

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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A Lesson from the Weather

On Monday, Aug. 10, a derecho came barreling through our area, as well as multiple states from South Dakota all the way to Kentucky. Many of you lost trees and portions of trees. Some of you had damage to your house or other property damage. Power went out. When we think about trees suddenly uprooted or cracked off that have been in the same ground for 50 years or more and survived all kinds of storms, we may weep on the one hand, and stand in awe that nature could have such power on the other. Beyond the challenges and losses we have to face, what that does for me is get me to think afresh about what portion of might and brain power and superiority we humans really have/don't have.

There are other lessons and reflections to be had, of course, and not just from one storm. What can the weather (or substitute: a coronavirus or a simple sunset or a constellation or etc.) teach us? Certainly, from the derecho, one is that storms pass and the sun comes out. Another is that you need both sun and rain for plants to grow. Not everything is for sale nor evaluated by how much it cost. Some things you can't control. Striving for equilibrium can be a real challenge and can cause conflict. (Those are just for starters....I'm sure you could come up with dozens more.)

As valuable as those reflections could be, there is something greater to which we might pay attention as people of faith. There is a power greater than any storm could ever be. There is a power available that never seeks to destroy, but rather to lift up and heal and give new life. The power was not invested in a Roman governor nor in religious leaders nor in wealth or status or how well-connected people were. The power was infused into a baby; into a misunderstood itinerant teacher & healer; into a person hanging (supposedly in failure) on a cross. How can self-giving love have such power that 2000 years later people still can forgive, can be picked up out of the pits, can reach out to others? There is only one reason I can think of – it is the power of God. Wow!

Pastor Dave Hedlin

Please check our website, Facebook and YouTube for the latest information, videos, and more!

Prayers Requested

Kay Johnson, Carly Flynn, Tom, Pat Fruhwirth, Diane Cochran, Don Anderson, Howard Hickey, Keara Powers, all students returning to school and traveling, Annie Knoll, all schools and other educational endeavors and the people relating to them, Kaitlin & Grant Gibbs, the family of Sue Beasley, Jason Villalbos, Dennis Flynn, celebration on the birth of Millie Rose Howell, the family of Bill Jacobson, the family of Paul Zahara, the family of Ken Heitert

Welcome to the Lord's Family

Elliott Daniel Scanlan was baptized on Aug. 8;
Julia Deann Gofron was baptized on Aug. 16;
Joy Theresa Sotiros was baptized on Aug. 16;
Mabel Kathleen Durkin was baptized on Aug. 22.

Blessings to our Confirmands

Please join in praying for these young people as they affirm their faith! We celebrate with family and friends this important step along their journey with God.

August 2
Peyton Eva Arthur
Georgia Anne Brolley
Jonah Thomas DeMik
Natalie Therese Pfeffer
Mason Michael Querio
Emersynn Violet Smith
Ava Katherine Wandersee

August 23
Helen Ingrid Ambrose
Morgan Mariana Barlow
Alex Michael Brown
Owen Ingalls Denihan
Grace Allen Farrell
Lila Grace Hadley
Max Kekoa Heidenreich
Christian David Knutson
Gabriel Kokenes
Tyler Jacob Ledvina
Ava Rose Murphy
Tyler Wolf

Drive-in and Online Worship Continue - see instructions below, too

Please join us for Drive-in Worship at 5:00pm on Saturdays (with [Facebook live stream](#) of the worship) and another Drive-in Worship option on Sundays, at 9:45am. Our [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube Channel](#) sites will have the worship recorded and available anytime after Saturday's worship. (You do not need to have a Facebook account to access this public page.) There will be some great music from Todd and a hymn to which you can sing along (words included in the bulletin so be sure to **print out the words**) some liturgy, scripture readings, prayers and a sermon. Join in being together in God's name in your cars or electronically and share the worship post with others!

Communion Option Added

FOR EVERYONE

* We're asking all people to enter the parking lot through the south (bank-end) of the Atrium Point complex via Schoolhouse Rd. All will be asked to leave via Rt. 30. If you are doing the outdoor option, we would ask you to park anywhere to the northern half of the parking lot, out of the line of sight of the worship platform and walk to the grass area. For those doing the drive-in option, park facing the long sidewalk anywhere so you can see, and do the every-other-space routine, parking on the line. (Sedans in the row closest to the grass, and other sized vehicles starting in row 2.)

* Whether you drive-in or are outdoors, or even at home, we are adding a **modified communion option**.

Take a piece of bread or cracker with you to the service. Pastor Dave will give the Words of Institution on behalf of all of us and invite us to take our bread/cracker at the same time and partake of this modified version of the Lord's Supper.

* In order to keep people's safety in mind following the advice of the CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health, there will be a drop box if you wish to bring an offering with you. Otherwise, we will depend on people continuing to contribute online or by mail.

* Bathrooms will be available, but people would be encouraged to use them only if necessary, and social distancing would be required. The doors to the bathrooms and the building itself would be left open to eliminate having to touch them, and for the sake of knowing what kind of distancing/waiting is needed. Masks are required.

ONE OPTION: OUTDOOR WORSHIP

* Households would be required to socially distance from each other. We have markings in the grass for individuals/households about 10' apart.

* Those worshipping outdoors can choose whether to bring a blanket or their own chairs.

* Masks would be required when moving to or from the parking lot to the marked spots. (We will have spare masks if you don't have one or forget.)

* Children would have to be with an adult at all times.

* Worship leaders would be set up at the far west end of the long sidewalk (where all the grass is available between the main building and the garage) in front of the door to the education wing, facing the parking lot, which again allows those who choose the drive-in option to see.

* We will have sound projection/speakers for all to hear.

* The worship would continue to be modified so as to last about 30 to 40 minutes. There would be no ushers or greeters or other worship assistants. Worshipping outdoors will allow us to sing!

* In case of bad weather, the service would switch to a drive-in only format centered at the front entrance.

DRIVE-IN OPTION CONTINUES

* We have a low power FM transmitter, which allows us to have worship leaders be visible and heard in each person's car via their car radio or an old-fashioned radio. It will be on channel 89.3. You might be able to hear the outdoor loudspeakers, but we're not counting on that.

* Park so you can see the worship leaders at the end of the long sidewalk, or in case of bad weather, back to the area by the main entrance.

ONLINE OPTION CONTINUES

* We will continue to live-stream our worship. We plan each week to record both Saturday and Sunday. Assuming everything works, both will be available through our Facebook site.

* Why not move indoors? For one thing, we wouldn't be able to sing. For another, we would have to take reservations to limit the number, which means some might be excluded. Also, there would be many more restrictions and a lot more cleaning to do between/after services. Furthermore, the CDC's guidelines still recommend outdoor worship whenever possible. The history of re-openings in other states makes this issue even more current.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Dave!

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:

Paul-Leon Desaulniers – for delivering clothes and food to Santa Cruz

Laura Geekie – business clothing sorting

Darrell & Suzanne Holmquist, Pamela Putrich & Vicky Burns, Gerry & Larry Wurzbarger, Karen Town Sarah & Leslie Walton, Jonathan DeMik, Jan Bentley, Claudia Green, Carol Hedlin, Deb Howell, Elizabeth Rumbaugh, Diann & Halley Price, Donna Conway Kathy Drews Ken George, Tori Entwistle, Max Labus, Zach Stewart, Marylynn Tyler, Kelly Muehlnickel, Pete & Nathaniel Knutson, Jodie Brugler, Jonathan, Andrew, & Joshua DeMik – for special music

Charlie Conway, Kevin Curry, Rich Dohrn, Ron Fullriede, Chris Jarchow, Rick Mitchell, George Rumbaugh, Chuck Vick – lawn mowing

From:

Will County Sharefest – for the support

The Friends of Sunny Hill – for the donation

Bethel New Life – for the donation

Halley Price – for the gift

Offering Envelope Boxes & Devotional Booklet Options

Option A: We have some volunteers who are willing to bring your offering envelope box to you even ahead of when we can worship together and pick them up ourselves. Those same people are willing to bring you a devotional booklet. Let us know via peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org.

Option B: We put a second bin outside the front door labeled “devotional booklets” and you can come by the church and pick one up at your convenience. If we know you wanted your offering box that way, we'll also put any such requests in there with your name on the offering box. (Just give us at least two days notice.)

Option C: Just wait until we are together. You can either donate online or mail in your offering (PO Box 205, New Lenox, IL 60451). If you know your envelope #, write that on the check. If you don't, we'll gratefully look it up so that you get credit! We will have the boxes available outside (weather permitting) for the outdoor worship services.

No matter how: thanks for your offerings!

For just about everything that is listed in the rest of the newsletter that has a date, the words “maybe”, “possible” and “tentative” apply! Check for updates on the website www.peacenewlenox.org

Church Office

The church office is open M-F from 9:00 to noon. We continue to seek ways to serve and be safe at the same time. If you stop by church, please be sure you wear a mask. The front door will be locked, so ring the doorbell to the left of the door.

Questions Kids Ask About God Update

How can you de-stress? One way is to take some time in a calm environment. For parents of children, approaching bedtime is one of those places it can be good for everyone. It also helps to keep in the mix reading, including reading and thinking about God's love and care. What could be better than reading our QKA book and/or its Spanish edition? If you know someone who would like to have either edition (kids do have questions and do have time), please email the church: peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org. Our QKA Facebook page has been updated, so check it out and like it!

Because of You and Your Gifts

Corinn is an LSSI outpatient case manager who helps rebuild her clients' lives. For many of Corinn's clients, daily activities such as trips to the store have become a source of anxiety in recent months. LSSI is doing its best to keep programs and services open and available while adhering to social-distancing guidelines. Dedicated staff like Corinn continue to provide treatment to those who need it most. She encourages her clients to use this time to focus on their treatment and recovery. We and LSSI are grateful for its "Healing Heroes" staff, like Corinn, who help bring stability to clients experiencing fear and uncertainty. [Watch a video to learn more about Corinn and her important work.](#)

Caregiver Tip of the Month

Give yourself credit for doing the best you can in one of the toughest jobs there is! God Bless.

(For more information about being a caregiver and other related topics - see our display in the narthex.)

Quick Reminders

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS **Sept. 27**. 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.

***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* – Not currently meeting – please watch the newsletter.

- *Evening Adult Support Group* – Meets the third Thursday of the month, (with the exception of the month of March), December - June 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 815-740-4104.

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

* **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.

***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 have a participating maid service in your zip code area arrange for service. This organization serves the entire US and currently has 547 partners.

***Guardian Angel Community Services** – Sexual assault & rape crisis services, prevention education & outreach. Programs include medical advocacy, legal advocacy, individual counseling, group counseling, prevention education & professional training. 24 hour sexual assault hotline: 815-730-8984.

Check Out Our Social Media Pages

We have a team that has been working over the past few months to bring our social media pages up to date and to post regular content to them. Ways you can help to promote our pages and our church are to follow our pages and engaging our content by commenting, liking, and sharing our posts. You can follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram with the handle @PeaceNewLenox.

Addresses for Service Personnel

Midshipman Trevor Horn PO Box # 12989 Annapolis, MD 21412	Sargent Devin Pafford 1208 Battery Creek Dr. Beaufort SC 29902
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MA2 Baker, Connor 5600 Shorewood Lane Norfolk, VA 23502	2 Lieutenant Jakob Swenson 947 Burr St. Apt. E Fort Benning, GA 31905
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Looking Ahead

Aug. 30 – Joliet Slammers Game 5:05 p.m.
Sept. 13 – Orland Grasslands Event 1:00 p.m.
Sept. 23 – COVID-19 Grief Workshop 6:00 p.m.
Oct. 4 – Blessing of the Animals 12:00 p.m.
Oct. 10 – Blood Drive 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Oct. 17 – First Communion Class 10:00 a.m.
Oct. 18 – New Member Orientation 11:00 a.m.
Oct. 24 – First Communion Class 3:30 p.m.
Oct. 25 – New Member Reception 9:45 a.m.

Groups

Prayer Shawl – Sept. 2 & 16

We are going to give it a go again and see what happens. We will be in the education wing instead of it the parlor. Our plan is to meet every other Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. – come when you can and leave when it's good for you. Not sure you are ready to be in person? Then feel free to keep making shawls at home and bring them by when it is convenient! Send an email if you have questions or would like more information. **Total of shawls: 337 made, 299 given**

Ruth Circle Quilting – Sept. 7 & 21

Ruth Circle quilting will meet every other Monday at 9:00 a.m. It's very casual and if you can't make it each time, just come when you can. At this time, we will not be having snacks. Questions? Contact the church office.

Trailblazers – Tues., Sept. 15

We plan to get together in September, assuming all is okay in Illinois. Stay tuned for the details. Our group is for senior citizens and welcomes you to join us. Email the church office (or call Pastor Dave at home for now) for more information.

Ping Pong Club – Stay Tuned

If you think you may want to play, let the church office know your name and email address, and you will be added to the email reminders.

Strong Seniors Exercise – Mon. & Wed.

We will now meet Mondays 12:00 – 1:00 and Wednesdays 11:30 -12:30 in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your own chair. Join us for a low impact, do what you can exercise program for seniors.

Men's Dartball – Stay Tuned

As soon as there is a way to play safely, we will resume meeting. Please watch the bulletin & newsletter.

Golf Group – Wednesdays

The golf group is ready to go.... weather permitting now! The format will still be "best ball. Each week Mike Bohl will send out an email to interested golfers with when and where to meet. You do not have to play every week. Questions or to sign up? Call the office.

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? The Alzheimer's Association Support Group meets at Peace the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For more information on when the group will resume meeting, contact the church office.

Addiction and Family Support Group

The Addiction & Family Support Group meets at Peace on Tuesday nights from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. 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 the church office.

GriefShare Ministry

Please watch the newsletter & bulletin for when we will be able to resume meeting. (Maybe January?) 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. If you would like more information please contact Janet at griefshare.plc.60451@gmail.com.

From Deacon Shari Trotter

Dear Peace Members and Friends,

I find myself being forgetful during this time of Covid-19. My calendar has become the only thing that reminds me what day of the week it is. Sometimes the days fly by and sometimes they feel unending. Without a sense of routine, I just cannot seem to get things in order. Has it felt like this for you? What has your experience been like during Covid-19?

My spiritual life has also become a different experience. I have been pondering lately the idea of daily bread. When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we pray specifically that God might give us our daily bread. This piece of the prayer is our asking God to provide us with what we need for the day. It invites us to lean on God to provide for our needs, but it also invites us to slow down and focus on the needs of one day at a time. During this odd time what is it that we need? What is daily bread for the time of Covid-19?

Due to my forgetfulness I have also been forgetting to bring my bread to worship for communion. When it is time to hold the bread up so that it might be blessed, I have been closing my eyes and hearing the words proclaimed to me in a new way. This is my body given for you! If we don't have bread to eat do these words still have meaning? We went without tangible communion for several months. During those months were God's words of sustaining life not being proclaimed to us? As I sat in worship a couple weeks ago and heard the phrase "This is my body given for you", I made a new connection to it. What if God's body and the promise found in his giving it to us is daily bread?

What I need most right now is a sense of normalcy. I need to know that there is a constant. When everything around us seems to be changing and tomorrow has no certainty, I need something to cling to. This is my body given for you! I cling to the promise of God's presence with me. God's promise of life sustaining spiritual food for the journey. As the words wash over me during worship, I imagine my plate being filled again and I realize that everything I need God has and will provide.

May your plate, cup, and heart be filled with daily bread. May you be sustained by God's presence and God's love.

God's Peace,

Deacon Shari Trotter

Faith Development/Education

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. September's passage is Colossians 1:9-14.

Wednesday Bible Study - Now both in person and on-line

Each Wednesday for many weeks now, people have been joining our Bible Study through the wonders of Zoom! We offer both an in-person version and the continuation of the online method. For those using the online version for the first time, let us know via the church's email so we can send you the meeting ID and password. We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Any version of the Bible you have will work. You don't need to know anything about the Bible to join this class! For those who will be coming to the in-person version, we will have some requirements for distancing, etc. Be sure to let us know if you plan to come to the in-person version.

Peace Page Turners – Sun., Oct. 4

Our next combination Zoom and in-person meeting is scheduled for Oct. 4, at 10:30 a.m. The in-person will be separated safely (plus wear a mask while moving to and from.) We will discuss *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro. This Nobel Prize winning author tells the story of a faithful English butler and his reflections on his service, the meaning of various parts of his life, and various relationships. If you are using Zoom, be sure to let us know so we can get the codes to you. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. (There might be some copies of the book still available at church.)

Want Special Prayers?

Because we aren't together in worship, you maybe would like opportunities to have prayers for specific people. Please feel free to share those via our email peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org or call the office.

Faith & Life Experience

(We are going to feature stories about Peace from time to time. Please enjoy this one from Tom Moore!)

What a great place for my faith to grow!

Peace Lutheran Church welcomed my wife Lisa and I shortly after we were married and moved to New Lenox in 1991. I was born and raised Lutheran, my wife Catholic, and I knew we chose the right church immediately after we started to attend. My children were baptized here in 1995 and 1996, and they genuinely enjoyed Sunday School and confirmation classes. But life will sometimes knock you down and test your faith. When my children were battling drug addiction in their high school years, that feeling of loneliness and despair crept into my life. Questions of “why me” and “where are you God” were clouding my mind and faith. I knew I had to fight these evil thoughts and where they came from, so I did. I prayed and asked for understanding and strength. Pastor Dave and Peace were instrumental in helping me with this.

When my son Jacob succumbed to his addiction a few months short of his 18th birthday, I clearly saw two paths ahead of me. One was downhill, dark, and lonely. It was a slippery slope and filled with self-sabotage. It was the easy path to take it seemed, and I figured people would understand and have empathy for me. The other path was uphill. It was scattered with debris and this path was not going to be easy to travel. But there was a glorious light at the top of that mountain that projected serenity. I knew I had to claim victory over evil and follow the light. I had to strengthen my faith and grow.

In the 6 ½ years since my son died, my life has taken on a new purpose, and my faith has grown 10 times larger. All anger has been removed from my heart, and I have found that serenity I worked for. My prayers have been answered as my daughter is healthy and living her life in recovery. For the last 4 ½ years I have facilitated the Family Addiction Support Group here at Peace Lutheran Church. God has placed so many wonderful people into my life, and God has given me the opportunity to share what I have learned on my journey. The support group has helped well over 100 people and families to find out that they are not alone, there is a way out, people do recover, and serenity is possible.

Thank you to Pastor Dave, and Peace Lutheran Church for being the vessel for me to minister to others. I am grateful for, and humbled by, the love shown inside these church walls.

Tom Moore

Fellowship Opportunities

Orland Grasslands Event – Sun., Sept. 13

Orland Grasslands is a 5-mile paved circle that you can walk, bike, skateboard or jog. We will meet at the entrance at 167th & LaGrange Rd. at 1:00 p.m. and all can go at their own pace. The plan is to end by 3:00. This is a beautiful area where you can typically see deer, hawks, rabbits, & gorgeous butterflies. (If you are hungry after the event, there is a Lou Malnati's pizza restaurant with outdoor seating, a Subway sandwich place, a Tribes Beer Company and Frankie's Ristorante close by, which you'd arrange on your own.) Please call or email the church office if you will be attending.

General Announcements

Blessing of the Animals - Sun., Oct. 4

In celebration of our non-human companions, we invite you to bring your animals to church for a special blessing on Sun., Oct. 4, at noon. We welcome all feathery, furry, scaly, warm-blooded and cold-blooded friends of all shapes and sizes (animals should be in carriers or on leashes to assure nothing is going to startle them and cause them to run away in a strange neighborhood). With the precautions we are following, there will be a group blessing (outdoors south of the building) followed for those who wish to come with masks in place to within 6-8' of Pastor Dave or Deacon Shari) for a more personalized blessing from that distance. In case of rain, we'll try Oct. 11.

New Member Orientation & Reception - Sun., Oct. 18 & 25

We are privileged once again to invite more people to become formal partners with us in our mission of spreading the Gospel and growing in faith. Because of the strange times we are going through, it will be a different version of our new member orientation and reception! Part 1: Sun., Oct. 18, tentatively at 11:00 at church – either on Zoom or in person; (2) on Oct. 25, during worship (tentatively 9:45am). If you are interested in joining or finding out more information, email (peacechurch@peacelenox.org) or call the church office at 815-485-5327 or see Pastor Dave. (We will need to omit the sponsors and new member luncheon for now but hope to make it up to the new members later.)

First Communion Class - Sat., Oct. 17 or Sat., Oct. 24

Each year we seek to prepare children in the fifth grade (and above) for receiving their first communion. We do it in a one-hour concentrated class. A parent/other adult (or two) should attend along with the child. This year in order to maintain social distancing, we are going to limit the numbers and require a sign-up in advance; first come basis. If the two sessions planned are not sufficient, we will add another option. The class will be offered on Sat., Oct. 17, at 10:00 a.m. or if you prefer, on Sat., Oct. 24, at 3:30 p.m. You need only attend one class or the other. Contact the church office for questions or to register.

School Supplies to Help Others by Aug. 31

We know it is a different kind of year as far as which schools will be open and when. No matter for that, however, are kids who will need supplies to use at home or in school. So, when you're out shopping, feel free to pick up some supplies and bring them to church. Inside the front door during the week we'll have a container you can access from 9:00 to noon. During the weekends at worship time, we'll move that container outside. If you want to come at a different time, feel free to leave the supplies by the grey container outside the front door! **Please bring the supplies by Aug. 31.**

Blood Pressure Screenings – Maybe Sept.

Our next monthly screening date keeps getting postponed. Maybe September will work?

COVID-19 Grief Workshop – Sept. 23

In the wake of COVID-19 we will have a Zoom workshop for those who have lost a loved one due to the virus or during the quarantine on Wed., Sept. 23, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. To register please call 815-460-3282. Hosted by Joliet Hospice.

Blood Drive – Sat., Oct. 10

Thank you to everyone who donated in August. We were able to collect 10 units which will impact the lives of 30 people! Our next Versiti blood drive will be Sat., Oct. 10 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Business Clothing Collection Totals

Thank you to everyone who has donated business clothes. We've had such a great response!

Here are the totals so far:

Men's dress pants - 15

Men's suits - 2

Men's ties - 28

Men's long sleeve dress shirts - 9

Men's short sleeve shirts - 6

Men's dress shoes - 1

Women's dress pants - 13

Women's long sleeve shirts - 9

Women's short sleeve shirts - 61

Women's dresses - 13

Women's skirts - 2

Women's camisoles - 12

Women's dress jackets/blazers - 7

2 bags of brand-new bras and undergarments

Purses - 2

Women's belt scarf - 1

In addition: 1 large bag of coats, one large box of shirts and t-shirts

Men's jeans - 9

Women's jeans - 22

Need A Mask?

Thanks to our wonderful group of masks makers, we have a supply of masks available. If you are need of a face mask, please take what you need from the Ziploc bag in the grey tote by the front door of church.

College Information Packets

We have college information packets for HS students available. Please contact the office if you would like to pick one up.

Away From Home Addresses/Emails

It's that time of year when we ask for the addresses and email addresses for young people who are away from home. We like to email them the newsletter and let them know we're thinking about them. Please email the church office.

Looking for a Job? Have a Job to Hire?

If you or someone you know is looking for a job, we are creating a list of sites online you can use to help you. And if you have a job offer needing to be filled, let us know that, too, so we can share any names we get of people looking for work.

NAMI Family-to-Family Classes

NAMI Family-to-Family is a free, educational program for family, significant others, and friends of people living with mental illness. Registration is now open for fall classes beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 22 in Morris and Thursday, Sept. 24 in Bolingbrook and Joliet. Classes run for 8 weeks from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Call 815-409-7917 or email info@namiwillgrundy.org to reserve your place. Already taken Family-to-Family? No problem - anyone can retake the class at any time.

Trivia Night – Sun., Oct. 4

Got a college degree? Think you are smarter than the person in the cubicle next to yours? Think you can help your kids with their 5th grade math homework? Think again because we don't care. We want to see how much non-essential, basically useless stuff you really know. The Fellowship Committee is planning the first VIRTUAL Trivia contest on Oct. 4 at 6:30pm, lasting until about 8:00. It will be conducted on ZOOM. Full details will be available once you sign up. Never used ZOOM, no problem. Even a 70 year old Lutheran can figure it out. (I did) Sign up through the church office (peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org) by September 28 using these guidelines: We want teams of 2-6 folks ... kids, grandparents, PhDs, and even non-Lutherans. Only 1 person for your team needs to sign up. Then choose a team name and provide the list of names of team members. Want to join but don't have a team? We will provide a team for you, so don't let that stop you! Just contact the office and we'll take it from there. You plan where you want to gather (at home, at the beach, your local restaurant or tavern – well, maybe depending on what's going on in Will County) and if you want to turn this into a party (dinner, ice cream social, wine tasting, etc.) Use your imagination and have fun safely. (You can also have team members in separate locations using your own separate Zoom or other group program; only one person needs to answer officially for the group.) If you have questions before signing up, email the Fellowship Committee at cbvick0628@comcast.net. And one more thing, if you are thinking that Google will help you succeed in this contest, think again. We are taking steps to make sure you don't try this approach!

Flu Shots – Sun., Sept. 27

Through the outreach efforts of a local Walgreens, we once again will be providing flu shots (both regular and the high dose.) The shots will be given from before worship (beginning at 9:15am) and continuing after worship for as long as needed. We are asking you to make an appointment so we can have people not have to wait (long.) Call the church office M-F 9:00 to noon (or email us and we'll contact you) before Sept. 24. Even if you can't get your shots that day, be sure to get one this year!

Confirmation Orientation – Wed., Sept. 2 or Sept. 9

We will have a different kind of orientation this year! Seventh and eighth grade parents, you will have your choice of in-person on Sept. 2 or Sept 9 at 7:00pm, or you can do a live Zoom during those same times. Please let us know which you plan to do, and especially if you plan to do the Zoom so we can give you the codes you'll need.

Sunday School News

We have come to the heart-breaking decision that Sunday School will not be in person. The Covid-19 CDC guidelines are making opening Sunday School this fall, near impossible. Unfortunately, this means a new way to learn all around, at school and at church. We will have packets and stories that the children can complete. We will make this as simple as possible. We are working on an incentive plan for the kids. When they complete different "tasks" they will be getting points, and those points can earn them prizes (this is a work in progress, stay tuned). We are asking that the kids attend 1 Zoom meeting per month. These meetings will be geared towards their age groups. We do understand the kids are Zoomed out! The goal of the meeting would be less than 20 mins, we talk about the lessons and check in with each other. The packets will consist of lessons for the month with stories. If they complete them and would like to turn them in, or scan them and send them to me, we will put it towards the incentive program. Please let us know if you would like a packet for your child(ren)! We can send it to you, or you can come pick it up at the church. Please look for emails about packet pick up and a meeting schedule. Thank you for sticking with us during these times! It is during this time; we need to light the way for our youth to follow their faith. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please do not hesitate to call the church 815-485-5327 or email peacechurch@peacenewlenox.org

