

THE GOOD NEWS OF PEACE

**Our Vision Statement: Sharing Peace Faithfully*

**Our Mission: To bring people into contact with the gospel, and help them grow in their relationship in God in Christ*

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November 2017

Vol. XXVII, Issue 11

Better Than Alchemy

In the Middle Ages, there was a pseudoscientific movement that sought to turn other objects into gold. It was called alchemy. Many different people were feverishly working to find the secret for the transformation. The experimentation was real, and in a sense helpful to future scientific endeavors. But the results were always a failure in terms of the transformation. It couldn't be done.

Today's version of alchemy does not involve a precious metal. Today's version is that we can manufacture happiness. Our society keeps thinking that we can turn success or grades or money or the number of friends we have or pleasure or our brain power or our authority into something grand, which will in turn lead to happiness. Just like the alchemists, sometimes we think we're really on to something and that "this" is the key – only to be disappointed when it fades (if it got close to the goal at all.)

As the people of God, we have been given something better than alchemy. We have been given a perspective that acknowledges everything we have and everything we can become is a gift. If we want to be content in life (better than just happy), we can come to learn that one of the keys is to be grateful. For all our abilities and successes, instead of pretending we alone made them happen, we acknowledge how many different people and circumstances and natural gifts it took to get there. When that happens, gratitude happens. When we keep doing that consistently, sooner or later an inner peace (contentment) can become a real presence (another God-directed gift.) It even helps us accept our limitations.

We do not need to be grateful for disease or death or hardships or difficulties of any kind. But even then, God can help us find ways to see that we're not facing those things alone, that we have resources and strengths to meet the challenge, that whatever has come is not the last word.

Thanksgiving will be here before we know it. It is a natural time to reflect on life. Each time we direct our attention to God's sustaining and abundant generosity (frequently made known through others), even as we deal with the "real world," we can be transformed. There is no alchemy involved. Gratitude transforms lives.

Pastor Dave Hedlin

Prayers Requested

Edna Anglin, Chris Fehrenkamp, Melinda, Lori Trosen, Ray Catellier, Cathy, Austin King, Mrs. G, Alan Booton, the family of Jeff Weissgerber, Renee Wiedman, Vivian Farbak, Mary Brouette & family, the family of Joann Drake, Phyllis Guzman, Jeanette Mau, Jodee Saenz, Bryan Flynn, Sue Rushing, Jan Moisan, the family of Mary Beth Leahy, the family of Phillip Cammack, Donald Toth, Bill Reidy, Melissa and Josh, Bob P., Georgianna Bafundo, Michelle Y., Jan Stoller, Danielle & Mike, Susie, the Simoni family, Erma Linda Mazac, those in the military throughout the world, Bob Clark

Sympathy

The congregation of Peace wishes to extend its sympathy to:

the family of Tammy Rae, wife of Bob Rae;

the family of Shirley Anderson, mother of Jeff Anderson;

the family of Mary Strutowski, mother of Donna Conway;

the family of Jerry Cavender, father of Terrie Higgins;

the family of Bill Brennan, father of Tara Torkelson.

Congratulations

Jason & Becky Gofron, parents & Debbie Goebig, grandmother, on the birth of Audrey June Gofron.

Time to... set your clocks **BACK** one hour before you go to bed on November 4.

Thank You Very Much!

The list that follows is for those who have done something for the first time. (If we miss someone, please let us know!) We are thankful for all the people who give of themselves to make ministry happen, even though their names don't keep getting mentioned here.

To:

Chuck Vick, Kevin Curry, Dan Schaffer – lawn mowing

Ani & Lauryn Grothe – ushering

Grace Liszkiewicz – nursery

Everyone who helped and/or provided food for funeral luncheons

Everyone who helped and/or provided food for the New Member Luncheon

Ron & Sharon Fullriede – for the new shelves in the office

From:

Girl Scout Troop 103 – for use of the church for their meetings

Together We Cope – for the quilts

Kankakee Parish Nurse Network – for the support and encouragement given to Georgia Cash as she begins the Parish Nurse program

Address for Our Sponsored Missionary

If you would like to send Danielle Steinwart a note sometime this year, here is her address:

Danielle Steinwart

High House,

St. Swithun's School

Alresford Rd

Winchester SO21 1HA, United Kingdom

New Addresses for Service Personnel

Mail for four of our members serving overseas in the military can be sent to:

MA 3Connor Wayne Baker

PSC 455 Box 173

FPO AP 96540-1070

Sgt Pafford, Devin

2714 S. Virginia Dr.

Apt. #36

Yuma AZ 85364

Daniel Treasure, EMFN, EE DIV

USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115)

Unit 100415 Box 1505

FPO AP 96694

Jacob Treasure

3749 Radcliffe Rd.

Abilene, TX 79602

Welcome to the Lord's Family

Thomas Michael Scanlan was baptized on Oct. 22

Baptism Orientation – Nov. 11

November 11, at 3:30 p.m., marks the next baptism orientation class for those who wish to have children baptized at Peace in the next few months.

Do You Give Electronically or Want To?

For those of you who give electronically and would like to put something in the offering plate, we have cards located on the counter you may use. If you would like to sign up for automatic withdrawals, please contact the office. Also, if you want to give on-line at any time, you can go to our website (www.peacenewelenox.org), click on the donate tab and then use the donate through Paypal tab. You can use most major credit cards.

Alzheimer's Association Support Group

Do you care for someone diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia? Are you looking for information and support? You are not alone. There is an Alzheimer's Association Support Group meeting at Peace the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome! If you would like more information, please contact Karin Knutson at karinknutson@hotmail.com.

Opiate Recovery Group

An Opiate Recovery Group meets here at Peace each Tuesday night from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Are you or a loved one struggling with heroin or opiate dependence? Addiction is a family disease, because everyone in the family suffers if someone is addicted to or abusing drugs. The good news is people can and do recover, and lead happy and productive lives. Please join us! This support group meeting is for those struggling, those who love someone struggling, or those who just want to learn about the epidemic of heroin and prescription pain medications in our community. For more information, contact Tom Moore at 815-354-3195.

Quick Reminders

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS **Nov. 26**. If you get your newsletter late, please pick one up here, or if you want it mailed first class or via e-mail, let us know.

* **The Will-Grundy Medical Clinic** is now accepting patients for free healthcare for the uninsured and those who qualify. Appointments are available onsite or over the phone, Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. To schedule a free screening appointment, please call (815) 726-3377, ext. 228. For patient eligibility information: <http://willgrundymedicalclinic.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Eligibility.pdf>.

* **Crutches and walkers available** – The church has received crutches and walkers from members. Please feel free to contact the church office if you need to borrow one of these items.

* **Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Cards** – Suicide is not about wanting to die, but about a powerful need for pain to end. You can help someone today by reaching out, listening, and letting them know you care. Be sure that the person can reach you and several responsible others if the desire to commit suicide becomes strong or if he/she just feels the need to talk to someone. Give the individual the names and telephone numbers of people who could be contacted and if possible, have the person meet these people. Give them the suicide prevention hotline. **Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Cards** are always located in the entrance area. Let's remember to keep in mind to spread the word that no one is alone in a time of need. Suicide destroys everyone who cares! Help someone today who is reaching out for help by picking up the cards and being attentive to what people are saying about their lives. Crisis Line – (815) 469-6166, text line – 741741, and online – www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

* **Bereavement Support Groups**

- *GriefShare* – Meets each Monday at 6:30 p.m.

- *Evening Adult Support Group* – Meets the third Thursday of the month, (with the exception of the month of October), June – December 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. at Joliet Area Community Hospice, *donation appreciated*.

- *Afternoon Adult Support Group* – Meets the second Friday of the month, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at Joliet Area Community Hospice, *donation appreciated*.

For other services offered, including individual counseling, parent support and general grief support, please visit the Joliet Area Community Hospice website: www.joliethospice.org or call (815) 470-4104.

* **LSSI's Joshua Arms Website** - Joshua Arms has a website that makes it easy for visitors to see all that the affordable senior housing development in Joliet has to offer. Visit the site at www.LSSI.org/JoshuaArms. Located at 1315 Rowell in a tree-lined residential area, Joshua Arms offers 186 independent, apartment-style units and 56 supportive living units, where residents can receive three meals a day, housekeeping and other daily living services. The new website is an easy to use tool for potential residents and family members to learn about Joshua Arms, including eligibility and floor plans.

* **Thrivent members** – For those of you who have Thrivent dollars to donate, don't forget Peace is one of those choices.

* **Cleaning for a Reason** – Provides free housecleaning once a month for 4 months for women currently undergoing chemotherapy. For more information or to sign up please go to:

www.cleaningforareason.org/cancer_patients_acct.html

You will need a doctor's note confirming treatment to sign up and Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in your zip code area arrange for service. This organization serves the entire US and currently has 547 partners to help these women.

* **Attend a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend**

The next weekend will be held Friday evening, November 10 through Sunday afternoon, November 12, 2017, at the Garden Hotel in South Beloit, IL.

Telephone Pastor John and Connie Heins, 815-623-8323, or e-mail: JCHeins@aol.com for further information. Go to www.godlovesmarriage.org for application. (This is a marriage enrichment program.)

C.D.s & Podcast Available

Would you like a C.D. copy of a worship service? Look for the sign-up on the name tag table. Also, if you want to listen to a sermon you missed or want to hear one again, go to the link on our website www.peacenewlenox.org.

Special Music

If you would like to provide special music (vocal or instrumental) during the worship services, please contact Kelly Muehlnickel at (815) 463-8836 or email her at bluestonebay@comcast.net.

Special All Saints Worship – Nov. 5

During the 8:30 worship on Nov. 5, people who have lost loved ones (especially those since the last All Saints Sunday) will have an opportunity to remember their loved ones. It would be helpful if you would let us know in advance if you will be coming forward to light a candle in memory of someone. We provide the candles and all, but we want to be sure we have an adequate supply. Please call the church office.

Peace Buddies – Nov. 5 & 19

Peace Buddies is a special needs youth group for high school age and older. New Buddies are always welcome! You do not have to be a part of our church to join us. If you know someone, please invite them to come. We usually meet on the first and third Sundays of the month from **noon – 2:00 p.m.** Any questions, please see Pastor Dave or call Emilie Harvey at (815) 529-7546. Any questions please see Pastor Dave or call Emilie Harvey at (815) 529-7546.

Ruth Circle Quilters – Nov. 6 & 20

Quilting meets every other Monday at 9:00 a.m. **No experience necessary.** You just have to know how to have fun to join. And if that's not enticing enough, we always have snacks! Refreshments provided by Kay Johnson on Nov. 7 and Cass Ott on Nov. 21. If you have questions, call Karen Dircks (815) 462-9527 or Syndy Lindbloom (708) 479-7338

Men's Dartball – Nov. 14

Get ready for a new season! Dartball meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month. No prior experience is needed (or helpful). Please join us! We finish up at 9:00 so you've got time for your bedtime ice cream, too. (Who's idea is that???)

Trailblazers – Nov. 21

Our next meeting will be our usual luncheon on Nov. 21 at noon here at church. The menu will be chicken. Bring yourself and whatever you'd enjoy sharing with the group. We will also be playing a few Thanksgiving related games and activities. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Invite a friend!

Peace Page Turners – Nov. 19

Peace Page Turners next will be discussing *Blood Brothers: the fatal friendship of Muhammad Ali and Malcolm X* by Randy Roberts and Johnny Smith on Nov. 19. We are short on copies of this book, so if anyone finishes reading it, please let me know and we can arrange for someone else to get your copy. Join us for the discussion, even if you haven't read the book. We meet at 9:45 a.m. and all are always welcome. If you would like a copy of the book or have any questions, contact Kathy Davenport (815) 485-3874.

Adult Fellowship Wine Tasting – Nov. 11

Mark your calendars and come and enjoy a relaxing evening with good conversation. The Adult Fellowship Wine Tasting will be at Claudia Green's house on Saturday, Nov. 11, starting at 6:15 p.m. Bring along your favorite bottle of wine and an appetizer or dessert to share. If there is a special reason or story behind your choice of wine—feel free to share that too. There will be soft drinks available, too, of course. Please use the sign up slip in the bulletin or call Claudia Green (815) 485-3712 if you are planning on attending.

Peace Women's Group

The Peace Women's Group is open to all women 18 and up. We invite all interested to join us for our events. We look forward to seeing you all soon! If you have any questions or want to sign up, contact Jan Stoller (815) 530-2786, or the church office.

-Sunday Dec. 10 at noon -3rd annual cookie exchange and holiday sweater contest. Details to follow.
More great events in store for 2018 including:
-Guitar music at Down Home Guitars in Frankfort.
-In house retreat- so well attended we'd like to try again;
-A return to JJC Culinary school, now called Thrive and located at their Joliet campus. Ideas always welcome!!!!

GriefShare Ministry

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you heal after losing a loved one. The group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days. They meet weekly on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. If you would like more information, contact Janet, Margie, or Pat at griefshare.plc.60451@gmail.com.

Adult Class Topics...

Come to our Sunday ***weekly adult class***. It usually meets in the back of the sanctuary, starting about 9:55. Here are the scheduled topics for the coming month.

Nov. 5 - *Do We Need another Reformation Today?*

Nov. 12 - *Discussion based on Martin Marty's book, Oct. 31, 1517, Martin Luther and the Day that Changed the World*

Nov. 19 - *A Checklist for a Happier Life*

Nov. 26 - *Setting Boundaries and Keeping Them* (How did you do at Thanksgiving? And it's not too late for Christmas and beyond.)

Dec. 3 - *Can Life with God Be Like Bread?* (Make it new all the time)

Everybody Read

Our desire to have people read a common Bible passage is part of our Book of Faith effort. Each month we'll pick a passage, invite everyone to read it sometime that month, and then those who are willing, write a sentence or two (or more if you'd like) about what you got out of the passage. November's passage is 2 Corinthians 9:6-15.

Evening Bible Study – Nov. 21

Our next session on Tuesday, November 21, from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. we will continue with Luke 7:18 You don't need to know anything about the Bible to benefit.

Thanksgiving Planning – Nov. 7 – 7:00

Each year our church hosts a wonderful Thanksgiving Day dinner for people in need, new to the community, or looking to eat with others. The major planning will take place on Tuesday, November 7, at 7:00 p.m. the dinner is on November 23 at noon.

Everybody's Welcome

Committee Night – Nov. 7 – 7:30

Four times a year we have an "everybody come" committee night. Your ideas meet with others who can help make them happen! The date for this next one is November 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Looking Ahead...

Nov. 4 – *C.P.R Class at N.L.F.D – 12:30 p.m.*

Nov. 5 – *Special All Saints Worship 8:30 a.m.*

Nov. 7 – *Thanksgiving Planning Meeting– 7:00 p.m.*

All Come Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 11 – *Baptism Orientation – 3:30 p.m.*

Adult Fellowship Wine Tasting at Claudia Green's home 6:15 p.m.

Nov. 12 – *Blood Pressure Screenings between services*

Nov. 18 – *7th & 8th gr. SkyZone Event 6:00 p.m.*

Nov. 23 – *21st Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at Peace Church – 12 noon*

Nov. 25 – *Decorating Peace's Tree 6:00 p.m.*

Caroling at Sunny Hill

Nov. 28 – *Church Council*

Dec. 2 – *Blood Drive 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

Gift Fair/Vendor Fair to Support Charities at Peace – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Program @ 5:00 p.m.

(3 yr. olds thru 2nd graders)

Dec. 5 – *Committee Chairs Meet 7:30 p.m.*

Dec. 10 – *Christmas Program @ 11:00 a.m.*

(3rd – 6th graders)

Dec. 16 – *Breakfast with Santa 9:00 a.m.*

Shortest Day/Longest Night Service 5:00 p.m.

Dec. 19 – *Church Council (note - 1 week early)*

Dec. 23 – *5:00 p.m. – Fourth Sunday of Advent worship*

Dec. 24 – *4:00 p.m. – Celebration service – including our invitation for children to bring bells to ring*

Dec. 24 – *7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 p.m. – Candlelight Communion services*

Dec. 25 – *10:00 a.m. – Festival Communion service*

Jan. 15 – *Jr. & Sr. High Ski Trip*

Health Care Ministry - Blood Pressure Screenings – Nov. 12

High blood pressure can start at any age and can cause catastrophic illness in our bodies if it goes untreated. Our next monthly screening date is November 12, between the two services. Your pressure will be measured by health care professionals, and will be kept strictly confidential. It only takes a few minutes for your screening, but those few minutes could save your life! If you have any questions, or have clinical experience in taking blood pressures and would like to be a part of the team, please contact Marylynn Tyler at 815-423-6407.

21st Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

**Thursday, Nov. 23, at noon
Turkey with all the trimmings
& heart-warming fellowship too**

Please come if you...

- ***are alone or in need, or***
- ***are new to the area or want to meet others, or***
- ***would like to spend Thanksgiving with others***

***Call in your reservations for this FREE
DINNER by Nov. 19***

***to Peace Lutheran Church,
815-485-5327 or e-mail us at***

peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org

***Let us know how many adults and children
will be attending.***

The church is located at 1900 E. Lincoln Highway, New Lenox (On U.S. Hwy. 30, directly across the street from Lincoln-Way Central High School)

If you know people who could benefit from the dinner, please encourage them to attend.

Transportation will be available, so please let us know if a ride is needed. We also deliver to the homebound. (For those interested, there will be a Thanksgiving worship service with communion at 11:30.)

Thanksgiving Dinner Help

For our wonderful dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23, all kinds of people help in a variety of ways, from providing food to helping with set up, clean up, serving, transportation, etc. If you'd like to help, call the office or sign up at church.

Thanksgiving Worship

***Sunday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m. –
Ecumenical worship at St. Anthony Catholic
Church, 7659 Sauk Trail, Frankfort***

Thursday, November 23, at 11:30 a.m. – here!

This service takes place before our Thanksgiving dinner.

**IT IS GOOD TO GIVE THANKS TO
THE LORD!**

Thanksgiving & Christmas Offerings

Each year the money we receive in our Thanksgiving and Christmas special envelopes is given away to others. This year it will be divided between the ELCA's Hunger Appeal (which includes direct help for the victims of the floods, earthquakes, and other disasters), Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (the agency of our church that serves so many people in need, especially as state funding is so short), mission churches (Santa Cruz in Joliet and Resurrection in Channahon – Pastor Ben's church), and local ministries that help others (Groundwork, Daybreak, Trinity Services, and Morningstar Mission.)

Thinking about Christmas Gifts?

Give your loved one a goat. What!? Through the ELCA's Good Gifts, you can find all kinds of alternative Christmas giving ideas. In short, someone who needs something, such as livestock, receives the actual animal, and your loved one knows that his or her gift is helping someone in need. Check out these and many other good gifts at <https://community.elca.org/elcagoodgifts>.

Christmas Gift Giving for Santa Cruz & Augustana Center

Each year we put up a tree with Christmas gift giving tags for people who could use our help to have a better Christmas. This year we again are going to support Santa Cruz's efforts to make that happen for people in their neighborhood and congregation, and for Augustana Center, which cares for kids without parents. Look for the tags towards the middle/end of November, with a return date of Dec. 3.

From Deacon Shari Trotter

Dear Members and friends of Peace,
This past month I have had the privilege to attend several sporting events. The tickets were very inexpensive, and the crowds were rowdy. However, the best part was the athletes! I got to see our very own Trevor Salutric play a rousing game of volleyball at Homer Middle School. I then had the joy of watching Kayla Chiappetti win second place in her English equestrian class at the Nova Quarter Horse Equestrian Center. To round the month off I attended a girl's basketball game at Liberty Middle School starring the amazing Kate Massey! All three events were different but all three had something in common. Our youth were enthusiastic, gave 100%, and were incredibly grateful for the opportunity. I highly recommend seeing these athletes at their craft. I thought I hated basketball but watching Kate's team, the underdogs, beat the number 1 team and join the girls in their shocked excitement and emotional celebration was worth every single moment! We have a lot to be proud of here at Peace. We have great youth who not only love God and are excited to learn about their faith but who also live it each and every day in their work and in their play. I will attend as many events as I am invited to! You are welcome to join me. How fun to look in the stands and see members of your church cheering you on. Imagine what that would have meant to you as a youth. So, take me out to the ball game, serve me a side of fun, trot alongside me for the adventure, and score an amazing opportunity to see the gifts of God in action.

God's Peace,

Deacon Shari

Peace Office Welcomes Jess Lindeman

After 10 years as the office person who helped coordinate youth ministry, we are saying good-bye to Amy Newman. We deeply appreciate all that Amy did for our church! We are grateful that we can welcome Jess Lindeman as a new member of the Peace staff, who has begun to take on that vital role in the youth ministry. Jess will be in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays.

Welcome New Member

We are delighted to welcome this new member into our church!

John Parker

Poinsettia Time Again

This year we will be able to once again buy our poinsettias from Trinity Services. A percentage of the money they receive goes for the children and adults with special needs. The Worship and Music Committee is pleased that our congregation can help others in need. Look for the poinsettia order forms in the narthex in November. The cost will be \$11 each. The deadline for placing your order will be December 3. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

All Church Tree Decorating & Caroling Event – Nov. 25

Everyone is invited to join us as decorate the church's Christmas tree, have some quick treats and then go caroling at Sunny Hill nursing home on Saturday, Nov. 25. If you're coming just for this (not staying after 5:00 worship), plan to be at church by 6 p.m.

Christmas Special Music Deadline

Each year several people offer to do prelude and other special music for Christmas worship services. To help manage all the music we have to coordinate for Christmas, we're going to set a Dec. 1 deadline for that music to be in Todd Yetman's hands. So, if you'd like to volunteer, talk to Todd, pick out your music and get that to him by **Dec. 1**.

Questions Kids Ask

Whom do you know who has children who don't go to church? Whom do you know who has children who like to read and/or color? Looking for gifts for someone that make a difference? Remember our Questions Kids Ask About God book (\$14) and coloring book (\$1). All the proceeds go to Lutheran World Relief and Feed My Starving Children.

Theater Event

Margaritaville – Nov. 19

On Sunday, Nov. 19, at 7:30 pm, at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago the tunes will be flowing and the mental relaxation should come with it. This musical features both original new songs and classic old ones from Jimmy Buffett, while it tells a story! Our bargain tickets are only \$21.50. There are 6 tickets left!

Blackhawks Game – Feb. 15

AUTUMN! What excites you about fall? Colorful leaves? Halloween? Thanksgiving? Christmas preparation? What about snow and sub-zero temperatures on the horizon? Maybe all of these? But for some, high on the list is Blackhawk hockey! Yes, we have 28 group tickets again this season. They are in rows 6 & 7 of the upper deck and are \$95 each. We will also have transportation available for those who would like it. These tickets will go fast, so please use the sign up slip in the bulletin or call the church office to reserve yours now. Join the excitement! Hawk ticket make a great holiday gift for that hard to buy for person!

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Nov. 1, 15 & 29

We will be meeting every other Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. If you already know how to stitch, or would like to learn, come and join us. We have members teaching crocheting or knitting if you want to learn. You can bring yarn, hooks/needles and patterns or we can provide these for you. Any questions, please contact Cheryl Gamen at (815) 462-3089.

Prayer Shawls to Be Given Away

Do you know someone who is in need of being wrapped in prayer, who would benefit from knowing that they are being prayed for, or someone going through difficult times? Our Prayer Shawl Ministry would love to create a prayer shawl for you or someone you know. A prayer shawl is a knitted or crocheted shawl that is made with prayerful meditation. In the entrance area, you will find a plaque for the ministry along with a request box. Please put in your requests and you will be contacted when your shawl is ready for pickup. Make sure to include your contact information, the recipient's first name (last name optional) and prayer concern. You may also contact the office directly for a shawl.

Children's Christmas Programs

Our Sunday School has two programs. Children who are 3 years old through 2nd grade will have their program on Dec. 2 during the 5:00 worship. Children in 3rd through 6th grades will have their program on Dec. 10 during the 11:00 worship. If you would be willing to help with one of this year's programs, please let Pastor Dave know.

Peace Church Christmas Ornaments

On behalf of the New Lenox Historical Society, Peace Lutheran Church Christmas ornaments are now available for purchase. If you would like one (or more), please look for the display on the counter in the narthex. The cost is \$8.50 per ornament. (There's an envelope available by the ornaments to place your cash or check made payable to Peace Lutheran Church).

Coat Drive for People in Need

One Warm Coat is a community service effort assisting in the collection of clean, reusable coats and jackets for donation to local individuals free of charge. Peace Church is following in its mission to give away coats to people of all ages. Our Altar Guild helps with this, and invites you to help those in need with good warm coats. Items can be dropped off here at church. Scarfs, hats, gloves/mittens and boots will also be accepted. Thank you for your continued support!

Gift/Vendor Fair to Support Charities – Dec. 2

In the spirit of giving, a gift/craft/vendor fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. here at Peace. There should be all kinds of ideas to aid in your holiday shopping, and at the same time support charitable causes. (Each vendor will designate a portion of their sales to a designated cause. For example, our *Questions Kids Ask About God* team will be there with our designation of Lutheran World Relief and Feed My Starving Children.) There will also be a blood drive from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for anyone who would like to donate. For vendor information call Joanne Webb (815) 603-2235.

God's Work in Action

As one of this year's goals in our Long-Range Plan, we want to highlight at least 10 people from church who are volunteering outside of Peace. God's work gets done by you in so many different ways; we want to celebrate how you take your gifts from God and apply them! This month's contribution is from George Huffman.

One of the important pieces of my life, besides Peace Church, has been my involvement with the Lions Club of Manhattan. I have been a part of that organization for 22 years, even serving as President. The satisfaction I have gotten in helping people has been worth the effort. Many of you have seen and contributed to our eye glass campaign to provide not only eye glasses to those who need them, but also eye exams – even paying for them when needed. Our club also collected hearing aids in a similar manner. Locally, we have provided scholarships for high school kids at Peotone, Lincoln-Way, and or Providence. We have provided funding and support for the handicapped.

Our monthly meetings were at a local restaurant and we always looked forward to them because there was a good group of people, and our mission made a difference. Our organization is world-wide and has both men and women. (My wife, Priscilla, also was active and served as an officer.) While our own Manhattan group is now being disbanded, the efforts of other Lions Clubs will continue. I'm very glad for how God's call to serve led me to be a part of this group.

~ George Huffman

The Hope Fund

If your child(ren) would like to participate in a youth event but the cost involved is keeping him/her/them from joining us, we have a fund available to help you. The Hope Fund has been established through the generous donation of a Peace Lutheran Church family. Just talk to Deacon Shari or Pastor Dave – and no one else will know.

Technology/Social Media Task Force

Computers are all installed and working. Comcast has now installed high speed internet and pre-work continues to be done for a redesigned website. We are evaluating a networking copier. We have ideas for the youth rooms and their use of technology, and more!

Caregiver Tip of the Month

With the Fall season here, change is upon us and here we are again cleaning out the house, switching from warm weather clothes to cold protector clothes, getting the car tuned up, checking that all the utilities and appliances are working as they should, scheduling health check-ups, and so the list goes on. Seems overwhelming sometimes and never ending especially when your list is for TWO or more. Don't worry. Call on the helpers and those who care because they really do want to help. As each "to-do" is checked off your list, each day will feel lighter and refreshing; at least for today. (*For more information about being a caregiver and other related topics - see our display in the narthex and don't forget to borrow a book from the bin.*)

Because of You and Your Gifts

Gustavo is a grandfather and coffee farmer in Nicaragua. He has to overcome enormous obstacles to make a living because of threats to his harvest from plant diseases, unstable weather patterns and middlemen who seek to benefit from his hard work. You've helped change Gustavo's life and the lives of other farmers in his cooperative. Now he gets a better price for his coffee. Selling through the Fair Trade Co-op means they can skip middlemen and bargain for a better price. Gustavo is so relieved when a good harvest means he can feed his family. (We buy our coffee for church from Lutheran World Relief's Fair Trade Co-op!)

Blood Drive – Dec. 2

Thank you to everyone who donated in October. Our next Heartland blood drive will be Dec. 2, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. There will also be a vendor fair the same day if you would like to do some Christmas shopping after you donate.

Babysitting List

The new Babysitting list is now available. You can pick up a copy on the table in the entrance area at church.

Remember Our P.O. Box

Use P.O. Box 205 for mail addressed to Peace.

Discussion Starters for Families

Search Institute has identified five essential actions in Parent-child relationships that help children and teens grow up well. Here is one of the discussion-starter questions that can help you talk with your children and teens about different parts of your relationship. The goal is not to get the right answer, but to share each person's experiences, feelings, and beliefs so you get to know each other better. Ask these questions when people are not rushed or distracted. Start with just one question. Then try others as long as people are interested and available. Have fun discovering new things about each other and your family and watch the newsletter for more discussion-starter questions.

Express Care: Different families express care in different ways. How do your family memories see each other expressing care?

Use these discussion starters to talk about it together.

- When are times you've felt close as a family? Where were you? What were you doing? What made that time memorable?
- What sacrifices have others made for your or your family? How have those sacrifices or investments affected your life?
- What's something you really enjoy doing together as a family that you haven't had a chance to do lately? What do you enjoy about it?

Building Assets in our Youth and Community

The asset for the month of November is:

Service to Others

Young person serves in the community
one or more hours per week

November quote of the month:

*"The best way to find yourself is to lose
yourself in the service of others."
~ Gandhi*

Youth Announcements

High School

Peace 360 Meets Sundays at 6:00 p.m.!

Attention all high school youth! Have you ever wished that there was a place that you could hang with your friends (from church and elsewhere)? We have that place for you... Peace 360! We will meet most weekends on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. If you can't make it every week, that's okay. Whenever you can be here you'll be a welcome addition!

Nov. 5 - Brookfield Zoo - 12 noon

National Youth Gathering Meeting – Nov. 12

Just a reminder that we will be having our next meeting for all youth going to the National Youth Gathering in 2018 on Nov. 12 at 9:45 a.m. Each participant should bring \$7.00 (if you have not already) for the book service project we will be participating in.

Confirmation:

7th Grade – Nov. 1

6:30 p.m. – Pizza before class
7:00 p.m. – Confirmation class

8th Grade – Nov. 8

6:30 p.m. – Pizza before class
7:00 p.m. – Confirmation class

7th & 8th Grade Kids & Adults – Nov. 15

6:30 p.m. – Hot Dogs
7:00 p.m. – Kids & Adults class

Confirmation Kids & Adults – Nov. 15

This is the first Kids & Adults meeting of the year. Our goal is to get each parent/adult to come to at least 1 out of 2 get togethers so that you can make a connection with other adults within our church community. It is a regular Confirmation night so come one and all (kids and parents) at 6:30 p.m. for hot dogs. The regular session begins at 7:00 p.m. and goes until 8:00 p.m. (Please let us know ahead of time how many will be joining us for the hot dog portion of the night; otherwise just show up for the class!)

7th & 8th Gr. SkyZone Event – Nov. 18

Meet at church at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$16 or \$19 if you need Sky Socks for 1 hour of jump time. Don't forget to include your friends too! Please use the sign up slip in the bulletin. **Parents, we will need leaders and drivers, too!**