

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

815-485-5327; [www.peacenewlenox.org](http://www.peacenewlenox.org)

e-mail: [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org)

**Current as of April 16, 2021 (new/important items since 4/9 are in bold type)**

Dave Hedlin, Pastor  
Shari Trotter, Diaconal Minister

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 in with our Peace website [www.peacenewlenox.org](http://www.peacenewlenox.org) regularly for updates. There will be occasional email updates as well, the last of which was 4/16. If you are not getting those emails, please let us know!

WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & OUR ON-LINE BULLETIN

**THIS WEEK AND BEYOND**

Sat., April 17 - Blood Drive 9:00 to 1:00

Sat., April 17 - Drive-in Worship (88.3 FM) & Live-stream - 5:00pm (including [Facebook video](#)) (Earth Day observation included in prayers)

Sun., April 18 - Drive-in Worship (88.3 FM) & Live-stream - 9:30am (including [Facebook video](#)) (plus another live-stream & in person worship from inside the sanctuary [register ahead of time] at 8:30am) (Earth Day observation included in prayers)

Sun., April 18 - Peace Page Turners - 10:30am in person or via Zoom

Sun., April 18 - New Member Orientation - 11:30am in person or via Zoom

Sun., April 18 - Youth event bonfire - 6:00pm at church

Mon., April 19 - Ruth Circle (quilters) - 9:00am

Wed., April 21 - Bible Study - 10:00am in person or via Zoom

Wed., April 21 - Seniors Exercise Group - 11:30am at church

Wed., April 21 - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation class - 7:00pm in person or via Zoom

Fri., April 23 - Pre-3 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade PJ Game Night - 6:00pm

Sat., April 24 - Drive-in Worship (88.3 FM) & Live-stream - 5:00pm (including [Facebook video](#))

Sun., April 25 - Drive-in Worship (88.3 FM) & Live-stream - 9:30am (including [Facebook video](#)) (plus another live-stream & in person worship from inside the sanctuary [register ahead of time] at 8:30am)

Sun., April 25 - Adult Sunday School class - 10:30am in person or via Zoom

Sun., April 25 - Peace Buddies - noon at church

Mon., April 26 - Seniors Exercise Group - 12:00 noon at church

Daily: Reflections from Pastor Dave. [Facebook video](#).

**Drive-in/Online/In person Worship for April 17 & 18 - Third Sunday of Easter**

Our worship schedule continues: Sat. at 5:00 and Sun. at 9:30 are drive-in/outdoors and Sun. at 8:30 will be in person. All services **are live-streamed**. Weather will dictate where the drive-in worships will be located. If it is cooperative, we will be set up on the lawn area by the long sidewalk, facing the parking lot; if not, facing the front entrance. Regardless of grass area or at the main entrance canopy, you can bring your lawn chairs or stay in your cars (including the FM 88.3 option.)

Our [Facebook page](#) site continues to have the worship services recorded and available anytime. (You do not need to have a Facebook account to access this public page.) There will be some great music from Todd, a hymn to which you can sing along, (words below this announcement, so be sure to print out the

words) some liturgy, scripture readings (Acts 3:12-19, 1 John 3:1-7, & Luke 24:36b-48) prayers, communion (bring your own bread or cracker), a temple talk, and a sermon. Please join in being together in God's name on the grass/parking lot, in your cars, or electronically and share the worship post with others! If you want more details, search/look for "How will worship work" at the end of the document.

## **Words to This Week's Hymn – 4/17 & 4/18 - *O God Beyond All Praising* - words by Michael Perry**

1. O God beyond all praising, we worship you today  
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,  
at blessings without number and mercies without end:  
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,  
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

2. The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,  
its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;  
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown –  
though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:  
for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,  
and we through him are given the final victory.

## **Thank you**

Thank you to all the people who are watching our weekly worship and daily videos on line. (Bring some good news to people you know online and share them with others.) Thanks, too, for all your support financially, in prayer, with words of encouragement, acts of service and more! Thank you! **Your online gifts last week of \$2,900 and mailed in & weekend offering of \$5,793 help us to keep doing ministry locally, nationally, and around the world! For attendance, we had 595 Facebook views of last weekend's worship (plus You Tube and watching live), and for the drive-in about 28 at 5:00, 23 at 8:30, and 20 for the 9:30.** In troubled times, it is as important as ever to let the Word of God speak in our hearts and to the world.

## **The Joy of Giving Stewardship Appeal**

**The theme of this year's stewardship appeal points toward a central concept of this church: it feels good to give! We invite you these next few weeks in particular to reflect on how your own life has been enhanced whenever you have given from the heart. This week Kathy Sons will be giving a Temple Talk at all three worship services, which will be recorded and available on our Facebook page. Last week we asked Jan Bentley for her reflections on this topic, which is below.**

**Early on I learned from my mom about how much fun it is to give. In giving to family and neighbors and friends we always had enough for ourselves and more. Each time we gave, we received. That way of life sure has proven true for me and my husband, Roger. It doesn't have to be a big thing....maybe a phone call or a meal or singing "Happy birthday." The little extras from the heart make all the difference. The phone call you make or receive might just be the one that's really needed. Giving from the heart is fun for all of us. The bonus is it makes me feel better inside, because I know it's what I'm supposed to do, what I want to do, what God wants me to do.**

**Our appeal will culminate with a Commitment Weekend May 1 & 2. You will receive more information as the weeks continue.**

## **Opportunities for Giving to Others**

**ITEMS FOR SOLDIERS**

Operation Care Package is an all-volunteer 501 C-3 public charity that mails care packages to deployed troops weekly. We are now collecting bar soap and packs of new wash cloths to include in the packages. If you would like to donate items, please look for the patriotic quilt & basket in the entrance area or you can leave your items by the gray bin outside the church doors and we will take them from there. Thank you for caring.

#### **TWO PART QUESTION REGARDING TABLETS & LAPTOPS**

We received an idea about whether there is a need for some seniors who are currently without a laptop/ computer/tablet to supply them with a good used one and help them figure out how to use it (especially for seeing our worship services.) So, that brings up two questions: 1) Are there seniors who would like such a thing? And 2) Would some of our members be willing to supply a no-longer-needed piece and possibly train the user? This is all at stage 1. So, the #1 question is going to be, "Is there a need?" Seniors, let us know! And if you are someone who knows a senior citizen who is unconnected, please ask them! We know there are multiple side issues, like internet service and phone service, but we want to start somewhere!

#### **BUSINESS ATTIRE 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! We'll use the same process as with the warm coat ministry: bring them to church and put them outside the front door and we'll take them from there.

### **New/ Important for This Week's Bulletin**

#### **BLOOD DRIVE - SAT., APRIL 17 - 9:00 TO 1:00**

It is time once again to give the gift of life! Appointments are available/needed to keep this a safe experience for all. Contact the church office or go directly to Versiti's site to make an appointment. Everyone will be required to wear a mask, so be sure to bring yours with you. Here is more information from their headquarters: <https://www.versiti.org/home/coronavirus-information>. If you have questions, contact the church office. The drive will be Sat., April 17, from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

#### **PEACE PAGE TURNERS NEXT BOOK DISCUSSION- SUN., APRIL 18 - 10:30am**

Get your reading glasses on (if you need them.) Our next book discussion will feature *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate. It is based on the true story of a Memphis adoption center that kidnapped poor children and sold them to wealthy families. You can pick up a copy of the book at church (sign-out which copy) if you wish. The date will be April 18 and the time will be 10:30am. Be sure to let us know you're interested so we can give you the Zoom codes you'll need, or you can show up in person.

#### **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION AND RECEPTION - APRIL 18 & 25**

We are privileged once again to invite more people to become formal partners with us in our mission of spreading the Gospel and growing in faith. Because of the strange times we are going through, it will be a different version of our new member orientation and reception! Part 1: Sun., April 18, at 11:30am, either in person in Fellowship Hall or on Zoom. The Reception of New Members will be on Sun., April 25, during worship at 9:30 am. If you are interested in joining or finding out more information, email [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org) or call the church office at 815-485-5327, click on the sign up link [New Member Orientation Sign Up](#), or see Pastor Dave. (We will need to omit the sponsors and new member luncheon for now but hope to make it up to the new members later.)

#### **7/8TH GR. & PEACE 360 BONFIRE - SUN., APR. 18**

7-12 graders we hope you can join on April 18 from 6-8PM. We are going to have a bonfire, make some s'mores, and have fun outside! (Rain date will be Sun., Apr. 25) Please use the online sign up or email us to let us know your youth is interested in attending. [Bonfire Sign Up](#)

## **EARTH DAY OBSERVED - APRIL 17 & 18**

In worship on April 17 & 18 we will note the gift of this wonderful planet and all of God creation and remind ourselves of our privilege to be partners with God in its stewardship. One positive result of the pandemic has been saving a lot of trees, even at our church. Here is a sample assembled by our office regarding just the newsletter.

What has it meant for us and planet Earth that we have been sending the newsletters by email instead of by mail for the last 12 months? How about the fact that we saved 33,120 pieces of paper = 66.5 reams = 3 ½ trees! (Plus, the cutting, transportation, processing, etc.) Then, let's add the fact that we didn't consume 184 sheets of labels with more kinds of environmental savings. After the pandemic is over, we'll keep sending the newsletter electronically unless you ask for a paper copy (and we'll happily accommodate that request.)

## **PRE-SCHOOL 3 YR. OLDS - 2<sup>ND</sup> GR. PAJAMA ZOOM GAME NIGHT - FRI., APR. 23**

Our P3-2nd graders are invited to join us for a pajama Zoom game night, on Fri., Apr. 23 at 6:00pm. We found that the best thing about Zoom is that you can do it in your PJ'S! Siblings are always welcome, even if they are older! We will play some games and get a little crazy! If that sounds like something your youth is interested in please let us know. Links will be sent out on Thurs., Apr. 22. Use this link to sign up [Game Night Sign Up](#), or email us in the office.

## **PEACE BUDDIES - APRIL 25 & MAY 14**

We miss being together, and think that we can do something safely. So, let's give it a try. Peace Buddies is our special needs group, and is open to anyone 15 and older. For more information, contact the church office. Our Sunday, April 25, event will be "T-Shirt Design Time." It has been many years since our last design, so let's do it! The event will be from noon to 2:00pm. We hope to be outside, but will use Fellowship Hall as our weather back-up. There will be some board games and or a craft to go with it, with food (of course.) Call or email 815-485-5327 or [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org) to let us know you are coming. Looking ahead to May, we'll gather on a Friday from 4:00 to 6:00pm for a picnic (with Jimmy John's sandwiches and various outdoor games.)

## **SUNDAY ADULT CLASS - APRIL 25 - 10:30AM**

Because of more relaxed COVID options from the state, you can have your choice of Zoom or in person for this week's Adult Class. If you are planning to come, please let us know whether in person or via Zoom. The topic for April 25 is "Facets of Forgiveness."

## **GOLF GROUP IS READY FOR YOU TO SIGN UP**

The golf group has resumed! We play when the temperature hits 50 degrees in the morning. The format will still be "best ball". We play for fellowship, fresh air and maybe hit a good shot occasionally. We have been playing on Wednesdays at 10am. 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 or to sign up, contact the church office (815-485-5327 or [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org).)

## **BAPTISM ORIENTATION - SAT., MAY 1 - 3:30pm**

For those planning to have a baptism in the near future, the next baptism orientation class will be Sat., May 1, at 3:30pm at church or via Zoom. Let us know if you plan to attend (815-485-5327 or [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org).)

## **HYMN PICKING - BY MAY 2**

Picking hymns, as with so many other activities, is not the usual plan. If you are interested in helping to pick the hymn of the day from June through November, let us know in the office. We'll send you a packet of materials, from which you can give input. Then Deb Howell will coordinate all the responses. All that needs to be done by May 2.

## **WHAT'S THE SCOOP? (Bring your ideas to the group!) - SUN., MAY 2 - NOON**

So, what goes on at these meetings? Why should I come? The bottom line is ideas for ministry are

exchanged and new ones brought to mind – even in these crazy times. We hope you'll join the effort either in person or via Zoom! Our next meeting is Sun., May 2, at noon. Let us know if you plan to attend and how so that we can send you information ahead of time ([peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org) or 815-485-5327.)

### CONFIRMATION DATES - MAY 16 & 23

We are moving forward with our plans for Confirmation Sundays. There will be two options once again from which the 8<sup>th</sup> grade families may choose: May 16 or May 23. Both dates will have an extra worship service at 11:00am for the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation.) The plan is to have the service outside so that we can sing out loud and won't have to restrict attendance. (In case of rain, we will move inside but the attendance will be limited to immediate family.) For our confirmands and parents, please pick a confirmation Bible verse you really like. You can find a long list of suggested ones by clicking [Sample Verses](#). You also should submit the date that you have chosen to be confirmed and the chosen verse by clicking [Confirmation Date & Verse Selection](#).

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Because we are hopeful that we will be able to keep worshipping for a while at the Sunday 8:30 services, we will once again start getting altar flowers. Any week we have people who wish to donate them we will order them and have them for the indoor worship services (and hopefully visible online for the other two services as well.) You may call or email the church ([peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org) or 815-485-5327.) Just let us know for which date from now to the end of 2021 you would like to provide them. The cost per arrangement is \$20.

### DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS FOR APRIL - JUNE ARE AVAILABLE

We put a second bin (black) outside the front door labeled “devotional booklets” and you can come by the church and pick up the next quarter's devotionals. If you want us to mail it to you, let us know.

## 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.*

**Donald Albright (recovery), Norma Allison (recovery), Alexis Flynn (transplant concerns), Bruce Gibson (bleeding),** Marty Rodey (procedure), Chris Fehrenkamp, David Rubner (recovery), David Hennessey (recovery), Marilyn Krauch (pancreatitis & shingles), Carly Salutric (concussion), Larry Parvin (health), Travis Perschau (health), Chuck Wolske (surgery), Judy Mitchell (broken arm), Cheryl Krieger (recovery), Pam, Jim, Claire Edgoose, Zach Sperstad, Rich Dohrn (COVID - recovery), John Overend (recovery), Julie Friedrich (cancer), Sue Horn (recovery & treatment), Terry Jesk, Zach Huelhorst (lymphoma), Sharon Obuchina (cancer), Kay Johnson, Denise Jones, Bonnie Fikeys, Barb Decker, Edith Saurer, Nolan (God's guidance), Jonah Huelhorst, Cathy Richardson, Judy Williams, Georgia Piech-Pander, Eric Bartels, Carol Tatro, Bev Kuzdas, Ray & Edna Anglin, Wayne Bell, Barb Chobot...

Gint Venclovas (cancer), the Spindler family, Stephanie Chamberlain and family, John Miheve and family, JoEllen (health), Gary Sprandel (heart issues), Hailey (strength and guidance), Betty Drews, Rick Davis (cancer), Beverly Decker, the Olino family, Dave Kallstrom (heart issues), David Dyer (broken shoulder), Brandon Cramer (COVID blood clots), Joan (concerns for son), Lori (cancer), Tiffany (breast cancer), Carla Gruca, Jackson Clough, Lynn (surgery), Paulette (cancer & surgery), Karen (COVID), Cara Clausing, Max (tests), Kay (surgery), Virg, Shirley, Brooke, Sharon, Jim, Brad Whiteside (cancer), Parker (seizures), Johnny Wellman (renal failure), Jim Calvert (cancer), Larry Hedlin (recovery), Sandy Booten, Janet, Carol Bentley, Tyler, Vern Sandborn, Alan Booton, Bill Reidy (cancer), Erv Pander, Ron N., Deryl & Jim Hunt, Mary Hand, Tyler, the Austin family, Brena V. and family, Dan T. & family, Carol Bafundo, Georgianna Bafundo, Jeffrey, Brandon McSheffery, Jarrett Vann.

FAMILY & FRIENDS IN THE MILITARY - We are starting from scratch with our military list. If you know someone who is serving and would like them on our list, let us know. Please pray for those who have returned

from war who struggle to readjust to life and work through their grief. Donald Lazarz, T.J. Burns, Devin Pafford, Connor Baker, Jake Treasure, Allison DeVitto.

#### ADDRESS FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL

Midshipman Trevor Horn PO Box # 12989 Annapolis, MD 21412	Sargent Devin Pafford 1208 Battery Creek Rd. Beaufort, SC 29902
---	---

MA2 Baker, Connor 5600 Shorewood Lane Norfolk, VA 23502	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Jakob Swenson 16113 Ryan Place, Apt. C Fort Polk, LA 71459
---	---

## **Giving & Giving More Thanks**

### DO YOU GIVE ELECTRONICALLY (OR WANT TO)?

If you would like to sign up for automatic withdrawals, contact the office. If you want to give on-line, you can go to our website [www.peacelenox.org](http://www.peacelenox.org) and click on the donate tab. You can also scan the QR code here with your smart phone to donate one time or set up recurring payments (or download in order to manage online giving).



### THANKS AND REMINDER FOR AMAZON SMILE

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Peace Church every time you shop, at no cost to you. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). (If it is your first visit to the site, you will need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases. Peace Lutheran Church of New Lenox is available to be chosen, as are other worthy causes.) They will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation. We want to thank you who have done that. We got a deposit for \$139.26 for the latest quarter!

## **Groups**

### RUTH CIRCLE (QUILTING) – MEETINGS CAREFULLY RESUMING - **APRIL 19 & May 3**

Ruth Circle quilting is back to meeting every other Monday at 9:00 a.m. for those who wish. We are socially distancing in Fellowship Hall, and are skipping the treats. Questions? Contact the church office.

### SENIORS EXERCISE GROUP - MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS - **APRIL 14, 19 & 21**

We are back on Mondays 12:00-1:00 and Wednesdays 11:30-12:30 in Fellowship Hall. Masks are required when you are not in Fellowship Hall exercising.

### PRAYER SHAWLS - WEDNESDAYS - WAITING TO SEE WHEN WE CAN MEET IN PERSON AGAIN

The crew may be on hold, but here's an update on the work they've done: 356 shawls completed & 339 given away! Thanks be to God!

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP - on hold

### ADDICTION & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP - EVERY TUESDAY

Is someone you love abusing prescription or street drugs? Are you concerned about the destructive choices he or she is making and/or in denial? 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. We also understand that we must recover, because our lives have also become unmanageable. We meet Tuesdays from 7 - 8:30 p.m. For more information, contact the church office.

## **Fellowship Opportunities/Tickets & Events**

## **BALLET 5:8 EVENT - MAY 21-23**

**We have been made aware of an outdoor event, Pilgrim's Progress, presented by the Ballet 5:8 School of the Arts. It will be on May 21-23, with four shows from which to choose. It will be held at Stone Church in Orland. Tickets are all general admission lawn seating and are \$20. There will be over 100 dancers in this retelling of a literary classic's story of a Christian's journey in search of salvation. For more information or tickets, go to [www.school.ballet58.org/pilgrimsprogress](http://www.school.ballet58.org/pilgrimsprogress) or call 708-329-8773.**

PING PONG - If you are interested, contact the church office (815-485-5327 or [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org).) We resume meeting on the third Sunday of the month at noon.

## **General Announcements**

### **HAND-IN-HAND PARENTING OPPORTUNITY**

There is a great parenting resource that is just a click away: [www.handinhandparenting.org](http://www.handinhandparenting.org) with many tips on the site regarding everyday issues parents face. There is also an online starter training class for a more thorough treatment for how to deal with various issues in dealing with kids. Also available for professionals (social workers, counselors, day care workers, etc.) is an intensive training 8 week course (about 6-8 hours per week). For both the starter training and the intensive training, thanks to a generous offer from one of our member families, we have a bonus about those two trainings. If someone is willing to be trained, the entire tuition amount will be covered. All we ask is that you then lead a class (or series) at Peace. You would also hopefully use your training to help others or do classes for other organizations (could be for a fee.) If you are interested, contact Pastor Dave ([peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org) or 815-485-5327.) For professionals, there is CEU credit available for the intensive one.

### **2021 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES NOW AVAILABLE**

Our new phone/address directories are now available. They also include a business and service directory. Look for them in the black bin to the left of the church doors. If you would like a copy but are unable to pick one up, please let us know in the church office.

### **GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY BOOKS - PRICE REDUCTION TO \$15**

Some of you have used these books to get discounts at restaurants, oil change places, dry cleaners and more. We just got word that the 2021 edition's price has been reduced to \$15, with \$5 of that going to support youth ministries in our church. If you'd like a copy, come by the office M-F, 9:00 to noon, or let us know and we'll happily make arrangements to get one to you!

### **COLLEGE INFORMATION PACKETS**

We have available an excellent packet of materials for all who are in the college search stage of life. Let the church office know via email or call, and we'll get it to you electronically.

### **ANOTHER WAY TO STAY CONNECTED**

Check out our Facebook page on a regular basis. (Make sure to like and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!)

### **WANT SPECIAL PRAYERS?**

Because we aren't together in worship, you maybe would like opportunities to have prayers for specific people. Please feel free to share those via our email ([peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org)) or call the office.

### **BECAUSE OF YOU**

As the largest provider of Foster Care Services in Illinois, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) cares for children who have been removed from their birth families due to abuse and/or neglect and places them with foster families who receive training and support from LSSI. The specialized Therapeutic Foster Care program places children with histories of severe trauma and emotional/behavioral needs into single family homes rather

than institutional settings. Since May 2017, the Therapeutic Foster Care program has enrolled 59 children, with 33 successfully completing the program.

#### NEED A MASK?

Thanks to our wonderful group of masks makers, we have a supply of masks available. If you need a face mask, please take what you need from the Ziploc bag in the grey tote by the front door of church. If you need children's mask or something else, please leave a note with your info in the tote and we will get back to you to see if we are able to help you out.

#### TRAILBLAZERS - STILL WAITING!

We keep ourselves on the radar, but will hold off meeting once again. Stay tuned for another update, but currently are thinking to wait until summer. Our group is for senior citizens and welcomes you to join us. Email the church office (or call Pastor Dave at home for now) for more information.

#### CHECK OUT OUR UPDATED SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

We have a team that has been working over the past few months to bring our social media pages up to date and to post regular content to them. Ways you can help to promote our pages and our church are to follow our pages and engaging our content by commenting, liking, and sharing our posts. You can follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram with the handle @PeaceNewLenox.

#### PEACE CIRCLE OF PRAYER MINISTRY

If you would like special prayers said for someone, just let the office know of a particular need. Our Circle of Prayer ministry is ready to help. We will send out an email to the praying volunteers with that need. (If you would like to be a part of this Peace Circle of Prayer, let us know, including what email address we should use.)

## Help Others

GOOD SHEPHERD group is seeking donations of NEW beauty items (make-up, make-up brushes, eyeshadow, lotion, hair bands, cologne, lipstick, hair care products, combs and brushes), personal items, bathing items (sponges, bubble bath, shower gel), and travel size toiletries for homeless and abused persons. Please place these items in the basket labeled *Good Shepherd Beauty Items* located under the left part of the narthex counter. Thank you for your support!

#### DONATIONS FOR MORNINGSTAR TREASURE CHEST

We are still accepting donations of clothing and household goods for MorningStar Treasure Chest. Place your donations in the basket marked MorningStar located in the hallway leading into Fellowship Hall.

#### CAREGIVERS INFORMATION

Whether you are a caregiver for a spouse, parent, teen, sibling or a child, you need help with the emotional, spiritual, mental and physical side of reality. These days you might fold your hands in prayer and ask God to always be there. It isn't doubt, it isn't fear, it's just that NEED to want Him near. In the sleepless nights, and the worrying days, you tremble with sadness and laugh with tears. Keep my loved one safe you pray, keep me strong and healthy with each new day. Remind me dear God to always trust, no matter what the day may bring. Remind me too dear God, that my loved one also folds their hands in prayer and asks that I be there. Find more comfort in: Psalm 23, Psalm 119:73-77 and Isaiah 12. *(For more information about being a caregiver and other related topics – see our display in the entrance area of church when we get back together. Help yourself to the variety of resources that we have pulled together for you and know you're not alone.)*

#### HELPING SANTA CRUZ'S FOOD PANTRY

We have an ongoing partnership with Santa Cruz Lutheran Church in Joliet. They have a food and resource pantry for people of their neighborhood who are hungry or in need. You can bring donations anytime and put them in the baskets on the floor heading into Fellowship Hall. The pantry is in need of the following specific items: **especially cereals, canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, toilet paper, paper towels, household cleaning**



**products, personal care items such as tooth brushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, easy-open snack-type items (protein bars, cookies, chips, nuts),** coffee (ground), creamers (powdered), hand soap (bar & liquid), disposable diapers, dish soap, toothpaste, juices.

## **Faith Development/Education**

### QUESTIONS KIDS ASK ABOUT GOD

While we wait for more opportunities to share our *Questions Kids Ask About God* book with others, we recognize the questions don't stop. Here are some that were from our Sunday School last year: 1) Was the story of Cain & Abel a real event or was it a lesson to learn from? *The story is from a time before there were people writing history, so we don't know if there were two such brothers with those names. But the story is 100% true in how it reflects that siblings are sometimes mean to each other and jealous of each other. God's desire is that we love one another even though we may not always get along.*

2) Was Jesus bullied? *We read many stories of how people treated Jesus very mean! There are more stories when people tried to force Jesus to do things he didn't believe in. So, yes, Jesus was bullied.*

3) How old were Adam and Eve when they died? *The Bible in its original language doesn't use the name "Adam" or "Eve." It refers to the "man" and the "woman" because it wants to tell the story of all of us, not just two people in a story! We are also the ones whom God creates, just like the earliest people on Earth! So, no, we don't have a real age at death for the people in the story the way we would today .*

### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY -

We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am via Zoom. If you have any questions, call the office.

### DAILY DEVOTIONAL ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE

The coronavirus calls for new ways of helping people of faith. The ELCA's publishing house, Augsburg-Fortress, has made *Christ in Our Home* available free online:

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/category/286137/Christ-in-Our-Home>.

### 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, and then those who are willing, write down a sentence or two (or more if you'd like) about what you got out of the passage. **April's passage is Jeremiah 31:31-34.**

**To sign up for anything, to ask a question, or to share a thought, we suggest using the church's email: [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org).**

## **Details for how we worship this weekend, April 17 & 18**

### FOR EVERYONE COMING TO PEACE

\*Whether you drive-in, are on the lawn or worship at home, we have a modified communion option. You can take a piece of bread or cracker with you to the service. We will give the Words of Institution on behalf of all of us and invite us to take our bread/cracker at the same time and partake of this modified version of the Lord's Supper.

\* In order to keep people's safety in mind following the advice of the CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health, there will be a drop box if you wish to bring an offering with you. Otherwise, we will depend on people continuing to contribute online or by mail.

\* Bathrooms will be available, but people would be encouraged to use them only if necessary, and social distancing would be required. The doors to the bathrooms will be left open to eliminate having to touch them,

and for the sake of knowing what kind of distancing/waiting is needed. Masks are required.

#### DRIVE-IN WORSHIP ON SATURDAY AT 5:00PM & SUNDAY AT 9:30

\* Households are required to socially distance from each other, which can be accomplished by **parking on the yellow lines. Our worship location will be either from the long sidewalk (lawn area) or from under the canopy at the front entrance, depending on the weather.**

\* Masks would be required if you get out of your car. (We have spare masks.)

\* We will have sound projection/speakers for all to hear, plus the FM channel (88.3.)

\* The worship usually lasts about 35 minutes. Worshipping outdoors allows us to sing!

#### ONLINE OPTIONS CONTINUE

\* We will continue to live-stream our worship services. We plan each week to record both Saturday and Sunday. Assuming everything works, all will be available through our Facebook site.

#### INDOOR WORSHIP RESUMES APRIL 11, only at 8:30am

Here are the notes if you are planning to come (registrations requested)

\* **Masks will be required** from the time you leave your car until you get back in the car. If you forget yours, we will have spares. (Those who are less than 2 years old or those with special health issues are exempt.)

\* **Enter and exit through the Fellowship Hall door**

\* Temperatures will be taken and names will be checked off both to match the sign-up list, as well as if we needed to do contact tracing. You may have to wait a little bit, with spacing between households. Come early, please.

\* There will be no congregational singing of a hymn, except by one worship leader who will be shielded from the congregation. You *can* hum along!

\* We will have pews marked off so that socially distanced spaces can be maintained. Of course, household units can stay together in their pew. Ushers will be available to help guide people, filling in pews from the front of the sanctuary to the back, and at the end of service leaving from the back.

\* We won't be having nursery attendants, acolytes, refreshments, lay liturgists, lesson readers, etc.

\* Between services, the sanctuary and all other spaces will be electrostatically sprayed with a disinfectant that will cover all surfaces.

\* Bathrooms will be discouraged from being used but will also receive attention.

\* Drinking fountains will not be in use.

\* Communion will have options: continue to be "bring your own bread or cracker," or take one of the wafers (gluten free or regular) or take one of the pre-packaged kind.

\* The service length will continue to be between 30 and 40 minutes.

\* If you feel sick or have come in contact with someone who has COVID-19, please stay home and watch via the live-stream.

\* **We are going to need volunteer** ushers, temperature takers, and after worship sprayers. You can sign up on the website ([Sign Up](#)) or contact the office. These volunteers will need to provide a N95/KN95 mask for themselves. There will be no physical contact with anyone, but the temperature takers will be within the six foot space for a few seconds.

Please pray for our world's healing, and for our congregation's ongoing attempts to stay faithful to God and God's leading!

#### **NEW LENOX COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

***A Matter of Balance* - a free month long program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. May 3-26 (Mon. & Wed.), 9:30-11:30am or 1:00-3:00pm at the New Lenox Public Library. Class sizes are limited and Covid safety protocols will be observed.**

Registration required at: 815-462-6493 or [dmartin@newlenox.net](mailto:dmartin@newlenox.net).

*A Pathway to Hope and Healing* - a free 60 minute program that will touch on how we as individuals and communities can make a difference in suicide prevention. There will also be a presentation on holistic mental health. Tues., May 4, 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom.

Registration required at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-pathway-to-hope-and-healing-in-support-of-suicide-prevention-awareness-tickets-148975025311>.

*Stop the Bleed* - a free 90 minute session that focuses on recognition of life-threatening bleeding and appropriate ways to stop it. Thurs., May 6, 7:00-8:30pm in the Community Room of Village Hall.

Registration required at: <https://eventbrite.com/e/free-bleeding-control-training-stop-the-bleed-tickets-149192578017>.

*AARP Smart Driver* - a 2 day course (\$15 for AARP members, \$20 for non-members) especially designed for drivers 50 and older to help brush up on driving skills. Thurs., May 13 & Fri., May 14, 9:00am-1:00pm. in the Community Room of Village Hall. Class sizes are limited and Covid safety protocols will be observed.

Registration required at: 815-462-6493 or [dmartin@newlenox.net](mailto:dmartin@newlenox.net).

*Operation Lifesaver* - a free 60 minute program designed to promote railroad safety and awareness for adults and children of all ages. Thurs., May 27, 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom.

Registration required at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/operation-lifesaver-free-rail-safety-presentation-via-zoom-tickets-150249392979>.