



PEACE AND PROCLAMATION

December 2009

A message from Pastor Pete

Ah, December. It's a crazy month. Christmas concerts. Shopping. Christmas parties. Shopping. Decorating. Baking. Travelling. We all get caught up in it. None are immune. Sometimes I want to shout alongside Charlie Brown in his Christmas special. "Isn't there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?" We know the focus *SHOULD* be on Jesus', God's gift to us. The reality of life looks much different. So not only do we end up running around like crazy people, we feel guilty about it! We have this dream about the 'peace of the season,' but it never seems to happen. We watch our kids get caught up in the hype and wonder what we can ever do!



This year, instead of simply feeling guilty, my family will be using the Advent devotional guide included with this newsletter. It's very simple. A short Bible story. A short devotion on the story. A question for discussion. A prayer. A few minutes a day to ground us in the reason for the season...Jesus Christ! These devotions are intended for families with kids of all ages, though they could work just as well for individuals.

The season of advent includes the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Advent is one of those good church words, from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming." In Advent, we in the church wait for the birth of Jesus. This year Advent begins on Sunday, November 29th.



Give it a try. If you have kids, help them hear God's voice in the midst of all the commercials for more 'Christmas loot.' If you don't have kids in your home, use these devotions as a time to reflect on the coming of the true King!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Pete

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Church News!

Youth Bell Ringing

The 6th-8th graders will ring bells for the Salvation Army on Wednesday, **December 2nd**. We will meet at the church office at 5:45 to drive to Rochester and will drop the kids off at their homes when we are done (after 8:00). Please plan to eat supper before you come!



Bell Ringing for Salvation Army

We need 4 more bell ringers.



**Saturday
Dec 5th @
Walmart S.
Rochester
10am - 6PM**

10-11	Rhone Family	2-3	OPEN
11-12	Porcher Family	3-4	OPEN
12-1	OPEN	4-5	Hanley Family
1-2	Wick Family	5-6	OPEN

Christmas Shopping Day

On Saturday, **December 5th** Peace will make life a lot easier for many parents! From 10:00 to 5:00 people will be standing by at the church office to watch your kids, giving you time to shop! Lunch will be provided, and a freewill offering will be received. If you'd like to be a part of the group helping out, please contact Tanya Reiman. E-mail the church office (pastorpete@peaceyota.org) if you plan to drop off your kids (so we can make sure to have enough snacks and crafts for everyone).



Christmas Eve

Peace will celebrate the birth of Jesus at 6:00 on Christmas Eve. As is our tradition, we will hold a 'flashlight' service, with small flashlights used in the place of candles. It works very well, especially for small children!

Pastor Pete on the Road

Pastor Pete will be at the Synod Staff Retreat on **December 16th**.



Remember Our Soldiers



**When
you're out
shopping,
remember
our Soldiers
that we
adopted for
Christmas**

We have 10 Soldiers this year that we've adopted. We would like to supply them with presents (i.e. New DVDs, games, snacks, personal hygiene items, etc)

Over the next few weeks we will collect items and need to ship them out by **end of November**. If you would like to participate, please reply or signup in church on Sunday.

NOTE: We will also have a family from the Interfaith Hospitality Program that we will be adopting. Family info and items to be collected will be coming soon!

Children's Christmas Program

Please plan to come to worship on Sunday, **December 20th**! The kid's Christmas program will follow an abbreviated worship service at our usual 9:15 time. This is always one of the highlights of our year, so don't miss out (and bring some grandparents, aunts, and uncles with you!). The offering from worship that day will be designated to our children/youth education ministries. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will match the first \$820 collected! Please help us take full advantage of these funds.



Peace on Earth

Christmas Program - Sunday, **December 20th** at 9:15 a.m.

Parents, please have your children at church no later than 9:00 a.m.

Children will be wearing angel costumes (unless otherwise notified), white stockings and a white t-shirt or long sleeve shirt.

What can you do to get your children ready for the Christmas program?

- ◆ Listen to music CD (need one? Call Su 545-2954)
- ◆ Come to Sunday School 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.
- ◆ Come to Weekday School 5:45 - 6:45 Wednesdays at the Peace Church Office

Plan Ahead:

December 2nd	Middle School youth ring bells for Salvation Army
December 5th	Peace's turn to ring bells for Salvation Army
December 6th	Commitment Sunday for Livin' the Faith
December 20th	Sunday School Christmas Program during worship



Christmas Break

Over Christmas break there will be no Sunday School on Sunday, **December 27th** and no youth ministry on **December 23rd** or **30th**.

Matching Funds

On Sunday, **Dec. 20th** the offering from worship will be designated to our children/youth education ministries. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will match the first \$820 collected! Please help us take full advantage of these funds.



Fun Notes



What did Adam say on the day before Christmas ?

It's Christmas, Eve !

What do you have in December that you don't have in any other month ? The letter "D" !

What do monkeys sing at Christmas ?

Jungle Bells, Jungle bells.. !

What did the bald man say when he got a comb for Christmas ?

Thanks, I'll never part with it !

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is...
"To call people to Christ, nurture them into the faith, and send them out in witness and service."
Worship—9:15am: @ Dover-Eyota Elementary School-27 Knowledge Road, Eyota
Church Office: 515 S. Jefferson Avenue—(507) 545-2535—www.peaceeyota.org
Future Home of Peace: 6 acres @ corner of Knowledge Road & Hwy #7

Set-Up Teams

To clarify what has become confusing for some, we have completely changed the way that we set up for worship. The 'old' groups that used to come once every 6 weeks to get the gym organized for worship no longer exist. Set-up & tear down on Sunday mornings will now be done by the new teams that are now forming (i.e. the Outdoor team, Grow & Create team, Wild Mustangs, etc). If you are an 'old-timer' from the groups of the past, we encourage you to join one of these new teams!



Nursery



As many of you know, Peace now has a nursery for little ones! Many parents have appreciated the opportunity to worship (and not just wrestle with kids)! As you come for worship, feel free to use this great new resource. The nursery meets in the teacher's lounge. We're also looking for people to assist in staffing the nursery. If you'd like to be part of a rotational schedule, please talk to Julie Porcher (288-5294).

Friendly Visitor Volunteers are Needed

The Elder Network is in need of Friendly Visitor Volunteers. Because of the flexibility of this program, it is a great opportunity for working people and for families to visit for one hour a week with a lonely senior in our community. Please call 285-5272 for more information.



Calling all Facebook Members

Peace just started a Facebook page (Peace Lutheran Church, Eyota). If you're a Facebook type person, stop on by and become a fan! Larry the Puppet also started his own Facebook page! Find him under Larry T Puppet.

Pastor Pete's Phone Number

When not in the office, the best way to contact Pastor Pete is on his cell phone, 696-3309.



Outreach News!



Interfaith Hospitality Network

Upcoming Dates:

December 6-13th in Plainview (Community Presbyterian Church)

If you are available to be a driver, meal host or overnight host during these dates, please contact Carrie Rhone at 545-0101

WORSHIP ASSISTANT INFORMATION

December 6, 2009

Worship Asst: Eric Porcher
Reader: Tamara Rasmussen
Communion Asst's: Jeff & Kay Klein
Hospitality: Sorom, Turnquist, Wallace, Welsh, & Wendt Families
Set-up/Ushers: Cook & Karaoke Team



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

December 13, 2009

Worship Asst: Jeff Klein
Reader: Becky Crenshaw
Communion Asst's: Eric & Julie Porcher
Hospitality: Ziemer, Begin, Brockway, Caflisch, & Crenshaw Families
Set-up/Ushers: Wild Mustangs Team

December 20, 2009

Worship Asst: Tanya Reiman
Reader: Chuck Johnson
Communion Asst's: Cindy Woltman & Steve Szuberski
Hospitality: Enright, Hanley, Helgeson, & Curt & Kathy Olson Families
Set-up/Ushers: Outdoor Sports Team

December 27, 2009

Worship Asst: Steve Szuberski
Reader: Myra Wick
Communion Asst's: Jon & Diane Tangen
Hospitality: Wick, Tangen, Reiman, Keach, & Cindy Woltman Families
Set-up/Ushers: Grow & Create Team

December Birthdays!

Brandon Rucker 12/3
Jayne Shelquist 12/5
Joseph Wick 12/8
Christine Olson 12/15
Brady Begin 12/18
Kari Wendt 12/19
Abigale Wick 12/19
Andrew Peterson 12/27
Jessica Szuberski 12/29
LeAnne Trom 12/29
Michael Woltman 12/29
Isaac Pristash 12/30
Mike Boettcher 12/31
Jenna Rasmussen 12/15



If we have missed your birthday or have the wrong date in past newsletters, please email the church office so that we can get our records correct! We're sorry about any mistakes!

office@peaceyota.org

~December Readings~

December 6

Luke 3:1-6
John Prepares the Way

December 13

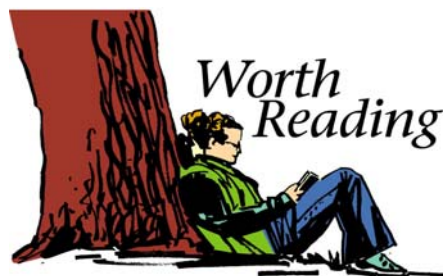
Luke 3:7-20
John's Preaching

December 20

Matthew 1:18-25
Matthew's Christmas Story

December 27

Luke 2:21-40
Jesus presented in the temple



Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday - 09/15/09

6:30 PM

Devotions: (What is God doing here? What does this passage say to me? What does it say to us?)

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call meeting to order: Jeff Reiman		Jeff called the meeting to order at 7PM
Secretary's Report: Carrie Rhone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve Minutes from August 11, 2009 	Curt motioned to approve, Wayne seconded.
Treasurer's Report: Jeff Reiman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates Offering balance 	Check VBS rental for Elem. School didn't added to our August rent amount. Balances: \$254,170.37 – Mission Investment Fund Aug 31 -\$17, 434.60 Checking acct balance \$20K CD for Line of Credit – Balance still 20K Current general offering balance = \$58,532.20. We are to contribute 10% of our offerings yearly to the Synod Benevolence. Jeff made a motion to write out a check to the Synod in the amount of 4K (Benevolence). Wayne seconded.
Team Reports:		
Education Team: Curt Olson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday School Weekday School updates God Squad events? 	Sunday school kickoff with new format. Estimate of 40 kids. Junior High – May need leader Wednesdays – Fill in for Su and Paul on days they will be absent. Senior High – Jackie is researching possible trips. Living in the Faith is on Sundays with Pastor Pete.
Finance Team: Jeff Reiman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates on 20k LOC and Chk Acct Building Fund – Estimate on money that was not slated for building Stewardship updates - Tentative date Oct 4th. Commitment Sunday October 25th. Future Noisy collections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sept - Special Olympics Oct – Cardboard Box City Nov - Community Food Response Dec – Salvation Army 	Catch the vision, share the mission Meeting with consultant on 10/3 to discuss Stewardship. Will make brochure to hand out to congregation. Need to state a goal of 125k to sustain the funds in 2010 and then have a stretch goal of 140k. Sept. Noisy collection: \$72.13 will go to Special Olympics.
Outreach: Carrie Rhone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upcoming IHN dates (September 20-27 and December 6-13th) 	320+ pounds of food for Channel One. Flamingos are migrating back for us to use again next year. IHN going on this next Sunday.

Property Team: Wayne Merhkens	<p>Updates Painting steps Wendt's mowing / trimming Setup checklist</p>	<p>Individual assisting with mowing and weed wacking for community service.</p> <p>Adam needs to be paid - \$240 yet for earlier mowing this summer.</p> <p>Next week steps will be painted.</p> <p>Linda can have checklist laminated and have one on the setup tub so items can be checked</p>
Spirituality: Brenda Szuberski	<p>Updates Small group update</p>	
Worship Team: Myra Wick	<p>Updates Camping updates</p>	16 campers at Carley State Park. Went to group site.
Pastor Update	<p>Pastoral updates Baptised/Confirmed #'s New Members Upcoming vacation dates</p>	<p>No change in membership. New member Sunday will include two families.</p> <p>Vacation Wednesday-Sunday 23rd – 27th.</p> <p>Beth Krolac will be preaching on the 27th.</p> <p>Remind Linda to issue check and have signed and ready for Beth K on the 27th.</p>
OLD BUSINESS	Jeff to give update on Finance procedures w/Linda	<p>Linda will email listing of bills on Wednesdays to Jeff. Jeff reviews and approves bills. Linda writes out checks and Chuck adds his signature and they get mailed out. In the end there are 2 approvals.</p> <p>On Sundays someone from the finance team writes down attendance and then a person's offering # vs. the name of the family. Two people ideally should do this job.</p> <p>Need to write up formal procedure and have Council review.</p>