

June 2026

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 to God in Christ.*



PRAYERS REQUESTED:

- MaryBeth
- David Star
- Jackie Nakos
- Sophia Campos
- The May Family
- Mike & Terri Brennan
- The O'neal Family
- Marge Wilcox

CONGRATS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

- **Highschool**
- Ben Ruhe
- Erin Hadley
- Josh DeMik
- **Seminary**
- Karin Knutson
- Brandon Fuhr
- Nathaniel Knutson

EVERYBODY READ

Our desire to have people read a common Bible passage is part of our Book of Faith effort.

**June's passage is:
Jude 1:1-2**

A Letter From Your Pastor

Pastor Amy Michelson

It has been an honor to hear from Peace members reflecting on how and when they feel wrapped in God's love in teaching moments and newsletter articles. We heard about how people come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime and that we can make a difference in people's lives in the simplest interactions. We can be people who wrap others in God's love.

We heard that while our lives inevitably change, God's love is ever-present and can surprise us. The gifts that we give are expressions of our love and a way to say thank you to God.

We heard about the gift of God calling us by name and belonging to a place like Peace.

We heard about all the ways Peace acts as representatives of God's love in all that we do and it simply wouldn't be possible without your support and financial gifts.

We read about how Peace serves as a safe, in-person gathering space for many and so, our gifts reach far beyond our walls in ways we may never fully understand.

Thank you to those who shared their stories and experiences with us. We all have stories like these I imagine. When have you felt wrapped in God's love? How did you come to be at Peace and why did you stay? Don't breeze past these questions. Take a moment and consider your own stories of being wrapped in God's love...

I'm glad you're here. And I'm grateful for your commitment to the gospel, to Peace, and to our surrounding communities. Together, we are wrapped in God's love, and we are wrapping others in God's love too. What an honor and a joy.

Peace,
Pastor Amy



Financial Update as of April 30, 2026

April. Income	YTD Income	Annual Budget
\$49,323	\$576,498	\$602,158

April. Expense	YTD Expense	Annual Budget
\$44,854	\$566,864	\$602,158

We Celebrate Our Confirmands

- Gabriella Jean Chenoweth
- Greyer Edward Cullinane
- Holly Ann Dragisic
- Kira Louise Gagni
- Kenzie Elizabeth Hardy
- Elliana Grace Lang
- Jack Alexander Lang
- Carter Ethan Nickerson
- Michael Anthony Pisciola
- Michael Anthony Lundgren
- Nathaniel Constantine Brown
- Kendall Mae Queenan
- Siena Pauline Scribner
- Anna Grace Dotzenrod
- Ryan Jeffrey Bell
- Emme Grace Brown
- Jared James Ennis



Thank You

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

- Our staff and staff relations for a great annual review process
- Our special musicians who offered special music this program year (you can still offer in the summer 😊)
- Those who turned in commitment cards and all of our generous givers
- Our faithful, skilled budget preparers
- Our property work day volunteers for all their hard work



A Letter From Your Deacon

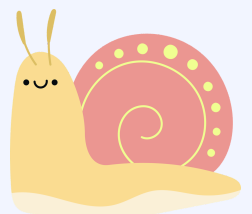


Dear Members and Friends of Peace,

Summer is here and to me that means Vacation Bible School. This year our VBS will be July 21-24. Our theme this year is “Caught in God’s Love” and we will be learning lessons taught to us by God’s tiniest creatures, our buggy friends. We will be learning some BEETLEful songs and playing some fANTastic games. We will also have snacks like the very hungry CATERPILLAR, study science with the many eyes of SPIDERS, and create glowing crafts like FIREFLYS. On Tuesday we will learn about Kindness, from our ladybug friends. We will use the story of the Good Samaritan and discover how we can be kind to one another just like a ladybug is kind to a gardener. Wednesday we will learn the caterpillars lesson and what it means to be patient like Simeon. On Thursday we will study tiny little ants and the parable of the mustard seed while we see what huge things tiny faith and tiny bugs can do. Friday we will end VBS by learning how to work together like busy bees. The story of Nehemia and the rebuilding of the wall in Jerusalem will show us that with teamwork anything is possible.

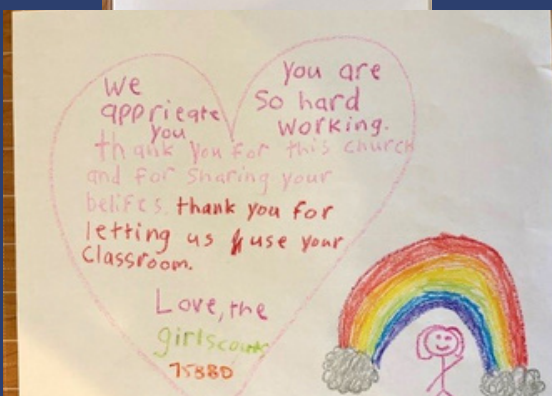
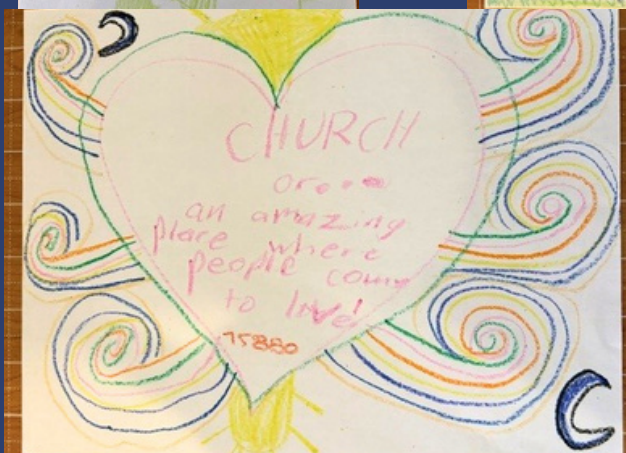
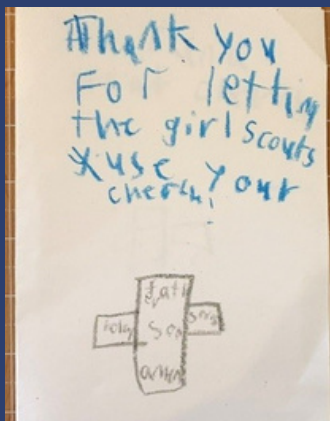
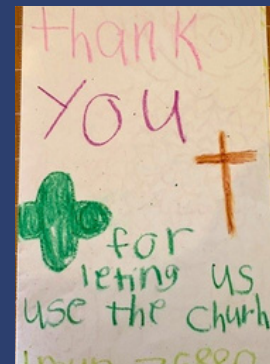
We hope that everyone will come and have a great time! Participants should be 4 years old through starting 5th grade. If you are older than that please know we need lots of volunteers and hope you can help. Volunteers will start on Monday as we turn our church into a buggy masterpiece. We will also have an opportunity on July 19th at Creation Station for all members to come and create decorations for VBS. This year we will need to make a lot of bugs in various shapes and sizes, so come with your ideas. No talent is necessary if you can hold a marker or work a pair of scissors, we need you! Thank you for all you do to make Peace a warm and welcoming place for all God’s children. Don’t let the fun FLY by, we hope to see you there!

God’s Peace,
Deacon Shari





Thank You Pictures From The Girl Scouts



Worship

Contemporary Worship

Join us the 2nd Saturday of the month (June 13th, July 11th, & August 8th) at 5pm for a more contemporary worship style. Looking forward to worshipping with you!

Outdoor Worship

Weather permitting, join us outside the last Saturday of the month at 5pm, May-September. Bring your own chair and dress for the weather!

Offerings & Opportunities

2026 Flower Sign-Up

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 if you sign up or if you have not yet paid for your flowers or given the office the dedication information.

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, click on the donate tab.

Congregational Budget Meeting-Sun., May 31 at 9:45am

Voting members are invited to attend our annual budget meeting. Packets are available in the narthex. Please review the packet before the meeting and send your questions into the church office or to Pastor Amy.

Offering Envelopes

The offering envelopes that will start on June 1st are now available to be picked up on the table in the narthex. If you give by electronic deposit, you will not have envelopes.



2026 Annual Stewardship Appeal

OUR APPEAL KICKED OFF ON APRIL 11! THIS YEAR'S THEME IS "WRAPPED IN GOD'S LOVE." KNOW THAT EACH OF YOU IS A CHILD OF GOD, PRECIOUS IN GOD'S EYES AND LOVED BEYOND COMPARE. GOD'S LOVE WRAPS AROUND US ALL AND GIVES US STRENGTH, PEACE, HOPE, AND PROTECTION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN BRINGING GOD'S LOVE INTO OUR HEARTS AND OUT TO ONE ANOTHER.



Looking Ahead

Congregational Budget Meeting- May 31

Trivia Night- July 11

VBS- July 21-24

Faith Development & Education

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.

Fellowship

VBS Planning Meeting- Wed., June 17 at 6:00pm

On May 13 from 6pm-7pm we will be meeting to continue planning VBS for the summer of 2026. Our theme this year is “Caught in God’s Love.” If you are interested in helping to plan, please come and share your ideas!

The Third Annual Peace Community Picnic – Sat., June 27 at 6pm to 8pm

The Third Annual Peace Community Picnic immediately following the 5 p.m. outdoor worship service. We will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings, and have activities for kids. This event, held in conjunction with the Out to Eat Group, is a great opportunity to get together and open our doors to welcome the community. It is open to everyone. We encourage you to invite your families, friends and anyone in the community who might enjoy a summer evening barbecue. Please watch for sign ups for attendance, assistance and food donations.

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday mornings at 10am. We are currently studying the book of Revelation. You do not need to know anything about the Bible to join us!

Peace Garden Club

DID YOU KNOW...that gardening will make you happier and healthier? Playing in the soil actually boosts your mood and immune system and reduces stress and anxiety! If you don’t believe that, then come join the Peace Garden Club! Our initial goal is to raise vegetables for local food pantries, soak up some sun and Vitamin K, and find some fun along the way. We need lots of volunteers on an ongoing basis to mulch, plant, weed and water ... and eventually harvest. We hope to get started this spring. Can you dig it? If so, please Register Online to indicate your interest. You know you will feel better if you do! This project is opened to any students who would like to earn community service hours.



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.

Peace Page Turners–Sun., June 28 at 9:45am

The next meeting of the Peace Page Turners will be June 28 and the book is "A Marriage at Sea" by Sophie Elmhurst

Tuesdays at Peace–Tues., June 16th at 10:00am

We will be discussing "Flight of the Sparrow" by Amy Belding Brown.

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.

Golf Group – Thursdays at 8:00am

The golf group will start playing when the temperature hits 50 degrees in the morning. We play for fellowship, fresh air and maybe hit a good shot occasionally. 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.

Men's Breakfast – Sat., June 27 at 9am

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

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!

Ruth Circle Quilting – Mon., June 1 & 15 at 9am

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

Trailblazers – Tues., June 16 at 12pm

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

Out To Eat Group – Sun., June 7 at 12:15pm

Join us at Waffles 20594 S. Lagrange Rd in Frankfort. They offer large portions! Reserve by June 4 (It's a "call ahead", so patience is valuable!)



Youth

Peace Youth Groups

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 Groups are for you! Peace Youth is for 7th - 12th graders and Jr. Youth Group is for 3rd - 6th graders. Both groups will continue meeting regularly again in the fall so stay tuned!

Jr. Youth Wild and Crazy Water Fun- Sun, May 31 at 12:15pm

On Sunday May 31st, we will meet at 12:15pm and have pizza together and then go outside and have fun with water balloons, squirt toys, and slip and slides. This will be our last monthly gathering until September because of summer vacations. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Shari.

Summer Service Week

The week of June 8th through June 12th, we will be doing a different service project each day. We will carpool to the location where we will engage in ministry of service. We will return to church and have lunch together and talk about our experience. This camp is designed for youth, but all are invited to sign up and come, we would love for this to be multi-generational. The service projects will include Peace Community Garden, HHH Ranch, Sunny Hill Nursing Home, Joshua Arms, and Sharefest. We will also be making fleece blankets throughout the week. Come and be a part of this exciting opportunity. A note for parents and youth, all of these events can count towards school service hours, and this could be a fun week to do service together as a family! As always, please invite friends!

Car Wash and Peace Youth Water Games-Sun, June 28 at 12pm

On May 3rd we will be offering a car wash in our parking lot from 12pm till 1:30pm and then have water games for our last monthly youth group of the summer. We will start meeting again in September. Water games will last till 2:30pm and pizza lunch will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Shari.



Upcoming Youth Events

- Sun, May 31- Jr. Youth Wild and Crazy Water Fun- 12:15pm
- June 8th thru 12th- Summer Service Week
- Sun, June 28 -Car Wash and Peace 360 Water Games- 12:30pm



Helping Others

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.



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.



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

Joliet Area Hospice Support Groups
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 or 815-727-6401

NAMI - National Alliance for Mental Illness
info@namiwillgrundy.org or
www.namiwillgrundy.org

Recycling and Green Initiatives-
willcountygreen.com



General Information

Worship Details

Saturday worship 5pm, Sunday at 8:30 & 11am.
8:30am service is live streamed.

Email Contacts

Pastor Amy – amichelson@peacenewlenox.org
Deacon Shari – strotter@peacenewlenox.org
Church office: peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org.

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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Phone: (815) 485-5327

e-mail: peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org

website: www.peacenewlenox.org