



Your monthly news & updates

Moore thoughts . . .

Pastor Kirk's Ponderings – November 2023

Rooted in

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season. Psalm 1:3a.

Six years have passed since the grand celebration marking the 500th anniversary of the Christian Reformation. Despite the passage of time, the transformative journey of the Church under the guidance of God continues. At Peace Memorial Church, we are committed to embodying the values of love and generosity as we navigate this journey together.

The Psalms, an integral part of the Bible, often use the metaphor of animals searching for water to describe the quest for God. In Psalm 23, we find solace in serene waters, akin to the peace sheep find in calm streams. Psalm 42 paints a poignant picture of our longing for God, reminiscent of a deer's thirst for a flowing stream. However, Psalm 1 offers a different imagery - that of a robust tree firmly rooted by the riverside. Our roots, nurtured by the boundless waters of God's mercy and love, run deep and wide, providing sustenance even in the face of uncertainty.

In challenging moments, committing to financial support, or even filling out a simple card, can seem daunting. The uncertainty that shrouds our ability to plan for the future often makes these decisions difficult. Moreover, some may carry past wounds from experiences with other religious communities, making it hard for them to trust and support anew.

So, how do we continue to fulfill God's vision for Peace Memorial Church in the year 2024 and beyond?

Our strength lies in our deep-rooted congregation and our unwavering love for God and each other. We contemplate how to be agents of peace and justice both now and in the future. How can we faithfully heed the call to love one

another and remain steadfast in our commitment to love?

It's crucial to recognize that our financial contributions reflect our values. Our actions speak volumes; we invest in what we hold dear. Despite the uncertainty that clouds our path, we persist in our commitment to being a church rooted in love for God and each other, exploring various avenues to support our ministries.

As we approach the coming year, we urge you to embrace a spirit of generosity. If you haven't received the estimate of giving, and time and talent pledge cards yet, they are available at PMC. We kindly request that you submit the completed cards by Sunday, November 12. Regardless of the amount, every contribution, every pledge, strengthens our community. We stand firm, deeply rooted in love, echoing the timeless wisdom: "Beloved, let us love one another."

Love

Kirk

PMC President's Report

Dennis Kirscher

As we head from late summer to early fall, we experience a number of changes. The weather is one of the most obvious, with days and nights becoming cooler, then colder, and daylight becoming shorter. Trees show us their fall colors then drop their foliage, and birds head south for warmer weather. All changes, all expected, and all necessary for growth, for progress, for life. Change, while sometimes welcome, can also be difficult. But change is necessary for life, for growth, for a future.

For Peace Memorial to have a future, to experience growth, we must expect changes to occur, we must embrace change as part of our future. Our recent Trunk 'N Treat Halloween event is one example of change at Peace Memorial Church. Oktoberfest, the CREW Build, the Santa and Easter Bunny Breakfasts are others. These are the type of events that convey the message "All are welcome here!" It is a message from the Bible, the answer to the question, "who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10: 28) I am looking forward to a future at PMC with more events and celebrations like these to enhance and grow our congregation.

Change for PMC doesn't necessarily mean elimination or abandonment of our history. Sunday worship will always be an integral part of our church experience, although different styles of worship and music may be helpful in bringing the Bible to a wider audience. We will continue, and hopefully expand, our missions locally. We will begin new missions. We will host new events. Perhaps

if we look at the word “change” differently, seeing it more as an evolution, it may be easier to take. We will use our history to enhance our future as we EVOLVE and move forward!

Weekly Service Attendance

October 1 (Communion Sunday)
9:30 am - 77

October 8
9:30 am - 92 (Pastor Appreciation Sunday)

October 15
9:30 am - 63

October 22
9:30 am - 62

October 29
9:30 am - 83

Christian Education

Holly Jones

I cannot believe I am writing to you about November. It seems like just last week we had an 80° day! Oh wait, that actually happened! November! The month of "thankful, grateful and blessed." In our family, November seems to fly by. There are birthdays anchoring the beginning and end of the month, Halloween decorations to take down and candy to eat! There's the BIG GAME in college football, the start of the Christmas season and tucked in there, hidden into one day is Thanksgiving. We've all heard Pastor Judy say that Thanksgiving isn't a day, it's a whole season of thankfulness. The idea of 'thankful, grateful and blessed' resonates with me specifically when I think of our church family. In October, we had many opportunities to work with each other, giving freely of our time and talents and I always feel so grateful to this community! October 8th our Peace Kids and Peace Youth walked together in the CROP Walk to end hunger. We earned over \$700 from church donations and online friends and family! That afternoon, albeit chilly, was absolutely amazing! The weather held up, the walk was beautiful and the kids stole the show by putting Pastor Kirk to work as our strolling musician! We sang along to Let it Be, the SpongeBob theme song and even an improv song about hot dogs! The mile walk was never a challenge as we had friendship and community all around us! We are all so proud of our kids!





Not a week later, we gathered again for everyone's favorite Oktoberfest! I personally want to thank everyone who helped make that night so incredible. The gift baskets for the raffle were superb, and always give me ideas for the next basket! The hard work everyone put into that evening, from moving tables, grilling delicious brats, decorating, making all our side dishes and picking up apple strudel did not go unnoticed! I think we had the biggest group for the Chicken Dance in recent history! (That's definitely my highlight of the night every year: oh and winning an ice cream lovers dream basket!!) Our children had a great time making their Alpine Hats and German cookie necklaces, and a very special shoutout goes out to everyone who helped with the craft room! Thank you!

October wouldn't be complete without our Trunk or Treat event! This year's was yet another outrageous success! The excitement built for weeks as everyone thought about what they were going to do, how much candy could we pass out, and who would win best setup! We welcomed friends, family and the community! We passed out pens, pencils and promotional materials to the community and this year's was one of the most exciting! Thank you to everyone who came out to make this such a Spooktacular event!



The board of Christian Ed would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations in support of our kids walking in the CROP Walk for Hunger!

The Jones Family
 The Hook Family
 The Fijolek Family
 Phyllis Collins
 Ashley Stille
 Mike Koch
 Lori Mason
 Tom & Gordon
 Linnea Rimkus
 Janet Hansen
 Dennis Kirscher
 Jim Keyser
 Darryl & Cathy Onak
 Carmen Vondrak
 Russ Hook
 Dave & Pam Cornyn
 The Sulek Family
 Debbie Swieringa
 Connie Nolan
 Verna Kwiatkowski
 Diane Oremovich
 Bruce Puhr
 Jo & Ray Kujawa

Mission and Spiritual Care Committee

Our annual Holiday Food Drive is upon us! As the leaves fall and we don our sweaters, it is time to think about the holidays and others. Once again the mission committee is sponsoring a food drive. Donations will be provided to local families in need as well as a local food pantry. When donating, think Holiday Meals. Our goal is to be able to provide the non-perishable items needed for a memorable Thanksgiving meal. Thanks to the generous donations previously received, the mission committee will be able to provide gift cards for the purchase of Turkey. Food donations can be dropped off in the collection boxes in the Narthex. The last day for donations is November 11th.

Thanks to all who participated in the Southwest Suburban CROP Hunger Walk 2023! It has been several years since PMC has actively advertised and participated, and 'yes' I'll blame it on COVID. But in 2023, we were ready to get out and get moving. Of the 38+ registered walkers for the Southwest Suburban CROP Hunger Walk, I would guess that 20+ were from PMC. We were blessed with a beautiful day to walk and were serenaded by Pastor Kirk and our younger members! We walked at Lake Katherine in Palos Park and spent quality time together all while raising money to fight hunger.

ALL CHURCH NEWS

Crop Walk Bruce Puhr



Thank you for all of your generous support and participation in this year's CropWalk. The final tally showed 53 walkers, and almost \$5,900 raised to assist local food pantries and Church World Service.

A special thanks to our Peace Kids led by our Director of Christian Education, Samantha Miulli, who were especially helpful in highlighting the walk with the congregation!



Oktoberfest Wrap Up

Thank you! Thank you!

To all who helped make this year's fest possible and with great results. We had over 150 adults and 12 children attend. Samantha Miulli had crafts & activities for the kids. The band always plays terrific music for dancing & sing-alongs. Our 50/50 was handled by Gail Jefchak and Lawrence Spoors bringing in \$622 with half going to the winner, Dave Cornyn. Joe Spoors was handling the basket raffle. We had over 40 baskets and 2 hand painted pictures which took in \$646.00. The food was donated by Keith, Kathy, Michael, and Liz Koch which was cooked to perfection by our grillers, Dave Cornyn and Rick Przybylski. There were brats, burgers,

and hotdogs. Over 40lbs of German potato salad made by Beverly Baker-Meyer & Marian Klemme and 5 gallons of sauerkraut was made by Rick & Jayne Przybylski, Phyllis Collins, and Gail Jefchak. Don Stille and Orland Bakery provided the apple strudel, ice cream, along with cookies. Charley Smith donated all the beer, wine and pop. Proceeds were \$3137.00 of which \$1000.00 was given to PADS. Thank you again to all who made this possible, with your time, talents, and donations.

Amanda Ambrose
Beverly Baker-Meyer
Joanne & Tom Bockmann
Phyllis Collins
Dave Cornyn
Debbie Elliott
Kathy Faulkner
Janet Hansen
Gail & Jim Jefchak
Marian Klemme
Barb & Ken Kamper
Dennis & Judy Kirscher
Keith & Kathy Koch
Michael & Liz Koch
Jo & Ray Kujawa
Lori Mason
Samantha & Eric Miulli
Orland Bakery
Pat Ostrowski
Karen & Steve Rakauskas
Kim & Dave Skala
Joe & Lawrence Spoors
Charley Smith
Don Stille
Ashley & Steven Stille
Kate Whalen
Rudy & Beverly Wehofer

Thanks again to our wonderful Landscapers for putting up all the tables, chairs, and stage.

If I forgot to mention a name, please forgive me. Last but not least, to all the members of PMC & friends for supporting this effort.

Pam Cornyn
Chairperson





Sunday, November 5th there will be a planning meeting for all committees in the chapel. We will be planning for 2024.

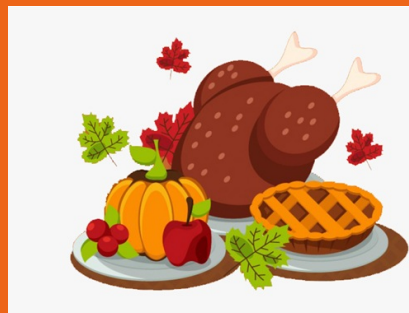
Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 19th at 11am

Potluck Dessert!

Tickets must be purchased by November 12th

Adults - \$15.00 / Children under 12 - \$7.00



Kathy Faulkner will be at "The Log Cabin Center" at 12700 SW Hwy, Palos Park on November 18th demonstrating and displaying her wood carvings. There will also be other artists displaying jewelry, pottery, and paintings.

Save the date...
Do your holiday shopping here
at The Center!

Annual Art Show

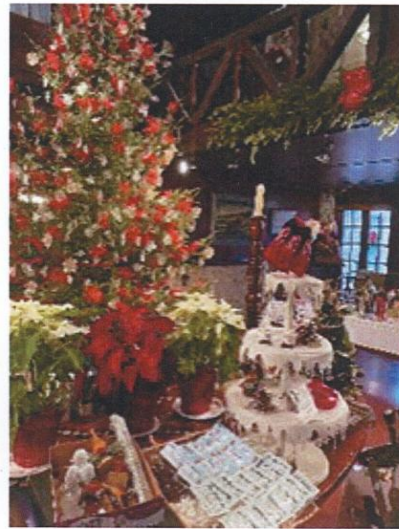
Saturday November 18, 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m.

Our biggest show of the year! Art displays by teachers and students of The Log Cabin Center for the Arts throughout the lodge and art center.

Rustic Holiday Market

Saturday December 9, 9:00a.m. – Noon

The Fellowcrafters will take over the Great Hall of the lodge with beautiful handmade holiday items, our SAGE program will have a seasonal farm stand and holiday arts and crafts will be for sale in the art center! Come on out and get some shopping done while supporting The Center!



Community Event Breakfast with Santa



Peace Memorial Church
Saturday, December 2, 2023

8:30 am to 11:30 am

10300 W. 131st Street
Palos Park, IL 60464

708-448-7833



**Pictures
with Santa**

Christmas crafts for kids



**QR CODE
PMC
Website**

FREE WILL Donations

Small Joys

Gaile Sprissler



Our internal world, the reality that we encounter within our mind and emotions, is a world that only we control and create. How we experience everything is up to us. Our reactions need not be automatic or similar to ones we had before.

It's the everyday occurrences of our lives that bring us the most joy, even though we usually expect our feelings of happiness to come from the larger events. By noticing how small things can fill our days with delight, we realize that we are constantly receiving

little happy surprises. Once we take the time to look around and witness the beauty, kindness, and laughter around us, what may seem like the ordinary everyday becomes filled with the extraordinary detail of each individual moment. If we bring this sense of awareness to our lives for even a few minutes each day, we will begin to see just how blessed we truly are no matter what may be happening in the world.

When we wake up in the morning, we can set the intention to notice more joy and watch how it fills our day. Then we'll be more apt to notice the sparkle of dewdrops on a flower petal, or the ever-changing and fascinating colors of this season. We may allow this joy to fill our heart fully, and then to spread to others, giving them joy as well.

Taking in the small joys of each day expands our feeling of being connected in the world, and these small delights can bring a deeper level of appreciation for everything the universe has given to our lives. It's not what's happening around us that determines our health, finances, or happiness, but what's happening inside of us. Keep looking, keep seeking. Never, ever find it all. Because when we find it all, we deny that there is more. And there is never not more.



November 1

Lillian Watson

November 2

Donald Urbauer

November 5

Victoria Olson
Leah Signore

November 6

Herb Zimmermann

November 7

Claire Schneider

November 8

Graham Hevel
Meghan Puckett
Bruce Watson

November 9

Gary Kwiatkowski

November 13

Thomas Hecker
Jack Puckett

November 15

Gloria Hoessler

November 16

Verna Kwiatkowski
Mason Maguire

November 18

William Bayer

November 19

Kathleen Whalen

November 20

Kathleen Horosinski

November 22

Susan Ritter

November 23

Nancy Anderson
Daniel Kallemeyn

November 25

Michael Koch
Kelly Schmeltzer

November 26

Jonathan Dagys
Dennis Kirscher

November 28

Carl B. Koch

November 29

Carl Pratscher III

November 30

Amy Hevel

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 am Volunteers	2 1 pm Bible Study 7:00 Choir	3	4
5 9:30 am Communion Sunday 10:45 Mission 11:00 am Confirmation 11:00 am All committee planning	6 7pm Zion hall- PMCMMC	7 7pm Zion hall rental	8 7:00 am Volunteers 3:00 PADS 4-8:30 Zion rental 7:00 pm CE meeting	9 1 pm Bible Study 4-8:30 Zion rental 7:00 pm Choir	10	11 11am – 5pm Zion Hall rental
12 9:30 am Worship	13 7pm Zion hall- PMCMMC	14 7pm Zion hall rental	15 7:00 am Volunteers 4-8:30 Zion rental 7:00 Trustees meeting	16 1 pm Bible Study 4-8:30 Zion rental 7:00 pm Choir	17	18 3 – 9 pm Zion Hall rental
19 9:30 am Worship 11:00 Thanksgiving dinner 11:00 am Confirmation class 1:30 chapel rental	20 MESSENGER ARTICLES DUE 7pm Zion hall- PMCMMC	21 7:00 pm Alzheimer's meeting 7pm Zion hall rental	22 7:00 am Volunteers	23 Happy Thanksgiving 	24	25 10:00 – 4:00 Stitchers - Chapel
26 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Hanging of the Greens	27 7pm Zion hall- PMCMMC	28 7pm Zion hall rental	29 7:00 am Volunteers 4-8:30 Zion rental	30 1 pm Bible Study 4-8:30 Zion rental 7:00 pm Choir		

* PMCMMC = Peace Memorial Church Monday Men's Club



Church Office Hours

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

Reverend Kirk Moore

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