

Peace Lutheran Church

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Gary Erickson, Interim Pastor
Shari Simon, Diaconal Minister
Matt Piet, organist/accompanist

Our Vision Statement: *Sharing Peace Faithfully*

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

Please check our Peace website www.peacenewlenox.org regularly for updates.

Check out our [February Newsletter](#) and [Sunday School News](#)

We live stream our service on Sundays at 8:30am

This Week and Beyond

Sat., Jan. 28 - Blood Drive - 9:00am - 1:00pm

Sat., Jan. 28 - Worship service - 5:00pm with Pastor Jen Beamsley

Sat., Jan. 28/29 - 7 - 12th gr. Lock In - 5:00pm

Sun., Jan. 29 - Worship services - 8:30am & 11:00am with Pastor Jen Beamsley

Sun., Jan. 29 - Children's Choir rehearsal - 9:00am

Sun., Jan. 29 - Sunday School & Adult Class - 9:45am

Sun., Jan. 29 - Lunch & Discussion with Pastor Beamsley - 12:00pm

Mon., Jan. 30 - Ruth Circle Quilters 9:00am

Mon., Jan. 30 - Senior Exercise Group 12:00pm

Tues., Jan. 31 - Handbell rehearsal 7:00pm

Wed., Feb. 1 - Bible Study 10:00am

Wed., Feb. 1 - Senior Exercise Group 11:15am

Wed., Feb. 1 - Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00pm

Sat., Feb. 4 - Worship service 5:00pm - BSA Scout recognition

Sun., Feb. 5 - Worship services 8:30am & 11:00am - BSA Scout recognition

Sun., Feb. 5 - Children's Choir rehearsal

Sun., Feb. 5 - Sunday School & Adult Class 9:45am

Mon., Feb. 6 - Senior Exercise Group 12:00pm

Tues., Feb. 7 - Handbell rehearsal 7:00pm

Wed., Feb. 8 - Bible Study 10:00am

Wed., Feb. 8 - Senior Exercise Group 11:15am

Wed., Feb. 8 - Prayer Shawls 6:00pm

Wed., Feb. 8 - Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm

Words to This Week's Hymns – 1/28 & 1/29

Opening Hymn - #742 - *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear –
all because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged – take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness – take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge – take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

Hymn of the Day - #612 - *Healer of Our Every Ill*

Refrain: Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

1. You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. **Refrain**

2. In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. **Refrain**

3. Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. **Refrain**

4. You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. **Refrain**

Closing Hymn - #536 - *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

1. God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again. **Refrain**

Refrain: Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

2. God be with you till we meet again; holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again. **Refrain**

3. God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you; God be with you till we meet again. **Refrain**

Thank you

Thank you to all the people who are watching our weekly worship and, for all your support financially, in prayer, with words of encouragement, acts of service and more! Your online gifts last week of \$2,847 and mailed in & weekend offerings of \$3,215 help us to keep doing ministry locally, nationally, and around the world!

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers this weekend are given by Cathy Arenz, in honor of her dad John Klouse's birthday

New Announcements

Baptism Orientation - Sat., Feb. 11

For those planning to have a baptism in the near future, the next baptism orientation class will be Sat., Feb. 11, at 3:30pm at church. Please let us know if you plan to attend.

All Church Bowling - Sun., Feb. 19

Please join us at Laraway Lanes on Sun., Feb. 19 from 1-3pm for an All Church Bowl! The cost of this event is \$15 per bowler and it includes 2 games and shoe rental. Please use the [sign up online](#) or in the bulletin to let us know if you and your family can participate.

Coming Up This Week and Beyond

Sunday Adult Class - 9:55am

Please join us in Fellowship Hall for Sunday adult classes.

Jan. 29 – Rev. Jennifer Beamsley will discuss the work of the Northern Illinois Synod.

Feb. 5 – Where we work: ELCA Global Missions

Feb. 12 – Peace Page Turners Book Discussion

Feb. 19 – Annual Meeting

Feb. 26 – Elizabeth Fedde and the Norwegian-American immigrant community

Lunch & Discussion About the Call Process with Rev. Jennifer Beamsley - Sun., Jan. 29

Please join us for lunch and discussion with Rev. Jennifer Beamsley, assistant to the bishop, on Sun., Jan. 29 from noon - 1:30pm. She will be discussing the call process our congregation will be going through and answering any questions. Lunch will be provided.

Peanut Butter & Jelly Weekend - Jan. 28 & 29

Let's see if we can top last year's record amount of peanut butter & jelly jars we received! The New Lenox Township food bank especially needs these staples at this time of year. Look for the table in the narthex.

BSA Scouts of America Weekend - Feb. 4 & 5

The annual BSA Scouts of America Weekend is coming up on Feb. 4 & 5. Boy Scouts of all ages, wear your uniforms to church. Girl Scout Weekend will be Mar. 11/12.

Souper Bowl of Caring - Feb. 11 & 12

It's Super Bowl time! Join the team that tackles hunger! On Sun., Feb. 12, families and friends gather together to watch the Big Game, while an estimated 40 million Americans are food insecure. Imagine the impact we can make if everyone who watched the game gave one dollar or a can of food to help our neighbors in need. Show the world what it means to be a champion off the field. Join our church's effort in the Souper Bowl of Caring by donating the cost of a meal or snack. Please look for the display in the narthex on Sat., Feb. 11 & Sun., Feb. 12.

VBS Planning Meeting - Wed., Feb. 15 - 6:00pm

Yes, it's time to think summer! Our VBS is amazing, and involves lots of people each helping in some way. We invite you to be a part of the planning crew to join in the behind-the-scenes fun of putting this great event together. The first meeting will be Wed., Feb. 15, at 6:00pm. Please let us know if you would like to help with this ministry in any way.

Annual Meeting - Sun., Feb. 19 - 9:55am

Our annual meeting will take place on Feb. 19, at 9:55am. Highlights will include the election of council members and celebrating what God is doing through Peace. We are very grateful for everyone's combined efforts to make mission happen!

Lenten Devotionals

This year we will have Lenten devotionals for seniors, adults, families & youth and also God's Global Barnyard coin boxes available on the counter in the narthex the first weekend of February.

Ash Wednesday Worship – Feb. 22

The worldwide observance of Lent begins this year on Feb. 22 with Ash Wednesday. This solemn occasion reminds us of our mortality, as well as our need for forgiveness. We will have worship at 11:00am and 7:30pm. The option for the imposition of ashes will be available at both services.

Midweek Lenten Worship Starting Mar. 1 - Sing with All the Saints in Glory

Lent is a season of renewal focusing on the death and resurrection of Jesus. During Lent we reflect on our own faith journey through the rich tradition of Christian commemorations honoring the faithful who have been inspirational for many communities through the ages. Please join us on the Wednesdays between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week at 6:00pm for worship, 6:30pm for soup, sandwich, and conversation.

Bring your own sandwich, soup will be provided.

Week 1 : March 1- Inheritance of Faith: George Herbert

Focus Hymn: #816 "Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life"

Week 2: March 8 - Perseverance with Endurance: Harriet Tubman & Sojourner Truth

Focus Hymn: #770 "Give Me Jesus"

Week 3: March 15 - Faithful in Prayer: Patrick, Missionary to Ireland

Focus Hymn: #450 "I bind unto Myself Today"

Week 4: March 22 - Striving for Justice: Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

Focus Hymn: #718 "In a Lowly Manger Born"

Week 5: March 29 - Dying and Rising with Christ: John Donne

Focus Hymn: #636 "How Small Our Span of Life"

Midweek Lenten Soup Provider

After our midweek Lenten worship series, we will be having soup, sandwich & conversation at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. We are looking for 2 people each week to provide soup for the group. If you would like to volunteer please use the [sign up](#) and the office will contact you with more information.

Interest in Meal in the Upper Room - [Please Let Us Know](#)

We are trying to determine the interest in returning to in person Meal in the Upper Room on Maundy Thursday. Please let us know if you would like to attend. This is not a sign up, just a poll to gauge interest.

Youth News

Our amazing Sunday School staff, teachers, kids and parents are faithfully connecting one another to a closer relationship with God. [Sunday School News](#)

Confirmation for 7th Gr. on Wed., Feb. 1 and 8th Gr. on Wed., Feb. 8

[Peace Church Scholarship](#) will make available the annual scholarship for high school seniors who are planning to attend 4- or 2-year college programs or technical/trade schools. Up to 5 scholarships will be awarded. Recipients will be chosen based on several factors, which are detailed in the application form. These forms are available on the counter in the narthex and must be submitted no later than Wed., Feb. 22, 2023.

7-12 Gr. Ping Pong/Sledding Event - Sat., Feb. 11

Join us on Sat., Feb. 11 from 1-3pm for ping pong or sledding! If we have snow, there will be sledding and if there is no snow, we will play ping pong!! Please eat lunch before you get here, but snacks will be provided. [Sign up here](#)

7-12 Gr. Ping Pong/Sledding Event - Sun., Feb. 26

Deja vu? Join us on Sun., Feb. 26 from 12:30-2:00pm for ping pong or sledding! We will do the opposite of what we did on Sat., Feb. 11, but this time we will have pizza for lunch. [Sign up here](#)

Rehearsals

Children's Choir Rehearsal - Sundays at 9:00am

Children's Choir rehearsal is for anyone 2nd- 8th grade who loves to sing!
We meet in Fellowship Hall at 9:00am and will be finished in time for Sunday School.

Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Tuesdays at 7:00pm

Handbell Choir rehearsals will be on Tuesdays at 7:00pm. Please contact the church office for more information.

Adult Choir Rehearsal - Wednesdays at 7:00pm

Adult Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. We welcome all men and women who love to sing. What could be better than making a joyful noise to the Lord with like-minded people?!
Please contact the church office for more information.

Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal - Sat., Feb. 4 at 3:00pm

Make a joyful noise to the Lord and fellowship with wonderful ladies who enjoy a good time by joining the Peace Ladies Ensemble!! Rehearsals are only one Saturday a month and there are no auditions. Next rehearsal is Sat., Feb. 4 at 3:00pm. Please contact the office for more information.

Prayer List

If your prayer request is for yourself or you have the other person's permission, you may be specific [for example, skin cancer]. For anyone, you may be more general [for example, "a decision to be made," or "health"]. We will keep people on the pray-for list for 60 days unless you tell us otherwise.

The family of Helen Bohr, Ed, Tom (healing & recovery), Paul Bentley, the family of Jane Meister, Jim Pander (surgery), Ellie Cannata, Robin Scanlan (open heart surgery), Denise Eicken (hospice), Ken Gatewood (recovery), Ryan Rajaballey, Carol Dohrn (healing), Cass Ott (healing), Sharon Obuchina, the Salutric family (struggling with the loss of mom/grandma), Diane Lillie (healing), Denise Jones, Ted Chubb, Dorothy Vrshek (hospice), Chris Fehrenkamp, Cathy Richardson, Georgia Piech-Pander, Eric Bartels, Carol Tatro, Bev Kuzdas, Wayne Bell, Barb Chobot...Danny Krzak (healing), Claire McShane (surgery/healing), Amanda & family (loss of their father), Kyle (healing), Monica (recovery), Todd Walker, Lana (aging issues), the Prible family (great loss), Emily Camp, Josh Brann, Dylan Brann, Marijo (healing), Judy (grief), Jean (peace), Vera (peace), Peggy (peace), Foster (teacher/coach), Sheila (improved health), Crystal, Joyce (pancreatic cancer), Erv Pander, Marie (health), Sandy Booton, Alan Booton, Bill Reidy (cancer), Georgianna Bafundo

Groups

Prayer Shawls - Every other Wednesday - Next meeting is Jan. 25

Do you crochet or knit? The Prayer Shawl Ministry is meeting again! A prayer shawl is a shawl prepared for and prayed over for someone that is hurting so they can wrap themselves in God's love. We could provide you with simple patterns or you could create your own. We meet every other Wednesday at 6:00pm. You may also create shawls at home and drop them at church if you are not able to attend in person. Questions, contact the office.

Ruth Circle Quilting - Mon., Jan. 30- 9:00am

Quilting will meet every other Monday at 9:00am. You are welcome to join this great group! Questions? Contact the church office.

Senior Exercise Group - Mondays & Wednesdays

Join us for a low impact, do what you can exercise program for seniors. We meet twice a week: Mondays 12 noon -1:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 11:15a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Trailblazers - Tues., Feb. 21- 11:30am

We invite anyone who'd like to get together with some others who are anything but over the hill to come together on Tues., Feb. 21, at 12 noon at church. Bring \$5; the food will be provided. Email or call the church office for more information.

Women's Group Planning Meeting - Sun., Jan. 22

We had such a great time at the Cookie Exchange that we'd like to keep the ball rolling! Please join us on Sun., Jan 22 at 12:15pm at Bourbons Smokehouse, 280 E Lincoln Hwy. (Mattina Cafes old spot). You can eat or not, your choice, but bring ideas!

Addiction & Family Support Group - Tuesdays

Is someone you love abusing prescription or street drugs? If you are feeling all alone and would like some support from other parents, siblings, friends and spouses who are traveling the same road you are on, then this group may be for you. We support all roads to recovery, so we share what has or hasn't worked for us. We also understand that we must recover, because our lives have also become unmanageable. We meet Tuesdays from 7 - 8:30 p.m. For more information, contact the church office.

Faith Development & Education

Wednesday Bible Study

We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am. Why not join us online or in person to learn more about this amazing resource? If you have any questions, call the office. Any version of the Bible you have will work. You do not need to know anything about the Bible to join us!

Everybody Read

Our desire to have people read a common Bible passage is part of our Book of Faith effort. Each month we pick a passage, invite everyone to read it sometime that month. January's is Revelation 21:5-6.

Helping Others

Blood Drive - Sat., Jan. 28 from 9:00am - 1:00pm

Our next blood drive is Sat., Jan. 28, from 9:00am -1:00pm. Please use the Versiti website https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/5597808 to make an appointment.

Coat & Winter Wear Collection Through January 31

One Warm Coat is a community service effort assisting in the collection of clean, reusable coats and jackets for donation to local individuals free of charge. Peace Church is following in its mission to give away coats to people of all ages. Items can be dropped off here at church in the entrance area bin. Scarfs, hats, gloves/mittens and boots will also be accepted. Please drop off your items by January 31 so they can be delivered to people that really need them in this cold season.

Help With Sorting & Delivering Donations

We are so blessed as a congregation to collect so many things for people in need. We are looking for volunteers to take turns organizing, bagging and delivering these items to MorningStar, Santa Cruz, New Lenox food pantry, etc. If you would like to help, please call or email the church office.

Because of You and Your Gifts

Gender inequality is a major cause and effect of hunger and poverty. According to the World Food Program, an estimated 60 percent of chronically hungry people are women and girls. Guatemala has a particularly difficult issue with stunting because of malnutrition, with nearly 47 percent of children under 5 affected. LWR has partnered with local organization FundaSistemas on the "Improving Health and Nutrition in Guatemala's Western Highlands" project. Residents are provided with agricultural training, seeds and tools for farming to make sure their food is varied, healthy and nutritious. Before the project, single mother Guisela did not know how to farm. Now she is growing nutritionally packed seasonal vegetables such as carrots, radishes and broccoli, producing delicious oyster mushrooms and is raising hens, which provide nutritious eggs for her young daughters Maily and Darriana. With such options, Guisela can be reassured her daughters have a variety of healthy foods to eat and will grow up strong and healthy.

Please check our Peace website www.peacenewlenox.org regularly for updates.