

## Here I am, Lord! Send me!

Dear Members and Friends of Peace Lutheran Church,

For this year's annual stewardship appeal, we ask that you listen carefully to God's call for your participation and respond with "Here I Am, Lord!" God has called each of us to be a part of Peace Lutheran Church in New Lenox. We are privileged to a part of this vibrant, amazing, and giving community. We hold up the church and the church holds us up through ups and downs, trials, and joys.

This year, our congregation is confronted with a new challenge. Our building is showing the wear and tear of its many years of service to our community. The siding, which has never been replaced since the building was built more than thirty years ago, is warped and buckling, and the fascia is rotting. Waiting longer to address these issues could result in water damage that would be costly to repair and would hinder essential services to our church family. We intend to replace the siding this year. We welcome, and respectfully request, your partnership in completing this project. Your financial commitment will help us shoulder the sizable cost of this investment in our community to ensure that our building will continue to serve the needs of this congregation for many years into the future.

We ask you to reflect on God's call for your financial support to our church to enable His work to continue. Please contemplate all the support that Peace offers to you and your family and all the blessings conferred within our church building: bringing the Word of God to us through worship services; inviting us to commune with the Lord and with one another; reminding us of our blessings and God's love for us -sometimes when we are in desperate need of that reminder; welcoming our precious children into God's family through baptism; teaching our children of God's love in Sunday school; guiding our young adults on the pathway to a lifelong relationship with God and to spreading God's love through kindness to all by way of confirmation classes and lots of youth activities; uniting lives in marriage and celebrating those unions; providing for spiritual growth and giving encouragement in so many ways, including bible study and a myriad of fellowship activities; offering guidance, comfort, and support through struggles, challenges, and illness; and shepherding our loved ones into God's eternal kingdom, while providing solace for those remaining on earth. Within the safe walls of our church building, we experience life, love, and God's presence. Please support our efforts to ensure that our building can continue to protect us as we continue supporting each other in all these ways. Please listen to your heart.

We thank you for your past and ongoing financial and spiritual support. We invite you to respond, "Here I Am, Lord!" to this year's stewardship appeal by making a generous financial commitment and by praying that others respond in the same manner. Please consider your many blessings as you contemplate how you will answer God's call to share your blessings. After some prayer and reflection, we are confident that you will answer our prayers with:

Here I am. Lord!

Yours in the love of Christ,

Pastor Gary Erickson and

Kathy & Paul Sons, Support Committee Chairs

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