

Prints of Peace

A publication of Peace Lutheran Church 64801



16th LaVonda Osen
22nd Jane Bishop
28th Mitch Byrd
31st Luke Moyer



2nd Donna Martin
3rd Pat Tikkanen
16th Stephanie Dube
20th Amber Miller
21st Linda Rappa
26th Ronnie Moyer



All Saints Worship Invitation

On Sunday, **November 7**, you are invited to join Peace Lutheran Church in celebrating All Saints Sunday during a special worship service at 9:00 am.

During this special worship, we will remember the departed family, friends, and neighbors along with the many others who have died in the faith in the course of the pandemic that has reshaped our lives. Because we were unable to worship together in person last year, this year's All Saints Sunday will include special commemoration of those who have died among our community since All Saints Sunday in 2019.

We will also bless new funeral palls at this year's All Saints worship. Peace Lutheran's Memorials Committee recently selected and purchased both a coffin-sized pall and an urn-sized pall to be used during funeral worship services. These palls are gratefully added to the church's paraments and vestments and collection of Christian symbols in the hope that they will visually and artistically strengthen the baptismal connections within our funeral liturgies.

What are Funeral Palls?

Funeral palls are signs of being clothed with Christ in baptism. A pall for a coffin is designed to completely cover the coffin. Similarly, an urn-sized pall is designed to completely cover an urn or other container of ashes. The white color and embroidered cross of Peace Lutheran's new palls is a reminder of the robe of Christ's righteousness with which we are all clothed in our baptisms. (Indeed, the white palls may even correspond to white robes or other white garments or baptismal napkins given at a baptism.) A pall also carries with it the dignity and equality of baptism by covering both costly and simple coffins or urns and making them the same.

On the occasion of a funeral, a pall may be placed over a coffin or urn by family members, pall bearers, or other assisting ministers as the coffin or urn is brought into the worship space. Once the pall is placed, the presiding minister leads an acclamation of glory, praise, and worship to God and proceeds to a thanksgiving of baptism. Through the imagery of the pall and its reflection of baptism, death is directly linked to new life in Christ.

In his letter to the Romans, Paul highlights this baptismal connection between death and life:

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. (*Romans 6:3-5*)



All Saints and All Souls



Death, dying, and the dead are intimately intertwined with all life. At this time of the year, our thoughts are drawn to consider these experiences and their surrounding mystery in numerous ways. Culturally and commercially, we witness Halloween festivities, decorations, and themes. Jack-O-Lanterns populate porches and doorways. Ghost and skeleton images hang from trees. Costumed zombies, vampires, and ghouls attend parties and roam our neighborhoods in search of candy and treats.

And yet there is a deeper connection to our contemplation of death as well—a connection that stretches back thousands of years, to time that predates Christianity. From ancient times to the present, each year's approaching winter season shapes our human experience. Prehistoric and ancient peoples wanted especially to be sure that the dead would stay dead and the living would remain alive through the winter. To meet this goal, all threats of death must be overcome and the space separating the dead from the living must be firmly maintained. From this early belief, rituals were created and took shape. One example—feeding spirits at their gravesites in order to pacify them—was a serious community undertaking that eventually gave rise to the modern practices of Halloween.

Later, as Christianity and Christian worship practices developed, practices of Christians honoring their dead were already in place by the second century. Martyrs—any of the baptized who had been put to death for their faith—were particularly recognized and venerated at the start. Soon, though, any and all Christians who died in the faith increasingly came to be included in liturgical prayer. And so, by the time of the medieval Church, as the earlier and ancient pagan practices were adapted into Christian context, the pagan focus of pre-winter attention to the dead was transformed into the celebration of All Saints on November 1.

In today's world, we can still encounter variations of venerating and remembering the dead. Some church denominations identify November 1 as a single annual festival to remember the dead, combining a medieval practice of remembering martyrs and other special saints on November 1 (All Saints) and all others who have died on November 2 (All Souls). Some churches continue to keep these two observances. Many, including most ELCA churches, move the observance to the following Sunday. The result is that, at the beginning of November, God is thanked for the lives of all those who have gone before us in the faith. On All Saints Sunday, the whole church is linked together: both the living and the dead are joined in awaiting the fullness of eternal life with God.

Mexican Christians are famous for their folk festival called *Los Días de los Muertos*—the Day of the Dead. Their comic skeleton art and decorations of dancing bones are intended to tease away our fears of death. Yes, we will all end up as skeletons and dust, but the communal camaraderie works to cover terror with laughter, to smile in the face of death. Yes, we will die, but we can party and celebrate life along the way.

We can all learn from this Mexican tradition. Without such levity and humor, it is easy to isolate the dying away from our sight. We can find ourselves making up a corpse to look as if it were alive; we can drive off to a post-funeral meal before the coffin is lowered and the dirt is shoveled. We can even end up avoiding the word *died* and replacing it with euphemisms. And yet that is not the journey to which we are invited in the Gospels. There, the execution and death of Jesus is opened up to the hope that Christ is risen, and thus to the hope that all death can be viewed in the light of Easter. For Christians, death is always there before us, but it is there as the gate to life.

However we celebrate All Saints Sunday, a worthy goal for us is to use our observance to attend to both death itself and to the dead themselves. Recalling our own departed family, friend, and neighbors can inspire happy memories, remind us of our obligation to forgive, and strengthen us in our faith journey.



Among the Saints



The people of Peace Lutheran Church last gathered together in person for All Saints Sunday two years ago in 2019. Since that time, both locally and globally, our experience of death has multiplied in ways that are largely unparalleled within our lifetime. The COVID-19 pandemic leads this new experience in many significant ways. Locally, within Joplin and our neighboring counties and communities, at least 1,034 have died from this new disease. Nationally, at least 733,494 deaths have been experienced. And globally, the world counts more than 4,924,020 who have died.

But deaths from disease do not stand alone. Continued war, violent use of guns, enmity, and hatred, have all delivered extra death, grief, pain, and lamentation as well. The numbers are not easily or conveniently tabulated.

Meanwhile, our journey in and through Christ toward discipleship, into stewardship, and within worship continues ever onward. We continue that journey not alone, not apart, not isolated. We continue that journey of faith in the company of God's great cloud of witnesses—saints among the living and saints among the dead.

This year, at the celebration of All Saints, we take time to especially remember and give thanks for those saints known to us in our own community who have died in these past two years and for the examples of faith that they continue to provide—most especially their examples of faith lived in a world when times are not normal, when things go wrong, when hurt occurs more than we acknowledge, when justice, kindness, and love lose priority, when the way of Christ is not always brightly lit but leads us through the shadows of the cross and, ultimately, into the time and space and light of Christ's victory over death.

Emma Jean Schroeder — January 3, 2020



When we remember Emma Jean Schroeder and her place among the saints, we give thanks for the ways in which the life of Christ among us is made manifest each and every day. The song *Star of the East*, a favorite of Emma Jean's, was one way in which her faith was embodied. The Star of the East, the Star of Bethlehem, the Star of Epiphany, the star of Emma Jean's life, is about the enduring light of Jesus' birth, the eternal light of Emmanuel, God with Us, the everlasting light of God being present and with us not just once, but always and forever—there in the light of a star that takes root in baptism, grows up through a cross of faith, and touches every branch and every leaf, in the light of gardens and strawberry jam, in the light of good gatherings and good parties, in the light of special earrings designed to bring joy, and in the light of music—most especially in the music—in songs of every kind, in the light of the here and now of this very moment, and in the light of the Lord's hopefulness of all that is yet to come. For the life and the light of Emma Jean Schroeder, thanks be to God!

Kevin Christopher Hoch — February 14, 2020

Kevin was not known to most of us within the Peace Lutheran Church community, but he was known to God and was joined to our cloud of witness when we hosted Kevin's funeral on March 7, 2020. Kevin enjoyed life and looked forward to experiences like fishing with friends, eating breakfast by a beach, and exploring the marvels within the ocean. One of the ways in which Kevin's life and faith in the light of Christ became evident and in which we can recognize him as our brother comes through his affection for Pat Benatar's song *We Belong to the Light*. Kevin's connection to this song is a cue for us that the light of Christ, the light of God, the light of life, the light of creation, and the light that joins us to one another and the whole universe is where we belong. What is this light? It is the light of God's promise for Kevin and for each and all of us given in Holy Baptism. And it is the light that also makes us family, even if we were siblings unknown. In this same light we, too, will be joined with Kevin and all the saints as brothers and sisters raised up, transformed, and made new.

Woodrow Wilson Cheesman II — March 18, 2020

Woody's sojourn among the people of Peace Lutheran Church was short in time and just beginning to take root, yet he was not new among God's great cloud of witnesses. With life experiences extending from Illinois to California and back again and then on to include multiple connections to Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, and across all the Midwest, Woody's faith and belief in God was always consistently, visibly, and generously present in his life. His last time at church was the pancake breakfast before Ash Wednesday in 2020, and among his well-remembered church days at Peace Lutheran was the visit from members of the Indian Oaks community in the fall of 2019. Numbering him among the saints who experience challenges great and small and yet continue in the path of discipleship is an easy identification. As an athlete, Sunday School teacher, coach and teacher, farmer, salesperson, business operator and owner, and father, Woody sought continually to develop his own relationship with God while also inviting youth, friends, family and others into that same experience of God's love and care.



Ernest Leroy "Bud" Wollin — March 25, 2020



Cracking jokes, laughing, being silly, and having fun, Bud led the way in calling family, friends, and community to both encounter and live joy in God's world. With God's love as his guide, Bud opened his heart to welcome as many as he could into this perspective of God's kingdom. As Linda Rappa recollects of Bud, he was "a man who was not my father, but a man that I am blessed and happy to call my dad! Bud was known as papa to many grandchildren and great-grandchildren and many family friends." As one of God's saints, Bud's witness to Christ's joy and love for life carries onward to spread among us today. Just as Abraham's family grew in ways too large to count to eventually include all of us, so too does Bud's

family and Bud's witness. The Rappa family—Linda, Phil, Amber Tony, Stephanie, Aleah, Emily, and Pierce—help to remind us of this continuing, saintly influence as they remember, "Bud was a very special person and such a character! He was a very hard worker and took very good care of his family and friends. We love you, Bud." While missed so much, we join Bud's family in our hope that he is having a blast among God's saints and continues to be a leader and model for all the baptized.



Martha Clifton — December 9, 2020

An active, participating member of Peace Lutheran Church across three decades, Martha was a well-known and a much loved sister within the assembly. Her skill and adeptness as one of God's saints emerged strongly in the ways in which she offered invitation, hospitality, fellowship, engagement, and wisdom. Through her baptism, Martha was called to serve and did so through many roles. She participated in bible studies, used her knowledge of pinochle to create new avenues of community, prepared meals for the community, and led with love and friendship. As recalled by fellow members, Martha "was always interested in getting people in the community involved with our church. She was always ready to plan monthly events to involve new people, as well as delicious lunches. These were fun and enjoyable times that allowed us to share our friendship with others." Martha followed Jesus in modeling friendship, hospitality, and love wherever she went and through everything she encountered—even injury, even pandemic, even death. Just as Jesus traveled widely and shared the good news and promise of God wherever he went, so did Martha. For this enduring trail of God's love given and shared so widely, we give thanks!

Claude Stiles — January 3, 2021

Claude Stiles, father of Gary Stiles, died at the age of 90 years in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Among the saints of Peace Lutheran, Claude's influence is clearly witnessed through the acts of faithful service, love, and care brought by Gary, Judy, and Dana. We join them in cherishing the many memories, stories, and experiences that continue to contribute to good life in this world. As Dana expressed so well regarding Claude's influence in her life at his funeral, "If you were to ask me what he was like, the first word I would say is cheerful, followed quickly by loving and strong. He was always happy to see me, and he always had such a huge smile. Grandpa listened with great enthusiasm and attention to what I had to say, and was genuinely interested, even as a young child. He would talk with me about anything and everything. I would also say that he was proud. Proud of his work and his life but also immensely proud of his granddaughters. My grandpa was a constant in my life growing up and I will miss his smile and the conversations I had with him. I will miss seeing him at future life events, but I am so thankful for the legacy he leaves. His presence will always be felt and I know that his love for all of us will continue well into the rest of our lives."

***Beverly Maxine Skancke — March 16, 2021***

Active is the word that describes Bev's presence among us as a saint. Active engagement in the community. Active participation in worship. Active leadership in faith, in society, in civic responsibility. Active in sports and gamesmanship—especially golf and bridge! Active in making new friends. Active in helping others. Active in discovering and learning more about God's world. Now, in remembering Bev's presence among us and among the saints, we encounter one more mode of Bev's *activeness* as a child of God. Bev acted with grace through the challenges of this world. When circumstances changed, Bev actively continued in faith. When the fragilities of a human body raised roadblocks, Bev actively received the strength of God's Spirit. When loneliness or grief might threaten, Bev actively lived God's love. For God's active presence in Bev's active life, we give thanks and praise!

Marlene Hintz — April 18, 2021



As one of God's saints among the people of Peace Lutheran Church, Marlene's presence is still deeply with us. She brought the presence of God's joyful relationship in ways too many to number. She did this in even more ways than the number of seeds on a strawberry and in nearly as many places. From North Dakota to Minnesota to Washington State and back to North Dakota and onward to Iowa and then Missouri, Marlene provided faithful presence, offered kindness, led with forbearance and forgiveness, and so much more. Yet as mortals, we may not know the full depth of Marlene's witness, but God certainly does. God knows because Marlene is among those robed in white. God knows because Marlene's origin is God's own creation. God knows because Christ has experienced the ordeals she once bore in life. Thanks be to God for all the fruit of Marlene's marvelous life—all the strawberries and all the seeds that still grow and live and thrive with a little bit of the resurrection in each and every one!

LaVaune Johnston — July 15, 2021



LaVaune's discipleship among the people of Peace Lutheran might be summed up in a softly quiet but entirely confident form of the gospel invitation to "come and see." You may not always have heard it aloud, but there was an assuring, calming, welcoming wisdom that LaVaune brought into the communities and places she served. In the community, you could see it in her volunteering at Crosslines, Freeman hospital, and the annual CROP Hunger Walk. Within the church, you might witness it in her "come and see" hosting presence at the Vacation Bible School registration table or welcoming neighbors to join in games of pinochle fellowship. At meetings and discussions, LaVaune would be there with the same faith-born, confident wisdom that remained above disagreements and debate. Even in hospice care at her son's home in Nixa, remaining in the center of homebound life and activity, LaVaune continued to welcome and invite family, friends, fellow disciples, and others to "come and see" the presence of God's love in our lives. There in that space, she joined them in inviting conversation, cheesecake, and so much more! Throughout her life, God's baptismal call to LaVaune enabled her to stay involved, remain present, trust in the work of the Holy Spirit, and believe in the power of God's love that was and is open for all the saints and all the world to "come and see!"



Let the office know if someone needs to be add to or taken off of the prayer list, thank you.

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|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| ♥ Rita Sloan | ♥ Lisa K. |
| ♥ Donna Martin | ♥ Kathy Detert |
| ♥ Franklin Kroush | ♥ Vallie Cook |
| ♥ Beth Midcap | ♥ Murlin Hintz's sister, Marge |
| ♥ Christian Midcap | ♥ Jean Stiles |
| ♥ April Wilson | ♥ David |
| ♥ Bob Reid | |

Also added to the prayer requests are **Pastor William Pape**, who is now on Hospice, and his wife, Peggy. If you would like to send a card, here is the address:

**7139 N Wyoming Ave
Kansas City, MO 64118**

Meeting of Welcome, Grow, Serve, October 10, 2021

Review of Member concerns; "God's Work, Our Hands" participation; Blessing of the Animals and progress of donations for Oaks Indian Mission.

Blessing of donations planned for Sunday October 24th. Delivery of donations to Oaks planned for Sunday Oct. 24 or sometime during that week. Members were encouraged to go in a caravan. Date will be determined after contacting staff at Oaks Indian Mission.

WGS will sponsor a Christmas Tree to be placed at the Holiday Tree Trail. \$25. registration fee agreed. Tree will be decorated with mittens, scarfs and hats that will be donated by members of Peace. These will need to be donated by Nov. 30th. No mitten tree, or family donation tree planned at church this year.

Decorating the church for Christmas will be Sunday December 5th after church service. Extra donation of food for Crosslines are encouraged during December.

Blessings to all from WGS committee; Phil Rappa and Suellen Burrack.



Peace Lutheran is sponsoring a tree for the Holiday Tree Trail at Mercy Park again this year! The tree will be decorated with mittens, scarfs and hats that will be donated by members of Peace. People from the community can take them if they need them or even leave some if they want to contribute. These will need to be donated by Nov. 25th.

There will be a display set up in the Welcome Center to collect the donated items.

The dates for setting up and decorate the tree are Nov. 25th – Nov. 29th. More details to come on this.



This is an open reminder of what of God's work is supported by our gifts. Additional materials including Estimate of Giving cards and envelopes will be made available soon.

How Your Offering Supports the Church

As Lutherans, we believe that Christ has freed us from sin and death, even from ourselves, so that we can love and serve our neighbors. One way we turn our faith into action is by making a financial gift and commitment - in the form of an offering to our congregation.

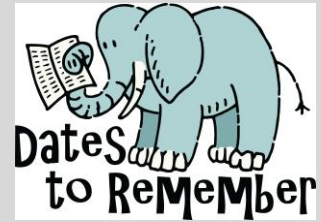
Your offering supports PLC's vital presence in our community, the Central States Synod, the ELCA and global outreach missions.

Mission support and outreach was so very evident this past year with the Covid pandemic.

Stories of Faith in Action* describes what many congregations experienced this past year.

"The pandemic was a stark illustration of the fact that the church is not just a building."

* 2021 ELCA-ELCA.org-Living Lutheran.org



October 31st: Reformation Sunday
Happy Halloween!

November 7th: All Saints' Sunday
Congregational Meeting

November 25th: Happy Thanksgiving
(office closed)

November 26th: (office closed)

November 28th: Advent begins

December 5th: Decorating the sanctuary for **Christmas**



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 19, 2021

10:00 AM

Members Present: Pastor Gates, Patty Heagel (President), Pat Tikkanen (President-Elect), Coleen Cameron, (Secretary), Bill Eichman (Treasurer) and Linda Rappa (Christian Ed).

Absent: Gary Stiles (Facilities)

Opening Devotions: Pastor opened the meeting with devotion provided by Bishop Candea on the new Mission Statement. The first part of the mission statement reads "United with Christ in Baptism". There were several questions for discussion. Pastor closed discussion with prayer.

Call to Order: Patty called the meeting to order. There was acceptance of the agenda.

Pastor's Report: Pastor gave update on God's Hands, Our Work Sunday. Stated there was good response and communion was offered. There will be Blessing of the Animals on October 3. Pastor also shared he met with Pastor Candea for updates.

Committee Reports: It was MSP to accept the following committee reports.

- Treasurer's Report: August good month primarily with extra week and HVAC collection. Mission payments were caught up (essential 2 months paid). Bill stated that Janitorial services may increase in the future as there has been no increase since 2008. Bill described the potential for and ERC (Employment Retention Credit). After discussion it was decided not to pursue.
- Financial Secretary Report: Reviewed with notation made that increase in August was due to the HVAC collection.
- Financial Committee Report: Budget was reviewed and recommendations made.
- Facilities Report: Received high water bill and Gary went in and replaced all the flappers in the toilets. Sewer bill was up accordingly also.

- Welcome, Grow, Serve Committee: No report except in the process of collecting for Oaks Indian Mission.

Old Business

Open Council Positions: Nominations needed for positions as outlined in the Constitution. If you don't want to continue in your position, Patty requested you try to find a replacement. Finalize at the October meeting.

Open Action Items

Repair of HVAC Cages: Proposal was submitted for work to be done to allow access to the HVAC units in the amount of \$1000.00 to cover parts that need to be fabricated and labor. MSP to approve bid for the repair up to \$1000.00 with Gary Stiles's oversight.

Proposed Budget for 2022: Reviewed proposed budget by line item with some various discussion. It was recommended that Gary might want to look into potential trash service revision. Also was suggestion to look at the copier contract. It was MSP to accept the budget as proposed with discussed changes and adjustment to balance income and expenses.

New Business

Stewardship: We need ideas to educate and inform congregation on need for stewardship to meet our mission. Discuss further at October meeting.

No further business identified and meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: October 17, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Coleen Cameron, Secretary

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 17, 2021

10:00 AM

Members Present: Pastor Gates, Patty Heagel (President), Pat Tikkanen (President-Elect), Coleen Cameron, (Secretary), and Bill Eichman (Treasurer).

Absent: Gary Stiles (Facilities) and Linda Rappa (Christian Ed)

Opening Devotions: Pastor opened the meeting with a continuing devotion provided by Bishop Candea on the new Mission Statement emphasizing the theme "United with Christ in Baptism". There were several questions for discussion. Pastor closed discussion with prayer.

Call to Order: Patty called the meeting to order. There was acceptance of the agenda.

Minutes from September 19, 2021 were reviewed and approved.

Reports:

Financial Secretary Report and Financial Report were addressed by Bill. In September 1st Mile giving was down although no funds were taken from the building fund due to the carry-over from the PPP loan forgiveness.

Finance Committee Report given by Pat Tikkanen. Recommendations from last Council meeting on the budget were incorporated into a 3rd draft of the budget. A graphic depicting our Stewardship emphasis was approved with typo changes. It was recommended and approved to send out the graphic with an estimate of giving letter to the congregation with the announcement of the Annual Meeting.

Facilities Report – Patty gave an update from Gary which she had received in an email. Ongoing work around the church has taken place. The work on the HVAC cages is to take place in the next couple of weeks. Bill mentioned that the Fall Maintenance could then be done on the HVAC units.

Welcome, Grow, Serve report provided by Pat:

Oaks Indian Mission collection will be delivered Sunday, Oct 24 after church service. A caravan from the church will make the delivery of items and money collected.

The church will participate in the Christmas tree display in Mercy Park again this year with mittens as ornaments for those in need. Our registration of \$25.00 will be submitted.

Advent discussed and decision made to decorate the church following service on the 1st Sunday in December.

All reports MSP.

Old Business

Needs of Church and/or Members: It was asked to keep Donna Martin in prayer and also Pastor Pape who is now on Hospice.

Open Council Positions: The 4 officer positions will stay the same and Patty and Pat will exchange roles. Hoping that Gary will continue to do Facilities as he does a great job and Pat will follow up with him. Patty will follow up with Linda as to what she would be interested in doing, like would she be interested in Finance Committee Director. We need a 3rd person for Welcome, Grow, Serve. Discussed what could be done with Christian Ed if Linda did not want to continue in that role. It was suggested that maybe it could be incorporated into Welcome, Grow, Serve and leave the position open if necessary. The position of Building Finance Officer which Marda Schroeder holds could possibly be eliminated now with the final receipt of the balloon payment from Parker. It was moved to recommend to the congregation at the Annual Meeting to consolidate the Building Fund with the General Fund under the direction of the Council Officers. **MSP**

New Business

Memorial Committee is asking Council for the acceptance of Margo Byrd to the Memorial Committee. **MSP to endorse the recommendation.**

Pastor asked about midweek Advent Service. Should be hold in person or via Zoom. Many of our members don't like to drive at night. Pastor suggested maybe a Friday afternoon service. It was suggested to ask the congregation on their preference.

Affirmed that Christmas Eve service would be at 7:00 PM.

No further business brought forward and meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: November 21, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Coleen Cameron, Secretary