



Tidings of Peace

November 2020



Worship in November

Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion
8:30 am

Online Worship at 9:30 am
<https://www.facebook.com/popnjchurch>

Sunday, November 1

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 8

23rd Sunday after Pentecost
The Wise & The Foolish Bridesmaids

Sunday, November 15

24th Sunday after Pentecost
The Parable of the Talents

Sunday, November 22

Christ the King Sunday
Generosity Today Offering

Sunday, November 29

First Sunday of Advent
The Lord is Near

Also in November

November 1

Youth Racism Meeting

November 4

Crossroads Zoom

November 4 & 11

Prayers for the Nation

November 10

Racial Justice Meeting

November 12

Book Group

November 22

Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship

Pop-Up POP

Pop-up POP. It sounds like a line from Dr. Seuss.

Actually the line comes from Dr. Doug, our Minister of Music. In a recent staff meeting Doug shared that as we continue to gather in person, and outdoors, the weather becomes more of a hindrance as we move into November. Worship, confirmation, Christian Focus, youth campfires, or really any outdoor gathering is hard to schedule since the weather will be working against us.

Enter *Pop-up POP*. The idea is that when we see a window of favorable weather, probably for the next day or two, we announce a *Pop-up*, via the Prince of Peace email or Facebook page, and see who from POP pops in. This would never work in our usually hyper-scheduled lives, but the pandemic has overturned everything else, so maybe we can now be a bit more spontaneous.

While the Building Use Task Force has made no official announcements about building use for November (our next meeting is past the newsletter deadline), I remain hesitant about opening the building up. The virus still is not under control, and I think we all anticipate further waves.

Yet I cannot overstate the importance of gathering in person. People who attended the outdoor 11:00 service Sunday, October 18, were so excited to be together, as many had not been to church since March. We need to offer as many in-person opportunities as we can. I am thankful for zoom and livestreams, but neither can provide our human need for in person contact.

So watch for *Pop up POP* in November and beyond.

— Pastor Froehlke

See page 9 for information about the
wreath fundraiser for St. Bart's Food Pantry

Music Opportunities in November

All Saints Sunday

Christ the King/Thanksgiving

There are two opportunities to participate in music at Prince Of Peace during November. First, attend the outdoor service on All Saints Sunday and join in the ringing of hand chimes as we present a special rendition of *Amazing Grace*. (No rehearsal needed). Next, we'll be combining with congregants from Dutch Neck Presbyterian to create a special virtual choir selection for Thanksgiving/Christ the King Sunday. I'll be sharing more info about that soon!

— 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 October issue is Sunday, November 22

Staff and Officers of Prince of Peace

Rev. Peter Froehlke, Pastor
Rev. Dale Selover, Director of The House Next Door
Dr. Doug Helvering, Minister of Music
Victoria Chow-Torres, Church Musician
Kathy Nowak, Parish Administrator
Dorothy Safranek, Financial Secretary

Congregational Council

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



Laying on of Hands at the Installation Service of Rev. Erich Kussman on October 24.

Comments from Pastor Erich Kussman On His Ordination and Mission

I am humbled... I am officially ordained in Word & Sacrament in a church that has accepted me for whom God created me to be... So many came out to support and enjoy this day with me and it truly left me speechless! Thank you all!!!

This call to Saint Bart's is a most serious one. My hope is certainly that people can feel and taste the goodness of God and to find the salvation in Jesus's love and sacrifice. I have realized and seen that the biggest barrier to that has been Christians and has been a Church that is numb to the poverty of the world or just sees our Christianity as a ticket into heaven while ignoring the hells of the world around us.

I am not willing to settle for that kind of Christianity. I believe in a kingdom that begins now and that the kingdom of God Jesus preached is not just something we're to go to when we die but that we're to bring down on earth as it is in heaven.

And I believe this family that I am now a part of at Saint Bart's understands this call that we all share! And we have just begun to be the change we want to see in this world as we enact God's love into a community that needs hope, love and faith in this season we are in... praise God! So even as we see the pain amid hurt and uncertainty of the times we are in, may we be reminded that in the end, love wins. Mercy triumphs. Life is more powerful than death. And even those who have committed great violence can have the image of God come to life again within them as they hear the whisper of love. May the whisper of love grow louder than the thunder of violence. May we love loudly.

November Events

All Saints Sunday, November 1

*Blessed are those who Mourn
For They Shall be Comforted*

As is our tradition on All Saints' Sunday, we will be lifting up the names of those who have died this past year. Please share with Pastor Peter the names of your loved ones who have died since last All Saints' Sunday. They will be named in our litany for the day.

Resurrection Tree

We would also like to give you the opportunity to remember all of your loved ones who have died in the faith by helping us to create a Resurrection Tree. We invite you to make a butterfly with your loved ones' name(s) written on it. Your butterfly can be as simple or as ornate as you like. Be sure to provide a way that your butterfly can be hung from a branch on our tree. Please drop it off in the All Saints' box located outside of Community Hall no later than noon on Saturday, October 31. The Resurrection Tree will be displayed in worship on All Saints' Sunday. After worship, weather permitting, you will find it in the Memorial Garden.

Labyrinth Walk

As another way of remembering your loved ones, we invite you to walk the Labyrinth on All Saints' Sunday. The Labyrinth provides a way for us to pray with our feet. You are invited to stand at the entrance to the Labyrinth and set your intention. Perhaps you want to simply name your loved ones, or give thanks for them, or forgive them. You then step into the Labyrinth and let the Holy Spirit do the rest. Trust that the Spirit will guide you. When you get to the center of the Labyrinth, weather permitting, there will be votive candles. You are welcome to light a candle in memory of your loved ones. You are then invited to retrace your steps and walk out of the Labyrinth. Again set your intention. What do you need to let go? To what do you want to hold on? For what or for whom do you want to give thanks?

May God bless your All Saints' experience.

— Pastor Dale Selover

Youth Racism Discussion

On Sunday November 1, Sara Froehlke will lead a racism discussion for our youth and confirmation class. We hope to meet in the outdoor chapel. Stay tuned.

A Wednesday Away at Crossroads

November 4



CROSS ROADS CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

GIVE THANKS, WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

Led by Ruth Roemer

WEDNESDAYS AWAY: NOVEMBER 4

Preparing for Thanksgiving, where have you experienced God's love and faithfulness during this year of uncertainty, illness, and separation? What have been the stabilizing forces in your life that bring you to gratitude in the midst of all that has and perhaps still is changing and challenging you?

WHEN | 10 am to 12 noon

WHERE | On ZOOM!
(Link provided upon registering)

COST | \$10

WWW.CROSSROADSRETREAT.COM/WEDNESDAYS-AWAY

Prayers for the Nation

Wednesdays, November 4 & 11

In these challenging times for our nation, we invite you to join us for a time of prayer on the Wednesdays surrounding the election. Our services are livestreamed on our Facebook page beginning at 7:30 pm.

In our worship prior to the election, we offered prayers of lament and prayers for faith over fear. On November 4th we will offer prayers for unity, and on November 11th we will lift up prayers of hope.

More November Events

Book Group

If interested in receiving an invitation to our Zoom book club, please contact Phyllis Church at 609-799-0723 or p.church@mindspring.com

November 12

Zoom meeting at 7:30 pm

***The Orphan's Tale* by Pam Jenoff**



This unusual WWII story centers on a German circus performing in occupied France during the war. The owner of circus provides refuge for Jewish performers hiding from the Nazis. The focus is on Astrid, a Jewish aerialist, and Noa, a Danish girl raped by a German soldier. After her baby is taken from her, Noa escapes to the circus. Astrid is tasked with training her to perform on the high wire. The story is told by these two main characters in alternating chapters. This is a tale of friendship, hope and sacrifice.

December 10

Planning continues regarding our December meeting. Hopefully we can get together somehow. A Zoom meeting is also a possibility.



The November Donation Requested for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen is *Men's Tube or Crew Socks*

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

Generosity Today

Our stewardship emphasis, *Generosity Today*, begins November 1. The Christian life calls for generosity. Our God is not a God of scarcity, but of abundance.

During this global crisis, while so much of life has been upended, the church continues to make a difference. We've supported the St. Bart's feeding ministries, RISE, ELCA Disaster Response and refugee aid. During the pandemic our ministry continues with worship, prayer circles, racial justice team, educational ministries, the Peace Garden, youth activities, and pastoral care.

Prince of Peace has shared generously throughout this pandemic, as we begin our stewardship emphasis we ask for that spirit of generosity to continue.

Every Sunday in November the congregation will hear impact stories from our people who see the difference Prince of Peace makes in their lives. Also, during this emphasis you will be receiving mailings and bulletin inserts highlighting our ministries in the name of Christ.

In the middle of November you will receive your *Intent of Giving Card* where you will be asked to declare your generous intent of giving for 2021. On November 22, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, you will be invited to offer this intent, as your generous response to our abundant God.

WHAM Thanksgiving Service November 22

Sunday night, November 22, the Windsor Hightstown Area Ministerium will hold their annual interfaith Thanksgiving worship at 7:00 pm. The event will be held virtually via zoom. Stay tuned for more details.

Social Outreach Opportunities

COVID-19 continues to affect our approaches to various ministries and the Social Outreach Team is still working on creative ways to provide outreach opportunities.

Currently, we are still supporting the Food and Clothing Pantries at St. Bart's. They can use bedding and small household items, as well, and are also in need of paper or plastic bags for distributing the food and clothing. **They are also in need of new, or clean used sleeping bags** to distribute as the weather gets colder. Their circle of recipients is still expanding and all donations are greatly appreciated. Bins for these donations are located outside the white doors that lead into the Education Wing. You may also leave donations in sturdy garbage bags there.

Prince of Peace has been and continues to be most generous in supporting St. Bart's and we thank each of you for your part in that effort. Monetary

gifts in the form of checks may be made out to Prince of Peace and earmarked for St. Bart's.

The Peace Garden growth has, understandably slowed down considerably, but there are still a few types of vegetables and herbs available, at least for another week or so. Over 650 pounds have been gathered, bagged, and given to several food pantries, most of it going to St. Bart's. Thanks to all of the volunteers who have been working in the Garden.

LSM/NJ has not yet finalized the details on providing specific Christmas gifts requested by individual children in their care, so more information on this endeavor will be sent out to the congregation when the specifics have been finalized.

As always, thank you for your partnership in ministry, including your participation and your prayers.

Appreciatively, The Social Outreach Team

Voting 2020

Called to be a Public Church

*Connecting our faith to
our involvement in government*

How are we called to civic engagement through participation in the electoral process?

Voting is one of the most important ways Americans can be involved in our representative democracy. Through the simple act of casting an informed vote, we have the opportunity and responsibility to help make decisions that will affect our lives and the lives of our families for the next two to eight years.

What does civic engagement mean for the church?

Scripture reveals God's presence in all realms of life, including political life. This church understands government as a means through which God works to preserve creation and build a more peaceful and just social order in a sinful world. The electoral process is one way in which we live out our affirmation of baptism to 'serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus,' and 'to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.'

From the ELCA Website, ELCAvotes

Voting Assistance at Prince of Peace

Given the ELCA's stand on the importance of voting, Prince of Peace would like to offer assistance to anyone who needs help in fulfilling their right to vote. This may include:

- A ride to a polling place
- A ride to a ballot box drop-off site
- Information on the voting process
- Assistance in navigating the NJ Voter Registration System to determine if your mail-in ballot has been received

If you desire assistance with any aspect of the voting process, please call the church office at 609-799-1753 or Wendy Schutzer at 609-647-2361 to identify your need. We will assist you in any way we can to help you fulfill your civic engagement responsibility. Thank you for voting this November.

Parish Care — November 2020

Sharing our care and concern with those in our community in times of need and joy.

Sharing our Faith at church and in our community in many different ways today

As we continue our journey with Christ

Read - Talk - Pray - Share - Bless - Assist

We need your help to share our POP care

Advent Calendar Mailing

For our Young Adults Away at School: Advent calendar mailing **November 17, 2020 coming soon.** We are gathering mailing, shipping and email addresses for our young adults who are away at school or learning from home. We connect with our students a few times during the school year. Please make sure we have a current 2020-21 address. Our first mailing, an Advent calendar, is going out on November 17th. If you would like for us send one, please make sure I have a mailing address. Currently, I have nine names. Please let me know if you have names to add, correct or delete. We will use this address to ship our Valentine Care Boxes in February. Please confirm address even if it is the same as previous years. If you would like to have an Advent calendar sent please make sure we get the address ASAP.

Transportation

We are looking for some transportation assistance to and from appointments and for some shopping. As we move into colder weather, you may be asked to do the shopping. If you can take some time to help, please contact me or church office. We will see what can be arranged.

Monthly Mailings, and Care Notes

We continue with our monthly mailing of *Hope Through Healing* (loss) and *Splash* (new baby) pamphlets to families with new little ones.

Care Notes are available in the breeze way. We are working on a way to make these materials more easily available. Until then, if you need access, please call and arrangements will be made to get things to you.

Prayer Squares & Prayer Cards

Knitted prayer squares and prayer cards are also in the breezeway. These are small ways to remember our journey with God.

Save the Date

Sunday - ??? most likely not this year
We can still share our Holiday Spirit

Parish Care and Christian Education are teaming up to bring some Holiday Joy to those in our community who are not able to get out and about. Most likely we will not be able to take our Carol sing to folks living in Assisted

Living residences. We are still going to reach out and send them Merry Christmas wishes with cards which we sign with a Holiday wish. We have the cards to use. We need to have you sign and add a greeting to the card. Let me know if you would like to help and I will get the materials to you. We are working on ways to make picking up and returning the materials to the church, so watch for details. This is a small way we can share the Merry Christmas spirit with those who are not able to get out of their living environment, letting them know that we are thinking of them and keeping them in our prayers.

We may take a small bag of holiday candies/treats along with the cards. If you would like to contribute some chocolate and non-chocolate candies (Hershey kisses, Werther's, peppermint mints or \$s toward purchase) and/or help with the assembly of baggies, please let me know.

We are gathering **2021 calendars**. Many thanks for all the calendars we have gathered so far. If you have received many in the mail and do not have a home for them, we are gathering them and will take them to adult care communities in the area. They are greatly appreciated by the residents. There is a box inside the outside doors but when is the church open?? So again, let me know and arrangements can be made for pickup or drop-off. If you would be able to deliver calendars to a senior residence in your area, please let me know and a batch will be provided.

And it is not too early to start thinking about Advent and Christmas

Advent Starts November 29th

During the Advent and Christmas seasons, we think of and spend time with our families. Some members of our church family may appreciate a little extra care during this time. If you are able to share a little time, make a call, deliver some holiday cheer, assist a member with some holiday tasks, read a Bible story or say a prayer with a member of our church family, please let the Parish Care Team know (we can figure out a safe way) to provide the needed details.

Continued on page 7

Outreach to Prince of Peace Members and Friends

As the Coronavirus continues to restrict our ability to gather, worship, and socialize with our fellow Prince of Peace members and friends, the Council and Parish Care Team have decided that intentional action is required.

Starting in November, a team of Prince of Peace members will be calling all Prince of Peace families to see how you're doing, and to see if you have any needs that the church can help you address, as well as to provide you an opportunity to give feedback to the church about how it can be helpful over the coming months. The call can be as long or as short as you'd like it to be. We just want you to know that we're thinking of you and help keep you virtually engaged in the life of the church. Despite the fact that we can't see you as often, we want to stay connected.

And in that vein, we would encourage you to think of ways that you can stay connected with your fellow members as well. A few ideas:

- Call the person who normally sits next to you in the pew or near you in church
- Send a note to a person on the prayer list
- Go through the church directory and pray for each person/family

These are challenging times to live, and indeed, challenging times to be the church. But Prince of Peace wants to do whatever it can to be a source of support, nourishment, and comfort. We look forward to touching base and hearing how you are doing. Stay safe.

Joyful Stitchers Holiday Project

Each year in the fall, the Joyful Stitchers turn their talents to creating warm, beautiful, useful handmade items to donate as holiday gifts for those who might need them. With our small group of knitters and crocheters, and with help from stitchers in the congregation, we've been able to donate a considerable number of items each year.

This fall, given our close association with St. Bart's, the scarves, hats, gloves, and mittens we're making will be donated to St. Bart's. Even though there are no scheduled meetings for the Joyful Stitchers in October, we are all working on this project at home. We'd like to provide as many high-quality, handmade items as we possibly can, so if you'd like to help us out, we'd certainly appreciate it.

Please note that we are requiring all items to be made of good quality **machine washable** yarn. We have some appropriate yarn available, so if you'd like to make something for us, but don't have yarn or need a pattern, please let Kate Chen know at kcmchen@comcast.net.

Similarly, if you have yarn to donate that meets the requirements for this project, please send Kate an email with the particulars. Plan to have finished items ready to go by early December. As soon as we have a specific date, we will let everyone know. Happy Stitching!

Parish Care, continued from page 6

If you know of anyone who would appreciate some special care, please let us know how we can help.

If you would like to help with any of our projects or be part of our team, please join us. We are always looking for new ways to share our care with others.

There are lots of *let me know* and *arrangements will be made* in this article. I am looking forward to talking with many and arranging new way of sharing our care.

Martha Winder
maw14jpw@aol.com

Racial Justice Team Update

By the time October ended, had you ...

- Attended the very worthwhile free course *Examining Racism: Looking Inward* with thirteen adults from Prince of Peace? (Sincere thanks to our leaders from Not in Our Town Princeton and the Jewish Center).
- Joined the Parent Conversation on Race? (If not, email for the agenda with lots of online resources for all ages. Suggestions for different themes for such talks are also welcome.
- Supported an area organization or leader working to improve the lives of those affected so disproportionately by the pandemic like POC (People of Color), those incarcerated (many of them unfairly because of their race) and senior citizens in residential care?
- Planned for your youth to talk about race with Sara and Pastor Froehlke?
- Researched and contacted your representatives about the *Dream and Promise Act of 2019, HR6* to help Dreamers and other immigrants living here legally for decades?
- Educated yourself on candidates to see who would work toward a more equitable society in your local community, state and nation?
- Looked into the public questions to understand implicit racism behind several of them?
- Reviewed steps provided in Prince of Peace bulletins to help clarify any confusion and vote? (There's still time if you haven't voted.)

These are just a few things the Racial Justice Team did or discussed this past month.

And Now for November

- Did you know that to help protect those still incarcerated or working in prisons from Covid19 and to address the disproportionate incarceration of POC, thousands of NJ prisoners (within limited types of crimes) with less than a year left on their sentences are being released on bail on November 4? Our Christian responsibility is to help those in need, and many returnees will not have a place to live, a job, or a support system. If you have any contacts with affordable housing or know of anyone affected by this release, please contact Nancy Reyes so Prince of Peace can consider how to help as a step in reparations.
- Though many received help from stimulus packages, many POC have been excluded so are in danger of losing their home or business. If you know of any nearby, let us know.
- The NJ Synod Anti-Racism Team is holding a virtual Conversation on racial justice, equity and inclusion on Saturday, November 7 from 10:00 am – noon.

At the next Racial Justice Team Meeting we will discuss our findings regarding the racial history of our area. We know West Windsor was inhabited by Delaware and Lenni Lenape tribes and have made inquiries regarding the history of other minorities as well. Let's learn together.

***Consider attending the next
Racial Justice Team
Virtual Meeting on
Tuesday, November 10 at 7***

Contact Nancy Reyes
nancyauerreyes@gmail.com
about any or all of the above

Beautiful Handmade Wreaths

Each One Unique & Made Locally from Natural Materials

All proceeds benefit the Food Pantry at Saint Bartholomew's Lutheran Church, Trenton

Seed Money Provided through Thrivent Action Team Project

Wreaths are built individually on 24" frames from available materials. The ones below are samples.



\$25 Donation



\$35 Donation



\$45 Donation

Wreaths will be available for pick-up at Prince of Peace Church

177 Princeton-Hightstown Road, Princeton Junction

Saturday, December 5, from 10 am to Noon or by Arrangement

Questions? Email nancyauerreyes@gmail.com

Please Indicate Your Bow Choice on the Form Below

White — Gold — Red — Burlap — Plaid — Surprise Me

Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____

email _____

Bow Choice (see above) _____

Use the back of this form to specify additional bow requests.

Indicate number of wreaths of each type.

Donations are tax-deductible.

_____ \$25 _____ \$35 _____ \$45

Please include with your order a check made out to

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, with Wreaths in the memo line.

Mail to Prince of Peace, 177 Princeton-Hightstown Road, Princeton Junction NJ 08550

Orders must be received by November 28th



177 Princeton-Hightstown Road
Princeton Junction NJ 08550

Church Office: 609-799-1753

E-Mail: email@popnj.org

Website: popnj.org

Sunday Schedule

Worship at 9:30 am (Livestream)

and 11 am (Outdoor)

<https://www.facebook.com/popnjchurch>
