



Peace United Church of Christ



**Pastor:**

Christen Pettit-Miller  
cpettitmiller@comcast.net

**Office Manager:**

Janet Arvola

**Peace United Church  
of Christ**

9123 Aboite Center Rd.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46804  
Office: (260) 432-8290

**Web:**

www.peaceucc.net

**Email:**

peaceucc@frontier.com

**Sunday:**

Worship—10:15 AM

# Pastor's Page

The joyous riot of spring is upon us and it seems that in the past week everything bloomed and popped open. I marvel daily as I watch the tulips coming up in the church yard and see the pansies in our planters that Lorie Krouse and Bekki Vail have so carefully tended. Peace will be gathering on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-11:00 a.m. to join in a work day to do our spring cleaning and planting. We invite you all to join us. Many hands make light work and even if your energy is low and you can't get down on your knees and plant, you can join in offering words of support to those who can!

My friend Ariane Braithwaite Lehn, former pastor at First Presbyterian Church has a book of published prayers called *Ash and Starlight* that are a devotional to guide me daily and this one leaped off the page for me on Wednesday as I watched out the window of my office at the church at the green, green grasses. May her prayer awaken spring in you as well!

## *"For Springtime"*

Loving, Creator God,  
Spring reminds me it's  
never too late to start over.  
That there's been quiet growth  
over these long months  
of winter when I saw nothing.  
When I was called to believe  
there was growth happening  
beneath hard, cold soil.

And now? Glory!

I celebrate the loveliness  
of all you've made.  
The newness, Lord,  
the freshness—  
it inspires my soul!

Tulips in the front yard,  
buds on the trees,  
the voices of birds,  
the cleansing of rain,  
the comfort of sunshine...  
Each gift renews me,  
speaking of the promise within  
all those months of dormancy  
and preparation.



As spring awakens my physical senses,  
I ask, God, for you to awaken my inner senses.

May my mind open and blossom  
to the longings you've placed within me...  
to the steps and the path that will  
satisfy the desires of my heart...  
to the hopes and passions  
you've planted in every  
one of your children...

May I seek what will truly fulfill them.  
May I journey toward their Source.  
May I be guided by your gentle and wise Spirit.

It's never too late to be  
what you called me to be.  
Even as it takes greatest courage  
and deepest humility.

With your help, I will open myself to  
what I never expected before,  
never experienced before,  
and never thought possible.

Amen.

--Ariane Braithwaite Lehn, *Ash & Starlight*

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[continued from front page]

May you feel the sun on your face and the wind caressing your hair and the love of God all around you in this season.

Peace,  
Pastor Christen

## May Birthdays

Ann Frellick	5
Kieran Alumbaugh	5
John Kirsch	8
Beverly Hunt	10
Simeon Perkins	12
John Nussbaum	14
Steve Rutledge	14
Otto Kiepp	15
Ethan Thomas	16
Meggie Vail	17
Chris Campbell	24
Beth Ring	26
Pat Sterling	27
Brian Migliore	31
Paul McGrath	31
Charlotte Bowland	31

## Current Board Members:

Bekki Vail, President  
Brad Thomas, Treasurer  
Heather Hasch, Financial Secretary  
Chris Campbell, Recording Secretary  
Rise Vandenburg, Pastoral Relations Rep.  
Matthew Sagstetter, Facilities Chair  
Lorie Krouse, Education Committee Chair  
Christina Ryan Perkins, Mission Chair  
Angela Miller, Congregational Life

## Spring Clean-Up!

This Saturday, May 4, will be our annual Spring Clean-Up. We plan to begin at 8 (but if you arrive at 9, you will still be welcome!). If many people come, we should be done before 11.

We have weeds to pull, mulch to spread, flowers to plant, and many more small jobs to make our church more beautiful.

BYOG—Bring Your Own Gloves and whatever garden tools you think you would be useful.

Coffee, cookies, and donuts will be provided! If you have questions, please call the church office: 260-432-8290 for more information.

We hope to see you all there!



We had a lovely day this past Sunday celebrating the Committees at Peace Church! If you were not able to attend, here is the handout with the many different ways that you can help us out! You will find printed orange sheets in the back of the sanctuary to leave in the offering plate for the rest of May!

### How I'd Like to Be Present at Peace!

As you know, we are just now beginning to restart some of the ministries that we had to stop during Covid. We're asking questions about what the interests are of our members, and how we would like to diversity our gifts and talents among the congregation. This is an inventory of things you would like to do at Peace UCC (you can just make an "x" by the box). However, we'd also love to know if there are things that maybe aren't your favorite thing to do at Peace, but that you would be willing to assist with for a season, or for a short time commitment (you can make an "o" in that box, or write a word or two about which part you would like and for how long. Many churches are now back in places where we are discerning what is important, what our parishioners long for, and perhaps as well, what can be set aside so that some new ministry or event can happen. This time and talent sheet works to help us know your desires. Please drop it in the offering plate at the end of worship, we invite each person to fill out one. We'll also be making forms for our children and youth as well. If you have other ideas of things you are passionate about suggest them! Your board is all ears!

- Serve on Wider Missions Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Help Set up PRIDE Booth and Take a Shift Sitting There \_\_\_\_\_
- Help to support our Growing Hope Globally Project with Pleasant Chapel and Plymouth \_\_\_\_\_
- Assist with purchasing gifts for children of Crossroad at Christmas \_\_\_\_\_
- Attend a lecture on a current event related to peace and justice \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve on Fellowship Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Sign up to Bring Meals to those who are sick or after hospitalization \_\_\_\_\_
- Bake Cookies for the Cookie Exchange in December \_\_\_\_\_
- Help Decorate/Undecorate the Church for Christmas \_\_\_\_\_
- Make cards for card ministry at Peace \_\_\_\_\_
- Visit Shut In's or Hospitalized Members \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve on Education Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Teach Sunday School for Children \_\_\_\_\_
- Work in the Nursery \_\_\_\_\_
- Teach Junior High Sunday School \_\_\_\_\_
- Help with Confirmation Class \_\_\_\_\_
- Assist with Children's Musical \_\_\_\_\_
- Help with Breakfast With Santa \_\_\_\_\_
- Volunteer with Children's Nursery School \_\_\_\_\_
- Teach Adult Sunday School Session \_\_\_\_\_
- Initiate and Lead a Small Group \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve on Facilities Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Change Church Sign \_\_\_\_\_
- Be Part of Church Clean Up Days \_\_\_\_\_
- Weed Church Flower Gardens \_\_\_\_\_
- Plant Flowers in Planters at Church \_\_\_\_\_
- Decorate Altar \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve on Worship Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Sing in Choir \_\_\_\_\_
- Play in Bell Choir \_\_\_\_\_
- Play an Instrument in Worship \_\_\_\_\_
- Sing a Solo in Worship \_\_\_\_\_
- Be a Worship Leader \_\_\_\_\_
- Read Scripture in Church \_\_\_\_\_
- Assist with Preparing Communion \_\_\_\_\_
- Assist with Serving Communion \_\_\_\_\_
- Help Change Banners \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve on Finance Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve as "Financial Counter or Observer" after Sunday worship \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve on Human Resource Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve on Church Board \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve as Board Chair \_\_\_\_\_
- Be an Usher in Worship \_\_\_\_\_
- Be a Greeter in Worship \_\_\_\_\_
- Lead the Children's Time During Worship \_\_\_\_\_

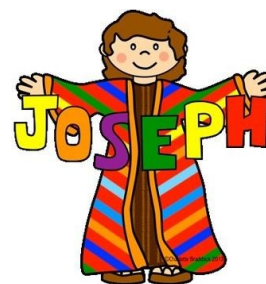
## TEAM Peace Sunday School

We are learning about Joseph and his coat of many colors.

Please also consider being a part of the Education Committee. See Miss Lorie for more details.

Date	Our Activities
Sunday, May 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mother's Day Craft</li></ul>
Sunday, May 12 <b>Mother's Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sing "Family Abraham" during worship</li><li>• Joseph Party</li></ul>

If you have questions or would like to get involved, please email Lorie Krouse at [mkrouse@comcast.net](mailto:mkrouse@comcast.net) or call/text at (260) 494-2433.



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## Growing Hope Globally

The committee from Peace, Plymouth and Pleasant Chapel will be meeting to plan our year's activities in the next few weeks. If anyone has an idea to share or would love to be on the committee contact Beth Ring. Each year Peace along with Plymouth fund the costs of our growing project. The acreage and grain produced goes to funding educational opportunities for food insecure countries around the world. Last year we raised and sent over \$19,000.00 to GHG for educational programming. Consider your donation for our growing project for 2024. We will be planting soybeans this year so costs will be around \$1500.00-\$2,000.00 for the growing season with our 10-12 acres. Thank you for your support!

## Mission House Food Bank

We continue to support this important mission. Let's fill our Narthex cupboard each month with soup, tuna, cereal, pasta and hygiene items. We will be taking these items as often as needed. If you would like to help with delivery contact Beth Ring. (The Mission House also takes small household items and gently used clothing.)





## **We keep the following friends in our prayers:**

We continue to hold in prayer **Chris Campbell, Ann Frellick, Barb Treleaven, Jim Reams, and John Roth.**



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**Welcome Table** is a partnership between United Faith Presbyterian Church, Peace UCC, and North Christian Church. We would like to invite you to dine or volunteer for our no-cost, pop-up restaurant. It's a pop-up community restaurant. For everyone!

We are open from 5:30-6:45 pm at 1616 W. Main St.

I am hoping to gather up helpers for the following Welcome Table dates. Volunteering is simply showing up any time between 4 and 5 (and we'll take you if you coast in between 5 and 5:35). If we know you are coming ahead of time, (pastor Kate will have peace of mind), and we will get a name badge ready for you so you are official, but you'll get to wear a Welcome Table apron no matter what.

You can "work" in whatever department you like. It's fun.

Upcoming dates are:

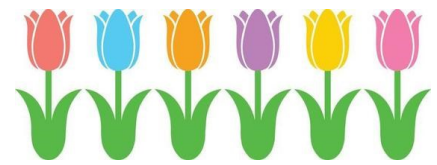
May 6  
May 20  
Jun 10  
Jun 24  
July 15  
July 29  
August 12  
August 26  
September 9  
September 23



Thank you!  
Pastor Kate, Senior Pastor  
North Christian Church  
Fort Wayne, IN  
260-443-1093 (Cell)

# Peace United Church of Christ

## May 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5-6:30 PM Girl Scouts  7:00 PM Confirmation Plymouth UCC	2 6:30 PM Table Tennis  7:30 PM Choir	3	4 <b>8:00 AM Work Day</b>  <b>9:30 AM Peace Crafters</b>
5 10:15 AM Worship	6 <b>5:30 PM WELCOME TABLE</b>	7	8 7:00 PM Confirmation Plymouth UCC	9 6:30 PM Table Tennis  7:30 PM Choir	10	11
12 10:15 AM Worship	13	14	15 5-6:30 PM Girl Scouts  7:00 PM Confirmation Plymouth UCC	16 6:30 PM Table Tennis  7:30 PM Choir	17 <b>LAST DAY OF CNS</b>	18
19 10:15 AM Worship <b>CONFIRMATION SUNDAY</b>	20 <b>CNS TEACHER IN-SERVICE</b>  <b>5:30 PM WELCOME TABLE</b>	21	22	23 6:30 PM Table Tennis  7:30 PM Choir  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	24	25
26 10:15 AM Worship	27 <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>  <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>  	28	29	30 6:30 PM Table Tennis  7:30 PM Choir	31	