



January 2024
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Giving Gifts

What is the best gift you have ever received? Conversely, what is the very best gift you have ever given? Which means more to you today? Do you expectantly wait at birthdays or Christmas pondering what wonderful surprise you may receive or do you get more joy from thoughtfully contemplating the perfect gift for your loved one?

There is a story about a young man named Tom, who receives a new car as a gift from his brother. A kid on the street sees the car and asks, "Hey mister, is that yours?"

"Yes, my brother gave it to me for Christmas."

The amazed kid responded, "He gave it to you and it didn't cost you nothing?"

Then the kid said, "Boy I wish..." and Tom thought he knew what he was going to say, but was astonished to hear the street kid say, "I wish I could be a brother like that."



In Acts 20:35, Paul reminds us about giving. *"In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'."*

God has certainly been generous to us. He provides our daily needs. He listens and comforts us with His Word. God cares enough to give us His very best, His son, who died on the cross to forgive our sins, restore our covenant with God, and prepare a place for us in Heaven.

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As we move through the year, what are ways that we can demonstrate that same spirit of generosity? It could be in the well thought out gifts we give to family and friends. Returning to ministry from the abundance we have received would certainly qualify. Maybe it could be lending a helping hand to a neighbor in need, stopping to assist the person struggling with a task, or just a friendly smile to the stranger we encounter at the store.



You can make a difference in the lives of countless people. It does not need to be expensive. Be creative and share the love of God with the people He places in your life.

Article used with permission: from Bill Burmeister, Director of Congregational Services Church Extension Fund

A Message from the Editor...

Dear Readers, Dear Readers,



I hope that all who attended or live-streamed the Christmas concert and Christmas Eve Services were as overjoyed and inspired as I was. Thank you to all who made these services possible. You did a magnificent job!

May you all have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Jackie Pilan

PS: The deadline for February's "Peace Lutheran Messenger" is **Saturday, January 20.**

WORD

IT'S POWERFUL!

The Word of God is living and active and *full of power.*
Hebrews 4:12



A Message from Our Principal...

Peace Panthers News!



Happy 2024! I pray your Christmas and New Year's celebration were a blessing. And now that empty calendar of 2024 lays before you! How will you fill it? How will those precious minutes be spent? What does God have planned for your days of 2024? So much anticipation!

Thank you to everyone who came and saw our Christmas programs last month. There was a lot of work that went into planning, practicing, and performing these events. A special thanks to Kathy Schurig, Jessica Curley, Megan Willemssen, and

Linda Smith for their help in organizing the K-8 performance, Suzette Quail and her staff for the preschool program, as well as the time our classroom teachers gave to help students learn their lines and songs. It was awesome to see so many of you at our 10:00am matinee as well as at 6:30pm for our traditional performance of the K-8 "Christmas Shop Around the Corner." I am always amazed at the power that the message of Jesus birth is when it is sung by children. I do hope you plan to come see the performances next year!

January is a busy time here at Peace and one of the most important ones is our Open House. This year we are hosting our Open House on January 23, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. If you or someone you know is looking for an excellent, Christ-centered education, rooted in traditional values, please have them come that night to check us out. If you do not know anyone, please pray for families who are making decisions about which school their child will attend. May God grant them clarity to see what is best for their children.

We will also celebrate National Lutheran School's week January 21-27. Each day will be filled with different activities to celebrate the history of Lutheran education which CONNECTS children to Christ on a daily basis. On Saturday January 27, we will have our next Children's Service at 5:00pm. I want to invite you all to come and see our preschool and kindergarten students sing the message of the Gospel.

We are so thankful that our congregation is mission-minded, and Christian education focused! What a blessing you are to the families who send their children to Peace. Please know each day you are sharing the gospel with 181 school age children and over 100 preschoolers! THANK YOU for your support in prayer and finances. You are a blessing! Peace is a blessing.

God's Blessings!
Michael Nelson, Principal



NO SCHOOL

OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 15, FOR MLK DAY!

Board and Ministry News...

"MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS"



Peace Movie Night

Movie begins at 6:30pm

Popcorn and
Hot Cocoa Bar
Available

Saturday, January 6th, 6 - 8 pm

Join us for Family Movie Night on **Saturday, January 6, beginning at 6:00pm!** The movie will start at 6:30pm. We will have a Popcorn and Hot Cocoa Bar Available. Please bring a blanket for your own cozy movie experience. We will be watching "Mr. Popper's Penguins" (2011).

Mr. Popper is a successful real estate developer in Manhattan. He lives in a posh apartment on Park Avenue and is on the fast track to a partnership in a prestigious company. However, his life changes radically when he receives a final gift from his late father -- a live penguin, which is soon joined by five more penguins. The birds' antics soon win over Mr. Popper, and as he bonds with the penguins, his chilly relationship with his ex-wife and kids begins to thaw.

Fresh starts



I suppose when we wake on January 1 the world will look the same. But there is a reminder of the Resurrection at the start of each new year, each new decade. That's why I also like sunrises, Mondays and new seasons. God seems to be saying, "With me you can always start afresh."

—Ada Lum

(Taken with permission from www.newsletternewsletter.com)



**American
Red Cross**



Blood Drive

MONDAY

January 15 (MLK Day)

12:00pm – 5:45pm

Register at www.redcrossblood.org
enter sponsor code: peaceshelby

Red Cross Blood Drive

January 15, 2024

12:00-5:45pm

Peace is hosting a Blood Drive with the American Red Cross on **MONDAY, January 15, from 12:00pm to 5:45pm.** Please consider donating blood. A single blood donation may help up to three different people. Walk-ins are welcome, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) for availability or go to www.redcrossblood.org and search sponsor code: peaceshelby or call Peggy Bobel at 248-840-0553.

2024 CONNECTED

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 – SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

JOHN 15: 1-5



National Lutheran Schools Week

January 21-27, 2024

Lutheran Schools Week gives Lutheran Church Missouri Synod schools the opportunity to celebrate and proclaim God's work in the Lutheran Schools. This year Lutheran Schools Week is celebrated **Sunday, January 21-Saturday, January 27.** Please join us in celebrating the opportunity to witness God's love through the teachers and students.



6580 24 Mile Road
Shelby Township, MI 48316

**2024
OPEN HOUSE
TUESDAY EVENING
JANUARY 23**



www.peaceshelby.org

GET INFO

✉ info@peaceshelby.org

☎ 586.731.4120

FOLLOW US

📧 @peacelutheranshelby

📷 @peace_lutheran_shelby

New Student Open House

January 23, 2024

Invite your family and friends to join us for a New Student Open House on **TUESDAY, January 23.** Come tour our school and see why Peace is the perfect fit for your family.



Children's Service

Save the Date!

January 27, 2024

5:00pm

Save the date for our children's-led service on **January 27!** Please check Peace's "Panther Tales" school newsletter (available on our website or by subscribing) and our weekly church e-news for more information as it becomes available.

RE-ENROLLMENT OPENS
FEBRUARY 1
FOR 2024-2025

PRESCHOOL AGE 2 – YOUNG 5s
 KINDERGARTEN – 8TH GRADE

6580 24 Mile Road
 Shelby Township, MI 48316

586.731.4120

www.peaceshelby.org | info@peaceshelby.org

School Re-enrollment

February 1, 2024

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is upon us. **Current Peace School and Church Families can begin enrolling FEBRUARY 1.**

For more information, please contact the office at 586-731-4120 or visit website www.peaceshelby.org/enrollment.

Camp Invention®

Register today

SAVE THE DATE and Register Today!

MONDAY - FRIDAY

June 17 - 21

9:00am - 3:30pm

www.peaceshelby.org/camp-invention

Questions: jcurley@peaceshelby.org

Camp Invention®

June 17-21, 2024

9:00am-3:30pm

Introducing our all-new 2024 Camp Invention experience!

Give your young innovator an inspiring, action-packed summer adventure! Exciting, hands-on challenges will spark curiosity and build their confidence as they jump into limitless STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fun with opportunities to imagine experiment and create. Read more about what your camper will experience at camp and register at <https://www.peaceshelby.org/camp-invention>.

Worship Services

On-Site Sunday Worship

8:30am Traditional
10:30am Contemporary

Online Worship

Streaming Sunday at 10:30am
on Peace's App, YouTube Channel and
Facebook Page

Sunday Bible Studies

Adult Bible Studies

9:45-10:30am

HSYM/JYM

9:45am

KidZone and Nursery

During the 10:30am Service

Wednesday Bible Studies

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

10:00am, Gathering Room

Wednesday Night Bible Studies

6:30pm, Bible Study
7:00pm, Zoom Study

Thursday Bible Studies

6:30pm, Women's Study,
Gathering Room

Saturday Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study
2nd and 4th Saturdays, 7:30am

Prayer Group

3:00pm, Mondays, at the
Klein Residence

Church Calendar

<https://www.peaceshelby.org/church-events-calendar>

To subscribe to or to unsubscribe from the .pdf e-news version of the monthly "Peace Lutheran Messenger," please send your request with your name and e-mail address to enews@peaceshelby.org.

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Andrea Reed, 8th Grade Teacher
Kathy Schurig, 7th Grade Teacher
Heather VanHouten, 6th Grade Teacher
Ruth Smigielski, 5th Grade Teacher
Carolyn Zuccherino, 4th Grade Teacher
Janel Stier, 3rd Grade Teacher
Marisol Nieto, 3rd Grade Teaching Assistant
Heidi Chaplin, 2nd Grade Teacher
Lana McIntosh, 2nd Grade Teaching Assistant
Erin Geffert, 1st Grade Teacher
Karin Sparks, 1st Grade Teaching Assistant
Megan Willemsen, Kindergarten Teacher
Gail Willemsen, Kindergarten Teaching Assistant
Kaysey Kasprik, Kindergarten Teacher
Mel Sledzinski, Kindergarten Teaching Assistant

Preschool Staff: Josie Docherty, Dena Galovich, Lisa Johnson,
Melissa Jones, Michelle Jones, Kristen Leo, Heather Lewis,
Kaitlin Lewis Erin Olsen, Amanda Pate, Brandi Taylor,
Denise Verrier, Sarah Wysocki

Latchkey: Diana Griswold, Kristen Leo, Rebecca Polchowski,
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Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm

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