



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 in God in Christ.



PRAYERS REQUESTED:

- Barbra Hnetkovsky (surgery)
- Lexi
- Howard Campbell (heart)
- David Star
- Jason & His Family
- College Students
- Paul & Andy + Family (peace & safety)
- Dennis Flynn
- Kerrie Flynn
- Janice Musak
- Frank Rossi (cancer)
- Alexis Flynn (infection)
- Drew Barbeau

EVERYBODY READ

Our desire to have people read a common Bible passage is part of our Book of Faith effort. October's passage is: 1 Thessalonians 5:11

A Letter From Your Pastor

Pastor Amy Michelson

The divisiveness in our nation does not seem to be getting any better. It's frustrating how entire groups of people are being made out to be the enemy. It's unholy the wars that rage in the structures of our government and in our own families and homes. It is not Christ-like to tear one another down, to call each other names, or to only care about the issues that affect our own personal lives and interests. (Romans 12:9-21)

In case you ever wonder, Peace is a purple congregation. I know this because many of you have shared your personal views on a variety of issues. You have told me who you've voted for, who you haven't voted for, and what party you are affiliated with and I haven't come across a single person at Peace who is evil. So, the next time you think about saying something ugly about the people on the other side of an issue from you, think about your siblings in Christ that gather each weekend to worship alongside you at Peace. Would you say it to them? I write this not from a holier-than-thou perspective, but, honestly, most of the things I preach and teach are because I need to be reminded of them too.

I don't have answers for this discouragingly divisive time. But I do have hopes. That we can still remain loving and kind to one another. That we can allow the Spirit to guide us. That we can continue to come together with less hatred and more humility in our hearts. That we can work together to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, and care for those who are sick or in prison (Matthew 25:34-40). That we would choose to encourage one another and build one another up (see our everybody read passage). And that we would limit our exposure to the voices that choose to tear down instead of build up.

Life is hard enough. And I am grateful for this community of diverse perspectives who are trying to live our lives loving God and loving others.

In Service to Christ,
Pastor Amy



Financial Update as of August 31, 2025

August Income	YTD Income	Annual Budget
\$43,963	\$155,410	\$602,158

August Expense	YTD Expense	Annual Budget
\$44,106	\$141,247	\$602,158

Thank You

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

At the start of this program year, we want to thank the following:

Our music directors, committee members, and small group leaders

All of those that provide our special music

A decorative header featuring several orange pumpkins of various sizes arranged in a circular pattern on an orange background. A white rectangular box is centered over the pumpkins, containing the title and author information.

A Letter From Your Deacon

By Deacon Shari



Dear Members and Friends of Peace,

Being good stewards of our resources is central to who we are as Christians. One of the tools we have as Lutherans is a company called Thrivent. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is an organization that helps with investing and saving, but also allows its members to give back to the organizations and programs they care about. Many of you are Thrivent members. If you use any of Thrivent's services or someone invested in your name you are considered a member.

I am working on a project to compile a list of those in our congregation and community that are Thrivent members. Why? Thrivent has a wonderful program called Thrivent Action Teams. With this program anyone who is a member can create an action team for a program or a cause that either has elements of service, education, or fundraising. We have used Action Teams here at Peace in several ways. We received an Action Grant for The Women's Retreat, Trunk or Treat, Our Community Dinners and even our VBS. Each Action Grant is given up to \$250 of seed money to buy supplies, food, or things like a jump house for our Community Dinners.

I need your help. If you are a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans member and would be willing to be added to the list of people willing to use their action grants at Peace, would you please let me know? If you are not sure if you are a member, just ask Pastor Amy or I, and we can help you find out. Each member can apply for 2 action grants every year. As you can imagine, that is a lot of money and support that we can use to serve, educate and fundraise. It also gives you the opportunity to support one of the ministries here that you care about. If you have a student who will be applying for a scholarship you could get an action grant for the spaghetti dinner. If you have a youth who will be going to the next National Youth Gathering you could get car wash supplies. If you really love the ministry, we do at Morning Star or Santa Cruz, you could get an action grant to buy the items on the list of needs.

Thank you so much for all the ways that you support the ministries of Peace! If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Amy or me.

God's Peace,
Deacon Shari Simon

Offerings & Opportunities

Help Us Fill Our 2025 Flower Chart

Please help us have beautiful flowers on the altar by helping us fill our new 2025 flower chart. Look for the chart by Fellowship Hall or email the church office to sign up for any date you would like. The office will contact you the week before your date to see what you would like listed in the bulletin. Cost of each is \$25.

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.peacenewelenox.org, click on the donate tab.

Vaccine Clinic – Sun., Oct. 12

Staff from Osco will be here on Sun., Oct. 12 from 9:45am to 12:30pm to be administering flu/covid/RSV/ pneumonia/tdap/shingles. Consent forms are available on the counter in the narthex and will also be emailed the week before the clinic so you can fill one out and bring it with you. Please also bring your insurance cards and they will work with you on insurance and Medicare issues. Walk-ins are welcome, but please call or email the church office to make an appointment if possible.

Halloween Trunk or Treat Event – Sun., Oct. 26 at 1pm

Please join us for a Halloween Trunk or Treat on Sun., Oct. 26 from 1- 2pm. We invite all kids to come out and show off their costume and get some candy. As a way to give back, we will be collecting PB&J for our local food pantry. If you would like to decorate your trunk or a table and pass out candy to our Trick or Treaters from 1-2pm, please sign up online or in the bulletin. Costumes are encouraged but not required. Please watch the bulletin as we get closer for more details about the whole event. Come and have some Halloween fun!

All Committee Night – Wed., Oct. 29

Want to be involved in the ministries happening at Peace? You are invited to come on the last Wednesday of the month at 6pm and participate in the committee of your choice. Committees to choose from are Fellowship, Support, Property, Faith Development, Worship, and Service/Outreach.

Need Help with Medicare Part D?

Hi, I'm Dave Johnson, a fellow member of Peace Church. Open Enrollment can feel overwhelming—but you don't have to go through it alone! For over 10 years, I volunteered at Riverside Medical, helping people review and update their Medicare Part D plans. Have questions? Need a second look at your or a loved one's plan? I'd love to help!

Call me at (773) 965-0677. Open Enrollment: October 15 – December 7

Faith Development & Education

Synod Growing Disciples Newsletter

Giving begins with compassion.

A compassionate heart moves us toward generous giving.

When have you given out of compassion?

What situations or people stir your compassion most deeply? How have you experienced someone else's compassion in a way that changed you?

Throughout Scripture, we see people whose compassion leads them to act generously by caring for their neighbors and strengthening their community. The Good Samaritan tends the wounds of a stranger and pays for his care (Luke 10:29-37). Jesus, moved by compassion for a hungry crowd, multiplies loaves and fishes so that all are fed and satisfied (Mark 6:34-44).

Each month the Northern Illinois Synod has a Growing Disciples newsletter available online.

Please use the link below.

[Growing Disciples | Northern Illinois Synod](#)

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday mornings at 10am. You do not need to know anything about the Bible to join us!

Sunday Adult Education Class

We meet every Sunday at 9:45am. All are welcome!

Worship

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.

Healing Service – Oct. 11 & 12

Join us for a healing service the weekend of Oct. 11th & 12th at all three worship services. It will take place toward the end of worship and should only last 10-15 minutes. You are welcome to come forward with a specific prayer request, for a general prayer and blessing, or you can just sit in the pews and take in words of healing and hope in scripture and prayer.



Looking Ahead

Oct. 12 -Vaccine Clinic

Oct. 26 - Trunk or Treat

Oct. 25/26 - Peanut Butter & Jelly Weekend

Nov. 1st & 2nd - All Saints Worship



Groups

Peace Book Club - Tues., Sept 30 at 10:00am

Our next read is "The Servant" by James C Hunter, and because it is a relatively short read, we will be meeting on Sept 30 at 10am instead of in October.

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.

Ruth Circle Quilting - Mon., Oct 6 & 20 at 9am

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

Trailblazers - Tues., Oct 21 at 12pm

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

Men's Breakfast - Sat., Oct 25 at 10:00am

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 will be a free will offering - breakfast cost is approximately \$15 each.

Out To Eat Group - Sat., Oct 18 at 6:30pm

The Out-To-Eat group will be going to The Dock in Mokena. Please sign up no later than Oct 11 to be included in the reservation

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.

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!

Golf Group - Wednesdays

The golf group will play on Wednesdays at 8:30am with lunch afterwards. 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.

Women's Fellowship and Discussion Group

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

Progressive Lunch-Oct. 5, 12:30pm-2:30pm

We will be having our first ever Progressive Lunch. This event will be held in the church so there will be no driving around town, just walking from classroom to classroom. There will be a menu of appetizers, main lunch item and desserts. Dietary options will be available. Please sign up by September 27.

Peace Page Turners - Sun., Oct 12 at 9:45am

Peace Page Turners will discuss "Mudbound" by Hillary Jordan.

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 from 12pm-2pm to enjoy fellowship, faith and fun.

Please check out the bulletin for upcoming events and get connected to our Youth Group Google calendar.



October Youth Events

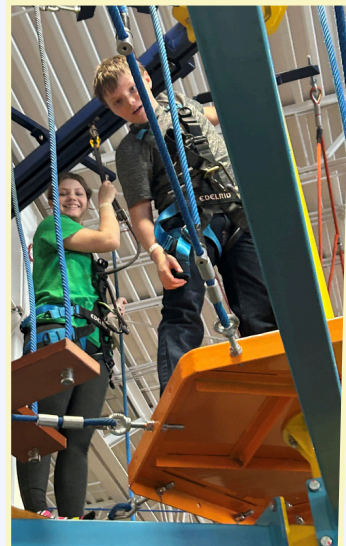
- Oct 4th -Junior High Retreat
- Oct 5th -No Youth Group
- Oct 12th -No Youth Group
- Oct 19th -Bible Study at Peace
- Oct 26th -Trunk or Treat
- Oct 31st -Senior High Retreat

Junior High Retreat Synod Retreat-Sat., Oct. 4th

7th and 8th grade youth are invited to join other youth from the Northern Illinois area for a day of service, Bible study, worship, food, and of course fun! This year the event will be at Salem Lutheran Church in Sycamore IL, on October 4th from 8:30am-5:30pm. We will meet at Peace and travel together. As always please invite friends to come! The cost of this event is \$20 per person. As always please talk to Deacon Shari or Pastor Amy if this is cost prohibitive, we have ways to help make sure all youth can attend. If you have any questions about this event please talk to Deacon Shari.

Senior High National Retreat- Fri., Oct. 31- Nov 2

9th through 12th grade youth are invited to go on a weekend long retreat at Lutherdale Bible Camp in Elkhorn Wisconsin. This retreat is called Faith in Motion and is led by the planning team for the National Youth Gathering. The NYG is trying something new to engage youth on non-Gathering years. The event closest to us will be the weekend of October 31st- November 2nd. We will meet at Peace and travel together! Please invite friends, you do not have to have attended the National Youth Gathering to attend this. The cost of this event is \$175 per person. As always please talk to Deacon Shari or Pastor Amy if this is cost prohibitive, we have funds available to help make sure all youth can attend. If you have any questions about the event, please talk to Deacon Shari.



Helping Others

Share Fest Group Service Project- Oct. 4 at 9am

The Service/Outreach Committee has organized a group service project from 9 a.m. to 12pm at ShareFest of Will County, 21715 Moni Drive, New Lenox. We will be packing boxes with food (to be given away at a later date by ShareFest) This is open to all ages. Participants are not required to stay for all three hours. If interested, please use the sign-up sheet in the bulletin, or call the church office.

Peanut Butter Weekend – Oct. 25 & 26

Let's see if we can top last year's record amount of peanut butter & jelly! The New Lenox Township food bank especially needs these staples this time of year. If you would like to donate, please bring your peanut butter & jelly to church on the weekend of Oct. 25/26 and look for the bin in the narthex.

Trunk or Treat for Joshua Arms- Oct. 27 at 6:30pm

We are expanding our Trunk or Treat fun to Joshua Arms, a senior residence, operated by Lutheran Social Services, at 1315 Rowell Avenue, Joliet. Since we will be indoors, we are looking for people of all ages to bring some decorations or a craft, wear costumes and hand out treats to the seniors. They would especially like to see kids in costumes! If you can join us, please indicate your interest on the sign-up sheet in the bulletin, or call the church office.

Santa Cruz's Food Pantry Needs List

We are always collecting bottled water, juice, paper products, handsoap, 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



General Information

Worship Details
Saturday worship 5pm, Sunday at 8:30 & 11am.
8:30am service is live streamed.
Outdoor Service- 09/27
Don't forget your chair!

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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