

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1900 E. Lincoln Hwy. P.O. Box 205, New Lenox, IL 60451

815-485-5327; www.peacenewlenox.org

e-mail: peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org

December 21 & December 22, 2019

Dave Hedlin, Pastor

Shari Trotter, Diaconal Minister

Mike Markwell, Vicar

Our Vision Statement: *Sharing Peace Faithfully*

Our Mission: *To bring people into contact with the Gospel, and help them grow in their relationship to God in Christ.*

WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & OUR WORSHIP SERVICE!

We are glad that you are here! We pray that you will be drawn closer to the living, forgiving God who has come to meet us. Please come again.

TODAY'S ASSISTING MINISTERS

Accompanist/Organist	Todd Yetman
Children's Choir Director	Leslie Walton
Adult Choir Director	Pamela Putrich
Bell Choir Director	Erica Desaulniers
Director of Ladies Ensemble	Pamela Putrich
Sound Engineer	Ted Chubb
Lay Liturgist (5:00)	Debbie Standard
Lay Liturgist (8:30)	Amelia Rogers
Lay Liturgist (11:00)	Margaret Skurka
Lesson Reader (5:00)	Al Davenport
Lesson Reader (8:30)	Daneen Taylor
Lesson Reader (11:00)	Chris Jarchow
Acolyte (5:00)	Taylor Arthur
Acolyte (8:30)	Kolin Dotzenrod
Nursery (ages 0-5)(8:30)	Megan Gerasch
Nursery (ages 0-5)(11:00)	Ava Murphy
Ushers (5:00)	Bill Sandt
Ushers (8:30)	Dave Narish, Jim Pander, Matthew Schilke, Mike Schilke
Ushers (11:00)	Deb Hypke, Duane Hypke, Robert Kazlauskas, Cameron Krause
Greeters (5:00)	The Paape Family
Greeters (8:30)	Barb Hnetkovsky
Communion Servers (8:30)	Alec Boyens, Diane Conatser, Randy Conatser
	Scott Cucci, Ben Gouty, Steve Smith

Bread Provider (8:30)	John Overend
Refreshments (8:30)	Chris & Renee Osbrink, Janet Park, Jennifer Rimkunas
Refreshments (11:00)	Jim & Julie Brewer, Melissa & Carleigh Fountain
	Lindsey Brown

Offering Counters Jim & Carol Grosche, Logan Fountain, Chris Fehrenkamp
The altar flowers are given by Jim and Georgia Pander in memory of their son, Daniel; also given by Ed Cochran. Last week, JoDell Albi gave flowers in memory of her husband, Steven Craig Miller.

WE APPRECIATE your wearing name tags, turning off cell phones, and using a quiet voice for conversations once the prelude begins before worship.

WELCOME PADS

It helps us when you sign the red welcoming pads and give us your last name.

HEARING ASSISTANCE & LARGE PRINT HYMNAL AVAILABLE

We are happy to offer a large print hymnal for visual assistance, as well as wireless receivers to assist anyone with a hearing impairment. Please ask an usher for either or both.

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION WAFERS & OTHER ASSISTANCE

If you would like a gluten free cracker instead of a wafer or bread, or if you have difficulty picking up an individual communion cup, please just ask your server to assist you. Also, if you are not able to come forward for communion, let an usher know and we will come to you.

NEXT WEEKEND we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the 5:00 p.m. Saturday and the 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship services.

Saturday Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.
Education Hour (adult class only).....	9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Sun., Dec. 22 - Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m.

No Sunday School

No Teen Bible Study

Adult Education Hour - "*Detaching in Relationships*" (including how *Jesus did it*) 9:45 a.m.

Prayers of Intercession Planning Meeting 9:45 a.m.

Peace 360 - discussion and dinner 4:00 p.m.

Mon., Dec. 23 - No Strong Seniors Exercise Group

Tues., Dec. 24 - Office closed

Worship 4:00, 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00

No Addiction and Family Support Group 7:00 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 25 - Worship 10:00 a.m.

Sun., Dec. 29 - No Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Adult Education Hour - "*How Do Your Dreams Turn Out?*" 9:55 a.m.

Teen Bible Study 9:45 a.m.

No Peace 360

Mon., Dec. 30 - Ruth Circle Quilters 9:00 a.m.

No Strong Seniors Exercise Group

Tues., Dec. 31 - No Addiction and Family Support Group 7:00 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 1 - Office Closed

No Bible Study

No Strong Seniors Exercise Group

Sat., Jan. 4 - Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal 3:00 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 5 - Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Adult Education Hour 9:55 a.m.

Teen Bible Study 9:45 a.m.

Peace 360 4:00 p.m.

More New This Week

HYMNS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S SERVICE

For the Sunday after Christmas, you get to help choose the hymns for the service. Before each hymn, Todd will ask for suggestions from the Christmas section. Be ready to shout out the one you'd like us to sing.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS - SAT., JAN. 18

Each year we seek to prepare children in the fifth grade (and beyond) for receiving their first communion. We do it in a one-hour concentrated class. A parent/other adult (or two) should attend along with the child. The class will be offered on Saturday, Jan. 18, at 10:00 a.m.

PEANUT BUTTER WEEKEND - JAN. 25 & 26

Let's see if we can top last year's record amount of peanut butter jars we received! The New Lenox Township food bank especially needs this staple at this time of year.

VARIETY SHOW & DINNER - SUN, FEB. 23

The stage is calling! Back by popular demand is our Annual Variety Show & Dinner - Sun., Feb. 23, at 3:00 p.m. All ages and talents are welcome and encouraged to perform. Perhaps a short skit, instrumental, or vocal performance? Maybe a duet, trio, quartet, or quintet? Let's do our best to top last year's show! If you wish to perform, we ask that you fill out an information form available in Kelly Muehlnickel's mailbox or in the church office. Please return the completed form to her mailbox or the office. The deadline to sign up is February 12. Not ready to perform? Then be sure to attend the show! As a delicious bonus, a catered dinner will follow the show beginning about 4:45/ 5:00 p.m. on a free-will offering basis. Come join the fun! Please use the sign-up slip in the bulletin or call the office if you wish to attend. Call Mark Muehlnickel at 815-463-8836 with any questions.

ALL QUESTIONS KIDS ASK BOOKS ARE IN! - BUY NOW

The printing of the Spanish editions of the original book are now also available. Check them out & buy some of either language or both today! Look for a table in the entrance area for more details, or call the church office!

New This Week

PING PONG CLUB - SUN., JAN. 19 (PART OF PIELUCK - SEE BELOW)

The ping pong club meets regularly on the third Sunday of the month at 6:00 p.m. But in January, we'll combine with the all-church Pieluck event. If you want to receive email reminders of upcoming ping pong club dates, let the church office know your name and email address.

PING PONG TOURNAMENT 2020 & ALL-CHURCH PIELUCK - SUN., JAN. 19

You've heard of a potluck, right? This is a pieluck! We'll provide the pizza pies and tossed salad. You bring a favorite pie! After eating is finished (and during!), it's time for ping pong. The date is Sun., Jan. 19, with food beginning at 12:15 and ping pong at 12:30. For ping pong, we will have a "lose three times and you're done" plan, with people playing one game at a time per opponent at 15 points for a victory so that more people can play more games. You can designate yourself as an "A" or "B" or "C" level player, and depending on how many sign up, may or may not play just within your group. Please use the sign-up slip or call the church office.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION & RECEPTION - SUN., JAN. 19 & 26

We will be privileged once again to welcome more people officially to become partners with us in our mission of spreading the Gospel and growing in faith. The three-part orientation and get-acquainted sessions will take place (1) on Sun., Jan. 19, during the 9:45 education hour at church; (2) at 6:30 p.m. that evening at the church; (3) on Sun., Jan. 26, during the luncheon that follows the actual reception of new members, which is at the 11:00 a.m. worship service that day. If you are interested in joining or finding out more information, use the sign-up, call the church office at 815-485-5327 or see Pastor Dave.

NEW MEMBER SPONSORS

We want new members to feel welcome. Having sponsors is one key element. The "job description" for our sponsors includes the New Member Orientation Class on Jan. 19, at 9:45 a.m., plus the 11:00 worship and luncheon on Jan. 26. We would also like you to keep in contact with your new members from time to time. If you are interested, please call the office or use the sign-up slip.

SALADS/DESSERTS FOR NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON - SUN., JAN. 26

We appreciate volunteers who are willing to provide a salad, dessert, bread/ rolls, etc. for the new member luncheon on Jan. 26. If you could provide any of these, please use the sign-up in the bulletin or call the church office. You will be reminded at a later date. (Also, please put your name on the item and/or give a recipe if you made it. We sometimes get requests from time to time asking for recipes or where and what people bought at the store.)

Help Others

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - WED., JAN. 8

Come and prepare shawls for people who need to be wrapped in God's love. We meet every other Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Bring yarn, hooks/needles and patterns or we can provide these for you. Our next meeting will be Jan. 8. Questions, contact Cheryl, 815-462-3089. If you know someone who could benefit from a prayer shawl, please put your request in the box on the narthex counter.

NEW FEEDING MINISTRY

We have been given the opportunity to help support future pastors and deacons in a new way. The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Chicago has a food closet for its seminarians and the closet is dangerously low on supplies. We will be having an ongoing food drive to help fill the shelves and lift the burden that seminary can sometimes be for students and their families. A list of needed items can be found in the narthex.

HELPING SANTA CRUZ'S FOOD PANTRY

We have an ongoing partnership with Santa Cruz Lutheran Church in Joliet. They have a food and resource pantry for people of their neighborhood who are hungry or in need. You can bring donations anytime and put them in the baskets on the floor heading into Fellowship Hall. The pantry is in need of the following specific items: cereal (all kinds), canned fruit, coffee (ground), creamers (powdered), hand soap (bar & liquid), disposable diapers, dish soap, toothpaste, juices.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS - SUN., JAN. 12

Our next monthly screening date is Sun., Jan. 12, between the two services. Your pressure is measured by health care professionals and kept strictly confidential. If you have questions, or have clinical experience in taking blood pressures and would like to help, contact Marylynn Tyler at (815)423-6407. **(We could use a few more people to help take the pressures!)**

SOUP/CHILI LUNCHEON AT SANTA CRUZ - SUN., JAN. 12

We are honored to be able to serve a soup & chili luncheon to the folks at Santa Cruz on Sun., Jan. 12, after their 11:00 a.m. worship service. We need people to help prepare some soup or chili, and people to help serve the lunch (be there by 11:30). Questions? Call the church office. Please use the sign-up or call the church office to join in on this great opportunity.

COAT DRIVE FOR PEOPLE IN NEED

One Warm Coat is a community service effort assisting in the collection of clean, reusable coats and jackets for donation to local individuals free of charge. Peace Church is following in its mission to give away coats to people of all ages. Our Altar Guild helps with this, and invites you to help those in need with good warm coats. Items can be dropped off here at church in the entrance area bin. Scarfs, hats, gloves/mittens and boots will also be accepted. Thank you for your continued support.

GOOD SHEPHERD group is seeking donations of NEW beauty items (make-up, make-up brushes, eyeshadow, lotion, hair bands, cologne, lipstick, hair care products, combs and brushes), personal items, bathing items (sponges, bubble bath, shower gel), and travel size toiletries for homeless and abused persons. Please place these items in the basket labeled *Good Shepherd Beauty Items* located under the left part of the narthex counter. Thank you for your support!

DONATIONS FOR MORNINGSTAR TREASURE CHEST

We are still accepting donations of clothing and household goods for MorningStar Treasure Chest. Place your donations in the basket marked MorningStar located in the hallway leading into Fellowship Hall.

CAREGIVERS INFORMATION

Whether you are a caregiver for a spouse, parent, teen, sibling or a child, you need help with the emotional, spiritual, mental and physical side of reality. Help yourself to the variety of resources that we have pulled together for you and know you're not alone. *(Information is on the narthex counter and in the hallway leading to Fellowship Hall.)*

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Each year, the money we receive in our Christmas special envelopes is given away to others. This year it will be divided between the ELCA's Hunger Appeal (which includes direct help for the victims of the hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, and other disasters), Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (the agency of our church that serves so many people in need), mission churches (Santa Cruz in Joliet and Resurrection in Channahon - Pastor Ben's church), and local ministries that help others (Groundwork, Daybreak, Trinity Services, and Morningstar Mission.)

THINK ABOUT A DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS GIFT - NOT TOO LATE

Give your loved one a goat. What!? Through the ELCA's Good Gifts, you can find all kinds of alternative Christmas giving ideas. In short, someone who needs something, such as livestock, receives the actual animal, and your loved one knows that his or her gift is helping someone in need. Check out these and many other good gifts at www.elca.org/giving.

Faith Development/Education

ADULT CLASS WELCOMES YOU

Our Sunday weekly **adult class** usually meets in the back of the sanctuary, starting at 9:55 a.m. Each week there is a different topic.

Dec. 22 - "Detaching in Relationships" (including how Jesus did it)

Dec. 29 - "How Do Your Dreams Turn Out?"

Jan. 5 - "Is It Good to Be a Pessimist?" (New Year's resolutions: bah-humbug?)

EVERYBODY READ

Our desire to have people read a common Bible passage is part of our Book of Faith effort. Each month we pick a passage, invite everyone to read it sometime that month, and then those who are willing, write down a sentence or two (or more if you'd like) about what you got out of the passage.

December's passage is: John 1:14-18

BIBLE BACKGROUND FOR ROMANS 1:1-7

How do you introduce yourself? In today's text Paul introduces himself at the beginning of Romans. Paul is likely unfamiliar with the Christian community at Rome, at least first hand. But through his network of followers has learned about them. The community he is writing to at Rome would have been composed of many gentiles, or non-jews. Paul takes this into consideration by affirming that all are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

LIBRARY BOOK OF THE WEEK

Each week we feature a book that's in our library. On your way to refreshments, take a look for it. And if you like it, check it out. (There's a 3-ring binder that is self-serve and easy to use.) This week's book is: ***Living Beyond the Daily Grind* by Charles Swindoll.**

PEACE PAGE TURNERS - SUN., JAN. 12

Peace Page Turners will be discussing *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Join us for the discussion, even if you haven't read the book. We meet at 9:45 a.m. All are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Kathy Davenport (815) 545-2806.

WED. BIBLE STUDY & THE BOOK OF JOB

The book of Job in the Bible is a profound book that directly addresses the issue of suffering. It is an amazing book in its literary form and style, and really gets us thinking about "why?" We have one more week left (Jan. 8) for the book of Esther, and **will begin Job on Jan. 15!** We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for an hour.

PRAYER LIST

If your prayer request is for yourself or you have the other person's permission, you may be specific [for example, skin cancer]. For anyone, you may be more general [for example, "a decision to be made," or "health"]. We will keep people on the pray-for list for 60 days unless you tell us otherwise.

The family of Al Williamson, Grace Otto, the family of Lorie Tierney, Gary Kelly, Gene Trezzo (cancer), Scott & Monica Medows (grief), Julie Haas, Sonja Muehlnickel (surgery), Kerrie Flynn (recovery), Nolan (find his way back), Janet Stoller, Nancy Bohl, Lynn McGuire, Roger Bentley, Mel Stromberg, Raymond Standard, Pam Salutric (recovery), Cindy Chubb, Diane Weber (recovery), Denise Jones (recovery), Edna Anglin (health), Jim Grosche, Vivian Farbak, Emily Burnson (recovery), Benjamin David (missionary), Tammy Conway, Barry, Ann Ciannella, Jonah Huelhorst, Cathy Richardson, Judy Williams, Chuck Olson, Georgia Piech-Pander, Eric Bartels, Carol Tatro, Joyce Smith, Bev Kuzdas, Ray Anglin, Wayne Bell, Barb Chobot...

Jim Fitzpatrick and family, Melissa, Jake & Josh (mental health & addiction), Ken Barker, Sherry Seat (healing, strength & guidance), Tammy Hoehn & Jackie Josilyn, Rick Davis, Andrew, Drew, Suzanne & Steve, Menke, Matthew (recovery), Courtney, Betty, Karen, Gloria, Lisa Brooks (healing), Frank Brixius, Joe Schultz, Diane Sprandel (cancer recovery), Katie Fanning, Bill Horsley, Sallie (lost job single parent), Bob Britton (possible surgery), Alexis Flynn (recovery), Mary, Teresa, Barb Decker, Mark Krysiak (kidney failure & heart valve disease), Mason Mena (guidance), Pam Ensley, Mary Anna (health), Donna Miller (recovery), Phoebe (kidney disease), Robin (depression), Jean Britton (surgery), Violet Gambrel, Shelly Brodarick, Henry Torres, Eric Torres, Jean Korneta (broken hip), Liz (treatment for metastatic breast cancer), Alan Booton, Erv & Mary Pander, Carol Bentley, Ron N., Deryl & Jim Hunt (strength), Bill Reidy (cancer), Mary Hand (family strength & healing), Tyler, the Austin family (strength & healing), Brena V. and family (strength & healing), Dan T. & family), Carol Bafundo, Georgianna Bafundo (health & wellness), Jeffrey (strength & addiction), the Potter family, Brandon McSheffery, Jarrett Vann, Ernie Bergmark.

FAMILY & FRIENDS IN THE MILITARY - If you know someone who is serving and would like them on our list, let us know. Please pray for those who have returned from war who struggle to readjust to life and work through their grief. Mike Scott, Daniel Kitley, T.J. Burns, Ned Fowler, Elizabeth (Tatro) Grossart, Brian Kettell, Jake Treasure, Grover Keltz, Dylan Sperstad, Devin Pafford, Connor Baker, Dan Treasure, Stephanie (Jones) Vail, Neil Vickers, Lane Trainor, Allison DeVitto, Rob Boland

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL

Midshipman Trevor Horn
PO Box # 12989
Annapolis, MD 21412

Sgt. Pafford, Devin
PO Box 1351
Eglin AFB, FL 32542

MA2 Baker, Connor
5600 Shorewood Lane
Norfolk, VA 23502

2nd Lieutenant Jakob Swenson
947 Burr St. Apt. E
Fort Benning, GA 31905

Worship Related

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday, Dec. 21 & Sunday, Dec. 22 - Advent worship at all three services at our regular schedule. (No Sunday School, but adult class will meet.)

Tuesday, Dec. 24 - at 4:00 p.m.

Celebration service - including our invitation for children to bring bells to ring. **at 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 p.m.**

Candlelight Communion services.

Wednesday, Dec. 25, at 10:00 a.m.

Festival Communion service.

Saturday, Dec. 28 & Sunday, Dec. 29 - You pick the hymns! (Regular worship schedule except no Sunday School – but adult class will meet.)

LADIES ENSEMBLE

Sing! Sing a song!!! The Ladies Ensemble is looking for women who love to sing... and have a good time too! No experience needed! Spreading God's word thru music is a joy you will want to share in. For questions, contact the office, Pamela Putrich or Gerry Wurzbarger. Hope to see you soon!

ADULT CHOIR - WANTED: Singers!

No experience needed. Just have a joy of singing. The Adult Peace Choir wants you! We are a fun bunch that love to sing and spread the joy of Christ through music. We practice Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. Come check us out anytime throughout the year. You are always welcome. Have questions? Call the office or email the director, Pamela at sngbrd74@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!!

PEACE HANDBELL CHOIR

If you are not already a member but are interested in playing, we would love to have you join! Please contact Erica Desaulniers (ericasagerman@gmail.com) for more information.

More Fellowship Opportunities/Events

CHESS TOURNAMENT - ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Calling all chess players! Peace Church is considering having a chess tournament and would like to know approximately how many deep thinkers we have in the congregation. After compiling a list, along with a general consensus of availability, we will then pick a date and time for the first Peace Church Open Chess Tournament. Everyone is welcome, from the youngest generation to the most experienced generations. ☺ If interested (and why wouldn't you be?), please use the sign-up slip or contact Al Davenport directly at al.davenport@comcast.net, or call or text Al at 708-977-7339. Whether you win or lose, the tournament will be a hoot!

Groups

PEACE BUDDIES - SUN., JAN. 19

Peace Buddies is a special needs youth group for high school age and older. You do not have to be a part of our church to join us. We meet from 12 noon - 2:00 p.m. If you know someone, please invite them to come.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP - SECOND TUESDAYS

Do you care for someone diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia? Are you looking for information and support? You are not alone. An Alzheimer's Association Support Group meeting is held at Peace the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome! For more information, please contact Karin Knutson at karinknutson@hotmail.com.

ADDICTION & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP - EVERY TUESDAY

Is someone you love abusing prescription or street drugs? Are you concerned about the destructive choices he or she is making and/or in denial? If you are feeling all alone and would like some support from other parents, siblings, friends and spouses who are traveling the same road you are on, then this group may be for you. We support all roads to recovery, so we share what has or hasn't worked for us. We also understand that we must recover, because our lives have also become unmanageable. We meet Tuesdays from 7- 8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Tom Moore at (815) 354-3195.

RUTH CIRCLE (QUILTERS) - MON., DEC. 30

No experience necessary. You just have to know how to have fun to join. And if that's not enough, we always have snacks! If you have any questions, call Karen Dircks (815) 462-9527 or Syndy Lindbloom (708) 479-7338. Join us at 9:00 a.m.

MEN'S DARTBALL - TUES., JAN. 14

Dartball meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. No prior experience needed or helpful. Please join us! We finish at 9:00 p.m. so you've got time for your bedtime ice cream, too. (Who's idea is that???)

TRAILBLAZERS - TUES., JAN. 21

Our next meeting will be our usual day Tues., Jan. 21, at noon here at church. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Invite a friend!

Thank you

LAST WEEK our congregation shared offerings in the amount of **\$9,893.00** at worship plus another **\$1076** electronically, and a total attendance in worship of **331**. Thank you for all the ministries you enable!

BECAUSE OF YOU AND YOUR GIFTS

In 2018, multiple fires raged in California, devastating communities and almost wiping out the city of Paradise. Now, one year after the Camp Fire — the most deadly and destructive fire in California history — thousands of people remain displaced. Thanks to your generosity, Lutheran Disaster Response has been able to help communities impacted by these fires with crucial support on the long road to recovery.

General Announcements

C.Ds & PODCAST AVAILABLE

Would you like a C.D. copy of a worship service? Look for the sign-up on the narthex counter. Also, if you want to listen to a sermon you missed or want to hear one again, go to the link on our website www.peacenewlenox.org.

RECYCLING ITEMS

The following items can be dropped off in the basket in the narthex: DVD players, Game Boys, digital cameras, laptops, tablets, cell phones, most printer cartridges (including Epson), chargers and cables.

OUR SPONSORED MISSIONARY

Benjamin David is serving a year in Argentina as a Young Adult in Global Mission. It's our privilege to support him financially, through prayers each week in worship, Trailblazers' cards, and more!

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - HELP WRITE SPECIAL PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We are very grateful for all our volunteers in this church. Today we're highlighting the ministry of the special prayers of intercession that happen on the first weekend of the month. Usually two weeks ahead of that, there is a meeting at 9:45 a.m. in the library area where those prayers are created. (The idea behind the prayers came from one of our members during a "What's the Scoop" idea exchange.) You are welcome to be a part of this ministry any time you can. Watch the bulletin for when they'll be meeting next – or any month!

QUESTIONS KIDS ASK ABOUT GOD UPDATE

The questions from real kids keep coming in! This month we heard (among others), "How does God decide if we go to heaven or hell?" and "Was Jesus really born on Dec. 25?" It offered us a chance to remember that God's desire is for all to be in heaven with God forever. Sadly, some people refuse to go. Also, we'd probably guess that Jesus was really born in the spring when lambs give birth. Since no one knows the exact date, the date of Dec. 25 was chosen by the church to turn a day of drunken celebration on the Roman calendar into a day to honor God.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: December 29. If you get your newsletter late, please pick one up here. If you want it via e-mail or first class, let us know.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES BOOKS

We are once again offering Golden Opportunity books. They're filled with savings coupons for many different types of places, from food to entertainment to carwashes. This year's edition is here and is \$25. (A portion of that goes to youth-related ministries.) We hope this helps you get some good bargains!

BUILDING ASSETS IN OUR YOUTH AND COMMUNITY

The asset that we're focusing on this month is **Positive Peer Influence (Social Awareness)**. **Something we can do in the community is: Helping others through community service is one way to set a great example. This week's idea for our school is: Provide cooperative learning opportunities for students. Let students work together in groups.**

DO YOU GIVE ELECTRONICALLY (OR WANT TO)?

For those of you who give electronically and would like to put something in the offering plate, we have cards you may use (located on the narthex counter). If you would like to sign up for automatic withdrawals, contact the office. If you want to give on-line, you can go to our website (www.peacenewlenox.org), click on the donate tab. You can also scan the QR code (below) with your smart phone to donate one time or set up recurring payments (it may also be downloaded in order to manage online giving).



PEACE CIRCLE OF PRAYER MINISTRY

One of our members who came from another church was part of a simple prayer group. We would like to begin that ministry here! For those who are willing to be prayer partners in this effort, the process will be very simple. Someone will let the office know of a particular (urgent) need for prayer. We will send out an email to the praying volunteers with that need. Each will offer prayer on his or her own schedule. That's it. Would you be willing to be a part of this new Peace Circle of Prayer? Let us know via the sign-up or calling the office, including what email address we should use.

PEACE CHURCH CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

On behalf of the New Lenox Historical Society, Peace Lutheran Church Christmas ornaments are now available for purchase. If you would like one (or more), please look for the display on the counter in the narthex. The cost is \$8.50 per ornament. (There's an envelope available by the ornaments to place your cash or check made payable to Peace Lutheran Church). If we run out, we'll get more!

NEW FLOWER CHART

Each week people donate the cost of altar flowers (\$20 per arrangement). The process is very simple. There is a chart in the hallway leading into Fellowship Hall. Sign your name and phone number for the week(s) you want to donate flowers. We will contact you to find out the reason (if any) for the donation. Envelopes for the cost are by the chart and also are mailed the week following your selected week.

PICTURE DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE

Thanks to all the people who had their pictures taken. Our new photo directory is available in the entrance area on the counter. Help yourself, and start matching pictures with names! If you didn't get your picture taken, we'll be happy to do it and include you in the next printing.

Youth Ministry

PEACE 360 HS YOUTH GROUP

Have you ever wished that there was a place that you could hang with your friends from church and elsewhere? A place that is fun, interesting, and sometimes crazy? We have that place for you...Peace 360! We truly hope that you will mark off this time for us - and for you! Whenever you can be here, you'll be welcome! Peace 360 meets most Sundays from 4 -7 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 22 - Dinner and discussions; breakfast for dinner. We will be discussing the nativity.

Sun., Dec. 29 - No Meeting

THE HOPE FUND

If your child(ren) would like to participate in a youth event but the cost is keeping him/her/them from joining us, funds are available to help. The Hope Fund was established through a generous donation of a Peace Lutheran Church family to enable a member(s) of our congregation to participate in church youth activities. Just let Deacon Shari or Pastor Dave know - no one else will know.

PARENTS OF FUTURE COLLEGE STUDENTS - SUN., JAN 12

For some people the financial aspects of having someone heading to college in a year or four years creates a massive panic attack. Would you like some help evaluating a path that might make things a little more focused? Joe Duea, a presenter from Thrivent Financial, will offer a free seminar for parents and kids in grades 9-12 on how to maximize your options. He will not sell you anything at the program. (He will offer to meet with anyone at a different time, but that would be your choice.) He has presented this program multiple times and the response has been highly favorable. The date is Sun., Jan. 12 at 12:15 p.m. We'll provide hot dogs and chips and beverages so you can eat here and then learn together. We invite you to bring any kind of salad or dessert to share. He encourages both teens and parents to attend because all are in this together. Please use the sign-up or call the office so we can prepare appropriately.

5TH-12TH GR. MLK DAY EVENT - MON., JAN. 20

On Mon., Jan. 20 at 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. we invite 5-12th graders to come and participate in a group project where we will be discussing the importance of Martin Luther King, Jr. There will be discussions, games and lunch. Please let us know if your youth can join us. There is a sign up online, in the bulletin, and in the narthex. Parents, we would love for you to join us. Let us know if you would like to chaperone for this event.

Fellowship Opportunities/Tickets

THEATRE/SHOW OPTIONS

A TRIBUTE TO WHITNEY HOUSTON - Sat., Feb. 8, 8:00 p.m. at Governor's State. Belinda Davis, a chart-topping artist. There will be all the theatrical sounds, dancing, lights, and songs from the amazing Whitney Houston. Use the sign-up or contact the church office. **We have 6 tickets left.** Tickets are \$40 each. Please sign up by Jan. 10.

SHAKESPEARE'S AS YOU LIKE IT - SAT., JUNE 13

We have been given an opportunity to see a modern adaptation of this classic play. This high-spirited version infuses Shakespeare's comedy with the hit songs of The Beatles! The date will be Sat., June 13, at 3:00 p.m. at the Shakespeare Theatre on Navy Pier. Group rate tickets will be \$72 - \$81. We have **1 ticket left, but probably can get more.** Please use the sign-up or call the office to let us know.

SHREK THE MUSICAL - SAT., JUNE 6

Sat., June 6, at noon at the Drury Lane in Oakbrook. Ticket prices will depend on whether we get a group rate (at least 15 = \$15.50; if not \$25). Use the sign-up or contact the church office. Let us know by Jan. 1.

AMERICAN IN PARIS - SUN., FEB. 9

Valentine's Day Quandary!!!! Men.... stumped once again as to how to express your love for that special someone? Women..... are you really going to give that special person those heart covered socks or that cupid tie? Make the day special with an excellent musical production of An American in Paris at Drury Lane Oak Brook on February 9, 2:00 p.m. Tix are \$64.85 if we can get 15 folks. (Make it extra special with our dinner group at Maggiano's in the nearby mall afterwards. Dinner cost is separate.) Use the sign up sheet and indicate show only or show & dinner.

TRIVIA NIGHT - SAT., JAN. 11

Mark your calendars now! Come and join the fun as we have our first ever general trivia contest on Sat., Jan. 11, at 6:15 p.m. We intend to have teams of no more than six players. Each is an expert at something, right?!!! The categories for Trivia night will be Animals, History, Literature, Entertainment, Geography, and Sports. You can assemble a team of your own. (Don't have six people? No problem! We will place everyone who wants to play on a team.) For parents who want to make this a date night, Peace will be providing childcare (\$3 per child). Although walk-ins are welcome, please help us by signing up now. Use the sign-up slip, email or call the church office, or email Al Davenport at al.davenport@comcast.net.

(Sign-Up 12/21/19 - 12/22/19)

Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

(Please place this in the offering plate, give it to Pastor Hedlin or Deacon Shari, or call the office.)

Youth
5-12th Gr.

____ My youth will participate in the MLK Day Event on Jan. 20.
(parents)____ I would like to chaperone this event.

Other Events

____ I/We are interested in participating in a Peace Church Open Chess Tournament.
____ I/We would like to be a part of the new Peace Circle of Prayer ministry.
Please use this email address _____

____ I/We will attend the Trivia Night on Jan. 11.
How many adults?____ (If you have a team, it's name _____)
How many children who would need childcare? (& ages) _____
Willing to bring a food item?

____ I/We will attend the Parents of Future College Students Seminar Jan. 12.
How many?____

____ I/We can help with the Santa Cruz luncheon on Jan. 12
____ I/We will provide ____ soup (what kind? _____) ____ chili
____ I/We can help serve.

____ I will take part in the Pieluck & Ping Pong Tournament on Jan. 19
I am a: ____ Level A Player (quite good) ____ Level B Player (average)
____ Level C Player (I play for fun only)

____ I/We will attend the All-Church Pieluck portion Jan. 19.
How many? ____

Theater Events

____ I/We would like ____ tickets for *A Tribute to Whitney Houston* on Feb. 8.
____ I would like ____ tickets for *American in Paris* on Feb. 9.
____ Show only ____ Show and dinner
____ I would like the 1 remaining ticket for *Shakespeare's As You Like It* on June 13.
____ I/We would like ____ tickets for *Shrek the Musical* on June 6.

New Member Events

____ I/We will come to the New Member Orientation Jan. 19.
____ I/We would be willing to be sponsors for a new member.
____ I/We are willing to bring food &/or help for the next new member luncheon on Jan. 26.
____ Salad ____ Dessert ____ Rolls ____ Set up/serve &/or clean up

Variety Show & Dinner

____ I would like to perform in the variety show on Feb. 23 at 3:00.
____ I will perform in the variety show and attend the dinner.
____ I/We will attend the catered dinner following the variety show on Feb. 23
How many? ____
____ I/We can help set up for the dinner on Saturday.
____ I/We can help clean up after the dinner.

Other Ministries/Sign-ups

Everybody Read - John 1:10-14

I would like to receive a weekly E-Blast. My email address is:

(Sign-Up 12/21/19 - 12/22/19)

Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

(Please place this in the offering plate, give it to Pastor Hedlin or Deacon Shari, or call the office.)

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5-12th Gr.

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