



Tidings of Peace

January 2020



Worship in January

Sunday Morning Worship at 9:30 am

Sunday, January 5

Epiphany of Our Lord
From the East

Sunday, January 12

Baptism of Our Lord
This is My Son

Sunday, January 19

Second Sunday After Epiphany
Come and See

Sunday, January 26

Third Sunday after Epiphany
Follow Me

January 6, 13, 20, 27

Stitchers

January 9

Book Group

January 15, 22, 29

Pastor Class

January 19

Martin Luther King Worship

January 20

La Convivencia
MLK Day of Service

January 26

Annual Congregational Meeting

Thoughts on Gun Violence

Once again we've heard of a church shooting this past Sunday at the West Freeway Church of Christ near Dallas. While three victims lost their lives, one of them the shooter; the church's security team is being lauded for preventing a much grimmer death toll. One member of this team was armed, ready, and waiting to act upon just what happened. He was a *good guy* with a gun who prevented the *bad guy* with a gun from doing greater harm. Many are hailing the Texas gun laws that allowed this very scenario to play out.

I'm not convinced. I'm not questioning this particular story. I'm grateful it wasn't worse. But we need to view this story from above the fray.

Mass shootings get all the attention. What we don't read about in the news are the daily deaths from guns that surge way above isolated mass shootings. Reba Holly, from *Moms Demand Action For Gun Sense in America*, spoke at St. Bart's back in November when we beat the gun into a garden tool. She noted that gun deaths from suicides, accidents, and homicides are far greater, in percentage, in states like Texas, with its lax gun laws; than in states like New Jersey, with stricter gun laws. It makes sense. Greater access to guns will cause more deaths to gun violence.

On one hand, the West Freeway Church of Christ is to be admired for their security team and quick response to this deadly threat. Still, I hesitate to embrace a system that encourages more guns to keep peace. Maybe it worked last week, but I, for one, feel less secure when this becomes the norm to protect houses of worship.

— Pastor Froehlke

The Healing Power of Music

As 2019 rolled into 2020, I spent some time reminiscing on the year that has been. Although I find myself and my family relatively healthy and provided for, 2019 proved to be quite difficult. The daily grind was harder this year. Westminster Choir College's situation is more perilous than it has been for more than a generation. And this has weighed heavily on me, as I very much love the school and what it stands for. Although I am hopeful for Westminster in 2020, I am not confident in its future.



Megan and I were blessed, though, to travel some in 2019, seeing some of our favorite places. We got to visit Melody in Maine twice, and we worked our way up and down the coast for a few short weekends with friends and family. And the music ministry at PoP has continued to be fulfilling and sustaining. As I looked back at some of my photographs from 2019, I came across one that was taken on March 24. This was back during Lent, and John Franek was our church

musician. As you all remember, John enjoyed improvising his preludes and postludes, often giving mini-concerts as postludes. On March 24, 2019, I started the postlude as I often do, unplugging the power to the wireless microphones, properly stowing the i-Pad, and turning off the sound system. As I emerged from the sacristy, I saw Stella Angevine at the piano while John was playing. It was as if John sensed what she wanted to hear, as he deftly played through variations on *Amazing Grace*. I don't remember Stella coming over to the piano before, so her presence was powerful, intentional, and important. It would be the very last worship service at Prince of Peace that Stella would attend before her passing a few weeks later.

When I feel down or worn out, I like to think of how Stella's spirit was uplifted and buoyed with John's gift of music. As one of our professors at Westminster likes to say, 'When medicine cannot cure, music heals.'

Peace, Doug

Tidings, the newsletter of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, is published monthly. Articles, story ideas, and comments can be emailed to loismcase@gmail.com.

Deadline for the February issue is Sunday, January 26

Staff and Officers of Prince of Peace

Rev. Peter Froehle, Pastor
Rev. Dale Selover, Director of The House Next Door
Dr. Doug Helvering, Minister of Music
Kathy Nowak, Parish Administrator
Dorothy Safranek, Financial Secretary

Congregational Council

Elizabeth Wagner (President)
Nancy Durie (Vice President)
Rich Carlson
David Case
Kim Contini
Mary Ellen Glickson
David Jeedi
Martin Rexroad
Wendy Schutzer
Sabrina Teekah
David New, Secretary (non-voting)

Music Schedule for January

January 5

Megan Helvering

January 12

TBA

January 19

Adult Choir

January 26

Adult Choir

January Events

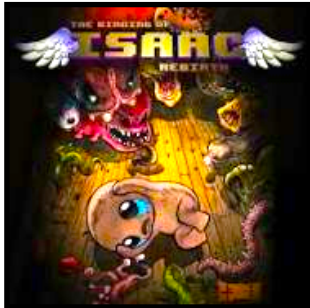
Joyful Stitchers in January

In December, Joyful Stitchers donated several dozen hand-knitted and crocheted hats, scarves, and gloves for the women and men served by the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. Thanks so much for all who contributed handmade items!

In January, we'll be exploring a new service project for *Warmth for Warriors*. This organization provides handmade hats for our troops. There are specific requirements for the hats, especially for those serving overseas, and as we learn more, we'll be sharing those at our Monday meetings and will post the necessary information here.

As always, all are welcome at our meetings in the lounge! Come to learn to knit or crochet or just to chat!

We alternate between evening and afternoon meetings. Bring your project or come to learn to knit or crochet or just to chat! Joyful Stitchers' schedule for January: January 6 at 6:30; January 13 at 1:00; January 20 at 6:30; January 27 at 1:00. Any questions, contact Kate Chen at kcmchen@comcast.net.



The Binding of Isaac

January 12th, Education Hour
Immediately Following Worship

The popular roguelike indie video game, *The Binding of Isaac*, has sold over three million copies since its release. Adults and confirmation students are invited to attend this fun, interactive program exploring this fascinating biblical story and the intersection of popular culture and Christian doctrine. Participants are strongly encouraged to bring their cell phones, iPads and computers.

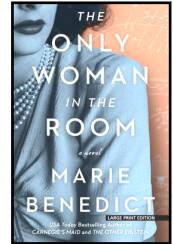
Book Group

January 9

Hosted by Betsy Riley
Lounge, Prince of Peace
RSVP betsyfriley@gmail.com

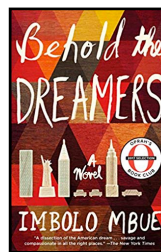
The Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedict

Born of Jewish parents in Vienna, Hedy Lamar attempts to escape the anti-Semitism prevalent in Austria in the period leading up to WW II by marrying a wealthy munitions manufacturer. Her husband proves intolerable and she escapes to Hollywood but not before she overhears talk of weapons technology that she eventually passes on to the Allies. She meets Louis B. Mayer, head of MGM on the ocean liner to America and in time becomes a glamorous movie star. A scientist, as well as a beautiful movie star, she is the co-inventor of a U.S. patent for tracking submarine torpedoes more accurately.



February 13

At the home of Ginny Moore
24 Terrapin Lane, Mercerville
RSVP to ginnymcmoore@gmail.com
Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue



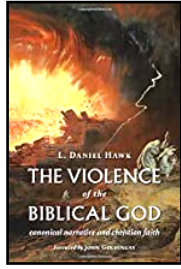
This is the story of two couples. One pair has achieved the American Dream; the other hopes to attain it. Clark and Cindy Edwards enjoy the benefits that come from Clark's job as a hotshot real estate investor with Lehman Brothers. Jendi and Neni Jonga are from Cameroon. Jendi is here illegally while his wife Neni is on a student visa. When Clark hires Jendi as a chauffeur at \$36,000 a year, it seems a dream come true for the Jongas, but this is 2008 and Lehman Brothers is about to go belly up.

The Book Group meets the
second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm.

New members are always welcome.

If interested, please contact Phyllis Church
609-799-0723 or p.church@mindspring.com

More January Events



Pastor Class Begins January 15

How should we as people of faith make sense of the violent acts of God in the Old Testament? These are difficult questions with no easy answers.

Pastor's class in January will delve into this question based on a book by biblical scholar Daniel Hawk entitled *The Violence of the Biblical God*.

Pastor Class begins Wednesday January 15 and will continue every Wednesday through February 5. We meet in the lounge at 7:30 pm. Join us.

Martin Luther King Worship Service

The Windsor Hightstown Area Ministerium will sponsor the annual ecumenical service honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin King on Sunday, January 19th, at 7:00 pm at the Live Well Church, 51 Church Street in Windsor. Pastor Froehlke will be attending the service and invites the congregation to join him.

Congregational Meeting

The annual meeting of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is scheduled for Sunday January 26, at 11:00 am, immediately following Sunday worship.

The January Donation Requested for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen is *Salad Dressing*

*Please place donations in the
wooden box in the breezeway.*

Transportation Assistance For Refugee Family Needed

The needs of an immigrant family that has been settled in Hamilton has come to the attention of our congregation. *One World, One Love*, an all-volunteer agency that supports refugees and partners with the International Rescue Commission, requests our help in supporting the Win Family.

The Win Family settled in Hamilton about two months ago. They are Muslims who escaped religious persecution in Burma (Myanmar). The family is made up of a father (age 42), mother (age 40), two sons (ages 13 and 11) and a daughter (age 7). They do not have any close family or friends in the area. They landed in Hamilton 'by luck.' The father was a businessman in Burma and speaks six languages. He is very easy to communicate with in English. The children are getting better at their English!

The family seems to be doing all the right things. The children have received their immunizations and are enrolled in school. The father is taking part in a job training program.

At this point in time, their most urgent need is food. Resurrection Lutheran Church has a food pantry which is open on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. POP volunteers transported the family to the food pantry during the month of December. We are looking for volunteers for the New Year. The task involves picking the family up at their home, driving them to the church, assisting them in picking out food items, and taking them home. The total time commitment is about two hours.

If you are interested in helping with this effort, please speak with Pastor or Wendy Schutzer.

P.S. It has also been conveyed that the family could use ShopRite gift cards. They are vegetarians and the food pantry does not provide many of the food items that this family needs. Donations of gift cards are also welcome.

3rd annual
MLK DAY OF SERVICE
 and a Community Dialogue

Led by Three Panelists on
"Love that Transforms in an Age of Divisions"

MLK Day Activities for Kids


MONDAY
JANUARY 20
10am-12pm

**187 Stockon St.,
 Hightstown, NJ**


SERVICE PROJECT
 Assemble care items
 'I Have a Dream' poster station
 Arts & Craft and much more!



"Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'"

Organizing personal care items for RISE families. Please bring lotion, shampoo & conditioner, toothbrush & toothpaste, soap, deodorant, diapers and wipes to donate.
 Students can earn community service hours.

Please Register:
www.eventbrite.com/e/mlk-day-of-service-and-a-community-dialogue-tickets-86450414517
www.laconvivencia.org - www.hightstownmethodist.org

Made with PosterMyWall.com



Congratulations, Cassie Morris!

Cassie graduated on December 12 from Stevenson University in Owings Mills, Maryland, summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems and a math minor. She begins working at Raytheon in Aberdeen, Maryland, as a Software Engineer in mid-January. She has interned for Raytheon the past two summers. Cassie will be relocating to Nottingham, Maryland, this month.

Thank You!



Dear Prince of Peace Members,

Cub Scout Pack 48 of West Windsor thanks you for your continued support as our Chartered Organization. Having a space to meet is very helpful to our group. We have donated to PoP's TASK items of the month and also participated in the December La Convivencia event. We look forward to finding more ways to partner with PoP.

Our goals are to promote character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. We aim to live by our Scout Law: A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. Our scouts camp, clear trails, build model cars for a Pinewood Derby, run an annual food drive, learn about our community history, participate in the Memorial Day parade, and learn how to cook.

We enter 2020 as a small pack of 24 but we hope to grow again. We welcome boys and girls in grades K through 5 and we encourage whole-family participation. If you know families who would like to learn more, please let me know.

Thank you again for PoP's support.

Yours in scouting, Nancy Durie
Chartered Org Representative
Assistant Den Leader
nbdurie@gmail.com

Dear Pastor Peter and members of Prince of Peace,

Thank you for making Christmas extra special for the children at Camden. The families that live in this affordable housing are just getting by and your gifts make a big difference.

Thank you for the gifts that allow us to build relationships and work to make lives better for the people we serve.

Beth Gebhart
Director, Community Relations & Volunteers
Lutheran Social Services of New Jersey



Gifts for Specific Children and Advent Giving Tree Gifts Much Appreciated by Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ, Plus Other Gift Opportunities

Twenty-four children whose specific Christmas gift requests were fulfilled by Prince of Peacers, and many other children and senior citizens who are served by Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ had a very Merry Christmas, thanks to the saints at Prince of Peace who donated items and gift cards under the Advent Giving Tree and gifts on the children's wish list. There was even a bag of assorted warm hats knitted by Carolyn Grotz, who does this every year for the Giving Tree recipients. Susan Crossen used her artistic talents to make the wish list sign-up sheet and the creative tags to attach to each gift.

Lutheran Social Ministries and the Prince of Peace Social Outreach Team are grateful for your responses and generosity and thank you very much. Imagine the smiles on the faces of the recipients on Christmas Day. ... sheer joy!

In addition, a number of other giving opportunities prevailed, including the providing of gift cards to folks at our sister congregation, St. Bartholomew; food items for the Food Pantry at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Hamilton Square;;and other food collections for hungry people in our area, as well as our monthly gatherings of items for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. Thank you for your support of these needs, too!

Thanks be to God, who works through us, for allowing us to do *God's Work with Our Hands*. And may 2020 be a banner year of opportunities to carry out God's mission and ministry.

— The Social Outreach Team

Thrivent Donates \$500 Towards Two Projects at Prince Of Peace

Volunteers and Funds are Needed to Complete the Projects

First project: Peace Garden Shed

A few years ago Prince of Peace started the Peace Garden on church property. The garden grows produce for food pantries, soup kitchens, and other organizations who provide meals for the food-insecure in local communities.

The garden could use a shed to store garden tools and equipment, and bags, a scale, and labels needed to package fresh produce. Storage is now spread between volunteers' car trunks, an unorganized bin near the garden, and at a relatively distant garage. The shed will be near the garden to protect and extend the life of donated tools and make them accessible to all volunteers as needed.

The volunteers will benefit from the convenience but more importantly, the food-insecure in our communities will benefit from the continued production of fresh vegetables we will be able to provide.

Volunteers will design and build a platform on which to construct a shed from a kit which does not include a base.

Second Project: House Next Door Property Enhancement

The House Next Door is an outreach ministry centered in the house on the property next to Prince of Peace. The ministry is dedicated to reaching those who may not necessarily come to traditional worship or belong to a church but would like spiritual direction. In recent years the church has added several gardens (Peace Garden, Butterfly Garden, Memorial Garden) and a labyrinth to this property and welcomes the community at large as well as individuals and organizations to use the facility.

The Spiritual Formation Team would like to make the outdoor areas even more convenient, flexible, and welcoming, and build or purchase more signage, pamphlet holders, and picnic tables to expand and ease the use of these beautiful outdoor areas as part of retreats, workshops and meetings for the public and the congregation.

What Has Thrivent Given Prince of Peace?

Thrivent has sent \$250 seed money for each project, a banner to hang as we work on the projects, T-shirts for volunteers, and miscellaneous project assistance plus a free *facebook* link through thrivent.com for further fundraising.

What's Next?

Now it's time for Prince of Peace members to contribute by volunteering to design/plan/lead the building of the wooden platform for the shed and by volunteering to help build the platform and/or the shed early this spring, and by adding to the seed money to fund the rest of these projects. There are three ways to help with funding:

1. Thrivent Members can go online to designate their Choice Dollars to Prince of Peace at no cost to you — because your Thrivent products have been automatically building dollars. If you don't designate the dollars from 2019 by March 31, they are lost.
2. Anyone can go to the Thrivent.com/Thrivent Action Teams Facebook page and donate toward the Peace Garden Shed — and check out how much has come in so far.
3. Anyone can donate directly to Prince of Peace. Please mark your donation for Thrivent projects.

To learn more about Thrivent, a member-owned, diversified financial services organization serving Christians and their families, or for help in understanding how you can donate your Choice Dollars, come to church on January 12 and meet Rich Hopkins, our area representative. He can tell you more about Thrivent's insurance and financial products, help you understand how to support these Action Projects and/or about how members are using the power of those benefits to impact communities across the country and other parts of the world.



***Many thanks to Thrivent for helping
Prince of Peace support our community!***

Parish Care, December 2019

Happy New Year!

Now that the new year has started It is time for us to look forward to February!

The Valentine Care Boxes will be here soon

We need lots of help! We need help supplying, packing and shipping the boxes!

As we enjoy the Twelve Days of Christmas and celebrate Epiphany, it is time to look forward to February. A very favorite tradition, for both the senders and receivers, is the filling and shipping of care packages. We fill and send boxes with goodies, supplies, and treats to our young adults who are away at school. Many years ago the boxes were a surprise, but now our students know the box is coming and they are always 'surprised' to see how many goodies we can fit into the 8" x 8" x 12" box. This tradition started many, many years ago with just a few boxes, and last year we sent 28 boxes.

P.S.: We also remember our older Valentine's with a small bag of treats

The care packages contain a variety of goodies from home-made cookies and brownies and other baked goods, to pens, post-its, candy, instant soups, hot chocolate packets, snacks, and many other things that make a student's life more enjoyable. The box of goodies reminds them and their friends that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

The congregation donates the goodies to fill the boxes along with a few dollars to help with the cost of shipping. Shipping last year averaged \$18 per box. Donations may be placed in the offering plate with *Valentine Boxes* noted in the memo section. The goodies are collected at the church for several Sundays in January; the boxes are packed and readied for shipping at the church, then taken to the USPS for shipping. By Valentine's Day our young adults away at school get a special package with lots of love and care from their church family.

So while you are out with your holiday returns and bargain hunting, remember we are soon filling around thirty boxes with treats for those in school and living away from home. So if you find some goodies, pick them up and bring them to the church.

Look in the Gathering Area for information and suggestions for box items.

Plan on baking some cookies, supplying some treats, and donating some \$\$s to help fill the boxes with lots of extra love, care, prayers, and goodies!

Things to be Done

Names and shipping addresses of 2019-20 students are needed by **January 20**. Look in the gathering area for Parish Care's current listing. Add, correct, and delete as needed. This helps with our count of boxes to be filled and sent.

Goodies to be collected in the gathering area until **February 2**.

Donations of funds to help cover the cost of shipping may be put in the offering – note *Valentine Boxes* on donation.

Boxes will be filled and readied for shipping on Monday, **February 3**, starting at 7:30 pm in the Gathering Area. Plan on coming and helping to fill the boxes. We start promptly.

Boxes to be taken to the post office and UPS on Tuesday, **February 4**.

Also, anyone interested in taking on a larger role with this project, please let me know.

Look for more details posted in the Gathering Area, or contact Martha Winder: 609-799-7280; maw14jpw@aol.com

***We are always looking for folks
to learn about and to help grow our
Parish Care ministry.***

***Contact Martha Winder 609-799-7280 or
maw14jpw@aol.com for more details.***

See page 9 for more Parish Care information.

Parish Care On-going Projects/Needs:

Ongoing Projects

There are knitted **Pocket Prayer Squares**, **Pocket Prayer Cards** and **Care Notes** in the breezeway. They are there for you to take and share.

There are **Greeting Cards** to be sorted, organized and delivered. If you can help with this, please let me know.

Hope through Healing Grief Notes – mailings to families who have lost loved ones

SPLASH and Growing in God's Love – mailings to families who have welcomed a new child into their lives.

Anyone interested in baking cookies or making soup to share with others? Please let me know so we can plan a date, time, and tasty treat to make and share.

On-going Needs

Meals – prepare and provide a simple meal for a church family as needed. If you can prepare a simple meal when needed, please let us know.

Transportation Needs – Many thanks to those who have been providing rides to local appointments. If you would like to help with some transportation needs – usually a few weekdays for special errands – please let us know. Details will be provided.

Thank You - Thank You - Thank You

- Many thanks to all the members who wrote Merry Christmas messages in Christmas cards sent to our home bound members.
- Many thanks to our carolers for sharing their voices, time, and care. The folks we caroled to greatly appreciate being remembered and treated.
- Thank You to those who colored the book markers that were passed out while caroling. They were a big hit!
- Thank You to all who donated 2020 Calendars and Cards. They have been taken to area senior living facilities for the residents. The activity directors were very grateful that we were thinking of their residents and said the calendars and cards are greatly appreciated and used. Watch for the calendar collection box this fall.
- Thank you to all who have provided rides this past year.

If you know of any folks who should be included in any of our projects or if you would like to assist with any of our projects, please notify Parish Care.



La Convivencia Says Thank You for An Incredible Day of Holiday Service

More than 250 diverse attendees came together and experienced the spirit of holiday joy of sharing and giving back to the community.

Volunteers decorated 1400 holiday cookies, wrote holiday greeting cards, assembled about 400 care packages, and wrapped children's books to donate to Arm in Arm, TASK, and New Brunswick Children's Hospital kids and families.

Thanks to everyone who donated care items and supplies and a shout out to all of our awesome volunteers and sponsors who make our communities better places.



177 Princeton-Hightstown Road
Princeton Junction NJ 08550

Church Office: 609-799-1753
E-Mail : email@popnj.org
Website: popnj.org
Worship: Sunday, 9:30 am

Sunday Schedule

Worship at 9:30 am
Education Hour at 10:45 am

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am to 2 pm
