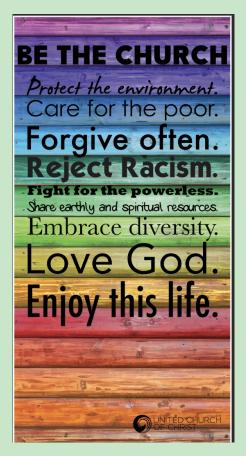
Friday, August 30, 2024



From the Pastor Rev. Kirk Moore



Labor Sunday

Labor Day is much more than just a day off from work or school. With tens of millions employed in low wage, dead end jobs, this Labor Day is an opportunity for all of us to rediscover our common bonds: social justice, equality, the Common Good, dignity and respect of all persons, economic justice, and fair treatment in the workplace.

Here's a prayer by Rebecca Sutton, Program Coordinator of Global Women's Exchange.

Pray for those who are hungry.

Pray harder for those who will not feed them.

Pray for those who struggle each week to pay their bills.

Pray harder for the wealthy who do not care.

Pray for those who are homeless.

Pray harder for those who deny them shelter.

Pray for the sick and lonely.

Pray harder for those who will not give them comfort.

Pray for those who cry out for dignity.

Pray harder for those who will not listen.

Pray for those oppressed by unjust wages. *Pray harder for those who exploit them.*

Pray for those who bear the yoke of prejudice.

Pray harder for those who discriminate against them.

Pray for those whose basic needs are denied.

Pray harder for public officials who cater to the greedy and ignore those bound unjustly.

Amen.

This Labor Day Sunday, September 1, please join us for worship. The sermon, based on James 1:17-27, is called "Be the Church."

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 September 1, 2024



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

l'm not religious

When I was growing up, I often heard the phrase, "I'm not



religious -- I'm a Christian!" in response to questions that often were about church and church attendance. The response really grew out of a disdain for the term "religious" (or religion, for that matter) because, for too many people, religious meant "pompous."

Lately, it's just "Christian" that is used as a synonym for "pompous" or "hypocritical." The phrase, "I'm not religious -- I'm really more spiritual" -- or "I don't know if I'd call myself a Christian -- I'm really a spiritual person." has been around for some time. Now the largest religious classification in the United States is the *nones* - people who aren't a part of any place of worship and who aren't necessarily pining and wishing for something more and something spiritual. Of course, there are people searching for meaning in life. And there are many people who are either not interested at all in church or who have felt rejected or put off somehow by the church. Currently, about 47% of the people in the US are members of a church. That's a 20 point drop from the turn of the century. 27 percent of the population have no religious affiliation at all - a 17 point increase from 2000. (incidentally, mainline protestants like the UCC now make up 13.9% of the population and evangelical protestants 13.6%) 54 percent seldom or never attend any kind of religious service - an 11% increase in just a decade.

There are so many people who are deconstructing their faith and beliefs -getting rid of the things that have been toxic for them and settling into a place
of not knowing -- not having a connection to a religious construct that hasn't
been helpful or has been actively harmful to their lives.

The three biggest reasons? Stopped believing, The anti-lgbtqia+ stances of many churches, and Clergy Sexual abuse.

Being the church recognizes the value of people who attend in person or online - and the people who will never attend in any way at allBeing the church recognizes the value of people who are deconstructing their faith and don't have any plans to start any kind of building back up at all.



Bulletin for Sunday, September 1, 2024

Calendar for the week of September 1-8, 2024

Sunday, September 1 - Communion Sunday

9:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship service 10:45 a.m. – Fellowship

Wednesday, September 4

7:00 a.m. - Volunteers

Saturday, September 7

12:00 – 8:00 p.m. – pavilion/youth center usage

Sunday, September 8

9:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship service 10:45 a.m. – Fellowship

This Week's Birthdays

September 2 Pat Ostrowski

September 3
Alan Kloos
Susan Kukla

News, Announcements, Gifts, Memorials, and Prayer Concerns

Ushers 9-1-24 – Jim Keyser, Rudy Wehofer, Alan White, Karen Blaser **Ushers 9-8-24** – David Johnson, Pam Cornyn, Bill Blaser, Pat Ostrowski

New Prayers: **Karen Blaser** after a stay at Silver Cross Hospital.**Nancy Di Novo** having back issues.

Continued Prayers: For the family of **Reverend Bob Hempel** who passed away this week. Reverend Hempel served 14 years at St. Petri United Church of Christ on the East side of Chicago; **Tom Ward**, Rich Lisak's son-in-law, after his sudden passing; **David Hook**, prayers for healing and strength; **Russ Hook** for healing and strength; **Jeanine Gerard** in long term care, prayers for healing and strength; **Helen Espinoza** prayers for healing and strength; **Gordon Sieveke** prayers for strength and healing.

PMC Prayer Bears have been successfully revived!

They continue to be 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. If you would like to donate toward purchasing new bears or bears themselves, please send your donations to the church office.

We would like to thank Holly Pacholski, Rosemary Freebeck's daughter,

for making cards and restocking our card ministry. Please check out all the new cards and grab one for a special occasion or just because. All donations go to Christian Education.

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

Join the PMC team today!



Naper Pride is hosting their 3rd annual Pride Fest on Sept 14th from 12 Noon to 10 PM at Naper Settlement in Naperville. Admission is \$10 pre-ordered online or \$15 at the gate, children 17 and under are free. There will be 70+ vendors and several food trucks on site, good music and beverages. Visit the Naper Pride website for more details!



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



In Solidarity

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) Stands with Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem on the Urgent Need to Conclude the Present War and Turn from the Pursuit of Death and Destruction toward the Promotion of Life and Peace

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) and our 35 member communions stand in solidarity with the Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in the urgent need in calling for an end to war, death, and destruction toward the promotion of life and peace. We pray alongside our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land and especially those who continue to take refugee in the St. Porphyrius Orthodox Church and the Latin Family Catholic Church in Gaza after more than ten months of nearly constant bombardment, deprivation, and massive civilians deaths in Gaza.



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

Peace Kids

Our Peace Kids made a generous donation of our handmade "wash-a-roos" and other essentials to a women's shelter today. Nice job kids! We are so proud of you and your kindness.













DAY 2 SEPT 21ST 7:30AM-1:30PM

Build and assemble wall sections. Individuals age 5+ at all skill levels are welcome! This year we will be building the walls for 2 houses. Once the project is complete join us for a dedication of the completed project and loading the walls for transport Habitat For Humanity

DONATION AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Peace Memorial Church UCC on Facebook

pmc.ucc.crew@gmail.com

www.pmcucc.org



Join us for the next installment on our continuing journey through the music of the church for the last several hundred years

Saturday September 28th 6:00pm



Peace Memorial Church 10300 W. 131st St. Palos Park pmcucc.org



Friday, October 11th, 5 - 9 PM 10300 W 131st, Palos Park

CREAT FOOD & DRINK!

To benefit Peace Memorial Church and PADS Ministries

Adults: \$15 Children 5-9: \$8

50/50 RAFFLE SILENT

CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES

Tickets Available at Church Office 708-448-7833



Church Office Hours

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

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