

Peace Lutheran Church, Camdenton, MO

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January 2024

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# **Christian Symbols**



#### Paschal Candle

This large, white candle is an ancient symbol for Christ, the light of the world. The candle contains a cross and/or an Alpha and Omega to symbolize that Jesus is eternal and always present with his people. Also

called the Easter candle, it plays a prominent role during Easter vigils and celebrations. Some churches also use the candle during baptisms and funerals.

**Bell** A bell symbolizes the call to worship, reflected in the ringing of bells in many churches to announce or open the wor-

ship service. A bell also symbolizes the proclamation of the gospel to the world: hence, the ringing of church bells at the close of some services as worshipers depart to spread Christ's good news in their daily lives. realize that All Saints' Day was a couple of months ago and that we're about to leave the beautiful season of Christmas, but I came across this great article just a few days after our celebration of All Saints' Day. It may seem to be a bit "stuffy", so read it slowly and absorb its content. I think it's an amazing quote from Berthold von Schenk in his book, The Presence (p. 130-131).



# The Communion of Saints

**"When we are bereft of our dear ones**, it is a tremendous shock. For a time we are stunned. Not everyone can feel at once their continuing companionship.

We should not for that reason despair. Some souls may make this adjustment quickly. For most of us, it comes slowly and hard; many an hour is filled with loneliness and agonizing doubt.

By ourselves, we can never make this adjustment. We must come to a sense of the continuing presence of our loved ones, and we can do this if we realize the presence of our Living Lord.

As we seek and find our Risen Lord, we shall find our dear departed. They are with Him, and we find the reality of their continued life through Him.

The Saints are a part of the Church. We worship with them.

They worship the Risen Christ, face-to-face, while we worship the same Risen Christ, under the veil of bread and wine at the Altar.



### January

- 4 Penny Hansen
- 13 Dale & Gayle Montague
- 17 Brett & Cindy Niebur
- 26 Earl Hartenstein
- 30 Jeff Emery

### **Christian Symbols**



### **Christian Flag**

Dating to the early 20th century, the Christian flag represents all of Christianity, though it's been used primarily in the Americas and Africa. The red Latin cross symbolizes Jesus' blood shed on Calvary to grant us eternal life. The blue background represents Christ's faithfulness even unto death, as well as our baptism into Christ. The white field signifies Jesus' purity, nonviolence and surrender to God's will, plus the peace we gain by surrendering ourselves to Christ.

# **Church Office**

Church office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. Phone number is 573-836-8141 At the Communion rail/table we are linked with Heaven, with the Communion of Saints, with our loved ones. Here at the Altar, focused to a point, we find our communion with the dead; for the Altar is the closest meeting place between us and our Lord.

That place must be the place of closest meeting with our dead who are in His keeping.

The Altar is the trysting place (meeting place) where we meet our beloved Lord. It must, therefore, also be the trysting place where we meet our loved ones, for they are with the Lord. . .

Oh, that we could take (the mourning) by the hand, away from the grave, out through the



cemetery gate, in through the door of the church, and up the nave to the very Altar itself, and there put them in touch, not with the dead body of their loved one (such as at the gravesite), but with the living soul, who is with Christ at the Altar.

Our human nature needs more than the assurance that someday and in someway we shall meet again our loved ones in heaven. . .

I know that there is a place where we can meet. It is at the Altar. How it thrills me when I hear the words of the Liturgy, 'Therefore, with angels and archangels, and all the Company of Heaven,' for I know that (my loved one) is there with the Company of Heaven, the Communion of Saints, with the Lord.

The nearer I come to my Lord in Holy Communion, the nearer I come to the Saints, to my own loved ones.

I am a member of the Body of Christ. . . sharing in the Body of Christ Himself."

Isn't this precious? May you find peace in the arms of Christ at the Altar!

submitted by Pastor Gary Brandt

# What the New Year Offers

- A fresh start in the totality of our life.
- A chance to do good things for others, especially older members of our family.
- An opportunity to plan better for the future, including the use of our time, talent and possessions.
- A challenge to read helpful books about living according to God's plan.
- A chance to better control stress and anxiety in body and spirit.



January – Installation of new officers; Sheryl Bald resigned as church secretary and Pudge McCloud became the secretary, Don Springer begins cleaning the church. Thanks to Earl and Shelia Hartenstein for 21 years of service in cleaning the church.

February – Peace received new members Will and Rhonda Stalcup and Cindy Kaminski, LWML served a quiche brunch for Valentine's Day, the church received a new phone system with a new number, Ash Wednesday service was held.

March – Lenten services were held by Pastor Gary Brandt, Cindy Niebur went through old treasury files in the storeroom the project was completed March 15, the tree was cut down near the light behind the church. A new church insurance policy was purchased.

**April** – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services were held by Pastor Anderegg, LWML served an Easter Sunday breakfast, Peace, Faith, Warsaw, and St. John's, Stover hosted the LWML Spring Rally at Peace, Funeral service for Bob Mueller was held on April 6, Tom and Annette Greenwald became members, several LWML ladies reorganized the dining hall kitchen, Russell Schulz granddaughter Harley Schulz was baptized, Missouri All Service Plumbing installed a new hydrant assembly that services the church and the cemetery for a cost of \$1800.00.

May - it was decided not to open the cemetery to other LCMS Lutheran churches that were not members of Peace due to the small number of plots. Folks can be buried in our cemetery if they become members of Peace. Pastor Anderegg began confirmation instructions for Tristian and Lilyan Lewis, Pastor Brandt gave confirmation instruction to Tammy Snell and Kyle Wright. A decision was made to no longer have greeters, Tammy Snell and Kyle Wright and Rebecca Epperson were received as new members. Sam Gillman passed away, services and burial were held in his hometown.

June – Life Line Screening was held, a welcome brunch was held on June 25 to welcome new members of Peace, LWML ladies planned summer activities for all the ladies of Peace with our first activity held on June 1 with an ice cream social, member Irma Trego passed away private services were held at the funeral home, we received new member Judy Slough

July – On July 19, all ladies' luncheon cruise was held on the Celebration Cruise, new member infor-

# **Hospitalized**?

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, have experienced a death in the family, are home bound, or scheduled to go to the hospital, please call Pastor Brandt (580-421-8108). Please keep in mind that privacy laws also limit the information hospitals can share with us. Pastor Brandt is available for any emergency, or any issue you and your loved ones might be having. Remember, our pastor is here to serve you.



**Our Elders:** Jeff Hedberg (573-819-4446), Jeff Emery (816-745-0229) and Larry Trick (573-286-4423) will assist the pastor to follow up on any issue you may have. mation packets was reintroduced, Pat & Peggy Callahan repaired the cemetery benches and stained the cemetery cross, small sized refrigerator was purchased for the church office.

August – a suggestion box was provided for Christian message ideas that will be placed on the church sign, LWML meetings will now begin at 9 a.m., new pictures will be taken of all members and guest members for an updated directory, Pudge McCloud replaced Sheryl Bald on the alarm system, discussion was held to purchase postcards to be sent to visitors - 200 cards for \$80.99.

September – Anonymous donor(s) provided money for a new communion chalice, we received new members Rhonda DeGeal, Noah Estes, Larry and Jayne Marie Trick on Sunday, September 24. Peace took part in the Hillbilly Parade the theme was "Saluting our Heroes", LWML ladies toured the Mennonite community on Sept. 27

October – October 29, Lilyan and Tristan Lewis were confirmed, Larry Trick will join the Board of Elders in 2024, post cards will be sent to visitors instead of a letter, a committee was formed to update our emergency operation plan, all the bushes in front and back of the church were removed, Christian messages will be added to our electronic sign, several ladies attended the LWML Fall Rally in Cole Camp, New LWML officers for 2024 is Dawn Hedberg and Cindy Niebur as co-presidents, Jayne Trick as Secretary, Susan Kral will continue as treasurer. Jan and Dawn attended the Queen Esther play in Branson, church officers for 2024

# Support Schedules Elder Altar Guild

	LIUEI	Altal Gullu			
January	Jeff Hedberg	Dawn Hedberg			
February	Jeff Emery	Penny Hansen			
March	Larry Trick	Deb Mayes			
April	Jeff Hedberg				
May	Jeff Emery	Susan Kral			
June	Larry Trick				
July	Jeff Hedberg	Cindy Niebur			
August	Jeff Emery	Paula Emery			
September	Larry Trick	Diane Borgmann			
October	Jeff Hedberg	Janet Bartels			
November	Jeff Emery	Diane Borgmann first two Sun Dawn Hedberg last two Sun			
December	Larry Trick	Diane Borgmann first two Sun Dawn Hedberg last two Sun			
Minister	Rev. Gary Brandt				
Organists	Rev. Gary Brandt, Di	ana Schwab			
	Ush	ers			
1st Sunday 2nd Sunday 3rd Sunday 4th Sunday 5th Sunday	Robert & Penny Hansen, Paul Bartels Earl Hartenstein, Jeff & Paula Emery Diane Borgmann, Rodney Schulz Jeff & Dawn Hedberg, Russell Schulz Robert Hansen, Earl Hartenstein, Jeff Hedberg				
Counters					
1st Sunday 2nd Sunday 3rd Sunday 4th Sunday 5th Sunday	unday Jeff & Paula Emery unday Brett & Cindy Niebur/Pudge McCloud unday Matt & Deb Mayes				

are President: Bob Hanson, Vice President: Brock Kliewer, Secretary: Susan Kral, Treasurer: Peggy Callahan, Financial Secretary: Brett Niebur, Elder: Larry Trick, a new chalice was purchased and dedicated

November – a second Life Line Screening was held on Nov. 16, Thanksgiving service was held, the library window will be replaced in a couple of months, due to health and family needs Pastor Anderegg resigned at the council meeting effective immediately. He served Peace faithfully for five years, first Christian message was placed on the electric sign.

**December** – church was decorated for Christmas, thank you to all members who held an office or served on a committee in 2023, LWML member Paula Emery hosted the LWML Christmas party for the Peace ladies, four Advent services and Christmas Eve Service was held by Pastor Brandt.

# Every One His Witness Prayer and Witnessing

Then [Jesus] said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord to the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. (Matthew 9:37-38)

Prayer is an important aspect of a Christian's life. This is certainly true of being a witness of Jesus. Still, we need to make sure that we keep prayer in its proper place.

We want to make a good use of prayer, not abuse this wonderful privilege. One of the abuses of prayer in evangelism is that we can pray people into the faith. Some Christian leaders insist that if we pray long enough, sincerely enough, or in some particular way enough that the unbelieving people for whom we are praying will start believing in Jesus.

Others teach that simply praying with unbelieving people is witnessing to them. These and other such ideas about prayer are improper uses of prayer in witnessing.

The Lord Jesus teaches us the proper use of prayer in witnessing. In the prayer that He gave us when His disciples asked Him to teach them to pray, Jesus included the petition, "Thy kingdom come." That simple phrase speaks volumes about prayer and witnessing.

Martin Luther unpacked it in the Small Catechism through which we confess," The kingdom of God certainly comes to us by itself without our prayer." In other words, we can't pray people into believing in Jesus. That isn't the intent of the Lord's Prayer (or any faithful prayer).

Instead we are asking that His kingdom "may come to us also" when we pray. Praying that God's kingdom would come to us includes seeing His kingdom reach other people.



Luther wrote in the Large Catechism," We pray that many may find entrance into the kingdom of grace [John 3:5], be made partakers of redemption.

[Colossians 1 12:14] and be led to it by the Holy Spirit [Romans 8:14], so that we may all together remain forever in one kingdom now begun" (Part III, paragraph 52).

# Celebrating Epiphany



Epiphany, from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, means an appearance or manifestation. Christians celebrate this festival each year on January 6, the 12th day after Christmas. Epiphany ends on Ash Wednesday, when Lent begins.

Epiphany marks the coming of the Magi, or wise men, to worship the baby Jesus. Because the Magi were Gentiles, Epiphany symbolizes the first recognition of Christ by non-Jews. It's a reminder that Christ came as the light — and Savior — of the whole world.

The traditional color for Epiphany is green, indicating life, growth, hope and eternity. Symbols for the season include a light, candle or star; a crown or three crowns; three gifts; and a globe. In the modern church, Epiphany has become a time to focus on reaching out and "showing" Jesus as the Savior of all people. It's also a reminder to engage in Christian community and to heal divisions among God's children.

# Devotion for January



Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. Proverbs 16:24



hen people go to church, they often are pretty sure a good sermon is very applicable ... to someone else.

This past week one of my old friends told me how his pastor had been preaching on Proverbs 16:24a. That passage says, "Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul ..."

My friend's minister spent considerable time talking about how sweet, kind words can accomplish far more than those which are spit out with venom or in anger. Apparently my pal's wife was paying close attention to the message. After the pastor had said, "Amen!" and while the congregation was taking up the collection, she turned to her hubbie and whispered, "Honey, I just love to watch your muscles ripple ... when you're taking out the garbage."

Now my friend assured me he didn't rush home to take out the garbage. No, that's not what happened at all. He said he wasn't that easily manipulated. On the other hand, when he did take out the garbage, every muscle he had was flexed to the max.

I like that verse the pastor used -- words that are sweet to the soul. Has it occurred to you that Jesus speaks to us with words which are sweet to the soul? In His parables, with His sermons, through His prayers, Jesus gives us that which brings peace and draws us closer to Him who gave His life so that all who believe on Him might be forgiven and live with Him forever.

That takes care of Jesus' words. Now, what can be said about our words? Are they kind and sweet or are they bitter and brash? The words of Proverbs are a great reminder: We really can better accomplish our purposes (and the Lord's) if we follow the Redeemer's example and present our thoughts, our worries, and concerns in a positive way.

Think of all the possibilities, the potential opportunities, and the chance of making a presentation to someone in regard to the Christ.

So, for today, let's try an experiment as much as we are able -- let our words drip with honey. From a devotion written for "By The Way"

A devotion from the LHM archives by Pr. Ken Klaus (1948 – 2023 deceased) former Speaker of The Lutheran Hour





# **Decorating the Church for Christmas!**

Thank you to all who came to decorate the church for Christmas! Photos by Susan Kral.











ANSWERING OBJECTIONS TO THE FAITH The Basics of Christian Apologetics

# Sharing The Faith With Other Believers

If someone were to ask you, "Why should I become a Christian instead of a follower of a different religion," what would you say? Many have a great difficulty answering. Many can't and so they say something irrelevant or nothing at all. Others might say: "Christianity is a religion of faith while other religions are based on good works." A true statement but it really doesn't answer the question.



If you ask, "Why a religion of faith over a religion of works?" they also will likely not have an answer. The difficulty may be that we focus on what Christianity teaches and not on whether it is true. When you meet people searching for an answer, one should explain that people should follow Christianity because only Christianity is true.

You can add that there is a wealth of objective historical evidence that it's true. Few people know that, but it is the truth that people desperately need to hear. The answer is the one that the Scriptures have always given. Elijah on Mount Carmel showed the people that God is real and provided the answer and the evidence to back it up.

In our time we have largely lost sight of this all-important distinction between Christianity and other religions. Many people think that there are many different paths to God that are equally true. It's time we get back to the basics and explain that there is only one faith that includes adequate reasons for our allegiance, that there is only one faith that is

both true and can be known to be true. (from: <u>The Reason I Believe</u> by Allen Quist) submitted by Russell Schultz, Evangelism Chair





In last month's newsletter, the Stewardship article on "The Measure of Our Generosity" there is a word omitted from the following paragraph. It should read as follows:

The same sort of analysis applies to our giving. In the Old Testament, God commanded the Israelites to give a tenth of their income to the Levites so that those men could dedicate their lives to serving in God's house, teaching the people, conducting worship, etc. In the New Testament, there is not a rigid requirement listed about handing in your tax forms to church to make sure you've given enough. But the mandate to have a full-time ministry, which is the spirit of that law concerning tithing to the Levites, is right there in 1 Corinthians 9:14: "The Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel."

eospen \*\*\*





# **Christmas Party**

23 ladies gathered in the dining hall for the annual Christmas party. Thanks to Paula for planning the party. Photo by Susan Kral



# **Biblical Resolutions**

Hold firmly to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)
Assemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)
Pray and thank God earnestly (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18)
Petition God for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)
Yield not to temptation (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

Notice opportunities to serve others (Galatians 6:10) Examine yourself daily (2 Corinthians 13:5) Work diligently for the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Yearn for righteousness (Matthew 5:6) Exercise godliness (1 Timothy 4:7) Aim for sinless perfection (Hebrews 6:1) Redeem the time, living wisely (Ephesians 5:15-16)



Thank you to all who provided poinsettias for the Christmas season. They provided a beautiful back drop for our services.

# **Peace Sponsors Light Display**

For the past five plus years, Peace has sponsored a light display at the "Enchanted Village of Lights" on the fair grounds of Laurie. 2023 was their 30th year with 234 displays. Below is the display Peace sponsored.





# **Worship Schedules**

Sunday Worship\* Bible Class/Sun. School 9:00 am 10:30 am

#### Wednesday Evening Services:

Ash Wednesday	6:00 pm
During Lent	6:00 pm
• During Advent	6:00 pm
Holy Week	
<ul> <li>Maundy Thursday*</li> </ul>	6:00 pm
<ul> <li>Good Friday Service</li> </ul>	6:00 pm
Easter Sunday*	9:00 am
Thanksgiving Eve Wednesday Evening	6:00 pm
Christmas Eve	1
Evening Service	6:00 pm
*Holy Communion	

# **Servants at Peace**

- Elders—Monday before Council Meeting 9:30 am Chairman: Jeff Hedberg, Jeff Emery, Larry Trick
- Council—2nd Tuesday of Each Month
   6:30 pm
  - ◆ President: Bob Hansen
  - ◆ Vice President: Brock Kliewer
  - ◆ Secretary: Susan Kral
  - ◆ Financial Secretary: Brett Niebur
  - ◆ Treasurer: Peggy Callahan
- Stewardship: Dawn Hedberg
- Evangelism: Russell Schulz
- Education: Open
- Organist: Diana Schwab
- Trustees: Chuck Kral, Rodney Schulz, Pat Callahan

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      LWML—2nd Monday from March—Nov.
      9:00 am

      Co-President: Dawn Hedberg and Cindy Niebur

      Altar Guild: Dawn Hedberg

      Bible Studies
      As announced
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• Elected Offices



# The Chief Stewards of Humanity: Mom and Dad



St. Paul tells the Ephesians that the first commandment with a specific promise attached to it is, **"Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you, and you may live long in the land" (Eph. 6:2)**. This promise is one indication of the importance of this commandment. The other thing that highlights the special nature of this commandment is its placement within the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are clearly organized in two big categories. The first three commandments deal with our relationship with God. This category is called the First Table of the Law. The last seven commandments, the Second Table of the Law, tell us how we should relate to other people. These two tables correspond to what Jesus calls the two greatest commandments: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:37–39).

The order of the Second Table of the Law is also important. Murder is a greater sin than adultery, which is a greater sin than stealing, or lying, or coveting. But why is the Fourth Commandment first in the Second Table, ahead of "you shall not murder"? Is disobeying your parents really worse than murder? Or maybe we should give up on thinking these commandments are ordered?

The overall effect of this order is to get us to see our parents as a connection point between our neighbors and our God. Throughout our upbringing our father and mother stand between us and God and deliver His gifts to us: God clothes us, feeds us, protects us and teaches His Word to us through our parents.

So, parents have a very high calling from God. They are called to be stewards of the greatest gift: the gift of life.

Parenting thus gives us a keen insight into all our stewardship. Parents know that they have been given a great treasure in their children, a treasure that does not belong to them, yet for which they feel a great deal of responsibility. Truth be told, every gift we have been given is like this, because everything we have --- whether our own personal skills and powers or our wealth and time — is all from God. He entrusts it all to us so that we can use it all and take care of it all for His great purposes.

Reprinted from LCMS Stewardship website

# December 12, 2023 Council Meeting

Vice President Brock Kliewer called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Pastor Brandt opened with prayer.

The following board members were present: **Pastor** Pastor Brandt, **President** Bob Hansen, **Vice President** Brock Kliewer, **Financial Sec.** Brett Niebur, **Treasurer** Peg Callahan **Sec.** Susan Kral, **Board of Elders** Jeff Hedberg, **Trustee** Chuck Kral, **Cemetery** Diane Borgmann, **Evangelism** Russell Schulz, and **Church Members** Pat Callahan and Rodney Schulz

Absent: Education Sara Anderegg, Member at Large Paula Emery, and Stewardship Dawn Hedberg

The minutes from the November 14, 2023, meeting was approved as printed.

**Financial Secretary:** Brett's report stated that offerings are approximately \$10,000.00 behind this time last year. His report was accepted and approved.

Treasurer: Peg submitted her report.

- A bill from the lawn company All Green was transferred to the cemetery account.
- All bills have been paid.
- Payment for the new library window and the repair of our fire alarms will be taken from the capital improvement account.
- Members contributing to payment for the poinsettias should put their donations in a separate envelope indicating the enclosed is for poinsettias.
- Peg cancelled the automatic bank payment to Pastor Anderegg's account. Those funds will be credited to Pastor Brandt's account.

Her report was accepted and approved.

**Elders:** The following members attended the Dec. 12 Elders meeting: Pastor Brandt, Jeff Hedberg, Jeff Emery, Larry Trick, and Bob Hansen.

- Pastor Morris from Christ the King will lead the Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> service. A payment of \$150.00 includes his mileage.
- Pastor Brandt may need a replacement to perform a funeral service in Ada, Oklahoma.
- Jeff Hedberg stated that the alarm system has accidentally been set off. He noted that there is a full minute's wait before the alarm goes off. If a mistake is made while setting it, reenter your code and start over.

The report was accepted and approved.

Trustees: Chuck reported the following:

- The Motor Hut delivered a backpack leaf blower (cost \$552.49) and a Mow-N Vacuum machine (cost \$1614.99) on Nov. 15.
- The Motor Hut removed the old leaf vacuum on Nov. 16. Peace Lutheran received \$500.00 for it. Pat Callahan purchased a battery-operated tree trimmer with an extension pole for \$500.00.
- Larry and Jayne Trick washed the church windows on the south side using their own equipment. MANY THANKS!! It has been years since that job was performed.
- Chuck and Pat cleaned up leaves in our front yard on Thanksgiving Day.
- Rodney Schulz cleaned up leaves in the cemetery.
- Chuck met with the All Shores Electric Company. They submitted a bid of \$770.00 to replace six exit signs and three emergency lights. This bid was lower than the bid submitted by Catalyst Electric. The board approved the All Shores bid. Chuck will make an appointment for them to do the work.
- Chuck lengthened the reflectors to our parking lot so that they will be more visible when snow removal is needed. Bob Borgmann supplied additional reflective material.
- Chuck contacted John and Sons Tree Removal to cut down a tree that is endangering our roof. Council approved the \$400.00 bid.

• Chuck will contact a company to inspect our smoke detectors.

Chuck's report was accepted and approved.

Education: There was no report.

Evangelism: Russell reported the following:

- 187 outreach cards were sent in November. The cost was \$166.43.
- Seventy-five people attended Life Line Screening held here on November 16. Russell was present in the morning. Dawn Hedberg was present in the afternoon.
- Russell placed an ad in the local newspaper announcing our Christmas Eve service. The ad cost was \$45.00.
- Our weekly ad in the "Lake Sun" costs \$490.00 per year.

Russell's report was accepted and approved.

Stewardship: There was no report.

Member at Large: There was no report.

**Cemetery:** Diane reported the following:

• Rodney and Russell Schulz applied fertilizer to the cemetery grounds.

Her report was accepted and approved.

### Pastor's Report:

Pastor Brandt reported the following:

- Due to the resignation of Pastor Anderegg, his duties have increased greatly.
- He made home visits to the Hartensteins and hospital visits to Diana Schwab.
- Ken Mueller had been dismissed from the hospital when Pastor attempted to visit him.
- He will visit Shelia, who has been hospitalized on December 13.
- He asked that members pray for our brothers and sisters who are experiencing health issues.
- He thanked all who serve our Lord at Peace Lutheran. Our Elders, Council Officers Trustees, LWML members, Altar Guild members, and Ushers are faithful workers.

- He has provided Pudge with information for the next two Wednesday and Sunday services.
- Pastor Kris Morris will lead the December 17<sup>th</sup> service which will enable him to spend the weekend with family and friends.
- On January 7<sup>th</sup> Matt Mayes will begin teaching an adult Bible class. Matt and his wife Deb attended a Missouri Synod confirmation class in South Dakota. As a former Episcopalian minister, he is well versed in scripture. Pastor Brandt will attend the classes.
- He wishes all a blessed Advent Season and Christmas.

His report was approved and accepted.

### **President's Reports:**

**Old Business:** Anderson Windows sent an update on our upcoming window installation.

### New Business:

- Diane Borgmann will make a signup sheet for the purchase of poinsettias.
- Brett Niebur presented information showing that churches do not need to file a 501(C)(3) form with the IRS.
- The council wants all visitors to receive a letter thanking them for attending. Pudge is willing to send those letters.
- A 2024 budget was presented to the council. We thank Brett for his work. He increased all expenses by five percent. The new budget will be presented to members at the next voters' meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28.

Pastor Brandt led the closing with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Kral Secretary



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# HELLO january

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 6
7 Worship 9 am Baptism of Our Lord Bible Study 10:30 am Mites Collection	<b>8</b> Elders Mtg 9:30 a.m. No LWML Meeting	<b>9</b> Council Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	10	11	12	<b>13</b> Take down Christmas decorations 9 a.m.
<b>14</b> Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 am	15	16	17	18	19	20
<b>21</b> Worship 9 am Voters Mtg with Brunch 10:30 a.m.	<b>22</b> Newsletter Deadline 9 a.m.	23	24	25	26	27
<b>28</b> Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 am	29	30	31			



News of Peace is a monthly newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church, 9307 North State Highway 5, Camdenton, MO 65020; Rev. Gary Brandt: 580-481-8108; Church Phone: 573-836-8141; Office Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs., 8 am to 12 pm; Church email: plccamdenton@gmail.com; Website: www.plccamdenton.org

**Our Mission:** "We the members of Peace Lutheran Church gather and grow together as God's children and rejoice in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, proclaim His word, and reach out with his love to: each other, our community, and the world."