



December 2020 Newsletter



Pray like this...

“...you can pray very simply. Like this: *Our Father in heaven...*”

Matthew 6:9, *The Message*

And so begins the most powerful and no doubt most prayed words:

“*Pray like this, ‘Our Father in heaven...*” With these few words, Jesus reveals at least three profound things about prayer: *How* to pray, to *Whom* we are praying, and in *What* realm prayer operates.

How we are to pray

The “how” is not about formula but familiarity. Prayer is not a formal address given with the expectation of pomp and proper etiquette. For crying out loud, the scriptures are full of prayers that are precisely that “crying out loud”. Prayer is a conversation, a back and forth, a speaking and listening, a seeking and finding, asking and giving, knocking and doors being opened (cf. Luke 11). That we can have such access to God is truly a knowledge, “...too wonderful for me” (Psalm 139:5).

To Whom we are praying

We are having a conversation with *our Father*... prayer with God is about a conversation between a parent and a child - with all the nuances and dynamics that can go along with such a relationship. Depending on our level of maturity, those conversation will look and sound accordingly. At times they will be the dependence of a small child, the independence of adolescence, the rebellion of the tween years... but the longer we pray, the more they take on the depths between good friends. Always our Father, who loves us beyond our comprehension, always welcoming us to slip away and pray through the night, always willing to hear our cries of the heart and speak His comfort and courage.

In What *realm* we are praying

Prayer effects and collides with the heavenly realms - no wonder Paul reminds us that to armor up for the battle of prayer is about a collision of cosmic proportions. There is no small prayer - all our conversations with our Father occur and effect the heavenly realms, which in turn have temporal and eternal significance. It is also the reason that we can pray with great expectation, because we are conversing with the One who will supply all our needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus (cf. Philippians 4:19). The resources are infinite as are the possibilities. God blesses us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places (cf. Ephesians 1:3). Therefore our conversations - our prayers which are embedded and empowered with the presence and power of Holy Spirit (cf. Romans 8:26-27) - effect things far beyond these mortal bonds.

In this coming season of Advent (the coming) and Epiphany (the revelation), we will be diving into these three elements of prayer and praying. Each week we will explore the depths of the petitions of the Lord’s Prayer - each petition taking us deeper into the presence, power, and purpose of God as we meet, converse, and dwell with our Father in heaven.

Pray like this... is our theme for Sunday, November 29 - Sunday, January 17, morning study, and weekly Sunday message.
Pastor Jon



MISSION OUTREACH

Final Week: Sharing Tree for Safe Passage

This holiday season we are reaching out to our ministry partner, Safe Passage, a shelter for abused women and children with some extra love. The white tree is up in the entryway with labeled tags to take to provide gifts this Christmas for those living at the shelter. You may take one or more tags that describe the many needs, sizes, genders, that will serve a cross section of clients over time. Please return your gift(s) **unwrapped with the tag attached**. All gifts are to be returned by Sunday, **Dec 6**. A Thrivent Action Team card has been applied for and received to support this effort further with gift cards for families that often leave with only the clothes on their backs. Domestic abuse has risen since the on start of covid. In Oct alone,

Safe Passage served an astounding 39 clients and the numbers continue to grow. Update: All of the tags have been taken! Thank you to Annette Nolting, Development Director at Safe Passage, for her assistance.

OCC Shoebox Gifts & Raffle

The annual OCC Shoebox Gift & raffle was a great success due to YOU! Even in a pandemic year, 121 boxes were filled with the love of Christ to reach out to children across the globe. Thank you to Clarks for loading them up and delivering to a local drop off center. The Shoebox videos we watched at worship were so inspiring and explained how the Gospel is shared in each place that our boxes are delivered. The raffle supported the shipping cost of ALL our boxes – a total of \$1,110 was sent directly to Samaritan's Purse! Congrats to raffle winner Ruth Clark!! She was SO surprised! Many, many thanks go to Joann Carlson for her passion and as our OCC Shoebox Team Leader for this global outreach!

LAST CALL! Orchard Ridge Christmas Gift Basket Ideas

It's that time of year! Build a basket to support our beloved residents at Orchard Ridge. Here are some ideas:



- socks with traction on bottom
- full size lotions, shampoo and conditioner, and liquid body wash
- toothpaste and toothbrush
- nail polish or nail files (large as they are easier to handle)
- word find books (preferably large print)
- goodies: breads, cookies, nuts, chocolates, etc.
(Please, no home baked goods!)
- haircut certificates from our salon: \$12 for men, \$14 for woman's haircut

****Please have your baskets back to Orchard Ridge by December 15 for distribution to the residents.***

Thank you for your heartfelt gifts!!

Call Holly at 664-8119 or email at hjohnson@theorchardcda.org for questions.



**Advent begins Sunday, Nov 29.
Join us for these four quiet and
expectant Sundays leading up
to the birth of our Lord.**



**You are invited to a beautiful
candlelight Christmas Eve service
on Dec 24, at 5 or 7 pm.
All is calm, all is bright!**

Financial Report for Oct 2020 Submitted by Lynn Affeldt, Nov 10, 2020

Balance Sheet: 10-31-20

Ministry & Facility Fund	\$ 33,718
All Designated Funds	\$ 80,472
Total US Bank Checking	\$113,051

Thrivent Mortgage Balance \$306,735 \$307,702 (Sep)

Income & Expense: 10-31-20

Actual Giving	\$ 18,290	(Plan for Giving \$19,707)
Actual Expense	\$ 17,399	

YTD Income & Expense: (Jan-Oct 2020)

Actual Giving	\$201,536	(Plan for Giving \$197,068)
Actual Expense	\$169,718	

Oct Designated Funds:	Income	Expense	Fund Balance
Memorial Fund	200	78	\$ 429
Emergency Fund	0	0	\$10,000 (Capped at goal)
Property Fund	0	0	\$ 963
Refresh Team	750	2,475	\$11,898
Good Samaritan Fund	0	0	\$ 1,556
Sabbatical Fund (accrual)	100	0	\$ 2,200
Reception/Kitchen Fund	0	0	\$ 1,060
Campership Fund	0	0	\$ 2,950
Dorcas Fund	0	76	\$ 2,477
Youth Fund	0	0	\$ 3,801
Uganda Fund (\$300 accrual)	500	0	\$31,446
Other Misc Designated	35	95	\$ 3,312
Scholarship Fund	0	0	\$ 1,050
Call Committee	0	0	\$ 6,193

Stewardship Sunday – Gather. Grow. Send.

Our stewardship event has concluded, and our Financial Secretary, Amy Birge, has been busy inputting pledges for 2021. The Budget Team has begun working on a proposed 2021 budget to present to council at their upcoming Dec meeting. Amy is also entering your Time & Talent sheets – *thank you for volunteering!* There are additional T&T sheets available in the fellowship hall or church office if you need an extra one. *Thank you for your continued generosity and faithfulness!*

As part of our 2021 Gather, Grow, & Send
campaign the “?” symbol will begin to show up
more often. If you are interested in finding out more
about “?” talk to Pastor Jon soon!



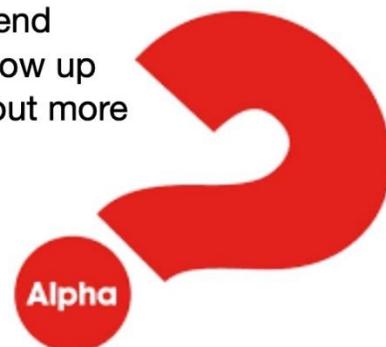
Gather
Acts 14:27



Grow
Ephesians 4:15



Send
Mark 16:15



Christian Education

Sunday: Karen Robison will begin our NEW Adult Study series, *Pray Like This*, at 8:30 am. Please Join us as we look deep into The Lord's Prayer beginning Nov 29 into Epiphany.

Tue Talk: Online with Pastor Jon

Wed Bible Study: Pastor Gail has reviewed Leviticus and will now move into Numbers to find out what happens during the next 39 years during the Exodus journey. The study begins at 10 am, but you may arrive early at 9:45 am to share prayer concerns and attend a brief service of thanks, praise, prayer, song and communion beforehand. All are invited.

Thu Thoughts: Online with Pastor Jon

Thu Study: Jim Wardlow leads an awesome study, *The Divine Call*, focusing on the Minor Prophets at 11 am.

(Check with leaders when bible studies will be breaking for the holidays)

Pastor Gail recently wrote a good winter reminder to the Wed bible study group that's good for us all:

IMPORTANT NOTICE: If the weather is not good and the roads are iffy, please check your email before you leave home. I will try to get an email out by 8:30 am the morning of bible study if we are not going to meet.

If Post Falls schools are closed the church will also be closed. If you think that you would be at risk at all...please don't try to come. *Stay safe!!*

PLC's YouTube Channel contain all services & videos and may be accessed by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKINKnU8Rdkx3WrJtTNEfRA/>



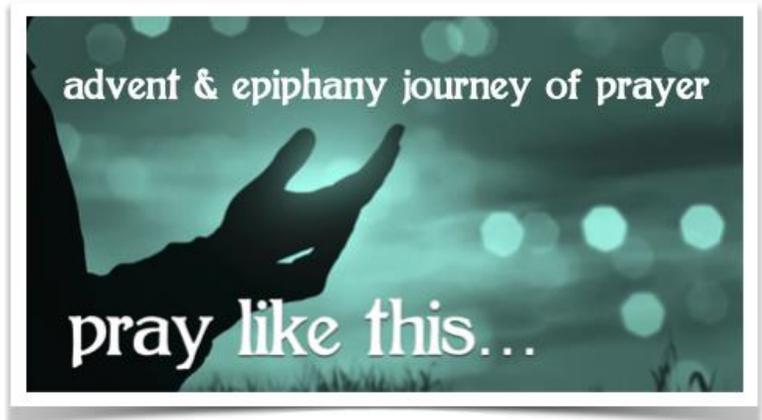
Ministry Team News

Refresh Team: Mary Cockerham, Lee Ely, Suzie English, and JoAnn Solberg

WOW! Have you seen the new entryway light fixtures? So beautiful, bright, and a stunning new upgrade as you walk into the church. There's also a new matching fixture on the ceiling of the bathroom nook. Karle Nimke installed a support structure to begin wall building for the sanctuary rockface. Mitch Magnus will provide his masonry skill on this project. Rockface may take a week or longer to completely install and exciting to watch the progress! The ladies of the Refresh Team volunteered to decorate the sanctuary Christmas tree for Nadia Bruno who has just had back surgery. Thanks to JoAnn Solberg for purchasing needed new tree ornaments. We are so grateful!

Fellowship Team

We are looking for a new fellowship list coordinator/scheduler for 2021. If you would like to volunteer for this new opportunity, please let Margret Nagel or the church office know. The task is a straightforward one with minimal time requirement. For instance, coordinator Becky Ellefloat created the whole year in one sitting – one and done! Or others have provided it on a quarterly basis. Church staff can let you know who currently is willing to serve fellowship after worship. Let us know soon if this is where you would like to share your gifts!



Strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might, we now stand firm for the purpose of prayer and petition. As we enter the season of Advent and Epiphany (November 29 - January 17) we will discover the way of praying like Jesus.

During our Sunday services & Bible study gatherings and into the season we will journey through the petitions of the Lord's Prayer. Each petition reveals God's heart for us, inviting us to respond and grow in relationship with Him.

With the prophecy of Isaiah 9, we who walk in darkness, will experience the great light of Jesus shining upon us as we encounter the One who is our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:2-6)

Special Note:

The covid situation has required us to implement self-serve again to more safely distribute communion. Pastor Jon and one assistant will be masked during the distribution. Please remember to social distance as you come forward. Thank you.

December 10:00 AM Sunday Ministry Servants			
Christmas Eve Services at 5pm & 7pm			
USHERS			
Date	Name		Phone No.
12/06/2020	Glen & Missy Nungesser		
12/13/2020	Todd & Suzie English		
12/20/2020	Kevin & Susan Schneidmiller		
12/24/2020	Xmas Eve 5pm	Karle & Barbara Nimke	
12/24/2020	Xmas Eve 7pm	Jon & Georgiann Davis	
12/27/2020	Rod & Marge Freligh		
COMMUNION SERVERS			
Date	Name		Phone No.
12/06/2020	Cinda Fueller		
12/13/2020	Chris Anderson		
12/20/2020	Kristin Gorman		
12/24/2020	Xmas Eve 5pm	Jerry Biittner	
12/24/2020	Xmas Eve 7pm	Jennifer Murray	
12/27/2020	Molly Shofner		
Communion Setup	Paul & Lisa Seher		
Baking Bread	Paul Seher		
READERS			
Date	Name	First / Second Readings	Phone No.
12/06/2020	Molly Shofner	Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14	
12/13/2020	Rita Birge	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24	
12/20/2020	Chris Clark	2 Samuel 7:1-11,16; Romans 16:25-27	
12/24/2020	5pm Connie Arthur	Isaiah 7:10-14; 1 John 4:7-16	
12/24/2020	7pm Paul Matthews	Isaiah 7:10-14; 1 John 4:7-16	
12/27/2020	Maren Snyders	Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Galatians 4:4-7	
ACOLYTES			
Date	Name		Phone No.
12/06/2020	Kira Newman		
12/13/2020	Kaylee Hite		
12/20/2020	Sam Rangel		
12/24/2020	Xmas Eve 5pm	Kira Newman	
12/24/2020	Xmas Eve 7pm	Kaylee Hite	
12/27/2020	Keegan Rangel		
<p>If you have a conflict with the Sunday you are assigned, please call someone else then inform the church office at (208) 765-0727 or office@peace-lutheran.com so the correct name may be printed in the announcements. Thank you! Marge Freligh, Ministry Servant Coordinator</p>			

Fellowship List

Safeguards for fellowship serving and visiting have been going well! Masked and gloved servers provide food at the window, and tables are reconfigured for improved distancing and group seating. Individually wrapped treats may be served for grab 'n go, and disposables used to reduce handling and clean up. *We got this – come visit!*

DECEMBER

- 6-Dec Karen & Brian Jones
- 13-Dec Mona Ley
Carolyn MacPhee
- 20-Dec Paul & Shelly Matthews
Catherine McClintock
- 27-Dec Kevin & Diana Melin

	KidZone	Safety Team	Counters
Dec 6	Kira & Kaylee	Todd & David	Chris & Barb
Dec 13	Ty & Brittany	Karle & Colby	Maren & Debbie
Dec 20	Volunteer	Rod & Rick	Rozanne & Lee
Dec 24 (Christmas Eve)		Wayne & Gordon (5 pm)	
		Ron & Ken (7 pm)	
Dec 27	Mary	Rod & Ken	Suzie & Rebecca

Playground Update! Playground Update!

Shelly Mathews, Brett Kirking, and Ken Birge are very pleased to inform the congregation of Peace Lutheran that we have received the approval of Church Council to prepare a Playground Proposal to be presented at the annual congregational meeting the end of January.

We have been working hard to have the best possible informed Playground Proposal put together for you. We have contacted our insurance company, Brotherhood Mutual, and will be following their recommendations. Area playground suppliers have been contacted, their equipment lines reviewed, and Cascade Recreation is recommended as the preferred supplier.

The Team is now working hard to get accurate cost estimates for site development, playground equipment installation, and fall material installation. We have had a hope and intention for a Playground at Peace since its purchase. Our church location is ideal, we have room for growth, and a need to expand our outdoor family exposure and activities. Many other ideas are already being identified like the need for a hard surface area for play and tables, and possibly a covered table area for outside gatherings. We are looking and preparing for the future growth of our church and want to be ready for what God has planned for Peace Lutheran. Please consider what we are planning and preparing for – a playground and future for the kids and families at Peace Lutheran.



God bless and thank you!
Playground Team

News & Events

Nov Gifts: We are grateful to Karen Robison for leading us in the eight-week **Armor of God** series at Adult Study and providing materials to all each Wed. Did you see those beautiful windows in the Nursery and Youth room doors? Thanks go to Karle Nimke for their installation. Lee & Lance Ely delivered rockface, mortar, and metal lath in two loads. On a Friday evening, Lee & Heidi Ely installed the beautiful new entryway light fixtures and a dimmer switch to control them. Lee also replaced some electronic gear high up back behind the cross to halt our screens from blinking. Gordon Schoonmaker was busy PMing all our summer equipment in the Man Cave and op testing the snowblowers – we're ready! Thanks also to Gordon for getting in the white Christmas tree to partner with Safe Passage and securing a new plowing contract which we've already used twice due to early snows! Karle Nimke has been prepping behind the cross to begin the rockface project installation – what a labor of love and skill. We want to note this has not deterred him from hunting and fishing!

Please join us in the sanctuary or the fellowship hall for worship as you are comfortable. We're broadcasting to our parking lot (front row) on 88.5 FM, and also providing a video of the service uploaded by Sunday afternoon online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKINKnU8Rdkx3WrJtTNEfRA/>

2021 God's Creation Calendars are on sale to support youth ministry. Just a few calendars left: \$10/Notepads \$2

You are invited to come and remember Fred Mitchell on Wed, Dec 2, at 2 pm at his memorial service. A light reception will be held afterward in the fellowship hall. Thanks to those who are bringing bars to share.

Pastor Jon will be away on LCMC Trustee business beginning Dec 4 and will dovetail this time away for a quick visit with son, Noah who lives nearby this convention. The church office will be closed Dec 7 as Lynn is also away on that day.

Pastor Tom Hughes stopped by recently and has a nephew, Gordon Hodge, that is looking to fill a caregiving position for his mother Margie. Rate of pay would be about \$100 per day. Please call the church office for contact info.

The Dorcas Quilting group will be taking a break in December BUT our annual quilt blessing is Sun, **Dec 6**, during worship. You will see all their beautiful quilts on the table (where the Shoeboxes were) and quilt ladders up front on the altar area. The group thought this was a safer display than on the pews this year as they will be blessed, bagged up then distributed to many local organizations the next day. Thank you, ladies, for this continued mission outreach in our communities!

It's Annual Report time – yeah! We love to read about our many ministry teams and how they put the love of Christ into action over this past year. Yes, it's been challenging year, but do you realize, we never stopped sharing the love with our ministry partner organizations, in fact, we increased! **December 15** is the deadline to have your annual report into the church office via email. Please submit in a MS Word Doc or even in the body of an email to office@peace-lutheran.com. Thank you!!

Joyce Beghtel delivered **100 lbs** in donations to CDA in Nov. Be sure to check expiration dates on donations. Personal care items and pet food are always very welcome. The holidays are here! Think canned goods, stuffing, baking ingredients, holiday treats, etc. Please bring in your clean, recycled **dozen** egg cartons only – *thanks!*

PLC Quick Calendar

The staff meets each Mon at 10 am; Music rehearsal is every Wed at 6 pm

The Thu TOPS meeting is suspended due to gathering restrictions from their organization & ID Stage Two

Dec 2: Fred Mitchell Memorial, 2 pm

Dec 4: Pastor Jon away, LCMC Trustee

Dec 6: Second Advent; Dorcas Quilt Blessing Sunday!

Dec 7: Church Office closed (both Pastor Jon and Lynn are away)

Dec 13: Third Advent; Surprise Sunday!

Dec 20: Fourth Advent

Dec 24: Candlelight Christmas Eve services 5 & 7 pm

Dec 28-Jan 1: Church Office closed

Jan 5-7: Three Days of Prayer

Extra copies of the December newsletter are available in the wall rack.

PLC Contact Directories are also available there and updated – please grab a new one!

The new devotionals are out on the table in the fellowship hall.



We're Praying for...

Debbie Wardlow in the passing of her brother Terry; Family & friends of Fred Mitchell in his passing; The Frey/Fueller families in the passing of Wilbert Fueller (Tanya Frey's uncle); Dot Herting in the passing of cousin, Kathy Jensen; Nadia Bruno, healing, back surgery; Ivan Pilyayev, second surgery, severely broken leg & ankle; Roxanne Helgeson, Steve Hagler, Kit Carey, Mina Mittelstaedt, Ken Johnston, Candy Dyson, and Brian Snyders, continued healing; Caren Woods, upcoming surgery.

Ed Walters (Neustels) cancer & treatments; Michael (Rebecca Kirkpatrick's son) in the passing of his father, Bob; Ed Wandrey (Jennifer Murray) rehab center; Chuck (Becky Elleflood), covid, ICU; Joe Goodsen (Golda Schrader) massive stroke; Marilyn (Becky Elleflood's mom) rehab, PT; Paul Johnston & Julie Johnston, healing, strength; Gina (Margie Hill) tonsil cancer surgery; Mary Andersen (Betty Nomanson) breast cancer; Wanda Gillespie (Pastor Jon) breast cancer; David Brooks, (Mona Ley's friend) cancer; Joey DeYoung (Arthurs' son-in-law) chemo; Jay Kernen (friend of Burges) cancer; Mike Kroetch (Heidi Ely's cousin) cancer treatments; Dolly Neely (Pam Kirking's friend) metastatic breast cancer; Gloria Coulter (Candy Dyson's daughter) kidney cancer.

Our Ministry Partners:

Lutherhaven, Summit Christian Academy, Family Promise, Orchard Ridge, Champ's Heart, Food Banks, UGM, Safe Passage, EFK, Open Arms, Uganda Medical Mission, Voice of the Martyrs, Good Samaritan Rehab, OCC Shoebox Gifts, and LCMC.

Prayer requests will be revised periodically. Kindly keep the church office informed of changes. Thank you.

Have a **Prayer Tree** request? Please email the Church Office at office@peace-lutheran.com

Lutherhaven Ministries

Deck the Halls: Family Winter Getaways

You are warmly invited to join us for a unique twist on a Lutherhaven tradition...Deck the Halls Stay & Play overnights in December! Whether you are celebrating with family or meeting up with friends, we'll take care of everything – housing, food and activities, allowing you time to cherish the spirit and peace of the Christmas and enjoy the stunning winter wonderland of Camp Lutherhaven. Between December 1-20, choose ANY dates (mid-week or weekend!) and book your stay for a night or two... or a week... in a cabin or room in the Retreat Center.

Your favorite Craft Wonderland in the Sunset room will be available with special ornament and wreath projects. Camp will sparkle with festive lights and decorated trees as you embark on a Nativity Scavenger Hunt. Put on your snow clothes and play some broomball hockey or go sledding. And end the day with family devotional time around the bonfire while enjoying s'mores and cocoa. Family photos will be available, and the festive Lutherhaven Gift Shop will be open. Join us for midweek or weekend overnights of joyful, holy, magical fun for the whole family!

Find more information at www.lutherhaven.com



8134 N Meyer Rd (at Prairie Ave & Meyer Rd)
Post Falls, ID 83854
Phone: (208) 765-0727
Website: peace-lutheran.com
Email: office@peace-lutheran.com

Sun Adult Study 8:30 AM
Sun Worship at 10 AM
Tue Talks & Thu Thoughts Online
Wed & Thu Bible Studies
Pastor Jon Anderson
Pastor Emeritus, Gail Gutterud