



PASTOR DENNIS BECKER

10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

July 2026

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Facebook: Peace Lutheran Church
(Pickering, ON)

Peace Lutheran Church of Bay Ridges

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

Food For Thought

Mention “stewardship” at church and you’re likely to see a lot of eyes rolling and hear some deep groans—just before people bolt for the door with one hand on their wallets and checkbooks. That’s because, in too many congregations, “stewardship” has become a cheesy euphemism for “We want your money.” It’s a shame too. As our church’s traditional offering prayers express, stewardship lies at the very center of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

What is stewardship? Lutheran stewardship is the lived response to God’s grace: everything we are and have is a pure gift from God entrusted to us to manage faithfully for God’s purposes. As stewards, we are called to reflect God’s love by joyfully managing and protecting creation, nurturing our church family, and actively serving the broader community. In the Lutheran tradition, stewardship is defined as the free, joyous activity of a believer managing all of life and its resources for God’s purposes. It is not merely a sub-category of the Christian life, but rather the entirety of the Christian life, flowing naturally from gratitude for God’s grace and salvation.

“Stewardship is everything we do after we say, ‘I believe,’” said Clarence Stoughton (1895-1975). First, a “steward” is a person of authority who is entrusted with the duty of managing and caring for another person’s property. More than a mere employee, a steward is endowed with a great degree of autonomy, trust and responsibility.

Second, Stoughton’s definition relies on the biblical understanding that everything in creation, even our lives, belongs to God. No exceptions.

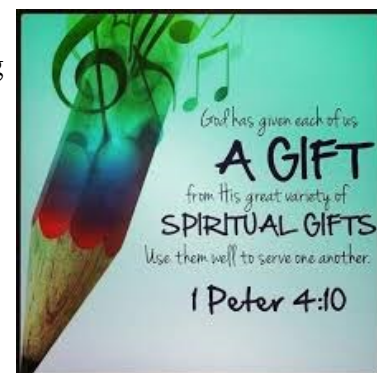
Genesis 1:26-28 and 2:15 describe how God created human beings in the divine image and put us in charge of what God has made. Thus, we are stewards—caretakers, managers, supervisors—given a high degree of authority, but also responsibility. Our task as stewards represents a sacred trust and solemn duty.

A faithful steward is called to use their entrusted resources in service to God and others. This goes far beyond just financial contributions and encompasses three main areas:

Time: Dedicating moments daily to prayer, reading Scripture, worship, and helping neighbors.

Talents: Utilizing God-given abilities, skills, and vocations (e.g., parenting, working, volunteering) to benefit the community and glorify God.

Treasure: Generously managing financial resources and material wealth to support the church, care for those in need, and share the Gospel.



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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)

In Lutheran theology, stewardship is rooted in the Gospel (the Good News of what Jesus has done) rather than the Law (rules and mandatory demands). Christians give and serve not out of obligation, coercion, or to earn God's favor, but as a joyful, spontaneous response to the ultimate gift of God's forgiveness and eternal life. Stewardship also extends to our daily vocations.

In Church: We steward the Gospel, worship, and the church's resources. That means nurturing faith through Word and Sacrament, using time, talents, and money to support mission, caring for facilities, practicing transparency, and equipping all members for ministry—not just clergy.

In Creation: Because creation is God's, we care for it. Stewardship includes sustainable living, advocacy for environmental justice, reducing waste, protecting habitats, and seeing ecological care as part of loving our neighbors, especially the vulnerable who suffer first from environmental harm.

At Home: Households are "little churches." Stewardship at home looks like prayer and Scripture in daily life, generous budgeting, fair and compassionate family roles, hospitality, and raising children (or mentoring others) in faith and service. It also means wise management of finances, time, and digital attention.

In Community: We are called to seek the common good. That involves volunteering, ethical work, advocacy for justice and mercy, generosity toward those in need, and partnerships with local organizations. Lutherans emphasize vocation: God works through our everyday callings (worker, neighbor, citizen) to serve others.

Below are the core themes that tie it all together:

- God owns, we manage.
- Grace first: giving and service flow from what God has already done, not to earn favor.
- Vocation: every arena of life is a place to love and serve.

Within the church, stewardship is more than just managing finances or keeping the building running; it is a spiritual practice of caring for one another. We are called to "bear one another's burdens" by supporting our local congregations, participating in small groups, and ensuring the church is a welcoming space for all.

God made us for this stewardship. We failed. In Christ He has redeemed and restored us to this task. We don't deserve it in any way. But we are free. This freedom is the initiation of our joy. This joy is what leads us to be faithfully active as stewards of all that God entrusts to us for the sake of the Gospel and the benefit and salvation of our neighbor.

THIS is stewardship!



Singing Stewardship



Over the years, together we sing the stories of our faith! Uniting our voices in song, we profess our theology, we receive hope of healing and we declare God’s presence among us and proclaim the coming of God’s kingdom.

Hymns hold the power to comfort, spark our imaginations and to tell an old story in moving new ways.

In particular, stewardship hymns invite worshiping communities to consider our relationship with God and money, our call to care for creation, and even the ways we share of our very selves in our vocations.

We sing many hymns each week, but don’t take time to really “listen” and understand what the songs are saying to us. Specifically stewardship — these songs teach us what it means to be faithful stewards, both individually and communally.

I, for one, continue to be amazed at the ways in which words composed in a different era continue to speak into communities across time and space. Perhaps together, we might find renewed appreciation for the power of these hymns to speak into our own realities as well.

ELW #686—We Give Thee But Thine Own

1. We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.
2. May we thy bounties thus
as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us,
to thee our first fruits give.
3. To comfort and to bless,
to find a balm for woe,
to tend the lonely in distress
is angels' work below.
4. The captive to release,
to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace,
it is a Christlike thing,
5. And we believe thy word,
though dim our faith may be:
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,
We do it unto thee.

Upcoming Events

Sun., July 5, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis (Communion) Name Tag Sunday
Sun., July 12, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Summer Sermon Series
Sun., July 19, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis (Communion)
Sun., July 26, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Rosie/Summer Sermon Series Refreshing Watermelon in Fellowship Hall
Sun., Aug. 2, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Dennis (Communion) Name Tag Sunday

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

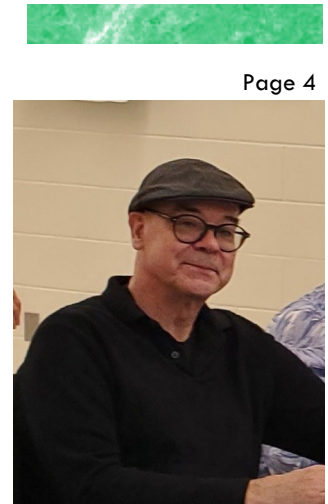


Extending A Call to Pastor Nic!

Dear Members and Friends of Peace!

We are excited to share the wonderful news from the Call Meeting held after service on Sunday, June 28th! The congregation has voted to extend a Call to our pastoral candidate, Pastor Nicolas Alexandre.

We give thanks to God for His guidance throughout this process and ask for your continued prayers as Pastor Nic seeks the Lord's direction in considering this Call. Please pray for wisdom, discernment, and peace for the candidate, his family, and our congregation as we await his decision.



Meet & Greet with Pastor Nic!

On June 17th to 19th, the Call Committee arranged for Pastor Nic to be flown in from BC for a Meet and Greet on Saturday, June 18th, and for those who couldn't attend, another chance to meet Pastor Nic on Sunday June 19th during Coffee Hour!

Our heartfelt thanks to the members of our Call Committee and Church Council! Their prayerful discernment, hard work and unwavering dedication have guided us to this exciting moment.

A special thank you to the Call Committee for the countless hours, thoughtful discussions, prayers, numerous meetings, interviews and above all your dedication, hard work, faithfulness and perseverance that you have invested throughout the search for our Preferred Candidate! Your commitment to seeking God's guidance every step of the way has been a blessing to Peace. We recognize that this has been a significant responsibility requiring wisdom, patience and discernment. Thank you for your willingness to serve, for your leadership and for the sacrifices you have made on behalf of our congregation. May God continue to bless each of you and your families as we look forward with hope and excitement to this new chapter in the life of our church.



PLC Men's Bible Study

The PLC Men's Bible Study are taking some time off during the summer. See you in September!

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



PLC Sunday Sundae!

Please join us on Sunday, July 26th for a refreshing Sunday Sunday treat! We sincerely thank Congregational Life for all they do in making each event a HIT at our Coffee Hours! We are so grateful that all donations given at each event will support The Olive Branch For Children! Thanks and Blessings!

On Sunday, June 28th, we had our Strawberry Social which was held right after our Call Meeting. Thank you to everyone who participated and attended (around 40 people). Unfortunately, I didn't take any pictures — WHAT??? My Bad!!

It was very delicious! Thank you to everyone who helped set up, distribution and clean up, including my grandson, Eric, who came to help.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEER!!

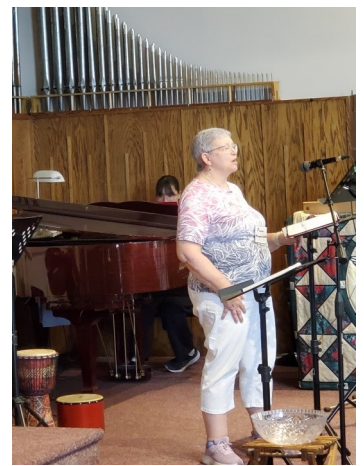


Worship Assistants for July 2026

JULY 2026	A/M	READER	GREETERS	ALTAR GUILD	COUNTERS	SERVERS	SERMON/SERVICE	COFFEE HOUR
5	Rosie	Ruth H	Rosie	Janet/Claire	--	Rosie/Janet	Pastor Dennis	Jemina &
12	Karen	Jemina	Gene H.	--	Rainer/Janet	--	Rosie Summer Ser-	Tabitha &
19	Giselle	Paige	Tapio	Fiona/Lynne	--	Fiona/Shakura	Pastor Dennis	Sirkka &
26	Phil	Fiona	Carol		Tapio/Rosie		Rosie Summer Ser-	Sundae Sunday

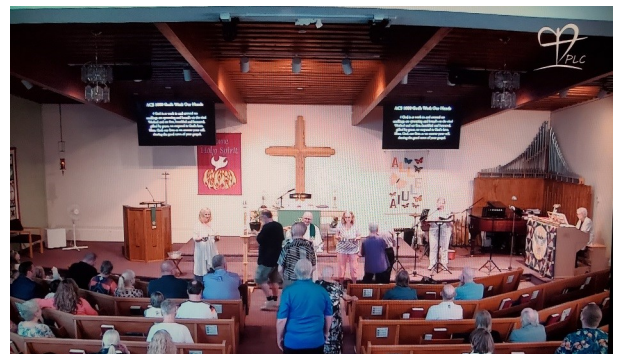


Worship Services—June 2026





Worship Services—June (cont)



Bible Fun Time in June



Thank you Joel, Elizabeth and everyone else who helps with Bible Fun Time!

Matt. 19:14 (NIV) "Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Samuel Balzer Baptism (June 14th)



Samuel Balzer Baptism (cont.)



Peace congratulates Mike and Catherine, Clara and Evelyn on the baptism of Samuel together with family and friends. We are all Children of God! What a joyous celebration!

You are a child of God, you are wonderfully made, dearly loved and precious in his sight. -Psalm 139



Paper Heart Family





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.

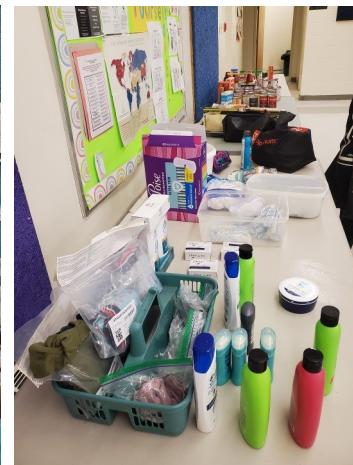
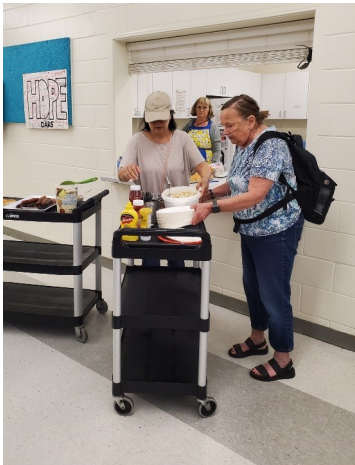
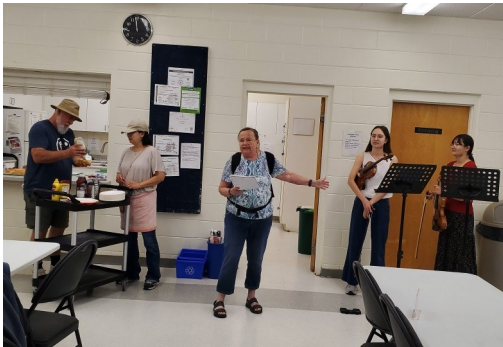


Thank you Rainer for putting together the new BBQ that Peace Outreach purchased. Thank you Elizabeth for putting out clothing & food items each month for the vulnerable. Thank you to all who water, weed and grow flowers and veggies and to those who give others a ride! Blessings to all who serve!





PLC Outreach Lunch BBQ - June 27th

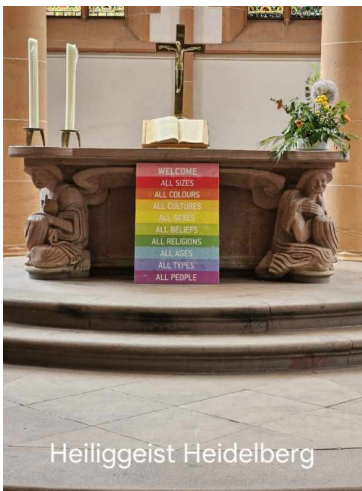


We had a wonderful time at our 1st Peace Outreach BBQ! Great food, great music, great company! Thank you to all the volunteers who in the past year, have made a huge impact and have made a difference in the lives of the vulnerable! You are all amazing. Thanks so much for all you do!!





Pride Month



Thank you Cameron, Karen, Sirkka and everyone else who helped make the Peace Pride banner. Thank you Cameron for the wonderful display in the Narthex. Thanks Janet for sharing the church signs from Heidelberg

Congratulations Tina!



A nice surprise visit from Liz!

CBS in July



Your donation matters

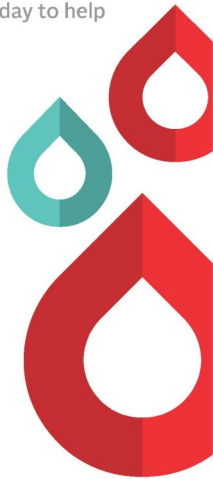
It matters to every patient across Canada. Because it's something we can do today to help others wake up healthier tomorrow.

Upcoming blood donation events

Ajax Community Centre
HMS Ajax Banquet Hall
75 Centennial Road

Saturday, July 4
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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



From ELCIC



For the seventh year in a row, the bishops and assistants to the bishops have agreed to provide sermons for congregational use.

Peace has enjoyed and downloaded the Sermon Series during the summer months since COVID!

Super Sophia BBQ at Peace

Save the DATE!
CELEBRATION FOR SOPHIA

BBQ Fundraiser & Sweet 16

WHEN:
Saturday
July 18, 2026
11AM – 3PM

WHERE:
Peace Lutheran Church
928 Liverpool Road
Pickering, ON

COME BY!
Have a burger and enjoy good food!

WISH SOPHIA A HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

DONATE TO OUR LOVE BOXES
Help spread kindness and hope!

LET'S CELEBRATE A SWEET 16
and support a beautiful cause!

We are partnering with Ted Rogers Real Estate Association (TRREA), the official course union for the Real Estate Management Major at Toronto Metropolitan University and the largest undergraduate real estate association in Canada.

TRREA
Ted Rogers Real Estate Association

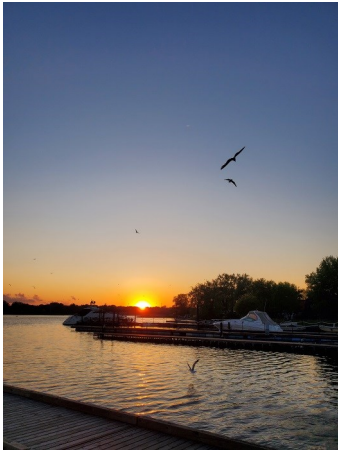
Toronto Metropolitan University

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!

GOOD FOOD GOOD PEOPLE GREAT CAUSE



God's Creation



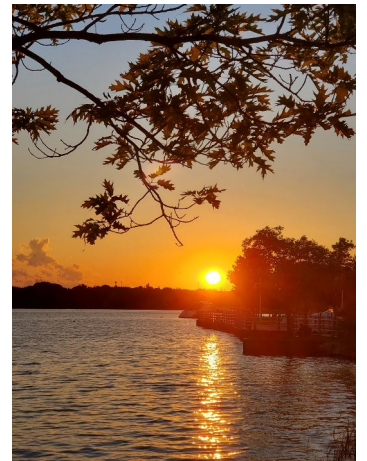
By: Rosie L



By: Rosie L



By: Friend of Liz J



By: Rosie L



By: Rosie L.



By Rosie L



By Rosie FB friend



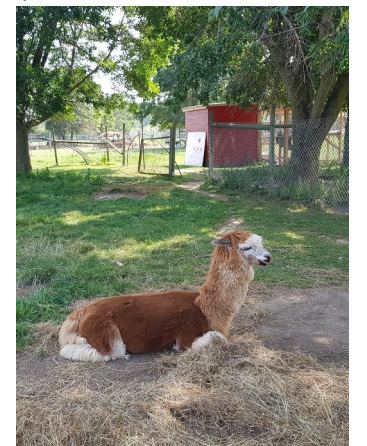
By: Angelina S.



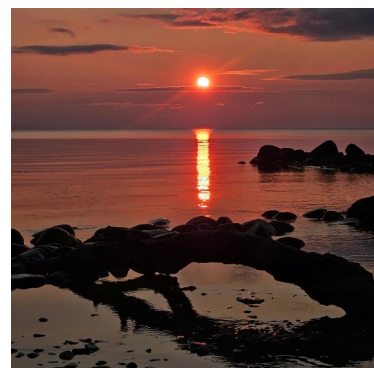
By Sunny W



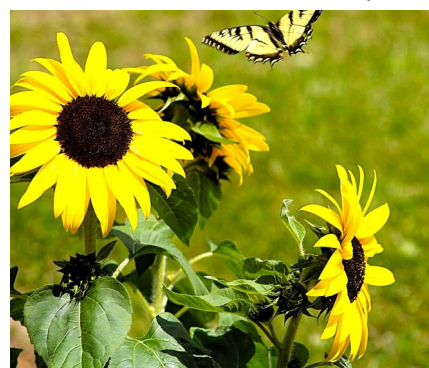
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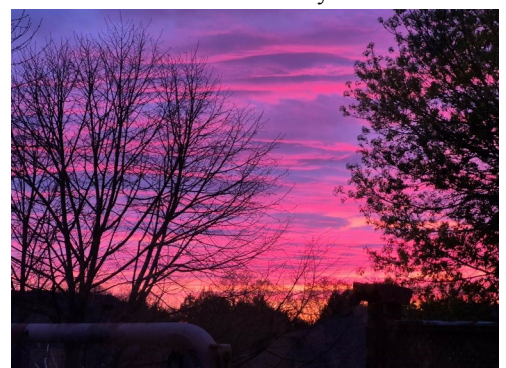
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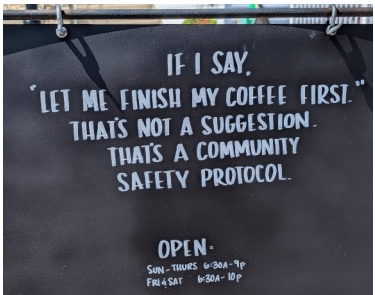
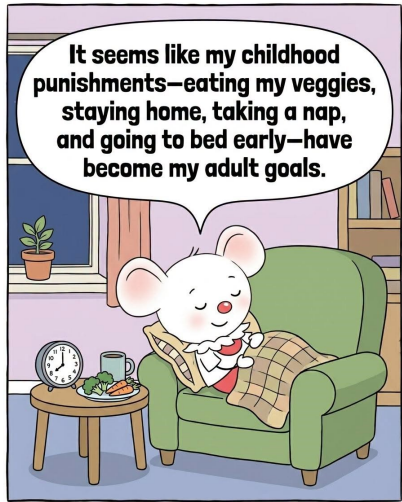
COMEDY CORNER

Poster found in a Church in France... (translated):



"When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear "the call of God". However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving."

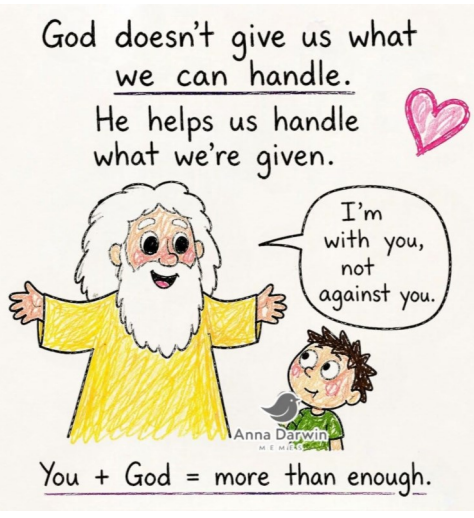
That moment when you walk into a spider web and suddenly turn into a karate master.



Sixty might be the new forty but 9:00 is the new midnight.



Inspirational Quotes





Children's Message - June 2026

Children's Message
 God's Promise... He'll be with us always
 2nd Sunday after Pentecost
 June 7, 2026

those who love Abram, Abraham and Sarai

He's got the whole world in His hands.
 He's got the whole world in His hands.
 He's got the whole world in His hands.
 He's got the whole world in His hands.

Children's Message
 Gift of Baptism
 3rd Sunday after Pentecost
 June 14, 2026

✝

"Let the little children
 come to me..."
 Matthew 19:14

Children's Message
 Our Perfect Father
 4th Sunday after Pentecost
 June 21, 2026

Prayer

A BIG Thank you to Tina, Lena and all family members who have helped with Children's Messages during the past year! You all do so much and we really enjoy and appreciate the meaningful messages, songs, and prayers! Enjoy your summer off — you all deserve it!

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

Enjoy and be refreshed this summer. Peace and blessings, Rosie

