

Tidings of Peace

**January 2016 Newsletter of
Peace Lutheran Church, Deshler, Nebraska**

Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM Monday - Friday ♦

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

♦ Pastor Rich Stevenson ♦

♦ Marla Maschmann, Office Administrator ♦ Dave Weber, President ♦

Kristi Duensing, Youth ♦ Dee Jalas, Preschool ♦

♦ E-Mail: peaceoffice.deshler@gmail.com

Website: www.peacedeshler.info



*If we lived every day like it was Christmas
We could make such a world of difference
Sharing love and telling of Him.
We could show everyone around us
God is here and He cares about us*

If we lived every day like it was Christmas! ~ Peder Eide

Connie and Cindy chose the Peder Eide song "Live Like Christmas" as one of the songs the children sang at their Christmas program, and oh the joy they proclaimed!!©

Can you imagine.....what would happen.....if we really lived everyday like it was Christmas?

It's all about Jesus! Let Him lead us through this new year and see what a difference it can make in our lives. Join us at Peace in 2016 and

keep on giving love and living just like it was Christmas.

*italicized words indicate lyrics used from Peder Eide's song "Live Like Christmas"

Happy New Year ♪ Happy New Year ♪ Happy New Year

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Sunday, January 24 - 11:00 AM Congregational Annual Meeting

All active confirmed members are encouraged to participate in the planning, discussion and vision for Peace in 2016. 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 7, but we can still accept reports submitted until Mon. 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 14, 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



Worship, Education and Stewardship for Dec. 2015...

Worship Attendance (Compared to last year)

Nov. 25	29	46
Nov. 26	50	80
Nov. 29	137	159 + 9 = 168
Dec. 6	193	132 + 21 = 153
Dec. 13	137	121 + 10 = 131
Dec. 20	281	227 + 4 = 231
Dec. 24	290 est?/104	250 est? / 53
Dec. 25	106	85
Dec. 27	142	180 + 5 = 185
Dec. 31	31	40
Jan. 3	179	164 + 5 = 169

Offering Envelopes are in your mailboxes. If you wanted envelopes and didn't get them, or got them and didn't want them, please notify the office. Using envelopes makes it possible to have our Financial Gifts Statistical Year End Report featured in the Annual Report.

General Fund

Ending Balance for December 31, 2015 is \$4577.95.

Stewardship General Budget

Nov. 25	\$0.00 (+\$297 Orphan Grain Train and Paul and Comfort / +\$500 Well)
Nov. 26	\$0.00 (+\$529 Orphan Grain Train and Paul and Comfort)
Nov. 29	\$3360.14 (+\$25 OGT and Paul and Comfort / +\$300 Well)
Dec. 6	\$4599.56 (+\$100 Lindsey-COTN / +\$1546.93 Well)
Dec. 13	\$7168.74 (+\$1170 Well)
Dec. 20	\$3742.00 (+\$10 Choir Music / +\$421 S.S. Program (well) / +\$1500 Well / +\$400 Stacey, Sem. Fund)
Dec. 24	\$0.00 (+\$2112.15 Well)
Dec. 25	\$2.00 (+\$2403 Well)
Dec. 27	\$12,311.41
Dec. 31	\$527.00 (+\$10 Bldg Fund)
Jan. 3	\$2524.21 (+\$341 Bldg Fund)

Education

Nov. 29	47	\$55.00
Dec. 6	70	\$59.83
Dec. 13	62	\$63.00
Dec. 20	49	\$6.00
Dec. 27	- children at PVH	
Jan. 3	53	\$60.15

*Congregational Mission Support for January is designated for the **Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund**, which offered financial aid to members of Peace during the spring floods of 2015, plus our continued amount of \$1500.00 monthly support to Lindsey Muller.*

Sunday School Offering for December - February

In the past 3 months our S.S. raised \$763.42 for Operation Christmas Child. 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 on what animals we have raised enough money for! *Thanks ~ Alisha Fangmeyer, S.S. Leadership Team*

OUR CHRISTMAS WISH.....A WELL



We reached our goal for this year to drill a deep bore well in Africa for a cost of \$10,150. To date we've raised \$16,424.47!!
*Thank you! Thank you!
Thank you!*

It will be a few months until we find out where this year's well will be drilled and share with you the pictures and statistics.

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

P



Peace Happenings..



Happy January Birthday to...

Please let Marla know if a birthday/anniversary date is incorrect or missing. It helps insure that the church records are accurate. Thanks

Jan. 1	Bryan Bower	Jan. 10	Wilma Christian	Jan. 22	Kristina Lowery
	Kevin Ostdiek	Jan. 11	Cynthia Petersen	Jan 23	Priscilla Bower
Jan. 3	Connie Eitzmann	Jan. 12	Jolie Reinke		Clate Isernhagen
Jan. 4	Dawn Schleif	Jan. 13	Diana Jacobe		Florence Kniep
Jan. 4	Kristopher Collins		Rick Krotz	Jan. 24	Shana Gerberding
	Kimberly Fayle	Jan 15	Cecil Ehlers	Jan. 25	Don Spitler
	Kim Roth	Jan 16	Janet Kruse		Barb Larkins
Jan. 5	Jazmynne Fangmeyer		Dylan Reinke	Jan. 27	Jaden Beam
Jan. 6	Trevor Taylor	Jan 18	Megan Pohlmann	Jan. 28	Jon Marquart
Jan. 7	Leora Freitag		Kelsey Durflinger		Diana Reinke
	Braelynn Renz		Russ Hoffmeyer		Corey Larkins
	Ashleigh McBride	Jan 19	Caleb Durflinger	Jan 29	Gloria Eickman
	Kailyn Gehle	Jan 21	Dennis Buckles	Jan 30	Lonny Freitag
Jan. 8	Gary Hoops	Jan. 22	Lyle Schardt	Jan 31	Janet Koch
Jan. 9	Donna Torbeck				Luke Johnson

(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...

If you'd like your anniversary included in our list, please let us know the date of your marriage.

Jan. 2, 2004	Heath & Amy Birkel	Jan. 16, 1993	Pat & Jody Wharton
Jan. 7, 2000	Tina & Shannon Sloane	Jan. 18, 2014	Cody & Cassie Cahill
Jan. 11, 1959	Larry & Deanna Holtzen	Jan. 31, 2015	Marvin & Lynne Koester

Address Changes...

Gary & Denise Brettmann	Carolyn Riley	Florence Kniep	Paige Culler
212 Crestview Drive	1855 Quail Road	1145 Logan Blvd. South	444 Duffield Ave
Deshler NE 68340	Clay Center, KS 67432	Naples FL 34116	Hebron NE 68370

Congratulations and God's Blessings

to Raegan Nelson, who graduated on Saturday, December 19, from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, College of Arts and Sciences, with a major in Psychology and a minor in Business.

Women's News...

Congratulations to the following Women of Peace who were recently elected to the Women's Board: Deb Folkerts, Mary Jo Hofts, Linda Loontjer, Ardie Maschmann, Connie Meyer, Becky Mize, Terri Olsen and Jami O'Neal. Thanks to these members who continue to serve on the board: Denise Brettmann, Jae Fintel, Louisa Fintel, Joan Kirchhoff, Janice Marquart, Lois Nelson, Fairy Peters and Julia Pohlmann.

At this time we'd like to give a special thanks to these women who have done an excellent service on the Peace Women's Board for several years and have either moved away or needed a break: Lela Mae Brettmann, Wilma Christian, JoAnn Fangmeyer, Chandra Hillman and Chrystal Miller.

The 1st meeting of the new WOW Board will be Monday, January 18, at 7:00 p.m. There is a lot to discuss as we begin a new year - new yearbooks being designed, reconstruction of the project assignments, election of officers, etc. If you're on the board please make every effort to attend this 1st meeting.

Thank You's Received...

Thank you Peace Lutheran Women and donors for your part in supplying so many items in 2015, and now it's 2016. Hope you will donate more material, flannel items, adult sweatshirts and adult t-shirts, also sheets. We will start blanket tying on January 25, 2016. Thank you! ~ Louisa Fintel, Mission Action

Thanks to the carolers for the singing and the great stocking of goodies. Also thanks to the Men in Mission of Peace for the gift. It is great to be remembered. ~ Lyle Ehlers

Thank you Marla Maschmann for all your help during our absence of our own pastor. You were amazing to keep the Peace Church running smoothly. Thank you again. ~ Peace Lutheran Church Members

Special thanks to...

...Because of a few individuals at Peace we are able to offer a Thanksgiving and Christmas Day meal. We can't thank Barb Larkins (Thanksgiving Dinner) and Arlis Hohl (Christmas Dinner) enough for their kind and caring hearts. What a blessing that they share their love of cooking and hosting with us. It's difficult to thank all those who helped with preparations of decorating, set-up, food prep. and clean-up. We know your assistance in helping make these holiday meals happen bring you joy as it makes your holiday, and those you share it with a special time. Approximately 57 people attended on Thanksgiving and about 27 on Christmas. What a wonderful blessing to share together such a nice meal. Thanks so much Barb and Arlis! Thanks again to everyone who brought food, washed dishes and helped with clean-up, etc. This wouldn't work without a cooperative effort.

...to Dave Weber and Linda Fangmeyer for getting the Christmas Candy Sacks ready for the Children's Program.

...to all who helped out with the Caroling Party which had to be postponed to Sunday, December 20, due to heavy rain....an unusual happening in December! 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 29 stockings delivered. And special thanks to Bob Duensing for once again furnishing the hay trailer and driving the group around town. It turned out to be beautiful weather and we had a great time!

...to all the men and women who helped set up the outdoor nativity and set up and decorated the Christmas Tree in the sanctuary. Thanks to Dave Weber for taking the nativity and the memorial tree down. That was greatly appreciated!!

...to Glen and Marla Maschmann and Sondra Ehlers for setting up and decorating the memorial tree in the overflow.

...to Earl and Chandra Hillman, Wayne, Cindy and Lindsey Mueller, Travis and Chrystal Miller (preparations ahead of time), & Glen and Marla Maschmann for decorating the sanctuary and narthex. It always is such a beautiful transformation!

...to our Sound Team members, Bill Mize, Brian Isernhagen, Nate Brandt and Amanda Schultz for their alternating schedule running sound. Thanks to our volunteers on screen operation: Leah Krotz, Stuart Reinke, Becky Mize and Mason 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 taping our services, special services, and funerals and then he and his wife, Janet, make such nice professional copies when asked. What a wonderful asset they are to our worship here at Peace.

...to Brendan Schardt, Council President, for all his extra time just doing everything since our Pastoral vacancy. It's been quite a whirlwind of activity the past 16 months and we at Peace are very grateful for his sincere leadership and the sacrifice of time he and the entire Church Council have so willingly and cheerfully given to our church family.

...to Altar Guild chairpersons Diana Jacobe and Linda Fangmeyer, who have so much extra work to cover during the holiday seasons. They are 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 the ladies who serve on our Altar Guild (in order by months of services): Deb Folkerts, Deanna Maschmann, Janet Kruse, Janice Muehling, Kristi Duensing, Jae Fintel, Connie Meyer, Linda Fangmeyer, Dawn Buckles, Becky Mize, Audrey Hoops, Jeanette Mohrmann, Lois Nelson, Ardie Maschmann, Marty Pohlmann, Diana Jacobe, Samatha Jacobe, Laurie Koester, Sue Dlouhy and Chandra Hillman. Volunteers are needed for the months of May and December. Please let Linda or Diana know if you feel like this is a service you could provide in the coming year to your church.

Marla Maschmann is currently Flower Chairperson and would like to resign from that duty, but will still help out and guide the new chairperson. Please speak to Marla if this is something you'd like to help with this coming year. Thanks to those women who currently care for the flowers in each given month: Dorothy Renz, Earlene Othling, Ardith Maschmann, Amanda Ostdiek, Linda Fangmeyer and Diana Jacobe. As you can see we have 6 volunteers and 12 months to fill, so please consider volunteering for one month of the year to care for the flowers that might be provided.

Every action of our lives touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity. "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." ~ Matthew 5:16

Weekend Worship Schedule...

6:30 PM Saturday Worship
beginning Jan. 9, 2016
with Holy Communion

10:00 AM each
Sunday Morning

Sunday School for all ages
9:00 AM



JANUARY 10 - Baptism of our Lord

Sermon: "*Identity Theft*" Luke 3:15-22
Holy Communion

JANUARY 17 - Epiphany 2

Sermon: "*Faithful Obedience*" John 2:1-11
Peace Choir

JANUARY 24- Epiphany 3

Sermon: "*Hometown Reject*" Luke 4:14-30
Holy Communion
Apx. 11:00 AM Annual Meeting
Following Meeting - YOP Fund-raiser Meal

JANUARY 31 - Epiphany 4

Sermon: "*Word of Authority*" Luke 4:31-44
Peace Choir



Adult Bible Study...



Sunday Morning Bible Study

First of all a BIG Thank You to Daryl Nelson for teaching the book of Revelation these past several weeks. It is such a blessing to have members of Peace volunteer to step in and lead when needed.

Secondly, I would like to invite everyone to Adult Bible Study this Sunday as we will be looking at starting something new in class. I will beginning a class focusing on the Biblical foundations of being Lutheran.

I know this will be an exciting class as we dive deep into the Scriptures to help us understand the roots of who we are. I am looking forward to lots of questions and discussion. O, and don't forget to bring your Bibles.

*In Christ's Service,
Pastor Rich*

Thank You...



The Youth of Peace would like to thank the congregation for their participation in our Christmas Eve Service. It is so beautiful when all the candles are lit, as we sing Silent Night. Thanks to Marla for all her ideas in planning the program and her musical talents, to Stacey Duensing, Betsy Maschmann, and Katie Roth for their beautiful music, to Bill and Becky Mize for their advice and their technical help with our practice and program, to all the ushers who always find a spot for everyone to sit and keep things running smoothly, to the men of Church Council for helping with the stage set up and take down, to my husband, Bob, who made the backdrop and helps me in so many ways, and to Pastor Rich for his kind words and advice in helping us

during our practice. Most of all, thanks to the kids who worked so hard practicing, and their willingness to help wherever they could. Proud parents, thank you for letting us keep your kids away during this busy season of Christmas. God bless you all.
Happy New Year! ~ Kristi Duensing, Peace Youth Director



January 2016 *by Youth Director, Kristi Duensing*

Happy New Year 2016! I couldn't be more proud of our youth for the Black Light presentation, "It's all about the cross" on Christmas Eve. After many hours of practicing, we were blessed to hear how many of you were inspired by the presentation. As I sat and watched the kids perform, I thought a lot about my sin and how much Jesus loves me despite my mistakes. What an awesome God we have! Thanks for all who helped put the program together. We hope to do it again this winter during the Lenten season.

As we anticipate a new year, let's stop and think about how much God wants us to spend time alone with Him. In Sunday School, we were discussing how God longs to satisfy our hunger. He knows EVERYTHING about us. He's counted every hair on our heads, and thinks about us more than the grains of the sand. God calls us His beloved, and longs for us to know, to greater depths, "the breadth, and length, and height, and depth" of His great love for us (Ephesians 3:18). Also, in John 10:27, it says, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, they follow me". Doesn't that just give you goosebumps!?! Do we stop to think about our senses when we pray? What do we feel? How aware are we of His presence? Do we recognize when He gives us a thought, or a nudge to do something for Him? Are we conscious of how He leads us? We pray that God would renew us, consume us and bless us with His never-ending love!

In January, youth activities planned are:

Wednesday, Jan. 6: Youth Night with supper at the YOP House;

Sunday, Jan. 17, following worship: **PEPY meeting** in the basement for parents and youth who are going to the LCMC youth gathering in Des Moines this summer.

Sunday, Jan. 17: NO ACTIVITY NIGHT (as kids are so busy with basketball games.)

Thursday, Jan. 21, 6:45 p.m.: Winter Jam Concert, Council Bluffs, IA. Do any parents want to help drive? It's a great concert with only a \$10.00 cover charge. Some of the groups are: For King and Country, Matthew West, Crowder, Newsong, Sidewalk Prophets, and KB, among other artists and speakers. We will leave at 4:00 p.m. from the High School parking lot. Bring \$10 for the show and some extra money for a quick supper on our way. Bring a friend along if you like!

Sunday, Jan. 24: Youth of Peace Fund-Raising Noon Meal following the Annual Meeting

Blessings to you in this new year of our Lord 2016! ~ *Kristi Duensing, Youth Director*

Sunday School News...

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We would like to thank all the wonderful people who helped with the Children's S.S. Christmas program. Thank you bunches and bunches to Bill Mize, Jamie O'Neil, Kim Roth & Michelle Schardt who were at every practice to keep things running smooth. 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 Scott and the Church Council for setting up the stage. 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 to get our practices off to a good start. A big thank you to Becky Mize who served the snacks each week and filled in whenever we needed her for anything! Thanks to Marla who handles all the office stuff too numerous to mention! We could not have gotten this done without each and every one of you. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Thanks to Pastor Rich for sharing his installation day with our Christmas Program! 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!! ~ Cindy Mueller & Connie Eitzmann*

THANK YOU so much to Connie Eitzmann and Cindy Mueller for all their work in presenting a wonderful reminder of the Christmas story in "The Unexpected Christmas". *You are both such a blessing to Peace!!!*

Sunday School Perfect Attendance for November....

Pre-K

Jackson Beam

Jaden Beam

1st - 2nd

Danica O'Neal

Tasia Schardt

3rd - 5th

Addyson Hintz

Gavin Nash

Zion Reinke

Tierra Schardt

6th - 8th

Meghan Brandt

Emmit Hintz

Trinity Schardt

Tyra Schardt