

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

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THE CALL TO PEACE

Volume 18 ▪ Issue 3 ▪ Fall 2022

**Peace Lutheran Church
Worship**

We worship in person Sundays at 8:30 & 11 am. We continue for now to use masks and increased airflow to reduce risk. Join live stream Sunday worship at 11 am on the church Facebook page, or check out the worship video later on the church Facebook page or YouTube channel.



Summer Bible Adventure - Compassion Camp!

Rally Sunday Is September 18!

It’s time to kick off the fall season of opportunities to grow in faith! Make a commitment at the beginning of the school year for your family to grow deeper in relationship with God! We are offering opportunities for children, youth, and adults. **Starting Sunday September 18, on Sunday mornings 9:45 - 10:45 am**, there will be an adult class, the Feet to Faith confirmation class for 7th-8th graders, the Explorers class for 4th-6th graders, and a Godly Play Bible story time for children ages 4 through 3rd grade. Questions? Ask Jayna Detweiler (Coordinator of Children’s, Youth, & Family Ministry) or Pastor John.

Rally Sunday Lunch and Children’s Craft Activity: Stay after 11 am worship on Sunday September 18 for food and a children’s activity until 2 pm!!

We continue to post Godly Play videos for children on our YouTube channel every week to use at home. During the pandemic, our prayers are with all who suffer and all who respond in care. Please check the church website www.peacelutherantacoma.org, [Facebook page](#) (Facebook Peace Lutheran Tacoma), or [YouTube channel](#) for online worship videos and faith resources.



Peace youth prepare a community meal at this summer’s Love to the Local Servant Learning Week!



Exodus 4:1-2: Moses answered God, “But suppose they do not believe me or listen to me, but say, “The Lord did not appear to you.” The Lord said to him, “**What is that in your hand?**”

People of Peace,

What’s in your hand? That is the question that will guide our thinking and reflecting this fall in our season of stewardship at Peace. Stewardship is a big word, but it really is about this: Everything we have and all we are comes from God; we’re called to be good stewards, or managers, of all God has entrusted to our care. We speak of the time, talent, and treasure God has entrusted to each of us. How will we be good stewards of these gifts and resources, using them for God’s purposes to serve God, our neighbor, and all God’s creation?

In the book of Exodus in the Bible, God comes to Moses in a burning bush to call him to go to Pharaoh and bring God’s people out of slavery in Egypt, but Moses has a list of objections to God’s call. So God asks Moses, “What’s in your hand?” It’s a walking staff. To Moses it is just a staff, but to God it is an instrument for miracles so God is able to accomplish God’s saving purposes through Moses.

What is in your hand? What gifts, abilities, experiences, and resources has God given you that God wants to use to make a difference in God’s world? Have you been ignoring or discounting what God has put in your hand? How might you open your heart and your hands to share these things out of love and service to God and our neighbors?

Sometimes it’s helpful to hear from other folks in our community so we’re better able to picture ourselves sharing what God’s placed in our hands to serve God. That’s what we’re going to do in our stewardship series September 25 through October 16 in adult faith education at 9:45 am on Sundays. In worship on those Sundays we’ll explore scripture stories in which ordinary people are called to use the gifts and experiences God’s already given them to serve God in their lives. I hope you’ll lean in, listen, learn, grow, and share your own stories and reflections as we journey together.

What’s in your hand?

May God bless you this fall as we serve God together in community!

God’s peace,

Pastor John

Peace Fall Calendar

September

Sunday Sept. 18: Rally Sunday! Faith education from 9:45 - 10:45 am begins again in person on Sundays: adult class, 7th-8th grade Feet to Faith confirmation, 4th-6th grade Explorers class. Ages 4-3rd grade Godly Play
Sunday Sept. 25: Stewardship series “What’s in Your Hand?” kicks off!

October

October Weeknights, 5:30 – 6:30 pm: Community Meal Program (NOTE: grab and go meals at the door)
Sunday Oct. 16: Commitment Sunday at Peace, in which we are invited to make a pledge of our time, talent, and treasure to God through Peace Lutheran Church for 2023. Please bring your commitment brochure to worship. this Sunday or send it to the church office.
Sunday Oct. 30: Reformation Sunday

November

Sunday Nov. 6: All Saints Sunday
Saturday Nov. 12, 9 am - 7 pm: Holiday Bazaar

December

Saturday Dec. 24: Christmas Eve — We celebrate the birth of Jesus!
5 pm Children’s Christmas Celebration **7 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship**

Opportunities to Serve

Regular Offering to Peace Thank you for your ongoing financial support of God’s ministry through Peace Lutheran Church. You may bring your offering in person to put in the Offering Box at the Welcome Table on Sunday or send your offering by mail or electronic means. If you would like to get set up for regular online giving, please contact Damishe in the church office at 253-383-1317.

Worship Helpers Needed We need readers, greeters, ushers, acolytes, and assisting ministers to serve and help lead in-person worship. Please contact Pastor John or Damishe in the church office.

Community Meals/Resources Want to support the grab & go Community Meal Fridays 5:30-6:30 pm?

- Provide and serve a meal for up to 60 people.
- Come at 5:20 pm to help prepare to-go boxes.
- Link your Fred Meyer rewards card to Peace. Go to www.fredmeyer.com, community rewards, and enter Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church or key in Fk117.

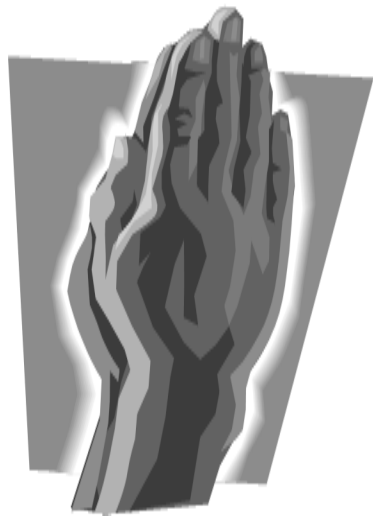
Questions? Contact Teri Jelinek (tljelinek50@gmail.com).

October is Hunger Response Month at Peace!

- **Give A Financial Gift to Fight Hunger.** Write a check to Peace Lutheran Church earmarked “Emergency Food Network” for local food banks. Or write a check to Peace earmarked “ELCA World Hunger Appeal” for global hunger relief, development, education, and advocacy.
- **October Community Meal Program.** Help out as needed October weekdays, 5:30 – 6:30 pm.
Note: Community Meals in October will be grab and go at the back door of the church.

Philippians 4:6

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



Remember in Prayer

Those who celebrate...

- Newly baptized: Ajani Danials, Otto Heffelfinger
- Seminary graduates: Jae Bates, Charissa Carroll
- Confirmed in faith: Cherish Barden, Jeremiah Carroll, Audrey Preston
- Our community grateful for summer ministries including the youth Love to the Local servant learning week, Summer Bible Adventure, Friday Community Meals, Outdoor Worship, & Peace Community Center programs
- The Peace community as we reach out to Hilltop families this fall, especially in academic support, enrichment opportunities, mentoring, & faith offerings for all

Those who are hurting...

- All affected by the pandemic especially the ill and families, medical professionals, public health workers, governments and agencies working to stop this health threat, our congregation and community
- All who suffer racial injustice
- The hungry, all suffering economic poverty, the incarcerated, those without homes, all without hope...
- All who grieve the death of loved ones, who are ill, facing surgery, recovering from hospitalization
- All who struggle financially, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, for hope
- All suffering from the effects of wildfires and turbulent weather
- All who live midst violence, war, or unrest, especially the people of Ukraine, Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Iraq, and the Holy Land

Our work...

- Our ministries in community development, especially in housing ministry
- Our ministry of sharing Jesus' love with children, youth, and families
- Our work for justice and peace in our world, building bridges among people

Partners in mission & service...

- Peace Community Center - tutoring, mentoring, supporting Hilltop families
- Our global partners: Davis family in Africa; Jane Kagochi & Solid Faith Church in Kenya; the Namibian Lutheran Church (our companion synod); the church in South Sudan; the church in China; Sevigny family in Japan; the Navajo Lutheran Church in Arizona
- Living Stones prison congregation in Shelton
- Faith Action Network leading in advocacy for justice for all, and for political leaders

For the complete list, see Sunday's announcements.

Music Ministry

Hello Peace Family,

Fall is coming and here is a quote: "Autumn is about to show us how beautiful it is to let things go." -Anonymous- The pandemic has taught us that we can't do things the same way and to pivot facing new challenges. For the song leaders and musicians, it has been different to get limited response from the congregation during worship. For the congregation, the mask gets wet and voices are muffled, faces are hidden. Gestures are used and sometimes you are shouting to be heard. Both sides are feeling the strain yet in spite of it all, we are moving into another season.

We have been experiencing the beauty of the gifts and talents of the musicians and song leaders throughout the year at Peace. Maneuvering around sickness, schedules, and vacations. Just as the leaves fall from the trees and create a pile for kids to run through, the Music Department is experiencing loss and newness.

A special thanks to all the song leaders and musicians that currently participate in worship. We are still in need of song leaders and musicians for rotation as we continue to carry out the rest of the year as well as soloists, musicians, or groups to perform with special music. Contact twylla@peacetacoma.org if interested. God Bless,

Twylla Moore, Music Director



Musicians for outdoor worship

Evangelism & Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will resume in September. We meet the 4th Thursday of each month at 10 am in person in the church Conference room. We will use the Bible Study in the Gather Magazine. Printed copies will be available. Coffee and snacks will be served along with a large dose of fellowship. All are invited. It will be great meeting in person again.

During our Sidewalk ministry this summer, we met some new neighbors and shared some cookies and lemonade with them. We invited those who stopped by to join our church in upcoming events and for Sunday service. Prayers were offered for the joys and concerns that people had.

God's blessings to all,

Teresa Jackson, Evangelism Chair

Community Resources Meal Ministry

This summer several Friday night dinners were supplied by Peace Lutheran's garden. Thank you Craig Cogger and the Youth Group for supplying the fresh produce. If you have an abundance of apples we would use them for applesauce which we can serve throughout the fall.

Starting in October Peace Community Center will provide meals the third Friday of the month and the Peace Youth Group will provide the fourth Friday meals. Thank you to everyone who continues to support this ministry. If you would like to be involved please contact Teri Jelinek at tljelinek50@gmail.com.

God bless,

Teri Jelinek, Community Resources Meal Ministry

Future Directions at Peace

Peace Family,

This year again our congregation continued with challenges stemming from an ongoing pandemic and yet we were able to take steps forward. We took steps to improve our audio-visual technology so the worship experience from home and in the sanctuary could feel more communal. Our staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to get our programs back to in person events. Our spiritual strength and financial stability were maintained by our leaders, as they embarked on a visioning journey on how we can best move forward. Due to all the work of our staff, leaders, volunteers and congregation, Peace Lutheran Church is still standing strong and in a position to really think about how we can expand our vision.

There is so much for us to celebrate and be thankful for and I'm so grateful to be on this journey with you all. We have come this far by faith and will continue to lean towards God for guidance. Here are some of the accomplishments we have achieved:

- Secured \$125k Big Dream Grant (from ELCA Hunger)
- Hosted the Racial Healing Gathering
- Joined the Synod Land and Stewardship Cohort
- Developed a budget for the Community Resource Ministry
- Approved the proposal to begin development of a two-bedroom DADU (detached accessory dwelling unit) to expand the Housing ministry
- Developed strong partnership with St. Marks Lutheran
- Accepted into the Faith Based Development program through Enterprise partners

I will be giving a more detailed report to the congregation soon but I wanted to share this with you now so you have an idea of how far we have come since January.

Thank you all for your work, it has been a pleasure to serve as Director of Community Engagement and Outreach. I look forward to serving you in different ways in the coming months.

In service,

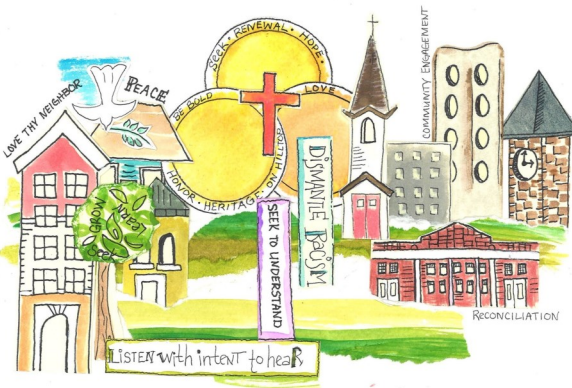
Brendan Nelson, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach



Repairing the stained glass window



Gardening at Peace



Peace Community Center

People of Peace,

What a transitional summer it has been for Peace Community Center! As many may now know, Executive Director L. Denice Randle sunsetted with the organization at the end of June. We welcomed Arthur Padilla, Interim Executive Director, to assist us with the transition. He comes with a breadth of experience and vision; we are thankful for his willingness to lean in and provide support.



James & JoVaughn touring UWT.

In June and July, we hosted our annual Summer Learning Academy and it was loads of nonstop fun! Our high school program visited many college campuses, ranging from University of Washington-Seattle and University of Puget Sound to Cornish College of the Arts and DigiPen Institute of Technology. It was very informative to learn about the variety of academic programs and experience life on campus. They also loved touring Microsoft headquarters! The Elementary program really enjoyed creating homemade fossils and visiting the Dino-exhibit. We are so incredibly proud of our scholars for their hard work and resilient drive to learn and grow. We cherish the memories created this summer and cannot wait until we see our scholars again this school year. Our program staff is hard at work planning STEM enrichments and SEL approaches for our after-school program. We remain committed to offering 1:1 academic coaching sessions, extensive tutoring, and academic support.

We are excited to have a new Family Engagement and Volunteer Coordinator to help us continue to provide necessary resources to families in need. We are actively recruiting new volunteers to assist with tutoring for programs and development support. If you wish volunteer, or have any other questions about our programs at Peace Community Center, email Shamiah Bullock at shamiah@peacecommunitycenter.org. Thank you immensely for your congregational support and all that you do that makes our programs possible! We are honored to stand in partnership with you.

In Partnership, **Peace Community Center**



Hilltop Scholars enjoying refreshments at the Campfire Coffee shop.



JoVaughn, James, & Tommy touring Microsoft.

Opportunities for Adults to Grow in Faith This Fall

Upcoming Adult Education Sundays In Person from 9:45 - 10:45 am

Sept. 18: Sharing Ideas for Upcoming Adult Faith Education. Join a conversation hosted by Michaela Cox & Brendan Nelson to share your thoughts and ideas for future faith growth opportunities for adults at Peace.

Sept. 25 – Oct. 16: A series called “What’s in Your Hand?” Explore scripture, share faith reflections, and hear personal stories from people at Peace about God working in us and through us as we use the gifts God’s put in our hands in our everyday lives.

Community Bible Study Starting September 29, Pastor John is facilitating a Community Bible Study in person in the church Conference Room and on Zoom (your choice) **Thursdays from 1 to 2 pm** on the scripture readings for worship the following Sunday. We will read scripture, share conversation, and pray as we listen for God to speak to us and through us. Email Pastor John if you need the Zoom link.

Christ in Our Home Would you like to receive a copy of the daily devotional “Christ in Our Home” for October-December? Pick one up on Sunday or contact the office, and we will mail you one.

Children’s, Youth, & Intergenerational Ministry



Summer Bible Adventure!

Hello Peace Families,

What a wonderful summer it has been for the children and youth of our community. We have had several activities come and go already and are gearing up for the fall. But first looking back, we have had a busy couple of months for children and youth at Peace. Sunday morning children's worship time during 11 AM worship has been a blast. This is a time when kids are welcome to join during the sermon to learn new songs, hear a Bible story and reflect. As we enter fall I will be scheduling leaders for this time and would like to add two more people to help lead children's worship or Godly play during the 9:45 Faith Education hour. Please let me know if you would be interested in being involved in children's ministry this way.

Summer Bible Adventure: Camp Compassion was a big success and I could not have done it without Jeanie, Carmen, Theresa, Pastor John, and many more helpers. We had a great group of families and volunteers come to our three evenings of learning about what compassion is, what it looks like to have compassion for yourself and for your neighbors.

Youth have been busy this summer with showing up and serving our community this summer. We started off with our mission week Love to the Local where we were able to serve our church neighbors by doing yard work, cleaning out planters on MLK and cooking and serving the community meal. The youth have also continued to help with maintaining and harvesting from our church garden strip (across the street from the parking lot) every couple of weeks this summer. We will be looking for continued help from all of Peace as our youth return to school this fall. I want to give a special thank you to Craig Cogger for stewarding the garden and spending time teaching the youth how to plant, grow, and harvest in the garden!

As we enter the fall, we will have more announcements with upcoming education and events for children and youth.

Jayna Detweiler, Children's, Youth, and Intergenerational Ministries Coordinator

Godly Play Videos for Children: Parents, have you checked out the church [YouTube channel](#)? You will find Godly Play Bible story videos with wondering questions to use at home with your children.

Middle and High School Youth: Middle and high school youth will soon meet together regularly for fellowship, faith, and service on a time outside Sunday mornings. Stay tuned for more details! On Wednesday evenings in October, Brendan Nelson will once again lead **ChangeMakers**, a service learning group for youth. Contact Jayna Detweiler for more information.

Faith Resources for Children and Youth: We have posted links to other faith resources, including videos, on the [church website](#) for parents, children, and youth to use.

Learn More about the Ministries of the Larger ELCA

Living Lutheran is the monthly magazine of our ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). If interested, please subscribe to it at livinglutheran.org. Cost is \$20 per year or you can view the magazine online by visiting <https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>.

Care Ministry



As we move forward as best as we can, here is wishing you happiness and health. Remember the Care Ministry is here to offer limited services and to bring home-bound communion to anyone that would like it. Please contact me.

Celebration Cards

Peace sends out birthday and anniversary cards. If you have not signed up already at the welcoming table, or provided us with your information so that we are able to send you an acknowledgment, please do so. Feel free to contact me at (253) 278-3390.

Inreach & Maintenance

We are in need of individuals to help with repairs. We currently have some open ticket items on the list. If you live in the area and would like to be a blessing, please talk to Damishe in the office and she will provide you with a work order that may fit your skills. Work orders are placed in my box as they are needed.

Clothing Closet

Our clothing closet is thriving! We are in continuous use for men’s clothing, including undergarments, socks, blankets, and towels. Thank you for your continued donations.

Again, stay safe, but get out and enjoy God’s gift.

Peace and Love to all,

Jeanie Correa, Care Ministry, Inreach, and Facility Coordinator

Small Group Opportunities to Grow and Serve This Fall

Here Are the Ongoing Small Groups for Growing in Faith and Fellowship

Many of these are meeting online or taking a break during the pandemic. Call for details.

- Book Club: Kit Thompson: 229-5766
- Christians Concerned with Homelessness prayer group: Sarah ButlerWills. Trinity House parlor 1615 6th Ave., first Thursday, 7-8 pm
- College Care Package Team: Pat Ferguson: 627-1349
- Conversations Around Race: Ted Johnstone: 752-9514
- Community Bible Study: Pastor John: 383-1317 ext 101, Thursdays, 1-2 pm, starts Sept. 29
- Gospel Choir: Twylla Moore: 253-592-2473
- Men’s Breakfast: Malcolm Carroll: 282-0218, 2nd Saturdays, 8 am at church
- Papers of Peace (card-making): Nancy Heavey: 752-8450

Who’s Who on the Peace Lutheran Church Staff

Pastor: John Stroeh, 253-383-1317 ext 101, pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org

Director of Community Engagement and Outreach: Brendan Nelson, 253-383-1317 ext 103, brendan@peacetacoma.org

Children’s, Youth & Intergenerational Coordinator: Jayna Detweiler, 253-383-1317 ext 104, jayna@peacetacoma.org

Music Director: Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org

Nursery Attendant: Rebecca Valencia, rebecca@peacetacoma.org

Office Manager: Damishe Greenwood-Walker, 253-383-1317 ext 100, plcadmin@peacetacoma.org

Community Resources Coordinator: Teri Jelinek, tjelinek50@gmail.com

Finance Coordinator: Jenny Haferbecker, jenny@peacetacoma.org

Custodian: Ana Sanchez

Stewardship Highlight



We are approaching that time of year when we reflect on the gifts God has graciously given to us and how we can nurture and use them for own good, our families and our communities.

As we enter this journey, we are contemplating the image of hands. We all have them. We use them to touch, to work, to communicate, to hold. We fold them to pray. Our hands are unique to each of us. What kind of hands do you have? What is in your hands? How do you use them in service? How can you use them in service?

The stewardship series begins on September 25th, the Sunday following Rally Sunday, and runs through October 16th, Commitment Sunday. In the meantime, look for signs of preparation from the hands of our Peace family.

Peace Stewardship Team

Stay Connected with Peace Lutheran Church!



Find Us on Facebook Now! Find worship services and faith resources, see ministry pictures, get updates, and stay on top of what's going on!

Peace Lutheran Church Tacoma:
<https://www.facebook.com/PeaceLutheranChurchTacoma/>

Youth Ministry at Peace Lutheran Church:
<https://www.facebook.com/peaceyouth2106>

Visit Peace's website: <http://www.peacelutherantacoma.org/>

Visit Peace's YouTube channel with worship services and faith videos [here](#).

Mission Statement

Compelled by the love of God and our faith in Jesus Christ, Peace Lutheran Church, a diverse people of faith, in partnership with Peace community Center, seeks to realize God's dream for the world through worship, learning, giving, and serving.

Core Values...

- Serve with **COURAGE**
- Embrace **DIVERSITY**
- Cultivate **COMMUNITY**
- Seek **JUSTICE**

Vision Statement

We believe God's **vision** for Peace is to be a **diverse** community of faith **in the Hilltop** where all are welcome-a community that is **Spirit-filled, compassionate, healthy, reconciled, and just.**

From the Church Council

Dear People of Peace,

Sitting here in nearly 90-degree heat makes it hard to realize we are heading for Fall and all that comes with the new season at Peace Lutheran Church. Much continues to happen here and you will read about many of those 'happenings' in this newsletter.

We are moving forward in our efforts to be inclusive and reflective of our community and how we represent God's love for neighbor in our ministry of place. We honored the history and removed from the sanctuary the white statue of Jesus. We are in the process of discerning how we use facility space in ways that are more representative of our time and place now.

Our housing ministry moves forward with the anticipated building of the DADU house. A cohort from Peace Lutheran is looking at ways we honor the history of the land and discern ways of how we are to be good and faithful stewards of this place that is now in our care. What are the good and appropriate uses of the land and assets that Peace Lutheran now occupies at the corner of South 21st and Cushman and surrounding area? There will soon be entry points for you to join with your thoughts, skills, and resources in this journey.



Church Council serves a Community Meal

Last Sunday, we were encouraged by the words from Hebrews 12, urging us to 'run with perseverance the race that is set before us'. There are sprints and marathons to be run. Some are relay races and we pass the baton to the next runner. We are not called to necessarily win the race but to faithfully run our leg of the relay with our eyes on Jesus. Be inspired by the cloud of witnesses of the past and the present. Some have already begun and others are at the starting line. How will you run? How will you support the runners? See you on the track. There is room for all.

God bless us with energy, vision, and courage in this new season and the race that is before us.

Carol Watson, Council President

More Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- Women's Ministry Gatherings:** Women of Peace, keep your eyes open for upcoming events for women for connection and fellowship. Please speak with Charissa Carroll or Leigh Wong if you have questions.
- Holiday Bazaar:** The Holiday Bazaar will be back this year, led by Teresa Jackson. Save this date on your calendar: **Saturday November 12 from 9 am - 7 pm**. It will be an opportunity to purchase low-cost holiday-related items, including toys. Questions? Ask Teresa.

