

Tidings of Peace

January 2019 Newsletter of

Peace Lutheran Church, Deshler, Nebraska

Public Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM Mon. & Tues. /

9:00 - 5:30 Wed & Thurs. / Closed Friday & Saturday

◆ Phones: Office: 402-365-7746 ◆ Preschool/Parish Hall: 402-365-7855 ◆

◆ Pastoral Vacancy ◆

◆ Marla Maschmann, Office Administrator ◆ Jake Beam,, President ◆

◆ Chandra Hillman, Youth Directors ◆

◆ Kim Roth, Preschool ◆ Arlis Hohl, Custodian ◆



In his days may
righteousness
flourish and
peace abound...

PSALM 72:7, NRSV

In the Christmas program this year we learned that Bigger is Better! The bigger we make our Christmas - the better, the bigger we make our programs - the better, the bigger we make our decorations - the better, the bigger we make our celebrations - the better.....right? Or is it?

When we turned the tree around to the simple white lights, and Mary, Joseph & Baby Jesus came as we listened to the scripture tell us of that special night so long ago, our hearts began to change.

We listened to the simple "*Away in a Manger*" and that is where we found Christmas! Not in the "Bigger is Better"but in the "Plain and Simple!"

That is what we wish for you this year.

May you begin the new year in the plain and simple story of the birth of our Savior on that night so long ago! Let go of the "Bigger is Better" this year and let the "Plain and Simple" fill your hearts to overflowing with His love!

God's Blessings for a Plain & Simple New Year!

**Shared from Scott & Connie Eitzmann's family Christmas letter*

Sunday, January 27 - 11:00 AM Congregational Annual Meeting



All active confirmed members are encouraged to participate in the planning, discussion and vision for Peace in 2019. Guests are welcome.

If you are president or chairperson of any committee or organization it would be courteous and informative if you would submit a report for the year. The deadline for annual reports to be in to the office was Thursday, January 10. I can still accept reports yet on Monday, January 14. E-mailed reports work great as they don't have to be retyped: peaceoffice.deshler@gmail.com

The report will be assembled on **Thursday, January 17 at 2:00 PM (volunteers welcome©)** and available to pick up in the overflow following the assembly. If you are unable to pick a report up and would like one mailed to you, please contact the church office (#365- 7746).

Youth of Peace Fund-Raising Meal following the meeting - Peace Parish Hall

Worship, Education and Stewardship for Dec. 2018...

Worship Attendance (Compared to last year)

Dec. 2	123	137 + 12 = 149
Dec. 9	195	223 + 4 = 229
Dec. 16	109	103 + 25 = 128
Dec. 23	123	105
Dec. 24	220 est.?	250 est?
Dec. 25	86	87
Dec. 30	132	cancelled
Dec. 31	23	cancelled
Jan.1 - No worship		
Jan. 6	123	149 + 13 = 162

Stewardship General Budget

Dec. 2	\$2932.90 (+100 Food for the Poor/ +\$640.72 Well /+\$640.72 Bldg. Fund)
Dec. 9	\$6053.50 (+\$300 Well / +\$3595.01 Bldg. Fund)
Dec. 16	\$2700 (+\$700 Well)
Dec. 23	\$1901.08 (+\$2160 Well / +\$300 OCC)
Dec. 24	\$0 (+\$2284.10 Well)
Dec. 25	\$0 (+\$1575.00 Well)
Dec. 30	\$5906.86 (+\$800 Well)
Dec. 31	\$207 (+\$50 Well)
Jan. 6	\$2986.25 (+\$100 Well / +\$70 Bldg. Fund)

Education

Dec. 2	59	\$72.05
Dec. 9	59	\$56.90
Dec. 16	43	\$44.89
Dec. 23	52	
Dec. 30	51	\$58.20
Jan. 6	43	\$66.55

Sunday School Offering for December - February

In the past 3 months our S.S. raised \$650.20 for Operation Christmas Child. *Thank you everyone!!*

Our December thru February S.S. offerings will go to Heifer International to provide farm animals and training for families in need. These are the costs of animals we could provide:

1. a flock of chicks (\$20)
2. a flock of geese (\$20)
3. a hive of bees (\$30)
4. a trio of rabbits (\$60)
5. a goat (\$120)
6. a pig (\$120)
7. a sheep (\$120)
8. a llama (\$150)
9. a water buffalo (\$250)
10. a cow (\$500)

We will keep you posted in February as to what animals we are close to funding!

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2019 are in your mailboxes. If you DO NOT want us to order a box for you for 2019, please let us know as our order for 2020 has to be placed in February of 2019. These boxes of envelopes are not free to us, so if you don't want them we'd appreciate if it you'd let us know by calling the church office at 402-365-7746; or email peaceoffice.deshler@gmail.com. If we inadvertently missed someone this year, please let us know as we have extra boxes and would be happy to get you a set. Using envelopes makes it possible to have our Financial Gifts Statistical Year End Report featured in the Annual Report.

*Congregational Mission
Support
for January is designated for
LCMC*

OUR CHRISTMAS WISH.....A WELL



I can imagine for the people in the village of Amuria #2 Uganda (where this new 2019 well will be drilled) "thank you" doesn't seem like near enough. But then the joy of giving this gift from the heart is all the thanks we need.

To date we have received \$10,259.82. this Christmas which is enough to drill the well in 2019 at a cost of \$10150. Thank you so much to those who denoted! God bless all those on the giving and receiving end of these generous gifts this Christmas!!!

*"Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth!"*

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Peace Happenings..

Happy January Birthday to...



Special birthdays this month: Florence Kniep will be 91 on January 23. Happy Birthday!!! Please let Marla know if a birthday/anniversary date is incorrect or missing. It helps insure that the church records are accurate.

Jan. 1	Bryan Bower	Jan 7	Kailyn Gehle	Jan 23	Clate Isernhagen
	Kevin Ostdiek	Jan. 8	Gary Hoops		Florence Kniep
Jan. 3	Connie Eitzmann	Jan. 12	Jolie Reinke	Jan 24	Shana Gerberding
Jan. 4	Dawn Schleif	Jan. 13	Diana Jacobe	Jan 25	Barb Larkins
	Kristopher Collins	Jan 15	Cecil Ehlers		Don Spitler
	Kimberly Fayle	Jan 16	Dylan Reinke	Jan 27	Jaden Beam
	Kim Roth		Janet Kruse	Jan 28	Diana Reinke
Jan. 5	Jazmynne Fangmeyer	Jan 18	Megan Mason		Jon Marquart
Jan. 6	Trevor Taylor		Russ Hoffmeyer	Jan 29	Gloria Eickman
Jan. 7	Leora Freitag	Jan 21	Dennis Buckles	Jan 30	Lonny Freitag
	Braelynn Renz	Jan 22	Lyle Schardt	Jan 31	Janet Koch
	Ashleigh McBride		Kristina Lowery		Luke Johnson
		Jan 23	Priscilla Bower	Feb 3	Tiffany Beam

(Special note will be made of these birthday milestones - 75, 80, 85, 90 and over. If you'd rather not have your "milestone" birthday recognized @just give the office a call #402-365-7746.)

Those Celebrating January Anniversaries...

Happy 60th Anniversary to Larry & Deanna Holtzen!!!

Jan. 7, 2000	Tina & Shannon Sloane	Jan. 18, 2014	Cody & Cassie Cahill
Jan. 22, 1059	Larry & Deanna Holtzen	Jan. 20, 2006	Scott & Penny Befort
Jan. 14, 2017	Chuck & Jennifer Sjogren	Jan. 30, 2015	Marvin & Lynn Koester
Jan 16, 1993	Pat & Jody Wharton		

Congratulations and God's Blessings...

...to Joel and Deanna Maschmann at the birth of a new granddaughter, Maggie Lynn Schneider. She was born on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 12:45 p.m. to Ryan and Faith (Maschmann) Schneider of York, Nebraska. She weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz. and was 20 inches long. Little Maggie has siblings, Joel, Mollie and Bode to welcome her home.

...to Delmar and Janice Reinke at the birth of a new grandson. Harrison Lee was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, to Ryan and Laci Reinke on New Year's Day, January 1, 2019, weighing 6 lbs. 11 oz. He has twin siblings, Wyatt and Rebecca, age 3, to welcome him home.

...to Brock and Nikki Renz at the birth of a little daughter, Haven Jo, born December 18, 2018 at Mary Lanning Hospital in Hastings, NE. She weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz. and was 21 ½ inches long. She has a big sister, Brexlie (21 months), to welcome her home in Deshler. Congratulations also to grandparents, Barry and Dorothy Renz and great-grandpa, Cork Renz.

Updates to Our Pictorial Directory...

Peace Lutheran would like to begin the process to update the pictorial directory on our website and then have them printed when we get closer to calling a new minister. Most everyone's picture is from the year 2015, so young children have grown, maybe your family has grown, some have married and/or joined other churches, maybe you've lost weight or cut your hair ©, etc. So basically, if your looks have changed enough since 2015 that a new pastor wouldn't connect you with your current picture, please submit a new one. Preferably with just the family members in the picture who belong to Peace. If children are out of college and/or out of the household, they are listed as a separate household in the roster and can have their own picture or one with their parents. Whatever is convenient. You can email it to peaceoffice.deshler@gmail.com or bring it in and have it scanned in. There's a copy of our current directory on the counter in the office if you need to check it out.

Thank You's Received...



Dear Women of Peace,

Thank you for thinking of me during finals. I really appreciate the Subway gift card, and I just want to say thank you! From, Anthony Hillman

Youth of Peace,

Thank you so much for the goodie baskets you sent during finals. It is always comforting to know our home church is thinking of us. Thanks again! ~ Katie Roth, Mason Roth

Women of Peace,

Thank you so much for the Subway gift card! It was so kind of you to think of me during finals and the Christmas season. It always brightens my day getting mail from home. Thank you again! ~ Braelyn Isernhagen

\Women of Peace,

Thank you so much for the Subway gift card. It will be nice to be able to take a break from studying and go eat out. Thank you again! God bless you! ~ Kylee Nutsch

Christmas Carolers,

Thank you for stopping and caroling at my house. Your singing was really nice. Also thank you for the abundantly filled Christmas stocking. A Merry Christmas to each of you and your families. ~ Jan Schultz

Peace Youth, We loved having visitors this afternoon! Thanks for those who stopped by, it made my day! The dogs where also excited! Also, thanks for the treats! ~ Sena Lowery

Peace Lutheran Family,

I would like to thank everyone for the youth caroling and prayers. Also the bag of snacks. Also, some adults that came along caroling. Also, I want to thank you for the beautiful singing with the piano player, Julia. The choir was awesome! Many Christmas songs! I could have heard that all night, and also the memories together with many. May God bless all of you and I wish you a blessed Christmas and New Year! Love, Florence Kniep

Women of Peace,

Thank you very much for the Subway gift card. It was a nice surprise during a busy time at college. Thank you for thinking of us. ~ Katie Roth, Mason Roth

Peace Lutheran Family,

I want to thank you for the birthday cards you sent me for my birthday. God's Blessings ~ Helen Lunzmann

Thank you to the carolers for thinking of us at this time of the year, it was very much appreciated. God Bless ~ Sondra Ehlers & Becky Cahill

Thank you to the great group of Peace carolers and the sack of goodies. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. A blessed Christmas to you all. ~ Darlene Hess

Thank you for the goodie stocking and for singing carols to us. ~ Larry and Deanna Holtzen

My heartfelt thanks to the carolers of Peace who stopped by to share their Tidings of Peace with us. It was so good to see so many families faces - it really made my day. Thanks also for the stocking full of goodies! Merry Christmas to all and God's blessings everyone ~ Irene Fintel

A big "thank you" to the carolers who came to sing for me. Also thanks for the big Santa hat filled with goodies! It is truly a blessing to belong to Peace Lutheran - a church family that cares for their members. Thank you so much. ~ Marilyn Cook.

Keith Hillman stopped by to say thank you for coming to carol at his home and really enjoyed the nice stocking of goodies. He was sorry he missed us last year, but was glad he was home this time. God Bless!

Thank you Peace Carolers for stopping by our house and dropping off the stocking full of goodies. It came at just the right time and meant a lot to us. ~ Lori and Jeff Grummert

Thank you to the Peace carolers who surprised us with their beautiful Christmas carols and a stocking full of goodies. I (Janet) was on the phone with my mom (who is 99 years old) in Arizona at the time and she was able to hear their caroling too. She was so happy to be a part of the occasion. Thank you again. ~ George and Janet Kruse

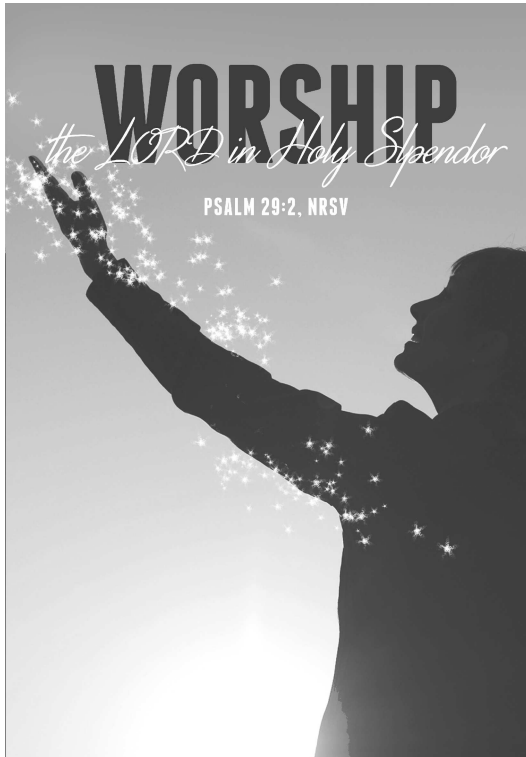
We want to thank you all who came from Peace church that sang Christmas carols and for the stocking full of goodies. God's Blessings ~ Ervin & Helen Lunzmann

A big THANK YOU to those of you who have shown your support during the time of my foot surgery. All the food was fabulous and so appreciated - by both of us. The prayers, cards, visits and phone calls meant so much. A special THANK YOU to Pastor Rich for his phone calls and his visit. ~ Joan Kirchhoff

Special thanks to...

- ...be sure to say a special thank you to Jeff and Lisa Arend of Arend's Family Foods for donating all the Christmas candy (peanuts, oranges, candy bars. etc.) used to fill all the candy sacks for the children. What a generous contribution and one that is very much appreciated by the children ☺, and the congregation! And thanks also to Dave and Linda Weber for overseeing the project and sacking the peanuts and candy. ~Peace Lutheran Church Council & Congregation
- ...to Sondra Ehlers, Becky Cahill and Marla Maschmann for decorating the Memorial tree and to the many volunteers who helped us unpack the new tree after worship one Sunday and "fluff" it. A good time was had by all! ☺
- ...to Linda Fangmeyer and her family for caring for the poinsettias in December, which is a big job this time of year! They brought them all out to the narthex for the wonderful sunshine we had and then all the other work involved displaying them again is greatly appreciated.
- ...Thanks to Earl and Chandra Hillman, Wayne and Cindy Mueller and Glen and Marla Maschmann for putting up all the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary and entry way. And to the Church Council for setting up the big tree and the outdoor nativity. Also setting up and taking down the stage for the 2 productions. These few individuals helped make the Christmas season one of joy and beauty for all of us, so please let them know that you appreciate their efforts. *Thanks!!!!*
- ...Because of a few individuals at Peace we are able to offer a Thanksgiving and Christmas Day meal. We can't thank Arlis Hohl enough for all her work coordinating a meal for both holidays this year. What a blessing to share your love of cooking and hosting with us. It's difficult to thank all those who do all the preparations and clean-up, but just know that your assistance in helping make these holiday meals happen is greatly appreciated by all whom attend. What a wonderful blessing to share together such a nice meal. Thanks so much Arlis! And thanks again to everyone who brought food, washed dishes and helped with clean-up, etc. This wouldn't work without a cooperative effort.
- ...to our Sound Team members, Bill Mize, Brian Isernhagen and Nate Brandt for their alternating schedule running sound. Thanks to our volunteers on screen operation: Leah Krotz, Stuart Reinke, Becky Mize and Adam Roth. Special thanks to Bill Mize for coordinating both of these groups and always seeing that the needs are covered.
- ...to George Kruse who is a constant presence behind the scenes of every worship service. The time he dedicates to recording our services, special services, and funerals is easy to take for granted. George and his wife, Janet, also make such nice professional copies when asked. What a wonderful asset they are to our ministry here at Peace.
- ...to Jake Beam, Council President, and the entire Church Council who so willingly and cheerfully give to our church family by overseeing their various committees and attending meetings throughout the year.
- ...to Altar Guild chairperson Linda Fangmeyer, who has so much extra work to cover during the holiday seasons and also covers all the months where there is a vacancy. She is such an important part of worship, behind the scenes, and many of us just come to expect it and don't realize the time it takes to change the different aspects of worship to enhance our services. Thank you so much to all those who serve on our Altar Guild (in order by months of services): Deb Folkerts, Deanna Maschmann, Janet & George Kruse, Kristi Duensing, Jae Fintel, Linda Fangmeyer, Diana Reinke, Connie Meyer, Lori Grummert, Dawn Buckles, Becky Mize, Audrey Hoops, Jeanette Mohrmann, Lois Nelson, Ardith Maschmann, Lorena Pohlmann, Connie Eitzmann, Laurie Koester and Chandra Hillman. **Linda covers for the months of October, November and December** where there are vacancies - besides her regular month in April with Connie. Would you consider helping out with worship needs at Peace by joining the Altar Guild? It's a lot to expect one person to cover all these needs and it would be a job you can do ahead of time and/or in your own time. Let Linda know if you'd like to consider it. Thanks!
- ...Thank you to Jami O'Neal for serving as Flower Chairperson this year, which can take a lot of time during the holiday season. Thanks to those women who currently care for the flowers in each given month (in order by months of service): Marla Maschmann, JoAnn Bohling, Dorothy Renz, Jami O'Neal, Earlene Othling, Becky Cahill, Ardith Maschmann, Amanda Ostdiek, Sandra Spitler, and Linda Fangmeyer. **Jami covers in the months of May and November where a volunteer is needed.** Please let Jami know if you'd like to help out in this way.

Weekend Worship Schedule...



*How fitting that the Epiphany season
and the new year coincide!
Epiphany reveals a new King, the beginning of
his ministry, his new disciples, his first healings,
his "new teaching — with authority"
(Mark 1:27).
We, too, experience newness,
now and year-round.
But newness can be tough.
So we trust that God,
who "[makes] all things new"
while banishing "mourning and crying and pain"
(Revelation 21:4-5), walks with us in this
new year ~ and always. Join us in 2019
as we begin a new year in Christ!*



*NO Saturday Worship currently
planned during interim*

10:00 AM Sunday Morning

9:00 AM Sunday School for all

JANUARY 13 - Baptism of our Lord

Pastor James Ernst, LCMC, from Columbus, NE and a member of
St. Paul Lutheran, Osceola

JANUARY 20- Epiphany 1

Pastor Daryl Nelson
Holy Communion
Peace Choir

JANUARY 27 - Epiphany 3

Pastor Dan Cloeter, LCMC, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Osceola
11:00 AM Annual Meeting
Following Meeting - YOP Fund-raiser Meal

FEBRUARY 3 - Epiphany 4

Pastor Daryl Nelson
Holy Communion
Peace Choir

A Message from the Call Committee

Members of Peace,

We as a committee want to keep the congregation members informed of what we have done.

As the call process is just getting started we have met four times, between November 14th and December 19th. We elected a Chairperson, and Secretary; received Call Packet from LCMC; reviewed and updated Peace Lutheran Church, and Deshler community profiles (this is used on website and job description); talked about updating Peace Lutheran website; a Congregational survey was discussed and it was decided that we needed to get input from members of Peace; worked on Pastor job description, criteria and where to announce vacancy; discussed Sunday services; assembled surveys and put surveys in mailboxes. The surveys not picked up were mailed out January 4, therefore we have extended the deadline for surveys to be turned in to the office to January 27, 2019.

Respectfully, *Nate Brandt, Chairman*

Current Worship Plans for Peace during the Interim...



Thank you to Bill Mize, council member representing the Worship and Evangelism Team, who has taken on the responsibility of putting the pieces of worship together during our Interim. We have a plan in place for the next three months. On the first and third Sundays we will have

Pastor Daryl Nelson leading us in worship and Holy Communion. On the second Sunday we will have Pastor Jim Ernst, a member at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Osceola, who resides in Columbus. On the fourth Sunday of the month we will have the message shared with us by Pastor Dan Cloeter (pronounced Clater), who is the pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Osceola, and the worship will be led by volunteer lay leaders. Below is a brief biography of the two pastors who are new to us. Pastor Dan has also offered to visit the elderly and hospitalized in the York and Lincoln areas and will be available for funerals when needed. We thank these three pastors for their leadership and willingness to share in ministry with Peace. Lent begins in March and we will share with you our plans when they are finalized. In April we will have a different rotation with these pastors and Holy Communion times.

And special thanks to Dave Weber who is filling a void and has offered to be the instructor for the PACE classes on Wednesday afternoons. He will have a schedule forthcoming, but there is no PACE on January 16.

Biographical Information - Pastor Dan Cloeter *(refers to himself as Pastor Dan)*

Pastor Dan Cloeter serves as Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church (LCMC) in Osceola, Nebraska. Pastor Dan has a passion to encourage people in God's Word and to disciple them for ministry in His Kingdom. Dan's great-great grandfather came to the United States to serve German pioneers and Native Americans on the American frontier. His mission outreach as the first Lutheran Missionary in the Minnesota/Dakota territories has had a profound effect on Dan's ministry.

Dan is a rostered pastor with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (2004) and also with the American Association of Lutheran Churches (2012). Before serving St. Paul in 2012, Pastor Dan served congregations in Nebraska (Omaha, Norfolk and Lincoln), Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan.

Dan and his wife, Marji, met at Concordia University in Seward, NE and have been married for 44 years. They are blessed with four children and five grandchildren.

Pastor Dan and Marji are the leaders for an outreach missionary ministry to the Banjara people in south central India called "Reaching the Unreached – India." They raise support for twelve Indian and Banjara missionaries and travel to India for two weeks each January to train the missionaries and their disciples.

Dan and Marji received the "Alumni Mission and Ministry Award" from Concordia, NE in 1997. They also were in the first graduating class of the Pastoral Leadership Institute in 2002. Dan has served as a vice-president in the Minnesota South District (LCMS) and been a volunteer chaplain at Shepherd's Canyon Retreat Center near Phoenix.

Among Dan's interests are golfing, running, riding bike, playing cards and games, American history and Nebraska Cornhusker football. In 1977 Dan won the 1st Chicago Marathon. He has also won the Lincoln Marathon (1979 & 1981).

Message from Pastor James Ernst...

Greetings everyone, In the name of Jesus, our light and our life.

My name is Jim Ernst, I was born in Lincoln, Nebraska to Jim and Sandy Ernst and raised in Columbus, Nebraska with two younger brothers. I also have a sister who is with the Lord.

I graduated from Columbus High School and attended Platte College afterwards and worked at the family business.

Along with my former spouse we have four children, a daughter and three sons, and have been blessed with nine grand kids. Yes, holidays are a riot in the making.

My current wife Rosalind and I were married in August of 2017. She has three daughters and a grandson. See holiday reference above ☺. She does in-home health care. We attend church at St. Paul Lutheran in Osceola, Nebraska.

In 1997 we moved to St. Louis where I attended Concordia Seminary and became a second career student. Graduation came in 2002 and since then I have served churches in the area as pastor and as an interim for 8 months.

My hobbies include traveling with my wife, cooking, boating, skiing, fishing and occasional hunting. I also enjoy flying and hold a commercial pilot license and am a former flight instructor.

I'm currently employed by BD in Columbus where we make medical and surgical supplies. My job is producing posiflush syringes that are used to flush IV lines. I have been employed there for five years.

Roz and I are very much looking forward to meeting all of you and I am excited to share God's word and sacraments with you during our time together.

Your's in Christ,
Pastor Jim Ernst

CHURCH LEADERS INSTALLED ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 6: CHURCH COUNCIL:

Jake Beam - President / Membership & Friendship / Personnel Committee

Paul Meyer - Vice Pres. / Mission & Ministry Team

Ardith Maschmann - Secretary / Membership & Friendship

Eric Isernhagen - Mission & Ministry Team

Earl Hillman - Property & Management

Lonnie Freitag - Property & Management

LeRoy Fangmeyer - Property & Management

Derek Schnakenberg - Discipleship & Education Team

Bill Mize - Worship & Evangelism Team / Personnel Committee

CEMETERY BOARD: Dennis Buckles, Verlen Marquart, Mike Hoops

BLUE VALLEY LUTHERAN HOMES: Paulette Hynek, Daryl Nelson

ENDOWMENT FUND: Fred Maschmann, Robert Folkerts, Glenn

Kirchhoff, Dorothy Renz, Bruce Maschmann

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Howard Reinke, Lyle Schardt &

Sandy Spitler

WOMEN OF PEACE WOMEN'S BOARD:

Denise Brettmann, Dawn Buckles, Linda Fangmeyer, Louisa Fintel, Lori

Grummert, Chandra Hillman, Mary Hofts, Judy Kirchhoff, Linda Loontjer,

Connie Meyer, Mary Miller, Jami O'Neal, Julia Pohlmann, Sandra Spitler

MEN'S GROUP LEADERS: George Kruse, Coordinator; Becky Mize,

Treasurer

CALL COMMITTEE: Nate Brandt - Chairman, Derek Schnakenbert -

Secretary, Jake Beam & Ardith Maschmann - Council Representatives,

Robert Folkerts, Janice Reinke, Sydney Roth & Deena Schultz

PACE INSTRUCTOR: Dave Weber

"Thine, not mine"

Sheillah Sheldone Charles,
an articulate 9-year-old Kenyan
featured in a BBC News Africa video,
attributes her artistic gifts to God. It's
comical to hear her say, "I also teach
children," but her rationale is profound:
"If you have a talent, don't just say: 'It's
mine alone. I should not teach others.'
So you should also share your talent
out there."

Jesus' parable of the talents in
Matthew 25:14-30 teaches us to share
our God-given abilities for purposes
larger than our own. Sheillah is a fine
example: Besides teaching children, she
often draws women to highlight their
suffering and their importance. Surely
the Master exclaims, "Well done, good
and faithful servant!" (v. 23)

**Thank you members of Peace for being
good and faithful servants to the Lord!**

THANK YOU ! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We would like to thank all the wonderful people who helped with the program. Thank you bunches and bunches to Nate Brandt who came to all the practices to get our sound system working for us. Thanks to Bill Mize for helping behind the scenes even though he couldn't be here today. Thanks to Jamie O'Neal for running the projector. Thank you to Michelle Schardt for helping everyone find their places today. Thank you to Dawn Buckles who helped with the preschool class. Thank you to Scott Eitzmann for building and setting up the set. Thanks to the church council and anyone else who helped set up and take down the stage. Thanks to Arlis for cleaning up our mess! Thanks to all who brought snacks for the kids. They were starving when they got out of school. It just gave the kids a boost in the middle of our practices so we could keep going for one more round. Thanks to Marla who handles all the office stuff too numerous to mention! Thanks to Laurie Koester for letting us borrow her Christmas Tree for today. We could not have gotten this done without each and every one of you. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Last but certainly not least we thank the kids!! You were awesome to work with! Your enthusiasm and joy for this program made our job easier! It seems no matter what we ask you to do, you give it your all! We are the luckiest of all! We got to spend all this time with all of you!!! God Bless all of you ~ Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Cindy Mueller & Connie Eitzmann

*Thanks
Many Thanks
Thanks
Thanks
Thanks*

Thank you to the Children's program directors, Connie Eitzmann and Cindy Mueller for helping us see, through the message the children shared on December 9, that the plain and simple birth of Jesus that holy night is all we need to make our life complete. It was just a wonderful program. Also special thanks to Dawn Buckles for the preschool selections.



Following the Children's Christmas Program was a Caroling Party on Sunday, December 9.

Sharing a picture and post from Jake Beam's Facebook page:

We were able to deliver stockings filled with goodies from Peace Lutheran Church. It is the least we could do for members of this community. It was full of amazing moments such as bringing tears of joy to some, with a little Christmas cheer and singing. God is good!

Thanks to all who helped out with the soup luncheon, filling stockings and went caroling. Those we were able to visit hold a special place in our hearts, and our prayers this Christmas, and we only hope they felt our love and concern in the same way we felt close to them. Thanks also to all who provided goodies for the 30+ stockings delivered. And special thanks to Lyle Schardt for furnishing the hay trailer and driving the group around town. It was beautiful weather and it looks like they had a great time! We look forward to next year and hope we have this great turnout again!

Thank you to the youth, Autumn and Mara (Mohrmann's exchange student), and adult sponsors, Stuart Reinke, Hope Reinke and Delinda Mohrmann for caroling to those outside of Deshler. Your thoughtfulness to participate means so much to those you visited.