

Peace Lutheran Church



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SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS / JANUARY 4, 2026

PASTORS: KURT WEBER AND JEFF MILLER

ELDERS

Saturday 6:30pm

Sunday 8:30am

Sunday 10:30am

GREETERS

Sunday 8:30am Paul and Barb Otte

Sunday 10:30am Ron and Barb Kirchoff

ELIA PETERSON, OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY OFFICIALLY STARTED WORKING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH. HER INSTALLATION HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 3/4. THERE WILL BE A BRUNCH RECEPTION AT 9:30AM IN THE PEACE CENTER ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 4TH. EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO COME MEET ELIA AND HER FAMILY OR STOP IN THE OFFICE AND INTRODUCE YOURSELF!

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY WHICH WAS HELD AFTER THE PROGRAM REHEARSAL, WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT DONATED OR HELPED. THE KIDS THOUGHT IT WAS WONDERFUL! IF YOU WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND, THE CHILDREN'S SERVICE, YOU CAN STILL WATCH IT ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE

IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT NUMEROUS MEMBERS HAVE BEEN CONTACTED RECENTLY VIA TEXT OR EMAIL "ON BEHALF" OF ONE OF THE PASTORS ASKING FOR A VARIETY OF THINGS SUCH AS PURCHASE OF GIFT CARDS FOR OUR SHUT-INS OR FOR GIFTS FOR THE STAFF - PLEASE BEWARE THESE CALLS ARE ALL SCAMS!

PLEASE NOTE OUR CURRENT DEBT BALANCE LISTED BELOW! 2025 WAS AN AMAZING YEAR - THANKS TO OUR WONDERFULLY, GENEROUS MEMBERS, PLUS THE MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION OF THE OCCASSIONAL STORE AND OUR VARIOUS FUND RAISERS. IT IS VERY EVIDENT THAT THIS DEBT CAN BE TOTALLY RETIRED IN 2026!!!

BUILDING DEBT FUND	
Balance—1/1/23.....	\$2,286,302.71
Balance—1/1/24.....	\$1,646,266.72
Balance—1/1/25.....	\$1,163,007.65
Balance—1/1/26.....	\$ 431,118.02***
Principal paid in 2023.....	\$ 640,035.99
Principal paid in 2024.....	\$ 483,259.07
Principal paid in 2025.....	\$ 731,889.63***
WEEKLY OFFERINGS	
Offerings Deposited 12/24 – 12/31	\$ 19,714
Average Offerings Needed Per Week	\$ 15,673

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES WITH PASTOR KURT

Sundays Peace Center; 9:40am – will resume Jan 7th

Tuesday & Saturdays Cashwise Caribou; 6:45am will resume Jan 6th

IF YOU MISSED GETTING YOUR PICTURE TAKEN FOR THE DIRECTORY, WE MAY POSSIBLY GET ONE MORE DAY. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SETTING UP AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE TALK TO CONNIE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE THIS WEEK. IF WE CAN GET ENOUGH PEOPLE INTERESTED, THEY WILL SET UP ANOTHER SESSION.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE 'LESSONS AND CAROLS' SERVICE. IT WAS AMAZING! YOU CAN ALSO STILL VIEW IT ONLINE. ALSO THANKS TO ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE LUNCHEON! FROM THE FREEWILL OFFERING, WE RAISED \$849 FOR THE DEBT REDUCTION!

GUIDING LIGHT UPDATE - THEY HAVE OBTAINED THEIR LICENSE AND ARE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT. THEY WILL BE HOSTING AN OPEN HOUSE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 11TH, FROM 11:30-1:30.

REMINDER - YOUTH EPIPHANY PARTY THIS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH, AT 4:30PM.

THE JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH PORTALS OF PRAYER ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX AND COMMONS.

WE WILL AGAIN BE OFFERING THE 13-WEEK GRIEF SHARE SERIES ON MONDAYS 4-5:30PM STARTING JANUARY 12TH. FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT CONNIE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE RAMPWAY. IF YOU WISH TO START USING ENVELOPES, CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE. LIKewise, IF YOU WISH TO DISCONTINUE USING ENVELOPES BECAUSE YOU ARE DONATING ELECTRONICALLY OR USING AUTO DEPOSIT, LET THE OFFICE KNOW. THANKS.

THE 2025 OFFERING STATEMENTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO BE PICKED UP IN THE RAMPWAY. ALL OFFERINGS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2025 OFFERING STATEMENT MUST HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE PRIOR TO 12:00 NOON, DECEMBER 31ST.

THE PASTORS AND STAFF WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND HOLIDAY WISHES TO THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION AND WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THE CARDS, TREATS, GIFTS AND PRAYERS. WE FEEL TRULY BLESSED!

PRAYER LIST

Rita Janke	Rueben Draeger
Barb Ribar	Melissa Wanous
Elaine Lewerenz	Bev Alsleben
Jon & Sylvia Radtke	Mabel Boelter
Melinda Mikolich	Gale Schlueter
Delores Plath	Jan Klabunde
	Steve Schramm

If you know of someone who is ill or hospitalized or would like a pastoral visit, please contact the Church office.

WORSHIP BAGS FOR CHILDREN are in the red wagons in the Chapel, Peace Center or Narthex. Children may use the bags during Worship and return them to the wagon.

Attendance Last Week

Christmas Eve 3:00pm	268
Christmas Eve 5:00pm	197
Christmas Eve 7:00pm	198
Christmas Day 9:00am	101
Sunday 10:00am	70
TOTAL	834
Online	1499

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY (1/4)
Installation Sunday
 8:30am Worship/Communion
 9:40am Welcome Brunch
 10:30am Worship

MONDAY (1/5)
 10-12 Occas Sale Work Day

TUESDAY (1/6)
 6:45am Men's Bible Study
 10:00am Women's Bible Study
 3:00pm Parables Bible Study
 6:00 pm Women Talk
 6:30pm Elders

WEDNESDAY (1/7)
 10:00am Body & Soul
 11:45am Bible Study & Lunch
 1:00pm Mission Sewing
 2:45pm Confirmation
 3:20pm Tiger Tweens
 4:30pm Youth Epiphany Party
 5:30pm Adult Choir
 6:30pm Handbells

THURSDAY (1/8)
 10-6 Occasional Sale

FRIDAY (1/9)

SATURDAY (1/10)
 6:45am Men's Bible Study
 6:30pm Worship

UPCOMING

SUNDAY (1/11)
 8:30am Worship
 9:40am Sunday School
 9:40am Adult Bible Study
 10:30am Worship/Communion

MONDAY (1/12)
 10-12 Occas Sale Work Day

TUESDAY (1/13)
 6:45am Men's Bible Study
 10:00am Women's Bible Study
 10-6 Bloodmobile
 3:00pm Parables Bible Study
 6:30pm Promise Keepers
 6:30pm Council

WEDNESDAY (1/14)
 10:00am Body & Soul
 11:45am Bible Study & Lunch
 2:45pm Confirmation
 3:20pm Tiger Tweens
 4:30pm Youth Group
 5:30pm Adult Choir
 6:30pm Handbells

THURSDAY (1/15)
 10-12 Occas Sale Work Day
 6:30pm Trustees

FRIDAY (1/16)

SATURDAY (1/17)
 6:45am Men's Bible Study
 6:30pm Worship/Communion

Coffee and treats are served for Sunday morning Bible Study and BEFORE the 10:30 service. The coffee will remain available, but the treats put away at the start of the worship service. ALL donations support the taxi service. Thank You! It is so appreciated!

If you are a THRIVENT MEMBER you are eligible to apply for two \$250 grants per calendar year which can be used for various ministries here at Peace. This past year we again utilized close to \$10,000 worth of Thrivent grants for a variety of things, such as Sunday School and Vacation Bible School curriculum and supplies, Bibles for our Confirmands, materials for mission sewing for Lutheran World Relief, supplies for our fund raising events. Contact Sue in the Church office for a list of upcoming projects/events that we could use Thrivent funding for.

Thank you to all the shoppers and volunteers and those who have generously donated items for our sales at Peace. The December 4th total sales were \$2,598.10! One quarter of the December 4th sales \$649.52, will go to the local food shelf, \$649.52 will go towards building utilities and maintenance, and half, \$1299.06, will go towards debt reduction (which will also be matched by the Congregational Fund!) There was an additional sale in conjunction with the Annual Cookie and Bake Sale on December 6th. whraised \$965.00, This total amount will go towards the debt reduction. The next sale will be January 8th with a quarter of the proceeds going to Common Cup. . The next drop off date is Monday, December 29th, 4-6pm. Please Note: we will not accept any donations on the days of our sales. Any questions, please contact Lynn at (320) 582-0193 or Gayle at (320) 583-2487. We are always looking for VOLUNTEERS to help sort, price, display donated items. Every Monday and Thursday from 10:00am to 12 noon, the crew is at Peace Place. Feel free to come and see what's going on (or drop off donated items). PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ITEMS OUTSIDE OF THE DOOR.

AGENDA

PEACE LUTHERAN ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 2, 2026

Welcome

1. Slate of candidates for open positions on Church Council & Board of Elders
2. Ballot distribution, vote
3. Director of Family Ministries introduction/update
4. Guiding Light update
5. Annual Financial Plan
6. Trustee report
7. Congregational Fund Committee report
8. Pastor's report

Church Council-President (Vote for one)

- Melissa Weckwerth (Incumbent)

Church Council-Vice President (Vote for one)

- Dean Kirchoff (Currently serving as an At Large council person with one year remaining in his first term)

Church Council-At Large (Vote for three)

- Kathy Hochsprung (Incumbent)
 Gary Havemeier (Incumbent)
 Sara Peterson

Board of Elders-All Seats are At Large (Vote for 5)

- Robbie Peterson*
 Dale Schumann*
 Matt Markgraf*
 Mark Telecky*
 Allen Broll

*Incumbent