



April 5th, 2024

PEACE CONNECTION

Friday April 5th

Saturday April 6th
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday April 7th
9 & 11 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Blood Pressure Screening
10:00 am Christian Education

Monday April 8th
Offices will be closed for the eclipse

Tuesday April 9th
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal

Wednesday April 10th
1:30 pm Watercolor Painting Class
7:00 pm Council Exec Comm

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

Friday April 12th

Saturday April 13th
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday April 14th
9:00 & 11:00 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Pancake Breakfast
10:00 am Christian Education
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Monday April 15th
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 April 16th
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal

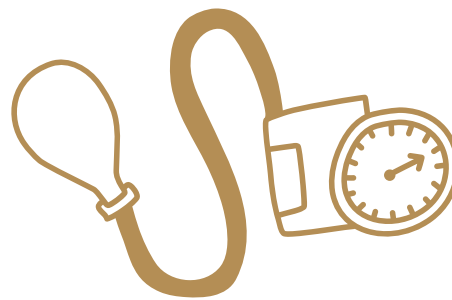
*Grow in Faith * Serve In Love *
Live In Peace*

Tax Season

With tax season upon us if you need an additional copy of your 2023 giving statement, please send an email to secretarypopfinancial@gmail.com or call the office.

Blood Pressure Screening

Our next blood pressure screening will be on Sunday, April 7th at 10:00 am between services!



Young at Heart Lunch

Please join us on Friday, April 19th at 12:30pm. We will be enjoying good food and fellowship at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, located at 25779 Brookpark Rd. in North Olmsted.

Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the lower lobby. Questions, contact Kathy Kettler at (440)734-6511.



Travel Quest Presents:

All aboard the Prince of Peace Chartered bus. Even if you already have tickets, you can ride on the bus for \$15. Group rate for Pavilion & Lawn Seating.

Depart Prince of Peace Parking Lot 5:00pm Return approx.11:30pm Prince of Peace members and Guests welcome.

Checks payable to Prince of Peace, please use the memo: TQ Blossom and are due by June 2nd.
Please contact msfiddlesticks@hotmail.com to register!

★ SLAUTE TO FREEDOM ★

Concert

July 3rd, 2024

8:00 PM

BLOSSOM MUSIC CENTER

1145 W STEELS CORNERS RD, CUYAHOGA FALLS,
OH 44223

FOOD

FUN

MUSIC

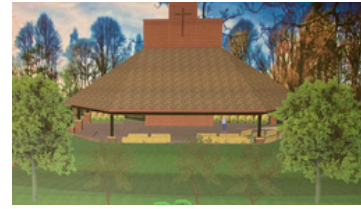
LAWN SEATS \$20, BUS \$15, BOXED LUNCH TBD,
PAVILION SEATING \$23-\$31

Prince of Peace

Peace Pavilion Weekly Update

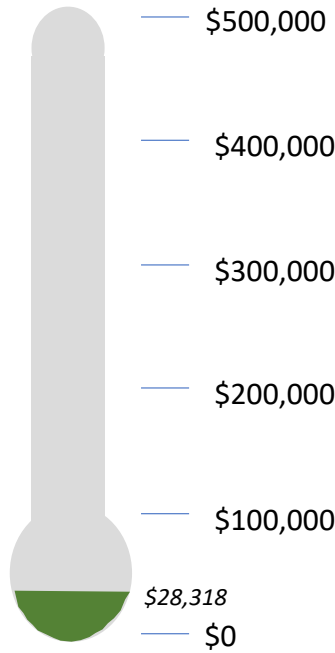
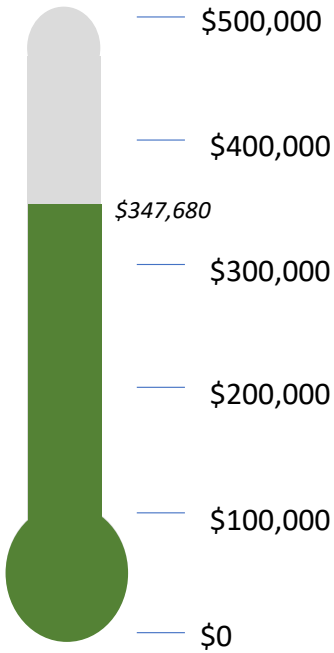
The Peace Pavilion Project continues to make good progress. We continue to receive commitments and donations. THANK YOU!

Peace Pavilion Capital Campaign Status as of April 3, 2024



Goal = \$500,000

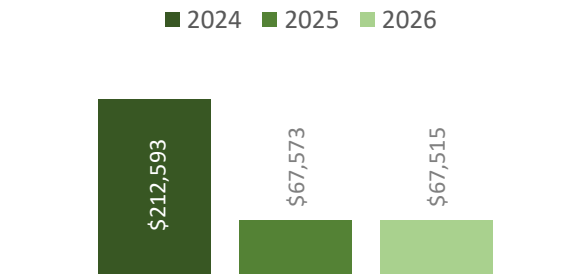
Commitment Status Received Donation Status



Note: Commitment Status includes "silent" commitments

Donor Level	3 Year Commitment	Number of Pledged Donors
Buckeye	\$50,000+	1
Oak	\$25,000 - \$50,000	4
Maple	\$10,000 - \$25,000	7
Rose	\$5,000 - \$10,000	6
Tulip	\$3,000 - \$5,000	7
Daisy	\$1,000 - \$3,000	9

COMMITMENT BY YEAR



We have received a preliminary contract and construction schedule aligned to our expectations. We have applied for bridge financing from Thrivent and the Lutheran Mission Investment Fund. We are preparing for our Special Congregational Meeting on April 28th and Phil Sprague continues to field questions between services. Please check out our updated Q&A discussion [Click Here](#)

Please consider completing a commitment card [Click Here](#) by April 14th. Thank you!

Sincerely,
In His service,
The Outdoor Worship Committee
Phil Sprague (Chair)
Jim Dickey
Mary Meadows
Evan Saunders
Dineen Terstage
Pastor Charlie Woodward
Steve Zinram

Peace Connection Youth Video: [Click Here](#)



ROLLER DERBY DAY

Saturday May 4th
12pm Doors, Games 1pm & 3pm

25 FREE Tickets
Sign up in Narthex
First come first serve

Cleveland Heights Community Center
1 Monticello Blvd. Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

**MAY THE 4TH
BE WITH YOU**



... and Chosen for tickets, You will be



1 Corinthians 15:19-28 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. 20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died] 21 For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; 22 for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. 24 Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 27 For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is plain that this does not include the one who put all things in subjection under him. 28 When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all.

Christ is Risen!
He is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!

I am currently reading a book by a pastor who I had the pleasure of meeting last year at a conference, Brian Zahnd. In his book, “Beauty Will Save the World” he speaks of the beauty of the cross. Forgive me for sharing a rather long quote from him – I hope you will appreciate his insight as I do.



Brian Zahnd

*Look to me and be saved,
All you ends of the earth!
—Isaiah 45:22*

[My wife] Peri and I are on our way to speak at a conference in Bethlehem and we’re spending a few days in Florence, Italy exploring the cradle of the Renaissance. Visiting the museums and art galleries, I’ve seen hundreds of crucifixion paintings, and I’ve tried to view each one with a reverent eye. I never look at depictions of Christ crucified with a jaundiced eye. Their religious nature and ubiquitous presence may illicit a yawn from the secular cynic, but not from me – I’m an incorrigible Christian. I believe the cross is where Christ saves the world. Looking at the cross with the right eye, the reverent eye of humble faith, is the locus of salvation. The cross is the sign that saves the world.

Ten years ago when I first began to connect Fyodor Dostoevsky’s enigmatic phrase “beauty will save the world” with the cross – it is at Golgotha that the ugliness of human sin is overcome by the beauty of divine love – the image of the cross as saving beauty that I most often referred to was Fra Angelico’s fresco. Today when we visited the San Marco Monastery I was able to see this fresco painted by the monk-artist Beato Angelico in 1441. As I lingered in contemplation of Fra Angelico’s Crucifixion, it prompted me to once again ask – what does this mean? Take a moment and ponder this question with me.



The crucifixion of Jesus is easily the most depicted event in human history. How many billions of crucifixes have been formed, fashioned, carved, and painted over the past two millennia? And yet what is it that is being depicted in these billions of crucifixes? On a purely objective level, it is the torture and murder of an innocent man at the hands of those who run the world by the means of violent power. The crucifixion is the damning indictment of the world as it has been arranged. What the cross tells us is that when the Son of God entered our world — the world created by Cain and all the kings who followed in his bloody wake — our systems of violent empire and sacrificial religion nailed him to a tree. This is the moment when the principalities and powers who run the world were put to open shame, and their claim of being wise and just was shown to be nothing but an empty sham. What they called wisdom and justice was nothing more than a cheap disguise to hide their naked lust for wealth and power. Paul says the rulers and authorities were shamed by the triumphant truth-telling of the cross.

Every crucifix reminds us that our systems of civilization built around an axis of power enforced by violence are not to be trusted. The myths, monuments, anthems, and memorials of every empire are designed to cleverly hide the bodies of the weak who have been trodden down by the mighty in their march to “greatness.” The cross is the unveiling. The cross is the great truth-telling. The cross is the guilty verdict handed down upon empire. The cross is the eternal monument to the Unknown Victim. Yes, the cross is where the world is forgiven, but not before the world is found guilty.

But trite and tidy answers about the meaning of Good Friday are how we domesticate the cross. This is the bane of atonement theories. Instead of the crucifixion remaining the pivotal event in a compelling story, it’s turned into a sterile formula. The cross is diminished to one of the Four Spiritual Laws or a waypoint on the Roman Road. This is how the cross is sanitized and made mechanical. The storyline is lost and the scandal is swept aside.

I’m not sure why Protestants abandoned crucifixes for empty crosses, but I think it was a mistake. I know that Protestants often argue that Jesus didn’t remain on the cross, but he didn’t remain in the manger either, and Protestants don’t seem to have an objection to Nativity scenes. The truth is, Jesus was crucified and this is the epicenter of the gospel. Paul tells the Galatians, “It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified.” A crucifix replaced with an abstract symbol removes the crucifixion from the story and seems to indicate a move to reduce the cross to a kind of mathematical sign or theological equation. This gives rise to pallid descriptions of the cross like, “God turning our minus into a plus.” Once we do that we can easily lose sight of the scandal of the cross. And the cross is a scandal!

For Christians living at such a far remove from the first century, the depth of this scandal may be hard to grasp, but your hero being crucified would be the last thing a Jew or a Roman living in antiquity would boast about. Yet the early Christians did boast about it. Paul readily admitted that this was foolishness to Romans and offensive to Jews. But Paul also said it was the power and wisdom of God, contending that “God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.” Paul doesn’t mean that when God is weak, God is still stronger than humans. That wouldn’t be scandalous, that would be just a typical boast about conventional power. Rather Paul is saying that God’s power is weakness! Think about that for a moment and you will realize that such an assertion is still scandalous today.

We are fascinated by conventional power — power to purchase, power to enforce our will, power to kill — and we are put off by any form of powerlessness. But it is precisely the powerlessness of God enacted by Jesus on the cross that somehow saves the world. Look long and deeply at the cross and you may catch a glimpse of the greatest mystery of all.

Today, about an hour before I saw Fra Angelico’s Crucifixion, I saw Michelangelo’s David. No doubt Michelangelo’s marble masterpiece is impressive and the crowds who stood around it taking pictures knew it was a monumental artistic achievement — the iconic embodiment of the Renaissance. But what moved me most today was standing alone before a monk’s fresco painted above a humble door in a medieval monastery.

David impresses me, but the Crucifixion saves me.
(<https://brianzahnd.com/2018/05/sign-saves-world/>)

Christ is Risen. Risen Indeed – ALLELUIA and AMEN!

Let us pray:
Almighty God, we thank you for your Son, who was obedient, even to death on a cross. May we see the cross in all its beauty for us and for our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. Amen.

OMNI Update

OMNI school is currently serving 365 students in grades one through nine. Many of these students need sponsors to help provide school supplies, food and medical care. If you are interested, please contact Judy Kazak at judykazak@yahoo.com. If you are currently a sponsor and would like to send a letter directly to your student(s), you can use the following address and one first-class international stamp which is currently \$1.55 at USPS. Please include the student's name. They also love to receive pictures.

OMNI George School
P.O. Box 240469
Ndola, Zambia



Second Harvest

For April through June the requested items are pasta, canned fish & packaged fruits



Giving Data

Operating Giving Report	YTD	AVG/Week
Total Giving as of Feb. 29th, 2024:	\$82,114	\$10,264
% of Annual 2024 Budget Received to Date:	17%	
Remaining Giving to Meet 2024 Budget:	\$403,886	\$9,179
Total Expenses incurred through 2/29/24	\$79,127	\$9,891



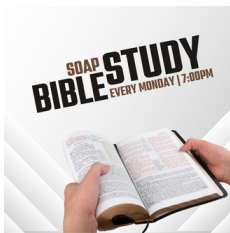
Lending Closet

Are you in need of some crutches? A shower chair? Walker? Cane?
Please click on the logo on the right hand side of the page or check the website for our updated lending closet list!



SOAP Bible Study

Looking to join? Reach out to Mark Givens at mpgivens@ameritech.net
Here is the schedule for the next few weeks:
4/8 - day off for eclipse
4/15 Daniel 10



Coffee with the Pastor

Coffee with the Pastor will be held the second Sunday of every month at 10 am.

We will meet in the Education Wing Second Cup of Coffee Room.
Come for conversation, questions and fellowship. Bring your coffee and donut and join us.



Prayer LIST

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Prayer Request - Long Term

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

Ren	Granddaughter of Linda Baumbach
Don Chismar	
Patty Doran	Sister-in-law of Chuck Sieving
Marcia Drysdale	Friend of Jane Dillon
Dawn Higgins	Neighbor of Fran Molnar
Jayne Kramic	Friend of Kathy McCollum
Angela Missig	Daughter of Gloria Starr
Jenn Pitts	Daughter of Judy Kazak
Lois Reichert	
Pam Rotella	
Bill Sweeny	Friend of Kathy McCollum
Robert Sieving	Brother of Chuck Sieving
Al Tielke	
Mike Hosler	
Ron Filkill	
Chris Sikora	

Recent prayer requests received within the past 3 weeks:

March 24	Tommy Missig (Gloria Starr's grandson) Joanne Burns Elayna Gros (Dana Gros' daughter) Marie (The Saunder's neighbor)
March 31	Hilary Mason (Ruth William's daughter) Charlotte Plavan (Jann Daniel's friend) Michael Novotny (Dave and Carol Novotny's son) Amanda Straquadine (Liz Grider's co-worker) Jenny Kelemen (Jann Daniel's friend) Sue C. (Liz Grider's friend)
April 7	Grace Dye Ty and his wife Ruth (Brandon Bilek's friend) Patty McCue (friend of Dickey family)

Happy Birthday

Date	Online	In Person	Total
03/31/2024	92	164	356
03/29/2024	42	66	108
03/28/2024	17	57	74
03/24/2024	39	179	218

04/03 Benjamin Beard
 04/03 Luke Ventimiglia
 04/03 Tracy Biller
 04/04 Anita Bauknecht
 04/04 Samuel Dickey
 04/05 Becky Rowe
 04/05 Cindy Zinram
 04/05 Diane Diekroger
 04/05 Steve Zinram
 04/07 Haley Hackett
 04/07 Sarah Bruening
 04/07 Mason Reisner
 04/08 Charles Schmidt
 04/10 Jacob Arthur
 04/13 Eli Hallowell
 04/13 Mark Givens
 04/14 Tim Gibbons
 04/16 Mason Rowe
 04/17 Mark Wiedt
 04/17 Thomas Morton

04/18 Benjamin Fortuna
 04/18 Francine Molnar
 04/19 Mackenzie Juntunen
 04/19 Susan Stevens
 04/20 Mark Oster
 04/20 Matthew Olah
 04/20 Norm Rehark
 04/21 Amy Babinski
 04/23 Abbey Smylie
 04/23 Carley Frey
 04/24 Laurie Vorobej
 04/26 Aili MacKenzie
 04/26 Ellen Babinski
 04/27 Avianna Carimi
 04/28 Becky Kear
 04/28 Helga Susemihl
 04/28 Sally Poirier

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

04/07 Grant & Beth Comnick
 04/11 Dave & Laurel Covell
 04/26 Susan & Paul Franz
 04/28 Susan & T.J. Worsencroft

Prince of Peace Staff

Pastor Charlie Woodward
 pcpopwestlake@gmail.com

James & Lisa Arrigo, Sextons
 jamespopwestlake@gmail.com

Brandon Bilek, Sound Technician
 brandonpop@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.

