



# The Peace Bell

PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Sundays at a Glance

### March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis  
 8:30am Worship with Holy Communion  
 9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex  
 9:30am Forum: Jessie Marquardt, Lighthouse  
 9:30am High School Youth Group  
 10:30am Childcare Available in the Nursery  
 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion  
 Children's Church  
 11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall  
 6:00pm OWL at UUCD

### March 10<sup>th</sup>

Sermon by Gary Boelhower  
 8:30am Worship with Holy Communion  
 9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex  
 9:30am Forum: Gary Anderson and Gary Boelhower  
 9:30am High School Youth Group  
 10:30am Childcare Available in the Nursery  
 10:30am Worship with Children's Church  
 11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall  
 6:00pm OWL at UUCD

### March 17<sup>th</sup>

Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis  
 8:30am Worship with Holy Communion  
 9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex  
 9:30am Forum: Gudrun Witrak  
 9:30am High School Youth Group  
 10:30am Childcare Available in the Nursery  
 10:30am Worship with Children's Church  
 11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall  
 6:00pm OWL at UUCD

### March 24<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday

Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis  
 8:30am Worship with Holy Communion  
 9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex  
 9:30am Forum: Lori Dando  
 9:30am High School Youth Group  
 10:30am Childcare Available in the Nursery  
 10:30am Worship with Children's Church  
 11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall  
 6:00pm OWL at UUCD

### March 31<sup>st</sup> Easter Sunday

Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis  
 8:30am Worship with Holy Communion  
 9:30am Easter Breakfast  
 10:00am Easter Egg Hunt  
 10:30am Childcare Available in the Nursery  
 10:30am Worship with Children's Church  
 11:30am Self-Serve Coffee Hour in the Narthex

## Forums in March

### March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Jessie Marquardt,  
 Lighthouse Center For Vital Living  
 Social connection has been shown to improve health outcomes and increase overall quality of life. In this presentation, we'll discuss the impact of social isolation, particularly post-pandemic and how we can combat this among our clients and within our communities. We'll also discuss how Lighthouse Center For Vital Living is working to re-connect our clients with their communities.

### March 10<sup>th</sup>

Gary Anderson and Gary Boelhower,  
 Listen to the Call – Take the Next Step  
 Join longtime Peace Church members, Gary Anderson and Gary Boelhower, for a farewell forum as they prepare for their move to Madison, WI. They will share their own stories and invite conversation about the theme "Listen to the Call – Take the Next Step." We will miss you!

### March 17<sup>th</sup>

Gudrun Witrak,  
 Retirement Reflections  
 We will be celebrating our beloved pastoral care chaplain Gudrun Witrak's retirement from her role providing care to our congregation. Don't worry, she'll still be a member here, so it's not goodbye, just hello to a different way of being together. Gudrun will share her reflections on retirement and invite others to do the same.

### March 24<sup>th</sup>

Lori Dando,  
 Reflections on the Foreign Service  
 In celebration of Women's History Month, we look forward to hearing from Lori Dando, whose career in the foreign service took her across the world. She will share about her work with a focus on what it was like to be a woman in this field, and will invite conversation about the challenges and gifts of navigating gender in public life and the workforce.

### March 31<sup>st</sup>

Easter Sunday  
 Breakfast & Egg Hunt, No Forum

## From the Moderator



Greetings from the Coordinating Council!

A highlight of this month's meeting was hearing from our Children, Youth, and Small Group Coordinator - Amanda McElray Hunter. A few ongoing and upcoming activities include: coordination efforts with Pilgrim UCC and the UCCD, outreach to families in the neighborhood, regular emails to Peace families with elementary-aged kids tied to the weekly Children's Church themes, Sunday morning youth group for Grades 9-12 at 9:30, and some exciting new spaces and options for nursery and pre-school age kids during worship.

Plans are moving forward for clearing out the former daycare space and nursery wing, as well as the children's library. You'll notice nametags and children's bookshelves in new places in the coming weeks as we prepare our space for Stepping On Up to renovate it into a supportive shelter for unhoused young people.

In other news, the council is supportive of an effort to gather input from the congregation about ways we want to be in community together and engage with one another. Please contact the office ([office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org)) if you are interested in helping plan and/or lead this effort.

We received and wholeheartedly endorsed a proposal from our office coordinator Bri Dornbush to organize a bake sale - keep an eye out for opportunities to get involved with that in the coming months!

Our next meeting will be held March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. Thank you, Jessica.

## From Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

### Why Lent?

Recently, my spouse Greg was asking me if my family had any special Lent traditions growing up. I almost choked on my tea before laughing and saying, "Uh, no, we didn't do the Lent thing." At first, Greg looked confused. This is a question I often ask him around Jewish holidays, as he grew up in an observant family and has stories to share that I want our kids to hear. I grew up in a fairly church-involved household, if not a very religious one. It's a reasonable expectation that I had some kind of tradition to share.

It took me a moment to think about why exactly the question struck me as funny. I think it's because UCC churches in the 90s weren't liturgically focused at all. The UCC has often been a haven for Christians who have trauma from more liturgical church backgrounds, and seasons like Lent can bring up painful experiences of shame disguised as repentance. The church of my childhood was like this: we were situated in a conservative, predominantly Catholic community, and what this UCC congregation had to offer was counter-culture. I recall the existence of an Ash Wednesday service and I may have attended once when I was in confirmation, but I mostly remember the Taizé music and what seemed like hundreds of candles flickering in the dark room.

I didn't come to the practice of Lent until adulthood, and by that time, many mainline Protestant churches were venturing back into the world of church seasons. The Lent I served as a seminary intern was a powerful one: it came on the heels of the death of two beloved family members, some health challenges, and an apartment fire. I needed Lent because I needed a witness to the despair I was feeling. I needed the honesty that comes with a season of examining our relationships with one another and with God, of wandering the wilderness, and of exploring what a more authentic faith could look like.

Since that year, I have been a total Lent convert. Blessedly, not every season of life is as stressful as that one was for me, but each of us faces times in life where we need to know what to do with the hard stuff. It's easy to find God when things are going well. It's much harder to do so when everything feels like it's falling apart. Lent gives us the resilience to journey to hard places and gain strength from the experience.

As we explore our Lenten theme, *The Seed of Joy*, I invite you to engage with the season in a way you haven't before. Perhaps you want to attend a soup supper and sit with people you haven't met before, deepening your knowledge of God and your resilience through community. Maybe Holy Week services are your way in: experiencing a new, perhaps uncomfortable spiritual practice that stretches you. Whatever it is, I pray that this Lenten season is one that helps you uncover joy in unexpected places, and that helps you build resilience to find joy when it's hard. Grateful to be on this journey with you!

## Holy Week

### March 24<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday

Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

### March 28<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday

~~6:00pm Soup Supper~~

7:00pm Foot/hand washing and Holy Communion



### March 29<sup>th</sup> Good Friday

7:00pm Good Friday Service



### March 30<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday

5:00pm Beach Service

Tot Lot off of Minnesota Ave

7:00pm Holy Saturday Vigil

Peace Church

(gather in lower lot)

### March 31<sup>st</sup> Easter Sunday

Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

9:30am Easter Breakfast

10:00am Easter Egg Hunt!



## Easter Eve Worship on the Beach

Come join us for an Easter Eve beach service on Park Point. We'll gather in the Tot Lot beach area at 5:00pm. Enjoy a bonfire - there's usually 15-20 of us. We often have families with kids join us and we have some who come specifically to this very special service next to Lake Superior. There's singing with guitar leading us, scripture reading, prayer, communion, and a ritual connecting to the lake. After the service, we roast marshmallows and eat s'mores.

## Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt



Come eat breakfast with Peace families! Join us for breakfast at 9:30 on Easter morning, Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, in the Fellowship Hall. At 10:00am, we'll hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt (also in the

fellowship hall). We'll have lots of eggs filled with goodies - it's always a lot of fun! Youth (and parents!) will prepare for the breakfast and egg hunt on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am in the fellowship hall. We'll do some prep for the breakfast and fill the eggs with goodies!

## Peace Staff & Hours

### Peace Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9am-3pm

Friday: closed

Saturday: closed

Sunday: 8am-12pm

We are blessed with a great staff team here at Peace! Here's the latest staff list and a cheat sheet for who to contact for different questions and needs.

### Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis - Lead Pastor

Get in touch with Corinne with questions about life-cycle events like baptisms, weddings, and funerals; pastoral care; worship; programs for adults; open staff positions.

### Gudrun Witrak - Pastoral Care Chaplain

Get in touch with Gudrun **through the end of this month** for pastoral care including hospitalizations and homebound visits, and for information about Tea and Talk.

### Amanda McElray Hunter - Children, Youth and Small Groups Coordinator

Get in touch with Amanda about programs and offerings for children and youth from birth through 12th grade.

### Jim Pospisil - Music Director

Get in touch with Jim about choir, worship music, and sharing your musical gifts with Peace.

### Bri Dornbush - Office Coordinator

Get in touch with Bri about the Peace Bell and Weekly Email, social media, and volunteering.

### Rachel Obed - Business Manager

Get in touch with Rachel about building reservations, questions about our building, and information about our Stepping On Up building transition.

### Mali Lorenz - Bookkeeper

Get in touch with Mali about your giving and reimbursements.

### Dan Shepard - Custodian

Get in touch with Dan with setup and facilities requests

### Alex Nelson - Worship Technician

Get in touch with Alex with questions about our livestream and social media.



## Peace News

### Family Fun Event!

Come one, come all for an afternoon of family fun! Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm at the Lester Amity Chalet (2940 Seven Bridges Road, Duluth, MN 55804).



If there is snow, bring a sled! If there is no snow, bring a frisbee or lawn game! We have the chalet rented out for our group, please RSVP by March 10<sup>th</sup> to the office ([office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org)) so we can plan for light snacks and refreshments accordingly. We'll have indoor and outdoor games to enjoy regardless of what the weather is like that day :).

Extra points if you wear green for St. Patrick's!

### Come Check Out the Cubbies!



We have recently updated the cubbies in the hallway by the office. These are now labeled for all teams and committees along with staff. This is a good way for you to drop something off for a team or committee.

### Do you have a Peace Church library book?

Sharon Crosby, Peace Church librarian, has completed an inventory of the Adult Library. In doing so has found that some books have been kept far beyond the check out time and there are many books that are not on the shelf and are not checked out at all.

Sharon is asking people to check their book shelves carefully to see if you have Peace Church Library books. If you are finished with them, please return them. If they are not checked out and you are not finished with them, please sign the card that is in the book and drop it in the box on the book display in the narthex, so we know where the book is.

It is nice to see more people using the Library again. If you haven't visited it recently come in and take a look.

### News from the Property Team

Property Team work evening. On March 5<sup>th</sup> for a couple of hours. We are going to tackle several small jobs including moving shelving, fixing ceiling and floor tiles, replacing light bulbs, fixing a broken oven door, and more! If you are a handy person and would like to help out - please join us starting at 6pm! Contact Stacey Stark ([stacey.stark@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.stark@gmail.com)) for more information and to let us know you are coming.



New Playground Visioning and Care Team. The property team is aware of many shortcomings of our current playground,

including that it is now locked because it is unsafe! We need your help to imagine, plan, and implement a new playground area. This could include fundraising, planning, building, and work days. Volunteers are needed to lead the charge, just attend meetings, and/or to participate in workdays! Please contact Stacey Stark ([stacey.stark@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.stark@gmail.com)) for more information.

### All Church Bake Sale

We are excited to announce we are going to be putting together an All Church Bake Sale to help raise money for the budget deficit. We are currently looking for people to either help with the planning or are interested in baking items. Please contact Bri at [bri@peacucc.org](mailto:bri@peacucc.org) if you are you want to be a part of this group!

### A Message from Shared Ministry

Hey friendly Peace Church friends, do we have a volunteer opportunity for you! The Shared Ministry Team would like to resume using Greeters. Though we all are attentive to saying 'hi' to those around us, a greeting at the door is such a good way to be welcomed to our space, especially for new-comers. No training needed - put your own spin on this - just smile and be friendly! (maybe give directions to the bathrooms, office, or nursery if requested) Kid energy is welcomed too. Look for a Sign Up Genius addition soon to volunteer for this opportunity - at least try it once and see if its for you!

## Peace Activities and Groups

### Tea and Talk

Come for Tea and Talk on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm after the Peace Bell folding. Enjoy each other's company and some tea and treats. Any questions please contact Gudrun Witrak at [gwitrak@gmail.com](mailto:gwitrak@gmail.com).

### Men's Breakfast

#### Every other Thursday, 8:00am

Join us for breakfast and conversation! We meet every other Thursday at 8:00am at Perkins on London Rd. We will meet Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

### Making Meaning Out Of Malignancy

#### Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 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 group. The group meets monthly in a "Room and Zoom" and in the Fireside Room. For more information, please contact Monica Liddle, [monimliddle@gmail.com](mailto:monimliddle@gmail.com).

### Monday Book Group

#### Monday at 3:00pm



In March we will continue reading and discussing *Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories From the Twenty-First Century*, edited by Alice Wong. This book brings together a galvanizing collection of contemporary essays by disabled people. On March 4<sup>th</sup> we will focus on Part 4: Connections. Then on March 18<sup>th</sup>, Gaelynn Lea, an internationally recognized musician and a disability activist, will join us to share her experiences and insights. All are welcome to join us at 3:00pm in the Fireside

### Wednesday Evening Soup Suppers,

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>,

5:00 - 6:00pm

Connect over a meal with conversation prompts to encourage reflection on cultivating joy. Children are welcome to participate. If you'd prefer childcare, please reach out to Amanda at [amanda@peaceucc.org](mailto:amanda@peaceucc.org).

Peace Bell articles for April are due Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Send articles to [bri@peaceucc.org](mailto:bri@peaceucc.org)

### Welcome to

### Wednesday Night Bible study!

Wednesdays, 6:00pm

📖 Did you know that Peace Church has an ongoing Bible study every Wednesday evening, and we welcome anyone who is interested to join us? This group doesn't require any previous Bible knowledge, and we welcome a wide variety of questions and comments. The group decides what we will study each week, and cover a variety of both Old and New Testament readings. Please, come join us in the Fireside room or on Zoom. 📖

### Peace Church Yoga Class

Our first class back will be on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. If you have any questions please contact Robin Davidson at [roblee91@msn.com](mailto:roblee91@msn.com).

### Choir Rehearsals

Wednesdays, 6:15pm

Come try out the choir! We would love to have new members. We rehearse 6:15 - 7:30pm on Wednesdays in the sanctuary, and sing for the 10:30 Sunday services. Contact Jim Pospisil at [jim@peaceucc.org](mailto:jim@peaceucc.org) if you have any more questions.

### PALS

Have you ever wondered what Duckpin Bowling is all about? **Duckpin** is a simplified and "mini" variation of **bowling**. The lanes are shorter, pins are small and on strings, the ball fits in the palm of your hand. Have you ever wanted to try it? Now is your chance! The next PALS event is Duckpin Bowling at Skyline Social & Games, 4894 Miller Trunk Hwy on Thursday, March 21st from 4:15-5:45pm with the option to stay for dinner from 5:45-7:45pm. Cost of the bowling is around \$12/person plus dinner (pizza or order from a menu). Space is limited for bowling, but anyone can come join for dinner afterwards. Email Diane Swanoski at [dswanoski@gmail.com](mailto:dswanoski@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending. Hope to see you there!

### UPCOMING PALS EVENTS:

April 25<sup>th</sup> - visit to the Armory

May 23<sup>th</sup> - Twilight Zone (rescheduled from January)

June 27<sup>th</sup> - Huskies baseball game

## Children, Youth and Families

Hello Families,

This March we continue to journey through the season of Lent and toward the promise of Easter. As I mentioned last month, we are working with a meaningful curriculum called *The Seed of Joy*. The basic premise of the lessons is that even through the hard times, God plants the seed of our joy. God is present with us, rooting for us, encouraging us, and working with us to grow resiliency in our lives and love in the world around us. Each lesson includes a spiritual practice that we learn in Children's Church and that families can then try at home. Most Sundays these spiritual practices are part of the Worship Service too. I am sending weekly emails to Peace folks with elementary age and younger children, who may want to participate in Children's Church. These emails communicate the theme of each week's lesson, the spiritual practice we will be learning and the fun creative projects, songs and stories we will be engaging each week. If you aren't receiving these emails but would like to - even just to know what is happening week to week in our Children's Church - please email me at [amanda@peaceucc.org](mailto:amanda@peaceucc.org) and let me know!

In addition to our normal day-to-day church activities, we will also be relocating nursery spaces and the Children's Library in preparation for demolition work happening in the new Stepping On Up space. The library relocation will have an unexpected benefit, making our wonderful collection of children and young adult books easier for our young people to see and access. The immediate plan for relocated nursery spaces will include a "pray-ground" space within the Sanctuary and a pray-ground area between the sanctuary and the Fireside room. This will provide a good flow, allowing parents to have their children with them in worship, just to the side of worship or to participate in Children's Church during the service (or as is the case with some kiddos, to move between spaces as needed).

In addition, we will have a more typical nursery space set up for Sundays in the Sun Room - for young babies and toddlers that need the care of nursery staff. These spaces will require a bit of trial and error to see what works best for children, families and worshippers at Peace. Peace has a tradition of being very welcoming to Children during worship. That feeling of welcome was one of the reasons my family and I were drawn to Peace when my own children were young. This is an opportunity to be able to experiment with ways that we can expand inclusion of children in the life of our worship. There will be a tour of these spaces after the 10:30 am worship on Sunday, March 3. Meet us by the Fireside Room and we will walk through the spaces, talk through these transitions and answer families' questions at that time. The move of these nursery spaces will happen on Tuesday, March 5 – and we'll be recruiting some volunteers and staff to help with that too!

Here are just a couple of the highlights for the coming month.

Our Family Fun Event this month will be an intergenerational opportunity to better welcome Pastor Corinne and her family, see the announcement on page 4 about the churchwide gathering at the Lester Amity Chalet Sunday on March 17<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm.

Confirmation and OWL classes continue, please see meeting dates below.

We are continuing High School Youth meetings at 9:30am on Sunday mornings. Please encourage your High School Youth to be there, this time is meant to reconnect with friends, reset for the week and eat some donuts!

In one of our Middle School Youth meetings this month, we will have a visit from Tom Westrum to hear about his faith journey. We are having once a month visits by adult Peace Members to the Middle School youth group to encourage intergenerational connection and let youth develop a broader sense of the many ways that a person can live out their faith. We are so thankful to Lisa Fitzpatrick, for visiting youth group last month to discuss her faith journey and her important work in environmental activism.

Please reach out with any questions, feedback or ideas or if you want to become more involved with children and youth ministry! Wishing you Love in Action, Amanda

### **OWL (for 9th graders) Sundays, 6:00pm**

OWL (Our Whole Lives) Sexuality Curriculum meets March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> this month.

### **High School Youth Group Sunday Mornings, 9:30 AM**

Join us each Sunday morning for a short devotion, donuts, tea, juice and a time to reconnect and hang out!

## Cont...

### Nursery

Nursery Spaces are changing and will be different beginning, Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>. Please join us by the Fireside Room after the 10:30am service on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> to get a tour of the new spaces. The official move will be Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to volunteer to help with the move reach out to Amanda!

Nursery Staff will continue to be available in our original nursery rooms on March 3<sup>rd</sup> during the 10:30 service. The Nursery will be available in the Sunroom (downstairs, past the elevator) beginning March 10<sup>th</sup>. We are also offering Nursery during Lent Soup Suppers on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00pm. Please RSVP to Amanda.

Parents, please make sure to fill out the sign in/sign out sheet with your information before you drop off/pick up your children. Please let us know about any questions/concerns that you have as parents, or if there are other times on Sunday mornings or at church events that it would be helpful for your child to have nursery services. Thanks!

### Children's Church

Come join us for Children's Church each Sunday during the 10:30 service. Kids stay in the service until Story for All Ages, leave for Children's Church for 20-30 min (where we sing, read stories, make art and have fun) and then come back with the adults for communion/offering. All kids and youth (and parents!) are welcome to join us – it's always a sweet and lively time together!

### High School Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes will meet March 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> this month. Mentors will join us during the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please continue to keep these young people in your prayers as they learn about and grow in their understanding of their faith.

### Middle School (grades 6-8) Youth Group Wednesdays, 6:00pm

Youth group meets every Wednesday at 6:00pm! The youth are continuing their Bible Study using "Manna and Mercy." On Wednesday March 20<sup>th</sup>, we will have a game and pizza night. On March 27<sup>th</sup>, Peace member Tom Westrum will join us to discuss his faith journey.

## Climate Corner from Singapore!

Many of you know that Tim and I (Annette Strom) are currently living in Singapore. As I look from afar at this year's MN weather and at the same time hear Singaporeans talk about the changes in weather patterns here, I realize how much the climate is changing in my lifetime. Like many of you, we have improved the energy efficiency of our home, we now have only one car in Duluth and in Singapore we walk and use public transportation, and we are making food choices more sustainably. However, our current lifestyle is leaving a huge carbon footprint: we travel by plane a lot. Because of the guilt and responsibility I have felt around this, I have been taking some steps to reduce the impact when we travel. For those of you who are also flying places, I hope some of these tips will help.

- Fly economy. Extra legroom comes at more than a financial cost - a first-class ticket can generate 2 - 4 times the emissions of an economy class ticket because packing more passengers in each plane increases efficiency.
- Take direct, non-stop flights. Proportionately, more fuel is burned during takeoff and landing, so non-stop flights are more fuel-efficient.
- Take daytime flights, where possible. Contrails and cirrus clouds generated by aircraft trap heat, causing extra warming - but mostly at night. That's because during the daytime, they also reflect sunlight back into space, counteracting the heat-trapping effect.
- Choose a greener airline or plane. Generally, larger and newer planes are more efficient. Among smaller, regional planes, turboprop planes generate fewer emissions than jets on average. You can usually see what kind of plane you'll be flying when you book. The International Council on Clean Transportation also issues reports on which airlines have better fuel efficiency for Canada-U.S. and transatlantic flights.
- Consider buying offsets. Many airlines give you the option to buy offsets - that is, invest in projects that reduce carbon emissions, such as tree-planting or green energy. In theory, that can help counterbalance the impact of your emissions. But experts warn that offset programs are not always effective and may inadvertently encourage people to fly more.

Instead of buying offsets the airlines provide, we have decided to donate to climate projects rated 4 star by Charity Navigator. In conclusion, the best choice for the planet is not to fly at all, but if you are still using air travel, these tips can help reduce your overall impact a bit. The list above is taken directly from an article in the CBC Earth newsletter *Air Travel Emits a Lot of Carbon, but There Are Ways to Fly More Responsibly*, 2019.



## New Members



**Name:** John Bankson

**Family:** Wife - Jean Sramek

**Job:** Librarian

**Hobbies:** Playing bluegrass banjo, music in general, cross-country skiing, sauna and hiking.

**What Brought You to Peace:**

I was actually looking for a church that promoted peace and practiced it, plus the music is great at Peace Church.

**Obscure fact:** I had a conversation with Bob Dylan in the ski rental shop at Spirit Mountain in 1976.

**Name:** April Knight

**Family:** Husband - Brad Davis and Baloo their volunteer therapy dog.

**Job:** Summer camp RN for Boys

**Hobbies:** Beginning to play cello, triathlons, knitting and art of any kind.

**What brought you to Peace:** I slowly became involved with Peace after a weekend Woman's retreat led by Peace Church.

**Obscure fact:** in 2014 I left Sawbill Lake for a solo canoe paddle to the Hudson Bay via the Hayes River; I arrived 88 days later.



**Name:** Emily, McKenzie, Jaydan (21), Austan (19), Kaylan (17), Sam (15), Heaven (15), Gary (12), Allyna (11), Riley (6), Maxwell (3).

**Pets:** Macy (Yellow Lab), Gemma (King Charles Spaniel), Sweetie (cat), and 12 fish

**Job:** McKenzie - Accountant at UMD. Emily - Social Work and Music background, but currently staying home.

**Hobbies:** McKenzie - Anything outdoors and being with family. Emily - Music, family, friends.

**What brought you to Peace:** We were looking for a place where our family feels welcomed, where we can be involved and there are opportunities for our children to be involved as well.

**Obscure fact:** Emily has dual citizenship with Canada and the U.S.; McKenzie gave birth to the oldest and youngest children in the family 17 years apart.



**Name:** Corinne and Greg Freedman Ellis, Phoebe and Ori Ellis

**Job:** Corinne – pastor at Peace, Greg – software developer at YouGov, Phoebe – kindergartener at Hamline Elementary

in St. Paul, now at Congdon Park Elementary, Ori – 2.5 year old at Linnie's house

**Hobbies:** Corinne - crocheting, getting back into running; Greg - video games and hiking; Phoebe - reading, writing, dancing, unicorns, and video games; Ori - trains, dogs and cats, Paw Patrol, bagels

**What brought you to Peace:** In Phoebe's words: "Mama's job! But we love it here because it's such a fun church and there are lots of kids to play with and fun things to do." Corinne and Greg say: "We appreciate the warmth, commitment to justice, and creative and adaptive spirit at Peace Church. We are grateful to be here!"

**Obscure fact:** Corinne is trained (but not certified) as a birth doula, Greg grew up Jewish and won a Jewish youth bible contest as a middle schooler, Phoebe has had 3 kindergarten teachers, Ori loves spelling and can spell his own name and his sister's name





## A Word for Justice

### Dismantling Racism

The UMD Commission on Equity, Race and Ethnicity (CERE) hosts an annual day-long Summit on Equity, Race and Ethnicity. This year's Summit will be on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The opening Keynote is Dr. Chad Montrie, author of five books including *Whiteness in Plain View: A History of Racial Exclusion in Minnesota*.

The event is open to the public. A small donation is encouraged but not required. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered without charge. The Dismantling Racism Team invites you to participate. Register at <https://learning.umn.edu/portal/events/reg/participantTypeSelection.do?method=load&entityId=45223540>

### Twin Ports Interfaith Fundraiser for Palestine



Thank you so much to everyone who supported the Twin Ports Interfaith Fundraiser for Palestine! Over 300 people attended and we raised over \$45,000 for the Palestinian Red Crescent.

### Building Racial Consciousness

Our next conversation will be Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:30 - 12:30pm. Come and be part of a conversation among Peace members and friends, facilitated by the Revs. Anthony Galloway and Jia Starr Brown of Dedros Group.

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Patterns that are embedded in our congregational life

**April 27<sup>th</sup>** - What can we do to interrupt those patterns?

This series will help move Peace from its well-established role of support for BIPOC communities to becoming an ally in solidarity with St. Mark and other BIPOC communities in Duluth. Pastors Anthony and Jia have led other congregations through this process and we are fortunate to have them facilitating our conversation. If you have missed the first conversation and want to go to this one please contact the church office ([office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).) The series is made possible in part through the Jubilee Fund of Peace Church.

### Foy Scholarship News

This year the Foy Scholarship Committee will award at least two scholarships of \$1000 each to students of color from the Duluth Superior area. Applicants need to fill out an application form, submit a 500 word essay, a transcript and a recommendation from an academic counselor or teacher. Although primarily for high school seniors beginning post secondary education, non-traditional students will also be considered. Deadline for applications is April 12th. Information and on line application forms can be found at <https://www.peaceucc.org/foy-scholarship>. Questions can be addressed to [foyscholar@gmail.com](mailto:foyscholar@gmail.com).

Arthur Foy III served St. Mark AME from 1998-2004 and lived in Duluth. He was passionate about encouraging students of color to pursue higher education. He was killed in 2004 in a traffic accident that occurred on a Wisconsin highway shrouded by dense fog. St. Mark AME and Peace Church started a scholarship in his memory and this year will mark the Scholarship Fund's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Donations to the fund can be made through Peace Church and should be designated "Foy Scholarship."

If you know a young person of color who should apply, please encourage them to do so.



## Volunteers

### Coffee Hour Volunteers

Every Sunday our 11:30 Coffee Hour is brought to you by our Coffee Hour Volunteers. This month our Coordinators are Cindy McLean, Pam Kramer and Louise Guggisberg.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Bri in the office at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).

### "That's what Church is supposed to be."

I would like to thank all of you for so many gifts during my recovery from my broken right tibia. I still have a few months before my leg is completely healed, but want to express my appreciation along the way. To give you an update, I am now driving. I continue to crutch, doing a little weight-bearing which will increase over time. I am able to do more and more on my job, for which I am grateful.

I would like to thank you for your kindness, your prayers, your enthusiasm and encouragement, for your noticing changes and progress in my mobility. Thank you for the prayer shawl, for reiki, for snow-shoveling, for cards, for rides (and helping me to and from the car). And thank you for visiting me with food, whether you were on the Meal Train or just brought food spontaneously. All delicious! All of this has been a saving grace. All of you have been a saving grace.

I was talking to an old friend back in Boston and letting her know what all of you have done. She no longer attends church and does other spiritual practices. But when she heard all that Peace Church has done for me, she paused and said with deep feeling, "That's what Church is supposed to be." - Cyndi Brown

### Peace Prayer Chain



Please call the church office (218-724-3637) or Linda Goese (218-341-0918) with your prayer concerns. You can let us know whether or not to share your concern with the pastor for inclusion in Sunday morning prayers.

Would you like to participate in our Prayer Chain? Contact Gudrun Witrak ([gwwittrak@gmail.com](mailto:gwwittrak@gmail.com)), Lynn Devlin, or Linda Goese!

### Monday Meals for Loaves and Fishes

Peace volunteers make and deliver meals for **Loaves and Fishes Dorothy Day House** on Monday evenings. Usually meals need to serve 10-15 persons. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, email [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org) or access the schedule on our website under the menu "for volunteers."

March 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Nancy Taggart**

March 11<sup>th</sup> - **Open**

March 18<sup>th</sup> - **Open**

March 25<sup>th</sup> - **Open**

### Damiano Community Kitchen

Peace volunteers help prepare and serve a meal at Damiano Community Kitchen twice a month. Each shift needs 2-3 volunteers, bring a friend or a youth, 16 and up! [Click here](#) to sign up or email the office at [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org).

Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> - **6 Spots open**

Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> - **12 Spots open**

### Keep in Your Prayers

- 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.
- All those undergoing treatment for cancer: Stephen Dando, Mary Caine-Hafdahl, Kim Kruger, Pat Nelson, Sam Peterson and others.

### WOW!!

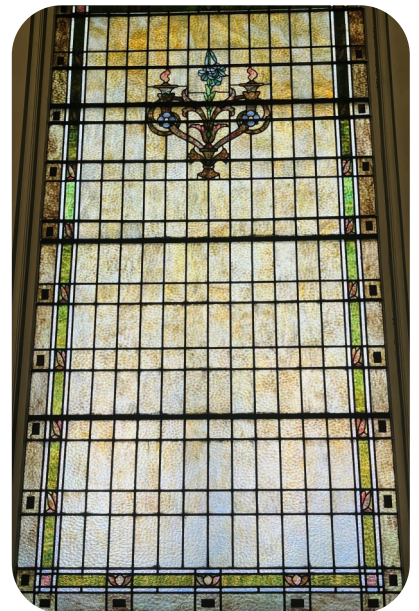
That was the word the Public Health Sanitarian with the State Health Department said when he entered the newly, deeply cleaned kitchen at Peace Church. We needed a certification from the state to be able to prepare food that is given to outside groups, i.e. the sandwich bags for the CHUM drop in center. A crew of women scrubbed, polished, washed, and tended the room to a shine. We thank **Louise Hawley** for gathering these women and thank them!

Leanne Ventrella  
Louise Guggisberg  
Molly Watson  
Gudrun Witrak  
Cathy Carlson

Sue North  
Mary Adams  
Laurie Berner  
Cathy Ameal



## February Events





Peace United Church of Christ  
1111 North 11th Avenue East  
Duluth, MN 55805-1517

(218) 724-3637

[www.peaceucc.org](http://www.peaceucc.org)

E-mail: [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org)

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Duluth, MN

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you are not interested in receiving the  
Peace Bell, please call or e-mail the office  
(see phone # and email 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](mailto:office@peaceucc.org)*

#### **PEACE CHURCH STAFF**

Lead Pastor: Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Music Director: Jim Pospisil

Children, Youth and Small Group Coordinator: Amanda Hunter

Pastoral Care Chaplain: Gudrun Witrak

Office Coordinator: Bri Dornbush

Business Manager: Rachel Obed

Bookkeeper: Mali Lorenz

Custodian: Dan Shepard

Pianist: Wendy Durrwachter

Worship Tech: Alex Nelson



**PEACE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Thursday: 9am-3pm

**PHONE:** 218-724-3637 **Web:** [peaceucc.org](http://peaceucc.org) **Facebook:** [peaceduluth](https://www.facebook.com/peaceduluth)

**EMAIL ADDRESSES:** Amanda: [amanda@peaceucc.org](mailto:amanda@peaceucc.org) Bri: [office@peaceucc.org](mailto:office@peaceucc.org)

Jim: [jim@peaceucc.org](mailto:jim@peaceucc.org) Mali: [mali@peaceucc.org](mailto:mali@peaceucc.org)

Gudrun: [gwitrak@gmail.com](mailto:gwitrak@gmail.com)

Rachel: [rachel@peaceucc.org](mailto:rachel@peaceucc.org) Alex: [alex@peaceucc.org](mailto:alex@peaceucc.org)

Corinne: [corinne@peaceucc.org](mailto:corinne@peaceucc.org)

**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 building the beloved community. We strive to respect and value all of creation, and the diversity of people's sexual orientation, gender expression and identity, class, race, culture, age, and physical and mental abilities. ***Visitors are always welcome!***