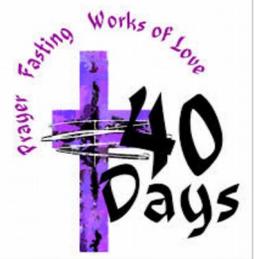




# PEACENOTES

## March



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Peace United Church of Christ, 37 East Swartzville Road, Denver, PA 17517

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### PASTOR'S PAGE

In his book, *Velvet Elvis*, Rob Bell tells the story of having his bill paid at a restaurant.

We were finishing our meal when I noticed that the waitress brought our check and then took it away and then brought it back again. She placed it on the table, smiled, and said, 'Somebody in the restaurant paid for your meal. You're all set.' And then she walked away.

"I had the strangest feeling sitting there. The feeling was helplessness. There was nothing I could do. It had been taken care of. To insist on paying would have been pointless. All I could do is trust that what she said was actually true and then live in that. Which meant getting up and leaving the restaurant. My acceptance of what she said gave me a choice: to live like it was true or to create my own reality in which the bill was not paid.

"This is our invitation. To trust that we don't owe anything. To trust that something is already true about us, something has already been done, something has been there all along.

"To trust that grace pays the bill."

That is the Easter Story – Christ doing for us, dying on the cross for us, setting us free to live as the children of God. And his action leaves us with a choice – to receive this gift gratefully or walk away and ignore the greatest gift we have been offered.

May we use the Lenten Season to study and reflect and prepare our hearts to receive once again God's gift of love and grace. And may we be prepared to pass that gift on to others – without expectation of recognition or reward.

Pastor Bill

### MID WEEK LENTEN SERIES

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. **The Parables of Lent** will be the theme for this year Lenten Series. Services will begin at 7:30 and the following is our schedule:

March 1 will be at Peace UCC with Mike Roney preaching

March 8 will be at Trinity UMC with Brad Haws preaching

March 15 will be at St. John's UCC with Bob Smallman preaching

March 22 will be at Swamp Christian Fellowship with Phil Horning preaching

March 29 will be at Gehman's Mennonite Church with Jeff Hain preaching

April 5 will be at Emmanuel Evang. Cong. Church with Bill Hoch preaching

**Holy Week evening worship services will be offered at Peace Church for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Services will begin at 7:30.**



# Peace United Church of Christ

## Church Council Officers 2017

Chris Fitterling, *Council President*  
John McDonough, *Council Vice-President*  
Jim Anthony, *Council Secretary*  
Margaret Harting, *Financial Secretary*  
Mike Madara, *Treasurer*  
John Haldeman, *Administrator*

### ELDERS

Chris Fitterling.....717-336-3038  
Cindy Anthony.....717-335-2643  
Pat Acebo.....717-575-1155  
Mary Getz.....717-484-2216  
Dan Hall.....717-484-4658  
John McDonough.....717-569-5835

### DEACONS

Jim Anthony.....717-314-2208  
Kristine Butz.....717-484-0817  
Deb Hedrick.....717-799-9472  
Barb Hoffert.....717-445-7448  
Mark Kline.....717-989-4381  
Amy Miller.....717-484-1948  
Jeff Moyer.....717-484-4737  
Vicki Wissinger.....717-823-3446

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### HEAD USHER

Amy Miller

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### ALTAR GUILD

Edie Graff  
Dixie Schweitzer

\*\*\*\*\*

### GREETERS

**March 1** Jim Gress  
**March 5** Ken Leshner  
**March 12** Mel and Marian Gerhart  
**March 19** Vicki Wissinger and Dave Dowhower  
**March 26** Erla Hartranft

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### ALTAR FLOWERS

**March 5** Mrs. Richard L. Fisher  
**March 12** Bev Martin  
**March 19** Betty Leisey  
**March 26** Harvey and Esther Schlouch

\*\*\*\*\*

**The deadline for submitting articles for the April issue of Peace Notes is March 20th.** Please put your information in the hanging folder labeled "Peace Notes" located on the office desk or email it to: [secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org](mailto:secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org)

Thank you! This email address can also be used for information to be printed in the Sunday bulletin.

## March Birthdays

- March 1 Lois Haldeman
- March 2 Jimmy Dorsey
- March 4 Heidi Sunday
- March 5 Allen Garner  
Susan McIlmoyle
- March 6 Stephanie Shahade  
Olivia Moyer
- March 8 Karen Sweigart
- March 10 Kathy Strunk
- March 12 Ann Englert  
Cindy Anderson
- March 13 Carolyn Wolverton  
Pat Hall
- March 14 Bertha Adair  
Ralph Good
- March 15 Melissa Burky  
Allyson Butz
- March 17 Daniel Wolf
- March 18 Karen Pannebecker
- March 20 **Maxine Burky\*\***
- March 26 Stacy Burkey
- March 28 **Arlene Styer\*\***  
Virginia Tobias
- March 30 **Gene Huston\*\***  
**Ella Mae Shupp\*\***
- March 31 Dan Hall

**\*\* Special Care and Concern Member**  
Please remember these members with a card that can be placed in the birthday box in the Narthex.  
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## March Anniversaries

- March 4 Harvey and Esther Schlouch  
Brian and Susie Strouse
- March 8 Jay and Stacy Burkey
- March 17 Don and Sue Calhoon
- March 19 Andrew and Stephanie Shahade

\*\*\*\*\*  
Did we miss your birthday or anniversary this month? Was your information incorrect? If so, please send the correct information to [secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org](mailto:secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org) or place a note in the Peace Notes envelope on the desk in the office.  
\*\*\*\*\*

# thank you

Thanking my Peace Church family for all the cards, prayers, flowers, emails, messages and meals. Thank you also to Pastor Bill and Janis for the ER and home visits. I truly feel cared for at Peace Church. I will be back at church as soon as I am able.

*Sheree Wolf*

To Peace Church Family,  
Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and the wonderful luncheon provided. Special thanks to Pastor Bill for his many visits and his consoling prayers and kindness. Kathryn loved her church and church family. May God Bless you.

*Marvin Fitterling  
Karen and Art Pannebecker*

Thanks to everyone who said prayers & for those who sent cards to me, and to Terry & Sue, in memory of Sally Fasnacht. Thank you Pastor Bill, for officiating at the funeral service.

*Larry Fasnacht & family*

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During the month of March Peace Pantry will be collecting supplies for the Back Packs for the Children's Ministry Sunday School Lenten Project. We will need pencils, crayons, notebooks, pencil cases, folders, crayons and binders.

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### MUSINGS

by Lois Haldeman

Has this ever happened to you? Actually, I hope not, but here's my story...

A few days ago, I purchased a few bananas. Just a few, mind you, because I knew that we were leaving on vacation and if I bought a large amount, they would not all get used. I hang them on a "banana hanger" on my kitchen counter because they seem to ripen more evenly and not spoil as quickly. Well, to make a long story short, they somehow got lost in the rubble on my counter and spoiled before I had time to use them. Monkeys everywhere would not have been happy with me....

As I didn't seem to have enough time to even make banana bread, I did have time to ruminate on the lesson to be learned here: *Don't let anything spoil, as it can happen very quickly.*

The same, then, goes with my relationship with God. I know for certain that when I go "silent" with God even for a few days, my connection with the Lord suffers and can "spoil". It needs constant attention to that connection with the Lord to keep it healthy, nurtured, and "unspoiled".

From now on, I am really going to make a more conscious effort to keep this lesson in mind when I buy bananas. Oh, and also with my close connection with my Lord. May you do the same.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ALTAR GUILD



The Altar Guild will be taking orders for Easter Lilies on Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> before and after the 10:30 worship. The cost is \$8.00 for a 5-6 bloom plant. The Easter Lilies will be in the church sanctuary for

Easter Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>



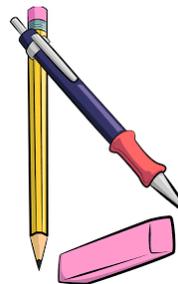
The Altar Guild will be preparing the palms for Palm Sunday on Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am and will be placing the Easter Lilies in the church sanctuary on Friday April 14<sup>th</sup> after the Good Friday evening services.

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### SUNDAY SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT BACKPACKS OF LOVE



During Lent the elementary and middle school/youth classes will be buying and filling backpacks for homeless students for the Homeless Student Project in Lancaster Pa. All during Lent the children and youth will be collecting supplies to fill the backpacks. These items include pencils, crayons, notebooks, pencil cases, folders, crayons and binders. A collection box will be available for items contributed by the congregation to the project.



The Benevolence Committee has supported the effort by a donation towards the purchase of backpacks. Our goal is to have at least 40 backpacks with supplies at the end of the Lenten period. The need is for backpacks for students of all ages, but particularly for high school age students. Both

classes will participate in packing the backpacks and will personally take them to the Homeless Student Project on Prince Street in Lancaster following Easter.

You will be seeing backpacks lining the classroom hallway as a reminder of what the Sunday School is hoping to accomplish. Signs and bulletin boards will also be reminders. Showing love and care for those experiencing homelessness as an expression of Christ's love is an important lesson for all of us this Lenten season.



On February 26 during the church service students from Amy Miller's classroom will be sharing a bit more about the Project. Please plan to support the Sunday School and this project throughout the Lenten Season.

Thank you,  
Children's Ministry

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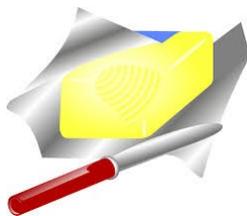
### PEANUT BUTTER EGGS



The youth will be selling homemade peanut butter eggs. A box of 16 eggs (approximately 1 lb) costs \$7. Please place your order on the form hanging on the office window. The eggs will be available for pick-up in the Fellowship Hall on April 2, 2017 after both contemporary and traditional services.

We need YOU to help the youth make 2500 Peanut Butter Eggs on Saturday, April 1. We will be starting at 9am and working until all eggs are boxed and counted. Please feel free to stop by the church anytime throughout the day to help roll the eggs, coat the eggs, trim the eggs, and box the eggs. Any and all help is appreciated.

If you are unable to help make the eggs but still want to help the youth, we are asking for a few donations of ingredients. We need 4 pounds of butter and 25-8oz cream cheese.



There is a sign up sheet on the office window to donate these items. Please have items at the church by March 31.

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### ADULT MINISTRY - SAVE THE DATE



Peace Choir has been invited to sing God Bless America at the **June 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm Barnstormers vs the Long Island Ducks** game. We are blessed to be seated in a suite overlooking home plate with a catered buffet containing

the following delectable entrees: pulled pork, smokehouse sausage, smoked sausage, pasta salad, potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw, cornbread, fresh fruit, assorted desserts, sodas, water and tea —all of this for \$32 for adults, \$23 for children 5 to 12. The gates open one hour before the game and fireworks follow the game.

**Please come and support our choir.** We have space for 70 people so it's fine to invite family or children to attend. We need to have signups no later than **May 28** with the required money. A signup sheet is posted on the office window.

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### HARTMAN CENTER



Registration for this summer's camp Branching Out is now online. Those who register by April 1<sup>st</sup> will get a discount if at least half of the camp fees are paid.

<https://www.hartmancenter.com/summer-camp/camp-schedule/>

There are extra camping pamphlets at the church. You can register online using the above link.

We are leading an inter-generational camp during the 2nd week of the camping season. We look forward to sharing Hartman Center with parents, grandparents and children. Hope you can join us

the week of June 25th to July 1<sup>st</sup> for half or all of the week.

There are also many other camps to choose from.

Please let us know if you have any questions about Hartman Center.

The Butz Family

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**MARCH 26, 2017**

Adult Ministry is planning a trivia challenge on March 26 at 5:00 pm in the fellowship hall. We are asking members of the congregation to form teams of 8 to play the challenge which will consist of 10 rounds of different categories. Each category will consist of 10 questions. The teams must come up with one answer per question. The answers will be collected after each round and each correct question will receive one point. There will be prizes for the winning team.

Teams may consist of church members, family, neighbors and friends. If you want to play but don't want to put together a team, there will be a sign up sheet. We will make sure that you are put on a team.

We are asking that challengers bring treats to share. Adult Ministry will provide a dessert following the play.

Please start putting your teams together (12 is the minimum age). There will be a charge of \$5 per person which will be used to finance the projected roof project. Please sign up your team as soon as possible.

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Life Line Screening will be here at Peace United Church of Christ on Thursday, March 16, 2017 offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health and to live longer for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these potentially life-saving tests today.

To register for your screening and to receive a \$10 discount, please call – 1-888-653-6450 or visit [www.LifeLineScreening.com/community-partners](http://www.LifeLineScreening.com/community-partners).

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**PEACE UCC COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

Attendees: Pastor Bill Hoch, Chris Fitterling, Dan Hall, John McDonough, Cindy Anthony, Pat Acebo, Amy Miller, Vicki Wissinger, Mark Kline, Kristine Butz, Deb Hedrick, Barb Hoffert, Jim Anthony, John Haldeman, Mike Madara.

Excused: Jeff Moyer, Mary Getz

President Chris Fitterling brought the council meeting of Peace United Church of Christ to order on Tuesday, February 14, 2017. Pastor Bill started the meeting off with devotions and prayer.

**Review of last month's minutes** – A small clarification was provided - The roofing that needs replaced is all the asphalt roofing around the building, not just that on the Sanctuary. There are small amounts of asphalt roofing on the overhangs around the doors, and around the perimeter of the

building. Pat Acebo made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Barb Hoffert seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Treasurer Mike Madara presented the financial report for the month of January.

Some endowment fund CD’s have come up for renewal. Council decided to roll them over and continue them for the same term as before.

Mike spoke with BB&T about the new \$20/month fee that we saw assessed on us last month. This fee has apparently been waived since BB&T bought out Susquehanna Bank but will now be a monthly fee assessed to the former liquid CD accounts.

Cindy Anthony made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report as presented and Kristine Butz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACCOUNT BALANCES as of 01/31/2017	JANUARY
FUNDS SUMMARY	ENDING BALANCE
CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$2626.61
MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	-\$3047.51
<b>GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT (COMBINED)</b>	<b>-\$420.90</b>
CAPITAL HOLDING ACCOUNT (LIQUID CD)	\$25133.54
MEMORIAL FUND (MMA)	\$11584.68
YOUTH FUND (MMA)	\$2248.35
PETTY CASH	\$75.00
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>	<b>\$38620.67</b>
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT CHECKING	\$3195.18
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT LIQUID CD	\$16078.33
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19273.51</b>
ENDOWMENT CHECKING (RESTRICTED USE)	\$4868.83
ENDOWMENT LIQUID CD (RESTRICTED USE)	\$31711.72
ENDOWMENT CDS (RESTRICTED USE)	\$106027.30
MONEY FUNDS (CETERA)	\$7469.77
MUTUAL FUNDS (CETERA)	\$156829.74
<b>ENDOWMENT FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$306907.36</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE</b>	<b>\$364801.54</b>

**Administrator’s Report** - John received the quote for our lawn care for this year. It includes a small increase.

We will be trying a different schedule with the organ tuner for slightly less frequent tunings at Phyllis's recommendation. We will try it and see how it goes.

The large cross on the front of the building may need some maintenance. Some of the fiberglass coating on it is lifting. John will have someone look at it to provide recommendations on whether we need to do something about it.

**Pastor’s Report** - The Church will be receiving 6 new members on February 26. The community dinner is February 23.

We are still waiting to hear information from the Senior Center. The building was inspected and we will receive our certificate of occupancy from the township, but we haven’t heard anything since.

The Library Book Sale will be April 17-22.

The Church entered into the new process to look for a student pastor.

**Marketing Report** - A few projects are being worked on pertaining to visitor experience when they arrive at our building. More information will be available later. There is a meeting scheduled for February 15.

**Children and Youth Ministry Report** -The Lenten Project will be a backpack project providing school supplies for students in need in the Lancaster School District.

**Spiritual Council Report, Budget and Finance Report, Faith Exploration Report, Health and Welfare Report** – No Reports

**Benevolence Report** - \$200 was requested to be donated to the Lenten project. Council unanimously approved this action.

**Adult Ministry Report** - Adult Ministry will be providing the refreshments for the Ash Wednesday service. They will be hosting a trivia challenge event on March 26. It will cost \$5/person to enter. There will be a trip to a Barnstormers game where the Choir will sing.

**Altar Guild Report** - Memorial money has come in and acknowledgments sent for Richard (Toby) Tobias, Sally Fasnacht and Kathryn Fitterling.

The Peace Pantry for March will be the supplies for the Backpacks for the Children's Ministry Sunday School Lenten Project.

The Altar Guild will be selling Easter Lilies Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$8.00 for a 5-6 bloom plant

**Youth Report** - There is a lunch scheduled for February 26. The menu will be Chicken Parmesan, Spaghetti, and Salad. The Mystery Dinner went well and brought in \$500 profit after all expenses were paid.

**Old Business** - The Network Equipment has been installed and is working properly.

Windstream was out to upgrade our internet speed. We were not paying a competitive rate in our previous agreement and our speed is now 20x faster for approximately the same cost.

The Capital Campaign proposal was presented to Council. Dan Hall made a motion to proceed with the campaign and John McDonough seconded. Motion carried.

**New Business** - As was mentioned last year, the computers in the office need to be replaced soon. The most cost effective option would be to build the hardware ourselves. The end of life date for Windows Vista is April 11 2017 and we need to have new computers in service by then. These computers have been in service at the Church for 10 years, and the new computer cost estimates are

designed so that they last 10 years before they need replaced. The approximate cost for a computer that meets our needs will be \$600 a computer, and we need 2. There was \$1000 budgeted to get us started with this expense for this year. John McDonough made a motion to approve this additional expenditure and Kristine Butz seconded. Motion carried.

The Federal Government auctioned off the frequency blocks that are used by our wireless microphones, and we will need to purchase new microphones by approximately next summer. This will cost approximately \$1000-1200 for both microphones.

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, March 14, 2017. Being no further business, John McDonough motioned to adjourn and Vicki Wissinger seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Anthony - Council Secretary

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## March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Ash Wednesday 7:30 pm Mid week Lenten Service  <b>Art &amp; Karen Pannebecker</b>	<b>2</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal  <b>Ron &amp; Carol Parker</b>	<b>3</b>   <b>Lori Patterson</b>	<b>4</b>   <b>Brent Porter</b>
<b>5</b> 8:30 am Contemporary Service 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Traditional  <b>Ray &amp; Bobbie Kunkel</b>	<b>6</b> 6 pm Benevolence 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  <b>Audrey Priga</b>	<b>7</b> 1 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Health and Welfare  <b>Ben &amp; Katie Priga</b>	<b>8</b> 7:30 pm Mid week Lenten Service  <b>Steven &amp; Rebecca Priga</b>	<b>9</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal  <b>Nancy Reese</b>	<b>10</b>   <b>Dale &amp; Donna Reinhart</b>	<b>11</b>   <b>Margaret Robinson</b>
<b>12</b> 8:30 am Contemporary Service 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Traditional 11:35 Youth Luncheon  <b>Clara Roland</b>	<b>13</b>   <b>Fred &amp; Sally Romich</b>	<b>14</b> 1 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Spiritual Council 7:00 Church Council  <b>Carol Sanders</b>	<b>15</b> 7:30 pm Mid week Lenten Service  <b>Allen &amp; Cheryl Schlouch</b>	<b>16</b> Lifeline Screening 7 pm Choir Rehearsal  <b>Harvey &amp; Esther Schlouch</b>	<b>17</b>   <b>Dan Schweitzer</b>	<b>18</b>   <b>Dixie Schweitzer</b>
<b>19</b> 8:30 am Contemporary Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 am Traditional  <b>Eric Schweitzer</b>	<b>20</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  <b>Jane Schweitzer</b>	<b>21</b> 1 pm Bible Study 7pm Marketing  <b>Richard &amp; Vickie Schweitzer</b>	<b>22</b> 7:30 pm Mid week Lenten Service  <b>Andrew &amp; Stephanie Shahade</b>	<b>23</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal  <b>Mary Shober</b>	<b>24</b>   <b>Hans Shollenberger</b>	<b>25</b>   <b>Keith &amp; Linda Shollenberger</b>
<b>26</b> 8:30 am Contemporary Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 am Traditional 5 pm Trivia Night  <b>Myles Shollenberger</b>	<b>27</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  <b>Ella Mae Shupp</b>	<b>28</b> 1 pm Bible Study  <b>Fred Stauffer</b>	<b>29</b> 7:30 pm Mid week Lenten Service  <b>Randy Stauffer</b>	<b>30</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal  <b>Mary Jane Steely</b>	<b>31</b>   <b>Mike &amp; Bobbie Jo Steffey</b>	



Peace United  
Church of Christ

37 East Swartzville Road  
Denver, PA 17517

Return Service Requested

### **March Events**

**March 12<sup>th</sup> – Youth Luncheon – 11:35 am**

**March 26<sup>th</sup> – Trivia Night – 5:00 pm**

Peace United Church of Christ  
37 East Swartzville Road  
Denver, PA 17517  
(717) 484-4400

Contemporary Service 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.

Rev. William E. Hoch, Pastor  
pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org  
(717) 335-0387

Beverly Madara, Editor  
secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org  
(717) 484-0895

**March 2017**