



Your monthly news & updates

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY HAPPY

Pastor Judy Jones

This time of year always makes me think of “moving on”. This time of year is when we celebrate Confirmations, Graduations, and usually a lot of weddings. All these things are life-altering events in our lives. We move from one stage of our lives to another, often a very different stage and even a different setting for our lives. This year I am especially thinking of Graduations. I have had several in my life. I remember walking across the stages and receiving that paper that represented so many hours of work and study. As I graduated from High School I recall thinking “ I am now an adult”, little did I know that I had a long way to go before I was truly an independent adult. Next came the “Pinning” “Capping” and graduation from Nurses Training (notice that I am not giving you any dates that would allow you to count up my age). As I took the nurses oath I was convinced that I was done with school and that “I have become a *real* adult.” But, of course, God had other plans for me and soon there were more graduations and then an Ordination. Even after all of that I am still not convinced that growing up and moving on is ever easy, or for that matter the last step for any of us. We spend so much time looking to the end of our journeys through school, that I fear we miss the wonder and excitement of the experiences put before us. We want so much to “arrive” that we miss out on the “being there” in the moment. And then suddenly we find out that we have “moved on” and life has changed forever.

To forestall any feelings of anxiety over all the changes that come at this time of year, I would have you consider the wonder and the adventure of these changes. The young person being confirmed into the family of the Church, has been guided through the lessons and teachings that surround the history and theology of their church. The young men and women graduating from High School, do so having been prepared for the new challenges of the work place or continued education. As we watch our friends and family members graduate from institutions of higher learning, we see the future of our communities, those who will lead in business, medicine, education and science. Perhaps one of the happiest kinds of “moving on” can be celebrated with all the couples who choose this time of year to get married. They too, have had the opportunity to learn more about themselves and the

person they married. They now have a partner to go through all of life's new changes and challenges with.

For all of the people walking through these life-altering changes there are questions and fears. But there is also the sense of accomplishment and the knowledge that they did not walk through these changes alone. There were those who taught them or counseled them, those who could be seen and heard. But there was also the unseen guidance of God, through the Holy Spirit that lead them as well as their teachers and counselors

Yes, this is a time for moving on, for change, for new challenges. May you face all of them with the knowledge of God's presence on your journeys.

PMC President's Report "Advice From the Internet"

Dennis Kirscher

The internet offers many alternatives for information and entertainment and sometimes good advice. Recently, as I was cruising through Facebook, I came across an entry called "Ten Things to Let Go Of". I can't say I agreed with all 10, but there were a few bits of this advice that I found interesting and maybe helpful in looking toward our future here at PMC.

The first "let go" was your Comfort Zone. Getting out of one's comfort zone can be a difficult thing to do, but as I look back, the times I moved out of my comfort zone were the times when I experienced the most growth and productivity. One of our major goals here at PMC is to grow. We need to grow and expand our horizons. The only way we will accomplish this is to try new things, to move from our comfort zone. The comfort zone can be described as a beautiful place where nothing grows. When Christ called them, the disciples moved way out of their individual comfort zones!

Another "let go" was the need for certainty. Venturing into the unknown whether it is riding a rocket into space or that first day in a new school for a child, there is uncertainty, there is the unknown. The advice here was, venture into the unknown and find yourself! Perhaps we as a congregation need to be less afraid to move in a direction we have never before explored. When Christ called the disciples they had no idea what was ahead, but they answered the call.

Related to the need for certainty is feeling 100% ready. The advice here, "if you wait until you are 100% ready, you may be waiting forever." Sometimes moving forward without feeling 100% ready for that move is the thing to do, making adjustments as you go along can be educational. The Gospels contain a number of examples of these learning experiences.

And finally, let go of perfection! We are all human beings and as such are not perfect. We were born to be real, not perfect! Peace Memorial Church is a great place even with our imperfections. Not one of the 12 was perfect before or after becoming a disciple.

Enough negative, enough letting go. What do we need to hang on to, Trust and Faith. Trust that we will be guided into the future by the teachings of the Gospels and Faith in what we have learned from those teachings.

Weekly Service Attendance

April 2 (Communion Sunday)

9:30 am - 111

April 6 (Maundy Thursday)

7:00 pm - 45

April 7 (Good Friday)

12:00 pm - 68

April 9 (Easter Sunday)

9:30 am - 111

April 16

9:30 am - 83

April 23

9:30 am - 74

April 30

9:30 am - 125

Christian Education

Holly Jones

Spring time with our kids is a time for us to really shine and shine we do! April brought so much goodness! We kicked off the month with our Bunny breakfast, which brought quite the crowd! Our kids enjoyed a variety of games and cleared us out of all of our prizes! (Anything that lights up is always an instant hit!) We had a table of crafts, and most everyone walked away with a bunny hat! The Easter egg hunt was moved inside due to unfavorable weather but that didn't stop 30 kids from scooping up over 700 eggs in less than 5 minutes!!!

We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who yet again, made such a successful event for our kids, and our community. Whether you stuffed eggs, hid eggs, or even escorted the bunny around to make sure everyone had a photo op, we appreciate you! Thank you!

The kids treated us to a special Palm Sunday performance singing Hallelujah, Praise Ye The Lord (and looked so sweet in their robes!) Easter morning brought us a beautiful sunny day, with the trees outside Zion Hall wearing their Easter best, just for us! Samantha engaged our kids with an interactive story of Easter, lighting up the entire congregation with brilliant colors but the star

of the show was our magnificent flower cross!

Upcoming Important Dates:

- **Sunday May 21st** we invite you to our Sunday school room for an **OPEN HOUSE** highlighting all of our crafts and projects the kids have been working on! We will provide light refreshments while you get a chance to re-watch some of the Sunday morning performances.

Once again our kids will be tending their own garden box in the Community Garden. You will find us enjoying ourselves in the radish plot. ***Attention PEACE KIDS FAMILIES:** We have a tentative date to go outside in the garden for May 21st! Please make sure your children are dressed to go out and bring gloves and any gardening tools they may have! In case of a rain delay: May 28th will be our gardening day!

Our Vacation Bible School plans are underway and we are **SO** excited! Our theme for VBS is **Pets Unleashed** and will take place **July 6th and 7th** between **9 AM and 12 PM**, with special presentations scheduled for that Saturday and Sunday as well! This year we are inviting any child 3-10 years old to join us! Please be sure to see our June newsletter for ways you can help!





Bunny Breakfast 2023





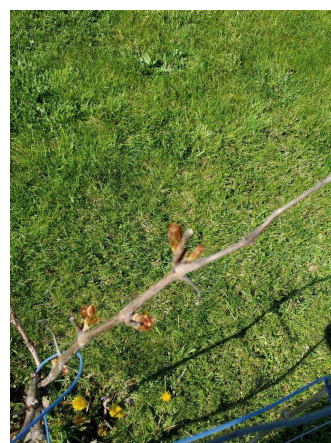
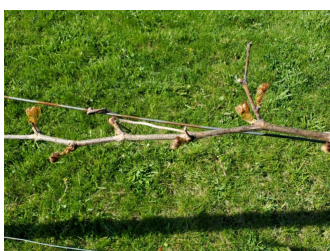
ALL CHURCH NEWS

Playground renovation underway!





Vineyard showing signs of a great season to come!



Saturday, April 22nd, Zion Hall was transformed to an artist's boutique. Thirty artists gathered to paint wine bottles with their favorite scene while enjoying charcuterie and wine tasting. Special thanks to Amanda Ambrose for her artistic expertise from Den and Judy Kirscher who hosted this event. Since it was so well received, this event will be repeated again soon.



TRADE UP YOUR SAVED UP ITEMS @ THE



RUMMAGE SALE SAT MAY 6 9 am – 3 pm

ITEMS MAY BE BROUGHT IN BEGINING SUNDAY, APRIL 16.

ALL PRE-SALES MUST BE PAID - BEFORE LEAVING THE BUILDING.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO UNPACK AND DISPLAY ITEMS ON
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3RD THRU FRIDAY, MAY 5TH FROM 10 am – 3 pm**

?’s See: * Gaile Sprissler * Jo Kujawa * Elaine Schneider

Come Join
OES (Order of the Eastern Star)
Starlight Chapter #1
at their



Held at
Peace Memorial Church
10300 W. 131st Street
Palos Park, IL 60464

Time: Noon – 3:00 p.m.
When: Saturday, May 13th, 2023
COST: \$10.00
Children under 9: \$5.00

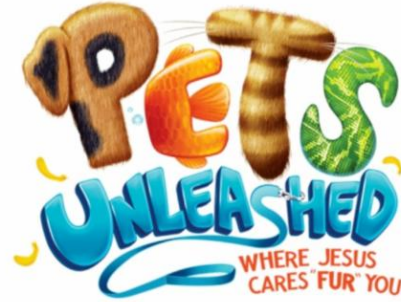
Come and enjoy the food and there will be a basket raffle too!!

If you are interested in joining us,
please contact Pam Cornyn at 815-953-9092

Tickets can also be purchased at the door on May 13th

SAVE THE DATE

JOIN US FOR
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
July 6th-7th, 2023
Special Presentations
July 8th & 9th



more details to follow

Gaile Sprissler



**...And for give us our doubts, as we
forgive our doubters.**

Perhaps we are not going to finally get to
some stable place of having it all figured out.

Throughout our lives we will go through the processes of opening to new information, integrating it, and stabilizing our worldview.

What does spiritual growth really mean to us? Most of us found ourselves on a spiritual path because we were looking for "more," because we instinctively knew that there was something beyond the material world that could sustain us, nourish us, and fill our hearts. Perhaps all of our questions aren't answered, but each day is new, and we learn and grow and bask in the glow of the Spirit.

Doubt is the feeling or state of being unsure, uncertain, or skeptical about something. In the bible, doubt was defined as essentially the opposite of faith. If one doubts God, they lack faith and in fact are in a condition of unbelief. And without belief we cannot be saved.

But doubt is an experience common to all people. Even those with faith in God struggle with doubt on occasion. Faith is trusting God even when His plan goes against human rationalizing or experience. Doubt is a valuable tool for growth and development. To continuously cultivate your knowledge and your mind, you must question and be curious about things. We all have doubts about some things.

Doubt is a positive thing and should be exercised in all religions as a part of spiritual growth. Doubt is also a form of strength within faith too.

Doubt is not the opposite of faith or open-mindedness, which is a

common misconception.

Doubt is a normal part of a life of faith because coming to faith should involve not just emotions but also our minds. To wrestle with doubt can actually help strengthen faith. Doubt drives people to study and seek resolution. It also takes people to their knees in prayer, seeking assurance of God's presence. Be accepting and comfortable in your doubts. Over time, they often change.



May 3

Brian Rudnicki

May 5

Karen Rhein

May 7

Barbara Miller

May 8

Rachel Pokorski

May 10

Maddy Clarke

May 12

Kathi Graben

Larry Graben

May 15

Zachary Fijolek

William Jerry II

May 18

Shelby Stille

May 20

Alexander Bubash

Rudy Wehofer

May 22

Kathleen Koch

Carol Landow

Christopher Schneider Jr

May 23

Francesca Miulli

May 24

Charlie Schmeltzer

May 27

Joseph Ferrantelli

Ronald Kozinski

Richard Lisak

May 31

Priscilla Hook

MAY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 7:00 am Volunteers 10-3 Rummage sale setup 3:00 PADS	4 10-3 Rummage sale setup 1 pm Bible Study 7:00 Choir	5 10-3 Rummage sale setup	6 9am – 3pm Rummage Sale
7 9:30 am Worship & Communion Sunday	8	9	10 7:00 am Volunteers 3:00 p.m. PADS 6:30 pm CE	11 1 pm Bible Study 7:00 Choir	12 Zion Hall rental	13 Zion Hall rental
14 9:30 am Worship Mother's Day 	15	16 7:00 pm Alzheimer's meeting	17 7:00 am Volunteers 7:00 Trustees	18 1:00 pm Bible study 7:00 Choir	19 MESSENGER ARTICLES DEADLINE	20 All day parking lot usage Peace Village and Carl Sandburg
21 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Worship & Music 10:45 Mission	22	23	24 7:00 am Volunteers	25 1 pm Bible Study 7:00 Choir	26	27 10 – 4 Stitchers/ Chapel 4-9 pm Zion Hall rental
28 9:30 am Worship	29	30 6-9 pm Grand Prairie Singers rehearsal in Sanctuary	31 7:00 am Volunteers			



Peace Village
10300 Village Circle Drive

Church Office Hours

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

Pastor Judy Jones

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