

Prints of Peace

FROM
THE
PASTOR



As I write this in mid-March, the biggest news is COVID-19, the coronavirus. We've just made some changes to worship to keep it as safe as possible. By the time you read this, a few things might have happened. Perhaps the scare is over, and everything has returned to normal. Perhaps an outbreak has occurred in our region, and we've taken even more drastic measures to protect one another. Or perhaps it's much the same – trying to walk the line between taking the news seriously and not panicking.

Whatever the case, what is called for right now is bearing with one another. There are some in our community who are ill right now – whether with COVID-19, or the flu, or something very different. It is our Christian duty to care for each other, to offer prayers and support, to provide help in obtaining medical care, and to show each other that the sick are not forgotten.

There are some in our community who are frightened right now – whether by COVID-19, or by some other ailment, or some family problem, or the state of the stock market, or something else entirely. It is our Christian duty to proclaim God's peace to one another, to speak the word that God is truly here, to show in deed that no one is alone.

There are many in our community who disagree with one another. For instance, some think that this pandemic is something to worry a lot about, while others believe the media has overstated the fears. Some believe our precautions at church were an overreaction, while others believe we haven't done enough. It is okay to disagree about this. We are all trying to do our best given the situation we're in. It is our Christian duty to listen to one another, to listen to those who are frightened and those who are skeptical. If we truly believe that Christ is in the heart of us all, then we are obligated to take one another seriously, even if we disagree. (And even if the coronavirus scare is gone, we certainly disagree about a lot of other things.)

Now is the time when we need to be the church. To be the people of God who are united through our baptism into Christ. Now is the time we need to stand together (even if we don't hold hands right now), stand together in love for all of our neighbors. Now is the time for us to embrace what unites us: our love of God, and God's love for us. Now is the time for us to roll up our sleeves, and be God's hands in our community. Care for one another. Pray for one another. Listen to one another. And, so far as it's safe to do so, worship with one another. And trust in the God who will get us through every dark day. Oh, and wash your hands.

Also, I am happy to welcome to the church staff **Linda Waszmer**, our new volunteer Pastoral Assistant! Linda had been a member of Prince of Peace with her husband Bill and daughter Kathryn since 2014. She will be partnering with me to provide professional pastoral care, through hospital and homebound visits, as well as pastoral conversation. Linda already has a deep faith, and gifts for listening and caring. She will also

be receiving training through Moravian Seminary's Crossroads Program, which will help her develop and hone her skills. I am looking forward to this partnership! Please pray for and support Linda in this ministry, and please reach out to either of us when you are in pastoral need. Linda can be reached at 610-452-9286 or msjune20@aol.com.

Blessings,



MARCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS :

- Discussion regarding COVID 19 precautions- Council discussed a contingency plan in case there is an outbreak of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in our region:
 - ◊ We will cancel all large group events, including worship.
 - ◊ Pastor will work to provide some sort of alternative to regular worship, to include:
 - *Developing a plan to record and broadcast worship online.
 - *Providing resources for people to worship in small groups or at home.
 - ◊ We will encourage committees and other groups to use their best judgment on whether to meet or not.
 - ◊ We will be following the guidance of outside experts, such as the CDC and the Bishop's Office, to determine when and if to activate this plan.
- Motion to approve Pastoral Assistant Job Description and to pay educational requirements up to \$1000 per year and mileage reimbursement at the current IRS reimbursement rate-**APPROVED**
- Motion to name Linda Waszmer as our volunteer Pastoral Assistant for a trial period of 6 months.-**APPROVED**

RECENT PASTORAL ACTS

FUNERAL: Margaret L. "Peg" Golden,
February 15



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

- Virginia Pensyl, April 1
- Justine Cesari, April 1
- Nelson Hill, April 2
- Sharon Yetter, April 2
- Gladys Halfpenny, April 2
- Benjamin Reinhart, April 2
- Tyler Hughes, April 2
- Joyce Weishaupt, April 2
- Lillian Khan, April 3
- Lois Brozina, April 3
- James Dotta, April 7
- Matthew Rumsey, April 7
- Robert Schuette, April 7
- Janet Pearson, April 10
- Neil Pearson, April 10
- Shirley Pensyl, April 12
- Larry Smith, April 13
- Samantha Gurski, April 13
- James Parsons, April 15
- Connie Itterly, April 15
- Tyler Flyte, April 15
- Wayne Silvius, April 17
- Andrea Gurski, April 18
- Tyler Reinhart, April 18
- Katherine Austin, April 19
- Jacob Krock, April 20
- Joyce Weishaupt, April 22
- Phyllis Patterson, April 23
- Carolyn Carpenter, April 24
- Colleen Hall, April 24
- Diane Flynn, April 25
- Betty Devito, April 26
- Scott Manicke, April 28
- Carol Shuman, April 29
- Cameron Mousley, April 29
- Jacklyn Artley, April 29
- Ronald Miller, April 30

MEET LINDA WASZMER, OUR NEW PASTORAL ASSISTANT



My family and I moved from Long Island to PA six years ago. We became members at Prince of Peace shortly after.

Due to my own personal journey, I have grown to feel strongly about the power of human emotion and the need to express it. Listening, hearing, and supporting someone in the struggles and challenges they face, I believe, is a vital role we can play in each other's lives. Whenever possibly I try to carry this ideal into my interactions with others.

Each week, Pastor's notes on Pastoral Care truly spoke to me. It reflected many of my beliefs, and the ways I choose to interact with others. I believe that, as I support others I am doing the work God calls us all to do = showing love and compassion to others.

I am grateful for the opportunity I have been given, and grateful for all the support already shown to me by Prince of Peace members.

Linda started in March as our volunteer Pastoral Assistant. She will be making pastoral calls and visits, and be available for pastoral conversation. You can reach Linda at 610-452-9286 or msjune20@aol.com.

In response to concerns about the security of our church building, the Property Committee has been in contact with a security firm to develop a proposal for enhancing and improving our security. We have also applied for a state grant that offers substantial money to houses of worship to enhance security. If the grant is received, it will pay for all the improvements that are recommended.

The proposal is detailed, but in broad strokes it looks like this:

- Multiple cameras to be installed both outside and inside the building.
- Replacement of door locks. Instead of keys, authorized people would receive electronic key "fobs" to gain entry. This would enable leaders to see who is entering the building when.



If we learn that the grant is received, we will immediately schedule an informational meeting to discuss this with the congregation before changes are made. (We are currently discerning if entering this contract will require an official congregational meeting, but either way, an informational meeting at least will be scheduled.)

If you have any questions about the security proposal, you can speak to Dennis Horn or any member of the Property Committee.



Save the Date: Lutheran Day at the Capital is set for Monday, May 18. Bring your faith to the table and join Lutherans from around the state for worship, learning, advocacy and action.

The day will include worship, a keynote address, legislative briefing and visit training, workshops, a continental breakfast and lunch. Come to be inspired, prepared and equipped to act as church together, for the sake of the world. Watch for additional information, including registration materials!

—Questions? *See Brenda Stauffer*

The Real Readers Schedule for 2020

- April 2: The Lying Game by Ruth Ware (Charmaine)
May 7: The Tattooist of Auschwitz
by Heather Morris (Mary)
June 4: If the Creek Don't Rise by Leah Weiss (Sherry)
Ice Cream Social at Church
July 2: The Rooster Bar by John Grisholm (Joy)
August 6: The Secret Wife of Aaron Burr by
Susan Hallowell Scott (Wanda)
September 3: The Paris Seamstress by Tashia Lester (Janet)
October 1: The Haunting of Hill House
by Shirley Jackson (Cheryl)
November 5: River Bodies by Karin Katcher (Terry)
December: A Cedar Cove Christmas by Debbie Macomber
(Joan) Meeting at Cheryl's House



TENTATIVE:

Our Easter Egg Hunt

Will be held on Sunday, April 5th

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Lunch and crafts will be included.

Please bring a basket

or bag to take home goodies and crafts.

Questions? *See Luke Hoff*



PRAYER PROMPT:
**Thank you, Lord for the
flowers that bloom in the
spring, bringing us joy
and hope.**

**Save the date: Thursday, June 4 at 7 p.m.
Important Core Meeting for
Blue Valley Food Stand**

Easter Meal Drive Food Collection for PUMP:

The Social Ministry Committee asks for your support during our annual Easter Meal Drive for PUMP. Please pick a paper Easter Egg from the basket on the counter in the Narthex, each contains the name of a food item. Check your home pantry or cabinets for an extra one of these items or pick one up the next time you're at the grocery store. Place your donated items in the PUMP bin, and return your Easter Egg to the basket, by **Sunday, April 5th**. Thank you for your generosity each holiday and all year long.

Stewardship

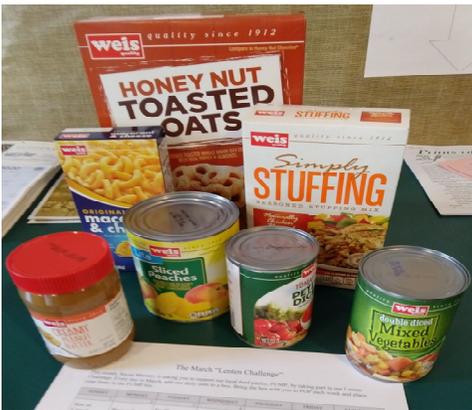
Vol. 3

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2020

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light.” 1 Peter 2:9

Do you think about how we live out being one of God’s chosen? One of his stewards? As members of Prince of Peace we seek and service Christ in all people. We use our time, talent and financial resources to worship, learn and give to our community and around the world.



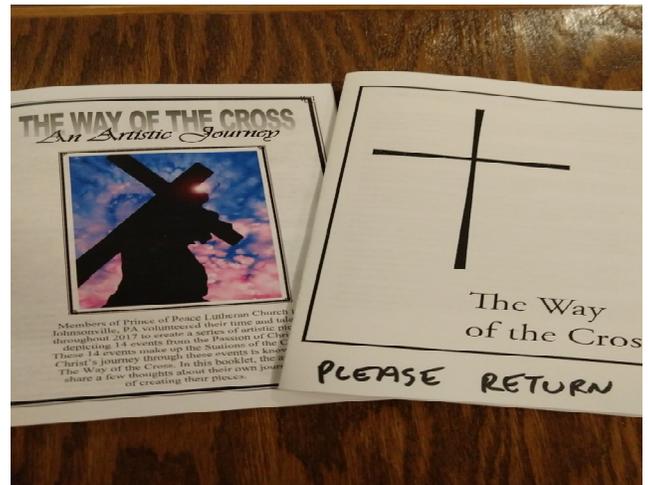
Outreach to our community:

During lent many of us took on the challenge to share a food item per day for the month of March with our neighbors at P.U.M.P. (Portland Upper Mt. Bethel Pantry). We learned that provisions go down during the holidays and winter months. Stocking the shelves gives people hope that their daily need for nourishment will come. Giving helps us live out our promise to God to do mighty works to glorify him.

Learning:

We are blessed with many talented artists. Their skills created an amazing way to tell the “Stations of the Cross”.

As we look at artwork that adorns the walls in our sanctuary, we are reminded of what our Lord Jesus did to save his holy nation. A nation that is redeemed and loved by Christ. That is you, me and all of God’s children. Each artist portrays their understanding through the use of their talent the agony and pain that Jesus endured in the ultimate sacrifice for us.



Worship

The beautiful decorations in our sanctuary are evidence of how we show glory to God. One of the magnificent times of the year is Easter. Greens, mums, lilies, and white parlements surround us.

We are thankful for the imagination, creativity and dedication of the decorating committee and altar guild. This year new wreaths were crafted for the scones that adjoin the pews.

These are just a few ways that we as God’s chosen people honor him. He entrusts us with what is His. That is what a steward does, takes care of what belongs to another.

Submitted by Georgia Suranofsky

"Within the Pages" News From POP Library...

Do you know what the St. John Bible is?



In 1998, Saint John's Abbey and University commissioned renowned calligrapher Donald Jackson to produce a hand-written, illuminated Bible. This was a life long dream of his.

This bible was completed in 2011 with the final word penned in May of that year. It is divided into seven volumes. Gospels and Acts, Pentateuch, Psalms, Prophets, Wisdom Books, Historical Books and Letters, and Revelations.

Illumination means to shine a light on something, or coming to a deeper understanding of something. In the case of these books, their underlying goal is to ignite spiritual imagination and promote meditation on the scriptures.

Each volume is two feet tall and three feet wide when opened. They are filled with beautiful illustrations. A set was presented to the Pope in 2015 and many people journey to Monmouth Wales to see the original.

Do you know that you don't need to travel any further than our church library to see these books? That's right! A few years ago we purchased copies and they are on display for anyone to see.

There are many books of a wide variety in our library. Most you can sign out to read outside the church, but these must remain in the library. We strongly suggest you take time out to visit the library/conference room and look them over. You won't be sorry.

We are in the midst of revamping the library, so who knows what else we'll find on those shelves! We invite you to come on in and look around, sign out some books, enjoy some quiet time and give us some input! —*Sherry Hock, Joan Miller, Carolyn Leidy and Janet Martocci*

On account of the COVID-19 health crisis, we are not including an assignment page in this newsletter. When worship services resume, assignments will be communicated by a special newsletter update, email or phone call. Also, the calendar of events for April is not included. Please check the calendar at the church website, or call the church office 610-588-2355 for current updates.



Trees of Life

by Joe Scholtes

(This column draws connections between faith and creation.)

Recently I purchased the book “The Future We Choose: Surviving the Climate Crisis.” The jacket describes it as “a cautionary but hopeful book about the world’s changing climate and its impact on the fate of humanity.” It is not written from a theological perspective, but its opening epigraph and table of contents suggests connections to the way of Jesus. The epigraph is a quote from Indian poet and thinker Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1902), which says: “Let us not pray to be sheltered from dangers, but to be fearless when facing them.” This reminds me of two prayers in the New Testament. First, that of Jesus who asks the Father not to take his followers out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. (John 17:15). Second, the prayer of believers in Jerusalem who ask for boldness to speak God’s word in the midst of danger and threat. (Acts 4:29)

The Table of Contents in “The Future We Choose” includes “Endless Abundance,” “Radical Regeneration,” “Let Go of the Old World,” “Face Your Grief but Hold a Vision of the Future,” and “A New Story.” Many of the words and deeds of Jesus fit well with those titles.

Connections between the Jesus Way and the challenges of climate change have been noted by Bill McKibben. McKibben is a longtime leader of the climate movement and is also a Christian, of the Methodist variety. In 2006 he said, “Climate change is an opportunity for which the church was born.” I think he’s on to something. For if the world is to thrive, change in our lives and generosity towards others are necessary. These values, which we have not always lived, are fundamental to the way of Jesus. When we put those values into action, we join with all people of good will to care for the earth and to bless the generations that will follow us.

Save the date!
~Harp & Heels~
Calvin Stokes
and
Laura Pedersen
will be in concert here at
P.O.P. on
Sunday, May 3
at 3 p.m.
Invite your
family and friends
to join you!!



The April Newsletter is Sponsored:
In Memory of Loved Ones by Charmaine Collins.

(Tentative, if restrictions are lifted...)

- **Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion**, April 5 @ 9:45 am (and **Saturday**, April 4 @ 5:30 pm).
Jesus rides into Jerusalem in victory, and then suffers and dies.



THE GREAT THREE DAYS

- **Maundy Thursday**, April 9 @ 7:00 pm. *Jesus gives a new commandment and a new gift on the eve of his crucifixion.*
- **Good Friday**, April 10 @ 7:00 pm. *Jesus dies for us.*
- **Holy Saturday Healing Service**, April 11 @ 5:30 pm. *The Spirit offers us a sign of healing in the midst of our brokenness.*
- **Great Vigil of Easter**, April 12 @ 6:00 am. *Christ is risen!*



The Bangor Alumni Association is collecting used instruments for the Bangor Area School District. Instruments are repaired, refurbished, and given to the schools so that children who cannot afford an instrument can play in the school bands. For more information, or to donate, please contact Sherk Jones at 610-588-5198.



The Altar Guild is in need of volunteers to bake bread for communion. If you would like to volunteer please contact Janet Martocci, Cathy Mullen or Sue Reinhart for details. If you presently are one of our bakers please choose your date and sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the sacristy. Thank you, *-The Altar Guild*

Become A SPONSOR !

After many years of sharing our news about POP in a printed monthly newsletter, it is now time to use current means of correspondence which is using the internet. While many of us can view the newsletter on our website or receive it by email, there are some that will need to have it printed. While we had concerns on whether to continue sponsorship in 2020 for our newsletter (even though we are using the internet), we will still incur costs. Please feel free to continue to support our monthly newsletter by sponsoring it with a generous donation of \$15.00. You will be able to sign up on the sheet in the hallway near the church offices.



Bible Verses for Strength in the Hard Seasons

30 Day Scripture Writing Plan

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."
-Ecclesiastes 3:1

Day 1- Psalm 46:1-3

Day 2- Philippians 4:6

Day 3- Joshua 1:8-9

Day 4- Proverbs 18:10+24

Day 5- Psalm 27: 1-3

Day 6- Nehemiah 8:10

Day 7- John 14:26-27

Day 8- Isaiah 41:10-13

Day 9- Psalm 34:8-10, 18-19

Day 10- Exodus 15:2

Day 11- Luke 12:22-26

Day 12- Deuteronomy 31:6,8

Day 13- Isaiah 26:3-4

Day 14- Philippians 4: 12-13

Day 15- Psalm 62:1-2

Day 16- Isaiah 43:1-3

Day 17- 1 Peter 5: 10

Day 18- Isaiah 12:2-4

Day 19- Psalm 91:1-4

Day 20- Hebrews 4:15-16

Day 21- Exodus 33:14

Day 22- 1 Chronicles 16:10-12

Day 23- 2 Timothy 1:6-7

Day 24- Psalm 9:9-10

Day 25- Isaiah 26: 3-4, 8-9

Day 26- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Day 27- Psalm 33:6-11

Day 28- 1 Peter 5:6-7

Day 29- 2 Thessalonians 3:3+16

Day 30- Psalm 32:7-8

Spend 5-10 minutes each day and copy the assigned verse into your favorite journal.

As you abide in the truth that fills God's Word, your own strength will grow.

No matter what is going on in your life today, the Bible has practical and supernatural answers that will help you endure and thrive.



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
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Web Master: Meghan McGowan
Meghan's Email: megmcg183@gmail.com

Worship and Holy Communion Schedule:
5:30 pm 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month
9:45 am each week

- **Pastor: Rev. Michael J. Scholtes 610-588-2314, 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**
- **Pastoral Assistant: Linda Waszmer, 610-452-9286, msjune20@aol.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

Church Council Members:

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

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!**

**Deadline date for the
May Newsletter is:**

Tuesday, April 14th

*You may email your submissions to
poplcbangor@gmail.com
Or give a handwritten items to
Annette Buss*

****Items received after
the deadline will go into
the next month's news-
letter.****

Publication's title & number:
PRINTS OF PEACE

Statement of frequency
Published Monthly: 12 issues
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June, July, August, September,
October, November, December

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