

Peace United Church of Christ  
 1503 2nd Ave NE  
 Rochester, MN 55906

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**Peace United Church of Christ**  
 1503 2nd Ave NE  
 Rochester, MN 55906  
 507-282-6117

www.peacechurchucc.org  
 www.facebook.com/peaceuccrochester

An Open and Affirming (ONA) Congregation

**Vision: A safe and inclusive church living God's radical message**

Communion the first Sunday of the month

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

9:45 a.m. Faith Formation

11 a.m. Contemporary Worship

Nursery care available during the 8:30 & 11 a.m. worship services

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# Olive Branch

January 2017

## Ponderings of Pastor Beth...

Another New Year begins at Peace! After a wonderful Advent and Christmas season, it is once again time to think about how to invigorate community and infuse it with the gifts, talents and interests of more members of our community. This year, I will be focusing some of my time on energizing our small groups, both those oriented around age and those oriented around shared interests. And so in the coming months, I am excited to be sitting down with many groups of you to find out what brings you together and how to support those connections, deepen and find new meaning in our shared life together. Here are a few highlights to look forward to...

- Young Adults Small Group Gathering- January 7th at 12:00p.m., lunch at Fiesta Mexican Restaurant.
- Young kids and caregivers lunch playgroups each Monday and Wednesday 11:00-1:30p.m.. Come and get to know others in our community with young ones, or invite your neighbors, family or friends to come and join. We provide the toys and the space to have fun, bring your lunch and your little ones!
- Middle School and High School January 8th Movie and Discussion immediately following Lunch! We will watch a movie and see how it relates to our lives, then start planning our Chili Cook off recipes!
- Family Fun Day: February 4th: Snow tubing at Ironwood Springs from 12:30-2:30p.m. with families from The Congregational Church across town. Bring the whole family for an enjoyable and entertaining afternoon! Cost: \$12 per person over 4 years old. Carpool from the church will leave at 11:45a.m.. RSVP to Pastor Beth [ypastor@peacechurchucc.org](mailto:ypastor@peacechurchucc.org) to reserve a spot, or sign up on the bulletin board by January 17th to reserve your spot.

Who else might be included in future small group meet ups? Many groups: parents of elementary students, parents of college students, adoptive parents, singles, couples, LGBTQ families, Hikers, Bikers, Bakers... the list goes on. If you have an idea for a small group gathering, or have an interest in leading one of these listed, speak with me. I am excited to get all of us involved in activities that feed our spirits, and ask us to engage with our faith in new and inventive ways.

If you already feel like you are fully engaged here at Peace, and if you feel like you are still in need of finding the right niche, there are many more ways we can come together and live out our calling to the world to embrace all, build community, grow faith and transform lives, and this is the work I am called to do at your side. In the words of Pastor and author Carol Howard Merritt, "The church is in a unique position in our society to form spiritual communities, to restore a connection with God, each other and the world. As we learn to live as members of the body of Jesus Christ, we begin to understand the richness of friendships, the holiness of community and the hallowedness of our ground." Building community requires all of us to be community, and keep an open place at the table for the newly invited to. Will you do this work with me? Will you join me as we eat and find ways to worship in the flurry of activity of our lives? Will you see those active lives as worship? Come, let's be church!

Blessings,

Pastor Beth Rogers

**Paul Bauch, Senior Pastor**  
[ypastor@peacechurchucc.org](mailto:ypastor@peacechurchucc.org)  
<http://www.facebook.com/paul.bauch>

**Beth Rogers, Associate Pastor**  
[ypastor@peacechurchucc.org](mailto:ypastor@peacechurchucc.org)  
<http://www.facebook.com/rev.rog>

Check the online version of the Olive Branch to see pictures of our December events!

### Just so you know...

Please submit all articles for the next issue of the Olive Branch by the **15th of the month** to the Church Office or email to [aoffice@peacechurchucc.org](mailto:aoffice@peacechurchucc.org).

The deadline for the bulletin is **Wed at 9 a.m. every week.**

The deadline for PowerPoint announcements are **Thursdays at Noon.**

# DECEMBER PHOTOS!



## January Events

### New Years Day Service

Sunday, January 1st  
ONE SERVICE at 10:30 a.m.

Join us on New Years Day for our special ONE SERVICE at 10:30 a.m.

### Young Adult Gathering

Saturday, January 7th  
12 p.m.

You are invited to join with other young adults from Peace on January 7th, at Fiesta Mexican Restaurant on Broadway for lunch, or just a margarita, to talk, and see what others in the church are doing! RSVP to Pastor Beth, so she can tell the restaurant how many to prepare for. If you have kids and would rather have care for them not at the restaurant, please let Pastor Beth know so she can arrange for child care at the church. But they are also welcome to come. We are a diverse group, in many different phases of life, even though we might all be close in age! And this gathering may help us figure out what kinds of small groups we want to be invested in and how to break our rather large "small group" of Young Adults into other small groups by interest, or age of children, or being childless and loving it, or other methods!

### Adult Gathering

### White Elephant Re-Gifting Party

Saturday, January 7th @ 6:30 p.m.

Did you receive a "special" Christmas gift that you'd like to share? Bring your wrapped gift and join us for a re-gifting party on Saturday, January 7 @ 6:30 p.m. You can count on a fun and 'unexpected' evening filled with laughter, food, and fellowship. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Questions can be directed to Stacy LeQuire.

### Family Movie Night

Friday, January 13th  
6 p.m.

Grab the whole family and join us for our family movie night. We will be watching Finding Dory. Cost is \$5 per family for pizza and pop and you can sign up on the family bulletin board or call the church office by noon on 1/13. See you there!

### Women's Retreat

January 13th through January 15th  
Good Earth Village

This year's women's retreat, January 13-15, 2017 will be held at Good Earth Village. Our Theme will be Water, Wind, Earth, and Fire: Praying with the Elements. Although registration is closed, please contact Pastor Beth if you are interested.

### Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 22nd  
9:45 a.m.

For all the leaders of church groups, please turn in your annual reports to the church office by January 8th.

### Chili Cook Off

Sunday, January 22nd  
12 p.m.

Bring a crock pot of your 'famous' chili and allow the rest of us to vote on our favorite, and you can help! See sign-up on the Adult bulletin board to let us know how many chili recipes you plan to include in this annual fundraiser. We are also looking for help to aid in set up and take down.

### Karl Rist Ecclesiastical Council

Sunday, January 22nd  
3 p.m.

ALL ARE INVITED to Rev. Karl Rist's Ecclesiastical Council. Over the past 1 ½ years Karl has been working with the Minnesota Conference to have his standing as an Ordained Minister moved to the United Church of Christ. This process entails several papers, interviews, tests, classes, and conversations. Karl has fully fulfilled all of the requirements of the Minnesota Conference and the UCC to make a final presentation. At this Ecclesiastical Council Karl will provide a presentation and answer questions that arise from the participants. Final approval for Karl to have "standing" in the United Church of Christ will take place. ALL lay members and clergy of congregations are invited to participate. This is the final step for Karl in the process for Karl and you are encouraged to attend this gathering and provide your support, care, and love for Karl. There will be a reception following his presentation.

## Peace Happenings

### Tuesday Morning Men of Peace Group @ 7 a.m. - Peace Room

(All men are invited to join us for fellowship and discussion which generally focuses on the upcoming worship scriptures.)



### Tuesday Morning Women's Group @ 10 a.m. - Peace Room

(All women are invited to join us for fellowship and discussion.)

### Tuesday Beverage & Bible @ 5 p.m. - Glynner's Pub

(Tuesdays, from 5-6 p.m. at Glynner's Pub [1643 Broadway Ave N] & we'll gather for fellowship and discussion.)

### Thursday Morning Women's Group @ 7 a.m. - Peace Room

(Reading and discussing "The Color of Christ: The Son of God and the Saga of Race in America" by Blum and Harvey.)

### Twice Monthly Race Forward - The Dwelling

(Everyone is welcome to attend this group as we explore our blind spots and open up the uncomfortable discussion of race and privilege.)

### Monthly Saints of Peace Outings

(There will be no gathering in January or February.)

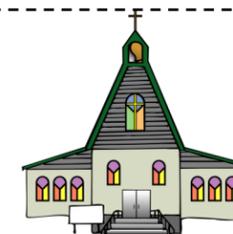


### January Miriam Ministry @ 9:30 a.m. - Peace Room

(ALL WOMEN WELCOME! Join us Wednesday, January 25th at 9:30 a.m. for a special presentation.)

## November Financial Update

	November	YTD
Pledges Revived	\$27,842	\$324,156
Actual Pledges Budgeted	\$32,500	\$357,500
Difference	\$-4,658	\$-33,344



Last year to date in November, we were at \$328,329. We are \$-4,173 behind last year.



## February Events

### Adult Snow Shoeing

Saturday, February 11th  
Time TBD

Adults are invited to join us for a snow shoeing event at Quarry Hill on Saturday, February 11. We'll end the evening with a bon fire at the home of Stevi Hallisy. Questions can be directed to Stevi. Sign up on the adult bulletin board.



### Family Snow Tubing

Saturday, February 4th  
Ironwood Springs  
11:45 a.m.

Coming up Next Month: Family Fun Day of Snow tubing at Ironwood Springs : February 4th from 12:30-2:30 pm. Gather with families from our church and the Congregational Church across town for a joint day of snow tubing fun. For two hours we have the run of the course and then we will bundle up and head back to get warm at the church with hot cocoa and goodies. Please RSVP early to get a release form to bring completed so we can save time on the mountain. Bring the whole family for an enjoyable and entertaining afternoon! Cost: \$12 per person over 4 years old. Carpool from the church will leave at 11:45 am. RSVP to Pastor Beth at [ypastor@peacechurchucc.org](mailto:ypastor@peacechurchucc.org) to reserve a spot.



### All Church Outing - Social Ice

February 16, 17, & 18  
Peace Plaza

Thursday: 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Friday & Saturday: 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Join your Peace friends at SocialICE – Rochester Minnesota's Ice Bar – which transforms the Peace Plaza in the heart of downtown Rochester to an outdoor ice bar experience. The event generates an artistic and sophisticated social gathering place complete with lighting effects, music, ice sculptures, drinks, and more. Come to SocialICE and you'll experience seven 12-foot uniquely designed and themed ice bars – each with a signature drink! We'll gather at 6pm (location TBD).

**SOCIALICE**  
ROCHESTER MINNESOTA'S ICE BAR



### Kitchen Update From Ruth Larson

As we move forward with the new kitchen, please be aware some procedures have changed. There is a white loose-leaf binder in the kitchen on the shelf to left of the coffee pot which everyone using the kitchen should review and read. All supplies needed should be in totes on the north side of the kitchen. These totes are translucent and also have labels of what they contain. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Larson. She would be happy to give you an orientation and overview. Handwashing on entry into the kitchen and frequently is still the best defense against disease.

## Poinsettia Dedication

Name of Giver	In Honor of.....	In Memory of.....
Glenn & Mildred Lilleskov (2 flowers)	-	Loved ones
Gary & Barb Karau	-	Gaylord Allen
Marlys Peterson	-	Loved ones
Steve & Laurie Gilseth	-	-
Cathy & Bill Meinhardt	Beloved Family and Friends	Beloved Family and Friends
Erland & Mary Karlstad	-	Loved Ones
Anna Froehling	-	Melvin & Maxine Buyek
Donna Groth	-	Grandpa Groth
Sarah Hawkins	Mike Hawkins	-
Sondra & Gerald Bentz	-	Loved Ones
Steve & Beckie Fulton	-	-
Joanne Markee	Children/Grandchildren	Dick
Jenny Brandt	-	Maureen Vokaty & Dorothy Bradt
Buck & Bonnie Lenz	-	Loved Ones
Ben & Carole Winters	-	Our parents
Debby Adams (2 flowers)	Garrett & Sara's marriage	Special friends: Kermit Zimmerman & Bob Lahey
Fred Schnell	-	Mary Schnell
Paul & Adele Bauch	Our Peace UCC Family	-
Bev Moravec	-	Raymond & Marian Hananberger

## Construction Update

We first need to thank ALL those in our congregation who have given of their time and talents to help keep this project going. While facing more delays, the crew that worked hard these last few days really came through in a pinch!

On the inside: The handicap bathroom has been refitted with new tile and grout, as well as new paint on the walls. The sink and changing table were moved around. All the painting to the new Narthex is complete, the acoustic panels and lights installed in the open entrance, including the suspended ceiling in the coatroom and lower areas of the new Narthex. The new Office has been painted. The kitchen window has also been replaced.

On the outside: The finishing work on the outside walls are complete and the new entrances are available for use. We even have the new sidewalk to Beuna Vista shoveled!

While much progress has been done, there is STILL much finishing work that needs to happen. We could use some new muscles since many from our congregation who have worked/volunteered since the beginning of this project are reaching their exhaustion point. Please consider what you can offer for time and talent to help us complete everything. We will be posting these tasks.

None of this work would have been possible had it not been for our architects (WSN), our construction crew (Knutson), and all of your support (financial and prayers) and physical assistance. We are very blessed!



# January Happenings

## Upcoming Events

Ready to spend some 'fun' with your Peace family? A group of individuals has set into motion several events over the coming months (for adults and families). We invite you to join us on these dates/times:

1/07/17	Adult Gathering - White Elephant Re-Gifting Party	F-Hall
1/28/17	Adult Movie Night	Sanctuary
2/11/17	Adult Snow Shoeing (Time TBD)	Quarry Hill

### Adult Movie Night

Friday, January 28th @ 6:30 p.m.

Join us to watch a movie on Saturday, January 28 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack to share. Questions can be directed to Bruce or Sharon Franklin.

### 2017 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for the 2017 fiscal year are available for pick up. We encourage you to use eGive. Please contact the Peace Office or Debby Adams for more information.



### Infant / Toddler & Caregivers Lunch Bunch

Every Monday & Wednesday  
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

With many young children in our congregation and beyond, Peace Church will be offering a weekly lunch bunch group for young kids (3 and under) and their caregivers. So if you are a parent, grandparent, nanny, babysitter, care giver of any type, you are invited to drop in Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. We'll eat in Room 105 and then go to the Nursery to play. Come when you can, leave when you need to. Bring a lunch and meet someone new! Questions can be directed to Pastor Beth (ypastor@peacechurchucc.org).

### This Month's Services

SUNDAY	SERVICE	COUNCIL IN CHARGE	MUSIC	Fellowship Lunch
1	w/Communion	Marie Neher	Special Music	No Lunch
8	8:30 a.m.	Marie Neher	Bells of Peace	Team Fantastic!
	11:00 a.m.	Marie Neher	Joy ONE VOICE	
15	8:30 a.m.	Marie Neher	Choir of Peace	TBD
	11:00 a.m.	Marie Neher	Peace ONE VOICE	
22	8:30 a.m.	Marie Neher	Choir of Peace	Chili Cook Off Team
	11:00 a.m.	Marie Neher	Joy ONE VOICE	
29	8:30 a.m.	Marie Neher	Choir of Peace	Char Hain's Team
	11:00 a.m.	Marie Neher	Peace ONE VOICE	

# January 2017

## Birthdays

- Ron Davis, Matt Siewert, Caleb Strauss
- Libby Sunnock
- Annie Ely
- Jeremy Blomberg, Emma Leof, Bruce Dahlen, Jared Liebenow
- Tom DeYoung
- Ruth Larson
- Anela Newton, Ian Thompson
- Melissa Kloempken
- Nancy Zimmerman, Marlow Bakken, Kim Koch-Sullivan
- Eric Franck, Ron Moore
- Shaelyn Wells
- Nicolle Hansen, Aaron Holst
- Betty Allen, Maurice Geiger
- Megan Poterucha
- Jenny Bradt, Elizabeth Persik
- Sonja Hoag, Richard Berg
- David Rueb, Griffin Rock
- Nancy Miller
- Bonnie Lenz, David Kane, Krista Laughlin
- Paul Servick, Craig Diekvoss
- Ryan Hollar, Adam Hammel
- Don Solomon
- Dolores Koelsch, Rinoa Wozniak
- Leslie Crawley, Lil DeYoung, Barbara Ladsten, Carrie Kohlhapp, Barbara Blomberg

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 • 10:30 am - 11:30 am: New Year's Day - ONE SERVICE (Sanc)	2 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall) • 6 pm - 7 pm: Social Action Committee Meeting (Peace Rm)	3 • 7 am - 8 am: Men of Peace (Peace Rm) • 10 am - 11:30 am: Women's Bible Study (Peace Rm) • 5 pm - 6 pm: Beverage and Bible (Glynners')	4 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall) • 6 pm - 7 pm: Adult Bell Rehearsal (Rm 115) • 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)	5 • 7 am - 8 am: Women of Peace (Peace Rm)	6	7 • 10 am - 11:30 am: Quilters Group (Rm 104) • 11:30 am - 1:00 pm: Small Group Gathering (Fiesta Mexicana) • 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Adult Gathering-White Elephant Re-Gifting
8 • Worship (8:30am & 11am) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Faith Formation (Various Classrooms) • 12:00 pm - 3 pm: MS & HS Outing (Lunch & Movie) • 12:30 pm - 3 pm: Stephen Ministry Training (Dwelling)	9 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall) • 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Stephen Ministry (Peace Rm)	10 • 7 am - 8 am: Men of Peace (Peace Rm) • 10 am - 11:30 am: Women's Bible Study (Peace Rm) • 5 pm - 6 pm: Beverage and Bible (Glynners') • 7 pm - 8 pm: Race Forward (Dwelling)	11 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall)	12 • 7 am - 8 am: Women of Peace (Peace Rm)	13 • 5 pm - 6 pm: Women's Retreat Departure (Good Earth Village) • 6 pm - 8 pm: Family Movie Night (F-Hall)	14 Women's Retreat (Good Earth Village)
15 • Worship (8:30am & 11am) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Faith Formation (Various Classrooms) • 10:30 am - 11:30 am: Women's Retreat Return • 12 pm - 1:30 pm: Fellowship Lunch (F-Hall) • 12:30 pm - 5:30 pm: Stephen Ministry Training (Peace Rm)	16 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall)	17 • 7 am - 8 am: Men of Peace (Peace Rm) • 10 am - 11:30 am: Women's Bible Study (Peace Rm) • 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm: Sr Card Players (Peace Rm) • 5 pm - 6 pm: Beverage and Bible (Glynners')	18 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall) • 6 pm - 7 pm: Adult Bell Rehearsal (Rm 115) • 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)	19 • 7 am - 8 am: Women of Peace (Peace Rm)	20 • 6 pm - 11 pm: MS & HS Lock-In (Congregational UCC)	21 • 9 am - 2 pm: Council Retreat (Dwelling) • 6 pm - 11 pm: MS & HS Lock-In (Congregational UCC)
22 • Worship (8:30am & 11am) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Faith Formation (Various Classrooms) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Annual Meeting (Sanc) • 12 pm - 1:30 pm: Chili Cook Off (F-Hall) • 12:30 pm - 3 pm: Stephen Ministry Training (Dwelling) • 3:00 pm - 4 pm: Karl Rist Ecclesiastic Service (Sanc) • 4:00 pm - 5 pm: Karl Rist Ecclesiastic Reception (F-Hall)	23 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall)	24 • 7 am - 8 am: Men of Peace (Peace Rm) • 10 am - 11:30 am: Women's Bible Study (Peace Rm) • 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm: Senior Card Players (Peace Rm) • 5 pm - 6 pm: Beverage and Bible (Glynners') • 7 pm - 8 pm: Race Forward (Dwelling)	25 • 9:30 am - 11:30 am: Miriam Ministry (Peace Rm) • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall) • 6 pm - 7 pm: Adult Bell Rehearsal (Rm 115) • 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)	26 • 7 am - 8 am: Women of Peace (Peace Rm) • 6 pm - 7 pm: Worship Planning Meeting (Pastor Paul's Ofc)	27	28 • 7 pm - 9 pm: Adult Movie Night (Sanc)
29 • Worship (8:30am & 11am) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Faith Formation (Various Classrooms) • 12 pm - 1:30 pm: Fellowship Lunch (F-Hall) • 12:30 pm - 3 pm: Stephen Ministry Training (Dwelling)	30 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: CareGiver Lunch Bunch for Adults and Children 3 and Under (F-Hall)	31 • 7 am - 8 am: Men of Peace (Peace Rm) • 10 am - 11:30 am: Women's Bible Study (Peace Rm) • 5 pm - 6 pm: Beverage and Bible (Glynners')				



# December at Peace United Church of Christ

