



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
SEAN BARNHART, PASTOR
Brenda Benedict, Secretary/Bookkeeper
OFFICE: 254-5395
200 5th St NE – PO Box 686
LINTON, NORTH DAKOTA
December 2019

www.facebook.com/peacelutheranlinton
www.ndpeacelutheran.com

Message from Pastor Sean...

December brings to us a strange intersection in the church/liturgical calendar. This is partly because the church calendar begins with the end. The beginning of the church year begins December 1st with Advent. Typically one thinks of Advent as looking forward to the birth of Christ, but it actually begins by anticipating the *return* of Christ – his Second Coming – which will mark the end of human history as we know it. A few weeks into Advent is when the strange intersection occurs as the focus switches from the Second Coming of Christ – a future event – to the First Coming of Christ – a past event.

While one event is somewhere off in the future and the other occurred about 2,000 years ago, both are vital to our present. Take a look at this quote from Luther found in a Christmas sermon of his from 1530.

“Therefore this is the chief article, which separates us from all the heathen, that you, O man, may not only learn that Christ, born of the virgin, is the Lord and Savior, but also accept the fact that he is your Lord and Savior, that you may be able to boast in your heart: I hear the Word that sounds from heaven and says: This child who is born of the virgin is not only his mother’s son. I have more than the mother’s estate; he is more mine than Mary’s, **for he was born for me**, for the angel said, “**To you** is born the Savior.” Then ought you to say, Amen, I thank thee, dear Lord.” (Emphasis added).

In Christmas – that glorious event 2,000 years ago – Christ was born and he, the Savior, was born **to you**. This is history that affects your present and what you have presently in Christ, you will take into the future when Christ returns. Hear again from Luther,

“If Christ had arrived with trumpets and lain in a cradle of gold, his birth would have been a splendid affair. But it would not be a comfort to me. He was rather to lie in the lap of a poor maiden and be thought of little significance in the eyes of the world. **Now I can come to him**. Now he reveals himself to the miserable in order not to give any impression that he arrives with great power, splendor, wisdom, and aristocratic manners. But upon his return on that Day, when he will oppose the high and the mighty, it will be different. **Now** he comes to the poor, who need a Savior, but **then** he will come as a Judge against those who are persecuting him now.”

What we have now in Christ – which was revealed to us in Christmas – prepares us for that Great Day in the future when Christ shall return in all the splendor of a King. But that day will not be a terror for those who have faith in him. To those who hear the words of the angel, “**to you** is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord...” – to those who hear these words and believe them, the greatest of joy and peace is enjoyed now and a wonderful assurance is granted for the future.

A Hopeful Advent and a Merry Christmas to you,
Pastor Sean

December's Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 1st Jeremiah 33:14-18	Daniel 1:1-7	Daniel 1:8-17	Daniel 1:18-21	Daniel 3:1-7	Daniel 3:8-18	Daniel 3:19-30
Dec. 8th Isaiah 40:1-11	Isaiah 40:25-31	Isaiah 49:1-6	Isaiah 50:4-9	Isaiah 53:1-9	Isaiah 55:1-5	Isaiah 55:6-13
Dec. 15th Ezra 1:1-4, 3:1-13	Ezra 6:1-12	Ezra 6:13-18	Ezra 6:19-22	Zechariah 8:1-8	Zechariah 8:14-23	Zechariah 9:9-17
Dec. 22nd Luke 1:5-25	Luke 1:57-80	Luke 2:1-14	Luke 2:8-20	Luke 2:21-24	Luke 2:25-40	Mark 1:1-8
Dec. 29th Mark 1:9-13	Mark 1:14-20	Luke 6:17-31				

† Memorials †

Gifts were given in memory of Leona Ohlhauser to the Endowment Fund from Elaine Streyle, Delores Renschler, Helen & Sam Renschler, Steve & Karen Ollerich, Carole Cassidy, Carol Vandal, Spencer & June Larson, Rebecca Bosch, Keith & Jan Ohlhauser, Melvin & Lilli Wohl, Fred & Elke Hawkins, Mimslynn McCartney, Myla Weber, & Malary Hillhouse, Mary Kay, Allain, George, Toni, Michelle, John, & Bobby Jo Hankey, Chris & Dave Gaukler, Corbley & Carol Ogren, Dave & Noreen Steckler, Cindy Buttke, Joyce and Blaine Lemer, Ryan & Tara Huber, Wade & Erin Huber, Bill & Jennifer Huber, Dave & Lorie Brown, LaDean & Joan Hettich, Gary & DelRae Hulm, Jerry & Linda Bailey, Joe & Margie Vetter, Russ & Sandy Johnson, Carsha, Trent & Troy Wasen, Marvin Wasen, Collette, Julie Sue & Kelly (Renschler), Pastor Fred & Raylene Henkelmann, Brian & Rhea Flyberg, Herb & Arlene Grenz, Donna Tveito, Allan & Leah Burke, Kenny & Lorraine Schatz and Ronda Monroe, Don Jahner & Pat Huber, Kim Huber & Sanford, Bob & Lois Mauch, Laura Hirvela, Neil & Lila Beitelspacher, and Paul D Nelson; to the Celebrate Fund from Jim & Sylvia Weisser, to the Sunday School from Ron & Mary Maier, and Lynsey Oster, and to the Parsonage Fund from Terry & Shirlene Serr; in memory of Nancy Peterson to the Youth from Ron & Mary Maier, and to the Celebrate Fund from Jim & Sylvia Weisser; in memory of Henry Serr to the Parsonage Fund from Lyle & Erma Wohl; in memory of Alex (Mike) Bosch to the Parsonage Fund from Lyle & Erma Wohl, Linda Tschritter, Mike & Lil Kunz and Blaine & Joyce Lemer, and to the Youth Group from Stan & Dorothy Naumann; and in memory of Tony Bork to the Parsonage Fund from Terry & Shirlene Serr.

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Church Council

The Church Council is in need of three people for a three year term. Many of you have talents and great ideas that would be of wonderful service to God and our church! Please consider serving or encouraging others to serve. Aaron Stuckle, Jason Rossow, and Debbie Jahner are the members going off the council in January. If you are interested, please speak with Pastor Sean or one of the Council Members.

Mobile and Online Giving using Tithe.ly

Maybe it has happened to you. You want to give, you like to give, but while the offering plates are being passed around you realize you don't have your checkbook or cash on hand; in fact, you rarely do. Or perhaps, you are going to be away for the weekend. You're going to visit some family, catch a Bison game, or go camping. You want to give, but you're on the road.

Peace Lutheran has signed up with a company called Tithe.ly. Tithe.ly makes it easy to give either with their app or by clicking the green "Give" button on our church website (ndpeacelutheran.com). You can give using your credit/debit card or you can give directly from your bank account. You can choose to give a onetime gift or set up your gift to be recurring. You can even designate which fund your gift will go to and leave a memo to indicate an honorarium or memorial. If you have a smart phone, a tablet, or a computer and one of the scenarios above fits you, give it a try. It's both easy and safe.



Download the **Tithe.ly** app from the Apple or Google Play Stores or give online at ndpeacelutheran.com



The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other. ~Burton Hillis



We received \$68.00 in **Thrivent Choice \$** in November.

Thank you to those who direct their Thrivent Choice \$ to our congregation!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you're an eligible Thrivent Financial member and have Choice Dollars® available to direct, please keep Peace Lutheran Church in mind. For more info or to direct Choice Dollars, call **800-847-4836** and say "Thrivent Choice" or log on to <https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-choice/>.



A very large donation of food items to the Emmons County Food Pantry was made by the family of Emma Bitz shortly before Thanksgiving. This is the 20th year they have been making this donation in memory of their mother! A hearty thank you to the Bitz Family! Thank you also to Pastor Sean and Keith Petrick who transported the items to the Food Pantry!



The Church Council, Meeting of November 13, 2019:

- Pastor's Report: Funeral for Leona Gaukler on Oct. 12, and Burial for Alex Bosch on Nov. 12. Helped with Great Plains Food Bank project; and 20 kids at Youth Group on Oct. 23. Officiated at Alex & Cole Staigle's wedding on Oct. 26. Had 4 visits with Holy Communion. Coming up will be Ministerial Thanksgiving Basket distribution on Nov. 22 at UMC, and ECMA Thanksgiving Service on Nov. 24 at PLC. 8 kids and 2 adults are registered for the Youth Trip to TX next summer.
- Property: want to write up a contract with Al and Gary Hulm to perform snow removal. Discussed and approved the purchase of a new microphone. There is a loose railing on the back stairs. Discussed replacing or repairing curtains on the stage.
- Discussed building a fund to donate/help families in the community in need.
- The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2020 with Pot Luck to follow. All are welcome, and please bring a dish to share.
- Looking for 3 new Council members. Please speak with Pastor or Council member if willing to serve.
- Special times for Christmas Services: Christmas Eve @ 6 p.m., Christmas Day with Holy Communion @ 10 a.m., and December 29th @ 10 a.m.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact a church council member..... Aaron Stuckle, Jason Rossow, Debbie Jahner, Erin Schmidt, Vicki Schwab, Stan Naumann, Denise Martin, Wade Huber, and Edgar Ohlhauser.✝



And so, seven hundred years before the Wise Men gave, before the angels sang, and before the shepherds arrived, Isaiah explains for us in wonderful detail what Christmas is all about. Daniel Akin



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.✝



How can we best keep Christmas. . . By resolving to give ourselves away to others in love, joy and devotion. Wilferd A. Peterson

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday School children will tell their Christmas story
December 15th during the 10:45 worship at Peace Lutheran Church.
Everyone is welcome!✝



Youth Group

Merry Christmas! Thank you to everyone that supports our youth group.

The youth will be decorating cookies on **Dec 8** after church, and we will be delivering to shut-ins on **Dec 15** after church. If anyone knows of someone who could use a visit from the youth let Lisa Ptacek 218-201-0763 know before the 15th.

Calling All Bakers...

The youth will be having a bake sale on **DEC 15** after church with a free will offering. The funds will be used for their mission trip in July to Texas. If you are willing to bake we would appreciate your donation! Any questions ask Lisa Ptacek.

Lisa Ptacek



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



The Sunday School Christmas program will be held December 15th at 10:45 AM. The kids have received their lines, please help your child learn it! This year's story will be from the viewpoint of the shepherds. We will have program practice WEDNESDAY, December 11th. We are thankful for good attendance this fall. Thank you, parents for bringing your kids! We pray their faith in Christ is growing. Sunday School will resume again January 5th. ❄

-Anne Barnhart and Lisa Hendrickson

***No Sunday School December 22nd & 29th.**

"Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childhood days, recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the traveler back to his own fireside and quiet home!"- Charles Dickens



Quilting Ladies... We had our last quilting meeting November 18th, and will not be quilting in December. We will begin again January 6th, and will meet Mondays and Tuesdays. ☩



If we keep Christ in our heart Christmas has no end.



Ushers and Acolytes for Dec.

Dec. Greeter Schedule

- 10:45 a.m. Worship Service, 1, 8, 15, 22
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 29th
- 6:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship, 24th
- 10:00 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion, 25th
- Dec. 1
- Dec. 8
- Dec. 15 – Duane & Janice Baer
- Dec. 22
- Dec. 24
- Dec. 25
- Dec. 29
- Jan. 5



Sunday Scripture Reader's Schedule

- Dec. 1 – Debbie Jahner
- Dec. 8 – Mark Heidrich
- Dec. 15 – Janice Baer
- Dec. 22 –
- Dec. 29 –
- Jan. 5 –

* Please take a moment to check the white board and see which Sunday works for you to help usher, be a reader, or a greeter. Remember, you can still sign up for a whole month or just a Sunday. 😊

Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly merry Christmas.
Peg Brachen



Thank You to Lil Kunz, Jean Rudy, and Linda Tschritter for all their help in folding and stuffing the newsletters! It is very much appreciated!



~PLCW News~

Meeting of November 13th

All meetings will be held the first Wednesday of every month beginning in December.

- ♥ Sugar cookies for Youth to decorate, 10-12 dozen. Have at church before Dec 8th.
- ♥ Thank Offering Service Nov 24th, Celebrate Service.
- ♥ Ecumenical Service here Nov. 24th, Bars and coffee served upstairs.
- ♥ We will be giving Christmas baskets to shut-ins and others again this year. If you know of anyone who could use one please call Marilyn Malmedal with the name(s). We will pack the baskets on December 8th. Anyone wishing to help with packing or delivering would be greatly appreciated!
- ♥ Dec. 15th – Children’s Christmas Program and Youth Bake Sale. Anyone wishing to donate goods to the bake sale would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all who took part and donated on the Thank Offering Sunday, November 24th! Our donations went to “Emmons County Food Pantry”.

Women of Peace Meeting and Bible Study at church
Christmas Treat Potluck
Monday, Dec. 4th at 7 p.m.
 Mary Maier will lead the Bible Study.
 All confirmed Women of the Church are welcome!

† DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE †

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Dec. 1, 8, & 15

Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Dec 8, 15, & 22

Confirmation Instruction Wednesdays, Dec. 4 & 11 at 7 p.m.

Youth/Confirmation Class Christmas Party Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

December 1 – Worship with Holy Communion **10:45 a.m.**

December 8 – Celebrate Worship **10:45 a.m.**

December 15 – Sunday School Christmas Program/Worship **10:45 a.m.**

December 22 – Celebrate Worship/Holy Communion **10:45 a.m.**

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service **6:00 p.m.**

December 25 – Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion **10:00 a.m.**

December 29 – Praise! Worship **10:00 a.m.**



! 🚌 Need a Ride??

If you need a ride to church.....please call:
Elwin Nieuwsma.....254-0167



Christmas is the time of year that restores the hope of peace in the world. Catherine Pulsifer



In October, **AO1 Carson Wentz Foundation** was our “Mission of the Month.” We sent them \$599.50 in offerings for that program whose theme is “Uplifting individuals and communities around the world by demonstrating God’s love for His people”.

In November, our “Mission” was “**Ministry on the Margins**”. We collected \$331.00 for that project.

Our December “Mission” is “**Bismarck Cancer Center**”.

Peace Lutheran Church... December “Mission of the Month” The Bismarck Cancer Center

From the Bismarck Cancer Center website: “The Bismarck Cancer Center provides world-class cancer treatments and caring support for local patients, enabling them to stay close to home and loved ones during their cancer journeys. In 1999, CHI St. Alexius Health and Sanford Health joined forces to build and operate the facility in order to bring needed technologies to the area.



“The Bismarck Cancer Center provides the most advanced radiation therapies available. A highly-skilled radiation therapy team of oncology nurses, radiation therapists, medical physicists and dosimetrists work with radiation oncologists to design a treatment plan that attacks the disease and heals the patient. With our patient-centered approach to care, our compassionate staff treats patients with the same leading-edge technology often found in larger metropolitan areas, making the BCC a leader in using state-of-the-art technology for the treatment of cancer.

“At the Bismarck Cancer Center, we take a holistic approach to healing. We provide support services designed to care for various aspects of a patient’s well-being during treatment. These wraparound therapies include nutritional therapy, massage therapy, financial assistance, travel and lodging assistance, emotional and spiritual support, and much more, with recommendations made according to each patient’s specific needs.”



Christmas Schedule
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6 PM
Christmas Day Worship/Holy Communion 10 AM

☪ We send out Christmas greetings to friends and family near and far, we put up the tree in hopes Santa will arrive, but most of all we take the time to thank God for His Son. Kate Summers



Three Days of Prayer – January 7-9, 2020

Lutherans throughout the LCMC will be beginning the new year with prayer from January 7th-9th. Each day has its own focus. Below is a description of each day along with passages from Scripture pertaining to each day's focus. As you read the passages, ask God to help you to understand them while you bring your prayers of confession, your prayers of petition, and your prayers for vision before the Lord.

The focus of January 7th is **CONFESSION**.

“We have made our lives, our relationships—and even the church—in our own image. We confess that the church belongs to Jesus and not to us. We gather to lay down our pride, our sin and our agenda and ask the Lord of the church for forgiveness, which He gives freely and mercifully.”

Suggested Readings: Psalm 51; 1 John 1:1-10; Colossians 1:11-14; Luther's Small Catechism on Confession

The focus on January 8th is **PETITION**.

“Pray for your congregation, for the pastor, for the leaders, for those who carry out ministries, for the Sunday School teachers, for the Confirmation leaders, for those leading adult Bible studies and for those leading small groups. Pray for those in hospital and nursing home ministries. Pray for all those connected and not connected to your church that they might know God's redeeming love for all in Christ.”

Suggested Readings: Philippians 4:4-6; 1 Timothy 2:1-6; The Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer (and explanation) from Luther's Small Catechism

On January 9th we pray for **VISION**.

“Pray that the Holy Spirit will again move through the hearts and minds of leaders and pastors that God's vision for His church might be revealed and fulfilled. This is a time of prayer for renewal, revival and encouragement. Pray for God's vision.”

Suggested Readings: Jeremiah, 18:1-6; Ephesians 1:15-23; Hebrews 10:23-25; The First, Second, and Third Petition of the Lord's Prayer (and explanations) from Luther's Small Catechism



The Gospel Alphabet – Study God's Word!

Scripture of the Month ~

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6 KJV



December Baptismal Dates

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

1 – Travis Humann	14 – Margie Vossler	24 – Shannon Krogstad
2 – Eva Heyne	16 – Ramona Humann	Lynn McCulley
Corey Hoff-Wald	Jen Vetter	Jeanette Winterberg
Gracelyn Johnson	17 – Vicki Schwab	26 – Amanda Grossman
6 – Brandon Rossow	20 – Vanessa Fisher	29 – Nicole Nieuwsma
7 – Megan Ohlhauser	21 – Keith Petrick	Duane Ohlhauser
9 – Ben Huber	22 – Benjamin Schwab	30 – Richard Backhaus
11 – Kevin Krogstad	Josie Schwab	31 – John DeBoer
Cynthia Kurtz	23 – Sarah Henkelmann	Matthew Jasper
12 – Doris Heer		Janelle Schlosser

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	6 – Doris Heer	17 – Larry UMBER Jr.
Twyla Schiermeister	12 – Larry Humann	19 – Mackenzie Hendrickson
Brynn Huber	Irene Fisher	20 – Mary Maier
3 – Shannon Krogstad	13 – June Alderin	29 – Darcy Rindelaub
4 – Jon Ptacek	14 – Keith Humann	Noah Nieuwsma
Dez Kiefer	Rafe Kalama	30 – Laurie Humann Murphy
5 – Tad Larson	15 – Peyton Masset	
Kaisley Masset	16 – Jacob Conroy	

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 Mission Statement

Welcome people in

Help them grow

Send them out to care

Welcome ~ Grow ~ Care



December 2019

Please sign up to Usher
or be an Acolyte!



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
1 1st Sunday in Advent No Adult Bible Study Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship/Holy Communion 10:45 AM	2	3	4 7 PM Confirmation 7 PM Women of Peace	5	6	7
8 2nd Sunday in Advent Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Celebrate Worship 10:45	9	10	11 Sunday School Program Practice w/pizza 5:30 PM ~ Confirmation Class 7:00 PM ~ Church Council 7:00 PM	12 ECMA 10:30 AM	13	14
15 3rd Sunday in Advent Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Worship with Sunday School Program 10:45 AM	16	17	18 Youth Group/Confirmation Class Christmas Party 6:30 PM	19	20	21
22 4th Sunday in Advent Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM No Sunday School ~ Celebrate Worship/Holy Communion 10:45 AM	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:00 PM	25 Christmas Day Worship/Holy Communion 10:00 AM	26	27	28
29 1st Sunday After Christmas No Sunday School or Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Praise! Worship	30	31	<i>It's all about</i> Jesus			