

From the Pastor Rev. Kirk Moore



Open and Affirming Sunday

This Sunday, June 30th is ONA (Open and Affirming) Sunday at PMC. It's also the date of the Chicago Pride Parade. Remember that I'll be at the Tinley Park 80th Avenue train station offering blessings to those heading the

Chicago Pride in the morning. I'll be there just before 8:30 am and leave just after the train departs at 8:56. I should arrive at PMC just before 9:30. I'll have this sign with me:

STRETCH OUT YOUR WITH

Stop Here for a Blessing on your way to Pride today! Peace Memorial Church, UCC - Palos Park, IL - pmcucc.org

During the worship service, we'll have a litany celebrating that we are an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ. Our challenge remains to live more fully into that designation. Our ONA statement provides a great framework for that.

In the spirit of Christ's teachings and to affirm our commitment and covenant to live the teachings of the gospel today and every day, Peace Memorial Church UCC welcomes you.

- We welcome you regardless of your race, ethnicity, or country of origin.
- We welcome you if you are single, married or divorced, gay, straight, transgender, rich or poor.
- We welcome you if you are young or old or anywhere in between. We extend a special welcome to crying newborn babies and 100+ year old great-grandparents.
- We welcome you if you have a disability of any kind, physical or mental, the healthy and afflicted, those in recovery and those still addicted.
- We welcome you if you can sing like Caruso or Aretha Franklin, and even if you can't carry a tune in a bushel basket!
- We extend a special welcome if you are "just visiting or shopping", if you are just not into "organized religion" even if you are Catholic, or Lutheran or if the last time you went to church was your niece's baptism in 1974.
- Please feel welcome if you are a vegetarian or a carnivore, Republican or Democrat.

We at Peace Memorial Church recognize the differences among us, the diversity that is in God's creation. We believe that we can share God's love for us with one another, recognizing our similarities and our diversity. We invite ALL PEOPLE to join us in our journey of faith, living by God's will in God's kingdom here on earth, creating a world filled with love, understanding and mutual respect and hospitality for all. We want you to know that at Peace Memorial Church, all God's creatures have a place at our table.

During the service, we'll also debut a brand-new song written by Pastor King Moore and Music Director Bob Mohr. It's called, *"Jesus Didn't Play that Game."* And Sunday's sermon is about Christ's healing. Please see a preview below. And, as always, please let me know if there are any who could use a pastoral visit.

Grace and Peace

Pastor Kirk



A Peace sermon preview for Sunday, June 30, 2024

Not seeing a video still frame? Check here for a whole playlist of sermon previews.



Fringe

One of the people in this week's Bible reading lived on the fringe of society. She had been outcast - due the version of "Religious to Freedom" laws. She was forced to live away from people because people didn't want to have their religious liberties threatened by being kind to a person who didn't fit their rules. There was no opportunity to order a cake or to sit down in a local restaurant. The rules said she was to remove herself from contact with others and to sit in her shame. She may have even had to live on the outskirts of town where the garbage burned and rats were all around -- Gehenna. It's the very

real place on earth that is translated as "Hell" in the New Testament.

Jesus didn't play that game.

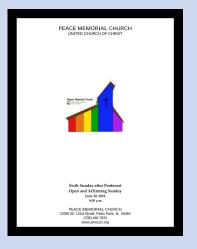
This woman who lived on the fringe thought that if she could just touch the fringe on Jesus' clothes, she would be better. It was common then, and still is, for people in a synagogue to touch the hem, the fringe -- the tzit-tzit or a rabbi's robe to receive a blessing or even healing.

She did. She rebelled against the shaming culture, reached out from the fringe to tough the fringe -- the tzit-tzit

And Jesus turned around and said, "How dare you infringe on my religious liberty! The rules of my religion say that you must separate yourself from others and by coming close to me you have persecuted me. Shame on you. I must refuse to serve you. With my deeply held religious beliefs as my weapon, It is my right, and it is my duty."

Oh yeah -- no he didn't. He said, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

Because that's the kind of thing Jesus does.



Bulletin for Sunday, June 30, 2024

Calendar for the week of June 30-July 7, 2024

Sunday, June 30

9:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship service
10:45 a.m. – Fellowship
10:45 a.m. – VBS volunteer meeting/CE room
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – SWIFT - Pavilion/Youth Center

Tuesday, July 2

8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. – Zion Hall rental – LifeLine Screening 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Pavilion usage – LifeSyles Academy

Wednesday, July 3 7:00 a.m. – Volunteers

Thursday, July 4 OFFICE CLOSED – HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY Saturday, July 6 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Youth Center rental

Sunday, July 7 ALL DAY PAVILION RENTAL 9:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship service 10:45 a.m. – Fellowship

This Week's Birthdays

June 28 Gaile Sprissler

June 29 Judy Kirscher

June 30 Sawyer Ferrantelli Andrew Moore (Pastor Moore's Son) **July 2** Barbara Ritter

July 3 Tasha Sulek Rylee Kruse

July 4 Adam Kueltzo Stacy Pratscher

News, Announcements, Gifts, Memorials, and Prayer Concerns

Ushers 6-3-24 – Sue Ritter, Diane Oremovich, William Bayer, Jim Keyser **Ushers 7-7-24** – Rudy Wehofer, Alan White, Karen Blaser, David Johnson

A Gift was Given in Memory of **Rosemary Freebeck** by Peter, Greg & Holly.

Memorials in Honor of:

Ethel Koch remembered by Debbie & William Jerry. **Mary Ann Ochsenhofer** remembered by Gloria Hoessler and family. **Rosemary Freebeck** remembered by Bill & Joanne Franz.

Continued Prayers: **Dave Cornyn** after his surgery; **Carmen Vondrak** after hip replacement surgery; **The Ritter family** after the passing of their cousin, Ronald D. Smith, Sr.; **Kim Skala** recovering after knee surgery; Tom Osborne healing from an infection; **David Hook**, prayers for healing and strength; **Carol Dreger** after a fall and she will need a shoulder replacement;**Russ Hook** for healing and strength; **Joe Heilmann** recovering after a stroke; **Jeanine Gerard** in long term care, prayers for healing and strength; **Helen Espinoza** prayers for healing and strength; **Kathy Szymanski**, sister-in-law of Elaine Schneider, prayers for continued healing; **Gordon Sieveke** prayers for strength and healing.

July 13th is the Vacation Bible School picnic. We are opening this event up to the congregation and would love to share the food, games and activities with you. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact Samantha at smiulli@pmcucc.org if you think you are able to come. Sign-up will end on July 10th.

PMC Prayer Bears are a symbolic source of spiritual comfort for physical and emotional wellbeing. If you have a loved one who is experiencing any health

conditions who may be hospitalized or undergoing chronic treatment for illness, please take one of the bears. They are located in the small wagon behind the last row of Pews in the sanctuary. They represent the connection to our church's spiritual message and prayers that resonate each Sunday. Please contact either of us for additional information. *Mimi Sciacchitano and Sue Freund*

SAVE THE DATE!! CROP WALK 2024 The BIG event is October 6th at Lake Katherine





Any time -- even during the worship service -You can donate electronically to PMC through tithe.ly. Simply scan this QR Code, or use the <u>"donate" link on</u> our church website or at the bottom of this email. Thank you!



Thank you to all who participated in last Sunday's Palestine 101 event. We had excellent representation from the Congregation the and community. And heard we excellent presentations from Jewish, Christian, and Muslim

perspectives. Let us continue to live up to the name of our congregation in working toward a Just Peace where all are respected and treated with dignity. May war and fighting cease, and harmony increase. If you missed the event and would like to see video from it, or if you'd just like to see the recording, <u>you can find it here.</u> Thank you to our coordinators Linda Kateeb and Don Wagner, as well as our presenters Rebekah Levin, Ben Norquist, and Tarek Khalil.



Did you miss church? <u>Catch up on last Sunday's service here</u>. And feel free to share recordings of past services with others who might like to learn more about Peace! You can subscribe to our <u>youtube channel</u> and also the <u>Worship Services Playlist</u>.





Peace Village 10300 Village Circle Drive Church Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

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