

OLIVE BRANCH MONTHLY

PEACE  CHURCH

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEATURED EVENTS

THANKS & ALL CHURCH DINNER

FINANCIAL UPDATE

BIRTHDAYS

April 2023

Fire Update

Here we are....almost a year out from the devastating fire on Easter Monday morning. Hope IS growing here and the excitement has been building for when we will once again have our building in full use—for our ministries and sharing the space with our Community. The only thing that will be stopping us is the HVAC system (which was ordered 2 weeks after the fire) arriving. Supply chain issues have tested our patience and progress—and we are told that the new AC units will be here in May. Until then, we won't be able to take full occupancy of the north side.

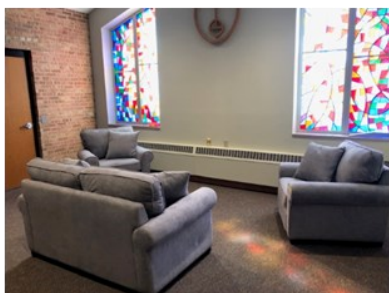
Look inside for the details of our all-church dinner and celebration on Saturday, April 22. The construction crews have been busy working to finish everything and their hard work is making the north side take shape. This next month and a half will focus on purchasing replacement items, especially for Listos Preschool and Childcare who plan to move back in August. Spring is coming, hope is growing, and our church home is almost rebuilt. We are truly blessed! Here are some of the key updates that have occurred:

- Furniture has been moved back into (and some purchased) the Peace Room
- Listos stairwell finished with drywall and painted (vs the brick that wasn't very appealing even after cleaning/painting)
- Flooring continues to be installed in the North end
- Remaining fixtures added to the restrooms in the North end
- All cabinets in North end installed (except one that will still be coming)

If you have any questions about the fire renovation, please reach out to me or Pastor Paul.

Things are being Made New!

Debby



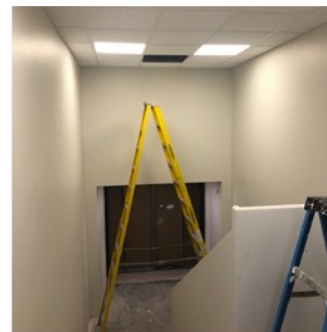
Images Left:

New Furniture for Peace Room and cleaned Conference Table being brought back.



Image Top Right: New cabinets and flooring on 2nd floor of North end.

Image Right: Listos stairwell getting a face lift.



CALENDAR

April Events

SUNDAY 2: Palm Sunday Service with Communion + Bradt Children Baptisms, 10a; Faith Formation Craft 11:15a, Fellowship Hall ; Christway Full Gospel Ministry, 1p; La Senda Antigua Church, 3p

MONDAY 3: Enormous Africa 7p, Zoom

TUESDAY 4: Men's Fellowship, 7a, F-Hall; Beverage and Bible, 5p

WEDNESDAY 5: Peace Knitters, 10a, Narthex; Community Meal Night 5:15p, F-Hall; Social Action/ Missions Team Meeting, 6p, Peace Rm; Easter Choir Rehearsal, 7p, Sanc

THURSDAY 6: Women's Fellowship, 8a, Narthex

FRIDAY 7: Good Friday Service 6p, Sanctuary

SATURDAY 8: Peace Kids Easter Bash 3-5p, F-Hall

SUNDAY 9: Easter Sunday: Teen pancake Breakfast 8:30a, F-Hall; Easter Sunday Service 10a; Christway Full Gospel Ministry, 1p; La Senda Antigua Church, 3p

TUESDAY 11: Men's Fellowship, 7a, F-Hall; Beverage and Bible, 5p; Race Forward 6:30, Zoom

WEDNESDAY 12: Peace Knitters, 10a, Narthex; Community Meal Night 5:15p, F-Hall; Teen-Led Service Review, 6p, Sanctuary

THURSDAY 13: Women's Fellowship, 8a, Narthex

SUNDAY 16: Teen-Led Service 10a; Faith Formation 11:15a, F-Hall; Confirmation, 11:15a, Dwelling; Christway Full Gospel Ministry, 1p; La Senda Antigua Church, 3p

MONDAY 17: Enormous Africa 7p, Zoom

TUESDAY 18: Men's Fellowship, 7a, F-Hall; Beverage and Bible, 5p

WEDNESDAY 19: Peace Knitters, 10a, Narthex; Community Meal Night 5:15p F-Hall; Church Council 7p, Peace Rm

THURSDAY 20: Women's Fellowship, 8a, Narthex; Deanne Schultz Funeral 12p, Narthex/Sanctuary; Card Sharks 6:30p, Narthex

FRIDAY 21: All Ages Movie Night "Wish Dragon" 5:30p, Sanctuary

SATURDAY 22: May Jesseph Memorial Visitation 10a, Narthex; May Jesseph Memorial Service 11a, Sanctuary; May Jesseph Memorial Reception 12p, F-Hall; All Church Dinner 5:30p, F-Hall & Narthex

SUNDAY 23: Traditional Service 10a; Faith Formation 11:15a, F-Hall; Christway Full Gospel Ministry, 1p; La Senda Antigua Church, 3p

TUESDAY 25: Men's Fellowship 7a, F-Hall; Beverage and Bible, 5p; Race Forward 6:30p, Zoom

WEDNESDAY 26: Peace Knitters, 10a, Narthex; Community Meal Night 5:15p, F-Hall

THURSDAY 27: Women's Fellowship, 8a, Narthex

SUNDAY 30: Traditional Worship, 10a; Faith Formation, 11:15a, F-Hall; Guest Speaker Vangi Castro Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries Sunday 11:15a, Sanctuary; Christway Full Gospel, 1p; La Senda Antigua Church, 3p

LOOKING AHEAD

MAY

5-21: Once and Future Classic Performances "Beauty and the Beast"

19: All Ages Movie Night- Movie TBD

20: Rochester Pride

21: Mental Health Sunday Guest Speaker



Image Left: Pastor Paul (on behalf of Peace UCC) recognizing Samaritan Bethany Administrator Sue Knutson on her upcoming retirement.

THANK YOU!



Miss Anita Tiara and the rest of the Drag Queen Bingo crew would like to extend a giant THANK YOU to all who attended, volunteered, and donated to the Spring Drag Queen Bingo!

Our spring bingo on 3/25/2023 was an outstanding success – we sold out 2 shows, gave away over \$1,500, and raised more than \$3,000 for the church. Thanks to the over 40 church volunteers who helped welcome our 250+ happy guests, donated water/snacks, and helped with the many tasks needed to make the event run so smoothly. Mark your calendars now for Halloween Bingo Saturday October 28. –Bob Werner

Peace Teens have been working hard to raise money for their summer mission trip to help out at the Back Bay Mission in Biloxi Mississippi. **Thank you** to all that have donated to their fundraisers thus far! The Bake Auction was a great success and they are grateful for your help. See the Featured events section for upcoming fundraisers.



Sunday, April 9 at 8:30a

Teen Easter Pancake Breakfast



To support the 2023 Youth Mission Trip!



O_{ur} P_{EACE} E_{fforts} N_{ow}
Equals a Better Tomorrow

All Church Dinner and Open House

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 5:30-8:00p: Come enjoy a free meal, some great conversation, a ribbon cutting, surprises, fun opportunities and the celebration of re-opening the church. Please use the following link to sign up and let us know how many are coming! bit.ly/40Pvj3g

FEATURED EVENTS

Enormous Africa

There will be 3 more sessions of Enormous Africa in April and May. Following that, we will host our African Unity Dinner and head for our summer break. For these three sessions, they will be held on: Mondays, **April 3rd**, **17th** and **May 8th**.

On **May 24th**, we will meet in person for the Unity Dinner.

For April, we will watch an African docuseries called, "**African Queen.**" It is a 2023 documentary series which narrates the rise of Queen Njinga in the Kingdom of Ndongo, in present day Angola. Queen Njinga was an influential figure due to her diplomatic skills in negotiating peace deals with the Portuguese. Those of you who remembered our BBC Africa series, we had partly learned about Queen Njinga in the Kongo Kingdom. African Queen is on Netflix and has four episodes, each of them 50 minutes.

Episodes 1 & 2 for April 3rd.

Episodes 3 & 4 for April 17th.

Please see the eNews for links to the Zoom meetings
Questions? Contact Jerry Locula
(jlocula@gmail.com)

Peace Kids Easter Bash

SATURDAY, APRIL 8 3-5p: Meet up in the Fellowship Hall for some Easter themed crafts and fun!

Questions? [Contact Stacy Beyer-Groth](#)



Teen Easter Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY, APRIL 9- 8:30a- 9:30: Prior to the 10a Easter Service, Peace Teens will be serving a pancake breakfast which will include pancakes, sausage, fruit and orange juice to raise funds for their upcoming mission trip to Biloxi Mississippi in June.
-There will be a Gluten Free option available

Quilt Raffle!

THRU APR 8— Check out the BEAUTIFUL quilt that was handmade and donated by Deborah Schroeder that we have hanging up in the Narthex. This quilt is being raffled off to raise funds for the Teen 2023 Mission Trip to [Back Bay Mission](#) in Biloxi Mississippi

Memorial Scholarships Available

DEADLINE IS APRIL 14—Peace UCC provides 3 scholarships through our web site: <https://www.peacechurchucc.org/scholarships>. Below are the details.

Allen Carl Schroedel Memorial Scholarship

- students enrolled in an accredited academic or vocational program
- emphasis on (but not limited to) fields of religion, computer science, medicine, and arts

Jonathan David Trachsel Memorial Scholarship

- students enrolled in a Rochester, MN High School
- those attending an accredited academic program preparing to work in the fields of religion, dentistry, or medicine

Virginia & Don Penz Memorial Scholarship

- students enrolled in a Rochester, MN High School

Questions? Contact Debby

All Ages Movie Night

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 5:30p —Bring your favorite pillow and blanket and join us as we watch "Wish Dragon". Cost is \$5/family for pizza and pop. Please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/3FSkaH9>

Questions? Contact Stacy Beyer-Groth
(sdbeyergroth99@gmail.com).

Guest Speaker Vangi Castro: Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries Sunday

SUNDAY, APRIL 30 11:15a- the adult faith formation speaker will be Vangie Castro, who has worked in community engagement, outreach, and advocacy for almost 20 years, and with non-profits in the Rochester community serving in various roles with the Diversity Council (which recently closed), Planned Parenthood, and many civic organizations and committees.

Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for ways to get involved? We have many volunteer opportunities at Peace! You don't need to be an expert, just a willing volunteer. As we continue to strengthen our programs and work to build new programs, we need help from willing volunteers. Check out the volunteer opportunities by scanning the QR code or going to: bit.ly/3kFEfc0

FINANCIAL UPDATE

	FEB 2023	YEAR-TO-DATE	FEB 2022
Pledges budgeted	\$32,500	\$65,000	\$35,167
Pledges received	\$34,667	\$67,503	\$44,378
Difference	\$ 2,167	\$ 2,503	\$ 9,211

Pledges for February were good (\$2,167); ahead of budget which also puts us ahead for the year's budget by \$2,503. We had a very good February 2022, so we didn't beat those numbers, but we're off to a good start!

Our total income was down from budget by only **-\$98**, but we have yet to receive any Listos rent money. YTD we are ahead of budget by \$264 even without Listos rent. Compared to last year, we are down for the month by -\$10,364 and down YTD by **-\$1,817**.

Our expense control is \$11,488 less than budget and \$16,610 below budget YTD.

Net Income for the month is \$11,389 better than budget and \$16,874 better than budget. Compared to last year, we are \$3,449 better for the month and \$25,848 better than last year's bottom line.

All in all we are doing good. We just need to keep the momentum going and we'll remain in good shape for the year.

Please contact Tom DeYoung (LTDEYOUNG@msn.com) if you have any questions.

April Birthdays

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

- 01** Donna Groth
- 05** John Franks, Nicholas Molitor
- 06** Laura Thompson, Marie Wilson
- 07** Mildred Lilleskov
- 08** Greg Trachsel
- 09** Jane Batterson, Molly Berg, Sela Rist
- 10** Diane Johnson,
- 11** Everett Johnson, Ben Winters
- 14** Isaiah Groth, Ryan Walton
- 16** Karl Rist
- 17** Matt Buda, Tammy Rider
- 18** Chris Alden, Daniel Kronemann, Allan Vrieze
- 19** Dale Ely
- 23** Mary Ely
- 24** Al Barker, Jean Boese
- 25** Ellen Rebstock
- 29** Mallory Allen,
- 30** Alissa Giere, Cooper Osowski, Dominic Osowski

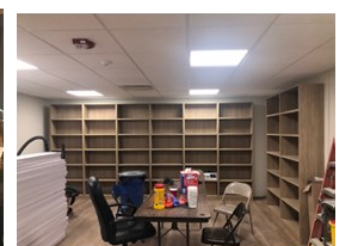


Image Top Left: Thank you for all your donations—Peace Church is a UCC 5 for 5 Congregation in 2022.

Image Top: Largest movie night yet at Peace—48!

Image Top Right: New cabinets and flooring in Resource Room.