



# the Carion

December 2018

Peace Lutheran Church - 214 E.Pioneer - Puyallup, Wa. 98372  
253.845.8819 - [www.peacepuyallup.org](http://www.peacepuyallup.org)





From the Pastor's Desk

# Watch Night

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."  
-Luke 4:18-19*

*"As the great day grew nearer, there was more singing in the slave quarters than usual. It was bolder, had more ring, and lasted later into the night. True, they had sung those verses before, but they had been careful to explain that the 'freedom' in those songs referred to the next world, and had no connection with life in this world. Now they gradually threw off the mask; and were not afraid to let it be known that the 'freedom' in their songs meant freedom of the body in this world."  
-Booker T. Washington*

Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation became law at midnight on January 1st, 1863. In the late hours of New Year's Eve and every New Year's Eve since, African Americans have gathered in churches and other safe places for Watch Night, a celebration of freedom from enslavement. Of course, the good news of emancipation was not an immediate reality for most enslaved people, and freedom remained out of reach for them until 1865.

Advent is a season to watch with anticipation for Christ to enter our existence, and not only once as a poor child lying in a manger but again in the fullness of time to establish God's reign once and for all. God's reign is a reign of freedom; it means good news for the poor, release for the captives, liberation for the oppressed.

In the interim, the time between Jesus' first and last arrival, however, we recognize that true freedom remains out of reach for all those who still suffer persecution on account of one or another aspect of their identity, whose income is insufficient for abundant life, whose struggle for justice and life with dignity continues.

So, like the saints who first celebrated Watch Night in solidarity with those whose chains had yet to be broken, we proclaim release in the name of Christ to all who are still captive in our time. Watching for Christ means watching for the world to turn, that God's dream for freedom might finally be realized.

Peace,

*Pastor Nate Sutton*



# Two Hands

A friend's story of perspective

The woman stepping onto the bus was having a tough time boarding. The bag of groceries in her left arm was precariously tipping, on the verge of spilling its contents into the aisle as she struggled to make her payment. The driver patiently waited, even as my patience turned to total frustration. *"Why can't people get their act together??"* I thought to myself as the scene dragged on.

Finally. Payment made, she turned towards me, to work her way down the aisle, to find a seat. And as she did, I saw her for the first time. Her face had a look of resigned determination and acceptance. Her hair, with streaks of grey, flowed down across her shoulders. Her arms clutched at the bag of groceries, and, beyond her arms, were...nothing. She had no hands.

My friend, who was sharing this story with me paused and looked at me. "Our eyes met, for the briefest of moments, and she turned and sat down. I dropped my gaze, down to my own two hands. Emotions swept over me in waves. Shame: At my frustration. At my idle observation. I didn't even offer to help. Awe: At her stoic acceptance and willingness to work through each day. And finally, Humble thankfulness. I have two hands."

Two hands to reach out, to hold on to a book, to slice an onion, to rake the leaves, to hold my daughter close to my chest.

Thanksgiving is upon us as I write this with my two hands; advent and the birth of our Savior just around the corner. But today, I thank God for the gifts that I don't even know he has given me. The gift of a new day. The gift of a friend. The gift of two hands.

God's Peace to you this Season of Christmas

Dave Ekse

Stewardship





## ADVENT IN OUR TIME

The word Advent comes from the Latin *adventus* and means to come, to arrive, to appear. Over time that word has become one that everybody can understand and appreciate, especially in the context of our celebration and observance during the Christmas season. We now observe and celebrate Advent on the four Sundays and continuing in the weeks before Christmas; therefore, the first day of Advent will probably not occur on the same day each year. In recent times, Advent has taken on ever greater significance. In the context of our business-oriented world, the creativity that manufacturers find for Advent-related books, foods, decorations, etc. has led to the development of sweets, musical creations, such as pyramids and calendars. It is not uncommon to find Advent calendars in our homes today. Perhaps you had one in your home, where children opened a window and where you would find a small piece of chocolate on each of the twenty-four days leading up to Christmas.

This could easily lead us to the conclusion that Advent has become a commercial enterprise. That trend toward commercialization seems to increase exponentially each year with new and unrelenting marketing and creative techniques. Perhaps you may have noticed in the comic strip *PEANUTS*, how Lucy and Charlie Brown suggest that Advent is part of some eastern conglomerate! An interesting experience would be to visit a German Weihnachtsmarkt (Christmas market); this is where one sees the creativity and ingenuity that accompany the Advent season in the town square. Traditionally that market begins with the Advent season. The irresistible smell of an outdoor Christmas market is not only also tempting, but also thought provoking.

In some cultures Christmas actually begins at the conclusion of Advent. What a contrast to the fact that some stores and shops in our country already have Christmas decorations in place! The four Sundays of Advent have the following names: 1) promise, 2) light, 3) love, 4) hope. In other countries, December 26 is also a holiday. The wreath is green, which represents growth and in reality the symbolism becomes obvious. By definition the wreath is also symbolic; it is round, without beginning and without end. The intent of lighting one additional candle each week is to illustrate that many candles together will provide more light than just one; that procedure then illustrates the growing power of Jesus. Other symbols that are used for Advent, to a varying degree, are moss, the Christmas rose, mistletoe, and at the end of Advent, the Christmas tree is put in place. The position of Advent can be construed as ambivalent, for it is both beginning and ending; in the secular world it is the end of the year (such as "end of year" sales); in the church setting it is a symbol of beginning a new year.

Yet things that are old do not necessarily go out of style; they actually assume ever-growing significance and meaning, and therefore our awareness of and observance of Advent today will take on an importance that will not readily disappear. Our celebration of Advent tonight is evidence that it is indeed a significant part of our Lutheran heritage, and it is our hope that this experience will be interesting and lasting.

Thank you for coming and sharing.



## Family Update:



Our Ukrainian refugee family continues to make progress on their English. The children are happy and doing well in school! The mother had used a sewing machine in the past and was happy to receive a used sewing machine along with some fabric and patterns to make skirts for the girls. The children have been wearing the clothing items that were so generously donated by our families at Peace.

Pastor Nate & Bethany, Dave & Charlene Cook, and 2 members of the team from All Saints took the family to the zoo. Everyone had a great time! We met at the church for our trip and had time to show them around. They took pictures in the sanctuary and in the heritage corner with the children in front of the U.S. flag.

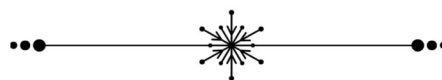
Thank you to all who contributed money for the Christmas gift card to make their first Christmas in America a memorable one!

The following is taken from lirs.org about the organization that helped our Ukrainian family immigrate to the United States: **For almost 80 years, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service has been a champion for refugees and migrants from around the globe. Our legacy of compassionate service has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people who have found safety and hope in America's communities.**

Our history reflects American Lutherans' deep immigrant roots and passionate commitment to welcoming newcomers, especially those who are most in need. Through the [Long Welcome](#), we help ensure that refugees and migrants are protected, embraced, and empowered in a world of just and welcoming communities.

# CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*Christmas Eve*  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24th  
4:30 P.M. & 10:00 P.M.



*Christmas Day*  
Tuesday, December 25th  
9:30 a.m.



*First Sunday of Christmas*  
Sunday, December 30th  
9:30 a.m.



Senior / Retirees



Wednesday, December 5th ~ 12:00 p.m.



UGLY SWEATER

PPH

Wednesday, December 12th  
12:00 p.m.  
South Hill Mall Food Court

4th Quarter  
CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING  
December 9th





To all of our new members, please come and be recognized in worship on **Sunday, December 9th!**  
We cant wait to welcome you!!

Holden Evening Prayer  
Wednesday,  
Dec. 5th, 12th & 19th  
6:30 p.m.



## Quilters

Evening Quilters will not be meeting in December.  
They will resume Wednesday, January 2nd.

## CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Join us as we decorate the  
sanctuary for Christmas!  
**Saturday, December 22nd**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
All are welcome!



**Men's Breakfast**  
December 1st – 8:30 a.m.  
Join us the first Saturday of every month!



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**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON

Visit our website—[www.peacepuyallup.org](http://www.peacepuyallup.org)

## GENERAL FUND

October 2018

October Giving           \$19,870.40  
October Expense       \$24,975.96  
October Difference     (\$5,105.56)

YTD Giving           \$223,532.24  
YTD Expense       \$243,253.34  
YTD Difference     (\$19,721.10)

2018 Budget           \$290,586.00



## Christmas Dinners are Available!

Ham dinners have been generously given in memory of Carol Shipman.

If you know a family who would enjoy one of these meal baskets, please fill out a form found in the Gathering Area and give it to Sara in the office, or to a member of the outreach ministry team.

Feel free to nominate members of our congregation or to nominate relatives, friends, neighbors, acquaintances or community members. All are welcome to the meals. We have limited meals available so please sign up as soon as possible. All nominations are needed by **Sunday December 16<sup>th</sup>**.

## Christmas Dinner Nomination Form

ALL NOMINATIONS ARE NEEDED BY WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>

Christmas food baskets will be available for pick up or delivery beginning Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Number of People in the family: \_\_\_\_\_

Will the basket be picked up from the church or need to be delivered?  
pick up                      delivered

Anticipated pick up date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and contact information of person nominating the family  
(in case we have questions or need to clarify information):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Who should we contact to arrange pick up/delivery  
(please provide name and contact information):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# THANK YOU

A special thanks to **Dick Shipman** for continuing to support families in our community with Thanksgiving dinners. Because of his generous donation, we were able to provide 20 local families with Turkey dinners. What a blessed tradition this has become!

## TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sink your teeth into the weekly Bible texts with Pastor Nate, 10:00-11:00 am every Tuesday in the gathering area.



Women of the **ELCA** 

# Ladies Aid

## December 12th at 10:00 a.m.

Potluck salad luncheon to follow.  
Beverages and dessert provided!

Hostess: Nancy Jo Armstrong & Barb King






Mike Smith	1	Andy Casillas	11	Dave Runkel Jr.	24
Amanda McMahon	2	Carol Johnson	12	Nathaniel Mace	26
Amy Randall-Vradenburg	2	Hannah Von Wahlde	15	Darla Anderson	26
Denise Mace	3	Traci Lange	15	Denise Alvord	27
Cooper Mahaffie	3	Quinn Denton	15	Elaine Mahaffie	28
Jennifer Berube	4	Jackie Pifer	15	Shannon Faria	29
Darlene Olson	5	Michelle Von Wahlde	17	Troy Culpepper	30
Christine Rowan	5	Becky Henson	18	Mark Smith	30
Mike Lange	8	Brayden Richie	20		
Werner Boettcher	9	Eli Wicklander	21		
Matthew VonWahlde	10	Ashley Carrigan	22		
Jakob Steinberg	10	Sara Fowler	22		
Bianca Bucher	11	Kyrah Carlson	23		



Matthew Mace	Tom Alvord	Barb Hamry	Lauren Storm
Jan Johnson	Janet Storm	Charlene Cook	Bobbi Van Alstyne
Donna Richardson	Kristen Albenesius	Leonard Barrett	Eric Anderson
Paula Schulz	Konner Alfano	Rae Carbone	Lily Mace
Rob Butler	Larry Glaser	Paul Cheek	Matthew Smith
Jennifer Alfano	Rachel Gordon	Eralow Kropelnicki	Christine Rowan



# December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2</b> 8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 10:45 - Worship (Jill) 12:00 - Youth CONNECT 6:00 - N.A. / O.A.	<b>3</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>4</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 3:00 - PC Juv Court 5:30 - Finance 6:30 - Executive 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>5</b> 12:00 - Sr / Ret Potluck 6:30 - Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 - Choir	<b>6</b> 9:30 - Quilting 6:00 - Rowland & Assoc. 7:00 - A.A. Meeting		<b>7</b> 8:30 - Men's Breakfast 10:00 - Youth Swag Making
<b>9</b> 8:15 - Worship (Jill) 9:40 - Congr. Meeting 10:45 - Worship (Joan) 1:00 - Kids Christmas Party 6:00 - N.A. / O.A.	<b>10</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>11</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 3:00 - PC Juv Ct 6:30 - Council 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>12</b> 10:00 - Ladies Aid 12:00 - PPH @ SH Mall 6:30 - Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 - Choir	<b>13</b> 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:15 - Worship (Joan) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 10:45 - Worship (CS) 3:30 - Youth Prog. Dinner 6:00 - N.A. / O.A.	<b>17</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>18</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 3:00 - PC Juv Court 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>19</b> 6:30 - Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 - Choir	<b>20</b> 9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 10:45 - Worship (Joan) 6:00 - N.A. / O.A.	<b>24</b> 4:30 - Worship (CS) 10:00 - Worship (Jill)	<b>25</b> 9:30 - Worship (Joan) 	<b>26</b> 6:30 - Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 - Choir	<b>27</b> 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:30 - Worship (Jill) 6:00 - N.A. / O.A.	<b>31</b>  4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones					





## Progressive Dinner!

Sunday, December 16th

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped make the Youth Spaghetti Dinner and Auction another success! With your help and generosity, the youth raised \$4,135.10!!



Elementary Kids Party

Hosted by Peace Lutherans High School Youth

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH**

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Games, gingerbread house making and a movie.

Christmas Swags Making & Decorating Party

**Saturday, December 1st**

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

**CHRISTMAS SWAGS**



Sell dates: December 2nd & 9th





# Confirmation Updates

We are blessed to be a blessing to others...  
Our confirmation kids, Caleb, Riley, Jakob and  
Cooper, alongside their family members, served  
meals to over 60 people at the Armory on  
November 4<sup>th</sup>.

THANK YOU for blessing others through serving a hot  
meal to our neighbors at the Armory.



## Confirmation Mini Retreat



Just a reminder: Please submit your first  
five worship journal reflections to Pastor  
Nate for review by December 16<sup>th</sup>!

Mark Your Calendars!

## MOVIE NIGHT!

Coming Up on Friday January 11<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to  
9pm

We will gather together for dinner, watch the  
movie *The Pursuit of Happyness*, discuss the issue  
of homelessness and serve together by preparing  
breakfast burritos for the freezing nights program  
to use as a hot breakfast meal.





# OUTREACH

## Meal Serving Opportunities!

We have the opportunity to help our neighbors at Immanuel Lutheran with meals for the Freezing Nights program hosted at this location!

We will provide food and serve a spaghetti dinner meal on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, February 7<sup>th</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup>. Freezing Nights meals are served starting at about 7:45 pm and serving until about 8:30pm.

We will also continue our service to the Armory program. Our serving dates for the Armory for 2019 will be January 10<sup>th</sup>, March 14<sup>th</sup>, May 9<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup>, September 12<sup>th</sup>, and November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Sign Up sheets for food donations and to volunteer for serving for our January Freezing Nights dinner and our January Armory dinner will be in the gathering area in mid-December!

## Sandwich Making Service Project

for

Saint Lawrence Laundry Ministry

**Friday December 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am**

Come and help make sandwiches and package food for the Saint Lawrence Laundry Ministry!  
Great service opportunity for volunteers of all ages!

We Set a Record on November 4<sup>th</sup>!

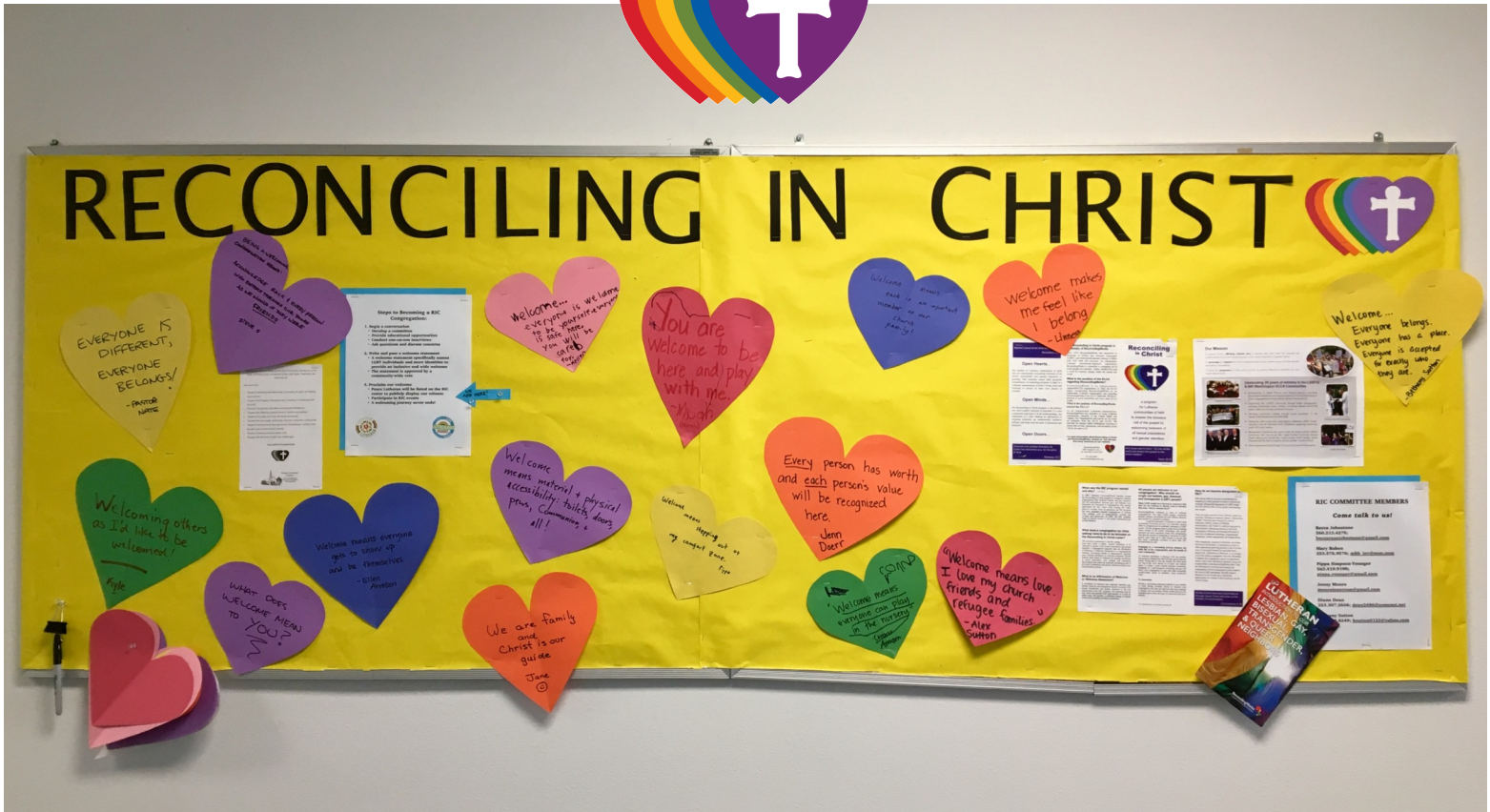
**We assembled 181 weekend food bags to support students at Spinning Elementary!**

Thank you to all who brought food donations and to all who assembled weekend food bags! We were able to assemble 181 bags of weekend food plus our Thanksgiving week bags for the longer weekend break!

Special thanks to **Connor Aronson** for collecting food donations in support of this program for his birthday! We are grateful for the generosity!

Look for our next food packaging project coming up in January! Thank you for continuing to support this ministry for our community. We are at this time in need of canned soup for the weekend food pack program.





214 East Pioneer

Puyallup, WA 98372