



**NEWS OF PEACE**  
**Peace Lutheran Church, Steeleville, IL**  
**2025**



## A GOOD WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Most of us know that Lent lasts forty days in remembrance of Jesus' time in the wilderness when He fasted and prayed for forty days. We also recall the forty days and forty nights of rain in the story of Noah and his family as well as the forty years God's people, Israel, wandered around in the desert wilderness before entering the Promised Land. But we may not know or notice that the Church's celebration of Easter lasts fifty days!

The Church's celebration of Easter is a fifty-day celebration. The Easter celebration includes a "week" of Sundays—seven Sundays! Notice they are Sundays 'of' Easter and not Sundays 'after' Easter. The number 'seven' in the scriptures is a number that denotes fullness, perfection, completeness. When we celebrate Easter for seven weeks, we celebrate the Lord's resurrection in the fullest way possible in the life of the Church.

It is during these fifty days that Jesus made His post-resurrection appearances to His disciples. During these fifty days, on the fortieth day, Jesus ascended to His Father in heaven before the eyes of the disciples. Immediately at the close of these fifty days, Jesus and His Father send the Holy Spirit upon the disciples as we celebrate the birth of the Church as the first disciples went out to encounter the world with the message that their Master and Teacher is now risen from the dead and victorious Lord of all!

"The fifty days are, in Greek, the pentekost (fifty days). In the Jewish tradition, the period extended from the beginning of the barley harvest, which marked the Passover, until the final harvesting was complete. These same fifty days were celebrated early in the church. By the year 100 AD these fifty days were celebrated as days that were marked by no weeping, no kneeling, and no penitential acts." *Sundays and Seasons*, 2000

During these fifty days life goes on for us in the world. Our days are a mix of joy and sorrow, stress and relaxation, growth and set-backs. But as we live in these fifty days we are reminded again and again that Christ is risen and that sorrow and death hold no power over Him and joined to Him, eternal death has come to an end for us who believe. We live as people of hope. We live in the hope of a New Day in a world that is coming to an end.

Easter Blessings,

Pr. Ken



## Below are the contributions for the month of April

\$5,482.59 is needed weekly to meet our budget.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Weekly Offering</u>	<u>Received Year</u>	<u>Overage/(Deficit)</u>
<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Received to Date</u>	<u>Need to Date</u>
5&6	\$6,764.00	\$77,191.57	\$76,756.26
12&13	\$7,589.00	\$84,780.57	\$82,238.85
20th	\$9,188.00	\$93,968.57	\$87,721.44
			<u>Overage/</u>
			<u>(Deficit)</u>
			\$ 435.31
			\$2,541.72
			\$6,247.13

Operating Fund Balance as of March 31, 2025= \$29,969.55



**Central/Southern Illinois Synod Assembly** – The Central/Southern Illinois Synod will hold its annual assembly June 5-7 at Bloomington,

IL. The Church Council have appointed these delegates who will represent Peace at the assembly: Pastor Ken Tegtmeier, Julie Posth, Brad & Becky Gielow.



**Morning Prayer** continues every Wednesday morning at 11:30 AM in the chapel.



Throughout the month of May, we will again be collecting donations for **"ONE FOR THE CROSS – ONE DOLLAR FOR EVERY PERSON IN EVERY CHURCH."** This is the annual fund drive to help support and provide upkeep for the Bald Knob Cross of Peace in Alto Pass, IL. The mission of Bald Knob Cross of Peace is to provide a place where all people can unite to experience the presence of God. The Bald Knob Cross can be of service to our church in many ways. We can take a group there and host a service, have an evening of worship, host a potluck or picnic, or bring our youth out for a day of fun and fellowship. We are truly blessed to have such an amazing monument in our region. Please generously give to support it.



**AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM** will be held on June 8th during worship. The last class is on **June 1st.**

A reception will be held in Fellowship Hall following service.



Will be on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> following Service. All Mothers are invited.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNION CLASS**

Paisly Hepp, Avery Smith, & Henry Smith



**BAPTISM:** Revere Knight Allen George, the son of Blake & Brianna George was baptized on April 6, 2025. Sponsors were Ali Craig, Braden Meyerhoff, Matt George, Ashton George.



Thank you, thank you, thank you once again to our congregation for the tremendous support of our youth group. Because of your generous donations and support we raised \$1,500 from our soup and sandwich fundraiser. You guys always show up big time for our youth and we can't thank you enough for your generosity! Your donations will help us to continue to grow our youth group and will allow us to do fun outings as well as attend retreats such as Leadership Lab and the Carlinville retreat. Thank you so much!



The last day of Sunday School will be on May 18th.

Road Trip VBS is coming soon and you won't want to miss the fun!



Road Trip VBS reminds us that God's presence is always near, no matter where the journey of life takes us.

Road Trip VBS can be an inspirational and educational adventure for your entire family. Classes for children begin Monday, June 16, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. and end at 11:45 a.m. Parents, grandparents, and others are invited to join the children at the closing program on Sunday, June 22, 2025. Children who will be three years of age before June 16, 2025 through those who completed the fifth grade this spring are invited and welcomed to attend VBS. Call us today at (618) 965-3119 for registration information.

**Please contact us to see how you can help. We can always use monetary donations to offset the costs of VBS as well.**

Remember: You don't have to be available to help all week. Any of the days throughout the week that you are available we can use the help. Just let us know what days work for you. Contact VBS

Director Michelle Gremmels (615-3535) if you can help in any way. You don't need any special talent to help - just a love for children and the desire to help spread God's word. PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!!

Also needed: Everyone's prayers to make this year's VBS a success!



The Church Council is considering a new Peace Lutheran Church Directory and we are reaching out to all our members to see if there is interest in publishing a new book. If you are interested, please fill out the form inserted in this bulletin and place it in the offering plate. You may also email this information to the church office at [peacelutheran1@gmail.com](mailto:peacelutheran1@gmail.com). Please let us know by May 16.



**KICK OFF TO SUMMER** is coming Sunday, June 1, 2025 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 bouncy house, water slide (weather permitting), the Balloon Lady, old-fashioned carnival games (Duck Pond, Fishing, Plinko, Cornhole, Photo Booth, and more).

Refreshments will be served. Bring lawn chairs and a desire to have a great time. An event this size requires many volunteers to oversee the activities. If you would like to help, contact Carolyn Bert (618-534-8977) or the church office (618-965-3119).

**ALL ARE WELCOME – COME JOIN THE FUN!!!**



As you may or may not know, our church has had a float in both the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Small Town Christmas parades the

last few years. In the past, we have assembled the floats in the FS Building located on Shawneetown Trail. The ice storm in January caused the roof of the FS Building to collapse, and the building has since been torn down. **We urgently need a new location in which to assemble our floats or we will have to discontinue participating in the parades.**

We would only need the location approximately two weeks before the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and two weeks before the Friday after Thanksgiving (the Small Town Christmas parade). We require the location's door to be at least 8 or 9 feet high to be able to accommodate the height of future floats. If you have, or know of someone who has, a building suitable for our needs, please contact Carolyn Bert (618-534-8977) or the church office (618-965-3119) as soon as possible. Thank you.



Applications are being received for the Peace Lutheran Church Scholarship.

These one-year non-renewable scholarships are available to any first-year full-time students attending an accredited institution of higher learning who are confirmed, voting members of Peace Lutheran Church for at least one year prior to application. If you are interested in this scholarship, please contact the office to receive the new guidelines and an application. Deadline to apply is July 1<sup>st</sup>.