



Peace United Church of Christ

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The Tidings

2023 Annual Meeting Packet Included



From the Pastor's Study

"Praise the LORD! Give thanks to the LORD because he is good, because his faithful love endures forever. Who could possibly repeat all of the LORD's mighty acts or publicly recount all his praise?"
Psalm 106:1-2

It has been an amazing gift to be a part of the most recent chapter in Peace UCC's history. I could never have imagined that I would have the chance to celebrate both the 100th anniversary, and now the 125th anniversary of the founding of this extraordinary community of faith. What I have witnessed repeatedly in our story are the remarkable people who understood that building a church was about more than bricks and mortar, and about more than simply serving ourselves. Churches are intended to be different than country clubs, they're about serving others and a vision of something beyond us. The vision of church should always stretch us beyond our imaginings, beyond merely our own needs and desires.

Peace Church is full of people who have understood the gift of trying to live out God's love. They do a great job of caring about one another, and they seem to thrive when given the chance to proclaim that the doors are open to all, that all are welcome here. For a quarter of a century, I have heard leaders in our church speak of their sense of both responsibility and humility as they share the need to be good stewards of what we have been given. This perspective reminds us that we are just passing through. We are the ones being served and serving in this moment, and we offer prayers of thanksgiving that there have been many who have come before us as stewards of that gift of love made real in this place. We also trust and pray with pregnant expectation that there will be those who carry on the witness beyond our time. This has been the story of the church from the beginning of time. And it has been the gift of this congregation.

We are in a moment on the journey where the congregation's anxieties have probably shifted. For the first decades of my ministry I had to regularly respond to the comments that: a) I was awfully young to be in ministry, or b) that I certainly wouldn't choose to stay in Kewaskum. The congregation had indeed taken a chance on the youngest minister that they had ever called and it seems to have worked out alright – though the comments about age continued up until just a few years ago. And after decades of telling people in the church how wonderful this congregation is and how lucky any minister is to share the journey with Peace UCC, people have finally stopped assuming that I would leave at any moment. Learning to trust in a journey that is yet before us, one that is unknown, is at the very heart of our faith. Learning to look at ourselves with humility but also with a sense of sacred-self-worth is a deep gift. Our story has always been one of learning to walk with God and to trust that we are a part of something larger than ourselves. Our current anxieties seem to revolve more around finances, membership, and visions for the future. The income for our general operations is trailing behind our expenses... and at the same time we have the strong backing of dollars from faithful stewards who have given us a deep cushion of overall assets that can allow us the opportunity to continue listening for how God is calling us to bear an ever bolder witness to the world.

As we celebrate 125 years, I hope that we can keep telling the stories of all of the amazing people whose vision has brought us to this place. And I pray that we can be good and humble stewards of this moment in time, seeking to kindle God's extravagant light and love for the next generation. Praise the Lord for the journey!

Pastor ERIC

Worship Schedule for November 2023

Sunday, November 5 - 9:30 a.m. ONLY

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost - 125th Anniversary Celebration

Joshua 3:7-17 and Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 • Micah 3:5-12 and Psalm 43 • 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 • Matthew 23:1-12

Sunday, November 12 - 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – Commitment Sunday

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Psalm 78:1-7 • Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 or Amos 5:18-24 and Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 or Psalm 70 • 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 • Matthew 25:1-13

Sunday, November 19 - 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123 • Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12 • 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 • Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday, November 26 - 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Reign of Christ Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 100 • Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 95:1-7a • Ephesians 1:15-23 • Matthew 25:31-46

Events and Activities

Peace UCC Grief Group - Led by Vikar Jakob Kroener, this group meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month at 1:00 pm in the Youth Room. For more information, please contact the Peace Church office.

Adult Faith Formation – We will be backing up the start date for our Advent Study, “Light of the World” by Amy Jill Levine. We will begin this four-week study on Oct. 31st. Ideally, you would read the introduction and first chapter of the book prior to this first session. Let the church office know if you us to order the book. Otherwise, it is available on Kindle or as an Audio Book. Come and dive deeper into our understanding of the Christmas story. Questions? Contact Pastor Eric

Book Group - The Wednesday morning book club will be meeting on November 1 in the church music room across from the church office. The group will be discussing "The Yellow Bird Sings" by J. Rosner. Barbara Westra will be the discussion leader. If you are interested in joining the Wednesday morning book club, please contact Lynn Rusch at lynnrusch@yahoo.com or 262-306-4025.

Books for December 6 and January 3 are: "Women Talking" by Miriam Tows (December) and "Still Alice" by Lisa Genova (January 3). All are welcome to join the discussion group.

Peace Church Banned Book Group – will meet on Wednesday, November 15 at 1:30 p.m. in the church music room. The group will discuss "The Kite Runner" by Kahlid Hosseini. Books are reserved at the Kewaskum Library and can be picked up starting October 15th. If you need assistance with obtaining a book, please contact the church office.

The Peace Church Banned Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month. Below is the schedule for the 2023 calendar:

November 15 - The Kite Runner by Kahlid Hosseini

December 20 - The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas

Community Meal Desserts Needed! – The November Community Meal will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 1st from 4:30 – 6:00 pm. We need desserts! If you can make a dessert, please contact the office, and let us know! Thank you!

Let the Celebrating Continue! Please join Peace members and friends, Sunday, November 12, as we continue to celebrate the incredible blessings God's given this congregation over the last 125 years.

Commitment Sunday worship gives us the chance to:

- respond gratefully to God's love by bringing our financial commitments to church and offering them to God.
- rejoice in the ways we've seen God at work in and through the life of Peace Church, its members and friends.
- enjoy a time of fellowship, cake and other treats in Fellowship Hall following worship.

You'll have the chance to express prayers of gratitude and thanks to God for Peace Church, Sunday, November 5, as we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of Peace UCC's founding. That Sunday, you'll find paper tree leaves at the ends of each pew on which you can write words to complete the sentence, "We give thanks to God for

_____." Your words of gratitude and thanksgiving will become a part of a "tree" that will be in the sanctuary on Commitment Sunday as we celebrate Christ's church, all God has given, and all God will continue to give, to us.

Young Adult Habitat trip - is scheduled for January 1, 2024, to January 7, 2024. Any young adult is welcome to come along. They don't have to be members of our church. Pastor Eric and Sheri Rehn will be the chaperones. They will be going to Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The cost is \$200.00 per person for the week, and this includes staying at the Volunteer Lodge, breakfast, lunch, and dinners. Meals on the way there and back, and on our off day, are not included in the cost. If you or someone you know is interested in joining, please let Robin in the church office at 262-262-4011. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Eric at 262-707-0758 or Karen Kletti at 262-224-2212.

PEACE UCC

125 Years 

Peace United Church of Christ Anniversary CELEBRATION

Sunday, November 5th, 2023

Peace Church - Fellowship Hall

Serving 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Pulled Pork & Chicken

Cheesy Hashbrown Casserole, Salad, Dessert & Beverage

Fellowship & Special Map Activity

Ticket Price - \$15.00

Children 12 & under Free

Please note that there will be only ONE service that day at 9:30 a.m.

Peace United Church of Christ to Celebrate 125 Years - Part II Mission Work

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

The famous Swiss theologian, Emil Brunner, once wrote, “The Church exists by mission, just as a fire exists by burning.” Members of our congregation joyfully proclaim that relationships and mission work are where they encounter their faith being made real. They don’t merely want to hear talk about what should be happening in the world, or talk about the power of God’s grace, they want the church to be a part of the positive change that we all seek in our world.

Throughout the years Peace has participated with several organizations who are making a difference in our wider communities. Whether it is seeking to feed the hungry by serving at meal programs and food pantries in Milwaukee or helping to start food pantries in West Bend and Kewaskum or making hats and mittens to share with schools and shelters throughout Southeastern Wisconsin to keep people warm, or a group randomly picking up trash along the roads or trails, the church has always been willing to share time, talents and money. We are especially proud of our youth who alongside adults are encouraged to share their love of neighbor through these and other activities.

Beyond the United States we have had members sharing their time and talents in Haiti. With our denominational partner CONASPEH (The National Spiritual Council of Churches in Haiti), with whom we sought to help lift the poorest of the poor into a place of citizenship, education, and health, through helping to build a seminary, a theological library, primary school, and nursing school. We sent groups over the years to assist in each of those projects. We’ve also

partnered with St. Joseph's Home and Wings of Hope (ministries which have also been very closely connected with St. Francis Cabrini Church in West Bend). For decades Drummer Bill and Dancer Walnes have visited Peace UCC to share how our support is helping their ministry to orphans and orphan children with disabilities. We have had members work with them short and long term - one member discerning her call to ministry, lived in Haiti while helping to design a new building for Wings of Hope and minister to the children there. We have maintained a third partnership in Haiti with Ventures in People. This organization has sent members of our church and the community to aid in a 4H goat project, medical and eyeglass missions, and a sustained effort to provide water filters. Each effort has sought to promote positive change by giving people the knowledge and means to basic essentials like water, food and healthcare. And each of these opportunities has included people from diverse community and church backgrounds working together for the common good.

For all these diverse efforts, when our congregation talks about mission, people always end up telling the story of our relationship with Habitat for Humanity. This would be our longest continual mission project. Peace has been sending members across the United States building homes since 1987. Rev. James Bettin, who was the pastor at the time, was an integral part of starting this wonderful ministry. Through personal connections, he brought the founder of Habitat for Humanity, Millard Fuller, to Peace UCC in 1987. Fuller preached about the vision of this young organization (Habitat was founded in 1976) to provide decent housing for all of God's people. As Peace heard that witness, the fire was ignited. We have been sending mission teams for a week at a time to go and do our part to change the world. There have been a total of 73 mission groups sent from Peace, spanning 43 locations, in 17 states. 312 different individuals have participated, they have been both members of Peace and many friends and community members. We have always welcomed anyone who was interested to come and share in living out our faith with working clothes on. At 56 trips, current Pastor Eric Kirkegaard has been recently titled the "I've been everywhere man". Just under 56 trips is Karen Kletti (55 trips), who is the current leader of the committee involved with picking out locations and organizing all things relative to the trip. Clark Pearson, at 51 trips, serves as an integral part of the ministry and its organizing.

For decades we have sent up to 3 groups a year. The adult group generally travels in July, a young adult group (college +) travels in January during winter break, and the youth (high school) travel in June. Each trip is generally a week-long immersion of work, faith, and community. We travel together and then stay at local churches, schools or other buildings equipped with the basic necessities, any floor will do. Members of Peace who can't join the trip send care packages of food, and prayers, and financial support for the mission. For many years the congregation has also sent each group with a handmade quilt, blessed by the congregation, as a symbol of love and prayers for the family who will be receiving the home.

Of course, that commitment to Habitat for Humanity has also included lots of connections and support for our local Habitat affiliate from its very beginnings.

We keep working to let the fires of mission burn brightly with their powers to transform lives. We celebrate the gift of these opportunities not only for the recipients of our ministries, but also for all those who have participated, as they too have been changed.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday! (Ages 1-18)

Nov 5 Emma Klahn
Nov 12 Lia Piittmann
Nov 15 Haylie Herther
Nov 18 Sawyer Herther
Nov 19 Claire Lemke, Cole Lemke
Nov 26 Lorelei Walker, Auden Walker
Nov 27 Quin Dornacker

Birthdays (80 years plus)

Nov 5 Donna Ogi (95)
Nov 6 Paul Reinders (101)
Nov 21 Marian Herriges (82)
Nov 25 Pat McFadden (80)
Nov 27 Joyce Meinberg (88)

Anniversaries

Nov 9 Alec & Karen Taylor (55)
Nov 16 Brad & Jennifer Preder (27)
Nov 27 Karen & John Grundahl (52)
Nov 27 Dean & Colleen Roe (69)

Financial Report

Financial Report September 2023

General Fund

Adjusted Beginning Balance as of August 30, 2023	\$ (62,550)
Receipts	24,972
Internal Transfer	0
Incr/Decr from Investments	0
Expenses	(\$23,149)
Ending Balance as of 8/31/2023	<u>(\$60,728)</u>

Benevolence Receipts

Peace Pantry	339.00
UCC Maui Relief	250.00
Kewaskum Food Pantry	10.00
Neighbors in Need	100.00
Total Benevolence Receipts	<u>799.00</u>

Church Kitchen Remodeling Project (\$33,598.79)

Church Council Minutes – August 2023

Council minutes: 9/5/2023

NO minutes were taken during the meeting. This is a recap from Kathy Charland
Present: Vance R. Lisa A. Tim S. Kathy M. Kathy C. Paul B. Ken. S. Pastor. Vikar
Jakob, Melissa P.

Aug minutes. Accepted Sept agenda: accepted.

Financial report accepted for file and audit.

Discussion: Most of the evening was spent talking about OCWM. The discussion centered around the amount that PUCC donates annually. Members of council felt that we needed to reduce this amount to help with our general fund budget issues. The first proposal was for a \$15,000 amount to be donated in 2024. After discussion it was raised to \$20,000 per year. Pastor asked if we would consider donations made by members of the congregation to be given to OCWM as indicated on their envelopes. In the past this money was put into the \$34,000 we were currently donating.

Generally, we take in between \$6,000 and \$9,000 a year for OCWM. Pastor suggests That if we are reducing our amount to \$20,000 for 2024, he would like us to have all member donations that are designated for OCWM be given in addition to the \$20,000. It was voted on and the motion passed. \$20,000. Any additional personal donations allocated to OCWM will be sent to OCWM.

Robin's insurance: Robin will begin receiving benefits in August 2024. We have offered her the pension board insurance. She will pay for dental. We have not decided on whether there needs to be a co-pay coming from Robin for the monthly premium. It was suggested that whatever we offer Pastor we offer Robin. He does not have a premium copay. We will conclude this discussion at our October meeting.



PEACE UCC

125 Years



Peace United Church of Christ Anniversary CELEBRATION

Sunday, November 5th, 2023
Peace Church - Fellowship Hall

Serving 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Pulled Pork & Chicken
Cheesy Hashbrown Casserole, Salad, Dessert & Beverage
Fellowship & Special Map Activity

Ticket Price - \$15.00
Children 12 & under Free

Please note that there will be only ONE service that day at 9:30 a.m.





PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Community Meal

Wednesday, November 1st

4:30 - 6:00 pm

Chicken Cordon Bleu Casserole

Corn, Dinner Roll, Dessert, & Beverage

Free for All!

See You There!



Albrecht Free Clinic

P.O. Box 632
West Bend, WI 53095-0632
Clinic: 262-334-8339
Fax: 262-306-7717

September 25, 2023

Board of Directors

President

Dale Thoma

Retired

Willis Towers Watson

Vice President

Doug McManus, MD

Retired

Advocate Aurora Health Care

Secretary

Attorney Amanda Sacks

Schloemer Law Firm

Treasurer

Greg Heberer, CPA

CFO Consultant

Lauber Business Partners

Medical Director

Gary Herdrich, MD

Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin

West Bend Health Center

Dental Director

Tom Albiero, DDS

Retired - Dental Professionals

of Germantown

Past President

James J. Pauly

Retired

West Bend Mutual Ins Co.

Allen Ericson

President-Froedtert West Bend Hospital

Community Hospital Division

Kimberly Grensavitch, RDH, MJ

Director of Client Learning

Accreditation Association for Ambulatory

Health Care

Tom Hopp

VP of Sales - Business Services

Summit Credit Union

Tammy Muckerheide CPCU, AU

VP - Commercial Underwriting

West Bend Mutual Insurance Co.

John Mutschelknaus

Retired

Advocate Aurora Health Care

Eric Ransom

Vice President of Operations

Aurora Medical Center Summit and

Washington County

Claire Rolfs

President-Thomas J. Rolfs Family Foundation

Kelly Stueber, RN, BSN

Director of Clinical Operations

Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin

Community Physicians

Ruth Henkle

Executive Director

Dear Friend,

It is with mixed emotions that we share with you, as one of our generous and loyal supporters, that the Albrecht Free Clinic will be taking another big step in assuring quality health care for the underserved in our community. Starting on January 1, 2024, we will transition all medical patient care and operations to Lakeshore Community Health Care (LCHC), also a 501c3 organization. As you may recall, we transitioned our dental services to LCHC last September. Since then, they've proven successful in their ability to care for more patients in need, and we are confident that they will continue serving the growing health care needs of the underserved in Washington County. Having directly served the healthcare needs of our uninsured and underinsured for nearly three decades, we want to assure you that this was not an easy decision. However, after long and careful consideration, we are positive that this move is in the best interest of the patients we serve, who have been our reason for existence since Dr. Albrecht founded this clinic in 1996.

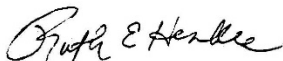
This transition ensures that patients receive more streamlined care. With LCHC providing medical, dental, mental health, and pharmacy services, patient care will be more efficient. LCHC will provide a seamless, one-stop shop for a wide variety of care, and they will maintain and build relationships with the local health care systems to ensure patients have access to specialty care providers. LCHC's services are not free, but uninsured and underinsured patients are offered discounted care on a sliding scale determined by household income. Insurance, including Medicaid and Medicare, is also accepted. Most importantly to our mission, they cannot turn anyone away based on their ability to pay.

The Albrecht Free Clinic has historically operated thanks to the selflessness and dedication of volunteer doctors, nurses, dental professionals, and office support. This volunteer model has served us well for many years but is unsustainable for the long term. Ultimately, Lakeshore's paid staff model ensures that the clinic always has the proper level of staffing to effectively provide medical, dental, and mental health services.

We are incredibly grateful for all our donors, past and present. Your generosity has helped make Dr. Albrecht's vision a reality for more than 27 years, and with LCHC providing care starting January 1, 2024, that vision will continue. This transition ensures a long-term, sustainable plan to provide and expand medical, dental, and mental health care for the most vulnerable in our community.

Your gifts to our agency have and will continue to provide quality care for uninsured patients without the ability to pay for services. Additionally, we are exploring ways to honor Dr. Albrecht's name and legacy to ensure that our mission continues. More details will be forthcoming in our annual newsletter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this transition.

Sincerely,



Ruth Henkle

Executive Director

& the Albrecht Free Clinic Board of Directors

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			XYZ CLUB BOOK CLUB 9:30 am Community Meal 4:30-6 pm	Prayer Shawl Group – 1 pm		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship 9:30 am - ONLY Sunday School Pre-K- 5 th grade- Christmas Program Practice 6- 8 th Grade Confirmation 9 th Grade Confirmation 5:30 – 7 125 Anniversary Celebration All Saints Observation	Vikar Jakob off from 11/6-11/21 Family Promise Meal Prep-10am – noon.	LECTIONARY 10 AM Faith Formation 7-8pm	XYZ CLUB	Grief Group 1 pm Living the Question 10-11:30		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship 8 & 9:30 am Sunday School Pre-K- 5 th grade 6- 8 th Grade Confirmation 9 th Grade Confirmation 5:30 - 7		LECTIONARY 10 AM Church Council 6:00 PM	XYZ CLUB Banned Book Club 1:30 pm Tidings Deadline			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship 8 & 9:30 am Sunday School Pre-K- 5 th grade 6-8 th Grade Confirmation 9 th Grade Confirmation 5:30 - 7		LECTIONARY 10 AM Faith Formation 7-8pm	XYZ CLUB	Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed		
26	27	28	29	30		
Worship 8 & 9:30 am No Sunday School Classes No 9 th Grade Confirmation		LECTIONARY 10 AM	XYZ CLUB			



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

You are invited to the
Peace Church Annual Meeting

Come learn what is new.
It is YOUR church, help us shape it.



Letter
Minutes
Agenda
2024 Budget
Please read and bring with you.
October 29, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

Dear Peace Church Friends,

2023 has been a year of action! Volunteerism is thriving as is evidenced by the number of projects that were supported by members of the church. There is so much more going on than what we actually see on a Sunday morning! We have a fresh look in the parking lot with new plants in the garden and blooming mums in the planters. Fellowship hall comes to life with beautiful green plants. The kitchen gets cleaned out, tools organized, creamer and juice is bought for coffee hour, mittens and hats donated, kitchen fundraiser items were sold for a year, new outlets installed in fellowship hall, new sanctuary fans installed, a new speaker installed, flowers delivered to shut ins who are also visited by church members, food served at funerals, choirs prepared, children taught, faith formation has come alive, a grief support group nurtured, adult bible studies to led, habitat homes built, fellowship shared in Canada via a canoe trip, Youth groups are vibrant, the Peace Pantry is full, homeless are provided meals, the community meal brings members together with the broader community, prayer shawls are made and shared, members gather for Food with Friends, a blood drive is hosted... to name a few! These things only happen because Peace has been blessed with volunteers! Please consider getting involved in 2024!

A new initiative began in July 2023. Peace hosted a breakfast/lunch program for children and their caregivers for 8 weeks. Volunteers prepared a hot breakfast twice a week and packed 2 lunches per person twice a week. Bryan Herther catering (West Bend) donated a portion of the food and Kewaskum Kiwanis club sponsored the rest. We were blessed with these donations.

Vikar Jakob began his service to Peace UCC in March of 2023. He has come to us with many talents to share. He has been a blessing in so many ways. Peace has welcomed Vikar Jakob with open arms and are blessed with his ministry.

The kitchen loan was restructured so that we are borrowing from our own investments in order to avoid interest charges.

We are now raising money to cover the cost and replenish those funds. You can watch the progress on the coffee cup display in the sanctuary.

Sacred Space was new this summer! This was a beautiful alternative worship service held on Wednesday nights. Services were held at church as well as at individual's homes and at an outdoor site.

The church picnic was held in August with a delicious meal of burgers and brats. Volunteers organized, cooked, prepared other foods, donated desserts, sold tickets, organized the raffle, set up and cleaned up! Another great picnic in the books.

November 2023 will be a celebration of our church's 125th anniversary! We will host a lunch after a special service. Following the 9:30 service we will have a special dinner! The Kedroske family has donated the pork and chicken for this event! Thank you so much!

The newly formed stewardship team will operate all year. Our goal is to cultivate a generous congregation that develops a passion for Peace Church and all its ministries and willingly shares monetarily and with time and talents. We know that the more you participate in activities, the more driven you will be to support Peace UCC! The team is operating with the support of the United Church of Christ. We were provided with materials and guidance. You have all received letters from the Pastor and the stewardship team. Along with this, you will be receiving a commitment card. Please listen to how the spirit is leading you to make this commitment. On November 12, you will be able to offer this commitment during the service. Plan to join us for a coffee hour with special treats!

Our current concern is with our general fund. This is the fund that is crucial to keeping our church doors open. It provides us a pastor, an office manager, custodian, sexton, organists, heat, air conditioning, lights, office supplies, Christian education, and more. Our members do a great job of supporting special funds such as the scholarship fund, kitchen loan, and cemetery fund for example. This is fantastic and we hope to keep this going! The council is asking that we make a serious effort to bring our general fund into balance. The deficit has been growing little by little for years. Annually, this balance fluctuates quite a bit month to month, often we receive larger donations at the end of the calendar year. However, this year we have dipped lower than any year in recent history. Currently we are hovering with a deficit around \$60,000. As you consider your giving commitment, please pray about how you can increase your giving by even 2%! If you have not been able to contribute financially, please consider \$5.00 a week! You can now give via online – go to the Peace UCC website and on the homepage click on the GIVE box or click [here](#). We understand every family faces challenges and we just ask that you consider how you might help.

I would like to thank the membership for supporting me these past two years as the church president. I learned so much about Peace UCC. I have been a member for about 40 years. The more I engage, the more passionate I become about our beautiful church. My prayer is that we continue to thrive and grow in numbers and ministry!

Blessings,

Kathy Charland

Peace United Church of Christ
2022 Annual Meeting Agenda
October 29, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

Call to Order – Kathy Charland

Gathering Prayer – Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

Approval of Agenda

Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

Pastor's Report – Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

President's Update – Kathy Charland

- Presidents Letter

- Election of Council and Committee Members
 - Council: (3 years) - Bill Stangl
 - Council: (3 years)
 - Council: (3 years)
 - Council: (3 years)
 - Council: (2 years)
 - Christian Education Board: (3 years) -
 - Christian Education Board: (3 years) -
 - Pastoral Relations Committee: (3 years)-April Stern
 - Pastoral Relations Committee: (3 years) – Cheri Manthei
 - Pastoral Relations Committee: (3 years)
 - Scholarship Committee: (3 years) –

➤ Election of Council President

Presentations

Stewardship Presentation- General Fund

Presentation of 2024 Budget – Discussion

➤ **Action item: Approval of 2024 Budget**

Sending Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Adjournment

Minutes - Annual Meeting Peace United Church of Christ October 23, 2022

Kathy Charland opened the meeting at 10:52 am. Pastor Eric then started the meeting with prayer.

Judy Christensen made a motion to approve the agenda. Second came from Karen Kletti. No discussion. Agenda passed.

Clark Pearson made a motion to approve the 2021 annual meeting minutes. Second came from Russ Knoth. No discussion. Motion passed.

Pastor Eric presented his report of the happenings of the current year. Some highlights included how we might continue conversations on how we go forward since the pandemic. He thanked the congregation on the movement of things like the kitchen remodel and appreciating his time of sabbatical.

Kathy Charland presented the President's update. Technical change of the consistory, in moving to the pillar segments. Sunday school model changed to a rotation model which is showcasing a higher amount of kids attending each week. Lifted up the grief group held twice a month led by Chris Rhode. \$2300 profit from the picnic that was held in the church this year due to the weather. Peace Pantry doing well and lifting up further conversations in the community. She thanked the congregation for all their assistance and guidance.

Clark Pearson presented the listing of those committees needing members. John Lemke requested a brief description be told of the council since the change from Consistory to Council (pillars). Kathy described the change as being on the council and then choosing which pillar you may be called to affiliate with based on your passions.

Council (3 year term) –Tim Stoffel, Melinda Sargent, Chris Rhode, Kathy Mertz

Christian Education Board (3 year term) – John Bliese

Pastoral Relations Committee (3 Year term) – Vance Reif (if no conflict with Constitution) and John Kletti

Scholarship Committee (3 year term) – Jason Piittmann and Kandy Lindgren

Endowment Committee (3 year term) – Mark Steinhardt

Investment Committee (3 year term) – 3 openings

Motion made by Kathy Charland to elect the above member. Second motion by Eric Walker. No discussion. Motion carried.

John Lemke made a motion to nominate Kathy Charland for President. Judy Christensen made a second. No discussion. Motion carried.

Kathy Charland presented information on stewardship and the budget. Special thank you made to Tom Kolb, Kathy Danielson, Cathy Stern and Pastor Eric for their guidance and teaching on the budget. Main points included that the designated funds are pretty full, and the general fund being very low. With the general fund paying the everyday costs of running the church, how are we able to

sit here with lights and heat. With all the money being compiled together, we can continue to pay the bills as we are borrowing against the money in the other funds. However, at some point we need to replenish these funds, and in order to do that we need to donate money to the general fund. We ask that you pray on this and ask the Lord for guidance on how you can assist.

John Kletti made mention that when you do not designate a fund to put your money towards, that it will automatically go towards the general fund.

John Lemke advised that if anyone has questions on ways/how to donate to reach out to Robin in the office for assistance.

Tom Kolb advised that the staff expenses went up 5%. Kathy Charland advised that a new copy machine is included in the budget. John Kletti mentioned that income is shrinking steadily and that if we had the associate Pastor that we would have been in a worse state. Cathy Stern advised that the money for the Associate Pastor is already set aside for 1+ years. She confirmed that the income being lower is real. John Lemke also confirmed that money in the memorial fund is set aside for the Associate Pastor. He also advised that we have some good data around giving that can help drive future actions. Vance Reif asked when the general fund started to really decline. Cathy Stern advised in 2021 the general fund was made whole from the PPP loan over covid from the declines that started in 2017. Then later in 2021 since we have been in the negative.

John Bliese asked how inflation has affected the budget. Kathy Charland spoke about the employee raises being increased to 5% to help aid with years with no raises as well as inflation. Karen Kletti advised that staff were paid throughout Covid time, in which Kathy Charland advised that the PPP loan covered those salaries. Kathy Charland advised that OCWM is not getting the same 5% increase as the staff is receiving.

Judy Christensen made a motion to approve the 2023 budget. Second came from Tom Kolb. No further discussion. Ballots were handed out. Approximately 46 people in attendance.

Pastor closed the meeting in with prayer and the Lord's prayer at 11:45 am.

Peace United Church of Christ
 General Fund
 2024 Budget

SUMMARY STATEMENT

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Jan-Jul Actual	2023 Jan-Jul Budget	2024 Budget
Income						
Total Christian Ed Income	\$ 4,038	\$ 3,235	\$ -	\$ 1,700	\$ -	\$ -
Total General Fund	\$ 305,825	\$ 329,008	\$ 374,367	\$ 161,756	\$ 219,078	\$ 370,920
OCWM (designated on envelopes)	\$ 6,403	\$ 6,310	\$ 34,238	\$ 3,916	\$ 19,973	\$ 20,000
Total Fund Income	\$ 316,266	\$ 338,553	\$ 408,605	\$ 167,372	\$ 239,051	\$ 390,920
Expenses						
Total Staff Expenses	\$ 197,812	\$ 215,478	\$ 288,597	\$ 122,929	\$ 168,345	\$ 292,450
Total Building Expenses	\$ 49,093	\$ 53,856	\$ 49,520	\$ 40,359	\$ 31,050	\$ 49,520
Total OCWM Paid	\$ 33,564	\$ 34,238	\$ 34,238	\$ 19,984	\$ 19,973	\$ 20,000
Total Christian Education	\$ 6,609	\$ 5,562	\$ 5,050	\$ 3,176	\$ 3,760	\$ 5,050
Total Worship	\$ 4,397	\$ 3,336	\$ 6,500	\$ 2,821	\$ 3,795	\$ 6,500
Total Other Expense	\$ 8,918	\$ 8,861	\$ 9,000	\$ 11,493	\$ 6,080	\$ 9,000
Total Office Equip & Supplies	\$ 9,131	\$ 7,910	\$ 13,300	\$ 12,523	\$ 11,650	\$ 6,000
Total Music	\$ 7,640	\$ 1,882	\$ 2,401	\$ 1,414	\$ 1,831	\$ 2,401
Total Expenses	\$ 318,663	\$ 331,123	\$ 408,605	\$ 214,698	\$ 246,483	\$ 390,920
Net Income	\$ (2,397)	\$ 7,431	\$ (0)	\$ (47,326)	\$ (7,432)	\$ 0

Peace United Church of Christ

General Fund
2024 Budget

DETAILED STATEMENT

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Jan-Jul Actual	2023 Jan-Jul Budget	2024 Budget
Income						
Christian Ed Income						
Come Share The Spirit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confirmation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Education	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth Income	4,038	1,143	0	1,325	0	0
Sunday School	0	0	0	0	0	0
Christian Ed Income - Other	0	2,092	0	375	0	0
Total Christian Ed Income	4,038	3,235	0	1,700	0	0
General Fund						
Endowment Fund Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
GenFund Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
Initial Offering	179	182	400	165	400	400
Loose Offering	1,467	2,364	2,500	793	1,450	2,500
Music Income - Other	6,127	0	0	0	0	0
Use of Church	2,200	800	0	1,270	0	0
Other Income Misc	1,660	810	0	1,995	0	0
Women At Peace	0	0	0	0	0	0
Worship Income - Other	79	0	0	0	0	0
Worship Income - Flowers	1,358	1,395	2,000	909	1,165	2,000
General Fund Envelopes	288,493	297,952	330,789	154,654	193,500	327,342
Other Income	6	167	0	1,970	0	0
Other Income Transfers	4,260	25,338	38,678	0	22,563	38,678
Income from Investments	656	0	0	0	0	0
Vanco Fees	(660)	0	0	0	0	0
Total General Fund	305,825	329,008	374,367	161,756	219,078	370,920
OCWM (designated on envelopes)	6,403	6,310	34,238	3,916	19,973	20,000
Total Fund Income	316,266	338,553	408,605	167,372	239,051	390,920
Expense						
Staff Expenses						
Pastor						
Salary	50,128	51,331	54,398	31,732	31,732	54,398
Furnishings Allowance	0	10,000	10,000	5,833	5,835	10,000
Total Cash Salary	50,128	61,331	64,398	37,565	37,567	64,398
Additional Compensation						
Social Security Offset	5,980	6,099	6,404	3,583	3,734	6,404
Pension	10,944	10,768	11,720	6,384	6,835	11,720
Life & Disability insurance	1,176	1,173	1,256	684	731	1,256
Insurance/Pastor Health - Other	24,799	24,331	24,950	16,415	14,555	31,202
Dental Insurance	684	685	600	399	350	600
Pastor's Cont. Ed./Books	388	324	1,000	1,120	585	1,000
Travel Allowance	1,272	3,300	4,500	0	2,625	4,500
* Visitation Minister	5,425	11,380	9,100	0	5,308	9,100
* Visitation Minister Mileage	0	0	1,800	0	1,050	1,800
* Current YTD based on Rev. Blackburns service. Budgeted position based on Conf. Guidelines						
‡ Associate Pastor - Vacant Position	0	0	55,000	0	32,083	55,000
‡ See note below regarding funding of Assoc. Pastor Position						
Sabbatical Pulpit Supply	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additional Staff Salaries						
Office Manager	37,008	38,189	40,098	23,290	23,391	40,098
Church Custodian	4,377	4,477	11,445	3,782	6,676	11,445
Church Sexton	4,326	5,269	5,136	2,688	2,996	5,136
Churchmen Accompanist	1,290	330	1,170	90	683	1,170
Organists	17,655	20,023	17,779	11,570	10,371	17,779
Chancel Choir Director	2,529	2,580	2,709	1,580	1,580	2,709
Youth Choir Director	1,581	1,612	1,693	988	988	1,693
Rehearsal Accompanist	1,291	1,364	1,975	839	1,152	1,975

Peace United Church of Christ

General Fund

2024 Budget

DETAILED STATEMENT

	2021	2022	2023	2023	2023	2024
	Actual	Actual	Budget	Jan-Jul	Jan-Jul	Budget
				Actual	Budget	
Treasurer	4,275	4,361	4,579	2,671	2,671	4,579
Child Caregiver	50	0	1,300	0	758	0
Administrative Assistant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Audiographer		1,860	1,560	0	910	1,560
Videographer		1,470	1,560	752	910	1,560
Other Salaries	3,239	750	0	1,655	0	0
Social Security	6,883	7,165	11,866	3,772	6,921	11,766
Workers Compensation	1,391	1,889	2,000	690	1,165	2,000
Other Pulpit Supply	4,025	3,999	3,000	757	1,750	2,000
Total Staff Expenses	197,812	215,478	288,597	122,929	168,345	292,450
Building Expenses						
Snow Plowing	3,723	4,923	3,000	7,598	2,250	3,000
Janitor Supplies	888	2,650	1,500	1,058	875	1,500
Insurance Buildings etc	9,605	8,588	10,700	5,866	6,240	10,700
Heat Maint. Contract	2,157	1,702	2,000	1,602	1,000	2,000
Elevator Maintenance	5,244	5,934	5,500	5,620	5,500	5,500
Electric	7,575	9,461	9,000	7,473	5,200	9,000
Heat/Gas	9,769	10,246	9,000	6,643	5,100	9,000
Lawn Care	4,450	3,780	1,000	433	500	1,000
Phone	3,860	4,290	4,320	2,590	2,520	4,320
Water & Sewer	1,822	1,627	2,100	832	1,050	2,100
Total Building Expenses	49,093	53,856	49,520	40,359	31,050	49,520
OCWM Paid	33,564	34,238	34,238	19,984	19,973	20,000
Christian Education						
Come Share The Spirit Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confirmation	637	429	1,200	270	1,200	1,200
Adult Education	0	0	600	0	350	600
Christian Education - Other	0	27	0	80	585	0
Sunday School	2,658	1,732	1,000	53	0	750
Vacation Bible School	441	2,533	750	1,716	750	1,000
Youth Fellowship	2,873	841	1,500	1,057	875	1,500
Total Christian Education	6,609	5,562	5,050	3,176	3,760	5,050
Worship						
Worship Exp - Other	1,503	1,749	4,000	1,077	2,335	4,000
Worship Exp - Flowers	2,894	1,587	2,500	1,744	1,460	2,500
Total Christian Education	4,397	3,336	6,500	2,821	3,795	6,500
Other Expense						
S.E. Assoc. Dues	2,679	2,922	2,000	1,848	2,000	2,000
Communications/Mailings	2,230	1,593	1,400	1,054	815	1,400
Dues/Subscriptions/Website	1,249	1,434	2,200	2,185	1,285	2,200
UCC Meetings	20	0	500	1,344	290	500
Fellowship	918	850	1,500	3,933	875	1,500
Stewardship	20	165	300	470	175	300
Care & Connection	920	1,053	800	595	465	800
Operating Expenses	133	57	300	0	175	300
Investment Fees	0	72	0	37	0	0
GenFund Misc Expenses	699	715	0	27	0	0
Total Other Expense	8,868	8,861	9,000	11,493	6,080	9,000
Office Technology	2,201	2,478	3,000	10,114	9,900	3,000
Office Supplies	6,930	5,432	10,300	2,409	1,750	3,000
Total Office Equip & Supplies	9,131	7,910	13,300	12,523	11,650	6,000
Music						
Chancel Choir	40	0	500	0	290	500
Teen Choir	6,042	77	0	75	0	0
Youth Choir	0	0	100	36	75	100
Copyrights	1,062	1,504	1,000	987	1,000	1,000
Music & Instrument Maint.	495	300	800	315	465	800

Peace United Church of Christ

General Fund

2024 Budget

DETAILED STATEMENT

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Jan-Jul Actual	2023 Jan-Jul Budget	2024 Budget
Total Music	7,640	1,882	2,401	1,414	1,831	2,401
Total Expenses	317,113	331,123	408,605	214,698	246,483	390,920
Net Income	<u>(847)</u>	<u>7,431</u>	<u>(0)</u>	<u>(47,326)</u>	<u>(7,432)</u>	<u>0</u>

‡ Note: Associate Pastor position to be funded as follows:

- Elimination of Volunteer Coordinator
- Elimination of Youth Coordinator
- Transfer of Funds held for Future Ministry
- Transfer of Funds held in Memorial for position