

Tidings of Peace

January 2018 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 ◆ Jake Beam, President ◆

◆ Chandra Hillman/Stuart Reinke, Youth Directors ◆

◆ Dee Jalas, Preschool ◆ Sena Lowery, Custodian ◆

E-Mail: peaceoffice.deshler@gmail.com Website: www.peacedeshler.info



*Founded in Faith,
Built in Love,
Living in Hope.*
Peace Lutheran Church
135 Years 1883-2018

Another year has begun and as Christians we can continue that sense of comfort and warmth that comes at Christmas by returning to the Christmas story, which gives us two great promises: God understands you, and God can redeem you. Join us at Peace in 2018 as we encourage each other in the fellowship and truths that began 135 years ago with a congregation named "Peace Lutheran Church", and even longer ago in a starlit manger with a baby named "Jesus." Happy New Year!!!

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR
Noel Hallelujah Merry Christmas Happy New Year

Sunday, January 28 - 11:00 AM Congregational Annual Meeting



All active confirmed members are encouraged to participate in the planning, discussion and vision for Peace in 2018. 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 is Monday, January 8.

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 18 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. 2017...

Worship Attendance (Compared to last year)

Dec. 3	137 + 12 = 149	130
Dec. 10	223 + 4 = 229	150 + 19 = 169
Dec. 17	103 + 25 = 128	163
Dec. 24	105	84
Dec. 24	250 est?	260 est?
Dec. 25	87	84
Dec. 31	cancelled	112
Dec. 31 Eve	-cancelled	28
Jan.1	- No worship	

Stewardship General Budget

Dec. 3	\$5354.50 (+100 OCC / +\$100 Well)
Dec. 10	\$2641.12 (+\$500 Well)
Dec. 17	\$2402.50
Dec. 24	\$4056.90 (+\$1150 Well)
Dec. 24	\$100.00 (+\$1400.13 Well)
Dec. 25	\$290.00 (+\$2000.20 Well)
Dec. 31	Worship Cancelled

Education

Dec. 3	68	\$81.50
Dec. 10	No attendance (S.S. program)	
Dec. 17	22	\$35.25
Dec. 24 & 31	No Sunday School	

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2018 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 2019 has to be placed in February of 2018. 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*

plus our continued monthly support to our missionary,
Lindsey Mueller.

Sunday School Offering for December - February

In the past 3 months our S.S. raised \$681.46 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!

OUR CHRISTMAS WISH.....A WELL



I can imagine for the people in the village of Itanda A., Uganda (where this new 2018 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.

We received \$16,900 this Christmas which is enough to drill the well in 2018 at Itanda A. Thank you so much to those who donated! Hope 4 Kids tells me that the funds over the \$10,150 for our 1st well, will be combined when a generous donor calls wanting to contribute to a nearly funded well, which will possibly then be our 2nd well this year. God bless all those on the giving and receiving end of these generous gifts this Christmas!!!

P

Peace Happenings..

Happy January Birthday to...



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Special birthdays this month: Cecil Ehlers will be 80 on Jan. 15, Florence Kniep will be 90 on January 23 and Don Spitler will be 80 on January 25. 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. 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
	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	Jazmynnne Fangmeyer		Dylan Reinke	Jan. 27	Jaden Beam
Jan. 6	Trevor Taylor	Jan 18	Megan Mason	Jan. 28	Jon Marquart
Jan. 7	Leora Freitag		Kelsey Durlflinger		Diana Reinke
	Braelynn Renz		Russ Hoffmeyer		Corey Larkins
	Ashleigh McBride	Jan 19	Caleb Durlflinger	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...

Happy 25th anniversary Pat & Jody Wharton!

Jan. 2, 2004	Heath & Amy Birkel	Jan. 17, 2015	Lauren & Josef Kasson
Jan. 7, 2000	Tina & Shannon Sloane	Jan. 18, 2014	Cody & Cassie Cahill
Jan. 11, 1959	Larry & Deanna Holtzen	Jan.20, 2006	Scott & Penny Befort
Jan. 14, 2017	Chuck & Jennifer Sjogren	Jan. 31, 2015	Marvin & Lynne Koester
Jan. 16, 1993	Pat & Jody Wharton		

Welcomed into the Family of God through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on Saturday evening, December 16, 2017, was Elliston Monroe Cahill, infant daughter of Cody and Cassie (Meyer) Cahill. Ellie was born on June 6, 2017, at Mary Lanning Healthcare in Hastings, NE. Her sponsors were Cammie Freitag and Paige Hinz.

Thank You's Received...

Peace Lutheran Carolers, So sorry I missed your caroling. Thank you for the stocking of goodies. It was very much appreciated. Thanks again ~ Alice Kirchhoff

Thank you so much for remembering us with the Christmas stocking of goodies. Sorry we missed your caroling. Merry Christmas ~ LeRoy and Earlene Othling

Thank you so much for the beautiful Christmas centerpiece you gave me for helping with the Christmas program. It is just beautiful! I love it! It will remind me of all the fun we had working with the kids on Manger Tales! It is such a pleasure to work with the kids! They are awesome! You all can be very proud of them! Thanks again! God bless and have a very Merry Christmas! ~ Connie Eitzmann

Thank you so much to Peace Carolers for singing at my house and the sock of so many snacks and goodies. Always great to hear the Christmas carols and hymns.. Thank you and a Blessed Christmas to all of you. ~ Darlene Hess

Thanks to the carolers for making my day and also for the nice stocking of goodies. Also, thanks to the men of the church for the gift. It is very thoughtful to remember me. ~ Lyle Ehlers

Thank you to the Women of Peace for remembering me with the nice card and gift and to the congregation of Peace for the stocking of goodies. I also enjoyed the visits from Pastor Rich. All was very much appreciated. ~ Florence Kniep

Thank you to the Women of Peace for the gift certificate and the card. It was very nice of you and means a lot to me. ~ Lucille Hofts

We want to thank the Peace Carolers that sang the nice Christmas songs at our house. We enjoyed it very much. Thank you for the sock with all the goodies. Thank you also for the get well cards when Helen was ill with an eye infection. ~ Ervin & Helen Lunzmann

Special thanks to...

- ...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! Thanks so much. God Bless!!! ~ *Peace Lutheran Congregation & Church Council*
- ...to Sondra Ehlers and Becky Cahill for helping decorate the Memorial Tree in the overflow. Thanks to Earl and Chandra Hillman, Wayne and Cindy Mueller, Glen and Marla Maschmann and Laurie Koester 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. These few individuals help make this 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.
- ...Thank you to the Children's program directors, Connie Eitzmann and Cindy Mueller for helping us find Christmas JOY in our Savior through the message that the children shared with us at their program on December 10. We heard through a delightful program called "*Manger Tales*" the tales of those who saw the baby Jesus first, leaving us with a feeling of rejoicing in the greatest gift ever given and making that the focus of our Christmas celebrations. It was just a wonderful program. Also special thanks to Dawn Buckles for the preschool selections. *Live everyday like it was Christmas! Merry Christmas!!!*
- ...to Dave Weber for getting the Christmas Candy Sacks ready for the Children's Program.
- ...to all who helped out with the Caroling Party held on Sunday, December 10. 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 35 stockings delivered. And special thanks to Bob Duensing for once again furnishing the hay trailer and driving the group around town. It was beautiful weather and we had a great time! We just need to have more people join us next year if we want to keep this event on our calendar.
- ...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 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 Dave Weber, 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, Connie Meyer, Linda Fangmeyer, Dawn Buckles, Becky Mize, Audrey Hoops, Jeanette Mohrmann, Lois Nelson, Ardie Maschmann, Marty Pohlmann, Laurie Koester, Anita Stevenson and Chandra Hillman. **Linda covers for the months of May, September, October and December** where there are vacancies - besides her regular month in April with Connie. Won't 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, Onna Robinson, Earlene Othling, Becky Cahill, Ardith Maschmann, Amanda Ostdiek, Sandra Spitler, and Linda Fangmeyer.



Weekend Worship Schedule...

6:30 PM Saturday Worship

10:00 AM each
Sunday Morning

Sunday School for all ages
9:00 AM



JANUARY 7 - Baptism of Our Lord

Sermon: "Real Forgiveness through the Holy Spirit!" Acts 19:1-7
Holy Communion

JANUARY 14 - Epiphany 2

Sermon: "The Temple of God!"

JANUARY 21- Epiphany 3

Sermon: "The Immediacy of God's Calling upon Us." Mark 1:14-20
Peace Choir

JANUARY 28 - Epiphany 4

Sermon: "Trustworthiness of God's Word" Deut. 18:15-22
Holy Communion
Apx. 11:15 AM Annual Meeting
Following Meeting - YOP Fund-raiser Meal



Prayer Page...

Prayers for Healing, Strength & Comfort....

Recovering from Surgery: Lyle Schardt (knee replacement surgery) ~ Floyd Barnes (Delinda Mohrmann's father) ~ Scott Kuhlmann (Larry & Deanna Holtzen's son-in-law)

Those fighting cancer: Stan Thompson ~ Monte Gehle ~ Fred Schelert (Chandra Hillman's uncle - leukemia) ~ Kassandra Brooks (Pat Wharton's niece) ~ Daryl Kniep (Florence Kniep's son) ~ Ken Rigler (friend of Roth's & Weber's) ~ Steve Mason (Earl Hillman's cousin) ~ Jeff Biegert (Irene Fintel's nephew) ~ Rita Skillman (Chris & Kim Roth's Aunt) ~ Marilyn Schacht (Kylie Farringer's grandma going through treatment for ovarian cancer) ~ Dan Reke (Seminarian friend of Leah Krotz's) ~ Ellie Pachta (18-month-old daughter of Lance & Jenna Pachta) ~ Deb (Mrs. David) Fangmeier (Merlyn Pohlmann's cousin, diagnosed with liver cancer)

Prayers for healing, strength and comfort: Helen Lunzmann ~ Mary Stelling ~ Donovan Yoachim (son of Jon and Jamie Yoachim) ~ Brock Melton ~ Marilyn Asche ~ Tara Chapman (Chandra Hillman's cousin) ~ Vern Bauer (Dee Jalas's father) ~ John Holland ~ Donna (Schmidt) Tittler (Billy Tittler's wife) dealing with Alzheimer's ~ Merle Glathar (Billy Tittler's step-son) with a spine injury ~ Emil Stichka (Taylor Stichka's grandpa) ~ Amanda (Holes) Snook (Dawn Buckles' niece who was paralyzed in a roll-over accident Dec. 16)

In the Mission Field: Our missionaries Paul and Comfort in Ghana and Lindsey Mueller in Uganda.

In U.S. Military Service: Air Force pilot, Captain Dustin Woodside, nephew of Mike and Yvonne Hoops, deployed to the Middle East.

We Hold in Sincere Sympathy and Prayer...

...Scott and Connie Eitzmann at the death of their daughter-in-law's father, Michael Kempf, of Shickley, who was killed in a one vehicle accident on Monday, December 4, 2017. Michael was the father of Mikaela Eitzmann, wife of Chris, of Boston, Massachusetts. Funeral services were held on Saturday, December 9, 2017.

...Jeff, Lori and Jeffrey Grummert at the loss of Lori's mother, Rose Haeg. Rose was born on March 26, 1936 and passed away on Thursday, December 14, 2017. She was a resident of Cedar Rapids, Iowa at the time of passing. Services were held on Thursday, December 21, 2017, at the Saint Jude Catholic Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

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 Bill Mize, Nate Brandt, Jamie O'Neal who were at every practice to keep things running smooth. Thanks to Michelle Schardt & Kim Roth 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 Paula 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! 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 and have a Merry Christmas!!! ~ Cindy Mueller & Connie Eitzmann

Thanks
Many Thanks
Thanks
Thanks
Thanks

Thank you so much for the beautiful Christmas centerpiece you gave me for helping with the Christmas program. It is just beautiful! I love it! It will remind me of all the fun we had working with the kids on Manger Tales! It is such a pleasure to work with the kids! They are awesome! You all can be very proud of them! Thanks again! God bless and have a very Merry Christmas! ~ Connie Eitzmann

Update from our Missionary, Lindsey...

Merry Christmas from Uganda!

Normally this time of year, I'd be looking forward to sharing with you the happenings in Children of the Nations-Uganda. But this year, that will prove to be a little difficult as I'm still in Uganda. So I'm hoping this quick update will suffice until April when I'm back in the States.

The Bible tells us that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever more. I can attest to that because again this year, God has provided for me, the staff of COTN Uganda, and of course our children. We are up to 700 kids on our campus every day. This year we sent 3 girls to a college prep school, 1 girl to a primary teachers college, and 2 girls to a vocational school (one to learn tailoring and the other to be a hair dresser). Our secondary school finally has all four grades which means we had our first class take their national exams in October. Our kids in Primary 7 went on another great 3 day study tour (thanks to Peace). We built a boys urinal (thanks to Peace), a secondary block of classrooms and latrines. We added a rain catchment system to the girls' dorm so we can use the water God gives us. All our sponsored kids had medical check-ups by visiting doctors and nurses and the kids with serious cases were taken for more thorough examinations. Our kids have started their own small businesses and are learning how to run the businesses through the watchful hands of staff (they started bee keeping, a dairy, and arts and crafts). I could go on and on, but you get the picture.

But that's not the whole picture. The good comes with the bad and we still have trials and mountains to climb. We are trying to keep some of our young girls in school (think ages 13-18) instead of being married off. This is a bigger fight than you may believe. It is way too common for young men to begin excessive drinking here which leads to a multitude of problems. We still lack basic health care and so sometimes simple illnesses turn into life threatening situations and often times, death wins. Abuse, neglect, and child headed families are common and not the exception. Sometimes it feels like the bad outweighs the good.

And then I remember Christmas, or more importantly, the reason we celebrate Christmas. I pray you feel the warmth of the Savior who came into this broken world just for us. And I pray the Spirit touches you and reminds you that we are all called to live like Christ. We are called to live for others. No matter our situation, calling, profession, race, gender, status, confidence level, or spiritual knowledge. I'm blessed to come from a church that has lived out this belief. I am so thankful for you. Thankful that you continue to bless me, my children, and the staff of COTN Uganda. Thank you for getting involved. Thank you for staying involved. Thank you for not only talking the talk, but walking the walk. You inspire me. You keep me going. You show me who Christ is.

Merry Christmas! Lindsey Mueller

Remember-I send out weekly (mostly weekly) updates of what's happening in Uganda. It's through a simple and free app called "What's App." Just download it and add me as a contact (+256 786 395 045). I'll add you to the group right away! (If you need help, just talk to my momma, Cindy Mueller)