



Your monthly news & updates

Moore thoughts . . .
Pastor Kirk's Ponderings –

Called By



We're living into God's vision for Peace Memorial Church, UCC, in Palos Park, IL

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

And we're also continuing to live out our mission:

We believe that we are called to serve. We believe that we are called to, "love our neighbor," and that we are called to offer help and hope to, "the least of these." We accept the call to be light that shines in dark places, and the "salt of the earth." We seek to continue Christ's ministry of healing, feeding, and teaching. We seek to offer an extravagant welcome to all.

With our mission comes a few questions.

- How do we offer help and hope to "the least of these"?
- How do we continue Christ's ministry of healing, feeding and teaching??
- How do we offer an extravagant welcome to all? What does that mean?

And with those questions come an opportunity.

Share your stories with others here in the church, in our community and all over the world.

Think for awhile, and then write your story:

- Maybe it will be a description of ways our congregation is living out God's vision or our mission through our daily commitments.
- Maybe it will be a personal story of the ways God speaks in your daily life.

Share your story:

- How you've responded to God's call.
- The unfolding of God's purposes in your life.
- The disciplines or practices that sustain you.
- What it means to live your faith in your work, parenting, friendships, and more.
- How your faith helps you to seek justice, and to act with integrity.

Bring or email your stories to the church office or to the pastor (kmoore@pmcucc.org)

***We are each a gift package, as unique as a fingerprint . . .
Explore your gifts . . . reflect, pray, and share your gifts in community.***

Name

Pastor Kirk

PMC Report

Diane Oremovich

I wanted to update you on the sanctuary lighting project. The Trustees have been working with Imperial Lighting to try to find ways to save some money on their original quote. The exchange of ideas has resulted in a lower cost to complete the project. We are now working on finalizing a start date. As you can imagine, a project like this one does not come with a small price tag. The logistics involved include removing pews so that a large lift can be set up at various spots in the Sanctuary. Each lightbulb can then be changed, and then the pews replaced. This process accounts for a large portion of the budget. Once complete, each light fixture will now be fitted with an energy efficient LED bulb. It will be nice to have a fully lit Sanctuary again!

During the recent Christmas season, you may have noticed that the church Christmas trees were looking a bit "tired." I am asking church members to consider underwriting the cost of a new tree. One of our church families has already agreed to pay for the replacement of the large tree in the Sanctuary. We are looking to replace seven additional six-foot trees that will be displayed in the Narthex and Chapel. Please contact the church office if you are interested in participating in our Christmas Tree replacement program.

We have many upcoming events, including a charcuterie board

preparation program by the Peace Memorial Cooking Club, and the beginning of our pickleball program. Please check the bulletins, weekly newsletters, and the Messenger for more information on these and other exciting upcoming programs. As always, make sure to ask your friends and family to join us. All are welcome!

PMC Get To Know A Trustee

Theresa Graben



Hello everyone! My name is Theresa Graben and as a new trustee I've been asked to share a little bit about myself. My history with Peace Memorial Church goes back to my maternal grandparents. Some of you may remember me by my maiden name of Theresa Boone-Toolan. I was baptized at PMC and then confirmed in 2006. I remember going to church on Sundays with my grandmother and attending Sunday School. During middle school and high school, I was an active member of the youth group. I have such great memories of the youth group events such as softball, mission trips, 30-hour famines, and our weekly Bible studies. These events meant so much to me because I truly felt accepted as myself in the group. I was lucky enough to meet both my best friend and my husband through Sunday School and Youth events. I married Joe Graben in October of 2019 and the easiest thing to plan for the wedding was having the ceremony at Peace Memorial Church.

Since I have aged out of Youth Group, I have found different ways to stay connected to the church community and give back when I could. My first few years post high school, I chaperoned Youth Group events and mission trips in hopes to keep the events that meant so much to me up and running. I have been a member of the Outreach Committee and helped plan new events and revive old events. I was a member of the most recent Search Committee for our Senior Pastor and have played in our Handbell Choir. Jamie Kirscher and I have worked together to lead music for Vacation Bible School and co-direct Godstock at Tower Hill Camp.

Outside of Peace Memorial Church, I am a high school math teacher. I started my teaching career in 7th grade math for 2 years and then moved to Crete-Monee High School where I have taught for the last 8 years. My main hobbies are working out

and bowling. Joe and I bowl in a league and I am currently working on my personal training, group fitness, and nutrition coach certifications.

I am looking forward to this next chapter as a trustee. As a younger member of the Trustees, I'm hoping I can offer a valuable perspective from my generation. My church community has always meant so much to me and I would love for others to be able to experience that same thing.

Peace and Love,
Theresa

Weekly Service Attendance

January 5 (Communion Sunday)
9:30 am - 72

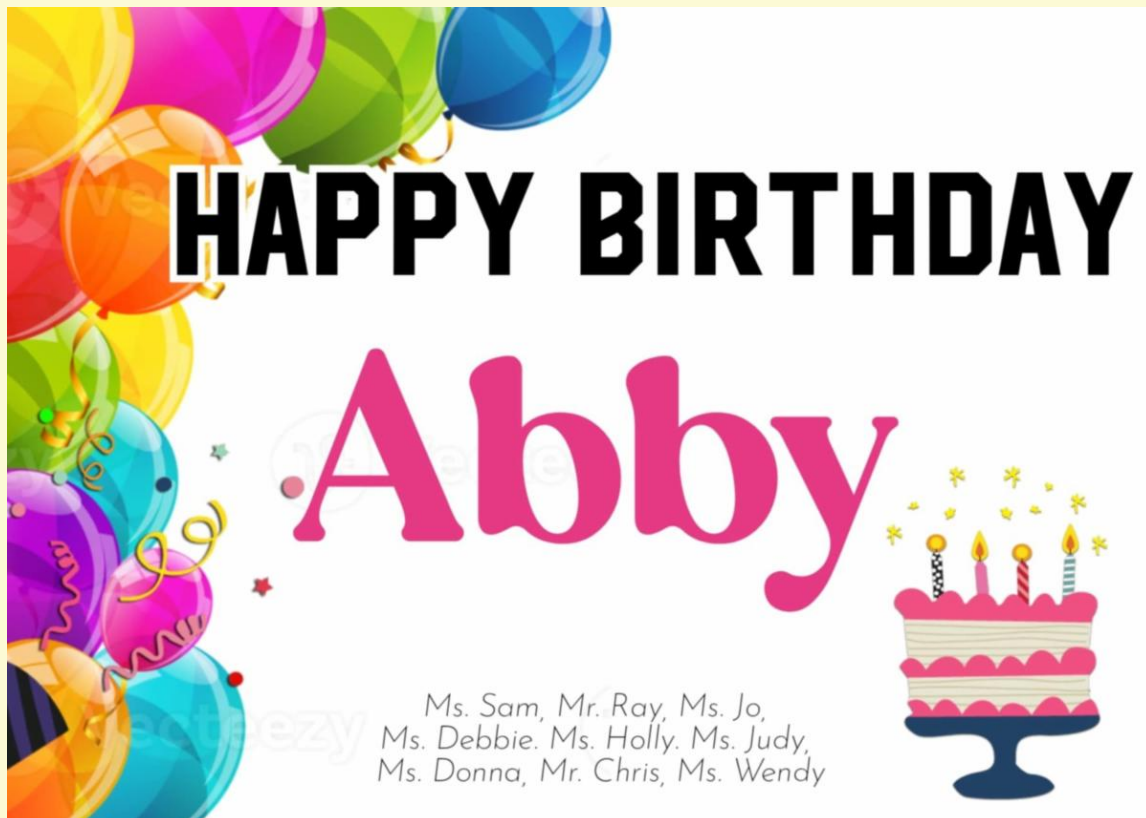
January 12
9:30 am - 47

January 19
9:30 am - 61

January 26
9:30 am - 64

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Holly Jones



Hooray! It's February! Happy LOVE month Peace Memorial! Between "Heart Healthy" month and Valentine's Day, there are hearts all over everything! How can you not feel the love?

I personally always like February as it seems to be the turning page of getting out of the doldrums of winter. Maybe it's the beauty of pretty pink and red flowers, maybe it's the brightly colored valentines... or the oversized (HALF PRICE) boxes of chocolate on February 15th! Maybe it's kicking off the month with a Super Bowl party surrounded by friends and another thing people all love: cheesy dips! Whatever you love about February, guaranteed PMC checks off one of those boxes!

We are working with our kids on a special Valentine's Day song for the morning of February 9th! After they sing their little hearts out, make sure to stop by our Peace Kids table at the Bake Sale Super Bowl Sunday! I have it on good authority there are going to be some delicious treats from our kids and their families!



We've started planning our 2025 Game Night which will take place Saturday March 1st! This fun night will once again include a D.I.Y pizza

and plenty of laughs. Mark your calendars as more information and sign up sheets are coming out! After game night, we are into the Easter season, filling and hiding eggs, eating breakfast with the Easter Bunny, and by that point, deep into the excitement of this summer's VBS! Well, that has taken us through the next several months, guess my work here is done! See you at Celebration Sunday! Any farther and I might as well put my Christmas tree back up. (Oh wait! Haha!)

My dear Peace Memorial, thank you for allowing me this corner of the bulletin, to laugh, to share MY loves. Our Peace Kids and Christian Ed have my heart, and I once again, wish you a happy heart month! ♡

Looking Ahead:

February 9th – Peace Kids singing and Super Bowl Subs & Bake Sale

February 14th – Valentine's Day

March 1st – Game Night

Community Garden



Fellow Gardeners,

It's our 9th year! Who can remember building the garden beds?! Spring begins March 20th! Time to begin planning for warmer weather. Interested in renting a raised garden bed? Now is the time to get on our list, just stop the church office, or send an email communitygarden@pmcucc.org or contact us on Facebook @ Community Garden at PMC. To support your planning our **Annual Seed Exchange is scheduled for March 29th, @ 10am in the Youth Center.** Any and all can attend, you do not have to be part of the team who will be renting beds this year. Friends, family, neighbors, Church member, community member, just show up! If you are interested in renting a **2x8 raised garden bed we ask \$25 or a 4x8 bed \$40.** These fees support maintaining the Community Garden.



Mission

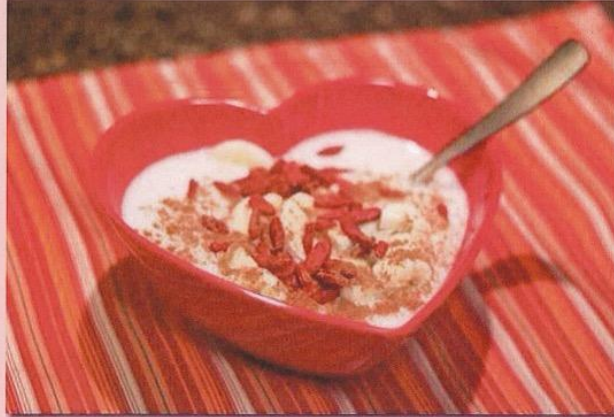
February is known as the American Heart month and dedicated to promoting heart health and raising awareness about heart disease.

So starting February 2nd thru February 23rd, we will be collecting heart healthy cereals to be donated to local pantries. This years goal is to collect over 200 boxes of cereal. Sunday, February 23rd, we will be serving cereal in addition to donuts and coffee during coffee hour. So please join us.

The members of the Mission Committee are also visiting Peace Village Assisted Living Center on February 12th at 1:00 p.m. for cupcakes and treats to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Please continue to save pop-tops to be donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

**The Heart Healthy Cereal collection begins,
Sunday, February 2nd and runs through
and including Sunday, February 23rd.**



**This annual project in February is in honor
and in memory of Louise Smith.**

**The cereal collected will be delivered to a local food
pantry. If our goal of 200 boxes of cereal is
achieved, we will deliver to two food pantries.**

Examples of Heart Healthy cereals are:

Cheerios
Smart Start
Special K
Barbara's Puffins
Kashi

Fellowship

Amanda Ambrose

The Super Bowl is right around the corner. Attending a party? Don't go empty-handed. Staying home and watching the Puppy Bowl instead? Don't worry about cooking - have a ready-made sub and a hot bowl of chili! Secure your meal and place your orders by February 2nd!

Volunteers to help make the subs on the morning of Sunday, February 9th would be greatly appreciated.

Chili Makers - We Need You and Your World-Famous Recipes! Sure, we could serve a plain jane store bought chili but where's the fun in that? Sign up to make a delicious batch to share.



Subs for the SUPER BOWL

Order forms available in the Narthex

GET YOUR ORDERS IN
Sunday February 9th
BY SUNDAY FEB. 2nd

Sandwiches will be \$6 each

ham

turkey

salami

combo (ham turkey & salami)

roast beef

**COMPLIMENTARY BOWL
OF CHILI WITH EVERY SUB
PURCHASED 🍲**

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT AMANDA HOOK!

20

SCORE A TOUCHDOWN
FOR YOUR SWEETHEART
SUPER BOWL SUNDAY
MEETS VALENTINES DAY
BAKE SALE
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9TH



FREE WILL OFFERING
BENEFITING CHRISTIAN ED

Beat the Winter Blues Dinner – We will be holding our Annual Beat the Winter Blues Dinner on Saturday February 15, 2025 starting with appetizers at 6:00 pm. Tickets are **\$15.00 per person** and this is a bit different than most church dinners. This is a get to know you event where everyone that attends loves the chance to talk to others and get to know your church family a bit better. This is a fun fellowship event that is casual and entertaining as well. Please see Kathi Graben for more information – Tickets will be available at the café starting in mid- January. We hope to see you and get to know you better.

BEAT THE WINTER BLUES

*Peace Memorial Church
Saturday, February 15, 2025*

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 \$15.00 per person.
Invite your friends to come with you!
Please contact Kathi Graben for more information**

COOKING MINISTRY



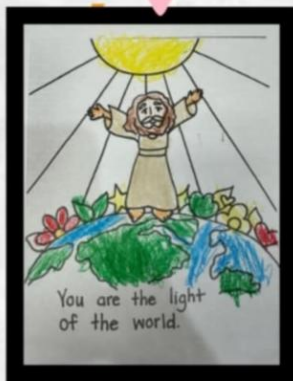
We have an opportunity for someone interested in working in-office 8-12 hours per week as Bookkeeper for PMC. Knowledge of MS Excel and any Accounting software is needed. If interested, please reach out to Diane Oremovich or Dave Cornyn.

AVAILABLE NOW

THE FAITH AND FUN COLORING BOOK

Featuring artwork by Nicole Bubash

A great Valentine's Day gift!



A Fundraiser benefiting Christian Education at PMC



\$15 for PMC members
\$20 cover price





February 2
Joanne Bockmann

February 3
James Dorencz
Jeff Korbitz Sr.
Gail Korbitz
Rebecca Mischler

February 4
Joey Sciacchitano

February 6
Luna Jefchak
Ron Rudnicki

February 7
Kenneth Miller Jr.
Adam White

February 11
Judy Dagys
Cody White

February 13
Abigail Finn

February 14
Joan Frase
Josephine Kujawa
Teryn Ostrowski

February 15
Barbara Kamper

February 18
Autumn Fijolek

February 19
Cathy Onak

February 20
Eleanor Cochonour

February 21
Harrison Gehrs

February 24
George Macauley

February 26
Emily Freund
Janet Hansen
Bettejane Jager
Hanna Johnson

February 27
Christine Ferrantelli
Rose Signore

February 28
Cheryl Channic

FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
HEART HEALTHY MONTH 						1
2 8:45 am Choir 9:30 am Communion Worship 11:00 am Confirmation	3 7:00 pm PMCMMC/ Zion Hall	4 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental 7:00 pm Bunco/chapel	5 7:00 am Volunteers	6 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 6:30 pm Foundation	7	8
9 8:45 am Choir 9:30 am Worship Super Bowl Sub sale/CE Bake Sale	10 7:00 pm PMCMMC/ Zion Hall	11 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental	12 7:00 am Volunteers 10 am B&G 3 PM PADS 6:30 pm Chapel/rental 7:00 pm CE meeting	13 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental	14	15 10 am – 4 pm Stitches/ chapel 6:00pm Winter Blues Dinner
16 8:45 am Choir 9:30 am Worship 11:00 am Confirmation	17 MESSENGER ARTICLES DEADLINE 7:00 pm PMCMMC/ Zion Hall	18 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental	19 7:00 am Volunteers 7:00 pm Trustee meeting	20 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental	21	22
23 8:45 am Choir 9:30 am Worship	24 7:00 pm PMCMMC/ Zion Hall	25 6:30 pm Zion Hall rental	26 7:00 am Volunteers	27 1:00 pm Bible study 4:00 to 8:30 Zion Hall rental 7:00 pm OES/Narthex	28	



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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Samantha Miulli
 Director of Christian Education
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Robert Mohr
 Director of Music
peacememohrial@gmail.com

Peace Village Circle Inn
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**Visit our website Peace
Memorial Church**

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page Peace Memorial
Church UCC**

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