



April 1, 2023 | Volume 2023:4

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church Newsletter



Highlights:

- Peace Church Newsletter
- A Message from the Pastor
- Council Corner
- Peace Calendar
- Peace Bulletin Board
- Thank You Notes

A Message from Pastor Gary ...



Parallel Seasons

The season of Lent is a season of repentance and self-examination. It is a time of preparation and discipline. It comes every year just like the other liturgical seasons. However, the word lent is an Old English word that means spring, which also comes every year, and after a long winter it feels like resurrection.

Resurrection is a word that is associated with Easter, and we associate Easter with spring far more than we associate Lent with spring. That might be because Lent starts in the winter and is usually coming to completion in the spring. It is as if the liturgical seasons and the climatic seasons are overlaid upon one another but are not completely aligned.

Even with the lack of full alignment, the climatic seasons of winter and spring still help us understand the liturgical seasons of Lent and Easter. The winter was dead and dark and challenging. It required a great discipline to endure. Lent required us to die to self, to reflect on the dark sides of ourselves. We were challenged and it took discipline to endure. The spring brings us life, and light. It brings us warmth and relief. Plants and flowers are blooming around us. Easter brings us new life and light. Our hearts begin to warm up to the reality of a God who loves us, who delivers us, who is faithful, and who will always come through no matter how dismal our situation appears to be.

It feels so good to have the 'winter of our discontent' behind us, and to return to the spring of our youth. It's time to allow our hearts to open to the joy of Easter and resurrection.

Pastor Gary

Council Corner ...



Council Corner – March 2023

It's a great time to be on Council. We had a full and lively meeting in March! It's great to come together to do the work of the church, all while enjoying a laugh or two 😊

So, what have we been up to?

1. I am excited to share that Doug Erney has been voted our new Vice President! We will have several vacancies to fill at our election in December, so please do consider joining us. Contact Bill Groff, our Nominating Chair, if you'd like to hear more.
2. Our new Pavilion is ready for YOU! Please bring your ideas on how we can utilize this great feature in our ministry. Contact Gary Schaeffer for more information.
3. Last month I shared our 2023 goals for Council, and I'm pleased to share that we have already identified our 3 new or expanded outreach events! They are the Craft Fair, April Pickleball and the return of our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Check out the bulletin, Facebook, or Website for more information. Hope to see you all there.

In Peace,
Heidi Gerth, Council President

Important upcoming dates ...

April 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:30am-Palm Cross Workshop@Peace
2 Passion/Palm Sunday 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9&11:15am-Coffee 7pm-NA	3	4 1pm-WELCA Meeting and Recipe Exchange @Peace-Fellowship Hall	5 8am+10am-Pickleball Wednesday 7pm-Bells Rehearsal 8pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal 7-8:30pm-Girl Scout Troop#208	6 Maundy/Holy Thursday 7:30pm-Worship Service w/Senior Choir	7 Good Friday 7:30pm-Worship Service w/Senior Choir	8 10am-Easter Egg Hunt @Peace Pavilion
9 Easter Sunday 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:15-10am-Easter Breakfast 7pm-NA	10 7pm-Zoom Music & Worship Committee Meeting	11	12 8am+10am-Pickleball Wednesday 7pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal 8pm-New Spirit Rehearsal	13 6:30pm-Faith & Fellowship Committee Meeting via Zoom 7:30pm-Executive Council Meeting via Zoom	14	15
16 2 Easter 8:15am Worship 10:15am NewSpirit 9a-Sunday School 7pm-NA	17	18 7pm-Church Council via Zoom Tax Day	19 8am+10am-Pickleball Wednesday 7-8:30pm-Girl Scout Troop#208	20 12pm-Lunch Bunch @Upper Bucks Tech School	21 May Newsletter Deadline	22 Earth Day
23 3 Easter 8:15am+10:15amWorship 9a-Sunday School Earth Day Celebration 9&11:15am-Coffee 7pm-NA	24	25	26 8am+10am-Pickleball Wednesday	27	28	29
30 4 Easter 8:15am+10:15am Service of the Word 9a-Sunday School 9&11:15am-Coffee 7pm-NA						

Peace Bulletin Board ... Announcements

Upcoming Easter Worship Services:

- April 2 – Palm Sunday - 8:15am & 10:15am
- April 6 – Maundy Thursday – 7:30pm
- April 7 – Good Friday – 7:30pm
- April 9 – Easter Sunday – 8:15am & 10:15am



Earth Day Celebration – Sunday, April 23 – 9:00am

The Sunday School will hold an outdoor Earth Day celebration on April 23rd during our 9:00am Sunday School hour. All students are invited to bring a friend. All children in the community are invited to attend.

We will be planting flowers around the church and early vegetable crops in the Peace Garden. A story, a craft, and a scavenger hunt will round out the activities for our "Beauty of the Earth" theme for this year's Earth Day celebration. Hope you will join us as we learn how to care for God's beautiful world!



CPR/AED/First Aid Training – Saturday, May 13th – 9:00am @ Peace

An interactive, hands-on training class will enable you to learn lifesaving techniques when moments matter.

- Learn how to perform CPA
- Learn how to use an AED
- Help a choking victim

A sign-up display is in the narthex.

Contact Dianne Steiner – dsteiner605@gmail.com



Philadelphia Phillies Game – Saturday, June 10th

The Lunch Bunch is sponsoring a bus trip to a Philadelphia Phillies game.

Cost = \$85, which includes transportation and game ticket.

- Bus leaves Peace at 1:30pm.
- Game time is 4:05pm.
- Return to Peace about 9pm.

Contact Grace Lloyd, if you have questions.

Email – gracelloyd@yahoo.com

Phone – 610-972-3172

Feel free to invite friends or neighbors!

Sign-up sheet is in the narthex.



New Memorial Gift Opportunities Peace Church - Landscape Revitalization and Upgrades

You may remember that East Rockhill Township made several concessions to us in the permitting and construction of the Pavilion. The major concession, waiving land development, allowed us to proceed without the landscaping buffers that would normally be a requirement of construction. That saved Peace some money but left us without some items that we might wish to have.

Sandy Miller, in addition to being our full-time early service usher and communion assistant is, in his other life, a landscape architect. I think most of us know the Millers, Sandy and Cindy best for their Dahlias which they so generously share with us in the late summer and early fall.

Sandy donated his professional services in preparing a landscape plan for Peace. On that plan he includes a revitalization of the existing shrubbery around the church. His plan also includes buffer plantings to screen the Pavilion from the road and the neighboring property. Had the Township not waived land development, the buffers would have been a requirement of the permit. His plan includes other plantings on the south west corner of the pavilion where we have a somewhat overgrown landscaped berm in need of regrading and new plantings. He also shows a paver block patio on that same corner. That patio is not under consideration with this appeal.

This landscape work is not essential to our mission at Peace. It is however, a visual statement reflecting our attitude and pride in what we do here. Peace has, since the construction of our current sanctuary, maintained an appearance that speaks to of our commitment to our mission in this place. Do to difficult financial times in the life of Peace, and in the lives of many of our members, we have not included this landscape work in our regular budgeting, nor do we propose taking it from our current or future building monies.

What we are doing is making that landscape work available for special donations or memorial gifts by those with the ability and inclination to fund some of this landscaping work. We do not want you to divert funds from your regular envelope obligations. Sandy Miller has broken the work into a few smaller projects and attached a budget price for each. We are making this work available to the congregation or other benefactors as special gifts or memorials. When enough funds are accumulated, we will complete selected portions of the work under the direction of Sandy Miller.

Please consider this project as a memorial gift or as a home for any leftover money you have lying around after filling your envelope and donating to your regular charitable concerns.

Yours in Christ,
Gary Schaeffer
Property Chairman

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters to Us:

Thank you
for your inspirational
generosity!

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church

Total 2022 Giving to Lutheran World Relief:

\$10,720

In 2022, your compassionate kindness saved and improved lives, traveling the distance to reach neighbors in need, no matter where they are in the world.



Thank you for stepping out in faith
and being the hands and feet of Christ.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

LWR.ORG



Rev. Lisa Kipp

Director, Congregational Engagement
Lutheran World Relief

We will persist until your love reaches every neighbor.

100 Old Bethlehem Road | Perkasie, PA 18944 | 215-257-3294



Our Daily Bread
Ministries.

February 22, 2023

319 771 340

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 OLD BETHLEHEM RD
PERKASIE PA 18944-3716

Date Gift Received: FEBRUARY 21, 2023
Gift Amount: 40.00 USD

Dear Friends,

Let's celebrate with our team in Thailand who reached their 25th anniversary. Our Daily Bread Ministries was established in Thailand in 1997 with the hope that our devotional booklet would connect Thai people with the Word of God. Our team has remained steady in their commitment to share the gospel during the past three years of intense global events that have led to increased cost of living and unemployment in Thailand.

Their ministry is reaching many through their Turn Prison into Heaven program, using Our Daily Bread Ministries' resources to reach people in prison. Thailand has a high rate of imprisonment: the 3rd highest rate of imprisonment in Asia, according to the World Prison Population List (2021).

There are 143 prisons in Thailand and 261,400 inmates (as of Nov. 2022). The Thailand team has shared God's Word to more than 22,000 inmates. There are about 6,700 people who have decided to accept Jesus and 11,000 have subscribed to receive *Our Daily Bread*. In the last two years, the Thai office produced 10,000 copies of the *Our Daily Bread* special edition for inmates, and more than 8,000 copies have been distributed.

What a joy it is to minister with this team. Thank you for making this ministry possible through your gifts. Let's pray for their continued diligence and their responsiveness to the Holy Spirit's movement in Thailand.

Boldly unhindered (Acts 28:31),

Matt Lucas, D.A.
President / CEO



February 24, 2023

Peace Lutheran Church
C/O Randi Schaffer
100 Old Bethlehem Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944-3715

Dear Mr. Schaffer,

Thank you for your generous gift in support of Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries.

Because you cared enough to make a difference in the lives around us, Diakon is able to continue delivering critical charitable services such as quality care for senior adults and their families.

We are most grateful for your recent gift of \$45.00 on 2/23/2023. By supporting Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, your gift will have a **meaningful impact on services provided by our senior living communities**. On behalf of our seniors, and their families who benefit from these services, we thank you.

Please follow the latest news and information about Diakon on our website at www.diakon.org.

Gratefully,

Thank you!

Stacy M. Klann
Director of Advancement

PENNRIDGE FISH
FELLOWSHIP IN SERVING HUMANITY
FOOD + CLOTHING + RESOURCES

03/01/2023

Peace Tohickon Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Pike
Perkasie, PA 18944

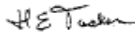
Dear Peace Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your donation of food to the Pennridge FISH Organization.
According to our records you donated 940 pounds of food during the year 2022.

It is with your support that FISH is able to continue its outreach to those in the Pennridge Community who are in need. The entire amount of your gift represents a charitable donation, as no goods or services were provided to you in return for your donation.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,



Harry Tucker
President

03/01/2023

Peace Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd.
Perkasie PA 18944

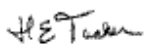
Dear Peace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous support of the Pennridge FISH Organization.
According to our records, in 2022, you donated \$285.00

It is with your support that FISH is able to continue its outreach to those in the Pennridge Community who are in need. The entire amount of your gift represents a charitable donation, as no goods or services were provided to you in return for your donation.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,



Harry Tucker
President



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

March 2, 2023

Thank You

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944-3715

Dear Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$400.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

*Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.
—ELW 328*

This is a season of reflection and sacrifice but also a season of hope. As we walk the 40-day journey of Lent, we know that we are walking toward Easter and the promise of renewal. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA are bringing that promise and hope to your neighbors around the world.

Your Spirit-filled generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods now and far into the future.

You are creating new beginnings. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and the fullness of Christ's joy.

In Christ,

Amanda White
Director, Congregational Generosity



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

March 21, 2023

Thank You

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944-3715

Dear Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$35.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

*Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.*

—ELW 328

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Amanda White
Director, Congregational Generosity