



# The Peace Bell

PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Sundays at a Glance

### December 3<sup>rd</sup>

First Sunday of Advent

**Sermon by Rev. Charlotte Frantz**

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion

9:30am Childcare Available

9:30am Advent Workshop

10:30am Worship with Holy Communion

Children's Church

11:30am Coffee Hour

### December 10<sup>th</sup>

Second Sunday in Advent

Photos for the directory

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion

**Sermon by Rev. Charlotte Frantz**

Music by Peace Choir

9:30am Forum

10:30am Worship led by Children and Youth

Children's Pageant

11:30am Soup, Subs and Celebration

### December 17<sup>th</sup>

Third Sunday in Advent

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion

**Sermon by Rev. Charlotte Frantz**

9:30am Forum

10:30am Childcare Available

10:30am Worship with Choir Cantata

Children's Church

11:30am Coffee Hour

11:30am Intergenerational Caroling

### December 24<sup>th</sup>

Fourth Sunday of Advent

**One Service Only 10:30am**

10:30am Childcare Available

10:30am "I Remember Christmas"

Children's Church

11:30am Coffee Hour

### December 31<sup>st</sup>

First Sunday after Christmas

Celebration of Epiphany

**Sermon by Rev. Charlotte Frantz**

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion

9:30am Forum

10:30am Childcare Available

10:30am Worship with Children's Church

11:30am Coffee Hour

## Forums in December

### December 3<sup>rd</sup> Advent Workshop

Join us in the Fellowship Hall to make Advent wreaths, Christmas cards, tree ornaments and other seasonal crafts. Pick up Devotional booklets and Advent calendars. For all ages.

### December 10<sup>th</sup> Teams and Committees Preparation for Pastor Corinne

Are you on a Team or Committee? Come to this forum for ideas about your first meeting with Pastor Corinne. How can you orient her to your work? What should you have ready to share with her? What norms of your team or committee life need to be shared with her? Tips to help you welcome and onboard her. Presentation by the Pastoral Relations Committee

### December 17<sup>th</sup> 2023 Budget

A look at Peace's 2023 budget and projected final figures for the year. Are we over or under budget? Given the huge deficit we anticipated, what will year end figures look like? What about the special offerings for the Christian service budget? Do we need a few extra year-end gifts? Presentation by the Finance Committee and members of the Council.

### December 24<sup>th</sup> No Forum (and no 8:30 service)

### December 31<sup>st</sup> Pastor Charlotte's Congregational Exit Interview

"Exit interview" with Pastor Charlotte Frantz. What did you learn from her? What gifts has she shared with us? What do you wish might have been different? What would you like to ask her?

### Christmas Eve Services

**4:00pm Christmas Eve Worship**

**Carol Sing,**

**and Candle Lighting**

**Childcare Available**

**5:00pm Soup Supper**

**10:00pm Christmas Eve Worship**

**Sermon by Rev. Charlotte Frantz**

**Peace Choir and Candle Lighting**

## From the Moderator

Greetings, all!

The coordinating council met on November 20<sup>th</sup> with a full agenda. In looking ahead to our anticipated year-end financial status, the finance committee estimates a \$12,000 shortfall at the end of the year. If you have space in your budget to help bridge that gap before the end of the year, it would be greatly appreciated!

We look forward to welcoming Pastor Corinne in January! Stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to get to know her and her family this winter. One way we can help her get to know us is by wearing name tags - please ask for one in the office if needed.

We also extend a heartfelt thanks to Pastor Charlotte for the multiple ways she has supported Peace during our interim time - most recently as our bridge minister.

The council will meet again on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. Guests are welcome! If you would like to contact any member of the council, please contact the office, and they can forward your request.

With gratitude for this community, Jessica Olson, Moderator

## From the Bridge Minister

Dear Friends,

About the time you receive this Peace Bell, we will be embarking on the season of Advent. It's the season of waiting, of anticipation, of preparation.

In some ways it feels as if we've been in Advent for a very long time at Peace Church. We knew it would be a while until we found a settled pastor. We hadn't counted on a three-year interim! It's been a long season of waiting, watching, hoping and anticipating. I have been fortunate to share most of those three years with you.

What I think is most remarkable - as a congregation, you have not given into the weariness that often accompanies long, unexpected waits. You have made good use of the time. You participated in opportunities for healing some of the hurt that came with covid and the transition in leadership. You looked thoughtfully at the past and learned important lessons about yourselves. Many of you participated in the Holy Cow survey that gave us a snapshot of our present congregation.

The Church Council, your committees and teams have continued to plan for and carry on Peace's mission and ministry. You rebuilt a staff, you are recruiting, organizing, training and supporting volunteers; you've taken on diverse challenges including resettlement of newcomers, preparing for Another Door Shelter, undertaking deferred maintenance, growing an 'on line' congregation, establishing new ways of giving; welcoming young families; and Building Racial Consciousness.

The most important discovery, I think, has been that YOU, members and friends of Peace, are the church. A pastor can coach you, care for you, give you some direction, help you reflect on your experience, and provide connection to other communities of faith. The church, though, is and will continue to be you, members and friends of this congregation whose time, energy and commitment has made so much possible.

I will miss being at the center of your energy and engagement. I will miss leading worship on Sunday mornings. I will miss coaching committees and teams as they make plans. I will miss the staff with whom I have worked closely.

I hope to re-connect with family and friends, resume some household projects that have been on hold, and catch up on the neighborhood gossip! I've been a member of Peace for almost a decade (well before this interim time), and I'm hopeful I will be able to continue to be a member, albeit in a much less visible way and quite apart from leadership responsibilities.

During this month of December, we celebrate Advent. Our theme this year is a question: How does a weary world rejoice? In spite of the all the energy and good at Peace, I am well aware of a heaviness in the world at large. The divisive political rhetoric hurts my ears and the unmitigated destruction in Gaza hurts my heart. I worry about the impact of gun violence and drug overdoses on a generation coming of age just after covid. How do we find and hold onto joy? How do we share that joy with a world weary of hate, violence and pain?

Come to the Advent workshop, be part of our Wednesday evening Soup Suppers and Advent Devotions, take time to use the prompts in our Advent booklets and calendars, be part of our celebrations—the children's pageant, the Choir Cantata, Christmas Eve services and Soup Supper. Find the joy! Rev. Charlotte Frantz, Bridge Minister

## Holiday Festivities

### **Intergenerational Advent Wreath Making and Family Fun Event**

Join us on the first Sunday of Advent, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30am for our intergenerational Advent Wreath Making workshop! Make an advent wreath to take home, Christmas ornaments and Christmas cards. We will also have Advent devotionals and Advent calendars available!

### **Hillside Gospel Choir Christmas Concert**

**December 9th, 7:00pm**  
**Pilgrim Congregational Church**  
**2310 E 4<sup>th</sup> St, Duluth**

If you need a little boost of Christmas energy, come to the Hillside Gospel Choir's concert on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Members of Peace, Pilgrim, First United Methodist and St. Mark AME, along with friends from the Twin Cities, sing under the direction of Alanna Galloway. Proceeds will benefit the Foy Scholarship fund.

### **Christmas Pageant** **December 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 Service**

The Peace Christmas Pageant is coming up on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 service. We will be debuting a new production, written by Rev. Emily Meyer from the Ministry Lab in collaboration with our children and youth. We need children and youth performers and adult helpers! If you or your child/youth is interested in participating or helping in the pageant please contact Amanda at [amanda@peaceucc.org](mailto:amanda@peaceucc.org).

There will be a short rehearsal on the morning of Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be a fun and low stress process; performers do not need to memorize lines! Come help us make live art and celebrate the birth of Jesus in this dynamic and interactive format!

### **Cookies for the Jail**

Every year St. Louis County Jail holds a Christmas party for the inmates where they will get hot chocolate, candy canes and cookies! This year it will be held on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. They are asking local churches to donate cookies for this celebration. If interested please have the cookies to Peace Church office by Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. They are requesting no nuts or coconuts in the cookies. If you have any questions please contact Bri at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).

### **Christmas Cantata**

**December 17<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am**

Jim Pospisil, the Peace Choir and musicians will present a Christmas Cantata on December 17<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 worship service. If you enjoy singing and would like to be part of this seasonal choral gathering, talk with Jim or show up on Wednesday evenings at 6:00.

### **Christmas Caroling** **December 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:45am**

Always a fun, intergenerational event for families and singles, adults, seniors and children. Following the 10:30 worship on December 17<sup>th</sup>, come for pizza in the staff lounge and then we'll head out to sing Christmas carols to some of our elders and/or homebound members.

Last year we divided our itinerary in half based on geographic location and went in two groups, each stopping to visit 3 or 4 places. It's a great way to help spread a bit of Christmas joy!

### **Looking for Youth**

Do you play a musical instrument? Have you prepared a piece for a recital, concert or just because it's a piece you love? Be part of our special prelude on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:15. Contact Jim Pospisil ([jim@peaceucc.org](mailto:jim@peaceucc.org)) or Amanda Hunter ([Amanda@peaceucc.org](mailto:Amanda@peaceucc.org)).

We are also looking for youth and young adult readers for the 4:00 Christmas Eve service. If you'd like to help, contact Bri ([bri@peaceucc.org](mailto:bri@peaceucc.org)) or Pastor Charlotte.

### **Enjoy a festive dinner after the 4:00 Christmas Eve service.**

Whether you find yourself alone or have a large crew this holiday season, all are invited to share a soup (and more) meal in the decorated Fellowship Hall after the 4:00 Christmas Eve service.

Traditionally we have had contributions of wonderful soups, chilis and Christmas cookies. If you can help provide some of these items or if you would like to help out in the kitchen please contact Bri in the office or Cindy McLean ([webinthewoods@gmail.com](mailto:webinthewoods@gmail.com)).

This dinner has been going on for over 25 years and it is always a pleasant gathering of old and new friends. Join us for the first time or the 20<sup>th</sup>.

# Peace Activities and Groups

## Wednesday Evenings in Advent December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>

Soup's on! Each Wednesday evening during Advent a simple meal of soup and bread will be available beginning at 5:00pm. Come in from the cold and enjoy a meal with friends from Peace Church. About 5:40pm we'll clear the tables for a short Advent devotional—a simple liturgy, prayers and reflections at the tables in Fellowship Hall. We'll finish at 6:00pm so that Wednesday evening groups can gather: youth group, choir, Bible study and Stepping On Up.

December 6<sup>th</sup> Soup provided and served by the Church Council

December 13<sup>th</sup> Soup provided and served by the Youth

December 20<sup>th</sup> Soup provided and served by the Bible Study group

Additional donations of soup, bread or dessert always welcome—just bring what you'd like to share.

## Peace Property Team News

Peace Property Team is a hard-working, "hands on" group who care for our building and grounds and plan for some of the larger projects ahead.

We are looking for a couple of new people to join the Property Team. The team meets every second Monday of the month at 6:30pm. We encourage anyone who is interested, no matter your experience, to come and check it out. The next meeting is December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. If you have any questions, you can email Stacy Stark at [staceystark@gmail.com](mailto:staceystark@gmail.com).



Many thanks to Matt Ryan and Alex Dean who recently dug out the sump pump drain tile and discovered a long length completely clogged with tree roots. The drain now runs freely!

And thank you to Bud Trnka for clearing brush and deadwood from the back woods and creating walking paths there.



## Soup and Subs! Brought to you by the Stewardship Team

### December 10<sup>th</sup> following 10:30 worship

As of November 27<sup>th</sup>, 112 commitments to our 2024 budget have been received in the church office! These commitments total \$396,800.

Thank you so much. We still have a ways to go—and a week or two before our celebration. If you have not filled out a commitment form, please do so asap! The Church Council uses this information to plan for the coming year.

We want to say "thanks" to the Stewardship Team and everyone who has contributed to this effort. We want to celebrate the amazing generosity of this congregation - so plan on staying for a Soup and Sub Sandwich lunch after the 10:30 service on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, following our annual Youth Christmas Pageant.

Hear the latest update on this year's Stewardship Campaign, dine with other Peace folks and spread some holiday cheer. All are welcome!

## Prayers for Peace

Each Wednesday during November, Peace offered Prayers for Peace - 15 minutes of quiet, candles and music. Thank you to Jim Pospisil, Gudrun Witrak, Monica Liddle, and Pastor Charlotte for creating this small oasis for prayer.



*Is your name tag here? Please wear it Sunday mornings - it will help us get to know each other more quickly. If you need a new one, leave a note for Bri in the church office.*

## Looking Ahead, January 7th

### Pastor Charlotte's Retirement

She says she's going to try it again, retirement, that is! If you think she has information you or your team/committee need, please be in touch with her this month. She is hoping that teams she has worked with have identified leadership to help with this transition and orient Pastor Corinne to your group's work and ministry.

## Peace Activities and Groups Continued...

### Bible Study

#### Wednesdays, 6:00pm

Our Bible study is led by Tom Liddle and Bob Stevens. We meet in "Room and Zoom" in the Fireside Room each week. Watch the weekly emails for information on the text for the week. Note that in December we will meet at 6:00 pm following the Advent Soup Supper and Devotion.

### Making Meaning Out Of Malignancy

#### Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-6:00pm

If you or a loved one have had cancer (in the past or currently) and would like to connect with others, you are invited to join our Making Meaning out of Malignancy group. The group meets monthly in a "Room and Zoom" and in the Fireside Room. For more information, please contact Monica Liddle, [monimliddle@gmail.com](mailto:monimliddle@gmail.com).

### Choir Rehearsals

#### Wednesdays, 6:15pm

Come try out the choir! We would love to have new members. We rehearse 6:15-7:30 on Wednesdays in the sanctuary, and sing for the 10:30 Sunday services. Contact Jim Pospisil at [jim@peaceucc.org](mailto:jim@peaceucc.org) if you have any more questions.

Youth musicians are needed for the prelude to the December 10<sup>th</sup> 10:30 service. If you would like to play, please contact Amanda Hunter, Jim Pospisil, or Bri in the office. Prelude starts at 10:15 in the choir loft.

### Monday Book Group

Because December is a month full of celebrations and family events, the Monday Book Group will meet only on Monday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm in the Fireside Room and by Zoom. We will finish our discussion of *We Had a Little Real Estate Problem* by Kliph Nesteroff, focusing on the last half of the book.

The book chosen for January is *The Other Side of the Wall: A Palestinian Christian Narrative of Lament and Hope* by Munther Isaac. Christians have lived in Palestine since the earliest days of the Jesus movement. Yet, in the heated tensions of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the voices of Palestinian Christians are often unheard and ignored. Palestinian pastor and theologian Munther Isaac gives the perspective of Palestinian Christians on the other side of the separation wall. He laments the injustices suffered by the Palestinian people but holds out hope for a just peace and ways to befriend and love his Jewish and Muslim neighbors. In contrast to the dominant ideologies and agendas for the region, he offers a theology of the land and a vision for a shared land that belongs to God, where there are no second-class citizens of any kind.

In January we will meet on January 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Fireside Room at 3:00pm and also by Zoom. Please join us! Email [pcragun@d.umn.edu](mailto:pcragun@d.umn.edu) to be included in the group emails.

### PALS

Our next PALS gathering will be Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup>, starting around 5:00pm, at Zvago Lake Superior, 3900 London Road. Cathy and John Ameel are hosting. Please bring either a "heavy" appetizer or dessert to share. Coffee and NA beverages will be provided. Parking is limited so please consider carpooling. This is a time for visiting and no formal program planned. Please email Cathy at [ameelcj123@aol.com](mailto:ameelcj123@aol.com) or call (218)724-2750 to let them know if you are coming and what you might be bringing.

### Upcoming Events

January 18<sup>th</sup> - Twilight Zone Revisited

February 22<sup>nd</sup> - Karpele's Museum

March 21<sup>st</sup> - Duckpin Bowling

### Men's Breakfast

#### Every other Thursday, 8:00am

Join us for breakfast and conversation! We meet every other Thursday at 8:00am at The New London Cafe on East Superior Street. We will meet Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Tea and Talk

Come join Gudrun Witrak and Pastor Charlotte Frantz for our final Tea and Talk of 2023. Enjoy treats and lively conversation as we celebrate Pastor Charlotte's ministry among us, Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm following the Peace Bell folding.

If you have questions, email Gudrun:

[gwitak@gmail.com](mailto:gwitak@gmail.com)

## Children, Youth and Families

Hello Peace Families,

The season of Advent is here! During Advent each year, we take the time to prepare for the birth of Jesus. As with any birth, the month before is busy – full of anticipation, to-do lists, and a complicated mix of feelings: hope, worry, fear, joy and sometimes grief (for who is not with us, the way in which life may change after the birth, the things we can't control, violence in our world). In Advent adults feel all of these things, and our young people feel all of these things too.

This much has become clear to me. Our children and youth in Children's Church, Youth Group, OWL, Confirmation Classes, and even in passing conversation on Sunday mornings, express their concerns about the wars, conflicts, violence, injustice, and climate change currently happening in our world. Sometimes there's a little brainstorming about how we can help, often there are prayers for God's help, and still, there's the awareness that there aren't easy answers to resolve these problems.

Advent is an excellent time of year to practice how we will persevere and teach our children to persevere while living through difficult times. It is a time to practice building the resilience and community that prepares us to walk in the way of Jesus as advocates for justice and love in a troubled world. In Advent, we seek to take note of and live into the moments of joy that are all around us.

I am reminded of the phrase by poet Toi Dericotte that "Joy is an act of Resistance" – this phrase is the title of a poem within a cycle of poems about Dericotte's deceased pet fish, Telly – a creature that was small and in the grand scheme of things, short-lived, but also a source of joy, beauty, connection, and vibrancy. These poems are about Telly, but they are also about all of life, poems about how Dericotte has persevered in her resistance to centuries of oppression and racism – a reminder to take notice of and celebrate all of the Joy we encounter along the journey.

This month we are using an artful curriculum with our young folks about embracing Joy called *How does a weary world rejoice?* We have Advent devotionals and calendars available for you to use at home too. We hope these resources will be an extra support in encouraging our children and their families to seek out and build up during this season, to reach out and build connections with the community around us. Because we all need that well of love and joy to sustain us for the work ahead. Wishing you Love in Action, Amanda.

### Nursery

Nursery Staff are available in our nursery rooms (past our church office and back through the children's library) during the 10:30 service and some special events. Parents, please make sure to fill out the sign in/sign out sheet with your information before you drop off/pick up your children. Please let us know about any questions/concerns that you have as parents. Thanks!

### High School Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes only meet once this month, on December 6<sup>th</sup>! Please continue to keep these young people in your prayers as they learn about and grow in their understanding of their faith.

### OWL (for 9th graders) Sundays, 6:00pm

OWL (Our Whole Lives) Sexuality Curriculum meets December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> this month.

### Middle School (grades 6-8) Youth Group Wednesdays, 6:00pm

Youth group is every Wednesday at 6:00pm! In addition to building friendships and having fun, each month we will be engaging in a service opportunity. Last month we gathered canned goods for a local food shelf and had a sneak peak inside the big tree at Bentleyville. This month we will be making treats for the warming centers. Please keep an eye out for more details in the weekly church emails.

### Children's Church this Winter

Come join us for Children's Church each Sunday during the 10:30 service. Kids stay in the service until Story for All Ages, leave for Children's Church for 20-30 min (where we sing, read stories, make art and have fun) and then come back with the adults for communion/offering. All kids and youth (and parents!) are welcome to join us – it's always a sweet and lively time together! This month we are using a curriculum called *How does a weary world rejoice?* This art-centered curriculum involves puppets, skits, and cool crafts as we journey through the Christmas story as told by Luke.

## Welcoming Pastor Corinne

We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Pastor Corinne. Her first day in the office is January 8<sup>th</sup>, and January 14<sup>th</sup> will be her first Sunday leading worship. Members of the Search Committee and Transition Team are making plans for welcome events and activities.

One thought to make it easier for Pastor Corinne to get to know us is to repeat a wonderful method that has worked well in the past: recipe cards with information about you. On the card you can put your name, any family members names, what connects you to Peace, what committees or activities you are involved in at Peace, etc. We will have recipe cards available in the office for you to complete.

Watch the weekly emails for further information about how you can help welcome her.

### Let's Update our Online Picture Directory!

It's a great time to update our Online Picture Directory. This will be a helpful tool for Rev. Corinne to learn our names and faces. Whether you are a member or friend, if you participate in our life at Peace Church, we'd love to have you included.

#### If you are already in the directory and just need to update your photo:

Enter a picture you already have into your account,

Email a picture you already have to the office and it will be entered for you,

Leave a print of a photo you already have in the office and it will be scanned and entered for you.

#### If you are new to Peace or need to have a picture taken:

John Ameal will be taking photos on December 10<sup>th</sup>, between services and after the 10:30 service.

#### Don't have an account yet or can't remember?

Set up one up at <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> or contact Bri at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).

#### New to Peace or aren't in the directory yet?

Please email [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org) and ask that your email be added to the directory. Once added you will be able to create an account and access the directory. Or leave your name and email address in the office with Bri.

**Download the Instant Church Directory app on your phone** and quickly access addresses and phone numbers of fellow members and friends.

## A Word for Justice

### Building Racial Consciousness

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, 28 Peace members gathered in the sanctuary for a conversation facilitated by Revs. Anthony Galloway and Jia Starr Brown of the Dendros Group.

Among other things, we pondered the inter-related meanings of the words "nationality," "ethnicity" and "culture." We reflected on the

ways we learned about those things as we were growing up. What was said? What was left unsaid? We then had the opportunity to listen closely and attentively to someone else's story and be listened to as we told ours.

The next session is January 20<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-12:30. Pastor Anthony will help us learn more about the historical context that has shaped what we share - and fail to share - about our racial identities. After January 7<sup>th</sup>, if you have questions or would like to become part of Peace's Building Racial Consciousness group, please contact Betty Green ([bgreene@d.umn.edu](mailto:bgreene@d.umn.edu)) or Penny Cragun ([pcragun01@gmail.com](mailto:pcragun01@gmail.com)).



### Homeless Community Vigil Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm

Every year CHUM holds a march and vigil for people who passed away, people who experience homeless, had been homeless, or were advocates for those persons. They deserve to be honored and remembered. The schedule is as followed:

- 4:45pm People will be meeting at the Chum Food Shelf (120 N 1st Ave W) to drop off donations for Street Outreach.
- 5:00pm Marchers will gather and get ready for the march. Each person will be given a sign with someone's name who has passed away. Then head to Duluth City Hall.
- 5:20pm Marchers will arrive at City Hall, where they will be greeted by Cedar Creek with a welcoming song.
- 5:30pm The vigil will begin.

Come stand to honor and remember individuals who passed away this year, both the homeless and their advocates.

## CHUM News



**CHUM is “People of faith working together to provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and organize for a just and compassionate community.”**

Let me begin by telling you about one fun upcoming opportunity and then let me share some of the news from the Gala and the Fall Assembly.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala was attended by 536 people but only raised \$127,000 of the hoped \$200,000. This is critical, for as in the rest of the country, homelessness is an increasing problem;

here it becomes life-threatening in the winter. Chum has a large federal grant to expand the Drop in Shelter. The Stepping On Up Program in which Chum is one of the lead partners, is making inroads into the problem, but grants don't pay the electricity and everyday costs of running such a large social service agency.

The Fall Assembly gave a much better picture of all the things Chum is doing. As we walked into First Lutheran Church's Sanctuary, there was a large pyramid of canned tomato products at the base of the altar. The congregation has become a “Staple” congregation providing a specific product from a list of regularly needed food staples rather than donations of random groceries. Putting it in such a visible site was a wonderful reminder of what they are doing and when they need to be sure to send more. If I can get at least a dozen or more families to try this, I will find out what is needed and we can begin doing this as well. Before I leave the subject of food, Chum handed out 350 food boxes, each with a turkey before Thanksgiving.



Homeless Community Vigil will be held on December 19<sup>th</sup>, march begins at 5:00pm at the Chum Food Shelf and continues on to the Vigil service on the steps of Duluth City Hall at 5:30.

The rest of the Assembly consisted of reports by several other organizations Chum is a part of and several churches reported their volunteer activity.

Before I close, I want to thank Dick and Linda Goese and the members of PALS for donating, dividing, and delivering staples for the Chum Food Shelf.

Chum is always looking for volunteers and there is a list of things they need on their website [www.chumduluth.org](http://www.chumduluth.org).

Peace Friends, Louise Hawley

### **Chum Cookie Bake-off!**

#### ***December 9<sup>th</sup> at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church***

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday CHUM provides a volunteer opportunity especially suited for families with youth. On December 9<sup>th</sup>, Gloria Dei will host cookie baking that will provide cookies for the Warming Center and the St. Francis Apartments. Bring your favorite cookie recipe and any special ingredients or equipment – CHUM will have all the general baking ingredients available for you. All cookies will be frozen, so they must be shelf-stable (no cheese or cream-based treats). Children are welcome to bring some grown-up helpers to shifts from 9am onward. Work in the kitchen and with hot cookie sheets is restricted to older youth and adults. This a great activity for grandparents and their grands! You can visit CHUM's website [www/chumduluth.org/secondsaturdays](http://www/chumduluth.org/secondsaturdays) or click on the desired shift description to get to the registration page:

[Mixing up dough \(begins at 8am\)](#)

[Rolling/cutting/forming dough on cookie sheets \(begins at 9am\)](#)

[Decorating cookies \(begins at 10am\)](#)

### Climate Books for Kids for Christmas

The old rhyme goes "Christmas is coming and the goose is getting fat! Please to put a penny in the old man's hat!" Canada geese may be flying south for the winter...or maybe not...Here are book suggestions for parents to gently talk with their children about climate change and lovingly caring for our beautiful world.

These are some books recommended by the UM Center for Climate Literacy <https://www.climatelit.org>

For young children:

*We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom. The book shows how individuals, including children, need to find the courage for collective action about resource extraction; it highlights the wisdom of Indigenous knowledge that center our kinship with nature.

*Only One* by Deborah Hopkinson This beautiful picture book follows a young girl as she explains the story of the universe, millions of plants and animals and reforestation by people.

*The Fate of Fausto* by Oliver Jeffers With a direct reference to Goethe's *Faust*, Oliver Jeffers' *The Fate of Fausto* chronicles the failed ambitions of (a) man to dominate the non-human world. It is a silly book with a serious message.

*The Tantrum that Saved the World* by Megan Herbert and climate scientist Michael Mann Told in rhyming couplets, *The Tantrum* introduces a girl called Sophia, whose home suddenly becomes a refuge for a number of climate migrants and refugees: from a polar bear, pink flamingo, a turtle, and a swarm of bees to the I-Kiribati family, Syrian farmers, and a New England fisherman.

Recommended for teens:

Comics and graphic novels: Astronuts series by "So now it's up to you to figure a way out. You can: a) Burn less fossil fuels or b) Find another planet with air and water and plants and animals, just like Me."

*AstroNuts, Mission One: The Plant Planet!* is a graphic novel science fantasy narrated by planet Earth. AstroNuts are four superpowered mutant animals: AlphaWolf, SmartHawk, LaserShark, and StinkBug.

*Odder* by Katherine Applegate. The story can be used to teach children the importance of saving animals without turning them into pets. Animals are the best teachers for their own kind.

### Coffee Hour Coordinators Needed!

Do you like helping with Coffee Hour? Do you like being able to connect with more people? Coffee Hour Coordinators. are responsible for scheduling the volunteers for the month, overseeing the coffee hour and checking supplies. If interested, please contact Bri at [Office@peaceucc.org](mailto:Office@peaceucc.org) and let her know what month you would like to take on. The months that are needed are:

March x1  
April x2  
June x2  
July x2  
August x1  
September x2



### Teams and Committees

Are you wanting to join a team or committee but not sure if it will be the right fit? We welcome everyone to come stop by team meetings and try it out to see if it might be a good fit for you! Contact Bri at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org) to get the schedule of meetings you would like to attend.

Peace Church encourages everyone to be a part of the church community. If you would like a list of descriptions of the teams, committees and other groups, you can pick up a pamphlet in the Narthex next time you are in church.

What's the difference between a team and a committee? Committees are appointed by the Church Council and carry on the business of the church. If you are interested in serving on a Committee, contact Jessica Olson, moderator.

Teams organize and plan for the ministry of the congregation. They are open to any friend or member interested in helping out. There are no "terms" or limits for team members. Teams are a great place to bring your passion to Peace and get to know others with similar interests.

### Coffee Hour Volunteers

We ask every member of Peace to volunteer to help with coffee hour at least once during the calendar year. We're happy to have you choose the month in which you'd be willing to help out!

On that one Sunday, we ask you to bring treats (2 - 3 dozen), set up coffee hour items, serve and clean up.

Coffee Hour is a vital part of Sunday Morning Hospitality. If you are not assigned to a month you can contact Bri at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).

# Volunteers

## Coffee Hour Volunteers

Every Sunday our 11:30 Coffee Hour is brought to you by our Coffee Hour Volunteers. This month our Coordinators are Cathy Ameel and Bridget Reistad.

Self-Serve coffee is available at 9:30 in the Narthex. Coffee Hour Volunteers are not responsible for this hospitality.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Bri in the office at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).

December 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Ellen Shelton  
Tom and Christine Day**

December 10<sup>th</sup>

**Patty Beech-Dziuk  
Bridget Reistad**

December 17<sup>th</sup>

**Amy Galarowicz and Susan Kehtel**

December 24<sup>th</sup>

**Cathy Ameel**

December 31<sup>st</sup>

**Cathy Ameel  
Mike Schrage**

## Ushers and Lay Readers

Sunday morning hospitality is an important ministry at Peace. Your welcoming presence and assistance during worship makes a huge difference. If interested in being a lay reader contact Bri at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).

December's Head Usher is Warren Post. If you are interested in being an usher contact Bri at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org) or Warren Post at [seadog0325@gmail.com](mailto:seadog0325@gmail.com).

### 8:30 Service

December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
**Gayle and Jack Kelly**

December 10<sup>th</sup>  
**Tom and Monica  
Liddle**

December 17<sup>th</sup>  
**Pat and Lynn Devlin**

December 24<sup>th</sup>  
**10:30 Service Only**

December 31<sup>st</sup>  
**Cyndi Brown and  
Deb McLeod**

### 10:30 Service

December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
**Cindy Macaulay**

December 10<sup>th</sup>  
**Warren Post**

December 17<sup>th</sup>  
**Warren Post**

December 24<sup>th</sup>  
**Warren Post**

December 31<sup>st</sup>  
**Warren Post**

## Monday Meals for Loaves and Fishes

Peace volunteers make and deliver meals for **Loaves and Fishes Dorothy Day House** on Monday evenings. Usually meals need to serve 10-15 persons. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, email [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org) or access the schedule on our website under the menu "for volunteers."

December 4<sup>th</sup> - **Gayle and Jack Kelly**

December 11<sup>th</sup> - **Open**

December 18<sup>th</sup> - **Open**

December 25<sup>th</sup> - **Open**

## Damiano Community Kitchen

Peace volunteers help prepare and serve a meal at Damiano Community Kitchen twice a month. Each shift needs 2-3 volunteers, bring a friend or a youth 16 and up! [Click here](#) to sign up.

December 10<sup>th</sup> - 1:30-3:30pm - **3 Open Slots**  
4:30-6:30pm - **3 Open Slots**

December 23<sup>rd</sup> - 8:30-10:30am - **Tom and  
Christine  
Day**

**1 Open Slot**

11:00-1:00pm - **3 Open Slots**

1:30-3:30pm - **3 Open Slots**

4:30-6:30pm - **3 Open Slots**

Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup> we had all slots covered for the Damiano Community Kitchen! We had a few people sign up last minute to make sure everything was covered. Thank you very much to everyone who volunteered!

***Many thanks to all our volunteers!***

## CHUM Breakfast

Every other Wednesday morning, a group of people meet in the kitchen, making 100 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, adding a granola bar and a cutie, to paper bags for the CHUM Drop In Center. We so appreciate all of you who have donated grape jelly, peanut butter, and granola bars. We are always in need of those items for our Wednesday sandwich making. Thank you so much! Blessings!



# Peace People

## Keep in Your Prayers

- All our members living in long-term care facilities: Joyce Riggle at Park Point; Mike Nugent at the Silver Bay Veterans Home; Steve Coll at St. Anne's; Amanda Cran at Bishop Woods and Sharon Kirtley at Viewcrest.
- All those undergoing treatment for cancer: Stephen Dando, Mary Caine-Hafdahl, Kim Kruger, Sam Peterson and others.

Our Deepest Sympathy go to Lyle Shannon on the passing of his brother Carl Shannon on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to April Knight and Brad Davis on the passing of Brad's mother on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Peace Prayer Chain

Please call the church office (218-724-3637) or Linda Goese (218-341-0918) with your prayer concerns. You can let us know whether or not to share your concern with the pastor for inclusion in Sunday morning prayers.

## Help Wanted!

Ellyn Wiens is looking for someone that could help walk her dogs a couple days a week. If you are able to or for more information contact Bri at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).

## Peace Church Market Place

Bob and Kay Stevens have 2 mature African Violets, that bloom frequently, to give away. Also, an older, hand crank ice cream maker. It's a bit rusty, but still works well.



They are looking for a twin sized bunk bed set to purchase. Their grandsons are rapidly outgrowing the junior sized set they have now.



Please contact Bob or Kay Stevens @ 218-724-4865 or [kay-bob-13@hotmail.com](mailto:kay-bob-13@hotmail.com), if you would like the items or have bunks for sale

Thanks

## Thank you's

- Thanks to Max and Ed Proetz for supplying the pines and birch branches.
- Thank you to Dick and Linda Goese for planting the Winter Greens by the front door.
- Thank you to Tom Liddle and Warren Post for getting the Christmas tree and to the Worship and Arts Team for decorating the sanctuary.
- Thank you to Lorraine Anderson for making this year's Advent Wreath.
- Many thanks go out to Deb O'Brien, and Terese Tomanek for their beautiful prayer shawls. We so appreciate our knitters!
- Thank you to April Knight for the bulletin board displays close to the office.

## Baptismal Blessings

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Ryan Mittlefehldt and Henry Schwensohn were baptized into Christian faith. Both are confirmation students. At the same time, other youth, mentors and confirmation facilitators were recognized and blessed by the congregation. Rev. Sara Olson Dean who is teaching the second year class and Pastor Charlotte Frantz officiated.

## Homeless Donations

### Generous Donations and Prayers

#### Thank you

Over the last few months, our parishioners have been very generous in identifying items for homeless people. I truly wished everyone could see the appreciative smiles and hoots of joy when I delivered your gifts. People have donated many warm blankets, towels, tents, gloves, sleeping bags, baked goods, winter clothes, camping equipment, tarps, camp stoves, garbage bags, toilet tissue, vitamins, candy and socks. I am truly grateful to deliver the generously shared items.

The goods were delivered to the CHUM Warming Center, Damiano Center, and camps near downtown. In the future, I plan to get permission to take pictures, but want to let you know how meaningful your gifts, thoughts and prayers mean to our neighbors.

- Louise Guggisberg

Peace Bell articles for January are due Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Send articles to [bri@peaceucc.org](mailto:bri@peaceucc.org)



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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 Worship at 8:30am & 10:30am

*If you would like to be on our email list to receive notices of church events, please send an email request to the church office: office@peaceucc.org*

**PEACE CHURCH STAFF**

Bridge Minister: Rev. Charlotte Frantz  
 Music Director: Jim Pospisil  
 Children, Youth and Small Group Coordinator: Amanda Hunter

Pastoral Care Chaplain: Gudrun Witrak  
 Office Coordinator: Bri Dornbush  
 Business Manager: Rachel Obed  
 Bookkeeper: Mali Lorenz  
 Custodian: Dan Shepard  
 Pianist: Wendy Durrwachter  
 Worship Tech: Alex Nelson



**PEACE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Thursday: 9am-3pm  
**PHONE:** 218-724-3637 **Web:** peaceucc.org **Facebook:** peaceduluth  
**EMAIL ADDRESSES:** Amanda: amanda@peaceucc.org Bri: office@peaceucc.org  
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**PEACE BELL** is a monthly publication of Peace United Church of Christ, Duluth, Minnesota

***Praising God; Living the Way of Jesus; and Building the Beloved Community of God***

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 of creation, including all people, respecting and valuing the diversity of people’s sexual orientation, race, culture, gender identity, age, opinions, and physical and mental abilities. *Visitors are always welcome!*