



Peace United Methodist Church
Pastor Mickey Olson
303 Ninth Avenue South
Virginia MN 55792



The Methodist Messenger

December 2017

Church Office

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Phone: 218-741-7739
www.peaceumc.us
E-Mail: office@peaceumc.us
pastor@peaceumc.us

Worship Schedule

10:00 AM Peace UMC
303 South 9th Avenue
Virginia, MN 55792

Note: 1st Sunday of each month is
Communion Sunday

The Nursery is staffed each Sunday
from 9:30 – 11:30 am

Our Staff

Pastor
Youth Coordinator
Administrative Assistant
Music Director
Choir Accompanist
Custodian
Nursery Attendant

Mickey Olson
McKenzie Fossell
Holly Lundgren
Jeanene Hagberg
Char Cremers
David Stanaway
Petra Hagberg

Thought for the month:

With whom will I share the
love, peace, and joy
of Christmas this year?

SCRIPTURE READINGS

| | | | | |
|----|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 3 | Isaiah 64:1-9 | Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 | 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 | Mark 13:24-37 |
| 10 | Isaiah 40:1-11 | Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 | 2 Peter 3:8-15 | Mark 1:1-8 |
| 17 | Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11 | Psalm 126 | 1Thessalonians 5:16-24 | John 1:6-8, 19-28 |
| 24 | 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 | Luke1:46-55 | Romans 16:25-37 | Luke 1:26-38 |
| 25 | Isaiah 9:2-7 | Psalm 96 | Titus 2:11-14 | Luke 2:1-20 |
| 31 | Isaiah 61:10-62:3 | Psalm 148 | Galatians 4:4-7 | Luke 2:22-40 |

TV WORSHIP TIMES

Peace United Methodist Church services are aired on Mediacom Cable TV Channel 5

Monday - 1:00 AM
Friday - 5:30 PM

Tuesday - 10:00 AM
Sunday - 9:30 AM

Thursday - 10:00 AM

WORSHIP HELPERS

GREETERS

| | |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 3 | John/Mary Bratt |
| 10 | Mark/Ellen Hedlund |
| 17 | Nancy Wright/Kay Ryan |
| 24 | Jerry/Paulette Pfremmer |
| 31 | Shirley Woodward/Diane Hansen |

USHERS

| |
|---------------------------|
| Wayne/Fay Siers |
| Dale/Kathy Krog |
| Prue Wirtz/Betsy Erickson |
| Roger Summers/Jerry Bodas |
| John/Mary Bratt |

LITURGIST

| |
|----------------|
| Prue Wirtz |
| Jerry Pfremmer |
| Pam Omersa |
| Ann Voss |
| Nancy Wright |

COFFEE AN'

| | |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 3 | Bill/Lois Robillard/Tracy Gasperlin |
| 10 | Paul/Val Wier/Betty Culbert |
| 17 | Chris/Jessica Clark/Holly Lundgren |
| 31 | Terri Hilar/Pam Hartline |

COMMUNION

| | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| January | Jean/Roger Rosandich |
| February | Sandy/Jack LaBarre |
| March | Shirley/Gail Woodward |
| April | Val/Paul Wier |

A note to all: In the event, someone comes in during the Sunday Worship Service in need of help, invite them to join us for worship and Pastor Mickey or someone will meet with them after, when the service is over.

BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 2 – Barb Penti | 4 – Petra Hagberg | 7 – Louis Knoll | 7 – Roger Summers |
| 9 – Marilyn Evenson | 10 – Bob Hamalainen | 12 – Lily Mollar | 15 – Myron Cook |
| 15 – Sue Gilpin | 15 – Randy Kralich | 18 – Paulette Pfremmer | 24 – Bette Fortman |
| 24 – Kay Ryan | 24 – Carole Summers | 26 – Becky Crain | 26 – Kate Skerjance |
| 30 – Annie Bachschneider | 30 – Jack LaBarre | 31 – Craig Johnson | |

If you or a family member's birthday is not listed or is incorrect, Please let the Office know (741-7739).



Christmas is coming. As the Grinch says, 'It comes without any of the decorations, presents, or banquets, because Christmas is something that happens in our hearts.' Do you like to watch Christmas movies every year to get you in the spirit? Do you cry every time the bell rings in *It's a Wonderful life*? Does *Miracle on 34th Street* help you to believe in the power of Christmas again? Or maybe *Christmas Vacation* helps you

to feel your family and its traditions are more normal than you thought as you laugh at the Griswold's escapades. A box of Kleenex and the Hallmark channel may get you in the holiday spirit. Hopefully, church is a weekly part of your Christmas preparations as we journey from advent to Christ's birth. Advent means to prepare.

This year as you buy and wrap your thoughtfully selected gifts, perhaps you can consider the gift of yourself, your time and your presence. Who could you visit? Who could use your help? Where would the gift of yourself help someone else get in the spirit? How could you be Jesus for someone else?

As you shop this year, consider thanking a sales-clerk for their hard work on a holiday. Give a soft response to someone who has been rude to you. Smile at everyone. Open a door, give up a choice parking space, let those with less to purchase go ahead of you at the grocery store. Be the peace of the season and then you and others will be in the spirit and the Christ Child will enter your hearts and the community. Put away the Kleenex, get out there and be Christ for others. Tell them you act this way because you belong to Peace Church and Jesus is in your life. O come, O come Emmanuel! I pray you have a blessed Christmas!

Wild Blessings,

~Pastor Mickey

Thank you for the pastor appreciation gift and for all of the Birthday wishes.

Pastor Mickey

PASTORAL CARE

Please notify the Church Office (218-741-7739) if you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care for illness, hospitalization, surgery or emergency.

Emergency Pastoral Calls: 218-343-6849 E-mail: office@peaceumc.us

Pastor's Phone Number - Please put my cell phone number in your cell phone directory for emergencies. If I don't answer, please, please, please, leave a message. Please do not give my cell phone number out to strangers asking for help. I pray you will call me when you need me.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have someone you wish to include on our prayer chain, please contact one of the following:

Gail Johnson: 741-0972

Mary Bratt: 744-2754

Office (Holly): 741-7739

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 4:00 PM



Come hear the story.

There will be **NO SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE** on December 24th.

WORSHIP

OH HOLY NIGHT - Advent Devotional

Ah, Advent, that time of year that hides in the midst of what the world calls the Christmas season. Every year, I feel like I struggle more with it. And every year, I still get the same great gift on Christmas Day.

That gift is Jesus himself!

Advent is a season of preparation, so it's naturally busy, even without the cultural stress of more, more, more. This year, I invite you and your family to embrace Advent as a journey, one that may involve stumbles and tears. Let Advent be your gift to the baby Jesus, a way to get your heart and soul ready to receive him on Christmas Day.

The gift that you give Jesus doesn't have to be perfect. Your intentions and efforts count as much to him as any failure or success you may feel. May this devotional serve you and your family well, helping you to prepare for the arrival of our Savior with prayer and action.

May your Advent be blessed with Jesus, and may your family better for it.

-Sarah A. Reinhard

PICK UP YOUR COPY ON THE WELCOME TABLE IN THE NARTHEX!

POW! ZAP! BANG! – A SUPERHERO CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

On Sunday, December 17th, at 10 a.m., the "Superheroes" of Peace United Methodist Church Sunday School will be in search of the "New Hero" in town. Come and enjoy their fun-filled program "A Super Christmas", a story with a modern twist that celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, the greatest Super Hero of all.

PORCH

5:00 PM - Dinner

| | |
|--------|--|
| Dec 6 | Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Cole Slaw, Glorified Rice |
| Dec 13 | Breakfast Bake, Fresh Fruit, Toast, Cookie |
| Dec 20 | Macaroni & Cheese, Sloppy Joes, Veggie Cup, Whipped Jell-O |
| Dec 27 | Soup – Taco or Chicken Noodle, Sandwiches, Crackers, Bars |

6:00 PM - Adult Groups

| | |
|--------|--|
| Dec 6 | Advent Discussion –How do you prepare for Christmas? |
| Dec 13 | Advent Discussion - |
| Dec 20 | Music by |
| Dec 27 | What will the New Year bring? |

6:00 PM – Children (5-11)

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Dec 6 | Christmas Cup Craft |
| Dec 13 | Gingerbread Ornaments Baking Activity |
| Dec 20 | Christmas Crafts & Snow Angels |
| Dec 27 | Music/Movie "Frozen" |

6:00 PM – Youth (12-18)

| | |
|--------|--|
| Dec 6 | Movie Study: The Christmas Project (1/3) |
| Dec 13 | Movie Study: The Christmas Project (2/3) |
| Dec 20 | Movie Study: The Christmas Project (3/3) |
| Dec 27 | Music/Movie "Frozen" |

DISCIPLESHIP AND MINISTRY

“As a member of this congregation I will faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness.”
Membership Vows - UMC

SERENITY CIRCLE COOKIE WALK

The Serenity Circle will hold a cookie walk on December 9th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. There will be a sign up sheet for cookies and help. We need all cookies by noon on Friday the 8th also need the cookies to be marked if they contain nuts.

OUTREACH MINISTRY

The Christmas Giving Tree is up in the Narthex! This year we are asking our church family to help in giving a gift to residents at the Youth Foyer in Virginia. Please take an ornament from the "Giving Tree;" Sign up on the sheet with the tree with your name and the gift tag number you have taken. Please wrap the gift and return it to the church by Sunday, December 17th. Thank you for helping make a brighter Christmas for others!

From the Membership Committee

We have added two more sittings for the Picture Directory, Wednesday, December 6th before, during, and after PORCH and Sunday, December 10th before and after church.

If you are not able to attend one of the sittings for the picture directory and wish to have your picture in the directory, it is not too late. Email, drop off or mail a picture to the Office.

Also, remember to notify the church if you have any address, phone or email changes.

2018 PLEDGE

Thank you for all of your pledges during our From Stewardship to Generosity Campaign this year. Your commitment helps us to form a budget for the church. This is not the main reason we do this. The commitment to pledge is a big step in faith growth. I give thanks for your walk of faith and your love of Jesus Christ in how you live your lives and how you consider every aspect of your life, including money, in your faith journey. May you be amazed at how God is blessing you as you move closer to God.

Wild grateful blessings, Pastor Mickey

If you have not yet filled out a pledge card, please take this opportunity to do so. For three Sundays in November, you heard six special messages from church members who feel blessed to be among us. Please reflect on the many ways you have been blessed and then give gratefully, generously, and joyfully in support of our ministries in 2018!

CHURCH CLOSINGS

On the occasion a church event is cancelled due to inclement weather, please check the local TV and Radio Stations. (KBJR News 6, Range 11, 3; WDIO News 10/13; FOX 21 KQDS)(Duke – WDKE, WEVE, KQDS, WTBX, WUSZ). Please use your own judgement when it comes to traveling in winter weather.

Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light
and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon
our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do
seek quiet spaces to
hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious
over many things
look forward to
your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people,
walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"
Amen.

Henri J.M. Nouwen

rg2011

**Peace United Methodist Church
Treasurer's Report 2017**

| | October | Year-to-Date | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | | 2017 | 2016 |
| Cash balance @ Begin of Month | 1,408.08 | 1,760.96 | 5,939.53 |
| Cash Receipts | | | |
| Congregation Offering | 14,302.00 | 123,899.81 | 123,609.11 |
| Building Usage | 95.00 | 940.00 | 951.00 |
| Capital Project Funds | - | 4,784.00 | 5,000.00 |
| Church Groups | 150.00 | 1,103.00 | 404.00 |
| Benevolent Giving Income | 1,067.50 | 6,783.37 | 6,427.90 |
| Fundraiser Income | - | 3,442.21 | 4,096.40 |
| Memorial Funds | 125.00 | 45,962.00 | 211,730.00 |
| New Ministry Funds | - | 13,200.00 | 20,000.00 |
| Other Income | - | 200.00 | - |
| | 15,739.50 | 200,314.39 | 372,218.41 |
| Cash Disbursements | | | |
| Apportionments/Other Askings | 3,770.59 | 20,949.39 | 12,103.36 |
| Capital Project Expenditures | 15,000.00 | 56,355.30 | 22,799.07 |
| Church Operations | 2,870.02 | 38,250.42 | 33,111.33 |
| Church Programs | 3,608.12 | 15,416.16 | 14,451.64 |
| Benevolent Giving Expenses | 1,190.00 | 5,190.63 | 6,005.71 |
| Administrative Expenses | 851.60 | 5,305.46 | 5,556.89 |
| Staff Expenses | 10,510.55 | 103,855.71 | 102,324.31 |
| | (37,800.88) | (245,323.07) | (196,352.31) |
| Other (Receivables)/Payables | | | |
| Payroll Withholdings | 180.64 | 320.20 | (358.54) |
| Funds transferred from (to) savings | | | |
| Endowment Advances | 20,000.00 | 28,770.00 | 20,000.00 |
| Money Market Savings | 1,814.79 | 11,310.89 | 6,067.74 |
| Parsonage Mntnc Savings | (312.50) | (3,125.00) | (1,771.00) |
| New Ministries Savings | 787.86 | 1,862.46 | 902.73 |
| Memorials Savings | (125.00) | 5,801.66 | (204,508.62) |
| | - | 44,620.01 | (179,309.15) |
| Cash Balance at End of Month | 1,692.49 | 1,692.49 | 2,137.94 |
| Cash Accounts | | | |
| General Checking | | 1,692.49 | 2,137.94 |
| Money Market Savings | | 5,770.30 | 15,883.35 |
| Parsonage Maintenance Fund | | 10,190.19 | 6,436.25 |
| Memorial Checking | | 280.17 | 280.17 |
| Memorial Savings | | 13,764.86 | 19,550.84 |
| New Ministries Savings | | 14,057.32 | 25,662.55 |
| UMFCFCC Savings | | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| Total Cash | | 45,765.33 | 69,961.10 |
| Endowment Accounts | | | |
| Peac UMC | | 463,528.56 | 444,133.02 |
| Aho/Appel | | 147,163.56 | 171,798.54 |
| * Parsonage | | 96,446.23 | 115,691.41 |
| | | 707,138.35 | 731,622.97 |
| ** Appel Outreach | | 134,388.51 | 110,006.96 |
| Change in Market Value | | 74,522.76 | 18,014.18 |
| Total Endowments | | 916,049.62 | 859,644.11 |

* The PUMC Parsonage Endowment Funds are only to be used for capital improvement expenditures on the church or parsonage.

* The Appel Outreach Endowment Funds are designated for missions and ministries sponsored by the United Methodist Church; This Fund is a permanent endowment with only the income to be spent for charitable giving; The Fund is administered by the United Methodist Foundation. These funds are not available to Peace UMC.