



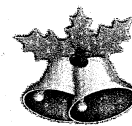
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PO Box 686

OFFICE: 254-5395

LINTON, NORTH DAKOTA

December 2015



December, 2015

Did you know that November 29th marked the beginning of the Church year? Did you know that the beginning is celebrated by looking to the end first?

November 29th was the first Sunday in Advent. Advent, which means "coming" or "arrival," may feel like a really long lead-up into Christmas (especially if you are a child or happen to work at Walmart) as we await the arrival Christ's birth. However, Advent is more than a long shopping season.

Advent is an important season. During this season we pray that the soon-to-be-celebrated miracle at Christmas won't be left in history. During Advent we read Scripture passages that point to God's ultimate purpose in the world that was inaugurated at Christmas. In Advent we look forward to, pray for and prepare for the second coming of Christ which signifies the fulfillment of God's divine purpose – redemption, restoration, and a fully realized victory over sin, death, the devil and all the evil that accompanies that unholy trinity.

The Second Advent of Christ bring to completion what the birth, death, and resurrection of Christ began. All phases are intricate parts of God's master plan. Advent is the end of our story on earth. So at the beginning of each Church year we remind ourselves of the end, because in the end Jesus wins.

In Peace,
Pastor Sean Barnhart

Special Congregational Meeting

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 20th after worship (worship is at 10:45 AM) to approve recommended changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. Proposed changes and additions to the Constitution and Bylaws may be found later in this newsletter, on our website at www.ndpeacelutheran.com/resources, or by request made to the church office. Please plan on attending the Special Congregational Meeting.

✝ Memorials ✝

Memorial donations were given in memory of Esther Penttinen and Teddie Lawler to the Endowment Fund from Pastor Sean Barnhart. ✝

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday School children and teachers will tell about Jesus on
December 13th during the 10:45 worship at Peace Lutheran Church.
Fellowship will follow the program. Everyone is welcome! ✝

The Church Council:

- Property reported on trimming lilacs at the Bethlehem Cemetery. Discussion was also had on possible repairs to the parsonage basement.
- Motion made to caulk the cracks in the parsonage basement to seal it and to see if it is continuing to shift.
- Sunday School Christmas program is on the 13th of December.
- Motion made to accept the committee's recommendations on changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.
- Motion made to pay the special assessments from the city of Linton over ten years. It was suggested to make this added expense known through the newsletter.
- Special Congregational Meeting will be held on December 20th to approve the changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. Proposed changes will be available in the Narthex and on the website (or by request).
- The Annual Meeting will be held on January 31st, 2016 (at which time the Constitutional changes will be ratified).

If you have any questions or concerns please contact a church council member... Tad Larson, Duane Baer, Mark Fisher, Laura Hirvela, Bob Tschritter, Larry Umber Jr., Edgar Ohlhauser, Elwin Nieuwsma, and Jon Ptacek. ✝



Finance News...

The City of Linton has issued *Street Improvement Project Special Assessments* to property owners in the city. Our church has been notified that the assessment for the church property is \$10,473.65, and the parsonage \$5,236.82. This is payable in 10 installments over a 10 year period, and will be included in the annual property tax statement. Interest will be assessed on the unpaid principal balance at an annual rate of 3.75%. The first installments due are for the church, \$1,047.37; and the parsonage, \$523.68. County tax deadlines and penalties apply. At the Council meeting on November 11th it was decided to pay the special assessments from the city of Linton over ten years. You may contact a Council member with questions, or Sharon Jangula, the City Administrator @ 254-4267 or 254-4460.

Please be mindful of this added expense when considering your offerings and contributions to our church.



Youth Group Gathering....Sunday, Dec. 13th at 1 p.m.

WOW! Time is flying by as we are already preparing for one of my favorite times of the year..... Our youth were busy decorating cookies (baked by the ladies of the Church) last month and we will be delivering to the shut-ins in December. If you are a shut in or know of a shut in that would enjoy us caroling and dropping off a plate of goodies, please contact Lisa @ 254-4179. We will be caroling the afternoon of DEC 13, 2015.

YOUTH GROUP: if you are able to join us in making a person's day please meet at the church at 1:00. From there we will car pool to the homes.

Thank you for your continued support with our Youth. It's fun and exciting to see this group get together!

Merry Christmas to your family!

Lisa Ptacek, Youth Group Advisor



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Christmas Program Practice:

Practice for the Christmas Program will be **9 a.m. SHARP!** on **December 6th and 13th**. **Notice Time Change.** We will also have our Sunday School lesson during that time.

December 9th will be program practice (full dress rehearsal) at **5:30 p.m.** with pizza for supper!

~The Christmas Program is December 13, 2015 at 10:45 a.m. during the worship service. ~

Mark your calendars:

Christmas program on **Dec. 13th** at 10:45 a.m. during the worship service.

There will be **NO** Sunday School on **Dec. 20th, 27th, and Jan. 3rd, 2016.**

We will resume Sunday School on **Jan. 10th, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**

Enjoy the holiday break with your families and share a little cheer and kindness this time or year. It's very easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season, so take a minute to create a conspiracy or kindness this time of year!

Create A Conspiracy of Kindness

Smile at someone

Lend a helping hand.

Affirm someone

Send a thank-you note

Give the gift of music.

Bake something and share.

Draw someone a picture.

Call and check on someone.

Include someone new.

Be cheerful!

Thank you to all the church members who have been feeding the kids snacks on Sunday morning, it is greatly appreciated!! If you haven't signed up to take a turn, please do so the second half of the year. Many hands help make the work load lighter.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

God Bless,
Lisa Hendrickson



CARILLON "SPECIAL" MUSIC



Would you like to honor or remember someone or some event with a song played on the carillons? If so, let the church office know the date and song (if available) you would like played. It will be played on that date at 9:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. (your choice) and it will be acknowledged in the bulletin. Cost is a donation.✝

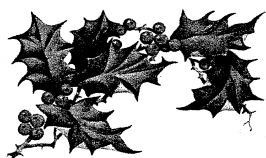
✿ Honor Someone With Chancel Flowers! ✿

The Flower Committee listed below along with the Linton Floral N' More has set up a system for members to provide flowers for Sunday worship services. For \$30, the Linton Floral N' More will provide 2 arrangements of flowers for the 2 vases behind the altar or a larger single arrangement for \$25 for the top of the piano. This includes tax.

If you would like to supply flowers for a certain Sunday:

- 1) make sure that Sunday is not taken. 2) give your money to one of the ladies on the Flower Committee.
- 3) tell her the date you want. 4) let her know if it is for a special occasion. The ladies will make sure the flowers are there and the information will be listed in the bulletin on that Sunday. **We do ask that you pay the appropriate amount when making your request even if it is several weeks or months in advance.**

Flower Committee members are: Leola Dietz and Janice Baer. ✕



Ushers and Acolytes for Dec.

Rick Rudy	Darren Tveito
Jackson Tveito	Mike Kunz

Kelani Larson, Sadie Bosch & Laura Hovland
(Please arrange to have at least one for Christmas Day.)



Dec. Greeter Schedule

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

Dec. 6	Tad & Elise Larson
Dec. 13	Jon & Lisa Ptacek family
Dec. 20	Debbie Jahner
Dec. 24	Jean Rudy & Kay Janecek 6 p.m.
Dec. 25	Anne Barnhart 10 a.m.
Dec. 27	
Jan. 3	

Sunday Scripture Reader's Schedule

Dec. 6 - Laura Hirvela
Dec. 13 - Linda Tschritter
Dec. 20 - Debbie Jahner
Dec. 24 - Julie Umber
Dec. 25 - Edgar Ohlhauser
Dec. 27 - Elise Larson
Jan. 3 - Sylvia Weisser

December Sunday School Schedule

Dec. 6 - Sunday School Program Practice 9 a.m.
Dec. 9 - Pizza Supper and full dress rehearsal
5:30 p.m.
Dec. 13 - Sunday School Program Practice 9 a.m.
Program during Worship @ 10:45
Dec. 20, 27, & Jan. 3 - No Sunday School
Sunday School resumes Jan. 10th.



† **DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE** †

Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Dec. 6 & 13

Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

Confirmation Instruction Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Dec. 2, 9, & 16

Dec. 6 - Worship with Holy Communion 10:45 a.m.

Dec. 13 - Sunday School Christmas Program during Worship 10:45 a.m.

Dec. 20 - Worship with Holy Communion 10:45 a.m.

Dec. 24 - Candlelight Service 6 p.m.

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion 10 a.m.

Dec. 27 - Celebrate Worship 10:45 a.m

! 🚗 ***Need a Ride??***

If you need a ride to church.....please call:

Elwin Nieuwsma.....254-0167



In November, our "Mission" was "**Vision Slovakia**". A check will be sent to them on the last day of November.

Our December "Mission" is "**The Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission**". See elsewhere in this newsletter for more information on this project.



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve 6 p.m. (Candlelight)

Christmas Day Worship 10 a.m.

"Christmas by Celebrate Singers"

January 3rd, 2016 at 10:45 a.m. at Peace Lutheran

Everyone is welcome!

~PLCW Board News~

- ✠ Church decorating will be Wednesday, December 2nd after the PLCW Board Meeting.
- ✠ The Peace Light will be available again this Christmas Season.
- ✠ There will be a Mother-Daughter Tea in May, and Judy Buchholz Frueth of Carrington will be asked to speak.

Thank you to all who took part and donated on the Thankoffering Sunday the 22nd! Our donations will be going to the "Great Plains Food Bank".

Women of Peace Bible Study at church

Christmas Treat Potluck

Wed., Dec. 18th at 7 p.m.

Marilyn Malmedal will lead the Bible Study.

Everyone is welcome!



December Baptismal Dates

Baptismal dates for **December** according to church records are:

1 – Travis Humann	12 – Doris Heer	Lynn McCulley
2 – Eva Heyne	16 – Ramona Humann	Jeanette Winterberg
Corey Hoff-Wald	17 – Vicki Schwab	26 – Amanda Grossman
Gracelyn Johnson	20 – Vanessa Fisher	29 – Nicole Nieuwsma
3 – Harold Hirvela	21 – Keith Petrick	Duane Ohlhauser
6 – Brandon Rossow	22 – Benjamin Schwab	30 – Richard Backhaus
7 – Megan Ohlhauser	Josie Schwab	31 – John DeBoer
9 – Ben Huber	23 – Paul Ferderer	Matthew Jasper
11 – Kevin Krogstad	Sarah Henkelmann	Janell Schlosser
Cynthia Kurtz	24 – Shannon Krogstad	

If your baptism date is missing and you know the date, please call the church office (254-5395) so it can be included. ✠

These birthdates of our members are according to the church records. Some birthdates were not on record. If your birthdate is missed, or if there is a mistake, please contact the church office.



December birthdays are:

1 - Carson Lawler	7 - Paul Ferderer	17 - Larry Umber Jr.
Gladys Pocta	11 - Jack Streyle	19 - Mackenzie Hendrickson
Twyla Schiermeister	12 - Larry Humann	20 - Mary Maier
Brynn Huber	Irene Fisher	21 - Ruth Ryckman
3 - Shannon Krogstad	13 - June Alderin	29 - Darcy Rindelaub
4 - Jon Ptacek	14 - Keith Humann	Noah Nieuwsma
(DiAnn) Dez Kiefer	Rafe Kalama	30 - Laurie Humann Murphy
5 - Tad Larson	15 - Peyton Masset	
Kaisley Masset	16 - Jacob Conroy	
6 - Doris Heer		

May each of you have a very **Happy Birthday** and may we keep you in our prayers for the day of your birth, praying that you shall remain faithful followers of Jesus until He comes again! ✠

Peace Lutheran Church...December "Mission" Support

The Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission

More than fifty years ago Lutheran Christian missionaries arrived in Rock Point, AZ, a remote, isolated village near the Four Corners area where Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah meet. They were leased 5 acres of land on which to build the Mission.

The Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission (NELM) exists today to connect diverse communities to the needs of the Navajo People by creating a safe environment where the values of education, culture, and spiritual formation are accessible to all people.



According to their core values followers of Christ, NELM strives for reconciliation and healing in a broken world. They work for justice and peace, in accordance with the teachings of Jesus, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Other values include:

- Serving and supporting the community through cultural sensitivity, open communication, and love for all.
- Applying the highest level of ethical standards by being financially and morally accountable to all.
- Providing the best possible education and community services in an efficient and effective manner.
- Working with the Rock Point community to assist residents in creating a socially and economically sustainable community.

Core Beliefs include:

- We believe that all people are children of God.
- We believe that the Navajo People are our sisters and brothers; our neighbors.
- We believe that when our neighbors hurt, we hurt, and we are led to care.
- We believe that service grows out of community, and we are committed to partnership with the Navajo People in that ministry of service.



Peace Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Welcome people in

Help them grow

Send them out to care

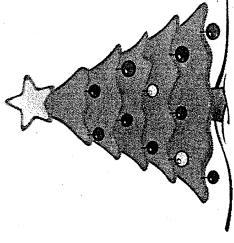
Welcome ~ Grow ~ Care



December 2015

Ushers: Rick Rudy, Darren Tveito, Jackson Tveito,
Mike Kunz

Acolytes: Kelani Larson, Sadie Bosch, Laura Hovland



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 2:30 p.m. PLCW Board 7 p.m. Confirmation Instruction	3	4	5
6 2nd Sunday of Advent 9 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study 10:45 Worship with Holy Communion	7	8	9 5:30 p.m. pizza & SS program practice 7 p.m. Church Council 7 p.m. Confirmation Instruction	10	11	12
13 3rd Sunday of Advent 9 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study 10:45 a.m. Worship with Sunday School Program	14	15	16 7 p.m. Women of Peace Christmas Treat Pot Luck 7 p.m. Confirmation Instruction	17 Great Plains Food Truck 1:15 @ St Anthony's	18	19
20 4th Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study 10:45 Worship with Holy Communion—Congregational Mtg 7 p.m. Vesper's Eve of Light	21	22	23	24 Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve 6 p.m. Candlelight Service	25 Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day 10 a.m. Worship Service/Holy Communion	26 Stephen, Deacon & Martyr
27 1st Sunday of Christmas No Sunday School 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:45 Celebrate Service	28 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs 6 p.m. High School Bible Study	29 John, Apostle and Evangelist	30	31 New Year's Eve 		

Proposed Bylaw on Christian Marriage

At the August 12th, 2015 Church Council meeting, the council approved the following addition to the bylaws to be presented to the congregation at the Congregational Assembly in January, 2016. The proposed bylaw was formed in response to the Supreme Court's ruling on marriage on June 26th, 2015 with the aid of the LCMC. For information from the LCMC, visit <http://www.lcmc.net/decision-resources/665>.

"We affirm the LCMC's Pastoral Admonition which states,

"We affirm that God created us male and female, and that it is God's will and intention that human sexual expression and fulfillment take place only within the boundaries of marriage between one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24-25; Matthew 19:4-6; and Mark 10:2-9). And, we confess as individuals and as congregations that we have not fulfilled God's will in our decisions, modeling and teaching."

"This Congregation also affirms and holds as its own the faith statement on Marriage and Family as published by Lutheran Core which states;

"We believe and confess that the marriage of male and female is an institution created and blessed by God. From marriage, God forms families to serve as the building blocks of all human civilization and community. We teach and practice that sexual activity belongs exclusively within the biblical boundaries of a faithful marriage between one man and one woman."

"Consistent with the above stated convictions regarding a Scriptural view of marriage, this Congregation;

- A) Will only recognize, participate in, solemnize, and host weddings between one man and one woman.
- B) Prohibits the use of its facilities for all weddings, unions, blessings of sexual relationships, and for receptions or celebrations of weddings or other unions in which the Congregation's called pastor(s) is not primarily and directly involved. Any usage of the facility should be consistent with the Congregation's stated beliefs.
- C) Requires that it's called pastor(s) conform to the Congregation's convictions as stated above when undertaking pastoral acts outside of the congregation."

Proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws For December 20th, 2015 Special Meeting of the Congregation

Found below are all the original statements and the proposed changes. In the proposed changes, the part that differs is highlighted.

Proposed Changes to the Constitution:

Amendments to the constitution require a majority vote of those present and voting at a properly called congregational meeting for approval. They are then to be ratified at an annual meeting of the congregation by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting. See C17.02 in the Constitution.

C1.01

Original: "The name of this congregation shall be Peace Lutheran Church of Linton.

Change: "The name of this congregation shall be Peace Lutheran Church of Linton, North Dakota.

C11.01

Original: "The officers of this congregation shall be a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer."

Change: "The officers of this congregation shall be a president, vice-president, secretary/treasurer."

C11.02

Original: "The Congregation shall elect its officers and they shall be the officers of the Congregation. The officers shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected. Their terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected."

Change: "The Congregation shall elect its officers and they shall be the officers of the Congregation. The officers shall serve for three year terms or until their successors are elected. Their terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected."

C12.02

Original: "The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) shall be elected by the congregation to serve for _3_ years or until their successors are elected. Such members shall be eligible to serve no more than one full term. No member of the Congregation Council shall succeed themselves on the Congregation Council. An unexpired term of one year or less shall not be considered a full term of office. Their terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected."

Change: "The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) shall be elected by the congregation to serve for _3_ years or until their successors are elected. Following the three year term, if there is a council vacancy due to health, death or injury reasons, an outgoing council member may be appointed to fulfill the remainder of the term by the current council. At

the end of ANY term of duties, each council member shall abstain from a council position for the length of one calendar year to allow other and more members of the congregation to have the opportunity to serve our church."

C13.04

Original: "When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a **Call Committee** of six voting members shall be appointed by the Congregation Council. Term of office will terminate at installation of the newly-called pastor."

Change: "When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a **Call Committee** of six voting members shall be appointed by the Congregation Council. Term of office will terminate at installation of the newly-called pastor. Call committee members should not be spouses or family members of congregational council."

C14.01

Original: "All organizations within this congregation, with Congregation Council approval shall exist to aid it in ministering to the members of this congregation and to all persons who can be reached with the Gospel of Christ. As outgrowths and expressions of this congregation's life, the organizations are subject to its oversight and direction. This organization at its meeting shall determine their policies, guide their activities, and receive reports concerning their membership, work, and finances."

Change: "All organizations within this congregation, with Congregation Council approval shall exist to aid it in ministering to the members of this congregation and to all persons who can be reached with the Gospel of Christ. The organizations are subject to its oversight and direction of the congregational council. This organization at its meeting shall determine their policies, guide their activities, and receive reports concerning their membership, work, and finances."

Proposed Changes to the Bylaws:

Bylaws may be adopted or amended at any legally called meeting of this congregation with a quorum present by a majority vote of those voting members present and voting (C16.02 of the Constitution.)

B1.02: Reference in the second paragraph (b) changed from "Section A.4" to "B1.01 Paragraph 4."

B3.03

Original: Meetings of the Congregation Council shall be held on the third Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise specified in the church bulletin.

Change: Meetings of the Congregation Council shall be held on the second Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise specified in the church bulletin.

B3.04

Original: Committees of the Congregation Council

- a. One (1) trustee shall be in charge of the stewardship and evangelism committees of the congregation.
- b. Two (2) trustees shall be in charge of property and its management.
- c. One (1) deacon shall be in charge of parish education.
- d. Two (2) deacons shall be in charge of worship.

Change: Committees of the Congregation Council

- a. One (1) council member shall be in charge of stewardship.
- b. One (1) council member shall be in charge of evangelism committees of the congregation.
- c. Two (2) council members shall be in charge of property and its management.
- d. One (1) council member shall be in charge of parish education.
- e. Two (2) council members shall be in charge of worship.

B3.09 (paragraph 2)

Original: Buildings which are the property of the congregation shall not be lent or rented to any group or individual not affiliated with the congregation or with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ unless application for such use has been approved by the Congregation Council.

Change: Buildings which are the property of the congregation shall not be lent or rented to any group or individual not affiliated with the congregation or with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ unless application for such use has been approved by the Congregation Council. REFER TO CHURCH USAGE PAMPHLET.

The following are proposed changes to the descriptions of duties of various committees of the church.

Education Committee

Addition: "Support Pastor in maintaining education classes for youth, families, and adult members, etc."

Peace Lutheran Church

Bookkeeper/Church Secretary

Removed: 13. Maintain church email correspondence with Pastor.

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Custodial Duties

Added (at the end): Refer to the wedding guidelines booklet.