

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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November 2022

Vol. XXVII, Issue 10

From Pastor Gary Erickson

Deuteronomy 26:4-5, When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.

The verses above are part of a thanksgiving ritual used in ancient Israel. The words are powerful! Note how the one who brings an offering is to declare what God has done for Israel – taking them from few in number to become a great nation.

Our own thanksgiving rituals are equally as rich! In worship we stretch out our hands and hear, "the body of Christ given for you, the blood of Christ shed for you." In Holy Communion we make a powerful declaration – Christ names us and claims us for all eternity!

What about your own thanksgiving rituals? Turkey, cranberries, potatoes, and an abundance of pie! These might seem routine for a holiday feast, but the elements of the meal represent a wonderful ritual of giving thanks for God's bountiful grace!

I am thankful for all of you who make Peace Lutheran Church vital, vibrant, and filled with joy. It will be a great pleasure to join you for the 2022 community Thanksgiving meal. Allow me to leave you with some verses from Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

"My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like you..." {#821}

"Thine the amen thine the praise alleluias angels raise..." {#826}

"Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices..." {#839}

"Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring..." {#841}

"Crown him with many crowns, the lamb upon his throne..." {#855}

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation..." {#858}

With gratitude,

Pastor Gary Erickson

Prayers Requested

MaryEllen Ruane, Tim Stoller, the family of Rose Deaver, the Guse family, Gayle, Rene, Mrs. Krecu, Cie, Rick Davis, Erin Wagner, Maureen O'Connell, celebration of the marriage of Abigail Mika & Nicolas Bandaly, Jeff & Karin Floyd, Rich Dohrn, Chuck Dircks, Richard Esposito, Barb Decker, Mike Galfano, Bob Drews, Gloria Gebel, the family of Jayce Nelson, Paul Peterson, Linda Blatt, Peggy and the Guse family the Jirka family, Felicia, Todor, Joe

Congratulations

Lisa Peterson & Ian Noyes on their marriage on Oct. 22

Sympathy

The congregation of Peace wishes to extend its sympathy to:

the family of Barb Decker, mother of Pam Salutric

the family of Jackie Bogie, wife of Mick Bogie, mother of Jessica & Valerie

Welcome New Members

We are delighted to welcome these new members into our church!

Jeff & Karin Floyd

Matt & Hannah Lamore and Leonore

John & Arliene Niemann

Baptism Orientation – Sat., Nov. 12

For those planning to have a baptism in the near future, the next baptism orientation class will be Sat., Nov. 12, at 3:30pm at church. Please let us know in the church office if you plan to attend.

Time to... set your clocks **BACK** one hour before you go to bed on November 5.

Thank You Very Much!

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

To: John Parker, Leslie Walton, Sarah Walton – MorningStar Mission serving
Diana Ziolkowski – Thanksgiving invitation
New Lenox Boy Scout Troop 44 – clean up of church grounds

From: Girl Scout Troop 125 – for use of the church
Pastor Vidler & Santa Cruz Church
ELCA World Hunger – for the donation

Worship Details

Saturday worship 5:00pm, Sunday at 8:30 & 11:00am.
8:30am service is live streamed.

* Masks are now optional but are once again encouraged for all who are at all concerned.

* In order to keep people's safety in mind, 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.

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

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

Your Offerings Matter & Are Appreciated!

You can either donate online or mail in your offering
PO Box 205, New Lenox, IL 60451

No matter how: thanks for your offerings – they are making a difference at Peace, in our community, in our country and around the world!

Electronic Giving

If you would like to sign up for automatic withdrawals, please contact the office. You can also give on-line at any time through our website www.peacenewlenox.org, click on the donate tab and then use the donate through PayPal tab. You can use most major credit cards.

Amazon Smile - \$92

With your help, we have received a check for \$92 from Amazon Smile. Thank you!

Because of You

Madeira and those living in Brazil's Kilombola communities are descendants of Afro-Brazilian enslaved people who fled cities and farms to protect themselves in the 18th and 19th centuries. As a result, they have remained largely isolated from the rest of Brazilian society. They have struggled against inequality and neglect for centuries, often lacking basic needs like running water, sanitation and access to health services. In her community, Madeira's parents raised seven children; she has three and has welcomed two grandchildren. While her parents worked hard, they struggled to provide food for the family. Her father's job kept him out of the home, working long hours, and she remembers her mother's dedication to caring for her children.

"Many times, my mother would get up at dawn to go get oranges so that we would have something to eat for breakfast, and then she had to take care of all of us [for the remainder of the day]," Madeira said.

2022 & 2023 Flower Chart

2022 & 2023 dates are available to donate flowers for the altar. Any week we have people who wish to donate them we will order them. You may call or email the church office. The cost per arrangement is \$20.

Community Resources

*** The Will-Grundy Medical Clinic**

free healthcare for the uninsured and those who qualify
815-726-3377, ext. 228.

*** 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**

call/text 988 or online chat at www.988lifeline.org

*** Joliet Area Hospice Support Groups**

www.joliethospice.org or 815-740-4104

***Crutches, walkers & wheelchairs available**

please contact the church office

***Guardian Angel Community Services**

Sexual assault & rape crisis services

24-hour sexual assault hotline: 815-730-8984

*** LSSI's Joshua Arms**

independent & supportive living units for seniors

www.LSSI.org/JoshuaArms or 815-727-6401

*** NAMI - National Alliance for Mental Illness**

815-409-7917

info@namiwillgrundy.org or www.namiwillgrundy.org

***Cleaning for a Reason**

free housecleaning for women undergoing chemotherapy

www.cleaningforareason.org/cancer_patients_acct.html

Looking Ahead

Oct. 29/30 – Reformation Weekend
Oct 30 – Trunk or Treat Event 1:00 -2:00pm
Nov. 1 – Thanksgiving Planning Meeting 7:00pm
Nov. 5 – Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal 3:00pm
Nov. 6 – All Saints Worship 8:30am
What’s the Scoop? 12:00pm
Nov. 12 – Baptism Orientation 3:30pm
7th- 12th gr. Laser Tag at Urban Air 6:45pm
Nov. 19 – New Member/Baptized Breakfast 10:00am
Nov. 20 – Poinsettia Order Deadline
Peace Page Turners 9:45am
7th-12th gr. Game Day and lunch 1:00-3:00pm
Nov. 21 – GriefShare Series Begins 6:30pm
Nov. 24 – Thanksgiving Worship Service 11:30am
26th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner 12 :00pm
Nov. 25 – Church Office Closed
Nov. 29 – Church Council 7:30 pm
Nov. 30 – Peanuts Gang Celebrates Christmas 6:30pm
Dec. 3 – Trivia Night 6:15pm
Dec. 4 – Sunday School Christmas Program 11:00am
Gingerbread with the Grinch 12:00pm
Dec. 6 – Committee Meeting 7:30pm
Dec. 9 – A Motown Christmas Event 8:00pm
Preshow Dinner at Juliet’s 6:00pm
Dec. 17 – Blood Drive 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Dec. 21 – Shortest Day/Longest Night Service
Dec. 24 – 4:00 p.m. – Celebration service – including
our invitation for children to bring bells to ring
Dec. 24 – 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 p.m. – Candlelight
Communion services
Dec. 25 – 10:00 a.m. – Festival Communion service
Jan. 14 – The Sound of Music Event 3:00pm

Groups

Quilting – Mon., Nov. 7 & 21

Ruth Circle Quilting meets every other Monday from 9:00am - 12:00pm. Come whenever you would like.

Trailblazers – Tues., Nov. 15

We invite anyone who'd like to get together with some others who are anything but "over the hill" to come together on Tues., Nov. 15, at 11:30am at church. This month we will be eating a catered Thanksgiving dinner. Bring \$5; the food will be provided. Email or call the church office for more information.

Strong Seniors Exercise – Mon. & Wed.

Join us for a low impact, do what you can exercise program for seniors. We meet twice a week: Mondays 12 noon -1:00pm and Wednesdays 11:15am-12:15pm.

Peace Circle of Prayer Ministry

If you would like special prayers said for someone, just let the office know of a particular need. We will send out an email to the 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.)

Prayer Shawls – Nov. 2, 16 & 30

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 meet every other week on Wednesday at 6:00pm. You may also create shawls at home and drop them at church if you are not able to attend in person.

Peace Page Turners – Sun., Nov. 20

Our next meeting will be Nov. 20 at 9:45am and we will discuss *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy. Copies of the book are available to sign out at church.

Addiction and Family Support Group

The Addiction & Family Support Group meets at Peace on Tuesday nights from 7:00-8:30pm. 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.

Faith Development & Education

Wednesday Bible Study

We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am. Why not join us online or in person to learn more about this amazing resource? If you have any questions, call the office. You do not need to know anything about the Bible to join us!

Adult Education Classes

Please join us for Sunday adult classes.

Oct. 30 - Reformation, still relevant in the 21st century?

Nov. 6 - A Lutheran Perspective on Saints

Nov. 13 - Architecture in praise of God

Nov. 20 - Peace Page Turners Discussion - *Anna*

Karenina

Nov. 27 - The season of Advent

Everybody Read

Our desire to have people read a common Bible passage is part of our Book of Faith effort. Each month we will 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. November's passage is 1 Corinthians 16:14.

General Announcements

Thanksgiving Planning – Tues., Nov. 1

For our wonderful dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, all kinds of people help in a variety of ways. We'll need volunteers to serve food, make deliveries and help with clean up. The planning meeting will be Tues., Nov. 1, at 7:00pm to help set the whole effort in motion. If you'd like to help, please use the [sign-up online](#).

Altar Guild Informational Meeting – Sat., Nov. 5

Please join us, in the library on Sat., Nov. 5 at 1:00pm. This is where you will get the "behind the scenes" information on how our worship space is transformed week to week! The Altar Guild is an amazing ministry and we would love for you to be a part of it!

Special All Saints Worship – Sun., Nov. 6

During the 8:30am worship service on Sun., Nov. 6, people who have lost loved ones will have an opportunity to remember them by lighting a candle during worship. If you would like to light a candle in memory of someone, let us know through the website [sign up](#) by Nov. 2. Be sure to give us your name and contact information and whom you wish to remember.

What's the Scoop – Sun., Nov. 6

What's the Scoop is a time for people to share ideas for ministries in our congregation. If you can, please join us to share or learn or celebrate this church's efforts.

What's the Scoop will be Sun., Nov. 6 at 12pm.

New Baptized & New Member Breakfast – Sat., Nov. 19

We would like to invite everyone who has joined the church or had a child baptized in the past year to a breakfast on Sat., Nov. 19 at 10:00am. If you would like to attend, please contact the church office by Nov. 13.

GriefShare – Surviving the Holidays Series – Starting Nov. 21

We will be having a four session version of GriefShare for those who have lost loved ones. We invite anyone who would like to participate regardless of when the loss took place. The dates will be Nov. 21 & 28, & Dec. 5 & 12 from 6:30 – 8:00pm. If you would like to participate call the church office at 815-485-5327.

Adult Choir Invitation

We welcome all men and women who love to sing. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Questions, please contact the church office.

Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal – Sat., Nov. 5

Rehearsals are only one Saturday a month. The next rehearsal will be on Sat., Nov. 5 at 3:00pm. Please contact the church office for more information."

Trivia Night – Sat., Dec. 3

Come and join the fun, as we have brought back Peace Church's in person general trivia contest. It will be on Sat., Dec. 3 at 6:15 p.m. We intend to have multiple teams of no more than six players each. Each of you is an expert at something, right?! We encourage you to assemble a team of your own. (Signing up individually? No problem! We will place everyone who wants to play on a team.) Although walk-ins are welcome, please help us by signing up in advance. Please use the [sign up](#).

26th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

***Thursday, Nov. 24, at noon
Turkey with all the trimmings
& heart-warming fellowship too***

Please come if you...

- ***are alone or in need, or***
- ***are new to the area or want to meet others, or***
- ***would like to spend Thanksgiving with others***

***Call in your reservations for this
FREE DINNER by Nov. 10
to Peace Lutheran Church,
815-485-5327 or e-mail us at***

peacechurch@peacelenox.org.

***Let us know how many adults and children
will be attending.***

The church is located at 1900 E. Lincoln Highway, New Lenox (On U.S. Hwy. 30, directly across the street from Lincoln-Way Central High School)

If you know people who could benefit from the dinner, please encourage them to attend. Transportation will be available, so please let us know if a ride is needed. We also deliver to the homebound.

For those interested, there will be a Thanksgiving worship service with communion at 11:30.

Thanksgiving Dinner Help

For our wonderful dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, all kinds of people help in a variety of ways, from providing food to helping with set up, clean up, serving, transportation, etc. If you'd like to help, call the office or sign up at church.

Thanksgiving & Christmas Offerings

Each year the money we receive in our Thanksgiving and Christmas special envelopes is given away to others. This year it will be divided between the ELCA's Hunger Appeal (which includes direct help for the victims of the floods, earthquakes, and other disasters), Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (the agency of our church that serves so many people in need, especially as state funding is so short), mission churches (Santa Cruz in Joliet and Resurrection in Channahon – Pastor Ben's church), and local ministries that help others (Groundwork, Daybreak, Trinity Services, and Morningstar Mission.)

Thinking about Christmas Gifts?

Give your loved one a goat. What!?! Through the ELCA's Good Gifts, you can find all kinds of alternative Christmas giving ideas. In short, someone who needs something, such as livestock, receives the actual animal, and your loved one knows that his or her gift is helping someone in need. Check out these and many other good gifts at <https://community.elca.org/elcagoodgifts>.

Christmas Giving for Santa Cruz & LSSI

Each year we put up a tree with Christmas gift giving tags for people who could use our help to have a better Christmas. This year we again are going to support Santa Cruz's efforts to make that happen for people in their neighborhood and congregation, and for LSSI Project Room at the Inn. Look for the tags towards the middle of November, with a return date of Dec. 11.

Children's Christmas Program – Dec. 4

Mark your calendars for our Sunday School Christmas Program! This year we will have one program for P3-12th grade on Sun., Dec. 4 at the 11:00am service! We would love to know if your youth can participate this year. We will be practicing Nov. 13 & 20. We will also need help from our older youth, so if they need service hours for Confirmation or for school this will be a great way to get those hours. Please let us know if your youth can participate by filling out the slip on the back of the Sunday School news, or [sign up here](#).

From Deacon Shari Simon

Dear Members and Friends of Peace,

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he has given Jesus Christ his son.

We have so much to be thankful for! It's easy to get caught up in the I wants, and the I wish I had mentality. Our culture is constantly telling us we need more, or we need to be more than we currently are. The cultural rat race can leave us swirling exhausted from chasing something that we don't want.

We as Christians have a different message that we can listen to. We have a different message we can share. The message is "You are enough"! You were created enough. There is nothing else you need to be exactly who you are supposed to be. There is nothing else you need to be loved by God. There is nothing else you need to make a difference in the world. There is nothing else you need to be who God created you to be. By being who God created you to be you can change someone's life for the better and you can change the world for the better. We come together in worship and give thanks to the God who created us and called us good. God called us good! May the gifts and talents that God has given us shine light into the world around us! May all know that they are enough and that they are loved beyond measure! And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich, because of what the Lord has done for us! Give Thanks!

God's Peace,

Deacon Shari Simon

Poinsettia Tributes - Due by Sun., Nov. 20

This year we will be able to once again buy our poinsettias from Trinity Services. A percentage of the money they receive goes for the children and adults with special needs. Look for the poinsettia order forms in the narthex. The cost will be \$12 each. The deadline for placing your order will be November 20. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

The Peanuts Gang Celebrates Christmas – Wed., Nov. 30

If you liked the animated Charlie Brown Christmas on television, you and your children will love seeing a live presentation at the Rialto Theater in Joliet on Wed., Nov. 30 at 6:30pm. Many scenes from the animated show are brought to life with music and humor as the Peanuts gang learn the real meaning of Christmas. Tickets will be approximately \$34. **Please [sign up](#) by Oct. 30.**

Motown Comes to Joliet! – Fri., Dec. 9

The music of Motown comes to the Rialto in Joliet on Dec. 9 at 8:00 PM. Featured are the Temptations, the Miracles and the Contours. Show tickets are \$44. Just added...there will be a pre-show get-together at Juliet's at 6:00pm for drinks, appetizers, sandwiches or full dinners.... your choice & your expense! Juliet's has good food, is reasonably priced and is just a 1 block walk from the Rialto. Parking is available across from the theater. When signing up for the show, let us know if you will be at Juliet's. **Deadline to [sign up](#) is Nov. 13**

Blood Drive – Sat., Dec. 17

Thank you to everyone who donated on Oct. 8. We had 10 donors, 2 deferrals, 3 no shows and collected 10 units to help save 30 lives! Our next blood drive is Sat., Dec. 17, from 9:00am -1:00pm. To make an appointment, please use the Versiti website:
https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/5597808

The Sound of Music - Sat., Jan. 14

The Fellowship Committee is excited to announce that The Sound of Music will be playing at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora. We are hoping to get tickets for Sat., Jan. 14, at 3:00pm. The price for tickets on the main floor, right side, will be around \$55.00 each. Because this is such a popular show, **deadline to [sign up](#) is Nov. 21.** Even more fun, we could meet at the Ballydoyle Irish Pub and Restaurant, 28 W. New York Street in Aurora near the theatre. The menu is yummy and prices are reasonable. Dinner will be on your own – you may want to make plans to have your friends join you there.

Helping Others

November Collection – Soap

During the month of November, we will be collecting soap for the New Lenox food pantry. Please look for the donation box in the narthex. Thank you!

Coat Drive Through January

One Warm Coat is a ministry of our church to assist in the collection of clean, reusable coats and jackets for donation to local individuals free of charge. We are grateful for our ability in all circumstances to continue in our mission to meet basic human needs. Items can be dropped in the bin located in the narthex. Scarves, hats, gloves/mittens and boots are also accepted. Thank you for your continued support.

Help Others Fund

Alongside our regular giving that helps all kinds of people in need, we also have a special “help others” fund within our general fund. It is targeted to help people who need food or gas. Thanks to another special donation we received, we are going to be able to expand our generosity to help people with emergency housing needs. We will continue to be diligent in making sure the money given away actually goes to people in need.

Helping Santa Cruz’s Food Pantry

Santa Cruz has a food & resource pantry for people of their neighborhood who are hungry or in need. We have a list now of specific items they can use in their pantry. You can bring these anytime and put them in the baskets on the floor heading into Fellowship Hall.

cereal (all kinds)	canned fruit
coffee (ground) all kinds	creamers (powdered)
ice cream cones (summer only)	juices
hand soap (bar & liquid)	toothpaste
dish soap	disposable diapers

Youth Fellowship & Faith Story

Hi my name is JJ Russler and I am seven years old. I love God because he helps people. I like learning about God’s animals especially doggies. I have two doggies Barkley and Dolly and God made them special for me. I come to church to learn about God. It is fun!

~ JJ Russler

Confirmation Schedule -

7th Gr. - Nov. 2 & 16 @ 7:00 p.m.
Dec. 7

8th Gr. - Nov. 9 & 16 @ 7:00 p.m.
Dec. 14

Youth Events

7-12th Gr. Laser Tag Event - Sat., Nov. 12

[Sign up here](#)

Please join us at Urban Air, in Mokena at 6:45pm for a game of laser tag! Please let us know if your youth can attend by Nov. 9 and if you would like to drive or chaperone. Cost is about \$15.

3-6th Gr. Rock Climbing - Sun., Nov. 13

[Sign up here](#)

Please join us at the [Orland Park Sports Plex](#) by 3pm to participate in their open climb! Adults, please let us know if your youth can participate. Cost is about \$12.

Gingerbread With the Grinch -Sun., Dec. 4

Please join us at noon after the Children’s Christmas Program for gingerbread house decorating and a pizza lunch! There is talk of a special guest that may be attending! Please let us know if you and your family can attend, the cost of this event will be \$20 per family. [Sign up here or in the bulletin.](#) Sign up deadline is Nov. 20.