



**GREET, GATHER,
GROW AND GO
IN GOD'S GRACE**

Peace † Grue

**God's Country News
An ELCA Parish**



JANUARY

2025



Inside this issue:

Pastoral from the Pastor	2
Jan. Readings & Acolytes	3
Jan. Birthdays & Bible study	4
Peace & Grue Sunday school	
& Luthercrest	5
PEACE WELCA news	6
GRUE WELCA &	
Address update form	7
Peace Council Minutes	8
Grue Council Minutes	9
Serving Calendar	10
Church Calendar	11



PEACE & GRUE ANNUAL MEETING DATES AND TIMES

GRUE January 19th / PEACE January 26th

GRUE Annual meeting and potluck fellowship will be on Sunday, January 19th, following the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Bring your favorite dish!

PEACE Annual meeting, Sunday, January 26th, following the 10:45 a.m. Coffee Cup worship service. Coffee and cookies served.

Please submit any agenda items you wish to discuss during these meetings to any council member or the church office.

Council members and committee chairs please submit your annual reports/financials to the church office by : January 8th

**-Mark your calendars-
CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

**RESUME ON
WEDNESDAY
JAN. 8th, 2025**

Note time change for January 19th

Early service @ Peace 9:00 AM

Late service @ Grue 10:45 AM



Dear friends in Christ at Peace and Grue,

Luther never questioned that baptism is one of the central practices for the Christian faith. As much as Luther the reformer broke with tradition, he actually preferred to stay with tradition, especially with those traditions God had blessed. He saw no reason to implement change for the sake of change, instead he argued that a proper education was what was needed. Something that is beyond the scope of a simple newsletter article. My hope is to raise a couple of points, that give an assurance of a certainty and truth.

Since most of us were baptized as infants, I'll focus on that. Baptismal faith is faith that the Creator of heaven and earth acts in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit to reclaim his lost creatures here and now through the water and the Word. Since this is an external thing and not my doing, faith has something to believe in. Baptismal faith is simply to believe that this external event is not an accident, it is God's intervention for you. The proper sequence is that the promise comes first, and the faith that receives it comes second.

The standard worry about this sequence is that it will lead to "cheap grace." "You do not mean to say that a mere external ceremony can save you, do you?" The way we answer that question will betray us. Usually, one is tempted to set up all kinds of conditions: "No of course it will not work unless you have enough faith, or the right faith, or are properly converted, or feel it in your heart, or show it in your life" and so on. The implication is that one has to go somewhere and get faith so that baptism can "work" putting the self-back into the driver's seat. While such a faith may be ever so pious, Luther's question remains: "Does it have anything to believe but itself?"

The tragic irony is that the temptation to call on human decision (believer's baptism) to protect baptism undercuts baptism. The very offense of externality itself is the only defense against cheap grace. It is the announcement that God refuses to pander to us. Grace is not cheap it is free. That is the problem. The free gift destroys the self who wishes to stay in control. If grace were not free the old self would still be in business. Baptism signals the end of old being incurably turned inward upon itself, who even uses its own religiosity as the last line of defense. The self has to be turn inside out.

Since the self can never give up, baptism is a daily event. Whoever is baptized, infant or adult, must be nurtured in this grace putting to death the old self until a new self who believes in the externality of God "out there" at last arises. To be sure, the baptism of infants is no guarantee that proper baptismal faith will be forthcoming. But with infant baptism at least the sequence is maintained and so the possibility of baptismal faith is permanently opened. Since baptism is a permanent offense to the old self, what is needed is proper nurture. The only cure for the abuses surrounding baptism is to teach and preach it properly, not to withhold it or postpone it.

Grace is not a hidden agenda. We do not need to protect the Lord from the Lord's own generosity. To be sure, there is wholesale confusion and misunderstand about the sacraments, just as there is about Christian theology in general. The only real weapon left to the church is the gracious and saving acts of God who works faith through the external Word and sacraments. And that, certainly, is as it should be.

Pastor Dan



READING'S FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY



01-05-2025	01-12-2025	01-19-2025
First Reading Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm Psalm 147:12-20 Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-14 Gospel John 1:[1-9] 10-18	First Reading Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm Psalm 29 Second Reading Acts 8:14-17 Gospel Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm Psalm 36:5-10 Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Gospel John 2:1-11



01-26-2025
First Reading
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm
Psalm 19
Second Reading
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Gospel
Luke 4:14-21



PEACE CHURCH ACOLYTE SCHEDULE 2025

January

- 5 Joey Johnson & Lola Johnson
- 12 Coffee Cup Sunday
- 19 Evan Rossum & Gage Norby
- 26 Coffee Cup Sunday & Annual Meeting following

******If you are unable to acolyte on the Sunday that you are listed please contact another youth and switch or ask them to cover for you. Thanks.***



JANAURY BIRTHDAYS

January 1st

Mathias Restad
Samantha Wick

January 2nd

Robert Holtberg

January 3rd

Benett Grove
Marie Hoffman

January 6th

Teresa Langlie

January 7th

Mabeth Jensen
Lee Runningen
Russell Sorenson

January 8th

Donna Norenberg
Dorothy Sorenson

January 10th

Anika Grover

January 11th

Dan Ness
January 12th

Alex Lillemon
Bente Swensrud

January 13th

Allen Boe
Amy Evavold

January 14th

Linda Ness
Jason Peikarski

January 15th

Jody Dahlen

January 20th

Catherine Koefod
Skyler Hill

Kevin Behrens

January 21st

Robert Ehlert

January 22nd

George Nelson
Ione Quam

Ryan Sorenson

January 24th

Jeremy Evavold

January 28th

Victor Evavold
Pastor Dan Hermanson

January 29th

Cathy Franck

January 31st

Denise Juven

=====

*If I don't have your
birth date or if I have it
listed incorrectly please*

*e-mail or call me -
peace@prtel.com /*

747-2273

Melissa R



**God's Country
News Articles
are DUE by the
15th of each
MONTH**



Peace WELCA ladies, thank you
for the nice card and gift.
Melissa

GRUE Bible Study meeting:

No Bible Study in Winter months,
will resume in April.

Peace Bible Study meeting: Tuesday, January 14th,
9:30am @ Peace.



PEACE SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE for February 2025

5

Peace Service 10:45 am / Sunday School 9:30 am

No Sunday School January

FEBRUARY - Sunday School at 10:15

2	10:15
9	10:15
16	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL - President's Day weekend
23	10:15



GRUE SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE for February 2025

Grue Service 9:00 AM / Sunday School 10:15 AM

No Sunday School January

FEBRUARY - Sunday School at 9:30

2	SS @ 9:30
9	SS @ 9:30
16	SS @ 9:30
23	SS @ 9:30



**FAMILY & ALL PEOPLE CAMPS
EARLY BIRD RATES END
FEBRUARY 14TH**

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[SCHOLARSHIP FORM](#)

Go to Luthercrest.org for more information

PEACE WELCA MESSAGE

I am drafting this on Sunday, 12/15 but it will arrive in your mailbox in 2025. Hoping and praying your holidays will be a blessing to all.

The Sunday School children presented the Christmas story to us in church today. It was very well done and appreciation to those children and leaders Heidi Balgaard, Amber Driggins, and Liz Norenberg. I love hearing them play the bells. Some of you may know a former member, Judi Kronberg donated money for us to purchase them and I know she was smiling big today J

Thank you Val, family and friends for filling those important Sunday volunteer roles in December. Appreciation for each and everyone of you who volunteered this past year.

Congratulations to Paul, Dalton resident for winning the quilt at the Second Chance Thrift Store. It was a beauty as usual.

In January, note there will be two Coffee Cup Sundays. Sunday, January 12th and Sunday, January 26th we will worship downstairs in the community room. Our Annual Meeting will be on the 26th and hope to see all of you there.

The new WELCA books will be available by then and we have made a few changes for this coming year. One change is our bake sale in April. YES, we will have a real bake sale Saturday, April 12th, day before Palm Sunday. I know it seems far away but please mark that date on those new 2025 calendars!

One last item, please think and pray about a young person who might be interested in attending a Luther Crest Camp this summer. We know the cost can seem prohibitive but WELCA would like to help that person or persons to be able to attend.

Again, Happy New Year!

Sister in Christ and WELCA Co President,

Janet Novak

P.S. Please check your contact information in Annual Report and WELCA handbook for accuracy. Call church office at 218-747-2273 to provide correct information.





GRUE WELCA

7

*The Grue Ladies would like
to wish you all a
Blessed Holiday Season
and a
Happy New Year.*

We would like to update our congregation's addresses so that we will have them correct in our church directory and also for the newsletter, please fill out the form, and mail it to Peace/Grue Parish at PO Box 157, Ashby MN 56309 or email to peace@prtel.com or put in the mail slot in the Parish Office Manager's office door.

NAME _____

PERMANENT OR SUMMER ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBERS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

*For the People who leave for the winter - please update your addresses,
when you leave and when you return.*

WINTER ADDRESS _____

DATE YOU LEAVE /RETURN _____

Peace Council Minutes

December 8th, 2024

Members present: Pastor Dan, Gene Jensen, Jody Dahlen, Duane Spielman, Brenda Johnson, Wayne Vorland, and Tim Cunningham.

Members absent; Linda Bahnson

Secretary's report: M/S/C to accept as written

Treasurer's report: M/S/C to accept as written

Pastor's report: Visits-13, Hospital-1, Meetings/events-5

Team (Please note new terminology as decided on by church council) Reports:

Education team-No report

Christian Growth-Council agreed to dissolve this team due to inactivity.

Worship team-No report

Property and Management-the new handicapped and Pastor's parking signs have been received. Duane will install. Tim is still searching for locks to assist with the issue of doors being left unlocked.

Old Business: Elroy Anderson Endowment-The team is still working on the specifics and will not be ready to present any information at the annual meeting.

New Business: Set Annual meeting date-January 26th. Coffee and treats will be served-no potluck this year.

Church Council nominations: Dee Holte has agreed to serve-Thank you Dee! We are still looking for one more person.

Reminder- Church service times switch January -May; Start time: 10:45.

January 5th- Communion

January 12th-Coffee Cup Sunday and Church Council before church at 10:00.

January 19th 9:00 services due to Grue's annual meeting

January 26th 10:45 Coffee Cup service with annual meeting to follow. No potluck-just cookies and coffee.

M/S/C to adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Dahlen, Church Council Secretary

Grue Council Meeting

December 11th, 2024

In Attendance: Randy Koefod, Gwen Lillemon, Melissa Runningen, June Bjornson, Sonia Heibel, Darlane Miller, Sharon Hermanson and Pastor Dan.

Absent: Char Woldahl and Bob Torgrimson.

Randy called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Pastor Dan read scripture from Romans:16.

Additions to Agenda:

Grue Budget approval.

Repair on furnace.

Repair on faucet in downstairs restroom.

Harvest Meal changes.

Winter services

Check from U of MN.

Discussion on usher list for 2025.

Setting Annual meeting to 3rd & 4th Sunday in January.

Secretary's Report: read and approved. M/S/C

Treasurer's Report: reviewed and approved. M/S/C

Pastor's Report: Pastor Dan reported on visits and meetings.

Old Business:

Harvest Meal- 164 meals were served. It was a very successful event.

Covers for window wells- the covers have been purchased and just waiting to be installed. There is a concern that they will hold up if we have a winter with a lot of snow accumulation, especially sliding off the roof.

New Business: The council reviewed the proposed 2025 budget. After a short discussion, the council voted to approved it as presented. M/S/C

Furnace repair was done by Kevin Fick on November 26th. Les had discovered that it had stopped working. Billing submitted to the Treasure to pay.

The faucet in the downstairs restroom is leaking around the fixture. It will be checked out to see if it can be repaired or replace it with a new faucet.

Harvest meals changes were brought forward and discussed. There will be a signup sheet next year for kitchen help.



The council discussed winter services to either stay in the sanctuary or to be moved downstairs. The council voted on leaving the service in the sanctuary.

A check from the University of Morris in the amount of \$50.00 for the use of our church was received and given to the treasure to deposit in our checking account.

It was set that so that the Annual meetings will always be the 3rd and 4th Sunday in January, each church takes turns going first. Early service switches with late for the annual meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, Sharon Hermanson, Council Secretary

God's People in Service
JANUARY 2025
Peace † Grue Lutheran Parish

GRUE 9:00 a.m. Early Service	January 5 White Holy Communion	January 12 White	<u>NOTE TIME CHANGE</u> January 19 Green <u>GRUE service 10:45am</u> GRUE Annual meeting w/ potluck	January 26 Green PEACE Annual meeting
Janitors/Ushers	Scott & Denise Juven, Sharyn Brakken and Alyssa Evavold & Richard Zmolek			
Reader	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers
Music (subject to change)	Denise Juven	Cindy Vorland	Contemporary	Denise Juven
PEACE 10:45 a.m. Late Service	January 5 White Holy Communion	January 12 White Coffee Cup Sunday 	<u>NOTE TIME CHANGE</u> January 19 Green <u>PEACE service 9am</u> GRUE Annual meeting	January 26 Green PEACE Annual Meeting 
Music (subject to change)	Brenda Risbrudt	Brenda Risbrudt	Contemporary	Brenda Risbrudt
Ushers	Dahlen Family	.....	Dahlen Family	.....
Readers	Dahlen Family	.....	Dahlen Family	.....
Psalms Reader	Joey Johnson	.....	Evan Rossum	.....
Acolytes	Lola Johnson Joey Johnson	.....	Gage Norby Evan Rossum	.....
Communion Helper (set up, serve, clean)	Dahlen Family	.....	.....	.....
Cookie Servers	Dahlen Family	Dahlen Family	Dahlen Family	Annual meeting and Coffee & treats

Serving Team Peace Lutheran Month of January 2025

Chairpersons: Jody Dahlen & Family

*Ushers are reminded to pick up bulletins and trash and replace hymnals in racks prior to leaving the sanctuary.

MAKE SURE THE LIGHTS ARE TURNED OFF
AND ALL DOORS ARE LOCKED!

Peace † Grue Lutheran Parish - January 2025

PARISH OFFICE 218-747-2273 Email peace@prtel.com
 306 Larson Avenue, Box 157, Ashby, MN 56309 Church website: www.peacegrue.org
 PASTOR Dan Hermanson 612-877-0722 Email: dlhermansomn@hotmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship Times Change, January - April GRUE Church Services 9:00 A.M. NO SS in Jan. PEACE Church Service 10:45 A.M. NO SS in Jan. PQ - Peace Quilting, 1 st & 3 rd Wed., at 9:00 am Office closed on Fridays			1 PQ Office Closed <i>Happy New Year</i>	2	3	4
5 GRUE Service 9:00 A.M. NO SS PEACE Service 10:45 A.M. NO SS	6	7	8 Confirmation 5:40 - 6:30 PM	9	10	11
12 GRUE Service 9:00 A.M. NO SS PEACE Service 10:45 A.M. NO SS Coffee Cup	13	14	15 PQ Confirmation 5:30 - 6:30 PM	16	17	18
19 <u>Note time change</u> PEACE Service 9:00 A.M. NO SS GRUE Service 10:45 A.M. NO SS <u>Grue Annual meeting</u>	20	21 Peace Bible study 9:30 am @ Peace Grue Bible study -resumes in April	22 Confirmation 5:30 - 6:30 PM	23	24	25
26 GRUE Service 9:00 A.M. NO SS PEACE Service 10:45 A.M. NO SS Coffee Cup <u>Peace Annual Meeting</u>	27	28	29 Confirmation 5:30 - 6:30 PM	30	31	

RETURN SERVICE REQUEST



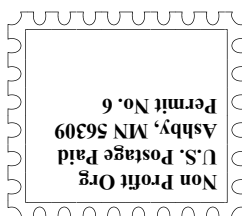
Ashby MN 56309

PO Box 157

306 Larson Ave

Peace-Grue Lutheran Parish

God's Country News



PEACE † GRUE LUTHERAN PARISH
OF THE ELCA
Office 218-747-2273

E-mail peace@prtel.com website www.peacegrue.org

Pastor Dan Hermanson 612-877-0722

Email: dlhermanson@hotmail.com