

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP
DECEMBER 7, 2014

PREPARE
THE WAY OF THE
LORD,
MAKE STRAIGHT
HIS PATH
-MARK 1:3-

ThePeoplesChurch.com



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

200 W. Grand River Ave. | East Lansing, MI 48823
517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

**SUNDAY
MORNING**

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Chapel

9:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School
Children's Chapel
Confirmation Class
PCYG Open Hang Out
Peoples Forum

9:45 a.m.

Carol Choir Rehearsal

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Sanctuary
Children's Sunday School**

11:30 a.m.

Coppertone Rehearsal
Campus Ministry

****Resumes Dec. 21**

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT LIVE!**

5:30 p.m.

Community Meal

6:00 p.m.

Dance 149
Youth Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m.

Faith Builders | Children's Education
Skipping Christmas | Adult Formation
Peoples Church Youth Group
Yoga Class

CHURCH OFFICE

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings. Call 517-332-5073.

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Dr. Jonathan Reed, Music Director
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music Director
Judy Kabodian, Organist
office@thepeopleschurch.com

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Elders meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Robertson Room.

Crystal Branta, Chairperson
elders@thepeopleschurch.com



ABOUT OUR CHRISMONS TREE

The beautiful ornaments that adorn the tree at the front of the Sanctuary are known as Chrismons - *CHRIST MONograms*. They have been made over a number of years by the children, youth and adults of The Peoples Church. Chrismons are always made of white and gold materials to signify Christ's purity and majesty.

There is a variety of stars with different numbers of points on the tree. Each one has a meaning. **See how many you can find.**

4 Points - *Star Cross; this star represents both Jesus' birth and the purpose for which he was born.*

5 Points - *Advent Star or Star of Bethlehem; it represents Jesus' birth and incarnation. The rose found in some represents Christ as both God and man.*

6 Points - *Creator's Star or Morning Star; it represents the six days of creation as well as the six attributes of God: power, wisdom, majesty, love, mercy and justice.*

7 Points - *Gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety and fear of the Lord (wonder and awe).*

8 Points - *Star of Redemption or Baptism. It is assumed that Jesus was circumcised and named when he was eight days old (the traditional Jewish practice); baptism is seen as the New Testament equivalent of circumcision. Additionally, eight people were saved in Noah's ark, an Old Testament parallel of baptism. As the number eight is traditionally the number of regeneration, many baptismal fonts have an octagonal base.*

12 Points - *Heavenly Star; the number 12 has special meaning in the Bible, often depicting completeness. In the Old Testament, Israel was comprised of 12 tribes. In the New Testament, 12 represents the church, which has been built upon the life and ministry of the 12 apostles.*

ALL ARE WELCOME | *Whether you are young or old, rich or poor, doubtful or hopeful ... no matter where you are in your faith journey, YOU are welcome here. For those with children, be assured that noises and wiggling are signs of a church that is alive and growing; your entire family is welcome in worship.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP | DECEMBER 7, 2014

Prelude

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Andrew Pomerville

Call to Worship

In this season of expectation
we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, the Messiah.

Into the bustle of our lives
and the hard to find moments of solitude
we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, the Messiah.

Into our homes and situations
along with friends and families
we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, the Messiah.

Into our hearts, and those often hidden parts of our lives
we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, the Messiah.

Gathering Hymn
(Please stand if able.)

"Lift Up Your Head, Ye Mighty Gates"

No. 93

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Week Two: **PEACE**

We light the first candle for hope.
We light the second candle for peace.

We wait for the peace that will surpass all understanding.
We watch for the peace that will provide new life.

We marvel in the peace that is here.
We give thanks for the peace that is to come.

(continued)

Let us pray together:

**Jesus, you have come to bring peace.
Not the peace of the season, for it is too fleeting,
Not the peace of the carol, for it is too nostalgic,
Not the peace of the greeting card, for it is too polished.
Rather, you have come to bring the peace of accepting ourselves as loved,
The peace of being known,
The peace that sustains us at the beginning of the day.
The peace that invades us at the close of the day,
God, we thank you for that gift of peace. Amen.**

Choral Response "The People Who Walked in Darkness" (Verse 1)

No. 86

*The people who walked in darkness awoken to see a great light.
The people who dwelt in the land of shadow rise to a star shining bright.
His name is Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Father Forever, Prince of Peace.*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11,
(Pew Bible Page 718, Large Print Page 1,082)

Passing the Peace of Christ *(Please stand if able.)*

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:1-8
(Pew Bible Page 1,001, Large Print Page 1,522)

Sermon "The Opposite of Peace"

Rev. Andrew Pomerville

Offertory

Prayers of the People

(During the pastoral prayer there will be a time to offer prayers of joy and concern, voiced aloud or silently for and on behalf of others.)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Sending Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High" **No. 113**

Benediction *(Please stand if able.)*

Benediction Response "Angels We Have Heard on High" (Refrain) **No. 113**

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

2015 ADVENT HOLIDAY CALENDAR

THE PEOPLES CHURCH



DECEMBER 8 | FREE HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT - 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 14 | CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 17 | LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE - 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 19 | WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m., Potter Park Zoo

DECEMBER 24 | CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE - 6:00 & 10:00 p.m., Sanctuary

FRUIT AND FUDGE SALE PICK UP TODAY

Today is the last day to pick up Women of Peoples Church Fruit and Fudge Sale orders. They may be picked up at All Saints Episcopal Church on Abbott Road from 12 to 2 p.m.



CONNECT

FREE HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT | DEC. 8

Our second annual Free Holiday Brass Concert, presented by the MSU School of Music, will be offered at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 8 in the Main Sanctuary. Last year's concert was marvelous and more than 100 parishioners attended. This evening of Christmas music under the direction of Dr. Richard Illman is sure to be one that you won't want to miss. The concert is sponsored by the Fine Arts Committee. Light refreshments will be served in Friendship Hall following the concert. We hope you will join us for a wonderful evening of music.



'THE FIRST CHRISTMAS' | DEC. 14

The annual Children's Christmas Program will be presented as part of our 10:30 a.m. worship service on Dec. 14. Plan now to enjoy this great Advent tradition here at The Peoples Church. The children will present the story of "The First Christmas."

PEOPLES 101: TODAY

Want to know more about The Peoples Church? Our monthly Q&A session, Peoples 101, will be offered in the Robertson Room following the 10:30 a.m. worship service today. All are welcome.



SERVE

WINTER WISH LIST ITEMS DUE DEC. 14

Thank you to all who have supported our Edgewood Village Partnership's Winter Wish List this holiday season. Please remember to return unwrapped items with their tags to the church by noon on Dec. 14.

SOUTHSIDE KITCHEN

Volunteers are needed to help serve lunch at the Southside Kitchen each month through 2015. Peoples Church members are invited to serve on the third Tuesday of each month: We are looking for help on Feb. 17, March 17, May 19, June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15. Questions? Contact Jan Perron at RPerron631@aol.com.

SIGN UP: SOUTH SIDE KITCHEN

____ YES! I would like to volunteer to serve at the Southside Kitchen in 2015.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

MONTH(S) AVAILABLE: _____

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE | DECEMBER 8 | 3- 9 P.M. | ROBERTSON ROOM

Make an appointment at RedCrossBlood.org. Sponsor code PEOPLES CHURCH EL or call 1-800-RED CROSS.



GROW

SKIPPING CHRISTMAS WITH PASTOR DREW | WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

We know about Mary, Joseph, Gabriel, the lack of room at the inns, the shepherds and the chorus of angels, the birth of a savior in a lowly manger and the visit by the magi. It is often told as an innocent story. But what if the coming of the Messiah was not good news to all? After all, King Herod seemed threatened by Jesus. Come learn about the parts of the Christmas story that we like to skip over. Join us at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 10 in the Robertson Room.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Interested in digging deeper into scripture? All are welcome to join in Monday Morning

Bible Study, which gathers at 11 a.m. each week in the Centennial Room. Join us for study and friendship. We are currently reading and discussing N.T. Wright's book, "Matthew: 25 Studies for Individuals and Groups." For more information please contact Mary Hill at (517) 339-2502, Barb Potter at (517) 332-4733, or Pastor Drew.

THURSDAYS WITH JESUS

All women are welcome to join Thursdays With Jesus at 6:30 p.m. each week in the Robertson Room. Their fall study is "Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring the Fruits of the Spirit."

THURSDAY MEN'S GROUPS

Our **MORNING MEN'S GROUP** meets at 7:00 a.m. in the Robertson Room and the **AFTER-NOON MEN'S GROUP** meets at 12:00 p.m. in the Library each week.



SUNDAY RECYCLING PROGRAM

NEXT DROP-OFF: POLYSTYRENE FOAM (SECOND SUNDAY)

The Peoples Church Recycling Program is a volunteer service to the members of our faith community. Items can be dropped off near our sign in the Northwest Entrance. Please be sure to only drop off items at this location on the Sundays that they are to be collected. It is difficult for us to store all of the items we recycle. Also, clean and rinse the items you bring in. Soiled items will be discarded in the trash. Recycle many other items each day at our Recycling Center across from the Church Office.

FIRST SUNDAY: SMALL BATTERIES

THIRD SUNDAY: PLASTIC #1--7

SECOND SUNDAY: POLYSTYRENE FOAM

FOURTH SUNDAY: GREEN GLASS

WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS ZOO OUTING

Join your Peoples Church friends and family for an evening outing at Potter Park Zoo's Wonderland of Lights from 5 to 8 p.m. on Dec. 19. Registration includes parking, access to the zoo, reserved classroom space for our Peoples Church group as well as plenty of hot cocoa, snacks, cookies and crafts to enjoy. Cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family. Questions? Contact Meaghan Gozales a mgonzales@thepeopleschurch.com.



SIGN UP | *Return forms to Offertory Plate on Sunday or the Church Office during the week.*

POTTER PARK WINTER WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS

YES! We want to attend the Dec. 19 Peoples Church outing to Potter Park Zoo.

Contact Name: _____ Number Attending: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Make checks payable to **THE PEOPLES CHURCH** and indicate "POTTER PARK ZOO OUTING" in the memo line.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIAL GIFTS (PLEASE PRINT)

YES! I would like to make a \$20 contribution to the Sanctuary Decorating Fund. Please accept my gift:

_____ In memory of

_____ In honor of

_____ In celebration of

_____ To the Glory of God

Given by: _____

Please make checks payable to **THE PEOPLES CHURCH** and indicate "Poinsettias" in the memo line. DEADLINE TO ORDER IS DEC. 15.

Questions? Contact Dee Przybylski at 517-332-5073 or dprzybylski@thepeopleschurch.com