



Peace Lutheran Church

2106 South Cushman Ave., Tacoma, Washington 98405



John Stroeh, Pastor

pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org

Church Office (253)383-1317

“The Church that Welcomes and Serves”

www.peacelutherantacoma.org

Where Every One Is a Minister

Instagram: @peacelutheranchurch

Find us on Facebook: Peace Lutheran Tacoma

L. Denice Randle, Executive Director

denice@peacecommunitycenter.org

Peace Community Center (253)383-0702

“Touching Lives, Extending Peace”

February 21, 2021 – First Sunday in Lent

Our MISSION: Compelled by the love of God and our faith in Jesus Christ, Peace Lutheran Church, a diverse people of faith, in partnership with Peace Community Center, seeks to realize God’s dream for the world through worship, learning, giving, and serving.

God’s VISION: We believe God’s vision for Peace is to be a diverse community of faith in the Hilltop where all are welcome - a community that is Spirit-filled, compassionate, healthy, reconciled, and just.

Today at Peace Lutheran Church

May God bless you as we worship online! In this time of the COVID-19 health crisis, our prayers are with all who suffer and all who respond in care. All public gatherings at Peace have been canceled. Please check the church website www.peacelutherantacoma.org, Facebook page (Facebook Peace Lutheran Tacoma), or YouTube channel for online worship videos and faith resources.

Today is the First Sunday in **Lent**, a season of reflection and repentance as we walk with Jesus toward his suffering and death on the cross. In today’s Gospel Jesus tells the Parable of the Good Samaritan, inviting us to be neighbors to one another, showing love and compassion.

As we journey through Lent toward Easter, we’re encouraged to practice three Lenten disciplines: fasting (giving up something that is distracting us from a deeper relationship with God), almsgiving (taking on acts of loving service that draw us closer to God), and prayer (connecting to the source of life).

Interested in learning more about Peace? Please contact Pastor John, Pastor Jae Bates, or Brendan Nelson. May you know God’s peace!

Prayer & Praise List

To submit a prayer tell the pastor or call the church office. Names will appear on the list for 3 weeks unless requested to remain longer. Please remember these people and situations in prayer. If you feel moved to reach out to someone, write them a caring note to let them know you are thinking about them and praying for them. Contact the church office for their contact info.

- **Students, parents, teachers, administrators, and school workers** as more children return to in-person learning
- **The people of Texas struggling with winter weather**
- **We honor the lives of all tragically taken in acts of racial violence**, naming Manuel Ellis, Rayshard Brooks, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Sean Reed, and George Floyd.
- **For deep reflection and acknowledgment of prejudices in ourselves and racism in our systems and institutions, and for wisdom to intentionally act to call out and dismantle racism in all its forms and work for God’s justice in laws and policies in our nation.**
- **For all affected by the coronavirus pandemic** esp. those who grieve the deaths of loved ones, the ill and families, medical professionals, public health workers, governments and agencies working to stop this health threat, our congregation and community; for our world as people are being vaccinated
- **For communities of color disproportionately impacted by Covid-19**

- For all who are hurting and feeling weighed down...
- For the hungry in our world, for food and justice
- For all experiencing homelessness
- Our calling to be agents of hope, healing, and justice
- In our world of global warming, for climate justice
- The Peace affordable housing ministry
- The ministries of Peace Church & Community Center
- **Thanksgiving for the gifts of the African American community** in this Black History Month
- For refugees fleeing war & poverty, and for immigrants
- For all who experience sexual harassment or abuse
- For all who struggle with mental illness
- **For peace:** all living midst violence or unrest, esp. in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Holy Land (esp. Gaza), South Sudan, Central African Republic, Yemen, Venezuela
- **For hope:** the unemployed & underemployed, lonely & lost, hungry & suffering, depressed & mentally ill, the incarcerated, and all struggling with addictions
- **The grieving:** Dean Sawhill at the death of his father
- **For healing & strength:** Judy Brockhoff, Alma Crawford, Jayden Lyle, Dona Miller, Twylla Moore, Jerry Pittmon, Carol Plaehn, Dianne Stoehr, Eileen Strittmatter, Corinne Wickes, Mark Williams, Antonio Yune
- **Ongoing health concerns:** Lisa Flesher’s mother, Dori Greenaway, Tanisha Hargrove, Ted Johnstone, Dona Miller, Holle & Carol Plaehn, Sandra Puckett, Perry Richards, Art Shelton, Bob Wu
- **Military away:** Juwan Banks, Taylor McCarthy
- **Special need:** Octavius Killian, Daniel Lotovaivai, Alfred Nelson, Jackie Ray, Sunshine Timmons, Dezmyrn Trent, Henry K. White
- **Seminarians:** Pastor Jae Bates, Charissa Carroll
- **For sisters and brothers in Christ all over the world, our partners in global mission:** Jane Kagochi & Solid Faith Church in Kenya; the Namibian Lutheran Church, our companion synod; the church in South Sudan; the church in China; Seigny family in Japan; the Navajo Lutheran Church in Arizona, Ola Fou Church

Small Group Gatherings – not meeting in person right now

- **Book Group:** Kit Thompson: 229-5766
- **College Care Package Team:** Pat Ferguson: 627-1349
- **Conversations Around Race:** Ted Johnstone: 752-9514 & Alma Crawford: 752-4258.
- **Community Bible Study:** Pastor John: ext. 101. Thu, 1 pm

- **Gospel Choir:** Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org
Thursdays at 6:30 pm (sanctuary)
- **Men's Breakfast:** Malcolm Carroll: 282-0218. Second Saturday at 8 am (multipurpose room)
- **Papers of Peace (card-making):** Nancy Heavey: 752-8450
- **Prayer Chain:** Sandra Puckett: 348-8999, for prayer requests email: quietwater60@yahoo.com
- **Women's Bible Study:** 2nd Thursday, 10 am
- **Writing Group:** Shari Shelton: 906-3769. 3rd Mon, 6 pm

Opportunities to Serve

Regular Offering to Peace Thank you for your generous and ongoing giving of financial support to Peace Lutheran Church! Please send your offering by mail or electronic means or donate on the church website. If you would like to set up regular online giving, contact Damishe in the church office at 253-383-1317.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Are you a member of Thrivent Financial? Do you have Choice Dollars to direct to a charitable organization? Please consider directing your Choice Dollars by March 31 to Peace Lutheran Church or Peace Community Center by logging into your account on the Thrivent website.

Special Lent Offering Our special offering is for Coffee Oasis in Tacoma, which provides a homeless shelter for youth. Please give to "Peace Lutheran Church," earmarked "Lent Offering."

Contribute to a New Peace Devotional Calling all artists, writers, photographers, song writers, crafters of many things, & more, to publish your works in a new book. Submit your piece or direct questions to Shari Shelton at 8ssheltonz8@gmail.com.

Peace Lutheran Church Events & Information

Community Bible Study Pastor John and Pastor Jae lead a Community Bible Study using Zoom **Thursdays, 1-2 pm**, on the Bible readings for worship the following Sunday. We read scripture, share conversation, and pray as we listen for God to speak to us & through us. Email Pastor John for the Zoom link.

Fellowship Time Sundays at 9 am Malcolm Carroll hosts a Zoom fellowship time starting at 9 am for a half hour before Sunday Zoom classes. Jump on and say hi to Peace folks you've been missing! Email Pastor John for the Zoom link.

Faith Opportunities on Sundays 9:30-10:30 am (Zoom)

- The 5th-6th grade Explorers class,
- The 7th-8th grade Feet to Faith confirmation class, and
- The adult education class

Children: Each week we post **Godly Play Bible story videos** with wondering questions on our YouTube channel for families.
Middle & high school: A middle and high school youth "Change Makers" group meets **Wednesdays at 5 pm**.

Reopening Task Force Update Our Reopening Task Force meets regularly to discuss concerns, ideas, and barriers to resuming in-person worship at Peace. We understand the deep spiritual need for some in-person connection as well as the continued concern for personal and public health. When Pierce County reaches Phase 3, the task force will meet to prayerfully determine our reopening date for indoor in-person worship.
Reopening Task Force: Joseph Anderson, Ben Flesher, Brendan

Nelson, Pastor Jae, Pastor John

Growing in Faith During the Season of Lent

- **Lent Faith Activity Kits for Kids - Journey to the Cross:** The kit includes a Lent calendar with daily faith activity as well as some small craft activities connected to scripture. Contact Brendan Nelson to pick up a kit or schedule a drop-off.
- **Adult Study on Sundays at 9:30 am: "Baptized, We Live"** On **Sundays Feb. 21-Mar. 28 at 9:30 am** via Zoom, we explore key Lutheran insights for life using a booklet by Dan Erlander called *Baptized, We Live: Lutheranism as a Way of Life*. We will cover four topics: A Way of Seeing, A Way of Hearing, A Way of Teaching, and A Way of Following. Malcolm Carroll, Pastor John, and Pastor Jae will lead this adult series. Please participate! We will share rich conversation around faith in this holy season of Lent. If you would like a participant booklet, please contact Pastor John.
- **Christ in Our Home Daily Devotionals:** Please contact Damishe in the church office for your free copy.
- **Holden Evening Prayer:** See the church website for a link or go to the church YouTube channel for a video of Holden Evening Prayer, a beautiful and contemplative evening prayer service. Find some time, quiet your hearts, watch this worship video, and connect with God on the journey of Lent.
- **Stations of the Cross Walk and Grab-and-Go Soup: Wednesday, March 17, 5-6 pm:** Come to the church to participate in a socially-distanced Stations of the Cross walk in the Hilltop, led by a church staff person (approximately one hour long). OR do the self-guided walk at another time of your choosing in the season of Lent. The walk will stop at locations throughout the Hilltop, remembering Jesus' last hours and moments up to his death on the cross. After the walk at about 6 pm, grab some yummy soup to go.
- **Lenten Reflection Activity of Grief and Hope:** To help us get in touch with the grief and loss of the last year and commend it to God, you are invited to bring a written reflection, small piece of art, photo, picture, or small artifact to clip onto a hung display along the steps leading to the sanctuary during Lent. On Good Friday, we will carry these burdens to the altar and lay them at the foot of the cross, to be transformed on Easter Sunday. Please bring your contribution to the church during the office hours of Brendan Nelson (Wednesdays 12-4 pm), Pastor Jae (Thursdays 12-4 pm), or Pastor John (Fridays 12-4 pm), or email Pastor John.

Peace Community Center Information

Peace Community Center Is Hiring a Part-Time USDA Coordinator For more info and to apply visit the website at <https://peacecommunitycenter.org/get-involved/employment/>

Peace Lutheran Church Staff

- **Pastor:** John Stroeh, ext 101, pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org
- **Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministry:** Brendan Nelson, ext 103, brendan@peacetacoma.org
- **Intern Pastor:** Jae Bates, ext 104, jac@peacetacoma.org
- **Music Director:** Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org
- **Community Resources Coordinator:** Teri Jelinek, tjelinek50@gmail.com
- **Nursery Attendant:** Rebecca Valencia, rebecca@peacetacoma.org
- **Office Coordinator:** Damishe Greenwood-Walker, ext 100, plcadmin@peacetacoma.org
- **Custodian:** Ana Sanchez
- **Finance Coordinator:** Jenny Haferbecker, jenny@peacetacoma.org