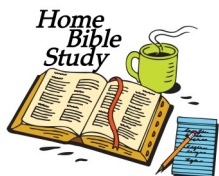




February 2025 Newsletter



Bible studies here at Peace Free Lutheran Something for everyone!



Our Home Bible Study groups are currently working through a multi-part study called *The Fruit of the Spirit; Love, Joy, and Peace*. The current times and locations are listed below. Come and enjoy a relaxed evening with other members of our church family going through the Word.

First Monday of the Month

Home of Greg and Wendy Leitch
Reynoldsburg
Starts at 7:00 p.m.

Second Sunday of the Month

Home of Barb Jauert
Canal Winchester
Starts at 7:00 p.m.

Third Sunday of the Month

Home of Tim and Emily Haverfield
Pickerington
Starts at 6:00 p.m.



Our Wednesday Family Bible night will continue through February 19th. The study is from 7:00-8:30pm, with a light meal beforehand at 6:30pm. We are going through a seven-part video series that gives an overview of the book of Genesis and is titled: *“The God Who Creates.”* Nikki Hall is leading the children’s activities. Come and enjoy fellowship with God in His Word!

And last but not least, we have the Ladies Daytime Bible study every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m., the Men’s Breakfast/Bible Study on the second and fourth Saturday of every month at 8:00 a.m., the Women’s Evening Bible study on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., and our online Bible reading program using the YouVersion Bible App.



“A Bible that’s falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn’t.” - Charles Spurgeon





Candlemas

“Then God said, ‘Let there be light, and there was light.’” – Genesis 1:3

“Come, house of Jacob, and let us walk in the light of the Lord.” – Isaiah 2:5

“In Him [Christ] was life, and the life was the LIGHT of men. The LIGHT shines in the darkness, but the darkness did not comprehend it. ... There was the true LIGHT which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.” – John 1:4,5,9

Pastor Steven Carlson

Jesus said, “I am the LIGHT of the world.” – John 9:5

“Candlemas Day” is on February 2nd. Sorry Punxsutawney Phil, but this day was first celebrated as “The Feast of the Presentation” by the historic church as a holiday commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem, forty days after His birth, as recorded in Luke 2:22-40. We usually rush these days along and observe this the week after Christmas or soon after, but it actually occurs on February 2nd. It was Candlemas Day which officially marked the end of Christmastide-Epiphany in many cultures. So, if your neighbor still has Christmas lights and decorations up, perhaps they were waiting for Candlemas!

While poor Phil is out shivering in the cold gloom of early morning darkness, looking for his shadow, the Candlemas tradition was to light every candle in the house and to have a joyous feast. Some churches also held a special Candlemas Service in which people were invited to bring all of their candles which they had stored up for the coming year to the church for a blessing upon them. It is also this time of year in the northern hemisphere that we gladly notice that the sunlight (when that is seen in Ohio!) hours are finally beginning to lengthen. We welcome the light to come and drive out the darkness!

Light has always been central in the message of God! It is interesting to note that Genesis begins with darkness, but God speaks light into the darkness and the creation of life begins. Throughout the Scriptures, God uses light as a symbol of life. Jesus declares that He is the “LIGHT of the world.” There is no denying the darkness in our world today. If we are honest, we also see the darkness of the old nature within us. Thankfully God speaks forth His life-saving LIGHT and calls us out of the darkness, and into His glorious LIGHT of life! The world around us does not understand its own enslaving darkness, nor does it comprehend the life-giving LIGHT of Christ. The world is spiritually blind.

It is no coincidence that when Jesus declares, “I am the LIGHT of the world” in John 9, that He was in the midst of healing a blind man. Jesus does the miracle of opening the eyes of the physically blind, but the greater miracle that Jesus does is the opening of the eyes of the spiritually blind and healing souls!

After Phil sees, or does not see his shadow, he goes back into hibernation for a time. He is no doubt glad to get away from the crowd of spectators, etc. and to get back to sleep in the darkness of his burrow. For those who follow Jesus, whose eyes have been opened by the LIGHT, we are not to go back into the darkness of the burrow of our old life, but rather to live in the newness of the LIGHT of Christ. Jesus declares to us, *“You are the light of the world, ... Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:14a,16)*

Jesus has gathered up His candles and blessed them, so that we might shine brightly to the glory of God throughout this year!

Go, light the world!

Pastor Carlson



Pastor Steven Carl-

February "Love" Sermons

During the first three Sundays of February, I am preaching on LOVE!

This Sunday, we will find Jesus attending a wedding. It should be no surprise that God loves weddings, as marriage was first instituted by God. Adam and Eve were the first couple to be married, and God performed the marriage in the Garden of Eden! The text is **John 2:1-11** and is the account of the wedding at Cana. But we will discover that more deeply, it is about Divine Love and the wedding feast of the Lamb. I have titled it: "**The Water, the Wine, and the Why.**"

Ephesians 5:21-33 is our text for February 9th as we look at "**Love & Respect in Marriage.**" Not only does God give the keys to a successful marriage, but again, we also find God speaking to us about the love relationship between Christ and the Church.

On February 16th we will center on **Proverbs 5:15-20** as we look at the "**Passionate Love of Marriage.**" Solomon (who should have taken his own advice) writes to his son about marriage and how love is to be exclusive, exhilarating, and enduring.

These are important messages for us all to hear, whether married or single, young or mature, divorced or widowed, thinking of marriage or not. As our culture is so confused about these matters, we need to be clear. And, as love is treated so cheaply in our culture, we need to champion and celebrate it in a godly way.

Above all, Jesus loves you deeply, and desires to have an eternal relationship with you!

God's Valentine Gift

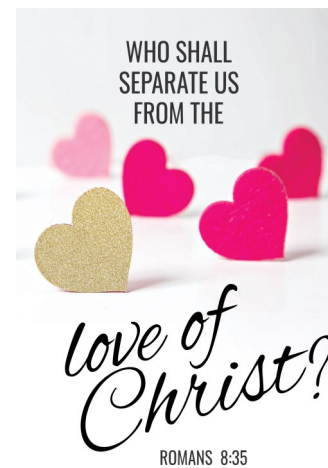
God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.

His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.

He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.

So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.

-Unknown



The pew cushion project is complete! All of the beautiful new cushions have been delivered and placed on the pews. Thank you so much to all who donated to this effort. The cost is now completely covered and so we do not need further donations to the pew cushion fund.



First Service (8:00 a.m.)
 February 2 Micah Haverfield
 February 9 Laurie Haverfield
 February 16 Andy Young
 February 23 Will Voigt

February Acolyte Schedule

Second service (10:30 a.m.)
 Eli Hess and Becky Mosher-Wheeler
 will alternate



FROM THE COUNCIL

- Pastor Carlson gave thanks to all those who made it possible to have 2 services on Christmas Eve, as we had over 200 people in attendance between the two. The Advent Devotionals were also a blessing. He is continuing to visit congregants at home, but we have had many in the hospital as of late. The deacons are a great help! He is planning on a “preaching class” for those men who would like to participate. We continue to have visitors almost every week. He is working on plans for the Lenten season, classes, etc.
- The Finance Committee reported the income is still ahead of expenditures. The Rase Scholarship fund is up from last year as well. The recommendation was made to not let the CDs rollover, but to put them on the money market which is paying more right now.
- The Property Committee reported that some of the cap shingles on the church roof had to be replaced after a storm. The snow blower was repaired, a flow switch was replaced on the church boiler system, and the fire alarm inspection was completed. Mike Richardson will be covering the week of 1/27.
- The Stewardship Committee prepared and distributed the 2025 donation envelopes. There was no meeting in January.
- The Parish Life Committee reported on December activities, which included a lunch for those who did the Christmas decorating, providing cookies/light refreshments after the children’s Christmas program, and the church Christmas party, which was a big success! A calendar of Parish Life activities for the year is in progress.
- The Social Concerns Committee reported the we were able to help 3 children through the Adopt-A-Family program. Hats and mittens were also taken to CW Human services. A sign up sheet is now available for volunteers to help at the Foundation Dinners. The PDHC baby bottle campaign is underway. Kristin Garrabrant from PDHC came to speak during Sunday School on 1/19. Half of the Christmas Eve offerings were donated to PDHC.

February lectors

February 2

8:00am—Logan Haverfield
 10:30am—Jim Addonizio

February 9

8:00am—Wendy Leitch
 10:30am—Stephanie Fox

February 16

8:00am—Amy Murray
 10:30am—Debbie Williams

February 23

8:00am—Andy Young
 10:30am—Pam White



Peace Free Lutheran Church Financials Through December 2024

General Fund Income:
\$243,389

General Fund Expenditures:
\$221,492

**A copy of the council Minutes
 and Finances can be obtained from the
 church office.**



You are cordially invited!

There will be a wedding shower for Coral and Kaleb here at the PCC on March 1st from 12pm - 2pm to celebrate their upcoming marriage on April 5th. All are invited to come and celebrate this special time, as the two of them share one of God's greatest gifts to us!



** the couple is registered at Target and Amazon



Valentine's Day Spaghetti Dinner



Come celebrate Valentine's Day with your church family at the youth sponsored Valentine's Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, February 8th at 6 p.m. in the PCC. All proceeds will go toward sending our youth to the 2025 FLY Convention. Sign-up sheets for the dinner, as well as for a carry-out option (pickup from 5-5:30 p.m.), are on the back table in the sanctuary and in the PCC. You can also email the church office at secretarypeacelutheran@gmail.com. Please let us know by February 4th if you plan to attend, or would like to use the carryout option. Donations of desserts, spaghetti and salad dressings would be appreciated. They may be placed in the donation box under the back table in the sanctuary. Hope to see everyone there!



Hoggy's Mac-n-Cheese

From the kitchen of Janene Addonizio



Ingredients:

- 16 ounces cottage cheese (1 1/2 cups)
- 4 ounces dry elbow macaroni, cooked, drained (2 cups)
- 4 ounces mostaccioli rigati, cooked, drained (2 cups)
- 16 ounces sour cream(1 1/2 cups)
- 2 eggs (beaten)
- 24 ounces cheddar cheese, coarsely shredded

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. Cook pastas together until al dente.
3. Drain pasta and set aside.
4. Combine cottage cheese, sour cream, eggs, and cheddar cheese in a large bowl.
5. Stir in pasta and transfer to a 13-by-9-inch pan.
5. Bake until golden, about 40 minutes.

ENJOY!



From Kristin Garrabrant, PDHC Community Outreach Coordinator

Did You Know.....?

Sandra Cano, the "Mary Doe" of the Doe vs. Bolton 1973 Supreme Court abortion decision, was a pro-life Christian. On March 23, 1997, she declared these memorable words: "I am Sandra Cano. I became known as Mary Doe when the U.S. Supreme Court released Roe v. Wade's companion decision, Doe v. Bolton, which allowed abortion for virtually any reason. I am against abortion; I never sought an abortion; I have never had an abortion. Abortion is murder. For over twenty years, and against my will, my name has been synonymous with abortion. The Doe v. Bolton case is based on deceit and fraud. I stand today in this place of healing, the National Memorial for the Unborn, and pledge to the memory of these innocent children, that as long as I have breath, I will strive to see abortion ended in America."

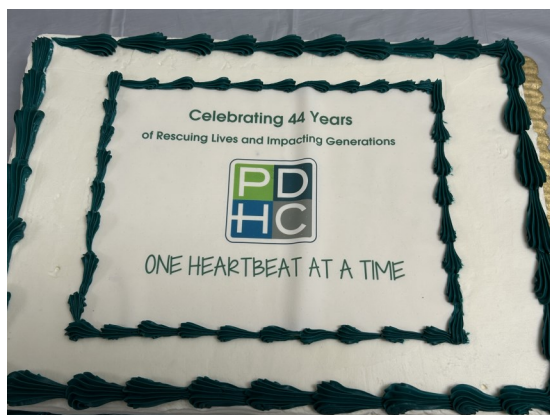


Kristin Garrabrant

In January we were blessed to have Kristin Garrabrant with us here at Peace. She gave a presentation during Sunday school about the PDHC ministry. She also thanked our congregation at both worship services for our partnership with PDHC and invited us to the Ribbon Cutting/Open House on January 30th to celebrate their new Lancaster facility at 3030 Columbus-Lancaster Rd. NW. Several of our members were able to attend this event and see this new prime location!

At the Open House, a topic of discussion was a growing area of ministry for them which is the "Abortion Pill Reversal." Opportunities in this area will grow even more as abortion pills are now readily dispensed over the counter at drug stores, through the mail, and in some states, in simple vending machines. Many women will take this pill out of panic, fear, and desperation, but then realize the dreadful consequences of it, and seek to reverse it. This is possible if done quickly!

Last year PDHC helped people from 46 different zip codes. The ministry is reaching far and wide and the hope is that they will have even more success in the future. Thankfully, as of the last week or so in January, they are finding that they are no longer censored on social media!



PDHC Ribbon Cutting/Open House



We launched the PDHC "Bottles For Life" baby bottle campaign on Sanctity of Life Sunday. You can help out by taking a baby bottle and filling it with cash, coins, or checks. Please return the baby bottle to the church by Sunday, February 16th. If you would like to donate online, please go to <https://form-renderer-app.donorperfect.io/give/pregnancy-decision-health-centers-pdhc>. Thank you for your generosity and support of this life-saving event. We are pleased to be part of this essential ministry!

Save the
Date



2025 Parish Life Activity Schedule

January:

Parish Life Meeting – 1/12 at 11:30am

February:

Help with Spaghetti dinner/Bingo – 2/8 at 6:00pm

Parish Life Meeting – 2/9 at 11:30am

March:

Parish Life Meeting – 3/9 at 11:30am

Fifth Sunday Potluck - 3/30 at 12:00pm

April:

Parish Life Meeting – 4/27 at 11:30am

May:

Ladies Day Luncheon - 5/3 at 12:00pm

Parish Life Meeting – 5/25 at 11:30am

June:

Men's Cook Out – 6/7 at 12:00pm

Parish Life Meeting – 6/22 at 11:30am

Fifth Sunday Potluck - 6/29 at 12:00pm

July:

Parish Life Meeting – 7/13 at 11:30am

August:

Parish Life Meeting – 8/10 at 11:30am

Church Picnic – 8/17 at 12:00pm

September:

Labor Day Hot Dog give away – 9/1 at 10:30am

Parish Life Meeting – 9/14 at 11:45am

October:

Parish Life Meeting – 10/12 at 11:30am

November:

Parish Life Meeting – 11/9 at 11:30am

Pie Social – 11/26 at 8:00pm

Church sanctuary decoration/lunch - 11/30 12:00pm

December:

Parish Life Meeting – 12/7 at 11:30am

Christmas party/White Elephant – 12/13 at 3:00pm

**Events/times are subject to change



To our loving and caring church family I send you my heartfelt thanks for your prayers, cards, calls and support given to me during my recent surgery. All have been very much appreciated. Looking forward to being back with you. God Bless, Marilou Poling



Welcome to our newest member!

Nicole and Sean Hierl welcomed baby Jack on January 27th at 2:39pm. He was 8 lbs, 8 oz and 21 inches long. Mom, dad, and baby are doing well. Grandparents Tim and Shari Householder are pretty thrilled too. Congratulations to the Hierl family!



Spend the Year in Scripture

The One Story That Leads to Jesus reading plan will guide you through the entire Bible in one year. Each day, you'll read a few chapters—or occasionally skim through large genealogies or census sections—as you make your way from Genesis to Revelation.

Meditate on the Psalms

Each day's reading features a psalm for you to meditate on through quiet reflection and prayer. By the end of the year, you'll have read through this entire book of biblical poetry more than twice.

Videos for Learning

Before you dive into a new book of the Bible, we'll share an overview video that outlines the structure of the book and its central themes. In addition to these overview videos, we have also included many of our newest theme videos that explore topics found within each reading section. Follow the hyperlinks found in the readings for easy access to the videos.

Extra Reading Opportunities

Our team is working on a growing collection of articles, guides, and other resources to help you learn more about specific ideas introduced throughout the Bible. We've hyperlinked these resources throughout the reading plan to give you the option to dive deeper into a book or theme.

Overview Posters

Want to download or print a copy of each book's overview? Overview posters are available [here](#).

To support our work and learn more about our growing library of free resources—online Bible classes, podcasts, apps, articles, and more—visit bibleproject.com.

No.	Month	Day	Book	Ch.	Psalm	Video	Book Guide	Article
The Covenant at Mount Sinai								
32	February	1		8-10	32	Loyal Love		
33	February	2		11-13	33	Faithful		
34	February	3		14-15	34	The Law		
35	February	4		16-18	35	Biblical Law		
36	February	5		19-20	36	Torah Series: Leviticus		
37	February	6		21-23	37	Sacrifice & Atonement		Animal Sacrifice? Really?
38	February	7		24-25	37 and 38			
39	February	8		26-27	39	OT Overviews: Leviticus		
The Wilderness								
40	February	9	Numbers	1-4	40	Torah Series: Numbers	Numbers	What Does the Book of Numbers Teach Us?
41	February	10		5-7	41			
42	February	11		8-10	42			
43	February	12		11-13	43			Old Rituals & New Realities
44	February	13		14-16	44			
45	February	14		17-18	45			
46	February	15		19-21	46			
47	February	16		22-24	47			
48	February	17		25-27	48			
49	February	18		28-30	49			
50	February	19		31-32	50			Israel's Rebellion in the Wilderness
51	February	20		33-34	51			
52	February	21		35-36	52	OT Overviews: Numbers		
53	February	22	Deuteronomy	1-3	53	Torah Series: Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy	
54	February	23		4-6	54	Shema / Listen		What's the Meaning of the Jewish Shema Prayer in the Bible?
55	February	24		7-9	55	YHWH / Lord		
56	February	25		10-12	56	Ahavah / Love		
57	February	26		13-14	57	Lev / Heart		
58	February	27		15-16	58	Nephesh / Soul		
59	February	28		17-20	59	Meod / Strength		
60	February	29		21-23	60			

Craft Two: "Christ in my Heart"

You will need:

- Paper, paper plates, or cardstock
- Scissors
- Tissue paper, cut into squares
- Popsicle sticks
- Glue and/or tape
- Ribbon or string (optional)
- Decorative materials (markers, fabric paint)



Procedure:

1. Cut the paper or paper plate into a heart shape.
2. Glue sections of the paper at a time, or place glue over the entire heart.
3. Working in sections or over the plate, place crumpled tissue paper pieces onto the glue.
4. Add additional decorations as desired.
5. Glue the popsicle sticks into a cross shape, and place the cross in the center of the heart.
6. If desired, add a string or ribbon to hang the heart as a decoration.






Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Worship Committee meeting 10:00am
2 Worship Services with Holy Communion: 8:00am & 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am	3 Leitch Home Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	4 Women's Daytime Bible Study Lunch at Senior Center- 11:30am Bible Study in PCC- 1:00pm	5 Family Bible Night dinner 6:30pm, Bible Study 7:00pm	6	7	8 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8am Deacons Mtg 10:00am Spaghetti Dinner 6:00pm
9 Worship Service 8:00am & 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am Parish Life 11:30am Youth Second Sunday Grp 12pm Jauert Home Bible Study 7:00pm	10	11 Women's Daytime Bible Study Lunch at Senior Center- 11:30am Bible Study in PCC- 1:00pm Women's Evening Bible Study 6:30pm	12 Family Bible Night dinner 6:30pm, Bible Study 7:00pm	13	14	15
16 Worship Services 8:00am and 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am Haverfield Home Bible Study 6:00pm	17 Stewardship Meeting 6:30pm	18 Women's Daytime Bible Study Lunch at Senior Center- 11:30am Bible Study in PCC- 1:00pm Council Mtg 7pm	19 Family Bible Night dinner 6:30pm, Bible Study 7:00pm	20	21	22 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00am
23 Worship Services 8:00am and 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am	24 Newsletter Submissions due	25 Women's Daytime Bible Study Lunch at Senior Center- 11:30am Bible Study in PCC- 1:00pm Women's Evening Bible Study 6:30pm	26 Prayer Meeting 7:00pm	27	28	



**Peace Free
Lutheran
Church**



**28 Elm Street
Canal Winchester, OH 43110
Phone: 614-837-6689
www.peacecw.org**



FEBRUARY
BIRTHDAYS

1st Adam Money penny
2nd Perry Staffan
5th Rick Rickrich
5th Terra Baker
5th Gene Skaggs
6th Mike Steiff
8th Marilou Poling
9th Margot Fenner
12th Earl Staffan
13th John Pabst
14th Sadie Carlson
15th Winnie Minor

15th Alyssa Richardson
20th Charles Dietz
21st Sean Money penny

22nd Larry Dowler
23rd Gabriella Gugliemotto
25th Lois Crawford



FEBRUARY
ANNIVERSARIES

26th Mary Phyllis Bethel
26th Bethany Muller
26th Lisa Schacht
28th Paul Alspach
29th Robyn Coleman

1st Bill and Nancy Kishel
14th Carl and Margaret Tucker
14th Bruce and Marge Tamte
15th John and Linda Frank
20th Gene and Sue Skaggs
22nd Steve and Amy Voigt
24th Jim and Maily Van Sickle