



April 1, 2026 | Volume 2026:4

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church Newsletter



Highlights:

- Peace Church Newsletter
- A Message from the Pastor
- Peace April 2026 Calendar
- Peace Bulletin Board
- April Birthdays
- Thank you Notes

Peace-Tohickon Evangelical Lutheran Church

OUR HISTORY



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



A Message from Pastor Gary ...

Easter Joy

What is the difference between happiness and joy? Happiness is a feeling based on what is going on at a particular time. It is fleeting and has been classified as an emotion by many psychologists. Joy is more of a state of being or a knowledge of something that is enduring rather than fleeting.

The difference between happiness and joy might be easier to understand if we compare it to a negative example. If someone just feels depressed and they find out that they have won a million dollars their mood will change. They will likely become quite happy. But if someone is clinically depressed, they may be glad about the money, but their depression will persist. Clinical depression doesn't fluctuate because good or bad things happen. True joy doesn't fluctuate either simply because good or bad things happen.

The Bible talks about joy hundreds of times, but happiness is rarely mentioned. A joyful spirit is a gift. It is part of the atmosphere of heaven. Consider this everlasting and eternal truth. Jesus Christ died for our sins. He paid the price for our rebellion. He rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. He promises that where He is, there we will be also. That doesn't fluctuate. Neither shall our joy.

Pastor Gary

Important upcoming dates and information

April 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00am-Peace Garden Meeting @Fellowship Hall 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm-Bells Rehearsal	2 Maundy Thursday 7pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm-Maundy Thursday Service No Confirmation Class	3 Good Friday 7pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm-Good Friday Service	4 8am-Setup for Easter Egg Hunt 10am-Easter Egg Hunt@Peace Pavilion 11am-Clean-up from Easter Egg Hunt 1pm-Altar Guild decorate for Easter Sunday
5 Easter Sunday 7:30am-Bells Rehearsal 8:00am+10:15am Easter Worship Service NO Sunday School 9-9:45AM-Easter Breakfast 7pm-NA	6	7 1:00pm-WELCA Meeting (Fostering Hope)	8 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm-New Spirit Rehearsal	9 No Confirmation Class	10	11
12 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School+Adult Discussion Group 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA	13	14 7:30pm-Music & Worship Meeting via Zoom	15 6:45pm-New Spirit Rehearsal 7:45pm-Bells Rehearsal 	16 1:00pm-Exec Council Meeting via Zoom 7:30pm – Confirmation Class via Zoom	17	18
19 8:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School+Adult Discussion Group + New Spirit Rehearsal 10:15am-New Spirit Worship 7pm-NA	20 May Newsletter Deadline	21 7pm-Church Council Meeting via Zoom	22 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm-Bells Rehearsal 	23 7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom	24	25
26 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School+Adult Discussion Group 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA	27	28	29 6:45pm-New Spirit Rehearsal 7:45pm-Bells Rehearsal	30 7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom		

Important upcoming dates and information...

Peace Bulletin Board ... April

Upcoming Meeting/Events @ a Glance

- Wednesday, 4/1 – 10:00AM Peace Garden Meeting @Fellowship Hall + 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:45PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 4/2 – **Maundy Thursday** + No Confirmation Class + 7:00PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM Maundy Thursday Worship Service
- Friday, 4/3 – **Good Friday** + 7:00PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM Good Friday Worship Service
- Saturday, 4/4 - 8:00AM Setup for Egg Hunt + 10:00AM Easter Egg Hunt @Peace Pavilion + 11:00AM Clean-up from Egg Hunt + 1:00PM Altar Guild decorate for Easter Sunday
- Sunday, 4/5 - **Easter Sunday** + No Sunday School and No Adult Discussion Group + 7:30AM Bells Rehearsal + 9:00AM to 9:45AM Easter Sunday Breakfast @ Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday, 4/7 – 1:00PM WELCA Meeting (Fostering Hope, Sellersville, PA)
- Wednesday, 4/8 – 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:45PM New Spirit Rehearsal
- Thursday, 4/9 – No Confirmation Class
- Sunday, 4/12 – 9:00AM Sunday School + Adult Discussion Group + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal
- Tuesday, 4/14 – 7:30PM Music and Worship Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 4/15 – 6:45PM New Spirit Rehearsal + 7:45PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 4/16 – 1:00PM Exec Council Meeting via Zoom + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Sunday, 4/19 – 9:00AM Sunday School + Adult Discussion Group + 9:00AM New Spirit Rehearsal + 11:30AM Faith & Fellowship Committee Meeting @Primary Room
- Monday, 4/20 – May Newsletter Deadline
- Tuesday, 4/21 – 7:00PM Church Council Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 4/22 – Earth Day + 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:45PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 4/23 – Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Sunday, 4/26 –9:00AM Earth Day Celebration @Peace for the Sunday School Students + Adult Discussion Group + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal
- Wednesday, 4/29 – 6:45PM New Spirit Rehearsal + 7:45PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 4/30 – 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom

EASTER SUNDAY, April 5, 2026 Worship Services

There will be two Easter Sunday, April 5th, worship services, 8:00AM and 10:15AM. An earlier 8:00AM service time will allow all members to attend the Easter Sunday Breakfast, which begins at 9:00AM.

Important upcoming dates and information...



Altar Flower Sponsorships for 2026

The 2026 Altar Flower Chart is up and ready for your requests! The new flower chart for 2026 is hanging up outside the coat room. If you are interested in sponsoring flowers on a specific date in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the date you'd like to reserve or contact Cheryl Saint-Pol at 267-664-8140 or email her at ccsaint@verizon.net reserve your requests for 2026. Thank you for your continued support!



2026 Envelopes Available for Pickup

You may pick up your 2026 Offering envelopes anytime during regular church office hours or by appointment. Call the church office at 215-257-3294.



Spring Special Offering Envelope Designations

Lenten Weekly Envelopes	RamPacks
Maundy Thursday	F.I.S.H.
Good Friday	Fostering Hope
Easter	Gemma Services

Important upcoming dates and information...

Do you need something to read?

Introducing:

The Free-For-All

Our church's own little free library.

In the parlor you will find a section of shelves surrounded by black and white stripes.

This is the Free-For-All.

Here you will find

Fiction books – Large print books – Back issues of magazines – Picture books

Bring a book or take a book or both.

Look for the stripes.



Important upcoming dates and information...



WELCA ... FIELD TRIP TO FOSTERING HOPE

Tuesday, April 7th @1:00PM, the WELCA ladies will be visiting the Fostering Hope storage location at St. Paul's UCC, 104 Green Street, Sellersville, PA 18960. All will meet at Peace before traveling to Fostering Hope. Attendees are asked to bring at least one donated item.

Visit <https://fosteringhopepa.org/chapter/bucks-county/> to learn Fostering Hope's current needs. Come and enjoy.



Faith & Fellowship Lent 2026

Fostering Hope

During Lent, February 18th to April 5th, the Faith & Fellowship Committee is asking for your support of Fostering Hope, the local organization that supplies clothing, toys and equipment to foster children and their foster families in Bucks County.

We are decorating the all-season tree in the narthex with index cards listing items that are needed by Fostering Hope. Envelopes for Amazon gift cards and monetary donations are also found on the tree. Please select a card or an envelope from the tree and return your gift to the Fostering Hope box under the tree in the narthex, or place monetary donations or gift cards in the Sunday offering plate. Checks should be made out to Peace Lutheran Church with Fostering Hope written on the memo line.

Your support is greatly appreciated by our local foster families!



Important upcoming dates and information...



Easter Egg Hunt at Peace Pavilion

(Sponsored by the Peace Outreach Committee)

Message to All Children ... you are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4th beginning at 10:00AM. Have fun hunting for eggs with candy and win prizes. See you there and remember your basket!

Attention Adults: We are asking for donations of small, wrapped candy (no hard candy) to fill the eggs and for small, inexpensive children's prizes. A collection box is in the narthex. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the narthex for those who would like to help with setup, help during the event and clean up after the event. We appreciate your help in making this year's Easter Egg Hunt a success!



Easter Sunday Breakfast

Sunday, April 5th - 9:00AM to 9:45AM

The congregation and the friends of Peace are invited to enjoy an Easter morning continental style breakfast on Sunday, April 5th from 9:00AM to 9:45AM in the fellowship hall.

A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the narthex for those who would like to help with the breakfast by providing foods; such as, egg casseroles, baked goods, fruit, or colored eggs and/or to volunteer to setup or clean up for the breakfast until Sunday, March 29th! If you have any questions, please contact Dottie Ritter at dmritter4@gmail.com or 215-896-3095.

Please come and enjoy food and fellowship, as we celebrate our Lord Jesus' Resurrection!

Important upcoming dates and information...



Earth Day Celebration Sunday, April 26, 2026 - 9:00AM

The Sunday School teachers of Peace will lead a celebration of Earth Day on April 26th during the Sunday School hour beginning at 9:00AM. Activities will include planting pansies at the front of the church and cold crops in the Peace Garden, a craft and a snack. All are welcome to attend.



A Quick Reminder for Thrivent Choice Participants

This is a reminder to Thrivent Choice participants. In 2025, the Thrivent Choice program received \$544 from Peace Church. Through your generosity, the work of Thrivent Choice continues to strength communities.

Thrivent clients with memberships are reminded to direct their 2025 Choice Dollars by March 31, 2026, at thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

Peace appreciates your giving to Thrivent Choice.



Peace Garden News

Happy Spring! It is time to start planning for our 2026 vegetable garden, which provides produce for Pennridge FISH. Our planning meeting is April 1st at 10AM in the Fellowship Hall at Peace. Anyone interested in helping with the garden this year is cordially invited to attend this meeting or contact Dottie Ritter at dmritter4@gmail.com or 215-896-3095.

Important upcoming dates and information...

RamPack News for Spring 2025

RamPacks is holding their Food Fest Fundraiser on Sunday, April 19th from 12:00PM to 5:00PM at the Pennridge High School. The event will offer children's games, raffles, a corn hole tournament and food trucks. Join RamPacks for their Annual Food Festival and celebration of 7 years feeding students in Pennridge! This is a rain or shine event, and their main fundraiser for 2026.



The poster features a green background with white and yellow illustrations. At the top left is a food truck. To its right is a ram's head logo. The main title 'RamPacks FOOD FEST & CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT' is in large, bold, green letters. Below the title is the date 'APRIL 19TH, 2026' flanked by two cornhole bags. The time '12:00 PM - 5:00 PM' and location 'PENNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL | 1228 N 5TH ST, PERKASIE' are listed below. A horizontal line separates this from the event details: 'BAKE SALE · RAFFLES · 50/50', 'NO TICKET NEEDED TO ATTEND', and 'WWW.RAMPACKS.COM'. A large illustration of a cornhole board is shown with several bags around it. Below the board, the text 'CORNHOLE TOURNAMENTS:' is followed by 'COMPETITIVE & SOCIAL' and 'REGISTER VIA THE SCOREHOLIO APP'. A small icon of a stack of money and a trophy are also present. At the bottom are logos for 'SH' and 'Mann Bags Cornhole Specialists'.

  **RamPacks**
FOOD FEST &
CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

 **APRIL 19TH, 2026** 

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM
PENNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL | 1228 N 5TH ST, PERKASIE


BAKE SALE · RAFFLES · 50/50
NO TICKET NEEDED TO ATTEND
WWW.RAMPACKS.COM



CORNHOLE TOURNAMENTS:
COMPETITIVE & SOCIAL 
REGISTER VIA THE SCOREHOLIO APP
TOURNAMENTS WILL BE PLAYED IN THE WHITE GYM

Peace Bulletin Board ... Announcements

	<p style="text-align: center;">April Birthday Calendar at Peace <i>Happy Birthday to you!</i></p>
4/7	Judy Hamilton Cyanna Penn
4/8	Barbara Bachman
4/10	Joelle Doherty Nicole Wilfong
4/14	Brianna Gerth
4/15	Lily Neary
4/16	Mary Snyder Courtney Steiner
4/20	Julia Erney
4/21	Madeline Barnes
4/23	Yvonne Thomas
4/24	Hudson Neary
4/25	Curt Gerth
<p><i>Happy Birthday to you!</i></p>	



Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



February 17, 2026

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

Thank You

Dear Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$1,115.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

*"From [Christ's] fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."
-John 1:16*

As a church, we are empowered to love and serve our neighbors as Christ first loved us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power and hope that flow from God's full, boundless love. Drawn together and guided by the Holy Spirit, we accomplish together what none of us could do alone, grace upon grace.

Your Spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters, in the immediate aftermath and far into the future. No matter the disaster, no matter the need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. You make God's love real.

With gratitude,

Daniel Rift

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Congregational Generosity

Gift date: 2/5/2026

Gifts are designated for:

Lutheran Disaster Response

\$1,115.00

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



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

February 3, 2026

Dear Friends at Peace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for supporting Lutheran Settlement House and the children, adults, and families we serve. Your gift of \$25 spreads hope and joy, and helps our clients find safety, compassion, and healing. Your commitment makes a difference in people's lives, people like Devon.

Devon came to Lutheran Settlement House after leaving an abusive relationship. She was new to the city and looking for a community to help her heal from the abuse and chart a new course for her future. "I knew I needed to get my mental health in order to catapult forward." And catapult forward, she did. With support from her counselor and case manager, within a few months, Devon repaired her credit, created a resume, and found safe housing.

After Devon had a place to call home, she was able to focus on other goals, including her career. "I found that the people who helped me throughout my journey were the people I really wanted to be like. Because who I am today, I'm very, very proud of."

Today, Devon is a children's health case manager and member of Lutheran Settlement House's Survivor's Network where she uses her experience to educate healthcare providers, researchers, and students about domestic violence.

Helping people define their future is at the heart of our work. As a donor, you remind our clients that in the most vulnerable moments of their lives, they are not alone. Thank you for being there for Lutheran Settlement House; we are honored to have you as part of our family.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Chiles".

David Chiles
Executive Director

Your 24th gift! Amazing!
Thank you for all
you've done for the
people we serve.

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



March 1, 2026

PEACE TOHICKON LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 OLD BETHLEHEM PIKE
PERKASIE PA 18944

Dear Donor,

Your generosity in 2025 made a profound difference in our ability to serve economically challenged households right here in Pennridge. With your help, and by God's grace, families with children, seniors on fixed incomes, and neighbors going through hard times were uplifted and cared for through our many programs.

With your support we were able to:

- distribute **429,000 pounds** of nutritious foods to **668 households** in need
- assist more than **160 families** with emergency financial assistance for utilities, security deposits, and homeless hotel stays
- supply more than **1,900** bags of clothing and housewares
- and provide for over **600 local children** through our Christmas, School Bag, and Summer Lunch programs.

We are deeply grateful for your kindness and your trust as we continue our mission into its 54th year. Knowing that you stand with us in our fight to reduce the effects of poverty in our community gives our entire team – staff and volunteers alike – the energy and inspiration to keep going, even on the most challenging days.

In 2025 you donated the following to support our programs:

504 pounds of food items

Your contribution may be fully tax-deductible as permitted by law. Please retain this letter as your official acknowledgment for tax purposes. Our Tax ID number is 23-2729559.

From everyone at Pennridge FISH, and from every family we serve, thank you! We look forward to continuing this journey together in 2026.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Rouche Zimmerman".

Lori Rouche Zimmerman, MD
President, Pennridge FISH Organization

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



March 1, 2026

PEACE LUTHERAN
100 OLD BETHLEHEM PIKE
PERKASIE PA 18944

Dear Donor,

Your generosity in 2025 made a profound difference in our ability to serve economically challenged households right here in Pennridge. With your help, and by God's grace, families with children, seniors on fixed incomes, and neighbors going through hard times were uplifted and cared for through our many programs.

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In 2025 you donated the following to support our programs:

455 pounds of food items

Your contribution may be fully tax-deductible as permitted by law. Please retain this letter as your official acknowledgment for tax purposes. Our Tax ID number is 23-2729559.

From everyone at Pennridge FISH, and from every family we serve, thank you! We look forward to continuing this journey together in 2026.

With gratitude,

Lori Rouche Zimmerman, MD
President, Pennridge FISH Organization

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



March 1, 2026

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 OLD BETHLEHEM ROAD
PERKASIE PA 18944

Dear Donor,

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We are deeply grateful for your kindness and your trust as we continue our mission into its 54th year. Knowing that you stand with us in our fight to reduce the effects of poverty in our community gives our entire team – staff and volunteers alike – the energy and inspiration to keep going, even on the most challenging days.

In 2025 you donated the following to support our programs:

\$2,159.84 in monetary donations

Your contribution may be fully tax-deductible as permitted by law. Please retain this letter as your official acknowledgment for tax purposes. Our Tax ID number is 23-2729559.

From everyone at Pennridge FISH, and from every family we serve, thank you! We look forward to continuing this journey together in 2026.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Rouche Zimmerman".

Lori Rouche Zimmerman, MD
President, Pennridge FISH Organization

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



We hope you will join us for our biggest event of the year!

We are powerful together.

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities and tickets, to see what incredible restaurants are participating, for directions and parking, to make a gift in lieu of attending, and so much more, scan the QR code or visit our event page at www.lutheransettlement.org under Events.



Please RSVP online by
Monday April 13th.

For questions and more information, please contact
Erica Zaveloff, Director of Development and Communications,
at ezaveloff@LSHphilly.org or 215.426.8610, ext. 1218.

**Community.
Compassion.
Change.**