

*Peace Lutheran Church
Newsletter
July 2026*

*Love God, Love People,
and Serve the World!*



*Mission:
To love like Jesus so
that each person
experiences God's way.*



School Supply Drive

A new school year is headed our way and with it an opportunity to help a child. Look for the collection box in the Narthex, Sunday, July 5 thru Sunday, August 2. Donated items will go to Communities in School and are distributed to local school children.

Thanks for your support,
Karen Laughlin, Service Chair



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Pastor's Message

Beloved Community - Rooted at Home

This Sunday, June 28th, we begin the second segment of our summer sabbatical journey "Rooted and Reaching" titled "Beloved Community – Rooted at Home." As the Fain family travels the eastern United States and Europe together, we will gather on Sundays at Peace to focus on God's word and what God desires concerning the relationships we have within our families of origin, our church family, and God's family in the world. Join us as together we explore the topics:

June 28: God's Design for Family

July 5: Love that Lasts

July 12: Passing on Faith

July 19: Healing the Home

Our Guest preacher on July 19th will be Deacon Dr. Nick Wilkins, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Licensed Professional Counselor, and Consecrated Deacon in the ELCA. Our Altar Supply for the day will be our sister in Christ, Bishop Susan Briner.

It was a joy for me to work with Pastor Jake on designing this series. That joy continues for me in studying the scriptures and sharing them with you. Come early before worship. Enjoy the coffee and refreshments. Sit around the tables in the narthex, catch up on news and share joys and sorrows with other members of the family. Welcome new folks who are coming to explore our faith community. Join the class led by Jim Johnson from 8:45 – 9:30AM in the Fellowship Hall and discuss the topic for the week. Lean in and learn with your family in Christ. Make this a great sabbatical journey! Hope to see you Sunday.

Blessings, Pastor Judi

President's Message

Spirituality: The Inner Journey

While Pastor Jake is away on sabbatical this summer, I've been honored to share a few messages with you. Our sabbatical theme, "An Invitation to Renewal," is not only meant for Pastor Jake, but for all of us as a congregation.

As we move through the summer months, we are given an opportunity to slow down a bit, reflect, and reconnect with what matters most in our faith and daily lives.

In June, our worship series, Rooted & Reaching, focused on "Spirituality: The Inner Journey - Deepening our relationship with God." I've spent some time thinking about what that really means. For me, spirituality doesn't have to be complicated. Often, it begins in simple ways - taking time to pray, reading Scripture, noticing God's presence in everyday life, or simply listening to my surroundings.

Life can become very busy with schedules, responsibilities, and worries. With three daughters and a son, I tend to worry a lot! Anita helps to remind me that the future is in God's hands. Summer can remind us to pause and ask ourselves: What strengthens my faith? Where do I see God at work in my life? What helps me feel more grounded and connected to Him?

I've found that deepening my relationship with God is less about having all the answers and more about recognizing that God walks beside me every day. Sometimes I feel this in worship or in small moments, like a sunrise, shared meal or kind word.

This season can also renew us as a church family. Pastor Jake's sabbatical is a good reminder that the church is more than one person's leadership. I believe that together, we share in our mission to "Love like Jesus so that each person experiences God's way." Each of us has gifts to share and a role in supporting and encouraging one another in faith.

My hope is that this summer gives all of us time for renewal in our own way - through worship, prayer, rest, family, serving others, or simply finding quiet moments in a busy world.

May this season draw us closer to God and leave us refreshed, renewed, and more deeply rooted in His love.

Blessings,

Dan

Council Corner: Information from Church Council Meeting—June 25, 2026

The following highlights are from the June meeting.

Financial note—Our meetings include a review of the church’s finances, and the general fund has taken a dip in the past month, due to a reduction in giving. We are still in a good position as a church, but are keeping an eye on trends. This is a reminder that we are all encouraged to participate in the ongoing mission of Peace to serve our community.

Ministry Teams— The ministry teams of Peace have been organized according to the Four Pillars of Worship, Community, Stewardship, and Discipleship. There is a council member liaison for each major area, with the purpose of coordinating communication within and between the teams. Present and ongoing projects of the ministry teams were discussed. We are a busy and dynamic church!

GraceWorks— The older youth will have the opportunity to perform service projects in the community during the week of July 6-10. We are blessed to have our younger members show their servant heart in action!

The Church Council will not meet during the month of July.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to speak to any council member.

Spiritual Gifts - Exhortation

What are Our Spiritual Gifts?

Christian discipleship is a journey of living out and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. The more that we can discover who we are and whose we are, the more we can appreciate the journey to which we have been called. This includes discovering our Spiritual Gifts. Each one of us is given gifts by the Holy Spirit that shape who we are and how we operate in the body of Christ. When we identify these gifts, we can better use them to grow in faith, life and discipleship.

Each month we will highlight one of the spiritual gifts that are part of our Spiritual Gifts Assessment. This month we will highlight the gift of *Exhortation*.

Exhortation is the gift that enables the receiver to encourage so as to strengthen, comfort, or urge to action those who are discouraged or wavering in their faith. These people are often positive, motivating, affirming, reassuring supportive, and trustworthy.

Take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment today!

Scan the QR Code or go to:

<https://www.peacenb.org/pages/spiritual-gifts-survey>



July Mission Spotlight - Communities in Schools

Sunday, July 26 Peace's Mission Spotlight is Communities in School . CIS South Central Texas has been empowering students for over 30 years, helping them succeed in school and life.

Founded by the Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, CIS is the only campus based nonprofit in our partner districts, reaching over 43,000 students across 60 schools.

CIS places caring adults directly inside schools to connect students and families with vital resources, working hand-in-hand with parents, caregivers, and educators to remove barriers and unlock student potential.

Through daily support from professional site coordinators, Communities in Schools provides over 4,000 students each year with services like mentoring, mental health support, basic needs assistance, tutoring, and college prep.

In partnership with 300+ local businesses, agencies, churches, and volunteers, CIS connects students and families to resources that address academic, emotional, and real-life challenges. This model transforms lives by surrounding students with the support they need to thrive--in the classroom and beyond.

Ways to help this worthwhile mission, donate to or shop in their Thrift Shop, become a volunteer, join their student mentor program and change a child's life, include this Mission and the students they serve in your prayers, a dedicated offering will be collected on Sunday, July 26. In conjunction with our Mission Spotlight, we will collect school supplies throughout the month of July. Look for collection box in the Narthex.

Peace
Karen Laughlin Service Chair



Birthdays

Lillie Braune 07/01
 Zac Fain 07/04
 Arthur Woytek 07/06
 Cary Stanley 07/10
 Heidi Brundrett 07/10
 Sandra Freeman 07/10
 Natanael Lizarazo Florez 07/11
 Kez Wold 07/12
 Caleb Simmont 07/13
 Shawn Walker 07/13
 Joanne Mathis 07/16
 Rory McNeill 07/16
 Stacy Snell 07/18
 Connor Healey 07/19
 Shelley Simmont 07/19
 Scott Weese 07/19
 David Martin 07/20
 Stella Leissner 07/24
 Leslie Tippens 07/24
 Richard Kawazoe 07/25
 Pamela Krause 07/27
 Katherine Smith 07/27
 Mitchell Fain 07/28
 Brenton Davenport 07/29
 Shea Henderson 07/30
 Michele Bauman 07/30
 Wilfred Voges 07/31

Peace Prayer Ministry

Peace Lutheran Church has an active Prayer Ministry. We have an Email Prayer Chain, we have a Zoom “Sweet Hour of Prayer” Group that meets every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m., and we have a Prayer loom that is included in our Sunday morning prayers. All are welcome to join our email Prayer Chain and our Monday morning Prayer Group. We have experienced some amazing, answered prayers this year and we have given comfort to many of our members in their times of distress. You can email Becky at beckyvoges@yahoo.com for info.

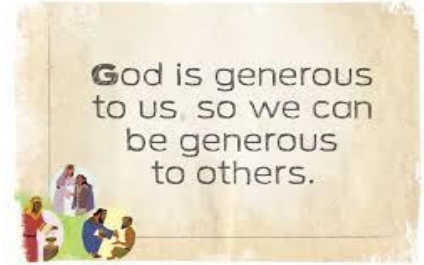


Anniversaries

Pamela & Tim Kurczewski
 07/14/1993 - 33 years
 James & Lisa Lawton
 07/15/2020 - 6 years
 Rick & Katherine Smith
 07/17/1982 - 44 years
 David & JoBeth Oestreich
 07/19/1986 - 40 years
 Kimberly & Jason Pampell
 07/22/2006 - 20 years
 Matthew & Shelley Simmont
 07/23/2005 - 21 years
 Alvin & Helen Bravenec
 07/26/1957 - 69 years
 Brian & Courtney Peebles
 07/27/2013 - 13 years
 Shauna & Ken Bradstreet
 07/28/1979 - 47 years

Giving at Peace

There are several giving options at Peace: Bank Drafts; Online Giving (Website); Offering Envelopes. If you would like more information on any of the options listed above, please give our Finance Administrator, Theresa, a call at 830-620-0618.



Peace Lutheran Church

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www.peacenb.org
830-620-0618

Pastor Jake Fain
830-312-8797

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Friday
Office Closed

Sunday
10:00 am - Worship
Livestream @ peacenb.org/live