



BLUEPRINTS

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Newsletter

Volume 82, Number 2

February 2018

Can One Person Make a Difference? A Message from Pastor Mark

It's easy for us to think that one person can't make much of a difference in the world, even though we can name individuals who have had a significant impact on our world. Think of people like Martin Luther, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Jr., and others. It may be difficult for us to see ourselves in the same way we see people such as these. And yet God calls us, as followers of Jesus Christ, to be his hands and his feet in our communities and our world, so the love of Christ will be known by those we are called to help.

Every year on Super Bowl Weekend, our church participates in the Souper Bowl of Caring. It's a time when our confirmation students challenge us to help the hungry locally and in the world. In their confirmation class, the students learn about hunger and ways we can help the hungry. They learn about how Lutheran World Relief is involved in digging wells in areas where there is famine. These wells not only provide water to drink, but water for irrigation so people can grow vegetables to eat. The students learn about Habitat for Humanity, which provides animals like goats, heifers, and chicks so people can have milk and eggs on a daily basis. And they learn that when these animals breed, the source of food expands.

Our confirmation students learn about local hunger programs like Daily Bread Food Pantry in Danbury, Loaves and Fishes in New Milford, and our church's Love Fund. They learn how Dorothy Day Hospitality House in Danbury not only provides beds for the homeless, but meals as well.

On Super Bowl Weekend, many of us will not only sit in front of our T.V.'s to watch the ultimate football game of 2018, but we will enjoy the game and commercials with the food and drink that goes with this tradition. Certainly we are thankful for the joys and blessings God has provided for us. I hope you will also see this weekend as an opportunity to help provide food and life-saving resources for those who hunger.

Can one person make a difference? Yes. But when many of us combine our resources to help those in need, a significant difference can be made in the lives of others. I hope you will participate in Souper Bowl of Caring by donating food and/or money on February 3 & 4. The food donated will go to Daily Bread Food Pantry. Our confirmation students will decide how best to distribute the money donated for the hungry. Look for our confirmation students to be holding pots after each of our worship services on February 3 & 4 to collect donations. Let's make a difference!

~ Pastor Mark

FEBRUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - 8:15AM

February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25
Acolyte Zoe Lonsinger	Acolyte Maggie Mattera	Acolyte Zoe Lonsinger	Acolyte Zoe Lonsinger
Altar Guild Nancy Carlson Cathie Fegley Martha Hogle	Altar Guild Polly Groff Chris Klauck Susan Lehmann	Altar Guild Heidi Adam Barbara Morris Marci Sharp	Altar Guild Marilyn Roginski Edith Sherman Louise Kleppin
Assisting Minister Nancy Carlson	Communion Assistant Chris Klauck	Communion Assistant Barbara Morris	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1.
Communion Host	Communion Host Polly Groff	Communion Host	Communion Host
Greeters Lonsinger Family	Greeters 1. 2.	Greeters Ed & Vivian Wainwright	Greeters 1. 2.
Lector Cathie Fegley	Lector	Lector Zoe Lonsinger	Lector
Ushers 1. Phil Burdick 2. Ken Carlson	Ushers 1. Phil Burdick 2. Matt Mattera	Ushers 1. Phil Burdick 2. Casey Johansen	Ushers 1. Phil Burdick 2.

FEBRUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - 11:00 AM

February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25
Acolyte Riley Roksvold	Acolyte Ava Cantone	Acolyte Isabella Confortini	Acolyte Morgen Kleppin
Altar Guild Nancy Carlson Cathie Fegley Martha Hoglund	Altar Guild Polly Groff Chris Klauck Susan Lehmann	Altar Guild Heidi Adam Barbara Morris Marci Sharp	Altar Guild Marilyn Roginski Edith Sherman Louise Kleppin
Assisting Minister 1. John Schwanke	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1.	Assisting Minister 1. John Schwanke	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1.
Communion Host McLoone	Communion Host Kristen Mattera	Communion Host Ron & Dory Kutz	Communion Host Liz Davies
Greeters Tim Buzzell & Amelia Choi	Greeters Joe & Sophia Cantone	Greeters Mary & Gary Weisensee	Greeters 1. 2.
Lectors Marcus Lavery & Colin McLoone	Lector Mary Ewert	Lector 	Lector
Ushers Rebecca Adam Mykayla Lavery Matt Mattera	Ushers 1. 2.	Ushers 1. Gale Confortini 2. Julie Parker	Ushers Steve & Jimmy Davies
Offering Tellers Kim & Tom Maier	Offering Tellers Marilyn & Joe Roginski	Offering Tellers Mary & Gary Weisensee	Offering Tellers Polly Groff & Marci Sharp

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - 7:30 PM

February 14
Acolyte Christopher Mattera
Altar Guild Susan Lehmann
Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1.
Communion Host
Greeters 1. 2.
Lector
Ushers 1. 2.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 3	5:00 PM	Word & Sacrament
Sunday, February 4	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Word & Sacrament Sunday School/Adult Forum Word & Sacrament
Saturday, February 10	5:00 PM	Word & Sacrament
Sunday, February 11	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Word & Sacrament Sunday School/Adult Forum Word & Sacrament
Ash Wednesday - February 14	7:15 AM 12:15 PM 7:30 PM	Brief Service with Imposition of Ashes Brief Service with Communion and Imposition of Ashes Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
Saturday, February 17	5:00 PM	Word & Sacrament
Sunday, February 18	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Word & Sacrament Sunday School/Adult Forum Christmas Pageant
Saturday, February 24	5:00 PM	Word & Sacrament
Sunday, February 25	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Word & Sacrament Sunday School/Adult Forum Word & Sacrament

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We need worship assistants for both Sunday services in February. If you are willing to help, please sign up at the table in the Narthex or call René in the church office.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Average weekly worship attendance for January was:

		2017	2018	Change
Sat.	5:00 PM	30	31	+ 1
Sun.	8:15 AM	36	32	- 4
	11:00 AM	71	62	- 9
Total		137	125	-12

Overall weekly worship attendance for January went down 9%.

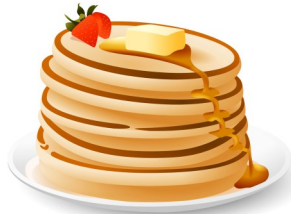
COUNCIL NEWS

Heather Pontonio, Chair of the Planning Committee, informed Council that the committee had considered the possibility of reducing the number of weekend worship services from three to two. Council had asked the committee to make a recommendation to Council about whether or not to reduce the number of worship services, paying special attention to the results of the Congregation Assessment Tool (the survey completed by the congregation) and the SWOT Analysis done by Council. (SWOT stands for strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats.) Heather informed Council that the Planning Committee recommended keeping the three worship services in place. A major reason for this centered on the congregation's goal to attract families with children. The Planning Committee felt that choices in service times provided important options for families with children. Council agreed with this and voted to keep the three worship services we have in place.

THE SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

**Tuesday, February 13th
6:30-7:30 p.m.**

The whole congregation is invited to this event which is hosted by the Confirmation students and their parents. There will be pancakes and sausage and all of the toppings! There is no charge for the Pancake Supper. Please sign up in the Narthex if you are planning to attend.



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICES February 14, 2018

- 7:15 a.m. Brief Service with Imposition of Ashes
- 12:15 p.m. Brief Service with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
- 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS AND EVENING PRAYER SERVICES

We will meet on the Wednesdays during Lent for a simple soup supper and evening prayer service. The first soup supper and service will be held on Wednesday, February 21st. Supper is from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and the service is from 7:30-8:15 p.m. If you are able to bring soup or bread for the supper, it would be much appreciated. There will be a sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Please consider being a part of this weekly community gathering for fellowship and prayer.

FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR

Most Sundays during the year, we have a beautiful bouquet of flowers at the altar that was created by the members of Altar Guild.

Those flowers are dedicated and paid for by members of the congregation.

The arrangements cost \$25.00. If you would like to dedicate altar flowers in memory of a loved one, to the glory of God, or in honor of a person or event, you can sign up for your chosen date on the Flower Chart between the bathrooms in the Narthex. You also need to fill out a flower request form, which is located next to the Flower Chart, and put it in Rene Tuccillo's mailbox. Your name and dedication will appear in the worship bulletins. If two people sign up for the same date, flowers can be placed in other locations in the Sanctuary, such as on the organ or piano or at the baptismal font. We do not have flowers at the altar during lent.

ADULT FORUM

Adult Forum is held on Sundays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

All adults are welcome at Adult Forum whenever you are able to attend.

NAOMI CIRCLE

Naomi Circle will meet on Monday, February 5th from 1:00-3:00 pm in the Green room.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a Cemetery Committee meeting on Wednesday, February 7th at 7:30 PM in the Green Room.

KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group will meet on Tuesday, February 20th at 9:30AM in the church office reception area.

YOUTH GROUP EVENTS SAVE THE DATES!

Snow Tubing

Sunday, March 4th

11AM to 1PM

Woodbury Ski Area

Loaves and Fishes

Sunday, March 11th

Prince of Peace for Meal Preparation

Loaves and Fishes New Milford to serve



February 4th – Healing at Simon's House (Mark 1:29-39)

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus is constantly on the move. Everywhere we look, he is healing, blessing, gathering, and proclaiming God's love. His reputation continues to increase. Crowds follow him, the people are talking about him, and everyone is waiting to see what he'll do next. Simon's mother-in-law is restored to wholeness. Jesus displays his divine power as the Son of God. Healing is one of the very first things Jesus does in Mark's Gospel. We hear stories of Jesus healing those with physical and spiritual ailments. This is quite simply what Jesus does, and a large part of who he is. His authority is being established as he extends God's good gifts to include everyone, no matter what their situation. This kind of love, grace, and mercy was radical then, and it is radical now. Our children can never hear these stories too often.

February 11th – Elijah and Elisha (2 Kings 2:1-12)

The prophet Elijah was the prophetic voice for God's people through the reigns of Kings Ahab and Ahaziah—two of Israel's worst kings. Elijah has served as a mentor for Elisha, and now it is time for God to take Elijah away. Elijah's departure up to heaven by a whirlwind and fiery chariot is dramatic. Throughout the reign of four more pretty bad kings in Israel, Elisha will continue to bring God's messages to the people. This story shows an older, aging prophet mentoring and supporting his younger follower and successor. The story of Elijah and Elisha provides us with a model of what we can learn from others in our faith.

February 18th – God's Covenant with Noah (Genesis 9:8-17)

For forty days and nights, Noah and his family shared close quarters with animals, unsure if they would see creation restored. But then creation began again. The waters separated from the earth. Animals were brought forth. Humans received a blessing and were told to be fruitful and multiply. Noah went through the Creation story all over again. In this passage, we get the finalized Noahic blessing—a covenant between God and not only humans but every living creature. In this covenant, God promises to never again send a flood to destroy the earth. God makes promises, and these promises extend not just to us but to all of creation. Kids can learn from this that God is a promising God. Understanding God as a promising God should be a central way children understand God. God is also a promise-keeper. Kids can feel overlooked and ignored quite easily. The things of this world fail, people fail, and life seems like it will fall apart into chaos. But God does not fail. God is always faithful and always remembers us and the promises God makes to us.

February 25th – The Faith of Abraham (Romans 4:13-25)

Paul is taking a classic text in the Old Testament narrative (Genesis 15; 17) and reinterpreting it. He is writing to believers about Abraham's faith and God's promise to Abraham. Abraham is righteous because of his faith—not because he followed certain rules. This is true for us too. It is our faith in Jesus that makes us right with God. Abraham is a model of prelaw faith, because he trusted that God would do what God promised to do. Kids can relate this text to how often we trust in something before it even happens. For Abraham, being the father of a nation was preposterous. But he trusted God that much. Paul is using Abraham as an example to teach that we don't earn a right relationship with God—God understands us as righteous because we trust in God.

PRINCE OF PEACE PRE-SCHOOL

119 Junction Road ~ Brookfield, CT 06804

www.princeofpeacepreschool.org T: 203-775-0140

Dear PoP Families,

Happy New Year! While it is nice to be home with our families, it is also nice to be back with our Prince of Peace Family refreshed and ready to begin the new year. Thank you for all the Christmas wishes, cards, baked goodies and gifts we received. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated. As we begin 2018, we also begin registration for our September sessions. If you should have any questions about any of the sessions planned for September, please don't hesitate to stop in the office, we would be happy to assist.

Now that we are well into January, this newsletter will inform you of January and February activities and news.

Best,

Debbie Nobes & Heidi Riddle

Thank you from Brookfield Social Services

Our Giving Tree was beautiful this year. Thank you for your donations of: hat/mitten/scarf sets, pairs of mittens, pairs of gloves, socks, slippers and hats! Your generosity was truly appreciated by needy families and Brookfield Social Services.

Amazon Smiles



Do you shop through Amazon? Please consider helping our Pre-School by shopping through www.smile.amazon.com Amazon will donate 5% of your eligible purchases to the Pre-School if you select Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in the dropdown menu. Make sure you select our church in **Brookfield, CT**.



Upcoming Events

January 2nd

Registration for PoP September 2018 classes

January 25th & 26th

"Snowman Days"

February 13th

"Valentine's Day Extravaganza"

Important Announcements

Winter Break: February 16-20

Weather Related Delays and Closings

Brookfield Schools Closed, PoP is closed.

Brookfield Schools Delayed, PoP opens at **10:00**

Early dismissals will be handled on a per-storm basis.

PRINCE OF PEACE PRE-SCHOOL (Continued)

More Important News

Our Pre-School has been accredited by the NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) since 1999. In order to maintain our accreditation we must conduct a self-study every 5 years, which we have recently completed. The next step in this process is a visit by an assessor from NAEYC. Between January 22nd and February 9th, an assessor will be evaluating our program over two days. Four classrooms will be randomly selected and observed for one hour each. Our assessor will be looking at curriculum, relationships with the children and families, the environment, teachers' qualifications and the quality of the overall program. To learn more about NAEYC please visit www.naeyc.org



Snowman Day!

On Thursday, January 25th and Friday, January 26th Prince of Peace will be celebrating Snowman Day! We ask that students come to school wearing a white shirt and scarf (if you are able) on those days. There will be many fun snowman activities, snacks and games for the children. Also, please consider creating a snow person with the paper plates distributed to each family. Help your child to make the snow person unique to themselves. We ask that they be returned to Mrs. Nobes or Mrs. Riddle prior to January 25th to complete our family bulletin board.

Outdoor Weather Policy Reminder

Children should bring snow clothes (snow pants, mittens, boots, hats) **daily**. Classes may go outside if the temperature feels like **20** degrees or warmer on www.weatherbug.com.



In the Community

Mrs. Riddle recently completed the Community and Family course through Charter Oak College. Check the new information boards:

Advocacy for Children

located in the lobby &

Curriculum Corner located near the playground door.

Thank you Mrs. Riddle for keeping us informed and up to date on information benefiting families and children.

Local Libraries

Check out your local library website to learn more about story times and programs planned for children and families!

Kindergarten Registration

Each town has different schedules and procedures for kindergarten registration. Check with your local Board of Ed. for your town.

Building Week

Thank you to all the families who provided boxes for building week. Check out pictures on our FB page.

WHAT'S COMING UP FOR THE WOMEN AT PRINCE OF PEACE.....

April is going to be a busy month for the women of the church...there are three events – three weekends in a row - you can go to any (or all) of them. We will be carpooling to all of them. MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

NAUGATUCK VALLEY WOMEN OF THE ELCA SPRING GATHERING – April 14th (9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)

The women of the Lutheran churches in the Naugatuck Valley Conference will hold the Annual Spring Gathering at St. James Lutheran Church in Southbury. More information will be forthcoming in Blueprints.

ANNUAL CALUMET RETREAT - April 20 - 22

Mark your calendars now if you are interested in attending our annual retreat. Diane Hunt will be our retreat leader again and she is wondering what topic you would like to have so she can have time to prepare. Also, do you want a healing service, a movie for Sat. night, etc. We need suggestions! There will be more information in the March Blueprints and a sign-up sheet in March on the table in the Narthex.

REGION 7 RETREAT in West Hartford – April 27-29

This is a great retreat that is held every three years and we are lucky to have it so close to us. More information will follow in Blueprints.

ATTENTION KNITTERS....If you are looking for a knitting project to help others below is a pattern for a project the women of POP are doing. When you are finished, just put in a bag under the mailboxes with my name on it. Baby blankets go to Global Health Ministries and we will be blessing them on Mother's Day before we mail them off. (If you need yarn...just let me know). Thanks. Marci Sharp (203) 775-4657 or e-mail: bowmanrae@aol.com

KNITTED BABY BLANKET WITH HANDKERCHIEF EDGE

Materials: To make a blanket, (approximate size 33" square) use 2 skeins of baby yarn (decreasing with the 2nd skein). If you use a "Baby Love Pound yarn"...just measure off approx. 33" before you start decreasing). If skeins are small, you may need to use 3 skeins (decreasing after 1 1/2 skein is used.)

Needles: 8 or 9 (circular is best)

Cast on 2 stitches

Row 1: K1, YO, K1

Row 2: K2, YO, K1

Row 3: K2, YO, K to end of row.

Repeat row 3 until 1 skein of yarn are used.

Decrease using 2nd skein of yarn

K1, K2Tog, YO, K2Tog, K to end of row

Continue this procedure until 4 stitches remain.

Bind off 4 stitches.

Prince of Peace



Book Group

A story is always better if you have someone to share it with. What could be better than sharing it with a group of friends who have read it too?

All are welcome!!

We will meet on February 7th at 7:00 PM in the church office lounge. We will be discussing the book *The Underground Railroad*, by Colson Whitehead.

Upcoming Books

March 7 - *Small Great Things: A Novel*, by Jodi Picoult

April 4 - *The High Mountains of Portugal: A Novel*, by Yann Martel

May 2 - *Big Little Lies*, by Liane Moriarty

Warmly,

Nancy Tolmoff

“BOOKS WASH AWAY FROM THE SOUL THE DUST OF EVERYDAY LIFE”

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 David Reitz
- 4 Patrick McRedmond
- 6 Amelinda Manka
- 9 Daniel Hall
- 10 Anthony D'Auslio
- 11 Melissa Bernardez, Erik Zimmitti
- 13 Younggi Choi
- 16 Eva Koehm
- 20 Gottfried Perbix
- 21 Fred Herpel, Steven Kleppin,
Mary Peters
- 29 Cheryl Hallock

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Gayle & Ken Schulz
- 11 Juliana & Andrew Confortini
- 12 Christine & Fred Buzzel
- 15 Lisa & Emil Manka

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed in Blueprints and you would like it to be please contact Rene at the Church office.

NOTES OF THANKS

Dear Congregation,

What a nice surprise it was when I opened the care package from you with highlighters, pencils, candy, chips and soup in it.

It is so nice to receive letters and packages from people I know while I'm away at school with all new people I'm still getting to know.

Sincerely,
Rachel D'Ausilio

Dear Prince of Peace,

Thank you for your gifts during finals. I appreciate the thought.

Sending joy and happiness to everyone at Prince of Peace Church.

Have a happy new year!

Brittney Kornhaas



After the worship services on **February 3rd and 4th** our Confirmation students will be collecting money and the food items listed below.

The food items will be donated to the Daily Bread Food Pantry in Danbury. The money will be donated to hunger fighting agencies chosen by the Confirmation students.

Please give generously to help feed the hungry.

The following list represents the bag of food that is given to a client at the Daily Bread Food Pantry. If you can purchase all of these items, you will have supplied one household with their monthly food donation from Daily Bread.

1 or 2 cans of soup

1 meal in a can

1 tomato sauce

2 vegetables - any combo

1 pork and bean

1 goya bean

1 pasta

1 bag of rice

1 can of fruit

1 or 2 mac/cheese

1 or 2 tuna

Those wishing to write a check to support the Souper Bowl can make it out to Prince of Peace and put "Souper Bowl" in the memo line.

Worship Services

Word & Sacrament.....

Saturdays, February 3, 10, 17 & 24 at 5:00 PM

Sundays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 8:15 AM

Sundays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 11:00 AM

Contact Us

Pastor: The Rev. Mark Nordskog

Vicar Dan Purtell

Website: www.princeofpeacebrookfield.org

E-mail: poplutheranchurch@sbcglobal.net

Phone: (203) 775-9070

Fax: (203) 775-9573

Our vision...

"Prince of Peace is a loving and caring family of Christians. We gather to hear the Christian story in word and song and to experience that story through the sacraments. The members of our family are involved in a mission of Christian unity. Through worship and Christian fellowship we are empowered to commit our talents in a way that makes a difference in our lives and the lives of those we touch."

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 5184
119 JUNCTION ROAD
BROOKFIELD, CT 06804

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

DATED MATERIAL, PLEASE DELIVER
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

February, 2018

REMINDER: VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE IS IN THIS ISSUE OF BLUEPRINTS