

## Peace Lutheran Church

1900 E. Lincoln Hwy. P.O. Box 205, New Lenox, IL 60451

815-485-5327; [www.peacenewlenox.org](http://www.peacenewlenox.org)

Office – [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org)

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

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

Amy Michelson, Pastor

Shari Simon, Deacon

Matt Piet, 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](http://www.peacenewlenox.org) regularly for updates.

Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/peacenewlenox> and Follow us on Instagram using this link. <https://www.instagram.com/peacenewlenox?igsh=dmFwZ3lmYmx3ZWE3>

Check out the [January Newsletter](#),

Sunday School 2025-26 <http://www.peacenewlenox.org/ministries/youth-ministry/sunday-school/>.

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

### This Week and Beyond

**Sat., Jan 17** – MLK Day of Service 9am

Worship Service 5pm

PJ's Popcorn & Movies 6:15pm

**Sun., Jan 18** - Worship Services 8:30am & 11am

Adult Class & Sunday School 9:45am

**Mon., Jan 19** – Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee 10am

Senior Exercise Group 12pm

**Tues., Jan 20** –Trailblazers 12pm

Miniature Group 12:30pm

Bell Choir 7pm

**Wed., Jan 21** – Bible Study 10:00am

Senior Exercise Group 11:15am

Confirmation Class 7pm

Peace Church Choir 7pm

**Thurs., Jan 22** – Mahjong 1pm

**Sat., Jan 24** – Men's Breakfast 10am

Blanket Forts & Fun Junior Youth Group 1pm

Worship Service 5pm

**Sun., Jan 25** - Worship Services 8:30am & 11am

Adult Class & Sunday School 9:45am

National Youth Gathering Interest Meeting 12pm

Youth Group Service Project (MorningStar) 4pm

**Mon., Jan 26** – Ruth Circle Quilting 9am

Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee 10am

Senior Exercise Group 12pm

**Tues., Jan 27** – Visitation for John Niemann 11:30am

Funeral for John Niemann 12pm

Church Council 7pm

Bell Choir 7pm

**Wed., Jan 28** – Bible Study 10:00am

Senior Exercise Group 11:15am

All Committees Meet 6pm

Peace Church Choir 7pm

**Thurs., Jan 29** – Mahjong 1pm

**Sat., Jan 31** – Property Paint Day 9am

First Communion Class 2pm

Worship Service 5pm (*Contemporary*)  
**Sun., Feb 1** - Worship Services 8:30am & 11am  
 Annual Congregational Meeting with Council Elections 9:45am  
 Sunday School 9:45am (*No Adult Class*)  
 Youth Service Project (South Loop Community Table) 3pm  
**Mon., Feb 2** – Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee 10am  
 Senior Exercise Group 12pm  
**Tues., Feb 3** –Bell Choir 7pm  
**Wed., Feb 4** – Bible Study 10:00am  
 Senior Exercise Group 11:15am  
 Confirmation Class 7pm  
 Peace Church Choir 7pm  
**Thurs., Feb 5** – Mahjong 1pm  
**Sat., Feb 7** – Ladies Ensemble Practice 3pm  
 Worship Service 5pm (*Souper Bowl of Caring*)  
**Sun., Feb 8** - Worship Services 8:30am & 11am (*Souper Bowl of Caring*)  
 Adult Class & Sunday School 9:45am  
**Mon., Feb 9** – Ruth Circle Quilting 9am  
 Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee 10am  
 Senior Exercise Group 12pm  
**Tues., Feb 10** – Bell Choir 7pm  
**Wed., Feb 11** – Bible Study 10:00am  
 Senior Exercise Group 11:15am  
 VBS Planning Meeting 6pm  
 Confirmation Class 7pm  
 Peace Church Choir 7pm  
**Thurs., Feb 12** – Mahjong 1pm  
 Women’s Fellowship & Discussion Group  
**Sat., Feb 14** – Worship Service 5pm  
**Sun., Feb 15** - Worship Services 8:30am & 11am  
 Sunday School & Adult Class 9:45am  
 Out to Eat Group 12:15pm

**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 \$2,131 and offerings of \$5,951 help us to keep doing ministry locally, nationally, and around the world!

**Prayer List**

Debra Fahey, The Family of Linda Bleck, Michele Swanson, Jennifer Grahovac, Dee Vassel, Val Compson, John Vasal, Jack Farbak, Kathryn Givens, Madelyn, Lynn Peterson, Sue Lafferty, Mary Cox, Bill Weber, Jessica Howell, Families of those suffering from the disease of addiction, Betty Kelly, Gianna, Frank Rossi, Scott Swart.

**2026 Flower Sign-Up Now Open!**

The flower chart for 2026 is filling up. If you would like to sign up for flowers, take a look. We have a new way to track flower information, so please grab a slip and envelope off of the bulletin board when you sign up or if you have already signed up but not paid for your flowers or given the office the dedication information.

**If you would like more information about any of the events, announcements or groups in the bulletin, please contact the church office and we will answer any questions or put you in touch with the coordinator of the group.**

## Save the Date

Jan 24- Junior Youth Blankets, Forts & Fun

Jan 25- Youth MorningStar Service Project

Jan 31-Property Paint Day

Jan 31- First Communion Class

Feb 1- Annual Congregational Meeting

Feb 1- Youth South Loop Service Project

Feb 7 & 8-Souper Bowl of Caring

Feb 17-Shrove Dinner

Feb 18-Ash Wednesday Services 11am & 7pm

Feb 25 -Midweek Lenten Services & Soup (Also March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>) 6pm

Feb 28-Spaghetti Dinner Scholarship Fundraiser

Mar 13-Mar 15-Antioch

| Volunteer Role    | Jan 17 – 5:00          | Jan 18 – 8:30             | Jan 18 – 11:00                 |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| USHERS            | Scott & Julie Mathews  | Mike & Karen Padgen       | Deb & Jeff Howell              |
| GREETERS          | Joyce & Mark Nelson    | Claudia Gamache           | Need<br>Need                   |
| COMM. SERVERS     | Chris and Scott Darley | Pamela Putrich<br>Need    | Need<br>Need                   |
| ACOLYTE           | Steven Brill           | Need                      | Holly Dragisic                 |
| LAY LITURGIST     | Need                   | Need                      | Todd Klock                     |
| LESSON READER     | Need                   | Don Lafferty              | Russell Scanlan                |
| REFRESHMENTS      | N/A                    | Need<br>Jennifer Rimkumas | Angie Klock<br>Gavin Kessling  |
| OFFERING COUNTERS | N/A                    | N/A                       | Barb Hnetkovsky<br>Ellen DeMik |

## Announcements

### **Women's Fellowship and Discussion Group – Next meeting is February 12th**

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

### **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 visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YSJZ/home>.

### **PJ's Popcorn & Movies – Sat., Jan. 17 at 6:15pm**

Are you looking for something to do in January? Come join us for PJ'S, popcorn and a movie on Saturday, January 17th at 6:15. Our family-friendly movie will be Lilo & Stitch Live action version. Wear your cutest/funniest pj's and bring blankets or sleeping bags to snuggle. Popcorn and drinks will be provided but feel free to bring extra snacks. Please use the sign-up in the bulletin or call the office.

### **1st Communion Class - Sat., Jan 31 at 2pm**

Join us to learn about the amazing gifts God gives to us in communion! Traditionally at Peace, 5th 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 sign up online with this link <http://www.peacenewlenox.org/news-resources/events/sign-up/> or use the sign up slip or email the church office.

### **Souper Bowl of Caring - Feb. 7 & 8**

It's Super Bowl time! Join the team that tackles hunger! On Sun., Feb. 8, families and friends gather together to watch the Big Game, while an estimated 50 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. 7 & Sun., Feb. 8.

### **VBS Planning Meeting- Wed., Feb. 11 at 6:00pm**

On February 11th from 6pm-7pm we will be meeting to begin planning VBS for the summer of 2026. If you are interested in helping to plan VBS, please come and share your ideas! At this first meeting we will be choosing our dates and the theme, so it is an important and exciting meeting.

### **Community Outreach Event Fat/Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner – Tue., Feb. 17**

For our next community outreach event, please join us for Fat/Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, Tues., Feb. 17, from 6-8 pm. The tradition goes back almost 1000 years and involves eating a hearty meal before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. A meal with fat and sugar is what is called for. We are inviting both members of Peace as well as the community. We will have a fun activity for the young folks as well. There is no cost for the event, but reservations are required. We are asking for volunteers to help set up, serve and help with the kids' activity. Please contact the church office or use the sign up [HERE](#) by Feb. 9 if you will be attending or would like to volunteer.

### **Ash Wednesday Worship – Wed., Feb. 18**

The worldwide observance of Lent begins this year on Feb. 18 with Ash Wednesday. This solemn occasion reminds us of our mortality, as well as our need for forgiveness. We will have worship at 11am and 7pm with the option for the imposition of ashes available at both services.

### **That's Amore for more A's— Sat., Feb. 28 at 6:15pm**

On February 28th we will have our 2nd annual scholarship spaghetti dinner, "That's Amore for More A's". This event is a fundraiser for our scholarship program. Tickets must be purchased for this event, and they will be on sale before and after services the weekends of February 7th and 8th, February 14th and 15th, and February 21st and 22nd. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Adult tickets are \$10 each, and child tickets (ages 12 and under) are \$8 each. This year we will also be having a silent auction during the dinner which will run from 6pm till 7:30pm. Scholarships are available for graduating high school seniors to support them in their future endeavors. Thank you for all of your support.

### **Midweek Lenten Worship February 25 – March 25**

God has created and blessed us. In Jesus, God has joined us in the experience of embodied life as an expression of God's own love and joy. Through exploration of our own physical senses, we are invited to know God in new ways. Please join us on the Wednesdays between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week at 6pm for worship and at 6:30pm for soup, sandwich & conversation. Bring your own sandwich, soup will be provided.

### **Midweek Lenten Soup Provider**

After our midweek Lenten worship service, we will be having soup & fellowship at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. We are looking for 4 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.

## **Rehearsals**

### **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.

### **Handbells**

Join us Tuesday's at 7:30pm.

## **Groups**

### **Ruth Circle Quilting – Mon., Jan. 12 at 9am**

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

### **Men's Breakfast – Sat., Jan 24 at 10am**

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 is a free will offering – breakfast cost is approximately \$15 each. Please use the sign-up link here [Register Online](#) or sign up in the bulletin if you will be joining us.

### **Coffee & Conversation at Gost Coffee – Mondays from 10-11am**

Join us for fun fellowship & coffee!

### **Senior Exercise Group – Mondays & Wednesdays**

Mondays 12 noon -1:00pm and Wednesdays 11:15am-12:15pm.

### **Addiction & Family Support Group – Tuesdays from 7-8:30pm**

Everyone is welcome.

### **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. We welcome those who know how to play and those who would like to learn! If you have any questions, you can reach out to Deacon Shari.

### **Peace Page Turners-Sun., Feb. 22 at 9:45am**

The next meeting of the Peace Page Turners is February 22. We will discuss "Uncle Tom's Cabin" by Harriet Beecher Stowe.

### **Tuesdays at Peace-Tues., Feb. 17 at 10:00am**

We will be meeting next on Feb. 17 to discuss "The Women" by Krista Hannah.

### **Out To Eat Group - Sun., Feb 15 at 12:15pm**

Join us on February 15<sup>th</sup> at North & Maple

### **Trailblazers – Tues., Jan 20 at 12pm**

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

## **Faith Development & Education**

### **Adult Sunday Education**

The Sunday Adult Education Class meets most Sundays at 9:45am. All are welcome!

### **Wednesday Bible Study at 10am**

Everyone is welcome! You do not need to know anything about the Bible to join us!

## **Everybody Read**

January passage is John 1:14

## **Free books!**

Yes, you read that right! We are now giving away our "Questions Kids Ask About God" books. They are available in English and Spanish, hardcover, softcover and coloring books. If you know of anyone who would enjoy learning about God in a fun, creative way, help yourself to these books. They will be available on the counter in the narthex. They make great gifts.

## **Youth**

### **Peace Youth Group**

Do you want to hang out with other awesome Peace youth? Do you like to eat good food, play games, and talk about Jesus? Awesome!!!! Peace Youth Group is for you! Our 7th - 12th grade youth group meets most Sundays to enjoy fellowship, faith and fun. Please get connected to our Youth Group Google calendar or request a paper copy by reaching out to Deacon Shari. Join the fun! Sign up for youth events by [Clicking Here!](#)

### **Upcoming Youth Events:**

**MorningStar Service Project- Sun. Jan 25 at 4pm**

**National Youth Gathering Interest Meeting- Sun. Jan 25 at 12pm**

**South Loop Service Project-Sun. Feb 1 at 4:45pm**

**Youth Group Fancy Dinner-Sun. Feb 22 at 5pm**

**Antioch-Sat. March 13-March 15**

### **7-12 Gr. Service Project Opportunity – Sun., Jan. 25**

We will meet at church at 3:30pm and go to MorningStar Mission. We will pass out all the things we have been collecting for our unhoused neighbors and serve dinner. Please let us know if your youth can attend, so we know how many drivers we will need. Adults, please let us know if you would like to drive. This event will count as service hours for Confirmation and for high school. Sign up online or in the bulletin.

### **Youth Group Serving Dinner at South Loop Community Table-Sun., Feb 1 at 4:45**

On February 1st the youth group will meet at church and go to South Loop Community Table. We will be serving dinner and playing games with those who come to the Community Table. Please let us know if your youth can attend, so we know how many drivers we will need. Adults, please let us know if you would like to drive. This event will count as service hours for Confirmation and for high school. Sign up online or in the bulletin.

### **Youth Group Fancy Dinner-Sun., Feb 22 at 5pm**

On February 22nd the youth group will be going to a Fancy Dinner out at North and Maple here in New Lenox. We will meet at North and Maple at 5:00pm and youth will be done at 6:30pm. Please sign up by February 8th so we can make reservations. Let's enjoy a wonderful meal and fun conversation.

### **Upcoming Junior Youth Events:**

**Blanket Forts & Fun-Sat. Jan 24 at 1pm**

### **Junior Youth Blanket Forts & Fun., Jan 24 at 1pm**

Our first event will be on January 24th from 1pm-3pm. It is called "Blanket Forts and Fun", and we will be building our own giant blanket fort and watching a movie together. Youth are invited to bring friends and of course blankets! We will have popcorn and lemonade, but everyone should eat lunch before they come.

## **Helping Others**

### **Sunday School Sock Drive**

During the month of January, the Sunday School group will be collecting new white socks. The youth group will be taking these socks to Morning Star Mission on January 25th to hand them out to our neighbors who are unhoused. We can use socks of all sizes but especially men's white socks are preferred! Thank you for sharing Christ's warmth with those in need.

### **Santa Cruz's Food Pantry Special Appeal – Cereal & Canned Goods**

In lieu of the usual items on the needs list for Santa Cruz food pantry, they are making a special appeal for cereal and any kind of canned goods. Please look for the baskets by Fellowship Hall if you would like to donate items.

### **Prayer Shawls Needed**

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. You may create shawls at home and drop them at church, and we will get them to the people who need them.

### **Prayer Shawls Available**

A prayer shawl is a knitted or crocheted shawl that is made with prayerful meditation for yourself or someone in need. Please put in your requests in the Prayer Shawl box in the narthex or email the church office.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Are you looking for individual volunteer opportunities, to earn community service hours, find ways to give back or lend a hand? The Service/Outreach Committee is creating a list of ideas for individual service projects. Watch the bulletin board in the narthex and the newsletter for details. For starters, here are a few suggestions. If you know of other opportunities, please share.

\*\*ShareFest, 21715 Moni Drive, New Lenox, needs volunteers to help out in its food pantry and warehouse during the day, Tuesday-Saturday. Sign up at <https://www.sharefestwillcounty.org/>

\*\*Sunny Hill Nursing Home, 421 Doris Avenue, Joliet, you can scoop ice cream in the Sweet Shop, help with Bingo, and more. All volunteers must complete a form for a background check. Contact Kristen at 815-727-8710.

**Please check our website [www.peacenewlenox.org](http://www.peacenewlenox.org) regularly for updates.**