

# Prints of Peace



Way back in 2015, or perhaps we should call it 5 BCV (“Before Corona-Virus”), the members of Prince of Peace adopted a Purpose Statement. Many of us still remember our Purpose Statement (or at least that we have one): it goes like this: **“We, the people of Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, will actively seek and serve Christ in all people.”**

You may also remember that we adopted “Guiding Principles.” We committed to following these five “rules of the road” to order our life together as a community, in service of our purpose. Now, as we steadily ramp back up to full speed after the pandemic, is a good time to revisit these Guiding Principles, and reaf-

firm our commitment to them. As we move forward in some new ways and some old, it behooves us to behave in the way that we’ve promised one another. Here are those Guiding Principles again. I encourage you to recommit to them in our life together as a community of faith, as well as in every facet of your life.

- ◆ We actively seek to devote ourselves to Christ through worship, prayer and scripture.
- ◆ We actively seek to nurture respectful relationships, by speaking, listening, and responding honestly and without judgment.
- ◆ We actively seek to gracefully forgive.
- ◆ We actively seek to live united as one body in Christ.
- ◆ We actively seek to encourage growth of faith while serving God.

My sermons throughout the month of June have focused on these Guiding Principles. If you missed any of them, I encourage you to watch them at [popbangor.org/video-worship](http://popbangor.org/video-worship). I also encourage you to download and read the file “Emerging from the Crucible: Reflections on How to Be the Church Post-COVID.” It’s based on my sermon series from Easter, and contains thought on how we can do Christ’s ministry as we move forward into, as they say, the “new normal.”

There are a lot of things brewing right now at Prince of Peace, waiting to come to fruition sometime in upcoming months. It’s an exciting time. Among these things:

- ◆ A new young adult ministry, which YOU can help with by submitting something to the CROSSROADS booklet. (More about this elsewhere in this newsletter.)
- ◆ An outdoor VBS held at East Bangor Park, in conjunction with East Bangor United Methodist Church.
- ◆ Some sort of educational program for children that may be very different from traditional Sunday School.
- ◆ A book study of a book entitled *Growing Young: 6 Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church*.
- ◆ A special memorial service for all who died during the COVID pandemic.
- ◆ A very special and unique presentation of the Gospel According to Mark.
- ◆ And of course, various events planned for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022.

Be part of this. Whether you’re one of the “old guard” or a relatively new member; whether you’re eighty or eight; whether your faith is strident or stumbling, whether you have lots of free time or just a few minutes here and there – be part of this. Join us as we figure out how to be the church in the second half of 2021, and how to be the church in 2022. It’s going to be a wild ride. Join us.

In Christ,

Rev. Michael J. Scholtes



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

April Miller, July 5  
Evan Powell, July 5  
Jennifer Baker, July 7  
Ruth Hinton, July 8  
John Suranofsky, July 9  
Benjamin Scholtes, July 9  
Brenda Stauffer, July 10  
Anne Slegel, July 11  
Connie Silvius, July 14  
Luke Hoff, July 16  
Edna Antonucci, July 18  
Sara Godshalk, July 19  
Glenda Kellow, July 24  
Charmaine Collins, July 26  
Walter Stana, July 26  
Dale Setzer, July 27  
Jacqueline Horn, July 28  
Emily Flyte, July 29  
William Waszmer, July 29

### **ARE YOU GETTING PASTORMAIL?**

Pastor Scholtes sends out emails to the congregation almost every day. These *Pastor-Mails* 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](mailto:pastorMJS@gmail.com) to be added to the list.

### **RECENT PASTORAL ACTS**

Funeral: Betty J. Leininger, May 29  
Baptism: Jackson Hockenbury, June 12

# **COME WORSHIP** *with us!*



**In-person (9:45 on Sundays – OUTSIDE in the grove on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month)**

*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, no singing, and so forth. If you are not feeling well, please do not attend.*

### **Online / Facebook / Telephone**

As of the newsletter deadline, we have not made a decision on the future of these worship opportunities. Check out the church website for up-to-date information.

### **COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**

- Task force Committee will still be operational as long as the CDC and the State Guidelines warrant it. The committee will work closely with Council and follow Covid news and numbers.
- Pastor Scholtes will be on vacation from August 10th to August 23rd.
- Prince of Peace Church had received a \$2,000.00 grant from the Synod for the Walk Way Project in the Worship Grove.

*Faith* IS NOT KNOWING  
WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS,  
BUT KNOWING  
*who holds the future.*

## UPDATE FROM THE REOPENING TASK FORCE, JUNE 2021

The recent announcements by Governor Wolf and the CDC regarding the relaxation of many COVID-19 restrictions brings a welcome sigh of relief for many of us. We are grateful for the opportunity that these announcements give us. We are also grateful for guidance we recently received from Bishop deForest's office, which encourages all synod congregations to be cautious as we reopen.

The Reopening Task Force has met several times since these announcements to review the rules and changes we made almost a year ago in response to COVID-19. After much discussion, we have decided to make the following changes to our current policy:

- ◆ **Beginning on June 6, fully vaccinated persons may remove their masks while sitting in a pew. Masks are still required whenever you are not in a pew, e.g. while entering, exiting, and coming forward for communion.**
- ◆ **Congregational singing will be allowed at any outdoor services (currently scheduled for the first Sunday of each month). At this point, we strongly encourage you to put your mask on while singing.**
- ◆ **We intend to revisit these restrictions and others on a monthly basis, and take small steps like this each month, so long as current guidance supports it.**

As you can see, the changes for June are modest. We opted against making broader changes immediately for the following reasons:

1. From the beginning, the Task Force has taken a safe, conservative approach to our practices, and it has worked. To date, we have no known exposures or positive cases stemming from interactions on our church grounds. Not all places of worship can make this claim.
2. Prince of Peace will not mandate proof of vaccination to attend worship or any functions on church grounds. Christ's church is open to all. Please make your vaccination decision in consultation with your own health care practitioner.
3. It is very likely that with the relaxed restrictions, many congregants will be out and about more, interacting with both vaccinated and unvaccinated people, potentially unmasked. As this is every individuals' right, we feel that keeping some masking and social distancing protocols while at Prince of Peace safeguards protection for all, despite our activities and lifestyle beyond these grounds.
4. In the past year, we have observed loosened restrictions followed by a surge in positive cases. As more Pennsylvanians get vaccinated, the likelihood of spreading the virus decreases; nonetheless the Task Force has decided to take a "wait and watch" approach to making major changes in our procedures. In other words, let's wait until at least 14 days *after* the restrictions are lifted statewide, and then watch and see what the COVID numbers do. If the COVID cases do not significantly increase, the Task Force will be poised to make further changes to our practices soon. If the cases spike as they did in the past, we will all be grateful that the extra precautions remained in place.

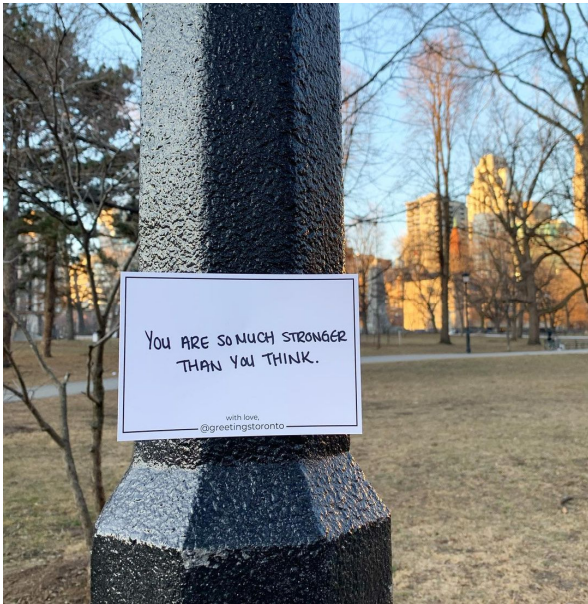
While the Task Force recognizes that some members may be disappointed in our decision, we hope that everyone welcomes the overall focus on the safety and health of our membership through the pandemic. As eager as we all may be to put COVID-19 behind us, it is still very much a part of our everyday lives. To ignore its presence now seems counterintuitive after all the hard work our congregation has done to bring us this far. Let's work together in this way a little longer for the sake of us all.



## SPREADING JOY AND ENCOURAGEMENT—Sherry Hock

Wouldn't it be nice if we could share a few kind words to cheer up or encourage someone? Maybe a friend, family member or even a stranger? And wouldn't it be nice to reach those in our community? Pass around a few smiles, let them know we at Prince of Peace are thinking of them?

Well, a few weeks back I found a story that will be shared in one of the Stewardship Committee's Wednesday generosity story emails. It was about 3 women, friends, who teamed up to spread joy throughout their community. They got together and made signs with encouraging statements on them and then they posted them around their town for all to see.

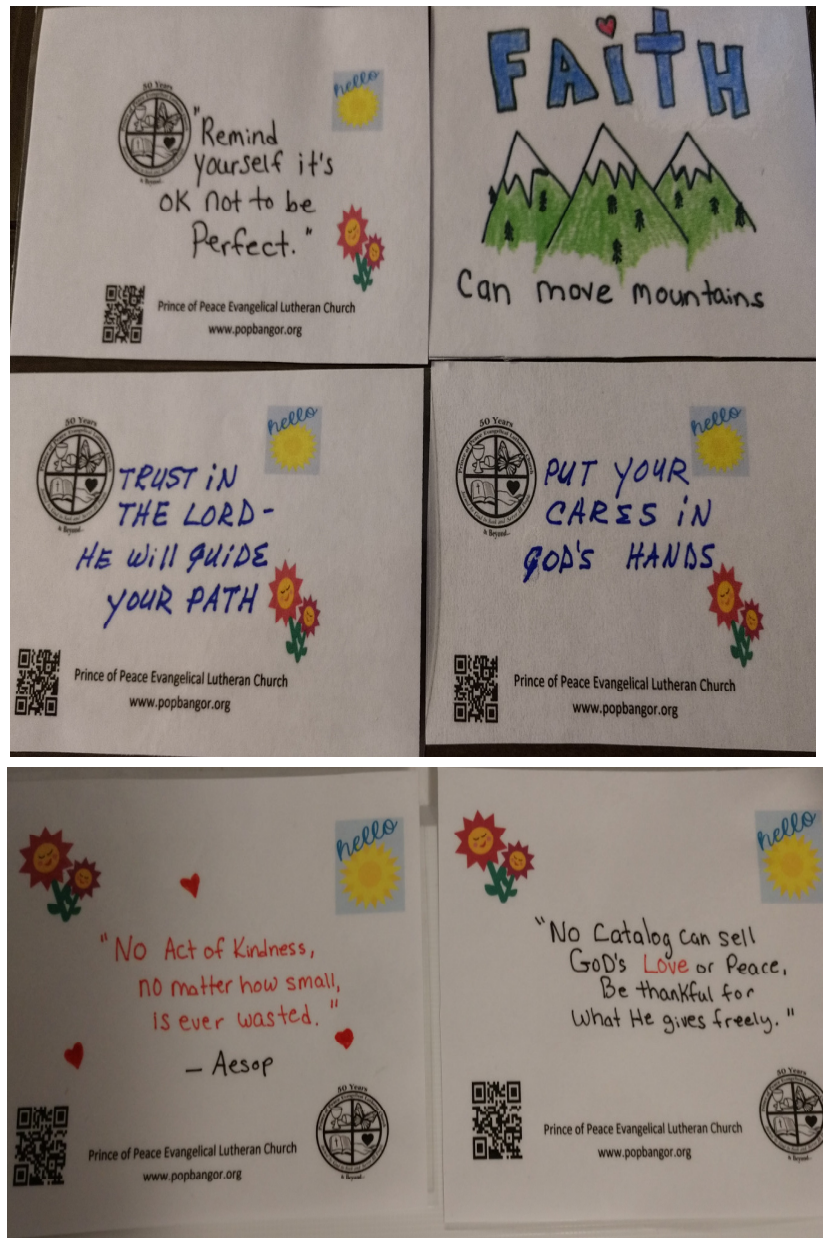


I thought this was a really neat idea and went to the committee and Pastor asking if we at Prince of Peace could do something like this. They thought it was a neat and doable idea. Then it was then suggested that we add our 50th anniversary logo and a QR code (thank you Issak!) to the signs so whoever saw them would be directed to our Facebook page where we would have our agenda listed with all

the plans and events that we will be hosting to celebrate our anniversary. What a great way to reach those in our community and show they are invited!

Our plan is, we will have blank pages printed and anyone who would like to help create the cards, or distribute them is welcome to. All you need to do is see myself; Sherry Hock, or Georgia Suranofsky (the Stewardship Committee) and we will get you started. We will have two different styles, a small size that can be stuck into a card or handed out and a larger one that could be hung anywhere you think it will be seen. We were thinking of leaving them at places that are frequented by lots of people. We will be laminating them also so they can be left outdoors. Oh! You don't need artistic ability, all you need to do is write something that would encourage or make someone smile. It could be something cute or fancy or just "SMILE!" Let's let everyone out there know we are thinking of them and we care!

Here are some examples of the cards so far.







# Celebrating OUR GRADUATES



We celebrate with the following students, graduating from various schools. Congratulations, and good luck in all your future endeavors!

**Lauren Jeanette Harrison** graduated from Bangor Area High School. Lauren will attend Northampton Community College majoring in Paralegal Studies. She plans to transfer to a 4 year college/university to study Political Science & Journalism and then plans to continue on to Law School.

★ **Marissa Hill** graduated from Bangor Area High School. Marissa plans to attend college for Business/Accounting at Northampton Community College.

★ **Maci Hock** is graduating from Kids Express preschool. Her future plans include Kindergarten!

★ **Benjamin Manicke** graduated from Bangor Area High School. Ben plans to attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to study Computer Science.

★ **Nolan Reinhart** graduated from sixth grade.

★ **Matthew Schipps** graduated from Unity College with a B.S. in Parks and Forest Resource Management. Matt works for the Department of the Interior in Ekalaka, Montana, as a Forestry Technician, fighting wildfires.



## Yard Work Help Available...

The scout troops are offering help with yard work to people in the community, whether members of Prince of Peace or not. They will be available on Saturdays over the next few months. If you, or a neighbor, would like help with this, please contact Dave Karner at davidkarner1@gmail.com or 484-280-8657. Please know, this is a service opportunity for the scouts, not a fundraiser. They're not looking for payment! What a generous way to share God's love with the community!



"IN *Happy* MOMENTS,  
PRAISE GOD.  
IN DIFFICULT MOMENTS,  
**SEEK** *God.*  
IN QUIET MOMENTS,  
*trust* GOD.  
IN EVERY MOMENT,  
THANK *God.*"

Dear Members of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,  
Thank you for the beautiful and thoughtful prayer cloths. They were greatly appreciated.

Fondly,  
*The OR Family LVHN—Pocono*

*Thank you!*

**Social Ministry News:**



It's that time again, for "what you ask", time for our summer project! I recently read an article which stated that homeless shelters are always in need of socks. After discussing this with the committee we decided to ask for donations of new socks, men's and ladies, which will be donated to Safe Harbor. The project will end on **Sunday, August 29th**. You may place your donations in the laundry basket under the coat rack in the Narthex. If anyone feels uncomfortable shopping you may ask any committee member (Sherry Hock, Holly Blakeslee & Mary O'Meally) and we will be happy to shop for you. As always we thank you for your generous support of our projects and ministries. Questions: see Mary O'Meally

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

**OUTSIDE WORSHIP FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH!**



We will have our regular Sunday worship outside in the church grove on the first Sunday of each month. Worship will begin as usual at 9:45 am. Please wear a mask, and bring a chair to sit in. (There are some benches, but not enough for everyone.) If you would prefer to remain in your car, that is fine. Speakers will be setup so that you can hear the service, and communion will be brought to you. Unlike the outdoor services we did last summer, these will be **full** services, with sermon, hymns, communion, and so forth. One of the best things about worshiping outside is that we will be able to sing together!

Depending on how this goes, we plan to do this through the fall. If the weather is inclement on a given Sunday, we will hold worship inside instead.

**Are you willing to help?**

It's lawn care season! Can you help to keep our grounds looking wonderful? See John Martocci for details, questions and to sign-up to help!

Thank you to all who help with these important tasks!



**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
Sunday, July 4 In grove	Kale Baker, Brooks Baker	Janet Martocci	April Miller	Georgia and John Suranofsky, Marlene and Butch Stana	Kim Jennings (if inside building)
Sunday, July 11	Vivian Fahr, Traci Rumsey	Georgia Suranofsky	Marlene Stana	Bob Gist, Connie Itterly, Brenda Hughes, Kale Baker	Tina Johns
Sunday, July 18	Connie Itterly, Brenda Hughes	Kale Baker	Tina Johns	Brooks Baker, Vivian Fahr, June and Sherk Jones	Antonioli Family
Sunday, July 25	Georgia and John Suranofsky	Connie Itterly	Kale Baker	Marlene and Butch Stana, Traci Rumsey, Connie Itterly	Cathy Mullen
Sunday, August 1 In grove	Kale Baker, Brooks Baker	Sherry Hock	Laraine Brands	Brenda Hughes, Vivian Fahr, Georgia and John Suranofsky	Jim Jennings (if inside building)

*Act justly • Love mercy*  


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*Walk humbly with your God.*  
*Micah 6:8*

Thursday, July 1	Psalm 123; Jeremiah 7:1-15; 1 Corinthians 4:8-13
Friday, July 2	Psalm 123; Jeremiah 7:16-26; 2 Corinthians 10:7-11
Saturday, July 3	Psalm 123; Jeremiah 7:27-34; Matthew 8:18-22
<b>Sunday, July 4</b>	Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13
Monday, July 5	Psalm 119:81-88; Ezekiel 2:8-3:11; 2 Corinthians 11:16-33
Tuesday, July 6	Psalm 119:81-88; Jeremiah 16:1-13; James 5:7-12
Wednesday, July 7	Psalm 119:81-88; Jeremiah 16:14-21; John 7:1-9
Thursday, July 8	Psalm 85:8-13; Amos 2:6-16; Colossians 2:1-5
Friday, July 9	Psalm 85:8-13; Amos 3:1-12; Colossians 4:2-18
Saturday, July 10	Psalm 85:8-13; Amos 4:6-13; Luke 1:57-80
<b>Sunday, July 11</b>	Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29
Monday, July 12	Psalm 142; Amos 5:1-9; Acts 21:27-39
Tuesday, July 13	Psalm 142; Amos 9:1-4; Acts 23:12-35
Wednesday, July 14	Psalm 142; Amos 9:11-15; Luke 7:31-35
Thursday, July 15	Psalm 23; Jeremiah 10:1-16; Colossians 1:15-23
Friday, July 16	Psalm 23; Jeremiah 10:17-25; Acts 17:16-31
Saturday, July 17	Psalm 23; Jeremiah 12:1-13; Luke 18:35-43
<b>Sunday, July 18</b>	Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
Monday, July 19	Psalm 100; Jeremiah 50:1-7; Hebrews 13:17-25
Tuesday, July 20	Psalm 100; Zechariah 9:14-10:2; Acts 20:17-38
Wednesday, July 21	Psalm 100; 2 Samuel 5:1-12; Luke 15:1-7
Thursday, July 22	Psalm 145:10-18; 1 Kings 19:19-21; Colossians 1:9-14
Friday, July 23	Psalm 145:10-18; 2 Kings 3:4-20; Colossians 3:12-17
Saturday, July 24	Psalm 145:10-18; 2 Kings 4:38-41; John 4:31-38
<b>Sunday, July 25</b>	2 Kings 4:42-44; Psalm 145:10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21
Monday, July 26	Psalm 111; Genesis 18:1-15; Philippians 4:10-20
Tuesday, July 27	Psalm 111; Exodus 24:1-11; Romans 15:22-33
Wednesday, July 28	Psalm 111; Isaiah 25:6-10a; Mark 6:35-44
Thursday, July 29	Psalm 78:23-29; Exodus 12:33-42; 1 Corinthians 11:17-22
Friday, July 30	Psalm 78:23-29; Exodus 12:43-13:2; 1 Corinthians 11:27-34
Saturday, July 31	Psalm 78:23-29; Exodus 13:3-10; Matthew 16:5-12





## CROSSROADS BOOKLET

The transition from child to adult is always a difficult one. As teenagers turn into twenty-somethings, they often find that life isn't the way they thought it would be. As students head out into the workforce, they find challenges, changes, struggles they never faced before. Paychecks, taxes, rent, relationships, marriage, children, isolation, and so much more.

I recently met with a group of young adults (age 21-23) from Prince of Peace, and they all felt disconnected from God and from the church. One thing they thought might be helpful is if they could receive some advice, counsel, wisdom, from YOU. We brainstormed how to do it, and came up with this idea.

We're going to make a booklet called "**CROSSROADS.**" YOU are invited to contribute a note to our young adults. Once everyone has had a chance to contribute, the notes will be put together into a booklet, and shared with our current young adults. They will also be shared with future high school graduates when they graduate. We'd like you to complete one of the following prompts in your note.

- “When you're at a crossroads in your faith, \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - “When you're at a crossroads in your career, \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - “When you're at a crossroads in your education, \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - “When you're facing a change, \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - “When you're battling fear, \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - “When you're moving at a different pace than everyone else, \_\_\_\_\_.”
- Something else in the same vein.

Your answer can be as brief or as long as you like. If you would prefer, you may also create a drawing, a music score, or some other creative method of getting your message across. Responses can be anonymous, but I encourage you to include your name.

This is a great way to fulfill the promises you made to these young adults at their baptism, and at their confirmation. At their baptism, the pastor asked you, “People of God, do you promise to support this person and pray for them in their new life in Christ?” You responded, “**We do.**” At their confirmation, the pastor asked you the same question again, and you responded, “**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**”

You can get me your response in a few ways.

- Fill out the Google Form at this link: [forms.gle/QH41a7T4hBJbw1Us5](https://forms.gle/QH41a7T4hBJbw1Us5)
- Email your response to [pastorMJS@gmail.com](mailto:pastorMJS@gmail.com).
- Write/type your response on a sheet of paper, and mail it or hand it to Pastor Scholtes.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Scholtes.

## SYNOD MINISTRY BROCHURE

2021



**Growing Young & Vital**  
Northeastern PA Synod

MINISTRIES SUPPORTED  
THROUGH  
MISSION SUPPORT GIVING

The Northeastern PA Synod has created a new brochure to share some of the inspiring ministries done around our church. We are truly making a difference in the name of God in our region!

You can check out the new brochure in one of two ways, either a "Flipbook" viewable online or a PDF you can download on your computer. Both are available at the following link:

[nepasynod.org/synod-ministries-brochure-2021/](https://nepasynod.org/synod-ministries-brochure-2021/)

# *Thank you Lord For Fathers and Special Gentlemen*

*The following individuals have made a  
Father's Day contribution to the Sunday School.  
In Loving Memory Of...*

Lambert C. Saddler, Charles W. Jones  
by June and Sherk Jones  
Earl Fraunfelter, Anthony DeVito, Sr., Tony DeVito, Jr.  
by Betty DeVito  
Frank Thompson, Roy Leidy  
by Carolyn Leidy and Family  
Val Fontanella, Ray Flyte, Jr.  
by Ray, Tara, Tyler, Ashley and Lauren  
Will Rambo, Joe Stana  
by The Stana Family  
George Yetter, Leroy Shook  
by Barry and Sharon Yetter  
Delmore Smith, Manus Mclean, Russell Eichlin  
by Manus Smith  
Floyd "Austin" Oyer  
by His Daughters  
John Suranofsky, Franklin Brown  
by John and Georgia Suranofsky  
Nicholas Martocci, Luther Steinmetz  
by John and Janet and Family  
James Miller  
by Maci, Mia, Freddy and Joan  
Charles Lane, Kenneth Lane, Robert Lane, William Lane,  
Warren Lane, Sr., Warren Lane, Jr., Edward Weidman  
by Kathy Lane  
Elwood Bush  
by Meghan McGowan  
Stewart C. Smith, Sr., F. Howard Smith, Edwin E. Bartholomew  
by Annette Buss

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*To us you were someone special,  
someone set apart,  
Your memory will live forever,  
Engraved within our heart.*





*Thank you Lord For Fathers  
and Special Gentlemen*

*The following individuals have made a  
Father's Day contribution to the Sunday School.  
In Loving Honor Of...*

**Ray Flyte**

by Tyler, Ashley and Lauren

**Barry Duane**

by Ray and Tara Flyte

**Kale Baker, Brooks Baker**

by John and Georgia Suranofsky

**John Martocci**

by Christa, Daren and Family

**Thomas McGowan, Larry Smith, Paul Kuhs**

by Meghan McGowan

**Thank you for the laughter,  
For the good times that we share,  
Thanks for always listening,  
For trying to be fair.  
Thank you for your comfort,  
When things are going bad,  
Thank you for the shoulder,  
To cry on when I'm sad.  
This poem's a reminder that  
All my life through,  
I'll be thanking heaven  
For a special dad like you.**

*-Anonymous*





Thank You



**Technology/Communications Committee Update, submitted by Jackie Horn**

The technology/communications committee would like to thank **Isaak Griggs** for being the go-to person for our website and Facebook page. Isaak has decided to make a move in this field of employment, and will no longer be able to manage our online interests.

Currently we are looking for someone to take on this role for these sites. While the website needs to be updated occasionally, the Facebook page requires a little more continual attention. If you are interested, please reach out to Jackie Horn or me and we will be able to guide you through the process. Please consider this as a way of helping your church, and again, thanks to Isaak for having done a great job with our sites!

FYI, at this time, the weekly church service will still be uploaded to YouTube, Facebook, and the phone service POP2POP, but it will no longer be available Sundays. Expect each worship service to be available sometime on Monday.

**Weis Receipt and Gift Card Program Update, submitted by Jackie Horn**

Thank You

POP has had a long relationship with Weis or Mr. Z's. When we started to collect the receipts it was an easy way to raise money. Thank you to Terry Stiso for managing our Weis receipts for the past few years, and thank you to Laraine Brands for taking up the reins now. We earn 1 percent from each receipt that comes from purchases from the Bangor store. We cannot receive or use receipts from other locations.

POP also sells Weis cards and we make 5 percent from the sales. There was a misconception that we made 5 percent either way, but that is not the case. While we are very happy with the return from the receipt collection, POP will raise more money from the sale of the Weis cards.

So, maybe you will consider this option as our fund raiser. And please remember we can not earn anything in receipts if you have used the purchased Weis cards.

Please see Jim Jennings or me (Jackie Horn) to purchase your gift cards. Thank you for supporting POP in this endeavor!



Love God  
Read your Bible

*Say Your Prayers*

apologise when you are wrong  
*always forgive*

*obey your parents* have faith

be Kind



The  
Joy  
of the  
Lord  
is my  
Strength  
*Nehemiah 8:10*

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

**Web-site: [www.popbangor.org](http://www.popbangor.org)**  
**Webmaster: Isaak Griggs—[isaakgriggs@gmail.com](mailto:isaakgriggs@gmail.com)**

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**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)**
- **Organist/Music Leader: Martin Yazdzik**
- **Treasurer: Joyce Weishaupt**
- **Financial Secretary: Mary O’Meally**
- **Sexton: Brittnee Brown**
- **Parish Nurse: Justine Cesari, 610-730-7895, [cesarijustine1080@gmail.com](mailto:cesarijustine1080@gmail.com)**
- **Church Secretary: Annette Buss**

**Church Secretary’s Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am–Noon Thursday: 1 to 4 pm  
**Church Secretary’s email:** [poplcbangor@gmail.com](mailto:poplcbangor@gmail.com)

**Church Council Members:**

|                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Georgia Suranofsky - President  | Dennis Horn     |
| Connie Itterly - Vice President | Luke Hoff       |
| Marlene Stana - Secretary       | Scott Schipps   |
| Dave Karner                     | Kathy Williams  |
| Traci Rumsey                    | Chip Harrison   |
| Benjamin Manicke-Youth Rep.     | Bruce Antonioli |
| 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!**

**August 2021 Newsletter is:**  
**July 13th**

*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 the next  
month’s newsletter.\*\***

**Publication’s title & number:**  
PRINTS OF PEACE

**Statement of frequency**

Published Monthly: 12 issues

January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December

**Authorized Organization’s**

**Name and Address:**

PRINCE OF PEACE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2445 LAKE MINSI DRIVE  
BANGOR, PA 18013-5418

# Graceful Generosity

Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.

## Worshipping the Lord

The old man was bedridden, victim of a stroke. His eyes gleamed mistily as we talked of our little church, its rapid growth, its new building. "Pastor," he murmured, "I'd give anything to be able to come to church one Sunday, but I know I'll never get out of this bed."

Smiling, he went on, "There was a time when I could have come to church every Sunday—but then I preferred to stay in bed."

It is ironic how our sense of values can change. Fortunate is the man who awakens in time to the worth of worship and work in the house of the Lord. (Henry B. Luffberry)

There is the story of a pastor who announced one Sunday to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is that we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is the money is still in your pockets."

## Stewards Need God's Wisdom

As stewards, we have the responsibility to be knowledgeable and wise. In order to be effective in our stewardship, we need to seek God's wisdom. "For the Lord gives wisdom and from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding" (Proverbs 2:6).

God's Word illustrates the poor consequences that result when we think and act foolishly. For example, in Matthew 6:26-27, we read of the man who built his house on the sand, and, when the rain came, the house came crashing down. Wisdom teaches us to build our houses on solid ground.

Yet another example of not acting with wisdom is the Parable of the Ten Virgins. Five



virgins did not remember to bring enough oil so they missed the wedding celebration. By not thinking ahead, they missed the festivities. Jesus didn't condemn these people for their wickedness but rather their lack of preparedness.

Jesus uses the Parable of the Rich Fool to point out more foolishness. In this parable, Jesus tells us about a successful farmer who built bigger barns for the purpose of becoming wealthier. Jesus called him foolish because he didn't acknowledge God as the provider of all that he had. When God took his life, his wealth was meaningless.

Just as Jesus is critical of foolish thoughts and activities, he praises those who act wisely. In the Parable of the Shrewd Manager, Jesus praises the dishonest steward for how quickly and astutely he handled things when he was told that his job was coming to an end. Although the Shrewd Manager was dishonest, Jesus said there are even things that unbelievers do that we as believers can learn from and do. After the master told the Shrewd Manager his job would be ending, he became very wise, creative, and alert with his master's money, and he assured



himself of his temporary earthly future. In the same way, we can use the money God has given us to make friends who will welcome us into eternal dwellings.

As God's stewards, we can best fulfill our calling when we seek and use his wisdom. With God's wisdom, we will build on solid ground; we will acknowledge God as our source of all things, and we will be prepared for Christ's coming again. Because God grants us his wisdom, we can be God-pleasing stewards.

## **Our Attitude toward Money**

Money is what we make it. Money can own us or be owned by us. Money can be our servant or our master. It depends entirely on our attitude. And this is why the Bible says that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter God's kingdom (Matthew 19:24). It is not the rich man's money, but the rich man's attitude toward money that turns him away from God, away from other people, toward himself and his money. Likewise, it is not the poor man's poverty, but the poor man's attitude toward money that turns him away from God, away from other people, and makes him covetous, grasping, and every bit as selfish in his poverty as the wealthy man.

Much of Jesus' teaching focused on money so we need to develop the right attitude toward it and be concerned about its use and misuse. Whether God gives us little or much money, we need to be faithful stewards of it and learn an attitude of contentment. According to the Apostle Paul, we are very rich if we are satisfied with what we have. In 1 Timothy 6:6-10 he wrote:

*"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."*



Unfortunately, so many people have become so eager to have money and the things that money can buy that they have lost much of life's real value and life's real purpose. Poverty is a problem, not only with those who have no money, but also with those who have much. There are many who don't lack money but lack satisfaction because no amount of money satisfies.

As we examine our attitudes toward money, we need to remember that money can do many things, but it can't buy happiness or heaven.

***Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!***

# SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

## MINLAB 21

**How has your church been able to: Heal the Hurting, Love the Land, and Engage the Stranger?**

Learn new ideas to take home and try. And show and tell others about the "vital signs" you've seen "growing" in your midst through God's grace, love and care in your community. On August 14th we will also go deeper into ways the "Growing Young" movement across our Synod is making a difference and changing the ways we are growing as a Jesus-centered community.

We hope every congregation will send at least two participants, to learn and share and grow. **Join us August 14, 2021**

Sign up online at [Godslove.org](https://Godslove.org)



## Christian Freedom vs. American Freedom

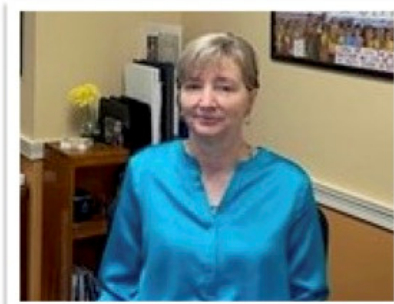
As we gather this month to celebrate July 4<sup>th</sup> and the **Freedom** ascribed to us as citizens of the United States of America, we often think of the individual freedoms that we 'hold dear.' Those "I" statements regardless of impact on another. We must understand these notions of what freedom means for us as **Lutheran Christians** and how we celebrate freedom *from* and *for*. We often see freedom as *from* something: oppression of speech, restriction of arms, etc. However, when God talks about freedom, God speaks of freedom *for* one



## Meet Laurie Christman

Born and raised in Allentown, I now live with my husband of 31 years, two young adult sons, and one tortoiseshell cat in Lehigh Township, Northampton County. Hobbies flow with the seasons - gardening, reading, jigsaw puzzles and upcycling crafts.

During office hours, you'll find me at the front desk in the Lutheran Center. I enjoy answering the phone and greeting folks when they visit. If I don't have the information you need, I'll track it down or connect you with the right person. When you do your yearly congregational report, I'm the person that makes sure we have a copy in the synod's record. I keep the roster of people and congregations updated as well. My most challenging task is scheduling supply pastors for congregations in transition, as there seems to never be enough pastors.



another. Jesus states the 'greatest commandment' is to *love one another as he (Jesus) loves us* (John 13:24-25). This biblical freedom, is one which Luther encouraged others to share. The promise that God engages us in freedom for one another. **To build up community** by strengthening relationships with one another and with God. The diversity by which we have been created is something that is meant to offer strength not divide. Luther spends a lot of time with Paul's letters, and the language of the **Body of Christ**. *We are all members of Christ's body, together, united, with differing views, even on the understanding of Freedom.* While we are different we are united. The same blood flows through us all." Luther quotes Romans 6:4 in the Small Catechism to support the above claim: "We were buried with Christ through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too, are to walk in new life."

Let us celebrate this nation's day of independence both from oppression, and for the love of one another: that we may see the unity in the diverse makeup of our nation, which strengthens our resolve as community, to live into the Body of Christ more fully every day.

*Pastor Zach Labagh, Lead Pastor at Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Church, Knauers, PA*