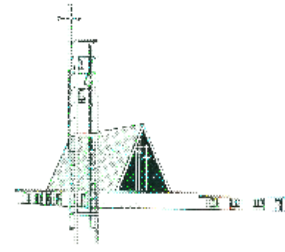


Peace United Church of Christ
 1111 North 11th Avenue East
 Duluth, MN 55805
 (218) 724-3637
 www.peaceucc.org
 E-mail office@peaceucc.org

Non-profit
 Organization
 US Postage PAID
 Permit No. 84
 Duluth, MN



PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Peace Bell

DULUTH, MN. * REV. KATHRYN NELSON, PASTOR * JANUARY 2006



Tony Campolo to lead Jan. 13 revival "A Passion for God, A Heart for Justice"

Help fill the DECC on Friday, Jan. 13 at 7 p.m. when nationally recognized evangelical preacher and social justice activist Dr. Tony Campolo leads a CHUM-sponsored community-wide re-

vival about "A Passion for God, A Heart for Justice." Jim Pospisil will be directing the mass choir and our praise and worship team will be part of the closing music.

Campolo has shared his message about faith and biblical justice on behalf of those in need around the world and also has founded a number of ministries helping folks in need realize better lives. An emeritus professor at Eastern University in St. Davids, PA, Campolo has written and produced numerous books, study guides and videos to help people on their faith journeys.

For more information about Campolo's ministry, visit his website at <http://www.tonycampolo.org>

Please contact 720-6521 for more information, to reserve group tickets, for posters and for static window stickers. There will be a free will offering taken at the revival.

WINTER CAMP at Wolf Ridge,

Jan 27-29th, 2006



All are welcome to join us for a weekend of fun, learning, and camaraderie in the north woods. There will be the ropes course, rock climbing, snowshoeing, winter ecology, skiing and more...

Cost= \$80/person — scholarships available

Though the deadline has passed...we STILL want folks to sign up and join us for this fun weekend. We have about 10-15 places still open. If you've signed up here are some important items:

* Please pay! We need to collect all the money before we go to Wolf Ridge. (Children 4 and under are free)

* **There will be a mandatory meeting for all who are going on the trip on Jan 15th at 11:30am right after the 10:30 service.**

In This Issue

From your Pastor	2
Sundays	3
Adult Ed.	4
Stewardship	5
Activities & Opp.	6
Youth	7
Julie's Column	8
Wednesdays	9
Church School	10
Ministry/Wellness	11
Birthdays/Intern	12
Just Peace/Gabriel	13
Seminary	14
Shared Ministry	15
Peace People	16
Book Talk	17
Volunteers	18
Community	19

If you are not interested in receiving the Peace Bell, please call or e-mail the office (see phone # and e-mail address above)

Welcome to worship at Peace Church—Sunday Services at 8:30 and 10:30 am

PEACE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Nelson
 Children, Youth, and

Intergenerational Minister: Julie Flotten

Shared Ministry Coordinator: Georgette Sarkela

Music Director: Jim Pospisil

Organist: Symeon Waseen



Visitation: Cheryl Walsh

Bookkeeper: Beth Chelseth

Office Coordinator: Janell Kohls

Custodian: Brad Larson

Gabriel Project: Emily Larson (310-0063)

Parish Nurse/Befrienders: Cizzarie Schomberg

Seminary Intern: Jonie Langdon-Larson

PEACE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY—9-3, PHONE: 218-724-3637

EMAIL ADDRESSES: Kathy—knelson@peaceucc.org Georgette—georgette@peaceucc.org

Julie—julie@peaceucc.org Beth or Janell—office@peaceucc.org Cizzarie—cizzarie@care2.com

If you would like to be on our email list to receive notices of church events, please email the office.

PEACE BELL is a monthly publication of Peace United Church of Christ, Duluth, Minnesota

Our vision is to be an accessible, open and affirming community growing in Christian faith, committed to peace and justice, and reaching out in healing love to all people, respecting the diversity of people's sexual orientation, race, culture, gender, age, opinions, and physical and mental abilities. Visitors are always welcome!

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Marcus Borg in his book, *The Heart of Christianity*, tells this powerful story, “ I heard a story about a three-year old girl. She was the first born and only child in her family, Now her mother was pregnant again, and the little girl seemed to be very excited about having a baby brother or sister. When the parents brought the new baby boy home from the hospital the little girl asked her parents if she could be alone with her baby brother in his room with the door shut. Her insistence about being alone with the baby with the door shut, made her parents a little nervous. They did have a baby monitor though and so they realized they could let her be alone and if they heard the slightest indication that anything strange was happening they could be in the baby’s room in an instant.

So they let the little girl go into the baby’s room, shut the door and then went to listen on the baby monitor. They heard their daughter’s footsteps move across the baby’s room, imagined her peeking through the slats in the crib and then they heard her say softly, ‘Tell me about God . . . I’ve almost forgotten.’”

As Marcus Borg writes, “This story is both haunting and evocative, for it suggest that we come from God and when we are very young we still remember this, still know this. But the process of growing up, of learning about this world, is a process of increasingly forgetting the one from whom we came and in whom we live . . .”

Our identity and way of being become more and more shaped by the world . . . in our world Borg contends that we are influenced by the three A’s — Attractiveness, Achievement and Affluence. These A’s compete for our time, our energy, our being. And we fall further and further into exile from our God, and who God calls us to be. We fall into comparison and judgment. And as I know from living with a middle school girl this is a daily deal — reports each afternoon about who will talk to her out of the popular crowd, the wanting of certain kinds of tennis shoes, the long moments spent in front of the mirror. The mirror still beckons to those of us in middle age—we just don’t bother to pause as long. As Frederick Beuchner states, we live our lives from the outside in rather than the inside out.

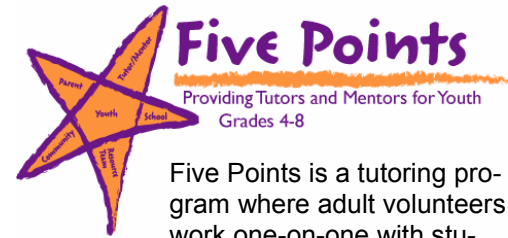
But we can recognize this and be transformed — born again — born into a new identity centered in the God made known to us in Jesus Christ. We can redefine ourselves, based not on the values of affluence, attraction and achievement, but from the inside out — identity based on being God’s beloved child. Let us creep up to the cribs of our hearts and listen . . . Listen, beloved children of our God. Live your life from the inside out, transform this world — into the upside-down kingdom of God. Where all know themselves as beloved.

Peace Friends ~ Pastor Kathy



DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PEACE BELL ARTICLES IS THE 20TH OF THE MONTH!

COMMUNITY



Five Points is a tutoring program where adult volunteers work one-on-one with students in grades 4-8. Tutoring takes place for 45 minutes once a week during or after school, depending on the site. We strive to promote relationships that enhance academic and social skills. Five Points is currently seeking adult volunteers to be matched with a student at one of 13 local schools. For more information on becoming a tutor, please contact Elizabeth Olson at (218) 722-4745 ext# 149 or email eol-son@duluthymca.org.

**Minnesota Conference UCC
Habitat for Humanity Work Camps
Ferrall-Sherard Mississippi
January 29-February 4
February 5-11
February 12-18**

Volunteers can sign up for one, two or three weeks at this UCC work camp.

For more info, see the brochures in the Narthex, or contact Robert Peterson at 715-549-6798.



Rabbi Amy Bernstein to address CHUM's Feb. 2 annual meeting

Rabbi Amy Bernstein from Temple Israel will explore the relationship between faith and social justice in the Judeo-Christian traditions during CHUM’s annual meeting on Thursday, Feb. 2 at Holy Family Catholic Church in Lincoln Park. Before Rabbi Bernstein’s message, a short business meeting will be held to appoint new Board and Delegate Assembly members, to approve new member congregations, and to consider other business. There will be a social time with desserts beginning at 6:30 and the formal program will begin at 7 p.m.

Michele Naar-Obed's address for email updates while she is in Iraq with the Christian Peacemaker Team: obedsinduluth@yahoo.com

Foods Around the World An evening of International Dining Saturday January 21, 2006 5:30 P.M.

Peace Church Fellowship Hall
Sponsored by Peace United Church of Christ, The Taj Indian Restaurant and Islamic Center of Twin Ports

Please come to this evening of international dining, entertainment and silent auction, to benefit our friends from the Islamic Center of the Twin Ports. There will be Turkish folk dancing and a blues singer for entertainment, and a variety of international items at the silent auction. Child care will be available. The delicious meal will include foods from much of the Islamic World.

MENU

Appetizers: Hummus, Pita bread, Tabouli
Salads: Chickpea Salad
Main Course: Felafel, Vegetable Pulao(Rice), Sheesh Chicken Tikka, Navratan Khorma & Basmati Rice, Moroccan Beef Couscous, Malaysian Samboosa
Desserts: Basboosa, Sewayyan
Beverages: Mint Tea

Tickets are \$25. Available at: Peace Church (724-3637), The Taj Indian (722-0840) or call 218-343-6291

JANUARY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Nursery

- 8 Gail Blum, Emily Larson/Doug Zaun
- 15 Carla Langdon-Larson, Susan Ranfranz, Sarah Messerer
- 22 Jane Rupel or Tom Wilkowske, Chris and Carla Stegmann
- 29 Schombergs, Christa Knudsen

Coffee Set-Up

- 8 Bev and Dave Cave
- 15 Karie and Bill Simpson
- 22 Marsha Hystead, Ronna Hanson
- 29 Linda Lundberg, Susan Kehtel



Coffee Servers

- 8 Seversons
- 15 Kyle Eldon, Beth Ruark
- 22 Sharon Kirtley, Mary Wergeland
- 29 Marlis Cran, Caroline Harris

Dishwashers

- 8 Marge Anderson/Jerry Cleveland
- 15 Andrew Sparrow, Jim Larson
- 22 Janell and Gary Kohls
- 29 Carl Etter, Jayme Hennen

Greeters

- 8 Todd Kneebone, Julie Kim
- 15 Jack and Sharon Kemp
- 22 Barb and Stephen Pestalozzi
- 29 Doug and Holly Bowen-Bailey

Ushers

- 8 Mittlefehldts, Pomroys
- 15 Lori Lind family, Cindy Macaulay
- 22 Seversons, Laurie Berner, Andrew Sparrow
- 29 Cheryl Walsh, John Moeller, Joan and Alan Peterson

Lay Leaders

- 8 Jane Rupel
- 15 John Ameal
- 22 Anne Skwira-Brown
- 29 Lisa Horner



Monday Meals

- 2 Doug Bowen-Bailey
- 9 Beth Bartlett
- 16 Andrew Sparrow
- 23 Craguns
- 30 Monica and Tom Liddle



Damiano Soup Kitchen—Jan. 8

- 1:30 pm Cynthia Coffin & Emily Ramsey, Carrie Plamann & Rolf Hagberg
- 4:30 pm Nettie Bothwell & Naomi Christensen, Betty Biazzo

Sunday Drivers for Ken

- 1 Carl Etter
- 8 Kaelene Arvidson-Hicks
- 15 Schombergs
- 22 Pamela Mittlefehldt
- 29 Dick Goese (8:30)



to all our wonderful Volunteers!!

COMMUNION SERVERS

8:30 Service

- 8 Janell Kohls
- 15 Calbreaths
- 22 Lyn Kiam
- 29 McLeans

10:30 Service

- January 1
Barb Forrest



SUNDAYS IN JANUARY

Our Early Service at 8:30 am is always a communion service with times of quiet. Special music is often a part of this worship time. Our 10:30 am service has communion the first Sunday of each month and includes a children's time and singing by our choir. The sermon and prayers are the same for each service.

Sunday, January 8

First Sunday After Epiphany
Scripture: Mark 1: 4 – 11
Sermon: "Beloved Child"

Our praise and worship team will help to lead our music at both our worship services this Sunday.

Sunday, January 15

Second Sunday After Epiphany
Scripture: I Samuel 3: 1 – 10
and John 1: 43 – 51
Sermon: "Listening to the Still Speaking God"

Minnesota Conference Justice and Witness Offering will be taken.

Sunday, January 22

Third Sunday After Epiphany
Texts: Jonah 3: 1-5 and 10,
Mark 1: 14-20
Sermon: "Turn Around"

This morning our praise and worship team will lead the music at our 10:30 service.

Our annual financial meeting will be at 11:30, followed by a Phase 2 input gathering session over lunch. Plan on staying for these important meetings.

Sunday, January 29

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany
Scripture: Deuteronomy 18: 15 – 20
and Mark 1: 21 – 28
Sermon: "Amazing Teacher"



Annual Financial Meeting Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 22nd at 11:30 am
Stay for a lunch of soup and rolls

1. Discuss and vote on our 2006 proposed budget.
2. Update on our Building Project and gathering of input for Phase 2 .

Interested in Joining Peace Church? Next Inquirers Classes

January 18, 25 and Feb. 1, 6–7 pm
New Member Sunday on Feb. 5th

Come meet others who are new to Peace United Church of Christ and learn more about this congregation and the United Church of Christ. This is an important class for folks who are considering joining the congregation. There are three Wednesday evening sessions from 6–7. You are welcome to come at 5:30 for supper.

We will welcome new members on February 5th during worship. Let Pastor Kathy or Georgette Sarkela know if you are interested in joining. More info—check out our website, www.peaceucc.org

NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKFASTS

9:30 in the Fellowship Hall

January 8 ~ People that live anywhere between Lake Street and Lester Park area (this includes all Hill side folks!)

January 15 ~ Lake street to anywhere in W. Duluth!

January 22 ~ Lester Park all the way up the SHORE! (including country folk in that area)

ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday Morning Adult Forum — 9:30 in the Fireside Room—the coffee is on!

In January, we are devoting the Adult Forums to learning more about our partners in the Philippines and reflecting on what it means to form a partnership. On January 8th, Sharon Kemp will lead a slide show on our partner churches from their June trip. On the 15th, Kaelene Arvidson-Hicks will talk about the history of the Philippines. On the last two Sundays in January, Sharon will be lead a discussion of the book, "Beyond White Noise: Mission in a Mulicultural World", in which author Tom Montgomery-Fate writes about his experiences in the Philippines and offers a new way of building cross-cultural partnership, through listening and understanding. Copies of the book are available at the church for you to borrow.

January Focus: Our Philippine Partnership



January 8 — A look again at our 3 partner congregations.

January 15 — A Brief History of the Philippines and US involvement.

January 22 — "Beyond White Noise" — From Mission to Co-Mission
How we can have listening hearts. . . beyond our white noise.

January 29 — "Beyond White Noise" — Listening to the Experiences of the Marginalized in the Philippines.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study — 6 - 7 pm

Join us for any Wednesday evening that fits your schedule , all are welcome!

January 4, 18 and 25

Discussion using the book "The Bible Makes Sense" by Walter Bruggemann

This unique how-to book about the Bible goes beyond simply introducing major themes. The author offers an engaging biblical understanding of the world that leads to joy, life, and wholeness, described in an insightful synthesis that enlivens the Scriptures. Bruggemann suggests that insiders to biblical faith will find energy and illumination that outsiders never guess at.

Come join us even if you haven't had time to read! Bruggemann ends each chapter with wonderful discussion questions.

Budget Update—Last day for 2005 pledges is January 8th

Sunday January 8th is the last day to get credit for your 2005 pledge. After that, it would become part of the 2006 records. If received after December 31, it must be identified as being for 2005 or it will not be credited as such.

Many people are behind on their pledged commitments for 2005, and unless this money comes in, we will be ending the year in a deficit. Fortunately, expenses for the year are under budget, so all will be well if some people are able to catch up with pledges. Thank You!

BOOK TALK

PEACE CHURCH LIBRARY

Check it out!



Sometime this month we are looking forward to moving our Children's library back down the hall by the Sunday School Rooms. We have many books that have been packed away during construction. Anyone interested in helping to move and organize our children's library, please call the church office. We're anticipating doing this sometime at the end of January.

The Fireside Room looks awesome with new paint and carpet. Our adult non-fiction, and all our videos and audios are housed here, and there is always work to be done to keep up with all the donated books.

Our next Library Workday will be Monday January 16 from 10—2pm.

Anyone is welcome to come and help! Bring a lunch if you can stay over the noon hour.



BOARDS & COMMITTEES

All boards and committees will meet on **Weds. January 11th.**

Dinner is served from 5:30 until 6 pm with meetings beginning at 6 pm. Childcare is provided.

PEACE CHURCH READERS

JANUARY 26—6-7:30

Fireside Room

Godless by Pete Hautman

Come join people who love to read in the warm and remodeled fireside room. We meet the fourth Thursday of the month and read from a wide range of genres, this year beginning with an honored young person's book—a quick read to start us off. In February, we will read non-fiction and in March, an autobiography. All are welcome to any or all meetings.

In *Godless*, winner of the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, 16-year-old Jason Block decides to invent a new religion with a new god—the town's water tower. Finding converts is surprisingly easy. In a smartly structured narrative that is by turns funny, worried, and questioning, Jason watches as his once-cohesive little congregation starts wanting to "worship" in its own ways, some of them deadly.

February 23 *Misquoting Jesus: The Story Behind Who Changed the Bible and Why* by [Bart Ehrman](#)

For almost fifteen hundred years the New Testament manuscripts were hand copied by scribes who were deeply influenced by the cultural, theological, and political disputes of their day. Both mistakes and intentional changes abound in the surviving manuscripts, making the original words difficult to reconstruct. Bart Ehrman reveals where and why these changes were made and how scholars go about reconstructing the original words of the New Testament as closely as possible.

March 24 *The Tender Bar: A Memoir*
By [J.R. Moehringer](#)

COORDINATING COUNCIL

The Coordinating Council will meet on **Tuesday, January 17th** at 7 pm.

This is a crucial meeting as we finalize the 2006 Budget.

PEACE PEOPLE

THANK YOU

- * To everyone who donated something for our Giving Tree. We were able to give over 50 gifts to the youth of Life House and folks at Loaves and Fishes
- * To everyone who made pies for the Loaves and Fishes Annual Christmas Party
- * To everyone who made cookies for the annual Christmas Party for the inmates of the County Jail. They loved them
- * From the women at the St. Louis County Jail: "Praise and Glory be to Christ our King! Our hearts are grateful for the love and our tummies are grateful for the cookies! Thank You for making our Christmas so much more enjoyable! You have been such a wonderful blessing to us who are away from family. You will be rewarded for your love and kindness."
- * To the choir, Jim Pospisil, Symeon Waseen and our musicians for a wonderful Christmas Cantata. Special thanks to Jerry Cleveland for putting the Cantata together.
- * To Dick and Linda Goese for cooking a delicious dinner for our staff Christmas Party
- * To Sarah Engebretson for the past four months of dedication to the Children's Choir. Thank you for the songs you taught, the energy and talent you brought. We hope you come sing with us for fun some Wednesday!
~ the kids of Children's Choir
- * Pageant Elves: To the people who bought the hot dogs, cooked the hot dogs, pinned up kid's costumes, swept up after lunch, made phone calls to get volunteers, helped kids learn songs and lines and a whole host of other things that I don't even know about. . . THANK YOU. The pageant is successful because you all pitch in and help out.
- * To Doug Bowen-Bailey and Nick Zeitler for videotaping the Christmas Pageant.
- * To Gail Blum for all her work preparing the altar and sanctuary for Christmas.

- * To Jim McLean for all the time and effort he has put in as Building Committee chair, and for being so responsive to staff questions and concerns during this time of construction.
- * To Jim Pospisil: For your amazing ability to play what the kids can sing and help keep us all in tune just a little bit more...thank you.
- * From Sarah and Aaron Peterson: "Thank you all for the prayers and support. You'll never know how much it has meant to us."
- * To Elaine Augustad, Deloris Thompson, Trudy Schwerdt and Mary Wergeland for making the "reminder calls" to all the volunteers. Without your call, many of us would forget. Your help and dedication is appreciated.
- * From Trudy Schwerdt: Thank you to the carolers who visited me, and for the many cards I received—especially from the Peace church kids.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- * Maari and Miles Rohrbaugh, children of Britt and Leon, who were baptized on Sunday, December 19th
- * Grant Kertulla, son of Lisa and Mike, and grandson of Peggy and Wayne Pearson, who was baptized on Sunday, December 25th
- * Katie (Trnka) and Chad Robinson on the birth of their daughter Kaisa Aleen on Dec. 29th. She weighed 6 # 1 oz.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- * Penny Cragun recovering at home from hip surgery.
- * Aaron Peterson recovering from surgery.
- * Michelle Naar Obed, now in Iraq with the Christian Peacemaking Teams. Prayers for the 4 Christian Peacemaking Team members still held hostage.
- * SYMPATHY TO Jen Hudyma and her family, in the death of her father, George, whose funeral will be on Jan. 5 at Peace.

Dear Friends in Peace,

Over the past two or three years Peace Church has seen tremendous growth in membership, worship attendance and church school enrollment. This growth is a strong affirmation of our church's ministry. Nowhere is this growth more evident than in our stewardship.

Last week the Coordinating Council met to begin its work on the 2006 operating budget. In the Spirit of the season we began with prayers of thanks to the wonderful response from you, the congregation, in response to the Consecrating Stewardship dinners, letters and phone calls. 155 members have committed \$229,000 toward the work of the church for 2006.

We next turned our focus toward the church's expenses. Several budgeted items will increase dramatically — electricity, gas, water & sewer, etc. Other expenses will rise modestly, such as health insurance, building insurance, and payrolls. After two-and-a-half hours of adjusting and paring down of board and committee budgets, the Coordinating Council was within \$8,200 of a balanced budget. This amount is slightly less than 3% of the total projected budget of \$308,650.

Before the Coordinating Council's January meeting, just prior to the Congregational meeting of January 22nd, we are asking everyone to help us close the projected budget gap.

- If you have returned a pledge, consider a small increase. As little as a dollar-a-week would fill the gap.
- If you have not yet pledged support to the church, please make a place for it in your household budget. Consider all the ways that Peace Church intersects your life, how it extends your family. Consider how important Peace Church is to you. Complete the card you received in the mail and return to the church office today.

Progress toward this goal will be reported to you between now and the January Annual meeting in the Peace Bell and during worship. The Council wishes to share this information with you. We want to express our profound gratitude to everyone who has responded so positively and generously. Thank you.

2006 will be an exciting year filled with opportunities for our whole congregation. Your support is vital to fulfill Peace Church's ministry. We urge you to share in the church's work through your financial support.

In service to Peace Church,

Justin Olson, Chair, Consecrating Stewardship Committee

Tom Hystead, Vice-Moderator, Chair of the Finance Committee

ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

All Ushers and Greeters

January 8 at 11:30 AM

If you volunteer as an usher or greeter, please come to a planning session in preparation for the opening of the new narthex. **It's important that ushers and greeters attend.** A larger narthex requires a more deliberate approach to welcoming visitors and having a plan in place will make the transition go smoothly. A light lunch will be served. Please call or email the office if you will be attending. Having an approximate number will help us in preparation.

- ~ Evangelism Committee
- ~ Shared Ministry



SUNRISE COFFEE

January 2 — 7:53 am
21st Ave E & Lakewalk

Look for the sign &
coffee mug to find us!

Next month: Feb 6th 7:26am

QUESTIONS ON THE WAY EVERY MONDAY AT NOON



We've changed times! Same great discussion, same great location, just a new day. Join us on MONDAYS at noon (12pm) for scintillating conversation. Bring a lunch and your ideas and questions!

Brown Bag Bible Study

Wednesday, January 25 at noon

Second floor lounge at the Benedictine Health Center. Topic—Finding our own peacefulness in a fast-paced world. Join us for discussion and reflection. Deloris Thompson will bring dessert and coffee will be provided.

Monthly Men's Supper

6:00 p.m. Monday, January 2nd

All men are welcome!

No February Supper as we will have our

Men's Retreat February 10-12, 2006

at Isernhagen's cabin

Women's Retreat April 21-22

We are planning a Spring Retreat at Caribou Highlands Resort near Lutsen on Friday, April 21st. Cost will be \$40 per person. This includes your own bed with linens. We will be responsible for our meals. Let Pastor Kathy or Cindy McLean know if you would like to help with the planning. There is an option for a second night stay for those who wish.

SACRED DANCE

All of creation dances with unique rhythms and beauty. Let us join with intention in rhythm and movement to honor our Creator God.



Anyone interested in exploring how to incorporate sacred movement/ dance/ gestures into the worship service should call Susan Ranfranz @ 525-7369. I helped choreograph 4 dances for church last year so have some experience, but would love to collaborate with others from the church community.

All ages and all abilities welcome - no experience necessary, just a willingness to try another form of prayer. Days and times to meet will be determined by whom ever is interested, and the time commitment can be flexible. Peace friends. Susan

Calling all church ladies (all ages!)

Those interested in keeping a polish on the sanctuary, sign up for rotating cleaning crew!
(Men accepted too!)

Looking for 4 people 2 hours/month.

Flexible scheduling!

Listen to whatever music you want to!

Low pay and no benefits

... but a clean sanctuary!



SHARED MINISTRY—ESSIE AND NICK

By Georgette Sarkela, Shared Ministry Coordinator

One of the characteristics of Peace church is our diverse backgrounds and unique life experiences. It is these characteristics, along with God given spiritual gifts that make up the dynamic Peace Church family.

On Palm Sunday, 2005, Nick Zeitler and Essie Geiger became members of Peace Church and made a commitment to be involved in the ministries of the church. Their desire and dedication to use their gifts and their passion to serve is a blessing to the ministries of Peace.

Essie's connection to church began at age two with her parents attending Peace UCC in Rochester MN. In her early years, her parents modeled commitment and service. Serving the church was a natural part of her life. Christ and prayer was the center of their family life. Her family provided a home that was welcoming to everyone. Their doors and hearts were always open to the needs of others. Essie is keenly aware of her parent's influence in her Christian journey. Her love for others comes from these childhood experiences. She knows her spiritual gifts center on faith, service ministry, hospitality and prayer. She uses her gifts by helping with the youth group, serving on the Peace and Justice Committee and most recently the new Welcoming Team of Peace Church. Her personal ministry is to share with others, to listen and be willing to become involved. She knows that her call is to "help where ever possible" and brings this ministry to Peace Church and her place of employment.

Nick came from a Methodist background, but active involvement in church was limited. His parents modeled volunteering in the community and they served in leadership capacities in different organizations. Nick identifies leadership as one of his spiritual gifts and realizes that his gift was developing in his early years in sport activities. He used his gift of leadership at Bemidji State University. Both he and Essie were actively involved in the Lutheran Campus Center. It was this campus ministry experience that made it easy for him to "jump into volunteering at Peace." Nick's artistic gifts continued to evolve while at BSU. Entering a film project, at a "Short Film Festival", he won an award for "The Best Story". Nick is fortunate to be able to use his creative gifts at his work and is looking for opportunities to share these gifts at Peace Church. Nick enjoys music and expresses his gift by singing in the Peace Church choir. He shares his gifts of leadership and faith by helping with the youth group and the Peace and Justice committee.

Nick and Essie have not been a part of Peace church very long but their commitment and service to the ministries is to be celebrated. We thank you for sharing your life and gifts with others. Your generous giving exemplifies God's call.

Isaiah 6:8 Here I am, send me.



UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

In anticipation of offering graduate courses in theology in Duluth, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities is hosting two

Seminary Exploration Events

Dates: Fri., January 20: 11am to 2pm

Or Sat., January 21: 9am to noon.

Place: Duluth Congregational Church
3833 E. Superior Street, Duluth
218-525-1911

Admission is free. A light meal will be provided. Registrations are requested.

In these sessions you will have an opportunity to explore the nature of seminary education, learn about program opportunities and meet staff, students and alums of United.

To register on-line for this "Mini-Day at United" go to www.unitedseminary.edu or call Ann Nordgren in Duluth at 218-525-3136.

United Theological Seminary is an ecumenical graduate school of the United Church of Christ, passionately committed to educating leaders for the 21st century church and world. United practices the art of theological exploration in an atmosphere that is intellectually progressive, spiritually open & personally transforming.

FIRST COURSE OFFERING:

CH250 Hope and Justice:

Early Christian Visions of the Future

**Dates: February 17-18, March 10-11,
April 21-22, and May 12-13**

Time: 6—9 pm on Friday evenings and on Saturdays from 9am—noon and 1 pm—3pm

Location: Peace Church Multi-purpose Room

From the 1970 classic *Late Great Planet Earth* to the current *Left Behind* series, apocalyptic thinking has been a powerful influence in contemporary American culture. But what are the roles of hope and fear in visions of God's future? How important for meaningful human life is a sense that "the end is near"? We will examine the historical impulses that generated apocalyptic thinking in early Judaism and Christianity, focusing on a comparison of selected early Christian texts, to ask in what ways they might promote or distort efforts at more just and compassionate human dwelling today.

The instructor is Dr. Neil Elliott, a recognized scholar of the Apostle Paul, and a very popular teacher who has a reputation for making the complicated clear and relating scholarship to everyday life.

To apply: Contact Sandy Casmeay 651-255-6107 or scameay@unitedseminary.edu

Tuition: \$996 for credit, \$150 to audit class.

Credits: 3 at the Master's level

A Thank You to Katie Sawyer and everyone who donated gifts. . .

"We all wanted to say Thank You to you and everyone for your kindness and generosity for all of the youth at Life House during the holiday season! You helped make it possible for our youth to have the chance to partake in the fun of Christmas. To be a part of this time was an honor and a blessing for me to be able to see how grateful they all were. I hope to work with you again next year to help our less fortunate youth in celebrating the holiday season. Thank you once again and have a wonderful year." Jennifer Keuten, Youth Center Coordinator



YOUTH

Welcome to 2006 Youth Group!!

Upcoming Events

Jan 13th Tony Campolo event (you earn 3x worship "points" if you come...Kathy said!)

Jan 21st Giant's Ridge Ski Day (sign up to hold your space!)

Jan 30th CYE Registration deadline!



Fundraising..Pizza's are back. We'll be taking orders sometime in early February, make and deliver them in mid-March. Watch the Bell and Sunday bulletin announcements on Sundays for more information.

Kicking off — January 4th — We will continue to sing, pray, and explore our faith. Any new year resolutions? Bring your thoughts and we will have a lively discussion.

☺ **New program — "Faith Explorers" for 4th and 5th graders**

Starting January 4th from 6 –7 pm

We will follow the same themes as Faith Weavers, but we will meet separately and do age appropriate activities.



**PARENTS—if you can chaperone or want to help plan a youth event...
Contact Julie ... we love having you involved!**

SUMMER WORK CAMP

Mark your calendars for July 13-18th, 2006. We're going to Heifer Overlook Ranch in Massachusetts. See www.heifer.org. Go to "learn" and then "Overlook Farm." This trip is required for Confirmation 1 and strongly encouraged for Confirmation 2. To hold your spot (we're limited to 14 kids), please turn in a \$50 deposit by Feb. 1st, 2006)



CONFIRMATION

We begin each session with worship in the youth room and then move to the fire-side room for our studies.

First Year Confirmation Class

We meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays from 7:30 - 9pm.

Wednesday, January 11th — The Giving of the Law

Wednesday, January 25 — The Gospel of Mark Chapters 1 and 2

Second Year Confirmation Class

We meet on the first and third Wednesdays from 7:30—9pm.

Wednesday, January 4 — Jesus Christ: Risen Savior

Wednesday, January 18 — Jesus Papers Due; Begin "Spirit, Spirit, Whose Got the Spirit?"

Both Classes

Remember Your Service Hours and Worship Requirements of 50%. **Triple Worship Service Credit for attending the Community Revival with Tony Campolo on Friday, January 13th at the DECC at 7 pm.**

Summer Work Camp with Heifer Project near Boston July 13 - 18th! (see below)

THE ANT AND THE KID



By Julie Flotten and Cynthia Coffin,
Children, Youth and Intergenerational Ministers

*"Hey little Ant down in the crack
Can you hear me, can you talk back?"*

We have teamed up before (as the Ant and the Kid for Children's time), but this time I won't be wearing overalls and Cynthia won't have antennae on her head! But the two of us are excited about jumping into this next 5-month adventure together. We have some great plans for the kids and youth of this congregation.

Even though one or two people can "coordinate" a youth and child program here at Peace, it truly takes a whole host of willing adults to make it successful. From the Faith Weaver volunteers, the youth group leaders, the one-time chaperones and drivers to the snack providers, each person who helps with our programming is a part of the team. We would like to encourage any and all adults—whether or not you have kids in the program—to play a part with the kids of the church. One of the foundations of helping kids grow in their faith and explore their spirituality is relationships; not only relationships with peers but relationships with concerned adults. As this church grows it becomes increasingly important for the kids to feel grounded here and having solid relationships is integral to that end.

We won't make you dress up in insect-garb (unless you want to!) but if you can offer to be a driver, a chaperone, or just to come and sit in on the program, you might find you get to know a couple of kids and it might just make a difference in their lives AND yours. From... "the Kid" (aka Julie)



*"Yes I'm here, I can hear too
Please don't shout, I'm right next to you!"*

Hello Peace Church! Most of you know me as part of the Praise and Worship Team since 2001, but now I am moving into a different role. January through May, I will be coordinating the Youth Group, starting a new program for 4th and 5th graders on Wednesday nights, and directing the Kids Choir. Wow, I think that is it. I am excited to be part of the staff and work with all the great kids here at Peace. Please don't hesitate to start up a conversation if you see me wandering the church.

Blessings, "the Ant" (aka Cynthia)

JUST PEACE

PEACE UCC - A JUST PEACE CHURCH TAKING A SMALL STEP

JANUARY'S SMALL STEP: Step out into our community and join others in addressing issues of poverty, racism and injustice!

THE 2006 DULUTH MLK WEEKEND EVENTS

January 13

[Rev. Tony Campolo: A Passion for God,
A Hunger for Justice](#)

Sponsored by CHUM at the DECC auditorium
7:00 PM

January 14

[Youth Choir Rehearsal](#)

Rehearsal will be at 11:30 a.m. on January 14th at Christ Temple - 330 N. 59th Ave. West. The choir will perform at the Ecumenical Worship Service on Sunday and possibly at the Rally on Monday. Questions, contact: Pastor Vernon Green at 628-1162 or vegreen330@msn.com.

January 15

[Ecumenical Worship Service](#)

Christ Temple Victory Center - 330 N 59th Ave W -
5:30 PM

January 16

[Free Community Breakfast](#)

Holy Family Catholic Church - 2430 W. Third St. -
7:00 AM. Featured speaker at breakfast is Rep. John Lewis. His speech in Minneapolis will be broadcast on Channel 8.

[March and Rally](#)

Washington Center to Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center - 11:00 AM; Rally begins at 11:30 AM. Featured speaker is Dr. Josie Johnson, first black member of the University of Minnesota's Board of Regents.

GABRIEL PROJECT

The Gabriel Project is a collaboration between CHUM and six Hillside congregations: Trinity, Gloria Dei, First Lutheran, Peace, St. Mark's and Temple Israel. Our collective goal is to help support families experiencing poverty and to work towards economic and social justice throughout Duluth. Here's a quick update of activities...

CHUM and the St. Scholastica Monastery recently celebrated a partnership culminating in the purchase of a building at Lake and 5th. This building was purchased via a gift from the Monastery and previously housed the Duluth Community Health Center. It will be rehabilitated, utilizing congregational volunteers, into four private apartments for families transitioning out of homelessness. Gabriel Project organizer Ben Small is coordinating the volunteer effort—please call 625.1739 soon to volunteer your time and skills. No building or construction experience necessary!

Citizens in Action, an annual conference and training opportunity focusing on affecting political and issue-based change, is taking place on **Saturday January 28th from 9am-1pm** at the UMD "Rafters". About 300 people are expected to attend this free event featuring speakers, panels, and workshops. Call us at 625.1739 for more info.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Philip Hubert	16 Brandon Buxbaum
Karl Regehr Bottorff	18 Andy McLean
Klaus Regehr Bottorff	19 David Goltz
3 Katie Sawyer	Lauren Christensen
4 Joy Swanoski	20 Chris Finch
5 Anthony Squillace	Judy Seligo-Punyko
6 Daniel O'Connell	Todd Lind
7 Conrad Birkhofer	21 Margaret Paulson
Amanda Cran	22 Matthew Morris
Doreen Marciniak	Christa Knudsen
Kathy Nelson	23 Bill Kohlts
Natalie Walker	Brennen Larson
8 Susan Goltz	24 Jerome Springsteele
Alexey Martins	Cynthia Poirier
Kayden Kozelka	Inga Nordgren
Cindy Saari	25 Norris Rolfson
10 Cody Aplin	Evan Poirier
Andrew Green	Llonda Thompson
Tom Hayes	Ryan Zimny
11 John Ameel	27 Cindy Johnson
Barb Forrest	29 Joyce Clement
12 Mike Hatlestad	Melissa Boyle
Judy Hlina	30 Cizzarie Schomberg
Emily Youngstrand	31 Michael Proetz
13 Patty Bambenek	David Arvold
14 Bob Simpson	Miles Rohrbaugh
15 Bill Pomroy	HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
Lisa Pomroy	If your birthday
Anya White	doesn't appear here,
Rick Reed	please call the office!

Thank You From Kim Crawford at Gabriel Project. Thank you ALL who participated in the vigil on Christmas Eve day!! We had a fantastic turnout from the community, our congregations, and yes, even the media.

Many thanks to Pastor Fred Lund, Sr. Lois Eckes, Pastor Kathy Nelson, Rodger Cragun, Mike Anderson, and the Community Choir from St. Mark's AME and Calvary Baptist Churches! Your presence truly blessed the event.

FROM THE INTERN'S DESK

Thanks everyone for putting your pin up on the bulletin board in the Narthex to see where everyone is from!!!! This is great to see!! We are truly all over the MAP! If you haven't had time, please still put up your pin so we know where you live!! We will begin our neighborhood breakfasts in January. Bagels, Cream Cheese and fruit! If you are able to come to your neighborhood breakfast please sign up in the Narthex or send me an eMail (UpNorth38@aol.com) ... So we know how much to plan for! Here is the Jan. schedule! Our breakfasts will be from 9:30—10:20, in the Fellowship Hall.

January 8 ~People that live any where between Lake Street and Lester Park area (this includes all Hillside folks!)

January 15 ~Lake street to any where in W. Duluth!

January 22 ~Lester Park all the way up the SHORE! (including country folk in that area)

Our baby is due Jan. 25th so I will be taking the month of February off. We will continue with neighborhood breakfasts through March so keep an eye out for your community! Also I am interested in getting together with all the CHRONOLOGICALLY young in our congregation, 19-29 year olds, partnered or single. So if you fit into this category keep your eyes open for times to meet just for you!!!! Also if you have ideas of what to do with our time or want to help plan these times etc. catch me at church or eMail me!!!

Blessings all~ Jonie Langdon-Larson

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

WELCOME BACK! *First Night of Wednesday Activities in 2006—January 4!*

5pm: Children's Choir 5:30: Dinner for all

6pm Faith Weavers, Adult Study (see details on page 5)

6:15pm: Senior Choir 7:30-9pm Youth Group 7:30-9pm Confirmation (Confirmation I—2nd & 4th Weds. Confirmation II—1st & 3rd Weds.)

Boards and Committees on Jan. 11 (No Adult Study)

FAITH WEAVERS — READ ON FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

KINDERGARTEN—3RD GRADERS—JOIN US WEDS. AT 6 PM

NEW—FAITH EXPLORERS FOR 4TH & 5TH GRADERS—SEE PAGE 7

This winter and spring we're going to delve into seasons and celebrations. We know all about Christmas, Easter, Summer, Winter etc...but what about... Epiphany?

Week of Prayer?

Black History Month?

Chinese New Year?



Through games, crafts, songs and skits we'll explore these seasons, traditions, and celebrations. Join us each Wednesday at 6:00pm

Jan 4th: Three Kings Day

Jan 11th: Special Guest— Rachel Kilgore (music!)

Jan 18th: Week of Prayer

Jan 25th: Chinese New Year



Parents

Thanks for all your help on Wednesday nights! Because of your willingness to help out, everyone only has to help 1-2 times for the rest of the year! Way to go! Watch for a letter in your mail for a helper schedule. Please show up by 5:45 to find out what your role is for the night you're scheduled.

Children's Choir

We'll be starting up again Jan 4th. Cynthia Coffin is our new director and she has some great ideas and experience to bring. (She taught music for 5 years and has sung and played in the Praise and Worship team here at Peace.) We'll learn some new songs, sing some "golden oldies" and generally have fun! See you Wednesdays at 5pm...

Wednesday Helpers for January (Prep at 4:30)

4 Prep=Doug Bowen-Bailey, Steve Coll
Clean-up=Youth Group

18 Prep=Monica & Tom Liddle

Clean-up=Cizzarie S., Kaelene A-H

11 Prep= Marge A. & Jerry C.
Cleanup= Christian Ed. Board

25 Prep=Phyllis & Scott Mead

Clean-up=Patti Beech, Jane Rupel

CHILDREN and CHURCH SCHOOL

Welcome Back! Church School starts up again January 8th... meet us in the sanctuary at 9:30 for our 'welcome back' opening.

Church School Teachers: a few notes for you:

- ☺ If you haven't received your winter curriculum books yet, check in each of your bins. As we settle into new spaces in the church, we will keep the bins as a storage place for curriculum and supplies.
- ☺ Teacher Meeting Feb 26th 8:45am. We'll take some time for a check in and look ahead to the rest of the year.
- ☺ Watch your mail for an invite to a "Teacher Appreciation" Party for you in February... a small way to say thanks for what you do!



Junior and Senior High Church School

9:30 Sunday morning...Peace Church...it's the place to be!

Junior High—you won't have to be in the Fellowship Hall much longer...but you'll keep your bean bags. So come to church school, hang out with friends and have some good discussions!

Senior High—We will soon get you back into your "real" classroom...the original youth room! Come this winter and spring for some good topics and good times. 9:30am isn't THAT early...

January: bible games and artwork

February: music and spirituality—what do YOU listen to?

March: What do the Gospels say anyway?

April: What are the fundamentals about Fundamentalism?

May: Surprise...heh heh heh

INTERGENERATIONAL EVENTS



WINTER CAMP at Wolf Ridge, Jan 27-29th, 2006

There's still room! Details on Front Page. . .

Secret Pals (coming soon in February!)

The intergenerational committee is sponsoring a "Secret Pal" get-to-know you exchange program during the last three weeks of February and first two weeks of March. We will exchange notes, poetry, a small treat, art, etc. You get the picture.

The emphasis will be on getting to know a person from another generation and not on pricey presents. So, we need folks of ALL AGES to sign up in the Narthex by February 1st. On the last Sunday, we will have a small social gathering to reveal our identity.

Questions or want to help? Call Terese Tomanek at 724-1363.

MINISTRY OF WELCOME AND WELLNESS *By Cizzarie Schomberg*

We have had a Befriender Ministry for about 4 years at Peace, which is a ministry that acts as a "formal extension of the pastoral role." It focused on supporting individuals through difficult times by linking a Befriender with an individual to engage in reflective listening and problem solving. Despite good leadership and willing volunteers, we have found that the ministry hasn't been well utilized by our members, and has not grown into its potential here. However, particularly because we have had so much growth in the last couple of years, we still believe that a ministry that focuses on respect, listening and an awareness of sacred space is something that our congregation needs to continue to grow into our vision of an open, accepting and affirming place. The current **Welcome and Wellness** ministry is the result of our efforts to tailor a ministry that will meet the needs of our growing congregation.

The **Welcome and Wellness** ministry will be slightly different than the Befrienders Ministry in several ways. We are hoping that by offering training on a single day here, we will be able to encourage more individuals to take part in the training even if they are not able to

participate in the ministry. We also have changed the focus from primarily *crisis to transition*, which includes anything from joining the church, to a new baby, to dealing with job loss or death of a family member. By broadening the scope of the ministry to include "positive" transitions, we hope to encourage the development of relationships, so that if the more difficult transitions arise, we can support one another through them. In many ways, the ministry strives to offer what we offer as friends, but with the intention of reaching out to members of our community who we may not know well.

The topics we will cover are as follows:

Grief and Transition

Interpersonal skills, active listening

Confidentially

Community Resources (financial, social services, health, housing, etc.)

If you are one of the many members here at Peace who are committed to the vision of Peace Church, please consider being part of the training for this ministry. Contact Cizzarie Schomberg (525-0325) or Marilyn Mayry (279-3549) for more information

NEW MEMBER PROFILE

Gary Anderson

Family members: Cat—Iris, my mentee—Brooks Maxwell

What is your vocation? Student, practitioner and teacher of Hatha Yoga and Meditation

What are your hobbies/passions? Long Distance Trail Running, camping and "camping"

What brought you to Peace? The strong sense of community, and you are in my neighborhood.

What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy? I have sung in many choirs and have performed in Carnegie Hall and for President Clinton.

Comments: I am blessed every time I come to Peace.