



March 1, 2025 | Volume 2025:3

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church Newsletter



Highlights:

- Peace Church Newsletter
- A Message from the Pastor
- Peace March 2025 Calendar
- Peace Bulletin Board
- March 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 ...



Repentance

I remember a young man saying that he had experienced a remarkable change in his life. He said that he had made a 360 degree turn around. There was a quiet pause in the room and then everyone began to laugh. Finally, someone said 360 degrees would have put you right back where you started.

Of course, the young man meant to say he had made a 180 degree turn around. That's what repentance is about. It's turning around and moving in the other direction. But how do we avoid winding up in the place the young man described, who mistakenly said 360 degrees instead of 180 degrees?

It is somewhat of a Freudian slip of the tongue since it is very easy to change our behaviors as act of our will, but in time we wind up returning to our old behaviors. We see this all the time with New Year's resolutions related to diets and exercise. At times we are strong about such things and at other times we are not.



True repentance is a gift that can be received by making ourselves available. How do we make ourselves available? Attending worship, prayer, Bible study, Christian music, and giving ourselves in service are just a few of the ways.

Repentance is something that happens when we have an encounter with Jesus. It is rarely if ever simply an act of the will. Zacchaeus had a direct encounter with Jesus and changed his ways. The Prodigal Son "came to himself" in the middle of a desperate situation and returned home.

It is an appropriate prayer during Lent to ask the Lord for an encounter or experience with Him that redirects our heart's journey. With His power and influence, our 180-degree turn will plot out for us a new destination with new priorities and goals. Otherwise, we are prone to making a 360 degree turn that lands us right back where we started.

Pastor Gary

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA 7:30pm- Confirm Class	3	4 1:00pm-WELCA Meeting @Peace	5 1:00pm-Ash Wednesday Service 6:45pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm-Ash Wednesday Service	6	7	8
9 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 11:15-Blood Pressure Check @Peace 7pm-NA 7:30pm- Confirm Class	10	11 7:00pm-Music & Worship Meeting via Zoom	12 6pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm-Holden Prayer Service 7:15pm- New Spirit Rehearsal 8pm-Bells Rehearsal	13 1:00pm-Exec Council Meeting via Zoom	14	15
16 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:15am-New Spirit Rehearsal 11:30am-F&F Meeting 7pm-NA 7:30pm- ConfirmClass	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18 7:00pm-Church Council Meeting via Zoom	19 6pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm-Holden Prayer Service 7:15pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 8pm-Bells Rehearsal	20 First Day of Spring 2025	21 April Newsletter Deadline	22
23 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9am-Bells Rehearsal 7pm-NA 7:30pm- ConfirmClass	24	25	26 12pm-Lunch Bunch @Peace 6pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm-Holden Prayer Service 7:15pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 8pm-Bells Rehearsal	27	28	29
30 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA 7:30pm- ConfirmClass	31					

Important upcoming dates and information...

Peace Bulletin Board ...

Upcoming Meeting/Events @ a Glance

- Sunday, 3/2 – 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Tuesday, 3/4 – 1:00PM WELCA Meeting @Peace
- Wednesday, 3/5 – 1:00PM Ash Wednesday Service + 6:45PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM Ash Wednesday Service
- Sunday, 3/9 – **Daylight Saving Time Starts** + 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 11:15AM Blood Pressure Check @Peace + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Tuesday, 3/11 – 7:00PM Music & Worship Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 3/12 – 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper + 6:30PM Holden Prayer Service + 7:15PM New Spirit Rehearsal + 8:00PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 3/13 – 1:00PM Exec Council Meeting via Zoom
- Sunday, 3/16 – 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:15AM New Spirit Rehearsal + 11:30AM Faith & Fellowship Committee Meeting @Peace 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Tuesday, 3/18 – 7:00PM Church Council Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 3/19 – 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper + 6:30PM Holden Prayer Service + 7:15PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 8:00PM Bells Rehearsal
- Friday, 3/21 – April Newsletter Deadline
- Sunday, 3/23 – 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:00AM Bells Rehearsal + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Wednesday, 3/26 – 12:00Noon Lunch Bunch @Peace + 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper + 6:30PM Holden Prayer Service + 7:15PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 8:00PM Bells Rehearsal
- Sunday, 3/30 - 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + Sunday School + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom



Important upcoming dates and information...



Adult Discussion Group

Join this Sunday's Adult Discussion Group at 9AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be investigating the many names and titles of God and how they reflect His relationship with His people.

We have had many lively and interesting discussions in the past. Come join us. All are welcome. No prior knowledge or reading is needed, just an open mind. ~ Randi Schaeffer



Altar Flower Sponsorships

The 2025 Altar Flower Chart is up and ready for your requests! The new flower chart for 2025 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 Elva Groff at 215-453-9005 or email her at pennridge45@yahoo.com to reserve your requests for 2025. Thank you for your continued support!



2025 Envelopes Available for Pickup

You may pick up your 2025 Offering envelopes anytime during regular church office hours or by appointment. Call the church office at 215-257-3294.

Important upcoming dates and information...

Spring Special Offering Envelope Designations

	Ash Wednesday
	Fostering Hope
	Midweek Lent
	Lutheran World Relief
	California Wildfires


Faith and Fellowship News


In March, the Faith and 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 collecting new and gently used books and small games and crafts to be given to the children in their initial care bag when they first come to Fostering Hope. Books can range from board books for toddlers to books for third graders. Small card games; such as, Uno and small craft activities would be great for the older children. (No puzzles, suncatchers crafts or books emphasizing family life, please.) Some of the books will be used in the library at Fostering Hope, which the children use when their foster parents need time to choose items.

Monetary donations are also always appreciated to help buy large items such as car seats. Checks can be made out to **Peace Lutheran Church with Fostering Hope written on the memo line.** Thank you for your support of this fellowship project!



Join us Wednesday evenings, for Lenten Soup Suppers beginning March 12th at 6:00PM; followed by the Holden Evening Prayer Service at 6:30PM.

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex, if you can bring a soup or bread dinner to share.

Looking forward to seeing you on the following Wednesdays during Lent: March 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd and 9th.

Important upcoming dates and information...



WELCA ... DATE SAVER

Tuesday, February 4th @1:00PM @Peace. The day's activity will be the planning and preparation of the WELCA May 18th Banquet.

Lunch Bunch @Peace Wednesday, March 26th @12Noon



The next Lunch Bunch event is planned for Wednesday, March 26, 2025 beginning at 12:00Noon in Fellowship Hall. The March activity will be an afternoon of Bingo. Please bring with you a bagged lunch and one gift for that day's Bingo winners.

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

If you have questions, please contact Grace Lloyd at 610-972-3172 or gracelloyd@yahoo.com



Time to Spring Forward

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 9th. Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night.

Important upcoming dates and information...

Thanks to the hard work and creativity of Peace members and volunteers we were able to donate 14 upcycled cardboard cat playhouses to area shelters. There are a lot of very happy cats and kittens enjoying the playhouses.

- **Cat Tails** in Warrington, PA <https://cattalesinc.org/>
- **Rescue Purrfect** in Bensalem, PA <https://www.rescuepurrfect.org/>
- **Stray Cat Blues** in North Wales & Collegeville, PA <https://www.straycatblues.org/>
- **Circle of Life Veterinary Center** in New Britain, PA <https://www.circleoflifevmd.com/>

The dog treats and toys went to Home at Last in Lansdale, PA <https://homeatlastdogrescue.com/home>



(More pics in Fellowship Hall)

Important upcoming dates and information...

From the Archives by Donna Donelon

Joseph Meierhans

As you walk into the library at Peace-Tohickon you will see a painting hanging over the sofa to your left. This modernist oil on canvas painting, titled "Emmaus", depicts Christ standing behind a table serving communion, with two seated figures in the foreground. The artist, Joseph Meierhans, lived in close proximity to our church, and gifted this piece of art to the church upon the completion of the new building. This gift was recorded as part of the Service of Dedication for the new church building on Sunday, July 24, 1960.

Meierhans was born in Switzerland in 1890, and emigrated to the United States in 1917. He worked in the textile design field while developing his own artistic style, which included cubist, semi-abstract, abstract and abstract-expressionist works. In 1932 he purchased 52 acres of property in Hagersville, the little village near the church. Included on the property was a stately Victorian mansion surrounded by an assortment of farm structures. A chicken coop was converted into an art gallery where he displayed his own work and also made space available to other artists. Meierhans Gallery became a showplace for Delaware Valley artists, and Meierhans was one of the most important modernist painters associated with Bucks County and the New Hope artists.

We have no record that Joseph ever joined Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church, but his wife, Irene, became a member on August 7th, 1960. We have a photo of her with a shovel at the ground breaking for the new church building in 1959.

Meierhans died in North Carolina in 1981.

Important upcoming dates and information...



	<p align="center">March Birthday Calendar at Peace <i>Happy Birthday to you!</i></p>
3	Dennis Krause
4	Dottie Ritter Kristin Ritter
7	Judy Schott
9	Sherian Krause
12	Dylan Lloyd
13	James Link
15	Analise Doherty
16	Bruce Bachman
17	Blair Eisenhart
18	Dwight Dulsky
20	Krystie Kramer
25	Joseph Kramer
26	Nathaniel Barnes



Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

January 23, 2025

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 \$100.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

"[Jesus said,] 'Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' [The lawyer] said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'"
(Luke 10:36-37)

As a church, we are freed by the transformative life of Christ, and this freedom emboldens us to love and serve our neighbors just as Christ has shown us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power of God's love.

Your Spirit-filled generosity helps 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.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

In Christ,

Daniel Rift

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Giving, Service and Justice
ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response

Gift date: 12/25/2024
Gifts are designated for:

Hurricane Response

\$100.00

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

February 7, 2025

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

Thank You

Dear Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,350.00 to the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

"[Jesus said,] 'Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' [The lawyer] said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'"
(Luke 10:36-37)

As a church, we are freed by the transformative life of Christ, and this freedom emboldens us to love and serve our neighbors just as Christ has shown us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power of God's love.

With your gifts you are putting God's love into action — living faithfully, witnessing boldly, serving joyfully and giving abundantly. Your generosity allows this church to continue to spread the good news of Jesus Christ by equipping leaders, positioning communities to grow and sharing the love of a faithful and abiding God.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

With gratitude,

Rachel Wind

Rachel Wind
Executive for Development

Gift date: 1/27/2025

Gifts are designated for:

ELCA: Where needed most

\$1,350.00

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Fund Development
960A Harvest Drive, Suite 100
Blue Bell, PA 19422
p: 610-825-9380 f: 610-825-8736
fund.development@kencrest.org
KenCrest.org

January 22, 2025

The Rev. Gary Costa
Peace Tohickon Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944-3715

Dear Pastor Costa,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$100.00 for "Thanksgiving Offering" and \$80.00 & \$145.00 for "November Donations" to KenCrest.

This year marks KenCrest's 120th anniversary, and you are part of the incredible community of supporters who have helped make our work possible over the years. Your generosity builds on the legacy of our founders to make the world a better place for every person we serve.

Each of KenCrest's programs and services for individuals from birth through adulthood are designed to improve quality of life based on their personal desires, preferences and goals. Your gift helps ensure that every person can reach the highest level of independence and success possible.

Thank you again for your support and the part you play in the Kencrest community.

Sincerely,

Ellen J. Mansfield, MBA, CFRE
Chief Philanthropy Officer

*Thank you for
supporting the
children and adults
we serve!*



Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



GOING FA

In **1945**, our Lutheran f
As we celebrate 80 year
Your compassion make



Continue the legacy
of love with us at
lwr.org/80.

Until your lo
every ne

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:

ARTHER, STAYING LONGER

orebearers joined together to **be the Body of Christ in the world.**
s, we are celebrating you. **YOU are Lutheran World Relief!**
s our life-giving ministry possible.



ve reaches
ighbor.



LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



January 27, 2025

Peace Lutheran Church WELCA (Pekasie)
100 Old Bethlehem Road
Pekasie, Pennsylvania 18944-3716

Dear Peace Lutheran Church WELCA (Pekasie),

On behalf of A Woman's Place staff, board, and thousands of survivors, I would like to thank you for your gift of \$241.00 to A Woman's Place received on 1/22/2025.

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.

Last year with the help of supporters like you, we provided:

- 11,000 hours of counseling and therapy
- 5,000 nights of emergency housing
- 1,800 hours of court accompaniment
- 3,000 answered calls on our domestic violence hotline

We are focused on building a sustainable organization—ensuring our ability to serve all who come to us in need. In early June, we kicked off an ambitious fundraising campaign to raise \$500,000 over the next year to support this effort. Your gift has brought us closer to this goal!

If you have any questions about this letter, your gift, or anything AWP does, please don't hesitate to contact me by e-mail (jlocker@awomansplace.org) or by phone at (215) 343-9241 ext. 106.

With Sincere Thanks,

Jen Locker

Jen Locker
Executive Director

*Thank you so much
for your support!*

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:

PENNRIDGE FISH
FELLOWSHIP IN SERVING HUMANITY

FOOD + CLOTHING + RESOURCES

P.O. Box 9, Perkasie, PA 18944

02/07/2025

Peace Lutheran
100 Old Bethlehem Pike
Perkasie, PA 18944

Dear Peace Lutheran,

Thank you for your donation of food to the Penridge FISH Organization.
According to our records you donated 863 pounds of food during the year 2024.

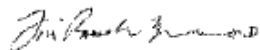
AND

Thank you for your donation of food to the Penridge FISH Organization.
According to our records you donated 326 pounds of food during the year 2024.

It is with your support that FISH is able to continue its outreach to those in the Penridge 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,



Lori Zimmerman
President

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Senior Communities
Artman
Paul's Run
The Hearth at Drexel
The Manor at York Town
The Village at Penn State

Community Services
The Becoming Center
LCFS West Philadelphia Senior Community Center
Liberty at Home/Liberty Hospice
Lutheran Congregational Services

February 4, 2025

Mr. Randi Schaffer
Peace Tohickon Lutheran Church
100 Old Bethlehem Road
Perkasie, PA 18944-3715

Dear Mr. Schaffer,

Thank you for your gift of \$35.00 to Liberty Lutheran. With your support, our communities are flourishing, and lives are being transformed in extraordinary ways.

For example, at Artman's Becoming Center, participants in the Rock Steady program for individuals with Parkinson's Disease are experiencing remarkable growth. Through boxing, biking, and footwork drills, they are gaining strength, balance, and confidence—renewing their physical and emotional well-being.

Lutheran Congregational Services (LCS) is celebrating 50 years of bringing Christ's love and hope to those in crisis. Your generosity has empowered LCS to respond more swiftly to disasters and provide vital support to those in need.

Thank you again for making a difference in the lives of those we serve.

With sincere gratitude,

Luanne B. Fisher, Ph.D.
President and CEO

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



**Peace Lutheran Church
Randi Schaffer
100 Old Bethlehem Rd
Perkasie, PA 18944**

January 30, 2025

Dear Peace Lutheran Church Friends,

Thank you for your November 2024 donation of \$727.25 to Pennridge Fish!

This donation will support FISH as we continue our outreach to those in the Pennridge Community who are in need through our food pantry, clothing outlet and one-time emergency financial assistance program.

The entire amount of your gift represents a charitable donation: no goods or services were provided to you in return for your donation.

Sincerely,

Lori Rousche Zimmerman, MD
President

800 West Chestnut Street | PO BOX 9 | Perkasie, PA 18944 | 215-257-7616

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Dear Nancy;
Thank you for all of the backpacks! We have had fun handing them all out!
Blessings;
Shaunel

Thank you for all you do for the Welcome Church!! We are so very grateful! Thank you for all the time & love you put into caring for us!!
Love, the Welcome Church-

The Welcome Church of Philadelphia
<https://thewelcomechurch.org>
See the light in each other, be the light for each other.

Thank You!
Peace Church Members