

PEARCE CHURCH

News, Events & Updates • December 19, 2025

This Weekend (December 20 & 21)

Saturday Worship: 5:00pm / Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Sermon Series: Hope Reborn
Sermon Title: Mighty God
Preaching Pastor: Pastor Todd
Scripture: Revelation 1:4-8

Special Worship Elements:

After both worship services, you are invited to enjoy some popcorn and fellowship at our Munch & Mingle in the lobby

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (December 24) – Hope Reborn

Wednesday 5:00pm

Special Christmas Eve Worship Elements:

- Nursery care will be provided for children ages infant through 4-year-olds (not yet in kindergarten)
- Children in service will be invited to participate in the candle lighting moment using glow sticks provided for them
- A special Christmas Eve offering will be received to support the expenses of our mission team as they travel to Latin America in February
- If you are unable to attend in person, go to [this link](#) to join us via livestream

Please Note

- This issue of the NEUs will cover the next **two weeks** so that church staff can be home with their families and enjoy the holidays. The NEUs publication will resume on January 2, 2026. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
- As we move into the winter months, weather-related closures may occur. In the event that Pearce must close due to weather and/or power issues, notifications will be posted on the church website, Realm, social media outlets, and local news stations.

Next Two Weeks (December 19 – January 2)

Saturday, December 20

- Memorial Service for Wayne Drew at 1pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 21

- Sunday Morning Prayer at 9am – feel free to spend time in prayer in the Parlor prior to the service
- Bible Quizzing meets from 6:30 – 8pm in the Loft

Monday, December 22

- Celebrate Recovery, a space for honest connection and shared experiences as God is invited into our healing, meets at 6:30pm in the Loft - to learn more, go [here](#) to email your questions

Tuesday, December 23

- Tuesday Men's Breakfast – 7am at Town and Country Family Restaurant (3205 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624)

Wednesday, December 24

- Pearce Offices & P4K closed for Christmas
- Christmas Eve Service at 5pm in the Sanctuary

Thursday, December 25 & Friday December 26

- Pearce Office & P4K closed for Christmas

Monday, December 29:

- Workshop: *"You Are Not Crazy, Stupid, or Broken"* at 6:30pm in the Loft
Have you ever wondered if something is "broken" inside you—or questioned whether someone you love is "crazy"? Led by Celebrate Recovery facilitator Ron Follansbee Jr., Clinical Social Work/Therapist, LCSW, participants in this workshop will explore new and encouraging insights into mental health that help explain what's really happening within us and those around us. Topics will include the impact of trauma, understanding mental health diagnoses (causes versus symptoms), medication interventions, polyvagal theory, and attachment theory. Time will also be set aside for personal questions. You will leave this seminar with a deeper understanding, greater compassion, and renewed hope—for yourself and for others. All are invited and no registration is required.

Tuesday, December 30:

- Widows & Widowers group meets at noon at the Town & County Restaurant (3205 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624) for a time of food and fellowship
- Men's Choir rehearsal at 6:30pm in Parmerter

Wednesday, December 31

- Pearce Office & P4K will close at 3pm for New Year's Eve

Thursday, January 1 & Friday, January 2

- Pearce Office & P4K will be closed for New Year's

Weekend of December 27 – January 2

- **Saturday, December 27 & Sunday, December 28 Worship Services**
 - Sermon Title: When Merry Meets Mourning
 - Preaching Pastor: Pastor Todd
 - Scripture: Matthew 2:13-23

Plan Ahead

- January 6: Tuesday Morning Bible Study for men and women begins a new study on Ruth & Esther (NOTE: there is no class on December 23 or December 30)
- January 9: Parent Night Out (watch for more details in the coming weeks)
- January 15: Pearce 4 Kids PreK Open House from 6 – 7pm
- January 17: Preschool Open Gym from 9-10am in the Family Life Center - designed for children ages 1–5 and their caregivers, this is a warm and welcoming space to play, explore, and connect with other families during the cold winter months
- January 18: Segue for 4th - 6th graders
- January 31: Preschool Open Gym from 9-10am in the Family Life Center - designed for children ages 1–5 and their caregivers, this is a warm and welcoming space to play, explore, and connect with other families during the cold winter months

Winter Discipleship Options

Discover new discipleship opportunities launching in January! Click the course links below to learn more and register, if required. You may also register in person on the weekends of December 27–28, January 3–4, and January 10–11.

Sunday Mornings starting January 18 from 10:45am – 12pm:

- [Parenting Together](#) (Register by January 14)
 - Dates: January 18 – February 15 (Register by January 14)
 - Co-Facilitators: Pastors Kim & Brian Roth
 - Location: Kids Wing – Orange Room
 - Description: A 4-week gathering for parents raising kids and/or teens for the purposes of mutual encouragement, sharing, and support

- **[The Practices: Prayer](#)** (Register by January 14)
 - Dates: January 18 – February 15
 - Facilitator: James Kerwin
 - Location: Friendship Center
 - Description: A 4-week video-based course on talking to and listening with God
- **[The Practices: Fasting](#)** (Register by February 18)
 - Dates: February 22 – March 15
 - Facilitator by: Cait Bates
 - Location: Friendship Center
 - Description: 4-week course video-based course on the personal practice and reflection on fasting
- **Breakfast Club - College-Age Students** (No registration required)
 - Date Begins: September 14
 - Co-Facilitators: Matt & Melissa Kerwin - contact [Matt](#) for more information
 - Location: Upper Room
 - Description: A discussion-based group for college-age and young adults
- **Teen Talks - 6th – 12th graders** (No registration required)
 - Dates: January 18 – March 15
 - Location: Loft Main & Loft B

Wondering what to do with the kids while you attend your discipleship course? The adult discipleship courses offered on Sunday mornings will coincide with children and teen activities.

During the Week:

- **[Tuesday Morning Men's & Women's Bible Study](#)** (No registration required)
 - When: Tuesdays beginning January 6 (goes through the school year with various holidays off)
 - Time: 9–10:15am
 - Led by: Fred Franzwa
 - Location: Friendship Center
 - Description: Two of the most beloved and personal books of the Old Testament reveal the ways God works through even the most difficult of circumstances to unfold His plan and purpose for our lives. From Ruth's widowhood and Naomi's family losses to Esther's brave stand for the people of Israel in a pagan land, this study highlights parallels to contemporary life that enable you to discover God's provision and guidance for your own life.
- **[Behold I Am Coming Soon](#)** (Register by January 4)
 - When: Tuesdays, January 6 - March 31
 - Time: 6:30 – 8pm
 - Teacher: Dr. Wayne McCown
 - Location: Friendship Center
 - Description: An in-depth, scholarly study of the book of REVELATION
- **[Vespers](#)** (Register by January 14)
 - When: Wednesdays, January 21 – March 18 (no class on February 18)
 - Time: 6 – 7:30pm
 - Facilitator: Julie Smith
 - Location: Friendship Center
 - Description: A mid-week worship, fellowship, and prayer gathering
- **Marys & Marthas** (No registration required)
 - When: Thursdays
 - Time: 11am - 12:30pm
 - Coordinator: [Alberta Anderson](#)
 - Focus: This group of women meets both at the church and off-site, depending on the week, to study God's Word, pray together, share life, and serve alongside one another
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- **Young Adults – 20s & 30s Small Group** (No registration required)
 - When: Thursdays evenings
 - Time: 6:45 – 9pm
 - Location: Home of Karensa Reber (contact Karensa for directions)
 - Coordinator: [Karensa Reber](#) (585-404-8994)
 - Focus: Connecting with other young adults to strengthen personal faith through studying and applying the Bible, serving others, and building genuine and supportive relationships.

Giving & Serving Opportunities

- Thank you to all who donate to our **Food Cupboard!** This week's needs are:
 - Quick Lunches (example: SpaghettiOs)
 - Jelly
 - Salad Dressing
 - Condiments
 - Ground Coffee

If you need food support, please contact the church to set up an appointment.

- **Year-End Giving:** Thank you for your faithful generosity throughout the year. Your financial support plays a vital role in furthering the ministry and mission of Pearce, and we are deeply grateful. To ensure your gifts are credited for the 2025 tax year, please note the following guidelines:
 - **In-Person or Mailed Gifts:** In accordance with IRS regulations, contributions must be received in the church office by Wednesday, December 31 at 3pm, (the church will close early for New Year's Eve) or postmarked by December 31
 - **Online Giving:** Online donations must be initiated no later than December 31, 2025
 - **Gifts After December 31:** Any contributions received or postmarked after December 31, 2025, will be recorded as 2026 gifts
- **Check out the various [ways to give](#)** to support Operations, Missions, and the Free to Serve Campaign

Offering Envelopes:

For those who ordered giving envelopes, your box is available for pickup at the Welcome Desk during regular business hours and before or after weekend services. If you did not order offering envelopes but would like a box, please email pearce@pearcechurch.org.

Baptism Opportunity

Baptism at Pearce is an opportunity to publicly declare your faith. If interested, connect with a pastor or [fill out this online form](#) by January 11 and someone will be in touch with you to guide you through the next steps.

Employment Opportunity: Welcome Desk Receptionist

Go to [this link](#) to view the job opening or contact [Lydia Monroe](#), HR Director, for more information

Prayer

- Join facilitator Sondra Anderson and others on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 pm in Room 136 (Kids Min Hallway) for a time of prayer. Each week includes a different Scripture focus, along with time for both personal and group prayer. Everyone is welcome—whether your week feels full, you're carrying a heavy burden, or you'd like to connect with others while your teen is at youth group. Come as you are and seek God together in prayer.
- **Prayer Chain:** Daily prayer updates are sent Monday through Friday at 3:30pm, providing information about the needs of our Pearce community. If you have a personal prayer request, update, or bereavement information to share, send it to pearce@pearcechurch.org, or call the church at 585-594-9488, and we will be sure to include it in our next update.