

# News of Peace

January 2018



Now that all the hoopla and crazy-busy time of the Christmas season has passed, we enter a season in the Church year known as Epiphany. Epiphany is defined as “a Christian

feast celebrating the manifestation of the divine nature of Jesus to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi, traditionally observed on January 6.” It is also known as the season of light.

That seems rather paradoxical given that we are in one of the darkest seasons of the calendar year. Winter in Michigan has always seemed particularly gray and overcast to me. I spent my first five years in the ministry in North Dakota, where the winters were brutally cold. One January the average daily high for the month peaked out at – 10 degrees! Yet the days would often be filled with bright sunshine; bitter and freezing, but bright nonetheless.

So this season of light in the darkness is often seen as the “in between” season. That time in-between the joyous celebration of the birth of our Lord at Christmas, and the coming somber spiritual journey we will take during Lent to ponder that same Lord’s suffering, sacrifice, and salvation-gaining success over the grave for us.

What is your “in between” season? Are you in between health and illness? Are you in between one career choice or direction and another? Are you in between separation or reconciliation in a relationship? Are you in between the grief of a tremendous loss and the acceptance of a new (albeit no less painful) reality? Are you in between a struggling faith and a strong one?

During this season of light, take some time to ponder the depths of the mystery of the God that has come to dwell among us in all of our “in betweens.” Epiphany can also be defined as “a moment when you suddenly feel that you understand, or become conscious of something that is very important to you; a powerful religious experience.”

May Epiphany be that for you... in your “in-between” time.

See you in Church!  
Peace,  
Pastor Ted D. Kerr III

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Judy (Drodt) Davy, who passed away in December.

Our Christian sympathy is also extended to the family and friends of Russ Cole, Linda Steil’s brother, who passed away last month, too.

May the God of comfort be with them all in this, their time of need.



## IN LOVING MEMORY

*The bulletins on Christmas Eve were donated by Bink and Roxie Boll in loving memory of their son, Chuck.*

## HEALING SERVICE



The next Healing Service is Sunday, January 21 at 5:30 PM

This is a short service and opportunity to receive additional prayer & anointing for those who desire it.



Participating in the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time in December were:

...at the 8:30 service on Dec. 3 was Alex Timothy Abram, son of Tim & Jen Abram. His baptismal sponsors are Michael Stotz and Kari Arnold.

...on December 10 at the 8:30 service was Baylie Aren DuRocher, daughter of Devin & Karen DuRocher. Baylie's baptismal sponsors are Jeremy & Denise Cooley and Marshall & Tricia Collins.

...at the 7 PM service on Wednesday, December 20 was Brianna Lynne Lopez-Weeman, daughter of Jennifer Lopez-Weeman and Humberto Lopez-Nunez. Her baptismal sponsors are Rick Perkey and Erin Perky. T

...on December 17 at the 8:30 service was Madeleine Anne Kreps, daughter of Luke and Bethany Kreps. Madeleine's baptismal sponsors are Dean Kreps and Amy Lynn.

...and on December 24 at the 8:30 service was Jayden Rochelle Cramer daughter of Kimberly Cramer. Her baptismal sponsors are Trisha and John Woods.

The bread for Holy Communion at each service was presented by the family of the child.

The Altar Flowers on December 3 were in honor of Alex Abram's participation for the first time in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.



## REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE RESUMES

Our worship schedule of two Sunday morning services, 8:30 & 11, and a mid-week service on Wednesday evening at 7 resumes the week of January 7. Sunday school & confirmation classes will also resume as will Pastor's study of Ephesians.

Please remember to use extra care in the parking lot as it can be very slippery at times despite efforts to keep it safe. In the event of a cancellation of services due to bad weather an announcement will be placed on Pastor's Facebook page. You may also contact a deacon or Pastor to find out if a service or event has been cancelled.

### "De-Decorate"



We will "de"-decorate the Sanctuary on Sat., Jan. 6 at 9 AM. Helpers are needed to get everything removed, packed away, etc.



When taking down your real Christmas tree this year please consider again making it part of the Garden of Gethsemane scene for Journey to the Cross. Last year we used nearly twenty of your recycled Christmas trees to make the garden scene. Your tree will be part of this year's garden if you place it in the picnic shelter anytime after all of the decorations have been removed. Thanks for your help!



**MORNING BIBLE STUDY:**

We will begin on January 9, 2018 at 9:15 A.M. in the Youth room at Prince of peace. Our study will be "Good and Evil" by author Douglas Connelly. The study will guide us through trusting God and His sovereign power even in the darkest days of pain, uncertainty and suffering... This study will last eight weeks. See Jo Ann Capaul for the study guide, cost is \$6.

**EVENING BIBLE STUDY:**

We will begin the study of the book of Daniel on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. in the Youth Room. Daniel's situation in the bible was a permissive society, a power-hungry people, a nation without God. Daniel's situation in Babylon sounds quite a bit like our own. Daniel gives us very practical and personal help to remain loyal to biblical values and have a positive impact on those around us. If you didn't sign up in time to get a book, see Jeannine Marks



**MARTIN  
LUTHER  
KING JR.  
★ DAY ★**

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." — Martin Luther King

Jr.

January 15, 2018



**GODWORKS SOUP KITCHENS**

GodWorks is a coalition of people with a common goal of serving food to the homeless and working poor in the Monroe County area.

GodWorks currently includes numerous church secular groups and continues to welcome new members.

GodWorks Soup Kitchens currently serves meals in the Dundee, Ida, Monroe, and Temperance.

The January Noisy Offering will benefit GodWorks Soup Kitchen.

January's Noisy Offering will be collected on Wed., Jan. 10 & Sun., Jan.14.

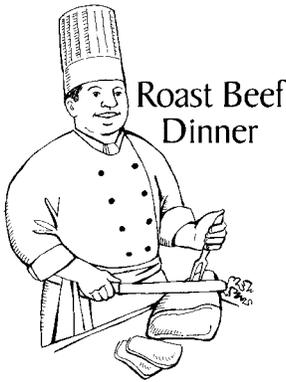
December's Noisy Offering to "Give A Kid A Christmas" was \$204.29.

Thank you Prince of Peace for your outward reach.

God Works Soup Kitchen in Dundee will be providing a meal to area people in need on Wed., Jan 10, with our help. We'll provide the meal with your help of five salads and five desserts.

People are also needed to help set up, serve, and clean up. Contact Joy Fox at 734.269.2982 if you can assist in either way.





## Roast Beef Dinner

Our next roast beef dinner is on Fri., January 12 from 4:30-7 PM. It takes plenty of help to put these dinners together. Donations are needed, too. Please sign up on the sheets in the narthex and help out where you are most able. The meals include roast beef, homemade mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, coleslaw or

applesauce, dinner roll, dessert and beverage. Cost is \$10 for adults; kids 3-11 \$4; under 3 are FREE. Hot dog dinners & carry-outs available.

We'll have special music on Sunday, January 21 at the 8:30 service. The congregation will enjoy the talents of *WoodSong* throughout the

service. *WoodSong* is made up of Bruce Freimark and Steve Pipis. Both were born and raised in Monroe and have been playing music since childhood. They bring a wonderful and inspiring sound of music to their listeners using two guitars and blended voices. They play various easy listening and Christian music in various venues and events.



Those responsible for an Annual Report are reminded that they are due by Wednesday, January 10 in order to be processed in time to go in the mailing of the packets to the congregation. Reports submitted after this time will be available at the Annual Meeting, but will not be included in the mailing.

## Annual Meeting of the Congregation Sunday, January 28 1:00 PM

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Annual Meeting where our new officers and council members will be elected. We'll review next year's budget, discuss old & new business, and more. Our potluck meal begins at noon in the Community Center, followed by the meeting at 1 p.m. Your packet of annual reports will be mailed on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Please review them and bring your copy with you to the meeting. A limited number of copies will be available.

Pastor Nissen's Annual Christmas letter is posted in *The Gathering Place*. His personal note to PoP reads "I have many memories of the days after Pastor Thomas left & I was a "part-time fill-in". Have a most wonderful Christmas season." Pastor Nissen

Please make note of the following change of address:  
Rev. & Mrs. Don Thomas  
7800 Nemco Way, Apt. #333  
Brighton, MI 48116



*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.*

*Romans 8:28*

**THANK YOU!**  
**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**  
**THANK YOU!**

We give big thanks to Matthes Evergreen Farm for continuing the tradition of donating the Christmas tree ad wreath which will beautified our Sanctuary during Advent. Prince of Peace is grateful for their generosity.

A big SHOUT OUT to each and every one of you that helped on either of the two days that we decorated our church for the Advent season. As they say “many hands make light work” and that’s exactly what we experienced! Thank you!

*Special thanks to another Christmas elf for the beautiful cup & goodies left on my desk! Kim*

The beautiful plant in the church office was a wonderful surprise to find on my desk last month! I’ve left it in the office so that I don’t forget to water it (I’m rarely home these days). The “Christmas Elves”, as the card was signed, are sneaky and cannot be properly thanked. You know who you are – and please know this – I appreciate your appreciation! *Kim*

Thanks to everyone who donated and or worked at the WELCA bake sale and luncheon during Christmas in Ida. We made \$672.50 at the bake sale and \$1426.00 at the luncheon thanks to the great people at Prince of Peace!

A great big thank you for all the December members for assisting with our Sunday coffee hour. All your extra baking to help our social hour a success. Another big hug to the December 17th group, Jim, Cindy and Kim. To the Prati family for helping pick up all the tables and chairs after the coffee hour. You are all a blessing. Jan

A really big thank you and hug to all our members in donating the diapers and misc. items needed for Heart Beat of Monroe. They were so grateful of our giving to there need. God is smiling at us right now for all we do for our community in need. Bless you all, Tom and Jan

*I sincerely want to thank everyone, for your words of encouragement, thoughts, cards, phone calls, visits, and prayers, before and after my surgery. To Pastor Kerr...your presence with Ed and I at the hospital was appreciated beyond words. The prayer shawl, given to me by Roxie and Jean, is beautiful, and what a comfort. Ray-Ray, Ed and I both enjoyed your delicious spaghetti dinner, and the fellowship we shared*

*together. How very grateful I am for our kind, giving, and loving church family. God’s Blessings! Jill Burgess*

Special thanks to the Sunday School kids and their helpers for the plates of delicious, nicely decorated, Christmas cookies given to your Prince of Peace staff. We all enjoyed them and the homemade card signed by all of you that was delivered with the cookies. ☺

*Diane and I would like to express our deepest appreciation for all your gifts at Christmas and throughout the year. We are especially grateful for the blessing of your prayers and support in this ministry that we share together. Blessings in 2018! Pastor and Diane*

## A penguin “parable”

During storms, emperor penguins huddle for warmth, taking turns at the center and on the perimeter of the group. While incubating eggs, up to 6,000 male penguins have been observed clustering for shelter against the harsh Antarctic winter. Partially grown chicks gather in protective “crèches” (French for “cribs”); often surrounded by a colony of adults, these groupings ward off predators and cold.

In stormy times, humans also need supportive groups; we can’t survive alone. A church family allows us to take turns giving and receiving care. Amid social upheaval, injustice, illness, natural disaster and any loss or crisis, God invites us to gather for protection and warmth. In the church community, we support and strengthen one another and are empowered to go out again into the less-sheltered world.

We wish to thank everyone for loaning us your poinsettias on Christmas Eve.



**In Honor of:**

- ...Christ's Birthday by Leonard and Joy Fox
- ...Jesus Birth by Paul and Jeannine Marks
- ...The Christ Child by Elda Chambers

**In Memory of:**

...Charles & Donald Leonard by Bonadel, Martha & Richard

...Loved ones by Trudy Hill

...Our parents, Edwin & Wilma Lyons & our brother, Dale Lyons, by Gloria, Janet & Sharon

...Wayne Adler by Betty Adler and Tom & Gloria Adler and sons

...Our parents, by Ron & Lynne Zabawa

...Her sister, Judy Abbott by Larry & Betty Nickel

...Edward & Leora Miller; Jesse & Bonnie Harris; and Hobert Lee Harris by Alice & Leora Harris

...Loved ones by Eugene & Barb Ott

...Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Cairns by Cheryl Stotz & Family

...Loved ones by Dean & Ruth Bazick & Family

...Ruth and Mary Powell by Bink & Roxie Boll

...Wilbert & Margaret Kamprath; and Albert & Catherine Schultz by Richard & Martha Kamprath

...Lena Orde by Chris Knaggs

...Sanjarie Gerweck; Lee & Elaine Gerweck; and John Root Jr. by John Gerweck & Family

...Loved ones, Kibat Family

During the 8:30 service on December 10, our Children's Handbells played *Angels We Have Heard on High* after the Children's Sermonette



On Dec. 10, Randy Turner presented special music. Many of us know Randy as Ida's elementary music teacher. He sang *Some Children See Him* by Alfred Burt and Wilha Hutson, after the Prayer of the Day at each service.

On December 17, A.T.O.M.I.C. accompanied the Sunday school children for the closing hymn of the Sunday School Christmas Program, *Away in the Manger*. The band led us in special music throughout the remainder of the 8:30 service, including *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*.

Special thanks to everyone providing beautiful music for our worship on December 24 including: at the 9 AM service, Kyle Gautz with the violin; at the 7:00 service, our Adult Choir sang *Angels Are Making Their Rounds* by Pepper Choplin after the Prayer of the Day. Jonathon Eby with his saxophone accompanied Ray Smith, our organist during Holy Communion and the postlude at each service; Grace Stadler sang *Oh Holy Night* also during Communion at each service. Lauren Eby was the flutist during Silent Night, Holy Night at both services.

Our Choir practices will resume on  
Thurs., Jan. 11 at 7 PM.

**“A smile is a curve that sets everything straight.”**  
—Phyllis Diller



The WELCA chairperson for the month of February is Trudy Hill. She will be contacting each person on the February list of helpers to line up coffee hours throughout the month. You may use helpers from your month or feel free to line up your own helpers. Remember to let Trudy know (734-269-3413) which week you'd like to provide for. February WELCA helpers include: LeAnn Cottrell & Johannah; Kim Cramer & Cassandra, Beth Eby, Lauren & Madison, Kim Kibat, Brenda Otto & Morgan; Janet Siebarth, Linda Siebarth, Sondra Straub, Marjorie Turriff, Gaye Wilt, Janice Winkelman, Sherry Winkelman.



The next WELCA meeting will be on Sunday, January 21 at 10 AM. Be sure to invite another woman of PoP to attend with you. We'll discuss upcoming events and more. All confirmed women of Prince of Peace are members of WELCA.

The 2018 WELCA Handbooks will be available soon. Please make sure that the chairperson for the month you are listed in has your correct contact information. If you do not receive your handbook by the end of the month, please contact the church office.

### From the correct perspective

A child sat at his grandmother's feet as she embroidered. Looking up, he saw a mishmash of threads and ugly knots but no discernible picture or words. "Nana," he said with concern, "that's not very pretty."

"Come up here," Grandma invited, "and look at it from this side. You have to see it from my perspective."

"Oh!" the boy exclaimed then. "It's beautiful!"

Seeing the world from our human, earthly viewpoint, we can't grasp the masterpiece that God is completing. But when we finally see it from his perspective, we'll discover that the threads and knots all contribute to a beautiful work of art. That work won't be finished until Jesus returns, but in the meantime, may God grant us an occasional glimpse of the work in progress – from God's side!

## Spiritual Retreat

### *Shaped by the Potter*



FEATURING  
**Carole Wolaver**

Carole skillfully uses her potter's wheel to bring scripture alive, sharing her dynamic story of being clay in the gentle hands of the Master Potter.

**PLUS...**

- ... a lunchtime visit from *Miss Sally*  
not exactly your everyday grandmother sharing the funnier side of life's everyday experiences
- ... an Elder-Beerman Style Show  
featuring the latest Spring styles as modeled by local ladies
- ... your choice of 2 enrichment breakout sessions

1) Music Therapy, Angela Snell 2) The Opioid Hurricane, St. Rep. Joe Bellino & Scott Masi  
3) Chair Yoga, Patti Geiman-Dolan 4) Garden Design Principles, Linda Welch  
5) Inspirational Home Décor, Chris Knaggs 6) Tea & Chocolate Pairing, Elaine Terman

**Saturday, March 10, 2018**

8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. ... Registration deadline: Thursday, March 1 ... For all women of post-high school age on-line registration after January 8<sup>th</sup> at [www.princeofpeacelida.org](http://www.princeofpeacelida.org)

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church – 1920 Lewis Ave, Ida MI 48140

Our Dartball games continue. All games are played on Monday evenings at 7:30 PM. Contact Ed Burgess if you have any questions at 734-244-5229. Following is the January schedule:



Jan. 01 – No Games  
Jan. 08 – PoP @ St. Paul Temperance  
Jan. 15 – Immanuel East Ida @ PoP  
Jan. 22 – PoP @ St. John Dundee  
Jan. 29 – Trinity Riga @ PoP

Your 2018 offering envelopes will be available for pick up on the table across from the coatroom. Please look at them and make sure that the number on the label matches the number on the envelopes in the box *and* that your name is correct. If you notice any problem, or cannot find your envelopes, contact the church office.



The new issues of *Word in Season*, a booklet of devotions, and *Spark*, a booklet with devotions for families are available. They are all located and in the narthex and are free of charge. Large print editions of *Word in Season* are also available.

AA Meetings are held at Prince of Peace on Tuesdays at 7 PM.

Calendars for the New Year have been donated by Capaul Funeral Home and are in the narthex. Feel free to take one home with you.



The Sunday School

children's Christmas Program was presented to the congregation on Sunday, December 17 during the 8:30 service. We thank everyone who helped with the program, the parents for bringing your children to practices, and of course, the children:

Readers: Jayden Cramer, Hailey Root, Lana Hemmele, Abby Stevens, Ellie Noland, Gracie Dean and Ashley Smith; Mary: Sarah Prati; Joseph: Mikey Opfermann; Head Angel #1: Lexi Lynn; Head Angel #2: Jayden Cramer; Innkeeper: Maddie Kreps; Cows & Donkeys: Brent Jennings, Henry Kreps, Shane Clark, and Landry Jacks; Shepherds: Carson Jennings, Keagan Stevens, Charley Opfermann; Sheep: Oliver Hearl, Alex Tremonti, Hope Arnold; Star: Belle Arnold; Wisemen: Clara Hearl, Alex Abram, Roman Jacks; Angels: Lexie Lynn, Jayden Cramer, Marissa Tremonti, Kinsey Arnold, Eva Lynn, Lilah Hemmele, Hailey Root, Lana Hemmele, Abby Stevens, Ellie Noldan, Gracie Dean, Ashley Smith, and Sophie Kreps.

*Our Sunday School Christmas play again this year was based on a play written by Naomi Vincent of Gwinner, ND, a former parishioner of Pastor Kerr's. Thanks Naomi*



What a magical time of year it is here at Prince of Peace. This past month has been packed with Christmas Play practice, cookie decorations, and preparations for the first youth outing since I have been on board. Words cannot describe how excited I am to experiencing The Gathering with our amazing LYO youth and the young adults! In my community outreach this month I have held meetings with the surrounding conferences youth directors. Plans are being made to consolidate youth night in the future and for future outings with all the youth. I will cut my time off now and introduce you to a LYO Youth member who recently celebrated a birthday! Steven Prati recently turned 17 years old and is currently in his junior year. His home is shared with his one cat and younger brother and sister. The things Steven are most excited about in the coming year are The Gathering and Big Ticket. His favorite youth even is the Big Ticket. Steven enjoys playing hockey and spends his free time with his competitive hockey team. With the New Year approaching rapidly Steven has set a goal of maintaining grades and getting accepted into a good school to further his education. When asked what advice he would provide for the youth at Prince of Peace Steven said to have fun, not to take life too seriously. Advice he would give to advisors/director would be to continue doing a good job, be sure to listen to the youth and know that the youth are affected by the decisions/actions displayed.

**YouFO MEMBERS – 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders**

Get “CHARGED!” for our annual trip to Traverse City for the middle school youth group trip to the Great Wolf Lodge (former Youth Quake event). Dates are March 16-18, 2018. Contact Meagan Winkelman, 434.728.1427, **BY JANUARY 14** to let her know you plan to take part. Registration fee, travel, and lodging will be covered with YouFO funds, so please do your best to support the fund raising efforts as the opportunities arise. **We do need a deposit of \$50 before the deadline.** The deposit will be returned to church members when we arrive at the event. Friends are WELCOME to come so please invite them. The \$50 deposit doesn't get returned to non-members, but the rest of the registration fee will be paid!

Youth Nights will begin this month!  
 YouFO Night is Friday, January 19, 6pm-7:15pm  
 KoK Night is Friday, January 26, 5:30-6:30 PM

Both nights will include food/supper, games, discussions & more  
*Friends are welcome!*

LYO Night will be in February, TBD  
 Parents/youth are encouraged to contact Meagan with days/times that will work for them if you are interested.

**A SUPER FUN EVENT IS IN THE WORKS!!!**



Saturday, March 24  
 Toledo Walleye Hockey Game  
 Faith & Family Night!

The event is for our youth - their families as well as the congregation are encouraged to save the date and plan to attend. We'll get to meet some of the players and hear about their faith journey.

A group rate (25 or more attending) of \$33 includes the game ticket, a food package, and a sectioned off area in the arena. Prince of Peace youth group members will receive a discounted rate. Watch for the sign up sheet in the narthex. Contact if you have any questions.

**Youth Director  
 Meagan Winkelman**  
 cell: 434.728.1427  
 Feel free to call or text.



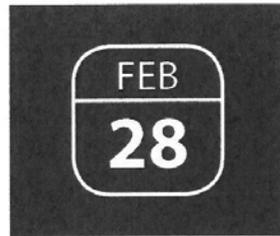
## Camp Registration Opens Soon!

It's time to think about summer camp at Stony Lake, hosting a Day Camp experience, or going on Road Trip Adventures! Each experience is designed to build faith, create opportunities for service, develop leadership skills, and form loving communities. Registration opens January 15th, 2018!



### Simplified Registration

This year we have done away with deposits. Simply register your child, and complete the subsequent on-line forms by February 28th, 2018 to secure your spot and receive the discount rate.



### Register Early and Save

Our discount deadline is February 28th, 2018! Register your camper and complete the subsequent on-line forms to take advantage of the discount rate. Forms must be completed for discount to be applied.

**The Prince of Peace Session is July 8-13.**

Contact Meagan Winkelman if you have questions *and* be sure to let her know that you've registered!