

The Olive Branch

Peace Lutheran Church...

A Life-Changing Community, Sharing Christ's Love!

Volume 62
Issue 12

DECEMBER
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2022

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Pastor:

Senior Pastor—David Trexler
Cell Phone— (321)289-7115

E-mail:

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Office Phone: (321)727-3131

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Websites:

www.peacelutheranpb.org

www.facebook.com/peacelutheranpb.org

Facebook @peacelutheranpb

Staff:

Jacqui Robinson, Office Administrator

Cindy Wagman, Choir

Sally Cook, Pianist

Dina LaPlante, Custodian

Volunteer Staff:

Faye Schill, Treasurer

Lori Search—Food Pantry Director

Charlene O'Brien—Food Pantry

Mark Grice—Campus Maintenance

Steve Barnett—Campus Maintenance



Dear Friends through Christ:

Merry Christmas! I pray this holiday season be filled with the presence of Jesus. After all, He is the reason for the season!

This year's Christmas Eve falls on Saturday, with two worship services being held: One at 4PM and the second at 7PM. Christmas Day is on Sunday, and yes, **Peace will be offering a Christmas Day worship experience at 10AM, December 25th.**

The following Saturday is December 31st, and on this day, Peace Lutheran will be hosting a **New Year's Eve party, from 2PM to 5PM.** I realize there are many who have plans for this festive time, but there are many who have no plans. What better way to close out 2022 and bring in 2023, than to celebrate with people who love you and where food and entertainment will be provided. Then we will break into two groups: Those who want to play Bunco and who want to play Poker. (Poker was my idea) Prizes are awarded in Bunco; small amount of coins will change hands in Poker. But whatever game you decide, fun will be had by all. We only ask that you consider a donation to help keep the food pantry on solid ground through 2023.

Then at **5PM sharp, on December 31st,** what a great day to kick off **our very first Saturday night worship—A New Year's Eve Service.** (Again, **there is worship on Sunday, New Year's Day at 10 AM**) Every Saturday at 5:00PM sharp, week after week, throughout 2023, Peace will offer an alternative time to worship, with just a slightly different look than Sunday. Announcements will be made, confessions will be confessed, one or two Scripture lessons will be read, with the same message as Sunday, prayers of the church will be offered, Holy Communion will be celebrated and who knows what type of music one will hear—could be Christian Pop, Country, Rock, Hymns, who knows... One thing I do know is that in the past, the Saturday service brought in people who would not or could not worship on Sunday. I like to call the worship experience, "A short, sweet and meaningful way to end a hard week."

So, get the word out! Tell your friends and family about a new opportunity to worship a God who gives us everything. Your voice is the best way to grow Peace Lutheran Church. I thank you in advance.

Continued on page 2

I see a promising future in store for Peace in the year of our Lord, 2023. There are frequent new faces coming to worship, the campus looks beautiful, and it is quite busy during the week, so much so, you guys and gals are starting to wear me out. Which is a good thing. I love to be busy. New Bible studies are on the horizon and there seems to be a sense of peace at Peace, no quarreling or backstabbing. We truly are becoming a church where all people are welcome. We are one in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Let me just say, it has been an honor and privilege to serve as your pastor the past four years, and I pray that during the season of Advent, the Lord Jesus Christ will enter your home and your life will be filled with his blessings of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace.

Allow me to close with a short story recorded for Dial-A-Story (321-727-1048). Three little boys were standing around a campfire, roasting hot dogs. As the juice bubbled out of the hot dogs and trickled down into the dancing flames, one little boy says, "Geeze, you know what I'd like to be at Christmas time? I'd like to be a shepherd in fields, so I could see the angels." The second little boy said, "I'd like to be the angel." The third little tike said, "I'd like to be the star!"

"Why a star?" Asked the other two boys.

"Because, if I were that star, then I could lead people to Jesus."

Listen, this Advent Season, be a star and lead people to Jesus. Bring someone, anyone with you to see Jesus this Christmas holiday.

Gotta Go. Bye now. Have a wonderful and blessed Advent and Christmas!

Pastor David Trexler



A poster for Christmas Worship Services at Peace Lutheran Church. The top text reads "PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH INVITE YOU TO OUR...". Below this is a decorative border of green pine branches with red and gold ornaments. The word "CHRISTMAS" is written in a large, black, serif font, and "Worship Services" is written in a black, cursive font below it. The text "Join us this Christmas as we celebrate the true reason for the season." is centered below the title. At the bottom, there are two boxes: the left one says "Christmas Eve Candlelight Services Dec. 24th at 4:00pm & 7:00PM" and the right one says "Christmas Day Worship Service Dec. 25th 10:00AM". The background of the poster features lit candles, pinecones, and warm lights.

Two Events.... in One Day!



*New Year's
Eve* **Bounce**

Join us for
Food - Games - Fun - Fellowship

We are asking for a donation to cover the cost AND to support our Food Pantry.
Come and spend an afternoon with us preparing to ring in the new year.

December 31 at 1:00PM

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1801 PORT MALABAR BLVD NE
PALM BAY, FL



Saturday Night **WORSHIP SERVICE**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
5:00PM**

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1801 PORT MALABAR BLVD NE
PALM BAY, FL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: (321) 727-3131

Join us!

Every Saturday at 5PM, we will have
a Worship Service throughout 2023!

Treasurer's Report

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Financially, the good news is that the remainder of the cost of the new Church sign has been paid from your donations. **Thanks** to all of you that contributed to the sign fund for your generosity.

In the chart below you can see we are under budget for the year in our Contributions and Use of Facilities. We are also under budget in our expenses.

The Council continues to look for a new treasurer. If you are interested, please speak to Thomas Accola, Gabriela Ditota, or the undersigned. I will gladly work with/train someone for as long as it takes. The job requires some computer experience and a servant's heart. The job could be done in your home.

I apologize for my directness/frustration in last month's newsletter. My New Year's resolution for 2023 is "Have more faith, God will provide". Merry Christmas to a most loving church family. Peace to all of you in the New Year.

Your sister in Christ,
Faye Schill, Treasurer
321-327-7559
treasurer@peacelutheranpb.org

Treasurer's Report of General Funds October 2022

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Contributions	\$13,107.73	\$140,113.83	\$151,500.00
Loose Contributions	\$610.00	\$5,077.20	\$13,000.00
Other	\$0.00	\$97.44	\$2,500.00
Use of Facilities	\$1,955.00	\$27,560.46	\$40,000.00
Total Income	\$15,712.73	\$172,848.93	\$207,000.00
Expenses	\$20,985.72	\$201,926.65	\$207,000.00

Excess Expenses for October 2022: \$5,272.99

Excess Expenses for YTD 2022: \$29,077.72

The General Fund account is used for regular expenses (utilities, salaries, lawn care, insurance, mortgage, etc.) This does not include the sign monies, reimbursables (like Food Pantry, noisy offering, worship, memorial), or Building/Maintenance.

Did you know? Instead of writing multiple checks for individual contributions like the Children's Hunger Project, the Food Pantry, etc., you only have to write one check. Simply designate the breakdown of your giving in the check's memo area or on the envelope itself. "FP" for Food Pantry, "CHP" for Children's Hunger Project, and so on.



DITOTA, Bob & Gabi (41)	12/12
REIDENAUER, Ronald (67)	12/17
BACHTEL, Harvey & Pam (26)	12/20
O'BRIEN, Mike & Charlene (54)	12/21
BAKER, Mark & Kelly (21)	12/22
PETERSON, Curt & Susan (21)	12/29
SANDBERG, Roger & Beverly (49)	12/29



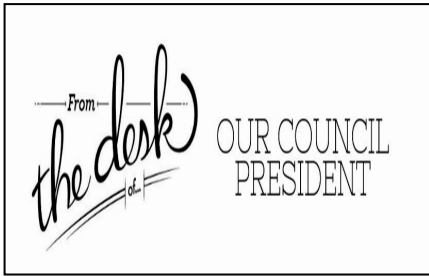
(numbers of years married)



MOLESKI, Charlie	12/11	HOFFMAN, Susan	12/24
BARR, Emily	12/14	WRIGHT, Kenneth	12/27
DEMERS, JoAnne	12/16	NEUMANN, Terry	12/28
ROBINS Sr., George	12/16	BRUNNER, Cameron	12/29
ROSALES, Marcel	12/17	BRUNNER, Victoria	12/29
WAINIKAINEN, Lindsay	12/19	GRICE, Jennifer	12/29
LIATOS, Phyllis	12/20	SPRENGLE, Maryanne	12/31
BADMAN-PATON, Lin	12/22		



Marta T. Rodriguez	Rina	Pastor David & Sandy Trexler	Larry Kilcullen
Don Hoffman	Ron Nelson	Gary Witter	Paul Bickford
Susan Hildebrand	Ariel Cook	Carolyn Tarkka	Lori Stottlemire
Gwen Newberry	Manuel Rodriguez	Helga Bromm	Sally Christensen and Family on the loss of her loved one, Scott Schein
Lori Deaton	David Flaherty	Phyllis Dale	Mark in Georgia
Ryan Dasinger	Viola Forrester	Bill & Nancy Love	Rick Newberry
Rick Pellecchia	Gary Gossett, Jr.	Christian LaPlante	Shantel R.
Ann Beardslee	Dan Rank	Matt Parks	Frank Miller
	David Pinkerton	Betsy Witter	
		Karl Bromm	



As I compose this message, many of us are either returning from Thanksgiving visits to friends and/or family or recovering from hosting an army of turkey-pumpkin pie devouring relatives and/or neighbors. Brenda and I were in Tampa with family members we had not been with in person for perhaps five or six years. There were 24 of us, ranging in age from 10 – 81, from homes as far away as New York, Virginia, Massachusetts, and Illinois and as close as Sarasota and West Palm Beach. Reliving the past, reveling in the present, anticipating the future. Thankful for our many blessings and the bright future we know

is waiting for the young ones among us.

My cousin, Alice is an elder at a Presbyterian church in Buffalo NY. As her fellow worshipers were shoveling snow in upstate New York, we were decorating our sanctuary, inside and out, for Christmas! Sharing our faith-based hopes and challenges, we found, perhaps unsurprisingly, that they are similar: reaching out to a distracted populace; attracting young people; determining how to remain relevant in a rapidly changing culture.

May we look forward, both as a congregation and as men and women of faith to the many blessings that God has in store for us, as we look to celebrating the birth of our Savior.

Tom



FUNERAL SERVICE FOR...

Scott
SCHEIN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9
10:30AM

Peace Lutheran Church
1801 Port Malabar Blvd
Palm Bay, FL

A light luncheon will be served
after the funeral service.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Pack-A-Sack

Thank you to all who helped to make a Thanksgiving possible for some people in our community. Thirty-Two bags were gathered and distributed. The spirit of love and generosity is alive here at Peace Lutheran.

Again, I say thank you.



Christmas Angels

There are 50 Christmas Angels on the tree in the Narthex. We have 25 children and 25 Seniors who hope to receive a little joy this holiday.

**** New this year—for the children-NO bikes or scooters or electronics.



Scrip



Please take a look at the list of Retailers that participate in the Scrip program and consider purchasing your Christmas gifts using the gift cards or giving the gift cards as a gift themselves. ALL proceeds go to support our Food Pantry.

This is an easy way to give to our community without having to buy/spend more, these are things you would already be spending money on, just now it will help benefit our church Food Pantry.



2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 1ST ADVENT 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	28 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	29 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	30 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	1 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 2:00pm Stamp Club FH	2 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	3 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch
4 2ND ADVENT 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	5 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	6 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	7 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	8 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	9 9:00am Garden Club 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	10 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch
11 3RD ADVENT 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	12 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	13 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Council Meeting	14 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	15 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	16 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	17 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch
18 4TH ADVENT 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	19 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	20 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	21 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	22 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	23 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 4:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
25 – MERRY CHRISTMAS Christmas Day 10:00am Christmas Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	26 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	27 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	28 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	29 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	30 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 8:45pm Panera Pickup	31 NEW YEARS EVE 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 2:00pm New Year's Eve Party 5:00pm Saturday Night Worship

Bits & Pieces

Check us out on Facebook @ Peace Lutheran Church

Give us a LIKE and get updates, spiritual messages, events and any changes.

Or visit us on our website
www.peacelutheranpb.org



Our Food Pantry is always in need of donations of either food or financial donations to support this much needed ministry. Our community is flooded with people looking for help, and we are grateful that as a church, we can help meet the need, anyway we can. Your generous donations will allow us to

continue to help them and together, we can see our community get stronger!

Our pantry is open on: **Tuesday's—9:00AM -11:00AM**

Thank you to everyone who has been donating to the food pantry. It truly makes a difference in our community.



Jesus says in Matthew 25, "For I was hungry and you gave me food... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Where do you buy groceries, gas, prescriptions? What restaurants do you like? Where do you purchase clothing or things for around the house? A couple weeks ago, Peace began a program called Scrip. Simply and I mean simply, purchase the cards following worship or order whatever you want for the following week. That's it. 100% of the proceeds will go toward our food pantry in feeding the poor.

We are going to shop no matter what. We might as well serve the Lord in the process. I love the program because it helps me think more about God. I don't always do that when I use my debit or credit card. When I'm out having a meal with family or friends, shopping at the mall with my wife, doing some work around the house, and I go to pay the bill with my Scrip card, I find myself lifting up a word of thanksgiving for being able to enjoy the blessings given by my Creator.

Give it try. See how you feel.

**Please help us keep our list of military personnel up-to-date!
Call or e-mail the office with any changes in status,
rank, or location! Thank you!**

E.J. Alcario, Iraq
John Bedford, Iraq
Kristen Hall AF, Iraq
Capt. Brian Nailing,
Co. Ft. Hood, TX
Maj. AD Dennis Peoples,
Rock Island Arsenal, IL
Major Nathan Schill,
Ft. Leavenworth, KS

USN FC3 Stephen Weaver,
USS Dewey
Navy Chief Sean Patrick Goguen,
Norfolk, VA
1st Lieut. Tanner Johnson—Army,
E. Africa



Did you know that every time you order from Amazon you can make a contribution to Peace Lutheran? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Peace Lutheran Church every time you shop, at no cost to you.



When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to **Peace Lutheran Church**.

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You will then be asked to pick your charitable organization. Make sure to pick **Peace Lutheran Church in Palm Bay, FL**. You may also want to share with your children and grandchildren as well when making their purchases on Amazon.com.

It may be helpful to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile.

Peace Lutheran Church
1801 Port Malabar Blvd N.E.
Palm Bay, FL 32905

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PALM BAY
The Olive Branch

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PERMIT 144

Dated Material: DECEMBER 2022
ISSUE

Return service requested

Phone: (321) 727-3131
Dial-A-Story: (321)727-1048
Email: office@peacelutheranpb.org
Website: www.peacelutheranpb.org
Facebook: @peacelutheranpb

Senior Pastor: David L. Trexler

Worship

8:45AM—Sunday School
10:00AM—Worship Service



We Serve

Altar Guild—Set up and prepare for communion each week, usually serving one month at a time; more people are needed.

Worship Servants—Sunday Worship Assistants and Communion Assistants are needed.

Office Helpers—Those who help with mailings, preparing Welcome Packets, etc.

Chancel Choir—Wednesday night rehearsals—7:00PM

Bell Choir—Call Cindy Wagman to learn more about our choirs 321-830-4207.

Money Counters—Teams of two people working for one month at a time. Call church office if interested.

In the Nursery—Nursery is available during worship.

Property/Grounds—There is always plenty of work to be done here. Please contact Steve Barnett.

Projectionists Needed—People that are in the projection room Sunday morning for our Sunday presentations. Please sign up in the projection room.

Panera Bread Pick-up—Each Friday evening people are needed to go to Hammock Landings to get the goodies for Sunday morning Café Peace. Cindy Wagman at 321-830-4207

Call and Caring—Our team visits people who are in the hospital, nursing homes, and who are homebound. See Sally Christensen for more information.

Please call the office to be a servant for the Lord by taking on one or more of these opportunities.
(321)727-3131

