

**Volume 65  
 Issue 12  
 DECEMBER  
 2024**

*The Olive Branch*

*Peace Lutheran Church... A Life-Changing Community,  
 Sharing Christ's Love!*

**Dear Friends through Christ:**

The elves, the toy makers, and all the reindeer were busy getting ready for Christmas Eve. Millions of toys were getting their last coat of paint, and Mrs. Santa was sewing together the last of the Barbie clothes.

All of a sudden there appeared a great big man with a white beard and a red suit. It was Santa Claus! "Hold it! Hold everything," he said, "We've lost something!"

"Lost something?" whispered all the elves, "What?" Santa replied, "We have lost the true Spirit of Christmas."

"Where did we lose it?" asked the elves. "Somewhere in all these presents," replied Santa.

So the elves started digging in the mountain of toys, and there on the very bottom they found Mary and Joseph and the little baby Jesus. "We found it! We found it!" shouted the elves, "The true Spirit of Christmas!"

We all know that the true Spirit of Christmas is the gift of Christ Jesus, but sometimes this knowledge gets lost under all the presents. The gift becomes buried beneath all the stuff that goes on in our busy lives. So I pray this Holiday Season you dig below all the commercial trappings, the hustle and bustle, and somehow come to realize the beauty of what God gave to YOU through Jesus.

- \* Jesus gives you comfort and peace when chaos takes over.
- \* Jesus gives you wisdom and guidance when confusion sets in.
- \* Jesus gives you forgiveness when your heart is ridden with guilt.
- \* Jesus gives you healing when you are sick.
- \* Jesus gives you eternal life when your journey is complete.

Please, please, please uncover the true Spirit of Christmas!

In Christian Love and a very Merry Christmas,

**Pastor David Trexler**

**Additional Comments**

When Sandy and I return from spending Thanksgiving with my brother and sister, I'll start putting together our "Love Letters to God!" In the meantime we can always pray about what You plan to give back to a God who gives You everything!

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**Pastor:**

Senior Pastor—David Trexler  
 Cell Phone— (321)289-7115

**E-mail:**

office@peacelutheranpb.org

**Office Hours:** M-F 8:30am -12:30pm

**Office Phone:** (321)727-3131

**Dial-A-Story:** (321)727-1048

**Websites:**

www.peacelutheranpb.org  
 www.facebook.com/peacelutheranpb.org  
**Facebook @peacelutheranpb**

**Staff:**

Jacqui Robinson, Office Administrator  
 Cindy Wagman, Choir  
 Sally Cook, Pianist  
 Dina LaPlante, Custodian

**Volunteer Staff:**

Faye Schill, Treasurer  
 Lori Search—Food Pantry Director  
 Mark Grice—Campus Maintenance  
 Steve Barnett—Campus Maintenance  
 Terry Zrutskie—Campus Maintenance  
 Christian LaPlante—Campus Maintenance

# Christmas Season Schedule



## Advent



- 1st Sunday of Advent - 12/1
- 2nd Sunday of Advent - 12/8
- 3rd Sunday of Advent - 12/15
- 4th Sunday of Advent - 12/22

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES

Tuesday, December 24th



- Candlelight Worship Service - 4:00PM
- Candlelight Worship Service - 7:00PM

***MERRY CHRISTMAS - 12/25***  
***CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED!***



## Pre-New Year's Eve Bunco/Poker/Prayers

Tuesday, December 31 - 1:00PM



***NEW YEAR'S DAY - 1/1/2025***  
***CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED!***

**Note:** Regular Worship Services resumes on:  
**Saturday, January 4th at 5PM**  
**Sunday, January 5th at 10AM**  
**2025**



# Extra! Extra!

## Can you consider a Qualified Charitable Contribution (QCD) to PLC?

Over the past few years PLC has been blessed by some members who have made a significant QCD to our ministry and it has been critical in keeping this lampstand shining. Below is the first paragraph describing QCD's from Fidelity Charitable followed by a link to it for all the details (you will need to type or copy and paste the address into your browser manually). You can arrange for a QCD from your IRA custodian, they all support it. A big advantage of a QCD is you can support PLC's mission with a donation from a traditional IRA that is not subject to federal tax withholding, whereas if you had that distribution paid to you, federal tax would be deducted and less would then be available to offer. If you have any questions after reading the below information and the website contact your IRA administrator. Most administrators (Fidelity, Schwab, TRowePrice etc) allow you to complete the request online with a check of your designated amount sent directly to PLC. From the first paragraph of the Fidelity article:

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) allows individuals who are 70½ years old or older to donate up to \$105,000 total to one or more charities directly from a taxable IRA as part or whole of taking their required minimum distributions. As a result, donors may avoid being pushed into higher income tax brackets and prevent phaseouts of other tax deductions, though there are some other limitations.

The full article at below website:

<https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/guidance/philanthropy/qualified-charitable-distribution>

If you are required to take a Required Mandatory Distribution (RMD), please consider this opportunity to increase your stewardship at PLC in the amount that would otherwise go to withholding taxes.



### Christmas Angels

We will once again be receiving Christmas Angels. Both children and seniors. I will let everyone know as soon as they become available.



### Prayer Sisters



Keep on praying ! The ministry that you do makes a difference in the life of your Prayer Sister. You are all thoughtful, compassionate and amazing women. I admire you all.

The Prayer Sister Tea will be upcoming early in the new year. Keep in tune for the details.



Please take a look at the list of Retailers that participate in the Scrip program and consider purchasing your Christmas gifts using the gift cards or giving the gift cards as a gift themselves. ALL proceeds go to support our Food Pantry. This is an easy way to give to our community without having to buy/spend more, these are things you would already be spending money on, just now it will help benefit our church Food Pantry.

# Treasurer's Report for December 2024

Merry Christmas to all members, visitors, and friends of Peace Lutheran Church.

Our YTD contributions continue to be over and above the budget and our YTD expenses are under budget. That is a great place to be going into December. God is good! We had three payrolls in October which made our expenses higher than normal. I try very hard not to make every Sunday about raising funds. I thank the Pastor for giving a stewardship sermon this last month.

The Major Roof Fund stands at \$16,487.71 at the end of October. The council has decided to go with a private adjustor, Omega, to help secure funds for the roofs.

Many people give to the Food Pantry, Memorial Fund, Children's Hunger Project, VBS, etc. on a regular basis just by adding that extra amount to your one check and designating the separate funds on your envelope.

The contribution envelopes will be ready for members by the middle of December. If you are not using envelopes now and wish to, please speak to the undersigned or send an email that you would like to use envelopes in 2025. Your tax statements will not be available until after the New Year.

I am currently working with Wes Edwards to take over the Treasurer's job. Thank you Wes for serving.

Your sister in Christ,

**Faye Schill, Treasurer**  
[treasurer@peacelutheranpb.org](mailto:treasurer@peacelutheranpb.org)

## Treasurer's Report of General Fund for October 2024

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Contributions	\$8,813.00	\$166,175.62	\$156,764.20
Loose Contributions & Other	\$322.00	\$7,253.60	\$8,088.40
Use of Facilities	\$2,770.00	\$48,536.11	\$44,166.70
Total Income	\$11,905.00	\$221,965.33	\$209,019.30
Expenses	\$26,399.66	\$206,720.89	\$209,019.20

Excess Expenses for October 2024: **(\$14,494.66)**

**The General Fund account is used for regular expenses (utilities, salaries, lawn care, insurance, mortgage, etc.)**

The Building Maintenance Fund stands at \$3,819.95 for new Air Conditioners and other projects. God bless all who give freely of their time, tithes and talents.

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY NOTES

I have lost more than one counter this year. If you would like to serve, please speak to me after church or email me. It's at the most 2 hours of time, usually on Mondays.

Faye Schill, Financial Secretary  
[treasurer@peacelutheran.org](mailto:treasurer@peacelutheran.org)

**Did you know?** Instead of writing multiple checks for individual contributions like the Children's Hunger Project, the Food Pantry, etc., you only have to write one check. Simply designate the breakdown of your giving in the check's memo area or on the envelope itself. "FP" for Food Pantry, "CHP" for Children's Hunger Project, and so on.



DITOTA, Bob & Gabi (43) 12/12  
 BACHTEL, Harvey & Pam (28) 12/20  
 PATTON, Dag & Mary Deese (5) 12/21  
 SANDBERG, Roger & Beverly (51) 12/29

(numbers of years married)



BRIDGES, Jennifer 12/05  
 MOLESKI, Charlie 12/11  
 GREENE Mrs, Mary Alice 12/13  
 BARR, Emily 12/14  
 PADULA, Laura 12/15  
 PATTON, Dag 12/17  
 ROSALES, Marcel 12/17  
 WAINIKAINEN, Lindsay 12/19  
 LIATOS, Phyllis 12/20  
 HOFFMAN, Susan 12/24  
 NEUMANN, Terry 12/28  
 GRICE, Jennifer 12/29  
 WIKOFF, Holly 12/30



Lori Deaton	George Robbins	Viola Forrester	Betsy Witter	Evelyn Rodriguez
Ryan Dasinger	Don Hoffman	Pastor David & Sandy Trexler	Karl Bromm	Denise Thomas & children/grands
Rick Pellecchia	Betty Sheller	Gary Witter	Paul Bickford	Yvonne Burns
Jacqueline Darby	Tonita Diaz	Carolyn Tarkka	Sally Cook	Marion Elliott
Debbie Parks	Theresa Bradley	Helga Bromm	Suzie McKeny	Mardelle Hansen
Matt Parks	Gary Gossett	Phyllis Dale	Lou Madden	Sherry Anderson
Enid Rodriguez	Deb Moleski	Bill & Nancy Love	Michael Adams	Cristina Elliott
	June Trotter	Christian LaPlante	Sylvia Elliott	Megan O'Neal
	Ariel Cook	Matt Parks	Sophie & Family	Rafael Rivera
	David Flaherty	Tom Accola	Lori Deaton	

# DECEMBER 2024

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	First Sunday of Advent! 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 3:00pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>2</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>3</b> 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Men's Via de Cristo 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo	<b>4</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	<b>5</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Stamp Club FH	<b>6</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:30pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>7</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
<b>8</b>	Second Sunday of Advent! 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 3:00pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>9</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm Courtyards of Waterstone HOA - FH	<b>10</b> 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Men's Via de Cristo 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo	<b>11</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	<b>12</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>13</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:30pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>14</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
<b>15</b>	Third Sunday of Advent! 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 3:00pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>16</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>17</b> 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 6:00pm CODA 7:00pm Men's Via de Cristo 7:00pm Women's Via de Cristo	<b>18</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	<b>19</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>20</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:30pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>21</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
<b>22</b>	Fourth Sunday of Advent! 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 3:00pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>23</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>24</b> CHRISTMAS EVE! 9:00am FOOD PANTRY! 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 4:00pm Candlelight Worship Service 7:00pm Candlelight Worship Service	<b>25</b> MERRY CHRISTMAS! Office Closed! 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>26</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>27</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:30pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>28</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship
<b>29</b>	8:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 3:00pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>30</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve! 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 1:00pm New Year's Eve BuncolPrayers 6:00pm CODA	<b>1</b> HAPPY NEW YEAR - 2025 Office Closed! 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch	<b>2</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Stamp Club FH	<b>3</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 7:30pm Iglesia de Cristo Ebenezer Church - FH	<b>4</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bunch 5:00pm Saturday Night Casual Worship

# Bits & Pieces

## Check us out on Facebook @ Peace Lutheran Church

Give us a LIKE and get updates, spiritual messages, events and any changes.

Or visit us on our website  
[www.peacelutheranpb.org](http://www.peacelutheranpb.org)



Jesus says in Matthew 25, "For I was hungry and you gave me food... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Where do you buy groceries, gas, prescriptions? What restaurants do you like? Where do you purchase clothing or things for around the house? A couple weeks ago, Peace began a program called Scrip. Simply and I mean simply, purchase the cards following worship or order whatever you want for the following week. That's it. 100% of the proceeds will go toward our food pantry in feeding the poor.

We are going to shop no matter what. We might as well serve the Lord in the process. I love the program because it helps me think more about God. I don't always do that when I use my debit or credit card. When I'm out having a meal with family or friends, shopping at the mall with my wife, doing some work around the house, and I go to pay the bill with my Scrip card, I find myself lifting up a word of thanksgiving for being able to enjoy the blessings given by my Creator.

Give it try. See how you feel.



Our Food Pantry is always in need of donations of either food or financial donations to support this much needed ministry. Our community is flooded with people looking for help, and we are grateful that as a church, we can help meet the need, anyway we can. Your generous donations will

allow us to continue to help them and together, we can see our community get stronger!

Our pantry is open on: **Tuesday's—9:00AM-11:00AM**

Thank you to everyone who has been donating to the food pantry. It truly makes a difference in our community.

Please help us keep our list of military personnel up-to-date!  
Call or e-mail the office with any changes in status, rank, or location! Thank you!

**E.J. Alcario, Iraq**

**John Bedford, Iraq**

**Kristen Hall AF, Iraq**

**Capt. Brian Nailing,  
Ft. Cavazos, TX**

**Maj. AD Dennis Peoples,  
Rock Island Arsenal, IL**

**Major Nathan Schill,  
Pentagon, VA**

**USN FC3 Stephen Weaver,  
USS Dewey**

**Navy Chief Sean Patrick Goguen,  
Norfolk, VA**

**1st Lieut. Tanner Johnson—Army,  
E. Africa**



*Saturday Night*  
**CASUAL  
WORSHIP SERVICE**

**EVERY SATURDAY 5:00PM**

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1801 PORT MALABAR BLVD NE  
PALM BAY, FL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: (321) 727-3131

Peace Lutheran Church  
1801 Port Malabar Blvd N.E.  
Palm Bay, FL 32905

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PALM BAY  
*The Olive Branch*

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Dated Material:

December  
2024

Return service requested

Phone: (321) 727-3131  
Dial-A-Story: (321)727-1048  
Email: [office@peacelutheranpb.org](mailto:office@peacelutheranpb.org)  
Website: [www.peacelutheranpb.org](http://www.peacelutheranpb.org)  
Facebook: @peacelutheranpb

Senior Pastor: David L. Trexler

Worship

5:00PM—Saturday Night Worship  
8:30AM—Bible Study  
10:00AM—Worship Service



## We Serve

**Altar Guild**—Set up and prepare for communion each week, usually serving one month at a time; more people are needed.

**Worship Servants**—Sunday Worship Assistants and Communion Assistants are needed.

**Office Helpers**—Those who help with Newsletter mailings, etc. Please call Jacqui in church office (321)727-3131

**Chancel Choir**—Wednesday night rehearsals—7:00PM

**Bell Choir**—Call Cindy Wagman to learn more about our bell choirs 321-830-4207.

**Money Counters**—Teams of two people working for one month at a time. Call church office if interested.

**In the Nursery**—Nursery is available during worship.

**Property/Grounds**—There is always plenty of work to be done here. Please contact Steve Barnett.

**Projectionists Needed**—We need people who can use the remote for our Slide Presentations on Sunday morning . Please see Pastor David Trexler for details if you would like to volunteer.

**Call and Caring**—Our team visits people who are in the hospital, nursing homes, and who are homebound. See Terry Neumann for more information.

Please call the office to be a servant for the Lord by taking on one or more of these opportunities. (321)727-3131

