

Peace Offerings

The Newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church

November & December, 2021

Rev. Terry L. McKee, Pastor

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Our Mission: We are a family of Christians called, equipped and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.



To my Peace family

Greetings Peace family,

Another holiday season is fast approaching. Even as we continue to work through Covid-19 we have so much to be thankful for and celebrate. I pray that you will take time to be thankful for all of God's blessings especially during these difficult times. The pandemic and unrest has everyone on edge but let us never forget that God is still on His throne.

We begin November with our Church clean-up day on the 6th. It's been a few years so it will be nice to get everything spit and polished. And after we are done, we will break bread together. So, if you can help, please sign up in the Narthex. November continues with our

Thanksgiving Eve worship Wednesday the 24th at 7pm and then Saturday at 10am we will decorate the Church for the holidays. And Sunday, November 28th is the 1st Sunday in Advent.

On Wednesday, December 1st we begin our mid-week services preparing for our Christmas celebration. Our annual voter's meeting has been moved to December 5th following worship. I'm looking forward to our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service and of course Christmas Day.

So, as we end another physical year, we begin a new Church year with joy and celebration. We lift our voices in thanksgiving to our Lord and Savior who continues to shower us with His loving care. Let us make a joyful noise so that all may hear the Good News of the babe

born in Bethlehem who brings hope and joy to all the world.

God bless

Pastor Terry

From our President

Dear brothers and sisters at Peace

Congratulations! Here it is, the end of October, and we are almost at the end of the year. A lot has happened and we can certainly see the hand of God working in our lives. We have so much to be thankful for, not the least of which is our Peace family, even in the midst of these troubling times. Stop for a moment and think how hard it would be to bear up under our current difficulties if we didn't have one another to lean on for support and encouragement. On October 24 we showed our appreciation to Pastor for all his hard work and leadership. Let me take this time to say how much I appreciate all of you for the hard work you do and the support you show to me. And I encourage each of you to find someone in the upcoming days and weeks to let them know that you appreciate them.

By the time you read this, Reformation has probably come and gone as well as All Saints Day. We have church

clean-up day ahead. In December our congregational meeting and also in December our Advent services begin. Our Bible classes are continuing and even growing. There is a place for each of you in the on-going ministry here at Peace. Won't you join us?

In His service,

Randy Priem

Soli Deo Gloria

**Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting
September 20, 2021**

PRESENT: President Randy Priem, Treasurer Cindy McKee, Financial Secretary Linda Ryun, Secretary Sheryl Lutz, Pastor Terry McKee and Trustees Don and Yvonne Conner.

President Randy Priem called the meeting to order at 7pm and opened with prayer.

CORRESPONDENCE: 7 items: Thank You cards from Lanny Gist and Romeo Elementary; note from Jae Ann and Dennis Witzgall; Thrivent's new Ocala office at 2300 SE 17th St; Dunnellon Football Booster Club; Associated Crafts (company that protects/replaces stained glass windows; Marion County Board of Commis-

sioners- re: Dunnellon Community Church property.

MINUTES from April 19 accepted as written; June 6 accepted with one correction: Bornander is correct spelling of Ron and Cindy's last name.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: He will be gone in November. Our next Council meeting is October 11.

TREASURER: At the end of September, we were \$-141.04 deposits- expenses, but our balance is \$32,069.56.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Deposits for April-Sept 12 was about \$10,250.00/month.

TRUSTEES: Working on men's urinal; Chlorinator working great; Roofer charged us only \$35 for the visit, not the patching he did; Chet cleaned gutters.

PASTOR: Will be on vacation 10/11-18; LWML Sunday- 10/17, a Lay Sunday- Randy will deliver sermon; Updated us on prayer list folks; May have new members in November; Pastors' Conference at St. John

OLD BUSINESS: Church Cleaning Day: tentatively set for Saturday, November 20. COVID Protocols- still want everyone to wear masks except in their seats- Randy will announce on Sunday Cindy Bornander will continue playing the organ

NEW BUSINESS: Nominating Committee: Pastor, Randy, and 2 congregation members. Randy will make phone calls to ask for volunteers

Spending Guide Committee: will meet Monday, September 27

Congregation Meeting: November 21 or 28

Closed with prayer by Pastor.

Respectfully submitted, Sheryl Lutz,
Council Secretary

LADIES OF PEACE / LWML (missed in original printing)

Hi, Ladies of Peace/LWML members!
Thanks to all who donated to the Operation Military Shoebox for our rally! The tables went from about our sanctuary door to the wall next to the organ, and around the corner, piled tops and bottoms! We also gave them a check for \$1200! (I'm sorry I didn't get a picture).

I did get a pic of "Katie Luther" who visited the rally as our speaker....



Becky Williams as
Katie Luther

We began reading
our new book, "**Pew**

Sisters" at our monthly Bible study, and are enjoying it very much. We'd love to have more ladies!

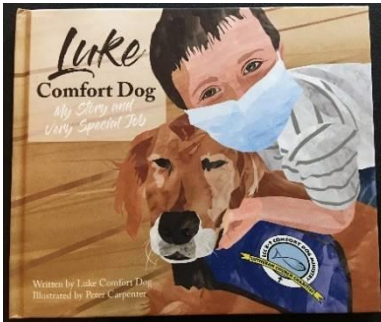
Our next two **Mite Sundays** are November 7 and December 5. We have been doing a great job helping our District and national to fund current grants.

Our **LWML FL-GA District Retreat** was wonderful! We spent a weekend on Melbourne beach among 160 LWML ladies, where we enjoyed seeing ladies we already knew and made new friends among ladies we had not met before. I only wish more of us from Peace had been there with me.

If you purchase from Amazon, they send pennies to a charity of your choice. Our LWML District has so far received \$387.89, just from mites (pennies)!

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to all!

In His Service, Sheryl Lutz



Luke the LCC K-9 Comfort Dog has retired from deployment and no longer comes under the parameters of the LWML grant. To help him continue his comforting work locally, he has written a book (\$15) about his "job" and what he and all the comfort dogs do every day. There is also a stuffed "Luke" (\$10) you can purchase as well. **Address: Judy Adams, 3235 Blackburn Drive, Cumming, GA 30040** Checks payable to: **Trinity Lutheran, memo Luke's ministry.**

WhoWhatWhereWhyWhenHow?

WhoWhatWhereWhenWhyHow?

Submitted by Becky Williams

Parament colors during November and December will be white (perfection, joy, purity); blue (repentance and hope); or green (growth in faith). These

color changes are reminders of the hope we have in Christ.

During November and December, we have both divine and secular reasons

to worship and celebrate:

November 7 – All Saints Day celebrates those believers who are now with the Lord awaiting the resurrection.

Also, Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 7th. We turn our clocks back one hour. If we forget, we'll arrive at church an hour early!

November 11 – Veterans Day – Established as Armistice Day in 1919, the name was changed to honor all veterans in 1954.

November 24/25 Thanksgiving Eve/Day – This was first celebrated nationwide in 1789

Advent begins on Sunday, November 28th. Our Advent Wreath displays three blue and one rose candle, which is lit the third Sunday of Advent. The blue candles represent hope, love and peace; the rose one, joy. The white candle in the middle is lit on Christmas Eve for the birth of Jesus.

In 2016, Chrismons first adorned our tree. Each is a Christian symbol. Their explanations will be posted on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

Sunday, December 19, can be in commemoration of Adam and Eve.

This year Christmas Eve is on Friday and Christmas Day on Saturday. Each service that weekend will be different from the others and yet similar in that each is a reminder of the Love which was sent to us in our Savior Jesus Christ.

A Blessed CHRISTmas to Everyone!



11/04 Thelma Grams
11/10 Jean Crapps
11/12 Carole Tobin
11/18 Carol Hummel

12/02 Jean Bozack
12/09 Linda Neblock
12/14 Peggy Dow
12/20 James Tobin
12/21 Gene Lutz
12/25 Donald Conner
12/29 Jeremy McKee



11/14/1974 Lew & Sharon Zavernik

12/16/1972 Bill & Linda Neblock

12/28/1990 Don & Peggy Dow

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Sometimes people don't like it when pastors talk about stewardship. For some, it hits too close to home. It is easier to talk about bad people in Washington, in history, or wherever than it is to think about our daily life in Christ is supposed to look like and how we are supposed to love our neighbor.

The fact that we don't like it certainly means we ought to face it. So, here are a few simple and practical realities.

God calls us to first-fruits, sacrificial giving. That means that we should give off the top. We should set a percentage of our income as a deliberate gift for the work of the Church and then give that

first. We write the check to the Lord's work in the Church before we pay the mortgage or pay for our medicine or pay for anything else. We don't pay for all the stuff we need – and stuff we think we need – and then give from what is left over. That is the first-fruits idea. It is hard because we think we need all sorts of other things first. But that is the point of "sacrificial."

Next, how could the starting point for Christian generosity and sacrifice really be anything less than a tithe – 10%? The ceremonial law of the Old Testament was never arbitrary. In the Old Testament, the Levites received this tithe so that they could be full-time ministers.

Does the New Testament have a ministry that is larger or smaller? It is far larger: "Make disciples of *all nations*" (Matt. 28:19). And we are still to have a full-time ministry: "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel" (1 Cor 9:14). So if 10% is what it took in the Old Testament, and we have a bigger mission need in the New Testament, how can we expect the Lord's work to be done on less than a tithe?

By first-fruits, sacrificial, and generous giving – that's how. We shouldn't fool ourselves into thinking that we've out-given God's goodness or that we've given plenty. We might be tempted to think that way, but consider that no one in the Church has given plenty because no one

has given all. No one has died for his sins. Only the sinless Son of God did that.

St. Paul brought the Good News of Jesus into the discussion of our giving to support the Lord's work in the Church when he wrote: "I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich" (2 Cor. 8:8-9).

As you can see, what the Bible commands about our stewardship can sting. It's Law, and the Law shows our sins. It calls us to repentance. The Law is meant to expose and accuse for the sake of showing us Christ and His fulfillment of the Law. So if first-fruits, sacrificial giving has you squirming, that's the point.

In Mark's account of the feeding of the 4,000, Jesus took the disciples' seven loaves and blessed them. It was nothing among so many, but, of course, it was plenty. Jesus makes something from nothing. Mark doesn't say that all the disciples gave Jesus all the bread they had. It is quite possible that some of them held something back. But even if they did, that didn't stop Jesus from blessing them. Jesus makes something out of nothing. He, who fed His people in the desert with Manna every morning, doesn't need their bread.

But they need to give it. And what they give – however little it might be and however grudgingly they do so – He blesses. He not only blesses those whom He feeds with it, but He blesses them – the givers. He blesses the givers not just in that they wind up with a basketful for each loaf, but they are blessed by learning to trust and rejoice in Him.

The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. The Lord gives abundantly, or He asks us to fast. We do not know what will happen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord. He does all things well, and He works all things together for good. The disciples don't give their bread to Jesus because it is a good investment. They give it because He is good, because they love Him, and because they trust Him. Let us go and do likewise.

Submitted by Jackie Hucker

Altar Flower News

We have a new florist doing our Sunday flowers. The business name of the florist is The "Lily Of The Valley" and the owner's name is Kami.

I feel honored to have met she and her Mother in our church parking lot to show them both the layout of our Peace Lutheran Church and some basics in what would be expected. It has been, and still is a learning experience for me more than for Kami. The price of each Altar

arrangement will remain at \$25.00 per each bouquet.

Before I had a chance to make a suggestion about what I thought would enhance her second delivery on the second Sunday in October, Kami already knew what she needed to do. I think she may have read my mind! Kami had already realized that there was one product needed to improve the beauty of her design work. Those who love flowers on the Altar have been very helpful in giving me feedback and I pass those compliments on to Kami. Just yesterday, I was told by two different ladies of our Peace family that their bouquets were still lovely from Sunday to Sunday. I, personally, think that is wonderful. Flowers bring smiles and are always uplifting.

I have a few business cards that Kami gave me and you will find one posted on the bulletin board, left of the kitchen doorway and one near the flower chart. I also carry a few in my wallet, please just ask for one for yourself or to pass to a friend. If you are interested in ordering flowers for your personal use, I suggest

you take a look at Kami's website. It's worth the time!

Go to: www.DunnellonFlorist.orgor you may call: 352-857-8668.

There are still a couple of available dates on the Flower Chart. November 28 & December 26.

If you want specific colors in your Altar flowers, please feel free to call me at 352-854-0594, certainly advanced notice is most helpful.

Toys for tots

We are collecting toys for tots, See Bob Sullivan for information,

Those Serving November 2021

Sunday, November 7, 2021

Ushers: Jeremy & Sam McKee

Communion assistant: Randy Priem

Greeter: Hope & Garry Kurth

Lay reader: Sheryl Lutz

Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Sunday, November 14, 2021

Ushers: Bob & Virginia Sullivan

Communion assistant: Samuel McKee

Greeter: Virginia Sullivan

Lay reader: Samuel McKee

Counting team: Linda Williams & Linda Ryun

Sunday, November 21, 2021

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth

Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee

Greeter: Sheryl Lutz

Lay reader: Hope Kurth

Counting team: Becky Williams & Jackie Hucker

Sunday, November 28, 2021

Ushers: Sharon Zavertnik & Linda Williams

Communion assistant: Samuel McKee

Greeter: Jackie Hucker

Lay reader: Bob Sullivan

Counting team: Stephen & Sharon Cassan

Altar Guild November- Cynthia Cotter

Those Serving December 2021

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Bob Holloway

Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee

Greeter: Bob Holloway

Lay reader: Cynthia Cotter

Counting team: Sheryl Lutz & Jean Methlie

Sunday, December 12, 2021

Ushers: Jeremy & Samuel McKee

Communion assistant: Randy Priem

Greeter: Cynthia Cotter

Lay reader: Randy Priem

Counting team: Linda Williams & Linda Ryun

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Ushers: Bob & Virginia Sullivan

Communion assistant: Samuel McKee

Greeter: Sharon Zavertrnik

Lay reader: Becky Williams

Counting team: Becky Williams & Jackie Hucker

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021

Ushers: Garry & Hope Kurth

Greeter: Linda Williams

Lay readers: Grace Cassens and Samuel McKee

Christmas Day, December 25, 2021

Ushers: Sharon Zavertrnik & Linda Williams

Greeter: Bill Langstaff

Sunday, December 26, 2021

Ushers: Gene Lutz & Bill Langstaff

Communion assistant: Jeremy McKee

Greeter: Linda Ryun

Lay reader: Sheryl Lutz

Counting team: Sharon & Stephen Cassan

Altar Guild December

Cindy & Sam McKee

