



Your monthly news & updates

Moore thoughts . . .
Pastor Kirk's Ponderings –

50/140 years

*We've been here for a long time.
And we're still here, being the church.*

Over the course of 50 or 140 years many things have changed. It used to be that...

- The church building was the center of folks' social lives. They spent time there not only every Sunday, but also several times during the week.
- Folks didn't take off summers from Church -- they just went year-round.
- Sports, schools, and other organizations didn't schedule events on Sundays so that folks could go to church.
- After the summer was over, folks who took off church for the season came back excited for a new year.

Nowadays things are more like.

- The church building and the surrounding grounds are a community center -- People from all over the community are having events and meetings.
- Folks who are regular attenders attend church about twice a month -- and a little less in the Summer. We still have church every week and if you miss a Sunday you can always catch up watching a recording online.
- Sports, schools, and other organizations have taken to scheduling all kinds of events on Sundays -- as the times they used to have to hold

practices and events have been whittled away by other events and practices.

We really can spend our time complaining that things aren't the way they used to be. We can lament and say that if only things would be the way they used to be we'd be right back on track.

But instead, we can see continuing opportunities to be the church as we continue to live out God's vision and to look for more ways to be a vibrant and vital congregation who serve God and each other in a world where things are the way they are.

And we can invite everyone -- wherever they may be, to be part of the life of Peace Memorial Church.

We can invite folks to become members of PMC. Of course, it's not required to participate in the life of the church, but if anyone is interested in joining as a member, please reach out for a conversation with the pastor. We can receive new members during any church service.

Let's all continue to stay involved with our time, our talent, our financial support, our presence, and all our love as we seek to grow in spirit, strength, and numbers. Being the church

Continues

Pastor Kirk

August 2 (Communion & Confirmation Reunion Sunday)
9:30 am - 151

August 9
9:30 am - 51

August 16 (Blessing of the Backpacks, "Camp Sunday", Baptism)
9:30 am - 133

August 23
9:30 am - 75

August 30
9:30 am - 64

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Holly Jones



Welcome back!

Happy September! This summer seemed to go so quickly, but also seems to have held on just a little longer! I don't know if it's because our kids started school earlier, or because we had so many things packed into the last few weeks! Last month, we had our annual Blessing of the Backpacks, complete with the CUTEST school bus table set up, as we prepared to welcome a new school year! Our oldest kids started 6th grade this year (Shayne, Jane and Lily, you're going to do amazing things!) We have little ones starting kindergarten this year, and we all can hug those parents a little tighter too. There are of course the transition years for those in 5th grade and preschool, while we think of the lasts- while celebrating the new beginnings! Last month, we also gathered a group of our kids to donate the blessing bags from VBS to PADS in Homewood. It was really incredible to see all the bags stacked together, knowing they are staying in our community to bless someone in need. Sunday school formally starts back Sunday, September 20th (Celebration Sunday!) The board would like to thank Barbara Ritter for providing our curriculum for this year! Registration for Sunday School will be sent out to parents from Ms. Sam. Please make sure to fill that information out! We are looking forward to SO much in September! The "new" year always brings such excitement for our kids, and we also cannot wait!



PROGRAM COODINATOR

Holly Jones

Have you ever looked at your calendar and thought, "I need something to fill this space!" You're in luck, I have several things in September that will not only fill your calendar, but your heart as well. Before we fill up September, let's recap the full August we had! We kicked off our celebrations early last month with our all class Confirmation Reunion. Everyone in attendance seemed to have a wonderful time, and it was truly special for me to meet so many familiar names. Watching all the hugs, hearing all the laughter and all the surprised, "Hey you's", truly filled my soul with happiness. We would like to thank the Fellowship Committee for putting out a tremendous spread for coffee hour, Dennis and Judy Kirscher for working endlessly on photo boards, Kathi Graben for getting all the '50' anniversary decorations, Dave Cornyn for helping get balloons and to all the behind the scenes work that went into lugging and setting up and taking down tables, transforming the Narthex into a space FILLED with love. Get your calendar ready, we've got a LOT to cover!

- September 13th is our Anniversary Party at Silver Lake. As of this writing, we have over 150 registered guests. It's going to be a beautiful tribute and celebration!
- Saturday, September 19th is the Palos Park Autumn in the Park Festival and parade! We will once again be walking in the parade, and we have a booth reserved on the festival grounds as well. We are looking for donations of candy to throw at the parade, and we are also collecting donations of canned goods and non perishables for the Orland Food Pantry DURING the parade with our shopping cart brigade! If you would like to walk in the parade with us, please make sure to sign up in the Narthex before September 13th.
- It's CELEBRATION SUNDAY on the 20th! We have met with all the committee chairs and are planning another spectacular afternoon of fun, however, I don't know how we are going to top last year's party! Stay tuned for more information!

We will give you a week to recover, but get your steins and lederhosen ready, September 26th is our annual Oktoberfest! When we say come be a "Piece of Peace", we truly mean it! There is always something for everyone, and you are the piece we need.



Sunday, September 13th 2026

Silver Lake Country Club

Orland Park

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Cindy White

Growing Strong Through Fall: Harvests, Wildlife & New Beginnings **A Community Garden Update**

As we move into the fall season, the garden continues to flourish with vegetables still in abundance. The growing season seems to be stretching out, providing gardeners with plenty of fresh produce to harvest and enjoy.

Our wildlife cameras have also captured some interesting nighttime visitors, including deer and coyotes making their way through the area. It's a reminder of the rich variety of God's creation that surrounds us and the beauty of sharing this space with nature.

We are encouraged by the growing interest in our community garden ministry. Following several events held at the church, we have received new inquiries from individuals interested in renting garden beds for next year. It is exciting to see more people discovering the garden and wanting to become part of this growing community.

Looking ahead, we are continuing to invest in the garden's future. This fall, we will be converting additional beds to the Vego raised bed system, helping to improve accessibility, durability, and the overall gardening experience for our gardeners.

Always...The garden of Possibilities
-Cindy



OUTREACH

Kathi Graben



Car Show Celebration

August 21 was a memorable day at Peace Memorial Church as we hosted our very first car show. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the event and enjoy the more than 20 amazing cars on display.

Although the weather was uncertain, it held out long enough for a wonderful turnout. We awarded a trophy for Best in Show and a PMC Gift Basket for Fan Favorite. The Fan Favorite vote was close, but Lauren Mann took the honor with her gorgeous Mustang.

Final Food Truck Friday of 2026

The August gathering also marked the final Food Truck Friday of 2026. We extend a huge thank-you to Joey's Red Hots, Peppo's Subs, Paradise Sweets and Treats, and Cookie's Gluten Free Kitchen for serving delicious food and treats throughout the evening.

In celebration of our congregation's 140th anniversary, walking tacos were sold for \$1.40 each—and they sold out! Water was available for 50 cents in honor of Peace Memorial Church's 50 years in Palos Park.

Because of the threat of rain, we moved indoors to Zion Hall, where the Handsome Jerks kept everyone entertained with great music and energy.

Weather created a few challenges this year, but we hope you were able to enjoy at least one of our Food Truck Friday events. We are already looking forward to next year and hope you are too.

September Outreach Opportunities

September will be a busy month, and Outreach has several opportunities for the congregation to participate, serve, and share the ministry of Peace Memorial Church with the community.

- **Autumn in the Park Parade — Saturday, September 19:** We will walk in the parade, collect food donations again, and hand out candy. Candy donations are welcome for anyone who would like to help.
- **Village Green Outreach — Saturday, September 19:** After the parade, we will be on the Village Green sharing information about our church and the work we do.
- **Celebration Sunday — Sunday, September 20:** Join us as we celebrate together as a church community.
- **Oktoberfest — Saturday, September 26:** Mark your calendar for an evening filled with food, music, dancing, and fun.

Please consider joining us for these wonderful opportunities to show who we are, what we do, and how we serve our neighbors.

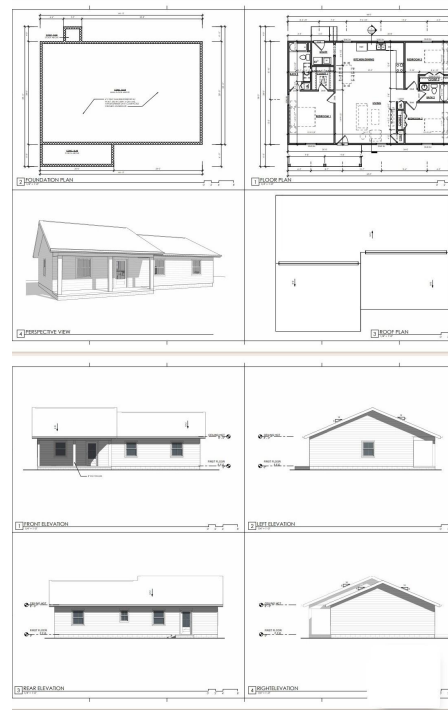


CREW

Dennis Kirscher



Greenville Homeowner family



If I had to describe the 2026 PMC CREW (Community Renewal by Ecumenical Workers) build in one word, that word would be WOW! Using one word, however to describe this tremendously successful event would be understatement to the max. To all of those who gave of their time and talents to make this event “tremendously successful” I want to offer a sincere THANK YOU! Looking back to our recent weather conditions, with repeated episodes of thunderstorms and damaging winds, we were extremely fortunate

to have great weather for the first day, “The Cut”!

On Friday August 13th, the lumber to fabricate the walls of our assigned house was delivered to the PMC Youth Center parking lot. This lumber would be sorted and with four (humming) power saws, be cut to the specifications for each of the 46 walls of the house. After cutting the lumber it was sorted and the top and bottom plates for each wall were completed. In short, we made the parts of a “model” and the instructions of how to make these parts into individual walls. It was a smooth and (successful) afternoon to say the least. A portend of the day to come?

On Saturday August 14th, dawn came with clouds and overcast with the threat, but not the presence of rain. At 8:00 we gathered for breakfast offerings in Zion Hall with over 100 eager volunteers. Instructions and inspiration from Pastor Kirk, and Corey Popp, the representative from PMC’s partner in the event *Help Build Hope*. Our intention was to begin construction at about 8:30. At 8:29:15 the rains came!! We decided to postpone the work for a bit, and the rain continued! Not knowing how long the rain would last we started building just after 9:00, and in less than an hour, the rain had stopped. The mood of our volunteers in that short period of time changed from apprehensive hesitation to total commitment to the tasks at hand. Walls were completed in record times,

inspected and loaded onto the truck which would transport them to the construction site!

To highlight our purpose, the walls of one room were erected in Zion Hall to give a visualization of what we had accomplished. We celebrated the success of this group with lunch and inspiration from Dave Diffendal of The Fuller Center, who would transport the walls to it's site in Greenville Mississippi. When completed the house would become home for a single mom with three high school and college age children.

All in all, this was possibly the best of any of the build projects PMC CREW has hosted. It was completed in record time, and for the first time we actually know who the family is that will have a new home for Christmas!

Once again, THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this event so successful. Looking forward to another success in 2027!



UPCOMING EVENTS



**We are walking in the
Palos Park Autumn in
the Park parade again
this year and we are
asking for CANDY
DONATIONS for candy to
throw at the parade!**



Parade date 9/19

Peace Memorial Church Autumn in the Park FOOD DRIVE

Peace Memorial Church will be collecting donations to benefit local food pantries! Your donations can be brought to the parade or to the PMC table on the festival grounds!

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 19TH**



**Watch for the
shopping cart
brigade!**



*Come be a Piece of Peace!

Join us for

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Sunday September 20th!

Come for worship &
stay for the FUN!

Music!
and so much more

Games!
for kids & adults

Food will
be provided

Joey's
Red Hots

Scavenger hunt
popsicles



Peace Memorial Church
10300 131st St.
Palos Park

708-448-7833
info@pmcucc.org

Peace Memorial Church

Oktoberfest

Saturday, September 26th, 5 - 9 PM

10300 W 131st, Palos Park

LIVE MUSIC by the Schnitzels,
DANCING, GREAT FOOD & DRINK!

To benefit Peace Memorial Church

Adults: \$20 Children 5-10yrs old: \$8

**50/50
RAFFLE**

BASKET



September 2
Patricia Ostrowski

September 3
Alan Kloos

September 14
Miriam Sciacchitano

September 15

September 21
Melissa Maguire

September 23
Evelyn Gleisner

September 6
Theresa Graben
Derek Hevel

September 7
Rachel Jones

September 9
Zane Gill

September 10
Jada Perry

September 11
Amanda Ferris
Eric Kuelto

September 12
Carlton Meyer
Carol Ritter

Connie Nolan
September 16
Joan Murray

September 17
Morgan Miller

September 18
Linnea Rimkus

September 19
Matthew Rudnicki

September 20
Steven Baker
Keith Koch
Debra Reed

Brooke Miller
Charley Smith
Steven Stille

September 25
Annabelle Fazekas
Mary Overbey
Susan Schneider-Misale

September 27
Michele Kiela
Lisa Korbitz
Ruth Van Hecke

September 28
Beverly Baker-Meyer
Lori Mason

September 29
Richard Przybylski
Chloe Schneider

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00 pm BUNCO	2 7:00 am Volunteers 7:00 pm Pickleball	3	4	5
6 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 Fellowship	7 7:00 pm Pickleball	8	9 7:00 am Volunteers 10:00 am B&G meeting 6:00 pm Yoga 6:30-10 Zion Hall rental 7:00 pm CE	10 6-8 pm Zion Hall rental	11	12 10 am – 5 pm Youth Center usage 3 - 10 pm Chapel usage
13 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 Fellowship 12:00 Anniversary Brunch	14 7:00 pm Pickleball	15 6-8 pm Zion Hall rental	16 7:00 am Volunteers 8- 3 LifeStyles Zion Hall 6:30-10 Zion Hall rental 7:00 Trustee meeting	17 6-8 pm Zion Hall rental	18	19 10 am to 4 pm Stitchers/ Chapel
20 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 Fellowship Celebration Sunday 12 -6 pm Pavilion rental	21 MESSENGER ARTICLES DEADLINE 7:00 pm Pickleball	22 6-8 pm Zion Hall rental	23 7:00 am Volunteers 6:00 pm Yoga 6:30-10 Zion Hall rental	24 1:00 pm Bible study 6-8 pm Zion Hall rental 6:30 Foundation meeting	25	26 12 – 5 pm Pavilion/YC rental 5 – 9 pm Oktoberfest
27 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 Fellowship	28 7:00 pm Pickleball	29 6-8 pm Zion Hall rental	30 7:00 am Volunteers 6:30-10 Zion Hall rental			



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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