

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

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# THE CALL TO PEACE

Volume 22 ▪ Issue 2 ▪ Summer 2026

## Summer Bible Adventure! “Rainbow of Promise”

**1 day only! Saturday August 8, 10 am - 3 pm**

Children & families, learn about God’s promises through the story of Noah, do activities, have fun, share food. **Free!** Registration starts mid-summer.



## Summer Outdoor Worship, BBQ, Outdoor Games!

Outside on the corner lot (21st and S. Ainsworth).

**Sunday August 9 at 10 am**

**Cookout & Games following**

(no 9 am breakfast and fellowship on this Sunday)

Bring a chair (or use one provided). Give thanks to God!

We will also live stream this service.



## Peace at the Park

**Wednesdays July 8 and July 29, 5:30-7:30 pm,**

**Wright Park, 501 S I St, Tacoma**

Everyone is invited to gather at Wright Park with Peace friends, neighbors, and the community. Bring your own picnic food items and your own utensils. Kids, enjoy the spray park and playground.

If you want, bring outdoor play items (balls, games, etc.) to share.



## Peace Lutheran Church Worship & Summer Schedule

We worship Sundays at 8:30 & 11 am.

Join live stream Sunday worship at 11 am on the church Facebook page (worship video also available later on the YouTube channel).

**Summer Worship Schedule: July 5 - September 6:**

**9 am Breakfast & Fellowship, 10 am Worship**

(one worship service only - also live streamed)



Peace Lutheran



PEACE COMMUNITY  
CENTER

**Interested in Learning More about Faith in God and Service through Peace Lutheran Church? Want to Become a Member of Peace?** Join a **Saturday class on June 6 from 10 am – 2:30 pm** called “Foundations of Faith and Peace” exploring marks of being a follower of Jesus and what it means to serve him in and through Peace Lutheran Church and Community Center. Lunch provided. Interested? Talk to Pastor John. New members will be received in worship on Sunday, June 14.

**Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policies Training:** Please come **Wednesday June 10 from 6:30-8 pm** to a training on our church protection policies led by Youth Minister Manis Pierre and Children’s Minister Annabell Davis-Bloom. This is especially good for leaders and servers in children’s and youth ministry and other church ministries.

**Church Office Schedule: Open Tuesday-Friday, 9-5 pm, closed Monday.**

**Mutual Ministry Teams:** These teams strengthen Peace’s mission through listening, sharing, and reviewing the life and ministry of the congregation in conversation with the church staff person. If you have feedback to share, please reach out to one of these team members for our three full-time church staff.

• Pastor John’s Mutual Ministry Team: Pam Asadi, Ben Flesher, Pat Ferguson, Karen Riede, Kit Thompson

• Director of Community Engagement & Outreach Brendan Nelson’s Mutual Ministry Team: Annie Burris, Malcolm Carroll, Craig Cogger, Chris Ferguson, Joanne McWilson  
Operations Manager Damishe Greenwood-Walker will soon have a Mutual Ministry Team.

**Interested in Baptism for Yourself or a Family Member?** Please speak with Pastor John.

## Pastor's Reflection

"Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints." — Eph. 6:18

**People of Peace:** In the season of Lent (before Easter), during the Sunday Faith Education Hour we explored together the seasons of the church year, discovering how God meets us in the seasons of our lives through stories and values of Jesus as we seek to live lives of justice and faithfulness to God. Each Sunday all who participated were invited to write prayer petitions. We collected them to compile a Peace Church booklet of [Prayers for All Seasons](#). Here are a few for your personal meditation.

**Advent:**

+ Lord God, as you patiently and lovingly wait for us to open our hearts to you so that your love may well up through us into the world as your love welled up into the world through Jesus, help us to trust in you and your faithfulness to bring us all home to you.

+ Prayer for the now and the not yet: as we ache with yearning for everything to be made new, may we see where God's kingdom is already among us.

+ In liminal spaces when we tend to be frozen, waiting for the not yet to arrive, help us stay nimble and intentional in helping bring God's kin-dom a little closer to reality.

**Christmas:**

+ Word Made Flesh, we are humbled, we are in awe, we are forever grateful, we rejoice, we live in hope because you chose to be humbled and show us who you are.

+ I pray we recognize Christ in every child born in any place, crossing any imagined border. I pray we recognize Christ in every person, that we don't outgrow your image by our acts or in our aging. Mostly, I pray we transform our ways of being in relationship—from the personal to the political to the international—so those ways finally show that we do recognize you in each other, that we love you in each other.

+ Gracious God, thank you for coming to us in those we consider the least. Grant that we may be surprised at how you manage to bring your love into the world even through our hearts.

**Epiphany:**

+ Spirit of God, we ask you to continue to inhabit your people here at Peace. Give us dreams worthy of holy pursuit. Guide us on paths as yet unknown. Teach us to avoid the trickeries of "Herod." Make our hearts tender and strong for your work in the world as we seek to follow Jesus.

+ Help us respond to your light, find a new way to reflect love with courage, justice, peace, thanksgiving, and joy.

+ Let us pray for the soul of our nation and may we live out that soul in ways that change our path and understanding of compassion and justice. Burst open our capacity to be awestruck by your Word and acts and love.

**Lent:**

+ Gracious God, we confess our complicity in your suffering and death on your way to the cross. We are silent when we should speak out against injustice. We benefit from systems that oppress others. We avoid taking personal actions of compassion and care, letting others do the work and make sacrifices in our stead. Forgive us, O God. Help us do better! Give us the courage to walk with you as you walk with us.

+ Thank you, Jesus, for stretching your arms as far as they will possibly stretch and beyond, for carrying every heavy burden of this life on your shoulders, for suffering with all those who are shut out, for dying undignified, mocked, stripped, and tortured – for me, for all, not worthy, sinners all.

**Easter:**

+ God, I confess, I'm holding onto fear. Take my doubt, my fear of what is beyond my control. Help me find joy and trust that I live because you live, and all is well.

+ Gracious God, as you have opened the way for us to follow Jesus, help us to take the steps to join Jesus in his suffering, loving those around us in such a way that hearts may be opened to you, that your light may shine in the dark places of our hearts and we may be raised in newness of life.

**Pentecost:**

+ Holy Spirit, help us to be the people you want us to be and to be the church you guide us to be. May we, like the disciples on Pentecost, also be able to connect in love and truth with people from any background and any life experience. May God's Spirit burn in our hearts in our own language, our own hearts' deepest way of speaking.

+ Dear Lord, open our eyes to truly see the need of our neighbors, open our ears to hear their cries, open our minds to understanding, open our hearts to compassion, open our hands to serve and our

arms to hold, and move our feet to follow your path.



Feet to Faith Youth Retreat

God's peace, *Pastor John*

## Peace Summer Calendar

### June

<b>June 6th (Saturday)</b>	<b>10 - 2:30 pm</b> Foundations of Faith and Peace class
<b>June 7th (Sunday)</b>	Confirmation Sunday
<b>June 10th (Wednesday)</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b> Child, Youth, & Vulnerable Adult Protection training
<b>June 14th (Sunday)</b>	Church Leaders and Helpers Thank You, Welcome New Members
<b>June 21st (Sunday)</b>	End of School Year Blessing; <b>9:30 am</b> Father's Day Breakfast

### July

<b>July 5th (Sunday)</b>	Summer Worship Schedule begins: 9 am Breakfast Fellowship, 10 am Worship
<b>July 8th (Wednesday)</b>	<b>5:30-7:30 pm</b> Peace at the Park (Wright Park)
<b>July 29th (Wednesday)</b>	<b>5:30-7:30 pm</b> Peace at the Park (Wright Park)

### August

<b>August 8th (Saturday)</b>	<b>10 am - 3 pm</b> Summer Bible Adventure for Children & Families
<b>August 9th (Sunday)</b>	<b>10 am</b> Outdoor Worship, BBQ, and Outdoor Games!

### September

<b>September 6th (Sunday)</b>	Back to School Blessing
<b>September 13th (Sunday)</b>	Rally Sunday! Regular Worship Schedule resumes; Sunday School starts again

## Opportunities to Grow in Faith

**Faith Opportunities Sundays 9:45-10:45 am**

+ 4 year-olds to 3rd grade Godly Play Bible time

+ 4th - 6th grade Explorers class

+ Adult & Youth class:

- June 7: Confirmands share faith reflections and receive the blessing of the church
- June 14: Church Council Roles and Responsibilities, led by President Gretchen Duggan and the Church Council
- June 21: No class—enjoy Father's Day breakfast
- June 28: Labor and the Bible: the Workers' Bill of Rights, led by Rev. Mike Roberts & Laura Christensen

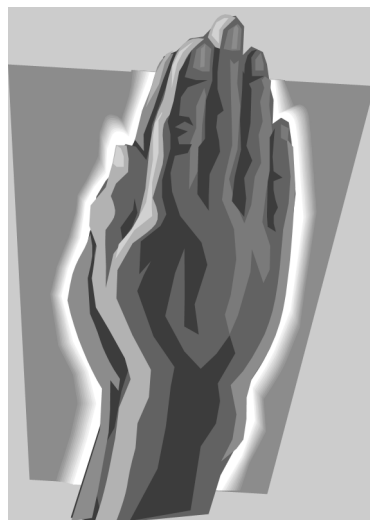
**Community Bible Study** Pastor John leads a Community Bible Study in the Conference Room and online on **Thursdays, 1-2 pm**, on the Bible readings for worship the following Sunday. We read scripture, share conversation, and pray as we listen for God to speak to us and through us. Email Pastor John for the Microsoft Teams link. Last Community Bible Study before a summer break is June 11.

**Christ in Our Home** Would you like to receive a copy of the daily devotional "Christ in Our Home"? Pick one up from the Welcome Table, or contact Damishe in the office.

**Anti-Racism Book Resource Library** Check out the book cart in the multipurpose room with anti-racism books to borrow for your personal growth and deeper understanding.

# Philippians 4:6

<sup>6</sup>Do not worry **about anything,**  
but in everything  
**by prayer**  
and supplication  
**with thanksgiving**  
let your requests be made  
**known to God.**



## Remember in Prayer

### Those who celebrate...

- All graduates of Peace Church & Center
- Families of these new babies in the Peace community: Elsie, Mae, and Justin
- Confirmands: Grayson Asadi McGlaughlin and Alana Kagochi
- The Peace community as we reach out in love to Hilltop families this summer

### 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 live midst violence, war, or unrest, especially the people of Gaza, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria, Sudan, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, the Holy Land, Congo, Venezuela, and Central African Republic

### Our work...

- Our church as we live into our Future Directions, grounded in a commitment to anti-racism
- Our ministries in community development, especially in affordable housing
- 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 as we live into a new strategic plan
- Our Southwestern Washington Synod of the ELCA
- Our global partners: Rev. Jane Kagochi in Kenya, our companion synod in Namibia, Seigny family in Japan
- 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.

## Women's Ministry Update



The Peace Women's Bible Studies are wrapping up for the season after spending the year studying the Gospel of Luke together in small groups since September. It has been a meaningful season of faith, fellowship, and connection for many women in our church community.



To celebrate the end of the season before summer begins, the Women's Ministry will host an End-of-Season Brunch on May 30 from 9:30-11:30 am in the Peace Multipurpose Room. As we prepare for the slower pace of summer, we invite everyone to gather one last time for community, conversation, and a shared meal. Please bring a dish to share for the brunch celebration.

This spring, the Women's Ministry also hosted a successful Spring Makers Market in March, raising over \$500 to support the 2027 Women's Retreat. The event featured more than 15 vendors and welcomed strong support from both the congregation and the wider community. Guests enjoyed a delicious salad bar, raffle drawings, and a silent auction while shopping a wonderful variety of handmade and local items including pottery, blind date with a book bundles, plant starters, jewelry, candles, soaps, watercolor paintings, home décor, and food items. The event was such a positive experience that plans are already being discussed to bring it back again in 2027.

Women's Ministry activities will pause for the summer and return in the fall. We are considering offering Bible studies again and would love additional ideas for future activities and opportunities for women to connect. If you have suggestions or would like to get involved, please reach out to Julia, Leigh, or Lenora.



Planning has also already begun for the 2027 Women's Retreat in the spring. If you are interested in helping with planning or being part of the retreat team, we would love to hear from you.



Women's Ministry Team

## The Peace Café and Community Resources Ministry

We want to thank all of our Community Resources Meals Ministry Partners!

Thanks to our wonderful partners, our calendar for 2026 is full. We will open the calendar for 2027 in the fall so stay tuned.

Fridays at Peace remains a one-stop shop. Our schedule is as follows:

- **Peace Café** is open from **3-5 pm on Fridays (meal 5:30-6:30 pm)**. Community members can come in to relax, share drinks, refreshments, fellowship.
- **Community Meals** is open from 5:30 - 6:30 pm. We also have meals to-go.
- **Peace Clothing Closet** is open from 6:00 - 7:00 pm.



As always, thank you to all of the volunteers, donors, churches, and group partners who took the time to prepare and help serve the meals.

The meals ministry grows because of your generous giving, love, and support. If you would like to support the ministry by providing a meal or volunteering, and resources, please contact:

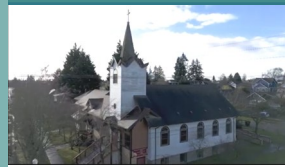
Damisha Greenwood-Walker at (253) 383-1317 or email [plcadmin@peacetacoma.org](mailto:plcadmin@peacetacoma.org) or

Brendan Nelson, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach at [brendan@peacetacoma.org](mailto:brendan@peacetacoma.org).

Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

Community Resources Meals Team

# Community Engagement and Outreach



Peace Family,

What a blessing it has been these past few months to be in ministry with so many of you and to witness the ways people have been activated and truly showing up where it counts. There has been so much movement, growth, challenge, and hope within our community, and I continue to be deeply grateful for the people of Peace.

We are excited to share that Peace has recently received two additional grants: one to support our future housing development work and another to strengthen our community resources and outreach efforts. We are incredibly grateful to the NEEB Family Foundation and our partners at LISC for believing in the ministry and vision taking shape here at Peace.

We are also deeply engaged in a thoughtful and exciting process with Liminal Land Consultants as we continue exploring possibilities for a new housing development. This journey has sparked meaningful conversations, important questions, and many “aha” moments along the way. Thank you to everyone who has contributed their voice, wisdom, and energy to this process. We look forward to sharing more updates later this summer or early fall.

As many of you know, we experienced the heartbreaking loss of one of our homes due to a fire. We are continuing to work through the insurance process and navigate the next steps forward. At the same time, we remain grateful that three of our other homes are still functional, and we are preparing to welcome new families into two of those homes very soon.

And then there is the Peace Café. Honestly, there are not enough words to express how full my heart has been witnessing the love, care, and generosity shown each week. From the people who attend to the many volunteers and groups who continue to lean in and make these meals possible, it has truly become a reflection of what community can look like at its best. We are also incredibly blessed to share that groups are fully booked for serving meals for the remainder of the year. That support is such a gift and a tremendous lift for our staff and leadership team.

There is so much more that could be said, but above all, I simply want to say thank you. Thank you for your faithfulness, your compassion, your willingness to serve, and your belief in what God is doing through Peace.

I look forward to a wonderful summer together and a meaningful transition into the fall season ahead.

Blessings,

*Brendan Nelson*, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach

## Opportunities to Serve

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

**Breakfast Providers Needed:** Able to provide a Sunday breakfast at Peace? Sign up at the Welcome Table. Questions? Ask Teresa Jackson (253-318-4420).

**Feeling Overwhelmed Living in Our Nation and Want to Respond?** Find helpful suggestions for taking positive action in our regular all-church emails. See lists of 7 micro-actions.

## Youth Ministry Update



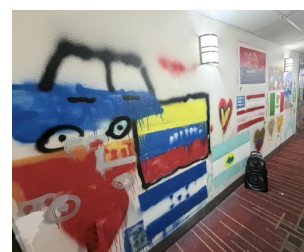
Dear Peace Family,

Last year, our congregation navigated a transitional time in staffing for our children's and youth ministry. Today, I am incredibly blessed to step into this role and witness firsthand the vibrant, faith-filled energy of our young people here at Peace Lutheran Church.

This May, our youth embarked on an unforgettable two-day Confirmation Retreat, a time dedicated to fellowship, reflection, and putting our faith into brilliant action.

### Friday: Fellowship and Firelight

We kicked off the retreat on Friday evening with an overnight stay right here at the church. The halls echoed with joy as the youth bonded over intense rounds of sardine-tag. As the evening settled, we gathered around the campfire, sharing laughs, roasting s'mores, and deepening our connections with



one another. It was a beautiful reminder of the importance of making space for rest, joy, and relationship-building.

### Saturday: "Paint the Walls with Hope"

On Saturday, May 16th, we took our energy out into the community. We partnered with Thrive International, and when our group arrived, they were given a simple goal: paint the walls with hope. With spray paint in hand, protective masks, and creativity, our youth transformed ordinary hallways, blank walls, and even a laundry room door into a canvas of color and life.

### Highlights from our day of creative service included:

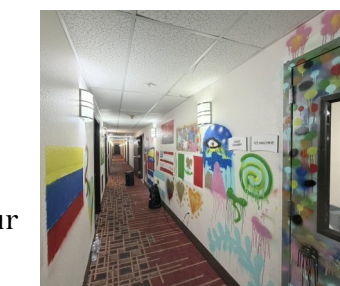
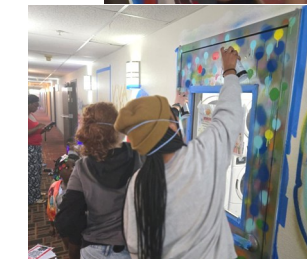
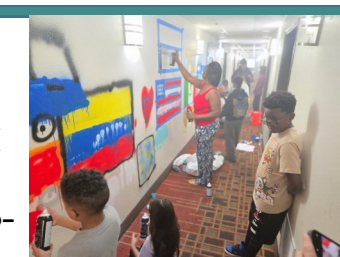
- **Global Vision:** A beautiful, collaborative mural of the Earth, reminding us of God's expansive love and dignity for the whole world.
- **Honoring Heritage:** Hand-painted flags from across the globe—including Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, Honduras, and the United States—celebrating the rich, God-given diversity of our neighbors.
- **Joyful Expression:** Vivid swirls, bright colors, and dynamic street-art styles that brought light and life to everyday, functional spaces.

### Faith in Action

At Peace Lutheran, we are compelled by the love of God to realize God's dream for the world through serving. Watching our young people interact with the community, whether it was painting or kicking around a soccer ball bringing beauty and hope into a community as a powerful testament to their growing faith.

God's peace,

*Manis Pierre*, Youth Minister



# What's Been Happening at Peace Lutheran Church?



Lent Hilltop Prayer Walk



Easter Cross



Easter Sunday Worship! Christ is risen!



The Godly Play Easter story



Easter Eggstravaganza!



Serving Easter breakfast!

## Children's Ministry Update

Children's Ministry has had a wonderful season of events this spring! During our Wednesday Lent gatherings, children enjoyed a variety of crafts and stories that helped us prepare our hearts for Jesus. We learned about prayer, service, hope and new life. Following Lent, we celebrated with a fun-filled Easter Eggstravaganza celebration featuring crafts, the Easter story shared by Pastor John and Leigh, and an exciting egg hunt for the kids. It was a joyful time of fellowship and family fun. Looking ahead, we are excited for our Summer Bible Adventure coming up on August 8th!

If you are interested in serving in Children's Ministry, we would love to have you join us. Please feel free to contact me at [annabell@peacetacoma.org](mailto:annabell@peacetacoma.org) or 253-948-0180 ext.104. Thank you!

*Annabell Davis-Bloom*, Children's Minister

## Who's Who on the Peace Lutheran Church Staff

Pastor: John Stroeh, 253-383-1317 ext 101, [pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org](mailto:pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org)

Director of Community Engagement & Outreach: Brendan Nelson, 253-383-1317 ext 102, [brendan@peacetacoma.org](mailto:brendan@peacetacoma.org)

Youth Minister: Manis Pierre, 253-383-1317 ext 103, [manis@peacetacoma.org](mailto:manis@peacetacoma.org)

Children's Minister: Annabell Davis Bloom, 253-383-1317 ext 104, [annabell@peacetacoma.org](mailto:annabell@peacetacoma.org)

Interim Music & Choir Director: Michael Green, [michael@peacetacoma.org](mailto:michael@peacetacoma.org)

Nursery Attendant: Brianna Miller, [brianna@peacetacoma.org](mailto:brianna@peacetacoma.org)

Operations Manager: Damishe Greenwood-Walker, 253-383-1317 ext 100, [plcadm@peacetacoma.org](mailto:plcadm@peacetacoma.org)

Finance Coordinator: Jenny Haferbecker, [jenny@peacetacoma.org](mailto:jenny@peacetacoma.org)

## From the Church Council

Dear Peace Family,

During this first half of 2026 we've been continuing to grow in our roles on council—whether we're new to council or carrying through from years past. All of us are praying for discernment as we seek to support and guide the life and ministry of Peace.

Along with our monthly meetings, the annual council retreat is a time when we seek to build a foundation for the growth, prayer, and discernment I referenced above. We held this year's retreat in April and focused on 5 main areas:

**Relationship building** - our work as a council is more rewarding and more effective when we understand each other. We shared meals, shared prayer, and went through some lighter and some more contemplative relationship building exercises together.

**Mission, Vision, Values & Future Directions** - We spent time delving into our foundational statements about who we are and where we're seeking to go as the Peace community using the language of our mission, vision, and values, welcome statement, foundational commitment to anti-racism, and our land acknowledgement.

**Our role as a whole council** - while we each have individual roles on council from treasurer to evangelism, worship to in-reach, we also share a common purpose as a council within our church. We looked closely at the role of the council as stated in our Peace Lutheran Church council handbook and discussed areas of growth and ways we can be empowered to serve and support.

**Ministry of Place Housing Feasibility** - Brendan and other members of the Housing Feasibility Team met with us to talk about where we are in the process of discovering what is possible for potential growth of our housing ministry at Peace. I emphasize "potential" and "possible." This is a process of discovery and discernment and it's vital to gather information so we as a community can be guided by facts, prayer, & careful consideration.

**Peace Community Center Partnership** - Kerri Pedrick, chair of the PCC Board, spent time with us as we work to build and strengthen the partnership and communication between PCC leadership—both current and future. We're exploring a Decision Matrix that helps us think through how we'll communicate and make decisions about all kinds of things from shared staff to facility use, from how we report information to shared programming, and who needs to be part of those decisions at each point. This work is ongoing!

Remember, your council is here to hear your concerns, pray for you, to support ministries at Peace, and to provide encouragement too. Reach out when you need us!

With hope and care,

*Gretchen Duggan*, Council President

## Inreach Ministry

One of the gifts of the academic year is its built-in rhythm. Each year offers a season of steady work followed by a season of rest, then the promise of a fresh start. As a teacher, I've come to appreciate that cycle deeply. Summer gives us space to breathe, reset, and let new energy gather. Fall invites us to begin again with clearer minds and renewed purpose.

My hope for our congregation this summer is that we support one another in resting well. Rest helps prepare our hearts and spirits for what comes next. It's the quiet renewal that allows fresh ideas and new possibilities to take root. As a congregation, we'll rest with one less Sunday service, a lighter Sunday breakfast, and a pause in our programmed faith-education hour. And in the midst of it all, I hope you have some savory slow summer days and are grateful for the space they create.

When fall arrives, we'll step into a season of restart, with a chance to re-gather, re-focus, and re-imagine how we care for one another and for our building. I am looking forward to that fresh start and the creativity it will bring. May this summer be gentle and restorative for all of us, so that when that fresh fall start comes again, we're ready to begin again together.

*Rebecca Foster*, Inreach Ministry

# Peace Community Center



The Peace Community Center Board is excited to share with you the Center's new [Strategic Plan](http://www.peacecommunitycenter.org/strategy) (www.peacecommunitycenter.org/strategy). This plan marks a pivotal moment of renewal, reflection, and recommitment. Rooted in deep listening, honest assessment, and a return to foundational purpose, this plan charts a path forward for relaunching Peace Community Center as a faith-rooted, community-led organization working alongside Hilltop youth and families to build pathways to stability, opportunity, and housing security.

This next chapter honors the Center's history while responding thoughtfully to the realities of today's Hilltop community.

As the Board of Peace Community Center, we are now working on **three initial goals** as laid out in the new strategic plan.

1. Hire the next lead staff member of Peace Community Center,
2. Strengthen our partnership with Peace Lutheran Church, and
3. Share the Center's new strategic plan with Peace Lutheran Church, the Hilltop community, partners, and individual and foundation donors.

We will keep you updated on our progress in each of the above areas and the strategic plan as they move forward.

Lastly, we want to **welcome two new board members**. Gerdon Jones is new to the Board, but not to Peace Community Center. Gerdon is a Hilltop Scholar alum, graduate of Seattle Pacific University, and has a Masters in Transformational Leadership from Seattle University. He is now the Education Administrator with the Washington Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Malando Redeemer generously served on our Community Advisory Team during the strategic planning process and now joins our Board of Directors. Malando is the President of Tacoma's NAACP Branch and is the Youth & Young Adult Pastor at Shiloh Baptist. Both Gerdon and Malando bring lifelong commitment to and love for the Tacoma community, and have many valuable experiences in leadership, non-profits, and community development. Welcome, Malando and Gerdon!

If you have any questions or simply want to talk about the Center, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Board of Directors at [directors@peacecommunitycenter.org](mailto:directors@peacecommunitycenter.org).

With gratitude,

## Peace Community Center Board of Directors

- Kerri Pedrick, President
- Joanne McWilson, Vice President
- Sarah Detweiler, Treasurer
- Gerdon Jones, Member
- Malando Redeemer, Member
- Pastor John Stroeh, Ex Officio

# Evangelism Ministry



Dear Peace Family,

We are here in 2026 continuing to do Kingdom work. Peace Café offers a place for community members to come and enjoy themselves. We have so much fun laughing, playing games, and just simply hanging out. The Peace Community Clothing Closet is available Mondays & Fridays, from 6:00 -7:00 pm to serve our community. This is a free service.

### Upcoming events:

- Father's Day - we keep all fathers encouraged.
- Peace at the Park - we gather together picnic style. This is bring your own picnic meal or snacks as we enjoy the fellowship and passing out fliers inviting community members to Peace.
- Outdoor Worship Service in August - we worship in outdoors and have a wonderful time of fellowship.

*Neoma Clay*, Evangelism Ministry

# Music Ministry

Dear Peace Family,

As we head into the summer, the music ministry is thankful to God for both the new faces and consistent faces that have been assisting with instruments, voices, and ideas these last few months.

Lent and Resurrection Sunday services were successful and edifying. Our music technology team continues to be on-point. The number of children singing on Kids First Sundays has been a blessing and some kids have even been brave enough to join in as new participants on short-notice.

Both the Kids Choir and the Gospel Choir will have a summer "break" so be paying attention to bulletins, announcements, and electronic communication to learn how that will manifest for each of the choirs.

The Music Dept. has a place for YOU at all times so feel free to connect at [michael@peacetacoma.org](mailto:michael@peacetacoma.org).

Be Blessed,

*Michael Green*, Interim Music Director



# 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).