

# Prints of Peace



June 2025

Volume 30 Issue 6

## POP-KIT – Prince of Peace Keeping in Touch

The congregation council of Prince of Peace did something interesting during Lent this year. At the March council meeting, which occurred just a few days after Lent began, I asked if anyone had a Lenten discipline this year. A few people shared their plans, and then one person said, “It would be nice if we had a way to encourage each other in these things.” So, we worked out a way on the spot! I assigned each council member a partner for them to check-in with daily, with an encouraging text or email. It was done like a “round-robin” — person A checked in with person B; person B checked in with person C; and so forth, until the last person checked in with person A.

At the May council meeting we discussed how it went. Those who participated agreed that it was a positive thing, and that one of the best parts was knowing that someone else was thinking of them and praying for them. We talked about how we might share a program like this with the congregation, and now I have a plan to do just that! This is still a work in progress, and some details might change, but it will probably look something like this:

For now, I’m calling this “**POP-KIT**,” which stands for “**Prince of Peace Keeping in Touch**.” Everyone in the church will be invited to participate. If you’re interested, you’ll be able to sign up with your name and your preferred method of communication — either texting, email, or phone call. Then you’ll be randomly assigned a partner who chose the same method of communication.

**Your commitment will be this:** at least once a week, contact your partner with some kind of spiritual or positive thing you came across that week. It could be a Bible verse, or a prayer, or a Facebook post, or a song lyric, or anything at all. As you get to know your partner a bit better, you might try to find something that fits them well. At the same time, **someone else** will be contacting **you** once a week with a spiritual or positive thing for you. You’ll have **two** partners, one whom you’re reaching out to, and one who’s reaching out to you. (I’ll make this clear when I let you know your partners.)

When we start this (in July, maybe?), you’ll be assigned your partners for a two-month period. At the end of that period, you will have the opportunity to renew if you want to – if so, you’ll be assigned new partners at that point for the next two months. (Of course, there’s nothing to stop you from continuing to be in touch with your first partners also!) Renewing this every two months will have a few advantages – 1) it’s a chance to get to know and connect with more people; 2) it’s a chance for new people to join the rotation; 3) it’s a chance for us to make any changes that seem appropriate; and 4) it’s a graceful opportunity for you to bow out if you wish to.

I think this will be a simple yet powerful opportunity for us to both meet new people within the congregation, and to connect on a different level with people we already know. At this point, watch for more information about POP-KIT, and we’ll get it started sometime this summer. In the meantime, if you have any ideas for how to make it even better, please let me know!

In Christ,

Rev. Michael J. Scholtes

# Daily BIBLE READING

<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Easter (6/1)</b>	Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Rev. 22:12-21; John 17:20-26
Monday, June 02	Psalm 29; Exodus 40:16-38; Acts 16:35-40
Tuesday, June 03	Psalm 29; 2 Chronicles 5:2-14; Acts 26:19-29
Wednesday, June 04	Psalm 29; Ezekiel 3:12-21; Luke 9:18-27
Thursday, June 05	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Isaiah 32:11-17; Galatians 5:16-25
Friday, June 06	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Isaiah 44:1-4; Galatians 6:7-10
Saturday, June 07	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 2 Kings 2:1-15a; Luke 1:5-17
<b>Day of Pentecost (6/8)</b>	Acts 2:1-21; Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17
Monday, June 09	Psalm 48; Joel 2:18-29; 1 Corinthians 2:1-11
Tuesday, June 10	Psalm 48; Ezekiel 11:14-25; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16
Wednesday, June 11	Psalm 48; Numbers 24:1-14; Luke 1:26-38
Thursday, June 12	Psalm 8; Proverbs 3:13-18; Ephesians 1:17-19
Friday, June 13	Psalm 8; Proverbs 3:19-26; Ephesians 4:1-6
Saturday, June 14	Psalm 8; Proverbs 4:1-9; Luke 2:41-52
<b>The Holy Trinity (6/15)</b>	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15
Monday, June 16	Psalm 124; Proverbs 7:1-4; Ephesians 4:7-16
Tuesday, June 17	Psalm 124; Proverbs 8:4-21; Ephesians 5:15-20
Wednesday, June 18	Psalm 124; Daniel 1:1-21; Luke 1:46b-55
Thursday, June 19	Psalm 22:19-28; Isaiah 56:9-12; Romans 2:17-29
Friday, June 20	Psalm 22:19-28; Isaiah 57:1-13; Galatians 3:15-22
Saturday, June 21	Psalm 22:19-28; Isaiah 59:1-8; Matthew 9:27-34
<b>Sunday, June 22</b>	Isaiah 65:1-9; Ps. 22:19-28; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39
Monday, June 23	Psalm 64; Job 18:1-21; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31;
Tuesday, June 24	Psalm 64; Job 19:1-22; Ephesians 2:11-22;
Wednesday, June 25	Psalm 64; Ezekiel 32:1-10; Luke 9:37-43a;
Thursday, June 26	Psalm 16; Leviticus 9:22-10:11; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10;
Friday, June 27	Psalm 16; 2 Kings 1:1-16; Galatians 4:8-20;
Saturday, June 28	Psalm 16; Deuteronomy 32:15-27, 39-43; Luke 9:21-27;
<b>Sunday, June 29</b>	1 Kings 19:15-21; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62
Monday, June 30	Psalm 140; Genesis 24:34-41, 50-67; 1 John 2:7-11;

*Read these on your computer or on your phone! Go to [DailyLectio.net](http://DailyLectio.net), where you can sign up for daily emails or download the app for iPhone or Android!*

## Directory Update: New Address and Phone number

Wayne Shuman – Contact Pastor Scholtes or Annette Buss at the church office for details.



## May Council Highlights

- **Mary O'Meally** has retired as Financial Secretary. Thank you, Mary O'Meally, for all your hard work as the financial secretary for the many years you have served.
- Welcome and thank you to **Brenda Hughes** as the new financial secretary.
- If you have not already seen the **new chairs** in the fellowship hall, check them out. Thank you to POP's Treasures for these chairs!
- Many of the old chairs from the fellowship hall were purchased from an organization to be sent to **Africa!**
- Council approved support of **Tina Johns** to enter in the Northeast PA Synod's Licensed Lay Ministry program.



*Please keep these people in prayer this month!*

Gordon Brozina  
Maverick Baggett  
Cory Jennings  
Brooks Baker  
Tina Johns  
Joanne Robinson  
Diane Searfass  
Chip Harrison  
Heather Scholtes  
Richard Kessler  
Jeremy Smith  
Matthew Dotta  
John Martocci  
Holly Blakeslee  
Magdalein Streisguth  
Christopher Brands  
Kathy Lane  
Jarrett Ott  
George Brown  
Patricia Heard  
Katie Waszmer

## New Member Class Forming

Pastor Scholtes will be getting a new members class together soon. If you or someone you know is interested in joining Prince of Peace, please let him know!



## Recent Pastoral Act

Funeral: May 3, 2025  
Charmaine Collins



## Worship On-site (9:45 on Sundays)

Our worship will be held outside on the last Sunday of each month, through August!

## Online / Facebook

Watch our worship each week at our website ([popbangor.org/video-worship](http://popbangor.org/video-worship)). Or watch it on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/popbangor](https://facebook.com/popbangor)).



## Outdoor Worship

We will worship outdoors in our grove again this summer! This year, we will gather outside on the last Sunday of each month, through August. The walkway to our grove is located at the end of the parking lot. For those who are uncomfortable walking into the grove, we will again set a speaker up on the hill so that you will be able to hear the service in your car, if you park next to the grove entrance. If the weather is bad, we will hold worship indoors instead. Outdoor worship will not be rescheduled. —**Pastor Scholtes**



Many thanks to all who helped make our Simple Gifts concert a great success! We had a full house and raised over \$250 for P.U.M.P! Thank you! This and other concerts are made possible by the Anthony D. and Jeanne M. Turtzo Perpetual Fund.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Lay Reader</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Power Point and Camera</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Offering Counters</b>	<b>Pew Tenders</b>
<b>June 1</b>	Lisa and Wayne Jones	April Miller	Connie Itterly	Kale Baker, TBD	Tina Johns	Fabian Vargas	Chip Harrison	Rhonda Montgomery
<b>June 8</b>	Vivian Fahr, Traci Rumsey	Brooks Baker	April Miller	Sherk and June Jones	Antonioli Family	Landon Horn	Connie Itterly	June Jones
<b>June 15</b>	Georgia and John Suranofsky	Kim Jennings	Kale Baker	Brenda Hughes, Sue Reinhart	Tara Flyte	Alex Scholtes	Brenda Hughes	Sara Godshalk
<b>June 22</b>	Connie Itterly, Brenda Hughes	Janet Martocci	Tina Johns	Sara Godshalk, Vivian Fahr	Jim Jennings	Ben Scholtes	Tina Johns	Traci Rumsey
<b>June 29</b>	Kale Baker, Brooks Baker	Kale Baker	Marlene Stana	Georgia and John Suranofsky	Cathy Mullen	Fabian Vargas	Jean Janosa	Sherry and Maci Hock
<b>July 6</b>	Sherk and June Jones	Connie Itterly	Laraine Brands	Traci Rumsey, Connie Itterly	Kim Jennings	Landon Horn	Georgia Suranofsky	Rhonda Montgomery

**Communion Assistants:**

**June 1** Brooks Baker, Marlene Stana  
**June 8** Jim Jennings, Tina Johns  
**June 15** April Miller, Laraine Brands  
**June 22** Brooks Baker, Diane Hahn  
**June 29** April Miller, Tina Johns  
**July 6** Marlene Stana, Jim Jennings

**June Altar Guild:** Janet Martocci, Susan Reinhart

**July Altar Guild:** Carolyn Leidy, Terry Stiso

**Bread Baker/Providers:**

**June 1:** Sue Reinhart  
**June 8:** Phyllis Campbell  
**June 15:** Kim Jennings  
**July 6:** Karen Karner

Would you like to join the volunteer team? Contact the church office at 610-588-2355.

If you are unable to fulfill your assignment, please find a replacement and let Pastor Scholtes know of the change.

**Father's Day is Just Around the Corner: June 15<sup>th</sup>**

Would you like to remember/honor your Father and/or Men who are special to you by listing their name in our announcement folder, on the bulletin board and in the Newsletter? A blue sign-up sheet is on the counter in the Narthex. Or, use the form below (use additional paper if needed). Suggested donation: \$1 per name benefits the Sunday School. **Deadline is: Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please PRINT:

**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsored by:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **Return this form to:**  
**Attn: Annette Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2445 Lake Minsi Drive, Bangor, PA 18013**

**Real Readers: Join Us! We meet at 2 p.m.**

**Real Readers Book List for 2025:**

**a little bit of everything for everyone. New members are always welcome!**

Questions? Please feel free to speak to Karen Karner, Janet Martocci or Sherry Hoch for information.

June 5 – "By Any Other Name"--Jodi Picoult

July 3 – "The Measure" by Nikki Erlick (Sandy)

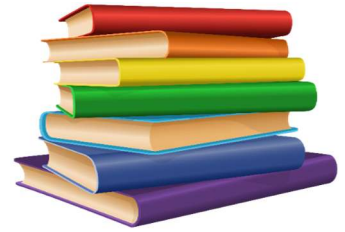
August 7 – "Tell Me Everything" by Elizabeth Strout (Terry)

September 4 – "Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver (Janet)

October 2 – "The Secret Life of Sunflowers" by Marta Molnar (Karen)

November 6 – "The Housemaid" by Freida McFadden (Mary)

December 4 – "All He Ever Wanted" by Anita Shreve (Maureen)



# weis

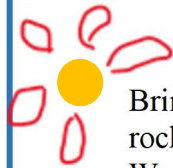
**Thanks For Your  
Participation in the WEIS  
1% Program:**

Prince of Peace received another check in the amount of \$313.68 through the Weis 1% Donation program. (\$31,367 in grocery receipts were submitted recently.) Total received for the year so far: \$1,214.69. Keep bringing in your receipts. Thank you!!  
REMINDER: We can only use receipts for the Bangor Store....All tax, stamp purchases, gift card purchases, alcohol, prescriptions, tobacco and milk are deducted.

—*Janet Martocci*

**Greetings from Pops Treasures:**

We continue to have our monthly sales with great success. We have been receiving a lot of drop-offs. Drop offs are on designated Mondays from 1 p.m. -2 p.m. and 6 p.m. -7 p.m. of gently used or new items. (Antiques and collectibles are also accepted, but no TVs or computers, stereos.) Please follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information, including drop-off dates and times if changes occur. We do not accept items dropped off during our sale week. (Next sale dates: June 13 and 14). We also would appreciate that if anyone from POP would like to donate items, to please give us a heads up. We would prefer to know when items are coming in and prefer to be here when they are as we want to ensure the exits are not blocked. If items are for the rummage sale, please bring them in September. Thank you!  
--*Jackie Horn*



**Save the Dates: Let's make art together  
this Summer at Prince of Peace!**

Bring the art materials you wish to use (paints, paper, glue, brushes, rocks, stencils, cards, etc.) We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays, from 9 a.m.—Noon for 6 weeks, beginning on June 25 and ending on July 30. We can share ideas and materials with each other. Beginners are welcome. Everyone is an artist! Any questions, please contact Karen Karner or Lynn Rideout.

**Our Social Ministry Project Continues Through June:**

Valley Youth House is a shelter for young people, often, when youth arrive at the shelter their only possessions are the clothes they are wearing. The shelter makes up "welcome baskets" for when youth arrive so that they can be given a warm welcome and a basket of items they can call their own (as well as take with them when they exit the shelter. The list of items is long, 17 items, Social Ministry is asking only for the following 10 items: toothbrush, toothpaste, floss; wash cloth/soap and soap holder; chap stick; bath towel; razors (male & female); deodorant (male & female). This was a project we did a couple of years ago and it was very successful, I have no doubt it will be again with your support. Valley Youth house provides a place for youth to live and get rehabilitated. Questions, see Sherry Hock and Holly Blakeslee. If you prefer not to shop a committee member will be happy to do it for you. Most items can be found at Dollar Tree.

**Matthew 8:20**

"Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the son of man has nowhere to lay his head."



# Thank you

**Thank you:** As most of you know I'm going through a rough patch in my life. This last procedure was not kind to me, I was in the hospital for 4 days, and back again the following week for one day. I'm suffering from depression, along with fighting cancer. I want to thank Jackie Horn for arranging all the meals that were delivered to me, along with the people who brought them. Jackie never fails to step up when there's a need, and I had a need. I also want to thank everyone who sent cards, texts, and just being there for me, always showing me love and support. I couldn't be on this journey without your support. With many thanks, —*Mary O'Meally*

**Thank you** to everyone who donated peanut butter in memory of Charmaine Collins. There was a total of 66 jars collected and I know she would be tickled with this. Thank you to everyone who served during her celebration, to the bakers for the delicious treats and to all who attended. A very big thank you to Pastor Scholtes for the beautiful "high Mass" and the message that she probably is still smiling about. She definitely would have been amazed with the love shown her. God bless you. —*Cathy and Donna*

**A thank you letter** was received from the Portland-Upper Mt. Bethel Food Pantry (P.U.M.P.) for the peanut butter donations in memory of Charmaine Collins and for all the May food donations.

**Thank you** for all the cards and visits that I have received from Prince of Peace church members; and thank you for making the holidays even better. —*Lois Neiley*

**Thank you!** I am sending my blessings to Prince of Peace members who sent me cards, thoughts and prayers also the beautiful gifts from Mary O'Meally to help me on this journey I'm on. Your encouragement does help and my Mom keeps me informed every week. Thank you to Pastor Scholtes and Larry Rissmiller for their prayers and concern. Thanks again for your support to me and my Mom. —*Renee Hahn Palmer*

## From Our Parish Nurse:

Accidents happen every day. No matter how prepared we think we are, there is always room for improvement! Today, most of us increasingly depend on our cell phones, but, in an emergency, cell phones can be broken, disabled or lost. The Pennsylvania Yellow Dot program encourages citizens to record their basic medical and emergency contact information on a pamphlet to keep in their glove box in case of an emergency or accident. The program provides a sticker to affix to their car window to alert the police and/or EMS that the vehicle's owner has the Yellow Dot pamphlet in use. For details, contact Justine Saviet RN.

## From Our Parish Nurse and the Health and Wellness Committee:

At every Health and Wellness committee meeting, we discuss all of our ministries and activities and what we have found is that some ministries have experienced a decline in participation by the congregation for many years- and that's OK! Our community changes, and the needs of that community changes right along with it. After much discussion, we have decided to retire the Mending Meals and Transportation programs. We noticed that it's not that our members no longer needed rides to doctor's appointments, but that they were able to reach out and make these arrangements themselves. Similarly, with Mending Meals, members either declined the needs for meals, or someone filled that need without requiring the direction and guidance of the committee. In other words, the ministry outgrew the need for oversight, and these ministries are happening organically, and that is actually a beautiful thing! The Pastor, Larry, the Eucharistic ministers, and our Tele-Care volunteers will continue to offer these services. And all of you in the congregation need to know that these ministries still exist! If you see someone in need, if you hear of an ill member or someone going through a difficult time, remind them that the church can still lend a hand in offering meals or rides to the doctor. Have them contact the church office, the Pastor or myself and we will communicate with the parties necessary to get the needs met. And think about it, **you** will have naturally played a part in ministering to your neighbor. By letting go of the oversight of little used ministries, the Health and Wellness committee plans to explore new and different opportunities for the congregation. Questions? See Pastor Scholtes or Justine Saviet, RN





### Endowment News

Council is now accepting ideas for new sub accounts for 2026. The ideas received will be reviewed, considered, and council will make their recommendations at the Annual Meeting. Please contact a council member by August 1st for the form to submit your idea.

The Office and Technology Sub Fund of the Endowment Fund released \$2,394.00 in May for the purchase and set up of a new computer system in the treasurer's office and a laptop in the sanctuary. The computers needed to be replaced to keep up with the advancements in technology over the years. Also, \$600.00 was released for delegates to attend Synod Assembly from the Congregational Education Sub Fund. –*Georgia Suranofsky*

**DID YOU KNOW?.....Year to date releases from sub funds total \$11,886.00**

### Stewardship News



Through the generosity of the community by donating items and purchases made at POP's Treasures, we provided 145 meals for Safe Harbor on April 30<sup>th</sup>.



### DID YOU KNOW...

Our mission support giving helps young adults at Muhlenberg College be in community and fellowship together through the campus ministry. Your contributions are making a significant impact and helping others grow in faith, supporting the synod's lanes of Growing Young, Gaining Strength, and Going Beyond Death to Life, along with the directions of loving like Jesus, healing like Jesus, and engaging like Jesus.

A **BIG** thank you to Sara Godshalk for organizing a special collection of personal hygiene items for P.U.M.P. Over \$750 in items were collected. A \$500 Helpers' Helpers Endowment Fund sub fund donation was given also. If you have an idea, talk to Georgia Suranofsky or Sherry Hock and see how an Endowment Helpers' Helpers sub fund could increase the total donation to your project!

### Joyful Noise Good News!

Collection for April totaled \$157.50! Year to date total is \$496.50!

Thank you for your continued generosity!

### Vacation Bible School: Sunday June 29 – Wednesday July 2

**6:15pm-8:00pm**

Children ages 4-11 are invited to have fun celebrating God's love for everyone through Bible stories, crafts, snacks, games, and songs. (Children younger than 4 may attend as long as a parent attends with them.) Children do not have to be members of a church to attend VBS - **all are welcome!**

\*In order to have enough materials prepared, we would like parents to **register** their child/children in advance. Registration forms can be found on the narthex counter and on our church website, or you can contact the church office to have a form emailed to you. Questions can be directed to Kim Jennings or to the church office.





*The following individuals made a Mother's Day contribution to the Sunday School  
In Loving Honor of...*

Gladys Steinmetz  
By Tom and Connie Itterly

Georgia Suranofsky  
By Brooks and Janessa

Paula Baker  
By Brooks and Janessa

Jackie Horn  
By Brooks and Janessa

Linda Drake  
By Wayne and Lisa Jones

Jessica Vargas  
By Romeo and Fabian Vargas

Linda Klinge  
By Maddie Klinge

Jenny Klinge  
By Maddie Klinge

Sue Flyte  
By Ray and Tara Flyte

Tara Flyte  
By Tyler, Ashley and Lauren

Jane Ann Moysey Reimer  
By Bill and Sara Godshalk

My Mom Pat  
By Tina Johns

My Female Friends  
By Tina Johns

Laraine Brands  
By Olivia Brands and Sabo Ahmed

Kathleen Ott  
By The Ott Family

Lisa Ott  
By the Ott Family

Cheyenne LaBarre  
By the Ott Family

Robin Ott  
By the Ott Family

Christa Smale  
By Paul Smale and C.J. Kizer

Elizabeth Kappler  
By Jim and Kim Jennings

Carolyn Leidy  
By Holly Blakeslee and Stacy Powell

Petrina Billger  
By Neil Billger

Diane Hahn  
By Renee Palmer

Kay Lawler  
By The Hughes Family

Mary Hughes  
By Aria and Eli Hughes

Connie Silvius  
By the Hughes Family

Stephanie Hemak  
By Cathy and Dennis

Denise Wess  
By Cathy and Dennis

Janet Martocci  
By Darren Martocci and Christa Smale

*Only One Mother*

Hundreds of stars in the pretty sky,  
Hundreds of shells on the shore together,  
Hundreds of birds that go singing by,  
Hundreds of lambs in the sunny weather.  
Hundreds of dewdrops to greet the dawn,  
Hundreds of bees in the purple clover,  
Hundreds of butterflies on the lawn,  
But only one mother the world wide over.

*-Author Unknown*







*The following individuals made a Mother's Day contribution to the Sunday School  
In Loving Memory of...*

Helen Smith	Wanda Riley
By Manus Smith	By John and Georgia Suranofsky
Ada McLean	Theresa Suranofsky
By Manus Smith	By John and Georgia Suranofsky
Emma Eichlin	Joyce Comunale
By Manus Smith	By Diane Hahn
Leona McLean	Stella Steinmetz
By Manus Smith	By Janet and John Martocci
Jeanette Johnson	Nora Martocci
By Joanne Robinson	By John and Janet Martocci
Joyce Weidlick	Greta Johnson
By Joanne Robinson	By Karen Karner
Ethel Fuls	Rose Marie "Cookie" Jones
By Joanne Robinson	By Wayne and Lisa Jones
Helen Lane	Dorothy Bailey Van Horn
By Kathy A. Lane	By Wayne and Lisa Jones
Hazel Weidman	Brenda Smith
By Kathy A. Lane	By Ray and Tara Flyte
Dorothy Lane	Frances Fontanella
By Kathy A. Lane	By Ray and Tara Flyte
Ruth Lane	Betty Leininger
By Kathy A. Lane	By Louise, Jane and Carolyn
Irene Weaver	Ruth Begies
By Kathy A. Lane	By Chris Begies and Mark Cotturo
Joan Miller	Lela Reimer
Love You, Your Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren	By Chris Begies and Mark Cotturo
Dot Rambo	Carol Cuono
Love, The Stana Family	By Chris Begies and Mark Cotturo
Ann Stana	Florence Cotturo
Love, The Stana Family	By Chris Begies and Mark Cotturo
Marian Parsons Saddler	Lynn Rych
By June and Sherk Jones	By Chris Begies and Mark Cotturo
Esther Hahn Jones	Sherma LaBarre Godshalk
By Sherk and June Jones	By Bill and Sara Godshalk
	Alta Hartzell Moysey
	By Bill and Sara Godshalk





*The following individuals made a Mother's Day contribution to the Sunday School  
In Loving Memory of...*

Madelyn Klinzing Godshalk  
By Bill and Sara Godshalk  
Betty (Becky) Louise Moysey Godshalk  
By Bill and Sara Godshalk  
Alice DeVito  
By Tina Johns  
Viola Fraunfelter  
By Tina Johns  
Grace Thompson  
By Carolyn, Holly and Stacy  
Ruth Leidy  
By Carolyn, Holly and Stacy  
Annie Hendershot  
By Carolyn, Holly and Stacy  
Christina DeSalvo  
By Mary O'Meally  
Esther Godshalk  
By Rich and Sue Reinhart  
Jean Reinhart  
By Rich and Sue Reinhart  
Divona Jennings  
By Jim and Kim Jennings  
Frances Poliskiewiez  
By Walter and Phyllis Patterson,  
Children and all grandchildren  
Olive Gates  
By Doris Thomas  
Betty Billger  
By Neil Billger  
Anna Difilippantonio  
By Neil Billger  
Kathryn Fair  
By Neil and Petrina Billger  
Jennie Widenor  
By The Pearson Family

Pauline Pearson  
By The Pearson Family  
Joyce Comunale  
By The Hughes Family  
Grammy Irene Stocker Horn  
I Love You, By Kerry L. Horn  
Grammy Mildred Brown Miller  
I Love You, By Kerry L. Horn  
Marion Miller Messinger  
I Love You, By Kerry L. Horn  
Gloria M Steinmetz  
By Brenda and Larry Stauffer  
Elizabeth Stauffer  
By Larry and Brenda Stauffer  
Beverly Nicely  
By Monica Spero  
Laura M. Collins  
By Cathy and Dennis  
Laura B. Collins  
By Cathy and Dennis  
Charmaine Collins  
By Cathy and Dennis  
Edna Smith  
By Annette Buss and Family  
Bessie Bartholomew  
By Annette Buss and Family  
Nellie Smith  
By Annette Buss and Family  
Rose Buss  
By Annette Buss and Family  
Pearl Buss  
By Annette Buss and Family

*Always on my mind  
Forever in my heart*

**Graduate Recognition Sunday will be June 22nd.**

We would like the names of anyone graduating from any level of education, such as nursery school, kindergarten, high school, college, technical school, graduate school, etc. We need to have all the names and information by **June 1st**. (Sign-up Sheet on the Narthex Counter or email the church office.



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America



# MISSION SUPPORT 2024

## THANK YOU

To the members of  
**Prince of Peace, Johnsonville**

from the

**Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod**

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.  
In grateful appreciation for giving

**\$13,338.94**

for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and  
churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Thank you for your support, partnership, and leadership in the name of Christ! God is doing a new thing through you. And we are congregations together, we are synod together, we are church together – all blessed to be a blessing. With the good news of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Spirit, we are growing young, gaining strength, and going beyond death to life – so we can love like Jesus, healing like Jesus, and engage like Jesus, more and more each day. Thank you for your bold and joyous giving and sharing! To God be the glory!

Synod Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America





**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**  
 2445 Lake Minsi Drive (Johnsonville)  
 Bangor, Pennsylvania 18013  
 Office Phone: 610-588-2355  
**Website: [www.popbangor.org](http://www.popbangor.org)**

**Online Coordinator: Heather Scholtes**

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**Worship and Holy Communion Schedule:**  
**Sundays at 9:45 a.m. – Join us!!**  
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- **Pastor: Rev. Michael J. Scholtes**
- **Volunteer Pastoral Assist. Larry Rissmiller**
- **Minister of Music: Martin Yazdzik**
- **Bookkeeper: Joyce Weishaupt**
- **Financial Secretary: Brenda Hughes**
- **Custodian: Brittnee Evans**
- **Parish Nurse: Justine Saviet**
- **Administrative Assistant: Annette Buss**

**Congregation Council Members**

Larry Rissmiller, President	Jackie Horn
Kale Baker, Vice President	April Miller
Tina Johns, Secretary	Brenda Hughes
Allison Manicke, Youth	Wayne Jones
Jean Janosa	Kerri Miller
Mary O'Meally	Holly Blakeslee
Rev. Michael J. Scholtes	Justine Saviet

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!**

July 2025 Newsletter is:

**Tuesday,**

**June 10<sup>th</sup> at Noon**

**\*\*Please submit items in a Word Document  
not PDF format, thank you!\*\***

**\*\*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.***



# NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## Bishop's Staff Changes for 2025

To view the full "Strategic Intent" document in detail, visit [godslove.org/2025-strategic-intent](https://godslove.org/2025-strategic-intent)

Written by: Bishop Christopher deForest of the Northeastern PA Synod

*"Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)*



Our gracious God is in our midst, transforming all of us, as St. Paul writes in his epistle to the Romans. In fact, Chapter 12 of that amazing letter has been our guide, not just for this upcoming Synod Assembly, but also for the past year of being church together. As the Holy Spirit does this work of transformation on us – our church, our communities, our very selves – we recognize more than ever our need to live and work together; in fact, to become more connected than ever before.

To this end, in this past year we have been guided by this statement of purpose – Connecting congregations for life-giving mission and ministry: so they can love like Jesus, heal like Jesus, and engage like Jesus – growing young, gaining strength, and going beyond death to life.

### Strategic Goals



1. Ensure and encourage that every congregation can be in partnership with other congregations of their choice, centered around mission and ministry in their communities for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ and grounded in our Lutheran tradition, commonly expressed in our three Values and Lanes.



2. Empower and encourage the roles of all believers in this NEPA Synod, especially lay persons and with particular focus on younger people, to live out their baptismal callings and to love and serve God together in this church and their communities.



3. Make it possible for every congregation in this synod to have a pastor, a deacon, and a licensed lay minister.



4. Strengthen and secure the opportunities for rostered ministers and licensed lay ministers to serve congregations in this synod – faithfully, healthfully, and safely.



5. Reduce the need for congregations to close.



6. Engage and encourage all people – especially those who have been marginalized, harmed, or under-represented – to live and serve and lead well in this synod.



7. Train, inform, onboard, communicate, track and evaluate better, to better achieve these goals.





8. Evaluate and revise our governing documents, structures, and policies to better achieve these goals.



9. Align the roles, responsibilities, goals and evaluation of the bishop and bishop's staff to better achieve these goals and create a more efficient and satisfactory working environment.



10. Engage and encourage individuals, congregations, and partners to deepen their support of these goals – through the sharing of their time, talents, and resources.

## Bishop's Staff – New Roles and Changes

**Lead Servant for Leader Support:** This service area includes support for rostered ministers (pastors and deacons), active and retired; licensed lay ministers (LLMs); candidates discerning calls to lay or rostered ministry; and leaders serving roles as officers and council members in congregations. **Search begins May 16.**

**Lead Servant for Congregation Support:** This service area includes support for our current congregations, especially those in transition (in search of a new rostered leader). We will also conduct a search for this Lead Servant; however, the roles will be transitioned with care over time, as we work with our current seven Associates of the Bishop and our Committee of nine Mission District Deans to maintain strong and ongoing support. **Search begins May 16.**

**Lead Servant for Growing Young and Emerging Ministries:** This service area includes support for ministries to youth, young adults and families; and the new and existing special ministry communities designated as "Synod Authorized Worshipping Communities" (SAWCs) and "Synod Authorized Outreach Communities" (SAOMs). This Lead Servant will help us take our "Growing Young" initiatives into new ministries and new directions. **Search begins May 16.**

**Lead Servant for Gaining Strength and 6261:** This service area includes support for our rostered minister development groups known as "Gaining Strength Cohorts"; and our 6261 Ministry Communities. **This Lead Servant role will be filled by our current Director for Evangelical Mission, Deacon Kat Tigerman.**

Each of these Lead Servants will be the "go-to" person on staff for each service area.  
They will work alongside:

**Director of Operations:** With support from administrative staff, this role will be responsible for human resources, onboarding new staff, evaluation processes, calendar, facility needs, staff meetings, and inner-staff communication. This will include the creation of an electronic planning platform and "dashboard" system for keeping track of key goals and metrics. **Eric Gombert will continue in this role.**

**Director of Communications:** Reporting to the Director of Operations, this role will continue to coordinate all our internal and external communications. **Stacey Burke is continuing in this role.**

**Administrative Coordinators and Contract Support:** Reporting to the Director of Operations, our two Administrative Coordinator positions will continue: **Laurie Christman as Leadership Support Coordinator; and Debbie Skinner as Mission Support Coordinator.** Pastor Jira Albers will continue as our part-time LLM Coordinator. We will be adding a third, part-time administrative support for 6261 and LLM. And we will continue to work with as-needed support from Pastor Doug Hill for our Gaining Strength Cohorts; and Pastor Dave DeRemer as a 6261 Coach.

In depth details are available in the "Strategic Intent" document found at [godslove.org/2025-strategic-intent](https://www.godslove.org/2025-strategic-intent).

If you have additional questions, please call or email Bishop Chris deForest at (610) 266-5101, [bishopd@nepsynod.org](mailto:bishopd@nepsynod.org), or contact out Director of Communication, Stacey Burke, at (610) 266-5101, [stacey@nepsynod.org](mailto:stacey@nepsynod.org).

And stay connected to our monthly SYNOD NEWS or our synod website, [www.godslove.org](https://www.godslove.org)