

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**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

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:45am Faith Formation
11am Contemporary Worship

Nursery care available from
8:30 to 12pm on Sundays

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR
UPDATES:
www.peacechurchucc.org

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Check the on-line version
of the Olive Branch to see
pictures of our March
events

Olive Branch

April 2018

Ponderings of Pastor Paul...

Over the past six weeks we have taken a deep dive into understanding who we are as people of faith in the United Church of Christ. We have explored our covenantal relationship with God, and how we, as people of the United Church of Christ, have been historically called/led to share the radical Good News of the Gospel message with the world around us. We have explored the historic "firsts" of our denomination: www.ucc.org/about-us [ucc-firsts](#), our 96-year history with Samaritan Bethany, Open and Affirming (ONA), Anti-Racism ministry, Advocacy ministry, our 5:5 UCC Offerings, and our connection to the wider church through our Minnesota Conference/National UCC church connections. We have also talked about our financial support through OCWM (Our Churches Wider Mission). This series has allowed us to more fully understand and engage our faith today, and put it into action in and with the world around us.

Most recently this connection is most powerfully seen through our youth, who through support of the wider Minnesota Conference – United Church of Christ and Peace United Church of Christ, are working for justice and peace at the March For Our Lives in Washington DC. Four of our Peace UCC youth (Gavin Bloch, Peter Haug, Melina Lopez, Sela Rist), and one adult (Annie Ely), joined 9 other youth from the Minnesota UCC Conference to gather with over 500,000 others to raise the issue of gun violence and mass shootings in our schools and world today. Our youth are leading the way to bring systemic change to our policies and laws relating to guns, procedures, and background checks so that peace can become a possibility.

The timing of this march is timely and powerful. Being held on the eve of Palm Sunday, this modern day peace parade is bringing hope to those who are crying out "SAVE US". These youth are marching peacefully into the heart of governmental power, and bringing a new voice and new hope for all of us. These youth are going to the center of resistance and turning over the tables of injustice. These youth are bringing hope and possibility and change that we, as adults, have been unwilling or unable to do. Like those who cheered on Jesus as he began his march, we can either join them and support them and stay with them as this journey continues... OR... we can cheer them on now and then drift away as the weeks go on. My hope and prayer is that we will keep this message of faith – this message of peace at the forefront of our ministry. I thank God that these youth – and for the prophetic message they share. As an aside: Our youth will be share their experience with us at Peace on SUNDAY. APRIL 8.

As we now embark in this Easter Season, I invite you to fully engage in what the Spirit of Resurrection brings for lives, church, community, and world beyond. How are you sharing the RESURRECTION SPIRIT of hope, love, joy and PEACE with and for others in the world around us?

He is risen! He brought PEACE! Let's do the same and share the RADICAL GOOD NEWS!

Peace,

Paul Bauch, Senior Pastor
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<http://www.facebook.com/paul.bauch>

Beth Rogers, Associate Pastor
ypastor@peacechurchucc.org
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CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES: www.peacechurchucc.org

Just so you know...

You can check our website for updates: www.peacechurchucc.org

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 office@peacechurchucc.org.

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

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

"This is our church...we make it what it is..." April Focus: Earth Care/Outdoor Plantings

In an effort to assist our congregation in understanding where our money is being spent AND educating everyone on the fundraisers / special offerings that will be happening in 2018, we have put together a "Giving Calendar". Each month we will focus on a special item to help support our church.

Look for the Giving Board each Sunday morning to see how you can help support what we do here at Peace United Church of Christ!



REMINDER....

Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 6
@ 9:45am

APRIL HAPPENINGS

Easter Sunday

April 1

We have a full morning of activities to celebrate Easter. We hope you will join us!

- 7:30am - 10:30am: Easter Pancake Breakfast Hosted by our youth (this is a fundraiser to help support their summer mission trip)
- 8:30am: Traditional Service w/Communion
- 9:45am: Easter Egg Hunt and Scavenger Hunt for all children and youth
- 11:00am: Contemporary Service w/Communion

Service of Remembrance Honoring the 50th Anniversary of MLK's Death

Sunday, April 15 @ 3pm at Peace United Church of Christ

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's death. However, let's not simply commemorate Dr. King's death, but celebrate his life.

We invite you to take part in a memorial service for Dr. King's life and a look to the future on Sunday, April 15 at 3pm. Youth winners of the Rochester Branch NAACP's Dr. King Essay contest will provide the message, with music from ONEVOICE Praise Team of Peace UCC and Praise Team of Christ Church of the Jesus Hour, and other local musicians. Celebrate life, and commit yourself to continuing the work of Dr. King.

This event is sponsored by the Rochester Branch NAACP in partnership with Peace United Church of Christ. Refreshments will follow the service.

Bring a Friend!!

Sunday, April 22

We are encouraging everyone to 'bring a friend' on Sunday, April 22. The person who brings the most visitors will receive a \$25 VISA gift card.

Rochester '76 Lions Club & Samaritan Bethany Foundation Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Saturday, April 28

8:00am 12:00pm

The Rochester '76 Lions Club, along with Samaritan Bethany Foundation will be holding a pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 28, from 8am - 12pm to raise money for the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation and for Samaritan Bethany Foundation. All proceeds will be split to fund diabetes research and to purchase needed equipment for the residents at Samaritan Bethany.

Cost is \$12 per adult (children 12 and under free)

Rags to Riches

Through Sunday, April 29

The Social Action Outreach Ministry group is once again coordinating our textile recycling program through Sunday, April 29. Drop off your clean textiles in the bin located in the coat room. Peace UCC will receive \$0.10 per pound to support our homelessness ministries.



at Peace

Coming in May...



Sundays

Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 6 @ 9:45am

All members of Peace United Church of Christ are asked to attend a special congregational meeting on Sunday, May 6 at 9:45am. Key items that will be on the agenda will be the outcome of our additional pledge challenge to hire a full-time Director of Intergenerational Ministry and the finishing of our Administration Suite offices.

Mother's Day Music Celebration Sunday

Sunday, May 13 - ONE WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10am

Sunday, May 13 will be a SPECIAL day for us to give thanks and celebrate our rich, wonderful, and diverse music talents here at Peace UCC. It's our way to give thanks to/for all the individuals who so freely give of their time and talents to provide the beautiful musical back drop for our worship services. Music will be provided by our Choir, Bell Choir, and both ONEVOICE praise teams. We also want to give special thanks to the leadership of our music program - John Miller and Sara Schliep, for without them, our music programs wouldn't be able to be what they are.

Note that we will have only ONE service on May 13 at 10am,

Confirmation

Sunday, May 20 @ 11:00am

We are excited to confirm 12 of our youth on Sunday, May 20 at the 11:00am service and hear of their faith experiences. Our confirmands will also participate in the 8:30am service.

Please come and celebrate with our youth and their families on this special day in their faith journey.

JESUS CHRIST - SUPER STAR

(a musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice)
at Peace United Church of Christ

Under the direction of Aaron Rocklyn

Once and Future Classics will be presenting Jesus Christ Super Star the first 3 weekends in May. More information on ticket sales will be forth coming. Mark your calendar for one of these performances!

Friday and Saturday, May 4 & 5 at 7:30pm
 Friday and Saturday, May 11 & 12 at 7:30pm
 Friday and Saturday, May 18 & 19 at 7:30pm

Saturday Matinee on May 20 @ 2:00pm

Birthdays

- 1 Neil Clemens, Donna Groth, Scarlett Wozniak
- 2 Carol Timmers
- 4 Sara Franks, Hannah Wilder
- 5 John Franks, Nicholas Molitor,
Owen Dahlin, Linus Winters
- 6 Marie Wilson, Laura Thompson
- 7 Mildred Lilleskov
- 8 Gregory Trachsel, Hannah Potts
- 9 Jane Batterson, Molly Berg, Sela Rist
- 10 Diane Johnson, Kathy Timmers
- 11 Benjamin Winters
- 12 Liz Dahlien
- 14 Ryan Walton
- 16 Karl Rist IV, Judy Rich, Barbara Karau
- 17 Richard Peters, Matt Buda
- 18 Allan Vrieze, Chris Alden,
Daniel Kronemann
- 19 Dale Ely
- 20 Doris Underdahl, Josh Barrows
- 21 Emily Wusow
- 22 Vivian Christie, Landon Robertson
- 23 Bridget Davis-Fritz, Mary Ely,
Allie Splittstoesser
- 24 Al Barker, Jean Boese, Josh Welke,
Madison Sipe
- 25 Ellen Rebstock, Emma Potts
- 27 Max Oetliker
- 28 Bradley Pollock
- 29 Teagan Bennett
- 30 Dominic Osowski, Cooper Osowski,
Alissa Giere



**Dessert Auction
Sunday, April 29
10 - 10:30am**

Join us for some fun and bid on your favorite dessert / food item. This fundraiser will help to support our youth's summer mission trip. All donations of desserts/food items is appreciated.

APRIL SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY	SERVICE	COUNCIL IN CHARGE	SPECIAL MUSIC	FELLOWSHIP LUNCH TEAM
1 Communion	8:30am	Bob Werner	Bells of Peace / Choir of Peace	NO LUNCH
Easter Sunday	11:00am		JOY ONEVOICE	
8	8:30am	Bob Werner	Special Music	Dave & Shelley Schmitt's Team
	11:00am		PEACE ONEVOICE	
15	8:30am	Bob Werner	Special Music	Team Awesome
	11:00am	Bob Werner	JOY ONEVOICE	
22	8:30am	Bob Werner	Choir of Peace	Amber Carlson's Team
"Bring a Friend" Sunday	11:00am		PEACE ONEVOICE	
29	8:30am	Bob Werner	Bells of Peace	Team Incredible
	11:00am		JOY ONEVOICE	

Financial Update

A new year has begun. While we are shy of our budget, it's important for all to keep up with your pledge. As an additional reminder, a challenge was issued at our Annual Meeting. We want to hire a full-time Director of Intergenerational Ministry, but can't do so unless we raise an additional \$25,000 in pledges gifts by April 1. To date, we are at 67% of this goal. We will review our options at the Special Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sunday, May 6.



	February	YTD
Pledges Budgeted	\$36,250	\$72,500
Actual Pledges received	\$32,846	\$69,037
Difference	-\$3,404	-\$3,463

Scholarships Available

Application Deadline: Friday, April 13

Peace United Church of Christ offers 3 scholarships:

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

All forms are available on our web site under forms.



We are excited to welcome our NEW Nursery staff member: **Katie Landry** who will begin on Easter Sunday (April 1).

Katie has an Associates Degree in Child Development and has experience working in infant and child care for 10 years here in Rochester! We are excited to welcome her as we continue to find ways to engage the youngest of our community during worship. She enjoys working with infants and children because she loves their honesty and the way they look at the world. Katie says her favorite thing to do with children is to read stories and listen to the stories they tell about their lives. Stop into the nursery on Easter to introduce yourself and help Katie feel a warm Peace UCC welcome to our growing program.

To support Katie and this ministry of our very young, please think about volunteering as the second adult or a youth volunteer on a regular basis for either service. And thank you to the congregation for supporting this ministry and allowing us to have a staff person welcome new faces and regular members each week!

Ongoing Peace Groups

Tuesday Morning Men of Peace Group @ 7am - 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 Bible Study @ 10am - Peace Room

(All women are invited to join us for fellowship and discussion, meeting weekly on Tuesdays at 10am. For additional information contact Sheila Boss)

Tuesday Beverage & Bible @ 5pm - Glynner's Pub

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

Knitter/Crochet Groups - Tuesdays @ 10:30am - Room 105

(ALL are welcome to join us every Tuesday at 10:30am in Room 105)

Thursday Morning Women's Group @ 7am - Peace Room

(Reading and discussing "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood. For additional information contact Anna Froehling.)

Twice Monthly Race Forward - Dwelling @ 7pm

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

Miriam Ministry - Wed, Apr 25 @ 9:30am - Peace Room

(ALL WOMEN are welcome to join us for a short program and fellowship.)

Quilter's Group - Thursdays @ 10am-3pm & 1st Saturday of Month 10am-11:30am - Room 104

(For additional information contact Marie Wilson)

Fellowship Lunches - Weekly, after the 2nd Service,

(Teams provide and prepare Fellowship luncheons for anyone wishing to stay for lunch. For more information on being a part of a Team, visit the Welcome Desk.)

Connect Groups -

Several groups have begun to meet. A few groups actively seeking members are: Wheels, Crafty Crafters, Elementary Families. Check the ChurchOn app, see the Welcome Desk to get connected and for a list of opportunities.



YOUTH RELATED DATES:

- 4/1: 7:30 - 10:30 Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
- 4/8: 12:30pm - Confirmation
- 4/27: 6:30pm MS & HS Youth Lock-In (at Congregational UCC)
- 4/29: 10:00am Dessert/Food Item Auction Fundraiser

Additional youth announcements are sent via Snap Chat. Contact Pastor Beth if you want to be included in the group.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30 - 10:30am Pancake Breakfast 8:30 & 11am Worship with Communion 9:45am Easter Egg Hunt / Scavenger Hunt	2 6pm Social Action Mtg. (Peace Rm) 7pm Sanctuary Church Discussion (Peace Rm)	3***	4	5*	6	7 10am Quilters Group (Rm 104)
8 8:30 & 11am Worship 9:45am Faith Formation 12pm Fellowship Lunch (F-Hall) 12:45pm Confirmation (SHR) 6:30pm ONEVOICE (Sanc)	9 7pm Stephen's Ministry (Peace Rm & Rm 215)	10*** 7pm Race Forward (Dwelling)	11** 5:30pm Wednesday Lenten Service (Sanc)	12*	13 6:30pm MS & HS Youth Lock-In (Congregational UCC)	14
15 8:30 & 11am Worship 9:45am Faith Formation 12pm Fellowship Lunch (F-Hall) 3pm MLK Celebration (Sanc) 4:00pm '7 Connect Group (Peace Room) 6:30pm ONEVOICE (Sanc)	16	17*** 12:30pm Sr Card Players (Peace Rm)	18** 5pm Stewardship Committee Meeting (Peace Rm) 7pm Council (Dwelling)	19* 7:00pm Card Sharks Connect Group (Dwelling)	20	21
22 "Invite a Friend" 8:30 & 11am Worship 9:45am Faith Formation 12:00pm SPAM Fellowship Potluck (F-Hall) 12:30pm Faith Formation Team Meeting (Peace Rm)	23	24*** 7pm Race Forward (Dwelling)	25** 9:30am Miriam Ministry (Peace Rm)	26* 9am Channel One Team (Channel One HQ)	27	28 8am Lions Club / Samaritan Bethany Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser (F-Hall)
29 8:30 & 11am Worship 9:45am Faith Formation 10:00am Dessert Auction (Youth Fundraiser) 12pm Fellowship Lunch (F-Hall)	30	*** Every Tuesday 7am Men of Peace (Peace Rm) 10am: Women's Bible Study (Peace Rm) 10:30am Knitter/Crochet Group (Rm 115) 5pm: Beverage & Bible Glynner's	** Every Wednesday 6pm Adult Bell Choir (Rm 115) 6:30pm Crafty Crafters Connect Group (Rm 104) 7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)	* Every Thursday 7am Women's Fellowship (Peace Rm) 10am Quilting Group (Rm 104) 5:30pm Family Connect Group (NartheX)	APRIL 2018	