



Happy New Year Everyone!!!

Praying that you all had a blessed and merry Christmas and that this finds you all - ready for the start of a New Year! After being with family and friends over the past two to four weeks you may have picked up a few germs and became sick. There is so much crud going around, and it seems like very few people are escaping it. Those viruses are so contagious!

Remember when we were kids how our mom used to tell us that we could catch a cold if we went outside without our coats and hats and got too cold or especially if we got our heads wet? Truth is, germs, not cold weather, cause colds. The reason we catch more colds in the cold winter weather is because we're indoors more and in closer quarters with other people and their germs.

You don't get sick from cold weather. You get sick from germs from other people who sneeze or cough in your face or transmit germs with their hands to objects that you touch. Research shows that the most common way to get a cold is from someone who has a cold, sneezes on their hands, and then shakes yours. Germs are *contagious*. Germs are the agents that transmit colds and viruses. Now why do I bring this up?

Because - when I return from vacation we will be beginning a new series called "*Be Contagious!*"

But not in the germy, virus way 😊

In this series we'll be talking about spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ; about sharing the joy we have in Christ by intentionally *coming in contact* with those who are seeking and searching for the Good News and wanting to follow Jesus.

One of our major purposes as Christ followers is to infect others with the love of God that we have in our hearts and lives. We should want to influence others in positive ways that make them want to know Christ. *We want to transmit God's love to their lives so that they too can enjoy knowing God.*

A church is considered evangelistically effective if just 1 person in 20 in that church leads a person to Christ each year. That would mean that a church of 100 people would see five people come to Christ in their ministry in one year if they were evangelistically effective. Based on this theory, only 3.5% of U.S. churches are evangelistically effective.

So, what makes a church contagious?

What makes them evangelistically effective?

What makes a church one of the "3 and a half out of one hundred?"

We are going to be looking at the early chapters of the New Testament letter to the church at Ephesus to answer this question.

I will be using Paul's letter because God communicated some things through Paul to the Ephesian church that they needed to hear that will make them more contagious. Basically, they needed to be reminded how rich they were in Christ. That's the theme to the Ephesian church letter - how rich Christ followers are, having made the decision to commit their lives to Jesus.

When you want to be reminded of how rich you are in Christ, the Book of Ephesians is one of the places in the Bible that you can turn to. What does knowing how rich we are in Christ have to do with being contagious?

A lot of times, when you think you are poor; you become convinced that you don't have anything to offer anyone else. You become pessimistic instead of optimistic. And when you're pessimistic you are not contagious. No one in his or her right mind wants to "*catch*" pessimism. But if you have something that makes you optimistic - others will want what you have. You will be *contagious!* If you are a Christ follower - you have great things to be optimistic about!

From time to time, we need to reflect on how very rich we are in Christ, not only for our own benefit but also so we can bless others with enthusiasm for life.

God wants you to know how much you have to give - especially spiritually speaking.

No one is richer than the person who has experienced God's grace is! *No one has more to offer!*

How can we become more *contagious*, more effective at sharing the Good News of Jesus to others? It begins with seeing how very much we have to offer because of our position in Christ!

So, on January 19, we are going to start learning how to be more contagious by considering "*Germs That Make Us Contagious*" - in a spiritually good way.

I look forward to seeing everyone in 2025 when I return from vacation.

Be blessed,

Pastor Velda

Pastor Velda's Schedule for January 2025

January 1 – HAPPY NEW YEAR!
January 2 – LLP Covenant Meeting Cancelled
January 8 – UMC Trustee Meeting
January 13 – UMC Worship Committee Meeting
January 14 – Pipestone County Ministerial Meeting
January 16 – UMC UWF Meeting
 Communion at Ridgeview
January 20 – UMC Leadership Council Meeting
January 21 – Human Rights Commission Meeting
January 27 – FPC Session Meeting
January 28 – Shared Ministry Council Meeting



Regular monthly activities

PC Pastoral Prayer Breakfast – every Wednesday morning
J.A.M. and Confirmation – Wednesday evening
Women's Coffee in Westminster Hall -
 First and Third Wednesdays
Peace Quilters – First and Third Mondays
Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministry – Tuesday evenings
Kiwanis Meeting – every Wednesday at noon

Pastor Velda will be on vacation
from
December 30, 2024 thru January 12, 2025

During Pastor Velda's absence,
Pastor Miron Carney from Slayton will be
taking emergency calls. He can be reached
at 507-227-4834.



Beautiful poinsettias adorned the altar during the month of December.

Thank you to all who hosted a poinsettia.

In Honor/Memory:

In Honor of Tom and Joan Walker and the Nomads
In Memory of Marvin and Lulubeth Stromberg
In Memory of Gerald and Gerry Merrill
In Memory of Dr. Warren and Catherine Argetsinger, Robert Argetsinger
In Memory of Carl and Vera Erks, Connie Hurd
In Memory of Glen, Olympia, Dorothy, Glenda, Jerry Whipple
In Memory of George and Venith Sutherland
In Memory of Frank Terrel and Connie Crane
In Memory of Cornelius and Kathrine Klumper
In Memory of Christopher Wussow, Phyllis and Walter Wussow
In Memory of Kenzie and Beverly Wenger
In Memory of Robert Zimmerman, Mildred Hammitt
In Memory of Marge and Arlo Schroeder, Craig Schroeder
In Memory of Don Kuehl and Curt Stromberg

Gifted by:

From Nancy and Jeff Terry
From Nancy and Jeff Terry
From the Merrill Family
From Rick and Elly Erks
From Rick and Elly Erks
From Jim and Candy Whipple
From Jim and Candy Whipple
From LeRoy and Elaine Misfeldt
From Clayton and Valerie Klumper
From Dale and Jan Wussow
From Steve and Lynda Ewing
From Steve and Lynda Ewing
From Julie Dallmann
From Phyllis Kuehl and
Deb and Dudley Houselong

Upcoming Events!

Reminder!!

Peace United Methodist Church Service is
changing start time
for the months of January - June.



Church will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Beginning Sunday January 5, 2025

Super Soup January

During the month of January we will be accepting donations of canned soups to benefit the Pipestone County Food Shelf. Congregation members are encouraged to bring donations to the front of the church to be placed in front of the altar. Monetary donations will also be accepted through Change for Change.



January 2025



Sun

Mon

Tue


Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Birthdays
Anniversaries
Church Events

			1 No J.A.M or Confirmation	2	3 Marg & Jerry Pankonen	4 Don Harstad Toni Mathews
5 8:30 am Worship	6 9 am Peace Quilters 7:00 Church Clean-up	7 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	8 Laurie Hulstein Everett Mathews 6 pm Trustees 6 pm J.A.M. PUMC No Confirmation	9	10 Brynn Schulze	11
12 Belva Senst Pastor Velda Maine 8:30 am Worship  Communion	13 4 pm Worship Committee	14 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	15 6 pm J.A.M. PUMC 6 pm Confirmation PUMC	16 10 am UWF Meeting	17 Kasey Stangeland	18
19 8:30 am Worship	20 9 am Peace Quilters 4:30 pm Leadership Council	21 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	22 Gordon Huebner 6 pm J.A.M. PUMC 6 pm Confirmation PUMC	23 Paul Schulze	24	25 Justin Miller
26 8:30 am Worship	27	28 Ruth Kluis 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	29 Vicki Gergen 6 pm J.A.M. PUMC 6 pm Confirmation PUMC	30	31	

MANY THANKS!

Our Bake and Craft sale was held November 30 during Small Business Saturday. I would like to thank Julie and Shelley for organizing, Joan for her graphics in the newsletter and on Facebook and all those who contributed baked goods and crafts, worked the sale, helped tear down and take leftovers back to the church afterwards. Also, those who made monetary donations. We netted \$918.50. This was a great result and I thank everyone in the church for helping.



Thank you for your generous gift to Pipestone Area Schools for our mitten and gloves supply. Your support makes a meaningful difference in our community and we deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness.



PEACE UMC HAS A WEBSITE!

www.peaceumcpipestone.com

We have three ways you can give back to your church!

By USPS:

Peace United Methodist Church; PO Box 26; Pipestone, MN 56164

Auto Giving through your bank:

Set up by the church treasurer in the church office. You will be able to designate the amount and frequency of your donations. All that is required is filling out a form and bringing in a voided check.

Online Giving:

On our website above, click the **GIVE** tab. You will be directed to the page where you can choose to donate either once, or on a recurring schedule to fit your family's budget. It is very simple and very secure!

PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY!

COMMUNION SUNDAYS

JANUARY 12

FEBRUARY 9

MARCH 9

ALL ARE WELCOME!



**UWF meets Thursday,
January 16, at 10 am**



**United
Women
in Faith**



JAM Christmas Program

"Hark the Herold Angels Sing"

This year's Christmas program was held on December 15 at First United Presbyterian Church. The youngsters did a wonderful job. Special thanks to all the teachers, helpers, and parents.

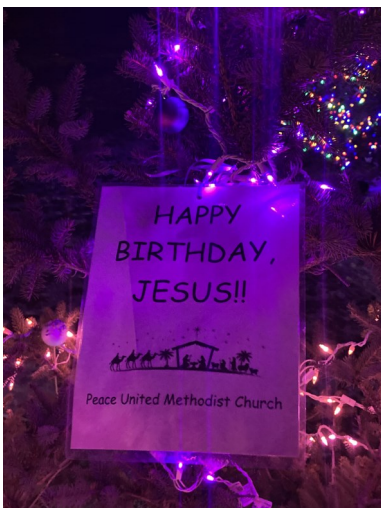


JAM

sponsored a tree at the Hiawatha Park

"Lights at the Lodge"

Hope you all were able to drive through the park and enjoy the festive lights and decorations!



Quilt Winner

Congratulations to Nancy Terry,
the winner of our Quilt Raffle.

The beautiful quilt was created by
our own Anita Johnson.



On November 21 our dear Irene Kofed went home to be with her Lord. Irene was a lifelong member, and the eldest member, of our congregation. Known by all to have a ready smile and quick wit.

We were honored to have her join us for Sunday service to celebrate her 98th Birthday just a few weeks prior to her passing.



Sunday, November 17 we celebrated the
Baptism of

Jay Daniel Vander Plaats

into the Family of God through
water and spirit.

Jay is the son of
Jesse and Kim Vander Plaats
and his big sister Kobi.



**Please lift up our shut-ins in your prayers, and please visit them!
You can see Gretchen Blom and Violet Werner at
Good Samaritan Society of Pipestone.**



Monday, January 6 at 7 p.m.

Peace UMC now has a sign-up list for various areas of the church building that you can specify and commit to cleaning. Please see the sign-up sheet for further details.



CHANGE FOR CHANGE

\$230

Received December 2024

To benefit the Methodist Nomads

January donations will benefit the Pipestone Food Shelf.



Turkey Dinner Results

Income: \$13,280

Expenses: \$7029,39

Profit: \$6250.61

PEACE QUILTERS
Ministry

Peace UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
peaceumcpipestone.com

PLEASE JOIN US!

WE MEET THE 1ST & 3RD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH 9 AM - 3 PM, IN THE BASEMENT FELLOWSHIP HALL. BRING YOUR LUNCH

Help us make warm quilts and blankets for Sleep Tight Pipestone, Pipestone Kiwanis, Sherriff and Fire Dept. and more. Don't sew? We need cutters, designers, and people to tie quilts and fleece blankets. All are welcome.



2025 Giving Goal

\$125,303

Needed Each Month

\$10,442

Received in December

\$10,804.50

Leadership Council Meeting
December 16, 2024
4:30 pm

Present: Pastor Velda,

Pastoral Report: Pastor Velda

Pastoral Calls, Texts and Visits - 52

PUMC Parish Meetings - 3

FPC Parish Meetings - 0

Pastoral Prayer Breakfast - 3

PC Ministerial Meeting

Peace Quilters - 2

Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministry - 3

Community Meetings - 4

House Blessing - 1

Premarital Meeting - 1

Pastoral Review - FPC & UMC

UMC Charge Conference

Baptism - 1

Service of Remembrance for Hartquist Funeral Home

Treasurer's Report: Shelley Wiese

- All bills and apportionments are paid to date.
- Turkey Dinner results: Income: \$13,280.00 Expenses: \$7029.30 Profit: \$6250.61. 10% will be donated to Relay for Life and remainder to be used by Trustees.
- Kozlowski estimate for annual workman's comp for Pastor Velda was \$406 per year. Chuck Vaux motioned to accept this estimate, seconded by Joan Walker. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion on automatic donations through Vanco. Vanco has increased their fees considerably. Since we have few members using Vanco it was suggested that we discontinue this service and encourage those members to use the other automated donation service currently in service. Shelley will reach out to those members.
- The landline to the parsonage will be shut off since it is rarely used.
- Peace Quilters have requested a checking account to used for their purchases, etc. A motion was made by Joan Walker to approve this and seconded by Elly Erks.
- Discussion on contracting accounting services through Kinner and Company to handle payroll, expenses, etc. Motion to approve this was made by Valerie Klumper and seconded by Jan Wussow. Jennifer Nordmeyer from Kinner and Company will be added as a signer on the church checking account.
- Kwik Trip has contacted the Church about creating an account and the benefits that it would provide. Motion was made by Chuck Vaux to approve this account and second by Shelley Wiese.

Trustees Report: Mark Wiese

November Meeting – Met on December 11 - 5 present

- Boy Scouts are now meeting at the Legion. When they get all their stuff out of the church they will return the key.
- Property sale to DeZeeuw was slowed because the satisfaction mortgage was not recorded at the courthouse.
- We are going to remove the refrigerator or freezer in the pantry that has not been used for years.
- Possible projects for 2025: Install breaker panel on stage downstairs. Repair ceiling in the kitchen when Quist Plumbing is done. Other kitchen projects.

UWF Report: Jan Wussow

Our Bake and Craft sale was held at the American Legion on Saturday November 30 during Small Business Saturday. I would like to thank Julie and Shelley for organizing, Joan for her graphics in the newsletter and on Facebook and all those who contributed baked goods and crafts, worked the sale, helped tear down and take leftovers back to the church afterwards. Also, those who made monetary donations. We netted \$918.50. We will be meeting on December 19 to make decisions on which local charities the money will go to. This was a great result and I thank everyone in the church for helping to make it such a success!

Worship Committee Report: Elly Erks

The Worship Committee met on December 9 with 7 members present.

Pastor Velda opened the meeting with prayer.

The worship committee will now meet on the second Monday of each month at 4:00.

Christmas Eve service was discussed and plans are in order.

Pot luck for combined service on Jan 29. Sign up sheet will be passed next Sunday.

Elly will decorate, fill water pitchers, and set up on Saturday, December 28.

Julie will be in kitchen to prepare coffee and accept food at 9:30 on Sunday.

It was discussed to ask another church group to prepare and plan some upcoming potlucks such as the soup supper in January.

Soup cans can be donated in January for the food shelf.

The next meeting will be Jan. 13 at 4:00.

Peace Foundation Report: Chuck Vaux

Children's Ministry Report:

This year the Christmas Program was on December 15th at 5pm at the First Presbyterian Church.

SPRC Report:

Lay Leader Report: no report given

Mission Report: The 2025 Change for Change was presented. Joan and Tom Walked presented ideas for the Church family to be of service in mission work. Projects discussed would benefit both the local community and larger world-wide projects. More information will be coming in the near future.

If you are unable to join us in person on Sunday mornings, remember we are available online! You can watch our Sunday Worship broadcast live on

Facebook Live every Sunday at 10:15 am!

www.facebook.com/peaceUMCpipestone/



PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PO BOX 26

PIPESTONE, MN 56164