

*Peace Lutheran Church
Linton, ND*

Pastor's Article

The dictionary defines **advent** as the "arrival of a notable person, thing, or event." In the church calendar, the season of advent begins the church year. In this season, we both look back at the notable arrival of Christ at Christmas and we look forward to the notable arrival of Christ in his return.

We are living between the two Advents. We have the privilege of living after the First Advent, in an age when the love of God for sinners has been revealed to us in Jesus Christ. And we live in anticipation of the Second Advent, one Christ warns us to be ready for and to anticipate. We are called in this moment to live lives of repentance and readiness. Knowing the day of Christ's return draws ever closer, we understand that we have an urgent call to continue the proclamation of Law and Gospel – that God is displeased with sin and calls sinners to repent and believe in the Lamb who was slain for the sin of the world.

The blending of the Advent season, looking ahead while also looking back, keeps the Church grounded. We celebrate Emmanuel, God with Us and look forward to the day when it will become Us with God for all eternity.

In peace,
Pastor Sean Barnhart

Advent Series: Coming Home for Christmas



This year, Pastor Sean will be using a preaching resource for Advent and Christmas Day services. Below is a primer on the series from 1517.org.

"Pastor Matt Popovits focuses on five passages in Isaiah where the promises of God - fulfilled in either Jesus' arrival or his second coming - proclaim to us that while we long to find peace, belonging, and comfort this time of year, our ultimate Christmas gift is our

citizenship in his kingdom. For he is the Home who has come to win us back from exile, keep us safe in his embrace, and promises that we will someday reside with him forever."

PLC Newsletter December 2025

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*Proud member of the Northern Plains
District of the LCMC*

Church Council Meeting Minutes Summary for November 12th, 2025

Council members in attendance: Gunner Hanson, Mark Heidrich, Kevin Hendrickson, Erica Hoff-Wald, Edgar Ohlhauser, Jason Rossow, Shelly Serr, and Jennifer Vetter. Absent was Wayde Bauman

Review of the October 8 Meeting Minutes. Shelly Serr made a motion to approve the minutes. Edgar Ohlhauser seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

October Treasurer's Report. Money from the Refinishing Fund (\$25,107.18) was moved to a CD at BNC Bank with 3.8% interest for nine months. The first installment of the Special Assessments for the City of Linton were paid (\$1,837.28 Church, \$918.64 Parsonage). Mark Heidrich made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Edgar Ohlhauser seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Pr. Barnhart's report. Pastor thanked the council and church for their support after the death of his sister. He thanked Pastor Rich for covering the burial for Maggie Bender on October 28. His report included: Wedding for Katie Nieuwsma and Jacob Merck on October 18. Baptism for Evelyn Ferderer on October 19. Youth Group on October 22 (25 kids). Strasburg Care Center Service on October 23. Confirmation Service for Mia Caruso, Skylar Hoff-Wald, Brody Ptacek, Brandon Rossow, Connor Umber, and Nicole Vander Vorste on October 26. Baptism for Graham Kramer on November 2. Baptism for Evelyn Nieuwsma on November 9. Finished Adult Bible Study on Hebrews (studying Lamentations next).

Property Committee: A new oven was ordered for the parsonage. A new sound board was purchased as part of the sound system update. Music stand lights were ordered for the Celebrate. Parking lot curb stakes were installed. The Committee will line and mark the new concrete area of the parking lot. The nursery project is complete, apart from new furniture.

Stewardship Committee: Mark Heidrich made a motion to donate \$500 (from General Fund) to the Emmons County Ministerial Association for Thanksgiving Baskets. Edgar Ohlhauser seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Worship Committee: Pr. Barnhart will use a sermon series from 1517.org for Advent and Christmas Day. New candles were ordered for the Christmas Eve Service. The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is scheduled for 6:00pm and Christmas Day Worship for 10:00am with Holy Communion.

Education Committee: The Sunday School Christmas Program is scheduled for December 14 during the 10:45 am service.

Evangelism Committee: The Evangelism and Stewardship Committees continue to discuss strategy, opportunities, recommendations, and standards for intentional and wise use of resources, particularly in carrying out the committee missions, the Mission of the Month, and PLC Community Help Fund.

New Business. Gunnar Hanson made a motion to approve the bid for parking lot snow removal from Al Hulm for \$100/hour or \$1.67/minute. Edgar Ohlhauser seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried. Edgar Ohlhauser made a motion to pay the \$100 bill from Bruce Martin for spraying the cemetery. Shelly Serr seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried. A quarter beef was anonymously donated to the church for the Pastor's family. The church paid the processing fee.

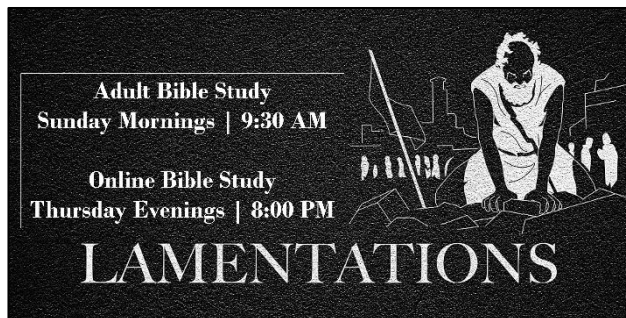
Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM the meeting. The next meeting is Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 7pm.



Daily Scripture Readings

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Dec. 1st Daniel 5:1-12	Daniel 5:13-30	Daniel 6:1-18	Daniel 6:19-28	Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:1-10	Ezekiel 3:1-11
Dec. 7th Ezekiel 37:1-14	Ezekiel 39:25-29	Ezra 1:1-11	Ezra 3:1-7	Ezra 3:8-13	Isaiah 52:3-10	Isaiah 54:1-10
Dec. 14th Isaiah 55:1-13	Proverbs 8:1, 22-26	Proverbs 8:27-31	Psalms 8:1-9	Isaiah 11:1-9	Luke 1:26-38	Luke 1:46-55
Dec. 21st John 1:1-18	Luke 1:5-25	Luke 1:57-66	Luke 1:67-80	Luke 2:1-20	Luke 2:21-38	Luke 2:41-52
Dec. 28th John 1:19-34	2 Kings 1:7-8	Malachi 4:5-6	Luke 3:1-18			

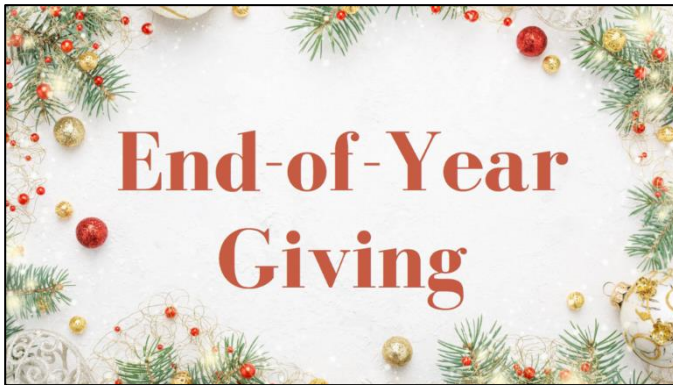


Online Bible Study

Join Pastor Sean with Online Bible Study on our YouTube channel posted on Thursday evenings at 8:00 PM at [Youtube.com/@peacelutheran1357](https://www.youtube.com/@peacelutheran1357)

Add a little Scripture to your daily routine! Tune in each day on Facebook or YouTube at 8:10 AM Monday through Friday for a short devotion or watch later at your convenience.





Please Note: **all** donations made to the church are first recorded by those council members/ushers who count the offering after worship **before** they are recorded by the bookkeeper and taken to the bank for deposit. This means all donations intended to count towards your 2025 giving should be given no later than Sunday, December 28th.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you are an eligible Thrivent Financial member and have Choice Dollars® available to direct, please consider directing them to your church. For more info or to direct Choice Dollars, call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" or log go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

Thank you!

My parents, brother, and nephew (as well as my own family) would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for all the love and support given to us after the death of my sister, Emily. Thank you for the cards, memorials, donations, food, and comfort. This truly is a special church family.

~Pastor Sean~



Find Peace Wherever You Go!

Follow Peace Lutheran on all our socials. Keep up with the most current announcements, be fed by God's Word through 8:10 Devotions and Online Bible Study, and never miss worship!

Facebook: facebook.com/peacelutheranlinton

YouTube: youtube.com/@peacelutheran1357

Instagram: instagram.com/peace.lutheran

Online Giving Made Easy

Tithe.ly makes it easy to give either with their app or by clicking the green "Give" button on our church website (ndpeacelutheran.com). Give using your credit card or give directly from your bank account. You can choose to give a onetime gift ("I forgot my checkbook!") or set your gift up to be recurring ("I never want to carry my checkbook again!") You can even designate which fund your gift will go to and leave a memo to indicate an honorarium or memorial.

Dear **Women of Peace**- Is there anyone who would interested in taking over the women's finances and conducting the annual meeting to help get volunteers for the few projects that we do? Please contact Lisa Ptacek at 218-201-0763.

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 you would like played (if available). It will be played on that date, and you may choose the time either: 9:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. The song and donor will be acknowledged in the bulletin. The cost for Special Music is a donation.



Please take a moment to check the white board set up in the Narthex and see which Sunday works for you to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, or Acolyte. Sign up for a whole month or just a

Sunday. Volunteers are needed each Sunday.



Need a Ride?

If you need a ride to worship?
Please call
Elwin Nieuwsma: 254-0167



HONOR SOMEONE WITH FLOWERS

The Flower Committee: Janice Baer and Evelyn Petrick, along with Linton Floral N' More, has set up a system for members to provide flowers for Sunday Worship Services. For **\$40**, Linton Floral N' More will provide two arrangements of flowers to be placed in the two vases behind the altar or for \$30, a larger single arrangement displayed at the front of the sanctuary.

If you would like to supply flowers for a certain Sunday: Give your money to one of the ladies on the Flower Committee. Specify the date you would like flowers displayed let them know the special occasion and how that info should be listed in the bulletin.

If you or anyone you know would like a **weekly church bulletin** or a **monthly newsletter** mailed to them, please let the Church Office know. The deadline for the newsletter is the 20th of the month! Please get your news and upcoming information to the church office by that date!

Peace Lutheran Church Mission Statement

WELCOME people in
Help them ***GROW***
Send them out to ***CARE***

Welcome ~ Grow ~ Care

Mission of the Month

Ministry on the Margins is a volunteer-based ecumenical ministry committed to supporting those who fall through the cracks during times of transition. We offer hospitality and coffee, a food pantry, prison-to-society support, an ecumenical Christian worship service, and many other ministries every week.



Ministry on the Margins was founded in 2013 by Sister Kathleen Atkinson, OSB, a sister of Annunciation Monastery in Bismarck. Many compassionate individuals, churches, and organizations helped her. Ministry on the Margins now operates under the guidance of the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Monastery.



Country of the Month: Ukraine

Ukraine's location as a gateway between East and West has always left it in a vulnerable position. The Russian invasion of 2022, Russian support of the breakaway republics of Donetsk and Luhansk, the occupation of the Crimea and the Euromaidan of 2014, and the Orange Revolution of 2004-5 all demonstrate Russia's determination to dominate

Ukraine. They also equally demonstrate Ukraine's determination to be free. Millions of Ukrainians have been displaced, and hundreds of thousands have been killed.

Whenever the conflict ends – and on whatever terms it ends – rebuilding from the devastation will take years, or even decades. Even more complicated will be the healing of trauma experienced and, hopefully, an eventual reconciliation with its neighbor. Pray for the intervention of the God who makes wars cease to the ends of the earth and who breaks the bow and shatters the spear (Psalm 46:9). Pray Psalm 10:17-18 over Ukraine – that the Lord would hear the desire of the afflicted, encourage them, and listen to their cries. Pray for wisdom from above, and divine fortitude for Ukraine's leaders and its people.



Christmas Party!

I know you all want to come, but this is only for 7th-12th graders. Come enjoy a Christmas feast, some games, a Christmas Bible study, and all the fun! Wednesday, December 17th, at 6:30 PM in the church basement.

Mission of the Month

In October, our congregation sent \$448.00 to **31:8 Project**. Thank you for your faithful giving.

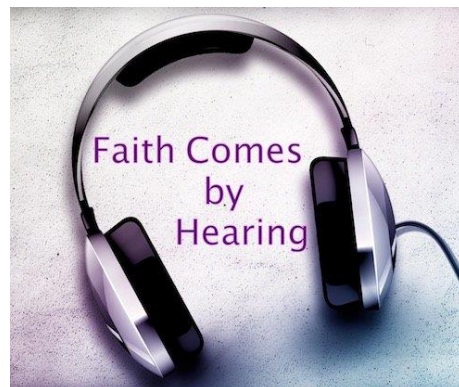


Memorials received as of Nov. 22nd:

- *To the Sound System Update from Ronald and Mary Maier in memory of Maggie Bender
- * To the Sound System Update from Blaine and Joyce Lemer in memory of Maggie Bender
- *To the Sound System Update from Edgar and Delores Ohlhauser in memory of Rodney Ohlhauser

Updating the Sound System

The Church Council is raising funds to update our Sound System. So far, a digital sound board has been purchased to give us better flexibility and a more consistent sound week to week as well as give us more control over the sound quality in our live streams and recordings. Next, we would like to replace the speakers in the sanctuary. About \$12,500 has been raised so far. If you would like to give towards this project, please talk to Pastor Sean.





December Baptismal Celebrations

- 1 Travis Humann
- 2 Corey Hoff-Wald
Gracelynn Johnson
- 3 Rodney Heitz
- 6 Brandon Rossow
- 7 Megan Ohlhauser
- 9 Ben Huber
- 11 Kevin Krogstad
Keaton Peterson
- 12 Doris Heer
- 14 Margie Vossler
- 16 Ramona Humann
Jen Vetter
- 17 Vicki Schwab
- 20 Vanessa Fisher
- 21 Keith Petrick
- 22 Mike Schwab
Josi Schwab
Tristan Grossman
- 24 Shannon Krogstad
Jeanette Winterberg
- 26 Amanda Grossman
Eva Heyne
Lilli Wohl
- 29 Nicole Spotts
Duane Ohlhauser
- 30 Richard Backhaus
- 31 John DeBoer
Matthew Jasper
Janelle Schlosser

December Birthdays

- 1 Carson Lawler
Twyla Schiermeister
Brynn Huber
- 3 Shannon Krogstad
- 4 Jon Ptacek
- 5 Tad Larson
Kaisley Masset
- 6 Doris Heer
- 12 Larry Humann
Irene Fisher
- 13 June Alderin
Westin Grossman
- 14 Keith Humann
Rafe Kamala
- 15 Peyton Masset
Jacob Conroy
- 16 Larry Umber
- 17 Mackenzie Hendrickson
- 20 Mary Maier
Darcy Rindelaub
- 24 Lydia Faye Bosch
- 29 Noah Nieuwsma
- 30 Laurie Murphy

*"For you formed my
inward parts; you
knitted me together in
my mother's womb. I
praise you, for I am
fearfully and*