



LMM Carlson Boots and Socks 2025 Wrap Up

Thank you all for your tremendous generosity in support of this ministry and the folks at the 2100 Lakeside Men's Shelter. We were able to delivery 37 pairs of boots, at least 200 pairs of socks, and 10+ bags of clothing before Christmas which hopefully brought some warmth, comfort, and joy to those in need. Sincere thanks for your ongoing support to this ministry and hope to have more opportunities to serve in 2026. Thank you! Shawn Merhaut



LMM

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries continues their amazing work and has recently finished construction of four solar-powered small homes to help address Cleveland's housing crisis and serve those in greatest need. These innovative small homes feature state of the art energy-efficient systems and offer independent living with a full kitchen and bathroom. Prince of Peace congregants are invited to further our work as a faith partner and help transform these houses into true homes filled with hope, stability and love!



Take a Tag, Fill a Need! Please view the LMM Transforming Houses Into Homes display in the upper lobby and consider sponsoring an item for the homes. A total of 69 items have been identified by LMM as needed, ranging in price from \$13 for a pack of hangers to \$374 for a small couch. Please return tags with funds to the display collection box by January 31. Cash, check and Tithely are accepted. Checks should be made out to Prince of Peace; if using Tithely, enter "LMM Homes" in the memo. Donations of any denomination are also gratefully accepted.

January 2nd, 2025

PEACE CONNECTION

Friday January 2nd
Pastor Charlie's Day Off

Saturday January 3rd

Sunday January 4th
In Person Worship 9 & 11 am

Monday January 5th
1:00 pm Comfort Quilters
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study

Tuesday January 6th
1:30 pm Watercolor Class with Mel
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal
7:00 pm Peace Pavilion Meeting

Wednesday January 7th

Thursday January 8th
Sexton's Day Off

Friday January 9th
Pastor Charlie's Day Off
6:00 pm FLOW Dance

Saturday January 10th

Sunday January 11th
In Person Worship 9 & 11 am
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Monday January 12th
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study

Tuesday January 13th
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal
7:00 pm Peace Pavilion Meeting

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

Peace Pavilion Estimated Cost at Completion

Status as of November 25, 2025

We have completed the Peace Pavilion and have absorbed some additional landscape costs within our budget. Our only remaining spend is interest related to our financing.

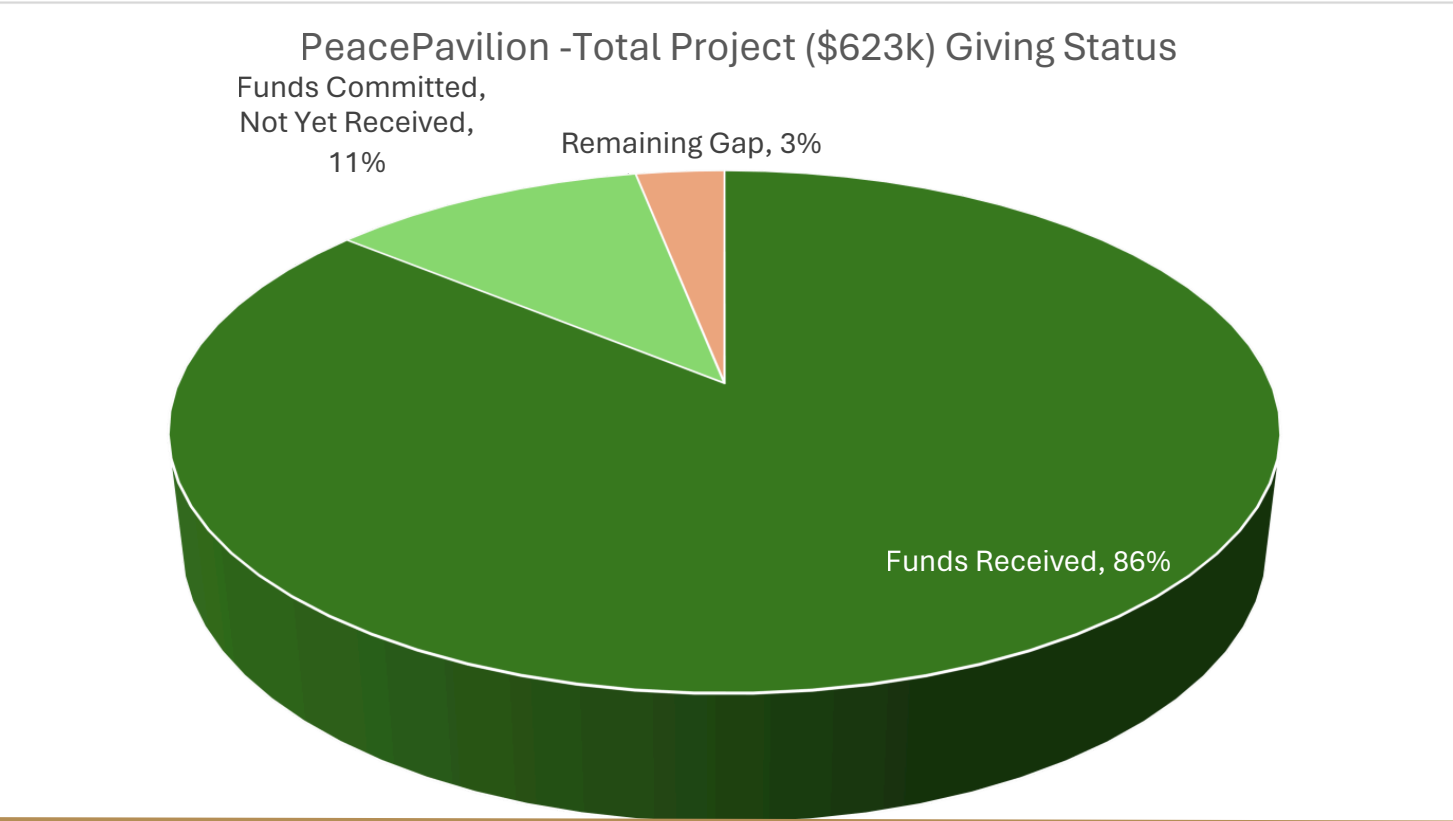
Sources of Funds (THANK YOU!)

- Giving to Date = \$489,888 *
- Future Pledges = \$69,434
- General Endowment Fund = \$20,000
- Ilene Hardy Memorial Fund = \$14,000
- Fund a Bench = \$8,800
- Altar Guild = \$3,240

TOTAL = \$605,362

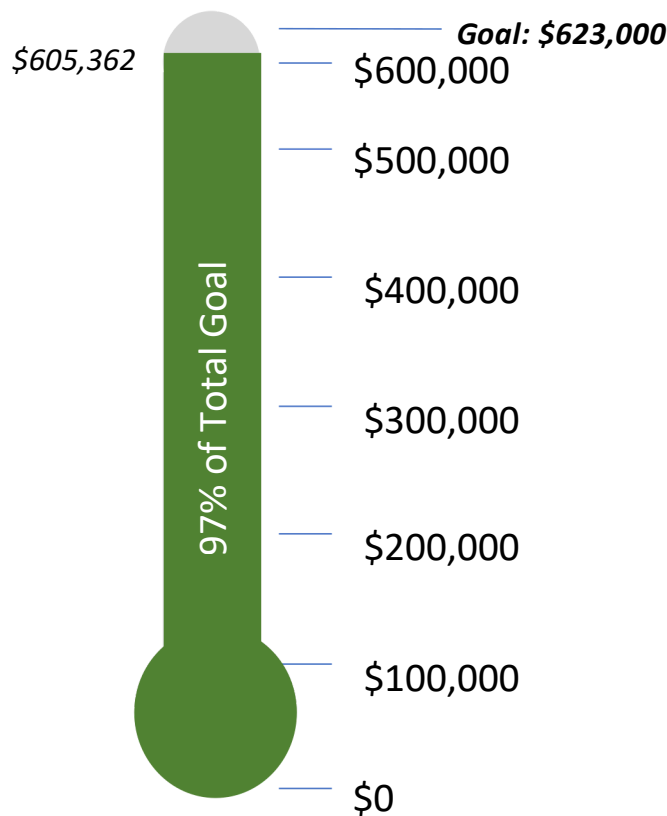
Gap = \$18,162

* Includes Anne Steinbrecher Memorial Fund, Mike Hosler Memorial Fund, and Direct Contributions to Finance Costs

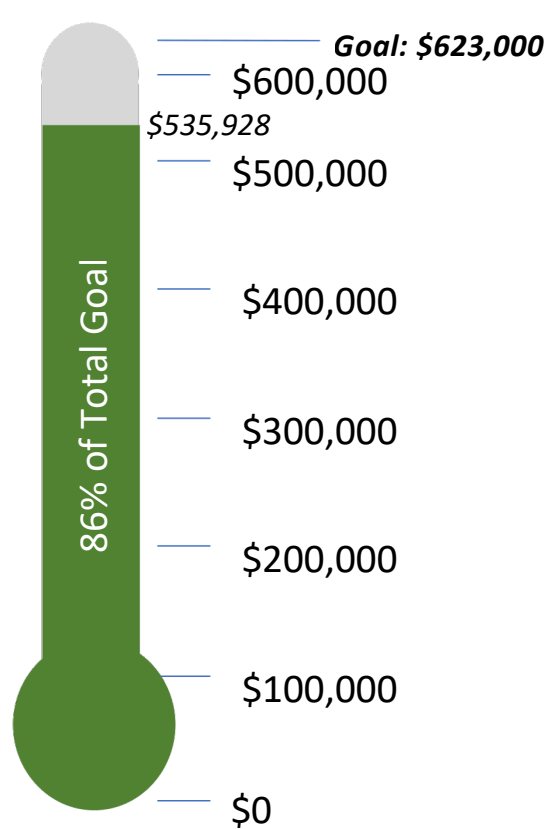


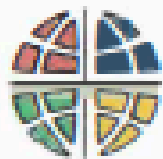
Peace Pavilion Capital Campaign Plus Status as of November 25, 2025

Total Commitment Status



Total Giving Status





Overview of the Phases of Transition

Key People Engaging

Phase 1: Saying Farewell

Council/President, Synod, Celebration and Worship Teams

- Pastor announces resignation or retirement
- Bishop meets with Congregation Council
- Plan for transitional leadership
- Conclusion of Pastor's ministry

Phase 2: Congregational Health & Identity

Transition Team, Synod, Council

- Discern Congregational Health, Sustainability, and Vitality
- Discern Mission & Vision: "Who are we - and what is God calling us to?"
- Identify staffing needed to engage the Mission & Vision

Phase 3: Entering the Call Process

Call Committee, Synod, Council

- Form Call Committee (and pass along findings from Phase 2)
- Assistant to the Bishop meets with Congregation Council and Call Committee
- Preparation of Ministry Site Profile
- Interview preparation
- Receive & Interview candidates

Phase 4: Primary Candidate

Pastor Candidate, Call Committee, Synod, Council

- Call Committee recommends candidate to the Congregation Council
- Congregation Council engages with recommended candidate & negotiates compensation
- Meet & Greet for candidate and congregation
- Congregation meeting with call vote

Phase 5: Welcoming & Celebrating

- Determine timeline for rostered minister's move and start date
- Facilitate rostered minister's move
- Schedule installation service with Conference Dean

PASTOR
CHARLIE'S
BLOG



Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), 24 and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

29 "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word,
30 for my eyes have seen your salvation,

31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
32 a light for revelation to the gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too."

36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37 then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. 38 At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

According to Luke, it's now forty days after Jesus' birth. After eight days, Jesus had been circumcised and named in accordance with Jewish law. Now, thirty-two days later, his parents are again performing their duty as faithful Jews by returning to the Temple, this time in order to offer a sacrifice and to consecrate their child to the Lord. They must have been in a reverent, even solemn mood that day, the way many young parents in our congregations are when their first child is to be baptized. And so for this very reason they were perhaps startled, even frightened, when Simeon, old beyond years and beaming with ecstatic revelation, comes up to them to touch the child and then begins to sing.

Simeon – Courage – knowing that God has things in hand! Courage to face death, knowing that God has the final word. Courage to entrust the future of God's people to this one, who will be the cause of many to rise and to fall, and to piece the heart of his own mother. Courage to face the world. Anna can do nothing but sing! We too, are given the same gift. Today, we hear, we see, we touch and taste God's promise – the gift of God – his only son. For here we have the one who comes to save us, who promises to be with us, who holds our future in the palm of his hand, who promises to never let go. What song do you have in your heart?

As we come to the end of 2025, and enter into 2026 – what song is on your heart? One of peace? Joy? Sadness? Despair? Hope? Sometimes, all we can do is sing. Songs can be powerful. A song that was instrumental in the destruction of the Berlin wall took place in Leipzig, Germany. Gathering on Monday evenings by candlelight around St. Nikolai church – the church where Bach composed so many of his cantatas – they would sing, and over two months their numbers grew from a little more than a thousand people to more than three hundred thousand, over half the citizens of the city, singing songs of hope and protest and justice, until their song shook the powers of their nation and changed the world. Sometime after the fall, a journalist asked one of the commanders of the East German secret police why they hadn't crushed these protests like that had so many others. He replied, "We had no contingency plans for song."

Sometimes, all we can do is sing. Simeon knows that. Anna does as well. A song that summarizes the Christmas story for me is "What Child is This?" What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping, Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mary! Why lies He in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear, for sinners here The silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you. Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mary. So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, Come peasant, king to own Him; The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone Him. Raise, raise a song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby. Joy, joy for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mary. God's gift – God in the flesh – Emmanuel God with us. He comes to die. He comes to rise. He comes to give us a song to sing, on the mountaintop, or in the valley, in the times of joy, and even in the midst of deep darkness and despair. A song of courage to face whatever the world has to offer, today and in the year to come. For God is with us.

Let us pray: Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in the new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever—the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



Sunday, January 4th, 2025

Prayer Request - Long Term

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

Pam Rotella
Al Tielke
Angela Missig (Daughter of Gloria Starr)
Laura K (Friend of Deb Gibbons)
Bill Sweeny (Friend of Kathy McCollum)
Paula Collister (Sister-in-law of Liz Grider)
Daniel Reisner (Friend of James and Lisa Arrigo)
Jan and Larry (Friends of Dan and Barb Fronczak)
Monica Doptis (Grandchild of Dan and Barb Fronczak)
Liz Jones (Daughter of Dan and Barb Fronczak)
Robert Sieving (Brother of Chuck Sieving)
Lisa Piscola (Friend of Jann Daniels)
Emily Saunders

Recent prayer requests received within the past 3 weeks:

December 21

Rich Balch

December 28th

Emily Saunders

Aunt Ginny & Debbie and Rick (Aunt and cousins of Beverly Braun)

Brenda (Cousin of Beverly Braun)

Tina and Kenny Parfitt (Cousin of Beverly Braun)

January 4th

Matt Darcangelo (Friend of Matt Wenham)

Tony & Michelle Glashaukus (Friends of Jann Daniels)

Kathy Kettler

Marilyn Wingfield

Tina and Alicia (Acquaintances of Jane Dillon)

Greg Belko (Friend of Charlie Koch)

Happy Birthday

Attendance at Prince of Peace

1/3 Chris Hallowell
1/3 Noah Katrinczak
1/5 Jan Filkill
1/6 James Braun Sr.
1/8 Abby Perez
1/8 Mara Lipschutz
1/10 Audrey Swanson
1/10 Tony Perez
1/11 Alex Babinski
1/12 Isaiah Comnick
1/13 Jessica Carimi
1/13 Aaron Perez
1/16 Kate Hartung
1/17 James Lehman
1/19 Emma Andrus

1/21 Beth Comnick
1/21 Marie Witt
1/23 Jane Wyant
1/25 Darlene Roman
1/25 Michael Pietraroia
1/26 Barb Fronczak
1/27 Dave Novotny
1/27 Phil Sprague
1/28 Patty Beard
1/29 Molly Fortuna
1/29 Nicholas Hrouda

<u>Date</u>	<u>Online</u>	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Total</u>
12/28/2025	30	80	110
12/24/2025	114	322	436
12/21/2025	30	169	199
12/14/2025	47	120	167

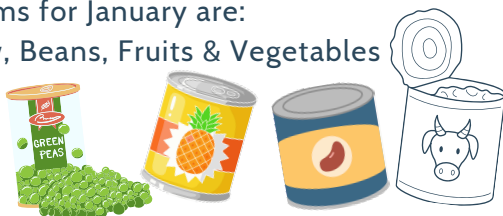


1/3 Jeff & Amy Babinski

Second Harvest

The requested items for January are:

Canned Beef Stew, Beans, Fruits & Vegetables



Giving Data

<u>Operating Giving Report</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>AVG/Week</u>
Total Giving as of Nov. 30th, 2025:	\$453,798	\$9,454
% of Annual 2025 Budget Received to Date:	91%	
Remaining Giving to meet 2025 budget	\$45,202	\$11,300
We need \$45,000 in December to reach budget!		
Please give abundantly & Cheerfully!		
Total Expenses Incurred through 11/30/25:	\$468,173	\$9,753



Follow Us!

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

Adrienne Patenaude, Office Administrator
princeofpeacewestlake@gmail.com

Hilary Lucas, Youth Director
poplutheranyouth@gmail.com

Ruth Williams, Organist
mrsruthwilliams@yahoo.com

Mark Givens, Church Council President
mpgivens@ameritech.net



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.