



# Herald of Peace

## January 2022

Peace Lutheran Church,  
1301 Ave. D, Billings, MT 59102

(406) 252-5504  
peacelutheranbillings.com

### ***Making Christ Available to All by Rejoicing, Renewing and Reaching Out***

Peace Lutheran Church Mission Statement

#### **Leadership Directory**

Intentional Interim Pastor:  
Pastor Linda Rose 252-5504  
[peacelinda1301@gmail.com](mailto:peacelinda1301@gmail.com)  
Office Manager: Dean Jenson  
[peaceoffice1301@gmail.com](mailto:peaceoffice1301@gmail.com)  
252-5504  
Youth Director: Vanessa Stieger  
[peacelcyouth@gmail.com](mailto:peacelcyouth@gmail.com)  
office 252-5504 cell 698-5576

Treasurer Steve Frank  
Worship Accompanists Robin Goodheart  
Sue Vigesaa  
Bells of Peace Julie Draeger  
Altar Guild Treasure Molly Johnson  
WELCA Treasurer Connie Hausauer

#### **Church Council**

Dewey Anderson  
Julie Draeger  
Robin Felton  
Wendy Goodheart  
Tony Pecarina  
Jody Pierce  
Dan Quanbeck  
Melissa Sider  
Nate Sider  
Linda Strosky  
Nancy Taylor

#### **Peace Office Hours**

8am-12pm & 1pm-4pm  
Mon. Tues. Thurs. & Fri.

#### **Worship Schedule**

Saturdays: 5:00 pm  
Sundays: 10:00 am  
Sunday Channel 7 at 9:00 am



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



January brings many things with it - looking backward and looking forward; remembrances and resolutions. Last year the day of Epiphany on January 6 was entirely eclipsed by the riot at the Capital. Although Epiphany is supposed to mark growing light, that was a dark day. What a way to start a year full of challenges, disappointments and struggles. But we have a new year to make of it what we will. We can remember our themes of Advent, hope, peace, joy and love, good watchwords for going forward. Hope is what propels us to action, to make a difference in a world that so badly needs care and attention. Peace will allow us to trust God for what is to come while working to mitigate hunger, homelessness and bigotry in all its forms. Joy is the gift God gives us to share the Good News of a loving Savior with a world that needs it so desperately. And Love - love that is merciful, forgiving, generous. What the world needs now is love like that. This will be the year you make it.



## ***Prayer Concerns of those we prayed for December 2021***

### **We Believe in Prayer For praise and thanksgiving ...**

Elizabeth A. Eaton - Presiding Bishop, ELCA

Laurie Jungling - Bishop - Montana Synod;

### **For people around the world in need ...**

Needs of our neighborhood coping with

Covid - 19 virus

President Joe Biden (requested by Peace member)

Christine & Scotty Soileau – Quantico, VA. (member of Peace)

### **For illness or injuries .. of members**

Marge Peterson

Ken Peterson

Leroy & Gertie Gross

Luella Ketterling

Lisa Grimsley

Ron Zech

Howard Albers

Doris Berg

Hank Tungstall - healing

LaWanda Sherseth - healing

### **For illness or injuries .. of family and friends.**

Bill Carlson - family of Danny Quanbeck

Zak McPherson - Lawanda Shersth's grand-daughters husband - surgery

Darlene Thompson - cancer

Renae Peterson - Ken Peterson's sister

Gary Boje - Darlene Thompson's brother , recovery

Denise- Bonnie Hovik Clausen's daughter in law

Jim Zeiler, brother of Sharon Hedden, healing

Jenny - Rick & Barb Olson daughter, cancer

Malcom - 6 yrs. old with a brain tumor

Rako Zech & family, Ron's Zech son - cancer diagnosis

Gary Fink - healing

Ann Strecker - friend of Rick & Barb Olson - healing

Laura Fisher (Jodi Peterson's cousin) cancer

Shawn Hanser

Bud Leuthold - friend of Joy Lindberg leukemia

### **For those grieving...**

June & Dean Jenson the death of June's sister Nancy

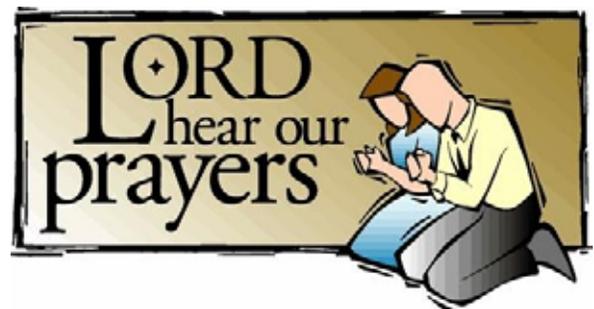
Ann & Erl Barsness on the death of Ann's sister Joy

Mike & Joan Brown on the death of Mike's brother Mac

Khyl & Marlene Thomson on the death of Khyl's sister

Family & friends of Amy Harmon who died Dec. 13th

Steve Frank on the death of his mother Donna Frank December 7th



### ***With sincere gratitude***

**D**ear Friends at Peace, Ken and I would like to thank you all for your prayers, cards, phone calls and kindness, during our bump in the road. We also can't forget all the goodies you have provided. We are very blessed to be part of Peace Lutheran congregation. Thanks again, Your friends in Christ, Ken & Marge Peterson

**P**rayer Concerns is a published list of those on the prayer chain, who have given permission to publish their names. If you are interested in praying for these, as well as others, please join the prayer chain. They have leaders who call or email. Please call Lone Bloom at 652-2441 or Lisa Grimsley (698-4121).

## Congregational News

### Peace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting



Meeting of our congregation is Sunday, January 23rd.  
The schedule is: 10:00 am Worship Service  
11:15 am Annual Meeting

**Sunday Zoom**  
call the church office

### From the Council President

People of Peace,  
You will note that enclosed in this newsletter is the proposed budget for 2022. This budget was put together over several months by your church council and sub-committees. On January 15th and 16th, immediately following worship, we will have council members available as well as Steve Frank to go through the proposed budget and cover any questions. The budget is not official until approved at the annual meeting on January 23rd following worship. When reviewing the proposed budget you will see a significant reduction in estimated unrestricted offerings. This was to get the budget balanced as we try not to have a large remainder at the end of the year. As we currently do not have a pastor, those values have been set to zero. When a pastor is extended a letter of call in a special congregational meeting, we will also approve an amended budget to include the salary and benefits package. Thank you for your continued giving and support.

Tony Pecarina



January 17<sup>th</sup>

*I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made straight and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together. ...*

*“The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: ‘If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?’ But... the good Samaritan reversed the question: ‘If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?’”*

*“I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their mind and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits.”*

*Acceptance Speech at Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony, December 10, 1964*

~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ~

## Congregational News

con't from pg. 1

It's a long season of Epiphany, 2 months until Lent begins. But each day the light comes a little earlier, lasts a little longer. Let your faith grow that way - strengthened by practice, prayer and worship. Use the growing light to reach out, expand your world, plant seeds of hope for the future.

I want to share a hymn with you for this January season. As last year still echoes in our minds, and our eyes look uncertainly toward the future, think on these things.

"Each winter as the year grows older". Text William Gay, Music, Annabeth Gay.

Each winter as the year grows older, we each grow older, too. The chill sets in a little colder; the verities we knew seem shaken and untrue.

When race and class cry out for treason, when sirens call for war, they overshout the voice of reason, and scream 'til we ignore all we held dear before.

Yet, I believe beyond believing that life can spring from death, that growth can flower from our grieving, that we can catch our breath and turn transfixed by faith.

So even as the Sun is turning to journey to the north, the living flame, in secret burning, can kindle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.

O Child of ecstasy and sorrows, O Prince of peace and pain, brighten today's world by tomorrow's, renew our lives again; Lord Jesus, come and reign!

Thank you for a great four months together. I have loved getting to know you and am confident you will grow in faith and grace in 2022.

Blessings and peace - Pastor Linda Rose



*Compline Worship  
Service*

### Mid-Week Worship Service at Peace!!!

Everyone is invited to attend

Compline (night prayer) service  
The Second Wednesday of the month  
January 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer Service  
The Fourth Wednesday of the month  
January 26 at 7:00 p.m.

**Holden  
Evening  
Prayer**

**Marty Haugen**

**In Person Wednesday night worship.**

**We will continue to live stream each Wednesday Night Service.**

## Mission and Service News

### Mission & Service Committee Happenings

*The Mission and Service committee hopes that you had a wonderful Christmas and wishes you a fruitful start to the New Year! With a new year comes opportunity to serve those in need.*

*Here are tidbits from your Mission and Service committee. Please consider praying for where you can personally serve others, and pray for those that will actively participate.*

- ➔ *A big THANK YOU goes out to everyone who supported the Family Promise families Peace Lutheran Church sponsored! Your generosity is overwhelming.*
- ➔ *Salvation Army Sandwich Making- The committee will be choosing our next sandwich making date at our January 2022 meeting.*
- ➔ *Souper Bowl of Caring- Our annual time of giving will take place on February 13.*

*Our committee looks forward to serving the Peace congregation again in 2022. Do not be afraid to let a committee member know of new opportunities to serve that you may learn of. As a reminder, our committee meets the second Monday of each odd numbered month at 12:30 p.m. at the church. Please feel free to join us if the Spirit so moves you.*

### Peace Quilters



Quilting has returned to our regular Wednesday meeting times, 9:00 in the fellowship hall downstairs on the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays. We welcome anyone who would like to help make mission quilts with us. It is not difficult to do! We will teach you to tie the square knots needed to put the quilt together. Or maybe you would like to lay out squares to be sewn into tops. There are several other things to do in making beautiful quilts.

Looking forward to meeting many new people and having many productive meetings. Coffee and treats are available again at 10:30.

## Congregational News

### Christikon Clips

January 2022

Watch this month for Christikon brochures on opportunities for youth. It's not too early to start thinking about this summer. Youth brochures will be mailed to every young person in grades 4-12 in our congregations this month. Those brochures will detail some very special deals for registering early for camp. We hope to serve even more people from our member congregations in 2022! Early registrations have been very strong so get registered earlier than later!



Save the date: Christikon Benefit Auction is scheduled for April 24th.

Too few of our nation's young people (not to mention adults) have significant outdoor experience. Christikon combines spirited outdoor experience with a community experience that helps open people to the life of faith. Think about joining the Christikon life this coming summer. It can do a world of good...

*It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ—exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.*

### The Education and Youth Committee Presents..

#### KEEP OR SHAVE THE BEARD

Sponsored by Council President Tony Pecarina  
Council President Tony Pecarina has not shaved since September 22, 2001, with the exception of 2 days. For this brand new fundraiser, he has not trimmed his beard since June.

Starting on December 4th and continuing until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, two buckets will be set up at each service. One bucket will be labeled to KEEP the beard (but maybe trim it), and the other bucket will be labeled SHAVE.

Based on collection, Tony will come to the Annual Meeting at 11:00 AM on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 with either a shaved face or still bearded. Since we will be entering the cold months, he's really hoping for the beard!

Additionally, should at least \$2,500 be contributed in total, Vanessa, along with the Youth and Education Committee, will choose a costume that Tony will wear for the entire Annual Meeting.

You can also mail in contributions with the memo line reading Peace Youth – and then your preference of Keep or Shave.



### 2022 Offering Envelopes

Your 2022 offering envelopes will be available for pickup in the narthex by the mailboxes.



## Worship News

### January Worship Themes

*This month we celebrate Epiphany with the Light of Christ*

**January 2<sup>nd</sup>**                      *Second Sunday of Christmas*

**Readings:** Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; **John 1:1-18**

*Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

**ELW Setting #4**

**January 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>**            *Baptism of Our Lord*

**Readings:** Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

*Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.*

**ELW Setting #8**

**January 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**            *Second Sunday after Epiphany*

**Readings:** Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; **John 2:1-11**

*The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.*

**Country Gospel**

**January 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>**            *Third Sunday after Epiphany*

**Readings:** Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; **Luke 4:14-21**

*God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.*

**ELW Setting #10**

**January 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**            *First Sunday of Christmas*

**Readings:** Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; **Luke 4:21-30**

*The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.*

**ELW Setting #8**

## Education and Youth News

### Happy New Year!

I'm looking forward to getting back into the swing of things. Sunday School will be back on January 9th and Youth Group will kick back off on January 12th. Below, you'll find a list of the things will be learning about in January and some of February. As you may have heard, I am coaching a 5th and 6th-grade basketball team, so there will be a few weekends that I will miss due to tournaments.

### Sunday School

January 9th- Baptism of the Lord  
 January 16th- *No Sunday School*  
 January 23rd- Luke 4: 14-21  
 January 30th- *No Sunday School*  
 February 6th- Luke 5: 1-11

### Youth Group

January 12th- The Wise Men  
 January 19th- Jesus is Baptized  
 January 26th- Many Follow Jesus  
 February 2nd- Jesus Blesses Children  
 February 9th- Jesus Teaches About Prayer



### Tech Help for Weekend Services

If you've seen me during Weekend Worship, you probably know that I am usually camped out by the computers in the back of the sanctuary. I am looking for a few people

to join in on the fun! After you get the hang of it, it's super easy! Please let me know if you are available to learn. You will not be on your own until you are comfortable doing so!

### Keep or Shave the Beard

*A New Youth Fundraiser Sponsored By Council President Tony Pecarina*

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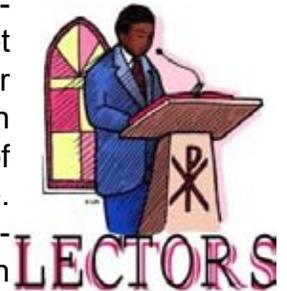


## Congregational News

**C**hurch Photo Directory is in need of updating! Your Congregational Life Committee is hoping everyone will participate.. Picture taking will be available before and following the Saturday and Sunday services or during office hours during the week beginning September 25th. We are looking forward to updating our wall as well as providing a new picture directory for our Peace Lutheran Family. **Get Your Photo on The**



**H**elp Needed; We are in need of lectors for each Saturday and Sunday worship services. The signup sheet is in the narthex. If you enter your email address the church office will send you a copy of the reading a week in advance. If you have any questions contact Julie Draeger or Dean in the church office. Thank you!



### ELCA Christmas Message 2021

This is our second pandemic Christmas. We thought this would be over so long ago. And still, we wear masks; we're physically distant; we can't be with friends and family as we used to do. And also, there's so much that's broken in this world, so much that tells us, "Why have hope? Just give up."

But we have a hope that's stronger than any of this, stronger even than death. The hope of God comes in the form of a tiny baby, a helpless child; nevertheless, who grew to a man and in his fragile strength was willing to die on the cross and was raised again.

I don't know what next Christmas will bring. I don't know what New Year's will bring. But I do know we have hope. St. Paul put it this way: *"May the God of fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may ABOUND IN by the power of the Holy Spirit."*

Merry Christmas dear church.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



PSALM 29:11, NRSV

## Congregational News

### Church E-mail Addresses



#### Church Office

[peaceoffice@bresnan.net](mailto:peaceoffice@bresnan.net)

#### Youth Director

[peacelcyouth@gmail.com](mailto:peacelcyouth@gmail.com)

#### Call Committee

[peacecallcom@gmail.com](mailto:peacecallcom@gmail.com)

### Check out the web site:

[peacelutheranbillings.com](http://peacelutheranbillings.com). Web site is updated with, up to date calendar, newsletter in color, Youth page, and photo page.



### Church Council Minutes

The approved church council minutes are available at the bulletin board outside the church office. Thank you

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

Find us on facebook:  
Peace Lutheran Church, Billings MT

**Simply Giving Program** - Would you find it helpful to have your offerings taken from your bank account as you do other monthly drafts? Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsors a program called Simply Giving which offers this service for people who wish to have offerings transferred electronically to Peace Lutheran Church account. For those who travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with their intended offerings, and it will keep you from having to make up the difference later. Contact the church office for more details.



### Congregational Life Committee

The Congregational Life Committee is responsible to touch the lives of the people of Peace Lutheran Church by involving them in the life and ministry of the church. One of the most visible responsibilities is fellowship following worship services. We moved from asking service committee members to bring cookies, etc., to providing doughnuts. So, the duties have been reduced and only one or two people are needed for each Sunday. We will continue to assign monthly service committees as we have done in the past. If we have a potluck or other congregational function during the month, the committee may be asked to help. A committee chairperson will be assigned each month and will ask committee members to help with the fellowship/coffee following Sunday worship.

### January Serving group

Molly Johnson, chair  
Keith Johnson  
Amy/Jeff McGough  
Nola McCafferty  
Rhonda Sappington  
Monica Aalgaard  
Gayle Kingston  
Jean Graham



**The Church Office has a new e-mail address.**

[peaceoffice1301@gmail.com](mailto:peaceoffice1301@gmail.com)

# Congregational News

**2020 Circles & Bible Studies:**

Everyone is welcome!

**Martha Circle**

*Meets Third Wednesday, at 10:00 am  
in the Fellowship hall*

**Deborah-Katie Circle [Suspended]**

*Meets 2nd Saturday at 10:30 am  
at Peace*

**Ruth Circle**

*Meets second Tuesday at 11:30 am*

**Peace Lutheran Church Council**

President - Tony Pecarina

Vice President - Julie Draeger,

Secretary - Linda Strosky

Dewey Anderson - Abundant Life, Property

Julie Draeger - Worship

Robin Felton - Youth & Education

Wendy Goodheart - Worship

Tony Pecarina - Youth & Education

Jody Pierce - Youth & Education

Dan Quanbeck - Abundant Life

Melissa Sider - Youth & Education

Nate Sider - Youth & Education

Linda Strosky - Mission & Service

Nancy Taylor - Mission & Service

**Men's Breakfast and Bible Study**

Meets every

**Wednesday at 6:30 am in the  
Fellowship Hall. New-comers  
and one-timers are  
always welcome**



**Boards/Committees**

**St John's Ministries**

Rhonda Sappington

Holli Miller

**Christikon**

Kaia Sappington

Mike Brown

Erl Barsness

**Lutheran Center**

Debbie Sider

Kay Rossow

**Endowment Trustee**

Ed Popp

Molly Johnson

Bernie Mason

Rhonda Hanson

Dean Welliever

**Nominating Committee**

Paul Strosky

Ann Barsness

Lois Gorseth.



**Questions about Council Activities?** If you have any questions or comments regarding any council action - pending or complete - please contact

President Tony Pecarina

Vice-President Julie Draeger

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS**

**January 20th**

**Catch  
Worship  
Service  
Broad-  
cast on  
Community  
Channel 7  
Sunday Mornings  
at 9:00 am**





## January 2022

1 *New Year's Day* Ask God to ground our aspirational resolutions and ventures in the promise that, through Christ, we will live in grace and freedom, knowing we are not alone in our endeavors.

2 Give thanks that, through Jesus Christ, we perceive God's grace, truth, creative might and will for humankind.

3 Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month Throughout this month, pray for those victimized by human trafficking, which disproportionately affects women and girls. Pray for an end to this global tragedy, and pray that all who suffer its abuse, injustice and oppression will find freedom, healing, support and safety, especially in our communities of faith.

4 Ask God to bless the studies, service and travel of college and university students involved in "J-Term" experiences. Pray that they will grow in faith, wisdom, knowledge and understanding of the world, and that their experiences will inspire their vocational discernment.

5 Praise God for attending to the needs of humanity through us, utilizing our diverse gifts and generosity to serve our neighbors in need, everywhere.

6 Ask the Spirit to make us bright lights in our communities and world, sharing the good news of healing and hope in Jesus Christ and demonstrating God's unbiased love through our actions, words and influence.

7 Thank and praise God for restoring our relationships as children of God, so that we can live with faith, hope and freedom as new creations and siblings in Christ.

8 After a two-year pause during the COVID-19 pandemic, the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission program is getting ready to send volunteers out into the world again. Pray that the Spirit will guide the prayerful reflection of young adults as they discern how to respond to God's call to service and ministry with our global companions and churches.

9 Pray that everything we do during our baptismal journey in this world will point to God, who has redeemed us and redirected our lives through the birth, life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus — our Savior, teacher, guide and friend.

10 Continue to pray for healing and unity in our nation, and ask God to draw us closer to our neighbors, especially those we perceive as different or opposed to our perspectives, beliefs or values. Pray that we will grow in understanding and respect for one another and will work together for the well-being of our communities and neighbors in need.

11 Give thanks to God for our companions and partners in ministry, especially the Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, Lutheran Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations Network, and our full communion partners.

12 Give thanks for the daily, life-giving work of the Spirit, which creates, strengthens and sustains our devotion to Jesus Christ. Pray that the Spirit will renew us and empower us to live as people of faith, gathered and equipped to love and serve our neighbor, bear hope into the world and share the gospel with all people.

13 Join our global companion churches in prayers of thanksgiving and hope for the scholarship awardees of ELCA International Women Leaders, which supports the education of women around the world through seminars, south-to-south exchanges, in-country study programs, and degree programs at ELCA colleges and universities.

14 Praise God, who is mighty and eternal, the creator of all that exists and the source of our blessings and strength.

15 Pray for our neighbors who are struggling with or recovering from COVID-19, discovering the long-term effects that will impact their lives or grieving the loss of friends or loved ones. Continue to pray for the well-being and renewal of health care workers dedicated to serving others in times of illness and vulnerability.

16 By turning water into wine during the wedding at Cana, Jesus taught us how deeply God is engaged in every aspect of our human life — our joys, worries, celebrations, problems and sorrows. Praise God for knowing us so well!



## January 2022

17 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day* Remember in prayer the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his bold work, ministry, vision and sacrifice, which revealed all people to be children of God deserving respect, opportunity, equality and freedom from unjust laws. Ask God's help in righting the injustices that continue in our nation and throughout the world; pray for the wisdom, humility, courage and persistence needed to welcome all people into our church, society and institutions.

18 *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* Throughout this week, pray with our siblings in Christ from diverse cultures, traditions and confessions around the world for the unity of the church, so that, together, we will shine a bright light of hope, healing and good news on our troubled world.

19 Give thanks for the variety of gifts manifest among our siblings in Christ and for the unity we have in Jesus, which enables us to accomplish together much more than we could on our own.

20 Thank God for our special relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1997. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find new strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these challenging times.

21 "How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings" (Psalm 36:7). Thank God for surrounding us with love and mercy on which we can rely.

22 Pray that the Spirit will inspire and lead people to respond to God's call to service through ELCA Global Mission as it seeks missionaries, volunteers and interns to walk alongside our global companions.

23 Give thanks that Jesus is our true Savior, light and hope — the Son of God, who lived among us and continues to dwell with us through the Spirit.

24 January is when outdoor ministry leaders begin recruiting staff for our summer camps. Pray that the Spirit will inspire young adults to respond to the call to serve in our outdoor ministries across the country and to share their faith and enthusiasm with campers of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

25 Ask God to help us understand that force, vengeance, wealth disparity and dominance over others are inconsistent with God's justice and power, and that these are revealed to us through Jesus' life and teaching, which exemplify humility, compassion, generosity, service, love without prejudice and advocacy for neighbors in need.

26 Rejoice and give thanks to God for uniting us in the body of Christ, which welcomes our diverse gifts, experiences, questions, complexities, ethnicities and cultures.

27 Pray for victims of violence and their families, that God will ease their pain, suffering and grief; pray for those who commit murder or other acts of violence, that God's grace will transform their hearts and lives.

28 Pray for our leaders and congregations, which create opportunities for us to study Scripture, share our questions and thoughts in conversation, and affirm one another's gifts for living the gospel, serving our neighbor and growing the church.

29 Pray for the ministry and impact of Lutheran Services in America, a nationwide network of 300 Lutheran social ministry organizations that serve 6 million people each year, using the gifts and skills of 250,000 paid staff and 150,000 volunteers.

30 Pray that our faith and confidence in Christ will embolden us to be public bearers of good news, hope and wholeness for all people, even in the face of intimidating challenges, criticism or skepticism.

31 Pray that the Spirit will help us understand and practice the qualities of love that God has shown us and that the apostle Paul commends to members of the church in Corinth: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth" (1 Corinthians 13:4-6).

# Peace Lutheran Church

Non-Profit Organization  
1301 Avenue D  
Billings, MT 59102-3196

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*God's Work.  
Our hands.*

**January 2022**

## Congregational Meeting



Annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 23rd following worship with the meeting commencing at 11:15 am.