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February 2026 Peacepipe

Peaceful Ponderings...



From Pastor Carol...

This afternoon - Monday, January 26 - two days after the death in Minneapolis of Alex Pretti at the hands of ICE agents, I reread the article I wrote last week and decided it was not relevant to the realities we are facing. Before tackling this rewrite, I attended an Interfaith Prayer Vigil at City Hall in Milwaukee.

At the vigil, we prayed for Renee Good and Alex Pretti, for their families and friends. We prayed for all who live in fear of immigration officials: parents who fear being torn from their children, and for children terrified of their parents being torn from them. We prayed for all who step up to protect and care for these people, and for all those who stand up in protest. We prayed even for federal agents who inflict harm and engender fear, that they might understand better what love is, and do their jobs with integrity and respect.

Prayers were offered by people from diverse faith traditions: Baptists - both American and Progressive, Roman Catholics, Episcopalian, and United Church of Christ. Prayers were offered by a Jewish man who became a naturalized citizen several years ago, and by Buddhist and Sikh leaders. The Bishop of our Greater Milwaukee Synod of the ELCA, Paul Erickson, was one of the final speakers. The Bishop led a litany to renounce evil in all its forms.

Consistent through the vigil were these reminders from our faith traditions: we are all created in the Image of God; we are all loved - regardless of color, language, abilities, or country of origin; we are called and challenged to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves; all deserve to be treated with respect and dignity.

From our American history we were reminded of the words of the Declaration of Independence: *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.*

Near the end of the many eloquent and powerful prayers we were invited to hold candles high. There is light in the world. The darkness has not overcome the light. There is hope. We are the ones called in our communities to carry the light to those who see only darkness.

What is needed in Burlington and Waterford, my sisters and brothers? How can we bring light to those who live in the darkness of fear?

Peace,
Pastor Carol

February 2026 Peacepipe

Lent

Ash Wednesday

We will gather on Ash Wednesday, February 18, at 6:00 p.m. to mark the beginning of the Lenten season. We are working to make worship accessible to all. If you are uncomfortable driving in the dark, please contact Renee Knapton for a ride. Or, you are welcome to join us on Zoom.

Midweek Lenten Worship: Wednesdays

During the 40 days of Lent, in addition to preparing for Easter, we have the opportunity to reflect on our own lives and expand our hearts and minds through intentional spiritual work. The 40 days of Lent echo the story of the days between Jesus' baptism and the beginning of his public ministry. Driven into the wilderness and tempted by Satan, Jesus learned more deeply what it meant to be the beloved son of God - the one with whom God is 'well-pleased.'

This Lenten season, in addition to Sunday worship, we have the opportunity to look more closely at ourselves, at what God is calling us to be and what seems to be holding us back or getting in the way. Each Wednesday we will have a 30 minutes worship/devotional time, from 1:00 - 1:30. Drawing on scripture and parts of The Screwtape Letters written by C.S. Lewis, we will look at what gets in the way of our living faithful, fruitful and joyful lives. You may enjoy reading The Screwtape Letters as we move through Lent. It is available online - <https://gutenberg.ca/ebooks/lewiscs-screwtapeletters/lewiscs-screwtapeletters-00-h.html>

Each Wednesday's devotion is preceded by a potluck soup luncheon that begins at noon. You can sign up in the narthex to bring soup and sides for lunch.

In order to make the Wednesday devotions accessible to all - including those who work during the day - we are hoping to make them available through recording and/or Zoom. If you can help with this, please contact Bev Stobber, Worship Chairperson.

Sundays

As we move with Jesus through Lent this year, the gospel lessons move from Jesus in the wilderness to his encounters with Nicodemus, the Pharisee and the Samaritan woman at the well. We will hear of the reaction to the healing of the man born blind, and the death and raising of Lazarus. Finally, on Passion Sunday, we will move from the joy of Jesus entry into Jerusalem, to his last supper with his disciples, his betrayal, arrest and crucifixion. Easter morning, we celebrate the resurrection. We look forward to sharing this journey with you.

After Worship

Following worship each Sunday during Lent, we will explore Christian Nationalism. We will consider a number of questions, including: Was America founded as a Christian nation? What does Christian nationalism look like in the United States? Is there a difference between conservative Christianity and Christian nationalism? Pastor Carol will be leading these discussions. This is a difficult yet important issue in our time and our country. As followers of Jesus, it is crucial that we understand ways in which the faith is being distorted and discern ways in which we can stand up to the distortions.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be at 6:00 p.m. Again, we are working to make worship accessible to all. If you are uncomfortable driving in the dark, please contact Renee Knapton for a ride. Or, you are welcome to join us on Zoom.

OPPORTUNITY TO HELP

Rich Mueller could use some company once in a while, so Pam can get out and run errands. If you are able to spend an hour or two with him, please let Pam (262-492-4319) or Pastor Carol know. There is a sign up sheet in the back for interest in helping. Thank you for caring for one another!



Celebrating 50 Years of Ministry

Plans are underway for our anniversary celebration. On the last Sunday of each month, from May through October, we will remember and celebrate one decade of the congregation's life together.

The planning committee, however, could use some help. Our overall purpose is to celebrate 50 years of ministry. We are looking for a theme and a bible story or verse that are descriptive of the congregation. We would like your input. The theme could be something like "Celebrating God's Faithfulness" or "Firm and Unwavering Faith." Ideas for Bible verses include "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10); "the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5); "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded" (Luke 12:48); or "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Or the Bible verse could be a particular story that is meaningful to you.

We will be gathering your ideas on Sundays, February 1, 8 and 13. Write them down at home and place them in the square basket on the shelf in the narthex, or grab a sheet of paper when you pick up your bulletin. Your thoughts and ideas are important.

The committee will meet the week of Feb. 13 to choose a theme and continue planning.



Pastor Carol's Office Hours

Pastor Carol's office hours are Wednesdays from 9:00 am until noon (except Ash Wednesday—noon-4pm).. If you need to reach Pastor any other time feel free to call (262) 900-8212.





Financial Report

	Deposits	Expenses	Difference
December 2025	\$ 14,009.50	\$ 13,412.21	\$ 597.29
Year to Date	\$ 101,482.50	\$ 89,426.44	\$ 12,056.06

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Worship Assistants for February

Date	Council Person in Charge	Lector	Communion Assistant	Fellowship Snacks	Counter
Feb 1	Marilyn Hart	Kent Zahn	Janet McGinty	Betty Olson	Kent Zahn
Feb 8	Bev Stobber	Sean McGinty	Elaine Sherry	Carol Chaffee	Janet McGinty
Feb 15	Sharon Ryd	John Jeunnette	Bev Stobber	Elsie Goulding	John Monsen
Feb 18	Bev Stobber	Sharon Ryd	Bev Stobber	n/a	
Feb 22	Renee Knapton	Janet McGinty	Janet McGinty	McGintys	Sharon Ryd

PEACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH: A Small
Family of Christian
Believers Working to
"Grow in Peace"



February Birthdays

Rich Mueller—February 21



Giving ...

Karcher Middle School cupboard...Start bringing healthy snacks and travel personal items i.e. shampoo, deodorant, feminine items to be delivered to Karcher on February 1st.

Burlington Senior Center...Looking ahead we will begin collecting in February for the Burlington Senior Center. They are in need of paper cups (no Styrofoam), small paper plates and napkins to be delivered March 1.

Salvation Army... Please begin collecting newspapers. These are used to wrap dishes in.
Carol Chaffee

Hebrews 13:16 Don't forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

This group will be meeting every other Thursday morning at 9:30 am in the narthex. February dates are 2/5 and 2/19.

All are welcome to join in!

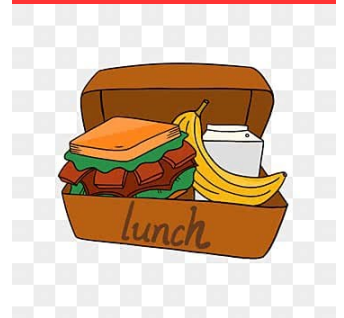
Women's Mid-Day Gathering

The Mid-Day Women's Gathering will meet Wednesday February 11th, 11:30 am, in the Peace fellowship hall. Bring your own lunch and beverage, dessert will be provided.

Carol Chaffee will host.

Growing Relationships

Contact Renee Knapton by phone at 262-492-0718 or by e-mail at reneeknapton@gmail.com with any joys, sorrows, prayer requests, etc. that you wish shared with fellow members.



Peace Lights and Peacepipe Deadline Dates

Please have all information and/or articles emailed to peacelca@gmail.com by the following dates and times:

- Peace Lights information for the bulletin emailed by Tuesdays at 5:00 pm
- Peacepipe articles for March are due on Saturday, February 14.



2025-2026 Church Council Members

President --- Marilyn Hart

Secretary --- Sharon Ryd

Vice-President --- Ken Christensen

Treasurer --- Sean McGinty

Nurturing the Faith (Worship) --- Bev Stobber

Nurturing the Faith (Education) --- Chris Monsen

Growing Relationships --- Renee Knapton

Inviting People In --- Carol Chaffee

Caring for the Community --- Carol Chaffee

Property --- open

Sunday Worship Live Stream

If you are unable to join us Sunday mornings at 9:00, join our live stream worship here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81030134191>.

For listening to the service over your phone, dial (312) 626-6799,

Meeting ID #810 3013 4191 and wait to be let into the meeting.

We also upload our Worship Service to our website for a later viewing option.

<https://peacelutheranburlington.org/>



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Council Meeting, December 7, 2025

Council Members Present: Carol Chaffee, Ken Christensen, Pastor Carol Jeunnette, Renee Knapton, Sean McGinty, Chris Monsen, Sharon Ryd, Bev Stobber.

The meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m. by Vice President K. Christensen

Opening Prayer: Led by R. Knapton

Additions to Agenda : None

Approval of agenda : Motion by B. Stobber, seconded R. Knapton to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: 50th Anniversary celebration - Renee, Carol & Pastor will work on creating a large picture of what we want this celebration to look like. Sharon will check Time & Talent sheets to see who else indicated an interest in helping. Bev & Sharon will work on history. As part of our January agenda, need to evaluate our ministry together.

Secretary's Report (Sharon Ryd) : Motion by C. Monsen, seconded by B. Stobber, to accept the minutes of the 11-9-25 council meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by C. Monsen, seconded by S. McGinty to accept the minutes for the 11-23-25 Congregational Budget meeting: Discussion- Sean suggested an amendment to remove the line in the minutes under "Expenses" related to "Payroll" for Pastor's contract amount. Instead, add separate line in minutes for this to read as "We formally added a line for Pastor's payroll to change it from conventional payroll to a contract payroll line". **Motion by B. Stobber, seconded by R. Knapton to accept the amended minutes of the 11-23-25 Congregational Budget meeting. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report (Sean McGinty): Deposits for the month of November were \$6731.00. Expenses were \$6351.40. The net balance for the month is \$379.60. Still waiting for bill for the new furnace. \$13,000 was transferred out of checking into the money market account. **Motion by R. Knapton seconded by C. Chaffee, to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.**

Nurturing the Faith – Worship (Bev Stobber):

- Ordered 8 poinsettias.
- Finishing up plans for Christmas Eve. service and 12/28 service of lessons & carols.

Faith Nurturing – Education (Chris Monsen): No report

Growing Relationships (Renee Knapton):

- Notices of prayers for Lynn Klein.
- Advent decorating done. Good feedback regarding decorating in 2 stages, Advent (blue theme) then Christmas.
- Still an interest in continuing the grief support throughout the year.

Caring for the Community – (Carol Chaffee):

- Library received 215 gloves, hats, socks.
- Christmas gifts for sponsored family will be delivered tomorrow.
- Many homeless behind Walmart & Menards. Would like to give backpacks to police station to deliver to them.
- January, Karcher looking for healthy snacks, small toiletries.
- February, Senior Center looking for paper cups, plates, napkins (not styrofoam).
- Bill & Elsie Goulding donated to Santa Chalet so Peace is listed as a sponsor.

Inviting Folks In – (Carol Chaffee): Sends birthday, anniversary and also Thanksgiving cards.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council Meeting, December 7, 2025, continued

Property Report – Open :

- Individual found to do snow plowing. Jim R. will shovel sidewalks.
- Playground & basketball hoop have been removed.
- Brush & debris cleaned up.

Vice-President's Report (Ken Christensen): no report

President's Report (Marilyn Hart):

- Prepared agenda and compiled reports for Council meeting
- Wrote summary of October Council retreat.
- Presided over Congregational Budget meeting.
- Helped decide to hold zoom worship on 11/30. Consensus was that it worked well, but next time keep everyone else muted and no video except Pastor. Need to look at music licensing if displaying music online. Offer assistance to any members who might want help setting up zoom for the future. Bev, Marilyn, Sean and Pastor will be the people to decide if worship will be cancelled or zoom.
- Special thanks to Knaptons and other helpers who did Advent decorating in spite of the snow.

Unfinished Business

- AED (Sharon) - we were approved for a grant, which would reduce our price from about \$2200 to \$1800, however this is still higher than budgeted amount. Other grants either not applicable for churches or not currently available. Researched refurbished AEDs. Good option because includes new battery & pads. Cost would be \$795 plus \$100 for 4 year warranty. Agreed to proceed with this option.
- Bibles for Sanctuary-Pastor & Sharon still need to look at this.

New Business

- Research/participate in Pray Without Ceasing? Consists of ELCA praying across the country once a week. No one expressed an interest.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2026

Motion to adjourn made by B. Stobber, seconded by C. Chaffee. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Ryd
Council secretary



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Special Church Council Meeting—December 21, 2025

Council Members Present: Ken Christensen, Marilyn Hart, Pastor Carol Jeunnette, Renee Knapton, Sean McGinty, Chris Monsen, Sharon Ryd, Bev Stobber.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by President M. Hart

Purpose of this meeting is to discuss Kerry Bieneman's proposal for a Baby Pantry to be housed at Peace.

Kerry indicated that before she can apply for assistance from sponsors, the pantry needs to officially exist, we need a name for the pantry, need an individual in charge (Kerry) and need a Peace contact person.

Discussed possibility of Kwik Trip funds being used. Concerns addressed were about continuation and sustainability of the project, and would it take away from current outreach we are providing. Also questioned if this is something other agencies are already doing. Should the parameters of this be set by the council and not just Kerry? How can we make this a congregational project?

It was agreed we would like more information from Kerry before proceeding. A meeting was tentatively set for Saturday, January 10, 10:00a.m. if Kerry is available then.

Motion to adjourn made by B. Stobber, seconded by R. Knapton. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Ryd
Council secretary

