

# 2021

JANUARY NEWSLETTER OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2020

## Go With the Flow

As Christians, we are often told NOT to “go with the flow.” Haven’t you heard that? Certainly, if what one is talking about, here, is simply going along with the crowd, subscribing to whatever cultural value in vogue, then, of course, to just “go with the flow” can be a bad thing for Christians. This month is “Life Month” for some - including our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. If we were to subscribe to the prevailing culture (since 1973), we would be party to the ungodly abortion industry, for example. A believer strives, instead, to follow the Master’s call to abandon “the things of the world,” as St. John describes them: “For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.” (1 Jn 2:16-17) John adds that this world is passing away, and the lusts thereof, but he who does the will of God abides forever. All this is coming from John, the fisherman

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REMEMBER NOT  
THE FORMER THINGS,  
NOR CONSIDER THE  
THINGS OF OLD.  
BEHOLD, I AM DOING  
A NEW THING...

ISAIAH 43:18-19

## Words of Peace

### January

1/1 Welcome 2021!  
1/6 Epiphany  
1/8 F&FF  
1/15 Confirmation  
1/19 Church Council  
1/30 Sr Hi Snow Day  
1/31 VoterZoom 2pm

### February

2/5 F&FF  
2/9 SuperTuesday  
2/12 Confirmation  
2/16 Council  
2/17 Ash Wednesday  
2/19 Confirmation  
2/24 Soup Supper?

### March

3/3 Soup Supper?  
3/5 F&FF  
3/9 SuperTuesday  
3/10 Soup Supper?  
3/16 Church Council  
3/17 Soup Supper?  
3/24 Soup Supper?

NOW IT SPRINGS  
FORTH, DO YOU  
NOT PERCEIVE IT?  
I WILL MAKE A WAY  
IN THE WILDERNESS  
AND STREAMS IN  
THE WASTELAND.

who did abandon everything: his fishing nets, even his father - right there in the boat - immediately upon hearing Christ's call to come follow Him and become a fisher of men (along with Peter and the other disciples). Our upcoming Gospel lessons in this Epiphany season provide detailed accounts of Jesus calling His first disciples. They, and we, are in for a real Epiphany, indeed! They will come to learn of Him who is light and life: the True Light who is The Way, The Truth and The Life. Wow! What an adventure! With all the profound and even traumatic ups and downs lying ahead of those first disciples, I wonder if they would have knowingly "left their nets immediately and followed him" (Mark 1:18). Maybe if God had revealed ahead of time all the dangers and heartaches in store for both them and their Master, Jesus, there would have been more than a moment's hesitation before they dropped their nets and worldly ties. What do you think? Would you and I have gotten caught in that net?

That's just it. The Master is still calling disciples to follow Him today. He calls you and me. And He doesn't reveal to us, either, all that lies ahead. Who



knew, for example, when we popped the champagne cork last year in a farewell toast to 2019 that the year ahead was so fraught with perils and perplexities? Who could have predicted turbulent 2020? We may not have seen it coming, but we are all certainly greatly relieved to see it go. Even though we are not through it all yet, with the Coronavirus vaccine rolling out we can see



a light at the end of the tunnel. Is there a chance 2021 will see a brief moment of peace on earth? We pray.

Lessons learned? Perhaps, in keeping with the light theme of Epiphany, we can say that the light at the end of this tunnel is just that - this light, and this tunnel. There is still more darkness left in this world. There are still more tunnels to trudge through and more light that will break through. One lesson here is that this whole life is one long series of perilous adventures with its share of traumatic outcomes. But "he who does the will of God abides forever." Christ has overcome the world! What promise amid perils! God's will is that no one should perish but that all come to the knowledge of repentance; God wants everyone to have this Epiphany: Our good and gracious God has revealed - not stock market trends or geo-political shifts of the coming year or decade. Instead, He has revealed to us His Son, our Savior - in history, in Holy Scripture and in His ordained Sacraments - Baptism and the Lord's Supper. If this is the "flow" we are talking about, then this flow is, indeed, worth going with! This month, Lord willing, we will see the living waters of Holy Baptism flow over the forehead of a young disciple (January 10). And the cup of salvation, which finds its source in the font of Jesus' innocent blood shed for the forgiveness of all sins, still flows, here, on Sundays and at home visits. Resolve to go with THAT flow. For it leads ultimately to the River of Life and the True Light who shines on a New Heaven and a New Earth. Amen.

*- Pastor Mike*



Peace youth  
prepare & deliver  
gifts and Christmas  
cheer to beloved  
members



*Thank You!*

Thank you Peace members for your generous donations of socks and gloves for the homeless. A Thrivent Action Team also donated \$250 toward this project. By making our purchases on Cyber Monday, we were able to stretch these dollars even further. We delivered the items to the Sheriff department to be given to Project Hope which works with the homeless in Camarillo. They were very happy and appreciative to receive these donations. We filled the extra-large gray tote full with your donations, we were concerned we wouldn't be able to get the lid closed! The Evangelism committee is very thankful for your generosity.

**TOY DRIVE SUCCESS !**

Social Concerns thanks everyone who donated toys to the Happy Birthday Mason, 6th annual toy drive. We partnered with our preschool and were among 5 other collection sites in Camarillo. There were enough toys collected for all of the foster children 14 years and under in our county to receive a gift for Christmas. Thank you again for your generous support!

# Happy Anniversary...

Mike & Lori Schultze 1/10

Jim & Kerry DeVries 1/26

Stuart & Norma Regalia 1/27



## January Birthdays...



Anna Pettit  
1/6

Edith Anderson  
1/7

Derek Oleviler  
1/7

Steve Rusch  
1/7

Nicholas Pettit  
1/10

Jim Pederson  
1/10

Livia Lourenso  
1/11

Dan Harden  
1/12

Eunice Harter  
1/13

Camille Farrell  
1/16

Bill Ullerick  
1/19

Al Fox  
1/20

Shane Muller  
1/23

Matthieu Ullerick  
1/24

Clint Harding  
1/25

Tim Force  
1/30

Jim DeVries  
1/31

Dale Sieber  
1/31



**“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)**  
This verse not only tells of the very first Christmas present ever given, the gift of Jesus, but also assures us of God’s love, where Jesus came from, and God’s purpose in sending Him. Considering God’s priceless present to the world, the holiday season is the perfect time to share with family, friends, and those around us, five ways God’s Christmas gift keeps on giving:

**The Gift of Love - Love does not exist outside of God. He is the only source of love because God is love (1 John 4:16). 1 John 4:19 states that God first loved each one of us. Before any of us were able to love Him, He loved us. John 3:16 assures us that in the history of the world no one has ever been unloved by God.**

**The Gift of Purity - Titus 3:4-5 describes how “the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared” for the washing away of sin. As 1 John 4:10 states “He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” No matter what sin has been committed, God is willing to forgive and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Through God’s Christmas gift, sin is washed away, and we are made pure in His sight.**

**The Gift of Salvation - Matthew 1:21 tells the story of an angel coming to Joseph stating “She [Mary] will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” Salvation is good and pleases God “who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:3,4). As Romans 10:13 asserts “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”**

**The Gift of Living in Love - God’s gift enables us to love one another. 1 Thessalonians 4:9 states through God’s example of loving us, we are taught how to love each other. God urges us to “Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves” (Romans 12:10). We can know and rely on the love God has for us, and when we live in love, we are living in God and God in us (1 John 4:16).**

**The Gift of Life - God’s gift brings new life, causing the old things to pass away (2 Corinthians 5:17). Colossians 1:27 tells us of “the glorious riches of this mystery,” which is Christ living within us. God’s gift of life comes with eternal benefits as promised in 1 John 2:25 “And this is what He promised us—eternal life.” His glorious Christmas gift to the world has eternal benefits to all who receive Jesus. As is written in 1 John 5:11, “God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.”**

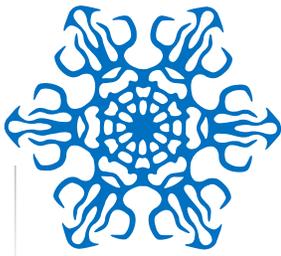
**While Christmas is now past, we would do well to remember these truths and share them all year long.**

**Peace in Christ,**

**Your Elders**

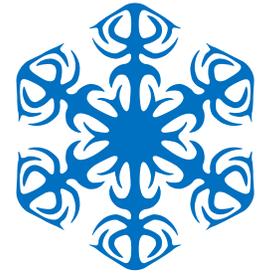
# Holidays at Peace





# January

## 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Happy New Year!</b>					1	2
<b>3</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service Outside <b>1:30 PM</b> New Life Christian Fellowship	4	<b>5</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Men's Bible Study (Zoom) <b>10am</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>6</b> <b>Epiphany</b> <b>10am</b> LifeLight Bible Study (Zoom) <b>6pm</b> Sr Hi Bible Study	7	<b>8</b> <b>6pm</b> Faith & Fun Friday	9
<b>10</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service Outside (Baptism) <b>1:30 PM</b> New Life Christian Fellowship	11	<b>12</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Men's Bible Study (Zoom) <b>10am</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>13</b> <b>10am</b> LifeLight Bible Study (Zoom) <b>6pm</b> Sr Hi Bible Study	14	<b>15</b> <b>6pm</b> Confirmation	16
<b>17</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service Outside <b>1:30 PM</b> New Life Christian Fellowship	18	<b>19</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Men's Bible Study (Zoom) <b>10am</b> Women's Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Council	<b>20</b> <b>10am</b> LifeLight Bible Study (Zoom) <b>6pm</b> Sr Hi Bible Study	21	<b>22</b> <b>6pm</b> Confirmation	23
<b>24</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service Outside <b>1:30 PM</b> New Life Christian Fellowship	25	<b>26</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Men's Bible Study (Zoom) <b>10am</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>27</b> <b>10am</b> LifeLight Bible Study (Zoom) <b>6pm</b> Sr Hi Bible Study	28	<b>29</b> <b>6pm</b> Confirmation	<b>30</b> <b>7am</b> Sr High Snow Day
<b>31</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Traditional Service Outside <b>1:30 PM</b> New Life Christian Fellowship <b>2pm</b> Voters Zoom meeting	1	<b>2</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Men's Bible Study (Zoom) <b>10am</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>3</b> <b>10am</b> LifeLight Bible Study (Zoom) <b>6pm</b> Sr Hi Bible Study	4	<b>5</b> <b>6pm</b> Faith & Fun Friday	<b>6</b> 