

Peace Lutheran Church

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

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Office – peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org

Pastor Amy – amichelson@peacenewlenox.org

Deacon Shari – 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 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 [July Newsletter](#).

Sunday School 2026-27 <https://peacelutheranchurch6025.breezechms.com/form/2631de83>.

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

Calendar

Sat., July 18- Worship Service, 5pm
Peace Trivia Contest, 6:15pm

Sun, July 19 – Worship Service, 8:30am & 11am
VBS Creation Station, 12:15pm

Mon., July 20 – VBS Decoration Day, 9am
Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee, 10am
Strong Senior Exercise, 12pm

Tues., July 21 – Vacation Bible School, 9:30am
Tuesdays at Peace Book Club, 10am

Wed., July 22 – Vacation Bible School, 9:30am
NO Bible Study, 10:00am
NO Senior Exercise Group, 11:15am

Thurs., July 23 – Vacation Bible School, 9:30am
Mahjong, 1pm

Fri., July 24 – Vacation Bible School, 9:30am

Sat., July 25 – Worship Service 5pm *Outdoor Worship*

Sun., July 26 – Worship, 8:30am
Christmas in July Stocking Stuffer, 9:30am
Worship, 11am *VBS Kids Sing*

Mon., July 27 - Ruth Circle Quilting, 9am
Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee, 10am
Senior Exercise Group, 12pm

Wed., July 29 - Bible Study, 10am
Senior Exercise Group, 11:15am
Christmas in July at Joshua Arms, 12:15pm

Thurs., July 30 – Mahjong 1pm

Sat., Aug., 1 Worship Service, 5pm

Sun, Aug., 2– Worship Service, 8:30am
Peace Page Turners, 9:45am
Worship Service, 11am

Mon., Aug 3 – Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee, 10am
Senior Exercise Group, 12pm

Wed., Aug. 5 – Bible Study, 10:00am
Senior Exercise Group, 11:15am

Thurs., Aug 6– Mahjong, 1pm

Sat., Aug 8 - Worship Service, 5pm

Sun, Aug 9– Worship Service, 8:30am
 Sunday School Orientation & Training 9:30am
 Worship Service, 11am

Mon., Aug 10 – Ruth Circle Quilting, 9am
 Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee, 10am
 Senior Exercise Group, 12pm

Wed., Aug 12 – Bible Study, 10:00am
 Senior Exercise Group, 11:15am

Thurs., Aug 13– Mahjong, 1pm

Sat., Aug 15– Worship Service, 5pm, *Blessing of the Backpacks*

Sun., Aug 16 – Worship, 8:30am, *Blessing of the Backpacks*
 All Committee Meeting, 9:30am
 Worship Service, 11am, *Blessing of the Backpacks*

Mon., Aug 17- Coffee and Conversation at Gost Coffee, 10am
 Senior Exercise Group, 12pm

Tues., Aug 18 - Tuesdays at Peace Book Club, 10am
 Trailblazers, 12 noon

Wed., Aug 19 – Bible Study, 10am
 Senior Exercise Group, 11:15am

Thurs., Aug 20 – Mahjong 1pm

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar for July 18 & 19 were given by Priscilla Huffman in memory of George H. and Paul and Kathy Sons in celebration of Stacy Sons' birthday.

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 \$1,883 and offerings of \$10,008 help us to keep doing ministry locally, nationally, and around the world!

Prayer List

Jeremy & Josh, Carol Amour, Lexi, Aaron Sands, Mark Wilcox, The Fouts Family, The Family of Bailey Caldwell, Cass Ott, Frank Rossi

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

July 18th - Peace Trivia Contest

July 21st – 24th – VBS

August 16th - All Committee Meeting

September 13th – Rally Day and Messtival

September 19th – Women's Retreat

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers!

Volunteer Role	July 18 – 5:00	July 19 – 8:30	July 19 – 11:00
USHERS	Carter Nickerson Amy Bala	Janelle Tague Keith Tague	Lauren and Haley Muehlnickel
GREETERS	Jodi Vanderkin Raquel Vanderkin	Kathy Sons Paul Sons	Elle Heidenreich
COMM. SERVERS	Need Amy Bala	Marylynn Tyler Need	Jen Dragisic Donna Hartmann
ACOLYTE	Jack Johnson	Need	Kenzie Hardy
LAY LITURGIST	Need	Debbie Standard	Syndy Lindbloom
LESSON READER	Jan Bentley	Need	Deb Howell
REFRESHMENTS	N/A	Jennifer Rimkumas Karen Town	Angie Klock
OFFERING COUNTERS	N/A	N/A	Lisa Star Mark Anderson

Announcements

Please help fill our 2026 Flower Chart!

We have many openings for the 2026 Flower Chart. If you would like to sign up for flowers, take a look at the chart for open dates. Please note the new system for signing up to bring flowers. We ask that you grab a slip and envelope from the bulletin board. If you have already signed up but have not yet paid for your flowers or given the office the dedication information, you can also use the slips and envelopes provided. Thank you for contributing to the beauty of our worship services.

Offering Envelopes

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

Peace Trivia Contest, Sat., July 18 at 6:15pm

Come and join the fun on Saturday, July 18th at 6:15pm for the Peace trivia contest. We intend to have multiple teams of no more than six players each. Each of you is an expert at something, right?! We encourage you to assemble a team of your own (or signing up individually? No problem! We will place everyone who wants to play on a team.) If you are already on a team, please have a team captain sign you up, listing the number of members and a team name. Al Davenport will correspond with all of the team captains and individuals as the event gets closer. Although walk-ins are welcome, please help us by signing up in advance. Watch future bulletins to sign up! Get those thinking caps on and join a night of fun and laughter.

VBS Creation Station- Sun., July 19th at 12:15pm

Please join us for our annual VBS Creation Station at 12:15pm. We will be meeting to make the decorations for VBS and will have pizza for lunch! Our theme this year is “Caught in God’s Love.” If you would like to serve as a volunteer during the week of VBS please let Deacon Shari know.

Vacation Bible School – July 21-24

Join us for Caught in God's Love Vacation Bible School, Tues.-Fri., July 21-24 from 9:30am-12pm. VBS is for ages 4-incoming 5th graders, and our mornings are filled with music, STEM and craft projects, Bible stories, and snack. Please register today!

VBS Kids Sing for worship – Sun., July 26th at 11am

On July 26th our VBS participants will sing their theme song at the 11:00 am worship service. We invite families and friends as well as all of our members to come and hear about being Caught in God's love!

Golf Group – Thursdays at 8:00am

The golf group has started play. If it is above 50 and below 90 we will play. We play for fellowship, fresh air and maybe hit a good shot occasionally. We will be playing on Thursdays at 8:00am. 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.

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.

Please note: We are transitioning our online giving from Vanco to our new church management system, Tithe.ly. This change will help streamline our processes and strengthen our overall financial tracking and reporting. If you have not yet made the switch, please contact the church office at your earliest convenience. so we can assist you in updating your giving platform. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Worship

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!

Contemporary Worship

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

Worship Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in volunteering during our worship services, please sign up on the sign up sheet or contact the office. Thank you!

Youth

Jr. Youth Group (3rd-6th grade)

Calling all 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders! We want you to be a part of our Jr. Youth Group! Come hang out with other youth from our congregation as we have fun and grow in our relationship with God together. You also get to help plan our activities. We will have one event each month from September to May.

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 regularly from September – May, with a few special summer events to enjoy fellowship, faith and fun. Join us!

Upcoming Youth Events:

The 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering (June 28th -July 2nd, 2027, in Minneapolis, MN) is more than an event -- it's a movement where young people and leaders come alive in faith, grow in hope and move with purpose. This is where the church comes to life. Peace will be taking a group of youth (graduating 8th graders-graduating seniors in 2027) and adults and we want you to be a part of this amazing opportunity.

Groups

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.

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.

Tuesdays at Peace-Tues., Aug., 18th at 10:00am

We will be discussing "Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver.

Ruth Circle Quilting – July 27 at 9am

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

Trailblazers – Tues., Aug., 18th at 12pm

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

Volunteers Needed for Trailblazers-

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 3rd 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.

Men's Breakfast – Sat., Aug., 22 at 9am (*We will not gather in July*)

Men ages 16 and older are invited to this fellowship opportunity that meets at Peace on the fourth Saturday of the month at 9am. Cost is a free will offering - breakfast cost is approximately \$15 each. Please use the sign-up sheet or [Register Online](#).

Peace Page Turners- Sun., Aug., 2 at 9:45am

The next book the Peace Page Turners will discuss will be "The Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell.

Faith Development & Education**Register for 2026/2027 Sunday School**

We look forward to a great year starting on Rally Day, Sept. 13 at 9:45am; "Caught in God's Love"! 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 online](#), or call the church office.

Sunday School Teacher Needed for the 2026-2027 program year

Our Sunday School volunteers are coming together, and we have almost all our spots filled! Thank you so much for your dedication to our young people. We are in need of a teacher for the Preschool 3-year-old class. This is a really fun class to work with and involves much less planning than the other grade levels. If this sounds like a fun opportunity to you, please reach out to Jess Lindeman or Deacon Shari for more information.

Sunday School Teacher & Helper Orientation – Sun., Aug. 9 – 9:30am

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. 9 at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall. We would love if our substitute teachers can join us, too!

Blessing Of the Backpacks - August 15 & 16

On Saturday August 15 and Sunday August 16, 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.

Wednesday Bible Study at 10am

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

Everybody Read

July reading: Luke 10:27.

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.

Helping Others

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 weed and water ... and eventually harvest. Can you dig it? If so, please [Register Online](#) or on the sheet at the volunteer sign-up station 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.

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 regularly for updates.