

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: See Sunday faith opportunities above. Also, 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):

- + "This Is My Body" an intergenerational weekly devotional for families or adults
- + "Living Well through Lent: Practicing Forgiveness with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind," a Living Compass weekly devotional
- + ELCA World Hunger Lenten study and 40 Days of Lent Calendar

Christ in Our Home Would you like a copy of the daily devotional "Christ in Our Home"? Pick one up on the table outside the sanctuary or call the church office.

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 puckettsandra67@gmail.com.

THE CALL TO PEACE

Volume 20 ▪ Issue 1 ▪ Lent 2024



Easter Eggstravaganza!

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



Lent, Holy Week & Easter Special Worship Services

- + **Wednesday, February 14 - Ash Wednesday**
7 pm In-Person & Live Stream Worship – We receive the sign of the cross in ashes and begin Lent with confession, prayer, and Communion.
- + **Sunday, March 24 - Palm/Passion Sunday**
8:30 & 11 am In-Person Worship (11 am Live Stream) - We tell the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and then his suffering and death.
- + **Thursday, March 28 - 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, March 29 - Good Friday**
7 pm In-Person & Live Stream Worship - We tell the story of Jesus' suffering and death on the cross and God's deep and abiding love for us.
- + **Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday!!**
Bring cut flowers to adorn the cross outside the church.
8:30 & 11 am In-Person Worship (11 am Live Stream) - 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



Peace Lutheran
Church





People of Peace,
“In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.” -- Mark 1:35
In the midst of his full and exhausting life, Jesus took time to rest and pray. There are more than 30 references to Jesus praying. Again and again he took a break from healing and casting out demons and preaching and teaching, and he recharged his batteries by plugging in to the source of life and healing and love, his Father God. Then, filled up with love and more focused on his mission, he went back to work healing and casting out demons and preaching and teaching, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.

We're entering the season of Lent, a church season in which we journey with Jesus to his suffering and death on the cross and beyond to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. We intentionally practice three Lenten disciplines—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). This is an opportunity for us to take a break from our full and hurried lives and recharge our batteries by plugging in to the source of life and healing and love, our gracious God revealed in Jesus. Jesus models for us that prayer is essential when we're busy. Prayer and faithful action go together.

How will you let God recharge and renew you this Lent? Let the church help you. This year on Sunday mornings in the Faith Education Hour, adults and older youth are encouraged to participate in a series based on the book, *Hope Is Here! Spiritual Practices for Pursuing Justice and Beloved Community*, by Luther E. Smith, Jr. We will learn about spiritual practices born from hope in God that help us to be agents of God's compassion and justice in our world. In one chapter on contemplative praying, Dr. Smith reminds us, “Hope enlivens us through prayer... Even with daunting life challenges that await, the prayerful certainty of God's abiding presence assures us that we can be alive to life and for life.” That's what Jesus found through prayer, and we can too. Dr. Smith helps us see that contemplative praying is a continuum of listening to God, discerning God's way, and engaging God's calling to compassion and justice in our lives.

As we partner with God in God's work to bless and love and heal the world, we can't do it on our own power. We need to stay connected to God in prayer, to rest and recharge.

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*

Epiphany Season in Worship - Dancing Our Prayers & Global Mission Sunday



From the Church Council

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not sight.
Welcome Peace Lutheran Church Family. We are moving into the season of Lent. This is a time of growth and sacrifice. As a church council we are growing and changing. We welcome new members on the council and say thank you to those who have served. It is so exciting to see how many people have stepped up to participate in this journey. As we move into the year of “All Hands on Deck,” I am excited to see the committees and leaders moving forward in faith.

We as a church have been blessed with some new grants to help us continue to develop our Future Directions. Our Women's and Men's ministry continues to grow and develop. Our Housing Ministry is making a way forward for future projects. We have developed a committee working on equitable compensation for church employees. We have a great church council and I am thankful for their help and support this year as they share their gifts. As the year continues we will keep the church updated on our progress.

Peace and blessings, *Pam Asadi*, Council President

2024 Council Members
Pam Asadi (council president); Gail Storrs (vice president); Lenora Sneva (secretary); Tim Chalberg (treasurer); Neoma Clay (evangelism outreach); Gretchen Duggan (worship); Melody Duke (stewardship); Lillie Brooks-Walker (youth); Michaela Cox (education); Rick Trombley (in reach); Craig Cogger (community resources)

In Reach Ministry

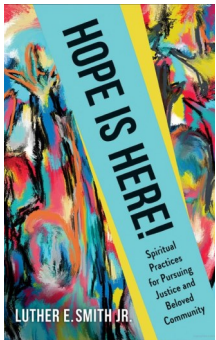
Beloved, I want to draw your attention to a mystery of embryology that may shed some light on how the body of Christ grows. An embryo starts from one cell that divides into two that very much appear to be identical. Each of these divides into two, making a lump of four cells. As this continues, though each cell has the same life information, differences in the cells start to appear depending on where each cell is in the lump. A cell's neighbors prompt how its life information is expressed. And so, the lump rises up and walks with legs and heart and hands and ears and eyes fitted for love. May you get to know your neighbors in the body of Christ, so that the Spirit that is in you may love through you in the way that is uniquely yours. Peace. *Rick Trombley* (509-939-3021)

Faith Education for Adults and Older Youth Sundays in Lent

Hope Is Here! Spiritual Practices for Pursuing Justice and Beloved Community

Sundays February 18 – March 24 from 9:45 – 10:45 am in the multipurpose room

Join a Lent study based on the book, *Hope Is Here! Spiritual Practices for Pursuing Justice and Beloved Community*, by Luther E. Smith, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Church and Community, Candler School of Theology, Emory University. How do we live into God's dream of justice and beloved community when racism, mass incarceration, environmental crises, divisive politics, and indifference imperil the dream? Hope is essential for the personal and social transformations that prepare us for the sacred opportunities on this journey. Hope is essential as we at Peace Lutheran Church live into our Foundational Commitment to Anti-Racism. Professor Smith shares five spiritual practices and questions for our reflection as individuals and community for a life sustained by God's gifts of hope and love. Our Lenten Sunday series will be led by members of the church's Anti-Racism Work Group.



* *Hope Is Here* books available (suggested donation \$10 to Peace Lutheran Church, scholarships provided.) Questions? Ask Pastor John.

Care Ministry

Dear Peace,

Thank you for your donations to the clothing closet. We are grateful for the various items that we have received, including sleeping bags, pillows, and blankets. The clothing closet is keeping in step with community meals after changing our hours to Monday & Friday, 6-7 pm. This allows community members to enjoy a meal and then have plenty of time to browse the basement for clothing needs. We have received several requests for our donated items to be giving to other organizations and we are happy to help. Last week, we received three requests for clothing from a rehab facility so your donations are appreciated! Some clothing items have been donated to be used as interview attire for those looking for employment.

As this ministry continues to grow, we welcome your continued support. If you have clothing items to donate, please contact the office at 253-383-1317, to schedule a drop off time. We do ask that all clothing, pillows, & blankets be laundered prior to dropping them off at the church.

In service, *Jeanie Correa*, Care Ministry Coordinator

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, community meals and community resources ministry, ministries with children and youth and families, and faith offerings for all

Those who are hurting...

- 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, Sudan, 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 in this time of transition
 - 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
- For the complete list, see Sunday’s bulletin.



Evangelism and Outreach

Peace Family,

Being part of this ministry has truly been pleasant and rewarding. I have enjoyed cooking and serving the people of God as well as greeting them as they come in the doors. While I'm on this journey for God, I will do my very best to serve and greet everyone.

Matthew 25:35 - “I was hungry and you fed me. I was naked and you clothed me. I was in prison and you visited me.”

Psalm 84:10 - “I would rather be a door keeper in the house of my God....”

Peace,

Neoma Clay, Evangelism and Outreach Councilperson



A Stewardship Message



Lent, it is said, is the season that the church has set aside for us to intentionally reflect on our relationship with God, others, and ourselves. It is a time to reflect on those things that bring us closer to God and others, and those things that keep us alienated from God and others. So, why not add something to our lives in Lent instead of taking something away? What are some things that we could add? A few examples may include special daily readings, a Lenten retreat, daily worship, a spiritual discipline such as centering prayer and volunteering our time, treasure and talents in our communities (from local to global).

By adding these types of disciplines to our lives, we can begin to take away, or give up, other things. Giving can draw 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 has more room to move in.

We are here as God’s stewards. You and I are called to learn generosity by giving. The Lenten journey of reflection and discovery is the perfect opportunity to put these words into practice.

Thanks to Carolyn Moomaw Chilton who writes and blogs as a spiritual discipline and an invitation to conversation with others for ideas and some specifics in the above. She is currently on staff at Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Richmond, Virginia as the Assistant for Evangelism and Stewardship.

Melody Duke, Stewardship Chair

Notes about Worship and Faith Resources at Peace

Worship in Person: We worship Sundays at 8:30 & 11 am. Masks are welcome and encouraged but not required. We require masks the first Sunday of each month for 8:30 am worship so those who need to take additional precautions can participate. We encourage folks to get flu shots and COVID boosters. If you are experiencing symptoms of illness, please stay home and worship online.

Worship Online: See 11 am live stream worship each Sunday on the church Facebook page; worship video posted later on the church Facebook page and YouTube channel. Find links on our homepage.



Community Engagement and Outreach



People of Peace,
As the Lenten season comes to us let us prepare our hearts for the season of Lent, let us pause from our busy lives and reflect. Let us reflect on Jesus’ suffering that provides forgiveness for our sins. As we give up comforts of life, let us remember the splendor of heaven that Jesus surrendered to adopt us as his children. Even as we reflect there are things that lend itself to this journey.

Our community resource and housing ministry had a busy 2023 and great start to 2024. We have received several grants that have expanded the capacity of our ministry, including being able to hire Charissa Carroll as a full-time staff member. We have also expanded our community resource ministry by opening our space as a warming center to support our community during the winter months. Community members can come out of the cold and rain to have a hot drink and refreshments and enjoy fellowship together.

Our housing ministry teams have also been hard at work to get one of our rental properties ready for occupancy and to work with consultants to help us brainstorm future development plans for our affordable housing ministry. I am also extremely grateful for our partnership with St. Mark’s Lutheran Church and the Shalom Project. Through this partnership we will have the opportunity to install solar panels on another one of our properties by the end of the winter season.

Thank you for your continued support of all of our ministries at Peace as we grow together and closer to God.

Blessings,

Brendan Nelson, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach



Community Meals

Matthew 25:35-40

35 'For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes, and you clothed me, I was sick, and you looked after me, I was in prison, and you came to visit me.' 37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' 40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

As Brendan mentioned, we are so blessed to lean into this time of Lent by opening our doors as a small warming center. **February 19 – March 31, from 3-7 pm, every Friday**, our doors will be open for community members to come in and be greeted with a warm beverage, snacks, games, movies, etc. Then beginning at **5:30 pm** they are served a warm meal and have meaningful fellowship. Our clothing closet opens at **6:00 pm** giving individuals an opportunity to take their time to browse until **7 pm**.

We are so grateful for our partners who provide the meals as well as our volunteers who help serve and clean up. Now that the warming center is open, we have extra hands on deck. Thank you for your love and support. We greatly appreciate all that you do for the community! If you are interested in providing a meal or to volunteer, feel free to email Damishe Greenwood-Walker at plcadmin@peacetacoma.org.

In His Service,

Community Meals Ministry Team

Wednesday Evenings in Lent



Starting **Feb. 21, for five Wednesdays until March 20**, 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 February 21. Prayer Walk – Hilltop History. Groups will gather to walk together in the neighborhood or stay in the multipurpose room, read scripture, share Hilltop history with joy and lament, and pray for the Hilltop community.

Wednesday February 28. Activity: Welcome Baskets for New Resident Family in Peace Housing. We will learn about the housing crisis and Peace’s housing ministry and put together welcome baskets (food items, cleaning supplies, household items), sign welcome cards, and pray for God’s blessing. **(Items due Sunday February 18** in the church office.)



Wednesday March 6. Activity: Warming Center Goodie Bags. We will learn about homelessness and Peace’s Community Resource Ministry, write encouraging cards, put together bags to give to folks who come to our Friday Warming Center, and pray for God’s blessing. All are encouraged to come share in the Community Resources Ministry on Fridays. Goodie bags include sandwiches and snacks and items helpful to folks living in local encampments and on the street. **(Items due Sunday February 18** in the church office.)

Wednesday March 13. Activity: Stations of Grief and Comfort. We will have the opportunity to connect with our grief and loss and with God on this Lenten journey to the cross as we create a space for our lament and God’s comfort with stations for remembrance of departed loved ones, candle-lighting and prayer, card-writing to support the grieving, and breathwork.

Wednesday March 20. Activity: Prayer Walk – Hilltop Future. Groups will gather to walk together in the neighborhood or stay in the multipurpose room, look to Hilltop’s future in hope for God’s vision to become reality, and pray for the Hilltop community.

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.



This time of year always strikes me as a time to reflect; we're past the business of the holidays and starting a new year. As I begin to reflect on our children's, youth and intergenerational ministries, I realize that February marks two years that I have been able to get to know and love Peace. What a joy it has been to come alongside our children and youth and watch as they grow. This Christmas was special because we had Nora and Audrey take leadership in writing and planning the Christmas program and support from parents and youth to tell the story of Jesus' birth.

We are looking forward to inviting current 8th-12th graders to **Holden Village** for the **Youth Weekend May 17-19**. This will be an opportunity for Peace youth to come alongside youth from other churches for a couple of days. We are also in the process of planning out our summer youth service-learning opportunity and I am happy to announce we will be returning to Love to the Local. Our youth have hearts for serving within our community and we will be looking to work alongside organizations within Pierce County!

Peace and Blessings, *Jayna Detweiler*, Coord. of Children's, Youth, & Intergenerational Ministry

Dear Peace Family,

May His Grace Abound,

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).

Lenten Soup Suppers Sign up at the Welcome Table to bring soup and bread for the soup suppers **6 pm on Wednesdays February 21 – March 20**. Questions? Ask Nancy Heavey, 752-8450.

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

Our Lenten Offering Our offering this Lent is for Retreat Home. Retreat Home is a network of people and homes offering hospitality with those in need of temporary housing and strengthening the community through loving our neighbors. Retreat Home meets real needs by providing short stay housing (3-4 months) and structured support for families exiting homelessness. Retreat Home's hosts and support volunteers welcome guest families into their homes and their lives. Please give to “Peace Lutheran Church,” marked “Lenten Offering.”

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, ayna@peacetacoma.org
 Deacon of Congregational Care & Community Resources: Charissa Carroll, ext. 104, charissa@peacetacoma.org
 Music Director: Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org
 Nursery Care: Brianna Miller
 Operations Manager: Damishe Greenwood-Walker, ext. 100, plcadmin@peacetacoma.org
 Finance Coordinator: Jenny Haferbecker, jenny@peacetacoma.org

Check out the website: [Peace Lutheran Church](#)

Peace Lutheran Tacoma

Peace Lutheran Church Youth Ministry

Instagram: [@peacelutheranchurch](#)

Check out our YouTube page: [Peace Videos](#)

Peace Community Center Update

Thank you to Peace Lutheran Church and the individual members of the congregation who continue to support the Community Center with your prayers, financial support, and well wishes and care. Here is a brief update on what the Community Center has been working on recently and where we are going in the coming months:

Communications Plan – The Center has created a communications plan that starts here in February. For Peace Lutheran Church it includes a monthly update at worship services with board members available after services for questions and conversation, a regular update to the church council, a news article in the newsletter, and a monthly email (which will also go out to the Center’s broader email list, apologies if you get this update twice).

Finances – The Center continue to sort through its finances, but from all that we know to date, the Center is in a solid financial position to continue with our shared expenses with the Church and to operate for the foreseeable future, while we continue to move forward to discern what the future holds for the Center. At some point later in 2023, it will be good to revisit and reaffirm shared expenses considering the Center's new reality.

Next Six Months – The Center hopes to have finances fully in order no later than the end of February, which will include having 2022-23 financial statements and a 2023-24 budget in place. The Center also plans to move into a time of strategic planning, which will include significant community engagement around strengths, needs, and opportunities, to better determine what the future holds for Peace Community Center. We are still in the process of fleshing out these plans, but there will be significant opportunities for church members to participate.

Consulting Support for Peace Community Center - The board has engaged Bill Hanawalt as an outside consultant to support the Center in this time of transition. Bill is supporting the board in the above focus areas and in general supporting the board with administrative needs, as well as governance and missional leadership. In addition, Damishe is providing a critical supportive role in this time, supporting finances, donor acknowledgement, and community engagement.

Thank you for your continued multi-faceted support of Peace Community Center. If you have any questions or would like to have a conversation, please do not hesitate to reach out to us directors@peacecommunitycenter.org. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers. — *Board of Directors*, Peace Community Center

Arthur Jones, President	Kerri Pedrick, Treasurer	Sarah Detweiler, Secretary
Trina Kagochi	Joanne McWilson	Steve Olson
Pastor John Stroeh, Ex Officio		



Men’s Ministry

Dear People of Peace,

On January 20th men of Peace Lutheran met at the Red Elm Cafe to discuss and plan our 2024. General consensus was that those in attendance were appreciative of the continued outreach but wanted to build more opportunities of connection not just on Saturdays when we meet. To that end, we spoke on the elements of **Head, Heart, and Hands**, and what that means going forward.

- For Head:** Malcolm Carroll is meeting with small groups during the week to hold Bible studies, and other men are encouraged to join or set up their own small Bible studies.
- For Hands:** We talked about service projects that men who are inclined can get together and help out. For instance, putting together a service group in an effort to help Alan Kies where needed so he has consistent help. Also, helping members of the church with their service related needs such as landscaping or light projects. We can also partner with community organizations to help out the neighborhood. Lots of great ideas for quarterly service projects.
- For Heart:** Men also communicated that coming together to hear common struggles, handling commitments to family, job, church, and how not to feel guilty wanting some alone time can be discussed in an open non-judgmental environment. Another great idea was getting a monthly or bi-weekly bowling/ golf group so we can socialize and be there for each other building connections through light sport activities.

We will continue to organize activities on these themes and grow in faith together this year. There is a Men's Group advisory counsel to share responsibilities of leading this ministry and all changes going forward will be carefully discerned by this advisory group. We ask you for your continued prayers as we move forward to grow this ministry, provide support to each other, and most of all glorify Jesus by nurturing these relationships.

Antonio Yune, Men’s Ministry Coordinator (253-227-1995)

Women’s Ministry

For everything there is a season. This is the season of a blooming women’s ministry here at Peace. We have a wonderful and diverse group of women who are getting to know one another better and who are collectively leading the monthly women’s breakfasts. We are growing together, laughing together and enjoying getting to know one another through various events and gatherings. All women are welcome, and we would love to connect with you. If you have considered coming to a 3rd Saturday breakfast, please do. If you have ideas to share or something you would like to lead, please talk to me, Leigh or Julia. We look forward to growing with you all in this new year.



Peace & Joy,
Charissa Carroll, Deacon of Congregational Care & Community Resources

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).