



## Greetings

Welcome to the community of Church of Peace United Church of Christ. We believe that all people are children of God and rejoice that you have chosen to worship God with us today. If you are visiting our community, we wish to extend our faith in Christian fellowship and hope that you will take a moment to visit with us after the service. If you have any questions prior to the service, please ask anyone in the community. We have all been visitors at some time in our life, and we are eager to assist you in any way. May the Holy Spirit fill us and guide us as we worship God together.

February 25, 2024

Second Sunday in Lent

9am

Gathering Music - Ringing of the Bells - Welcome and Announcements

We Prepare to Worship God

Prayer & Prelude

We Gather Around God's Word

A reading from Psalm 25

Call to Worship

One: Do not be afraid to answer the call to discipleship.

**Many: What does the call require?**

One: Letting go of our life as we know it. Following the way of the cross.

Aligning our soul with God's.

**Many: We step out in the way of Jesus by losing our life to save it.**

One: Do not be afraid to walk in the way of Jesus.

**Many: We answer the call, unashamed and unafraid.**

One: Please join me in our Prayer of Invocation

**O God, we are offered every opportunity to embrace the path that helps us gain the world at the expense of our soul. Instead, you have called us to yourself and to follow in the way of love and compassion. Teach us about Jesus' way and lure us away from the paths of self-absorption and greed. You have called us to discipleship, to self-emptying, and embracing your way with courage. May it be so in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Opening Hymn

*"Beneath the Cross of Jesus" No. 197*

\*Prayer for Transformation and New Life

**Holy God, like Peter, sometimes we think we know better than you do. We make our own attempts to save ourselves and others from the cross filled path you have called us to walk. Help us to get behind you, because it has become easier to rely upon ourselves, rather than on your strength and presence. Grant us grace and help us to let go of our need for control so that you and your way might be our guide and path forward.**

\*Words of Grace

Pastor: Sisters and Brothers, may the God of compassion, Jesus the wounded healer, and the Holy Spirit who shapes and transforms us anew, grant you peace and hope for your soul. For we know that God, who calls us to follow in the way of Jesus, is merciful and offers the consolation of love in a world of empty promises. Be at peace in your forgiveness.

**Many: Praise be to God! Amen.**

\*The Passing of Christ's Peace in Community

Special Music

*"The Potter's Hand" Darlene Zschech*

Pastoral Prayer - a sharing of community and world prayers.

Affirmation of Faith

One: We are not alone; we live in God's world.

**All: We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*Hymn:

*"The Summons"*

*(on screen)*

*We Engage God's Word*

Scriptures

Romans 4:13-17

Mark 8:27-38

Multigenerational Lesson

Sermon

*"What is 'Our Cross?'"*

We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to Generosity

One: In a world that offers a vision of never enough, we share in God's abundant provision for all.

**Many: While we could gain the world but lose our soul, it is from within our soul that we share in a generous spirit of giving. Amen.**

Offertory

\*Doxology                    *"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"*                    No. 46

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Ever-Giving God, Jesus invited us to give our lives away, take up our cross, and to follow. Rather than exchanging our souls, may the sharing of these gifts nurture our commitment to walk in your way. In the name and way of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

We Are Sent into the World

\*Closing Hymn                    *"The Old Rugged Cross"*                    No. 548

\*The Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors")

\*Commissioning & Benediction

Postlude

(\*If you are able, please stand at the pastor's invitation)

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Rev. Stephen Stepp  
Patricia Siekierke  
Rob Giese  
Victor Abitz  
Nancy Zupke



Minister  
Organist  
AV Tech  
Custodian  
Liturgist

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## Hold on to your gently used treasures and mark your calendars!

Yes, Church of Peace is having a

**Spring Rummage Sale!**

**Set up: May 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Sale: May 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Stay tuned for further information...**

Caring for our planet is very important and we can do our part by participating in

## Fond du Lac County Clean Sweep 2024

**Saturday, April 27, 2024**

**9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon**

**Go to this website for details**

[Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep | Fond du Lac County \(wi.gov\)](https://www.wisconsin.gov/hazardouswaste/clean-sweep)

## Lenten Project for our Congregation!

**We are going back in time and making something from the past with a little flare of the present.**

**Following worship each Sunday during Lent we will have popsicle sticks available to make crosses for Lent.**

**You can take them home to work on them or we will have glue and paint available in Fellowship Hall to work on them here. They will be hung on the wall as they are completed. Please put your name on the back. Thank you!**



### Soup to Go:

Italian Vegetable with Beef

1 qt. \$8.00/2 qt. \$15.00

Choc. Chip Cookies

1 doz. \$5.00

Sign up by Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>.

Pick up Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> after Worship.

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex.

WELCOME TO  
CHURCH OF PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 24, 2024

Church office phone: 921-8215

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

Pastor Steve Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

or call for an appointment.

Website: [uccchurchofpeace.com](http://uccchurchofpeace.com) Facebook: Church of Peace UCC Fond du Lac

### IN OUR PRAYERS

Lucy Zahn

Elise Sonnenberg

Gary Babler

Amy Jo

Janelle Anderson

Mary Fleischman

Marilyn Peters

Helen Oelke

Christine Weimer

Baby Archer

Nicole Schendel

Donna Blaine

Susan Snider

Heather Reader-Schubert

Siera Williams and baby Morgan

Jim & Kathy Stephany

Lorrie Blain

Robert Snyder

p.s. Merciful God, enable us to show our love to you and all Your people!

Janet Rymer

Del Weigel

Janet & Eugene Willis

Doris Kastorff

Les Abitz

Robert Snyder

Diana Candlish

Ruth Pedix

Tyler Detweiler

Dixie Borchert

Jason & Jennifer

Bob and Shirley Hanke

Carol Carlson

Deb Baker

Amy Mitchell

Bailey Gehrt

Lee & Lita Treleven

Bill Manka

Dave Borchert

Joe Ule

Ernest Oelke

Dorothy Gyr

Wayne Katerski

Edna Karl

Donna Birkholz

Ron Rowe

Elaine Miller

Nancy Schaefer

Marvin Oelke

Sharon Hensen

Greg Baker

Evelyn Yantz

Debra Rammer

### CHURCH OF PEACE – FACTS AND FIGURES

OFFERINGS LAST WEEK: General Fund: \$3,747.00

Mission - Giving (OCWM): \$137.00;

E-giving: \$1,697.00; Investing in the Future: \$890.00;

Attendance – Sunday, February 17: 76; Last year: 203 (Confirmation)

Ash Wednesday: 39; Last year (2022): 44

Special Gift: To the Investing in the Future Fund in memory of Curtis Law given by Jeanette Hinn.

Sun	M	Tues	W	Th	F	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	March 1	2
<b>9 am Worship Service</b> Coffee Hour Host: Worship Enhancement	Loaves & Fishes	<b>10:30 am St. Francis Home</b>	Loaves & Fishes		<b>World Day of Prayer</b>	<b>Soroptimist International Event</b>
			<b>7 pm Lenten Service At Salem Wayne Pastor Rob</b>			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>9 am Worship Service</b> Coffee Hour Host: Council #2 Communion	Loaves & Fishes	<b>11:30 am Ladies of Peace</b>	Loaves & Fishes			
			<b>7 pm Lenten Service Church of Peace Pastor Jacob</b>			



**February 26** - Aiden & Avery Pickart  
**February 27** - Barbara Abitz, Chris Mincy, Thomas Schultz  
**February 28** - Jim Moon, Matthew Schmidt, C. James Stacey, Kenneth Thome, Sharon Unferth  
**March 1** - Rhonda Evers, Mark Rymer



**PLANT SALE**  
 The Worship Enhancement Team will be having a plant sale again this year. Watch for details and order form in the April.  
*It's time to THINK SPRING!*

## Lenten Worship Service Information 2024

<u>Lenten Services</u>	<u>Preacher</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Service Time</u>
Wednesday, Feb. 28	Pastor Rob	Salem/Wayne	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Mar. 6	Pastor Jacob	COP/ FDL	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Mar. 13	Pastor Ruth	Pilgrim/FDL	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Mar. 20	All Four Pastors	Union/Waupun	7:00 pm
Maundy Thur., Mar. 28	Pastor Rob	Pilgrim/FDL	7:00 pm
Good Friday, Mar. 29	“Witnesses”	COP/FDL	7:00 pm

**Pilgrim FDL 535 Stow Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935**  
**Salem UCC 8925 County Rd W, Wayne, WI 53010**  
**Union Congregational UCC 125 Beaver Dam St, Waupun, WI 53963**



### **Feed My Starving Children Fond du Lac Mobile Pack 2024**

This year's event will be held on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> (set-up) and Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> (packing). Please be praying that God would move the hearts of His people to be generous in giving and serving. Our goals this year are to pack 132,192 meals, raise \$38,800, and employ 600 volunteers. Help us as we partner with Feed My Starving Children to turn “Hunger into Hope” for destitute children around the world.

Important dates to remember:

Mar. 5 - Sign-up to volunteer online goes live [give.fmsc.org/fdl](https://give.fmsc.org/fdl)

Apr. 5 Set-up

Apr. 6 MobilePack event at the Fairgrounds Rec Building

Questions? Contact Starla Rebedew @ 920-539-3256 or email at [srebedew@gmail.com](mailto:srebedew@gmail.com)