



Peace Lutheran Church
2540 Applegate Street
Philomath, OR 97370

Peace Progress

March 2026



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From the Pastor

Dear Peace family,

I am making it a priority to listen better to the youth. They have some truly insightful things to say!

I had a chance to share about my career as a pastor at the Philomath Middle School's Career Day on Friday, February 20th. The event was organized by our own Anne Schroeder and included people from Peace—great job, Anne! One seventh grader shared with me, "I want to choose a career that helps other people." Another eighth grader chimed in, "Emotions.....can push me to do things that I shouldn't do. I need to think things through before doing." I wish I had come to that realization at that student's age!

Did you know that the Bible encourages what the youth have to say? Psalm 8:2 says, "Out of the mouth of babies and infants, You have established strength...." Jesus took little children seriously. "And calling to Him a child, He put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 18:2-6)."

Did you know that you can play a significant part in the faith development of a youth? You can! How? Check out the Northwest District's Youth Leadership Initiative. Take time to read through the page in this newsletter and you will discover three tangible ways to help. Everyone can do these!

The book of Job testifies to the importance of listening to youth. Job has three older friends that attempt to give him advice—Eliphaz, Bildad, and

Zophar. Instead of comfort, they load Job with intense feelings of guilt and inadequacy. Elihu, a youth, speaks differently. Elihu, perhaps filled with timidity and fearfulness, remains silent while the others speak. And when Elihu finally speaks, he encourages Job to trust God. One take away from this passage is that wisdom comes from God...not merely from many years of life lived.

There are many other lessons to be learned from Job. Join me for the Adult Bible Studies on Job in March and April at 9 am each Sunday. Read ahead to best join the discussion. Here is a roadmap for our time together:

March 1: Job 1-3 "Have You Noticed Job?"

March 8: Job 4-10 "God Doesn't Make Mistakes"

March 15: Job 11-15 "Few of Days and Full of Trouble"

March 22: Job 16-21 "I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

March 29: Job 22-26 "An Argument Cut Short"

April 5: Easter—No Sunday School

April 12: Job 27-31 "The Patience of Job"

April 19: Job 32-37 "A New Voice Speaks"

April 26: Job 38-41 "Where Were You When I Made the World"

I pray that you are drawn closer to God this Lent. I look forward to joining you in our discussions on Job!

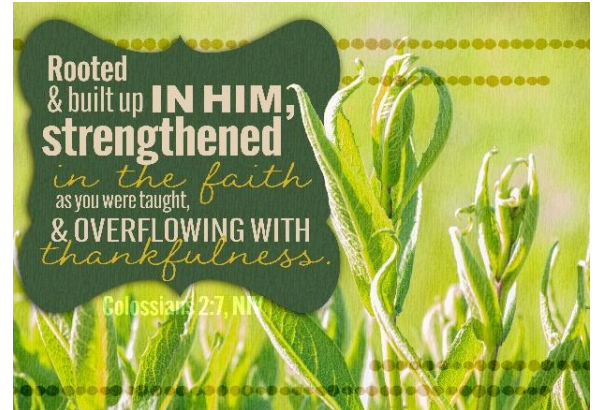
In peace, Pastor Lucke

PEACE BY THE NUMBERS

Date	Attendance in Person	Online Views	Offering
February 1	105	104	\$5,656
February 8	103	146	\$3,515
February 15	86	78	\$2,257
February 22	87	375	\$3,115

PLAN FOR WORSHIP

- March 1 – 8:30am Healing Service
10:00am Worship service with Communion.
Second Sunday in Lent.
- March 8 – 10:00am Worship service (Mite Boxes Collected).
Third Sunday in Lent.
- March 15 – 10:00am Worship Service with Communion.
Fourth Sunday in Lent.
- March 22 – 10:00am Worship Service. Fifth Sunday in Lent.
No Children’s Sunday School (Spring Break).
- March 29 – 10:00am Worship Service. Palm Sunday. No Children’s Sunday School (Spring Break).



SUNDAY SCHOOL – SPRING BREAK/EASTER UPDATE



Children’s Sunday School will NOT hold classes on March 22, March 29, or April 5 (Easter). Spring Break is a common time for families to get some time away and we want to encourage using that time to spend together making some fun memories! Classes will resume on April 12, the Sunday after Easter.

Adult Sunday School WILL hold class on March 22 & March 29, however, will also be taking Easter Sunday off.

TIME TO SPRING AHEAD

It's already that time of year again...get ready to move those clocks forward one hour on Saturday night, March 7! Make sure to set your clocks ahead so you're not late for church on Sunday the 8th!



Spring forward in faith!
CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS and
join us on time for worship.

PEACE CLEAN UP DAY



Please mark your calendars for Saturday, March 28 at 9am for Peace's Clean Up Day. We are attempting to clean both the inside and outside of the church this day in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Bring gloves, shovels, rakes and wheelbarrows as we spread the bark. Donuts will be provided! Please see Tim or Sally if you have any questions. We need your help!

LOST AND FOUND

Please take a look at the Lost and Found table in the Fellowship Hall, which will transition soon to an "Up-for-Grabs" situation. Janette and Elaine are rethinking kitchen storage as well as passing along unused items. We will ALWAYS ask before passing items along. Questions? Concerns? Please ask Elaine.



LENT SOUP SUPPERS



Lent is a special time of remembrance as we consider our Lord's life and journey to the cross. Peace journeys through Lent with special mid-week services beginning on Wednesday, February 18 and concluding on Wednesday, March 25. We will be having Soup Suppers on those nights, and you can help by providing food. Sally Stouder is organizing these opportunities to supply soup, bread, and/or cookies; ask her if you have questions. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall corridor, so please consider signing up if you can help.

This is a wonderful time for fellowship and worship with our church family.

PREPARING FOR EASTER

HE HAS RISEN! Easter Service is April 5 beginning at 10 a.m. followed by Easter fellowship (No Sunday School). Please consider bringing finger foods only so that we can have an easy cleanup. The Easter egg hunt for children through 6th grade will immediately follow the church service, around 11:15.

Every year a wooden cross is placed at the entrance to the church, and it is decorated with cut flowers. Please bring cut flowers to help decorate the cross anytime on Good Friday up until Saturday at noon when the cross will be decorated. Flowers can be placed in the buckets of water in front of the church. Be looking in your yard and think about contributing flowers.

Plastic eggs will be available for people to take home and fill with goodies for the Easter egg hunt—candy, stickers, money, anything fun that can fit in an egg.

And last, please consider bringing an Easter lily to church to help decorate the Sanctuary. Place them in the kitchen on the counter.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Vikki Fuhrman

Vikki comes to Peace because her wonderful grandmother, Lorraine Harris, brought her to church with her and introduced her to the joys of being a Christian. After Lorraine passed away, Vikki, wanted to regain the joy she had felt with her grandma at Peace. She also had met Pastor Lucke and wanted to get to know his style of ministry and him.

Vikki is married to Jason Fuhrman and they have a blended family, raising two sons, Hunter and Noah. Both boys are very athletic and enjoy many different sports. Hunter is at LBCC majoring in music; Noah is a sophomore at CVHS interested in athletics.

Vikki played basketball at LBCC and was injured and was in chronic pain. She began to study Physical Therapy because of this. She received a BS in Physical Therapy at OSU. She was very interested in helping those with chronic pain and began to study massage therapy in Hawaii. She received training in the healing arts and became a Somatic Educator. She especially wants to teach people about the body. She gives speeches and talks on medical massages for injuries related to sports, automobiles, and work. She also does therapeutic treatments for relief of sore muscles, and somatic bodywork coaching.

She enjoys her work so much she has her own business called "The Bodyology Clinic." She teaches how to Unlock Your Body Wisdom; Break free from the Stress-Pain Loop and re-discover the JOYS of life. She helps clients reduce and eliminate chronic pain, inflammation, stress, and overwhelm; utilizing a body-mind approach of therapeutic bodywork treatments and mindset coaching for holistic relief. Bodyology's unique CREATE system is an action-based, embodied healing framework where clients learn how to go from surviving to thriving, establishing new habit and movement patterns.

Vikki likes anything outdoorsy, especially hiking and skiing. She and her older son hiked the South Sister last year, which is quite an accomplishment. She also is involved with Toastmasters and has placed second in a speech contest. She is President of the evening group of Toastmasters. She calls herself "A One Woman Show"! Her goal is to find a special place at Peace and enjoy the church community.



Lexie Davis

Lexie was born in Delaware and moved to Oregon when she was about 2 years old. She is the oldest of her siblings; she has a brother and sister. She has gone to Philomath grade school, middle school and is now a sophomore at Philomath High School. She loves studying math and being with her friends. She especially enjoys being around young children and has an after school job at Corvallis Boys and Girls club working with elementary and middle school kids. She plays one on one with the kids or any game they want to play. Her love of children has her setting her sights on becoming a Child Psychologist.

She is especially grateful that her friend Archer Schroeder brought her to Peace. She attended the classes on Lutheran Church beliefs and accepted Christ as her Savior and was baptized in January 2026. She is now taking Confirmation classes and will be confirmed in March. She wants to say a special “Thank You” to the entire Peace Church community for welcoming her to this church. She loves it here.

By Peggy Krueger

VACANCIES IN THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastoral vacancies are becoming more common in the Lutheran Church. The most recent Lutheran Witness magazine (on the bookshelf in the narthex) is dedicated to explaining the challenge. The process to find a pastor is now averaging over two years. Pastors are in short supply. The time of vacancy can also be more difficult for members as conflict, fear and stress can increase.

Why highlight this topic in Peace’s newsletter? We have a pastor!

Pastor Lucke will be supervising the development of another pastor in the Salem area for Peace Lutheran Church in West Salem. Mitch Thormodson has been chosen by the church for studies and service at the church. Pastor Lucke will be meeting Mitch weekly as he learns and gains experience to ultimately become Peace West Salem’s next pastor in 3 years.

This is an exciting time for Peace West Salem and it is a significant way for Peace in Philomath to reach out and ensure the Gospel reaches more people.



MEN'S BREAKFAST IN MARCH

Men of Peace, please join us for the Men's breakfast on March 7. Coffee is on at 8am, breakfast served at 8:30, & topic discussion from 9-10am. Start your day off right and attend! Talk to Oscar for more information.

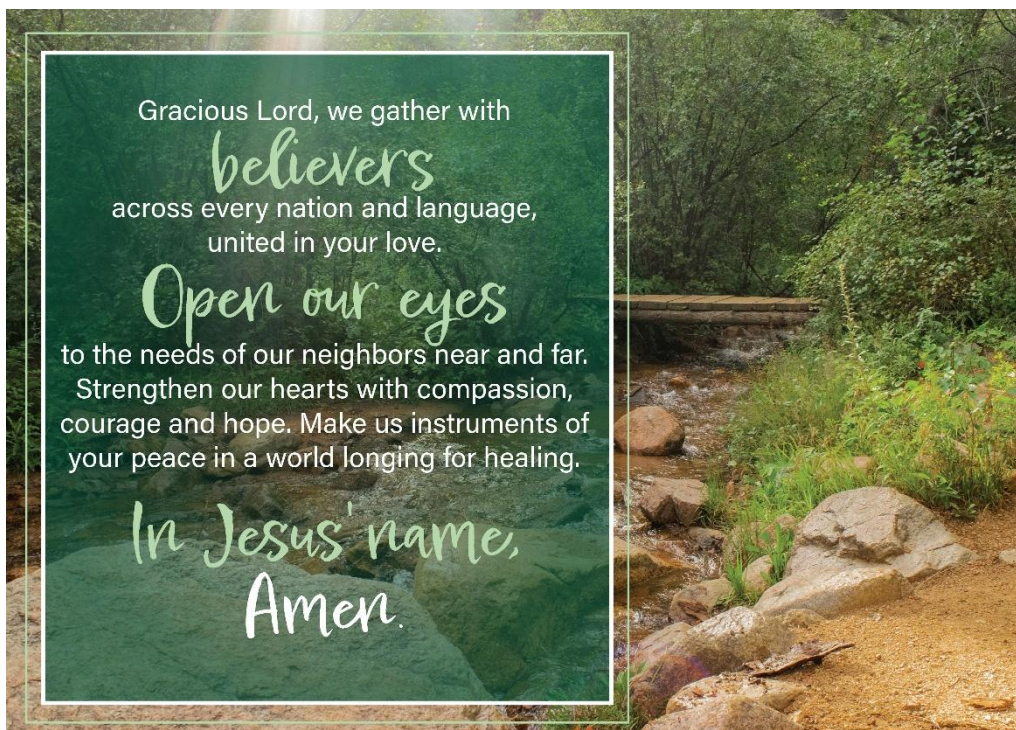


MARCH ON HUNGER



The 2nd Annual "March On Hunger" is coming soon, and we need volunteers! Similar to last year (but improved), we will meet at City Hall at 9am on Saturday, March 7 to pass out door hangers advertising the food drive. Then on Saturday, March 14, we will again meet at City Hall to coordinate the picking up of food donations. All donations will be delivered to the Philomath Community Church Gym/Hanger behind Figaros. Each of the Saturdays, the time commitment for volunteers will run approximately 1-2 hours. All donated food will be given to Philomath Community Services to be used locally at the Food

Bank (Nancy's Food Pantry) and the Philomath Gleaners. You may volunteer as a family, or a group of friends. Volunteer groups of 3-5 work best. If you would like to volunteer (even singles and couples can be paired up), please let Diane Crocker or Pastor Lucke know. Thank you!



EXPLAINING HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday — March 29th at 10 am. Palm Sunday begins Holy Week. On this day we process forward with palm branches in order to reenact Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem (see Luke 19:37-40). A word you will hear often in this service is "hosanna." "Hosanna" is a transliteration of the Hebrew phrase that expresses the plea "Lord, save us"—a cry of joyful hope. Come, wave your palm branch and celebrate Jesus—the Victorious King!



Maundy Thursday—April 2 at 7 pm with Holy Communion. This service captures the happenings of Jesus with his disciples in the Upper Room before his arrest and betrayal. This service gives us much to think about. If we were there as one of Jesus' disciples, what would we have been thinking? Undoubtedly, we'd marvel at Jesus' call for humble service as he washed his disciples' feet. Come this night to hear about Jesus' desire to serve you! The stripping of the altar ends the Maundy Thursday service—this is a moving way to represent Jesus' humiliation at the hands of those who crucified him. The stripping of the altar happens in silence as we prepare our hearts and minds for Good Friday and Jesus' death.



Good Friday — April 3 at 7 pm. What is so good about Good Friday? Come and find out! This is an austere and simple service that focusses on the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ Jesus' death—the full payment for our sins—that's why Good Friday is "good." At Peace we recognize this in a personal way. Each participant receives a nail at the beginning of worship that can then be placed into the cross on the narthex at the conclusion of the service. This reminds us that our debt has been paid by Jesus' death. This service will be live-streamed.



Easter — April 5 at 10 am with Holy Communion. Easter is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Jesus did not remain in the tomb, but rose from the tomb and lives. This is a day of celebration! We will welcome back our church choir to sing some powerful Easter songs. When the pastor says, "Alleluia. Christ is risen", be ready to reply, "He is risen indeed! Alleluia." This is our way of saying, "Jesus wins and so do we!"





THANK YOU FROM OUR MISSION PARTNERS



Furniture Share

Furniture Share, Helping Families in Crisis

P.O. Box 2224, Corvallis, OR 97339, Phone: 541-754-9511 Tax ID: 93-282723 www.furnitureshare.org

January 27, 2026

Pastor Jeremy Lucke
Peace Lutheran Church
2540 Applegate St
Philomath, OR 97370

Dear Pastor Jeremy,

As we step into 2026, we pause to reflect on the impact of the previous year and extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generosity and unwavering support of Furniture Share. Because of your commitment to the Furniture Share mission, individuals and families facing hardship were able to turn empty spaces into safe, comfortable homes. Your support has made a real and lasting difference, and we are deeply thankful to have you as part of our community.

Thanks to your donation(s), we have been able to provide essential furniture and household items to those transitioning from homelessness, fleeing domestic violence, or rebuilding after personal hardship. Every donation you gave helped provide dignity and much-needed stability, security and comfort to the children, families, individuals, Veterans and Veteran families served.

Throughout 2025, you helped Furniture Share serve 4,497 people, or 1,493 households, with 12,650 household items distributed, valued at \$945,750 (secondhand value). Your giving also helped provide:

*811 Beds for Kids

*63 Veterans and 158 family members with essential furniture through the Veteran Welcome Home Kit Program

*124 Dining Tables

*506 Food Boxes = 6,072 fresh meals through the Healthy Family Thriving Community Food Boxes Program

On the reverse side of this letter, you will find a recap of your giving throughout 2025. We hope it serves as a reminder of the profound impact you've made. If you have any questions or if there are any adjustments needed, please don't hesitate to reach out to Glenda at glenda@furnitureshare.org.

Your generosity truly changes lives, and we are honored to have you as a partner in our mission. Thank you again for your compassion and generosity to create brighter futures for those in need.

We wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

Sincerely,

Michelle Robinson

Michelle Robinson
Executive Director



A YOUTH LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE



PROJECT BY THE **NOW** DISTRICT

LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

Raising up servant leaders across the LCMS and the world.

The History of the Youth Leadership Initiative (YLI):

The NOW District has engaged in a years-long research project into how adults help youth become servant-leaders. In 2023, a survey focused on adult behaviors that support youth leadership development led to the publication of the YLI Survey Report which contains a trustworthy interpretation of the findings and the identification of "Key Behavior Themes." The overall conclusion of the report is that effective leadership development for youth hinges on the presence and engagement of caring adults who consistently show up, support, and say "Yes!" often.

WHAT'S NEXT? MEET OUR BHAG:

A Big Hairy Audacious Goal should make your stomach drop for its pure audacity and simultaneously make your heart race in joy at the challenge. Our BHAG in the NOW District for raising youth as servant-leaders is this:



CLASSIC BHAG:

Put a man on the moon, and bring him home safely.

Every Youth. Every Ministry. Gospel Responsibility.

"Every Youth" is as open as each leader or ministry desires. This means, depending on your own local context, if a child, youth, young adult - even grownups - has engaged with your ministry, feel free to include them. "Every Ministry" means not only every congregation but also every early childhood center, every school, every outdoors ministry, and so forth. "Gospel Responsibility" is the truth that all followers of Jesus are called in our baptism to serve others daily. Sharing the Good News of Christ's love can be encouraged and learned through specific roles and responsibilities, at any age!

HOW CAN WE MEET THAT GOAL? INTRODUCING THE 3 METRICS:

The book *Crucial Influence* identifies Vital Behaviors (VBs) as significant for change. VBs are like having a long lever with the right fulcrum: if routinely performed, the behavior produces a disproportionate amount of positive change. While developing the YLI Survey Report, the team identified within the responses 3 Metrics with the potential to be VBs:

Know the Person | Name the Gift | Find the Next Yes!

Because these are behaviors - not maybe-you're-born-with-it, maybe-you're-not gifts or characteristics - anyone can learn, practice, and improve on them.

The research is clear: young people who are known, whose gifts are named, and who are invited into new responsibilities within a culture of adults who say, "yes!" are young people who become servant leaders.

Want to learn more? Find out how you can join in on the initiative at:

NOWLCMS.ORG/YLI

(or scan here)





MARCH

birthdays & anniversaries

Birthdays

- 5 Jan Weatherly (Skaar)
- 6 Mike Schwartz
- 10 Holly Bendixen
- 11 Dominic Haddley
- 14 Mark Pittman
- 15 Peggy Krueger
- 16 Bill Narver
- 20 Audrey Bond
- 22 Ann Oliver
- 23 Patricia Munster
- 28 Jani Burton
- 29 Joy Flachsbart
- 29 Ruth Moser
- 31 Sue Lockwood
- 31 Karyn Stanley

Anniversaries

- 12 Jim & Candy Koetz
- 16 Rob & Coleen Schulze
- 18 Christian & Janel Greig
- 17 Tim & Trudy Ewing

March Volunteers

March 1

Ushers	Jim & Lynn Reams
Reader	Wilson Schroeder
Fellowship	Rachel Harrington & Vikki Fuhrman
Flowers	
Communion	Bill & Peggy Krueger

March 15

Ushers	Margaret Phillpott & Debbie Weiler
Reader	Kathy Hanna
Fellowship	Sally Stouder & Maggie Baker
Flowers	Narvers
Communion	Bill & Peggy Krueger

March 8

Ushers	Harrington Family
Reader	Rob Schulze
Fellowship	Janette Payne
Flowers	

March 22

Ushers	Jim & Lynn Reams
Reader	Ryan Harrington
Fellowship	
Flowers	Donna Scott

March 29

Ushers	
Reader	Sophia Snyder
Fellowship	Elaine Schwartz
Flowers	





Save the Date

April 2 – Maundy Thursday April 24 – Red Cross Blood Drive
 April 3 – Good Friday June 21 – Peace 75th Anniversary Celebration
 April 5 – Easter Sunday

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:30 Healing Service 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service with Communion	2 8:15 TOPS	3 12:00 Rotary Board Meeting	4 7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray 2:30 Dementia Warriors 5:00 Soup Supper 6:00 Lenten Worship	5 7:00 Men @ Imagine 10:00 Ladies Guild Meeting	6	7 8:00 Men's Breakfast Change Clocks tonight – Spring Forward
8 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service (Mite Box Sunday & Dementia Warriors Visit)	9 8:15 TOPS 10:00 Pieces by Peace (Jani's House)	10	11 7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray 1:30 Dementia Warriors Leaders Meeting 4:00 Elders Meeting 5:00 Soup Supper 6:00 Lenten Worship	12 7:00 Men @ Imagine	13	14
15 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service with Communion	16 8:15 TOPS	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> 12:00 Rotary Meeting 7:00 Church Council Meeting	18 7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray 2:30 Dementia Warriors 5:00 Soup Supper 6:00 Lenten Worship	19 7:00 Men @ Imagine 12:00 Chamber of Commerce	20	21
22 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service (Thank you for Kelly)	23 8:15 TOPS	24	25 7:30 Eat, Chat, Pray 5:00 Soup Supper 6:00 Lenten Worship	26 7:00 Men @ Imagine 11:00 PCS Board Meeting	27	28 9:00 Peace Outside Clean Up Work Party
<i>Palm Sunday</i> 29 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service	30 8:15 TOPS	31				