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"

September 27, 2020 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

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 **Rally Sunday**! We pray God's blessings on faith teachers and students, including Feet to Faith Confirmation participants, as we move into a new year of faith education, starting via online connections. Make a commitment for your family to grow in faith and service to God this school year!

In worship we are walking through the Old Testament, and today's scripture reading from Genesis tells how God is at work in Joseph's life for good even when many things seem so bad. Where do you find yourself in God's story?

Today we start a series called **"God's Steadfast Love & Faithfulness,"** as we hear from Peace folks and reflect on what it means to respond to God's grace through the words of Micah 6:8: "do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with God." It's a good time to wonder: How will you respond to God's steadfast love and faithfulness by using the time, talent, and treasure God's given you to serve God in the Peace community?

Interested in learning more about Peace? Please contact Pastor John, Brendan Nelson, or Pastor Jae Bates. May you know the peace of Christ this week!

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.

- **All impacted by wildfires and hurricanes…**
- **Our politically divided nation as we near Election Day**
- **United Lutheran in Tacoma after a fire in their building**
- **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 acknowledgement 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 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**
- **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**
- **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
- **For healing & strength**: Judy Brockhoff, Annie Burris, Anne Campbell, Eddie Castro, Daniel Davis, Renee Jones, Craig Miller, Twylla Moore, Jerry Pittmon, Sandra Puckett, Lisa Williams, Mark Williams, Maryann Wright
- **Ongoing health concerns**: Dori Greenaway, Tanisha Hargrove, Ted Johnstone, Edwina McKnight, Dona Miller, Holle & Carol Plaehn, Sandra & Bruce Puckett, Perry Richards, Art Shelton, Bob Wu
- **Military away**: Juwan Banks, Taylor McCarthy
- **Special need**: Paul Jackson, Octavius Killian, Daniel Lotovaivai, Alfred Nelson, Jackie Ray, Sunshine Timmons, Dezmyn Trent, Zion Walker, Henry K. White
- **Seminarians:** Pastor Jae Bates, Charissa Carroll
- **For sisters and brothers in Christ all over the world, our partners in global mission**: Davis family in Africa; Jane Kagochi & Solid Faith Church in Kenya; the Namibian Lutheran Church, our companion synod; the church in South Sudan; the church in China; Sevigny 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, 12pm
- **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. If you would like to get set up for regular online giving, please contact Damishe in the church office at 253-383-1317. You may also make a secure donation on the church website.

Want to Support Living Stones? Living Stones is a Lutheran congregation behind the walls of the Washington Corrections Institute in Shelton. If you want to support its ministry, you may choose to purchase raffle tickets for $5 each (6 for $25) or make a donation by Nov. 1. Send a check to Peace Lutheran Church with the # of tickets you want and your contact info, and the tickets will be mailed to you. Drawing for $2020 is Nov. 17.

Peace Lutheran Church Events & Information

Faith Opportunities for All

Starting today, live-stream worship will be at 11 am instead of 10 am so we may offer **three faith classes from 9:30-10:30 am each Sunday via Zoom**:

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

Children: There will not be a live virtual children's Sunday School offering. Instead, we will continue to post **Godly Play videos** for children on our YouTube channel every week for families to use at home.

High school: There will not be a live virtual high school Sunday School offering. A high school youth "Change Makers" group will meet **Wednesdays at 5 pm starting September 30**. Questions? Please contact Brendan Nelson or Pastor John.

Upcoming Sunday Adult Faith Opportunities at 9:30 am

Series on God's Steadfast Love & Faithfulness: Explore our faithful response as followers of Jesus with Micah 6:8 (Zoom):

- **September 27**: "Do Justice," led by Malcolm Carroll
- **October 4**: "Love Mercy," led by Pastor John & Pastor Jae
- **October 11**: "Walk Humbly with God," led by Carol Watson

Email Pastor John for the Zoom link.

The series culminates **Commitment Sunday Oct. 18**, when we bring our pledges of time, talent, and treasure for God's work through Peace church in 2021.

Community Bible Study Pastor John and Pastor Jae lead a Community Bible Study using Zoom **Thursdays, 12-1 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.

FOCUS Groups Join a FOCUS Group this fall! These are small groups that meet on a specific topic of faith once a week through Zoom for up to 6 weeks beginning mid-October. It's a great opportunity for faith growth, fellowship, prayer, and support. Check the church website homepage for links to see the FOCUS Groups catalog and to **register online by Oct. 4**. Or contact Damishe in the church office to sign up to be in a group. Questions? Contact Pat Ferguson at 253-627-1349.

Godly Play Videos for Children Parents, have you checked out the church YouTube channel? You will find Godly Play Bible story videos with wondering questions to use at home with your children. Questions? Contact Brendan Nelson.

Faith Resources for Children and Youth We have posted links to other faith resources, including videos, on the church website for parents, children, and youth to use. Brendan Nelson is available to respond to any questions.

Reopening Task Force Update Our Reopening Task Force continues to meet and discuss all concerns, interests, ideas, and barriers to resuming in-person worship services at Peace. We hear you all and understand both the deep spiritual need for some in-person connection, as well as the continued vigilance regarding personal and public health.

- **Worship**: When Pierce County reaches Phase 3, the task force will meet to prayerfully determine our reopening date for indoor in-person worship. Even after we return to indoor in-person worship, we will be ready to revert back to fully online worship if necessary.
- **Small Groups**: As we address concerns for in-person connection and health precautions, we're inviting folks to consider meeting in small groups of up to 5 people that follow Covid-19 guidelines. Want to participate or lead a small group? Contact Pastor Jae at jae@peacetacoma.org.

Reopening Task Force: Joseph Anderson, Ben Flesher, Brendan Nelson, Pastor Jae, Pastor John, Kit Thompson, Antonio Yune

Holy Communion During the Pandemic The next opportunity to receive Communion in online worship is **Sunday October 4**. Online worship is a real communal gathering in which Jesus gathers us and meets us with gifts of grace and forgiveness. If you wish to share Communion Oct. 4, please prepare bread and grape juice (wine) at home prior to worship.

Peace Community Center

Video Update Check out the update from Peace Community Center Executive Director L. Denice Randle and program leaders posted on the Peace YouTube channel.

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, jae@peacetacoma.org
- **Music Director**: Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org
- **Community Resources Coordinator**: Teri Jelinek, tljelinek50@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