

# 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  
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## ***Praise Softens, Criticism Hardens***

Have you ever had a boss or family members whose first response to almost anything was to find fault? Their go-to reaction to the unfolding of life or someone's actions was to look for the negative. And guess what? They found it. If you were on the receiving end of that attitude, you know first-hand what kind of damage that can do. You walk on eggshells and are always expecting negative feedback. What is the result for a relationship? Bad news! The relationship will never be "enough" because you will get the message loud and clear that *you* are never enough. We become burdened and demoralized, and easily can learn to mimic the attitude with others.

On the other hand, have you ever been around people who repeatedly see your good qualities and efforts? What happens then? Most of us will try our hardest to do a good job. We will seek to be the kind of person who deserves and gets even more reinforcement for who we are, and then wants to pass it along to others. And guess what? When people are looking for the good, they find it, too.

Which of those is God-like? Some people's experience with a church's presentation of God has been the former: critical and demanding. How fortunate we are when the presentation of God is instead reflecting Jesus, God in the flesh! There we find a God of love who is not looking to magnify specks of dirt, but rather to give us life and wholeness in an acknowledgement of who we can be. Jesus gave words of praise to people who even were at the very beginning of seeking to be on that path. Jesus invited his followers to live all-in with that same attitude. And guess what? For 2000 years that attitude has brought healing and reconciliation to broken societies and broken individuals and been a force for positive change. As followers of Jesus, we can lead the way today.

*Pastor Dave Hedlin*

***Please check our website, Facebook and YouTube for the latest information, videos, and more!***

## ***Prayers Requested***

Grandma Pekich, the family of Randy Brinegar, the family of Leroy Nielsen, Marty D., Karen Michielsen, Wally Paprocki, Art and Gerry Kryzaniak, Eli Hrynak Karen Michielsen, Denise Jones, Ingrid Hansen, Steve Barlow, Cheryl Madsen, Gary Madsen, Bobbie, Heidi, Kay Johnson, Jan Stoller, Marilyn Krauch, Janet Vern Sandborn, the family of Dylan Tatar

## ***Sympathy***

The congregation of Peace wishes to extend its sympathy to:

the family of Robert John Nelson, son of Guy Nelson

## ***Congratulations***

Kaitlin Halper & Grant Gibbs on their marriage on May 23;

Sara Losacco & Jeremy Kman on their marriage on May 29;

Jacob Weber, on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout on June 10;

Carol Wadleigh, grandmother, on the birth of Meredith Elise Rosales on June 13;

Chris Hedlin & Michael Drummond on their marriage on June 28;

Karen & Steve Brill (Steve & Emersyn), parents and Pam Vanick, grandmother on the birth of Madisyn Ann Brill.

## *Drive-in and Online Worship Continue - see instructions below, too*

Please join us for Drive-in Worship at 5:00pm on Saturdays (with [Facebook live stream](#) of the worship) and another Drive-in Worship option on Sundays, at 9:45am. Our [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube Channel](#) sites will have the worship recorded and available anytime after Saturday's worship. (You do not need to have a Facebook account to access this public page.) There will be some great music from Todd and a hymn to which you can sing along (words included below this announcement, so be sure to **print out the words**) some liturgy, scripture readings, prayers and a sermon. Join in being together in God's name in your cars or electronically and share the worship post with others!

### *How the drive-in worship works*

\* We have a low power FM transmitter, which will allow us to have worship leaders be visible from under the front canopy and heard in each person's car via their car radio or an old-fashioned radio. It will be on channel 89.3.

\* We're asking people to enter the parking lot through the south (bank-end) of the Atrium Point complex via Schoolhouse Rd. All will be asked to leave via Rt. 30. Large trucks and large SUV's are asked to park in the third row; vans and regular SUV's in the second row, and sedans in the first row.

\* All vehicles should park facing the front entrance, with one vehicle for every two parking spaces. To help accomplish that, park on the line itself. Some of you might want to angle to get a better view of the front entrance. If row 2 can offset behind row 1 so you have a view that's less obstructed, that may help.

\* We have 37 spaces to use, which was sufficient last week.

\* In order to stay under the "ten people or fewer gathering in person," people would have to promise to stay in their cars! (No going to the bathrooms inside or spreading out on the lawn, for example.) The service should only be about 30-40 minutes, so we hope that will work out.

\* In order to keep people's safety in mind following the advice of the CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health, we will not be having communion at this time, nor will we have an offering. We will depend on people continuing to contribute online or by mail.

## *What is next for how we might worship safely together?*

### **STARTING JULY 11 & 12**

In celebration that in Illinois the next phase of groups of 50 will be allowed, we have the following plan in mind to maintain good practices for the sake of all (not to mention that Deacon Shari and Pastor Dave are both in the higher risk category.)

\* Add an **outdoor worship option on Saturdays at 5:00 and Sundays at 9:45** (and possibly switching to 8:30 and 11:00 if needed). We will maintain **an option for people to continue to drive in/see & listen/participate in the worship from their cars. One or more services also will be streamed/recorded.**

\* Households would be required to socially distance from each other. We will have markings in the grass for individuals/households to be 10' apart.

\* Those worshipping outdoors can choose whether to **bring a blanket or their own chairs.**

\* **Masks would be required when moving to or from the parking lot to the marked spots.** (We will have spares if you don't have one or forget.)

\* Children would have to be with an adult at all times.

\* In case of bad weather, the service would switch to a drive-in only format.

\* Worship leaders would be set up at the far west end of the long sidewalk (where all the grass is available between the main building and the garage) in front of the door to the education wing, facing the parking lot, which again allows those who choose the drive-in option to see.

\* The worship would continue to be modified so as to last about 30 to 40 minutes. There would be no ushers or greeters or other worship assistants or communion for July 11 or 12. (We are investigating resuming some kind of communion option for July 18 & 19.) Worshipping outdoors will allow us to sing! Offering baskets will be available, too.

\* Bathrooms would be open, but people would be encouraged to use them only if necessary, and social distancing would be required. The doors to the bathrooms and the building itself would be left open to eliminate having to touch them, and for the sake of knowing what kind of distancing/waiting is needed.

\* Why not move indoors? For one thing, we wouldn't be able to sing. For another, we would have to take reservations to limit the number, which means some might be excluded. Also, there would be a lot more cleaning to do between/after services. Furthermore, the CDC's guidelines still recommend outdoor worship whenever possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Dave!

## ***Thank You Very Much!***

*The list that follows is for those who have done something for the first time. (If we miss someone, please let us know!) We are thankful for all the people who give of themselves to make ministry happen, even though their names don't keep getting mentioned here.*

### ***From:***

Lutheran Social Service of Illinois – for the donation  
Annika Woerner – for the scholarship  
MorningStar Mission – for the donation  
ELCA World Hunger – for the donation  
Girl Scout Troops 75185 & 70819 – for use of rooms  
for meetings  
Catholic Charities & Guardian Angel Community  
Services – for the donation

## ***Offering Envelope Boxes & Devotional Booklet Options***

Option A: We have some volunteers who are willing to bring your offering envelope box to you even ahead of when we can worship together and pick them up ourselves. Those same people are willing to bring you a devotional booklet. Let us know via [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org).

Option B: We put a second bin outside the front door labeled “devotional booklets” and you can come by the church and pick one up at your convenience. If we know you wanted your offering box that way, we'll also put any such requests in there with your name on the offering box. (Just give us at least two days notice.)

Option C: Just wait until we are together. You can either donate online or mail in your offering (PO Box 205, New Lenox, IL 60451). If you know your envelope #, write that on the check. If you don't, we'll gratefully look it up so that you get credit! We will have the boxes available outside (weather permitting) for the outdoor worship services.

No matter how: thanks for your offerings!

## ***2020 Member Directories***

Our new phone/address directories are now available. They include a business and service directory. If you would like a copy, please let us know in the church office.

## ***Lawn Mowing***

If you'd like a turn to mow this year, please email the office and we will put you on the schedule. Most of the time you can pick whether to mow on Friday or Saturday. Most mowers took between 1 to 1.5 hours.

***For just about everything that is listed in the rest of the newsletter that has a date, the words “maybe”, “possible” and “tentative” apply! Check for updates on the website [www.peacenewlenox.org](http://www.peacenewlenox.org)***

## ***Church Office***

The church office has opened up a little more. We have a person in the office M-F from 9:00 to noon. We continue to seek ways to serve and be safe at the same time. If you stop by church, please be sure you wear a mask. The front door may be locked, so ring the doorbell to the left of the door.

## ***Because of You and Your Gifts***

The pandemic and all that involves certainly deserves and needs our full attention. The same is true about race relations. We also acknowledge, though, that the church of Jesus Christ does not stop reaching out to people who are in need or hurting in other ways. So, when families fled northern Iraq from fear of ISIS-related violence, the ELCA's World Hunger effort saw their plight. And when we learned those families couldn't return home because they didn't have access to safe water, the gifts of people like you made the difference. Because of the response, 10 new wells are pumping clean, safe water to farms and family homes in Ninawa province. Because you care, families can return home to farm and live where they have for generations. At a time when there are more people forced to flee by violence and disaster at any time since World War II, you helped return people home.

## ***Caregiver Tip of the Month***

Do you recognize any of these? Burnout? Feeling guilty about taking breaks? Stressed? Not finding support? Forgetting about yourself? Do some research. Some helpful organizations that can provide information or assistance on care giving include: Administration on Aging - National Association of Area Agencies on Aging - Eldercare Locator - AARP - Children of Aging Parents - Family Caregiver Alliance - National Alliance for Caregiving - Caregiver Action Network. Recognize that you can't do it alone and help is out there. *(For more information about being a caregiver and other related topics - see our display in the narthex.)*

## ***Quick Reminders***

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS **July 26**. If you get your newsletter late, please pick one up here, or if you want it mailed first class or via e-mail, let us know.

\* **The Will-Grundy Medical Clinic** is now accepting patients for free healthcare for the uninsured and those who qualify. Appointments are available onsite or over the phone, Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. To schedule a free screening appointment, please call 815-726-3377, ext. 228.

\***Crutches and walkers available** – The church has received crutches and walkers from members. Please feel free to contact the church office if you need to borrow one of these items.

\* **Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Cards** – Suicide is not about wanting to die, but about a powerful need for pain to end. You can help someone today by reaching out, listening, and letting them know you care. Be sure that the person can reach you and several responsible others if the desire to commit suicide becomes strong or if he/she just feels the need to talk to someone. Give the individual the names and telephone numbers of people who could be contacted and if possible, have the person meet these people. Give them the suicide prevention hotline. **Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Cards** are always located in the entrance area. Let's remember to keep in mind to spread the word that no one is alone in a time of need. Suicide destroys everyone who cares! Help someone today who is reaching out for help by picking up the cards and being attentive to what people are saying about their lives. Crisis Line – 815-469-6166, text line – 741741, and online – [www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org).

### \* **Bereavement Support Groups**

- *GriefShare* – Not currently meeting – please watch the newsletter.

- *Evening Adult Support Group* – Meets the third Thursday of the month, (with the exception of the month of March), December - June 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. at Joliet Area Community Hospice, *donation appreciated*.

- *Afternoon Adult Support Group* – Meets the second Friday of the month, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at Joliet Area Community Hospice, *donation appreciated*.

For other services offered, including individual counseling, parent support and general grief support, please visit the Joliet Area Community Hospice website: [www.joliethospice.org](http://www.joliethospice.org) or call 815-740-4104.

\***Thrivent members** – For those of you who have Thrivent dollars to donate, don't forget Peace is one of those choices.

\* **LSSI's Joshua Arms Website** - Joshua Arms has a website that makes it easy for visitors to see all that the affordable senior housing development in Joliet has to offer. Visit the site at [www.LSSI.org/JoshuaArms](http://www.LSSI.org/JoshuaArms). Located at 1315 Rowell in a tree-lined residential area, Joshua Arms offers 186 independent, apartment-style units and 56 supportive living units, where residents can receive three meals a day, housekeeping and other daily living services. The new website is an easy to use tool for potential residents *and* family members to learn about Joshua Arms, including eligibility and floor plans.

\***Cleaning for a Reason** – Provides free housecleaning once a month for 4 months for women currently undergoing chemotherapy. For more information or to sign up please go to: [www.cleaningforareason.org/cancer\\_patients\\_acct.html](http://www.cleaningforareason.org/cancer_patients_acct.html). You will need a doctor's note confirming treatment to sign up and have a participating maid service in your zip code area arrange for service. This organization serves the entire US and currently has 547 partners.

## ***Check Out Our 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.

## ***Our Sponsored Missionary***

Benjamin David will be completing his year of service as a Young Adult in Global Mission in July. It has been our privilege to support him financially, through prayers each week in worship, Trailblazer cards, and more

## ***Addresses for Service Personnel***

Midshipman Trevor Horn PO Box # 12989 Annapolis, MD 21412	Sargent Devin Pafford 1208 Battery Creek Dr. Beaufort SC 29902
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MA2 Baker, Connor 5600 Shorewood Lane Norfolk, VA 23502	2 Lieutenant Jakob Swenson 947 Burr St. Apt. E Fort Benning, GA 31905
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## ***Looking Ahead... Tentative Dates***

***July 11 & 12 – Outdoor Worship options begin***  
***July 28 & 29 – Vacation Bible School - 2 options***  
***Aug. 3 – Strong Seniors Exercise Resumes 12 noon***  
***Aug. 8 – Baptism Orientation 3:30 p.m.***  
***Aug. 15 – Blood Drive 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.***  
***Sept. 13 – Sunday School Rally Day 9:45 a.m.***

## **Groups - Tentative Dates**

### ***Prayer Shawl – Stay Tuned***

Stay tuned for when we can get back together! Send an email if you have questions or would like more information.

### ***Summertime Quilting – July 13 & 27***

Summertime quilting will meet every other Monday at 9:30 a.m. It's very casual and if you can't make it each time, just come when you can. Questions? Contact the church office.

### ***Trailblazers – Maybe July 21!***

We plan to get together in July with a catered meal! 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.

### ***Ping Pong Club – Summer Hiatus***

The ping pong club will be taking a summer hiatus. They will resume meeting on the third Sunday of September. If you think you may want to join them, let the church office know your name and email address, and you will be added to the email reminders.

### ***Strong Seniors Exercise – Mon., Aug. 3***

We will not meet in July and tentatively set our next class for Mon., Aug. 3 Join us for a low impact, do what you can exercise program for seniors. We meet Mondays 12 -1:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 11:15 a.m.- 12:15 p.m.

## ***Golf Group – We are back in business!***

The golf group is ready to go....weather permitting now! The format will still be "best ball. 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? Call the office.

## ***Alzheimer's Association Support Group***

Do you care for someone diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia? Are you looking for information and support? The Alzheimer's Association Support Group meets at Peace the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For more information on when the group will resume meeting, contact the church office.

## ***Addiction and Family Support Group***

The Addiction & Family Support Group is now meeting via Zoom Tuesday nights from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. This support group meeting is for those struggling, those who love someone struggling, or those who just want to learn about the epidemic of heroin and prescription pain medications in our community. For more information, contact the church office.

## ***Results of Special Congregational Meeting***

The results of the special congregational meeting included the approval of a working budget and the special bathroom updating proposal. Thank you for all the support that keeps this congregation moving forward in uncertain times. Our confidence is in God!

## ***Golden Opportunities Books***

We are once again offering Golden Opportunity books. They're filled with savings coupons for many different types of places, from food to entertainment to carwashes. **These books are now \$15.** (A portion of that goes to youth-related ministries.)

## ***College Information Packets***

There are college information packets for HS students located in the narthex on the counter.

## *From Vicar Mike Markwell*

It is hard for me to believe that I have been at Peace for about a year. At the end of July my internship at Peace will come to an end. I learned so much over the past year and truly have enjoyed being able to do ministry with each one of you. I am truly thankful for being able to complete my internship at such a wonderful place surrounded by wonderful people.

Looking back at my internship I have enjoyed every aspect of it. Because of Covid-19, my internship took an unexpected direction as the ministry adapted to our new reality. In some ways, I had two internship experience. The first being the traditional internship. Then there was the second part of my internship, navigating ministry as we navigate the coronavirus pandemic. I was grateful to be able to help imagine new ways that ministry could continue in an online format. I have been blessed by a congregation that has been willing to try new things. Looking back at the whole experience I think that the experiences I gained in helping lead the church through this pandemic has further prepared me for my future ministry.

I never would have expected that people would have listened to my sermons on Facebook or on the radio while sitting in their cars. I also would have never expected the generosity and hospitality I felt here at Peace. From the first minute I was at Peace, I have truly felt that you have been open and welcoming to me. My time and my experience here would not have been as positive as it was without all the people who make Peace Church what it is.

I appreciate the opportunity to practice and learn skills that will help shape my future ministry. I am grateful for Pastor Dave, his leadership, and wealth of knowledge and experience. I am grateful for the rest of the staff and office volunteers that have made this a wonderful place to come to work for the last year.

I would like to thank my internship committee; we have met monthly over the past year during which they provided me with feedback and advice and provided a place for me to brainstorm different ideas. I'd also like to thank everyone that has helped with our social media project. I am grateful that the work we did in updating our social media pages. I hope that the work we have done will continue to be a gift to this congregation for years to come.

I will still be at Peace until July 31. I look forward to getting to see many of you over the next month. Following my internship, I will return to the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago for a final year of classes. During that year I will be finishing up my paperwork for ordination and then looking for my first call. I am grateful for my time at Peace and look forward to what God has planned for both of us.

Thank You

*Vicar Mike*

### **FAREWELL TO VICAR MIKE AT THE END OF JULY**

**Because of the pandemic, our together time with Vicar Mike has been cut short these last few months. His year of internship ends July 31. Can you believe it has been a whole year? As a congregation, we are so grateful for Vicar Mike being a part of our congregation's life. You have experienced him in worship and in various newsletter and bulletin articles. Many of us have seen him at work in leading classes and experiencing a wide variety of fellowship events and multiple ministries of Peace. He has led and encouraged and brought a positive energy to us. His work on social media has been life-saving! We hope we have been equally good to and for him in his development as a pastor! Because our worship life continues to be "different" these days, our desire to give him a proper farewell is being altered. Would you please write a note of appreciation or other words of support to/for him and email it ([peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org)) or mail it to the church (PO Box 205, New Lenox, 60451)? (After we finally can be together in worship and fellowship time later this fall, we hope to have him come back some Sunday and give him his own reception. But for now, let him know your appreciation!)**

## **Faith Development/Education**

### **Everybody Read**

Our desire to have people read a common Bible passage is part of our Book of Faith effort. Each month we'll pick a passage, invite everyone to read it sometime that month, and then those who are willing, write a sentence or two (or more if you'd like) about what you got out of the passage. July's passage is: Exodus 3:7-12

### **Wednesday Bible Study - Now both in person and on-line starting July 8**

Each Wednesday for many weeks now, people have been joining our Bible Study through the wonders of Zoom! Starting July 8, we will offer both an in-person version and the continuation of the online method. For those using the online version for the first time, let us know via the church's email so we can send you the meeting ID and password. We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. We will be looking at the Psalms (starting with Ps. 103 on July 8) and any version of the Bible you have will work. You don't need to know anything about the Bible to join this class! On July 15 we will backtrack just a bit to finish up our incomplete/interrupted ending to the book of Job. We wanted everyone to get a chance to come back on board before going back to Job for a week or two. For those who will be coming to the in-person version, we will have some requirements for distancing, etc. Be sure to let us know if you plan to come to the in-person version.

### **Peace Page Turners – Sun., July 19**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 19, time to be announced. We will discuss *Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George (Priscilla's choice). As it gets closer to the date, we will explore options for a live meeting. Fingers crossed! Again, the library is not doing inter-library loans, so you are on your own obtaining the book in one form or another. You can request and pick-up through the library. Questions, contact the church office.

### **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.

## **Vacation Bible School – Two Options for July 28 & 29**

Our amazing Vacation Bible School planning crew is now into version 3 for this year's VBS. Here is a summary of the latest version! (There will be a few more parts and we'll share those with those who register.) On July 28 & 29 there will be a two-day version of VBS. On both dates there will be *OPTION 1*: an online version via Zoom at 3:00pm. The format will include a group silly song, a lesson, plus a "how to" for a craft you can do at home. The time online probably will be about 15 minutes, with another 10 minutes available afterward for kids to just hang around with other kids online if they want. This option is rain or shine.

Or, *OPTION 2*: an in-person version that will be very limited in number. You will sign up for a specific time slot, and you will need to have at least one parent/young adult with the child(ren), and who will be the hands on helpers (so don't wear "good clothes!") You can organize yourself into groups of no more than 5 if you have neighborhood kids/relatives you want to include with you, or you can sign up for just your family. Social distancing and wearing masks (you will provide those) will be built into this format, with kids being outside and moving from station to station. The format will include some things you will provide: a gallon Ziploc-style gallon bag with a name on each, a sharpie marker, and (for best results) a white pillowcase or white t-shirt. We will have all the supplies to tie-dye, a lesson-time with a silly song, and more too. Each "group" will move through in about 20 minutes. We will have start times from 4:00pm and lasting until 5:40pm (so we're done by 6:00.) You will need to call the church office M-F, 9:00 to 11:30 am to reserve your spot, first come-first served basis, but no later than July 21. There will be no online registration for this. The cost for the in-person version would be a suggested donation of \$5 per child. If all the time slots are gone, you can still do the online version, of course, plus we'll put you on a waiting list. (There will be some more instructions for those who sign up given out when you do.)

### **Need A Mask?**

Thanks to our wonderful group of masks makers, we have a supply of masks available. If you are need of a face mask, please take what you need from the Ziploc bag in the grey tote by the front door of church.

## ***An Invitation from Bishop Clements to Study Racism***

Dear friends in Christ,

I am inviting you, as a member or friend of the Northern Illinois Synod, to join me in a six-week book study of *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo. Racism is a really tough subject to discuss and I think this book will help us get into an important and timely discussion. From the back cover: "Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence." Does that resonate with you? It certainly does with me.

If you are interested in joining with others, in what I hope will be a challenging discussion without being threatening or scary, please plan to read and join in. We will meet by Zoom Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning July 29. You will need to register so that I can send you the Zoom link to participate. Reading assignments will be made in advance.

Order a copy of the book by whatever means you normally use. It is available in print or e-book forms. I am looking forward to spending this time with you. Register here: [Bishop Clements' Book Study](#)

Walking together, *Bishop Clements*

## ***diakonia™ Online in 2020***

Are you ready to take the next step in your growth as a Christian and in your service to your congregation and community? If so, you are looking for diakonia™! The next series of courses is scheduled to meet on Tuesdays, beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Due to the uncertainties of the current pandemic, courses will be offered online via Zoom. diakonia™ is a two-year process of spiritual formation and theological education for baptized members of the Lutheran Church. This process occurs in three basic ways:

- By thorough grounding in the classic seminary disciplines of practical, Biblical, systematic, and historical theology;
- By identifying particular skills and aptitudes in ministry and encouraging their use in the local parish and community; and
- By providing spiritual growth through worship, retreats, and a supportive community of fellow students, pastor-mentors, and instructors.

For More Information: Go to

<[www.nisynod.org/diakonia/](http://www.nisynod.org/diakonia/)> and/or

<[www.diakoniausa.org/diakonia-program-overview/](http://www.diakoniausa.org/diakonia-program-overview/)>

## ***Fellowship Opportunities***

### ***Interested in Playing Pickleball?***

Come join us for fun exercise and learn the social/competitive game of Pickleball! Pickleball is a cross between tennis and table tennis, played with paddles and a hard wiffleball. Please sign up and indicate what times are best for you - weeknights, or weekends or both. We are hoping to be able to start in August. We will teach you and even provide paddles and balls. So, get off that couch or lawn chair and let's play some Pickleball! Questions? Contact the church office.

### ***Chess Tournament – Will be Rescheduled***

Calling all chess players! Peace's first chess tournament will be rescheduled. Questions? Contact the church office.

## ***General Announcements***

### ***Blood Drive – Sat., Aug. 15***

Thank you to everyone who donated in June. Our next Versiti blood drive will be Sat., Aug. 15 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

### ***Blood Pressure Screenings – Sun., Aug. 9***

Our next monthly screening date is Sun., Aug. 9. Your pressure is measured by health care professionals and kept strictly confidential. If you have questions or have clinical experience in taking blood pressures and would like to help, contact the church office.

### ***Baptism Orientation – Sat., Aug. 8***

Saturday, Aug. 8, at 3:30 p.m., marks the next baptism orientation class for those who wish to have children baptized at Peace in the next few months.

### ***Recognition of Graduates***

We would like to recognize more of those who have let us know they've graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> gr., high School, college and beyond. Congratulations on all your achievements!

Christian Knutson – 8<sup>th</sup> gr.



## ***Help Us Stay Connected***

Vicar Mike will be putting together a way that people can say hello to the rest of the congregation at Peace. Please send a photo of yourself and a short written greeting to the office. He will be posting them to Peace's social media pages over the next few weeks. (Make sure to like and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!)

## ***Questions Kids Ask About God Update***

Even though we haven't been able to take the steps we would have wanted to take right now to let the world know of our QKA book and its Spanish edition, we are still considering how it might be known. This month our QKA Facebook page has begun to be updated, for example. If you know someone who would like to have either addition (kids do have questions and do have time), please email the church: [peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org).

## ***Sunday School Teachers/Helpers Wanted***

Parents/guardians, have you ever been interested in teaching, being a substitute, or a helper for our Sunday School? A few of our teachers have had some life changes and they can no longer teach Sunday School. We are looking for energetic parents/guardians to help with our Sunday School program for next year. If you or anyone you know would like to help, please let Pastor Dave or the Sunday School office know.

## ***Anyone Have a Spare Deck Umbrella?***

We wonder who might have a spare large deck umbrella we could use for the outdoor worship services, both to shade our worship participants and the equipment to keep it from getting overheated in the sun. If you do, send us an email or call the office and we'll let you know if it is still needed.

## ***Don't Fall for the Scam***

Two members let us know of another scam (this time via text) that supposedly was from Pastor Dave asking for Ebay gift cards. Pastor Dave wrote, "Believe me, I would never do such a thing!" And in fact, if anyone for any reason or in anyone's name asks you to buy gift cards like that it will undoubtedly be a scam and don't fall for it! With all the serious issues going on, there are evil people out there who divert attention from the work of God!

## ***Artwork for Christmas Bulletin Covers***

We know there are a lot of talented artists in our congregation! We have seen some of your work over the years, and now we'd like to see if we can use some of that talent for our Christmas bulletin covers. Here are the general requirements: 1) one half of a page landscape layout (no more than 8" tall x 5" wide); 2) line drawings only in black and white with the lines heavy enough to show up when copied; 3) some part of the Christmas (religious) theme. We probably would add scripture and/or our Peace logo or other information to the cover. (If you have suggestions for what or where to locate that on the page, include separately from your drawing.) **We would like to have your drawings by August 1<sup>st</sup>** so we can see what choices we may have moving forward.

## ***Send in Those Photos***

If you would like to contribute appropriate pictures of yourself/family during this time, pictures from a church event, or something else meaningful you can do so by uploading them to this online album and over the next several weeks Ken George will insert them into the worship videos. Thank you in advance for your contributions. <https://photos.app.goo.gl/NjkaWqAhX99Zhvcs9>.

## ***From Our Friends at the Fire Department***

If you or someone you know is having a medical emergency, please get help. For the last several months, many people have been afraid to contact their doctors or go the emergency rooms when they are not feeling well due to the fear of COVID-19. Those who have the signs of COVID-19 are always placed in an isolated area. Ignoring symptoms, such as those with heart attack, tightness of chest, shortness of breath, or stroke can create a more serious outcome. Please make sure to contact your doctor or call 9-1-1 if you need medical attention. Stay safe and healthy!  
*New Lenox Fire Protection District*

## ***Looking for a Job? Have a Job to Hire?***

If you or someone you know is looking for a job, we are creating a list of sites online you can use to help you. And if you have a job offer needing to be filled, let us know that, too, so we can share any names we get of people looking for work.