



Your monthly news & updates

Moore thoughts . . .
Pastor Kirk's Ponderings –

Attendance

"It's not about the numbers."

Spoken by a pastor from any church - whether attendance is good or attendance is not so good.

Truth is – in any area, it's pretty easy to gauge the vitality of a congregation by the number of folks who are part of the worship service on Sunday morning. Fill up the sanctuary, feel the energy and the vitality; online with services and social media, feel the energy and vitality; conduct worship in a sparsely attended service - and feel the weariness and the weakness.



Most Sundays at Peace Memorial Church, we're filled with energy and vitality. The are Sundays, of course, that have less energy and vitality.

So what do we do about it all? How do we live as an energetic and vital congregation every Sunday – and all the days in between?

The most important thing to remember isn't about the numbers. It's about living out God's vision for Peace Memorial Church. It's about living out God's vision for the Church -- everywhere.

As we continue to work this summer on putting that vision, as guided by the Holy Spirit and based on the ideas we expressed in our season of visioning sessions, into a form that the whole congregation loves and lives into, we still live out the idea that we are a congregation of extravagant welcome, inclusivity, and a commitment to love and service.

And as we continue to seek God's vision, we need to be present in the community. That means joining together in Sunday worship. It means participating in other worship, social, and service events that are part of Peace Memorial Church. It also means inviting as many folks as we can to join in - in whatever way possible - our times of worship, education, prayer, praise, and fun. It means being present, as Peace Memorial Church, at events all over the community as well.

How many folks?

It's not a number. It's an attitude. When we live out God's vision, we're inviting people to experience that, too. That could mean one person, 10 people, 100 people We have a wonderful opportunity to live out God's vision and to invite lots of people to experience the church being the church.

I'm not sure who to invite.

How about this? Invite friends and neighbors who don't attend a church. Invite friends and neighbors who have told you that they don't like church. Invite friends and neighbors who said they'd attend church if it wasn't so "churchy" and judgmental. Tell them about your experience at PMC and invite them to share that experience, too. Let them know the many ways to be connected!

Then what?

Be the church. Meet and greet. Listen. Be a community that doesn't require people to get involved right away, but also doesn't stop anyone from being an important part of the community.

Love God. Love Everyone. Attend to one another.

Attending

Pastor Kirk

PMC Report

Diane Oremovich

I have been thinking about our church's faith journey. With the baptism of Micah Koch, it made me think of a child's growth in the church. The church family is tasked with sharing stories of the Bible. As they grow, they attend Sunday School, move on to confirmation, and full membership into the church. I love seeing the children grow, they amaze me and renew my faith. The music and Sunday School programs and volunteers inspire us. I hope they have a great summer off! I thank them all for not only leading us, but also inspiring us in our continuing journey of faith.

I am looking forward to seeing the church's visioning statement come together.

It has been great to hear everyone's thoughts. The statement will assist the leadership of our church for generations in focusing on the church's direction and where we want to commit our resources.

I would like to share the progress in our capital projects. The cost of these projects: the chiller \$86,000, and the Zion Hall abatement \$31,000. The projects still needing to be addressed are the flooring of the gym, lighting in the Sanctuary, and the parking lot which all fall under capital improvement. Not all of these can be completed this year as we do not have unlimited funds set aside. We will need to look at how we can fund all the projects and others in the future.

If you have any thoughts, please talk to any of the Trustees. Enjoy your summer.

Weekly Service Attendance

June 2 (Communion Sunday)
9:30 am - 90

June 9 (Baptism)
9:30 am - 101

June 16 (Father's Day)
9:30 am - 66

June 23
9:30 am - 52

June 30
9:30 am - 51

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Holly Jones



Can you believe it's July? Summer is in full swing! We all have been so busy! Vacations, fireworks, park hopping, summer reading challenges, lemonade stands, friends and of course... who could forget VBS? Christian Ed



is eagerly awaiting the kick off of our Vacation Bible School: Outback Rock July 11th and 12th! We will be taking a journey "Down Under", reminding our kids God is always with you! We will be making kangaroo washcloth crafts and stunning punch out lanterns. Last month our kids asked for donations and you came out in full force! Our boomerang sponsorships were a great success! Thank you for helping to make this VBS a hoppin' good time! Be sure to watch the bulletin and weekly emails for information on the Australian Picnic coming up Saturday July 13th and be sure to join us to view our photo highlight reel during the church service on July 14th!



ONA Russ Hook

Open and Affirming Committee (ONA) has one more event planned this summer. It will be our 2nd annual Rainbow ☐ family picnic on Sunday , August 11th from 11:00-2:00 pm by the pavilion. All church members are invited for food, fun and hopefully getting to meet visitors from the south suburban LGBTQIA+ community. More details will be in the August

Messenger.

Our next meeting will be some time in July to make picnic plans, and to discuss the purchase and placement of a Rainbow flag ☐☐ somewhere on the exterior of the building. The majority of UCC ONA churches have one on display to let the community now this is a safe space for LGBTQIA+ Christians looking for a church home. We feel it's time to let the local community now All Are Welcome!

Russ Hook
ONA Chairperson

Get to Know a Trustee

Wendy Jennings



Dear Peace Family,

I am Wendy Jennings. I live in Orland Park and have been employed at Hollander International Storage and Moving in Elk Grove Village for over 13 years. I was originally a member of Pilgrim Faith Church before moving to the Palos area. Then I found Peace Memorial. I have been a member of PMC for almost 30 years now. My girls Alicia and Noel grew up at Peace Memorial and this church became our second home. Over the years I have enjoyed being part of various committees. Currently, I am Board of Trustees Member and I am part of the Board of Christian Education. Our youth has always been important to me, so I have tried to stay involved with our youth ministries in some way. As our church grows and we recover from the pandemic, I am grateful for the community we have here at Peace Memorial and I am so excited to share it with everyone!

Peace Memorial Church, A View to Our Church's History, In 2023

Dennis Kirscher, Trustee

Wow what a year we had in 2023 at Peace Memorial Church! Our new Pastor Kirk Moore made his debut and we honored Pastor Judy for her service to PMC in the void of a settled Pastor. PMC CREW partners with Help Build Hope to construct nearly 150 walls to provide FOUR new homes for the Georgia Habitat for Humanity!

I see no surprises in the outgoing, robust character Pastor Moore exhibits. He is the person the search committee, and our congregation have been looking for. I am looking forward to new growth and new directions to compliment the established programs here at PMC under the direction of Pastor Moore. I see a great future for PMC with him leading us!

I did see a significant look of surprise on Pastor Judy's face on Sunday the 27th when we "officially" recognized and honored her for getting us through the 2 year search process. Thank you to the fellowship committee for spearheading a wonderful Bruncheon (Brunch/Luncheon) featuring elegant bakery choices cream puffs, cannoli. Eclairs complimenting Pastor Judy's "fav", Mediterranean cuisine. And again, a huge THANK YOU to Pastor Judy for her time as our Pastor!

And there was surprise on my face when I received the material list for this year's CREW build. I was asked by the director of Help Build Hope if we could build more than the two homes I had requested, he described them as much smaller than those we had built in previous builds, so I agreed. The material list told a slightly different story! Long story short PMC CREW built FOUR full sized homes so that four families would have a roof over their heads this winter. With the hard work and determination of a group of 55 volunteers, the lumber was cut labeled and sorted then the walls were assembled individually and loaded into an 18 wheeler to be transported to the Habitat sites in Georgia where they would complete the construction! THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who helped in the build and in serving the food to keep the builders going!

Looking forward on the PMC calendar, no surprises here, just more events to enjoy!

- Sunday, September 8th, Celebration Sunday when we highlight the activities of various committees and special interests here at PMC.
- Friday and Saturday, September 20th & 21st, CREW Big Build.
- Monday, September 30th, an evening of wine bottle painting (and wine tasting?) a fundraiser for future CREW events. Friday, October 11th, Oktober Fest is fun for all and supports PADS.
- Sunday, October 8th, PMC CREW annual Golf Outing and Dinner.
- Friday, October 11th, Oktober Fest is fun for all and supports PADS.
- Saturday, October 26th, Trunk 'N Treat, fun for all ages!

The future is looking bright for Peace Memorial Church UCC!

Thank You to the Christian Education Committee

Wendy Jennings

A HUGE Thank You goes out to the Board of Christian Education! What an amazing time for our Peace Children. Samantha Miulli and the Board of Christian Ed members have done an exceptional job at growing our Sunday School program and youth activities. Not only has our Sunday School attendance increased but our kids are soaking in the word of God through the lessons. This board has instilled in our children the importance of being an active member of our church family by serving our church members, our community and each other. The dedication of the members of this Board and

the volunteers to our youth activities, is a blessing to our Kids and an excellent foundation for our Church's future.

Please extend a Big Thank You the members of The Board of Christian Education: Samantha Miulli, Jo Kujawa, Ray Kujawa, Donna Kallemeyn, Holly Jones, Chris Jones, Judy Kirscher, Debbie Swieringa, Shirley Fijolek, Wendy Jennings

ALL CHURCH NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 13th is the Vacation Bible School picnic. We are opening this event up to the congregation and would love to share the food, games and activities with you. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact Samantha at [**smiulli@pmcucc.org**](mailto:smiulli@pmcucc.org) if you think you are able to come.

Sign-up will end on July 10th.



GROWTH

Gaile Sprissler



It is in our nature to grow and change. We evolve. We learn. Sometimes we shape things up with our views and opinions. That promotes more growth. As time goes on, we learn more, and that might cause us to think differently. We can make a more informed choice because of the experiences we have

had. We develop a different perspective. The important thing to remember is that we are all doing the best we can with where we are and what we know so far in our lives.

As we learn and grow, we change our minds, our opinions, and open our hearts to new possibilities. We shouldn't suppress our emotional, intellectual, and spiritual vibrancy. We are beings of light, pure energy inhabiting physical bodies, striving for enlightenment while living earthly lives. When we recognize our power, our luminosity, and our divinity, we can't help but live authentic lives of appreciation, potential, fulfillment, and grace.

Taking better care of yourself mentally and physically is not merely a matter of good health. It is a measure of spiritual evolution. Most people pay little attention to their mind or body until something goes wrong. Yet why create that kind of situation? Look at your lifestyle, habits, and acceptance of stress levels. Are you treating your being as if it is Divine. If not, why not?



July 2

Barbara Ritter

July 3

Rylee Kruse
Tasha Sulek

July 4

Adam Kueltzo
Stacy Pratscher

July 6

Cynthia Ward

July 7

David Johnson

July 8

Patricia Johnson

July 10

Charlie Mack
Gerry Przybylski
Mattison Schneider

July 12

Thomas Angone
Jacqueline Medyk

July 14

Karen Blaser
Raymond Kruse IV

July 15

Jason Schneider

July 17

Samantha Miulli

July 18

Peggy Mann

July 19

William Jerry
Darryl Onak

July 20

Scott Mason

July 21

Joseph Miulli
Deborah Swieringa

July

Alan White

July 23

Chris Jones

July 24

Thomas Kamphius Sr.
James Keyser

July 28

Elaine Angone
Kaitlyn Nestor

July 29

Beth Tooth

JULY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 ALL DAY Zion Hall rental 11-1 Lifestyles/ Pavilion usage	3 7:00 am Volunteers	4 OFFICE CLOSED HAPPY 4 TH OF JULY 	5	6 2-8 pm Youth Center rental
7 ALL DAY PAVILION/YC RENTAL 9:30 am Worship	8	9 7:00 pm Alzheimer's meeting	10 7:00 am Volunteers 10 am B&G meeting 3:00 pm PADS 5-8 pm VBS set up	11 8-1 VBS set up	12 8 – 1 VBS Youth Center/ Pavilion	13 10 – 12 VBS picnic celebration
14 9:30 am Worship VBS celebration in worship 10 am chapel rental 11 am Narthex/ Pam Cornyn	15	16	17 7:00 am Volunteers	18	19	20 10 am – 4 pm Stitchers/ chapel
21 ALL DAY PAVILION/YC RENTAL 9:30 am Worship	22 MESSENGER ARTICLES DEADLINE GOD STOCK @ Tower Hill	23 GOD STOCK @ Tower Hill	24 7:00 am Volunteers GOD STOCK @ Tower Hill	25 GOD STOCK @ Tower Hill	26 GOD STOCK @ Tower Hill	27
28 ALL DAY PAVILION/YC RENTAL 9:30 am Worship	29	30	31 7:00 am Volunteers		28	29



Peace Village
10300 Village Circle Drive

Church Office Hours

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

Reverend Kirk Moore

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