

Peace Lutheran Church
2355 Clark Rd.,
P.O. Box 655
Dresser, WI 54009



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PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2355 Clark Rd., P.O. Box 655
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Find us on facebook!

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News from Peace!



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Ready or Not...

Prepare The Way of the Lord (Isaiah 40: 1-11, Mark: 1:1-8)

The tree is up, the lights have been turned on, the angels are in place. Our church home looks amazing and is definitely ready as we await the birth of Christ.

I wish I could say the same thing about my personal home. Only half of my Christmas bins have been emptied, My fireplace mantle displays Christmas decor alongside of a lingering fall pumpkin, and my fingers got cold when I started to hang the outside lights, so only one string of lights currently hangs above the garage (which my children insist that we light anyway, despite its incompleteness).

Some of us love to decorate and prepare for Christmas in many different ways and for others of us, "getting in the spirit" is hard, takes time, and the waiting and preparing can be challenging. Some of us find joy in the decorations, the cookie baking, the gatherings that lead up to Christmas, and some of us struggle with finding the time, lack the spirit, or simply miss someone or something too much for it to be enjoyable.

The good news is that....ready or not....Christ will be born.

Regardless of our mess, our anxiousness, impatience, and even our unable-ness, Christ is coming and Christ will be born. For me. For you. For all.

Perhaps, this year, if you are having a hard time preparing your life and your heart for Christ's birth, join us in church and let your church family do it with you and alongside you. Experience Christ's birth through a drama presentation (12/4), let the children help you prepare as they share the story of Jesus' birth (12/11 @ 10:15am) and let the choir help you prepare through their gift of the cantata (12/18).

Let the season of Advent be a time when we look forward with great expectation to the coming of the Lord, trusting that he will do a new thing in our life and in the life of the world. Behold your God, for he is coming.

See you in Church!
Pastor Melissa

Sabbatical Update from Pastor Melissa:

Plans are in place and I thank everyone from the bottom of my heart who will be helping, leading and teaching while I am away. This truly is the embodiment of the Body of Christ and a powerful witness of what it means to be the church.



An extra HUGE thank you to these following people and ministry teams who will be making sure things run smoothly and will be available for questions during my time away:

Dawn Peer (7th & 8th Grade Confirmation)

Worship Committee (all plans regarding Sunday Worship Services)

Youth Committee (Youth Fundraisers)

Vicki Koehler (Maple Syrup Ministry)

Becky Anderson (9th Grade Confirmation, High School Ministry & High School Mission Trip)

Pastor Lori Pepper (On-Call Pastoral Services - January)

Pastor Maggie Isaacson (Mid-Week Lenten Services, On-Call Pastoral Services, Funerals and Emergencies - February & March)

Children, Youth & Family Committee (Sunday School Milestones)

Staff & Council (Day-to-Day Tasks, Planning & Visioning)

The Pulpit Supply Pastors and Lay Leaders (Preaching, Teaching & Leading in various ways)

If you have any questions during my time away, please contact the church office and they will connect you with the contact person or ministry team.

(Continued on pg. 3)

FROM THE OFFICE

October 28th: Funeral service of Carolie Gubasta

November Attendance:

6th: 115/93 13th: 162/31 20th: 101/27 27th: 93

Giving in November: Budget/Missions

6th: 16,223/\$335 **13th:** \$10,866/279 **20th:** 5,999/\$115 **27th:** \$4,395/\$83

Additional giving this month: \$982-Polk Burnett Homeless Shelter

\$1,000-Mortgage Principal, \$600-One Step Forward (TeachHaiti)

Needed each week: \$10,326



Welcome to the following new members of Peace!

Steve & Patty Storby, 514 274th St., Osceola

Joyce Carlson, 1089 210th St., Dresser

Lura Hove (Victoria, Vylet), 2378 60th Ave., Osceola

Daneen Krueger (Colton, Trinty), 2470 Old State Hwy. 87, St. Croix Falls



Lead Initiative Grant

As part of the ELCA Lead Initiative, our Peace team attended a gathering of all the teams that were chosen. This was held in Minneapolis. While we were there, we participated in worship together, heard and saw presentations of what other church teams did for their events and shared what the Peace team did. (Touch a Truck and Fiesta Night for Parents.)

We were also given goals of taking one of the previous events we organized and making it even bigger or evaluating a need in our church/congregation and creating a program or event that would focus on that area.



As your pastor, I encourage you to engage in the worship and life of our congregation while I am away, as I truly believe God will work through this time not only in me, but in you and our faith community as well. I ask for prayers for my time of rest and renewal, and I leave you with the promise that I will be praying for you as well. Blessings!! See you in April (on Palm Sunday)!

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Advent Services-midday

We are teaming up with Pastor Lori Peper and members of West Immanuel church for our daytime Advent Services. We will have a brief service at 11:30 am followed by a light lunch. Please join us!

Weds., Nov. 30th & Dec. 7th we will be at West Immanuel (Ride sharing available-be at Peace at 11:10)

Weds., Dec. 14th & 21st we will be at Peace. We will serve soup, sandwiches & dessert on the 14th & 21st. Please let Pat or Pastor Melissa know if you will cook or help serve on one of those Wednesdays.



Advent Services-evenings of Dec. 7th, 14th (no Advent service on Dec. 21st)

Our evening services will be at Peace. We will have a meal at 6:00pm and a service at 7:00pm. A simple meal will be provided. If you are willing to help with one of the meals, please let Pat or Pastor Melissa know. Ingredients are provided.

“The Christmas Dream”

Sunday, December at 8:30 & 10:15 am

The entire congregation is invited to join us on Sunday, December 4th to see a unique and powerful production of “The Christmas Dream” performed by the group, The Silent Messengers. This production will take place in the sanctuary. Join us for this experience.

SS Program

Sunday, December 11th. Our 8:30 service will be our regular worship service. At the 10:15 service our Sunday School children present their program.

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 18th,
8:30 am and 10:15 am Services

Happy Birthday, Jesus!

Sunday, December 15th, 9:35-10:35 am

Live Nativity

Weds., Dec. 21st, 5:30-7:00pm.

Christmas Eve!!

2:00, 4:00 & 10:00pm: Christmas Eve
Candlelight Worship

Join us in our traditional candlelight service as we celebrate the birth of our Lord.

No service on Sunday, December 25th

Service of Lessons & Carols

Sunday, Jan. 1st-9:00 am



HS YOUTH

High School Youth Programming Updates:

****A reminder to all students:** If either SCF or OHS closes or is cancelled due to inclement weather, church activities will be cancelled as well.*

Wednesday Nights: 6:30pm Pizza Dinner (\$3), 7:00pm-8:00pm Programming

7th & 8th Grade Youth Programming:

7th & 8th grade Confirmation is full of fun, laughter and lots of learning! We continue to learn and grow in new ways. Here is the schedule for the months of December & January:

December 7 - Small Group & Advent Worship (6-7:30pm)

December 14 - Small Group & Advent Worship (6-7:30pm)

****MENTOR SELECTIONS DUE!!!****

December 21 - NO Confirmation (but join us for the Live Nativity!)

December 28 - No Confirmation (Merry Christmas!)

January 4 - Confirmation (6-7:30pm)

January 11 - Confirmation (6-7:30pm)

January 18 - Confirmation (6-7:30pm)

January 25 - Confirmation (6-7:30pm)



9th Grade Confirmation

December 7 - Advent Worship & Youth Group (7-8pm)

December 14 - Advent Worship & Youth Group (7-8pm)

December 21 - NO Confirmation (but join us for the Live Nativity!)

December 28 - No Confirmation (Merry Christmas!)

January 4 - Core Course (Youth Group, 7-8pm)

January 11 - Elective (Fitness & Faith with Fitness Trainer, Michele Ward)

January 18 - Elective (Technology Night with our Media Director)

January 25 - Elective (Technology Night with our Media Director)

10th - 12th Grade

December 7 - Advent Worship & Youth Group (7-8pm)

December 14 - Advent Worship & Youth Group (7-8pm)

December 21 - NO Youth Group (but join us for the Live Nativity!)

December 28 - No Youth Group (Merry Christmas!)

January 4 - Youth Group, 7-8pm

January 11 - Youth Group - Faith & Fitness (off site), 7-8pm

2022 MN Mission Team Breakfast Club

All mission trip students who attended last summer's Minnesota Mission Trip are invited to join us as we answer "Can we Ask that??" (the answer is yes!!) and look at hard topics in our life and in faith.

****Watch for Text Messages regarding meeting times and places****

****To receive weekly information and any last minute updates about youth group, make sure that you are signed up to receive our Remind Texts. (Contact Pastor Melissa to be added to the correct group). Parents - you are also welcome to join the remind texts for updates and information.****

Children, Youth & Families

God's Global Barnyard

The children have been doing a great job bringing in offerings every Sunday. We are hoping to collect enough money to purchase a whole barnyard of animals for families in need through the ELCA God's Global Barnyard program.

If your child did not receive their own set of "giving envelopes" please ask their teacher or talk to Becky!



Let's Celebrate Jesus!

All children are invited to help us celebrate at a special birthday party for Jesus on **Sunday, Dec 18 at 9:30 am**, during Sunday School. We will play games, eat treats, make craft projects and enjoy our time together as we celebrate our greatest gift of all, our Savior, Jesus!

There will be no Sunday School on Dec 25 or Jan 1. Enjoy the holidays with your family and we look forward to continuing our Sunday School classes on January 8.

Sunday School Christmas Program

We are starting preparations for the Sunday Christmas Program. ALL CHILDREN in grades PreK - 6th grade are encouraged to participate. We have many types of parts available.

Please see the schedule below. .

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 3RD

Rehearsal 9:30am-noon

DECEMBER 4TH

Practice during Sunday School Hour

DECEMBER 10TH

Rehearsal 9:30am-noon

DECEMBER 11TH

Practice during Sunday School Hour

DECEMBER 11TH

Program at 10:15am

DECEMBER 18TH

Sunday School "Happy Birthday Jesus" Celebration

A special THANK YOU to Michele Merritt for leading the Christmas Program, the teachers and classroom helpers for being with their class during rehearsals, the parents who brought treats and/or helped in any way, and Tammy Brenizer for her media expertise.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7pm-AA	2	3 9am-noon SS Prog. Prac.
4 Silent Messenger Group at both the 8:30 & 10:15 am Servs. 9:30 am SS, Choir	5	6	7 8:30 am Quilting, Staff Mtg 11:30 Service & lunch @ West Immanuel 6 pm Dinner	8 7pm-AA	9	10 9am-noon SS Prog. Prac.
11 8:30 am Service, 10:15am SS Christmas Prog. 9:30 am SS, Choir practice	12	13 9am Staff Mtg 2:00 pm Care-giver Support	14 8:30 am Quilting 11:30 Service & lunch @ Peace 6 pm Dinner 7:00 pm Service	15 7:00 pm Council Mtg 7pm-AA	16	17
18 8:30 & 10:15 am Services with Choir Cantata 9:30 am SS, Choir practice	19	20 9am Staff Mtg	21 11:30 Service & lunch @ Peace No Conf./Youth Group 5:30-7pm Live Nativity @ Peace	22 7pm-AA	23	24 2:00, 4:00, & 10:00 Christmas Eve Services
25 Christmas Day No Service	26	27 9am Staff Mtg	28 Blood Drive at Peace! Noon-6:30pm No Confirmation or HS Youth	29	30	31

Usher/Lay Reader Schedule

		8:30	10:15
Dec. 4	Usher No Readers	Tom & Linda Moore	Eric Mayer family
Dec. 11	Usher Reader	Paul Lindholm Kayla Stankowski	SS Christmas Program at 10:15 Service
Dec. 18	Usher No Readers	Dick Blattner	Chris Chinander
Dec. 24	4:00 pm Todd/Prokop families		

Ushers needed: 2:00 & 10:00 pm. Contact the office please if you are willing to usher.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Service of Lessons & Carols	2	3 9:00 am Staff Mtg	4 8:30 am Quilting 6:00-7:30 pm Conf. /Youth Grp.	5 7pm-AA	6	7
8 8:30 & 10:15 am Services. 9:30 am SS,	9	10 9am Staff Mtg	11 8:30 am Quilting 6 pm Confirmation & HS Youth	12 7pm-AA	13	14
15 8:30 & 10:15 am Services 9:30 am SS, Choir practice	16	17 9am Staff Mtg 2:00 pm Care- giver Support	18 8:30 am Quilting 6 pm Confirmation & HS Youth	19 7:00 pm Council Mtg 7pm-AA	20	21
22 8:30 & 10:15 am Services. 9:30 am SS, Choir practice	23	24 9am Staff Mtg 1:30 pm Rachel Circle	25 8:30 am Quilting 6 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm HS Youth	26 7pm-AA	27	28
29 8:30 & 10:15 Service 9:30 am Annual Congregation Meet- ing	30	31 9am Staff Mtg				

Usher/Lay Reader Schedule

		8:30	10:15
Jan. 1 (9am)	Usher Reader	Steve & Karrie Swenson Karrie Swenson	
Jan. 8	Usher Reader	Tom & Linda Moore Gene Jaremczuk	Chad Slater family Jan Museus
Jan. 15	Usher Reader	Jeff Hall family Jeff Hall family	Gene Jaremczuk Kayla Stankowski
Jan. 22	Usher Reader	Paul Lindholm Michele Merritt	Chris Chinander Claire Chinander
Jan. 29	Usher Reader	Mark Gjovig Maria Gjovig	Pete Peterson Anne Miller Solsrud

THIS-N-THAT

Inclement Weather Rule

If St. Croix Falls or Osceola Schools are closed or release early due to winter weather conditions, there will be no events (Confirmation, meetings, etc.) at church that evening. If there is a large snowstorm on a scheduled worship day, we post a decision to stay open or close on the PLC facebook page, website and send out a group email. As much as we want to have YOU at our worship services, we want you and your family to be safe!



- ♦ to everyone who baked bread for our Thanksgiving Bread Service-it was delicious!
- ♦ to Vicky Simpkins for all her work making the Bazaar a success!
- ♦ to those who brought baked goods, served or shopped at the Bazaar
- ♦ to Karrie Swenson for the “farm bags” for the kids’
- ♦ to Sue DeMenge for the outside Christmas decorations
- ♦ to all who purchased gifts for the Blessing Basket program

Help Wanted:

- ♦ Ushers for the 2:00 & 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Services.
- ♦ Registration help at the Blood Drive at Peace on Weds., Dec. 28th. Two shifts available: noon-3 and 3-6pm. Please let Pat know if you can help!

Quilting In the past our Lutheran World Relief warehouse in St. Paul has only accepted light weight quilts for Africa. They have just begun collecting warm quilts for Ukraine. If you have any type of old blankets you could donate for warm liners, we will immediately make warm quilts. Wool blankets or army blankets work, too. Blankets can have small holes or stains. No mattress pads or puffy bedspreads at this time please. Thank you for your help!

Kwik Trip Cards For Sale!

The youth are selling Kwik Trip Gift Cards (while supplies last) and receive 10% of all sales. You can pick up your \$5, \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift card from church or from any youth attending the 2023 Mission Trip. These make great gifts or stock up on them for yourself and know that you are helping the youth of PLC every time you get gas.

The cards may be purchased during the week or on Sundays too.



Maple Syrup Ministry

Holiday Syrup Bottles are here! Don't forget to stock up on these beautiful and fun holiday Maple Syrup bottles! These make great Christmas gifts, teacher gifts, or host/hostess gifts! Stock up today and enjoy our holiday and winter-painted bottles and Gingerbread Bottles!



Ronda explaining our poster about the Touch A Truck event at the LEAD Initiative seminar in Minneapolis that she and the staff attended.



Fiesta Night for parents of PreK-HS youth was held in October! This was also one of the events that the Lead team planned.



Rogation Sunday (Giving Thanks for our farmers) was held in November. Below are members & friends looking at the display of farming items from days past.



Putting up the large Christmas tree in the Sanctuary takes a lot of helpers!



PARISH NURSE NOTES

There's SO much going on at church in the coming weeks – the start of Advent services (Wednesdays at 11:30AM and 7:00 PM), the Children's Sunday School program, Choir Christmas Cantata Sunday, and The Silent Messengers' program. I hope you can join us for some or all of our upcoming events and programs.

Hey seniors age 55+! Want to improve your Balance, Strength and Flexibility? Join a FREE fitness class that's based on a program called **Live 2 B Healthy** – a proven, flexible approach to wellness through education, fitness and community. The Aging & Disability Resource Center of Northwest Wisconsin is sponsoring these fun, personal exercise classes for seniors. This type of exercise is arthritis-friendly and led by Nationally Certified Trainers. The classes are held at Osceola Community Church (2492 Education Ave) each Tuesday & Thursday from 3:15-4:00 pm. Several of our church members have already been attending. For more info or to join the classes please contact Kelly Nygard at 612-751-9151.

I'd like to take this time to shed light on our wonderful team of Peace Visitors. Some congregates may not know that there are 4 members of our Peace family who regularly visit our homebound members to give them communion, share a treat or devotional, and keep them abreast of what's going on at church. This is such an important ministry that deserves our recognition.

Many thanks to **Diane Lechman, Pete Peterson, Robin Ekstrom, and Ronda Haley** for their time in truly making a difference in the lives of others. Another member who works under-the-radar tending to those who can't attend worship is **Carol Rhoe**. Carol delivers devotionals, treats, humorous comics and numerous other things she can fit into a bag to make someone's day. I'm so grateful that the above members share their time with our elderly. If you feel called to be a part of this Visiting Ministry at Peace please contact me.

I am scheduled to have a carpal tunnel release surgery of my left hand/wrist on December 15th. Please note that I will have limited use of that hand for *at least* a couple of weeks after that, so if you'd like to receive upcoming foot/nail care, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can aim to get that done before the middle of the month.

Wishing a **Merry Christmas** to all & good health and prosperity in the **New Year**,
Karen





2nd	Bob Todd Terry Baillargeon Amy Succo Paige Dvorak Addyson Williams Isla O'Brien Bjorn Peterson	10th	Rosella Geving Lexi Kromrey	18th	Josiah Walstead
3rd	Lloyd Kobs Pat Kirby	11th	Lindsey Lundeen Jason Bents	19th	Jeff Elkin Emma Fehlen Brooklyn Miller
4th	Tim Pauley Duane Vanderwerf Linda Ellefson Jessica O'Connor Nick Carlson Case Hanson	12th	Bill Stevenson Steven Kromrey Hunter Kautz	20th	Jennifer Berg Adalyn Benson
5th	Paul Lindholm Amanda Richert	14th	Mary Johnson Ariel Widiker Luke Ekstrom Reagan Ekstrom Graidy Guggisberg	21st	Jill Hinze
6th	Dave Stephansen Dawn Tunison	15th	Kevin Campbell Holli Haase	22nd	Bruce LaMirande Michele Merritt
7th	Jocelyn Tate	16th	John O. Lee Joe Rysdam Olivia Smisek	23rd	Jerry Koosman Aubrey Haase
8th	Karen Elkin Scott Demulling Sylvia Demulling	17th	Diane Lechman Doug Johnson John Haley Aleah Jensen Violet Gorski	24th	Mary Swenson
				25th	Jeff Moryn
				27th	Maria Gjovig Margie Johnson
				28th	Xander Carlson
				30th	Melodie Needham Charlies Haines
				31st	Gavin Olson Ryah Corbett Jamison Berg



1st	Jerry Succo Sam Schiebel	14th	Coby Halstrom Donya Fehlen	23rd	Dorothy Lindholm
2nd	Jim Lechman Brandon Robinson	15th	Lynn Lindholm	24th	Betty Lou Chryst Emily Tebben Jackson Brown Trinity Krueger
3rd	Ann Moryn	16th	Pat Carlson Declan O'Brien	25th	Jason Swanson
4th	Debbie Museus Matt Adam	17th	Shirley Sims Heidi Tomforde Kevin Western Amy Sheehan	26th	Paul Arndt
5th	Tom Reeck	18th	Kayla Rondeau Dylan Haase	27th	Lee Isaacson
6th	Kaija Newman Emilie Glenna	20th	Lillie Strege	28th	Julie Leisch
11th	Mickey Raska	21st	Miranda Hartman Brody Williams	29th	Drew Willeman
12th	Tenley Dvorak Anne Prokop Riley Koosman	22nd	Rebecca Berg Paige Ellefson Rylie Waters	30th	Heidi Schrock
13th	Virgil Koehler Bill Tunison Noah Larson			31st	Lisa Richert Cade Rysdam Easton Maloney

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

"On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh." Matthew 2:11, New International Version

Although we don't know how many visitors came to pay homage to Jesus, what faith tradition they followed, or from exactly where they came, we do know that, answering God's call, they undertook a long and arduous pilgrimage to place their gifts at the Christ Child's feet.

The nature of our faith community is very different from that of the Magi whose story Matthew tells; however, we are called, just as they were, to make our own pilgrimages, and to place our own gifts of time, talent, and treasure at Jesus' feet, acknowledging and showing our gratitude for the gifts that God has given us!

See you next month!

The Stewardship Committee ~ Maggie Isaacson, Diane Lechman, and Pete Peterson

The Mission of the Stewardship Ministry of Peace Lutheran Church is to educate all Peace members about God's Scriptural teachings regarding stewardship; namely, that our lives and our property belong to God, and that our grateful response should include generously, intentionally, proportionately, and joyfully sharing our time, talent, and treasure for use in His service.

Peace Prayer List

This month we especially pray for:

Pat Anderson (Rosella Geving's sister), Sheri Anderson
Dick Beer (Don Meixner's brother-in-law)
Debbie Brust, Geraldine Deering (Robyn Bjornstad's mother)
Chris Gilchrist (Dale & Carol Rhoe's son)
Jadin Greaves (friends of Kelly Kneath family)
Diane Hansen (Debbie Brust's sister)
Dorothy Heichel (Becky Olson's mother)
Robi Hollman, Lee Johnson (Ronda Haley's sister-in-law)
Sidney Johnson (Peter Ward's grandfather)
Joy Kerr (Michelle Ward's cousin)
Virgil Koehler, Ken Lear, David Lindahl
Macy (Fred Haine's niece)
Zoe Miller (Anne Miller Solsrud's mother)
Kylie Peterson (Peggy Basham's niece), Katie Raddatz
Jim Ralph (Lisa Haine's step-father),
Paul & Barb Ramberg (Dawn Tunison's parents),
Larry Schmidt (Dawn Peer's uncle), Hannah Haley Tracy
Family of Edna Henrickson (Lynn Lindholm's mother)

Serving in the Military: Collin Western, Mason Peer, Graidy Guggisberg

Divine Rehab & Nursing, SCF: Opal Parel, Sally Johnson

Amery Memory Care, Amery: Linda Ellefson, Pam Teig

CCH, Osceola: Duane & Thelma Vanderwerf

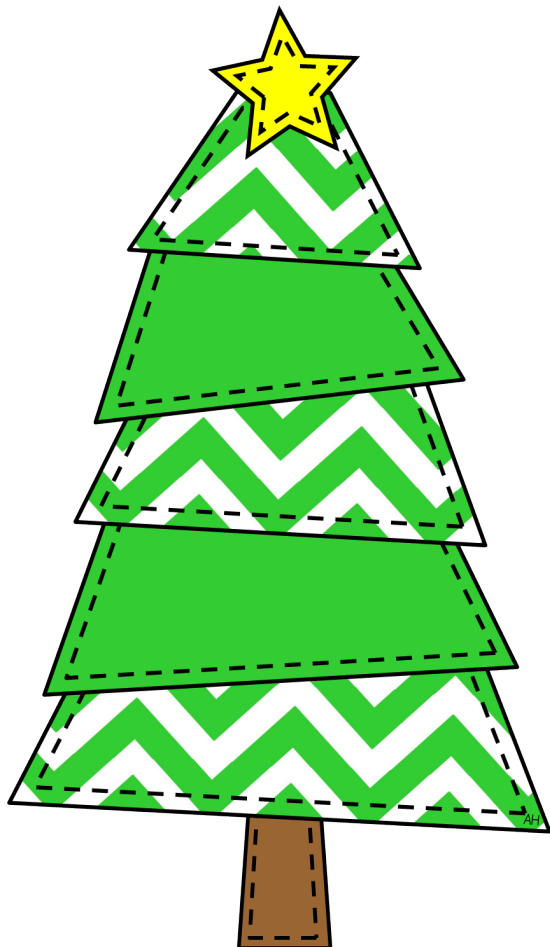
Eagle Ridge, Osceola: Angie LaMirande



Worship SCHEDULE

8:30 & 10:15 am Worship Service
9:35 am Sunday School, Choir Practice
Livestream is at 8:30 am.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
2:00, 4:00 & 10:00 pm



CHURCH STAFF Contact Information

Pastor Melissa Carmack
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Parish Nurse Karen Fossum
Email: plcparishnurse@gmail.com

Director of CYF Ministries Becky Anderson
Email: plcdressercyf@gmail.com

Director of Media Tammy Brenizer
Email: plcdressermedia@gmail.com

Accompanist Ronda Haley

Custodian Jerry Rosenow

Bookkeeper Cheryl Bjornstad

Financial Secretaries
Bonnie Crary, Maxine Waddick