December 2024 Vol. CXVII No. 12



Your monthly news & updates

Moore thoughts . . . Pastor Kirk's Ponderings –

People



O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence-- Isaiah 64:1

It has been a year filled with violence, anger, blame, stress, uncertainty, questions, and fear. Do you wish God would just tear open the heavens, come down, and fix everything?

Are the violence, anger, blame, stress, uncertainty, questions, and fear related to what's happening in the world? In the United States? In Illinois? In Palos Park and the

surrounding area? Right here at PMC? At home?

The answer may be yes to all of the above. And now we're in Advent and getting ready to celebrate the arrival of the Christ child.

Mary lived in a time when violence, anger, blame, stress, uncertainty, questions, and fear surrounded her. And she felt a wide range of emotions. Getting ready for Jesus' birth, taking a long journey while almost ready to deliver, and then leaving with a young child as a refugee family fleeing for their

lives had to make having hope something that seemed impossible.

Yet in all of that there was hope. It was and continues to be hope for renewal and reconciliation.

And here today there is hope. And there continues to be hope for renewal and reconciliation.

How much hope are we willing to have? How positive can we, in the midst of all of it, get?

Join with us in hope together during Advent at PMC

- December 1 1st Sunday of Advent Hanging of the Greens during the service 9:30 am
- December 7 Christ Mash Christmas coffee house concert Narthex 7 pm
- December 8 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:30 am
- December 13 Wine Bottle Painting (21+) 7 pm
- December 14 Breakfast With Santa 8:30 11:30 am
- December 15 3rd Sunday of Advent Christmas Pageant 9:30 am
- December 15 Caroling at Peace Village 2 pm (meet at PMC at 1:30 pm)
- December 17 Blue Christmas Service 7 pm
- December 22 4th Sunday of Advent 9:30 am
- December 24 Christmas Eve Services 4 and 11 pm. Strings at 10:30 pm

During this Advent season, let's continue to love out God's vision. Let's prepare to celebrate that God is with us and with all of God's children – no matter what.

of Hope

Pastor Kirk

PMC Report

Diane Oremovich

Happy Holidays to all! I always look forward to this season of the year, with all of the holiday events, and seeing the church decorated at its Christmas finest.

What a great Thanksgiving dinner event we had! It was fun to sample all of the favorite side dishes and desserts everyone brought to share, along with the turkey and gravy we bought from Gaston's Bistro, in Orland Park. This was the first year since the onset of COVID that our Thanksgiving dinner was completely "potluck."

As we move into the Christmas season, there are several events I'd like to highlight. The Giving Tree mission served as the kickoff. When I checked the tree last Sunday, I found that all of the tags had been taken and the gifts had begun to arrive. Thank you to the Mission Committee for taking the lead on this mission as well as the ongoing Annual Food Drive.

This year's Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, December 1st, will blend

some of our old traditions with some new twists. We will begin decorating during the worship service, and hope to have everyone involved while we sing, and enjoy Christmas carols.

Zion Hall has been decorated as a Christmas Wonderland in advance of the annual Breakfast with Santa and Bakesale on Saturday, December 14th. The children's Christmas Pageant will take place during the worship service on Sunday, December 15th. The Peace Kids are hard at work, learning their parts.

Please refer to the rest of this month's Messenger for more details on all of these and other events happening during the month of December.

Just as a reminder, there will be a Congregational meeting on Sunday, December 8th, following the worship service. We will be asking for approval of the 2025 proposed budget, the new Vision Statement, and will be presenting two candidates for election as Trustees.

We have asked our committees to come up with ideas to help grow our church. Over the last year, we have been existing on a deficit budget. This is not sustainable! We need to work on investing in our growth. The Trustees continue to work on events that we hope will bring new members to our church. We need to get the word out about our church and our many programs. Please reach out to your family, friends, and neighbors and invite them to participate.

Congregational Meeting December 8, 2024



These are the selections of the nominating committee to be approved by the congregation at

the congregational meeting on December 8th. Also, up for approval will be the 2025 budget, and to adopt our new Vision Statement.

Trustee Officers For the open trustee positions – Theresa Graben and Jo Kujawa

Weekly Service Attendance

November 3 (Communion Sunday) All Saints Sunday 9:30 am - 84

November 10 (Veteran's Day) 9:30 am - 72

November 17 9:30 am - 79

November 24 9:30 am - 91 (Thanksgiving Dinner)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Holly Jones

Meet Abby



Abby is 7! She likes to swim and play with her friends ! Her favorite food is candy! Her favorite color is hot pink! She has a dog that acts crazy named Bear !

Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?

My Build a Bear Snowflake What do you want to be when you grow up? A teacher or a vet

What do you like most about Sunday School? my friends!

Do you have a favorite song we sing in church?

not really

What makes you happiest? EVERYTHING! Why do you like Peace Memorial?

because my friends come here!

The merriment of December is upon us! I'd like to be the first to wish you a Merry Christmas...more specifically, a Holly Jolly Christmas! Everything is twinkly and sparkly and festooned in red and green, our calendars are filled with parties, pancakes and presents! There is magic and wonder abound, and I truly believe a lot of that magic comes from our magnificent Peace Kids! The annual pancake breakfast with Santa is scheduled for Saturday, December 14th and after your delicious pancakes and photos with Santa, we invite everyone to join us for another round of adorable crafts! (Rumor has it some of our pancake artists even make special shaped pancakes for our kids!)

Keep your calendar open Sunday December 15th as well! Our children will, once again, be putting on a very special Christmas program during the service! The kids have been working very hard and we are all very eager to see this year's magic come to life! The afternoon of the 15th we will head to the Village as we spread even more Christmas cheer "by singing loud for all to hear". Pastor Kirk and the Peace Kids will be caroling at 2:00pm!



Speaking of singing, it makes my heart sing to think of everything we accomplished this year! This entire year has been a year full of magic and wonder, and not just specific to the Christmas season. We hosted a very successful trip to Australia (AKA Youth Center/Pavilion) during Vacation Bible School, made countless crafts and memories, and saw our children shining bright not only in the sanctuary, but in the community as well. We visited women's shelters and animal shelters, we raised money for the CROP Walk to help fight hunger in our own area, and hosted another award winning Trunk or Treat! Our kids continue to be engaged and compassionate, spreading God's love wherever they go. May this season of love and beauty be reflected in your hearts, just like Sunday mornings with our group.

Merry Christmas from all of us!

-The Board of Christian Education



Looking ahead for even more events:

December 1st – Orland Park Christmas Parade December 14th – Breakfast with Santa December 15th –Christmas Pageant

Mission Committee



Our Annual Food Drive will continue until December 15th. As you grocery shop, please consider purchasing items that you enjoy for your own holiday meal. Please ensure that all donated items have future expiration dates.



The Giving Tree & Blessing Bucket

Thank you to everyone that has taken a gift tag for the families in School District #91. We will now be filling the tree with hats, gloves, and scarves Please have all your gifts and your hats, gloves, and scarves back by

December 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Cornyn at 815-838-6774. Thank you

Fellowship Amanda Ambrose

On behalf of the Fellowship Committee, thank you to all who attended the revival of PMC's Thanksgiving Potluck! Including all the volunteers who helped with set-up, serving, and cleanup. It brought so much joy to see everyone gathered together, smiling, laughing, and enjoying each other's family recipes - hot dishes, cold dishes, desserts, OH My! If you enjoyed the Turkey and gravy, be sure to stop by Gaston's Bistro in Orland Park and let them know! Cheers to our next successful event!











ALL CHURCH NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS



We have an opportunity for someone interested in working in-office 8-12 hours per week as Bookkeeper for PMC. Knowledge of MS Excel and any Accounting software is needed. If interested, please reach out to Diane Oremovich or Dave Cornyn.



Christmas Poinsettias and Memorials

Forms are on the table in the narthex. Please include payment when turning in the form.

Orders for the poinsettias are due by Sunday, December 15th. Memorials are due by Wednesday, December 18th.

Peace Pickleball Coming Soon!!



When the new floor in Zion Hall was installed, it was striped not only for basketball but also for PICKLEBALL! Pickleball has become very popular, and we are sure there are members and friends who either play or would like to learn. The time has come, Pickleball is coming to PMC! Nets are on order and will

arrive soon! Anyone interested in learning or playing pickleball please contact Alan/Cindy White or Ruth Van Hecke to help launch Peace Pickleball! Together we can decide on the next steps including days and times to play and learn together!



We are looking for baked goods for Breakfast with Santa Bake Sale. Please drop off your donations on Friday, December 13th between 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. or Saturday, December 14th morning.





AND WINE TASTING EVENT AGE 21+ ONLY

JOIN US AT PEACE MEMORIAL CHURCH ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH AT 7PM FOR HOLIDAY BOTTLE PAINTING





BOTTLE PAINTING INCLUDES WINE BOTTLE, PAINT, BRUSHES AND INSTRUCTION.



WINE TASTING INCLUDES: 4 TASTINGS OF MICHIGAN WINES SWEET TO DRY

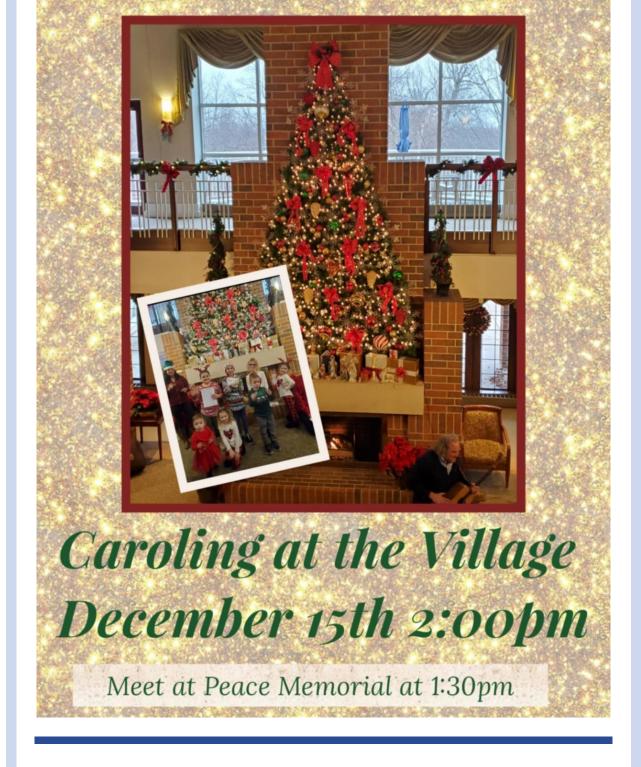


FIND A WINE YOU REALLY LIKE? HAVE A GLASS OR TWO!

> COMPLIMENTARY CHARCUTERIE AND SWEETS!

All proceeds go towards PMC CREW Big Build 2025





BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Peace Memorial Church 10300 W. 131st St Palos Park Tuesday, December 17th 7:00pm

> Peace Memorial Church 708-448-7833 pmcucc.org

During this year's service, we acknowledge our sadness and stress. We come together to know that we are not alone.



December 1 Amanda Ambrose

> December 2 Kyle Lisak Lauren Mann Shayne Stille

December 5

December 10 Jack Cochonour Laura Polzin Bruce Puhr Debra Stille

December 13 Scott Przybylski **December 23** Sharon Kozinski Elaine Schneider

December 24 Mary Lou Skala

December 25 Carol Mozwecz Nancy Polzin

December 6 Robert Nolan

December 7 Marian Klemme

December 8 Sarah Hecker Kenley Kruse

December 9 Larry Overbey December 14 Kirk Moore

December 17 Edward Polzin Jr.

December 19 Jennifer Mack

December 22 William Blaser Eric Przybylski **December 26** Barbara Kollaritsch

> December 27 Sean Nestor Tracey Signore

December 28 Cathy Miller

December 30 David Cornyn

December 31 Carmen Urbauer

DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday S	Saturday
1 9:30 am Communion Worship 10:30 Hanging of the Greens 11:00 am Confirmation	2	3 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental	4 7:00 am Volunteers 7:00 pm CE meeting	5 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm Foundation	6	7 7:00 pm Christmas Music Program/ Sanctuary
8 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Congregational meeting 3:00 pm Zion Hall rental	9	10 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental 7:00 pm Alzheimer's meeting	11 7:00 am Volunteers 10 am B&G 3 PM PADS	12 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 6:30 pm Choir	13 6:30 -10:00pm Bottle Painting/Wine tasting Youth Center	14 8:30 am Breakfast with Santa & Bake Sale 12:00 pm Youth Center rental
15 9:30 am Worship Children's Christmas Pageant 11:00 am Confirmation 2:00 pm Caroling at Peace Village	16	17 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental 7:00 pm Blue Christmas Worship	18 7:00 am Volunteers 7:00 pm Trustee meeting	19 10:00 am CTF Zion Hall 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 6:30 pm Choir	20 MESSENGER ARTICLES DEADLINE	21
22 9:30 am Worship	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:30 am Worship with Pastor Judy	30	31				



Peace Village 10300 Village Circle Drive Palos Park, IL 60464 (708) 361-6091 Roger EllensCEO/Executive Director **Church Office Hours** Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Reverend Kirk Moore Senior Pastor kmoore@pmcucc.org

Samantha Miulli Director of Christian Education smiulli@pmcucc.org

Robert Mohr Director of Music peacememohrial@gmail.com Peace Village Circle Inn (708) 671-2470

Peace Memorial Church 10300 W. 131st Street Palos Park, IL 60464 Phone (708) 448-7833 Fax (708) 448-0824 Thomas R. Osborne Organist mmued@yahoo.com

Mary Anne Bixler Office Manager mbixler@pmcucc.org

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