

**Peace Lutheran Church
Newsletter
December 2025**

**Love God, Love People,
and Serve the World!**



Mission:
*To love like Jesus so
that each person
experiences God's way.*

Advent Suppers



Advent Suppers

5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

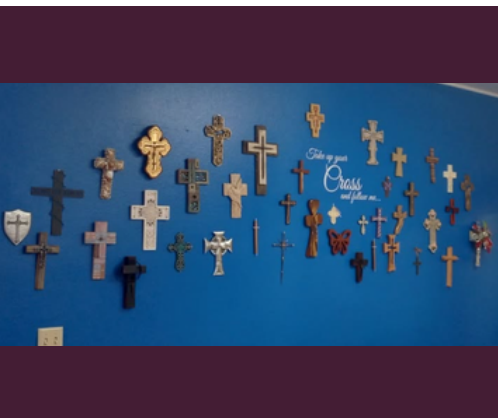
Dec. 3 – Assorted Soups

Dec. 10 – Baked Potato & Salad

Dec. 17 - Hamburgers

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>A Message from the Pastor</i>	2
<i>Worship</i>	3
<i>Bell Ringing & Special Service</i>	5
<i>Spiritual Gifts & Christmas Tea</i>	6
<i>Live Nativity</i>	7
<i>Service Opportunities</i>	8
<i>Mission Spotlight</i>	9
<i>Family Promise</i>	10
<i>Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Prayers</i>	11
<i>Giving & Contact</i>	12



A Message from the Pastor

Advent Conspiracy

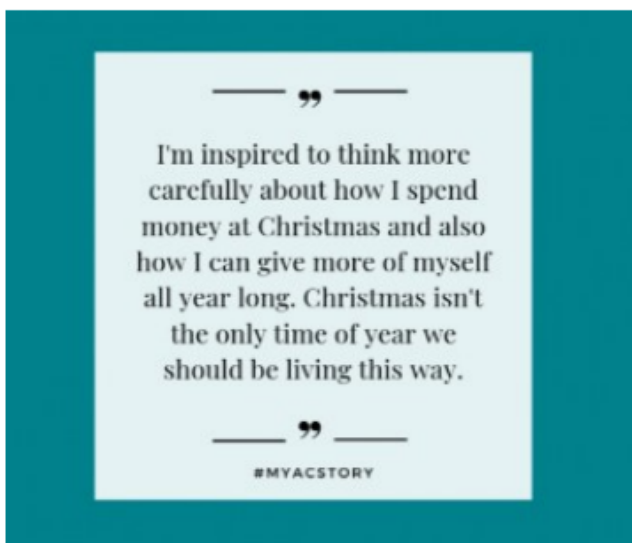
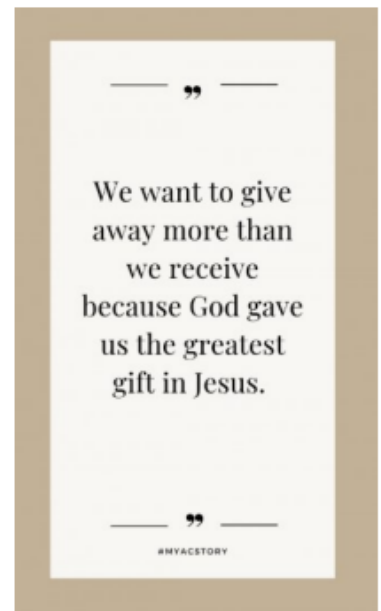
What if we really leaned into Advent as a season of intentionality that precedes Christmas? In a culture that is bombarded by rampant consumerism, keeping up with the Joneses, and running at an break-neck pace, Advent is the a time in the year in which we can say take a step back from the cultural message of now and slow down to witness the wonder of what God is truly bringing.

This Advent season, we are join the Advent Conspiracy (adventconspiracy.org) and focus on 4 areas that will shape Christmas:



Worship Fully
Spend Less
Give More
Love All

Listen to these stories of people who have been touched by embracing Advent.



Grace and peace,
Pastor Jake

Worship

December Worship: Preparing for the Messiah

ADVENT SERIES



**IN THE
FIERY
FURNACE**
Daniel 3
11/30/25

**IN THE
VALLEY OF
DRY BONES**
Ezekiel 37
12/7/25

**IN
SEEKING
THE LORD**
Isaiah 55
12/14/25

**IN THE WORD
BECOMING
FLESH**
John 1
12/21/25

Christmas Eve CANDLIGHT WORSHIP

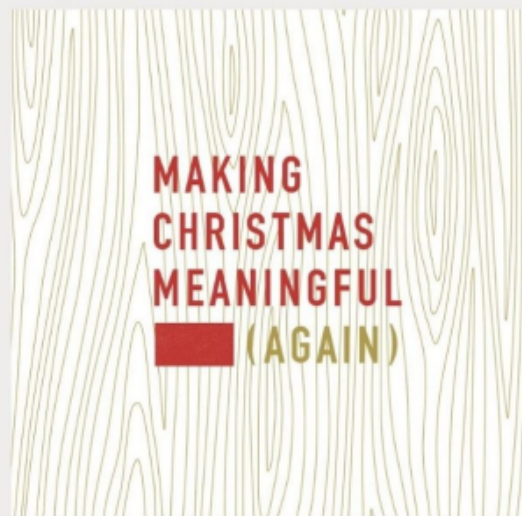


5PM 🛎 7PM

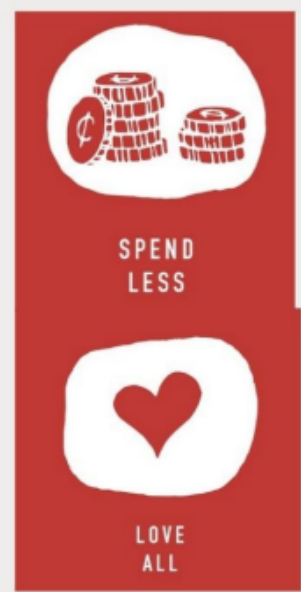
Worship



Are you tired of how consumerism has stolen the soul of Christmas? This year make a difference! Join the groundsweel of Christ-followers who are choosing to make Christmas what it should be – a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth that enriches our hearts and the world around us.



Join us each Wednesday evening in
Advent at 6:30pm for worship
as we reclaim the heart of Advent



Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 13 for an opportunity to become a Salvation Army Bell Ringer.

Peace will be ringing the bell at Granzin's Meat Market, 1644 McQueeney Road, New Braunfels from 9am to 1 pm.

Below is a signup genius, or look for signup in the Narthex. One hour slots are available and the time goes by quickly.

If you would like to participate, but are unavailable on December 13, go to Registertoring.com to sign up for a convenient time.

Peace
Karen Laughlin, Service Chair

[Salvation Army Bell Ringers: Salvation Army Bell Ringers](#)



Special Service

New Braunfels German Choir

Join us in worship on December 28th at 10am for a special Lessons and Carols featuring the New Braunfels Gemischter Chor Harmonie



Spiritual Gifts

What are Our Spiritual Gifts?

Christian discipleship is a journey of living out and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. The more that we can discover who we are and whose we are, the more we can appreciate the journey to which we have been called. This includes discovering our Spiritual Gifts. Each one of us is given gifts by the Holy Spirit that shape who we are and how we operate in the body of Christ. When we identify these gifts, we can better use them to grow in faith, life and discipleship.

Each month we will highlight one of the spiritual gifts that are part of our Spiritual Gifts Assessment. This month we will highlight the gift of **Hospitality**.

Hospitality causes the receiver to joyfully welcome and receive guests & those in need of fellowship, food, lodging, or care. People with this gift are often friendly, gracious, inviting, trusting, caring, responsive, and warm.

Take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment today!

Scan the QR Code or go to:

<https://www.peacenb.org/pages/spiritual-gifts-survey>



The Christmas Tea is Coming!

A GINGERBREAD CHRISTMAS



The Christmas Tea will be on December 6, from 10am to 12am. This year's theme is a Gingerbread Christmas; tickets are \$10.00 per person. They will go on sale in October; you can sign up on sign up genius or we will have forms at the church. You can also call any member of the tea committee. Deadline is November 30. Can goods will be collected for the SOS food bank.

Live Nativity

2025 Peace Lutheran Church Live Nativity

December 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m.



Christmas is approaching fast, and plans are being made for another beautiful Live Nativity evening. If you have not had the opportunity to participate or attend our Live Nativity, mark your calendar now so you do not miss it. We set up a walk through Bethlehem that includes a Bake shop, Ornament Shop, Joseph's Carpenter Shop, Hot Cocoa, Christmas Carols and so much more!

We are so excited about a new addition to our Live Nativity this year. We will have a Beekeeper who will share her Bee Story and have some yummy tastings.

We will need people of all ages to be in costume—the manger, angels, shepherds, wise men, town's people and carolers. Want to know more? Talk to Becky Voges at 830-587-4003. The Sign-up Genius is ready for volunteer spots. Please join us as we bring the Christmas Story to life for our community. Here is the Sign-up page --

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094BAFAF2FA7FC1-60115473->

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

First Footing is nearing the completion of construction phase 2 of their program, which will add 24 more beds for adults who are experiencing homelessness. This will increase bed capacity to 66, not including inclement weather shelter days. Last year nearly 500 people sought shelter and the waiting list was as high as 90 people, so the added beds will help better serve the community need.

First Footing purchased a wonderful bed system but needs help assembling the beds. Due to the timing of construction, help is needed on the weekdays of Thursday 12/11/25 and Friday 12/12/25 from 8am-12pm and 1-5pm both days. They will need about 10 people for each time slot. If you know of people who may be able to assist, here is the Sign Up Genius link with slots and instructions:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084DA4AD28A4F8C25-60717820-assembling>

Thanks for your payers and for any help you can lend-
Kellie Stallings

Angel Tree

Be on the lookout for our Angel Tree in the Narthex, the first Sunday of Advent, Sunday November 30. You will be able to make a child's Christmas brighter, by choosing a tag and returning your wrapped gift by Sunday, December 14 as we partner with the Family Life Center again this year.

Thanks for your support,
Karen Laughlin Service Chair



December Mission Spotlight

Sunday, December 28th, Peace's Mission Spotlight is Communities in School . Communities in Schools South Central Texas has been empowering students for over 30 years, helping them succeed in school and life.

Founded by the Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, CIS is the only campus based nonprofit in our partner districts, reaching over 43,000 students across 60 schools.

CIS places caring adults directly inside schools to connect students and families with vital resources, working hand-in-hand with parents, caregivers, and educators to remove barriers and unlock student potential.

Through daily support from professional site coordinators, Communities in Schools provides over 4,000 students each year with services like mentoring, mental health support, basic needs assistance, tutoring, and college prep.

In partnership with 300+ local businesses, agencies, churches, and volunteers, CIS connects students and families to resources that address academic, emotional, and real-life challenges. This model transforms lives by surrounding students with the support they need to thrive--in the classroom and beyond.

Ways to help this worthwhile mission, donate to or shop in their Thrift Shop, become a volunteer, join their student mentor program and change a child's life, include this Mission and the students they serve in your prayers, a dedicated offering will be collected on Sunday, December 28th.

Peace
Karen Laughlin Service Chair



Family Promise in December

Our final Family Promise rotation of 2025 will be Sunday, December 28 through Saturday January 3rd.

Going forward, our participation with Family Promise will look different. In talking with the families, staff and member churches, the difficulties and disruption to the youngest family members outweighs the benefits and bonds we have established with our families. The families will remain at the day center and we will continue to deliver meals and get to know our families in a less disruptive atmosphere.

In our 2026 rotations, we will have one night for the families to come to Peace and dine with a few of us and get to see how many people are a part of this ministry. We will make the evening family specific, with age appropriate games or activities to have a pleasant evening with all involved. Stay tuned.

Our 2026 rotations have been assigned, mark your calendars

March 1 thru March 7

July 5 thru July 11

September 6 thru September 12

October 11 thru October 17

November 8 thru Nov 14

Look for the signup poster in the Narthex or use the signup genius below to provide a meal for our Family Promise family/families. As our week approaches, we will get information on how many families we will be serving, but the day center can accommodate a maximum of 8 residents.

For all you party planners, our week includes New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. For anyone that has any ideas on how to make these holidays special, or has a fun family tradition that we can provide, please let us know.

Please continue to hold this program and the people we touch in your prayers, and a huge thank you for a successful year in ministry with this mission. The outpouring from this congregation has been staggering. You have provided meals, money, donations to set up new households for our families, food donations and most importantly your prayers and presence.

Peace

Karen Laughlin

Shannon Johnson

Birthdays

Michelle Johnson 12/01
 Barbara Wangsness 12/01
 Virginia Raley 12/03
 Clyde Peebles 12/06
 Megan Ohnheiser 12/06
 Michael Simpson 12/09
 Brendan Healey 12/10
 Earl Koester 12/10
 Robbi Will 12/11
 Megan Wenzel 12/12
 Ceretta Daum 12/13
 Clarence Friesenhahn 12/16
 Max Ebert 12/17
 Jacob Henderson 12/17
 Don Hodde 12/18
 Curtis Rabenaldt 12/28
 Paul Fisher 12/29
 Greg Gunderson 12/30

Peace Prayer Ministry

Peace Lutheran Church has an active Prayer Ministry. We have an Email Prayer Chain, we have a Zoom “Sweet Hour of Prayer” Group that meets every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m., and we have a Prayer loom that is included in our Sunday morning prayers. All are welcome to join our email Prayer Chain and our Monday morning Prayer Group.



We have experienced some amazing, answered prayers this year and we have given comfort to many of our members in their times of distress. You can email Becky at beckyvoges@yahoo.com for info.

Anniversaries

Peggy & (Mark) Cooper
 12/15/2007 – 18 years
 Wade & Lavonne Ohnheiser
 12/18/2004 – 21 years
 Matthew & Leslie Tippens
 12/20/2003 – 22 years
 Dannie & Anita Hill
 12/23/2018 – 7 years
 Alan & Sandra Freeman
 12/27/1966 – 59 years
 Joseph & Arlene Wold
 12/27/1956 – 69 years
 Jacob & Shea Henderson
 12/30/2017 – 8 years

Prayers

Earl Blaschke
 Martin Franz
 Carol Franz
 Jim Miller
 Rick Smith
 John Claycomb
 Arlene Wold
 Stella Leissner
 Earl Koester
 Jenny Phillips

Giving at Peace

There are several giving options at Peace: Bank Drafts; Online Giving (Website); Offering Envelopes. If you would like more information on any of the options listed above, please give our Finance Administrator, Theresa, a call at 830-620-0618.



Peace Lutheran Church

1147 S. Walnut Ave.
New Braunfels, TX 78130

Web address:
www.peacenb.org
830-620-0618

Pastor Jake Fain
830-312-8797

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Friday
Office Closed

Sunday
10:00 am - Worship
Livestream @ peacenb.org/live