



Your monthly news & updates

Moore thoughts . . .
Pastor Kirk's Ponderings –

Resolutions

Are you going to make any New Year's resolutions this year?

Over the years I've made a few . . . and usually failed to live up to them. I start with great intentions and great energy to succeed . . . but soon after the initial energy fades, so does any hope of doing what I've resolved to do.

Lose hope? Didn't we just come from a season of anticipation and hope? Wasn't the celebration of Jesus' birth uplifting and moving? Aren't we supposed to be starting the year with anticipation, joy, excitement and . . . hope?

OK – folks fail all the time with New Year's resolutions. But we also continue to make them – expressing anticipation and hope that we'll be able to do what we resolve to do.

What can we hope for as a congregation this year? What can we hope for as people who are part of our wonderful congregation?

What if we decided as a congregation to resolve . . .

- To celebrate and commemorate the 50th anniversary of breaking ground at our location in Palos Park?
- To participate in a season of visioning as we discern together what God's vision is for Peace Memorial Church, UCC for now and for years to come?

What if we, as people who are part of our wonderful congregation, resolved

To make it to church for worship at least 10 times more this year than last year?

- To participate in at least 4 more special events at PMC this year.
- To bring at least 4 people to church sometime this year
- To give regularly to the church offering and to the many ministries we support?

What else could we resolve to do this year as a congregation and as people of Peace Memorial Church, United Church of Christ in Palos Park, Illinois?

I think that if we keep asking ourselves how we're doing with our resolutions we'll forget to get frustrated, forgetful or hopeless. If we keep looking forward with anticipation and hope we won't keep fretting over things that don't help us improve. Let's start, continue, and journey together as we resolve to be the kind of Church God continues to call us to be.

Happy New Year!

Hope

Pastor Kirk

PMC President's Report

Diane Oremovich

I would like to start my term as President by introducing myself. I am married to my husband Steven and we have two children and three grandsons. I joined Peace Memorial Church when we moved to Tinley Park 40 years ago. I have previously served as both a consistory member and Vice President here at church.

I have Bachelor's degrees in Nursing and Psychology, and an MBA in Health Care Administration. I have held many different positions during my career, most recently as Administrator of Assisted Living at Peace Village. I have served on the Board of Directors at both Peace Village and Christ Hospital. I currently work part-time at a local Urology Practice. In my free time, I enjoy reading mystery books and babysitting my grandsons.

In upcoming months, you will be seeing articles in the Messenger introducing members of the Board of Trustees. I feel it is important for our congregation to get to know the people you have elected to serve as leaders of this church.

Ground was broken on the current site of Peace Memorial Church fifty years ago, on May 5th, 1974. The leaders of the church had amazing vision to move our church from the Southwest side of Chicago to our Palos Park campus. This year marks an important milestone for our church which needs to be celebrated and I look forward to the various activities to commemorate this yearlong anniversary!

I also look forward to working with the congregation and Trustees in defining the church's mission and vision for the next fifty years under the guidance of Pastor Moore.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President.

Weekly Service Attendance

December 3 (Communion Sunday)
9:30 am - 78

December 10
9:30 am - 98

December 17 (Children's Christmas play)
9:30 am - 121

December 24 (Christmas Eve)
9:30 am - 43
4:00 p.m. - 63
11:00 p.m. - 79

December 31 (New Year's Eve)
9:30 a.m. - 40

Christian Education

Holly Jones



Happy New Year PMC! Are you a resolution maker? Do you look to the calendar change with hope and anticipation? January is usually gray and dreary so I am always grateful for a time of reflection, especially when the reflection comes at the tail end of some of the most fun of the year!



December was filled with so much magic! I hope you were able to enjoy our kids and the wonder, and laughter, they brought to the season at least once and everyone's favorite, the Christmas pageant. Our Christmas party was filled with smiles from everyone who attended! The Youth Center was transformed into a winter wonderland where we all painted ornaments, and enjoyed delicious cookies and cocoa! We made our way to Peace Village to sing, where I saw some of the brightest smiles from the residents (and our entire group!) We were all filled with Christmas cheer as we called out our favorite songs for Pastor Kirk to play! The next weekend was our pageant, and I think we need to revisit that wonder! I have not stopped talking about that performance in weeks, and yes, I may have watched the video several dozen times already! We are all absolutely beaming with pride at the excellent job all our kids did, alongside the direction of Samantha Miulli, Jamie Kirscher and Theresa Graben! This was the first pageant for many of our kids, and I have to say, they exceeded everyone's expectations! We had our own comedy show with run away stars, and hysterically timed sheep baa's, and I think another round of applause is due to our very patient Dog-key, Floyd! Thank you to all who made the play a success, either behind the scenes in costumes, or set building, to the members of the congregation and Pastor Kirk who played integral parts in 'The Birth of Jesus'.



I hope you have a wonderful start to 2024, wishing you all the peace, love and health in the upcoming year.

Mission and Spiritual Care Committee

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May everyone enjoy a holiday season filled with family and friends, creating many memories giving hope, peace, joy, and love.

The Mission Committee has been busy with your assistance in achieving several goals this fall. A donation of collected funds of \$500.00 was presented to the Nativity Ukrainian Catholic Church of Palos Park to support the people of Ukraine.

The November Food Drive was most successful with plenty of food donations to share with our 5 "adopted" families to have special meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Gift cards were provided for the perishable foods to enhance the Thanksgiving dinner. The generosity of our congregation's food donations allowed us to also deliver groceries to the food pantry at Palos United Methodist Church in Palos Heights.

Our annual Giving Tree surpassed our expectations with the generosity, warm and caring hearts of the PMC membership. There were 5 families sponsored with the many tags on the "Giving Tree". The tree tag gifts were all filled, and the sight was beautiful underneath the "tree" on Sunday, December 17th. The distribution will be completed this week in plenty of time for a Merry Christmas to all of the families.



We rely on and are very appreciative of YOUR willingness to support the projects we select to aid people of our community, whether that community is next door to us or many miles away. We will begin collecting items for the homeless people in Humboldt Park on Sunday, December 31st, (consider this project as a New Year resolution of being a good neighbor) up to and including to Sunday, January 28th. The articles to be collected will be delivered to San Lucas United Church of Christ to distribute to the homeless (mainly men) across the street from their sanctuary. The large plastic totes will be positioned in front of the "Welcome Desk" with a sign designating this project by the Mission Committee for January.

Items suggested by San Lucas UCC are:

**sheets in twin or full size, blankets
pillows, pillow cases
towels, wash cloths, toiletries
men's clothes (not large sizes) pants with waists in 32" to 36" range**

**T-shirts in medium to extra large sizes
socks, underwear
coats, jackets, gloves
plastic bags (in the city they must pay for plastic bags)
paper towels, plastic silverware, paper plates
dish-washing liquid, and
canned foods**

Cloth or material items should be new or gently used. Or, if it is more convenient for you, cash donations will be accepted and used to purchase the required necessities for the homeless that frequent San Lucas UCC.

We are most grateful to everyone in the congregation for the compassion and support to this January project.

ALL CHURCH NEWS



**Items suggested by San Lucas United Church of Christ
in Humbolt Park are:**

- ✚ sheets in twin or full size, blankets
 - ✚ towels, wash cloths, toiletries
 - ✚ pillows, pillowcases
 - ✚ men's clothes (not large sizes) pants with waists in 32" to 36" range
 - ✚ T-shirts in medium to extra-large sizes
 - ✚ socks, underwear
 - ✚ coats, jackets, gloves
 - ✚ plastic bags (in the city they must pay for plastic bags)
 - ✚ paper towels, plastic silverware, paper plates
 - ✚ dish-washing liquid
 - ✚ canned foods
-

BEAT THE WINTER BLUES

Peace Memorial Church
Saturday, January 27, 2024
6:00 pm Appetizers
7:00 pm Dinner & Fun!

Want to help shake off
those winter blues? Meet
us for a nice evening of
friendship, food and fun!



**Tickets available at the
Cafe \$10.00 per person.**
Invite your friends to come with you!
Please contact Kathi Graben for more information



Peace Memorial Cooking Club

Learn to make Macaroni & Cheese from scratch and Decorate Sugar Cookies.

DATE: February 3, 2024

PLACE: Zion Hall

TIME: 11 AM to 1 PM

COST: \$5.00 per Participant (paid on date of event)

All Supplies Provided at the Event

Open to all PMC Members – Family & Friends.

(Children under age 15 must be accompanied by an Adult)

Sign Up Sheet is in the church Narthex at the Center Visitor Desk

NEW YEAR, NEW PATHS

Gaile Sprissler



The new approaches you can take to your life, your work, and your personal interests this year may make you feel innovative and imaginative. Perhaps you realize that by trying something different, you can come into your own with your creative ideas. Learning to let go of your inner critic may help you tap more deeply into yourself, and pay more attention to the inner dialogue you have about what you are doing. Should you notice any self-defeating thoughts, simply let them go, smiling whenever they surface, knowing that you are moving and opening yourself more easily to new ideas.

Your confidence level may be high, and that may encourage you to challenge yourself. Taking calculated risks could move you in a direction where you will grow, learn, and develop your talents. By trying something new your life may change for the better as you move forward and get away from your usual routine.

Routines and habits don't always expand our knowledge or expose us to things that may introduce us to different ways of doing and being. Releasing ourselves from the confines of what feels safe, provides us with new opportunities to try out different things, learn from our mistakes, and grow more deeply. This allows us to gain greater insights into ourselves and the world. By taking risks and pushing limits, you can discover new parts of yourself and your environment that will not only stimulate you but also help you grow your potential. Enjoy an adventurous New Year!



January 1
Ruth Gross
Kathleen Krauss

January 3
Jillian Jerry
Donald Stille
Jane Sulek

January 4
Judith Jensen

January 6
Carmen Vondrak

January 9
Helen Lisak
Kellyn Maguire

January 10
Kelly Gansauer

January 11
Donna Cochonour

January 13
Russell Hook
Raymond Kujawa

January 15
Robert Anderson
Daniel Blaser

January 18
Charlotte Haase

January 20
Helen Espinoza
Scott Stille

January 25
Carter Sersland

January 26
Austin Stille

JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental	3 7:00 am Volunteers	4 1 pm Bible Study	5	6 6-11 pm Zion Hall rental
7 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Confirmation 11:00 Blue Jean Sunday for Taking down the greens	8 7-9 pm Zion PMCMC	9 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental 7:00 Alzheimer's meeting	10 7:00 am Volunteers 3:00 p.m. PADS 4-8:30 Zion Hall rental 7:00 pm CE meeting	11 1 pm Bible Study 3:30-9 pm Zion rental 6:30 Foundation meeting	12	13
14 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Meeting, Trustees, Worship, & B&G 10:45 Mission	15 7-9 pm Zion PMCMC	16 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental	17 7:00 am Volunteers 4-8:30 Zion Hall rental 7:00 Trustees	18 1 pm Bible Study 3:30-9 pm Zion rental	19	20 10 – 4 Stitchers – Chapel
21 9:30 Worship 11:00 Confirmation 11:00 Cleaning the Loft	22 MESSENGER DEADLINE 7-9 pm Zion PMCMC	23 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental	24 7:00 am Volunteers 4-8:30 Zion Hall rental	25 1 pm Bible Study 3:30-9 pm Zion rental	26	27 6:30 Winter Blues dinner
28 9:30 am Worship	29 7-9 pm Zion PMCMC	30 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental	31 7:00 am Volunteers 4-8:30 Zion Hall rental			
	* PMCMC = Peace Memorial Church Monday Men's Club					



Peace Village
10300 Village Circle Drive

Church Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday
8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Reverend Kirk Moore

Senior Pastor
kmoore@pmcucc.org

Samantha Miulli

Director of Christian Education
smiulli@pmcucc.org

Robert Mohr

Director of Music
peacememohrial@gmail.com

Palos Park, IL 60464
(708) 361-6091
Roger EllensCEO/Executive Director

Peace Village Circle Inn
(708) 671-2470

Peace Memorial Church
10300 W. 131st Street
Palos Park, IL 60464
Phone (708) 448-7833
Fax (708) 448-0824

Thomas R. Osborne
Organist
mmued@yahoo.com

Mary Anne Bixler
Office Manager
mbixler@pmcucc.org

Lily Field
Accountant
lfield@pmcucc.org

**Visit our website Peace
Memorial Church**

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page Peace Memorial
Church UCC**

Peace Memorial Church UCC | 10300 W 131st St #1, Palos Park, IL 60464

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