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Church Schedule

Worship every Sunday @ 9 am
 every Thursday @ 7 pm
Sunday School every Sunday @ 10:15 am
Bible Study Sundays @ 8 am
 Tuesdays @ 9 am
 Thursdays @ 8 pm
Catechism Wednesdays @ 6 pm
Pioneers every last Sunday @ 11:30 am



Messenger of Peace is a publication of: Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wautoma, WI.
Purpose: Messenger of Peace serves the Peace Lutheran Church family with information about people and events that are part of the Peace ministry and with articles that encourage Christian living.
Articles: Please forward information and articles to Christine in the office by the 3rd Sunday of each month.
 Email it to:
 peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com.



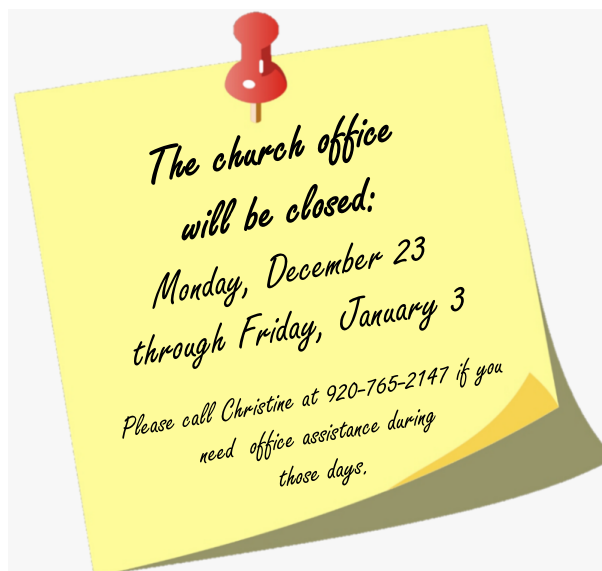
Messenger of Peace

December 2019

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Join the fun as we decorate the church for Christmas! Saturday, November 30 at 9 am



Advent and Christmas Worship & Events

Circle of Peace Bake Sale

Sunday, December 1 before & after worship
Bring your own container to take home your tasty treats!

Midweek Advent Services

Thursdays, December 5, 12, 19
 Dinner 5-6:30 pm; Worship 7 pm

Advent by Candlelight

Sunday, December 8 1 pm

Christmas for Kids

Saturday, December 21 11 am- 1 pm

Sunday School Christmas Service

Sunday, December 22 9 am
No Sunday School Dec. 22 and 29

Christmas Eve Worship

Tuesday, December 24 7 pm

Christmas Day Worship

Wednesday, December 25 9 am

Mary and Joseph traveled far for the census ordered by Caesar Augustus.



Luke 2:1-5 *In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.*

The Traditional Christmas Tree!

There are many legends which try to explain the origin of the Christmas tree tradition. One traces it back to the first Christmas night when Jesus was born. Another legend says that an English missionary to Germany, Winfried, started the custom. Still another story traces the origin of the Christmas tree to Martin Luther, the bold German preacher. It is difficult to tell the difference between what is actual history and what has been made up. It is fairly well established, though, that the custom of the Christmas tree began in Germany in the 1800s. The custom spread to Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and finally England.

The first Christmas trees in America were set up by English soldiers during the Revolutionary War. Over the years there were other attempts at establishing the Christmas tree tradition in America. The custom, however, did not catch on. Finally, in 1851 Pastor Henry Swan of Zion Lutheran Church in Cleveland Ohio, placed the first Christmas tree in a church. That seems to be the spark that spread the custom throughout America.



The Cleveland newspaper called it “a nonsensical, asinine, moronic, absurdity.” Members of Zion Lutheran Church were ridiculed for “worshipping a tree” and “groveling before a shrub.” Pastor Schwan took the tree down the day after Christmas deeply disappointed and upset. His wife, Emma, found the silver star in the garbage. She retrieved it, cleaned it up, and persuaded her husband to try the tree again the following year. This time there wasn’t near as much opposition and others actually began to copy the custom. Cleveland now commemorates this event with a plaque at the Public Auditorium downtown.

The custom of the Christmas tree is rich in symbolism. The green leaves or needles stay green and do not wither even though it is winter and other trees seem to have died. The green needles remind us that even through death, there is life. Because of Jesus, who was born on the first Christmas, we don’t have to be afraid of death. We will enjoy eternal life in heaven. The lights that hang on the tree remind us that the darkness of our sin and death is removed. Because of Jesus we can now look forward to enjoying the holy light of heaven.

The Christmas tree usually has gifts under it which reminds us of the greatest gift of all. God sent his only Son, Jesus, to earth for us. Without Jesus we would have to live with a guilty conscience for everything we did wrong instead of being able to let Jesus take all of our guilt away. Without Jesus we would have to earn our way into heaven by living a perfect life – something no one is able to do. Without Jesus, death would be the absolute end for us and we would have no hope of living forever in heaven. Without Jesus, Christmas wouldn’t mean anything but a chance to get a few days off of school or work.

Even the shape of the tree is symbolic. It points up. It points up to where God lives and is watching over us; up to where Jesus came from; up to where Jesus is now after he rose from the dead; up to heaven where we will go after we die. It gives us a reason to lift our heads up and be happy even though many other things in our life may not be going that well.

The Christmas tree truly is a reminder of Christ Jesus who was born on that first Christmas. After all, Jesus is the reason for the season. And Christ is what CHRISTmas is all about. So the next time you see a Christmas tree, think of Christ Jesus who is represented by the tree. Jesus came to earth so you could go to heaven. That is what makes your Christmas a truly: “Merry CHRISTmas!”

Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior:

December 22 Sunday School Christmas Service at 9 am

December 24 Christmas Eve Service at 7 pm

December 25 Christmas Day Service at 9 am

“O Come, Let Us Adore Him – Christ, the Lord!”



Christmas at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

The Seminary Chorus of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will present its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 and 7 pm. The 62-voice choir will present a program featuring the great Lutheran hymns of the holiday season in traditional and modern settings. The concert is the thirty-fifth and last Christmas concert directed by Prof. James Tiefel. There are no advanced tickets sales; a free will offering is appreciated. The seminary is located 11831 N. Seminary Dr. in Mequon.

The shepherds went and worshipped the baby, then went and told everyone they knew what they had heard and seen!



Luke 2:15-17 *When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.*

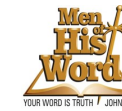


Save the Dates!

Location: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Date: June 23-26, 2020

More information coming soon!



Men of His Word Conference

Saturday, February 8, 2020

Best Western Convention Center, Oshkosh

When we're younger, we have hopes and dreams and plans for the future. Sometimes those plans for come to reality; often they do not. Even our best laid plans fail. Because of sin in and all around us, life doesn't work out the way we often hope. There is only one who has perfect 20/20 vision for our future: your almighty, loving Savior God who promised, "I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). Join us to learn more about GOD'S 20/20 VISION FOR YOUR FUTURE, both your future on earth and in heaven.

Whether you attend for the keynote speaker, the relevant, thought-provoking breakout sessions, or the worship experience with 700 other men, God's Word will speak to you.

Additional details and online registration are available at www.menofhisword.org for the first 700 men. The registration fee is \$50 for adults and \$25 for youth – these rates increase to \$60 and \$30 respectively after January 19th.

Please join us for a day of fellowship in God's Word that you will not soon forget!





News About Our Church Family

Sunday School Corner

The Sunday School staff is busy preparing for our annual children's Christmas worship service, which will be on Sunday, December 22 at 9 am. Your child will soon receive his or her parts for the service. Please help your child memorize their part and bring their books to church each Sunday. We will work on memorizing during rehearsals, but it is vital for them to have help at home. Practice saying their parts clearly and in a loud (but not shouting!) voice. Please try to have your child attend each rehearsal. We will be rehearsing on each Sunday in December and on Saturday, December 21 from 9-11 am. On December 22, please have your child come to the back Sunday School room by 8:40 am. We will walk into church together and sit together for the entire service. Please call Karin or your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.

Christmas Service Rehearsal Schedule

Sunday, November 24	10:15-11:15 am
Sunday, December 1	10:15-11:15 am
Sunday, December 8	10:15-11:15 am
Sunday, December 15	10:15-11:15 am
Saturday, December 21	9-11 am



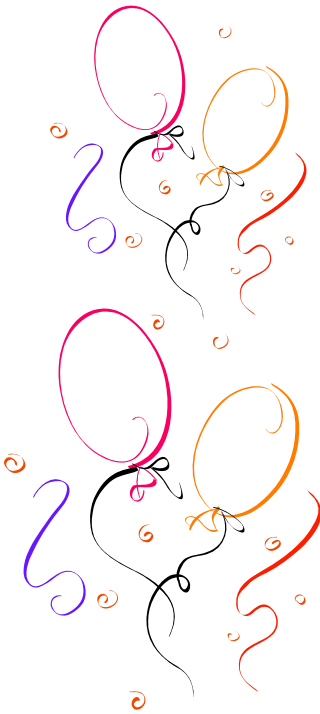
An angel came to shepherds in a field nearby and told them about the birth of the Savior. The angel told them where to find Jesus.

Luke 2:8-12 *And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."*



Birthdays

- 12/5 Kenneth Doubek
Pam Leifer
- 12/8 Joe Siegel
- 12/11 Bob Boelk
Neal Roebke
- 12/13 Karen Beyer
Sandra Klamm
- 12/18 Delores Bliske
Mindy Hintz
Grant Klusmeyer
- 12/19 Jim Lichtenberg
- 12/20 Heather Tews
- 12/23 Tom Jones
Everett Schulz
Phyllis Schmidt
- 12/24 Chris Anderson
Dawn Wedell
Karin Hetcher
- 12/25 Jesus
Christine Bohn
- 12/26 Gene Wedde
- 12/27 Russ Nero
Mackenzie Sigourney
- 12/28 Jim Mosier



Anniversaries

- 12/30 Rod & Judy Nelson (62)


Updates Needed!

Please notify the church office of any address, phone number, or email changes or updates by January 5, 2020. You can call the office at 920-787-3856, email at peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com or drop off a copy of your current information at the office on Sundays, or during office hours during the week. Thank you for helping us have an up-to-date and correct Member Directory!



Church News

Peace Pantry Update

 Items go quickly in our pantry, so please keep donating! Please put donations on the table next to the fridge in the fellowship hall. Please place anything that needs to be frozen in the freezer in the fellowship hall. **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE PEACE PANTRY!**

We need canned goods & non-perishables such as:
 Peanut Butter/Jelly Condiments Dried herbs Spices
 Salt & Pepper Pickles Dried Fruit Canned fruit
 Snacks Nuts/Trail mix Granola bars Oatmeal
 'Cereal Baking mixes Cake mixes Frosting
 Coffee & tea Drink mixes Pasta sauce Crackers
 Canned veggies Oil Non-stick cooking spray
 Canned/boxed broth Soups Gravy mixes
 Shelf-stable summer sausage Canned beans
 Canned tuna Canned chicken Rice-a-roni
 Pasta & rice sides Noodles & pasta Canned veggies
 Canned tomatoes Oil Hamburger Helper
 Tuna Helper Mac & cheese Small pkgs of treats
 Shelf-stable juices/drinks Instant potatoes

Frozen food such as: butter or margarine, hamburger or other easy-to-use meats, veggies, fruits

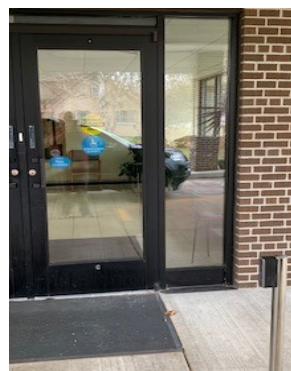
Personal care items such as: feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, baby wipes & diapers, baby care items, body wash, shampoo

Cleaning supplies

Please no bar soap and no expired foods.

THANK YOU!!

New Handicap- Accessible Doors



The front right and the south ramp door are now fully automatic with the push of a button! The new upgrades were installed on November 19 by Automatic Entrances of Wisconsin out of Waukesha and the electrical work was done by Tom's Wiring Service.

Thank you to Woody & Joyce Woodruff for fully funding this important project and to Kevin Bohn for organizing it.

Advent Prayer Service

A Celebration of Advent in Lessons & Songs



An Advent by Candlelight event hosted by the Peace Lutheran Girl Pioneers Sunday, December 8, 2019 1 pm
 Ladies of all ages are invited to our annual Advent by Candlelight event held in the fellowship hall. Space is limited so reserve your seat today! Invite a friend to join you as we come together to celebrate the coming of Jesus!

Please RSVP to Christine (920-787-3856)



There were so many people in town, there was no place for Mary & Joseph to stay. A kind man let them stay in his stable. Mary gave birth to Jesus and laid him in a feeding trough.



Luke 2:6-7 *And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.*

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we had enough food from the drive to make seven Thanksgiving Food Boxes for needy families in our community.

The boxes were delivered the week of November 18– just in time to thaw that turkey! **Thank you to everyone who donated groceries and money.**



I will sing to the LORD, because He has dealt bountifully with me. Psalm 13:6

LWMS Fall Rally October 12 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Waupaca

The Fall Rally of the Wolf River Circuit of LWMS was a wonderful day. Approximately 120 ladies and men attended. After an opening hymn by the group, an opening devotion by Pastor Siemers (Immanuel, Waupaca) was spoken, followed by “The Gospel Light” sung by Immanuel’s Ladies Choir. A Befriend a Mission (BAM) prayer was said by Pastor. We all sang “Lord of the Living Harvest.” The guest speaker, Pastor Paul Prange, presented an mission opportunity in communist Viet Nam entitled “Grace – Hmong Outreach in VietNam.” God is Good. Following Pastor Prange’s presentation an offering was taken. A Bible study was presented by Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue, Circuit Spiritual Growth Advisor (Grace, Sugar Bush). Following the business meeting we sang a closing hymn “Jerusalem the Golden.” Pastor Peter Kesting, Circuit Pastoral Advisor, (Zion, Readfield) closed our devotion. Pastor Siemers closed our rally singing “The Lord’s Prayer.” A delicious luncheon was served to all by the ladies of Immanuel. Pastor Tews and five ladies from Peace attended. Marilyn Chesbrough

Organists/Pianists Needed

Last year we had four organists. Now we have two. Our service schedule is a lot for two people. If anyone feels they can play piano or organ for the services, please contact myself, pastor, or the organists.

Don Nelson (787-5035) *Council President*

Knitters & Crocheters

Due to hectic holiday schedules, we will not meet again until January 11 at 2 pm. See Linda Welty (715-927-2455) for more information.



Cards in the Fellowship Hall

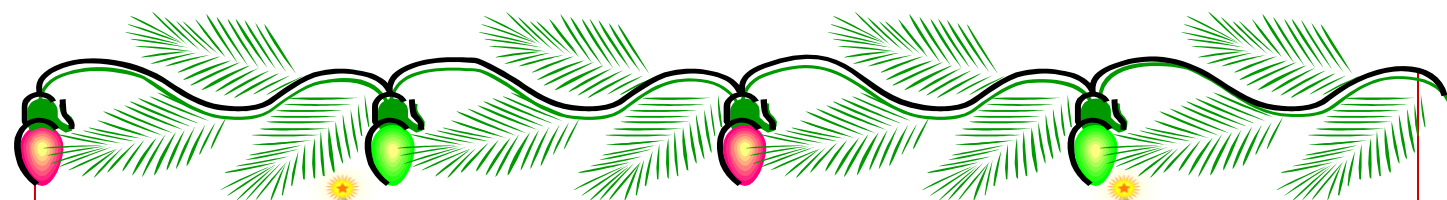
Thursday, December 5 1 pm

Join us for an afternoon of fun card games. Popcorn & drinks provided.

Remember our Shut-Ins and Military Members this Season

Please remember these families in your prayers and with cards and notes of encouragement.

Please see Christine in the office for a copy of names and addresses.



Christmas for Kids



Christ the Savior is Born!

All children (4K-8th grade) are invited to this **FREE** event! **Lunch is included!**

Come for crafts, games, and to discover the real meaning of Christmas!



At Peace Lutheran Church

On Saturday, December 21 11 am- 1 pm

For more information, please call Christine at 920-787-3856

