



PASTOR DENNIS BECKER

10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

April 2026

www.peacelutheranchurch.ca
E: peacelutheran.plc@gmail.com
Facebook: Peace Lutheran Church
(Pickering, ON)

Peace Lutheran Church of Bay Ridges

928 Liverpool Road, Pickering, ON L1W 1S6 ♦ Tel: (905) 839-3521

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Food For Thought

2 The Good Friday of our Refugees

3 Our refugee family in Pakistan will
4 have to hide illegally within the next
5 few days if the government continues
6 to refuse to recommend them for the
7 sanctuary they have been offered by
8 the International Organization of Mi-

9 gration. This involves a courageous and humanitarian Pakistani home who
10 will put themselves at risk for them (even though they will be well paid). This
11 reminds me of the Holy Family's flight to Egypt to avoid Herod's jealous
12 slaughter.

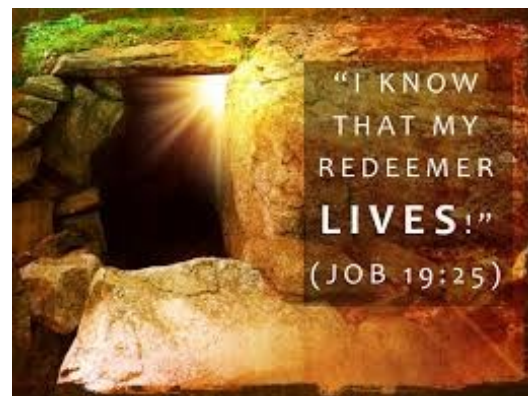
13 Even Jesus, and especially Jesus, was not immune to the political cruelty and
14 inhumanity of His times. And we remember the persecution of Paul, and how
15 he was harboured by a courageous prostitute and lowered over the city wall.
16 This is where I see the GOOD NEWS!! The GOODNESS of Good Friday –
17 and the hope. We have received a supernatural spoiler alert that other reli-
18 gions have not. We know that after Good Friday THERE IS AN EASTER
19 SUNDAY. We know that OUR REDEEMER LIVES.

20 A redeemer – such as the one referred to by Job 19: 25-27 during his mysteri-
21 ous suffering. That cry of Job that reaches into the future history of Jesus al-
22 ways sends chills up my spine. A cry across the centuries, just as our faith
23 extends back to antiquity and forward to a certain future not yet in play. A
24 redeemer at that time was a family person willing to step forward to vouch or
25 pay ransom for a loved one in trouble. Jesus is our redeemer. In the image of
26 Jesus – Peace, along with Mansora is step-
27 ping forward and standing up in defense of
28 her loved ones who are suffering.

My strength and faith come from the fact that Jesus is my redeemer and in the certainty of Easter – we KNOW there is Easter even as we seriously approach Good Friday.

Respectfully submitted by,

Elizabeth Johns



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 uncondi-
tionally 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.

Holy Week 2026

MAUNDY THURSDAY

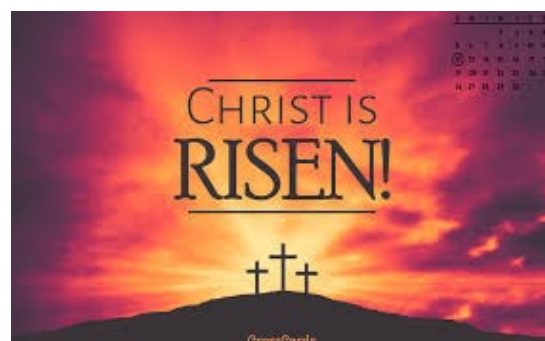
Please join us on Thursday, April 2nd
For Communion service at 7 pm
Pastor Rasma presiding

GOOD FRIDAY

Please join us for service
at 10:30 am on April 3rd
Pastor Dennis presiding

EASTER SUNDAY

Please join us for service
at 10:30 am on April 5th
Pastor Dennis presiding





Easter Food Drive

This year, Rosie and Elizabeth are organizing an Easter food drive for the PLC Outreach pantry! These items we plan on displaying in front of the altar along with Rosie’s Easter decorations!

Please bring these items to Peace on Palm Sunday and throughout Holy Week until latest by Saturday, April 4th (between 11 to 12 noon). Rosie plans to set up the display. Anyone who wishes to help, that would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for all your support for this worthy cause.

Food Items Needed:

- Zip top canned meat and tuna
- Kraft dinner
- Peanut butter
- Tinned fruit, puddings
- Tinned peas or mixed vegetables
- Tinned Campbell type soup
(Condensed OR ready to serve)
- Mr. Noodle ramen noodle type soup,
- Boxes of cereal
- Juice boxes
- Nutri-grain bars
- Healthy crackers
- Small packages of gold fish crackers
- Oatmeal (instant packages)
- Pasta sauce and pasta

Other Items Needed:

- 2 in 1 shampoo and conditioner
- Body wash
- Tooth brushes
- Disposable razors
- Combs
- Hair brushes
- New socks
- Dish detergent.

Note:

- Warm Coats are still needed
- Hoodies and track pants
(these will be needed until end of June)

NEEDED—ONGOING!

Please give PLC Outreach your washed empty plastic small sized food containers that you no longer need (yogurt, cottage cheese, margarine, Mandarin, etc.) so that we can give leftovers to those in need.

Upcoming Events

Thurs., Apr. 2, 2026, 7 pm	-	Pastor Rasma/Arnold (Maundy Thursday) (Communion, Hand washing)
Fri., Apr. 3, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis (Good Friday)
Sun., Apr. 5, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis (Easter Sunday) Name Tag Sunday, Communion & Council Installation Easter Breakfast (9 am)
Sun., April 12, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Rosie/Riya
Sun., Apr. 19, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis (Communion)
Wed., Apr. 22, 2026, at noon	-	Congregational Lunch (Fellowship Hall)
Sun., Apr. 26, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Rosie/David W
Sun., May 3, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis (Communion) Name Tag Sunday



The Olive Branch for Children

"Life is like a puzzle: each piece has a reason, a place, and a purpose." This is the theme for this year's fundraising for the Olive Branch for Children.

We will provide more information in next month's PLC newsletter for May!

Some important information:

- Deborah is coming to join us for Easter Sunday – she is our family. Please welcome her.
- Deborah will be speaking to us on Mother's Day, May 10th, 2025 with a Potluck Lunch to follow. Please join us.
- If you wish to be part of the Olive Branch Committee, please speak to Rosie.

The Olive Branch for Children Gala

2026 Annual Gala: Kujenga Mustakabali Mwema – Building Brighter Futures
on Saturday, May 2nd, 2026.

This year we welcome you to a new location –

Paradise Banquet Hall in Vaughan, Ontario, Canada.

Visit our website for all the details about this fun-filled event featuring good food, great company, and much more. Spoiler alert – last year's live band Switchbeat will be back for another unforgettable evening!

<https://www.theolivebranchforchildren.org>

Women of Prayer

Please join or drop in to the "Women of Prayer", which meets on the first and third Sundays of the month, after the service – with refreshments in either the old Narthex or the Jim Hern room. The duration is 30-40 minutes. Fellowship is warm and sincere. I hope to see you there!

Elizabeth Johns



PLC Men's Bible Study

The PLC Men's Bible Study continues to meet on the 2nd & 4th Fridays of each month.

Any men who are interested in joining should reach out to Jens Ehlers at: jensehlers@sympatico.ca or 416-951-0177, or contact the church office.





PLC Spring Cleaning



**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS
SPRING CEAN-UP ON SATURDAY**

**ON: MAY 2ND
TIME: 8:30 TO 11:30 AM**

RAIN-DATE: MAY 9TH

PLEASE SIGN UP AND BRING CLEANING SUPPLIES IF YOU CAN!

Worship Assistants for April 2026

APR 2026	AM	READER	GREETERS	ALTAR GUILD	COUNTERS	SERVERS	SERMON/SERVICE	COFFEE HOUR
2 Maundy Thurs.	Sirkka	Shari N	Janet V	Rosie/Fiona	--	--	Pastor Rasma & Arnold	--
3 Good Friday	Rosie	Giselle Gospel: Pastor D, Ruth & Rosie	Lynne H.	--	--	--	Pastor Dennis	--
5 Easter Sunday	Karen	Paige P.	Tapio H.	Sirkka/Fiona	Rosie/Tapio	Karen/Fiona	Pastor Dennis	Easter Breakfast (no Coffee Hr.)
12	Liz	Jemina	Gene H.	--	--	--	Rosie/Riya	Tabatha
19	Rosie	Ruth H	Wayne	Joan/Janet	--	Rosie/Janet	Pastor Dennis	Jemina
26	Giselle	Cameron	Lynne H	--	Janet/Sirkka	--	Rosie/Arnold	Colleen & Rain- er



Congratulations Rosie & Joe!



**CONGRATULATIONS ROSIE AND JOE
ON YOUR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!**

**They were married at: Our Savior Lutheran Church
in London, ON**

on April 10th, 1976.

**We congratulate you and wish you all the best, good health,
happiness and many blessings always!**



Thank you from Durham Youth Services

Thank You to Peace Lutheran Church

We are deeply grateful to Peace Lutheran Church for their unwavering support of this year's Coldest Night of the Year event. Your generosity in providing the venue—along with the kindness, dedication, and encouragement of your incredible staff and council—created the foundation for an outstanding community gathering.

Thanks to your partnership, we welcomed 76 walkers, 16 teams, and a record 33 volunteers who brought warmth, energy, and compassion to the day. Together, we raised \$18,600 through the event, along with an additional \$7,500 from Youth in Policing, bringing our total to \$26,178—an inspiring 65% of our goal.

Volunteers were friendly and supportive, families of committee members joined in to help, and participants raved about the homemade food—served seamlessly through the window to keep everything flowing smoothly.

Your hospitality and heart made this success possible. We are truly thankful for the way the Peace Lutheran Church family continues to strengthen our community and help make a real difference.

With heartfelt appreciation and celebration,
The Durham Youth Services CNOY Committee

Linda Lyons

Event Director, CNOY

*Warm Regards,
Linda*

Linda Lyons
Fund Development Coordinator
Durham Youth Services
289-556-7722 Cell
905-239-9477 Shelter Hotline
Address: 82 Kings Crescent,
Ajax ON L1S 2M6
Website:

DurhamYouth.ca

Linda.Lyons@durhamyouth.com



Our vision is to end youth homelessness in the Durham Region.



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.



Here are some pics of our new oven being installed... and pics of our beautifully cleaned kitchen. A HUGE “Thank you” to Tapio and Fiona for purchasing this oven so promptly!



We have a new faucet... thanks to Jeremy and Rainer!



Our heartfelt thanks to Rainer! He recently built new shelves in our kitchen cabinets. He does so much for the church without expecting anything in return. We are deeply grateful for all that he does -- especially the many things behind the scenes. He truly is a blessing to us all.



PLC Volunteers (cont.)



Thank you Jeremy for supervising the repair and painting of the east wall and for the installation of the new blinds. A Huge Thanks to the Property Team (Jeremy, Tapio & Rainer for all the work they do. See below—Rainer and Jeremy adjusting the angle of the lights!



Ha Ha Ha Ha!!



Thank you Angelina & Lena for doing such a wonderful job!

One Sunday, in rural Oklahoma the pastor told his congregation the church needed a little extra money and asked everyone to give what they could in the offering plate. He added, "Whoever gives the most will get to pick out three hymns."

After the offering was collected, the pastor looked down and saw a \$1,000 bill! Excited, he announced it to the church and said he wanted to personally thank the generous giver.

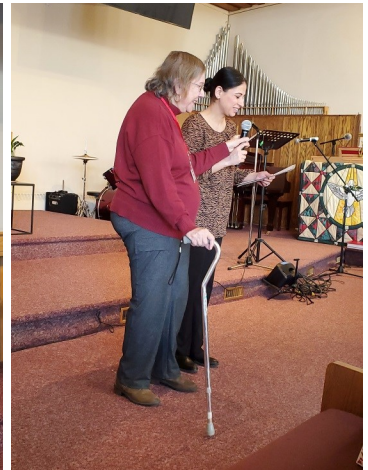
A sweet elderly lady in the back quietly raised her hand.

Smiling, the pastor invited her to the front and thanked her for her generosity. "Now," he said, "as promised, you can pick out three hymns."

Her eyes lit up as she looked over the congregation. Then she pointed to the three most handsome men in the room and said, "I'll take him, him, and him!"



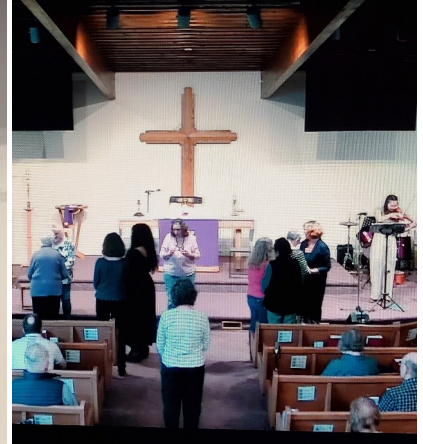
Worship Services—March 2026



A Huge Thank You to Pastors Dennis, Lowell, Rasma and all Lay Leaders, Assistant Ministers, Readers, Greeters, Altar Guild, Bible Fun Time leaders, the Tech booth operators and a special thank you to Tina, Eleanore and the Choir for their gifts of music! Thanks to everyone who prepares and contributes to the services.



Healing Service



Palm Sunday





Palm Sunday (cont)





Peace Care Team



We thank Anny for having our care team come by for visits!



Mission: The Peace Care Team is called to share Christ's love through compassionate presence, prayerful support, and practical assistance for members of our congregation and community.

Please join this wonderful and heart-warming ministry! If interested, please see Elizabeth, Ruth or Lena.

In Memory—Joan Matthews



Joan Elizabeth Matthews (87)

passed away at home with family nearby on March 22, 2026 just as she had wished.

Visitation and a memorial service was held on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at **Ward Funeral Home - Brampton Chapel**

Online condolences and floral tributes can be left via the [official Ward Funeral Home page](#).

Let us hold the family in our prayers.

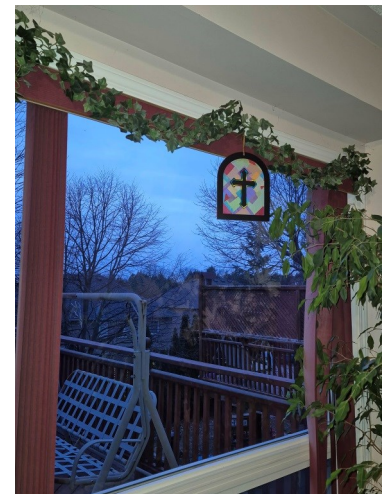


PLC Community Lunch — March 25th



Thank you Sirkka for organizing the Community lunches and thank you to everyone who contributed and helped with set up and clean up!

A huge thank you to Sirkka for teaching us how to make this beautiful Easter craft — a stained glass window with the cross of Jesus. We had a wonderful time in fellowship with one another.



Jemina's stained glass cross hanging in her home

PLC Outreach Lunch—March





God's Creation



By: Jeremy W.



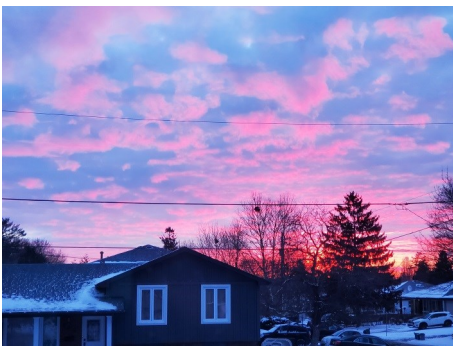
By: Rosie FB friend



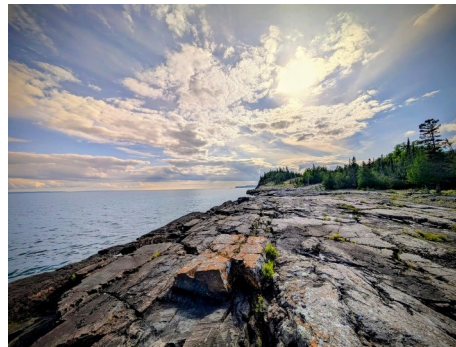
By: Rosie FB friend



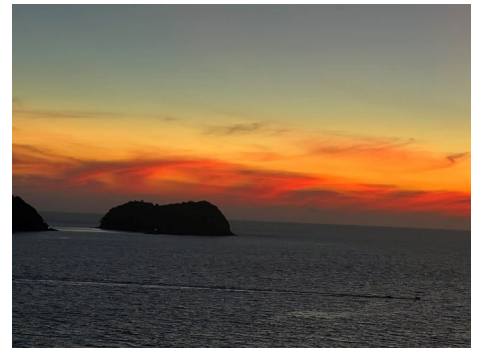
By: Rosie FB friend.



Cotton Candy Clouds by: Rosie L.



By Cameron Y



By Rosie FB friend



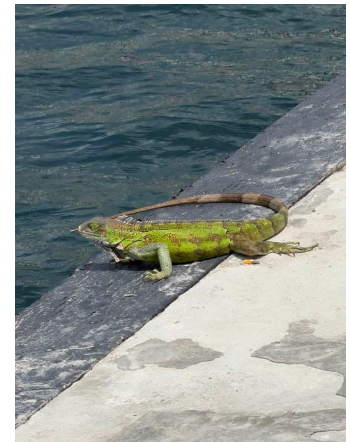
By: Elizabeth J.



By Jeremy W



By: Jeremy W.



By: Elizabeth J.



By: FB friend Moon Eclipse



By: Rosie FB friend



By: Jeremy W.



Canadian Blood Services in April



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, April 11
8:30 am to 2:30 pm**

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



Your donation matters

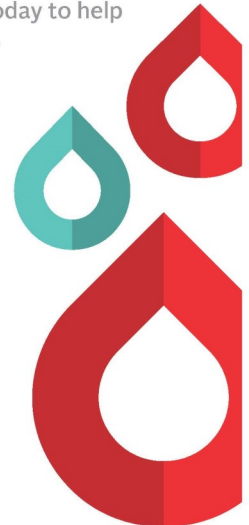
It matters to every patient across Canada. Because it's something we can do today to help others wake up healthier tomorrow.

Upcoming blood donation events

**Forest Brook
Community Church
60 Kearney Dr. Ajax**

**Monday, April 13
1:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

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



COMEDY CORNER

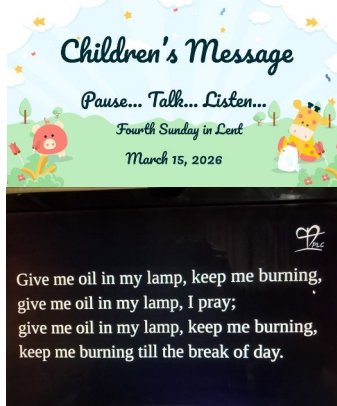


“On my walk yesterday, I came across a lost sole. Sadly, I could do nothing to save it.”

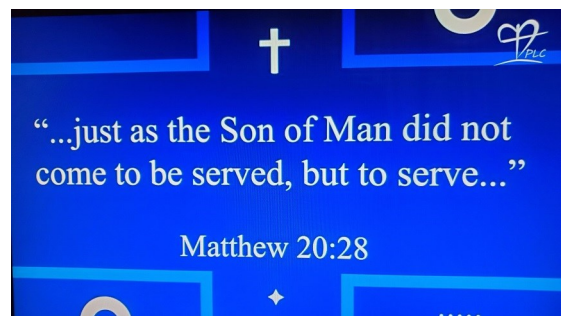
I finally did it!
Bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam insoles. No more forgetting why I walked into the kitchen.



Children's Message - March 2026



Be the kind of friend that prays for your friends.



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 and Colleen

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 **May 2026**, please submit them to Rosie (rosielanch@hotmail.com) by **April 26th**.

Easter blessings, Rosie

