

Prints of Peace



I SEE MIRACLES!

I was looking at the upcoming gospel readings we'll be hearing in worship throughout August, and it struck me that in all of these gospels, *a miracle is performed*. Do you believe that miracles still happen today? I do – let me tell you where I see them still happening by looking very briefly at August's gospels.

On August 6, we'll hear the story of how Jesus fed 5000 people with just a little fish and bread. This is clearly a miracle of feeding! I still see this miracle happen today, right in our midst, when people in need throughout our community (and also throughout the world) are given the opportunity to eat thanks to the people of Prince of Peace. In the Slate Belt, we are the "Peanut Butter congregation," and we also give generously to World Hunger. This is a passion for us, and I believe God makes a miracle happen through us.

On August 13, we'll hear a story about when Jesus walked on the water, and called Peter to walk with him, and calmed the storm that was battering the boat. This is a miracle! I still see miracles like Peter's walking on water today – I've seen some of you stretch yourselves and do something you never thought you could. And I've seen miracles like the calming of the sea as well – I've seen this congregation get through troubles that seemed like they would swamp us. But we're still here, thanks to God's miraculous action!

On August 20, we'll hear a story of when Jesus healed a woman's daughter without even seeing her. This is a miracle! I still see miracles like this today – I have sat in hospital rooms with people, *sure* that they were at the end of their lives. And yet, there have been times – not every time, surely, but sometimes – when healing has somehow occurred. And more frequently, I have seen some of you receive a deeper healing, healing from despair, from grief, from hopelessness. I have seen people heal from so many things, and I believe it must be from God's miraculous touch!

And on August 27, we will hear what I think is the most amazing miracle of all. Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" And Peter responded, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Is this a miracle? Recognizing Jesus as the Messiah? Yes! Jesus himself said so, saying to Peter, "Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven." Indeed, when we put our faith in Jesus, when we put our *trust* in Jesus, it is a miracle! To believe that someone we can't see loves us; to believe that someone we can't see has the power to save us and care for us; to believe that God loves us and calls us and brings us together – that is a miracle! Every time you trust that things will be okay because God loves us – that's a miracle. Every time you trust that you are God's child, and that you have a role to play in God's kingdom here on earth – that's a miracle. Every time you seek and serve Christ in another person – that's a miracle. We take those miracles for granted sometimes, but they are miracles!

God is alive in our midst, performing miracles around and among us. Keep your eyes open, and you'll see them! Come to worship and hear about these miracles. Come to worship and be sent out to live the miracle.

In Christ,

Rev. Michael J. Scholtes

Date:	Greeters	Lay Reader	Assisting Minister	Ushers	Power Point and Camera	Acolyte	Offering Counters
August 6	Kale Baker, Brooks Baker	Kim Jennings	Tina Johns	Georgia and John Suranofsky	John Martocci	Isabel Baker	Jim Jennings, Scott Schipps
August 12	Georgia and John Suranofsky	Janet Martocci	Laraine Brands	Traci Rumsey, Bob Gist	Jim Jennings	Landon Horn	Jackie Horn, Brenda Hughes
August 20	Sherk and June Jones	Kale Baker	Connie Itterly	Marlene and Butch Stana	Kim Jennings	Alex Scholtes	Jim Jennings, Dave Karner
August 27	Sara Godshalk, Sue Reinhart	Connie Itterly	April Miller	Brenda Hughes, Vivian Fahr	Cathy Mullen	Landon Horn	Jackie Horn, Connie Itterly
Sept. 3	Vivian Fahr, Traci Rumsey	Sherry Hock	Bob Schuette	Sherk and June Jones	John Martocci	Isabel Baker	Jim Jennings, Bob Gist

Communion Assistants:

August 6: April Miller, Jim Jennings
August 12: Tina Johns, Diane Hahn
August 20: Linda Waszmer, Connie Itterly
August 27: Laraine Brands, Brooks Baker
September 3: Tina Johns, Jim Jennings

Altar Guild August: Cathy Mullen & Phyllis Bisher
Altar Guild Sept.: Connie Itterly & Diane Searfass

Thank you for your willingness to serve!!!

If you are unable to fulfill an assignment, please find someone to take your place and let Pastor Scholtes know of the change as soon as possible.

For last minute changes be sure to leave the message on Pastor Scholtes' voice mail (610-588-2355) or email him at PastorMJS@gmail.com.



Weis Grocery Receipts - Thank you to all who save their Weis receipts for Prince of Peace! Keep those grocery receipts coming! Please note we can only use slips from the Blue Valley store and we cannot use receipts for gift cards, milk, tobacco, sales tax, alcohol and pharmacy items. These items are deducted from the slips. Thank you for your continued support. —*Janet Martocci*

ARE YOU GETTING PASTORMAIL?

Pastor Scholtes sends out emails to the congregation almost every day. These *PastorMails* contain information about upcoming events, about recent decisions made in the church, and generally help to keep us all connected. If you are not receiving them, please send him a note at pastorMJS@gmail.com to get added to the list or sign up at our church website (popbangor.org). They are also archived at popbangor.org/pastormail.





**SAVE
THE DATES!**

POP's Treasures Boutique will be open on the following dates:
August 11 & 12; Sept. 8 & 9; Oct. 13 & 14; Nov. 10 & 11; and Dec. 8 & 9.

Hours: Fridays 10 a.m. -2 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. – Noon.

WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS:

We need your "treasures" to replenish our inventory, and to keep the customers returning. You may bring your donations to church on Sunday or call Mary O'Meally or Jackie Horn to schedule a drop-off.

Thank you for your willingness to help!
Questions? Contact Mary O'Meally 610-708-0003 or Jackie Horn 610-810-7268

Fall Rummage Sale Date Change: The Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, November 10th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, November 11th from 9 a.m. to Noon.



The Evangelism Committee will be sponsoring a church picnic on Sunday, August 6 directly after the service in the grove. The committee will provide hotdogs and iced tea. Please bring a dish to share. If you have any questions, see Kale Baker or Tina Johns.

P.U.M.P Update: Donations of any type of **PASTA, PASTA, PASTA plus mac 'n cheese** are greatly needed and much appreciated right now. P.U.M.P. is very low on these staples.



An excerpt from Pastor's Email:

Many of you remember Larry Rissmiller, who served faithfully as our volunteer Pastoral Assistant until 2019. I'm very happy to report that Larry has returned to this position! He has already begun to reach out and visit people.

Larry's primary duties in this position include hospital visitation (in coordination with my visitation); visiting our homebound members (in coordination with my visits and the visits of the Lay Eucharist Visitors); and coverage for pastoral care when I am on vacation. He's also available for pastoral conversation.

Larry's service does not replace my pastoral work but allows us to do even more pastoral care as a congregation. Larry's compassionate heart, strong listening skills, and deep faith have made a difference in so many people's lives -- and I'm so glad to have him on our team again. I know that he has continued to take courses and hone his skills in recent years -- I am looking forward to learning more from him myself.

Feel free to reach out to Larry at 610-588-4669.



TASK FORCE UPDATE

A Task Force was created in January, charged with conducting an organization wide study to identify what structural and operational changes are necessary in order to better align our future anticipated revenues with our future anticipated expenses. This group includes all council members, plus Brooks Baker, Chip Harrison, Jim Jennings, and Brenda Stauffer.

The Task Force has been working hard throughout 2023 to develop a plan for how we can significantly reduce our budget deficit for 2024. The plan is ready to go! We're working now on how best to get all this information to the congregation and expect to be reaching out to you in many ways in September to explain what we've been doing, how it will affect our congregation, and how you can be a part of it. We are very excited – we believe there is a bright future ahead, and we look forward to telling you all about it next month!

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATES

Charmaine Collins

Asbury Chandler Estate
1569 Teels Rd
Room 401
Pen Argyl PA 18072
610-863-3416

George Brown

251 Church St, Apt 41
Kingston, PA 18704
912-360-4728



**The following is a thank you from Maria Samarantino,
who volunteers for the LV Foster Care System:**

Each and every day of the year, staff at Northampton County's Office of Children and Youth Services serve as first responders in situations of child abuse, neglect, and abandonment. They work to ensure that vulnerable children receive protection. In addition, they provide resources and support to families struggling with poverty, homelessness, mental health crises, and addiction. Because of the demands of their work, these child welfare staff are at risk for experiencing secondary trauma. In addition, across our country, job turnover in child welfare departments is high because of the level of stress that workers experience. It is important that members of each community step forward to provide support to child welfare staff to let them know that they are appreciated and to provide them with encouragement to continue in the important work that they are doing.

Recently, the congregation of Prince of Peace did just that! You provided an amazingly generous amount of goodies to the child welfare staff in Northampton County! Many gift baskets were beautifully arranged and filled to the brim with things like snacks, lotions, and handmade items. Your outpouring of support and encouragement to the Children and Youth staff was greatly appreciated by individuals who typically receive little to no gifts or positive recognition from the community for the work that they do. Thank you so much for your generosity and kindness!





WORSHIP WITH US!

On-site (9:45 on Sundays)

Weather permitting, we will worship *outside* in our grove on the first Sunday of each month through September!

Online / Facebook / Telephone

Watch our worship each week at our website (popbangor.org/video-worship). Or watch it on our Facebook page (facebook.com/popbangor). You can also call in to hear our worship each week at 877-POP-2-POP (877-767-2767). New videos and audio files will be added each Monday.

Please keep these people in prayer on the anniversary of their birth!

- Taylor Baker, August 1
- Pauline Newell, August 2
- Wilma Hill, August 2
- Carol Gillow, August 2
- Leon Vanderpool, August 3
- Eric Fraunfelter, August 4
- Isabel Baker, August 5
- Maxwell Manicke, August 6
- Stephanie Steele, August 7
- Evelynn Diabo, August 7
- Craig Hughes, August 8
- Barbara Reimer, August 9
- Sharon Shook, August 10
- Lori Heitzman, August 10
- Donna Ott, August 12
- Betty Steinmetz, August 12
- Robert Duran, August 13
- Erica Schuette, August 14
- Trista Artley, August 15
- Lee Ann Lambert, August 15
- Diane Kimsey, August 15
- Autumn Williams, August 20
- Nolan Reinhart, August 21
- Kale Baker, August 22
- Cathy Mullen, August 22
- Lauren Flyte, August 23
- Eleanor Hill, August 24
- Petrina Billger, August 25
- Thomas Rotzell, August 27
- James Poliskiewicz, Jr., August 28
- Nathan Newhard, August 29
- Natalie Fraunfelter, August 29
- Isaak Griggs, August 29
- Mark Grusso, August 30

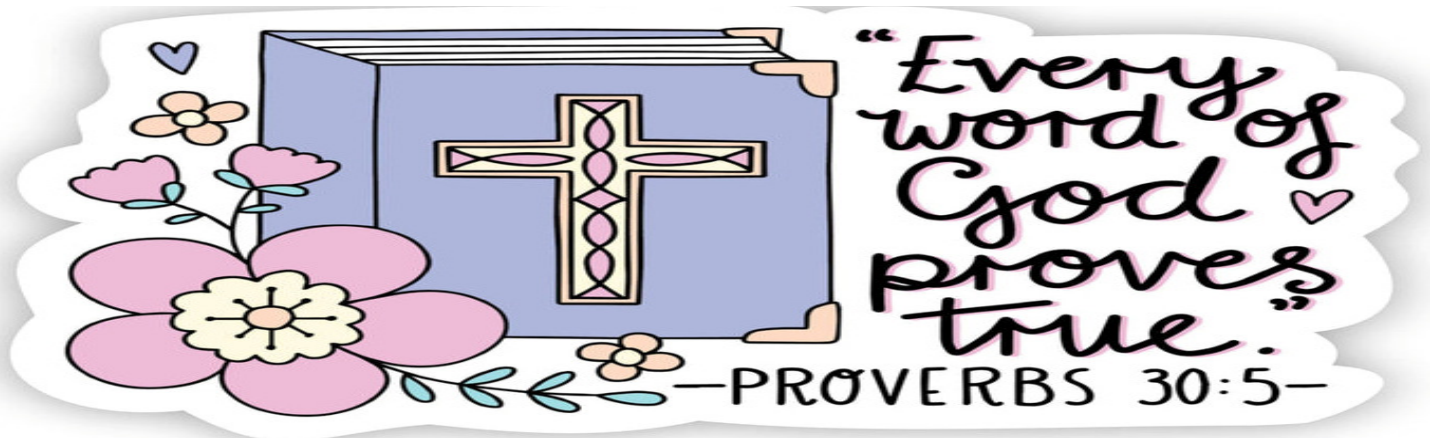
COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The July council meeting was canceled. Watch for more in August!

Thank You

Sherk Jones thanks everyone for all the cards and prayers.

For the LORD
 I go with you;
 HE WILL never leave
 you nor forsake YOU.
 Deuteronomy 31:6



Tuesday, August 1	Psalm 119:121-128; 1 Kings 4:29-34; Ephesians 6:10-18
Wednesday, August 2	Psalm 119:121-128; Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33; Mark 4:30-34
Thursday, August 3	Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Proverbs 10:1-5; Philippians 4:10-15
Friday, August 4	Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Isaiah 51:17-23; Romans 9:6-13
Saturday, August 5	Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Isaiah 44:1-5; Matthew 7:7-11
Sunday, August 6	Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matt. 14:13-21
Monday, August 7	Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29; Deuteronomy 8:1-10; Romans 1:8-15
Tuesday, August 8	Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29; Deuteronomy 26:1-15; Acts 2:37-47
Wednesday, August 9	Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29; Exodus 16:2-15, 31-35; Matthew 15:32-39
Thursday, August 10	Psalm 85:8-13; 1 Kings 18:1-16; Acts 17:10-15
Friday, August 11	Psalm 85:8-13; 1 Kings 18:17-19, 30-40; Acts 18:24-28
Saturday, August 12	Psalm 85:8-13; 1 Kings 18:41-46; Matthew 16:1-4
Sunday, August 13	1 Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33
Monday, August 14	Psalm 18:1-19; Genesis 7:11-8:5; 2 Peter 2:4-10
Tuesday, August 15	Psalm 18:1-19; Genesis 19:1-29; Romans 9:14-29
Wednesday, August 16	Psalm 18:1-19; Job 36:24-33; 37:14-24; Matthew 8:23-27
Thursday, August 17	Psalm 67; Isaiah 45:20-25; Revelation 15:1-4
Friday, August 18	Psalm 67; Isaiah 63:15-19; Acts 14:19-28
Saturday, August 19	Psalm 67; Isaiah 56:1-5; Matthew 14:34-36
Sunday, August 20	Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matt. 15:21-28
Monday, August 21	Psalm 87; 2 Kings 5:1-14; Acts 15:1-21
Tuesday, August 22	Psalm 87; Isaiah 43:8-13; Romans 11:13-29
Wednesday, August 23	Psalm 87; Isaiah 66:18-23; Matthew 8:1-13
Thursday, August 24	Psalm 138; Ezekiel 28:11-19; 1 Corinthians 6:1-11
Friday, August 25	Psalm 138; Ezekiel 31:15-18; 2 Corinthians 10:12-18
Saturday, August 26	Psalm 138; Ezekiel 36:33-38; Matthew 16:5-12
Sunday, August 27	Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20
Monday, August 28	Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32; 1 Samuel 7:3-13; Romans 2:1-11
Tuesday, August 29	Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32; Deuter. 32:18-20, 28-39; Romans 11:33-36
Wednesday, August 30	Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32; Isaiah 28:14-22; Matthew 26:6-13
Thursday, August 31	Psalm 26:1-8; Jeremiah 14:13-18; Ephesians 5:1-6

Read these on your computer or on your phone! Go to DailyLectio.net, where you can sign up for daily emails, or download the app for iPhone or Android!

From your Social Ministry Committee:

This year Social Ministry was given \$4,000.00 from the The Turtzo Missionary Bequest Fund. It was dispersed as follows: \$1,500.00 to Disciple Makers in support of Gene Williams, and \$2,500.00 to the ELCA Missionaries Fund. Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, and Dr. Steven & Bethany Friberg, will both receive \$1,250.00 towards the work they do in Tanzania. We are truly blessed to receive this annual bequest, so that we can support our missionaries, and the work they selflessly do.



Endowment Fund Update

Do you have ideas for a great new program or ministry, a project that you believe could provide a valuable new service, or the purchase of a new item that would make a difference to our congregation? If so, our newly revised Endowment Fund offers funding to support costs associated with these types of opportunities. See a Council member now to submit your ideas for 2024 Endowment disbursement funds. Our membership will be voting at the Annual Meeting to approve Council selected disbursement requests.

Stewardship Generosity News

Keep using your jars to collect all the times you receive, give, hear, or see generosity. The "BIG Generosity Jar" will be kept on the counter in the Narthex for you to bring in your notes. We will keep posting them on the bulletin board for all to read.

The Joyful Noise collection for June totaled \$248.00. THANK YOU! God has poured out his generosity to us in Jesus and we are called to respond in faith in generosity to others.

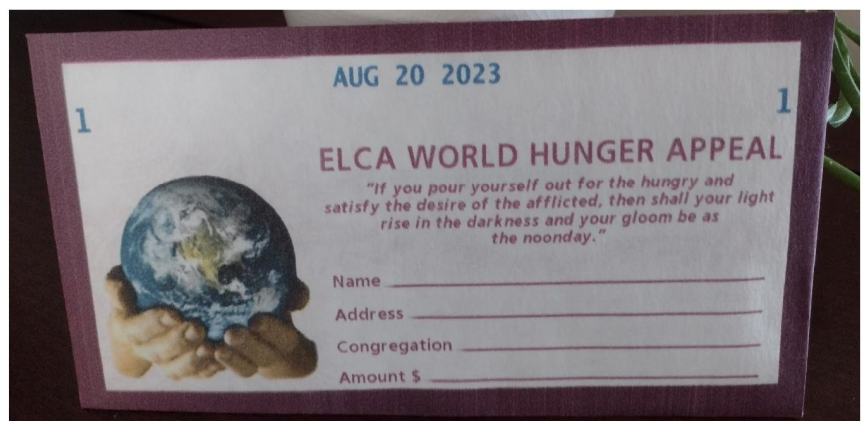


On August 20th, you will have the opportunity to make your gift to ELCA World Hunger. Please consider helping our church creatively and courageously work toward a just world where all are fed. Thank you for making this work possible through learning, action, prayer and giving.

For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. – Matthew 25:35

Did you know...

More than **85 cents** of each dollar donated directly supports program work... with less than **15 cents** going to administration.



A note of thanks:

I knew we could it, we always do! Look at the pictures, all the items were donated by "you". Social Ministry thanks you for generously supporting the AWSOM project, and Georgia and I thank you for generously supporting the collection for the LV Foster Care Case Workers. (See Page 4 for a thank you and another photo of delivering the baskets.) We are a generous and caring congregation, our outreach is amazing, all thanks to you, our members. --Mary O'Meally



*May the Lord
bless and protect you*

*May the Lord shine
His face upon you
and be gracious to you*

*May the Lord turn
his face toward you
and give you Peace*



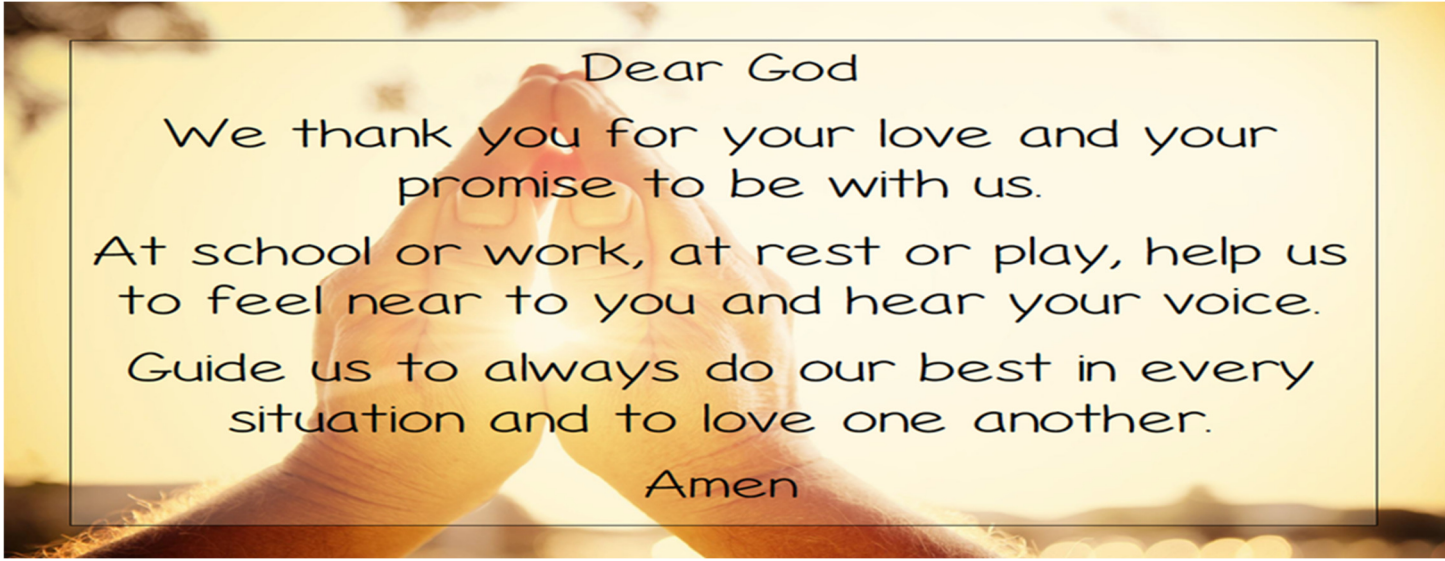
NexTrex Challenge:

Prince of Peace is participating in the NexTrex Recycling Challenge. Recycle your household bags and wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing. (Plastic must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue.) **From the store:** produce bags, store bags, ice bags. **From the pantry:** Ziploc and other re-closable bags, cereal box liners, case overwrap, bread bags. **From your front door:** newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap, plastic e-commerce mailers. **How does this benefit Prince of Peace?** If we meet our donation goals, we will receive 1 free Trex outdoor bench every six months and we are helping our community. Questions? Contact Jackie Horn 610-810-7268

NexTrex®



**Donations
being prepared
and
taken to
drop off!**



Dear God

We thank you for your love and your
promise to be with us.

At school or work, at rest or play, help us
to feel near to you and hear your voice.

Guide us to always do our best in every
situation and to love one another.

Amen

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
2445 Lake Minsi Drive (Johnsonville)
Bangor, Pennsylvania 18013
Office Phone: 610-588-2355

Website: www.popburangor.org
Online Coordinator: Heather Scholtes
lotsofsocks@live.com

Worship and Holy Communion Schedule:
Sundays at 9:45 a.m. – Join us!!

- **Pastor: Rev. Michael J. Scholtes**
- **home: 610-588-2314 - PastorMJS@gmail.com**
- **Volunteer Pastoral Assist. Larry Rissmiller**

- **Minister of Music: Martin Yazdzik**
- **Bookkeeper: Joyce Weishaupt**
- **Financial Secretary: Mary O’Meally**
- **Custodian: Brittnee Evans**
- **Parish Nurse: Justine Saviet, 610-730-7895,**
cesarijustine1080@gmail.com
- **Administrative Assistant: Annette Buss**
- **Admin. Asst’s Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday,**
Wednesday, Friday 9am–Noon
Thursday: 1 to 4 pm
- **Admin. Asst’s email: poplcbangor@gmail.com**

Congregation Council Members:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Connie Itterly - President | Brenda Hughes |
| Traci Rumsey - Vice President | Jackie Horn |
| Tina Johns - Secretary | Kerri Miller |
| Kale Baker | Dave Karner |
| Sara Godshalk | Marlene Stana |
| Rev. Michael Scholtes | Kathy Williams |

Would you like to place an article in the monthly newsletter? Highlight your ministry? Post a Thank you? Make an announcement?

EARLY SUBMISSIONS ARE APPRECIATED!

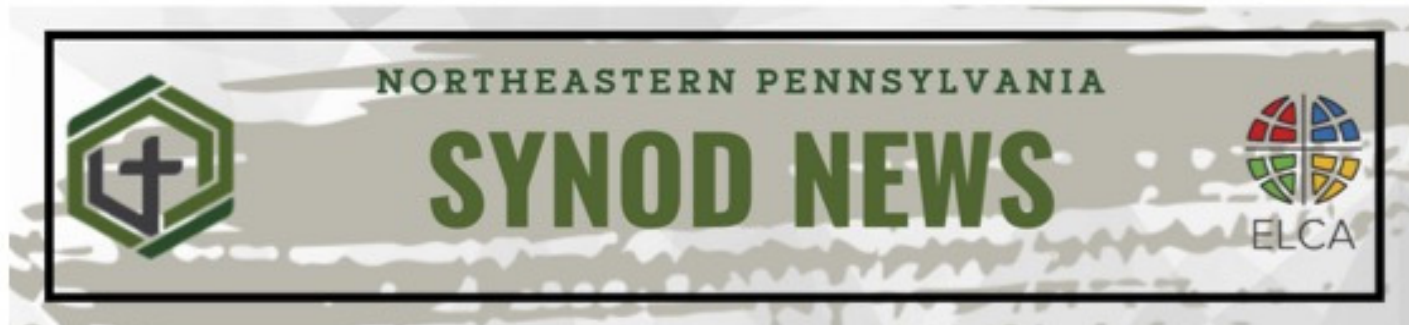
September 2023 Newsletter is:
Tuesday, August 15th at Noon

You may email your submissions to
poplcbangor@gmail.com
Or give a handwritten items to
Annette Buss

****Items received**
after the deadline
will go into next month’s
newsletter.**

**OUR PURPOSE
STATEMENT**

***We, the people of Prince of
Peace Evangelical
Lutheran Church,
will actively seek and serve
Christ in all people.***




OCT 3&4
Parish Secretary
SEMINAR
Caring for You & Me in 2023
*Heritage Hotel,
 Lancaster, PA.*

<https://nepasynod.org/parish-secretary-seminar/>

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday

**Sept. 10
2023**

RACIAL JUSTICE TRAINING FOR ROSTERED LEADERS

As per "Resolution: Anti-Racism Education Emphasis" submitted to the 2022 Synod Assembly and passed at the July 2022 meeting of the Synod Council, all NEPA Synod rostered leaders (pastors and deacons) and synodically authorized lay leaders are required to have Anti-Racism Training at least every 3 years, at the same cost as Boundary Training. To help meet this requirement, the Synod Racial Justice Team has scheduled two training events for Fall 2023, for those who were not able to attend one of the Winter 2023 sessions. ****Lay Leaders are also welcome to attend.****

Tuesday October 17, 2023

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Office
 2354 Grove Rd, Allentown, PA 18109

Saturday October 21, 2023

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church
 527 Washington St, Reading, PA 19601



GROWING YOUNG



GAINING STRENGTH



BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE

For more information visit the Synod website and click "events"



STORYTELLING ENGAGEMENT

**2023 Mission Support
Memo**

**The eHarmony of Prison
Reentry**

*As you read this story, what questions arise?
How might you share this story with others in your
ministry setting?*

A story from our Grand Canyon Synod

Over 600,000 people are released from prison every year, and as they struggle to rejoin society, they face barriers to connecting with reentry service providers. We are honored that so many of our synods and congregations are active in prison ministry; yet they know the challenge of finding reliable and effective resources to support folks once they’ve been released.

Our synods are supporting reentry ministry: the Metropolitan Chicago Synod helped start the work and the Grand Canyon Synod has launched the innovative online resource the Inside Out Network (ION), a one-of-a-kind platform that helps returning citizens connect with the support they need for a successful reentry. The Grand Canyon Synod has made a strong commitment, awarding ION an “Adapting, Connecting, Transforming and Sustaining” grant so it can help people access ministries and service providers.

ION is a bit like eHarmony: returning citizens and service providers can find each other and exchange messages, even before release, to make sure returning citizens get the support they need as soon after release as possible. What started as a prison ministry from an ELCA church in the Chicago area is now operating in Illinois and Arizona and launching soon in Oregon, with 6,400 returning citizens and 443 service providers and ministries enrolled. ION is always free to returning citizens, and service providers participate free of charge for a year before paying a modest annual fee.

With the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, ION has gone into Arizona prisons to train staff on using the platform. This has led to inmates enrolling before their release; reports indicate that as release approaches, they are less anxious, seeing ahead of time what help will be available.

ION values its partnerships with ministry and is currently developing a Reentry Congregational Initiative, gathering insights from faith communities that intentionally minister to returning citizens. Many ELCA congregations work in this area, and we welcome any insights they might provide by completing this survey. (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLFWMLS>). ION intends to develop a guidebook called “Effective Reentry Ministry for Ordinary Congregations”; its valuable “Spiritual Survival Guide for Prison and Beyond” can be read or downloaded free of charge from the ION website at insideoutnetwork.net/resources.