

# Peace Bible Church

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The Visitor

October - December 2025

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**Ministry Theme for 2025:** *Love the Word of God  
Like Never Before*

Pastor: Scott Cernek

Elders: Noel Ditzenberger and Bruce Scott

Deacons: Gabe Tuescher, Harvey Medinger,  
Jaime Dadez, Jim Friedli, Paul Copus, and  
Terry Staton

Sunday school (for all ages) at 9 AM

Sunday worship celebration at 10 AM

[www.peacechurchbrowntown.com](http://www.peacechurchbrowntown.com)

You are the LORD, you alone.  
You have made heaven,  
the heaven of heavens,  
with all their host,  
the earth and all that is on it,  
the seas and all that is in them;  
and you preserve all of them;  
and the host of heaven worships you.

Nehemiah 9:6 (ESV)

## Pastor's Piece

Dear Peace Church family,

It has been a joy to begin to lead the church in the study of the book of Revelation. We are making our way through this incredible book with a promised blessing for all who read it, hear it and apply it to our lives in the day in which we are living. Through the Holy Spirit's inspiration, John writes that we are to live with "first love" or "best love" faith in Jesus. He commends us for being faithful to the Word of God, keeping false teaching away, and persevering through trials and spiritual battles. He warns us against becoming "lukewarm" in our faith and never to just go through the motions of religion. It is my prayer that we will continue to reach out with all we have to bless the Lord, our families, and our community with this message of truth.

We have enjoyed an amazing summer of ministry here at Peace Bible as we continue to pray for revival right here and around the region. Remember that revival is a refreshing movement of the Holy Spirit upon a believer's heart and mind, causing one to love Jesus more and to grow in one's love for the Word. For an unsaved person, revival in a community can lead to a spiritual awakening to the truth that leads to faith in Jesus Christ as well. We call this an awakening unto salvation. It is a

move of God through His people who are revived and praying for more.

Dear Father, we ask you to continue to pour out your Spirit to us as we strive to know you more deeply and help us to be a great blessing to others as we seek to bring Christ to our families and our community. In the mighty name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

We have a concert with the Assemblymen coming up on October the 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm with a light supper to follow. Cathy and I will also be giving a concert at Stockton's Calvary Church on Thursday October 9<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. We will also be having our Harvest Dinner on Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup> after the service in the fellowship hall of the church. Hope to see you at these events.

God bless,

Pastor Scott

## Announcement

*(from Lesley Haworth)*

Ladies . . . this year's Christmas Brunch will be the second Saturday of December (Dec. 13) instead of the usual first Saturday of December. Just want to give everyone a heads up so you all can plan accordingly. We will once again be looking for table hosts to decorate and host a table.

# Inspiration and Encouragement

## Church, We Need Intergenerational Relationships

*(by Hannah Grace Staton)*

Imagine a church where everyone was the same age as you.

Think about it. There wouldn't be debates about what kind of music would please different age groups. There wouldn't be discussions on how to attract the younger generation or how to best meet the older generation's needs. There wouldn't be constant conflict between younger members who want to change things and older members who want to hold on to tradition.

Sounds like paradise, right?

Not quite.

If you thought about it long enough, you would realize that a church like this would be far from paradise. Such a church would lose more than it would gain, because for all the troubles that intergenerational relationships bring, they're also a source of blessing and a part of God's plan.

God has used intergenerational relationships to shape me into the person

He wants me to be. I believe He wants to use them in your life also.

## Lessons and Blessings

Intergenerational relationships have been part of my church experience for as long as I can remember. For most of my life, almost all of my friends have been people much older than me.

Because of that, it could be easy for me to take these relationships for granted. But I don't want to. I've experienced both the difficulties and blessings they bring, and I'm here to tell you that they are worth it.

A major lesson I've drawn from relationships with older believers is that the best kind of growth comes slowly. Sagely saints aren't formed overnight. Sanctification is the process of a lifetime. We have to be patient and trust that God is working in our hearts, minds, and souls to mold us into His image—one touch at a time.

While growth takes time, passing time alone doesn't guarantee growth. Observing those who have been believers for a while but show few signs of growth will teach you that. Growth is a gift of God's grace, and it only happens to the extent that we are open to His work in our lives.

One of the greatest blessings I've received from intergenerational relationships is seeing how our choices impact our lives. When those choices are unwise, the consequences can linger for years. It's a sobering reminder of the principle found in Galatians 6:7-9 (ESV): "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

On the other side, it's encouraging to see what the shape of grace looks like in the lives of those who have made godly decisions since their youth. It reminds me that all the seemingly little choices I'm making now matter, because God is using them to mold my faith into something beautiful and long-lasting.

Not only do I have something to learn from intergenerational relationships, but I also have something to give. Just showing an interest in someone older can be an immense encouragement to them. I love to reassure older believers that they're not irrelevant: what they have to offer matters. Aging is not for the faint of heart, and the temptation to think that you don't have something important to offer only becomes

stronger as you grow older. But that's not how God wants us to think. His Word is filled with examples and admonitions for older believers to share the wisdom He has given them (e.g., Psalm 34:11, Proverbs 6:20-22; Titus 2:1-6).

As younger believers, we have a part in obeying that command. Older Christians can't share their wisdom if no one is willing to listen. That's where we come in.

### **Moses and Joshua, You and Me**

One of the most beautiful examples of intergenerational relationships in the Bible is that of Moses and Joshua, two humble and valiant men God used to do mighty things with Him. Of the many takeaways we can draw from this story, I want to focus on two.

- 1. You don't know what God is preparing you for or how He is using you to prepare others.*

Joshua served as Moses' assistant for many years before he was ready to lead Israel into the promised land (Exodus 24:13; Numbers 27:15-20). I don't know if Joshua knew for most of that season that he would be the nation's next leader. Whether he knew or not, he watched Moses closely, and that

helped prepare him to take the lead after Moses' death.

I also don't know if Moses was aware for most of that time that Joshua would be his successor. But whether he knew or not, he could tell that Joshua was watching him, and that helped motivate him to become the man God was calling him to be as well.

*2. Where the generation before you stopped is where you are called to begin.*

Joshua didn't succumb to second-generation syndrome. As much as he admired Moses and his accomplishments, Joshua wasn't satisfied to stop there. He knew that where Moses' work ended was where his work began. After Moses' death, the Lord commanded Joshua to step into his calling to conquer the promised land (Joshua 1:1-3). In God's strength, Joshua would win battles where Moses had never walked.

Like Joshua, I want to learn all I can from those who have gone before me, but I don't want to stop there. Instead, I want to take what I've learned and run with it. I don't want to take for granted what others have achieved. God has more in store, and I want to discover it.

And when it's my turn, I pray I'll be faithful to pass on what I've learned to

the next generation.

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“But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled.”

– Titus 2:1-6 (ESV)

“There has never been a first generation, no matter how great it is, that conquered all the land, that has been all God wants it to be. But the great temptations are to believe that their experience is either the standard for our experiences or that their ideals are beyond our expectations, and we should settle for something less. That is wrong. God did not plan for the experiences of previous generations to be a diving board from which we go down, but to be a foundation on which we are to build.”

– Gary Inrig

# **Birthdays**

## **October**

4 - Rita Sigafus

5 - Deanna Miller

22 - Heidi West

29 - Bruce Scott, Karma Ladwig

## **November**

4 - Noel Ditzenberger

18 - Michael Medinger

29 - Elvina Phillips

## **December**

17 - Lien Polizzi

25 - Lorraine Albright Higbee

28 - Betty Haeft

29 - Scott Cernek, Kevin Polizzi, Terry Rutsch

Peace Bible Church Treasurer Report

3rd Qtr 2025

7/1/2025-9/30/2025

Deposits

	\$0.00
General fund	\$17,955.00
	\$0.00
	\$0.00
Parsonage utilities	\$702.38
Linn Family	\$200.00
refunds	\$13.00
	\$0.00
	\$0.00
	\$0.00
NIN	\$0.00
	\$0.00
	\$0.00
book keeping correction	\$3,060.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,930.38</b>

Choir

Music	\$0.00
CCLI	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

Worship outreach

VBS	\$94.40
Conference	\$293.07
Kingdom Pursuit	\$543.04
Little library	\$63.30
Maranatha Evan. Min.	\$700.00
Chosen Peoples	\$500.00

**Total** **\$2,193.81**

Church expenses

Electric	\$1,016.76
Gas	\$842.07
sewer and Water	\$198.96
Website	\$180.14
TDS	\$413.64
Kitchen supplies	\$0.00
Sound system	\$31.92
lawn care	\$630.00
repairs	\$1,211.72
Furniture	\$0.00
Fellowship	\$125.73
Cleaning	\$981.25
Memorial plates	\$16.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,648.19</b>

	\$0.00
Paul Family	\$1,000.00
CDs and envelopes	\$59.96
Candles	\$0.00
Communion cups	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,059.96</b>

**Total expenses** **\$25,428.18**

**Beginning Balance** **\$6,576.05**

\$21,930.38

\$25,428.18

**Ending Balance** **\$3,078.25**

**General fund balance** **\$3,078.25**

Insurance building	\$0.00
Insurance Worksmen comp	\$0.00
Bank Fees	\$10.00
Copier	\$0.00
Accounting fees	\$0.00
Green co. Food pantry	\$200.00
NIN	\$380.00
Nate Ackerman CRU	\$200.00
Comp Intrn Child	\$129.00
Ronald McDonald House	\$0.00
Blackhawk food pantry	\$200.00
RIMI	\$200.00
Tecate Olsons	\$200.00
Carenet	\$540.58
Family Promise	\$200.00
Men's Resource	\$200.00
Linn Family	\$150.00
Myoungho	\$0.00
World team	\$200.00
SEE Global	\$200.00
Harvest Hills Ministries	\$200.00
Midwest Indian Mission	\$200.00
<b>Total Missions</b>	<b>\$3,399.58</b>

Memorial Fund

**Beginning Balance** **\$35,751.22**

\$0.00

\$0.00

interest \$173.42

\$0.00

**Ending Balance** **\$35,924.64**

**Transfer to General fund** **\$1,500.00**

**Ending Balance** **\$34,424.64**

General fund in

**Memorial fund** **\$18,500.00**

**Total Memoral fund** **\$15,924.64**

**Total Church assets** **\$37,502.89**

Parsonage

Electric	\$347.39
Gas	\$101.08
Furniture	\$0.00
sewer & water	\$253.92
repairs	\$105.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$807.39</b>

Pastor

Mileage	\$750.00
Meeting	\$0.00
Taxes State	\$348.75
Taxes	\$1,395.00
Salary	\$5,231.25
Housing Allowance	\$4,500.00
Gift	\$0.00
Dental & Health	\$84.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**\$12,309.25**