



December 1, 2025 | Volume 2025:12

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church Newsletter



Highlights:

- Peace Church Newsletter
- A Message from the Pastor
- Peace December 2025 Calendar
- Peace Bulletin Board
- December Birthdays
- Thank you Notes



May the spirit of Christmas fill your heart
with gratitude, kindness and hope.

Merry Christmas



A Message from Pastor Gary ...

How do you know when something is right? I remember learning basic math. We were taught to check our subtraction by adding and our division by multiplying. Spiritual things don't have mathematical proofs. So, how do we know?

Spiritual things are inspired. They come as promptings or callings. Sometimes they come as visitations. Such things are not common to all people, but with a little experience and practice we can identify them.

When knowledge or information is imparted or downloaded to us from God, we are aware that the truth of it is superior to the way we receive knowledge and information in the natural world.

I was recently working on a sermon about how the Bible often shows God taking small amounts of resources and turning it into something great. I happened to walk to my front door and saw a young girl, probably between 8 and 10, walking to the bus stop. As I turned to go back to work, I received a prompting to pray for her. I stood at the door and prayed for God to make her great and more than sufficient to meet her day at school, with the other children, and with her teacher. As I returned to sermon work, I realized that we are God's greatest resource and when we feel small, He can make us great. This was an important message about how God turns the small into more than enough.

The season of Advent is about waiting, hoping, and longing for a new experience of the gift of Jesus in our lives. There is no mathematical proof to detect when it comes. It may even resist cooperating with the calendar but when it comes, we will know because something more will be revealed to us about the one who is, the one who was, and the one who is to come.

Pastor Gary

Important upcoming dates and information

December 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 1:00pm-WELCA & Gary Schaeffer Xmas Caroling @Lutheran Community at Telford	3 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm-New Spirit Rehearsal 8:15pm-Bells Rehearsal	4 7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom	5	6
7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 11:30am-Faith&Fellowship Meeting 7pm-NA	8	9 7:30pm-Music & Worship Meeting via Zoom	10 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm-New Spirit Rehearsal 8:15pm-Bells Rehearsal	11 1pm-Exec Council Meeting via Zoom 7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom	12	13 9am-Altar Guild-Decorate Peace with Poinsettias
14 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:15am-Bells Rehearsal 7pm-NA	15 12:00PM-WELCA Xmas Party @ Nancy Grace's House	16 7:00pm-Church Council Meeting via Zoom	17 Wanamaker Light Show Trip in Philly 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm-New Spirit Rehearsal 8:15pm-Bells Rehearsal	18 7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom	19 January Newsletter Deadline	20
21 Winter Solstice 8:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:00am-New Spirit Rehearsal 10:15am-New Spirit Worship+ Christmas Pageant	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 3pm+7pm-Christmas Season Services-All Choirs at both services	25 Merry Christmas  No Confirmation Class	26 Churh Office Closed	27
28 9am Lessons & Carols Worship Service NO Sunday School Today 7:00pm-NA	29	30	31 New Year's Eve			

Important upcoming dates and information...

Peace Bulletin Board ... December

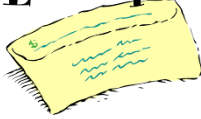
Upcoming Meeting/Events @ a Glance

- Tuesday, 12/2 – 1:00PM WELCA & Gary Schaeffer Xmas Caroling @Telford Community
- Wednesday, 12/3 - 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM New Spirit Rehearsal + 8:15PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 12/4 – 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Sunday, 12/7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day + 9:00 AM Sunday School + 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 11:30AM Faith & Fellowship Meeting via Zoom
- Tuesday, 12/9 – 7:30PM Music & Worship Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 12/10 – 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM New Spirit Rehearsal + 8:15PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 12/11 – 1:00PM Exec Council Meeting via Zoom + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Saturday, 12/13 - 9:00AM Altar Guild decorates Peace Church with poinsettias + 3:00PM Private Wedding at Peace
- Sunday, 12/14 - 9:00 AM Sunday School + 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + 9:15AM Bells Rehearsal
- Monday, 12/15 – 12:00PM WELCA Christmas Party @Nancy Grace's House
- Tuesday, 12/16 – 7:00PM Church Council Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 12/17 – Wanamaker Light Show Trip in Philadelphia + 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM New Spirit Rehearsal + 8:15PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 12/18 – 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Friday, 12/19 – **January 2026 Newsletter Deadline**
- Sunday, 12/21 - 9:00 AM Sunday School + 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + 9:00AM New Spirit Rehearsal + 10:15AM Christmas Pageant
- Wednesday, 12/24 – 3:00PM and 7:00PM Christmas Eve Worship Services
- Thursday, 12/25 – Merry Christmas
- Friday, 12/26 – Church Office Closed
- Sunday, 12/28 – No Sunday School Today
- Wednesday, 12/31 – New Year's Eve



Important upcoming dates and information...

Offering Envelopes



Special Designated Giving Envelopes

In the coming weeks, our special envelopes are designated for the following organizations:

- Advent Envelope – Lutheran Settlement House
 - Christmas Envelope – Lutheran Disaster Relief
-



Altar Flower Sponsorships for 2026

The 2026 Altar Flower Chart is up and ready for your requests! The new flower chart for 2026 is hanging up outside the coat room. If you are interested in sponsoring flowers on a specific date in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the date you'd like to reserve or contact Elva Groff at 215-453-9005 or email her at pennridge45@yahoo.com to reserve your requests for 2026. Thank you for your continued support!



Children's Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 21st 10:15AM

This year, the Children's Christmas Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 21st during the 10:15AM worship service. Join us that day for a festive depiction of the story surrounding the birth of Jesus.

Sunday School will begin at 9:00AM on December 21st.



Important upcoming dates and information...



Christmas Giving Tree

The Sunday School classes and the Faith & Fellowship Committee will be providing Christmas gifts for the children of Gemma Services (formerly Silver Springs Martin Luther School) as their fellowship project for November. Please help us make Christmas happier for these children!

Please choose an ornament from the Christmas tree in the narthex and purchase the wish list idea found on the back of the ornament.

This year they are also asking for \$25 gift cards to Amazon, Giant, Target, Walmart or VISA for the children's families to use for other holiday needs or wants.

Please bring your unwrapped gift or gift card to church by Sunday, November 30th and place it under our Christmas Giving Tree. Gifts can also be dropped off during church office hours or on Sundays from 8am to 11:30am.

The Sunday School students of Peace thank you for your generosity in bringing joy and hope to Gemma's children.



Trip to Wanamaker's Light Show Wednesday, December 17, 2025



All members of Peace and their friends are invited to travel to Philadelphia to experience the Wanamaker Light Show on Wednesday, December 17th. If interested, an informational sheet and a sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Contact Mike Cygan (215-872-4490 or Nancy Cygan (215) 872-4498, if you have questions.

Important upcoming dates and information...



Christmas Caroling at Lutheran Community Telford Tuesday, December 2, 2025 – 1:00PM

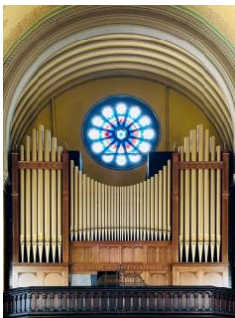
One of the most enjoyable things to do during this time of year is to gather together to sing Christmas Carols! **EVERYONE IS WELCOME** to go caroling at the Lutheran Community at Telford on Tuesday, December 2nd. The Peace Carolers will meet at the community's main entrance, by the pavilion, at 1:00PM. Songbooks will be provided.



DATE SAVER ... The WELCA Christmas Party will be Monday, December 15th beginning at 12Noon. This event will be held at Nancy Grace's house.

- Bring an appetizer or a dessert to share
- Bring a dozen cookies to be used during the Left, Right Game
- Bring a wrapped gift for the gift exchange
- Bring a \$5 donation for a donation to Pennridge FISH

All are welcome.



Advent Organ Meditation Kathleen Scheide, Organist Wednesday, December 17th – 12:15PM

Works by Franck, Murschhauser, Vierne, Yon and more

**Church of the Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Square
1904 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103**

Admission: Free

Important upcoming dates and information...



Jerusalem Ministries presents
The Live Nativity
Sunday, December 7, 2025
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Jerusalem Lutheran Church
733 Ridge Road
Sellersville, PA 18960

Family, friends and neighbors are all welcome to see the sights and sounds of the season come alive in this free dramatic presentation including live animals. Continuous performances are given every 15 minutes.

For more information,
please call 215-257-9423
www.jelchurch.com



St. Andrew's
Lutheran
presents.... Church



Holiday Harmonies

A choral and instrumental celebration featuring
musicians of St. Andrew's and the Suite Brass
December 21, 2025 • 3:00pm


20 Dill Avenue, Perkasie, PA 18944
(215) 257-6184
www.standrewsperkasie.org



HARK! THE HER
With spirit
Jingle Bells

A free will offering will be collected to support our Music Ministry

Peace Bulletin Board ... Announcements

	<p style="text-align: center;">December Birthday Calendar at Peace <i>Happy Birthday to you!</i></p>
12/1	Forrest Ritter
12/4	Donald Penn, III Cherie Vieczorek
12/5	Frank Stump
12/14	Gary Grace Marcia Kramer Tanya Reiss
12/15	Carole Brackman Cheryl Saint-Pol
12/17	John Schoch
12/20	Debora Schoch
12/21	Diane Steiner
12/24	Thomas Smith
12/25	Carol Correll Doug Erney Bonnie Price
12/26	Cole Reiss
12/31	Luke Erney
<p><i>Happy Birthday to you!</i></p>	



Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



October 21, 2025

Thank You

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944-3715

Dear Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$405.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

*"From [Christ's] fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."
-John 1:16*

As a church, we are empowered to love and serve our neighbors as Christ first loved us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power and hope that flow from God's full, boundless love. Drawn together and guided by the Holy Spirit, we accomplish together what none of us could do alone, grace upon grace.

Your Spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters, in the immediate aftermath and far into the future. No matter the disaster, no matter the need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. You make God's love real.

With gratitude,

Daniel Rift

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Congregational Generosity

Gift date: 10/8/2025

Gifts are designated for:

Lutheran Disaster Response

\$405.00

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



October 28, 2025

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944-3715

Thank You

Dear Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$35.00 to ELCA World Hunger.

*"From [Christ's] fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."
-John 1:16*

As a church, we are empowered to love and serve our neighbors as Christ first loved us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power and hope that flow from God's full, boundless love. Drawn together and guided by the Holy Spirit, we accomplish together what none of us could do alone, grace upon grace.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It provides access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock and education, and it advances peace and justice for all people. Through your gifts, you join the whole church in working toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. You make God's love real.

With gratitude,

Daniel Rift

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Congregational Generosity

Gift date: 10/22/2025
Gifts are designated for:

ELCA World Hunger

\$35.00

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

November 11, 2025

Thank You

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944-3715

Dear Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$200.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

*"From [Christ's] fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."
-John 1:16*

As a church, we are empowered to love and serve our neighbors as Christ first loved us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power and hope that flow from God's full, boundless love. Drawn together and guided by the Holy Spirit, we accomplish together what none of us could do alone, grace upon grace.

Your Spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters, in the immediate aftermath and far into the future. No matter the disaster, no matter the need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. You make God's love real.

With gratitude,

Daniel Rift

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Congregational Generosity

Gift date: 10/30/2025

Gifts are designated for:

Lutheran Disaster Response

\$200.00

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:

Dear *Peace Lutheran Church,*

DATE *10-28-25*

Thank you for your contribution of \$435- to RamPacks in support of our mission to provide food on weekends and school holidays to children in the Pennridge School District so they can come to school ready to learn. We truly appreciate your support of the children in the Pennridge area.

Remember to check our website **RamPacks.com** and Facebook page to keep up with our progress toward the goal of serving all schools in the district.

Thank you!!

Sincerely



Libby Hollenbach
on behalf of

RamPacks

Provided with love from the Pennridge Community

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Thursday, October 23, 2025

Donation # 11676

Peace Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd.
Perkasie, PA 18944

Dear Donor,

We would like to acknowledge your donation of of \$50.00 on 10/22/2025.

Pennridge FISH currently serves about 600 low-income families in the Pennridge School district with food, clothing, and emergency financial assistance. This donation will help many struggling families in our community and is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,



Dr. Lori Zimmerman, President
Pennridge FISH Organization, Inc.

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Thursday, November 20, 2025

Donation # 11768

Peace Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd.
Perkasie, PA 18944

Dear Donor,

We would like to acknowledge your donation of \$109.00 on 11/19/2025. Friends of FISH, thank you for your October contribution and your Harvest Home Contribution! Your support helps so much in these difficult times.

Pennridge FISH currently serves about 600 low-income families in the Pennridge School district with food, clothing, and emergency financial assistance. This donation will help many struggling families in our community and is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lori Zimmerman, President
Pennridge FISH Organization, Inc.

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Thursday, November 20, 2025

Donation # 11767

Peace Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd.
Perkasie, PA 18944

Dear Donor,

We would like to acknowledge your donation of of \$70.00 on 11/19/2025.

Pennridge FISH currently serves about 600 low-income families in the Pennridge School district with food, clothing, and emergency financial assistance. This donation will help many struggling families in our community and is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lori Zimmerman, President
Pennridge FISH Organization, Inc.

Peace-Tohickon Evangelical Lutheran Church

OUR HISTORY



100 Old Bethlehem Road
Perkasie, PA 18944
215-257-3294