

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 January  
events

# Olive Branch

March 2018

## Ponderings of Pastor Beth...

### I'm Not Connected, Now What?

Our focus for the last two months has been on the church wide initiative we are starting to get EVERYONE engaged with other members in small group settings, called Connect Groups. And it is off to a great start, but YOU are still needed! Seven new groups kicked off at the February 8<sup>th</sup> Connect Group Dinner and more than 70 people attended! Those who attended enjoyed a meal together and got to know each other in new ways. Do you know the nickname of your neighbor in the pew? Or their greatest strength?

If you weren't able to come in February, a new opportunity is coming! After Easter, starting April 8<sup>th</sup>, Allan Vrieze will host "Connecting through Stories." In the Fellowship Hall between services. Meet in the corner of Fellowship Hall and hear from others in our community. After an initial story, others are invited to share their own life stories in response, each week structured around a theme. It doesn't need to be directed to just your faith story, but a chance to engage with others around common themes we all live in and see around us. What stories can you think of that speak to gratitude in your life? Or what is your experience with joy? How have you been impacted by wealth (of spirit, of money, of love)? As we learn more about each other in the coming months, it will be a wonderful springboard for new Connect Groups to be developed as we head into spring.

If you already know of a group you'd like to coordinate, speak with Laurie, myself, or fill out the Connect Group Leadership Form at [goo.gl/XeNFv7](http://goo.gl/XeNFv7) to tell us more about your idea and what you might need. 7 groups can't contain all of our congregation, so let's keep this initiative going and develop new ways to connect with each other!

Peace,

Pastor Beth

Paul Bauch, Senior Pastor  
pastor@peacechurchucc.org  
<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](http://www.peacechurchucc.org)

Just so you know...

You can check our website for updates: [www.peacechurchucc.org](http://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](mailto:office@peacechurchucc.org).

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

**"This is our church....we make it what it is..."**

### March Focus: 5 for 5

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!

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

### REMINDERS....

**Wednesday  
Taize Lenten Services  
Through March 21  
@ 5:30pm**

**Wednesday, March 28,  
Seder Meal @ 6:30pm**

**Good Friday Service  
March 30th @ 7pm**



Spring Ahead  
Sunday, March 11



# MARCH HAPPENINGS

## Family Movie Night

Friday, March 9 @ 6pm

Join our Peace Family for a viewing of Disney's COCO in the Fellowship Hall. Cost: \$5 per family for pizza & pop. Please RSVP by Noon, March 9 by clicking [Sign up HERE](#), visiting our Peace UCC Website, our ChurchOn app, or stop by the Welcome Desk. Kids are encourage to bring their favorite floor pillow and /or blanket.



## Annual Easter Flower Youth Fundraiser

Order now through March 18th

Help support our youth summer trips and beautify our Sanctuary by purchasing Lilies (\$13/ea) or Tulips (\$15/ea). Tulips will come in various colors; no pre-color option available. Plants will be available for pick up after the 11am Easter Sunday Service. [Click here](#), visit our Peace UCC Website, our ChurchOn app, or stop by the Welcome Desk to order your flower(s).

## SPAM –a– little SPAM –a–lot Fellowship Lunch

Sunday, March 18 @ 12:15pm

Bring your favorite SPAM recipe for our Fellowship Potluck Lunch. We'll even vote on our favorites!!t We'll even have the chance to vote on thei favorite SPAM recipe. Both main dishes and desserts welcomed.

## Wednesday Lenten Services

Wednesdays through March 21 @ 5:30pm

We will focus our Wednesday Lenten services with Taize. This 30-minute prayer service consists of meditative singing and periods of silence.

## Seder Meal

Wednesday, March 28

This year we will be hosting a Seder Meal on Wednesday, March 28; this will replace our normal Maundy Thursday service. This meal is a Jewish ritual feast that marks the beginning of the Jewish Passover. Each food item symbolizes a different party of the story of the exodus of the Jews from Egypt. You will also have an opportunity to help prepare this meal (see details below). We are excited to have members of B'Nai Isreal Synagogue take us through the meal preparation and the service. Families are encouraged to attend. Due to the intense preparation, RSVPs for this meal are required. There will also be a cost of \$5/adult (children and youth are free). RSVP on online, through our ChuchOn app, [click here](#) or see the Welcome Desk.

Seder Meal Preparation will take place on Monday, March 26 from 6:30 - 8pm and Tuesday, March 27 from 1 - 4pm. We will also need individuals to assist with table set up on Wednesday, March 28. Please click here to sign up: [goo.gl/3BM4fE](http://goo.gl/3BM4fE).



# at Peace

# MARCH HAPPENINGS



# Sundays

## Easter Sharing Basket Campaign Now through Easter Sunday, April 1st

Social Action Outreach Ministry is once again promoting it's annual Easter Sharing Basket Campaign. This campaign supports homeless youth, women and families in Rochester. PICK AN EGG (or more) from Basket in the Narthex, open it to see what needs to be donated, then return your donations with the label attached to the donation bin in the Narthex. Be sure to leave return the empty egg! Donations will be collected through Sunday, April 1, all gifts will be blessed during our Easter Services.



## THIS IS US..... THE UCC!!!!



### What is UCCU? United Church of Christ University!

I realized after a number of conversations that many folks do not know a great deal about the history of Peace United Church of Christ, the development of the United Church of Christ, nor of our ministries and theology of the United Church of Christ. During worship in February and March we will be providing messages and opportunities to learn about various topics and focus of our ministry here at Peace UCC and the wider church. Through the remaining weeks in March we will continue learn and better understand who we have been, who we are, and who we are visioning and poised to be. THIS IS US.... The UCC! ~ Pastor Paul

- MARCH 4      **THIS IS US.... The UCC & Peace UCC - ADVOCACY**  
*(Rae Dunn will provide a Mission Moment in worship and presentation @ 9:45am)*
- MARCH 11     **THIS IS US.... The UCC & Peace UCC - 5 for 5 Mission Offerings**
- MARCH 18     **THIS IS US.... The Minnesota Conference, OCWM, & Peace UCC**  
*(Rev. Shari Prestemon, Minnesota Conference Minister will preach and present between services at 9:45am)*
- MARCH 25     **PALM SUNDAY**



# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

# Birthdays

- 1 David Schmitt
- 2 Muriel Hawley, Eileen Schroeder
- 3 Chad Ramaker
- 5 Rose Gilbertson, Alyssa Miller
- 6 Semini McLaurin, Olivia Olson
- 7 Deb Franks
- 8 Matthew Melmer
- 10 Kirby Bakken
- 11 David Allen, Jason Dahlen, Levi Barker
- 12 Anna Haug, Lainey LeQuire
- 13 Ben Winters
- 14 Linda Arns
- 15 Deb Guenther, Rae Dunn, Nicole Fritz
- 16 Tom Otten
- 17 Sara Schliep
- 18 Michelle Johnson
- 19 Becky Maloney, Kim Ohly, Bruce Schliep
- 20 Pamela Haase
- 21 Warren Bjork, Kelsie Laughlin, Nancy Manley
- 22 Anne Reick, Brittny Jahnz, Nick Meinhardt
- 25 Barb Davis-Fritz, Michael Siewert, Chris Lovelace
- 26 Spencer Pfeifer
- 27 Ed Wagner, Susan Tointon, Colleen Petit, Joan Leaf
- 28 Stacy Goodwin, Deanna Servick
- 29 David Miller, Sarah Neher, Sondra Bentz
- 30 Amber Davis
- 31 Sheila Franck

## MARCH SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY	SERVICE	COUNCIL IN CHARGE	SPECIAL MUSIC	FELLOWSHIP LUNCH TEAM
4 Communion	8:30am	Eric Theuer	Choir of Peace	Team Incredible!
	11:00am		Joy ONEVOICE	
11	8:30am	Eric Theuer	Bells of Peace	Team Fantastic!
	11:00am		Peace ONEVOICE	
18	8:30am	Eric Theuer	Choir of Peace	SPAM COOKOFF
	11:00am		Joy ONEVOICE	
25	8:30am	Eric Theuer	Special Music	Fellowship Potluck
	11:00am		Peace 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 50% of this goal, but we need everyone's help to make this a reality. We are not in the home stretch. We are asking each giving unit to pledge/gift an additional \$240 per year. We realize that some are not able to do this, but others can do more.

If you haven't yet pledged or gifted, you can do so here, or via our ChurchOn App, or pick up a pledge card at the Welcome Desk.



	January	YTD
Pledges Budgeted	\$36,250	\$435,000
Actual Pledges received	\$36,189	
Difference	-61	

# Look What Else is Happening at Peace UCC...



## PICTURE TIME - FOR OUR NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY!

Have you signed up to get your picture taken yet? We want to include ALL our church family members and friends in this new an updated directory. The photographer will be here on Feb 28 - Mar 3 and again from Mar 13 - 17. Hours are 2 - 9pm Weekdays; and 9am - 3:30pm Weekends. We need at least 20 families per day otherwise we'll have to reduce our dates.

To sign up click here, via our ChurchOn app, or call the Welcome Desk (507-282-6117).

Remember....there is NO sitting fee. Everyone who participates gets a free 8x10 portrait and hard-copy directory. PLUS...there is a special right now - everyone who places portrait orders gets 20% off! Pets are welcome. You can even schedule generational pictures; all members will need to schedule consecutive portrait sittings. We will also be offering an on-line directory later. Let's make this a complete pictorial directory!

## 2018 Easter Schedule

Sunday, March 25 ~ Palm Sunday  
8:30am & 11:00am Service  
Peace Place Kids will be singing and we'll celebrate with a Palm Sunday Parade!

Monday, March 26 ~ Seder Meal Prep  
6:30 - 8:00pm sign up here: [goo.gl/3BM4fE](http://goo.gl/3BM4fE)

Tuesday, March 27 ~ Seder Meal Prep  
1:00 - 4:00pm sign up here: [goo.gl/3BM4fE](http://goo.gl/3BM4fE)

Wednesday, March 28 ~ Seder Meal  
6:30pm  
RSVPs required. Cost is \$5/adult (children and youth free) Click here to RSVP: [click here](#)

Friday, March 30 ~ Good Friday  
7:00pm Tenebre Service

Sunday, April 1 ~ Easter  
8:30am & 11:00am Service with Communion  
7:30 - 10:30am Easter Pancake Breakfast (Youth Fundraiser)

On

### PEACE UCC CHURCH APP

Our new Peace UCC Church App is HERE! Want a simpler way to stay connected? Wondering what is happening at Peace? Wanting to get up to the minute reminders about key items that are taking place? Download your Peace App today!!

- To install:
- Ensure your device is connected to the internet / Wifi
  - Text APP to 507.556.3080 then click on the link in the text response
  - Click directly on the Apple icon or Android icon in the middle of the screen
  - Download app received
  - Click on 'near me' link
  - Click on Peace Church icon
  - Complete the Profile information in app
  - Stay connected and read what Peace has to offer!!

If you experience any difficulties with this download, please contact Pastor Beth ([ypastor@peacechurchucc.org](mailto:ypastor@peacechurchucc.org)) or Laurie DeYoung ([aoffice@peacechurchucc.org](mailto:aoffice@peacechurchucc.org))

# 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 Color of Christ: The Son of God and the Saga of Race in America by Blum and Harvey. 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, Mar 28 @ 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 group 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:

3/4: 12:30pm - Confirmation

3/18: 12:30pm - Confirmation

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
<b>4 8:30 &amp; 11am</b> Worship with Communion <b>9:45am</b> Faith Formation <b>9:45am</b> Rae Dunn Presentation (F-Hall) <b>12pm</b> Fellowship Lunch (F-Hall) <b>12:45pm</b> Confirmation (SHR) <b>4:00pm</b> '7' Connect Group (Peace Room) <b>6:30pm</b> ONEVOICE (Sanc)	<b>5</b> <b>6pm</b> Social Action Mtg. (Peace Rm) <b>7pm</b> Sanctuary Church Discussion (Peace Rm)	<b>6 ***</b>	<b>7 **</b> <b>5:30pm</b> Wednesday Lenten Service (Sanc)	<b>8 *</b>	<b>9</b> <b>6pm</b> Family Movie Night (F-Hall)	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> <b>8:30 &amp; 11am</b> Worship <b>9:45am</b> Faith Formation <b>12pm</b> Fellowship Lunch (F-Hall) 	<b>12</b> <b>6pm</b> Once & Future Classics Auditions (F-Hall) <b>7pm</b> Stephen's Ministry (Peace Rm & Rm 215)	<b>13 ***</b> <b>2pm</b> Directory Photo Sessions (Admin Suite & Narthex) <b>6pm</b> Once & Future Classics Auditions (F-Hall) <b>7pm</b> Race Forward (Dwelling)	<b>14 **</b> <b>2pm</b> Directory Photo Sessions (Admin Suite & Narthex) <b>5:30pm</b> Wednesday Lenten Service (Sanc)	<b>15 *</b> <b>2pm</b> Directory Photo Sessions (Admin Suite & Narthex) <b>7:00pm</b> Card Sharks Connect Group (Peace Room)	<b>16</b> <b>2pm</b> Directory Photo Sessions (Admin Suite & Narthex)	<b>17</b> <b>9am</b> Directory Photo Sessions (Admin Suite & Narthex)
<b>18 8:30 &amp; 11am</b> Worship <b>9:45am</b> Faith Formation <b>12:00pm</b> SPAM Fellowship Potluck (F-Hall) <b>12:45pm</b> Confirmation (SHR) <b>4:00pm</b> '7' Connect Group (Peace Room)	<b>19</b>	<b>20 ***</b> <b>12:30pm</b> Sr Card Players (Peace Rm)	<b>21 **</b> <b>5:30pm</b> Wednesday Lenten Service (Sanc) <b>5pm</b> Stewardship Mtg. (Peace Room) <b>5:30pm</b> Crafty Crafters Connect Group (Rm 104) <b>7pm</b> Council (Dwelling)	<b>22 *</b> <b>9am</b> Channel One Team (Channel One HQ)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25 8:30 &amp; 11am</b> Worship <b>9:45am</b> Faith Formation <b>12pm</b> Fellowship Lunch (F-Hall) 	<b>26</b>	<b>27 ***</b> <b>7pm</b> Race Forward (Dwelling)	<b>28 **</b> <b>9:30am</b> Miriam Ministry (Peace Rm) <b>5:30pm</b> Crafty Crafters Connect Group (Rm 104) <b>6:30pm</b> Maundy Thursday Eve Seder Meal (F-Hall)	<b>29</b> 	<b>30</b> <b>7pm</b> Good Friday Service 	<b>31</b>
<b>* Every Thursday</b> <b>7am</b> Women's Fellowship (Peace Rm) <b>10am</b> Quilting Group (Rm 104) <b>5:30pm</b> Family Connect Group (Narthex)						
<b>** Every Wednesday</b> <b>6pm</b> Adult Bell Choir (Rm 115) <b>7:15pm</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanc)						
<b>*** Every Tuesday</b> <b>7am</b> Men of Peace (Peace Rm) <b>10am</b> : Women's Bible Study (Peace Rm) <b>10:30am</b> Knitter/Crochet Group (Rm 115) <b>5pm</b> : Beverage & Bible (Glynner's)						

MARCH 2018