



What images come to mind when you think about Christmas?

Is it setting up the tree and hanging all your favorite ornaments accumulated over the years and decorating the house for Christmas?

Is it taking the kids to see Santa and getting that annual picture taken with them sitting on his lap?

Is it gatherings with family and exchanging and opening presents?

Or perhaps it is singing “Silent Night” in a darkened sanctuary during the candlelight service at the Christmas Eve service.

Whatever images of Christmas we think of first, for many of us, it does not take long for images of winged angels appearing to Mary, Joseph and the shepherds to come to mind.

Angels are not unique to only the Christmas story. They appear in the Bible during significant occurrences in the history of God’s people. Their role as God’s messengers of hope, peace, salvation, direction, warning and especially of Jesus’ identity, make their words in the birth narrative of Jesus – messages we all need to hear, take note of and claim during the season of Advent.

The word “Advent” means coming. During Advent, especially for us Christians, it is a time we prepare and wait expectantly for the coming of our King – the birth of the Christ Child.

This year during the season of Advent, we are going to be taking a look at the angels that are part of the story of Jesus’ birth. They are significant to us in our time of waiting and preparing for Advent.

Angels are not just beautiful decorations for our trees.

They are more than the coolest costumes for the Christmas program – everyone wants to be an angel.

It is so easy to reduce them to these roles, even in our formal celebrations!

Think about the Christmas hymns we sing:

Hark! The Herald angels sing, ‘Glory to the newborn King’

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains

It came Upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near to earth to touch their harps of gold

The one role angels have in each of these hymns is – singing – and that is not mentioned in any of the Gospel stories. In the Gospel accounts of Jesus birth – the angels – do not sing. *They speak.* The only Christmas hymn to make this distinction is: “*The first noel the angels did say came to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay.*”

This Advent we are going to focus on the role of angels as messengers of news. The word angel comes from the Greek word *angelos*, meaning messenger. The angels of the Christmas story came to deliver important messages to people who were hoping for God to intervene in a mighty way, both in the fears and darkness of their personal lives and in their world.

I invite you to join us for Sunday morning worship to discover in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the stories of the angels’ visits as we prepare our hearts for the birth of the Christ Child. Come and hear what God has to say to us – through the messages of the angels of Christmas.

May we come to see and know the connection between what God has done in the past, not only in the lives of his people but also in our lives as well. I pray that you come away with something new this Advent Season that God is calling you to do through the gift of the One who came to bring light and life into the world at Christmas.

Have a very Merry and Blessed Christmas,

Pastor Velda

Leadership Council Meeting

November 21,, 2022

7 p.m.

PRESENT: Steve Schulze Jan Wussow Mark Wiese
Sandy Lopau Cindy Miller Pastor Velda Maine

Pastoral Report: Pastor Velda

Returned from medical leave on Wednesday, October 5. We celebrated World Communion Sunday, United Women of Faith (UMW) Sunday, and had celebration of Baptism and Confirmation. Also completed another Course of Study/Seminary class. Hosted Pipestone Ministerial prayer breakfast and attended the monthly Ministerial Business Meeting, along with various other committee meetings.

SPRC: Jenny Severson

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Fred Vanderwerf met with the SPRC Committee members who were available on November 13 during his visit here at Peace UMC. At this time Pastor Velda will remain at three-quarter time with a discussion held of possibly moving her to full-time in the future. The decision to wait at this time was based on our increased utility expenses, that our Apportionments would also increase and the downturn in congregational giving at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy Lopau

All bills are paid to date.

Appointments are paid to date.

Total Giving for October: \$8,620

Giving for November to Date: \$22,032

At the end of October, our giving/donations are -\$32,000 below our expenses.

We also still have an outstanding balance of \$13,000 left to pay for our new projector when it arrives.

A discussion was held about which copier/printer company we will move forward with. Once our lease is up in April of 2023 we will be moving to Access and a Savon copier. Their bid was the lowest with a guarantee of no increased fees over the 5-year lease period and it also included 2,000 black and white copies and 250 color copies a month in our monthly fee. We also received feedback regarding their excellent service department.

Trustee's Report: Mark Wiese

Chuck went over the treasure's report:

The refrigerator in the kitchen has been repaired. The thermostat was replaced and it was low on Freon.

Church rental agreements needs to be reviewed. Pastor Velda is going to check with other churches regarding their policy and charges.

Pete Sietsema is going to build a bigger aluminum can recycle bin on the south side of the shed.

Found some Emergency Exit lights in the room behind the pulpit. Going to look around the church building to see where we can use them.

The bottom is rotting out of the dumpster. Rick Erks is going to call the city about it and about obtaining a replacement.

Called Tom Hurd and he is not going to do snow removal this year. Bids were obtained for snow removal and Double D came in with the lowest bid. Mark Wiese will contact them about securing their services.

Peace Foundation: Chuck Vaux

No Report.

Children's Education: Becky Sietsema

Peace UMC finished up its second rotation of J.A.M. in November learning about Mary and Martha.

Practice for the Christmas Program is in full swing! The First Presbyterians are hosting the program this year on Sunday, December 11th at 5 pm! Everyone is invited to watch the kids present The ABC's of Christmas. On December 14, the J.A.M. kids will spread Christmas cheer by caroling at Good Sam, Falls Landing, and Ridgeview Estates!

J.A.M. will be on a break over the holiday season and reconvene at Peace UMC on Wednesday, January 11th.

Turkey Dinner Report: Becky Sietsema

We had another superb turnout for our annual Turkey Dinner selling right around 975 meals. The committee wishes to thank everyone for their time and hard work. Planning the event is easy, but it takes a team to make it happen! We are still waiting for some bills to come in so we don't have an exact amount yet. This year we chose to donate \$75 to the Holiday Caddies being given to the nursing homes and assisted livings in Pipestone, the rest of the 10% for missions going to Relay for Life, and the remainder going to the Trustees for building upkeep of the church and parsonage.

Worship:

There will be a baptism on November 20. Sunday, November 20 following worship, those available are asked to take down Thanksgiving decorations and begin Christmas decorating. Monday, November 21 at 8 a.m. the committee will complete Advent/Christmas decorating. The poinsettias will arrive on December 9 and a schedule was set up for the care of the poinsettias.

Christmas Eve Service at 5 p.m. – will be a candlelight service with communion.

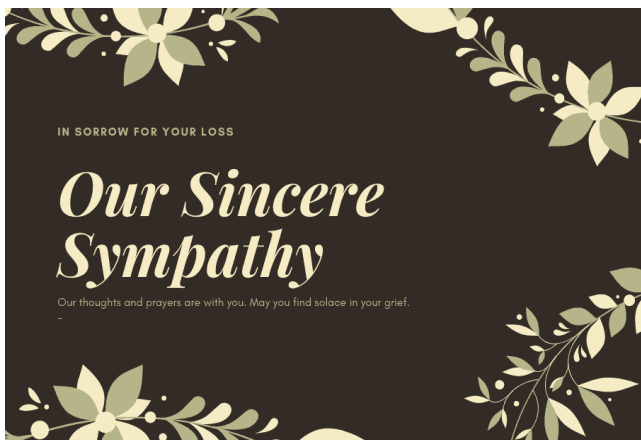
No worship on Sunday morning – Christmas Day.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 14, 11 am

United Women of Faith (previously UMW): Jan Wussow

The regular UWF meeting was held on November 17. It was a short meeting and they mostly discussed the coming bake sale. The bake and craft sale was held on Saturday, November 19. It was a cold blustery day and donations were down on the bake sale side, but they made \$596.00. Thank you to all who made donations!

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Velda Maine

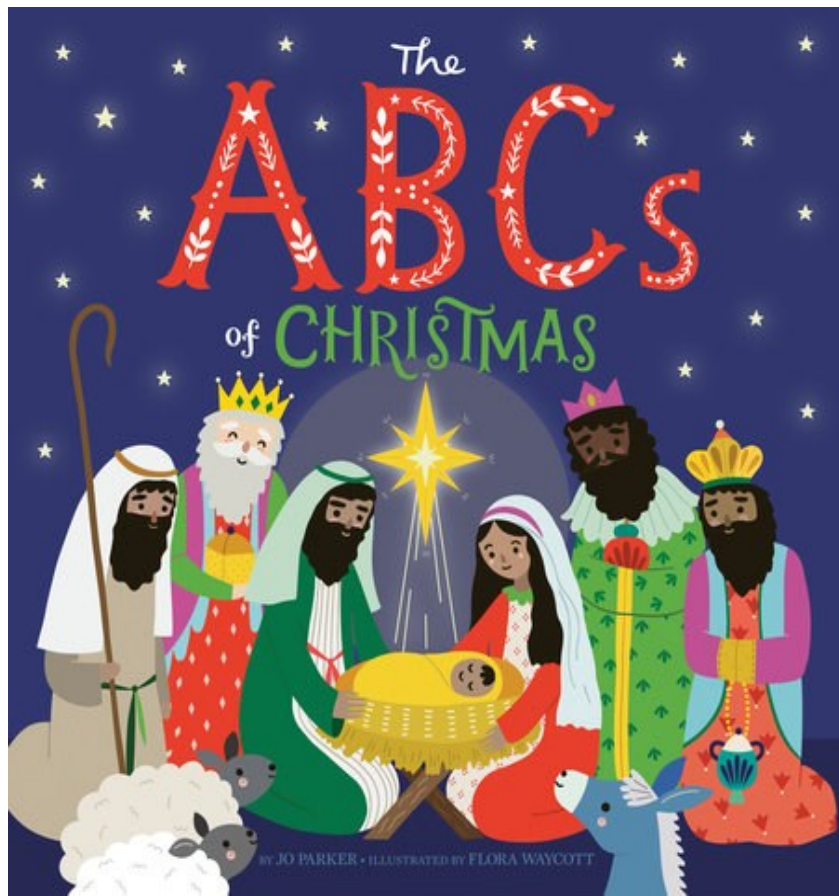


*We would like to express our deepest sympathy to
Kasey Stangeland
and all the Stangeland family
in the passing of Kasey's husband
Joshua Stangeland
Please keep the Kasey in your prayers.
Josh went home to be with Jesus on November 12*

*We would like to express our deepest sympathy
to the family of
Florence "Jo" Gewecke*

*Jo went home to be with Jesus on
November 20, 2022
Please keep the
Gewecke Family
in your prayers*





J.A.M.
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
SUNDAY
DECEMBER 11, 2022
at
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
at
5 p.m.

All are welcome to attend. Please plan to come and watch our J.A.M. kiddos share the story of Christmas and enjoy some refreshments and fellowship following the program.

Please plan to join us for our
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
with Communion
December 24, 2022
at
5 p.m.



Wishing each and everyone a very
Blessed and Merry Christmas
Just a reminder that there will be
NO worship service on
Sunday, December 25



In Honor / Memory of:
(circle one)

From:

In Honor / Memory of:
(circle one)

From:



Church Clean Up night is on Monday - December 5, 2022 - the first Monday of the month.
Please join us! We meet at the Church at 7 p.m.
Come help your fellow church members keep our church clean!

If you are making a donation for the church cleaning by Progress, please write a separate check to the church and indicate in the memo portion of your check that it is for the cleaning service. If you are giving cash, please place in an envelope and indicate on the outside of the envelope for Church Cleaning. We are having some accounting issues when you include it with your Sunday morning giving. Thank you for your consideration and anticipated assistance.

The Trustees Committee



- December 1 - Lynda Ewing
- December 1 - Donna Straw
- December 2 - Nancy Harstad
- December 5 - Anthony Arreola
- December 8 - Vicki Buffington
- December 9 - Nancy Terry
- December 11 - Matthew Klumper
- December 12 - Tabitha Long
- December 16 - Jaden Clark
- December 19 - Preston Wabeke
- December 21 - Jim Whipple
- December 21 - Jesse VanderPlaats
- December 23 - Kenneth Senst
- December 25 - Wesley Johnson
- December 28 - Steve Schulze

COMMUNION SUNDAYS

Sunday - December 4

Saturday - December 24

Christmas Eve - 5 pm

Sunday - January 1, 2023



- December 2 - Dennis & Anita Johnson
- December 23 - Quentin & Connie Crow
- December 26 - Kenneth & Belva Senst

Good Samaritan Society

Gretchen Blom

Falls Landing

Violet Werner

Prince of Peace Good Samaritan Society

Beverly Sogn



Change for
CHANGE

You know it makes cents!

During the month of December

Change for Change

will be received for

Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministry



CHANGE 4 CHANGE

received in October

for Gloves, Mittens, Hats, Scarves

\$77.50

plus many donated items

CHANGE 4 CHANGE

received in November

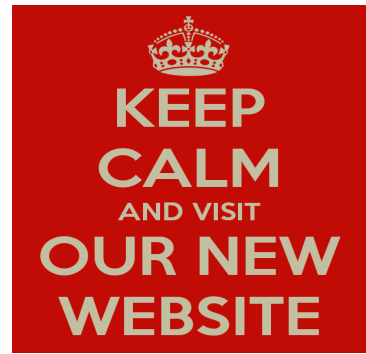
for The Senior Center

\$60.28

We are missing a Shark vacuum cleaner.
Last seen either at the Southeast double
doors or in the room in back of the
pulpit. If you have any idea of its
whereabouts - please contact one of the
Trustees.

Thank you for your help!

Peace UMC has
a **WEBSITE!!!**



www.peaceumcpipestone.com

Now there are 3 different ways to give back to
your church!

- ◆ *Through the Postal Mail:
PO Box 26, Pipestone MN 56164
- ◆ Auto Giving - set up by Church Treasurer
(Sandy Lopau)
- ◆ ONLINE - by clicking on the GIVE tab on our
website, you are taken to the page below
where you can choose to donate once, or
set it up to automatically donate as you
wish. Its very simple and very secure!

Peace United Methodist Church

The screenshot shows the 'Online Donation' page. It has two main sections: 'Donations' and 'Log In'.
 The 'Donations' section includes:
 - A note: 'If you've already created a profile, please "Log In" on the right, otherwise continue.'
 - 'General Fund': A text input field with '3000' entered.
 - 'Donation Frequency': A dropdown menu set to 'Choose One' with a link '(About recurring donations)'.
 - 'Donation Start Date': A date picker set to '04/22/20' with a 'mm/dd/yy' format indicator.
 - A 'Continue' button.
 The 'Log In' section includes:
 - A 'View Mobile Site' link and a 'Return to our Home Page' link.
 - 'Email Address': A text input field.
 - 'Password': A text input field.
 - A 'Log In' button.
 - A link: 'Forgot your Email Address or Password?'.
 Below the 'Log In' section is a 'Create Your Online Profile' section with a 'Create Profile' button.

Peace UMC has an Auto Giving Option
that allows you to pick an amount you
would like to give and how often you
would like to give it! Its as easy as
filling out this form and providing a
voided check!

Talk to Sandy Lopau (Church Treasurer)
if you would like to set this up!

Church Calendar of Events December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 10 am Worship 	5 7 pm ALL CHURCH CLEAN-UP	6 5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl	7 6 pm J.A.M. at 1st Presbyterian 7 pm Confirmation	8	9	10
11 10 am Worship 5 pm J.A.M. Christmas Program at 1st Presbyterian	12	13 5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl	14 11 am Worship Committee 6 pm J.A.M. at 1st Presbyterian NO Confirmation 8 pm Trustees	15 2 pm Women of Faith (UMW) Meeting	16	17
18 10 am Worship	19 9 am Peace Quilters 7 pm Leadership Council	20 5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl	21 NO JAM OR CONFIRMATION	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship Service 5 pm Communion and Candle Light Service
25 NO WORSHIP SERVICE 	26	27 5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl	28 NO JAM OR CONFIRMATION	29	30	31

2022 Giving Goal

\$119,662

Needed Each Month

\$10,124

Received in October 2022

\$8,620

Received to-date November 2022

\$22,032

Peace United Methodist Church

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Email: office.peacemethodist@gmail.com

Velda Maine, Pastor

301 8th St SE

Pipestone, MN 56164

Mobile: (507) 227-5453

Parsonage: (507) 825-4418

Email: pastor.peacemethodist@gmail.com



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Looking for volunteers to help in the Sound Booth on Sunday mornings.

Help with sound board, power point/slide projection and camera operation for FACEBOOK Live. Training available.

Rick Erks says if he can do it - so can you.

Please contact Rick at 605-413-3431 to let him know you are willing to help.



Be sure to 'like' us on Facebook!!
Stay up-to-date with what's going on at the church. See photos, connect with members and talk with the Pastor!

@peaceUMCpipestone

If you are unable to join us in person on Sunday mornings,
remember to tune in to our Worship Service broadcast via
Facebook Live at 10 am!

<https://www.facebook.com/peaceUMCpipestone/>



PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PO BOX 26
PIPESTONE MN 56164