



March 1, 2026 | Volume 2026:3

# Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church Newsletter

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## Highlights:

- Peace Church Newsletter
- A Message from the Pastor
- Peace March 2026 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 ...**

### **For Everything There is a Season**

Believers are set apart. The season of Lent makes this quite evident. For Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Episcopalians, and other denominations it is the season of repentance, and we focus on the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and giving.

Easter and Christmas as holidays have woven their way into our culture, but the seasons that lead up to them have not. People go to and from, living their lives during Lent without considering that repentance and discipline can prepare their hearts for spiritual renewal.

Easter isn't just about time off of work, parties, or family dinners. It's about receiving the resurrected Jesus in a manifest way that brings us glory without measure. The things that people do when the holiday comes are nice. We do our best to make it good. But the things that we can do are so limited. What Jesus can do when He comes to us is unlimited.

The church is in the world but not of the world. Because we are in the world we will do many of the things that non-believers do. There is likely an Easter dinner party in our future. But more than that my hope and prayer for you, as one who is set apart, is that the Lenten disciplines will position you to receive the power and glory of the resurrected Lord when the time comes.

Amen  
Pastor Gary

# Important upcoming dates and information

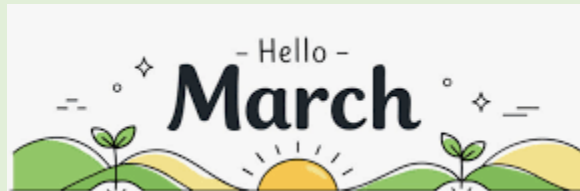
March 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 1pm-WELCA Meeting @Peace	<b>4</b> 6:00pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm-Holden Prayer Service  7:15pm-New Spirit Rehearsal 8:00pm-Bells Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School+Adult Discussion Group 9:15am-Bells Rehearsal 7pm-NA	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:30pm-Music & Worship Meeting via Zoom	<b>11</b> 6:00pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm-Holden Prayer Service  7:15pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm-New Spirit Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 1:00pm-Exec Council Meeting via Zoom  7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School+Adult Discussion Group + New Spirit Rehearsal 10:15am-New Spirit Worship 7pm-NA	<b>16</b>	 7pm-Church Council Meeting via Zoom	<b>18</b> 6:00pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm-Holden Prayer Service  7:15pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm-Bells Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom	<b>20</b> <i>First Day of            Spring</i>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School+Adult Discussion Group 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA	<b>23</b> <b>April            Newsletter            Deadline</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:00pm-Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm-Holden Prayer Service  7:15pm-Peace Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm-New Spirit Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 7:30pm – Confirmation Classe via Zoom	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:30am Palm Cross Workshop @Peace
<b>29</b> 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School+Adult Discussion Group 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

# Important upcoming dates and information...

## Peace Bulletin Board ... March

### Upcoming Meeting/Events @ a Glance

- Sunday, 3/1 - 9:00AM Sunday School + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal
- Tuesday, 3/3 – 1:00PM WELCA Meeting @Peace
- Wednesday, 3/4 – 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper + 6:30PM Holden Prayer Service + 7:15PM New Spirit Rehearsal + 8:00PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 3/5 – 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Sunday, 3/8 – **Daylight Saving Time Begins** + 9:00AM Sunday School + 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + 9:15AM Bells Rehearsal
- Tuesday, 3/10 – 7:30PM Music & Worship Committee Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 3/11 - 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper + 6:30PM Holden Prayer Service + 7:15PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 8:00PM New Spirit Rehearsal
- Wednesday, 3/11 to Monday, 3/16 – Church Office will have limited hours
- Thursday, 3/12 – 1:00PM Exec Council Meeting via Zoom + 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Sunday, 3/15 - New Spirit Sunday – 9:00AM Sunday School + 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + 9:00AM New Spirit Rehearsal
- Tuesday, 3/17 – 7:00PM Church Council Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 3/18 - 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper + 6:30PM Holden Prayer Service + 7:15PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 8:00PM Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 3/19 - 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Sunday, 3/22 - 9:00AM Sunday School + 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal
- Monday, 3/23 – **April Newsletter Deadline**
- Wednesday, 3/25 - 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper + 6:30PM Holden Prayer Service + 7:15PM Peace Choir Rehearsal + 8:00PM New Spirit Rehearsal
- Thursday, 3/26 – 7:30PM Confirmation Class via Zoom
- Saturday, 3/28 – 9:30AM Palm Cross Workshop @Peace
- Sunday, 3/29 – **Palm Sunday** + 9:00AM Sunday School + 9:00AM Adult Discussion Group + 9:30AM Peace Choir Rehearsal



# Important upcoming dates and information...

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## 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](mailto:ccsaint@verizon.net) reserve your requests for 2026.

Thank you for your continued support!

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## 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.

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## Spring Special Offering Envelope Designations

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

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# Important upcoming dates and information...

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## Time to Spring Forward

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8th. Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night.

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## Palm Cross Workshop

Everyone is invited to fold Palm crosses on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM in the church's kitchen. Help to keep this tradition alive. It is great fellowship! Please bring scissors. Contact Carole Brackman if you have questions – [carolebrackman62@comcast.net](mailto:carolebrackman62@comcast.net)

A sign-up sheet is on the narthex table for you to register for this event.

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Join us Wednesday evenings for Lenten Soup Suppers beginning at 6:00PM; followed by the Holden Evening Prayer Service at 6:30PM. Looking forward to seeing you on the following Wednesdays during Lent: March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

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# Important upcoming dates and information...

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## WELCA ... DATE SAVER

Tuesday, March 3rd @1:00PM @Peace. Sandy Miller will be the meeting's guest speaker to talk about a popular summer to fall blooming perennial, the dahlias.

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...

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### **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!

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### **Easter Sunday Breakfast**

**Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> - 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup>! If you have any questions, please contact Dottie Ritter at [dmritter4@gmail.com](mailto:dmritter4@gmail.com) or 215-896-3095.

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

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# Easter Flower Order Form

**Orders Due by Monday, March 16, 2026**

Our sanctuary is adorned each Easter with the beauty of fresh flowers, which symbolize new life and the power of the resurrection. We invite you to order a plant in honor or in remembrance of loved ones. **Please print names clearly.**

Quantity		
_____	Tulips (5-6 blooms)	\$10.00
_____	Tall Daffodils (6" pots)	\$10.00
_____	Mini Daffodils (4 1/2" pot)	\$6.00
_____	White Easter Lily (4-5 blooms)	\$12.00
	TOTAL	_____

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to leave my flowers to be planted on the church property.

Please make checks payable to "**Peace Lutheran Church.**" All orders will be handled by the church. Place orders in the offering plate clearly marked or place in the church secretary's mailbox or on the desk.

Paid Check: # \_\_\_\_\_

Paid Cash: \_\_\_\_\_

# Important upcoming dates and information...

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## March Music News *From: Kathleen Scheide*

Woman Composer Sunday is a global event observed by the American Guild of Organists, the Society of Women Organists and the Royal College of Organists to encourage the use of music by women composers in worship services and concerts. The day named in 2026, Sunday March 8, coincides exactly with International Women's Day. Our substitute organist on March 8 is Wesley Parrott. He will commemorate the day in his selections.

On the afternoon of March 8, Kathleen Scheide will play a concert on the Heefner Memorial Organ in Bomberger Hall, Ursinus College, 601 E. Main Street, Collegetown, PA 19426. The free program begins at 4 o'clock, and includes a premiere by Dr. Scheide in observance of Woman Composer Sunday, as well as works by Antonio Diana, Max Drischner, Johann Krieger and Liszt-Guillou. William Heefner was a Trustee of Ursinus College in addition to the long-time organist at Peace.


March 22, 2026 is the Sunday similarly observed by the American Guild of Organists as Bach's Birthday. Organ music for morning services will be by Bach.

J. S. Bach's actual birthdate (according to the Julian calendar then in use) was March 21, 1685. On Saturday, March 21, the Philadelphia Chapter of the AGO is hosting a series of free Bach recitals throughout the region. Kathleen will play at 3 o'clock at First Presbyterian Church, 201 S 21st St, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Besides the expected large chancel organ, the church owns several small, I-manual antique organs. Kathleen is playing on a 1783 cabinet organ and sharing the program with Thomas Gaynor.



## Peace Bulletin Board ... Announcements

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



# Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:

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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*  
*Lutheran Congregational Services*

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February 5, 2026

The Reverend Gary Costa  
Peace Lutheran Church  
100 Old Bethlehem Road  
Perkasie, PA 18944

Dear Pastor Costa,

Thank you for your gift of \$20.00 to Liberty Lutheran.


Your gift provides peace of mind to residents in our communities. Last year we expended over \$2 million in funding for benevolent care, ensuring that residents who exhaust their financial resources remain in their home, among friends. Your gift also ensures that our communities remain safe and beautiful through capital projects. Liberty expends over \$5 million a year in capital projects and improvements.

You help thousands of older adults to age successfully through our residential, personal care and skilled nursing communities. In addition our senior community center in West Philadelphia offer programs and services uniquely designed to meet the specific needs of seniors.

Through our disaster response program, hundreds of survivors rebuild lives when disaster strikes. Your gift reminds them that they are not alone. When help arrives, their dignity is restored and they see a path forward to better tomorrows.

Thank you for your commitment to Liberty and for all that you do to make a difference.

With sincere gratitude,



Patty Cline  
Director of Advancement

# Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:

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Philanthropy Department  
960A Harvest Drive, Suite 100  
Blue Bell, PA 19422  
610-825-9360  
www.kencrest.org



February 5, 2026

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 \$20.00 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Russ Stewart'.

Russ Stewart  
Director of Community Philanthropy

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE  
PEACE TOHICKON CONGREGATION - NOT  
JUST FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE KENCREST  
FAMILY, BUT FOR BRINGING WARMTH, INCLUSION,  
AND LOVE INTO THE WORLD WHEN IT IS  
SO NEEDED! GOD BLESS!