



Words of Peace

Peace Presbyterian Church - Elkhorn, Nebraska

December 2020



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN...

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands. —Psalm 143:5

"...Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." —Luke 23:42

This year has been memorable. Even our Thanksgiving and Christmas will not be exactly like any other we have celebrated in years past. What will you remember? What will you remember about God's presence and activity in your life this year? How will others remember you and the witness of your life through it all?

I want to share part of an article I read this month by Se Kim about memory and remembering. May it bring more hope and joy to your holiday season in this very memorable year.

Praying Peace, Hope and Joy for you and yours as I remember you,

Pastor Bonnie

REMEMBERING OUR CHRISTIAN IDENTITY

by Se Kim, Director of Membership and Governance at the National Academy of Medicine.

"Remembering is a deeply biblical idea. Deuteronomy, Isaiah, the Psalms tell us to remember the works of God. Jesus's memorable line, "do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19) institutes the Last Supper. And the criminal pleads on the cross, "Remember me when you come into your kingdom." (Luke 23:42).

Memory is also ecclesial. Community enables us to remember what God did for us on the Cross, the teachings and the example of Christ, the promises of Baptism and Eucharist, and the saints that have gone before us. These streams of memory flow deep into the life of the church.

So, it is really no leap at all to link Scripture and science to suggest that God desires us to remember and created in us the ability to do so through a perichoretic dance of external stimulus, cellular change, and neuroplasticity. Individually and collectively, God endowed us with the gift of memory. Some would say it is essential to our identity as the people of God.

It will also likely be essential to our experience of Thanksgiving [and Christmas] in 2020...It is memory (and technology) that will bring us together this year...But our main source of joy this season may come from the memories of good times with loved ones and the traditions of years past.

As a church, even if we cannot meet in person, we will see the Cross and remember the meaning to the holiday season. We will remember why we are thankful and what we wait for during Advent. It is precisely for this reason that God endows us with memory."

**REMEMBER TO JOIN PASTOR BONNIE FOR OUR DRIVE-IN
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE, "LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS"
DEC. 24TH AT 6:00PM IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT**





*On Sunday Mornings Worship Continues at
Peace Church!*

LIVE online via Zoom and live-stream to Facebook.
Tune in and share in this new worship experience.

The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88353481181?pwd=NIphVVBUeU95aGlvbzcrZ2psdnNoQT09>

You may also join zoom on any phone to talk to everyone during fellowship and hear the service:

- For landlines dial: 1 (312) 626 6799
(long distance charges might apply)
- For cell phones dial: 1 (312) 626 6799

You will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID:
883 5348 1181 and the Passcode: 1104

If you have questions or need any help figuring out how to join us, call or text Rick King at (402) 669-3538 and he will walk you through the steps, and even arrange for you to practice at a time that is convenient for you. He will also be available to help you during the worship service.

Other Ways to Join Worship

For those not wanting or able to join us on Zoom you can *watch the live-stream service on our church Facebook page* (www.facebook.com/peacepresbyterianelkhorn) at 10:15am each Sunday.

You may also choose to *watch the recorded version of the zoom worship service on our YouTube page*. It will be posted later on Sunday.

IMPORTANT UPDATE ON WORSHIP AND BUILDING USE AT PEACE

After much thoughtful discussion, the Session made the following decisions about the re-opening of the church and in-person worship.

1, The Re-Opening Committee will meet weekly (Tuesday) to determine whether to have in-house worship the following Sunday. A decision to cancel in-house services (and the use of the building to medium and large groups) will be largely based on the Douglas County "Severe Risk of Covid Spread" dial. A composite measure of severity in the Moderate or Low range (0-2.0) will mean the church can re-open. A composite measure of severity in the High or Severe range (2.0-4.0) will indicate the building should be or remain closed. This RISK DIAL for our county can be seen at:

<https://www.douglascountyhealth.com/>

2. When we are able to hold in-house worship, it will do so in the sanctuary.

3. **This year worship will NOT be held in-house**, regardless of the "Severe Risk of Covid Spread" dial composite number on *Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th, and the Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 27th*, due to increased risk of Covid spread during the holidays from larger than normal gatherings and visitors to the church.



*Rev. Bonnie Wilkins, Mr. Thaddeus Wilkins,
the Elders, Deacons & Staff of Peace Presbyterian Church
wish you a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year.*

CREATING A CULTURE

of Generosity

The 2021 Peace Stewardship Campaign

Thank you all so much for your generosity as you pledged for the Peace Church 2021 budget. Our Treasurer, Mary McArdle, and the Stewardship and Finance Committees are now at work preparing final pledge reports and the budget for next year. You may still make a pledge. Just complete the card that was sent to you or contact the church office (402-289-1104) to have a new one sent to you. Please Feel free to contact me or any committee member or elder with questions.

Steve Brosz, Stewardship Chair

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21



YOU CAN HELP PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN PROVIDE ITEMS FOR THOSE IN NEED

Even though we are not able to gather to worship, the mission work of Presbyterian Women continues. We will gladly do a doorstep pick up of the items you would like to donate. We need body wash/soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste as well as any size winter hats, gloves/mittens, scarves and socks. Contact Liz Baker 402-203-0167, Nancy Haack 402-651-5541, or JoAn Ferguson at 402-250-7071 and we will gladly arrange for a contactless pickup.



SESSION APPROVED FUNDRAISER

Owen's Mowing, who provide lawn care and snow removal for Peace, will be renting the turnaround on the north side of the church to sell Christmas trees and wreaths through December 24. Currently they will sell from noon to 8:00pm daily, If you plan to buy a live tree this year, please consider using Owen's as your provider!



CHRISTMAS EVE DRIVE-IN WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 6:00PM

Join the church family in the parking lot
and tune in to FM 89.5

to hear the service live from your car.

Stand or sit outside under the stars on this blessed night.

Bring a candle or flashlight with you.

We will sing carols, hear the Christmas story,
share Communion together.

***Come make a new Christmas Memory
with your whole family.***

BEST WISHES ON YOUR SPECIAL DECEMBER DAY!

BIRTHDAYS: Dec 2 Cheryl Koel; 9 Teresa King, Chris Robertson; 10 Jasmine Moats; 12 Dennis Curtis; 13 Jonathan Moats; 15 Jan Fuller, Ashley Hopkins, Cannon Kinchelow; 17 Robert Rolfs; 19 Shari Brosz, Mardell Johaneck; 20 Jeffrey Klug; 21 Jeanne Weaver; 23 Ericka Anderson; 28 Sophia Hazzard; 31 Matt Marshall

ANNIVERSARIES: Dec 7 Mike & Donna Nelson; Dec 31 Gaylan & Joyce Abood

The Race for the Face to First Place, The Follicle Fiesta, No Shave November is over. Thanks to our guys who toughed it out, who could withstand the angry stares and the frightened cries of children. Your commitment and efforts to support The Hope Lodge are to be congratulated. But, sadly, there can be only one. Only one Beard Baron, one Unshaven Champion. Here's your chance to help. The final pictures of our manly men will be posted on Peace Presbyterian's Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/peacepresbyterianelkhorn). Your job is to "like" your whiskered winner (one vote per person please). The voting shall remain open for a few days. Don't have Facebook? Send your choice to: noshavinatpeace@gmail.com. Feel like throwing in a few bucks too? Mark HOPE LODGE in the memo section of your check and send it to Peace Church, P.O. Box 495, Elkhorn NE 68022-0495. Thanks for your support!
 Dave Fulton, Peace Mission Chair



Bernie

Dave

Hal

Matt

Rick



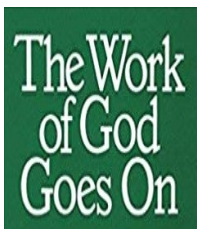
Tom

Steve

Rob

Mike

Vote For Your Favorite Now: www.facebook.com/peacepresbyterianelkhorn



THANK YOU to our Youth and their leaders who have worked to create plan for bedrolls for the homeless in our community and to those who have volunteered to crochet the plan into the bedrolls. Your service to God, Peace Church, and the Omaha area is an inspiration! May you be blessed richly as you have blessed others.



Website: www.peacepresbyterian.com
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/peacepresbyterianelkhorn
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