

Prints of Peace



I'm thinking about the number **fifty**. The number fifty is a very special number in Christian symbolism. It means **overwhelming joy and celebration**. One of the ways we see that is in the call to a special celebration every fifty years: the Jubilee year! In the Torah (the Law, which we know as the first five books of the Old Testament), the Israelite people were called to have a special celebration every fifty years. This Jubilee, as it was called, was a time to remember that everything they had was from God, and to honor and worship God by forgiving the debts of all those who were poor and returning the land to those to whom God had given it. Over the course of fifty years, lots of things can happen, good and bad, and every fifty years was supposed to be something of a "reset" button to start again, so that everyone could start again from a level playing field, all equal before God. There is scant evidence that Israel ever truly practiced this Jubilee, but it's notable that Jesus spoke of his coming in the same terms as Jubilee was described, as though he was God's Jubilee, a sign of love and hope and forgiveness for *all of God's children*.

Another way the number **fifty** shows up is in the church's celebration of Easter every year. Easter is not just one day – it is a whole season of fifty days, even longer than Lent! Easter is the celebration of the resurrection, the forgiveness and new life (and Jubilee!) that Christ brings to us, and we spend fifty days celebrating that. Fifty days is a week of weeks! (Seven weeks plus one day = fifty days.) These fifty days are a gift to us every year to celebrate the resurrection, to celebrate the life that God gives us, despite our mistakes, despite our lack of faith, despite our struggles, despite our pain. Despite everything, God gives us **Life!** (One neat way to remember this is that in Roman numerals, fifty is "L," which can stand for "Life!")

So, I invite you to join me in celebrating **Fifty Days of Life** this year! The Easter season goes from April 17 through June 5 this year. Here are some thoughts on how you can celebrate:

- Worship God each Sunday!
- Hear former POP pastors Lynn Rothrock and Bob Hoenich preach at worship on May 1 and June 5 respectively!
- Celebrate with the music of Harp and Heels at Prince of Peace on Sunday, May 1 at 3:30 pm!
- Celebrate the mothers in our lives on May 8!
- Honor our fallen military on May 30!
- Forgive someone!
- Do something **fun** that scares you!
- Teach something to a child!
- Learn something from a child!
- Pray, pray, pray!

Happy 50 years of Life, Prince of Peace. And Happy 50 Days of Life, to all of you.

In Christ,

Pastor Scholtes



- Justine Cesari, April 1
- Virginia Pensyl, April 1
- Tyler Hughes, April 2
- Sharon Yetter, April 2
- Nelson Hill, April 2
- Benjamin Reinhart, April 2
- Gladys Halfpenny, April 2
- Lillian Khan, April 3
- Lois Brozina, April 3
- Robert Schuette, April 7
- James Dotta, April 7
- Matthew Rumsey, April 7
- Janet Pearson, April 10
- Shirley Pensyl, April 12
- Samantha Gurski, April 13
- Larry Smith, April 13
- James Parsons, April 15
- Tyler Flyte, April 15
- Connie Itterly, April 15
- Wayne Silvius, April 17
- Tyler Reinhart, April 18
- Andrea Gurski, April 18
- Jacob Krock, April 20
- Jameson Hockenbury, April 21
- Phyllis Patterson, April 23
- Carolyn Carpenter, April 24
- Colleen Hall, April 24
- Diane Flynn, April 25
- Betty Devito, April 26
- Mia Hock, April 28
- Carol Shuman, April 28
- Scott Manicke, April 28
- Jacklyn Artley, April 29
- Cameron Mousley, April 29
- Ronald Miller, April 30

RECENT PASTORAL ACTS
 Funeral: Miriam Eichlin, March 11

In-person (9:45 on Sundays)
All in-person worship services may include alterations to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, including (but not limited to) altered seating arrangements, the wearing of masks, and so forth. If you are not feeling well, please do not attend.

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.

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.

- COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FROM MARCH 14TH MEETING:**
- Youth booster group - more Info to come
 - Kim Jennings has been trained as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor; council approved
 - Continue to watch for 50th Anniversary events

The April Newsletter is Sponsored:

In Memory of Sherma LaBarre Godshalk
 (Founder of PUMP) and
 In Honor of all the PUMP clients
 by Sara Godshalk



PALM SUNDAY/SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: Sunday, April 10, 9:45 am. We will distribute palms and hear the Passion of Our Lord according to Luke. We expect to have palms available for pickup ahead of time for those who will not be attending worship in person. (The service will be shared online as usual.)



Our Annual Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, April 10 at 11:15 a.m. *Bring a basket and a blanket to open the eggs to find special prizes.* We are looking for donations of individually wrapped candies and plastic eggs. Donations need to be at church by **Sunday, April 3rd**. Questions? See Tina Johns.

GREAT THREE DAYS:



MAUNDY THURSDAY: Thursday, April 14, 7:00 pm. We will have confession and forgiveness, the commemoration of the Last Supper, and the Stripping of the Altar. (This service will be shared online.)

GOOD FRIDAY: Friday, April 15, 7:00 pm. We will hear the Passion of Our Lord according to John, pray the ancient Bidding Prayer, and have Adoration of the Cross. (This service will be shared online.)

VIGIL OF EASTER: Sunday, April 17, 6:00 am. This service will be held outside, either in the grove or in the parking lot. (An outdoor heater will help if it's chilly, and if it's raining, we'll go in the Fellowship Hall.) This service includes Lighting of the New Fire, Affirmation of Baptism, Holy Communion, and more. Bring bells to ring! (This service will be shared online.)

Easter Breakfast 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. See below.

EASTER SUNDAY, April 17, 9:45 am: This will be a regular service in the sanctuary. We will return to chanting portions of the liturgy today! Bring bells to ring!

Easter Breakfast



The church is hoping to have Easter Sunday Breakfast this year!

Breakfast will be served from 7 a.m - 9 a.m. and look much like it did in the past except there will possibly be a station for drinks and for desserts.

We will be asking people to bake and for donations of orange juice and eggs etc. Help is needed for clean-up.

Any question? Please call Laraine Brands - 908-310-1196 - larainebrands@gmail.com

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.

Date:	Greeters	Lay Reader	Assisting Minister	Ushers	Power Point and Camera	Offering Counter
April 3	Brooks Baker, Georgia Suranofsky	Connie Itterly	Tina Johns	Kale Baker, Marlene and Butch Stana	Jim Jennings	Georgia Suranofsky, Jim Jennings
April 10 Palm Sunday	Brenda Hughes, Kale Baker	Isabel Baker	Laraine Brands	Georgia and John Suranofsky, Traci Rumsey	Cathy Mullen	Brenda Hughes, Jackie Horn
April 17 Easter 6 a.m.	Sign-up	Sign-up	Sign-up	Sign-up		
April 17 Easter 9:45 a.m.	Georgia and John Suranofsky	Quincy Miller	Connie Itterly	Brenda Hughes, June and Sherk Jones	Kim Jennings	Jackie Horn, Jim Jennings
April 24	June and Sherk Jones	Sarah Harrison	April Miller	Brooks Baker, Kale Baker, Connie Itterly	Tina Johns	Connie Itterly, Jim Jennings
May 1	Brenda Hughes, Traci Rumsey	Mary Hendershot	Kale Baker	Traci Rumsey, Marlene and Butch Stana	Antonioli Family	Tina Johns, Jackie Horn

Altar Guild for April: Kim Jennings, Sara Godshalk

Altar Guild for May: Carolyn Leidy, Terry Stiso



50th Anniversary update:

During the next few months, we will be collecting marriage and baptism pictures to be displayed during our anniversary year. Please place your pictures on the counter in the narthex or see one of the 50th anniversary committee members to drop off your photo. They will be displayed in the narthex in April and May. If you were baptized or married at POP since 1972, show off your pictures in celebration!



We will also be preparing for the other fun things coming up, so, if you would like to help out --let one of us know.

Thank You,

Denny and Jackie Horn, Brenda Stauffer, Connie Itterly, John Martocci

I want to thank everyone for taking a courageous leap of faith by stating their intention to contribute to Mission Support in 2022. Even though this past year has been filled with challenges and uncertainties, your thoughtful, generous, and consistent contributions to Mission Support enabled you to give hope, encouragement, and dignity to many. By giving to Mission Support through your church, you became a partner in many different synodical and churchwide ministries and programs. These ministries and programs can only happen through the generosity and support of many. Together we can do wonderful things by being the presence of Jesus in today's world. I invite you to read about some of the ministries made possible through your support that have also expressed their appreciation to you and are included in this letter. Then, just imagine all the good that will happen in 2022 because of your involvement in contributing to Mission Support. Thank you and God Bless.

-Debbie Skinner, Mission Support Coordinator-Northeastern PA Synod

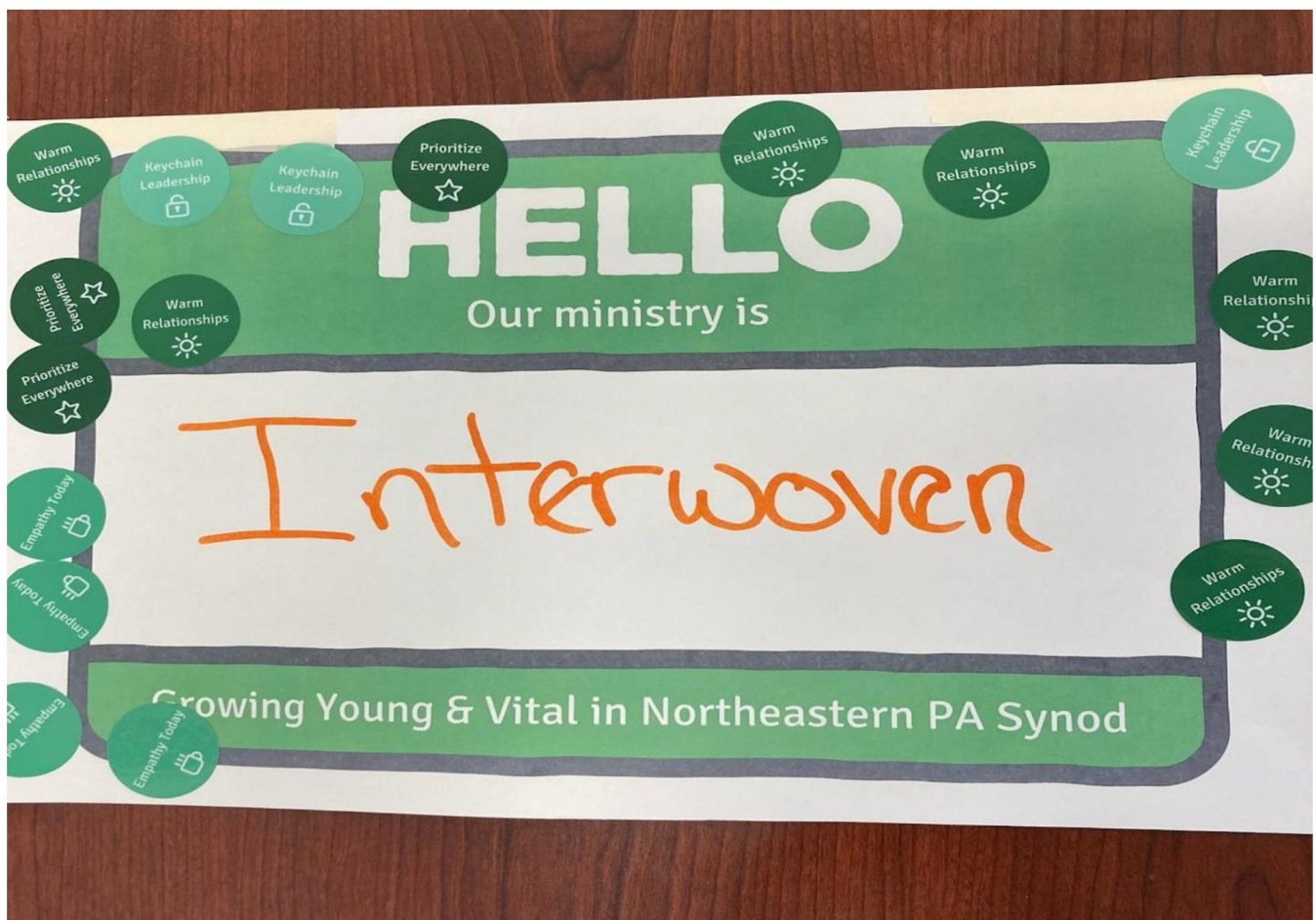
WE LOVE...

The goal of the "We Love" event was to build safer and more welcoming congregations for LGBTQIA+ youth and families which we hope to accomplish through a day of engaging with people and topics who are part of, or allies to, the LGBTQIA+ community. This is done by creating safe spaces to explore a variety of related topics and questions through inclusive worship, fellowship and workshop spaces.

Without the support of the Witness and Service Team Ministry grant we received we would not have been able to make the day happen in a way that was financially viable and inclusive of everyone. The 2021 event hosted over 40 people from around the synod, including several high school youth. We are so very thankful for the financial support. Here's a testimony regarding one of the high school participants by a parent who sent their youth to join "We Love"... for the day. "That Sunday she approached me to tell me what a wonderful experience it was for her child. She told me they ask her every day how school was and what she learned and received minimal response. When the question was asked about "We Love"...her child became extremely animated, sharing about the workshops she participated in and all that she learned, sharing with her parents how happy she was to be part of the day and show she can't wait for next year's event" -Kristen Kelly, Director of Youth and Mission, Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Church.

We truly hope individuals and congregations will continue to support the Witness and Service Team Ministry grant program so as a Synod we can continue to grow into our calling from Christ to love, serve and include ALL of our neighbors.

*-Deacon Diana Pelletier, We Love Event Co-Chair
St. John's Lutheran Church, Sinking Spring*



To all who have contributed to Mission Support, Interwoven thanks you!

Interwoven is an intergenerational ministry here at Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Church that meets once a month. All are welcome to join us for a meal, and an activity-sometimes we gather to take a hike, watch a holiday movie, or play volleyball. Other times, our focus is service in our community. Due to your donations to Mission Support, Interwoven has been able to gather to make and provide meals for Opportunity House, make dog toys and blankets for our local animal shelter, make holiday cookies to spread cheer to a local therapy group for Veterans, and so much more! Thank you for your continued support-we wouldn't be successful without you!

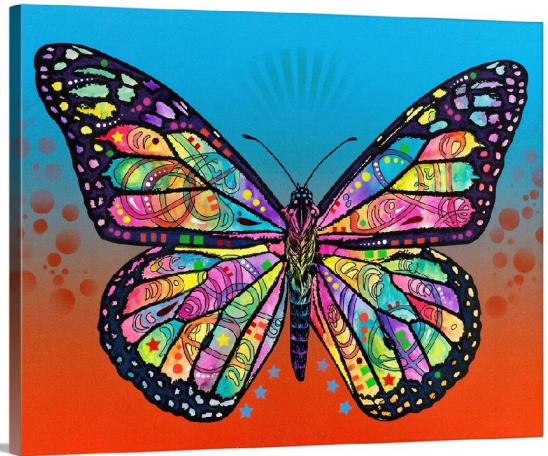
" -Kristen Kelly, Director of Youth and Mission, Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Church.

50 years from.....



Thank You!

to



Check out the bulletin board by the fellowship hall to see all the posters from the campaign and other information!

Our legacy of blessing continues at Prince of Peace. All that God gives us and in turn year after year we break through the boundaries to give to others our gifts of time, talent and financial resources.

At the time of the newsletter release there were 11 commitments totaling \$373 per month increase. Also, 6 commitments were given to stay at their current giving level. The 17 commitments total \$2,000 per month. There are others who have not returned a commitment card, but continue to support our ministries through their financial contributions.

Thanks be to God!

Don't be afraid to give God the first of your increase. In doing so, you express your faith that His resources and provisions are never ending.

CRISIS IN UKRAINE
 YOUR CHURCH'S GIFT WILL BE MATCHED UP TO
\$258,000
 GIVE NOW AT
LWR.ORG/MATCH
 LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

From Social Ministry: The following information was received from Lutheran World Relief. Hostilities in the Ukraine are escalating, the people need our help to be safe, and they need our financial support to save lives. If you can, please make an emergency monetary gift to help them. Please give by April 25th so your gift can be rushed to the aid of families in desperate need. (to give go to lwr.org/match) Social Ministry thanks you for your support and prayers for the Ukrainian people. We are all one, we may not recognize their faces but we need to be humbled by the humanity in all of us.

Galatians 6:2 Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.



All are invited...

Spread the word! We will be hosting a musical event here at POP church. Harp and Heels will be here on **May 1st**!


Spread the Word!

Harpist Calvin Stokes and soprano Laura Pedersen will be entertaining us with their musical talents. They team up to present music we are familiar with, in a fun and enjoyable way. Please check out POPBANGOR.ORG for more info and links to their music. Make plans to attend and to stay for refreshments immediately following the event.

Soon and very Soon.....Yes, it's finally back! The spring rummage sale!

We will start collecting rummage sale items, following Easter. We will start storing items in the area of the fellowship hall, with a moveable wall in front of the items. Please see Jackie Horn or Mary O'Meally if you have any concerns or questions. As usual we will also be asking for baked items to sell during this event. **The rummage sale is May 6-7.** We will also be excited to have helpers to make this event a success. Let's have a great event!



 **Social Ministry Project for April:** As many of you know April was always Easter meals for PUMP. This year Sara Godshalk contacted Stella Nelson to find out if they had a particular need. Well, they do! Everyone has always been very generous with your donations to PUMP, but the items donated are items they get from the government and Trader Joe's. What they desperately need are the following items: CEREAL, PASTA, SPAGHETTI SAUCE and TOILETRIE ITEMS: BAR SOAP, TOOTHPASTE, TOILET TISSUE, DEODORANT and FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS. When shopping please remember to pick up one of these items for PUMP. As always, the Social Ministry Committee thanks you for your generous support of this ministry.

Deuteronomy 15:11 "For the poor will never cease from the land; therefore, I command you, saying, "You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor and your needy, in your land."



Monies received for receipts turned in for 2021 are \$1,003.45.

Please only turn in receipts for Weis store in Pen Argyl and for year 2022. We are passed the deadline for 2021 paperwork. We can't turn in any prescription or alcohol receipts. Thank you for everyone's participation in this program.

—*Laraine Brands*



Looking Ahead: Thank you cards and thinking of you cards for soldiers are going to be mailed out on June 6th. See Holly Blakeslee for details.



➡ **Thank you to all of my church family** for food, cards, calls, well wishes, prayers and hope for my recovery. Your kindness has been sincerely appreciated. —*Janet Martocci*

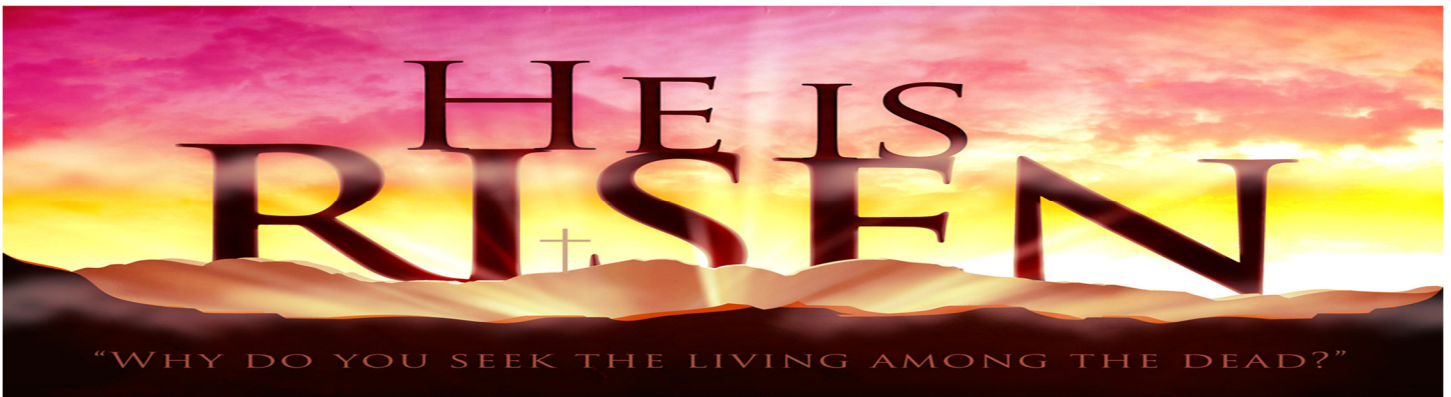
➡ **Thank you:** Dear Pastor Scholtes, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church has again contributed to the Samuel and Linda Zeiser Scholarship Fund. What a thoughtful gesture of kindness! Linda and I extend our deep gratitude for the congregation's support of the fund. It means a great deal to us. Please convey our gratitude to the members of the Congregation Council.

As we look forward to our visit later this year, Linda and I send our very best wishes for a 2022 filled with the joys of community in Christ with abundant opportunities to serve the gospel through deeds of compassion, and for renewed conviction to the ministry bestowed upon you by the Holy Spirit for the sake of the Risen Jesus. Sincerely, --*Samuel R. Zeiser*

➡ **Thank you:** For your gift of \$459.00. Your gift helps strengthen relationships and build capacity to serve the most vulnerable in our midst. Together we build the resiliency of the Gospel so that our congregations proclaim clearly that God is always bringing forth renewal and hope. Gratefully yours, --*Julia Menzo*, Director of Community Outreach, Lutheran Congregational Services.

➡ **Thank you:** For your generous donation of \$320.00 for families in need in our community. We as a community work together through small acts of kindness can create great positive results in our surroundings, showing the love of each other as we are taught to do.

Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for all you do for Slater Family Network and our community and stay well and safe! Sincerely, *Patti Damour*, Executive Director



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

Web-site: www.popbangor.org
Online Coordinator: Heather Scholtes
lotsofsocks@live.com

Worship and Holy Communion Schedule:
Sundays at 9:45 a.m. — See Page 2 for details!
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- **Pastor: Rev. Michael J. Scholtes 610-588-2314,**  
**[PastorMJS@gmail.com](mailto:PastorMJS@gmail.com)**
- **Minister of Music: Martin Yazdzik**
- **Bookkeeper: Joyce Weishaupt**
- **Financial Secretary: Mary O’Meally**
- **Custodian: Brittnee Evans**
- **Parish Nurse: Justine Cesari, 610-730-7895,**  
**[cesarijustine1080@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:poplcbangor@gmail.com)

**Congregation Council Members:**

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Connie Itterly -President | Jackie Horn– Treasurer |
| Traci Rumsey -V-President | Tina Johns -Secretary  |
| Scott Schipps             | Georgia Suranofsky     |
| Kathy Williams            | Chip Harrison          |
| Dave Karner               | Brenda Hughes          |
| Sara Godshalk             | Max Manicke-Youth Rep. |
| Pastor Michael Scholtes   |                        |

**OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT**

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

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!**

**May 2022 Newsletter is:**  
**\*\*April 12 at Noon**

*You may email your submissions to [poplcbangor@gmail.com](mailto:poplcbangor@gmail.com)  
 Or give a handwritten items to **Annette Buss***

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





# SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA



APRIL 2022 • ISSUE 4 • VOLUME 30

## Easter 2022 – No Idle Tale

“I love to tell the story...” So goes the great old hymn. But the world is filled with stories today, that are tough to tell. As Covid lingers. As the war in Ukraine breaks our heart. What’s next? And will it be worse? Just as much, I worry: can we trust each other anymore? Trust enough to share any kind of news, and believe it, together? Do we still hold in common, any of the assumptions, beliefs, and causes we used to share? Or is our world now filled only with suspicions and deceptions – “fake news” from all sources, on all sides?

On that first Easter Sunday, still overshadowed by Good Friday, bleakness and distrust were also all around. Even when those energized, overjoyed women burst in, announcing the most amazing thing they had ever seen and heard – HIS TOMB IS EMPTY! JESUS IS RISEN! – even then, “all the rest” dismissed their report as nothing more than “an idle tale” (Luke 24:11).

We are the church. We are called to be different. If the prevailing winds of our world today are seeking to blow us apart, the Holy Spirit winds us back together. God calls us to come to the places of sadness and sickness and doubt and despair – where all hope is dead and buried – and be ready to be amazed. Ready to see (and say!) what was dead – is now ALIVE. What was lost – is now FOUND. What was impossible – is now POSSIBLE. Real. True. And trustworthy. Jesus is risen, and we shall arise. The Bible prophets foretold it. Jesus said it, again and again. But almost nobody could trust it. Until God made it true, and sent people out to spread the word, the good news, the gospel. God is still sending us today. This Easter Sunday is like the first: a world full of doubt and distrust. A world full of conflict and separation. In the midst of it all, Christ is standing here with us. The Holy Spirit is in us and giving us courage. And God is making all things new, even now.

Jesus is risen, and we shall arise. Let us share this good news, for ALL people, for ALL creation. Holy God, give us the power to trust it, and to share it. Rebuild in us: trust in you. And through us: rebuild trust throughout our world, with justice, with peace, with faith, hope and love.

Blessed Easter to you and yours!  
Bishop Christopher deForest



## TOGETHER

Our 2022 Assembly will be held online on June 10-11. Each congregation is entitled to bring two voting members. If you are interested in attending the synod assembly as a voting member please reach out to your congregation's leadership for more information.



**check out  
our new  
website**

[godslove.org](https://www.godslove.org)



Join us on the 2nd  
**Saturday of every month!**  
(more information on our website)

## STEWARDSHIP EXTRAVAGANZA

**JUNE 18, 2022**  
**TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH, LANSDALE**  
AN EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE  
SEPA AND NEPA SYNODS  
(REGISTRATION FORTHCOMING)



**APRIL 23 & 24, 2022, 1PM-4PM**  
RAIN OR SHINE, BAREBONES EVENT, BRING  
YOUR OWN KNIFE, CUTTING BOARD, DRINKS,  
AND SNACKS. WE'LL BE CUTTING THE SEED  
POTATOES FOR PLANTING SEASON! ALL ARE  
INVITED! JUST WALK-IN AND HELP!

BECKER'S ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
265 MAIDENCREEK ROAD  
FLEETWOOD, PA 19522