



January
2020

Happy New Year!



Who Do You Say That I Am?

"When Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'" -Matthew 3:16-17

"Having granted and bestowed upon us everything in heaven and on earth, [God] has also given us his Son and his Holy Spirit, through whom he brings us to himself. For... we could never come to recognize the Father's favor and grace were it not for the Lord Christ, who is a mirror of the Father's heart." -Martin Luther's Large Catechism

At the outset of Kevin Smith's 1999 comedy, *Dogma*, the Roman Catholic Church is in the process of rolling out a public relations campaign to improve its image. At the center of the campaign is a new symbol to replace the crucifix. Speaking to the media in New Jersey, Ignatius Cardinal Glick, played by George Carlin, explains: "Christ didn't come to earth to give us the willies! He came to help us out. He was a booster. And, it's with that take on our Lord in mind that we've come up with a new, more inspiring sigil. So, it is with great pleasure that I present you with the first of many revamps the 'Catholicism Wow' campaign will unveil over the next year. I give you... the Buddy Christ!" The Buddy Christ, with flowing brown hair and beard, is smiling, winking, giving a thumbs up, and pointing good-naturedly all at the same time. "Look at it!" the Cardinal comments, "Doesn't it... pop?"

It's satire, of course, but as any good satire does, it raises a serious question: Is the church in need of a little "revamping"? Is Jesus? After all, fewer and fewer people in the global North and West are affiliating with a particular religious tradition. It can no longer be assumed that Jesus is widely known.

All the more reason for his self-proclaimed followers to get clear on his identity. **Who, exactly, is Jesus? What difference, specifically, does he make to the world? What difference does he make to you?**

Epiphany is the season of the church year that explores Jesus' identity as it is revealed at various points in the Gospel story. Jesus, the infant child, is known to the magi, representatives of the nations of the world, as the king of Israel (Matthew 2:1-2). At his baptism, Jesus becomes known (at least to himself) as the Beloved Child of God, the one with whom God is well pleased (Matthew 3:16-17). And, on the summit of the Mount of Transfiguration, that identity becomes known to Peter, James, and John (Matthew 17:1-8). Peter's prior confession is confirmed: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

The question the disciples have to answer – the question every generation of Jesus-followers has to answer – is: What does that mean? *How* is Jesus Emmanuel, Messiah, Teacher, Healer, Prophet, Servant, King of Israel, Prince of Peace, mirror of the Father's heart...?

I invite you to come explore the identity of Jesus with Susan Peterson, who is preparing for deaconship in the ELCA, at adult formation on the third and fourth Sundays in January (19th and 26th).

Peace,

Pastor Nate Sutton

YOUR 2020 COUNCIL

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Vice President: Les Gerstmann
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Dani Jo Andrews
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Do you make your offering online through Tithe.ly? If you'd like, take a card at either entrance to the sanctuary and place it in the offering plate as a physical sign of your giving. Thank you for your generosity! You can give online by visiting peacepuyallup.org/give.

January Intergenerational Learning and Service

"Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." - Matthew 8:20

"If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that?" -James 2:15-16

On January 5th, Epiphany Sunday, join with your kindred in Christ for study and conversation on the subject of homelessness. Then make a warming pack to keep in your car and distribute to someone in need!

Consider donating one or more of the following items for the warming packs:

- 1) Warm socks
- 2) Knit gloves
- 3) Hand warmers
- 4) Granola bars

Annual Ministry Reports

Your ministry is vital to the life of the congregation and community. What happened in 2019 that was especially exciting or challenging? Where do you see God at work in your ministry as 2020 begins? We need to know!

Please submit a written annual report of your ministry to be disseminated at the first-quarter congregational meeting. Annual reports are due **Sunday, January 26th** to office@peacepuyallup.org. Thank you for your faithfulness!



OUTREACH

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU! OUTREACH INTO OUR COMMUNITY TAKES THE COMBINED GIFT AND TALENTS OF ALL OF US. By using all our gifts and talents together we provide much needed support in our community.

OUR THANKSGIVING OFFERING provided clothing, including jeans, socks, shirts and sweatshirts, as well as toys and board games for a family of three boys (ages 3, 8 and 11) from Stewart Elementary. We were also able to provide boxes of cereal and 16 oz jars of peanut butter to send home with the kids at Stewart Elementary who participate in the weekend back pack program at that school.

TOGETHER we provided extra food including cereal, bread and peanut butter, as well as a fun treat bag for our weekend food pack kids at Spinning Elementary.

TOGETHER we made 62 Christmas cards for the Livingstone Prison Ministry. Every member of the Livingstone Prison congregation will receive a Christmas card this year.

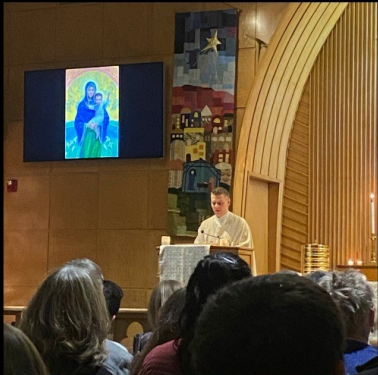
TOGETHER we provided a spaghetti dinner at the Armory to those who are experiencing homelessness or food scarcity.

MARK YOUR CALENEDARS
WEEKEND FOOD PACKAGING PROJECT
SUNDAY JANUARY 12TH 2:30 PM

We hope to package **400** bags of food to support our weekend food ministry for Spinning Elementary.

We are currently in need of instant oatmeal, juice boxes (100% juice), single serve fruit cups or applesauce, and granola bars.







January - Life of Jesus: Identity

When Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' - Matthew 3:16-17

Children, Youth, Family & Intergenerational Ministry (CYFI for short) is a new approach to the 9:30 Education Hour here at Peace Lutheran Church. We hope that you will join us and we look forward to growing ALL together in faith, hope, and love!

Here is a lineup of events and classes for the month:

» 1st Sunday (January 5th): Intergenerational Service Project

- Join us for a discussion about how we can help our homeless neighbors, and help put together "warming packs" for Peace members to keep in their cars. We are collecting new socks, gloves, granola bars, gallon ziploc bags, and handwarmers for this project.

» 2nd Sunday (January 12th): Biblical Storytelling

- Come hear and read stories related to this month's theme, Life of Jesus: Identity! These activities are meant for children of all ages and adults.

» 3rd Sunday (January 19th): Peer Group Instruction

- Elementary Youth: Meet in Koinonia to sing with Ms. Jill and Mr. Dennis and then go to Sunday School.
- Middle and High School Youth: Meet in Shalom and Hesed for Sunday School.
- Adults: Join Pastor Nate in Koinonia for adult formation.

» 4th Sunday (January 26th): Peer Group Instruction

- Elementary Youth: Meet in Koinonia to sing with Ms. Jill and Mr. Dennis and then go to Sunday School.
- Middle and High School Youth: Meet in Shalom and Hesed for Sunday School.
- Adults: Join Pastor Nate in Koinonia for adult formation.

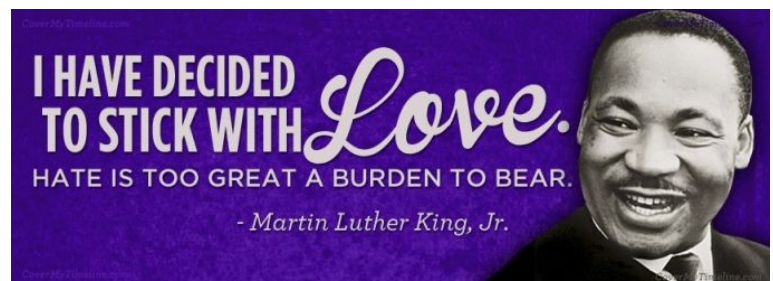
If you have any questions about upcoming activities of CYFI in general, please reach out to the members of the CYFI Task Force - Pastor Nate, Becca Johnstone, or Ellen Aronson.



Thank you to everyone at Peace who made this year's giving tree benefitting the kids of the Helping Hand House! We were able to provide 47 children with Christmas presents. Almost every child received a jacket and shoes, and every child did receive at least one book! Thank you again for all of your support, and we look forward to this event next year!



- A BIG thank you to Pastor Nate and Bethany for hosting the Council (outgoing, current and new members) holiday get together! - Ellen
- To EVERYONE for your kinds words, messages, and phone calls after my grandmother passed....I feel so blessed to work in a place with such kindness surrounding me. Pastor Nate, Diane, Jo Ann, WELCA, Cary, Jill....thank you. I appreciate you all. - Sara

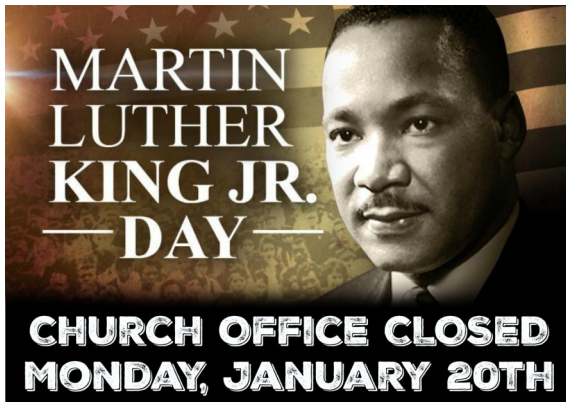




Wednesday, January 8th

 12:00 p.m.
new Safeway (near fireplace)
 708 Shaw Road E.

Wednesday, January 22nd
 12:00 p.m.



Ladies Aid
 Wednesday, January 8th
 10:00 a.m.



Please take a moment and check your information in the church directory. If you have had a change of address, phone or email, please contact Sara in the office to update our system.



If you are in need of a new directory, you can find the most current one on the Peace website. (contact the office for the password) Or if you do not have access to a computer, we will gladly print you one by request.

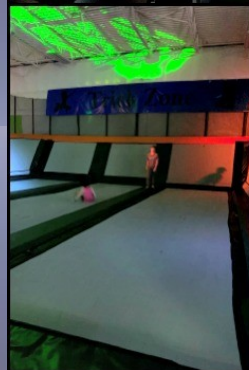
General Fund November 2019

November Giving	\$27,264.38	YTD Giving	\$334,748.72
November Expense	\$22,003.19	YTD Expense	\$332,187.06
November Difference	\$5,261.19	YTD Difference	\$2,561.66
		2019 Budget	\$312,237.00

HAPPY
NEW YEAR



YOUTH



Youth Christmas Night Out



The youth served a taco bar this month at the Freezing Nights dinner at Immanuel Lutheran. We will be serving again next month on January 16th at 7:15 pm!



California Lutheran University
Office of Congregational Relations
60 W. Olsen Road #2125
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

WSYG is:

Large gatherings with amazing speakers and musicians; learning and small group times, worship that leads in new directions; immersion experiences in Los Angeles; lots of fun to be had all in the beauty of Southern California!

COST:

Oct. 3 - Jan. 2 (\$450)
Jan. 3 - March 2 (\$475)
March 3 - June 1 (\$500)

Registration closes on June 1, 2020.

All registration costs include program, housing and food.
\$100 non-refundable deposit due at registration.

More Information:

Email: info@wsyg.com
Web: www.wsyg.com
Phone: 805-493-3936, leblanc@callutheran.edu

JUNE 25-29, 2020

WESTERN STATES YOUTH GATHERING

#WSYG2020



happy birthday

Jan Johnson	3	Nancy Simpson-Younger	16
Susan Ortega	3	Beth Siltala	18
Alan Dalla Santa	4	Joan Linden	21
Shawn Crochet	8	Pippa Simpson-Younger	22
Carolyn Hoebelheinrich	8	Isabelle Crochet	25
Beth Kaes	8	Bethany Sutton	25
Hazel Kluwe	9	Vernell Doyle	27
Earl Kropelnicki	15	Riley Wicklander	30

happy baptismal anniversary

Alan Dalla Santa	Andy Burch	Tim Mahaffie
Carolyn Hoebelheinrich	Dolly Kropelnicki	Pastor Nate Sutton
Earl Kropelnicki	Dennis Steinberg	Denise Mace
Don Larson	Lucy Younger	Cooper Mahaffie
Jasmine Lee	Michah Doerr	Jennifer Berube
Everett Womack	Rebecca Togstad	

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - CYFI 10:45 - Worship (Jill) 3:30 - O.A.	6 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	7 10:00 - Bible Study 5:30 - Finance Committee 6:30 - Executive Committee 7:00 - Boy Scouts	 8 10:00 - Ladies Aid 12:00 - PPH @ Safeway 6:30 - Confirmation 7:00 - Choir	2 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	3	4 8:30 - Men's Breakfast 11:00 - Funeral
12 8:15 - Worship (Joan) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - CYFI 10:45 - Worship (Jill) 3:30 - O.A.	13 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	14 10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts	15 5:00 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	16 9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	17	18 Council Retreat
19 8:15 - Worship (Jill) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - CYFI 10:45 - Worship (Joan) 3:30 - O.A.	20 HAPPY MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OFFICE CLOSED 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	21 10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts	22 12:00 - PPH @ Panera 7:00 - Choir	23 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	24	25
26 8:15 - Worship (Joan) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - CYFI 10:45 - Worship (CS) 3:30 - O.A.	27 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	28 10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts	29 7:00 - Choir	30 9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	31	

People of all races and ethnicities, countries of origin, ancestries, and cultures;
People of all religious backgrounds, including no religious background;
People of all gender identities and sexual orientations;
People with differing physical and/or intellectual abilities;
People of all ages and from all family structures;
People who are single, partnered, married, widowed, or divorced;
People of all economic backgrounds, homeowners, renters, and people without permanent homes;
People of diverse political views; and
People with all kinds of gifts and challenges.

Join Us!

You will be honored here.

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



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

214 East Pioneer
Puyallup, WA 98372

