

# Peace Mennonite Church



April 5, 2026

## Welcome statement

We welcome into the full life of Peace Mennonite Church all who seek to follow Jesus' way of peacemaking and compassion. We rejoice in the diverse characteristics each person brings to our community, and we embrace differences in race, gender, sexual orientation, physical ability, mental ability, economic status, marital status, and age.

## Mission statement

Peace Mennonite Church is a Christ-centered community that seeks to create peace, work for justice, care for creation, serve others, and nurture thoughtful faith.

## Easter Sunday

### Gathering

Prelude

Call to worship

One: Listen. Do you hear it?

**All: The sound of joy. Laughter breaking in.**

One: Listen! It sounds like harmony.

**All: Angels singing.**

One: Why are you weeping?

For the grief? For the beauty?

**All: Jesus is risen!**

One: Yes! And creation sings it.  
Yesterday's tears linger, as they must,  
**All: but love is stronger than death.**  
One: Do you believe this?  
Listen, Jesus is speaking your name.  
**All: Our names- each one.**  
One: Like music of the soul. Can you hear it?  
**All: It is the sound of resurrection.**  
One: Let us worship the Risen One!

Welcome

Welcome Easter

One: Welcome Easter  
**All: Welcome relief!**  
One: Newfound joy is washing over grief.  
**All: Welcome mystery. Welcome surprise!**  
One: Impossible reality – risen, before our eyes!  
**All: Welcome Jesus, our Savior and Friend.**  
One: Welcome seeking and naming.  
**All: Welcome love without end.**

### Gathering hymns:

VT 346 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"  
VT 565 "Christ Is Alive, and Goes Before Us"

### Sharing

Announcements  
Joys and concerns  
Congregational prayer  
VT 352 "This Joyful Eastertide"

### Listening and Responding

Scripture reading: [John 20:1-18](#)

Sermon: "When You Least Expect It, Jesus Shows Up"-- Roger Neufeld Smith

Hymn: VT 353 "Now the Green Blade Rises"

Silent Reflection

### Responding

Sharing thoughts and reflections  
Offertory prayer  
Sending hymn: VT 359 "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

### Blessing

### Worship Volunteers

**Worship leader:** Sharon McCulley; **Accompanist:** Twila Schmidt; **Scripture reader:** Jeri Butkus;  
**Prelude:** Jim Krause; **Song Leader:** Anne Bailey; **Opening/closing:** Jeri Butkus; **Zoom/Tech**  
**Tender:** Jim Russo; **Greeter:** Bert Havekate-Ens

### Upcoming week's schedule of events

#### Tuesday, April 7th

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Pastor Roger's office hours

1:30 p.m.: Wise Guys (conversation group)

**Thursday, April 9th**

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.: Pastor Roger's office hours

9:30 a.m.: Wise Women; contact Judy Johnson

2:00 p.m.: [Zoom](#) gathering (informal sharing and prayer time)

6:00 p.m.: Coordinating Committee mtg

**Friday, April 10th**

7:00 p.m.: Family game night @ PMC

**Sunday, April 12th**

3:00 p.m.: Congregational Meeting @ PMC

4:00 p.m.: Gracious Space @ PMC

*For future events and comprehensive announcements please refer to the weekly email newsletter (subscribe on our website homepage).*

## Announcements

**Next Sunday, April 12th** please plan to attend the **Congregational Meeting at 3:00 p.m.** followed by **Gracious Space at 4:00 p.m.** The meal on April 12th will be a sandwich buffet. Bread, meat, and cheese fixings will be furnished. Please bring side dishes, chips, etc, to share.

Every year, **Mennonite Central Committee collects coins** as part of the effort to support their work for relief, development and peace around the world. We'll have a moment for collecting change in worship for the next few weeks. The coins will be delivered to the MCC Sale in Hutchinson, Kansas.

**Transition notes for our time between pastors:**

- **During the interim pastoral care needs and the pastor's email** will be monitored by Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith. ([peacemennopastor@gmail.com](mailto:peacemennopastor@gmail.com))
- **Administrative Assistant**, Jerry Dowdle, will be working mostly Tuesdays and Thursdays ([peacemennonite@gmail.com](mailto:peacemennonite@gmail.com)) Please send announcements by 8am Tuesdays.

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