

# The Beacon

August 2025

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



## Youth Sunday and Backpack Blessings

Our young people will lead worship on Sunday, Aug. 10. We will have one service that Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum will meet at 9:00 a.m.

Maya Taylor, Zane Taylor, and Lydia Percy will play piano preludes. The themes will be "joy" and "light," and the Scripture lessons, read by our young people, will reflect those themes. The Sunday School children will sing several of their favorite songs.

One of the worship highlights will be Olivia Waits and Grace Humble giving their faith stories and telling about their faith journeys. Olivia and Grace are baptized members of Peace who have been very involved with the church since they were very young. They were also involved with the churches they attended while they were in college. They are outstanding examples for our younger members to follow.

Pastor Laura also will be doing the annual Backpack Blessings that Sunday. Students from preschool through high school can bring their backpacks to the children's message for blessing. Pastor Laura will have a special Children's Sermon, give out luggage tags with a special Bible verse for their backpacks, and distribute affirmations that can be tucked into a backpack or lunch box by parents or grandparents during the school year.

Please join us for this uplifting Sunday and see what our young people have been up to!

## Family Game Night

The Youth and Family Ministry will sponsor a Game Night on Friday, Aug. 15. We will begin snacking at 6:30 p.m., with games starting at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a snack to share. Soft drinks will be available. You can bring card games or board games. The Wii will be set up. We usually have several people who are up for a "friendly" game of euchre. Come join us for good food, fun and fellowship.

*please  
join us*

## Dorcas Circle Open Meeting

Dorcas Circle will hold its annual open meeting at 7:00 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11, in Frey Hall. Every August, Dorcas Circle opens its meeting up to the congregation.

Our speaker this year is Debi Shultz. Debi and her husband, Steve, have been attending Peace for several months now. Debi is a member of the Brown County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services. She has graciously offered to talk about what the board hopes to achieve in Brown County and what the needs are in our county. We look forward to seeing you Aug. 11.

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The Cross-Lit Church - Faith, Hope and Love

## Please Remember in Prayer

Roland and Fonda Barr  
George Beltz  
Family of Steve Benning  
Family of Renee Bergman  
Bobbie Blevins  
Sonny Bradford  
Brittany Brown  
Jimmy Brown  
Sandy Brown  
Vicky and Charlie  
Mike Clement  
Kendal Conley  
Michelle and Craig Dick  
Family of Ben Endsley  
Eric Erickson  
Family of Branden Floss  
Karen Gilliam  
Michell Grey  
Judith Harp  
Pastor Scott Henning  
Dorothy Hibbs  
Josh Humble  
Lydia Humble  
Teresa Johnson  
Lucas Kuronen  
Ronald Land  
Angela Lauders  
James and Milly Leach

Ruth Litzinger  
John Mahanes  
Cynthia Marks  
Yolanda Meeker  
Esther Miller  
Miranda and Babies  
Estel Newberry  
Dorothy Orr  
Clarence Perry  
Brenda Reed  
Tom Reifenberger  
Karla Ritchie  
Mattie Robinette  
Amanda Roush & Josh Endsley  
Family of Don Rutherford  
Nicki Seip  
Carter Shideler  
Carl Stuck  
Bill and Paula Taylor  
Michelle Uhl  
Bob and Cindy Verville  
Roger Vogel  
Ava Warmoth  
Amy White  
Brent Wilson  
Holly Wilson



## Senior Member Birthday

Miriam Wagel (28-Aug)  
6784 State Route 125  
Georgetown, OH 45121

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone for your prayers. Pastor Ron's heart is clot-free and he can move forward to the surgery he needs!

*Pastor Laura and Pastor Ron*

Thank you to all that have been so gracious during this time as we lost our son Ben. Your prayers and condolences are so appreciated. Ben was my first to come and the first to leave us!

*Cindy and Bob Verville*

## Our Christian Sympathy

✝ Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Benjamin Carlton Endsley, who died on Wednesday, June 25. He was the oldest son of Cindy and Bob Verville. Ben is also survived by two daughters and several siblings. A Celebration of Life was held for Ben in Sharon Woods Park on Sunday, June 20. Please continue to keep Cindy and Bob and the rest of Ben's family in prayer.

✝ Our Christian Sympathy is extended to Clyde and Amy Beyer on the death of Clyde's sister-in-law.

## Prayers for Homebound and Those in Care Facilities

John Mahanes (Magnolia Springs, Loveland)  
Cameron McCall (at home)  
Esther Miller (Monarch Meadows, 937-205-7658)  
James Wagel (at home)

## Serving in the Armed Forces

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

## 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.

## From the Pastor



Dear Friends,

Several weeks ago, Gary Heaton, while praying his first prayer petition in the Prayers of Intercession, made reference to a poem written during World War II by Pastor Martin Niemoeller. Some of you have asked about it, so I have reprinted it.

### *First They Came*

**First they came for the Communists,  
but I was not a communist, so I did not  
speak out.**

**Then they came for the Socialists and  
the Trade Unionists, but I was neither,  
so I did not speak out.**

**Then they came for the Jews, but I was  
not a Jew so I did not speak out.**

**And when they came for me, there was  
no one left to speak out for me.**

Martin Niemoller (1892-1984) was a German pastor, who, along with Dietrich Bonhoeffer and others, protested Hitler's anti-Semitic measures in person to the Fuehrer. He was eventually arrested, and imprisoned for eight years (1937-1945) at Sachsenhausen and Dachau. He once confessed, "It took me



a long time to learn that God is not the enemy of my enemies. He is not even the enemy of his enemies."

The poem describes the passivity of German intellectuals as the Nazis purged group after group of targeted people. The poem has also been reprinted in slightly different versions such as "they came for the gypsies," and "they came for the mentally deficient."

Although Martin Niemoeller did speak out, he always regretted the lives he could have saved if only he had spoken up sooner.

Who is God asking you to speak up for today?

In Christ,

*Pastor Laura*

## Bariadi Sunday

As a fifth Sunday, August 31, is Bariadi Sunday. Our Sunday School offerings will support the Bariadi orphanage in Tanzania and the Home of Peace that is named after our church. We currently sponsor two students in the orphanage, Meshack and Daniel. Flora, a student we sponsored for several years, has finished secondary school and is now studying college courses.

Every fifth Sunday, the Sunday School's entire offering goes to Bariadi. We will also have a basket out for a love offering during each service. In September, we hope to show the congregation some up-to-date videos from Tanzania.

## Home of Peace

The kids in the Home of Peace Orphan Ministry are doing great! Studies are going well, and they are surely growing up, with the youngest now being teenagers already. All of them are now attending high school or beyond, working hard to fulfill their dreams, which their sponsors are such a big part of!

Among these bright young people, there are 4 who hope to be doctors, 3 who hope to be journalists, 3 accountants, 2 lawyers, a stewardess, a policeman, an astronomer, a dentist, a pilot, an artist, a bank teller, a musician, a nurse, a soldier, a Community Developer for water supply and sanitation, and a politician. Imagine the impact they will make!



## Wrapping Up Thrive!

Three years ago, we began our work on the synod's THRIVE! campaign. Our three-year commitment ended July 31.

Beginning in August, you can continue giving, but have it go to our church instead. Nothing will change—you will still make checks out to Peace Lutheran Church or just include the amount with your offering.

The donations you made to THRIVE! will be there to help this church in the future. Our thanks to all on the campaign committee.

## Sunday School Board to Meet

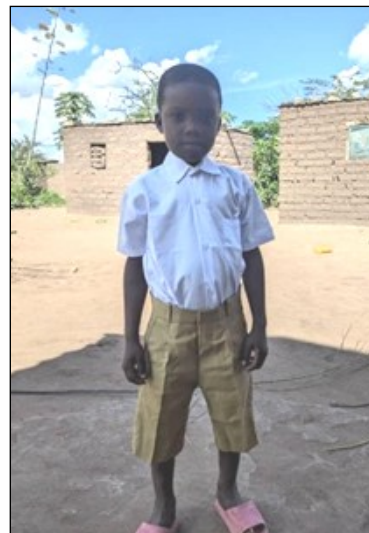
The Sunday School Board will meet at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 12. We will wrap up our Christmas in July and continue planning for our "God's Work-Our Hands Day" on Sunday, Sept. 14, which is also Holy Cross Day.



## Living Lutheran

Living Lutheran has brought back its print magazine publication! The print publication will appear in mailboxes with four issues each year (spring, summer, winter and fall) containing the latest news, reflections and stories from the ELCA.

Visit [livinglutheran.org/subscribe](http://livinglutheran.org/subscribe) to set up an individual subscription. Subscribe by Aug. 10 to receive the fall issue.



## Going to School!

This boy is Prosper Kigoko. He lives with his grandmother in Tanzania. He has not been able to go to school because his grandma couldn't afford the school uniforms.

On April 3rd, One Plus God ministry workers Tunsibilege and Ndumieshi were able to give him uniforms, so that he can go to school now!

One Plus God is the ministry in Bariadi, Tanzania, that is continuing the work begun by our friend Marge Beam.

## Back-to-School Giveaway

We have wrapped up another successful Back-to-School Giveaway co-sponsored with the Sardinia Church of Christ.

Thank you to the Evangelism Committee -- Elizabeth Waits, Susan Taylor, Joan Yockey, Lisa Jewell, and Linda Sue Stephan, for all the volunteer work put into this. Thanks to the congregation for its donations of backpacks, shoes, and hygiene items. All the work is worth it to see the smiles on the faces of students who have found the perfect backpack or perfect pair of shoes!





## Summer Lunches

Thank you to everyone who has helped with our Agape Summer Lunches this year, from Susan Taylor and Elizabeth Waits, who went shopping for our food, to Linda Sue Stephan, who kept things coordinated, to those who donated their Thrivent gift cards, to those who packed, and those who drove and distributed. We had a few hiccups at first, but everything has turned out well!

We will wrap up our Summer Lunch program by packing lunches at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 31, and Thursday, Aug. 7, and distributing lunches at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 1, and Friday, Aug. 8.

## From Natalie & the Vogel Family

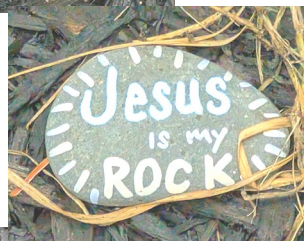
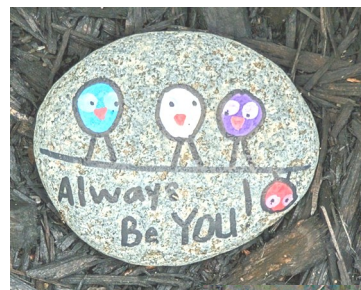
Many of you know my grandparents (and long-time Arnheim residents), Roger and Doris Vogel, and ask about them often. They will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on August 6. We are inviting friends and family to shower them with cards to help celebrate such a wonderful milestone. If you would like to participate, their address is:

Roger & Doris Vogel  
6247 Delhi-Arnheim Rd  
Georgetown, OH 45121

Thank you for helping to make their day special!

*Natalie*

## Some of the Rock Art the LYO used to decorate the courtyard.



## WHAT CONFIRMATION MEANS TO ME

Isabelle Phillips

I don't really remember when my brother, or the group of kids before me got confirmed. What I do remember though was that I always looked up to the older kids and thought they were so cool to hang out with. And now, with my confirmation coming up, I realize that I'm one of the teenagers now. All of the younger kids see me as a big kid, and that's important. I have to set a good example for them like the teenagers before me did for me.

In the eyes of the little kids, I'll be a big kid, but in the eyes of the church, I'll be seen as an adult with responsibilities. That's kind of unfathomable, if you ask me, because in my eyes I still feel like I'm a little kid. I'll be expected to show up to church often and participate in events and fundraisers. I could even take on adult jobs.

I think the most important part of confirmation is my life with God. He's been here since day one, and He's been with me every day since then. Confirmation gives me a chance to reaffirm my faithfulness in him. God will aid me in following his commandments: "You shall have no other gods before me, you shall not make idols, you shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy, honor your father and your mother, you shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor, and you shall not covet." Additionally, I will receive the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit will help me perform holy acts and think holy thoughts. The Holy Spirit will provide me with wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord, all of which are needed and useful to carry out God's will.

All in all, confirmation is a big step in life, from being God's child to being a true member of the church all the way down to being a role model for younger kids. God is still drafting his plan for me, and I'm excited to see what he's writing next. I hope the Holy Spirit's gifts will help me for whatever He has up His sleeve. But, only He will know. I'll just have to be patient (which is a gift I was unfortunately not blessed with). So, as the seasons change and days pass by, I will continue being a faithful servant and child of the Lord.

## WHAT MY CONFIRMATION MEANS TO ME

Addison Bundy

It is part of becoming an adult and leaving a little kid school. I have learned about God, through his stories and the way he saw the world long ago. I learned about his rules, which are guidelines for me to follow.

My confirmation is me standing in front of the church and my family, saying that I believe in God and that I will continue my faith through the Lord. My parents brought me to church as a baby and had me baptized and spoke for me. But now I can speak for myself. I will continue to study the word of the Lord with my friends and my family. Our classes made me think of things and made me want to find out more about God and Jesus.

When we studied the Bible, we learned and God wants us to be happy and kind. He gives us so much and wants us to share our gifts with others. He wants us to tell others about him and his love. He wants us to show others the love he shows us.

My confirmation is a celebration of all the things I have learned: The parts of the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, and the meaning of them. It is a celebration of being a Christian, that means believing in God and what he teaches us. It is taking his stories and seeing how they fit into my life.

My confirmation is saying out loud that I am a child of God. It is not being afraid to say I am a Christian. It is being able to talk to others about him. It is trying to live my life like he wants me to. It is showing others. It is me promising to love God and show that love to others. It is me promising to keep on learning. It is me promising to always be faithful. It is me promising to use the things God gives me to make my faith grow.

My confirmation is one more step in my journey with God. When I was little, I liked the stories and songs, and now I still like the songs and stories, but it is different. They are not just fun, they really mean something now.

This is what my confirmation means to me.





Peace Lutheran Communications	
Peace Lutheran Church 10581 Day Hill-Arnheim Rd Georgetown, OH 45121	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 937-446-2747 (with answering machine)</li> <li>• website: <a href="http://peacelutherantown.com">peacelutherantown.com</a></li> <li>• email: <a href="mailto:peacelutheran@ymail.com">peacelutheran@ymail.com</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.facebook.com/peacelutheran.churcharnheim">www.facebook.com/peacelutheran.churcharnheim</a></li> <li>• One Call Now notifications available</li> <li>• Peace Lutheran FYI weekly emails available</li> <li>• Beacon newsletter mailed to members and friends</li> </ul>
Pastor Laura Shreffler	937-564-0082 (cell), 937-446-9308 (home) <a href="mailto:trinitytwo13@gmail.com">trinitytwo13@gmail.com</a>
Zach Taylor, President	937-515-7468

### Board Members Needed

The Brown County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services is accepting applications for board members. You must be a resident of Brown County and available to attend bi-monthly meetings. We are seeking individuals who are community minded and have an interest in the mental health/addiction concerns in our county.

Applications can be obtained through the Brown County Commissioners office by emailing:

[SBeath@BrownCountyOhio.gov](mailto:SBeath@BrownCountyOhio.gov)

or through the Ohio Mental Health & Addiction Services website at:

<https://mha.ohio.gov/community-partners/adamh-boards/board-membership/contact-us/board-member-application>

For more information, please contact Debi Shultz at 937-470-0107.



### Summer Lunch Program Wrap-Up and Agape Quarterly Meeting

We will have our Summer Lunch Program Wrap-Up meeting and our Agape Quarterly meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 19, at the Sardinia Church of Christ.

The Summer Lunch Wrap-Up meeting will take place at 6:00 p.m. and the Agape group will meet at 7:00 p.m. Agape will also discuss the Summer Lunch Program as well as make plans for the Community Thanksgiving Service to be held at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25 at Peace.

Want to know more about Agape?

Feel free to join us.

Please send news items, corrections and address changes to the church office or [peacelutheran@ymail.com](mailto: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 — June 8, 2025

Present: Steve Bundy, Cheryl Phillips, George Fowler, Connie Perry, Linda Sue Stephan, Marion Ralston, Natalie Vogel, Joan Yockey, Pastor Laura Shreffler, Elizabeth Waits, Zac Taylor, Dan Wagel, Dorothy Carrington, Sue Bohrer

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

Marion Ralston led devotions.

The Secretary's report was reviewed. Cheryl Phillips made a motion to accept the report, and Marion Ralston seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Elizabeth Waits made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Cheryl Phillips seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Pastor Laura Shreffler read the pastor's report.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Church Property—Thank you to everyone for helping with the clean-up days.

The boilers are currently working as expected.

Fascia board on the back of the church needs to be replaced. George is seeking bids from roofers. The hope is for the council to vote on how to move forward in July.

Cemetery—Nothing to report.

Finance & Investment—Nothing to report.

Evangelism—The summer lunch effort is going well.

St Mary's may have to step down from participating in the summer lunch program, the final decision is coming soon. If they do step down, Peace and the other churches will take on the extra days.

The American Legion in Sardinia gave \$400 to each of the five churches for the summer lunch program.

United Way gave each of the churches another \$500 each (this is their second time donating to the effort... they are impressed by the program).

Next meeting is on June 23.

Stewardship—Nothing to report.

Scholarship—Grace Humble's check has already cleared.

June 22 will be graduate recognition and scholarship day

Christian Education—God's Work Our Hands plans are underway.

Christmas in July for the Wilson Children's Home in Adams County, the list of items needed will be in the bulletin.

Worship & Music—June 15 will be Trinity Sunday and Father's Day

Working on graduate recognition and gifts.

Youth & Family—Met on May 18, 8 kids and a few parents were present. Lots of enthusiasm and energy in the group, multiple items in the works, more to come.

The group put out new flags for Memorial Day.

Game night held on May 30, 18 people in attendance.

The group participated in the clean up day on May 30 – worked on cleaning up the courtyard.

Flower sale profit of \$1600+

Mission Fund—Nothing to report.

Elizabeth Waits made a motion to accept the Committee Reports and Marion Ralston seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed.

### OLD BUSINESS

Tree removal date is TBD.

### NEW BUSINESS

June 14 – Brown County Haz Waste Day – should we clean out items in the basement?

Pastor Laura and George Fowler attended the SOS Assembly on June 6-7, it went well.

Mice problem – will continue current efforts (traps) for another month and revisit at the July meeting.

Insurance – major changes to our policy, need to look for other options as a back-up for the future.

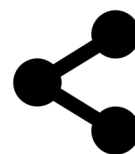
Electrical panel in access entrance – error made when reconnecting wires that affected the elevator - \$1500-\$1800 for the fix. George and Dan to explore reimbursement from Shafer H&C.

Cheryl Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Linda Sue Stephan seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Natalie Vogel.

## 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





## August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>July 31</b> 6:30 p.m. Pack Summer Lunches	<b>1</b> 11:30 a.m. Distribute Summer Lunches	<b>2</b>
<b>3 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Pastor Laura out of office for Pastor Ron's Surgery 7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice	<b>7</b> 6:30 p.m. Last Day to Pack Summer Lunches	<b>8</b> 11:30 a.m. Last Day to Distribute Summer Lunches	<b>9</b>
<b>10 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> <b>YOUTH SUNDAY SERVICE</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:00 a.m. Youth Sunday Worship Service and Holy Communion 5:30 p.m. Executive Committee Meets 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meets	<b>11</b> 7:00 p.m. Dorcas Circle Open Meeting - Debi Shultz Guest Speaker	<b>12</b> 7:00 p.m. Sunday School Board Meets	<b>13</b> 7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Youth and Family Game Night	<b>16</b>
<b>17 TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion	<b>18</b> 7:00 p.m. Worship and Music Committee Meets	<b>19</b> 6:00 p.m. Summer Lunch Wrap-Up Meeting 7:00 p.m. Agape Quarterly Meeting (Both at Sardinia Church of Christ)	<b>20</b> 7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 8:20 a.m. Healing Service 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion	<b>25</b> 7:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee Meets	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion						

# The Beacon

## Peace Lutheran Church, Arnheim, Ohio

### August 2025

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](mailto:peacelutheran@ymail.com)



Return Service Requested

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