



# Messenger of Peace

"Where the Love of Christ is Shared"

December 2016

**Peace Lutheran  
Church**

91 Wernex Loop  
Selah, WA 98942  
Phone: 697-4353

**Pastor  
Mark Griesse**

**Office Hours**  
9:00 - 12:00  
Mon. & Thu. - Peace  
Tues. & Wed. - Bethlehem  
Afternoons by Appointment

**Secretary  
Tammy Peterson**  
9:00 - 1:00

**Sunday Worship**  
9:00 AM

**Sunday Adult  
Bible Class**  
10:30 AM

**Website**  
Peacelutheran-  
church.360unite.com

**Email**  
peacelutheranselah@gmail.com



Dear Members and Friends,

*I heard the bells on Christmas Day, Their old familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet the words repeat, Of peace on earth good will to men*

*I thought how, as the day had come, The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along with unbroken song, Of peace on earth good will to men.*

*And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said,  
"For hate is strong and mocks the song, Of peace on earth good will to men."*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead nor doth he sleep;  
The wrong shall fail the right prevail, With peace on earth good will to men.*

*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

There is a lot to think about this year as we prepare for Christmas. Perhaps more this year than others, Christmas seems a far off; with the terrorist attacks, a toxic election, and wars and conflicts all around the globe. Certainly, the words of verse 3 in the song above are true: "For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth good will to men."

Perhaps more than recent years, there is a need for Advent. Advent is the time of preparation, repentance, and hope. The color blue is used on the paraments of the church altar to signify this hope we have in Christ and his saving action. He comes to us, he abides with us, he is Immanuel, God with us. This is the reason for hope. He comes not as judge but as Savior. The baby of Bethlehem is only the beginning as the Savior leads to the cross. There he removes our sin. The resurrection announces victory over sin, death and the devil and promises that we too shall rise with him. This is the reason for our hope.

The many opportunities for worship offered this Advent and Christmas season here at Peace Lutheran will help you prepare to meet your Savior. We encourage you to make use of these so that this Christmas will defy the world and the dismal picture it paints of reality with the simple message that God has come to us as Savior, and through his power "the wrong shall fail the right prevail with peace on earth good will to men."

My God bring his richest blessing to you and your family this Christmas.

- - Pastor Mark Griesse



## New Members

We welcome these new members to Peace:

**Jim & Diana Woodard** brought in by transfer from Immanuel Lutheran in Everett.

**Kayla Ebert** brought in by transfer from St. Stephen Lutheran in Horicon, WI.

**Chris Sallas** brought in by Affirmation of Faith.

## A New Child of God



Hank Derting, infant son of Will and Nicole (Groth) Derting, was baptized during the worship service on November 20th. Grandparents are Peace members Lee & Carol Groth.

Welcome to God's family, Hank!

## Christmas for a Veteran's Family

Peace Lutheran is doing something a little different for Christmas this year. Instead of helping a couple of needy families we are adopting a disabled veteran and his/her family. We will donate Christmas gifts and a food basket, as well as continue to supply monthly care packages throughout the upcoming year.



Watch for more details in the Sunday bulletins. If you have questions contact Jean Sinclair or Tammy Peterson.

## Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Griesse will be taking some vacation at the end of December, so he will be out of the office December 26th - January 2nd.

## Mid-Week Advent Services



Mid-week Advent services have begun. Each Wednesday Bethlehem has devotions at 12:10; Peace offers Soup & Sandwich Suppers at 6:00 p.m. with devotions at 6:45. There is a food sign-up list for soup, sandwiches and desserts on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

## Church Office Closed

The Church office will be closed Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th in observance of the holidays. (The office will also be closed on Monday, January 2nd.)

## December O.W.L.S. Lunch



The O.W.L.S. will meet 11:30 a.m. Friday, December 19th at 5 North in Yakima (5 North Front St.) You need to let Marcia Shotwell know if you plan to attend (697-4543 or shotwell@fairpoint.net.)

## Holly Jolly Bazaar

Peace rented a table at this year's Holly Jolly Christmas Bazaar at Our Lady of Lourdes in November. Our items sold for just under \$500.00. Thanks to Teri Sanchez for heading this up, to those who helped her, and to those who donated the items for sale.



## Christmas Eve Worship Services

Bethlehem 5:30 p.m.

Peace 7:30 p.m.



We continue with the participants in the Reformation of 1517

### Albrecht, Archbishop of Mainz 1490 - 1545



Luther said this about Albrecht, "It's all the fault of the man at Mainz, who was tricked by his own cleverness with which he wanted to suppress my doctrine and to save his money which he'd sought through indulgences."

Albrecht (also called Albert of Brandenburg) was born June 28, 1490, the younger son of John Cicero, Elector of Brandenburg. In 1513 he became Archbishop of Magdeburg, but one year later, in 1514, he sought to become the elector and archbishop of Mainz.

Church law forbade the holding of more than one diocese, so Albrecht turned to Pope Leo X for an exception. Albrecht took out a loan from the banking house of Fugger and used it to make a large contribution toward the rebuilding of St. Peter's Basilica.

On March 15, 1517, Pope Leo X declared a special jubilee indulgence that would be sold in Germany at the request of Albrecht, Archbishop of Mainz, to help pay for the reconstruction of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Half of the proceeds would go to the Pope, and the other half to Albrecht to repay the Fugger bankers. But Albrecht needed a salesman who could really push the indulgences. He recruited a priest named Johannes Tetzel.

### Peace Quilters Break



Peace's quilters are on break until January (then, as the weather permits.)

### Thanksgiving Baskets

Thank you to those who donated items for our Thanksgiving baskets in November.

The baskets were delivered and they were much appreciated.



### Operation Christmas Child

We have finished another year of packing shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This year we packed 537 shoe boxes (that's 42 crates) for children in need around the world.



We want to thank all who participated by donating shoe boxes and items to fill them - you made a difference.

Special thanks goes to Becky Place for providing many shoe boxes, to Kara Mantey, who sewed drawstring bags for containing a variety of items, and to Dr. Tyler Bauer, who provided a large box of toothbrushes.

This project would not be possible without your support so thank you all again.

- - Sandy, Jean, & Linda

*"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

John 1:14



# When You Shop, Amazon Gives!

Last year more than half of all Americans reported that they planned to use Amazon as part of their Christmas shopping. That number only looks to increase this year. It's more likely than not that you, or someone you know, will visit Amazon this Christmas season.

Now when you shop on Amazon, you have the ability to support the causes you love at the same time!

Amazon has introduced a new service called AmazonSmile. When you begin your online shopping at **smile.amazon.com** instead of **amazon.com**, you will have the opportunity to select a charity that you want to support, such as Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Amazon will then donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases you make to the organization of your choice.

Every time you start at smile.amazon.com afterwards, a portion of the purchase price of every eligible item you buy will be given to charity! You can even change your charitable organization of choice at any time.

Christmas is a powerful time for you to begin using AmazonSmile and encourage others to do the same. All of the shopping that you do for friends and family at Christmas can create a massive impact for ministry!

This Christmas season, start your shopping experience at **smile.amazon.com**. ■

