

PEARCE CHURCH

NEWS, EVENTS & UPDATES | November 27, 2020

WORSHIP

This is the first weekend of Advent and Pastor Todd will begin a new series of messages on God's direction. If you plan to join us in-person, we ask that you [register ahead of time](#)—be sure you click through until you receive a confirmation email. Or, you can call the church office at 585-594-9488. We also continue to Livestream our Sunday worship service on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) at 10:30am.

Holy Communion will be served in services this weekend. Prepackaged Communion elements will be available for those attending in person, along with a gluten-free option. Those worshipping with us from home are invited to prepare bread and juice before the service begins.

At Pearce, our tradition is to receive an **Exit Offering** at the end of services when Communion is served. This weekend's Exit Offering will go to the village of Nzige, Rwanda to help them meet government regulations by building new classrooms for their school. The new classrooms will help keep older kids in school longer and will allow classes to spread out more due to COVID. Those worshipping in-person can place their Exit Offering in the offering box as they leave the service, or you can mail a check to the church or use the drop-box outside our café entrance. (Mark checks for "December Exit Offering" and make sure cash is in an envelope labeled "December Exit Offering.")

Over the past year or two, many people in our congregation have experienced the death of a loved one or another significant loss in their lives. The holiday season is often difficult and painful, as you remember your loved one or grieve other changes. For this reason, the Pearce Parish Nurse Team and Grief Care Support Group Team are providing a special worship service to assist anyone who has experienced loss. This **Service of Hope** will be held on Sunday, December 13, at 4pm, and is designed to offer comfort and hope during the holiday season. You are invited to join us in person or watch the Livestream on Facebook and YouTube. If you plan to attend in person, please register ahead of time (a registration link will be available soon). If you have a friend or neighbor who has been touched by loss, please let them know about this service so they, too, may know the Lord's comfort.

We're looking forward to Christmas Eve! Our pre-recorded Christmas Eve service will start at 4, 6, and 8pm, and will be posted on Facebook and YouTube. In response to the escalating COVID cases in our area, we are evaluating whether to hold in-person candlelight services. Information will follow in the coming days. We may not all be together in person this year, but we look forward to sharing this special evening with you, celebrating the birth of our Savior and the hope that He brings.

COMMUNITY

A Memorial Service for Pauline Roushey will be held here at Pearce on Saturday, December 5, at 1pm. Anyone who plans to attend is asked to [register online before coming](#) (be sure you click through until you receive a confirmation email) and wear a mask.

What are Pearce's plans regarding budget and stewardship in 2021? Are you interested in learning more about what is happening financially at Pearce? We'll review the 2020 budget and contributions and look ahead to 2021 at our annual **Financial Forum on Tuesday, December 8**. A presentation will be recorded and made available on the Pearce Nation Facebook group and YouTube at 6:30 that evening.

SERVE

It's the season for hot cocoa, hats & gloves, and...**SNOW!** If you'd like to help serve our church family and guests by ensuring our sidewalks are clear and safe, [we'd love to have you on our snow team!](#) Check your calendar to find some dates that work best for you this winter, then [follow this link to sign up](#) and Bob Antes will contact you with instructions and more information. If you have questions, contact Bob at antes_robert@pearcechurch.org or 585-594-9488.

Our littlest church family members would love to spend some time with you! If playing with a toddler or rocking a baby sounds at all inviting to you, **consider helping in our nursery**. Contact Lydia Monroe at monroe_lydia@pearcechurch.org if you'd like to help.

A note from Terry and Sherri Taber: The **Pearce Thanksgiving Community Food Ministry** distributed food to about 1,050 families this year due to the generosity of our congregation and many other churches and organizations. The goal of 200 Adopt-a-Boxes was exceeded by at least 15 boxes, and there are sufficient funds for all the frozen turkeys! With food donations from many places, we were able to put an ample amount of food into each remaining box and continue to pray this gift of love points folks to Jesus.

Thank you to the following: Pearce Church Staff and Congregation, United Methodist Church (corner of Buffalo & Westside), Community of the Savior, Foodlink, Churchville Chili Cheerleading Squad, Wheatland Chili Middle School, Chestnut Ridge Elementary School, Charles Finney School, Roberts Wesleyan College, and Northeastern Seminary. Thank you to Bob Antes and the custodial team for the set-up and clean-up. Thank you to Michael Gabriele for securing nearly 600 boxes and thank you to Chuck Rudd for providing his trailer to facilitate the outside distribution at Pearce. Due to COVID-19, we had a small group of folks who helped organize and pack the boxes; a big thank you to each of them—you know who you are! A special thank you to Jim Heeks for working with Foodlink on a weekly, sometimes daily, basis to secure food. God is good. All the time.

GIVE

Let's make Christmas meaningful this year—join us in Advent Conspiracy! Advent Conspiracy was founded on the radical idea that we can celebrate Christmas humbly, beautifully, and generously. Advent is the greatest story ever told, when God entered our world to make things right, and it changes everything—including the way we celebrate Christmas. Over the last decade, thousands of churches have celebrated with more relational traditions, partnered with more organizations, and have channeled more resources to the poor, marginalized, and forgotten. You can learn more about Advent Conspiracy at adventconspiracy.org. There you'll find links to many resources like their blog that provides practical ways to participate in AC and an AC Spotify playlist curated to help us remember the gift of Jesus all season long. One way we join the conspiracy at Pearce is by receiving an Advent Conspiracy Offering throughout December. This year's AC offering will go to the school in Nizge, Rwanda. They need to build new classrooms for the 2021/2022 school year so that the children who will age out can continue in school—many kids would drop out if there was not a grade to promote to. Also, government regulations require the school to have smaller class sizes due to COVID so the extra rooms will help spread the children out and allow more children back into school. Like our [Linked with Love / Pearce & Nzige FMC Facebook page](#) to stay updated on our Nzige connection.

Giving Envelopes are available to pick up in the lobby (across from the Family Life Center). If you have questions, please contact our bookkeeper, Jess Alcorn, at alcorn_jessica@pearcechurch.org.

Thanks for supporting Pearce! Your continued financial support of Pearce is deeply appreciated. **Ways to give:**

- Online giving: click the “Pearce Church Online Giving” link on the [Giving page of our website](#)
- text “GIVE” to 585-617-0773 on your cell phone
- drop a check in the mail or our outdoor dropbox (just outside the café entrance)
- contact your bank and set up automatic giving

Facebook: [PearceChurch](#) | **Instagram:** [PearceChurch](#) | **YouTube:** [Pearce Church](#)
Website: pearcechurch.org/stayinformed | **Email:** pearce@pearcechurch.org | **Phone:** 585-594-9488