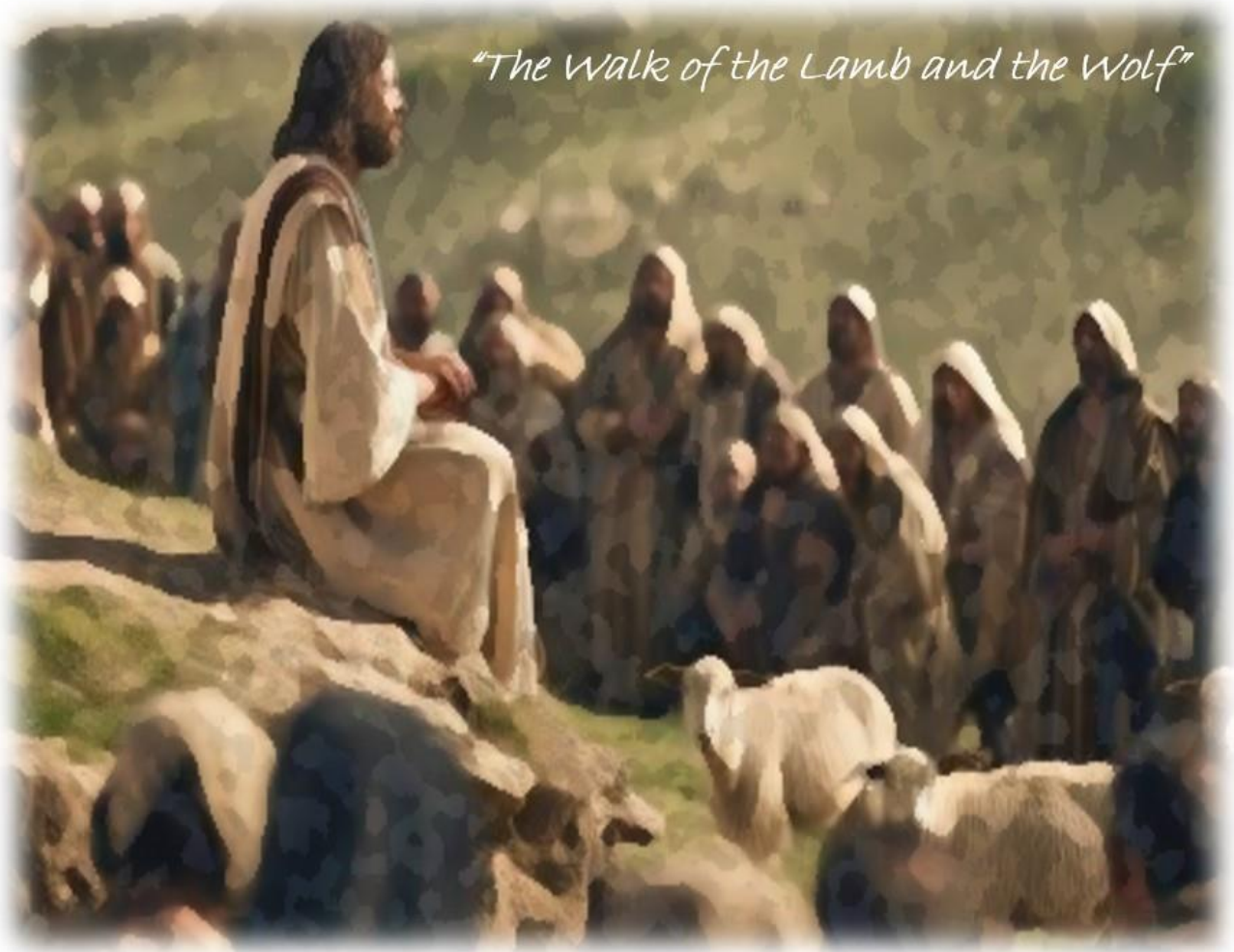


Church of Peace

 UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

"The Walk of the Lamb and the Wolf"



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 21, 2024

Fourth 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 Psalm 23

Call to Worship

One: When we are scattered, Jesus our Good Shepherd gathers us in.

Many: When we are lost and lonely, we can depend on Christ's love.

One: When we are oppressed, Jesus our Good Shepherd cares for us.

Many: When we are threatened because of who we are, we can depend on Christ's protection.

One: We know Christ, because Christ's tenderness has guided us for generations.

Many: Christ knows us by name. Christ will lay down his very life for our sake.

One: Let us worship our Good Shepherd, who cares for all of us with fierce love.

Many: Let us give thanks for Christ's presence with us.

One: Please join me in our Prayer of Invocation

Holy God, you sent us Jesus as our comforter and guide. We give you thanks for the ways he cares for us. Help us be empowered to join him in protecting the oppressed and marginalized. We pray this in gratitude for the blessing you have given us. In and with Jesus we pray. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"In Christ Alone"

(on screen)

*Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Shepherding Christ, even as you lay down your life for us, we confess our lack of desire in supporting those in need. Too often, we are more like the one who runs away in times of trouble. We are not always bold enough to protect the powerless; following your example is rarely easy or comfortable. Forgive us. Help us lay down our apathy and follow your example. Remind us that we belong to one another, and to you.

*Words of Grace

Pastor: Beloved of God, receive this comfort. It is impossible to respond to every need in this complicated world. A full life of faith gives us the grace to lay down our work, take the rest we need, then refocus our energy toward the cause of the oppressed. Rest in the shelter of your Good Shepherd, knowing you are forgiven and can take up the cause again with restored souls.

Many: We are forgiven in Jesus Christ. Praise be to God! Amen.

*The Passing of Christ's Peace in Community

Special Music *"Change My Heart, O God"* by Eddie Espinosa

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.

We Engage God's Word

Scriptures John 10:11-18 1 John 3:16-24

Multigenerational Lesson

We Sing *"Dream God's Dream"* by Bryan Sirchio (on screen)

Sermon *"The Walk of the Lamb and the Wolf"*

We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to Generosity

One: Jesus offers us fullness of life, protecting us and advocating for our needs.

Many: So let us join him in the work of building a beloved community in the world by giving to this church's ministry in Jesus Christ! Amen.

Offertory

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

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, thank you for your gift of Jesus Christ, who cares for us and protects us. With these gifts we return to you, help us care for others in our communities and around the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

We Are Sent into the World

*Closing Hymn *"You Are My All in All"* CP 78

*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/Abby Hanke
Victor Abitz
Nancy Pahnke



Minister
Organist
AV Tech
Custodian
Liturgist

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***** ★ *****

Please have your Messenger Articles in by Monday April 22, 2024

Earth Day Celebration “Clean Sweep”

Saturday, April 27th. @ 10:00 am

On April 27th at 10 A.M. we will be participating in Earth Day Clean Up. We have invited area businesses to join in. This year we would like to host a potluck lunch afterwards. If you are interested in joining us for the potluck or donating a dish, there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board downstairs. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Steffen at 920-539-2291.

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?”

PLANT SALE

Today is the last day to order your hanging baskets or 12” potted plants. These can be picked up on May 11th, 10-noon just in time for Mother’s Day. You can purchase the coupons through noon on Saturday, May 11th. Thank you, Worship Enhancement Team



Great Thanks!!!

to all who worked, gave to, participated in, and ate at our Swiss Steak Dinner

WELCOME TO
CHURCH OF PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
April 21, 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	Janet Rymer	Bill Manka
Elise Sonnenberg	Del Weigel	Dave Borchert
Evelyn Stepp	Janet & Eugene Willis	Diana Candlish
Doris Kastorff	Ernest Oelke	Ralph
Janelle Anderson	Leo Lefeber	Maurice
Robert Snyder	Wayne Katerski	Bailey Gehrt
Marilyn Peters	Sharon Hensen	Edna Karl
Helen Oelke	Ruth Pedix	Donna Birkholz
Christine Weimer	Amy Mitchell	Evelyn Yantz
Baby Archer	Dixie Borchert	Elaine Miller
Nicole Schendel	Jason & Jennifer	Nancy Schaefer
Bob and Shirley Hanke	Marvin Oelke	Debra Rammer
Susan Snider	Carol Carlson	Lee & Lita Treleven
Heather Reader-Schubert	Deb Baker	Greg Baker
Siera Williams and baby Morgan	Jim & Kathy Stephany	John
Connie Troskey	Margaret Houk	Stephen Yanke
Mary Jean Nicholson		

p.s Magnificent God, enable us to follow Jesus even when we think the correct path is different than His.

CHURCH OF PEACE – FACTS AND FIGURES

OFFERINGS LAST WEEK: General Fund: \$2,220.00

Mission - Giving (OCWM): \$59.50;

E-giving: \$1,620.00; Investing in the Future: \$600.00;

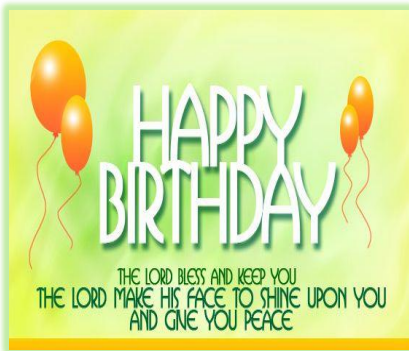
Attendance – Sunday, April 14th: 79 Last year:63

Other Upcoming events at Church of Peace

*Saturday, May 11 Post Office Food Drive

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH OF PEACE

Sun	M	Tues	W	Th	F	Sat
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:00am Worship Service Social Hour Host: Ladies of Peace Group #2	Loaves & Fishes Messenger Articles Due	10:30 St. Francis Home	Loaves & Fishes 10:00 am Assemble Messenger			10:00 am Earth Day Too! Clean Sweep 12:00 Luncheon & photo
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
9:00am Worship Service Social Hour Host: Stewardship Committee	Loaves & Fishes		8:30am River Park Red Cross Blood Drive Loaves & Fishes			



April 22nd - Kylie Lefeber, Colby Whittaker

April 23rd – Pat Hanke

April 24th – Brad Miller

April 25th – McKenna Draves, Evelyn Yantz

April 26th – Scott Heim, Reed Steenberg

**April 27th – Courtney Cratchy, Gordon Rose,
Grace Steenberg**

Card Shower for our Members

90+ years young.

April Birthdays:

April 25th: Evelyn Yantz 517 Luco Rd. Apt. 104 Fond du Lac, WI 54935

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, 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 ⚡
when you bring them in. Thank you!**