



*Thanks be unto God for His
unspeakable gift.*

2 Corinthians 9:15, KJV

December, 2024



355 E. State Road 120
Fremont, IN 46737
Church Phone: (260) 495-4306
www.plcms.org

A member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

A letter from Pastor Teeple

Dear friends in Christ,

As the days grow shorter and the air turns crisp, we find ourselves at the threshold of one of the most sacred seasons of the year: Advent. This season is a time of preparation and anticipation as we journey toward the celebration of Christ's birth. It is a season that reminds us of God's promises fulfilled in Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us.

Advent also invites us to reflect on what it means to be a family made holy through faith in Christ Jesus. We will see that in our Advent Devotionals, which have been prepared by members of our congregational community. Whether we gather as biological families or as brothers and sisters in Christ, our common bond is the love of God poured out in Jesus. It is this love that transforms us and calls us to live as His light in the world.

Our church is alive with activities this season, all designed to help us place Christ front and center in our hearts and lives. The Advent Wreath lighting each Sunday reminds us of the hope, peace, joy, and love found in Christ. Special Bible studies and worship gatherings offer opportunities to grow deeper in faith. Our children's Christmas program - both Sunday School and Wee Creations - are filled with their voices and joy, will remind us of the simple yet profound message of our Savior's birth.

Looking ahead, I want to warmly invite you to two special worship opportunities this month:

1. Christmas Eve Worship - Two Services at 5:00 and 8:00pm

Please join us on December 24th as we gather to celebrate the birth of Christ. Through carols, Scripture, and candlelight, we will proclaim the good news that Christ the Savior has been born for us. Bring your family and friends to these services of wonder and joy.

2. New Year's Eve Worship - One Service at 6:30pm

As we close out one year and step into the next, we will gather for a time of reflection and commitment. This service will be an opportunity to thank God for His faithfulness in the past year and to seek His guidance for the year ahead.

These moments are more than traditions; they are opportunities to align our hearts with God's purposes. Together, as we sing, pray, and serve, we are reminded that Christ is not just at the center of our church but also the center of our lives.

Thank you for the many ways you contribute to our vibrant community! Whether through volunteering, worship participation, or acts of kindness, you embody the love of Christ. My prayer this season is that we all experience the joy of being part of God's holy family—a family that celebrates His gift of salvation and shares His light with the world.

May your Advent and Christmas season be filled with the hope, peace, joy, and love of Christ. I look forward to worshipping with you this month and entering the new year together as His church. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all on whom His favor rests."

Pastor Jeff Teeple



A letter from Pastor Rudolph

Anticipation is high in the Rudolph household. Now that the temperatures outside have dropped and snow becomes more likely, Christmas seems to be right around the corner. Music, events, decorations, and planning are all oriented toward Christmas once again. One thing I'm particularly excited for, and anticipating greatly, is the Wee Creations Christmas Program! What a great witness our Wee Creations kids will give to all the parents, community members, and church members who will come and rejoice with us! This program is also a great witness to the great work Wee Creations does all year long. So I wait with great anticipation to hear the kids praise the Lord!

The nature of anticipation, though, is that we have to wait for the event to come. Time must pass as we press toward the goal. But this anticipation, excitedly waiting for something to come, is what the Advent season brings to the Church Year. Over the next few weeks, we wait for Christ to come to us liturgically just as the Old Testament Christians waited for Him to come physically. For thousands of years, the promise of the coming Savior was passed down from Adam and Eve to the New Testament Christians who witnessed Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection. God proclaimed the Gospel to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15). Adam and Eve did have sons, but they did not accomplish this promise. Cain did not bruise the serpent's head, instead he bruised his own brother's head. So the Church waits with great anticipation for the greater "offspring" to come.

God then proclaimed this same Gospel to Abraham later, saying, "I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and him who dishonors you I will curse., and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed...to your offspring I will give this land." (Genesis 12:2-3, 7). But as the Church meets Abraham's offspring, it's clear that they will not accomplish what was promised to Adam and Eve, for "God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering" (Genesis 22:8). So the Church will wait with even greater anticipation for the greater "offspring" to finally come. And we, the entire Church with great anticipation, waited, and waited, and waited. Moses came, but the Church had to wait for a greater prophet like Moses to come. David and Solomon came, but the Church had to wait for a greater Son of David, for God promised David that He would "raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son" (1 Samuel 7:12-13).

And in a few weeks, we will see this Son be born who will set His face toward Jerusalem where He, the Lamb of God, will be a blessing to the nations, for it was on the cross that Christ's heel was bruised as He crushed the serpent's head. After nine months in the womb, just like any other baby, Jesus was born on Christmas so that He could establish His Kingdom with us. The Son of God, begotten of the Father from eternity, has saved us by His grace through Christmas. So we wait with great anticipation to celebrate this great Gospel message once again!

Pastor Jared Rudolph





RightNow Media – Please remember all the resources that are available to you and your family free of charge through RightNow Media! It is a clearinghouse of videos, Bible studies, and podcasts that help you grow in your faith toward God and love for others! If you haven't signed up (and even if you have!) be sure to access this amazing library of Christian material! (Checkout the link in our e-news to sign up!)



E-News – Just a reminder that we continue to publish our e-news and announcements every week. If you haven't signed up to receive e-news through your email, please email Pastor Teeple and he will get you signed up! If you did sign up and haven't seen it, please double check your SPAM folder; it is an email that comes from the secretary's email address: secretary@plcms.org



Church Text Messages & Email App

To sign up for church text messages:

Send a text to the number **81010**.

In the message type “@peacefrem”.

You will receive a text asking for your name.

Respond with your first and last name.

You will receive text messages from Pastor

Teeple regarding church updates.

If you have already signed up, you do not need to sign up again.



Church Contact Information

WEBSITE — www.plcms.org

EMAIL ADDRESSES — at church:

Pastor Jeff Teeple – PastorT@plcms.org

Pastor Jared Rudolph - PastorRudolph@plcms.org

Sara Miller – Director@weecreations.org

Kristin McGee – Admin@plcms.org

Jodie Church – JChurch@plcms.org

Emily Disbro – Secretary@plcms.org

Amber Vonderau – Amber@plcms.org

Hope Korte – ComfortDog@plcms.org

CHURCH PHONE NUMBER — 260-495-4306

OFFICE EXTENSIONS:

Secretary- 301

Pastor Jeff Teeple- 302

Pastor Jared Rudolph- 303

Kristin McGee- 304

Wee Creations Office- 305

Church Service Hours- 321

Advent and Christmas Worship

Advent Seasonal Concert

December 4
6:30pm

Christmas Eve Worship

5:00pm Family Worship
8:00pm Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

Midweek Advent Vespers

December 11 and 18
6:30pm

Sunday Morning Combined Worship

December 29
9:00am

Wee Creations Christmas Program

December 12
10:00am

New Year's Eve Worship

December 31
6:30pm with Holy Communion

Sunday School Youth Christmas Program

December 22
10:30am

Epiphany

January 5
8:00am & 10:30am

Regular Sunday Worship in Advent

December 1, 8, 15, 22
8:00am & 10:30am

No Monday Evening Worship

December 2, 9, 16, 23, or 30



END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like a contribution to be included in your 2024 giving statement, please ensure the contribution is dated and received by the church by December 31, 2024. Unfortunately, contributions received after this date will be on next year's statement.

If you need to make a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from an IRA or retirement plan, your RMD can be given as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to Peace Lutheran Church and will not be taxable to you.

SOMETHING NEW:

We can now accept gifts of publicly traded investments into our Raymond James account. Please contact Kristin McGee for account details if this is of interest to you.



**Shake Up Your
Holiday Tradition**
Give Blood

BLOOD DRIVE

****Note: time change****

Peace Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall

355 E State Rd 120 Fremont

December 4, 2024

9:00am-1:00pm

For an appointment, please visit

RedCrossBlood.org

or call 1-800-RED-CROSS


**Family
Promise**

Peace will be providing evening meals for the Family Promise guests in January, 2025. Please watch for sign-up sheets at the Information Desk in the East Lobby.

thank you!

"I want to thank everyone who came Sunday (October 27). I appreciate the many positive comments, the hugs, cards and gifts. Special thanks to Pastor Teeple and all who helped. Love you all and may God continue His blessings on our church."

-Pastor Don Wunrow


FOOD & CLOTHING CO-OP

The Food Co-Op at Concordia Theological Seminary is open to all seminary students and their families. Food and household items are available to these families at no charge. Students

volunteer service time for the privilege of shopping. The Food Co-Op is set up like a small grocery store.

This month's donation wish list items include paper products such as:

- paper plates
- paper napkins
- plastic silverware



Advent Seasonal Concert
Old Crown Brass Band
Wednesday, December 4
6:30pm
Peace Lutheran Church Sanctuary
Fremont, IN



Back by popular demand!

The Old Crown Brass Band will be performing here at Peace. Please join us for this evening of live music in anticipation of the Advent season. The concert, formerly "Advent by Candlelight," will be followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Christmas Cookie Exchange



On Wednesday, December 4 at 7:15pm will be a Christmas cookie exchange. All are welcome to participate! Sign-up sheet is available on the information Desk in the East Lobby.

Event will take place immediately following our Advent Seasonal Concert (formerly "Advent By Candlelight"), in our small conference room.

As the event approaches, we will let you know approximately how many cookies to bring for sharing. Please bring an empty container to fill with the cookies you are taking home. Store-bought or homemade cookies are both acceptable.

If you wish to share your cookie recipe, please have it turned into the church office by November 27. Stop in the church office with any questions.

Ladies' Christmas Tea



Come away for a special evening of fellowship, reflection, and sharing with sisters in faith! On Sunday, December 8, at 3:00pm, the Peace Ladies will gather in our Fellowship Hall for a Christmas Tea.

The event will feature a guest speaker, devotion, and a light-hearted rendition of the 12 Days of Christmas. Table service will be provided this year. Sign-up sheet is available on the information desk in the East Lobby. See Mary Anne Hibbard with any questions.



DOVE Tales

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above.

-James 1:17 ESV

Happy Advent!

I'm so excited! God has blessed us immeasurably, especially with the gift of Christ. I've been receiving and giving powerful gifts all year, sharing God's peace and being loved by even more friends.

Recently a grandma at Cameron told us her grandchild carries my card everywhere. A lady I saw in the hospital last year just saw me again and said she was happy I visited her before she went home. A physician was glad to see me in action because she believes in our ministry.

Were you at our Open House? I didn't get to have any cookies – not even a crumb – yet the cuddles and love were wonderful! Did you see my friend Delaney Rose McGee? She's now our team's Social Media Coordinator. Follow my Facebook account to see what I'm up to, like visiting little ones at Pleasant Lake Montessori. Just when I wondered who cared about my page a woman shared, "I'm so grateful for all the Comfort Dogs. They've truly helped me get through an exceptionally difficult year. I can't put into words the countless smiles brought to my face and encouraging posts shared at just the time I needed them. Thank you for everything you do. I don't know if you realize the extent of your reach even when you're not seeing people in person."

Hear about my last visit to Ryan Park Elementary? There was a fire drill. The alarm was too loud for my ears but I sure enjoyed the extra ten minutes outdoors with friends!

Our Comfort Dog Team had another huge surprise, a gift that reminded us how important this ministry is to our community and to God. Hendry Park Elementary wanted to help US!!! The students raised \$400 on their own for our work. They said, "We love our time with Dove." Thank You, Lord, for this gift of love and encouragement! Just like Jesus' presence is the present, our presence is a gift.

Merry Christmas, Friends! I'll see you at church! Be the present!!!

Love,

Dove

PS: To join our Comfort Dog team, contact Hope Korte at comfortdog@plms.org or talk to Pastor Teeple.







Peace Lutheran Church Stephen Ministry



COME!

*An Advent/Christmas Message
from Peace Stephen Ministry Team*

“Come, now is the time to worship!” is the title of a praise song that we sometimes use as we gather for worship any given weekend. “Come!” is the operative word as we gather in His name this Advent and Christmas season. Along with our weekend schedule, we have special Wednesday evening Advent services to prepare us for the coming of the Christ-child. And we have a member written and driven Book of Devotions filled with Christmas memories and encouragement to share the gift of Jesus with those around us. Such a joyful season!

But to some this is a challenging time as they traverse this month with heavy hearts because of the loss of a loved one, loss of a job or position, depression and more. We ask that you include these folks in your prayers and give encouragement to those who are dealing with difficult situations in their lives. Take a step forward in joining your brothers and sisters in Christ through these services, devotional readings and the blessing of fellowship. It is a promise of God that where people gather in His name, He is with us. He is indeed “Emmanuel!”

We pray that all who worship and celebrate the coming and birth of the Christ-child be strengthened in faith, peace and joy – all gifts from our loving God.

A blessed Advent and Christmas to all!

CHRIST CENTERED

CARE, COMFORT, & HOPE

LOOKUP CONFERENCE

FAITH & MENTAL HEALTH



Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
Fort Wayne, IN

8:30 am to 4:30 pm

REGISTRATION STARTS

JANUARY 6, 2025

\$35 PER TICKET

THE **Lutheran**
Foundation

Save the Date for the 2025 LookUp Conference!

Join pastors, church workers, and laypeople who are working to integrate faith and mental health in the Lutheran and broader faith community. This one-day event will provide practical ideas in providing care, comfort, and support for people in their congregation and ministry settings.

Registration opens January 6, 2025.

Visit www.lookupconference.com for more information.

Peace Youth

NEWS

Youth Christmas Program

Our youth will be sharing their Christmas message on December 22nd at the 10:30 service.

We practice the songs during the Sunday School hour and I will be sending home a playlist for your child to hear and learn the words at home. Students who want to will have a short speaking part as well.

Additional practice times are being sent home with the kids. If you can make those times, it would be greatly appreciated. If you cannot, we can be flexible. Please let Amber know if your child wants to participate!

Upcoming Dates:

Dec. 8

Need 3 youth to serve at the 10:30 service

Dec. 15 @ 9:15AM

Jesus' Birthday Party at for Pre-K and elementary ages

Dec. 22 10:30 A.M.

Youth Christmas Program all ages

National Youth Gathering

New Orleans...Here We Come!

We currently have 12 people registered to attend the LCMS National Youth Gathering. This every three-year event hosts nearly 20,000 teenagers from the LCMS churches from across the country.

While there, we will listen to speakers, dig into issues our teens are facing today, attend Bible studies and Christian concerts, and serve together with the English District congregations in the community. It is truly a faith-building week for our kids.

In January we will be hosting an envelope fundraiser. We thank you in advance for your support in helping our youth grow in their faith through this experience.



Packing OCC Shoeboxes



WEE CREATIONS



Thanksgiving

What a great day!

On Thursday, November 21, Wee Creation students and staff had a Thanksgiving party! We made crafts, ate turkey, and celebrated all our blessings. There was so much to be thankful for!

Upcoming Events

- Thanksgiving Break
 - Nov 27-29
- Christmas Program
 - Dec 12 at 10:00am
- Christmas Break
 - Dec 23-Jan 1



Thankful feathers: Staff wrote thank-you notes to each other and shared them in a festive way.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

*made
easy!*



**ARE YOU IN SEARCH OF THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PRESENT
FOR THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE?**

Look no further than gift cards purchased from Wee Creations!

You may purchase gift cards in amounts from **\$5 up to \$1000** from hundreds of participating retailers! Please use the “**Family Order Form**” located on the information desk or by the mailboxes. Place completed orders and payment in the “Wee Creations” mailbox in the staff office workroom.

Orders will be placed as they are received in December. Be sure to order no later than December 15th to ensure delivery by Christmas.

Email Sara Miller for more details: Director@weecreations.org





As a Church we packed 67 boxes!
Wee Creations packed 20 boxes!



THANK
YOU

Thank you to everyone that participated in Operation Christmas Child. An extra-special THANK YOU to the Baas family for organizing and managing this very important ministry!

december

BIRTHDAYS

- 12/1** Leslie Carr
Michelle Fincher
Madeline Smith
- 12/3** Ralph Thiele
- 12/6** Cinda Gerbers
- 12/8** Jennifer James
Wendy Yahne
- 12/9** Mel Hathaway
Kelly Honer
- 12/12** Richard Lehman
- 12/13** Sharon Whalen
- 12/15** Saundra von Seggern
- 12/16** Allie Smith
- 12/17** Brian Freeman
- 12/19** Erin Ross
Bennett Johnson
- 12/20** Linda Lake
Kelly Shelburne
- 12/21** Ellen Luepke
Lana Jackemeyer
- 12/24** Tom Crabill
- 12/25** Karen Oberst
- 12/26** Judy Schuller
- 12/29** Katie Burgoon
Chris Goeglein

ANNIVERSARIES

- 12/1/1979** Rob & Joy Ross
- 12/15/1990** Pat & Sandy Brewbaker
- 12/16/2006** Doug & Amy McNamara
- 12/19/1987** Steve & Kelly Kobelak
- 12/28/1980** Dave & Audrey McDowell
- 12/30/1967** Dick & Karen Spake
- 12/31/1994** Ron & Kim Hogan

ALTAR FLOWERS

- 12/1/24** Elaine Elsner
- 12/8/24** Mary Anne Hibbard
- 12/15/24** Jerry and Linda Lake
- 12/22/24** George and Anne Griffith
- 12/29/24** Gary and Paula Huguenard



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>8am - Worship 9:15am - BC/SS 10:30am - Worship/HC</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10am - Women's Study- 5:30pm - Scouts</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10am - WCM Chapel 5:30pm - Upward Sports</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9am - Red Cross Blood Drive 9:30am - Sewing Sisters 10am - Online Bible Study 12:30pm - "A Walk Through the 1pm - Conference Rm-Reserved 6:30pm - Advent Seasonal 7:15pm - Cookie Exchange</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study 5:30pm - Upward Sports</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Pastors' Day Off 1pm - Conference Rm-Reserved</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Gym Reserved</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8am - Worship/HC 9:15am - BC/SS 10:30am - Worship 3pm - Christmas Tea</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10am - Women's Study- 5:30pm - Scouts</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10am - WCM Chapel 5:30pm - Upward Sports 6:30pm - BOD Mtg.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30am - Sewing Sisters 10am - Online Bible Study 5pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Gym Reserved Special 6:30pm - Advent Worship 7:15pm - Adult Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study 10am - WCM Christmas Program 5:30pm - Upward Sports</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pastors' Day Off 10am - SM Superv. Conference</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11am - Gym Reserved</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Newletter Deadline 8am - Worship 9:15am - BC/SS 10:30am - Worship/HC</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10am - Women's Study- 12:30pm - Elders' Mtg 5:45pm - Scouts-Gym, Dinner</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10am - WCM Chapel 5:30pm - Upward Sports 6pm - CD Mtg-Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30am - Sewing Sisters 10am - Online Bible Study 12:30pm - "A Walk Through the 5pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Gym Reserved Special 6:30pm - Advent Worship 7:15pm - Adult Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study 5:30pm - Upward Sports</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pastors' Day Off</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8am - Worship/HC 9:15am - BC/SS 10:30am - Worship 10:30am - Youth Christmas</p>	<p>23</p> <p>WCM Closed 10am - Women's Study-</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Church Office Closed 5pm - Family Worship 8pm - Candlelight/HC Worship</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Church Office Closed 5:30pm - Gym Reserved Special</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Pastors' Day Off</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>WCM Closed 9am - Combined Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30pm - No Worship</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Church Office Closed 6:30pm - NYE Worship/HC</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>