

SEPTEMBER 2010



# The Peace Bell

PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

## RALLY SUNDAY — SEPTEMBER 12 *Grounded in Faith — Taking Flight!*

First Day of Church School — Ice Cream Sundaes after Church



Join us on September 12 for the kick-off to our fall program year! Church School will begin at 9:30 with kids and parents meeting in the sanctuary for singing and welcoming with Kim Sturtz, our children's minister. Kids will then be dismissed to their classrooms to have time to meet their teachers.

**There will be a parent meeting after the kids are dismissed.** This will be a chance to register all our children and gather ideas for the year.

During Coffee Time after the 11:30 worship service, the senior high youth will be scooping up ice cream sundaes for everyone!

### Bibles for Kindergarten Kids!

Kindergartners will be getting bibles during 10:30 Worship on Rally Sunday, September 12

All Kindergartners are welcome as we give them each "The Bible for Children", a wonderful picture story version of the Bible.



### BABY PICTURE!

Calling all Peace Church babies born since last September — We want your baby face!

Our annual Peace Babies photo will be taken **Sunday September 12 at 11:30**  
Please come to the front of the sanctuary after the 10:30 worship.

### *Save the date!* FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL Sunday, October 3, 11:30-1:00

Enjoy the bounty of Autumn: turkey on the grill, vegetables & more. Look for the sign-up sheets after Labor Day. Wanted: master chefs and their grills! Sign up to bring an apple dessert: bars, pies, cakes – anything "apple". Save your extra garden vegetables for the cooks to prepare on Saturday, Oct. 2. Sponsored by the Food & Fellowship Committee. Proceeds will be used for kitchen equipment



Wednesday Activities  
begin on September 15!  
See page 6

## FROM PASTOR KATHY NELSON

Growing up, the words “Stand up straight” were repeated over and over again to me . Stand up straight. And yet I wouldn’t, I couldn’t. My slouch and rounded shoulders became somewhat permanent. Kyphosis it was called. The cure for this curvature was a back brace. A brace to be worn daily, a brace that extended from my neck past my waist, a brace that was hard to hide even under turtlenecks during the tortuous years of high school. I called my brace Oliver, because it was all over me and seemed my social life with the boys was all over. The brace did force me to stand up straight, although it also caused me a great deal of shame.

Stand up straight. The woman in the synagogue in the story in Luke 13: 10 – 17 also wouldn’t. She couldn’t. She was bent over. Bent over physically, but perhaps even more importantly she had been bent over spiritually. Her shame was so much deeper than mine. The woman’s curvature was perceived as divine punishment for sin. She had been cast out and cut off from the faith community. It was an act of great courage for her to appear in the synagogue, a place she was not welcome. How courageous she is to go, to hear the words of this Jesus she will never see, only able to look at the dirt.

As Joyce Hollyday wrote in *Clothed with the Sun*, “It’s hard to imagine what it must have been like for this woman who had not stood straight for 18 years, broken in body as well as spirit. Every day for 6,570 days, she woke up bent with pain, her field of vision restricted to the ground, knowing that those who saw her saw only a pathetic, crippled woman. At Jesus’ call, she hesitated, wondering if he really meant her. Then she slowly shuffled toward him, afraid. All eyes on her. She could not move very fast, and the seconds must have felt as agonizing days. The crowd parted to let her through. Jesus reached out. What joy broke forth when she was cured! Her life was suddenly flooded with hope. She was able to look Jesus in the face. It is no wonder that her immediate response was to sing the praises of God.”

I imagine Jesus bending down when he heals her. Knees in the dirt he looks in her face. He whispers to her “Woman you are freed” and then touches her feet, just as his feet will be washed someday too. It is a powerful story.

I took this story to the women at the jail. They knew the woman’s story, her pain. Bent and broken in so many ways. Overwhelmingly, for the women in the jail it was addiction that they carried on their back—alcoholism or addiction to methamphetamines. We talked about how their addictions keep them bent over, always looking down, only seeing the same path.

I asked them what would it mean for them to each hear: Woman you are free. Stand tall and know you are a beloved child of God. One young woman asked if she could share her story. She told of how one day, even with a pipe in one hand and an eight ball in the other, she was praying to God to take her addiction away. O God, take it away. She smoked some but was not able to get high . Still praying that afternoon she went out and after helping someone change a tire, she was stopped by the police. She threw out the drugs and she stood up, hands in the air, and at that moment she felt like her prayers were answered. She said it was one of the best days of her life. A new beginning, she said as she walked in with her head held high. And then another woman in our circle said, “keep working at it, keep praying. You must give yourself to this new life as passionately as you gave yourself to your addictions. And remember when the praises go up the blessings come down.”

Stand up straight—the woman did and praised God and the community was blessed. But not all were happy, the religious leaders were angry. Once again Jesus broke their rules. Contrary to rabbinic laws, Jesus called to a woman in public—in the synagogue, during his teaching. He invited her out of the margins where she hid. He touched her and he did it on the Sabbath. You are free ! Free, a reminder of the reason for the Sabbath in the first place according to Deuteronomy 5, “For remember that you too were once slaves in Egypt, and the LORD, your God, brought you from there with his strong hand and outstretched arm. That is why the LORD, your God, has commanded you to observe the sabbath day. You were once slaves but now you are free. “ They were free not to work on this day, all are free on this day. And she is truly free on this day.

Jesus shows us how to heal and be healed. He met the woman’s immediate need by seeing her, calling out to her, touching her. But he didn’t stop there. He confronted the unjust laws , assumptions and the people in power that kept her bent and broken. He affirmed her vital importance to the community—she was a child of God, a daughter of Abraham. No one else in all of the Gospels is given this title of honor.

This is the healing community that Christ calls us to be. We too must see each other as children of God, and challenge systems and people who say anyone is less. So many people are still bent over by past hurts, oppression and poverty. Open up new paths for them and us to walk down. Let us be a people that truly reaches out in healing love to all people. May we be a people grounded in faith, taking flight in love.

Peace friends ~ Pastor Kathy

## SUNDAYS in SEPTEMBER

Join us for worship! We continue to have two services each Sunday morning. At 8:30 we have a Communion Service and at 10:30 we have a service with children's time and choirs. The sermon at both services is the same.

### **Sunday, September 5 PRIDE Sunday**

This morning we celebrate the gifts of our GLBT members and friends. Paul Van Antwerp will be preaching at both of our services and our ONA team will be leading the worship time. Music by James Moors.

### **Sunday, September 12 Rally Sunday**

Scripture: Matthew 6: 25 – 34

Sermon: "Grounded in Faith, Taking Flight"

This morning we begin our Fall Program year – At 9:30 Children will register and meet their Sunday School Teachers. Our Adult Formation/Conversation Hour will begin in the Fireside Room.

Our Worship Team, with Mary Nienaber, Beth Bartlett, Dave Winchester, John Erickson and Claire Smith, will provide special music for our 10:30 service.

After the 10:30 service we will take a photo of all the babies born to our congregation since last September -- All babies welcome! Photo will be in the sanctuary.

### **Sunday, September 19**

Scripture: I Timothy 2: 1 – 7

Sermon: "Prayerful Living"

Music by Choir and Leon Rohrbaugh, Maddy Carpenter, Jane Rupel, Tom Wilkowske and others.

Noon in the Music Room: Lunch and Report Back from the Witness for Peace Delegation to Guatemala

### **Sunday, September 26**

Scripture: Luke 16: 19 – 31

Sermon: "Crossing Chasms"

Music by Choir and Leon Rohrbaugh, Dave Winchester, Ron Deters, Tom Wilkowske.

### **Sunday, September 19—Report back from the Witness for Peace delegation to Guatemala at noon in the Music Room!**

Join us for lunch and hear the stories of folks from our congregation who traveled to Guatemala this past June.

### **CHUM Family Shelter Celebration Sunday September 26 at 5pm**

Picnic with the families on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at the Shelter. A time for food and fellowship, music and even some games.

### **Choir! Choir! Choir!**

Peace Church Choir will practice Wednesdays beginning at 6:15. Everyone is invited to join us for dinner at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall and then go to the Music for rehearsal. Practice will begin on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Jim Pospisil is our music director

### **Kids Choir!**

Kids Choir is starting up again September 15<sup>th</sup>! If your child is between the ages of preschool and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, please come to the Peace Church Music room from 5:00-5:30. ☺ Sing silly songs, play get-to-know-you games, and learn new songs to perform in church. Super fun! For more information please contact Children's Minister: Kim Sturtz.

### **Banner Collaborative**

The church is in need of new banners to fit the chancel area for the various liturgical seasons of the year, and we would love to draw on the talents of our congregation to build a collaborative group of artists, designers and craftspeople. Gail Blum has put together a packet of design guidelines for artists who are interested in designing and/or producing a set of banners. An informational meeting was held on Sunday, August 29 for those who would like to be involved. Worship and Arts will have ongoing informational/inspirational meetings for the Banner Collaborative on Team & Committee nights—the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

### **Sanctuary Angels**

Here's an opportunity for those who want to serve in worship, but who may not want to read, sing or dance. Sanctuary "angels" take care of our worship space and keep things neat and in order. Week-to-week duties include: pouring clean water in the baptismal font, keeping the eternal flame burning, replacing candles when they burn short, scraping wax off the communion table, adjusting window blinds and other "tidying" tasks. Occasional needs for help include changing banners, tablecloths, and other chancel decor in accordance with the season. If you're interested in helping out—once, twice, or on a regular basis—sign up on the sheet outside the office.

## ADULT ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

NEW

### Soul Feast: A Study in Spiritual Patterns Tuesday evenings at 7pm

Beginning September 7

Join us for a book study of Marjorie Thompson's *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*. This book explores a variety of spiritual disciplines (or "patterns") with the goal of helping you uncover the unique way that you connect with God. Sign up in the Narthex. Questions? Contact Paul, or visit the **Adult Forum on Sunday September 5th at 9:30am.**

"Bring it to the Table"

### Conversations on Faith for Men Monday evenings at 6:30

A lot of men have been asking for a format in which they can share their thoughts and speak candidly about their faith and life experience. Our gatherings have been rich with wisdom and perspective. Join us Monday evenings and see where the conversation takes us. Questions? Contact Paul.

### Wednesday Evening Bible Study

6-7pm in the Fireside Room

**Every Wednesday** come and read together upcoming texts from the Gospel of Luke. We follow an ancient bible study method — Lectio Divina. Each participant has unique insights to offer the group from their hearing of the biblical story.

### Women's Brown Bag Bible Study

Weds. September 22 at noon  
Benedictine Health Center

The Brown Bag Bible Study will start meeting this fall once again at the Benedictine Health Center on the 4th Wednesday of each month at noon. Bring your lunch; beverages and dessert are provided. This is a time of fellowship, sharing our stories, studying various topics, and supporting one another. Please join us!!

Facilitator ~ Cheryl Walsh

### Adult Formation/ Conversations --

9:30 Sunday Mornings in the Fireside Room

All Are Welcome and the Coffee is On!

#### **Sunday, September 12 — "Remember Me"**

Rosemary Gonzalez-Nunez and her daughters Laura Alejandra Campos-Gonzalez (13) and Paula Daniela Campos-Gonzalez (12) will talk about their displacement from Colombia due to the political violence there. Their personal testimony gives voice to the Lutheran World Relief exhibit "Remember Me," which will be on our gallery walls at Peace Church from September 1 - 12.

#### **Sunday, September 19 — Churches and Communities Standing with Immigrants**

Rev. John Gutterman from Church World Service will be with us this morning for conversation. Church World Service has been deeply committed to immigrants, refugees and other forcibly displaced persons since it was founded in 1946. This commitment has manifested itself in direct services to immigrants and refugees; policy advocacy in Washington, D.C., to improve policies impacting immigrants and refugees; and a network of 36 denominations and communions, 34 refugee resettlement affiliates, local offices, and individuals who care about immigrant populations.

#### **Sunday, September 26 — We are People on a Journey;**

Jerry Cleveland, a historian by vocation, will present the patterns and cycles that the patterns of immigration have brought to us locally as the congregation of Peace Church and the larger influence these cycles have on the character of our country and its political climate. The pressures we feel now are not new. We have been here before, so what should we do we learn from our past?

**Sunday, October 3 — We are People on a Journey: Immigration and the Church** Jackie Falk will lead a Bible Study to deepen our understanding of the roots of our faith imperative that commits us to pursuing immigration reform.

### Feminist Theology Covenant Group Forming

Join Pastor Kathy, Beth Bartlett and Sally Ockwig-Larson for a discussion of *Sexism and God-Talk: Towards a Feminist Theology* by Rosemary Radford Ruether.

This covenant group for women and men will meet for 8 consecutive weeks starting Wednesday September 29 from 7:30-8:30 and ending Wednesday November 10.

If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Kathy, Beth or Sally. Five books will be available, but more can be ordered if needed.

### "Sabbath Support" Group

Thursday, September 16th, 6:30

Trying to make "Sabbath time" a regular activity in your life? You're not alone! Join us on the third Thursday of each month as we share the grace and challenge of taking time for sacred rest in the midst of busy lives.

*Note: extra copies of Wayne Mueller's book Sabbath: Restoring the Sacred Rhythm of Rest are available in the office.* Questions? Contact Jane Rupel, 733-0866.

NEW

## ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES



### Intergenerational Event

#### Bicycling on the Munger Trail Saturday, September 11, 10am

Join fellow church members for an afternoon of bicycling on the Munger trail!

Recent storms have created “washouts” on the trail, so **we'll meet at the trailhead in Carlton at 10am** and we'll determine which direction we'll go based on repairs to the trail.

Directions: 35W to Scanlon Exit. South on 45. Carlton trailhead is one block past 210.

Bikes are available for rent at Carlton and carpooling is an option. Sign up in the Narthex, or give Paul a call!

### Crafters Gathering! “Beading with Sarah” Saturday September 18, 2pm

Calling all crafters! Sarah Jessico is hosting an afternoon of “Beading” here at the church. No supplies necessary, but snacks and additional craft materials are always welcome! Questions? Contact Sarah: 341-9565.



### Come Help Make Pancakes at CHUM! September 8 & 22

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—you'll meet new folks and have fun!

### SAVE THE DATE! Adult Retreat October 29-30

#### At Caribou Highlands, Lutsen

Calling all Peace Church adults! If you are interested in a reasonably priced fall retreat to enjoy fellowship, fun and faith, mark October 29 and 30 on your calendar and sign up in the narthex. We are putting the finishing touches on planning the first ever all adults retreat. The theme for the weekend will be *Transitions*, and all adult members and friends of Peace Church are welcome to attend.

The weekend will start on Friday evening with supper and continue until Saturday afternoon, with an option of staying a second night and ending with worship on Sunday morning. Rooms will be only \$75.00 a night (cost to be shared among those staying in the room) and all rooms have their own bath. We will have a well-rounded mix of programming and free time plus the added option of a second night stay.

If you are interested in helping complete the planning or would like more information please contact Cindy McLean, 525-3526; Lisa Pomroy, 525-1091; or Bob Stevens, 724-4865. OR, sign up in the narthex.

### Men's Breakfast—Sept. 2, 16 & 30

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

### PALS Saturday September 25

#### Autumn Hike at Jay Cooke State Park

Meet at the Park at 11am



Come join Peace Church adults for a lovely autumn hike—there are various length hikes, or just enjoy the view from the swinging bridge! Meet at the Main Park Building, where the gift shop is located.

Sloppy Joes will be provided for lunch; bring a side dish or snack, if you would like. \$5 daily vehicle permit must be purchased (unless you have a state park sticker). All Peace Adults and guests are welcome! If you've never been to a PALS event, this is a great time to start! Any questions contact Diane Swanoski 729-9643.

### CHUM Shelter Work Day

#### Saturday, September 4, 9am - ?

This month we'll be working on the outside of the building, including the creation of a garden space in front of the building. Jump in and join us on this great Peace Church ministry. **Even if you can't come, you can help! We need medium sized rocks (6" – 12") to build a landscape border.** You can leave them by the front door of the church. Questions? Contact Jim McLean 525-3526.

### Youth Mentor Meeting and Potluck RESCHEDULED for September 12

Interested in the ministry and life of our youth? Consider being a youth mentor! Join us for an information and brainstorming session at Paul's house on September 12th at 5:30. We'll put something on the grill; bring a dish to pass. Interested? Contact Paul.



### Have you ever dreamed of a career as a Sous Chef?

This might be the opportunity for you: **volunteers are still needed to help prepare, serve, and clean up after meals on the second Sunday of the month at Damiano soup kitchen.** Even if you are only available for one 2.5 hour Sunday shift per year, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the office or Jessica Olson at 724-5210.

## WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES – CHURCH SCHOOL

Wednesday Activities  
begin on September 15!

### New Fall Schedule

5-5:30: Kids Choir      5:30-6: Dinner in the Fellowship Hall  
6-7: Faith Weavers, Peace Puppets, Bible Study  
6:15: Adult Choir      6:30-8: Youth Group and Confirmation

### First Year Confirmation - Calling All 9<sup>th</sup> Graders

We have a great group of youth and an exciting year planned for you with class the **first and third Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 pm**. There will be at least 12 youth in our class..

We will also have retreats and a Summer Trip . You will have a choice of an Urban Immersion Program in Minneapolis or an Intergenerational Trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi Mississippi on August 29-September 4, 2011.

Part of the class expectations is regular participation in worship and/or youth group. We are asking that you be in worship or youth group (beyond confirmation class) at least 2 times a month. There is also an expectation of service hours totaling a least 4 a month.

**If this is your first year in confirmation our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm with youth and parents.** Kathy Nelson will be the primary teacher with help from Paul Van Antwerp, Mary Bode and other adults.

### Second Year Confirmation - 10<sup>th</sup> Graders!

The second year class will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 6:30 – 8 pm. Our first class of this year will be on **Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**. You will receive a full schedule in the mail soon. It will be great to be back together again!



*If you come to Wednesday dinners, please plan to take a turn at helping with either 4:30 prep or Clean-up. There will be a sign-up sheet.*

**More info about Choir on page 3, Youth Group on page 7.**

### Church School Schedule

Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Rally Sunday — Sunday School Kick-Off  
Kindergarten Bibles  
Sept 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday School — Acolyte Training/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bibles  
Sept 26<sup>th</sup> Regular Sunday School.

### Sunday School Teachers Still Needed!

Still needing 2 awesome adults to help teach Sunday School, pre-school and kindergarten. We've got some cute, sweet Peace Church Kids who need some amazing adult leaders to teach them this year. You don't need to have a bachelors degree in education, just a big heart and the ability to help young minds and hearts grow in God's love. If you are interested please contact Children's Minister: Kim Sturtz.

### FAITH WEAVERS!

If you are between the ages of Kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade this is a special program just for you to learn more about God and have a craft too! From 6:00-7:00 every Wednesday night, Sarah Nelson, a special awesome adult leader, will be helping you learn more about God through skits, crafts, stories, and games! For more information please contact Children's Minister: Kim Sturtz

### PEACE PUPPETS

It is the fourth year of Peace Puppets for **4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade kids**. Come and join us. We are really expanding our repertoire!

We meet every Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 in the Lakeview classroom. So come have fun and learn how to put on a show for our church family and the community.

Adults or youth—can you help out for a short time each month?

We are gearing up to start September 15 with a parent's meeting. **Parents of kids participating in Peace Puppets come to a short meeting in the Lakeview classroom on September 15 at 6pm to find out more!**

Give Cindy McLean a call at 525-3526 or email [cindy@peaceucc.org](mailto:cindy@peaceucc.org) if you have any questions.



## YOUTH & PARENTS

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

Wednesdays 6:30-8pm in the Youth Room

#### **September 1st and September 8th:**

##### **No Youth Group: Late Summer Break!**

We'll take a few Wednesdays off so you can get ready for school. Settle into the school year, find your new rhythm, and bring your joys (and concerns) with you when we gather for Rally Sunday on the 12th!

#### **September 4th (Saturday):**

##### **CHUM Family Shelter Work Day**

Come lend a hand and learn some skills. Details on pg. 5.

#### **September 11th (Saturday): Biking on the Munger Trail**

Bring the family for a great bike ride! See details on pg 5.

#### **September 12th (Sunday): Rally Sunday!**

Fall activities begin! Let's kick things off at 9:30 this morning. Middle School gathers in the youth room and High School gathers in the conference room. (Note: Youth Mentor meeting at Paul's at 5:30, see details on pg.5)

#### **September 15th: 100% for Ground Zero**

This September 11th marks the ninth anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center. Whether you know it or not, this event has had a major impact on your lives. We'll take a look at the many ways our country and faith have responded, and ask some hard questions regarding the present issues surrounding "ground zero" and the anniversary. Time to push your brains! We're looking for 100 percent of your wisdom. (Note: First year confirmands meet this evening!)

#### **September 16th (Thursday)**

##### **"Middle School at Mount Royal" Begins.**

Middle Schoolers! Mount Royal at 3pm. Come join us! See note elsewhere on this page.

#### **September 18th (Saturday)**

##### **"Calling all Crafters!" Beading with Sarah**

Sarah Jessico is hosting monthly craft parties. This month: Beading! Peace Church, 2pm. See details on pg.5.

**September 22nd "Nooma!"** A series of short films that explore our world from a faith perspective—an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion!

#### **September 26th (Sunday)**

##### **CHUM Family Shelter Celebration!**

We've worked hard on this amazing ministry at Peace Church. Time to celebrate! Bring the family. See details on pg. 3.

#### **September 29th "Brainstorming!": A Look Ahead**

Middle Schoolers walking for hunger? High Schoolers sleeping in cardboard boxes? And so much more! Come brainstorm our future events for Youth Group!

### *Special Shout-out to our Middle School Youth!*

We have a special year planned out for you all. Intense Subjects, New Videos with Faith Questions, Games and Snacks! I hope you are excited! ~ Kim

### **"Middle School at Mount Royal" begins September 16th!**

Middle School is NOT easy (we remember!) Need a break? **Gather with Paul and other Peace Middle Schoolers at Mount Royal on Thursdays at 3pm** for conversation and snacks. Questions? Contact Paul.

### **Crop Walk 2010:**

#### **Attention Middle School**

We as a church are participating in Cropwalk again this year! We would like you to join us in the effort to raise money for those in need! Many youth your own age, have to walk many miles a day just for food, water, and search out a place to sleep outside. By walking and raising money on their behalf, you are helping our community to get enough money so that those less fortunate have food and water to eat, as well as places to sleep! Also it can help people get out of the poverty that they are already in. Sounds like a pretty good deal huh? We've got about a month to get going on this so I hope you can help! :) Put it in your calendars: October 10th, 2010. Meet at Church right after the 11:30 service and we'll carpool to Asbury United Methodist Church! :)

### **Hey Senior High!**

*Ok, so with the start of the school year also comes the start of confirmation. Kathy and I have a lot we want to share with you, but here's the deal: confirmation is the time for you to take a close look at this faith you've been raised with. It's YOUR time, so ask hard questions and share your thoughts. And here's the other deal: it's YOUR church, so you make the choices on what we do and engage and care about here at Peace Church. What matters to you? What do you like to do? Starting on September 12th, we'll begin gathering on Sunday mornings for "Lived Theology" conversations and brainstorming on what we'll be doing in the upcoming months (and making sure it fits your busy schedules!). Join us! And as usual, I'll bring the Nutella and clementines. Paul*

Hey Parents!

The school year finds us taking a few weeks off of Wednesday Youth Group so that families can get acclimated to the new schedules. We do, however, want to provide as many opportunities as possible to connect your family's busy schedules with your lives of faith. Encourage your kids to take advantage of the great peer group of youth that are forming here at Peace, consider one of our intergenerational events as a family activity, hop into a small group that interests you, or join other parents on Wednesday evenings for casual conversation. Are there other things that would help your family? We all work together to connect faith and life—keep in touch!

Parents of Teens "Hang out Night"

Wednesdays at 6:30 (during youth group/confirmation). Raising teenagers? You're not alone! A number of parents get together Wednesday evenings to share the joys and concerns or raising teens. Meet in the Narthex on Wednesdays at 6:30.



He's a neighbor of mine, a great guy, a hard worker, and willing to help at the drop of a hat. He is, by my measure, confident—if not gifted—in almost every task of hunting, hearth, and homestead. So I find myself paying him back for a favor—or many favors—the windows he installed, the rewiring of basement electric, the repair of the snowblower. I find myself in a cold November garage, learning how to help somebody "harvest" a deer.

Somewhere in this process, conversation turns to my vocation. I share who we are here at Peace, and what I do to support it. As I'm talking, I hear the telling self-reflective silence I often hear when I talk about ministry. He is skirting that ever-present judgment so pervasive in our cultural psyche, as if he's anticipating my words to turn toward evangelism, or at least a gentle chide for lack of participation.

"I'm not much of a church-goer," he finally says. "That deer stand is my church."

And I responded, in one of those grace-filled moments when the right words are at the ready: "No, the deer stand is your chapel... The 'church' is what you do in your life and how you use what God fills your heart with when you're in that deer stand."

He is then, by my measure, a very fine "church-goer". He's a congregation member when he collects the mail while we are gone, or helps clear the neighbor's driveway after a snowfall. He's a church leader when he shows me how to fix something on the house that was stumping me—or sets me on the right path with a fix-it project gone bad.

And he isn't a unique example. You know him. He lives near you. Folks like him are often guarded when it comes to illuminating their lives of faith. Often, our best work as Christians is to wear our faith with pride, saying: *it's ok to celebrate what you're feeling deep inside.*

In the same sense, we need him. He is that constant reminder of how we translate the faith we nourish here at Peace with the lives we live when we walk out those doors. I saw this in nine of our High School youth on our recent trip to the Porcupine Mountains. We held a Sunday worship on the beach—with a twist: the bulletin I provided was blank, save the headings corresponding to the unique parts of our weekly worship.

And they worshiped. The prelude was a popular song they had been singing all weekend (it really did "bring them together"). The ringing of the bells was the crashing of the waves

on the shoreline. Children's time was a metaphor on "smores", and the sermon was about how we all "pitched-in" with the work at the campsite. For these "church-goers", that weekend's Michigan shoreline was chapel and church. They, and I, were reminded of the lesson Jesus keeps trying to teach us: Church is not your Sunday best. Church is what you do... church is who you are.



## THOUGHTS FROM KIM

"Children will not remember you for the material things you provided but for the feeling that you cherished them"

~ Richard L. Evans



"ReNew—the Green VBS" was so exciting and so much fun. We had many kids with us every day "Growing in Faith, Having Fun, and Changing the World". Everyday we learned about something new in ourselves and about our Amazing God! Sometimes I know that we fall into stereotypes that children don't know what we are saying or talking about. BUT! They truly are sponges. Everyday I was blown away with all the information that they knew about conservation, recycling, and God's love! They are brilliant children inside and out. The most heartwarming thing that happened during the week occurred on the last day. Holly Bowen-Bailey had the kids write to Tom, Monica, and Hannah Little in East Timor. Their letters were touching, kind, and full of interest in what life is like in East Timor.



Seeing all those children made me very excited about Sunday School this year! Another year and everyone is getting a little older. Preschoolers trying school for the first

time and our fifth graders in their last year before the big leap to middle school. This year's theme is Grounded in Faith, Taking Flight, just like our capital campaign. Our children are the next generation and we need them to know that we can go to great heights with the love of God inside us—



first we've got to

plant those roots with our community of faith! We've got that love around at this place! I am so excited! I hope you are too!

~ Kim Sturtz,  
Children's  
Minister



### Inquirer's Classes —for those Considering Membership in Peace United Church of Christ

There will be two sessions to give you a better sense of who we are as a denomination and as a local congregation. Though attending all both is not 'required' it is a good opportunity to meet others who worship here, ask questions & see where you might fit in with all that goes on in and around here. Children are welcome—childcare is provided. You are welcome to eat dinner between 5:30 and 6 pm downstairs in the Fellowship Hall, then gather upstairs in the Fireside Room from 6:00-7:00 pm.

**Wednesday, September 29** – Welcome, and Theology of The United Church of Christ (a look at what we believe about the Bible, sacraments, salvation and more). We will also have chance to view the UCC "God is Still Speaking" video. Bring your questions!

**Wednesday, October 6** – A brief overview of our local history and roots. We will also have information about our mission statement, church structure, building project, and annual stewardship drive. We have a strong emphasis on the shared ministry of all our congregation's members. You will have an opportunity to take a gifts inventory and receive a shared ministry booklet which contains all kinds of service opportunities. Stay if you'd like for a tour of the church at 7 pm.

**Sunday, October 10** – New members received at the 8:30 or 10:30 Worship Service (If you are joining, please come at 10 am for pictures.)

**SABBATH** This summer at Peace Church, a small group met regularly to discuss Wayne Muller's book "Sabbath: Restoring the Sacred Rhythm of Rest." *Sabbath* was the theme of summer worship services too. When we come together on Sunday morning, how is it different from the other times we gather during the week? In our busy lives, how do we set aside for an hour the business of the week, even the business of running a church and tending to the needs of a community? A key component of sabbath is *consecration*--making time holy by turning our attention away from the demands of the world and setting our intention to be in community through God. The ringing of our Peace Bells, the lighting of candles, the greeting of neighbors we know well and those we haven't met—all these simple acts bring us into a time of Worship.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Our fall worship theme is "Grounded in Faith, Taking Flight." Our church is a lively community of people actively engaged in the world, in prophetic ministry and answering Christ's call to serve and to love. Our actions, ministry and connections in the broader community are evident in the announcements made each Sunday. In the spirit of Sabbath, please remember that announcements from the pulpit should be brief, and "grounded" in the life of the church (committees, Pals outings, sign up sheets, CHUM, etc). Other community events and activities (school plays, music performances by church members, other opportunities to volunteer or serve in the community) may be included in the bulletin and weekly email.

**PRAYERS** This fall we will be "taking flight" with a few new ideas for worship. First, our committee and our pastors have heard from many who would like a different approach to congregational prayers of joy and concern. So Instead of repeating/restating individual prayer concerns, Paul and Kathy will pass the microphone to each individual so their words and voices may be heard. After each prayer, the congregation will respond in unison, "We lift this up in the light and love of God." To remain grounded in the spirit of Sabbath, please honor the intention of prayer during this time, and don't use it as a platform for extended announcements or editorial commentary.

**HYMNS** Second, our music director Jim Pospisil will be helping us to expand our hymn-singing repertoire, adding a "hymn of the month" to sing each Sunday in worship. The choir will learn the hymn and lead the congregation in singing. By the end of the month, we'll all know it pretty well. September's hymn is number 590, *Spirit of Jesus, If I Love My Neighbor*. Talk to Jim if you would like to nominate a number for "hymn of the month."

The Property Committee recently approved two projects: have the air exchanger cleaned, and remove the downspouts on the front of the educational wing to eliminate the ice problems in winter.

Ongoing projects: Digitizing of architectural drawings is being investigated, with a goal of better organization and providing security off site. Mike Schrage is getting estimates to have 2 trees taken down that cause damage to the roof. Ventilation of Paul's office continues to be an issue. Blinds from the nursery have been moved to the classrooms upstairs. Doug has confirmed with Randy Messer that he intends to create paths through the Prairie Garden this fall. The baseboards in the downstairs rest rooms will be replaced. Approval was given to Cornerstone Day Care to build a permanent half-wall in the main room upstairs, and create a door between the nursery and middle room.

**We are looking for a volunteer to remove wallpaper border in lower men's bathroom and either repaper or paint this same area.** If interested contact Denise, 724-5198 or Mary, 720-5894. It looks like we will have another great team this year.

WELCOMING TEAM

Here at Peace Church, we are **all** called to be a part of the welcoming team! It's right there in our vision statement—*accessible, open and affirming, reaching out in healing love, respecting diversity*. We encourage everyone to welcome any strangers or visitors among us, just as we greet our friends and acquaintances each time we gather. Sit with someone new at coffee hour, chat with someone who is sitting alone.

**However, we are looking for a few people who would like to focus some energy on our mission to welcome visitors and new members.** We have many visitors with us each Sunday—how can we welcome them, thank them for visiting and be available for any questions they might have about our congregation? In the past two years we have received 81

new members! How well are we following up with these folks—helping them to feel a part of our community, getting to know others and becoming involved in the various ministries at Peace Church?

Welcoming Team Meeting  
Sunday September 26 at 11:30

If you would like to be a part of the Welcoming Team, please come to a meeting in the Fireside Room on Sunday September 26 after the 10:30 worship service. Are you a recent new member, with ideas about how we could be more effective in welcoming new people? Are you a long-time member eager to share what you have experienced at Peace Church with others? Please join us!

At the August meeting of the church council, Tom Hystead presented the preliminary plans for the multipurpose/chapel space located below the sanctuary. Tom, along with Jim McLean and Gail Blum gathered input from members of the congregation regarding needs and wishes for the most appropriate and functional use of the space. There will be space for meetings, storage, and a chapel overlooking the Prairie Garden. The chapel will provide a place for prayer, contemplation, meditation, or to just enjoy a peaceful quiet place. Our church is so vibrant and there is always so much going on, which is great, but sometimes it is difficult to find a quiet spot. The chapel promises to fulfill this need very nicely.

The next step in the remodeling process is to determine the cost of the project and then the proposed plans will be brought to the congregation for review and comment. Thank you to Tom, Jim, Gail and others who have done a wonderful job on moving this project forward. It is very exciting.

Mike Swanoski, Moderator

### Grounded in Faith, Taking Flight Capital Campaign 2010 Update



Our last three year capital campaign ended on the last day of June, 2010. At its onset, we received \$500,000 in pledges. We took in \$456,000 or about 91% of the amount pledged. Most fund raisers would regard this as a good result.

We still are receiving payments on Phase II pledges—if you haven't fulfilled your phase II pledge, feel free to send it in, labeled "Phase II Capital Campaign". They will appear on your record as "Late Phase II", because our software doesn't allow us to go beyond 3 years with each Capital Campaign fund.

Our next three year campaign is now underway. We have received \$381,500 in pledges. These dollars are to be used for roof repair (already done), finishing of the multipurpose/chapel space (plans are being developed), and retirement of debt. In the next month or two we will provide an update on the status of our loan.

### Organ

Several people have asked where the funds came from to purchase our "new" used organ. We have maintained, since a generous bequest many years ago, a cash reserve fund for the purpose of meeting unexpected situations such as this. This fund had grown to about \$35,000, and the cost of the organ was \$9,000. The council decided that the loss of our organ qualified as a use for these dollars. Rest assured that if you gave money for the organ purchase that it was used for this purpose by reducing the amount of cash reserve we used. We hope to replenish our reserve over the years as part of our regular budget.



### Recycling Peace

Clean plastic containers of all sizes and boxes of ziplock bags are needed in the kitchen for leftovers.

### Check it out!

#### New adult books:

*The Hindu Religious Tradition* by Thomas J Hopkins

*Questions of Life : A Practical Introduction to the Christian Faith* by Nicky Gumbel

*The Quiet Eye : A Way of Looking at Pictures* by Sylvia Shaw Judson

*When Your Baby Dies Through Miscarriage or Stillbirth* by Louis Gamino and Ann Taylor Cooney

*Longitudes and Attitudes : Exploring the World after September 11* by Thomas L Friedman

*Elegy for Iris* by John Bayley

*The Lost Boy : A Foster Child's Search for the Love of a Family* by Dave Pelzer

*The Color of the Night : Reflections on the Book of Job* by Gerhard E Frost

*The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai

*Light of Faith : The Compendium of Theology* by St. Thomas Aquinas

#### New children's books:

*My Light* by Molly Bang

*Boys and Girls of the World*

*How Stories Came into the World : A Folk Tale from West Africa*

*Meet Felicity : An American Girl* by Valerie Tripp

*Felicity Learns a Lesson : A School Story* by Valerie Tripp

*Felicity's Surprise : A Christmas Story* by Valerie Tripp

*Happy Birthday, Felicity! : A Spring-time Story* by Valerie Tripp

*Felicity Saves the Day : A Summer Story* by Valerie Tripp

*Changes for Felicity : A Winter Story* by Valerie Tripp

Use of the Children's Library has fallen off significantly in the last two months. We hope with the beginning of a new school year that people will take some time to look at all the books we have available there and take time to check some of the books out to take home.

# PROPHETIC MINISTRIES

## Dismantling Racism

### Cracking the Shell of Whiteness Returns!

The Dismantling Racism team is sponsoring another Cracking the Shell of Whiteness series, for Peace and Pilgrim church people this fall. It will be offered during the months of October and November on a weekday night, dates and time to be determined. The six session series is about white privilege and how whites can transform their way of thinking and living. If you are interested in being on the preliminary registration list, call Janell at the Peace church office, 724-3637.

## 2010 Hillfest

The Dismantling Racism team would like to invite you to take part in the inaugural Hillfest — a new event that will be held on **September 18th, from 3:00 to 7:00pm**. It is a celebration of the people who *live* in the Central Hillside and East Hillside neighborhoods of Duluth, and will feature the following from neighborhood residents and businesses:

- Food
- Games
- Live Music
- Prizes
- Art
- Crafts
- Children's Activities

The normally busy intersection of 6th Avenue East and East 4th Street will be closed to automobile traffic during this time. The reason for choosing this location is to unite East Hillside and Central Hillside neighbors on the very road that acts as a barrier between the two neighborhoods - 6th Avenue East. Everybody is welcome to attend Hillfest and is encouraged to walk, bike, rollerblade, skateboard, or use any other form of non-motorized transportation.

This is an opportunity for Peace Church members to connect with our neighbors. Whether we live in the Hillside or not, it is a great way for us to support the positive energy of the Hillside. For more information, contact Doug Bowen-Bailey at 722-7166 or [dbb@digiterp.com](mailto:dbb@digiterp.com).

## Community Pride Sunday Choir

There will be an opportunity to make beautiful music as part of this year's annual Interfaith Pride Service which will be held at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth.

There is still one rehearsal at UUCD (835 W. College St) on Thursday September 2 at 7pm.

Sunday September 5 — 8:45 am Warm up;  
9:30 am SING!

## Environment and Energy Team

Starting in October

### MENU FOR THE FUTURE

a six-session study course exploring the connection between food and sustainability.

Join us in October for 6 weeks of discussions about the relationships between what we eat, and the sustainability of our selves, planet, and economy. If you're interested, please sign up on the sheet by the office. Books are \$22, and the session will run from 9:30-10:30 am starting October 3rd. For more info, see [www.nwei.org](http://www.nwei.org) or call Jesse at 525-0325.

## Just Peace

### Friday Night Movie Series

The Just Peace Committee will be sponsoring the Friday night movies for the coming church year. We will be offering a series of monthly video documentaries and movies, starting in September, with themes that should invite stimulating discussions following the films. Our choices of films will be in keeping with the JPC's ongoing mission to promote peace, justice and gospel-based nonviolence both locally and globally.

The first movie choice is scheduled for September 10, (the night before the 9th anniversary of 9/11/01) and will feature a video of Christian theologian David Ray Griffin's lecture entitled *9/11 and American Empire: How should religious people respond?*, delivered on April 18, 2005 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

These three films will be among those offered during the year: "Jesus Camp", a sobering look at an evangelical Bible Camp; "Lord Save Us From Your Followers"; and "What Would Jesus Buy" (the amusing story of the nation-wide tour of the irreverent New York City-based Reverend Billy and the Church of Stop Shopping, with commentary from Tony Campolo and Jim Wallis).

The public is invited to all of these events and snacks will be made available for the discussions.

## TEAM & COMMITTEE NIGHT

Committees and Teams will meet on Wednesday, **September 8**. Dinner is served at 5:30 and meetings begin at 6 pm. We will have a 2010-2011 planning calendar for everyone. Please take time to look it over and update with new events.

## COORDINATING COUNCIL

Coordinating Council will meet on Tuesday, **September 21** at 7 pm in the Conference Room. Visitors are welcome.

## PROPHETIC MINISTRIES

### GLOBAL MINISTRIES

#### Letters from the Philippines:

Dear Rev. Nelson,

Peace greetings from Surigao District Conference! We have been searching for contacts with Duluth partners since three years ago. Thanks for your email to Hazel at SEMJUR.

I am now the conference minister of Surigao District Conference. Our Partnership and Ecumenical Relations Committee have also been longing to get in contact with you. How are you and the ministry of Jesus in your place?

Our pastors in our partner congregation are: (I think, two of them are the same as four years ago):

Matin-ao- Rev.Lino Magpatoc  
Tubajon- Ptr. Rey Vitor  
Union- Ptr. Jurly Rana

You may send letters to them directly but since they are quite far from the city center, it may take a longer time to reach them. You may send it through the conference office. I will be going to Union tomorrow, so I can inform them about this contact with you

Our conference continues its program for nurture, for witness and service, especially on advocacy for the protection of the environment since Surigao had been designated as mining capital of the Philippines, for the care of indigent families and in keeping the fold alive in their faith.

Thank you for this reconnection and we hope we can strengthen this partnership. God bless us. Our greetings to the congregation of Duluth!

Very sincerely,

Rev. Juanita D. Paniamogan, Conference Minister

Dear Rev. Nelson,

Hello. My friends call me Neneng and you may call me that. I have written earlier because I have not seen this email. But yes, we are very glad that we have connected again. We have been looking for contacts since we learned that Tom and Monica have transferred to East Timor. I have written to you three years ago (after looking into the partnership file in the office) but I guess some problems in the internet interfered in this desire to be in touch with you. But here we are, connected again and that is the best.

We will nurture this partnership and learn from each other, support and care for each other for the glory of God and in service for God's people.

We say: "Komusta" to all the members of Duluth congregation!

Very sincerely, Neneng

#### Nicaragua Delegation Report Back Sunday, September 19th at noon

A group of Peace church people traveled to Nicaragua last June on a Witness for Peace delegation, *Another World IS Possible: Fair Trade and Sustainability*.

They will share their experiences on September 19th in the Fellowship Hall, at noon, following the worship service, with a light lunch and slide presentation.

Come and join us - hear what we learned about the impact of globalization on families and their communities, and how they have responded with cooperative projects and sustainable development.



#### Remember Me: Voices of the Silenced in Colombia

Colombia's 50-year conflict has killed **70,000** people and displaced nearly **four million** others, making it the worst chronic humanitarian crisis in the Western Hemisphere—second in the world only to Sudan. The victims of this conflict deserve to be heard.

Witness for Peace is bringing to Peace Church a special exhibit, **Remember Me: Voices of the Silenced in Colombia**, to see, hear and experience the reality of Colombia's violence. The exhibit will open on September 1st, and at the Adult Forum on September 12th a Colombian family will tell us about the assassination of their husband and father, their journey to the U.S. on political asylum, and their adjustments to a new life in Minneapolis.

The exhibit portrays stories of struggle and courage from the victims of violence themselves. The art came directly from Colombia and consists of testimonies and artifacts from individual victims and entire communities affected by violence. Several Lutheran World Relief partner organizations worked to construct the gallery: [Asociación MINGA](#), [Fundación Manue Cepeda](#), [Agenda Caribe](#) and [Entrópico Theatre group](#). These organizations have spent years with these communities, working to record their testimonies, promote healing and advocate for justice.

As U.S. citizens we hold tremendous power to promote peace. After hearing our Colombian neighbors' stories, you can take action to help end the conflict in Colombia and ensure U.S. support for peace and justice in the country.

## PEACE PEOPLE

### THANK YOU

- **Thanks to all our Special Musicians in August**—the Hootenany, James Moors, Sara Thomsen, Katey Fornear and George Bowen.
- To Peace Church Youth Group: Thank you for your recent gift to African Soul, American Heart. Your support is deeply appreciated. Thanks to your generosity, we will meet our mission to shelter orphans in Southern Sudan.
- Big Thank You!!! to everyone who donated Food, Craft Supplies, Personal Time and other items for VBS. We couldn't have done it without you! You made the entire week amazing! VBS elves, you are the best!
- From the Unitarian Universalist Church: "Thanks for the use of 6 tables for our rummage sale. They helped us to raise funds for our operating budget. Thanks so much!"
- To Holly Jorde, for making lots of potato salad for the CHUM Community picnic.
- "Thank you for hosting Caps for Caleb on Sunday July 11. The congregation was very generous in helping with Caleb's medical expenses by donating for knitted hats." Rhonda Peterson



### KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Joe Machones recovering from knee surgery.
- Hummingbird living at Solvay Hospice House, hoping to go home soon.
- Barb Kehtel recovering from Lyme disease
- Tom, Monica, Hannah and Simon Liddle, who have been in East Timor as missionaries with our World Board for the past year. Check out their blog which is on our web site . . .  
.www.peaceucc.org Hold them in your prayers.

### Wedding Congratulations

To Mike Schrage and Jennifer Smith who were married August 21 at Westminster Presbyterian with Rev. Bob Stevens officiating.

### Baptism

On August 29th, we celebrated the baptism of Caleb Hovis, son of Dale and Chelsea, the grandson of Loni Cran-Hovis and great grandson of Marlis Cran.

### Sympathy

To Mark Liske on the death of his sister.

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Elliot Bergsven  
3 Maxine Proetz  
Aidan Erickson  
4 Eponine Schomberg  
5 John Greene  
Lauretta Shrake  
Siri Larsen  
7 Jennifer Zoretich  
Sam Peterson  
8 Sharon Geisert  
9 Cameron Mitchell  
Cathy Dziuk  
12 Emily White  
Jill Pospisil  
13 Rod Schelin  
Tom Liddle  
14 Anne Beauchamp  
Emily Larson  
Beth Ruark  
Kate Skwira-Brown



16 Jerry Cleveland  
Bonita Schelin  
Gwen Plumb  
17 Hans Arvidson-Hicks  
Mac Tobin  
Kim Landon  
18 Rachel Peterson  
19 Todd Kneebone  
Oscar Lundell  
20 Eli Beech Brown  
21 Naomi Christensen  
Stacy Sudoh  
22 Emily Punyko  
Peter Provost  
Grant Provost  
Mattie Fox  
23 Lisa Messerer  
John Fox  
24 Sergei Hanka  
Beth Kinney



24 Mary Adams  
25 Stella Molina  
Dean Fox  
26 Nancy Nelson  
(New Hope)  
Ingrid Nisswandt  
Isabelle Schomberg  
Anne Simpson  
Joseph Mulozzi  
Kevin Kinney  
27 Charlie Bray  
28 Andy Fena  
Kris Larson  
29 Adam Stermer Daniluk  
Megan Stermer Daniluk  
30 Chris Bode  
Karola Dalen  
Elijah Johnson

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

**Minnesota UCC 2010 Annual Meeting Report**

The Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ held its annual delegate meeting June 11-12, 2010, at the College of St. Benedict, in St. Joseph, Minnesota. Peace Church delegates were Pastor Kathy Nelson, Paul Van Antwerp, Linda and Tom Curran, Marge Anderson, and Jerry Cleveland. Lyn Pegg attended as a visitor. This year's theme was *Witnesses... to the Ends of the Earth*, marking the 200th Anniversary of our denomination's foreign mission efforts. Two sessions celebrated the ministries of current Minnesota UCC members serving abroad—Donald and Maryjane Westra, Federated Church in Fergus Falls, serving in Zimbabwe; and Tom and Monica Liddle, Peace UCC in Duluth, serving in East Timor. Keynote speakers from the national UCC Office of Wider Church Ministries led worship, preached, and informed the body of ministries in East Asia and the Pacific and the overall work of Global Ministries.

Meeting delegates approved a 2010-11 budget for the Minnesota Conference; in spite of declining revenues from member churches, prudent fiscal management will be able to preserve current staffing and programming. A consultant hired to study the operation and future of Pilgrim Point Camp informed the body of her findings and recommendations; the Camp Committee will present recommendations at the 2011 Annual Meeting. Delegates passed a resolution in support of marriage equality regardless of gender with added language recognizing that not all Minnesota UCC folks are of the same mind on this issue. Delegates approved a statement affirming partnership with the Southeast Mindanao Jurisdiction of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines; Pastor Kathy Nelson led a workshop session to discuss this partnership. Also approved were minor bylaw changes designed to improve the functioning of the Conference. Delegates approved Nominating Work Group recommendations of members to serve on the Conference Board of Directors, Conference Work Groups and Committees, and delegates and alternates to future UCC General Synod meetings. The new Conference Moderator is Lisa Lindesmith, lay member from Robbinsdale UCC; the Vice-Moderator is Spencer Kvam, lay member from Granite Falls UCC. Both officers serve two-year terms. The gathering also honored church's celebrating of significant anniversaries, contributions to special offerings, support of seminaries, efforts to become more eco-friendly. Pastors reaching milestones of service were honored. Those who died in the past year were remembered.

Besides doing business and receiving information, an important function of the Annual Meeting is to provide opportunity for Conference folks to socialize, worship, celebrate together—to renew a sense of oneness and identity as Christians in our collective faith, and to go home renewed in our vision to minister in our communities. Conference Minister Rev. Karen Smith Sellers, in the opening sermon, proclaimed how the very act of gathering and worshipping is a radical act of affirmation in a culture which increasingly seeks to divide and isolate people. The closing sermon by Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte, of the national UCC Global Ministries office, challenged the body to go out and be a "Do Ask and Do Tell" church in the midst of a "don't ask, don't tell" society. Inspiring music, liturgical dance, and fervent prayer combined with prophetic preaching made this Annual Meeting a blessed time together.

-Submitted by delegate Jerry Cleveland

**Volunteer to be a Mentor  
to an Ex-offender**

Hello friends,

I cannot help but smile whenever I hear Pastor Kathy say, "Peace Friends" at the end of a Sunday morning service. My smile has nothing to do with the fact that the service is over, and everything to do with the sense of belonging that those simple words convey. I, along with many others, have found acceptance and belonging at Peace Church. The need for relationship, acceptance, a sense of community and a sense of belonging are universal needs.

For people returning to the community after serving time in jail or prison, it is often very difficult to get these needs met in a positive, healthy way. They deal with the stigma, shame, and stereotypes of being labeled a "criminal" or a "felon." The majority have chemical dependency and/or mental health issues as well which compound the challenges of reentry. The Community Offender Reentry Program (CORP) reduces harm in the community of Duluth through the support and stabilization of ex-offenders. Through case management CORP assists in the reentry process by helping adult offenders overcome barriers to housing, employment, education, relationships, transportation, mental/physical health, and sobriety. CORP's mentor program connects ex-offenders to the community through one on one mentoring, pro-social groups and activities.

SOAR Career Solutions is the parent agency for the Community Offender Reentry Program (CORP). CORP is a voluntary program for ex-offenders returning to the community of Duluth. Our client population includes ex-offenders with a wide variety of criminal records coming out of NERCC (Northeast Regional Correction Center), St. Louis County jail, and state and federal correctional facilities. Our client population is approximately 80% male, 20% female, and includes people from various racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. They range in age from 20 - 60.

(continued on next page)

## COMMUNITY AND UTS

(*Mentoring continued*) Mentoring is a key component in supporting ex-offenders and reducing recidivism. Mark Groves, the Facilities Reentry Coordinator for the Minnesota Dept. of Corrections, shared with me that the single most important factor in an ex-offender's successful reentry is having a mentor. CORP is searching for adult community members to provide interpersonal and practical support, serve as positive role models, and engage in respectful and trusting relationships with ex-offenders through one on one mentoring relationships.

Would you consider reaching out to an ex-offender with friendship, acceptance and a non-judgmental attitude through being a volunteer mentor with the CORP program? Please contact Sara Carlson for more information at 218-625-2407 or [scarlson@soarcareers.org](mailto:scarlson@soarcareers.org).

Thank you!

Sara Carlson, CORP Mentor Coordinator

### Harvest Festival

September 11th @ Bay Front Park

The 17th annual Harvest Festival is a project of the Lake Superior Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota, to help promote sustainable local food production as a key component of a healthier economy, environment and community in the Lake Superior region. Since 2004 Lake Superior Energy Association has presented an Energy Fair along with the Harvest Festival. The Energy Fair aims to provide the community with credible, innovative and effective solutions to our communities' energy challenges by showcasing local energy conservation resources and education.

#### Harvest Fest Activities:

Farmers Market, Sustainable Seminar Tents, Petting Zoo, Kite Flying, Story Telling Tent

Speakers: 2pm John Iker—"Sustainable Energy from Agriculture: A Question of Food and/or Fuel"

4pm Nate Hagens—"The Coming Energy, Food & Financial Transition"

Concert at 5:30 with local band Yeltzi followed by Stephanie Nilles, indie blues jazz pianist \* \*

#### *Looking for Harvest Festival Volunteers*

Shifts: 8am-8pm—Shift Duration: 2 hrs

Call Volunteer Coordinator: Kate Harrison at 651-249-5102.

### Laps Around the Library

September 25 at 9:30

Registration and check in at 8:30am

\$15/person, \$35/family. Add \$5 after Sept. 15

Registration forms at the Whole Foods Co-op, library, or download at Friends link at

[www.duluth.lib.mn.us](http://www.duluth.lib.mn.us)

### Academy for Vital Christianity class

at Peace Church.

Saturdays October 16 & November 13

"*Reading the Prophets in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*" will be taught by Richard Weis, Professor of Old Testament theology at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. Cost is \$190 (before October 9). Register online at [www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp](http://www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp).

### 6th Annual DS Pride 5K Family Fun Run

Saturday, Sept. 4th 8:30 a.m.

Western Waterfront Trail.

\$10 per person, kids 11 and under free. Great door prizes and lots of fun for the whole family. Contact Gary Anderson with any questions 218-391-7404

### Men As Peacemakers 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike Ride

Sunday September 12

starting at 1pm from Fitgers Complex.

This year the route will follow the Lakewalk to Canal Park then across the bridge to the entrance of the Sky Harbor airport, then back to Fitgers. **Registration will start at noon in front of Fitgers** and the ride will commence at 1 p.m. The social time after the ride will take place behind Fitgers in the back courtyard. Food will be provided and drinks will be available. There will be a drawing for a great bike (type to be determined) and also for a kid's bike. There will be other prizes as well. Registration is \$15 for a student, \$35 for an individual, and \$40 for a family. Receive a \$5 discount by registering online at <http://menaspeacemakers.org/node/135>.

### Loaves and Fishes Benefit Concert & Supper

Weds. September 22, 4:30-7:30

St. Michael's Church, 4901 E Superior St

Featuring Gerry Ouellette,

contemporary folk music

Suggested donation \$10, kids under 10 free.

### Arrowhead Interfaith Council

Seeking Board Members

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6:00pm. The next meeting will be on Sept. 14th, at First United Methodist Church, in the Study room. Peace Church is a member of AIC, eligible to have delegates on the board. If you are interested, please contact Salima Swenson at 218-391-0260.

# SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

## Nursery

- 5 Sarah Nelson, Patty Beech, Hannah Carpenter
- 12 Kelly Punyko, Susan Kehtel/Amy Galarowicz, Lauretta Shrake
- 19 Linda Steffes, Carla Larson, Annie Rupert
- 26 Kristina Green, Essie Geiger, Kim Landon

Thanks to all our great Volunteers!

## Greeters

- 5 John & Lyn Clark Pegg
- 12 Jonie Langdon, Craig Kvale
- 19 Mary Martin, **volunteer needed**
- 26 Marc & Maggie Fink, Craig Kvale

## Lay Readers

- 5 Julie Flotten
- 12 Cindy Macaulay
- 19 Robert Gee
- 26 Doug Bowen-Bailey

## 8:30 Communion Bread

- 5 Jerry Cleveland
- 12 Terese Tomanek
- 19 McLeans
- 26 Linda Lundberg



## Damiano Soup Kitchen

### Sunday September 12

- 1:30: Jessica Olson, Kathy Dowell, Robin Davidson
- 4:30: Denise or Dennis Hamsher, Penny Cragun, Tom & Kim Heinitz

## Monday Meal

### at Loaves and Fishes

- 6 Clark-Peggs
- 13 Stevens
- 20 Sandy Moore
- 27 Marlis Cran



## Ushers

- 5 Mary Martin, Holly Bowen-Bailey, Laurie & Mariah Berner
- 12 Matt Johnson, Julie Mackenzie, Robin Davidson, **volunteer needed**
- 19 Joan & Wes Severson, Laura Anderson, Essie Geiger
- 26 Todd & Lori Lind, Mike & Diane Swanoski

## COFFEE HOUR COMMITTEES

### September Coffee Hour

#### **Coordinators:**

**Essie Geiger, 728-4483**  
**Katey Fornear, 525-3516**

**September 5—To be announced**

**September 12—Essie &/or Katey**

Set-up: Doreen Marciniak, Kim Landon

Serve/Clean-up: Skwira-Browns

Treats: Phil/Elsie Cook, Sara Carlson, Skwira-Browns, Essie

**September 19—Katey**

Set-up: Bob/Kay Stevens

Serve/Clean-up: Hamshers, Swanoskis

Treats: Katey, Stevens, Hamshers

**September 26—Essie**

Set-up: Pat/Angie O'Connell

Serve/Clean-up: Cindy/Mark Poirier

Treats: Lynn Lanier, O'Connells, Poiriers

**THANK YOU!**



### Coming up — October

#### **Coordinators:**

**Jerry Cleveland & Marge Anderson, 724-4391**

**Sharon Crosby, 624-5582**

Laura Anderson 464-0566  
Beverly & Dave Cave,  
218-273-4041

Robin & Lee Davidson,  
728-0237

Echo Funk & Nick Schutz,  
218-213-7817

Jim & Vivian Gangl, 722-4905

Cammy & Shawn Hansen,  
525-0100

Pam Jakubiak and Marci Tuggle,  
724-3103

Sarah Jessico, 341-9565

Njoki Kamau, 728-9306

Ingrid Nisswandt & Chris Larsen,  
724-6104

Shari Marshik, 525-6845

Justin & Jessica Lilja Olson,  
724-5210

John Pokrzywinski, Mary Sue Taallerud, 525-8346

Jim & Jill Pospisil 724-8337

Chris & Jay Sandal, 724-4934

Amy & Tavis Westbrook,  
728-2550

Leslie & Mark White, 728-9545

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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: Dan Shepard  
Parish Nurse: Cizzarie Schomberg  
Pianist: Seulgee Lee

**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 Janell or Nancy: office@peaceucc.org  
Kim: kimsturtz@gmail.com 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!*