

The LCOP NEWSLETTER



Lutheran Church of Peace Platteville, WI

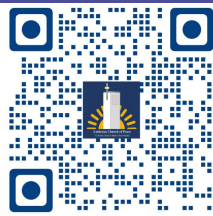
December
2025



Office Hours
Tuesday-Thursday
8 AM-3 PM

LCOP Worship Services
Saturday Evening at 6:00
Sunday Morning at 9:00

"To Know Christ and Make Christ known"



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PEACE LIFE GROUPS

Adult Classes

- ♦ Adult Sunday School-Sundays, 10:25 AM in the Fellowship Hall
Contact Person Tim Zauche 608-330-3001, zauchet@yahoo.com
- ♦ Men's Fireside Chat- Third Thursday, 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall/Firepit
Contact Person, Tom Nall 608-778-7534, tomnallplatt@gmail.com
- ♦ Women of Peace-Tuesdays, 6:30 PM in the Adult Library
Contact Person, Emily Fredrickson 360-320-2300, emfred83@gmail.com
- ♦ Women's Circle-First Wednesday of the month, 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall-(Not in the summer) Contact Person, Sara Klinge: 608-778-7828, sarajklinge@gmail.com
- ♦ Tuesday Morning Quilters- First and third Tuesday of the month, 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall-Contact Person, Lois Radloff: 608-330-3334, lois.radloff45@gmail.com

Youth Classes September-May

- ♦ Children's Sunday School-Sundays 10:15 AM in the upstairs classrooms
- ♦ Confirmation Class (grades 6-8)-Wednesdays 6:30 PM

Committee Meetings

- ♦ Buildings & Grounds- Fourth Wednesday of the month at 5:15 PM in the Adult Library
- ♦ Council- Second Sunday of the month at 10:20 AM in the Adult Library
- ♦ Evangelism- Third Wednesday of the month at 4 PM in the Adult Library
- ♦ Finance- First Tuesday of the month, before council at 5:15 PM in the Adult Library
- ♦ Worship & Music-As needed in the Fellowship Hall
- ♦ Youth & Family- Second Tuesday at 6 PM in the Youth Library

Prayers

For those with Health Concerns Bob Weier, Emily Fredrickson, John Burke, Mary Runde, Katarina Rood, Corey Cullen, Bob Demaree, Nick Demaree, Scott Rood, Edith Olthofer, Karen Niehaus, Tom Nall, Elijah Feuerbach, Barb Stindt, Pat Leahy, Ron Weigel

For those serving in the Armed Forces Ryan Sheldon and Maxine Austin

Pastor Jasmine Tesdahl

Pastor@lutheranchurchofpeace.org

Hannah-Administrative Assistant

admin@lutheranchurchofpeace.org

Office Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@lutheranchurchofpeace.org

Church Phone 608-348-3166

Office Hours

**Tuesday-Thursday
8 AM-3 PM**

LCOP Worship Services

**Saturday Evening at 6
Sunday Morning at 9**



**Scan with a
smartphone to
give online to
LCOP**

December Announcements & Events

Deborah Circle

Deborah Circle will meet on Wednesday, December 3rd, at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be doing our usual cards and Christmas cards. All women of LCOP are welcome to join us!

Christmas Tree Decorating

We will need help putting up and decorating church Christmas trees. Please mark your calendar for Saturday, December 6th at 9 AM. to help and enjoy fellowship together.

Christmas Poinsettias

We welcome you to share a poinsettia in honor of a loved ones. All the poinsettias will be placed in the front of the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services. You can drop it off or have it delivered to the church office between Tuesday, December 16th and Tuesday, December 23rd. Please call the church office by December 17th to have your poinsettia designation in the bulletins.

Men's Fireside Chat

The LCOP men's group will meet on Thursday, December 18th at 6:30 PM.

This group has men's devotions and enjoys fellowship with other men. The group meets in the Fellowship Hall by the fireplace. For more information please contact Tom 608-778-7534

Children's Christmas Pageant

The children's Christmas pageant will be held Sunday, December 21st during the Sunday worship service.

Shut-in's Christmas Card Shower

We are having our Christmas card shower for our homebound members. If your household would like to send our nursing home or homebound members Christmas cards, please contact the church office for the addresses!

College Christmas Gift Cards

We will be sending our LCOP college students Christmas gift cards. To donate, place a monetary donation (labeled college gift) in the offering plate or send it to the church office. We will need the donations by December 6th please.

Christmas Worship

Our Christmas Eve services will be at 4 PM, led by the Praise Band and 7 PM with traditional hymns. There is no formal worship on Christmas Day. Please continue your worship at home. On December 27 & 28 join us for a Christmas celebration of Lessons and Carols.

Church Council & Trust

Church Council needs three new representatives for 2026. Church Council meetings are the second Sunday of each month at 10:15 AM. The trust fund is looking for one new member to join. Trust Fund meetings are held quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) and as needed.

Volunteers Needed

- ♦ Sunday morning hospitality- make coffee, brings snacks, serve, clean up. Sign up on the Connection Board.
- ♦ Record Sunday service-Talk to Tim Zauche zauchet@yahoo.com
- ♦ Altar Guild- Set up communion and change altar cloths with the seasons.

A Little Something From Pastor Jasmine

Dear Church,

Happy Advent! Advent is a beautiful season of the church year that often gets overshadowed by all the tinsel and glitz of the “most wonderful time of the year.” While stores and neighbors have had Christmas decorations up since November first, in the church we prepare differently. Before all the lights, and the singing, and the feasting of Christmas comes the quiet anticipation, and waiting in the darkness of Advent. The paraments are blue, recalling the dark night sky, just before dawn. We wait in darkness for the Light of the World. Each week, as we get a little closer to the birth of the Christ Child, our worship gets a little brighter, and our Advent wreath has a little more light. Where Christmas is a jubilee, Advent is a quiet wondering.

Below, I invite you to use the following for a weekly Advent devotional as we await the birth of the Prince of Peace.

Week 1: Nov 30- Hope

*“But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord; I wait for God my Savior. My God will hear me.”—
Micah 7:7*

The birth of any baby brings hopes for the future. But the birth of Emmanuel – God With Us – brought hope for the whole world. No matter the hardship we face, God’s hope-filled arrival means that we are not alone in our anticipation and our waiting. It is good news of great joy for all the people.

Questions for reflection:

1. What am I hopeful for today?
2. In what areas have I put hope in my circumstances rather than my Savior?
3. Who needs the hope that I have?

Week 2: December 7- Peace

“For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”—Isaiah 9:6

When you consider the hustle and bustle of Christmas, peace may not be the first thing that comes to mind. But it’s important to pause and consider this gift of peace that God gives us in His Son Jesus. This week, take a breath, and invite God’s peace into your home and heart. Lay your burdens at His feet and trust that the Prince of Peace is carrying them on your behalf.

Questions for reflection:

1. What are some things that steal your peace during the holiday season?
2. What helps you embrace the peace of Christ?
3. What is one way you can slow down and delight in peace this Christmas?

WEEK 3: December 14- Joy

“But the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord.”—Luke 2:10–11

We all know what happiness feels like, a smile, a rush of warm-fuzzies, the feeling you get after opening a gift. Jesus delights in the moments of happiness in our lives, but He also offers us something that goes beyond momentary happiness—lasting joy. Our Savior’s arrival offered a gift of great joy to the world—eternal love and life with Him. He is Emmanuel, God with us. He will never leave us or forsake us. No matter what comes our way, we can unwrap the gift of lasting joy in our lives as we rest in the truth of God’s immeasurable love.

Questions for reflection:

1. When was the last time you felt happiness? What about lasting joy?
2. What attribute of God brings a smile to your face?
3. What does choosing joy look like for you this Christmas?

WEEK 4: December 21-Love

“God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live through him.”—1 John 4:9

God’s unending, unconditional, and limitless love is a gift that holds the power to transform our hearts and lives. When we sit and reflect on how deeply He loves us, it enables us to freely love others, walk with confidence, and face the unknowns in our future. When we grasp the magnitude of God’s love, wrapped in the gift of His Son, Jesus, it changes the way we view Christmas. The lights, the tree, the gifts, and the music are all beautiful, but none of them are the reason for the season. They all simply point to the beauty of God’s unconditional love in Christ Jesus.

Questions for reflection:

1. When do you feel most loved by God?
2. How might you reflect God’s love to others this season?
3. What is one way you can reflect on God’s love this Christmas?

CHRISTMAS EVE: December 24- CHRIST

“ ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”” – Matthew 1:20b-23

Go shout it on the mountain! God is with us! Come and celebrate the miraculous gift of Jesus Christ – the King of kings – who has not come into the world with armies and signs of power, but instead has been born as a tiny infant in a stable and celebrated by shepherds. In him, God has done a new thing. He holds the hope, and peace, and joy, and love of God for the whole world, and he will save his people from their sins. Glory to God in the highest! And on earth, peace, goodwill among people!

Questions for reflection:

1. What are you most grateful for this Christmas?
2. What is your favorite Christmas hymn? Sing it out to the glory of God!
3. What is one way you can share the hope, peace, joy, and love of God with others?

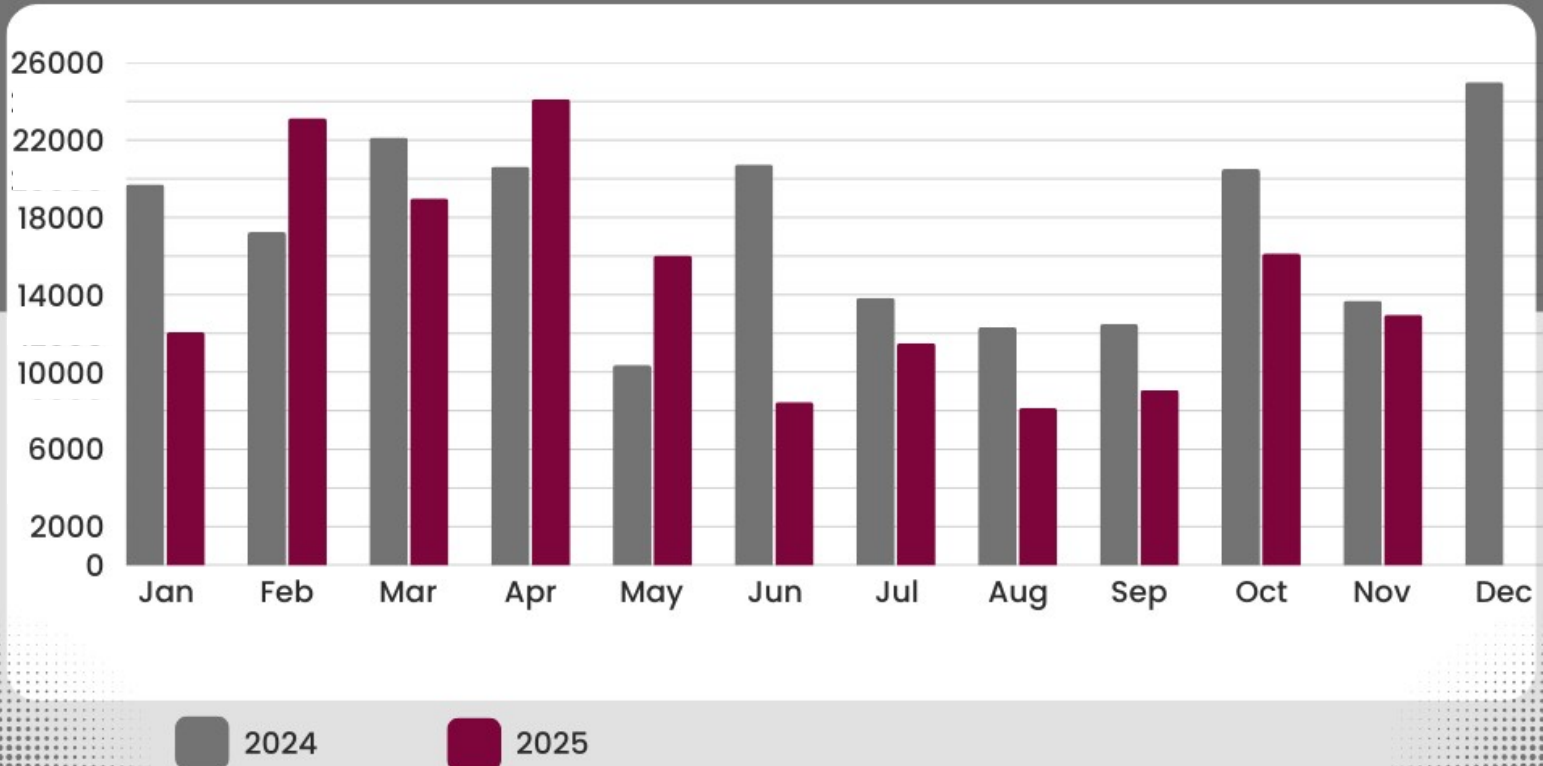
Finance Committee Update

As we reach the end of the year, we are approximately \$60,500 below budgeted giving. To accomplish our 2025 Budget Goals that were voted on at the Annual Meeting, the congregation needs to bring in approximately \$22,750 per month. As the graph shows, monetary giving has been significantly below congregational need almost every month of 2025, as well as being below comparative monthly giving of 2024.

LCOP has had a line of credit available for use for the last five years. We have not had to use it until this fall. In November, we took a loan of \$15,000 to help cover budgeted expenses. We will start paying on the loan in December.

As a reminder, online giving is available through Vanco, where you can schedule recurring giving that will support the church even when you're not physically in the building at worship. Thank you for your continued stewardship of Lutheran Church of Peace and its ministry.

CHURCH OFFERING IN 2024 & 2025



Alone for Christmas?

39th Annual Free Christmas Dinner

We wish you and your family a merry and blessed Christmas and we hope that you will join us for a lovely community dinner!

We are excited to offer a **DINE-IN** format, served at 12:00 noon, Thursday, December 25!

Host Community Evangelical Free Church
300 Pioneer Road E, Platteville WI

Special Arrangements for Delivery to the Homebound and for Transportation to the Dinner

Call 608-330-1948 or 608-778-5461, December 19-23. We want you to join us at the dinner, so deliveries are only for the homebound and for those with serious covid concerns.



Thanks to our contributors: Country Kitchen, Walmart, Uno's, Morrissey Printing, Community First Bank, Kunes Country Auto, Platteville Journal, Melody Masonic Lodge #2
Platteville Thrift Shop

While this is a free meal, goodwill donations are welcome.