



PASTOR DENNIS BECKER

10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

September 2025

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(Pickering, ON)

Peace Lutheran Church of Bay Ridges

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Food For Thought

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

The sermons we heard during the month of August, were very meaningful. Just to recap – on Aug 4th, we learned that in God’s reign, the “rich will be sent away empty”. In the parable the rich man would die that night because he stored up treasures for himself, and was not rich toward God or others. On Aug. 10th, God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God’s promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous. On Aug. 17th the word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. On Aug 24th, we should remember the sabbath day, that this is the Lord’s day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. We should rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing. This Sunday, on Aug 31st, Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God’s gracious hospitality to those in need.

A few of us do a Zoom Bible Study with Bill Cullen, who is a longtime friend and mentor of Lena. Over a month ago, he shared with us his observation of: **“Worship As An Invitation to God’s House For a Dinner Party”**. I have received his permission to put it in the newsletter. Here it is:

Invocation - Knocking on the door of God’s house calling upon His presence – calling His presence to the door so to speak. God comes to the door and invites us in.

Confession - When God invites us in to His house, we confess our unworthiness to come in.

Absolution - God assures us that all has been forgiven and that we are indeed welcome.

Service of the Word

Introit - We enter God’s house with praise.

Hymns of Praise - As one might express admiration and appreciation to one’s host, so we express our admiration and appreciation to God.

Salutation - As guests might greet one another at a dinner party, so do we greet one another in worship.

Collect - Having greeted one another and having come together, we can now speak to our host collectively.

Scripture - After speaking to our host, our host speaks to us.

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MISSION STATEMENT:

Celebrating and Sharing
God’s Love for All

VISION STATEMENT:

Peace Lutheran Church is a welcoming, worshipping and witnessing community in Jesus Christ through whom healing, wellness, love and peace are offered unconditionally to all.

Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church!

As a community in Christ, we gather together in service and fellowship to discern the call of our Christian faith. Strengthened by Word and Sacrament, we are always seeking creative ways to enrich our community, both locally and globally.

Our congregation is defined largely by its warm and friendly people, a vibrant intergenerational mix of young families, youth and adults. Come as you are!

We invite you to be part of our community. We hope that you will find your time here nourishing and energizing. We look forward to learning from you as well. We listen! We care!

Our church is open! We are offering in-person worship services, livestream worship services at 10:30 a.m. or you can watch the services anytime through YouTube. Please join us! Coffee Hour is available after our worship services.

May the love of God and the Peace of Christ find you here and wherever you are! May the fire of the Holy Spirit burn in your heart always!

Office Hours:

Someone will answer the phone on a part time basis through the week (Mon - Wed and Fri, 9 to noon) to assist with calls and drop-in's. Please leave a message or email and someone will respond:

Office Tel: (905) 839-3521, or:
peacelutheran.plc@gmail.com

There is a Care Team visiting shut-in's on Wednesdays and Fridays, please contact the office if you would like to receive a visit from the team.

Our Interim Pastor Dennis Becker will be doing 2 Communion Services on the first and 3rd Sunday each month. He will be available for emergency situations only.

Food For Thought (cont.)

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Sermon | - Our host, through the pastor, expounds on His Word to us. |
| Creed | - We profess our faith in our host who has spoken to us. |
| Offering | - In faith we now offer first ourselves and then our belongings to God and His service. |
| Prayer | - We also bring or offer our concerns to God our Host. |

Service of the Meal

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Salutation | - As we move into the dining hall, so to speak, we again greet one another. |
| Lord's Prayer | - We address our host in the words He Himself taught us. |
| Consecration | - In the Words of consecration, God unites Himself and acts, in the bread and wine. |
| Sharing of Peace | - We greet one another as we prepare to dine at the Lord's table together. |
| Agnus Dei | - We recognize with grateful hearts the feast set before us. |
| Distribution | - We share in and are strengthened through the feast. |
| Nunc Dimittis | - We prepare to leave our Host's home to live lives of worship, of faith and service. |
| Blessing | - God blesses us on our journey and for our ministry. |
| Benediction | - God sends us on our journey with a final blessing and commissioning. |

I hope that you enjoy reading this comparison. Let us live lives of worship, of faith and service to others. Jesus says, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink... and just as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:35, 40). Jesus teaches about the importance of showing compassion and care for those in need, linking actions of kindness to "the least of these" directly to Him.

Let us pray: We give you thanks for the many gifts we receive from you. Renew our faith, increase our hope and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Help us to love our neighbor by showing them your compassionate Love.

Blessings, Rosie

*I was hungry, you fed me.
I was thirsty, you gave me water.
I was a stranger, you invited me in.
I was naked, you clothed me.
I was sick, you cared for me.
I was in prison, you visited me.*

MATTHEW 25: 35 - 36

Council — PLC Outreach & Thanksgiving

The Council Executive is pleased to announce that we will be doing a Thanksgiving Food Drive for the PLC Outreach Lunch.

In the next few weeks, please bring food and other needed items (listed below) and place them in the bin located in the Narthex. Please bring all items to Peace by no later than **Saturday, October 11th**. If anyone would like to help Rosie with the set up, please contact her.

Instead of bringing food and sundry items, you could also make a donation either online, through Tithely or you can use your blue offering envelope to give in addition to your regular offering. Please mark your donation "PLC Outreach".

On Thanksgiving,, all items will be displayed in front of the altar, so that these gifts of God may be blessed. The need in our community is great. All your help and support is appreciated.

List of items needed:

- **Canned/Shelf stable:** vegetables, tomatoes, pasta in sauce, tuna, chili, soup, peanut butter, jam, fruit, pudding, juice boxes, taco kit
- **Dry Goods:** rice, crackers, Hamburger Helper, pasta (any type), Ramen noodles, Mac & Cheese, instant potatoes, spaghetti sauce, cereal, oatmeal
- **Baking & Staples:** coffee, tea, pancake mix, cake mix, syrup, sugar, cooking oil, spices
- **Non-Food Items:** Toilet paper, toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo/conditioner, feminine hygiene items, deodorant, dish soap, laundry pods, fabric dryer sheets

Please contact Susan if you wish to volunteer for one Saturday to assist with the Outreach Luncheon. If you are not able to but you wish to help, please make something (soup or dessert or salad, etc.)

FYI—Since PLC Council did not have a regular meeting in the month of August, we didn't approve the PLC Financials for the month of July, therefore I cannot include it in the newsletter. This will be on our agenda to approve in September along with the Financials for the month of August.



Upcoming Events!

Sat., Sept. 6th at noon	-	Fall start up of PLC Outreach Lunch (every Sat.)
Sunday, Sept. 7, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis—Communion Service & Name Tag Sunday
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 10:30 am	-	Rosie/Shari
Sunday, Sept 21st, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis—Communion Service
Wed., Sept. 24th, at 12 noon	-	Congregational Lunch
Sunday August 31st, 10:30 am	-	Phil/Arnold
Sunday, Oct. 5th, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis—Communion Service & Name Tag Sunday
Sat., Oct. 11th (11-12)	-	Set up of Thanksgiving Display
Sun., Oct. 12th, 10:30 am	-	Thanksgiving Communion Service—Pastor Rasma

Reformation Sunday & Welcome New Members

Council is pleased to announce that the Bishop of Eastern Synod, Rev. Carla Blakley, will be our guest speaker on **Sunday, October 26th, 2025**, which is on Reformation Sunday. Pastor Dennis Becker will be presiding.

Also on Reformation Sunday, Pastor Dennis has agreed to lead a short service to welcome those who wish to become members of our Peace family. If you would like to become a full member, please contact: Rosie: (647) 297-8020.

Congregational Life is also planning something after the service.

Please join us in service and fellowship.



ATTENTION or HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN A WELL PAID
POSITION AT PEACE AS ORGANIST/PIANIST

It will only be for Sunday services, with choir warm up 1/2 hour before. For more information, please contact: rosielanch@hotmail.com

SINGING WITH THE LUTHERANS by Garrison Keillor

I have made fun of Lutherans for years — who wouldn't, if you lived in Minnesota? But I have also sung with Lutherans and that is one of the main joys of life, along with hot baths and fresh sweet corn.

We made fun of Lutherans for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them. If you ask an audience in New York City, a relatively Lutheranless place, to sing along on the chorus of Michael Row the Boat Ashore, they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Lutherans, they'll smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! And down the road! Lutherans are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony. It's a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Lutherans to sing in harmony. We're too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment!

I once sang the bass line of Children of the Heavenly Father in a room with about three thousand Lutherans in it; and when we were finished, we all had tears in our eyes, partly from the promise that God will not forsake us, partly from the proximity of all those lovely voices. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other. I do believe this: People, these Lutherans, who love to sing in four-part harmony, are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you're dying, they'll comfort you. If you're lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you're hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

(Submitted by Glenn R several years ago) Thanks Glenn, I just came across this in my files!

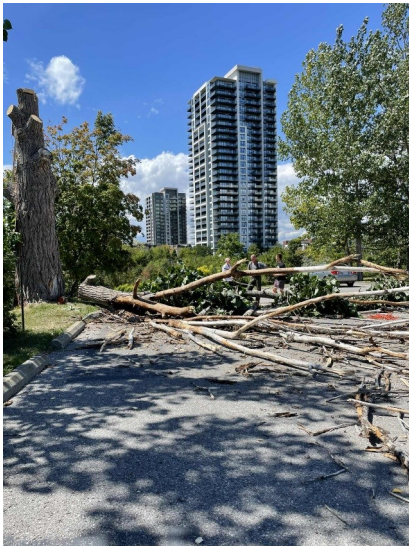
PLC—Volunteers!

WE ARE BLESSED! Peace has many members that “don’t have to be asked”! We collectively are “stepping up to the plate” to fix up our church home. We have shared common values and purpose and we have people willing to be involved. Thanks to all volunteers who take pride in the church’s upkeep and do things on their own or in consultation with others. Bless you, thank you! Below are some more recent improvements.



Harvesting potatoes in August! Thank you Janet and Rainer. Thanks to all volunteers on the Veggie Team! It’s harvesting time for all your hard work nurturing the seedlings with good soil, watering and weeding throughout the hot summer!

May the crop be bounteous to feed the vulnerable! The hunger and need is great.



On Sunday, August 24th, Phil Plath, with help from his son, Owen, cut down most of the dead tree by the upper parking lot at Peace.

You did a wonderful job! Thank you both so much!

It was hot and dusty work. Fiona made sure that you both received a refreshing watermelon treat.

Congregational Life—Watermelon Party

Below are some pictures from our “Watermelon Party”, on August 24th. Thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed this delicious and refreshing treat!

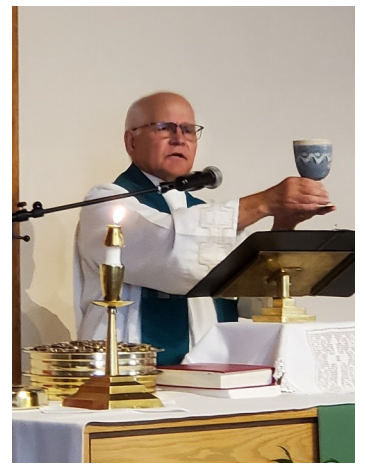
Thanks to everyone who contributed towards Analisa’s seminary costs. The Congregational Team put out a basket and \$200 was raised for Analisa. Analisa sincerely thanks everyone for their love, generosity and support!

Thank you to the Congregational team and volunteers for organizing, setting up and cleaning up.



Stay tuned! Congregational Life is starting up the lunches in the fall —the first one is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24th at noon, The sign up sheet will be in the Narthex. Please sign up. The next luncheon will be on October 22nd. There may be other events — as I said, stay tuned!

Worship Services in August 2025



Thank you Pastor Dennis, Pastor Lowell, Analisa and Shari for your meaningful sermons during the month of August!



God's Creation - our Furry Family



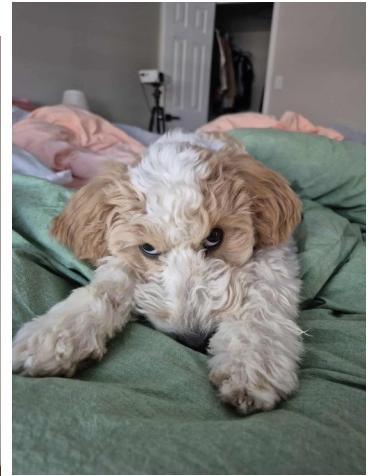
Inge M's grand furchild, Travis



Billie with her mother Bettina, her Aunt Katja and her Ur-Oma Ellen



Kirsten's grand-dog-ter Billie



Bettina says Billie is a lot like she was when she was little - a rascal!



In Loving Memory by Sirkka - her 2 fur children

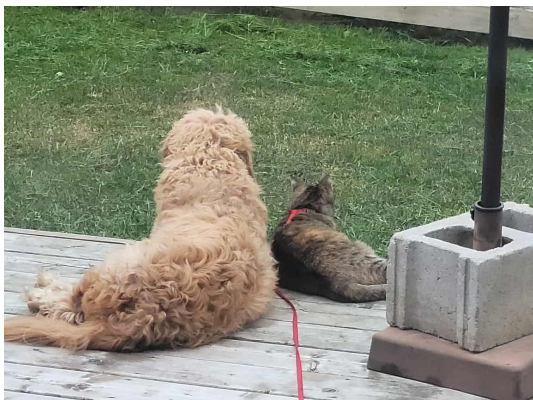
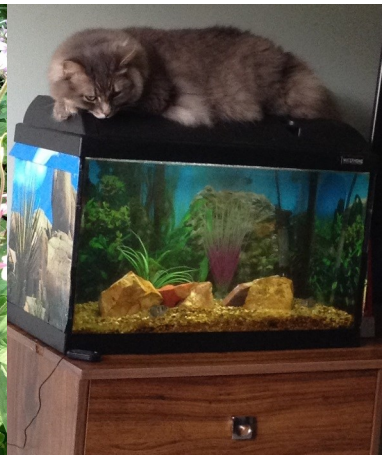
1st pic:: Kymera daughter of Tinka just passed away—Aug. 28th

2nd pic:: Mother and Daughter, the grey Persian “Tinka” passed away last year. She is the mother of “Kymera” next to her.

Both together now in Pet Heaven



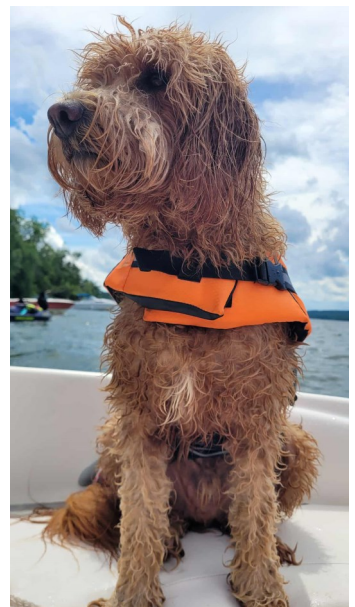
Shale—Bill and Karen's furchild enjoying nature and guards the fish



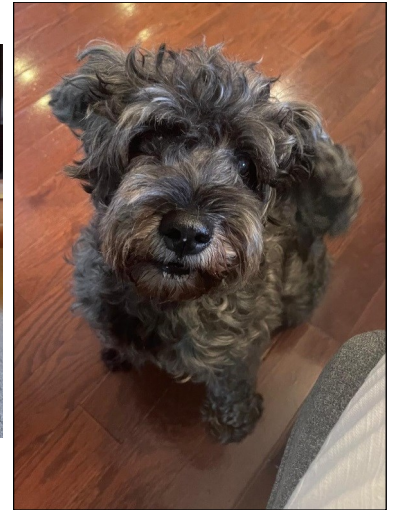
Frodo & Slippers missing their human brother, Bentley



Sunny & David's furchildren: (1st pic) “Slippers” (2nd pic) “Frodo” Just Chillin’ - this is the life!



Our Furry Family (cont.)



Cooper— grand furchild of Rosie - 1st pic “King of the stuffy” and 2nd pic sitting next to me



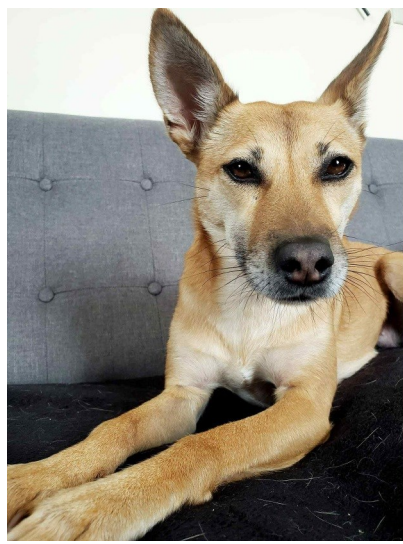
Liz & Jeremy’s furchild, Paddy



Janet’s furchild, Chelsea



Adam & Hilde’s furchild, Schnitzel



Elizabeth’s Chinese pets that now live in Canada. She visits them as she is still their first mommy.

1st pic: Enzo, 2nd pic: Dingo and 3rd pic: Lizzy

Meaning of Baptism Candle

This is a smaller candle, often given to the person being baptized, which is lit from the Paschal candle. It represents the new life in Christ and the spreading of Christ's light.

The Paschal candle is used at baptisms to symbolize the connection between the resurrection of Christ and the new life received in baptism. The newly baptized person is presented with a candle lit from the Paschal candle, signifying their participation in the resurrection and their incorporation into the Church.

In Lutheranism, the baptismal candle signifies the light of Christ that has entered the life of the newly baptized. As the baptismal candle is lit from the Paschal candle, it symbolizes Christ's victory over death and his resurrection. The baptismal candle reminds the baptized to live as a light in the world, just as Christ is the light of the world. This act of lighting the baptismal candle signifies that the child is now part of Christ's light and has been given the light of faith.

The words spoken during the baptismal ritual remind the newly baptized to "live always in the light of Christ" and "be ever watchful for His coming". This emphasizes the importance of letting their faith shine and living in accordance with Christ's teachings.

The baptismal candle is a visible reminder of God's grace and the new life that has been given to the individual through baptism. It serves as a tangible symbol of their commitment to Christ and their faith journey. The flame of the baptismal candle is intended to burn steadily throughout the baptized person's life, symbolizing their ongoing commitment to Christ and their efforts to reflect his light.



By Liz J.—deer hiding from those pesky humans — always wanting to take my picture!

You're a Mom When ...

You know you're a mom when you're up each night until 10 pm vacuuming, dusting, wiping, washing, drying, loading, unloading, shopping, cooking, driving, flushing, ironing, sweeping, picking up, changing sheets, changing diapers, bathing, helping with homework, paying bills, budgeting, clipping coupons, folding clothes, putting to bed, dragging out of bed, brushing, chasing, buckling, feeding (them, NOT you), PLUS swinging, playing baseball, bike riding, pushing trucks, cuddling dolls, rollerblading, basketball, football, catch, bubbles, sprinklers, slides, nature walks, coloring, crafts, jumping rope, PLUS raking, trimming, planting, edging, mowing, gardening, painting, and walking the dog. You get up at 5:30 am and you have no time to eat, sleep, drink or go to the bathroom, and yet

You still managed to gain 10 pounds!

Super Sophia Project



Backpacks of Love – Thank You!

This month of August, we had the joy of preparing and delivering *Backpacks of Love* for the Youth Mental Health Department—made possible through the incredible generosity of **Peace Lutheran Church, CIBC, and our amazing volunteers.**

Each backpack was filled with school supplies, hygiene products, and, most importantly, love—a reminder to young people that they are seen, supported, and never alone.

We are deeply grateful for this community of kindness that continues to make our mission possible. ❀





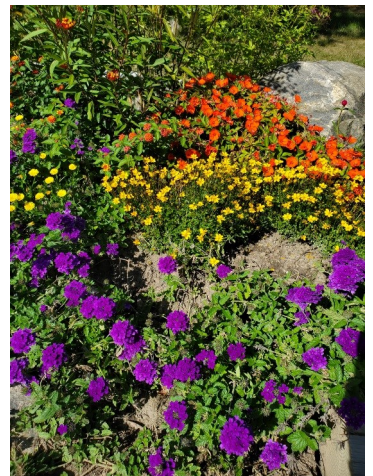
Poem about Autism

A powerful description of being autistic by this beautiful little girl!
Congratulations to 12-year-old secondary school student Ava who
has won a national poetry competition with her entry about living
with autism.

“Take a seat and sit with me
I want to talk about ASD
If you don't mind I'd like to explain
A little thing called autism and how it affects my brain
It can make me anxious, angry and afraid
But this stays in my head, on my face it's not displayed
I may seem heartless and question your meanings
But it takes me a little longer to process the feelings
Take a seat and sit with me I want to show you ASD
A girl sitting quietly is all you see
But inside my mind I am far from free
My thoughts collide, my senses take over
I become overwhelmed by the smallest sound
Clicking pens, ticking clocks
That boy's chair and the way it rocks
All different smells attacking me
The perfumes, the coffee, the teacher's tea
Take a seat and sit with me
But not too close, I have ASD
I try to be social, I try to fit in
I come across rude, I can never win
I am very literal and straight to the point
If you want the truth I won't disappoint
When my brain is overloaded I sometimes lash out
My control fades, I scream and shout
I get confused and it all spills out
Intense emotions all trapped inside
Finally have nowhere to hide
Take a seat and sit with me I want to tell you about ASD

Please understand I am not to blame I've just got an atypical brain
But it's not all doom and gloom
I'm often the sportiest girl in the room
I'm quirky, unique, kind and caring
I'm loyal, protective and always sharing
I'm obsessed with frogs and all things green
I'm the youngest trendsetter you've ever seen
Take a seat and sit with me
I am Ava, I am me
I'm not just my label of ASD.”

(submitted by Ruth H)



Congratulations, Steven!!



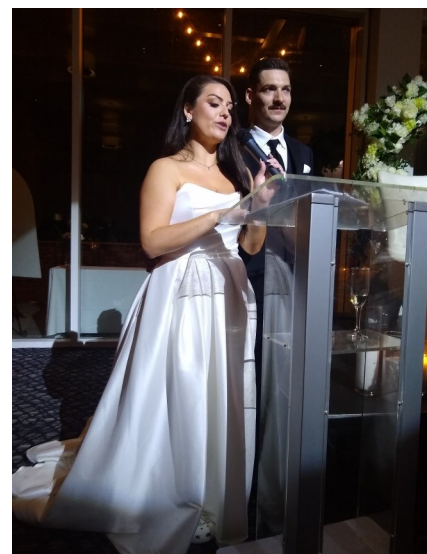
"A happy moment in time with my seven grandchildren at my grandson Steven's wedding." Submitted by: Ruth

It was very special to have my seven grandchildren together as three of them and their families live in Vancouver so I don't see them very often. The sister of the groom came from New Zealand to be a bridesmaid so it was indeed a great celebration.

This is a picture of the happy couple giving their speeches at the reception of their wedding Friday, August 15th.

This wedding was especially meaningful as two years ago this past June, Steven received a kidney transplant. The young man whose kidney Steven received as the result of a fatal motorcycle accident was remembered at the reception by a vase with a single white rose.

If it wasn't for the young man I suppose signing the donor card or maybe it was his parents who were able to give permission for his organs to be used, I don't know, but maybe Steven wouldn't even be here now. As a family we are so thankful! I thought it was a nice idea of my daughter to have the rose in his memory. She also had two other red roses representing Steven's two grandfathers. These roses were on the table where we two grandmothers were seated with the parents.



Congratulations, Lena!!



Our heartfelt congratulations to Lena, who has officially received the Federal government's work permit through Peace Lutheran Church!

Peace applied on her behalf last year and it just came through about two weeks ago!

Lena's new title is: Pastoral Care Assistant and Discipleship Co-ordinator!

Lena is volunteering her time doing the Children's Messages, Pastoral Care Co-ordinator with the Care Team, assisting the Interim Pastors and once we have a new Pastor, she will assist that person as well!

When you can, please give her a hug and congratulate her!!

Canadian Blood Services in Sept



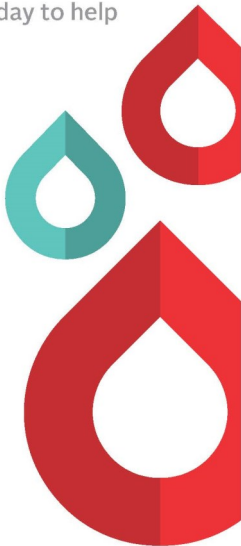
Your donation matters

It matters to every patient across Canada.
Because it's something we can do today to help others wake up healthier tomorrow.

Upcoming blood donation events

Forest Brook Community Church
60 Kearney Dr. Ajax

Monday, September 15
1:00 pm to 7:00 pm



Join **Canada's Lifeline**
Book now at blood.ca or call **1 888 2 DONATE**



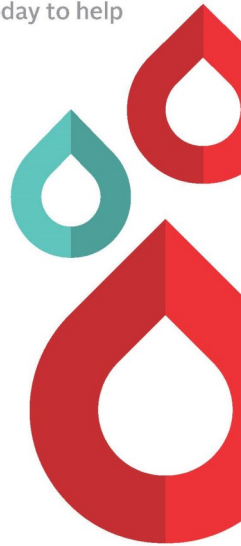
Your donation matters

It matters to every patient across Canada.
Because it's something we can do today to help others wake up healthier tomorrow.

Upcoming blood donation events

**Ajax Community Centre
HMS Ajax Banquet Hall**
75 Centennial Road

Saturday, September 27
9:00 am to 3:00 pm



Join **Canada's Lifeline**
Book now at blood.ca or call **1 888 2 DONATE**

Worship Assistants for Sept 2025

SEPT 2025	A/M	READER	GREETERS	ALTAR GUILD	COUNTERS	SERVERS	SERMON/ SERVICE
7	Rosie L	Ruth H.	Tapio H	Janet/Lynne	--	Rosie/Shakura	Pastor Dennis
14	Giselle B	Jemina	Lynne H.	--	Rosie/Tapio	--	Rosie/Shari
21	Elizabeth	Shari N	Gene H.	Rosie/Carol	--	Elizabeth/Rosie	Pastor Dennis
28	Sirkka T	Paige P	Lynne H	--	Janet/Rainer	--	Phil/Arnold

Children's Message - Aug 2025



Congratulations, Lena, and the whole Sievers family on reaching the 200th taping of the Children's Message on August 3rd! What a tremendous milestone!

Well done and thank you for your dedication, hard work and all the wonderful gifts you give to us!

Cast your burdens unto Jesus!
 Cuz He cares for you! (x2)

Higher, higher, higher,
 Higher, higher, higher,
 Higher, higher, higher
 Lift Jesus higher, HIGHER!



Coffee Hour

Thank you to all who volunteer to make coffee after service on Sundays. Just a reminder, please come at 10 am to set up, make the coffee and set out your "treats". Remember to bring the cream and milk.

Again, thank you for your faithful service!

Lena, Sirkka, Colleen and Susan



Next Month:

If you have any articles, upcoming church events, pictures, jokes, poems, inspirational messages, Peace History, special events or a personal celebration that you would like included in our PLC newsletter for the month of **October 2025**, please submit them to Rosie (rosielanch@hotmail.com) by **September 24th**.

Enjoy the fall. Take TIME to be refreshed and connected with God. God provides through us! Peace and blessings, Rosie

