



May 1, 2024 | Volume 2024:5

Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church Newsletter



Highlights:

- Peace Church Newsletter
- A Message from the Pastor
- A Focus on a Peace Ministry
- Peace Calendar
- Peace Bulletin Board
- May Birthdays
- Thank you Notes

A Message from Pastor Gary ...

The Season of Bloom

The hymn writer John Macleod Campbell writes, “Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain.” We are well into the season of spring or the season of bloom as I am calling it. The barren ground now displays grass and flowers. Empty branches now display leaves. In the part of the world in which we live, the season of bloom is sure. Just as the sun rises every day, spring comes every year. Likewise, our bodies are revitalized in the spring. We exercise, we eat healthier, and we are somehow in tune with the season of bloom.

Maybe not. Sometimes not. Our lives are more complicated than that of the plant life around us. Maybe we are out of tune for various reasons, health, tragedy, or loss can render us out of tune. Still there is an assurance on which we can rely.

Jesus has risen from the dead, just like the green blade has risen. Whatever our present circumstance is, nothing can keep us down. Maybe our spring will be a little late this year, but we will rise again. Every cross has a resurrection for those whom He loves. The power of His Spirit is with us even as He ascends to the Father, and so our spirits are also revitalized. “Christ is alive, let Christians sing; the cross stands empty to the sky.” (Brian A. Wren, 1936).

Pastor Gary

A Focus on a Peace Ministry

The committees, the teams and the groups that make up the ministry at Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church some of which are listed below:

Altar Guild	Live Stream
Assisting Minister	Lunch Bunch
Bells	Music & Worship
Choir	Outreach
Council	Property
Faith & Fellowship	Reader
Garden	Usher
Greeter	WELCA

Each month our newsletter will feature one or more of these groups with an in-depth description and their area of focus/interest. We invite you to consider participating in any that may interest you. If you would like to contribute to any aspect of our live here at Peace, we invite you to call or email the church office at -- 215-257-3294; adminassistant@peace-tohickon.org.

For the month of May, we would like to share with you the WELCA group.

WELCA stands for Women of the Evangelical Luther Church of America. Currently at Peace, there are 19 members. They meet at 1:00PM on the first Tuesday on the month. They have devotions, then a business meeting where they plan their service projects and activities. Then they have either a speaker, a craft, a game or some other activity and, of course, refreshments. Each year they contribute to several organizations. The ladies of WELCA are a very close group who care for and pray for each other. They have a Christmas party and a June picnic. The next project is the Spring Banquet on May 5th.

Important upcoming dates . . .

May 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:45pm-Peace Choir 7:45pm-Bells	2	3	4
5 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:15am-Bells Rehearsal 6pm-WELCA Banquet 7pm-Perkasie Historical Society Presentation w/Rick Doll	6 1pm-Finance Committee Meeting via Zoom	7	8 12:00pm-Lunch Bunch @The West End, 750 N West End Boulevard, Quakertown, PA 18951 6:45-7:30pm- Peace Choir 7:15-8:00pm-New Spirit 8:00pm-Bells	9 Ascension of Our Lord	10	11
12 Mother's Day 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 9:30am-Peace Choir Rehearsal 7pm-NA	13	14 7pm-Music & Worship Committee Meeting via Zoom	15 6:45-7:30pm- Peace Choir 7:15-8:00pm-New Spirit 8:00pm-Bells	16 1pm-Exec Council Meeting via Zoom	17	18 9am-Altar Guild decorate for Pentecost Sunday
19 Pentecost and Confirmation Celebration Sunday 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service 9am-Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation Celebration Reception @Pavilion 7pm-NA	20	21 7pm-Church Council Meeting via Zoom	22 6:45-7:15pm- Peace Choir 7:15-7:45pm-New Spirit 7:45pm-Bells	23	24	25
26 8:15am+10:15am Worship Service The Holy Trinity 9am-Sunday School 7pm-NA	27 Memorial Day 	28 June Newsletter Deadline	29 6:45-7:15pm- Peace Choir 7:30-8:15pm-New Spirit 8:15pm-Bells	30	31	

Important upcoming dates ...

Peace Bulletin Board ...

Upcoming Meeting/Events @ a Glance

- Wednesday, 5/1 – 6:45pm Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:45pm Bells Rehearsal
- Sunday, 5/5 – 9:15am Bells Rehearsal + 6:00pm WELCA Banquet + 7:00pm Perkasio Historical Society Presentation w/Rick Doll
- Monday, 5/6 – 1:00pm Finance Committee Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 5/8 – 12:00Noon Lunch Bunch @The West End + 6:45pm Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:15pm New Spirit Rehearsal + 8:00pm Bells Rehearsal
- Sunday, 5/12 – Mother's Day + 9:30am Peace Choir Rehearsal
- Tuesday, 5/14 – 7:00pm Music & Worship Committee Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 5/15 - 6:45pm Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:15pm New Spirit Rehearsal + 8:00pm Bells Rehearsal
- Thursday, 5/16 – 1:00pm Exec Council Meeting via Zoom
- Saturday, 5/18 – 9:00am Altar Guild decorates Peace for Pentecost Sunday
- Sunday, 5/19 – 10:15am Confirmation Celebration + 11:30am Reception @Pavilion
- Tuesday, 5/21 – 7:00pm Church Council Meeting via Zoom
- Wednesday, 5/22 – 6:45pm Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:15pm New Spirit Rehearsal + 7:45pm Bells Rehearsal
- Monday, 5/27 – Memorial Day – Church Office Closed
- Tuesday, 5/28 – June newsletter deadline
- Wednesday, 5/29 – 6:45pm Peace Choir Rehearsal + 7:30pm New Spirit Rehearsal + 8:15pm Bells Rehearsal



Important upcoming dates ...



The Adult Discussion Group

The Adult Discussion Group will begin discussing Phillip Yancey's book, *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?* today. "Phillip Yancey probes the very heartbeat of our relationship with God: Prayer. What is prayer? Does it change God's mind or ours or both? This book is an invitation to communicate with God the Father who invites us into an eternal partnership through prayer." We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9AM on Sunday mornings.

All are welcome. Please join us for some good conversation.



WELCA 2024 Spring Banquet Sunday, May 5, 2024 @ 6:00pm



WELCA will be hosting their Spring Banquet on Sunday, May 5, 2024. The banquet will start at 6:00pm; followed by a guest speaker at 7:00pm. Our guest speaker will be Rick Doll from the Perkasio Historical Society. His presentation will be on the history of Menlo Park in Perkasio.

In the past, the Spring Banquets have just been for the WELCA ladies. This year we thought it would be fun to open this event to the whole congregation. Tickets will be sold after the 8:15am and 10:15am church services on April 28th. The price will be \$10.00 per person and \$5.00 for 8 years of age or younger.

Please join us for a fun and informative evening.

Important upcoming dates ...



Lunch Bunch Date Savers ...

The May Lunch Bunch event will be on Wednesday, May 8th at The West End, 750 N West End Boulevard, Quakertown, PA 18951. The lunch will begin at 12:00PM. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for you to use.

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



May's Fellowship Project



The Fellowship Project for May is to support Gemma Services, formerly Silver Springs-Martin Luther Home by donating monetary gifts to help foster children in their care attend summer camp. Camperships for one child runs between \$250 and \$300. With your help, one or two children will be able to experience the fun and joy of summer camp!

Special campership envelopes are available in the narthex for your generous donations.

Thank you!
Sunday School and Faith & Fellowship Committee



Thank you for your support of Fostering Hope, our April fellowship project. Your generous giving of much needed items and monetary donations are greatly appreciated by the foster children and their new foster families!

Important upcoming dates ...



Confirmation Celebration
Sunday, May 19, 2024
10:15AM – Worship Service
11:30AM - Reception

Dear Members Friends and Family,

In Peace-Tohickon's long history, many young people began their adult faith journeys with the guidance, encouragement and prayers of clergy, family and friends in this place. On Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024, Peace will be celebrating all those who were confirmed at Peace in the near or distance past. You are invited to a confirmation celebration to be held at the 10:15AM worship service. The service will be followed immediately at 11:30AM with a social hour in our new pavilion. Confirmation class photos from the previous 65 years will be on display. Come enjoy the fellowship, and share remembrances with family and friends, old and new. In keeping with Lutheran tradition, pastries, beverages, and sweet treats will be provided at the social hour.

Randi Schaeffer has been contacting former confirmands, parents, friends and family. We do not have current names, addresses, or contact information for many of them, so Randi has been contacting known friends and family members to get email addresses of members who live or worship elsewhere. She has received quite a few positive responses.

If you are a current member and expect to attend the reception, please sign up on the sheet posted in the narthex.

If you are reading this online and expect to attend, please call the church office at 215-257-3294 or contact Randi at randschaefer@verizon.net to RSVP.

Yours in Christ,
Peace Outreach



Geraniums for Pentecost

***We invite you to order a geranium in honor or remembrance of loved ones for
Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024***

The price is \$3.50 per plant.

Please make checks payable to “Peace Lutheran Church”.

Place orders in the offering plate clearly marked, Pentecost Geraniums, or place in the church secretary’s mailbox.

Deadline for Orders is Sunday, May 12, 2024

Your Name: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Number of Plants: _____

Total Paid: _____

_____ I wish to leave the geranium(s) to be planted on the church property.

Paid Check # _____

Paid Cash: _____

	<p style="text-align: center;">May Birthday Calendar at Peace <i>Happy Birthday to you!</i></p>
2	Sydney Bara
3	Dorothy Kasper Doris Renner
4	Sue Keen Tom Neary
7	Michael Miller
8	Ruth Cook
9	Alex Bara Denise Wrigley
11	Jen Bara Kristina Doherty Carol Heverly
12	Brian Gonet
13	Tyler Heverly Diane Stump
15	Emily Scholl
16	David Bryde
18	Sandy Miller
19	Daniel Bryde
22	Jayden Rivera
24	Diana Long
27	Joyce Schneider
29	Erik Schneider



Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

March 25, 2024

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 \$280.00 to ELCA World Hunger.

"[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 generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It provides access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock and education, and it advances peace and justice. Through your gifts you join the whole church in working toward a just world where all are fed.

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

In Christ,

Amanda White
Director, Congregational Generosity

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:



March 25, 2024

Thank You

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

Dear Peace-Tohickon Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$2.00 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: 3/14/2024

Gifts are designated for:

ELCA: Where needed most

\$2.00

Peace Bulletin Board ... Recent Thank You Letters:

Dear *Peace Lutheran Church*

DATE *4-1-24*

Thank you for your contribution of \$ 120. - 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.

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.

*Thank you for your
commitment to the
children!!*

Sincerely,



Holly Holzapach
on behalf of
RamPacks
Provided with love from the Penridge Community

Thank You!

Peace Church Member

Peace-Tohickon Evangelical Lutheran Church

OUR HISTORY



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