

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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Here's Your Assignment?

To the credit of many schools these days, students are required to have an assignment notebook. That some students don't use it or use it effectively is a given. But it represents a great habit: to see what's due tomorrow and to have in mind something yet to come. One of the challenges of going to college is that no one is looking over your shoulder or telling you exactly what is on your to-do list. If you're in a math or science based class you might well get a daily assignment. But if you're in a humanities class many times you will get a syllabus at the beginning of the term, and hints along the way about due dates.

In our daily life, most people don't make us fill out an assignment notebook. God doesn't either. God's directions for our lives turn out to be more like a syllabus at the beginning of a semester than a daily "now do this by tomorrow." So how do I know if what I'm doing today is in keeping with what God wants?

Certainly, we can follow some general principles: love God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself, for example. Or, treat others the way you want to be treated. But what about those times when we are looking for direction about what to do with our lives, or what the right thing to do or think or believe is when it comes to some specific decision? How do I know if what I'm deciding today is in keeping with what God wants?

Over time God seems to invite people to turn (return) to some tried and true methods, like prayer. Ask for guidance. (After all, Jesus invited us to ask, seek, and knock, with the assurance God wants to respond.) Another idea is to talk to other people who are able to listen as well as give you feedback. Another idea is to read scripture and inspirational resources. Keep open to hearing from God in anything – God has used more than one dream or advice column or movie or piece of nature, etc. to give our subconscious a clue. If you get an idea of what seems to be God's direction, then follow through. (God does not equip us or empower us to go in a wrong direction – that happens on our own.)

The good news is that even when we get the assignment wrong, God is not done with us. Unlike school, God's unlimited willingness to let us have a redo is matched by God's ability to turn things around and help us try again. So, no matter how many times we aren't sure what God's daily assignment is, we have the freedom to try. (Plus, you can't go wrong by loving God and others and treating them as Jesus did!)

Pastor Dave Hedlin

Prayers Requested

The family of Wayne, Shane, Mari & Dewey Klapper, Ryan, Phillip Cammack, Jean Kelly, Jim Fitzpatrick, Avery Mark, the family of Mike Kramer, Roberta Owens, Maddox James Spooner, Ben Walczak, Terry Glynda, Doris Kipp, Pastor Peggy Johnson, Tammy Rae, Edward, Jodee Saenz, Kate W., the family of Sue Fahey, Christina Montgomery, Pat N., Shawn N., Paulette Overend, Jon Olofsson, Diane, Melissa B., Josh D., Michelle Y., Pat Butler, Alan Booton, the Kiebles family, Jennifer Otto, the Schmidt family, Kevin Vick, Sonia Muehlnickel, Jonah Huehlhorst, Allison Moore, Ed Fikeys, Rich Johnson, Kitty Walker

Congratulations

Suzanne Collier & Sean Turbett on their marriage on July 1;

Blayze & Sarah Spooner (Xander), parents, and Becky & Matt Prince, grandparents, on the birth of Maddox James Spooner on July 3;

Ashley Bozue & Scott Howell on their marriage on July 22;

Bill & Rose Dudeck, great-grandparents, on the birth of Noah Isaac Heimer;

Pamela & Robert Putrich, grandparents, on the birth of LuellaRae Putrich on July 27.

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:

Tom Salutric – usher
Isabella, Tannor & Zayne Giertuga – Saturday office volunteers
Mark Jaswanthkumar – *The Church in India* presentation for the adult class
Shane Brinegar – *The Augsburg Confession: Lutherans confessing their faith* presentation for the adult class
Glenn Vanderwall, Nate Thomas – lawn mowing
Diane Cochran, Christina Montgomery, Deacon Shari, Shane Brinegar, Darrell Holmquist, Suzanne Holmquist, Ed Hovi, David Rubner, Darlene Terrell, Gail Hanks, Penny Havlicek, Abbey Lindeman, Nancy Sons, the Prayer Shawl Ministry – Art Fair participants and John, Amy Ambrose – Art Fair coordinators & Helen assistant
Jodie Brugler, Karen Dircks, Vivian Farbak, Cheryl Gamen, Linda Goesel, Claudia Green, Jennifer Paape – Vacation Bible School planning/organizers and the 70+ volunteers who made our Vacation Bible School such a great success!

From:

ELCA, Bethel New Life, Lutheran School of Theology, ELCA World Hunger, CASA of Will County, Concert on the Green Series, Grace Campus Ministry NIU – for the donation
Ed Cochran – for all the blood donors who took time on June 17, to help save lives
Andrew Gerasch – for the scholarship
Karen Town – for the prayer shawl
Lutheran School for Theology at Chicago – general scholarship fund gift
The Vasich family– for the baby gift
Jodee Saenz – for the prayers

New Addresses for Service Personnel

Mail for four of our members serving overseas in the military can be sent to:

Connor Wayne Baker
PSC 445
FPO AE 96540

Cpl Pafford, Devin
2714 S. Virginia Dr.
Apt. #36
Yuma AZ 85364

Daniel Treasure, EMFN, EE DIV
USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115)
Unit 100415 Box 1505
FPO AP 96694

Jacob Treasure
3749 Radcliffe Rd.
Abilene, TX 79602

Sympathy

The congregation of Peace wishes to extend its sympathy to:

the family of Dorothy Putz, mother of Diann Price.

Welcome to the Lord's Family

Easton Liam Malone was baptized on July 9.

Our New Sponsored Missionary

Danielle Steinwart of Montgomery, IL will be the next missionary we have the opportunity to sponsor! She was here on July 30 and briefly introduced herself at both services. She will be spending the next year in the United Kingdom. We look forward to being connected for the next year.

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.peacenewelenox.org), click on the donate tab and then use the donate through Paypal tab. You can use most major credit cards.

The Hope Fund

If your child(ren) would like to participate in a youth event but the cost involved is keeping him/her/ them from joining us, we have a fund available to help you. The Hope Fund has been established through the generous donation of a Peace Lutheran Church family to enable a member(s) of our congregation to participate in church youth activities. Just talk to Deacon Shari or Pastor Dave – and no one else will know.

Craft/Art Supplies for KidsWork Museum

Thanks to everyone who took the time to save and donate their empty toilet paper tubes, egg cartons and other recyclable materials the KidsWork museum now have an overabundance of those articles and **do not** need any more. They are **still in need** of crafty items like full sheets of felt, buttons, sequins, pipe cleaners and googly eyes. Please bring your items to church; there is a donation box in the hallway across from the kitchen door. Thank you for your support!

Quick Reminders

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS **Aug. 27**. 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. For patient eligibility information: <http://willgrundymedicalclinic.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Eligibility.pdf>.

* **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.

* **Bereavement Support Groups**

- *GriefShare* – Will resume Sept. 11, 2017.

Meets each Monday at 6:30 p.m.

- *Evening Adult Support Group* – Meets the third Thursday of the month, (with the exception of the month of October), June – December 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 or call (815) 470-4104.

* **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 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.

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

* **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
You will need a doctor's note confirming treatment to sign up and Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in your zip code area arrange for service. This organization serves the entire US and currently has 547 partners to help these women.

* **Host family for exchange student** – Would you be willing to host a high school exchange student for the 2017/2018 school year? This is a little different than usual; there is a monthly stipend that is provided to the host family. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Dave.

Donations for MorningStar Treasure Chest

We are still accepting donations of clothing and household goods for MorningStar Treasure Chest. Place your donations in the basket marked MorningStar located in the hallway leading into Fellowship Hall.

C.D.s & Podcast Available

Would you like a C.D. copy of a worship service? Look for the sign-up on the name tag table. Also, if you want to listen to a sermon you missed or want to hear one again, go to the link on our website www.peacenewlenox.org.

Remember Our P.O. Box

Use P.O. Box 205 for mail addressed to Peace.

***Building Assets
in our Youth and Community***

The asset for the month of August is:

Support Systems: Family & School

The more love, support, and adult contacts a child has, the more likely he or she is to grow up healthy.

Summertime Quilting – Aug. 14 & 28

Summertime quilting will meet on Aug. 14 & 28 at 9:30 a.m. and will meet every other Monday. Fill those lazy days of summer making quilts and enjoying fellowship. If you have any questions, call Karen Dircks (815) 462-9527 or Synty Lindbloom (708) 479-7338.

Trailblazers – Aug. 15

Our next meeting will be our usual luncheon on July 18 at noon here at church. The menu will be a potato bar. We'll provide the baked potatoes and all kinds of fixings. Bring yourself and whatever you'd enjoy sharing with the group. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Invite a friend!

Peace Buddies – Sept. 24 – Church Picnic

Peace Buddies is a special needs youth group for high school age and older. New Buddies are always welcome! You do not have to be a part of our church to join us. If you know someone, please invite them to come. We usually meet on the first and third Sundays of the month from **noon – 2:00 p.m.** We will resume meeting on Sept. 24, at 12 noon and participate in the church picnic. (Please see the announcement for the church picnic in the newsletter for more details.) Our wonderful leaders, Dana Van Dyke and Emilie Harvey will welcome you back!!! Any questions please see Pastor Dave or call Emilie Harvey at (815) 529-7546.

Church Picnic – Sept. 24

Mark your calendars now and save the date for our annual church picnic on Sunday, Sept. 24, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We are in the planning stages right now, so if you would like to help, please contact the church office.

Peace Page Turners – Aug. 20

Peace Page Turners next will be discussing *Easter Island* by Jennifer Vanderbes on August 20. Join us for the discussion, even if you haven't read the book. We meet at 9:45 a.m. and all are always welcome. If you would like a copy of the book or have any questions, contact Kathy Davenport (815) 485-3874.

Peace Women's Group

The Peace Women's Group is open to all women 18 and up. We invite all interested to join us for our events. We look forward to seeing you all soon! Any questions, contact Jan Stoller (815) 530-2786.

Thursday Aug 10, 7:30 p.m. - Joliet Area Historical Museum Rooftop Concert - Come with us and see *Classical Blast* in downtown Joliet. They are classically trained musicians who cross over genres from Bach to Rock to Metal. Tickets are just \$10. Beverages and snacks will be available for purchase. If you would like to join us, please use the sign-up slip in the bulletin.

Health Care Ministry – Blood Pressure Screenings

High blood pressure can start at any age and can cause catastrophic illness in our bodies if it goes untreated. With that in mind, our new Health Care Ministry has begun, and will continue each month. Our next screening date is Sunday, Aug. 13, between the two services. Your pressure will be measured by health care professionals, and will be kept strictly confidential. It only takes a few minutes for your screening, but those few minutes could save your life! If you have any questions, or have clinical experience in taking blood pressures and would like to be a part of the team, please contact Marylynn Tyler at 815-423-6407.

Prayer Group – Aug. 16

Denise Jones hosts a monthly gathering for prayer on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:45 a.m. at her home (17013 Geneva Ave., Lockport). The prayers include our church, those on the prayer list and any other concerns or celebrations. Please call her (815) 838-0388 or the church office (815) 485-5327 for more information. The next gathering will be Aug. 16.

Summer Adult Education

Keep God in your thinking year-around! The beginning time is 9:45 a.m.

Aug. 6 – *What Is an Anonymous Christian?*

(Do people of other religions have Jesus in them?)

Aug. 13 - *When Good Things Happen to Bad People*
(and the reverse, of course)

Aug. 20 - Peace Page Turners book discussion on *Easter Island* by Jennifer Vanderbes

Aug. 27 - *What? Me Worry?* (A little worry can be energizing; a lot of worry can be debilitating; how to find a balance)

Sept. 3 - *Is It Ever Okay to Be Glad Someone's Dead?*

Adult Choir Open House – Sept. 6

Attention new and returning Adult Choir members! We are kicking off our new year with a pizza rehearsal on Wednesday, Sept. 6th at 6:00 p.m. New people are always welcome and there is no auditioning – if you want to sing, we want you!

Music practice will begin after our pizza fellowship. Men and women who like to sing should come and check us out. No auditions! And pizza!!!! The Adult Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:15 and performs during the month at various services. I would be happy to answer any questions or concerns, including desire but schedule conflicts. Please contact Pamela Putrich or the church office.

Ladies Ensemble Open Rehearsal – Sept. 9

Ladies of the church! The Ladies Ensemble invites you to our first open choral rehearsal on Saturday, Sept. 9th, at 2:30 p.m., for song and fellowship (refreshments)! We always welcome new ladies! There are no auditions, so if you just like to sing please come check us out. The Ladies Ensemble only rehearses one Saturday a month and we try to sing at three different services during the month. Women's lives are busy so we understand schedule flexibility. We are made up of ladies who enjoy singing, spreading God's word through song and fellowship with one another. Please join us! For more information, please contact Pamela Putrich or Gerry Wurzburger or the church office.

Blood Drive – Aug. 12

Please mark your calendar for the next blood drive on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Everyone who donates will receive a \$5 Target gift card.

Looking Ahead...

Aug. 6 – *Waste Watchers* – 9:30 a.m.

Aug. 10 – *Womens's Group Concert Event* – 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 12 – *Blood Drive* 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Aug. 12/13 – *Offering of Letters*

Aug. 13 – *Blood Pressure Screenings –between services*
White Sox game 1:10 p.m. (Bus leaves at 11:30)

Aug. 15 – *Trailblazers* - noon

Aug. 19 – *Baptism Orientation* 3:30

Aug. 20 – *Talent Show on the Road at Sunny Hill*

Aug. 27 – *Sun. School Teacher/Asst. Meeting* 9:45 a.m.

Sept. 6 – *Adult Choir Open House* – 6:00 p.m.

Sept. 9 – *Ladies Ensemble Open Rehearsal* – 2:30 p.m.

Sept. 10 – *Sunday School Rally Day* – 9:45 a.m.

Co-ed Golf Outing- Woodruff Golf Course – 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 11 – *GriefShare Ministry resumes* – 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 12 – *Dartball resumes* – 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 13 – *Children's Choir resumes* – 6:00 p.m.

Confirmation Orientation – 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 14 – *Bell Choir Rehearsal Resumes* 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 16/17 – *Bibles given to 3rd graders and older*

Sept. 24 – *Church Picnic* – 12 noon

Peace Buddies at church picnic – 12 noon

Evening Bible Study – Aug. 15

The Gospel of Luke

We continue our in-depth look at Luke, on Tuesday, Aug. 15, from 7:15 to 8:15. We'll get as far as we get each time, which this time we pick up with Luke 2:41. You don't need to know anything about the Bible to benefit.

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. August's passage is: 1 Samuel 16:4-13.

Waste Watchers Meeting – Aug. 6

The next Waste Watchers meeting will be on August 6 at 9:30 a.m. (between worship services). Please contact Syndy Lindbloom, 708-623-9742, with any thoughts or questions.

From Deacon Shari Trotter

Dear Members and Friends of Peace,

This week has been an amazing time here at Peace! We have had VBS and the theme this year was Welcome to Camp Peace. Today we learned all about animals. We learned about how the Israelites complained in the wilderness because they were hungry and God provided manna. God then told the Israelites that He provides for the birds of the air and for the fish of the sea. We learned that God loves and cares for animals and God loves and cares for us.

We as adults often struggle with this concept. For children the idea that we should trust God and not worry makes perfect sense but we as adults are too smart for our own good sometimes. We reason with ourselves and we often put our trust in our own abilities rather than looking to God for direction and insight. This is why when things don't turn out the way we had planned or imagined we grieve. We grieve the loss of what we thought might be. We become fearful and frustrated.

But the good news that we learned in VBS is for us adults too. God cares for all creation. God loves each and everything that God created. God provides for the birds of the air and the fish of the sea and God provides for you and me! (Ok so maybe I've spent too much time with kids!) God provides a listening ear when things don't turn out right. God provides children to keep us honest and grounded. God provides food and water. God provides other people to be his hands and feet to us.

You see although things may not turn out exactly how we had planned, God is still active! God's love for you is immeasurable and we see the evidence of that in the way that God's love is visible throughout all of creation, especially the animals!

God's Peace,

Deacon Shari Trotter

Technology/Social Media Task Force

Wi-fi is now available throughout the building, computers have been ordered, Comcast will install high speed internet in late August or early Sept., pre-work is being done for our website, and more! The goal is to enhance the ministry and mission of the congregation to help people come in contact with the Gospel, and grow in their relationship with God in Christ!

Sunday School Teacher/Assistant Meeting

Our Sunday School staff is getting together for orientation, materials, and some inspiration! The meeting date will be Sunday, August 27 at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday School Helper Invitation

Wouldn't you like to make a life-long difference in people's lives? Being involved in Sunday School is a sure-fire way. Many of our needs are very short-term (like a one time basis helping with a special Sunday.) Why not take a leap of faith and volunteer! Let us know how you'd like to help: please call Pastor Dave at (815) 485-5327.

Register for Next Fall's Sunday School

We look forward to another great year! We rely on the registration forms to give us updates and to help us know who will be available to help with Sunday School the next year. We have a great team and would love to have you be a part of it!!! Please fill out a registration form (they are located on a table in the narthex), register on-line, or call the church office.

Sunday School Begins Sept. 10!!!

Kids, you won't want to miss the start of Sunday School! **Rally Day, Sept. 10**, 9:45 a.m. marks the beginning of our theme as "Peace Kids – Sharing the Spirit." The year will be filled with special events and projects that celebrate how all of us can link ourselves together to grow in faith and make a difference. Some of the usual highlights to look forward to are a toy/book/CD/DVD recycling exchange, Bring a Friend Sunday, and more. The Rally Day celebration will include a **free t-shirt**. Please sign up now so we'll have your "Peace Kids – Sharing the Spirit." t-shirt ready for you. (Sunday School is for kids 3 years old and older.)

Join us for a great year of Sunday School where you can make new friends and GROW IN YOUR FAITH! (Adults and teens, if you'd like to help out this year in some way, please be sure to let us know that too.)

Away From Home Addresses/Emails

It's that time of year when we ask for the addresses and email addresses for young people who are away from home. We like to send them the newsletter, and let them know we're thinking about them. Please use the sign-up or call/email the church office.

Co-ed Golf Outing – Sept. 10

What if you like golf, and would like to have some fun playing 9 holes with some other people/friends from church? Woodruff Golf Course in Joliet will be the place, and Sunday, September 10, at 2 p.m. will be the time! Marylynn Tyler is coordinating the event, and has some plans to have different events on a few of the golf holes - longest drive (for men and women) closest to the pin, etc. with prizes!! The cost is \$40 per person which includes 9 holes of golf, cart and lunch. (Please bring a dessert or salad to share.) So that we can give some indications to the golf course as to how many will be participating, please let us know by using the sign-up slip in the bulletin by **Aug. 27** if you will be attending.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Aug. 9 & 23

We will be meeting every other Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. If you already know how to stitch, or would like to learn, come and join us. We have members teaching crocheting or knitting if you want to learn. You can bring yarn, hooks/needles and patterns or we can provide these for you. Any questions, please contact Cheryl Gamen at (815) 462-3089.

Prayer Shawls to Be Given Away

Do you know someone who is in need of being wrapped in prayer, who would benefit from knowing that they are being prayed for, or someone going through difficult times? Our Prayer Shawl Ministry would love to create a prayer shawl for you or someone you know. A prayer shawl is a knitted or crocheted shawl that is made with prayerful meditation. In the entrance area, you will find a plaque for the ministry along with a request box. Please put in your requests and you will be contacted when your shawl is ready for pickup. Make sure to include your contact information, the recipient's first name (last name optional) and prayer concern. You may also contact the office directly for a shawl.

Prayer Shawl Group Yarn Request

Maybe you can't knit or crochet, but you'd still like to support this new ministry. You can! The group is looking for full skeins of 4 ply worsted weight yarn.

Ping Pong Club

We are going to play monthly and will arrange schedules for who plays whom each month. If you'd like to participate, please use the sign-up slip in the bulletin.

Theater Events

Margaritaville – Nov. 19

On Sunday, Nov. 19, at 7:30 pm, at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago the tunes will be flowing and the mental relaxation should come with it. This musical features both original new songs and classic old ones from Jimmy Buffett, while it tells a story! Our bargain tickets are only \$21.50. There are 3 tickets left!

Beautiful (The Carole King Story) – Dec. 27

On Wed., Dec. 27, at 7:30 pm, at the Cadillac Theatre in Chicago this amazing story and music will be a great Christmas present! We went to this last year and the reviews from our own people told us to get more tickets this year! Our bargain tickets are \$38.

Love Never Dies – Feb. 18, 2018

This is Andrew Lloyd Webber's sequel to the *Phantom of the Opera*. We have 3 tickets left at \$21.50 each for the 7:30 show on Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018

Talent Show on the Road – Aug. 20

We'd like to share some of the great musical talent that is a part of our church with the residents of Sunny Hill in Joliet. We've lined up August 20, at 1:30 p.m. for that, with the goal of entertaining them for about an hour. If you'd like to take your talent on the road, just let us know by using the sign-up slip in the bulletin or by calling the church office.

New Member Orientation in October

We will be receiving new members again in October. The orientations are Oct. 15, at 9:45 and 6:30; the reception of new members will be Oct. 22 during the 11:00 worship followed by a luncheon at noon. Please call the church office to let us know if you will be involved.

School Supplies to Help Others

As you shop for school supplies, please consider helping others by picking up some extras. This year the bulk of the supplies will go to help kids through our mission partners at Santa Cruz in Joliet. We give all the supplies away to kids that otherwise couldn't start the year right! Please bring the supplies by Aug. 31.

6" Fiskar scissors	24 count crayons
70 page spiral notebooks	blue/black/red pens
140-200 count loose-leaf 3-hole paper	
8 count washable classic color markers	

Peace Office Staff Welcomes Carol Wadleigh

After many years as an office volunteer and the last year as part of the office staff, we are saying good-bye to Pam Post, as she and her husband Roy make the move to Wisconsin. We welcome Carol Wadleigh as a new member of the Peace staff. Carol will be in the office on Tuesdays & Fridays.

Offering of Letters – Aug. 12 & 13

What good can one letter do? How about when we combine that letter with millions of others? Time and again the Bible, including Jesus himself, advocates on behalf of the hungry. You can do your part to make this simple, but profound statement on behalf of them. We'll try to make it easy....on Aug. 12/13 we will have sample notes you can use to write to members of Congress (and the White House, if you wish) advocating for the ones in our country and around the world who go to bed hungry, and who can be helped! We'll even provide the paper, envelopes and stamps. Bread for the World is a national organization, led by a Lutheran pastor, whose results have been amazing! Please take the time to help.

Dinners for Eight – New Groups Starting This Fall

Do you enjoy gathering with a small group for dinner or dessert? We will soon start another round of "Dinners for Eight", a small group dinner setting in individuals' homes. This is a great way of getting to know different members of our church community. Each group of eight decides what to eat and how often to meet over the course of a year. All ages are welcome. For those with children, childcare options are decided within each group. If interested, please use the sign-up slip in the bulletin or call Angie & Todd Klock, 815-463-1848.

Santa Cruz Projects

As a part of our long-range plan, we have had conversations with Will County Habitat for Humanity and with Santa Cruz Lutheran Church. Stay tuned for more Habitat ones. For now we are looking for people who might be interested in some hands-on projects with Santa Cruz. So far the projects suggested are painting, power-washing, building a raised vegetable garden space. We expect more ideas over time. Let us know through the sign-up or by calling the office if you're interested.

God's Work in Action

As one of this year's goals in our Long-Range Plan, we want to highlight at least 10 people from church who are volunteering outside of Peace. God's work gets done by you in so many different ways; we want to celebrate how you take your gifts from God and apply them! This month's contribution is from Bruce Vollrath.

During my time at Peace, I have had the opportunity to serve in various capacities that I thoroughly enjoyed. Also, over the past 4 years I have been participating as a food server at Morningstar Mission in Joliet.

For those not familiar with Morningstar, it's a nonprofit organization. "Morningstar Mission relieves the spiritual and physical hunger of the poor by providing food for the hungry, clothing for the needy, the Gospel of Jesus Christ for all." Morningstar provides shelter for females and children and a 6 month rehab program for males. The men in the program have various jobs to accomplish throughout the day. A number of the men are assigned to the kitchen where they prepare all the meals (20 per week). During lunch, when I volunteer, 75 – 125 people are served. I know a number of the men on a first name basis and they are very open regarding the events that occurred in their past that brought them to Morningstar. What is so rewarding to me is that these men are so grateful for a second chance. Some have said that they know the Lord is working at the Mission. This past week, I walked in and a group of them was actually singing a hymn. I have to agree that the Lord is working there in a variety of ways.

The Mission is always looking for volunteers. If anyone is interested, go to their website or stop in and see the miraculous things that are happening there.

Bruce Vollrath

Ambassadors Wanted!

We are looking for welcomers of visitors to our church (Ambassador). The "duties" are simply to help greet visitors after the church service. We hope to have one person, besides Pastor Dave or Deacon Shari, welcome new people to the church after each service. If you are interested, please use the sign-up slip, or call the office.

Baptism Orientation – Aug. 19

August 19, 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.

Because of You and Your Gifts

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois offers low-income apartment style housing for older adults and people over the age of 18 with disabilities in 21 developments throughout Illinois. The buildings, which are owned and/or managed by LSSI, provide comfortable and affordable living environments. Most apartments feature an open floor plan with a full kitchen, large bathroom, carpeting, cable access and LifeLine Emergency call system. Rent at most sites is 30 percent of one's annual adjusted income (taking into account medical expenses and other deductions). Your giving supports the work of LSSI!

Small Group Ministry - We're Ready!

We are starting small groups here at Peace! Small groups are a little different than our current studies. It involves a group of about 4-8 people who commit to meeting together weekly or biweekly, and this same group of people will stay together throughout the whole school year. Instead of at church, the small group meet in the home of one of the members so everyone can get to know their group members and God's work in a comfortable setting. During your small group time, you will fellowship with each other, study god's work, and share prayer requests together. A small group is important because the members support each other in faith, friendship, and accountability. We already have several individuals who are willing to lead! After we have determined everyone who would like to join a small group, we will meet and get the individual groups started. We ask that you prayerfully consider becoming part of a small group this year! Please use the sign-up, call the office or let Pastor Dave or Heather Antoniazzi (bherbst2@yahoo.com) know if you are interested.

Questions Kids Ask About God Update

Pastor Dave and Carol were in Minneapolis July 12-15 at the Women of the ELCA's triennial gathering. We were once again blessed overwhelmingly by the response to the Questions Kids Ask about God book. So many people who had bought the book previously came up and spoke of how they had used it. New people not only bought the book, but shared the story of it with others who then bought their own copies. Because of the great response, we will be able to make more donations to Lutheran World Relief and Feed My Starving Children.

GriefShare Ministry Resumes – Sept. 11

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you heal after losing a loved one. The group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days. They meet on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and will begin weekly meetings again on Sept. 11. If you would like more information, contact Janet, Margie, or Pat at griefshare.plc.60451@gmail.com.

Caregiver Tip of the Month

If you start yelling at the one you're caring for. If you're feeling more negative than positive. If family members or friends express their concerns about you coping. If you are struggling with anxiety or depression; these are all warning signs of burnout. Recognize these red flags. Ask for help early on. Listen to your friends and family. Join a support group. Talk to a counselor. Protect yourself before burnout sets in. Learning how to cope can reduce your caregiving demands. Remember too, it's o.k. to take time for you.

(For more information about being a caregiver and other related topics - see our display in the narthex and don't forget to borrow a book from the bin.)

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? You are not alone. There is an Alzheimer's Association Support Group meeting at Peace the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome! If you would like more information, please contact Karin Knutson at karinknutson@hotmail.com.

Opiate Recovery Group

An Opiate Recovery Group meets here at Peace each Tuesday night from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Are you or a loved one struggling with heroin or opiate dependence? Addiction is a family disease, because everyone in the family suffers if someone is addicted to or abusing drugs. Too many people lost in addiction feel hopeless. The good news is people can and do recover, and lead happy and productive lives. Please join us! 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 please contact Tom Moore at 815-354-3195.

Blessing of the Backpacks and More – Aug. 26 & 27

Blessing of the Backpacks will take place during services on Aug. 26 & 27. Students, teachers and anyone who works in the schools are invited to bring their backpacks, briefcases, tote bags, etc. to be blessed at this time.

ShareFest 2017 Schedule of Events & Places You Can Volunteer

Check out www.sharefestnewlenox.com and email info@sharefestnewlenox.com for more information.

June –Sept. Service Projects for Those in Need-Saturdays, June-September. Please contact Gary at gary@sharefestwillcounty.com or 815-342-2199.

Sept. 9th: RECYCLEPALOOZA 8:00 a.m.-3:00.p.m. Household hazardous waste collection; reuse/recycle collection of electronics, carpet/padding, wood, scrap metal, flags, usable latex paint. Located at the Spencer School Campus, 1711 S. Spencer Road in New Lenox. See www.sharefestwillcounty.com for a list of items.

Sept. 11th: 9/11 Patriot Day Ceremony at the Village Commons Fireman’s Memorial at 9:11 a.m. Bring items to be donated to our Troops (website has list of items).

Sept. 13th: Job & Resource Fair at the Frankfort Township Office Building, 11000 W. Lincoln Hwy. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Get connected to over 50 local employers looking to hire local employees!

Sept. 16th: ShareFest 2017 “Love Thy Neighbor Road Trip – Joliet. 40 volunteers are needed to hand out food, books & clothes. There will also be health care screenings and some employers on the road trip. To volunteer go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054aada92ba4f94-lovethy>.

Youth Announcements

Mission Statement

To be a model of Christianity, as an enjoyable way of life for mutual support and development in our relationships with God and one another.

High School

Recently Graduated Seniors

To our graduated-seniors we want to wish you good luck in whatever you are pursuing! This is an adjustment time for you and we want you to know that you can call or email us any time. We are here for you! We would like to send you this regular monthly newsletter either by mail or email so please let us know if you have a change of address &/or email address! Keep in touch!

Peace 360 Summer Schedule

Attention all high school youth.

Peace 360 is meeting twice a month during the summer:

August 13 - We are going to the Sox Game with others from the church! Please see the *White Sox Tickets – Free – Aug. 13* paragraph for the details.

August 20 (instead of Aug. 27) - Let's go, along with others from church, to the "Talent Show on the Road" at Sunny Hill! If you wish to share your musical talent and be a part of the show please sign up on the sign-up slip in the bulletin or call the church office. Otherwise, as a part of Peace 360 we will help serve cookies, etc. Meet at church at 1:00 p.m. (***And our Peace 360 group will go out to eat after the show.**)

Sept. 10 – Peace 360 begins our weekly get togethers at 6:00 p.m.! **Come to the Messtival!**

HS Students Wanting to Tour LW High Schools (Date to be determined.)

We have an opportunity for you to check out your high school before school starts and get to know other kids from our church! Whether you are new to the school or already attending - all are welcome! Three of our church members, who already attend one of each of the high schools, will show you around your prospective school and answer questions you may have. We will meet at church at 11:00 a.m., then in groups per high school, will head out for your tours. Please bring money with you for some lunch back at church. Any parents/adults that are willing to help drive; please contact Deacon Shari. Students: Please sign up if you are interested in attending this event - and let us know which high school you will be attending.

High School & 7th/8th Grade Students

Sept. 10 – Messtival!!

Come start the year off with us! We plan to have a great (& messy) time! Peace 360 is inviting the 7th & 8th graders to join in, too! Meet at church at 6:00 p.m. dressed to get messy!

White Sox Tickets – Free – Aug. 13

We had fun going to a Sunday game last year, so we're going again! The game starts at 1:10 p.m. The tickets are FREE and there are 8 left! The bus will leave promptly at 11:30 a.m. (Please be here by 11:15 a.m.) If you're taking the bus, the cost is \$5 each and a maximum of \$15 per household. (Bring money for food/drink.) Use the sign-up slip, or call the office ASAP. Yes, your friends are welcome to come.

Willing to help at Worship?

Please let the office know if you would be willing to help as a substitute for worship roles such as:
usher, communion server, nursery or acolyte.

*****Don't forget about - The Hope Fund!***

Looking Ahead:

Sept. is Sharefest: or you can help all year!

You choose how you can help. See the main newsletter for more information &/or check out www.sharefestnewlenox.com. It looks easy to sign yourself up. Just go to sharefestnewlenox.org, click the Volunteer box and look for a link(s) you are interested in and click on those to sign up. **Or**, talk to Deacon Shari if you are interested.

Sept. 10 - Sunday School begins/RALLY DAY/Messtival

Sept. 24 - Church Picnic

7th/8th Grade Students

Sept. 10 – Sunday School Rally Day

Sunday School begins (at 9:45 a.m.)! Sign-up now so we can have a t-shirt ready for you on Rally Day.

Sept. 13 – Confirmation Orientation

A meeting for all students in 7th and 8th grades and at least one parent/adult is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m. This important night incorporates information about schedules, expectations, youth events, volunteering, and more! If you know someone who is not part of any church but has a student in this age bracket, please invite them to come too.