

June 2026

NEWS OF PEACE

United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Peace ELCA

A Good Word from the Pastor



Dear Friends,

As most of you now know, I will be retiring at the end of June. My last Sunday will be June 7. I can't believe that I have been with you almost three years and yet, sometimes it feels like I've been with you longer (in a good way) because I have come to know and care for you.

Retirement is one of those watershed moments in our lives. It is a decisive moment that alters the course of one's life. As many of you know, I retired once before but immediately began ministry in the synod office. This time is different. Nancy and I will be spending all our time together with no outside responsibilities. That sounds wonderful because I look forward to not having a daily schedule, but from other retirees I have known, it, too, can have its challenges!

Preaching, teaching and celebrating the sacraments have brought me some of the greatest joys of my life. I have dedicated my life to these means of grace. As I hope you can tell, I truly love teaching the faith and leading worship. I have been blessed to share God's Word with you and share His presence with you particularly in His holy supper.

Coming to get to know you, and to call some of you friends, has been a great blessing to me. I will truly miss you but will always give thanks to God for you.

Before I close, I want to thank Julie and Karen for their friendship and their daily help and encouragement. We have worked well together, and I will miss our daily interactions. Thank you both. And thanks to Dave Mulholland and Chris Froemling who have been Council presidents during my time with you. I thank you for your faithfulness and support.

May the Lord continue to bless us all. May the peace of God which surpasses all understanding enlighten our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Let us continue to pray for one another.

Peace,

Pr. Ken

Financial Report for the month of May

(thru May 17th)

\$ 5,786.79 is needed weekly to meet our budget.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Weekly Offering</u>	<u>Received Year To Date</u>	<u>Needed Year To Date</u>	<u>Overage/(Deficit)</u>
2&3	\$6,355.00	\$99,785.30	\$104,162.22	(\$4,376.92)
9&10	\$5,020.00	\$104,805.30	\$109,949.01	(\$5,143.71)
16&17	\$3,757.00	\$108,562.30	\$115,735.80	(\$7,173.50)

Operating Fund Balance as of April 30, 2026 = \$30,019.89



PASTOR KEN'S RETIREMENT

Pastor's last Sunday will be Sunday, June 7th. There will be a cake and coffee reception immediately after service. Come join us for worship and fellowship in thanksgiving for Pastor's ministry among us.

CAN YOU ANSWER THE CALL?

We are in need council members for the next term. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve! Please reach out to any council member to answer any questions or to get your name on the ballot.



Our **Semi-Annual Meeting** will be held on June 14 right after morning worship. This is committee and organization report. They will be available for you to pick up the Sunday before the meeting. Please attend this very important meeting. We need all our members, sharing in the work of our congregation.

KICK OFF TO SUMMER is coming Sunday, June 7, 2026 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in our church park. This event is open to our congregation and anyone in Steeleville and the surrounding area. **FREE OF CHARGE**, we will provide a Foam Machine, Water Slide (weather permitting), the Balloon Lady, Fishing, Photo Booth, and Crafts & Coloring. Refreshments will be served. Bring lawn chairs and a desire to have a great time. **ALL ARE WELCOME – COME JOIN THE FUN!!!**



Don't forget! Vacation Bible School will soon be here.



Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS is coming soon and you won't want to miss the fun! Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS reminds us that with God's strength through Jesus we can do more than we ever thought possible and can face challenges that come our way.

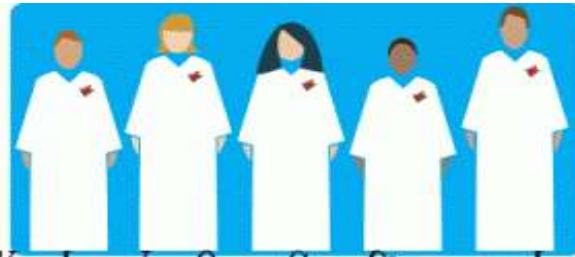
Children who will be three years of age before June 15, 2026 through those who completed the fifth grade this spring are invited and welcomed to attend VBS. Classes will begin on Monday, June 15, 2026, and end on Friday, June 19, 2026. Classes will begin at 9:00 a.m. each day and will end at 11:45 a.m.

All parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to attend the special closing program on Friday, June 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Register your child NOW! You can call the church office (965-3119) or use the link on our Facebook page (Peace Lutheran Church ELCA - Steeleville, IL) to register.



Dad's Root Beer Float Day to honor fathers on June 21, 2026 (Father's Day). All members of the congregation will be invited to attend.



Kudos to Our Confirmands

- Brady Bowlin
- Landry Bowlin
- Gavin Fiene
- Evan Gremmels
- Colton Hartmann
- Isla Mitchell
- Mallory Mueller
- Rylea Mulholland
- Emma Rieckenberg
- Brooklyn Stoffel

CHURCH HAPPENINGS:



GRADUATES: We would like to express our congratulations to our graduates from

High School: Logan Bockhorn, Ally Ehlers, Casey Ehlers, Adelynn Knop, Andrew Roberts, Emma Roberts, Robby Sheeley, Ryan Wildermuth

8th Grade: Gavin Fiene, Evan Gremmels, Colton Hartmann, Isla Mitchell, Mallory Mueller, Emma Rieckenberg, Brooklynn Stoffel, Brady Bowlin, Rylea Mulholland



Congratulations to Andrew Froemling and Melina Opp as they were united in Christian Marriage on Saturday, May 16th. God's abundant blessings to them and their families as they begin their lives together.



Dennis Schnoeker passed away on Wednesday April 22, 2026. Memorial Service was held Friday, May 20, 2026, at Wilson Funeral Home, Steeleville, IL.

Wilbert Lee Joost passed away on Saturday, May 9, 2026. Funeral Services were Tuesday, May 1, 2026, at Peace Lutheran Church, Steeleville, IL. Burial followed at Paradise Cemetery, Steeleville.