

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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Current as of July 30, 2021 (new/important items since 7/23 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 regularly for updates. There will be occasional email updates as well, the last of which was 7/30. 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., July 31 - Sun., Aug. 1 - Antioch Retreat for youth

Sat., July 31 - Drive-in Worship (88.3 FM) & Live-stream - 5:00pm (led by youth!) (including [Facebook video](#))

Sun., Aug. 1 - Live-stream & in person worship from inside the sanctuary [no registration needed] - 8:30am & Drive-in Worship (88.3 FM) - 9:30am (no live-stream)

Sun., Aug. 1 - Peace Page Turners Book Discussion - 10:30am in person or via Zoom

Sun., Aug. 1 - What's the Scoop (everybody's idea-exchange!)- 11:45am

Mon., Aug. 2 - Deadline for Slammers' tickets!

Wed., Aug. 4 - Bible Study - 10:00am in person or via Zoom

Thurs., Aug. 5 - Prayer Shawls - 6:00pm

Sun., Aug. 8 - Sunday School Teacher Orientation - 10:30am

Mon., Aug. 9 - Summertime quilting - 9:30am

Wed., Aug. 11 - Bible Study - 10:00am in person or via Zoom

Sat., Aug. 14 - Blood Drive - 9:00am to 1:00pm

Sat., Aug. 14 - Baptism Orientation - 3:30pm in person or via Zoom

Sat., Aug. 14 (after 5:00pm worship) & Sun., Aug. 15 (after 9:45am worship) - Thank you celebrations for Todd Yetman

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

Drive-in/Online/In person Worship for July 31 & Aug. 1 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost

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 (**5:00 and 8:30 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 a new and improved FM 88.3 option.) This week we will recognize graduates as part of our worship.

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.) This week the 5:00 worship will be led by our youth! At 8:30 & 9:30, 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 (Exodus 16:2-4 & 9-15, Ephesians 4:1-16, & John 6:24-35) prayers, communion (bring your own bread or cracker), and a sermon. Please join in being together in God's name inside, 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 – 7/31 & 8/1 - *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore* #817

1. You have come down to the lakeshore
seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,
but only asking for me to follow. ***Refrain***

Refrain: Sweet Lord, you have looked into my eyes;
kindly smiling, you've called out my name.
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;
now with you, I will seek other seas.

2. You know full well what I have, Lord:
neither treasure nor weapons for conquest,
just these my fish nets and will for working. ***Refrain***

3. You need my hands, my exhaustion,
working love for the rest of the weary –
a love that's willing to go on loving. ***Refrain***

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers this week were given by Doug & Lora Dittman in celebration of their 33rd wedding anniversary and Josh & Jake's golden birthdays.

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 \$2,711 and mailed in & weekend offering of \$6,763 help us to keep doing ministry locally, nationally, and around the world! For attendance, we had 390 Facebook views of last weekend's worship (plus YouTube and watching live), and for the drive-in about 48 at 5:00, 80 at 8:30, & 20 at 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.

New/ Important for This Week's Bulletin

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Sunday School begins Sept. 12. Our theme is Conductors of Faith!! We look forward to another great year! We rely on the registration forms to give us updates and to help us know who will be available to help with Sunday School. We have a great team and would love to have you be a part of it!!! Please fill out a registration form (located on the narthex counter in an upright holder), register on-line [Sunday School Registration](#), or call the church office. Even if you have no one in Sunday School, you might be hearing God's call to serve in our amazing program.

ANTIOCH EVENT - JULY 31 - AUG. 1

Many youth going into 8th grade though our new high school graduates, are ready to get together for Antioch! We will meet at church on Saturday, July 31, at 11:00 am. We will eat lunch and get ready to

host our 5pm worship service! Lots of activities leading up to our CAMP OUT! We will be outside as much as possible during these days. Questions? Let us know.

PEACE PAGE TURNERS NEXT BOOK DISCUSSION - SUN., AUG. 1 - 10:30am

The next book discussion will feature *Tattoos on the Heart* by Gregory Boyle. It is the true story of a Jesuit priest who ran a gang-intervention program in Los Angeles. Through a series of stories arranged by theme and filled with humor, the book helps us look at how being loved unconditionally can profoundly change lives. A copy of the book is available at church (sign-out which copy) if you wish. The date will be August 1 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.

WHAT'S THE SCOOP? (Bring your ideas to the group!) - SUN., AUG. 1 - 11:45am

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., Aug. 1, at 11:45am. Let us know if you plan to attend and how so that we can send you information ahead of time (peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org or 815-485-5327.)

PRAYER SHAWLS - EVERY OTHER THURSDAY - NEXT = AUG. 5 & 19

Do you crochet or knit? The Prayer Shawl Ministry is meeting again! 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. We are going to meet every other week on Thursdays at 6:00pm, with the next time being Aug. 5. You may also create shawls at home and drop them at church if you are not able to attend in person. Any questions, please contact the church office.

PEACE 360 (GOING INTO 8TH GRADE AND BEYOND)- SUN., AUG. 8

Movie at Emagine Theaters. Cost is \$10 for a ticket, drink, and popcorn. We will be viewing *Jungle Cruise*! Meet at Emagine at 2:45pm [Emagine Movie Sign Up](#). Please sign up, we only have 18 spots! Movie starts at 3pm pick up at 6pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER ORIENTATION MEETING - SUN., AUG. 8 & 22

Our Sunday School staff gathers before the start of Sunday School to help get to know each other, help new teachers and staff get acquainted with our Sunday School ministry, get our supplies and curriculum, and generally have a good time! This year's orientations will be Sunday, Aug. 8 & 22 at 10:30 in Fellowship Hall. (We also give extra special care and training for our new staff!)

BLOOD DRIVE - SAT., AUG. 14 - 9:00am - 1:00pm

Thank you to everyone who donated in June. We had 14 donors registered and 11 pints collected for a total of 33 lives saved! Our next blood drive will be Sat., Aug. 14 from 9:00am -1:00pm. Please use the Versiti website www.versiti.org/home/coronavirus-information to make an appointment or call the office and we'll schedule it for you.

TODD YETMAN IS RETIRING IN AUGUST - OPEN HOUSE/RECEPTION ON AUG. 14 & 15

It is with deepest gratitude that we acknowledge how much we have been blessed by Todd Yetman as our organist, pianist, accompanist, vocalist, encourager, recruiter, and inspiring God-led friend for over 10 years! So, as Todd now prepares to "retire from the bench" (organist lingo), we get to express our own regret, but also celebrate what a difference he has made. In the next month, please find your own ways to let Todd know what a difference he has made.

As a congregation, we will be having a thank-you event on his last weekend with us, August 14 & 15.

After the 5:00pm Sat. worship and after the 9:45am worship that Sunday (we're moving the service back 15 minutes because of special music that will be part of the worship at all services), we are going to have a thank you reception. The plan is to have it on the lawn, but in case of rain, it will be in Fellowship Hall. (In case of rain, the worship service would also move indoors to accommodate the music.)

In the meantime, if you know someone we should contact about becoming our next organist/pianist,

please pass that information along to us! Again, let us know.

PARENTS OF PEACE - OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT - SAT., AUG. 21 - 8pm

On Saturday, August 21, we will host an outdoor family movie night, starting at 8pm. Please bring your own snacks, drinks & something to sit on. We will start the movie once it is dark enough. Please respond on our group Facebook page, or use online sign up [Parents of Peace Movie Night](#) by Monday 8/16. We are looking for a large popcorn machine, if you own one and are will to bring it to the event, or let us use it, please let the office know. We will announce the title of the movie soon.

JOLIET SLAMMERS BASEBALL - SAT., AUG. 21 @6:05 pm - DEADLINE = AUG. 2

Time is running short baseball fans. We need to know how many tickets (\$8 each) you want for what promises to be an enjoyable evening of fellowship, food and baseball. Please call the church office, or use the church web site to reserve your tickets by Tuesday, Aug. 2. If you want tickets in our section after that, we may be able to round up some more seats, but no guarantees. So, get your request in now. Sign up on the church website or by calling the church office by August 2. Play Ball! [Sign up here.](#)

BLESSING FOR SCHOOLS - SUN., AUG. 22

As a part of 8:30am & 9:30am worships on Aug. 22, we will have a special prayer of blessing for all those connected to schools in any way. We will pray for teachers, students, staff, parents, administrators, bus drivers, support personnel, etc.

ADULT CLASS - SUN., AUG. 29, 10:30am

Please join us for another of our summer adult classes. The topic on Aug. 29 will be “Instead of ‘Why Me?’ Ask ‘What Can I Learn?’” God doesn’t bring us difficulties in life ever, including to teach us a lesson. But God is very interested in the moments of life’s challenges to help us grow through them. The class will look at the big theological picture of why bad things happen at all, plus concentrate on the next steps that can make a difference.

DIAPER COLLECTION THROUGH AUGUST

One of the needs of people who are challenged economically has to do with diapers. We are starting a collection of diapers of all sizes, including adult sizes. You can put them outside the front door, or put them in the wire-rack bin we have in the entrance area.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR SANTA CRUZ THROUGH AUGUST

The stores are getting school supplies out earlier and earlier! So, we’ll be happy to accept your donations of them that we’ll give to Santa Cruz, our mission partner in Joliet. Outside the front door or in the famous bin in the entrance area will be great places to leave them.

VIAL OF LIFE AVAILABLE

Through the courtesy of the Faith Community Nursing Program, a not-for-profit organization of nurses that promotes public health and support for people in their lives, we have a supply of “The Vial of Life.” These are to be stored in your refrigerator in your home and/or glove box in your car for emergency personnel (or family) in case you need emergency care and can’t speak for yourself. They contain information helpful to care givers and remain private unless needed. The group suggests having one in both car and home since those are the two places they’d most likely be needed. They are free. We will put some in the black container outside the front door (the one containing the daily devotionals), as well as in the entrance area. Please help yourself.

CHECK OUT THESE LOCAL EVENTS

We want to encourage people to safely get out and enjoy some local entertainment options. The Village of New Lenox hosts some things at the Village Commons: <https://www.newlenox.net/pview.aspx?id=54045&catid=529>. The Fellowship Committee also invites you to consider some other locales for your consideration. For example, Concerts on the Green in Frankfort, which our church has helped sponsor for 25 years: <https://www.frankfortchamber.com/concerts-on-the-green/>, or <https://paramountaurora.com/riveredge/>, or <https://iandmcanal.org/>. And don’t forget about Cantigny or the Michaelangelo’s Sistene Chapel display at

Oakbrook - both described below!

NEW OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES AVAILABLE

The offering envelopes boxes that began June 6 are now available for pick up in the Narthex. Come before or after worship or some other time when the office is open and pick up your box. (For those whose old numbers were above 336, you'll have a new number.)

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 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 JULY - SEPT. 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.

Celebration for the birth of Madelyn Kate Wolf, Larry Parvin (health), Denise Jones (rehab), Ron Fullriede (healing), Ted Chubb (healing), Jeri Sandt (recovery), Roger Bentley (healing), Pastor Dave (recovery), Michele Lenz (recovery), Diane Conatser (shoulder surgery), Max (tests), Zach Huelhorst (recovery), Anita Drake (recovery), Edna Anglin (recovery), Wayne Hansen (recovery), Jenny Treasure (recovery), Cheryl Dralle (recovery), Ed Hovi (recovery), Dorothy Vrshek (hospice), Larry Wurzbarger (recovery), Chris Fehrenkamp, Hailey (strength and guidance), Rich Dohrn (COVID - recovery), Sue Horn (recovery & treatment), Kay Johnson, Bonnie Fikeys, Barb Decker, 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...

Vida Venclovas (pregnancy complications), Michael (healing), Rick Davis (healing), Dave (heart attack), Jeanne (recovery), Marquin (father died), Scott Campbell (heart transplant), Bob & Jean Britton, Christy Chenoweth, Anita's mom (hospice), Mark (recovery), Celine (healing from surgery), Tammy Rokita (cancer), Karen Michielsen (health), Danette Lafferty (recovery), Karen Cohn (recovery), Bruce Thielen, Cara Clausing, Chaplain Steven DeMik & family, Judy Beauvier, Mimi, Tim Ferguson (surgery recovery), Laura (recovery), Catherine Olson, Richard Esposito (cancer), Tom Eizenga (COVID - hospitalized), Christopher Plagosa, Parker (seizures), Jim Calvert (cancer), Sandy Booten, Carol Bentley, Tyler, Vern Sanborn, Alan Booton, Bill Reidy (cancer), Erv Pander, Ron N., Deryl & Jim Hunt, Mary Hand, 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. 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

2nd 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.peacenewlenox.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).



Groups

SUMMERTIME QUILTING - AUG. 9 & 23

Summertime Quilting will meet every other Monday at 9:30 a.m. Our next meeting will be July 26 We are socially distancing in Fellowship Hall, and are resuming treats because everybody's been vaccinated!!! Questions? Contact the church office.

TRAILBLAZERS - WE WELCOME YOU AS WE COME BACK! - AUG. 17

We invite anyone who'd like to get together with some others who are anything but "over the hill" to come together on Aug. 17 at noon at church. Bring \$5; the food will be provided. Email or call the church office for more information.

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

Mules, Marigolds, and Mimosas - 4 hours, \$62 per person, moderate walking

Pair the I & M Canal Boat Tour with a visit to the gorgeous Weber Gardens! Enjoy a relaxing and educational ride on the I & M Canal, then kick back with mimosas as the Boat Captain's Lunch, courtesy of the Lock 16 Café. (There is a Lock 16 Gift Shop). Next, venture to the whimsical world of Ted Weber, his Storybook-style house, and over two acres of stunning English gardens, complete with fountains, statues, and other ornamental features. So, then comes a question: A group from church? Individually? Let us know (815-485-5327 or peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org) if you'd be interested in this event as a group and we'd get group tickets. The date we'll pick for that will be Sept. 11, and if we get enough interest, the people there will work around us for a starting time! Tentatively, we'd start there at 10:00am. Let us know by Aug. 15.

Curtain Call Theatre – "Lend Me a Tenor"

Couldn't we all use a good laugh? (Reviews about the play itself: "A sensation on Broadway, this madcap, screwball comedy is guaranteed to leave audiences teary-eyed with laughter.") This sounds like great fun! Arrange a group of your own or buy your own tickets on line. The cost is \$20. Performances: are at 7:00pm on Thurs., Fri., Sat. 8/19, 20, 21 & 8/26, 27 & 28 and Sun. 8/22 & 8/29 at 2:00pm.

GOLF GROUP

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.)

CANTIGNY PARK OPTIONS

Either on your own or as a church outing, are you interested in going to Cantigny (less than an hour from New Lenox?) The park is open from 7:00am to sunset daily. Some reasons to consider a trip: \$10 per car fee gets you all in for the whole time you're there, no other costs.

Concerts: most Sundays through September, outdoor seating on lawn chairs or blankets. Food can be brought in or bought. Would you consider a soulful R & B event on Aug. 8 at 3:00pm (MAC 180) or how about "A Tribute to Old Blue Eyes" on Sept. 5 at 3:00pm? Let us know if you'd consider either one!

Gardens: beautiful!

First Division Museum: Revolutionary War through Desert Storm....walk through a WWI trench with sounds of exploding shells or sit in a landing craft and a whole lot more!

SISTINE CHAPEL EXHIBIT

Our Fellowship Committee has an idea that we are really excited about. It involves a visit to see "Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel – The Exhibition" which is housed inside the former Sears store at 2120 Oakbrook Center. The duration of the visit takes from 60-90 minutes with time slots every ½ hour. Each painting is accompanied by informative signage and audio guides are available to rent for an even more in-depth experience. Ticket prices start at \$20.00 per person and are disappearing fast. Go to <https://sistinechapelxhibit.com/chicago/>. An option would be for you to get a group and go together. Making this event more fun would be dinner at Maggiano's after the tour!

General Announcements

HAND-IN-HAND PARENTING OPPORTUNITY

There is a great parenting resource that is just a click away: 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 or 815-485-5327.) For professionals, there is CEU credit available for the intensive one.

2021 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES 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) or call the office.

BECAUSE OF YOU

Reducing vulnerability and accompanying neighbors on the path to economic stability and food security are central to the work of the Lutheran Church in Guinea. Malavele Guilavogui, a farmer in Guinea, participates in this ministry. Supported in part by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, Malavele's gardening group received wheelbarrows, sprayers, watering cans, shovels, fertilizer and other tools and supplies. With the support they need to increase crop production, farmers such as Malavele will know greater food security and increased income from selling their produce. By addressing the root causes of hunger, the Lutheran Church in Guinea helps neighbors access food for today and secure livelihoods that will ensure food for tomorrow – whatever tomorrow may bring.

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 two more. 1) How can God not sleep? *We live where time clicks from one minute to the next. We know that when we stay awake too long, we get crabby and tired. But God doesn't live in time. God lives in a way so that it always "now." We can't imagine what that is like because we always have a sense of past, present and future.*

2) Does God get mad? *The Bible helps us see that God is able to make judgments all the time on what is going on in God's universe. Some of those behaviors make God really happy, such as when we love other people and want to spend time with God. When people are hurt, God is very sad and wants to be with us. When people do things that show they don't want to let God be first in their lives or when they hurt/hate other people or God's creation, then God does get mad. God isn't mad just because God is having a bad day. God's anger is always toward behaviors that show people following their own path instead of God's.*

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY -

We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in person or 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. **August's passage is Psalm 32:1 - 11.**

IMPORTANT MASK WEARING UPDATE & MORE SEATING CAPACITY IN THE SANCTUARY

Because of the new guidelines from the state and Will County, we are able to have new mask-wearing guidelines!

* For everyone who is vaccinated, masks are optional inside and outside.

* For people who are not vaccinated, we strongly encourage you to keep wearing your masks indoors for your own sake and for the sake of others.

* Inside the sanctuary, when it is time to sing we'd ask all to wear their masks if they wish to sing, and to keep the volume to a moderate level.

* The number of available seats in the sanctuary for the 8:30 in person worship is no longer restricted, so registration is no longer required.

* We have stopped taking temperatures.

* For the outside worship services (5:00 & 9:30,) masks are optional and not required for anyone.

Some of the modifications we have had within worship will continue on the advice of the IDPH guidelines for churches. Those include continuing our practices for communion (bring your own), length of worship, no refreshments, and the like. (By fall, we hope those will fall into line, too!)

We celebrate how many people have been vaccinated and the opportunities we have to get closer to “normal.” The more youth and adults who can get vaccinated, the faster we’ll get there. We now are inviting people to take turns reading the first and second lessons. Let us know if you are available. Please note that live-streaming of 5:00pm worship on Saturdays and 8:30am on Sundays will continue.

Details for how we worship this weekend, July 31 & Aug. 1

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.

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

*** 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.**

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

* The worship usually lasts about 35 minutes. Worshiping outdoors allows us to sing with gusto!

ONLINE OPTIONS CONTINUE

* We will continue to live-stream our 5:00 & 8:30 worship services. Assuming everything works, all will be available through our Facebook site anytime.

INDOOR WORSHIP CONTINUES at 8:30am with no limits

Here are the notes if you are planning to come

*** Masks are optional, but encouraged for those not vaccinated.**

* Congregational singing of a hymn is now allowed, but wear your masks for singing, and hold down the volume. We’ll have some printed copies available.

* We will have pews marked off so that socially distanced spaces can be maintained.

* We won’t be having nursery attendants, acolytes, refreshments, lay liturgists, etc.

* We will be sending an email each week asking for lesson readers. If you would like to volunteer for a specific week, please let us know.

* Bathrooms will be discouraged from being used but are available.

* 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.

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

To sign up for anything, to ask a question, or to share a thought, we suggest using the church’s email: peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org.