

Prints of Peace



FROM THE PASTOR

Sing to the Lord a new song!

As we've maneuvered through the challenges of COVID-19 over the past two years, one of the things that so many of us have missed is the ability to sing together in worship. We have tried to provide some alternatives for this: we have worshiped outside, and sung together in that safer environment; we have had a variety of cantors who have sung hymns for us on Sundays. But now, we have finally begun to sing together in the building.



This is a good thing! Music is one of God's greatest gifts to us, and it's also a way that people have praised God for many centuries. Martin Luther is said to have written, "Next to the word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." How good it is that we can once again praise God together in music! We are blessed at Prince of Peace to have excellent instruments, a tracker organ and a grand piano, both well-maintained. We are blessed at Prince of Peace to have a Minister of Music who makes our instruments sing, and who provides a passion for the meaning and depth of music. We are blessed to have many talented volunteer musicians who bring their own talents to worship in various ways. And we are blessed to have *you*, and all who join in song to praise our God who gives us these gifts.

I am also very glad to say that, because we now sing indoors, we will have Christmas Eve worship indoors as well. We are planning two Christmas Eve services. The Worship and Music Committee, along with Martin and I, are planning to make Christmas Eve worship rather simple this year, and focus primarily on *singing Christmas hymns*. We'll sing all the favorites: "O Come All Ye Faithful," "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "Silent Night," and many more. In order to keep it a safe place for singing, we are capping our attendance in the nave at 75 per service, and you will have to make a reservation ahead of time. If we fill up both services, we will add a third. More information is in another article in this newsletter. When I'm writing this, the reservation system isn't yet set up, but watch for more info about that soon.

As we move into our 50th anniversary year soon, we'll have many opportunities to praise God together. Hopefully we'll be able to continue to do that with singing!

In Christ,

Rev. Michael J. Scholtes



COME LET US WORSHIP

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

- Olivia Brands, November 3
- Emma Confalone, November 3
- Julia Antonioli, November 4
- Joanne Schipps, November 4
- Kathy Griggs, November 5
- Brandon Harrison, November 5
- Anthony Diabo, November 5
- Sarah Harrison, November 7
- Ralph Werner, November 7
- Lucas Hoff, November 7
- Mary Dry, November 8
- Robert Johns, November 8
- Georgia Suranofsky, November 9
- Paul Hinton, November 9
- Richard Butler, November 10
- Alissa Kornafel, November 11
- Stacy Powell, November 13
- Wayne Bisher, November 13
- Tami Manicke, November 14
- Maureen Suprick, November 16
- Kevin Hall, November 17
- Emma Steigerwalt, November 17
- Kerri Miller, November 17
- Jared Reto, November 18
- Sherry Hock, November 20
- Yvonne Gist, November 21
- Ashlyn Oessenick, November 22
- Larry Rissmiller, November 22
- Bonnie Scholtes, November 23
- Maci Hock, November 23
- Wayne Shuman, November 23
- Marlene Stana, November 27
- Sherwood Jones, November 28
- Robert Gist, November 28
- Stephanie Shoemaker, November 28
- Joseph Daley, November 30

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.

OCTOBER 11, 2021—COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Pastor Scholtes will be taking his vacation from December 25, 2021 to January 7, 2022. Pastor Joe Scholtes will be officiating for these two Sundays.
- As of right now there will be 2 Christmas Eve Services this year. One at 3:30pm and 6:30pm. These services will have lots of singing! There will be a limit of 75 people to each service (in addition to worship leaders). Reservations will be required. More information on this will follow.
- Council has discussed the Congregational Annual Meeting preparation. The meeting will be immediately following the worship service on November 21, 2021.
- Council approved the request from the Social Ministry Committee to offer 17 bags of Fair Trade coffee (best if used by date of 2/21) to Safe Harbor upon their acceptance.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATES

(Please provide any directory corrections or updates to Annette Buss or Pastor Scholtes. They will be printed in the following newsletter.)

Carissa Emery
738 Nazareth Pike
Nazareth, PA 18064

Meghan McGowan & Family
44 Hillside CT S
Palmer, PA 18045-4957



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



Congregational
MEETING

On Sunday, November 21, we will hold our **annual congregational meeting**. This meeting will be held **in-person**, immediately following the 9:45 am worship service. All confirmed members are welcome to attend with voice and vote. The primary agenda items for this meeting will be to adopt a **spending plan (budget)** for 2022, and to **elect new congregation council members** for 2022 and beyond. Other items of business may be brought up at this meeting. We will be taking special precautions to help make voting safer while the pandemic is still lingering. Annual reports should be available by Sunday, November 7.

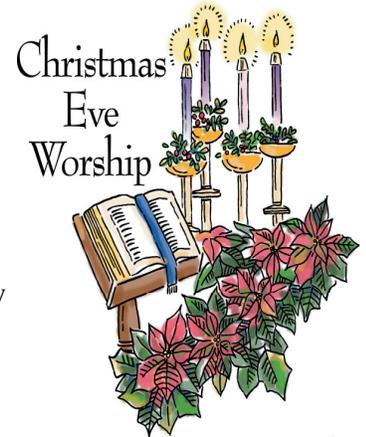
REOPENING UPDATE: SINGING IN WORSHIP!



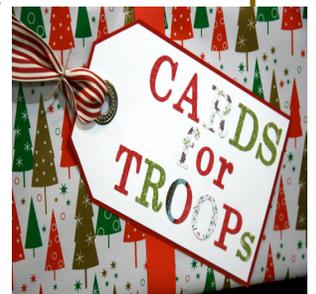
Good news! The Reopening Task Force has determined that it is now safe for us to resume singing in worship. At this time we are not singing the chanting parts of the service (Kyrie, Great Thanksgiving, etc.), but we are singing several hymns together! It's very important that we all wear masks while singing.

CHRISTMAS EVE PLAN

Prince of Peace will host two Christmas Eve services, at 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm on Friday, December 24, 2021. These services will be the same, and will be packed with Christmas music that we will sing together. We will hear the Christmas story, share communion, and sing Silent Night by candlelight. In order to keep attendance to a safe number, attendance in the nave (sanctuary) will be limited to 75 attendees at each service (in addition to worship leaders). Reservations will be required. (We haven't yet worked out the reservation system – watch for more info in the next few weeks via PastorMail and on the church website.) If we reach our limit, any walk-ins will be invited to worship in the Fellowship Hall via closed-circuit television. If both services fill up with reservations, we will add a third service.



Social Ministry News: Many of you may not be aware that we added a new ministry to this committee. Holly Blakeslee has been writing "thinking of you" cards and Christmas cards to our military for a couple of years. This committee thought it would be a good ministry for Prince of Peace to get involved in. We have already started writing out the Christmas cards, if you're interested in joining us please see Holly she has plenty of cards to share. For most of us the holidays are a joyful time, not so much for our military, let's bring a little joy to them with the cards. You don't even have to mail them, there will be a box in the Narthex to place the cards in and sometime in November Holly brings them to a drop off location. Thank you for your willingness to share in this ministry. Questions: see Holly Blakeslee.



Annette Buss, our Parish Administrative Assistant, has been serving our congregation for the longest period of time of all employees! We are so blessed to have her providing our membership with a worship format to view, information to keep us informed weekly, publishes the monthly newsletter, recording and keeping our directory and rolls up to date, organizes records and files and most of all is her ability to help find an answer to questions we may have with a smile in her voice. Her greeting is the best when she answers the phone with a welcoming and pleasant tone.

You are a blessing to us!

Just a friendly reminder . . .

If you were knitting caps for the workers on ships for Seafarer's International, please see that I get them by **November 15th**. They are part of a gift bag assembled for the holidays.

Thanks, Georgia

610-703-0638 or georgiasuranofsky@hotmail.com



RECENT PASTORAL ACTS

Baptism: Frederick Martin Nemeth, October 23

Funeral: William Kasebier, Jr., October 1

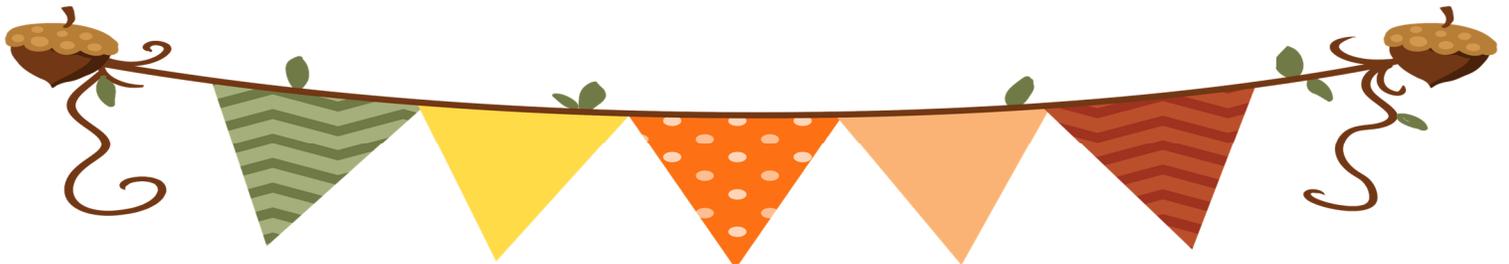
Thank you for the beautiful cards, calls, gifts, gift card, emails and calls to wish me a happy birthday! Thank you for being so very thoughtful and kind. —*Annette Buss*



Thank you for the certificate of appreciation, kind words, beautiful card and gift. It is a pleasure to be a part of the staff of this congregation. —*Annette Buss*

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).



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	Offering Counter
Nov. 7	Traci Rumsey, Brooks Baker	Kim Jennings	April Miller	Connie Itterly, Brenda Hughes, Kale Baker	Tina Johns	Traci Rumsey, Jim Jennings
Nov. 14	Georgia and John Suranofsky	Isabel Baker	Tina Johns	Vivian Fahr, June and Sherk Jones	Antonioli Family	Chip Harrison, Jim Jennings
Nov. 21	Vivian Fahr, Connie Itterly	Quincy Miller	Laraine Brands	Bob Gist, Georgia and John Suranofsky	Cathy Mullen	Jim Jennings, Jackie Horn
Nov. 28	Brenda Hughes, Kale Baker	Sarah Harrison	Connie Itterly	Traci Rumsey, Brooks Baker, Vivian Fahr	Jim Jennings	Jackie Horn, John Martocci
Dec. 5	Brooks Baker, Traci Rumsey	Janet Martocci	Marlene Stana	Brenda Hughes, Kale Baker, Connie Itterly	Kim Jennings	Scott Schipps, Jackie Horn

Greetings From P.U.M.P.:

We would like to send many thanks to POP Church for the continuous support provided to Pump in Portland; whether it be from food donations, monetarily, or our Christmas gift program.

At this time we would like to give an update about what our needs are for our clients. Many years ago when we began, we were not as fortunate with donations for the needy from Second Harvest or private companies. With the generosity from the groups mentioned, we receive canned goods, meat, and other staples needed to feed our clients.

Some items that we would love to provide, and do not receive, would be:

- paper products, (examples would be): toilet paper, napkins, tissues, etc.
- baking products, such as, cake mixes, flour, sugar, baking soda, etc,
- toiletries, (examples would be: shampoo, toothpaste, soap, etc.

We send appreciation for the years of support, and pray for your continued generosity in the future.

During these trying times, we stand by our mission to help those in need. We are proud, that through our continued partnership, we will continue to provide the support needed.



Social Ministry News:

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and you know what that means, Thanksgiving Meals for PUMP. We are asking for the following items: boxed stuffing and mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, turkey gravy, canned fruit, corn muffin mix, pumpkin pie filling. In addition to the items mentioned, PUMP can also use flour, sugar, oil, cake mixes and frosting. Please remember PUMP when doing your shopping, so no one needs to go hungry at Thanksgiving. Please have the items at church no later than **Sunday, November 21st**. As always the Social Ministry Committee thanks you for your generous support of this and all our projects.

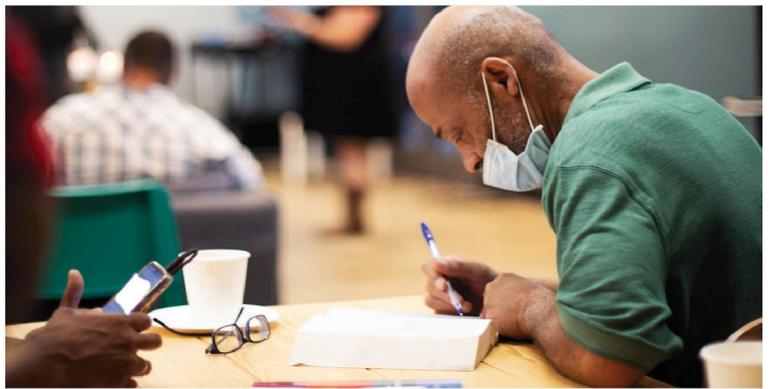
2 Chronicles 31:12 God's people faithfully brought in the contributions, tithes and dedicated gifts.

NOVEMBER IS MISSION SUPPORT MONTH!



Each year we send our gifts to do Gods' work through our giving to Mission Support.. There is a special offering envelope in your box or use online giving for Sunday, November 7th. We use our time, skills and money to bless others. Using this special envelope along with your giving throughout the year, is your way of saying "this is my stewardship of using my money to show compassion for others when I cannot use my time and skills".

The story on the next page is about how your giving to mission support is being used for ministry to help sustain others with hope and healing. Thank you for your continued giving to Mission Support!



“Showers provide a sense of dignity and are therapeutic. I don’t know a better way to remind people of their baptism.”



Where all May Dwell

Christian community

Emily Norris had been serving at Augsburg Lutheran Church's winter-overflow homeless shelter in Winston-Salem, N.C., for a few years when she heard the rumblings. Many of the guests opened up to her, told her stories. One need kept arising.

"I heard very loudly that there was a deep hunger for a faith community that looked like them," Norris said. They craved space where they could worship God and not feel judged for their housing status, their past or their appearance. Heeding their calls led Norris to Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, to become a pastor.

By 2020, Norris was ordained and serving as the mission developer for the Dwelling, an ELCA faith community designed for, but not exclusive to, people in Winston-Salem who are or have been homeless. *Funding comes from partnerships with Augsburg, the North Carolina Synod, the Moravian Church in America and the ELCA churchwide organization, which draws on Mission Support for the Dwelling's grant.*

Starting a church during a pandemic wasn't ideal. Safety restrictions made worship impossible, and the population Norris had hoped to reach became especially vulnerable. So she did what many ELCA leaders and congregations were forced to do: she pivoted.

After assessing community needs, Norris determined that free mobile showers would be the Dwelling's anchor ministry. Visitors could take showers and receive clean underwear, socks and T-shirts donated by nearby members of the Dwelling's synod.

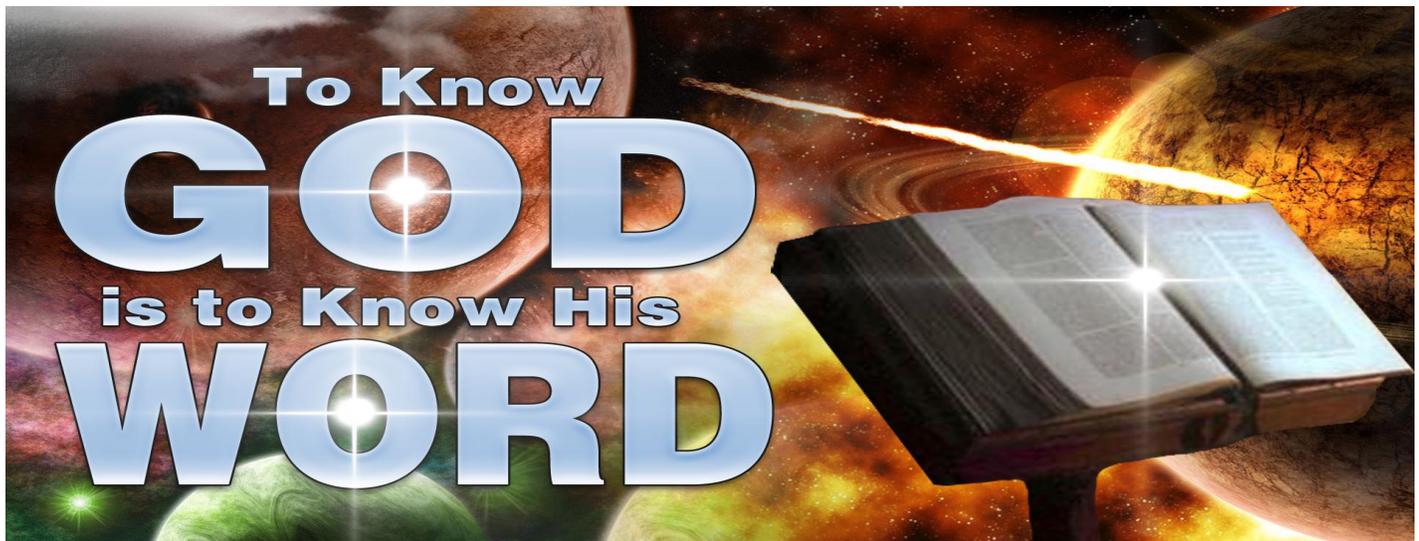
"It was really a profound way to start," Norris said. "Showers provide a sense of dignity and are therapeutic. I don't know a better way to remind people of their baptism."

Eventually the showers became permanent, with participants volunteering to help the program. By Christmas Eve, area restrictions for gatherings had been relaxed, and Norris held the Dwelling's first service. In January 2021, it began offering regular Sunday worship.

With a living room for its sanctuary, couches and chairs for its pews, and free-flowing food, the Dwelling takes seriously its mission of hospitality. "It has a feather touch, where you can come in and get comfy," said member Cheryl Morrison. "It's OK to talk to the person next to you, get up to get a cup of coffee, doughnut or muffin."

"This is a church for God's people — the homeless — and they are the foundation of what makes this church work, which in my eyes is extremely special."

"This is a church for God's people — the homeless — and they are the foundation of what makes this church work, which in my eyes is extremely special," added Ryan Sprinkle, a council member. "You have people right off the street with their backpacks."



Monday, November 1	Psalm 51; Deuteronomy 6:10-25; Romans 12:17-21; 13:8-10
Tuesday, November 2	Psalm 51; Deuteronomy 28:58-29:1; Acts 7:17-29
Wednesday, November 3	Psalm 51; Micah 6:1-8; John 13:31-35
Thursday, November 4	Psalm 146; Numbers 36:1-13; Romans 5:6-11
Friday, November 5	Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 15:1-11; Hebrews 9:15-24
Saturday, November 6	Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 24:17-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24
Sunday, November 7	1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44
Monday, November 8	Psalm 94; Ruth 1:1-22; 1 Timothy 5:1-8
Tuesday, November 9	Psalm 94; Ruth 3:14-4:6; 1 Timothy 5:9-16
Wednesday, November 10	Psalm 94; Ruth 4:7-22; Luke 4:16-30
Thursday, November 11	Psalm 16; Daniel 4:4-18; 1 Timothy 6:11-21
Friday, November 12	Psalm 16; Daniel 4:19-27; Colossians 2:6-15
Saturday, November 13	Psalm 16; Daniel 4:28-37; Mark 12:1-12
Sunday, November 14	Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8
Monday, November 15	Psalm 13; Daniel 8:1-14; Hebrews 10:26-31
Tuesday, November 16	Psalm 13; Daniel 8:15-27; Hebrews 10:32-39
Wednesday, November 17	Psalm 13; Zechariah 12:1-13:1; Mark 13:9-23
Thursday, November 18	Psalm 93; Ezekiel 28:1-10; Acts 7:54-8:1a
Friday, November 19	Psalm 93; Ezekiel 28:20-26; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
Saturday, November 20	Psalm 93; Daniel 7:1-8, 15-18; John 3:31-36
Sun., 11/21 (Christ the King)	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93; Revel. 1:4-8; John 18:33-37
Monday, November 22	Psalm 76; Daniel 7:19-27; Revelation 11:1-14
Tuesday, November 23	Psalm 76; Ezekiel 29:1-12; Revelation 11:15-19
Wednesday, November 24	Psalm 76; Ezekiel 30:20-26; John 16:25-33
Thursday, November 25	Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:6-15; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Friday, November 26	Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:16-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22
Saturday, November 27	Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:26-31; Luke 21:20-24
Sun., 11/28 (1st Sun. of Advent)	Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thess. 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36
Monday, November 29	Psalm 90; Numbers 17:1-11; 2 Peter 3:1-18
Tuesday, November 30	Psalm 90; 2 Samuel 7:18-29; Revelation 22:12-16



Give
thanks to the
LORD,
for HE is good.
His love
endures
FOREVER.

Psalm 136:1



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**
- **Treasurer: Joyce Weishaupt**
- **Financial Secretary: Mary O’Meally**
- **Sexton: Brittnee Brown 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:**

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Georgia Suranofsky - Pres. | Dennis Horn                 |
| Connie Iterly - V-P        | Scott Schipps               |
| Marlene Stana - Sec.       | Kathy Williams              |
| Dave Karner                | Chip Harrison               |
| Traci Rumsey               | Benjamin Manicke-Youth Rep. |
| Bruce Antonioli            | Pastor Michael Scholtes     |

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 2021 Newsletter is:**  
**November 9th**

*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.\*\***



*The November Newsletter is Sponsored by:*  
**Mary A. Kendershot**

**OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT**

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



# SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

NOVEMBER 2021 • ISSUE 11 • VOLUME 29



## Gaining Strength: The Tie that Binds Bishop Christopher deForest

*And though one might prevail against another,  
two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not  
quickly broken. (Ecclesiastes 4:12)*

Autumn blessings to you all! We find ourselves in November 2021, on the cusp of change. The pandemic is still upon us, but vaccines work and masks are making a difference. Advent is almost here, but we're uncertain what the new year will bring. Where do we go from here? In my prayers for us concerning this time, two scripture passages come to mind. The first is the one above, from the Old Testament. Many of us recall this biblical image, because

it is used often at weddings, where "a threefold cord" is actually wound together into a stronger bond, symbolizing how God and the marrying couple are bound together in fidelity, faith and love.

But look closer at the full verse. It starts not with peace and harmony, but with conflict: two are divided, fighting to "prevail against" the other. Then straight away, a different path is taken: "two will withstand one." It doesn't say, "two will team up to overcome one." This is not bullying or ganging up, in other words. It's "standing with" – united against forces that may seek to drive them apart. This is taken even further in the second line, where two-against-one transforms into three, joining forces. Could it be, that the two have not destroyed or driven away their enemy – but have instead, drawn the other into a loving embrace? So that the three become something new: an unbreakable one.

This is both the will of our God, as well as the essence of God's very being. The Holy Trinity. One in Three and Three in One. Mysterious in so many ways, our Triune God also comes "down to earth" for us, in these days when so many forces and factions try to drive us apart. Jesus, the One who came down to us, reveals to us the truth of the threefold cord – through his life, death, and resurrection, connecting our reality to his. And he spoke of this connection in very everyday terms, in this second Bible verse:

*[Jesus said:] “Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” (Matthew 18:19-20)*

This practical promise lies behind the work we are doing, as a Synod, to reach God’s three “Vital-Sign Goals”, over the next five years. “GROWING YOUNG” is the goal to bring faithful young people and “young at heart” of all ages together, as Jesus-centered community, empowered and led by the Spirit to change the world. “GOING BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE” is the goal to bring together congregations to understand and live out their God-given purpose, at all points in their congregational life cycle, from birth to death and beyond, leaving a faithful, lasting legacy.

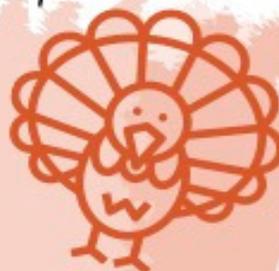
But the Vital Sign Goal that most comes to my mind at this moment, with these two verses, is the Goal we call “GAINING STRENGTH.” Over the next year especially, we have a unique opportunity to explore and shore up the strengths we have, as individuals, and congregations, and as synod. And the best way to build up strength is to share and combine those strengths, for our common good, the good of our neighbors, and most of all, because God has made us for life together, and work together.

We are the threefold cord. We are called to gather as twos and threes, in the name of Christ, and ask God to overcome our divisions, combine our strengths, and send us out to be Christ for the sake of all: healing the hurt, loving the land, and engaging the stranger. Blest be the tie that binds / our hearts in Christian love;

*The unity of heart and mind / is like to that above. (ELW 656)*

In God’s love,  
*Bishop Christopher deForest*

*Upcoming  
Events*



**NOVEMBER 6. 2021: WE LOVE**

**NOVEMBER 9- 10. 2021: BISHOP'S CONFERENCE**

**NOVEMBER 13. 2021: FAITH FORMATION SATURDAY**