

Tidings of Peace



January 2026

Newsletter of Peace Memorial EPC

From the Pastor

Why Do We Use the Gregorian Calendar?

Time, Passover, and the Celebration of the Resurrection

Dear Friends,

Most of us rarely pause to think about the calendar that orders our days, yet the calendar we use—the Gregorian calendar—has deep connections to Scripture, the life of the Church, and the celebration of Christ's birth and resurrection.

In the Bible, time is first ordered around God's redemptive acts. In the Old Testament, Passover marks the start of the Jewish religious calendar (Exodus 12:1–2). Israel's year was anchored not merely to astronomy, but to salvation history: the Lord's deliverance of His people from Egypt. Passover was set according to the lunar calendar and tied to the spring season, reminding God's people each year of His saving power.

The New Testament places the death and resurrection of Jesus squarely within this framework. Christ was crucified at Passover and rose again shortly thereafter. From the earliest days of the Church, the celebration of the Resurrection (Easter) was closely linked to Passover and to the timing of the spring equinox. The early ecumenical councils sought to preserve this connection so that the Church's calendar would

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faithfully proclaim the gospel in time as well as in word.

For many centuries, the Western world used the Julian calendar, introduced by Julius Caesar in 45 BC to replace the Roman calendar. (The Julian calendar continued the practice of indicating the year by the founding of Rome 753BC, and established the year as 365.25 days with an extra day every 4 years.) While effective in its day, the Julian calendar slightly miscalculated the length of the solar year (by 11 minutes). Over time, this caused the calendar to drift relative to the equinoxes, so that the spring equinox—and therefore the Church's calculation of Easter—no longer aligned with the season in which Christ's resurrection was historically remembered.

From the Pastor (cont.)

By the 1500s, this drift had become a serious concern (the drift had accumulated to 10 days). In response, Pope Gregory XIII introduced the Gregorian calendar in 1582. The reform corrected the accumulated error by removing ten days from the calendar and refining the rules for leap years. The aim was not simply scientific accuracy, but theological faithfulness: to restore the proper timing of Easter in relation to the spring equinox and its biblical roots in Passover. (The system of recognizing the year according to Jesus' birth instead of Rome was introduced many decades prior [6th and 8th centuries] and incorporated into the Gregorian calendar as well.)

Although first adopted in Roman Catholic countries, the Gregorian calendar was gradually accepted in Protestant lands as well, not because of papal authority, but because of its practical accuracy and its service to the Church's worship life. Today it remains the civil calendar used throughout most of the world.

For Christians, calendars are more than tools for scheduling. They remind us that God is Lord of time (Psalm 31:15), that redemption stands at the center of history, and that Christ's resurrection orders our hope. From Passover to Easter, from creation to new creation, time itself bears witness to the faithfulness of God.

As we mark our days and seasons in this new year, may we do so with gratitude, remembering that history is moving toward God's appointed end, and that every calendar ultimately serves the glory of the risen Lord.

May the Peace of God guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus,

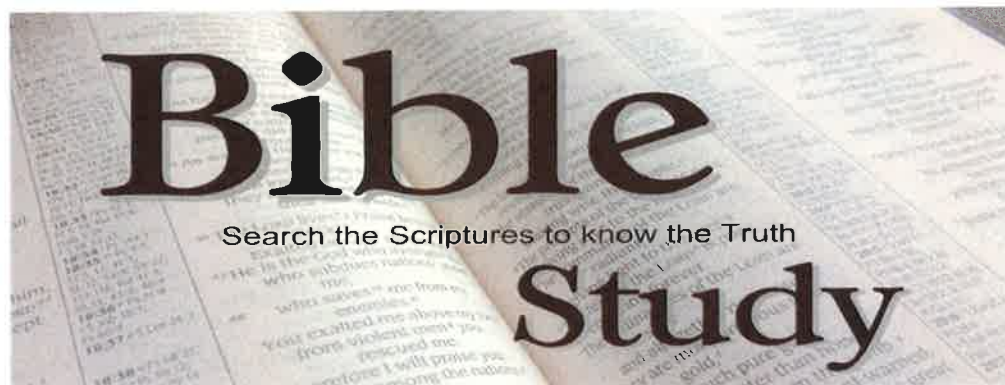
-Pastor Aaron

Thank You!!!

***I just want to let everyone here at Peace
know how much I appreciate everything
you do for me.***

***The Christmas gifts from the congregation
and individuals are greatly appreciated!***

Scott



(Dr. Godfrey)

Sunday Bible Class on Deuteronomy Resumes January 4 **Video series w/ Dr. Robert Godfrey**

We are pleased to announce that our Sunday Bible Class for adults will resume on Sunday, January 4, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. As we return from the Christmas break, we invite everyone to join us for continued study in the book of Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy stands as Moses' final address to Israel before they enter the Promised Land. It is a book rich in covenant theology, calling God's people to remember the Lord's saving acts, to love Him with heart, soul, and strength, and to live in faithful obedience to His Word. Its themes echo throughout the rest of Scripture and remain deeply relevant for the Church today.

This class is open to all adults and is designed to encourage careful study of God's Word, thoughtful discussion, and practical application to daily Christian living. Whether you have attended regularly or are considering joining for the first time, you are warmly invited to participate.

Please plan to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room, beginning January 4. We look forward to growing together in our understanding of God's covenant faithfulness and His call upon our lives.

Children's and Youth Bible Classes Resume January 4

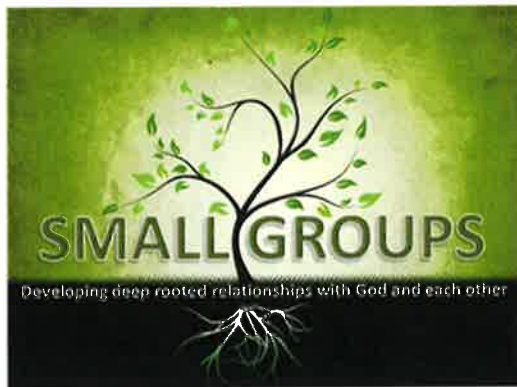


We are happy to announce that our Children's and Youth Bible Classes will resume on Sunday, January 4, 2026, during the 9:00 a.m. hour. Classes will meet in the upstairs classrooms, as we return to our regular Sunday morning schedule following the Christmas break.

These classes are an important part of our church's ministry to our covenant children and youth. Through age-appropriate teaching, Scripture reading, and discussion, our goal is to help young people grow in their knowledge of God's Word, understand the promises of the gospel, and learn what it means to follow Christ in daily life.

Parents are encouraged to bring their children a few minutes early to allow time for check-in and to help them settle into their classrooms. New families are especially welcome, and we are glad to assist anyone who needs help finding the appropriate class.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Sunday, January 4, at 9:00 a.m., as our children and youth resume gathering to learn, grow, and be rooted in the truth of God's Word.



Small Groups Resume the Week of January 6 at Peace Memorial EPC

As we begin the new year, we are grateful for the opportunity to gather again around God's Word in fellowship and prayer. Sermon-Based Small Groups at Peace Memorial EPC will resume the week of January 6, following our Christmas and New Year break.

Small Groups are an important part of our life together as a congregation. They provide a setting where we can reflect more deeply on the Sunday sermon, study Scripture together, pray for one another, and encourage one another in faithful Christian living. In these smaller gatherings, we are reminded that God uses ordinary means—His Word, prayer, and Christian fellowship—to grow us in grace.

Whether you have been part of a Small Group for many years or are considering joining one for the first time, this is an excellent time to reconnect. As we move from the celebration of Christ's birth into the rhythms of ordinary discipleship, Small Groups help us apply the gospel to our daily lives and strengthen our bonds as the body of Christ.

If you are already part of a group, please watch for communication from your leader regarding your first meeting in January. If you are not currently connected to a Small Group and would like to be, we warmly invite you to participate. Please contact the church office or speak with a pastor or elder for more information.

We look forward to growing together in faith, hope, and love in the months ahead, trusting that the Lord will use these gatherings for His glory and our good.

Women's Group: Tuesdays, 10-12, Fireside Room

Kathy Todd, 541-891-2019

King Group: Tuesdays, 2:30-4:30, Fireside Room

Paul & Joyce King, 661-703-3194

Goode Group: Tuesdays, 3:00-5:00, Goode's House

Stephen & Sharron Goode, 541-891-2770

Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays, 9am, Red Rooster Diner, 6th St.



Women's Missionary Group:

2nd & 4th Wednesdays,
12:30-2 Fireside Room

Stewardship & Finance Committee

November 2025

Here is our monthly update on finance:

Operating Income:.....	\$16,558.95
Operating Expenses:.....	<u>\$12,928.16</u>
Monthly Net:.....	\$3,630.79
YTD /Net:.....	\$ 3,220.06
Checking 11/30/25:.....	\$48,108.95
Money Market 11/30/25:.....	\$35,947.83
Edward Jones CD 11/30/25:..	\$22,036.86
Edward Jones MM 11/30/25:	\$37,167.92
TOTAL 11/30/25:.....	\$143,261.56

Expenses in November beyond regular operations were property taxes, mission support, guest musicians, and piano maintenance.

The stewardship drive went very well! We thank you all for your continued support of Peace Church, with Session approving the proposed budget at their last meeting.

Wishing you all a safe and Blessed new year!!

-Kathy Todd, Treasurer

MISSION MEMO



Thank you to all who participated in the Salvation Army Gift Tree this year! All tags were claimed and returned on time. Kathy Todd handles this project for us and shared just how much the Salvation Army appreciates our long-standing commitment to making Christmas a time of joy for children in our community.

And speaking of children in our community, I would like to remind the congregation of another area of caring for children Peace Memorial supports. For several years now, our church has given financially to the



work of TATER TOTS PEDIATRIC THERAPY. Tater Tots was founded as a non-profit organization by the home-grown husband and wife team of Kylan and Kayla Taylor. The organization currently provides physical therapy and speech therapy for children ages birth to 18. They provide preventative, educational, habilitative, and rehabilitative services for children and their families. The financial support we give helps provide these services for free or at low-cost.

As the Taylors have stated, "In a close-knit community like the Klamath Basin, it is impossible not to have a family member, friend, or neighbor who has a child with a disability of some kind." We are thankful to this congregation that we are able to support Tater Tots and the work they do from a loving, caring heart.



A big THANK YOU to everyone who filled the barrel while they were out shopping. It is greatly appreciated !! Help with this need including Canned meals such soup, chili, or stew are always needed. And hot cocoa packets are perfect at this time of year.

January 2026

January 2026							February 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 26	2 Office Closed	3
4 9:00am Sunday Bible Classes 10:30am Communion	5	6 9:00am Men's Breakfast (Red Rooster Grill and 10:00am Women's Small Group 2:30pm King Group 3:00pm Goode Group	7 2:15pm Peace Ringer Rehearsal	8 10:30am Missions & Outreach	9 Office Closed	10
11 9:00am Sunday Bible Classes 10:30am Worship	12 12:00pm Session	13 9:00am Men's Breakfast (Red Rooster Grill and 10:00am Women's Small Group 2:30pm King Group 3:00pm Goode Group	14 12:30pm Women's Missionary bible study 2:15pm Peace Ringer Rehearsal 3:30pm Peace Singers Rehearsal	15	16 Office Closed	17
18 9:00am Sunday Bible Classes 10:30am Worship 11:30am Deacons	19 4:00pm Stewardship/Finance	20 9:00am Men's Breakfast (Red Rooster Grill and 10:00am Women's Small Group 11:00am Discipleship Mtg 2:30pm King Group 3:00pm Goode Group	21 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry 2:15pm Peace Ringer Rehearsal 3:30pm Peace Singers Rehearsal	22	23 Office Closed	24
25 9:00am Sunday Bible Classes 10:30am Worship	26 1:00pm Building & Grounds	27 9:00am Men's Breakfast (Red Rooster Grill and 10:00am Women's Small Group 2:30pm King Group 3:00pm Goode Group	28 Articles due to the office for Newsletter 12:30pm Women's Missionary bible study 2:15pm Peace Ringer 3:30pm Peace Singers	29	30 Office Closed	31



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Pastor: pastoraaron@peacepres.org

We're on the web!

www.peaceEPC.com

"like" us on Facebook

"Oh, taste and see
that the LORD is good!
Blessed is the one who takes
refuge in Him!"
-Proverbs 34:8

Sermons for January:

- 1/4- When God Calls Your Name
John 10:1-18
- 1/11- When God Feeds Your Soul
Exodus 16, 17, and 33
- 1/18- When Faith is a Wilderness Journey
Matthew 25:1-11
- 1/25- When God Seals the Deal
Luke 22:14-22



DEACONS

Paul King - Chair
Debbie Grant
Jocelyn Shellito
Sharon Haddock
Marie Gregory
Noreen Rhoades

*The Deacons meet the third Sunday of each
month following worship.*



SESSION/ELDERS

Pastor Aaron Beaty-	Moderator
Geri Coker-	Mission
Kathy Todd-	Stewardship & Finance
Betty Shaw-	Worship
Sandi Deatherage-	Discipleship & Evangelism; Clerk
Gary Scott-	Building & Grounds

Session meets the 2nd Monday from 12-2.