

— August 2025 —

# The Good News of Peace

*Our Vision Statement: Sharing Peace Faithfully*

*Our Mission: To bring people into contact with the gospel,  
and help them grow in their relationship in God in Christ.*



## **CONGRATULATIONS:**

Lisa & Ian Noyes, parents,  
Lynn Taeger-Peterson &  
Joel Peterson, grandparents,  
and Aunt Krista on the birth  
of Warren Ian Noyes on  
July 7, 2025

## **PRAYERS REQUESTED:**

- Richie Molitor
- Mary Wilson
- Kimberly Gonzales
- Frank Rossi
- Dawn Murphy
- Adam Kroz
- Laurie
- Luke
- Diane Rezvin
- Susan Lowe (Healing)

## **EVERYBODY READ**

Our desire to have people  
read a common Bible  
passage is part of our  
Book of Faith effort.  
August's passage is:  
Psalm 46:1-3

## **A Letter From Your Pastor**

**Pastor Amy Michelson**

We just finished up Vacation Bible School (VBS) last week. VBS is always a great week of fun, learning, and relationship building. This year, our theme was God's Gigantic Kingdom. Each day we had a theme, Bible verse, and Bible story to explore. Check it out!

Day 1: God's gigantic love. "Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever." (Psalm 136:26) Read about Jesus welcoming the children in Luke 18:15-17.

Day 2: God's gigantic grace. "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as in Christ God forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32) Read the parable of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18:21-35.

Day 3: God's gigantic peace. "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:15) Read about the calming of the storm in Mark 4:35-41.

Day 4: God's gigantic world. "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." (Genesis 1:31a) Read one of the creation stories – Genesis 1-2:3 or Genesis 2:4-23.

If you don't already, please follow us on Facebook. We posted highlights each day and shared a little bit about what we're learning. Listen to our theme song, Big God by Terrian. Our theme will lead us right into our Sunday School theme for our 2025-26 program year. If you haven't yet, be sure to register any kids 3 years old-high school for Sunday School.

I am so grateful to be learning and growing with people of all ages and stages here at Peace!

Serving God's Gigantic Kingdom with You,  
Pastor Amy



### **Sympathy -**

The congregation of Peace wishes to extend its sympathy to:

The family of Joyce Tilquist, mother of Rick Tilquist

### **Welcome to the Lord's Family -**

- Maximus Blake was baptized on June 29
- Cody Roulo was baptized on July 6
- Cameron Drew Addison on July 26

### **Financial Update as of June 30, 2025**

<b>June Income</b>	<b>YTD Income</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>
<b>\$ 51,632</b>	<b>\$51,632</b>	<b>\$602,158</b>

<b>June Expense</b>	<b>YTD Expense</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>
<b>\$47,066</b>	<b>\$47,066</b>	<b>\$602,158</b>

# *Thank You*

**We are thankful for all the people who give of themselves to make ministry happen!**

Contemporary Service volunteers and musicians: Pete, Karin, and Aaron Knutson, Ken George, and Matt Piet

Office Volunteers

Volunteers that helped with Creation Station

All volunteers who helped with VBS

Our volunteers that came to our Property Committee Work Day

From:

Donna Grant- Thank you for your kindness and the prayer quilt

Rose Corley- Thank you for all the kindness and generosity

Karin Knutson- Very thankful for the seminary scholarship opportunity

Liam Golub- Thank you for the scholarship

# A Letter From Your Deacon

By Deacon Shari

Dear Members and Friends of Peace,

As we head into the last weeks of summer, I hope you found some time to disconnect from the day to day hustle and bustle and reconnect with family, friends, and above all God. The ever so slightly slow down of summer can provide us with time to listen. We often find ourselves immersed in nature and hearing the joy of all of God's creation. As summer winds down bottle up that peace and bring it with you into the new programming year. We are getting ready to ramp back up here at Peace and we hope that with the hustle and bustle there will still be plenty of moments to connect with family, friends and God.

On August 2<sup>nd</sup> we will have our Sunday School Teacher meeting and get organized and excited to welcome all of our children as they learn about God's love for them and for the world. On August 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> we will have our backpack blessing. Please invite any student to bring their backpack with them so that it may be blessed for the school year.

September 7<sup>th</sup> will be rally day here at Peace! We will commission and set apart our Sunday School teachers as well as give out Bibles to all our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. We will be doing this at all 3 services so come and worship with us! After worship at noon the 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth group, Peace 360, will have their annual Messtival. Please sign up your youth and adults if you would like to participate you are more than welcome to join us. Please know this is a very messy event and your clothes will not be clean at the end. The week after rally day is when all the ministries here at Peace get back rolling and the parking lot will begin to look full again. If you are a part of these ongoing ministries get ready! If you are not already a part of one of the ministries going on at Peace, maybe give one a try this year.

I look forward to the upcoming program year and the ways that God will move in the life of Peace and in each of your lives!

God's Peace,  
Deacon Shari



## Announcements

**Church Office Closed-Sept 1st**



## Offerings & Opportunities

### Help Us Fill Our 2025 Flower Chart

Please help us have beautiful flowers on the altar by helping us fill our new 2025 flower chart. Look for the chart by Fellowship Hall or email the church office to sign up for any date you would like. The office will contact you the week before your date to see what you would like listed in the bulletin. Cost of each is \$25.

### Giving Statements

Your mid-year giving statement should be in your email inbox. Please note, we do not send sensitive information in these emails, just an account of your giving so far this year. If you have not received a statement or if you have questions or concerns, please let us know.



## Faith Development & Education

### Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday mornings at 10am. You do not need to know anything about the Bible to join us!

### Sunday Adult Education

Will resume on Rally Day, Sept. 7th

### Synod Growing Disciples Newsletter

The experience of God's love in one's life is a gift the growing disciple feels compelled to share with others. One way our faith becomes active is when we put into words what God has done for us. Words of witness and acts of genuine hospitality directed toward our neighbors create the opportunity through which the Holy Spirit brings others into a relationship with Christ and with the church. Each month the Northern Illinois Synod has a Growing Disciples newsletter available online. Please use the link below.

[Growing Disciples Start with Inviting.](#)  
[Growing Disciples](#) | [Northern Illinois Synod](#)

### Sunday School Teachers Needed for Fall

Adults of Peace Church, have you ever been interested in teaching, being a substitute, or a helper for our Sunday School? We are looking for energetic parents/adults to help with our Sunday School program for the next school year. If you would like to help, please let Deacon Shari or Jess Lindeman know.

### Do You Love to Sing?

Come join in the fun of making a joyful noise! Peace Choir and the Ladies Ensemble are looking for new singers. No experience or auditions are required. Have questions? Contact the office, and they will have us reach out to you.

### **Sunday School Teacher & Helper Orientation – Sun., Aug. 3**

Our Sunday School staff gathers before the start of Sunday School to help get to know each other, help new teachers and staff get acquainted with our Sunday School ministry, get our supplies and curriculum, and generally have a good time! This year's orientations will be Sun., Aug. 3 at 9:45am in Fellowship Hall. If you can not attend, please join us on Aug 17th at 9:45am for orientation. We would love if our substitute teachers can join us, too!

### **Contemporary Worship Service – Sat., Aug 9**

Please join us for a Contemporary worship service on Aug 9 at 5pm.

### **All Committee Night – Wed., Aug. 27**

Want to be involved in the ministries happening at Peace? You are invited to come on the last Wednesday of the month at 6pm and participate in the committee of your choice. Committees to choose from are Fellowship, Support, Property, Faith Development, Worship, and Service/Outreach.

### **Outdoor Worship Service – Sat, Aug 30**

The 5pm worship service will be held outdoors on the last Saturday of the month through Sept. Please bring your lawn chairs and join us!

### **Blessing of the Animals – Sat., Sept. 27 at 6pm**

Bring your animal of any kind to receive a special blessing.



## **Looking Ahead**

**Aug. 3 – Sunday School Teacher Orientation 9:45am**

**Sept. 3 - Peace Choir practice will begin at 7:00pm**

**Sept. 6 - Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal 3:00pm**

**Sept. 7 – Sunday School Rally Day 9:45am**

**Sept. 7 – Messtival 12:15pm**

**Sept. 10- Confirmation Meeting Orientation 7:00pm**

**Sept. 20- Women's Retreat at Peace Church**



## Groups

### **Coffee & Conversation – Mondays**

Every Monday morning from 10-11am, Deacon Shari will be holding office hours at Gost Coffee on Schoolhouse Road in New Lenox. Please come grab a cup of joe and share in conversation.

### **Golf Group – Wednesdays**

The golf group will play on Wednesdays at 8:30am with lunch afterwards. Each week Mike Bohl will send out an email to interested golfers with when and where to meet. You do not have to play every week. Questions, contact the church office.

### **Viewing Group for The Chosen- Tues & Thurs**

Please join us to watch and discuss season 5 of The Chosen. The Chosen is a TV series that follows the life of Jesus and his disciples. It provides engaging conversation about the scriptures as they come to life on the screen. If you would like to watch the first four seasons of the series, you can find it on prime video. We will offer two options for discussion of season 5. The in-person option will be Tuesday mornings at 10am, starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. The second option is an online Zoom meeting held on Thursday evenings at 7 PM, beginning July 10th. If you have any questions, please see Deacon Shari.

### **Women's Fellowship and Discussion Group**

Women of all ages – join us on the second Thursday of the month (Sept-May) at 7pm for fellowship and conversation. Each time we'll discuss a different topic based on a book, podcast, video, Bible study, etc. Sign up with the insert in the bulletin, email or by calling the church office.

### **Peace Book Club-August 5**

Join us on August 5 to discuss "The Rose Code" by Kate Quinn.

### **Peace Page Turner- August 10**

We will discuss "Tell me Everything" by Elizabeth Strout.

### **Ruth Circle Quilting – Mon., August 11 & 25 at 9am**

Please join us, all are welcome! Meets every other Monday.

### **Trailblazers – Tues., Aug 19 at 12pm**

Group 65+ meets the third Tuesday of the month. Cost \$5, lunch will be provided.

### **Men's Breakfast – Sat., August 23**

Men ages 16 and older are invited to this fellowship opportunity that meets at Peace on the fourth Saturday of the month at 10am. Cost will be a free will offering – breakfast cost is approximately \$15 each.

### **Out to Eat Group- Aug 16 at 6:15 pm**

We are meeting at North & Maple in New Lenox. Attendees need to notify the church office by August 12!

### **Strong Seniors Exercise – Mon. & Wed.**

Join us for a low impact program for seniors. Mondays 12 noon -1:00pm and Wednesdays 11:15am-12:15pm.

### **Mahjong Masters – Thursdays at 1pm**

Don't worry, being a master is ABSOLUTELY not required! A group of Mahjong Minded Members have started gathering at Peace on Thursdays at 1:00pm. We would love to have you join us!

### **Volunteers Needed for Trailblazers in Sept.**

Our Trailblazers are a group of 65+ individuals who meet once a month for lunch & games. We are looking for volunteers to host the luncheon here at church by setting up and providing food. Feel free to pair up with someone and host the luncheon together. The group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month and there are an average of 6 people attending. If this is something you would like to do, please contact the church office.

## **Youth**

### **Backpack Blessing Weekend**

On Saturday August 16 and Sunday August 17, we will bless our children and teachers as they head back to school. Please feel free to bring your backpack or briefcase to church and we will bless you and your bag that will carry your learning materials. We hope that the school year will be filled with learning and friendship and that you feel God's presence with you each day.

### **Messtival Sunday September 7th**

Come get Messy with our youth group as we kick off our programmatic year. The Messtival is a fun time of messy games and friendship. We will get to know each other and leave covered in things like cool whip, slime and chocolate syrup. We will meet outside the church at 12noon and have pizza and then play games until 2pm. Parents are advised to bring towels to cover their car seats as the kids will be very messy. This event is for 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth, but we can always use adult volunteers. See Deacon Shari if you have any questions.

### **Confirmation Orientation –Wed., Sept. 10 at 7pm**

This is a meeting for all students in 7th & 8th grades and at least one parent/adult. This important night incorporates information about schedules, expectations, youth events, volunteering, and more! If you know someone who is not a part of any church but has a student in this age bracket, please invite them to come too.

### **1st Communion Class-Sat., Aug.23 at 2:30pm**

Join us to learn about the amazing gifts God gives to us in communion! Traditionally at Peace, 5<sup>th</sup> grade has been the age for First Communion, but all are welcome at Christ's table, so if you have a kid who desires to take communion and you as a family want to learn more, feel free to reach out to Pastor Amy. This particular class is open to all school-aged kids. Please use the sign up slip or email the church office. If your student would like to take their first communion with the class, please save the date for August 31 at the 11am worship service.

### **Register for 2024/2025 Sunday School**

We look forward to a great year starting on Rally Day, Sept. 7 at 9:45; "God's Gigantic Kingdom"! We rely on the registration forms to give us updates and to help us know who will be available to help with Sunday School. Please fill out a registration form in the narthex, [register online](#), or call the church office.





## **Community Resources**

Will-Grundy Medical Clinic  
free healthcare for the uninsured and those  
who qualify 815-726-3377, ext. 228.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline  
call/text 988 or online chat at  
[www.988lifeline.org](http://www.988lifeline.org)

Joliet Area Hospice Support Groups  
[www.joliethospice.org](http://www.joliethospice.org) or 815-740-4104

Crutches, walkers & wheelchairs available  
please contact the church office

Guardian Angel Community Services  
Sexual assault & rape crisis services  
24-hour sexual assault hotline: 815-730-8984

LSSI's Joshua Arms  
independent & supportive living units for  
seniors  
[www.LSSI.org/JoshuaArms](http://www.LSSI.org/JoshuaArms) or 815-727-6401

NAMI - National Alliance for Mental Illness  
[info@namiwillgrundy.org](mailto:info@namiwillgrundy.org) or  
[www.namiwillgrundy.org](http://www.namiwillgrundy.org)

## **Santa Cruz's Food Pantry Needs List**

We are always collecting bottled water, juice, paper products, hand soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream, canned soup, applesauce, cereal, Jell-O, pudding, beans, rice, coffee, powdered cream, sugar, pretzels, chips, popcorn, etc. for Santa Cruz's Food Pantry. Look for the baskets by Fellowship Hall.

## **Help Others Fund**

Alongside our regular giving that helps all kinds of people in need, we also have a special "help others" fund within our general fund. It is targeted to help people who need food or gas. We continue to be diligent in making sure the money actually goes to people in need.

## **General Information**

### **Worship Details**

Saturday worship 5pm, Sunday at 8:30 & 11am.

8:30am service is live streamed.

Contemporary Service- 8/9

Outdoor Service- 08/30, 09/27

Don't forget your chair!

## **Email Contacts**

Pastor Amy – [amichelson@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:amichelson@peacenewlenox.org)

Deacon Shari – [strotter@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:strotter@peacenewlenox.org)

Church office: [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org)

## **Electronic Giving**

If you would like to sign up for automatic withdrawals, please contact the office. You can also give online at any time through our website [www.peacenewlenox.org](http://www.peacenewlenox.org), click on the donate tab or use the QR code below.

## **Hearing Assistance Available**

We are happy to offer wireless receivers to assist anyone with a hearing impairment. Please ask an usher if you would like to use one.



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