



**“But the
angel said to
her, ‘Do not
be afraid,
Mary; you
have found
favor with
God.
You will
conceive and
give birth to a
son,
and you are
to
call him
Jesus.
He will be
great and will
be called the
Son of the
Most High.’”
Luke 1:30-32**

The Ernest Journey

Greetings

Welcome to the community of Church of Peace United Church of Christ. We believe that all people are children of God and rejoice that you have chosen to worship God with us today. If you are visiting our community, we wish to extend our faith in Christian fellowship and hope that you will take a moment to visit with us after the service. If you have any questions prior to the service, please ask anyone in the community. We have all been visitors at some time in our life, and we are eager to assist you in any way. May the Holy Spirit fill us and guide us as we worship God together.

December 1, 2024 1st Sunday of Advent 9:00 AM
Gathering Music Ringing of the Bells Welcome & Announcements

We Prepare to Worship God

Prayer & Prelude

We Gather Around God's Word

A reading from Psalm 25

Call to Worship (responsive)

One: In Advent, we watch and wait. We prepare to welcome the Christ Child into the world.

Many: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

One: In Advent, we prepare for a life of discipleship. We watch faithfully for signs of God's light breaking into the world.

Many: Come, Messiah, come!

One: As we wait, we watch for signs of your action in the world. Actions of compassion and grace breaking in.

Many: Come, Emmanuel, come!

One: God of Grace and Glory, we recognize that we do not know the day or the hour, but we know that the day is near.

Many: Come, Lord Jesus, come! Be born anew into our world and into our lives. Amen.

*Opening Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 119

We Light the Candle of Hope

One: These are fearful days: Words of hate: Acts of terror: Welcomes withheld; Truths denied.

People: Anxiety is a constant companion; Hope feels like a stranger.

Two: We call out in our anxiety:

People: Show us how you work, GOD; School us in your ways. Take us by the hand; Lead us down the path of safety and security. For you are our Savior and we mark the milestones of your mercy and love

One: We remind ourselves of God's ancient promises: Justice is coming! Love is on the way! Lift up your heads and watch for the signs!

Two: Let us light this first candle of Advent, a candle of Hope.

One: In its light, let us think about what signs we are seeing of God at work in our lives and in our world right now.

Many: Let us think about where we may contribute to that work and let us share those signs, and possibilities, with each other.

Two: Let this candle of Advent Hope shine in our hearts all week and remind us to lift up our heads and open our eyes to watch all around us for the signs of Jesus.

One: Please join me in our Prayer of Unity

Merciful God of Hope, in this season as the days grow shorter and the shadows lengthen, we gather in eager expectation for the Light of the World to dawn. Help us to lay aside all the works of night, even our cynicism as we enter this sacred season. During this hour of worship, send your Spirit to empower us so we can live in the light with hope.

Assurance of Hope

Pastor: When we trust in God, we are given wisdom from the past which builds hope for the future. Therefore, know that God is here, leading us and guiding us.

Many: Let us live in the hope of God. Praise be to God! Amen.

*The Passing of Christ's Peace in Community

Pastoral Prayer

Affirmation of Faith

We Engage God's Word

Scripture Readings Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Multigenerational Lesson

Sermon

"The Earnest Journey"

We Respond to God's Word

Call to Offering

One: In response to the promise of God.

Many: Let us give thanks by offering our gifts to God. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology

The Celebration of Communion

*Communion Hymn "One Bread, One Body" No. 393

*Communion Prayer "Together, We Are Blessed By Being Here."

Invitation to the Lord's Table Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Sharing of God's Gifts

Please come forward for all are welcome to receive the body of Christ-the bread of life, and the cup of the new covenant.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (In Unison)

Awesome God, we begin our journey at this table. May your presence within us expand with love into the world bringing hope and compassion to all your people and transform our every word and action in service to You forever. Amen.

We Are Sent Into the World

*Closing Hymn "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" No. 153

*The Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors")

*Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

(*If you are able, please stand at the pastor's invitation)

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Rev. Stephen Stepp
Patricia Siekierke
Victor Abitz
Rob Giese
The Peterson Family



Minister
Organist
Custodian
AV Tech
Liturgist

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THIS AT WEEK CHURCH OF PEACE

Sun	M	Tues	W	Th	F	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9:00am Worship Service with communion Pick an angel from giving tree Social Hour: Stewardship	Loaves & Fishes	11:30 Ladies of Peace Christmas Party ADVOCAP CLASSES	Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Confirmation Class	9:00am Topps ADVOCAP CLASSES		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:00am Worship 10:00am Sunday School Social Hour: Ladies of Peace #2	Loaves & Fishes	6:30pm Council ADVOCAP CLASSES	C.O.P Serves Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Confirmation Class	9:00am Topps ADVOCAP CLASSES		



December 1st – Victor Abitz Jr.
 December 2nd – Robert Hanke
 December 3rd – Doug Terrill,
 Julie Treptow
 December 4th – Amy Mitchel,
 Olivia Puddy
 December 5th – Bobbi Thomma
 December 6th – Gabriel Goodwin
 December 7th – John Hoffman
 December 8th – Lisa Albrecht,
 Shawn Knutson

If you are asked to serve on one of our church committees, please consider it an honor to help our church move forward into the 21st Century. Thank you!

Church Council Stewardship Nominating
Safe Conduct™ Policy & Procedure



WELCOME TO CHURCH OF PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST December 1, 2024

Church office phone: 921-8215

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.
 Pastor Steve Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.
 or call for an appointment.

Website: uccchurchofpeace.com

Facebook: *Church of Peace UCC Fond du Lac*

IN OUR PRAYERS

Lucy Zahn	Bill Manka	Heather Reader-Schubert
Elise Sonnenberg	Deb Abitz	Dixie & Dave Borchert
Diana Candlish	John	Janet & Eugene Willis
Doris Kastorff	Deb Baker	Bob and Shirley Hanke
Janelle Anderson	Leo Lefebber	Sara & Michael
Al Pahnke	Bailey Gehrt	Jim & Kathy Stephany
Marilyn Peters	Sharon Hensen	Eli & Barb Gustafson
Ruth Pedix	Amy Jo	Lee & Lita Treleven
Christine Weimer	Amy Mitchell	Mary Jean Nicholson
Pat Grose	Donna Birkholz	Rev. James Martin
Debra Rammer	Sister Julia	Nancy Schaefer
Joyce Breitenfeld	Brenda Post	Doris Rymer
Wayne Katerski	Janet Rymer	Susan Snider
Nicole Schendel	Oliver Poirier	Alexis Hayes
Greg Baker	Edna Karl	Dan Guell
Carol Kryzyanowski	Theresa Schultz	Del Weigel

p.s. Dear God, enable me to feel the hope you offer to me through faith in Jesus Christ.

CHURCH OF PEACE – FACTS AND FIGURES

OFFERINGS LAST WEEK:

General Fund: \$1,495.60;
 Mission - Giving (OCWM): \$140.00;
 (NIN): \$100.00; (OGHS):\$100.00;
 (STC): \$100.00;
 (UCC Christmas Fund): \$100.00; E-giving: \$20.00;
 Investing in the Future: \$3,992.01.
 Attendance Sunday, November 24th:
 Online: 24 — In person: 76 Last year: 56

Our MORNING WARMING SHELTER

Is open on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 10:00 am.

Please consider volunteering to set up, clean up, and provide fellowship to those in need. See Jean Stepp for more information. Thank you!

Christmas 2024

The Church Council has decided to again have 2 worship services on Christmas Eve with Communion served at both. 4:00 pm with Christmas Program & 6:00 pm Traditional Service. We will also serve Christmas refreshments between the services.

Calling all Bakers !!!

The Stewardship Committee is looking for donations of unfrosted cookies for after the Christmas Eve service. If you're able to donate, we ask that we have the cookies to church by December 19th. All are welcome to decorate them on December 22nd



2024 Reverse Advent Calendar

This year we are again inviting members and friends to create a "Reverse Advent Calendar" by setting aside a box for the food pantry at the beginning of Advent. Each day put the suggested item into the box. Please bring your filled box to the church during regular office hours, Monday through Thursday between 9 am – 12 noon or on Sunday morning. **THANK YOU!**

Sunday, Dec. 1	Can of Chunky soup
Monday, Dec. 2	Tuna Helper & can of tuna
Tuesday, Dec. 3	Mac 'n Cheese – two boxes
Wednesday, Dec. 4	Pancake mix - "COMPLETE" type (just add water)
Thursday, Dec. 5	Pancake syrup
Friday, Dec. 6	Hamburger Helper & can of chicken
Saturday, Dec. 7	Dirty Moore Stew
Sunday, Dec. 8	Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta
Monday, Dec. 9	Can of chicken
Tuesday, Dec. 10	Box of cereal
Wednesday, Dec. 11	Peanut butter in a plastic jar
Thursday, Dec. 12	Jelly or jam in a plastic jar or squeeze bottle
Friday, Dec. 13	Tuna Helper & can of tuna
Saturday, Dec. 14	Box of brownie mix
Sunday, Dec. 15	Hamburger Helper & can of chicken
Monday, Dec. 16	Mac 'n Cheese individual cups
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Can of Chunky soup
Wednesday, Dec. 18	Pancake mix
Thursday, Dec. 19	Pancake syrup
Friday, Dec. 20	2 cans of tomato or chicken noodle soup
Saturday, Dec. 21	Box of cereal
Sunday, Dec. 22	Mac 'n Cheese – two boxes
Monday, Dec. 23	1 pound packages of ground beef or turkey
Tuesday, Dec. 24	Thank you and Merry Christmas These gifts will help feed many people in our community.



Canned pork & Beans, canned fruit, single serve and family size Mac & Cheese, 1lb ground beef or turkey, Instant mashed potatoes, Instant Rice, Peanut butter & Jelly, Canned Soup, Pasta Sauce, Bodywash, Bars of Soap, Dishwashing Liquids, Large size Diapers (4, 5 or 6) and Pull-Up diapers.

The Giving Tree 2024

The tree will be set up and ready for you to take an angel or bell off the tree on the 1st Sunday of Advent, December 1st. Any questions please ask Brenda Roehl or Jean Stepp. Thank you for your generosity.

Golden Fellowship Christmas Party

*Thursday, December 19th
at 11:00.*

White Elephant Gift Exchange

*(\$5 value if you want to
exchange)*

*Chicken, wedges, corn,
rolls, dessert & beverage.*

*\$12 per person. Sign-up
by Sunday, Dec. 15th.*

*Join us for some
Christmas Joy!!*