



BLUEPRINTS

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Newsletter

Volume 84, Number 1

January, 2020

A Message from Pastor Paul Lutz

Dear Members, Disciples, and Friends,

This is a Thank You note to those who made a *Because of God's Great Mercy* financial commitment to Prince of Peace for 2020.

A summary of responses shows that the majority of those who made commitments increased what they gave last year. Thank you! Some households continued with the same amount as 2019. Thank you! And a few households needed to give less than they had before. Thank you! We thank everyone who gives at any amount. (BTW. The summary doesn't show amounts only the number of households whose giving was up, same, or down.)

Also, as of this writing there are also about 10 households who pledged in 2019 but have not yet done so for 2020. If you are one of those households, please consider submitting a financial commitment as soon as possible. We don't want to miss considering your support when we build our program for ministry (budget) this year. Thank you!

Thank you for your investment in the future of our beloved faith community. Your regular and faithful giving, no matter the amount, tells me that you are both grateful for how God has blessed you and fully confident that God will continue to love, challenge, and protect you in 2020. I also feel that way, and my financial stewardship also reflects a thankful commitment to continue to serve our God and our Lord.

2020 will be a challenging year for Prince of Peace but knowing that there are members, disciples, and friends of Prince of Peace like you praying, serving, and giving to make our church family a blessing to us and others, inspires me. Thank you for your partnership in ministry.

I pray God will continue to make it possible for us to give and serve joyfully. And know, if at any time you would like to talk about your Christian walk, your stewardship, or our life together, I am here and eager to listen.

Yours in joyful giving,

The Rev. Paul Lutz

Worship Schedule



Saturday, January 4	5:00 PM	Worship Service
Sunday, January 5	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service Faith Formation Hour - Sunday School for Children/Adult Forum Worship Service
Saturday, January 11	5:00 PM	Worship Service
Sunday, January 12	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service Faith Formation Hour - Sunday School for Children/Adult Form Worship Service
Saturday, January 18	5:00 PM	Worship Service
Sunday, January 19	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service Faith Formation Hour - Sunday School for Children/Adult Forum Worship Service
Saturday, January 25	5:00 PM	Worship Service
Sunday, January 26	8:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service Faith Formation Hour - Sunday School for Children/Adult Forum Worship Service

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CONGREGATION?

There are always opportunities to use your gifts at Prince of Peace.

If you have an aptitude for **finances** consider serving as our Financial Secretary or Treasurer. Both positions require about 2 hours a month. To learn more talk to Ginger Coogle (Financial Secretary) or Rich Mercado (Treasurer). Call the church office for contact information.

If you have an aptitude for **digital and/or technology** consider helping to create a new website. The first-place visitors look before coming to Prince of Peace is our website. Our current website isn't as engaging or up-to-date as it might be. If you are willing to help us build a better "entrance way" into our congregation, please contact Pastor Lutz. Funding and training is available.

LIKE WORSHIP & MUSIC? GOOD AT TAKING NOTES?

Then you are the very one we are looking for. The Worship & Music Committee is seeking a "secretary" to take "minutes" at our monthly meetings. Please speak with Heidi Adam to learn more or sign up.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



There is an opportunity for you to serve as a Worship Assistant (Communion Assistant, Lector, Greeter, etc.) in January. See Pastor Lutz for more information, sign up on the table in the narthex, or let Rene know in the church office.

~ *Rene Tuccillo*

A NEW ADULT FORUM STUDY

Meta-Moments: Transformational Encounters with Christianity's Core, will be held on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Green Room in January. This study is a way for people exploring Christianity to dig deeper into some key themes - Jesus, The Reign of God, Meaning and Purpose, and Why Church. Come join us. You'll be glad you did.

NEW TEMPORARY MUSICIANS CONTRACTED

We are pleased to announce that two church musicians will be leading worship this January and February. The 5pm Saturday service will be led from the piano by Kristin Staub. Kristin has written a brief bio below.

My name is Kristin Staub and some of you have known me for a very long time, almost twenty years, and have seen me grow up in this church community. I have been involved with the children's choirs, bell choirs, Joyful Noise, as well as performing for some services on piano in the past. I went to college for my music education degree, later pursued a master's in audio engineering and music production, and now pursuing my master's in music business. My love for music, especially piano, has been such a blessing and now I teach privately and have several students surrounding the greater Danbury area. It has been such a joy being part of this community and receiving such warmth and God's love from so many friendly congregants. As a result, my faith has grown stronger and I'm so glad to be offering my musical services and continue to call this church my home. Thank you, all for being supportive and being there for my family throughout the years.

The 8:15 and 11:00 am Sunday morning worship services will be led from the organ bench by Dianne DeMarco.

Dianne has enjoyed a lengthy career as a liturgical musician in many houses of Christian worship. A degreed musician and seasoned performer and conductor, her experience is varied, vast and breathes easily between the sacred and secular repertoires. She began a performing arts studio in 1972 and has lived in the northwest corner for most of that time. Meeting new people and experiencing God's presence through music is a pleasure, a privilege and a joy she hopes to share with Prince of Peace Lutheran.

TWO EASY WAYS TO ENHANCE YOUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP



Do you shop at Amazon? Have Amazon Prime? Well the next time you shop go to Amazon Smile and select “Prince of Peace Lutheran Church”. Be certain to select the one in Brookfield CT. (There are many others.) Then each time you make a purchase Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Prince of Peace. Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. But now you can support Prince of Peace by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

Are you a member of Thrivent Financial? If so, you have two ways to exercise your financial stewardship. The first is that your account is earning “Choice Dollars” that you can direct to Prince of Peace several times a year. There is no cost to you and any Choice Dollars not distributed from your account are lost. Second, you have up to \$500 available to you in a Thrivent Action Team kit. There is an application and the funds must be used to help others in the church or in the world but it’s yours for the asking.

For more information talk to your Thrivent Associate or Joe Tucciarone, Financial Associate, New Milford, 800-972-5716.

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

The arrangements costs \$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.

BIBLICAL STORYTELLING

You have experienced biblical story telling the last several months when Pastor Lutz and others (Nan Carlson, Melinda Schroeder, Joe Fecarotta, and Jim Sharp) tell the gospel during worship. Ever thought about giving it a try? Well, come gather with other interested storytellers on Saturday, January 18 at 10:00 AM in the fellowship hall. No experience necessary. No commitment is needed. All ages are welcome. Biblical storytelling tips and resources will be shared and a Greater Brookfield Biblical Story telling troupe will be formed.

Help spread the word.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

January 15th 10:00 A.M.

Green Room



The bible study will resume on January 15, 2020 at 10:00 AM in the Green Room at Church.

We can use the study provided in the January/February copy of "Gather". The title is "We are called". There are two sections. The first one focuses on Old Testament prophets and the second one is on "Disciples of Christ" which we can do in February. Some copies are still available at church.

If you know that you will not be attending the study and you have a copy of "Gather", please consider returning your copy so that someone else can use it.

Also, we had discussed a Valentine Tea for February which could be a separate social event or combined with the February 19 bible study.

~ Nancy Carlson

EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL

There will be an Executive Meeting on Wednesday, January 8th at 7:30 PM in the Green Room. Council will meet on Wednesday, January 15th at 7:30 PM in the Green Room.

NAOMI CIRCLE

Naomi Circle will meet at 1:00 PM on Monday, January 6th in the Green Room.

KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group will meet on Tuesday, January 21st at 9:30 AM in the Church office reception area.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

The Worship and Music Committee will meet on January 22nd at 7:30 PM in the Green Room.

WE ARE A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY STILL OPENING GIFTS

In early November, worshipers wrote on a 3x5 file card something that they could offer another in our faith community. Here is the list of what they are ready to share with you. If you are interested in experiencing genuine community by connecting with another at Prince of Peace, then review the list and send me an email (poppastorpaul@sbcglobal.net) of what you're are interested in. I will provide the contact information so the two of you can connect. This is a win/win. Let me hear from you.

- His & hers adult bicycles
- Mini rototiller
- Clay flower pots
- Community - walk and talk together
- Babysitting your kids
- Genealogical research on Ancestry.com
- Sewing machine and fabric
- A large, clean, good condition coat
- Jesus Calling by Sara Young
- Piano
- Visiting people
- A metal detector to find your lost ring
- I am available to visit with you
- I can make a meal for someone
- I can cook
- One hour of yard work
- A hug
- A book of Theology
- A discussion
- A tutor
- Can cook a meal
- *Welcome guests to a holiday meal
*Thanksgiving was noted but perhaps another holiday?
- Cook a meal
- Run an errand
- Drive you to an appointment
- I can babysit your children while parents take some time to themselves
- Compassion
- I can make soup
- Have a talk over breakfast
- We are open to fellowship in our home
- I have a guitar to share
- Many fabric pieces, odds and ends, good for quilting
- A lasagna dinner
- I can be your walking, hiking or bike riding partner
- I can talk on the phone with a widow or widower
- Toothpaste samples
- Make a meal for you
- Open space at holiday meal
*Thanksgiving was noted but perhaps another occasion?
- A telephone call
- A run to Target
- I can help with questions related to land issues with local government
- I can provide a Christmas tree for a family in need
- Piano for practice or playing in my home
- Garden tools, etc.
- I can provide local rides to church, stores, doctor's appointments, etc.
- Cooking
- New Aaron Judge bobble head
- A cold beer and conversation
- Dinner for two at a holiday meal
*Thanksgiving was noted but perhaps another occasion?
- A library of books
- A seat at a holiday meal
*Thanksgiving was noted but perhaps another occasion?
- I can visit with someone sick or homebound
- A group I go to that helps us take better care of ourselves when our loved ones are impacted by addiction.
- A listening ear
- House visit
- I can take you shopping or to a doctor's appointment
- Computer help
- Software operating system hardware
- I can share a conversation after church
- I have some extra fleece hats

Sunday school!



Each week the Sunday school children engage in lessons, music class, and activities that build their faith and link to the lectionary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FAMILY GATHERINGS

The first Sunday of each month parents join their children for the last 30 minutes of Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall. This is also a great opportunity for you to meet other parents here at church. All kids will participate in this family experience at 10:20, so we hope you'll return in time to participate with them!

If your child is not in Sunday School but you would like to join us for these family gatherings, you are WELCOME!

January 5th at 10:20am – Epiphany Activity

February 2nd at 10:20am – Beatitudes Activity



BIBLE STORIES IN WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

1/5/2020 - Jesus the Word - John 1:1-18

What's happening in this story? Central to this passage, and an ongoing theme in Luke's gospel, is the great and subversive activity of God. God in Christ arrives with the lowest profile possible: as a new baby. The glory of God's heavenly host of angels is revealed to nameless shepherds, who occupied the lowest place in society at the time and sat outside the city in dark fields. The announcement of the Messiah, and the grace of God's favor, is made to the outsiders.

What does this story mean for kids? Kids will likely have heard this story many times before. One place to focus is the shepherds. They hear from the angels while they are still in their fields and are charged to share the good news after seeing the baby Jesus. This seems so uneventful as we read it centuries later. At the time, however, choosing shepherds for this important task was remarkable. While they offered a needed service, they were not in a valued position. The shepherds offer an example of being able and willing to proclaim and praise regardless of what others think of them.

1/12/2020 - A Light to the Nations - Isaiah 42:1-9

What's happening in this story? Isaiah includes four texts that are often called "Servant Songs"—songs about God's "servant" and what the servant is supposed to do. This is the first of those four songs. The servant brings forth justice and teaches not only Israel, but all the nations of the earth. Isaiah often has a universal sensibility. The servant will bring about this justice nonviolently, with little noise or fanfare, and will not tire of this work. The justice he will enact is much like the traditional "works of mercy." Sometimes the servant is understood to be Jesus, sometimes the people Israel, and sometimes just a person devoted to God.

What does this story mean for kids? All ages may need assistance to understand this bit of poetry as a prophetic message that God is going to send a "servant" as a messenger. Kids may also only see this as a piece of history (that is, a prophecy about the coming servant) and not as scripture that can speak to them today. They may need help understanding this scripture as indicating that we can all embody the idea of the chosen servant.

1/19/2020 - The Lamb of God - John 1:29-42

What's happening in this story? John's ministry as the hinge prophet between the Old and New Testaments is illustrated in this story; he is the one who watches for the coming Messiah and then announces his arrival. Jesus mirrors John's actions by speaking, and when he speaks, inviting them to see. So there is this back and forth of seeing and speaking that is very important in this passage, both for who John is and as a theme that will continue in this gospel.

What does this story mean for kids? This passage can be difficult, as John is using a lot of rhetoric to say one thing: Jesus. So, while younger kids in particular might get hung up on the muddiness of the words, help them get to the center of the text: the idea that Jesus is the one John was getting people ready for—the one he, they, and we have been waiting for. Create opportunities for kids to point to Jesus, just like John did.

1/26/2020 - United in Christ - 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

What's happening in this story? Despite it being called "First Corinthians," this is not Paul's first letter to that community. He had ministered with them for a period of about eighteen months previously. In this text from chapter 1, we find something of a summary of much of Paul's message in the entire letter—unity in Jesus. It seems factions had developed among the Corinthian community, each with a different leader. Paul decried such party politics, emphasizing that the whole community was under the headship of Christ, not of Paul or Apollos or Cephas.

What does this story mean for kids? The simplest way to interpret this scripture is "don't fight." Younger kids can hear this easily. Older kids can talk about the things that divide us, with the emphasis that we should put those aside. Not arguing, and concentrating on our similarities instead of our differences, will also be a theme that resonates with older kids. They may have a "What? I have to get along with?" kind of moment.



2019 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Anneliese Menrath
- 5 Rachel Adam, Robert Stuhrcke
- 7 Andrew Confortini Jr., Maimo Passarella,
Karin Schroeder
- 9 Kristin Staub
- 15 Craig Firmender
- 15 Charlotte & Nathaniel Shaw
- 17 David Hall, Laura Neeb
- 19 Dawn Arnold, Kathy Hubric,
Donna Wright-Murphy, Pam Nemetz,
Michael Walsh
- 21 Paul Kleppin
- 23 Hayley Lambert, Pastor Ned McMillen
- 24 Daniel Koehm
- 26 Jaclyn Larkin
- 28 Ron Kutz
- 29 Pat Staub
- 31 Kristen Lacey, Krag Lehmann

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Barbara & Saverio Bruno
- 29 Laura & Bob Neeb

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

BAPTISM

Bianca Louise Giubileo was baptized on December 15th. Bianca's parents are Phil and Tina Giubileo.



Happy New Year!

December's FNL was held at our house (Bob and I). It was a night of good food, drink and socializing. We did discuss the future of FNL and it was decided to continue with a few changes. A group that was started 17 years ago, when we were in our 50's and 60's now most of us are 17 years older. Many have moved away or passed away; but we still enjoy one another's company. We will keep it at 7:00 PM as some people still work and it will remain on the third Friday night of the month.

Because it is difficult for some to do stairs (i.e.. my house) and some other homes, we will have some months at the church and/or out to dinner. As we get older it is harder for some to do it at a host home. When you sign up to host, it will be the host's decision of what to do that month or where it will be held. We also discussed a night of just appetizers or soups, or going out to dinner at a restaurant to be decided by the host for that month.

As an example, Bob and I will host January 17th at church. We will have a pizza night and the cost will be divided amongst us. You can still sign up to bring a salad, or appetizer or dessert; only one thing. It will be a BYOD (bring your own drinks).

Any questions, please call me at (860) 354 0298. Looking forward to seeing everyone. Sign up sheet for the year is on the table, and sign up sheet for January by the coat room.

Again, wishing everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year!

~ Laura Neeb



After the worship services on **February 1st and 2nd** 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 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.

ANNUAL CAMP CALUMET RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Women of Prince of Peace....Our next retreat at Camp Calumet is scheduled for March 27-29, 2020. The cost will be approximately \$185 and that includes, 2 nights lodging, 6 meals, and snacks. You will make that payment directly to Calumet when you arrive.

Calumet is a wonderful experience and that's why the women of POP go back year after year (and have done so for 20+ years). We know that there are some women at Prince of Peace that would love to go but the expense is just not in their budget...SO...our Women of the ELCA would like to offer a Fellowship to cover the expenses at Calumet to any woman from POP that would like to attend. Please let me know if you are interested in receiving this Fellowship.

A sign-up sheet will be posted on a table in the Narthex in February. Friends are welcome as well as any POP woman. Questions, please call me at (203) 775-4657. If you are riding with someone else, it would be nice if you chipped in at least \$15.00 for gas to your driver!

Nancy Tolmoff will be our retreat leader and the theme is "God is Calling You and Me". In addition to our "theme time" there will be our free time to relax, shop, etc ...of our own choosing.

We will plan to leave the area on Friday morning. We can check in any time in the afternoon and our first meal at Calumet will be dinner on Friday.

Thanks! Marci Sharp (203) 775-4657 or email: bowmanrae@aol.com.

~ Marci Sharp



ACOLYTE TRAINING

Has your child mentioned to you that he/she would like to be an acolyte and light the candles during the worship service? If not, now is the time to ask him/her. This is an excellent way for your child to begin their service to the church. It also helps them concentrate more on the worship service. Their responsibilities are to light the candles, receive the offering, and ring the big outside bell (call to worship).

On Saturday, January 11th at 10:00am, I will be training children interested in being an acolyte. Training usually takes about an hour. The requirements are that they must be 7 years of age or older, they must be tall enough to light the candles and you, as a parent, must think they can handle the responsibility. If your child is interested (and you haven't already contacted me), please give me a call at (203) 775-4657 or e-mail me at bowmanrae@aol.com

I schedule them the month before they are to acolyte and I never schedule them without contacting the parents...too many busy schedules. I usually do this by e-mail.

Please let me know if your child will be doing the training and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at (203) 775-4657 or e-mail me at bowmanrae@aol.com.

~ Marci Sharp



**January
8:15 AM**



January 5	January 12	January 19	January 26
Choir		Choir	
Acolyte TBA	Acolyte TBA	Acolyte TBA	Acolyte TBA
Altar Guild Nancy Carlson Cathie Fegley Martha Hoglund	Altar Guild Polly Groff Susan Lehmann Julie Parker	Altar Guild Heidi Adam Barbara Morris Marci Sharp	Altar Guild Marilyn Roginski Edith Sherman Louise Kleppin
Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1. Marci Sharp (AM) 2. Chris Klauck	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1. Nancy Carlson (AM) 2.	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1. Jocelyn Doré 2.	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1. 2.
Communion Host	Communion Host Polly Groff	Communion Host	Communion Host
Greeters 1. 2.	Greeters 1. 2.	Greeters Allen & Pam Nemetz	Greeters 1. 2.
Lector Jim Sharp	Lector Tina Giubileo	Lector Pam Nemetz	Lector Phil Biubileo
Ushers 1. Phil Burdick 2. Casey Johansen	Ushers 1. Phil Burdick 2. Ken Carlson	Ushers 1. Phil Burdick 2. Casey Johansen	Ushers 1. Phil Burdick 2.



January
11:00 AM



January 5	January 12	January 19	January 26
	Choir		Choir
Acolyte Logan Lavery	Acolyte Lucas Lavery	Acolyte Maggie Mattera	Acolyte Cece Curatillo
Altar Guild Nancy Carlson Cathie Fegley Martha Hoglund	Altar Guild Polly Groff Susan Lehmann Julie Parker	Altar Guild Heidi Adam Barbara Morris Marci Sharp	Altar Guild Marilyn Roginski Edith Sherman Louise Kleppin
Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1. Barbara Bruno (AM) 2. Nicole Cable (CA)	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1. Marci Sharp (AM) 2. Janet Lutz	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1. 2.	Assisting Minister or Communion Assistant 1. 2.
Communion Host	Communion Host	Communion Host Kristen Mattera	Communion Host Edith Sherman
Greeters Joe & Marilyn Roginski	Greeters Mary & Gary Weisensee	Greeters 1. 2.	Greeters 1. 2.
Lector Laurie Fay	Lector Janet Lutz	Lector Danny Smith	Lector Mary Ewert
Ushers 1. Julie Parker 2.	Ushers 1. Julie Parker 2. Jim Sharp	Ushers 1. 2.	Ushers 1. Julie Parker 2.
Offering Tellers Joe & Marilyn Roginski	Offering Tellers Julie Parker Marci Sharp	Offering Tellers Polly Groff Marci Sharp	Offering Tellers Tom & Kim Maier

Worship Services

Word & Sacrament.....

Saturdays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 5:00 PM
Sundays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 8:15 AM &
11:00 AM

Contact Us

Pastor: The Rev. Paul Lutz

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
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January 2020

REMINDER: VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE IS IN THIS ISSUE OF BLUEPRINTS