

# PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

December 2018

## From Pastor Larry ~ "A White Christmas?"

The snow started falling early this year. The Ann Arbor area averages about 3 inches of snow in November. Right now we are looking at about 12 inches of snow for the month. It took me at least three weeks in November before I could mow my grass one last time and run the gas out of my mower. Enough already! If this keeps up we're likely to have a "White Christmas."

I'm pretty sure there wasn't any snow on the ground in Bethlehem when Jesus was born. So the First Christmas wasn't a White Christmas. Or was it? Jesus didn't come to blanket the world with a layer of snow to cover up the dirt and make things look white. He came to settle the account, to pay for the sins of all people that created the messes we have to face every day and the sins that separate us from God.

God gave this promise through the prophet Isaiah. *"Come now, let's settle this," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow."* (Isaiah 1:18 NLT) We can't remove the stain on our lives caused by sin. But Jesus can and did. He is God's Son who entered our world as a baby boy to take our place under the Law. He came to pay the price for our sins and remove the stain of guilt in our lives. So when God the Father sees us through Jesus, He sees us a "white as snow," as forgiven and pure people.

Maybe I am dreaming of a "White Christmas" in which we are put right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. That is the only way it could possibly happen because we can't do it ourselves. But I'm not dreaming of a snow "White Christmas." I'm looking forward to celebrating a Right Christmas, to celebrating that we have been put right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. The first Christmas may not have been white, but this Christmas can be when we believe in Jesus and He makes our sins "white as snow."

Whether there is fresh white snow on the ground on Christmas Day doesn't really matter. What counts is that we have a right relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Receive the gift of Jesus again this Christmas. Give the gift of Jesus to those around you.

Thanks for being Partners in telling the story of Jesus Christ. He is the Hope of the world that everyone needs.

Merry Christmas!



Larry Courson, Pastor of Peace

Peace Lutheran Church  
8260 Jackson Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
734-424-0899  
peacelutheran@peaceaa.net  
www.peaceaa.net  
Peace Facebook Page:  
[fb.me/PeaceLutheranA2](https://fb.me/PeaceLutheranA2)

Pastor's Blog:  
larrycourson.wordpress.com

HART Website: HHV.care  
Facebook: Peace Lutheran  
Hart Huron Valley  
Larry Courson, Pastor  
larrycourson@peaceaa.net

### Worship Schedule

8:30 AM Traditional Service  
9:45 AM Sunday School &  
Bible Class  
11:00 AM Praise Service  
6:00 PM Evening Worship  
6:45 PM Youth

### In This Issue

- Sunday Message Topics
- Bible Classes
- Youth Events
- Family & Community Events
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- Daily Bible Readings
- Calendar



In  
unto  
us a  
CHILD  
is born  
unto us a Son  
is given, and the  
Government shall be  
Upon His shoulders,  
and His Name shall be called,  
Wonderful, Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace!  
Isaiah 9:6

# Sunday Worship Schedule

Morning Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Sunday School & Bible Classes: 9:45 AM

Evening Worship: 6:00 PM

Confirmation & Youth: 6:45 PM Youth Praise Band, 7:45-8:15 PM

## Sunday in Advent Message Theme: *Countdown to Christmas*

December 2	<i>Listen to the Prophets</i>
December 9	<i>Make the Right Preparations</i>
December 16	<i>Don't be Afraid</i>
December 23	<i>Listen to the Angels</i> (8:30 & 11:00 am)



## Sunday Evening Worship Service

Join us at 6:00 PM on Sunday, December 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd for Worship!  
The December 23rd 6:00 PM Worship Service will be a Candlelight Service.

## Wednesday Evening Advent Services and Theme: *Shepherds Keeping Watch*

Mid-day Service	Noon
Advent Meal	6:00 PM
Evening Service	7:00 PM

December 5	<i>Shepherd Abraham</i>
December 12	<i>Shepherd Moses</i>
December 19	<i>Shepherd David</i>



Everyone is invited to join us for worship. If you are attending the 6:00 PM Advent Meal, please sign up at Peace if you would like to bring a side dish. Sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the entryway at Peace. You do not have to bring a dish to come and enjoy food and fellowship!



### Advent by Candlelight December 1st at 5:30 PM

Please bring a non-perishable food donation for Faith in Action.

### Family Christmas Festival, Dec. 9th, 9:45 AM

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" is the theme for this year's Family Christmas Festival on December 9th. Invite your family and friends!



*Candlelight Services will be held at  
6:00 PM on  
December 23rd & 24th*



## Confirmed Youth Meet Sundays at 6:45 PM!

Nick & Maxine Santoro, Alexander Kauffman, Pastor Courson and Parents help lead the youth nights Sundays at 6:45 PM, following the 6:00 PM Worship Service.

### Tentative December Schedule

- December 2nd TBA
- December 9th Parent Night ~ Biggs
- December 16th Christmas Party

## Confirmation Classes, Sundays at 6:45 PM

Confirmation classes and Middle School Youth Events are held on Sunday evenings at 6:45 PM, following the 6:00 PM Worship Service. Parents are invited and encouraged to sit in on the sessions with their son or daughter. Class will be held December 2nd & 9th.



**December 16th,  
6:45 PM at Peace!**

**Food! Fun!  
Games!  
Invite your  
friends!**



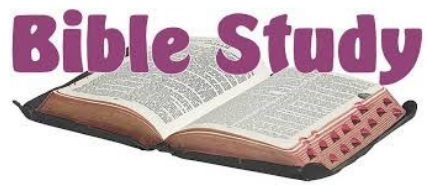
## Youth Praise Band, Sundays at 7:45 PM

Any interested teen musicians are welcome to join the Youth Praise Band, "God Squad". Whether you play an instrument or like to sing we would love to have you!

The group meets most Sunday nights from 7:45 - 8:15 in the youth room. We are planning a really fun year, so we hope you will check it out! Questions? Contact Juliette Harrison:  
[juliette@sweetwoodfarm.org](mailto:juliette@sweetwoodfarm.org)

The Youth Band will be performing *The New 12 Days of Christmas* at Peace's Family Christmas Program on December 9th, 9:45 AM.





**Pastor Courson's Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study resumes Sunday, January 6, 2019 at 9:45 AM**

**Parenting & Grand-Parenting Class to start January 6, 2019, 9:45 AM**

Rev. Michael Ruhl will be leading an 8-week course, *The Conscience-Based Approach to Biblical Parenting* Sundays at 9:45 AM beginning *January 6, 2019*. The Bible contains practical concepts and guidelines for effective parenting of our children. Attendance at this course is by registration only, and is best suited for parents with children still at home. Sign up at Peace or contact the church office to register. A group of six parents or grandparents is required for this course to be conducted.

Topics:

Week 1 *The Conscience-Based Approach to Parenting*  
Week 2 *Internal Prompters and the Conscience*  
Week 3 *Doing What's Right Starts with Convictions*  
Week 4 *Caring about Others - Beyond Selfishness*  
Week 5 *Clearing Up Mistakes and Offenses (Sin)*

Week 6 *Honesty and Relationships*  
Week 7 *Power of a Clear Conscience*  
Week 8 *30-Day Plan for Change*

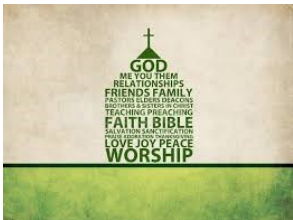
**The Wednesday Morning Adult Bible Study does not meet in December because of Noon Advent Services. Bible Study resumes January 9th.**

**Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study Breakfast, 8:00—9:30 AM**

Bob Gardiner leads the group on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month. In December, the group will meet December 1st & 15th. Sign up on the sheet posted at Peace if you are able to attend. Breakfast will be provided!

**Thursday Morning Adult Bible Study, 9:30—11:00 AM**

The Women's Bible Study will continue meeting at Peace on Thursday mornings through December, except for the week of Christmas (no study on 12/27.) The group meets at 9:30 for chatter and prayer, beginning the study close to 10:00 and finishing up about 11:00 All are welcome. Contact Dorothy at 426-1535 or [familyofpauluns@charter.net](mailto:familyofpauluns@charter.net) if more information is needed.



**Leadership Workshop at Peace, January 26, 2019**

The Elders, Directors and Leaders of Peace are invited to our annual "Leadership Workshop" on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 to Noon. Pastor Mike Ruhl and Pastor Larry will lead the event. The leaders are asked to read "Who Broke My Church" prior to the Workshop. A continental breakfast will be served at 8:30 am.

All incoming and outgoing Elders and Directors are invited. Please put the date on your calendar and plan to be part of the Next Steps discussion for the mission and ministry of Peace.



**Sitting Volleyball Clinic at Peace, Dec. 8th, 1:00-3:00 pm**

Cami Fischer, a member of Peace and Dexter High School student, is organizing Sitting Volleyball. Sitting Volleyball was first introduced as a Paralympic sport in 1980. It has the same rules as its non-disabled counterparts with few exceptions such as a lower net and smaller court which make for a faster game. Not only can an athlete with a disability play this sport, but any person can. Families and friends of amputees can play together as well.



**Arthritis Animals for Children with Juvenile Arthritis**

Juliette, a young teen from Peace who was diagnosed with Juvenile Arthritis a couple years ago, started crocheting "Arthritis Animals" for other children diagnosed with Juvenile Arthritis.

Juliette's mission is for children of all ages with Juvenile Arthritis to have a homemade friend (crocheted, knitted or sewn, complete with red joints) to snuggle with and take to doctor visits. You may drop off your "Arthritis Animals" at Peace by December 16th.

To learn more about making Arthritis Animals (patterns, specific instructions, etc.) please visit Juliette's website: <http://arthritisanimals.org/get-involved>

**All Pro (Dads) Family Brunch, Dec. 16th at Noon**

In December the All Pro Dad's families will meet on Sunday, December 16th for a Brunch at Noon! Sign up at Peace if you will be coming so we know how much food to prepare!

Edward Krzysik is heading up our *All Pro Dads* program. Sign up at Peace or contact Edward Krzysik at [edwardkrzysik0@gmail.com](mailto:edwardkrzysik0@gmail.com).

**Dexter Special Olympics Basketball 2018—2019 is looking for Boys and Girls of all ages to join!**



The team will play at Peace Tuesday Evenings at 6:00 PM, December through March.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Craig Lennon at [dexterspecialolympics@gmail.com](mailto:dexterspecialolympics@gmail.com).



**Another way to Donate to Peace!**

Peace opens its facilities to a variety of groups, agencies and sporting events at no cost. You can help us pay for the utilities and other related costs. Please donate using this PayPal QR code. Thanks!



**HART (Helping Area Response Teams) is looking for volunteers!** If you would like to volunteer, visit the HART website ([www.HHV.care](http://www.HHV.care)) or the Peace website ([peaceaa.net](http://peaceaa.net)) and fill in the registration form. For more information about HART, contact Pastor Courson, Bonnie Engstrom or Carroll DeLancey.



### December 1st

Advent by Candlelight (Cookies & Carols), 5:30 PM

### Advent Sunday Message Theme: "Count Down to Christmas"

December 2nd—First Sunday in Advent

### December 5th, 12th & 19th Wednesday's in Advent—

Message Theme: "Shepherds Keeping Watch"

Advent Services held at Noon & 7:00 PM

Advent Meal Served at 6:00 PM, followed by Worship at 7:00 PM

### December 9th, 9:45 AM Family Christmas Festival

### December 15th, 6:00—8:30 PM *Dates with a Purpose*

### December 16th, 9:45 AM Annual Voter's Meeting

### Sunday, December 23rd

Morning Worship at 8:30 & 11:00

Evening Candlelight Service, 6:00 PM

(No Confirmation or Youth events)

### Monday, December 24th—Christmas Eve

Evening Candlelight Worship Service, 6:00 PM

### Tuesday, December 25th—Christmas Day

Worship Service, 10:00 AM

### Sunday, December 30th

Worship Services at 8:30 & 11:00

Sunday School & Bible Class, 9:45 AM

No Evening Worship, Confirmation or Youth Events



**Lutheran Hour Advent Daily Devotions are available on the Lutheran Hour website, [www.lhm.org/advent](http://www.lhm.org/advent). Click on "Advent Devotions".**

You have the option to read the devotions online, print them or have them emailed to you. We encourage you to take a moment each day to read through these devotions.

## Reading through the New Testament Challenge

One of the challenges Christians face is finding time every day to read a portion of God's Word to help us grow in faith and in our understanding of the faith. I would like to invite you and challenge you to join me in reading through the New Testament. I plan to post my thoughts about the daily readings on my blog, <http://www.larrycourson.wordpress.com/>

Will you join me? I do reserve the right to post later in the day or even a day or two later if time does not permit doing it each morning. Here are the readings for December:

### December Daily Bible Readings

1. 1 John 2:1-17
2. 1 John 2:18-3:6
3. 1 John 3:7-24
4. 1 John 4:1-21
5. 1 John 5:1-21
6. 2 John 1:1-13
7. 3 John 1:1-15
8. Jude 1:1-25
9. Revelation 1:1-20
10. Revelation 2:1-17
11. Revelation 2:18-3:6
12. Revelation 3:7-22
13. Revelation 4:1-11
14. Revelation 5:1-14
15. Revelation 6:1-17

17. Revelation 8:1-13
18. Revelation 9:1-21
19. Revelation 10:1-11
20. Revelation 11:1-19
21. Revelation 12:1-18
22. Revelation 13:1-18
23. Revelation 14:1-20
24. Revelation 15:1-8
25. Revelation 16:1-21
26. Revelation 17:1-18
27. Revelation 18:1-24
28. Revelation 19:1-21
29. Revelation 20:1-15
30. Revelation 21:1-27
31. Revelation 22:1-21

#### Peace Board of Directors

**Mark Korinek, President**  
**Todd Stites, Vice President**  
**Nathan Lamb, Treasurer**  
**Rebecca Luken, Secretary**  
**Kathie Piatek, At Large**  
**Carroll DeLancey, Head Elder**

#### Board of Elders

**Tom Arbaugh**  
**Carroll DeLancey, Head Elder**  
**Larry Jones**  
**Edward Krzysik**  
**Craig Lennon**  
**Ken Visel**  
**Charlie Yuan**

#### Official Acts ~

**New Members:** Grant & Julie Fitz

John & Kelly Hendricks and children  
 Easton, Jase, Ayla

Dick & Karen Simmons

**Baptisms:** Lucas Kirwin, November 11, 2018

Ayla Hendricks, November 18, 2018

**Wedding:** Paul Engstrom & Rosal DeMaria Perez Marin  
 November 29, 2018

### December Birthdays & Anniversaries

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed, please contact the Church office so we may update our records



Nathan Biggs	12/1
Matthew Burr	12/3
Gary Eichenberg	12/3
Isaac Burr	12/6
Paul Zalucha	12/9
Connor Fischer	12/10
Jadon Fischer	12/10
Luke Engstrom	12/12
Diane Bacon	12/13
Tom Arbaugh	12/14
Cori Walworth	12/15
Kim Fredericks	12/16
Amy Lamb	12/16
Natalie Lennon	12/17
Charlotte Wetzel	12/18
Nora Arbaugh	12/20
Shirley Mitchell	12/22
Emma Walworth	12/23
Heather Dettling	12/26
Dorothey Paulun	12/27
Chris Zalucha	12/27
Pam Clark	12/28
Joan Savery	12/28



Ron & Mary Teachout	12/30	23 years
Ken & Lynn Visel	12/31	28 years

◀ Nov 2018	December 2018					Jan 2019 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8:00 Men's Breakfast Bible Study 11:15 AM Praise Team Practice 5:30 PM Advent By Candlelight
2 <i>Communion</i> Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 9:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 5:00 PM Hand Bells 6:00 PM Evening Worship 6:45 PM Confirm. Class 6:45 PM Youth 7:00 PM 12 Step Grp	3 10:30 Jackson Trippers  6:00 PM UMAISE Basketball	4  Spanish Classes 6:30 PM Beginning 7:30 PM Advanced	5 Noon—Advent Worship Service  5:30 PM Brownies 6:00 PM Advent Meal 7:00 PM Advent Worship Service	6 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	7 Pastor's Day Off  7:00 PM AA Group	8 11:15 AM Praise Band Practice  1:00—3:00 PM Sitting Volleyball Clinic  6:00 PM Supper & Bible Study
9 Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 9:45 AM Family Christmas Festival 5:00 PM Hand Bells 6:00 PM Evening Worship 6:45 PM Confirm. Class 6:45 PM Youth 7:00 PM 12 Step Grp 7:45 PM Youth Praise Band	10  5:30 PM Daisies 6:00 PM UMAISE Basketball 7:00 PM Director's Meeting	11 8:30 AM Pastor at Tri-Circuit Meeting 9:00 AM Quilter's  6:00 PM Special Olympic Basketball  Spanish Classes 6:30 PM Beginning 7:30 PM Advanced	12 Noon—Advent Worship Service  5:30 PM Brownies 6:00 PM Advent Meal 7:00 PM Advent Worship Service	13 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	14 Pastor's Day Off  7:00 PM AA Group	15 8:00 Men's Breakfast Bible Study 11:15 AM Praise Band Practice  1:00 PM UMAISE Wheelchair Basketball at Dexter Wellness Ctr.
16 <i>Communion</i> Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Voter's Mtg. Noon All Pro Dad's Brunch 5:00 PM Hand Bells 6:00 PM Evening Worship 6:45 Youth Christmas Party 7:00 PM 12 Step Grp	17  6:00 PM UMAISE Basketball	18  6:00 PM Special Olympic Basketball  Spanish Classes 6:30 PM Beginning 7:30 PM Advanced	19 Noon—Advent Worship Service  6:00 PM Advent Meal 7:00 PM Advent Worship Service 7:45 PM Elder's Meeting	20 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	21 Pastor's Day Off  7:00 PM AA Group	22 11:15 AM Praise Band Practice  6:00 PM Supper & Bible Study
23 Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 6:00 PM Evening Candlelight Service 7:00 PM 12 Step Grp	24  6:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Svc.	25  10:00 AM Christmas Day Worship Service	26	27	28  7:00 PM AA Group	29
30 Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 9:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 7:00 PM 12 Step Grp	31  Office Closed	Pastor Courson is on vacation December 25th through January 2nd.				



# Peace Helper List for December 2018

Sign up online:

<http://goo.gl/APhYGZ>

## December 2 — Communion

### 8:30 Service

Elder: Charlie Yuan  
Usher: R. Ponitz & C. DeLancey  
Video: Cathy Ponitz  
Acolyte: Charlotte Wetzel  
Greeter: Gary Eichenberg  
Altar Guild: Diane Bacon  
Coffee Setup: John Schultz

### 11:00 Service

Elder: Edward Krzysik  
Usher: Jeff Melody  
Video:  
Acolyte:  
Greeter: Joan Courson  
Altar Guild: Natasha Lennon  
Coffee Setup: Bill Koch Cleanup:  
Counters: Roberts / Woodruff

### 6:00 PM Service

Elder/Usher: Larry Jones  
Altar Guild: Diane Bacon

## December 9

### 8:30 Service

Elder: Carroll DeLancey  
Usher: Mark & Amanda Bacon  
Video: Nathan Biggs  
Acolyte: Jason Biggs  
Greeter: Bob & Sheri Gardiner  
Coffee Setup: Ann Schebor

### 11:00 Service

Elder: Charlie Yuan  
Usher: Bill Koch  
Video:  
Acolyte:  
Greeter: Ron & Jan Waldron  
Coffee Setup: B. Klaus Cleanup: B. Klaus  
Counters: Aufdemberge/Ramos

### 6:00 PM Service

Elder/Usher: Larry Jones

## December 16— Communion

### 8:30 Service

Elder: Edward Krzysik  
Usher: R. Ponitz & B. Stone  
Video: Cathy Ponitz  
Acolyte: Cayden Cappelli  
Greeter: Dick & Ginny Koester  
Altar Guild: Joan Savery  
Coffee Setup: Debbie Stone

### 11:00 Service

Elder: Tom Arbaugh  
Usher: Kevin Knapp  
Video:  
Acolyte:  
Greeter: Tracey Melody  
Altar Guild: Tracey Melody  
Coffee Setup: Cleanup: B. Argaugh  
Counters: Aufdemberge/Scheel

### 6:00 PM Service

Elder/Usher: Larry Jones  
Altar Guild: Joan Courson

## December 23

### 8:30 Service

Elder: Ken Visel  
Usher: R. Ponitz & T. Biggs  
Video: Cathy Ponitz  
Acolyte: Charlotte Wetzel  
Greeter: Ruth Aufdemberge  
Coffee Setup:

### 11:00 Service

Elder: Edward Krzysik  
Usher: Bill Miller  
Video:  
Acolyte:  
Greeter: Shirley Mitchell  
Coffee Set Up: Cleanup: B. Argaugh  
Counters: Ray/Karen Essell

### 6:00 PM Service

Elder/Usher: Charlie Yuan

## December 24th

### 6:00 PM Service

Elder/Usher: Craig Lennon  
Carroll DeLancey

## December 30

### 8:30 Service

Elder: Ken Visel  
Usher:  
Video: Nathan Biggs  
Acolyte: Jason Biggs  
Greeter: Biggs Family  
Altar Guild: Ruth Aufdemberge  
Coffee Setup:

### 11:00 Service

Elder: Tom Arbaugh  
Usher: Kevin Knapp  
Video:  
Acolyte:  
Greeter: Nancy Woodruff  
Altar Guild: Jane Harlow  
Coffee Setup:  
Counters:

## December 25th

### 10:00 AM Service

Elder/Usher: Ken Visel  
Carroll DeLancey

## December 30th

No Evening Service