

Tidings of Peace



December 2022



Worship in December

Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30
In person/Livestream Worship at 9:30 am
<https://www.facebook.com/popnjchurch>

Sunday, December 4

Wednesday, December 7

2nd Sunday of Advent
Prepare the Way of the Lord

Sunday, December 11

Wednesday, December 14

3rd Sunday of Advent
The Desert Shall Bloom & Rejoice

Sunday, December 18

4th Sunday of Advent
Joseph Sunday
Do Not Be Afraid to Take
Mary as Your Wife

Wednesday, December 21

7:30

Blue Christmas
A Service of Hope and Healing

Saturday, December 24

4:00 & 7:30 pm

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day
Joy To The World

Also in December

Wednesdays, December 7 & 14

Advent Vespers

Thursday, December 8

Book Group Luncheon

Sunday, December 11

Advent Dinner Church

Out of the Blue

The color of Advent is blue. Blue is the color of the sea before creation. Blue is the color of the morning sky right before sunrise. So blue is the color of anticipation, the color of a new day, the color of hope.

The term *out of the blue* means suddenly and unexpectedly. Its origin is thought to go back to the phrase *a bolt out of the blue*, first heard during the French Revolution. It refers to a bolt of lightning coming out of a sunny blue sky, something sudden and unexpected.

The folks at Barn Geese Worship have chosen *Out of the Blue* as their theme for Advent. As they say,

God's activity in this world is sudden and unexpected, bringing transformation, wonder, justice, and joy. From generation to generation, God has been dreaming of this moment. Inevitably, it catches us by surprise, just like it surprised our ancestors in faith: Sarah, Abraham, Tamar, Rahab, David, Elizabeth, Zechariah, Mary, and Joseph. God's time is now. It's here to reorient our expectations and to sweep us into a future of hope and promise, even if we didn't expect it, even if it wasn't part of our plans.

The Adult Forum and our Midweek Worship this Advent will center on Jesus' ancestors who experienced change *out of the blue*. We will show how God was at work through them and how God continues to be at work in our world, leading change in surprising and unexpected ways. In addition to the biblical characters we will also look at historical and modern-day people who have instilled hope and change as they have been about what God is up to in this world.

Join us for the Adult Forum on Sunday morning at 10:45, and then again Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm as we hear about God coming to our world *Out of the Blue*.

— Pastor Froehle

Thank You



Thank you to everyone who supported the installation of raised garden beds at the preschool at St Bart's on September's God's Work Our Hands Sunday.

The radishes above are the pre-schoolers' first crop. The students are thrilled to be learning about, growing, and tasting vegetables. And their teacher, Laura Poethke, Peace Garden Volunteer, is happy to have her dream volunteer job.

The preschool is free and jointly sponsored by the Children's Home Society of New Jersey and Head Start. For more information, see

https://freepreschool.us/detail/st_bartholomew_trenton_nj.html



Dear Prince of Peace Family,

For two preachers who are never at a loss for words, we cannot find the words to express our gratitude for the thoughtful gifts given to us on Pastor Appreciation Day. The Advent stoles are beautiful and the gift certificate to Augsburg Fortress will be put to good use.

We thank our Council President, Tim, for his kind words shared with us on your behalf. To say that it has been a challenge to navigate the pandemic is an understatement. But we count our blessings. We are so thankful to be serving at Prince of Peace where we are blessed to partner with each of you. We have been sustained by your faithfulness and your support as together we have navigated these changing times in the life of the church. And for that we could not be more grateful.

Finally, and most importantly, thanks be to God who has given us to each other and who accompanies us through it all.

With Grateful Hearts,
Pastor Peter and Pastor Dale

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 January issue is Monday, December 26

Staff and Officers of Prince of Peace

Rev. Peter Froehke, Pastor

Rev. Dale Selover, Director of The House Next Door

Dr. Doug Helvering, Minister of Music

Victoria Chow, Church Musician

David Marrone, Seminarian

Geeta Telang, Office Manager

Dorothy Safranek, Financial Secretary

Congregational Council

Tim Gjenvick (President)

Joan New (Vice President)

Charlie Frantz

Mary Ellen Glickson

Christian Oehm

Dorothy Safranek

Wendy Schutzer

Con Sweeney

Elizabeth Wagner

David New, Secretary (non-voting)

December News

Book Group

*If interested in joining the book club,
please contact Phyllis Church at
609-799-0723 or p.church@mindspring.com*

Thursday, December 8th at Noon Christmas Luncheon

A Christmas luncheon will be held for book club members at the Springdale Golf Country Club located at 1895 Clubhouse Drive, Princeton. Please arrive at noon. RSVP to Phyllis Church at p.church@mindspring.com or Martha Winder at maw14jpw@aol.com. A \$20 donation is requested to cover the cost of the meal.

Poinsettia Orders

Due by Sunday, December 18



You are invited to help adorn our Christmas worship space by ordering poinsettias. You may do this by going onto the Prince of Peace website and accessing the order form. Or you may go directly to the following weblink:

<https://popnj.org/poinsettia-sign-up-2022>

Complete this form and submit it. Wendy Schutzer will receive your desired order via email, and you will also get an email to remind you of your order. Orders should be placed by Sunday, December 18th.

Plants may be picked up after Sunday worship on December 25th.

Please call or email with any questions (609-647-2361/wendyschutzer14@gmail.com).

P.S. If you order on-line, you may pay by sending a check with *Poinsettias* in the memo to

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
177 Princeton-Hightstown Road
Princeton Junction, NJ 08550



Christmas at Prince of Peace

Sunday, December 18

10:45 am

Decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas

Wednesday, December 21

7:30 p.m.

Service of Healing and Hope

*A quiet worship experience for those
struggling during the Christmas season*

Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service

7:30 pm

Festival Christmas Eve Service
With Candles, Choir, and Bell Choir

Sunday, December 25

9:30 am

Christmas Day Service

Note: No 8:30 service

Sunday, January 1

First Sunday after Christmas

The Name of Jesus

Rev. Dr. Paul Rorem Preaching

Note: No 8:30 service

More News

Adult Classes & Midweek Services

*Sundays at 10:45
Wednesdays at 7:30*

Sunday, December 4

Wednesday, December 7

*God Forges Redemption in the Midst of Brokenness
David, Bathsheba, Nicholas of Myra, Donaldina Cameron*

Sunday, December 11

Wednesday, December 14

*God Moves Through Immovable Conviction
Elizabeth, Zechariah, Lucy of Syracuse, Greta Thunberg*

Wednesday, December 21

*Blue Christmas
A Service of Healing and Hope for Those Struggling
During the Christmas Season*

Advent Wednesday Evening Services

Offering For

ELCA World Hunger Appeal

Beginning with the Advent Service on November 30, 2022, the offering received at each mid-week Advent Service is designated for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Through these offerings, we will be helping our sisters and brothers domestically and globally who are in need of daily sustenance, as well as getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

In addition to providing food, these funds will connect these people to resources they need to produce their own food, gain access to clean water, and provide health care, education, and sources of income for long-term sustainability. Thank you for your part in helping to make this ministry possible.

Berta Schott, for the
Social Outreach Ministry Team

Ministry Opportunity

Looking for an interesting and fun volunteer ministry opportunity at Prince of Peace? Current newsletter editor, Lois Case, will be moving to Taos, NM this summer and the Communications Team is looking for a new editor for *Tidings* by June of 2023.

Lois uses Pages (Macintosh), but Microsoft Publisher or even Microsoft Word would work.

Production time is during the last week of the month. Content comes via email and can arrive at any time, but providers almost always meet deadlines.

Lois' process is usually to format content as it arrives and put the newsletter together on the Monday morning after the deadline. She then sends it to Berta Schott, who does an excellent and timely job of proofreading. Lois makes corrections and sends a PDF to Geeta by the last day of the month. Geeta takes care of distribution.

The pluses of editing *Tidings* are many, including working with and getting to know many wonderful Prince of Peacers and getting familiar with the ministries of the church.

If you'd like more information, feel free to contact Lois Case at 609-651-6817 or loismcase@gmail.com.

Joyful Baptist Korean Church

On December 4th the Joyful Baptist Korean Church will begin worshipping at Prince of Peace. The congregation will worship every Sunday at 1:00 pm in the sanctuary.

On *Joyful Noise* Sundays the congregation will worship in the Community Room. We welcome Pastor Samuel Kimm and his congregation.

To learn more about the church, visit
<https://joyfulchurch.wordpress.com/>



Christmas Gifts for Children Served by LSM/NJ

Deadline December 7th

This year, Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ (LSM/NJ) has provided Prince of Peace with a list of 25 children and their specific Christmas gift requests. The list and the opportunity to select a child or children was sent out to Prince of Peace members recently and is also available on the Prince of Peace website. The cost of each gift is \$30.

To participate, register on the sign-up form and then send or bring a check for the total amount to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 177 Princeton-Hightstown Road, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550. Make the check out to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and earmark it *LSM/NJ Children's Gifts*. The deadline to select a gift is Wednesday, December 7, 2022. The check should be received by December 11 or 12. LSM/NJ will purchase the gifts and deliver them to the children.

Thank you very much to those who have already selected gifts. This outreach ministry is one way of making the love of Christ known beyond our congregation.

Berta Schott, for the
Social Outreach Ministry Team

Thanksgiving Boxes for the St. Bart's Community Much Appreciated

Thank you very much to all who contributed in any way to the Thanksgiving boxes for the people in the St. Bart's community. Nineteen (19) boxes with turkeys or hams plus a few extra turkeys were delivered from Prince of Peace to be distributed on November 19, 2022.

With the cost of food so high now, many lower-income families are in danger of going hungry. St. Bart's is doing a monumental job of seeing that food is available. St. Bart's and the recipients of the boxes are most appreciative and send their thanks for this partnership in ministry.

Berta Schott, for the
Social Outreach Ministry Team



Join Solidaridad Central Jersey in Welcoming our
Immigrant Neighbors and Make a Difference!
*Solidaridad Central Jersey has been assisting neighbors with Asylum
applications since 2018*

We are seeking new volunteers to assist our neighbors. We have a ProSe
Clinic that helps with understanding the legal process and completing
asylum applications

Benefits of being a volunteer:

- Engage in meaningful work in our community
- Develop new relationships with neighbors and volunteers
- Work in teams
- Receive training and support
- Volunteer on a flexible schedule and time commitment
- Learn advocacy skills
- Volunteer in a virtual environment

Zoom training/orientation session
Tuesday, December 7th 7:30 to 9 PM

RSVP: solidaridadproseclinic@gmail.com
For more information about Solidaridad Central Jersey, visit
<https://www.solidaridadcentraljersey.org>



The
House
Next Door

Advent at The House Next Door

Advent Dinner Church

Sunday, December 11, 2022

5:00 pm

Prepare the way of the Lord! — Mark 1:3

Join us as we gather around the table to enjoy a meal, share stories, break bread, and hear the good news of God's love for all people. Our focus will be on the Advent theme of hope.

Please RSVP to hnd@popnj.org by Friday, December 9 and let us know what food item you will bring.

Invite a friend to this unique worship experience! All are welcome!

*For more information about
The House Next Door, visit*

www.housenextdoornj.org

Book Club: Atlas of the Heart

Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30 pm

Our discussion of Brene Brown's newest book continues this Advent season. We will be focusing on chapters 3, 4 and 5. Even if you don't have time to do the reading, join Pastors Dale and Christine for this time of meaningful fellowship and conversation.

Advent Stillness: A Day Retreat

Wednesday, December 14

9:30 am to 3:00 pm

*As Advent begins and nature
falls into her wintry stillness,
let us be still and know God anew.*

Led by Laurie Matarazzo, Episcopal priest,
Retreat leader and Spiritual Director

Cost: \$50 (includes lunch)

RSVP by Monday, December 12

hnd@popnj.org

Help Needed at The House Next Door

hnd@popnj.org

Thanks to a grant from the ELCA, the HND is providing respite for pastors in the NJ Synod. Beginning this fall, when the program calendar allows, pastors are staying at the house for individual day and overnight retreats.

Would you be interested in helping Pastor Dale provide hospitality for our guests? We are looking for...

- + Hosts to welcome pastors as they arrive
- + Hosts to close up the house after pastors leave
- + Cooks to make homemade soup
- + Bakers to bake bread or cookies

If you are interested in helping with any of these tasks, please reach out to Pastor Dale at hnd@popnj.org or give her a call at 908-797-7336.

Racial Justice News

December 2022

Christmas Resource List From the Racial Justice Team

Rather than our usual monthly article, the RJT thought we'd share some ideas found by team members for those interested in considering racial justice in their Christmas shopping.

Click on sources in the list below to be taken to the associated website.

BIPOC-Owned Businesses

Black-owned businesses in Mercer County
List of directories of black-owned businesses
(See the EatOkra entry for restaurant ideas.)
Black-owned brands found at Target
(Includes brands you might also find elsewhere.)

Bookstores

Source of Knowledge Book Store (Newark, NJ)
La Unique African American Books & Cultural Center (Camden, NJ)
The Little Boho Bookshop (Bayonne, NJ)
Ida's Bookshop (Collingswood, NJ)
The Beautiful American (Jersey City, NJ)

Books

*Luther's Small Catechism with African Descent Reflections **
Fortress Introduction to Black Church History
African Theology on the Way: Current Conversations
*Stony the Road We Trod**
African American Biblical Interpretation
The Bible and African Americans: A Brief History

Organizations Supporting Equity in Local School Districts

Princeton Parents for Black Children (PPBC)
African American Parent Support Group of West Windsor or
Plainsboro Schools

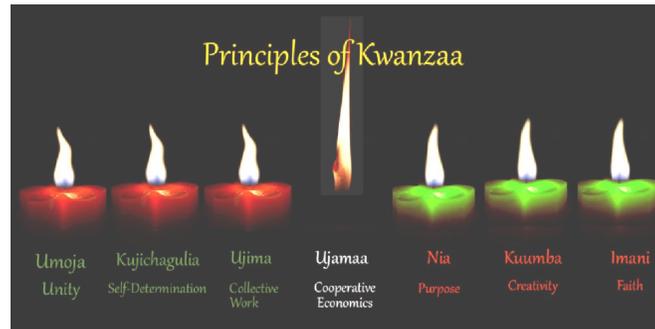
Help with applications and legal representation

Support for Native Americans

Help with applications and legal representation
[Sogorea Te' Land Trust](#). (Land Rematriation)
Native American Food Sovereignty Alliance
Native Justice Coalition

World Holidays & Celebrations — Kwanzaa

December 2022



This year Kwanzaa, the annual celebration of African-American culture, is celebrated from Monday, December 26th to Sunday, January 1st.

The holiday was created by activist Maulana Karenga, based on African harvest festival traditions from various parts of West and Southeast Africa, and was first celebrated in 1966.

Karenga said his goal was to

give blacks an alternative to the existing holiday of Christmas and give blacks an opportunity to celebrate themselves and their history, rather than simply imitate the practice of the dominant society.'

The name Kwanzaa derives from the Swahili phrase *matunda ya kwanza*, meaning 'first fruits'. First fruits festivals exist in Southern Africa, celebrated in December/January with the southern solstice, and Karenga was partly inspired by an account he read of the Zulu festival *Umkhosi Wokweshwama*. It was decided to spell the holiday's name with an additional 'a' so that it would have a symbolic seven letters.

Kwanzaa celebrates what its founder called the seven principles of Kwanzaa, or *Nguzo Saba* (originally *Nguzo Saba* – the seven principles of African Heritage).

These seven principles are all Swahili words, and together comprise the *Kawaida* or 'common'

philosophy, a synthesis of nationalist, pan-Africanist, and socialist values.

Each of the seven days of Kwanzaa is dedicated to one of the principles, as follows:

Umoja (Unity): To strive for and to maintain unity in the family and community.

Kujichagulia (Self-determination): To define and name ourselves, as well as to create and speak for ourselves.

Ujima (Collective work and responsibility): To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers' and sisters' problems our problems and to solve them together.

Ujamaa (Cooperative economics): To build and maintain our own stores, shops, and other businesses and to profit from them together.

Nia (Purpose): To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

Kuumba (Creativity): To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.

Imani (Faith): To believe with all our hearts in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders,

For a more complete description of the Kwanzaa celebration click [here](#) for the Wikipedia article that this piece was sourced from.

Provided by Con Sweeney
Racial Justice Team

Parish Care News — December 2022

As Advent begins and we prepare for our Christmas Season . . .

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 provide details.

Care Notes are available in the gathering area. Please take, read, and pass along to another as needed. Many thanks to Ginger Reiersen for helping to keep the display organized and current. And to Chris Wethe for the financial support of this project.

Prayer Squares and Prayer Cards are also in the breezeway to share with others.

Current Transportation Opportunities

As in the past we would like to help out our current seminarian with rides needed to and from church. Daniel is with us on Sunday mornings, at meetings with Pastor on Wednesdays, and at special church services and events. Generally rides would be picking up and return to seminary housing (behind The Marketfair Mall) on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. If you would be willing to provide transportation, please let me know ASAP. We can then have a list of folks to call and schedule rides.

Many thanks to those who have already been providing rides. If you can help with rides, please let us know. Please contact me with questions or more details.

2023 Calendars Are Being Gathered.

We need to deliver them to local senior living facilities in our area. If you can help deliver them, please let me know.

Gathering Confirmation Group Pictures

Please share a copy (we will make a copy and return your original).

Sneak Preview of Upcoming Project -

Valentine Care Boxes and Bags

(yes Valentine!)

Mark your 2023 Calendars

Our next big project is our annual shipment of Valentine Day Care Packages to our young adults away at school, in the military and care bags to our homebound senior citizens. Watch for the details in the gathering area in January 2023.

We will need lots of donations – especially baked goodies and monetary donations to fill and ship the boxes.

What we need now are names and **current addresses** of our young adults away at school and any senior adults who would enjoy a Valentine treat. We are planning on filling at about 30 boxes and bags this year. Numbers may change as we gather addresses.

Packing will be the first week of February, date and time TBD

Watch for more details and dates in January 2023.

Share Some Care

Martha Winder — maw14jpw@aol.com



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 8:30 am (In Person)
and 9:30 am (In Person/Livestream)

Office Hours

Office hours vary.

Latest details can be found in the Sunday bulletin

Or at <https://popnj.org/PDF/bulletin.pdf>
