

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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October 2022

Vol. XXVII, Issue 10

From Pastor Gary Erickson

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.” Acts 2:1

The Acts of the Apostles (Acts) tells the story of an emerging church. For the early Christians the days following Jesus’ resurrection and ascension were likely filled with anxiety, wonder and expectation.

The wider church today, and Peace in particular live in a place much like the emerging church in Acts. Anxiety, wonder and expectation are part of today’s faith journey.

Anxiety: what will Peace, and the wider church, look like under changing leadership?

Wonder: God is doing marvelous things at Peace, through Peace, and because of Peace. And God is doing amazing things, through, in and because of the wider church.

Expectation: Where will we see the Holy Spirit at work as Peace emerges into the next chapter of mission and ministry? Where will we see the Holy Spirit at work as the wider church grows into our 21st century realities?

Our questions always seem to outnumber our answers.

Always, however, we have the following to lean on:

Regarding anxiety: We have Scripture, prayer, our traditions and hymns, for example ELW# 729: “The church of Christ in every age, beset by change, but Spirit led...”

Regarding wonder: Christian faith practices lead us to see God’s work in our mundane, daily routines as well as in the extraordinary and miraculous. Our sense of wonder is well expressed in ELW hymn #834: “Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes...”

Regarding expectation: We come to prayer expecting to be heard, to worship expecting to praise God, and to fellowship expecting Christian community. This is well sung in ELW hymn #415: “Father most holy, merciful and tender; Jesus our Savior, with the Father reigning; Spirit of comfort, advocate, defender, light never waning.”

Together we will work through any individual or corporate anxieties we meet along the way. Together we will share the wonder of God’s work in and through our lives.

Together we will live into the expectation of our shared mission: To bring people into contact with the Gospel, and help them grow in their relationship in God in Christ.

With gratitude,

Pastor Gary Erickson

Prayers Requested

Scott Campbell, Amanda, Bill Park, the family of Joyce Sprandel, Tom Sprandel, Rich Dohrn, Elizabeth & Harvey, Delilah, Marty, Paul Bentley, Judy Albright, the family of Brian Severson, Luca

Congratulations

Michalla Rodey & Rico Atkins on their marriage on Sept. 2

Deacon Shari Trotter & Brett Simon on their marriage on Sept. 23

Dan Cochran & Diane Rezvin on their marriage on Sept. 24

Thank You from the Hedlins

Dear Peace Friends,

That was some kind of farewell!!! We will be forever grateful for all the kind words and supportive notes said or written and other expressions of support, including the congregation’s amazing gift of \$3,500 to World Hunger. The worship services themselves were so meaningful, including all the special music, added touches and simply being able to worship together. The receptions had a warm tone that was exactly what we would have hoped for, and also had all kinds of special touches that we will always remember.

Behind it all of course, are 35 years of ministry as a congregation together -- whether for a longer or shorter time. God has blessed our life as partners in ministry and our own family. We can’t begin to thank you enough and yet want you to know what you have meant to us. Now our amazing staff, the leadership of the congregation, our coming interim and then future pastor, and *all of you* will carry on God’s mission. For that, we celebrate in joy and gratitude for what was, and in confidence for what lies ahead.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave & Carol Hedlin and family

FOR EVERYONE COMING TO PEACE

Saturday worship 5:00pm, Sunday at 8:30 & 11:00am.

5:00 and 8:30 services are 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.

ONLINE OPTIONS CONTINUE

* Our normal schedule is back of live streaming the 5:00pm and 8:30am worship services. Assuming everything works, all will be available through our Facebook site anytime.

INDOOR WORSHIP - Saturdays at 5:00pm and Sundays at 8:30 & 11:00am

Here are the notes if you are planning to come:

* **Per IDPH guidelines, masks are optional.**
* Congregational singing of hymns is allowed. We'll be using the hymnals, or you can use the online version in this bulletin.

* We are back to using our worship volunteer schedule. We will send out email reminders each Monday.

* 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). 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!

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: Rick Mitchell, Todd Klock – lawn mowing
Don & Sue Lafferty, Mike & Julie Kinsel – MorningStar Mission serving
Kevin & Melissa Rumbaugh, Ken & Lindsay George, and Andrew & Bethany Smothers for helping during the GLOW party!!

From: The Miniature Group - for use of the library
Guardian Angel Community Services – for the donation

Do You Give Electronically or Want To?

For those of you who give electronically and would like to put something in the offering plate, we have cards located on the counter you may use. If you would like to sign up for automatic withdrawals, please contact the office. Also, if you want to give on-line at any time, you can go to 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.

Ukraine & Eastern Europe

Lutheran Disaster Response, a ministry we support through our offerings, is accompanying our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as the Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. To donate:
<https://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response?erid=315faca8-b6ed-47e6-bde4-bfe361787659&trid=315faca8-b6ed-47e6-bde4-bfe361787659>

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

Quick Reminders

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS **Oct. 23.**

* **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.

* **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

* **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.

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

Addresses for Service Personnel

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

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

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, Shane Bonarek.

2022 Flower Chart

2022 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 (peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org or 815-485-5327.) The cost per arrangement is \$20.

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

Looking Ahead

Oct. 2 – Flu Clinic 9:30am -12:30pm
Blessing of the Animals 12:30pm
Oct. 4 - Committee Chair Meeting 7:30pm
Oct. 5 – Beatles Show at the Rialto 7:30pm
Dinner at Juliet’s before the show 6:00pm
Oct. 8 – Blood Drive 9:00am - 1:00pm
Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal 3:00pm
Oct. 7-9 – Cross Generational Women’s Retreat
in Sawyer, Michigan
Oct. 9 – Special Prayers for Healing 5:00pm
Oct. 15 – First Communion Class 10:00am
Oct. 16 – New Member Orientation 9:45am
Peace Page Turners 9:45am
Oct. 18 – Trailblazers Luncheon 11:30pm
Oct. 22 – First Communion Class 3:30pm
Oct. 23 – Reception of New Members 11:00am
New Member Luncheon 12:00pm
Oct. 25 – Church Council 7:30pm
Oct. 29/30 – Reformation Weekend
Oct 30 – Trunk or Treat Event 1:00 -2:00pm
Nov. 1 – Thanksgiving Planning Meeting 7:00pm
Nov. 6 – All Saints Worship 8:30am
What’s the Scoop? 12:00pm
Dec. 3 – Trivia Night 6:15pm
Dec. 4 – Sunday School Christmas Program 11:00am
Dec. 9 – A Motown Christmas Event 8:00pm

Groups

Quilting – Mon., Oct. 10 & 24

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

Trailblazers – Tues., Oct. 18

We invite anyone who’d like to get together with some others who are anything but “over the hill” to come on Tues, Oct. 18, at 11:30am. We will be having Chinese food. Bring \$5, the food will be provided.

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 – Oct. 5 & 19

Do you crochet or knit? The Prayer Shawl Ministry is meeting again! A prayer shawl is a shawl prepared for and prayed over for someone that is hurting so they can wrap themselves in God’s love. We could provide you with simple patterns or you could create your own. We 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., Oct. 16

Our next meeting will be Oct. 16 at 9:45am and we will discuss *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Piccoult. Copies of the book are available at church to sign-out if you wish. 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.)

Golf Group

We play on Wednesdays at 8:30am. 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. The format will still be “best ball”. Questions or to [sign up](#), contact the church office.

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

Adult Education classes meets at 9:55 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come in person or let us know for the Zoom codes!

Oct. 2 – Gifted and Forgiven, Why Does it Matter?

Oct. 9 - H. M. Muhlenberg - 18th century Lutheran Missionary to North America

Oct. 16 - Peace Page Turners Book Discussion – *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Piccoult

Oct. 23 - Psalm 84 - the soul's longing

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

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 Philippians 2:12-18.

General Announcements

Flu Shot Clinic – Sun., Oct. 2

Walgreens will be providing flu shots on Sun., Oct. 2 from 9:30am - 12:30pm. We are asking you to make an appointment so the wait time is minimal. Please call or email the church office. Shots can be given to those 10 years old and above.

Blessing of the Animals - Sun., Oct. 2

We invite you to bring your animals to church for a special blessing on Sun., Oct. 2, at 12:30pm. We welcome all feathery, furry, scaly, warm-blooded and cold-blooded friends! 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.

Adult Choir Invitation

We welcome all men and women who love to sing. What could be better than making a joyful noise to the Lord with like-minded people?! No audition or musical past required. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Questions, please contact the church office.

Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal – Sat., Oct. 8

Rehearsals are only one Saturday a month and there are no auditions. Just a joy for singing. The next rehearsal will be on Sat., Oct. 8 at 3:00pm. Please contact the church office for more information."

Bell Choir Rehearsal – Tuesdays

Handbell Choir rehearsals will be on Tuesdays at 7:00pm. Contact the church office for more information.

Special Prayers for Healing – Sat., Oct. 8

Saturday, October 8, 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.

First Communion Class - Sat., Oct. 15 or Sat., Oct. 22

Each year we seek to prepare children in the fifth grade (and above) for receiving their first communion. A parent/other adult (or two) should attend along with the child. The class will be offered on Sat., Oct. 15, at 10:00 am and Sat., Oct. 22, at 3:30 pm You need only attend one class or the other. Contact the church office for questions or to register.

New Member Orientation & Reception - Sun., Oct. 16 & 23

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. Orientation will be Sun., Oct. 16 at 9:45am and the reception will be Sun., Oct. 23, during 11:00am worship with a new member luncheon at noon. If you are interested in joining or finding out more information, email or call the church office or [sign Up](#) online.

From Deacon Shari Simon

Dear Members and Friends of Peace,

Happy Fall Y'all! This is a familiar saying from Georgia that we southerners say to one another starting in October and up till Christmas. For those of you who may not know I was born and raised in a town called Lawrenceville Georgia. I grew up in the country, riding horses and playing outside till it started to get dark. October has always been my favorite month. It's the best month because of Halloween, cooler weather, and my birthday.

October is a special month for us as Lutheran Christians as well! At the beginning of the month we will celebrate the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi with our annual pet blessing. St. Francis is remembered for his care for the poor and his concern for nature and animals. On October 2nd at 12:30pm you are invited to bring your pets of any type to receive a blessing. If it is better for your pet to stay at home, please feel free to bring a picture and they can receive a blessing in that way. On October 2nd we will also be offering flu shots in the fellowship Hall between worship services and until 12:30pm. You will be able to care for yourself and your pets on the same day!

At the end of October, we celebrate Halloween and this year our annual trunk or treat will be on Sunday the 30th at 1:00pm. Children are invited and encouraged to wear church appropriate costumes to Sunday school and to come at 1:00pm to get special treats from members of the congregation and play fun Halloween themed games. This is a family and community event so bring friends and let's have some fun. This Sunday will also be special because we as Lutherans will be celebrating Reformation Sunday. On Reformation Sunday we remember Martin Luther, for whom the Lutheran Church is named and his part in the reform of church that took place in Wittenberg Germany so long ago. Adults are invited to wear red.

May this month be full of fun, fellowship, and just the right amount of Halloween Candy.

God's Peace,

Deacon Shari Simon

Blood Drive – Sat., Oct. 8

Thank you to everyone who donated in August. Our next blood drive will be Sat., Oct. 8 from 9am-1pm. Please use the Versiti website to make an appointment.

Reformation Weekend – Oct. 29 & 30

Join us in celebrating our Lutheran heritage on Oct. 29 & 30 by wearing something red to worship.

Halloween Trunk or Treat Event – Sun., Oct. 30

Please join us for a Halloween Trunk or Treat on Sun., Oct. 30 from 1:00 - 2:00pm. We invite all kids to come out and show off your costume and get some candy! If you would like to decorate your trunk and pass out candy, please [sign up online](#) or on the sign-up sheet in the bulletin. Costumes are encouraged but not required.

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](#).

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](#) or through the office. 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, starting at noon. It will be on Zoom as well as in person. Let us know if you will join us, use the online [sign up](#).

Hymn Picking by Nov. 1

If you are interested in helping to pick the hymns for services from Dec. - May, let us know in the office. We'll send you a packet of materials, from which you can give input, then Deb Howell will coordinate all the responses. All that needs to be done by Nov. 1.

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. Use the [sign up](#) online, in the bulletin, email or call the office.

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

The golden days of the Motown Sound may be over, but you can relive some of the wonderful sounds Motown produced on Fri., Dec. 9 at 8:00pm at the Rialto in Joliet, featuring the sounds of The Temptations, The Miracles and The Contours. They will perform in A Motown Christmas. (Aisle dancing is optional!) We anticipate a ticket price of \$44 and a pre-show get-together is in the works. Please use the [sign up](#) or call the office.

Questions Kids Ask About God

“Does God care about pollution?”

Since the whole universe is God's and God has let us borrow it, just as it would be for us when we loan things to others, God would like his “stuff” to be taken care of. Now that we are more aware of what happens to our Earth, we know we can do a better job!

Youth Fellowship & Faith Story

Hi, my name is Ruthie Jarchow and I am 7 years old. I love God because he helps us when we are sad. My favorite Bible story is Noah's Ark. I like that Noah built a ship and put all the animals on it. I love Jesus because he died for us and I think others should love him too. I like coming to church because I learn about Jesus and God. ~ *Ruthie Jarchow*

Helping Others

Because of You

ELCA World Hunger supports many programs, such as Community Table, a ministry of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in New Orleans that serves over 200 meals twice a week. With support from Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey partnered with Trinity Lutheran Church in Jersey City, NJ, to distribute food after Hurricane Ida. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary, an ELCA regional partner, offers practical skills workshops to Roma individuals. These are just some of the ministries that are possible because of your support of the ELCA!

Mac & Cheese Thank You

Because of your generosity, we collected 100 packs of Mac & Cheese for the New Lenox Food Pantry! Thank you!!

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.

Sharefest Volunteer Opportunities

Sharefest has all kinds of projects throughout Will County that they conduct for the betterment of people who need a helping hand or have a need for food, not to mention their recycling efforts. They have now opened a food warehouse at 22014 Howell Dr., Unit #1, New Lenox. With the launching of the ShareFest Store's online ordering platform for free food, they have many opportunities for volunteers. Please go to the ShareFest website if you would like to help.

Confirmation Schedule -

7th Gr. - Oct. 5 & 19 @ 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 2 & **16**

8th Gr. - Oct. 12 & 26 @ 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 9 & **16**

Youth Events

Sunday School T-Shirt Day – Sun., Oct. 2

Please have your youth wear the shirt they made for Sunday School! If your youth did not receive their shirt please let Miss Jess know.

Peace 360 meetings - 7th-12th Gr. & Beyond

[Sign up here!](#)

Sun., Oct. 2 – Country Line Orchard – Meet at church at 1:30 and we will stop for a fast-food lunch on our way there. Bring money for food and apples.

Sun., Oct. 9 – Lunch and Gaga Ball/games 1:00-3pm

Sat., Oct. 15 – Movie Night, “Hocus Pocus 2 & pizza dinner 6-9pm.

Sun., Oct. 23 – Youth Committee Meeting with lunch 1:00-3:00pm

3rd-6th Gr. Halloween Event – Sat., Oct. 22

[Sign up here!](#)

Please bring a pumpkin to decorate and we will have a Halloween party! Mummy dogs & tater tots. Sign up to come.