



PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Peace Bell

MARCH 2010

DULUTH MN ~ REV. KATHRYN NELSON, LEAD PASTOR ~ PAUL VANANTWERP, ASSOCIATE PASTOR



"Surely God is in this place..." ~ Genesis 28: 16

This was the theme of this year's Winter Camp at Camp DuNord on Burntside Lake, just outside of Ely. Over 90 folks gathered for a time away of sledding, cross-country skiing, saunas, singing, worship, great food and fellowship. We hosted our own version of the Winter Olympics with sack races, sled belly flops and tug of loves. The moon and our hearts were full. Many thanks to Cizzarie Schomberg for coordinating this year's winter camp. Details soon about the dates for next year.

Men's Retreat: March 19 -21 at Isernhagen's Cabin near Gordon WI

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for this year's Men's Retreat. Take a well-deserved weekend of rest! Enjoy great food (this crew can cook!) and good fellowship with other men of our congregation.

Questions? Interested in helping to plan this event? Contact Paul Van Antwerp.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Worship Prayers Around the Cross 7pm in the Sanctuary

This meditative worship includes quiet singing, silence, prayer and the lighting of candles. Take time each week for reflection and prayer as we journey toward Easter. This service will be held each Wednesday until Easter. The liturgy lasts between 20 and 30 minutes, based on each participant's need for silence and prayer. Thank you to Patty Beech and Jane Rupel for their leadership on this service.

Birthday Potluck

Sunday March 21st

after the second service

Everyone welcome. Come celebrate your birthday (or unbirthday). Please bring a dish to share: main dish, side dish or salad. Deli chicken, rolls, cake and beverages provided.



Youth and Children's Cabaret

March 27th, 3pm-5pm

If your child has a talent that they would like to show, please sign up for the Youth and Children's Cabaret. We want to lift up the gifts and talents of our young people and show our support. 2-3 minute performances preferred. Get together and practice your talents. For more info please contact Kim Sturtz @ kimsturtz@gmail.com

FROM PASTOR KATHY NELSON



*Thou our source and our returning
Our beginning and welcome home,
Bless the path on which we journey;
Be the way that leads us on.*

~ Jan Richardson

This prayer was chosen by the worship team to be used each Sunday in Lent. In many ways it is our centering prayer for this season. It is a prayer to know God's presence on our journeys.

The sanctuary now has a cairn, made of stones. Cairns are ancient ways of marking the way, a path for others to follow. We have found our way together, following our God in our worship, in the singing, in the silence and in the prayers. We mark the spot just as so many have done before us. We have "Raised our Ebenezer", a stone monument marking that God has helped us on our way.

We have also laid stones on the wooden cross near our communion table or in the baptismal font. The release of these stones was part of our time of confession. It was a way of letting go of attitudes and behaviors that have become stumbling blocks for us on our journeys.

We can trust in our God who makes a way for us when there seems to be no way. We remember the women who walked that first Easter Sunday at early dawn, carrying spices for Jesus' body. The dew on their feet and the myrrh in their hands mingle. They walk on — the stone will be there. They must have wondered how to move it. Stone in the doorway, blocking their ritual, their love. What anxiety it must have caused them. How will they move it?

Together the women arrive at the tomb and the stone is moved. They go in and the body is gone. They are perplexed. The stone is moved, not to let Jesus out, for the Christ is already loose in the world. The stone is rolled away to let them in, to let them in on God's plan — that hatred and death should never have the last word. And their journey goes on. They go out and tell.

Our journeys go on. God has left us so many markers of love to help us find our way. In this Lenten season may we each take the time we need to consider God's leading, and drop some stones that have become too heavy for our hearts. May God bless the paths on which you journey.

Peace friends ~ Pastor Kathy



Kids creating a cairn during Winter Camp worship, to mark that God is in this place.

Upcoming Events—Mark your calendar!

April 16-17 – Opening Our Doors Conference see page 16

Friday, April 23-24 – Women's Retreat at Caribou Highlands
see page 5

May 1 – Peace Prom (Note new date!) see page 5

June 13-18—Senior High Youth Work Camp with DOOR in Chicago

2011 Intergenerational Work Camp at Back Bay Mission in Biloxi — August 28-September 3, 2011. Mark your calendars! These are the only dates open for a group our size. We will again be building homes with and for the people still recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

Words from a recent Visitor:

"Hello to UCC Neighbors of the North! I attended your Lenten ves-pers service on February 24th. Thank you for a beautiful service. It was also good to see so many kids at church. I currently attend a small church (Sandstone UCC) where the kids don't always show up. Thank you for a wonderful experience."

SUNDAYS in MARCH

We continue to have two services each Sunday morning. At 8:30 we have a quiet, communion service and at 10:30 our service includes children's time and senior choir anthem. The sermon at both services is the same.

Special Music is always needed for our 8:30 service. If you would like to sing or play an instrument for any of these Sundays, call the church office or let our music director, Jim Pospisil, know.

Sunday, March 7 – Third Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Isaiah 55: 1-9

Sermon: "Open Invitation "

This morning we will share Communion together at both services. The worship team will help to lead our music at the 10:30 service along with our choir.

Sunday, March 14 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Luke 15: 1-3 and 11-32

Sermon: "Lost"

This morning we will receive our special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing

Sunday, March 21 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Isaiah 43: 16-24 and John 12: 1-8

Sermon: "Anointing"

The Sanctuary Choir and Clear will provide our music during the 10:30 service this morning.

Sunday School Teachers Meeting at 8:30 in the Fireside room.

Sunday, March 28 – Palm Sunday

Scripture: Luke 19: 28 – 40

Sermon: "Into Jerusalem"

The choir and children's palm processional will help us mark the beginning of Holy Week. The Hootenany will also be playing for the prelude and helping with several of the hymns.

Chapel Development meeting after worship. See page 5 for more info.

Palm Sunday—March 28

Parent Day at ChurchSchool

On Palm Sunday, from 9:30-10:15 a.m. during the Sunday School hour, we are inviting parents to come to their child's Sunday School classroom. Read more on page 6.

Time to order Easter Lilies!



Order a lily in memory or in honor of your loved ones, and we will fill the altar with a memorial garden of lilies on Easter Sunday. The price per plant is \$20, with a portion going to our Transportation Fund. Please call or email the office with your order, or fill out an order form, found in the Narthex.

Work Camp Meeting – Youth and Parents March 7 at 11:30 in the Fireside Room!

If you are going with us to Chicago this Summer from June 13 – 18 to work and learn with DOOR (Discovering Outreach Opportunities and Reflection) you need to come to this meeting! We will go over expectations, talk about transportation and ask that you **pay \$200 toward the total cost of the trip** at this time. This trip is an amazing opportunity. If you would like to go but haven't signed up yet, please talk with Pastor Kathy.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Sunday, March 14

One Great Hour of Sharing is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in more than eighty countries.

The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. Please give generously to this crucial offering. More information can be found at www.ucc.org

Women's Retreat Planning Meeting Sunday March 21 at 11:30

A meeting for those interested in helping to plan the Women's Retreat will be held in the Conference Room on Sunday, March 21st at 11:30 am.

Meditation and Healing Circle March 21 (3rd Sunday of the month)

in the Fireside Room after the 10:30 am service

Are you or someone you love in need of some additional healing support? Join Erin DeWitt, Peace Church member and owner of Deep Peace Wellness Studio, for some time of stillness. Through a shared meditation we will breathe deeply, give thanks, allow peace and harmony into our hearts and then share it with the world. No meditation experience necessary~ we are all healers, sometimes we just need some help figuring out how to open the toolbox. Please contact Erin with any questions at 218-341-3411.

Sermon Discussion Table in Fellowship Hall

In response to congregational requests, each Sunday a table will be designated in the Fellowship Hall to continue the conversation about the week's themes, readings, and sermon. Please join us!

ADULT ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Forum — 9:30 Sunday Mornings in the Fireside Room

Ahhhh, the insight of wise women! The Scriptures quietly celebrate the “wise women,” women who have long been faithful to God while quietly serving their community — Sarah, Judith, Anna. Wise women have shed the superfluous to quickly discern the essential. Wise women like Mary Martin. At the Wise Women’s January Brown Bag Bible Study, Mary lifted up her prayer for 2010. She prayed for **CONNECTION**.

Her prayer can be heard embedded in the Adult Forums of last January and February. The January video series UNNATURAL CAUSES challenged the common wisdom that prevention of disease could be achieved exclusively through individuals’ healthy behaviors—no, individual health is heavily influenced by one’s place in community. We must work together to bring change. The February sessions invited us to reclaim the community, not corporate, ways of caring for our dead and singing them home. Bill McKibbin’s book DEEP ECONOMY promotes local communities who together work to sustain rather than grow, who nestle into the earth rather than wrestle it into submission.

Mary’s prayer for **CONNECTION** casts a warm embracing shadow over the Adult Forums planned for March and April.

A Lenten Study: The Characters Around the Passion—How did Jesus final days look through their eyes? How do we make **connection** to the Easter Story this year?

March 7: Judas Iscariot, led by Bob Stevens.

March 14: Pilate, led by Jerry Cleveland

March 21: The Women, led by Kathy Nelson

March 28: The Disciples, Peter and John, led by Jackie Falk

Women’s Brown Bag Bible Study

Wednesday March 24 at noon

Benedictine Health Center, 3rd Floor Lounge

This study is facilitated by Cheryl Walsh. Bring a lunch; coffee, dessert and great fellowship always provided!

Men’s Bible Study

Tuesdays, March 9 & 23 at 7:30pm

Now meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Note later time of 7:30pm

Join us in the Fireside Room as we focus on the upcoming week’s lectionary passages. Paul Van Antwerp facilitates this group.

Book Discussion Sunday, March 28
over lunch at 11:30 in the Fireside Room

Stranger at the Gate by Rev. Mel White, co-founder of Soul Force

In this moving, best-selling autobiography, Mel White comes out of the closet to give hope to other gay and lesbian Christians, to confront the misleading anti-gay rhetoric of the radical right, and to launch his own fight for justice and understanding for God’s gay and lesbian children. *There are 3 books in the office for check-out, one in the church library, and more available at a 15% discount at Northern Lights Bookstore.*

Mel White will be the featured speaker at the annual Opening Our Doors Conference here in Duluth on April 16 & 17.



Inner Views is an inter-generational story gathering project here at Peace Church with the goal of using listening and storytelling to connect generations and honor the life experi-

ences of our elder members. Confirmands begin story gathering this March.

The gathered stories may be honored through a number of means. These include the publishing of a collection of written work, web publication including pictures and audio, video presentation, artistic display and theatrical production.

You may want to participate in Inner Views by volunteering to be interviewed or using your gifts in the creative compilation of the stories.

To find out more, speak with Pastor Kathy, Marilyn Mayry, Jackie Falk or Cindy McLean.

Wednesday Evening Adult Formation

6-7pm in the Fireside Room

In the midst of our busy Wednesdays here at Peace, there is a quiet gathering in the Fireside Room after dinner which offers time for us to connect with God and Scripture. We use the ancient method of Lectio Divina. Pastor Kathy and Paul VanAntwerp facilitate as we read the Gospel lesson for the coming Sunday. We all learn from one another, newcomers are always welcome!

Reading, Writing, and Reflection Group

Thursdays March 4 & 18— 6:30-8:30

Please join us as we read a short passage, exercise our writer’s minds, and share if we would like. All are invited. *Meeting room varies—look for signs.*

ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Friday, April 23 - 24

Women's Retreat

Caribou Highlands in Lutsen

"Into the Chalice of Our Lives"

Join us for our Women's Spring Retreat at Caribou Highlands Resort in Lutsen on Friday, April 23rd until Saturday Aafternoon, with an additional night as an option. Cost will be \$45 per person per night. This includes your own bed with linens. We will be responsible for our meals. We will break into three teams — dinner, breakfast and lunch. Sign up in the Entryway!

This is a great way to get to know other women from the congregation. We begin with supper on Friday night at 7 pm. We have time for discussion, bible study on John 12: 1 – 8 (the woman who anointed Jesus) and Jeremiah 18 (the potter and clay as an image for God and our lives), singing, swimming, prayer and great eating. We will also be creating clay pots that Susan Ranfranz will then fire for us.

The next planning meeting will be Sunday, March 21st after 10:30 worship in the Conference Room. All welcome!

Peace Church Hootenanny

Folk Music Group

Friday March 26th at 7pm

Location for this month's Hootenanny TBA. Bring your instruments, voices, and favorite folk songs. All are welcome and **wallflowers are encouraged!** Contact Paul with questions. 349-0143

Men's Breakfast—March 4 & 18

Join us at Duluth Grill (27th Ave. W.) every other Thursday at 7am for breakfast and conversation.

PALS (Peace Adults Learning & Socializing)

March 25—"The Factory Girls"

The gathering for PALS in March will be Thursday the 25th and we will be attending the play "Factory Girls" at UMD. The play begins at 7:30 PM and is in the Dudley Experimental Theater (which is behind the mainstage). Tickets can be ordered online at www.d.umn.edu/theater or by calling (218) 726-8561. Seating in this theater is general admission and there are 120 seats. Ticket prices are \$17 for adults and \$13 for seniors. Those who would like to go to dinner before the performance will meet around 5:30 at Chester Creek Cafe. I will make reservations for dinner so please let me know in the next few weeks so I can call them to give an approximate number. Factory Girls is written by Frank McGuinness and is directed by Tom Isbell. The play is described as a "funny and compassionate play that tells the story of five women working in a shirt factory in northern Ireland...they come together through song, laughter and protest. Cathy Ameel 724-2750.

Caring for Elderly Relatives?

March 31st at 7:15pm

It's hard, but you are not alone. **Join a group for support and conversation.** Meet by the couches in the narthex after Prayers Around the Cross, to explore this new resource for support. Questions? Contact Paul.

Chapel/Multi-purpose Room Development

Meeting: March 28th, after worship

The church hopes to turn the space below the new sanctuary (beside the youth room) into a place for worship and gathering. It takes a strong group of people with many different gifts to make this happen. Come lend your talent to the group.

Come Help Make Pancakes at CHUM!

March 10 & 24

Pastor Kathy & crew can be found every other Wednesday at 9am at the Chum Drop-In Center flipping pancakes for the guests. Join them any time you can. It's a great way to meet new folks and help out!

Peace Church Women's Basketball

Tuesdays at 7pm in the Grant School Gym

All skill levels welcome. No small children please, for safety reasons. Call Nadine Hubert with questions, 349-8751.

Save the Date!

Peace Prom—May Day Celebration

Saturday, May 1st 7-11:00 PM

Join us for an evening of music, dancing, & socializing at Mr. D's in West Duluth. Adult night out! Special entertainment is planned.

Suggested Donation: \$10.00/person.
Snacks & dessert provided.



WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

5pm: Children's Choir 5:30: Dinner for all 6pm: Faith Weavers/Puppets
6pm: Adult Study in Fireside Room 6:15pm: Senior Choir
7pm: Lenten Vespers—Prayers around the Cross
7-8:30pm: Youth Group/Confirmation (Confirmation March. 3, 17 & 31.)
Boards and Committees meet on March 9 at 6 pm



Faith Weavers

Kindergarten—3rd Grade

Wednesdays 6-7pm

Fun, Games, Crafts all while learning about our faith and learning how to weave it into our daily lives. Fun times, come and stop by and give it a try.

Adult volunteer/helpers are needed!

Let Kim know if you can help.



PEACE PUPPETS

4th & 5th graders—
6-7pm in Lakeview Room

Peace Puppets at Treasures of the Earth Green Art Fair
March 27

Peace Puppets have been invited to take part in the Treasures of the Earth Green Art Fair Saturday, March 27 at the Unitarian Universalist Church 835 W. College St. We are busy practicing for this date.

Parents, watch for a letter coming in the mail.

CONFIRMATION

1st and 3rd (and 5th this month) Wednesday Evenings from 7 – 8:30. If you can not attend on the scheduled Wednesday, there is always make up class on the following Wednesday.

- **Wednesday, March 3** – Class at 7pm – Studying the Gospel of Mark, Chapters 5 and 6
- **Sunday, March 7** – Informational Meeting for all Summer Work Campers at 11:30. We need \$200 of your \$300 fee at this time (Some of you have already paid \$50 and this counts toward your \$200). Come and learn more about what to bring, where we will be staying and what we will be doing. **IMPORTANT MEETING!**
- **Wednesday, March 17**– Class at 7 pm – Gospel of Mark, Chapters 7 and 8
- **Wednesday, March 31** – Class at 7pm – Gospel of Mark, Chapters 9 and 10
- **Saturday, April 3** from 10 am – noon – Preparation for Leading Early Easter Service
- **Sunday, April 4 – Easter Sunday** - Lead the 8:30 Worship
- **No Class on April 7** due to school break

Children's Choir

5-5:30pm

Wednesdays in the Music Room

Learn fun new songs and meet fun friends. Silly songs, getting-to-know you games, and practice songs to sing on a Sunday. We usually perform once a month in Church. If your child loves singing and wants to get to know some new friends, bring the family to children's



Church School News

Palm Sunday—Parents Day at Church School!

March 28th 9:30-10:15 a.m. during the Sunday School Hour, we are inviting parents to come to the Sunday School classroom, to take part in Palm Sunday activities. We want parents to see what their kids are learning and participate in hearing about the Palm Sunday story that leads us into the Easter. In years past we have done a multiple craft session time. However, this year we have decided it would be nice for parents to be in the classrooms learning right along with their children. Mark your Calendars and Parents Please Come and Partake in the FUN!!! :)

Sunday School Teachers Meeting

8:30am in the Fireside Room March 21

Acolyte Schedule

March 7 – Seth Hoffman, **Volunteer needed**
March 14 – Adrianna Hudyma, Haley Montgomery
March 21 – Ben Mullozzi, Jack O'Connell
March 28 – Davis Provost, Rachel Skwira-Brown

YOUTH & PARENTS



Jr/Sr High YOUTH GROUP
6th-12th graders

Wednesdays 7-8:30pm in the Youth Room

March 3rd *For YOU:*

"Remember Your Baptism!"

You're a minister now, you know that? All because of Baptism. Let's talk.

March 10th *For YOU:*

"The Power in Confession"

To be filled with Love, you must first make room. Let's talk.

March 17th *For World* "Santa Patty:

Way More to the Story than Snakes"

A lonely boy, stolen from his family, turns to faith for comfort. Runs from his captives. Returns to build the faith. Winds up the patron saint of Ireland. Can you be a saint to your enemies?

March 24th *For Fun:* "Pool Party!"

Water is a big theme this season here at Peace Church. To celebrate, we've found a hotel that'll let us crash their swimming pool. MEET AT CHURCH AT 6:30 with swimsuit and towel. ...And if the hotel lets us, I have a crazy version of water polo to share.

March 31st *For Church and Community:*

"Easter!"

We've almost arrived to the biggest week of our Christian year. We'll greet it with worship and music and song and celebration. Today we'll prepare.

Parents of Teens "Hang-Out Night"

Wednesday, March 17, 7:30pm
after Lenten Service

Raising teens? Want to talk about it?

Join other parents for casual conversation about life with teenagers. Jane Ward will be facilitating this group.

Sandwich Generation Parents—see page 6 for info on "Caring for Elders" Group.



Some of the dolls made with help from our youth to send to Haiti—*For those who have lost so much, something to hang on to...*

Hey Youth Group!

Wanted to thank you for the great conversations recently: in youth group, at Mt. Royal on Thursdays, in the conference room on Sundays with Nutella and orange juice... It helps me remember why I do what I do.

Here's another thing that helps me remember: this season of our Church's year. So here's how the Church calendar works: The season of Epiphany (which just ended) tells us: "Wow, here He is". The season of Lent (which just began) tells us "Wow, here's what He's all about". The season of Lent leads us to the Passion, to his death, to remembering, to Easter—all of which tell us: "Here's how much He loved us."

See, Lent is meant to prepare us to receive the love of Jesus. And I gotta tell you, if it's done right, and you get it, it feels really really good.

Kim and I want to take you there.

So this month, along with the usual "For church/community/world focus, we're spending two weeks on a new theme: "For YOU".

You've taught us, through our conversations, that you are interested, and you care. You've made us want to give you the best of what we can give as ministers, as mentors, as friends.

This is it. ~Paul

~SUNDAY~ **Senior High!** Sunday Mornings, between services (9:30 - 10:30), conference room: "Work it Out: Lived Theology" — Paul will be bringing in real-time issues in theology and religion (the stuff he's exploring as a minister and student) and seeking your input. Snacks provided.

~THURSDAY~ **Junior High!** Thursdays after school (3:00 - 4:00). Join Paul for Caribou Coffee at Mount Royal Shopping Center: "Caffeine and Christ" — Paul will be hanging out at the tables there to share conversation and a great resource that Pastor Kathy found to push our faith and test our thoughts on God and the world. He'll buy the drinks and we can split a snack. (Parents, call Paul with questions: 349-0143).

Youth and Children's Cabaret

March 27th, 3pm-5pm

Hey youth—get your acts together and sign up now for the Youth and Children's Cabaret. It's your time to shine, and use your gifts and talents! 2-3 minute performances preferred. Get together and practice your talents. For more info please contact Kim Sturtz @ kimsturtz@gmail.com

Moderator's Report

The Coordinating Council met on "fat Tuesday", February 16th, but kept disciplined and stuck to business despite our lively discussion of various "fat Tuesday" traditions. Pastors Kathy and Paul (boy, it's fun saying "Pastors") summarized their busy month of ministry within our congregation and wider community. Here are a few highlights from this month:

January finances saw a welcome boost that helped clear part of the small deficit we incurred during 2009. We thank you so much for your financial support of our congregation. We are excited to welcome so many new members to our church family, and we discussed ways we can expand on our welcoming of visitors and new members. If this is an area of outreach you are drawn to, please give Cindy Macaulay or Pastor Kathy a call. Another way to communicate your interests and talents is to ensure you turn in the upcoming annual questionnaire as we organize the many needs for volunteer needs. By submitting your areas of volunteer interests, we can greatly reduce the need to call to recruit. From a personal perspective, over my many years with Peace Church, I have had many moments of spiritual growth working side-by-side with fellow members to serve or have impromptu discussions. And some of our deepest friendships have grown from this service. Your financial and volunteer stewardship commitments are vital to our ministries.

In other business, the Council began planning for the need for a new grand piano in the sanctuary. You may not be aware of this, but we've been very fortunate to have the current piano on loan to us by Joann Mork, a former member who now wishes to sell. The Council decided not to purchase this lovely Steinway, but will start keeping an eye out for a used piano that will be needed once this one is sold and moved. A special "new piano" fund has been established if you are so inclined. Thanks to Dave Winchester who has lent his considerable expertise and counsel on this effort. We'll keep you posted in coming months as I'm sure you'll agree the piano is a cornerstone of our music in the Sanctuary.

The Coordinating Council got a sneak preview of the creative and motivational theme developed for the upcoming Capital Fund drive. We also decided to energize a group to design the lower level "multi-use" unfinished Chapel space that, along with needed roof repair or replacement, will be funded from this phase of our capital fund drive. Watch for kick-off and details from the co-chairs for this campaign, Lisa Pomroy and Justin Olson.

There is much more to report, so check out the minutes and reports from the Coordinating Council — or next time you are having coffee after Sunday service, catch a Council member to provide your input and hear about aspects of church life and business the Council deals with. You'd be surprised at the many youth activities, formal and informal small groups, and intimate gatherings that are happening. Wherever you are in life's journey, there are likely others in this vibrant congregation with whom you can connect to share.

In service, Denise Hamsher, Moderator

Council

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TEAM & COMMITTEE NIGHT

Teams and Committees will meet on

Wednesday, March 10th.

Dinner is served from 5:30 until 6 pm with meetings beginning at 6 pm.

COORDINATING COUNCIL

Coordinating Council will meet on

Tuesday, March 16th at 7 pm in the Conference Room .

Visitors are always welcome.

Last Thursday, I drove down to the Twin Cities for a special meeting with the Minnesota Conference. At that meeting, I was given the title of “Licensed Minister” for our church. Licensure is an acknowledgement from the United Church of Christ that I am serving as your pastor here at Peace. It is also a blessing from the denomination for me to administer the sacraments of the Church and engage in the work of the clergy.

What does that mean? Well, it means that last Sunday, during children’s time, I could give our kids a fashion show. More specifically, I shared with them a new article of clothing I’ll be wearing each Sunday: a stole.

“Where have you seen this before?” I asked our children. “Pastor Kathy,” they replied.

Ordained clergy wear a stole draped over their shoulders during worship as a symbolic gesture. Historically, it is meant to symbolize the “yoke of Christ”—which is to say that as clergy, they are “tied” to Jesus and called to carry forth his mission in this world. The stole is also used to symbolize a towel, similar to the one Jesus might have used while washing the feet of His disciples (come worship Maundy Thursday). This is to remind clergy that in any position of power they espouse, at the center of their work is servanthood to the greater Christian community in which they belong.

Technically, I could have worn a stole any time I entered worship, for I certainly feel “yoked” to Christ, and understand servant leadership. Churches and ministers in the United Church of Christ vary greatly on manners of adornment when leading worship. Some students I know are fully robed each week and have been wearing stoles since their first moments of leadership. But with deference to the hard work and perseverance it takes to become clergy, I never felt comfortable wearing it, until this granting of licensure.

And it seemed important to me that it was our children and youth that placed this stole over my shoulders during children’s time, because with this symbol, I offer them, and you, a promise: If the stole serves as the “yoke of Christ” appropriately, I will take my cues from Jesus. I will walk with the people, be committed to teach, and to reach out to those in need. I will speak truth to power, and be certain to find the time to get up on the mountain, or out in the wilderness, to pray. If the stole serves to symbolize a towel appropriately, I will use it to clean the hands of those working hard amongst us, I will wrap an ice pack in it and soothe the sore knees and aching backs of those that strain to improve shelters and sanctuaries, I will wrap it around the shoulders as a scarf for those that are not blessed with adequate heat or warmth, for those who feel the wind as they walk to church on Sunday mornings, or those who stand outside in protest or solidarity, staring injustice in the face, during these cold winter months.

I’ll wear it proudly, but it is yours.

From Paul VanAntwerp

By Jackie Falk, Seminary Intern

In the UCC, February 28, 2010, is Seminary Sunday. I’d like to share this reflection on attending seminary. I went to seminary because I continue answering Jesus’ question, “Who do you say that I am?” Various versions of a dialogue between Jesus and me have played in my head since the first one I remember, when I was 14, at church camp, and sent out to sit alone on a hill to watch the Nebraska sunrise. Each inner conversation since has followed a different, convoluted path, but they all ended the same way, “If I could answer Jesus’ question, then I would also know better who I am.”

Many of you are so dear to me for having walked with me here at Peace as I keep experimenting with how to answer the question Jesus poses, and then what it would mean to follow Jesus. One of those experiments shaped my answer to Jesus’ question: teaching Bible study. I love to study and teach the scriptures. Among the many possible responses to Jesus question, for now, I answer it this way: Jesus is a teller of life-forming stories for individuals and a teacher of community life infused by his radical love. I want to follow Jesus in the telling and retelling of our scripture stories to strengthen and deepen our blessed, nurturing life in Christian community.

My experience at United fits nicely with the way United describes itself when it lists these characteristics:

At United, theology is not a proposition to be accepted but a conversation to be joined. Not only are we not uniform in the beliefs we hold across the student body, but as students we are challenged to be in conversation with God and ourselves so that our faith lives grow and change. We learn to welcome the unexpected.

United maintains a historic commitment to global justice and social transformation. The view of the world-wide church is invited into United and students are required to reach out. My husband Denny will be coming with me to El Salvador in March on a study trip that will coincide with the 30th anniversary of the martyring assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero.

You do not have to be a full-time student to experience United. It has an increasing number of outreach educational programs. They are welcoming and accessible. In a time when our Christian faith is responding to a world in transition not unlike the 1st and 2nd centuries, this is an extraordinarily exciting time to participate.”

One of the blessings UTS has brought me is the opportunity to live and worship among you.

KIM'S COLUMN

"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves." Romans 12:10

This past month has been an unusual one. There has been the outpouring help to the country of Haiti, after their devastating earthquake. Also, there was the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia. In looking at both these events, I am not shocked but relieved to find that in our pain, our sorrows, our differences, our joys, our talents; that we are still able to come together as a world and help and celebrate life for the greater good.



While we are all trying to pull ourselves out of an economic slump, our congregation has come together to donate supplies for 150 Haitian Hygiene Kits, and our youth proudly assembled them. Money keeps pouring into UCC disaster relief funds.

While watching the Olympics, during a downhill, freestyle, flipping and flying event, I noticed on a banner, the Olympic theme for the 2010 Winter Olympics--"With Glowing Hearts." Simply stated, full of grace, we are all here to help and support each other, with glowing hearts.

Jesus was always trying to explain this to people, in teaching love-moments. Here are a few: the Good Samaritan, the Parable of the Sower, the Lost Coin, the Woman at the Well, the Prodigal Son, and the Blessed Sermon on the Mount. His stories teach us to have glowing hearts, to reach out to those who feel like outcasts, to comfort those in pain and grief, to give what you have to the poor, to celebrate life, and remember, you are forgiven, you are loved, you are mine.

Why, sometimes, do we have such a hard time having this grace of glowing hearts, in everyday moments? In a tragedy or in a gathering that happens only every so often, we suddenly jump into action, glowing as bright as we can. Why does our glow seem to have a dimmer switch or flicker out? I know, we live in a busy world, with everything piled on top of us with our computers, cell phones, televisions, and radios.

How can we be glowing brightly all the time? I have the answer and it's easy. The Apostle Paul laid it out for us very clearly in his letter to the Romans... "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves." I see this all week long from the people of this church. Warm hellos and hugs, a check-in with back rubs, kind discussions over coffee and cookies, laying stones in a bowl of water, and sitting and helping someone through their grief. We need each other to produce that brightly glowing light. We need to feel that electric connection of community and family. You might feel like your glow isn't that bright, but when you stand together with others with that same similar glow, it can be seen very radiant, and very brilliant. Sometimes it takes many to relight that flame when you feel like it's gone out, but there are many in this place, ready to warm your soul, and help your heart glow. Grace isn't that hard after all. ☺

Kim Sturtz (Children's Minister)

LIBRARY

Peace Church Library

Check it out!



New adult books

Stranger at the Gate : To Be Gay and Christian in America by Mel White

(Author Mel White will be the speaker at this year's Opening Our Doors Conference here in Duluth on April 16 & 17. We will be discussing this book on Sunday March 28th over lunch at 11:30 in the Fireside Room.)

A Pilgrim's Way : Meditations for Lent and Easter by J. Barrie Shepherd

Nickel and Dimed : On (Not) Getting by in America by Barbara Ehrenreich

Embracing the Exile : Healing Journeys of Gay Christians by John E. Fortunato

God Is in the Small Stuff and It All Matters by Bruce Bickel and Stan Jantz

The Epic of Gilgamesh by N. K. Sandars
Christianity by Sandra S. Frankiel

Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden

Why Religion Matters by Huston Smith

Everyday Racism : A Book for All Americans by Annie S. Barnes

New children's books

Adam Larson – Master of Disguise by Emily K. Stevens

(Donated by Bob and Kay Stevens—written by their daughter Emily.)

The Story of Easter for Children by Beverly Rae Wiersum

The Story of the Empty Tomb : John 20 for Children by Bryan Davis

Don't Call Me Special : A First Look at Disability by Pat Thomas

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl

Three Men Who Walked in Fire by Joann Scheck

RECYCLING PEACE

Babysitter - Kid tested - parent approved! Red Cross certified, experienced babysitter. Call Jackee Fairbanks 218-310-1561.

PROPHETIC MINISTRIES

Our Peace Church/Community

Action evening of Star Power was a huge success with much animated interaction and learning. Over 40 people joined us in the simulation game which fosters understanding and experience in oppression, classism, racism, and power. We hope to offer it again.
~ Linda Curran

Will Work for Timor!

Andrew Webster, owner of CobbleShore Construction, would like to donate work for Tom and Monica's efforts in East Timor. If you have any projects around your home that need doing, please consider this opportunity for raising funds for Timor. Pretty much any aspect of home improvement is fair game. Rough guideline: ½ day - \$100, full day - \$300. Please call Andrew to talk details, 940-3335.

From Lyn Clark Pegg: This is a message I received from Kathy Floerke at the Jubilee House/Center for Development in Central America in Managua, Nicaragua. She asked that I share it with our Peace church members.

"Dear Friends, We in the Jubilee House Community have always said that the Center for Development in Central America is God's project. We're currently facing a pretty severe cash-flow situation. We spent one afternoon brainstorming different fund-raising ideas, but we have also decided to pray, regularly, for God's help. We're currently gathering before dinner on Thursdays, and praying for either \$200,000 or for God to figure out how to tell us not to be doing what we see as necessary to do this year. Will you join us?"

We look at the disaster of the earthquake in Haiti and we want to encourage everyone to give there.

We look at the banana workers camped here in Managua, and their needs.

Our own ministry needs don't seem as urgent as drinking water in Haiti or the end to war elsewhere. And yet we have been called into this ministry and we figure the Almighty is just that, All Mighty, and that there really IS enough in this world to feed the hungry and house the homeless and rebuild Haiti and continue sustainable development work in Nicaragua. It's just a question of distribution of resources! Will you join us in prayer?"

Environment and Energy committee meeting

Wednesday March 3 at 6 pm in the Burrow
(1st Weds of each Month)

From Bill Hardesty—Thanks for the participation of Peace Church folks at the St. Louis County Commissioners, Committee of the Whole Meeting on Feb. 9th. Emily Johnson and Beth Bartlett brought compelling and informative testimony to support the sale of taxforfeited land to the Fond du Lac Band. The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the sale, as opposed to over a year ago, when the sale was blocked by the county board. On March 2nd at 9:30 am, the vote of the committee will be ratified by the board. The Dismantling Racism Team and others plan to be at the board meeting to thank the commissioners for their support and to celebrate with the Fond du Lac Band officials their upcoming land purchase

Donations for Alex Horner's Work in Haiti

I will be traveling to Haiti at the end of march for 2 weeks with a relief group called "Flight to Crisis." "Flight to Crisis" is a newly formed non profit organization that provides volunteers to established aid groups in Haiti in need of additional workers. My role in the group will be to document the entire experience with video. I will be traveling throughout Haiti following the volunteers that will be on the trip. There is an important story to be told and I have felt the need to tell it. Video is a very powerful medium for generating awareness, and this is where I feel I can do the most good. The end result of the first trip will be a series of short awareness videos available online to help further the work of "Flight to Crisis". There are expenses that come along with the trip. I am looking to raise \$1,000 to put towards the total cost which is around \$2300. Any amount would be a huge help in making this trip possible for me. Thanks, Alex Horner

Contributions can be sent directly to Alex at 3816 E Superior St., Duluth, 55804.

Campus Ministry at UMD We are in the middle of an active year at UMD. United Campus Ministry, representing the Presbyterian, United Methodist and United Church of Christ denominations, has been involved in many activities this year. Our biggest project has been planning for the upcoming trip to Biloxi, MS to help with rebuilding houses devastated by Hurricane Katrina. (Check the website at www.d.umn.edu/~031) From March 13-20, over 90 students and skilled workers will travel to the coast to use their skills and enthusiasm in the ongoing recovery project. Other events have included hosting a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for international students, worship service on campus, the campus' largest banana split sundae social, participation in Martin Luther King Day activities, serving breakfast at CHUM drop-in center and more. If you have a student who attends UMD and would like to become involved or would like to check on activities yourself, have them join our Facebook account at UMD United Campus Ministry or go to the website at <http://unitedampusministry.webs.com/index.htm> or call Terese Tomanek at 390-8127.



Grounded in Faith

Taking Flight is the theme that has been created for the 2010 Capital Campaign. It speaks to the fact that it is faith that grounds us, faith brings us to this community and faith sends us out into the wider communities. It is through faith that six years ago we started on the journey to create an acces-

sible, more usable and larger space, first by remodeling the offices and adding the narthex and three short years later to start the sanctuary renovation. These two major projects cost in excess of two million dollars. It is through faith that we now have to pay the remaining debt on the space that was created. By tackling this debt we are able to take flight and open new possibilities for the future of the Peace Community.

We have set a goal of raising \$400,000 in this campaign. Of this, about \$35,000 will be needed to complete the chapel or multi purpose room under the sanctuary addition, \$15,000 to repair the roof over the classroom wing of the building and the balance to pay down the debt. This campaign and pledge period will again be three years. The current debt is about \$600,000. It would be awesome to be able to raise enough over the three year period to pay off all the debt, but realistically we will most likely need one more campaign.

Justin Olson and Lisa Pomroy, co-chairs, along with Pastor Kathy have been recruiting the leadership guides for the campaign. These guides will be installed on March 7th which is our kickoff date for the campaign. The actual campaign will take place the first two weeks of May, culminating with Celebration Sunday on May 16th. There will be several planning and training meetings during March. Many more opportunities to assist with the campaign will be available in the next couple of months.

Please pray for the success of the campaign. ~ Lisa Pomroy



We're Pulling Together! Teamwork at Winter Camp

Property Committee

We are facing some large projects this spring: stripping and waxing the floors on the lower level; addressing the roof problems, etc.. Plans are underway for these needs.

We had a wonderful cleaning crew turn out on Feb. 13 (Marge Anderson, Gerry Cleveland, John Ameal, Mike Schrage, Craig Kvale, Pastor Kathy and myself), tending to the pews, windows, venetian blinds, dusting, vacuuming in the sanctuary, narthex, and Fireside Room. The building needs ongoing loving care in every area by everyone. We need to do a better job of picking up after ourselves, and thinking about how we can make our church welcoming in all ways. The kitchen is being tended much more and makes it easier for anyone wanting to use it. Our wonderful new coffee-maker is a pleasure and easy to use.

There are spaces in the church that would benefit from a person or family "adopting" that area for a time and seeing to its upkeep: e.g. the Conference Room, Fireside Room, classrooms, nursery, counters and kitchenette in the office. Please consider if you would make that commitment for a time. Let me know, so this can be managed and maintained. It is a wonderful way to experience the church and staff, and how busy it is with our own activities as well as the many groups that use this space. We are a very generous church family and our home needs us even more as our family grows.

Mary Martin

Reader Weekly Chooses Peace Church as Best Place to Worship

The results are in for the *Reader Weekly* Reader's Choice, Best of the Northland for 2009. Here is their comment on Peace:

"Peace Church is a more laid back environment for people seeking Christ and religion in their lives. According to their website they are committed to peace and justice, and respect the diversity of people's sexual orientation, race, culture, gender, age, opinions, and physical and mental abilities."

Picture Directories are here.
You may pick one up in the office.

PEACE PEOPLE

THANK YOU

➤ To Steve Coll, Susan Ranfranz, Jim Pospisil, Steve Horner, Tom Wilkowske, Julie Flotten and all others who helped organize the Cabaret, and especially to all the performers! \$700 was raised for the piano fund.

➤ To Jerry Cleveland, Marge Anderson, Craig Kvale, Mike Schrage, John Ameel, Jim McLean, and Pastor Kathy for being a stellar cleaning group this month. The work is needed and the coffee breaks allow us to be together and chat. Mary Martin, Property Committee

➤ To Mary Martin for coordinating a work day at church! Look for more cleaning efforts as we try an "Adopt a Room" strategy.

➤ To Cindy and Jim McLean and Brad Larson for working with Circles of Support to get us "new to us" furniture for the Lakeview Classroom and nurseries. The furniture is on loan from Headstart. Jodie Broadwell who works for Circles is also a Headstart teacher and says they are glad to let us use it. Once again a sign that the collaborative efforts of Peace and Community Action Duluth are mutually beneficial.

➤ From Pastor Xavier Bell with Circles of Support: "Thank you Peace, for continuing to bless us! You are amazing partners."

➤ From Damiano: "Dear Peace Church, Thank you very much for your recent donation of \$500 to the Damiano Center Soup Kitchen, as well as all of the other support you give us, in time and money. We expect to see our current flood of guests for a long time to come; we couldn't manage without partners like you. Gratefully, Dave Benson"

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

➤ Kay Stevens going through preventative chemotherapy

➤ Kathy Tate being treated for breast cancer

➤ Mia Vyadich at Liberalis

➤ Barb Forest recovering well at home from injuries sustained in a car accident

➤ The people of Haiti. Thanks to all who contributed toward the Church World Service Hygiene Kits. The youth made over 150 kits. Contributions for recovery can still be made to Church World Service or to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). You can send contributions to the church or give on-line through www.ucc.org



CONGRATULATIONS

➤ To Mariah Berner who was chosen as Shriners Hospital's Hero of the Month for December. This program recognizes children between the ages of 3 and 18 who have faced difficult times and shown bravery, great strength and positive attitude. Mariah also gave a talk at the MN Chapter of the NFL Alumni and got a standing ovation! Congratulations Mariah!

➤ To Clara Calgren, daughter of Sonja and Kevin Calgren who was baptized on January 31st. Kevin was also baptized the same day during our worship service.

➤ To Autumn Jubilee, daughter of Jill Rogers and John Doberstein, who was baptized on February 14th during our worship service.

➤ To Marci Tuggle and Pam Jukubiak who celebrated their Holy Union on Saturday, February 20th at Peace Church. Special thanks to Mary Nienaber for singing, Tim Carpenter for taking photos and Loni Cran for helping set up and serve the luncheon afterward.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD

Simon Walter Liddle, son of Tom and Monica, our missionaries in East Timor. Tom sent this email, "Thanks from all of us! His name is Simon Walter Liddle. He's doing great, is very strong and vital and playful already. Monica is recovering well and taking lots of rest, eating lots of good tropical fruit and red rice. Hannah is also doing really well and loves her brother already. I'm hoping her enthusiasm for changing diapers continues!



The community here was amazing. The nurse at the clinic helped with the birth and Pastor Duarte and his wife Mary were there right after the birth also helping and praying with us in gratitude. We are taking a bit of a rest for a few weeks, though I'm still doing my English class. After that we'll have to create a new routine with Simon. Hannah's doing great in school so that is very helpful. Our love to all our friends at Peace Church."

Tom and Monica have a need for simple cloth diapers for their new baby. If you can donate any, drop them off at church and we will get them to the Liddles.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome to Our New Members! We had 21 people officially join our congregation on February 7th. Welcome to: Bill DeRoche, Laura Greensmith, Rob and Grace Gee, Glenn Maxham, Dorothy May, Randy and Deb Messer, Zach and Jacquelyn Messer, Noah and Rhonda Mittlefehldt (Joran, Ryan), Gordon Morris, Dan Neby, Sarah and Megan Perry-Spears (Joseph, Liam, Willa), Jill Rogers and John Doberstein (Autumn), Scott and Shannon Studden (Charlotte, Dylan), Marci Tuggle. Read on to get to know our new members better—we hope to feature others in the next Peace Bell. Look for their pictures on the bulletin board in the narthex, and help them feel welcome at Peace!

Megan and Sarah Perry-Spears

Family members: Joseph, 6, and 1 year old twins, Liam and Willa

What is your vocation? Megan is Assistant Director of First Year Experience and Students in Transition at UMD. Sarah is currently a stay at home mom. Professionally, she has always worked in education.

What are your hobbies/passions? We both love to read, spend time outdoors and gather with family and friends.

What brought you to Peace? We'd heard such wonderful things about the Peace Community! We also live one block away! J

What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy? Sarah once had to coach lacrosse and field hockey (2 sports she had never seen played) and managed to do so without ever touching a stick. Megan's "childhood dog", which her family got when she was 10, lived until Megan was 31.

Zach and Jacquelyn Messer

Family members: Golden Retriever, Khai

What is your vocation? Zach – Landscaper with family owned Up-North Landscaping; Jacque – RN at St. Luke's Hospital in Neurology and Pediatrics.

What are your hobbies/passions? Zach – Hockey, anything outdoors; Jacque – Crafts, reading, playing games.

What brought you to Peace? Pastor Kathy! She has helped us through our ups and downs over the past year. Peace Church has really opened their arms to us like family.

What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy?

Laura Greensmith

Family members: Husband, Jeff Greensmith; Dog, Simon

What is your vocation? Public Health Nurse with Fond du Lac Reservation

What are your hobbies/passions? Being outside, old time fiddle music, reading, cooking.

What brought you to Peace? The open minded, vibrant, welcoming community at Peace Church.

What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy? I play the banjo.

Grace and Rob Gee

Family members: Son Robby and Sonya, Kevin, & Clara Calgren, daughter, son-in-law & granddaughter.

What is your vocation? Grace – U-Extension Nutrition Education Coordinator; Rob – Attorney and school bus driver;

What are your hobbies/passions? Grace – Reading, travel, politics; Rob – Travel, reading, cooking, fly fishing

What brought you to Peace? Justin Olson—and the depth of Peace's mission to serve all God's people, and the adult forum opportunities.

What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy? Rob is a bread-maker.

Comments: We sure do like Peace.

Shannon and Scott Studden

Family members: Charlotte (14), Dylan (13), dogs Pippi and Fanny

What is your vocation? Shannon: Training Manager, Northshore Mining; Scott: Radiology Director, St. Luke's.

What are your hobbies/passions? Scott: Hunting, outdoor activities; Shannon: Kayaking, cooking, horseback riding.

What brought you to Peace? We were searching for a church whose mission was aligned with our own values. We found it on our first visit to Peace.

What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy? Our honeymoon consisted of a drive down the interstate in a U-Haul truck, moving from Wisconsin to Tennessee.

Bill DeRoche

Family members: None

What is your vocation? Retired

What are your hobbies/passions? Railroad Museum, railroad antiques.

What brought you to Peace? It is open and accepting.

What is an obscure fact about yourself that others may not know but would enjoy? My offbeat sense of humor.

New Member Reflection

A reflection of the past upon joining Peace Church. ~ by new member Glenn Maxham

Through the ages Christians have, at times, faced daunting and even fatal barriers while practicing their faith but did so regardless of the consequences. As I prepared to formally become a member of Peace Church (Feb.7) my thoughts took me back to the Antonin Brolovsky family whom I met by chance on a remote Polish farm with in a few miles of the historic site where Hitler's gunboat started World War Two.

For a series of videos I was producing for schools on various foreign countries, I wanted to show the transition farmers had to make after Communism collapsed and the disastrous collective farms dissolved. As my interpreter Anna and I drove the dusty rural roads I spotted a half-dozen people hoeing in a soya bean field. After apologies for interrupting their labor, I asked for their permission to inquire about their life on a farm under German rule and, later, under Communism.

Not only did they not regard my stop as an intrusion, they warmly welcomed me. Anna explained I was an American and that the video I was doing would be seen by school children. After a few minutes of talk, the matron of the clan, Kristina Brolovsky, put down her hoe, insisted we stay for lunch in that it was nearly noon, and then went to the farm house. The "lunch" turned out to actually evolve into a delicious full course country-style dinner that ended with an angel food cake!

The abundance of their religious icons led me to ask about the hazards of practicing their Catholic faith in spite of threats and warnings from the oppressive Russian-controlled government not to do so. I knew it had been a challenge but just how dangerous it was came into sharp focus when they led me on a half-mile hike to visit their church to see for myself.

It was a short walk down to a small stream lined with

shrubs and trees. They explained that they didn't dare try to go to their church during daylight fearing they might be seen by the police. Even if they had gone there they couldn't get in. The doors were locked and nailed shut. But someone from the congregation discovered the basement entrance could be forced open and the break-in concealed.

Their sanctuary, especially in the winter, was cold and damp but they couldn't risk making a fire because the smoke from the chimney would betray their presence. The only light was from a few candles that did little to take away the chill or illuminate the darkness.

We headed for the church under a bright mid-afternoon sun but Antonin said the parishioners walked only after sundown in the shallow water of the stream to avoid leaving footprints, brushing over the snow to obscure their tracks in winter. They smuggled in the crosses, icons and chalices for communion and other basic altar furnishings. They carefully covered the only basement window with dark cloth and conducted mass without the services of a priest. They spoke barely above a whisper and sang softly so passersby couldn't hear them. Always they were alert to the chance of exposure to the police by neighbors who had abandoned their faith and sold out to the Communists.

I thought a lot about this deeply moving experience and the risks endured by the Brolovsky family year after year in order for them to draw strength from God and demonstrate their devotion to Christ's teachings no matter what perils they faced — no matter how big the obstacles in the way.

For you and for me there are no obstacles to keep us from attending Peace Church except for those we impose on ourselves — more often than not based on weak excuses, never on fears of being punished for exercising our faith and devotion. In my mind, and perhaps in yours, it raises the question of whether we would be as willing and eager to be in our church if we had to pay the price and face the risks encountered by the Brolovsky's. We don't have to dodge the police, meet secretly in a darkened church, speak in whispers or sing with hushed voices. For this I am deeply grateful.

CRITICAL NEED FOR DRIVERS!

We have many people without transportation who wish to worship with us. Providing cab rides has depleted our transportation fund. We are looking for someone who would be willing to provide rides for a few folks on Sunday mornings. Would you be willing to offer your services on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis?? **Or would you be willing to be the official Peace Church driver and drive people every Sunday?** We could offer a small stipend to anyone willing to do this. Please call or email the office if you can help in any way!

Beyond living into our vision of being a welcoming church, this is a great opportunity to get to know some of the people that worship with us each week. Currently rides are needed from 16th Ave and E. 1st St., 13th Ave & E 4th St., and 522 Anderson Rd.

Donations are always welcome to our transportation fund, and are currently much needed! Put "transportation fund" in the memo of your check and drop it in the offering or mail it to the church. Thank You!!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Tom Hystead Nathan Imes	13 Brian Eklund Sherry Kozelka Sophia Farell Trevor MacKenzie Jaz Farkas Jasper Farkas	21 Lily Moors Charlotte Studden
2 Nick Mulozzi Chris Evavold	14 Jeanie Peterson	22 Charley Kendall Benjamin Fena
3 Claudia Gagnon Joey Rudd	15 Sarah Messerer	23 Lorraine Anderson Dick Goese Paul Winchester
4 Mary Martin Terese Tomanek Jeni Wergeland Pamela Mittlefehldt Mike Nugent Heidi Severson Taylor Wood Patrick Watson	16 Daniel O'Connell Cynthia Coffin	24 Cheryl Walsh Stella Schutz
5 Erik Lundberg Echo Funk	17 Carl Etter Alexis Christensen	25 Sharon Crosby Millie Timm Cathy Wood
10 Deloris Thompson Chris Stegmann	18 Philip Wood Lori Lind Julia Cheng Claire Smith Alyssa Everson	27 Joann Mork Chris Campbell
11 Samuel Blazevic-Seibert Rob Gee	19 Andy Pomroy Autumn Finch	28 Bennett Mulozzi
12 Linda Goese Betty Greene Pat Sjoding Kevin Skwira-Brown Thad Dziuk David Cave Isaac Evavold	20 Casey Aplin Alan Netland Peter Tomhave Sophie Fink Cedar Holden	29 Patty Beech Isabel Marshik
	21 Howard Anderson Jasper Filby Williams	30 Grace Springsteele Marcelle Beerhalter Marlis Cran Bill Watson
		31 Kara Eschbach Matrella Ben Bergeron Madeline Johnson Jan Burns



Congregations working together to create cities of welcome for all people

The 10th Annual Conference
Opening Our Doors
Opening Our Hearts
 Duluth, Minnesota
 April 16 & 17, 2010



Featuring Dr. Mel White

**Saturday, April 17—
 Marshall School Fre-
 geau Auditorium**
 Keynote Speaker, Dr. Mel
 White, "Ending the Si-
 lence"
 Panel Discussion, "Marry
 Me Minnesota"

The featured speaker is **Mel White**, Evangelical pas-
 tor, professor, film maker, co-founder of Soulforce and
 openly gay author of *Stranger at the Gate: To be Gay
 and Christian in America*

**Friday, Evening, April 16—First United Methodist
 Church**

Mel White: His personal story
 Celebration of 10th Annual Conference
 Refreshments and Conversation

Saturday Evening, April 17—Peace UCC Church
 Joshua - a musical by Hiram Titus, Sung by four solo-
 ists and several local choirs

Conference Fees:

Whole conference and Joshua-\$40.00
 Friday Night only-\$10.00
 Saturday and Joshua-\$30.00
 Joshua only-\$10.00
 Joshua only (student)-\$ 5.00
 No one will be turned away for inability to pay.

WATCH FOR ON-LINE REGISTRATION ON THE PEACE CHURCH WEBSITE

www.peaceucc.org

Peace Partnership with CHUM to Spruce up the Family Shelter

The building that is known as the CHUM Family Shelter was bought for \$1.00 from HRA in 1997. It became the CHUM Family Shelter in 1999. It has four units of apartment style housing for families in crisis. Since its beginning, the CHUM Family Shelter has served more than 500 families. Guess what? It looks like it was bought for \$1 and has served 500 families!

That's where Peace has come in. In order to make the family shelter units as suitable as possible for the families that CHUM serves, Peace Church has partnered with CHUM to maintain a volunteer opportunity for Peace members. To serve the Shelter and the families, volunteers are divided into teams: A Move Team to assist families moving in and out of the building by transporting furniture and coordinating furniture donations. A Project Team to complete physical improvements to the units (and just plain beautify them) as they become vacant. A Clean Team to prepare the unit after the Project and before the new family moves in. The project team has already inventoried the building to determine the needed work in each unit as well as the common areas of the building and applied to the Jubilee Fund to cover the expense of the materials needed.

On the weekend of Feb. 6-7 about 20 Peace volunteers fixed up (Project Team) and cleaned up (Clean Team) one of the lower units. They transformed a rather dingy, but functional apartment into a warm, welcoming home (complete with welcoming angel on the mantel place). When CHUM staff stepped into the apt. on the Monday after, tears of joy were shed at the change. We hope the work on the apartments will make a difficult time more bearable for the families that pass through them. ~ **Jim McLean**

From Pastor Kathy: Many thanks to Jim McLean, Paul Van Antwerp and so many others for all their work on the Chum Family Shelter in February. **The next work day at the shelter is on Saturday, March 13th. Plan to meet at the church at 9 am** and go to the shelter together for repairs and cleaning. The council approved a request to pay for these repairs out of our Jubilee Fund.

The Family Shelter is in need of mattresses. The cost of a mattress is \$120. Chum purchases special commercial mattresses. If you would like to purchase a mattress or a portion of one you can mark your gift Chum mattress and we will forward it to Chum.

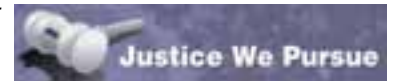


JRLC Day On the Hill

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Theme; **Justice We Pursue!** (Deut. 16:18-20). This text brings direct inspiration and guidance to our work on poverty, health care, judicial fairness, housing, and taxation. Keynote Speaker will be **Rabbi Harold J. Kravitz**, a beloved spiritual leader and an active voice for social justice and interfaith and civic affairs. For more information or to register go to <http://www.jrlc.org/day-on-the-hill/register-for-day-on-the-hill>

CHUM will be assisting with setting up car pools so if you plan to attend, please contact Elizabeth Olson at 720-6521.



March is Minnesota FoodShare Month!

During the month of March CHUM's Emergency Food Shelf is requesting that you help raise money and food to be proportionally matched by the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches. Your church, civic club, school or even you and your neighbors and friends can join together to make a difference to our neighbors who are need food!

CHUM's 2009 Annual Report was printed and will be passed out with Sunday bulletins soon. Due to an overwhelming response to our request for contributions, it has taken us a while to finalize the list of donors. Anyone not listed in the initial report will be included in a 2009 Annual Report Supplement to be mailed soon. Your continued generosity allows CHUM to help our marginalized neighbors work toward stability. **Thank you!**

It's Tax Time! AARP volunteers are now available at CHUM on Tuesdays and Thursdays to assist with taxes. Please call CHUM at 720-6521 to set an appointment.

Needs at CHUM

- The food Shelf is accepting plastic grocery bags.
- The East Food Shelf is looking for a volunteer to pack food orders on Wednesdays between 10:00 and 2:00 PM. You can come weekly or monthly, for all or part of the 4-hour shift. Contact Meg Kearns at 727-2391.
- A volunteer is needed to work the Monday evening *Working Households and Laid Off Workers Food Distribution*. If you can help from 3:30 to 6:30 PM, call Sharon, 727-2391.
- Family Shelter Needs; electric alarm clocks, bar soap, body lotion, deodorant, women's personal hygiene products (including pads), kids hygiene products like shampoo and body wash, size 3 and 4 diapers and kitchen items.
- Rhubarb Festival needs ½-pint canning jars and lids for making jams, jellies and syrup. Jars and lids can be delivered to the CHUM office.

**The Wealth of Communities
Featuring Bill McKibben
Tuesday, March 9, 7:30
Mitchell Auditorium at CSS**

Hear the author of the book, *Deep Economy*, which was discussed in our Feb. 28th Adult Forum here at Peace Church. This is part of The Future of Capitalism Lecture series sponsored by the Alworth Center for Peace and Justice at the College of St. Scholastica. A community wide Talk Back will be held one week later, Tuesday March 16 at 7pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at 835 College St.

**Bill & Laurie Bastian, Sam Black
and Olive Garden Spaghetti
March 21, 2010**

Concert at 3 pm. followed (about 4pm)
by Olive Garden Spaghetti
At United Protestant Church

830—88th Ave West ~ Call 626-2570 for tickets
\$12 for concert & dinner.

(Or, \$12 for the concert & dinner is free.)

(Or, \$12 for the dinner & concert is free)

We plan to sell only 200 tickets

Sponsored by: United Protestant Church in Morgan
Park, Park State Bank, Duluth Grill,
Dougherty Funeral Home and Olive Garden

Mentoring Works!

A grade school mentoring project ~ Would you consider giving an hour of your time once a week if you knew it really made a difference? I've been giving my hour of my time each week for the last two years and it's remarkable the changes I've seen. Sometimes it's just the little things – saying please and thank you. Other times its better grades and no time outs.

Consider that every kid who has a mentor allows the teacher just a little more time to teach and as this happens other children get more help. It is a bit like the pebble tossed into the pond, the ripples have effects well beyond the point of impact. Teachers have more time to teach, administrators spend less time on discipline, the mentor comes away feeling fulfilled, and children and their parents feel more positive about school.

A mentor in this program is a caring adult who is willing to spend an hour a week with an elementary age child at their school. If you are interested please contact Dennis at Men As Peacemakers at 727-1939 or fill out the application you will find at the Men As Peacemakers website. Thanks. ~ Dennis Crumb

**Kathy Kelly speaking at the Duluth
Congregational Church, Sunday March 7 10:30
am service followed by potluck**

Kathy is a founder and co-coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence (www.vcnv.org), a campaign to end U.S. military and economic warfare. As a co-founder of Voices in the Wilderness, she helped form 70 delegations, from 1996 - 2003, that openly defied economic sanctions by bringing medicines to children and families in Iraq. Kathy has spent time in Baghdad, in Amman, Jordan, living among Iraqi refugees, and in Gaza and Pakistan, reporting on war's impact on civilians. She is a graduate of Loyola University, with a Masters of Religious Education from Chicago Theological Consortium and an honorary doctorate from Chicago Theological Seminary. She has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize three times, primarily for her work and witness for the people of Iraq.

Duluth Congregational Church is located at 3833 E. Superior Street. For more information, contact Penny Cragun at 727-2972.

**Racism, Stereotypes, Logos
and what is an American Indian?**

**Presentation by the Rev. Robert Two Bulls
Saturday March 6, 1pm-4pm
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall**

Rev. Two Bulls is a member of the Oglala Lakota Oyate, an ordained Episcopal Priest and an artist. He is director of Indian work for the Episcopal Diocese of MN and Vicar of All Saints Indian Mission. His vocation and ministry is working with the Native American Indigenous Peoples of this land under the auspices of the Episcopal Church.

**Old Tyme Dance at Peace Church,
Saturday March 20, 7 pm**

Old-Tyme Dance at Peace Church featuring the Clover Vally Hoedown Band plus local callers. Saturday March 20th at 8 PM. All dances taught. \$8 Adults, \$6 Members and Students, \$2 Kids over 6. Refreshments provided. for information call Jim Larson at 724-9252. For further information check out www.tamarackdance.org.

**Treasures of the Earth
Green Goods, Craft and Art Fair
March 27, 10-3pm at the Unitarian Church
Special guests are the Peace Puppets!
More info—www.wendyupnorth.com**

MARCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Nursery

- 7 Cindy Krieg, Robin Davidson, Hannah Carpenter
- 14 Sarah Nelson, Patty Beech, Mariah Berner
- 21 Essie Geiger, Kelly Punyko, Lauretta Shrake
- 28 Lindi Steffes, Annie Rupert, Sophie Wilkowske

Ushers

- 7 Todd & Lori Lind, Denise Hamsher, Katey Fornear
- 14 John & Lyn Pegg, Sandra Moore & Deb Stricker
- 21 Bob & Rene Montgomery, Mary Martin, Dan Peterson
- 28 John Moeller, Vicki Barnes, Chris Campbell & Jill Hess

Greeters

- 7 Mary Martin, Nettie Bothwell
- 14 Phil and Elsie Cook
- 21 John and Lyn Pegg
- 28 Marcus and Barbara Lovejoy

Lay Readers

- 7 Cindy McLean
- 14 Melanie Lundell
- 21 Guy Hubert
- 28 Sheryl Filby-Williams

Coffee coordinators!
Special Coffee Hour for you
March 7, 11:45
in the Music Room

8:30 Communion Bread

- 7 Robin Davidson
- 14 Grace Gee
- 21 Arvolds
- 28 Julie Flotten

Damiano Soup Kitchen

March 14

- 1:30 - Elsa Erickson, Dave and Bev Cave, Steve Coll
- 4:30 - Jessica Olson, Laura Zahn, Denise Perry, **Volunteer needed**

Monday Meal

at Loaves and Fishes

- 8 Maddy Carpenter
- 15 Beth Bartlett
- 22 Daina Rosen
- 29 Linda Goese

Wednesday Dinner Helpers

If you enjoy our Wednesday meals, please sign up to help with prep or clean-up! Nadine does a great job, but **she needs your help!**

4:30 prep

3 Volunteers needed

- 10 Marge & Jerry
- 17 Cizzarie

24 Volunteers needed

31 Volunteers needed

Clean-up

Volunteers needed

- Gary/Gary/Hummingbird
- Denise P., Sarah N.

Essie

Doug B-B, Cindy Macaulay



COFFEE HOUR COMMITTEES

March Coffee Hour

Coordinators:

Lisa And Bill Pomroy, 525-1091

Marge Paulson, 464-0561

March 7 — Pomroys and Marg

Communion: Pomroys, Steve Coll

Set up: Pomroys, Marg Paulson

Serve/Clean-up: Jonie Langdon, Linds, John Moeller, Seversons

2 doz. Cookies: Paulson, Coll, Langdon, Linds, Moeller, Severson

March 14 — Lisa & Bill Pomroy

Set up: Pomroys, Zaun/Larson, Deb McLeod.

Serve/Clean-up: Brays, Dalens, Laura Greensmith

2 doz. Cookies: Pomroys, Brays, Dalens, Greensmith, Zaun/Larson, McLeod

March 21 — Birthday Potluck

Food and Fellowship Committee

March 28 — Marg Paulson

Set up: Marg Paulson, Goeses, Barbara & Marcus Lovejoy.

Serve/Clean-up: Marg, Hlinas, Carla Larson, Dave & Stacey Stark, Davis/Tomanek

2 doz. Cookies: Fenas, Goeses, Hlinas, Lovejoys, Starks, Tomanek

THANK YOU!

Coming up — April

Coordinators:

**Britt & Leon Rohrbaugh,
728-1277**

Another Coordinator is needed for April—Can you help?

Gary Anderson, 728-4085

Teri Benton, 727-2502

Ron & Julie Deters, 626-2416

Sheryl & Jim Filby-Williams,
343-2841

Chris & Vi Finch, 724-5328

Jen Pearson & Doug Hoffman,
525-0099

Tanya & Alex Jackson, 525-1480

Debra & Craig Johnson,
729-5107

Todd Kneebone, 786-0313

Laurie & Dave Linder, 525-5991

Diana (Soland) & Joe Machones,
628-3223

Susan Maras, 722-2097

Jennifer Murphy, 727-4308

Alan & Joan Peterson, 724-6570

Daina & Joel Rosen, 389-3306

Jim & Jennie Tomhave,
879-0570

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E-mail: office@peaceucc.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you are not interested in receiving the Peace Bell, please call or e-mail the office (see phone # and e-mail address above)

Welcome to worship at Peace Church—Sunday Services are at 8:30 and 10:30 am

PEACE CHURCH STAFF

Lead Pastor: Rev. Kathy Nelson
Associate Pastor: Paul Van Antwerp
Music Director: Jim Pospisil
Childrens Ministries: Kim Sturtz
Bookkeeper: Beth Chelseth



Office Coordinator: Janell Kohls
Receptionist: Nancy Nelson
Custodians: Brad Larson and Dan Shepard
Parish Nurse: Cizzarie Schomberg
Seminary Interns: Jackie Falk, Paul VanAntwerp

PEACE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY—9-3, PHONE: 218-724-3637

EMAIL ADDRESSES: Kathy: knelson@peaceucc.org Paul: paul@peaceucc.org or 349-0143
Beth: beth@peaceucc.org Jackie: jfalk@unitedseminary.edu
Janell or Nancy: office@peaceucc.org Cizzarie: cizzarie@care2.com

PEACE BELL is a monthly publication of Peace United Church of Christ, Duluth, Minnesota.

Our vision is to be an accessible, open and affirming community growing in Christian faith, committed to peace and justice, and reaching out in healing love to all people, respecting the diversity of people's sexual orientation, race, culture, gender, age, opinions, and physical and mental abilities. Visitors are always welcome!