NEWSLETTER

December 2022

Peace Talk

House of Prayer on Parker and Main

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God Our Father and Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

"He will not fail nor be discouraged, till he has established justice in the Earth; and the coastline shall wait for his law." Isaiah 42:4

These are words that the gospel writer Matthew points to as being fulfilled by our Lord Jesus Christ. They are words of hope. During the season of Advent, we look to the second coming of our Lord, as we prepare to celebrate the anniversary of his birth.

At Christ's ascension, Jesus promised that He was sending the Holy Spirit and that He would be with us "even until the end of the age." With all the controversy, conflict, and distrust in our world, it is important for us to realize that God doesn't fail or get discouraged while working among us. It is God who determines what is just, good and right and He will not rest until it is established.

For this reason, Jesus came that the strong man of this world, Satan, could be bound while God stole away the hearts and souls of humankind by the power of the Holy Spirit by grace through faith for Christ's sake. So all might receive the free gift of salvation achieved by Jesus' death on the cross. This good news is a light that must be proclaimed to all people. It might surprise us to learn that after 2,000 years there are still people who have never heard of Jesus and do not know what Jesus has done.

All of creation awaits the return of its creator. The fields are white for harvest. Recent polls show that people are expressing that they are dissatisfied with their spiritual lives. This is occurring while Biblical literacy is dropping. People are seeking answers from sources other than God in a vain attempt to fill the absence of His presence in their lives.

Imagine being at a wonderful feast and having starving people looking in the windows as you take each bite. We have the wonderful ability and opportunity to enjoy the feast provided by God's word, and His sacraments. Yet outside the Church, there are those who are starving for the word of the Lord.

Too often we take for granted the most precious thing have which is Gods own Son and our relationship with Him.

God has sent His Holy Spirit to reach people but too often the bearers of that message are silent. There is no back-up plan. There are no others. There is only us to spread God's good news. God trusted us with His most precious gift. A gift that only grows as it's shared.

This Christmas find someone to give the gift of Jesus too. For you'll never find a better one.

SDG.

Pastor

BIBLE STUDY MINUTE

Where do we find the number 666 and why do we associate it with the Devil?

Check out **Revelation 13** to find out.

News of Lutheran Education!

Working in partnership with God's people to raise up a new generation of faithful Christian men and women!

LUTHER the LION



It's Our Birthday!

This year The Lutheran Academy celebrates

15 years as a school. A planning committee
has begun to plan special activities each month
to celebrate our school. Some will be small
activities held during the school day, and others will be larger and
open to you and the community. See the information below about
our December 13th event.

We hope you will join us as we celebrate Lutheran education. As always, please continue to lift the school in your prayers.

Academy Kids in December

Dec 4th at Peace Lutheran Church

On Sunday, December 4th, the Academy Travel Choir will be participating in the worship service at Peace. They will be offering special music during the 10:30am service.

Dec 13th Christmas Program at The Lutheran Academy

On Tuesday, December 13th at 10am ALL are invited to The Lutheran Academy for a fun morning of music and recitations, plus a Christmas carol sing-along. Plus, enjoy light refreshments and special gift from the students. Mark your calendars and stop by for a lovely morning at the academy.

Dec 14th Advent Service at Immanuel Lutheran Church

The annual tradition of participating in an advent worship service at Immanuel Lutheran Church returns this year on December 14. ALL the students will be singing versus of a few hymns, the Chime Choir will be playing during the offering, and the Travel Choir will lead some songs. It is our hope some of our Peace congregation will also plan to attend the Advent service at 7pm on Wednesday, December 14th to enjoy this evening of praise and worship.

Mission of The Lutheran Academy:

To build up the lives of God's children through the training up of their minds, bodies, and Christian faith; that all children might become a lifelong learners, equipped to serve Jesus Christ in their lives of service to mankind.

Thank you for your support of all the great things happening at The Lutheran Acdademy!

Pray without ceasing - 1 Thes. 5:17

Remember to ask: "How can I pray for you?"

+ HYMN OF THE MONTH: Have No Fear Little Flock #666

Yep, you saw that hymn number correctly, the number is 666. And if you're wondering, YES it was chosen to be number 666 on purpose. The authorship of the hymn is in dispute. Some believe it was written by a military chaplain Jacobus Fabius of Gustavus Adolphus's army others believe it was Gustavus Adolphus himself, and still, others attributed it to Michael Altenburg who served as a German pastor.

The words of the hymn tell us we have no reason to fear the devil and his demons. Their power is a joke a mere" façade. They are already defeated by the Gideon God has sent Jesus Christ our Lord. The hymn reminds us that when compared to mortal Man the devil may be strong but when compared to Christ he is as nothing. As we face trials we need to fear nothing even the forces of Hell. Christ was born to save us from the penalty of our sin which is eternal condemnation. He accomplished this on the cross and through the perfect life resurrection and empty tomb. May God help us to be truly grateful for the greatest Christmas gift ever, Jesus. Amen

Thank you to all who purchased a Meatloaf Dinner on November 12th. We sold 62 dinners.



Thank you to Jim Calpin for cooking and to Ramona Brown, Amy Betts, Adirce Fornaszewski, The Joneses, and the Fredericksons for providing delicious desserts.

Our next fundraiser is a **BBQ Chicken Dinner** on Saturday, January 21st. Mark your calendars!

Grace, mercy, and Peace to you from God Our Father and Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

Last month I received a call from another congregation, Prince of Peace in Hamburg, New Jersey, to serve as their Pastor. After three weeks of deliberations and prayer, God made it clear He wanted me to take the call.

I had not placed my name on a call list and so was not looking to leave. I was happy and excited to serve at Peace. I am not leaving for any other reason than God's calling. Peace is a wonderful place and the opportunities for growing the congregation are plentiful. The Lutheran Academy is a powerful ministry that I hope our congregation never takes for granted.

I met with President Pingel our Eastern District President who visited with me on November 2nd. He was very enthusiastic about the future of Peace, The Lutheran Academy, and the potential to build on the Spanish-speaking outreach I had just started to work on. So do not see this as the beginning of the end.

I will serve through the holidays. My last Sunday will be January 8, 2023. I thank God for my time with you and look forward to the last few weeks we have together. Thank you for your prayers.

SDG,

Pastor

Church website: www.yourpeace.org Office email: amybetts@yourpeace.org Phone: 570-703-0607

We are collecting all things metal!

All things metal! Bring your metal to church. If you have cans please clean them and take the labels off. Ask others to give you their metal as well.

We are going to recycle the metal to raise money for the congregation as a whole to travel ftogether.

Look for updates here, in the bulletin, and in the Narthex.



Saturday, December 10th 11:00am-1:30pm

Peace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

We invite ALL ladies to a special time of food, fellowship, activities, and a grab bag gift exchange.

If you can attend, please let Amy Betts know by December 8th. Please bring a \$10 wrapped gift to participate in a grab bag gift exhange.

Spread the word and we look forward to seeing the women on December 10th!

God is opening doors for us! We need your help!

Youth Group Leader(s)
Sunday School Teachers
Person to foster our relationships with local businesses
People willing to open their homes for a Bible Study group for neighbors
Lunch time volunteers at The Lutheran Academy



These are our most pressing volunteer needs! Let's not let these opportunities slip away!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, December 4

Baptisms and special music by The Lutheran Academy travel choir

Christmas Eve Services

5:30pm Family Worship Service8:00pm Candle Light Worship Service

Christmas Day

Regular 8:15 and 10:30am services

December 31

NO service

January 1, 2023

Regular 8:15 and 10:30am services

Advent Mid Week Services

Held at Peace **5:30pm**

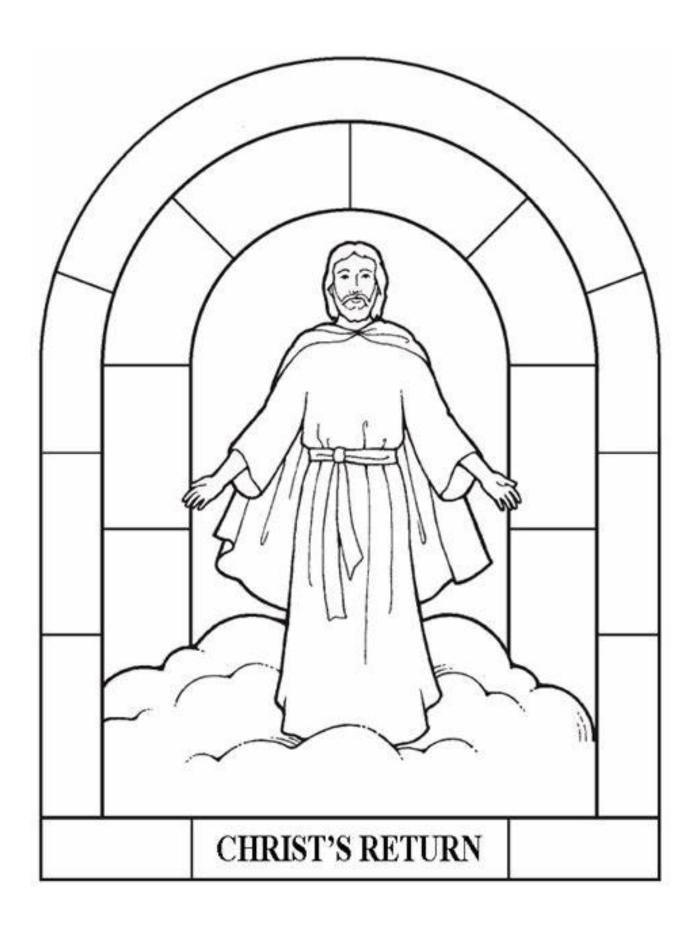
November 30th

December 7th

December 14th

December 21st

<u>Birthdays</u>		Baptism Birthd	<u>ays</u>
Alexis Cherney	10	Ed Smith	9
Tina Brernardi	14	Joy Babbitts	24
Jim Praefke	31		



		DEC	CEMBER 2022	2022		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LOOKING AHEAD Saturday, January 21	BBQ Chicken Dinner Fundraiser 4-6pm	n Dinner 1-6pm	30	_	2	\sim
	Pastr	Rastor preaching at Peace	5:30pm Advent Service			5:00pm Worship with Holy Communion
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8:15am Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship Service w/ Communion			5:30pm Advent Service	6:30pm Council Meeting		11:00-1:30 Ladies Christmas Event 5:00pm Worship with Holy Communion
8:15am Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship Service	12	3 10am Christmas Program at The Lutheran Academy	5:30pm Advent Service at Peace 7pm Advent Worship Service at Immanuel	2	91	7 5:00pm Worship with Holy Communion
8:15am Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship Service w/ Communion	6	20	2 S:30pm Advent Service	22	23 Christmas Break begins for The Lutheran Academy. Classes resume Jan 3	CHRISTMAS EVE 5:30pm Family Worship Service 8pm Candle Light Worship Service
CHRISTIMAS DAY 8:15am Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship Service	26	27	28	29	30	3

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DECEMBER 2022	Saturday	3 Matthew and his family	Charlie and his family	17	Sullivan and his family	24Brady and his family	3 Evan & Blake and their family
	Friday	2 Gabriella and her family	9 Malia and her family	9	Elyanaie and her family	23 Adelia & Mary and their family	30 Mr Kinsley Black and his family
	Thursday	Avah and her family	8 Alfred and his family	15	Mrs Mary Chache and her family	22 Miss Mary Ann McGuire and her family	29 Mr Maxwell Brewer and his family
	Wednesday		7 Caeden and his family	4	Elias and his family	2 Mrs Jan Wells and her family	28 Mrs Amy Betts and her family
	Tuesday	LR rs, and board of	6 Jax & Jayce and their family	<u>~</u>	Jaikob & Esau and their family	20 Mr Ed White and his family	27 Mr William Carlin and his family
	Monday	PRAYER CALENDAR Students, staff, student teachers, and board of The Lutheran Academy	5 Leon and his family	12	Shaun & Olivia and their family	9 Pastor John Babbitts and his family	26 Micah and his family
	Sunday	PRAYER CALE Students, staff, student The Lutheran Academy	4 Mrs Sharyn Martucci and her family	=	Marques and his family	8 Pastor Kim Bode and his family	25 Quincy and his family