

DECEMBER

Newsletter of Peace Memorial EPC

From the Pastor...

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” -John 1:1-5, 14-15

Dear Friends,

This wonderful text from the Gospel of John (see above) articulates the true meaning of Christmas. Despite what you might hear on the Hallmark channel, or in the latest holiday movie, the true meaning of Christmas isn't compassion, or kindness, or goodness, peace, or even family. The true meaning of Christmas is: “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” The theological term for this is the “Incarnation” (literally meaning- “in the flesh”). When Jesus was born in Bethlehem 2000 years ago, the second person of the Godhead, the eternal Son- the Word of God took on the fullness of human nature- and became one of us, and though completely human, Jesus was completely without the sinful nature which plagues the rest of us. In Jesus, God is with us. All of the other virtues that are so often replaced for the “true” meaning of Christmas may be expressions of celebration, thanksgiving and even worship, but they are all in response to the true meaning.

There are many ways we celebrate the coming savior- with special themed sermons, candlelight services, holiday decorations, gifts sent to loved

ones, extra offerings of compassion to those in need. But one of the most profound ways to celebrate, and experience the truth of the Incarnation (God coming to live with us in Jesus) is to connect with a small group.

Now before you stop reading- this is not just a program plug. Yes we have a small group ministry at our church and yes, I would LOVE to see every member of our congregation connected to one. But

In this Months' Edition

From the Pastor	1-2
Thank You	2
Mission Memo.....	3
Birthdays.....	4
Financial Report	4
“Memory and Music”	5
Ladies Christmas Luncheon	5
Sunday Bible Class	6
Women’s Groups.....	6
Calendar.....	7
Sermon Plans and Officers.....	8

I want to make sure you all understand why these are so important. When Jesus came to live among us (and He continues to live among us in the Holy Spirit), He gave us a special instruction. He said, “where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am with them” -Matthew 18:20. While certainly Jesus is with us even when we are alone, the Church (the body of Christ) is present when Christians gather together. Jesus engages us in special ways when we come together to worship, pray, listen to His Word, support one another... And this is why small groups are so critical to the health and growth

From the Pastor... Continued

of a congregation. While our worship services are certainly good- and God meets us there- a small group (2-16 people) provides a unique setting in which to connect deeper with God and with each other. Just ask some of our members who have participated in small groups this past quarter. I've heard our folks give moving and inspirational accounts of how God has blessed them in the fellowship of our small groups this past quarter. So I invite you to become connected in a small group. You will find not only does your faith deepen, but your sense of belonging, support and excitement for what God is doing at Peace Church will flourish.

Our first quarter of small groups is coming to a close mid-December. We will be taking a few weeks off for Christmas and then will be starting up again with another quarter of small groups the second week of January! Several of our former small groups will continue meeting through our 2nd quarter, and I hope to introduce a new small group as well. This is a great time to invite friends, family or neighbors to join you at small group.

Watch for registration forms to come out the last week of December and the first week of January! I invite you to celebrate the good news of God-with-us all year long by joining a small group.

Blessings to you and Merry Christmas!
Pastor Aaron

Dear Pastor Beaty and congregation,

Recently, my mother's estate was concluded. I was so happy to meet you and learn that she had found a church family. I would like to share some of my mother Patricia Brown's legacy with you. We were so blessed to be part of her life. Please accept this gift in her honor.

Aleg Brown



...about how very special
you are!


In Christ,

the Brown family

Suzanne, Kirk, Jennie and Greg



MISSION MEMO



A long-standing tradition at Peace Memorial is our participation in the Salvation Army Giving Tree. Each year we set up a tree in the foyer specifically for this purpose. Kathy Todd, our liaison with the local Salvation Army, picks up gift request cards to hang on that tree. These requests come from children who might otherwise not receive much on Christmas morning. The Salvation Army has screened the requests to make certain these are for children whose families are having financial stress. Kathy screens the requests to make sure the requests are "appropriate" (we've had some humdingers in the past).

The cards are easy to identify- red for girls and blue for boys. Each card states the age of the child and what gift they'd like. There are no names on the cards, just a case number. You select the card for the child (or children) who touches your heart, and bring the unwrapped gift- with the card- back to the church before Dec 15th. You may put it under the tree on Sunday, or leave it at the office. And please keep in mind that if your gift requires batteries, you include the right size battery with the gift. We'd like the child to be able to enjoy their presents on Christmas Day. Kathy will take the gifts to Salvation Army.

And if you wonder just how this can impact a child, I'd like to share a story about my friend, Barbara E. Barbara had an unmarried grown son but no grandchildren, so she became a big supporter of the Salvation Army Giving Tree. She would select requests that were less likely to be taken due to the cost of the requested item. One year an 11-year old boy wanted a winter jacket of a particular sports team. Parents who have been through this know those jackets are pretty spendy. So Barbara purchased it, turned it into the Salvation Army, and didn't think a thing about it. A few months later, her son told her he'd met a woman he wanted to marry, and brought her and her two children to meet Barbara. One of the children was an 11-year old boy who sported a new sports team jacket, exactly like the one Barbara had purchased. When she commented on the jacket, the boy just beamed about his Christmas present. Knowing his mother would find it interesting, Barbara's son whispered to her that the boy had gotten it through the Giving Tree. Yes, the jacket that made that boy's eyes light up was the very jacket Barbara had given, and was now worn by her future grandson. She never told her son or grandson, just her best friend Alice (who told me). Barbara passed away several years ago, and that grandson is now a man with children of his own. And I imagine, when he's watched his own children delight over a present, he thinks back to that Christmas he got a special jacket, and a new family with a special grandma.

DOING THE MOST GOOD

December Birthdays

7th Krista Beaty

20th Harold Heaton

31st Linda Dart

Stewardship & Finance Committee

October 2022

Here is our monthly update on finance:

Operating Income:.....	\$11,969.00
Operating Expenses:.....	<u>\$14,951.38</u>
Monthly Net:.....	(\$ 2,982.38)
YTD /Net:.....	(\$ 7,723.48)
Checking 10/31/22:.....	\$53,535.68
Money Market 10/31/22:.....	\$62,834.54

Expenses in October beyond regular operations: Quarterly taxes, State: \$266.22, Federal \$726.88, annual Quickbooks subscription \$549.00, quarterly building insurance \$1,805.68, Local Missions \$500.00, World Missions \$400.00, and Presbytery Expenses \$1,953.23.

As you can see, we are in the red for monthly and year to date, however, our bank balances are holding steady. The stewardship drive ends in November, then it's up to session to accept, change if needed, and vote on next year's budget. Thank you all for your continued support of Peace Church!

We wish you a Blessed Christmas season for you and your family and friends.

Peace to you in Christ our Lord,

Kathy Todd

“Musing from your Music Director”
“MEMORY AND MUSIC”

by Joyce King



WE RECALL:
10% of what we read
60% if a visual is used
90% when adding rhythm and rhyme
100% when music is added



Once again we see the power of music on the brain.

When we were young memorizing anything wasn't a chore. Now in our later years it's much more difficult. The value of memorizing Scripture has always proved to be vital to followers of Christ. Whether you are going through challenging times needing God's assurance of a particular truth from His word, or having the opportunity to share your faith, knowledge of the scriptures becomes more important than ever. You may know of programs that put the order of the books of the bible to song. The addition of rhythm and music has made them easier to remember.

As a high school choir teacher in a Christian school, God asked me if I truly believed the above axiom. My endeavor was to present a scripture verse each week for the students to memorize. So, I tested out this principle. Each week I wrote a simple singing ditty for the chosen bible verse. They sang the verse each day for one week. One day I tested their memory when six weeks later I played only the little ditty from the first week. They quoted the verse instantly from memory. It worked!

Many times dementia patients will not remember their loved ones name with whom they have lived together for 50-60 years, but they can sing Christmas carols by heart. I had a student try this principle on a list of facts that was to be on a given test. She memorized the facts by making up a little song. She aced the test! Oh, the power of music on the brain!! What a gift from the Lord!

So my challenge to you is to test it out for yourself. If there's a meaningful scripture verse you want in your memory bank, put it to music and sing it often.

Ladies Christmas Luncheon

When: Saturday December 10th

Where: PMEPC Fellowship Hall

ALL LADIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!!!





Sunday Morning Bible Class

When: Sundays, 9-10AM,

Where: Church Fireside Room

What: The Inheritance of Israel, 2 Samuel

Join Pastor Aaron each Sunday through mid-December as we follow the growth of the nation of Israel as King David takes the throne. With classic struggles and victories of faith, the framework is set for one of the most powerful Messianic promises of the Bible.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

4TH Wednesday of the month @ 12:30 in the Fireside Room



The Women's Missionary Group has settled on "His Last Words" what Jesus taught and prayed in His last hours, by Kim Erickson. It impacts the importance of Jesus's last words of eternal life, powerful and full of love. If you've been longing for more intimacy in your relationship with God, more meaning in your life and more boldness in your witness, "His Last Words" will draw you into what you need: The Word of God. Ladies, if you are interested, join our Ladies Bible Study on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Veronica Rhoades



Bible Discovery

Women's Bible Study

Every other Thursday 1:30

@ Laura Brasser's House

(Call the Church office for details and location (541) 884-5057)

December 2022

December 2022							January 2023						
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	29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 27	28	29	30	Dec 1 1:30pm Laura Brasser's Bible Study (Laura Brasser's Home)	2 Office Closed 2:00pm Peace Singers	3
4 Communion	5	6 10:00am Peace Ringers	7	8 10:30am Missions & Outreach	9 Office Closed	10 12:00pm Ladies Christmas Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
11 10:30am Worship	12 1:00pm Session	13 10:00am Peace Ringers 10:30am PMWVG Board Mtg	14	15 1:30pm Laura Brasser's Bible Study (Laura Brasser's Home)	16 Office Closed 2:00pm Peace Singers	17
18 10:30am Worship 11:30am Deacons	19 4:00pm Stewardship/Finance	20 10:00am Peace Ringers	21 10:00am Crafts Fellowship	22	23 Office Closed	24
25 10:30am Worship	26 1:30pm Building & Grounds	27	28 12:30pm PMWVG Meeting	29 1:30pm Laura Brasser's Bible Study (Laura Brasser's Home)	30 Office Closed	31



Peace Memorial
Presbyterian (EPC)

4431 South 6th St.
Klamath Falls, OR 97603

Phone: 541-884-5057

E-mail: office@peacepres.org

Pastor: pastoraaronepc@yahoo.com

We're on the web!

www.peaceEPC.com

"like" us on Facebook

"Give thanks in every
circumstance, for this
is God's will for you
in Christ Jesus."

-1 Thessalonians 5:18

Sermons for December:

- 12/4 - Advent and the Temple II:
The Bread and the Cup
Exodus 12:15-20, 25:29-30, 6:6-7
- 12/11 - Advent and the Temple III:
The Lampstand and the Incense
Exodus 25:31-40, 30:34-38, 30:7-9
- 12/18 - Advent and the Temple IV:
The Veil and the Promise
Leviticus 16, Hebrews 10:19-22
- 12/24 - *The Ark and the Sacrifice* (Christ Candle)
Exodus 25:10-22, Matthew 1:18-25,
Ephesians 2:18
- 12/25 Christmas I
*That whoever believes would have eternal
life*
Isaiah 9:2,6,7



SESSION



DEACONS

- Susan Orton- Chair
- Paul King- Vice Chair
- Jocelyn Shellito
- Vicki Zeller
- Bertra Bratton

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

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor Aaron Beaty- | Moderator |
| Noreen Rhoades- | Clerk/ Discipleship |
| Kathy Todd- | Finance & Stewardship |
| Bob Wincentsen- | Discipleship |
| Geri Coker- | Mission and Outreach |
| Jim Zeller- | Building and Grounds |
| Betty Shaw- | Worship |
| Stephen Goode- | Building and Grounds |

*They meet the 2nd Monday of each
month from 1-3PM*



TRUSTEES

- Harold Heaton
- Stephen Goode
- Sharron Goode
- Sharon Haddock