

# the Clarion

JANUARY 2019



You Will Be Honored Here.

# Gentleness

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.”

-Philippians 4:4-5

“And the crowds asked [John the Baptizer], ‘What then should we do?’ In reply he said to them, ‘Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.’”

-Luke 3:10-11

The call to repentance and faithfulness can feel overwhelming. If bearing a cross for Jesus’ sake looks like the Apostle Paul, Mary Magdalene, Saint Francis of Assisi, or Harriet Tubman, for example, then how can the rest of us possibly measure up?

But faithfulness is not necessarily about greatness. When John the Baptizer calls the crowds to change their hearts, be washed in the Jordan as a sign of God’s mercy, and live new and faithful lives, he does not make reference to enormous sacrifice or historic achievement.

“Whoever has two coats,” he says, “must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” For all his fiery prophecy, John’s practical guidance sounds a lot like basic compassion and kindness, or what Paul calls “gentleness.”

We often take gestures of gentleness for granted. Such gestures may be large or small, but none is insignificant. Expressions of gentleness are habit-forming and contagious, thus Christ shapes us into worthy citizens of his kingdom.

In December, Ryan and Becca Johnstone donated the minivan that Ryan had inherited from his mother, Joy. And, Charlene Cook took steps to make sure the van was in good working condition and all the necessary paperwork was completed in order to transfer ownership to the refugee family our congregation sponsors. There are seven members in their family, so they are in need of a vehicle that can accommodate all of them. What an ideal arrangement, that the Johnstones would be looking for a good home for Joy’s van at the very moment that our refugee family was in need of one. But don’t let the fortuitous circumstances distract from the profound goodness at the root of this exchange. Whoever has two vehicles must share with anyone who has none. That is gentleness; that is faithfulness.

God bless your acts of gentleness this year, dear church! The Lord is near.

Peace,

*Pastor Nate Sutton*

# stewardship

We on stewardship wanted to thank everyone who made the congregational meeting in December. Once again we were humbled and inspired by the thoughtful, respectful conversation that took place as we discerned how to move forward in 2019. In our minds, we are at a very exciting crossroads here at Peace Lutheran. While there are challenges, we took a leap of faith, entrusting our leaders to prayerfully execute an increased budget, while making sure the deficit is dealt with.

So what is our role? We wanted to put some numbers together for you, to help see the big picture, and maybe discern where you fit in. Each person's financial situation is different, which makes this a very personal process. So, realizing that, here goes. We are hopeful that this is helpful.

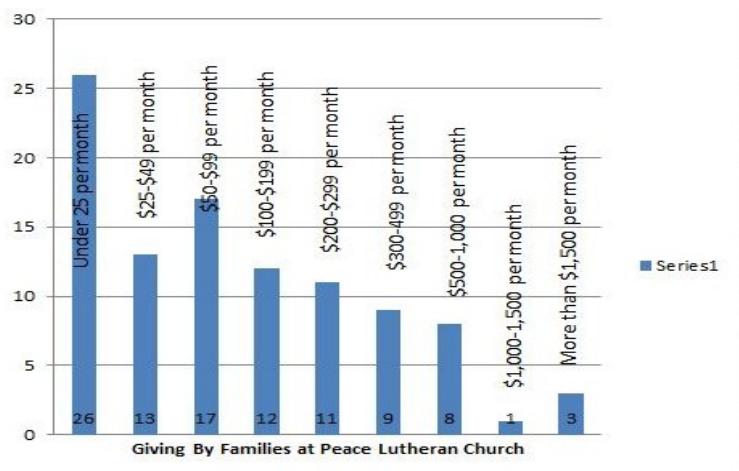
Budget for 2019: \$313,000.

There are around 110 households at Peace...

So if we all gave equally to support the church it would be...\$2,845/year per household, or \$237/month.

Of course, no one expects us all to give the same amount. Some of us must be very careful on a limited fixed income. For others of us that isn't the case. Where do you fit in to the equation?

Here is our snapshot of giving at Peace in 2017, broken down by household.



The number in the bottom of each bar represents the number of households at Peace who give that amount per month. We humbly ask that you consider where you fit into the giving picture as we continue to discern how to support a healthy ministry at Peace.

God's Peace

Dave Ekse & Werner Boettcher

# 2019 COUNCIL

## Congratulations to:

**President:** Karen Ekse

**Vice President:** Andy Burch

**Secretary:** Allison Burch

**Treasurer:** Deena Jamison

**Financial Secretary:** Paula Schulz

Becca Johnstone

Dani Jo Andrews

Dave Mahaffie

Diane Dean

Ellen Aronson

Lily Mace

Lisa Woodbury

Pippa Simpson-Younger

Sue Casillas

Tim Mahaffie

# ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Reports for ALL ministries are due by Monday,

January 21st. Please send to Sara in the office -  
[office@peacepuyallup.org](mailto:office@peacepuyallup.org).

Do you know how many uses Outreach Ministry has for spaghetti sauce?

We use it for Armory Dinners, Freezing Nights Dinners, Winter and Spring break food for our weekend food pack kids, and the summer supplemental food boxes.

Hunts Spaghetti Sauce is on sale at Winco for only \$0.68 a can! If you are a Winco shopper please consider picking up a few cans for Outreach Ministry. It will be put to good use!



Updated phone directories are always available on the Peace Lutheran website. (please contact Sara for the password). If you do not have access to the internet, you can contact the office and we will print one for you. To save on paper and printing costs, new directories will not be printed each time there is an updated or addition. However, the online version will always be current.

Thank you!



# PSALM PROGRAM

*Update*

Are you asking yourself “what is the PSALM program”? PSALM is an acronym for “program for strengthening active lay ministry”. This is a new program put together by the South Western Washington Synod, based on programs used in other synods. This is the pilot year for the program. The intent of this program is to help train and equip members of a congregation to serve in leadership roles in their home congregations (not to be confused with synod authorized lay ministers that can preside in worship – that is another program!).

The program involves studies in the Old Testament, the New Testament, theology, reading, lectures, retreats, projects, papers and monthly discussions with a mentor. The program has been put together by the synod and involves a two year commitment by me, the student, and a two year commitment by my mentor, Pastor Nate. Whew! Yes, some days, I am wondering what I have gotten myself into!

I am currently studying the Old Testament and at the time of writing this have arrived at the prophets. Not planned, but Advent was perfect timing for a study of the prophets! I am working on my first project, relating interpretation and how we read the Bible to education and confirmation programs, and I am contemplating those essay questions that recently arrived in my gmail inbox!

This learning experience has been a fantastic opportunity for me and I am grateful for the support of this congregation as I continue this journey through the PSALM program.

Peace,  
Karen Ekse



Thank you to all who participated and helped make the 1st Annual Advent Fair a success! Kids had fun reading stories with Evelyn Swenson, decorating cookies, preparing their Reverse Advent Calendar food boxes, and making several crafts. And we raised \$97 for Lutheran Disaster Response! We hope to make this event happen again next year.

## "Hey, it's cold in here!"

Many of you have noticed that the church is sometimes quite toasty, even in the middle of the week. In an effort to be good stewards of the hard earned money the church is given, property has taken a more targeted approach at heating our buildings. The goal here is: warm church when we are here, not so warm church when we are not. With that in mind, we have reprogrammed all of the thermostats.

If you come to the church and it is cold, no worries, *just open the thermostat and push the "temporary occupied" button*. The heat will come on for a couple of hours to warm the place up. Our hope is to cut the heating cost while keeping our congregation comfortable. Please let us know how we are doing.

Steve Smith & Dave Ekse  
Property Ministry



"THE TIME IS ALWAYS RIGHT TO DO **WHAT IS RIGHT.**"

-MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Office Closed  
Monday, January 21st



Thank you!

This is a time when its difficult to find adequate words to say thank you. A sincere thank you goes to Pastor Nate and the members of Peace for your prayers, support and many offers to help during Randall's illness and while on the road to recovery.

You have been a blessing.

*Marys Tron*



Do you have youngish children? If so, you're welcome to attend the meeting of 'Youngish People with Youngish Families'. This group aims to support members of the congregation who are trying to raise children in faith. This month we are reading and discussing *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved*, by Kate Bowler.

We realize that people are busy, so don't worry if you don't have time to read the book. We also only meet once every two months. The next meeting will be on Jan 12th at 2pm. We'll meet at the Church to drop off children into child care and then move on to Downtown Brew at 115 W Meeker.

If you have any questions please contact Pippa at [pippa.younger@gmail.com](mailto:pippa.younger@gmail.com)

# thank you

- Leo Armstrong, Crystal Cunningham, Mary Boben and Becky Von Wahlde have served on Council so many years, they will be missed.
- Ellen Aronson and Sue Casillas who are our newest Council members
- Dave Ekse for exceptional work done on Stewardship.
- Andy Burch and the Finance committee who worked so very hard on our new budget.
- Congratulations to Karen Ekse, elected as Council President, Andy Burch elected as Vice President and Alison Burch elected at as Secretary. Pippa Younger leading our new Mortgage Relief Team.
- Barbara King, Nancy Armstrong for the beautiful Ladies Bible study Christmas party and doing the hot chocolate and cookies for the Sunday School program.
- Dick Shipman for the generous donation of Christmas ham dinners.
- Outreach Committee who has done so many things for our congregation and the community this past year, too many to even begin to list.
- Bill Haines, Pastor Nate, Wicklander Family, Steinberg Family, Mahaffie Family and Crochet Family for their wonderful progressive dinner for our youth group. A good time was had by all.
- Pastor Nate and Sara Fowler who have worked so very hard to make this Advent season and Christmas so meaningful.
- To many of you who quietly go about doing God's in our congregation and our community.

## *Compassionate Ministry*

On Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting to talk about the upcoming year. We will meet in the library between services. Compassionate ministry includes, Prayer chain, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Card Ministry, Quilters, and Care Team. Everyone is invited to join us for this discussion and if you wish to know more about each of these ministries.



# LADIES OF PEACE LUTHERAN

Are you looking for an opportunity to get away? To let go of some of the stress and burdens of daily life? To meet some new people and build community? To share stories and experiences? Spend time in reflection?

## A PEACE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S RETREAT IS IN THE PLANNING STAGES!

### Check your calendars!

**Proposed Date: Friday April 26 through Saturday April 27!**

Proposed Location: Rainier Camp, HWY 410 outside of Enumclaw (or an alternate location with an hour's drive from the church)

Estimated Cost: \$85/person, scholarships available

The planning team is very excited about this ministry opportunity and we have already been considering ideas for our time we will spend together!

*From a logistical and financial standpoint the planning team will need some preliminary idea of how many ladies are interested. In order to help us with the planning aspects of the retreat, please indicate your interest in attending by signing up on the sheets in the gathering area!*

If you have questions or thoughts to share, please feel free to talk to Karen Ekse, Jenny Moore, Trish Siltala or Leigh Ann Mahaffie!

## GENERAL FUND

November 2018

November Giving	\$23,363.33	YTD Giving	\$246,896.29
November Expense	\$24,355.94	YTD Expense	\$267,609.28
November Difference	(\$992.61)	YTD Difference	(\$20,712.99)
		2018 Budget	\$290,586.00

# Circle of Welcome

Did you know?

In the Circle of Welcome Program, the focus on long-term integration or the "The Long Welcome" recognizes that the successful integration of refugees into U.S. culture takes years, and therefore warrants the engagement of the welcoming community well beyond the initial resettlement period.

Many of the resettlement programs in the local resettlement agencies are limited to providing services to the initial resettlement period, up to 90 days, or sometimes as long as 6 months. Engaging Circle of Welcome Teams extends the engagement period with refugees to one year and helps in achieving the goal of the long welcome.-Taken from the Circle of Welcome Volunteer Guide

As our Circle of Welcome team members from Peace Lutheran and All Saints Catholic Churches continue to meet with our family, we are thankful for the ways our congregations have responded with clothing, food, household furnishings, transportation, money and gift cards for Christmas, etc. We also urge you to continue to pray for our family that they will have a successful resettlement in the United States.

## 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.



### Susan Boone Memorial Fund

*"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD..." -Proverbs 19:17*

Susan Boone's memorial fund has historically been used to purchase items to meet the basic needs of our neighbors from the street. We supply public transportation passes, meal cards, and gas cards, in addition to the personal care and food items that we collect and distribute.

If you would like to support this ministry of mercy, please make a contribution to Peace, and specify the Susan Boone memorial fund in the memo.

Thank you for your generosity!

**Men's Breakfast**  
THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

A graphic for a Men's Breakfast. It features a circular icon with a stylized coffee cup and two eggs crossed out with a large X. To the right of the icon is a speech bubble containing the text "join us!". Below the icon and speech bubble is the text "Men's Breakfast". At the bottom, it says "THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH". The background of the graphic has a wood-grain texture.

of the  
**ELCA** +

*Ladies Aid*

January 9th at 10:00 a.m.

Leader: Barb Hamry  
Hostess: Nancy Jo Armstrong

# JANUARY

# 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<b>6</b> 8:15 - Worship (Joan) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - SS Packing Project 9:40 - Youth Camp Pres. 10:45 - Worship (CS) 6:00 - N.A. / O.A.	<b>7</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>8</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 3:00 - PC Juv. Court 5:30 - Finance Committee 6:30 - Executive Committee 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>9</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>10</b> 9:30 - Ladies Aid 7:00 - Choir	<b>11</b> 4:30 - Armory Dinner 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>12</b> 1:00 - Funeral 2:00 - Youngfish Families
<b>13</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>14</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>15</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 3:00 - PC Juv. Court 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>16</b> 5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	<b>17</b> 9:30 - Quilting 6:30 - Summer Food Prog. 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>18</b> 1:00 - Choir	<b>19</b> Council Retreat
<b>20</b> 8:15 - Worship (Jill) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 9:40 - Compass. Ministries 10:45 - Worship (Joan)	<b>21</b> ANNUAL REPORTS DUE OFFICE CLOSED 	<b>22</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 3:00 - PC Juv. Court 6:30 - Council 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>23</b> 7:00 - Choir	<b>24</b> 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>25</b> Council Retreat	<b>26</b> Council Retreat
<b>27</b> 8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 10:45 - Worship (Joan) 12:00 - Youth CONNECT 6:00 - N.A. / O.A.	<b>28</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>29</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 3:00 - PC Juv. Court 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>30</b> 5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	<b>31</b> 9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting		



Jan Johnson	3	Beth Siltala	18
Beth Kaes	8	Joan Linden	21
Carolyn Hoebelheinrich	8	Pippa Simpson-Younger	22
Hazel Kluwe	9	Merrilyn Larson	24
Roan West	10	Bethany Sutton	25
Earrl Kropelnicki	15	Vernell Doyle	27
Nancy Simpson-Younger	16	Riley Wlcklander	30



Carolyn Hoebelheinrich	Andy Burch	Micah Doerr	Cooper Mahaffie
Earrl Kropelnicki	Dolly Kropelnicki	Rebecca Togstad	Denise Mace
Don Larson	Dennis Steinberg	Tim Mahaffie	Jennifer Berube
Jasmine Lee	Lucy Younger	Pastor Nate Sutton	Mike Lange
Everett Womack	Katherine Kempe	Mike Smith	



## Words from the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 25.

<sup>34</sup> "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. <sup>36</sup> I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

<sup>37</sup> "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? <sup>39</sup> When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

<sup>40</sup> "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters,<sup>[c]</sup> you were doing it to me!'

Outreach Ministry had an exciting and busy year in 2018! Our church continued to support the weekend backpack ministry at Spinning Elementary, continued to serve as a host site for Family Housing Network, moved from a substitute serving team to a consistent serving team for the Armory, began partnering with our neighbors at Christ Episcopal Church to help serve with the Saint Lawrence Laundry Ministry, distributed turkey and ham dinners, established a Circle of Welcome team and are supporting a refugee family from the Ukraine for a year, and we played a key role as a partner in a revised summer lunch program. I continue to be awed and inspired by what this amazing group of people at Peace Lutheran does to serve neighbor and community!

### What's new and upcoming in outreach ministry?

In December, we began serving a family from Stewart Elementary with a weekly food box. Our family this year is a single dad with 3 daughters, upper elementary and jr. high in age. We provide staple foods, as well as fresh dairy and produce items.

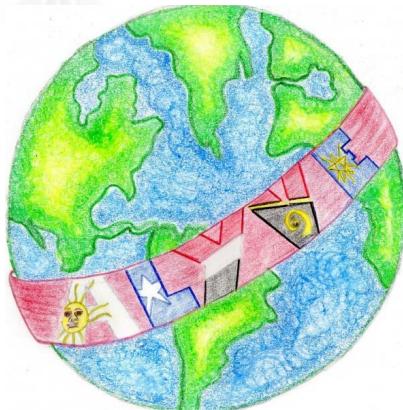
In addition to our Armory Dinners, we will be serving several times at the Freezing Nights Program at Immanuel Lutheran. We are thankful for a cooking team that has preparation of spaghetti and meatballs down to a science... or an art... however you like to look at it, they are efficient! Spaghetti and meatballs for 70? We can have that ready to go in an hour!

We revised our summer food program this past summer and in partnership with Communities in Schools and All Saints Community Services, we established a summer supplemental food box pick up program. Peace Lutheran Church was responsible for 125 registered students, we served between 25-60 students per week, and we provided a total of 3,128 meals to kids in our community over the course of last summer. WOW! We have some perspective new partners which are considering joining our team this year! The partnership group plans to offer the program in additional schools in the summer of 2019 and is reevaluating aspects of the program to improve efficiency and bring down barriers to access. We will have our initial planning meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>. We are very thankful for the support from our congregation that enables us to continue this ministry!

The Outreach Ministry Team is always open to suggestions, comments and ideas! Feel free to let Karen Ekse or Charlene Cook know what you think! We are always ready to listen!

6th - 12th Grade

## SW SYNOD YOUTH ALYVE Retreat



February 8th - 10th

Camp Arnold - Eatonville

Sign up deadline is Sunday, January 14th



CONNECT

January 13th & 27th

9th - 12th Grade

## Holden May Youth Weekend



May 24th - 26th

Sign up and turn in \$ by Sunday, January 20th

Youth Summer Mission Trip

## IDAHO SERVANT ADVENTURE

July 13th - 20th

Shoshone Base Camp



Sign up deadline January 13th

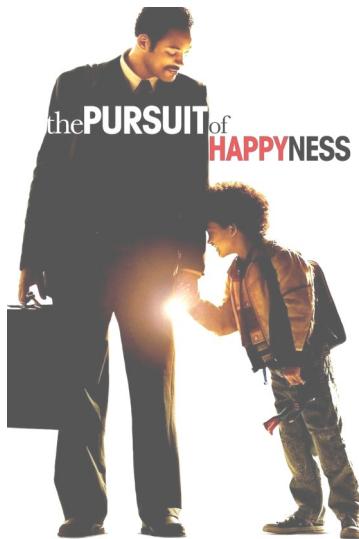


# Confirmation Updates

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.



Confirmation Mini Retreat  
Sunday, February 10th  
12:00 - 4:00



Prep work for the St. Lawrence Laundry Ministry.



Thank you to everyone who came and helped  
decorate for Christmas!



Join Us!!

8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Sundays



# RECONCILING IN CHRIST



EVERYONE IS  
DIFFERENT,  
EVERYONE  
BELONGS!  
- PASTOR  
NATE

BEING A VETERINARIAN  
COMMUNICATOR (CONT'D)  
ACCESIBLE AND USEFUL INFORMATION  
AS WE COMMUNICATE WITH THEM  
COURTESY OF STACEY WILSON  
STORY 2

REALLY & EASILY POSSIBLE  
TO ENDURE OUR THROES  
IF WE WOULD BE VERY WISE  
FRIENDS

**Steps to Becoming a RJC Congregation:**

1. Begin a group
2. Develop a constitution
3. Establish a local steering committee
4. Conduct one or more initiatives
5. Submit a proposal to RJC
6. Write and pass a written statement
7. A welcome statement specifically named "RJC" is developed and distributed to provide an inclusive and wide welcome
8. The congregation votes to become a community-wide vote
9. Provide our welcome statement
10. Welcome statement must be listed on the RJC roster as publicly display our witness
11. Welcome statement must be used
12. A welcoming journey never ends!

Welcome...  
Everyone is welcome  
to be yourself  
It's safe here.  
You will be  
cared for  
-Megan

\* You are  
Welcome to be  
here and play  
with me.  
Mughi

Welcome means  
each is an important  
member up our  
Chamb Family!

A red heart-shaped piece of paper with white text on it. The text reads "Welcome makes me feel like I belong - Limes".

Welcome...  
Everyone belongs.  
Everyone has a place.  
Everyone is accepted  
for exactly who they are.  
- Stevens Sutton

Welcome others  
as I'd like to be  
welcomed!

WHAT DOES  
WELCOME MEAN  
TO YOU?  
H

WHAT DOES  
WELCOME MEAN  
TO YOU?  
YOU

- 6 -  
Ansett

We are family  
and  
Christ is our  
guide

Jane  
©

Welcome means stepping out of my comfort zone.

has worth  
son's value  
ognized

**ÜBER** **LESBIEN** **UND** **LESBISCHE** **IN** **DEUTSCHLAND**

**RIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Come talk to us!**

Bevere Johnson  
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## PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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