

Prints of Peace



November 2025

Volume 30 Issue 11

November is a time when our thoughts often go toward gratitude and thanksgiving. I am grateful for the opportunity I've had to live in the Slate Belt for the past thirteen years, and one of the many reasons I'm grateful for this area is the strong Ministerium we have.

The Slate Belt Ministerium is a loose association of many of the churches across the Slate Belt. About a dozen or so clergy get together once a month for breakfast, and we talk about how things are going in our congregations and in the area, and how we can work together to make a difference. We share information about projects and ideas.

We also hold a Community Thanksgiving service each year. This is a great opportunity for churches that are so different! We may have different beliefs on a host of topics, we may have very different worship styles, but one thing that all of the churches can agree on is the importance of **giving thanks to God for all of God's good gifts**. And so we worship **together** on the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

If you haven't attended the Community Thanksgiving service before, this is the year to try it. Because we're doing it a little differently. Instead of one of the churches hosting the service, **we will worship together at The HUB**, the community center at 14 Broadway in downtown Bangor. We are hoping that this change of venue will spark some interest, and bring more people from more of our congregations to join in. I encourage you to join us! We know that parking can be challenging in downtown Bangor, and we are working to find a solution – we may be offering a shuttle service from a nearby church's parking lot. Watch for info about that.

We are also planning to offer a Community Blue Christmas Service on December 21, also at the HUB. Many of you have attended Blue Christmas at Prince of Peace, and you know how meaningful that service can be for those who are suffering at the holidays. Prince of Peace will not hold our own Blue Christmas service this year, but we will participate in the Ministerium's service. I hope you can join us.

We are holding both services in the afternoon so that driving in the dark isn't a concern. Both services will be followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments. Please consider joining us.

Here's the information:

Community Thanksgiving Service: Sunday, November 23 at **3:00 p.m.** at the HUB.

Community Blue Christmas Service: Sunday, December 21 at **2:00 p.m.** at the HUB.

See you there!

In Christ,

Rev. Michael J. Scholtes





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

Lynn Rideout
 Emma Confalone
 Julia Antonioli
 Joanne Schipps
 Kathy Griggs
 Brandon Harrison
 Anthony Diabo
 Sarah Harrison
 Mary Lee Dry
 Robert Johns
 Georgia Suranofsky
 Alissa Kornafel
 Stacy Powell
 Tami Manicke
 Maureen Suprick
 Kevin Hall
 Kerri Miller
 Emma Steigerwalt
 Jared Reto
 Sherry Hock
 Yvonne Gist
 Ashlyn Oessenick
 Larry Rissmiller
 Wayne Shuman
 Bonnie Scholtes
 Maci Hock
 Marlene Stana
 Robert Gist
 Sherwood Jones
 Stephanie Shoemaker
 Joseph Daley



Worship On-site (9:45 on Sundays)

Online / Facebook

Watch our worship each week at our website (popbangor.org/video-worship). Or watch it our Facebook page (facebook.com/popbangor).

October Council Meeting Highlights

- **Potluck Luncheon:** Sunday, November 9 @ 11:00 am watch for more details.
- Mark your calendar the **Annual Congregational Meeting:** Sunday, November 16 @ 11:00 am
- Welcome **Landon Horn, Romeo Vargas, and Maddie Klinge** as confirmed adult members.
- We approved helper helpers **sub fund requests** for 350 for Seafarers International – knit caps and \$255.50 for Lutheran World Relief – personal care kits

Harvest Home

This year Harvest Home will be acknowledged on **Sunday, November 9th**. We will celebrate with a **luncheon** after worship. Council will provide the meats and cake, and we ask our members to provide side dishes. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to write your name and what you will bring. Council hopes to see you all there enjoying good food and fellowship. Matthew 18:20 *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them."*

Also, I've received word that members of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Stone Church will be joining us that day for worship and the luncheon! --**Pastor Scholtes**



Recent Pastoral Acts:

Funeral: Shirley Bush, September 26 (non-member)

First Communion Class

Pastor Scholtes is putting together a First Communion class in November for children in grade 2 or above. If you are interested, please contact him ASAP!



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.

	November 2 All Saints	November 9	November 16	November 23	November 31	December 7
Greeters	Lisa and Wayne Jones	Sherk and June Jones	Holly Blakeslee	Brenda Hughes, Sara Godshalk	Traci Rumsey, Connie Itterly	Sue Reinhart, Brooks Baker
Council Greeters	Brenda Hughes	Brenda Hughes	Justine Saviet	Justine Saviet	Kale Baker	Kale Baker
Lay Readers	Mark Grusso	Brooks Baker	Kim Jennings	Janet Martocci	Kale Baker	Connie Itterly
Assisting Ministers	Tina Johns	Tina Smith	Connie Itterly	April Miller	Marlene Stana	Kale Baker
Com. Assts.	Diane Hahn, Laraine Brands	April Miller, Tina Johns	Brooks Baker, Marlene Stana	Jim Jennings, Connie Itterly	Diane Hahn, April Miller	Brooks Baker, Tina Johns
Ushers	Brooks Baker, Kale Baker	Traci Rumsey, Sue Reinhart	Sherk and June Jones	Marlene and Butch Stana	Sara Godshalk, Brooks Baker	Georgia and John Suranaofsky
Power Point Camera	Jim Jennings	Kim Jennings	Tina Johns	Antonioli Family	Cathy Mullen	Tara Flyte
Acolytes	Fabian Vargas	Alex Scholtes	Ben Scholtes	Landon Horn	Aaron Smith	Taylor Baker
Offering Counters	Connie Itterly	Johns Suranofsky	Scott Schipps	Mary O'Meally	Tina Johns	Georgia Suranofsky
Pew Tenders	Rhonda Montgomery	June Jones	Sara Godshalk	Traci Rumsey	Sherry Hock, Maci Hock	Rhonda Montgomery
Bread Baker	Janet Martocci			Sue Reinhart		Nick Walters

November Altar Guild: Janet Martocci, Sue Reinhart, **December Altar Guild:** Kim Jennings, Sara Godshalk

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

Real Readers Book List for the rest of 2025:

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

November 6 – “The Housemaid” by Freida McFadden (Mary)

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



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

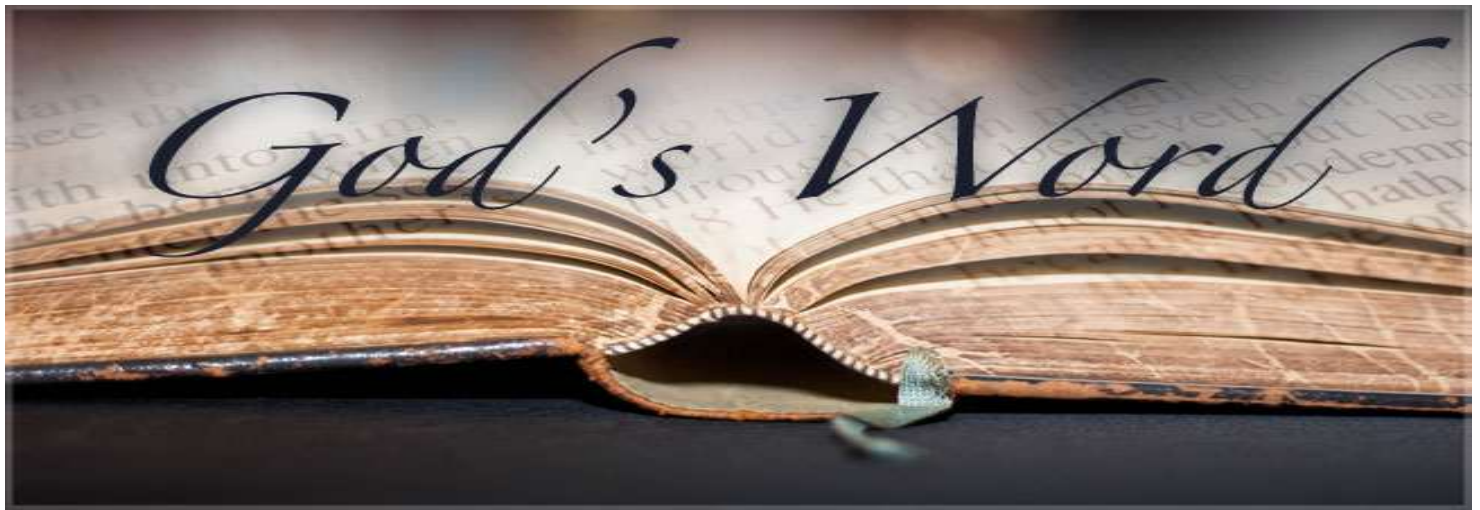


Community Thanksgiving Service

The Slate Belt Ministerium is hosting a Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 23 at 3:00 p.m. at the Hub Youth Center, 14 Broadway, Bangor. All are welcome. Parking with shuttle service will be available at Trinity Lutheran Church, 404 Broadway, Bangor.

Thanksgiving Choir

A choir is forming from members of many churches in the area for the Community Thanksgiving Service on November 23. A rehearsal will be held before the service begins. For more information, see Pastor for Rachel Roy's contact information.



Saturday, November 01	Psalm 32:1-7; Isaiah 1:1-9; John 8:39-47;
All Saints Sunday (11/2)	Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31
Monday, November 03	Psalm 50; Nehemiah 13:1-3, 23-31; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13;
Tuesday, November 04	Psalm 50; Zechariah 7:1-14 ; Jude 1:5-21;
Wednesday, November 05	Psalm 50; Amos 5:12-24; Luke 19:11-27;
Thursday, November 06	Psalm 17:1-9; Deuteronomy 25:5-10; Acts 22:22-23:11;
Friday, November 07	Psalm 17:1-9; Genesis 38:1-26; Acts 24:10-23;
Saturday, November 08	Psalm 17:1-9; Exodus 3:13-20; Luke 20:1-8;
Sunday, November 09	Job 19:23-27; Psalm 17:1-9; 2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38
Monday, November 10	Psalm 123; Job 20:1-11; 2 Peter 1:16-21;
Tuesday, November 11	Psalm 123; Job 21:1, 17-34; 2 John 1:1-13;
Wednesday, November 12	Psalm 123; Job 25:1-26:14; John 5:19-29;
Thursday, November 13	Psalm 98; 1 Samuel 28:3-19; Romans 1:18-25;
Friday, November 14	Psalm 98; 2 Samuel 21:1-14; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12;
Saturday, November 15	Psalm 98; Ezekiel 10:1-19; Luke 17:20-37;
Sunday, November 16	Malachi 4:1-2; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19
Monday, November 17	Psalm 141; Ezekiel 11:14-25; Ephesians 4:25-5:2;
Tuesday, November 18	Psalm 141; Ezekiel 39:21-40:4; 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1;
Wednesday, November 19	Psalm 141; Ezekiel 43:1-12; Matthew 23:37-24:14;
Thursday, November 20	Psalm 46; 2 Chronicles 18:12-22; Hebrews 9:23-28;
Friday, November 21	Psalm 46; Zechariah 11:1-17; 1 Peter 1:3-9;
Saturday, November 22	Psalm 46; Jeremiah 22:18-30; Luke 18:15-17;
Reign of Christ (11/23)	Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43
Monday, November 24	Psalm 24; Jeremiah 46:18-28; Revelation 21:5-27;
Tuesday, November 25	Psalm 24; Isaiah 33:17-22; Revelation 22:8-21;
Wednesday, November 26	Psalm 24; Isaiah 60:8-16; Luke 1:1-4;
Thursday, November 27	Psalm 122; Daniel 9:15-19; James 4:1-10;
Friday, November 28	Psalm 122; Genesis 6:1-10; Hebrews 11:1-7;
Saturday, November 29	Psalm 122; Genesis 6:11-22; Matthew 24:1-22;
1st Sun. of Advent (11/30)	Isaiah 2:5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

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!

Salute to Veterans:



A Tribute to Brian Perin, Mike Kovalevitch and Edmund (Chip) Turtzo. The Swing Time Dolls will perform a 100-year trip of patriotic history through song! (You won't want to miss their show —Recent appearances included: Donald Trump Inaugural Ball, State Theater and Musicfest!) Brought to you by the Slate Belt Veterans Association on **Saturday, November 8.** Doors open at 6 p.m., **show: 7 – 10 p.m.** Advance tickets are \$30 (\$35 at the door). Tickets are available at local businesses and non-profits.

Reorganized Group!

You may start hearing a new name floating around ***Faith Exploration team*** (formally Christian Education). This is a newly reorganized group that focuses on the educational experience within our congregation, for the young to the mature. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. This is not just Sunday School but so much more! It's about enhancing the faith of everyone in various ways. If you are interested in checking it out, we would love for you to join a meeting and ignite the spark of faith.



You Deserve a Great Marriage!



Enjoy the gift of a more joyful relationship with a Marriage Encounter experience! This special online format offered **November 14 - 16, 2025 (CST)** will give the two of you the opportunity to enjoy this relationship-building experience from the comfort and privacy of your home, apartment, or even a special destination – anywhere your privacy is assured, and ample Wi-Fi is available. Learn more or apply at GodLovesMarriage.org, for more information. Pre-registration is required so we can send you materials in advance – don't miss out.

God is Great, God is Good and I thank God, His Holy Spirit and Jesus for their love, comfort and care with my right eye surgeries while I was in the hospital with Covid-19 and soon to left eye surgeries. Thank you, congregation, and pastor for your cards, flowers and prayers during each recovery back to health. That meant a lot to me. I cried because of your kindness. You're wonderful people of God's creation. Lovingly,
—**Ms. Kerry L. Horn**



Social Ministry received another \$50.00 Weis gift card to purchase snacks for the Slater Family Network backpack buddy program. Thank you anonymous donor! —**Mary O'Meally**

Special Request:

I'm working on a Christmas project for the kids, and I need the tabs from soda/vegetable cans. Please save them, you can give them to me at church. Thank you in advance, —**Mary O'Meally**

From Our Volunteer Coordinator:

The position of social media person is still available. For more details about the position, please see Heather Scholtes or me. --**April Miller**



Join Us for POPS (Prince of Peace Seekers) in the conference room - Thursdays @ 10 a.m.



Coffee, tea, and snacks are available. We meet for a time of spiritual growth, discussion, and fellowship. What will we experience in November as we continue our spiritual journey together? Surprise! Are you ready for more spiritual sparks? Any questions, please contact Karen Karner or Janet Martocci.



From Council: Join Us in Celebrating Harvest Home

This year Harvest Home will be acknowledged on **Sunday, November 9th**. We will celebrate with a luncheon after worship. Council will provide the meats and cake, and we ask our members to provide side dishes. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to write your name and what you will bring. Council hopes to see you all there enjoying good food and fellowship.

Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them."

Greetings From POPS Treasures:

Our next sale days are **November 14 and 15**. 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. for 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.** 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. Thank you! --*Jackie Horn*

Weis Receipts Update:

Thanks to all for participating in the 1% Weis Receipt Donation program. Prince of Peace has received a check in the amount of \$462.43 for the \$46,242. of Weis receipts submitted as a participant in their 1% Donation Program...This brings the total received this year to \$2,018.99 for a total of \$201,008. in Weis receipts. Did you know that we have "Weis Gift Cards" always available for purchase here? If gift cards were purchased, we would have netted 5% the gift cards PLUS receipts can still be submitted for the 1% program. For your shopping needs and upcoming holidays, please consider buying the Weis cards for a higher return. Thank You! --*Janet Martocci*

Top 10 Reasons to Buy Weis Gift Cards at Prince of Peace

10. It doesn't cost you anything extra. You buy the cards at face value.
 9. Prince of Peace gets \$2.50 (5%) from Weis for each \$50 card you purchase.
 8. Do you have prescriptions? Gift cards can be used to buy prescriptions at the Weis pharmacy.
 7. Do you drink responsibly? The cards can be used in the Wine and Beer Department.
 6. Does your car like to have fuel? The cards can be used at Weis gas stations.
 5. Gift cards make great holiday gifts. And if you need a gift card for another place, Weis has an amazing selection of outside gift cards. You can use the Weis gift card you buy at POP to buy those outside gift cards...and that gets you double points!
 4. Do you shop at the Blue Valley Weis? Then bring your receipt to church, and POP will get an additional 1% from Weis! (A total of 6%!)
 3. Do you buy donations for PUMP at Weis? Use a gift card, and you'll also be supporting POP as well!
 2. You're already at church each Sunday. Why not take care of your grocery bill while you're here?
 1. Our gift card team, led by Sara Godshalk, are ready to help you with a smile!
- (And Pastor Scholtes asked us to add one more reason: you can buy coffee grounds with Weis gift cards! He says that's "very important" --*Congregation Council*

From the Social Ministry Committee:

As chairperson of this committee, I just want to take this opportunity to say what an amazing congregation you are. Without your generous support of our projects, and they are many, we couldn't do the outreach we do. That being said, we'll take the rest of the year off, no projects for the last quarter. Not that we don't have ministries to support, in November there's Thanksgiving meals for PUMP, and in December we have Christmas gifts for the PUMP kids. God bless you, and thank you for your generosity and support, it is greatly appreciated. Proverbs 11:25 "A generous person will prosper, whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. When God tells you to be generous, don't hesitate. There is a blessing on the other side of obedience waiting for you". —*Mary O'Meally*



All are welcome: Family Fall Fest Tuesday, November 11th, 3 – 5:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Faith Exploration in the fellowship hall. Kids Join us for Fall games, Crafts and Snacks. Adults can join a coffee house fellowship space, have a warm drink, snack and relax. All ages welcome, activities for the whole family.



Sunday School has resumed—Sundays from 8:30 a.m. -9:30 a.m.!

Children ages 4-11 are encouraged to attend. Confirmation students & Youth Group will meet on alternate Sundays also from 8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m. Any questions see Kim Jennings, Tina Johns, Pastor Scholtes or Chip Harrison.

Dwelling in the Word, Our Weekly Bible Study has returned!

It will be held **every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.** in the Conference Room. All are welcome! You can just show up for one class and try it out -- no pressure!

JOIN US: Sunday Coffee Hours



The Hospitality Committee will always provide coffee and tea and will be providing "sweets and treats" the first Sunday of each month. Congregation members are invited to supply some treats the balance of each month. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex for those who wish to participate. Coffee hours continue thru December 14 and then resume on January 11, 2026 until May 17, 2026. Thank you, —*the Hospitality Committee*

P.U.M.P Special Requests:

P.U.M.P. requests cereal, rice, canned fruit and items for the upcoming holidays such as stuffing mix, mashed potatoes, gravy, and canned vegetables (especially beans and carrots). As always, pantry staples are always appreciated too. Social Ministry wants to thank you for the items donated, and your continued and generous support of P.U.M.P!

Stewardship News

GOD'S REFRIGERATOR DOOR

Wow, all that mystery about doors! We finally know why. We at POP have a replica of God's own refrigerator door! We wondered what God would keep posted on His door and now we know.

We are all God's children; He loves us and is of anything we accomplish. So, the Stewardship Committee would like us all to post anything that makes us feel happy or proud. Maybe you just had a grandchild, you could post a picture. Maybe you aced a test? Post it! Have a pet you love? Post a picture. Write a poem? Draw a picture? Got an award? Had a special birthday? Had soccer, cheering or football pictures taken? A thank you card? Someone in your family graduated? (Got it yet?) We want you to post it! This special door will be hung in a special spot for all to see. The door will be hung on the bulletin board in the hallway to the fellowship hall. We all walk by it going to coffee hour or to POP's Treasures, so we all will see it and be reminded of all the wonderful things God gives us. We will see all the talents He gives us and then we will know just how special we all are!

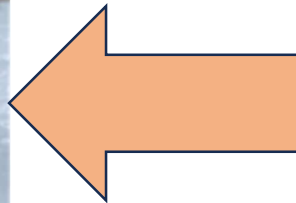


Don't forget! POST, POST, POST! Look for the basket in the fellowship hall on the counter with sticky notes to post a message and sticky putty to post something you may bring to post. Let's fill God's fridge door for all to see!

(See members of the Stewardship Committee Georgia Suranofsky, Pastor Scholtes, Sherry Hock, and Justine Saviet for instructions on how to post on the door.)

Joyful Noise Good News!

Collection for September totaled \$116.00, Year to date total is \$1,137.50
Thank you for your continued generosity!



DID YOU KNOW...

mission support giving helps the Lutheran Theological and Leadership College in Rwanda to minister and share the love of Christ .



UPDATES ON DISBURSEMENTS:

- ❖ Enhancements to seating area of the grove
- ❖ Upgrades to playground area
- ❖ Donation to match value of items contributed to make birthday kits for P.U.M.P.
- ❖ Electric lighting upgrades to church property

DID YOU KNOW?...Through September 30th releases from sub funds total \$31,019,79



All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday, November 2, is a day we remember the faithful who have died in Christ in the past year, and the newly baptized. We are reminded that all the faithful are saints. All remembrances received for All Saints' Day will be included in the December Newsletter.



LET'S PRAY

Prayer is a very important thing to Christians. One form of prayer is **intercessory prayer**, in which we *intercede* for someone before God. We pray to God for that person to heal, or find peace, or receive hope.

Two ways that we engage in intercessory prayer at Prince of Peace are through the **Prayer List** and the **Prayer Chain**. I want to let you know what both of these are.

The **Prayer List** is the list of people we find in our announcement folder each week. We also pray for them by name during worship. Normally, names are kept on the list for four weeks, although I'm happy to make exceptions to that when requested. **To put a name on the Prayer List, just contact me.**

The **Prayer Chain** is a group of volunteers who pray for people throughout the week. This is especially helpful when some emergency comes up, or something else very time sensitive. The way it works is this: the first person on the prayer chain prays for the person and then calls the next person on the list. They pray for the person and call the next person. And so on. **To put a name on the Prayer Chain, contact Petrina Billger** (You can also contact me, and I'll let Petrina know.)

Please know that the Prayer List and Prayer Chain are separate things. You can certainly put a name on both, but that doesn't happen automatically.

Thank you to all who help make these prayer ministries happen at Prince of Peace! –**Pastor Scholtes**



Social Ministry September Project Update:

The personal care kit items that were donated enabled us to put together 30 kits. The kits were assembled by the Thursday morning POP Seekers group and delivered to the synod on October 11th by Georgia and John Suranofsky. In addition to the kits, a check in the amount of \$255.00 (total of kits) was sent to LWR, thanks to the Helper's Helpers sub fund. A big thank you from social ministry to everyone that made this project successful! Galatians 6:10 "So then, as we have the opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith." --**Mary O'Meally**

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD

His LOVE endures FOREVER!!!



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
2445 Lake Minsi Drive (Johnsonville)

Bangor, Pennsylvania 18013

Office Phone: 610-588-2355

Website: www.popbangor.org

Online Coordinator: Evelyn Diabo

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

-
- **Pastor:** Rev. Michael J. Scholtes
 - **Minister of Music:** Martin Yazdzik
 - **Bookkeeper:** Joyce Weishaupt
 - **Financial Secretary:** Brenda Hughes
 - **Custodian:** Brittnee Evans
 - **Parish Nurse:** Justine Saviet, RN
 - **Administrative Assistant:** Annette Buss

Congregation Council Members

Kale Baker, Acting President

April Miller

Tina Johns, Secretary

Allison Manicke, Youth

Jean Janosa

Mary O'Meally

Rev. Michael J. Scholtes

Jackie Horn

Justine Saviet

Brenda Hughes

Wayne Jones

Kerri Miller

Holly Blakeslee

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!

December 2025 Newsletter is:

Tuesday,
November 11 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.*



Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly: The Work of the Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania

Written by: Pastor Mike Bennethum, LAMPa Policy Council Chair

In a well-known scripture, the prophet Micah proclaims, “He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (NRSV Micah 6:8) It has been pointed out that we Lutherans often are more comfortable loving justice and doing kindness; that is, we find satisfaction in feeding hungry people but shy away from calling out and addressing the root causes of hunger and poverty. For the past 46 years, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa) – funded in part by your mission support giving – has taken up the important, but daunting task of working to change systems that perpetuate inequity and injustice.

LAMPa’s staff – Tracey DePasquale, Director, and Pastor Erin Jones, Communications and Advocacy Engagement Manager, joined this year by Hunger Advocacy Fellow, Daniella Garber – work with a Policy Council composed of representatives of Pennsylvania’s seven synods, the United Lutheran Seminary, and a synod bishop to develop a biennial Policy Agenda that guides our church’s engagement with state legislators and departments in the governor’s office.



2025 Lutheran Day at the Capitol

The current Policy Agenda includes the following priorities:

- Hunger: improving access to healthy, affordable food;
- Creation Care: advocating for laws that protect clean air, water, and land;
- Poverty: addressing homelessness and housing insecurity;
- Education: working toward adequate and equitable school funding;
- Healthcare: working to ensure all Pennsylvanians have access to affordable care;
- Civil Rights: working to reduce hate crime and safeguard the right to vote;
- Immigration: standing for welcome to our newest neighbors; and
- Violence Reduction: addressing the root causes of violence, including trauma and extreme poverty.

The LAMPa staff and Policy Council pursue this ambitious agenda in several ways:

- By forming and participating in coalitions with leaders of other denominations, faith-based organizations, and community groups that are passionate about these same issues;
- By engaging with state legislators and those who work in the governor's office, regardless of party affiliation, to advance measures that benefit all Pennsylvanians;
- And, most important, by equipping and supporting the members of the 1,050 ELCA congregations in Pennsylvania so that each of us becomes more confident expressing our faith in the Good News of Jesus by becoming bold advocates for a just and compassionate society. The widely used Bonhoeffer curriculum is just one example of this.



Policy Council Chairs: NEPS Bishop Christopher deForest, Pastor Dillon Epler, and Pastor Mike Bennethum



LAMPa Council Policy Meeting

Each of you is an important partner in this ministry. Check out LAMPa's website, lutheranadvocacy.org. Sign up to receive helpful Action Alerts regarding pending legislation that addresses the issues above. Follow LAMPa on Facebook and Instagram. Sign up to join approximately 250 of your fellow Lutherans at the next Lutheran Day at the Capitol (tentatively Tuesday, April 21, 2026).

At the center of Lutheran ethics is God's command to love our neighbors as ourselves. Please join in this ministry of neighbor-love by supporting LAMPa's work. Thank you for your mission support giving that helps to make this possible!

DID YOU KNOW that your Mission Support helps fund areas of the synod and ELCA like this one and many other important initiatives? 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. To learn more, visit godslove.org/missionsupport.



Action Alert

STAY INFORMED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

LAMPa's Action Alerts connect faith and public life by giving you quick, meaningful ways to advocate for justice and compassion in Pennsylvania. Each alert includes background and an easy way to contact legislators on issues like hunger, housing, and creation care.

SIGN UP
TODAY



lutheranadvocacy.org

