

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
http://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

November 2016

Ponderings of Pastor Beth...

Dear friends,

We are here! After a very quick month between my first Sunday canidating with you in September, October 16th was my first official Sunday with the Peace UCC community. It seems like we were just here for our visit, but that was almost a month ago now. Sam, Tylah, our dog Sassy, and I made the drive to Minnesota over four days, the first week in October. For those of you who enjoy driving, that might seem pretty easy, but not so much with our crazy family divided into two cars and all our belongings spread between the cars and the moving truck! We certainly have some stories to tell about our journey, like trying to find a place to have lunch and ending up on the main drag of the Wisconsin Dells, a place we termed a seaside tourist trap in the middle of the country. Too bad Tylah is too young to get much of a kick out of the activities and it was a little late for the summer season, but we did have quite a time walking around and checking it out. I can't wait to go back someday and actually ride the rides, try out the games and play a little. For now, it was just a place to grab a sandwich and then hit the road.

October 23rd, I had the great opportunity to preach on the mind, a powerful part of our lives and a great place from which to look at the idea of gratitude, in our continuing worship series. With a grateful mind, I say to you that we have a lot of wonderful things coming up this next month as we look toward the beginning of another church year in the season of Advent. As we celebrate and call ourselves to greater awareness of our many gifts this fall, this is a time to evaluate where you have come and what you have done this year. And of course to find new ways and new calls to support it in the coming year. As I begin to find my place here, I encourage you to think like a newbie too and see if there are programs that you weren't even aware of that are calling out for your involvement. Together we are a mighty crew who can do much in this world, and I look forward to walking with you in that discernment.

I will be spending some time in the coming weeks trying to get to know the programs we currently offer and finding my place in assisting our leaders with their ministries. As I find out more about what we offer and where my attention is needed, don't hesitate to contact me and schedule a time to meet up, even before I have had a chance to contact you. I am looking forward to meeting with you in the coming weeks and months as I begin my ministry here, but if you have a spare moment, come on by the church during the week and let's chat, or for those caffeine minded of us, let's get coffee! I'd love to hear from you, what brought you and your family to Peace, and what keeps you engaged here! We are a wonderfully busy community and so many of you may have entered into the community in very different ways, and I'd love to hear about it. Contact me anytime and lets get down to the business of being Peace together.

Blessings,

Rev. Beth Rogers

Beth

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Beth Rogers, Associate Pastor
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Check the online version of the Olive Branch to see pictures of our October 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.

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

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

OCTOBER PHOTOS!



Bazaar Help Needed

November 10th and 11th

This event draws large crowds; however, in order to prepare we will be seeking help. We will need folks to help on Thursday and Friday starting at 1 p.m. and Saturday at 8 a.m. to help set up tables and organize items and help in the kitchen and the dish room during the event. See the sign up in the Fellowship Hall for tasks and dates or call the church office (282-6117).

Fall Bazaar

**Saturday, November 12th
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Along with attending the event, we are still looking for donations! All items donated must be clean and in good, usable shape and can be dropped off at church starting Monday, October 31st up until Thursday, November 10th.

We are getting ready for our annual fall bazaar. Some examples of items that are accepted are as follows: baked goods, nicely-potted house plants, household items, all holiday items, small furniture, books, small appliances and freshly-cleaned clothes that are not stained or ripped. Exercise equipment and electronics is also accepted, but those unsold must be picked up by the owners after the bazaar to avoid disposal fees to the church. Some items that are not accepted are outdoor garden plants, tires, large pieces of furniture, open bottles of perfume or lotions, computers, items that do not work, or large appliances. Questions? Call Carole Winters at 507-282-8379.

Other November Events

Quilter's Pre-Bazaar Sale

**Sunday, November 6th
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Our Quilters will be selling some of their work before the bazaar on November 12th. Be sure to check it out!

Family Bounce World Outing

**Saturday, November 12th
4 - 6 p.m.**

Join us for this family fun event at Bounce World in Rochester. You can sign up on the youth bulletin board or online at goo.gl/O9ubYk to be a part of this event.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

**Sunday, November 20th
12:00 p.m.**

EVERYONE is invited to our annual Community Thanksgiving Meal in the Fellowship Hall. This dinner is a highlight for so many and a wonderful opportunity for us to gather as a family of faith. We are looking for volunteers to help by setting up, serving, helping in the dish room, cleaning up afterwards or providing pies.

Pre-meal preparation and serving will begin Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will also need servers to help with dishing up food, as well as assisting families to their seats. Set up and decoration will be done on Saturday, November 19th at 10:00 a.m. Along with volunteers, we also are in need of pie and dessert donations. See the sign up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.

Transgender Day of Remembrance Service

**Sunday, November 20th
6 - 7 p.m.**

You are invited to join us on Sunday, November 20, from 6 - 7 p.m. in the Dwelling for our Transgender Day of Remembrance Service. This is a day, where communities around the world come together to remember those whose lives were lost due to anti-transgender fear, bigotry and hatred.



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 "Learn to Walk In The Dark" by Barbara Brown Taylor.)

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

(See our Saints of Peace outing schedule and sign ups in the Fellowship Hall; events are open to those ages 55 and better.)



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

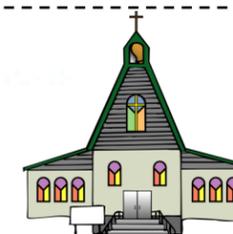
(Meets the last Wednesday of the month for a presentation and fellowship. ALL WOMEN WELCOME!)

Sunday Morning Book Studies

(Join us Sunday mornings as we discuss two books. The first study led by Tom and Marie Neher will be reading "The Bible According to Mark Twain: Irreverent Writings on Eden, Heaven the Flood by America's Master Satirist" by Mark Twain. The second study led by Ben Sullivan will be reading "Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism" by John Shelby Spong.)

September Financial Update

	September	YTD
Pledges Budgeted	\$32,500	\$292,500
Actual Pledges received	\$27,387	\$265,084
Difference	-\$5,113	-\$27,416



December Events

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 18th
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

The Choir of Peace invites you to celebrate the Christmas story through their Christmas Cantata: "A New Birth, A New Beginning" written by John Purifoy, which will be shared at both services on Sunday, December 18.

The celebration of Christmas gives each of us a yearly opportunity to relive and reflect on that first Christmas - the birth of our Savior and the promise of a new beginning as Christians. Through narration and song (voices, instruments and piano), this cantata contemplates the challenge to Mary (and us) to trust God and deepen our faith; to overcome our fears and rejoice in the birth of Jesus Christ as shepherds did and to offer gifts and to worship as did the Magi. It's our way of celebrating God's promise fulfilled.



Cookies and Caroling

Sunday, December 18th
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Come celebrate the Christmas spirit with your Peace United Church of Christ family. We'll gather at Samaritan Bethany to spread Christmas Cheer and then meet back at church for caroling.

Blue Christmas Service And Potluck

Sunday, December 25th
One Service Only at 10:30 a.m.

Christmas is on Sunday this year! Come celebrate the Christmas spirit with your Peace United Church of Christ family. We will also have a Christmas potluck dinner at 11:30 a.m. Please bring a dish to share.

Christmas Eve Services

Saturday, December 24th

This Holiday season we will be having three Christmas Eve services that are open to the public. Bring your family and friends and enjoy the Christmas spirit.

The following services are available on Saturday, December 24th:

4:00 & 6:00 p.m. - Traditional Lesson: Carols, Candlelight and Communion

7:30 p.m. - Contemporary/Acoustic with Candlelight and Communion



The Sharing Tree

Month of December

Celebrate the spirit of giving this Christmas and purchase items for those in need.

Organizations receiving donations will be identified in the middle of November.

Take an ornament (or several) off the tree and bring back the wrapped item along with the tag and place presents in the boxes next to the tree.



Pledge Commitment Sunday

Sunday, November 20th

"Giving in Gratitude" is this year's theme for our giving campaign, and it relates closely to last year's focus on Giving in Grace with Our Heart Treasures. This cycle of grace and gratitude continues as we grow in relationship with God. God's grace is freely given and our gratitude overflows for God's abundant generosity.

During the upcoming weeks as we prepare for our stewardship opportunity, think for a moment about the gratitude you feel in your life. A great spiritual practice to focus your thinking is to make a list each evening of ten things for which you are grateful. Add new items to the list each day. Our families, friends, freedom, Peace United Church of Christ, jobs, homes, pets - all can make the list. How about adding the love and strength of our God, the beauty of creation, and even that first wonderful cup of coffee or tea in the morning? Gratitude comes in all shapes and sizes.

We ask you to prayerfully consider ways you can contribute to Peace United Church of Christ with treasure as well as service. Some of the opportunities are Social Action Outreach Ministry, Stewardship Committee, Faith Formation, Small Group Ministries, and "Race Forward" discussions. Commitment Sunday is November 20. Pledge cards will be sent in early November. Please bring your pledge card and join us for worship that day and celebrate with your Peace family through our Community Thanksgiving dinner immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service.



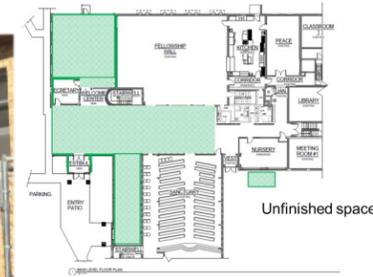
Construction Update

While the weather delays have really been hard on our building project, we have seen quite a bit of progress this past month.

On the outside: the cement floor work for the addition is complete, the exterior walls are put into place, the roof finishes are being added, and the ground around our new building was leveled.

On the inside: the original Narthex ceiling has been removed (and the asbestos remediated), the additional door to the fellowship hall has been installed, and the stainless surround to the kitchen pass through is in. And throughout all of this, we've had to investigate and figure out the maze of the heat runs and electrical fuses, as well as keeping the rain from getting inside our building!

BUT...there is still much work left to be done. The beginning of November we'll be leveling the existing Narthex floor, the sprinkler system throughout the Sanctuary and new area put in, then throughout the month interior drywall will be hung and taping done, interior walls will get painted, the new ceiling and lighting installed, and the office area finished off. The reality of our "Footsteps to the Future" dream is taking shape. Soon we'll be able to enjoy the openness of our new Narthex area and settle into our new space.



November Happenings

“Fun Group” Events Continue

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:

11/12	Bounce World	Family	4-6 p.m.
11/20	Community Thanksgiving Meal	Family	12-2 p.m.

Put A Smile On Someone’s Face



Help us support Hawthorne Helps by donating brand new toothbrushes and toothpaste to give to those in need. Drop off dental items in the bin by the church office.

- What is this?** A toothbrush & toothpaste drive (for adults & children)
- Why?** Items are needed for Hawthorne Helps – a non-profit serving more than 500 people in our community – primarily immigrant and low income families.
- When?** Drop off at church Oct. 23rd – Nov. 6th

Remodeling Time! Help Needed For Our Parsonage

We are in the process of remodeling the house just north of the church (1521 2nd Avenue NE). The house will be used for Pastor Beth and her family! To ready the house we are needing some help.... YOUR HELP! I am hoping you will be able to give some of your time and talent to help us get this project completed by November 15! Please let Pastor Paul know if you are able to give of your time for this project by emailing him (pastor@peacechurchucc.org) or calling the church office 507-282-6117 with your work time. If these times are not good for you, but you are willing to help at a different time, please let us know that as well. If you can only work a portion of time listed, that is OK too. Just come and enjoy the fellowship of working together on this project!!

KITCHEN INSTALLATION

Will tentatively begin November 5

BATHROOM INSTALLATION

Will tentatively begin November 5

This Month’s Sundays

SUNDAY	SERVICE	COUNCIL IN CHARGE	MUSIC	Fellowship Lunch
6 Daylight Savings Ends with Communion	8:30 a.m.	Tom DeYoung	Bells of Peace	Dave & Michelle Schmitt's Team
	11:00 a.m.	Matt Siewert	Peace ONEVOICE	
13	8:30 a.m.	Tom DeYoung	Special Music	Quintin Dykes' Team
	11:00 a.m.	Matt Siewert	Joy ONEVOICE	
20 Stewardship Giving Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Tom DeYoung	Choir	Community Thanksgiving Meal
	11:00 a.m.	Matt Siewert	Peace ONEVOICE	
27 Advent Begins	8:30 a.m.	Tom DeYoung	Special Music	No Lunch
	11:00 a.m.	Matt Siewert	Joy ONEVOICE	

November 2016

Birthdays

- Bryce Bjork, Robert Lee, Jackson Esau
- Ramona Trachsel, Chloe Regal
- Diane Shanks, Trey Peterson
- Mark Schnell, Leah Bauch, Isabella Bjork, Kaleb Siewert
- Jean Schafer
- Mary Karlstad, Zach Basballe, Timothy Liebenow, Anna Thompson, Elena Kesselring
- Aurora Miller
- Yvonne Rust
- Nicole Liazuk, Bryan Johnson
- Ann Gerlach, Olivia Regal
- Dana Molitor, Eleanor Ryg
- Alyssa Nodtvedt
- Zach Halverson, Ben Jensen, Jacob Savage
- Thomas McLaurin
- Matt Hanson, Tracy Doffing
- Harrison Esau
- Morgan Cozik, Olivia Schmitt
- Kathy Markee, Kalia Edmonds
- Kaia Harmon
- Lucas Diekvoss
- Stacy LeQuire, Chris Smith
- Aggie Salzwedel, Dale Corfits, Matt Knoepke
- Caleb Burkhard
- Gerald Bentz, Alex Sunnock

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 • 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 & Bible (Glynner's)	2 • 6 pm - 7 pm: Adult Bell Rehearsal (Rm 115) • 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)	3 • 7 am - 8 am: Women of Peace (Peace Rm)	4	5 • 10 am - 11:30 am: Quilters Group (Rm 104)
6 Daylight Savings Time Ends • Worship w/Communion (8:30am & 11am) • 8:00 am - 1:00 pm: Quilter's Pre-Bazaar (F-Hall) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Book Study Bible Mark Twain (Rm 215) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Book Study Rescuing the Bible (Peace Rm) • 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) • 6:30 pm - 8 pm: ONEVOICE Rehearsals (Sanc)	7 • 6 pm - 7 pm: Social Action Committee Meeting (Peace Rm)	8 • 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 & Bible (Glynner's) • 7 pm - 8 pm: Race Forward (Dwelling)	9 • 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)	10 • 7 am - 8 am: Women of Peace (Peace Rm) • 12 pm - 1 pm: Bazaar Set Up (F-Hall)	11 • 8 am - 9 am: Bazaar Set Up (F-Hall)	12 • 9 am - 2 pm: Bazaar Set Up (F-Hall) • 4 pm - 6 pm: Primary Youth Outing (Bounce World)
13 • Worship (8:30am & 11am) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Book Study Bible Mark Twain (Rm 215) • 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Book Study Rescuing the Bible (Peace Rm) • 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) • 6:30 pm - 8 pm: ONEVOICE Rehearsals (Sanc)	14 • 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Stephen Ministry (Peace Rm)	15 • 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 & Bible (Glynner's)	16 • 9:30 am - 11:30 am: Miriam Ministry (Peace Rm) • 5:30 pm - 7 pm: Stewardship Committee Meeting (Peace Rm) • 6 pm - 7 pm: Adult Bell Rehearsal (Rm 115) • 7 pm - 8 pm: Church Council (Dwelling) • 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)	17 • 7 am - 8 am: Women of Peace (Peace Rm) • 9 am - 11 am: Channel One Volunteer Team (Chanel 1 HQ)	18	19 • 10 am: Community Thanksgiving Meal Set Up
20 • Worship (8:30am & 11am) • 12 pm - 2 pm: Community Thanksgiving Meal • 6pm - 7 pm: Transgender Day of Remembrance • 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: ONEVOICE Rehearsals (Sanc)	21	22 • 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 & Bible (Glynner's) • 7 pm - 8 pm: Race Forward (Dwelling)	23	24 • OFFICE CLOSED	25 • OFFICE CLOSED	26
27 • Worship (8:30am & 11am) • 12:30 pm - 3 pm: Stephen Ministry Training (Dwelling) Advent Begins	28	29 • 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 & Bible (Glynner's)	30 • 6 pm - 7 pm: Adult Bell Rehearsal (Rm 115) • 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)			



