



*Peace United Church of Christ*

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*December 2019/January 2020*



*The Tidings*

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## *From the Pastor's Study • December 2019/January 2020*

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As we approach Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's I often here lots of expressions of joy as well as anxiety. I've already heard at least one person express "we say merry Christmas around here" as a proclamation of what I think is the ridiculous assertion that there is a war on Christmas. When I look at all of the trappings, the energy spent, and the noise, I would often like to just peel them back to those simple practices of living with God every day. We should give thanks always, not just on Thanksgiving. It's not about the food, the feast, the holiday, it's about living in gratitude. In the same way, Christmas isn't about the gifts and lights and trappings and even the words you say, it's about God choosing to come and be made known to us in the most unexpected ways – it is about changing the way that we see love and grace present in our world. This is a rich season to consider how we live thankfulness and love all the time. I recently saw a story that went viral on social media that captures that spirit beautifully. And so I share with you the Facebook posting of Christine Turel:

*I work in a decent sized, local, indie bookstore. It's a great job 99% of the time, and a lot of our customers are pretty neat people. Any who, middle of the day, this little old lady comes up. She's lovably kooky. She effuses how much she loves the store and how she wishes she could spend more time in it, but her husband is waiting in the car. 'OH! I BETTER BUY HIM SOME CHOCOLATE!' [she says.] She piles a bunch of art supplies on the counter, and then stops and tells me how my bangs are beautiful and remind her of the ocean ('Woooooosh' she says, making a wave gesture with her hand.)*

*OK. I think to myself. Awesomely happy, weird little old ladies are my favorite kind of customer. They're thrilled about everything, and they're comfortably bananas. I can have a good time with this one. So we chat, and it's nice.*

*Then, this kid, who's been up to my counter a few times to gather his school textbooks, comes up in line behind her (we're connected to a major university in the city, so we have a lot of harried students pass through). She turns around to him and, out of nowhere, demands that he put his textbooks on the counter. He's confused, but she explains that she's going to buy his textbooks.*

*He goes sheetrock white. He refuses and adamantly insists that she can't do that. It's like \$400 worth of textbooks. She, this tiny old woman, bodily takes them out of his hands, throws them on the counter and turns to me with an intense stare, and tells me to put them on her bill.*

*The kid at this point is practically in tears. He's confused and shocked and grateful. Then, she turns to him and says, 'You need chocolate.' She starts grabbing handfuls of chocolates and putting them in her pile.*

*He keeps asking her, 'Why are you doing this?' She responds, 'Do you like Harry Potter?' and throws a copy of the new [Harry Potter and the] Cursed Child on the pile, too.*

*Finally, she's done, and I ring her up for a crazy amount of money. She pays and asks me to please give the kid a few bags for his stuff. While I'm bagging up her merchandise, the kid hugs her.*

*We're both telling her how amazing she is and what an awesome thing she's done. She turns to both of us and says probably one of the most profound, unscripted things I've ever had someone say:*

*'It's important to be kind. You can't know all the times that you've hurt people in tiny, significant ways. It's easy to be cruel without meaning to be. There's nothing you can do about that. But you can choose to be kind. Be kind.'*

*The kid thanks her again and leaves. I tell her again how awesome she is.*

*She's staring out the door after him and says to me, 'My son is a homeless meth addict. I don't know what I did. I see that boy, and I see the man my son could have been if someone had chosen to be kind to him at just the right time.'*

*I've bagged up all her stuff, and at this point [I] am super awkward and feel like I should say something, but I don't know what. Then, she turns to me and says, 'I wish I could have bangs like that, but my darn hair is just too curly.' And leaves. And that is the story of the best customer I've ever had. Be kind to somebody today.*

Gratitude and love made known to us as God with us "Immanuel", isn't that the heart of this season? I pray that God might shine through each of us with a glimmer of love, kindness, and gratitude again this season.

*PASTOR ERIC*



## A Thanksgiving Reflection

by Rev. Franz Rigert



One of my fondest Thanksgiving memories takes me back to my childhood days growing up in a parsonage. I was just learning to read – back then a tedious chore for me more than an enjoyable pastime. But on this Thanksgiving morning I sat mesmerized on the couch, snuggled up in a blanket, smelling the turkey roasting and imagining the life of those early pioneers who landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620. Unbeknownst to me, this children’s story about Pilgrims and Natives was told through the lens of 17th century colonialism. I read about turkeys and deer, corn and cabbage, and about the earliest harvest festivals shared with the Wampanoag Native Americans. The relationship between the Mayflower people and the Original people of this land was characterized largely as mutually supportive, though the story did lift up vivid depictions of battles with jabbing spears and flying arrows.

Our history lessons characterized the concept of the Doctrine of Discovery as adventurous explorations of a wild, vast westward frontier. I never thought of it as a taking of land and a conquering of people. When history books told the early war stories, so often they painted pictures of savage natives attacking pioneer villages rather than the other way around. They failed altogether to teach us about the often brutal subjugation and displacement of Native Americans and about the subsequent relegation of First Nation people to less desirable reservation lands.

Next year marks the 400 anniversary of those Separatists (soon to be Congregationalists) who came from Plymouth, England, on the Mayflower. As part of our spiritual heritage, the United Church of Christ has an opportunity and a responsibility to help reframe the understanding of our history. It feels especially right to approach Thanksgiving with a spirit of gratitude AND a spirit of confession. You may know that the oldest English language publishing company in North America is The Pilgrim Press! In recent years the national setting of the UCC has rebranded this publishing enterprise with a logo containing a small “p” to shift the understanding from the “Pilgrims” of our nation’s history to “pilgrims” on a journey – implying that all of us are on a quest for truth and spiritual insight. They have also repurposed the pilgrim press as a publishing platform particularly for diverse cultural voices and emerging progressive theological thought.

Perhaps you have heard there is another 400 year commemoration occurring this year, marking the first enslavement of Africans in North America in 1619. The New York Times Magazine is “marking this 400th anniversary with essays, images, stories and poems that challenge readers to reframe their understanding of U.S. history by considering 1619 as the start of this nation’s story” (quote from The 1619 Project website). For

nearly 250 years slavery allowed pioneers to reap the benefits of land expansion, crop development and plantation wealth.

In the same way many of us are rediscovering the story of our land’s Original People, we are learning anew about the effects of slavery on an entire people. While we studied slavery in grade school, it wasn’t until I watched the original “Roots” miniseries as an 11 year old in 1977 that I was shaken to an awareness of the atrocities rooted in bigotry and discrimination. I learned of beatings and lynching, and eventually a civil war. My parents then told me stories of the era of Jim Crow Laws and a civil rights movement led by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. aimed at ending inequality and segregation.

Much is written, these days, about the systemic effects of racism on every African American generation. Vast economic and social inequities remain evident in every major aspect of life – education, employment, health care, housing, criminal justice. I never knew much about racial profiling until I witnessed it firsthand and began to ask myself why so many African Americans were pulled over by the police in this little town where they represented just a fraction of the population. Today we are in the midst of a movement toward honest reflection and confessional expression, particularly around these two historical atrocities. Many of us are acknowledging the ways white privilege has harmed people of color. Some are surfacing ideas about reparations. Others will have symbols of Native American and African American culture at our tables this Thanksgiving as a reminder of our desire to be both truth tellers and grateful Americans.

In many ways Colonialism and Christianity were inextricably bound. Together they perpetuated systems of power and oppression. Many of us have also had to relearn the bible in an attempt to recover from childhood notions of a God of vengeance who scared us into obedience by threatening damnation. Over time we discovered a God of infinite grace and unending compassion, and one particularly emphatic commandment – Love All People. We know what God expects of us, but it is hard because it demands some things from us.

Gloria Steinem once observed, “‘You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free’ (John 8:32), but not before it makes you good and angry.” (edited slightly)

So this Thanksgiving I invite you to ponder the notions of privilege and power in light of the truths we know in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I urge you to reflect on this season of gratitude for the land and nation we love, remembering in particular those who endured long suffering.

With blessings abundant,  
Franz

## *Worship Schedule for Dec. 2019/Jan. 2020*

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**Peace Church has two worship services Sunday at 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.**

### **Worship Schedule – December 2019**

#### Sunday, December 1

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13:11-14,  
Matthew 24:36-44

#### Sunday, December 8

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10. Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19,  
Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Christmas Program  
Sound of Change – Deacon's Fund  
Food Pantry Collection

#### Sunday, December 15

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146:5-10, Luke 1:47-55, James  
5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship – Choir Concert &  
Sunday School

#### Sunday, December 22

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 7:10-16, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Romans 1:1-7,  
Matthew 1:18-25

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship and Sunday School  
Christmas Fund Offering

#### Tuesday, December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14,  
(15-20)

Candlelight Services of Lessons and Carols  
6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

#### Wednesday, December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 98, Hebrew 1:1-4, (5-12),  
John 1:1-14

**One Service Only** at 9:30 a.m. Worship

#### Sunday, December 29

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Isaiah 63:7-9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew  
2:13-23

**One Service Only** at 9:30 a.m. Worship  
Holy Communion (PEW)  
NO Sunday School

### **Worship Schedule – January 2020**

#### Sunday, January 5

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 147:12-20, Ephesians 1:3-  
14, John 1:(1-9), 10-18

8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. Worship

#### Sunday, January 12

THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 29, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew  
3:13-17

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship and Sunday School  
Young Adult Habitat Worship  
Sound of Change – Peace Habitat  
Food Pantry Collection

#### Sunday, January 19

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, I Corinthians 1:1-9,  
John 1:29-42

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship and Sunday School

#### Sunday, January 26

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, I Corinthians 1:10-18,  
Matthew 4:12-23

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship and Sunday School  
Holy Communion (Intinction)

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## *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

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### **Happy Birthday! (Ages 1-18)**

December 1	Croix Kivell (2)
December 3	Matthew Gill (15)
December 7	Ryan Thull (12)
December 8	Lauren Krebs (13)
December 13	Grace Lee (16)
December 13	Eli Ogi (11)
December 20	Corbin Walker (5)
December 24	Elly Fochs (6)
December 26	Anna Piittmann (17)
December 29	Damian Koch (10)
December 30	Isabelle Vey (11)
January 11	Jade Brei (1)
January 11	Ailis Cameron (16)
January 11	Xander Kivell (4)
January 16	Amelia Krebs (1)
January 16	Lorelai Luther (3)
January 28	Kyla Kivell (5)
January 29	Samuel Ogi (5)
January 31	Matthew Buss (17)



### **Birthdays (80 years plus)**

December 2	Jinny Michaels (91)
December 3	Arthur Schmidt (82)
December 4	Phyllis Bade (93)
December 4	Ralph Faisst (91)
December 5	Betty Hallen (93)
December 6	Carol Clark (90)
December 6	Jeanne Wood (83)
December 11	Rose Marie Knoth (80)
December 23	James Gardner (86)
January 5	LaVerne Fehrer (91)
January 16	Carol Sedgwick (88)
January 30	Patricia Reigle (94)
January 30	Wes Westra (83)
January 31	Marilyn McIntosh (84)

### **Anniversaries (5-year intervals)**

December 5	Harvey & Nancy Brodzeller (55)
December 18	Jerry & Barbara O'Connor (55)
December 20	John & Margaret Schmahl (50)
January 1	Martha & John Wilson (5)

## *News and Notes*

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### **The Christmas Fund Offering**

***“The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness did not overcome it.”  
John 1:5***

Our joy at Christmas is a response to God’s promise of new life through the birth of Jesus. It is a joy we are called to share through our witness and gifts, both to loved ones and to distant neighbors. The theme for the 2019 Christmas Fund Offering is

***The Light Shines in the Darkness.***

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund is a special UCC Offering that congregations have been supporting for over 100 years. This offering is administered through the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards.

The proceeds from the Christmas Fund Offering are used to provide direct financial support to clergy and lay employees in all stages of their lives and ministries to and through the UCC. The availability of these funds is critical to the ability of the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance to help ensure a sustainable quality of life for those who ultimately receive the gifts.

- ❖ Gifts to the Christmas Fund will help Veterans of the Cross who dedicated their lives to the ministry of the church in their years of active service. Christmas *Thank You Checks* for retired UCC clergy remind them that the Church is grateful for their service.
- ❖ Gifts to the Christmas Fund provide resources for the Emergency Fund, which offers assistance to active or retired UCC clergy/lay employees to help cover costs that arise unexpectedly.
- ❖ Gifts to the Christmas Fund help provide Pension and Health Premium Supplementation to lower income retired UCC clergy and lay employees. These individuals rely on this income for basic needs such as food, utilities, living expenses, and medical care.

**We will be dedicating our Christmas Fund offerings on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Special offering envelopes for your Christmas Fund contributions are available on the bulletin board at the south entrance. You may also request one by calling the church office at 626-4011, or you can use the “Other” line found on your weekly envelopes and write in **The Christmas Fund**.

In the spirit of love, please give generously to this special mission offering, as together we keep covenant with the many beloved friends who have been, and continue to be, faithful servants of the church. We give thanks for all who have faithfully shepherded our church, sharing the good news, offering peace, and giving hope.

**Peace Church Christmas Offerings:** Christmas offering distribution will be divided equally between UCC Disaster Relief, Pathfinders, Friends Inc., and The Salvation Army.

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## *Events and Activities*

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### **Women at Peace**

Women @ Peace December Outing- Christmas Open House Luncheon at John & Karen Kletti's house 11AM -2PM on December 10. The address is 6260 Crooked Road, Allenton. Please bring a dish to pass. Any questions, please contact Karen Kletti at 262-224-2212.

### **Scholarship Fund Cookie Sale**

A cookie sale will be held between services on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> to raise money for our Scholarship fund.

We are asking all parents of Scholarship Recipients to please bake and bring cookies early on Sunday to be sold between our two services. We will be making variety plates. Help is need with baking, packaging, and selling the cookies.

Fifteen college students have applied for scholarships for the 2019-2020 school year and will be receiving their scholarship money in February after we receive their first semester grades. Your help is greatly appreciated.

### **Book Discussion**

On Wednesday, December 4, the Peace Book Group meets to discuss "Chronicles of a Radical Hag" by Lorna Landirk at 9:30 a.m. either in the church library or the music room depending on the number in attendance. All are welcome.

On Wednesday, January 8 (note: the second Wednesday of the month due to the calendar), the book group meets to discuss the book "Wingshooters" by Nina Revoyr also at 9:30 a.m. For more information about the book discussion group, please contact Lynn Rusch (262-306-4025 or [lynnrusch@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnrusch@yahoo.com)) before the meeting. Each meeting is one hour long.

### **Movies & Munchies**

Check out the upcoming schedule and come and join in on the fun! We gather on the 4th Friday of the month at 7pm.

#### DECEMBER:

NO movie this month. Have a blessed Christmas season.

#### JANUARY:

The Art of Racing in the Rain-A wise old dog, Enzo, shares thoughts about life experiences which prepares him to protect his family. Hope to see you January 24 at 7pm.





## FEBRUARY:

Tuesdays With Morrie-Journalist Mitch Albom reconnects with his mentor, Professor Morrie Schwartz. Morrie shares some powerful wisdom for coping in relationships, careers, and life. Come and join us on February 28 at 7pm.

Hope to see you all soon! Any questions, please call Diane Stangl at 262-483-5699.

## **Cedar Community Choristers**

The Cedar Community Choristers will be giving a “Final Rehearsal” concert in the Cedar Theatre (5595 County Road Z West Bend, 53095) at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10. The program will last about an hour and feature our 55-voice senior chorus.

In addition: The public Choristers Christmas concerts will be on Thursday, December 12 at Cedar Theatre and Saturday, December 14 at Cedar Ridge Grand Hall. Both begin at 3:15. The concerts are free and open to the public.

The Choristers are directed by: Sherry McElhatton and accompanied at the piano by: Jeanne Wood, Julia Stettler and Carol Hanson. Select numbers will feature members of the Bells of Cedar Community Handbell Choir.

The concerts will feature a variety of sacred Christmas music including: The Little Drummer Boy, Mary, Did You Know?, God Rest You Merry Gentlemen, Go Tell It on the Mountain and Ding Dong, Merrily On High!

## **Game Night!**

Please join Karla and Josh Spaits and others on Sunday, December 8 from 6:00-8:30 pm (following the Christmas Parade) in Fellowship Hall for Peace UCC Game Night. We



have a diverse collection of strategy, party, cooperative, word, and card games that we look forward to teaching and sharing with you! Most games are geared toward teenagers and up. We hope you'll join us to share in conversation, fellowship, and laughter as we learn something new! If you have questions, ask Karla (Stoffel) Spaits!

## **Young Adult Habitat Trip**

Come join us for a Habitat Trip for young adults. Maybe you're in college, maybe you're working, maybe you're taking a break . . . maybe you're just longing to still be considered young and crazy enough to take a week to do mission work with other faith-filled people! Regardless, this trip is for YOU!

Our plans are coming together to travel South to warmer weather to work with Habitat for Humanity. We are planning to leave Kewaskum on **January 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>** and will return on January 10th. Please talk to Pastor Eric if you would like to join us.

## **Middle & High School Student Retreat**

Plymouth UCC in Milwaukee is offering an exciting youth event for all 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders from SE Association UCC congregations. **"What Star Is This? A Planetarium Retreat" will be held at Plymouth UCC from Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> - December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Cost per student is \$15.00.**

This is an overnight event in which we will view a star show at the UWM Planetarium, then walk back to Plymouth for Advent and star inspired games and devotionals. Registration is limited - only the first 65 youth and adults who sign up will be able to participate. Sound interesting? If it does, please contact the church office for more information.

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## ***FOCUS ON SUNDAY SCHOOL***

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### **Christmas is Coming**

Before you know it, we will turn the calendar to December and many wonderful events will be at hand. A few, which specifically involve our congregation, are outlined below:

Sunday, December 8 – The Sunday School Christmas Program will be offered during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. "Shepherds, Sheep, and a Savior" tells the Christmas narrative from an unexpected and rarely told perspective... shepherds. (Rehearsals 11/23 and 12/7)



Sunday, December 8, Noon – 4:00 p.m. - Peace Church will participate in the Kewaskum Cookie Walk, sharing freshly baked and decorated Christmas cookies, the Christmas narrative, schedule of holiday services, and a small gift for each child. We will be needing bakers and decorators for 20 dozen cookies, as well as people to host the open house and hand out cookies. Watch for sign-up opportunities.

Sunday, December 8, 5:00 p.m. The Kewaskum Christmas Parade kicks off with the theme "Back in Time for Christmas." Peace Church will be entering a float in this year's parade, depicting the nativity scene, and playing music from the Sunday School Christmas Program. All children, youth and adults are invited to participate by riding or walking next to the float. Costumes will be provided. Details coming soon.

Sunday, December 15 – Allow the choirs from Peace Church to lift your holiday spirit by performing beautiful music of the season at their annual Choir Concert. Youth and adult choirs will participate.

## *Thank You Peace UCC!*

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### **Thank you messages were received from the following organizations:**

Heifer International send their thanks for the generous Peace Church gifts and support.

The Full Shelf Food Pantry thanks Peace Church for their generous support throughout the year. Full Shelf Food Pantry provided to over 1,200 different families and impacted 11,500 individual lives in the past year. They serve between 350-450 families every month. This is all possible because of your generosity!

Dear Peace Church members – Once again we have to extend our sincerest thanks to all of the talented folks who made the hats, mittens, and scarves for our children. You never cease to amaze us! We wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season! With many thanks, Kewaskum Elementary Staff and Students.

### **Thank you messages were received from the following Peace members:**

Thank you to Connie Zemlicka for delivering a fruit basket for my birthday. Thank you to Peace Church and Pastor Eric for his visit on my special day. We are so blessed to be a part of the Peace Church family. Love & Prayers, Nancy Brodzeller

Dear Pastor Eric, thank you so much for being there for us during the time of Scott's death. We appreciate your being at the hospital with us, calling afterwards and helping to move Scott's things. Scott really appreciated Peace Church and its ministering to him. It is a precious church family. Nancy Polizotto

Thanks to the Women of Peace Church for the great birthday fruit basket. Also, thanks to Connie and Howard Zemlicka for the enjoyable visit when they delivered the basket. Dean Roe

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## *Thank You From Peace Church*

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Thank you to all who gave their time and talents to create the beautiful hats, mittens, and scarves to help warm the children of Washington County. We were able to donate to the following: Kewaskum Elementary School, Family Promise, Friends Inc., and the Kewaskum Food Pantry. It is never too early to start creating for next year!

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## *2020 Church Consistory & Committees*

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### **Consistory Officers**

President – John A. Lemke  
Vice President– tbd by the January Meeting  
Secretary – tbd by the January Meeting  
Church Treasurer–Cathy Stern

### **Consistory - Deacons**

Greg Anderson (12/31/20)  
Elizabeth Bobb (12/31/21)  
\*John A. Lemke (12/31/22)  
Roger Mertz (12/31/21)  
Tom Kolb (12/31/22)  
Kathy Charland (12/31/20)

### **Consistory - Elders**

John C. Lemke (12/31/21)  
Martha Wilson (12/31/22)  
\*Ken Singer (12/31/20)

### **Consistory - Trustees**

Paul Behring (12/31/20)  
Nancy Horning (12/31/21)  
Kathy Thomas (12/31/21)  
Steve Falk (12/31/22)  
David Roehrig (12/31/20)  
Karen Kletti (12/31/22)

### **Endowment Committee**

Mark Steinhardt (12/31/22)  
Judy Christensen (12/31/22)  
John Hubbell (12/31/20)  
Karen Kletti (12/31/20)  
Rozanne Butzlaff (12/31/21)  
Nancy Horning (Consistory Rep.)

### **Investment Committee**

Roger Mertz (12/31/22)  
Vance Reif (12/31/20)  
Mugs McFadden (12/31/22)  
\*Ken Singer (12/31/20)  
Bill Stangl (12/31/21)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (12/31/21)

### **Pastoral Relations Committee**

Karen Grundahl (12/31/22)  
Russ Knoth (12/31/20)  
Sandi Radeztsky (12/31/21)  
Bob Schrader (12/31/21)  
Ken Singer (12/31/20)  
Eric Walker (12/31/22)  
\_\_\_\_\_ – Consistory VP

### **Music Committee**

Bill Stangl (Choir Director)  
Sherry McElhatton (Organist/Youth Choir)

### **New Member Committee**

Karen Fellenz  
Karen Grundahl, Char Keller  
Kathy Roesel, Joyce Terlinden

### **Worship Committee**

Kathryn Danielson  
Clark Pearson  
Rose Marie Knoth  
Gayle Van Ess  
Sherry McElhatton

### **Scholarship Committee**

Joe Billmann (12/31/21),  
Kay Blackburn (12/31/20),  
Karen Grundahl (12/31/21),  
Kandy Lindgren (12/31/22)  
Kelly McCurdy (12/31/20),  
Jason Piittmann (12/31/22)  
John C. Lemke (Consistory Rep.)

### **Habitat For Humanity Committee**

Karen Kletti  
Clark Pearson  
Nicole Stern  
Pastor Eric

“The Tidings”

Peace United Church of Christ

Dec. 2019/Jan. 2020

**Marketing Committee**

Pastor Eric  
John Lemke  
Becky Manthei  
Jamie Piittmann  
Jerry Shoemaker  
Ken Singer  
Eric Walker

**Christian Education Board**

Kelli Jo Anderson (12/31/22)  
Laura Kirkegaard (12/31/22)  
\*Becky Manthei (12/31/20)  
Jessica Manogue (12/31/21)  
Jamie Piittmann (12/31/20)  
Sheri Rehn (12/31/21)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Consistory Rep.)

**Women @ Peace**

Karen Kletti (Co-chair/Treasurer)  
Sandi Radeztsky (Co-chair)

**Quilting/Crafting Ministry**

Karen Kletti & Nancy Stoffel

**Personnel Committee**

Clark Pearson, John Kletti  
Becky Manthei,  
Pastor Eric Kirkegaard

**Memorial Committee**

Becky Manthei, Shirley Miller,  
Gayle Van Ess

**Mission Committee**

Heidi Thomas, \*Shirley Miller,  
\*Clark Pearson, Kathy Danielson  
Karen Fellenz, Judy Price,  
Jackie McCurdy

**Safe Sanctuary**

Karen Kletti, Bill Stangl,  
Kathy Danielson, Brenda Roehrig, Pastor Eric

**Social Fellowship**

Movies & Munchies – Diane Stangl  
Supper for 6 – Sandi Radeztsky

**Adult Bible Study** (formerly Martha Circle)  
Bob Schrader

**Communion Set-Up**

Della Lehmann,  
Kevin & Judy Lehmann

**Decorating Committee**

\*Bonnie Rindt \*Jackie Taylor

**Family Promise**

Kathy Charland, Lorie Rechlicz

**Grief Booklet Ministry**

Diane Stangl

**Kitchen Coordinator**

Cheryl Ammel and Mary Billmann

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Mary Tessar

**Staff**

**Pastor** – Rev. J. Eric Kirkegaard  
**Visitation Minister** – Pastor Bob Blackburn  
**Administrative Assistant** – Kathy Danielson  
**Cemetery Secretary** – Connie Zemlicka  
**Cemetery Sexton**– Paul Behring  
**Choir Director –Chancel, Women, Men** - Bill Stangl  
**Church Office Manager** – Robin Mock  
**Church Sexton** – Roger Lindgren  
**Church Custodian** – Dan Rundquist  
**Faith Formation Coordinator** – Gayle Van Ess  
**Men’s Choir Accompanist** – Olivia Krautkramer  
**Nursery Staff** –Sarah Augustin, Jamie Herman, Taylor O’Brien-Flasch  
**Organists** – Sherry McElhatton, Karla Stoffel  
**Youth Choir Director** – Sherry McElhatton

**\*Any discrepancies should be reported to the church office.**

## *Financial Reports*

### Financial Report October 2019

#### General Fund

Adjusted Beginning Balance as of September 30, 2019		\$ (33,938)
Receipts		23,347
Cemetery Transfer		0
Internal Transfer		(\$50)
Incr/Decr from Investments		0
Expenses		<u>(22,501)</u>
Ending Balance as of 10/31/2019	Balance of	<u>\$ (33,142)</u>

#### Benevolence Receipts

WI Conf. NIN		\$ 771.00
Haitian Home		\$ 70.00
Kewaskum Comm. Pantry		\$ 80.00
Thanksgiving		<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Dr. Albrecht Free Clinic		<u>\$ 25.00</u>
Total Benevolence Receipts		<u><u>\$1046.00</u></u>

#### Additional Information

##### Project Balances as of 10/31/2019

Church Kitchen Remodeling Project \$ 6,967.00

#### 2019 Sound of Change Collections

January = \$290.22 Peace Habitat  
 February = Venture in People Water Filtration \$188.96  
 March = Deacon Fund \$86.09  
 April = Campital Campaign \$169.04  
 May = Albrecht Free Clinic \$246.51  
 June = Peace Habitat \$240.28  
 July = Deacon Fund \$144.96  
 August = Friends of Abused Families \$146.78  
 September = Campital Campaign \$130.85  
 October = Peace Habitat \$128.66

## *Consistory Meeting Minutes*

Consistory Meeting Minutes for October, November, and December will be published in the February Tidings.

## **Teach an old IRA NEW GIFTS**



### ***IRA Charitable Rollovers (or Qualified Charitable Distributions)***

If you are 70½ or older and have a traditional IRA, you may give up to \$100,000 per year tax-free to charitable organization(s). This is known as the IRA Charitable Rollover – or as the Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) on your tax return. A married couple can each give up to \$100,000 from their respective IRAs each year. The gift can satisfy all or part of your annual Required Minimum Distribution (or RMD). The transfer to charity does not qualify for an income tax deduction but instead it escapes the income tax that you would have otherwise owed on your RMD. This avoidance of income tax is as helpful as a deduction, especially if you do not itemize your deductions.

The transfer must be made to charity by check or wire transfer directly from the IRA. If you accept your RMD before making the gift, you will owe the income tax. It is wise to consult your IRA custodian or financial planner to assist you. And please contact Andrew Warner at 1-414-758-6233 or email him at [awarner@wcucc.org](mailto:awarner@wcucc.org) for instructions on how to wire a gift or write a check payable to the UCC Foundation of Wisconsin.

We encourage you to consider an IRA Charitable Rollover (Qualified Charitable Distribution or QCD) to your local church or any United Church of Christ ministry of your choosing. You may make a direct charitable gift to fund your church's operating budget, fulfill a pledge, fund a special project or establish a permanent endowment fund to benefit your church in perpetuity.

To make an IRA Charitable Rollover (or QCD), please contact your IRA administrator to request the appropriate form, which can often be filled out online. If making your gift directly to your local congregation, you will need their Employer Identification Number (or EIN) and address. Your generosity will make a difference in the life of your local congregation and any other agencies you support through an IRA Charitable Rollover (Qualified Charitable Distribution).

# DECEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Food Pantry Collection 8 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School NO Youth Choir Christmas Program Rehearsal	2	3 9:30 a.m. – Ministry Mtg 7:00 p.m.- <i>Priorities</i> -Adult Study – (Chapter 5)	4 9:30 a.m. – Book Group “ <i>Chronicles of a Radical Hag</i> ” 9 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Confirmation Class 3:30-5:00 p.m.	5 8 a.m.Cedar Community Board Mtg 9 a.m. – Lay Caregiving 1 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry	6 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>	7 Cookie Decorating 9-10:30 Christmas Program Rehearsal
8 8 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School Christmas Program Sound of Change-Deacons Scholarship Cookie Sale 10:50 a.m. Youth Choir Kewaskum Christmas Cookie Hunt Walk (1-4 p.m.) 5:00 Parade 6:00 -Game Night	9	10 6:30 p.m.-Deacons, Elders, Trustees 7:00 p.m. -Consistory	11 9 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Confirmation Class 3:30-5:00 p.m.	12 Community of Practice-Pastor Eric	13 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>	14 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>
Peace Church Hosts Family Promise						
15 8 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School Choir Concert 10:50 a.m. Youth Choir	16	17 9:30 Ministry Mtg  7:00 p.m.- <i>Priorities</i> -Adult Study (Final Class, Chapter 6)	18 9 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Confirmation Class 3:30-5:00 p.m.	19 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study “Exodus” (Lesson 3)	20 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>  Dec/Jan“Tidings” Deadline	21 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>
22 8 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School Christmas Fund Offering	23	24 Christmas Eve 6:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. Worship	25 Office Closed Christmas Day 9:30 a.m. Worship NO Confirmation Class	26 Pastor Eric off thru the end of the year  Office Closed	27 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>  Office Closed	28 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>
29 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion -PEW NO Sunday School	30	31				



# JANUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Office closed Young Adult Habitat Trip thru January 10.	2  1 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry	3	4
5 8 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School Food Pantry Collection	6	7	8 9:30 a.m. Book Discussion "Wingshooters"	9	10 <i>Young Adult Habitat Group Returns</i>	11 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>
12 <b>Sound of Change-Peace UCC Habitat Young Adult Habitat Worship</b> 8 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School 10:50 a.m. Youth Choir	13  9:30 a.m. Worship Committee Mtg	14 9:30 Ministry Mtg 6:30 p.m.-Deacons, Elders, Trustees 7:00 p.m. -Consistory	15 9 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Confirmation Class 3:30-5:00 p.m.  February Tidings Deadline	16 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study "Exodus" (Lesson 4)	17 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>	18 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>
19 8 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School	20	21 9:30 a.m. Mission Committee	22  9 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Confirmation Class 3:30-5:00 p.m.	23  Community of Practice-Pastor Eric	24 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>  Movies & Munchies	25 <i>Pastor Eric's day off</i>
26  8 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion (Intinction) 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion (Intinction)	25	28	29 9 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Confirmation Class 3:30-5:00 p.m.	30	31	