

MAY NEWSLETTER

*Peace United Church of Christ 9123 Aboite Center Rd
260-432-8290*

*Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Family Worship 10:15 a.m.
Sunday school during worship for K thru 5th grade*

PASTOR'S PAGE

Renewing Peace

As we kick off our capital campaign, I want to share with you some of the words I shared at our campaign dessert night on April 21st, for I want to make sure that all of you are aware of how proud I am to be pastor of this congregation, and how excited I am about the future of Peace.

It has been said that the caterpillar cannot conceive of the butterfly it will become. And I consider what we are a church, and what God calls us to become, and it humbles me.

What we are beginning in the next six weeks, or rather the next three years, has the potential to shape us in profound ways. Not only can we make a difference for the future of this building, and for our outreach ministries (since a portion of what we raise will go directly to those projects), but by providing much needed, and much delayed repairs and updates to the sanctuary, and the entire church building, we affirm that we believe in the future of Peace Church for the coming generations. This church has a proud history which we are blessed to have inherited, and that we hope to carry into the future.

There was a time, five years or so ago, when the prediction was made by someone in a leadership role among you that Peace would not be able to sustain its ministry. The prediction was made that, instead, the church would fold up and close. But *instead*, with some love, and some healing, and some honest conversation, and some prayer, a different outcome emerged. Peace UCC was called to new life, and into renewing itself for the purpose of fulfilling Christ's call to discipleship.

Instead of closing, you all decided to commit yourselves into ministry with Pleasant Chapel Church of the Brethren and the Global Food Resource Bank and in the last four years have raised nearly \$60,000 to directly impact communities across the globe. *Instead* of closing, you all decided to maintain your presence with the Rescue Mission and provide the food and people-power to serve those in need on the fourth Sunday of the month for nearly thirty years. *Instead* of closing, you all chose to challenge a deficit budget last year and increase giving to OCWM. *Instead* of closing, you all continued to open your hearts and arms to visitors and now worship attendance is more than 10% higher than it was last year at this time. *Instead* of closing, you chose to grow. And so how can we even conceive of where God is calling us next?

I am blessed to be your pastor. And I love watching Peace Church as you emerge from the chrysalis and unfurl your wings.

Pastor Christen





As we celebrate our capital campaign, **Renewing Peace**, we are inviting families to light a candle each evening in their homes and saying a prayer for the future of Peace Church. On Sunday, April 22nd, we handed out candles in worship to each family. If you were unable to be a part of worship on that Sunday, it isn't too late to pick up your candle and copy of the Renewing Peace prayer. They are both in a basket in the narthex, and you are welcome to take one home with you. May we grow in faith, as we contemplate what gifts we can offer our church.

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Please keep the following friends and families in your prayers:

Kevin Vail's mother, Betty, recently diagnosed with cancer.

Pat Rich's nephew, James O'Bryan, has been moved to a rehabilitation unit on Randallia Drive, after an infection.

Anna Grace Beier, twelve-year-old daughter of one of our CNS families, undergoing treatment for osteosarcoma.

Abby Dedic, four-year-old friend of Thom and Renee Moore, undergoing treatment for rhabdomyosarcoma.

Camryn Saal, a 2nd grade friend of Tim and Nikki Shaw, diagnosed with a brain tumor.

We pray for those who mourn recent losses.

We pray for those who are not able to join us on Sunday morning due to their current health limitations including: Vera Schmidt, Norene Roth, Bill Huenemann and Loretta McLaughlin.

And we hold in prayer all those concerns in our lives that remain unspoken.



Please remember when you email items for the newsletter or bulletin, to send it as an attachment. Thank You!

A note from Susan Tite: Many Thanks to the church board and congregation for the gift card to the Woodhouse Spa, honoring Administrative Assistant's week. I will certainly enjoy being pampered!!

A note from Helen Donnell, Director of Music:

MUSIC NOTES



The choirs are preparing for Music Sunday, May 20, lovely anthems and a fun piece or two. They will enjoy having several guests assisting them and look forward to this special service which will also be Commitment Sunday for the capital campaign. The anthems will be linked to excerpts from sermons of Dr. Peter Marshall, pastor of churches in Atlanta and Washington D.C., becoming Chaplain of the U.S. Senate. Dr. Marshall went to seminary (Columbia) and his wife Catherine went to college (Agnes Scott) in my hometown of Decatur, Georgia, so I grew up hearing about him and his ministry. After his sudden death at age 46, Catherine wrote several books, including not only a biography of him, but also a collection of his sermons. He was a magnetic preacher and much beloved. We hope you will be inspired by this little bit of his ministry as well as the music.

Nursery School News



It is really hard to believe that the end of the school year is upon us. Thank you to the members of Peace Church for allowing us the opportunity to share our preschool children with you! We had a wonderful turnout at the Children's Service. There were 14 CNS families (not counting the Peace families that currently attend) that came to sing, listen and participate in the service. It was wonderful!

The month of May brings a bus visit from the school system for the 4 and 5 year olds as well as a visit to the playground of Haverhill Elementary. We will also have a visit from the Gator (thanks to Mike Page). We will spend our last two days of classes with our parents having lunch and ice cream.

It has been another wonderful year at the Nursery School. Thank you to all the Church Members that supported us throughout the year. We appreciate your support, kind words and prayers for our children, families, and staff. Have a great summer – see you in September.

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!
Psalm 133:1

Tanja Ashton

Director



May~~~Birthdays

Zach Leslie	1	Beth Ring	26
Griffin Leslie	1	Beth Donnell	26
Frank Hudson	1	Brynn Anglin	27
Ann Frellick	5	Vera Schmidt	27
Amy Ring	9	Pat Sterling	27
John Nussbaum	14	Traci Rivera	30
Meggie Vail	17	Brian Migliore	31
Chris Campbell	24		

Card Ministry Get-together

Saturday, June 2, from 11 AM--2 PM, we will be making cards at the church. We'll be sending the cards to those in our Peace congregation and other people too. You'll receive a packet of blank cards and embellishments to take home for your own use. Our goal is to make enough cards to send out to those who have birthdays the remainder of June, plus July and August. All materials will be furnished. If you like to cut, glue, tape, tear and punch, this is the place you'll want to be. Oh yes, we're having a carry-in too. See you then.



June 25th - 29th, 9:00 - 11:30

There will be more information in the June newsletter,
mark your calendars and save the date!

Everyone is guaranteed to have a fun time.

ATTENTION: WOMEN OF PEACE CHURCH

The Northeast Women's Association is having a "Spring Fling" meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, May 8th, at Grace St. John United Church of Christ. Registration is at 9:30am and the meeting starts at 12:00am with lunch following, (free will offering for lunch).

The program is titled "We Are Women of Many Hats."

Please see Ann Frellick if you enjoy some fellowship time with women of other UCC churches in the northeast area and learning more about their churches and their activities.

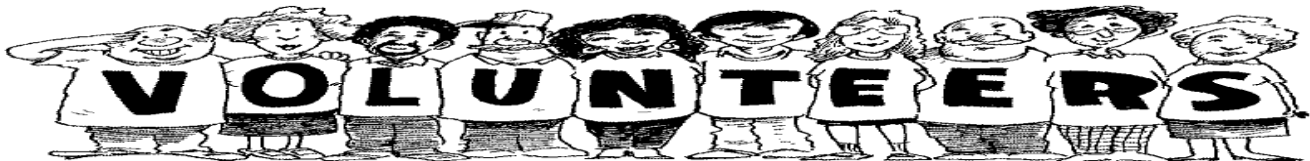
Guess what??! For those of you who are still unaware, Kristi Jones is going to have a baby! - a girl they say. So to welcome this new life into our congregation we are going to have a shower after church on **June 17th**. We will have a "Diaper Drop" which means that if your last name begins with **A - H bring size 1 diapers**

I - R bring size 2 diapers

S - Z bring size 3 diapers

If you would like to bring something else, they are registered at "Babies 'R Us".

Light refreshments will be served. So, come join the fun on June 17th after church.



DID YOU KNOW ? Peace Church has a list of volunteer drivers for occasions when someone, for whatever reason, needs transportation to the doctor, grocery store, drug store or wherever is necessary. You can pick up a list from the table at the back of the sanctuary.

INDIANA-KENTUCKY CONFERENCE MISSION TRIPS - SUMMER 2012

Projects in Middleboro, Kentucky

Cumberland Gap Country

Lodging and meals at Trinity Baptist Church

Offer a hand-up to families who suffered damage and lost property in storms of March 2 and floods of June 20, 2011.

Look at the poster on the notice board for further details.

Or contact the Indiana Conference of the UCC

Mission Statement

Peace Church is a family of God's people that strives daily to demonstrate Christian witness in the community by celebrating worship, learning and teaching, caring for others, and seeking justice and peace. *Our door is open to all.*



Community and Wider Ministries

The Peace congregation has reached out to the community and around the world this past year in a variety of ways. One of the major projects has been the Foods Resource Bank. We partner with Pleasant Chapel Church of the Brethren in DeKalb County to raise money for projects in various countries. Peace provides money for such things as fertilizer, gas and weed killer and Pleasant Chapel plants the crops such as corn and soybeans. The crop is sold and the money sent to the Foods Resource Bank. This past year that amounted to \$20,000. We worshiped together with Pleasant Chapel and enjoyed a Harvest Celebration. Peace also held an ice cream social and everyone participated. The money raised was for the Foods Resource Bank. This year for the growing project we will need to start by raising \$3,510.00 for assisting with fertilizer costs, gas costs for the tractors, and weed killer. We look forward to watching the soy bean crop grow!

We are working with Crossroads, a treatment center for disturbed children. We save labels and box tops for education for school supplies and brought Christmas presents for eighteen children in the residential program.

The food that we collect is taken to the Mission House which is part of the Associated Churches food bank.

Once a month we serve supper at the Rescue Mission. Members sign up to bring potato salad, bananas, buns, cookies and sopping jo sandwiches and it is taken to the mission and served by people from Peace. Our next meal there will be May 27th at 3:30pm

We also collect magazines for Lutheran Hospital, aluminum cans for Habit for Humanity and ink cartridges. We had a display by Friends of the Third World. They had articles made by third world countries which were for sale. We are now using coffee from Friends of the Third World which gives growers an outlet for their crop.

Pastor: Christen Pettit Miller

Director of Angelus Bells & Celebration Choir: Helen Donnell

Director of Children's Music: Lorie Krouse

Children's Nursery School Director: Tonja Ashton

Admin. Assistant: Susan Tite

Organist: Dennis Bowman

**Head Ushers for May - Dave & Zo Matson
Ushers and Communion Servers, Sunday May 6th
George Bartling, Barbara Bauer, Rose Gaskill, Lois Hess,**

GREETERS:

May 6 Susan Tite & Sybil Roe
May 13 The Leslie Family
May 20 Rick & Linda Hinton
May 27 Nancy Hudson & John Roth

LITURGISTS:

May 6 Dodie Graham
May 13 Megan Krouse
May 20 Pastor Christen
May 27 Fran Frellick

INFANT CARE

May 6 Renee Moore
May 13 Marcy Blundall
May 20 Bev Hauptert
May 27 Ann Frellick

CLOSERS

May 6 George Bartling
May 13 Sarah Huber
May 20 Lois Hess
May 27 Rose Gaskill

COUNTERS

May 6 Mike Krouse & Chris Campbell
May 13 Bev Hauptert & Larry Hoyle
May 20 George Bartling & Risë Vandenburg
May 27 Joyce Blosser & Laura Migliore

**PEACE CHURCH WEBSITE:-WWW.PEACEUCC.NET
E-MAIL ADDRESS:-PEACEUCC@FRONTIER.COM**

**Peace UCC Board Meeting Summary
April 18, 2012**

Pastor Christen and six board members were present at the Wednesday evening meeting. Nancy Hudson gave the devotions.

George Bartling welcomed Barb Bauer, who will now chair the Member Care Committee.

Both the CNS report and Pastor Christens report are verbatim.

CNS Report: Tonja Ashton, Director

1. Enrollment for the 2011-2012 school year continues to stay at 127.
Enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year—86 students. Down 5 students from last year at this time. MWF morning classes are full, still enrolling TTH morning and all afternoon classes.

2. Upcoming Events:

- *Bus visit for 4 and 5 year olds May 2nd & 3rd
- *Children's Bargain Boutique May 5th
- *Gator Rides (thanks to Mike Page) May 7th & 8th
- *Haverhill playground visit (4's and 5's) May 9th & 16th
- *Last day of classes May 17th & 18^t

We will be having lunch on the playground with the morning parents and ice cream with the afternoon parents.

*Summer Camp will be May 22 through May 25.

3. Teacher work day will be May 21st and in-service/end of year wrap-up will be May 22nd.
We will also have our teacher appreciation luncheon provided by the parents on May 22nd.
4. Another wonderful year coming to an end—Thank you all for your support!!!

In addition to her report, Tonja stated that registration is open during the entire school year.

Pastor's Report **March 22, 2012—April 18, 2012**

We remain busy, focused, and active here at Peace this month as we begin the launch of our capital campaign, Renewing Peace. The past month saw us celebrating holy week, Easter, and then Children's Sunday with our CNS families. There have been so many delightful things—Easter brunch together, new banners in the sanctuary (made by Bernie Miller), the abundance of flowers and the flowering of the cross, watching the children hunt eggs, and then welcoming our CNS families last week. Wow! Life at Peace is good!

I remain busy with worship planning and preaching, pastoral care, and administration.

I am amazed and inspired, as I often am, with the devotion that so many of the parishioners of Peace Church have. The capital campaign has reminded me again of the many ways that people work together to nurture this church, that we might follow the call of God in this community. I am mindful of that in the many "behind the scene" meetings, plans, and events. I believe in the future of this church, and am excited for us to grow together and root ourselves deeply in the foundation of God's love, that we might share it.

Attendance: Pastor Christen stated that attendance has been up for the past three months.

Treasurer's Report: Barb Pick

Peace had a good month. A quick glance at the YTD shows that we're in line with the budget.

Faithful giving is up 1% compared to budget.

CNS is down, but that is typical at this time. A quick look at the YTD shows that everything is good and that the balance sheet is healthy.

Capital Campaign Update:

Pastor Christen stated that she had written a prayer that will be handed out as part of the Sunday worship service. People will also be given a candle and will be requested to say the prayer daily for the Renewing Peace campaign while the candle is lit. She will be delivering the prayers to our shut-ins soon.

George reported on the upcoming Saturday, April 21 event—Renewing Peace Dessert and Program. He said that Brian Migliore would be giving a presentation on the building of the Peace sanctuary and

that Mike Stone, Pastor Christen and Generis consultants, Tom Melzoni and Craig Loscalzo, would speak. The attendance for the gathering is expected to be around 50.

Newsletter #2, which will have more information on the capital campaign, is to be sent out in early May.

Pastor Christen said that there is now a big red and orange butterfly in the sanctuary (hung to the right of the banners) and that there are several butterflies hanging in the narthex.

Special plans have been made for the commitment card collection on May 20.

Major Events/Hospitality Report: Rose Gaskill/Nancy Hudson

Nancy reported that everything was coming along fine with the April 21 event. There would be a good variety of desserts, plus cheese and fruit.

Spring Work Day, Saturday, April 28:

Barb Pick stated that her husband, Jeff, and Carl Huber planned on doing heavy duty jobs when it was convenient for both.

Community & Wider Ministries' Committee Report: Lois Hess, Chair

Foods Resource Bank 2012 events are as follows:

Ice Cream Social September 22 (Will need help from the entire church congregation)

Harvest Celebration October 13 (rain date October 27)

Peace's estimated part to be raised for the Foods Resource Bank project is \$3,510. The money will be used for fertilizer, gas, weed killer, etc. Soybeans will be planted this year.

Ongoing missions:

Crossroad: Labels and box tops are collected and can be put in the box on the kitchen countertop near the stove.

Mission House: Food is collected throughout the year and can be put in/by the basket in the narthex.

Coffee is being purchased from the Third World Shoppe in Fort Wayne.

Volunteers from Peace will serve the meal at the Rescue Mission on April 22.

Worship/Celebration Committee Reports: Rose Gaskill, Chair

Worship Committee:

Pastor Christen made Maundy Thursday, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday very memorable. Special music, communion and the beautiful sanctuary added so much to the season of Lent. Brenda Palmer, Susan Tite and Rose Gaskill transformed the sanctuary into a spring garden with plants and various décor donated by the congregation. New banners made by Bernie Miller (Jim helped) added a new meaning to our sanctuary. Awesome they are!

Both children and adults participated in the flowering of the cross, a very meaningful part of the Easter service.

April 15—Children's Sunday This service was devoted to the children, including music, decorations and activities. We were treated to special music by the nursery school children.

Presentation of Bibles: Pastor Christen presented 4th grade Bibles to Zachary and Griffin Leslie.

Celebration Committee:

The committee members served a continental breakfast Easter Sunday. Easter baskets filled with colored eggs, plus other Easter decorations, adorned the tables in Fellowship Hall.

Member Care Committee Report: Barb Bauer, Chair

Easter flower deliveries were made to Bill Huenemann, Loretta McLaughlin, Norene Roth, Vera Schmidt and Wayve Schmidt. Easter cards with candy were sent to our college students. Two prayer shawls were donated to Peace. Upcoming shower dates were set and are as follows:

Kristi Jones' baby shower	June 17
Daren Blasius & Heather Collins' wedding shower	July 1

The Member Care Committee responsibilities' list was reviewed and the necessary revisions made to update it.

Education Committee Report: Nikki Shaw, Chair

Nikki is getting things lined up for the fall.

Other Business:

The new copier, which is on a lease program, is now in the office.

Barb Bauer presented the revised Member Care Committee responsibilities' list to fellow board members for approval. All were in agreement with the revised list. Barb Pick stated that because of the additional responsibilities of this committee, a change in the committee's budget may need to be made later.

Lois reported that six ladies from Peace Church attended a tea Tuesday, April 17, at Salem Church in Fort Wayne.

The spring meeting of the Northeast Association of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference, UCC will be held on Sunday, April 22, at Zion UCC in Decatur. Pastor Christen and George will attend the meeting.

Pastor Christen stated that the annual meeting of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference will be held in Indianapolis June 8 and 9.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at 6:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hudson
Recording Secretary

