



The Peace Bell

PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sundays at a Glance

April 7th

Sermon by Rev. Emily Goldthwaite

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion
 9:30am Forum: Rev. Emily Goldthwaite, CHUM,
 & Stepping On Up: Housing Policy in Minnesota
 9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex
 9:30am High School Youth Group in the Youth
 Group Room
 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion
 Children's Church
 11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall
 6:00pm OWL at UUCD

April 14th

Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion
 9:30am Forum: Ethel Ray Nance Family
 9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex
 10:30am Worship with Children's Church
 11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall
 6:00pm OWL at UUCD

April 21st

Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis &
 Peace Church Team Members

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion
 9:30am Forum: Shawna Weaver
 9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex
 9:30am High School Youth Group in the Youth
 Group Room
 10:30am Worship with Children's Church
 11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall
 6:00pm OWL at UUCD

April 28th Confirmation Sunday

Reflections by the Confirmands

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion
 9:30am Forum: Peace Matters: Budget Update
 9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex
 9:30am Confirmation Breakfast
 10:30am Worship with Children's Church
 11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall
 11:30am New Member Orientation in the
 Fireside Room
 6:00pm OWL at UUCD

April Forums

April 7th

Rev. Emily Goldthwaite, Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative

Emily is an ordained UCC minister and organizer. She will preach at both worship services and will lead a forum on housing policy in conversation with Chum and our Stepping On Up team.

April 14th

Ethel Ray Nance Family

Ethel Ray Nance was born in 1899 in Duluth and is considered one of the foremost Civil Rights and Women's Rights activists in American history. Come to hear Nance's family share the history of an extraordinary woman who served as a police officer, stenographer, member of the Harlem Renaissance, and promoter of anti-lynching legislation in Duluth. Nance's granddaughter, Karen Felecia Nance, has recently published her grandmother's biography and will be available to sell and sign copies at the forum.

April 21st

Shawna Weaver - Climate grief: from coping to resilience and action

Shawna has spent most of her career in mental health as a counselor or teacher, researching grief with clients and students. With a master's degree in psychology and a PhD in environmental science, her recent research has focused on the intersection of climate change and mental health. Her new book is the culmination of what she's learned about grief, stories from clients and students, and her own vision for a better future through refocusing our climate change anxieties on community-care, compassion, and self-love.

April 28th

Peace Matters: Budget Update

The Finance Committee will host this forum updating us on our budget for the year and where we are in our spending and our giving. We will also invite conversation around our values and our budget.

From the Moderator

Greetings!

As we celebrate Easter and move into the spring season, the spirit of renewal and growth are all around us at Peace. I'm writing this message to you on the vernal equinox, which marks the Persian New Year, also known as Nowruz - "now" meaning new, and "ruz" meaning day. Peace Church is leaning into some exciting new days in the weeks and months ahead: the Stepping On Up shelter construction is moving forward; a tree planting day is in the works for early May; a playground visioning team is forming; we will soon start digging into reviewing and revising our by-laws; and a team will be gathering input from all of you on ways we can best be in community together, supporting each other with grace and love.

Teams and committees will soon be recruiting new members - where do your interests lie? Keep an eye out for information from the Shared Ministry team about the many ways you can be involved at Peace! Some of these are made up of volunteers and some are appointed by the coordinating council ("standing committees"). One such committee that comes together this time of year is the Nominating Committee. According to our current by-laws, this appointed group consists of the moderator, pastor, and three council members. The council is looking at ways to broaden participation in this group - we welcome your ideas! The purpose of the committee is "to build, strengthen, and sustain the members of Peace Church in terms of volunteer recruitment and coordination, nominations and leadership development." If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about joining the council or any other team or committee, please reach out to any member of these groups or let the office know.

With hope for the new days ahead, Jessica

From Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Many of you know I spent some time organizing with ISIAAH, a statewide faith-based organizing collective headquartered in the Twin Cities. Before I was on staff, I was a clergy leader in the organization, and I worked with a spectacular clergy organizer, Grant Stevensen. His background was as a Lutheran pastor, and his philosophy was that every pastor's ministry would be improved if they saw their role as not just spiritual leaders, but also as organizers. The way this manifested was through intentional 1:1 conversations where Stevensen got a sense of what really mattered to people, and out of those conversations, everyone in the congregation was given a job that matched their passions, gifts, and skills with the needs of the community.

At first, this felt transactional to me. Give everyone a job? But Stevensen explained to us that this gave everyone a sense of meaning, belonging, and ownership of the church community. Even the homebound woman who could no longer see well enough to write cards or hear well enough to make calls had a job praying for her fellow homebound members. Our community is enriched by every single person in our web of connections, and we deny people's worth and value if we think, "Oh, I shouldn't ask them to serve the church, they're too busy/sick/disabled/disconnected." It's a very different way of looking at our shared ministry!

April is Shared Ministry Month at Peace Church, and we are filled with gratitude for all the ways you, the members and friends of Peace, share your gifts with this community. The enclosed brochure details much of the work that goes on here, and if you are someone who is seeking greater meaning, belonging, and ownership in the church, you will be invited into those opportunities throughout this month. What the brochure doesn't include is what you might start, if you have a passion or interest that isn't already represented as a ministry opportunity here. We don't do things at Peace just to do them - we do them because they matter to people here and in our wider community.

As we head into this month, I invite you to do some discerning about where you feel called. Perhaps you are overcommitted here and need to step back in one area or another! Maybe you want to step into a space you've never tried before. Or maybe your call is to start something new. Howard Thurman wrote, "Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive." Let's enter this Easter season, this season of new life, with a commitment to our own alive-ness. It will transform not just us, not just our community, but our world. With blessings and gratitude, Pastor Corinne

Jubilee Fund

As a newer member of the Fund Oversight Committee, I continue to learn about the important ways Peace Church contributes financially to our community. A few months ago I wrote an article about the importance of the PK Fund in the life of Children and Youth Ministries and how we need to continue to secure donations to this fund, to ensure we can equitably fund opportunities for our young people into the future. The PK Fund helps Peace to pay for special trips and activities for youth that contribute to their developing sense of service and faith. These mountaintop experiences can be life changing for our young people: giving them agency in their lives, underscoring the relevance of their faith, and demonstrating the impact their service can have in creating a better world.

Another important fund in the life of Peace that works in concert with the PK Fund is the Jubilee Fund. The Jubilee Fund was established in 2009 as a way to support efforts to build the Beloved Community. With the Jubilee Fund, Peace shows that we are walking our talk!

The mission of the Jubilee Fund is to be a financial resource to enable members and friends of Peace Church to be actively engaged in justice issues that affect the Duluth community and the broader region, nation, and world.

Some priority issues include ending poverty, economic justice, dismantling racism, and eliminating hunger. Each project must have the initial support and engagement of at least 3 Peace Church members and be implemented in cooperation with a group or entity that is outside of Peace Church. Past partners include CHUM, our sister congregations in the Philippines, Witness for Peace, and the Clayton-Jackson-McGhie Memorial Committee. Jubilee Funded Projects have community impact. Funded projects have included the St Mark Giving Garden/Food Access Project, creating a building fund to respond to the needs of members and neighbors for housing repairs, supporting a group of local youth of color to travel to the National Memorial of Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama dedicated to those lynched in this country, and supporting monthly Sobriety Feasts sponsored by the Duluth Indigenous Commission by providing funding for speakers, supplies, and sweat lodge.

Each project sponsored by the Jubilee Fund seeks to educate and engage members of the congregation. This engagement can include Adult Forums, presentations during worship, volunteer opportunities, special events inside or outside of Peace, and newsletter and website articles. Grants are generally anticipated to be in the range of \$500 – \$5,000, though special consideration can be given to requests outside of that range. Grants are awarded throughout the year as applications come in. The application process is straightforward and applications can be accessed through Peace's website.

Based on my job description, I tend to look at a lot of things at Peace from the perspective of our youth and children and this brings me full circle to why the Jubilee Fund is such an important instrument for good, not only in our wider community but also in our own congregation. Peace's commitment to justice and helping our community demonstrates to our young people that the faith we teach them is real, meaningful, and has impact. If the PK Fund helps us to show our young people that they have agency and that their faith is relevant, the Jubilee Fund goes a step further helping our young folks to see us elder folks of Peace Church continue a lifetime commitment to following the ways of Jesus.

Wishing you Love in Action, Amanda.



Peace News

A Message from Shared Ministry

Our Shared Ministry mission is to provide a path for our members and friends to find connection and ways to share their gifts. There are many opportunities to do this at Peace. Many of you have experienced what fun it is to get to know others by working together and contributing to the life of our congregation!

Guess what? April has been declared Shared Ministry month. The idea of sharing your gifts by joining a team or committee, collaborating on projects, and infusing this church on the hill and this community, with your wisdom, hard work, and spirit filled zeal, is such a key part of who we are. We NEED you! The work of the kin-dom of God NEEDS you.

On April 21st we will have a special worship service and fellowship hour for Shared Ministry Month with emphasis on bringing your energy and gifts by agreeing to be part of the work we do here. Pastor Corinne will lead us in a service that inspires us to follow our call, and members of the teams and committees will be hosting a dessert gathering in the fellowship hall to sign you up and answer any questions you may have after the service. You can also sign up on line as you have done in previous years. Bri Dornbush, in the office would love for you to stop in and sign up to help out at the Sunday services as an usher, lay reader, coffee server or substitute for those jobs. Your gifts, freely given, can mean so much for our community of faith.

Orientation to Peace April 28th and May 5th 11:45-12:45

We welcome all who are interested in learning more about Peace, what we believe, how we interact in the community, and how we're structured, to join us for orientation sessions Sunday, April 28th and May 5th after the 10:30 service. We'll provide child care and a light lunch.

Folks are encouraged to attend both sessions, RSVP would be helpful. Let Bri in the church office know via email or phone. (Bri@peaceucc.org or 218-724-3637.) Just popping in is great too. Looking forward to meeting with you!

New members will be received into the church on May 19th. Save the date if you are interested in joining Peace.



News from the Property Team

Wanted: New Playground Visioning and Care Team

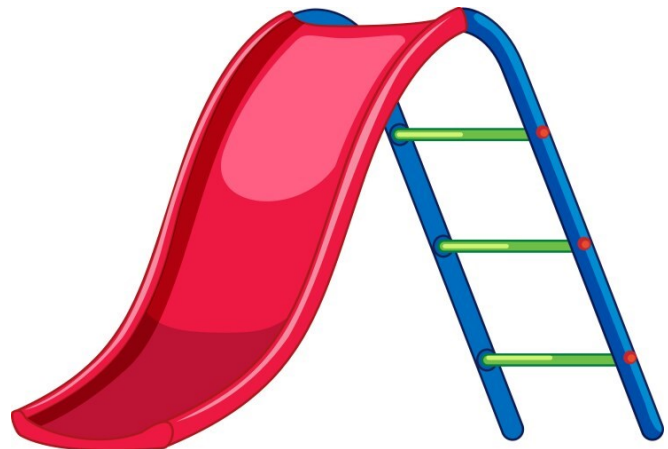
The property team is aware of many shortcomings of our current playground, including that it is now locked because it is unsafe! We need your help to imagine, plan, and implement a new playground area. This could include fundraising, planning, building, and work days. Volunteers are needed to lead the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

April Property Team Work Evening

For a couple of hours on April 4th, we are going to tackle several small jobs including 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 5:00pm! Contact Stacey Stark (stacey.stark@gmail.com) for more information and to let us know you are coming.

Custodial Volunteers Needed

We're looking for volunteers to help out with custodial work around the church April 11th - 21st. A few days of help should be enough to cover the basic cleaning needs while Dan is away. Tasks include vacuuming, taking out garbage, sweeping and mopping, washing dishes, and cleaning bathrooms. Please contact the office if you're able to pitch in for a few hours on your own schedule.



Peace Activities and Groups

Tea and Talk

Come for Tea and Talk on April 24th at 3:00pm after the Peace Bell folding. Enjoy each other's company and some tea and treats. Any questions please contact Pastor Corinne at corinne@peaceucc.org.

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, April 4th and April 18th.

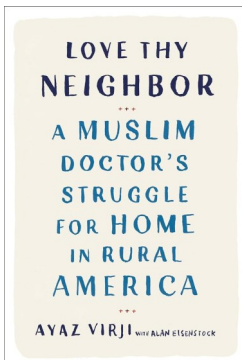
Making Meaning Out Of Malignancy

Monday, April 22nd, 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.

Monday Book Group

Monday at 3:00pm



The Monday Book Group will be reading *Love Thy Neighbor: A Muslim Doctor's Struggle for Home in Rural America* by Ayaz Virji. This is a powerful true story about a Muslim doctor's service to small town Minnesota (Dawson, MN) and the hope of overcoming our country's climate of hostility and fear.

The group will meet in the Fireside Room and also by Zoom on Monday April 8th and 22nd at 3:00pm. Newcomers are always welcome! Please email pccragun@d.umn.edu to be included in the group email.

Peace Bell articles for May are due Wednesday, April 17th. Send articles to 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. 📖

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 if you have any more questions.

PALS

When: April 25th, 2024

Where: Duluth Armory Arts and Music Center
Guided Tour (1301-1305 London Road)

Time: 4:00pm

Following: Supper together at Fitger's
Brewhouse 5:30pm

Cost: \$10 PER person to Armory

RSVP: Christine Day at (218)590-0518 or stephday1@msn.com for head count for dinner setup

UPCOMING PALS EVENTS:

May 23th - Twilight Zone (rescheduled from January)

June 27th - Huskies baseball game

Weekly E-mail Reminders

Do you receive our weekly emails? Bri sends them from the church office on Tuesdays and Fridays. They are an important way to receive the latest, most up-to-date information about life at Peace. Contact Bri (bri@peaceucc.org) to be added to the distribution list.

Children, Youth and Families

Hello Families,

Easter has come! We've revisited those long-ago stories that make us witnesses to resurrection and the triumph of love over death, imperialism and colonialism. We've hunted Easter eggs, enjoyed baskets stuffed with goodies, prepared our traditional feasts, and gathered with family and friends to share our common rituals of joy and remembrance.

So ... now what?

From our Bible stories we know that it is after Easter, that the real work of the church begins. Our mission is to continue Jesus' work where he left off – to love and repair a world in need of care and hope and reconciliation, to reestablish good relationship with God, community and ourselves.

There's always more work to do!

Even still, even with this meaningful purpose, it's not unusual to feel that moment of after-celebration let down as we return to the everyday.

Perhaps this year we can frame this feeling as a moment to rest, to reset, to note the things that have passed on and the things that will be reborn in a new season of our lives. The Easter season in our liturgical year is not just 1 day, it is the 50 days leading to Pentecost! Pentecost is a Greek word meaning fiftieth, and the time leading to it is, yet again, a time of preparation in the church. Pentecost celebrates the descent of the holy spirit on those followers of Jesus who would create the church. It marks the beginning of the church's mission to the world, shifting the focus of Christian community from the singular focus of the life of Jesus to sharing the love of Jesus' ways with the rest of the world.

In Children's Church on Easter Sunday, we handed out "Joy Journals." The kiddos will use these journals for the 50 days after Easter while we prepare for Pentecost. Each day they can write or draw one person, place, event, or other thing that brought them joy that day. It's a way to reset our year with new intentions and to pay attention to what it is in our lives that brings us sustaining joy. Joy is a way finder, pointing us to those moments when we can live into our mission within the church and create deep meaning from our lives. I invite each of you to engage in this practice of naming your daily joy over the next 50 days of Easter along with our children!

Finally, I have so much thanks for the many youth and adult volunteers last month who have helped in Children's Church (Kelli Hallsten-Erickson, Kelly Grgas, Molly Nett, Diane Swanoski, Joy Bittner, Katey Fornear, Pat Nelson, Bergen Huble), with the Nursery move (see the list on page 8), at the Family Fun Event (Laura Hamel, Holly Jorde, Betty Greene), making soup for Soup Supper (Amy Westbrook, Anne Romberg, Monica Liddle), Confirmation Classes (Libby Fena, Sue North, Tom Westrum, Laurie Berner), and in Middle School Youth Group (Warren Post, Tres Commer, Tom Westrum). Your love and service make our ministry to our young people vibrant and welcoming!

Wishing you Love in Action, Amanda

Nursery

The Nursery is now located downstairs in the Sunroom, by the elevator.

Nursery Staff are available during the 10:30 service, and occasionally during other events, please check the weekly email for updates!

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!

If you would prefer to have your child with you in worship, feel free to utilize one of our **Pray-Ground spaces**, located in the Sanctuary and just outside of the Sanctuary near the Fireside Room. These spaces offer quiet activities where parents and kiddos can engage in play and creativity while still participating in worship.

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 Youth Group, Sunday Morning at 9:30am on April 7th and 21st.

Join us for donuts and a time to reconnect and hang out! High School Youth Group will only meet twice in April and then be on break for retooling until the fall.

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

OWL (Our Whole Lives) Sexuality Curriculum meets April 7th, 21st, and 28th this month at UUCD.

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*. April 3rd will be game and pizza night. On April 24th, Peace members Bob and Kay Stevens will join us for a garden-related service opportunity and to share their faith journey with our youth!

High School Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes are wrapping up this month! Each class has a final meeting with youth and class leaders on Wednesday, April 10th at 7pm. Confirmation 2 class will have a retreat on Saturday, April 27th, more information will be coming to those youth and parents in an email. On Sunday, April 28th, at 9:30am there will be a breakfast for Confirmands, Mentors and families in the Fellowship Hall, followed by the service of Confirmation during the 10:30am worship service. Please RSVP to Amanda by April 21st with number attending and the name of the Confirmand you are connected to, if you are planning to come to the breakfast.

Peace Summer Day Camp

Save the dates! June 10th – 14th, from 9 -12pm at Peace UCC. This year we are trying a new format and details will be coming in an email this month. We will be collaborating again with Pilgrim Congregational and Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth. The Summer camp will focus on a connection to nature, creativity, peacebuilding, and FUN!

Summer Trips

Emails will be going out this month to gauge interest and begin planning!

High School Youth - Great Lakes & West Central Regional Youth Event

July 17th - 20th, 2024 at Augustana College, Rock Island Illinois. Join hundreds of youth from United Church of Christ congregations in Minnesota and across the Great Lakes and West Central regions. Come together for three days of connection, fun, worship, service, and learning. We are excited to be working with The Many to provide music, worship, and program leadership throughout our time together.

Middle School Youth - We are hoping to schedule a trip to Camp Amnicon this summer for July or August, please keep an eye out for an email coming this month with details and options!



CHUM is “People of faith working together to provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and organize for a just and compassionate community.”

Louise Hawley and Laurie Berner attended the quarterly CHUM Delegate meeting on March 12th. Here are some highlights:

- The numbers of delegate churches officially grew by one and is now 41
- CHUM advocates and service recipients will be on Capitol Hill advocating for support for many different projects. The bottom line of the messaging to Legislators is that there is a need for increased funding for necessary programs due to the rising numbers of individuals and families experiencing homelessness or housing insecurities.
- Several Peace members are helping out by making bagged lunches for the Day at the Capitol participants. Thank you!
- New Board members were voted in and outgoing member’s Board service was applauded and appreciated.

We are waiting for a final direction on a food shelf item that we will sponsor at Peace UCC. For now we’ve been asked to donate canned fruit. For the best nutrition, please buy fruit in their natural juices. You can put donations in the basket across from the church office.

Our Saviors Lutheran Church is having a High Tea fundraiser for CHUM on May 4th.

Rhubarb Festival is around the corner on June 29th. Mark your calendars.

Any questions please contact Louise Hawley or Laurie Berner.

All Non-Perishable Food Is Welcome Most Needed Items

- Rice
- Spaghettios/ravioli
- Canned beef stew
- Canned baked beans
- Cereal
- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Canned chunky soup/chicken noodle soup
- Spam
- Peanut butter
- Mac n Cheese

Stepping On Up Update

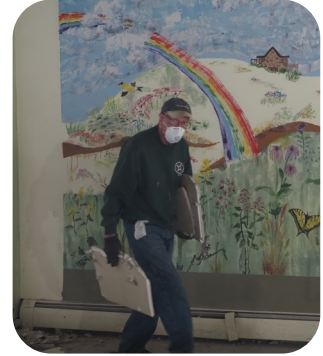
Stepping On Up is off and running at our Peace Church location! In December, CHUM secured a grant and additional funds to begin construction of the twelve-unit shelter housing for 18-24 year old homeless youth that will be in our former daycare wing. The lease with CHUM for the construction and a memorandum of understanding with LSS for the staffing and management of the facility were signed in early March.

As soon as they were signed, Danny O'Neill of our congregation organized volunteer demolition crews and the demo began. Volunteers spent a collective of 137 hours working and managed to knock out the demo in five days! Four large dumpsters of debris were removed, and the 5,000 SF space is now completely open and ready to begin construction. Many thanks to all the demolition volunteers, including a crew of Master Rowers from the Rowing Club that did some major work!

THANK YOU!

So many people came together this month to help move things forward with our new rental wing in a major way. We'd like to give a giant thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and labor to move the nursery rooms, children's library, and name tag cabinets, set up the sunroom nursery and new pray-ground spaces, photograph the history, and demo the rental wing!

Thank you Alex Dean, Alex Guggisberg, Amanda Hunter, Anya Holmstrom, Bill Hodapp, Bob Stevens, Bri Dornbush, Burnell Petersen, Cathy Wood, Corinne Freedman Ellis, Dan Shepard, Danny O'Neill, Deb DeLuca, Devan Burnett, Diane Swanoski, Elise Westbrook, Ellen Shelhon, Elsie Ryan, Eric Dott, Heidi Olson, Janell Kohls, Jerry Malone, Jessica Olson, Jim McLean, Julie O'Neill, Kay Stevens, Kayle Peterson, Lori Dando, Louise Guggisberg, Mark Lavalier, Matt Ryan, Melissa Boyle, Michael Cochran, Mike Swanoski, Nathan Langer, Pam Kramer, Pete Olson, Phil Lindstrom, Philip Lundquist, Rachel Obed, Randy Newberg, Sharon Crosby, Stacey Stark, Stephen Dando, Tom Rauschenfels, and Tony Montez.



A Word for Justice

Ethel Ray Nance Commemoration and Celebration Events

April 11th - 14th, 2024

Ethel Ray Nance was born on April 13th, 1899 in Duluth and graduated from Duluth Central High School in 1917. Ethel Ray is considered one of the most important Civil Rights and Women's Rights icons in America. She was the first African American stenographer to work for the Minnesota Legislature, she became the first African American female police officer on the Minneapolis Police force, followed by an appointment at the Kansas City Urban League. Afterwards, she relocated to the New York Urban League to serve as secretary, researcher, writer and editor for Opportunity Magazine. During the Harlem Renaissance Ethel Ray was friends with prominent scholars and writers such as Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, W.E.B. DuBois and others. In fact, Ethel Ray became Secretary to DuBois. DuBois was founder of National NAACP. While in Duluth, Ethel Ray and family were members of St. Mark AME church. Ethel Ray convinced DuBois to come to Duluth to talk about anti Lynching legislation.

Several of her family members will be in Duluth April 11th - 24th in celebration of her life. Peace Church is a sponsor for these events through a grant from the Jubilee Fund. Ethel Ray's granddaughter, Karen Felecia Nance, has written a book about her life that will be released on April 13th.

Thursday, April 11th, 11:00am - Coffee and Conversation at Family Freedom Center, 310 N 1st Avenue W

Friday, April 12th, 11:00am - Mayoral Proclamation at Duluth City Hall Rotunda, 411 W 1st Street

Saturday, April 13th, 1:00 - 4:30pm - book release of Karen Felecia Nance's book *Ethel Ray: Living in the White, Gray, and Black* - Nordic Center and Prøve Gallery, 23 N Lake Avenue (meet author and additional family members)

Saturday, April 13th, 5:30pm (doors open at 5:00) - Ethel Ray Nance Commemoration and Dinner Celebration at Lyric Conference Center, Holiday Center, 200 W 1st Street (tickets are \$47.50 +fee and available at Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ethel-ray-nance-commemoration-and-dinner-celebration-tickets-861810166407>)

Sunday, April 14th, 9:30am - Peace Church Forum with family members (books available for sale)

Sunday, April 14th, 11:00am - St Mark AME Church service, 504 N 5th Avenue E

Building Racial Consciousness

Our next conversation will be Saturday, March 2nd, 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 Dendros Group.

April 27th - 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.) The series is made possible in part through the Jubilee Fund of Peace Church.

Climate Corner

Peace Church is celebrating Earth Day on April 21st in worship and at our Spring Fling festival on May 19th, with garden activities, music and fun. Mark your calendars!

Here is a history of Earth Day from earthday.org:

Prior to Earth Day, air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. However, the stage was set for change with the publication of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* in 1962. The raised public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment, and the inextricable links between pollution and public health.

Senator Gaylord Nelson, the junior senator from Wisconsin, had long been concerned about the deteriorating environment in the United States. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, Senator Nelson announced the idea for a teach-in on college campuses to the national media. Senator Nelson and his team chose April 22, a weekday falling between Spring Break and Final Exams, to maximize the greatest student participation.

The effort soon broadened to include a wide range of organizations, faith groups, and others. Earth Day 1970 became, and continues to be to this day, the largest secular day of protest in the world. The theme of Earth day 2024 is "Planet vs. Plastics," demanding a 60% reduction of ALL plastics by 2040.

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 Macaulay, Nadine and Guy Hubert.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Bri in the office at office@peaceucc.org.

Ushers, Greeters and Lay Readers

Sunday morning hospitality is an important ministry at Peace. If interested in being a lay reader contact Bri at office@peaceucc.org.

Head Usher is Laurie Berner. If you are interested in being an usher, contact Bri at office@peaceucc.org.

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.

April 14th - 1:30-3:30pm - **3 Slots Open**

4:30-6:30pm - **3 Slots Open**

April 27th - 8:30-10:30am - **3 Slots Open**

11:00am-1:00pm - **3 Slots Open**

1:30-3:30pm - **3 Slots Open**

4:30-6:30pm - **3 Slots Open**

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 or access the schedule on our website under the menu "for volunteers."

April 1st - **Open**

April 8th - **Judy Derauf**

April 15th - **Open**

April 22nd - **Open**

April 29th - **Open**



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 Lynn Devlin or Linda Goese!

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.

Nurturing the Beloved Community: Our Congregational Covenant

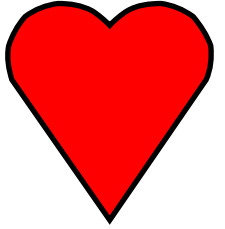
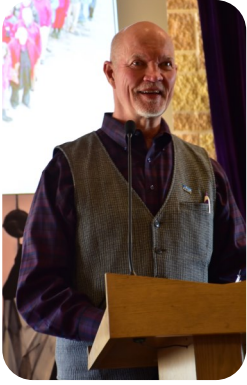
How do we demonstrate grace and love amongst ourselves as we work together to serve each other and the wider community? We are looking for a team of 4-6 people that would host conversations on this topic with our membership and share a summary of the insights with the congregation.

If you are interested, please call or email Bri in the church office: 218-724-3637 or office@peaceucc.org

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@peaceucc.org if you are you want to be a part of this group!

March Events





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

(218) 724-3637
 www.peaceucc.org
 E-mail: office@peaceucc.org

Non-profit
 Organization
 US Postage PAID
 Permit No. 84
 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

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 **Facebook:** peaceduluth
EMAIL ADDRESSES: Amanda: amanda@peaceucc.org Bri: office@peaceucc.org
 Jim: jim@peaceucc.org Mali: mali@peaceucc.org
 Gudrun: gwitrak@gmail.com
 Rachel: rachel@peaceucc.org Alex: alex@peaceucc.org
 Corinne: 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!**