Peace Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
www.peacelutheranhastings.org

906 N. California Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901-4079

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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HASTINGS, NE 68901

NOTEWORTHY DATES

Dec.1	6:00p Men's Steak Night
Dec. 3	12:00p Advent Worship 5:15p Meal-Church Council 6p Classes/Choir 7p Advent Worship 7:45p Senior Youth
Dec. 6	9a-11a St. Nicholas Breakfast 12:00p.m. Christmas Tea and Cookie Exchange
Dec. 7	9:00a Divine Service 10:30a Sunday School & Bible Study 11:45a Bilingual Divine Service 12:00p Noon Ladies Christmas Luncheon
Dec. 9	9a Prayer Service 9:30a Bible Study also 12/9,12/16 6:00p Committees 7:00p Boards 8:00p Church Council
Dec. 10	11a Senior Bible/Lunch 12:00p Advent Worship 5:15p Meal –Youth 6:00p Classes/Choir 7:00p Advent Worship 7:45p Senior Youth
Dec. 14	9:00a Divine Service 10:30a Sunday School & Bible Study 11:45a Bilingual Divine Service 3:30p Meet to go Caroling & later eat Chili
Dec. 17	12:00p Advent Worship 5:15p Meal-LWML 6:00p Classes/Choir 7:00p Advent Worship 7:45p Senior Youth
Dec. 21	9:00a Divine Service 10:30am Children's Christmas Program 11:45am Bilingual Divine Service
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 11:00pm Divine Service
Dec. 25	10:30am Christmas Day Divine Service
Dec. 31	6:00pm New Year's Eve Service 6:45p Fellowship Hall for Games

Lamplighter

"But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin." 1 John 1:7 ESV

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH – HASTINGS, NE DECEMBER 2014

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7. Bus Event, Ladies Night, Thanks
8. Calendar Dates

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:30a-12:00p
1:00p-4:30p
Secretary:
Jeri Dush

Pastors:
Marcus J. Mackay
Benjamin R. Siebert

(402) 462-9023

The Coming of Christ & Caring for His Church

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). God became man; he took on human flesh, so that men would once again dwell with God. In the fullness of time, the Son of God from eternity became a part of history to be born under the law in order to redeem those under the law. Christ came from heaven above to earth below for us men and for our salvation. He who knew no sin became sin so that we would be declared righteous in God's sight. He was defiled so that we would be cleansed. He was born so that we would not die, and He died for us so that we would live in Him. He took upon Himself everything that rightfully belongs to us—sin and death—and in exchange gave to us everything that rightfully belongs to Him—righteousness, life, and the status as the sons of God.

This is what we celebrate in Advent and at Christmas. We celebrate the coming of our Lord to save us from sin, death, and hell. We celebrate that God in Christ cared for us in body and soul, for He came not only to reconcile us to the Father by taking away our sin, but also to redeem us from death and hell so that we would live with Him in His kingdom, which has no end.

In a sermon on Acts 6 for St. Stephen's Day, preached on December 26, 1522, Martin Luther said this: "From this story we learn in the first place how a Christian community should be constituted. In addition, we have a true pattern of spiritual government that the apostles here provide. They care for souls, occupy themselves with preaching and prayer, and yet also see to it that the body is cared for; for they suggest several men who are to distribute the goods, as you have heard. Thus the Christian rule is concerned for the people in body and soul, so that no one suffers want . . . that all were richly fed and well cared for in both body and soul."

And this is one reason we give to the church. We give so that people will see the church not just as a place that cares for souls, that forgives sins, but also a place that cares for the body. For the church is a place of mercy. It is a place where we inhale God's mercy and loving kindness through the Word and the Sacraments for the forgiveness of our sin. And it's a place where we exhale the mercy we received there in love and service to our neighbor. The church cares for both the body and the soul.

(cont on next page)

The church is not so heavenly minded that it forgets those in need on earth. In fact, it cares for the needs of this body and life precisely because it is heavenly minded. We seek to do what God has done for us. The church is so ordered that it does both.

Giving to the church is a responsibility given to those who are the church. This can sometimes be difficult. But it is also a great joy. For in giving to the church we are giving back to God for His use for others what He has first given to us. In giving to the church, we participate in God's work here in time for all eternity. In giving to the church, we who are heavenly minded do what God has done for us: dwell with those who live in a fallen world and care for them in both body and soul. Let us, then, in this most joyous season of the church year, dwell not on the struggles in giving, but rather on the joy set before us in caring for body and soul as God in Christ has done for us.

Jesu Juva *(Latin for: Jesus, help!)*

Article taken from http://www.lcms.org/Document.fdoc?src=lcm&id=3101

Children of All Ages (and adults) are invited to meet the REAL St. Nicholas!

Saturday, December 6th, 9:00 am-11:00 am

4th Annual Breakfast with St. Nicholas

Peace Lutheran Church (Mo Synod)

906 N. California Ave. Hastings, NE 68901

There is no charge for this event, but we kindly ask you to bring nonperishable food items and/or hats & mittens in children's sizes. These will be given to families in need.

Men's Steak Night All men are invited to enjoy steak and fellowship! ***Monday, December 1st at* 6:00pm** (eat around **6:30pm)** $12 p/person We play cards & enjoy bever-

Christmas Abendmusik

Zion Wanda Lutheran Church

4080 S. Wanda Avenue, Juniata, NE

Sunday Dec. 7th at 7:00pm

Peace Lutheran Bus will be running that evening and need a count of people riding the bus, those who will meet here at church to ride and those needing to be picked up. Please call the Church Office 402-462-9023 so the driver may plan his route and time of arrival at the event. Thanks, **Clark Hansel**

November's Ladies' Night was full of fun and fellowship. 18 ladies were in attendance and all enjoyed a hot dog bar along with games and a short devotion by Pastor Siebert. The evening started with a game of "getting to know you" bingo, followed by Eskimo bingo, where each lady went home with a gift or two! Hosts for the evening event were Sandy Nissen and Erica Blakley.
If you are interested in hosting the next ladies' night, please notify any member of the Board of Public Relations. Thank You!!
Erica Blakley, Pictures by Lisa Novak

Thank You

The Stewardship Committee thanks you for your participation in Stewardship Sunday. Merry Christ-Comes. May your hearts be filled with cheer.
Carol Metzger, Stewardship Chairman

Sr. High Youth will meet Wednesdays after the service from around 7:45 to 8:45 for a topical bible study and fellowship. **Pastor Siebert**

Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF)
Jr. (5-8th)
2nd & 4th Sundays
4:30-6:00pm

"They received the Word with eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."
Acts 17:11

PEACE YOUTH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS PARTY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH Preschool – Grade 2 will meet in the Sanctuary from 10:00am until 11:30 am to rehearse for our Christmas Program. Lunch will be served from 11:30a -12:00p.

Christmas Practices for Children Ages 3rd Grade –8th Grade

3rd Grade-8th Grade Students will practice for programs during our Sunday School Openings. Special music groups will be scheduled accordingly see Sharon Witt or Jena Mackay. We Welcome all Students to join us in the Celebration of Jesus Birth with singing voices or by playing special music with their instruments. **Jena Mackay**

Peace Congregation and Guests!

10:30am Dec. 21st, Children's Christmas Program
Dec. 24th, 5:00p and 7:00p Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
Candlelight Divine Service 11:00 pm.
10:30 am Dec. 25th, Christmas Day Divine Service

Stewardship Pledge Cards (pink half sheets) are still being collected for the next couple of weeks if anyone was unable to attend on Stewardship Sunday, November 23rd. Collection box is up by the Altar. Thanks, **Carol Metzger**, Stewardship Chairman

"Full of what?"

Finding the Divine in our Postmodern World

*"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, **full of** grace and truth." John 1:14*

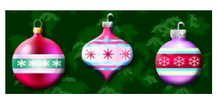
ADVENT MIDWEEK 2014

5:15-6:30pm *Supper* (donation) **6pm** *Classes* **7pm** *WORSHIP*

12/3 Full of Flesh - supper served by Church Council
12/10 Full of Us - supper served by Youth
12/17 Full of Glory - supper served by LWML

At 12:00 p.m., we will have our annual Christmas Tea and Cookie Exchange. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Bring 4 dozen cookies individually packaged to share with others. We will enjoy St. Nicholas soup, sandwiches, and a dessert, then have our cookie exchange!

We are still collecting coats for our coat drive. Please bring donated coats by Wednesday, December 3rd. We will be giving them to various organizations on Saturday, December 6, at 3:00 p.m.
Human Care & Public Relations



The Heartwell Clovers 4-H Club will not meet Thursday, Dec. 4th We are still discussing an alternate meeting date.
Lisa Novak

Welcome Peace Lutheran Members,
Be sure to stop by the Hastings Museum to see all of the wonderfully decorated Christmas trees! Heartwell Clovers 4-H Club and Peace Lutheran Youth have decorated trees again this year for the ***Festival of Trees!***

Choir

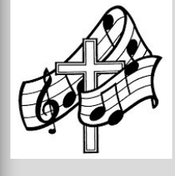
Dec. 7 LWML Christmas Luncheon

Dec. 14 –3:30p meet in the Fellowship Hall leave 4p for Christmas Caroling & on return Chili & Fixins

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 5:00p/7:00p 11:00pm

Dec. 25th Christmas Day sing 10:30a Worship

David Witt
Dr. Phil



Sunday, Dec. 7 at 12 Noon Christmas Luncheon for All Ladies:
Hostesses: Sandy Nissen-402-463-8553 and
Carol Hansel 402-463-0731
Favors and Decorations: Ruth Hagemeier 402-762-3874

Ladies of Peace Christmas Luncheon
Sunday, December 7, 2014 at 12 Noon
Meal catered by Sandy Nissen & Carol Hansel
Cost $8 at the Door
Ingathering paper Products for Crossroads
Entertainment by Peace Lutheran Choir
Installation of 2015 Officers by Pastor Mackay
President: Betty Krueger
President Elect: Diane Gundlach
Treasurer: Carol Hansel
Reservations to Sandy Nissen at 402-463-8553
no later than Wednesday, Dec. 3rd.

Wednesday, Dec. 17-3rd Advent Supper -5:15p serving
-Chicken Noodle Soup & Ham & Bean Soup, Relish, and Desserts
Hostesses: Ruby Carlson and Ruth Albers
December Greeting Cards-Nadeen Debban-402-462-4256
Altar Flowers: Poinsettias-Betty Krueger-402-463-5369

The LWML is arranging for Poinsettia plants to be placed in the chancel for Christmas in memory of or in honor of loved ones. We will be purchasing 20 poinsettia plants this year. Forms are in the Narthex, $8.00 each, checks payable to Peace LWML. Give form and payment to Betty Krueger by Dec.1st or church office or put in Betty's mailbox or mail to
Betty Krueger, 810 Circle P, Hastings, NE 68901. Thanks!

Prayer Chain

+Fane Ruppert + Sharon Venuto + Family of Tim Aukerman + Family of Tom Dill + Sam Allen + Matthias Ahlman + Jeri Beverstock – hospitalized with complications from Crohn's disease (Jena Mackay's sister) + Carol Krueger + Bruce Krueger + June Rose + Carol Krause + Shirley Anderson-cancer + Ruth Ohlsen + Mark Thurin – recovering from knee replacement + Esther Hinze-hospice + Dale Hartman-recovery from liver transplant + Kathy Uhing – hospitalized (sister of Melissa Hart) + Jon Bullard – Army- homeland + Ross Peters – Navy- homeland

Please call the Church Office to be added to the prayer list. Names will be removed as need dictates. Keep us informed!

Five Points Bank	$	13,229	LCEF Church Savings Fund	$	6,148
Memorial Funds	$	14,789	LCEF Endowment Fund	$	55,479

YTD FACT & STATS AS OF NOVEMBER 24, 2014

	Avg. Attendance:	Sunday	143			
		Wednesday	56			
		Total	199			
CURRENT	OFFERINGS	$ 147,162	PROPERTY	OFFERINGS	$	2,872
At 67%	BUDGETED	$ 202,658	At 96%	BUDGETED	$	2,750
MISSION	OFFERINGS	$ 10,049	SPECIAL	OFFERINGS	$	2,057
At 63%	BUDGETED	$ 14,667	At 59%	BUDGETED	$	3,208

Peace Lutheran Church as of November 24, 2014 Financial Summary Reports
These numbers are draft only, No bank statements have been received to record any interest or any unexpected expenses. **Jan Hinze**, Treasurer

Open the Doors of Peace, as of Nov. 24, 2014

Pledged Donations	$120,391
Non-Pledged Donations	$27,514