



February 1, 2025 | Volume 2025:2

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church Newsletter



Highlights:

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

A Message from Pastor Gary ...



Epiphany

The gospel lessons during the season of Epiphany talk to us about who Jesus Christ really is. It is noteworthy that the gospel lesson for the day of Epiphany is Matthew 2:1-12, the story of the wisemen and the star that they followed. While the gospel lesson for the following Sunday is the story of Jesus' baptism which takes place in His adulthood.

Why such a huge gap in time? First, there doesn't appear to be much recorded information about Jesus' childhood or adolescence although the story of Jesus in the temple (Luke 2: 41-52) could have been included during Epiphany. Second, while Jesus is the Son of God, He is also fully human. In some ways He grows into who the Father has called Him and sent Him to be.

Therein lies the key to what the season of Epiphany is for us. During the course of our lives as believers, God will continue to reveal Himself to us in deeper and more meaningful ways. We will have experiences that challenge us to grow in our understanding of who God is. We will have moments in which the veil is removed.

"Even your sons and daughters shall see visions and have dreams . . ." (Acts 2:17) This is a paraphrase of the verse that is set in the context of "the last days." That period of time is unclear to us since for God "a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like a day." (2 Peter 3:8)

In short, Epiphany reminds us that there is more. During this season of the church, let us open our hearts to welcome the new experiences and moments that Christ offers us. Amen

Pastor Gary

Important upcoming dates and information ...

February 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:15am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA 7:30pm- Confirmation Class via Zoom	3	4 1:00pm-WELCA Meeting @Peace	5 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm-Bells Rehearsal	6	7	8
9 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 11:15-Blood Pressure Check @Peace 7pm-NA 7:30pm- Confirmation Class via Zoom	10	11 7:00pm-Music & Worship Meeting via Zoom	12 6:45pm-New Spirit Rehearsal 7:45pm-Bells Rehearsal	13 1:00pm-Exec Council Meeting via Zoom	14 Valentine's Day 	15
16 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:30am-New Spirit Rehearsal 2PM-4:30PM- Fellowship 60's Event @Peace 7pm-NA 7:30PM- Confirmation Class via Zoom	17 Presidents' Day 	18 7:00pm-Church Council Meeting via Zoom	19 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm-Bells Rehearsal	20	21 March Newsletter Deadline	22
23 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9am-Bells Rehearsal 11:30am- Congregational Meeting 7pm-NA 7:30PM- Confirmation Class via Zoom	24	25	26 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm-New Spirit Rehearsal	27	28	

Important upcoming dates and information...

Peace Bulletin Board ...

Upcoming Meeting/Events @ a Glance

- Sunday, 2/2 – 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:15AM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Tuesday, 2/4 – 1:00PM WELCA Meeting @Peace
- Wednesday, 2/5 – 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:45PM Bells Rehearsal
- Sunday, 2/9 – 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 11:15AM Blood Pressure Check @Peace + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Tuesday, 2/11 – 7:00PM Music & Worship Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 2/12 -6:45PM New Spirit Rehearsal + 7:45PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 2/13 – 1:00PM Exec Council Meeting via Zoom
- Sunday, 2/16 – 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:30AM New Spirit Rehearsal + 2:00PM to 4:30PM Fellowship 60's Event @Peace + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Tuesday, 2/18 – 7:00PM Church Council Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 2/19 – 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:45PM Bells Rehearsal
- Friday, 2/21 – March Newsletter Deadline
- Sunday, 2/23 – 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:00AM Bells Rehearsal + 11:30AM Congregational Meeting @Peace + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Wednesday, 2/26 – Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:45PM New Spirit Rehearsal



Important upcoming dates and information...

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church 2024 Year-in-Review

Month	Activity
January	Lunch at Luberto's Brick Oven Pizza & Trattoria in Dublin
February	Lunch at John's Plain & Fancy Restaurant in Quakertown
March	Easter Egg Hunt
	Easter Breakfast
April	Lunch at Upper Bucks County Technical School
	Earth Day Celebration
May	Lunch at West End Restaurant in Quakertown
June	Lunch at Roy Ann Diner in Sellersville and Wine Tasting at Clover Hill Winery in Kutztown
September	Asher Candy Tour + Lunch at Family Heritage in Telford
	Annual Picnic
	Craft Show and Marketplace
October	Lunch at Roman Delight in Fountainville Mercer Museum for Doan Gang Exhibit
	Blessing of the Animals
November	"It's a Wonderful Life" movie in Fellowship Hall with bagged lunch
	Thanksgiving Eve Service
	Christmas Concert



Important upcoming dates and information...



Adult Discussion Group

Join this Sunday's Adult Discussion Group at 9AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be investigating the many names and titles of God and how they reflect His relationship with His people.

We have had many lively and interesting discussions in the past. Come join us. All are welcome. No prior knowledge or reading is needed, just an open mind. ~ Randi Schaeffer



Altar Flower Sponsorships

The 2025 Altar Flower Chart is up and ready for your requests! The new flower chart for 2025 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 2025. Thank you for your continued support!



2025 Envelopes Available for Pickup

You may pick up your 2025 Offering envelopes anytime during regular church office hours or by appointment. Call the church office at 215-257-3294.

Important upcoming dates and information...



WELCA ... DATE SAVER

Tuesday, February 4th @1:00PM @Peace. Ladies are asked to bring an item for A Woman's Place.

Sending Some Love to Others



The Sunday School's February fellowship activity is to shower our shut-ins with Valentine wishes on February 14th, and we would like to invite the congregation to help us! We are asking you to make or buy one or two Valentines, write a short greeting inside, and sign them. Next bring them to church with their envelopes and decorate the giving tree with them by February 9th. Our Faith and Fellowship members will address and then mail them so that our shut-ins will receive about the same number of greetings on Valentine's Day. Thank you for your help in cheering up our shut-ins during this winter season!



CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

We are collecting funds to go to Lutheran World Relief in response to those who are suffering due to the California Wildfires. Please make checks payable to Peace Lutheran Church and put in the memo line LWR Wildfires. This collection will run from February 2nd to February 23rd.



Important upcoming dates and information...



RamPacks Community Food Drive

Dear Friends of Peace Lutheran Church,

Please help support RamPacks by donating accepted food items during our "Share the Love Food Drive". Items can be brought to Peace from February 10th through the 26th and placed in the designated box in the narthex. A list of the needed, accepted food items are given below.

Canned pasta, coup, chili (pop tops ONLY)
Family sized boxes of mac-n-cheese
Fruit/Applesauce cups, 4oz
GoGo Squeeze Yogurts (non-refrigerated (NO squeeze fruit)
Hormel Completes 10oz microwave meals
INDIVIDUAL boxes of cereal
Instant oatmeal packets (NOT cups)
Mac-n-cheese microwavable cups
Microwave popcorn
Nature Valley Soft Baked Muffin bars
Packs of crackers (peanut butter/cheese)
Peanut Butter
Pearl Milling Company Pancake on the Go 2.11oz cups
Pure Protein Bars

Envelopes will also be available for any monetary gifts given toward the purchase of food. Checks should be made out to Peace Lutheran Church with RamPacks on the note line.

Thank you for helping supply food for the food insecure students of the Penridge School District!

With deepest appreciation,
RamPacks and the Faith and Fellowship Committee

Important upcoming dates and information...



“Back to the 1960s” Remembrance Party
Sunday, February 16, 2025
2:00PM to 4:30PM
at Peace’s Fellowship Hall

A “Back to the 1960’s” fellowship event for Peace will be held on Sunday, February 16th from 2:00PM to 4:30PM in Fellowship Hall. The event will feature:

- music and songs from the 1960’s
- a 60’s trivia contest with prizes to the Country Place Restaurant
- a unique 1960’s narrative and an opportunity to share your stories
- beverages will be provided
- BYO snacks and munchies to share
- 1960’s attire is encouraged but not required

So, find your bell bottoms and miniskirts, brush up on old hippie music, and dust off your memory.

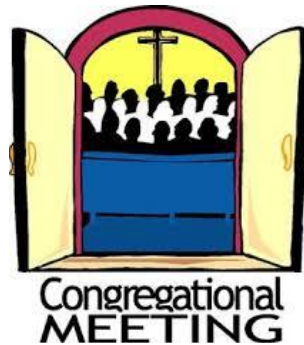
A sign-up sheet has been placed on the table in the narthex.

Please join us! All are welcome.

(Snow Date – Sunday, February 23rd.)



Important upcoming dates and information...



UPCOMING NOTICE **Peace Congregational Meeting**

A Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 11:30am in the sanctuary.

The purpose of this semi-annual Congregational meeting will be to review and vote on the following:

- the 2024 Annual and Ministry Reports
- the annual congregational meeting minutes from December 22, 2024
- proposed by-law change
- old and new business

Your input is important. Please save the date and plan to attend the Congregational meeting.

Important upcoming dates and information...

Martin Luther King Day of Service Project at Peace Church
Monday, January 20, 2025
(Photos and Design by Dwight Dulsky)



Important upcoming dates and information...

Martin Luther King Day of Service Project at Peace Church
Monday, January 20, 2025
(Design by Dwight Dulsky and Photos taken by Melissa Yates)





February Birthday Calendar at Peace

Happy Birthday to you!

4	Joseph Allebach Clayton Long
5	Eric Burkett Madison Lick William May
7	Weston Ritter Timothy Yates
11	Sandra Hawthorne
14	Harper Wrigley
15	Jordan Ritter
19	Suzy French Randy Lemon
22	Anthony Sandor
23	Patricia Benson
27	Rylee Scholl



Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

December 26, 2024

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 \$65.00 to ELCA World Hunger.

"[Jesus said,] 'Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' [The lawyer] said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'"
(Luke 10:36-37)

As a church, we are freed by the transformative life of Christ, and this freedom emboldens us to love and serve our neighbors just as Christ has shown us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power of God's love.

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. Through your gifts you join the whole church in working toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

In Christ,

Daniel Rift

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Giving, Service and Justice
ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response

Gift date: 12/13/2024

Gifts are designated for:

ELCA World Hunger

\$65.00

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



January 15, 2025

Dear friend,

Thank you for helping Gemma create a magical holiday season for more than 500 youth and families from our local communities this year! Whether you contributed financially, donated gifts or gift cards, or volunteered your time or talents, this holiday magic was only possible because of **YOU**.

We write today to share the impact of your kind generosity. Please see the enclosed summary of all the ways that the Gemma community came together in recent months to ensure that youth and families whom we accompany were able to enjoy a memorable holiday season.

As always, should you have any questions, wish to visit one of Gemma's three locations, or explore opportunities to further partner with or support Gemma, please reach out. Amanda can be reached at Abryant@gemmaservices.org or 610-825-4440 x3307 and Lynn at Lunipan@gemmaservices.org or 610-825-4440 x3206.

All of us at Gemma send our very best wishes to you for a happy, healthy, and rewarding 2025. Thank you again for joining Gemma this holiday season and throughout the year to create a world where every person knows they matter!

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Bryant".

Amanda Bryant
Director of Donor &
Volunteer Engagement

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Unipan".

Lynn Unipan, MSW, CFRE
Chief Development &
Communications Officer

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Thank you!

Your generous support helped create a special holiday season for hundreds of youth and families this year!



Nearly 100 families enjoyed a special Thanksgiving meal thanks to donations of "Everything but the Turkey" gift bags this fall.



Volunteers wrapped **600+ gifts**, stuffed **60 stockings**, and adorned the stair railing of the children's residence with more than **125 large stuffed animals**.



500+ youth and families who participate in Gemma's programs received presents and gift cards.



More than 185 friends, both individuals and groups, supported Gemma's annual holiday gift collection.



YOU helped the youth and families we assist know they matter this holiday season!



www.gemmaservices.org

