



Tidings of Peace

November 2021



Worship in November

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

8:30 am Outdoor Worship

Sunday, November 7

All Saints Sunday
The Widow's Mite

Sunday, November 14

20th Sunday After Pentecost
Eternal Truth
Stewardship Emphasis
Sprouting Forth New Life

Sunday, November 21

21st Sunday After Pentecost
Naming the Truth
Stewardship Emphasis
Pledge Sunday

Sunday, November 28

1st Sunday Of Advent
Be Alert

Interfaith

Thanksgiving Worship

November 27

The annual Windsor-Hightstown Area Ministerium Thanksgiving service is Sunday November 21 at 7:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church in Hightstown. This is an in-person service; it will be live streamed as well. Watch for details.



**WELCOME
GEETA!**

Dear Prince of Peace Family,

It is with joy and thanksgiving that I introduce you to Geeta Telang, our new Office Manager.

We all know that the position of Church Office Manager is a unique one. We feel that, in Geeta, we have found the partner we have been searching for: a person who views this role as a calling, seeks to serve, and supports our efforts to connect more fully with our community.

Geeta and her husband, Sujay, have lived in West Windsor for fifteen years. Their son Ashwin is a sophomore at High School South, and their daughter Anya is a sixth grader at Grover Middle School.

Geeta was born and raised in Delaware. She attended Cornell and the University of Virginia. Since leaving the corporate world to raise her children, Geeta has been fulfilling her lifelong calling to serve her community. Her hobbies include yoga, zumba, tennis, hiking, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Starting on October 25, you will find Geeta in the Prince of Peace Office on Mondays through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Please hold Geeta in your prayers during this time of transition.

Needless to say, she is looking forward to meeting everyone. Please be sure to stop by the office to introduce yourself and extend a warm Prince of Peace welcome.

Finally, our thanks to Martin Rexroad and Dorothy Safranek, who played key roles in the hiring process. We are grateful to God for them and for their willingness to share their time and talents in this endeavor.

Welcome, Geeta, to Prince of Peace and the House Next Door! We are truly blessed to have you among us.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Dale

Sprouting New Life



In the midst of so much loss and decline through a pandemic and other world events, Prince of Peace has the audacity to proclaim new life as we practice resurrection with grace and gratitude.

We invite you to consider your response to God's redeeming love. What ministries draw your attention? What ministries is God calling Prince of Peace to be a part of? What should Prince of Peace be sprouting? We will provide opportunities to prayerfully consider your financial response for 2022 throughout November. Stay tuned for more in bulletins and temple talks.

The Stewardship Team

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 December issue is Sunday, November 28

Staff and Officers of Prince of Peace

Rev. Peter Froehlke, Pastor
Rev. Dale Selover, Director of The House Next Door
Vicar Kayla Hopgood
Dr. Doug Helvering, Minister of Music
Victoria Chow-Torres, Church Musician
Dorothy Safranek, Financial Secretary
Geeta Telang, Office Manager

Congregational Council

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

Sharing Our Gifts

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

— 1 Corinthians 12: 4-6

Our thanks to those disciples who have taken on a bite-size ministry and shared their gifts at Prince of Peace and the House Next Door:

Lois and Dave Case — caring for the vegetable and meditation gardens

Nancy and Dave Herrington — completing property projects

Nancy Durie — teaching Bold Transformational Faith

Pastor Paul Rorem — teaching a series on Ethiopian Christianity

Martha and Jim Winder — hosting our refreshments after worship

What ministry do you feel called to be a part of? How is God inviting you to use your gifts? What are you noticing that needs to happen at Prince of Peace or the House Next Door? What bite-size ministry would you like to take on? Please share your ideas with any member of the Staff or Council President, Elizabeth Wagner.

The CH_RCH needs U!



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.

November Events

All Saints Sunday — November 7

If you have lost a loved one since last All Saints Sunday, please give his/her/their name to Pastor Peter to be lifted up in prayer.

If you wish to remember the saints of your life who have previously died, please make a butterfly for our All Saints butterfly tree. It can be made of any material.

Please place your butterfly in the bin outside of the Community Wing no later than Friday, November 5.



Christmas Gifts for Individual Children Served by Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ (LSM/NJ)

This year the Social Outreach Team is offering the opportunity for persons/families to provide gifts requested by individual children who are served by LSM/NJ, as we did last year. The list of children and their wishes, along with a sign-up form and directions as to how to complete it, will be sent to the congregation as soon as we get the list of children from LSM/NJ.

Once you choose the gift(s) you would like to send, you will indicate that on the sign-up form and then send a check for the total amount to Prince of Peace by the date that will be indicated. LSM/NJ will take care of securing the gifts and getting them to the children. Make out checks to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and earmark for LSM/NJ Children. Thank you so much in advance for being a part of this giving opportunity.

Because of continuing Covid 19 restrictions and cautions, we will not be gathering Giving Tree gifts this year. We are hopeful that the situation will have improved significantly by next year.

Appreciatively Berta Schott,
On behalf of the Social Outreach Ministry Team

Book Group

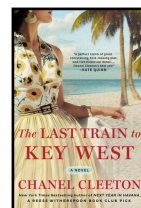
*If interested in joining the book club,
please contact Phyllis Church at 609-799-0723
or p.church@mindspring.com
We meet at 7:30 pm once a month.*

November 11

Time & Location to be Announced

The Last Train to Key West by Chanel Cleeton

The author tells the story of three different women who come together to survive the horrific 1935 Labor Day Hurricane in the Florida Keys. Helen is nine-months pregnant with an abusive husband. Mirta is on her honeymoon, wed to a man she barely knows. Elizabeth, a beautiful socialite, has come to Key West looking for her brother. The three women meet in the café where Helen works as a waitress. Their stories weave together as the novel progresses.



Brandi Hebert Approved for Ordination

We rejoice with beloved Prince of Peace member Brandi Hebert who was recently approved for ordination!

Please hold Brandi in your prayers as she, the Church, and the Holy Spirit discern where God is calling her.

St. Bart's Requests Thanksgiving Basket Donations

Will you Join St Bart's in stocking the Community Chest Pantry for Thanksgiving? The Thanksgiving basket distribution will be Saturday, November 20th at 11 am.

To make a Thanksgiving possible for families in the South Ward of Trenton, St. Bart's is collecting donations for Thanksgiving Baskets.

Pastor Peter recommends:

If you want to support this, it would be helpful to pack an entire basket. We won't be able to assemble baskets from individual donated items. We will be collecting the food in the conference room adjacent to the Community Room. Call the church office to make sure the building is open. Thank you.

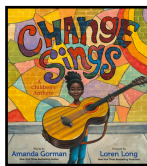
Thanksgiving Baskets

- 1 Canned Ham/ frozen Turkey
- 1- Box of Stuffing Mix
- 1 Box of Instant Potatoes
- 2 Boxes of Macaroni and Cheese
- 2 Cans of Yams
- Brown Sugar
- 1 Bag of Marshmallows
- 2 Cans of Green Beans
- 1 Can of Cream of Mushroom Soup
- French Fried Onions
- 2 Cans of Corn
- 1- Cans of Cranberry Sauce
- 1-2 Jars of Gravy (Or packets)
- 1 Cornbread Mix
- 1 Dessert Mix
(Pumpkin Pie Mix, Brownie Mix, Cake Mix, etc.)

Additions to Racial Justice lending Library

Descriptions adapted from Barnes and Noble.com

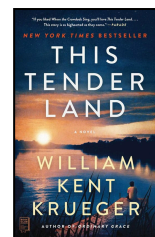
***Change Sings: A Children's Anthem* by Amanda Gorman, Pictures by Loren Long**



A lyrical picture book debut from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author and presidential inaugural poet Amanda Gorman and #1 *New York Times* bestselling illustrator Loren Long. In this stirring, much-anticipated picture book, anything is possible when our voices join together. As a young girl leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to make changes — big or small — in the world, in their communities, and, most importantly, in themselves.

***This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger**

The unforgettable story of four orphans who travel the Mississippi River on a life-changing odyssey during the Great Depression. Odie O'Banion is an orphan confined to the Lincoln Indian Training School. Forced to flee after committing a terrible crime, he and his brother, Albert, their best friend, Mose, and a broken-hearted little girl named Emmy steal away in a canoe. Over the course of one summer, these four orphans journey into the unknown and cross paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds.



Food Still Needed for St. Bart's Food Pantry

The Food Pantry at St. Bart's continues to distribute many bags of groceries twice a month to families in their community. Recently, the supply of food available to distribute has decreased, and they are in need of donations. Especially needed are peanut butter, jelly, oatmeal, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, canned fruit, fruit cups, and cereal. Please place your donations in the plastic bins outside the Community Room doors. As a partner congregation with St. Bart's, Prince of Peace has been an important source of helping to feed our neighbors in the wider Trenton/Hamilton area.

Thank you so much for your part in this outreach ministry,
Berta Schott, for the Social Outreach Ministry Team

Recent Events at The House Next Door



The New Jersey Angels Board has been meeting at the House Next Door. Its mission is to “walk alongside children, youth, and families in the foster care community by offering consistent support through intentional giving, relationship building, and mentorship.” Pictured here is the board of the New Jersey Angels:

(Left to right) NJ Angels VP, Kelly Kenny; President, Sheryl Oliver; Country singer, Sarah Martin

Kelley Kenny, seen at right in the center of the labyrinth, has been leading yoga classes in the meditation garden area of Prince of Peace. In this photo, Kelly is doing camel pose.



Pastor Ian Hill, St. Mark's, Hamilton, leads worship at the day of respite for pastors, co-led by Pastors Hill and Dale Selover.

Tree of Life Chapel

On October 15, the National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day, members of the community gathered at the Tree of Life Chapel (TLC) to remember their loved ones with a Service of Remembrance and Hope led by Vicar Kayla.

The Tree of Life Chapel is open to the community every day from dusk to dawn. Stones are available upon which to write the name of a loved one.

If you wish to have a stone painted, for a donation to the TLC, Nancy Herrington will paint one for you.

Construction on the Chapel continues and donations are still being accepted.



Racial Justice

A Quiet Month? Lots going On.

Does life seem calm compared to last year's protests and frequent racial violence in the news? The work to change systemic racism really hasn't stopped.

Look carefully and you'll see stories of protesters and police on trial; unsolved or unresolved cases of discrimination; ongoing investigations into the graves of indigenous residential school children. Hoping more are not discovered, corporations, schools, and faith communities are researching and then admitting to their part in overt racist acts and discreet support of laws and policies perpetuating or showing complicity in keeping people of color oppressed. And so much more.

Transforming White Privilege

This past month several members of the Racial Justice Team attended the NJ Synod's 3-session *Transforming White Privilege* course. Along with helping us to recognize our own white privilege, the course gave us the opportunity to share difficult conversations occurring in Lutheran congregations and to learn how to talk to white members of our congregation who don't see themselves as privileged, to learn how to better approach the subject with those who don't understand or respect the perspective of people of color who continue to be oppressed in subtle if not overt ways. We also discussed how important it is to have people in marginalized groups at the table when discussing how to make changes. If you are interested in taking this course, please contact Nancy Reyes so you can be notified the next time it is offered.

Voting

As this newsletter is being published, early voting has begun. Remember, every vote does count. It's part of the responsibilities of a citizen to express opinions about upcoming legislation by casting informed votes.

It's also our obligation as Christians to follow Jesus's example by loving our neighbors, not just those right next door who we know personally, but also those in refugee camps, at our country's borders (or struggling to reach them); in our prisons, on the streets or in tent cities, or in areas affected by polluted water and air because those in power have pushed factories and other polluters closer to lower income or indigenous areas where people have less power to fight the system.

This month you can make a difference and stand up for all of those disproportionately impacted by voting for candidates who are supporting legislation to address these issues.

Not sure how to vote? Spend a little time on the New Jersey Synod website where you can go to LEAMNJ.org and find out about current legislation and the impact it could have. Every Monday there are hour-long sessions at both 12 and 5:30 where you can ask questions and learn what's happening in the legislature and behind the scenes in New Jersey and federal legislatures.

More Ideas

There's so much more happening. If you'd like to be part of the conversations or even just be on the email list of this team, to work on setting up a prayer center and banner in memory of the indigenous children lost, to discuss how Prince of Peace will be part of the Bishop's Challenge on reparations, to decide what we need to move ahead and grow into a more welcoming community, actively listening to the needs of people of color and working beside them as allies to change systemic racism, and more, or just to share your ideas or concerns in this area, contact Nancy Reyes at nancyauerreyes@gmail.com or 609-273-1239.

There's so much work to do and Prince of Peace needs your help!

See page 4 for two new additions to the Racial Justice Library.

Multi-Faith Festival: Celebrating the Joy of Our Traditions In Music and Story — A Success!

The first sentence of an article on a local e-news last month, from *NJ.com* and *NJ Advanced Media* reads

Elected officials in Monmouth County are denouncing an anonymous flier that called on residents to unite against what it said was a potential move by members of Lakewood's Orthodox Jewish community into Upper Freehold Township.

Incidents like this are why the Multi-Faith Festival on October 17 was organized by the New Jersey Synod Interfaith Ecumenical Committee led by Rev. Nancy Truscott. Prince of Peace was chosen as a centrally located venue with plenty of property and all the beauty of our welcoming campus where people of many faith communities could come together to enjoy interacting while learning about other faiths and how much we have in common.

What I heard from a friend last month: How can you be friends with someone who's Muslim? Do you know what happens to women in Muslim countries? We talked about my experience with relatives in Malaysia, former students, and the refugee family we are helping who are Muslim, and then my friend came to the Multi-Faith Festival, visited the table from the Muslim Community Center where she tried their Baklava, interacted with their calligrapher/artist, learned a little more about the Muslim religion, and purposely stayed to hear their performance because she said, "Maybe I need to be a little more open-minded and give people a chance."

At the registration table near the path from the park to the Peace Garden, two Turkish Muslim men who had come early to help set up the stages came to get Bingo Cards since a few people had come up to their table to ask about their religion and get a signature. They wanted to join the fun and maybe even win a prize. I signed their cards saying I knew the Lord's Prayer, said part of it for him, and discussed why Christians say it. When I gave him a map and pointed out the *Salah* Prayer Area (a mat was available in the grass near the Outdoor Worship Area), he asked me if water was available for the



Megan and Doug Helvering and Joan New performed at the Multi-Faith Festival on October 17.

ritual ablutions they do before prayer and explained them to me.

Later on, one of the Muslim attendees misunderstood where the prayer mat was. He got down on a blanket spread for children to read from our Racial Justice Lending Library and started his prayer ritual. When he wasn't answering a child talking to him nearby, it gave Nancy Herrington a chance to talk about different religions as she explained what he was doing. Even the little children were learning about other faiths.

These are just a few stories from the wonderful event here at Prince of Peace. Representatives of six different faith communities (Jewish, Baha'i, Unitarian Universalist, Lutheran, Baptist, and Hindu) performed music and/or told stories and shared about their faith. (If you didn't come, you missed our own Prince of Peace stars, Joan New telling a Bible story and Doug and Megan Helvering performing on the thumb drum, keyboard, and horn.) An estimated one hundred people attended, interacted with members of other faiths, and some even got COVID vaccines brought by the West Windsor Health Department, who want to come back for other vaccine clinics.

If you'd like to be part of the New Jersey Synod Interfaith Ecumenical Committee planning future events, talk to Nancy Reyes or email Nancy Truscott at ntruscott@comcast.net.

Luther Seminary Offers Bible Study

Luther Seminary has created a powerful new resource called *Enter the Bible*, and it breaks down each book of Scripture to give an in-depth overview of its background and context, its author and setting, the issues and themes you can find in it, and so much more.

It's a valuable tool for understanding the people, places, and lessons of the Bible. It even has a feature where you can create an account in order to make personal notes and track your learning progress, if you wish.

Click here to get access now: <https://enterthebible.org/free-account-registration/>

There is no cost for using *Enter the Bible*. The Seminary created it as part of its mission to help people grow in their faith and know God better.



Dear Prince of Peace Friends,

Thirty four years ago when Greg and I arrived at Prince of Peace, we had no idea what God had in mind for us. It is hard to believe that I have just finished 21 years as this congregation's Parish Administrator. These years were rewarding and often challenging. With love, laughter, kindness, forgiveness, mercy and abundant grace we have made ministry work, and the people of this congregation are dear to me.

I have been blessed to serve with wonderful pastors and staff throughout all of these years. That is extraordinary. Each unique, each with something special to share. I have learned valuable lessons from each of them.

On October 3rd I experienced incredible joy and gratitude as we celebrated my retirement. The kind wishes from so many were remarkable to me.

Thank you for the lovely reception, your generous gift and your friendship. I am truly blessed and grateful to have had this time sharing in ministry with you.

Digging Potatoes



One of the last activities as the Peace Garden closed down for the winter was digging potatoes. Shown here are Laura Poethke and Maggie Furniss in the sweet potato patch.

Parish Care — November 2021

*Wow, it is September
The start of our church year.
As our Church Year begins
Here are a few Parish Care needs and projects*

Back to School Time

Time for our young adult students to be heading off to school. This year seems to have our students returning to campus. We will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers. All the best as you start the new school year .

We do keep in touch with students. Please send us updated contact information — USPS (snail mail) and email. Contact info can be left in church office.

Rides Needed

... During the week to appointments and some food shopping. If you have some time during the week to help with rides, please let me know.

Ongoing Projects

We continue with our *Splash and Hope through Healing* monthly mailings along with the *Care Notes* in the breezeway. If you know of anyone to include please contact Parish Care. If you would like any materials and the church is not open, arrangements can be made to get the materials to you.

Phone Calls

A "good morning/day and how are you doing" Phone Call. We would like to reach out to our church family that are not with us on Sunday morning. The call is a simple "Hi, we are thinking of you, hope all is going well, and is there anything we can do to help?" If you can help with making a few calls once a month, your care is greatly appreciated by many. With several folks involved, a phone call could be a great way to stay connected. Want to help, call me.

Spreading the Cheer

Christmas Carol Sing Along in December

We are ever hopeful that we will be allowed to share our cheer in person.

We will be going caroling in December to a couple senior residences in the area. A card and small gift is taken for each person we meet.

So we need to have

- Holiday cards with a message hand-written inside. We have cards but need some folks willing to write a simple holiday message inside
- Help with making a small gift to give. Last year we took tissue packets for each and small candy treat bag. If you have any suggestions for something to take, please let us know ASAP.
- suggest a song or songs to sing
- create a songbook/sheet to share with all the residents
- Lots of voices to sing — all ages, all voices, no rehearsals.

Watch for dates and details of when and where you can help with this project.

If we are not able to sing in person, we can still share our care by sending cards with holiday messages, a small treat, a song booklet and perhaps a way to send our voices via some electronic method.

Watch for details on how, when and where you can help.

Calendars, Greeting Cards

We are gathering 2022 Calendars and Greeting Cards. They are shared with several of the senior residents in the area. We need help with sorting and delivering them to the residences.

There is a gathering box in the breezeway.

If you have some ideas or thoughts on how we can share our care, please let me know.

Questions or what to help contact me

Martha Winder

609-799-7280

maw14jpw@aol.com



***Practicing Resurrection with
Gratitude and Grace***

177 Princeton-Hightstown Road
Princeton Junction NJ 08550

Church Office: 609-799-1753

E-Mail: email@popnj.org

Website: popnj.org

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9 to 1 pm

Sunday Schedule

Worship at 9:30 am (Indoor and Livestream)

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

Outdoor Worship at 8:30 am
