



PASTOR DENNIS BECKER

10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

September 2026

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(Pickering, ON)

Peace Lutheran Church of Bay Ridges

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Food For Thought

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NRSV) states: *For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.*"

This verse teaches us that in God's divine plan, human life moves through different, planned phases and that it isn't by random chance. It encourages patience and trust in life's natural rhythms, reminding us that sorrow, joy, hard work, and rest all have their appropriate moments.

The Poem of Seasons was written in the Book of Ecclesiastes, and is traditionally credited to King Solomon. Ecclesiastes 1-8 states that everything in life has a fixed time and an appointed season under heaven, balancing opposing human experiences. It outlines fourteen pairs of opposing, inevitable life events including:

- **Birth & Death, Planting & Harvesting:** The cycles of life and labor.
- **Breaking Down & Building Up, Weeping & Dancing:** Emotional and physical experiences.
- **Silence & Speaking, War & Peace:** Actions and relationships.

As we approach September, I remember how I felt as a child, that sense of expectancy – happy to see my friends, sadness that summer is over and a sense of dread of the unknown, like who is my teacher going to be and will my friends be with me in the same classroom. As an adult, I felt that same sense of expectancy and dread for them, as my children went to school, started new jobs, got married, had children of their own and the many ups and downs we all experience in life. I now take my grandchildren to school, knowing what they are experiencing, that the summer holidays are over and a new fall season begins – in hopefulness and trepidation of the unknown.

It is very comforting to me, knowing that we are all saved by the grace of God and that he has a divine Plan for each of us. Even though life moves through necessary, contrasting phases, it conveys that no experience, whether joyful or painful, is permanent. Yes, God makes all things appropriate in their proper season. Accepting this inherent structure of life brings inner peace, as outlined in verses 9-22. Change is constant, and patience is needed to accept the different phases of life.

This famous poem, was turned into a song in the 60's by The Byrds called "Turn Turn Turn". It was a favorite song of mine. It is a meditation on the rhythms of life – some that we cannot control and others that we can.



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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 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.

Food for Thought (cont)

We cannot control – birth and death, planting and harvesting. However much we try to influence them, we ultimately have to go with the rhythm of God's work in the world. Some people want to prolong life, and delay death as much as possible, or even eliminate it altogether. In our medicalized society, we have come to think that death should be avoided at all costs. These verses remind us that death is a part of life. The poem is simply making the point that this is the way God has made things in his world.

At this point we are at the end of August. The weather has changed and it is beginning to feel quite autumnal. Of course, we hope that some good weather will return, but we have to take what we get! In our western world we can become accustomed to the fact that we can get all sorts of things out of season in our supermarkets. We can get strawberries in winter and turnip in the middle of the summer. Can you think of any disadvantages to this? Think about the things that you appreciate about the different seasons of the year? What do you want to give thanks for in this season?

Do you ever wish that life could be good all of the time? A worldview which wants to erase the difficulties of life, or to attribute them always to an evil source brings a duality to our lives which is untrue not only to our experience but also to the way God has made the world. It is vital that we be real about the sad and difficult times in life, and also to express our emotions. We need the valleys in order to appreciate the mountaintops.

When should we be silent and when should we speak? Think of the times you have felt you should say something and then wished you hadn't? Or conversely, a time when you should have said something and didn't? What have you learned from these experiences? I am grateful for Psalm 25:7, which says, *"Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, are good."*

One of the wonderful things about life is that our mistakes do not need to mean that life stops. We can learn from them and grow. We may beat ourselves up about them, but God in his infinite love can lead us to maturity and the kind of wisdom that we cannot teach ourselves.

But just as we do not need to let our mistakes dominate our lives, so too these verses warn us against always standing on our principles. There may be times when long cherished ideas have to go, in order to develop and mature spiritually. We all need to learn to behave with integrity in every situation, and that is a life time's journey.

Don't remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions.

Remember me according to your loving kindness, for your goodness' sake, Yahweh.

Psalm 25:7
www.peacelutheran.ca



Food for Thought (cont.)

Are we willing to keep learning and revising, growing and maturing or do we want to live in the (unlikely) certainty that we have everything sussed out? Give thanks today that perfect wisdom is to be found in Christ, and let's, with Paul, make it our continuous prayer that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that we may know him better (Ephesians 1:17).

Let us give thanks, for God is good.

Peace and blessings, Rosie

Upcoming Events

Sat., Sept. 5, 2026, 12 noon	-	PLC Outreach BBQ Lunch
Sun., Sept. 6, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Sirkka/Summer Sermon Series Name Tag Sunday
Sun., Sept. 13, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Rasma (Communion)
Sun., Sept. 20, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Pastor Lowell (Communion)
Wed., Sept. 23, 12 noon	-	Congregational Lunch
Sun., Sept. 27, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Lena-leader & Shari-sermon
Sun., Oct. 4, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Shari-leader & Arnold-sermon Name Tag Sunday
Sun., Oct. 11, 2026, 10:30 am	-	Thanksgiving Sunday—Pastor Rasma (Communion)

Worship Assistants for Sept 2026

SEPT 2026	A/M	READER	GREETERS	ALTAR GUILD	COUNTERS	SERVERS	SERMON/SERVICE	COFFEE HOUR
6	Shari	Ruth	Carol	--	--	--	Sirkka/SS	Jemina
13	Phil	Fiona	Gene	Sirkka/Carol	Rosie & Janet	Phil & Carol	Pastor Rasma	Joan & Wayne
20	Sirkka	Karen B	Wayne	Lynne/Joan	--	Sirkka/Shakura	Pastor Lowell	Colleen & Rainer
27	Liz	Jemina	Lynne	--	Tapio & Sirkka	--	Lena & Shari sermon	Int'l Potluck

Worship Services—Aug. 2026



Worship Services—Aug (cont)



Coffee Hour pic's from Aug. 23rd



PLC Volunteers

WE ARE BLESSED! Peace has many members that “don’t have to be asked”! We collectively are “stepping up to the plate” and volunteer time and talents in our worship services and in maintaining and fixing 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!



A special thank you to the Lay Leaders in July and August—Lena, Phil, Elizabeth, Sirkka & Shari!!

Outreach Bag Meal program in Aug.

A big Thank you to all the Volunteers who came out Monday evenings to help put together and distribute the bag meals to the vulnerable. **YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR LIVES!** The last Monday meal distribution will be on August 31st. On Sept. 5th, our Saturday Outreach lunch will begin with a BBQ! Please come out and join us. Please let Lena or Sirkka know if you are able to help.



Lena & Joel met Pastor Nic In Maine for Angelina's Concert



WHO IS OUR JESUS CHRIST ?

In Mathew Christ is our Messiah!
In Mark He is our Servant King!
In Luke He is the great Physician
In John He is the Son of God!
In Acts He is the Risen Lord
In Romans He is our Righteousness
In Corinthians He is our Holiness
In Galatians He is our Justification
In Ephesians He is our Perfection
In Philippians He is our Provider
In Colossians He is our Hope
In Thessalonians He is our coming King
In Timothy He is our Shepherd
In Titus He is our Rewarder
In Philemon He is our Encourager
In Hebrews He is our High Priest
In James He is our Wisdom
In Peter He is our Inheritance
In John He is our Lover
In Jude He is our Warrior

**In Revelation He is the Alpha and Omega !
The Beginning and The End .**

Veggie Garden Update

This year we have had a bumper crop of both beans and beets. Our tomatoes are now beginning to ripen and we have plenty. Several trips have already been made to the local food bank run by St. Paul's on the Hill. The volunteers there are very well organized and very appreciative of all the produce that Peace is delivering. The food bank is on Pickering Parkway and open for deliveries on Tuesday and Friday between 8:30 and 10:00 am. If friends or members of Peace have gardens with extra produce, I encourage you to deliver it to the food bank. Any amount of fresh produce will be well received.

Many thanks to all the volunteers that have made our garden a huge success this year.

Janet van der Wees





God's Creation



By: Brenda friend of Rosie L



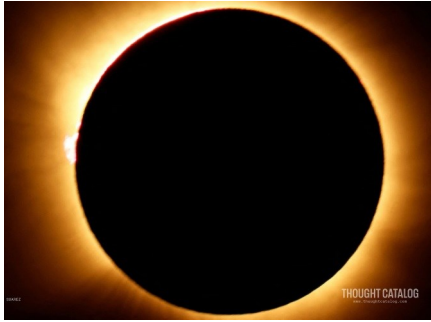
By: Sunny—paradise!



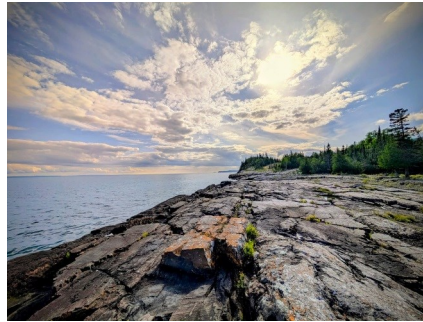
By: Tanya (daughter of RL)



By: FB friend of Rosie



By: Rosie FB friend



By Cameron Y.



By Rosie FB friend



By: Janet—Killbear Prov. Park.



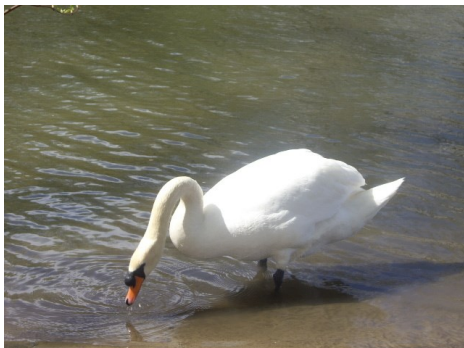
By Fiona—Vervet Monkey



By: Rosie Sunflowers



By: Rosie L



By: Rosie L



By: Philip W—Rhine trip



By: Rosie FB friend

First Lutheran Church 175th Anniversary

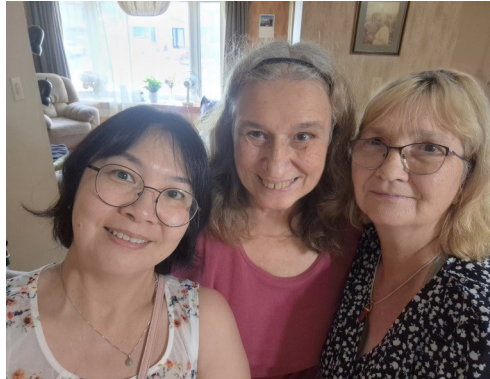
Thank you Rainer, for sending us the pictures you took of First Lutheran's 175 Anniversary on August 9th! There was an Anniversary Reunion Tea held at 1 pm and at 3 pm there was an 175th Anniversary Festival Holy Communion service. Rev. Carla Blakely, Bishop of the Eastern Synod of the ELCIC did the sermon

What a beautiful church! Thanks for sharing!



Care Team - Communion & Prayers with Rosie!

Thank you so much for all your prayers and best wishes that you have expressed to me in cards, messages, phone calls and more! Thank you to the Care Team, especially Lena, Elizabeth for visiting me and doing prayers and communion. A special thank you. to Shirley who made me a beautiful healing blanket. I am overwhelmed with the healing love my church family has shown me..



Aug. 30th Service & Watermelon Social!



Watermelon Social (cont.)



Upcoming Blood Donation Events



Did you know?

50 donors can help save
1 crash victim

130 plasma donations = 1 year
of treatment for 1 immune
deficiency patient

5 donors can help
1 heart surgery patient

Upcoming blood donation events



Forest Brook Community Church
60 Kearney Dr. Ajax

Monday, September 14th 1pm-7pm



Ajax Community Centre HMS Banquet Hall
75 Centennial Road, Ajax

Saturday, August 28th 9am-3pm

Saturday, September 26th 9am-3pm



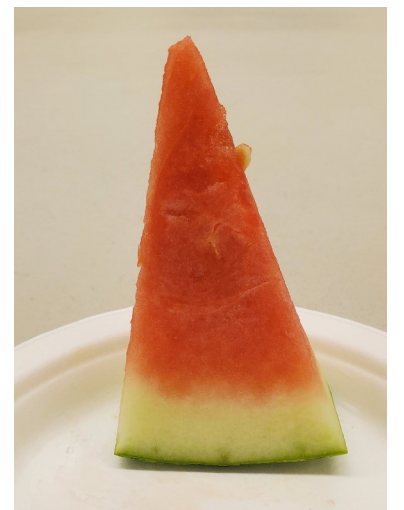
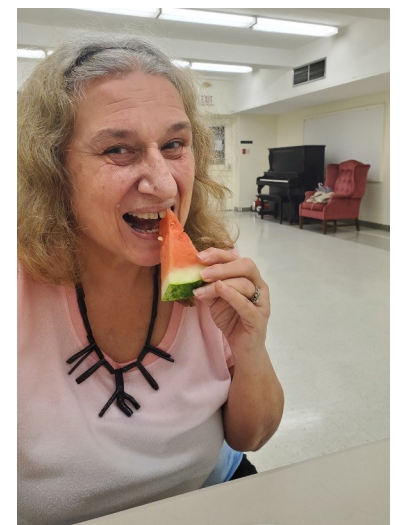
Ajax Convention Centre
550 Beak Crescent, Ajax

Monday, August 31st 1pm-7pm

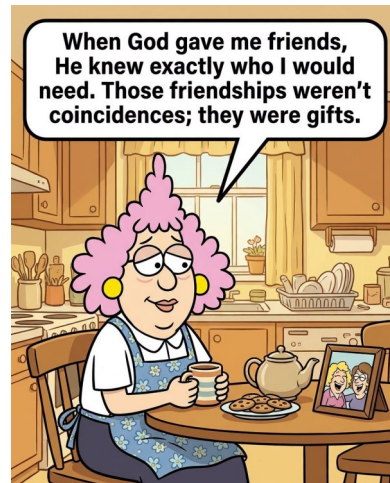
Visit blood.ca or
open your **Streaked** app to find
your nearest for Life team and
book your donation.



Canadian
Blood
Services



COMEDY CORNER



Inspirational Quotes

Trust:
that's the command.

In the Lord:
that's who.

With all your heart:
that's how deeply.

And lean not on your own understanding:
that's choosing His plan over yours.

In all your ways:
that means completely.

Submit to Him:
that's surrender.

And He will:
that's assurance.

Make your paths straight:
that's a way through.

ullie-kaye



Attention: We need your help!

Elizabeth and I had an idea that we would like to include pictures of long standing former members who have moved away in the November PLC newsletter. We have some current pictures of Glenn & Isabelle, Jean & Henry Fischer, but there are others that moved away and unfortunately we lost touch with them. If you are in contact with any former members and friends, please provide me with a picture and an update on how they are doing. They are a vital part of our church family. We would love to stay connected!

Congratulations Gloria & Ekkehard!



50 years - in the blink of an eye...We have been blessed to be married for 50 years on **September 4th!** We have been blessed to have had 2 beautiful children and as time flew on, 2 wonderful "in-love" children! Come to pass, blessings abound and 4 kind, thoughtful, talented, smart and funny grandchildren came! We have been blessed to have shared over 40 years with our church family! Now I have to keep blinking because my eyes are leaking...Ekkehard and Gloria

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 **October, 2026**, please submit them to Rosie (rosielanch@hotmail.com) by **Sept. 25th**.

Peace and blessings, Rosie

