



DECEMBER 2022

# The Peace Bell

PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## ADVENT 2022

In August, the Worship and Arts Team attended an online workshop led by Marsha McFee and began planning around the Advent theme “Reflecting the Sacred.” As a result, Peace is offering more varied worship opportunities this year. Each Sunday, the 8:30 service is a more traditional liturgy with the lighting of the Advent wreath and sung responses as we celebrate Holy Communion. The 10:30 service is more “sensory rich” with a darkened sanctuary at the beginning of the service, meditation, dance, visuals, and eclectic music. In addition, there are forums about what we consider “sacred” and a Thursday evening quiet, sacred time (via zoom). You’ll find additional opportunities for community service, and community-building events where we can pause and connect with each other during this holiday season. Marsha McFee put it this way: “Imagine your favorite time of the day, and let it play through your mind in slow motion. Now imagine a sprinkling of sparkling dust floating down upon this scene. All of life reflects the sacred. That’s what this season and the incarnation of the Divine means.” We hope you’ll find something here at Peace that helps you reflect upon the sacred in your life this holy season.

### Sundays in Advent

#### **November 27 Sacred Time**

##### **World AIDS Day,**

Sermon by Pastor Jim Mitulski  
Holy Communion

8:30 Lighting the Advent Wreath,  
10:30 Lantern Bearer bringing in the Light,

#### **December 4 Sacred People**

##### **Anniversary of Montgomery Bus Boycott**

8:30 “Prophets Preparing the Way,” sermon by  
Pastor Jim Mitulski

10:30 Liturgical Dance, Meditation, Children’s  
Church

5:00 Taize service of Scripture, candlelight  
and prayer

#### **December 11 Sacred Space**

##### **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:30 Responsorial Psalm, sermon by Pastor  
Jim Mitulski

10:30 Cantata presented by Peace Choir and  
Orchestra, Children’s Church

4:30 Peace and Praise Service especially for  
families with young, energetic children

#### **December 18 Sacred Knowing**

##### **Hanakkuk**

8:30 Holy Communion with sung responses,  
sermon by Pastor Jim Mitulski

10:30 Original children and youth pageant

### Bringing in the Light Together Thursday 7pm Online Meditations

Pause with us for an online communal meditation time where we will listen together as a beloved community for that still, small voice that speaks to each of us. You are invited to join this gathering in quiet, guided meditation for four Thursdays, 7:00-7:30 beginning on Dec. 1. Come for any number of sessions--Dec 1, 8, 15, 22. If you have questions, you can contact Nathan at [nathan@peaceucc.org](mailto:nathan@peaceucc.org). Here is the Zoom link to join: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83085290178>.

### Sundays 9:30 am Forums on the Sacred

#### **December 11:** Sacred Time and Place

All time is sacred time and all place is sacred place when we have the eyes to see and heart to feel. We probably could not live in such heightened awareness all of the time. The sacred is something set apart, dedicated to a special purpose to serve the holy, the transcendent, the ineffable. How and why do we do this?

#### **December 18:** Sacred People and Sacred Knowing

The sacred people of Advent include the familiar persons in the Christmas story. And, perhaps, we who relive the sacred scene that has been created through myth and history, story and meaning-making. Our incarnate God tells us that all persons are sacred, holy, immeasurably valuable. We know this through the sacred knowing of faith, one of the most fundamental ways we know the most important realities in our world. Both discussions led by Dr. Gary Boelhower.

Watch for more details in our weekly emails!

## Christmas 2022

### Christmas Cantata

**December 11 10:30 am**

**(You'll want to be here by 10:15 for  
Corelli's "Christmas Concerto")**

Please join us for this year's choir cantata on Sunday, December 11, for the 10:30 worship service. This will include choral anthems with orchestra, soloists, new compositions by Wendy Durrwachter and Jim Pospisil, Christmas carol singing, and Christmas story readings. A special treat will be a performance of Archangelo Corelli's "Christmas Concerto" for strings, played for the prelude, beginning at 10:15.



### All Ages Christmas Caroling December 11, Noon

Stick around after the 10:30 service for pizza and conversation—and then we'll carpool to sing carols to some of our Peace folks. Just some old-fashioned fun with familiar carols and a chance to be together, get to know each other, and spread Christmas cheer.

Enthusiasm counts for a lot, singing voices not required! If you are new to Peace, this can be a great way to meet a few people and have some fun!



### Peace and Praise Service December 11 4:30 pm

Christmas Carols for the youngest, most energetic children and those who love them! Peace and Praise is specially designed for families who want to worship together in a space where kids can be kids. This month we'll sing some carols, practice gratitude, and eat together afterwards. Meet in the sanctuary.



### Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

**Christmas Eve Worship  
4:00 and 10:00 pm**

**Christmas Day Worship  
8:30 and 10:30 am**

Watch for more details about these services in the weekly emails sent from the church office. You will find livestream links on the website, <https://www.peaceucc.org>, and in the weekly reminders.



### Soup's On! Christmas Eve after the 4:00 service

Stay after the 4:00 pm service and enjoy soup, bread and maybe some Christmas cookies with Peace friends. If you'd be willing to bring soup or bread, or help with set up or clean up, contact Cathy Ameel ([ameelcj123@aol.com](mailto:ameelcj123@aol.com)) or leave information for her in the church office.

### Doves on the Christmas Tree

Stop to look closely at the doves on Peace's Christmas tree. Each one was made or donated by a Peace member or family. If you have a small dove in memory of someone, or as a reminder of some sacred place, feel free to add to our church collection of Peace

Please note that office hours may vary between December 23 and January 2. If you need to something, please call ahead.

## Special Events

### CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL

12:00 Noon

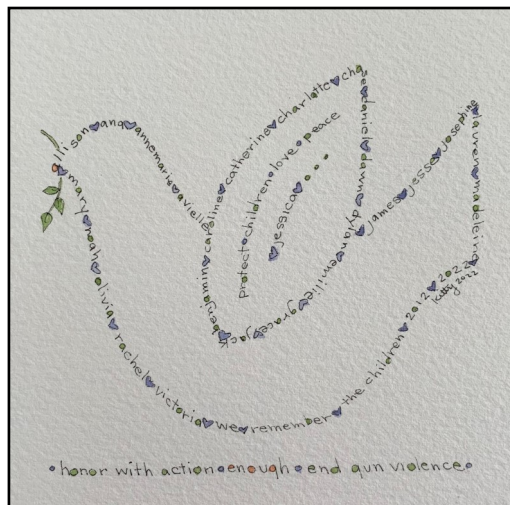
#### City Hall Steps

Come to honor and remember those in the homeless community who died this past year. Some of them were homeless at the time of their death and some of them were advocates who worked on behalf of those who were unsheltered. Come say their names so they will not be forgotten. Bring donations to be distributed by CHUM's Outreach Workers or Warming Center staff.



### A Few Pastoral Thoughts

As I collected news items for this issue of the Peace Bell, I organized this page to lift up community observances. Then I wondered about the juxtaposition—the tears and anger I feel as I remember Sandy Hook, the sense of exhaustion I often feel in the face of homelessness, the undeniable joy and exuberance of Gospel music. I almost took this page apart to redesign it. Then it occurred to me—isn't this exactly what the sacred season is about? Joy and confidence in God's presence amidst all the tears and grief and discouragement of our world? So I left the page as it is. I hope it bears witness to our Advent theme. In both tears and joy, we see and hear and feel the sacred come upon us. Pastor Charlotte Frantz



### Sandy Hook Remembrance

December 14 11:45 am

#### Peace Church Sanctuary

Speakers include Gary Boelhower, Aliya Flotten, Diana Oestreich. Music by Nathan Holst and M Hakes. Candles, bellringing, and call to action (again). This event will be livestreamed, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJM3P4uExSw> Art work by Kitty Hoden.

Bring mittens, scarves, hats, caps and other items for CHUM. Bring non-violent, creative toys and supplies for Grandmothers for Peace gifts to AICHO.

### Christmas Fund Special Offering

December 25

This special offering of the United Church of Christ provides supplemental gifts to pastors and their families. Sometimes this is to meet emergency needs and sometimes it is a gift to those whose pensions are particularly low because they served congregations with limited financial resources and as a result, their retirement pensions are inadequate.

### Looking Ahead

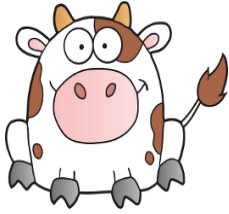
Sunday, January 1

8:30 and 10:30

New Year's and Kwanzaa



## Interim Time



### Holy Cow Survey

Early in the fall, the Transition Team urged Peace members and friends to fill out a survey from Holy Cow Consulting. Holy Cow provides assessments to congregations, libraries, schools and non-profits as they navigate organizational transitions. They have worked with more than 5,000 organizations, and so are able to also offer comparative information.

In early November, Peace staff, Co-ordinating Council members, the Transition and Search Committees and Stewardship Team were invited to a presentation of the survey results.

On December 4, the Transition Team made two presentations to the congregation, one at the 9:30 forum time and one immediately following the 10:30 worship. The second was livestreamed and is still available to view: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvoer2gyKBw>)

According to the survey, most of the congregation are satisfied and feel positively about Peace. However, the sources of that satisfaction and energy differ among members of the congregation. The data is broken down by both length of tenure at Peace and age ranges, so there is some sense of what is important to whom.

Despite the differences among congregants, Holy Cow identified four top goals widely supported by Peace:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.

- Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.

- Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships (for example, small groups, nurtured friendships, shared meals, etc).

- Develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.

These priorities are already guiding staff and Coordinating Council decisions.

Holy Cow identified three goals that are more strongly supported at Peace than in many other congregations.

- Expand outreach ministries that provide direct services to those living on the margins of society. (i.e. homeless, immigrant, transient persons)

- Strengthen the management and support of persons in various ministries so that they are able to do what they do best in work that is meaningful and celebrated

- Strengthen the pastoral response of the church in serving people in times of need (emotional, mental, physical, spiritual, etc.).

These goals may provide important clues about areas of ministry to be strengthened as we move into the future.

Two other insights may be helpful in understanding who we are a congregation. Holy Cow consultants characterized the culture of Peace Church as what they call "magi culture." This includes a desire for the mystical, intellectual curiosity, valuing different perspectives, and a willingness to explore possibilities. They also characterized Peace church as a "pastor-centered" congregation, meaning that the identified leader has an important role in shaping the life of the congregation and making decisions.



### Nathan Holst and NGLI

I want to share some exciting news about a UCC leadership program to which I was recently accepted. The program is called the Next Generation Leadership Initiative (NGLI) and is sponsored by the UCC Pension Boards. They describe it as a “leadership development initiative that equips, energizes, and empowers younger UCC local church pastors to build vibrant congregations that change lives and further God’s mission in the world.”

I share not only because I am personally excited about being selected as one of 14 young congregational leaders from around the country, but because it benefits you as a congregation by increasing my leadership capacity and knowledge.

While I am just beginning this 6 year program (which includes 2 week-long continuing education experiences each year), I want to share a couple highlights from my recent trip to Memphis for the orientation. During our 5 days there, we had conversations about the future of the church. We visited the Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine motel. Together we reflected how racial justice and building the beloved community must be central in our vision of the future. We took some initial steps toward building trust and having honest conversations with each other.

We also were introduced to the Whole Brain Thinking Model which helps organize and define cognitive diversity in different kinds of people. For example, while everyone has the ability to think in the four ways the model puts forward, some people have particular tendencies. Some people are more drawn to facts and ask how what we are doing moves us toward our goal. Others are focused on relationships and ask who is at the table in our work together. Still others focus on vision and creativity and will continually ask “what if...?” Others will tend to focus on the details and ask how we will organize to get something done. There is no “best” way of thinking—we need all kinds of people to help make things happen in community. While all models like this have their limitations, I find it helpful to reflect on making sure the work that I do either includes multiple ways of thinking or best matches the person with whom I am working. I appreciate your support in giving me space to grow as a leader. I am excited to offer my learning as I work here.

### Peace Staff Under Construction

Peace Church staff continues to undergo transitions. Pastor Jim accepted a call to the Congregational Church of Belmont, California. He will serve as their settled pastor and will be able to live in his own apartment. He has lived in the area for many years, it is “home” to him.

He, the Executive Committee at Peace, and the Minnesota Conference staff are working to secure a Bridge Minister for Peace. The work of a Bridge Pastor is a little different from that of an Interim Minister. Their job is to provide leadership as the congregation readies itself for a settled pastor. They do not plan to stay as long nor do they initiate as many changes as an Interim. Here a Bridge Pastor will likely have primary responsibility for preaching, working with the Coordinating Council, and supervising staff. Much of the ongoing ministry of the congregation will continue to be carried out by the current staff.

Peace is currently without the anticipated business manager and the office coordinator, Bri Dornbush, is expected to return from maternity leave at the end of December. Susan Richards is serving as a temporary office assistant in Bri’s absence.

There are some new developments in conversations about a staff position to augment Nathan’s work with children and youth. More than a year ago, Peace’s Children’s Minister resigned. For the last year, that position was not filled. In the meantime, Nathan has worked with Peace parents, the teams related to Faith Formation and Children’s Ministry, and other staff. Another model for staffing Children, Youth, and Family Ministries is emerging. The Faith Formation Minister oversees faith development programs across the generations. We have hired an additional part-time person (more info coming next month with a full introduction) who will help implement some specific programs such as Children’s Church and/or youth group activities.

Charlotte continues to fill in where needed, currently she is helping with much of the of administrative support during this transition time.

The staff appreciates your support and encouragement in this time of change.

## Peace Church Groups

### **Spiritual Journey Group** **Monday, December 5 and 19** **7:00pm via Zoom**

All are invited to be part of the Spiritual Journey group. We meet on Zoom the first and third Mondays of the month from 7-8 pm to reflect on how our spiritual journey is going and how life is calling us. We use a poem or short reading to center our reflection, followed by a few minutes of journaling and the opportunity to share. Email Gary Boelhower for the Zoom link at [gboelhower@msn.com](mailto:gboelhower@msn.com). Upcoming meetings: December 5 and 19.

### **Monday Book Group**

The Monday Book Group will not meet in December. Instead they will meet January 2 and 16. Watch for further information. They are likely to meet at Sally Larson's home.



### **Therapeutic SomaYoga** **Mondays 9:00-10:15am** **Fireside Room**

Therapeutic SomaYoga for healthy aging. Taught by Robin Davidson, PT, RYT, yoga therapist in training. This 75 minute class focuses on different aspects of the body, mind, and spirit that will support you in increased wellness as you age. It is very gentle and offers modifications for all levels of participants. Free will donations for the class (suggested \$10) can be made to the office. Come in person or contact Robin at [roblee91@msn.com](mailto:roblee91@msn.com) for the Zoom link.

### **Making Meaning Out Of Malignancy** **Monday, December 19, 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 virtual group. The group meets monthly. Please email the office for the Zoom link.

### **Men's Breakfast**

#### **Every other Thursday 8:00 a.m.**

Join us for breakfast and conversation! We meet every other Thursday at 8:00am at The New London Cafe on East Superior Street. Our next breakfast gatherings are Thursday, December 1, 15 and 29.

### **Virtual Bible Study** **Wednesdays at 5:00pm via Zoom**

The Narrative lectionary moves through portions of the Bible, giving readers a comprehensive overview of the Biblical message. Our virtual Bible study, led by Tom Liddle and Bob Stevens, uses this lectionary. Readings this fall are primarily from the Gospel of Matthew and Genesis. No prior Biblical knowledge is necessary to participate in this group. Watch the weekly emails for the texts and Zoom link. At the end of our conversation, we close with prayer. Please note that after experimenting with a 5:30 start time, we've decided to begin at 5:00.



### **Women's Tea and Talk** **Wednesday, December 7** **3:00 pm "Christmas** **Cookies and Tea"**

Who doesn't have a favorite Christmas cookie recipe and a story to go with it? Bring the recipe and the story—we'll be content to imagine the taste of the cookies! Unless of course, you've baked some and want to share a sample. Maybe it was the taste or the smell or the companionship or the connection to heritage—Take a break in your day and join the conversation. Mostly for women, but men who bake are welcome!!!!

### **PALS**

#### **(Peace Adults Learning and Socializing)**

Many thanks to all who donated to the November PALS event. A total of \$1,785 was raised to purchase 500 pounds of sugar, 500 pounds of flour and 108 pounds of coffee. The supplies cost \$910 with the remainder going as cash to the food shelf. 28 people repackaged the supplies in a bit over an hour and then enjoyed a pizza supper and fellowship time. Essentially all of the repackaged supplies were included in the 300 boxes of food distributed prior to Thanksgiving.

No get-together in December. Watch for information about 2023 activities. Enjoy your holidays!

## Children, Youth and Families



*"Ring the bells that still can ring  
Forget your perfect offering  
There is a crack in everything  
That's how the light gets in."  
~Leonard Cohen*

### **Middle School Youth Group Wednesdays 6:00 pm**

It's been a full fall with youth group! We continue to create space to hang out and have fun together, talking about what our youth want for their time in youth group on Wednesday nights. Come share your voice and opinion and make youth group an awesome time together. Come join us on Wednesday nights at 6:00 in the fellowship hall for gaga ball, hang out time, and a chance to build some great friendships!

### **High School Youth Gathering Sunday, December 11**

Plans are still being developed for this monthly gathering for high school youth. Watch for further information from Nathan.

### **Pageant Sunday December 18 10:30 am**

Come join us on Dec 18<sup>th</sup> for this year's Christmas pageant, an original creation with writing help from Emily Meyer at the Ministry Lab in the Twin Cities. We've got about 30 kids and youth signed up to be a part of it, so it will be a fun and sizable production. For kids and youth participating, keep an eye for an email with more details about practice. We'll gather on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12pm for a run through of the pageant.

### **Peace and Praise Family Worship December 11 4:30 pm, Sanctuary**

What if parents could let kids be kids while enjoying a worship experience with them? Think open to all ages and created with energetic kids in mind. We'll have our next gathering on Sunday, December 11 at 4:30pm in the Sanctuary. Worship for 20-30 minutes and we'll provide food afterward--just bring yourselves. Optional RSVP to Nathan at [nathan@peaceucc.org](mailto:nathan@peaceucc.org).

### **Kids Choir**

Kids Choir rehearses every Wednesday at 5:00 in the Sanctuary. Susan Larson Kidd would like to know if your children will be able to sing at the 4:00 service on Christmas Eve. Please contact her at [susan.larson.kidd@drslk.com](mailto:susan.larson.kidd@drslk.com).

### **Winter Nursery in the Fireside Room**

This last month we moved our childcare into the "mobile nursery" (with some toys from the nursery) to the fireside room for the 2<sup>nd</sup> service (10:30 am-11:45 am). Parents, please make sure to fill out the sign in/out sheet with your information before you drop off/pick up your kids. We are looking for parent feedback to help us know the best way to serve our Peace parents in this time. Please let us know if there are needs we are missing or any questions/concerns that you have. Thanks!

### **Children's Church in Winter**

Come join us for Children's Church each Sunday during the 10:30 service! We've consistently had a group of 20 kids, youth, and adults and it's a ton of fun. If you haven't heard about it yet, the basic idea is that kids stay for the service until story for all ages, leave for Children's Church for 20-30 min (where we might sing, do art, or tell stories with puppets), and then come back with the adults for communion/offering. All kids and youth (and parents!) are welcome to join. Please note that we will **not have children's church on Dec 18** because that is the date of the pageant.

### **Peace High School Summer Youth Trip Washington DC, July 21-28**

That's right, our summer youth trip is open for registration. We'll be joining the Minnesota Conference for this trip, which mean we'll join a whole bunch of other youth from other congregations around the state. We'll be doing some training and lobbying on Capital Hill with legislators.

Please let Nathan Holst know if you register. (Don't wait to register because it closes at the end of January), so we can keep track of numbers. There's a link below for registration. There is an initial deposit of \$200. We can make sure everyone who wants to go can participate, so be in touch with me about that initial deposit if needed—we've got scholarship money to cover that.

As for the rest of the trip cost, we're hoping we can raise enough money in the spring to help cover the rest of the cost of the trip, so again don't let cost discourage youth from coming!

Here's the registration link: <https://www.uccmn.org/event/summer-2023-youth-trip-to-washington-dc/>



## New Members

### November 20, New Member Sunday

On November 20, Peace Church received five new members. If you see them, and don't know them, please introduce yourself.

#### Carrie Schenck Kelsey

**Family members:** John – spouse. Pumkkin & Max – cats

**What is your vocation?**  
Cheering people on!

**What are your hobbies/passions?** Music, learning, fiber arts, gardening

**What brought you to**

**Peace?** The name and the real commitment to peace and justice in our neighborhood and world.

**What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy?** I learned to type on a manual typewriter.



#### Jake and Diana Oestreich, Bridger and Zalalem (Zee)

**Family members (including pets):** dog Nakia and 2 guinea pigs

**What is your vocation?** Jake ~ physician, Diana ~ peacemaker & author

**What are your passions/hobbies?**

We love to play cards, snowboard, curl up by the fire and read great books, and do anything with our amazing teenage boys: go to their plays or cheer them at cross country meets!

**What brought you to Peace?** After Tamir Rice, Trayvon, and Michael Brown were killed, we needed a place that worked for black lives to matter, for the unsheltered, hungry, and vulnerable in our community. We started going to the marches and vigils and followed those we met back to Peace Church.

**What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy?** We have an RV called "The Hogwarts Express" that we love to camp in, and our nickname for each other is 'Bubba'.



#### Stephanie Pearson

**Family members:** Brian Hayden (partner), Jen Pearson (sister) Judy Pearson (Mom). I also have three brothers, Tim, Jon & Scott who do not live in Duluth.

**What is your vocation?**

Writer: most recently published 100 Great American Parks by National Geographic.

**What are your hobbies/passions?**

Mountain biking, skiing, paddling, camping, being outside, reading.

**What brought you to Peace?** I was at a UCC church for many years in Santa Fe NM, and my sister Jen is a member of Peace.

**What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy?** While I come by my Christianity by my Dad, who was a Lutheran minister, I've always had a fascination with other beliefs, denominations and religions. In Sunday School I asked if we could visit a bunch of other churches – Jehovah's Witness, Catholic, Latter Day Saints, etc., so we spent months going to other churches. Later in life, I traveled to Bhutan to study Buddhism with a Buddhist scholar.



#### Zachary, Phoenix Joseph, Edan & Ari Sol Campbell

**What is your vocation?**  
Jungian Psychotherapist

**What are your hobbies/passions?** Skate skiing, reading, pottery, writing poetry, deep sea diving, supporting natural places like the BWCA and chasing northern lights.

**What brought you to Peace?** Desire to be involved in a social justice-oriented congregation, to help raise my children in an active church.

**What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy?** I have studied with a Musoke-Creek Choctaw Chickasaw Indigenous Shaman learning Native pipe ceremony, sweat lodge and vision quest





## Peace People

### Let's Update our Picture Directory!

As we look forward to a new settled pastor at Peace Church, we'd like to update our online photo directory. When we launched the directory a few months back, we included everyone in our current database, with names, phone numbers, email addresses, and street addresses. We have photos of many of you, either taken at church, or one you submitted. Please visit [in-stantchurchdirectory.com](http://in-stantchurchdirectory.com) and sign in with your email address and create a password. Check your entry to see if all the info is current—you are able to edit if any changes are needed. **We especially want to add photos**—please add a photo to your listing, or send a family photo to [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org) and we can insert it.

This will be so helpful to our new pastor, but also a great way for all of us to recognize each other more readily. We hope you all will make use of this directory when you want to contact another member by phone or email, or if you need an address to send a card. And we are happy to provide a printed copy to anyone unable to access it online. *If you are new to Peace since our directory was compiled, please send a note to the office with your info and we will add you to the directory.*

### Thank You



To the Worship and Arts Team for planning our Advent worship and decorating the sanctuary: Phyllis Cook, Jan Nugent,

Annette Strom, Tim Peters, Susan Larson Kidd, Gudrun Witrak, Jim Pospisil, Tom Liddle, Nathan Holst, Charlotte Frantz and Pastor Jim Mitulski.

To Warren Post, Tom Liddle and Susan Larson Kidd for picking out the Christmas tree and getting it to Peace.

To the Transition Team for urging our participation in the Holy Cow survey and then sharing the results: Cathy Ameel, Bob Stevens, Ezra Shomberg, Jessica Olson, Kelly Grgas, Mary Junnila, Mike Schrage, and Veronica Gaidelis-Langer.

To Tim Peters for hosting coffee hour after the Thanksgiving Day service.

To all the Stewardship speakers and Chili Chefs who helped us imagine Peace Possibilities. To Jim Pospisil for inviting Steve Horner as guest musician.

### Keep in Your Prayers

- Jan Eschbach is recovering from electrical burns from her accident three years ago. She is dealing with every day challenges and appreciates the prayers from her church family.
- All those undergoing treatment for cancer: Stephen Dando, Terrie Shannon, Mary Caine-Hafdahl, Kim Kruger, Marg Paulson, Sam Peterson, Geof Witrak and others.
- 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.
- Antonio and Maria Morales Perez, married on November 20 by Pastor Charlotte,
- Prayers of gratitude for the birth of Hazel Fifield to Liz, Owen and Hugh Fifield on November 10.
- Prayers of gratitude for the birth of Donald (Donny) Dornbush, November 10.



For years Marion Jenson has come to the Advent workshop to craft the large outdoor wreath that graces Peace Church. Thank you, Marion! Peace's Advent workshop was November 27.

**It's Not Too Late  
To Turn in Your Pledge Card!**  
**Imagine Peace Possibilities if each of us  
pledged our support to Peace Church, its  
mission and ministry.**

### 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 pastors for inclusion in Sunday morning prayers.

## COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

### Peace Church Meals for the CHUM Drop In Center

(located at 125 North 1st Ave West)

Please note that all food is prepared at Peace Church, dropped off at Chum, and served by Chum staff.

### Thursday Chum Dinner December 15

Donations of food for the dinner are always welcome! Let us know if you'd like to be on the email list to provide food and/or help make sandwiches or deliver food to Chum. Contact the church office at 218-724-3637 .

### Wednesday Chum Breakfast: December 14 and 28

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



### Gifts Galore: Peace's Giving Tree

Thanks to the generosity of Peace members, Peace's Giving Tree is providing gift cards to be distributed to teens and young adults served by Lifehouse, toys for the neighborhood children



Monica Liddle and Pastor Charlotte put tags on the Giving Tree in time for the first Sunday of Advent

who come to the block party sponsored by Loaves and Fishes, non-violent toys, creative crafts and books for Grandmothers for Peace gifts to AICHO, and gas and food cards for CHUM's outreach workers to give away.

*Thank You!*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Volunteering with CHUM December 10<sup>th</sup>

Youth and Adults—come join us for a chance to connect with each other and volunteer to do some good! CHUM Duluth holds volunteering opportunities on the second Saturday of each month. This month the group is baking cookies from 9 a.m. to noon to mark special holidays throughout the season. Volunteers can bring their favorite recipes and any specialized ingredients or equipment. Chum will supply pantry staples like flour, sugar, butter, eggs, baking powder and soda, salt, and milk. Contact Nathan at [nathan@peaceucc.org](mailto:nathan@peaceucc.org) with any questions. To register go to [tfaforms.com](http://tfaforms.com).

### Legislative Send-off December 27

On December 27, members of CHUM congregations are invited to send our legislators off to St. Paul with blessings and prayers and reminders of our concern for legislation that will benefit those who are often treated as dispensable in our society. Time and place still pending.



### Ruby's Pantry Volunteers

December 15 2:30-7:30

(sign up for the hours work for you)

**Ruby's Pantry at Coppertop Church** provides two large boxes of food for \$25 to anyone looking to stretch their grocery dollar. It is held the third Thursday of each month from 2:30-7:30 pm. Peace will try to provide volunteers to help their "regular" volunteers organize food, load vehicles, and clean up.

The entire shift is 2:30-7:30, but we invite you to indicate which of those hours you can work. It is particularly important that we have some volunteers in the last hours of the shift. Minimum age is 12—if you have teens and are looking for a family service opportunity, this might work. Interested? Contact Cyndy Klinksiek, [cyndy6848@outlook.com](mailto:cyndy6848@outlook.com) or Charlotte, [charlotte@peaceucc.org](mailto:charlotte@peaceucc.org).

## Volunteer Schedules

### Coffee Hour Volunteers

Coffee Hour volunteers will help set up, serve and clean up after coffee hour. Additionally, please bring 2-3 dozen cookies or bars or an equivalent veggie or fruit.

December 4 Cathy Ameel and Bridget Reistad

December 11 Amy Galarowicz and Susan Kehtel; Tom and Christine Day

December 18 need coffee hour hosts

December 25 Tom and Linda Curran

### 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 5 Tom and Christine Day

December 12 Bob and Kay Stevens

December 18 Gayle and Jack Kelly

December 26 Tom and Christine Day

### Ushers, Greeters and Lay Readers

There's still plenty of opportunity to help with Sunday morning services in December. If you are willing to serve as an usher, greeter or lay reader, let us know by sending an email to [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org). You can also go to the webpage ([www.peaceucc.org](http://www.peaceucc.org)). Click on the For Volunteers at the top of the page, then scroll down. You'll find button for 8:30 services and another for 10:30. Thank you so much!

### Damiano Soup Kitchen

Peace volunteers help prepare and serve a Sunday meal at Damiano Soup Kitchen on the second Sunday of each month. December 11th volunteers are:

1:00-3:30 Kris Johnson  
Christine and Tom Day

3:30-6:00 Kris Johnson  
Shannon and Scott Studden

If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please let us know in an email to [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org) and we will let you know when the new sign up is posted.

## Peace Marketplace

### Looking for some Peace-themed Gifts?

The 150th Anniversary Committee will have a table in the narthex on December 11 and 18. They have T-shirts, caps, and pendants available for a donation. Suggested amounts: t-shirts, \$25; hats, \$30; pendants \$35.



**PEACE BELL ARTICLES**  
are due **Wednesday, December 21**  
Send to [charlotte@peaceucc.org](mailto:charlotte@peaceucc.org)

### Peace and Spirituality Used Book Giveaway December 10, 1-4pm

Where: 300 E. 2nd St, Duluth, in the old red-stone First Presbyterian Church. Come to the side entrance on the slope; free parking in alley way parking lot on the lower side of the church).

Faith and culture; peace and justice; Christian spirituality; theology; church history; race relations; conscientious objection; devotionals.

Hosted by the Agape Peace Center

**The PEACE BELL**  
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Duluth, Minnesota





Peace United Church of Christ  
 1111 North 11th Avenue East  
 Duluth, MN 55805-1517

(218) 724-3637  
 www.peaceucc.org  
 E-mail: office@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**

Interim Minister: Rev. Jim Mitulski  
 Interim Pastoral Associate: Rev. Charlotte Frantz  
 Faith Formation Minister: Nathan Holst

Music Director: Jim Pospisil  
 Pastoral Care Chaplain: Gudrun Witrak  
 Office Coordinator: Bri Dornbush  
 Bookkeeper: Rosemary Feriancek  
 Building Manager: Tim Peters  
 Custodian: Dan Shepard  
 Pianist: Wendy Durrwachter



**PEACE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Thursday: 9am-3pm  
**PHONE:** 218-724-3637 **Web:** peaceucc.org **Facebook:** peace.church.duluth  
**Instagram:** peaceduluth **Twitter:** PeaceDuluth

**EMAIL ADDRESSES:** Pastor Jim: pastorjim@peaceucc.org Bri: office@peaceucc.org  
 Jim: jim@peaceucc.org Nathan: nathan@peaceucc.org  
 Charlotte: charlotte@peaceucc.org Gudrun: gwitrak@gmail.com  
 Rose: rose@peaceucc.org

**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!*