



The Word became flesh and blood,  
and moved into the neighborhood. John 1:14

The apostle John, continuing with the opening lines of his account of Jesus' life, reveals that God has arrived. Or as the angel of the Lord instructed Joseph in a dream, "... the child conceived in Mary is from the Holy Spirit... and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins". All of this taking place to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL" which means "GOD WITH US." (Matthew 1:20-23).



Bottom line: The Word has moved into the neighborhood, has become flesh, dwells among us. No longer in a distant place, His presence sanctifying all who receive Him and believe in Him, giving them the power to become the children of God (John 1:12-13).

In the fulness of time, God's plan to save the world continued through the womb of a young woman who brings God's good to the neighborhood. The Word of God in flesh, to be seen, heard, touched... Grace and Truth touching, healing, forgiving, teaching, raising the dead, and casting out demons... and God in flesh, accused, beaten, rejected, and killed... all for the sake of doing the ultimate good: saving the world He so loved (John 3:16).

And now, those who believe, who have become the children of God are also the body of Christ – the ways and means God continues to do good in the neighborhoods of our homes, our workplaces, our communities. His Holy Spirit filling and dwelling within us to see and set about eager to engage in good deeds to meet the needs of others (Titus 3:14).

### ***So, what good can we do in our neighborhood?***

Who needs grace? Who needs kindness? Who needs a listening ear, a helping hand? Who in our neighborhoods needs to be seen? Doing good begins with remembering the good God has done for us in Christ and sharing Him with others, not just in words but in deeds and in power (1 Corinthians 4:20, James 1:22). Who may God put before us today to share Jesus, to extend His grace and truth?

When we gather every Sunday, we are reminded how God in Christ Jesus made us alive again, forgiving our sins. We sing praises to God. We pray with and for one another. We hear God's Word spoken over us and to us. We are given His body and blood to remember, and then sent into our neighborhoods to extend the same to others. What might it look like to extend forgiveness to another? What might it look like to share a song or speak God's Word over another? What might happen if we shared a meal with someone who needs to be reminded that they matter?

Oh, may we have ears to hear God's promptings and the eyes to see those right around us, to whom we are sent to do good... the good of God's grace and truth, made flesh, in our neighborhood!

*Pastor Jon*





Peace Lutheran celebrated the baptism of Lucas Vernon Howland on Nov 10. Welcome to the family of God little one!



Our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Gifts focus this year was blessed and sent on Nov 17 with a record number of 222 Shoeboxes filled with the love of Christ. Many thanks to all and to Kristin Howland, our Project Leader. She already has great plans for 2025! Congrats to our raffle basket winners, Duane Howland of the Thrivent sponsored gift cards, and Nancy Cady of the Trader Joe's basket. What child in the world will hear the Good News because of your Shoebox?



### The Advent Season & Peace Christmas

It's the beginning of the new liturgical year, and a time set aside of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Christ at Christmas; the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Please join us each Sunday while we move through this quiet season of wonder and waiting as we light a new and meaningful candle on the Advent Wreath each week. Soon our "halls with be decked" with the hanging greens of the season, symbolizing everlasting life. We are so very grateful that Karen Robison was able to secure beautiful new greens for us to enjoy! Come into the quiet of the first four Sundays in Dec and return **Christmas Eve night at 5 & 7 pm** to give glory to God for the birth of His son, forever changing the world!



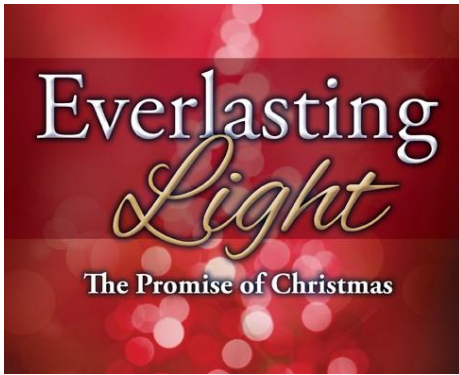
It's our annual **Deck the Halls Event** on **Sat, Dec 7, 9-11 am**. All ages are welcome to come over for a fun morning of decorating God's House for the **Advent** and **Christmas** season. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate and apple cider will go well with breakfast pastries, donuts and muffins. Help decorate the tree, hang garland, string lights, display our beautiful Nativity by the tree, make crafts, and more. Bring your children, grandchildren, and invite your neighbors as we enter into the season of Light coming into the world.

### Labor of Year-long Love

The Dorcas Quilting group will have all their quilts laid out on the pews for blessing and sending on Sunday, **Dec 8** during worship.

The ladies have consistently met every Monday to craft quilts to be given toward local needs and for sale, which supports their ongoing ministry in our communities. If you would like to purchase a quilt on that Sunday, please take it from the pew then see Gail Schoonmaker (or another quilter) back by the cozy corner in the fellowship hall to pay. All quilts are \$40, with checks made to PLC with quilt in the memo so we know how to direct those funds. Each year the ladies meet and vote on who they would like to gift \$500 benevolence from their fund. Helping Captives was selected for this year! As a church, we are so grateful for this large outreach ministry and the dedication of their skillful hands!





### Dec 15: Christmas Cantata

It's almost time for our annual cantata presentation which the choir will be singing during worship on December 15, at 10 am.

The cantata, entitled *Everlasting Light, the Promise of Christmas*, will be sung during the majority portion of the worship service. Beside some of our members, we have four singers from the Coeur d'Alers joining us this year, along with Randy and Jolene Pooley's niece and granddaughter, and Gaynell and Lee Coppess, who have recently been attending services. Because the choir has grown to 30+ members,

Gaynell agreed to direct the cantata for us. We sincerely hope to make this a special Christmas worship experience for Peace Lutheran. Blessed Christmas Season! – Ruth Clark, Minister of Music

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE

On Tue, Dec 24, Peace will offer two Christmas Eve services at 5 & 7 pm. At the **5 pm** service, we'll have a **Children's Christmas Pageant!** Nativity costumes will be available in the KidZone and Youth rooms, and early in the service, all children and any adults who wish to participate, will be invited to go back and get outfitted to then parade through the sanctuary to the manger during the singing of the hymns. Would you like to help? Would you like to participate? Please contact [Karen!](#)



### The 3Cs Coeur d'Alers

How fun it was to have the Coeur d'Alers rehearse here each Tue morning for a bit and listen to their joyful sound! We are also grateful for their donations. The Coeur d'Alers present a free Christmas Choral concert, *Getting' in the Christmas Mood*, on Tue, Dec 3, at 2 pm and Fri, Dec 6, at 7 pm. The Coeur d'Alers are directed by Sheila Wayman and our own Ruth Clark is their accompanist. The concert is at Trinity Lutheran, CDA, and all donations accepted benefit 3Cs, Cancer and Community Charities.

### Chorale CDA Christmas Concert

Chorale CDA presents their upcoming Christmas concert, *Sugar and Spice*, with works from Handel, Bach, Holst plus more at Trinity Lutheran, CDA, on **Dec 9 & 10, both at 7 pm**. The Nativity Carol beautifully captures the essence of the Christmas story. Tickets at <https://www.choralecda.com/tickets> to enjoy the jubilant sounds of the season by a dynamic choir of 100+ voices!



Iain Fisher is involved in several choirs and would like to invite you to additional concerts this Christmas season (flyers on the bulletin board). There are two dates, **Dec 14** in Spokane Valley, and **Dec 15** in North Spokane. Both are free concerts with no ticket purchase necessary! In addition to these two handbell performances, Iain is also singing a couple tunes for Real Life's presentation of A Charlie Brown Christmas: <https://www.reallifeministries.com/creative-arts> These performances are **Dec 6 & 7** in Post Falls, and are also free! 🎵 Christmas time is here, happiness and cheer 🎵 *Enjoy!*

### A Timely Gift

Many of you are aware that Karen works at the Hayden Lake Country Club. With our Deck the Halls event fast approaching, staff has been concerned about our now aging and falling apart Christmas décor, which we had discussed at Monday staff meeting. That very afternoon, Karen shot us a quick email saying the HLCC had decided not to use their newish garland this year and planned to dispose of it. Karen inquired if she could have it for us, and three large totes of beautiful garland were sitting in our entryway Tue morning at Matins. Prayers answered, God's wondrous timing! So, many thanks to the Club for this timely gift, and to Karen for securing it for our enjoyment for years to come!





## Financial Summary Oct 2024 Submitted by Lynn Affeldt, Nov 12, 2024

### Oct Balance Sheet

Ministry & Facility Fund	\$ 30,460	
All Designated Funds	<u>\$119,481</u>	
Total Mt West Checking	\$149,941	
Thrivent Mortgage Balance	\$246,974	\$248,352 (Sep)

### Oct Income & Expense

Actual Giving	\$ 21,712	(Plan for Giving \$22,438)
Actual Expense	\$ 20,900	

### YTD Income & Expense (Jan-Oct)

Actual Giving	\$228,670	(Plan for Giving \$224,383)
Actual Expense	\$214,714	

### Oct Designated Funds

	Income	Expense	Fund Balance
Memorial Fund	500	0	\$ 3,916
Emergency Fund	0	0	\$ 8,927
Property Fund	0	0	\$ 6,162
Refresh Team	0	0	\$ 276
Good Samaritan Fund	0	78	\$ 4,693
Sabbatical Fund (accrual)	100	0	\$ 7,000
Reception/Kitchen Fund	0	0	\$ 1,759
Campership Fund	0	0	\$ 1,947
Dorcas Fund	40	112	\$ 1,581
Youth Fund	0	100	\$ 5,226
Uganda Fund (\$300 accrual)	1,300	0	\$15,775 (\$1,000 Gift)
Other Misc Funds	860	0	\$ 5,735 (\$700 exp reversed)
Scholarship Fund	0	0	\$ 625
Audio/Visual Fund	0	0	\$ 7,708
Snow Plowing Fund	0	0	\$ 5,225
Capital Fund	0	15	\$22,375
Signage	0	0	\$ 7,500
Safety Team	0	0	\$ 1,559
Resurrection Path	0	2,509	\$ 7,294 (Jun maint. & gate bal)
Seminary Fund	0	0	\$ 4,200



Remembering the Saints

*Need another Time & Talent sheet? Extras can always be found on the wall rack in the fellowship hall!*

**Food Bank News:** Thank you to Teresa Baillie for delivering **18 lbs** of donations to the Post Falls Food Bank in Nov. Our Thanksgiving offering will be equally designated toward both food banks. **Expired/open food** can't be accepted and is thrown away. **PLEASE** check dates before donating – *thanks!*

**Kitchen Donation Needs:** Tissues, paper bowls, ziplock sandwich-size bags, and mini liquid creamers (non-refrigerated kind). Gift-in-kind donation receipts are available in the church office. Thank you always for the extras that keep us going!

Many of you may know Pastor Larry Cudmore's grandson, Bridger Cudmore – he's grown into a fine young man, and is off on a mission trip with his church to the Philippines to the small island Tablas to serve in the village of Calatrava Dec 26-Jan 10. Bridger is asking for your prayers! Also, a trip like this is not possible without external support as \$2,600 needs to be raised before departure. If you would like to financially help, please see the display flyer on the table on how to securely send your donation. Bridger says, "Thank you for any way you feel God leading you to help."

### Winter Bible Study Groups

**Sun Adult Study:** Please join us at 8:30 am for a special two-week study of the *Songs of Advent* on Dec 1 & 8 with Karen Robison! There will be no adult study Dec 15, 22, and 29. A new study will begin in Jan 7.

**Sun KidZone:** Advent activities are planned for the children during worship time – see *KidZone News below!*

**Mon Men’s Group:** The guys are encouraged to attend events during the Advent season. Please see page 8.

**Tue Matins:** Matins continues with Pastor Jon at 7:30 am for quiet and reflective morning prayer time.

**Wed Bible Study:** No class Nov 27; join us again Dec 4. Pastor Gail is leading the Gospel of John at 10 am. You’re invited to attend anytime during this in-depth study. Share prayer concerns and pray together at 9:45 am before the study begins.

#### SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

For two special Sundays in December, join us at 8:30 on the 1st and 8th as we study **The Songs of Advent:** Zechariah and Mary’s songs of wonder and praise! Join us as we prepare our hearts and magnify the Lord!

**December 1st:** Zechariah’s Benedictus ([Luke 1:67-79](#))

**December 8th:** Mary’s Magnificat ([Luke 1:46-55](#))

*After these two special study sessions, Sunday Morning Bible Study will pause until the New Year. No Sunday morning Bible Study December 15, 22, or 29.*

#### KIDZONE NEWS

All children are invited to remain in the sanctuary during the Advent season, to share the special season with their families and to hear the Christmas story. *There will be no Kid Zone Classroom Time December 1, 8, 15, or 22.* Activity sheets and busy bags will be provided for children in the sanctuary. Kid Zone Class returns December 29<sup>th</sup> and continues into the New Year! Beginning the first Sunday in 2025, the children will spend the first 26 weeks of the year learning about our identities in Jesus Christ in a new curriculum called: C is for Christian!

If you are interested in teaching KidZone classes or have any questions about education or children’s programming at Peace, please contact [Karen](#).



**LAST CALL! Orchard Ridge** is gearing up again this year with their annual Christmas Gift Baskets for residents. Gifts can be put in a basket, plastic storage tub, gift bag or simply provide loose items from which OR will build baskets. Some ideas include:

- Socks with traction on bottom
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Bobby pins, hair clips/ties, men’s combs
- Store purchased goodies, bread, cookies, buts, chocolates, etc.
- OR Salon haircut certificates for men (\$20), women (\$25)
- Full-sized lotions, shampoo, conditioner, body wash
- Nail polish, larger nail files, tissue packets



Please have all baskets/items **back to Orchard Ridge by Dec 16**. Any ?s please call Holly Johnson at 208-664-8119 and see the flyer on the table in the hall – *thank you!*



#### ‘Tis the Season!

As we come to the close of another year of ministry together, it’s time to capture our history over the course of this year via the Annual Report. Every Council person or (ministry team liaison, along with those that led special events, or other ministries are kindly asked to have their report to the church office at [office@peace-lutheran.church](mailto:office@peace-lutheran.church) no later than **Dec 15**. This deadline is important as your staff works with a shorter time period to create the report booklet and be completed for congregational review before the Annual Meeting, which is currently scheduled after worship on Jan 19, 2025. Reports are to be submitted electronically in the body of an email or an attached MS Word document (no PDFs). Those writing reports may refer to the previous report which is a helpful guide. Please let me know if you have any questions or need help! – Lynn Affeldt



## God's Never-Ending Mercy

[Psalm 136](#) is a unique psalm, with each of its **26** verses repeating: His mercy endures forever. This mercy ("hesed") is understood as God's loving and generous compassion, which, out of His great love, will always be graciously given to His people. This advent season, I invite you to pause and reflect with me on the mercy, the lovingkindness, of our Almighty God.

The psalm begins by giving thanks to God for His goodness ([verses 1-4](#)). His goodness and mercy are an essential part of who He is, who He has been since the beginning of time. His mercy endures forever. Because we are made in God's image ([Genesis 1:26-27](#)), we know something of what is good. However, we are fallen ([Romans 5:19](#)), so the image of God in us became corrupted, as did our knowledge of what is good. Yet we can remember what good is by looking at God, by knowing His goodness and by knowing His good Son ([Mark 10:18](#)), who imparts His goodness to us ([Romans 5:8](#), [James 1:17](#))

Next, we reflect upon the enduring mercy of God as the wise and masterful Creator ([verses 5-9](#)). We remember His past awesome power and might... God alone is good and God alone is the maker of all. Jesus, fully God, did not appear first at Christmas, but was there in the beginning with God ([John 1:1-18](#)) and was God's plan of redemption from the start ([Genesis 3:16](#)). God, the eternal, uncreated One, was not surprised by our fall or our continued sin and we can trust that His eternal plan continues, unhindered by the evil which abounds. This evil is temporary and will be judged. His mercy endures forever.

After this in the psalm, we declare the provision, protection and steadfast mercy that God has historically shown to His people ([verses 10-22](#)), which continues to us today, most dramatically shown to us in the giving of His only Son, our Lord and Savior ([John 3:16](#)), who first coming we celebrate with joy now...while we await His second. Through Him, our salvation is provided and we see how His mercy endures forever.

Then we reflect upon the mercy of God in His deliverance and help, how He sees us in our lowest state and offers rescue ([verses 23-25](#)). In Bible times, this section transitions from God's great wonders of the past (from Creation to rescue from Egyptian slavery and provision in the desert) to His steadfast and faithful help in the present. For us, we remember all of God's great wonders of the past, specifically sending His Son for us in just the right time ([Galatians 4:4](#)) while we also praise God for His help here and now. He rescued us from our enemies: sin, death and their power and His mercy endures forever.

Finally, we end with heartfelt gratitude to God for His mercy, [verse 26](#): Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven! For His mercy endures forever. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the Deliverer of the people of Egypt, He is the God of heaven and He reigns, forever ([Psalm 9:7-12](#))!

As we reflect on the gift of Jesus this Advent season, the embodiment of God's mercy, grace and love and as we prepare for a New Year, let us together remember: His mercy endures forever. We celebrate this all year long. Neither the past, present or future will end His loving mercy. The trials we face in this life will not end His mercy. Even death itself will not end His mercy. His mercy endures forever. Praise God! In every season, in every circumstance, Praise God!

Praising God with you and thanking Him for you,  
Karen Robison

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## Winter Weather Reminder

A robust winter has been predicted for our area, and when it comes to winter driving, we encourage you to always use your personal discretion. During the week, if the Post Falls School District is closed due to inclement weather, Peace Lutheran is as well. All events scheduled for that day are canceled and staff will remain home. Pastor Jon confirmed that it would have to be "a pretty big snowstorm where he can't leave his driveway" to cancel Sunday service! If we ever encounter such a situation, we'll attempt to send a mass email early Sunday morning to alert you. Please be safe this winter! – Lynn Affeldt

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## Mark Your Calendar – Three Days of Prayer: January 7-9, 2025

LCMC's Three Days of Prayer is an opportunity for us to come together as one across the association at the start of the new year with a shared purpose: **to pray**. As we gather together as one association on those days, let us pray for our families, our churches, our leaders and members, and for those who do not yet know Jesus as Savior and Lord. No matter how you structure this time of prayer, let's pray as one in the U.S. and around the world. More info coming up in the Jan newsletter!

## PLC Weekly Calendar & Events

**Mon:** Dorcas, 9 am; Staff, 10 am

**Tue:** Matins, 7:30 am; Chorale, 6-9 pm

**Wed:** Bible Study, 10 am; Music, 6 pm

**Thu:** TOPS, 8 am weigh in; 9 am meeting

*Chorale Board 4<sup>th</sup> Mon, 6:30 pm | Council 2<sup>nd</sup> Tue, 6 pm | Button Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed, 12 pm*

**~ The church office is closed on Friday as Pastor Jon is off and Lynn uses remaining PTO ~**

**Nov 27:** Thanksgiving Eve service, 6 pm

**Nov 28-29:** Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

**Dec 4:** Fellowship Team, off-site; Quilts on pews, 11 am

**Dec 6,13,20:** Closed on Fridays

**Dec 7:** Deck the Halls, 9-11 am

**Dec 8:** Dorcas Quilt Blessing & Sending

**Dec 9:** Staff Christmas Gathering

**Dec 11:** Button Club & Christmas Party, 12-3 pm; TOPS setup, 3:30 pm

**Dec 12:** TOPS Christmas Party, 9 am; P&M Team, off-site

**Dec 13:** Christmas Party, 4 pm | **Dec 14:** Cantata Practice, 10 am; Christmas Party, 5 pm

**Dec 15:** Christmas Cantata – *Everlasting Light; The Promise of Christmas*

**Dec 17:** Chorale Party, 6-9 pm | **Dec 19:** Security Team, 6 pm

**Dec 24:** Christmas Eve Services, 5 & 7 pm

**Dec 25-31:** Office Closed, Merry & Blessed Christmas!

Our wonderful custodian,  
Lisa Mc Luskie, is now  
cleaning our church on  
Thu evening in lieu of Sat!



## December Ministry Servants

	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Communion</b>
<b>Dec 1</b>	Catherine P, Shelly M	Gail S	Paul M	Bill & Connie A, Juli L
<b>Dec 8</b>	Wayne & Marsha H	Keegan R	Brandon B	Ed & Catherine R, Darlene B
<b>Dec 15</b>	Mary C, Larry F	Amy B	--	Chris C, Brian & Maren S
<b>Dec 22</b>	Carol W, Heidi E	Barb N	Tom C	Gail G, Jennifer M, Susan S
<b>Dec 24 5 pm</b>	Duane H, Patty S	Colt K	David K	Mike & Margie H, Volunteer
<b>7 pm</b>	Paul & Lisa S	Barb H	Karen R	Rick S, Ken & Bernita C
<b>Dec 29</b>	Mitch & Cindy M	Sam R	Bev R	Ken & Rita B, Chris A

Thank you to Paul & Lisa Seher for setting up communion and baking the bread in Dec.

Scripture readings are provided to our readers for review on Wednesday for the coming Sunday.

Many thanks to Barb Nimke for scheduling assistants. Kindly let the office know of any changes – *thank you!*

	<b>Counters</b>	<b>Safety Team</b>	<b>KidZone</b>
<b>Dec 1</b>	Amy B & Roy V	Roy & Darrell	Kids remain
<b>Dec 8</b>	Lee E & Roy V	Doyle & Jim	in the
<b>Dec 15</b>	Amy B & Cat P	John & Rick	sanctuary with
<b>Dec 22</b>	Amy B & Cat P	Karle & Darrell	Advent activities!
<b>Dec 24</b>	Amy B	<b>5:</b> Ken & Gordon	Children's Pageant
		<b>7:</b> Doyle & Roy	---
<b>Dec 29</b>	Julie J & Lisa F	Colby & Rick	Back to KidZone room - yay!

**Who would like to serve** as a ministry servant in any of the above categories of their own choosing? Would you like to try acolyting? Barb Nimke is looking for more adult acolytes (*it's not just for kids!*), and other servants so please let her know!

*Please let Lynn know if you would like to set Sunday communion for the congregation in 2025 – thank you!*

## Men's Group

### ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SPECIAL EVENTS

Please consider these special events in lieu of our Monday Night gatherings in December.

#### **Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> – 9am-11am**

Deck the Halls @ Peace

Come for breakfast and decorating the church!

#### **Monday or Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> – 7pm**

CDA Chorale Christmas Concert @

*Make plans to attend and enjoy this Christmas Concert and support one of our men's group members, Iain Fisher.*

Tickets available online at: [choralecda.com](http://choralecda.com)

#### **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> – 10:00am**

Our annual Christmas Cantata at Peace

#### **Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>: 5:00pm & 7:00pm**

Carols, Communion, and Candlelight Services

5:00pm includes a children's pageant.

*We will resume our weekly Monday nights on January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.*

A small Giving Tree to support Union Gospel Mission is in our entryway filled with gift tags. Please take one, shop, and return by Cantata Sunday, **Dec 15** in the box provided. Thank you to Iain Fisher for arranging this extra for our UGM ministry partner!



### ***In Our Prayers...***

Darryl Frey & family in the passing of his mom, Frances McAlister; Candy Dyson, at Life Care recovering; Dave Pollard, chemo treatments; Carter Ovnicek, Karen Johnson, Jeannine Frisque, Lee Wood, and Otis & Helen Burge, healing/recovery for all.

Gary DeYoung (Arthurs) in Hospice care; Greyson (Joann Carlson) surgery Mon; Gary DeYoung (Arthurs) Hospice care; Brenda Ness (Barb Hunley's friend) health issues; Ann Hill (Teresa B & Lisa F's mom) healing, surgery; The Church of Living Water, looking for a home; Shirley Mehrer (Michelle VonWahlde's mom) stroke; Cory Hatcher (Ervinette Arthur) brain cancer; Ethan Bean (Judy Halone) bike accident, injuries; Harper Booth, 2-yrs old (Ruth Clark) myeloid cancer, chemo, secondary infection; JeanJean & Kristie Mompremier (Pastor Jon) Haiti missionaries; Jim Taylor (Mary Cockerham), additional chemo treatments; Clifford (Bill & Ervinette Arthur's brother) healing, triple bypass; Rob Dillon (Mary Cockerham) chemo treatments for liver cancer; Trish (Mike & Cindy Wood's SIL) breast cancer; Raleigh (Troy Turley's son) pancreatic cancer; Bob Quinn (Nimue Frye's grandfather) cancer; John (Iain Fisher's cousin); Ron Newman (Charlotte's son) congestive heart; Tiffany Kimbrel (Jim & Nancy Cady) kidney transplant list, blood transfusions.

### **Praying for PLC Ministry Partners:**

Safe Passage, Family Promise, Orchard Ridge, Open Arms, Helping Captives, Lutherhaven Ministries, Ecumenical Food Kitchen, Champ's Heart, Summit Christian Academy, Samaritan's Purse (Oct & Nov for hurricane relief), **Union Gospel Mission**, Food Banks, Uganda Medical Mission, OCC Shoebox Gifts, and LCMC. (Benevolence of the month in **bold**)

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



## Sabbatical 2025 – The plan in process

This month we would like to introduce the Sabbatical Team, the Plan, and the next steps we will be taking.

### The Team

Tammi Jenkins (council liaison), Ken Birge, and Nancy Cady (members at large). This team, in collaboration with Pastor Jon and the rest of the PLC staff, will work to prepare and communicate the dates, plans, process, and prayers for the sabbatical.



The team has met twice already. Pastor Jon has begun sharing and discussing more with Lynn, Ruth, and Karen. The church council was presented with more details of the proposal and approved the plan as described below.

### The Plan: *Selah Weeks*

PLC generously offers a three-month sabbatical with every five years of service.

*A pastor is eligible for a three-month Sabbatical after serving a congregation for five consecutive years, three of which must be served at Peace Lutheran Church, and then every fifth year thereafter. (CR9.01, Sabbatical Policy, 2012\*)*

What if instead of a three-month (90 day) sabbatical every five years, the designated time was distributed equally each year? What if Pastor could use 18 days of sabbatical leave each year? These 18 days could be taken all at once, or as Pastor Jon is proposing, taken in four segments: 4.5 days each season (Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall). Planning ministry coverage a week at a time instead of for three months is much more manageable and less disruptive for Pastor as well as for the congregation.

We are calling these *Selah Weeks*. *Selah* is a term found in the Psalms, which has as one of its meanings the idea of a musical pause or interlude. These *Selah Weeks* will be a pause each season for a time of rest, reflection, and renewal for Pastor. The first of these four weeks is currently planned this winter for the week of January 20-26 (Monday-Saturday). This is 4.5 days of sabbatical leave and his regular Fri-Sat days off. Subsequent weeks will be scheduled and finalized in the weeks to come.

### The Sabbatical Team's next steps:

- Create an Interim Ministry Plan to address coverage for:
  - o Lines of communication to include monthly newsletter updates
  - o Report for the Annual Report
  - o Visitation of members (shoring up the Caring Crew team already in place)
  - o Preaching on return Sundays
  - o Emergency coverage
- The plan will be adjusted as needed until it is a ready-made process for each of the sabbatical weeks in the upcoming seasons.

### *Selah Team:*

Tammi Jenkins (509)890-3863  
Ken Birge (208)777-5599  
Nancy Cady (760)522-0220

\*A copy of the complete PLC Sabbatical Policy (CR9.01) is available upon request.

*Selah*  
Stop. Pause. Listen.

## Lutherhaven Ministries

**Deck the Halls:** Woodland Christmas Camp is an annual tradition for your family or group! Stunning wintry lake views, hot cocoa, and more... come enjoy all the fun of Lutherhaven Family Camp in the winter! We'll make Christmas crafts, enjoy worship around the campfire, play broom ball, and more. Start your day with a hot cup of coffee in an Adirondack chair overlooking beautiful Lake Coeur d'Alene and spend the day making memories to last a lifetime. Two Awesome Dates to Choose From: **Dec 13-15 or Dec 20-22.** *Plan your Christmas retreat now!*

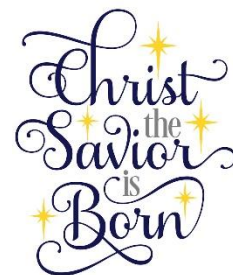
Please register for all events at <https://www.lutherhaven.com/>



Photo Credit: Wild on Alaska



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Website: [www.peace-lutheran.church](http://www.peace-lutheran.church)  
Email: [office@peace-lutheran.church](mailto:office@peace-lutheran.church)



**Sun Adult Study 8:30 AM**  
**Sun Worship at 10 AM**  
**Weekly Bible Studies**  
Pastor Jon Anderson  
Pastor Emeritus, Gail Gutterud