



March 1, 2023 | Volume 2023:3

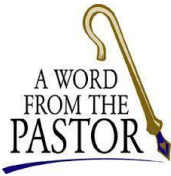
Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church Newsletter



Highlights:

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

A Message from Pastor Gary ...



Growing Up

One of the interesting things about human beings is that we are always trying to solve problems. A child before she learns to speak has the problem of communication. Once the child learns to speak she thinks she has solved the problem of life. She thinks that because she can tell you what she wants she should get it, but now there exists a new problem. Even though she can tell you, there may be another reason why she can't have what she wants.

Later, when she is an adolescent, she may be aware that adults seem to know something about life that she doesn't, something that she can't figure out, but something. What is it that adults know?

Could it be that no matter how much you love, work, laugh, cry, and be responsible; you still don't know what may happen next or how it will all work out? Adults live in the tension of functionality and humility. We accept it and learn to be reasonably content in it. We solve problems all the time, yet we know that there will be another and another and another. Problem solving is as futile as it is necessary. We have shed the youthful skin that still holds open the hope of fixing all the problems of life once and for all. We have learned to be happy in the struggle. That's the secret. That's what our children don't know, but one day they will.

Christians are not immune to the cycle of life that is common to all. We do have an advantage though, a loving God who will never leave us or forsake us. Maybe the best thing that we can teach our children as they grow into maturity is to take advantage of their advantage.

Pastor Gary Costa

Council Corner ...



Council Corner – February 2023

There's a lot going on at Peace and we had another packed agenda for our February Council Meeting.

I'm really excited about our momentum and am happy to share a few highlights.







1. Council has voted to adopt 2 goals for 2023.
 - Meaningfully increase our engagement with the local community by offering 3 new or expanded events before year-end with every council member participating in at least 2 out of the 3.
 - Establish a stronger social media presence with each committee providing at least 1-post per month (except for Finance) to grow our visibility by 20-30% over our December 2022 baseline.
2. Our committees are busy with many exciting plans for the spring and summer including a community Easter Egg Hunt, Pickleball Wednesday's, Bible School, a Craft Show and Marketplace in the pavilion and much more. Contact any council member or committee lead for how to get involved.
3. We have a newly elected Audit Committee. Thank you to Grace Grim, Mary Snyder and Nancy Cygan for agreeing to fill this important role for our congregation.

In Peace,
Heidi Gerth, Council President

Important upcoming dates ...

March 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:45pm-Holden Evening Prayer 7-8:30pm-Girl Scout Troop#208	2 7pm-Faith & Fellowship Committee Meeting via Zoom	3	4
5 2 Lent 8:15am+10:15amWorship 9a-Sunday School 7pm-NA	6	7 1pm-WELCA Meeting and Plant Exchange @Peace-Fellowship Hall	8 6pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:45pm-Holden Evening Prayer	9	10	11
12 <i>Daylight Saving Time Starts</i> 3 Lent 8:15am+10:15amWorship 9a-Sunday School 7pm-NA	13	14	15 6pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:45pm-Holden Evening Prayer 7-8:30pm-Girl Scout Troop#208	16 7pm-Executive Council Meeting via Zoom	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> 	18
19 4 Lent 8:15am Worship 10:15am NewSpirit 9a-Sunday School 7pm-NA	20 <i>First Day of Spring</i>	21 7pm-Church Council via Zoom	22 6pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:45pm-Holden Evening Prayer	23	24 April Newsletter Deadline	25
26 5 Lent 8:15am+10:15amWorship 9a-Sunday School 7pm-NA	27	28	29 6pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:45pm-Holden Evening Prayer	30	31	

Peace Bulletin Board ... Announcements

	<p>Spring Special Offering Envelope Designations are: Mid-Week Lent – Lutheran Disaster Relief Maundy Thursday – F.I.S.H. Good Friday – RamPacks Easter – Peace Lutheran Church</p>
	<p>Join us Wednesday evenings, beginning March 1st for a soup and bread dinner at 6:00PM; followed by the Holden Evening Prayer Service.</p> <p>A sign-up sheet is in the narthex, if you can bring a soup or bread dinner to share.</p> <p>Looking forward to seeing you on the following Wednesdays during Lent: March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.</p>
	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus leaves Peace at 1:30pm. • Arrive Citizens Bank Park at 3pm. • Game time is 4:05pm. • Return to Peace about 9pm. <p>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.</p>
	<p>Special Announcement: A special worship service will be held on Sunday, April 23rd with Dr. Ted Ewing, Director of Pastoral Care at The Community Rockhill. Special worship times: 8:15am and 11:00am.</p>
	<p>Please be aware that the deadline for the submissions for Peace’s April Newsletter will be Friday, March 24. Newsletter submissions can be emailed to the Peace office at: adminassistant@peace-tohickon.org</p>
	<p>Altar Flower Sponsorship Chart is posted outside the coat room. Please sign up on the date you would like to honor or in memory of a loved one. Please keep in mind, the flowers used for worship are sponsored exclusively by the membership. <i>Thank you for your continued support.</i></p>



Hello Friends,

We are officially in ALL of the Pennridge schools! We are now serving 224 children weekly. We just had a large pack where we included enough food for each child to have 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches and several snacks to cover the 5-day break.

We are still working out of three pantries; St. Paul's UCC, Blooming Glen Mennonite and Souderton Brethren in Christ. As our numbers grow, this makes food buying and distribution very labor intensive.

Our food buyer has been conscientious about watching prices and designing menus that keep a normal 2-day weekend's bag at \$8 or less. This involves shopping at several different stores, including Amazon online, and Sam's Club, with the closest one being in Willow Grove. **WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WITH LARGE TRUCKS OR VANS TO PICK UP FOOD.** These pickups are not scheduled much ahead of time, so we need people who would be able to be called on with only a few days' notice.

We are also looking for people to deliver the bins to the schools. This would involve picking up the bins from one of the pantries and delivering them to the schools, usually sometime on a Thursday or a Friday morning.

Our donations have been holding strong, with several monthly donors for whom we are so thankful! Also, the local churches continue to support RamPacks, and we have had sizeable donations two years in a row from the Sellersville Belles softball tournament and the Rams Pinthouse and Rooftop Lounge Christmas event. We are looking forward to another sizeable donation from St. Michael's Fasnacht sale. Last year's profits were amazing!

Our future plans are to move to a facility where we could store ALL of the food, as well as pack for ALL of the schools! So, if YOU know of a location for that, PLEASE reach out. Enjoy this unseasonably warm winter weather if you are in PA.

And as always, thank you for your support and prayers,
Donna Huff
RamPacks Board President



Fostering Hope is a volunteer-run 501(c)(3) organization that serves children in foster care and resource families in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Fostering Hope wants to eliminate barriers to becoming and serving as a resource family by providing clothing, toys, supplies, and meaningful help to foster parents.

Help us to help kids

Want to get involved?



Collect New Items

Start a collection drive for Bags of Hope or our Foster-Share Closet.



Volunteer

Whether it's inventorying the Foster-Share Closet or providing child-care at an event, we can always use your help!



Donate Dignity Duffles

Purchase a duffel bag from our Amazon wish list so no child has to use a trash bag to pack their belongings.



Donate Financially

We will use financial resources for our Foster-Share Closet, for programming we offer to foster parents, and for services we provide to children.

Contact us:

Bucks County Chapter

www.fosteringhopepa.com







Fostering Hope Bucks

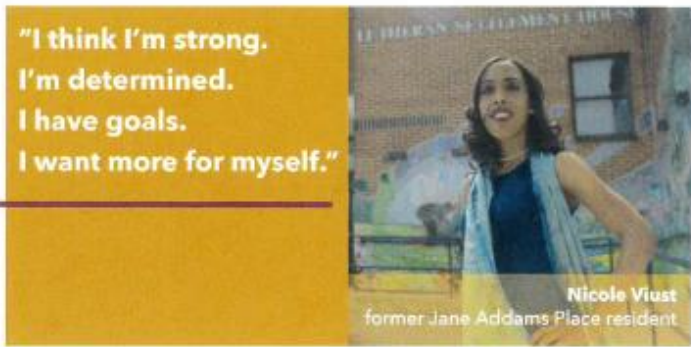
267-404-6550

bucks@fosteringhopepa.com

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

 <p>Evangelical Lutheran Church in America</p> <p><i>Thank You</i></p>	<p>Dear Peace – Tohickon Lutheran Church,</p> <p>Thank you for your gift of \$25.00 to ELCA World Hunger.</p> <p>Thank you for your gift of \$60.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.</p> <p>Thank you for your gift of \$735.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.</p> <p>Thank you for your generous gift of \$25.00 to the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.</p> <p>Thank you for your generous gift of \$26.50 to The ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.</p>
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 <p><i>Thank you</i></p>  <p>RamPacks <small>Provided with love from the Penridge Community</small></p>	<p>Dear <i>Peace Lutheran Church</i>, Date <i>1-16-23</i></p> <p>Thank you for your contribution of <u>\$20.-</u> to RamPacks in support of our mission to provide food on weekends and school holidays to children in the Penridge School District so they can come to school ready to learn. We truly appreciate your support of the children in the Penridge area.</p> <p>Remember to check our website RamPacks.com and Facebook page to keep up with our progress toward the goal of serving all schools in the district.</p> <p><i>Thank you!!</i></p> <p>Sincerely, <i>Abby Haeberbach</i> on behalf of  RamPacks <small>Provided with love from the Penridge Community</small></p>
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Nicole Viust
former Jane Addams Place resident

David Chiles
Executive Director

Kathryn I. McGee
Board President

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

January 27, 2023

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 on their journey towards safety and stability. Your commitment makes a difference in people's lives, people like Nicole and her family, and we are honored to have you in our family of supporters.

Nicole came to Jane Addams Place unsure of what to do next. A single mother, she had recently been evicted with her three young sons, the youngest being one month old at the time. She felt alone and afraid, but determined to make sure her sons felt loved and had access to resources to ensure their future would be bright.

Nicole found all of this at Jane Addams Place. Our staff enrolled her children in homework assistance and early intervention programs, while Nicole had access to trauma therapy, and job and housing search support. "The staff is great. They really care about us," reflects Nicole, who now lives in a home of her own and her children are thriving. Nicole is working towards her dream of owning her own business.

Giving people strength is at the core of what we do. As a donor, you remind our clients that in the most vulnerable times of their lives, they are not alone. Thank you for being there for Lutheran Settlement House and for all those we serve together.

Sincerely,

David Chiles, Executive Director

Thank you so much for helping those we serve!

For Tax Purposes: No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution. Lutheran Settlement House is an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; EIN 23-1352365.

PS: Save the date! Our annual event, Powerful Together, will be held on the evening of Tuesday April 25th. More details can be found at LutheranSettlement.org/Events.



www.lutheransettlement.org





A Woman's Place
ON THE ROAD TO FLOURISHING

January 26, 2023

Peace Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Road
Perkasie, Pennsylvania 18944-3716

Dear Peace Lutheran Church,

On behalf of A Woman's Place staff, board and thousands of survivors, I would like to thank you for your gift of \$195.00 to A Woman's Place received on 1/17/2023.

Your donation supports those in our community experiencing domestic violence and helps to transform the future of Bucks County into a community where all individuals are safe in their relationships.

Because of you, our compassionate, trauma-informed services for our clients in crisis are possible. We continue exciting new community outreach and education programs in Bucks County schools reaching almost 6,000 students last year. With support like yours, we can empower survivors to get back on their feet, out in their communities, into new jobs, and on to new adventures through programs that heal and inspire.

Your generosity provides safety for those in crisis, empowerment for the marginalized, education for the future, and puts our whole community on the road to flourishing. Thank you for supporting our vision of a community where all people are safe in their relationships and can flourish.

If you have any questions about this letter, your gift, or anything AWP does, please don't hesitate to contact me by e-mail (mlynch@awomansplace.org) or by phone at (215) 343-9241 ext. 111.

With Sincere Thanks,

Marianne G. Lynch
Executive Director

For your tax records, please know that 100% of your contribution to AWP is tax-deductible. This letter serves as your record for tax purposes. As you may be aware, the IRS no longer will accept a canceled check as substantiation of a charitable contribution of \$250 or more. AWP's federal tax identification number is 23-2034180. AWP's official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, (800)732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Donation Amount: \$195.00
Donation Date: 1/17/2023
Check Number: 2998661033

Free, Private, Confidential

24-hour Hotline: 1-800-220-8116 | Administrative Office: 215-343-9241 | Fax: 215-343-3411 | P.O. Box 299, Doylestown, PA 18901 | www.awomansplace.org



A MEMBER AGENCY UNITED WAY OF BUCKS COUNTY

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll free, within PA, 1 800 732 0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. PA Commission of Charitable Organizations

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