- Walt Sparkman has agreed to be the chairperson for the team next year.

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD:

- Youth Advisory Board met on November 6th. Those members in attendance were Amanda Henderson, Mike and Josh Stallings, Chad and Laura Heller and Cathy Bolton.
- December 3rd: Christmas Tea: Will pass out informational flyers for attire, times etc. for the Jr. and Sr. High youth.
- December 11th: All youth caroling from 4:00 pm -6:00 pm. Will get list from Pastor Gary and will call ahead.
- December 18th: Jr. and Sr. High Christmas Party. Chad and Laura Heller are planning.
- January 15th: Next YAB meeting.
- January 29th: Jr. and Sr. High Games at Emanuel's in Seguin at 2:00 pm. Need 8 youth minimum to sign up to go.
- February 24 - February 25: 30 Hour Famine.
- Council Action: \$137.54 is in the Pyglet Fund. We would like to close the Pyglet Fund and move the money to the General Fund.
- Items For Long Term Planning: March - May Events - Possibly Christian concert or TLU event.

Council Minutes - October 16, 2011

People present: Fritz Friesenhahn, Marianne Gould, Emmett Engelke, Emily Solis, Rick Thomas, Walt Warren, Becky Yeoman, Mike Stallings, Tim Clark and Pastor Gary Lange.

1. Opening Prayer was given by Marianne Gould.

2. Glocal Mission Workshop Report: Nathan Weir, Sharon Fisbeck and Barbara Lippe presented their thoughts on community and international involvement and mission opportunities in our community and abroad. Nathan Weir has agreed to be the Peace Lutheran coordinator for community mission projects and Rick Thomas has agreed to be the Peace Lutheran coordinator for international trips.

3. Minutes

Walt Warren moved acceptance of the minutes. Rick Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report: (see attachment report):

Emmett Engelke reported that expenditures continue to out-pace disbursements in the General Fund. As the church moves closer to \$0 in its General Fund (currently around \$6,000) for this year, money from other funds will need to be moved. More giving is expected as we hit the fall and winter months. Building Fund continues to do well. An additional principal payment for September was not made. An additional principal payment of \$8,000 was made in October. Rick Thomas made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mike Stallings seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. Staff Reports:**Pastor's Report:** (September 1-30)

Visitation: Hospital/Sick: 23, Shut-in: 6, Home: 2, Visitor: 1, Funerals: 1 (Fiscus), Hours: 217, Mileage: 837
Items: November 10th - Bishop Meeting with President and Vice-President at Highland Park Lutheran Church.

Discussion moved to Pastor Gary's performance review. A form was presented as an example of a review form that could be used. The form not only asked for views on the Pastor's performance but on the performance of the Council. Mike Stallings moved that the Council create a Pastoral/Council evaluation form and distribute the form to Ministry Team members. Rick Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Director of Youth and Parish Education:

(September 1-30)

A copy of the Youth Report can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex Hallway.

6. Ministry Teams: Worship and Music Ministry Team raised a question about the front of the Sanctuary with regard to safety for worship assistants and others navigating the steps.

Outreach Ministry Team reported on giving Jean Pfluger \$2,000 from current budgeted account for her trip to Russia. Current amount is \$4,700 in the Outreach budget for mission projects. Rick Thomas made the motion for \$2,000 be given to support Jean Pfluger's mission trip to Russia. Becky Yeoman seconded. Motion carried.

Marianne Gould attended luncheon for Oktoberfest planning. The Fellowship Ministry Team is stretched in its abilities to put on Oktoberfest. The Fellowship Team would like to include more teams and more people in the church. The wish is for Oktoberfest to be more of a congregation-wide event.

Fritz Friesenhahn asked about the Youth Advisory Board with regard to a Scholarship Committee. Mike Stallings gave an update on the issue. Stallings said that the Youth Advisory Board would like to form a Scholarship Committee and re-tool criteria for qualification and provide a publicity plan for making the congregation aware of the scholarships.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Church Leadership Retreat: The Council will begin planning a retreat for February to work on communication within the congregation and on a review of Ministry Team job descriptions. This retreat would be for Council members, Ministry Team members, and anyone else that would like to attend.

b. Security Concerns: It has been reported that we have a number of items missing from the storage shed and inside the church.

c. 2012 Budget: Budgets that have been submitted by Ministry Teams need to be reviewed. Executive Committee needs to meet to work on staff salaries and benevolences.

d. Roster Review: The Council received a list of people that have not attended worship, communed, or contributed in 2011. Fritz Friesenhahn moved that the Council send a letter to the listed people to inquire about their intentions. Mike Stallings seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pastor and staff will work to send the letters.

f. Next Meeting: Sunday, November 20th, 11:30 a.m.
A copy of the entire minutes is located on the bulletin board in the Narthex hallway.

Peace HOGS

Helping! Outreach! Giving! Service!
November 10, 2011

Present: Eric Edwin, Cory Wood, Lyle Schott, David and Brenda Martin

Special Guest: Amy Smith

Cory opened the meeting with prayer.

Old Business:

Discussed helping the SOS Food Bank and Connections. Finalized rides for November 19th and November 27th

New Business:

Amy is asking for help on raising money for the Relay for Life team of "Casting for the Cure". Anyone who wants to join the team can. It is \$10.00 to register. The date for the Relay for Life is April 27th 2012. Lyle will check with Gruene Harley on a possible fundraiser in March.

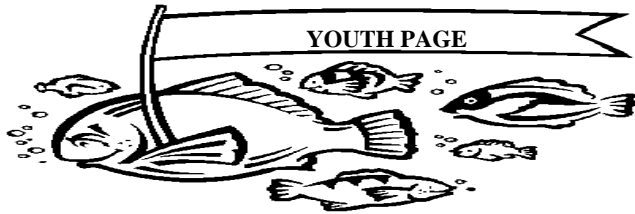
CMA will be having a Christmas Party on Dec 2nd. There will be snacks, drinks and a White Elephant gift exchange. It will be from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

Valerie will get back in touch with Pastor Roesler at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church about the needs and available times to help with the sorting and distribution of donated goods to the victims of last month's fire. It was agreed that helping the Bastrop Church is an immediate need and will take priority over some of the other service work being considered.

Meeting adjourned with prayer led by Eric Edwin.

A copy of the entire minutes can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex hallway.





Children's Church

Children's Church is a meaningful worship experience for children ages 4-9 during 20 to 25 minutes of the service. The curriculum is *Seasons of the Spirit* which follows the church year. Thank you to those who have volunteered to lead children's church during the 10:30 am service. The schedule for December is as follows:



- December 04 - Kellie Stallings**
- December 11 - No Children's Church Christmas Program**
- December 18 - No Children's Church Choir Cantata**
- December 25 - No Children's Church**

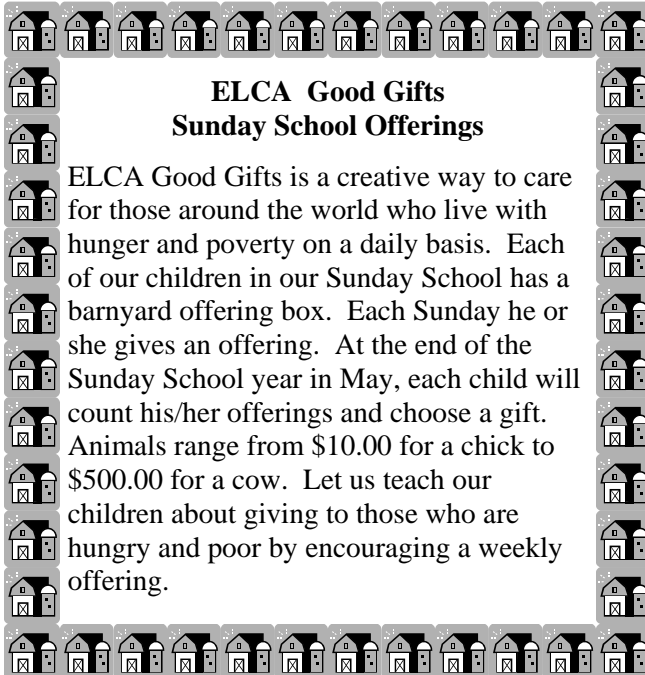
YABBA DABBA DOO!



Youth Advisory Board Meeting
Sunday, January 15th
11:30am

ELCA Good Gifts Sunday School Offerings

ELCA Good Gifts is a creative way to care for those around the world who live with hunger and poverty on a daily basis. Each of our children in our Sunday School has a barnyard offering box. Each Sunday he or she gives an offering. At the end of the Sunday School year in May, each child will count his/her offerings and choose a gift. Animals range from \$10.00 for a chick to \$500.00 for a cow. Let us teach our children about giving to those who are hungry and poor by encouraging a weekly offering.



ELCA Youth Gathering Events

Cookie Decorating Party Sunday, December 4th!

The youth preparing to go to the Youth Gathering in New Orleans will be decorating Christmas Cookies on **Sunday, December 4th at 11:30 am**. Families are encouraged to bring their un-decorated sugar cookies to church. If you are interested in donating decorating supplies, a sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. Powdered sugar, milk, and decorations will be needed.



Youth Gathering Cookie Walk December 11th, Noon - 3:00 pm



Do you have a Christmas party coming up that you need cookies for? Or would you like to taste a variety of cookies without having to bake them all? If you answered yes to either or both of these questions, you need to come to the **Youth Gathering Cookie Walk on December 11th!** The youth and their friends and families will be offering a variety of Christmas cookies for you to purchase. Just buy a box (\$5/dozen) and we will help you fill it up with the cookies you want! Invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family because everyone needs Christmas cookies!

Youth Are Recycling Aluminum Drink Cans!

The Sr. High youth are gathering aluminum drink cans to earn their way to the National Youth Gathering next summer. Sure, you can throw the cans into your trash, where they take 500 years to decompose, or throw them into your own recycling bins, but bringing them to our youth will help them get to New Orleans. Cans can be placed in the painted-on bin outside on the playground. Thanks for your help and making the world a little greener.



PYG Events
(6th Grade - 12th Grade)

"Order Up!" PYGS!

The Senior and Junior High Youth will be serving tea and lunch to the ladies attending this year's Christmas Tea on **December 3rd, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm**. There will be close to 150 ladies waiting for their '*spot of tea*', so everyone's help is needed! All wait staff (that's you, youth) need to be dressed in black pants and white tops or your Sunday best (no t-shirts and torn jeans)! A notice with times, attire and expectations will be going home soon!



PYG Christmas Party, December 18th

Jr. and Sr. High PYGs, mark your calendar for this year's Christmas Party, **Sunday, December 18th**. We will have dinner, games, and a white elephant gift exchange at Chad and Laura Heller's home. Keep watch for your invitation!



"Twas the Night Before"

Christmas Program, December 11th

"Twas the night before Christ's birth and far above the earth, the angels were ready to announce Jesus' birth." Rehearsals are underway and the youth are hard at work preparing this year's Christmas program for you. Mark your calendars for this year's Christmas program, "Twas the Night



Before" on **Sunday, December 11th at the 10:30 am service**. Come support our youth and get a morning full of Merry!

"A Caroling We Will Go!"

December 11th
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

All youth are invited to go Christmas caroling **Sunday, December 11th from 4:00 - 6:00 pm**. We will caravan and sing to our members who might need cheering up. Come join us as we bring the Christmas cheer from the church to the home.



A Blue Christmas for Some

The joy that Christmas brings to most of us may be absent for those who have suffered loss or who are going through a difficult time. Even family gatherings, eagerly anticipated by many, may be approached with anxiety by some who dread repetitions of past holidays replete with family tensions and conflict.



None of us can erase the pain and anxiety that others may be experiencing. We can't make it go away. But we can be sensitive and take care to not add to such feelings.

With our presence and friendly conversation each of us can fill, at least for a little while, the vacuum of loneliness that surrounds someone who's lost a friend or loved one. We can visit those who can't get out, in person or with phone calls. We can remember, with them, the loved one they're missing. And we can give them a non-judgmental ear to talk through things that are stressing them out.

Help is also available from our Stephen Ministers, who stand ready to provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care well beyond the holidays. They will listen, encourage, pray with and for, and support you or anyone as long as a need persists. (Stephen Minister pew cards in the attendance books are for your reference or use with friends.) If you or someone you know is feeling down, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with Pastor Gary or one of our Stephen Ministers (they wear blue name badges on Sunday mornings). Or check out the Stephen Ministry pages on our web site at www.plcnb.org. Click on 'Outreach,' then 'Stephen Ministry.'

SCHOOL OF PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY
Beginning Monday, January 9th, 7:00 pm

Music in Worship, Marianne Gould, former band director and music teacher. Six sessions: January 9th - February 13th.

Five Serious Contradictions in the Letters of Paul that Plague the Church Even Today, Norman A. Beck, Ph.D., Texas Lutheran University. Two sessions: Dates in early 2012 TBA.

More information at www.plcnb.org/spc/



AARP Driver Safety Program

An AARP Driver Safety Program Course is being offered here at the church for drivers 50 years of age and older, who want to refresh/improve their “defensive” driving skills and qualify for an auto insurance discount.



DATE: Thursday, December 1st
TIME: 5:45 pm - 9:45 pm
COST: \$12.00 - AARP Members
\$14.00 - Non-Members
Registration Information:
Ron Campbell - 830-899-3610

First Sunday Breakfast

First Sunday Breakfast will be held on **December 4th**, from 9:00 am - 10:00 am. This month the Outreach Ministry Team will host the breakfast.



First Sunday Breakfast requires 4 or 5 volunteers to set up, plan the menu, prepare the breakfast and clean up. **Volunteers are asked to contact Lillie Braune at 629-3861 with the menu. She will purchase the food items.**

Men's Monthly Breakfast and Devotion

Men of the congregation are invited to a monthly breakfast held the first Wednesday of each month. Mark your calendars for **December 7th** at 7:00 am. **The breakfast will be held at the church.** Come join them for a delicious breakfast and a thought-provoking devotion.



Advent Meals and Services

Advent Services continue on Wednesday, **December 7th** and conclude on **December 21st**. The Service Ministry Team will host a meal prior to each service at 6:00 pm. Sign up sheets will be located in the Narthex for those wishing to help with food, set up or clean up. There will be a free will offering supporting the SOS Food Bank. The service will follow at 7:00 pm.

Ministry Team Night



Ministry Team Night will be held on Thursday, **December 8th**, due Advent. Team leaders meet at 6:30 pm and all team members meet at 7:00 pm. If you signed up to serve on a ministry team, on your Time and Talent sheet, please join us. It is important that all team members and their council liaisons attend these meetings.

Peace HOGS

Helping! Outreach! Giving! Service!



Peace HOGS will have their regular meeting on Thursday, **December 8th** at 7:00 pm.

Band Practice
Saturday,
December 10th and
December 24th
10:00 am



Cookie Walk Set Up

Youth participating in the ELCA Youth Gathering and members of the Peace HOGS will set up for the Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 10th, at 10:00 am.

Newsletter Deadline

The January newsletter deadline is December 12th. Please submit articles on or before that date. E-mailing articles is preferred.

**Christmas Cantata
"Ceremony of Candles"
Joseph Martin**

Members of the Peace choir will present a Christmas Cantata under the direction of Walt Sparkman. The Cantata performances will be on Sunday, **December 18th**, during the 10:30 am service and also in the evening at 7:00 pm.



**Council Meeting
Sunday, December 18th
11:30 am
Conference Room**

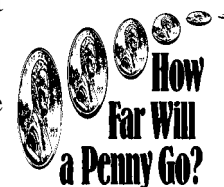
**Women's Bible Study
Tuesday, December 20th at Noon
In the Fellowship Hall**

Come join us as we open scripture and join in conversation. Becky Krogness will lead the Bible study from the December issue of the *Gather for Faith and Action* magazine. It is titled "Beyond the Boundaries". The theme verse is Mark 6:38, "How many loaves have you? Go and see..." We will study Mark 6:30-7:37. Bring your lunch and enjoy the fellowship and the conversation. Invite a sister in Christ.



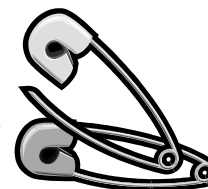
Noisy Offering!!

Start saving your loose change to share as we collect a noisy offering the last Sunday of each month for Peace Mission Trips. Drop your coins in the offering plate on Sunday, **December 25th** **Let's make some noise!!!!!!!**
In October, we collected \$145.53.



**Baby Care Kits (Layettes)
"She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger." Luke 2:7**

There are children in our world that do not have any more than that when they come into the world, but with your help we can send a Baby Care Kit from Lutheran World Relief. It is like a promise. It says to that baby, Your needs will not be neglected by this world. You matter to us. When you send Baby Care Kits, you provide encouragement by welcoming these little ones into an international community that cares.



Baby Care Kits are distributed as part of emergency and relief efforts, to be sure, but they are also given out as part of LWR health initiatives to encourage women to seek prenatal care. One such initiative in Mali provided training for local prenatal health care workers, who were given Baby Care Kits to distribute when they assisted with births. These kinds of programs help more babies in rural, poor areas receive a healthy start in life. We hope you will join us in this effort!

Donations of the following items are needed:

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of gentle soap, in original wrapping
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins

Please put your items in the basket in the Narthex. Many thanks from the Service Ministry Team!

December Birthdays

01	David Koopp
03	Virginia Willis
03	Sydney Watt
05	Patty Young
05	Elizabeth Rust
06	LaDonna Montz
06	Megan Ohnheiser
07	Samuel Robbins
10	Earl Koester
10	Rylee Young
11	Margaret Carpenter
11	Robbi Will
13	Ceretta Daum
15	Ken Voss
15	Stacy Pfeil
16	Fritz Friesenhahn
16	Kerry Grunwald
17	Cathy Bolton
17	Max Ebert
17	Evan Weese
18	Nancy King
18	John Bailey
19	Megan Fox
21	Tyler Lambert
22	Melford Georg
24	Cory Wood
25	Sharon Fisbeck
25	Carolyn Sebbert
28	Bernice Lenz
29	Paul Fisher
29	Suzie Greer
30	Sherry Behrens
30	Greg Gunderson
31	Ian Heffelfinger

Congratulations!!

- To Amy and Zachary Aubin at the birth of their son, William Alexander Phillip Aubin. William was born on September 30th. His grandmother is Peggy Perry and his great-grandmother is Glenda Russell.
- To Rita Mathis on the birth of her grandson, Zayden Reed Flores. Zayden was born on October 19th. He weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and was 20 inches long. His parents are Manuel Flores and Jenna Mathis.



December Anniversaries

Gene and Sharon Monroe December 2, 1977
Nathan and Marnee Weir December 2, 1997
John and Betty Hawthorne December 13, 1969
Trevor and Lyndsey McDermott December 16, 2006
Jeff and Kelly Seeger December 17, 2005
Wade and Lavonne Ohnheiser December 18, 2004
Michael and Rachel Bauman December 18, 2010
Gus and Betty Rust December 22, 1952
Earl and Ellie Koester December 28, 1951
Richard and Sandra Hill December 28, 1969
Arlon and Myrtle Bartels December 29, 1951
Stephen and Johnana Clark December 29, 1969
Paul and Mille Fisher December 30th

First Communion

The following youth celebrated their First Communion on November 6th: Blayne Caven, son of BJ and Jayme Winkler, Hayden Kaufman, son of Tim and Erika Kaufman, and Ryan Weir, son of Nathan and Marnee Weir. May God's grace and love continue to help them grow in their relationship to Christ.



SOS Food Bank
(Spirit of Sharing)

Peace donated 52.9 pounds of food on 11-14-11. The Food Bank receives large shipments of food on the 3rd Thursday and 4th Friday of every month. Volunteers are needed to help unload these supplies. If you would like to help or have questions, contact Alison Hock at 210-884-7239.

Peace Lutheran Church,
 Thank you sincerely for sharing our
 sorrow. Your kindness is more deeply
 appreciated than we find words to express.
 Blessings, Roger and Clara Gawlitta



*Dear Church Family,
 I wish to thank you for your prayers and concerns
 following my surgery and recovery. Special thanks to
 Pastor for his visits and prayers and Jeannie Kawazoe
 for all her support. I'm really blessed to have such a
 caring church family. Carolyn Ford*

Pastor Gary and the Congregation,
 Peace Lutheran was Billy's second home. He loved
 the people, his Sunday School class, his fellow band
 members, the Men's Breakfast, watching the youth
 grow through fun and service, and virtually everything
 about his warm and loving church home. When Billy
 got sick, the members of Peace took care of him.
 Through prayer, well wishes, love and many acts of
 kindness, everyone made sure that he knew he was
 loved—greatly! And that meant the world to Billy,
 and to us. Pastor, thank you for all the many, many
 times you supported and cared for Billy—phone calls
 in Houston, providing him with counseling, visits to
 his home and the hospital and many other things.
 Blessing to you all, The family of Billy Deiker

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 I would like to "THANK" all of you for your prayers,
 thoughts and visits while I was recuperating from my
 knee surgery. A special thanks to Joyce and Ken Voss
 for the beautiful flowers and to Pastor Gary for being
 there with his wheelbarrow and Sakcrete to keep the
 rock that forms my foundation from eroding .
 In the love of Christ, Gene Monroe*

People of Peace Lutheran,
 As I write you, Jess and I are in our apartment working
 on our paperwork for the upcoming assignment
 process where we find out where we will be going as
 we seek calls from a congregation this spring. This
 year, our final one at seminary, has been filled with
 lots of paperwork, conversation, prayer, and
 nervousness in addition to our full course-loads and
 time with friends. As I think about congregations by
 whom I might be called, I think about you all and
 the important role you all play as you witness to the
 Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jess and I are grateful for you
 support and prayers this year and for your faithfulness
 to the mission of the Church as we confess Christ and
 care for our neighbors. Thank you for your
 gracious financial assistance and for keeping me and
 Jess in your prayers and thanks be to God for His
 faithfulness that has no end.
 Peace of Christ be with you all, Trey Daum

Members Remembered in Prayer

Rita Hudson	Lillie Braune
Rita Markwardt	Mary Weaver
Norvin Roessing	Ed Coleman
Betty Hawthorne	Karon Haas
Claire Friedrich	Sharon Schott
Jackie Sparkman	

In Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the following
 members and their families:

- Max and Dorothy Ebert at the death of Max's
 father, Eugene Ebert.
- Vicki Hillmer at the death of her sister, Patricia
 Keith.
- Nita Hausmann at the death of her father,
 R. Cruzen



**Peace Lutheran
 Church**

Peace Lutheran Church
 1147 S. Walnut
 New Braunfels, TX 78130
 830-620-0618

Web address: www.plcnb.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Director of Youth Ministries

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

7:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Pastor Gary: peace@plcnb.org
Valerie Wood: valerie@plcnb.org
Amanda Henderson: amanda@plcnb.org

Worship Services
Sundays
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.