

December 2, 2018

Giving Tree

A Giving Tree is in the lobby. Next to it is a board with ornaments bearing "wishes" of children in from disadvantaged families. Choose one or more ornaments and purchase gifts from their list. Return gifts to the church by Sunday, December 9th. They must be **unwrapped**, but may be in gift bags. Attach the ornament securely to the gift. Contact the church office if you have questions.

Church Family Christmas Cards

As a way of moving IN and connecting with others, we encourage you to bring a family photo and a Christmas card or letter to display in the church lobby. Boards with clips can be found to your left, as you walk in the main church doors. Be sure to label your photo with your name so we can put faces with names!

Christmas Music Opportunities

Carol Sing

Friday, December 7th, 7:00pm
In the Sanctuary

Join us for an evening of fellowship and love as we share in the joy of singing carols together! Contact: Julie Spadin (309.264.4940 or spadigl@msn.com)

Cantata

Sunday, December 9th, 3:00pm
In the Sanctuary

Join us for our Christmas Cantata, *Little Lion, Little Lamb!* Through songs and carols, we will be reminded that this story is not just an event in history, but a "living story" that still impacts us today.

Dream Center Peoria



Boys Basketball Coaches

Middle School: Saturdays, 10-Noon

High School: Saturdays, 12:30-2:00

Dream Center is looking for three individuals who could rotate Saturdays to help coach the boys. Background check must be completed before signing up (\$7). Contact Sherri Ernst to complete the paperwork (sherri.ernst@dreamcenterpeoria.org).

Game Time on Tuesdays

Play with the children from the Homeless Shelter while their parents attend a Bible study. Books and games are available at Dream Center, but you are welcome to bring your favorites. Volunteers must have background check completed before signing up for this activity. To sign up, go to <http://tiny.cc/DCPstories>.

PROMise of Hope

March 22, 2019, 9:30am-6:30m
Area high school young ladies are invited to DCP to shop for a FREE prom dress, shoes, and accessories. Many volunteers are needed to help with this awesome event. Sign up for the 9:30am-2:00pm shift or the 1:30 - 6:30pm shift. To sign up, go to <http://tiny.cc/PROMise>.

Update from the Elders

The Session (Board of Elders) met November 20th and covered the following:

- We hosted Rev. Chuck Legvold, the Chair of our Presbytery's Mission Partnership Team, the team that supports churches and their pastors. Chuck conducted an annual interview with the Elders, who shared insights and reflections from the past 12 months.
- Debbie Kammuller (Fellowship) and Kristen Frederick (Childre) provided ministry updates
- Elder Kim Smith, representing the Admin Team, provided an update on Northminster's finances, sharing that a letter to the congregation would be sent the week of November 26th.
- The Elders, after two months of praying and discerning, approved a 2019 church-wide goal: Learning to practice uncommon, everyday hospitality.
- The Elders restated their commitment to offering Sessions with Session in 2019, and to continue appropriate implementation of and responses to thoughts and feelings shared earlier this year.

Celebration

We're celebrating the start of the Advent Season marked by the four Sundays leading up to Christmas day—a season of preparation, reflection, anticipation and hope. It's a season that looks back to Jesus' arrival as a baby in a manger and forward to his return in power and glory. Love! Peace! Joy!

2019 Budget Process

As part of the budgeting process each year, Northminster forms a Stewardship Team whose purpose is to lead the congregation in prayerfully discerning their level of financial commitment for the next year. This team is finalizing plans for 2019 and will be making an announcement concerning a Stewardship Drive on Sunday, December 16th at both services. For questions please contact Keith Petran (keithp@northminster.us or 309.691.6322).

Financials

	<u>Oct. Actual</u>	<u>Actual Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>
Total Income Church	\$ 47,437.82	\$ 660,799.32	\$829,773.33
Total Expense Church	\$ <u>64,998.79</u>	\$ <u>775,085.86</u>	\$829,773.33
Net Income (Loss) Church	\$(17,560.97)	\$(114,286.54)	

50+ Lunch Bunch

When: Friday, December 21st, Noon

What: Fellowship, lunch and singing Christmas Carols together led by Steve Gokool

Where: Trinity Room

Menu: Pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, chips, fruit, veggies & dip, and cookies

RSVP: Laura Shane (309.369.3724 or shanefour@comcast.net) or Cheryl Rees (309.472.5526 or steve_rees_607@comcast.net)

Poinsettia Plants

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia (\$12) for the church, sign up in the lobby. We are purchasing plants from EPIC of Peoria: Serving People with Disabilities.

Advent Hour of Prayer

Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30
December 5th, 12th, & 19th in the Sanctuary—everyone welcome!
Contact: Tina Vandermyde (309.696.3852 or tinavandermyde@aol.com)

Mark Your Calendar:

(Online: northminster.us, NPC-Peoria Church App, FaceBook, or Instagram)

Life Groups

- ◆ Sundays, 10:00am
Northminster, Room 110
- ◆ Sundays, 2:00pm
@ Ric & Joanna Stuck's
9922 N. Townsend, Peoria
- ◆ Sundays, 6:00pm
@ Bob & Vicky Jordan's
12312 Timberdale Ct, Dunlap
- ◆ Mondays, 7:00pm
@ Frank & Robin McCrackin's
2802 W Windflower, Peoria
- ◆ Mondays, 7:00pm
@ Steve & Kathie Rollins'
11110 N Quail Lane, Peoria
- ◆ Wednesdays, 7:00pm
@ Northminster and @ Fox Pub
- ◆ Varies
@ Will Schefelbein's
1015 E Sciota Ave, Peoria Heights

Following His Lead Study

- ◆ Sundays, 10:00am-Room 104
- ◆ Thursdays, 7:00pm-Room 304

On-Going Events

- ◆ Youth Vocal Ensembles-Room 115
Sundays, 6:00-6:55pm
- ◆ High School Youth Group-Trinity Room
Sundays, 7:00 pm
- ◆ Bridge Group-Room 108
Mondays, 1:00pm
- ◆ Handbells-Room 115
Wednesdays, 5:15pm
- ◆ Christmas Vocal Ensembles-Room 115
Wednesdays, 6:30pm
- ◆ Adult Vocal Ensembles-Room 115
Wednesdays, 7:15pm
- ◆ Middle School Youth Group-Trinity Room
Wednesdays, 7:00pm
- ◆ Pickleball-Gym
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 5:00pm

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Carol Sing
Friday, December 7th, 7:00pm
- ◆ Christmas Cantata
Sunday, December 9th, 3:00pm
- ◆ Men's Breakfast
Saturday, December 15th, 8:00-9:30am
- ◆ NLC Advent Night
Thursday, December 20th, 6:30pm
- ◆ 50+ Lunch Bunch
Friday, December 21st, 12:00pm
- ◆ Christmas Eve Services
4:30, 7:00 and 11:00 pm
- ◆ Christmas Day Service
10:00 am
- ◆ Church Office Closed
December 25th & 26th and January 1st

Love Peoria 60-Day Challenge

One of our key Mission Partners—The Dream Center Peoria—has invited local congregations to accept a 60-day challenge to emphasize treating people with dignity, compassion and purpose.

Text “LOVEPEORIA” to “345345” to receive the weekly challenges from the Dream Center.

Share your LOVE PEORIA experience’s using #lovepeoria.
Follow @lovepeoria on social media.



Love Peoria 60-Day Challenge

*Dear children, let us not love with words
or speech but with actions and in truth.*

I John 3:18 (NIV)

Week 7 Daily Challenges

Opportunities to do a Christ-like act
of LOVE each day, December 3rd-9th

- Send Christmas cards to the troops
- Visit a sick friend or someone in the hospital
- Take treats to a neighbor you haven't met yet
- Give a new mom her own gift
- Offer to take a friend/family member/neighbor to church with you
- Give blood
- Paint rocks with positive words and leave around a park or your school