

LIVING THE STORY OF GOD THIS WEEK

- M 2:00p Open Door: Foundation
6:30p Celebrate Recovery
- T 9:30a Coffee Break: Fellowship Hall; Childcare
2:00p Open Door: Foundation
6:30p Divorce Care: Howard's Office
6:30p Divorce Care for Kids: Gems Room
6:30p GriefShare: Room 6
7:30p Elder Meeting: Council Room
- W 5:30p Midweek @ PS
6:30p Celebrate Recovery Step Study: Howard's Office
7:00p Christmas Choir Rehearsal: Sanctuary
- Th 6:30a Men's Bible Study: Fellowship Hall
2:00p Open Door: Foundation
5:15p HS Youth Group: Foundation
7:00p Congregational Meeting: Sanctuary

WE WARMLY WELCOME — This morning John Vriesema who will preach the Word.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — Next Thursday at 7pm: All members are invited to attend the annual congregational meeting to celebrate the ministries of the church. In addition to the four elders that have accepted their nomination (Mike Anema, Jack Crawford, Mark Hackathorn, and John Vriesema) to fill the four openings we have, three deacons will be selected from those that have accepted their nomination: Michelle Graves, Ruth Haringa, Michael O'Rourke, Keith VandenAkker and Alicia Wierenga. At this meeting we will give an update regarding the Building Restoration/Renovation fundraising campaign as well as the next steps. Treasurer Brett Buma will present the 2019 budget for congregational approval.

CARE — COME ALONGSIDE OTHERS

LET'S PRAY! — For Deb-Herrick Breault who had a grand mal seizure the day after Thanksgiving and is now recovering at home after a few days in the hospital and Fairlawn rehab—please pray for a full memory recovery.

THANK YOU — Words cannot express how thoughtful and caring everyone was to our family during Bill's illness and passing. All the visits, cards, food and comforting wishes were appreciated so much. Our family, church family and friends are special. *Psalm—121:2 my help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth—The La Fleur Family!*

MANY THANKS — I would like to express my gratitude for the many prayers, cards, calls, meals and messages of support for my family while we walked through the time of diagnosis and surgery for my breast cancer. The overwhelming support from our church to my family was very uplifting and comforting. God is good—*Cathy Greene!*

GROW — CULTIVATE YOUR FAITH

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP — Invite your family and friends to join us on Monday, December 24 at 5:00pm. A special offering will be received for the Deacons' Benevolent Fund.

WOMEN'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY — will reconvene on January 7 at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome!

SERVE — CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS & RESOURCES

A SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS — to all of those who were able to help serve over 100 people on Wednesday for the Peace of Bread ministry, your time and labor were much appreciated!

NAC GIFT TAGS — This is the **LAST SUNDAY** to pick up Christmas gift tags, there are 37 Clothing Items remaining, and 26 Toy Items remaining, all of these **MUST BE CLAIMED TODAY!!** All gifts must be returned on Sunday, December 16, before noon, as all gifts will be distributed to families from 12-1pm. Thank you for your generosity this Christmas!

THE FAITH PROMISE COMMITTEE — has received 24 pledges for \$16,500. If you have not submitted a pledge card, please place it in the offering basket this Sunday. More bookmark pledge cards are available in the fellowship hall. Thank you for your generous support of our missionaries.

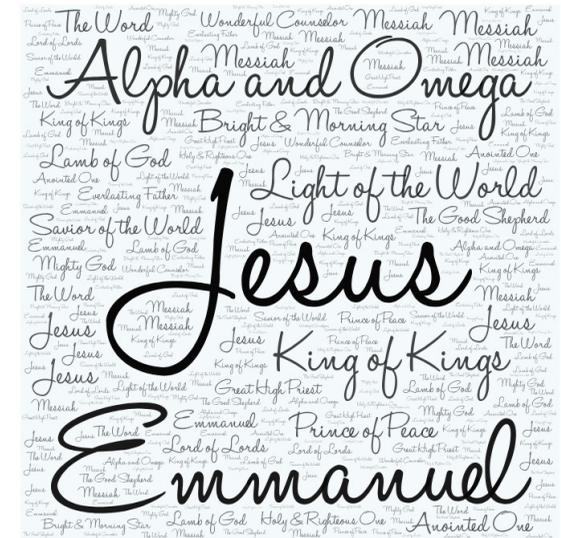
REACH OUT — CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS — Join us next week Sunday, December 16, 5:30pm at Fairlawn CRC for a joint worship gathering led by choral and congregational singing that tells the Story of the birth of our Lord! A free-will offering will be taken for the NAC Food Pantry. Nursery will be available, and refreshments will be served after the service.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS — with a WCS Friends & Family concert at the Valley Chapel on December 14, at 7pm. Admission is free and all are welcome.

psrc.org + 508.234.5268 + Office: 8a-3p Mon-Fri

DECEMBER 9, 2018 + 9:30 am



Welcome! We're so glad that you're here. If you've been worshipping with us for a long time or you're entering the doors of a church for the first time, it is our hope that you'll experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community, and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries. If you're asking questions about faith and spirituality, join us in our formation opportunities and ministry events to learn more and meet others. Help us get to know you or let us know how we can pray for you by filling in the Communication Card in the pew and putting it in the offering basket—we'll be in touch. The Lord be with you!

WORSHIP — Celebrate What God Is Doing

We would love to assist in helping your kids become devoted followers of Christ! Visit the KidStreet check-in station in the foyer to get a security tag so your kids can join us downstairs. If you arrive after the worship service has started and need help checking in, assistance is available at the nursery. The nursery is open to infants-3 year olds. We are downstairs ready to serve you! Our KidStreet Class for PreK-2nd grade is dismissed to go with teachers right before the sermon. Please bring your security tag to pick up your children after the service. We are excited to serve you!

Isaiah prophesied that the child to be born would be the “Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6). God created you and me to live in peace with God, each other, and the rest of his creation. The Lord meant for the foundations of peace – righteousness and justice – to fill God’s whole creation. Isaiah 11 reminds us that while we live in a violent world, God will not rest until peace captures the hearts and minds of all people and nations. God won’t stop making peace until all predators and prey, as well as all enemies, live together in peace. The Baby of Bethlehem is a sign that God will keep his promise to usher in a new creation where peace will reign. – Rev. Doug Bratt

GATHER

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 85:7-13

Show us your unfailing love, O God, our Savior,

and grant us your salvation.

Listen to what the Lord our God says:

He promises peace to his people, who are his beloved saints.

The Lord will indeed give what is good.

Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

May the Lord make his holy face to shine upon us in this time of Advent worship. May we see God’s face and so know peace.

Amen.

SONG: *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

Candle Lighting

The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end. It is a symbol of God’s unending love and faithfulness.

The prophet Isaiah said, “The Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

Isaiah continues: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called... Prince of Peace.

We light these candles as a sign of our waiting and hope for the coming Christ.

Thanks be to God!

SONG: *Savior of the Nations, Come*

Prayer of Confession

It is Advent. It is the season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to you the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives.

God of peace, hear our prayer.

The rushing and scurrying to get things done,

we confess to you, O God of peace.

The worry about the little details,

we confess to you, O God of peace.

The financial burdens we put on ourselves,

we confess to you, O God of peace.

The impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another,

we confess to you, O God of peace.

The bickering and quarreling we get into because we are too busy,

we confess to you, O God of peace.

Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of the year, your peace is always there for us.

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When we feel overwhelmed,

instill within us your peace, O God.

When we are filled with worry,

instill within us your peace, O God.

When we become irritable,

instill within us your peace, O God.

When the guilt of our ways threatens to overcome us, help us to remember that we are forgiven in Christ.

Instill within us your peace, O God.

Instill within us your peace and help us to make choices that bring us closer to you. Help us to be more peaceful so that we may spread Christ’s peace and love to others.

Amen.

Silent Confession

SONG: *Prince of Peace*

Words of Encouragement—based on Isaiah 40:1-2

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Your sins are pardoned. The penalty is paid.

This is the good news.

Thanks be to God!

SONG: *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

KIDSTREET Dismissal — Children Pre-K to 2nd Grade

WORD

Morning Prayers

Isaiah 9:1-7 + ‘The Prince of Peace’

COMMIT

ECHO Dismissal — Children 3rd — 5th Grade

Offerings: *Pleasant Street Ministries*

SONG: *Dona Nobis Pacem*

SEND

Benediction—based on 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

May the Prince of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Amen.

SONG: *Midnight Clear (Love Song)*

Dismissal

Let us go forth in peace to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!