

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 655
2355 Clark Road
Dresser, WI 54009

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage PAID
Dresser, WI 54009
Permit No.3

CHURCH STAFF CONTACT INFO

Pastor Melissa Carmack
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Pastor Lori Peper
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Administrative Assistant Holly Schnitzler
715-755-2515
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Director of Media Tammy Brenizer
Email: media@plcdresser.org

Accompanists Ronda Haley, Karen Hale

Custodian Jerry Rosenow

Community **CHRISTMAS CONCERT & SING-A-LONG** Free-will Offering

Sunday, December 7th
4:00pm

Featuring
Good Neighbor Ukuleles, Jerry Prokop,
Ronda Haley, Nici Peper and the Wildflowers

Peace Lutheran Church
2355 Clark Road | Dresser, WI



You Are Welcome Here!!

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Dresser, WI

ALL ARE WELCOME

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday
8:00am-4:30pm
Friday
8:00am-2:00pm

WORSHIP WITH US
SUNDAYS AT 9:00AM
Weekly Communion
& Fellowship

YOUTUBE ONLINE
youtube.com/peacelutherandresser



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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715-755-2515
www.plcdresser.org



**DECEMBER 2025 &
JANUARY 2026**
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Family of Christ, Spirit Led ~ Grace Fed



See Inside for...

- A Message from Pastor Melissa
- Weekly & Monthly Schedules
- A Message from Pastor Lori
- Notes from the Office
- Kids/Youth Events
- Upcoming Adult Events
- A Note From Hospitality Committee
- Fundraiser Information
- New Member Welcome
- Bus Trip Opportunity

NOTES from the Office



DEC/JAN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship 9:00 am
Children's Church 9:15am
Fellowship & Coffee 10:00 am
Dec 3rd, 10th & 17th - Mid-day Advent Services
Dec 7th - 2nd Sunday of Advent
Dec 14th - Sunday School Program
Dec 21st - Choir Cantata
Dec 24th - Christmas Eve Services at 2pm, 4pm and 10pm
Dec 28th - Lessons and Carols
Jan 4th - Epiphany Sunday
Jan 11th - Baptism of Jesus
Jan 25th - Camp Sunday

ATTENDANCE / FINANCIAL

October

5th 131 12th 171 19th 183 26th 251

November

2nd 173 9th 214 16th 23rd 174

Financial Giving

(October/November)

Budget \$60,218.35

Missions \$900

Noisy Offering \$759.50- Robin's Nest
Building Fund / Mortgage \$3,550

Council Minutes are posted on our
website: plcdresser.org

PASTORAL DUTIES

October 12th - Baptism of Parker Brandt, son of Eric and Olivia Brandt

October 12th - First Holy Communion of Mack Hagen

October 21st - Alexa Peterson Funeral

November 1st - Angie LaMirande funeral

November 23rd - First Holy Communion of Adalyn Benson, Emmet Berg, Kynzlee Berg, Ada Haines, Madison Hanson, Reese Hanson, Addison Lossing and Jackson Lossing

WEEKLY @ PEACE

Sundays

- Worship Service @ 9:00 am
- Children's Church @9:15am
- Coffee & Fellowship @ 10:00 am
- Choir Practice @8am OR 10:15am
- Ukelele Ministry @ 1:00 pm (All levels welcome)

Tuesdays

- Coffee Time @ 9:00 am
- Staff Meeting @ 9:30 am

Wednesdays

- Quilting Group @ 8:30 am
- Mid-day Advent Services @10:30am
- Scripture Study @ 1:30 pm
- CLUB 56 (5th & 6th Grade) @ 5:30pm
- Dinner @ 6:30pm
- Confirmation & HS Youth Group @7pm

Thursdays

- AA @ 7:00 pm

MONTHLY @ PEACE

- Worship Ministry Meeting 1st Tues. @ 4:00 pm
- Adult Ministry Meeting 1st Tues. @ 6:00 pm
- Caregiver Support Group 3rd Tuesday @ 2:00 pm
- Breast Cancer Support Group 1st Monday @ 6:30 pm. For more info contact Becky Anderson 715-557-0836
- Rachel Circle 4th Tuesday @ 1:30 pm.
- Youth Ministry Meeting 3rd Thursday @ 5:00 pm
- Peace Council Meeting 3rd Thursday @ 6:30 pm
- Itty Bitty Book Bunch Last Sunday of the month @ 10:00 am

DECEMBER

2nd Robert Todd
Amy Succo
Paige Dvorak
Addyson Williams
Bjorn Peterson
3rd Pat Kirby
Tim Pauley
4th Duane Vanderwerf
Linda Ellefson
Case Hanson
5th Paul Lindholm
6th Dave Stephansen
Dawn Tunison
Gary LaMirande
7th Jocelyn Tate
8th Karen Elkin
Scott Demulling
Sylvia Demulling
10th Rosella Geving
Lexi Kromrey
11th Lindsey Lundeen
Jason Bents
12th William Stevenson
Steven Kromrey
Hunter Kautz
14th Mary Johnson
Hannah Tracy
Ariel Widiker
Graidy Guggisberg
15th Kevin Campbell
Holli Haase
16th Joe Rysdam
Kyler Leisch
17th Diane Lechman
Doug Johnson
John Haley
Aleah Jensen
Violet Gorski

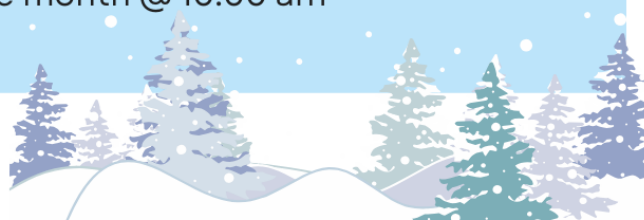
19th Jeff Elkin
Emma Fehlen
Brooklyn Miller
20th Adalyn Benson
22nd Bruce LaMirande
Michele Merritt
23rd Jerry Koosman
Aubrey Haase
24th Mary Swenson
25th Maria Gjovig
27th Margie Johnson
Ave Schmidt-Meyer
28th Melodie Needham
29th Patrick Tracy
30th Charles Haines
31st Gavin Olson
Ryah Corbett
Jamison Berg
Kynzlee Berg

JANUARY

1st Jerry Succo
Samuel Schiebel
2nd Jim Lechman
Brandon Robinson
4th Debbie Museus
Matt Adam
5th Lesley Nace
Thomas Reeck
6th Emilie Glenna
11th Trevor Scholz
12th Tenley Dvorak
Anne Prokop
13th Virgil Koehler
Bill Tunison
Noah Larson

14th Coby Halstrom
Donya Fehlen
15th Lynette Lindholm
16th Pat Carlson
17th Shirley Sims
Heidi Tomforde
Kevin Western
Amy Sheehan
18th Dylan Haase
19th Avery Wentte
21st Miranda Hartman
Brody Williams
22nd Rebecca Berg
24th Trinity Krueger
25th Jason Swanson
26th Paul Arndt
28th Julie Leisch
Eva Wentte
29th Drew Willeman
30th Heidi Schrock
Mitchell Steele
31st Lisa Richert
Cade Rysdam
Easton Maloney

Happy Birthday!





We rejoice as we receive into membership:
Margaret Harstad
Kacy Schmidt-Meyer and Family
Brock and Heather Leuhman and Family
Bill Lundgren
Jennette Wolf
Beverly Braun

We give thanks for the gifts God has given them and look forward to growing in faith together. May the Holy Spirit strengthen our life of worship, service, and discipleship as we join in God's mission for the sake of the world.

Welcome to the Peace Lutheran Church family!

A NOTE FROM THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Sanctuary Christmas Tree

The sanctuary has been adorned with a new Christmas tree this year, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor who provided a monetary gift specifically for this purpose. This thoughtful contribution has allowed Peace to continue the cherished tradition of displaying a beautiful tree during the holiday season.

Honoring a Meaningful Legacy

For the past twenty-eight years, our sanctuary was graced by a towering 20-foot Christmas tree, originally given by the Everson family in loving memory of their mother, Edith. This tree has been an integral part of our Christmas services, illuminating Christmas Eve services with its radiant lights and bringing joy to Peace families and friends alike.

Transition to a New Tree

After many years of faithful service, the previous tree became increasingly difficult to assemble due to broken brackets. While we bid farewell to this beloved symbol, we remain deeply grateful for the Everson family's original gift and the many years it enhanced our worship space. The new tree now stands as a testament to both past generosity and the ongoing spirit of giving within our community.

Join us for our annual Christmas Concert and community Sing-Along on **Saturday, December 7th, at 4:00 PM!**

Enjoy festive music from local favorites: the Good Neighbor Ukuleles, Jerry Prokop, Ronda Haley, Nici Peper, and The Wildflowers.

It's the perfect way to welcome the holiday season with friends and neighbors. We hope to see you there!

From Pastor Melissa's desk,

The Power of Light

For as long as I can remember, we've had a single nightlight in the hallway. When I was younger, there was one in the hallway just outside my bedroom on the way to the bathroom. Now that I'm grown and have my own house, we still have one single nightlight in the hallway, just outside all the bedrooms in our upstairs hallway. And that single nightlight can make all the difference.

When my kids were babies and would cry in the night, that light led me safely to their rooms.

When my kids were toddlers and would feel sick in the night, that light led me to care for them.

When my kids were a bit older and would wake up from a nightmare, that light would lead them to my room, where they would find comfort and solace.

That light doesn't turn night into day, but it gives just enough light so no one trips, stubs a toe, or feels afraid walking to the bathroom at 2 a.m. It's nothing fancy, and it's not that bright, but that one small light provides security far bigger than its size.

And that's the power of light in our everyday lives. We don't always get big, dramatic flashes of God's presence. More often it's the tiny glimmers—the encouraging text from a friend, the kindness of a stranger, a moment of calm in a chaotic day—that are just enough to help us keep going. Light doesn't have to be overwhelming to make a difference. It just has to show up.

December has a way of awakening hope with light. The days grow shorter, and the world turns colder, and yet we gather—Sunday after Sunday—to light candles that insist on shining. Hope. Peace. Joy. Love. These are not sentimental ornaments we hang for a season; they are practices. They are quiet rebellions against despair. They are the heartbeat of our waiting.

This Advent, I invite you to slow down. Sit with the candles a little longer. Experience the Light. Let the hymns wash over you. Notice where Christ's light meets you—in a child's wonder, in a neighbor's generosity, in the courage to face another day. And as Christmas arrives, may the promise of "God with us" settle deeply into your bones. Christ does not wait for us to get everything right; Christ comes right into the middle of our messy living, bringing love that refuses to let go.

As we turn the calendar to January, we carry that same light into a new year. We don't know what 2026 will hold, but we do know who holds us. So we keep lighting candles. We keep showing up. We keep trusting that Emmanuel walks ahead of us and beside us, one step at a time.

Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas, dear church. May Christ's light guide your path and warm your spirit in the days to come.

See you in Church!
Pastor Melissa

Join us for Advent & Christmas Eve Festivities!



MORE newsworthy items

1. Peace Lutheran Church Assumes Responsibility for St. Peters Cemetery

Peace Lutheran Church now owns and is responsible for the care and maintenance of St. Peters Cemetery in Dresser, WI. The previous volunteer committee was ready to step down, prompting them to ask if Peace Lutheran would assume management. The proposal was enthusiastically accepted by the Church Council, Property Committee, and Cemetery Committee, recognizing the historical connection as St. Peters was a founding church of Peace Lutheran. Many members have family interred there. The transition has been communicated through announcements in the Osceola Sun and the Yellow Advertiser, updated signage at the cemetery, and letters to all known contacts. Thanks to the previous committee's diligent financial management, the associated fund is fully funded, and the acquisition will not pose a financial burden to Peace Lutheran Church.

2. New Loop Road Completed at Peace Lutheran Cemetery

The road expansion project at Peace Lutheran Cemetery is complete. The new design features a loop that significantly improves vehicle flow and accessibility, addressing previous traffic and parking issues during funerals and busy visiting times. The project was fully funded by the Peace Lutheran Cemetery Committee through the sale of cemetery plots and did not impact the church's operating budget.

Please direct any questions or suggestions to the Cemetery Committee members: Co-Chairs John Haley and Glen Museus, Pat & John Adam, Gloria Hutton, Lori Kromrey, or Phil Everhart.



The Community Referral Agency in Milltown sent a thank you note to the church office. They expressed their sincere gratitude for our donation of essential items such as blankets, socks, and pajamas, noting how much these contributions mean to both the staff and the clients they assist.

Dear Peace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous donation of **\$1,258.22** to Teach Haiti!

Your donation helps our organization in a multitude of ways, so we thank you for taking the time to donate.

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your support of Teach Haiti. Your generosity is truly making a difference, and I am grateful for your contribution. As someone who has personally experienced the transformative power of education, I can attest to how it can change the trajectory of someone living in poverty. Thanks to your generosity, **over 600 children** are now one step closer to achieving their dreams of emerging from poverty. Your kindness and generosity are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Miquette McMahon

Teach Haiti Founder/Executive Director



[Almost] FREE SUMMER CAMP FOR 3RD - 5TH GRADERS!!!!

CAMP WAPO (or Luther Point)

(You pay a \$50 Deposit...we pay the rest!!)

That's right...We believe Camp is such an incredible experience and important part of how we grow in our faith that Peace Lutheran are willing to send all current 3rd - 5th grade students to camp for FREE. We ask that each camper pay a deposit of \$25-50 (Depending on length of the camp. Scholarships available if needed), but the rest will be covered by fundraising and generous donations from Peace Members.

If possible, we encourage children & youth to register with our "church week" at Camp Wapo. If this week does not work out for you, or if you prefer, you are encouraged to attend a different week of Camp Wapo on your own, a week at Luther Point Bible Camp, or any other ELCA Lutheran Camps throughout the state. All camps have many different camp options available for our youth (from 2 days - 5 days)



Camp Wapo Dates for Peace Members:

SEEDS Weekend (Grades 1-3): June 19 - 21, 2025

WAPO YOUTH CAMP (Grades 4-9): June 21 - 26, 2025



*Friends are invited to attend camp as well. Other options are available through the camps (specialized camps, etc.) that youth may also attend. Please check Camp Wapo & Luther Point Camp's Website for more options.

MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER



Make sure to order your cookies, rosettes, or peanut brittle by December 10th! You can find order forms at the Welcome Center or see any Mission Trip Team member to place your order.



Creation Museum and Ark Encounter Trip Opportunity

Diane Lechman is organizing a coach bus trip to these sites The Creation Museum (Ohio) and The Ark Encounter (Kentucky) for July 27-30, 2026. The trip is for families and/or adults, with a minimum age of 5. It will be a 4-day trip, leaving from and returning to SCF. Jim and Diane have been there, and it is amazing!

Please look up the sites online for more information: Creation Museum and Ark Encounter. The museum is based on a creationist point of view—which is that God created the world in 6 days. However, no one there will argue creationism versus evolution with you; your beliefs are your own. The displays walk you through early Biblical history.

Depending on the size of the group and number of attendees per motel room, the cost will range between \$1,300 and \$1,500. Registration and the first of four payments will be in January. Trip insurance will also be available.

Please see Diane or the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center if you would like more information. This trip is not organized by Peace and is open to anyone interested. Invite your family and friends; Diane is bringing along her kids and grandkids. Any questions? Call Diane Lechman at 715-557-1791.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Save the Date - our annual Bazaar at Peace will take place on Saturday, December 6th

This year, we are looking for people to donate or make jams, jellies & lefse to sell!! Donate towards a good cause!

There will be Christmas plates available in the Narthex for you to take home, and return with your baked goods on for the sale.

Contact Vicki Simpkins if you would like to help make crafts for the bazaar or if you can help in any way.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM INFORMATION
(Children, Ages 4k-6th Grade)**

Christmas Program practice is underway and we are gearing up to share the Joy and story of Jesus with our congregation and community on Sunday, December 14th (9am).

Program Rehearsals will take place the following days:
Sun, December 7th (9:15am-11am) - 4k-4th
Wed, December 10th (5-6:30pm) - 4k - 6th
(Optional dinner for the families will be available after the Wednesday practice @ 6:30pm)

Families - if you have not signed your child up to participate in this year's program, there's still time! Contact Pastor Melissa for details.

From Pastor Lori's pen,

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

I'll never forget the time I went caving with my three children. Deep underground, our guide invited us to experience "true darkness." We blew out our lanterns, and in an instant, the world disappeared. We couldn't see our hands when we held them up in front of our faces. It was total, suffocating blackness that was actually disorienting. After a few minutes, the guide struck a single match. That one tiny flame pierced the darkness, and the whole cavern seemed to come alive. I have never been so grateful for a flicker of light.



As we move through December into January, the days are the shortest of the year. By now, we are all feeling the effects of long dark nights, fewer hours of sunlight, and many hours indoors. The world can feel dark for other reasons, too as we experience grief, uncertainty, or the weariness that comes from the pressures of a busy life.

Yet Christmas also reminds us that "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5) We are reminded that Jesus is the light that God chose to shine over our world, and our lives. I love that Jesus called himself the Light of the World as he promised to enter our darkest moments with hope, joy, peace and love.

As we move into the new year, we also hear the encouraging words of Jesus in Matthew 5:16: "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Apparently, the Christ light we have received is not ours to hide! It is meant to shine, to be a beacon on a hill and pierce the darkness for others, too. In so many ways, you are a bright and shining light of hope! I can tell you that I am just one of many that are so grateful for the love, joy and grace that radiates from the community of Peace Lutheran Church.

So, Thank You, Beloved Friends. I can only imagine where God will lead us as we continue to radiate the light of God's grace through the precious gifts of friendship, kindness, generosity, and faith.

Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!
Pastor Lori



KWIK TRIP

Kwik Trip Gift Cards are selling fast and when they are gone, they're gone! Get yours now for the holiday season (they make great gifts)!

Youth will be selling these cards between services each week in December, or you may purchase them directly through a student attending the High School Summer Mission Trip or the Adult Africa Mission Trip. Mission trip participants receive 10% of all purchases.

**MAPLE SYRUP FOR THE
HOLIDAYS!**

Maple Cream is in stock!! Our Special Edition Winter & Christmas Maple Syrup Bottles are selling out fast! Don't forget to stock up for the holidays! These make great Christmas gifts, teacher gifts, or host/hostess gifts! Stock up today! Youth will be selling Syrup after worship on Sundays throughout December

Join us on Wednesdays in January at 6:45pm for a book study with Pastor Lori. Dinner will also be available at 6:30pm. Books will be available and all are welcome to gather as we look into the lives of those bible characters whose lives were changed by an encounter with Jesus. Its going to be fun and informative. Hope to see you there!!

Encounters with Jesus



Adult Ministry

December & January Highlights



Faith & Bible Studies

December

Wednesdays | 10:30 AM | *Welcome to Advent*
with Pastor Lori

Wednesdays | 1:30 PM | Gospel Study with Pete

First Mondays | 1:30 PM | Forest Heights Apt Study

Fourth Tuesdays | 1:30 PM | Rachel Circle Study

January

Wednesdays | 6:45 PM (Supper at 6:30)

Encounters with Jesus with Pastor Lori

Fellowship & Fun

Dec 11-12 | 2nd Sunday Crew at Wapo DinnerTheater

Jan 11 | 5 PM | Second Sunday Supper

Jan 21, 28 & Feb 4, 11 | 4 PM |

Crochet Lessons with Linda

Jan 31 | 4 PM | Comedy Show Fundraiser

Tuesdays | 9 AM | Coffee with Friends

Sundays | 1 PM | Ukulele Ministry (All welcome!)

Come Join Our Hospitality Team!

We're looking for friendly hands and joyful hearts to help make Peace Lutheran feel welcoming all year long. Opportunities include: seasonal decorating, preparing soup suppers, caring for the kitchen, helping with funeral lunches, organizing Sunday morning coffee and treats, and more.....there's a place for you! Call the church office to get involved—we'd love to have you!

Other Service/Ministry Opportunities

Sewing Little Dresses for Africa & Quilting

Special Music & Choir

Sundays - Readers/Ushers/Altar Guild/Livestream

Feed My Starving Children

Teaching Special Skills Classes

Youth Support, Elder Care and Visitation

Recycling, Watering, Painting, and Parking Lot upkeep

Wednesday Night Youth Program 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.*

Schedule of Events:

5:30pm-6:30pm Club 56 Programming (5th & 6th Grade),

6:30pm Dinner for all (\$3),

7:00pm-8:00pm Confirmation (7th-8th Grade)

7:00pm-8:00pm High School Youth Group (9th-12th Grade)

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

DECEMBER

December 3 - Club 56, Confirmation & Youth Group

December 10 - Club 56, Confirmation & Youth Group

December 18 - Club 56, Confirmation & Youth Group (off site)

December 25 - No Programming (Merry Christmas!)

JANUARY

December 31 - No Programming (Merry Christmas!)

January 7 - Club 56, Confirmation & Youth Group

January 14 - Club 56, Confirmation & Youth Group

January 21 - Club 56, Confirmation & Youth Group

January 28 - Club 56, Confirmation & Youth Group

MID-WINTER CONFIRMATION RETREAT

January 9-11, 2026

All 7th-9th graders are invited to attend the Mid-Winter Confirmation Retreat at Camp Wapo. This Retreat is a perfect chance to get recharged, reconnect with friends from church, and meet some new ones. This retreat welcomes back some favorite summer counselors to lead this fun filled weekend through worship, praise and play. Students will return home fully ignited to serve others and share their ignited love of Christ!

ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS BREAKFAST

Sunday, December 14th (after worship)

After our youngest members share their Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 14th, join us after worship for a special Christmas Blessings Breakfast! Our Student Leadership Team, consisting of 11th & 12th graders, will be serving pancakes, sausage & fruit! Celebrate our children with us on this special day and thank them for sharing the birth story of Jesus. (Free Will donations will be accepted and will support various children and youth programs)

****To receive weekly information and any last minute updates about children and/or youth related news, make sure that you are signed up on our NEW messaging platform: SLACK. Contact Pastor Melissa to be added. Parents - you are also encouraged to join the app for updates and information.****