April 2025 Vol. CXVIII No. 4



Your monthly news & updates

Moore thoughts . . .Pastor Kirk's Ponderings –

Easter Sunday



Are you ready to celebrate Easter? This year we journey through Lent almost all the way through April, and then we celebrate April 20! We'll have our Easter potluck breakfast at 8:30 am, and then our Easter Celebration service with the living cross and communion at 9:30 am.

And just before that, we have our Palm Sunday service with the procession of the palms as well as celebrating confirmation on April 13 at 9:30 am. Our Maundy Thursday soup supper and service on April 17 starting at 6:00 pm with supper and 7:00 pm service. Our Good Friday Tenebrae Service on the 18th at 7:00 pm. It's a marvelous week – and we've been

preparing for the celebration for . . . well . . . 40 days!

Please join us on April 20th. It's Easter Sunday, of course, so it's a great reason to be together in worship. If you haven't been here in a while, or if you were just here last week, Easter is a great time to be in church. It's a great time to invite someone to church. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, all are welcomed here with God's extravagant, open-armed welcome and radical - beyond the ordinary - hospitality.

And in case you didn't know . . . We have church every Sunday, too.

At Easter we're celebrating Jesus' resurrection. And Easter is a big -- HUGE-deal. It's Easter that makes Christmas important. It is Easter that makes every Sunday morning a 'mini-Easter' celebration. Every time we're in worship together we are celebrating! It's Easter that gives us hope and joy as we sing praises to God. It's Easter that reminds us that Jesus came to give us life – abundantly.

So join us for worship this Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Invite your friends to come, too! Invite people at the store, at school, at the gas station, at the post office, at the bar, in traffic — invite people from everywhere to join in the celebration! Remember — we're the kind of church people would go to if they went to church, Let's continue to be the church — A vibrant, inclusive Christian community living out love, respect, and dignity for everyone.

And remember – a great time to go to church is Easter Sunday . . . and

Every Sunday

Pastor Kirk

Get To Know! PMC's Program Coordinator Holly Jones



Happy April Peace Memorial! Before we get into my formal introduction, I'd like to express my deepest gratitude for giving me the opportunity to be your Program Coordinator. I'm usually the wordsmith, but this consideration and recognition has left me speechless. I am truly honored and am looking forward to working with all of you to make your events as big as we dream them to be.

I'm Holly, but you can call me "Hol". You will usually find me with my sunglasses on top of my head and an iced coffee attached to my hand. I was raised in the O'Hare area and moved to Tinley Park with my family 20 years ago. I went to Western Illinois to study law enforcement. I wanted to go into the FBI. What can I say? "Miss Congeniality" was big at the time, but decided that Moraine Valley was a better fit for my business administration needs. After moving to Tinley Park, I met Chris Jones and together we share our magnificent 9 year old daughter Rachel. She is my absolute greatest joy! I have been beyond blessed to live out my life's dream of being a stay at home mom for the last 5 years! My tag line has

always been "Every Day is a Holly-Day," and I strive to make the endless love and exuberance of a holiday part of every day.

I started my relationship with PMC in 2017, when Pastor Judy found a new church to call home. We started coming specifically on event days and that didn't sit well with me. I didn't want to just come for the fun days! (Although, that first Bunny breakfast, I'm pretty sure Rachel was in everyone's pictures!) After we made the choice to attend more regularly, I knew I wanted to be deeply involved. My heart immediately went to Christian Ed, knowing that Rachel would be growing up and confirmed in this church and I have served on the board since 2019. Within the last 2 years, I have taken to writing for the messenger and just recently started a spotlight for our wonderful Peace Kids. I never imagined there would be a spotlight on ME! You've probably also seen my antics in trying to get 'just the right photo'. I'm always the one behind the camera, trying to capture every moment. When I'm not standing on a picnic table for a shot, I also love shooting nature photography and have found spending time at Lake Katherine is good for my soul.

I am very excited to take on this role, not only does it pair all of my favorite things (an endless supply of colored Sharpies, an organized calendar full of events and unlimited potential for greatness) but I have been recognized by all of you for all the talent God has given me throughout my whole life. Thank you PMC for helping me realize MY greater mission!

Weekly Service Attendance

March 2 (Communion Sunday) 9:30 am - 81

March 5 (Ash Wednesday) 9:30 am - 24

March 9 9:30 am - 65

March 16 9:30 am - 95

March 23 9:30 am - 73

March 30 9:30 am - 69

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Holly Jones



Another amazing April article! What great alliteration! I love April, it's my birthday, both my mom and mother-in-law's birthdays, and of course, this year Easter! All good reasons for beautiful flowers, cake and celebrations! There is so much coming up this month with our Peace Kids and Peace Youth, but first, (March 1st to be specific) we need to marvel at our amazing game night! This year was one of our most successful

with over 70 people in attendance. Collectively, we made 34 pizzas to feed our hungry game players and enjoyed ice cream sundaes and cupcakes for dessert! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who came out but especially to our pizza makers Dennis and Judy, and to Joe and Lawrence Spoors for their generous donations of fabulous cupcakes and Rice Krispie treats!

The treats aren't stopping there! April 5th is our annual Bunny breakfast and Easter egg hunt! Our pancakes are the best around, and every-bunny knows that! Hop in from 8:30-11:00am, make sure to bring your appetites and your baskets! This year you helped us fill over 850 eggs! We can't wait to see our kids smiles this weekend! There's still time: please hop over with some-bunny special!

Once again our Peace Kids will be making Easter baskets to donate to the Crisis Center of South Suburbia. Our Sunday School families have generously donated candy to add to the baskets, which were also donated. (Pictures to follow on Facebook and in next month's Messenger).

Palm Sunday is our Confirmation and this year's confirmands have worked diligently with Pastor Kirk in serving our church already with scripture reading, ushering and helping as needed. Early congratulations to Charlotte Haase, Shawn Roorda, Joey Sciacchitano!

Just in case there haven't been enough Peace Kids sightings this month, our kids are also singing Easter Sunday! This time, there's a twist: they are singing WITH our choir! We are so excited for this collaboration!

And finally! Are you ready to Dive into a Friendship with God? Our VBS registration opens soon and this year we are so excited to take our kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never ending love of God. Mark your calendars for July 10th and 11th, and be on the lookout for more information!

This took us through April, and you know what that means.... April showers bring May flowers...even though April brings its own host of flowers!

Happy Spring Peace Memorial!











Community Garden



In preparation for our growing season we observed our community garden beds had begun to show signs of deterioration. Our projection 9 years ago, when the garden was created, was it would last 7-10 years. This deterioration has been expected, and for a couple of years, with the challenge being in the forefront on our annual planning. Recently we finished our research, selected our solution and planned to implement a change that will last longer than current cedar beds. Our plan will utilize Vego - metal garden beds. These beds are 100% non toxic have rounded corners and smooth edges to protect hands, plants and little ones. Our 24 beds will be converted over the next 3-5 years. We are pleased to communicate this early spring we converted 3 garden beds and have targeted several others after the growing season this fall. This conversion project has been funded by the revenue collected each growing season and will continue to be self-funded. This year we added a mailbox filled with all the tools that each gardener will need to be successful. This accessory joins our lending library which provides gardening books for beginners and experts to make the "Garden of possibilities" an elevated experience. And remember, each growing season our gardeners visit our church campus, enjoy our garden at least once a week, return home, and tell their family and friends about their positive experiences and our church's mission.







COOKING MINISTRY

On March 8th in Zion Hall – the Cooking Ministry hosted a Charcuterie Class. Cindy White & Kate Whalen were able to share tips with participants on how to assemble a board. Everyone had a great



time. Look for a future event coming in June/July 2025.



















ALL CHURCH NEWS

We want to thanks everyone that was flexible with the Winter Blues Dinner and came out on March 15 to enjoy an evening of Fellowship, Food and FUN! Thanks to the fellowship and outreach committees for all that was involved for this get to know you event! Looking forward to more fun next year!

















PMC Peace Pickleball



Pickleball has started! - Wahoo!!!!

This will be a place and time for us to: have fun, meet people, learn about and play pickleball.

Tuesday and Thursdays: 10:00am-2:00pm - Open Play Thursday evenings: 6:30pm-8:30pm - Open Play

Please contact Alan & Cindy White or Ruth Van Hecke if you are interested in playing or just come and join us!





AMALABLE NOW THE FAITH AND FUN COLORING BOOK

Featuring artwork by Nicole Bubash





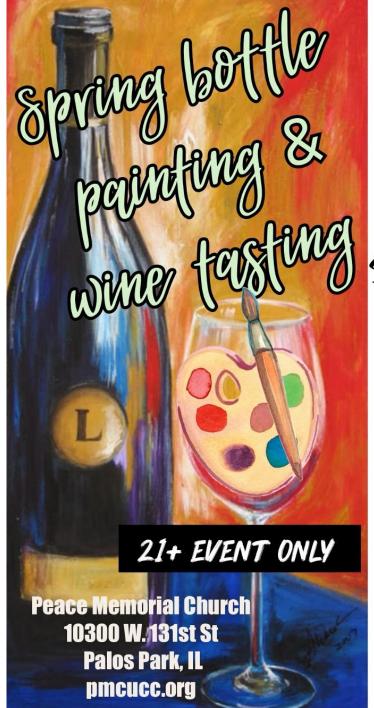


A Fundraiser benefiting Christian Education at PMC



\$15 for PMC members \$20 cover price





Join us Friday April 11th 7:00pm

\$30

includes bottle, paint supplies & instruction

\$8 wine tasting

Find a wine you liked? Have a glass or two!

Complimentary charcuterie and sweets

Any questions? Contact Dennis Kirscher

Email: info@pmcucc.org

Proceeds to benefit PMC CREW

RSVP by April 6th







April 20th

8:30am*

We will provide bacon, sausage, eggs and fruit! *Please have your dishes ready to serve in Zion Hall by 8:00am

Sign up sheets in the Narthex or on signupgenius.com

See Mandi Ambrose for more information



April 1
Eleanor Gehrs

April 2
Theresa Kamphius
Sarah Zuniga

April 13
Carol Baumler
Tom Bockmann
Eric Miulli
John Robbins
Sydney Wasyliw

April 20 Emily Kutz

April 21 Halle Mack

April 24

April 4
Mark Rimkus
Stacey Swieringa

April 5
Judy Jones
Chris Schneider Jr.

April 8 Holly Jones

April 12 Lori Rudnicki April 16 Joe Graben Cassidy Medyk James Murray

April 17Gail Jefchak
Debbie Jerry

April 18
Phyllis Karner
Lawrence Ostrowski Jr.

Maria Nestor Brett Nolan

April 26 Henry Freund Elliott Hevel

April 27Marsha Bockmann

April 28Beverly Wehofer

APRIL 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 ALL DAY Voting Zion Hall 7:00 pm Bunco/chapel	7:00 am Volunteers 6 pm Choir	3 10 – 2 Pickleball 1:00 pm Bible study 6:30 p.m. Pickleball	4	5 8:30 Breakfast with the Easter Bunny 1 pm Youth Center rental
6 9:30 am Communion Worship 10:30 am Annual Congregational meeting 11:00 am Confirmation 11:00 am Chapel	7 7:00 pm PMCMMC/ Zion Hall	8 10 – 2 Pickleball	9 7:00 am Volunteers 10 am B&G meeting 10 am PADS 6 pm Choir 7 pm CE meeting	10 10 – 2 Pickleball 1:00 pm Bible study 6:30 p.m. Pickleball	5 pm – 10 pm Bottle Painting Zion Hall	12
9:30 am Palm 9:30 am Palm Sunday Worship & Confirmation Zion Hall rental Chapel rental	7:00 pm PMCMMC/ Zion Hall	15 10 – 2 Pickleball	7:00 am Volunteers 6 pm Choir 7:00 pm Trustee meeting	17 10 – 2 Pickleball 1:00 pm Bible study 6 pm soup- supper 6:30 p.m. Pickleball 7 pm Maundy Thursday service	MESSENGER DEADLINE 7 pm Good Friday Tenebrae service	19 10 am – 4 pm Stitchers chapel 4 pm Youth Center rental
20 8:30 Easter breakfast 9:30 am Easter Sunday Worship	7:00 pm PMCMMC/ Zion Hall	22 10 – 2 Pickleball	23 7:00 am Volunteers 6 pm Choir	24 10 – 2 Pickleball 1:00 pm Bible study 6:30 pm Foundation 6:30 pm Pickleball 7 pm OES	25	26
27 9:30 am Worship with Pastor Judy	28 7:00 pm PMCMMC/ Zion Hall	29 10 – 2 Pickleball	30 7:00 am Volunteers 6 pm Choir			



Peace Village 10300 Village Circle Drive Palos Park, IL 60464 (708) 361-6091 Roger EllensCEO/Executive Director

Peace Village Circle Inn (708) 671-2470

Peace Memorial Church 10300 W. 131st Street Palos Park, IL 60464 Phone (708) 448-7833 Fax (708) 448-0824

Church Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

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

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Visit our website Peace Memorial Church Visit our Facebook page Peace Memorial Church UCC

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