

# OLIVE BRANCH

PEACE  CHURCH

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEATURED EVENTS

COMMUNITY GROUPS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SAVE THE DATE! Drag Queen Bingo

FINANCIAL UPDATE & BIRTHDAYS

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Our Ash Wednesday service built a firm foundation for our Lenten season this year. Through music, scripture, messages, and engagement we entered this season, not for ourselves, but for our siblings by encouraging a stronger connection with one another. At our Ash Wednesday service we anonymously buried our pains and struggles into the soil of the earth. Later we dug into the dirt to find a need that was not our own and will be praying for this anonymous person's need throughout Lent. As we step through March to Easter, we are using this season to literally get our hands dirty to care and pray for one another.

We are also using this Lenten season to explore the depth of faith as we study John Pavlovitz's book, "If God Is Love, Don't Be a Jerk: Finding a Faith That Makes Us Better Humans" on Wednesday evenings (after the meal, at 6:00p). This study allows us to reflect on our faith, our calling, and our Peace United faith community as we find opportunities to share God's love in the world with others in new, powerful, and engaging ways.

All of this culminates on our Holy Week experience:

Palm Sunday- March 24 Pathways 9:15a; Worship Service 10:30a

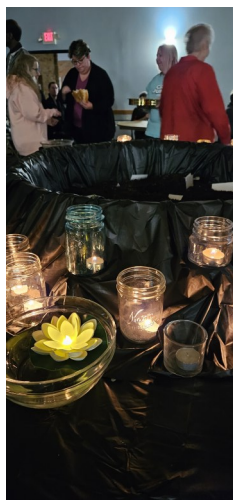
Good Friday Service- March 29, 6:00p

EASTER CELEBRATION- March 31, Easter Pancake Breakfast 9a; Worship Service 10:30a

Celebrate the journey with us!



Pastor Paul Bauch



ASH WEDNESDAY 2024:  
Photos by Jody  
Morbeck & Clare Tarr



# CALENDAR

## March

**FRIDAY 1:** Channel One Volunteers 9a, Channel One HQ

**SUNDAY 3: Communion Sunday: One Great Hour of Sharing Offering:** Pathways 9:15a, F-Hall all ages;

Worship Service with Communion, 10:30a; Easter Choir Rehearsals 11:30a, Choir Rm; Picnics at Peace-Paint and Picnic 12p, F-Hall; Rochester Rainbow Choir 1p, Choir Rm;

**MONDAY 4:** Social Action 6p, Peace Room

**TUESDAY 5:** Men's Fellowship, 7a, F-Hall; Knitters Group 10a, Peace Room; Beverage and Bible 5p, Tavern 22; Race Forward 6:30p, Zoom

**WEDNESDAY 6:** Community Meal Night 5:15p, F-Hall; Lenten Book Study 6p, F-Hall

**THURSDAY 7:** Women's Fellowship, 8:30a, Peace Room

**FRIDAY 8:** Paint and Pinot 7p, F-Hall

**SATURDAY 9:** Paint and Pinot 2p, F-Hall

**SUNDAY 10:** Pathways 9:15a, F-Hall all ages; Worship Service, 10:30a; Easter Choir Rehearsals 11:30a, Choir Rm; Rochester Rainbow Choir 1p, Choir Rm; ;

**TUESDAY 12:** Men's Fellowship, 7a, F-Hall; Knitters Group 10a, Peace Room; Beverage and Bible 5p, Tavern 22

**WEDNESDAY 13:** Community Meal Night 5:15p, F-Hall; Lenten Book Study 6p, F-Hall

**THURSDAY 14:** Women's Fellowship, 8:30a, Peace Room; Enormous Africa 7p, Zoom

**SUNDAY 17:** Pathways 9:15a, F-Hall all ages; Worship Service, 10:30a; Easter Choir Rehearsals 11:30a, Choir Rm; Rochester Rainbow Choir 1p, Choir Rm;

**TUESDAY 19:** Men's Fellowship, 7a, F-Hall; Knitters Group 10a, Peace Room; Beverage and Bible 5p, Tavern 22; Race Forward 6:30p, Zoom

**WEDNESDAY 20:** : Community Meal Night 5:15p, F-Hall; Lenten Book Study 6p, F-Hall; Church Council 7p, Peace Room

**THURSDAY 21:** Women's Fellowship, 8:30a, Peace Rm; Card Sharks 6:30p, Narthex;

**SATURDAY** Fantastic Flowers: Flower Arranging Workshop 4p, F-Hall

**SUNDAY 24: Palm Sunday:** Pathways 9:15a, F-Hall all ages; Worship Service, 10:30a; Easter Choir Rehearsals 11:30a, Choir Rm; Rochester Rainbow Choir 1p, Choir Rm; One Day Choir: Rolling in the Deep 3p, Choir Room

**TUESDAY 26:** Men's Fellowship, 7a, F-Hall; Knitters Group 10a, Peace Room; Beverage and Bible 5p, Tavern 22;

**WEDNESDAY 27:** Community Meal Night 5:15p, F-Hall; Lenten Book Study 6p, F-Hall;

**THURSDAY 28:** Women's Fellowship, 8:30a, Peace Room; Enormous Africa 7p, Zoom

**FRIDAY 29: Good Friday:** Good Friday Service 6p, Sanctuary; Family Trivia 7:30p, F-Hall

**SUNDAY: Easter Sunday:** Easter Breakfast by the Teens 9a, F-Hall; Worship Service 10:30a

## LOOKING AHEAD

### APRIL

5: Channel One Volunteering

11 & 25: Enormous Africa

13: Drag Queen Bingo 4p & 7p

19 & 20: Paint and Pinot

23: One Day Choir: "I Knew You Were Trouble" by Taylor Swift, 6p

### MAY

1: Channel One Volunteering

2: Fantastic Flowers 7p

3-5: John Pavlovitz Visit

3: John Pavlovitz Presentation

11: One Day Choir: "Stacy's Mom" by Fountains of Wayne

9: Enormous Africa

18: Rochester Pride

22: African Unity Meal

23: Piano & Voice Recital

# FEATURED EVENTS



"New Beginnings"

## Paint and Pinot

MARCH 8 & 9- Anyone can paint! With artist Josie Bauza as the instructor, painters of all ages and abilities will create their masterpieces. All materials are included with your \$30 admission.

"New Beginnings" Friday, March 8, 7p | Wine selections available or bring your own for a \$10 corking fee.

"Spring Spirit" Saturday, March 9, 2p | Non-alcoholic beverages available for a donation or bring your own non-alcoholic beverage.

Link to tickets: <https://bit.ly/3w7Dazk>



"Spring Spirit"

## SAVE THE DATES:

FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 7p: "Purple Sky"

\$30 admission, \$10 corking fee to bring your own wine, open to all ages (must be 21+ to drink wine), instruction available in English and Spanish

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2p: "Minnesota Nice"

\$30 admission, this is a dry event, open to all ages, instruction available in English and Spanish

## Snow Day Sledding

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 12-5p: There's no school for Rochester Public Schools, but Peace is still open! Kids from kindergarten up can pack their snowpants, mittens, and sleds for a quick walk to Kellogg Middle School's monster sledding hill! Dropoff begins at noon; sledding begins at 1:00. Afternoon snack provided. In case of no snow or other weather-related issues, we will still provide programming for kids.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/3ul49Rz>

## Easter Choir Rehearsals

SUNDAYS, BEGINNING MARCH 3, 11:40a-12:30p: Meet weekly for four weeks to prepare a powerful selection of Easter music. This choir will be featured at Peace's Easter worship service on March 31 at 10:30a.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/49HOAs8>

## One Day Choir: Rolling in the Deep

SUNDAY, MARCH 3p: Do you love to sing but can't commit to a weekly rehearsal? Join us for just one afternoon to make great music. This month's song is Adele's "Rollin' in the Deep."

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/49JFv1F>

## Fantastic Flowers

SATURDAY MARCH 23, 2p: Get your hands dirty and make an amazing gift for yourself or someone you love! Michelle Moe, owner, Flowers & More Stewartville and her business partner Jered Gehling will teach you the skills you need to create a beautiful flower arrangement for any occasion. Flowers, greens, vase, and shears provided.

\$30 admission, \$10 corking fee to bring your own wine, open to all ages (must be 21+ to drink wine)

Link to tickets: <https://bit.ly/481Lcaj>

## Family Trivia Night

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 7:30p: Bring the whole family for trivia night at Peace! We'll have questions for all ages and generations to compete for awesome prizes and bragging rights. Bring snacks and drinks and have some fun!

## Easter Breakfast by the Teens

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 9-10a: Celebrate Easter at Peace and support a good cause. Peace Teens will prepare and serve a delicious breakfast before the Easter worship service. Donations will support teen mission work. Gluten free option available upon request.



PEACE  
UNITED  
CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
1503 2ND

# PEACE UNITED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Find Your People · Show Your Talents · Share Your Gifts

## Rochester Rainbow Choir

SUNDAYS, 1-3p: All are welcome at the Rochester Rainbow Choir! Members of the LGBTQIA+ community and their allies are invited to a safe and inclusive space to make amazing music together. No auditions required. Sign up: <https://bit.ly/3uE5rx9>

## Moving Mondays

MONDAYS 7a: Get moving to improve your fitness and well-being. Join us every Monday morning for a healthy start to the week by getting a jump on your daily step goal. Bring a friend! Our indoor track is great for individuals or small groups. When the weather permits, we'll move our walks to the path around nearby Silver Lake. February's theme is Leap, Laugh, Love. For every 5000 steps you walk, Tickles the Frog catches a fly!

## Peace Knitting Circle

TUESDAYS, 10a: Like to sit and knit, or drink coffee and crochet? Enjoy coffee and conversation while you stitch away the morning! This group meets Sept-May

## Race Forward via Zoom

SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, 7p: This group strives to move the conversation forward about race and privilege in our society. Questions? Contact Ruth Larson [ruaroch@hotmail.com](mailto:ruaroch@hotmail.com)

## Men's Study

TUESDAYS, 7a: Welcome to Men of Peace! The first part of our gathering is spent getting caught up with our individual lives and discussing events that have occurred during the past week. The second half is dedicated to examining the Bible passages for the upcoming Sunday. Our conversations center around what the passage means for us in this time and place. We are also involved with many other activities in the church and community. We welcome men of all ages, which gives us all a better perspective of what it means to belong to this group and what the mission of our group is as we move forward in life together.



Rochester Rainbow



## Beverage and Bible

TUESDAYS 5P: At this group, the pub is experienced as sacred space. Come and enjoy a laid back and friendly atmosphere where we connect over drinks and good conversation. Often we will discuss light topics such as the meaning of life, the existence of God, and the nature of reality. All kidding aside, this group is very informal! Come as you are and enjoy good company.

The first part of our group is spent catching up, followed by discussing a Bible passage.

When: Tuesdays @ 5:00 - 6:00p

Where: Tavern 22 (3401 Northern Valley Pl NE, 55901)

## The Dazzlers

WEDNESDAYS, 8:30a beginning March 6: Singers who want to push their vocal and performing skills to the next level are invited to audition for the The Dazzlers. Bring fun, challenging choral arrangements to life for community and private performances. This group is a blast; no curmudgeons allowed!

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/42QDUoD>

## Women's Study

THURSDAYS, 8:30a: In Women's Fellowship group, we explore ideas through books, current events, and recent sermon topics. On a rotating basis, members choose a book for the group to read and discuss.

New members are welcomed anytime. This is a great opportunity to meet and get to know other women in the church.

## Enormous Africa

EVERY OTHER THURSDAY, 7p: This study group provides opportunity to learn about and utilize the incredible diversity and rich culture of the continent of Africa. We will also come to know more about some of its breathtaking landscapes, natural resources that benefit the whole world, and Traditional African Religion that many indigenous people adhere to.

Let's get together twice a month and have fun expanding our understanding not only about rich and remarkable African values, but also to see the wonders of what God is doing in Africa.

Please email [Jerry Locula](mailto:jjlocula@gmail.com) for the Zoom link. [jjlocula@gmail.com](mailto:jjlocula@gmail.com)



### Picnics at Peace

MONTHLY, 12-1p: Pack a lunch and join the fun! Picnics at Peace bring the community together for a fun meal and an opportunity to chat and play together.

February 11: Picnic & Playdough

## March 3: Picnic & Paint

April 14: Picnic & Puzzles

May 19: Picnic & Play

### Piano or Voice Lessons

Playing the piano and singing are two of the easiest musical talents to share with others. Learn from Peace United's Director of Programming and Music, Dylon Starr, for 30 minutes each week. Lessons will be customized to meet individual learner needs. Money earned from these lessons will benefit the music and programming ministry of the church.

Link to sign up: <https://bit.ly/3S2xptO>

### Social Action Team

FIRST MONDAYS 6p: The Peace Social Action Team meets monthly to find ways that Peace United can help out and support our community. make PEACE UNITED what it is by engaging in work and ministry of justice and peace. Through your financial gifts and the amazing talents of so many, our Peace members and ministry reach beyond the walls of our church to transform lives and embody works of inclusion and advocacy.

- Sanctuary Church
- Hawthorne Helps
- Channel One
- Family Promise
- Project Legacy
- Women's Shelter
- Anti-Racism initiatives
- NAMI support
- Jefferson School support
- Highway Clean Up
- Rochester Pride



# ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • |||

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We all know that together we are always better Peace!

There are many great opportunities to shine your light as a volunteer on Sunday mornings.

Please consider signing up for one or more of the following volunteer opportunities.

### FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Please sign up for the date that you are able to host Fellowship Time immediately following the service. Duties include making coffee, providing snacks and cleaning up.

Sign up here: <http://bit.ly/3R1s4Cj>

### WELCOME CREW!

Sundays 10a- Join a team to assist as an intentional greeter on Sunday mornings. One Sunday a month you will work with a team to greet members and welcome guests. There are instructions/training on what you will need to do. If interested email Lynn Alcock [lynnalcock6123@gmail.com](mailto:lynnalcock6123@gmail.com)

### SUNDAY OFFERING ATTENDANTS

Help out on Sundays with getting the offering plates passed around and collected.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/3wz8Z4o>

### TECH TEAM POWERPOINT VOLUNTEER

Advance the PowerPoint during service

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/3RJqSEn>

Questions? [Ask Clare](#)



FEBRUARY 18: Piano Quartet and Children's Message



# SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, APRIL 13: 4 & 7p

# Drag Queen Bingo

The Grand Drag Legacy Show

FEATURING HANDPAINTED PORTRAITS  
BY JOSEPH ALEXANDER

## SPRING BINGO TICKETS ARE COMING!!!

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 4p & 7p: The Grand Drag Legacy Show! This special edition of Drag Queen Bingo stars four local queens featured in artist Joseph Alexander's series of hand painted portraits, "The Grand Drag Legacy." Up to \$500 in cash prizes is up for grabs!

This is your chance to see the incredible performances of queens, Sidonia Dudval, Jayda Cline, Gosh Alice Jones, and Anita Tiara

Tickets on sale March 10 for \$15, online only; \$20 at the door. This event sells out; get your tickets while you still can.

### Volunteers and Donations Needed:

We are excited to make this happen, but need your help! We are in need of volunteers to help out with set up, food/water sales, admission, tear down and donations of water and/or treats (all prepacked and store bought) that can be sold during the show.

Link to sign up. <https://signup.com/go/zZsAFO>

||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • ||| • 0 • |||

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024: Photos by Jody Morbeck



# FINANCIAL UPDATE

	JAN 2024	YEAR-TO-DATE	JAN 2023
Pledges budgeted	\$ 32,500	\$ 32,500	\$ 36,750
Pledges received	\$ 29,118	\$ 29,118	\$ 32,836
Difference	-\$ 3,382	-\$ 3,382	-\$ 3,914

## March Birthdays

We celebrate with those in our church family who have birthdays this month:

### March

- 01** David Schmitt
- 02** Eileen Schroeder
- 03** Chad Ramaker
- 05** Rose Gilbertson
- 06** Semini McLaurin
- 07** Deb Franks
- 08** Al Bushman, Matt Melmer
- 09** Allen Sunnock
- 10** Kirby Bakken
- 11** David Allen
- 12** Lainey LeQuire
- 13** Benjamin Winters
- 14** Linda Arns
- 15** Rae Dunn,  
Deb Guenther
- 16** Robert Clark, Tom Otten
- 17** Sara Schliep
- 19** Becky Maloney,  
Bruce Schliep
- 20** Pamela Haase
- 21** Warren Bjork,  
Nancy Manley
- 22** Anne Reick
- 26** Spencer Pfeifer
- 27** Joan Leof, Susan Tointon  
Ed Wagner
- 28** Deanna Servick
- 29** Sondra Bentz
- 31** Sheila Franck

Our pledged gifts for January came in below budget by **-\$3,382** and **-\$3,718** less than Jan 2023. Our non-pledged gifts for January were **-\$202** under budget and **-\$1,087** less than January 2023.

Other income, for the month, was under budget by **-\$1,450**, making our total income for January **-\$5,054** under budget.

The expenses for January was \$11,825 below budget.

At the end of January, our

- General Operating account is \$33,931
- General Operating Savings is \$205,581
- CD account is at \$75,000
- Capital Funds Account is at \$31,316 (this will cover our building mortgage for the year)

Please contact Brian Osowski (bosowski15@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11: In honor of Black History Month, Pathways participants of all ages read books together that highlighted people of color who have made a difference in our world.





# One Great Hour of Sharing



## **SUNDAY, MARCH 3: Share the Light**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

Peace will have special offering envelopes available for One Great Hour of Sharing, but if you would like to give electronically, [click here](#)