

March 7th, 2025

PEACE CONNECTION

Friday March 7th
Pastor Charlie's Day Off
6:00 pm Monster's Game

Saturday March 8th
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday March 9th
First Bible Presentation
9 & 11 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Christian Education
3:00 pm TQ Civic Concert Band
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Monday March 10th
10:00 am Staff Meeting
2:00 pm Organ Practice
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study

Tuesday March 11th
7:00 pm Peace Pavilion Meeting

Wednesday March 12th
11:45 am Lent and Lunch Study

Thursday March 13th
Sexton's Day Off
11:00 am FLO
3:00 pm Organ Practice
7:30 am Choir Practice

Friday March 14th
Pastor Charlie's Day Off

Saturday March 15th
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday March 16th
9 & 11 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Christian Education
10:30 am Arden Courts

Monday March 17th
Happy St. Patrick's Day!
10:00 am Staff Meeting
1:00 pm Comfort Quilters
2:00 pm Organ Practice
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study
7:00 pm Women's Discipleship Group

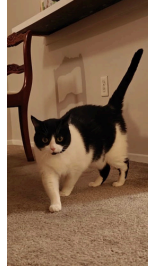
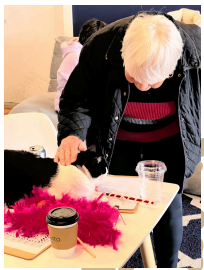
Tuesday March 18th
1:30 pm Watercolor Class with Mel
7:00 pm Peace Pavilion Meeting

*Grow in Faith * Serve In Love *
Live In Peace*



Cat Cafe!

On 2/23, Prince of Peace members enjoyed an afternoon at the Affogato Cat Cafe in Tremont. One lucky kitty was adopted and joined her furrrever home with our very own Zack Dragony! Thank you to everyone for supporting our activities!



Lent 2025

Wednesday Mid-Day Soup and Study – Fellowship Hall (11:45 am to 1 pm)

March 12 to April 9, we will gather for a Soup Lunch and Study. Lunch will begin at 11:45 am, followed by a time of study using the video and book by Adam Hamilton entitled "The Message of Jesus." We will take turns making soup for the group, and all participants are invited to bring a salad or side dish or bread to share. For more information contact Pastor Charlie.

Prayer Wall

During the season of Lent, a prayer wall will be on a table once again in the narthex, at the entrance of the sanctuary. Pieces of paper and pens will be there for you. Take time to write a prayer – joys and sorrows. At the end of Lent, we will take all these prayers and burn them in our fire pit outside – an offering to God.

Women In Transition

We are accepting donations for women's toiletries, sanitary products, and umbrellas. The need is great! We have been asked to refrain from collecting women's clothing for them at this time. Please drop off your donations at the Donation Station. Questions, please contact Jan Filkill

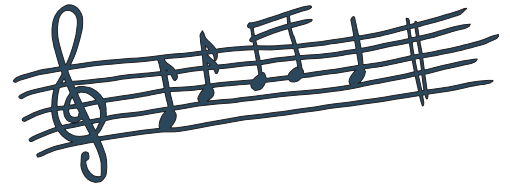


Designate Your Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31st

A big thank you to members who have already designated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to POP. The 2024 Choice Dollars will expire on March 31, 2025. If you own any Thrivent Financial products or services you have a choice in directing where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable outreach funds each year. We really appreciate those who direct those Choice Dollars to Prince of Peace. To direct Choice Dollars log on to Thrivent.com (<https://www.thrivent.com>) or call (800) 847-4836. If you have any questions or would like to find out more about Thrivent, please contact Tim Regan at 440-227-9593 or at timothy.regan@thrivent.com.

Travel Quest

Join Travel Quest for their next event to hear the Lorain County Civic Band concert on Sunday, March 9th, at 3:00pm. This is a free event!



March Young at Heart Lunch

Please join us on Friday, March 28th at 12:30 pm. We will be enjoying good food and fellowship at Longhorn Steakhouse, located at 20999 Center Ridge Rd. in Rocky River. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the lower lobby. Questions, contact Kathy Kettler.



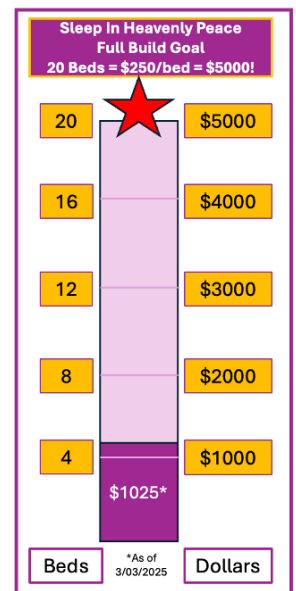
Update for SHP

We are on our way! Donations are coming in supporting our Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) ministry which will remain our focus throughout Lent. As you can see in the infographic below, happy to report we are getting closer to our Full Build Goal (20 beds, \$250 per bed, \$5000 total) along with a great start of in-kind donations of sheets and comforters to accompany each bed.

Remember to save the date for our Build Date on June 7th! (signups coming soon) We will continue to update the infographic to track our progress towards reaching our goal and prayerfully ask for continued donations both to fund the beds and in-kind donations of new kids twin bedding: twin "Bedding in Bag" set, kids twin sheet sets, pillows, mattress protectors, comforters, quilts, blankets and throws.

Thank you to all of those who have donated! Remember, in-kind donations can be left in the SHP Collection Bin located in the Upper Lobby and monetary donations are welcome in any amount. We ask that donations for this project be made through the church (not direct to SHP) as part of your normal offering. PLEASE make sure to add the notation of "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" to your donation whether via check (checks made out to Prince of Peace), [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly), or via envelope.

Any questions, please see Diane Merhaut



Peace Pavilion Capital Campaign Plus

Status as of February 24, 2025

Architect = \$20,000

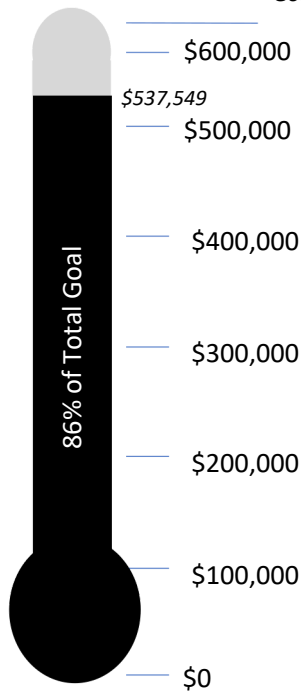
Construction Cost* = \$533,149

Financing Cost = \$43,000

Other Items * = \$26,040

Total Commitment Status

Goal: \$622,000



ITEM	COMMITMENTS		FUNDS	
	To Date Commitment	Remaining Required	To Date Received	Remaining Required
Construction *	\$506,799	\$26,350	\$398,767	\$134,382
	95%	5%	75%	25%
Financing	\$5,000	\$38,000	\$0	\$43,000
	12%	88%	0%	100%
Architect	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0
	100%	0%	100%	0%
Other Items **	\$26,040	\$0	\$26,040	\$0
	100%	0%	100%	0%
Total	\$557,839	\$64,350	\$444,807	\$177,382
	90%	10%	71%	29%

Note: Commitment Status includes "silent" commitments

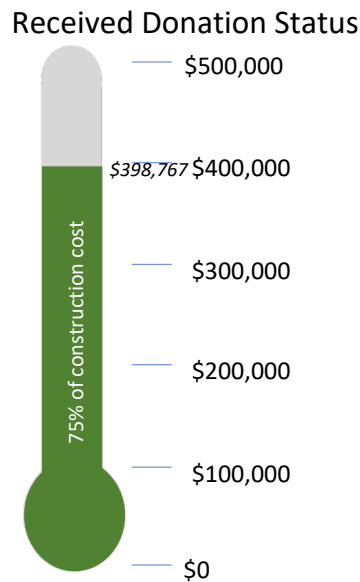
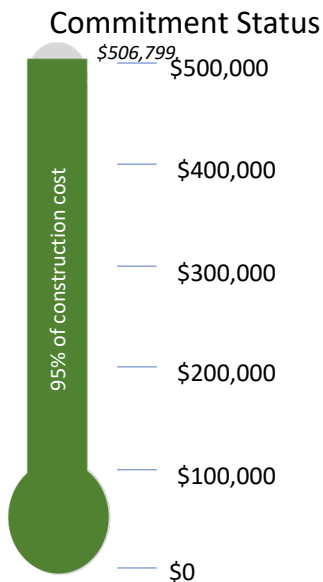
* Includes change orders.

** Other items include \$14,000 for Worship & Music (funding by W&M / Ilene Hardy Memorial Fund), \$8,800 for Benches ("fund a bench"), \$3,240 for Outdoor Altar (funded by Altar Guild). Additional landscaping option being developed and additional funding from base landscaping not included.

Peace Pavilion Capital Campaign – Construction Cost Only

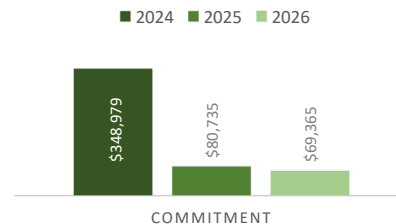
Status as of February 24, 2025

Construction Cost* = \$533,149



Donor Level	3 Year Commitment	Number of Pledged Donors
Buckeye	\$50,000+	3
Oak	\$25,000 - \$50,000	4
Maple	\$10,000 - \$25,000	7
Rose	\$5,000 - \$10,000	10
Tulip	\$3,000 - \$5,000	8
Daisy	\$1,000 - \$3,000	25

COMMITMENT BY YEAR



Note: Commitment Status includes "silent" commitments * Includes change orders.

Thank you for your continued support of the Peace Pavilion. Our momentum continues as we enter 2025 and are truly blessed to have such generous support across our congregation and community. Here are some recent highlights and milestones:

We reached a 95% commitment level for the Construction of the Peace Pavilion. We reached an 90% commitment level for the overall project with 71% of the total project funds received. We have added a third donor to our "Buckeye" level of commitment for the Peace Pavilion. We received our first pledge for the Financing component of the project. We are excited as our May 4th Dedication Service approaches and again, we are humbled by your continued support.

Sincerely,

The Outdoor Worship Committee

Profile Story

CHRIS & MIKE PISKUNOFF



Chris and Mike were both born in the Cleveland area. Chris grew up in Rocky River and Mike grew up in Lakewood. Chris attended St. Christopher's Elementary, Rocky River High School, and Cleveland State University. Mike went to Lakewood Public Schools and graduated from Lakewood High. Chris graduated from Lorain Community College with a degree in Radiologic Technology. She spent 28 years as a Radiologic Technologist and is now retired. Mike apprenticed as an Electrician, becoming a Journeyman. He worked out of Local 38 IBEW until his retirement. Chris has 1 living brother and 1 deceased. Mike has 1 brother.

Chris relates that their meeting is a long and funny story ... They were both divorced and raising young children. Several different friends tried to "fix them up" with blind dates, but neither of them were ready. Fate truly stepped in thanks to Cleveland Magazine! P.S. They joked that when they finally had a first date, that "sparks were flying" since Chris was an X-ray Tech and Mike was an Electrician!

Chris has 2 adult sons now. Dawson is 50 and is married and living in Florida. He is retired from the Air Force, works in Satellite Communications, and has a son, a daughter and 2 stepsons. Dan is 49, and lives with his significant other in California. He is involved in vintage high end fashion, and she is an artist. Mike has a daughter Alexandra, age 42. She is married and works from home in Fayetteville, NC. They have a 3 year old daughter, Olivia. Together, Mike and Chris have a daughter Nina. Nina is 33, fairly newly married, and just bought a house in North Ridgeville. She is an Education Intervention Specialist, and teaches at Medina County Career Center. Chris and Mike have a spoiled pup, Petey! He is their "baby".

They had joined a Lutheran Church when their daughter Nina was born. They followed some friends here to POP, and are returning. Chris and Mike are just getting back into a renewed membership but are looking forward to finding their service niches!

They have a variety of hobbies and interests. Chris enjoys reading, especially mysteries. She also loves classic films, and a bit of gardening. She lived in Germany for a year in 1972 and still has friends there. Mike likes to tinker on everything from cars to pinball machines. He has always been a drummer, and still plays in a rock band once in a while. They hope to do more traveling in the future, as long as they can!

Mike and Chris have seen a great energy here at Prince of Peace! The focus of this community will always reflect the Light and Love of God! You will usually find them attending the traditional service on Sunday. Please welcome them, you will discover a very kind and friendly couple!

By Tom Robinholt : Profile Reporter



KIDS BOOK BANK

**SATURDAY MAY 3RD
1-3PM**

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

Volunteer to sort books that will be distributed to schools and communities to promote literacy. Welcoming donations of early readers, children's, and teen books, especially books featuring diverse populations and characters of color





1 Corinthians 3

3 And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, 3 for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? 4 For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? 5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 8 The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. 9 For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building. 10 According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— 13 the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. 14 If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward. 15 If the work is burned up, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire. 16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple. 18 Do not deceive yourselves. If you think that you are wise in this age, you should become fools so that you may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness," 20 and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile." 21 So let no one boast about human leaders. For all things are yours, 22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all belong to you, 23 and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

Paul addresses a divided church that has many different pockets of members. Their focus has turned to the leaders and away from Christ. In this beautiful passage, Paul reminds the church who is in charge. Paul planted. Apollos watered. God provides the growth.

There are two important points I want to lift up from this lesson today. First and most importantly, remember whose you are. Or maybe the Texan version would be more helpful — remember whose y'all are. Y'all are children of God. And God is the focus. It is all about God!

A colleague of mine began every one of his sermons with a prayer that said, "We come to see Jesus and him only." That is my hope and prayer as a pastor — that I turn the focus from me to Jesus. My hope and prayer is that the words of my mouth and actions in my life point those I serve to Jesus, and not to me. It's not about me. It's not about the pastor. It is about Jesus.

Second point — remember WHO you are. Paul tells puts it this way: "You are God's temple and God dwells in you." Again, the "you" is "y-all." All y'all are the temple in which God dwells. As an individual, you are vital part of it, but so is your neighbor.

In Vacation Bible School some 50 years ago (Boomer illustration), we sang a song — "Jesus and Others and You, what a wonderful way to spell JOY!"

What Paul is sharing is nothing new. Jesus emphasizes this when asked what is the greatest commandment. His response is, "I'll give you two — LOVE the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength and mind, and LOVE your neighbor as yourself. On these two hang all the law and the prophets." (my own loose translation)

A more blunt way of putting it is this — "Get over yourself!" Focus on God, and focus on others. Trust God, and grow to trust one another. For if we were to truly trust God and each other, we wouldn't need to worry about ourselves — for God and my neighbor is watching out for me.

I know this may sound like wishful thinking, and we are raised to look out for ourselves.

But one can hope, yes?

Let's begin by trusting God, and God first. It's worth a try.

Let us pray: O God, you alone are our rock and our salvation. Forgive us when the ME becomes more important than THEE. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen

Save the Date!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 16-20



Cokesbury Kids

ROAD TRIP

ON THE GO WITH GOD

AN ECUMENICAL VBS FOR CHILDREN K-GRADE 5

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

28455 CENTER RIDGE ROAD, WESTLAKE

[Register Here!](#)



Sunday, March 9, 2024

Prayer Request - Long Term

(All prayer requests made after Thursday at Noon will be posted the following week)

Patty Doran	Sister-in-law of Chuck Sieving
Dawn Higgins	Neighbor of Fran Molnar
Jayne Kramic	Friend of Kathy McCollum
Angela Missig	Daughter of Gloria Starr
Jenn Pitts	Daughter of Judy Kazak
Pam Rotella	
Bill Sweeny	Friend of Kathy McCollum
Robert Sieving	Brother of Chuck Sieving
Al Tielke	
Chris Sikora	
Kathy and Tim Needham	
Cynthia Flores	Jan Filkill's daughter
Ron Peckham	
Monica Doptis	Dan and Barb Fronczak's grandchild
Beverly Newman	Friend of Jane and Lowell Dillon
Laura K.	Deb Gibbons' friend

Recent prayer requests received within the past 3 weeks:

February 23	Despina Sgondea (Diane Merhaut's friend)
	Nancy Bishop (Jan Juhn's friend)
	Aiden Clark (Krystle Henry's godson)
	Daniel Reisner (Krystle Henry's family member)
	Linda Fronczak (Dan & Barb Fronczak's family member)
	George-Ryan Grimes (Mike & Sherry Weber's son-in-law)
	Emily Saunders
	Lia Staaf
	Mary Owens
March 2	
March 9	Chuck Sieving

Happy Birthday

- 03/01 Judy Cuciak
- 03/01 Mary Olah
- 03/01 Sandra Zanders
- 03/01 Rusty Blakeslee
- 03/07 Isaac Worsencroft
- 03/07 Shawn Merhaut
- 03/08 Mark Drobnak
- 03/10 Jim Jaracz
- 03/12 Lisa Arrigo
- 03/13 Brooke Kovach
- 03/13 Judy Kazak
- 03/14 Karen Givens
- 03/15 John Bontempo
- 03/16 Jon Wilhelm
- 03/19 Carter Bruneau
- 03/20 Emma Goggin
- 03/21 Sandy Connell
- 03/21 Richard balch
- 03/22 Lisa Woodward

- 03/23 Dale Mortensen
- 03/24 Xavier Worsencroft
- 03/27 Fran Wilhelm
- 03/27 Judy Heimbuch
- 03/27 Kyle Hallowell
- 03/27 Pamela Ventimiglia
- 03/28 Joseph Fortuna
- 03/28 Zack Dragony
- 03/29 Dominic Carimi
- 03/29 Kathryn Schworm
- 03/29 William Franz
- 03/31 Doug Leavens
- 03/31 Linda Baumbach

Date	Online	In Person	Total
03/02/2025	43	148	191
02/23/2025	34	164	198
02/16/2025	61	114	175
02/09/2025	45	146	191



Second Harvest

The requested items for January are:
Canned Beef Stew, Beans, Fruits & Vegetables

Giving Data

Operating Giving Report	YTD	AVG/Week
Total Giving as of Dec. 31st, 2024:	\$506,754	\$9,745.27
% of Annual 2024 Budget Received to Date:	104%	
Total ministry expenses incurred in 2024	\$485,476	\$9,336.07
Projected Surplus for 2024:	\$21,278	

Thank you for your abundant giving in 2024!!



Prince of Peace Staff

- Pastor Charlie Woodward
pcpopwestlake@gmail.com
- James & Lisa Arrigo, Sextons
jamespopwestlake@gmail.com
- Brandon Bilek, Sound Technician
brandonbpop@gmail.com
- Beverly Braun, Christian Education Coordinator
christianeducation.pop@gmail.com
- Hailey Desmond, Marketing/Communications
princeofpeacecommunication@gmail.com
- Ian Faleer, Contemporary Music Director & Chancel Choir Director
ifaleer@gmail.com
- Wendy Hansen, Office Administrator
princeofpeacewestlake@gmail.com
- Hilary Lucas, Youth Director
poplutheranyouth@gmail.com
- Ruth Williams, Organist
mrsruthwilliams@yahoo.com
- Dave Covell, Church Council President
thecovells@gmail.com



Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9-3
28455 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake, Ohio 44145
440/871-5565 • www.princeofpeacewestlake.org

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:00 am in person.

Livestream

Christian Education - Sundays 10-10:50 am

Adult supervised child care for children 5 and under is offered for both services and during

the Christian Education hour between services.