

Church of Peace

 UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all



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.

April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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 1 John 4

Call to Worship

One: God rules over the nations of the earth:

Many: Peoples of the Pacific, families on farmlands, all worship God Almighty!

One: This One is God of our ancestors and our descendants.

Many: In Jesus, we are connected to one another in a vine of covenant.

One: Bear and share the fruit of Christ's love

Many: That we may proclaim a just world for all!

One: Please join me in our Prayer of Invocation

Glorious God, thank you for sun, soil, water and farmers that help plants produce fruit for us to enjoy. Thank you for our connection to Jesus which are like branches on a grapevine. Be with us today, tomorrow and every day. Help us to produce your fruit of love and peace everywhere we go. In and with Jesus we pray. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Rejoice, You Pure in Heart"

No. 15

Prayer of Confession

Abundant God, we desire to be a part of your Vine of Love. Yet, we have judged other branches as unworthy of being connected to us. We have tried to prune them off the True Vine saying, "You don't belong; you don't produce fruit; you don't produce the right kind of fruit." By living in our comfort zones and our pride, we have failed to see our own bad fruit of self-righteousness. Forgive us God and bring us back to abide in the true vine: entwine us in your arms of perfect love.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastor: God's love was revealed among us in this way: God's own beloved Child was sent into the world to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, so that we might live through Christ. In the presence of God, look into the eyes of the people sitting next to you and extend your arms as symbols of branches of Jesus, the true vine, and proclaim:

Many: In God's love, we are forgiven. Praise be to God! Amen.

*The Passing of Christ's Peace in Community

Special Music "Shepherd Me, O God" by Marty Haugen

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

"Many Are the Lightbeams"

No. 492

We Engage God's Word

Scriptures

John 15:1-8

1 John 4:16b-21

Multigenerational Lesson

Sermon

"The Branches of God's Love"

We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to Generosity

One: We praise God by sharing the abundant fruit of God's love with our church and our sisters and brothers throughout the world.

Many: We give so that Christ's call may be answered.

One: We give to support our church community and to provide assistance to all who need it.

Many: Let us give and live in God's love so that our joy may be complete. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow” No. 46

Prayer of Dedication

Dear God, you are love. May the offerings we share today be a source of hope for the poor. Enable us to live out your commandment to love others by reaching out to our sisters and brothers through Jesus Christ. Amen.

We Are Sent into the World

*Closing Hymn “God of the Sparrow God of the Whale” No. 70

*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
Heather Reader Schubert



Minister
Organist
AV Tech
Custodian
Liturgist

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Sunday, May 19th...

Why? We are having a Church Potluck Dinner & Discussion following our worship service.

Please plan on joining us as we enjoy some of our congregation's favorite dishes and a fantastic discussion on "What does Church of Peace United Church of Christ look like in a post pandemic world?"

★ Saturday, May 11TH Post Office Food Drive ★

WANTED: Food Collection Volunteers

Church of Peace is teaming up with the Post Office to collect nonperishable food items that will be shared with local food banks in the Fond du Lac area between the hours of 9:00 am until approximately 2:00 pm.

We are asking for 2 people per car to drive and pick up filled food bags along carrier routes.

These bags of food will be taken to the Post Office and then they will be divided amongst the food banks.

Church of Peace Food Pantry



May Food Needs:

Canned Meat, Canned Veggies, Peanut Butter,
Mac & Cheese, Hot Oatmeal,
Pancake Mix & Syrup, Spaghetti &
Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Fruit,
Laundry Detergents, Bath Soap & Shampoo,
1 LB tubes of Hamburger

GOLDEN FELLOWSHIP

Thursday, May 16 at 11:00 a.m.

"Pot Luck Picnic"

Please join us for a time of laughter and fun. We will be showing a video entitled "Joy Handbell Choir" and having a wonderful lunch. Sign up sheet on bulletin board next to office. All ages are welcome!!

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 28, 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 **Facebook:** Church of Peace UCC Fond du Lac

IN OUR PRAYERS

Lucy Zahn
Elise Sonnenberg
Evelyn Stepp
Doris Kastorff
Janelle Anderson
Robert Snyder
Marilyn Peters
Helen Oelke
Christine Weimer
Baby Archer
Nicole Schendel
Bob and Shirley Hanke
Susan Snider
Heather Reader-Schubert
Siera Williams and baby Morgan
Connie Troskey
Mary Jean Nicholson

Janet Rymer
Del Weigel
Janet & Eugene Willis
Ernest Oelke
Leo Lefeber
Wayne Katerski
Sharon Hensen
Ruth Pedix
Amy Mitchell
Dixie Borchert
Jason & Jennifer
Marvin Oelke
Carol Carlson
Deb Baker
Jim & Kathy Stephany
Margaret Houk

Bill Manka
Dave Borchert
Diana Candlish
Ralph
Oliver Poirier
Bailey Gehrt
Edna Karl
Donna Birkholz
Evelyn Yantz
Elaine Miller
Nancy Schaefer
Debra Rammer
Lee & Lita Treleven
Greg Baker
John
Stephen Yanke

p.s Wonder-filled God, enable us to be branches of love the sprawl out over the world.

CHURCH OF PEACE – FACTS AND FIGURES

OFFERINGS LAST WEEK: General Fund: \$1,471.00

Mission - Giving (OCWM): \$17.00;

E-giving: \$60.00; Investing in the Future: \$280.00;

Attendance – Sunday, April 21ST: 78 Last year: 63

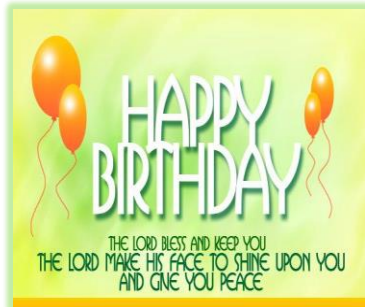
PLANT SALE PICKUP

Purchased plants may be picked up on: Saturday May 11th from 10AM-12:00

Gift certificates may be purchased through May 11th

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH OF PEACE

Sun	M	Tues	W	Th	F	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
9:00am Worship Service Social Hour Host: Stewardship Committee Council Meeting "Constitution"	Loaves & Fishes		8:30am River Park Red Cross Blood Drive Loaves & Fishes			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00am Worship Service Communion Social Hour Host: Hospitality 12-3:30 Barbie Club	9-3 Rummage Sale Set Up Loaves & Fishes	9-3 Rummage Sale Set Up 11:30 Ladies of Peace	9-3 Rummage Sale Set Up Loaves & Fishes	9-3 Rummage Sale Set Up	9-5 Rummage Sale	9-5 Rummage Sale Post Office Food Drive 10-12 Plant Sale Pick Up



April 28 – Kathy Meyn, John Wohler
April 29 – Kaitlyn King, Alicia Miller, Bonnie Percy
April 30 – Rebecca Beck, Michael Weimer
May 1 – Katie Schwartz
May 2 – Brianna Plum Riley Plum, Ty Rebedew

BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER!!

90+ years young members

Please consider sending a card to these members.

May Birthdays are:

Pat Krueger N6027 Esterbrook Rd. Fond du Lac, WI 54937
Connie Troskey 408 Ashford Ave. Lomira, WI 53048
Riley Mincy 318 Illinois Ave. N. Fond du Lac, WI 54937

TIME TO START PREPARING FOR THE SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

May 10th- 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

May 11th – 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

May 11th Bag Sale 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Here is How You Can Help Our Church to Have Another Successful Sale

***Sign up on the board in the Narthex to help with set up and take down**

Sunday May 5th after church we will be setting up tables and racks and moving needed equipment in from storage. We REALLY need people who are physically able to perform this work.

Monday May 6th through Thursday May 9th set up will continue from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. A delicious free meal will be served for everyone present.

Friday May 10th (9:00 – 5:00) and Saturday May 11th (9:00 – 2:00) is sale time. We can always use an extra hand to help with the sale! A free meal is included on these days also.

Saturday at 2:00pm we need lots of help with TAKE DOWN and clean up. We have enough work for everyone, but once again really appreciate helpers who can do the more physically challenging tasks.

Bring in your gently used in-season clothing, household, linens, lawn & garden, decorative, office, sporting goods, toys, games, puzzles, tools, craft items, small household furniture, books & magazines, cd's and DVD's. **These items can be left in the Northeast corner of Fellowship Hall starting April 28th.**

Sign up to donate Bakery items. These should be brought in on May 9th from 9:00am to 3:00pm

Make a cash donation to help offset Sale Setup expenses. These donations can be mailed in or left in the Church Office.

Any questions can be directed to Sharon Terrill @ 920-979-4671

⚡ Please label you donation boxes and bags ⚡