

# *Findings of Peace*

## **November 2014 Newsletter of**

### **Peace Lutheran Church, Deshler, Nebraska**

**Office Hours:** 9:00 AM Monday - Friday (Closed Thursday) ♦

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

♦ **Rev. Dr. Cathi Braasch, Interim Pastor** ♦

♦ **Marla Maschmann, Office Administrator** ♦ **Brendan Schardt, President**

♦ **Kristi Duensing, Youth** ♦ **Dee Jalas, Preschool** ♦

♦ **E-Mail:** [peacedeshler@gpcom.net](mailto:peacedeshler@gpcom.net)

**Website:** [www.peacedeshler.info](http://www.peacedeshler.info)

## **November Highlights...**

**SUNDAY  
NOV. 2**

### **Congregational Meeting**

**- 11:00 A.M. Annual Elections Meeting**

**SUNDAY  
NOV. 9**

### **Mission Festival Sunday - Oaks Indian Mission**

Vance Blackfox (Cherokee) is the new Executive Director of the Oaks Indian Mission, which is located in his hometown in the heart of the Cherokee Nation: Oaks, Oklahoma. Over the years, Vance's journey has led him across the country to serve professionally for the Women of the ELCA, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, California Lutheran University, ELCA Youth Ministry, the Metropolitan Chicago Synod and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. He has also worked in leadership development for the Cherokee Nation and USAA.

His current position at the Oaks Indian Mission has brought his journey full-circle – leading him back home to the community that raised him and to the calling his family has followed for generations. Vance's ancestors were among the first to be baptized by the Moravians in Springplace (in what is now known as Georgia), when missionaries were invited into the Cherokee Nation in 1801. They worked faithfully alongside the Moravians to build both a school and a church in service to their community. Today, over 200 years later, they carry on this legacy, caring for Native American children at Oaks Indian Mission in cooperation with Eben Ezer Lutheran Church and the Oaks Mission Public Schools.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be called home to serve our children and our community. I look forward to journeying more closely alongside all those who support this historic and important ministry of caring for Indian children here at the Oaks Indian Mission. It is certainly a very special and rare gift that countless Cherokee, Moravian and Lutheran saints have left in our hands."

Vance holds a bachelor's degree in communication and ethnic/cultural studies from Texas Lutheran University. He studied leadership and ethics at John Brown University's graduate school, and completed a master of arts in theological studies with a concentration in American Indian ministries at LSTC. He looks forward to continuing his studies in LSTC's ThM/PhD program.

**WED.  
NOV. 12**

### **Operation Christmas Child Assembly/6:00-7:30 PM**

Each Sunday School child is invited to fill one or more gift containers to be sent to a child in another country.

**WED.  
NOV. 26  
THURS.  
NOV. 27**

### **Thanksgiving Worship Services at Peace**

**-7:30 PM Wednesday Evening**

**-10:00 AM Thanksgiving Day**

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual Thanksgiving Day Feast -12:00 Noon**

Join friends at a meal in the Peace Lutheran Parish Hall on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27. Details are on the page 2 of this newsletter.

# Worship, Education and Stewardship from October 2014



## Worship Attendance (Compared to 2013)

Sept. 28	165	159 + 14 = 173
Oct. 5	138	130 + 11 = 141
Oct. 12	145	157 + 6 = 163
Oct. 19	265	138 + 11 = 149

## Stewardship - Oct. Mission Share to Parkview Haven & Blue Valley Nursing Home

Sept. 28	\$2144.45	(+\$222.00 Bldg. Fund)
Oct. 5	\$3004.46	(+\$5.00 Missions/+\$150.00 Bldg. Fund)
Oct. 12	\$3736.00	(+\$1710.00 Bldg. Fund /+\$25.00 Missions)
Oct. 19	\$1287.06	

## Education

Sept. 28	62	\$67.65
Oct. 5	56	\$87.25
Oct. 12	55	\$91.15
Oct. 19	59	\$51.20

## November Offering Designations:

*Sept thru Dec. Sunday School:*

*Operation Christmas Child*

*Congregational Mission:*

*November - Oaks Indian Mission*

## Financial News from Becky Mize, Peace Treasurer

In August, Stacey Duensing began her first year at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan. To date, members of Peace Lutheran have contributed \$5,752 to assist her with tuition and other expenses while attending seminary. To help us meet our goal of \$10,000, you may place your contribution marked "*Seminary Support*" in the Sunday offering plate or drop it off during office hours.

During 2014 Peace Lutheran had \$5,500 of matching funds for the ministry of Lindsey Mueller in Uganda. To date we have sent a total of \$7,732.12 to help provide much needed equipment and supplies for her school. There is still \$1,633.94 matching funds available. Please mark contributions "*Uganda school*" and help us send another \$3,267.88 to support Lindsey in her ministry to these children who otherwise would not have the opportunity to go to school.

For the past several years, during the Advent and Christmas Seasons, Peace Lutheran has raised money to drill wells in Africa where there is dire need of good, clean drinking water. Many of us struggle with gift giving this time of year; why not consider a donation to this worthy cause and give a community the gift of water that will improve their lives year round. Cards are available in the office if you wish to make a donation in honor of someone. The cost to drill a well is about \$10,000 and we already have \$1,721 towards this goal. Please mark your gifts "*African well*".

Peace Lutheran continues to help combat hunger in the world with our monthly auto giving program. We currently have 27 participants and send \$345 per month through Lutheran World Relief. If you wish to participate in this program, please stop in the office for forms and instructions.

**Thank you** for your support of these missions where the love of Christ is shared around the world!

One last reminder, Peace Lutheran Church accepts gifts of grain of any kind and in any amount. Please notify the office when you have delivered grain for the church so that it can be taken care of in a timely manner. If you wish to remain anonymous, we ask that you have the elevator personnel call the church office. These funds can be designated in any way you wish, if there is no designation, it will go in the general operating fund. ~ *Becky Mize, treasurer*

## Funds Needed for Parsonage Updates...

It has been over 16 years since many items in the parsonage have been renovated. The Church Council would like to get started on updates to the parsonage as soon as possible to prepare it for the next pastor that we call. All windows are very old and are not energy efficient. The Council has voted to replace windows for a cost of \$8700. The kitchen is in need of new cupboards and countertops. The Council has voted to replace the cupboards and countertops for a cost of \$7925. Other updates that are needed include carpeting, paint, window treatments, kitchen flooring, and basement renovation. All of these updates will bring our total needs to at least \$25,000. There is currently \$8200 in the Building Fund, leaving us with a need of approximately \$17,000. These projected expenses are currently within our budget because at the present time we are well under our budget for the year. However, our current account balance is quite low. Please consider the parsonage updates in your offering these next couple months so that we can prepare a good home for our next pastor. Designate any offerings for the parsonage to the "*Building Fund*". ~ *The Church Council*

# November Worship Schedule...

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6:30 PM Saturday  
**NO Saturday Worship**  
**during Interim Period**  
10:00 AM each  
Sunday Morning

Sunday School for All  
Classes begin  
@ 9:00 AM

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## November 2 - All Saints Sunday

Guest Preacher: Pastor Daryl Nelson  
Holy Communion  
Remembrance of Members: Nov. 2013- Nov. 2014  
Peace Choir Sings  
*Annual Election Meeting following worship*  
*Daylight Savings Time Ends Saturday - Fall back 1 hour*

## November 9 - Pentecost 22

Mission Festival Sunday  
Guest Speaker: Executive Director Oaks Indian Mission

## November 16 - Pentecost 23

Holy Communion  
Dedication of Operation Christmas Child Boxes w/  
Free Will Offering to help defray postage  
Peace Choir Sings

## November 23 - Christ the King

Holy Communion

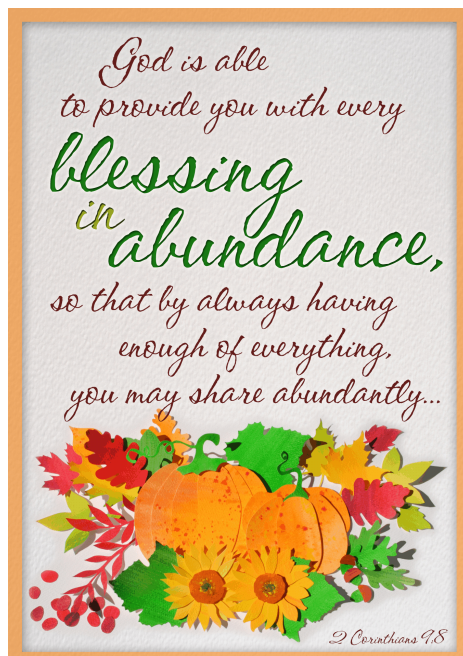
## November 26/27 - Thanksgiving

Guest Speaker: Stacey Duensing

## November 30 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion  
Peace Choir Sings

## THANKSGIVING FEAST...



It's been 11 years since Peace Lutheran Church hosted their 1<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving Day dinner for those who don't have plans for the holiday and would enjoy the fellowship and joy that comes from dining with friends and family in a festive setting. Many people in our community, and even surrounding communities, have expressed their gratitude and heartfelt thanks for this opportunity to share in a Thanksgiving Day meal with others.

Barb Larkins continues to volunteer to cook turkey & ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy for this 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Feast. (*Thank you Barb!*) If you know at this time that you'd like to come, please RSVP to the church office at #402-365-7746, or sign-up on the sheet that will be forthcoming on the church bulletin board. If you'd be able to help with a salad, dessert, vegetables, or rolls please indicate that when you call. RSVP is appreciated, but not required. We have been short of volunteers for set-up, decorating and clean-up, so please consider calling the church office and offering a little help with that. *We are blessed to be a blessing.....to one another!!!*

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## Peace Happenings...



### Happy November Birthday to...

*Special birthday this month: Jane Kolling will be 85 on November 1 and JoAnn Fangmeyer will be 75 on November 30. God's Blessings Jane & JoAnn!!!!*

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

Nov. 1	Jane Kolling	Nov. 10	Eric Isernhagen	Nov. 22	Jim Pederson
	Doyle Horwart II	Nov. 11	Norma Hillman	Nov. 23	Tiffany Nutsch
	Tait Robinson		Joan Prokop	Nov. 24	Lorena Pohlmann
Nov. 4	George Kruse	Nov. 12	Braeden Fayle		Jamie Yoachim
	Linda Fangmeyer	Nov. 13	Mason O'Neal	Nov. 25	Pat Wharton
	Cody Cahill	Nov. 14	Marilyn Cook	Nov. 28	Helen Lunzmann
Nov. 5	Kate (Hoops) Hincapie	Nov. 15	Taneal Robinson		Alfred Effenbeck
Nov. 6	Britany Renz	Nov. 15	Bob Fayle	Nov. 29	Darlene Hess
	Ashley Hillman	Nov. 17	Emily Salvo		Merlin Degner
Nov. 9	Jennifer Reinke	Nov. 18	Pahton Nash		Miranda Isernhagen
	Misty Shaw	Nov. 19	Amanda Schultz	Nov. 30	JoAnn Fangmeyer
Nov. 10	Rio Mohrmann		Yvonne Hoops		Brantley Norden
	Trevor Meyer				

*(Special note will be made of these birthday milestones - 75, 80, 85, 90 and over.)*

### Those celebrating NOVEMBER Anniversaries...

Nov. 1, 1986	Luke & Rose Johnson	Nov. 18, 1972	LeRoy & Linda Fangmeyer
Nov. 6, 1971	Howard & Marlys Reinke	Nov. 22, 1997	Nate & Karina Brandt
Nov. 7, 1980	Bill & Becky Mize	Nov. 24, 1960	Richard & Jeanette Mohrmann
Nov. 12, 1952	LeRoy & Earlene Othling	Nov. 24, 2012	Joshua & Jerra Gumaer
Nov. 16, 1985	Monte & Rita Gehle	Nov. 27, 1983	Wayne & Cindy Mueller

### Address Changes...

Phil & DeAnn Nielsen	Diana & Samatha Jacobe	Hannah Maschmann
1728 Peach Rd.	240 N 6 <sup>th</sup> St.	6199 San Ignacio Avenue, Room #133
Kirkman IA 51447	Hebron NE 68370	San Jose CA 95119

### AA weekly meeting...



The Davenport Hope Group holds an open AA meeting every Tuesday night at 8:00 p.m. in the Davenport Methodist Church basement, located at 307 N. Maple Ave., Davenport NE.

### Sunday School Perfect Attendance for September

<u>Pre/K</u>	<u>1st/2nd</u>	<u>3 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grades</u>	<u>6 - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades</u>
Chloe Fangmeyer	Addyson Hintz	Jessika Luben	Emmit Hintz
Sadie Isernhagen	Aden Jacobe	Emily Salvo	Dylan Reinke
Danica O'Neal	Lily Luben	Tierra Schardt	Trinity Schardt
Avery Ost diek	Tasia Schardt		Tyra Schardt

## Call Committee Update *by Bill Mize, Call Committee Chair*

The Call Committee continues to meet often. We continue to ask for your prayers and ask you to pray for our next pastor. At each step we learn more about the discernment process. We ask for continued patience knowing that God is leading us.

I left off in last month's newsletter at the gathering of candidates' applications or resumes. This is where we are in real time as a Call Committee. There are different avenues of gathering names of possible candidates and we are looking at these different ways as we move forward. As I mentioned last month, the LCMC website is a place that is widely used for congregations and pastors that are involved with, or available for, a call. The committee is always open to names or networking to lead us to candidates. The LCMC is an affiliation that is all about networking with one another, person to person and congregation to congregation. It's about helping one another in Christ, with an open and honest relationship, loving one another.

As a committee, it is part of our job to find the best possible candidates for our call process. And from there we go to the next step, one of much discernment. In the next step of the call process timeline we will review candidate resumes and select those that will move to the next phase. To those that are selected for this phase we will send out theological questionnaires to be written and returned. This step also includes an initial interview using a conference call or more probably the use of Skype (video conference) to interview the individuals. With much prayer and discernment we would narrow down the group and select one or more candidates to have face to face interviews before the Call Committee makes a final choice. Once this is done, that person is recommended to the Church Council for approval. The Church Council will more than likely visit with the final candidate before voting on this recommendation. Once the Council approves a candidate the congregation will vote to extend a call to this individual to be our new pastor at Peace. Of course there are many little details through these last steps, with your prayerful support we will work through them all.

Bill Mize  
Call Committee Chair

## Notes from a Seminarian:

Autumn leaves are falling from the West Michigan trees, and midterm week has arrived at Western Theological Seminary. It seems hard to believe that so much time has passed since I arrived in Holland, Michigan and began classes at Western. But the rich colors of autumn are yet another reminder to me of the rich blessings I have received upon my time here. Psalm 1 poetically reminds us that those who meditate on the law of the Lord are "like a tree planted by streams of water." I am indeed in a place of deep growth, nourishment, and blessing, and this fills my heart with joy and gratitude.

This fall semester, I am enrolled in six classes and thus far I have studied the first five books of the Old Testament, Greek grammar, church history, practices of discipleship, and more. In addition to my course work at Western, I have begun an internship with a local congregation and started working part time in Western's library.

My time at seminary thus far has been saturated with themes of blessing and thanksgiving. One of the things I have been overwhelmingly blest by is your generosity. *Thank you* for supporting me so very generously financially and in prayer. I also continue to pray for you all especially in the time of transition. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

In Christ, *Stacey Duensing*

## Snow Removal Volunteers...

A sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board for volunteers who might be available when the need should arise that we'll need snow removal here on the church grounds. If you'd like to volunteer to be on one of several rotating teams for snow removal please sign-up. The Property Committee will set-up a schedule when we see how many volunteers we have.

**WE HAVE AWESOME VOLUNTEERS** here at Peace! **THANK YOU** to JoAnn Bohling for offering to be the caller for the Women's Servant Team #2! Please be receptive to her calls for to serve funerals or bring food to certain events, like Lenten Soup Suppers. **THANK YOU** to David Weber, who graciously volunteered to finish out the mowing season for Dan Judy while he recuperates from his tractor accident. **THANK YOU** to the 11 volunteers who signed up on the paint volunteer sheet. We can still use more, but hopefully we can find a time when most of them will be able to help out! *God is Good!!*

# Operation Christmas Child...

## *What is Operation Christmas Child?*

*"Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. This program of Samaritan's Purse provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on missions project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ." (From Samaritan's Purse Website)*

It's hard to believe it is already time to be thinking about Christmas!!! Operation Christmas Child is a unique project that allows us to reach children all over the world and share the love of Jesus with them. Shoe boxes are filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items. Then the boxes are shipped off to various children in need. I have received many generous donations and we have all of the supplies we need to fill the boxes this year. On November 12th from 6:00-7:30 anyone wanting to fill a box can come to the Fellowship Hall and pack away!!!! Since the goal this year is to pack 200 boxes, I will need the kids to pack more than one box a piece if possible. Younger children may need a parent or older sibling to help them out a little! All of the supplies needed to fill the boxes will be available. Then on November 16<sup>th</sup> be sure to be at our worship service as we dedicate the shoe boxes. This is a wonderful project and a great opportunity to spread the love of Jesus to children who are in need of joy and hope. If you have any questions please call me anytime and I will try to answer them.

It costs \$7.00 per box to ship so monetary donations are always welcome as well!

Thank you so much for helping with this worthwhile project!!! There's no better gift to give at Christmas time than the gift of Jesus' love!

Kim Roth, Project Leader, #402-365-4303

Samaritan's Purse prefers that we use their boxes because of size and shipping cost. Therefore, I don't need any shoe boxes or plastic containers anymore.

## WOW Board Meeting Minutes - October 20, 2014

**The meeting was called to order** by President Lois Nelson with 10 members present, 5 absent. Also in attendance was Pastor Cathi. Devotions were given by Wilma Christensen from the book Jesus Calling.

**A thank you** from Lindsey Mueller was read, thanking us for our continued support for her. Lela Mae Brettmann thanked the board for the 2 meals she received from the Senior Center while she was recuperating from surgery.

**Treasurer's report** was given. We have a balance on hand of \$2085.15.

**Mission Action** reported that we have completed 100 school bags, 72 layettes and 115 blankets. 25 blankets were given to Royal Kids Camp. Thank offering will be given Sunday October 26 and it will go toward the postage for mailing kits.

**Mission Growth** - Joan Kirchhoff reported on the Mother/Daughter/Friend Event for Sunday October 26. Joan discussed all the details for the event that she has been working on and has everything very well taken care of.

**Mission Community** - JoAnn Fangmeyer reported that the Christmas cards are here and will be put out to be sold very soon.

Discussion was held, looking ahead, for the Advent Event in December. December 7th looks like a good day with possibly having everyone that would like to, to bring their Nativity scene to put on display. It would only be on display that day downstairs with coffee and cookies.

Deb Folkerts gave a report on the Heartland District Women of the Word retreat she attended on Saturday, October 18, at Trinity Lutheran in Columbus. The presenter was Becky Linn from Follow Hard Ministries. The retreat focused on friendship. The morning session was on sin that divides - judging, gossip, bitterness and jealousy. The afternoon study was on love that unites - affirming love, available love and attentive love. There was also time for small group sessions and individual Bible study.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jae Fintel, Secretary

## Thank You Received...

*Dear Peace Lutheran Church and Youth of Peace,*

*The Social Studies Committee of Deshler Public School offers our sincere thanks for your generous gift to the "Backpack" program. Through your donation we will be able to provide for the needs of several students over weekend when school meals aren't available to them. Thank You!*

*~ Michelle Dubbert, Diane Row, Carson Klute, Deanna Maschmann*