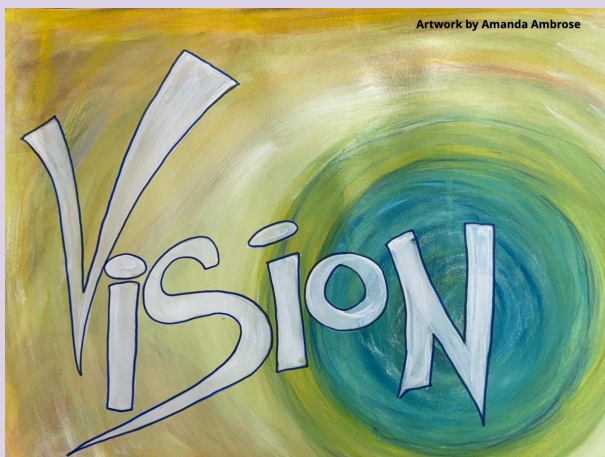




Your monthly news & updates

Moore thoughts . . .
Pastor Kirk's Ponderings –

God's Vision



We Are Peace Memorial Church,
UCC, in Palos Park, Illinois.

*A vibrant, inclusive
Christian community
living out love, respect,
and dignity for everyone.*

Easy to repeat, memorize, and
share just about anytime. In the
elevator. In the shopping line, on
the train, in the hallway, online,

etc.

And if you want to have a longer conversation about God's vision for PMC, here are some points for discussion.

Vibrant - energized and enthusiastic. Is this Aspirational or realistic? Is it some of both?

Inclusive - Jesus didn't turn people away - neither do we. We welcome and affirm people of every gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, age, race, nationality, economic and social status, faith background, religious training, marital standing, and family structure.

Christian - While engaging with all in ecumenical and interfaith ways, we are unapologetically Christian and seek to follow Jesus.

Community - Congregation and Church - these words indicate a community where all are loved and attended to. We work for the common good. We are also part of the larger Church community of the UCC, as well as our locale.

Living out Love - Jesus left one final commandment to the disciples, and by extension, all. "Love one another as I have loved you." We seek to live out God's unconditional and eternal love for everyone.

Living out respect - "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." That phrase, sometimes attributed to St. Augustine or to John Wesley, has unknown beginnings. Still, it is profound. We may not always agree on everything. We seek to always treat one another with respect regardless.

Living out dignity - As Jesus cares for and loves all, so do we. We seek to treat all people as we would like to be treated. No one is more, or less, important than any other.

Everyone - We hold that God's love and grace are unconditional and eternal. And they are for everyone. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey – You're welcome here.

Let's continue to be the church and to live out God's vision

For PMC

Pastor Kirk

PMC Report

Diane Oremovich

It has been both a beautiful and busy Christmas. The church has been packed with so many wonderful events. Thank you to everyone who made this holiday season great. It has taken so many people to get these events done. I am afraid to identify any particular members as I will leave someone out.

Pam Cornyn shared how the Principal at the school in Lockport District #91 that the Mission Committee supported, was so impressed with the generosity of our church! The families felt so blessed.

If you attended any of the evening events you might have seen the red and green lights lighting up the outside of the church. It really made the church pop. What I great idea!

During January we will continue to plan events for the coming year. We hope to interview for our open positions, a new Program Director Coordinator and Bookkeeper. When the Program Coordinator position gets filled, we will have a point person for events and assistance to increase the visibility of the church in the community. Please look for updates throughout the year.

We are still looking for members to join the committees to help bring fresh perspective and new ideas.

New Members!

We welcome recent members Debbie Battistella, Pat Burger, Jackie

Burger, and Holly Pacholski to Peace Memorial Church. If you're interested in becoming a PMC member, please contact the pastor.

Weekly Service Attendance

December 1 (Communion Sunday and Hanging of the Greens)
9:30 am - 73

December 8 (Congregational Meeting)
9:30 am - 77

December 15 (CE Christmas Pageant)
9:30 am - 100

December 22
9:30 am - 57

December 24 (Christmas Eve Candlelight Worships)
4:00 pm - 57
11:00 pm - 60

December 29
9:30 am - 42

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Holly Jones





Happy New Year PMC! 2025! It's outrageous to think that we were celebrating "Y2K" 25 years ago! I remember all the buzz around that night and now here it is, a quarter of a century later! When you look to the calendar change, is it met with hope and anticipation? Are you reflecting on the year before? I always spend the first part of January grateful for a time of reflection, looking for changes I can make, but also enjoying the memories that were made!

December was filled with so much magic and boy did we make memories this holiday season! I hope you were able to enjoy our kids and their wonder, and laughter, throughout the month. We started December with another fun filled Santa breakfast! We have some of the best pancakes around, so it's no wonder Santa and Mrs. Claus made the trek from the North Pole to join us! Once again, we made our way to the Village to sing, where I saw some of the brightest smiles from the residents (and our entire group!) Pastor Kirk enlightened us on the history of every song, and of course there were grand motions for each of the 12 Days of Christmas that had us all laughing!





Our kids definitely love the act of performance, and there was no shortage of theatrics at this years Christmas pageant. I have not stopped talking about that performance, and yes, I may have watched the video several dozen times! We are absolutely beaming with pride at the excellent job all our kids did! We had our own comedy show, which is inspiring an idea I have for the Peace Players* a work in progress! The torch was passed to our youngest kids, who hysterically kept up the tradition of unscripted 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 our play.

It may be January, but I hope the merriment of December holds through just a little longer. Wishing you all peace, love and health in the upcoming year. Happy 2025!



The Mission Committee has had a full and busy fall season. In October, Janet Hansen and myself brought apple pie & ice cream to Peace Village where 24 residents enjoyed a treat.

November brought our Annual Food Drive which was divided by 3 families from Lockport School District #91 for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals, along with a \$50.00 gift cards from Walmart to use for both holidays. The money from the gift cards came from the Blessing Bucket, which totaled \$270.00. There were also 7 large bags of food donated to Lockport Fish Pantry, who were very grateful to receive the donation.

December Janet Hansen and I gave a little Christmas party to the Circle Inn residents with cake, cookies, and small gifts to the 20 residents who came. Pastor Kirk serenaded them with Christmas carols and sing along. The giving Tree was back again to assist the 3 families from Lockport School District #91. There was 56 gift tags on the tree and disappeared faster than I could write them down. All the gifts were then brought to Kelvin Grove School where the social worker called the families to pick up the gifts.



Once all gift tags were taken we filled the tree with hats, scarves, and gloves to be donated to the Lockport Resource Center.

Thank you to everyone who helped make these families have a brighter holiday.

On a sad note, Barb Kamper has retired from PADS after 12 years of making meals, shopping, and working very hard to provide food for 20-30 people 2 times a month. She will be dearly missed, but her legacy will continue. I have temporarily taken over her spot in PADS, but will never fill her shoes, until a person can be found to do the job. Thanks to Lori Mason, Eleanor Cochonour, Carmen Vondrak, Janet Hansen, and Ruth Van Hecke who have been great at assisting with the Mission Committee. We are always looking for more help to join our group.

Happy & Healthy New Year!
Pam Cornyn

Breakfast with Santa



The committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help make Santa's Breakfast a wonderful event. Joseph Spors always brings the feel of the North Pole for Santa and Mrs. Claus and makes it look outstanding. Another shout out for all those that help set up, cook, and clean up. We wouldn't be able to do this event without you. Thank you for the overwhelming support of baked goods for Bake Sale!





We have an opportunity for someone interested in working in-office 8-12 hours per week as Bookkeeper for PMC. Knowledge of MS Excel and any Accounting software is needed. If interested, please reach out to Diane Oremovich or Dave Cornyn.

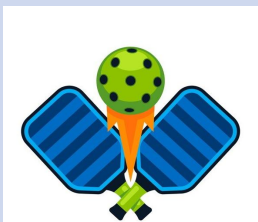


Grammys Cream Corn (Kathy Faulkner)

- 1 ¼ (16 ounce) packages frozen corn kernels**
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese**
- ½ cup butter**
- 1 tablespoon white sugar**

Combine corn, cream cheese, butter, and sugar in a slow cooker. Cook on low for 4 to 6 hours or High for 2 to 4 hours.

PMC Peace Pickleball



When the new floor in Zion Hall was installed, it was striped not only for basketball but also for PICKLEBALL! Pickleball has become very popular, and we are sure there are members and friends who either play or would like to learn. The time has come, Pickleball is here at PMC! Anyone interested in learning or playing pickleball please contact Alan/Cindy White or Ruth Van Hecke to help launch Peace Pickleball! Together we can decide on the next steps including days and times to play and learn together!



January 1
Ruth Gross
Kathleen Krauss

January 3
Jillian Jerry
Don Stille
Jane Sulek

January 4
Judy Jensen

January 6
Carmen Vondrak

January 9
Helen Lisak
Kellyn Maguire

January 10
Kelly Gansauer

January 11
Donna Cochonour

January 13
Russ Hook
Ray Kujawa

January 14
Gordon Sieveke

January 15
Robert Anderson
Dan Blaser

January 18
Charlotte Haase

January 20
Scott Stille

January 25
Carter Sersland

January 26
Shawn Roorda
Austin Stille

JANUARY 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|---|-----------|--|
| | | | 1 Happy New Year  12:00 pm Narthex rental | 2 1:00 pm Bible study 6:30 pm Choir | 3 | 4 3:00 pm Zion Hall rental |
| 5 9:30 am Communion Worship 10:30 De-Greening 11:00 am Confirmation | 6 | 7 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental 7:00 pm Bunco/chapel | 8 7:00 am Volunteers 10 am B&G 3 PM PADS 7:00 pm CE meeting | 9 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm Foundation | 10 | 11 |
| 12 9:30 am Worship | 13 | 14 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental 7:00 pm Alzheimer's meeting | 15 7:00 am Volunteers 7:00 pm Trustee meeting | 16 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 6:30 pm Choir | 17 | 18 10 am – 4 pm Stitches/ chapel |
| 19 9:30 am Worship 11:00 am Confirmation | 20 MESSENGER ARTICLES DEADLINE | 21 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental | 22 7:00 am Volunteers | 23 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 6:30 pm Choir | 24 | 25 |
| 26 9:30 am Worship with Pastor Judy | 27 | 28 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental | 29 7:00 am Volunteers | 30 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 6:30 pm Choir | 31 | |



Peace Village
 10300 Village Circle Drive
 Palos Park, IL 60464
 (708) 361-6091
 Roger EllensCEO/Executive Director

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

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kmoore@pmcucc.org

Samantha Miulli
 Director of Christian Education
smiulli@pmcucc.org

Robert Mohr
 Director of Music
peacememohrial@gmail.com

Peace Village Circle Inn
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