

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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For Every Problem

One of the appealing things about ordinary math is that every problem has a solution. You may have to work at it and while you personally may not get the answer, there is a correct answer out there to be found. There can be formulas to assist you along the way, but in the end two sides of an equation will be balanced.

If only life could be that straightforward. Wouldn't it be great if when you needed to figure out something – whether to take a job or stay put, whether to challenge someone or acquiesce, whether because of COVID to attend a wedding or stay home, etc. – there was always a right answer; always a formula you could turn to and then come up with a sure-fire plan.

Life isn't that way. Yes, some decisions are no-brainers, and some fit a pattern (formula) that we've used in the past. But how often have we had to wrestle with decisions and revisit our tentative answers over and over again? How many times have you had to decide based on conflicting values that all seem equally valid? We can try to imagine, "if this is the plan, then that will be the outcome." But we know from past experience in those situations, we've guessed wrong as often as we calculated correctly.

One of the many things I treasure in being a follower of Jesus is the reassurance that our calling is not perfection but faithfulness. There might be too many variables (even new ones) for us to predict/choose a guaranteed-correct path. Even with all that uncertainty, however, we can follow the way Jesus took: humble servanthood. It sure doesn't lead to "success" in many cases. Haven't you taken a best-guess path only to have it lead to more challenges and obstacles? Yet, history has proven, and our own lives can reflect how following the ways of Jesus does lead to making a difference. It does lead to wholeness for us and/or others. It does lead to discoveries of how God can be present in failure as well as positive outcomes. That's an answer that gets an A+ in my grade book.

Pastor Dave Hedlin

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

Prayers Requested

Joshua Spreadbury & family, Larry Hedlin, Grant & Kaitlin Gibbs, Travis Air Force Base, the family of Nick Arenas, the family of Carol Bentley, the family of Karen Michaelson, Michael Hoffman, the family of Barb George, Jack Goesel, the family of Bob Decker, David Becker, Vivian Farbak, Kathy Davenport, Sandy Losiniecki, Kay Johnson, Jan Stoller, Max Robertson, the family of Robin Wiles, Mike Bohl, Emily Giovengo, Jennifer & John, Glenna McIntosh

Sympathy

The congregation of Peace wishes to extend its sympathy to:

the family of Michelle Lyen, wife of Dean Lyen and mother of Alyssa & Chloé Lyen;

the family of Eula Stanford, mother of Lynn Viehweg.

Congratulations

Don & Sue Lafferty, grandparents, on the birth of Jude Baker Catellier on Aug. 31

Jill & Mark Cassidy, parents (Cameron) and Pat Fruhwirth, grandmother, on the birth of Rylie Claire Cassidy on Sept. 2

Lindsey Dralle & Max Robertson on their marriage on Sept. 3

Welcome to the Lord's Family

Abby Linn Pignatiello was baptized on Sept. 11;

Owen Andrew Kman was baptized on Sept. 12.

Worship Schedule

We have partially returned to somewhat previous worship plans (pre-pandemic). The plan is for Saturday night's worship at 5:00 to remain outdoors for as long as we can. Sunday's schedule is back to 8:30 and 11:00am - both indoors with masks. Live-streaming of worship will continue on Saturday nights and at the 8:30am service on Sundays.

We will continue to have communion be taken all at once in your seats (bring your own or use our wafers.) We still won't have nursery care or as much liturgy. There won't be printed bulletins or using hymnals (song sheets are available inside and the words to the hymns are available electronically in that bulletin format.) We will have two hymns instead of one. Volunteers will be requested on a week by week basis instead of assigned ahead of time for an usher, lesson reader, greeter. No refreshments after worship.

Details for How We Worship

FOR EVERYONE COMING TO PEACE

***The IDPH guidelines are back to mandating masks indoors .**

*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

*** 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 AT 8:30am AND 11:00am

Here are the notes if you are planning to come:

*** Masks are required indoors, per IDPH guidelines.**

* Congregational singing of a hymn is allowed. 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!

Your Offerings Matter & Are Appreciated!

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!

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

Daily Devotionals Available

There is a black bin outside the front door labeled "devotional booklets." You can come by the church and pick one up at your convenience. If you want it mailed to you, just let us know via peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org. Also, Augsburg has made *Christ in Our Home* available free online: <https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/category/286137/Christ-in-Our-Home>.

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.

To:

Jodie Brugler – for special music
Jim Hunziker – lawn mowing

From:

Renee Gatewood – for the quilts
Aunt Martha's – for the donation
The Pignatiello Family – Abby's baptism

Quick Reminders

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS **Oct. 24.**

* **The Will-Grundy Medical Clinic** is accepting patients for free healthcare for the uninsured and those who qualify. Please call 815-726-3377, ext. 228.

* **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 them the suicide prevention hotline.

Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Cards are always located in the entrance area. 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 -741741, and online - 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, (except for 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, parent support and general grief support counseling, please visit the Joliet Area Community Hospice website: 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.

***Crutches, walkers & wheelchairs available** – Please feel free to contact the church office if you need to borrow one of these items.

***Guardian Angel Community Services** – Sexual assault & rape crisis services, prevention education & outreach. Programs include medical advocacy, legal advocacy, individual counseling, group counseling, prevention education & professional training. 24-hour sexual assault hotline: 815-730-8984.

* **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. Located at 1315 Rowell, 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.

* **NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) Will Grundy** offers, at no charge, education programs and support groups to “support individuals with mental illness and their families through advocacy, education and outreach.”

For more information call 815-409-7917 or go to: info@namiwillgrundy.org or www.namiwillgrundy.org

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 16113 Ryan Place, Apt. C Fort Polk, LA 71459
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Military Pray for List

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, Shane Bonarek.

New Offering Envelopes Available

Offering envelopes boxes are available for pick up. Come before or after worship or some other time when the office is open and pick up your box.

Amazing Amazon Smile Contributions

Because some of you designate Peace with your Amazon Smile dollars, we received another \$89.71. Thank you to all who find multiple ways to support the ministry of Peace!

Looking Ahead

Oct. 2 – Adult Fellowship Bunco 6:00pm
Oct. 3 – Blessing of the Animals 12:00pm
Oct. 6 – 7th gr. Confirmation 7:00pm
Bible Buddies 7:00pm
Oct. 9 – Blood Drive 9:00am - 1:00pm
Special Prayers for Healing 5:00pm
Oct. 10 – Flu Clinic 9:15am -12:00pm
Oct. 13 – 8th gr. Confirmation 7:00pm
Bible Buddies 7:00pm
Oct. 16 – First Communion Class 3:30pm
5th Gr. & Beyond Bonfire 7pm
Oct. 17 – New Member Orientation 9:45am
Peace Page Turners 9:45am
Oct. 20 – 7th gr. Confirmation 7:00pm
Oct. 27 – 8th gr. Confirmation 7:00pm
Oct. 30 – Halloween Candy Event 10:00am
Oct. 30/31 – Reformation Weekend
Oct. 31 – Reception of New Members 11:00am
Nov. 2 – Thanksgiving Planning Meeting 7:00pm
Nov. 6 – First Communion Class 10:00am
Nov. 7 – All Saints Worship 8:30am
What’s the Scoop - noon

Groups

Ruth Circle Quilting – Mon. Oct. 4 & 18

Quilting will meet on Monday, Oct. 4 & 18, at 9:00 a.m. No experience necessary. You just have to know how to have fun to join. Questions, contact the church office.

Prayer Shawls – Thurs., Oct. 14 & 28

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 Thursday at 6:00pm. 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.

Trailblazers – Tues., Oct. 19

We invite anyone who’d like to get together with some others who are anything but “over the hill” to come together on Oct. 19 at noon. Bring \$5; the food will be provided. Email or call the church office for more information.

Adult Fellowship Group – Bunco & White Elephant Gifts – Sat., Oct. 2

Yes, it’s time to locate some more of those white elephant “prizes”, do some arm/wrist warm up exercises and be ready to have some fun. We are going to be in Fellowship Hall spaced out (not just our brains) as much as possible. The date is Sat., Oct. 2, and the time will be 6:00pm., and the activity is BUNCO!!! Please let us know if you are coming so we can put up the right number of tables, let us know through the website ([Sign Up](#)) or through the office 815-485-5327 or peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org).

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 11:30am-12:30pm. Questions, contact the church office.

Peace Page Turners – Sun., Oct. 17

A topic that is sure to get people instantly anxious is racism. The issue is filled with so much misinformation and misunderstandings. The book for our next discussion is trying to bridge the gaps and help people have *good* conversations. *So You Want to Talk about Race?* written by Ijeoma Olou is a thoughtful and helpful step along the way. A copy of the book is available at church (sign-out which copy) if you wish. The date will be Oct. 17 and the time will be 9:45am. You may come in person or attend via Zoom. (Be sure to let us know if you’re attending online so we can give you the Zoom codes you’ll need.)

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.

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.)

Faith Development/Education

Wednesday Bible Study

We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in person or via Zoom. If you have any questions, call the office. Any version of the Bible you have will work. You do not need to know anything about the Bible to join us!

Pastor Dave to Receive Distinguished Alumni Award from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago has announced that our own Pastor Dave will receive its Excellence in Parish Ministry Award on October 14 along with four other alumni who will receive awards in other categories. The event will be shown virtually if anyone would like to join in – 6:00pm via Zoom (contact LSTC) or live-streamed to the [LSTC Facebook page](#).

Sunday Adult Education Classes

Adult Education class meets at 9:55 a.m. after the Sunday School opening in the back of the sanctuary.

Oct. 3 – Infant Baptism or Not?

Oct. 10 – The Difference between Shame and Being Ashamed

Oct. 17 – Book Discussion

Oct. 24 – Holy Spirit, Spooky or God Inspired?

Oct. 31 – Does the Reformation Still Matter?

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. October's passage is Romans 5:1-5.

General Announcements

Special Prayers for Healing – Sat., Oct. 9

Sat., Oct. 9, will be the next opportunity for special prayers for healing of body, mind and spirit for yourself or on behalf of someone else. We offer this as a part of the 5:00 worship service that day.

Blessing of the Animals - Sun., Oct. 3

In celebration of our non-human companions, we invite you to bring your animals to church for a special blessing on Sun., Oct. 3, at noon. We welcome all feathery, furry, scaly, warm-blooded and cold-blooded friends of all shapes and sizes (animals should be in carriers or on leashes to assure nothing is going to startle them and cause them to run away in a strange neighborhood). With the precautions we are following, there will be a group blessing (outdoors south of the building) followed for those who wish to stay in your socially distanced space and Pastor Dave or Deacon Shari will come near you for a more personalized blessing from that distance. In case of rain, we'll try Oct. 10.

Flu Shots & More – Sun., Oct. 10

Through the outreach efforts of a local Walgreens, we once again will be providing flu shots (both regular and the high-dose.) The shots will be given beginning at 9:15am and continuing until noon. We are asking you to contact the office for an appointment before Oct. 5 so we can have people not have to wait (long). Shots can be given to those 10 years old and above. Even if you can't get your shots that day, be sure to get one this year!

First Communion Class – Sat., Oct. 16 or Sat., Nov. 6

Each year we seek to prepare children in the fifth grade (and above) for receiving their first communion. We do it in a one-hour concentrated class. A parent/other adult (or two) should attend along with the child. The class will be offered on Sat., Oct. 16 at 3:30pm or if you prefer, on Sat., Nov. 6 at 10:00am. You need only attend one class or the other. Contact the church office for questions or to register use the online [Sign Up](#), or call/email the office 815-485-5327 peacechurch@peacelenox.org.

Official Thank You Reception for Ed Hovi – Sat., Oct. 16 & Sun., 17

Ed Hovi retired in March as our custodian after a lot of years (let's guess 25!) We postponed his official retirement thank-you reception because Ed suddenly had some health issues to take care of. But those are now under control and we have gotten the green light to have an event. It will have two options: Sat., Oct. 16, after the 5:00pm worship and Sun., Oct 17, at 9:45. Both will have some treats and an opportunity to say thank you for all Ed's great service among us.

From Deacon Shari Trotter

If there is anything that Covid has taught me, it is to be flexible. I have learned to roll with what is given to you, to expect the unexpected, and that the way we have always done it is not the way we are going to do it now. In no aspect of my life has this been truer than my role here at Peace and our youth program.

Our youth have been affected by this pandemic in ways that I would have never imagined. What often feels like a minor inconvenience for adults has felt like an upheaval and our youth are tired, emotionally, and spiritually. I have seen this play out in the ways in which we do youth group. Two years ago, we would have had twenty or so kids showing up for Peace 360 but now we have about seven. During the pandemic our youth have learned to adapt by getting jobs, staying involved in sports or music and have started realizing that their schedules are full. So, what do we do? We do something new! We do something that is life giving for our youth instead of the way we have always done it.

Youth group looks different now. We are meeting twice a month. We meet one Saturday a month and one Sunday a month. The age restrictions for youth group have been reimagined as the need for a church family and fun together has become a necessity for all our youth. Youth group is now 5th grade through college age. Our time together is filled with WAY less technology and more relationship, less discussion topics and more silly games. Youth group has become less about the intense study of Jesus and more about experiencing Jesus in our midst as a part of this life with us.

Being flexible is such a healthy and good thing. Being flexible means that your spirit bends instead of breaking under the pressure of change. I am amazed at our youth and their willingness and ability to adapt to this chaotic world around them and I pray that I can have half the wisdom. May your spirit be flexible and may your heart be full!

God's Peace,

Deacon Shari Trotter

Reformation Weekend – Oct. 30 & 31

Join us in celebrating our Lutheran heritage on Oct. 30 & 31 by wearing something red to worship.

New Member Orientation & Reception - Sun., Oct. 17 & 31

We are privileged once again to invite more people to become formal partners with us in our mission of spreading the Gospel and growing in faith. Because of the strange times we are going through, it will be a different version of our new member orientation and reception! Orientation will be Sun., Oct. 17 at 9:45 – either on Zoom or in person and the reception will be Sun., Oct. 31, during 11:00am worship. If you are interested in joining or finding out more information, email (peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org) or call the church office at 815-485-5327 or see Pastor Dave, or let us know through the website ([Sign Up](#)).

(We will need to omit the sponsors and new member luncheon for now but hope to make it up to the new members later.)

Halloween Treats Event – Sat., Oct. 30

We had a lot of fun doing it this way last year, so we're going to do it again! We want to help kids have a great Halloween. You can be involved, either as a donator or as "we'll come to get candy." To sign-up, call or email the office (peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org or 815-485-5327.) [Or sign up online](#). The plan is that those donating candy each would spread the treats out on a table and those picking up would come by and pick up the candy. Everybody is distanced and nobody is touching anyone else's candy. The donators would need to be ready to go on Sat., Oct. 30 before 10:00 a.m. and the pick-up people here at 10:00, ready to go. (Want to donate candy, but cannot be at church? We'll accommodate that, too.) Costumes are encouraged but not required.

Thanksgiving Planning – Tues., Nov. 2

For our wonderful dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25, all kinds of people help in a variety of ways, but this year it will be different. We'll need some people to be on a food assembly line, some to carry the food out from Fellowship Hall to the parking lot, and many others to take deliveries to people at their homes. The planning meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 2, at 7:00 p.m. (socially distanced or on Zoom) to help set the whole effort in motion. If you'd like to help, please use the [sign-up online](#), call the church office (815-485-5327 or peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org.) For safety's sake, all the food will be catered this year.

Special All Saints Worship – Sun., Nov. 7

During the 8:30 worship service on Sunday, Nov. 7, people who have lost loved ones will have an opportunity to remember them. This year's version will give people a choice of lighting their own candles or having Deacon Shari & Pastor Dave do it for them. All those who give us the names to be remembered ahead of time will be listed in the online bulletin that weekend. If you would like a candle lit in memory of someone, let us know through the website ([Sign Up](#)) or through the office (peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org or 815-485-5327). Be sure to give us your name and contact information and whom you wish to remember.

What's the Scoop – Sun., Nov. 7

What's the Scoop is a time for people to share ideas for ministries in our congregation. We press on in the name of God! If you can, please join us to share or learn or celebrate this church's efforts. What's the Scoop will be Sun., Nov. 7, starting at noon. It will be on Zoom as well as in person. Let us know if you will join us, sign up though our website [Sign Up](#) (815-485-5327 or peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org.)

Cinderella – Nov. 10 - Jan. 9 at the Paramount

Experience one of the most beloved and cherished fairy tales live on Paramount's stage, with a re-imagined take on the story families have returned to over and over across generations. Experience magic as you've never seen before. From pumpkins into carriages to tattered rags into a beautiful gown, this show should delight and enchant young and old alike. Tickets are available from \$45 to \$79. (And note that the Paramount will be fully decorated for the Christmas season by then!)

Also looking ahead....We definitely will be getting group tickets for downtown shows: Simon & Garfunkel (the musical) in Feb. and Jesus Christ Superstar in July 2022.

Wish List

From time to time, people want to make "above and beyond" financial gifts to the church. These gifts are not in place of regular, faithful stewardship – giving from the heart, off the top. Instead they are signs of extra gratitude/joy for the blessings of God. If you would like to make one of those gifts, see Pastor Dave for a list of items that are on his wish list (beyond the budget.)

Some New Theater Options – [Sign up](#)

Curtain Call Theatre – Mokena

Over the River and Through the Woods - Sun, Nov. 7 - 3:00pm

This humorous and touching comedy features a young bachelor living in New Jersey who spends every Sunday having dinner with his Italian grandparents. They try their best to foil his plans to be transferred to Seattle, including a blind date. The tickets are \$20. If you are interested in this performance, let the church office know by Sunday, Oct. 24, so we can order tickets. (And if you're interested, after the performance, some will head to Fox's for dinner. Let us know that, too.)

Drury Lane – Oakbrook

Holiday Inn - Saturday, Dec. 11 - 3:00 p.m. - Ticket Prices: \$82.70

Based on the classic film, Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn* follows retired song-and-dance man Jim's efforts to bring entertainment to his small Connecticut town. This joyous, family-friendly musical includes Irving Berlin's hit songs, including the Academy Award-winning "White Christmas." (Dinner at Maggiano's after the play would be delightful as well!) Please let the church office know by November 7 if you are interested in this performance and dinner after the show.

Rialto – Joliet

Cirque Musica Holiday Spectacular - Sunday, December 5 - 7:30 p.m. - Ticket Prices: \$54.00

This all-new production features some of the greatest holiday songs of all time performed with the world-renowned cast of Cirque Musica. Experience the chills, thrills, and excitement of the best Cirque performers from around the world performing to your holiday favorites. Please let the church office know by Nov. 14 if you are interested in this performance.

American Legion Band Concert - Sunday, December 19 - 2:00 p.m. – (free)

Each year we have gotten free tickets for this Christmas tradition at the Rialto. If you would like to reserve tickets, let us know by Dec. 5.

New Interest Indicators Coming Soon

During the month of October, be on the look out for an email containing a fillable PDF version of the interest indicator. We use them to help match your skills and interests to the ministry needs of the church. When we see that everything we have is a gift from God, we want to respond!

Questions Kids Ask About God

More kids and more questions! Here are two more.

1) How old is God? *This question is actually in our Questions Kids Ask About God book! It says, "God doesn't keep track of time like we do. God has no age, no height, and no weight. God just is. God has always been there and will always be there." God actually created time and ordered the universe so we humans can keep track of things.*

2) Can God give me a sister? *God works with humans (most often a mom and dad) to bring babies into the world. God wants babies to be loved and cared for. That's more important to God than whether a baby is a boy or a girl. While an actual brother or sister may or may not happen in your family, you can care about and help your parent(s) and friends and classmates like they were your sister (brother.) That would make God very happy!*

Parents/grandparents, please keep sending in your kids questions! Go ahead and ask them specifically what questions they have about God!

Because of You

For many years, Dr. Mark and Linda Jacobson have served as ELCA missionaries in Tanzania. When they first arrived, Mark's role was to develop a team of community health care workers and share ideas of primary care, basic hygiene, sanitation, water control and nutrition in surrounding communities. This then progressed into expanding the Selian Lutheran Care Center into a hospital, which now can perform surgeries, and developed a hospice and palliative care program. Linda worked alongside local women to start the Widow's Might craft project, which lifts up women who have lost their husbands and have had their property and livelihood taken away. The project allows them to use their skills of creating weavings, jewelry and art so they can become economically independent and thrive in the community. Truly the Jacobsons adapted a Tanzanian way of life in treating a person with respect and dignity.

Worship Volunteers for our New Schedule

Because of the fluid situation in the outside world, volunteers will be requested on a week by week basis instead of assigned ahead of time. We are happy to have you volunteer as an usher, lesson reader, greeter. Please let us know via at peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org or 815-485-5327.

Seniors Meals on Wheels Lunch Cafe

Seniors 60 and older are invited to the Meals on Wheels Café at the Guy Sell Senior Apartments, 1090 South Cedar Rd. Monday through Friday, 11:15am-12:30pm. Seating is limited. Please register & RSVP 1 week in advance to Cynthia or Flo at 815-351-6954.

Caregiver Tip of the Month

Throughout the days of our lives we are presented with choices. Some are simple. Some are hard. Not always right, not always wrong. Choosing from a variety of possibilities are always the most difficult. The good choice in the midst of uncertainty is asking God to enlighten you. Bring your questions and concerns before the Lord with trust, and most important, PRAYER. He will show you the way. He will help you do what is right for your life and the lives of those you love. *(For more information about being a caregiver and other related topics - see our display in the narthex.)*

Small & Medium Toys for a School

We are always looking for ways to bless others out of our grateful and willing hearts. We have for years invited people to collect small toys (like you get with "Happy Meals" or items you pick up that are inexpensive or items that are like-new that you have in your house collecting dust.) The teacher who uses these as incentives for her special needs students has reported many times her gratitude and the difference it makes in motivating her students – a total win! Now her principal has seen her efforts and wants to expand it beyond her classroom. So, there is now openness to more toys/books/puzzles of an older student variety. Bring them with you to church and put in the special bin under the coat rack heading into Fellowship Hall or leave them outside the front door anytime.

Helping Santa Cruz's Food Pantry

Santa Cruz has a food and resource pantry for people of their neighborhood who are hungry or in need. The pantry needs the following specific items: **especially cereals, canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, toilet paper, paper towels, household cleaning products, personal care items such as toothbrushes, 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.**

Youth Events

Peace 360 – 7th Grade and Beyond!

We are expanding our youth group! From now on our 7/8th graders and our high school graduates are invited to join our high school youth group! Peace 360 will be open to youth going into 8th grade through our graduated youth, as well!

Sun., Oct. 3 – Fall Party & service project 6-8pm. We will have a chili and baked potato bar!!!

Sat., Oct. 16 – Bonfire 7-8:30pm [Bonfire Sign Up](#)

Sat., Oct. 30 – Halloween Treats: The Peace 360 Group will have our own table this year!! So, if you would like, you can dress up and come help pass out candy!

5th Grade and Beyond – Sat., Oct. 16

From 7:00-8:30pm -5th graders and beyond, please join us for an outdoor Bonfire, if the weather is agreeable.

We will provide the ingredients for SMORES! Bring a water bottle, and a chair or blanket to sit on. Please use the sign up to attend. [Bonfire Sign Up](#)

3rd-6th Grade Bible Buddies – Wed., Oct. 6 & 13

Come join us for Bible Buddies! On two Wednesdays of the month we invite our 3rd-6th graders to come and hang out with Miss Jess. From 7-8:00pm we will have a lesson, play some games, and have great conversations!

Please let us know if you're planning to come. [Bible Buddies sign up](#)

Confirmation Schedule:

**7th gr. Confirmation 7:00pm Oct. 6 & 20
Nov. 3 & 17**

**8th gr. Confirmation 7:00pm Oct. 13 & 27
Nov. 3 & 17**

Sunday School Plans to Help Keep Kids Safe

We are trying to follow as many good practices as we can to keep kids safe in Sunday School. We have bought special air purifying equipment for each classroom. We are requiring masks be worn by all involved. We will space people out as best we can. All children will have their own box of supplies that will be only theirs each week. We will use our special virus killing sprayer before Sunday School each week. Until the situation improves, opening exercises will be out on the lawn in decent weather with designated meeting areas for each class.