

Peace Lutheran Church

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

815-485-5327; www.peacenewlenox.org

e-mail: peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org

Amy Michelson, 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 [March Newsletter](#) & [Sunday School News](#)

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

This Week and Beyond

Sat., Mar. 16 – Worship service 5pm

Adult Fellowship Bunco 6pm

Sun., Mar. 17 – Pastor Amy's Installation Service 10am

NO Worship Service 8:30am & 11am

NO Children's Choir Rehearsal or Education Hour

Installation Celebration Luncheon at Gatto's 11:30am

Mon., Mar. 18 – Coffee & Conversation at Gost Coffee 10am

Senior Exercise Group 12pm

Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm (note new day)

Tues., Mar. 19 – The Chosen Viewing & Discussion 10am

Trailblazers 12pm

Tavern Talk at Hickory Creek Brewery 6:30pm

Wed., Mar. 20 – Bible Study 10am

Senior Exercise Group 11:15am

Midweek Lenten Service 6pm & Lenten Soup & Sandwich 6:30pm

Thurs., Mar. 21 – *The Chosen* discussion on Zoom 7:30pm

Sat., Mar. 23 – Worship service 5pm

Sun., Mar. 24 – Worship Service 8:30am & 11am

Children's Choir Rehearsal 9am – Education Hour 9:45am

Mon., Mar. 25 – Coffee & Conversation at Gost Coffee 10am

Ruth Circle Quilting 9am

Senior Exercise Group 12pm

Tues., Mar. 26 – The Chosen Viewing & Discussion 10am

Bell Choir Rehearsal 6pm (note new time)

Church Council 7pm

Wed., Mar. 27 – Bible Study 10am

Senior Exercise Group 11:15am

Meal in the Upper Room Set-up 6:30pm

No Adult Choir

Thurs., Mar. 28 – Meal in the Upper Room Set-up 9am

Meal in the Upper Room 6pm

Maundy Thursday Worship Service 7:30pm

No *The Chosen* discussion on Zoom

Fri., Mar. 29 – Church Office Closed

Good Friday Worship Service 7:30pm

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers this week are given by Kevin Conway in memory of Tammy Conway and also given by Todd & Angie Klock in celebration of the installation of Pastor Amy as our new pastor.

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 \$1,765 and mailed in & weekend offerings of \$6,859 help us to keep doing ministry locally, nationally, and around the world!

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 Karen Severson, the family of Tom Deja, the family of Walter Kiebles, Elizabeth Hacker, the Maher family, Ken Gatewood, Sharon Fullriede, Mike Bohl (retina detachment), Arlene Dittman, Claudia Green, Denise Jones, Chris Fehrenkamp, Cathy Richardson, Georgia Piech-Pander, Eric Bartels... Robert K, Lauren & Stacey, Rose (new diagnosis), Paul Peterson, Brian Ring, Howard Vanick, the McGowan family, Bill Park (rapidly degenerating Parkinson's disease), Ken Tague, Erv Pander

Holy Week and Easter Worship

Thursday, March 28

6pm - Meal in the Upper Room

7:30pm - Maundy Thursday Worship

Friday, March 29

10am - Cross Walk in New Lenox – Starts at St. Jude's Church

7:30pm - Good Friday Worship

Saturday, March 30

5pm - Easter Eve Worship - Transition from dark to light

Sunday, March 31

8:30 & 11am - Communion Festival Worship

9:45am - Easter Breakfast – Reservations are needed

New Announcements

New Member Orientation & Reception, Sun., Apr. 21 & 28

We will be privileged once again to welcome more people officially to become partners with us in our mission of spreading the Gospel and growing in faith. The orientation will take place on Sunday, April 21 at 12:15pm (note new time) along with a light lunch. The reception of new members will be April 28 at the 11am worship. If you are interested in joining or finding out more information, please call the church office at 815-485-5327.

Coming Up This Week and Beyond

Coffee & Conversation at Gost Coffee – 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.

Viewing and Discussion of *The Chosen*

On Tuesdays & Thursdays Deacon Shari is offering a new study group, discussing the series called *The Chosen* by Dallas Jenkins. *The Chosen* is the first television series based on the life of Jesus. We will be offering two options, in person to watch the episode on and then discuss on Tuesday mornings from 10-11:30am and Thursday evenings via zoom at 7:30pm to discuss the episode you have watched on your own.

Tavern Talk – Tues., Mar. 19

On the third Tuesday of the month, we will have an opportunity for fellowship and conversation. Deacon Shari will gather at Hickory Creek Brewery on Schoolhouse Road in New Lenox. Come grab a drink of choice and a slice of pizza. Pizza on us, drinks on you. It is also open mic night at the Brewery so feel free to strut your stuff if you would like! We will be there from 6:30-8:30pm, come as you are able!

Announcements

Installation Service for Pastor Amy – Sun., Mar. 17

On Sunday, March 17 we will be having one service at 10am to install Pastor Amy Michelson as our new senior pastor. This will be an exciting celebration and worship service! We hope that everyone will attend and pack the house as we celebrate this exciting new adventure.

Midweek Lenten Worship - Holy Lament: O God, our help in times of trouble.

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 reflection. Throughout the ages Christians have been "leaning on the everlasting arms" of God in good times and in times of trouble. 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.

March 20: Psalm 44:1-10, 13, 17-26

Meal in the Upper Room - Thurs., Mar. 28

You are invited to the Maundy Thursday celebration of the Meal in the Upper Room on Thurs., Mar. 28 at 6pm (please note new time). The Passover is a celebration of the Jewish people's emancipation from slavery during the pharaoh's rule in Egypt, led by Moses. We are reminded of the hardship that the Jews endured before achieving freedom. We will be inspired by God's word and special music. **Because of the special nature of this event, many volunteers are needed to help set up and clean up. We are not in need of more lesson readers.** Please use the [sign-up online](#) or in the bulletin if you are willing to help or if you would like to attend. **Deadline to sign up is Mar. 17.**

Easter Breakfast & Baskets – Deadline to [sign up](#) is Mar. 17

Our Easter breakfast will be at 9:45am in fellowship hall. The breakfast will be catered so we are asking for everyone coming to please sign up by Mar. 17, so we have an accurate count. The menu will be scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, French toast, Ashford potatoes, danish, fruit, Irish soda bread, Irish bacon, coffee & orange juice. Breakfast cost is on a donation basis. There also will be Easter baskets for the kids 12 & under who have signed up. If you would like to volunteer to help set up at 9am on Sat., Mar. 30, help during the breakfast or clean up afterwards, please use [the sign up](#) here or in the bulletin to let us know that also

VBS Planning Meeting – Wed., Apr. 3

Our VBS is amazing and involves lots of people helping in many different ways. We invite you to be a part of the planning crew to join in the fun of putting this great event together. The next planning meeting will be Wed., Apr. 3 at 6pm. Please let us know if you would like to help with this ministry in any way.

Fill the 2024 Flower Chart!

Please help us fill the flower chart! We have many dates that are open and would like to fill them so we always have flowers on the altar. Look for the flower chart by Fellowship Hall and sign up for any date you would like to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, give special thanks, etc. or in honor of someone. You may call or email the church office to sign up also. Cost per arrangement is \$20.

Ministry Fair – Sun., Apr. 14

Wondering what opportunities there are to be involved at Peace? Would you like to sing with the choir? Perhaps you have been wanting to join a committee. Look no further! On Sun., Apr. 14 we will be having a Ministry Fair between services, starting at 9:45am. Each ministry will have a table and a treat. Come learn about what being a member at Peace could have in store for you.

New Member Orientation – Sun., Apr. 21

We will be receiving new members again in April. Orientation will be Sun., Apr. 21, at 9:55am and the reception of new members will be Sun., Apr. 28 during the 11am worship. Please call the church office to let us know if you'll be involved.

VBS July 30-Aug. 2

Save the date! Our 2024 Vacation Bible School planning is in the works. Please save the dates of Tues., July 30 – Fri., Aug. 7 and watch the bulletin for more details and to sign up.

Ruth Circle Quilters Needs

The Ruth Circle Quilters have once again donated 50 quilts to the Manteno Veterans Home to be included in their baskets for those in need. Now they are asking for your help. The Quilters are in need of gently used blankets, mattress pads and fleece throws. These items are used as fillers for the quilts so if they are not perfect, they still may be able to use them. They can not use comforters or very thick mattress pads, because they are too thick for needles to sew. As spring cleaning may be approaching, please keep the quilting group in mind. Please bring your items to the church office anytime or when the Quilters are meeting, and they will be put to good use.

Rehearsals

Bell Choir Rehearsal – Tuesdays

Bell Choir rehearsals will be on Tuesdays at 7pm. Please join us! For more information contact the church office.

We will have rehearsal on Mon, Mar. 18 at 7pm and Tues., Mar. 26 at 6pm.

Adult Choir Welcomes New Voices – Wednesdays

Has a little voice been telling you to make a joyful noise unto the Lord? Are you singing in the car? Annoying friends and family with karaoke? Then the Adult Choir would LOVE to welcome you! Men and women. No auditions, no experience! Adult Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7pm. If you would like information, please contact the office.

Ladies Ensemble Invites You to Join! – Sat., Apr. 6

Calling all Ladies!!! The Ladies Ensemble is a fun group of Peace women who love to sing and fellowship. Our next practice is Sat., Apr. 6 at 3pm. We only practice once a month and if you love to sing, please consider joining this joyous group! Please contact the church office for more information.

Children's Choir Rehearsal – Sundays

Children's Choir rehearsals are on Sundays at 9am in Fellowship Hall for anyone 2nd - 8th grade who loves to sing! For more information, please contact the church office.

Youth

Confirmation Schedule

7th Grade – Apr. 3, 17

8th Grade – Apr. 10, 24

Mandatory Confirmation Rehearsal – Wed., May 8

There is a Confirmation Rehearsal for our 8th Graders on Wed., May 8. Please have one adult present for this meeting. Confirmation dates are May 12 & May 19 at the 11:00am service. Please fill out the [Confirmation date choice form](#) for your youth before May 8.

National Youth Gathering Meeting – Sun., Apr. 14.

Those youth who are registering for NYG, please join Deacon Shari at church on Sun., Apr. 14., at 9:45am in the education wing.

College Information Packets

We have available an excellent packet of materials for all who are in the college search stage of life. Look for them on the counter in the narthex.

Groups

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

Ruth Circle Quilting – Mon., Mar. 25

Quilting meets every other Monday at 9:00am. You are welcome to join this great group!

Prayer Shawl Group – Wed., Apr. 17

The Prayer Shawl Group will not be meeting during Lent. They meet next on Wed., Apr. 17 at 6pm and meets every other Wednesday. 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. You may also create shawls at home and drop them at church if you are not able to attend in person. Questions, please contact the church office.

Trailblazers – Tues., Mar. 19

We invite anyone who'd like to get together with some others who are anything but over the hill to come together on Tues., Mar. 19, at 12pm. Bring \$5; the food will be provided.

Men's Dartball – Tues., Apr. 9

We will meet monthly on the second Tuesday of the month from 7:30pm - 9:00pm in Fellowship Hall. No prior experience needed or helpful. Please join us!

Adult Fellowship Green Bunco Night – Sat., Mar. 16

Come join Adult Fellowship as they celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a "Green Bunco Night" on Sat., Mar. 16 at 6pm. Wear something green to bring out the Irish in you! Also, we will have our usual white elephant gift exchange...but with a twist - all gifts should be green! Dig around and find your wackiest "green elephant" gift, bring a snack or appetizer to share and join us!!

Adult Fellowship & Peace 360 Mama Mia Event – Sat., Apr. 27

Please join the Adult Fellowship to see Lincoln-Way Centrals production of *Mama Mia* on Sat., Apr. 27 at 7pm. Tickets will be \$14. Please use the bulletin or [online sign up](#) if you would like to go.

Tuesdays at Peace Book Club – Tues., Apr. 2

The Tuesdays at Peace book club will be meeting on Apr. 2 at 10am. We will be discussing *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict. All are welcome!

Peace Page Turners – Sun., Apr. 28

Our next meeting will be Sun., Mar. 10 at 9:45am. We will be discussing *The Sisterhood - the Secret History of Women at the CIA* by Liza Mundy. Copies of the book are available to be checked out at church. Everyone is welcome!

Men's Breakfast – Sat., Mar. 23

Our next men's breakfast at Peace will be on Sat., Mar. 23 at 10am. Breakfast will be catered by Teardrop Café. Come eat, have a cup of coffee or juice, and get to know the other men worshipping here at Peace. Men ages 16 and older are invited to this new and fun opportunity. Please use the sign up in the bulletin or [sign up here](#).

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. Meetings are Tuesdays from 7 - 8:30pm.

Faith Development & Education**Sunday Adult Education**

The Sunday Adult Education Class meets at 9:55am.

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. 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. March's passage is 1 Thessalonians 2:13.

Helping Others

Business Clothing Collection

Peace has generously provided to people who are unemployed find jobs by dressing for success. We're looking for business attire and business casual clothing, including gently used shoes. Look through your closets for suits, sports coats, ties, shirts, blouses, dresses, skirts, pants, sweaters, whatever you think would help someone get and keep a job! Please bring your items to church between Mar. 1 - Apr. 30 and look for the bin in the narthex.

Prayer Shawls Available

Do you know someone who is in need of being wrapped in prayer, to know they are being prayed for? Our Prayer Shawl Ministry has prayer shawls available for you or someone you know. A prayer shawl is a knitted or crocheted shawl that is made with prayerful meditation. Please put in your requests in the Prayer Shawl box in the narthex. You may also contact the office directly for a shawl.

Santa Cruz's Food Pantry Needs List

Santa Cruz has a food & resource pantry for people of their neighborhood who are hungry or in need. You can bring donations anytime and put them in the baskets by Fellowship Hall. They are in need of bottled water & juice, toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, hand soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream, canned soup, applesauce, cereal, Jell-O, pudding, beans, rice, coffee, powdered cream, sugar, any type of treats - pretzels, chips, popcorn, etc.

Small Toy Collection

If you have any small toys like McDonald's Happy Meal toys or dollar store toys laying around your house and would like to donate them, please look for the bin in the hall going to Fellowship Hall. These toys are donated to a school to be used as prizes for under privileged students.

Because of You and Your Gifts

Due to ongoing war and devastating violence, nearly 3 million women, children and families were forced to flee South Sudan with just the clothes on their backs. They had little food to eat or clean water to drink as they desperately sought safety and peace. More than 65,000 of those refugees, including Jacqueline Abitu and her family, found a safe haven at Palabek Refugee Settlement in northern Uganda. Thousands of people live close together in haphazard mud hut-style houses on small plots of land. Your loving donations provided high quality seeds, training techniques for farming dry land as well as farming equipment and tools. Residents at the camp now have the knowledge, skills and supplies to grow nutritious foods that yield robust harvests — providing enough for parents to feed their children, share some with neighbors, and still have produce left over to sell for income. Thanks to caring people, like you, thousands of refugees were provided with a sustainable source of income and pride. And children like Jacqueline can jump for joy with hope for a happy and healthy future.

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