

Congregation Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 12 immediately following the 10:30 service Peace Church Sanctuary and via livestream

The Annual Meeting will take place on June 12 after the Sunday Service. It will also be available via livestream for those not able to attend. Items on the agenda include approval of last year's minutes, voting on candidates for the Coordinating Council, and discussion on the interim process.

Graduation Sunday

Sunday, June 5

We will celebrate our high school graduates. Benjamin Fena, Hannah Liddle, and Kai Hoffman will each share some thoughts. Mia Kraker, Noah Beyer, Benjamin Fena, and Hannah Liddle will provide our special music, and we will celebrate all our graduates with a slideshow and a blanket blessing. Thanks to Jen Hudyma for making blankets for all our seniors and to Halima Amiri and friends for tying them.



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We honored our 2022 Confirmands on Sunday, May 22 at the 10:30am worship service. Thank you to our confirmands and Sara Olson Dean for leading worship service.

From Interim Pastor Jim

"Our first job now is to remember. Our second job is to act. Remember, act, repeat. Since that day, none of us are the same. But we are alive. And in memory of those who are not, we will remember and act for the rest of our lives". (David Hogg in #NeverAgain)

Dear friends—

One of the things I have appreciated about Peace Church in my time with you has been the emphasis you place on faith formation and children, youth, and high schoolers, the next generations of our community and the world. Your passion for their spiritual and emotional well-being and the recognition that these last several years of Covid in particular have been particularly hard on them is a harbinger of hope. Confirmation Sunday was a day of joy here where the future felt visible in a new way.

This last month has reminded us that gun violence threatens their lives and safety: in a nearby home, in Buffalo, and this week in Uvalde, TX where so many children lost their lives. The ready availability of assault rifles, the lack of universal background checks, the uptick in crimes against People of Color and the ongoing reality of racism upheld by white supremacy have contributed to an epidemic as serious if not more so than Covid-19. That is why we are bringing David Hogg, a young Parkland survivor, to Duluth in Octover for a big Peace Rally as part of our Peace@150 activities. We want



City Council President Arik Forsman Joan Peterson, Sarah Mikesell, Chief Mike Tusken and Pastor Jim. #EndGunViolence

to make a strong statement to young people today that Peace Church is as committed to peacemaking in the present as it has been in past generations, and to say to our city #neveragain when it comes to shootings like these.

We hope you'll want to be part of the process of planning and hosting the Peace Rally. We have copies of the short book that David and his sister Lauren wrote about their experiences the day of the shootings at their high school, called #neveragain. Pick one up at church or get one on your own and read it and watch for interviews with David and other members of March For Our Lives. Keep praying—and ask yourself what can we individually and collectively do to make a difference. These deaths are not inevitable. We can bring them to an end.

~Yours in Peace Making, Pastor Jim



We have some plans with St. Mark AME Church #GoodTrouble

Youth group held a bake sale during coffee hour on Sunday, May 22 as a fundraiser for Loaves and Fishes (top right).

We hosted a Vigil for victims of the recent mass shootings in Buffalo and Texas which including a remembrance of all mass shootings with singing and bell ringing (bottom right).





Rev. Jim Mitulski of Peace United Church of Christ in Duluth speaks at the top of the steps of Duluth City Hall during a pro-choice protest on Saturday.



Sundays in June

Please note that during June we will continue to have two morning worship services along with 9:30am activities each Sunday and Coffee hour and refreshments following the second service.

Sunday, June 5: Pentecost Sunday & Graduation Sunday

*Red is the liturgical color denoting the presence of God's Spirit among us. You are invited to wear red as we celebrate Pentecost together.

8:30am: Please join us for worship with Holy Communion in the sanctuary. Pastor Jim will be preaching.

9:30am: Breakfast for the High School Graduates and their families in the Fellowship Hall.

10:30am: Please join us for worship in the sanctuary or via livestream. We will share communion. Special music by Noah Beyer, Hannah Liddle and Benjamin Fena. Join us for a recognition and blessing of our High School Graduates.

5:00pm: Taizé Worship in the sanctuary.

Sunday, June 12: Trinity Sunday

8:30am: Please join us for worship with Holy Communion in the sanctuary.

9:30am: Forum in the Fireside: What's Next in this Interim process?

10:30am: Please join us for worship **in the sanctuary or via livestream.** Special music by Susan Larson Kidd and Kelli Hallsten-Erickson.

11:45am: Annual Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary and via livestream.

12:15pm: Blessing of the Tent and Congregational Potluck in the Fellowship Hall.

*See page 8 for more info on the tent and potluck.

Sunday, June 19: Second Sunday after Pentecost

8:30am: Please join us for worship with Holy Communion in the sanctuary. Pastor Jim will be preaching. Special music by Mark Hakes and Elliot Dean.

9:30am: Gather at St. Mark AME or the Giving Garden (watch email for details)

10:30am: Join us for worship with St. Mark AME. Pastor Anthony Galloway will be preaching with music from our combined choirs.

12:00pm: Gospel Brunch at St. Mark AME. *See Page 8 for more info on Juneteenth.

Sunday, June 26: Third Sunday after Pentecost

8:30am: Please join us for worship with Holy Communion in the sanctuary.

9:30am: Forum in the Fireside: Stonewall Uprising facilitated by Pastor Jim.

10:30am: Please join us for worship with healing and communion in the sanctuary or via livestream. Special music by Wendy Durrwachter.

*See page 8 for more info on the Stonewall Uprising.

June Coffee Hour

11:30am following in-person worship service

Come join us for coffee hour after the 10:30 service. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall to drink coffee, eat a treat and socialize!





We have many talented artists who share their gifts with us on Sunday mornings! Thanks to Nathan Holst and Ian Connell for providing special music in May and Andre Good for playing the violin.

Worship in July and August

Sunday worship beginning July 10 will be a single service only, at 9:00am, in the sanctuary, with coffee hour afterwards. Sunday services will include Communion.



Strengthen The Church

Sunday, June 5

The Strengthen the Church Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations.

History Corner

THE BELLS RINGING OUT THROUGH THE YEARS FOR PEACE: BELLS 2 AND 3

After learning about the 1873 cannon being melted into our first peace bell, we move to the second and third bells, which began as an inspiration of the 1950's pastor and members as they envisioned a beautiful new church named PEACE.

What was the inspiration for the bell tower and was it easy to put up?

When the new church was being planned, Rev Schmidt and the congregation imagined a tall memorial bell tower to continue to provide melodious call to worship and more. The church commissioned the making of the tower to be put into place after the new church had been built in 1959. Thus, in January 1960, a tall metal tower was delivered, and a crane was placed to lift it in position. Not surprisingly, it was a cold day with brutal winds off the lake. The first attempts to right the tower failed, and it was determined that the crane was too small. A larger crane was later utilized to successfully place it next to the church looking downhill over Duluth and the lake. In March, the original German cast bell and the second bell were raised up into the tower and began to ring out the message of peace to the whole town.



What was the vision for the second bell?

Rev Schmidt wanted our original German bell to be accompanied by a second bell to continue the biblical philosophy "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares and learn to war no more". In maintaining the theme of transforming instruments of destruction into instruments of peace, Rev. Don Schmidt sent a request to President Eisenhower seeking war materials from World War II that could be melted into a second bell. A letter came back from the Navy stating that the melting wasn't feasible, but that they had some bells from ships that had seen war service. In a response from the White House, Wilton B. Persons, Assistant to President Eisenhower, notified the congregation. Peace Church would receive, on an indefinite loan, an 880-pound bell taken from an American warship, the U.S.S. ASCELLA, that was used against the German nation in World War I and II. (Interesting note: The first bell was a gift from Germany to promote peace. The second was used in the fight against Germany)

The bell arrived in Duluth by ship as part of the huge celebration of the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. It was presented to the Church in a ceremony on the deck of the U.S.S. FORREST SHERMAN on July 12, 1959. In 1960 the bell was hung in the tower and began its ringing in synchrony with the first bell.



Captain Poulakis, Rev. Schmidt and Carl Erickson looking at the bell just brought in from Holland.

Apparently, the Navy lost track of where the bell was and only knew it was in Duluth at a church. Once Peace was identified as the recipient, the Navy initiated formal paperwork. The surprise came in 2007 when a formal letter of agreement arrived regarding the use of the church bell. Head of the Peace history committee, Bill Kehtel and Pastor John Pegg studied the new agreement and found it appropriate except for one segment. "Navy bells are static items and are not to be rung by borrowing parties without permission."

Their response back to the Loan Officer of the Navy: "As we have been privileged to have the use of this bell for the past 48 years, we have had a long-term relationship of respectful and grateful use. We have no problems with all the terms of the agreement with the exception of ending the ringing of the bell."

"We, at Peace Church, have been using the bell as Mr. Wilton B Persons, the Assistant to the President, suggested in his 1959 letter of loan to our congregation. His exact words: "A ship's bell from one of our ships of World War II could be made available to Reverend Schmidt, Pastor of Peace Church, on an indefinite basis. This appears to be a ready-made solution and certainly there would be deep and reverent meaning for such a bell to ring out its Christian message from the hills of the growing port of Duluth"

Upon reading the Peace response, Thomas Pickenpaugh, Loan Officer of the Navy wrote back quickly, "Permission is granted to ring the USS Ascella ship's bell. Surely its size and strength will easily withstand being rung."

This agreement is now ratified by Peace Church every July.

History Corner Continued

Is the third bell also a retired instrument of war?

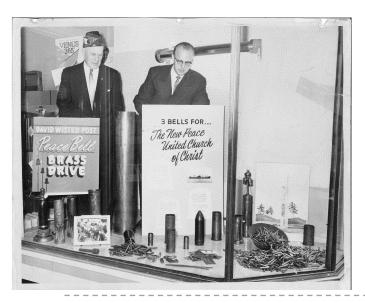
The third bell has a similar beginning, but it is the compilation of several types of metal associated with war. This third and largest bell contains scrap war materials gathered through the efforts of the David Wisted American Legion Post specifically in memory of U.S. servicemen who had given their lives in the hope of peace. In May 1962, eight ingots of copper and brass were entrusted to the skipper of the Greek vessel GEORGIOS MANOLAKIS, which was the first foreign flag ship to reach the Twin Ports through the Seaway that year. They were to be the raw materials for the bell. Peace Pastor Schmidt welcomed the Captain, Constantinos Poulakis, to Duluth and invited him to his home for dinner in appreciation even though neither could understand the other's language.

The metal then was shipped to Holland to the Petit & Fritsen bell foundry where eventually the 1408 pound bell emerged. In September, it was carried back to Duluth on the same ship with the freight charges donated by the MANOLAKIS owners. It was hung in the bell tower in 1962, completing the set of three in the bell tower to ring over Duluth.

In the beginning there were human bellringers. So, how are the bells rung today?

All three bells were fitted with electronic strikers. The local installers received instructions for tuning from a Verdin Bell Co. representative who listened on the telephone. As a result, an "almost" B note comes from the old Kaiser's bell", a C from the second bell and a G from the third.

Quotes taken from William Kehtel, History chair of Peace, 2007.



Left photo: American Legion/Peace Church efforts to gather war ammunition and materials for the third bell.

Right photo: The second bell being lifted into the tower, 1960.





The Rally for Peace

October 1, 2022 Leif Erickson Park We are very excited to announce a major event, sponsored by Peace, as a gift to our community to celebrate our 150th anniversary.

"From the 150th Celebration Committee:

The Rally for Peace is an event to promote a peaceful, nonviolent world, encouraging voter registration and engagement in our democracy. Recent events in our community and our world have made this event even more important.

We have commissioned David Hogg, a survivor of the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School mass shooting, to be our keynote speaker. Now a student at Harvard, Hogg is the co-founder of the March For Our Lives, the third largest demonstration in American history, and apart from inspiring a wave of youth-led protests, Hogg and his other co-founders were responsible for registering over 800,000 new voters during the movement. He is the co-author of #NeverAgain: A New Generation Draws the Line.

We wanted all of you to be the first to know. Over the next few weeks, we will be gathering a steering committee, fundraising, and looking for volunteers. We hope to get other Duluth churches to partner with us.

If you would like to help, please contact Marsha Hystead, mhystead@haileysault.com, 218-343-0118.

Watch for more exciting events coming in August and September!"

Peace Church Groups

Monday Book Group

The Monday Book Group will not be meeting during the summer months. If you have a book you would like to suggest for fall, please email pcragun@d.umn.edu.

PALS HUSKIES/TAILGATE PARTY

WHEN: Thursday, June 23, 5 pm. The game starts at 6:35pm.

WHERE: Wade Stadium Parking Lot.

COST: \$14/person, which includes ticket, brat, pop/water. Bring your own favorite beverage, a dish to share (with serving utensils) and lawn chair.

DEADLINE: Friday, June17, to receive the group ticket rate.

RSVP to Lynn or Pat Devlin: (<u>lpdev4455@gmail.com</u>), 218-728-2592, 218-343-4110 (Lynn) or 218-349-5443 (Pat)

PAYMENT must be received by Monday, June 20. Mail checks to 4455 Sugar Maple Drive, Hermantown, MN 55811.

Peace Prayer Chain

We have a whole group of people who would love to pray for you! Please call the church office (218-724-3637) or Linda Goese (218-341-0918) with your prayer concerns.



Virtual Bible Study

Wednesday Evenings at 5pm

We read the Gospel lesson for the upcoming Sunday several times. Each time we read we are listening for the still, small voice of God that will speak to us. We learn so much from what is touching other people's hearts as they hear the Gospel too. No prior biblical knowledge needed! We close with prayer. Please email the office for the Zoom link or look in your weekly email update.

Sharing Our Spiritual Journey Group

Monday, June 6 & 20, 7:00pm via Zoom

You are invited to join the "Sharing Our Spiritual Journey" group. We meet on the first and third Mondays of the month from 7-8pm via zoom. We provide a space to reflect and share about our calling, our spiritual journey, our joys and challenges. We use check in, poetry, journaling, and any other gifts people bring to the group. If you have questions or would like to rsvp for the zoom link, please contact Gary Boelhower at gboelhower@msn.com.

Thursday Morning Book Club

The Third Thursday Morning Book Group will not meet during the summer. We hope others will join us when meetings resume in September. Check the August Peace Bell for the title of the book to be discussed in September. Fun and fellowship while discussing stimulating books describes this group.

Thanks for those who stopped to learn about the group at the May 15 Get-Together. If our group doesn't fit your schedule, for your reading pleasure we donate a copy of each month's selection to the church library.

Leader, Alice Marks (amarks001@charter.net)

Men's Breakfast

Join us once again for breakfast and conversation! We meet every other Thursday at 8:00am at The New London Cafe on East Superior Street. Our next breakfast gatherings are Thursday, June 2, 16 & 30.

Brown Bag Women's Group

Wednesday, June 1 1:00pm in the Fireside Room

Topic: Rites and Rituals

Spring is often a season in which we celebrate rites and rituals: confirmations, graduations, and, it used to be, often weddings as well. Some rites are formal, but many are informal. Sometimes families develop rites of passage or rituals as children grow up. Some rites and rituals are regional or part of a particular community's life. They provide opportunities to look back as well as forward, to savor accomplishments, and to celebrate achievements.

Our discussion on June 1 will focus on rites those particularly meaningful to us—whether they are rites and rituals that are part of our own history, or rites and rituals we enjoyed as we watched a younger generation grow up.

Come share your memories with the rest of us.

Making Meaning Out Of Malignancy

Monday, June 27, 5:00-6:00pm

If you or a loved one have had cancer (in the past or currently) and would like to connect with others, you are invited to join our Making Meaning out of Malignancy virtual group. The group meets every month on the fourth Monday. Please email the office for the Zoom link.



Peace News



South African Choir 29:11

Saturday & Sunday, July 2 & 3 #Good trouble with St. Mark

St. Mark has invited Peace to collaborate with them in hosting the South African Choir 29:11 on July 2 and 3. The choir of 15 takes its name from Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

On Saturday, July 2, the choir will host a workshop at St. Mark AME. On Saturday evening, they will perform in concert here at Peace. On Sunday, July 3, they will lead a combined worship service at 10:30 at Peace. The choir is on an extended tour which includes performances with the Minnesota Chorale and Minnesota Orchestra. For more information on their ministry of hope and reconciliation, go to https://www.2911intl.org/. You can also like them on Facebook.

Watch the weekly emails from Peace for more information as plans develop. We may need some homes willing to host a singer or two.

Wednesday Worship

Beginning Wednesday, July 6 Tent and Tailgate Worship

Bring food and tailgate in the lower parking lot at 5:00pm—enjoy the outdoors and Peace fellowship. Then at 6:00pm, we'll have evening worship under the tent—lots of music, prayer and praise! Everyone is welcome—and if you are gone during the weekends, this midweek gathering is a way to stay in touch with Peace.

Church Coordinating Council will meet Tuesday, June 21 at 6:30pm in the Fireside Room.

Regularly Scheduled Team & Committee Meetings

(Please watch emails for updates on meeting times and formats)

Stewardship Team: Thursday, June 2 5:30pm Zoom

5:30pm Zoom 4:00pm via

Adult Ed Team: Property

Tuesday, June 7 7:30am Zoom

Dismantling Racism Team: Thursday, June 16 3:30pm Zoom

Children's Ministry Team:

Tuesday, June 14 6:00pm Fireside Worship & Arts

Committee: Thursday, June 9 5:30pm Fireside

History Team: Wednesday, June 8 1:00pm in the History Rm

Shared Ministry Team: Wednesday, June 8 4:00pm via Zoom

Finance Team:

Wednesday, June 8 4:00pm via Zoom

Property Team: Wednesday, June 8 6:00pm Fellowship Hall

Food & Fellowship Team: check email for details

Acting for Justice Hub: Sunday, June 12 2:00pm via Zoom

Climate Justice Team: TBD

Health and Healing Group: TBD



Incoming 6th graders

Calling all incoming 6th graders! Now that you are entering middle school, we want to welcome you to our middle school youth group. If you're an incoming 6th grader and want to join any of our middle school youth activities in the summer, we would love to have you. We especially want to encourage you to come with us on our camping trip to Camp Amnicon. Check it out!

OWL for incoming 9th graders

Our main youth programming for 9th graders is our OWL program, which is our amazing comprehensive sexuality curriculum that starts in the fall. There's nothing that parents need to do this summer, but Nathan Holst will be reaching out in the near future to make sure you know about the program and to answer any initial questions you have about it. Looking forward to another great year of quality education for our youth!

Covid Mask Policy Update

Masking is recommended in our building. We will continue to provide disposable masks, which can be found in the narthex, for anyone who needs one. Questions can be directed to Pastor Jim at pastorjim@peaceucc.org.

The PEACE BELL

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

EDITORIAL TEAM

Elise Courtright & Nancy Nelson Photographer: John Ameel PEACE BELL ARTICLES are due *Monday, June 20*Send to elise@peaceucc.org

Peace News Continued...

Choir



Choir is taking a break for the summer! We will resume practice on Wednesday evenings in September. Contact Jim Pospisil at jim@peaceucc.org with questions.

Choir will continue to meet on Zoom each Thursday at 4:30pm. See you there!

GLBTQ+ Pride and June 26

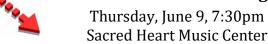
Although the Twin Ports celebrates Gay Pride on Labor Day weekend, much of the rest of the nation celebrates in June. On June 28, 1969, police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club in Greenwich Village. That raid precipitated six days of protest known as the Stonewall Uprising. It solidified support for gay rights and is often considered the beginning of the gay rights movement.

On June 26, Peace worship will include a remembrance of Stonewall with a service of communion and healing. Pastor Jim Mitulski will talk about the significance of Stonewall at the adult forum.

JUNETEENTH

Pastor Anthony Galloway and St. Mark AME have invited Peace to worship with them on June 19. This significant day marks the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans and is now recognized as a federal holiday. If weather and space permits, we may gather at the Giving Garden; otherwise at St. Mark. (Watch the weekly email for more details on location). Members of Peace choir are invited to sing along with St. Mark's choir. Afterwards, plan to stay for a Gospel Brunch hosted by St. Mark and then attend Juneteenth activities at Central Hillside Community Center.

The Two Trees: A Yeats Song Cycle



Duluth composer Wendy Durrwachter presents "The Two Trees: A Yeats Song Cycle" on the beautiful Sacred Heart Music Center altar stage at 7:30pm Thursday, June 9.

"The Two Trees: A Yeats Song Cycle" will present music from the album composed by Durrwachter and performed by Durrwachter and Adam Sippola in 2019.

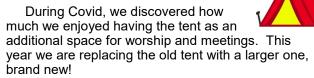
The concert will feature Durrwachter on piano, tenor Adam Sippola and a string quartet of Erin Aldridge, Marc Haroo, Jonathan Kresha, and Byron Klimek. Flautists Paula Gudmundson and Melanie Sever will also perform.

Tickets are \$25 at the door. Email hello@sacredheartmusic.org for further information.

Nursery in June

We continue to have our 3-5 year old nursery room open again during the 2nd service (nursery open 10am-12pm). Parents, please make sure to fill out the sign in/out sheet with your information before you drop off/pick up your kids. We are looking for parent feedback to help us know the best way to serve our Peace parents in this time. Please let us know if there are needs we are missing or any questions/concerns that you have as parents. Thanks!

THE TENT IS BACK! (improved and larger)



On Sunday, June 12, we will inaugurate the new tent with a Congregational picnic. Peace will provide fried chicken. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. Disposable table ware and plates will be provided. Come help us bless the tent!

Because we want to continue live streaming Sunday worship, Sunday morning services will be held INDOORS throughout the summer. Stay tuned, though, because we're planning for tailgate parties and tent worship on Wednesdays in July and August.

Many thanks to Dave Courtright for ordering the tent and overseeing its set-up.

Peace Library

New Adult Books:

Grace: Quotes & Passages for Heart, Mind, and Soul Edited by B C Aronson

The Last Bookshop in London by Madeline Martin RV Murder by Alice Marks

Zero Waste Kids: Hands-on Projects and Activities to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle by Rob Greenfield

New Children's Books:





A Lot of Otters by Barbara Helen Berger

When Sophie Gets Angry –Really, Really, Angry... by Molly Bang

Canyons by Gary Paulson

Born Yesterday: The Diary of a Young Journalist by James Solheim

Aurora Borealis Child Care

Cornerstone Preschool has a new name and new ownership! Aurora Borealis Child Care is owned by Stephanie and Jeffrey Boness. They are excited to make small measurable changes in the center in the coming weeks. Here's a quick look at the current plans:

The mission and vision statement for Aurora Borealis Child Care are as follows: At Aurora Borealis, we strive for the opportunity to nurture your child, support your family, and improve our community through nature, literacy, and art based education in a loving and caring environment.

The vision of Aurora Borealis is to provide skills to the whole child in a developmentally and emotionally nurturing environment through positivity, social, physical, intellectual, and communicative partnership skills.

Some of the ways that we plan on meeting these statements in a measurable, tangible way is as follows:

- * In the next month we are going to be re-arranging the classrooms to better fit the developmental needs of the children in our care. The age ranges in each group will be smaller so that the developmental and emotional needs of the children can be met better. There is a new curriculum that aligns with the Minnesota standards for Preschool. We are also adding an Emotional curriculum to our Preschool Program as well. Jeff and I are working on getting approved to accept Child Care Assistance as well.
- * In the next 6 months in Preschool, we will be adding a handwriting curriculum. In our Toddler Program we will add the Emotional and main curriculum to that room that is being used in Preschool. We will start doing assessments on each child to meet each child where they are at.
- * We will be looking into either the Nurtured Heart Approach or Pyramid Model and implementing that as soon as the staff is trained in one of these methods. (This will be center wide.)
- * Within a year we are going to offer some sort of Health Care for the staff.

Welcome New Members

Stephen and Lori Dando

Stephen and Lori Dando are retired and have two sons, Elliot and Eion, who are both married. Stephen is



passionate about sailing, camping in Africa, and visiting UNESCO world heritage sites. Lori is passionate about crafting, cross-stich and embroidery, and pot luck dinners. They were interested in Peace because of our emphasis on justice and peace. One obscure fact about

Lori is that she cracked both her atlas vertebrae tailbone on the top and bottom of her spine.



New members were recognized in worship on Sunday, May 22 at the 10:30am service.

Ellen and Laura Hamel

Ellen and Laura have a son, Owen, who is seven months old. They both love to be outside—biking,

canoeing, skiing, and all sort of other outdoor activities. They also love to play games and to read. They consider their vocation to be life-long learning! They wanted to find a church in which they could raise Owen. "We also wanted to strengthen/reconnect with our own spiritual lives. We're drawn to the Peace community—the commitment to social justice, the warm welcome we've received,



and the strong sense of support throughout Duluth."

When asked for some obscure facts, Laura says a chunk of her skull is titanium. Ellen captained an ultimate Frisbee team in college and Owen was born in their living room.

There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.

-Margaret J. Wheatley

Nathan's Page



"Ring the bells that still can ring Forget your perfect offering There is a crack in everything That's how the light gets in." ~Leonard Cohen As I was writing my article this month, I was reflecting on what it means to celebrate a confirmation service and hold a gun violence vigil in the same week. Our world is full and complicated. We are holding so many emotions at once, sometimes trying to celebrate and grieve at the same time, and it can feel like too much to hold at once. This is our reality in this time and why so many of us come to Peace Church. It is a place where we can hold space for making sense of our emotional

and spiritual experiences. It is a place we come to grieve together and to celebrate (and it was amazing to hear from our confirmation youth—if you haven't heard them, I urge you to watch the recording). It is where we come for renewed hope, to express our despair, and to remember how to love in the face of the struggles in our lives. I love Peace Church because in building beloved community, we are not afraid to get real with each other, to be honest and vulnerable with what's really happening.

In a recent sermon I gave, I shared about the experience of confronting dragons in our lives, getting real with those "parts of us we never want to see again." For me, this showed up in my recent experience with clinical pastoral education (CPE), an intense group reflection program that is part of my ordination process. In it, I realized I had a difficult time with my own anger, and it broke open new ways of relating to my emotions and shifted how I think about faith formation here at Peace. Here's a segment from my sermon that speaks to the kind of vision I hope we embody here at Peace:

In our most recent conversation on anger, our CPE group realized that none of us grew up with the message that it was okay to be angry. It turns out it might be a pretty common human experience to not really know what to do with our anger. I want that to be different for my own kids. I want them to know how to understand their dragons and learn how to love in the face of them. If you're a parent, you know the experience of being angry at your kids and your kids being angry at, well...almost everything at some point or another. It's hard to be a parent, just as it's hard to be a kid. But I've been practicing making space for anger with our 3 and a half year old. When he's having a melt down and screaming, sometimes kicking or hitting, I say "it's okay to be angry. It's not okay to scream at someone or hurt someone. If you need a place to scream and be angry, we'll go to a room in our basement and you can let it out." This is what I want for my kids. And this is what I want for our children and youth here at Peace. Children and youth, I want you to know that all your feelings are welcome here at church and in your lives. I want us as adults to model this for you and with you. I want us to continue to create a community where we practice being real with each other and figuring out how to love in the face of the dragons in our lives.

We all know there are plenty of dragons out there in the world, and if we're honest with ourselves, we can probably find plenty of them internally too. But that's why we have each other, why we invest in building community together. When we do, we learn how to face our full and complicated world together. We learn we are not alone and we learn to carry each other through our celebrations and our vigils. May we continue to build the beloved community, the space where we can be real with each other, where we can create a loving space big enough to hold whatever unfolds in our lives.

~Nathan Holst

Pine Ridge Indian Reservation Trip to Camp Re-Member (July 22-30)

We'll spend a week on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation doing service projects and learning about Lakota culture and history. As they share on their website (https://www.re-member.org/trips.aspx), "volunteering with Re-Member is an emotional and life-changing event. During your visit to Pine Ridge Reservation, you will witness the extreme poverty afflicting the Lakota people of Pine Ridge; but also the resilience and strength of character that comes from their culture and traditions." Dates of the trip are Friday, July 22nd-Saturday, July 30th. Cost is \$600 per youth (with sliding scale/scholarships available—just get in touch with Nathan). Please drop off/send a deposit of \$100 to hold your spot. We can take up to 11 youth on this trip. Participants must be vaccinated to participate (as required by Camp Re-Member).

Camp Amnicon Sylvania Wilderness Trip (August 7-12)

If you like to canoe, camp, or are just open to a great adventure, this is the trip for you. Camp Amnicon puts on amazing trips (Nathan was a canoe guide there in college, so he knows from experience), and Sylvania is an incredibly beautiful destination. This trip often includes lots of time for swimming, canoeing, and of course lots of bonding experiences and friendships. Dates of the trip are Sunday, August 7th-Friday, August 12th. Cost is \$400 per youth (with sliding scale/scholarships available—just get in touch with Nathan). Please drop off/send a deposit of \$100 to hold your spot. We can take up to 7 youth on this trip.

If you have any questions, feel free to email or call. Looking forward to offering youth trips again this summer.

Youth and Children's Ministry

Middle School Youth Group Summer Plans

It's summer time, so our usual weekly youth group goes on Sabbath. There's still ways to stay connected. In June, we're planning a bowling night at the Incline Station on Thursday, June 16 from 6-8pm with pizza. Then in July, we're planning to head to World of Wheels for some skating on Monday, July 11 from 6:30-8:30pm. In August, we're heading to Camp Amnicon for a couple nights of camping, swimming, and fun! See more details here in the Peace Bell. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Nathan Holst at nathan@peaceucc.org any time.

High School Youth Sundays

We had a great kick off with our high school youth Sundays, but based on youth feedback, we are taking a break for the summer and will kick things off again in the fall. Have a great summer!

Update

Middle School Camping Trip

Camp Amnicon

Tuesday - Thursday, August 23-25

We're excited that after a couple years of covid cancelled camping trips, we've got plans for our middle school youth that we can count on this summer. Middle school youth (this year that includes incoming 6th graders and incoming 9th graders)—join us for our camping trip in August! This year, we'll be heading to Camp Amnicon (45 minutes away on the South Shore in Wisconsin) for 3 days of fun. Activities include swimming, hiking, S'more making/eating, sleeping in tents, and just getting to know each other better. They have a wonderful swimming beach, chances for canoeing on the Amnicon River, and great hiking trails. This has often been the trip that starts great new friendships that last into the year at youth

We will leave from Peace in the early afternoon on Tuesday, August 23 and return before lunch on Thursday, August 25. See Nathan for more information or contact him to sign up at nathan@peaceucc.org.

Children's Church for June and July

Sunday, June 12

We are continuing our Children's Church this summer (with a slight change). In both June and July, we are having it on the 2nd Sunday of the month (June 12 and July 10). We'll go back to our regular 1st Sunday of the month again in August.

If you haven't heard about it yet, the basic idea is that kids stay for the service until story for all ages, leave for Children's Church for 20-30 min (where we might sing, do art, or tell stories with puppets), and then come back with the adults for communion. All kids (ages 3 and up) are welcome to join. And if there are any middle or high school youth that want to come join as helpers, you're welcome to join too!

Peace Village Summer Day Camp (formerly known as VBS!)

June 13 - 17 from 9am - 12:30pm, Peace Church

Ages: Entering Grades K - 5

Cost: Free (And we mean it!) Donations to support the program can be made payable to Peace Church or UUCD with "Peace Village" in the memo line.

The philosophy of Peace Village begins with the belief that collaboration within our communities is essential to peacemaking. Therefore, this camp is a joint offering between Peace Church and UUCD with the goal of increasing congregational involvement in the coming years. Peace Village is a multicultural day camp with the mission to provide a fun, educational environment in which children can learn the messages and practices of non-violence and peacemaking from various world traditions. All activities encourage respect for racial and cultural diversity. The Peace Village curriculum focuses on using Mindful Movement, Connecting to Nature, and Media Literacy to prepare campers for the development of real skill in Conflict Resolution. Core values of Peace Village:

- We recognize and encourage each human being's inherent potential for inner peace.
- We believe a connection to nature inspires and sustains human beings as they strive to cultivate a sense of peacefulness.
- We believe creating an awareness of the media's impact on society is necessary for the promotion of peace within the individual and the community.
- We know that cultivating inner strength gives each of us the best chance to succeed at resolving conflict.

In studying international peacemakers, we give our campers real models for creating a peaceful world. Acknowledging that we all encounter the challenge of conflict, often in our daily lives, Peace Village integrates its core curriculum with music and the arts to inspire and empower campers to make significant changes in the world. Peace Village is a place to make friends, to learn, to grow, and to practice peacebuilding.

Parents are invited to join us on Friday, June 17 at 12:15pm for our closing circle and a picnic lunch.

To register for Peace Village, look for the link in your weekly email. Registration deadline is Sunday, June 5.

Council Corner

Still I will rejoice and give thanks. No matter how difficult my life may be at the moment, no matter what may come in the days ahead, still I will rejoice and give thanks. I have been blessed by the gift of life. I have been given my chance to walk this beautiful Earth, to see its wonders and learn its hidden wisdom. I have loved and been loved. How can I be anything but grateful? How can I not offer my thanks to the Spirit? As a family in faith, each with our own story to tell, each with our own burden to bear, let us offer this common message of hope, of renewal and resolve, to all who struggle: no matter what tomorrow may bring, still I will rejoice and give thanks. Steven Charleston, Ret. Episcopal Bishop



Nathan Holst shared Steven Charleston's poem as the opening meditation at the May 17th Coordinating Council. For me it speaks to my reflection on this past program year at Peace Church.

The 2021/2022 program year was filled with challenges for the Coordinating Council, Committees and Teams. The persistent threats to the community's health by covid meant that every aspect of church life demanded that we adapt how we met, how we worshiped, how we stayed connected to one another and the wider community, and how we carried on the business of the church. And so, we did. Each month the Council received reports and updates that showed the ways in which we continued to be "church."

In addition to our regular order the Council also worked on the interim transition. That continues to be work in progress. The June 12 Congregational meeting will have updates on the process. I hope you will attend, either in person or virtually. This new church year will be invigorating and exciting.

As we conclude one program year and begin another, it is time to give thanks to all those who have been the glue that holds Peace Church together: our clergy, our staff, Council and Standing Committee members, program Committees and Teams, youth leaders, and the choir, ushers and greeters, coffee hour servers. Collectively Pastors and Lay leaders have shown unwavering dedication, adaptability, and resilience. Join us in saying thank you to each and every one.

In gratitude,

Tom Hystead, Moderator

REFLECTIONS BY CHARLOTTE

"...because there was no room for them in the inn." We know that verse from the Christmas story. It elicits from us compassion and gratitude—compassion for a couple whose child is delivered out in the barn and gratitude for an innkeeper who offered what shelter he could.

We live in a city where there is still no room available for about 800 brothers and sisters. This past winter the Warming Center served 500 individuals because they had no other place to go. Homelessness is no longer a single episode of short duration. For some, it is chronic and has become a way of life.

Nine service providers, led by CHUM, have developed a five year plan, divided into three phases. Even this will not eradicate homelessness, but it does provide an emergency response to the crisis and a longer term increase in shelter and affordable housing.

Peace Church is stepping on up and has a working group known as the Homeless Response Team. In addition we have an email distribution list of interested members who want to stay informed on projects, needs, and actions. Currently the Response Team is learning more about the issue, the Stepping on Up proposal, and the many ways congregational members can be involved. If you want to be part of the Response Team or included in the email distribution list, please email me, charlotte@peaceucc.org.

Phase 1: Immediate response—Authorized Living Zones and Outreach Workers

- * Safe Bay—a safe place for folks living in their vehicles
- Safe, secure encampments

Phase 2: Stablizing by increasing Shelter

- Supportive services for 100 shelter units that are private spaces with common areas
- Unlike dormitory style shelters

Phase 3: Transforming

Supportive, affordable housing

Stepping on Up must be a community wide effort. Churches like Peace can provided leadership and support, but we will need you to reach out to your neighbors and other groups to which you belong.

The prophet Micah wrote described God's shalom with these words, "they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid....". I think Stepping on Up challenges all of us to be part of the effort to create a city where all God's children can sit in a place they call home, secure and unafraid.



A Word For Justice

JUNE IS NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Duluth experienced a mass domestic shooting in April. Gun deaths are at the highest they have been in 25 years. And in one recent May week-end there were 5 mass shootings, including the White Supremacist Hate shooting in Buffalo, New York that has resulted in a national conversation about hate speech and the easy availability of assault weapons and high capacity magazines.

The Northland Brady/Protect Minnesota Chapter and Moms Demand Action ask that you observe Wear Orange Day on June 3rd and the weekend of June 4-5. Please wear something orange and tell people why you are doing it. In addition, please call your state, county and federal lawmakers and ask them to do something about the epidemic of gun violence. Tell them you are wearing orange to honor victims of gun violence (100 a day die in America to gun homicides, suicides and unintentional shootings). Tell them you have had enough and want them to act to prevent gun violence by supporting stronger gun laws. Also make sure that if you own guns, they are safely stored in your home to prevent stolen guns and guns falling into the hands of children and teens. Check out https://www.endfamilyfire.org/ and https://besmartforkids.org/

State Rep. Jennifer Schultz-651-296-2228

State Rep. Liz Olson- 651-296-4246

State Rep. Mary Murphy-651-296-2676

State Rep. Mike Sundin- 651-296-4308

State Senator Jennifer McEwen-651-296-4188

State Senator Jason Rarick-651-296-1508

State Senator Tom Bakk- 651-296-8881

Senator Amy Klobuchar- 202-224-3244

Senator Tina Smith- 202-224-5641

Rep. Pete Stauber- 202-225-6211

County Commissioner Patrick Boyle (Peace

Church member)- 218-726-2359

TEENTH

County Commissioner Frank Jewell -218-726-2450

County Commissioner Ashley Grimm- 218- 726-2562

***Contact Joan Peterson at joan.peterson1@gmail.com for more information and watch for further information about any events during Wear Orange week-end and the month of June.



Juneteenth Celebrations

June 15, 18 & 19

The Twin Ports Juneteenth celebration will be 1:00-6:00pm on Saturday, June 18 at Barker's Island in Superior. To volunteer, please contact visionachievedcoach@gmail.com.

The Duluth NAACP Juneteenth celebration will be 1:00-6:00pm on Sunday, June 19 at the Central Hillside Community Center, 12 E 4th St, in Duluth. To volunteer, please contact Henry Banks (henryleonbanks@gmail.com or 218-730-3041).

June 15 is the anniversary of the Clayton Jackson McGhie lynchings in Duluth. Please watch the weekly email for details about this year's observance event.

World Refugee Day

Monday, June 20, 5:00-7:00pm
One Roof Community Housing (12 E 4th Street)

Welcome Duluth's newcomers!
It's been a while since we could get together in person, and ICMJ has welcomed newcomers from Mexico, Russia, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Afghanistan, and Venezuela. Help us extend a welcome to them and learn more about the work of the Interfaith Committee for Migrant Justice.



Only with gun violence do we respond to repeated tragedies by saying that mourning is acceptable but discussing how to prevent more tragedies is not. But that's unacceptable. As others have observed, talking about how to stop a mass shooting in the aftermath of a string of mass shootings isn't 'too soon.' It's much too late.

~Ezra Klein

CHUM

CHUM is "People of faith working together to



provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and organize for a just and compassionate

Peace Church Meals for the CHUM Drop In Center

(located at 125 North 1st Ave West)
Please note that all food is prepared at Peace
Church, dropped off at Chum, and served by
Chum staff.

Wednesday Chum Breakfast: June 1, 15 & 29

If you would like to drop off a donation, please email Elise Courtright at elise@peaceucc.org.

Thursday Chum Dinner: June 16

Donations of food for the dinner are always welcome! Let us know if you'd like to be on the email list to provide food and/or help make sandwiches or deliver food to Chum. Contact the church office at 218-724-3637 or elise@peaceucc.org.

Chum Job Openings

Are you interested in working for CHUM? Check out these opportunities. Contact Chum if interested.

Chum is looking for talented, compassionate, and dedicated individuals to join the team at CHUM in the following positions:

Director of Communications and Marketing Office Manager Office Assistant Eligibility and Compliance Specialist Family Coach Summer Intern

Yearlong Intern

CHUM Needs

For Those Living at the Steve O'Neil Apartments

Diapers from newborn size to size 6
Wipes and disposable gloves for diapering
Similac Advanced and Similac Sensitive Baby
soaps and shampoo

For Those Living in Family Shelter

Diapers size 3 or larger, pacifiers, combs/brushes, lotions, and deodorant.

For Those Who Are Homeless

Warm winter socks, hand warmers, sewing kits, blankets, waterproof hats and gloves, pillar candles, gas cards, bath towels and wash cloths, wallets, solar lights, tents, sleeping bags, tarps (not blue).

If you would like to donate or volunteer, please call Chum at (218) 720-6521.

THANK YOU!

Minnesota Food Share supported CHUM's Food Shelf. In a single month of fundraising, Chum received 48,335 pounds of donated food and \$112,192! Peace Church donated \$1271 through a special offering in March. Last year's purchase of 37 local farm shares was so well received, this year, CHUM purchased 80 shares! This investment in local farms provides fresh, organic vegetables for CHUM clients. Thank you!

Rhubarb Pie Making

Friday, June 24, 1:00-4:00pm in the Peace kitchen

It's almost time to bake pies for Chum! Join Linda Goese and others on June 24 to make rhubarb pies for the Chum Rhubarb Festival. If you'd like to help out, please contact Linda at Irgoese@gmail.com.

Chum Rhubarb Festival

Lots of opportunities to volunteer—help with children's activities, staff the kitchen, sell baked goods, help with set up or clean up, be a greeter, help with composts and trash, sell raffle tickets, etc. Or just come and enjoy the rhubarb, the music, the food, and the fun!

https://signup.com/group/1227005065088328010 https://www.chumduluth.org/rhubarbfestival.htm



Chum Baskets for Rhubarb Festival

Peace Church will donate baskets to the Rhubarb Festival basket raffle and we're looking for donations. We'll do one or two baskets with a "Beach Days" theme—think sand toys, beach towel, snacks, floaties, etc. We are also looking for items for a "Coffee/ Tea Time" basket—think coffee beans (or ground coffee), teas, mugs, biscotti, or coffee shop gift cards. Items need to be dropped off in the church office by June 6.

Volunteer Schedules



Please bring 2-3 dozen cookies, bars, crackers or fruit on your morning to help with coffee hour! **THANKS!**



Coffee Hour Volunteers Sundays at 9:45am

Coffee Hour volunteers will help set up, serve and clean up after coffee hour. Additionally, please bring 2-3 dozen cookies, bars or an equivalent of fresh fruit or veggies. Here's who is scheduled this month:

June 5: Janell Kohls, Penny Cragun, volunteer needed

June 12: Food and Fellowship, Cindy Macaulay

June 19: no coffee hour

June 26: volunteers needed

***Please contact Elise at elise@peaceucc.org if you can bring treats and/or help set up, serve or clean up for coffee hour in June. Thanks!

Monday Meals

Though most of our volunteer ministries were suspended during the pandemic, providing Monday meals for **Loaves and Fishes Dorothy Day House** is still going strong, thanks to our faithful volunteers. If you are interested in joining this group to sign up to bring a meal, email elise@peaceucc.org or access the schedule on our website under the menu "for volunteers." Here is the schedule for this month:

*Please plan for 8-10 people as numbers are still low due to Covid. The door is still locked some of the time so please call Joel's cell (218-340-4356) to arrange for delivery of your meal.

June 6: Bri Waldoch

June 13: Gayle and Jack Kelly

June 20: Judith Derauf

June 27: volunteer needed



Many thanks to all our volunteers!

Peace People

Thank You!

- Thanks to those who provided special music in May: Nathan Holst, Ian Connell, Kids Choir, Susan Larson Kidd, Byron Klimek, the Choir, Gudrun Witrak, Hannah Liddle, Andre Good, Ron Deters and Lydia Kraker.
- Thanks to all who helped organize the Victims of Gun Violence Vigil held at Peace on Wednesday, May 25: Joan Peterson, Nathan Holst, Charlotte Frantz, Dan Shepard, Susan Larson Kidd, Jim Pospisil, Elise Courtright, the Choir, Pastor Jim Mitulski, Mayor Emily Larson, Gary Anderson and others.
- Thanks to all who participated in the Connect and Re-Connect forum on Sunday, May 15.
- Thanks to our David Courtright for replacing a sump pump in our building and for the work on getting lighting to the bell tower.
- Thank you to Roger Petry for the tree planted in memory of Cheryl Walsh and Bud Trnka for digging the hole and other prep work.

Keep in Your Prayers

- Jan Eschbach is recovering from electrical burns from her accident two years ago. She is dealing with every day challenges and appreciates the prayers from her church family.
- All those undergoing treatment for cancer: Stephen Dando, Terrie Shannon, Mary Caine-Hafdahl, Kim Kruger, Marg Paulson and others.
- All our members living in long-term care facilities: Joyce Riggle at Park Point; Mike Nugent at the Silver Bay Veterans Home; Steve Coll at St. Anne's; Amanda Cran at Bishop Woods and Sharon Kirtley at Viewcrest.

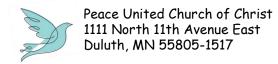
Memorials

Donations made in memory of Jerry Cleveland: Dennis Isernhagen, Janell Kohls, Sarah Jessico, Pamela Mittlefehldt, Mike Schrage, Susan Goltz, Bob and Kay Stevens.

Sympathy To



The family and friends of Jerry Cleveland who passed away on Tuesday, May 17. His funeral was held at Peace Church on Saturday, May 21. He was very active in our church community—participating in the Choir, Worship and Arts and other committees and groups. He was featured on the Voices For Justice page in the Peace Bell in October 2019 titled "Jerry Cleveland: Justice Through Listening, Relationship and Bridge-Building". Here is an excerpt from this article: "For Jerry Cleveland, the most pressing social justice issue right now is "the difficulty we have with communicating with each other. The polarization and pushing issues to opposite extremes. There's little listening and a lot of talking and attacking going on. It's coming from both sides." For Jerry, "social justice is always a moving target—difficult to define." He believes that the central issue should be that "people have room and opportunity to improve their lot in this world."



(218) 724-3637 www.peaceucc.org

E-mail: office@peaceucc.org

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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 Worship at 8:30am & 10:30am

If you would like to be on our email list to receive notices of church events, please send an email request to the church office: office@peaceucc.org

PEACE CHURCH STAFF

Interim Minister: Rev. Jim Mitulski Music Director: Jim Pospisil

Faith Formation Minister: Nathan Holst

PEAE

Bookkeeper: Rosemary Feriancek

Administrative Coordinator: Elise Courtright

Office Coordinator: Nancy Nelson

Custodian: Dan Shepard Pianist: Wendy Durrwachter

Pastoral Care Chaplain: Gudrun Witrak

Interim Pastoral Associate: Rev. Charlotte Frantz

<u>PEACE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS</u>: Monday-Thursday: 9am-3pm, Friday: closed

PHONE: 218-724-3637 Web: peaceucc.org Facebook: peace.church.duluth

<u>Instagram</u>: peaceduluth <u>Twitter</u>: PeaceDuluth

EMAIL ADDRESSES: Pastor Jim: pastorjim@peaceucc.org Office: office@peaceucc.org

Jim: jim@peaceucc.org Nathan: nathan@peaceucc.org

 $Nancy: nancy@peaceucc.org \quad Rose: rose@peaceucc.org \quad \textit{Charlotte: charlotte@peaceucc.org}$

Elise: elise@peaceucc.org Gudrun: gwitrak@gmail.com

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

Praising God; Living the Way of Jesus; and Building the Beloved Community of God

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 of creation, including all people, respecting and valuing the diversity of people's sexual orientation, race, culture, gender identity, age, opinions, and physical and mental abilities. *Visitors are always welcome!*