



PEACE
NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 2022



MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

Church Challenges

Churches everywhere (regardless of denomination) are facing a common set of problems, not the least of which is dwindling attendance.

For a variety of reasons, we at Peace Lutheran Church have unfortunately witnessed fewer of the faithful in attendance nowadays. At one time, our worship services were filled nearly to capacity every Sunday. Now we typically see 40-45 in attendance.

The first question that comes to mind is why? The second is what can we do about it? Both are very, very good questions. But neither is easy to answer.

As a council member, I have only theories as to why and what. I read a great deal and it seems to me that Church leaders and theologians the world over are as confused as I

am. I attended a national Lutheran Faith council two years ago and the same questions were being asked then as now. Maybe we the people just don't see the need for God in our lives anymore. Maybe we're all just too busy for church. I don't know.

But one thing I do know is this: There must be a way to fill the pews again. There must be a way to bring people closer to the salvation we are all promised. That is why YOUR church events and especially YOUR prayers are needed to turn the tide even if we have to do it one person at a time. Reach out to others and remember: A journey of a
(continued on page 4)



VIRGIL BENNETT,
COUNCIL MEMBER

Peace Lutheran Church
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St. Joseph, MI 49085
Phone: 269-556-7000
Church Office Email:
PeaceLutheranStJoe@sbcglobal.net
Church Website:
Peacelutheranstjoe.org

Church Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday
9 a.m.—12 p.m.

Audio/Video Requests:
For Audio CD call:
Josh Lochner 429-4415
For Video DVD call:
The Church Office 556-7000

Weekly Worship & Praise Opportunities:
Sunday
10:15 a.m. Worship
also streamed on Facebook Live or YouTube Live
Permission to podcast/stream the music in our services obtained from One License with license #A-722704.





Sunday, November 20, 2022

Members present: Barb Berry, Christine Bennett, Virgil Bennett, Ken Berry, Teresa Hogan, Herb Kroening, Bob Phillips, Ed Zajac

Absent: Bryan Sorensen

Call to Order: Ed Zajac called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

Opening Devotion/Prayer Pastor Zornow

Pastor Zornow said looking for a pastor is looking for a partner, the right partner. And we should look at ourselves as well as a new pastor. Pastor prayed.

Approval of November 2022 Agenda

Barb made a motion to approve the November agenda, Herb seconded the motion and the motion carried.

No Council Meeting in October

Treasurer's report Brenda

This will be updated by the December 4th council meeting.

Old business

Covid 19 update and discussion All

Covid numbers are 14% in Berrien County. Therefore the church will continue distribution of Holy Communion with no changes. The general trend with Covid is now relaxed.

Update on Monday Night Services

Monday night services have been canceled, but there are some advertisements out there that we must cancel. Ed will coordinate this.

Monday night services will be revisited after a new pastor is at our church.

Update on Shut ins Barb Berry

Pastor Ron Schmidt visited and communed ten of our shut ins in the month of October.

Standing Committee Reports

Worship Dominic

The Worship Committee has changed their meeting date to the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Their next meeting will be on November 29. Lighting the advent wreath starts November 27. Lay led worship, normal and emergency plans, were discussed.

Christmas Eve service is confirmed for 2:00 p.m. on December 24th. In the process of planning the December bulletin and carols at the senior center.

Fellowship Teresa

Greening of the church will be December 4 after the worship service. Pizza will be served following the greening. Those helping are asked to bring cookies to share. Please sign up in the narthex.

New Business: Teresa

Welcome Christine Bennett as newest council member Christine Bennett was unanimously voted to join the council as of the November meeting.

Call Committee Report and Discussion

Teresa
The Call Committee had a Zoom meeting with Pastor Shelley. They are working through the steps suggested by the NALC. They are working on the profile of the pastor and the timeline for completion. Next meeting is on

Continued from page 2

December 14 at 6:00 p.m. A compensation plan will be worked up for new pastor. New Budget to be completed with Pastor Package per Call Committee

Wi-Fi in Fellowship Hall

This was completed by Bryan on Wednesday, November 16 for a total cost of \$60.

Runners for Fellowship Hall

New runners have been ordered for the Fellowship Hall.

Home Visits and Communion

Pastor Zornow received a response from Pastor Jess Abbott regarding various approved ways of providing Holy Communion for our shut-ins during the time when Peace is without a full-time pastor. These options have been looked at by the individual members of our Church Council. The Church Council is making this request. Therefore, it has been determined by our Church Council to ask Pastor Ron, as a fellow church member, to offer up his time for his ministry; and, to ask Pastor Ron, as an ordained minister, to bless the bread and wine in the presence of our shut-ins and for this we would reimburse him mileage for his travel. In the event of Pastor Ron being unable to give visits and communion because of weather or health, lay people will be trained to perform communion to shut-ins. Also Pastor Zornow or Dr. Knuaff would be available to give communion, if needed, for an additional hourly fee and mileage.

December Greeters

Ken Berry

November 29 - Teresa and Christine

December 4 – Herb and Bob

December 11– Ed and Virgil

December 18– Ken and Barb

Fellowship: Teresa and Chris

December 24– Ed

2nd Flood Bucket Drive

Fifty flood buckets were filled on the last drive. Dominic stated the warehouse is empty of flood buckets because of the recent disasters. We will again begin assembling flood buckets in January and will run for 60 days. Teresa made the motion to do the flood buckets, and Ken seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Motion to Adjourn:

Teresa made a motion to adjourn.

Closing prayer: Pastor Zornow closed the meeting with a prayer



Grounds Committee

There will be some changes to the front of the church. The plan is to remove some of the existing bushes and to plant flowering bushes in their place. We will develop a plan to identify what variety of bushes we will plant and how to purchase them. We will keep you updated on our progress.

Thank you for your continuous support,

Ken Berry
Beverly So

Continued from page 1

thousand miles begins with a single step.

Submitted by Virgil Bennett



CALL COMMITTEE

The logo features a stylized cross with a white cross in the center. The cross is composed of several colored sections: a yellow top, a blue horizontal bar, a purple horizontal bar, and an orange vertical stem. The word "CALL" is written in a large, black, sans-serif font to the left of the cross, and "COMMITTEE" is written in a similar font to the right.

Call Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 13 at 6 p.m.



Mark your Calendars for the weekly Bible Class!

Bible Study Continues
Wednesday, January 4 at 7:30 p.m.

THE CHOSEN

The Chosen is a Series of Jesus and His disciples and followers. Meet Mary and how she is confronted with old demons. This is a modern drama about the life of Jesus Christ. The first episode was Dec 24, 2017. Set in the 1st century Israel, this series revolves around Jesus and the different people who met and followed him. This show about the life of Christ has already turned heads within Hollywood.

January 4 I Have Called You By Name

Two brothers struggle with their tax debts to Rome while a woman in the Red Quarter wrestles with her demons.

January 11 Shabbat

Matthew validates Simon's claims with Praetor Quintus, Nicodemus investigates the miracle reported in the Red Quarter, and Mary receives surprise guests at her Shabbat dinner.

January 18 Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus befriends and teaches the group of children who discover His camp on the outskirts of Capernaum.

January 25 The Rock on Which it is Built

With his life and family under threat from Rome, Simon spends on last night fishing in a desperate attempt to square his debts. Andrew spots a familiar face waiting for them on the shores of Galilee.

February 1 The Wedding Gift

Nicodemus interrogates John the Baptizer while Jesus and his students make their way to a wedding celebration in Cana. When the wine runs low, Mary asks her son to intervene on behalf of the bridegroom's family.

February 8 Indescribable Compassion

After witnessing the healing of a leper on the road to Capernaum a woman forces her paralytic friend through the crowd to meet Jesus

February 15 Invitations

Matthew struggles to reconcile the miracles he has witnessed with reality. Nicodemus meets with Jesus by night. This has to be one of favorites.

February 25 I Am He

Jesus and His students complete their preparations and leave Capernaum for Samaria. Jesus meets with a suffering woman at Jacobs well and announces that He is the Messiah.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES



Sunday, September 25, 2022

Call to Order

Ed Zajac called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Opening Prayer Virgil Bennett

Virgil gave the opening prayer.

Establishment of Quorum (*13 eligible voters needed for a quorum*) Teresa Hogan

A quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda

Pat Greenburg made a motion to approve the agenda. Bev So seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of January 30, 2022 Congregational Meeting

Minutes were not distributed at the meeting.

Council Report/ Call Update Ken and Teresa

Call updates were given in the announcements before the church service so the members watching on YouTube or Facebook could hear the updates. Pastor Glenn Sokoloski will be leading our call workshop on October 29 at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served and the workshop will end about 3:00 p.m. We need everyone to attend this meeting. We ask that everyone think about what they would like to see in a pastor and have that information ready for the meeting. Please sign up in the narthex so the council can order the lunches for everyone.

Financial Update Ed Zajac

No report was presented at the meeting. When a report is received, Ed will send it out to the congregation.

Election of Council Ed Zajac

The terms expired for three members of council. Bob Phillips and Bryan Sorensen were eligible for another term and agreed to serve. Ken Berry filled a one year vacancy which also expired. He agreed to serve a three year term and will be eligible for another term. The congregation approved all three individuals. There is one more vacancy in the council. A nomination was made from the floor asking Chris Bennett to serve. She will think about it and will let the council know her decision.

Congregational Questions

Bev So suggested the choir director should have a key to the church. The congregation agreed and a key will be given to her.

Dominic So asked about the office computer password being changed several times. Ken Berry will work with Shannon on this situation. There are security concerns because of past members having keys. It was never documented who had keys. Could this be a problem? Ken Berry will look into the cost to change all locks versus just changing the password to our security system. At this point, everyone that has keys has been documented and published on the bulletin board in the office.

New Business

Congregational Workshop Preparatory to call Process ...Ken and Teresa

Date: Saturday October 29th 2022.

EVERYONE should attend

Lunches were discussed and Teresa will get prices together and will make a decision.

Dominic So talked with Dr. Knauff about preaching on Sundays when Pastor Zornow is not preaching. Dr. Knauff agreed to preach and give communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month with the exception of December 25 as he will be out of the country. This was presented to the congregation to hire Dr. Knauff at the same rate as we are paying Pastor Zornow. A motion was made by Jim Steinbauer to approve Dr. Knauff and seconded by Gary Walker. The motion carried.

Tables and Chairs

It was presented by the council to change by-laws to allow members to borrow tables and chairs for their personal use. There were many questions, concerns and suggestions in the by-law change. These will be reviewed by the council to address these questions and concerns. This will be presented again at the January congregational meeting.

Motion to Adjourn **Teresa Hogan**
Jim Steinbauer made a motion to adjourn.

Closing Prayer **Ken Berry**
Closing prayer was given by Ken Berry



Men's Bible Study
continues on Thursday
mornings at 7:45 a.m.

Matthew Chapter 8.

A photograph of a white mug and a brown leather book on a wooden surface. The mug is white and filled with a light-colored liquid. The book is brown and has a textured cover. The wooden surface is light-colored and has a natural grain. The background is dark.

DECEMBER 2022

THIS MONTH'S READINGS



Welcome Center

Lector

12/4	Chris Bennett	Virgil Bennett
12/11	Nan Hacker	Larry Hacker
12/18	Teresa Hogan	Teresa Hogan
12/24	Open	Bev So

Altar Guild

Communion

12/4	Nan Hacker	Teresa Hogan
12/11	Bev So	Teresa Hogan
12/18	Nan Hacker	Teresa Hogan
12/24	Open	Open

Greeters

December 4 – Herb and Bob
 December 11 – Ed and Virgil
 December 18 – Ken and Barb
 December 24 – Ed
 Fellowship: Teresa and Chris

December 4, 2022

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7; Romans 15:4-13;
Matthew 3:1-12

December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146; James 5:7-11;
Matthew 11:2-15

December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-17; Psalm 24; Romans 1:1-7;
Matthew 1:18-25

December 24, 2022

Christmas Eve

Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 110:1-4; 1 John 4:7-16;
Matthew 1:18-25

December 25, 2022

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 2; Hebrews 1:1-6 (7-12);
John 1:1-14 (15-18)

Visit our website!



JOIN US THIS MONTH FOR TWO MOVIE NIGHTS!

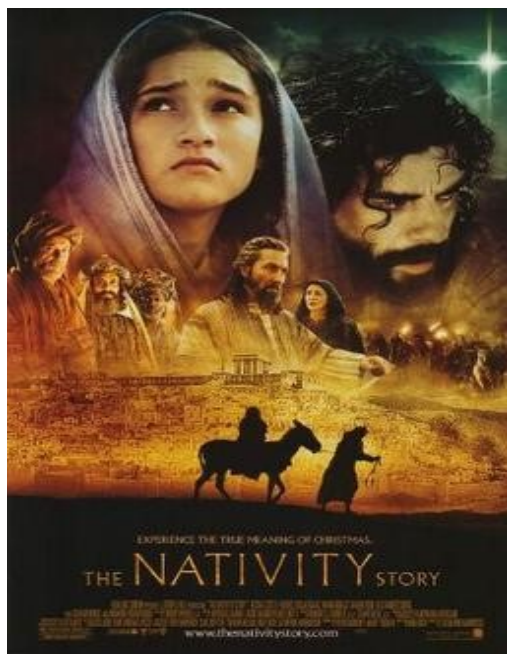
December 17 at 7 p.m.

Musical "Scrooge" starring Albert Finney as Scrooge. This is the story of A Christmas Carol, but as a musical written by Leslie Bricusse. It is a wonderful version, filmed entirely in London's Buckinghamshire. The look of the film is fantastic and of course how can you go wrong with Dickens, A Christmas Carol!



December 18 at 7 p.m.

The Nativity Story (2005), a wonderful, live action telling of the story of Jesus's Birth, from Luke. It is very well done and a film that will leave you with a feeling of great peace.



COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS!

December 4 (Sunday after service) Greening the tree! Pizza afterwards. Bring your favorite cookies!

December 4 (Sunday) 6:30 pm "Tree of Lights". Outside tree lighting. Hear the Christmas Story and have some Hot Chocolate!

December 7, 14, 21 (Wednesdays) 6:00 pm Bingo Night

December 17 (Saturday) 7:00 pm Movie "Scrooge" Indoors in the Fellowship Hall Free. Popcorn and Pop.

December 18 (Sunday) 6:30 pm Movie "The Nativity Story" Indoors in the Fellowship Hall Free. Popcorn and Pop.

December 24 (Saturday) 2:00 pm Christmas Eve Service



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December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9-12 Office Hrs 7:45a Men's Bible Study 7 p Prayer Mtg 7 p Choir	2 Office Closed	3
4 10:15 Worship w/communion 6:30 Tree lighting	5 9-12 Office Hrs	6 9-12 Office Hrs	7 9-12 Office Hrs 6:00 Bingo	8 9-12 Office Hrs 7:45a Men's Bible Study 7 p Prayer Mtg 7 p Choir	9 Office Closed	10
11 10:15 Worship w/communion	12 9-12 Office Hrs	13 9-12 Office Hrs 6 p Call Cmte Meeting	14 9-12 Office Hrs 6:00 Bingo	15 9-12 Office Hrs 7:45a Men's Bible Study 7 p Prayer Mtg 7 p Choir	16 Office Closed	17 7 pm Movie Night!
18 10:15 Worship w/communion 7 pm Movie Night!	19 9-12 Office Hrs	20 9-12 Office Hrs	21 9-12 Office Hrs 6:00 Bingo	22 9-12 Office Hrs 7:45a Men's Bible Study 7 p Prayer Mtg 7 p Choir	23 Office Closed	24 2:00 Christmas Eve Service
25	26 9-12 Office Hrs	27 9-12 Office Hrs	28 9-12 Office Hrs	29 9-12 Office Hrs 7:45a Men's Bible Study 7 p Prayer Mtg 7 p Choir	30 Office Closed	31



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

2 Marilyn Riley
7 Josh Lochner
9 Jesse Spiker
10 Larry Coffey
12 Sharon Schmidt
22 Olivia Carpenter
24 Marilyn Hettig
31 Gerald Schlutt

Anniversaries

1 James & Elaine Chartrand

Shut-Ins

To keep our shut-ins safe, please call the church office for mailing addresses.

Leona Barowicz
Andrea Barowicz
Thomas Boozer

Evelyn Chevrette
Darlene Gaul
Delores Gaul
Dolores Kraklau
Harold Lick
Ruth Retzke
Gloria Siewert

Mark your Calendars for these fun social events at Peace!

Bingo
Every Wednesday Night from
6-7:30pm



Movie Nights
Saturday December 17
(Scrooge) and Sunday
December 18 (The Nativity
Story)
(See inside for a brief description)

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LUTHERAN CHURCH
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