



January 2021 Newsletter



good news of great joy Luke 2:10

Joy is the heart-beat of our lives. We are joy-driven creatures - created by the One who is full of joy.

"In Your presence is fullness of joy;" Psalm 16:11a

God sends us His Son - the Word in flesh, Immanuel - God with us - so that we may be in His presence to experience daily the fullness of His joy.

Jesus' instructions to His friends to remain with Him, the branches with the vine, was so that His joy may dwell in them and that their joy may be made full (cf. John 15:11). God gives Holy Spirit to be with us and to dwell *in* us so that His joy may be manifest.

It is, after all, the joy of the LORD that is your strength (cf. Nehemiah 8:10). His joy, His delight, His "glad to be with you" that shines upon you. His joy abides with us through all the seasons of our lives, never diminished by the events we encounter - His joy whether in tears or laughter - comforts, encourages, and restores.

And we have the ancient blessing which has become our *benediction*:

*The LORD bless you and keep you
The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you
The LORD look upon You and give you peace...* (Numbers 6:24-26)

This blessing repeatedly reveals that our joy comes from the face of God upon us - His very presence with us *always*.

There is something about God's joy - His glad to be with us always (which by the way immediately follows love in the list of the fruit of the Spirit, "...love, joy, peace..." (Galatians 5:22). Joy is so much richer and resilient than mere happiness. Joy, far from being a fickle feeling, is a rock in the midst of the greatest of storms and sorrows as well as in the times of quiet and celebration. Joy compels us, it is what we are made of, from and for.

And I have no doubt the night the angels brought the good news of great joy, along with the glory of the LORD and the swell of heavenly song, there were face full of mirth and gladness upon these angelic beings who could barely contain the joy of the One who sent them.

Of all the disruptions we have experienced this year - my prayer is that you will know the interruption of God's joy upon you as we enter a new year together - beloved by God, belonging to His family, becoming more and more the sons and daughters He intends, and blessed to be a blessing to others.

May those who live under your roof, in your neighborhood, at your work-place, in all your comings and goings - see in you the good news of great joy!

Pastor Jon

Three Days of Prayer: Jan 5-7

Our Lord Jesus is our model for all things in life and faith. With that in mind it is important to note how intentional He was in making time to be with God the Father and to pray (see Mark 1:35). These were such important priorities for Jesus that He even refused to allow the ever-present needs of people to deter Him from making time to pray. Jesus was intentional when it came to prayer.

Following our Lord's example, we are setting aside an intentional time to pray together across our association on January 5-7, 2021. LCMC's [Three Days of Prayer](#) is a designated time for us to come together as one across the association to pray. It is not the only time we pray of course. It is, however, a time when we can be united around a common purpose, one modeled for us by our Lord and Savior.

As we join together on these days in January, we will be able to pray with confidence knowing that our prayers are not dependent upon us but rather upon the character and power of the One to whom we pray. LCMC Pastor Graeme Sellers writes: "God does not want us to find our confidence in prayer in how well or how right we're praying; but rather, in our conviction of His goodness and kindness to His kids."

This assurance of the love and goodness of our Father in Heaven sets us free to pray. We do not have to be paralyzed nor stymied in prayer, waiting until we think we have prayed right enough, good enough, long enough. Rather, we are set free to pray in confidence knowing to whom it is we pray, our good Father in Heaven who is determined to be good to us.

Let's come together across the association to pray during these three days in January and let's pray every day before and after. Let us pray as God has taught us in the form of the Lord's Prayer. Let us pray as prompted by the Word and the Spirit of God. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit bring us together as one so that millions can be drawn by God to faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. And let us pray to the Lord as others have done throughout history: "Lord, do whatever You need to do in us so You can do whatever You want to do through us." For Yours Lord, is the Kingdom, power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Mike Bradley, LCMC Service Coordinator

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Annual Congregational Meeting

Our Council has been working hard in 2020 and has some fantastic proposals for your consideration at the upcoming Annual Meeting to be held following worship on January 31. You will have the opportunity to elect new council members, a 2021 nominating team, and delegates to ministry partner corporation meetings as well as LCMC gatherings. A new, proposed 2021 budget will be presented. All voting members are encouraged to attend. Your 2020 Annual Report will be **emailed** to you one week prior to the meeting for review or you may stop by the church and pick up a copy in the office!

Jan 2: Paint Day!

I think we are all ready to welcome the new year and what better way than to get together and paint the Northern Lights aka the Aurora Borealis!

When: Saturday January 2

Time: 2-5pm

Where: Peace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

What to bring: Drinks for you and your family

What we will supply: All items for painting and PIZZA

Why: Because it will feed our souls to paint and laugh!

Cost: Suggested Donation \$10/person

REGISTER SOON AS THERE IS LIMITED SEATING. **Call Shelly Matthews at 208-661-4321**

We will socially distance and masks are encouraged

Watch for the sample painting at church :)

Thanks! Shelly Matthew



Financial Report for Nov 2020 Submitted by Lynn Affeldt, Dec 8, 2020

Balance Sheet: 11-30-20

Ministry & Facility Fund	\$ 39,995
<u>All Designated Funds</u>	<u>\$ 80,357</u>
Total US Bank Checking	\$120,352

Thrivent Mortgage Balance \$305,764 \$306,735 (Oct)

Income & Expense: 11-30-20

Actual Giving	\$ 23,285	(Plan for Giving \$19,707)
Actual Expense	\$ 16,272	

YTD Income & Expense: (Jan-Nov 2020)

Actual Giving	\$224,821	(Plan for Giving \$216,775)
Actual Expense	\$185,990	

Nov Designated Funds:

		<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Fund Balance</u>
Memorial Fund	0	96	\$ 332	
Emergency Fund	0	0	\$10,000 (Capped at goal)	
Property Fund	0	0	\$ 963	
Refresh Team	0	93	\$11,805	
Good Samaritan Fund	150	0	\$ 1,706	
Sabbatical Fund (accrual)	100	0	\$ 2,300	
Reception/Kitchen Fund	0	0	\$ 1,060	
Campership Fund	0	0	\$ 2,950	
Dorcas Fund	0	17	\$ 2,460	
Youth Fund	0	0	\$ 3,801	
Uganda Fund (\$300 accrual)	1,000	0	\$32,446	
Other Misc Designated	1,090	1,110	\$ 3,293	
Scholarship Fund	0	0	\$ 1,050	
Call Committee	0	0	\$ 6,193	

As part of last year's Annual Meeting, a few questions came up about our current mortgage. Your council did not forget about this and has done some investigation into the current loan and options that may be available to us as a church. I wanted to share a little bit of information on what was found during the review.

1. The current mortgage has a balance of approximately \$305,000
2. Current interest rate is 5.125% with 204 payments left to make
3. In approximately 7 years' time our loan automatically has an interest rate adjustment
4. We can try to qualify to refinance our current loan with the following terms
5. 15 year (180 payments) fixed rate loan; no interest rate adjustment for the term
6. Lower interest rate- approximately 4.5% but no lock available until approved
7. Approximate interest savings \$37,500
8. 20 fewer payments needed – Approximate savings \$45,600
9. Total potential savings over next 15 years = \$83,100
10. Minimal if any monthly payment increase depending on final interest rate.

We are continuing to gather data and look forward to sharing more at the annual meeting on Jan 31. *Thank you!*

Paul Seher
Council Vice President

Christian Education

Sunday: Karen Robison continues leads the Adult Study series, *Pray Like This*, at 8:30 am. Please Join us as we look deep into The Lord's Prayer into Epiphany, Jan 17.

KidZone: A new Leader Team is forming for KidZone activities each Sunday! Please contact Shelly Matthews or Stephanie Hite if you would like to become involved.

Tue Talk: Online with Pastor Jon

Wed Bible Study: Pastor Gail continues with 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.

New! Beginning Thursday, January 28, come join us as we bypass the speculations of Revelations and seek to identify the great truths it contains for all people of all times: the serious consequences of humanity's sin, the destructive work of the evil one, the hope for believers who suffer persecution, and the amazing life Christians will experience after death. Come share this 12 lesson Bible Study that makes Bible stories come alive for today's Christian. The study book is authored by Pastor Kent Groethe and is titled REVELATION: *Trusting the Architect of the Future*. Please look for signup sheet in the fellowship hall soon so materials may be ordered. In order to allow for group dynamics and participation class size will be limited. – Jim Warlow, Study Leader

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

We can't say thanks enough for the incredible building of the support structure, new wall behind the cross, and installation of lath by Karle Nimke in prep for the sanctuary rockface. Mitch Magnus and fellow mason, Mitch "(Sig)", came in mid-Dec and worked a week of full days mudding, cutting, and fitting to perfection beautiful rockface that we are now all enjoying. After this work was completed in four days, Lee Ely installed back lighting behind the cross. I'm sure you'll agree the light color choice and enhancement is beyond expectation! A round of applause please!!!

Playground Update!

Brett Kirking, Ken Birge, and Shelly Mathews ask each congregational member to please give the Playground for Peace some consideration. We will be asking for congregational approval at the Annual Meeting on January 31. Why do we need a playground?? In one word—GROWTH!! We believe a playground is the next step to growing our family membership. More families were one of the highest priorities identified when we held a congregational survey before calling a new pastor in 2019. A great example of family potential was the enrolling of 55 children for Vacation Bible School. GREAT JOB!! In addition to a playground, and in the future, a hard slab for youth activities, and outdoor fellowship gathering space may someday be considered. Please contact any of us with your questions. God bless and thank you!

Ken Birge, Playground Team

Fellowship Team: We look forward to the day when we can enjoy an organized fellowship time again following worship. In the meantime, please consider sharing your talent by volunteering for creator/coordinator of the future fellowship list. Please let Margret Nagel know that you are eager to fill this need – *thanks!*

Communion continues to be self-serve. Pastor Jon and one assistant will be masked during the distribution. Please remember to social distance as you come forward. Thank you.

January 10 AM Sunday Ministry Servants

Happy New Year 2021!

USHERS

Date	Name	Phone No.
01/03/2021	Woody & Debbie Clouse	
01/10/2021	Lee, Heidi & Lance Ely	
01/17/2021	Kevin & Susan Schneidmiller	
01/24/2021	Paul & Lisa Seher	
01/31/2021	Rod & Marge Freligh	

COMMUNION SERVERS

Date	Name	Phone No.
01/03/2021	Jennifer Murray	
01/10/2021	Jerry Bittner	
01/17/2021	Becky Elleflood	
01/24/2021	Lynn Affeldt	
01/31/2021	Tanya Frey	
Communion Set up	Helen Burge Catherine McClintick	
Bread Baker	Chris Anderson	

READERS

Date	Name	First/Second Readings	Phone No.
01/03/2021	Karen Robison	1 Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14	
01/10/2021	Mike Hill	Genesis 1:1-5; Romans 6:1-11	
01/17/2021	David Pollard	1 Samuel 3:1-10; 1 Cor 6:12-20	
01/24/2021	Suzie English	Jonah 3:1-5,10; 1 Cor 7:29-31	
01/31/2021	Connie Arthur	Deut 18:15-20; 1 Cor 8:1-13	

ACOLYTES

Date	Name	Phone No.
01/03/2021	Sam Rangel	
01/10/2021	Kira Newman	
01/17/2021	Keegan Rangel	
01/24/2021	Kaylee Hite	
01/31/2021	Kira Newman	

If you have a conflict with the Sunday you are assigned, please first call someone else on the list then inform the church office (208)765-0727 so the correct name may be printed in the announcement page. *Thank you for serving!*
Marge Freligh, Ministry Servant Coordinator

Fellowship

We haven't included a fellowship schedule this month as we have no volunteer come forward to arrange it just yet, and those willing to serve fellowship have become a narrow pool. Perhaps for now, we can move into a more informal sort of gathering following worship. Visiting and fellowship have been and always will be an integral part of our church life together. For those that would like to gather, please feel free to meet together in the fellowship hall after service. Instructions how to use the Bunn coffee pot are provided, and you are welcome to bring treats to share. You would also be responsible for cleanup and getting the trash out, no different than all the regular fellowship duties! This could actually be a lot of fun as people or groups organize together!

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				KidZone		Safety Team		Counters					
Jan 3				Stephanie		Brian & Rick		Counter Review Day!					
Jan 10				Stephanie		Gordon & Todd		Amy, Andy, Charlotte					
Jan 17				Lisa		Karle & Ron		Amy & Charlotte					
Jan 24				Stephanie		Rod & Rick		Chris & Andy					
Jan 31				Shelly		Wayne & Colby		Lee & Carolyn					
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

News & Events

Dec Gifts: Karle Nimke continued to build and finished a reinforced wall in preparation for the rockface installation. Everyone knows, as they say in the construction biz, "That wall ain't going anywhere!" The team of Mitches came in next mid-Dec and with precision and care, installed the incredibly beautiful rockface we are now enjoying. This major project wraps up the final effort of the Refresh Team except for a few odds and ends. Thanks to Lee Ely for the installation of lights behind the cross that are able to be white or any color choice. Thanks to all for sharing special musical talent at Christmas Eve!

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/>

Reminder: We are still missing some critical Annual Reports. If you led a special project/event, mission or are a ministry liaison (**council member**), please email your report soon in a Word doc to the church office at office@peace-lutheran.com.

Joyce Beghtel delivered **25 lbs** in donations to CDA in Dec. Please check expiration dates on donations. Personal care items and pet food are always also very welcome.

We are looking for a volunteer that would be willing to drop off our alternating monthly donations to the Post Falls Food Bank beginning in Jan. It's easy and you don't have to go each week. Contact the office for details!

Heartful thanks go to our Dorcas quilters that provided an extra Christmas touch to our homebound. Pat & Caren Woods loved their quilt. Lee Wood was so surprised and thinks her quilt is so beautiful that she'll hang it on the wall! Dot Herting was thrilled. She says it's just right, she needed one, it's the perfect size and also her favorite color. Joan Schroeder said her quilt reminds her of her quilting time together at Dorcas. Ken & Delores Johnston would like to hug each quilter to thank them for using their talents and time to make someone warm and happy.

PLC Quick Calendar

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

Dec 25-Jan 1: Church Office closed

Jan 2: Paint Day, 2-5 pm

Jan 5-7: Three Days of Prayer

Jan 16: Darrel Carlson Memorial, 10 am

Jan 31: Annual Meeting, 11:15 am

Extra copies of the January 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.

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We're Praying for...

Jerry Bittner, covid; Bruce English, covid; Rita Birge, recovering, covid; Kristin Gorman, healing, throat surgery & biopsy; Bernita Carlson, infection, healing; Ivan Pilyayev, healing, severely broken leg/ankle; Nadia Bruno, Roxanne Helgeson, Ken & Delores Johnston, and Candy Dyson, healing; Caren Woods, upcoming surgery.

David Gutterud (Myron & Gail's son) return of cancer; Stan Ove (Maxine Pfundheller's brother) hospitalized; Neighbors of Joann Carlson, covid; Ann Aaseby (Pr Gail's mom) covid positive; Beth Newsome (Stephanie Hite) cancer; Carrah Affeldt (Tom's mom) Hospice House; Linda Paulson (Charlotte Newman) surgery complications; Mick Redman (Rebecca Kirkpatrick's husband) heart monitor; Ed Walters (Neustels) cancer & treatments; Chuck (Becky Elleflood), covid, ICU; Joe Goodsen (Golda Schrader) massive stroke; Marilyn (Becky Elleflood's mom) rehab, PT; 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 Kernan (friend of Burges) cancer; Mike Kroetch (Heidi Ely's cousin) cancer treatments.

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

We've all been impacted... the cancellations, the isolation, the changes and uncertainty. We've all had to figure out new ways to do life – to connect, to find peace, to remain faith and hope-filled.

For 75 years, Lutherhaven Ministries has adapted to changing times to remain vital and vibrant. 2020 reinforced our core mission: To give families spaces for respite and joy, with opportunities to encounter CREATION, create COMMUNITY, and commune with CHRIST!

This past summer, even with traditional kids' camps canceled, hundreds of families enjoyed the sacred spaces of Lutherhaven in safe, socially distanced ways. Your camps pivoted and remained vital and vibrant – reducing expenses, adapting programming, and making decisions to assure a thriving Christ-centered outdoor ministry on the other side of Covid-19. Operating on just 16% of normal earned income, it's been your generosity, and God's grace, that's set us up to shine in 2021. Please, if you haven't done so already, consider a year-end gift to help sustain the Sacred Spaces of Lutherhaven Ministries. Thanks to Daniel Baker, for your awesome videography!

Click here: <https://vimeo.com/492830509>

Find more information at www.lutherhaven.com



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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
