

June 2021



Worship in June

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

11 am Outdoor Worship

Sunday, June 6

Second Sunday After Pentecost
Mark 3: 20-35

Sunday, June 13

Third Sunday After Pentecost
Mark 24: 26-34

Sunday, June 20

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Mark 4: 35-41

Sunday, June 27

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
Mark 5: 21-43

Also in June

June 1, 8, 15, 22

Chair Yoga

June 4

Youth Campfire

June 8

Racial Justice Meeting

June 10

Book Group

June 13, 20, 27

Wisdom for the Walk of Faith

June 17

WHAM Juneteenth Service

On Reading the Scriptures

My family recently acquired four chickens. I've watched YouTube videos and googled articles about chickens, and now, sitting next to me on our dining room table is a book about raising chickens. I've spent more time thinking about (and caring for) chickens in the past two weeks than I have collectively in my entire life prior to our feathery additions.

This all means that I've also spent a lot more time dwelling upon what it means for Jesus to call himself a mother hen (Matthew 23:37-39; Luke 31-35). It's the only place in the Gospels where Jesus gives himself a motherly image, though in doing so, he follows an ancient understanding of who God is for the Israelites: an eagle's wings, a midwife, and a mother are just some of metaphors that we find in the Hebrew Bible.

While much could be said about this imagery, what strikes me the most is what it reveals about who God is for us. God chooses to help us understand God's omnipotent love through ordinary circumstances: a hen caring for her chicks, an eagle making a nest for her babies, and a young woman birthing our messiah. The breadth of God's imagery for us is astonishing. It goes beyond any neat and organized category we might devise. In fact, it goes far beyond the classifications we humans give to one another (sex, gender, race, class, nationality, etc.), and even beyond the entire classification of *homo sapiens*! To be held in the embrace of a God whose wingspan covers *all* living things is, simply put, a wonder.

This is one of the most precious gifts of reading and studying scripture. It opens our hearts and minds to ponder anew what the Almighty can do. It helps us go beyond our own limitations, expanding our capacity to believe in that which we cannot see. Imagining the scriptures, imagining God, and imagining the kingdom of God can embolden our witness and revitalize our hope. During these summer months, I'd encourage you to search through the scriptures yourself and pay attention to the plentitude of metaphors given for God and God's work. Need a place to start? Consider Isaiah 11, Isaiah 64, Isaiah 66, Psalm 23, Psalm 46, Psalm 91, and John 15. What metaphors are you captivated by in this season? What does it look like to call God by this metaphor in your prayers? How might you be renewed in God's love through this contemplation?

Imagining with you under the wings of Love,

— Vicar Kayla

Reparations Survey and NJ Synod in Tune *Plus Save the Date, September 12*

Prince of Peace seems to be in tune with the New Jersey Synod of the ELCA as we think about reparations. As you know, the Racial Justice Team put out a survey to help guide the congregation's efforts to begin reparations for the long history of injustice toward people of color in the US and particularly our area. The clear top choice of those members who submitted the survey was to support Lutheran students preparing to go to seminary to enter the ministry, which would also address the need for more diversity in our denomination.

Around the same time we were compiling results, the Synod announced the Bishop's Challenge at the annual Assembly, which you may have heard Vicar Kayla mention in a sermon that week. Every New Jersey Synod congregation is challenged to contribute at least \$375 toward a fund for Emerging Leaders of African Descent in

Lutheran Churches. As a result, the Racial Justice Team agreed we will coordinate our initial reparations with the Synod program.

Where did they come up with \$375? Jehu Jones was the first Black Lutheran minister. Focusing on the urban Blacks in Philadelphia, he actually built a church there, but within five years his struggling congregation was unable to pay the mortgage of \$375. The Synod would not help, so he lost the church. Find out more about Jehu Jones by borrowing the article included in the racial justice lending library. And read about the many new books, mostly for children and youth, added this month in this newsletter.

Save the Date

The team is currently working on an anti-racism and diversity event for the afternoon of *God's Work Our Hands Day*, September 12, so save the date. More information to come.

*See pages 5 and 6
for descriptions of new books
in the Racial Justice Library.*

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 June issue is Sunday, June 27

Staff and Officers of Prince of Peace

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

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)



The June Donation Requested for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen is

Shampoo

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

June Events

Chair Yoga Continues

All are invited to awaken into spring with Chair Yoga in the Outdoor Chapel on four Tuesdays in June: June 1, 8, 15, 22. Classes are led by Kelly Kenny and last 45 minutes. No experience is necessary and all levels are welcome.

Cost is \$10/session. Register at hnd@popnj.org.

Youth Campfire

June 4, 7 pm

Calling all youth, high school, and confirmation age: On Friday night, June 4th, we are holding a campfire at the Durie house to celebrate Gehrig and Eliana's confirmation, and to look forward to the summer and make plans. We begin with pizza starting at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there.

Wisdom for the Long Walk of Faith

June 13, 20, 27

11 am to Noon on Zoom

Led by Dale Selover

In his classes, beloved priest, author, and spiritual guide, Henri Nouwen offered gentle wisdom for the spiritual life. We will explore his invitation to the spiritual life and look within to the heart, look to God in the book, and look to others in community.

Please register at hnd@popnj.org

Free will donations welcome. Checks can be made out to Prince of Peace and designated to The House Next Door.

Book Group

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

Note: Outdoor meetings may be scheduled, weather permitting.

Zoom meetings at 7:30 pm will be scheduled if the weather is unfavorable.

We are also considering meeting in the church fellowship hall if the weather is unfavorable.

June 10

4:30 pm at the home of Phyllis Church
11 Princeton Place, Princeton Junction
RSVP to p.church@mindspring.com

The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd

In first century Judea we meet Anna, a strong, intelligent woman who longs to find her voice as a writer even though she lives in a society bent on her silence. She finds and marries Jesus of Nazareth, a young man whose heart burns with a different kind of longing. This book is a reverent re-imagining of the life Jesus might have led before he began his mission. Based on careful historical research, it gives a fascinating glimpse of what life was like for women and men alike in Biblical times.



July 8

Time and Location TBA

The Diplomat's Wife by Pam Jenoff



1945: Marta, a member of the Polish Resistance, barely survives her imprisonment in a Nazi concentration camp. She is restored to life and falls in love with Paul, an American soldier. They plan to meet in London, but Paul's plane crashes. All alone and pregnant, Marta marries a British diplomat. The novel becomes a real page turner when she is recruited by the British government to return to Europe as a spy.

More June Events

New Members to Be Received

June 13

Prince of Peace is welcoming new members on Sunday June 13th. We welcome Con Sweeny; Liz Zarillo; Dennis and Audrey Oehm; Christian, Jing and Joanna Oehm; and Jessica, Arundel, Morrigan and J'den Clarke.

Juneteenth Zoom

June 17

Our Windsor Hightstown Area Ministerium (WHAM) is sponsoring a Juneteenth worship to commemorate the end of slavery. The service is Thursday June 17th (to accommodate the Jewish sabbath) at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Watch for the link closer to the date.

New Volunteer Hours at the Peace Garden

Because of hotter weather, volunteers are now working from 9 to 11 am on Wednesdays and Saturdays. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Lois Case (loismcase@gmail.com).

Save the Date

The New Jersey Synod of the ELCA Interfaith Ecumenical Committee will be sponsoring an outdoor afternoon family event at Prince for Peace for people of all faiths in Central Jersey on Sunday, October 17/raindate October 24.

Confirmation

We celebrate with Eliana and Gehrig Hebert who were confirmed on May 23rd, Pentecost Sunday. Congratulations Eliana and Gehrig.

Giving Opportunity

Welcome Boxes for Children entering Foster Families and their Foster Families

New Jersey Angels is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support children in foster homes and their foster families by offering continuing support through intentional giving, relationship building, and mentorship and is inviting faith communities to help. They contacted Pastor Dale about partnering with Prince of Peace through The House Next Door, and now have a working relationship with The House Next in several ways.

One of the many things they do is to provide Welcome Boxes to foster children and their foster families when the child enters the foster home, in an effort to ease the transition into the new home. The contents are for all persons in the family.

Needed are items for the Welcome Boxes, and Prince of Peace will be collecting these items (which are listed below) during June and July. There will be a collection box outside the white doors, as we've done for other collections, and the box will be emptied frequently. (We won't let the chocolate bars melt.) This is an excellent opportunity for summer ministry to children, youth, and adults who are in, or are providing, foster care in our communities. Thank you for your part in supporting this collection effort.

Appreciatively,

The Social Outreach Ministry Team

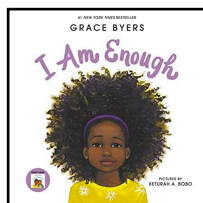
Welcome Box Items

Popcorn
Plain Chocolate Bars (no nuts)
Goldfish
Uno (card game)
Lip balm (like chapstick etc)
Blankets
Socks for each child (all sizes are needed)
Sketch book (no larger than 8 ½ x 11)
Coloring books
Colored Pencils
Crayons
Hand sanitizer (during covid)
Hand Moisturizer (non-covid)

Books for Children and Youth added to Racial Justice Lending Library

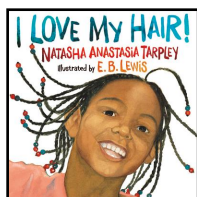
Most descriptions are adapted from Bookshop unless noted.

Board Books and Read-Alouds for Little Ones — But Families Will Enjoy, Too



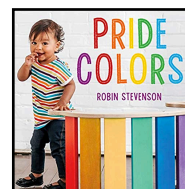
***I Am Enough* by Grace Byers**

This gorgeous picture book is a lyrical ode to loving who you are, respecting others, and being kind to one another...*We are all here for a purpose. We are more than enough. We just need to believe it.*



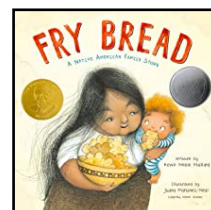
***I Love My Hair* by Natasha Anastasia Tarpley Ages 3-6**

A modern classic, this whimsical story has been celebrating the beauty of African American hair and a staple in African-American picture books for 20 years. In this imaginative, evocative story, a girl named Keyana discovers the beauty and magic of her special hair, encouraging black children to be proud of their heritage and enhancing self-confidence.



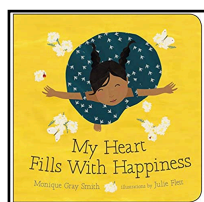
***Pride Colors* by Robin Stevenson**

Through gentle rhymes and colorful photographs of adorable children, this is a celebration of the deep unconditional love of a parent or caregiver for a young child. The profound message of this delightful board book is you are free to be whoever you choose to be; you'll always be loved. The author ends her purposeful prose by explaining the meaning behind each color in the Pride flag.



***Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* by Nole Maillard**

Told in lively and powerful verse, this is an evocative depiction of a modern Native American family and (from Kirkus Reviews) 'the diversity in Native America...the story of a post-colonial food, a shared tradition across the North American continent.'



***My Heart Fills with Happiness* by Monique Gray Smith**

This beautiful board book serves as a reminder for little ones and adults alike to reflect on and cherish the moments in life that bring us joy. Written to support the wellness of Indigenous children and families, it encourages young children to reflect on what makes them happy.

Continued on page 6

For Elementary Ages

***Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong'o**

A powerful, moving picture book about colorism, self-esteem, and learning that true beauty comes from within. Sulwe has skin the color of midnight. She just wants to be beautiful and bright, like her mother and sister. Then a magical journey in the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything. Actress Lupita Nyong'o creates a whimsical and heartwarming story to inspire children to see their own unique beauty.



***Eyes that Kiss in the Corners* by Jonna Ho**



This lyrical, stunning picture book tells a story about learning to love and celebrate your Asian-shaped eyes. A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers'. Drawing from the strength of powerful women in her life, she recognizes her own beauty and discovers a path to self-love and empowerment. This powerful, poetic picture book will resonate with readers of all ages.

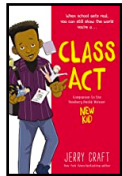
For Teen Readers and Adults

***Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson...**

Our own Nancy Herrington describes this as 'a poetic, beautifully written and enlightening book to read. A memoir of Jacqueline's personal and family history that is tied to major events in American history and the struggles for racial equality throughout her childhood. Heavily recommended to all.'



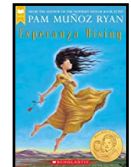
***Class Act* by Jerry Craft**



In this laugh-out-loud funny, powerful, and important story, an eighth grade boy takes center stage in a graphic novel about being one of the few kids of color in a prestigious private school. He wants to pretend that everything is fine, but it's hard not to withdraw. Will Drew find a way to bridge the divide so he and his friends can truly accept each other? And most importantly, will he finally be able to accept himself?

***Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan**

Esperanza thought she'd always live a privileged life on her family's ranch in Mexico. Forced to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp during the Great Depression, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances-because Mama's life, and her own, depend on it.



CROSS ROADS CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

Dear Pastor Froehle,

For generations, Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center has been providing life changing and sacred adventures for renewal, growth, and joy. This has only been possible through the generous support of people and organizations, including you. Thank you so much for the generous gift of \$200 on March 3, 2021. A challenge grant from the Episcopal Diocese of Newark matches your gift 1:1, doubling your impact.

Prince of Peace joins a community that supports our entire ministry, including summer camp, our year-round programs for all ages, and hosted retreat groups from all over the tristate area.

Please continue to keep Cross Roads in your heart and prayers. And thank you again for your partnership.

Peace, Anthony P. Biggs
Executive Director

Parish Care — June 2021

Ongoing Projects

Gathering Greeting Card/2022 Calendars: We have gathered lots of greeting cards to share with the Senior Living Residences in the area. If you would like to help sort/deliver cards, please let me know. We could schedule a day to sort at church or you could organize them at your home; arrangements can be made to get them to you safely. Once the 2022 calendars start arriving, we will be collecting them this fall to distribute to the senior residences.

Monthly mailings to families welcoming a new family member and families who have lost a loved one continue.

Care Notes, Prayer Cards, and Knitted Prayer Squares are in the breezeway. Access to the church is increasing and/or arrangements can be made to get these materials to you as needed.

Rides around the area: As we are all starting to get out and about, rides for errands and appointments are increasing. If you can assist with some transportation to appointments or do a little shopping, let me know.

Congratulations to all Our Graduates of 2021

We would all like to congratulate and celebrate your accomplishment. Please reach out to us and share details about your graduation and your future plans.

If you know of anyone to share our care with, please contact us with details.

*Looking forward to gathering together at the church over the summer
So we can Share our Care together*

Enjoy the Summer and take some time to Share some Care with Others.

Martha Winder

609-799-7280 — maw14jpw@aol.com



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Princeton Junction NJ 08550

Church Office: 609-799-1753

E-Mail: email@popnj.org

Website: popnj.org

Office Hours

Monday & Tuesday 9 to Noon

Thursday 1:30 to 3:30

Sunday Schedule

Worship at 9:30 am (Livestream)

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

Outdoor Worship at 11 am
