

The Beacon

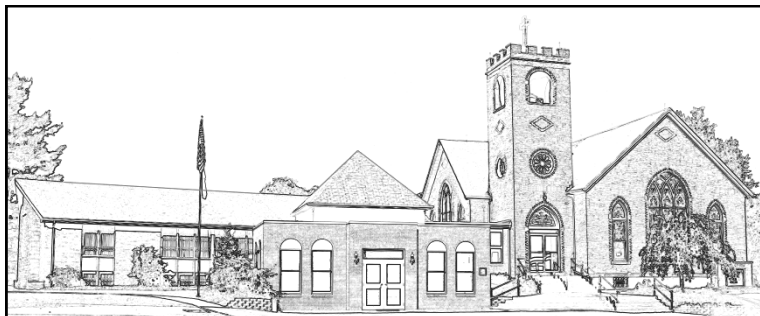
June, 2026

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Cross-Lit Church

10581 Day Hill-Arnheim Rd
Georgetown, OH 45121

Ministers, All Peace Lutheran Members

Pastor Laura Shreffler
Phone: 937-446-2747



United States Semiquincentennial What is That?

We will commemorate the United States Semiquincentennial—250th birthday of the signing of the Declaration of Independence—on Saturday, July 4, this year. Peace will celebrate the 250th birthday on Sunday, July 5. We will have one service that will begin either at 10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. The ELCA is providing worship resources which we will utilize as well as songs and hymns that are patriotic and that praise God for his blessings. We will also have an Affirmation of Christian Vocation in Civic Life.

Our church musicians will all be involved. We would like to assemble a choir for a simple anthem for the day. We will have a sign-up sheet for those who would like to participate. We also would like to have a picnic or dinner after church, depending on the weather. Our question is how many people already have family plans and how many would like a picnic/carry-in.

If you have questions or ideas, please see anyone from the Worship & Music Committee: Tara Woods, Joy Creighton, Ron Tracy, Pastor Laura, Cheryl Phillips, and Sue Bohrer. If you would like to join the committee to help plan, please let Tara or Pastor Laura know. We hope to celebrate the love we have for our country.



Church Work Day

The Church Council has set 9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 13, as a work day for the church. We need help with mulching and cleaning up the outside of the church, cleaning up the gazebo, sealing the wooden gazebo furniture, taking care of needs inside the church, and fixing what needs fixing. We will have sign-up sheets with tasks. Thanks for your help, and pray for sun!



Father's Day

We will have a Blessing for Fathers and talk about fathers on Father's Day, Sunday, June 21. We thank all of the men of our church—fathers, grandfathers, uncles, sons, father figures—who have passed down the faith to others. Please remember to pick up your Father's Day gift from Dorcas Circle after worship.

The Cross-Lit Church - Faith, Hope and Love

Remember in Prayer

George and Dixie Beltz
 Bobbie Blevins
 Rt. Rev. Thomas E. Breidenthal
 Brittany Brown
 Sandy Brown
 Brent, Carol and Alisha
 Dorothy Carrington
 Lilly Combs
 Kendal Conley
 Melissa Dahlheimer
 Chris Davis
 Michelle and Craig Dick
 Family of Kathy Forsee
 Aiden Fowler
 George Fowler
 Missy Freeman
 Michell Grey
 Judith Harp
 Pastor Scott Henning
 Dorothy Hibbs
 Judy Huber
 Josh Humble
 Lydia Humble
 Family of Diana Sorrell Hyde
 Donna Johnson
 Family of Michael Kabler
 Bill Kidwell
 Marlene Kress
 Ronald Land

Angela Lauders
 Milly Leach
 Roxanne Malone
 Cynthia Marks
 Colt McKee
 Yolanda Meeker
 Esther Miller
 Estel Newberry
 Dorothy Orr
 Brenda Reed
 Tom Reifenberger
 Karla Ritchie
 Family of Amanda Roush
 Nicki Seip
 Brooks Shupert
 Linda Sue Stephan
 Danny Stephens
 Family of Nikki Tracy
 Bob Verville
 Dana Voight
 Brent Wilson
 Holly Wilson

**Prayers for Homebound and Those in Care Facilities**

Cameron McCall (at home)
 Esther Miller (Monarch Meadows, 937-205-7658)
 James Wagel (at home)

Serving in the Armed Forces

Kaleb Boyer, Gordon Ellis, Michael Glass, Nicole Hatfield, Houston Henize, Daniel Kelch, Tom Mays, Tyler Thomas, Ryan Thornton, Jake Davis, Elijah Lawrence and Adam Vogel

Senior Member Birthdays

Janice Blum (9-Jun)
 1564 E Logan Ave
 Salt Lake City, UT 84105

Eileen Stewart (13-Jun)
 12 Elm St
 Jamestown, OH 45335

Dorothy Orr (17-Jun)
 7519 Staten Rd
 Sardinia, OH 45171

**Welcome!**

Briley Todd Fisher, the son of Todd "T.J." and Mariah Fisher Jr., became a member of our Peace family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on May 17. Briley was born Dec. 7, 2025.

His sponsors are Todd Fisher Sr., Trudy Hunt, and Christina Bittle. He is the grandson of Todd Fisher, the great-grandson of Hallie Benjamine, and the sixth generation of the Pindell family to be baptized at Peace. Please welcome Briley and his family and keep them in prayer.

Prayers for Health, Comfort and Strength

The Prayer List is published each month in the Beacon newsletter. Updates to the Beacon list are included in the weekly bulletins.

Please contact Pastor Laura or the church office to add names to the Prayer List or to request continuing prayers. Requests for prayers may also be distributed through Peace Lutheran FYI emails and the One Call Now phone service.

"Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them."

Mark 10:14b-16, NRSVue

Dear Friends,

Families hoped for children and considered them a blessing, especially if they were boys. But they also preferred for them to be seen and not heard. The fathers might spend time with their sons, much like we believe Joseph spent time teaching Jesus carpentry skills and the stories of the Hebrew Bible. The mothers, of course, spent time with their daughters, teaching them the domestic arts. So when parents brought their small children to Jesus in order that Jesus might bless them, it should have been no surprise that the disciples were indignant. They may have known how tired Jesus was and did not want any more interruptions. But, obviously, they also looked down on the children as beneath them, as mere "ruggats" waiting to get into trouble. But that was not how Jesus saw them, and it is not how Jesus sees them. Jesus tells us we have to become like a child to enter the kingdom of God.



You all know I love baptisms, whether for infants or those in their 90s. I do love those babies though (yes, Levi, even when they spit up on my favorite chasuble)! Each baby comes with a story I could share. At our last baptism, five-month-old Briley kept patting me on the shoulder, entranced by the silky brocade of my white chasuble. He was so good and so cheerful, he just made everyone smile as I walked him around the church. His cousin, Abigail, waves to me when she sees me on Sundays.

The older kids also touch my heart. Harper, one of our early church kids, loves Sundays. She asked her cousin, Natalie, one morning if we would

From the Pastor



have Holy Communion. Upon Natalie's assurance that we would, Harper said enthusiastically, "Sundays are the best!" Each Sunday, as soon as worship is over, Harper races down the hall and down the stairs because she doesn't want to miss a moment of Sunday School. She loves the music. Maya belts out the songs in Praise Band with a smile on her face. Zane brings up the offering and collects the communion cards with grace and respect. Each child at this church has a special gift and is using it or getting ready to use it in the future for this church. Right now, for most of them (there are exceptions, of course!), they don't *have* to go to church. They *get* to go to church.

With each baptism, watching each child grow, watching the love they receive from their church family (thank you!), I stop feeling so defeated by "this present darkness." They love their church and they love Jesus, and it is my hope that they always remember the many times that Jesus tells us to love one another, to love our neighbor as ourselves, to love each other even as Jesus loves us. We would love to have more children, but for right now, please look at the ones we have, because each one is so very special. We have 11 young people in LYO who are enthused about helping others. I have watched them grow from toddlers to teens. And I've watched the teens grow into adults working hard to achieve their dreams.

Fathers, as we draw near to Father's Day, please continue to support your children and grandchildren in their faith lives. People of Peace, thank you for loving our children.

In Christ,
Pastor Laura

Dorcas Circle

Dorcas Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 8, in Frey Hall. Mark it on your calendars as this is the earliest the first Monday of the month can fall, and it would be easy to forget. President Barbara Fowler will lead the business meeting. Remember to bring your suggestions for our next Bible study to the June meeting so we can make a selection.

Following the business meeting, Pastor Laura will lead us in Lesson 11 of Max Lucado's Life Lessons from Acts. The lesson is "Facing Problems and Pain," and the Scripture reading is Acts 20:15-31. The lesson can be found on pp. 89-98. This is a lesson we all can relate to. Paul is coming to the end of his Third Missionary Journey. He says the Holy Spirit is telling him that prison and hardships await him. But he is concentrating on "finishing the race." Do you remember a time you saw someone exhibit joy or courage in the midst of suffering? Why are they able to do this? Come and join us! July 13 will be the final lesson in this Bible study.

Summer Lunches Begin

The Agape Summer Lunch Program began right after Memorial Day. The schoolchildren have breakfast and lunch at the schools during the school year, but they may be missing those meals during the summer. Our Agape churches plan, pack, and distribute summer lunches for local schoolchildren. The Sardinia-Arnheim area is a "food desert," with only the Interfaith Pantry, run by Agape at Sardinia Hope Church, and the various "little pantries" providing local food. Each Agape church takes a day each week, and we distribute meals from late May through the middle of August, ending right before school starts. Here at Peace, we add a few more items to the lunches since we distribute on Fridays, right before the weekend.



Peace will pack lunches at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays and meet at the church at 11:30 a.m. on Fridays to distribute the lunches. We need people to pack on Thursdays. We especially need drivers and people to ride along to distribute the meals. We will have a sign-up sheet for Friday drivers and helpers.

Dorcas Circle Projects

Dorcas Circle will collect non-perishable food items for the Little Cross-Lit Pantry on Sunday, June 14. Please bring your food items to the entrance/lobby of the Access Hall and place them with the tubs that contain other food for the Little Cross-Lit Pantry.

Dorcas Circle will collect non-perishable food items for the Agape Interfaith Pantry on Sunday, June 28. The circle will also collect needed items for the Adams County Homeless Shelter. Both the pantry and the homeless shelter have lists of needs located in the big cupboard in the Access entrance. You can put the items in the drawers where the lists are located.

Back-to-School Giveaway

Agape is preparing for the Back-to-School Giveaway. This program is run



by Peace and the Sardinia Church of Christ, with the other churches contributing. This year, the Back-to-School Giveaway will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, July 25, and from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29, at the Sardinia Church of Christ. All students, from preschool through seniors, are invited to come and select backpacks that they can fill with school and hygiene supplies, and to pick out new shoes as well. Each parent needs to be accompanied by his or her child. Peace is in charge of shoes again this year.

Donation Received

Pastor Laura and Pam Hardyman, the Agape Summer Lunch coordinator, recently attended the *St. Patrick's Day Party with a Purpose* check disbursement. The *St. Patrick's Day Party with a Purpose* is held each year near St. Patrick's Day. Non-profit organizations are invited to apply for the money raised during the party. The party group then meets and selects non-profit organizations to receive the money. Last year Agape received \$1,500. This year, Agape was blessed to receive \$7,500. That means that each church in Agape will receive \$1,500 toward purchasing food for the Summer Lunch Program. We are very excited about this generous donation!

Thank You

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the love, prayers, and support you've shown us during this difficult time. The fast and unexpected passing of our dear loved one, Nikki, has been an immeasurable sorrow, but we find comfort in knowing that God's presence is near, and that He has surrounded us with people like you.

We were blessed by all the family, neighbors, friends and church family that attended the visitation and funeral service. Seeing the church filled with our loved ones was a great reminder and testament to her life.

A special thanks to Pastor Laura for her message, Joy for the organ music, and the Dorcas Circle along with anyone involved with the luncheon after the service.

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, flowers, and memorials given in memory of Nikki. These expressions of sympathy and love are much appreciated.

*Ron Tracy
Robert and Jessica Tracy & Family
Jenna and Jason Caldwell & Jaeda*

Chuck and I want to thank you for the visits, phone calls, text messages, cards, flowers and for taking the time to attend the visitation and service for Chuck's sister, Kathy. We are grateful and blessed. May God bless you and your loved ones.

Thank you for buying Girl Scout cookies. If it weren't for you I wouldn't be able to spend the night at the zoo. *Maya*

Dear Church Family,
We would like to thank everyone for welcoming us, supporting our faith journey, and celebrating our Confirmation with us. We are incredibly grateful for the cards, gifts, breakfast, and the warm wishes you shared with us. We feel so fortunate to be a part of a wonderful community of faith!

Many thanks,

*Tracy Gelter, Samantha Gelter,
Abby Bradford and Marybeth Boyer*

Graduate Recognition / Scholarship Recognition

Congratulations to Grace Humble, who graduated from Northern Kentucky University on Saturday, May 9, with her Master of Social Work degree. Grace has one more qualifying test to take but hopes to be gainfully employed as a school social worker by the middle of June. We will recognize Grace and her achievements during Graduate Recognition Sunday, June 14, at the 8:30 a.m. service. Grace is the daughter of Susan Taylor and Josh Humble and the granddaughter of Clyde and Mary Taylor and Lydia Humble.

Also during the 8:30 a.m. service on June 14, we will present Olivia Waits with a scholarship for her upcoming year in medical school. Olivia attends the University of Kentucky Medical School and is entering her second year. Olivia is the daughter of Chris and Elizabeth Waits and the granddaughter of Clyde and Mary Taylor and Jo-ellyn Waits.

Congratulations to Olivia and Grace!

Little Cross-Lit Pantry

Roger Vogel is giving the Little Cross-Lit Pantry a "spruce-up" and Natalie Vogel is adding a coat of paint. We have taken the food out of the pantry and put it back in the Access entrance during this time, so please do not put any food in the pantry for the time being. We will let you know when they are done with the pantry and when you can put the food back. Thank you. And thanks to Roger and Natalie for sprucing up our little pantry in memory of John Mahanes, who built it for the LYO.

Opportunities to Share

- ✦ Agape Emergency Fund – donations for emergencies in our community
- ✦ Agape Food Pantry – non-perishable food items
- ✦ Adams/Brown County Homeless Shelter – common household paper products and sanitary items for adults and children
- ✦ Cross-Lit Pantry – non-perishable food items for our outdoor pantry near the access entrance
- ✦ Home of Peace Orphanage in Bariadi Tanzania – donations for the orphanage and children - aluminum cans for recycling

LYO Flower Sale

We would like to send a big THANK YOU to everyone who ordered flowers this year! Also, thank you to everyone who helped with the sale in any way. This is a main fundraiser for our group and we couldn't do it without all of you!

This year, the kids made a total of **\$1,841.75** in profit! This makes the sale a great success! To put it in perspective what a fundraiser like this will do for the group—it's (almost) enough to cover the registration and hotel rooms for all **TEN kids** (plus the adult chaperones) to attend Quake 2027! That will be a record number of kids from Peace to attend a Quake event! The LYO kids truly wouldn't have these opportunities without your support! Thank you again!

This year we sold:

115 hanging baskets, 87 gallon pots, 41 tomato plants, 35 ferns, 16 planters, 10 flats of flowers, and 4 owl packs. That is a lot of flowers!



Mother's Day Flowers

The LYO tried something different this year and grew their own Mother's Day flowers. We hope everyone enjoyed our attempt at this. It was a learning experience for sure!



Peace Lutheran Communications	
Peace Lutheran Church 10581 Day Hill-Arnheim Rd Georgetown, OH 45121	• 937-446-2747 (with answering machine) • website: peacelutherantown.com • email: peacelutheran@ymail.com • www.facebook.com/peacelutheran.churcharnheim • One Call Now notifications available • Peace Lutheran FYI weekly emails available • Beacon newsletter mailed to members and friends
Pastor Laura Shreffler	937-564-0082 (cell), 937-446-9308 (home) trinitytwo13@gmail.com
Zach Taylor, President	937-515-7468



Online Pictorial Directory

Most of you should receive an email from appsupport@ucdir.com with the Subject line *Unique Identifier to Peace Lutheran Church Directory*. This email is from Universal Church Directories, the company that took member pictures and printed the 2025/2026 pictorial directory. The email contains information for installing and setting up the online directory app.

Each family will receive a unique identifier for the Peace Lutheran Directory App. The email includes instructions for the *myUCD* App and Start Guides for both Android phones and iPhones. Once you have installed and opened the app, enter your family's unique identifier, click "Download My Church Directory", then begin using your church app features. Right now these features include the directory, but over the coming months, we will install and update different app features.

Natalie Vogel will be our administrator for the app, so if you have any questions, give her a call at 937-618-1151.



Please Note: We continue to receive requests for our directory from people who want to misuse the contact information for scams. The requests are sometimes made to look like emails from the pastor or other members of the congregation. Please don't share your directory identifier with anyone. Peace and Pastor Laura will never contact members by email, text or phone to ask for money or prepaid cards.

Preparing for Memorial Day

Members of the LYO gathered on Sunday, May 17, to put fresh flags in the cemetery in preparation for Memorial Day.

*In memory of many, in honor of all.
We will never forget their sacrifice.*



Please send news items, corrections and address changes to the church office or peacelutheran@ymail.com



The Beacon is the official publication of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Arnheim, Ohio. It is sponsored by the Church and the LYO to furnish information and inspiration to our congregation and friends.

Council Minutes — April 12, 2026

Present: Sue Bohrer, Terry Holland, Jerry Jewell, Cheryl Phillips, Maion Ralston, Pastor Laura Shreffler, Linda Sue Stephan, Zach Taylor, Dan Wagel, Joan Yockey

President Zach Taylor called the meeting to order and read the mission statement.

Sue Bohrer read devotion and offered prayer.

The Secretary's report was reviewed. Linda Sue Stephan made a motion to accept. Marion Ralston seconded the motion. Vote taken, all "yes".

Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Joan Yockey made a motion to accept the report. Motion seconded by Sue Bohrer. Vote taken, all "yes". Motion carried.

Pastor Laura presented her report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cemetery—Jerry Jewell-Crate cleaned out gleaning a pelican which is now dressed in rain wear and is apparently our new mascot.

A vehicle was abandoned in the parking lot. Jerry made connection with law enforcement who could not determine ownership, so it was towed away by Souder Towing. They are to contact Jerry if there is a cost for that.

Evangelism—Joan Yockey-All Directory information has been submitted. Joan is going to make a follow-up call.

She has contacted Kibler's about the LYO possibly doing a cookout there as a fundraiser. They are booked all summer but are to let her know if there is a cancellation. They also recommended asking Georgetown IGA about a cookout.

Scholarship—Sue Bohrer-They have received one application from Olivia Waits and do not expect any others currently.

Worship and Music—Cheryl Phillips-Lenten Services and Holy Week Services were planned. A reception was also planned for four new adult confirmands for today-good result,

Motion made by Marion Ralston to accept reports as submitted. Motion seconded by Linda Sue Stephan. Vote taken and all "yes". Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan Wagel gave information about insurance assessment. They took multiple pictures of

building, fire extinguishers, etc, and asked multiple questions.

Joan brought the posts for the new signs to replace the damaged ones at multiple locations. There are no brackets with them-they will have to be purchased if needed. Joan will purchase them if needed.

Zach will be getting in touch with Jan and/or Shauna about council policy they had been working on with Nikki.

Zach also mentioned with Dorothy in rehab, more help is needed to clean the church. He will be putting a sign up sheet on the hallway table.

Zach also reported they have found 2 mice recently. Bean beetle numbers have decreased.

NEW BUSINESS

Some one had suggested an increase in the amount of scholarships given. Discussion was held regarding this. The highest amount of scholarships now is \$3500. Marion Ralston made a motion to increase the amount to \$3750 effective in 2027. Jerry Jewell seconded the motion. Vote taken-all "yes". Motion carried.

Dan Wagel reported that no spacer will be needed for the elevator.

Jerry reported paving company is coming to give updated estimate on the paving of the cemetery.

Discussion was held about changing the date of the May meeting to 5/17 due to 5/10 being Mother's Day. Pastor will not be available to a meeting on 5/3. Decision made to move the meeting to 5/17. Sue Bohrer volunteered to do devotions in Dorothy's absence.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sue Bohrer and seconded by Linda Sue Stephan. Vote taken-all "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting closed with everyone praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Phillips

Agape Meeting

Agape volunteers will meet at Peace at 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 29, to update the bylaws for our non-profit group. Agape includes Peace Lutheran Church, St. Mary Roman Catholic Church, Sardinia Hope Church, Sardinia Church of the Nazarene, and Sardinia Church of Christ.

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice	4 6:30 p.m. Pack Summer Lunches	5 11:30 a.m. Distribute Summer Lunches	6 “Rock the Vineyard”
7 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30 a.m. Catechism 10:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion	8 7:00 p.m. Dorcas Circle Meets	9	10 7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice	11 6:30 p.m. Pack Summer Lunches	12 11:30 a.m. Distribute Summer Lunches	13 9:00 a.m. Church Work Day
14 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion Graduate Recognition, Scholarship Presentation 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30 a.m. Catechism 10:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion 5:30 p.m. Executive Committee Meets 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meets	15 7:00 p.m. Worship and Music Committee Meets	16	17 7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice	18 6:30 p.m. Pack Summer Lunches	19 11:30 a.m. Distribute Summer Lunches	20
21 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST FATHER'S DAY 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30 a.m. Catechism 10:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion	22 7:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee Meets	23	24 7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice	25 6:30 p.m. Pack Summer Lunches	26 11:30 a.m. Distribute Summer Lunches	27
28 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8:20 a.m. Healing Service 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30 a.m. Catechism 10:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion	29	30				

The Beacon

Peace Lutheran Church, Arnheim, Ohio

June, 2026

We welcome you to join us for worship, fellowship and service!

Sunday Schedule

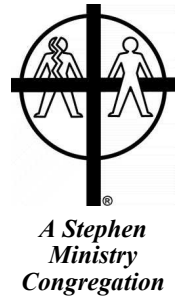
- 8:30 a.m. Praise Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion is celebrated every week
At both the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services.

Pastor Laura Shreffler

Church Phone: (937) 446-2747

Church Email: peacelutheran@ymail.com



Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Georgetown, OH 45121
Permit #22

Peace Lutheran Church
10581 Day Hill-Arnheim Road
Georgetown, OH 45121