

Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

November-December 2018

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**Peace Lutheran Church
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Our Mission: We are a family of Christians called, equipped and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed through God's holy Word and Sacraments.



To my Peace family

Blessings to all!!! The holidays are fast approaching. As they do we remember those less fortunate by collecting toys for Toys-For Tots and by handing out gift cards for families in need. As we have been blessed let us bless others. As we gather for our mid-week Advent worship we will focus on the "Songs of our Savior" from the Gospel of Luke. There are three Wednesday opportunities to come and prepare for the birth of Christ December 5th, 12th, and 19th. We will hear Mary's song as she receives the news that she is the one chosen to give birth to the Savior of the world. And we will hear from Zechariah as his tongue is loosed and he celebrates God's gift of

a son, John the Baptist, cousin of Jesus. And then we will celebrate with Simeon as the promise is fulfilled and he beholds the Son of God.

I know we all get busy and find many reasons not to come together for these special Advent services during this hectic time of year but let us remember what this season is all about, who this season is all about. Let us come together in fellowship and song as we prepare once again to welcome our Savior and as we look forward to His return.

We are truly blessed, and, as we have been blessed, our Lord calls us to bless others. This begins here with our brothers and sister of Peace. It has been difficult getting volunteers to give of their time and talents. We are currently looking at hiring someone to clean our house here at Peace because we can't get enough

volunteers. We are required by our constitution to have a church council, yet we can't get people to fill the positions as they become vacated. My plea is that each of us become blessings to others as we are blessed. Pray that God would find a way for you to serve.

May God continue to bless us and use us in the new year!

Pastor

President's Message

Dear Peace Family,

Good Morning, Hope everyone is feeling Blessed. First, I want to say THANK YOU !! to Becky Williams for serving as Financial Secretary for the last 3.5 years, and Rita Cowen for serving first as Secretary then as Treasurer for the past four years. These ladies have worked very hard at Peace they stepped in when there were unexpected vacancies to fill. Many hours were spent doing the various tasks involved with these positions. We will certainly miss both of you. Gods Blessings to both of you.

We are getting ready to elect our Council. If there is a position you are interested in, please add your name to

the list of available positions. We are looking for a Financial Secretary, a Treasurer, and Trustees.

. I'm asking everyone at Peace to look in your hearts. There are so many behind the scene things that we do at our Church. I see the same people working these functions, setting up the tables and chairs, putting out the place settings, cooking the food, serving, cleaning up after these meals, the church hall has to be taken down. If you can stay and help please do. To those of you who are always there I applaud you. Thank you, Randy Preim for inquiring about the cleaning position.

I want to thank all of those who are Involved with the community meal. As you all know every third Monday of the month we are serving a free meal to anybody in the area looking for a good home cooked dinner, we all know that Lutherans are the best cooks.

Thank you, Bob Sullivan for heading up the Toys for Tots again this year. Don't forget to bring in something for the underprivileged kids who wouldn't have a Christmas if it wasn't for organizations like Toys for Tots and Churches like ours.

Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas are right around the corner. Hope to

see everyone at Church. Let's fill up the Church. Amen.

Gods Blessings,

Garry Kurth

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
August 13, 2018**

Present: Garry Kurth, Rita Cowan, Rebekah Williams, Dennis Witzgall, Jerry Robertson, Yvonne Conner and Pastor Terry McKee.

President Garry Kurth called the meeting to order and Pastor McKee opened the meeting with prayer.

Correspondence: A thank you card was received from Romeo Elementary School expressing appreciation for the school supplies and backpacks which Peace supplied for their students. The card has been posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor McKee mentioned that the Yoga class included their thanks for use of our facilities when they donated this month.

Minutes: The minutes of July's meeting were accepted as printed.

President's Comments: Garry Kurth informed the Council that because Rita Cowan will be stepping aside as Treasurer at the end of this year with one year remaining in her term, there will be a vacancy to fill for 2019 and it is hoped whoever accepts appointment to the position will be willing to be elected to it for 2020-2021.

REPORTS:

Financial Secretary: Becky Williams provided the Fund Summary for July and pointed out that the figure for the SBA Tower Fund is for two months. We have not received any monies for paper recycling for the year 2018 to date. The check we received in April was for the last quarter of 2017. These monies are designated for Toys for Tots. The summary was accepted as presented.

Treasurer: Rita Cowan provided the Treasurer's report for July. It was accepted as presented.

Trustees: There was no report from the Trustees. Pastor McKee mentioned that the air conditioning in the large classroom is not cooling and he will call Dunnellon Air & Heat to schedule repair. We are waiting for a part to complete the repair of a lawn tractor.

Scrip: There was no report on the balance of the Scrip account. Barbara Miesen will be resigning as the facilitator at the end of this year and the position will be open.

Elders: The Elders have divided responsibility for the membership between themselves. They are encouraging Pastor McKee to take vacation time. If no retired pastor is available to preach and consecrate the communion elements, there will be Lay Sundays during Pastor's absences, a member of the congregation will read a prepared sermon and there will be no communion. Pastor said there are several retired LCMS pastors in the area, however, most no longer wish to provide pulpit supply.

Pastor: Pastor McKee reported that Bobby Boggess has requested a peaceful release from membership for himself and his young daughter Emily. Motion was made by Jerry Robertson, seconded by Dennis Witzgall, and unanimously approved to grant this release.

Motion was made by Jerry Robertson, seconded by Dennis Witzgall, and unanimously approved to officially receive into membership, with ratification of this action at the next Voters' Assembly meeting, the following individuals: Charles Beyerlein, Mona Bermudez, Korene Clemings, James and Jean Crapps, Bill

and Linda Neblock, Donna Race and Connie Smith.

Pastor will be attending a conference August 24-26. He will also attend the circuit forum September 19 in preparation for the next Synodical Convention to be held in Tampa.

OLD BUSINESS:

Monthly Community Meal: As a follow-up to the Council's approval for a monthly community meal to be served free of charge, those present for worship on a subsequent Sunday were asked to indicate their support and that having been approved by a show of hands, Rita Cowen has proceeded with plans for these meals. The first community meal will be on Monday, September 17, from 4:30-6:30 pm. Further Monday dates scheduled are: October 15; November 19; and December 17.

Individuals who indicated they want to participate will be asked to serve as point persons for each month, which will include planning the menu, purchasing the ingredients, scheduling set-up times, preparing the meal, etc. Expenses are reimbursable as an outreach program of the congregation. In addition, Thrivent members will be encouraged to use their available opportunities to obtain a \$250 debit card for ingredients and supplies, table favors, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

Paper Recycling: Pastor reported that because the paper recycling company will impose a \$50 per month charge for their services due to tariffs to ship the materials to China, and our quarterly income from this program is only \$20-30, the service has been cancelled. As reported by the Financial Secretary, we have not received any monies from the company for recycling for the current year.

Nominating Committee: President Kurth appointed Hope Kurth and himself as officers, Jerry Robertson as Elder, and Pastor as ex-officio member, to serve as a Nominating Committee to develop a slate for election at the November assembly meeting. Two additional congregants will be appointed to serve on this committee.

Spending Guide Committee:

President Kurth appointed Rita Cowan, Becky Williams, Doug O'Hara, Linda Williams, Hope Kurth and himself to serve as the 2019 Spending Guide Committee and to present their recommendations for approval at the November congregational meeting.

Electronic Sign: Rita Cowan will train whomever expresses willingness to become responsible for the messages on the electronic sign beginning in January 2019.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn. Pastor closed the meeting with prayer and the Council members joined in singing the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebekah Williams, Financial Secretary
for Linda Ryun, Council Secretary

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING September 10, 2018

Present: Garry Kurth, Hope Kurth, Linda Ryun, Rita Cowan, Rebekah Williams, Doug O'Hara, Dennis Witzgall, Jerry Robertson, Donald Conner and Linda Williams. Guest: Linda Neblock.

President Garry Kurth called the meeting to order and Pastor McKee opened the meeting with prayer.

Correspondence: None

Minutes: The following correction was made to the minutes from the August meeting: Under Pastor's Report: "Pastor will be attending a conference September 24-26." Jerry Robertson made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Linda Williams. Motion passed.

President's Comments: Garry Kurth welcomed guest Linda Neblock to our meeting, she is considering becoming a member of our council. President Kurth stated things are going well.

REPORTS:

Financial Secretary: Becky Williams provided the Fund Summary for August. Becky stated donations are going well, we had over \$6,000 donated last month and so far, this month we have received \$5,000.

Treasurer: Rita Cowan provided her report for August. Rita received a letter from LCEF asking if congregations could help fund their Mission Work. Motion was made by Rita Cowan to help support the LCEF Mission Fund with a gift of \$100. Seconded by Hope Kurth. Motion passed.

Trustees: Marion County Water came to check our system and found we had no chlorine, which was due to some leaks. Gene Lutz fixed the

problem today (September 10) and it is working now.

Scrip: Becky Williams said there was a deposit of \$1,391 for the Scrip orders last Sunday. Pastor mentioned Barbara Miesen will not be able to continue doing the Scrip program, so we need another volunteer. Pastor will include this in his announcements on Sunday.

Elders: Jerry Robertson stated each member has been assigned to an Elder to contact if they have any problems within our congregation. Each Elder will be contacting the people on their list.

Pastor: Received the Original Architect Sketches of Peace when the architect passed away. Pastor will be on vacation October 14-20.

Yvonne Conner will be doing the sign and Don Conner will be doing the water testing. The Ocala newspaper needs to be contacted regarding the errors in our ad. The Community Meal begins at 4:30 and "Bible School" needs to be corrected to Bible Study.

Has anyone had contact with Richard Dillman lately? Pastor has not been able to contact him recently and he hasn't been in church – we are concerned about him.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee: We still need one member of the congregation on this committee. Pastor will announce on Sunday.

Spending Guide Committee: Need to add more monies in the Repairs/Maintenance line item.

Oktoberfest Update: Things seem to be on track and Rita thanked all volunteers.

Monthly Community Meal: Rita is planning for 80-100 people. Serving Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy and Corn.

Donation to the 1st Annual Dunnellon Charity Bar-B-Que: In July we received a flyer and letter requesting our participation in this endeavor to raise money for the Emergency Relief Ministry which helps needy people in our community with *prescriptions, baby needs, fuel for doctors and hospital visits, and financial assistance for electric bills.* At that time, the council decided not to have a booth, but to help with a monitory donation in September. Linda Ryun made the motion to donate \$100 to the Emergency Relief Ministry. Seconded by Becky Williams. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Carpet leaning: Rita mentioned there are more spots around and asked when we have the cleaning done. Will contact Thelma Grams regarding that. There was some discussion on possibly redoing the carpet in the Chancel (the area beyond the railings.)

Church Cleaning: Hope Kurth mentioned that as our congregation ages, it becomes more difficult to do the cleaning at church. We need to get prices from individuals/companies as to cost and then present to the congregation.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn. Pastor closed the meeting with prayer and the Council members joined in singing the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Ryun
Council Secretary



Best wishes on your Special Day

To:

Birthdays

11.04	Thelma Grams
11-10	Jean Crapps
11.12	Carole Tobin
11.18	Carol Hummel
12.02	Jean Bozak
12.09	Diane Rochette
12-09	Linda Neblock
12.12	Douglas O'Hara
12.14	Peggy Dow
12.20	James Tobin
12.21	Gene Lutz
12.25	Donald Conner
12.29	Jeremy McKee

Anniversaries

11.14.1974	Lew & Sharon Zavertnik
12.18.1965	Larry & Audrey Stichman
12.16.1972	Bill & Linda Neblock
12.28.1990	Donald & Peggy Dow

Reminders

Altar Flowers

There are several open dates on our flower chart for the months of November and December. Please consider sponsoring a bouquet in honor or memory of someone, to celebrate an event in your life or in thanksgiving for God's blessings. The cost is \$20 for each bouquet. There will be two each Sunday. If you would like a specific color or flower, please let Becky Williams know. A chart for 2019 will be posted before the end of the year.

Dunnellon Florist (formerly A Floral Occasion) provides our flowers. They will be happy to work with you for your personal floral needs. Give them a call at 352-462-7004 or stop by their shop at 20607 W. Pennsylvania Avenue just across from the downtown fire station. They also have a boutique with many gift items.

Don't hesitate to mention that you are a member of Peace. They are very supportive of our Pancake Supper, Spaghetti Dinner, Oktoberfest and annual rummage sale, posting our fliers, and having them available for their customers.

A Few Thoughts from Financial Secretary Becky Williams

A huge “Thank you!” to those who remember to write their check number in the upper right-hand corner of their numbered contribution envelopes. This saves our counters and me some time and assures the accuracy of our record-keeping. Providing the amount of your contribution on the designated line does that, too!

In late December, the 2019 envelopes will be distributed to members and others who request them. Because they are issued in alphabetical order by last name, some of you will have a different envelope number than in 2018.

Year-end statements will be issued in early January. Please review them and if you find a discrepancy with your records ask the financial secretary to check the church records.

And, a very heartfelt “Thank you!” to those who volunteered to count our offerings during 2018. You are appreciated! God bless you for doing this specific and necessary ministry on behalf of your fellow members.

Coffee Hour

How do you like your coffee? It's always ready on Sunday mornings before 8:45 Bible study and Sunday school and after 10:00 Worship. Our Coffee Hour is a good time to take a few minutes to get acquainted with our guests and learn more about one another.

Do you like something sweet to enjoy with your coffee? There are a variety of treats available then, too!

That's nice, isn't it! Ever wonder how that happens? There is a sign-up sheet posted next to the flower chart. Baked goods don't have to be home-made and whatever you want to provide will be enjoyed! If you would like to contribute towards our purchasing the sweet treats, please mention that to Becky Williams. The church does not purchase the coffee or sweets. We do not put out a donation basket because we do not want members or guests to feel obligated. We would, however, be grateful to anyone who wants to contribute in any way to making our Coffee Hour welcoming!

Women's Bible Study

Several ladies of Peace and friends have begun a new Bible study, "Mirror, Mirror", reflections on God's Word.

On Monday, November 5th, we will meet at the home of Sheryl Lutz at 10:00 a.m. Session Two of our study is "Chosen", based on the Mirror Message from Deuteronomy 7:6 - "The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth."

Monday, December 3rd, at 10:00 a.m., we will meet at the church. Our Session Three study is "More than Meets the Eye", based on Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Study Guides will be available when we meet. Please remember to bring your Bible...and your Mite boxes, too!

Cookie Trays for Friends and Shut-Ins

Once again, this Christmas season, we plan to prepare cookie trays for our shut-in members, those who no longer bake, and others.

After our Women's Bible Study on December 3rd, we'll assemble trays and attach a Christmas greeting card to them. If you'd like to help, but aren't going to be at Bible study, please join us about 11:30 and plan to stay for lunch.

Oh, yes! We'll need cookies, bars and candies, won't we? Please bring whatever you'd like to the church kitchen on Sunday, December 2nd, or on Monday. We can never have too many cookies...and we really do only eat the ones that break on their own!

Monthly Community Meal

Our November community meal will be on Monday, November 19th, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Sheryl and Gene Lutz and their team will be serving a Thanksgiving Feast of turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, a vegetable, rolls and pumpkin and mincemeat pies! Yum! They'll be letting us know when to come help set up the hall and welcome any assistance from all of us. This is a Peace Family community outreach ministry.

We are distributing fliers about this free meal through the pantry box on the front wall of the church, the food pantry at St. John the Baptist Catholic church, the Marion County Senior Services meeting at the Adventist church, Annie Johnson Center, and other locations. If you know of someone who would enjoy not cooking that day, please invite them and come along with them. Fliers are available on the bulletin board.

The December meal on Monday, the 17th, will be hosted by the Cowans. They'll be asking for your assistance, too. Please help where you can.

LWML

Hi, Ladies of Peace,

Just wanted to remind you that even though we are not active as an LWML unit, we are ALL members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League at the North Central Florida Zone, FL-GA District, and USA National/International levels. We are a HUGE organization with a LOT of clout around the world, AND in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church (we are an ARM of the Synod!).

Our Zone held a rally on October 13th at First Lutheran - Gainesville, where we got to meet Florida's first Comfort Dog, named Peace. We got to pet her (the only working dogs you can pet when wearing their vests), and many ladies had their pictures taken with her. She's a beautiful 50- pound Golden Retriever. I'm sorry no one else went along with me, and I would love to see more of us at the Zone rallies again!

UPCOMING:

Forest Lutheran – Silver Springs is holding their annual Advent by Candlelight on Sunday, December 2nd at 3:15 in the afternoon, by reservation. There are about five of us that plan to go. If you'd like to, let me (Sheryl) know so I can call in the number to them.

On the bulletin board in our Fellowship Hall is a paper with more info. I placed copies of their invite in all the ladies' mailboxes, but it turns out the time was not on there. (sorry, I just made the copies).

St. John is holding their annual Craft Show on Saturday, November 3rd. There is also a flier on the bulletin board concerning this. Check it out!

LWML National Convention- Mobile, AL June 20-23, 2019 (Thursday to Sunday). Again, more info on the board. Also: we are no longer collecting cartridges, phones, computers, etc. for this event. We continue to send mites to the District, so please don't stop filling those mite boxes!!

Sheryl



Toys for Tots Project 2018

Toys for Tots began as a Los Angeles charitable effort in 1947. Major Bill Hendricks, USMCR, gathered a group of local Marine reservists, who coordinated and collected some 5,000 toys

for local children that year from collection bins placed outside local movie theaters.^[3] Their efforts were so successful that, in 1948, Toys for Tots was launched as a national campaign.

Until 1979, Marine reservists (frequently in their dress blue uniforms) and volunteers would collect and refurbish used toys. Beginning in 1980, only new toys were accepted, as reservists were no longer able to dedicate drill hours to refurbish toys.

In 1991, the Secretary of Defense authorized the creation and affiliation with the non-profit charity foundation. In 1995, the Secretary of Defense approved Toys for Tots as an official mission of the Marine Corps Reserve.

[5]

The mission of the Toys for Tots program "is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted."

The stated goal is to "deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, and patriotic citizens."

Our 2018 Toys for Tots collection has begun. Last year our members donated over two bins of new toys and one bicycle. In addition, total cash contributions of \$1,176.00, were received from member donations, LWML, recycling, and the SCRIP program, and used to purchase even more toys and two more bicycles.



access to programs and resources that can help you live generously. Take advantage of these benefits to make a difference and help strengthen your church and community. Get involved and help us change lives!

Positive change begins with taking action! You can choose to lead a Thrivent Action Team in your community to make an impact on a cause you personally care about.

By directing Choice Dollars, eligible Thrivent members can recommend which nonprofit organizations they feel should receive charitable grant funding from Thrivent.

If you have Choice Dollars available to direct, please consider directing to Peace Lutheran Church.

Thrivent

As a Thrivent member, you're part of a regional group that brings people together to do good in their churches, communities and beyond. You're part of the [Thrivent Member Network-Florida & Georgia Region](#).

Through this affiliation, you have

Our Church Family

James and Jean Crapps

James Crapps was born and raised in Fernandina Beach, Fl. As a young man he worked on a shrimp boat, then joined the Navy, serving for twenty years. After retirement from the Navy, James went to work for Discount Auto

Parts as a manager for one year and then Walgreens for 18 years, finally retiring in Orlando.

James loves to fish, work in his yard, and build things. In addition, he and Jean belong to a dance club. They also enjoy playing dominoes with friends.

Jean was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. and grew up in Choconut, Pa. Her first job was working in office for Endicott Johnson Shoe Co. After moving to Bradenton, Fl. in 1969, Jean went to school to become a beautician. She worked at Orlando Lutheran Towers, a senior living facility, for seven years before retiring.

Jean enjoys fishing, cooking and collecting recipes. Plants and flowers are her favorite things,

Both James and Jean enjoy square dancing. They first met on Memorial Day, 2006, at the Moose Lodge in Orlando. Jean's friend at work had invited her along and James had been given a ticket from a friend. They say it was God's doing that we were there at the same time. After a few dances, and about two hours talking and

drinking coffee, they knew they were meant to be together. They were married on February 10th, 2007.

The couple had been coming up to visit friends here in the Dunnellon area and liked it up here so much better than Orlando that they decided to sell their home and moved here in July of 2017.

Last month they went kayaking on the Rainbow River and loved it so much they bought their own kayak. ☺

Those Serving in November and December 2018

Serving November 2018

Sunday, November 4, 2018

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth

Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee

Greeters: Rita & Ron Cowan

Lay reader: Linda Ryun

Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Sunday, November 11, 2018

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Dennis Witzgall

Communion assistant: Jerry Robertson

Greeters: Linda Ryun & Peggy Buschman

Lay reader: Sheryl Lutz

Counting team: Becky Williams & Jackie Hucker

Sunday, November 18, 2018

Ushers: Jeremy & Sam McKee

Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg

Greeters: Carla & Trina Ruttinger

Lay reader: Jackie Hucker

Counting team: Jerry & Janice Robertson

Thanksgiving Eve, November 21, 2018

Ushers: Sharon Zavertnik & Linda Williams

Greeters: Hope & Garry Kurth

Lay reader: Sam McKee

Counting team: Becky Williams & Jackie Hucker

Sunday, November 25, 2018

Ushers: Bill Langstaff & Doug O'Hara

Communion assistant: Samuel McKee

Greeters: Jae Ann & Dennis Witzgall

Lay reader: Barbara Miesen

Counting team: Linda Ryun & Rita Cook

Altar Guild November 2018

Carla & Trina Ruttinger

Those Serving December 2018

Sunday, December 2, 2018

Ushers: Ron & Rita Cowan

Communion assistant: Jerry Robertson

Greeters: Janice & Jerry Robertson

Lay reader: Linda Ryun

Counting team: Becky Williams & Linda Williams

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth

Communion assistant: Doug O'Hara

Greeters: Bunnie Daniels & Jackie Hucker

Lay reader: Sheryl Lutz

Counting team: Jackie Hucker & Linda Riedel

Sunday, December 16, 2018

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Dennis Witzgall

Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee

Greeters: Virginia & Bob Sullivan

Lay reader: Jackie Hucker

Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Sunday, December 23, 2018

Ushers: Sharon Zavertnik & Linda Williams

Communion assistant: James Spiegelberg

Greeters: Carla & Trina Ruttinger

Lay reader: Barbara Miesen

Counting team: Jerry & Janice Robertson

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2018

Ushers: Jeremy & Samuel McKee

Greeter: Linda Ryun

Counting team: Becky Williams & Jackie Hucker

Christmas Day, December 25, 2018

Ushers: Doug O'Hara & Bill Langstaff

Communion assistant: Samuel McKee

Greeters: Sharon Zavertnik & Linda Williams

Counting team: Becky Williams & Jackie Hucker

Altar Guild December 2018

Cindy & Sam McKee

