

PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1503 2ND AVE NE
ROCHESTER, MN 55906



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JULY 5 @ 10a

Your Peace Church Associate Pastor Search Team is very pleased to announce that, after a time-intensive extensive search, they have unanimously presented an Associate Pastor candidate to the Peace Church Council for their approval. The Peace Church Council has also unanimously approved bringing this candidate forward to the congregation for a formal Pastoral Call Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 5 @ 10a.

We realize that due to the Coronavirus situation, not all be able to gather "in-person" for this meeting. So, we will be implementing the following steps to provide opportunities for everyone to engage with our candidate and cast a vote.

Here are the basics we want you to be aware of:

FROM FRIDAY, JULY 3, 5p through
SUNDAY MORNING, July 5

A video presentation will be made available by the candidate to share his background, goals, dreams, etc., plus a sermon & children's sermon; this will be available for viewing on our website.

AFTERNOON Saturday, July 4

ZOOM conversations including Qs&As with the candidate will be held . Information to sign-up for these conversations will be made available later in June.

SUNDAY, JULY 5 @ 10a
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Congregational Meeting in the Peace Church Sanctuary will be held. Due to the Coronavirus restrictions, only **UP TO 70** members of Peace Church will be able to REGISTER in advance to attend (in-person). We will also be able to pre-register **UP TO 50** members to sit and watch (live stream) in the Fellowship Hall. Registration for attending this meeting will be made available later in June. Your reservation can be made on-line or via phone. PLEASE RESERVE EARLY!

Thanks to those who drove (or biked) to say "Hi!" during our drive-by / wave event in May



JULY 5 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING CONT'D

A LIVE STREAM of the meeting will be made available for ALL MEMBERS. There will be an electronic voting system for ALL MEMBERS

SUNDAY, JULY 5 - PHYSICAL DISTANCE PICNIC
(FOLLOWING THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING)

A SAFE, PHYSICAL DISTANCED gathering will follow the Congregational Meeting to welcome our new Associate Pastor and his family. We will be holding this on the front lawn of the church. Each person will be responsible for their own seating, food, and beverage.

COMPLETE DETAILS OF THIS WEEKEND, including background information on the candidate, a schedule of times when the congregation will be able to engage with the candidate, and information how to log into meet-the-candidate ZOOM meetings, the congregational meeting, and how to cast your vote will be mailed later this month.

We give thanks for this incredible opportunity before us! We are hoping you will be able to join us via ZOOM or in-person!

BE WATCHING FOR THE
INFORMATIONAL MAILING!



www.peacechurchucc.org

(507) 282-6117



Participants in our drive-by / wave event in May

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

I want to give thanks for the leadership of Peace Church who has faithfully, and patiently, developed a plan for us to begin worshipping together "in-person", and for groups to begin meeting at the church once again. Small groups & study groups need to contact Debby Adams before beginning to meet again.

Our plan, at this point, is to have our first "in-person" congregational gathering at the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 5 @ 10a. Our first "in-person" worship service will be held on Sunday, July 12 @ 9a. REGISTRATION is required to attend "in-person" worship services and Congregation-wide meetings. Registration Information will be available later in June. VERY clear guidelines are in place.

Peace and love.



Peace In-Person Worship

(BEGINS - Sun, July 12 @ 9a)

Limited in-person attendance: 70

Be watching for special mailing which outlines the protocols and procedures everyone will need to follow to make this happen; Service will continue to be livestreamed.

RE-OPENING TASK FORCE - Wendy Nevala, Council President

It is with cautious optimism that Peace United Church of Christ leadership has made a plan for the gradual reopening of the church, including in-person worship. The schedule will be live worship on June 28 with no attendees. On Friday, July 3, our Associate Pastor candidate will record a worship service with search team and council members and families. Immediately following worship on Sunday, July 5, we will hold an in-person congregational meeting at 10a; the attendance at this meeting will be limited to advanced RSVPs of 70 people. Details on making reservations to attend will be communicated. Finally we will have our first in-person worship service on Sunday July 12 at 9a;

same rules apply with limited attendance of 70 people in the sanctuary, seated in every other row, with some overflow allowed in the fellowship hall. Additionally we will begin to allow small groups to meet at church, but limited to 20 people.

Here is a list of accommodations we are making to keep everyone safe and healthy during reopening.

- First, we will be limiting attendance to worship at 25% or 70 members. You must reserve your seats, and seats will be assigned and ushers will guide you to your seats (feel free to volunteer to usher).
- Secondly, we will be removing tables and furniture from the Narthex to discourage gathering inside the church. We will only have one bathroom open (the handicap bathroom). There will be no use of the kitchen, drinking fountain or Nursery. Extra cleaning will be put into place so that commonly touched areas will be sanitized regularly.
- Lastly, only one set of doors will be open (the ones closest to the welcome desk), masks will be required, hand sanitizing upon entering and leaving the building, and staff and ushers will have a temperature check upon arrival.

- Also here are some changes to the worship service you will notice;
- There will be no choir and no singing of hymns within the congregation
 - ONEVOICE will perform as long as social distancing can be accommodated
 - There will be no communion or passing of the peace
 - There will be no fellowship time or meals
 - Children's messages will continue with children staying in their seats
 - An offering box will be placed in the Narthex near the Sanctuary doors
 - The children's prayer area has been removed as well as the busy bags
 - On-line worship will continue

While these may seem like harsh realities, it is of utmost importance at this time to respect each other and maintain social distancing. Peace's leadership has carefully considered the safest way to allow reopening of the church. As our state and church begin to slowly reopen over the next several weeks, rest assured that Peace staff and leadership will be closely following the recommendations of the CDC, state guidelines,

the United Church of Christ conference office, and Mayo Clinic. If there is a resurgence of COVID-19 infections or warning signs, we may have to alter these plans, including cancelling in-person worship again. We look forward to seeing you all again even if it is at a distance. Stay safe!

FINANCES - Eric Theuer, Finance Liaison
THANK YOU! YOU ARE AMAZING! We give great thanks to all who continue to support the ministry of Peace United Church of Christ through all of your gifts of Time-Talent-Treasure and especially your PRAYERS! Your extraordinary commitment and unyielding gratitude has allowed us to continue our powerful ministry through these difficult times. Here is our current financial overview through April 2020.

Through April 2020, Peace's total income was \$146,730 vs. a budget of \$151,676 or (\$4,946) unfavorable to plan. The main driver to this variance is building use income, which has been significantly impacted, understandably, during this time. Our pledged giving through April 2020 was at \$130,520 vs. a budget of \$128,000, or \$2,520 favorable to plan. Thank you for your gifts!!

On the expense side, total expenses through April 2020 were \$136,145 vs. a budget of \$177,805, or \$41,660 favorable to plan. The majority of this favorable variance is the vacant Associate Pastor position. You will recall when we approved the 2020 budget, we included a full year of salary & benefits for the Associate Pastor position, even though we knew the position would not be filled right away. We did this in order to have a more accurate view of what our pledged income needed to look like for 2021+ to fund this position.

Net Income for Peace Church through April 2020 was \$10,585 vs. a budgeted loss of (\$26,128), or \$36,713 favorable to plan.

As we look to the future, and begin to more fully engage once again, your unfailing support is greatly valued and appreciated. Our ministry brings so much hope and promise to so many, both members and folks whom we love so much outside our walls.

Thank you for your on-going support of the ministry of Peace United Church of Christ!

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

With the growing demand for food, our LITTLE FREE PANTY is greatly utilized by those in our community who are in need. Since we have not been able to meet "in-person" nor has the church been regularly open, food items have not been able to be dropped off. We have decided that some of us can safely and effectively work in the church office. Pastor Paul is present most days and Debby and Clare are periodically at the church office as well during the day. Doors are normally open and someone is present between 8a-3p. If you plan to bring food items by the church, we invite you to PLEASE CALL AHEAD to make sure the doors will be open. Thanks.

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June Birthdays!

We celebrate with those in our church family who have birthdays in June.

- 02 Elyse LeQuire, Dave Paul, Presley Wells
- 03 Everal Gilbertson
- 04 Cheryl Winters
- 05 Julie Timmerman
- 06 Bob Beaulieu
- 08 Linda Frost
- 10 Ida Brakke
- 11 Deanne Bushman, David Froehling
- 12 Haylee Carlson, Landon Winter
- 13 Dean Alcock, Sarah Allen
- 14 Jaeden Edmonds
- 15 Dustin Molitor
- 16 Judi Hensel, Marlys Peterson
- 17 Orion Ressie
- 19 Beth Franks, Teresa Waldof
- 20 Joe Hensel, Sam Winters
- 22 Mark Petit, Doug Rock
- 23 June Franks, Tim Hawkins
- 25 Ed Rust
- 26 Lynn Alcock, Nathaniel Basballe, Bev Morton, Renee Springer
- 27 Jennah Hawkins
- 28 Glen Holland
- 29 Garrett Johnson, Brian Trachsel
- 30 Adam Bowe, Brian Winters

Staff greeting visitors during our drive-by / wave event in May

