

Peace Evangelical Lutheran
Church of Tacoma
2106 South Cushman Ave
Tacoma, WA 98405

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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Faith Opportunities on Sundays 9:45-10:45 am (in person)

- **Godly Play** for children ages 4–3rd grade (basement classroom)
- **Explorers** for 4th-6th graders (multipurpose room classroom)
- **Feet to Faith confirmation** for 7th-8th graders (conference room)
- **Adult & Older Youth Education** class (multipurpose room).

Children: During 11 am worship, we offer a children's worship time in the basement classroom. Each week we post Godly Play Bible story videos with wondering questions on our YouTube channel for families to use.
Middle & high school: A middle and high school youth **Change Makers group** meets Wednesdays at 7 pm by Zoom (not meeting in Lent). Youth share a monthly **Youth Dinner** together. Questions? Please contact Jayna Detweiler.

Community Bible Study on Break The Community Bible Study on Thursdays will take a break for Lent and resume after Easter. Please join Sunday classes and Wednesday evening Lent offerings.

Lent Devotional Resources We're providing several devotional resources for your personal use (see all-church email or talk with Pastor John to get a copy):

- + "God Is Still With Us" an intergenerational weekly devotional for families or adults
- + "Living Well through Lent: Practicing Compassion with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind," a Living Compass weekly devotional
- + ELCA 40 Days of Lent Calendar

Christ in Our Home Would you like to receive a copy of the daily devotional "Christ in Our Home"? Contact the church office, and we will mail you one.

Prayer Chain Do you know that Peace has a Prayer Chain, a group that prays regularly the thanksgivings and needs of our community? Want to add a request to the Prayer Chain? Want to be part of the group that prays these requests? Want to learn more? Contact Sandra Puckett at quietwater60@yahoo.com.

THE CALL TO PEACE

Volume 19 ▪ Issue 1 ▪ Lent 2023



Lent, Holy Week & Easter Special Worship Services

- + **Wednesday, February 22 - Ash Wednesday**
7 pm In-Person & Live Stream Worship (Church Facebook page) – We receive the sign of the cross in ashes and begin Lent with confession, prayer, and Communion.
- + **Sunday, April 2 - Palm/Passion Sunday**
8:30 & 11 am In-Person Worship (11 am Live Stream on Church Facebook page) - We tell the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and then his suffering and death.
- + **Thursday, April 6 - Maundy Thursday**
7 pm In-Person Worship (multipurpose room) - We tell the story of Jesus' last supper, where he washes his disciples' feet and commands them to love one another, and we share Communion.
- + **Friday, April 7 - Good Friday**
7 pm In-Person & Live Stream Worship (Church Facebook page) - We tell the story of Jesus' suffering and death on the cross and God's deep and abiding love for us.
- + **Sunday, April 9 - Easter Sunday!!**
Bring cut flowers to adorn the cross outside the church.
8:30 & 11 am In-Person Worship (11 am Live Stream on Church Facebook page) - We tell the story of the empty tomb and God's power for life over death, and we share Communion! Jesus is risen!
Easter breakfast at 9:30 am, with a chance to give to support youth ministry.
Godly Play Children's Easter Story at 10:30 am

Easter Eggstravaganza!

Come to Peace on **Saturday April 8 from 10 am to 11:30 am** for food, Easter crafts, the Easter story, and an egg hunt! Great for families with children!



Peace Lutheran
Church





People of Peace,
“All along my pilgrim journey. Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.” (Burgundy Book Hymn 66)
It’s hard to believe that it has been three years since the COVID pandemic began to impact, disrupt, and change our lives in ways we could never have imagined. Thanks be to God for God’s steadfast love and faithfulness in our lives and in our church. We’re moving forward into the future through a time of pain, grief, learning, growth, creativity, resilience, and hope (and so many more things). God has given us a vision at Peace Lutheran Church to be a diverse community of faith in the Hilltop neighborhood where all are welcome, a community that is Spirit-filled, compassionate, healthy, reconciled, and just. As we say in worship each week, we’re living into that vision. We’re on a journey together and with God.

We’re now moving into the season of Lent. Maybe more than any other church season, Lent is a **journey**—we’re pilgrims walking a journey with Jesus to his death on the cross and beyond to his resurrection. The season of Lent begins Ash Wednesday February 22 (in-person and live stream worship at 7 pm). When we intentionally walk with Jesus to the cross in Lent, the Easter promise of new life in God is more meaningful! I invite you to practice the three disciplines of Lent—prayer (drawing close to God through communicating with God), fasting (giving some things up to pay closer attention to our relationship with God), and almsgiving (acts of service). Last year, Lent was a Season of Prayer as we journeyed with themes to help us transition into the Future Directions we’ve discerned from God. This year we continue that journey, open to what God will teach us and how we will grow and be transformed along the way. I’m grateful to Lynn Longfield, Dorothy White, and Twylla Moore who will help lead a Lent Sunday morning adult and older youth series at 9:45 am reflecting on Black Spirituals through the devotional resource “Were You There?”, leading us to face the reality of our lives, center on our relationship to God in Christ, and end on a note of hope in God’s future of justice and love.

- Where are we on our journey as we live into our Future Directions?** (See the Future Directions documents on the link on the church homepage peacelutherantacoma.org.) Here are some milestones we’ve experienced together over the past year:
- + **Commitment to Anti-racism:** retiring the white Jesus statue in the sanctuary in the direction of God’s unconditional welcome for all, hosting a Healing Racism gathering, participating in racial justice workshops through the ecumenical Conversations Around Race, connecting with other Lutheran congregations now in a Confronting Racism cohort in which we’re learning the racialized history of our congregation and neighborhood, praying and educating ourselves and seeking and advocating for racial justice
 - + **Ministry of Place:** expanding our Housing Ministry with the new 2-bedroom DADU (detached accessible dwelling unit) through a Big Dream hunger grant, visioning for the future in affordable housing ministry through a Land Stewardship synod cohort and Enterprise Partners partnership, walking with the community through community meals and resources with our new Resource Navigator, our youth learning about justice issues and serving the community through Change Makers and the summer Love to the Local week
 - + **Priesthood of All Believers:** discovering our spiritual gifts through a Sunday series, sharing “What’s in Your Hand?” stories and using what’s in our hands to serve God
 - + **Catechism of Peace:** last year’s Lent Season of Prayer challenging us and guiding us on the journey into anti-racism, youth and adult conversations on valuing life in a world of violence, incorporating service and justice learning into existing faith formation.

A Future Directions Action Plan team is now helping us get organized to move into the future in these areas as we go deeper on this journey. I invite you to participate fully in all the offerings in this season of Lent, including Sunday morning worship and adult classes, Wednesday evening gatherings, and personal prayer and devotional reflection. (See details elsewhere in this newsletter.) Blessings on the journey of Lent and Easter,

Pastor John

In Reach Ministry

Dear sisters and brothers, God is doing a wonderful transformation deep in our hearts of joining us in love for each other just as Jesus loves us. This is a new commandment and the promise of the new covenant. Many people among us are already active in caring for each other – care ministers who visit members who are unable to get to the church – people who make cards to comfort and to celebrate – people who prepare food for fellowship times, for those who are recovering at home and for those who are caring for them – people who are praying for each other – people who are serving to connect us to needed resources – people who help find the household goods to ease day to day living – people who provide transportation to the church or an appointment. We are having a **Care Ministry luncheon at the church on Saturday February 25th at noon** to provide an opportunity to become connected with others in loving each other in these and perhaps new ways.

Peace and Love to all, *Rick Trombley* (509-939-3021)

Care Ministry



Greetings. Time to get together to discuss the Care Ministry. If you are interested in helping out in any way please come to a meeting on **February 25 at NOON**. AND I will feed you and greet you with a big smile!! We will be putting together a list of Care Ministers that will visit individuals and offer communion at home. Just a reminder the Care Ministry focus on what we can bring to Peace members and their families by providing physical, emotional, spiritual, and financial support in a variety of ways. Hope to see you!!!

On a side note, I was on the Council for “In Reach” which touches a lot of different things around the Church, such as Breakfast, Altar Guild, Care Ministry, Clothing Bank, etc. Rick Trombley has now filled that position and may be in touch with you one way or the other in the ministry at Peace. So, you will be hearing from him more about Peace and I will fade a little into the background.

I am still in charge of maintenance at Peace. Soon we will add jobs that need to be completed to the weekly Constant Contact. We always need help. So please be on the lookout for that information.

And my last side note, the Clothing Bank is doing well... and we are now helping Afghan Refugees with their clothing needs. So, this ministry has really touched a lot of people’s life. Thank you for all your donations.

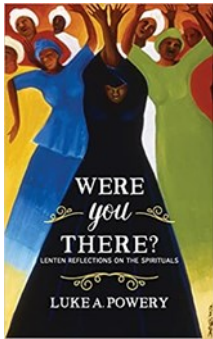
Peace, hugs and love to all, *Jeanie Correa* (253 278-3390)

Faith Education for Adults and Older Youth Sundays in Lent

Were You There?

Lenten Reflections on the Spirituals (Based on a devotional book of the same name by Luke A. Powery, Dean of Duke University Chapel)
Sundays February 26 - April 2, 9:45 - 10:45 am in the multipurpose room

Few musical expressions have the power to move us as profoundly and build community as effectively as the deep rhythmic sound and poetic lyrics of the Spirituals which emerged from Black people’s experience of suffering and hope during our nation’s tragic years of slavery. Drawing from Spirituals found across the Black Church traditions, our Sunday morning Lenten adult education class this year will focus on both the lyrics and the music of such Spirituals as Many Thousand Gone, Oh Mary Don’t You Weep, Deep River, Steal Away, Go Down Moses and many more. The 6-week series will be led by Lynn Longfield, with music and reflection provided by Twylla Moore and Dorothy White. It will begin in true Lenten fashion by leading us to face the reality of our lives, center on our relationship to God in Christ, and end on a note of hope in God’s future of justice and love. Together we will listen to the Spirituals’ witness to trust in God’s power of deliverance – reminding us that despite what any of us may face, with faith, we too shall overcome.



* Devotional books available (suggested donation \$10 to Peace Lutheran Church, scholarships provided.)

Epiphany Season in Worship at Peace



Brendan Nelson brings the Navy’s first Black pilot, Jesse Brown, to life in a sermon in Black History Month.



Global Mission Sunday - songs in Swahili, Malagasy, Tagalog, Kosraen, and a hula worship dance. Thanks to Emillie, Eliette, Viviane, Anna, Irene, and Clara’s Choir! Praise God!



Remember in Prayer

Those who celebrate...

- All God’s children journeying through Lent and celebrating God’s power for life and hope at Easter
- The Peace community as we reach out to Hilltop families, especially through affordable housing (and our newly completed 4th housing unit—the two-bedroom DADU!), community meals and community resources ministry, academic support, enrichment opportunities, mentoring, & faith offerings for all

Those who are hurting...

- All affected by the COVID pandemic
- All who suffer racial injustice
- The hungry, all suffering economic poverty, the incarcerated, those without homes, all without hope
- All who grieve the death of loved ones
- All who are ill, facing surgery, recovering from hospitalization, for healing...
- All who struggle financially, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, for hope...
- All who experience sexual harassment or abuse...
- Refugees fleeing war and poverty, and all who live midst violence, war, or unrest, especially the people of Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Iraq, Ukraine, Holy Land, Central African Republic, & Yemen

Our work...

- Our Future Directions, as we live into the Vision God has for us as a church
- Our ministries in affordable housing and community development
- Our ministry of sharing Jesus’ love with children, youth, and families
- Our work for justice and peace in our world, building bridges among people

Partners in mission & service...

- Peace Community Center—tutoring, mentoring Hilltop kids
- Our global partners: Davis family in Uganda, Rev. Jane Kagochi in Kenya, our companion synod in Namibia, the church in South Sudan, the church in China, the Sevigny family in Japan, House of Prayer Navajo Lutheran Church in AZ
- Living Stones prison congregation in Shelton
- Faith Action Network leading in advocacy for justice for all, and for political leaders

Evangelism and Outreach

Hi! I am Sandra Puckett. I am the new Evangelism Chair for Council. In many ways, we are all evangelists. As Christians, every time we smile and are welcoming to someone at church or even in our everyday lives, we are an evangelist. The old song, “And they’ll know we are Christians by our love” is really true. I am excited to get the chance to work on ways to be welcoming people to our Church!

In peace, *Sandra Puckett*, Evangelism/Outreach Chair

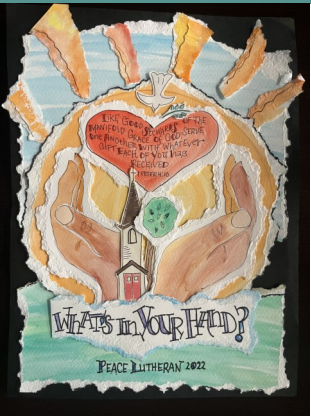
A Stewardship Message

The Lenten season is upon us again, and it looks a lot different this year from last –and vastly different from the year before. Most of us have much for which to be thankful. We live in a world where many struggle to attain their basic needs.

In this season of reflection when many look for what to give up, may we look for what to give. The Peace family is a generous group—with our money and many talents. This is evident in the ministries we support—Peace Community Center, Affordable Housing Family Support, Community Resource Ministry, Emergency Assistance Program, Holiday Bazaar, Sunday Breakfast, Community Meals, Clothes Closet, Van Ministry, Caring Ministry, Crisis Ministry, Care Packages, Meal Train, Servant Projects, Prison Ministry. By giving up a little of our time, talents and resources perhaps we could enrich our Lenten journey and the lives of those around us.

Giving draws us closer to God because we have to do without some of the material things of this life that we love. And when we move them out of the way, God moves in. May God move in and move through us during this Lenten season of 2023 and into the future. I’m looking forward to the journey.

Melody Duke, Stewardship Chair



Resource Navigator



Greetings Church family, I am enjoying my new position as Resource Navigator. I have had the opportunity to help people within and without our church community with some practical needs and resources. The Community meals on Friday evenings are going well and I have really enjoyed meeting new people and talking with some regulars each Friday night. We are always looking for new groups to sign up to provide meals on Fridays, so please let me know if you are interested in helping in this way and I will answer all of your questions. If you have any needs or resources that seem to have you stumped or running in circles, please reach out to me at charissa@peacetacoma.org and I would be happy to listen and see how to best serve you. God’s Love & Peace,

Charissa Carroll, Resource Navigator

Worship During COVID

We worship in person Sundays at 8:30 & 11 am and live stream worship online at 11 am. See our website peacelutherantacoma.org, Facebook page (Facebook Peace Lutheran Tacoma), or YouTube channel for worship videos and faith resources. Masks are welcome and encouraged but not required. We continue to require masks the first Sunday of each month for 8:30 am worship so those who need to take additional precautions can participate. If you are experiencing symptoms of illness, please stay home and worship online. Please be respectful of those who use masks and those who wish to limit physical contact (hugs/handshakes). We continue to increase airflow in the sanctuary during worship to reduce risk. We encourage all to get a flu shot and COVID booster.



Community Engagement and Outreach

People of Peace,

We have been really blessed entering into 2023 and I'm so grateful to see so many great things unfold in the many amazing ministries at Peace. I'd like to share with you a few highlights and things for us to celebrate.

We have completed the 6 month journey of the Faith Land Stewardship cohort but will continue to meet monthly with Joey Ager to help us build out a comprehensive church engagement plan. We will be sending more information out in the coming weeks to get your feedback on some specific focus areas of ministry.

The DADU development is complete and we are now working on getting a family into the two-bedroom home. We extend a huge thanks to Chris Ferguson for his 8 year commitment to the housing ministry. The team will continue to work on building a strategic plan for the ministry. We ask for your prayers.

Peace is now a member of the Pierce County Affordable Housing Consortium. The Church Council thought it would be very important for us to join this group as we consider engaging more in housing policies across Tacoma and Pierce County.

As we often say, we have come this far by faith and our faith remains strong. Our Peace community is a much better place because of the love, commitment and compassion you each show. There is a long road ahead of us but I ask God to lead and guide us into the future.

God's Peace,



Brendan Nelson, Director of Community Engagement

Community Resources Ministry



Dear People of Peace,

We are super excited to share that the Community Resources Meals Ministry is moving right along. We are grateful to Teri Jelinek who has retired from her position as coordinator of this awesome ministry. In 2018 Teri jumped in and immediately got busy cooking, planning, inviting community organizations, churches, friends, and individuals to assist her with providing meals and resources to the community members of Hilltop every Friday except for the months of April and October, which host our Monday – Friday meal ministry program that was started over 30 years ago and is directed by Aida Perez.

Brendan Nelson has taken on new leadership and is now the Director of Community Engagement and Outreach. Brendan, along with Charissa Carroll, our new Resource Navigator, and Damishe Greenwood-Walker, now work to carry on the mission. We were blessed to be able to have sit down meals for the month of November but have moved back to "to go-style" meals beginning Friday, January 6, 2023, due to the spike in influenza, COVID, and RSV. We are hopeful that this is a temporary shift, and we will be able to return to dining in soon.

We serve about 50-65 people every Friday, and meals that were not handed out are delivered out in community. So far this year, we have had the pleasure of serving with Spanaway Lutheran Church, Elyse McWilson's team, Tacoma Muslim Community, and the Peace Lutheran Church Youth Ministry.

CRM ministry is growing and expanding. We invite you to serve with us. If you are willing to extend your service and can provide a meal on any Friday, have questions or need additional information, please feel free to Brendan Nelson, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach at brendan@peacetacoma.org or Damishe Greenwood-Walker, Office Manager at plcadmin@peacetacoma.org or by phone at (253) 383-1317.

Your desire to serve the Hilltop community helps us to live out our vision statement to be a diverse community "Where all are welcome: a community that is Spirit-filled, compassionate, healthy, reconciled and just."

In His Service, *Community Resources Meals Ministry Team*

Wednesday Evenings in Lent



Starting **March 1, for five Wednesdays until March 29**, here's the schedule:

6:00 pm	Simple Soup Supper
6:30 pm	Intergenerational Activity of Prayer and Service
7:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer (adults & youth), Faith Activity (kids)
7:30 pm	Depart in peace...

Simple Soup Supper: At 6 pm, we will gather in the multipurpose room to share fellowship and a simple supper, a modified fast for Lent. **To help with the supper:** Sign up at the Welcome Table to provide a soup and bread one Wednesday. We also need folks to volunteer to host the meals.

Intergenerational Activity: At 6:30 pm, from the youngest to the eldest, as we live into our "ministry of place" as a church, we will join together in

activities that help us reach out to our neighbors in prayer and service. Here is the schedule for the intergenerational activities:

Wednesday March 1. Activity: Prayer Walk. Groups will gather to walk together in the neighborhood, read scripture, and pray needs and thanksgivings. We also reflect on Lenten questions: What will you give up? What will you take on to grow deeper in relationship with God this Lent?

Wednesday March 8. Activity: Cards for AIDNW. We will learn about the work of AIDNW (Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest), housed in the Hilltop, and we will write caring letters of hope to give to folks exiting the Tacoma Detention Center.



Wednesday March 15. Activity: Manna Bags. We will learn about the housing crisis in Tacoma and put together Manna Bags to distribute to folks in need in the Hilltop. Manna bags include food, water, and items helpful to folks living in local encampments and on the street. (Items **due Sunday March 12** in the church office.)

Wednesday March 22. Activity: Garden Starts & Painted Rocks. We will plant seeds for new starts for the Peace garden, and we will paint inspirational words on rocks to share with the Hilltop community.

Wednesday March 29. Activity: Prayer Walk. Groups will gather to walk together in the neighborhood and pray for the Hilltop community. We will also reflect on how Lent has helped us grow in faith and service to God. What did we give up? What did we take on?

Faith Activity for Kids—Journey to the Cross: At 7 pm, children and youth are invited to go on a Journey to the Cross with Jesus. Children will share in activities to help them learn the story of Jesus' suffering and death and his deep love for us. Youth are invited to help children or go to the Holden Evening Prayer service.



Holden Evening Prayer: At 7 pm, adults and youth are invited to the sanctuary for a beautiful sung evening prayer service that originated at Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in the Cascade mountains. There will be an opportunity for candle-lighting and silent prayer. Come, quiet your hearts, and connect with God.



Peace Community Center Highlight

Dear People of Peace,

Peace Community Center invites you to our annual Learners to Leaders event! Please join us at Stadium High School on the evening of February 23, 2023. This year's theme is “Peace is an Action Verb”. Attendees will be encouraged to interact with each other to discover what Peace looks like to them and then take action by donating, volunteering, or committing to share Peace Community Center’s message.

Event Details

Date: Thursday, February 23rd

Location: Stadium High School, 111 N E St, Tacoma, WA 98403

Time: 8:30 - 5:30

Cost: Pay-What-You-Can sliding scale starting at \$5. Those who purchase tickets at \$50+ level will be entered into a drawing for a set of two Alaskan Airlines vouchers

Where to Register and Buy Tickets: <https://secure.givelively.org/event/peace-community-center/learners-to-leaders-2023>

(please copy and paste in browser)

Attendees at Learners to Leaders can look forward to a night filled with learning more about all the programs at Peace Community Center, performances by local musicians and artists, two keynote speakers, delicious food, and a silent auction. Together, we will continue Peace Community Center's tradition of Empowering Lifelong Learners. If you are unable to attend but would still like to make an impactful gift, checks can be mailed to Peace Community Center at 2106 S Cushman Avenue Tacoma, WA 98405.

Thank you for your incredible continued support of our Scholars and community. We are so grateful to have your caring and generous congregation as partners in this work. Gratefully,

Peace Community Center

Music Ministry - the Lenten Journey



Dear Peace Family.

Psalm 144:9a I will sing a new song unto thee, O God.

I was glad to hear mask restrictions are being lifted. It causes me to think about how restrictive, and suffocating, and sometimes how hard it is to breathe with them on especially when you have had the mask on for any length of time. In some cases, the mask placed limitations on carrying out tasks effectively resulting in fear (false evidence appearing real). How freeing it is and a sense of relief when you don’t have wear them.

This Lent season is about unmasking our brokenness, pain, and unforgiveness. Through self-reflection, self-direction and self-correction, as we sacrifice with fasting and prayer, we can change our path remembering the sacrifice of Jesus.

Philippians 3:10: *That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.*

Twylla Moore, Music Director



Opportunities to Serve & Give

Community Resources Ministry Want to support Community Meals Fridays 5:30-6:30 pm? Provide and serve a meal for up to 50 people OR help serve grab and go containers OR help clean up. If you have a Fred Meyer rewards card please link it to Peace. Go to www.fredmeyer.com, community rewards, and enter Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church or key in Fk117. Questions or to volunteer: contact Damishe (253-383-1317 ext. 100).

April Community Meals The Community Meal Program runs **weekdays in April from 5:30-6:30 pm**. Come, eat and share conversation with community folks, listen and encourage, and help clean up.

Lenten Soup Suppers Sign up at the Welcome Table to bring soup and bread for the soup suppers **6 pm on Wednesdays March 1 – 29**. Questions? Ask Nancy Heavey, 752-8450.

Want to Assist Sunday Mornings for Worship? We need greeters, ushers, readers, assisting ministers, song leaders, and tech helpers. Please contact Pastor John.

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.

Want to Give Offering to Peace Through Auto-Deduction? Contact the church office.

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 to Peace Lutheran Church or Peace Community Center by logging into your account on the Thrivent website. Do it by March 31.

Our Lenten Offering Our offering this Lent is for the Tacoma-Pierce County Affordable Housing Consortium: The Affordable Housing Consortium works on housing education, initiatives, and policies in support of affordable housing development. This is another way we live out our Future Directions commitment of “ministry of place” in our larger community. Please give to “Peace Lutheran Church,” earmarked “Lenten Offering.”

Who’s Who on the Peace Lutheran Church Staff

Pastor: John Stroeh, ext 101, pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org
Director of Community Engagement & Outreach: Brendan Nelson, ext. 102, brendan@peacetacoma.org
Coordinator of Children, Youth, & Intergenerational Ministry: Jayna Detweiler, ext. 103, jayna@peacetacoma.org
Music Director: Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org
Resource Navigator: Charissa Carroll, ext. 104, charissa@peacetacoma.org
Office Manager and Community Meals Contact Person: Damishe Greenwood-Walker, ext. 100, plcadmin@peacetacoma.org
Finance Coordinator: Jenny Haferbecker, jenny@peacetacoma.org
Nursery Care: Rebecca Valencia

Check out Peace Lutheran Church on Social Media!

Check out the website: Peace Lutheran Church

Find us on Facebook:

Peace Lutheran Tacoma
Peace Lutheran Church Youth Ministry

Instagram: [@peacelutheranchurch](https://www.instagram.com/peacelutheranchurch)

Check out our YouTube page: Peace Videos

Men’s Ministry



It is with a grateful heart that the Men's Ministry is now meeting again one Saturday per month from 9 am to 11 am.

We come together to break bread and fellowship with one another, sharing our successes and areas of continued prayer. Between 15-25 men are in attendance and a wide range of topics are covered. Peace offers a safe space free of judgement to address issues that affect men, mental health, and ways that we continue to support each other. Come join us...

Antonio Yune, Men’s Ministry Coordinator

Women’s Ministry

It's Happening with Women at Peace! Women at Peace love gathering over breakfast! Joining our planning team is Sarah ButlerWills. We love Sarah and her longtime experience as a pastor, counselor, and a social worker. She runs a non-profit that she herself started called Retreat Home, a network of people and homes offering support with those in need of temporary housing. If you don’t already know her, introduce yourself! Like Sarah and her husband, many have joined Peace a bit before the pandemic. Gathering in person helps us meet and get to know one another, make connections, share about our highs and lows of life, pray for one another, and regroup as a community of women who love and serve God.



Stay tuned for our next gatherings and future women’s retreat! *Leigh Wong*, for Women’s Ministry

Children’s, Youth, and Intergenerational Ministry



Hello Peace Family, Children’s Ministry has been growing as we have more families joining in during our weekly Godly Play and Children’s worship times. The last few months have been filled with our Advent celebrations and starting a new year. The Christmas Brunch was a wonderful time and the kids enjoyed the crafts and decorating the sanctuary afterwards. I personally am proud of the kids and families that made the Christmas Program possible. It was filled with the children singing songs they had been practicing at church and home. As we move into Lent we have devotionals for families to do with their kids, and if any adults would like to do it you can find it in your emails or at the Welcome Table.

Youth ministry has also been filled with joy as we’ve continued to find ways for the youth to grow into themselves and grow in fellowship with each other. Change Makers continues on Wednesday evenings on Zoom, but will pause during Lent. We have had more dinners for the youth to spend time together which is always a fun time to see the community we are growing.



Thank you to those who have donated snacks for children’s worship time! Please note we are now looking for adults who are willing to join Godly Play or Children’s worship time once a month to have a second adult present, as we have more children joining we’d like to take safety into consideration by having another adult who is just in the room with no teaching responsibilities.

Dates in the summer to keep in mind as you make summer plans:
Youth Mission trip to Yakima Reservation July 9-14th: A service-learning trip hosted by Mending Wings for our youth to learn about the history and culture of the tribes on the reservation and serve the community.
Summer Bible Adventure August 8th-10th in the evenings for Elementary age kids as well as those willing to help with things such as: setting up, providing a dinner for one of the 3 nights, story telling, crafts, and clean up.

Here at Peace Lutheran Church, we have always pursued a strong connection to our neighborhood’s children, youth, and individuals. I am happy to be a part of these ministries and supporting the family that is Peace.

Peace and joy, *Jayna Detweiler*, Coord. of Children’s, Youth, & Intergenerational Ministry

From the Church Council

“Come near to God and he will come near to you.” James 4:8

Lent is a good time to remember the sacrifices Jesus made for us. We are on a journey to the cross. This is a time to grow closer to God, our families, the church and our community. Welcome to friends and members of Peace Lutheran Church. We have a great Council this year and I am excited as we move forward. A few of the things we are working on is the growth of the Housing Ministry, as the newest DADU (detached accessible dwelling unit, a two-bedroom house) is being completed. Also we are living into our Future Directions and have a team developing an action plan. As the year unfolds we will keep the church updated with our progress.

Peace and blessings, *Pam Asadi*, Council President

Your 2023 Church Council: President – Pam Asadi; Vice President – Joseph Anderson; Treasurer – Erik Tou; Secretary – Gail Storrs; Community Resources – Craig Cogger; Education – Michaela Cox; Evangelism/Outreach – Sandra Puckett; In-reach – Rick Trombley; Stewardship – Melody Duke; Worship – Antonio Yune; Youth – Elyse McWilson; Pastor John Stroeh (ex-officio); Executive Director of Peace Community Center (ex-officio) -- Deb Martinez

Mission Statement

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.

Core Values...

Serve with **COURAGE**

Embrace **DIVERSITY**

Cultivate **COMMUNITY**

Seek **JUSTICE**

Vision Statement

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.**

Welcome Statement

All are welcome at Peace! We are a diverse community of welcome for people of all ethnic and cultural heritages, ages and generations, educational and financial backgrounds, gender identities and sexual orientations, spiritual and religious preferences, gifts and abilities! Centered in Jesus and his love, we believe that every human being is created in the image of God, whose Spirit gathers us into one community of faith in our Hilltop neighborhood. You are a blessing to Peace! We welcome your presence, your gifts, your voice, your service, your leadership, and our shared life together in community!

Foundational Commitment to Anti-racism

As followers of Jesus, we believe that God created all people in God’s image (Genesis 1:27), Jesus breaks down all dividing walls (Ephesians 2:14), and the Holy Spirit connects and unites all people. The whole church looks forward to God’s future when people will be gathered from all cultures and peoples in the reign of God (Revelation 7). This church names racism (individual and systemic) as sin. We affirm that the diversity of cultures is a God-given gift, and we seek to extend God’s love to all our neighbors. We believe Jesus calls us to understand, address, and dismantle racism in individuals, communities, systems, and structures, joining God in bringing about justice for the oppressed and transformation of all society (Luke 4).